

263-1284





Hull: No one will

come through





# **BIG SPRING** HRALD

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 23, 2007

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

# Mega elementary proposed

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## Citizen's committee favors closing BSISD's five elementary schools

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Is a "mega" elementary campus in Big Spring Independent School District's future?

**VOLUME 102, NUMBER 282** 

A citizen's committee and making recommenda- elementary

aging facilities, met with school trustees Monday to start turning study into possible solutions.

And one potential solution that found nearunanimous support is changed with studying replacing BSISD's five

tions regarding BSISD's with one or two new structures. "You people have been

> inundated with information," BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes told committee members before the meeting began. "Everybody campuses has their preferences ...

but what we need from you is what you believe the community will support."

Existing elementary campuses, for the most part, are considered the weak link in the district's

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

"If we just replace one or two elementaries and keep others open, you face the probability that everyone will want to move to the new schools — teachers as well as parents."

-Tim Yeats, committee member

## **Notification** failure may cost \$129,000

Commissioners ask attorney to negotiate with Dickens Co.

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

As if Howard County didn't commissioners have enough money problems on their hands, a possible miscommunication with Dickens County officials concerning contracted jail space could cost the county an additional \$129,000, according to county officials.

The commissioner's court, along with County Judge Mark Barr, met with County Attorney Mike Thomas in an executive session Monday morning to determine the best course of action to



Thomas

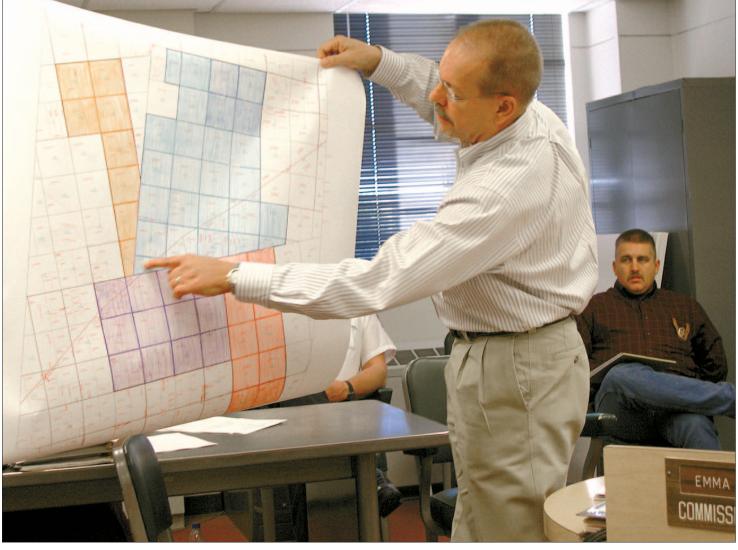
'We've discussed the discrepancy and I'm going to motion to give Mike Thomas the authority

clear up the

to go into mediation and negotiate with Dickens County," said Barr.

The charges center around Howard County's apparent failure to notify Dickens County Jail 30 days in advance of plans to terminate a contract for jail space that was

See **NOTIFY**, Page 3A



**HERALD** photo/Thomas Jenkins

Terry Wegman, executive director of Moore Development, shows Howard County commissioners a map of one of three reinvestment zones approved by the court Monday morning. The zones would allow local taxing entities to extend tax abatements to wind energy developers currently considering Howard County for several projects that could put as many as 500 new turbines on Howard soil. See story, Page 3A.

## Pact approved with Dinosaur Valley for jail construction

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners approved a contract with Dinosaur Valley Construction to serve as construction manager on the ongoing jail project Monday morning, effectively moving forward with the effort to construct a new county lock-

"Of the three we had to choose from, I really feel like Dinosaur Valley Construction had, by far, the most experience in building jails."

-County Judge Mark Barr



comes following interviews The court's approval for between commissioners and a Dinosaur Valley Construction total of three construction man-

agers — including Lee George Construction and Templeton Construction — and according to County Judge Mark Barr, is a good fit for the project.

"Of the three we had to choose from, I really feel like Dinosaur Valley Construction had, by far, the most experience in building jails," said Barr. "They have built 30 to 40 jails,

and we need someone who has that kind of experience to proceed with this project very quickly. They have laid out a plan where — mother nature willing — they can be done in approximately nine months. Essentially, if the jail bond passes, we could be looking at

See JAIL, Page 3A

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## BSISD celebrating Red Ribbon Week By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Big Spring public school students are seeing red this week — red ribbons, that is. National Red Ribbon Week,

a program instituted several years ago to heighten antidrug awareness in the nation's schools, is being observed with a variety of programs locally, officials

Red Ribbon Week started in 1987 as a federal effort to promote awareness to the drug problem in the nation's schools. Officials say the effort became very popular

Darrell Ryan, director of federal programs for BSISD and coordinator of Red Ribbon Week activities, said the observance serves practi-

See RIBBON, Page 3A



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# Sports

## SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

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## IN BRIEF

#### Individuals needed to referee area basketball games

Individuals are needed to referee area subvarsity basketball games for the 2007-08 season.

Anyone interested should call Adam Rodriguez at 517-0300.

#### **Big Spring Youth** Soccer Association closing ceremony

The Big Spring Youth Soccer Association will be having its season closing ceremonies at 3 p.m. Saturday at the soccer fields.

There will be a cookout and awards will be handed out.

Volunteers are need-

To help out or for more details, call Isaac Miramontes at 268-8740.

#### Howard College announces Hawk **Buddies Program**

The Howard College Women's Basketball team is tipping off its season with the Hawk Buddies Basketball Program for girls in kindergarten through eighth grade.

It starts Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum with a basketball clinic from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Each Hawk Buddy will receive an opportunity to learn how to play the game from Howard players and coaches for a fee of \$20. A T-shirt will be given to each participant that will also serve as a free family season pass when worn to Howard College home games.

A second clinic is scheduled for Jan. 12 to be followed by a pizzaparty with the women's basketball team.

Each Hawk Buddy will be recognized at halftime of the Hawks home game Jan. 21.

For more information, contact Head Women's Basketball Coach Earl Diddle at 264-5043 or Assistant Coach Eric Rodewald at 816-4327.

#### Big Spring High School cheerleaders holding cheer clinic

The Big Spring High School cheerleaders will be holding a minicheer clinic for girls in grades K-6 Oct. 29-30 at the Steer Gym from 6:30-8:30 p.m. each night.

Participants will learn a cheer, a chant and a bleacher mania dance. They will perform the cheer at the black out community pep rally on Nov. 1 and then again at halftime of the Powder Puff football game following the pep rally.

The student must participate in both nights of the clinic in order to perform.

Cost is \$40 and includes a T-shirt.

For more information, contact Shannon Stuteville at 264-3641, ext. 166 or at sstutevi@bsisd.esc18.net.

# Red Sox prepping for hot Rockies

By HOWARD ULMAN

AP Sports Writer

BOSTON — Fenway Park was quiet, the Red Sox clubhouse was dry and Jonathan Papelbon was done with his Irish step dance.

The jubilation of Boston's pennant-clinching comeback was over. There was still one more opponent to face, one that fashioned an incredible streak to reach the World Series for the first time.

Monday's stillness was the calm before the swarm. The Colorado Rockies are coming to town, taking a 21-1 surge into Game 1 Wednesday night.

They certainly should be fresh — perhaps too fresh.

After sweeping the Arizona for the weekend games in Diamondbacks to win their first Denver. Meteorologist Robert NL pennant, the Rockies will play their first game in nine days. The Red Sox spent most of the time on the field, rallying from a 3-1 AL championship series deficit and outscoring the Cleveland Indians 30-5 in the last three games.

Rockies manager Clint Hurdle said it was worth the eight-day layoff just to see the city galvanized by the Rockies' first World Series appearance.

The weather is Boston for the first two games is supposed to be mild, with mostly clear skies and temperatures in the 50s.

Glancy of the National Weather Service said Monday that Games 3 and 4 should be played in around 45-degree weather.

ALCS MVP Josh Beckett will pitch the opener against Jeff Francis, who is 2-0 with a 2.13 ERA in his first postseason. Beckett is 3-0 with a 1.17 ERA in this year's playoffs and was the World Series MVP in 2003.

If Beckett is just as sharp Wednesday, Papelbon — a much better closer than dancer could finish up.

Papelbon put the wackiest touches on Boston's celebration There's no snow in the forecast when it clinched the AL East.

Standing near the mound in a shirt and shorts, he performed a wild dance while spraying champagne in all directions.

His repeat performance Sunday was more subdued.

Just imagine his encore if the Red Sox win the World Series for the second time in four years.

On Monday, there were stacks of bottled water on the clubhouse carpet instead of the ice-filled champagne bins that were quickly emptied less than 12 hours earlier. The plastic sheeting that protected the lockers was gone.

All seemed normal again as about half the team showed up for an optional workout.

# Going undefeated? I don't think so

wo months into the college football season and one thing has become

increasingly apparent to me with each week — no team will survive this season undefeated.

Five teams enter the week undefeated - No.1 Ohio State, No. 2 Boston College, No. 4 Arizona



HULL

State, No. 9 Kansas and No. 17 Hawaii. There could be none by the end

of the weekend's games. Personally, I see three of the five falling this week, although, four of them will be heavily challenged.

• Boston College at Virginia Tech — Last week, the No. 2 team in the country — South Florida's Bulls — was dropped on a nationally televised game on Thursday night. That feat could be repeated this week.

The second-ranked Eagles face the No. 8 Hokies Thursday to start another big weekend that could completely disfigure the BCS standings and national title race again. This match up could be a preview of the ACC Championship game to take place Dec. 1.

Both teams are coming off a bye, giving them essentially two weeks to prepare for this game. It's dangerous to give Hokies Head Coach Frank Beamer that long to prepare for a game. Beamer is one of the most creative coaches with his special teams and defensive schemes. His squads create a ton of turnovers that significantly change the complexion of a

Meanwhile, BC continues to rely on quarterback Matt Ryan, who is getting increased mention as a Heisman trophy candidate. Ryan is 21-4 as a starter.

The ultimate x-factor in this game is home field advantage for Virginia Tech. The Hokies got off to a very slow start, especially on the offensive side of the ball. However, they have rolled off two consecutive plus 40-points performances. They're ripe to pull off the upset of the nation's second-ranked team for the fourth consecutive week.

South Florida (lost to Rutgers), Cal (lost to Oregon St.) and USC (lost to Stanford) all previously fell as the No. 2 team this sea-

• Kansas at Texas A&M — Kansas is the most unlikely undefeated team left. However, that should change after this week. Sadly, playing the disappointing Aggies in College Station will be their most challenging game to date.

The Jayhawks are ranked in the top 10 in both total offense and defense. They're the only team in the nation that can claim that distinction. However, they haven't played any quality opponents. They have an incredibly weak schedule that pads their stats. Kansas isn't a bad football team, but they aren't the ninth best team in the country either.

They've faced two decent opponents in the inconsistent Kansas State Wildcats and the young Colorado Buffaloes. Both teams came within seconds of pulling out a win.

Kansas will end this season with three losses, meaning it will lose three of their last five games. Look for A&M to hand the Jayhawks their first loss Saturday then Oklahoma State will send them spiraling out of the top 25 in two weeks. Finally, Missouri, who is the best team in the Big 12 North division,

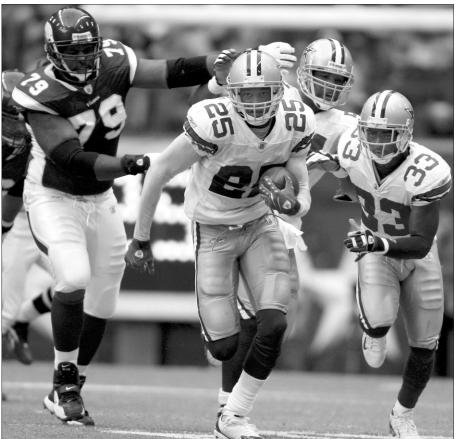
See HULL, Page 2B



MCT photo/Rashaun Rucker/Detroit Free Press

Ohio State quarterback Todd Boeckman (17) fumbles the ball after being sacked by Michigan State's Jonal Saint-Dic (94) Saturday at Ohio Stadium in Columbus, Ohio. The Buckeyes defeated the Spartans 24-17, but Ohio State could be getting sacked from the undefeated ranks when they play Penn State Saturday.

## Cowboys head into bye week confident "It's definitely big to get a win



MCT photo/Ron T. Ennis/Fort Worth Star Telegram

Dallas Cowboys Patrick Watkins breaks loose from Minnesota Vikings Artis Hicks to score on a blocked punt in the third quarter of Cowboys' 24-14 victory over the Vikings Sunday at Texas Stadium in Irving.

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — On a cold, wet Monday, Wisconsin native Tony Romo ventured out wearing shorts, sandals and a T-shirt. More importantly for the Dallas Cowboys, there was no bandage around his right hamstring and no hitch in his stride.

Romo is just fine and so are the Cowboys, who are starting their bye week with the best record in the NFC.

"I think we're just really happy to be 6-1," Romo said. "Honestly, it's tough winning six out of seven games in this league."

Yet for all their success, the Cowboys have only a one-game lead in their division. The New York Giants (5-2) are a game back and right behind them are the Washington Redskins (4-2).

And guess what follows the bye? A three-game stretch against the rest of the division, starting with games Philadelphia and the Giants. then home against the Redskins.

No wonder Dallas players were so happy about beating the Minnesota Vikings 24-14 Sunday. before the bye," linebacker Bradie James said. "We feel good as far as being confident. And when we get back we'll be rested and ready to make a bid for the NFC East."

Romo is confident he'll be ready to go, too.

He strained his hamstring shortly before halftime while trying to make a tackle on a fumble return. Actually, he'd already given up on making a play and was just trying to get out of the way of violent collision when he ended up sliding awkwardly.

He didn't miss a play, but was obviously limited. After completing 28 passes in the first half, he hit only three in the second half. Several misfires seemed to be caused by Romo not being able to set his feet.

"I felt like if I put pressure on it, it was going to tear or something," he said. "Trainers told me ... you're not going to hurt it any worse, so you just go out and

"Playing through pain" became

See COWBOYS, Page 2B

## **Obituaries**

## Radford E. Clayton

Radford E. Clayton, 86, of Forsan died Sunday, Oct. 21, 2007, at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home in Big Spring. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2007, at Lamar Street Baptist Church with the Rev. Keith Clifton officiating. Burial will follow at Slater's Chapel Cemetery under the auspices of the Sweetwater Masonic Lodge No. 571 AF&AM.

Radford was born April 29, 1921, in Dora, and married Mary Brannon in 1950 in Sweetwater. He was a member of Lamar Street Baptist Church and was a Navy veteran of World War II and Korea. He was also a member and past Master of Sweetwater Masonic Lodge No. 571 AF&AM and Hylton Masonic Lodge No. 884 AF&AM.

Survivors include two daugters, Patricia Clayton of Big Spring and M.J. Drummond of Forsan; a son, Rodney Clayton of Clover, S.C.; five sisters, Irene Pendergrass of Nolan, Linda McKinny of Louisiana, Sandy Apkarian of New Jersey, Sherry Grieve of Indiana and Gayle Skoruppa of Robstown; two brothers, Frank Clayton of Louisiana and Lloyd Clayton of Alaska; 13 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Clayton; parents, Avery and Era Clayton; two brothers, Donald Clayton and Leo Clayton; three sisters, Patsy Kight, Laverne Harrison and Corrine Childers: and two sons. Dwight Clayton and Stephen Clayton.

Arrangements under the direction of Cate-Spencer & Trent Funderal Home.

## Gregorio C. Villa Sr.

Gregorio C. Villa Sr., 73, of Houston, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, Oct. 22, 2007, at his residence. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Leonard Eugene Posey,
Leonard Eugene Posey, 76, of Big Spring died Monday, Oct. 22, 2007, in a local hospital. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-16-18-25-29. Number matching five of five: 2. Prize per winner: \$13,309. Winning tickets sold in: Katy, Cisco. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 6-21-25-27. Bonus Ball: 18. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Prize: \$200,000

Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: \$225,000.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-8-1-6. Sum It Up: 20.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-9-9

## Weather

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s. Light and variable winds becoming northwest around 10 mph after midnight.

Wednesday...Sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday night...Mostly clear. Lows around 40. North winds around 10 mph.

Thursday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s. North winds around 10 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Friday...Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s.

Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s. Saturday...Sunny. Highs in the upper 60s.

Saturday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

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## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Monday and 7 a.m.

- VICTORIA MUNOZ, 31, of 513 N. Goliad, was arrested Monday on a charge of theft.
- JABENIA S. SUMMERS, 31, of 608 S. Lancaster, was arrested Tuesday on four local citations, a Midland County warrant and two local warrants. • **THEFT** was reported in the 200 block of Marcy.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 300
- block of Tulane. • BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in
- the 100 block of Third Street. • ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 4200 block of Muir.

## Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

- Note Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 52 inmates at the time of this report.
- BOBBIE DEJESUS, 26, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of assault - family violence.
- LUIS MIGUEL LOPEZ, 24, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence. • APOLLO ALLEN DUNLAP, 17, was arrested
- Monday by the HCSO on a charge of indecency with a child - sexual contact.

## Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of Ridge Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Ent. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Virginia. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of
- Chickasaw. One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of 18th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

## Take Note

- THE HINKLE FAMILY WILL BE PERFORMING Wednesday during lunch at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler.
- FLU CLINICS WILL BE HELD at the Department of State Health Service, 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28 B. Clinics will be held from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday. There is no charge for those on Medicaid or Medicare.
- THE WEST TEXAS PACHYDERM CLUB invites the community to hear Cathie Adams, president of Texas Eagle Forum. Ms. Adams will be speaking on the topic, "What's the Deal with Border Security?" The Pachyderm meeting will be at 6 p.m. Thursday at St. Paul Lutheran Church on the corner of Ninth and
- SALVATION ARMY LODGE, 308 AYLESFORD WILL HAVE A COMMUNITY COOKOUT and open house from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Hotdogs and other food will be available at no charge. The community is invited to come see what the lodge is all about. Everyone is invited.
- ANGEL FOOD ORDERS FOR OCTOBER can be picked up from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Oct. 27 at Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church. Orders for November will be taken from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 26-27 and Nov. 2-3. For more information, call 267-3241 or 267-2203.
- THE ACKERLY CLASS OF 1957 IS HAVING A 50-YEAR REUNION Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Woman's Study Club building, 101 Juniper Drive, in Lamesa. A covered dish, pot luck dinner will be served. Classmates and friends are invited to attend. For more information call, Esther Miers at (806) 872 2382 or Freida Clement at (806) 872 2037.
- **JUNIOR HOME** HOSPICE **HALOS VOLUNTEERS** will have a Relay For Life garage sale from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 3. The sale will be at 111 E. Seveth, behind Home Hospice in the Runnels Street parking lot. Antiques, clothes, what-nots and more will be available.
- ST. MARY'S AND FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S ARE HOLDING A LAP BLANKET DRIVE to place approximately 400 lap blankets in the hands of every nursing home patient in Big Spring. Blankets can be taken to the church office, 1001 Goliad, between the

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## **Bulletin Board**

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

#### **TODAY**

• The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

#### **WEDNESDAY**

- · Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- · Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

#### **THURSDAY**

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- · Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. Call 267-6479.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact John Ybarra at 264-1628. The public is invited.

#### **FRIDAY**

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. • Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Big Spring Country Club.
- Dance at the Senior Center to Monroe Casey and the Prowlers, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday or call Connie Fowler at 267-2713.

A beginning crochet class is being held at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the church's Parish Hall.

- BRING JOY AND KINDNESS TO OTHERS by becoming an Odyssey Healthcare volunteer. Help those at the end of life's jouryey. Make a difference in someone's life. Call 263-5999 to begin your journey.
- ALL CREATURES SANCTUARY AND RESCUE has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.0, 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.
- · CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COL-LECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.
- ROAD TO RECOVERY, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.
- NEW LIFE MINISTRIES Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.
- THE PET PATROL helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).
- LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

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SPORTS

## **COWBOYS**

Continued from Page 1B

another item checked off the list of Romo's accomplishments in his budding career, which celemilestone brates a Tuesday: the one-year anniversary of him going in for Drew Bledsoe at halftime of a Monday night game against the Giants. The job has been his ever since.

Romo expects he'll have to deal with some tightness and soreness for a few days. Coach Wade Phillips indicated he won't ask Romo to do too much in practice Wednesday Thursday, just to be safe. Romo is confident he'll be ready to go a week from Sunday against Eagles.

"I suspect just about any injury outside of a break or something you'd be fine in two weeks," Romo said.

tuesday page 2b 10/23/07 11:04 AM Page 1 Network Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder:

Phillips is hoping the same will be true for some other things that are bothering his club.

The Cowboys have made things tougher on themselves the last three weeks with turnovers and penalties. They were still good enough to eke out wins over lowly Buffalo Minnesota, against New England the mistakes let a third-quarter lead turn into a 21point loss.

Coaches have compiled a list of things that need improvement and Phillips plans to make those the focus of this week's work. While the offense, defense and special teams all have things to clean up. Phillips added that "all of our groups are 6-1." The bye also is a chance

for other players to get healthy.

Terence Cornerback Newman can rest his foot and knee, and linebacker Greg Ellis can continue his recovery from a torn Achilles' tendon although he looked healed while starting and getting

two sacks Sunday. Fullback Oliver Hoyte is over his neck injury and should return to practice Wednesday. Cornerback Anthony Henry could return next week, if not this one.

The Cowboys also will continue bringing along nose tackle Tank Johnson as he gets ready to debut Nov. 11. They still hold out hope that receiver Terry Glenn will come back from knee surgery.

"We could make a lot of excuses if we were losing games," Phillips said. "I'm glad we're not losing because I don't want to be making those excuses."

Extra points: Cowboys last won six of seven in 2003, when they actually had a 7-1 run during coach Bill Parcells' debut season. Like this spurt, the one loss in that run was a clunker, a shutout at Tampa Bay.

## HULL

Continued from Page 1B will put Kansas in their

rightful place to end the season. • Cal at Arizona St. —

Cal is coming off two consecutive let downs and frankly, that team is too good to have been as disappointing as they've been this season. Head Coach Jeff Tedford is one of the best game day coaches in the nation. He's great at scheming so his dynamic duo at wide receiver - Heisman contending Desean Jackson and the overlooked Lavelle Hawkins — have the ball in their hands early and often. The Sun Devils are

very similar to Kansas. They've moved up the top 25 ranks by an act of attrition. Everyone else is losing so the pollsters simply move Arizona St. up past them. They're another team with an unimpressive schedule thus far. However, with Cal, Oregon, UCLA and USC populating the list for the next four games, a losing streak might be starting Saturday.

Ohio St. at Penn St.

— The Big Ten is weak. Finally, that point is being realized. I'm not impressed with the Buckeyes as the nation's top team. However, neither am I impressed with the Nittany Lions.

This will probably be the ugliest game on television this weekend. Neither team's offense is very productive, so the final score could be something like 7-6. I give Ohio St. credit for their defensive prowess. though. Penn St. isn't a bad defensive team, but I find them a bit overrat-

Ohio St. might escape Happy Valley, but watch as Wisconsin, Illinois or Michigan will hand the Buckeyes their first loss within the next three weeks.

Hawaii hosts New Mexico St. at midnight Sunday and the Rainbow Warriors are the one team that could kill my theory that no unbeaten teams will survive the season. They have a very weak schedule, populated by teams they should roll

However, Hawaii doesn't play defense so every team they play has a shot at beating them. New

Mexico St. could do that with quarterback Chase Holbrook, who is one of the most productive signal callers in the nation. The game will be a shootout that Hawaii could be in danger of los-

The lack of teams capable of finishing their season undefeated is evidence of the parity that is sweeping college football. It's also making it only more apparent that a playoff system needs to be put in place. Seriously, who is the best team in the country? Who can tell? A playoff system answers these questions and if the NCAA would just listen, I think it'd realize the amount of money that can be made with a postseason. It is a fiscal amount that could easily rival the bowl system. Now they just have to get rid of the oldheads within the association that want to block any sort of

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Sonic

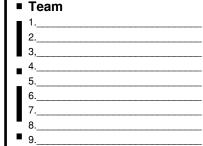
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Address Phone Number Tie Breaker - Circle the winner and note total points scored **Washington at New England** 

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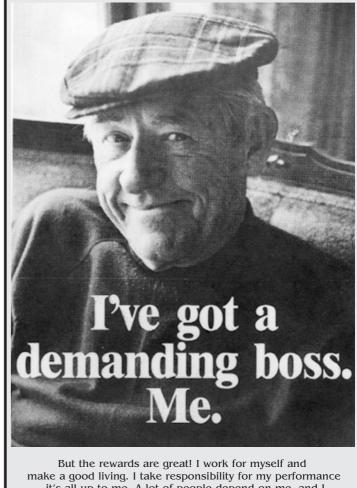
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Advertisement for Sealed Bids The Howard County Junior College District is now accepting bids for the following:

#### RFB# 08-004 **Biology Lab Furniture**

Documents may be obtained from Jason Mims, Director of Business Services, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720. (432)264-5167. Sealed proposals will be accepted through 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 6, 2007, in the Practical Arts Building, room 105A, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be read into record. Vendors are instructed that a formal opening will not occur. The college will negotiate with qualified vendors concerning the bids submitted. The final determination of proposal award will be made at a future board meeting.

All questions should be directed to Jsaon Mims. Director of Business Services, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big 79720. Spring, e-mail imims@howardcollege.edu (432)264-5167. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

#5567 October 16 & 23, 2007

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## Tomorrow's Horoscope

#### BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Want something so bad you burn with desire? Maybe it's revealing your feelings to someone, or singing a song at openmike night. The sun's entry into Scorpio moves us closer to the thing that makes our heart quicken. Risking humiliation and heartbreak, we push past psychological comfort zones to experience the fullness of passionate living.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're a maverick you're so comfortable out of the mainstream that you become immune to risks of standing alone. This is why you'll be recognized and paid well.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Restlessness has its benefits, so don't be discouraged by the need to move. Travel will bring you benefits that are intangible yet very real.

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Advertisement for Sealed Bids The Howard County Junior College District is now accepting bids for the following:

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#### RFB# 08-006 Instructor Stations and Console

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All questions should be directed to Jsaon Mims, Director of Business Services, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big 79720, TX jmims@howardcollege.edu (432)264-5167. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #5569 October 16 & 23, 2007

Scorpio or Aquarius turns you onto new stomping grounds.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You want extra reassurance from friends and loved ones. Charm it out of them and you avoid coming off as needy. Tonight, read. You'll learn precisely the information that will benefit you most.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). No matter how long you have to work, be sure to spend time with family. Being happy with your family is a cure-all. You'll be able to quickly resolve issues that unhappy kin spend a lifetime fighting about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have so much energy to burn off! Strenuous activities ultimately relax you. When you do sports and hobbies with loved ones, the bond thickens. Grown children still need you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your total commitment makes success happen. Give yourself to a person or project with great conviction. When there is no room for doubt, there is no room for failure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Sticking to the plan is noble — except when the plan is plain stupid. Luckily, you're flexible and wise. Tonight is about those powers that have gone untapped and how you start tapping them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Be mindful of the company you keep. The wrong influence makes you act very unlike yourself. The right one brings out your loveliest qualities. Sagittarius is a fabulous match.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's a message you are broadcasting. Are you aware of what it is? Today brings deeper selfunderstanding. If your message isn't captivating the right audience, you can always change it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're genuinely happy everywhere you go. It's the staying that troubles you. Time to get organized at home. Keep working until at last there's a place in vour abode that feels like a sanctuary.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Troubles are blown out of portion. Relationship issues boil down to simple miscommunication.

Technical problems are easily remedied. Remember the old stand-by fix: Unplug it for a minute, then boot up again.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're mind is firing off images, memories and articulations a million miles a minute. You need a pen and pad at all times to capture your brilliance.

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# County OKs reinvestment zones

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners approved a trio of reinvestment zones necessary to grant tax abatements Monday morning, moving forward with negotiations with several wind energy developers that could lead to an estimated 400 to 500 new turbines being erected in the county.

Commissioners met with Terry Wegman, executive director for Moore Development, who is serving as a liaison between the wind energy developers and local taxing entities for the purpose of establishing reinvestment zones, and ultimately, negotiating tax abatements for several proposed projects.

The court approved reinvestment zones A, B and C, following a public hearing that drew comments from only a single property owner.

"I have a section of land in this zone that has not been leased by any of the

wind energy companies," said Bobby Cathey. "I'm not sure how you can abate taxes on that property if it hasn't been leased. Also, taxes on the property in this zone are going to go up, so am I going to be looking at higher taxes even if nothing's built on that section?"

tuesday page 3a 10/23/07 11:03 AM Page 1 Network Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder:

According to County Judge Mark Barr, Cathey and other land owners with property within the three reinvestment zones shouldn't see any increases in taxes due to the projects unless turbines or other facilities are actually constructed on their property.

"The higher taxes are a result of what's being built on the land," said Barr. "It's not a situation where you're going to have higher taxes just because the property is within the zone. It's all based on what's on the property, not where it is." Zone A of the project —

the likes of Duke Energy, which is planning a 59 megawatt project with construction possibly to begin in 2008; Airtricity Energy, which plans a 36 megawatt project Howard County and a 75 megawatt project in Glasscock, to be completed in 2008; and Padoma Energy, which is planning an undetermined megawatt project. Zone B — which falls in

possibly Glasscock inde-

pendent school districts

— is expected to include

the Coahoma Independent School District expected to see civil construction, including roadways and other minimal improvements, begin as soon as the first of 2008, with commercial construction expected to begin Dec. 31, 2008.

Zone C — which falls mainly within the Big Spring Independent School District — could see a project between 120-170 megawatts, with the first phase in by the end of 2008, and a total of 250

megawatts when the project is completed, according to Heather Otten, one of several representatives of the wind energy developers present during the meeting.

Wegman said the court's approval of the three ber on it," said Wegman. zones will help move the project into the next phase.

"We'll be meeting with the developers and our tax abatement advisory committee, which is an ad hoc committee that meets to look at the different types of abatement structures that are out there," said Wegman. "We want to start narrowing that down so we can come back to the commissioner's court and the college with specific abatement proposals. Then, course, it's up to them. We're just there in an advisory role. They will make the final decision on whether to accept the proposals or not. But that's the next step, and I hope to begin meeting in the next week or two to

begin developing those to take back to the different taxing entities."

What the projects will mean for the county's tax roll is still unclear, according to Wegman.

"It's hard to put a num-"Some of the projects are 120 megawatts, some are 40 megawatts — some of them are even 180 megawatts — but, just as a rule of thumb, you can figure close to \$1 million (of taxable value) per megawatt.

"I don't really have a number when it comes to the turbines," he added. "Some of these guvs are going to put up big ones and some are going to put up smaller ones. A 100 megawatt project could be 50 of the 2-megawatt turbines or 100 of the 1megawatt turbines. It all depends on what size turbines they decide to use. Most of the developers are leaning toward the bigger ones, so we'll be generating more electricity with fewer towers, basically.

"Even the smaller developments — the smallest one is 36 megawatts will be putting up quite a few turbines. I think we're looking at between 400 and 500 turbines at this point, but that's nothing more than a rough estimate."

Barr said the projects could spell considerable tax relief for the county over the next several years, but at this point in the proceedings, it's all just speculation.

"Our tax revenue could certainly go up," said Barr. "I'm not sure at this point exactly how much it could go up, but we could see it go up by \$1 million. Maybe a little more than that.

"I definitely feel like this is a positive step for us. I know land owners that will benefit from it. so will the county and the school districts. The school districts are the ones that will really benefit from this. Howard College will also benefit from these projects."

## **BSISD**

Continued from Page 1A

infrastructure. A recent architectural assessment stated that it is no longer cost-effective to keep three elementaries Washington, Marcy and Bauer — open for the long-term future.

To correct that problem, the committee supported the "fewer but bigger" solution of closing all five campuses — including Kentwood and Moss and replacing them with one or two elementaries. Bauer and Washington,

The older buildings that could not be effectively utilized would be sold or leveled, while the others would be used to house district administrative and support services.

which will fall in the

Forsan, Big Spring and

Committee member Tim Yeats said BSISD elementary campuses approaching critical mass.

"One of the things that struck me the most while touring these buildings was just how over-extended our elementaries are,' Yeats said. "They are practically bursting at the seams. And, especially at they are simply out of date and non-repairable."

An added benefit to consolidating elementary committee campuses, members said, would be long-term savings in salaries because of the need for fewer administrative staff, and in the area of utility costs with fewer buildings being uti-

And, Yeats said, consolidation also avoids the possibility of "campus envy."

"If we just replace one or two elementaries and keep others open, vou face the probability that everyone will want to move to the new schools — teachers as well as parents," he said.

buildings Other received the committee's attention, as well. The old Anderson Kindergarten Center building, which fared very poorly in the architect's survey, would be shut down and its current services — including special education would be moved elsewhere.

Elementary campuses that fared well in the Moss and study Kentwood would absorb district services,

while the others would likely face demolition and/or sale.

The high school also was faulted by the facility assessment, but both architects and the committee believe it can be salvaged for at least the next 10 or 20 years by addressing "immediate needs," which include alternative education and replacing the roof, repairing the steel lintel work on the south side of the structure and making necessary renovations to various stairways.

> No price tags are as yet available to project the costs of those immediate

needs, much less the price tag for one or two new elementary campuses. Downes said that is one of the tasks facing trustees in the coming months.

"They will continue work in their November meeting to develop price opinions and timelines," Downes said.

"The work of the committee was outstanding. They were dedicated and committed. Their work was appreciated, and we look forward to working with them again in the near future."

## **NOTIFY**

Continued from Page 1A

made necessary when the local jail was shut down by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards in November 2006 for failing to meet several life safety issues.

"This happened back before I

was in court the day commis- were doing business. sioners had somewhat of a ver- "They sent us a contract, bal contract with them for four months, and after that it was just going to be a month-tomonth deal. Nobody saw a written contract after that. The commissioners court never saw

was county judge," said Barr. another written contract after "We didn't know where we that. And they (commissioners) stood with Dickens County. I assumed that's the way we

> which was signed by Dale Walker and Judge (Ben) Lockhart, that said they had to give 30 days notice, and that's where the hitch begins. No one knew. The sheriff's department

that four-month period they could do whatever they wanted. he's hoping the county can clause in the contract, and of change. that's what they are basing their allegations on. They are saying we still owe them another \$129,780."

Barr said he's unsure what the outcome of mediations

was under the idea that after between Thomas and Dickens County officials will yield, but But evidentially, it had a 30-day manage to save a sizable chunk

"I don't know where it will go," said Barr. "We'll just have to see. Maybe we can cut the cost down considerably. I certainly hope so.'

## **JAIL**

Continued from Page 1A

moving into this new jail this time next year. And that would be great. It would really save the county some money.'

Barr said the company's fee for the project will be 7.75 percent of the building cost.

"We don't have that exact figure on the building cost yet," said Barr.

#### "Based on what Jeff (Heffelfinger. project architect) is saying, we're looking at between \$9 million and \$10 million for the building cost. We don't know for sure because they don't have all of their material costs in yet. This includes everything, even travel expenses, phones calls and everything else. It's a turn-kev job."

While commissioners continue to move forward

with the project, the fate of the entire effort will rest on a \$11.57 million bond issue currently before Howard County voters, with early voting in the election having begun Monday morning. commissioner's The

court placed a similar bond election on the November 2006 ballot, asking voters to approve a bond for slightly more than \$10 million to finance a 144-bed jail,

drinking," Ryan said. "And this lets us teach those kids that there is a healthy way to accomplish things. Hopefully, those kids won't grow up which was voted down by more than 60 percent.

The existing county jail was shut down by the Commission on Jail Standards in November 2006, after the facility's smoke evacuation system failed to meet requirements during a pair of tests in 2006. The facility was reopened six months later after more than \$250,000 in repairs.



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## **RIBBON**

Continued from Page 1A

cal, aside from ceremonial, purposes.

"This really does raise awareness among our young people," Ryan said. "Talking about the drug problem raises awareness not only for the kids, but for teachers and parents as well."

Daily programs, ranging from dress-up days to balloon launches to special classroom and assembly projects, will occur every day this week, Ryan said.

Elementary programs

may be fun in nature, but Ryan said they have a deadly serious rationale.

"We just want to make the little kids aware that there are some bad things

out there, like drugs and and get hooked on drugs.



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-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big

Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Ron Midkiff

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

**Bill McClellan** 

## **OUR VIEWS**

# Angel Tree registration ends Friday

ow's the time to be thinking about Christmas, particularly if you or someone you know will be in need of the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program. In fact, it's too late to be thinking about the holidays, it's time to

Capts. Russ and Linda Keeney and their staff are now taking applications from parents needing the holiday assistance through Friday at the Corps building, located at 811 W. Fifth St. Salvation Army officials will register participants from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

But it is important to remember that Friday is the final day to sign up for the program. There will be no late registration because the Army's personnel have to get everything written on cards and get them distributed to the various Angel Tree sites. So, it's imperative that those needing assistance from the program get registered in the next few days.

Last year the Salvation Army helped more than 500 children and countless senior citizens. And although registration got off to a slow start last week, there's little doubt in anyone's mind that even more families need help this year.

While the list of documents applicants need to bring with them to apply is rather lengthy, applicants will be able to know whether or not they are approved on the spot.

Those seeking to apply should bring a picture ID for the person applying, Social Security cards for all household members, birth certificates for children 12 and under and some proof of income like a payroll check stub from work or forms provided by food stamps, AFDC, TANIF, HUD etc. They must also provide a copy of all of their expenses, as well as a list of what their children might want for Christmas, including clothing and shoe sizes.

Once the names and gift ideas are collected and put on the trees in the form of cards, area shoppers will have the opportunity to brighten a child's holiday by choosing one and purchasing items for them.

Although the Angel Tree program is a big part of the Salvation Army's holiday effort, it's by no means the only one. As we have already noted in this space, the local corps office is also gearing up for the Thanksgiving holiday, as well as the annual canned food drive.

For information concerning any of the Salvation Army's community programs, call 267-8239.

## How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St. • By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

### LETTER POLICIES

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- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
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## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we take a break away from the hectic earthly life everyday, Lord, and talk with You.

Amen

## Breast cancer prevention is key

ou may have read recently about a new report from the nation's leading cancer organizations showing cancer death rate declines nearly doubling in recent years. And while it is good news that overall cancer death rates are

declining, in breast cancer that is not the case — they are holding steady. The message is clear: We must remain vigilant in our efforts to continue research and take all the important steps towards prevention. Which leads me to



**O**PINION

DANA

NEUGEBAUER

ask, as we observe October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month: Have you had your annual mammogram?

Surprisingly, chances are the answer to that question is "no." We know that we should do so, but often it gets pushed aside by the daily tasks of life, yet it is critical to make time and get an exam. This is something one needs to make time for.

Real strides are being made in the fight against breast cancer. When detected early, the five-year survival rate is 98 percent. With a statistic like that, isn't it alarming that recent research shows the rate of women getting their regular mammogram is declining?

Right now, there are over two million women living in the U.S. who have been treated for breast cancer. Nationwide, more than 178,480 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and approximately 40,460 women will lose their lives from the disease this year. In the State of Texas alone, 12,120 new breast cancer cases are estimated to be diagnosed in 2007 and 2, 480 deaths in the state will be attributed to this disease.

We can all do our part in further reducing the incidence of breast cancer by knowing our risk, getting screened, and talking with our family, friends and loved ones about prevention. This is not a disease that affects women alone; it can also affect men as well. We all have loved ones that could be struck by this awful disease mothers, fathers, grandfathers, grandmothers, sisters, brothers, sons, daughters, friends and other important people in each of our

Here are some tips on prevention and early detection:

The combination of monthly breast self-exams, yearly clinical breast exams, and regular mammograms beginning at age 40 is the best way to detect breast cancer in its earliest and most treatable stages.

Breast Self-Exam (BSE): Every woman should examine her breasts once a month to check for physical changes. If you are unsure of how to perform a breast self-exam, ask your health care provider to demonstrate and explain the ideal time to conduct one. It is very important for women to become familiar with their breasts and understand what feels normal. Start early, beginning at age 20.

Clinical Breast Exam (CBE): Be sure to ask your health care provider to give you a clinical breast exam each year. The exam consists of checking the breasts for any changes, lumps, or other possible warning signs of breast cancer through physical touch and appearance. You should begin having clinical breast exams in your 20s and 30s.

Mammography: Beginning at age 40, all women should have an annual mammogram. It is a good idea to have a baseline mammogram at age 35. The mammogram is an "X-ray" of the breast and is the most effective method of detecting breast changes that may be cancerous, long before physical symptoms can be seen or felt.

It is also important to know that

while all men and women are at risk, some women are at a high risk. What groups are these? Age itself is a risk factor for breast cancer, of which many women are not aware. About 77 percent of the women diagnosed are over the age of 50.

**BIG SPRING HERALD** 

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Also at high risk are women with a family history of breast cancer are high risk, women with inherited abnormal genes, women who have previously had cancer in one breast and obese women with sedentary lifestyles.

Breast cancer is often detected in its earliest stage as an abnormality on a mammogram before it can be felt by a woman or by her health care provider. The following may occur when a cancer has grown to the point where physical signs and symptoms are present: breast lump or thickening; swelling, redness or tenderness; skin or nipple changes in color or texture; dimpling or puckering of the skin; nipple pain, discharge, scaliness or retraction; and lumps under the armpit area. If you experience any of these symptoms, see your health care provider immediately.

Some other common sense prevention tips — that are appropriate beyond breast cancer as well — are to eat a low fat diet, exercise regularly, and to not smoke. If you suspect that you are at high risk for the disease, talk to your health care provider immediately. It will never hurt to be pro-active; doing so could save your life or a life of someone you love.

If you would like additional information on cancer prevention, please visit the Prevent Cancer Foundation web site at www.preventcancer.org.

Dana Neugebauer is the wife of U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer and a member of the Congressional Families Cancer Prevention Program of the Prevent Cancer Foundation.

## **ADDRESSES**

#### **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

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Washington, D.C. 20510-4305 Phone: 202-224-5922

#### JOHN CORNYN U.S. Senator

517 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-4305 Phone: 202-224-2934

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### •KEL SELIGER

State Senator Texas 31st District 401 Austin, Suite 101 Big Spring, 79720 Phone: (432) 268-9909

## The trade deficit is doing us

he U.S. economy has been in expansion mode since November 2001. Though of reasonable duration, the expansion has been persistently fragile and unbalanced. That is now coming home to roost in the

form of the sub-prime mortgage crisis and the bursting house price bubble. As part of the fallout, the Federal Reserve is being criticized for keeping interest rates too low for too long, thereby promoting credit and housing market excess. However, the reality



PALLEY

is that low rates were needed to sustain the expansion. Instead, the root problem is a distorted expansion caused by record trade deficits and manufacturing's failure to fully participate in the expansion.

If the Fed deserves criticism it is for endorsing the policy that has created this pattern. That paradigm rests on disregard of manufacturing and neglect of the adverse real consequences of trade deficits.

By almost every measure the current expansion has been shallow compared to previous business cycles. Beginning with an extended period of jobless recovery, private sector job growth has been below par through most of the expansion. Though the headline unemployment rate has fallen significantly, the percentage of the working age population that is employed remains far below its previous peak. Meanwhile, inflation-adjusted wages have barely changed despite rising productivi-

This gloomy picture justified the Fed keeping interest rates low.

However, it begs the question of why this economic weakness exists despite historically low interest rates, massive tax cuts in 2001 and huge increases in military and security spending triggered by 9/11 and the Iraq war? The answer is the over-valued dollar and the trade deficit, which more than doubled between 2001 and 2006 to \$838 billion, equaling 6.5 percent of GDP. Increased imports have shifted spending away from domestic manufacturers, which explains manufacturing's weak participation in the expansion. Some firms have closed permanently, while others have grown less than they would have otherwise. Additionally, many have reduced investment owing to weak demand or have moved their investment to China and elsewhere. These effects have then multiplied through the economy, with lost manufacturing jobs and reduced investment causing lost incomes that have further weakened job creation.

The evidence is clear. Manufacturing has lost 1.8 million jobs during the expansion, which is unprecedented. Before 1980 manufacturing employment hit new peaks every expansion. Since 1980 it has trended down, but it at least recovered somewhat during expansions. This business cycle it has fallen during the expansion. The business investment numbers tell a similar dismal story, with spending being much weaker than in previous cycles.

These conditions compelled the Fed to keep interest rates low to maintain the expansion. That policy worked, but by stimulating loose credit and a house price bubble that triggered a construction boom. Thus, residential investment never fell during the recession and has been stronger than

normal during the expansion. Construction, which accounted for 5 percent of total employment, has provided over twelve percent of job growth. Meanwhile, higher house prices have fuelled a borrowing boom that has enabled consumption spending to grow despite stagnant wages. This explains both increased imports and job growth in the service sector.

The overall picture is one of a distorted expansion in which manufacturing continued shriveling while imports and services expanded. This pattern was carried by an unsustainable house price bubble and rising consumer debt burdens, and that contradiction has surfaced with the implosion of the sub-prime mortgage market and deflation of the house price bubble.

The ideological and partisan Alan Greenspan wholeheartedly endorsed corporate globalization and promoted the White House and Treasury's unbalanced expansion policies. The Fed's professional economics staff also seems to have dismissed domestic manufacturing's significance and endorsed corporate globalization in the name of free trade. Consequently, the Fed has tacitly supported the underlying policy that has given rise to America's distorted expansion. Despite talk about reducing global financial imbalances, the Bernanke Fed still seems locked in to this paradigm and that is where constructive criticism should now be directed.

Dr. Thomas Palley is an economist living in Washington, D.C. He has published in numerous academic journals and written for The Atlantic Monthly, American Prospect and Nation magazines. DISTRIBUTED BY MINUTEMANMEDIA.ORG.

# Bird Poop: Prairie merlin rescued by puzzled ranch owner her that the visitor had "Must be what my



A member of the falcon family, the prairie merlin has the characteristic toothed and notched bill. Capable of flying 30-45 mph, the bird is not only fearless in going after its prey, but will attack humans nearing its nest.

involved in rescue and rehabilitation of migratory birds, October is a cornucopia of species. When the rancher described the bird encamped near her

winter stack of firewood, she asked if there are albinos among small hawks. "It's just plain washed out as far as color is concerned."



Comparing it in size to the American kestrels that frequented the ranch, the woman was puzzled by what she

Relating that the hawklike visitor had been hanging around the ranch house for days, she was concerned about its poor flight ability when attempting to perch atop a fence post or the cord of wood. Through her binoculars, the rancher had noticed the ragged edge of the bird's tail. "Been down awhile. Do you think it could be somebody's bird?" she added. When she called later that afternoon to say she had easily been able to catch the bird, we headed northwest some 46 miles to the ranch.

After meeting the lady and seeing the prairie merlin, we agreed with

probably been forced to land, rest and seek refuge at her ranch because of the wind, rain and hail storm spawned by our unusually warm fall. Having left his Canadian breeding grounds, her autumn guest might have migrated through eastern Colorado and New Mexico. Once inside western Texas, the falcon was fortunate to encounter a host who realized he needed help.

Placing the merlin on his back with his head covered to calm him, we extended the pale, blueish-gray, long pointed wings. Feeling no obvious fractures, we noticed the white throat and creamy white underparts streaked with brown. Its tapered gray tail, barred with black, was tipped with white. As we and the ranch owner compared the merlin to a kestrel, she realized that her bird was slightly larger, but certainly not as colorful. Obvious was the lack of the distinctive facial stripe that augments a kestrel's attire.

Feeling the merlin may have suffered soft tissue injuries, or bruising, from the hail, we decided his journey to Mexico and even South America would have a detour. Until the falcon could resume his fast, powerful flight, he would recuperate at the Lubbock wildlife center.

father used to call a pigeon hawk," commented the rancher as we traded information regarding her find. Her dad had watched the seasonal falcons overtake and easily snatch small birds out of the air with their taloned feet.

As we described how these streamlined flyers with superb eyesight spot their prey from above, we added the merlins partially fold their wings and plunge downward toward their next meal. To our comment, "they may be small in stature, but they're huge in their ferocious attack," she said now she really appreciated even more her father's stories.

"Up close it's obvious he was not an albino. But from a distance, he looked so pale," was her next observation. Compared to other birds, the merlin had given a first impression of being faded and barely colored. After we had examined the bird, and she had observed the falcon's markings, she understood why she had been mistaken.

In autumns of the future, the ranch owner would understand why the merlins frequented her land. Her stock ponds would provide small water birds, while her feeders attracted blackbirds and sparrows.

See MERLIN, Page 7A

## Laura on Life: One strange holiday

such a strange holiday. I know the beginnings of this holiday as well as any 8-year-old. But it has...evolved.

Halloween started with the celebration of the Catholic feast day, All Saints Day which is Nov. 1. Saints cannot be canonized unless, of



**SNYDER** 

course, they are dead. I guess that keeps people honest. You don't want just anybody being saintly their whole life simply because they wanted the title. So, we wait until they are dead, that way we know for sure that

Anyway, the reasoning here is that on the night before All Saints Day, all the saints come out of their hiding places and roam around looking for the party that the Pope is having in their honor. I guess we living people just want to fit in so we dress like ghosts and various other personifications of dead people: Dracula, zombies, skeletons. Which is weird. because no saint worth his salt would be caught dead sucking blood or

terrorizing live people. So, okay, I get the whole dead-people-roaming-around-on-Halloween thing. But where do the other costumes fit in? What about witches, which are, in essence, the opposite of saints? (And I'm talking about the bad witches, here, not the good witches.) How about those cute little bunnies in strollers? What about the ninjas and fairy princesses?

Are we to assume that some saints had black

cats? Or does a black cat simply mean that a witch is around? I'm pretty sure that is just a superstition. If so, then why doesn't anyone carry a ladder over their heads

See LAURA, Page 7A

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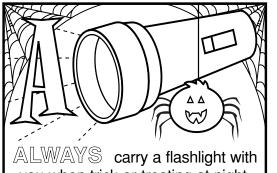
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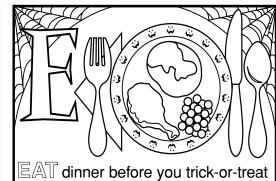
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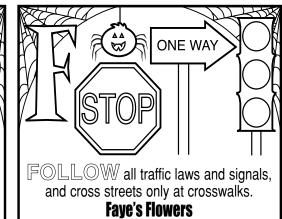
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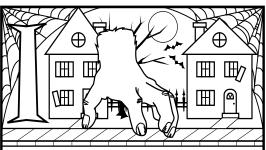
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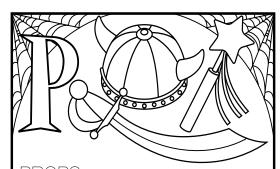
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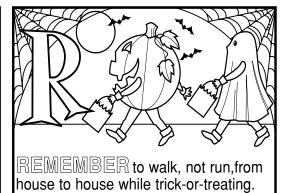
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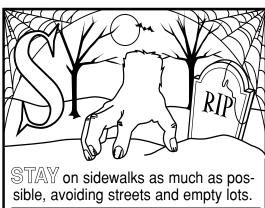
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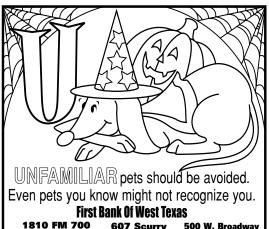


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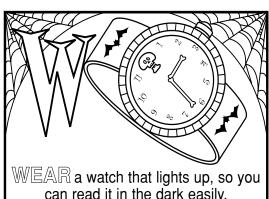
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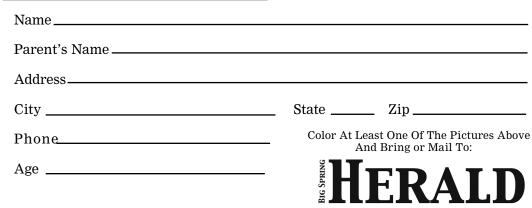


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9 :30	(CC)	(CC)	Otros Secretos	Raymond	,,	Ajenos	SVU	The Office	,,	Lens (CC)	,,	Hellraiser	27	(CC)	College-Interns	Life Derek	Tonight (CC)	,,	"
40 :PI	News (CC)		Primer Impacto		News			Sex and-City	Update/Israel	Charlie Rose	Dirty Jobs	"	"	Cold Case	Take the Cake		Madden Nation	oponto o onto	Movie: Jason
10 :3	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero Univ.	Raymond	Late Show-	Decisiones de	Tonight Show	Sex and-City	Keith Miller	(CC)	(CC)	,,	"	(CC)	(CC)	Han. Montana	Madden Nation	(CC)	X
aa :PI	The Insider	Jimmy Kimmel	La Hora de la	My Wife-Kids	Letterman	Famosos	,,	Movie: The	Joe McGee	Tavis Smiley	Dirty Jobs	Movie: The	Scream 2007	Without a	Hell Date	Replacements	NASCAR Now	Baseball	,,
11 :30	Jimmy Kimmel	Live (CC)	Risa	'70s Show	Late Late	!Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night-	Wood (CC)	Biblical Israel	Tavis Smiley	,,	Fog (CC)	27	Trace (CC)	Hell Date	Kim Possible	The Contender	NFL Live	"
40 :AI	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)			Show	"	Conan O'Brien	27	Update/Israel	Sign Off	150th Dirty	"	"			Emperor New		SportsCenter	Twilight Zone
12 :30	News (CC)	Paid Program	"	George Lopez	The Insider	Programa	News	27	J.R. Church	"	Job	,,	"	Trace (CC)	,,	American Drgn	Best of Base-	(CC)	Twilight Zone

#### **DENNIS THE MENACE**



\*ITS ONLY BEEN 5 YEARS SINCE THEY BROUGHT HIM HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS





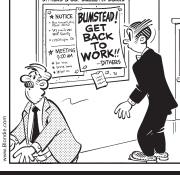
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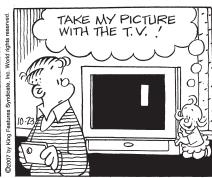




HI AND LOIS



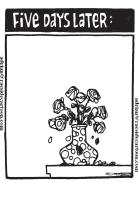




THE OTHER COAST









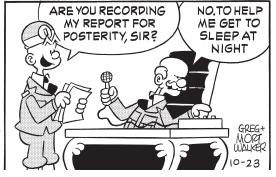
## SNUFFY SMITH





### **BEETLE BAILEY**





## This Date In History

Todav is Tuesday, Oct. 23, the 296th day of 2007. There are 69 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 23, 1707, the first Parliament of Great Britain, created by the Acts of Union between England and Scotland, held its first meeting.

On this date:

In 1864, forces led by Union Gen. Samuel R. Curtis repelled Confederate Gen. Sterling Price's army in the Civil War Battle of Westport in Missouri.

In 1915, tens of thousands of women marched in New York City, demanding the right to vote.

In 1925, talk show host Johnny Carson was born in Corning, Iowa.

In 1942, during World War II, Britain launched a major offensive against Axis forces at El Alamein in Egypt.

In 1944, the World War II

Battle of Leyte Gulf began, resulting in an Allied victo-

In 1946, the United Nations

General Assembly convened in New York for the first time, at an auditorium in Flushing Meadow. In 1956, a student-sparked

revolt against Hungary's Communist rule began; as the revolution spread, Soviet forces started entering the country, and the uprising was put down within weeks. In 1973, President Richard Nixon agreed to turn over

White House tape recordings subpoenaed by the Watergate special prosecutor to John J. Sirica. In 1983, 241 U.S. Marines and sailors in Lebanon were

killed in a suicide truckbombing at Beirut International Airport; a near-simultaneous attack on French forces killed 58 paratroopers. In 1987, the U.S. Senate

rejected, 58-42, the Supreme Court nomination of Robert H. Bork.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Philip Kaufman is 71. Soccer great Pele is 67. Author Michael Crichton is

65. Rhythm-and-blues singer Barbara Ann Hawkins (The Dixie Cups) is 64. Actor Michael Rupert is 56. Movie director Ang Lee is 53. Jazz singer Dianne Reeves is 51. Country singer Dwight Yoakam is 51. Movie director Sam Raimi is 48. "Weird Al" Parodist Yankovic is 48. Rock musician Robert Trujillo (Metallica) is 43. Rhythmand-blues singer David Thomas (Take 6) is 41. Rock musician Brian Nevin (Big Head Todd and the Monsters) is 41. Country singer-musician Junior Bryant is 39. Country singer Jimmy Wayne is 35.

2007 The Associated Press.

# Answer to previous puzzle

## **Newsday Crossword**

**65** Dog treats

67 Driving-

**68** Warner

**DOWN** 

tools

drawing

WSW

**6** First-rate

small

8 "Classified"

listings

4 Dir. opposite

1 Book page

2 Hole-punching

3 Completed, as

a comic-strip

5 Inventor Edison

7 Comparatively

**9** Very high grade

66 Lawn burrower

listings: Abbr.

(film studio)

directions

#### **ACROSS 1** Doily material 5 Londoner's

- farewell 9 Dry as a desert
- 13 Attach, as a shirt button **14** Prepared
- ground for planting 15 Cornbread
- **16** Wasn't fooled by fakery
- 19 In that case 20 "So be it!"
- 21 Family vehicles
- 22 Singer McEntire
- **24** Transgressions 26 Make a
- change to 29 Loses traction
- 31 Gradeschooler's transportation
- **34** Special treat 36 Butterflycatching device
- **37** Vatican leader **38** Trying to increase one's
- salary **41** High-schooler, usually
- 42 Obtained 43 Old Faithful, for example
- 44 Suffix for west **45** Jockey's mount
- 47 Food plans 48 Snake's tooth **49** Roaring feline
- 51 con carne **54** Significant times
- **56** Pesky insect 60 Rejoin a group 63 Smell
- (be suspicious) 64 Stack

- **10** Overwhelming **40** Fix up victory
- 11 Data, for short **12** Dict. entries 13 Biol. or chem.
- 17 Pat gently 18 Makes illegal
- 23 Ireland alias **25** Delegate's
- badge **26** Playing marble
- 27 Last-place finisher 28 Small
- souvenir **30** Ship-speed units
- 31 Idaho's capital
- 32 Topple
- 33 Fortune-tellers **35** Incite
- **37** Buying, as at a restaurant

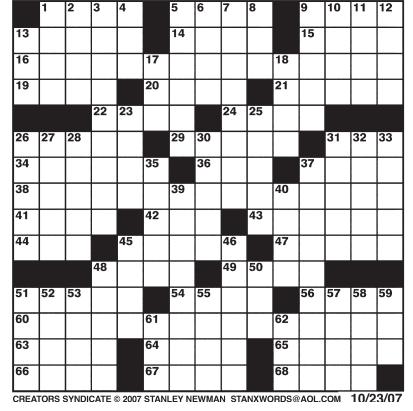
- ANTE UP by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman
- www.stanxwords.com 39 "No way!"
  - material 46 Makes happy 48 Wind
  - instrument **50** Suffix meaning

45 Mustache

"sort of" **51** Study hard **52** Courageous

one

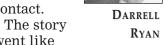
- **53** Type like *this*: Abbr. 55 Acting job
- **57** Taboo thing **58** Beerlike
- beverages **59** Six-pt. football plays
- **61** Car Talk network
- 62 Abate



## The power of our actions

day but we never know the extent of how we touch their lives. I read a story the

story the other day that made me stop to think of how important it is to be aware of this daily contact.



went like this: One day, when I was a freshman in high school, I saw a kid from my class walking home from school. His name was Kyle. He was loaded down with books. I thought to myself, "Why would anyone bring home all his books on a Friday? He must really be a nerd." I had quite a weekend planned, so I shrugged my shoulders and went on.

As I was walking, I saw a bunch of kids running toward Kyle. They ran into him, knocking all the books out of his arms and sending him to the ground with his glasses flying. I jogged over to him as he crawled around looking for his glasses, and I saw a tear in his eye.

As I handed him his glasses, I said, "Those guys are jerks. They really should get lives." He

## PARENT'S CORNER

We should

never

underestimate

the power of

our actions.

With one small

gesture we

can change a

person's life.

looked at me and said, "Hey thanks!" There were tears in his eyes but a big smile on his face. It was one of those smiles that showed real gratitude.

tuesday page 7a 10/23/07 10:55 AM Page 1 Network Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder:

I helped him pick up his books, and asked him where he lived. As it turned out, he lived near me, so I

asked him why I had never seen him before. He said he had gone to private school before now.

We began to walk on our way home, and I carried some of his books. He turned out to be a pretty cool kid. We hung out all weekend and

the more I got to know him, the more I liked him, and my friends thought the same of him. Monday morning came, and there was Kyle with the huge stack of books again. I stopped him and said, "Boy, you are gonna really build some serious muscles with this pile of books everyday!"

He just laughed and handed me half the

books. Over the next four years, Kyle and I became best friends. When we were seniors we began to think about college. Kyle decided on Georgetown and I was going to Duke. I knew that we would always be friends, that the miles would never be a problem.

going to be a doctor and I was going for business on a football scholarship. Kyle was valedictorian of our class and he had to prepare a speech for graduation. I was so glad it wasn't me having to get up there and speak.

He was

Graduation day, I saw Kyle. He

looked great. He was one of those guys that really found himself during high school. He filled out and actually looked good in glasses. He had more dates than I had and all the girls loved him. Sometimes I was jealous and today was one of those days.

As he started his speech, he cleared his throat, and began,

"Graduation is a time to thank those who helped you make it through those tough years; your parents, your teachers, your siblings, maybe a coach, but mostly your friends. I am here to tell all of you that being a friend to someone is the best gift you can give them. I am going to tell you a story."

I just looked at my friend with disbelief as he told the story of the first day we met. He had planned to kill himself over the weekend. He talked of how he had cleaned out his locker so his Mom wouldn't have to do it later and was carrying his stuff home. He looked hard at me and gave me a little smile.

"Thankfully, I was saved. My friend saved me from doing the unspeakable." I heard the gasp go through the crowd as this handsome, popular boy told us all about his weakest moment. I saw his Mom and dad looking at me and smiling that same grateful smile. Not until that moment did I realize its depth.

We should never underestimate the power of our actions. With one small gesture we can change a person's life.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for Big Spring Independent School District.

## **Support Groups**

#### TODAY

•The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministeries, 1209 Wright St.

• Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA), 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard County Library Basement Community Room. DRA is a 12-step meeting for those who have a desire to stop drinking and/or using drugs and also have a mental or emotional illness.

All meetings are non-smoking and coffee is not avail-

All meetings are non-smoking and coffee is not available but members can bring their own coffee or non-alcoholic beverage. For more information, call Deidra F. at (432) 816-3033. Leave a message if you get voice mail.

• Life Recovery, a non-denominational Christian group of recovering alcoholics and addicts, meets at 7 p.m. at the St. Paul Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 264-1213 for more information.

#### THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

#### **FRIDAY**

 $\bullet$  AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY**

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

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## **LAURA**

Continued from Page 5A

on Halloween? Or throw salt hither and yon? Instead we bob for apples, carve pumpkins, and yell "trick or treat" at every door that has a light on beside it. I know that "trick or treat" used to mean that if you didn't give a box of Nerds to a kid decked out in Superman gear, he'd play a trick on you. Maybe, but the only trick I ever heard of was knocking over someone's outhouse. I don't think this is an

Still, I don't want to take any chances with my toilet facilities, so I always throw a treat into the bag. It feels very much like being mugged

The pastures filled with doves would also offer

fuel the merlins' journey

Her family had long accepted nature's ability

to over-produce some

and this merlin had

species as food for others

issue anymore.

**MERLIN** 

Contineud from 5A

mice, lizards, small snakes and insects to

southward.

by a guy in a ski mask. Apparently, either muggers are getting shorter these days or else they don't make Superman costumes for tall muggers. Anyway, it doesn't seem very saintly.

Another "tradition" of Halloween (or All Hallows Eve) is for teenagers to forego any costumes and arm themselves with toilet paper and shaving cream. Neither of these items were available when the majority of saints were signed up. So where did that come from? Somehow Halloween has evolved into the night when you can get revenge on someone for any injury, physical or otherwise that was done to you throughout the rest of the year. I haven't

reminded her of its place

**NOW YOUR** 

American Standard

in the environment.

done the research that would tell me what the criteria for sainthood is, but it seems unlikely that a saint would be required to do that.

I think that the whole concept of canonizing people for sainthood was a good one. I believe that whoever came up with that idea intended to encourage people to live a good life. I believe also that there was a need to have a feast day to honor these dead people, because there was no way to honor them when they were alive.

Still, I don't think they realized what kind of trouble these saints would cause when they came back from the dead one night a year. And I'm pretty sure that they didn't envision what

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**Buster Gartman** 

TACLB003559E

Halloween has now become: A very dysfunctional holiday.

E-mail Laura Snyder at lsnyder@lauraonlife.com or visit her website www.lauraonlife.com.

# WANTED 50 PEOPLE with hearing loss to be "product testers"

of the nearing loss to be product testers



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offers clarity, conven-

or performance on

ience, style and superi-

every level. It offers a

more natural hearing

than ever before. It's

guaranteed not to

"As part of our product study, the leading manufacturers of hearing aids are looking for 50 people who will qualify as product testers to try these new innovative hearing solutions," said Richard Davila of Livingston Hearing Centers. "We are proud to participate in this study and will pay each qualified participant \$50 to complete the study.' And interestingly

enough, the popularity of these new products has spread quickly – not by what they look like, because they are practically impossible to see when being worn-but by good reviews, word of mouth and a remarkable hi-fi sound.

The On-The-Ear product markets itself with very little effort because it solves a really big problem in an innovatively cool way: namely, it corrects high-frequency hearing loss without plugging-up the ear canal. It lets natural sounds just pass through the ear canal unamplified and gives a hi-fidelity boost only to soft speech sounds.

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hear on the telephone

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if you qualify to partic-

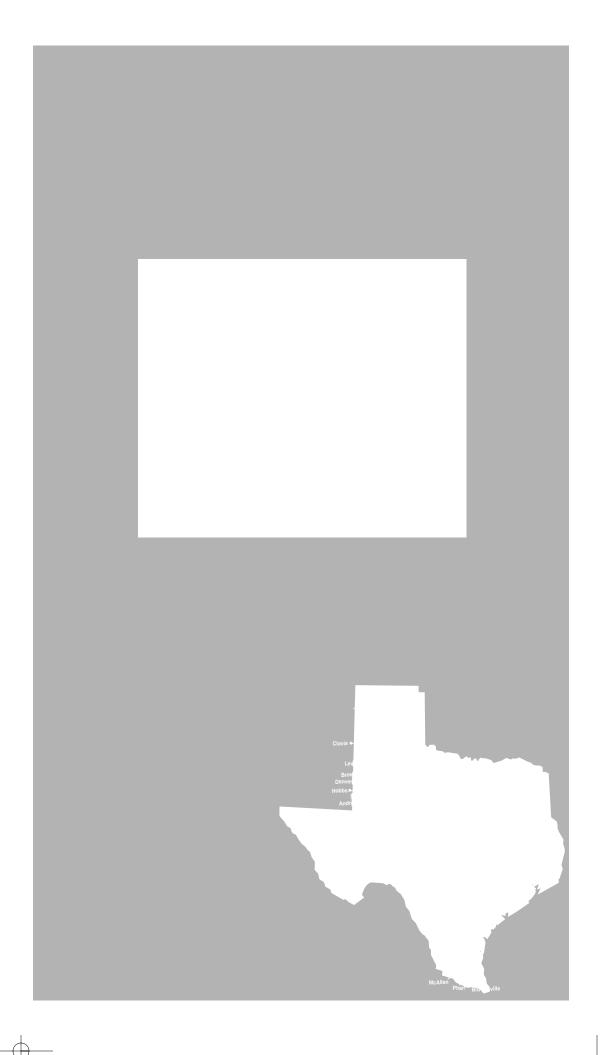
like never before.

# StarTek

**264-2700** 

28552

tuesday page 7a 10/23/07 10:55 AM Page 2 Network Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder:



## STATE

## Texas briefs

#### Dallas district criticized for cutting 163 jobs

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Independent School District has saved \$9.2 million by eliminating more than 150 jobs in the central office, school officials said. But the restructuring efforts face criticism from

some school district leaders who say the positions cut were among the lower-paid staff, while high-dollar executives kept their jobs.

"It seems like they snared all the minnows and let the big fish get away," trustee Ron Price said.

Nearly two-thirds of the eliminated jobs had base salaries ranging from about \$15,000 to \$49,000 a year, according to an analysis by The Dallas Morning News. The biggest job losses were among positions such as secretaries and custodians.

Five of the 163 people whose jobs were cut earned \$100,000 or more. A total of 86 DISD executives make at least \$100,000 a year, according to the newspaper analysis.

#### Father granted temporary custody of toddler abandoned in bathroom

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — The biological father of a 2-year-old girl found bruised and abandoned inside a locked apartment bathroom was awarded temporary custody of his daughter Monday.

The girl had been living with her mother when she was found in an apartment bathroom Oct. 7 after neighbors reported she was crying and screaming for her mother and father. Child Protective Services caseworkers showed photos in which the child appeared dirty and bruised.

The child may have been left alone for as many as two days, according to an affidavit.

Adrianna Mendietta, 28, the girl's mother, faces charges of child endangerment, unlawful restraint and injury to a child. She remained in the Nueces County Jail on Monday on bonds totaling \$125,000. It could not be immediately determined if she had an attorney.

She has been the subject of two previous child welfare investigations, according to the affidavit.

The father, Benjy Olivarez, 34, was not living with his daughter or her mother when the incident occurred. His daughter has been living with him for

about a week, officials said.

"Child Protective Services has overall custody, however, the court has asked who is best to watch the child," CPS spokesman John Lennan said. "After a series of investigations we found dad would make a good parent."

#### 7 dead in van wreck in Starr County

ALTO BONITO (AP) — A Rio Grande City woman faces multiple counts of criminally negligent homicide after her car collided with a van from an adult day care center Monday, killing seven people and injuring

Purses, shoes and a pair of broken eyeglasses were scattered across a bloody accident site in South Texas that left emergency personnel shaken.

"There was blood all over the place," firefighter Ramon Barrera told The (McAllen) Monitor. "This was the worst thing I've seen in a long time."

Authorities said the van and the car collided near Alto Bonito in Starr County just after 8:30 a.m. The van was from La Fuente Home Health Services, located in Sullivan City.

Investigators said Leticia Najera, 20, the driver of the car, failed to yield at a stop sign. Her car was struck by the van, which was eastbound on a rural stretch of U.S. 83.

#### Prints help authorities identify man wanted for child rape

BROWNSVILLE (AP) —  $\dot{A}$  fingerprints match and a distinctive scar helped South Texas authorities confirm Monday that a man they have in custody is a fugitive profiled last year on "America's Most Wanted."

Donald Edward Lynch, 66, will be extradited to Tennessee to face 11 counts of rape of a child, 38 counts of aggravated sexual exploitation of a minor and five counts of aggravated sexual battery. U.S. Magistrate Felix Recio ordered the extradition after an identity hearing Monday.

Lynch gave a false name when he was captured Oct. 13 by Mexican authorities in El Mesquital. He later admitted he had lied because he was scared of returning to Tennessee, Cameron County sheriff's investiga-

tor Alvaro Guerra said in a story for Tuesday's editions of The Brownsville Herald.

Lynch originally insisted the FBI and Mexican police had the wrong man, telling reporters "It's 'cause I'm black." He told authorities his name was Reynaldo Price, and he had a fake ID listing him as a Mexican construction worker.

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## su | do | ku

## Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

				7	8		6	
		2		5		1	8	
9		3	6					7
	7	4	1				2	
6		5	4		2	3		9
	3				2 5	8	4	
1					9	5		6
	9	8		3		7		
	4		5	1				



By Steve Becker

### Go With the Odds

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable. ♦ A K 10 9 4 **♠** Q 10 8 6 **SOUTH** The bidding: North

Opening lead — king of hearts. Declarer sometimes has to play in an abnormal manner because the circumstances call for it. Such plays,

being off the beaten path, are frequently overlooked in practice, but they often can be justified by close Take this deal where South is in

five clubs. Let's say he ruffs the heart lead in dummy and decides to stake his all on a diamond finesse.

Accordingly, he cashes the ace of diamonds, draws three rounds of trumps and leads the jack of diamonds. West and dummy play low, and East wins with the queen. The defenders then collect two hearts and

a spade, and South goes down two. **This line of play** has about an even chance of success, and it therefore cannot be said that declarer's plan was hopeless.

However, a different line of play has a much greater chance of success, even though no absolute guarantees go with it. After ruffing the heart at trick one, South's next play should be a low diamond from dummy! In the actual deal, East cannot do better than take the queen, after which South has 11 tricks regardless of what East returns.

Observe that this play works equally well when West has the queen, which is certainly possible. In that case, South's eight loses to West's queen, and the defense is once again helpless.

The purpose of the low diamond play at trick two is to establish the diamond suit while dummy's one remaining trump stands guard against a heart return. At the same time, South establishes a diamond entry to his hand.

The plan fails if the diamonds are divided 4-1 and the defense secures a diamond ruff, but there is a much greater chance of finding a 3-2 diamond division than there is of winning a diamond finesse.

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# In This Season

22nd annual

Community Christmas Parade

5:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1

Parade theme:

"Peace On Earth"

Entry deadline — Noon, Friday, Nov. 16

The parade will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. and head north on Gregg Street toward downtown, arriving in time for the downtown Christmas celebration.

100 Herald's Best of Show Award: for best interpretation of theme.

\*75 Mayor's Trophy: for best use of lighting.

550 *Grand Marshall's Award:* for best costuming.

First-place plaques will be awarded in the following categories:

1. Individual or family 3. Commercial

2. Civic group, school or church 4. Industrial

In addition, certificates of commendation will be awarded to the second- and third-place entries in each of those categories. Also, a special award will be presented to the best

sheriff's posse, riding club or other mounted entry.

## **PARADE RULES**

1. The parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald No other Santa Claus will be permitted in the parade.

2. Floats should not exceed 65 feet in length, 8 feet in width and 14 feet in height.

3. Antique vehicles will be the only undecorated vehicles permitted without special permission from Parade Committee.

4. Vehicles of a strictly commercial nature will not be permitted. 5. Parade entries not in line by the start of the parade will be placed at the end of the parade and will not be

eligible for awards.

6. For safety, do not throw candy from your float. Small children run up under the tires. Please have someone walking beside your float if you want to throw candy.

## **2007 Christmas Parade Entry Form**

Name of organization: Name of contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Mail, fax or hand deliver to: Mailing address: 📖

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_ You will receive by return mail, your float number and a map showing where to go to line up.

□ Commercial

□ Individual/Family

☐ Civic/church/school

□ Industrial

Mounted

**Parade Committee** 

Big Spring, TX 79721

Fax (432) 264-7205

**Big Spring Herald** 

PO Box 1431

710 Scurry

QUESTIONS? CALL (432) 263-7331, Ask for Elizabeth Flores or Rick Nunez