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BIG SPRING HERALD

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 7, 2008



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Jury hands down two dozen indictments

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

A Howard County grand jury handed down two dozen indictments Thursday afternoon, including three for engaging in organized criminal activity, a first-degree felony.

Dijuan Edward Ausbie, 20, of 810 E. 18th St.; Consencio Raymone Ford, 24, of 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd. Apt. 408; and Jesse Lendell Woodruff Jr., 23, of 1202 Lamar were all indicted on charges of engaging in organized criminal activity.

Ford was also indicted on a charge of delivery of a controlled substance (state jail felony), with Woodruff also receiving a true-bill for possession of a controlled substance (second-degree felony).

District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson, who presented the cases to the grand jury, said the organized crime enhancement comes on the heels of the trio's original arrest for possession of 6 grams of cocaine.

"It's basically a charge of possession of a controlled substance with the enhancement because they are affiliated with the Texas Born Hustlers street gang," said Wilkerson.

If found guilty on the organized crime charges, the trio

See **JURY**, Page 3A

'Improper photography'

Massage therapist indicted for photographing clients

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

A Big Spring native has returned home from Austin, but not under the best of circumstances, according to law enforcement officials in the state capitol.

Jason Charles Thompson, 34, a state-licensed massage therapist, was recently indicted by an Austin grand jury for allegedly shooting hidden-camera videos of female clients

See **VIDEO**, Page 3A

SANTA'S BEST FANS



HERALD Photo/Lyndel Moody
 Sisters Kaylee, 3, and Kaydee Kinsey, 5 months, visit with Santa at the Big Spring VA Medical Center lighting reception Friday night. Santa had lots of little ones to visit with during the event and readily handed out candy and toys.

Obama discusses economic plan to save, create jobs

By **ANN SANNER**
 Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO — President-elect Barack Obama said Saturday he's asked his economic team for a recovery plan that saves or creates more than 2 million jobs, makes public buildings more energy-efficient and invests in the country's roads and schools.

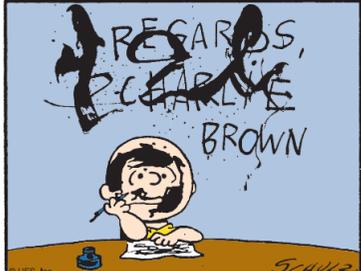
"We won't just throw money at the problem," Obama said in his weekly radio address and Internet video. "We'll measure progress by the reforms we make and the results we achieve — by the jobs we create, by the energy we save, by whether America is more competitive in the world."

Obama's remarks come after the Labor Department announced Friday that employers cut 533,000 jobs in November, the most in 34 years.

Obama said his plan would put millions of people to work by "making

See **OBAMA**, Page 3A

18 Shopping Days Til Christmas



LUCKILY, SANTA CAN READ EVERYTHING

BIG SPRING HERALD



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
 Betty VanDee, left, looks over some items for sale by Lydia Jojola at the annual Christmas Bazaar hosted by Canterbury Retirement Center Saturday morning.

Commissioners to mull routine items Monday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Routine items top Monday's agenda for the Howard County Commissioners Court, as county officials prepare to head into the new year.

County Auditor Jackie Olson is to present invoices and purchase requests, as well as other financial matters, according to County Judge Mark Barr.

"The budget amendments we're going to look at are really just some funds being switched from one line item to another," said Barr. "There aren't any major changes to the budget or any new costs." Olson is also expected to

request permission to accept several bids made on the sale of county vehicles, as well as get the court's approval on the county's holidays for 2009.

After a year filled with special meetings and conflicts of opinion concerning the new county jail currently under construction, Barr said routine meetings like the one planned for Monday are nice, but not likely to last.

"Things are pretty quiet right now with everyone trying to get ready for the holidays and such. I expect after the beginning of the year, when we have the new elected officials in office, things will start to pick up and get interest-

ing again," said Barr with

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

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Bufs, Grady, Lady 'Kats advance to Klassic finals

Herald Staff Report

GARDEN CITY — It's championship time for the Forsan Buffaloes, Grady Wildcats and Garden City Lady Bearkats.

The Bufs, Wildcats and Lady 'Kats advanced to the finals in their respective divisions Friday at the Bearkat Booster Club Klassic.

Forsan and Grady played each other at 7:30 p.m. Saturday while the Lady 'Kats took on Christoval at 6 p.m. Saturday. Results from those games will be available in Monday's edition of the *Herald*.

Forsan advanced to the finals after dominating Rankin, 45-22, Friday.

Jeremy Robbins led the Bufs to the 23-point victory, scoring 20 points and pulling down 10 rebounds. Nathan Atkerson had 12 points and eight boards.

Grady knocked off host Garden City in order to get a rematch with the Bufs. The Wildcats and Bufs opened their seasons playing each other in Forsan. The Bufs won 43-39 and trailed just twice in the game.

The Lady 'Kats handled McCamey Friday, earning the opportunity to play Christoval in the finals.

Both teams came in ranked 12th in the state with the Lady 'Kats being ranked

in the Class A, Division II, while Christoval holds its spot in Class A, Division I.

Christoval is led by Lauren Holt, who is the daughter of Pierce Holt — a former defensive lineman for the San Francisco 49ers and Atlanta Falcons. Lauren Holt stands at 6-2 and has already committed to play basketball at Angelo State University, where her father played football.

Garden City's boys played Saturday in the third-place game vs. Rankin. Forsan's Lady Buffs were in the third-place game vs. new district rival McCamey.



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Big Spring's Desiree Anderson attempts a layup in the Lady Steers' 39-26 loss to Andrews at the Mustang Arena in Andrews Friday.

Steers edged

BSHS falls 1-point short of claiming first victory

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

ANDREWS — Big Spring's Steers still can't quite clear the winless hump for the 2008-2009 basketball season.

However, they did make their closest attempt at picking up their first victory of the season Friday afternoon in the Gym Bice Classic at Andrews as the Steers fell to the Paducah Dragons, who are ranked 10th in the Class A, Division II poll, 65-64.

Big Spring (0-6) trailed 65-60 with 30 seconds to play when senior guard Darius McCallister drove to the lane, made the bucket and drew a foul. McCallister missed the charity shot, but Tyrone Clemons grabbed the rebound and banked the shot in for two points with 21 seconds left to play.

However, controversy started on that play and didn't end until the final buzzer sounded. Paducah argued an official had told its players two free throws were going to be attempted, which is why Clemons was able to score.

Meanwhile, Big Spring was upset that five seconds had ticked off the clock while things were being sorted out.

Neither squad won its argument and Paducah got the ball with a 1-point lead and 16 seconds left to play.

The ensuing inbound pass was stolen by Big Spring's Josh Harris, but he was called



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Big Spring Steers post Matt Ritchey shoots over a Paducah defender in the Steers' 65-64 loss to the Dragons Friday in Andrews as a part of the Gym Bice Classic. Big Spring is still looking for its first win of the season.

See **STEERS**, Page 4B

Fiesty Lady Steers fall to Lady 'Stangs

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

ANDREWS — There was definitely one thing made clear about the Big Spring Lady Steers in their second game at the Kristen Corbin Classic basketball tournament in Andrews Friday night — this team has a lot of fight in it.

The Lady Steers fell to host Andrews, 39-26, but it looked like the loss would be much worse than it turned out to be in the first half.

Andrews scored the first 14 points of the game and led Big Spring 25-2 with 2:24 remaining in the first half.

"Andrews put a pressure defense on us. We're young and we panicked," said Big Spring Head Coach Mike Warren. "We just needed to relax. There was no reason to get uptight."

The Lady Steers cut the deficit to 20 by intermission and put together a strong surge in the second half that had Andrews on its heels.

Big Spring fought and pulled within 9 points of the Lady Mustangs, 33-24, with 4:30 left in regulation. Andrews woke back up, though, and pulled away for the 13-point win, securing a spot in the

See **LADY STEERS**, Page 4B



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Coahoma's Hilari White shoots over an Ira defender in the Bulldogettes first-round victory of the Coahoma Invitational Thursday. The Bulldogettes edged Idalou Friday to earn a spot in the finals.

Bulldogs, Bulldogettes earn spots in title games after narrow victories

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — After rolling through the first round of the 23rd Annual Coahoma Invitational both the boys and girls of host Coahoma High School decided to produce some drama in the second round.

Both the Bulldogs and Bulldogettes erased deficits in the fourth quarter to advance to the finals Saturday afternoon.

The Bulldogettes provided the matinee matchup against the Lorenzo Lady Hornets.

Coahoma trailed 35-30 heading into the final stanza, but outscored the Lady Hornets 13-5 over the last eight minutes to pull out the 43-40 win.

"I thought we played a good game. It was a little closer than I wanted, but a win is a win," said first-year Bulldogettes Head Coach Randall Petty. "I knew that it was going to be a single-digit game, but I was hoping that we would play a little bit more consistently.

"We got lucky they didn't take care of the ball that well, but I think that had a lot to do with the pace of the game," Petty continued. "Both teams were up and down the court and we got a bit frazzled there for a

bit. We sat the girls down at the half, talked to them, and they seemed to calm down some there at the end."

The Lady Hornets, who led 22-21 at the break, used the hot hand of Morgan Ramirez to extend their lead to 35-30, heading into the fourth quarter.

However, in the final frame, the Bulldogettes decided that it was time to get serious, clamping down on the Lady Hornets and allowing just five points, while erupting for 13.

Kalea Neff and Berkley Iden led the Coahoma comeback as the duo combined to score 10 points in the decisive final stanza.

"I liked the way that the girls stayed in the game and didn't give up," Petty said. "We have a habit of hanging our heads and it's cost us a couple of times, but tonight the girls didn't do that."

Coahoma 10 11 9 13-43

Lorenzo 11 11 13 5-40

Coahoma (3-4) - Kalea Neff 11, Kylie Gee 10, Berkley Iden 7, Shelbi Paige 5, Kenzie Stone 5, K'Leigh Flower 3, Hilari White 2.

Lorenzo - Morgan Ramirez 10, Jasmine Phillips 9, Jessica Vasquez 8, Aisha Martin 7, Courtney George 3, Cat Garcia 2, Bailey Martin 1.

Bulldogs 46, Sweetwater 42

On the boys side, the Bulldogs found themselves needing to match the comeback of their female partners in order to ensure that Coahoma was in the finals of both brackets.

The Bulldogs outscored the Sweetwater Mustangs 17-10 in the final quarter of play to sneak out with a 46-42 win, propelling them into Saturday's final against their district rival the Wall Hawks.

Neither team trailed by more than five points in the game and were tied at 23 at intermission.

In the fourth, the Bulldogs trailed 32-29, but were led by the emotional play of Braden Griffin as they exploded for 17 points, while holding Sweetwater to just 10.

Griffin scored a game-high 20 points.

Results from the finals will be available in Monday's edition of the *Herald*.

Coahoma 9 14 6 17 - 46

Sweetwater 9 14 9 10 - 42

Coahoma (6-0) - Braden Griffin 20, Cody Sheppard 7, Isaac Garcia 6, Jovi Paniagua 5, Josh Paniagua 4, Lane Douglas 4,

Sweetwater - Jason Vause 12, Kenneth Norman 8, Dane Bennett 8, Steven Fields 5, Kyle Howard 3, Zach Wetzel 2, Chase Sims 2, Tres Campbell 2



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Four homes and one business will be open for public tour Sunday, Dec. 14, as part of the annual Holiday Tour of Homes sponsored by the Big Spring Symphony Guild.

On the tour this year are the homes of Bill and Sharon Wiese, who reside in the Dorothy Garrett house, Richard and Jeanie Knocke, David and Nancy Foster, Lane Bond, and a special location, the "Hardware Store and Courtyard" by Max and Kay Moore and Leslie Elrod.

This year's tour holds some special treats.

tive newcomers to Big Spring, but already are part and parcel of the community. He is general manager of the ALON Refinery, and she is incoming head of the United Way of Howard County.

Remodeling their home has produced a wonderful house designed for the heavy social schedule that Dave's job demands. View it and get acquainted with them on this tour. See the house, its furnishings and the Christmas decorations they are providing for our pleasure.

See **TOUR**, continued on Page 2C

COURTESY PHOTOS PROVIDED BY LANE BOND

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The home of David and Nancy Foster

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Obituaries

Ollie M. Burns



Ollie M. Burns, 99, passed from this life and went to her heavenly home Dec. 4, 2008.

Ollie was born in Little Elm, Texas, Feb. 21, 1909, to J.M. and Ella Ballew. She married George Burns on May 11, 1929, in Big Spring. They farmed west of Ackerly for many years. He preceded her in death March 9, 1989. She was also preceded by seven siblings.

Ollie was a longtime member of First Baptist Church in Ackerly. She was a homemaker and took pride in her home. In her younger years she loved to travel. She always loved to visit with her family and friends. She loved flowers and was fascinated by hummingbirds.

Survivors are one son, Wayne Burns and wife Kay of Big Spring; two daughters, Dorothy Burrow and husband Gene of Big Spring and Shirley Frazier and husband Don of Tijeras, N.M.; seven grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 8, 2008, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Derrick Looney, pastor of Forsan Baptist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Pallbearers will be Brent Burrow, Chris Burrow, Todd Frazier and Greg Frazier. Honorary pallbearers will be Shawn Frazier, Alyssa Burns and Andi Eggers.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now, there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing." — II Timothy 4:7,8

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

Estella 'Hetchie' Alexander



Estella "Hetchie" Alexander, age 94, of Clovis, N.M., formerly of Big Spring died Thursday, Dec. 4, 2008 at Retirement Ranch Inc. in Clovis. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, 2008, at Nalley-Pickle and Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring.

Hetchie was born May 16, 1914, to Arvil Clyde and Bertha Lee Key Henry in Matador. She married Arnold Alexander on June 28, 1949, in Oklahoma City, Okla., and he preceded her in death Feb. 25, 1970. In August of 2007 she moved to Clovis from Malakoff. She worked as a baker for Piggly Wiggly and was of the Protestant faith. She loved spending time and having fun with her friends and family.

Survivors include her two daughters, Jewell Hill of Melrose, N.M., and Sue and husband Clyde Murry of Malakoff; two sisters, Edith Massey of Amarillo and Gene and husband Merle Terry of Clovis, N.M.; six grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and 15 great-great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, six brothers and two sisters.

The family suggests memorials be made to the charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

James (Jim) Long

James (Jim) Long, 82, of Big Spring, died Saturday, Dec. 6, 2008, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Support Groups

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 Ministeries, 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.

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Friday:

- TABYTHA NIKOLE GARCIA, 20, 1011 Scurry, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana/two ounces or less.
- GILBERT RECIO JR., 35, 1007 Wood, was arrested on charges of speeding, no driver's license, failure to appear and public intoxication.
- VICTOR MANUEL CASTILLO, 36, 1504 Cherokee, was arrested on a Midland County warrant.
- RUSSEL BRYON TUCKER, 51, 202 E. Travis, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 500 block of Donley.
- THEFT UNDER \$50 was reported in the 900 block of Willia.
- THEFT OVER \$500 BUT UNDER \$1,500 was reported in the 700 block of 11th.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring and Howard County volunteer firefighters were called out to the Big Spring Alon Refinery, but it proved to be a false alarm more than anything.

Burning liquid from the "flare" — which is used to burn off excess gas — caused a small grass fire at approximately 6 p.m., said Tommy Sullivan, chief of the county volunteer fire department.

Local and volunteer firefighters were called to the facility, but discovered that the refinery's firefighting team had already extinguished the blaze by that time.

No damage or injuries were reported, Sullivan said.

Take Note

• The Big Spring Salvation Army will be conducting free blood pressure and glucose screenings Dec. 10 and Dec. 31 from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. at the Army's Corps Building, located at 811 W. Fifth St. The screenings are being sponsored by In-Home Care. For more information, contact the Salvation Army at 267-8239.

• West Texas Opportunities Inc., through a Job Access Reverse Commute project with the Texas Department of Transportation offers transportation to employment in Midland, on a limited schedule, Monday through Friday each week. This fixed route currently leaves Big Spring at 7 a.m. and makes a stop at the EZ Rider bus connection in downtown Midland. The route leaves Midland for the return to Big Spring at 4:15 p.m. As a promotional introduction, no fare is charged. Beginning April 1, the daily fare will be from \$3 to \$8, round-trip, depending on the number of passengers using the service. For more information, call Victor Enriquez, JARC coordinator, at West Texas Opportunities, (800) 245-9028.

• 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.

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is 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 (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.

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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

• 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.

• Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.

• Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.

• The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library. For more information, call 264-6116.

• Archeology Society for Howard and Borden counties meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library Community Room in the basement. Call 270-2615 for more information.

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

• Big Spring Society of the Order of Beacieants meets at 6:30 p.m. for a meal with meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

• Big Spring Commandry meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

• The Christian Motorcyclists Association meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Dragon Restaurant, 1300 S. Gregg. Everyone is welcome. Call 263-3869 for more information.

TUESDAY

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• The American Cancer Society meets at noon at the Home Hospice office for lunch and its monthly meeting. For more information, call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599.

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

WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 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.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

Lottery

Here are the winning numbers selected Friday in the Mega Millions lottery: 21-27-46-52-55; Mega Ball: 14.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 27-19-26-12-15.

Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6-6-0-7. Sum It Up: 19.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-8-6. Sum It Up: 23.

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

Bradford tops McCoy on All-Big 12 team

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Picking the top quarterback on the All-Big 12 team was about as difficult as figuring out the South division champion.

But the result was the same: Oklahoma.

Although Texas' Colt McCoy was chosen offensive player of the year by the 20 voters in balloting conducted by The Associated Press, the same group picked Oklahoma's Sam Bradford over McCoy for the prized first-team spot on the all-conference squad released Thursday.

Bradford's victory was by a single point and the details are a bit mind-numbing, like the BCS formula that vaulted the Sooners over the Longhorns and into the Big 12 title game.

So, take a deep breath and perhaps grab some scratch paper to follow along on how this played out.

• First, the ground rules: The AP uses a panel of writers who regularly cover the Big 12 for newspapers across the conference's seven states; 10 are based in the Big 12 North, 10 in the South. Each gets to pick one first-team quarterback and one second-teamer.

The first-team vote is worth two points, the second-team vote is worth one.

• Bradford got nine first-team votes, 10 for second team and was left off one ballot. That's 28.

• McCoy got 10 first-team votes, seven for second teams and was left off three. That's 27.

Like the Big 12 race, Texas Tech was the spoiler.

Red Raiders quarterback Graham Harrell was the only other quarterback to get a vote. He picked up four, one for first team and three for second team. Thus, the race swung on whether the Harrell supporters picked McCoy or Bradford as their other choice. Three went with Bradford and one with McCoy.

To emphasize how big of a difference that was, consider that Bradford and McCoy were both named on 16 ballots. Nine favored McCoy over Bradford, seven went the other way.

McCoy became the front-runner for this award and many others after leading Texas past Bradford and Oklahoma in mid-October.

His campaign lost some steam when Harrell and the Red Raiders knocked off the Longhorns. Around that time, Bradford and the Sooners were



AP photo/Harry Cabluck
Texas junior quarterback Colt McCoy rolls to his left during an NCAA football game against Texas A&M in Austin Nov. 27. McCoy was selected as The Associated Press' Big 12 offensive player of the year, but was second to Oklahoma's Sam Bradford on the All-Big 12 team.

getting on a big roll of their own.

Bradford guided Oklahoma to 60 points in each of its last four

games, including a romp over Texas Tech.

Bradford also finished the season with an NCAA-best 46 touchdowns and 300 yards passing in 10 games.

The Sooners, Longhorns and Red Raiders finished in a three-way tie atop the Big 12 South. The first four tiebreakers didn't settle anything, so it went to a fifth option, the BCS rankings.

That favored Oklahoma, sending Bradford and his pals into the conference title game Saturday against No. 19 Missouri. If the Sooners win that, they'll be headed to the national championship game, likely against the winner of the SEC championship game.

Oklahoma will go into the game with a league-best six first-team all-conference picks, including linebacker Travis Lewis, the only freshman to make the top squad, and offensive lineman Duke Robinson, who was first-team last year, too.

Missouri has five first-team-

ers, as did Texas Tech.

Only three players were unanimous choices: Texas Tech receiver Michael Crabtree, Oklahoma State running back Kendall Hunter and Texas defensive lineman Brian Orakpo, who also was the defensive player of the year. This was Crabtree's second straight season as a unanimous pick.

Missouri's Jeremy Maclin was a first-teamer at two spots, receiver and all-purpose, which accounts for his elusiveness as a returner. He was a unanimous first-teamer at all-purpose last season.

His teammates Sean Weatherspoon, a linebacker, and kicker Jeff Wolfert are returning first-teamers.

Weatherspoon is the only defensive player back from last year's first team.

Iowa State, Kansas State and Colorado didn't have any first-teamers.

Just as notable, Oklahoma State and Baylor each had three; that's two more than Texas, which placed only Orakpo on the first team. Kansas had two picks, while Nebraska and Texas A&M each had one.

There was one tweak to this year's balloting: Three first-team receivers and only one running back, instead of two of each. The change was made to better reflect the kind of offenses used in the Big 12.

Sports in brief

Big Spring schedules Fall Sports Banquet

Big Spring High School has scheduled its Fall Sports Banquet for 6 p.m. Monday at the high school's cafeteria.

All athletes who participated in football, volleyball and cross country will be recognized.

Tickets are \$12 and can be bought at the door.

For more information, call Denise Carillo at 816-1685.

Amigo's Washer Club sets date for winter tourney

The Amigo's Washer Club is holding its Winter Washer

Tournament Saturday, Dec. 13, at the La Verda Club.

It's a two-man team competitions with the entry fee being \$20 per team. First, second and third place prizes will be given away.

All wanting to play must be registered by 12:30 p.m. the day of the tourney.

For more information, call 466-9969.

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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**

★★★ SUVs ★★★

2005 Ford Explorer XLT Sport Trac - Red w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/65,000 Miles.

Was \$18,995 **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**

★★★ 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**

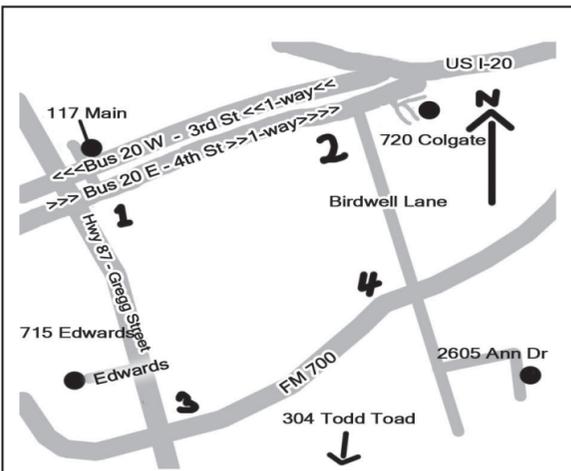
2003 Cadillac DeVille. - Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner.

Was \$14,995 **Sale Price \$12,995**

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TOUR

Continued from Page 1C

720 Colgate

The home of Richard and Jeanie Knocke

This long-time Big Spring family is opening up their beautiful home for a good cause. While enjoying the exquisite holiday decorations, take time to view the family Bible showcased in front of the Christmas tree. It's more than 200 years old. This is a must see.

715 Edwards

The home of Bill and Sharon Wiese

Bill and the Rev. Sharon Wiese feel privileged to reside in the house built and lived in by Big Spring pioneer and philanthropist Dorothy Garrett. The First United Methodist Church, of which she is the pastor, now provides it to them as a parsonage.

Come see these beautiful homes and support your Big Spring Symphony.

This year's tour will be from 2 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. There will be a reception afterward at First Presbyterian Church, Runnels and Eighth Street., from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. A hand bell concert will be held at 4 p.m.

Tickets are available at the following locations

First Bank of West Texas, 607 Scurry

Blum's Jewelers, inside the Big Spring Mall

Faye's Flowers, 1013 Gregg St.

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, 215 W. Third St.

Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry.

Tickets will also be available at the doors of the tour homes during the event.

117 Main

The Courtyard and Hardware Store

Kay Moore, Leslie Elrod and Kay's husband, Max are working steadily to finish the remodeling on their project, The Courtyard and Hardware Store, and to decorate it in time for the "home" tour.

Parties are already being held in the three unfinished party areas that are being developed. You can count on a wonderful experience on Dec. 14, checking out this unusual new business.

2605 Ann Drive

The home of Lane Bond

Lane Bond will display an array of specially designed works contributed for this event by members of the Big Spring Art Association at his residence. Howard County Fair Queens Kady Knox (2007) and Theresa Turner (2008) will be present in their gowns and sashes serving at the hospitality table.

117 Main - The Courtyard and Hardware Store From Intersection 1 at W 4th and Gregg, go E two blocks, turn left (N) and go 2.5 blocks on Main to 117. Phone 263-1284

720 Colgate - Richard and Jeanie Knocke From Intersection 2 at E,4th and Birdwell Ln, go E one long block to Tulane, right one block to Rutgers, left a very short block to Colgate, right two blocks to 720, last house W side, at the corner of Kentucky Way. Phone 263-1757.

715 Edwards - Bill and Sharon Wiese Go South from Intersection 1, or North from Intersection 3 at FM 700 and Hwy 87, to Edwards Blvd (2000 block of Gregg, at HEB) and go W to 715 Edwards, just past the circle. Phone 714-4580.

2605 Ann Drive - Lane Bond From Intersection 4, at FM 700 and Birdwell Ln, go S about a mile until the pavement narrows at 25th St, turn left past the apartments and go E to the sixth street (Ann Drive), turn right to 2605. The second street light is in Lane's yard. 263-4033

304 Todd Road - David and Nancy Foster From Intersection 3 at FM 700 and Hwy 87, go South about 4 miles to Todd Road, and turn left onto Todd Road. The Fosters live in the first house on the right, marked by 27 tall evergreens in their yard. Landmarks to pass on the way out include Driver Rd at Johansen's Nursery, Boatler Rd, Hughes Rd, Ranch Rd 33, Trinity Memorial Park, Craig Rd and Jeffrey Rd. Todd Road is the south border of a pecan grove. Phone 281-507-7153.

Area Menus

Big Spring Senior Citizen's Center
Monday
chicken enchiladas, Spanish rice, pinto beans, tossed salad, dressing, tapioca pudding.
Tuesday
cheeseburgers on bun, ketchup, mayonnaise or miracle whip, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, baked tator tots, peaches

and cream.
Wednesday
country-fried chicken, gravy, mashed potatoes, steamed broccoli, rolls, margarine, bread pudding with vanilla sauce.
Thursday
hot turkey sandwich with gravy, potato wedges, green pea salad, orange wedges, southern pecan square.

Friday
grilled chicken breast, Alfredo sauce, buttered noodles, green beans, tossed salad, dressing, applesauce.
Coahoma ISD
Monday
Breakfast
French toast, sausage, syrup, apple juice, milk.
Lunch

taco's, mixed, fruit, salad, ranch beans, milk, rib sandwich, bread
Tuesday
Breakfast
oatmeal, ham, grape juice, milk.
Lunch
sub sandwiches, salad trays, tater tots, pickle spears, corn dogs.
Wednesday
Breakfast

pancake sausage-on-a-stick, syrup, orange juice, milk.
Lunch
chicken patty, green beans, creamed potatoes, rolls, milk.
Thursday
Breakfast
biscuits, sausage, gravy, apple juice, jelly, milk.
Lunch
grilled cheese, baked

beans, apple strudels, milk, barbecue on a bun.
Friday
Breakfast
Pop Tarts, fruit, ham, milk.
Lunch
cheeseburgers, chips, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, oranges, milk.
See **Menus**, continued on Page 3C

50th

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Big Spring Herald Office
Faye's Flowers
First Bank of West Texas (all branches)
or at the door of the Municipal Auditorium the night of the performance

ADMISSION

Adult	\$15
Senior Citizen	\$10
Student	\$5



For more information, call (432)264-7223

News in brief

Laid-off workers occupy factory in Chicago

CHICAGO (AP) — Workers laid off from their jobs at a Chicago factory have occupied the building and are demanding assurances they'll get severance and vacation pay that they say they are owed.

About 200 employees of Republic Windows and Doors began staging the sit-in in shifts this week after learning the plant was closing Friday.

Leah Fried (LAY'-uh FREED'), an organizer with the United Electrical Workers, says Republic failed to give 60 days' notice required by law.

Chicago police spokeswoman Laura Kubiak says police are aware of the situation and are patrolling the area.

Representatives of Republic Windows did not immediately respond Saturday to calls and e-mails seeking comment.

Congress to consider legislation to provide aid to troubled Big 3 automakers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Facing massive job losses, the White House and congressional Democrats are working to provide about \$15 billion in loans to prevent Detroit's weakened auto industry from collapsing.

After yielding to President George W. Bush on a key point, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the House would consider legislation next week to provide "short-term

and limited assistance" to the U.S. auto industry while it undergoes "major restructuring."

"Congress will insist that any legislation include rigorous and ongoing oversight to guarantee that taxpayers are protected and that resources are directed to ensure the long-term viability and competitiveness" of the industry, Pelosi, D-Calif., said in a statement. The Senate is also scheduled to be in session next week.

The legislation, which was being crafted this weekend, would act as a lifeline to General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler LLC while meeting demands from many skeptical lawmakers that Congress refrain from writing a blank check for the beleaguered industry.

C. Kennedy interested in NY Senate seat; cousin RFK Jr. says Kennedy kin behind her

WASHINGTON (AP) — Caroline Kennedy — daughter of a slain president, niece of senators, and zealous guardian of her own privacy — is interested in the Senate seat once held by her uncle, her cousin says.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. said he and the rest of the powerful Kennedy clan are urging Caroline to seek the New York governor's appointment to the Senate seat now held by Hillary Rodham Clinton — and added she is ready and seriously considering it.

"I know she's interested," Robert Kennedy, who him-

self was prominently mentioned for the seat, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Friday. "She spent a lot of her life balancing public service with obligations to her family. Now her children are grown, and she is ready to move onto a bigger stage."

Pentagon expanding number of alien recruits to combat doctor, nurse, linguist shortage

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon is planning to expand the number of foreigners it recruits into the military in yet another effort to make up for chronic shortages of doctors, nurses and linguists available for wartime duty.

The Defense Department already draws from aliens living in the United States on green cards and seeking permanent residency. But under a trial program, it will now look to also recruit from pools of foreigners who've been living in the states on student and work visas, with refugee or political asylum status and other temporary visas. Defense Secretary Robert Gates has authorized the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps to recruit certain legal residents whose critical medical and language skills are "vital to the national interest," officials said, using for the first time a law passed three years ago.

Gates' action enables the services to start a one-year pilot program to find up to 1,000 foreigners.

JURY

Continued from Page 1A

could face five to 99 years to life in prison, in addition to a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

Also indicted were:

• Enrique Martinez Alvarez, 45, currently in County Jail, burglary of a building (state jail felony).

• Sabrina Gutierrez Perez, 43, of 1002 N. Main Street, burglary of a building (third-degree felony, enhanced).

• Cacee D. Corbell, 25, of 205 Driver Road, possession of a controlled substance (first-degree felony, enhanced)

• Nathan Delco Robinson III, 34, currently in County Jail, delivery of a controlled substance (three counts, state jail felony) and possession of a controlled substance (second-degree felony).

• Linda Ann Foster, 31, currently in County Jail, delivery of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

• Kristopher Brito Garcia, 20, of 612 Linda Lane, possession of marijuana (third-degree felony).

• Corey Lee Harris, 28, address unknown, bail jumping and failure to appear (third-degree felony).

• Lori Jean Long, 34, of 400 Gregg Street, possession of a controlled substance (third-de-

gree felony).

• Oscar Manuel Madrid Jr., 27, of 1511 Princeton, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

• Bobby Phillip Masters, 47, currently in County Jail, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon (first-degree felony, enhanced).

• Juanita Perez, 43, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. 149, delivery of a controlled substance (state jail felony) and possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

• Enrique Ricky Sabedra Jr., 38, currently in County Jail, delivery of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

• Carl William Wells, 26, currently in County Jail, theft of a

firearm (state jail felony).

• Brandie Michelle Casey, 24, of 21195 Penny St. in New Caney, fraudulent possession of a controlled substance prescription (second-degree felony).

• Russell Wayne Clay, 47, of 1407 E. 15th St., driving while intoxicated (second-degree felony, enhanced).

• Tony Martinez Jr., 19, of 706 N. Goliad, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon (two counts, second degree felonies).

• Carlos Eloy Medrano, 21, of 4133 Heritage Way Dr. in Fort Worth, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle (state jail felony).

• Gary Lee Moore, 54, of 1206 E. 16th St., driving while intoxicated (third-degree felony).

• Christoval Moreno, 48, of 1700 Lancaster, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony) and burglary of a building (state jail felony).

• Michael Dean Nall, 29, of 605 15th St., unauthorized use of a motor vehicle (state jail felony).

• Cecil Lee Sherman, 42, of 1403 Oil Mill Rd., driving while intoxicated (second-degree felony, enhanced).

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

VIDEO

Continued from Page 1A

undressing at the Avant Salon and Spa where he worked.

According to Austin Police detective Stephen Andreini, who is heading up the investigation, Thompson has been indicted on the charge of improper photography, a state jail felony that carries a sentence of up to two years in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Andreini confirmed Thompson is living in the

Big Spring area, adding the Austin man is wearing a court-ordered ankle monitoring device as he awaits trial. However, the detective said it's unclear if Thompson is plying his trade in the Crossroads area.

"I don't have any information whether Thompson is or is not working as a massage therapist in Big Spring," said Andreini.

According to information provided by the Texas Department of State Health Services, the state agency responsible for the licensing of massage therapists,

Thompson's license has not yet been revoked and doesn't expire until May 2010.

Thompson received his license from the state in 1998, according to DSHS records, and could legally be working as a massage therapist in Big Spring at this time.

Law enforcement officials say Thompson allegedly used hidden cameras to not only record clients undressing, but can also be seen in several of the more than 100 videos recovered from his computer having sex with the women. The

recordings are believed to have been made during the first three months of 2008.

"His room at the spa had a couple of cabinets. He had some personal things there, so it would be easy enough to hide a video camera without the clients knowing," said Andreini. "From what we know, there was no indication of any forced activity to this point. We have to talk to those women and find out if it was consensual and if they knew whether they were being videoed. The investigation could take some time to complete."

According to police records, the videos were found accidentally by Thompson's wife, who was in the process of divorcing him at the time.

Thompson is currently out on a \$50,000 bond, according to police reports.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at

citydesk@bigspringherald.com

OBAMA

Continued from Page 1A

the single largest new investment in our national infrastructure since the creation of the federal highway system in the 1950s."

He also wants to install energy-saving light bulbs and replace old heating systems in federal buildings to cut costs and create jobs.

School buildings would get an upgrade, too. "Because to help our children compete in a 21st century economy, we need to

send them to 21st century schools," Obama said.

As a part of the plan, Obama said he wants to expand Internet access in communities. Hospitals also should be connected to each other online.

"Here, in the country that invented the Internet, every child should have

the chance to get online," he said.

Obama said he would announce other details of the economic recovery plan in the coming weeks. He said he'd work with Congress to pass the initiative when lawmakers reconvene in January.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

a laugh.

Also during Monday's meeting, County Treasurer Teresa Thomas will discuss personnel considerations and the payroll

report, as well as deliver her quarterly report. Thomas will also ask the court to review the county's investment policy and discuss adding new investment pools.

The court will also consider making an appointment to the office of County Wellness Coordinator

and executive sponsor for the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) Health Benefits Pool.

County Road and Bridge Administrator Eddy Jameson will discuss road maintenance and any proposed pipeline crossings.

The meeting is to get underway at 10 a.m. in the

commissionerscourtroom, located on the second floor of the county courthouse. For more information, call 264-2202.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

The Family of Jacqueline (Jackie) Smith
would like to thank our families and friends for their kindness during the loss of our loved one. We thank you for the calls, the delicious food, the beautiful flowers, your prayers and your beautiful words of comfort, Scenic Mountain Medical Center's staff for their extra special care, to Myers & Smith Funeral Home and Chapel for going the extra mile to see that we were comforted and the beautiful way they handled the services, to Betty Carter and all Head Start Staff, Lakeview Headstart Staff for truly showing us how much they loved Jackie, Howard County and Howard County Juvenile Probation, Life Center Clinic and Kim Shafer, Shiloh House Of Praise, Rev. Michael Willard and Cornerstone Covenant Church family for giving us such a beautiful heartfelt service. Special thanks to Big Spring Police Department and Howard County Sheriff's Department for transforming our processional into perfection.

May God Bless Each Of You

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NFL week 14: Cowboys face stern test

By **DAVE GOLDBERG**
AP Football Writer

The Dallas Cowboys will find out Sunday whether Tony Romo, back from his broken pinkie, can be as effective against one of the NFL's elite teams as he has been against also-rans.

Dallas has won three straight since Romo returned, but the last two have been at home against San Francisco and Seattle, who have won six games between them. This week, the Cowboys go to Pittsburgh to take on the AFC North-leading Steelers (9-3), who beat the Patriots 33-10 in Foxborough last week when they forced five straight turnovers to start the second half.

Romo seems fine now, but two of Dallas' best players have injury problems: linebacker DeMarcus Ware and running back Marion Barber. Ware injured a knee and Barber a foot in the Thanksgiving Day win over the Seahawks, although both say they expect to play.

While they've won only one more game than Dallas (8-4), the Steelers are in a better position in the standings, a game up on Baltimore with four to go in the AFC North. They can clinch a playoff spot with a win and a combination of other developments. The Cowboys trail the Giants by three in the NFC East and are basically playing for a wild-card playoff spot; one more win by New York clinches the division.

"I think we are kind of a nicely boring team," Pittsburgh defensive end Aaron Smith said. "We just come out and find a way to win."

That might apply to the Pittsburgh offense. But not the defense, where outside linebackers James Harrison and LaMarr Woodley have accounted for 25½ sacks between them. Harrison has 14 sacks, one off the team record, and six forced fumbles, two of them last week against New England.

Still, Dallas' three straight wins after four losses in six games have the Cowboys in a positive frame of mind. Their theme for the last month has been reversing what happened last year, when they got home-field advantage for the playoffs, lost to the Giants in their first playoff game, then watched New York go on to win the Super Bowl.

"I think the physical health is getting better, but mentally we've got the right approach," tight end Jason Witten said. "That doesn't guarantee wins, but what it does for us is help us understand what the challenges are. I think this team is excited about the opportunity it has, and really it's almost kind of like we're the underdog during the whole thing."

Including Sunday against the Steelers. The weekend began with San Diego's 34-7 win over Oakland. The Chargers (5-8) snapped a three-game



Dallas linebacker DeMarcus Ware (94) celebrates after sacking San Francisco 49ers quarterback Shaun Hill during their NFL football game in Irving earlier this season. Ware and the Cowboys travel to Pittsburgh to take on the Steelers Sunday.

AP file photo

losing streak and won for just the second time in seven games. It was San Diego's 11th straight win over the Raiders. Oakland (3-10) reached double digit losses for the sixth straight year.

•••

The Giants, Arizona and Tennessee can clinch their divisions this week.

New York wins the NFC East by beating Philadelphia at home or if Dallas loses to Pittsburgh. The Giants also clinch a first-round playoff bye with a win.

Arizona wins the NFC West with a win at home over St. Louis or a San Francisco loss at home to the New York Jets. Tennessee clinches the AFC South with a victory at home against Cleveland or an Indianapolis loss at home to Cincinnati.

•••

In other Sunday games, Minnesota is at Detroit; Houston at Green Bay; Atlanta at New Orleans; Jacksonville at Chicago; Miami vs. Buffalo at Toronto; New England at Seattle; and Washington at Baltimore.

Tampa Bay is at Carolina on Monday night.

Houston (5-7) at Green Bay (5-7)

A lot of folks think the Packers' decline is due to the trade of Brett Favre to the Jets to make room at QB for Rodgers. But the defense is more to blame than anything Rodgers has done. It's 22nd in the NFL in points allowed at more than 24 a game, and gave back a 31-28 lead in the final two minutes in last week's 35-21 home loss to Carolina.

This is Houston's seventh season back in the league and it has never been better than last year's 8-8. It could surpass that if it wins out, although a finishing schedule that also includes Chicago, Oakland and Tennessee will make that hard.

Philadelphia (6-5-1) at NY Giants (11-1)

The game itself is overshadowed by Plaxico Burress' suspension by the Giants following his arrest on gun possession charges this week. In fact, New York has won the three games Burress has missed this season by a total of 62 points.

"Every time Plaxico doesn't play, those receivers sure seem to play well," Eagles coach Andy Reid says.

The Eagles put themselves in desperation mode by tying the lowly Bengals and losing to Baltimore after Reid benched Donovan McNabb at half-

time. So they probably have to win out to have a shot at a wild-card berth. Not easy against a team that's won seven straight, six over winning teams, including a 36-31 victory in Philadelphia less than a month ago.

Tampa Bay (9-3) at Carolina (9-3)

For the NFC South lead. If the Bucs win, they get what is essentially a 1½-game lead because they beat the Panthers 27-3 in Tampa on Oct. 12.

The Bucs also have a 3-1 record within the division, another tiebreaker that could come into play in a three-way race with the Falcons. Next week, they

are at Atlanta, a game behind the two leaders.

Steve Smith, whose remarkable catch set up the winning touchdown in a 35-31 shootout in Green Bay last week, took that win lightly. Not this game.

"It just means we're 9-3," Smith said of the Green Bay win. "It's nothing to go start making T-shirts about. It's just a record. We've got a very good opponent coming in our house Monday night. That's our next focus."

Atlanta (8-4) at New Orleans (6-6)

The other half of the NFC South, a division that might send three teams to

the playoffs — something that was supposed to happen in the NFC East.

Matt Ryan, the Falcons' remarkable rookie quarterback, is probably the leading candidate for NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year right now. But he's been so good — bunched with Eli Manning and Aaron Rodgers in the passer ratings — that there is talk now of him as an MVP candidate.

Washington (7-5) at Baltimore (8-4)

The Beltway rivalry, moved from daytime to prime time, is a critical game to the playoff hopes of both teams.

The Ravens have a decent shot at winning the AFC North because they still have a home game with the Steelers and both teams have difficult closing schedules. Joe Flacco, a remarkable rookie quarterback like Ryan, has been holding up well.

The Redskins made the postseason at 9-7 last season, but that probably won't be good enough in the NFC this year. Right now, they are chasing the Cowboys and the NFC South teams for a wild-card berth and Clinton Portis, their main offensive weapon, has been playing hurt.

New York Jets (8-4) at San Francisco (4-8), Miami (7-5) vs Buffalo (6-6), New England (7-5) at Seattle (2-10)

The AFC East in capsule, with the top three teams all legitimate contenders for the division title and wild-card spots.

The Jets let Miami back in the race by losing to the

See NFL, page 4B

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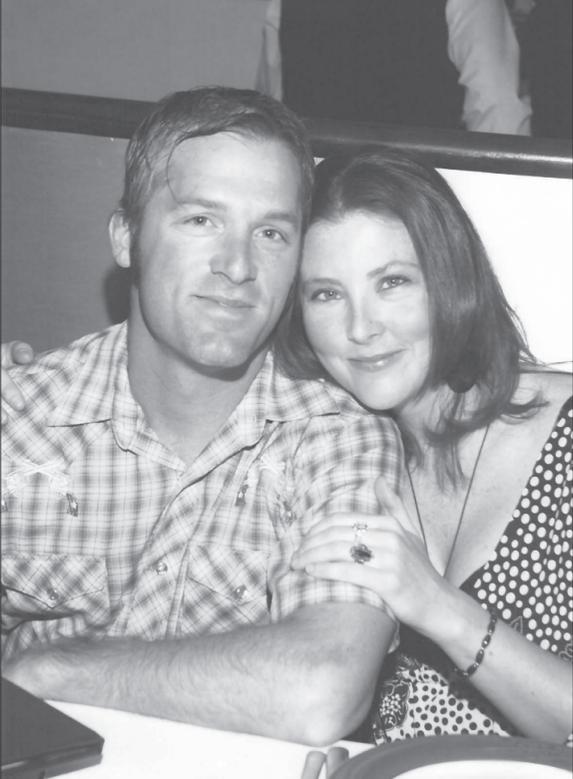
Coker-Vickers



Christine Coker & Clayton Vickers
5 p.m. Jan. 3, 2009, Midway Baptist Church

Christine Ann Coker and Clayton "Gooney" Vickers, both of Big Spring, will be united in marriage at 5 p.m. Jan. 3, 2009, at Midway Baptist Church. The bride-elect is the daughter of Richard and Tiffany Coker of Big Spring. She is the granddaughter of Francis Coker of Big Spring, the late Haskell Coker and Ernie and Sandi Walker of Redvale, Colo. The future groom is the son of Doug and Janis Vickers and Brent and Sharon Faglie, all of Big Spring. He is the grandson of Mary Vickers of Electra and the late Gene Vickers, Ed and Golda Evers of Merkel and the late Renison Riley.

James-Herm



Eric Herm & Alison James
January 2009 in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth James Jr. of Portsmouth, RI, and Mr. and Mrs. Eddy Herm of Ackerly announce the engagement of Alison James and Eric Herm. The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Lynch and the late Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth James. The groom-to-be is the grandson of Mr. Donald Allred and the late Hazel Allred, and the late Edgar and Oma Herm. The couple live in Ackerly and are planning a late January 2009 wedding in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico.

Alexandria Nicole Daves
Nov. 11, 2008
Sandy and Brittany Daves of Big Spring announce the birth of their daughter Alexandria Nicole Daves, born at 9:54 a.m. Nov. 11, 2008, weighing 9 pounds, 7 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches long. Her maternal grandparents are Terry and Marie Camden and her paternal grandparent is Zeita Mase. Alexandria was welcomed home by sibling Caylie.

St. Mary's to hold Advent Offering Concert on Thursday Afternoon

The annual Advent Offerings Concert, a gift to the community by St. Mary's Episcopal Church, will be held this year at 12:05 p.m. Thursday. Special musical guests will be the Lone Star Brass Quintet of Midland-Odessa Symphony. The Quintet will play 30 minutes of festive music of the season. Immediately following the concert, a delicious soup lunch will be served by members of St. Mary's Episcopal Church women. There is no charge for the concert or lunch, but attendees will have the opportunity to make donations to benefit Isaiah 58. St. Mary's has an ongoing program collecting canned goods and warm clothing to be donated to Isaiah 58. Those wishing to contribute may bring canned goods or clothing or may make monetary donations at the concert. St. Mary's is located at 10th and Goliad.

Menus

continued from Page 2C

Forsan ISD
Monday
Breakfast
breakfast pocket, juice, milk.
Lunch
burritos, Spanish rice, tossed salad, fresh fruit, sugar cookies, milk.

Tuesday
Breakfast
biscuits, sausage, juice, milk.
Lunch
barbecue chicken, macaroni & cheese, tossed salad, chilled pears, cornbread, milk.
Wednesday
Breakfast
scrambled eggs, Canadian ham, toast, juice, milk.
Lunch

fajita chicken over rice, broccoli & cheese, seasoned corn, French bread sticks, apricot fruit fluff, milk.
Thursday
Breakfast
donuts, juice, milk.
Lunch
pizza, tossed salad, orange smiles, chocolate cake, milk.
Friday
Breakfast

cereal, Nutrigrain Bar, juice, milk.
Lunch
turkey & dressing/gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, fruit salad, pumpkin pie & milk.

Life Policies

The Big Spring Herald has instituted a 600 word limit for all wedding submissions. All wedding articles will be edited to fit the above listed policy.

All submissions for Sunday's life section must be turned in by noon Wednesday to be published in Sunday's edition. Submitting articles by the deadline does not guarantee publication in the Sunday Life Section.

The Herald attempts to publish articles in a timely manner but because of space limitations submissions may held until the following week. For more information, call 263-7331

Contact the Herald at 263-7331

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Dating Violence

"The person I'm going out with scares me sometimes."

What is it?
Dating violence is controlling, abusive, and aggressive behavior in a romantic relationship. It can happen in straight or gay relationships. It can include verbal, emotional, physical, or sexual abuse, or a combination.

Controlling behavior may include:

- Not letting you hang out with your friends
- Calling or paging you frequently to find out where you are, whom you're with, and what you're doing
- Telling you what to wear
- Having to be with you all the time

Verbal and emotional abuse may include:

- Calling you names
- Jealousy
- Belittling you (cutting you down)
- Threatening to hurt you, someone in your family, or himself or herself if you don't do what he or she wants

Physical abuse may include:

- Shoving
- Punching
- Slapping
- Pinching
- Hitting
- Kicking
- Hair pulling
- Strangling

Sexual abuse may include:

- Unwanted touching and kissing
- Forcing you to have sex
- Not letting you use birth control
- Forcing you to do other sexual things

Anyone can be a victim of dating violence. Both boys and girls are victims, but boys and girls abuse their partners in different ways. Girls are more likely to yell, threaten to hurt themselves, pinch, slap, scratch, or kick. Boys injure girls more and are more likely to punch their partner and force them to participate in unwanted sexual activity. Some teen victims experience violence occasionally. Others are abused more often, sometimes daily.

If You Are a Victim of Dating Violence, You Might...

- Think it's your fault.
- Feel angry, sad, lonely, depressed, or confused.
- Feel helpless to stop the abuse.
- Feel threatened or humiliated.
- Feel anxious.
- Not know what might happen next.
- Feel like you can't talk to family and friends.
- Be afraid of getting hurt more seriously.
- Feel protective of your boyfriend or girlfriend.

You're Not Alone

- One in five teens in a serious relationship reports having been hit, slapped, or pushed by a partner.¹
- 50-80% of teens have reported knowing others who were involved in violent relationships.²
- Teens identifying as gay, lesbian, and bisexual are as likely to experience violence in same-sex dating relationships as youths involved in opposite sex dating.³
- Many studies indicate that, as a dating relationship becomes more serious, the potential for and nature of violent behavior escalates.⁴
- Young women, ages 16 to 24 years, experience the highest rates of relationship violence.⁵

Get Help
Being a victim of dating violence is not your fault. Nothing you say, wear, or do gives anyone the right to hurt you.

- If you think you are in an abusive relationship, get help immediately. Don't keep your concerns to yourself.
- Talk to someone you trust like a parent, teacher, school principal, counselor, or nurse.
- If you choose to tell, you should know that some adults are mandated reporters. This means they are legally required to report neglect or abuse to someone else.

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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.

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Pakistan:
Terrorism
central

A week after the siege of Mumbai, we don't yet know all the facts about those 10 coldly efficient terrorists. We don't know all of their names or where they trained. But one thing appears to be likely: Most if not all of the gunmen were from Pakistan, as was the accused mastermind of the attacks, a senior leader of the Pakistani terrorist group called Lashkar-e-Taiba.

That's not a group familiar to many Americans. Lashkar was created by Pakistan's intelligence service in the 1990s to wage a terrorist war against India over the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir. But it may have morphed from a regional threat to an international one.

If it is responsible for the Mumbai massacre, the strategy may have been to divert Pakistan troops from military operations against terrorists in the tribal areas on the Afghanistan border. Or it could have been an effort to damage India by attacking a financial hub and devastating the country's tourist industry.

Whatever the intent, the Mumbai attack underscores what a new report from the Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism said about Pakistan: "Were one to map terrorism and weapons of mass destruction today, all roads would intersect in Pakistan."

Simply put, Pakistan has become Terrorism Central. In its lawless tribal areas it harbors the Taliban and its sympathizers who attack U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan. From its cities and Kashmir region, it harbors terrorists who strike at India, who threaten U.S. interests in the region, who seek the same bloody, nihilistic ends as al-Qaida.

It harbors terrorists who could threaten U.S. citizens on their own soil.

Last fall, on the day he took the oath of office, Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari declared that his democratically elected government would be much more effective at fighting terrorism than a military ruler. He reminded listeners that he has been a victim of terrorism, losing his wife, former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, in an assassination blamed on militants.

After the Mumbai attacks, he insisted that his government had no role in them and that even if the militants were linked to Lashkar, "who do you think we are fighting? . . . We must all stand together to fight out this menace."

By all accounts, it is a menace deeply embedded in Pakistan's army and its intelligence services. American intelligence agencies reportedly suspect that former officers from Pakistan's army and its intelligence agency helped train the Mumbai terrorists.

So this is Zardari's chance. This week, Pakistan offered to set up a joint inquiry into the terror attacks and said it would cooperate with India to find the truth. A serious investigation that spares no one would build confidence. It would be a good start to defusing a frighteningly tense situation between two nuclear powers that have fought three wars in 61 years.

The U.S. can ensure the investigation stays on track, that Pakistan isn't allowed to coddle terrorists as it has in the past. America and its allies can keep the pressure on Pakistan, a poor country that needs massive international aid to stay afloat.

If Zardari really wants to dismantle the terrorist shadow state that has arisen in Pakistan, if he really meant what he said this fall, he won't let this opportunity pass. He will hit the terror groups hard — and now. He will find those responsible for Mumbai and turn them over to India or put them on trial. He will show the world, and his own people, that his government will not look the other way or excuse the terrorists. That Pakistan possesses the will and ability to deprive terror organizations of a place to train and plot. That it can root out those in the army and intelligence services — no matter how high ranking — who help spread terror.

That is a huge political risk for Zardari and the country's other leaders. But the greater risk is that some day in the future we will suffer, as the citizens of India do today, and say with regret that we knew of the threat and didn't prevent it.

The menace is deeply embedded in Pakistan's army and intelligence services.

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A true tale of tall and old

Folks at the Guinness Book of World Records may want to consider adding a new category. How about one for convalescent centers with the most residents listed in the revered book?

Were there such a category, Heritage House Convalescent Center of rural Shelbyville, IN, would claim the honors.

For three decades, it was much like thousands of other care centers across the land. "Business as usual" changed, though, when Edna Parker became a resident a dozen years ago, then Sandy Allen seven years later. The pair created media frenzy. Press reps have thronged from around the globe with their cameras, lights and microphones. Sandy and Edna both were Guinness record holders. The former, you see, stood a quarter-inch over 7-7, and the latter was 115 years of age.

For almost a year, the two notable residents held records simultaneously. Sandy was heralded as the world's tallest woman for 32 years. Edna held the age distinction when her predecessor died last year.

That's when the media crescendo peaked. The native Indianans graciously received numerous press guests and dignitaries, patiently discussing their respective lives. They described how they managed to "fit in" with their 90 or so care center brethren, whose backgrounds varied greatly from their own.

Bill Pierce, Heritage House administrator, says day-to-day activities have quieted greatly since their passing. Sandy died at age 53 on August 13. Edna passed away on November 27, just five months shy of her 116th birthday. Pierce says that residents miss the "buzz" created by the two women who were visited by the governor, Guinness reps and media guests from every continent — guests who Pierce describes as be-

ing "cooperative, well-intentioned and courteous."

Now, only memories remain. But what precious memories!

Pierce recalls Edna's annual birthday parties, replete with gifts, well-wishes, cards and a host of visitors. They came from all around, including nearby Franklin College. That's where Edna completed her two-year program in teacher education back in 1911. For many years, she was oldest graduate of the 174-year-old college, Indiana's first co-educational institution.

Education was one of Mrs. Parker's passions. She taught in one-room schools for several years before marrying her farmer husband, who died 69 years ago. Though she had no use for alcohol or tobacco, she credited education as the key to her long life. She reflected warmly on her beloved alma mater, always hammering home the importance of continuing to learn.

Though she needed assistance to move about in her final months, Edna is remembered for her independence and determination to assist her fellow care center residents during most of her time there. One friend prizes vivid mental pictures of the little lady pushing others' wheelchairs down the hall. Edna outlived her two sons and maintained her farm home into her 99th year.

"She brightened many moments," Pierce said. "We marveled at her recitation of lengthy poems from memory. Many times when I arrived at work around 6:30 a.m., Edna was already up and about, encouraging others with poems."

Sandy dealt far longer with her problematic state than Edna did with old-age issues. With a pituitary gland tumor that triggered excessive growth, she was more than seven feet tall upon entering Shelbyville High School. Despite numerous illnesses that caused her to shoot skyward and weight that reached well over 400 pounds, she endured life with good humor and dogged resolve, particularly after Guinness recognition.

She wrote a book, *Cast a Giant Shadow*, and was featured in movies and documentaries. Sandy was forever visiting schools, sharing her strong beliefs that "it's okay to be different."

One day while admiring a friend's wedding gown, Sandy joked that she'd likely never wear one. "Your 'Prince Charming' may yet ride in on a white horse," the bride said. Sandy joked that it was just as likely to be an "eight-foot guy straddling an elephant!"

At Sandy's memorial service, friends spoke of heaven's many unknowns. "But we know who the tallest angel is," one beamed.

She was interred in her hometown cemetery in a custom-made coffin centered in four grave plots.

As Christmas approaches, Heritage House is now more like others throughout the country. It is arrayed with strings of garland, a Christmas tree and a crackling fire. Soft Christmas music softens the air. Residents are playing games of Skip-bo, taking meals and medications on schedule and enjoying friendly conversations, just like always.

In their rooms, they're looking again at pictures of loved ones — after they find their glasses. They'll spend more time than the rest of us reading — and re-reading — Christmas cards, waiting until January, or later, to add them to their small collection of "things" in the top drawer.

Big in their minds are gigantic memories of two departed friends from Heritage House who brought celebrity to residents' lives, one by being very tall, and the other, very old. And neither one permitted their situations to outlive their usefulness.

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

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• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
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• **RICK PERRY**
Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
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Austin, 78711
Phone: (512) 463-2000

Where did they go ... and why?

They are leaving. Illegal immigrants, that is.

Analysts from both ends of the immigration debate, from the Center for Immigration Studies to the Pew Hispanic Center, agree. The "unlawfully present" population in the United States has shrunk — and it's getting smaller.

According to Pew, there has been a drop in the annual "in-flow" of people illegally entering the country since 2005. And the numbers of those already here is going down. It peaked at 12.4 million in 2006 and is down by about 1 million now.

What the analysts don't agree on is why. Good enough data simply aren't available to answer the question. There are a number of possibilities, though.

It could be simple economics, with fewer jobs translating into fewer illegals. Historically, whenever the U.S. economy has shrunk, fewer workers risk coming north to seek employment. They find economic opportunities at home or migrate to alternate destinations.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff wants part of the credit, too, citing "tighter border security, a significant expansion of the Border Patrol, the deployment of new technology, and increased interior enforcement are having an undeniable impact."

Contrarians, however, are quick to deny that. They seem eager to paint enforcement not only as inef-

fective but evil.

According to Tom Barry of the Center for International Policy's "Americas Policy program," enforcing the "rule of law" is little more than a fig leaf for some anti-immigration types — one that allows its advocates to appear "ostensibly separate from the nativists, economic populists, and white supremacists that make up much of the base of the movement."

This is a remarkable claim. No doubt many in Congress — including Sens. Ted Kennedy and John McCain, who pushed for a comprehensive reform that included a number of border security and workplace enforcement measures (as well as all in Congress who voted to build a fence to help stop illegal entry from Mexico) — would be stunned to find out they're just fronting for the Ku Klux Klan.

Demonizing law enforcement and border security seems like an effort to poison the well for promoting serious further reforms. There are already whisperings that some policymakers will try to rollback enforcement innovations such as the 287(g) programs that set up compacts between the Department of Homeland Security and state and local law enforcement. Never mind that these programs assist in identifying and deporting criminal aliens in jails and prisons after they complete their sentences and other cooperative activities.

The result of such efforts is that both Congress and the American people will become more reluctant to embrace any kind of immigration reform.

Instead, they will suspect that the administration is offering "86" all

over again.

In 1986, Congress passed comprehensive reform that granted a general amnesty and promised more workplace enforcement and better border security. At the time, the number of illegals was about 3 million. Now it is more than three times that. Granting amnesty just encouraged more illegal immigration, while Washington did little to secure the border or enforce the law.

Failure to enforce the law, combined with an amnesty that brushed aside the rule of law (along with strong economic growth for more than a quarter of a century) created the crisis that we have today — a crisis that needs to be solved.

Hopefully, no one thinks a depression is the answer (if there are no jobs, there would be no illegals). We need to get the economy growing again. As the economy recovers, if we want to continue to reduce illegal immigration, then we are going to have to have border control, enforce the law (not grant amnesty), and institute reforms that help provide sufficient legal avenues for employers to get the workers they need to help the economy continue to grow and prosper.

And if we can do it with more workers being "lawfully present," so much the better.

James Jay Carafano is a senior research fellow for national security at The Heritage Foundation. Readers may write to him in care of The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; Web site: www.heritage.org.



DR.
DON
NEWBURY



JAMES
JAY
CARAFANO

NFL

Continued from page 3B

Broncos last week. That means the season finale, when the Dolphins come to the Meadowlands, could be for the division title.

The Dolphins also get something of an advantage by going to Toronto for their game with the Bills.

For one, it will be played inside, giving Miami a better chance than it might have had in December weather in Buffalo. For another, Toronto is home to a lot of Dolphins fans, which means the cheering sections will be more equal than they would be two hours to the south.

The Patriots are making their second two-week West Coast trip of the season, staying out there before playing in Oakland next week.

They did the same in early October, winning in San Francisco, then losing in San Diego.

**St. Louis (2-10)
at Arizona (7-5)**

Arizona's drive to clinch its first division title since 1975, when it won the NFC East as the St. Louis Cardinals, has stalled

against the better opposition of the NFC East.

Back in the comfort zone of the West, it should wrap up things, guaranteeing its first home playoff game since 1947, when the franchise was in Chicago.

How bad are the Rams?

They lost only 16-12 to Miami last week, but overall they have scored just 159 points and allowed 360, a point differential of 201 that is 20 points worse than winless Detroit.

**Kansas City (2-10)
at Denver (7-5)**

The injury-wracked Broncos are the NFL's most mystifying team. They lost in Kansas City early in the season, lost at home to Oakland two weeks ago, then beat the Jets in the Meadowlands last week, putting themselves in position to wrap up the dismal NFC West soon, if not this week.

The Chiefs got their second win when they beat the Raiders and seem content to build with one of the NFL's youngest teams. So Herm Edwards is likely to be back as coach.

**Cleveland (4-8)
at Tennessee (11-1)**

The Browns are down to Ken Dorsey,

the third-stringer, at quarterback, after Brady Quinn and Derek Anderson were lost.

Regardless, it appears coach Romeo Crennel is on his last four games and that GM Phil Savage might be, too.

The Titans should wrap up their division and seem on track to get home-field advantage for the AFC playoffs after bouncing back from their only loss two weeks ago by routing the Lions on Thanksgiving.

**Cincinnati (1-10-1)
at Indianapolis (8-4)**

The Colts have won five in a row and are positioning themselves nicely for an AFC wild-card spot.

But their wins are by a combined 20 points.

Two were over Pittsburgh and New England, although they haven't been blowing out patsies either. In their 10-6 victory over Cleveland last week, they didn't score an offensive touchdown, the first time that happened in more than five years.

Marvin Lewis is probably safe as Bengals coach, in part because the front office doesn't like to pay off contracts and Lewis has two more years left on his.

**Minnesota (7-5)
at Detroit (0-12)**

The Vikings are a game ahead in the NFC North and looking for a title. The Lions are simply trying to avoid becoming the first team ever to go 0-16.

Minnesota could be without its two run-stopping defensive tackles, Pat and Kevin Williams, who are asking the courts to allow them to play this weekend after they were suspended for taking a diuretic that contained a masking agent for steroids.

**Jacksonville (4-8)
at Chicago (6-6)**

Chicago's playoff fortunes took a huge dip in a matter of seconds last week when the Bears were stuffed at the Minnesota 1-yard-line as they seemed about to go up 14-3, then allowed a 99-yard TD pass from Gus Frerotte to Bernard Berrian to give the Vikings a 10-7 lead en route to a 34-14 victory.

Jacksonville, which made the playoffs last year and was highly regarded entering 2008, seems to have tossed in the towel. There is internal discord and some folks are blaming their slide on the pressure from preseason expectations.

To subscribe, call 263-7331.

The Holidays are looking TASTY

i'm lovin' it

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

out of bounds as he dribbled underneath the goal, giving the Dragons the ball back with 10 seconds to play.

Paducah was called for traveling on its next inbounds attempt, giving the Steers an opportunity to win the game.

Junior guard Jerrell Williams drove to the bucket and two referees whistled two different infractions, adding more controversy to the end of this game. One official called Paducah for blocking, while the other signaled a charge on Williams. The charge held up, giving the Dragons the ball with six seconds on the clock.

Paducah was once again called for trav-

eling, but was able to tick five seconds off, leaving the Steers with 1.8 seconds to travel the length of the court and score the game winner.

McCallister's half court attempt didn't find the bucket, giving the Dragons the 1-point victory.

"We've got to decide we want to start playing with intensity before it's too late in the game," said Big Spring Head Coach Marcus Morris. "We were silly on the bus ride over here. We were silly in the locker room. We were silly during warm ups. That's just not going to cut it. That's not going to win games. We've got to come into each game with the same intensity we had in the fourth period."

Big Spring played Crane at 9 a.m. Saturday. Results from that game will be available in Monday's edition of the Herald.

LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

finals of the Classic.

"I was very encouraged by our performance. I am more proud of these girls for

the way they played in this game than any other this season," said Warren. "We outthusted and outplayed Andrews in the second and had them on the run."

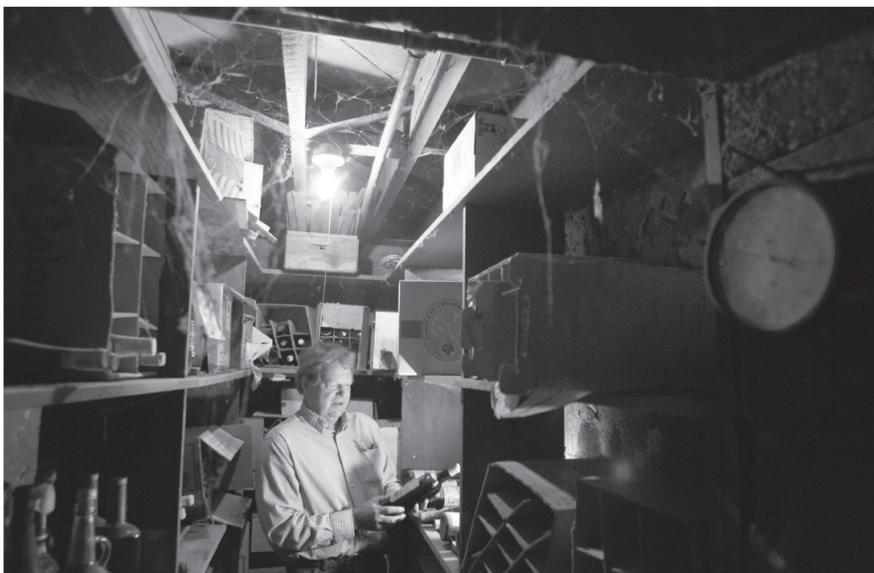
Big Spring played either Lamesa or Crane Saturday afternoon. Results from that game will be available in Monday's edition of the Herald.

The Steers

94.3

TEXAS

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AP Photo/Eric Risberg

Jim Bundschu looks over a pre-prohibition bottle of red wine from the early 1900s stored in the basement cellar of the family home at the Gundlach Bundschu winery in Sonoma, Calif. This year is the 75th anniversary of the repeal of prohibition.

I'll drink to that: Prohibition repeal turns 75 this month

By MICHELLE LOCKE

Associated Press Writer

NAPA, Calif. (AP) — Here's a word that can still send chills through wine country: Prohibition.

The great temperance tryout, which ended 75 years ago this December, may not have done much to stop drinking, but it did succeed in putting a cork in America's burgeoning wine industry, and ushering in an era of plunk that lasted decades.

"There was a lot of wine made and drunk during Prohibition, but the standards were poor. It set things back very seriously," said Thomas C. Pinney, author of "A History of Wine in America."

With wraiths of the 1930s seemingly lurking around every corner — Stock panic! Bank failures! Cloche hats! — the appeal of repeal is particularly strong this year, with a number of bars and restaurants planning to mark the milestone.

"It's a great day of the year," said Jackson Cannon, bar manager of Boston-based Eastern Standard Kitchen & Drinks, which has been serving Prohibition-inspired cocktails all year and arranged a party to begin Dec. 4 and carry through to Dec. 5 — the official anniversary of repeal.

Even all these years later, there still are a few hangovers from the days when (officially) no liquor or wine was served at any time.

"Its lasting legacy has been a fundamental misunderstanding between use and abuse by the American public," said Eileen Fredrikson, a wine analyst with Woodside-based Gombert, Fredrikson & Associates. "There are still places where wine on the table is just not part of the culture. People grow up with iced tea. They don't even think about wine as possibly an enhancement to a family meal."

On the legal side, repeal was orchestrated to let individual states set their own rules, creating a jumble of laws that continues to complicate wine shipping.

Still, Fredrikson plans to raise a glass to the 75th anniversary of repeal.

"You bet," she said with a laugh. "We raise a glass every night. A glass at dinner is one of the small luxuries of life that keeps you sane."

The temperance movement built up over decades, spearheaded by people who argued that alcohol was ruining lives, especially of the working classes.

They succeeded in 1919, with Prohibition taking effect a year later.

From the start there were loopholes. Individuals could make up to 200 gallons a year of "fruit juices" for personal use. Sacramental wine also was allowed and alcohol could be prescribed for medicinal purposes.

Wineries used their own wives, labeling bottles for "medicinal use only" and selling grape juice carefully labeled with instructions to on no account take certain actions, such as leaving the barrel to sit in a warm place, a sort of "Warning: Contents may ferment."

Napa vintner Jim Regusci remembers hearing stories from old timers about the "milk" company, which didn't see so much as the flick of a cow's tail, but regularly sent a truck to the Napa Valley to pick up batches of bootleg alcohol for delivery to San Francisco.

For legitimate operations, Prohibition descended swiftly.

Jim Bundschu of the Gundlach-Bundschu winery in Sonoma County, which celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, recalls hearing how the winery "just was literally padlocked up. They were

bottling apricot brandy one day and the next day no one came back to the winery."

Like some other wineries, Gundlach-Bundschu kept afloat growing and selling grapes. (Bundschu and his father revived the winery in the '70s, part of the renaissance of American wine.)

But many shut up shop. At the start of Prohibition there were about 700 wineries operating in California. By its end there were about 40, said Fredrikson.

Some credit Prohibition with giving organized crime a stronger foothold, though Pinney says that's a hard question to answer definitively. Some unfortunate people died during the period from drinking bad liquor or methyl (wood) alcohol.

It's highly unlikely that Prohibition itself would make any kind of comeback. Many groups are devoted to helping people cope with alcohol abuse, but even a group as big as Alcoholics Anonymous says it takes no stance on issues such as alcohol bans, a spokeswoman said, focusing instead on helping people.

In the end, the Depression helped hasten the end of Prohibition.

"It was a sort of no-brainer. Of course, we'd better get back to producing legal alcoholic drink instead of letting bootleggers make all the money," said Pinney.

Unfortunately, a depression is no time to start up a capital-intensive industry like the fine wine business.

Wineries that had survived the dry years by selling grapes already had switched to tougher-skinned fruit that traveled better, but made inferior

wines. Meanwhile, all that Chateau de Basement cooked up at home hadn't exactly stoked appetites for refined wines.

So what poured out from California after repeal were sweet, fortified wines that went by the labels "port" and "sherry," though they had little in common with the fine vintages produced by Portugal and Jerez, Spain.

"Table wine almost disappeared for the first decade after repeal," Pinney said. "It took a long, long time to alter that."

It wasn't until the late '60s, about the time fine wine champions like Robert Mondavi were emerging, that quality domestic wines made a comeback.

For today's wine country visitors, Prohibition is just a memory to be

glimpsed in the crumbling ruins of "ghost wineries," that folded under the triple threat of a late-19th century outbreak of vine disease, Prohibition and the Depression.

But the past is much more concrete at the Regusci Winery where the 1878 Occidental-Grigsby winery that went bust in the Depression still stands. This is a sturdy "ghost" made of walls two-feet thick and still in use for barrel storage.

At dusk, the setting sun gilds the building's elegant facade, picking out the lettering of the old winery name etched in the hand-cut lava stone.

Regusci likes the idea that winemaking is still going on here.

"It's kind of taking this piece of property back to where it originally was," he said, "except it's legal."

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.

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		1	3	2			8	
		3			9			4
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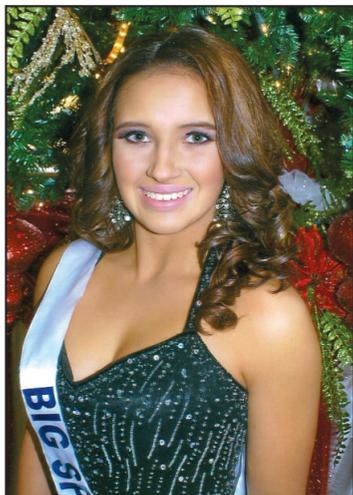
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Miss Big Spring Teen USA

Kaidie Saverance



Kaidie Saverance represented our area in the 2009 Miss Texas Teen USA Pageant November 29-30, 2008 in Houston, Texas. She placed in the top 4 for the People's Choice Award. Kaidie is a freshman at Forsan High School this year, where she participated in Band, Softball, Track and Tennis.

She is the daughter of Bryan and Tonya Watson and Shanan and Lana Saverance of Big Spring and the granddaughter of Mike and Sherida Tredaway, Larry and Caryl Henderson, Glynn and Sharron Harrell all of Big Spring, Wilton and Colleen Watson of Bertram, and Dwayne and Luan Saverance of Coleman. She is also the great-granddaughter of Fran Osburn. Kaidie is also big sister to Kolby Watson, Logan, Landyn and Brylee Saverance, who were all great pageant brothers and sister this past weekend.

Kaidie would like to thank everyone who helped her with this endeavor and hopes to represent our area again in 2010.

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Howard County going nuts

The Howard County Pecan Show and Food Show will be held Tuesday through Thursday in the Howard County Courthouse.

PECAN DIVISION

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 264-2236 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.



We are pleased to report that the quest for a viable alternative energy source is alive and well at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin. On Nov. 25, a group of graduate and undergraduate students gathered to debate the virtues and drawbacks of wind, solar, geothermal and ethanol.

According to Jack Ladd, the dean of the Business School, "at a time when crude has followed the stock market down and \$4 gasoline is temporarily behind us, this group of students and their professor, Anshu Saran, believe now is the time to consider and debate the viability of energy alternatives."

We couldn't agree more. There is no question the United States is addicted to foreign oil, which at its core is a national security issue. Perhaps the only positive of this current economic downturn is that it provides a time-out in commodity pricing allowing our nation to rethink our vulnerabilities and how we create, tax and use energy. The Permian Basin was built on energy, we like it that way, and feel this area will continue to lead our nation in the creation and development of conventional and alternative energy sources. Thank you UTPB for the invitation to the debate and for your important work in this area.

Regarding the markets, the printing presses are now in overdrive. Last week the Fed took two new steps to unfreeze credit for homebuyers, consumers and small businesses, committing up to \$800 billion. The central bank will purchase as much as \$600 billion in debt issued or backed by government-chartered housing finance companies. It will also set up a program of \$200 billion to support consumer and small-business loans, the Fed said in statements. With last week's announcement, the central bank is starting to use some of the unorthodox policy tools that Chairman Bernanke outlined as a Fed governor six years ago.

For his part, Treasury Secretary Paulson less than a week after indicating that he would let the Obama administration decide how to use the second half of the \$700 billion financial fund, is now considering asking for the money. Paulson may ask Congress for the remaining \$350 billion from TARP as he puts together his plans to boost consumer credit. The plans are a shift from just six days ago, when Paulson told Congress "it was only prudent to reserve our TARP capacity, maintaining not only our flexibility, but that of the next administration. The markets as you might expect reacted sporadically to the on again off again movements of Paulson.

We continue to believe these types of actions and reactions are a part of the problem and weigh heavily on investor confidence.

Portions of this article were produced Nov. 24, 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.

County officials training Tuesday

FORT STOCKTON — County Commissioners in West Texas have been invited to attend the District 6 County Judges' and Commissioners' Training Tuesday at the Texas AgriLife Extension Center here, according to Brenda Rue, District Extension Administrator for the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

County commissioners and county judges from an area encompassing Andrews, Brewster, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, Ector, El Paso, Glasscock, Howard, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Loving, Martin, Midland, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, Val Verde, Ward and Winkler counties have been invited, although county judges and commissioners from throughout a broader area are welcome to attend to meet continuing education credit requirements before the end of the calendar year, said Rue.

"This conference is structured to provide a wealth of information for county commissioners in particular," said Rue. "The \$35 registration fee includes lunch, conference materials, continuing education fees and refreshments. Six hours of continuing education credit for County Commissioners who attend every session of the conference have been approved by the County Judges & Commissioners Association of Texas in Austin."

The conference is scheduled to begin at 8:45 a.m. with coffee and registration. Planned conference topics include county and legislative updates, border safety and defense, leadership and service,

See **TRAINING**, Page 6C



Courtesy photo/Kim Howell

Workers from Hester's Mechanical use a crane to move a new air handling unit for the Scenic Mountain Medical Center kitchen Thursday morning. The work is part of a \$250K upgrade to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning capabilities of the facility, hospital officials said.

Now's the time to prune your trees

It's that time of year again! Yep, you can now prune your oak trees without much fear of spreading oak wilt disease. The cautious may want to wait another month, but strictly speaking, it should not be necessary. Since you already have the saw and you lop-



WALTER WARD

pers out, you might as well do

any other pruning that you've "left for later."

Some prunings can be used to decorate your house for the holidays. Small branches from pines provide greenery and berries from holly or nandina make beautiful accents in the home.

If you have stored bulbs in your refrigerator this is also a good time to plant them out. Just make sure they have had at least 60 hours of chilling. Because unseasonably warm weather may cause early bulb sprouting you may want to leave the ground bare until after a heavy freeze,

then apply 4 to 5 inches of mulch to help hold in the frost. It won't help much in a really warm winter, but can give you some control over when your bulbs sprout.

Plants make wonderful gifts for the holidays. Try a living Christmas tree this year. Afghan and pinyon pines do very well in our area and make great wind breaks or landscape trees.

When selecting poinsettias, look for tight yellow flower buds. The red portion is actually called a bract, not a flower. Poinsettias cannot tolerate cold or rapidly

changing temperatures. Keep the plant where temperatures remain above 60 degrees Fahrenheit; between 65 and 70 degrees is ideal. Should you wish to make cuttings from your Christmas cactus wait for it to finish blooming before breaking off a 4- or 5-joint section. Insert the base end into moist potting soil, place in a bright area and wait 3 to 4 weeks for it to root.

To continue our discussion of compost from last month, while there are many different ways

See **COMPOST**, Page 6C

Births

TO THE EDITOR:

I'm not sure if it's because the holidays are approaching or the change in the weather, but people here in town are driving crazy these days.

Street signs and signal lights are being ignored, and even signals from their own vehicles are not being used. Could it be possible their signals are broken? Or maybe these drivers were not properly taught how to use them.

Whatever the reason is, don't they know this could cause an accident? On Sat-

urday, Nov. 15 at 5:15 p.m. — according to the police report — I was involved in a hit and run. My friend and I were traveling west on Highway 80 when the other driver failed to stop at the stop sign.

Since my car was smoking, I was unable to get important information I needed from the other driver. A guy from the apartments I was close to ran to us to make sure we got out safely. There were several people that stopped along the way, including a police officer's wife and

my sister, who was on her way to Midland.

Thank you all for your support and concern. If there were any witnesses to the accident, please do the right thing. Thank you.

**ROSALINDA MORENO
BIG SPRING**

TO THE EDITOR:

Is It time for another Boston Tea Party?

Where has the United States of America gone? Once we were a brave, proud country admired by others for our principles and values, but these are fast disappearing. They are being replaced with greed and lust for power.

We used to be the United States, now we're the red states and the blue states. I have always wondered why we can travel through every state in this country with no restrictions, but if you want to move to another state you have to change your driver's license and vehicle tags to that state soon after the move. As a professional person I also have to change my license to the new state and surrender my license from the previous state where I lived...even if I'd just renewed it. Aren't we all the United States?

Now many of our politicians want us to be part of the North American Alliance, Mexico, Canada and the United States, Mexico, Canada, one large country.

Our presidents, past, present and future, have favored this as has our governor of this once great state. There is currently the European Alliance, which, by the way, is experiencing many problems. Next there could be an Asian Alliance. Eventually they will all merge to-

gether.

What is the purpose of this One World Order? Do we want others, greedy for power, telling us how we can live or what we can do in our own country? I'm already beginning to hear of International Courts that could impose "climate taxes" on us.

We are currently facing one of the biggest crises of our time with the mess our country is in because of greed and power. Many people who wanted the "American dream" of owning a home bought homes bigger and more expensive than they could afford. This was allowed by greedy banks and mortgage loan companies who lowered their standards because they wanted to make more money. It was also encouraged by our federal government, for what purpose I don't know.

When the first stone crumbled, it all fell apart. Then our illustrious politicians decided to "fix" the problem by throwing \$700 billion to the banks to bolster the economy. Now we are hearing that, in many instances, the money is not even being used for this purpose. Some institutes are using it for "training seminars" at great expense and some is being used for bonuses for the bigwigs.

We can now add on the auto industry with their hands out, soon to be followed by, I'm sure, the house builders, the healthcare industry, the television and movie industry, etc. Can the states be far behind?

Do you think the government might send me \$6,000 to remodel a bathroom? Oh, but wait, I've wisely managed the money I've earned, so that will eliminate me.

The politicians want the automobile companies to account for how every cent will be spent but the politicians can't account for trillions of our dollars that they spent. People are being manipulated into a greater dependency on Washington to "cure" all their problems with a centralized government. Can you say "big brother?"

Many of our representatives in Washington are trying to push the Fairness

Doctrine, even though FCC Chairman James Quello had stated that, "The fairness doctrine doesn't belong in a country that's dedicated to freedom of the press and freedom of speech." One side of our government doesn't want what the other side perceives as truth to be aired, allowing people to hear both sides before they make up their minds on issues. Oh, but wait, we've already experienced that here in Big Spring.

Add to this the talk of taking away individuals' right to bear arms, with talk of posting 20,000 more troops inside America for "domestic security" purposes. We're already being set up for this with the recent "threat" of a nuclear or biological event within the United States in the next few years. State governors will be the next to go, further establishing a federal government only. Wake up people. Don't allow your freedoms to disappear. Read the Constitution and be aware of what this country is supposed to stand for. We need to let our representatives know that they work for us and that the will of the people should prevail before it's too late.

**RITA M. BROWN
BIG SPRING**

TO THE EDITOR:

The most astonishing and irreconcilable football game this or any other year is being played in Kansas City tomorrow (Saturday) night between Missouri University and the University of Oklahoma to determine the champion of the Big 12 Conference.

Notwithstanding that both Missouri and OU have been defeated by the University of Texas Longhorns during the regular season, the BCS computers have determined and decided that both Missouri and OU shall play for the Big 12 Championship. After determining the Big 12 championship game participants, the BCS computers were put to work on other major contests and today the BCS declared Germany to be the winner of World War II.

"Germany put together an incredible number of

victories beginning with the annexation of Austria and the Sudetenland and continuing on into conference play with defeats of Poland, France, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium and the Netherlands. Their only losses came against the U.S. and Russia; however, considering their entire body of work — including an incredibly tough Strength of Schedule — BCS computers deemed them worthy of the No. 1 ranking."

Questioned about the No. 4 ranking of the United States, the BCS commissioner stated, "The U.S. only had two major victories — Japan and Germany. The computer models, unlike humans, aren't influenced by head-to-head contests — they consider each contest to be only a single, equally weighted event."

German Chancellor Adolph Hitler said, "Yes, we lost to the U.S.; but we defeated No. 2 France in only six weeks." Herr Hitler has been criticized for seeking dramatic victories to earn "style points" to enhance Germany's rankings. Hitler protested: "Our contest with Poland was in doubt until the final day and the conditions in Norway were incredibly challenging and demanded the application of additional forces."

The French ranking has also come under scrutiny. The BCS commented, "France had a single loss against Germany and following a preseason No. 1 ranking they only fell to No. 2."

Japan was ranked No. 3 with victories including Manchuria, Borneo and the Philippines and the U.S. was ranked No. 4.

Surely Mack (Brown) and DeLoss (Dodds) can get us out of the BCS in the future. If the horns don't choose to go independent for all future collegiate football games then the SEC will welcome us with open arms and save us from the BCS.

**R.E. PEPPY BLOUNT
LONGVIEW**

Editor's Note: Peppy Blount is an attorney in Longview and a former Howard County resident.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Alon USA, L.P. has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment to Air Quality Permit No. 53425, which would authorize modification to an Ultra Low Sulfur Gasoline Unit at a Petroleum Refinery located at the intersection of Refinery Road and Interstate Highway 20 East, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

18867

A TODAS LAS PERSONAS Y PARTES INTERESADAS:

Alon USA, L.P. se ha registrado con la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ o Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) para enmendar un Permiso de Calidad de Aire Núm. 53425 el cual autorizará la modificación de un(a) Ultra Low Sulfur Gasoline Unit en Big Spring Refinery, en Interstate Highway 20 and Refinery Road, Big Spring, Condado de Howard County, Tejas. Información adicional sobre esta solicitud puede encontrarse en la sección de avisos públicos de esta publicación.

18866

FREE LAP-BAND SEMINARS

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SEMINAR DATES AND TIMES

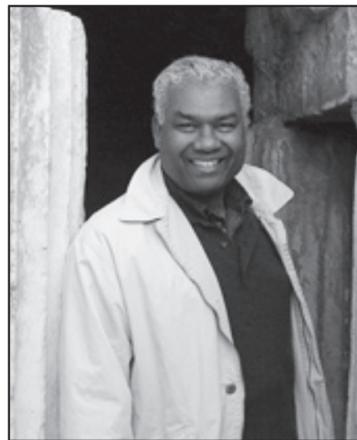
► Big Spring

Fri., 12/12 @ 7:00 PM
Holiday Inn Express
1109 North Aylesford St.
Big Spring, TX 79720

► Midland/Odessa

Sat., 12/13 @ 10:00 AM
Midland Center
105 North Main
Midland, TX 79701

Register Online at: www.FortWorthLapBand.com



Sam Soleyn

will be speaking at
the Dora Roberts Community Center
Lakeside Room

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 5

7 P.M.

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 6

7 P.M.

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 7

10 A.M.

15010



4-H Spotlight

The Howard County 4-H Club combined float decorating with the annual Christmas party Tuesday, Dec. 2 at the Howard County Fair Barns.

Jeanie Coor designed the float for the Big Spring Herald 23rd Annual Community Christmas Parade. Joe Paul Beall welded the Star of Bethlehem and Spencer Enterprises Inc. loaned the trailer.

Now we are ready for the parade!

We had a snack pot luck and played games.

Molly Walker, 4-H Reporter

COMPOST

Continued from Page 5C

to make compost, only two new ways have struck me as being of use for backyard composters.

The first method of interest is the Forced Air Pile. A bin with solid sides is built and 4-inch perforated drain pipe is laid in the bottom, connected to an electric blower. A regular mixture is placed in the bin and twice a day for 15 minutes the blower is turned on. Medium and large scale piles are said to finish in half the time of regular piles and there is no turning. I hope to put this method to the test in the future.

The other method is much simpler to start and has more use if it works here as it's said to work in other places. The trick is to make up a batch of regular mix and place it into a medium-sized cardboard box, close the lid and leave it for a year. The cardboard is supposed to retain heat and moisture and allow

the compost to work. It also keeps the mixture contained which keeps the wind from moving it around your yard and can keep animals from digging in it. If it works as advertised, it will be very useful to apartment dwellers and those with no room for a regular compost bin.

Supposedly, the key to making it work is to get the correct amount of moisture into the mix.

Also, I suspect that it would need to be composed of smaller bits than a normal mixture but that is something to test in practice. Ultimately, the only important thing is to make and use compost. It's not a magic cure for all your problems, but it's a good start.

Since this is our last article for 2008, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you happy holidays and the very best of everything for the coming year.

For more information, call Walter Ward at (432) 935-6455 or visit the Howard County Master Gardeners Website at www.howardcountymastergardener.org

TRAINING

Continued from Page 5C

and health and fitness for county employees.

The conference is also planned to include time for networking, Rue said.

For more information on how to register, commissioners should contact Sue Gordon at the Texas AgriLife Extension District 6 Center in Fort Stockton at (432) 336-8585, ext. 319.

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Irene Lopez Alaniz, 774 E. Highway 80 Apt. 230, Abilene
Bryan Layton Allison, 1108 College Circle, Ranger
Christine Avalos Bara, 1405 N. Sixth Street, Lamesa
Sonia M. Barlow, 4209 Parkway, Big Spring
Toby Barnett, 1713 Dwayne Barnett, Lubbock
Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Hereford
Tamara Deanne Allen Berner, 3407 Old Colorado City Highway, Big Spring
Vern Black, 329 W Tennessee, Floydada
Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Avenue L, Lamesa
Dave Bracken, 2720 42nd Street, Lubbock
Sheli Lynn Buck, 1101 E. 15th Street, Big Spring
Richard Henry Burk, PO Box 171933, Arlington
Latonya Campbell, 5948 Callaston, Fort Worth
David Canales Jr., 1002 N. Main Street, Big Spring
Michelle Marie Carrasco, 1704 Yale Avenue, Big Spring
Leonard Carson Jr. 102 S. Peach, Pecos
Scott S. Carter, 3223 Cornell, Big Spring
Krishna Nicole Castillo, 905 Walnut, Colorado City
Jared Wendell Coby, 901 S. High Street, Longview
Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring
Patrick C. Criss, 8030 Catalpa, Texas City
Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring
Susan Cuellar, 2301 N. Pecos #238, Midland
Wanda Cunningham, 1505 Avion, Big Spring
Corey D. Dancer, 2605 Alamesa Drive, Big Spring
Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave, San Antonio
Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring
Wesley Allen Edmondson, 505 E. 14th

Street, Big Spring
Randy James Ellis, PO Box 391, Syder
Hilda L. Fuentes, 502 S. Seventh Street, Lamesa
Aldo Gustavo Galindo, 922 Jeter, Odessa
James Randal Gardner, PO Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.
Claudet Garza, E. Elm, Apt. 10, Laredo
Raul Gonzales, 2106 Johnson, Big Spring
Naomi Gonzales, 1606 E. Fifth, Big Spring
Jeffrey M. Grams, 224 Leion Lane, Springtown
Gabriel Guerrero, 411 N.E. 10th Street, Big Spring
Nora Gutierrez, 606 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa
Dana L. Holguin Havink, 600 Star Linda CT. Unit B, Arlington
Kristin Hawkins, 405 N. Moss Lake Road, Big Spring
Rickie L. Henderson, 205 Providence Road, Big Spring
Gerald R. Hodges, 4312 Crane 1104, Houston
Allan J. Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 1502, Big Spring
Lucas Shane Hughes, 3906 Connally, Big Spring
Jeanie Renee Ivey, 5326 Old State Hwy. 7, La Grange
Sharon Annette James, 1215 Cedar, Colorado City
Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio
Julie L. Johnson, 2504 Ent, Big Spring
Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland
Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan
Lynda Kynam, 2503 Central, Big Spring
Eloy Escobar Leal, 1806 E. 11th Street, Big Spring
Alana Marie Lee, 2711 66th Street, Lubbock
Patricia Lutrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa
Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland
Shawn G. McKay, 3107 Bonham Ave, Odessa
Carrol Lee McNeil, 2601 Westridge,

Snyder
Betty Jane McWilliams, 2503 Fairchild, Big Spring
Ebaline Flores Mendoza, P. O. Box 291, Mertzon
Mari Montemayor, 627 State Street, Big Spring
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas
Angela Moreno, 1712 N. Third Street, Lamesa
Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland
William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring
Katherine Hardin Perez, 4908 Parkway Rd, Big Spring
Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford, Big Spring
Richard Wayne Rains, 4501 Parkway, Big Spring
Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road Apt. 226, Big Spring
Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255, S. 11th St., Lubbock
Gustavo Alfredo Rios, 1804 Scurry, Big Spring
Anna Alicia Robles, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 304, Big Spring
Jose Antonio Rodriguez, 1309 Wright, Big Spring
Veronica Rodriguez, 3010 Cherokee, Big Spring
Sofia Romero, 409 N. Ave Q, Lamesa
Robert Christopher Rosamond, 801 Lancaster / 1501 E. Sixth Street, Big Spring
Jennifer Ann Rositas, 1420 E. Sixth Street #10, Big Spring
Blanca L. Saenz, 1202 N. Sam Houston Ave., Odessa
Rudy Salazar, PO Box 1275, Stanton
Monica Serbine, 304 E. 20th Street, Big Spring
Stephanie Serrato, 1203 E. Mobile, Big Spring
Harl Bradford Shaffer, 5603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring
Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road, Big Spring
Janie Spurgeion, 1212 Wadley, Midland
Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City
Robert Lee Summers, 2404 S.

Monticello, Big Spring
James Sutton, 2225 Oakland, Abilene
Tonya D. Conner Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobbs, N.M.
Jimmy Vasquez, 4000 W. Illinois #16, Midland
Brenda Vera, 1901 Ave M, Snyder
Alicia M. Vernon, 9614 Dover Ridge, San Antonio
Tyler J. Voss, Fannin Co. Rd 4925, Leonard
Chrissy Sue Ward, 1003-2 CR 175, Colorado City
Christina Williams, 400 Macarthur, Odessa
Jerry Lee Wrightsil, 2816 Ridge Road, Ft. Worth

County Court Decisions:

Probated Judgment: Vincent Parramore, failure to identify - giving false information, \$500 fine, \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Michael Garza, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$328 court costs, 60 days in jail.
Probated Judgment: Phillip Rene Alcantar, failure to identify - giving false information, \$500 fine, \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Shawntina Marie Thorpe, theft by check - more than \$20 less than \$500, \$500 fine, \$374 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Aubrey Steven McDonald, driving while intoxicated, \$389 court costs, 90 days in jail.

District Court Filings:

Erlinda Uribe vs. George Uribe, divorce.
David Allen Parrish vs. Patricia Gail Diaz, divorce.

Marriage Licenses:

Ryan Wayne Norman, 17, and Ashley Valencia, 18, both of Big Spring.
Mark Wood Kennemer, 50, and Patricia Ann Zant, 53, both of Big Spring.

Warranty Deeds:

Grantor: First National Acceptance Company
Grantee: Mickey Emerson and Mary Lee Emerson
Property: Lots 1-5, Block 50, City of Forsan
Date: Nov. 20, 2008
Grantor: Cindy Hinojosa
Grantee: Rojelio Ramirez and Stefani Ramirez
Property: Lots 15-17, Block 4, Original Town of Coahoma
Date: Nov. 20, 2008
Grantor: Thomas Dave Hamilton
Grantee: C&H Enterprises Inc.
Property: Lots 1 and 2, Block 25, Saunders Addition; and Lots 1 and 2, Block 26, Saunders Addition
Date: Nov. 20, 2008
Grantor: Jason Hester and Lesli Hester
Grantee: George Striegler and Wendy

Striegler
Property: Lot 1, Block A, Bates Subdivision
Date: Nov. 20, 2008
Grantor: Rose M. Pierson
Grantee: Paul Belyeu
Property: Lot 10, Block 1, Mesa Addition
Date: Nov. 21, 2008
Grantor: Pete Rosenbaum
Grantee: Eddie Mann and Judy Mann
Property: A tract out of Section 44, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Nov. 21, 2008
Grantor: Lon Edward Baucum
Grantee: Property Pros of Texas LLC
Property: Lots 13-16, Block 18, Washington Place
Date: Nov. 21, 2008
Grantor: Property Pros of Texas LLC
Grantee: MCBW Properties LTD
Property: Lots 13-16, Block 18, Washington Place
Date: Nov. 21, 2008
Grantor: Mary B. Ford and Robert Ford
Grantee: Ester Ramirez
Property: Lot 17, Block 8, Suburban Heights
Date: Nov. 21, 2008
Grantor: Lazy J LTD
Grantee: Pecos Petroleum LLC
Property: A 3.8 acre tract out of Section 2, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Nov. 24, 2008
Grantor: Doris Hollandsworth
Grantee: Stella Wilson and William Bedwell
Property: The S/50 feet of Lot 2, Block 87, Original Town Addition of Big Spring
Date: Nov. 24, 2008
Grantor: Hayes Stripling Jr.
Grantee: Ricky Watkins
Property: The S/65 feet of Lot 20 and the N/10 feet and W/60 feet of Lot 21, Block 12, North Parkhill
Date: Nov. 24, 2008
Grantor: Michael Bailey and Denise Bailey
Grantee: Debby Sue Greer
Property: A tract out of Section 14, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Nov. 26, 2008
Grantor: Reba B. Mansfield
Grantee: Eddie Dwayne White
Property: A tract out of Section 8, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Nov. 26, 2008
Grantor: Jackie Sue Henry
Grantee: Fred B. Holguin and Jesusita V. Holguin
Property: Lots 5-9, Block 61, Town of Forsan; Lots 1-4, Block 61, Town of Forsan; and Lot 15, Block 52, Town of Forsan
Date: Nov. 26, 2008
Grantor: P.K. Nath LLC
Grantee: Big Spring Hospitality Group LLC

Property: A 1.8 acre tract out of Section 26, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 2, 2008
Grantor: Donald E. Andrews and Eugenia Andrews
Grantee: Eugenia Andrews
Property: A 25-acre tract out of Section 44, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 2, 2008
Grantor: Randy Weaver
Grantee: Marcellous Weaver
Property: A 3.6 acre tract out of Section 20, Block 33, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 3, 2008
Grantor: Marcellous Weaver
Grantee: Sonia Lusk
Property: 106 E. Third Street, Big Spring
Date: Dec. 3, 2008
Grantor: Big Spring Country Club Inc.
Grantee: J. Rutledge Realty LLC
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Date: Dec. 3, 2008
Grantor: Big Spring Country Club Inc.
Grantee: J. Rutledge Realty LLC
Property: A 10.1 acre tract out of Section 16, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 3, 2008

Property: A 1.8 acre tract out of Section 26, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 2, 2008
Grantor: Donald E. Andrews and Eugenia Andrews
Grantee: Eugenia Andrews
Property: A 25-acre tract out of Section 44, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 2, 2008
Grantor: Randy Weaver
Grantee: Marcellous Weaver
Property: A 3.6 acre tract out of Section 20, Block 33, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 3, 2008
Grantor: Marcellous Weaver
Grantee: Sonia Lusk
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Report: South a big exporter of guns used in crime

By **SEANNA ADCOX**

Associated Press Writer

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Ten states are responsible for the bulk of illegal guns that are shipped across state lines for use in crimes, according to a report released Friday by a national coalition of mayors.

About 30 percent of guns traced by federal agents in 2006 and 2007 during crime investigations were bought in a state other than where the crime occurred, said the report by Mayors Against Illegal Guns, which largely blamed the transport of illegal guns on states with lax gun laws.

For 2007, the top sources for guns used in crimes elsewhere were Georgia, Florida, Texas, Virginia, California, Ohio, North Carolina, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Alabama.

However, the report's authors placed greater emphasis on per-capita exports of guns, saying that data is a better indicator of lax gun laws. The gun-friendly South accounted for a disproportionate amount of the problem when population size was factored in, according to the report.

West Virginia is the top exporter, per capita, of illegal guns, with 41 traced guns per 100,000 state residents, followed by Mississippi, at 39 guns per 100,000, and South Carolina, at 31. The average national rate is 11 exported guns. Kentucky, Alabama, Virginia, Georgia, Indiana, Nevada, and North Carolina round out the top 10 exporting states, per capita, reads the report, titled "The Movement of Illegal Guns In America: The Link between Gun Laws and Interstate Trafficking."

"States with larger populations and states with greater gun sales volumes may be expected to be a source of more crime guns," the report read.

But the report said per capita rates can "more accurately determine which states are disproportionate suppliers of interstate crime guns."

A spokesman for New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, a co-founder of the mayors' group, said the report is meant to raise awareness.

"Clearly, a small number of states are contributing to a very dangerous national problem," said Mark LaVorgna. "The lack of effort in some states is causing gun crimes in other states that have strong laws."

Guns bought in Hawaii, the District of Columbia — which had banned handguns for 30 years — New Jersey and Massachusetts are least likely to be recovered in a crime elsewhere, the report said.

A spokesman for the National Rifle Association declined to comment on the report, saying the group had not had time to review it.

South Carolina Rep. Mike Pitts, an ardent gun rights supporter, said the state's high ranking doesn't surprise him. He recalled a burglary at his home, saying the thief stole about a dozen of his guns.

"It's not our lax gun laws. It's our high crime rate that causes the problems," said the Laurens Republican, a retired police officer and a National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses committee member. "What's happening is people break into my home, steal my guns and get a premium price by taking it to other states and sell-

ing them."

LaVorgna countered Pitts' argument, saying the data is clear, and that break-ins occur in all states.

The report analyzed five gun laws, noting that weapons purchased at gun shows — where background checks on buyers aren't required — could be bought for criminal purposes. Only nine states and Washington, D.C., require some form of check for handgun sales at gun shows.

For 2007, the top sources for guns used in crimes elsewhere were Georgia, Florida, Texas, Virginia, California, Ohio, North Carolina, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Alabama.

"This so-called 'gun show loophole' allows individuals who are prohibited from possessing or purchasing firearms, such as convicted felons and persons with mental illness, to sidestep the background check and obtain guns from unlicensed sellers

at gun shows," the report reads.

A spokesman for South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford, who signed a bill removing the one-a-month limit on how many handguns a person can buy, said state laws are not the problem.

"We think we have adequate controls in place," said Joel Sawyer. "Unfortunately, criminals are always going to find a way to circumvent the process."

The mayors' group, co-founded by Bloomberg and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, is made up of more than 340 mayors from across the country, concentrated in the Northeast, Florida and California.

Their report is based on data from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,

Firearms and Explosives, which traces guns recovered at crime scenes.

It noted that traced guns don't represent all guns used in crimes because some guns are never recovered and because some police agencies don't trace every gun found at a crime scene. It also specifies the ATF often can't determine where a gun came from due to inaccurate record-keeping by gun makers and retailers. In 2007, 40 percent of trace attempts were unsuccessful.

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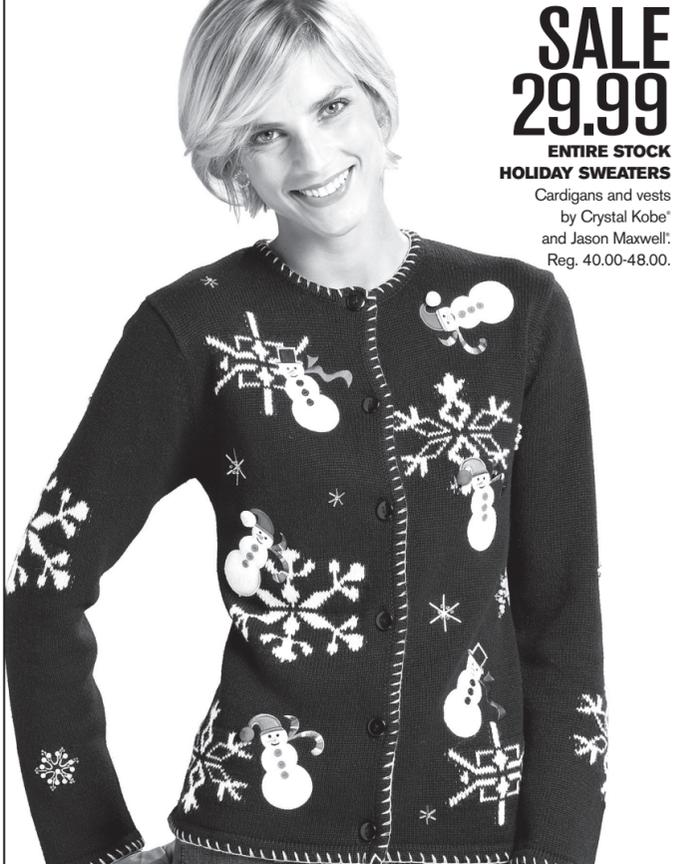
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FARM HAND Wanted! Experience only apply. Call after 7:00 p.m. (432)684-5418.

Help Wanted

BLUE BELL Creameries is seeking a dependable, responsible Full Time Office Clerk for a busy office. 40 Hour work week that will require Saturday work. Preferred candidates will possess Ten-key by touch, Excel, Word and other basic office skills. Professional telephone skills necessary. Great benefits + Competitive hourly wage, depending on experience. Apply in person at 401 E. Interstate-20.

BUFFALO COUNTRY FINA taking applications for Sales Clerk all shifts. Experience preferred but will train. Apply at 4911 South Hwy 87. No Phone Calls.

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Apply in person at Ameri-Tech Building Systems 5212 S. Service Rd/ E I-20 Big Spring, Texas 79720

Help Wanted

Director of Maintenance: Sands CISD has a position open for a Director of Maintenance. Plumbing and electrical experience is required. Resumes can be faxed to (432)353-4650 or mailed to P.O. Box 218, Ackerly, TX 79713. For more information call (432)353-4888.

Help Wanted

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehabilitation is now seeking a full time Charge Nurse. We offer competitive pay, Retirement, Vacation, and a fun, friendly atmosphere. Apply in person or online at www.parkviewnursing.net 3200 Parkway, Big Spring, Tx. (432)263-4041.

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All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

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**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.accesshr.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.

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

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|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | | |
| 1 Baroque byline | 1 Keep in a can | 11 Gray area: Abbr. | 34 Sopranos and concerts, e.g. |
| 7 Morals | 2 Calculator function | 12 <i>Ratón</i> chaser | 35 Short-range missile |
| 15 Actor nominated for an '89 Oscar | 3 Shot | 13 The ultimate starter home | 37 Repents of |
| 16 Type of turnover | 4 It's "For the Real Meat Lover in the Family!" | 14 Epistolary courtesy: Abbr. | 41 <i>Blithe Spirit</i> scene |
| 17 Hot | 5 Split | 22 Broadway's first Lola | 43 Called out |
| 18 Art protectors | 6 Run | 23 Clear | 44 Donkeys, to mules |
| 19 Released | 7 Not fancy | 24 Ice | 45 Indonesia recently quit it |
| 20 It's almost 150 pounds in England | 8 Roast needs | 25 Dig into | 46 ___ miss |
| 21 Ready to party, perhaps | 9 Use up | 26 Ancient mariners | 47 Literally, "unbleached" |
| 23 Getty Oil once controlled it | 10 MENSAs accepts them instead of IQs | 28 Places for taps | 48 City's finest |
| 27 Boasts | | 29 Irritating | 49 Battle number |
| 28 Seacrest succeeded him in '04 | | 30 Kid stuff | 51 Edible blocks |
| 33 Put another way | | 31 European Capital of Culture for 2010 | 52 Airport amenity |
| 35 Take out of a case | | 32 Awkward | 53 <i>Law & Order: SVU</i> actor |
| 36 Unfinished | | | 54 Khakis |
| 38 Minks, to weasels | | | |
| 39 Facades | | | |
| 40 They're sort of pointless | | | |
| 41 Keep in | | | |
| 42 Turn down | | | |
| 43 Cuts out | | | |
| 45 100 points | | | |
| 50 Bozo | | | |
| 55 Romano family member | | | |
| 56 Milestone of classical music | | | |
| 57 Audio accessory | | | |
| 58 Spielberg partner | | | |

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Exotic invaders a threat to native Texas species

By **DAVE MONTGOMERY**
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

AUSTIN — There was a time when horned frogs weren't confined to TCU.

The real-life version of TCU's ugly-but-lovable mascot, actually a kind of lizard, ranged across Texas by the thousands until imported red fire ants marauded through the state, displacing the ants that served as the animal's food source.

Today, TCU researchers blame the fire ant invasion, along with pesticides, for devastating the horned toad population.

The fate of the iconic lizard is part of a much larger story about invasive species a rogues' gallery of weeds, grasses, insects, fish and land animals that are reshaping and in many cases destroying the natural order in Texas and much of America.

At Caddo Lake, a fisherman's paradise that straddles far East Texas and western Louisiana, an aquatic fern native to South America, the giant salvinia, forms huge masses on the water that block sunlight, foul boat propellers and threaten habitat.

The hydrilla, a South American plant brought to the U.S. to decorate aquariums, has caused similar problems at Joe Pool Lake and other area waterways.

Feral hogs, wild descendants of domestic farm animals, are roaming though East Texas, destroying farmland and wresting food from other animals.

Out in the desert reaches of West Texas, a menacing evergreen known as the saltcedar, so called because it oozes salt from its leaves, is altering soil salinity and drying up small streams and rivers.

And in Arlington this year, botanists discovered a parasitic weed called branched broomrape, which attaches itself to other plants and sucks them dry of water and nutrients. Native to Europe, it's believed to have migrated to North America by ship.

Dealing with the collective threat from invasive, or "exotic," species in Texas has become a leading priority among state wildlife officials and ecological groups because of the potential damage to agriculture, water sources, recreation, the environment and the landscape. Nationwide, the economic toll of invasive species has been estimated at about \$137 billion a year.

"It's a huge economic problem," said Damon Waitt, a biologist at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin who is also president of the Texas Invasive Plant and Pest Council.

The council was formed in June to "pull together" federal agencies, conservation organizations, academia and other groups into a unified fight against invasive species. "We felt like we hadn't organized sufficiently to address this issue," Waitt said. "Texas was behind the curve."

The staff of the Sunset Advisory Commission, a legislative panel that monitors state agencies, cited invasive aquatic plants as a major challenge facing the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. "Many non-native plants can reproduce so rapidly as to out-compete native species, reduce oxygen levels in water, and render waterways impassible to boat

traffic," the commission staff said in a November report.

Some spread with alarming speed.

The Chinese tallow, a tree that notoriously drives out other species, has increased from 5 to 30,000 acres in Galveston County and is endangering parts of Texas' Big Thicket. In 2006, about 30 acres of giant salvinia was spotted on Caddo Lake; today, the Brazilian plant is spread across up to 8,000 acres, says Jack Canson with the Caddo Lake Institute.

"It's a lake-killer if you don't get it under control," he said.

In many cases, the invasion is decades old, often involving plants or animals that may have been brought into the United States for commercial use years ago and then ran wild, overwhelming indigenous habitats.

The bilge water in cargo ships is a frequent source of aquatic plants. Hydrilla and giant salvinia often make their way from lake to lake in Texas, stuck on boat propellers or trailers.

Nutria, beaverlike rodents, were brought into the United States for the fur trade; but they have become one of the "worst of the worst" on the Union of Concerned Scientists' list of unwanted species because of destructive burrowing that disrupts farming and contributes to flooding.

In Texas, nutria have posed a danger to mosquito fish in Big Bend National Park.

Dean Williams, an assistant biology professor at TCU, has taken a close look at one of the most threatening invaders, the fire ant, through his research on horned toads.

Over the past several months, Williams and Amanda Hale, another biology faculty member, have been studying the ge-



TPWD photo

The fire ant invasion is one of the major reasons for the decline of the horned toad. It is one of several critters biologists and environmentalists are trying to help in Texas.

netics of horned toads to investigate their decline and possible replenishment.

The research is funded by the Parks and Wildlife Department with money raised from the sale of specialty license plates emblazoned with an image of the horned toad.

Williams said their studies indicate that the fire ant invasion is one of "the big reasons" for the decline because it decimated the harvester ant, the lizards' chief diet, and effectively forced horned toads into exile.

The lizards now live in diminished numbers deep in the West Texas desert.

One of the biggest problems in North Texas in recent years is hydrilla.

Tom Hungerford, a Parks and Wildlife Department biologist in Fort Worth, said that while the problem doesn't seem as severe this year, hydrilla has been a persistent nuisance in Joe Pool Lake and other area waterways, forming

huge mats of vegetation that often stretch 13 to 14 feet, from the lake bottom to the surface.

"It's like a carpet almost," he said.

State agencies and environmental groups are fighting back and in many cases, making progress with an array of weapons, such as herbicides or exotic insects brought in to attack a particular plant. A public education campaign to marshal help from the public may also be making a difference, said Tom Harvey, an Austin spokesman for the Parks and Wildlife Department.

"You could say the exotics have been winning the war so far, but I see a backlash where people are going to get education and take action and do something about it," he said.

Many non-native plants can reproduce so rapidly as to out-compete native species, reduce oxygen levels in water, and render waterways impassible to boat traffic."

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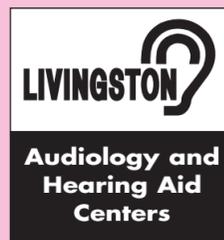
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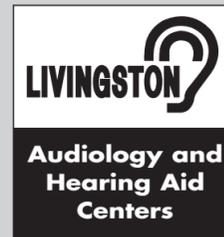
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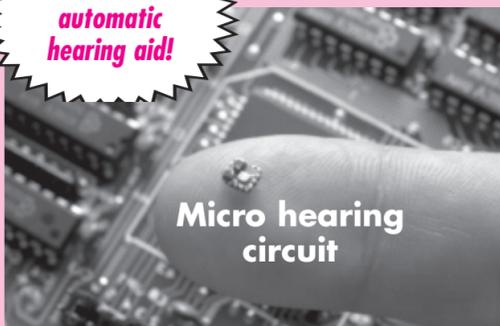
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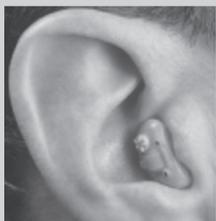
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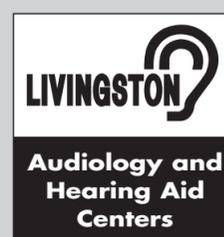


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TOY POODLE puppies for sale. One black male, one brown female. 8 weeks old. Have puppy shots. \$300. Full Blood. Both parents on site. (432)517-0073.

Real Estate for Rent

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD
• Swimming Pool
• Private Patios
• Carports
• Appliances
• Most Utilities Paid
• Senior Citizens Discount
• 1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished
PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS
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LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX
Swimming Pool
Carports,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen Discounts
1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5555

3 BDRM, 2 bath Brick home for Lease in quiet neighborhood. 2 Living areas, fireplace, large sunroom and outdoor storage. References required. \$900 per month. Contact Lucy @ 432-263-5000 for more information.

igottauction.com igottauction.com
Spring City Auction
Dec. 7th • 1:00 p.m.
Joy Fortenberry
Living Estate Auction
28 Fire Arms Including AR15, 7 Pistols, Lots Of Sporting Rifles, Household Full Of Furniture, Refrigerator, New Gas Stove, Freezer
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Scott Emerson TAL: 15051
432-263-1831
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Police Officer \$15.47-\$16.25/hr
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Water Treatment Plant Tech
Communications Officer
IT Specialist
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Aaron's
Career Fair
Tuesday, December 9th
10 am - 4 pm
"Aaron's is the nation's FASTEST GROWING RETAILER of furniture, electronics, computers & appliances"
Now Hiring:
Manager Trainee & Delivery Driver
Competitive base pay with bonuses
Medical, Dental and Life Insurance
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Opportunity for Advancement
Meet us at Aaron's in Big Spring:
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Big Spring, TX 79720
(432) 267-1200
Req: 21 years of age, valid TX DL clean driving record, pass drug test & background screen
"Give us a YEAR ... we'll give you a CAREER!"

West Texas Centers for MHMR
West Texas Centers for MHMR
Licensed Vocational Nurse: Provides nursing for clients and training for clients, families, and staff. Licensed as an LVN by the State of Texas/ Salary \$12.90 (\$26,832.00 annually) Benefits. Mon.-Fri. 8-5.
Part time Direct Care Staff: Responsible for training clients in work and social related skills. Must be proficient in reading and writing. High School Diploma or GED preferred but not required. Salary \$8.20/hr. hours vary.
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 \$8.20-8.75/hr (\$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 Rannels or www.wtcmhmr.org or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769.EOE

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.

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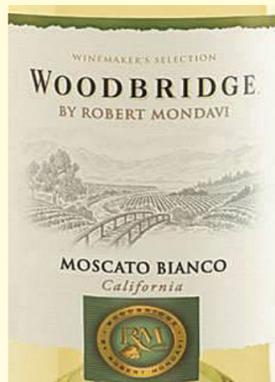
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750 ml



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Louis Martini Sonoma Cabernet
750 ml



\$16⁹⁹ ea.
La Crema Chardonnay
750 ml



\$19⁷⁹ ea.
Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio
750 ml



\$29⁹⁹ ea.
Mt. Veeder Cabernet Sauvignon
750 ml

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\$299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP.
ALL BILLS PAID
538 Westover Housing Assistance Accepted 263-1252

Real Estate for Rent

108 EAST 24th 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, Ref. air & central heat, washer & dryer connection, stove & refrigerator furnished. This is a Completely Remodeled House and is Very Nice. References will be required. Serious inquires only. \$700.00 Month, \$500.00 deposit. Call 432-270-0703, 263-0703.

2200 SQ. ft. building for lease in a high traffic area @ 1307 Gregg St. Front & rear parking available. Please contact Lucy @ 432-263-5000 for mor information.

3 BDRM, 2 bath, 2 living, carpet & ceramic tile, double garage and fenced. \$875 Month, \$400. deposit. Call 432-263-7478.

3709 DIXON, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, den, Stove & refrigerator furnished. \$900. month, \$300 deposit. Call (432)267-1543.

602 1/2 GEORGE- Close to College. 1 Bedroom House. Carport, CH/A. \$550.00 month plus deposit. No pets. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

602 N Avenue G, Forsan. Nice 3/2 doublewide. Fireplace, appliances, fenced backyard, central heat. No HUD or inside pets. \$600. month, \$500. deposit. (432)264-1422 (432)466-9846.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL!! \$100. off 1st month rent! SUNSET RIDGE APARTMENT 2911 West Hwy 80 Big Spring 432-263-2292 1 Bdrm \$350 month 2 Bdrm \$395 month !!!!!!! Now Available !!!!!!!

Quiet Neighborhood- 1 Bdrm, 1 bath. AC/Heating unit. Stove & refrigerator furnished. \$425. Month, \$250. deposit. No Pets. References required. Call (432)816-3610 serious inquires only.

THE OFFICE Building, 710 Gregg Street, for lease, excellent space for a medical doctor or lab available, also have individual offices starting @ \$250. per month with bills paid. Call (432)770-5656 or (432)517-0038. Broker/ Owner.

Real Estate for Sale

1 ACRE with water well and septic. \$8,750., 8/10th of acre for \$5,000..... Mobile home Space for rent. \$150.00 month & up. Call (254)643-1145.



5.8 ACRES, 2 miles North of Town. \$12,000.00. Call (432)213-1187.

BY OWNER---- 2600 Carelton 3 Bedroom, 2 bath w/covered carport. New A/C unit. New carpet and paint. All New Appliances. Remodeled kitchen and baths. No Owner Financing. Please call 432-213-2681.

FORECLOSURE! 3 bdrm. Only \$33,120! Must see! For listings 800-544-6258 ext. F906.

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OWNER FINANCED HOUSES. Easy Terms. Low Down Payment. Bad Credit OK. Call Lana at TruStar Realty (432)264-8166.

LARGE 4 Bedroom, 3 bath, 4 car garage, fireplace in living room and basement. Amenity Galore. 3 plus acres, 2 large shops and Rentals. Coahoma School District. Reduced \$275,000. Owner Finance Call (254)643-1145.

GREAT LOCATION! NEW CONSTRUCTION HIGHLAND SOUTH 2253 Sq. Ft. 4 bdrm, 3 bath. Nice view on 2.78 acres. Completion date Dec. 15th. For more information call Vista Ridge New Construction Homes @ (432)816-3877.

OWNER FINANCE. Brick Duplex 3/2 & 3/1. \$746.14 per month. 2528 & 2530 Fairchild Dr. Call (432)816-9591

OWNER FINANCE, Low Down, Low Monthly, Easy Terms. 1505 Cherokee- 3/2, 808 Settles- 3/2. Call Trent 512-426-1850.

Real Estate for Sale

SALE BY Owner: Remodeled 4/2/2 2495 sq. ft. home with 3 living areas. New patio and large storage building. Landscaped, with large oak trees and well maintained yard. Quiet street, great for young family. 432-213-3544.

WE BUY HOUSES and LAND. Any Condition. Tax Liens No Problem. Call (512)940-5200, 432-631-8100.

Services Offered

WILL PUT up Christmas Decorations- lights, yard deco, etc. Call Justen at 432-264-7523.

Vehicles

2005 HONDA Shadow 600 motorcycle. New tires, windshield and bags. Low mileage. \$4,000. Call 432-263-4172.

2007 CHEVROLET Suburban LS, maroon/ tan, 25,000 miles. \$22,000. Call (432)517-0383.

Legals

Public Notice The Forsan Independent School District Board of Trustees will conduct a public hearing at 7:00 PM on December 15, 2008, to discuss the 2007-2008 Academic Excellence Indicator System Report. The hearing will be held in conjunction with the regular board meeting. Any and all interested persons are invited to attend. #5999 December 7, 2008

CITY OF BIG SPRING INVITATION FOR BIDS SECTION 00020 ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of Big Spring is soliciting sealed bid proposals for 2006 Bond Project Street Reconstruction. This project includes three (3) separate proposals as follow:

- (1) Proposal A- Reconstruction of Streets and Miscellaneous Concrete Flatwork; (2) Proposal B- Improvement for ADA Accessibility along Lancaster Street; and (3) Proposal C- Improvements for ADA Accessibility around City Hall.

Contractors may submit bids for one, two, or all three proposals. A pre-bid conference is scheduled for Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at City Hall. Bid opening will be at City Hall, 310 Nolan Street, Big Spring, Texas at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2009. Bid security in the amount of five percent of the bid submitted is required. Bidders are expected to inspect the job site and to inform themselves of all local conditions. Payment and performance bonds will be required in accordance with Article 5160, V.A.T.C.S., as amended by House Bill 344 passed by the 56th Legislature, Regular session 1959. Copies of the plans, specifications and contract documents may be obtained from Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., 4222 85th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79423 upon a refundable deposit of \$50.00 for each set of documents. City of Big Spring, Texas Honorable Russ McEwen, Mayor #6006 December 7 & 14, 2008

PUBLIC SCHOOL LAND LEASE

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners' Court of Kent County will receive sealed bids until 1:00 p.m. on Monday, December 22nd, 2008 for grazing and/or hunting leases on Public School Land owned by Jayton-Girard I.S.D. Located in Dawson and Martin Counties. The Commissioners Court will consider bids on price per acre and improvements on land for a length of term of seven (7) years (no options) beginning on January 1st, 2009 and ending on December 31st, 2015. Details regarding location of the 5000 plus acres of land, and other considerations may be obtained from the office of the Kent County Judge. Variations from bid specs will not be considered. The Kent County Commissioners' Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids and accept the most advantageous to the Jayton-Girard I.S.D. Jim C. White Kent County Judge, P.O. Box 6 Jayton, TX 79528, (806)237-3373. #6009 December 7 & 14, 2008

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of IRENE M. CHICK, Deceased, were issued on November 26, 2008, in Cause No. P-13687, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Jennan Swafford. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: Jennan Swafford 3407 Woodbine Place Pearland, Texas 77584 DATED the 26th day of November, 2008.

GLYNNA MOUTON Attorney for Jennan Swafford State Bar No.: 14606500 200 West Third Street Big Spring, TX 79720 Telephone: (432)263-7676 Facsimile: (432)263-8686 #6000 December 7, 2008

Alpine Cardiovascular Jason Hopper Claudia Martinez Marsha Carter Scott Knight #6005 December 7 & 14, 2008.

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

TO: Janie E. Acosta if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, to-wit: Being the N/50' of the NE/4 of Blk 17, Amended College Heights Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: \$5,165.12, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and cost thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein. You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL as Plaintiffs, against JANIE E. ACOSTA and others, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on April 30, 2007, in a certain suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. JANIE E. ACOSTA for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 5347 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE. Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law. All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Interlocutors, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefor, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all other parties herein and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property. You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 25 day of November, 2008 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit. Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 25 day of November, A.D. 2008. Brandie Martinez, Deputy Clerk of the District Court Howard County, Texas, 118th Judicial District. #6003 December 7 & 14, 2008

THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES, PLUS OTHERS NOT LISTED HAVE BEEN UNCLAIMED AND ARE SCHEDULED FOR AUCTION ON 12/10/08 AT 10:00 AM AT 5715 WEST I-20. 1. 1991 CHEVY C-1500 VIN#1GDCD14KXMZ182821 2. 1985 HONDA ACCORD VIN#JHMDAD5320FC105680 3. 1994 CHEVY LUMINA VIN#2G1WN54T1R9140521 4. 2000 JEEP CHEROKEE VIN#1J4G248SOYC317805 5. 1985 CADILLAC SEVILLE VIN#1G6KS6984FE13886 6. 1991 BUICK PARK AVE. VIN#1G4CW53LXM1619697 7. 1993 FORD TAURUS VIN#1FALP52U4PA250583 8. 1996 HYUNDAI SONATA VIN#KMHC24F2TU597215 9. 1994 FORD F-150 VIN#1FTDF15Y1RLB63806 #6008 December 7, 2008

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, AAA Mini Storage which is located at 3301 E. FM 700 Big Spring, TX 79720 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on December 22, 2008, at AAA Mini Storage, 3301 East FM 700, Big Spring, TX 79720. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space. Alpine Cardiovascular Jason Hopper Claudia Martinez Marsha Carter Scott Knight #6005 December 7 & 14, 2008.

Legals

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT AIR QUALITY PERMIT NO. 53425

APPLICATION Alon USA, LP, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment to Air Quality Permit Number 53425, which would authorize modification to an Ultra Low Sulfur Gasoline Unit at a Petroleum Refinery located at the intersection of Refinery Road and Interstate Highway 20 East, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. The amendment will authorize an increase in emissions of the following air contaminants: organic compounds, including, but not limited to benzene, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, and hydrogen sulfide. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on October 30, 2008. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Midland regional office, and the Howard County Library, 500 South Main Street, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Midland regional office of the TCEQ. The TCEQ executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. The deadline to submit public comments is 30 days after newspaper notice is published. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the application. A public meeting about the application will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing. If only comments are received on the application, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application. If a hearing request is timely filed, the executive director will complete the technical review, issue a preliminary decision on the application, and a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments. After the final deadline for public comments following any required Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or is on a mailing list for this application. OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 30 days from this notice, the executive director may approve the application. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing"; (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility. If the request is made by a group or an association, the one or more members who have standing to request a hearing, and the interests which the group or association seeks to protect, must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns. If a hearing request is timely filed, additional notice may be provided. Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, and executive director will forward the application and any requests for contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a hearing is

Legals

granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns raised during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding. MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific application mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. INFORMATION Written public comments or requests for a public meeting or contested case hearing should be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at www.tceq.state.tx.us/about/comments.html. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. General information regarding the TCEQ can be found at www.tceq.state.tx.us. Further information may also be obtained from Alon USA, LP, P.O. Box 1311, Big Spring, Texas 79721-1311 or by calling Dr. Weinan Chen, Senior Environmental Engineering Advisor at (432)263-9214. Issuance Date: November 14, 2008

COMISION DE CALIDAD AMBIENTAL DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS AVISO DE RECEPCION DE SOLICITUD E INTENCION DE OBTENER PERMISO ATMOSFERICO PERMISO PROPUESTO NUM. 53425 DE CALIDAD ATMOSFERICA SOLICITUD Alon USA, L.P., P.O. Box 1311, Big Spring, Texas 79720, se ha registrado con la Comision de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ o Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) para enmendar un Permiso de Calidad de Aire Num. 53425, el cual autorizara la modificacion de un(a) Ultra Low Sulfur Gasoline Unit en Big Spring Refinery, Interstate Highway 20 and Refinery Road, Big Spring, Condado de Howard, Tejas. La instalacion existente va a emitir los siguientes contaminantes atmosfericos: compuesto organicos (incluso Benzene), NOx (oxidos de nitrogeno), CO (monoxido de carbono), SO2 (oxidos de azufre), materia en particulas, y amoniaco (PM incluso PM10), y H2S (sulfuro de hidrogeno). Esta solicitud se le presento a TCEQ el October 30, 2008. La solicitud esta disponible en la oficina central de TCEQ, para revisarla y sacarle copia, en la oficina regional de TCEQ en Midland, y Howard County Library, 500 South Main, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. El expediente de cumplimiento de la planta, si existe alguno, esta disponible para su revision en la oficina regional de TCEQ en Midland, Tejas. El director ejecutivo del TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud esta administrativamente completa y llevara a cabo una revision tecnico de la solicitud. COMENTARIOS PUBLICOS/ REUNION PUBLICA Usted puede presentar comentarios publicos, una peticion para reunion publica, o solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado a la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe al domicilio a continuacion. TCEQ tomara en cuenta todos los comentarios publicos en el decision final de la solicitud. La fecha limite para presentar comentarios publicos es 30 dias despues de que se publique el aviso en el periodico. El proposito de la reunion publica es proporcionar la oportunidad de hacer comentarios o preguntas acerca de la solicitud. Si el director ejecutivo determina que existe un importante grado de intereses publico con respecto a la solicitud o si lo solicita un legislador local, se llevara a cabo una reunion publica. Una reunion publica no es una audiencia de caso impugnado. Si solamente se reciben comentarios con respecto a la solicitud, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con el aviso de la accion del director ejecutivo sobre la solicitud, sera enviada con respecto a la solicitud sera enviada por correo a cualquier persona que presente comentarios o si se encuentra en la lista de correo para esta solicitud. Si se presenta oportunamente una peticion para audiencia, el director ejecutivo terminara la revision tecnica, expedira una decision preliminar con respecto a la solicitud, y se publicara y enviara por correo un Aviso de la Solicitud y Decision Preliminar a aquellas personas que se encuentren en la lista de correo para esta solicitud. El aviso incluire el plazo final para comentarios publicos. Depues del plazo final para comentarios publicos y despues de cualquier Aviso de Solicitud y Decision Preliminar que se requiera, el director ejecutivo tomara en cuenta los comentarios y preparara una respuesta para todos los comentarios publicos pertinentes y materiales, o significativos. Si se recibe algun comentario, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con la decision del director ejecutivo con respecto a la solicitud se enviara por correo a cualquier persona que haya presentado un comentario publico o que se encuentre en la lista de correo de esta solicitud. OPORTUNIDAD PARA UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO Usted puede solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado.

Una audiencia de caso impugnado es un procedimiento legal similar a un juicio civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado. A menos que se presente una solicitud para una audiencia de caso impugnado dentro de 30 dias se esta notificacion, el director ejecutivo puede autorizar la solicitud. Si no se recibe una solicitud para audiencia dentro del periodo de 30 dias, no se dara otra oportunidad para audiencia. Una audiencia de caso impugnado solo se concedera con base a cuestiones debatibles de hechos que son pertinentes y materiales para las decisiones de la Comision con respecto a la solicitud. Ademias, la Comision sol concedera una audiencia sobre cuestiones que se presenten durante el periodo de comentarios publicos y no se retiran. Una persona que pueda estar afectada por contaminantes de emisiones atmosfericas de una planta tiene derecho a solicitar una audiencia. Si se solicita una audiencia de caso impugnado, debe presentar lo siguiente: (1) su nombre (o para un grupo o asociacion, un representante oficial), direccion, numero de telefono y numero de facsimile si lo tiene; (2) el nombre del solicitante y numero de permiso; (3) la declaracion A[yo / nosotros] solicitado una audiencia de un caso impugnado; (4) una descripcion especifica de como se veria adversamente afectado por la solicitud y emisiones atmosfericas de la planta de manera que no es comun para el publico en general; (5) la ubicacion y distancia de su propiedad con relacion a la planta; y (6) una Descripcion de como emplea la propiedad la cual puede ser impactada por la planta. Si la peticion la hace un grupo o asociaciones, el miembro o miembros que tienen derecho a solicitar una audiencia y los intereses que el grupo o la asociacion busca proteger, tambien se deben identificar. Las peticiones para una audiencia de caso impugnado se debe presentar por escrito dentro de 30 dias despues de este aviso a la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe, a la direccion a continuacion. Si se registra oportunamente una peticion para audiencia, se dara aviso adicional. Despues del cierre de todos los comentarios que aplican y los periodos de peticion, el director ejecutivo enviara la solicitud y cualquier peticion para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los comisionados de TCEQ para su consideracion durante la reunion programada de la Comision. Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estara limitado a casos debatibles de hecho relacionados a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad ATMOSFERICA que se hayan presentado durante el periodo de comentarios. Cuestiones tales como valor de la propiedad, ruido, seguridad de trafico y zonificacion no estan dentro de la jurisdiccion de la Comision para abordarse en este proceso judicial. LISTA DE CORRESPONDENCIA Aparte de presentar comentarios publicos, puede solicitar que lo/ la incluyan en la lista de correos para recibir en el futuro avisos publicos para esta solicitud especifica que envia por correo la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe enviando una peticion por escrito a la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe de TCEQ a la direccion a continuacion. INFORMACION Los comentarios publicos o peticiones para una reunion publica o audiencia de caso impugnado se debe presentar a la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Para mayor informacion acerca de esta solicitud para permiso o el proceso para permisos, favor de llamar a la Oficina de Asistencia al Publico, al 1-800-687-4040. Si requiere informacion general de TCEQ dirigirse al portal electronico www.tceq.state.tx.us. Se puede obtener informacion adicional de Alon USA, L.P., P.O. Box 517030, Dallas, Texas, 75251-7030, o al llamar al Dr. Weinan Chen en el (432)263-9214. Fecha de Expedicion: Noviembre 14, 2008 #5990 December 7, 2008

COMISION DE CALIDAD AMBIENTAL DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS AVISO DE RECEPCION DE SOLICITUD E INTENCION DE OBTENER PERMISO ATMOSFERICO PERMISO PROPUESTO NUM. 53425 DE CALIDAD ATMOSFERICA SOLICITUD Alon USA, L.P., P.O. Box 1311, Big Spring, Texas 79720, se ha registrado con la Comision de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ o Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) para enmendar un Permiso de Calidad de Aire Num. 53425, el cual autorizara la modificacion de un(a) Ultra Low Sulfur Gasoline Unit en Big Spring Refinery, Interstate Highway 20 and Refinery Road, Big Spring, Condado de Howard, Tejas. La instalacion existente va a emitir los siguientes contaminantes atmosfericos: compuesto organicos (incluso Benzene), NOx (oxidos de nitrogeno), CO (monoxido de carbono), SO2 (oxidos de azufre), materia en particulas, y amoniaco (PM incluso PM10), y H2S (sulfuro de hidrogeno). Esta solicitud se le presento a TCEQ el October 30, 2008. La solicitud esta disponible en la oficina central de TCEQ, para revisarla y sacarle copia, en la oficina regional de TCEQ en Midland, y Howard County Library, 500 South Main, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. El expediente de cumplimiento de la planta, si existe alguno, esta disponible para su revision en la oficina regional de TCEQ en Midland, Tejas. El director ejecutivo del TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud esta administrativamente completa y llevara a cabo una revision tecnico de la solicitud. COMENTARIOS PUBLICOS/ REUNION PUBLICA Usted puede presentar comentarios publicos, una peticion para reunion publica, o solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado a la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe al domicilio a continuacion. TCEQ tomara en cuenta todos los comentarios publicos en el decision final de la solicitud. La fecha limite para presentar comentarios publicos es 30 dias despues de que se publique el aviso en el periodico. El proposito de la reunion publica es proporcionar la oportunidad de hacer comentarios o preguntas acerca de la solicitud. Si el director ejecutivo determina que existe un importante grado de intereses publico con respecto a la solicitud o si lo solicita un legislador local, se llevara a cabo una reunion publica. Una reunion publica no es una audiencia de caso impugnado. Si solamente se reciben comentarios con respecto a la solicitud, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con el aviso de la accion del director ejecutivo sobre la solicitud, sera enviada con respecto a la solicitud sera enviada por correo a cualquier persona que presente comentarios o si se encuentra en la lista de correo para esta solicitud. Si se presenta oportunamente una peticion para audiencia, el director ejecutivo terminara la revision tecnica, expedira una decision preliminar con respecto a la solicitud, y se publicara y enviara por correo un Aviso de la Solicitud y Decision Preliminar a aquellas personas que se encuentren en la lista de correo para esta solicitud. El aviso incluire el plazo final para comentarios publicos. Depues del plazo final para comentarios publicos y despues de cualquier Aviso de Solicitud y Decision Preliminar que se requiera, el director ejecutivo tomara en cuenta los comentarios y preparara una respuesta para todos los comentarios publicos pertinentes y materiales, o significativos. Si se recibe algun comentario, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con la decision del director ejecutivo con respecto a la solicitud se enviara por correo a cualquier persona que haya presentado un comentario publico o que se encuentre en la lista de correo de esta solicitud. OPORTUNIDAD PARA UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO Usted puede solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado.

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Annie's Mailbox: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: Albert Schweitzer once said, "Sometimes our light goes out, but it is blown again into flame by an encounter with another human being." The darkness that sets in when a child has died is all too well-known by members of The Compassionate Friends, the world's largest self-help bereavement organization for families that have had a child die.

We also know that the holidays can be especially difficult for the bereaved. At this traditional family time of the year, we offer the opportunity for grieving families to come together on one day to celebrate the life, love and light of those children gone much too soon -- to have that light blown again into flame by an encounter with another human being.

The 12th annual Worldwide Candle Lighting will take place on Sunday, Dec. 14. This candle lighting, believed to be the largest mass candle lighting in the world, will be held for one hour at 7 p.m. local time around the world, creating a virtual wave of light. It symbolizes that the light of these precious children will forever be held within the hearts of many.

To post a memorial service event or to find an event locally, your readers may visit our website at www.compassionate-friends.org.

Last year, The Compassionate Friends was made aware of, and listed on its website, nearly 500 formal services from around the world that took place throughout the day. Tens of thousands of candles were also lit in memory of children around the globe in small gatherings and in the privacy of homes. Available also on Dec. 14 from our website will be a Remembrance Book for family members to share their feelings and post a memorial message during that 24-hour period.

We appreciate your making readers aware of this meaningful day of remembrance that is held so that their light may always shine. -- Patricia Loder, executive director, The Compassionate Friends/USA

Dear Patricia Loder: The death of one's child -- at any age -- is devastating.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

The Worldwide Candle Lighting is a magnificent opportunity for the bereaved and their friends and family members to honor and be part of a community of others who are paying tribute to loved ones. We hope our readers will look at your website and participate in this event, whether as part of a group or in the privacy of their own homes, and remember all the children who have died.

Dear Annie: I left my husband a month ago and have done my best to make it clear that I no longer want a life with him. He did not cheat or abuse me, but our lifestyles are incompatible. I do not foresee reconciliation. Still, my soon-to-be ex continues to call and tell me how his day went and what's going on at his job.

How can I make the separation any clearer without being overly harsh? We have two young children, and I would like our relationship to be civil but distant. --Trying To Cut the Cord

Dear Trying: It is in your children's best interest for you to maintain a reasonably friendly relationship with their father, who obviously needs more time to adjust to the separation. A month isn't that long. He misses you, but will eventually call less frequently as he moves on with his life. Meanwhile, we hope you can be patient and allow him to continue calling to briefly discuss his day. After you've let him talk for a few minutes, put the children on the phone so they can speak to Daddy. When they are finished, tell him, "I'm really busy now. I'll talk to you another time."

Dear Annie: My brother, "William," was recently arrested for taking inappropriate pictures of my 8-year-old niece. I wasn't surprised. Two years ago,

my daughter said Uncle William had taken pictures of her, too. At the time, we weren't sure it was true, but we did keep her away from him just to be on the safe side. Last week, a detective arrived at our house with very disturbing pictures of my daughter that they had found in William's possession.

This has divided our family. My mother and two of my siblings are very supportive of William and don't want my daughter to talk to the authorities about him. They worry her testimony could possibly exacerbate the charges against him.

My daughter is in counseling to begin healing. I have tried talking about this with my mother, but she is more concerned about "poor William." She isn't thinking about her grandchildren at all.

Annie, what do I do? Should I grieve for the family I used to have and walk away? Should I allow some time to pass and then try to reconnect? I doubt we can ever be like before.

-- Betrayed Daughter

Dear Betrayed: Your mother chooses to believe her son could not possibly be such a bad person, but you owe it to your daughter, your niece and any other children who have come in contact with William to see this through. You don't have to cut off your relatives.

Continue to call your mother, send cards, even visit if you wish, regardless of her wrong-headedness. The family may not recover entirely, but that is not your fault. It is William's. Don't let them make you feel guilty for doing the right thing.

Dear Annie: My niece has been planning her wedding for the past year. It was originally to be held at a local church with a reception immediately following. She has her \$3,000 designer gown, and all seven bridesmaids (including my daughter) have spent \$168 on their dresses and arranged their schedules to attend the wedding.

We finally received the invitation last week and

learned the location has been changed to Las Vegas. The bride now expects everyone to adjust to the additional cost of airfare, car rental, hotel and meals.

I know my brother and his family will be hurt and angry if we do not attend. They came to my daughter's out-of-town wedding two years ago, but they also knew the location from the start and had time to save for the trip. Are they asking too much of their guests in these economic times? -- The Aunt in Los Angeles

Dear Aunt: Hosts aren't obligated to notify you months in advance where and when an event will be. That's what the invitation is for. However, members of the bridal party should be told the details in advance so they can decide if it will affect their ability to participate. If you can manage the cost, we think you should go. If not, we hope your daughter can represent your branch of the family.

Dear Annie: Wow. I read the letter from "Midwest

Mess," whose negative and rude mother badmouths her husband to everyone in the family.

I know exactly what she is talking about. My mother was always undermining me and now does it with my kids. She lets them watch R-rated horror movies and buys them CDs that have parental warnings. She's unbelievable.

This negative behavior is damaging and hurtful and has created a struggle for my children. I agree with your advice to set boundaries and create some distance. If I had learned that way back when, I believe I would have made decisions that might have opened the door to more positive interactions. -- Know Better Now

Dear Know Better: It's never too late to work on this and fix what you can. We hope you are successful at remaking the relationship.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

2008 Big Spring Herald Cookbook Winners



Verla Paige
* Bean Bread *



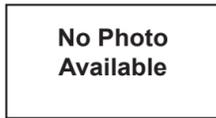
Mary Churchwell
* Mango Salsa *



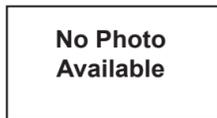
Shirley Gay
* Cherry Chiffon *



Bo Fryar
* Vegetarian Chili *



Teresa Gaskins
* Runsa Casserole *



Magaret Cline
* Marinated Chicken Breast *



Darlene Hipp
* Chicken Salad *

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- Lower your risk of stroke and many more benefits
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Join us at the Mall for the grand opening and ribbon cutting for our "College at the Mall" December 10 at 9:00am

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Through Rose-Colored Glasses

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 5 4 2
♥ 10 5 2
♦ K Q J 2
♣ 4 3

WEST
♠ K Q J 9 6
♥ 7 4 3
♦ 10 7 6 5 2
♣ 8 7 3

EAST
♠ 10
♥ K 9 8 7 6
♦ 10 9 6 5
♣ J 9 8

SOUTH
♠ 8 7 3
♥ A Q J 4 3
♦ A 8
♣ A K Q

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ 1♠ 2♦ Pass
3♥ Pass 4♥ Pass
6♥ Pass Pass Dble

Redble
Opening lead — king of spades.

There are players who look at every hand they're dealt through rose-colored glasses. Optimism has its place in bridge, of course, and it pays dividends many times over when there is a sound basis for it, but an ace is an ace and a deuce is a deuce, regardless of who views them.

The inveterate overbidder lives in a world all his own, imagining that the hand he is looking at has greater value than it actually has, or imagining that his partner will produce untold treasures suppressed during

the bidding.

The South who bid this hand to a slam was a full-fledged member of the Optimists Club. It cannot be denied that he had an excellent hand, but it's plain to see that he regarded his three losing spades as a matter of no concern, carrying that conviction even to the point of a redouble.

One thing that can be said for the perennial overbidder is that he usually plays his cards very well. He has had so much experience trying to fulfill optimistic contracts that he has learned how to get the most out of every hand. Today's South proved to be no exception.

He won the opening spade lead in dummy and led a low heart to his jack, discovering the bad news when West showed out. Undaunted, South cashed the A-K-Q of clubs, discarding a spade from dummy.

Next came four rounds of diamonds, on which declarer disposed of his two losing spades. Nine tricks had now been played, and both East and South had four trumps left, with the 10-5 of hearts still in dummy. A spade was then led from the table. East trumped with the seven, whereupon South undertrumped with the three!

East was forced to return a trump, and, whichever one he led, declarer was bound to make the last three tricks and the contract.

It just goes to show that you can't beat scientific bidding.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The Aries moon has a motto: Any idea that's worthy of action is also worthy of pro-action. This fiery moon of initiative encourages us to jump into situations, but to do so with a strategy, anticipating what obstacles we'll need to be overcome. The high energy of the Sagittarian sun gives the extra wattage needed to blaze through difficult projects.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Whether you're making a simple social introduction or putting on an elaborate show, it's important to give a smooth performance. So you'll be diligent and practice your craft until you work out the kinks.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your charisma is so strong right now that your presence is felt where your body is absent. And when

you do show up, everyone knows. Heads turn. If you had a "dance card" it would be filled up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You admire ambition, but increasing your position and power doesn't rate with you right now -- it's not even in your top 10 priorities. You're more interested in others than you are in getting ahead.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Risking with your heart is a lot easier for you than risking with money right now. And if you gamble that someone likes you well enough to show up where and when you need them, you'll be on the winning side of the bet.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your friend is a huge asset to your life. It's a blessing to be in a relationship with someone compassionate who will encourage you when you're being self-critical, and make you laugh when you're being too serious.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your intelligence is obvious, though not to everyone. It does take one to know one. And those who don't get it probably

never will, so it's pointless to bring attention. Go where your bright insights are well appreciated.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are constantly seeking perfection in yourself. But the one who loves you also truly loves the things you're calling flaws. Make the degree of effort that pleases you and try not to be consumed by your own high standards.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are always giving and taking, which is how you maintain a vibrant existence. Through your example of easy-come-easy-go, you can convince someone not to cling or horde.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't want others to think of you as more powerful than them. You'd rather they find the strength in themselves. There is much to be gained from admitting a mistake, especially to someone who looks up to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Wherever groups are assembled, there are social and logistical challenges involved. While others may be a lit-

tle on edge, you're seasoned and ready to manage whatever comes -- and have fun doing it, too.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Just because an event follows another event doesn't mean that the two are related. You might think that one action caused the other to happen, but it is just as valid to imagine there were unseen factors. Make no assumption.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be privy to inside information, although you won't get the whole story. You make a game out of chasing down the facts. The mystery plays out in a most fascinating manner.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: It was

once assumed that the universe was unchanging in its size. Then along came Einstein, whose theories didn't seem to work out under the assumption that the universe was static. He tried to make them fit -- he made up something called the "cosmological constant" in order to force his theories to conform. Alas, he finally decided that the "cosmological constant" was his biggest blunder. The more he found out about the universe, the more he realized that it was always either expanding or contracting in gloriously surprising and interesting ways. It seems the only thing it can't do is stay the same. This time of year the Sagittarius sun, who happens to be the king

of all things expanding, rules the sky. If it seems that each year the holidays get bigger, broader and brighter, it's probably because they do. The Sun King heightens the intensity during and gives us the energy to take on much more than we thought we could. This week Venus adds to the fun by adding her two cents in the imaginative realm of Aquarius. It bodes well for finding creative fixes and coming up with innovative ways of handling the holiday stress.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page.



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Goldline Research has posted in December *Texas Monthly* magazine for 2008 The Most Dependable Accounting Professionals of Texas. Boothe Vassar and Company has been selected as one. The list is on page 201 of the December issue of *Texas Monthly*.

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