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BIG SPRING

# HERALD

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 23, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 46

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## City OKs Senior Center transfer

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council gave its first nod to the transfer of the Spring City Senior Citizens Center from Howard County to the municipality Tuesday evening, moving for-

ward after several months of negotiations between the two governmental entities.

The council approved first reading of three items that included transfer of the center to the city and applications for grants to finance the facility by unanimous votes, with final

approval of the transition expected to come in approximately two weeks.

County commissioners approved the measure last week, garnering skeptic responses from several area seniors that utilize the center, including Tom Guess, who

accused commissioners of abandoning the center.

"I still feel like you're leaving this over to the city," Guess told commissioners at the time. "Because the same people that have caused all the problems will have total control."

Guess, who was joined by several other seniors during the commissioners' meeting, addressed several concerns, including the recent closure of the Senior Center due to tiles being taken up from under the

See **CITY**, Page 3A

## Economic stimulus plan gets attention

By **ANDREW TAYLOR**  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Top House leaders will continue talks with Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson on a plan to try to jolt the economy out of its slump.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, are taking the lead in Capitol Hill negotiations, with the centerpiece of the measure expected to be a tax rebate similar to the \$300-\$600 checks sent out in the summer of 2001.

A host of senior lawmakers in both parties met Tuesday with President Bush, who has proposed a stimulus plan worth about \$150 billion. He again expressed optimism that his administration can reach quick agreement with Congress.

"I believe we can find common ground to get something done that's big enough, effective enough so that an economy that is inherently strong gets a boost — to make sure that this uncertainty doesn't translate into

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HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins  
**Jeff Heffelfinger, the architect in charge of the county's effort to construct a new jail facility, explains the pros and cons of asbestos abatement work needed to demolish a trio of buildings in the 3600 and 3700 blocks of U.S. Highway 80, where the structure is set to be built.**

## Asbestos abatement gets study

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners gave the go-ahead to get asbestos abatement bids for a trio of buildings on its future jail site, but some members of the court are hesitant to call for the demolition of the structures.

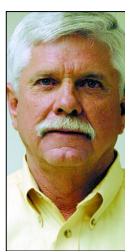
Commissioner Gary Simer said he'd like to hold off on demolition of the structures, located in the 3600 and 3700 block of Highway 80, until the jail is constructed.

"It would be better to wait, that way we can see what kind of money we have left in the budget," said Simer. "This way we don't come up short."

Commissioner Emma Brown agreed with Simer, but Commissioners Bill Crooker and Jerry Kilgore said they see it differently.

"It's going to have to be done," said Crooker. "My feeling is we should go ahead and look into this and take care of it now."

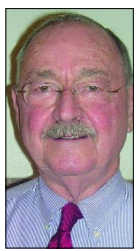
Project architect Jeff



Simer

"It would be better to wait ... this way we don't come up short."

"My feeling is we should ... go ahead and take care of it now."



Crooker

Heffelfinger told the court the only drawback to waiting until the completion of the project is the county's liability in the meantime.

"Because we know what has asbestos in it — for example, the tiles laying on the ground outside the building — we can't legal-

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### ON THE BIZARRE SIDE

COLFAX, Wash. (AP) — A man is facing a sentence of one-and-a-half months after admitting he stole 93 pounds of women's undergarments.

Garth Flaherty, 24, was charged with first-degree theft and burglary in the stealing of 1,613 pairs of panties, bras and other women's underwear from laundry rooms.

He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 45 days in jail. He may serve 30 days of his term in community service, officials said.

In his bedroom, police said, they found enough women's underwear to fill five garbage bags.

### EXCAVATION SAFETY

The Pipeline Group's annual "Public Education — Contractor Awareness Program" will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Howard County Fair Barn in Big Spring.

A free dinner will be catered by KD's Bar-B-Q for everyone involved in excavation-related activities. Following the dinner, a brief safety program will be presented which stresses the importance of accident prevention by identifying pipeline and utility rights of way, use of one-call systems and the importance of working with pipeline and utility companies to safely excavate in the vicinity of underground facilities.

### PLAINVIEW CLIPS STEERS



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# Sports

**BIG 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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Wednesday, January 23, 2008

## IN BRIEF

### Crossroads high school varsity sports calendar

Due to inclement weather, Coahoma's and Forsan's boys and girls basketball games were canceled Tuesday and will be made up Thursday.

#### THURSDAY

Coahoma girls basketball at Merkel, 6:30 p.m.

Coahoma boys basketball at Merkel, 8 p.m.

Forsan girls basketball at Hamlin, 6:30 p.m.

Forsan boys basketball at Hamlin, 8 p.m.

#### FRIDAY

Coahoma girls basketball at Hawley, 6:30 p.m.

Coahoma boys basketball at Hawley, 8 p.m.

### Free junior tennis league playing every Wednesday

A free junior tennis league will take place every Wednesday for several weeks from 4:45 to 5:45 beginning tomorrow.

Boys and girls of any skill level between ages 8-12 are welcome to attend. The league is being conducted by Big Spring tennis instructor Ted Oleson.

No sign up is required. Bring a racket or one will be provided while available.

For more information, call Oleson at (806)236-8901.

### Howard College presenting the Harlem Starz

The Howard College athletic department will present the Harlem Starz at 7:00 p.m. Jan. 29th at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The game is a fundraiser which will benefit the Howard College athletic program.

With names like Zig Zag, Hollywood, K-Money, Air Bama and Werm, fans will know they are not attending an ordinary basketball game. Almost every play will involve fancy dribbling, no look passes, amazing dunks and comedy.

In addition to the game, highlights will include a halftime show, prizes and autographs. For ticket information, contact Howard College at 264-5040.

### KBYG 1400 AM's scheduled airings of NBA basketball

KBYG 1400 AM is airing both San Antonio Spurs and Dallas Mavericks basketball throughout the NBA season.

#### TODAY

San Antonio vs. Los Angeles Lakers, 7:30 p.m.

#### THURSDAY

San Antonio vs. Miami, 6:30 p.m.

#### FRIDAY

Dallas vs. Los Angeles Lakers, 7 p.m.

## State-ranked Plainview routs Lady Steers

### Herald Staff Report

Plainview's Lady Bulldogs lived up to their state ranking, making short work on the Big Spring Lady Steers in a 68-17 win Tuesday night in Plainview.

The No. 8 Lady Bulldogs pounded Big Spring in the first period, outscoring the Lady Steers 29-2 in the first eight minutes. Plainview ended up holding Big Spring to a mere four points in the first half and cruised to victory from there.

The Lady Steers were able to produce offensively in the fourth period as Plainview took its foot off the gas. Big Spring scored eight points in the final stanza and held the Lady Bulldogs to 12.

Porsha White led Big Spring with five points. The Lady Steers return to action Tuesday in Steer Gym, hosting the Frenship Lady Tigers.



Big Spring Lady Steers point guard Porsha White dribbles into the frontcourt in the Lady Steers' 68-17 loss to eighth-ranked Plainview Tuesday night in Plainview. HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring 2 2 5 8-17  
Plainview 29 11 16 12-68  
Leading scorers: Big Spring - Porsha White 5; Plainview - Raymond 16, Mulliken 14.

## Steers falter late, lose 84-66

### Big Spring remains winless in district play

#### Herald Staff Report

PLAINVIEW — For a fourth consecutive district basketball game, Big Spring's Steers failed to finish, falling on the road to Plainview's Bulldogs 84-66 Tuesday night.

The Steers trailed by 8 at intermission, but cut the deficit to 5 heading into the fourth period. However, as has been the habit over every District 4-4A game to date, Big Spring was outplayed in the fourth period, leaving the Steers still searching for their first league win.

Big Spring opened the district season against Frenship and seemed to simply run out of gas after briefly taking the lead from the Tigers. The Steers lost ...

A similar outcome occurred in San Angelo against the Lake View Chiefs. Big Spring overcame 11 San Angelo 3-pointers and a large deficit to hold a 1-point lead early in the fourth period. However, San Angelo had more in the tank and ran away from the Steers down the stretch, leaving the Steers winless in district play.

Friday, Big Spring gave ninth-ranked Lubbock Estacado all it could handle for three periods and trailed by 1 early in the final stanza. Unfortunately, the unable to finish theme continued for the Steers and Estacado outscored Big Spring 23-4 over the final eight minutes of regulation.

Steers Head Coach Marcus Morris noted how close the

Steers have been to winning every district contest and what they need to do in order to get over that hump.

"It was the same thing. We played well for three quarters and then give out at the end," Morris said. "We've got to do a better job playing as a team to finish the game. We're reacting more as individuals. We need to be more deliberate in our teamwork and play more organized."

Against Plainview, the Steers again appeared ready to cross over that hump, keeping the game within reach for a majority of the game. However, once again, the fourth period proved to be Big Spring's Achilles' heel.

Plainview outscored the Steers 27-14 in the final stanza, sending the Steers to a 0-4 start in district play.

Big Spring was led by Jason Walker's game-high 26 points and Terrance Clemons added 19. Morris was very proud of Tyrone Clemons' performance.

"Tyrone played his second good game in a row. He's been playing much better the past week," raved Morris. "I'm very impressed with how he's being more aggressive and taking better care of the ball. His attitude is much improved as well."

Big Spring gets a week to figure out how to claim its first win in over a month with Frenship coming into Steer Gym Tuesday.

See **STEERS**, Page 2B



Big Spring's Tyrone Clemons (20) is fouled as he attempts a layup against the Plainview Bulldogs Tuesday night in Plainview. The Steers lost their fourth straight district game, 84-66. HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

## Lady Bearkats take down Bronte in OT

### Herald Staff Report

BRONTE — Revenge. Garden City's Lady Bearkats got a taste of vengeance Tuesday night in Bronte, avenging their only district loss, 38-32, over the Bronte Lady Longhorns.

However, it took an extra frame for the Lady Bearkats to prevail. At the end of the regulation, the two squads were tied at 32 after Garden City overcame a 3-point halftime deficit and Bronte fought back from a 2-point deficit late in the game.

Unfortunately for the Lady Longhorns, the overtime period belonged to Garden City. The Lady Bearkats shutout Bronte while scoring six points in the extra frame, earning a share of the district's top spot in the current standings.

Both Garden City and Bronte are now 5-1 in district play.

Whitney Kellermeier led Garden City with 12 points and Macy Schwartz scored 11.

The No. 16 Lady Bearkats visit Blackwell Friday, continuing district play.

Garden City 8 5 11 8 6-38  
Bronte 7 9 6 10 0-32  
Garden City (19-5, 5-1): Whitney Kellermeier 12, Melissa Hirt 1, Brittney Chudej 2, Macy Schwartz 11, Lyza Lopez 3, Morgan Schwartz 7, Paige Niehues 2.  
Bronte: Flores 6, Huskerson 13, Meek 4, Harris 9.

#### Bronte 32, Bearkats 28

Garden City's Bearkats finally met their match in district play, losing their first league game to Bronte Tuesday night.

The No. 20 Bearkats played point-for-point with the Longhorns in the first half,

See **AREA**, Page 2B



Garden City's Lyza Lopez dribbles around a Bronte defender in the Lady Bearkats' 38-32 overtime victory in Bronte Tuesday. Courtesy photo/James Schwartz

Obituaries

Henry 'Gene' Adams



Henry "Gene" Adams, 69, of Big Spring died Monday, Jan. 21, 2008, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at First Baptist Church with the Rev. Eddie Tingle officiating. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Gene was born Aug. 5, 1939, in Monrovia, Calif. He worked at Cosden, later Fina, for 40 years in the lab and as a pump mechanic. During that time he farmed and ranched in Howard and Borden counties. Gene served on the Forsan School Board for six years, and the Howard County Fair Board. He was past president of Texas Antique Tractor Pullers Association.

Gene married Cecilia McDonald, Dec. 30, 1958, in Big Spring. He enjoyed tractor pulling and his grandchildren. He especially enjoyed watching the Miles Lady Bulldogs and the Denver City Mustangs and Fillies.

Gene is survived by his wife, Cecilia Adams of Big Spring; one son, Hank Adams and his wife Kellie of Denver City; two daughters, Valerie Hudson and her husband Steve of Miles, and Christi Adams of Sweetwater; and four grandchildren, Erin Adams and Quade Adams, both of Denver City, and Sterling Hudson and Holly Hudson, both of Miles.

In addition to his parents, Gene was preceded in death by his step-father, Skeet Brown; and three sisters, Girline Schaeffer, Bobbie Woolever and Billie Joan Hodson.

The family suggests memorials to any favorite charity.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

*Paid obituary*

Iva Doris Hillger



Iva Doris Hillger of Midland left this world to join her loving Savior, surrounded by her family, on Jan. 21, 2008. Doris was preceded in death by Harvey, her husband of 50 years, three brothers, two sisters and one great-grandson.

Doris was born Nov. 25, 1920, to Isom and Kate Hare of Sulfur Springs. While working in the cotton fields of Garden City, she met Harvey Lee Hillger. They were married on Valentine's Day 1936.

Harvey and Doris ranched and farmed in Garden City, where Harvey was born. They moved to Courtney and continued farming and ranching. They moved to Midland in 1951.

Doris was employed by Midland Hardware and Pittsburgh Plate Glass for many years. She then managed and owned several Bed and Bath stores in the Midland-Odessa area. While she dearly loved her stores, she had to close them when her health began to fail in 1987. Her hard work and dedication to family combined to give her a great purpose in life. She is remembered by many as a devout Christian whose faith and devotion to Christ helped carry her through her entire life, and led many others to Christ as well. Doris's faith was manifest through her caring and helping ways to other people.

Doris is survived by three loving daughters, Lois Jean Page of Midland, Barbara and her husband, Ralph Meriwether, of Alpine and Jan and her husband, Michael Stephans, of Midland. She is also survived by eight grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren; and a wonderful caregiver, Susie Rodriguez of Midland.

The family will receive friends at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home on Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2008, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Funeral services have been scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 24, at 10 a.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home, 3800 N. Big Spring St., Midland.

The family would like to thank the staff of Manor Park and Hospice of Midland for their caring support to Doris and the family.

Memorials may be directed to Hospice of Midland, PO Box 2621, Midland 79702.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).

*Paid obituary*

Cornelia (Connie) Douglass Gary

Cornelia (Connie) Douglass Gary, 86, of Houston passed away Jan. 18, 2008, following a brief illness.

She was born Feb. 28, 1921, in Dermott, Ark., to Walter R. and Cornelia Antley Douglass, who preceded her in death. Her sister, Annie Eleanor Adams also preceded her in death.

Connie graduated from Big Spring High School in 1937, attended Mary Hardin Baylor College in Belton for two years and then graduated from TSCW (now known as TWU) in Denton with a B.A. degree in May 1941. Following graduation, she began a teaching career in several school districts, relocating to the Big Spring Independent School District in 1953. She taught English, speech and journalism, positively impacting the lives of many fortunate students privileged to be in one of her classes. After 31 years of dedicated service in the Big Spring Independent School District, she retired in May 1984.

In retirement, she had the opportunity to travel with other retired teachers, participate in elder hostels, did significant volunteer work at the Malone Hogan Hospital in Big Spring, and was the faithful care giver for her father in his later years.

Connie was a devout Christian and was a dedicated servant in the First Baptist Church in Big Spring for many years. She moved from Big Spring to Houston in September, 1999, to be closer to her daughter, Margaret. After moving to Houston, she joined Northwoods Presbyterian Church where she was actively involved. Among her activities were worship, Bible study, and the Susie Sadler Circle. Additionally, she became a member of the ES chapter of P.E.O. where she was very active and proudly served as chaplain.

Connie is survived by three daughters and sons-in-law, Sharon and John Moeser of Richmond, Va., Margaret and Charles Dunagan of Houston and Connie and Lou Verdile of Fair Oaks Ranch; seven grandchildren, Jeremy Moeser and his wife Kathy of Atlanta, Ga., David Moeser of Durango, Colo., Kevin Dunagan and his wife Shawn of Houston, Eric Dunagan of Austin, Carmen Hendrych and her husband Jaro of Alpharetta, Ga., Jamie Payne of Chesterfield, Va., and Adam Arnold of Houston; and three great-grandchildren, Jake and Alex Dunagan of Houston and John Charles Moeser of Atlanta, Ga.

A memorial service is scheduled for 1 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 27, 2008, at Northwoods Presbyterian Church, 3320 FM 1960 W. A reception will follow in the Narthex of the church.

For those desiring, memorial contributions in Connie's name may be made to Northwoods Presbyterian Church, the ES Chapter of P.E.O., or the Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM).

*Paid obituary*

Susan Lee 'Susie' Dodd

Susan Lee "Susie" Dodd, 50, of Midland died Sunday, Jan. 20, 2008, at her residence. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, 2008, at the Old Noxville Cemetery at Junction. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.



She was born Sept. 18, 1957, in Midland to Mary and Gordia Dodd. She attended Big Spring schools, Howard College and Midland College. She was a licensed vocational nurse and had worked at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Cowpers Hospital, Hall-Bennett Hospital, Midland Memorial Hospital and Midland Dialysis Center. She also had a degree in counseling. She had spent most of her life in Midland and Big Spring.

She is survived by one daughter, Brook Hansen and her husband, Adam, of Laurinburg, N.C.; life partner, Karen Schuelke of Midland; her mother, Mary Dodd of Midland; two granddaughters; and two grandsons.

She was preceded in death by her father, Gordia Dodd in 1987; one son, Jon Dodd in 1998; and one sister, Donnie Oringderff in 2005.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

Primitiva 'Nina' Florez

Primitiva "Nina" Florez, 82, a resident of Atwater, Calif., for 48 years, was born Nov. 26, 1925, in Coahoma to Modesto and Rita (Marez) Muñoz and passed away Dec. 5, 2007, in Merced, Calif., at the Mercy Merced Medical Center-Community Campus.

Nina was employed by Davis Cannery in Atwater for 29 years. Mrs. Florez was an active member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church. She was involved with The Cursillistas de Cristianidad, The Society of Guadalupanos and she participated in La Hora Apostolica.

Nina is survived by her husband of 61 years, Raymond L. Florez of Atwater; her children, Aurora Florez of Atwater, Felix Florez of Paul, Idaho, Rita Florez of Atwater, Cruz Sanchez of Fresno, Calif., Lucy Perez of Delhi and Ruben Florez of Atwater. Also surviving are her brother, Julian Muñoz of Atwater; 14 grandchildren; and six great-great grandchildren.

A rosary was held Monday, Dec. 10, 2007, followed by mass of Christian burial Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2007, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Atwater under the direction of the Rev. Tom Timmings. Burial followed at Winton District Cemetery in Winton, Calif.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Ivers & Alcorn Funeral Home in Atwater, Calif.

Severa Vargas



Severa Vargas, 77, of Big Spring died Monday, Jan. 21, 2008, at Hospice House of Odessa. The funeral mass will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 25, 2008, at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park. The vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

She was born Feb. 21, 1930, in El Cerrito Del Agua, Zacatecas, Mexico, to Aurora and Pablo Guerrero. She married Manuel Vargas March 18, 1959, and he preceded her in death Feb. 26, 2007. She had been employed at Walls Industries and was a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church.

She is survived by one sister, Maria Guadalupe Guerrero of Pontiac, Mich.; two brothers, Uriel Guerrero of El Cerrito Del Agua, Zacatecas, Mexico, and Jose Juan Guerrero of Mexico City, Mexico; and several nieces, nephews and god children.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Margarito Guerrero and Antonio Guerrero.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

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Lottery

The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to \$61 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's \$51 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 12, 15, 22, 25 and 33. The Mega Ball number was 2.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 2-5-11-16-35

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-2-0-7. Sum It Up: 17.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-2-9. Sum It Up: 12.

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AREA

Continued from Page 1B

entering the intermission tied with Bronte at 15.

However, the Longhorns muscled a little breathing room in the third period and held onto a slim 4-point advantage in the final stanza.

Eric Hirt led the Bearkats with eight points and Wade Jansa and Bo Eggemeyer each scored six.

Garden City 6 9 2 11-28 Bronte 6 9 5 12-32

Garden City (13-8, 4-1): Eric Hirt 8, Wade Jansa 6, Bo Eggemeyer 6, Cole Schwartz 4, Brett Chudej 2, Jake Schwartz 2.

Bronte: D. Rawls 12, K. Rawls 8, Willis 5, Colonel 3, Rosson 2, Rawlings 1, McClure 1.

Sands 45, Loop 42

LOOP - The Sands' Lady Mustangs were ranked in the state's top 10 at one point this season, but dropped two early district games, knocking them out of the top 20 completely.

The Lady Mustangs got back on track Tuesday, but the Loop Lady Longhorns didn't make it easy.

It took a spirited Sands' comeback to in order to improve to 4-2 in district play.

Loop led by 10, 25-15, at intermission, however, Sands made the better halftime adjustments and completely erased that deficit in the third period. The Lady Mustangs outscored Loop 18-7 in the third, taking a 1-point advantage into the final stanza. They extended that lead to 3 before the final horn sounded.

Loop 8 17 7 10-42 Sands 7 8 18 12-45

Leading scorers: Loop (15-10, 2-4) - Ramirez 13, Alba 11; Sands (20-5, 4-2) - Ybarra 14, Ruiz 11.

Mustangs 72, Loop 50

The Sands Mustangs used dominant showings in the first and fourth periods, running away with a 22-point victory over the Loop Longhorns.

Sands quickly built a 20-point lead over Loop in the first period, leading 27-7 heading into the second stanza.

However, over the second and third periods, Loop was able to cut the margin to 7. Sands quickly put a halt to any Longhorns' hopes of a comeback, though, in the final frame, outscoring Loop 25-12 over the last eight minutes of regulation.

Johnny Rogers led the Mustangs with 17 points and Ethan Zant added 14.

Loop 7 13 18 12-50 Sands 27 8 12 25-72

Leading scorers: Loop - Armendariz 18, Mitchell 14; Sands - Johnny Rogers 17, Fry 14, Ethan Zant 14, Elizondo 13.

Grady 74, Klondike 17

KLONDIKE - Grady's sixth-ranked Wildcats proved they were too much for Klondike to ever consider handling Tuesday night, blasting the Cougars 74-17.

Grady built a 39-13 lead by intermission and extended that margin to 64-17 by the end of the third period.

Just for good measure, the Wildcats stepped up their defensive effort in the halfcourt, shutting out Klondike in the final frame.

Grady was led by Justin Tubb's game-high 15 points.

Jacob Rodriguez added

14 and Lane Shands chipped in 13.

Grady 17 22 25 10-74 Klondike 6 7 4 0-17

Grady (15-1, 6-0): Tommylee Rivas 4, Dylan Cox 6, Roy Rodriguez 4, Justin Tubb 15, Jacob Rodriguez 14, Santos Montoya 6, Leighton Fields 8, Casey Shands 4, Lane Shands 13.

Klondike: Ferguson 12, Barkovsky 2, O'Brien 3.

Lady Wildcats 42, Klondike 33

The No. 19 Grady Lady Wildcats needed an impressive fourth period, but were able to handily put away Klondike's Lady Cougars Tuesday night, 42-33.

Klondike cut a 7-point halftime deficit to 3 head-

ing into the fourth period, but Grady responded accordingly.

The Lady Wildcats outscored the Lady Cougars 14-8 in the final frame, clinching their fifth win of the district season.

Eva Dyck led Grady with 11 points and Kenzie Madison added eight.

Grady 13 9 6 14-42 Klondike 6 9 10 8-33

Grady (19-7, 5-1): Eva Dyck 11, Linsey Chavez 6, Kandace Schuelke 6, Lauren Robinson 7, Samantha Rodriguez 4, Kenzie Madison 8.

Klondike: Abbi Brock 4, Jordan Gregory 10, M'Laci Webb 13, Jessica Wiebe 2, Kailie Howard 2, Kimberly Skiles 2.

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

Sudoku grid with numbers: Row 1: 6 3 | | | 2 9; Row 2: | | | 8 4 6 | | |; Row 3: 4 | | | 2 | 1; Row 4: 1 | 2 | 7 | 4; Row 5: | 6 | | | 9 | |; Row 6: 8 | 1 | 9 | 7; Row 7: 5 | 4 | 3 | 2; Row 8: | | 5 2 8 | | |; Row 9: 7 4 | | | 5 3

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

Now, every game becomes a must win if the Steers care to keep their playoff hopes alive.

"We're already in the playoffs," Morris said. "We lose and we're out. At least, the other teams have to come to our home gym now. It's been a crazy year as far as scheduling goes. It's hard to

build any continuity playing 15 straight games on the road."

"We'll have an opportunity to beat Frenship," he continued. "They only got us by five in their place. They won't like playing in our gym."

Big Spring 14 14 24 14-66 Plainview 15 21 21 27-84

Big Spring (10-13, 0-4): Jason Walker 28, Terrance Clemons 19, Tyrone Clemons 9, Lance Gross 4, Tyler Tannehill 2, Darius McCallister 1, Jerrell Williams 2, John Benavides 1.

Advertisement for 'American Profile' featuring a photo of a man and the text 'In Sunday's Big Spring Herald Documenting pro football'.

Large advertisement for 'HUGE RED TAG SALE ALL PRICES REDUCED' featuring car listings for imports, Lincolns and Mercurys, Fords, Nissans, and Chevroleets.

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**TOP PRICES** paid for Railroad Antiques. Especially want Texas & Pacific items. Also dining car items- any railroad. Call Warren Taylor 432-685-1910 evenings.

### Cemetery Lots

**SAVE \$\$\$\$\$** on monuments/markers. We deliver to all cemeteries. Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. Mt Olive Monuments. 432-264-7722.

**SPECIAL SALE.** Two grave spaces for the price of one. Pay-out plan available. \$50.00 Down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

### Educational

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Train to become an Electrical Technician! Career Placement Assistance Financial Aid for those who qualify. Call now for more information! **800-497-1557 dept. 212** Southeastern Career Institute Westwood Village Shopping Center 4320 West Illinois, Suite A Midland, TX 79703

### Garage Sales

**ESTATE SALE:** Wednesday thru Saturday 9:30-? 401 East 17th Apartment #3. Furniture, dishes, collectibles, Heirloom quilts, Christmas decorations, lamps, bedding, and large-lady clothes.

### Help Wanted

**FARM HAND** Wanted! Experience only apply. Call after 7:00 p.m. (432)684-5418.

**NEED A job** today? Come be a delivery driver for Domino's Pizza. We pay competitive hourly wages & put cash in your pocket daily! Working for the other guys? Bring your experience over to Domino's Pizza and get paid top dollar. Part time and full time positions available. Need day hours? Need night hours? We have all shifts available. We work with ALL types of schedules. **Apply now and get hired on the spot (some restrictions apply).** 2111 Greg Street EOE, Drug Free environment

### Help Wanted



**PAUL MUSSLEWHITE TRUCKING** is accepting applications for **Yard Manager Truck Supervisors Vacuum Truck Drivers Pump Truck Drivers Wench Truck Drivers Hot Oil Drivers Dispatchers Mechanics** Competitive Wages & Benefits  
**Pick up application at** Texas Work Force Commission, 501 South Main Suite 235, Big Spring Post Office Building 2nd Floor 8608

**20+ YEAR** Construction Company seeking help with general repairs, painting and carpentry experience. Own transportation to and from work Weekends Off. Pay D.O.E. Call 432-267-2296.

**ACTIVITY COORDINATOR** - P/T Instructor for after school nonprofit program. Must be creative and resourceful. Rewarding and flexible position! 28 hrs month \$15/\$18 hr. Email: kdanley@ti-f.org

**ENTRY LEVEL COMMUNITY SUPERVISION OFFICER (CSO)**, minimum requirements as stated in "Standards for TDCJ-CJAD", Section 163.33 (a). Must have a bachelor's degree and unless the degree is in criminology, corrections, counseling, law, social work, psychology, sociology or related field, must have one year of graduate study in one of those fields or one year experience in full-time casework, counseling, or community group work. Bilingual a plus. Must reside within Howard, Martin or Glasscock County or be willing to relocate. Resumes due Monday 1-28-08 at 118th District CSCD, 315 Main, Suite B, P.O. Box 1951, Big Spring, TX 79721-1951. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

**NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE** Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

### Help Wanted

**ATTENTION POLICE OFFICERS & FIRE FIGHTERS Are you the Best? Can you make the top 10%? If so.....** Apply for these positions today:  
**Fire Fighters** \$27,31.15-\$36,202.28 DOE  
Deadline for applications is Wednesday, January 30th, 5:00 p.m. Testing begins 9:00 a.m., Sat, February 2nd, 2008  
**Police Officers Cert. & Non** \$32,427.20 Cert.- \$29,966.56 Non-Cert. Test date to be announced  
**Communications Officer Wastewater Plant Operator Utility Service Worker Heavy Equipment Operator** (2) Positions- Landfill & Sanitation  
**Staff Accountant** \$30,114.24 Annually  
**Information Tech Specialist I** \$30,114.24  
We offer **EXCELLENT BENEFITS** including 100% paid Employee Health Ins.  
**Inquire to:** Human Resources City of Big Spring, Texas Phone: (432)264-2346 Fax: (432)264-2387 For more details go to www.ci.big-spring.tx.us EOE

**CHILD CARE** Needed: to care for 2 little girls during the day, M-F in loving and safe home. All gov't holiday off! If interested please call 432-816-9635 or 413-0066.

**COME JOIN** our friendly team at Kate's Fina Mart. Good benefits. Now hiring full & part time. Must be 18 yrs. old. Apply at 1100 N. Lamesa Hwy.

**CROSSROADS HOSPICE** is hiring for:  
CNA-PRN Big Spring/ Howard County area Bi-lingual preferred; Hospice experience preferred. Come by 421 South Main Street (EOE). Ask for Debbie Read.  
Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home We recognize that our employees are our greatest asset, providing flexible schedules and one of the most attractive benefits packet: **Currently hiring the following positions:**  
**\*Licensed Vocational Nurses \*Certified Nurses Aides** (Full-time or Part-time)  
**Activities Assistant**  
**Salary Based On Experience** 1809 N. Hwy. 87 Big Spring, Tx 79720 (432)268-8387 (432)268-1987 Fax "Equal Opportunity Employer"

### Help Wanted

**Dr Pepper/ Pepsi** Now Hiring Career oriented person for Sales/Merchandiser position. Candidate should have experience selling and merchandising products preferably in the beverage industry. Responsible for selling, ordering, stocking and inventory control for stores in the Big Spring area. Clean driving record. Drug Screen and work assessment testing required. Comprehensive benefit program including, 401K, Major medical and dental and Flex program. Apply in person at: Ab-Tex Dr Pepper/Pepsi 3611 HWY 87 North Big Spring, TX 79720

**DUNCAN DISPOSAL** - Now hiring a driver for the Coahoma area. Need at least a Class B CDL. Experience Preferred for a driver's position. Must be able to pass mandatory DOT and corporate drug testing requirements. No phone calls please. The job includes 40+ hours weekly Mon- Fri., with some Sat. mornings. An hourly rate with benefits package is available. Equal Opportunity Employer. Please Call Arthur 432-770-3966.

**Electrician/ Meter Technician Positions** The Colorado River Municipal Water District has openings for an Industrial Electrician. Electrical experience and training required. A Meter Technician position is also available. A CDL license and mechanical experience are helpful. Will work out of Big Spring, TX. District benefits include paid vacation and holidays, sick leave, retirement plan, and group insurance. EOE Applications are required to be considered for employment and are available at the District's office, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas or by calling 432-267-6341.

**EXPERIENCED MECHANIC.** Must have own tools. ASE preferred, but not required. Apply in person or call (432)267-7421 for appointment. Pollard Chevrolet, Buick.

**FULL TIME Accounting Position** Available. Requirements include Accounting Degree or equivalent of 10 yrs. experience in accounting/bookkeeping. Tax preparation experience a plus. Please send resume to PO Box 949, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

**HIRING IMMEDIATELY** Security Officers. Must have a clean background check, reliable transportation, and a valid driver's license. Retirees welcome to apply. Call 1-877-352-7248.

### Help Wanted

**HOUSEKEEPING NEEDED** under new supervisor. Bilingual okay. Competitive pay and paid holidays & vacation. Pick up application at Holiday Inn Express, 1109 N. Aylesford Street.

**METER READING** position now available. Please apply at txucorp.com

**MIDWAY BAPTIST** Church is looking for a responsible individual to work in the nursery on Sundays during the morning and evening services. You must have good references to be considered for the position. Please apply in person at 6200 S Service Rd. Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM-12:30 PM.

**NEED EXPERIENCED** Lube Tech/Porter. Apply in person only at Service Department Pollard Chevrolet, Buick & Cadillac, 1501 East 4th.

**NOW HIRING COMMERCIAL** Mechanic/ Driver Pre employment physical and drug test required. Must have own tools and CDL. Apply to: 2800 Windecker (Midland airport) or call (432)563-5393 or (432)638-2920 Mail resume to: General Superintendent PO BOX 60708 MIDLAND, TX 79711



**NURSES UNLIMITED INC.** is seeking enthusiastic and outgoing CNA's to assist in the home with personal care, meal prep, light house keeping. P-T. E.O.E. Call Maria @ 1-800-458-3257.

**PAINTER'S ASSISTANT** needed. Salary DOE, Health insurance, 401k plan. Apply at Price Construction, 2701 N. Hwy 350, Big Spring, TX 79720 or fax resume to 432-236-6012. EOE

**PART-TIME JANITORIAL** Work. Call (432)267-6027, (432)213-1186.

**PIZZA INN** EARN \$12-\$14 PER HOUR DELIVERING PIZZA'S. \$100 HIRING BONUS. MUST BE 18YRS. OLD WITH CLEAN DRIVING RECORD. ALSO TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

**POST OFFICE NOW HIRING.** Avg. Pay \$20/hour or \$57 K annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid Training Vacations. PT/FT. 1-866-795-4058 USWA.

### Help Wanted

**PIZZA INN** NOW HIRING COOKS AND WAIT STAFF. ALSO TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

**RAINBOW CHRISTIAN** Pre-school in need of a Van Driver/ Child Care Worker. Applicant should be older, mature individual with child care experience and good driving record. Come by 409 Goliad to apply.

**RECEPTIONIST NEEDED.** Qualifications: Mature individual, basic computer skills & phone personality. Monday-Saturday. Preferred Non-Smoker. Send resume: c/o Big Spring Herald, PO Box 1431/221, Big Spring, TX 79721.

**RED MESA** Grill has openings for Full/Part Time, Day & Evening. Wait Staff. Apply 2401 S. Gregg.

Sterling County Nursing Home. **RN/LV** 6pm-6am. Fri.-Sat.-Sun. 36 Hours for 40 hours. Contact Paula (325)378-2134.

**ROUSTABOUT** Newpark Environmental Services LLC., an established Oilfield Service Company, has an immediate opening for a Roustabout at its' Big Spring, TX Location. Some oilfield service experience is a plus! Rotating schedule. Hourly pay D.O.E. Impressive benefits package (eligible after 90 days of employment) that includes: Health, Dental, Life, Long and Short Term Disability, Paid Vacation and Sick Time, 401K Retirement Plan. We are an equal opportunity employer. EEO/AA. Applicants can be completed Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. at: Newpark Environmental Services LLC 500 N. Salem Road Big Spring, TX 79720 For more information regarding this position please call (432)393-5965.

**SALES REPS NEEDED** Local Company Seeking experienced, motivated, energetic Sales associates. Must have great people skills, sales experience & calling experience. Call (432)599-8018 or Apply at Big Spring Pack and Ship.

**WANTED SINGLE Hand Welders, Welders helpers, Structural Helpers.** Some travel required. We have local and out of town work. Drug screening required. Call 432-559-8432.



**MORRISON SUPPLY COMPANY OFFICE MANAGER**  
Morrison Supply Company has an immediate opening for qualified, professional candidate to fill the position of Office Manager at its Big Spring, Texas branch location. Founded in 1917, Morrison Supply Company is the leading wholesale distributor of plumbing and HVAC products in the Southwest.  
Candidate Requirements:  
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Good organizational, interpersonal, communications, and customer relations skills a must!  
Morrison offers competitive pay and benefits!  
To inquire, please call Scott at (432) 263-8411 or apply in person at: 3200 E I-20 Big Spring, TX. 9686

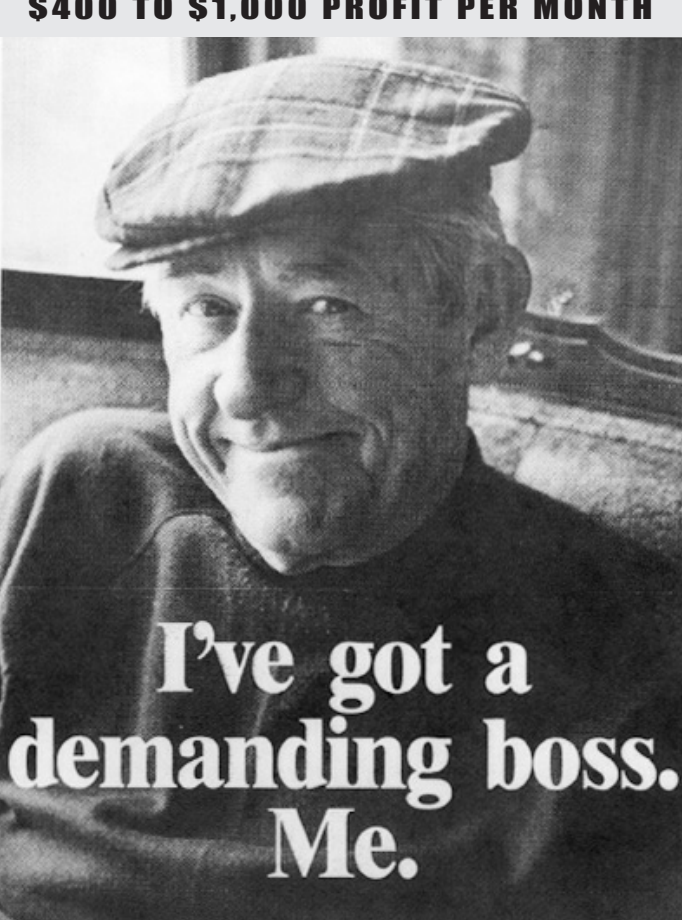
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Electrical Contractor seeking dependable Electrician's, Linemen, Splicer's, Operator's, Tower Climber's & Laborer's with 5 yr. exp. In Commercial / Industrial. Drug Testing Req. Excellent benefits.  
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**Help Wanted**  
**SECURITAS SECURITY** is hiring or 2 full time positions working at the Windmills, 20 miles South of Big Spring. Shifts will vary, must be able to work weekends. Have reliable transportation, phone. No Criminal Record. Premium Pay. Apply [www.securitasjob.com](http://www.securitasjob.com) Please check the Lubbock, Midland, Odessa area. EOE/AAD, M/F, D/V, Lic#B14709.

**SECURITY OFFICERS**  
 Needed  
 Full & Part Time  
 Call (432)520-1573

**Help Wanted**  
**Water Quality Specialist**  
 Full time position requires Bachelor's degree in biology, chemistry or natural resources. Minimum 3 years work experience, self starter, ability to multi-task. Salary DOE, Vacation, Health, 457B, Defined Benefits Plan, Educational Benefits, EOE. Send resume to: CRMWD, PO Box 869, Big Spring, TX 79721.

**WHITTEN INN** now hiring the following positions: **Housekeepers, Maintenance, Desk Clerks.** Apply in person, on I-20 next to TA Truck Stop.

**Instructional**  
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**FOUND BIG** white dog west of Big Spring. Call 727-423-7154 to claim.

**Lost and Found**  
**LOST 6 month old black & white kitten, black nose.** Answers to "Oreo". Lost in the vicinity of Navajo Dr. Reward. (432)267-5913

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**2001 TURNABOUT** Electric Rascal. New, never been used. Call (432)267-2907 for more information.

**3 BICYCLES.** (1) Rampage-hardtail, (1) MGX- DXR and (1) Shimano- 18 speed Mountain Sport SX (woman's bike). Call 432-264-9900.

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**ADJUSTABLE BED** base and mattress, list \$2770, sell \$1290, NEW. 100% Bonded microfiber sofa/love, brand new, lifetime warranty. \$540. 806-549-3110.

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## Police

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Tuesday:

- **THEODORE RIOS**, 37, 3206 W. Eighth, was arrested on a warrant.
- **RONALD TOOMEY**, 49, no address given, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **CLARA RANGEL**, 32, 905 W. Fifth, was arrested on four local warrants.

## Sheriff's Office

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

- **DAVID W. O'BRIEN**, 28, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **RONALD PATRICK TOOMEY JR.**, 49, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **CRYSTAL ANN BURCHETT**, 27, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **THOMAS W. SIMMIE**, 51, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon.
- **ADOLPH LEON LABBE JR.**, 33, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.
- **RAYMOND IGLESIA ALVEAR**, 29, was arrested on charges of bail jumping and failure to appear, and a bondsman off bond warrant for resisting arrest/search/transport.

## Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity Tuesday:

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1100 block of N. Goliad. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 4000 block of Dixon. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported at the intersection of Highway 87 and N. 10th. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Donley. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported at the intersection of Highway 350 and FM 700. Service was refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.

## COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

ly pick them up," said Heffelfinger. "If we don't go ahead with demolition of the buildings, we'll need to secure them so a vagrant doesn't end up going inside and getting hurt. My suggestion would be to fence off the buildings completely, so you not only protect people from what's inside, but also what's on the outside."

Heffelfinger said tests showed the buildings had several items containing asbestos — from textured dry wall to floor tile adhesive and loose panels on the buildings' interiors and exteriors — and would cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000 to abate.

"The funds in the project's contingency plan will cover it," said Heffelfinger. "Asbestos was also found in some of the roofing materials, but its an encapsulated

asbestos, so it doesn't have to be abated."

Heffelfinger also informed the court the majority of the concrete that was located on the jail site has been removed by Eddy Jameson, director of the county's road and bridge department, and his teams.

"They've been a tremendous help," said Heffelfinger. "The dirt work is something contractors sometimes drag their feet on in a project like this, but that's certainly not going to be a problem here."

Heffelfinger said all property intended for the \$11.57 million jail, approved by voters in November, has been acquired by the county and no problems regarding land titles have been encountered.

The court voted unanimously to replat the property, which is currently

## CITY

Continued from Page 1A

facility's dance floor.

The floor was replaced by the city of Big Spring last week after the center was closed for approximately a week.

Guess, who is just one of many area seniors who use the center, danced to a slightly different tune Tuesday when he addressed the city council.

"I'm speaking as a citizen, not for anyone," Guess told the council. "I want to thank you, and thank the city manager and assistant city manager, Kenny (Davis) and Terry, and the women that helped put the floor in out at the Senior Citizens (Center)."

"When I went out to lunch today... they were real pleased, and a few people wandered around (the floor) asking, 'Who did this?' And I told them

who did it, and they didn't believe it. I want to tell you how much I appreciate it, and morale seems to be high, and the floor is bigger. It's just great."

McEwen told Guess the replacement of the dance floor at the facility is just the beginning.

"Thank you, Mr. Guess," said McEwen. "And our hope is this is the beginning of many things to come for the Senior Citizens Center."

Guess responded by comparing the future of the center to a historic structure recently used to shed a negative light on the new county jail planned for Big Spring's west side.

"I hope so. To use a tainted word, it's going to be a Taj Mahal," he said to much laughter.

Also during the meeting, the council approved the following items by a unanimous vote:

- First reading of an

ordinance approving the petition of Onco Electric Delivery Company LLC to modify its lighting service tariff pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

- Consideration of approving an incentive agreement between Moore Development for Big Spring and Amerimex Rig Movers and Amerimex Drilling 1 to provide financial assistance for relocation of operations and construction of facilities in Big Spring.

- Emergency reading of a resolution authorizing the city manager to execute an agreement with Patriot Industrial Services Inc. for the sale of tin and other sheet metal at the City Landfill.

- First reading of an ordinance amending ordinance No. 28-2007 providing for increasing the motel tax fund budget for the purpose of funding the construction and resurfacing of the Rose

Magers Walking Trail at Comanche Trail Park.

- First reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute an election services contract with the Howard County elections administrator and a joint election agreement with Big Spring Independent School District.

- Discussion and consideration of a study and transition plan for barrier removal and installation of curb ramps in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act. The council voted to appoint a committee to begin looking at several areas in the city — including the Municipal Auditorium — that are not ADA compliant.

### MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Henry "Gene" Adams, 69, died Monday. Memorial services will be at 1:00 PM Thursday at First Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 6:00 until 7:30 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Sandra Sweeden, 64, died Monday. Graveside services will be at 1:00 PM Saturday at Coahoma Cemetery.

Susan Lee Dodd, 50, died Sunday. Graveside services will be at 1:00 PM Thursday at the Old Noxville Cemetery at Junction, Texas. The family will receive friends from 4:00 until 6:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Severa Vargas, 77, died Monday. The Funeral Mass will be at 11:00 AM Friday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The vigil service will be at 7:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

## PLAN

Continued from Page 1A

more economic woes for our workers and small business people," Bush said in the Cabinet Room.

Pelosi, Boehner and Paulson scheduled a breakfast meeting Wednesday at the Capitol to try to make more concrete progress than has been made thus far. In the only major development Tuesday, Senate leaders

Harry Reid, D-Nev., and Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., agreed to stand back and let the House take the lead in the talks with the administration.

In the Senate, Reid said in an interview, "There are too many cooks in the kitchen. Send something over to us and we'll try to move it as quickly as we can."

Perhaps the most important obstacle to overcome is differences of opinion over who should receive

rebate checks. Democrats want to deliver help to low-income workers who may not pay income taxes because they make too little or benefit from tax credits such as the child tax credit.

Thus far, talks have focused on setting the parameters of a bill combining rebates with GOP-sought tax breaks for businesses, as well as Democratic-backed help for the unemployed and those on food stamps.

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# EDITORIAL

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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  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

# Labors of love are alive, well in Big Spring

It has been noted here before, but always bears revisiting. There may be no better community anywhere than Big Spring, Howard County and the surrounding area when it comes to having residents who care and support one another.

Simply put, labors of love are a staple of life in this area.

Another fine example was provided during this past weekend when several city employees, the mayor, and councilwoman and several of their spouses volunteered their time and labor to make sure a new dance floor was installed at the Spring City Senior Citizens Center.

Now, we all know, the damaged dance floor at the center has been a topic for considerable debate and consternation.

And there was no doubt in much of anyone's mind that replacing the tiled floor would be among the priorities once the city of Big Spring officially took over the senior center's operation from Howard County/

However, we doubt any of us could have expected what took place during the weekend when 15 people spent much of Friday evening and then all day and late into the night Saturday, installing a dance floor that will be reading for the center's patrons to dance on this coming weekend.

Every April when National Volunteerism Week rolls around, we use this space to note that it's not hard to see the work of volunteers in our community, nor discern the impact they have had on the lives of others in Big Spring and Howard County.

Our residents are always opening their hearts to others as volunteers or made monetary donations to dozens of agencies and organizations — RSVP, Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council, CASA of West Texas, Victim Services, Howard County Volunteer Fire Department, the VA Medical Center, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Salvation Army, Boys Club, YMCA, American Cancer Society and American Heart Association.

In fact, the list is almost endless and any attempt to name all those who volunteer or donate in this community couldn't help but leave someone out.

But today we take a moment and salute those 15 people — Russ and Laura McEwen; Gary Fuqua, Todd and Teresa Darden, Peggy Walker, Kenny and Tami Davis, Lesa Gamble, Terri Telchik, Vince and Linda Sjogren, JoAnn Staulcup, Perry Hall and Rick Boiles — who spent their weekend on a labor of love.

In giving of themselves, they have again reminded us of why this is the place we not only want to live, work and raise our families, but are proud to do so.

And we're also unabashedly proud of our neighbors.

## 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.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

*With You on our team, Lord, we cannot go wrong.  
Amen*

# Watching Venezuela's Chavez go crazy

As the world tries to ignore him, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez gets increasingly close to doing something crazy — just to get some attention. And when it happens, when Chavez declares war on a neighboring country or wages an oil war against the United States, there will be many who will be surprised. "Why didn't we see this coming?" they will ask.



MIGUEL PEREZ

Well, some of us have seen Chavez coming, and we have been telling our fellow Americans that this madman represents a major threat to our national security and economic stability, but it usually falls on deaf ears. Many Americans don't take us seriously. They don't see what we Latinos see on the Spanish-language TV networks. They don't see his deteriorating mental health.

On Univision and Telemundo, we not only get a daily account of Chavez's antics but also a clear view of his rapidly increasing need for psychiatric treatment.

Now he is on a new, nonstop campaign to pick a fight with Colombia. While Colombia demands respect, he calls Colombian President Alvaro Uribe "a liar and a coward." And he keeps suggesting that his discomfort — for no apparent valid reason — could lead to armed conflict between Venezuela and Colombia and that in such a conflict, Colombia would be a surrogate of the United States.

It started a couple of months ago when the Colombians foolishly allowed Chavez to intervene as a mediator with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), Colombia's largest leftist guerrilla group, in an effort to seek the release of hundreds of hostages held by the rebels. They should have known that you don't make deals with the devil.

From the beginning, it was obvious that Uribe was reluctant to let Chavez meddle in Colombia's affairs, but pressure from the hostages' relatives made him cave in. The relatives obviously

believed that a leftist leader such as Chavez was the best emissary to talk to the leftist guerrillas about hostages. But it was naive for them to think that would be the end of the Chavez-FARC relationship.

Only one day after playing the role of impartial negotiator and securing the release of two hostages, Chavez showed his true colors. Overnight, he went from playing a humanitarian role to supporting rebels who are trying to overthrow the democratic government of a neighboring country. He said the guerrillas are part of his Bolivarian Revolution, and he called on Colombia and the international community to stop classifying the FARC as a terrorist organization. He got his own puppet legislature to recognize the Colombian guerrillas as legitimate armies.

Mind you, these are the rebels who have kept Colombia in a civil war that has lasted decades, the drug-trafficking thugs responsible for hundreds of kidnappings and thousands of violent attacks on innocent civilians.

These are the guerrillas who once killed and maimed hundreds by planting car bombs all over Colombia, the ones who now have changed their modus operandi: Now they keep hostages for years in horrifying, inhumane conditions — chained to trees in jungle camps. Shortly after they released the two hostages, they captured six others.

Yet Hugo Chavez doesn't believe we should call them terrorists. He said the FARC and the National Liberation Army, another leftist and bloody guerilla group, "are not terrorists; they are true armies. ... They must be recognized. ... They are insurgent forces that have a political project."

Of course, in Colombia, where the victims of leftist rebels are quite numerous, Chavez's remarks were met with angry protests. Many of the same people who had been thanking Chavez for helping to free two hostages were now calling him a madman and telling him to butt out of Colombia's internal affairs.

The angry responses from Colombia gave Chavez an excuse

to escalate the conflict. And because there is no boogiemán, he needs to create one.

"We have the right to defend our sovereignty, which is being threatened by Colombia and the U.S. empire," Chavez charged in response to Colombia's pleas for respect.

In fact, with U.S. support, Uribe has gone after the rebels like never before, secured most of Colombia, significantly reduced terrorist violence, and brought his country back from the edge of anarchy. Chavez hates Uribe because Uribe is not only the U.S. government's best friend in South America but also a leader who has proved that democracy works. At a time when Chavez is using Venezuela's oil wealth to sway other Latin American countries to join a revolution of socialist dictatorships, Uribe — who also looks and acts like a real president — makes Chavez look like a buffoon.

Since the Venezuelan people rejected constitutional changes that would have allowed him to become a constitutional dictator, Chavez, has been on the warpath. On Spanish-language TV, you see him turning more and more schizophrenic.

Perhaps because he admittedly chews coca on a daily basis, Chavez's bizarre delusions are getting worse. After U.S. drug czar John P. Walters charged Sunday that, by its failure to act, the Chavez government is facilitating the flow of drugs from Venezuela to Europe and North America, the president/dictator went berserk. In another barrage of insults, he called Uribe a "liar," a "coward," a "pawn of the U.S. empire," and compared him to a Mafia boss. He threatened to militarize the Venezuelan border with Colombia.

"The next step is war," he said, "because they are coming for me."

He is a paranoid schizophrenic, the leader of an oil-rich country in our own hemisphere, a major U.S. oil supplier, and he is itching for a fight against the United States. Americans should take notice: When Chavez does something crazy, let's not act surprised, por favor.

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# Billionaires up; America down

When it comes to producing billionaires, America is doing great. Until 2005, multimillionaires could still make the "Forbes" list of the 400 richest Americans. In 2006, the "Forbes 400" went billionaires only. This year, you'd need a "Forbes 482" to fit in all the billionaires. A billion dollars is a lot of dough. Queen Elizabeth II, British monarch for five decades, would have to add another \$400 million to her \$600 million fortune to reach \$1 billion. And she'd need another \$300 million to reach the "Forbes 400" minimum of \$1.3 billion. The average "Forbes 400" member has \$3.8 billion.



HOLLY SKLAR

When the "Forbes 400" began in 1982, it was dominated by oil and manufacturing fortunes. Today, says "Forbes," "Wall Street is king." Nearly half the 45 new members, says "Forbes," "made their fortune in hedge funds and private equity. Money manager John Paulson joins the list after pocketing more than \$1 billion short-selling subprime credit this summer."

The 25th anniversary of the "Forbes 400" isn't party time for America. We have a record 482 billionaires — and record foreclosures. We have a record 482 billionaires — and a record 47 million people without any health insurance. Since 2000, we have added 184 billionaires — and 5 million more people living below the poverty line. The official poverty threshold for

one person was a ridiculously low \$10,294 in 2006. That won't get you two pounds of caviar (\$9,800) and 25 cigars (\$730) on the "Forbes" Cost of Living Extremely Well Index. The \$20,614 family-of-four poverty threshold is lower than the cost of three months of home flower arrangements (\$24,525). Wealth is being redistributed from poorer to richer.

Between 1983 and 2004, the average wealth of the top one percent of households grew by 78 percent, reports Edward Wolff, professor of economics at New York University. The bottom 40 percent lost 59 percent. In 2004, 1 out of every 6 households had zero or negative net worth. Nearly 1 out of 3 households had less than \$10,000 in net worth, including home equity. That's before the mortgage crisis hit.

In 1982, when the "Forbes 400" had just 13 billionaires, the highest-paid CEO made \$108 million and the average full-time worker made \$34,199, adjusted for inflation. Last year, the highest-paid hedge fund manager hauled in \$1.7 billion, the highest-paid CEO made \$647 million, and the average worker made \$34,861, with vanishing health and pension coverage. The "Forbes 400" is even more of a rich men's club than when it began. The number of women has dropped from 75 in 1982 to 35 today. The 400 richest Americans have a conservatively estimated \$1.54 trillion in combined wealth. That amount is more than 11 percent of our \$13.8 trillion Gross Domestic Product (GDP) — the total annual value of goods and services produced by our nation of 303 million people. In 1982, "Forbes 400" wealth measured less than 3 percent of U.S.

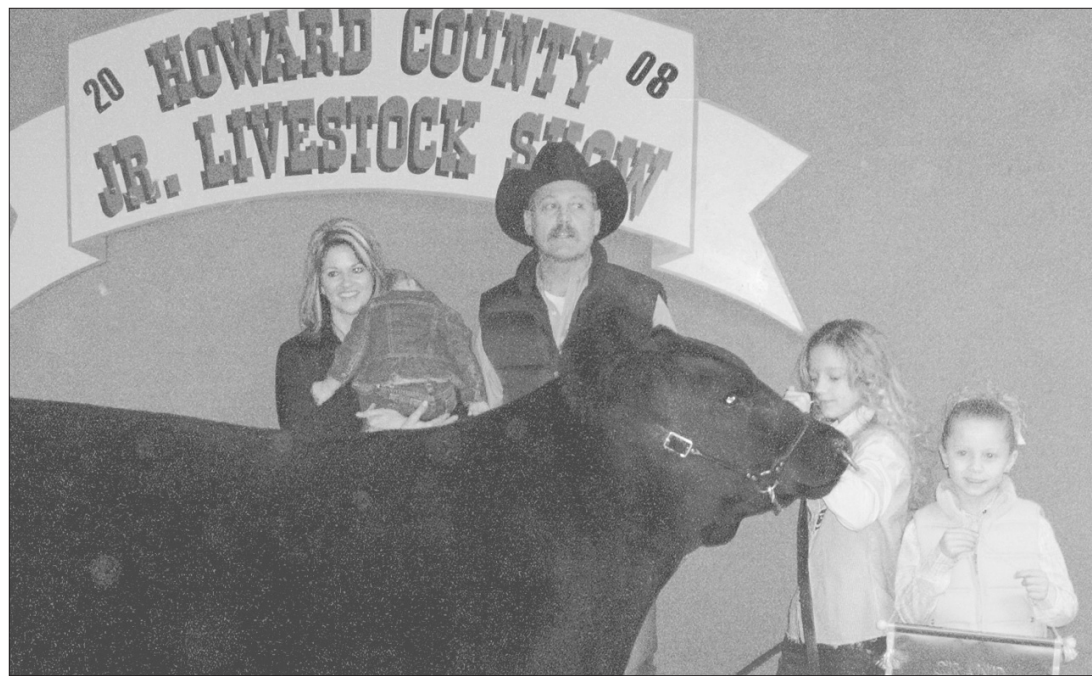
GDP. And the rich, notes "Fortune" magazine, "give away a smaller share of their income than the rest of us."

Thanks to mega-tax cuts, the rich can afford more mega-yachts, accessorized with helicopters and mini-submarines. Meanwhile, the infrastructure of bridges, levees, mass transit, parks and other public assets inherited from earlier generations of taxpayers crumble from neglect, and the holes in the safety net are growing. The top one percent of households — average income \$1.5 million — will save a collective \$79.5 billion on their 2008 taxes, reports Citizens for Tax Justice. That's more than the combined budgets of the Transportation Department, Small Business Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, and Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Tax cuts will save the top one percent a projected \$715 billion between 2001 and 2010. And cost us \$715 billion in mounting national debt plus interest. The children and grandchildren of today's underpaid workers will pay for the partying of today's plutocrats and their retinue of lobbyists.

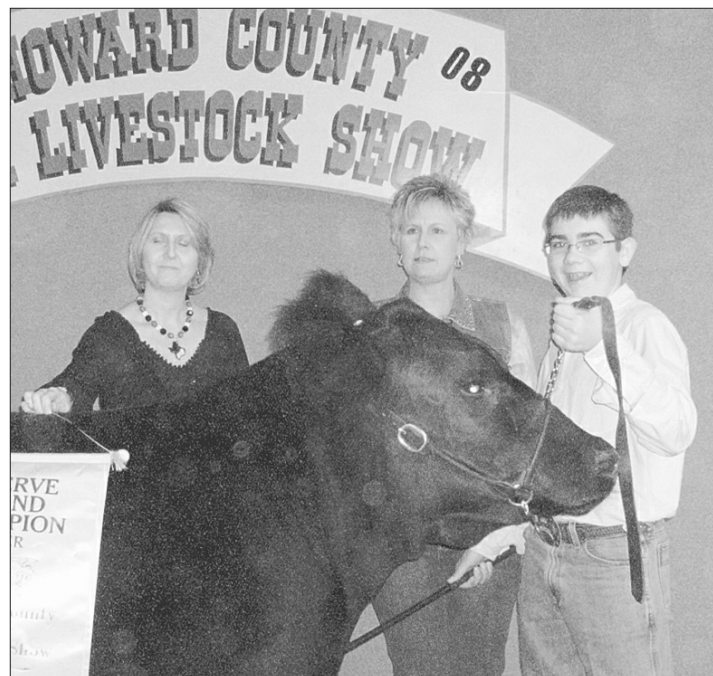
It's time for Congress to roll back tax cuts for the wealthy and close the loophole letting billionaire hedge fund speculators pay taxes at a lower rate than their secretaries. Inequality has roared back to 1920s levels. It was bad for our nation then. It's bad for our nation now.

Holly Sklar can be e-mailed at hsklar@aol.com.  
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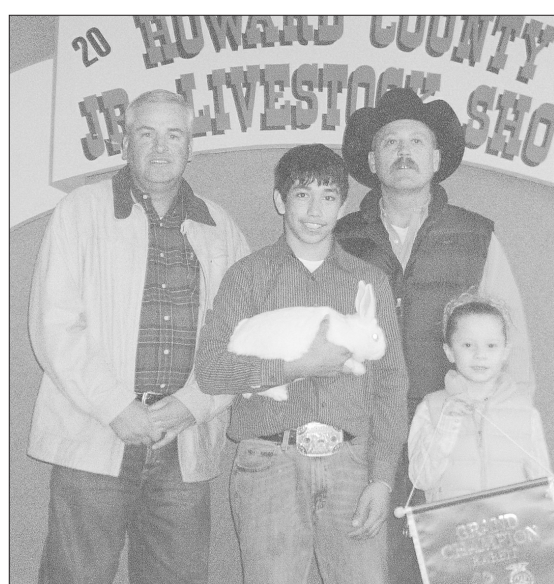
Laurel Nix, second from right, exhibited the grand champion steer at this year's Howard County Junior Livestock Show. She is shown with, from left, Amanda, Aubree, Mike and Myka Blissard, representing Cat Construction and Manhattan Petroleum.



Jess Brooks, right, exhibited the reserve grand champion steer at this year's Howard County Junior Livestock Show. He is joined by buyers Connie Newell, left, and Genia Andrews, representing Cowboy Construction and Big 4 Hauling.

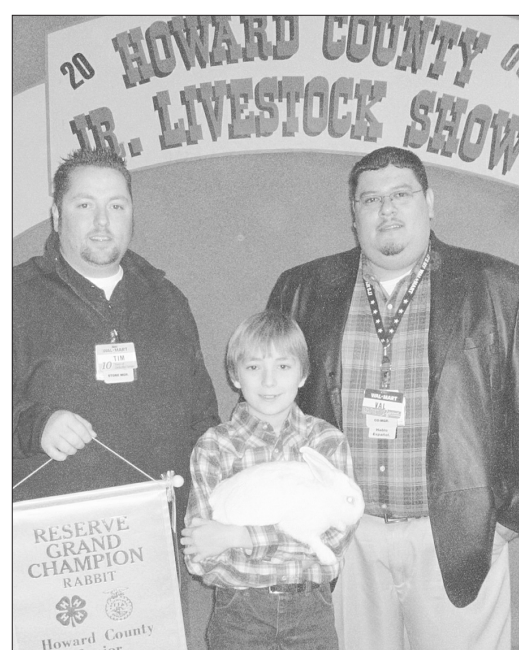
HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

## 2008 Howard County Junior Livestock Show award winners



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Lupe Abrego, center, holds his rabbit, which won grand champion honors in its division at the Howard County Junior Livestock Show this past weekend. From left, he is joined by Terry Glover of Ranch and Oilfield Construction and Mike and Myka Blissard, representing Manhattan Petroleum.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Bryce Gartman, center, exhibited the reserve champion rabbit at this year's Howard County Junior Livestock Show. He is flanked by buyers Tim Walsh, left, and Val Macias of Wal-Mart.

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This document was developed under grant number 2004NWTAXK050 from the Office on Violence Against Women of the U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions and views expressed in this document are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice.

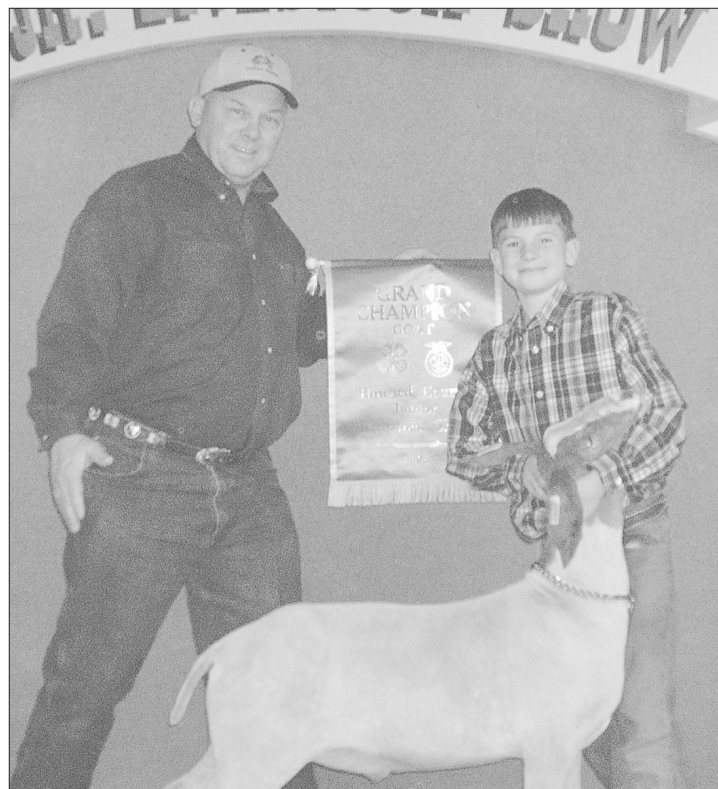
Logan Gaskins, left, exhibited the grand champion barrow at this year's Howard County Junior Livestock Show. He is joined by buyers Laverny and Joe Mack Gaskins.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan



Buyers Tim Walsh and Val Macias of Wal-Mart flank Erin Fontana, who exhibited the reserve champion barrow at this year's Howard County Junior Livestock Show.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

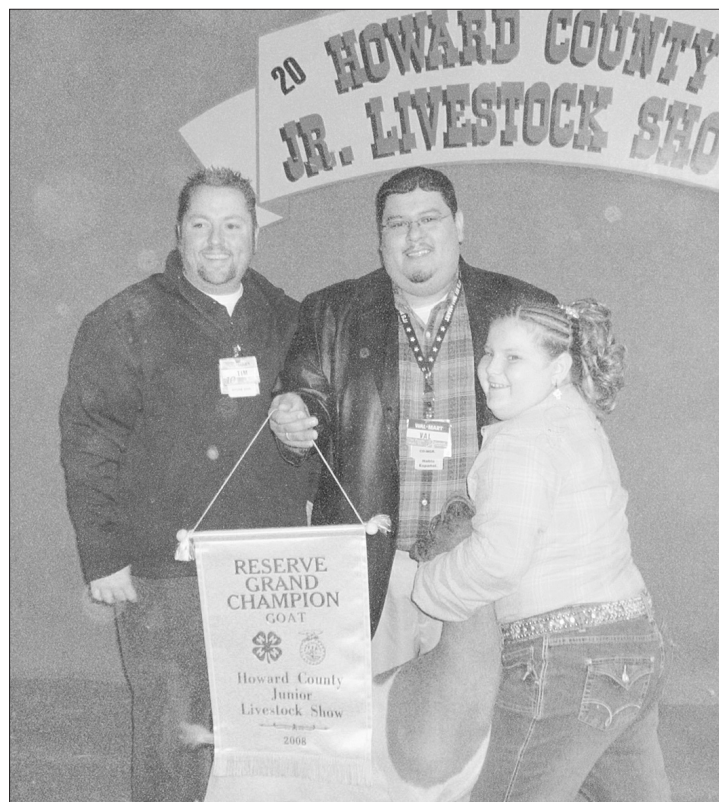


Tanner Christie, right, exhibited the grand champion goat at this year's Howard County Junior Livestock Show. He is shown with buyer Johnny Earp of Wells Fargo.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Ashley Luce, right, exhibited the reserve champion goat at this year's Howard County Junior Livestock Show. She is joined by buyers Tim Walsh, left, and Val Macias of Wal-Mart.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan



### Actor Ledger, 28, found dead

NEW YORK (AP) — Actor Heath Ledger was found dead Tuesday in a Manhattan apartment, facedown in bed with prescription sleeping pills nearby, police said. He was 28.

There was no obvious indication of suicide, NYPD spokesman Paul Browne said. The apartment where was found is believed to be Ledger's home, he said.

While not a marquee movie star, Ledger was an award-winning actor who chose his roles carefully rather than cashing in on big-money parts.

He was nominated for an Oscar for his performance as a gay cowboy in "Brokeback Mountain," where he met Michelle Williams, who played his wife in the film.

The two had a daughter, the now-2-year-old Matilda, and lived together until they split up last year.

His death was a shocking and unforeseen conclusion for one of Hollywood's bright young stars. Though his leading-man looks propelled him to early stardom in films like "10 Things I Hate About You" and "A Knight's Tale," his career took a notable turn toward dramatic and brooding roles with 2001's "Monster's Ball."

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WEDNESDAY

	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic.
6:PM	News (CC) School-Dallas	Jeopardy! Wheel-Fortune	Yo Amo a Juan	The Simpsons Two-Half Men	News Entertainment	12 Corazones	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Dr. Swallow John Hagee	News-Lehrer	How It's Made How It's Made	UFC Unleashed	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Access	Han, Montana Zack & Cody	College Basketball:	College Basketball:	Ghost Hunters (CC)	
7:PM	Wife Swap (CC)	Wife Swap (CC)	Al Diablo con Los Guapos	American Idol (CC)	Power of 10 (CC)	Madre Luna	Deal or No Deal (CC)	Family Guy Family Guy	Update Israel Rico Cortes	Pioneers of Television	MythBusters (CC)	Movie: The Hunt for Red	UFC Unleashed	Movie: We Were Soldiers (CC)	Movie: Motives (CC)	Movie: Up, Up and Away (CC)	Ga. Tech at N.C. St.	Iowa State at Kansas (CC)	Ghost Hunters (CC)
8:PM	Supernanny (CC)	Supernanny (CC)	Pasion	The Moment of Truth (CC)	Criminal Minds (CC)	Victoria	Law & Order: Criminal Intent (CC)	House-Payne House-Payne	Light of the Southwest	The Jewish Americans (CC) (DVS)	MythBusters (CC)	October	UFC Fight Night				Gamenight Tennis:	NBA Basketball:	Ghost Hunters International
9:PM	Cashmere Mafia (CC)	Cashmere Mafia (CC)	Don Francisco Presenta	TMZ (CC) Raymond	CSI: NY (CC)	Pecados Ajenos	Law & Order (CC)	House-Payne House-Payne		Charlie Rose (CC)	MythBusters (CC)	Movie: Navy SEALS	Pros vs. Joes (CC)	Were Soldiers (CC)	Hell Date Hell Date	Zack & Cody Han, Montana	Women's Samfinals (CC)	Los Angeles Lakers at San Antonio Spurs SportsCenter (CC)	Ghost Hunters International
10:PM	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ	Two-Half Men Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	Sex and-City Sex and-City	Update Israel Dr. Young	Charlie Rose (CC)	MythBusters (CC)	Movie: Navy SEALS	Pros vs. Joes (CC)	Were Soldiers (CC)	Hell Date Hell Date	Zack & Cody Han, Montana	Women's Samfinals (CC)	Los Angeles Lakers at San Antonio Spurs SportsCenter (CC)	Ghost Hunters International
11:PM	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	Law & Order (CC)	Letterman Late Late	Decisiones	Late Night- What's the	10 Items-Less House-Payne	Update Israel Charles Scott	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	MythBusters (CC)	UFC Fight Night			Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx	Replacements Kim Possible 2007 World (CC)	Series of Poker Boxing: Friday	NFL Live NBA Fastbreak	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone
12:AM	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Build. Wealth	Salome (SS)	Pieno 911! George Lopez	Show The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Worst That Could	Update Israel Dell Sanchez	Sign Off	MythBusters (CC)	Movie:			Without a Trace (CC)	Comicview (CC)	Emperor New American Drgn		

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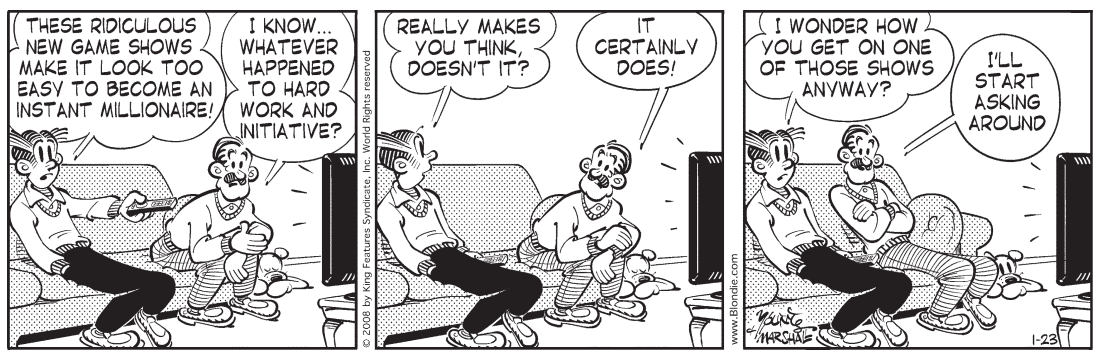


"...than staying home on a school holiday."

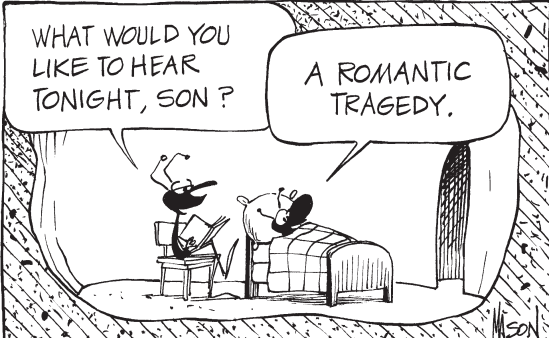
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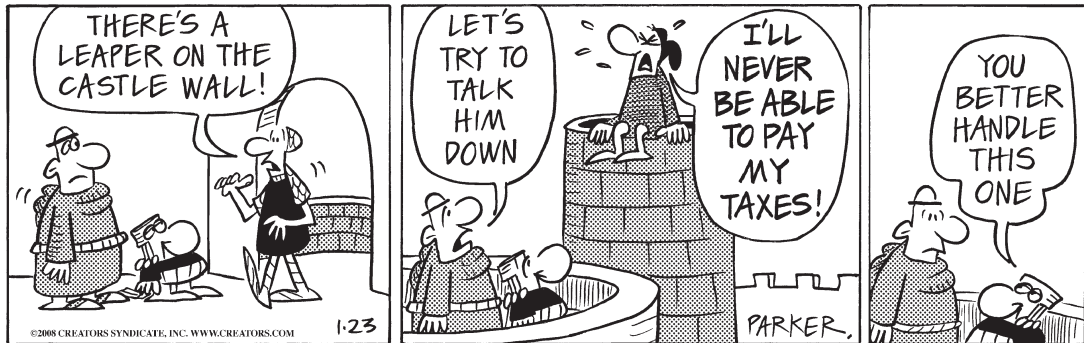
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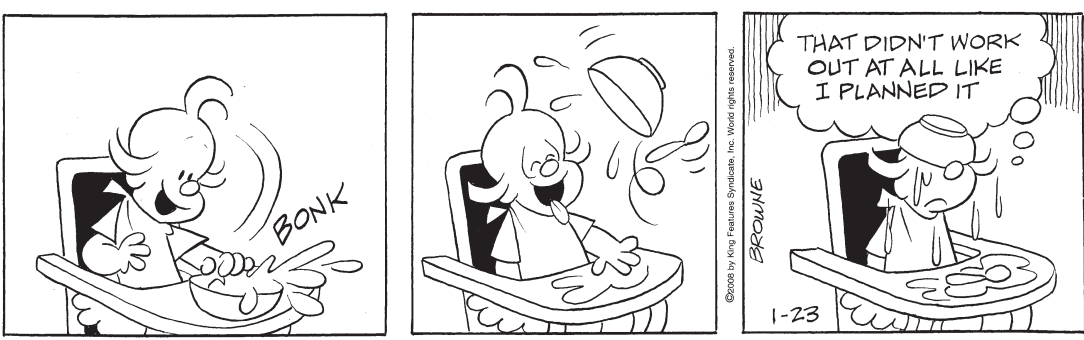
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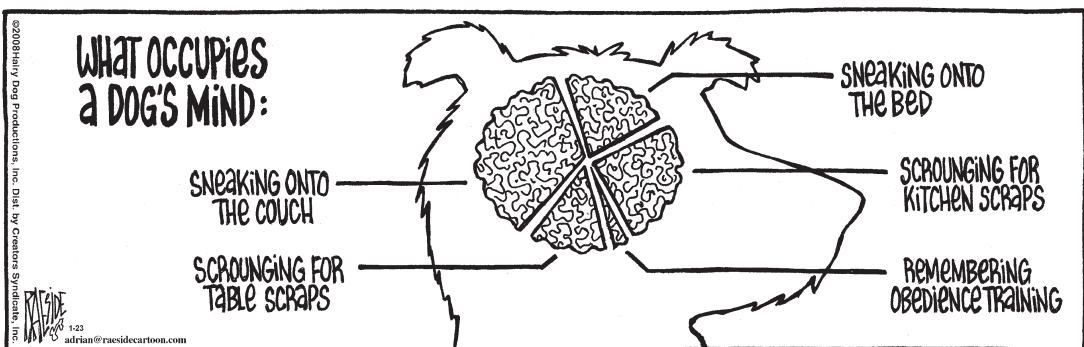
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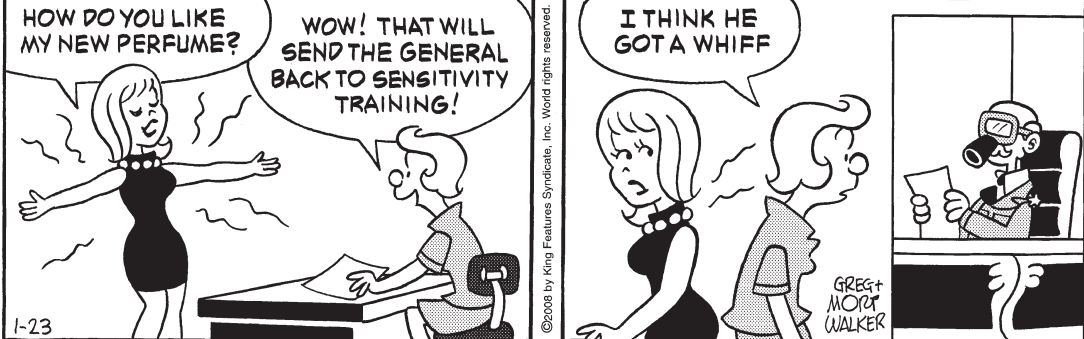
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 23, the 23rd day of 2008. There are 343 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 23, 1968, North Korea seized the Navy intelligence ship USS Pueblo, charging its crew with being on a spying mission. (The crew was released 11 months later.)

On this date:

In 1789, Georgetown University was established in present-day Washington, D.C.

In 1845, Congress decided all national elections would be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

In 1932, New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

In 1943, critic Alexander Woollcott suffered a fatal heart attack during a live

broadcast of the CBS radio program "People's Platform."

In 1950, the Israeli Knesset approved a resolution affirming Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

In 1964, the 24th amendment to the Constitution, eliminating the poll tax in federal elections, was ratified.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon announced an accord had been reached to end the Vietnam War.

In 2002, Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl was abducted in Karachi, Pakistan, by a group demanding the return of prisoners from the Afghan campaign; he was later slain.

Today's Birthdays: Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg, D-N.J., is 84. Actress Jeanne Moreau is 80. Actress Chita Rivera is 75. Actor-director Lou Antonio is 74. Actor Gil Gerard is 65. Actor Rutger Hauer is 64. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jerry Lawson (The Persuasions) is 64. Sen. Thomas R. Carper, D-Del., is 61. Singer Anita Pointer is 60. Actor Richard Dean

Anderson is 58. Rock musician Bill Cunningham is 58. Rock musician Danny Federici (Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band) is 58. Rock singer Robin Zander (Cheap Trick) is 55. Princess Caroline of Monaco is 51. Singer Anita Baker is 50. Reggae musician Earl Falconer (UB40) is 49. Actress Gail O'Grady is 45. Actress Mariska Hargitay is 44. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marc Nelson is 37. Actress Tiffani Thiessen is 34.

Thought for Today: "Happiness isn't something you experience; it's something you remember." — Oscar Levant, pianist-composer-actor (1906-1972).

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Answer to previous puzzle

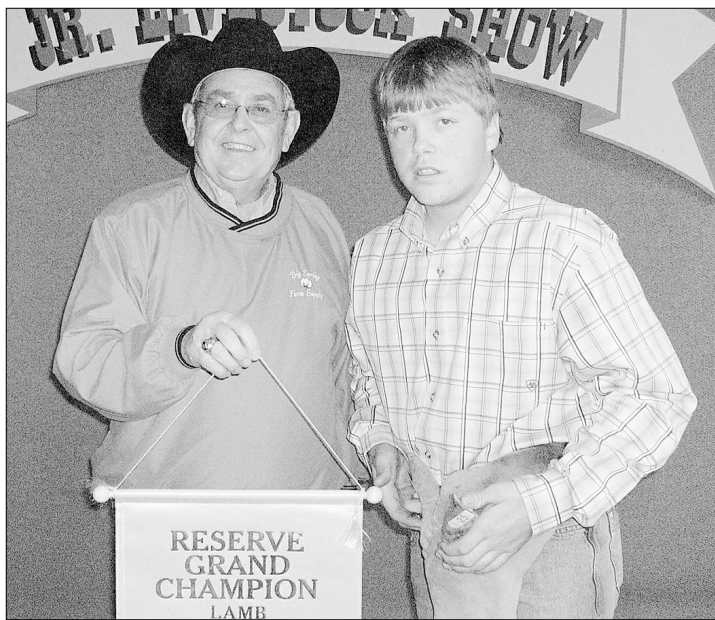
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ONCE	HONEY	BUNCH
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Newsday Crossword

GONE FISHIN' by Randall J. Hartman  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

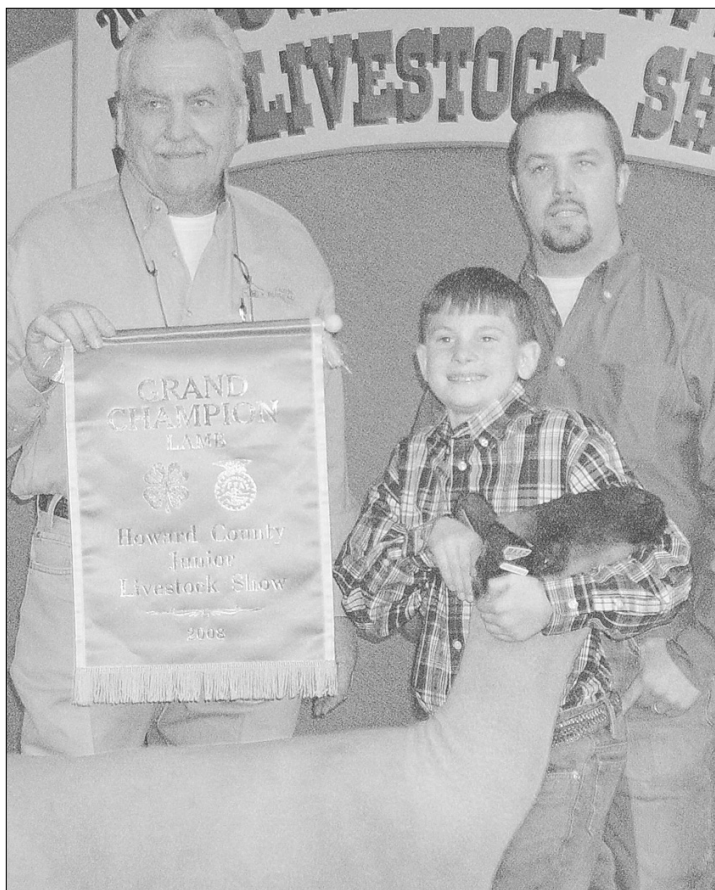
- |                              |                             |                         |                         |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                | 58 Nabokov novel            | 5 Thoroughfares         | 33 First man            |
| 1 Part of Superman's costume | 59 Ta-ta, in Tijuana        | 6 Chick sounds          | 34 Explorer of kids' TV |
| 5 Discharge                  | 60 Shade of yellow          | 7 Gen. Robert           |                         |
| 9 Sandcastle spot            | 62 Columbus' birthplace     | 8 Prosperous            | 35 Jeopardy! name       |
| 14 Type of exam              | 63 Cosmo rival              | 9 Oktoberfest mug       | 39 Tissue protein       |
| 15 Phone starter             | 64 "Dancing Queen" group    | 10 Maintain status quo  | 40 Sudden dip           |
| 16 NBC morning show          | 65 Twisting and turning     | 11 Garfield dog         | 42 Fitness center       |
| 17 Cinema-can contents       | 66 Within shouting distance | 12 Pro (proportionally) | 43 Mill, for example    |
| 19 Cream of the crop         | 67 Dutch South African      | 13 Hurricane centers    | 48 English assignment   |
| 20 Opposite of WNW           |                             | 18 Loses one's temper   | 49 Country estate       |
| 21 Turn back                 |                             | 24 Peter Pan villain    | 50 Grand Hotel actress  |
| 22 Brainstorms               |                             | 26 Wrap up              | 51 Pueblo material      |
| 23 Saves from trouble        |                             | 28 Toy Story cowboy     | 52 Air-traffic detector |
| 25 Jamboree quarters         |                             | 30 Heaps                | 53 Supermarket supply   |
| 27 Quick on the uptake       |                             | 31 "Puttin' on the ___" | 54 Arabian Sea gulf     |
| 28 Claimed the gold          |                             | 32 A piece of cake      | 55 Singer Turner        |
| 29 Aesopian also-ran         |                             |                         | 57 Designer Kenneth     |
| 33 Adjusts to change         |                             |                         | 61 Put the collar on    |
| 36 Bizarre                   | <b>DOWN</b>                 | 1 Promising person      |                         |
| 37 Director Kazan            | 1 Started the day           | 2 Covers, in a way      |                         |
| 38 Blockheads                | 2 Started the day           | 3 Covers, in a way      |                         |
| 39 Whisper sweet nothings    | 3 Covers, in a way          | 4 New Haven collegian   |                         |
| 40 Home sites                | 4 New Haven collegian       |                         |                         |
| 41 Square footage            |                             |                         |                         |
| 42 Landscaping material      |                             |                         |                         |
| 43 Ostentatious              |                             |                         |                         |
| 44 Long skirt                |                             |                         |                         |
| 45 Practice, as a trade      |                             |                         |                         |
| 46 Operate                   |                             |                         |                         |
| 47 Patricia of Hud           |                             |                         |                         |
| 49 Salad-dressing ingredient |                             |                         |                         |
| 53 Shower alternatives       |                             |                         |                         |
| 56 Breezing through,         |                             |                         |                         |

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65						66					67		



**Braeson Ramey, right, of the Howard County 4-H club exhibited the reserve champion lamb at this year's Howard County Junior Livestock Show. He is shown with buyer Ronnie Wood of Big Spring Farm Supply.**

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan



**Tanner Christie, center, exhibited the grand champion lamb at this year's Howard County Junior Livestock Show. He is shown with buyers Richard Atkins, left, and Derek Wash of the Big Spring Farm Bureau.**

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

## AG gives conditional approval to enhanced licenses

AUSTIN (AP) — Attorney General Greg Abbott has given conditional approval to a state plan to create driver's licenses that store citizenship information for faster and easier border crossings.

Abbott's ruling Tuesday said the program would be consistent with federal law as long as the government deemed the documents to be sufficient as proof of identity and citizenship and as long as the technology met federal guidelines.

The Texas Legislature approved a pilot program last year to create driver's licenses with citizenship information that could be used in place of a passport at land and sea ports.

The licenses are intended to help border crossers

meet federal identification requirements without clogging traffic and trade routes. Starting Jan. 31, border crossers will have to present a government-issued photo ID (such as a driver's license) along with proof of citizenship (such as a birth certificate or naturalization certificate) in order to enter or depart the U.S. by land or sea.

Gov. Rick Perry has delayed starting the state program and sought Abbott's opinion on whether the enhanced licenses would meet stricter federal requirements.

Perry spokeswoman Krista Piferrer said the program remains under review. Perry is working with the Department of Homeland security to

ensure the licenses would not be invalidated later. He is also waiting for the Texas Department of Public Safety's estimate of the program's cost, she said.

"We need to be responsible for the program that we implement to ensure we're not, down the line, wasting taxpayers' money," Piferrer said.

State Sen. Eliot Shapleigh, the author of the bill creating the program, said it's modeled after an enhanced driver's license program in

Washington state that began Monday.

He said Texas shouldn't delay any longer.

"We need to get on with the program," the El Paso Democrat said. "Our border needs to move people and product safer, faster and smarter."

The Department of Homeland Security approved Washington's enhanced licenses, and an agency lawyer notified Abbott last year that the Texas proposal would be compliant with federal law.

## Tens of thousands of Palestinians flood into Egypt through breached Gaza wall

RAFAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — Tens of thousands of Palestinians poured from the Gaza Strip into Egypt Wednesday after masked gunmen with explosives destroyed most of the seven-mile wall dividing the border town of Rafah.

The Gazans crossed on

foot, in cars or riding donkey carts to buy supplies made scarce by an Israeli blockade of their impoverished territory. Police from the militant group Hamas, which controls Gaza, directed the traffic.

Egyptian border guards took no action.

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## Man shoots co-worker while rescuing him from crocodile

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — A man rescued his colleague from the jaws of a crocodile in northern Australia but accidentally shot the unlucky co-worker in the process, police said Wednesday.

The two farmhands were collecting wild crocodile eggs on a riverbank Tuesday in Northern Territory when a crocodile snatched one of them, Jason Green, by the arm, the Northern Territory Police said in a statement.

"The male colleague shot at the crocodile, causing it to let go of the victim's arm, but a further shot hit the victim in the upper right arm," the statement said.

The two men had been collecting eggs to boost the crocodile population at their farm in the northern city of Darwin. Their employer sent a helicopter that flew Green to a Darwin hospital for surgery.

Police Commander Bob Harrison said Green's injuries were not life-threatening.

"He's going to be very sick and sorry and have a very good story to tell," Harrison told Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio.

Police could provide no information about the crocodile's condition.

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**Weather**

Tonight...Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of rain in the evening...Then a slight chance of snow and light sleet after midnight. Lows in the mid 20s. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Thursday...Cloudy. Snow likely in the morning...Then light freezing rain...Snow and light sleet likely in the afternoon. Much colder. Snow and sleet accumulation of 2 to 4 inches. Storm total snow accumulation of 2 to 4 inches. Highs in the

lower 30s. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation 60 percent.

Thursday night...Cloudy with a 50 percent chance of light freezing rain and light sleet. Lows in the upper 20s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.

Friday...Mostly cloudy. Chance of rain and light freezing rain in the morning...Then a chance of rain in the afternoon. Not as cold. Highs in the upper 40s.

South winds around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 30 percent.

Friday night...Mostly cloudy. Not as cool. Lows in the upper 30s.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Not as cool. Highs in the mid 60s.

Saturday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

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

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Monday...Sunny. Highs in the upper 60s.

Monday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 30s.

**Bulletin Board**

**TODAY**

• 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 Howard College Cactus Room.

• Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

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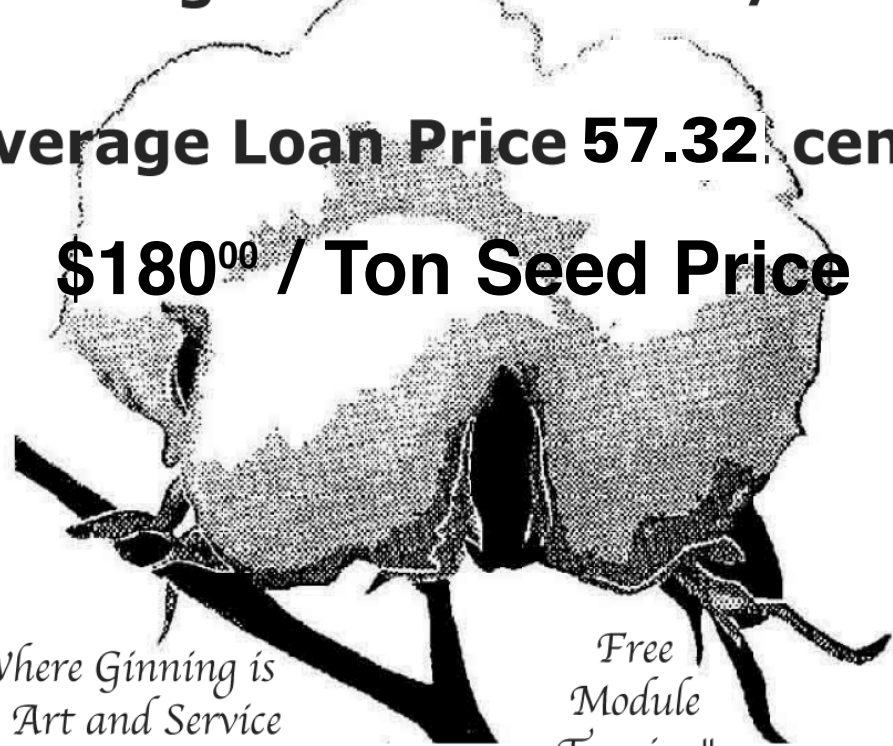
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STK# 1604



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**2007 NISSAN SENTRA 2.0S**

STK# 1464



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Sale Price **\$16,810**

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STK# 1546



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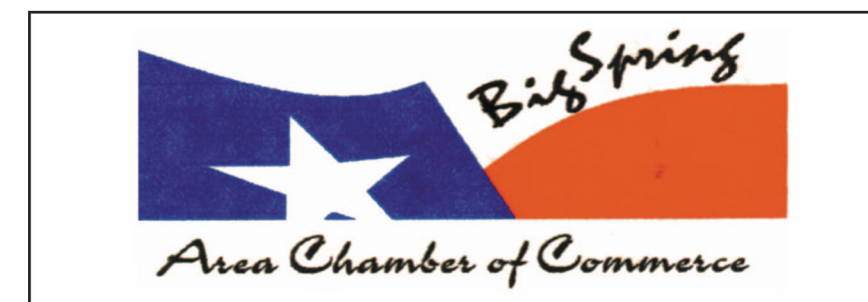
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# Local Business

NETWORK



*A Special supplement to the Big Spring Herald, Wednesday, January 23, 2008.*

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# Striving for a better Howard County

Having been in operation since 1919, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's mission statement is "to advance the civic, cultural and social betterment and interest of the people of Howard County."

Information about the city, various civic groups and businesses can be obtained at the office, located at 215 W. Third.

The Chamber currently boasts a membership of approximately 375 local businesses and groups, and with the help of its board of directors and many different committees, strives to improve the quality of life and business climate in the Big Spring area.

The staff consists of Debbye ValVerde, executive director, Nancy Newell, executive assistant and receptionist Kay Arthur.

The Chamber of Commerce sponsors many

different activities and events throughout the year, including the Business After Hours program, designed to bring local merchants together for socializing and networking at different locations.



Annually, the Chamber hosts a banquet designed to recognize its members for their hard work throughout the year, and presentation of the Man and Woman of the Year awards.

The Chamber also sponsors such events as the annual Pops In The Park, Health Fair and the West Texas Ag Expo and Luncheon.

Leadership Big Spring, Junior Leadership and Senior Leadership are also sponsored and hosted through the Chamber of Commerce.

For information on any of the Chamber's activities or services, call 263-7641.

At left, Col. Jim Little, retired, and Jo Beth Corwin, were last year's Man and Woman of the year. Below, the Chamber holds a ribbon cutting at J.Mkai, 123 Main St.



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# Celebrating Who We Are!

**W**ho are we? Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan — Howard County, I want to think that we are three communities that come together to be the best we can be.

We all have so much to look forward to this year; all three have passed bond elections in order to better our schools, sports complexes, downtown areas and more. Looks like we all want to help better our quality of life; we did vote and things have started happening.

Coahoma's residents approved a bond that is helping to make much-needed improvements to their schools for their children now and the future. Forsan will be constructing a road way from the Tubbs Addition to Forsan; this will help in getting kids to school safely.

We are seeing some buzz around the Settles Hotel. The old Greyhound Bus Station has come down now. We continue to see

activity in the downtown area, thanks to several local citizens who took it upon themselves to make a difference and purchase some buildings and are renovating them. We now have a woman's boutique and a fitness center and in the future we will see more.



DEBBY VALVERDE IOM

The city of Big Spring has started working on the Anderson Sports Complex and the animal shelter. Both will be bigger and better for our community to utilize and enjoy.

The Chamber has 23 participants in the Leadership Big Spring program who will be graduating in May. This year's class will make great board or committee members in the future. The one requirement to graduate, as a

group they must come up with a community project and complete it by graduation. This group is focusing on the Kid's Zone. Joann Knox has been a great asset to this program. She has organized and conducted the leadership skills the past several years. Joann, you will be missed, thank you for all of your hard work, support and friendship.

This year, the Chamber will be celebrating its 26th Annual Health Fair. We continue to offer free health screenings and up-to-date information on health, plus much more. And all 26 years it has all been at no charge to anyone who enters the coliseum. All this would not be if it weren't for our dedicated volunteers and corporate sponsors.

The Chamber works closely with many entities, such as the city, CVB, Howard County, Moore Development, Howard College, ISDs, the media and many others. We all want the same thing —

what will be the best for our communities.

One entity I work closely with is CVB. There are several events you will see the "Debbie's" (me and Debbie Wegman) working together on — two Debbie's are better than one! You will see us at these events plus many others, Webb Reunion, Pops in the Park, Triathlon, Texas Trash Off and more. We work to try and have an up-to-date calendar for the entire community to utilize. So if you have an event coming up, please, please let us know. We will add it to our calendars. Bring us some information about your event; we will help in promoting it to everyone who calls the Chamber or CVB.

Thank you to all the Chamber members who contributed their time and money toward all of our projects in 2007, especially the newest one, the Crossroads of

Continued on Page 6

# How your chamber works for you

## What is a chamber of commerce?

Your chamber of commerce is a voluntary organization of citizens who are investing their time and money in a community development program — working together to improve the economic, civic, and cultural well-being of the area.

There are two primary functions of a chamber of commerce: 1) it acts as a spokesman for the business and professional community and translates into action the group thinking of its members; and 2) it renders specific services of a type that can be most effectively rendered by a community organization both to its members and to the area as a whole.

## How does it function?

Your chamber functions through the working committees of the organization. Money, planning, inspiration, and guidance are useless unless the members work vigorously on the committee of their choice.

The goal of the program of work is always to create more dollars

for more people and to improve the economic welfare of the community.

Every member has a voice in determining the policies and projects and every member is needed to work on active committees to get the job done.



## Who is the chamber?

**Members** — Businesses, organizations, professionals and individuals working together for the betterment of the community.

**Board of directors** — Elected by the membership, these individuals are charged with determining the policies which direct the affairs of the chamber. Directors do not implement policy; they employ an administrator to carry out board decisions.

**Officers** — The executive committee ordinarily includes the

president of the board, president elect, one or more vice presidents, treasurer and past president. The officers provide direction and leadership to the board.

**Staff** — The executive vice president is hired by the board to be responsible for the daily management of the chamber and for employing and managing the staff.

**Committees** — The organization's objectives are best achieved by small groups of the membership engaged in common effort.

## What are the benefits?

— Refers businesses to visitors and callers.

— Helps promote a business of the chamber.

— Maintains awareness of key issues at the local, state, and federal level by coordinating with the Texas Chamber and U.S. Chamber.

— Provides businesses with education through seminars and increases awareness of the importance of buying locally.

— Hosts quarterly luncheons, Ag Expo and Health Fair to provide programs, business information,

and networking.

— Offers support and awareness of all areas of art.

— Works to increase growth of tourism in Howard County and support local attractions and events.

— Advertises businesses in the membership directory.

— Works with city, county, Moore Development, and other entities for the betterment of the community.

— Publishes a monthly newsletter to keep the community aware of happenings.

— Offers promotion and links to business through a Web site.

## Membership investment

Membership investment for small businesses is \$250 per year with an additional \$30 processing fee the first year.

## For more information

The chamber office is located at 215 W. Third. Or, contact Debby Valverde at 432-263-7641 or write P.O. Box 1319, Big Spring, TX 79721.

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Continued from Page 4

West Texas Golf Tournament. That is one that will continue this year.

I look forward to working with incoming president Lynda Elrod and the entire Board of Directors in 2008; we want for our members to know that if they have any suggestions or ideas for a seminar, Business Before or After Hours or wish to be a part of a committee, please tell us. All members are welcome to get involved with their Chamber of Commerce. If you are not a member, come by and let us show you what incentives we have to offer you. Remember, it is not what your Chamber can do for you; it is what can all of us do together to better our businesses and communities. Lynda hopes to get more of our members involved and recruit new members. She hopes to better some of our projects and to get around and visit our members. You will be seeing us soon.

A very special thanks goes to outgoing Chamber president Lee George for his guidance and support. Our board meetings have not been the same. Thanks, Lee!

To all of our volunteers who worked with us on any project,

whether Chamber or others, we did it! Thank you! Now it is another year, let's do it even better!

To my assistant, Nancy Newell, together we are a team — she works close with me in every project, and I could not do it without her. Last year I hired another part of our team, receptionist Kay Arthur. She has kept up with us and sometimes is the one who keeps both Nancy and I going. Thanks Kay, for hanging in there with us!

So, who are we? We are three communities with our own unique traits that want to make Howard County — Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan — better for everyone.

Let's do it!

Let's have a great 2008!

Debbye ValVerde, IOM Executive Director

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