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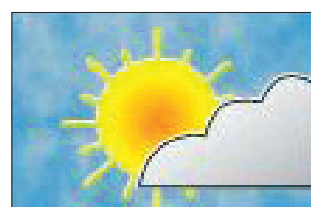
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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**SUNDAY**  
NOVEMBER 30, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 313

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## Got parade? We do!

23rd Community Christmas Parade is only days away

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

The Christmas season will arrive in all its lighted glory when the Big Spring Herald hosts its Community Christmas Parade.

Preparations are almost complete for the 23rd annual parade, which will make its way north on Gregg Street starting at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 6, organizers said.

More than 40 entries have been received to date.



Nunez

"This is going to be one of the best Christmas parades the Herald has ever put on," Herald Advertising Director Rick Nunez said. "Be sure not to miss it."

The theme for this year's event is "The Star of Bethlehem." Grand Marshals

See **PARADE**, Page 3A



HERALD file photo

The Mother's Day Out Program float designers went whimsical last year with their "Peas on Earth" entry. This year's Herald Community Christmas Parade will begin at 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

## No OPEC output cuts now

Group may wait until it meets again Dec. 17

By **TAREK EL-TABLAUW** and **ADAM SCHRECK**

Associated Press Writers

CAIRO, Egypt — OPEC ended a hastily convened meeting in Cairo Saturday without announcing new output cuts, despite the steep drop in crude prices and the threat it poses to member governments' national budgets.

The oil producing group's president, Chakib Khelil, said OPEC is concerned about the weakening world economy and its impact on oil prices. The group, however, will likely wait until a meeting in Algeria on Dec. 17 to decide whether to cut additional crude supplies from the market.

Khelil said oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries "agreed to take any additional action on 17th of December to balance oil supply and demand and achieve market stability."

His comments came after the group convened what it called a consultative meeting in Cairo to take stock of market situations and to assess whether mem-

See **OPEC**, Page 3A

## Angel Trees await local gift givers

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

With the holiday shopping season officially in full swing, the local Salvation Army is hoping area gift givers will make room on their shopping list for the less fortunate with its annual Angel Tree program.

The program — which provides Christmas gifts for area low income children and seniors who might otherwise go without during the holiday season — is easy to participate in, according to

charity officials, and could make an amazing difference in the life of a less fortunate person this holiday season.

"They just take the Angel card from the tree and purchase Christmas gifts for that child or senior," said Corps Assistant Amy Tompkins, who is in charge of the program this season. "It doesn't necessarily have to be what's listed on the angel card. Once they purchase the items, they will attach the card to the gifts and bring them to our office, or drop them off where they got

the card from. It's very important that they tape or tie the card to the gift, however, so we can make sure it goes to the correct child."

While the application process to receive gifts from the program ended last month, Capt. Terrie Cheshire said the local charity will still take emergency applications throughout the season.

"Emergency applications will only be accepted from people who have just moved to town, women who are separated from their husbands or their house has burned," said Cheshire. "It will have to be

an emergency situation similar to these."

Trees are located at the local Wal-Mart SuperCenter, Bealls Department Store and Maurice's clothing store, according to Salvation Army officials.

For more information on the Angel Tree program, call 267-8239 or stop by the Salvation Army office, located at 811 W. Fifth St.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)

## Pastor who helped get 'under God' in pledge dies

ALEXANDRIA, Pa. (AP) — A church official says the clergyman credited with helping to push Congress to insert the phrase "under God" into the pledge of allegiance has died in Alexandria, Pa. The Rev. George M.



Docherty

Docherty was 97. Nancy Taylor, historian for the Huntingdon Presbyterian Church, says Docherty died on Thanksgiving at his

home in Alexandria, with his wife, Sue, by his side.

Docherty delivered a sermon saying the pledge should acknowledge God in 1952 at Washington's New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, just blocks from the

White House.

On Feb. 7, 1954, he delivered it again after learning that President Dwight Eisenhower would be at the church.

Congress inserted the words a few months later.

25 Shopping Days Til Christmas



BIG SPRING **HERALD**

18195

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### To reach us:

Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

### City park to be closed

Comanche Trail Park gates will be closed nightly starting Monday and will be closed through mid January.

All through traffic should be aware that even though the front gate will be open at times when events are held at Dora Roberts Community Center the rest of the park will be closed.

The park will be open in the evenings Dec. 15-31 for the annual Festival of Lights.

The Festival of Lights Committee will have a security company manning the park this year, said Festival founder Pat Simmons.

### Dine Out Day Friday

Subway is this week's Dine Out Restaurant assisting the United Way for Big Spring and Howard County.

Proceeds from Friday's sales at Subway will benefit United Way. You can also send a tax deductible donation to United Way of Big Spring, P.O. Box 24, Big Spring 79721, or call 267-5201 for more information.



### WKRP back on the air

CINCINNATI (AP) — WKRP is back on the air in Cincinnati — but this time it's for real.

A low-power TV station has changed its call letters to WKRP, the same as the fictional radio station in the 1970s hit series "WKRP in Cincinnati."

The station changed its call letters to promote its new digital TV signal. It formerly went by WBQC-TV.

General Manager Elliott Block says the new call letters give the station recognition because so many people remember the television sit-com.

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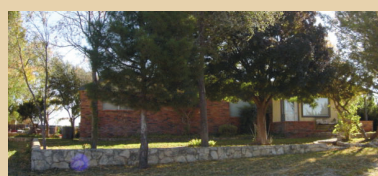
Leah Hughes  
432-270-2416

Vanessa Jordan  
432-816-5490

Christie Larson  
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Zac Hall  
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### Happy Holidays To You & Yours



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### HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

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#### FRIDAY

Everman  
55  
Big Spring  
15

Canadian  
63  
Stanton  
20

Fort Davis  
63  
Garden City  
56

## Steers stumble

### No. 2 Everman ends Big Spring's season

By JONATHAN HULL  
Sports Editor

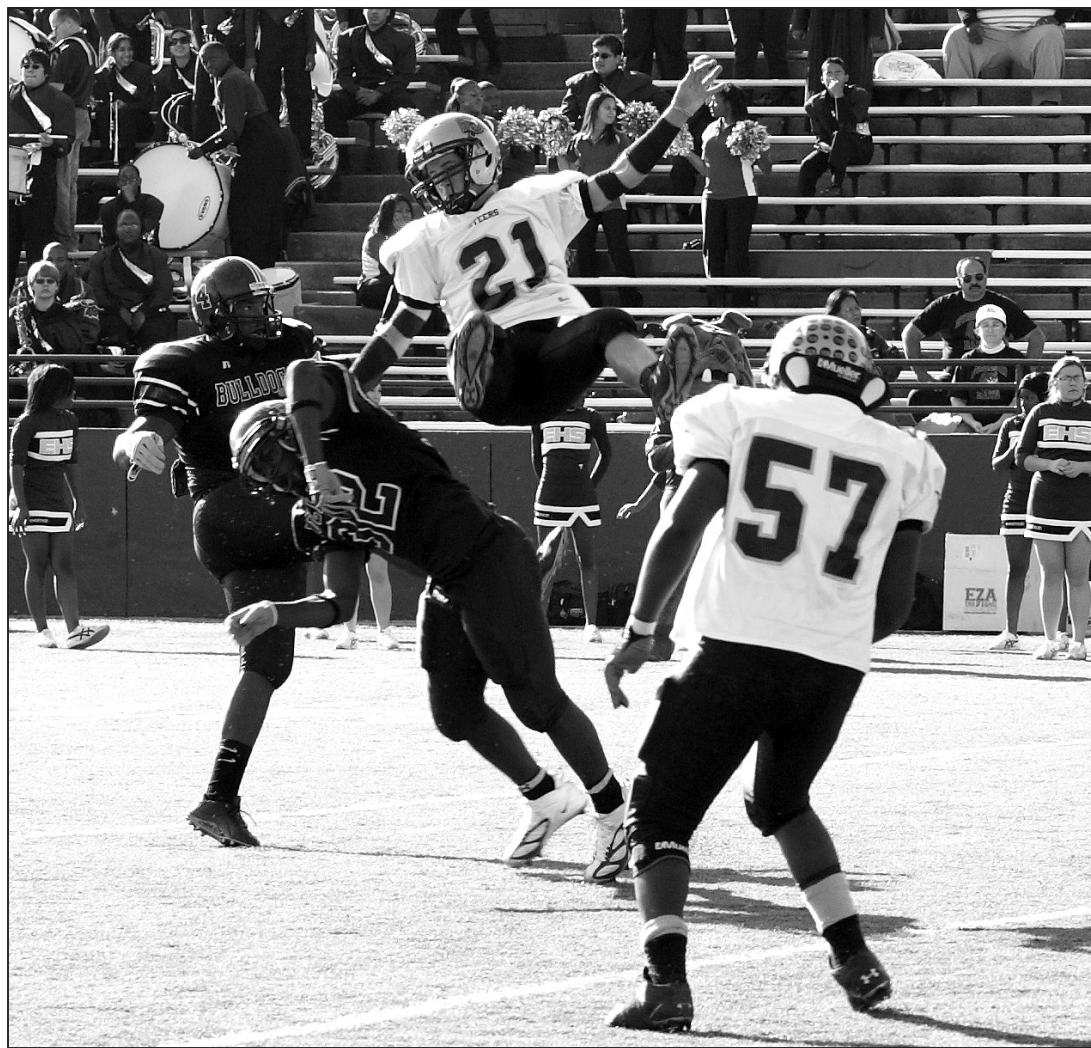
ABILENE — Every football team's season has to end and only a few ever get to close with a victory.

Big Spring's Steers might have played against one of those squads in that elite company Friday as the No. 2 Everman Bulldogs blasted the Steers, 55-15, in a Class 4A, Division II, Region I semifinal playoff.

For the first time this season, the Steers came across a squad that outmatched them with speed.

"We knew that coming in," said Big Spring Head Phillip Ritchey. "We looked on film, trying to find a slow player on the team. We never found one."

See **STEERS**, Page 4B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Chris Brooks gets upended as he attempts to block an Everman punt as teammate Quentin Ausbie (57) looks on in the Steers' 55-15 loss Friday at Shotwell Stadium in Abilene in a Class 4A, Division II, Region I semifinal playoff.

## Fort Davis edges rival Garden City

### Indians score late, eliminate Bearkats

Herald Staff Report

WINK — Garden City hearts were broken Friday night in Wink as the Bearkats fell to their district rival Fort Davis. The Indians scored the winning touchdown with 10 seconds left in regulation as quarterback Adrian Hernandez had a part in his seventh score of the game, sneaking across the goal line from 1 yard out.

The touchdown put Fort Davis ahead 63-56. The Indians then recovered an onside kick and knelt the ball once for the victory.

Garden City didn't lead in the contest until the 1:29 mark in the fourth quarter after quarterback Levi Schaefer connected with Josh Colunga on a 10-yard pass.

Unfortunately, Hernandez still had enough time to secure his hero status. He threw for five touchdowns in the first half, completing 16 of 25 passes for 201 yards. He also ran for two more scores and 138 more yards on 24 carries.

Colunga led the Bearkats with 101 rushing yards and three scores on 21 carries and also caught two touchdown passes.

Garden City hurt itself early, committing three turnovers in the first quarter.

See **BEARKATS**, Page 3B



Courtesy photo/James Schwartz

Garden City's Jake Schwartz takes a handoff from quarterback Levi Schaefer in the Bearkats' 63-56 loss to Fort Davis Friday in a Six-man Division I state quarterfinal playoff in Wink. Fort Davis scored the winning touchdown with 10 seconds remaining.

## Buffaloes trampled

### Canadian cruises past Stanton, 63-20

Herald Staff Report

PLAINVIEW — It's a bad idea to give a good football team extra opportunities.

The Stanton Buffaloes found this out the hard way Friday night.

Canadian's Wildcats led by two touchdowns before the Buffs even had an opportunity to touch the ball. The Wildcats capitalized on four Stanton turnovers in a 63-20 romping in Class A, Division I, Region I championship playing at Greg Sherwood Memorial Stadium in Plainview.

After scoring on the game's opening possession courtesy of a 2-yard plunge by running back Dylan Weaver, a crucial mistake on a kickoff return allowed the Wildcats to place Stanton in a big hole early in the contest.

Stanton sophomore Adam Montez watched the ensuing kickoff head for the end zone and drift over his head. However, the ball never quite made it to the goal line and Montez couldn't beat a Wildcat to the recovery, giving Canadian a first and goal on the 4-yard line.

The Wildcats' next six offensive drives ended in three plays or less, all resulting in a touchdown.

The Buffs' first score came with two seconds left in the first half as Tyler Fulton crept across the goal line from 2 yards out. At halftime, Stanton trailed 49-6.

See **STANTON**, Page 3B

## Texas waits to learn its fate after rout of A&M

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN — Now comes the hard part for No. 4 Texas: the wait.

A weekend of watching Oklahoma and Texas Tech will tell the Longhorns where they stand in the Big 12 and the BCS — and whether a team that spent a month at No. 1 will still have a chance to play for a national championship.

The Longhorns (11-1) wrapped up their last piece of business for the regular season with a 49-9 win over rival Texas A&M on Thanksgiving night, snapping a two-game losing streak

to the Aggies.

Now it's up to the complicated BCS standings and Big 12 tiebreaking system to see where and when Texas plays next.

If Oklahoma beats Oklahoma State and Texas Tech beats Baylor on Saturday, the Longhorns, Sooners and Red Raiders will finish in a three-way tie for first in the Big 12 South. The league tiebreaker will send the team rated highest in the BCS standings to the Big 12 title game next week against North division champ Missouri.

Right now, that's Texas, which holds a razor-thin mar-

gin over Oklahoma at No. 2. But it is widely expected that a Sooners win would bump them past Texas in the BCS.

If the Sooners lose and Texas Tech wins, the Red Raiders hold the head-to-head tiebreaker with the Longhorns and would represent the South division in the Big 12 title game. If Oklahoma wins and the Red Raiders lose, then Texas gets in based on its win over the Sooners.

The Longhorns are hoping they can somehow manage to hang on to that No. 2 spot after handing A&M the worst beating in the bitter rivalry since 1898.

"I think we played a heck of a season, beating Oklahoma, beating Missouri, beating Oklahoma State, all those teams, and to come out here against our rival Texas A&M and winning," senior defensive tackle Roy Miller said. "We can't control what's going on ... but a lot of things can happen."

Coach Mack Brown said he believes his team deserves a shot at the BCS title, but was a bit guarded in his postgame remarks.

"I think voters have a tough decision because there's a lot

See **TEXAS**, Page 3B



AP photo/Erich Schlegel

Texas freshman Tim Liu cheers on the Longhorns Friday and wears a sign with the score of Texas' win over Oklahoma.

# St. Andrew's Day Celebration

**S**t. Mary's Episcopal Church paid homage to Scotland on Sunday, Nov. 23. The parish's annual St. Andrew's Day Evening Prayer and Scottish Music Festival garnered a crowd of about 300 people to enjoy Scottish food, Bagpipe melodies and hymns from the British Isles. St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland. "We have great ties with Scotland," the Rev. Bill Wright explained to the crowd during the ceremony. "You may wonder why our church that started out as the church of England and the colonies has ties with Scotland. In the Revolutionary War days, the church of England headed the church of this country. All of our clergy at that point had sworn loyal to the King of England."

"In spite of that many of the clergy supported the colonial cause, many of them supported the cause of the British. The result was a divided church."

With the end of British rule, the church in this fledgling country was left without any bishops to ordain clergy.

"One of the difficulties we had was we believe in the importance of Apostolic succession," he said. "That is Christ set aside his apostles who in turn would lay hands (ordain) on others who would take over the work. They would in turn lay hands on others all the way down to the present time."

In an attempt bring a bishop to this country that could ordain clergy, the church sent Samuel Seabury to England.

"He went to England with the belief he could be ordained bishop and he could bring bishops back to this church. It turned out the British were not willing to ordain him. After all there had been a war. They had rules and regulations and canons that made it impossible to ordain someone who was not intended for the British Church."

In a quandary, Wright said, Seabury headed to Scotland.

"They responded to his needed and they ordained him bishop. So the United States now had bishops. Really because the generosity of the Scottish people is why the church is here. And we celebrate that on St. Andrews Day. So tonight we celebrate the Scottish people. The support they've been to the Episcopal Church and we say to them once again, thank you so much."



Randy Wothke on drums



E.J. Jones on bagpipes



Richard Kean on bagpipes



Event goes enjoy a feast of Scottish fare

Participants  
The Rev. Bill Wright  
Officiant

Lectors  
Sharon Billingsley and Debbie Jensen

Musicians  
E.J. Jones & Richard Kean  
Highland Bagpipes  
Randy Wothke  
Drums

Conductor: Dr. Keith Graumann

Joanne Bonnington, cello; Samuel Hale, trumpet and horn; Rocky Harris, trombone; Gloria Steelman, flute & violin

The Thorn and Thistle Pipes and Drums  
The St. Mary's and St. Nicholas choirs

Special Singers  
Joyce, Bradley, Joseph and Susan Dawes, Linda Hill

Organist  
Darryl Knapp

## Up Coming Events

- Big Spring Herald 23rd Christmas Parade; 5:30 p.m., Dec. 6
- First United Methodist Church, 30th annual Living Christmas Tree, Dec. 6-7, Saturday and Sunday, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- The Heritage Museum's Red Dress luncheon, 10 a.m. until noon, Dec. 13.
- First Church of the Nazarene, drive-through nativity Dec. 12, 13, and 14, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- Festival of Lights, Comanche Trail Park, Dec. 15-31.
- Big Spring Symphony Guild Tour of Homes, Dec. 14.
- Big Spring Symphony presents the Nutcracker Ballet performed by Midland Festival Ballet, 7:30 p.m., Dec. 20.



Randy Wothke, left, and Roy Barbee play during the ceremony.

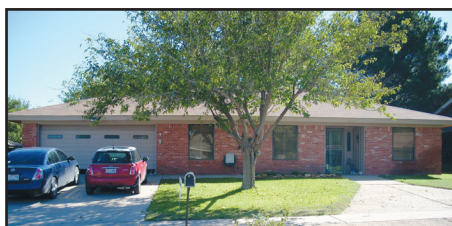
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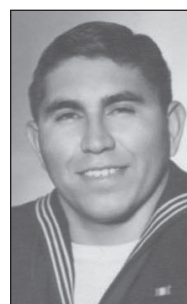


1701 Runnels St.

18246

## Obituaries

## Jose C. Arriola



Jose C. Arriola, 61, of Wylie, formerly of Big Spring died Oct. 31, 2008, in Plano. Funeral services were Nov. 4, 2008, at Williams Memorial Chapel in Garland.

He graduated from Big Spring High School in 1967. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, having retired after 20 years.

He is survived by his wife, Yolanda H. Arriola of Garland; sons, Jose C. Arriola Jr. and his wife Pamela of Maryland

and Daniel Arriola of Garland; sisters, Rebecca Arriola and Noemi Prieto of Big Spring; brothers, Meliton C. Arriola Jr. of Pennsylvania, and Albert C. Arriola of The Colony; mother, Eloisa Arriola from Big Spring; and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Meliton L. Arriola Sr. in 2005.

## Louise Griffin



Louise Griffin, 78, of Big Spring died Friday, Nov. 28, 2008, at Hospice House in Odessa. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Trinity Baptist Church with the Rev. Randy Cotton, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born Oct. 21, 1930, in Bell County to Sarah and Charlie Reaves. She had been a resident of Big Spring since 1952, coming from Santa Fe, N.M. She worked a number of years at Coker's Restaurant and later at Dell's. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

She is survived by one son, Wayne Root, SFC U.S. Army ret., and his wife Laurie of Chandler; one daughter, Sherry Dills of Big Spring; two sisters, Maxine Byram and her husband Buster of Midland and Jo Ann Jordan of Big Spring; two brothers, Norris Reaves and his wife June and Joe Reaves, all of Killeen; seven grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Bill Griffin; one daughter, Lariece Logan; and one brother, Charles Reaves.

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

## Vivian Rudley

Vivian Rudley, 89, died Friday, Nov. 28, 2008, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Support Groups

## SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

## MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

## CHANGING DATES

• The local National Alliance on Mental Illness group meets every two weeks in the basement of the Howard County Library. For dates and times, contact Ramona Blassingane at 263-9748.

## TUESDAY

• Grief share, sponsored by Home Hospice and the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels (north end door), meets at 6 p.m.. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, contact Sherry Hodne3tt at 264-7599.

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

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

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

## WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

## THURSDAY

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

## FRIDAY

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



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## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Friday:

- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1300 block of Madison.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION/ASSAULT was reported in the 2700 block of Connalley.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1100 block of Fifth.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 400 block of Third.
- FAILURE TO STOP AND REDER AID was reported in the 400 block of FM 700.
- THEFT was reported in the 800 block of FM 700 and the 1300 block of Sycamore.

## Take Note

• Vendors are needed for the Christmas Bazaar to be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Canterbury South. Please contact Jennifer Mendez at 263-1238 or leave a message.

• The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Relay for Life team is selling cookbooks to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The cookbooks can be purchased at the PBX operator's booth for \$10 apiece. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 268-4952.

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is now available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr. Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915.

• Mobile Meals needs volunteers to deliver meals Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The organization delivers approximately 70 meals each day and needs drivers to donate just one hour per week. Mobile Meals also needs back-up volunteers to fill in when regular drivers can't make it. For more information, contact Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809. After Dec. 1 the number to call for rides to treatment will be (877) 277-1618, the High Plains American Cancer Group Report Center. Anyone wishing to volunteer to drive in this program should call Sherry Hodnett, president of the Big Spring ACS Board, at 264-7599 at her office at Home Hospice.

• The purpose of life is a life of purpose. Join Nurses' Hospice of Big Spring volunteer program and become an "Angel" or "Teen Angel" in someone's life today. Come by 1008 E. Third St. or call (432) 517-4073 to register.






• Bring joy and kindness to others by becoming a Compass Hospice volunteer. Help those at the end of life's journey. Make a difference in someone's life. Call 263-5999 to begin your journey.

• All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.O. 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

• Christ Community Fellowship is collecting infant car seats and carriers. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

• New Life Ministries Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

## Your Local Weather

Sun 11/30	Mon 12/1	Tue 12/2	Wed 12/3	Thu 12/4
 <b>62/36</b> Mainly sunny. High 62F. Winds NNW at 10 to 20 mph.	 <b>66/41</b> Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.	 <b>76/47</b> Windy with times of sun and clouds.	 <b>69/38</b> Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	 <b>62/36</b> Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.

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## Bulletin Board

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

## MONDAY

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.
- District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 begins at 5 p.m. with weight-in at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffet.
- Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.
- The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.
- Big Spring Chapter No. 178 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

## TUESDAY

- Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.
- VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.
- Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
- The Howard County Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's Posse building on the Andrews Highway. For more information, call Bert Sheppard at 263-4483 or Rose Armstead at 263-2769.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

## WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 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, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.
- Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

## Lottery

Here are the winning numbers selected Friday in the Mega Millions lottery: 10-30-44-46-48. Mega Ball: 44.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 3-4-29-27-9.  
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-3-0-9. Sum It Up: 13.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-8-0. Sum It Up: 10.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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Big Sky, Big Heart, Big Spring

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**Please Call: 416-0118 or 263-0926**  
**if you have any information about the whereabouts of our "Luke".**  
**THANKS.**

# TEXAS SCHOOLBOY PLAYOFF PAIRINGS

<p><b>CLASS 5A DIVISION I Regional</b> Arlington (8-4) vs. Eules Trinity (12-0), 8 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium <b>Allen 28, Odessa Permian 22</b> <b>Region II Regional</b> Dallas Skyline (11-1) vs. Cypress Woods (8-2), 2 p.m. Saturday, Waco ISD Stadium Garland (11-1) vs. Round Rock Stony Point (11-1), 2 p.m. Saturday, Waco's Floyd Casey Stadium <b>Region III Regional</b> Fort Bend Hightower 24, Katy Cinco Ranch 21 Katy Taylor (8-4) vs. Pearland (11-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Houston's Tully Stadium <b>Region IV Regional</b> Austin Westlake (8-4) vs. Harlingen (9-3), 4 p.m. Saturday, Alamodome <b>SA Clark 49, Mission Sharyland 21</b> <b>State Quarterfinals</b> Arlington-Eules Trinity winner vs. Allen (12-1), TBD Dallas Skyline-Cypress Woods winner vs. Garland-Round Rock Stony Point, TBD Fort Bend Hightower (11-0) vs. Katy Taylor-Pearland winner, TBD Austin Westlake-Harlingen vs. SA Clark (12-1), TBD</p> <p><b>DIVISION II Regional</b> Mansfield (8-4) vs. Cedar Hill (11-1), noon Saturday, Texas Stadium Arlington Bowie (11-1) vs. Wylie (10-2), 4 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium <b>Region II Regional</b> Lake Highlands (10-2) vs. Klein Oak (9-1), 3 p.m. Saturday, Round Rock ISD Stadium Copperas Cove 55, Cypress Ridge 48 <b>Region III Regional</b> Katy (9-3) vs. Dickinson (9-2), 7 p.m. Saturday, Houston's Tully Stadium Houston Madison (8-2) vs. La Porte</p>	<p>(7-4), 1 p.m. Saturday, Galena Park ISD Stadium <b>Region IV Regional</b> Smithson Valley 30, SA Southwest 14 SA Reagan (10-2) vs. Los Fresnos (12-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, CC Calallen <b>State Quarterfinals</b> Mansfield-Cedar Hill winner vs. Arlington Bowie-Wylie winner, TBD Lake Highlands-Klein Oak winner vs. Copperas Cove (12-1), TBD Katy-Dickinson winner vs. Houston Madison-La Porte winner, TBD Smithson Valley (12-1) vs. SA Reagan-Los Fresnos winner, TBD</p> <p><b>CLASS 4A DIVISION I Regional</b> Abilene Cooper (8-4) vs. Denton Guyer (10-2), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aledo Wolfforth Frenship 38, Denton Ryan 35 <b>Region II Regional</b> Dallas Carter (12-0) vs. Longview (10-2), 2 p.m. Saturday, Corsicana Hewitt Midway 41, Dallas Highland Park 36 <b>Region III Regional</b> Magnolia (8-3) vs. Friendswood (9-1), 1 p.m. Saturday, Houston's Thorne Stadium Beaumont Central (8-3) vs. Angleton (9-3), 6 p.m. Saturday, Galena Park ISD Stadium <b>Region IV Regional</b> Austin Lake Travis 55, Alice 32 Killeen (8-4) vs. Gregory-Portland (9-3), noon Saturday, Alamodome</p> <p><b>DIVISION II Regional</b> EP Parkland (9-3) vs. Stephenville (9-3), 1 p.m. Saturday, Odessa's Ratliff Stadium <b>Everman 55, Big Spring 15</b> <b>Region II Regional</b> Sulphur Springs 42, Denison 21 Rockwall Heath 17, Ennis 14 <b>Region III Regional</b></p>	<p>Dayton (10-1) vs. Rosenberg Terry (6-4), 7 p.m. Saturday, The Woodlands Brenham 21, El Campo 13 <b>Region IV Regional</b> Kerrville Tivy 41, Beeville 24 Pflugerville Hendrickson (9-3) vs. Port Lavaca Calhoun (9-1), 8 p.m. Saturday, Alamodome</p> <p><b>CLASS 3A DIVISION I State quarterfinals</b> Abilene Wylie (10-2) vs. China Spring (12-0), 1 p.m. Saturday, Aledo Prosper (11-1) vs. Van (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Mesquite's Memorial Stadium Waco La Vega 34, Navasota 28 Cuero (10-1) vs. La Feria (7-5), 6 p.m. Saturday, Corpus Christi's Buccaneer Stadium</p> <p><b>DIVISION II Regional</b> Bridgeport 31, Monahans 28 <b>Sweetwater (10-2) vs. Liberty Hill (12-0), 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Brownwood</b> <b>Region II Regional</b> Celina 52, Texarkana Pleasant Grove 21 Kaufman 21, New Boston 14 <b>Region III Regional</b> Gilmer (11-1) vs. West Orange-Stark (10-0), 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Lufkin Carthage 55, Rockdale 28 <b>Region IV Regional</b> Bellville 43, Sinton 36 Giddings 42, Rio Hondo 28 <b>State Quarterfinals</b> Bridgeport vs. Sweetwater-Liberty Hill winner, TBD Celina vs. Kaufman, TBD Gilmer-West Orange-Stark winner vs. Carthage, TBD Bellville vs. Giddings, TBD</p> <p><b>CLASS 2A DIVISION I State quarterfinals</b> Muleshoe 42, Clyde 7 Pilot Point (10-1) vs. Winnsboro</p>	<p>(10-2), 2 p.m. Saturday, Royce City Kirbyville 28, Arp 26 Altair Rice (11-0) vs. George West (11-0), 1 p.m. Saturday, Victoria's Memorial Stadium <b>State semifinals</b> Muleshoe vs. Pilot Point-Winnsboro winner, TBD Kirbyville vs. Altair Rice-George West winner, TBD</p> <p><b>DIVISION II Regional</b> Idalou (11-1) vs. Brady (11-1), 2 p.m. Saturday, Midland's Grande Communications Stadium Lubbock Roosevelt (8-4) vs. Cisco (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sweetwater <b>Region II Regional</b> Callisburg (8-4) vs. Grandview (12-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Saginaw's Roughrider Stadium Pottsboro 33, Caddo Mills 15 <b>Region III Regional</b> Daingerfield (11-1) vs. New Waverly (10-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Nacogdoches' Homer Bryce Stadium Newton 35, Franklin 21 <b>Region IV Regional</b> Blanco (12-0) vs. Vanderbilt Industrial (10-1), 6 p.m. Saturday, Floresville East Bernard (9-2) vs. Refugio (12-0), 7 p.m. Saturday, Victoria's Memorial Stadium</p> <p><b>CLASS 1A DIVISION I State quarterfinals Canadian 63, Stanton 20</b> Quinlan Boles 42, Seymour 27 Alto (8-3) vs. Mart (10-2), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Corsicana Junction 21, Shiner 14 <b>State Semifinals</b> Canadian (11-1) vs. Quinlan Boles (13-0), TBD Alto-Mart winner vs. Junction (10-3), TBD</p> <p><b>DIVISION II Regional</b> Stratford 48, Sundown 30 Sunray (7-4) vs. Iraan (12-0), 4</p>	<p>p.m. Saturday, Lubbock's Lowrey Field <b>Region II Regional</b> Archer City 56, Lindsay-Perrin 9 Albany 56, Gorman 13 <b>Region III Regional</b> Maud 42, Normangee 22 Cayuga 35, Bremond 12 <b>Region IV Regional</b> Falls City 35, Burton 19 Ganado 23, Mason 14 <b>State Quarterfinals</b> Stratford (11-1) vs. Sunray-Iraan winner, TBD Archer City (12-0) vs. Albany (13-0), TBD Maud (12-0) winner vs. Cayuga (11-2), TBD Falls City (10-2) vs. Ganado (8-3), TBD</p> <p><b>SIX-MAN DIVISION I Regional</b> <b>State quarterfinals</b> Follet 44, Meadow 39 <b>Fort Davis 63, Garden City 56</b> Strawn (11-1) vs. Gordon (11-1), 7 p.m. Saturday, Mineral Wells Abbott 38, Calvert 28 State Semifinals Follet (10-2) vs. Fort Davis (13-0), TBD Strawn-Gordon winner vs. Abbott (13-0), TBD</p> <p><b>DIVISION II State quarterfinals</b> Silverton 70, Lefors 62 <b>Sierra Blanca (7-2) vs. Borden County (11-0), time TBD Saturday, Pecos</b> Woodson 38, Roscoe Highland 24 Walnut Springs 80, Star 73 <b>State Semifinals</b> Silverton vs. Sierra Blanca-Borden Co. winner, TBD Woodson vs. Walnut Springs, TBD</p>
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# END OF YEAR RED TAG SALE

## SAVE THOUSANDS

\*\*\* TRUCKS \*\*\*

2008 Ford F350 Crewcab 4X4 King Ranch Powerstroke - White w/Tan Leather, Loaded, Like New, Long Bed, Has Only 2,300 Miles.  
**Was \$54,995 Sale Price \$49,995**

2007 Chevrolet C1500 Crewcab SL - Lt. Blue w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Nice Truck, Has Only 29,000 Miles.  
**Was \$24,995 Sale Price \$23,995**

2007 Ford F150 Supercrew 4X2 XLT - Silver w/Gray Cloth, Local One Owner, Like New, Has Only 28,000 Miles.  
**Was \$21,995 Sale Price \$20,995**

2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 4X2 - Black w/Gray Cloth, Ford Certified Unit, 6 Year 100,000 Mile Warranty, Has Only 27,000 Miles.  
**Was \$24,995 Sale Price \$23,995**

2006 Ford F250 Crew Cab Lariat Powerswtroke - Black w/Gray Leather, Local One Owner.  
**Was \$28,995 Sale Price \$25,995**

2006 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT -Maroon w/Cloth, V-8, All Power, One Owner w/18,000 Miles.  
**Was \$23,995 Sale Price \$20,995**

2005 Ford F250 Crew Cab 4X4 Powerstroke King Ranch - Maroon And Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner.  
**Was \$30,995 Sale Price \$28,995**

2005 Chevrolet 1500 H.D. Crew Cab L.S. 4X4 - White w/Cloth, 6.0, V-8 Local One Owner w/36,000 Miles.  
**Was \$23,995 Sale Price \$21,995**

2005 Ford F150 Supercab XL 4X4 - White, Tilt/Cruise, 5.4 V-8, Local One Owner.  
**Was \$18,995 Sale Price \$16,995**

2005 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Gray w/Cloth, V-8, All Power, One Owner.  
**Was \$14,995 Sale Price \$13,995**

2004 Chevrolet C1500 L.S. - Short Wheel Base, Pewter w/Cloth, 6 Cyl., Automatic, Air, One Owner w/58,000 Miles.  
**Was \$14,995 Sale Price \$13,995**

2004 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT Powerstroke - Blue/Silver, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner.  
**Was \$22,995 Sale Price \$20,995**

2004 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT - Tan w/Tan Cloth, Great Little Truck, All Power, CD, Low Miles.  
**Was \$12,995 Sale Price \$11,975**

\*\*\* TRUCKS \*\*\*

2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT 4X2 - Tan w/Tan Cloth, Local One Owner, All Power, Very Nice Truck.  
**Was \$16,995 Sale Price \$15,995**

2005 Ford Explorer XLT Sport Trac - Red w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/65,000 Miles.  
**Was \$27,995 Sale Price \$16,995**

2005 Toyota Sequoia SR5 - Silver w/Cloth, All Power, Moonroof, Local One Owner, 44,000 Miles.  
**Was \$27,995 Sale Price \$22,995**

2004 Nissan Murano SE - Black w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/69,000 Miles.  
**Was \$20,995 Sale Price \$18,995**

2004 Nissan Murano SE - White w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/69,000 Miles.  
**Was \$20,995 Sale Price \$18,995**

2004 Chevrolet Tahoe LT - Gray w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/57,000 Miles.  
**Was \$21,995 Sale Price \$18,995**

2004 Honda CRV LX 4X4 - White w/Cloth, V-6, All POWER, DVD, Local One Owner.  
**Was \$13,995 Sale Price \$10,995**

2004 GMC Yukon XL SLT - Maroon w/Leather, All Power, One Owner.  
**Was \$19,995 Sale Price \$17,995**

2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/36,000 Miles.  
**Was \$19,995 Sale Price \$13,995**

\*\*\* SUVs \*\*\*

\*\*\* CARS \*\*\*

2008 Ford Focus SE - Blue w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Great MPG, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Only 17,000 Miles.  
**Was \$18,995 Sale Price \$16,995**

2008 Ford Focus SE - Silver w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Great MPG, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Only 19,000 Miles.  
**Was \$18,995 Sale Price \$16,995**

2008 Ford Focus SE - White w/Tan Cloth, All Power, Great MPG, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Only 12,000 Miles.  
**Was \$18,995 Sale Price \$16,995**

2007 Lincoln TownCar Signature LTD - White Silk, w/Tan Leather, Lincoln Certified 6 Year 100,000 Mile Warranty, Great Looking Towncar, Must See. Only 12,000 Miles.  
**Was \$31,995 Sale Price \$29,995**

2007 Ford Fusion SEL - Silver, w/Gray Cloth, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Like New, All Power, Great MPG, Only 24,000 Miles.  
**Was \$17,995 Sale Price \$16,995**

2006 Lincoln Town Car Signature - Dark Stone, Leather, All Power, One Owner w/35,000 Miles.  
**Was \$23,995 Sale Price \$21,995**

2004 Mercury Grand Marquis L.S. - Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner w/50,000 Miles.  
**Was \$15,995 Sale Price \$12,995**

2004 Lincoln Town Car Ultimate - Cashmere White w/Leather, All Power, One Owner w/32,000 Miles.  
**Was \$20,995 Sale Price \$18,995**

2004 Mercedes C240 - Tan w/Leather, All Power, Locally Owned w/42,000 Miles.  
**Was \$21,995 Sale Price \$17,995**

2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Black w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner, Skylight.  
**Was \$23,995 Sale Price \$17,995**

2003 Cadillac DeVille. - Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner.  
**Was \$14,995 Sale Price \$12,995**

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## Military News

### U.S. Marine Corps



Corporal Garcia

Officers and Staff at Marine Cryptologic Support Battalion-India Company announce the recent promotion of Lcpl. Desmond Aaron Garcia to Corporal, E-4. It is an earned privilege based on performance of duty and potential to excel. They would like to add Desmond accomplished his achievement in 12 months, a credit to his Military Occupational Specialty.

Desmond graduated Marine Corps Basic Training at MCRD Depot in San Diego, Calif., on Nov. 21, 2007. He graduat-

ed as squad leader and top physical fitness for his platoon and was named as one of the top Honor Men for Fox Company. He completed his combat training at Camp Pendleton, Calif., as squad leader on Jan. 23, 2008. Desmond also completed his Military Occupational Specialty in Signal Intelligence/Ground Electronic Warfare-Recon program at Corry Station NTTC Pensacola, Fla. He placed second in his class with a GPA 3.9 and squad leader on June 20, 2008. Desmond is now stationed in Wahiawa, Hawaii, with the Marine Cryptologic Support Battalion-India Company.

Desmond is a 2007 graduate of Big Spring High School. He is the son of Felix and Lee Ann Garcia of Big Spring, grandson of Mary Garcia-Green of Big Spring, GC Garcia of Midland and Bruce and Phyllis Johnston of Plumbrook, Mich. He is also the God-Son of Rocky and Barbara Harris of Big Spring

## A busy time of the year at the Big Spring State Hospital

It's that time of year when we're all busy with the holidays, baking, shopping, visiting, making plans and most of all giving thanks for our many blessings.

I want to thank all of you who have been generous this past year and helped in so many ways with the volunteer program at Big Spring State Hospital.

You may have baked a cake or a batch of cookies, sent a check, sang, played bingo, helped with a fund-raiser, or assisted with a special event for the patients.

Please know that your efforts did make a difference and did not go unnoticed.

Special thanks to the dedicated volunteers at The Chalet. The Chalet is the most amazing place in Big Spring. If you haven't visited the store located at 115 E. Second St., you have missed an experience.

What other business in town is operated solely by 22 volunteers who have taken a ton of donated merchandise and turn it into a business generating more than \$100,000 annually? There is not enough praise that can be given to these wonderful volunteers. The only way I can help them is to find a few more good men and women who are willing to donate a few hours a week. Would you be interested? A wide

range of volunteer jobs are available. If interested, please call 268-7535.

The Chalet is taking on a new look and displaying many more clothes and other items with the addition of new clothes racks picked up in the Metroplex. A big thank you to Doris Smith and Neva Green for traveling to Fort Worth and picking up these helpful storage items.

Big Spring State Hospital held an open house and morning coffee Oct. 29 for the new Wellness and Recovery Activity Plaza. Volunteers donated \$53,000 for the building materials. The joint endeavor will provide patients with access to a safe and secure exercise area in a relaxed outdoor environment.

It was a great opportunity for the community to visit our hospital. We were thrilled that the weather was gorgeous that morning and many of you took time from your busy schedules to stop by.

It's time once again to dig deep in those closets and pull out any luggage you aren't using, along with extra coats, jackets and sweaters. Our patients need warm outer garments for our chilly mornings in West Texas. The luggage is needed for when our patients are discharged.

Verna Davis recently called and told us ALON USA employees will visit the hospital Dec. 9 to wrap and deliver Christmas presents.

Volunteer Christmas Chairperson Shirley Bodin is busy checking the lists, gathering the volunteer shoppers, and seeing that everything will be ready. If you think you are over-

whelmed, try planning and shopping for 200 people. Somehow, Shirley has made it come out just right and has brought smiles to the patients for many years.

You can find Dorothy Sheppard gathering Christmas cards and preparing them for the patients for the special Christmas card gift day on Dec. 6 when each patient will be given a packet of 10 cards, \$5 and hot chocolate. We will have a workday on Friday, Dec. 5 at 9:30 a.m. if you can lend a hand and a couple of hours preparing these packets.

Letters went out to the Churches and organizations recently reminding them if they were signed up to help with the annual

Dec. 11 Christmas party for the patients at BSSH. Any questions, give us a call at 268-7535.

Schedule of Activities  
Dec. 4 - Volunteer Services Council Board Meeting

Dec. 5 - Christmas Card Workday 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 6 - Deliver Christmas cards to units

Dec. 9 - ALON USA Christmas Gift Wrapping

Dec. 10 - Chalet Luncheon "Just Peachy" 11 a.m.

Dec. 11 - Carol of Lights & Christmas Parties

Dec. 24-26 - Merry Christmas to all - office closed

*Billie Christie is Director of Community Relations at Big Spring State Hospital.*



BILLY CHRISTIE

## Menus

Big Spring Senior Citizen's Center

Roast beef/gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, rolls, margarine, tossed salad, peach cobbler.

Tuesday

chicken tenders/honey mustard, black-eyed peas, glazed carrots, rolls, margarine, mixed fruit with citrus

Wednesday

Sloppy Joes on bun, mustard, pickle relish, potato wedge, cucumber salad with sour cream, ambrosia

Thursday

Mexican chicken casserole, refried beans, yellow squash, picante sauce, guacamole w/ tomatoes, tortilla chips, lemon pudding.

Friday

broccoli & cheese soup, crackers, tuna salad on croissant, baked potatoes, chips, peaches and pears, peanut butter cookies.

Forsan ISD

Monday

Breakfast

cereal, pop tarts, juice, milk.

Lunch

barbecue on a bun, baked chips, pickle spears, corn cobbette, pineapple

tidbits, milk.

Lunch

Tuesday

Breakfast

pancakes, sausage, juice, milk.

Lunch

chicken and noodles, green beans, fruit gelatin, Texas toast, frozen yogurt, milk.

Wednesday

Breakfast

toast, peanut butter w/ jelly, juice, milk.

Lunch

Carne Guisada, refried beans, seasoned corn, orange smiles, flour tortillas, milk.

Thursday

Breakfast

breakfast on bun, juice, milk.

Lunch

hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes and pickles, tater tots, baby carrots w/ Ranch, chocolate pudding cups, milk.

Friday

Breakfast

cinnamon rolls, juice, milk.

Lunch

golden fish strips, macaroni & cheese, tossed salad, fresh fruit, hot rolls, milk.

## Who's Who



Robertson

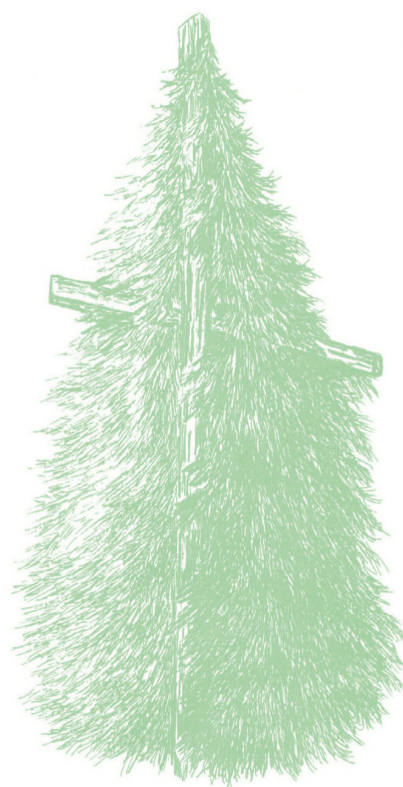
Sydnie Robertson, a sophomore at the University of Texas at Austin, has been selected as one of 16

students to the MAYMASTER Abroad Program.

The MAYMASTER program is a pro-social public relations abroad program to be held in Dublin, Ireland from May 28, 2009-June 26, 2009.

Sydnie is a 2007 graduate of Big Spring High School. She is the daughter of Ricky and Valerie Robertson.

## The Living Christmas Tree



First United Methodist Church

December 6th & 7th, 2008

8:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary

Dress Rehearsal Open To Public

Saturday, December 6th at 2:00 P.M.

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN CHURCH OFFICE  
(FREE) Limited Seating

Nursery available

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A Restylane® Rebate is our gift to you

We'd like to provide you up to \$100 in savings on a Restylane® or Perlane® treatment. You can receive a \$50 rebate on a 1-mL syringe or a \$100 rebate on two 1-mL syringes. To qualify, receive your treatment November 17, 2008, through January 4, 2009, and postmark your rebate submission by January 5, 2009. Your Restylane® Holiday Rebate Coupon is waiting for you at our office. For Offer Terms and Conditions, click the link below.

We look forward to helping your season be merry and bright— with the vibrant, youthful look you want. Call our office today to schedule your treatment.

Happy Holidays!



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# Liberal groups have a sense of optimism and determination

By **MIKE DORNING**  
and **JIM TANKERSLEY**

Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON — For many years, progressive groups and their causes have been out in the political wilderness.

Now, with President-elect Barack Obama preparing to take the White House and Democrats firmly in control of Congress, the party's liberal constituencies can see their way to a promised land.

For progressives, that means a nation where it is easier for unions to organize workers, where federal laws ban job discrimination against gays, hate crime laws are expanded and public lands are shielded from logging and oil drilling.

Instead of waging the defensive battles they have fought for years, liberal groups — labor unions, environmentalists and others — are eagerly preparing for new confrontations with business and conservative interests. This time, they feel secure in having allies within Washington's power centers.

"Everybody is seeing the energy that has been unleashed in this election cycle," said Eli Pariser, executive director of the anti-war MoveOn.org. "My time in politics started during

the Bush administration. I certainly haven't been in any meetings with anyone in the executive branch before where there were a lot of nodding heads."

The change in political climate has generated at once a sense of optimism and a determination to seize the moment. While advocates express a willingness to allow the new administration space to pursue its agenda on its own terms, they are determined not to be thwarted.

MoveOn.org, organizing a grassroots lobbying campaign around goals such as health-care reform, held 1,200 house parties across the country one night recently.

The Service Employees International Union plans to devote a third of its union locals' resources to a "First 100 Days" campaign to lobby for legislation.

It has been 14 years since Democrats controlled both elected branches of government. Some count more years in the wilderness, starting with the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980. Bill Clinton charted a largely centrist course and had only two years with a Democratic congressional majority.

Obama won election on a platform that unabashedly embraced causes dear to the party's liberal wing:

**"People are willing to wait a little while," said Democratic strategist Steve Elmendorf. But, he added, pent-up demand is still considerable: "Every interest group, every group in the party, has a list."**

withdrawal of troops from Iraq, a national health-care plan and investment in clean energy.

Goodwill among the left is such that few have publicly complained so far when Obama sometimes has distanced himself from his commitments. The response from labor was muted when reports

surfaced recently that he would postpone acting on a campaign promise to renegotiate NAFTA by ordering a study of the trade agreement. And there was no outcry when he signaled in September that he would delay delivering on a promise to end the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays serving in the military.

"People are willing to wait a little while," said Democratic strategist Steve Elmendorf. But, he added, pent-up demand is still considerable: "Every interest group, every group in the party, has a list."

Some wish lists are relatively easily fulfilled. A high priority for women's groups, a Fair Pay Act making it easier to sue over past pay discrimination, came within four votes of overcoming a filibuster in Congress. A top priority for civil rights and gay-rights groups is an expanded federal hate crimes law, which was vetoed by President George W. Bush.

Others face bigger challenges. A top goal for unions is the "Employee Free Choice Act," which would make it easier to organize workers but is vigorously opposed by business groups. It would allow unions to be certified

as collective bargaining representatives by gathering signatures from a majority of workers at a business rather than holding a secret ballot.

Though most in Washington expect that big agenda items will have to wait until after the Obama administration and Congress take up a stimulus plan to address the economic crisis, progressive groups are already at work.

"Progressives realize that protecting those suffering because of the economic meltdown has to come first," said Arianna Huffington, an author and Internet publisher working to rally the movement with a common agenda.

Still, the list is long.

Unions want to make sure the economic stimulus includes a large infrastructure building program to create jobs for unemployed construction workers.

Civil rights groups and advocates for low-income families want the economic legislation to allow bankruptcy judges to alter repayment terms for mortgages.

Environmentalists want the stimulus package to include "green jobs" via alternative-energy development.

Gay-rights activists want to make sure gays have equal job access and pro-

tection. After tangling with the Bush administration over major policies and minor regulations — including protections for air, water, wildlife, forests and other public lands — environmental groups expect swift and sweeping action from Obama on nearly every issue that matters to them.

Environmentalists expect Obama to "hit the reset button," as the Sierra Club's Josh Dorner puts it, on a host of regulations that Bush weakened, to solicit more input from scientists in framing environmental policy, and to use the Environmental Protection Agency to limit greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act, in keeping with a Supreme Court ruling from last year.

Progressives say the Obama transition team's appointments and meetings with interest groups signal an open door at the White House.

"It feels like there's an air of transparency," said Rea Carey, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "As people are appointed, and progressive people, the word spreads. And the word is, 'I look forward to talking with you.' ... It is this different feeling, that the door is not closed — the door is opening."

## PARADE

Continued from Page 1A

will be Bill and Joyce Crooker.

Entrants are eligible for three cash prizes — \$100 for the Best of Show Award (for best interpretation of theme); \$75 Mayor's Award (for best use of lighting);

and \$50 Grand Marshal's Award (for best costuming).

In addition, first-place plaques will be awarded in the following categories — individual or family; civic group, school or church; commercial; and industrial. Also, a special award will be presented to the best sheriff's posse, riding club or other

mounted entry.

Only entries which were received prior to the deadline will be considered for prizes, but additional participants will be welcomed right up to the start of the parade. Nunez said that persons wishing to participate need to show up in the vicinity of Primitive Baptist Church,

201 E. 24<sup>th</sup> by 4:30 p.m. the day of the parade.

Officials promise community residents a colorful start to the holiday season.

"We are very excited to once again be hosting the Community Christmas Parade," Herald Publisher Ron Midkiff. "This is our Christmas gift to Howard Coun-

ty and we're hoping for another successful event."

For more information, contact Nunez or Parade Coordinator Elizabeth Flores at 263-7331.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

## OPEC

Continued from Page 1A

bers were complying with a 1.5 million barrel per day output cut announced Oct. 24 in Vienna, Austria.

Khelil said preliminary market data indicated members were complying with the earlier cuts.

Saudi Arabia's king said in an interview published Saturday in a Kuwaiti newspaper that the price of oil should be \$75 a barrel, much higher than it is now, but the conclusion of the Cairo meeting with no announcement on output indicated no measures would likely be taken until OPEC meets again next month.

Saudi Oil Minister Ali Naimi went into Saturday's meeting saying OPEC would "do what needs to be done" to shore up falling oil prices when the group meets in Algeria, but for now it was "too early."

Naimi, whose country is the world's largest oil producer, said the bloc needs to wait until the Algeria meeting to assess the impact of earlier production cuts.

The cut announced in Vienna has so far failed to stop the price drop, and the cartel abruptly convened the Cairo gathering on the sidelines of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries' meeting.

The price of crude stood at about \$147 a barrel in mid-July. On Friday, the U.S. benchmark West Texas Intermediate crude for January delivery was trading at about \$54 per barrel.

The price drop and the wider financial meltdown threatens to cut deeply into OPEC member states' government budgets.

"We believe the fair price for oil is \$75 a barrel," Saudi King Abdullah was quoted as saying in Saturday's edition of the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Seyasah. He did not say how the price could be raised.

The king was echoed by Qatar's Oil Minister Abdullah Bin Hamad al-Attiya, who told the Arab news channel Al-Arabiya that prices needed to rise to guarantee investment in the oil sector.

"The price between 70 to 80 (dollars a barrel) is the one encouraging in in-

vestment and developing new or current oil fields," he said. "It falls below 70 (dollars), the investment would freeze, which will lead to a crisis in supply in the future."

Nigerian Oil Minister Odein Ajumogobia also said they would be "very happy" with oil at \$75.

Kuwait's oil minister, Mohammed al-Aleem, warned the market is oversupplied, and he didn't rule out the need for OPEC to cut production further. But he, too, said he believed there was no need for OPEC to make a decision in Cairo on cutting output.

"We believe a decision could be taken ... but I think it will happen in Algeria," he said, before the start of Saturday's session.

Al-Aleem said current prices could undercut investment in future projects and were not good for either producers or consumers.

The recent price drop has left OPEC price hawks Venezuela and Iran clamoring for further reductions of at least 1 million barrels a day. Both countries need crude at about \$90 per bar-

rel to meet spending needs aimed in part at propping up domestically unpopular regimes.

Other OPEC members, such as Nigeria and Ecuador, face budget problems too, making them reluctant to implement more cuts that might shrink revenue further.

The Saudis are better positioned to cope with the drop in prices. The International Monetary Fund estimates Riyadh needs crude in the range of about \$50 per barrel for 2008 fiscal accounts to break even.

The statements by the king, however, indicate that normally dovish Saudi Arabia is ready to see the price rise, indicating cuts will eventually take place.

OPEC itself, along with the International Energy

Agency, has significantly revised down its projections for demand growth in 2009.

Meanwhile, global crude inventories are growing, as evidenced by a U.S. government report showing a surprisingly large 7 million barrel build in stocks last week in the world's largest energy consumer.

OPEC's last round of cuts would put its total production at about 30.5 million barrels per day, according to the IEA. That is about 500,000 barrels per day higher than the forecast call on OPEC crude in much of 2009.

A Nov. 24 New York-based Oppenheimer & Co. research report says that for oil to rebound to \$65 a barrel, OPEC would need to cut crude production by more than 3 million bar-

rels per day from its September levels — a move it called highly unlikely.

### MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Dorothy Wood, 64, died Wednesday. Funeral services were at 11:00 AM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Lou Ellen McAlister Goll, 85, died Thursday. Funeral Service will be at 4pm on Saturday at Myers & Smith Home & Chapel. The family will receive friends after the service. Graveside services will be at 2:00 PM Monday at Lakeland Hills Memorial Park.

Mary Louise Griffin, 78, died Friday. Funeral Services will be at 11:00 AM Monday at Trinity Baptist Church. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 2:00 until 4:00 PM Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Vivian Rudley, 89, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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# Creative Casseroles

FAMILY FEATURES

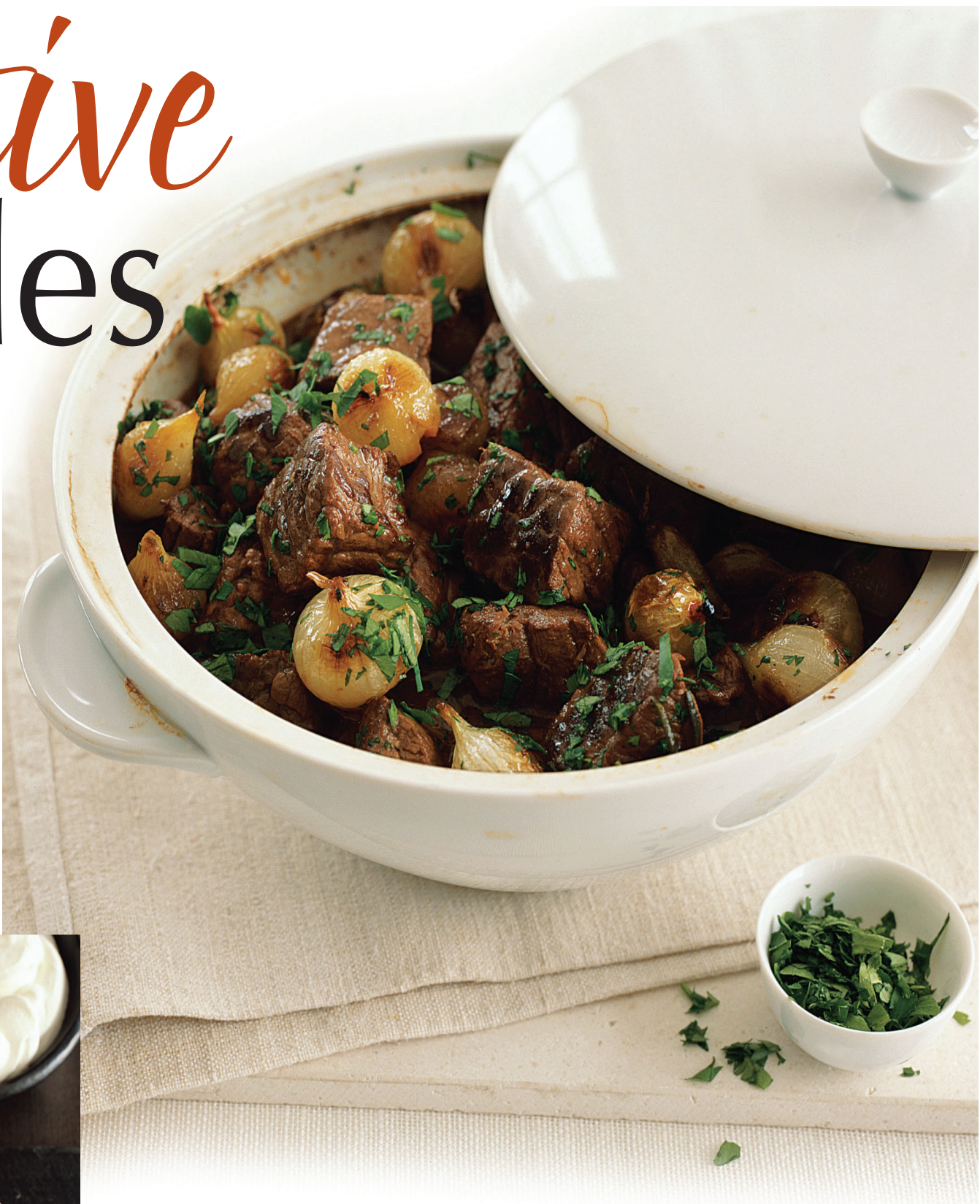
If you're tired of the same old casserole recipes or if you swear you've never had a good one, it's time to get creative.

Beatrice Ojakangas has written over 20 cookbooks, and her take on casseroles just may change the way you think about these comforting standbys. "Today's casseroles have a greater variety of flavors," she says, "and they're fresher, too. We've embraced many dishes and ingredients from abroad which were not available in the past."

In her new book, "The Best Casserole Cookbook Ever" (Chronicle Books, 2008), Beatrice has put together 500 creative casseroles for any occasion. "Not only are casseroles fast and easy to make," she says, "but they can be healthy as well, with the addition of whole grains, legumes and vegetables."

She encourages home cooks to make their own fresh sauces when they can. "While 'cream of' soups offer convenience, they are high in sodium, have MSG, trans fats and various chemical flavor enhancers. Making your own sauces gives you more control over what you're feeding your family — and they're easy to make, too!"

Healthier, deliciously creative, easy-to-make comfort foods — what could be better than that?



## Puffy Oven Apple Pancake

Serves 4

### Pancake

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 6 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter

### Apple Filling

- 2 large Golden Delicious or Granny Smith Apples, peeled and sliced
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/4 cup light or dark brown sugar
- Whipped cream for serving (optional)

To make pancake: In a bowl, whisk together flour, milk, eggs, sugar and salt until no lumps remain. Let stand for 30 minutes. (You can mix batter the night before, cover and refrigerate. Remove from refrigerator when you begin pre-heating oven.)

Preheat oven to 450°F. While oven preheats, place a large slope-sided baking pan or ovenproof skillet into oven and add butter. When butter is melted, remove from oven.

Pour pancake mixture into heated pan and return to oven. Bake pancake for 15 to 20 minutes, until edges are puffed high and golden.

To make apple filling: While pancake bakes, in medium skillet, sauté apples in butter until tender, 5 to 10 minutes. Add brown sugar and stir until dissolved. Transfer to serving bowl.

To serve pancake, be sure guests are at the table when you bring it in, as it will slump quickly. Cut pancake into quarters, and fill each serving with sautéed apples. Pass the whipped cream on the side, if desired.

## Pasta and Chicken Alfredo

Serves 6

- 2 jars (10 ounces each) prepared sauce or recipe Quick Alfredo Sauce (from book)
- 8 ounces farfalle or your favorite pasta
- 2 cups diced cooked chicken or turkey, or 1 can (13 ounces) chicken or turkey breast, drained
- 1 bunch green onions, thinly sliced (white and green parts)
- 2 cups frozen peas, thawed
- 1 teaspoon poultry seasoning
- 1/2 cup seasoned fine dry bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 3 tablespoons butter, melted

Preheat oven to 400°F. Butter a deep 3-quart casserole. Prepare Alfredo sauce and have it ready.

Cook pasta in large pot of boiling water for 12 minutes, or until just tender but still firm to bite. Drain and transfer to large bowl. Mix in Alfredo sauce, chicken, green onions, peas and poultry seasoning.

In small bowl, mix breadcrumbs, Parmesan and melted butter.

Transfer pasta mixture to baking dish. Sprinkle with crumb mixture. (At this point casserole can be covered and refrigerated overnight. Add about 10 extra minutes to oven time.) Bake, uncovered, until pasta is hot and topping is golden brown, about 25 minutes.

## Cook's Tips

To freeze casseroles, cool completely after baking and cover with plastic wrap or waxed paper, then with foil. Label the dish with its name, date of preparation, number of servings and hints on how to reheat the food.

To thaw frozen casseroles, remove from freezer at least eight hours ahead or defrost overnight in the refrigerator. Then reheat in the oven to serving temperature. (Remove plastic wrap or waxed paper first.)

Many of the recipes in the book can be assembled, covered and refrigerated for several hours or even a day before cooking. If you have chilled a casserole for more than a few hours, remove it from the refrigerator when you preheat the oven. That will give the ingredients and the dish a chance to warm up a bit.

Tips courtesy of Beatrice Ojakangas, "The Best Casserole Cookbook Ever" (Chronicle Books, 2008. Available now wherever books are sold).

## Greek Beef Casserole With Onions

Serves 4

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 1/2 pounds top round beefsteak, cut into 1 1/2-inch cubes
- 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup dry red wine
- 1 cup water
- 1 sprig fresh rosemary
- 2 tablespoons tomato puree
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 5 whole allspice berries
- 4 to 6 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 3/4 pound small white onions, peeled (see Note)
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- Chopped fresh parsley for garnish

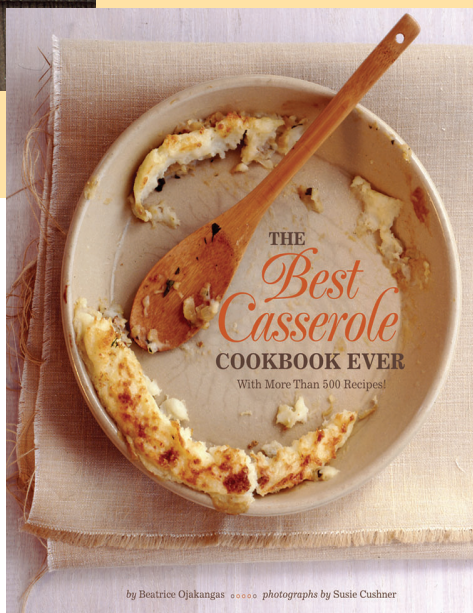
Preheat oven to 325°F. Heat olive oil in large skillet. Add beef chunks, a few at a time, and brown quickly on both sides. Remove beef to a heavy Dutch oven.

Pour vinegar and wine over beef. Add water, rosemary, tomato puree, salt, pepper, cinnamon stick and allspice berries. Cover and bake for 1 hour, or until meat is tender.

Heat vegetable oil in a large skillet and add onions in one layer. Sauté gently for about 15 minutes, shaking and turning them over until they brown lightly. Sprinkle sugar over onions, cover, and cook very gently for 30 minutes, until onions are soft but not disintegrating. Lift them out with a slotted spoon and spread them over meat, distributing them evenly. Do not stir once the onions have been added to casserole.

Sprinkle with chopped fresh parsley just before serving.

**Note:** To peel small onions, trim them and cut an X in the bottom of each one. Drop into boiling water for 1 minute. When cool enough to handle, slip off the skin.



# EDITORIAL

*"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."*

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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**John A. Moseley**  
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## OTHER VIEWS

### Add bigotry to presidential threats

Every American president is at risk of an assassination attempt. But because of the historic nature of President-elect Barack Obama's victory as the first black in that office, the risk of assassination is greater.

Obama is a target for the deranged, the politically extreme and other would-be assassins. He also arouses the hatred of bigotry, as evidenced by the ugly underside of the election. He has received more death threats than any other president-elect, authorities say.

So it is not surprising that people reacted with outrage about a sign in a Standish, Maine, store that invited customers to bet \$1 on a date when Obama would be assassinated. The sign, written on an eraser board, said "Osama Obama Shotgun Pool. Stabbing, shooting, roadside bombs, they all count. Let's hope someone wins."

The sign was reported to the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office. When a deputy went to the Oak Hill General Store on Nov. 7, the sign was gone. Store owner Steve Collins implausibly denied any knowledge of the message that had been written on his board.

Because the sign disappeared before the deputy showed up, Cumberland County Sheriff Mark Dion said no charges will be filed. The sheriff added that posting that particular sign would not necessarily constitute a threat or a terrorization incident.

What exactly was it if not an invitation to kill or harm the president-elect? A cynical attempt at a joke? The Cumberland County sheriff should keep an eye on Oak Hill General Store and its proprietor.

There is in this a lesson for all law-enforcement agencies, large and small. This incoming president inspires high hope in Americans, but also hatred and vilification. On election night, race crimes were reported in the South and the Northeast. On Mount Desert Island in Maine, The Bangor Daily News reported, black figures were hanged from nooses. Crosses were burned in the yards of Obama supporters in Hardwick, N.J., and Apolacan Township in Pennsylvania. Four North Carolina State University students wrote anti-Obama graffiti in a tunnel designated for free-speech expression. One wrote "Let's shoot that — in the head."

The threats are real, and they're not going to go away. Bigotry has a long shelf life. While sheriffs and police chiefs shouldn't overreact to race crimes and malevolent acts like the sign in the Maine store, they can't afford to take them lightly, either.

Today it takes no time at all to travel from one's hometown to wherever the president is appearing. It takes only a blink of an eye to pull a trigger. Police nationwide must be extra vigilant.

The Miami Herald

## 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

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- 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.
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# Uncle Mort goes for the gold

Stories about survivors of "Black Friday" abound. You know who you are, and you know what I mean. You "bit" on the advertising lure-sinker, line and hook—that you should abandon your bed around 2 a.m. to join the chase. Everyone would be out that day after Thanksgiving to save a bundle on gifts as the Christmas shopping season officially began.

My hunch is that you perhaps saved a half-bundle, but still have more than half a list to check off 'tween now and the big day.

Uncle Mort called the other night, labeling himself "frenzied" about gift plans for Aunt Maude. They've gone awry.

For my uncle down in the thicket to make such an admission is big indeed. His "frenzied" would be comparable to total hysteria for the rest of us.

He hates shopping in general and long lines in particular. He figured that a gift of gold would be a grand gift for his wife of 75 years.

"Maude would have loved it," he chirped. "But my dentist put the quietus on it. He said it wouldn't be cost effective to remove my gold tooth."

Mort said there is a "silver lining" in his ill-fated, "gift-on-the-cheap" scheme.

"You've mentioned what a great conversation-starter that gold tooth is," the dentist reminded. "And I just don't think a gap there would

be nearly as interesting."

The doc advised Mort to keep an eye on gold prices, and if they keep on going up, the tooth might make a nice gift for her summer birthday.

Don't expect to see Mort in the shopping lines. At least, not yet.

He's going to suggest to Maude that they draw names this year.

That way, he's got a 50/50 chance of drawing his own.

As we approach the festive season, let us take note of two toy world giants who made their exits this year.

What are the odds that founders of companies that manufactured all-time favorite toys would expire in the same year?

In January, Richard Knerr of Hula Hoop fame, died at age 82, and in November, death claimed 90-year-old Betty James. Her company made the Slinky. Both companies have registered sales in the hundreds of millions of dollars around the globe....

Though both toys quickly achieved "must have" status when unleashed on the world more than a half century ago, their origins differ greatly.

The concept for the Slinky was born when a spring from a mechanism on a World War II naval vessel bounced around the deck. The Hula Hoop (sometimes called "hoola hoop") craze didn't blossom until it was manufactured in plastic configuration.

Earlier, they were made of bamboo, and popular only in Australia.

Ah, but pages must be turned back much further if we're to learn when the hoops first whirled.

A song or sumthin' mentions walking like an Egyptian. Well, I'm here

to tell you that researching ABOUT Egyptians isn't easy, either. One could go loopy poring over this stuff.

Originally, the hoops were made of twisted grapevines by Egyptian youngsters some 3,000 years ago. More specifically, it is believed that the very first ones were fashioned by young Egyptian herdsman. Once the herds were settled for the night, the guys fought off boredom with fruit of the vine, and eventually the vine itself. It is said that the night air in those olden days was fouled by the odor of cigarettes made of grapevine.

Though historical references are sketchy, it is believed that these creative herdsman may have concocted the recipe for "Grapette," a soft drink introduced in the 1940s.

Egyptian hieroglyphics also reveal passages that were silent across the years until "herd" in the smash Broadway/movie hit, The Color Purple. And some musicologists think they may have written several popular songs that made it big in the 20th century, including, I 'Herd' it through the Grapevine, Deep Purple and Flying Purple People Eater.

Enough already! Too much, in fact. All these Egyptian "facts" could be the stuff of dreams. Or maybe I'm just recalling spiels reeled off by Uncle Mort. They said he was awful bad about smoking grapevines back in the day.

*Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker and writer in the Metroplex. He welcomes inquiries and comments. E-mail: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: (817) 447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.*

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## What the Muslim Brotherhood means for the U.S.

"Our strategy is this," President Bush said last month. "We will fight them over there so we do not have to face them in the United States of America."

He was talking about jihadists, of course. And Bush is behind the curve. The president apparently missed the smoking-gun 1991 document his own Justice Department introduced into evidence at the Holy Land Foundation trial in Dallas. The FBI captured it in a raid on a Muslim suspect's home in Virginia.

This "explanatory memorandum," as it's titled, outlines the "strategic goal" for the North American operation of the extremist Muslim Brotherhood (Ikhwan). Here's the key paragraph:

The process of settlement (of Islam in the United States) is a "Civilization-Jihadist" process with all the word means. The Ikhwan must understand that all their work in America is a kind of grand Jihad in eliminating and destroying the Western civilization from within and "sabotaging" their miserable house by their hands and the hands of the believers so that it is eliminated and God's religion is made victorious over all religions. Without this level of understanding, we are not up to this challenge and have not prepared ourselves for Jihad yet. It is a Muslim's destiny to perform Jihad and work wherever he is and wherever he lands until the final hour comes, and there is no escape from that destiny except for those who choose to slack.

The entire 18-page platform outlines a plan for the long haul. It prescribes the Muslim Brotherhood's comprehensive plan to set down roots in civil society. It begins by both founding and taking control of American Muslim organizations, for the sake of unifying and educating the U.S. Muslim community — this to prepare it for the establishment of a global Islamic state governed by sharia.

It sounds like a conspiracy theory out of a bad Hollywood movie — but it's real. Husain Haqqani, head of Boston University's Center for International Relations and a former Islamic radical, confirms that the Brotherhood "has run most significant Muslim organizations in the U.S." as part of the plan outlined in the strategy paper.

The HLF trial is exposing for the first time how the international Muslim Brotherhood — whose Palestinian division is Hamas — operates as a self-conscious revolutionary vanguard in the United States. The court documents indicate that many leading Muslim-American organizations — including the Council on American-Islamic Relations, the Islamic Society of North America and the Muslim American Society — are an integral part of the Brotherhood's efforts to wage jihad against America by nonviolent means.

The Muslim Brotherhood is an affiliation of at least 70 Islamist organizations around the world, all tracing their heritage to the original cell, founded in Egypt in 1928. Its credo: "Allah is our objective. The Prophet is our leader. Quran is our law. Jihad is our way. Dying in the way of Allah is our highest hope." Sayyid Qutb, hanged by the Egyptian government in 1966 as a revolutionary, remains its ideological godfather. His best-known work, Milestones, calls for Muslims to wage violent holy war until Islamic law governs the entire world.

According to a 2004 Chicago Tribune investigation, establishing the Brotherhood in the United States has been a 40-year project that has worked mostly underground — even beneath the notice of many Muslims. Richard Clarke, the former top U.S. national security official, told the Senate in 2003 that the Muslim Brotherhood is the common thread linking terrorist fundraising schemes in the United States — which likely explains why so many mainstream American Muslim organizations were named by the feds as "unindicted co-conspirators" in the HLF trial.

Is this just alarmist paranoia? Not at all.

This matters because high-profile organizations with roots explicitly

in the Muslim Brotherhood have successfully established themselves in a paramount position to define Islam in America according to a radical politicized model. And they've done so without the American public having the slightest idea about their real agenda. Indeed, the Bush administration is unwittingly helping the Islamist cause by including their leaders in public events, thus conferring them legitimacy. On Labor Day weekend, the same Department of Justice that's presenting evidence of the ISNA's involvement with radical Islam at the Dallas trial sponsored a booth at — wait for it — ISNA's national convention in suburban Chicago.

Look, no rational person believes America is going to exchange the Constitution for a caliphate. Rational people aren't the point. As the London subway bombings showed, even a tiny cell of committed radicals can kill a lot of people. Mustafa Saied, an American Muslim who left the Brotherhood, told the Tribune that he worried about the radicalism the Brotherhood inculcated in its membership here. "With the extreme element," he said, "you never know when that ticking time bomb will go off."

As long as they commit no crimes, CAIR, ISNA and the other Brotherhood-related groups have the right to advocate for their beliefs. But they don't have the right to escape critical scrutiny, and they deserve informed opposition. Courageous Muslims like Dr. Zuhdi Jasser of the American Islamic Forum for Democracy are sounding the alarm about radical Islam's stealth takeover of U.S. Muslim institutions. Why are the news media ignoring this? Fear of being called Islamophobic?

This has got to stop. Six years after 9/11, we're still asleep. Islamic radicals have declared war on us — and some are fighting here in what looks like a fifth column. Read their strategy document. It's there in black and white, for those with eyes to see.

*Rod Dreher is a Dallas Morning News editorial columnist. Readers may write to him at the Dallas Morning News, Communications Center, Dallas, Texas 75265; e-mail: rdreher@dallasnews.com.*



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Dallas Morning News photo/Jenn Ackerman

Lisa Collins, from left, Matt Petri, Phil Lor and Mike Ortega shop at GameStop at Northpark Mall in Dallas during a lunch break, Nov. 20, 2008. While most industries are seeing a downturn in sales due to the slow economy, the gaming industry has had an increase.

## Videogame industry hits right buttons in troubled economy

By VICTOR GODINEZ

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — Bailouts, bankruptcies, liquidations and layoffs have been the business buzzwords over the last few months, but the videogame industry remains stubbornly resistant to the gloom enveloping the rest of the economy.

While game industry executives and analysts aren't ignoring the broader economic trends, all the evidence seems to point to a robust holiday season for game makers and sellers and continued prosperity next year.

Part of the explanation for videogames' continuing popularity, game

insiders say, is the "nesting" effect, in which cash-strapped consumers stop going out and look for ways to entertain themselves at home.

**"Clearly, interactive entertainment is a great value in a down economy."**

"Clearly, interactive entertainment is a great value in a down economy," said Dan DeMatteo, chief executive at Grapevine, Texas-based GameStop Corp., the largest stand-alone game retailer in the world. The numbers seem to bear that

out.

In October, videogame sales jumped 18 percent, according to market research firm NPD Group.

November has been solid, too, as GameStop said in its quarterly earnings conference call this month that initial signs for the fourth quarter are positive.

There are other signs that games remain as popular and lucrative as ever.

Blizzard Entertainment Inc. said that Wrath of the Lich King, the latest expansion for its popular World of Warcraft online game, sold more than 2.8 million copies in the first 24

See GAMES, Page 5C

## Boothe Vassar & Co. selected as one of The Most Dependable™ Accounting Professionals of Texas

Boothe Vassar & Co. has been selected by Goldline Research as one of The Most Dependable™ Accounting Professionals of Texas.

The list of the Most Dependable™ Accounting Professionals of Texas is scheduled to be published in the December 2008 issue of Texas Monthly.

Boothe Vassar and Company is very excited about receiving this award.

"The selected providers truly distinguished themselves during our evaluation of the industry," said George Shaeffer, analyst for Gold-

line Research. "Those selected met or exceeded every expectation we have for a holistic, client-centric approach."

Goldline Research is a third-party, independent research firm specializing in evaluating professional services providers.

Goldline Research undertakes an extensive, in-depth research process to review all qualified candidates in a respective area. Its proprietary research process in-

cludes individual interviews and quantitative analysis of key data, as well as customer reference checks to confirm high levels of customer service. Those that earn Goldline Research's Most Dependable™ designation demonstrate a commitment to service unparalleled in their industry.

Boothe Vassar & Co. is located at 1001 E. FM 700 in Big Spring and can be reached at (432) 263-1324.



## Howard County pecan, food shows coming up

### PECAN DIVISION

The Howard County Pecan Show will be held Dec. 9-11 in the Howard County Courthouse.

The deadline for entries is Tuesday, Dec. 9 at noon. All entries for the show must be brought to the County Extension Office in the basement of the courthouse.

Judging will be completed Wednesday, Dec. 10 and the pecans will be on display on the first floor of the courthouse Thursday.

No entry fee is required to enter the show.

1. Exhibitors are limited to one entry of each named variety they grow.

2. The grower may enter as many seedlings, known hybrids or natives as he or she wishes.

3. Pecans must be entered in the same

county they are grown in.

4. The exhibitor must be the grower.

5. An entry consists of a minimum of 40 pecans, 42 are preferred.

6. Entries containing more than one variety are disqualified.

7. Nuts which are cut, sanded, polished or otherwise altered will be disqualified.

8. Pecans exhibited must be from the 2008 crop.

9. Pecans must be entered in a zippered plastic bag with variety and growers' name on it.

10. All pecan entries become the property of the Howard County Pecan Show.

### FOOD DIVISION

Categories:

1) Cakes

2) Cookies

3) Pies

4) Candy

5) Bread

6) Miscellaneous

Age Divisions:

Adult — 19 years of age and older

Youth — 18 years of age and younger

Entries will be accepted in the Howard County Extension Office from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9 and from 8 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. Entries requiring refrigeration will not be accepted.

No entry fee is required to enter the food show.

1. Entries should be in a disposable container with the exhibitor's name on the bottom and should be covered.

2. Each entry should be accompanied by a complete copy of the recipe with the exhibitor's name on the recipe.

3. All entries should consist of a full recipe. (Partial recipes will not be accepted.)

4. All food entries become the property of the Howard County Pecan Food Show. Educational programs of Texas Cooperative Extension are open to all people without regard to race, sex, color, religion, disability, age or national origin.

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid or accommodation in order to participate in Extension programs are encouraged to contact the Texas Cooperative Extension, Howard County at 234-2236 for assistance.

## Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a senior vice president of investments of A.G. Edward's Midland office. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior assistant to the branch manager. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.



Last week U.S. stocks declined, sending the S&P 500 Index below its lowest close in six years, after economic reports signaled a deeper recession and lawmakers postponed voting on a plan to rescue the auto industry.

Concern the recession is deepening was spurred after jobless claims approached the highest level since 1982, the index of leading economic indicators fell for a third time in four months and the Fed said manufacturing in the Philadelphia area shrank in November at the fastest pace in 18 years.

The stock market tried to put on the good fight but failed. In our opinion, the dominant trend of the stock market remains down.

However, for the very short term, the pre-conditions for a reflex, oversold rally are in place. In fact, last week was starting to look like a tradable bounce was developing but late strength, the key to any rally, did not develop.

In political news, the Bush administration announced that it was not going to request the remaining \$350 billion of the \$700 billion financial rescue funds and leave it to the Obama administration to ask Congress for the additional funds.

The move was seen by nervous investors as a knee-jerk reaction by Treasury officials after the backlash that it would not buy troubled securities of banks and, instead, pass the buck to the next administration.

For his part, President-elect Obama said the U.S. government will do "whatever it takes" to revive the economy, and that means "we shouldn't worry about the deficit next year or even the year after." In the short term, "the most important thing is that we avoid a deepening recession," Obama said in an interview.

In energy, equities continue to guide commodities markets, which have turned to stocks as a predictor for the global economy.

"A lot of people are exhausted, in the sense that the market has taken the bath that it's taken, and everybody's hoping for some kind of recovery," said one broker in New York.

However, even as prices broke downward into the 40's, the oil market is beginning to see some support from a production cut by OPEC. Members have taken 1 million barrels a day of production off the market, according to a tanker tracking service. That's less than the promised 1.5 million barrel a day cut, but a higher degree of compliance than many had expected.

In the end it was yet another tough week, we feel investors are continuing to work through a period of restoring their faith in the future of the economy, financial markets and confidence in the Obama administration which it seems will take more time.

*Portions of this article were produced Nov. 21 by Al Goldman, Wachovia Securities Chief Market Strategist. Its publication is a collaborative effort and the information is obtained from sources considered reliable, however accuracy is not guaranteed by A.G. Edwards. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results and additional information is available upon request (432) 684-7335. Opinions and estimates are as of a certain date and subject to change without notice. Investments can fluctuate in price, value, and/or income and you may get back less than you invested. A.G. Edwards is a division of Wachovia Securities, LLC.*

# Rancher was stuntman to the stars

By **DAVID CASSTEVEN**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

IVAN — Dean Smith is never alone in his hilltop home on the Bar Double Diamond Ranch.

Friends are always around, smiling back at him from photographs, many of them big-name movie stars he worked with during a remarkable five-decade career as an action actor.

Smith appeared in 10 films starring John Wayne.

Parlaying athleticism and horsemanship into a career, the man who grew up 100 miles west of Fort Worth performed stunts for Robert Redford in "Jeremiah Johnson." He "doubled" for Robert Duvall in "True Grit" and Stuart Whitman in "The Comancheros," Alex Cord in "Stagecoach" and Dale Robertson in the popular Western television series "Tales of Wells Fargo."

Smith, 76, fixed his blue eyes on a framed memento hanging on one wall, a photo picturing a smiling, flame-haired Maureen O'Hara on the set of "McLintock!"

Smith is standing next to her, in a bathrobe, wearing a matching red wig.

"Aren't I purty?" Smith joked.

He doubled for the actress in that 1963 Western, falling through a balcony railing onto a hay wagon.

Back when Hollywood served up Westerns as routinely as a saloonkeeper pouring shots of whiskey, Smith made a living crashing through storefront windows, chasing runaway stagecoaches, rescuing damsels in distress.

Riding and jumping were his stock in trade, that and running — and, oh, how he could fly.

At Graham High School, Smith won the state championship in the 100-yard dash (in 9.5 seconds) and was named a Look magazine All-American.

"Fastest white boy I ever saw," recalled Ray Herring, a longtime Graham resident and sports fan.

He won seven Southwest Conference titles as a sprinter at the University of Texas and a gold medal at the 1952 Summer Olympics. Six months later he lined up in the Longhorns backfield in the Cotton Bowl.

"It ain't a brag," Smith said. "Just a fact."

Still staying active

Playacting is so ingrained in Smith that when he met the gaze of a life-size movie cutout of Wayne — his six-gun drawn — one half-expected the stuntman to clutch his chest, stagger and fall "dead" on his living-room floor.

How often did he take a bullet or an arrow on screen?

"As many times as I could," he said. "That's where I made my money. People ask me, 'Dean, what was the hardest stunt you ever did?' I tell 'em it was getting the dang job."

Still physically active, Smith says that except for a sore neck he feels good for "an old codger" whose 160-pound frame took a pounding for the sake of the cinematic arts.

But time is a masked bandit, an incorrigible thief.

It stole Smith's youth and it has taken others dear to him, actors like Ben Johnson and Wayne, a cancer victim.

Three years ago, Smith learned he has cancer, in



Olympic gold medalist, long-time Hollywood stuntman and now rancher Dean Smith, 76, displays a trophy marking his induction into the Longhorn Hall of Honor in 1980 at his ranch, his boyhood home, near Ivan Friday.

his bone marrow.

Never afraid to stage a fight, the stuntman is now fully engaged in a real one. He remains optimistic, cheerful, grateful his spirit is robust.

"It's like a song I heard," Smith said, paraphrasing the lyrics. "I wanna go to heaven. But I ain't quite ready yet."

The Hollywood dream With thick white hair and a pearly smile, jeans tucked neatly inside his Western boots, Smith still looks like the striking figure he dreamed of becoming as a boy.

Ollie Smith once drove her grandson from their family farm to Will Rogers Coliseum, the new home of the Fort Worth rodeo. Twelve-year-old Dean saw Gene Autry, in the flesh, gallop into the arena on his horse Champion.

Autry serenaded him that day, in that prairie tenor twang: "I'm back in the saddle . . . again . . ."

The year was 1944. Smith's heroes could ride and shoot. Tom Mix. Bob Steele. Buck Jones. Hopalong Cassidy. Roy Rogers. Using money he earned selling eggs from the chickens they raised on the farm, Smith went to the picture show on Saturdays. The boy sat in the darkness, his dreamy face upturned, illuminated in the silver screen's flickering glow.

"I thought to myself, 'Boy, someday I'm going to Hollywood,'" Smith said.

Eventually he did — and in style — owing 34 payments on a new white 1958 Oldsmobile convertible. He chose his life and lived it to the fullest.

Although he hasn't made a Western in years, Smith still dresses the part.

His folksy voice can be heard on his answering machine, telling callers that he and his wife can't come to the phone. They're out "whispering" to their horses.

The recording ends with Smith breaking into song.

It's a cowboy tune, of course, written when Smith was a kid, during the Depression.

He knows the words by heart.

"I'm an old cowhand from the Rio Grande

"But my legs ain't bowed and my cheeks ain't tanned

... From the track to the screen

He has mixed emotions about the 1952 Helsinki Olympics.

Smith ran the leadoff leg for America's 4x100-meter relay team. He, Harrison Dillard, Lindy Remigino and Andy Stanfield beat the Soviets to win the gold medal.

But Smith finished a disappointing fourth in the 100 meters in one of the closest finishes in Olympic history.

A year later, his Olympic roommate, J.W. Mashburn, introduced him to a friend, Jim Bumgarner, a 25-year-old Oklahoman who was working for his father in the carpet business.

One Sunday morning four years later, Smith was back home in Texas, and the cover of a Parade magazine caught his eye.

"That's Jim Bumgarner!" he told his grandmother.

Bumgarner had changed his name, and now James Garner was about to star in the pilot of a TV Western called "Maverick."

Garner was in Dallas, so Smith drove over and told him he wanted to get into the movies. Garner helped open the door, calling the head of casting at Warner Bros. Studios.

Soon thereafter, Smith joined the Screen Actors Guild.

First he landed a bit part

in the movie "Born Reckless," starring Mamie Van Doren.

Smith later doubled for Frankie Avalon in "The Alamo," which Wayne directed and filmed in Brackettville. In one scene, Smith hurled a horse. Director John Ford, who was visiting the set, witnessed the feat and was so impressed that he introduced himself to the stuntman. Ford later hired him to work in three of his pictures: "Two Rode Together," "How the West Was Won" and "Cheyenne Autumn."

"If Dean had come along 10 years earlier, he might have had his own series as an actor," said Boyd Magers, a Western film historian.

Falling, jumping, dangling Smith found his calling, his niche, at a time when stuntmen were in demand and were well-paid.

He loved making Westerns, "playing cowboys and Indians," even when it meant wearing a dress.

A member of the Hollywood Stuntmen's Hall of Fame, Smith remembers expressing a concern before filming a scene in "McLintock!," which starred Wayne and O'Hara.

"We were fixing to do this fall," Smith said, picking up the story. "I had

these pink tennis shoes on. Maureen had pink shoes, too, but they didn't look like mine. I said, 'Duke, I'm afraid they (the audience) are going to see these pink tennis shoes I've got on.'"

The reply, Smith said, was priceless.

"Awww, hell," Wayne told him. "If they see those pink tennis shoes, then give 'em back their nickels."

Smith broke his nose during "The Alamo" and fractured ribs when he

jumped off a horse in "Jeremiah Johnson." His most harrowing job, however, wasn't in a Western but in the 1984 comedy "The Lonely Guy," starring Steve Martin. One scene called for Martin's double to hang suspended from a helicopter.

"Next thing I knew, I was hooked up in a harness," Smith recalled.

He dangled from a rope as the chopper flew above the World Trade Center, the Statue of Liberty and other New York landmarks.

The scene was cut from the film, but Smith got paid, about \$30,000, as he recalled.

By 1992, Smith, then 60, hardly recognized the movie industry. Production of Westerns had waned, and the kind of work he wanted to do just wasn't available.

"Doctors wake up, and there will always be a sick person," he said. "Lawyers will always have a case. I woke up one day, and what I did was gone."

Back home to Texas

So Dean Smith did what he knew he would someday.

He came home, to his roots, back to a rolling picturesque plot in Stephens County between Breckenridge and Graham that has been in his family since the 1870s.

"I've made a big circle," he said.

Happily remarried, he and Debby have a 9-year-old son.

Each weekday morning Smith gets in his pickup and drives Finis Dean Smith II to school in Graham. Afterward he lifts weights at a wellness center in town.

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## News in brief

### Burglar ring that struck Texas banks may be broken

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — A Tulsa-based burglary ring that may have stolen millions of dollars in cash and merchandise is under investigation by law enforcement agencies in several states.

Federal court documents indicate a highly organized burglary ring has targeted banks, automated teller machines and businesses in Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri and Arkansas over the past several years.

Since December 2007, banks in Tulsa, Shell Knob, Mo., Fayetteville, Ark., and Texarkana and Eules, Texas, have been burglarized by a group of people who forcibly enter the buildings, deactivate burglar alarm systems and spend "hours inside the banks cutting through vaults, walls and cash dispensers with power tools," according to an FBI affidavit.

Surveillance video from inside and outside the banks shows people who appear similar in appearance, and evidence shows that the burglars used a common method to enter the banks.

A police affidavit connects the burglaries to three men: Matthew G. Moreland, 20, who lists both Mannford and Tulsa as recent addresses; and Jerry Clyde Stephenson Jr., 39, and Victor Revilla Jr., 39, both of Tulsa.

About three years ago, the three men were arrested following an attempted burglary of an automated teller machine owned by the United Missouri Bank in Jefferson City, Mo., according to the affidavit.

Stephenson and Revilla were later convicted, and Moreland, who was a juvenile then, confessed to being a part of the attempted burglary.

The affidavit says that on Nov. 4, a confidential informant for the FBI was with Moreland, Stephenson and Revilla and at least two other men at a restaurant and heard Stephenson say he robbed banks.

A few days later, an FBI agent seized from Moreland's home dozens of suspected stolen items, including clothing, furniture, firearms, computer software, cell phones and cash.

Among the banks that were burglarized was one in Tulsa last year. On Dec. 17, burglars broke a window to get in and then pried open an inside door and gained access to a safe that weighed "several thousand pounds," according to an FBI affidavit. The safe was then pulled through a brick wall by a large vehicle.

Bank officials declined to comment on how much was stolen.

On March 13 of this year, burglars stole money from 55 safe deposit boxes in Shell Knob, according to the affidavit. Just before the burglary, a dark gray or black Dodge pickup containing two white men was seen parked near the bank. During this time, Stephenson was driving a dark gray Dodge pickup.

On Oct. 10, a video camera inside the Western Bank in Fayetteville, Ark., captured the images of three men entering the bank, where they stole approximately \$68,000 from a vault, along with many items, including a rare \$1,000 bill, from safe deposit boxes, according to the affidavit.

An outside video camera captured a picture of one robber "who bears a striking resemblance" to Stephenson, papers indicate.

This summer, banks in Texarkana and Eules were burglarized, with the thieves stealing more than \$300,000, according to the affidavit.

Various stores also have been targeted. On Oct. 29, burglars entered a store in Tulsa and removed the alarm system. They then stole assorted jewelry, clothing, hats and two custom-made motorcycles.

### Appraisers scarce for border fence landowners

McALLEN (AP) — As Rio Grande Valley property owners gird for hearings that will determine how much the government pays for the land it takes to build the border fence, some are struggling to find a key witness — an appraiser.

The limited supply of qualified appraisers for this sort of work in the Valley, the cost of importing an appraiser from elsewhere and the fact that the government grabbed the Valley's premier appraisal firm for its side could ultimately lead to fewer landowners holding out for a trial, said lawyers involved with the cases.

"I don't think there are enough appraisers and a lot don't want to get involved," said lawyer Albert Villegas, who is representing several properties. Some appraisers Villegas approached were uneasy about determining the impact of a yet-to-be-built 18-foot fence on property value and others still hoped to get a piece of the government work, he said.

"They've pretty much negated everyone else," Villegas said. He was talking to appraisers in San Antonio and Houston.

But pulling in appraisers from outside the Valley to prepare a report and potentially testify if the case goes to trial becomes cost prohibitive for many owners.

Villegas has received quotes more than \$10,000 for the work. For small landowners "that's a prohibitive amount," he said.

The Justice Department expects about 270 condemnation lawsuits against Valley landowners. Most have settled, but federal lawyers say about 80 holdouts could carry their cases all the way to trial. Trials are scheduled to begin in March and April, but the government can begin construction beforehand.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is trying to complete 670 miles of fencing along the U.S.-Mexico border. It will not meet its end-of-year deadline, but has promised to have all sections under contract by then.

Some landowners in the Rio Grande Valley, where the project has been delayed by litigation, hope that a new administration will rethink the controversial project. Earlier this month Customs and Border Protection announced it was putting off three fence sections totaling about 14 miles in the Valley to further study their impact on Rio Grande floodwaters.

### 2,000 gallons of gas spills from refinery

TYLER (AP) — More than 2,000 gallons of gasoline spilled from a tank Friday at the same East Texas refinery where an explosion last week killed one worker and injured five.

The unleaded gas from Delek Refining Ltd. spilled into a creek, where firefighters set up a foam barrier to try to stop the spread. No injuries were reported.

Tyler Fire Department Chief Joey Wiggins said firefighters started clearing out an area after residents reported a strong gas smell. Delek called authorities and reported the spill, Wiggins told the Tyler Morning Telegraph in Friday's online edition.

On Nov. 21, 49-year-old James Dale Sharman died after an explosion and fire at the refinery, which employs about 270 people.

The Tennessee-based company's East Texas facility refines up to 60,000 barrels of crude per day and is the 94th-largest oil refinery in the U.S. It remains shut down as Occupational Safety and Health Administration investigators determine the cause of the explosion, the paper reported.

Delek was cited Feb. 19 by OSHA for safety violations that included failing to ensure valves were properly configured and an inability to show structures followed blast resistance guidelines.

Spokeswoman Susan Morgenstern said Friday the company had no further details on the spill.

### 4 people dead from 5-vehicle wreck

BUFFALO (AP) — Officials say four people are dead after a five-vehicle wreck in Leon County.

Texas Department of Public Safety spokeswoman Tela Mange said troopers were still on the scene of an accident that happened near U.S. Highway 79 and County Road 217 on Friday at about 5

p.m.

The accident occurred just outside Buffalo, about 100 miles south of Dallas.

### Texas toddler OK after 3-story fall from apartment

AUSTIN (AP) — Police say a toddler was not seriously injured after falling from a third-story window at an Austin apartment complex.

Lt. Doug Dukes said in a story in the Austin American-Statesman that the 23-month-old fell through a screened window while playing with other children Friday afternoon. He said he believes the fall was an accident.

The child was taken to an area hospital for observation. It was not immediately clear whether the child landed on something to cushion the fall.

### Texas man says God told him to wreck car

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A man who rammed his truck into a woman's vehicle on a highway early Friday told authorities he crashed into her while going more than 100 mph because God told him "she needed to be taken off the road."

The truck rear-ended the car on U.S. Highway 281, both vehicles spun across a median then came to a stop along a barrier in the opposite lanes. Both drivers suffered only minor injuries.

"He just said God said she wasn't driving right, and she needed to be taken off the road," Bexar County Sheriff's Office spokesman Kyle Coleman said in the online edition of the San Antonio Express-News. "God must have been with them, 'cause any other time, the severity of this crash, it would have been a fatal."

The pickup driver did not tell police how the woman was driving. Police could not find alcohol or drugs in either driver.

A psychiatric evaluation has been ordered for a man.

### Judge denies former IRA detainee's request to stay

HOUSTON (AP) — A former IRA militant who has lived in the United States for nearly 25 years since his escape from a notorious prison in Northern Ireland lost his court request to remain in this country.

Pol Brennan, 55, was arrested in South Texas in January with an expired work permit and has been in federal immigrant detention centers since.

The court told Brennan's attorney, Jim Byrne, of decision by Friday. Byrne said he didn't know why the request was rejected. A written copy of the order was in the mail to Byrne and not publicly available.

Elaine Komis, a spokeswoman for the Executive Office of Immigration Review, a branch of the Justice Department that oversees the immigration courts, said U.S. Immigration Judge William Peterson issued his order Nov. 26.

Brennan could file an appeal within 30 days to the Board of Immigration Appeals in Falls Church, Va., which would review the case file, Komis said. If that panel upheld Peterson's decision, Brennan could take his appeal to the federal court system.

Byrne said he would have to consult with Brennan on how to proceed.

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**Vocational Service Tech:** Provides instruction and directs the trainee in the accomplishment of a specific job. Must be proficient in reading and writing. High School Diploma or GED preferred but not required. Hours vary. Salary \$8.20-8.75hr (\$17,052.00-18,192.00 annually) Benefits.

**Residential Support Technician:** Position provides services within the community and in the home to individuals with mental retardation. Must be proficient in reading and writing. High School Diploma or GED preferred but not required. Hours vary. Salary \$8.20-8.75 hr (\$17,052.00-18,192.00 annually) Benefits.

Applications available at 409 Runnels or www.wtcmhmr.org or by calling **JOBLINE 800-687-2769.EOE**

18861

## CRMWD

Colorado River Municipal Water District

The Colorado River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following positions in the Big Spring area.

**Electrician** - Trouble shoot, service, and maintain pump control panels, electric motors up to 3000 hp, power distribution systems, electrical sub-stations, submersible motors, and commercial and residential wiring. Intermediate level position, basic understanding of electronics/electricity needed.

**Operations Maintenance Technician** - Responsible for maintaining the District's raw water pipelines, pump stations, and wells. Entry to intermediate level position.

CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave.

Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 406 E. 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or by calling (432) 267-6341, or on our website: [www.crmwd.org](http://www.crmwd.org).

18857

Big Spring Conservatorship Worker -  
Req. 104042

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services has an opening for a Child Protective Services Conservatorship Worker position in Big Spring. The position is responsible for providing Child Protective Services to children in substitute care. The position interacts routinely with children and families, representatives from various organizations, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, and the general public. Initiates appropriate legal action and/or testify in court to achieve protection or permanent placement plans for children. Makes home visits to client's homes. Provides transportation for children by car or air to destinations within Texas as well as to other states. Must be willing to work outside of 8-5 and on weekends, if necessary.

## Initial Screening Criteria:

Child Protective Services Specialist II: Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university.

Child Protective Services Specialist III: Employed as a Child Protective Services Specialist for 18 months AND have received Child Protective Services Specialist Certification OR currently employed as a Child Protective Services Specialist III in Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

Child Protective Services Specialist IV: Three and one half years cumulative Child Protective Services Specialist experience AND currently employed as a Child Protective Services Specialist III AND have received Child Protective Services Advanced Specialist Certification OR currently employed as a Child Protective Services Specialist IV in Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

Please apply on-line at <https://rm.accessshr.hhsc.state.tx.us>. Refer to Requisition #104042 for full details. Only State of Texas Applications will be accepted. Go on-line or fax to the AccessHR Service Center at 1-866-245-3646. Call 1-888-894-4747 for application inquiries or problems.

18854

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## News in brief

### Indian security forces kill remaining gunmen in Mumbai

MUMBAI, India (AP) — Indian commandos killed the last remaining gunmen holed up at a luxury Mumbai hotel Saturday, ending a 60-hour rampage that killed 195 people in India's financial capital, as authorities shifted their focus to who was behind the attacks.

A previously unknown Muslim group claimed responsibility for the attack, which killed 18 foreigners including six Americans. Indian officials said the sole surviving gunman was from Pakistan and pointed a finger of blame at their neighbor. Islamabad denied involvement and promised to help in the investigation. A team of FBI agents was on its way to India to lend assistance.

Some 295 people also were wounded in the violence that started when at least a dozen heavily armed assailants attacked 10 sites across Mumbai on Wednesday night. At least 20 soldiers and police were among the dead.

Orange flames and black smoke engulfed the landmark 565-room Taj Mahal hotel after dawn Saturday as Indian forces ended the siege there in a hail of gunfire, just hours after elite commandos stormed a Jewish center and found nine hostages dead.

"There were three terrorists, we have killed them," said J.K. Dutt, director general of India's elite National Security Guard commando unit.

### NY police review videos to identify shoppers who trampled worker

NEW YORK (AP) — Police were reviewing video from surveillance cameras in an attempt to identify who trampled to death a Wal-Mart worker after a crowd of post-Thanksgiving shoppers burst through the doors at a suburban store and knocked him down.

Criminal charges were possible, but identifying individual shoppers in Friday's video may prove difficult, said Detective Lt. Michael Fleming, a Nassau

County police spokesman.

Other workers were trampled as they tried to rescue the man, and customers stepped over him and became irate when officials said the store was closing because of the death, police and witnesses said.

At least four other people, including a woman who was eight months pregnant, were taken to hospitals for observation or minor injuries. The store in Valley Stream on Long Island closed for several hours before reopening.

### FDA sets standard for melamine in baby formula higher than level found in U.S.-made product

WASHINGTON (AP) — Less than two months after federal food regulators said they were unable to set a safety threshold for the industrial chemical melamine in baby formula, they announced a standard that allows for higher levels than those found in U.S.-made batches of the product.

Food and Drug Administration officials on Friday set a threshold of 1 part per million of melamine in formula, provided a related chemical isn't present. They insisted the formulas are safe.

The setting of the standard comes days after The Associated Press reported that FDA tests found traces of melamine in the infant formula of one major U.S. manufacturer and cyanuric acid, a chemical relative, in the formula of a second major maker. The contaminated samples, which both measured at levels below the new standard, were analyzed several weeks ago.

The FDA had stated in early October that it was unable to set a safety contamination level for melamine in infant formula.

Dr. Stephen Sundlof, FDA's director of food safety, said Friday the agency was confident in setting the 1 part per million level for either of the chemicals alone, although there has been no new scientific studies since October that would give regulators more safety

data. He had no ready explanation for why the level wasn't set earlier.

### Official fears Pakistani role in bloody attacks

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. officials are worried about a possible surge in violence between India and Pakistan after the bloody attacks in Mumbai that killed at least 195 people, including six Americans.

To ease tensions, intelligence officials are searching urgently for clues that might identify the attackers even as Indian officials claim "elements in Pakistan" were involved.

FBI agents were preparing to fly to India to investigate the bloody attacks in the Indian financial capital as the State Department warned U.S. citizens still in the city that their lives remain at risk.

A U.S. counterterrorism official said some "signatures of the attack" were consistent with the work of Pakistani militant groups known as Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed that have fought Indian troops in the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir and also are reported to be linked to al-Qaida.

### Toys 'R' Us shooting leaves 2 men dead

PALM DESERT, Calif. (AP) — Two men pulled guns and shot each other to death in a crowded toy store Friday after the women with them erupted into a bloody brawl, witnesses said.

Scared shoppers fled but no one else was hurt.

The violence erupted on Black Friday, the traditional post-Thanksgiving start of the holiday shopping surge, but authorities indicated the shooting wasn't related to a shopping frenzy. The motive was unknown, they said.

Riverside County sheriff's Sgt. Dennis Gutierrez said the fight was not over a toy.

He said handguns were found by the men's bodies, but he released little other information. He would not answer a question about whether the shooting was gang-related.

Witnesses Scott and Joan Barrick said they were checking out of the store when the fight began between two women, each with a man. The women were near the checkout area, but the Barricks did not think the women had purchases.

### Junk-bond king, Taliban soldier among those asking Bush for pardons or release from prison

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some high-profile convicts past and present are among more than 2,000 people asking President George W. Bush to pardon them or commute their prison sentences before he leaves office.

Junk-bond king Michael Milken, media mogul Conrad Black and American-born Taliban soldier John Walker Lindh

have applied to the Justice Department seeking official forgiveness.

But with Bush's term ending Jan. 20, some lawyers are lobbying the White House directly to pardon their clients. That raises the possibility that

the president could excuse scores of people, including some who have not been charged, to protect them from future accusations, such as former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales or star baseball pitcher Roger Clemens.

## sudoku

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.

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



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## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

### The Punishment Fits the Crime

East dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♦ K Q 9  
♥ K Q 7 4  
♦ 8  
♠ A J 9 8 3

**WEST**  
♠ —  
♥ A J 9 8  
♦ J 10 9 6 5 2  
♣ K 7 4

**EAST**  
♦ 7 5 4 2  
♥ 10 6  
♠ A K 7 4  
♣ Q 10 2

**SOUTH**  
♦ A J 10 8 6 3  
♥ 5 3 2  
♦ Q 3  
♣ 6 5

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 2♣ Pass 4♠

Opening lead — jack of diamonds.  
The game of bridge seldom rewards careless play. A declarer or defender who makes a mistake usually has to pay the consequences.

Take this case where a harmless-looking play by declarer wrecked an ice-cold contract. South wound up in four spades after opening with a weak two-bid. East won the opening diamond lead with the king and shifted to the ten of hearts, taken by West with the ace. West then returned a heart to dummy's king.

Declarer now cashed the king of spades, playing low from his hand, and from that point on there was no

way to make the contract! If South next played the queen of hearts, East would ruff, and South would later lose a club trick for down one. If instead declarer played clubs, West would win and give East a heart ruff, again down one.

In practice, declarer led a spade to his hand at trick five and ruffed the diamond queen in dummy, but there was then no way to return to his hand to draw trumps. In desperation, South played the ace and another club from dummy, but West carefully overtook East's ten with the king and returned a heart for the ruff that sank the contract.

Declarer's error came at trick four, when he thoughtlessly led the king of spades from dummy and let it hold. Prior to that play, he had 10 ironclad tricks in the form of six spades, two hearts, a club and a diamond ruff in dummy.

All he had to do to guarantee finishing with that total was to overtake the king of spades with the ace, ruff a diamond with the queen, lead the nine of spades to the ten and then draw trumps. (The same result can of course be achieved by leading the nine of spades to the ten at trick four.) Overtaking the first spade ensures that South will lose no more than a diamond, a heart and a club, regardless of how the remaining cards are divided.

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# U.S. Jewish, meditation groups' members die in India

By ADAM GOLDMAN

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — When Rabbi Gavriel Noach Holtzberg and his wife landed in India to run a Jewish outreach center, the couple worked tirelessly, serving homemade kosher meals to their many guests and strengthening their connection with God.

Their outpost was in Mumbai, a dusty and chaotic port city. But the pair never let the tough conditions prevent them from creating a comfortable home for Jews visiting India or from helping the needy.

"They were amazing people," said Hillary Lewin, 24, of New York, who met the Holtzbergs last summer at the center in India. "They had this wisdom, courage and braveness about them. It's a shame. The world needs people like them."

The 29-year-old rabbi and his 28-year-old wife were killed this week after gunmen assailed the ultra-Orthodox Chabad-Lubavitch movement's center in Mumbai, one in a series of attacks across India's financial capital that left six Americans dead.

The couple's toddler son, Moshe, was rescued by an employee and taken to his grandparents. At least eight people died at the Jewish center.

Three other victims in the building apparently had been visiting there, said Rabbi Zalman Shmotkin, a spokesman for the organization, whose world headquarters are in Brooklyn. He said the dead included Bentzion Chroman, an Israeli with dual U.S. citizenship; Rabbi Leibish Teitlebaum, an American from New York City; and an Israeli woman whose name was not released. The Israeli Foreign Ministry said the body of a sixth victim, an unidentified woman, was also found inside the five-story building.

Other Americans killed in the attacks were a man

and his teenage daughter from a Virginia community that promotes a form of meditation, a colleague said Friday. Alan Scherr, 58, and daughter Naomi, 13, died in a cafe Wednesday night, said Bobbie Garvey, a spokeswoman for the Synchronicity Foundation.

The U.S. State Department confirmed that six Americans were killed in the attacks but offered no details.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg said the deaths of the three victims from New York were "tragic losses" for the city. He said Teitlebaum, a Brooklyn native who moved to Jerusalem several years ago, was a kosher food supervisor.

"Our hearts go out to these families and to the many New Yorkers of all different religions and ethnicities who have been affected by the attacks," Bloomberg said.

Holtzberg was born in Israel and moved to Brooklyn with his parents when he was 9. He had dual U.S.-Israeli citizenship. The Israeli Foreign Ministry said Rivkah Holtzberg only had Israeli citizenship.

"Gabi and Rivky Holtzberg made the ultimate sacrifice," said Rabbi Moshe Kotlarsky, vice chairman of the educational arm of Chabad-Lubavitch.

"As emissaries to Mumbai, Gabi and Rivky gave up the comforts of the West in order to spread Jewish pride in a corner of the world that was a frequent stop for throngs of Israeli tourists," he said.

The Holtzbergs arrived in Mumbai in 2003 to run a synagogue, provide religious instruction and help people dealing with drug addiction and poverty.

He said Holtzberg's last known call was to the Israeli consulate. Holtzberg said that "the situation is not good" before the phone went dead, according to Kotlarsky.

Twelve hours after gunmen stormed the center Wednesday, Sandra Samuel, a cook at the center, heard little Moshe's cries outside the room in which she had barricaded herself. She opened the door, grabbed the toddler and ran outside with another center worker. The little boy's pants were soaked with blood, and

Samuel said she saw four people lying on the floor as she fled.

Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky, one of the group's leaders, said Moshe will turn 2 on Saturday. "Today, he became an orphan," he said. A second son, who has been ailing, was with relatives in Israel when the attack happened. A third child died earlier this year of a genetic disease, the group said.

Members of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement gathered at the group's headquarters Friday to pray for the families of the dead.

The Scherrs were among 25 foundation participants in a spiritual program in Mumbai. Four others on the mission were injured in the cafe attack in the luxury Oberoi hotel, including two women from Tennessee, Garvey said.

"I would call them bright stars," she said of the Scherrs. "Extraordinary, bright, very positive — examples to the world."

Scherr was a former college professor who lived at the Synchronicity sanctuary about 15 miles southwest of Charlottesville, Va. His wife and her two sons did not travel with them to India.



AP file photo  
Rabbi Gavriel Noach Holtzberg, left, and his wife Rivkah Holtzberg, the directors of Chabad-Lubavitch of Mumbai, India are shown in this undated photo.

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# A president named Obama changes the name game

By DEEPTI HAJELA

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Zenas Ackah has heard it all his life: What kind of name is that? You must not be from here. You must be foreign.

Actually, no. Born in the United States, the 22-year-old college senior with the Greek first name and the Ghanaian last name grew up in Philadelphia.

But Ackah is hopeful that change is coming, that the idea of an "American" name will expand beyond monikers

like Tom and Harry and Sally and Jane and Smith and Jones. He figures he's got a strong weapon on his side — for at least the next four years, when people look to the most powerful American in the country, the "uber-American" if you will, they'll be looking at President Barack Hussein Obama.

"I think it will help people understand that people in America aren't just John, Jack, Mary," Ackah said. "They're Zenas and Barack."

Obama's name gave him his share of trouble during the campaign. He acknowledged its unfamiliarity to most Americans, and there were times when supporters of his opponent made a point of using his middle name, which was seen as an attempt to cast doubt on his background and faith.

But the next four years will ensure that his name is no longer unfamiliar.

People have already named their infants after him.

The more people hear it, the more mainstream it becomes, said Don Nilsen, a professor of English linguistics at Arizona State University and co-president of the American Name Society.

"Who is more American than the president of the United States?" he said. "There's no question it will have a ripple effect, because of the power of the position."

Names traditionally considered "American" tend to be "British-sounding stuff," said Cleveland Evans, professor of psychology at Bellevue University in Nebraska. "We are still basically an English-culture country. We really are still in many ways at our base an Anglo-Saxon culture."

He and Nilsen pointed out that immigrants have long had a history of

changing their names to fit in more with the United States, or have even had others change it for them.

Obama, born in Hawaii and named after his Kenyan father, went by Barry for some years before deciding to use his full first name.

Ackah can understand. He still finds the comments about his name irritating, along with the assumptions people make upon hearing a name they're not familiar with. "People start talking down to you because they think you're foreign," he said.

Electing someone named Barack Obama president reflects a shift in attitudes about names that's been going on in American society for the past few decades,

says Laura Wattenberg, a name expert and author who runs the blog The

Baby Name Wizard.

"As a group, American parents are naming much more creatively and are striving to be distinctive with the names they pick," she said, pointing out that shift started in the 1960s when Obama was born and has only accelerated in the last 25 years or so.

So while certain names may be more popular and prevalent than others, it's not by much, she said. In 2007, Jacob was the most popular name for boys. But Wattenberg pointed out that only 1 percent of boys were given that name.

In contrast, a century ago, 7.5 percent of parents chose the top name, John.

A president named Obama could break down the perception "that there is such a thing as a 'normal' name," said Wattenberg.



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