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H BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 2010



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Murder trial moved to Howard County

Too much publicity in Ector County, judge rules

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

An Ector County man accused of shooting and killing three Odessa police officers in 2007 will get his day in court, but not in the court many ex-

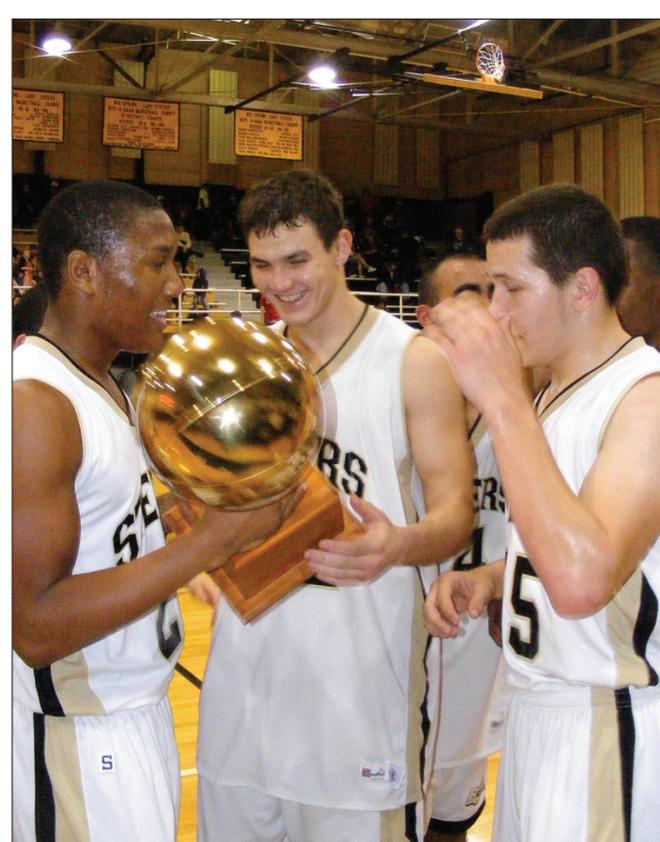
pected, as the case has been moved to Howard County following a change of venue ordered Tuesday.

Larry Neil White, 62, was arrested at his home in Odessa in September 2007 after police

officers responded to a report of a domestic disturbance believed to have been issued by his wife. White allegedly opened fire on the officers.

See **TRIAL**, Page 3A

DISTRICT CHAMPS!



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

From left, Big Spring High School players Tevian Parnell, Matt Ritchey and Pavel Plakhotny admire the trophy the Steers earned for winning the District 4-4A boys' basketball title. BSBS ended the regular season with a 64-50 victory over Plainview Tuesday in Steer Gym. Related story and photo are on Page 1B.



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Chad Averette, left, supervisor for the city of Big Spring's Code Enforcement Department, introduces his team to the city council during a special work session Tuesday night. From left are Thomas Hodges, Brandi Hilario-Reynoso, Danny Valle and Tamra Bishop.

Code enforcement looks to improve its efficiency

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Efficiency and effectiveness were two of the main topics discussed Tuesday night as the Big Spring City Council met with officials from the municipality's code enforcement department to discuss the direction of the agency in the coming years.

Mayor Russ McEwen said the work session was originally scheduled because lines of communication between the council and code enforce-

ment department needed to be better established. His hopes are those lines will allow the city to move forward in addressing some rather frustrating problems within its limits, including unsightly and weedy lots, accumulated trash and debris, and other code infractions.

"I don't have any doubt there's not a person involved in this activity who is not working diligently to solve it," said McEwen. "I'm not sure how efficient we are at

solving those problems. You guys in code enforcement have said you have some ideas for better ways to do these things, and there's nobody better at figuring out how you should do your jobs than you. However, if we don't back you guys up, it has to be frustrating to go out and say you're trying to make progress and not being able to do so.

"I don't think anybody up here (on the council) has a

See **CODE**, Page 3A

Incumbents only

Area school trustee races attract no new candidates

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Filing for area school board races continues to be sluggish, officials have disclosed.

Of the few candidates who have filed to date, all are incumbents, and some races don't have any announced candidates at all. Six area school districts will hold school board elections May 8.

Candidates have until March 8 to file for area school races.

The latest filings came in Stanton, where incumbents Daniel Ramos (District 1) and Darren Patrick (District 5) have filed election papers, said David Carr, Stanton Independent School District superintendent.

Other races with announced candidates include

Forsan, where incumbents Tom Bill Kuykendall and Chris Evans have filed for the two available at-large positions, and Howard College, where incumbents Murray Murphy (District 2), Larry McLellan (District 3 unexpired term) and Maxwell Barr (District 4 unexpired term) have filed election papers, Executive Assistant Julie Bailey said. No candidates have emerged for the District 1 seat, currently held by Michael Flores.

In other area races:
• No filings have been announced at Big Spring ISD. Seats currently held by Mike Dawson (District 5), Jeff Borman (District 6) and Phil Furqueron (District 7) will be decided this year. Dawson has announced he

See **RACES**, Page 3A

'Symphony in Motion' tickets on sale

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

Big Spring Symphony presents its third concert of the 2009-2010 season Saturday and tickets are on sale now

throughout the community.

Titled "Symphony in Motion," Saturday's show will begin at 8 p.m. at the Big Spring High School Auditorium and will feature such fa-

vorites as R. Wagner's "Ride of the Valkyries" and L.V. Beethoven's "Symphony No. 5 in C minor."

Featured soloists will be Big Spring Symphony members

Michael Santorelli, trumpeter, and Sarah Wilson, cellist. Santorelli will perform the "Trumpet Concerto in

See **TICKETS**, Page 3A

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Lady Steers fall to No. 2 Canyon, end season

By JOE ZIGTEMA
Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — The Big Spring Lady Steers Tuesday faced class 4A Wednesday night in bidistrict action against No. 2 Canyon High.

Canyon (30-1, 12-0) overwhelmed the Lady Steers 91-15 at Lubbock Christian's Rip Griffin Center, ending Big Spring's (10-19, 1-7) season.

Senior Linzee Yarbar led the Lady Steers with five points. Canyon senior

Casey Land scored 17 of her 19 points in the first half to lead the Lady Eagles.

The game marked the second year in a row that the Lady Steers had to go up against one of the state's top-notch teams from District 3-4A.

Last year, the Lady Steers faced Amarillo Palo Duro, which was ranked No. 7 at the time. This year, they faced a Canyon team that has all the pieces in place for a state tournament run.

The Lady Eagles had it all

working Tuesday.

"Man, they are good," coach Mike Warren said. "If you make a mistake on defense, they're going to score."

The Lady Steers tied the game early in the first quarter at two when Valerie Ross put in an open layup. Big Spring didn't get on the board again until the second quarter, when the score was 32-4 in Canyon's favor.

"It snowballed on us," Warren said. "They got

running and I think we got our heads down. But it's another game getting some experience, and we saw where we want to be one day with a good program like that."

Warren pointed to his young team's wins over Lake View as the highlight of Big Spring's season.

"I thought our last two wins showed us a lot of character," Warren said. "This year, I thought we

See **BSHS**, Page 2B



HERALD PHOTO/Steve Reagan
Freshman Logan Yarbar brings the ball up the floor Tuesday in Lubbock. The Lady Steers lost 91-15.



HERALD PHOTO/Steve Reagan
The Steers huddle with coach Marcus Morris on Tuesday at Steer Gym. Big Spring defeated Plainview 64-50 to end its season as district champions for the first time since 1989. Four Steers scored in double figures on the night.

Balanced Steers down Plainview

BY STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

It's been a historic season for the Big Spring Steers, and they have a nice, shiny trophy to prove it.

Big Spring put the cap on a regular season that saw its first district title in 21 years by thumping Plainview 65-50 Tuesday night at Steer Gym.

The Steers, who were paced by four players who scored in double figures, finished the regular season with a 17-13 record (7-1 in District 4-4A play) and now face either Hereford

or Canyon in the first round of the Class 4A playoffs at a time and site to be determined.

But for one night at least, the team wasn't concerned with the future, concentrating instead on its accomplishments to date.

"This is just a good group of kids," BSHS coach Marcus Morris said, pointing to his celebrating team. "It's always fun to win district, especially when you have such a great group as we do."

Senior post player Matt Ritchey said winning district was tops on his to-do list this sea-

son.

"At the beginning of the year, we all wrote down our goals and I think everybody said they wanted to win a district championship ... but our major goal was just to be the best team we could," Ritchey said. "But it's very nice to win district, especially in my senior year."

It was Ritchey who paced the Steers in the early going as Plainview (17-13, 3-5) concentrated its defensive efforts on stopping perimeter sharpshooters Jerrell Williams and Luke Adams. That left the interior open

and Ritchey and fellow inside players Xavian and Tevian Parnell made the Bulldogs pay, combining for 32 points.

Ritchey scored the Steers' first five points of the game and Xavian Parnell added four as the Steers raced out to an 18-8 lead after one quarter.

While the trio was providing much-needed scoring, they also did yeoman's work on the defensive front, shutting off Plainview's inside game. This resulted in Big Spring

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Big Spring swimmers compete in regionals

Herald Staff Report

The Big Spring boys and girls swim teams finished their seasons strong at the regional meet in Andrews over the weekend.

Junior Drew Breckinridge took fourth in the boys 50-yard freestyle and fifth in the 100-yard freestyle with times of 23.06 and 51.62, respectively. Breckinridge was .26 seconds behind the last state qualifying time.

Kelly Sage took ninth in the girls 50-yard freestyle and seventh in the 100-yard freestyle.

Caleb McMahon finished in eighth place in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:06.42, and Jennifer Walker finished 10th in the 100-

yard butterfly with a time of 1:15.04.

The boys 200-free relay team of Breckinridge, Justin Pearson, Ricky Garca and McMahon took fifth place in the region with a time of 1:38.99. It finished second in the preliminary heats.

The girls 200-medley team of Sage, Ashley Pike, Jennifer Walker and Rebecca Loya took ninth place in the meet with a time of 2:13.65.

The boys and girls both finished in 12th place out of 21 teams in the region.

"We had a really young team this year," coach Ken Nelson said. "We just need to get a little stronger, a little taller and a little faster, but the future looks promising."

Mavericks to sport new look after break

Associated Press

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks would like to host another big-time NBA event this season. So they made some changes.

With the record-breaking All-Star weekend in their back yard over, the Southwest Division-leading Mavericks will begin the final 30-game stretch of the regular

season Tuesday night looking much different than they did when losing five of seven games before the break.

A seven-player weekend trade brought two-time All-Star guard Caron Butler, 7-foot center Brendan Haywood and guard DeShawn Stevenson to Dallas from Washington. Often

See **MAVS**, Page 2B

Dunn scores 30 as No. 22 Baylor beats Red Raiders for 20th win

Associated Press

WACO — LaceDarius Dunn scored 30 points and Ekpe Udoh had 13 points, 11 rebounds and nine blocks for No. 22 Baylor which beat Texas Tech 88-70 on Tuesday night for its third consecutive 20-win season.

Dunn scored 10 points in the final 5½ minutes of the first half, after being held scoreless until then, to put the Bears (20-5, 7-4 Big 12)

ahead to stay. His first points came on two free throws that made it 25-24, part of his eight consecutive points for Baylor.

It is only the sixth 20-win season for Baylor, which has won five of its last six games.

David Tairu had 16 points for Texas Tech (16-9, 4-7).

John Roberson had 12 points for the Red Raiders before leaving the game with 9 min-

utes remaining after running into a television cameraman. Coach Pat Knight said after the game that Roberson's ribs were sore and he was having a hard time breathing.

The go-ahead free throw by Dunn started a 39-16 run in which he scored 22 points. Dunn's basket with 12:49 left made it 60-40, then Udoh had a steal that led to a run-capping dunk by Anthony Jones.

Tweety Carter had 12 points and 11 assists for Baylor, which shot 54 percent from the field (33 of 61).

When the Bears cleared the bench in the closing minutes, Udoh was left in the game for the chance to get another block and his second triple-double of the season. He wasn't needed for a game-winning shot like he had in each of the past two games, but finished with his 12th

double-double of the season and extended his season school record block total to 109.

Dunn didn't score until after being fouled on a drive in the lane. He then had a steal and was fouled again, hitting two more free throws.

After A.J. Walton had a steal to start a 2-on-1 break, he drove to the basket and then dumped a pass over his left shoulder to Dunn trailing for a two-handed slam dunk

and a 29-24 lead.

Udoh didn't even score until making a short jumper off an inbound pass from Carter with 18 minutes left that made it 46-33.

Carter then stole the inbound pass, though his wild pass to keep the ball from going out of bounds was grabbed by Roberson. But Dunn quickly stole the ball and had a breakaway

See **TECH**, Page 2B

Sports in brief

15-inning game set for booster club

The Big Spring Booster Club will hold its annual fundraiser this Saturday as the baseball team will play a 15-inning game through the morning.

The game will start a 9 a.m. Concessions will be available as well as Steer playoff T-shirts for \$15.

All profits will benefit the Big Spring Booster Club, which supports all Big Spring High School athletics.

Lady Steers softball under way in Midland

The Lady Steers softball team lost its season opener 10-7 to Midland Christian on Tuesday in Midland.

Without several players who played basketball yesterday, Kenzie Hunt struck out eight batters and Jessica Womack went 2-for-4 in the game.

The Lady Steers will be in action again Friday against Monahans. Check the Herald for results.

Playoff games scheduled at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum

Idalou and Denver City came away with wins in two playoff games at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Tuesday night.

Idalou beat Ozona 57-28 and Denver City beat Realou County 44-38.

More girls games are on tap for Friday. Petersburg will take on Rankin at 6 p.m., followed by Midland Greenwood and Abilene Wylie at 8 p.m.

Obituaries

June Grace 'June Bug' Hambrice

June Grace "June Bug" Hambrice, 87, of Big Spring died Friday, Feb. 12, 2010, at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, 2010, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Doug Shelley with Crossroads Hospice officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

She was born Feb. 27, 1922, in Dallas to Chester and Ruth Williams and married Richard P. Hambrice on Oct. 8, 1970, in Clovis, N.M. He preceded her in death Dec. 16, 1992.

June served in the Women's Army Corps during World War II and lived most of her life in San Angelo, Amarillo and Big Spring. June Bug, as she was known, loved to cook, crochet and embroider, and was a good Christian with a big heart, had the



gift of gab and loved life. Survivors include one daughter, Patricia Arndt of Janesville, Wisc.; a daughter-in-law, Sandy Goode of Janesville, Wisc.; four grandchildren, Amber Goode, Aaron Goode and Catherine Goode, all of Janesville, Wisc., and Scheryl Cazarez of Lawton, Okla.; three great grandchildren, Marion Goode, Sierra Cazarez and McKenna Goode; two cousins, Della and Freddie Cook of Maryland and Ira and Patty England of San Angelo; and numerous nieces, nephews and many, many friends.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; one son, James Goode Jr.; one daughter, Allie Ruth Goode; two brothers, Dan Williams and Ira Williams; and one grandson, Michael Shane Goode.

The family suggests memorials to Crossroads Hospice, P.O. Box 587, Big Spring 79721-0587; or to Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home, 1809 N. Highway 87, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Kenneth Crown

Kenneth Esmond Crown, 68, of Snyder died Saturday, Jan. 16, 2010, at his home after a sudden illness. Services will be held at a later date.

He was born March 24, 1941, in Des Moines, Iowa. He married Alice Jaird in Sterling City on March 24, 1992. He was a three-tour Navy veteran of Vietnam. He had worked several years at the Big Spring Post Office. He transferred to the Lewisville Post Office and retired from Flower Mound Post Office in April 2003.

More recently, he was spending time in Snyder and Denton.

Survivors include his wife, Alice Crown of Denton; three stepsons, Matthew Jaird of Lake Dallas, Michael Jaird of Big Spring and Shannon Fader of Greenwood; two step daughters, Patty Edwards and Connie McDaniel, both of Big Spring; and a granddaughter.

Arrangements are by Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home in Snyder.

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MAVS

Continued from 1B

promising and disappointing Josh Howard was sent with Drew Gooden and two others to the Wizards.

"Now I don't know how many of you out there are going to pick us in a seven-game series against the Lakers, but in our opinion the guys in that locker room, we're ready to lock horns with anybody," Mavericks president of basketball operations Donnie Nelson said. "We feel like this solidifies us a little bit."

Enough to think about the possibility of playing Los Angeles in a Western Conference final? Or getting back to the NBA Finals four years after blowing a two-game lead and losing in six games to

Miami?

"We'll find out," owner Mark Cuban said. "You just never know until you get out there and play, and if we can get back to where we were early in the season and get healthy. ... I think we're better."

The Mavericks (32-20) still lead their division despite a slump before the break that included a 36-point loss to Denver, one of the three teams ahead of them in the West, in their last game.

"We were struggling here for a month, so we are excited now to have some new guys," All-Star forward Dirk Nowitzki said. "It's not going to be an easy ride, but we are looking forward to coming together quick and hopefully finish the season strong."

The Mavericks will have to assimilate the newcomers without a practice. The three could only watch Monday's workout because of a paperwork delay, coach Rick Carlisle said. Assuming the all-clear comes Tuesday morning, the former Wizards will go through a shootaround and then straight into their first game with Dallas at Oklahoma City.

An opening stretch of four games in five nights against probable playoff teams continues Wednesday night at home against Phoenix. After a day off, another back-to-back set comes at Orlando and home against Miami.

"It's a situation that's not ideal, but we're going to make it work," Carlisle said. "These guys will adjust."

Butler, who has averaged 16.9 points a game in his eighth NBA season, is expected to move into the Mavericks' starting lineup. Jason Terry, who last year got the NBA sixth man award as the league's top reserve, is expected to move back into that role after starting the past 11 games.

Terry said he could accept going back to the bench, and Butler said that "meant a lot."

"Me and (Terry), we are familiar with one another," Butler said. "He's always been like a big brother to me. He's just making the transition real smooth for me."

Kobe Bryant of the Lakers, who because of a sore left ankle didn't play in the All-Star game before the record crowd of 108,713 at Cowboys Stadium

on Sunday night, said Butler will be a good addition for Dallas. They were teammates with the Lakers in 2004-05.

"You put him on a contender and I'm telling you, you're going to love him," Bryant said. "He's tough as nails."

Haywood provides needed depth in the middle behind Erick Dampier, who missed three of four games before the break. That forced Gooden, now headed to his eighth team in eight seasons, to fill that role much more than planned when Dallas signed him last summer.

"We were running into problems. Damp is having problems with his knees and requires rest every now and then, and we really were in a spot without having a shot-blocker

behind him," Cuban said. "Drew did a great job, he laid it out there every game for us to try to go in as a five. Going into the season, we thought that would work, and it just didn't play out as planned."

The Mavericks also envision using Dampier and Haywood together to match up against other teams using two big men.

Howard had spent his entire career with Dallas, playing 431 games since being the 29th overall pick in 2003. The team's second-longest tenured player behind Nowitzki, Howard played only 31 games with nine starts this season after being limited the first couple of months while recovering from offseason surgery on his left ankle.

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TECH

Continued from 1B

slam.

After Tech called a timeout and Roberson missed a shot, Dunn made a 3-pointer.

Roberson got hurt after missing a layup, then slamming hard into a cameraman seated under the basket. Trainers tended to Roberson on the court for several minutes, and he walked

to the bench with assistance and in obvious pain.

Knight said Roberson's status wouldn't be known for a couple of days.

New Baylor president Kenneth Starr was introduced to the crowd by football coach Art Briles during the first timeout of the game. Starr got a standing ovation, then revealed a "Bear Pit" jersey and led the student section in a "Sic Em' Bears" chant.

BSHS

Continued from 1B

competed better in district than we did last year. As long as we stay positive, we're going to be fine.

"But hopefully we'll be honest with ourselves. We've got a lot of hard work left to do."

Senior Linzee Yarbar played her last basketball game in a Lady Steer uniform.

"She's our hardest worker, our senior leader and we're going to miss her," Warren said.

Canyon 91, Big Spring 15
CHS 26 24 22 19 -- 91
BS 2 3 5 5 -- 15

Canyon- Land 19, Monreal 6, Hampton 12, Russ 2, Brooks 5, Vessels 8, Smith 6, Sullivan 6, Borchart 12, Myrick 7, Pedigo 2, Erwin 3
Big Spring- Li. Yarbar 5, Ross 2, Tuitt 4, Mayes 2, Ritchey 2
3-point goals - Canyon 6 (Land 2, Smith 2, Borchart, Brooks), BS 1 (Yarbar); Free throws - CHS 9-14, BS 2-10;



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STEERS

Continued from 1B

limiting the Bulldogs to only three points in the second quarter, which ended with the Steers holding a 31-11 lead.

"Defense is something we work on all the time," Morris said. "Matt, Xavian, Tevian and Pavel (Plakhotny) really came through inside for us tonight."

At the start of the second half, the Bulldogs collapsed inside to shut off Ritchey and the Parnells, but that opened up things for Adams, who torched

Plainview for 19 points, most of those coming in the final two quarters.

"We talk all the time about being an inside-out scoring team," Morris said. "When our outside guys are covered, we need our inside players to pick up the slack and vice versa. Tonight, we did a good job of that."

Big Spring extended its lead to 34 points early in the fourth quarter before making liberal use of substitutes down the stretch.

While the season so far has undoubtedly been a success, Adams said the team has a few more

goals to accomplish.

"We're five wins away from winning regionals," the junior guard said. "And this team has a good chance to get there."

SCORE BY QUARTERS
Plainview 8 3 11 28 - 50
Big Spring 18 13 21 12 - 64

PLAINVIEW (50) - Wiggins 3 5-6 11; M. Jackson 4 4-4 13; Curry 1 1-2 3; R. Jackson 4 2-4 10; Smiley 1 0-0 2; Mata 3 3-3 9; totals 16 15-19 50.
BIG SPRING (64) - Segundo 0 0-2 0; Williams 3 0-2 8; T. Parnell 4 2-2 10; Anderson 2 0-0 4; Adams 7 3-5 19; X. Parnell 3 4-7 10; Ritchey 5 2-3 12; totals 24 11-21 64.

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

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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Emergency responders look over this wrecked Mitsubishi Eclipse following a one-vehicle traffic accident near the intersection of McEwen and Fourth Street Tuesday morning. According to officials at the scene, the driver of the vehicle suffered only minor wounds and was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

RACES

Continued from Page 1A

is stepping down this year, while both Brorman and Furqueron have indicated they will seek re-election.

• Coahoma ISD also has no announced filings. At-large seats currently held by James White and Sissy Franklin will be up for election.

• At Sands CISD, Three-year, at-large seats currently

held by Stan Blagrove and Michelle Zant will be decided.

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

CODE

Continued from Page 1A

clue what needs to be done, but I think everyone up here is frustrated by the fact it's not being done as efficiently as it can be. I wouldn't even mind having an answer to the question of how many (cases) you can do. I don't think the citizens mind calling up, whether it be calling you or anyone else up here, and making a complaint and hearing the problem will be worked in the next 30 days, or six months, or four years. However long, instead of thanking them for the call, and then a week later they are wondering why something hasn't been done. We need to have a system by which we know what a reasonable amount of time (it will take) so we can convey that to the people of this community."

City Manager Gary Fuqua said one of the existing problems with code enforcement is the "shotgun approach," whereby code enforcement officers address problems on a complaint-only basis.

"One of the problems we've been having with our code enforcement is we've been working off of a complaint basis," said Fuqua. "We get a call and run from one side of town to the other side of town, and it's not very efficient or effective, and we've been addressing that as of late.

"When someone calls in a complaint we go out and inspect the property, and if there is a code violation we send them a letter letting them know what it is. We let them know it needs to be corrected within seven to 10 days. When the time's up we go back out and re-inspect, and if nothing has been taken care of we issue a citation. We file that paperwork with the court and it goes through their system."

Code Enforcement Supervisor Chad Averette said the seven- to 10-day time limit isn't steadfast, and as he and his officers work to get the problems solved, the work can certainly pile up.

"A lot of times it is longer than the seven to 10 days. We try to get them all taken care of in the

same amount of time," said Averette. "However, sometimes you'll get 13 to 15 complaints and they all come up at once. So while you're working those you're also trying to go out and work new complaints. Also, sometimes when the person contacts us and just needs a couple of extra days to get it taken care of we'll work with them on it."

Once the process has made it to the desk of City Attorney Linda Sjogren, offenders who live out of town or out of state can stall the system tremendously.

"The person is notified and they have a certain number of days to answer," said Sjogren. "When they contact us it gets set for pre-trial, and that's when I first meet with them and talk about how many violations they have. However, the vast majority of them don't even show up, so once we get past the pre-trial, if I don't work out a deal with them, it gets set for trial."

Despite a mountain of red tape to wade through, Fuqua said code enforcement has

managed to solve a majority of its cases before the matter ever had to go to municipal court.

"One of the things I asked them (code enforcement) to look at is what kind of compliance rate we have with the people receiving the notifications, whether it be in a verbal form or a letter," said Fuqua. "We looked at last year and we had 753 just weedy lot cases, and it was a drought year but we were still short in personnel. So I looked at how many we sent through to the court system, because Chad (Averette) and the code officers have been trying really hard to work with the citizens and go out and let them know what problems they have and work with them to get it resolved. We had an approximate compliance ratio of 86 percent, which is actually better than I anticipated."

Fuqua said the department is currently looking at a more focused

approach, much like the city's annual large item pick up program.

"The large item pick up goes through one district each month. We found out quickly that it's much more effective than just having citizens call in and sending machinery out to pick up large trash items," said Fuqua. "We're looking at a similar approach with code enforcement, possibly having it work in conjunction with the large item program. If we can concentrate on one area while also taking care of complaints, I feel like we can be more

efficient and accomplish a lot more."

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

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TICKETS

Continued from Page 1A

E-flat Major" by Franz Joseph Haydn. Wilson will perform the "Variations on a Rococo Theme" by Peter I. Tchaikovsky.

Also to be performed are "Capriccio Espanol, mvt V" by Rimsky-Korsakov and the "Carnival Overture" by Antonin Dvorak.

Tickets are available at the Western Banks, Faye's Flowers, Blum's Jewelers, the Heritage Museum, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, the Big Spring Herald and KBST Radio. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students. The Symphony Guild suggests that children under the age of 5 are not expected to enjoy the concert.

For more information, contact the Symphony Office at (432) 264-7223.

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TRIAL

Continued from Page 1A

killing Arlie "Lee" Jones Jr., Scott Gardner and Abel Marquez.

According to police reports, the three officers were gunned down while attempting to enter White's home from an area in the property's backyard. Both Gardner and Jones were pronounced dead at the scene, while Marquez later died at a hospital in Lubbock several days later.

Following a standoff that lasted several hours, White was taken into custody after he was shot in the abdomen. He was treated at an Odessa hospital and later booked into the Ector County Jail, where he was held without bond.

District Judge Denn Whalen, who presides over the 70th District Court, agreed to the change of venue following nearly a year of requests to do so from White's attorneys, Woody Leverett and Raymond Fivecoat of Midland. The attorneys claimed White could not receive a fair trial in Ector County due to the publicity generated by the case.

The case is being prosecuted by Ector County District Attorney Bobby Bland.

As for the impact the trial will have on Howard County

coffers, County Judge Mark Barr said Ector County will be covering any costs associated with the proceedings.

"Ector County will be responsible for all costs from this trial," said Barr, who, along with the Howard County Commissioners Court, discussed the economic straits a death-penalty case could bring during tough economic times more than a year ago. "So we're OK from an economic standpoint. They (Ector County) will also cover the cost of any law enforcement overtime accumulated during the trial, so it won't put the county out at all."

While the trial won't take a fiscal toll on the county, Barr said he does expect the proceedings to put a strain on jurors and prospective jurors.

"That's going to be the real challenge," he said. "From what I understand, they plan to call a jury pool of about 700 people, so those proceedings will most like take a long time to complete. Money won't be the challenge, but picking a jury most likely will be."

Officials with the office of 118th District Judge Robert H. Moore III said a trial date has not yet been set.

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

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District 85

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The undersigned attorneys endorse **TIM YEATS** to be our next District Judge. It is imperative that we have a qualified, hardworking, and experienced trial lawyer to assume the role as District Judge. Not only has **TIM YEATS** been actively involved in many civic organizations, he has also been the lead trial attorney in excess of 100 jury trials. He has full knowledge of all aspects of the law, including civil, criminal and family law.

TIM is also a certified Mediator, and has mediated civil as well as family law disputes. As a Mediator he has assisted parties in reaching an amicable settlement which is precisely a skill a District Judge must possess. In summary, **TIM** has the experience, knowledge and temperament necessary for the job. On behalf of all of us we request that you vote for **TIM YEATS** in the Republican Primary regardless of party affiliation.

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Tuesday and 7 a.m. today:

MELISSA CRAWFORD, 34, of 1207 Mulberry, was arrested Tuesday on charges of interfering with an emergency phone call and failure to identify.

TOMMY GENE CHRISTIAN, 42, of 2805 Sherman Rd., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of theft.

TRACY LEE PATTERSON, 47, of Midland, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of theft.

DANIEL JEROME LANGSTON, 53, of 601 Colgate, was arrested Tuesday on a Howard County warrant.

THEFT was reported in the 2500 block of Ent.

FAILURE TO IDENTIFY - GIVING FALSE INFORMATION was reported in the 1200 block of Mulberry.

BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 3600 block of Hamilton.

ASSAULT CLASS C/ FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 600 block of Colgate.

MELISSA CRAWFORD, 34, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of interfering with an emergency phone call and failure to identify - giving false information.

LOLITA ALVAREZ SALAZAR, 40, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.

TOMMY GENE CHRISTIAN, 42, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

SCOTT COLBY SHADE, 25, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on an Ector County warrant for parole violation - engaging in organized criminal activity.

TRACY LEE PATTERSON, 47, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

JAMIE LEE ATKINSON, 41, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of assault - family violence.

DANIEL JEROME LANGSTON, 53, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 58 inmates at the time of this report.

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Fire/EMS

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MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Lincoln. One person was transported to SMMC.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Interstate Highway 20 and Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.

TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of First Avenue. One person was transported to SMMC.

MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.

MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.

MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Hooser. Service refused.

MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.

Teen no-billed, alleged attempt targeting dad

HOUSTON (AP) — A grand jury has declined to indict a Houston-area teen charged in an alleged murder-for-hire plot targeting her father.

Ashley Shamp of Katy was charged with solicitation of capital murder in a 2009 case where her father was not injured.

A Harris County grand jury Tuesday no-billed the 18-year-old daughter of David Shamp, who had bailed her out of jail.

His wife, 38-year-old Catherine Shamp, was arrested in November and accused of trying to hire her daughter's ex-boyfriend to kill her husband.

Prosecutors say text messages were sent from Ashley Shamp's cell phone to Nathaniel Blake, asking him to kill David Shamp for \$20,000.

Blake contacted police.

The teen's attorney, George Jacobs, says the mother sent the texts.

Catherine Shamp was jailed Wednesday on a charge of solicitation of capital murder, with bail at \$75,000.

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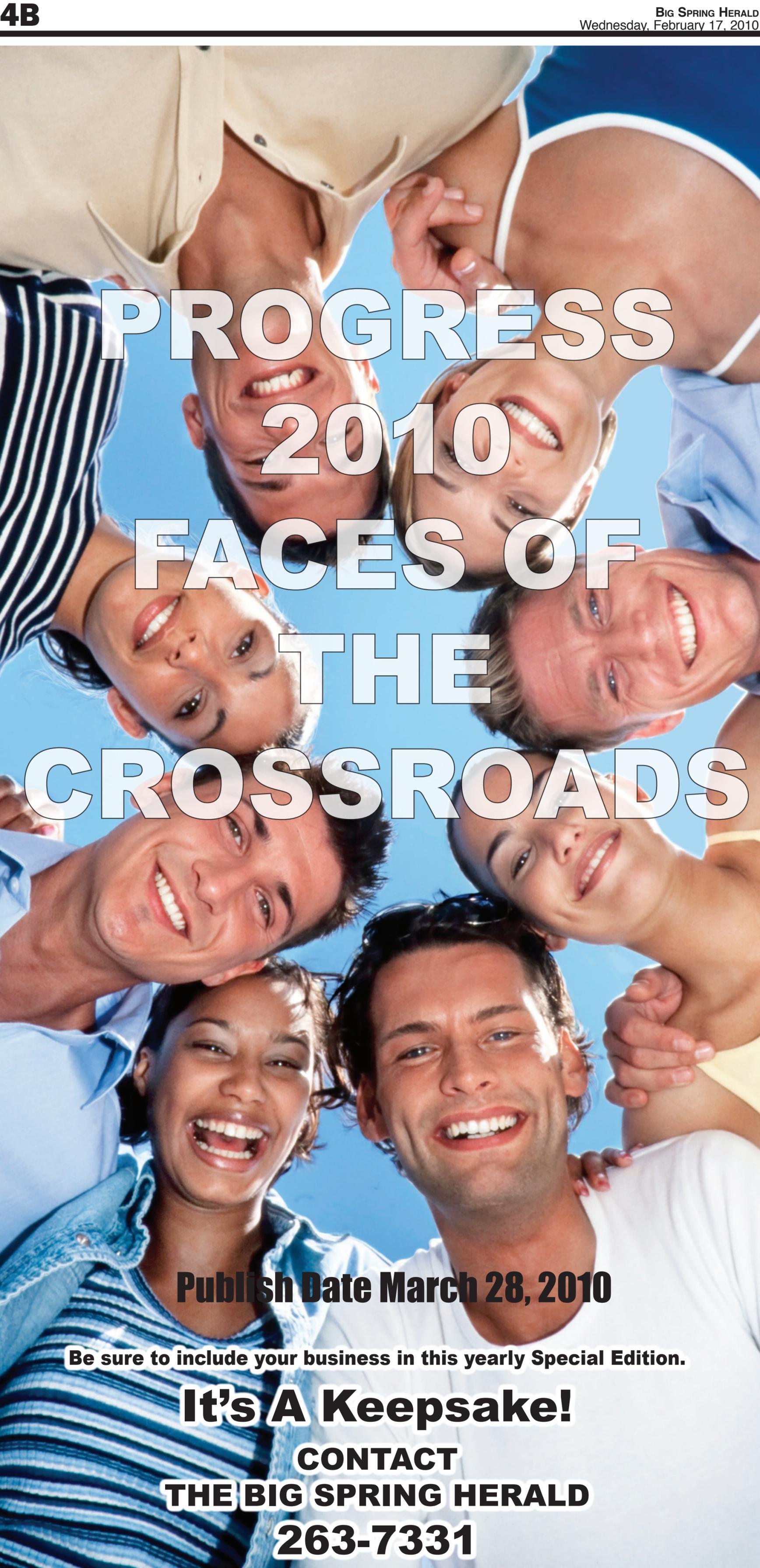
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Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432) 267-6341 or crmw.org.

WANTED PART time clerk.

Qualification: Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must type at least 40 WPM. Must know Microsoft Word/Excel. At least 1 year experience. No criminal background. If interested apply at the Howard County Juvenile Probation Office at 315 Main Suite C.

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Get sufficient sleep. The National Sleep Foundation recommends at least 7 to 8 hours nightly for adults.

Share your feelings. Talk with a friend, a family member or a therapist, or keep a journal.

Spend time with friends and family. Studies show that people with strong social support networks — groups of friends and family that provide a sense of belonging, security, and a listening ear — handle stress better.

Meditate. Meditation, or guided thought, takes many forms: a slow, repetitive exercise like yoga or tai chi; relaxation training; stretching or deep breathing.

Indulge your sweet tooth. Yes — eat some chocolate! A recent study at the Nestle Research Center in Lausanne, Switzerland and published in the Journal of Poteome Research found that eating the equivalent of one medium-sized dark chocolate bar (1.4 ounces) each day for two weeks decreased the level of the stress hormone cortisol and other fight-or-flight hormones in patients with high anxiety. Self-serving as it may seem, the study does add to a growing body of research about the health benefits of dark chocolate, including improved insulin sensitivity, reduced blood pressure, and improved mood. Just don't forget to exercise!

Stress is an unfortunate fact of life for most people: that feeling of worry, dread or nervous anticipation that accompanies the challenges we deal with on the job or in the home, during our daily commute or errands, or in our dealings with family, friends or colleagues.

When we encounter a stressful situation — no matter how nerve-racking it may be, our body physically reacts, releasing hormones that enable us to deal with the circumstances: the well-known 'fight or flight' reaction. These hormones — adrenaline, which increases our heart rate; and cortisol, which elevates the blood pressure and increases the amount of blood sugar in our system — were intended to help us to survive imminent danger.

Nowadays, we're not dealing with short, intense survival situations such as wild animals or unfriendly cave dwellers — instead, the source of stress might be the cubicle dweller next door, a family member you don't see eye-to-eye with, or gridlock on the interstate. Today, the "stressors" in our lives are more likely to be prolonged, continual irritants — and our bodies have less recovery time between one stressful episode and the next. This lack of "down

Go Red For Women Luncheon Thursday

Dr. Cynthia Rutledge and Dr. Sue Roberts are the featured speakers at Thursday's "Go Red For Women Event & Luncheon" beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center in Comanche Trail Park.

Women and the men who love them are invited to attend this free luncheon, presented by Scenic

Mountain Medical Center's Healthy Woman program. "A Woman's Heart" will focus what women can do to lead a heart-healthy life style.

A complimentary heart healthy lunch will be served, so reservations are required.

For more details or to RSVP, call Kim Howell at 268-4842 or Anita Cline at 268-4721.



Dr.
CYNTHIA
RUTLEDGE

time" between periods of stress can adversely impact our health.

What happens when our bodies release chemicals designed to fight danger and the sources of this stress remain or we don't get sufficient rest recovery between one stressful event and the next? This prolonged, continual stress — on and off, for days or weeks at a time — is known as chronic stress. Chronic stress has been linked to numerous health problems, such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol, cardiovascular problems, headaches and stomach pain, depression, and a weakened immune system.

Studies have not proven that stress directly causes health problems, but it contributes to behavioral and lifestyle habits that negatively affect our health. For example, stress does not cause high blood pressure, according to the American Heart Association, but the coping mechanisms that Americans use to deal with stress — most of them unhealthy — do. These include eating foods high in fat and sodium which lends to being overweight, drinking excess alcohol, smoking and being too tired to be

physically active.

Likewise, the link between stress and heart disease is not a direct correlation, but it's known that chronic stress causes an increase in the heart rate and blood pressure. Long-term, this may contribute to coronary artery disease — damage to the walls of the arteries which, in turn, can contribute to an increased risk of a heart attack. Stress is also linked to blood clots, arrhythmia (abnormal heartbeat) and heart failure.

Stress can also make you sick. Stress-related hormones affect the immune system, decreasing the body's ability to fight off colds and other respiratory infections. Research has shown that people under continual stress get colds and flu more often, and heal more slowly after being injured. The continual tension in the muscles when you are stressed can lead to neck, shoulder and low back pain — and stress can further inflame joint conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis.

Stress can make pre-existing conditions worse, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), or irritable bowel syndrome (IBS). People with asthma who are under extreme stress can experience

more severe and frequent asthma attacks, because chronic stress prompts the body to release the hormones that dilate blood vessels, intensifying the lungs inflammatory response, and constricts the airways.

Stress shows up in other ways, as well. It is one of the primary contributors to skin conditions like acne, as well as psoriasis, a chronic skin condition and autoimmune disease characterized by itchy, red, scaly skin and painful joints.

Stress can also cause us to lose sleep, costing us valuable recharging time.

While we sleep, the body resets various internal functions lowering blood pressure; rejuvenating muscles; restoring energy; and releasing hormones that regulate appetite, internal organ function, our immune system, and tissue growth and repair. Insufficient sleep also inhibits our ability to effectively deal with the stress we encounter during the day.

Board-certified in Family Medicine and experienced in caring for a broad range of health concerns, Dr. Cynthia Rutledge has been a part of the experienced and dedicated medical team at Family Medical Center for nearly 8 years. To schedule a consultation with her, call 267-5531.

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald

A voice for children

For nearly half a century, Marian Wright Edelman, creator of the Children's Defense Fund, has been one of the nation's loudest and most persuasive voices for children, families and disadvantaged Americans. Plus, Making U.S. Healthier and slow cooker beef barbecue.

AmericanProfile

Feeling stressed?

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Why not check this out? At the library

Many readers of Bird Poop (Bebe McCasland's column in Herald) urged her to compile her columns into a book. Bebe spoke at a Rotary Club meeting and related the trials and tribulations of trying to find a publisher. She sent several proposals to various publishers, however rejections slips seemed to be the order of the day. Finally, she sent a sample/proposal to Bright Sky Press, whose office was located in West Texas.



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

More than six months later, she received a phone call from them and Bright Sky was willing to publish her book. It took an additional length of time (about a year, I think) for the illustrator to complete his work and then proofing took even more time.

Suffice it to say, the wait was well worth it. The library has a copy for you to check out.

Illustrated by Don Collins with marvelous water colors (he even rendered Bebe and her husband Art in water color where you can recognize them!), "The Scoop from Bird Poop; 35 Years of Wild Bird Rescues" (639.978 MCC B) is available for check-out. My favorite

story is No. 9 about a turkey vulture, a caring young man and the DPS. Our copy of Bebe's book was donated to the library by Hayes Strippling.

My momma always told me that money can't buy happiness, but MSNBC's columnist M.P. Dunleavy says it can. In her book, "Money CAN Buy Happiness: How to Spend to Get the Life You Want" (332.024 DUN M), MP explains how spending your money in a responsible way can lead to happiness.

During the summertime, I watch or listen to baseball. The usual suspects are the Texas Rangers but I will watch the Houston Astros, Atlanta Braves or the Chicago Cubs (It just depends

on who is on TV or radio). Stuart Shea has written an unauthorized biography of Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs. Shea explains how Wrigley Field has played such an important role in the players, the fans and the community. "Wrigley Field: The Unauthorized Biography" (796.357 SHE S) by Stuart Shea is available for checkout.

While not a new book, "Lost Subs: From the Hunley to the Kursk" (359.930 DUN S) by Spencer Dunmore, is still a very interesting book. The description from Amazon.com reads: "Through gripping text and powerful images, this chronicle traces the evolution of the submarine and the history of

under-the-seas warfare. Harrowing tales of a submerged death and eerie images of ghost ships are haunting, yet the daring stories of the vessels and their inhabitants invoke a nostalgic courage, allowing the reader to reflect on a sunken, dark fate that is rarely mentioned. State-of-the-art underwater photographs, accompanied by archival images and cutaway diagrams, answer many questions about why each submarine sank and make this the definitive illustrated history."

For those of us who have worked in a large corporation, Joshua Ferris' debut novel will hit home. Many

See LIBRARY, Page 8A

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Legals

Destruction of Records Notice

To the parents and adult disabled students who were served by the Big Spring ISD, Special Services Department prior to 2003.

Big Spring ISD will be destroying all special education records of those persons who have graduated, moved, or been dismissed from special education prior to August 1, 2003.

If you desire to pick up these records, please notify Big Spring ISD Special Education Services Office at 432-264-4106, before March 31, 2010.

Aviso del destrucción de los Expedientes Académico

Para los padres y a los estudiantes adultos con discapacidades que fueron servidos por Big Spring ISD departamento de servicios Especializados antes de 2003.

Big Spring ISD destruirá todos los expedientes de la educación especializada de las personas que se han graduado, se han mudado o se han despedido de la educación especializada antes de 1 de Agosto de 2003.

Si usted desea tomar estos expedientes, por favor notifique al departamento de Servicios Especializados de Big Spring al 432-264-4106, 31 de marzo 2010. #6439 February 17, 21, 28 and March 3 & 7, 2010

Legals

Bids to enter a mineral lease or leases on the below-described properties:

WHEREAS, Glasscock County Independent School District (the "District") owns tract(s) of real property described as follows:

Tracts of land comprising a total of approximately 29.79 acres located in Sections 1 and 12, Block 34, T-4-S, T&P R.R. Company Survey being more particularly described in conveyances to the Glasscock County Independent School District as recorded in Volume 11, Page 96; Volume 97, Page 113; Volume 160, Page 562; Volume 170, Page 150; Volume 195, Page 707; Volume 48, Page 352; Volume 48, Page 486; and Volume 56, Page 431. This lease includes, but is not limited to, all the lots and blocks owned by lessor in the Town of Garden City, Texas and Calverley Heights Subdivision as shown on plats of record in the office of the County Clerk of Glasscock County, Texas.

and the District wishes to enter a mineral lease or leases for said properties.

A Resolution Authorizing Leasing Minerals on District Real Property was passed and approved by the Board of Trustees of the Glasscock County Independent School District on 2-8-2010.

Bids will be accepted at the Glasscock County ISD Administrative Office until 10:00 am, March 8, 2010. Bids will be rejected or accepted at the March 8, 2010 Regular Board Meeting. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

Glasscock County ISD
PO Box 9/308 West Chambers
Garden City, Texas 79739
432-354-2230
432-354-2503 (Fax)
Attn: Steve Long, Superintendent
#6441 February 17 & 24 and March 3, 2010

Tomorrow's Horoscope

In the evolution of a belief system there comes a point when an idea transforms from a belief into a truism. The notion ceases to be something one invests oneself in and becomes simply: the way things are.

This is the last day of the sun's intellectual dance through Aquarius this year. Ideas mill around in the ether, waiting to land as actual facts.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you're wondering whether you should



HOLIDAY MATHIS

invest in yourself, be assured — it's a good investment. Go on and pay for the class, hire a coach or get the software that's going to help you do your thing. It will be worth it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If it makes you too tired to say you're working hard, just say you're goofing off. Then goof off as hard as you can. By the end of the day, you just may have more energy than you did when you started.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Do some poking around as to your professional and personal options. Your skills are highly transferable to a different field of employment or interest.

In the spirit of self-development, you might enjoy changing it up.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Keep work separate from friendship. You may want to bond with someone in a way that isn't practical or prudent for your current circumstances. Stay within the boundaries of conventional wisdom.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're doing things right. It may not appear that way to the casual observer, since you seem to be dancing to music different from that of anyone around you. Don't let anybody mess with your groove.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll tell it like it is, though that's not what some people want to hear. You only need to say things once. The ones who don't seem to be listening have heard you. But it will take a while for the information to sink in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The rumors may very well be true, and yet it won't serve you to chime in on the gossip. If you live and let live, you'll have more time and energy to put into creating your own fabulous life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It is your nature to seek someone to love. Humans are like this, so don't waste time trying to be strong and alone. Once you admit that you need people, you'll find

comfort in all of the connections you make.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Look into that interest you never seem to have time to explore. You may feel ill-equipped to begin this journey. But all you need to get started is an abiding curiosity about the subject matter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're intuitive, and you're paying attention to the signs. Therefore, you can tell that a relationship is headed down a nonproductive path. What are you going to do about it? That's the big question.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll appreciate that someone has your back. You probably won't need this person, but you'll appreciate that he or she is there for you if you ever do. Your gratitude will be felt.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't want to take advantage of anyone. You just want what's right and what's fair. That's something you may have to fight for, or at the very least, you'll need to make your request.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 17). You are game for adventure, and because of this it will be a year of remarkable happenings. Love keeps your world exciting now through May. You'll be involved in a mystery in June, and you may decide to write about it later.

August brings a big business venture. Get educated in October and you'll increase your earnings. Libra and Leo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 20, 31, 29 and 15.

ASTROLOGICAL TOPIC: MUTABLE ENERGY: Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces are the zodiac's "mutable" signs. Mutable means iconstantly changing, and some may find these signs fickle or wishy-washy. Dig a little deeper, though, and you'll discover a consistent source of renewable energy. Mutable signs love a good makeover. The movers and shakers of the world, they are masters of reinvention. Anything worth doing is worth doing differently. The reason for the chameleon-like quality of the mutable signs is their placement on the seasonal cusps. These signs mark the tail end of each season, a final, transitional goodbye to the old before ushering in the new. Gemini, spring's mutable air sign, can change the entire mood in a room with the tone of her voice. Her words can seem light and breezy even while conveying ideas of import. Virgo, the mutable earth sign of late summer, works transformative magic with her organizational skills and healing touch. Mutable fire sign Sagittarius brings his

holiday-season enthusiasm everywhere he goes. A favorite on Wall Street, his fiery optimism is contagious. Finally, the mutable water sign of Pisces calls to mind the old Zen saying, "One cannot step into the same river twice." A true force of nature, Pisces energy is unstoppable and ever flowing.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: In addition to the roles that John Travolta plays on the big screen, this altruistic Aquarius upholds a real-life role as a humanitarian. Travolta personally sent a plane filled with medics and ministers to Haiti to aid earthquake victims, as well as helping out with his church's efforts to provide help to the area. Travolta's natal Mercury and Venus are stationed in the spiritual realm of Pisces.

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, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I caught my husband engaging in Internet porn activities. We had a huge fight, and he kicked me out of the house.

Our 14-year-old daughter, "Lori," still lives with him because he gives her all the freedom she wants.

Her sisters live with me, but Lori rarely comes to visit. My daughter is a good kid, but a 14-year-old still needs a lot of guidance and support.

My husband says he is being supportive by allowing Lori to make her own decisions.

Is this rational and safe? Can a parent who engages in immoral behavior such as porn, infidelity and lying be a good father?

I want to take Lori away from him, but I am reluctant to force her. She says I have too many rules and restrictions. I don't want to make things worse. Can you give me any suggestions? — *Lost in Hawaii*

Dear Lost: Your husband is not being "supportive." He is being lazy. A 14-year-old should not be making all her own decisions, and it requires a lot of parental oversight to make sure she is protected while she matures.

Lori needs rules. Kids feel more secure when they understand what the boundaries are.

A parent who allows a young teen to do whatever she likes is telling her he doesn't care about her welfare.

You don't have to force Lori to move in with you, but you should definitely talk to a lawyer about regular visitation so she spends at least half of her time in your company. She needs at least one responsible parent in her life.

Dear Annie: My 94-year-old father recently died. Because I was born fewer than 9 months after they married in 1935, he never believed I was his child.

When I was 5 years old,

they divorced. I saw him from time to time throughout the years.

Two years ago, Dad called and asked me to take a DNA test. It turned out positive, proving I was indeed his child. His response?

He said, "I've been without kids this far and don't intend to start now." He walked out, and I never saw him again.

My wife and I went to the church the day of his funeral and were told by my stepmother to leave because I would disrupt the service.

We left. I have three sons and three grandsons, each carrying his last name. My stepmother buried all of us that day. I don't know how to cope. Please help me. — *Buried Alive in N.H.*

Dear N.H.: How sad that your father's bitterness deprived both of you of a loving relationship. There's no point blaming your stepmother.

While she could have been kinder, she no doubt felt she was honoring her husband's wishes.

You have spent a lifetime being rejected by your father, only to have him die before you had time to reconcile.

Please get some counseling. It will help you come to terms with your grief and accept that there was nothing you could have done to change the outcome. Our condolences.

Dear Annie: This is to "Ready to Quit," whose families tell her she's a terrible person: Get away from those toxic people.

I lived through the same nightmare, spearheaded by a jealous mother who considered me her competition.

She broke up my marriage because she wanted my husband. My



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

relatives believed every word she told them.

I also considered suicide, but realized that would only give them the satisfaction of saying, "See, we knew she was crazy."

I was filled with self-loathing until I returned to school, got a degree and walked away from my tormentors.

I discovered I'm a good person, and now I have many good friends who love me. I only regret that it took so long to escape their judgmental comments.

You hang in there and know there is nothing wrong with you. By the way, Mom chased my ex for 35 years, and then he found someone else. She did all that for nothing. — *Better Without Them*

Dear Annie: I have known my husband for nine years, and we've been married for the past three. Unfortunately, it has not been a stellar relationship.

My husband has a mental health problem that he dealt with by abusing drugs, which resulted in physical, emotional, mental and financial abuse toward me.

We are now separated. To his credit, my husband is receiving counseling and attending support groups, and has been put on proper medication for his mental health issues.

He is no longer abusing drugs. I am also in therapy to deal with the trauma and hurt.

My husband would like to work things out, but I don't know if I can ever trust him again, let alone go back to someone who caused me so much pain.

My question is, would it be safe, after receiving proper help, to return to

him? If so, how do I get over the past? It's only been six weeks since we separated, and healing doesn't seem possible.

I still love my husband, but I don't think that's enough. I've brought this up in therapy, but have not come to any conclusions.

Have others been in similar situations, and has it worked out for them? — *Arizona*

Dear Arizona: If your marital problems stemmed from your husband's drug abuse, and if the underlying causes have been addressed and drugs are no longer an issue, there is hope for your relationship.

Naturally, you cannot simply assume he's better. You will have to see him in action over a longer period of time, so please don't rush into any decisions.

Get to know him again, and take your time. We are sure our readers will weigh in with their own experiences, and we will print the best ones.

Dear Annie: My husband and I have different interests, but we are generally happy as a couple.

One of our differences is politics. My problem is, my husband receives political e-mails from one particular friend whom I dislike and whose political views are very one-sided and abhorrent to me.

My husband then forwards these e-mails to others. I guess I shouldn't even read them, but I do, and then I get upset.

My husband says to get over it. I've signed up for a different mailbox, but it seems inconvenient. What do you think? — *Offended in Oklahoma*

Dear Offended: We think your husband is entitled to open whatever e-mails he chooses, and you should have your own mailbox so you stop becoming upset over his friends' political views.

(And vice versa.) It may be inconvenient, but it is practical and will avoid unnecessary arguments.

Dear Annie: I've noticed that when someone writes you about an office problem, you often recommend contacting the human resources department. In most cases, that would not be my recommendation, especially in these times of layoffs and unemployment.

I am recently retired, but have some experience as a first-line manager for a large respected company.

Here is what typically happens: The employee has a problem of some kind and goes to HR expecting to get resolution.

HR then contacts a middle manager in this employee's chain of command.

HR expects the management team to resolve the situation and respond back to HR.

Many times, the management's response is to be angry that someone "turned them in."

Maybe short range it might be resolved, but long range, as one middle manager used to say, "Sometimes the guillotine comes down slowly."

My suggestion in most of these cases would be to try diplomatically to resolve the issue directly with the person they are having trouble with. — *Been There, Experienced That*

Dear Been There: We're sure your experience is typical at some companies, but not all. Depending on the work-related problem, employees have limited options. They can put up with it, try to diplomatically resolve it (although that is not always effective), report it to HR or quit. Sometimes there is simply no "best" solution.

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I didn't know that by Karlen Evins

Ambition
Between the Super Bowl and the Grammys it would appear our American spirit is alive and well when it comes to good, old-fashioned competition. Seems everywhere I

turned last week it as a "Go Peyton" here and a "Taylor Swift" twitter there. Everyone is rooting for someone to win, and when we're not living vicariously through our heroes, we're doing our darndest to keep that

"winning" spirit alive in our own individual lives and careers ... which brings me to today's word: ambition. I am fascinated by the nature of ambition — why some have it and others don't. Are we born with ambition or does it come about environmentally, learned from someone outside of us, like a teacher, a mentor or a coach? Or is ambition like a little acorn instilled in our psyches ... just waiting for the right combination of soil and rain and fertilizer to help it sprout into mighty oak?

The background on the word is curious. By definition ambition means "...a desire for personal advancement," but what has always intrigued me is how the word came about in the first place. While the word ambition covers everything from sports stamina to musical talent, the original desire for this so-called advancement was purely

political. From the Latin word "ambitio" (literally translated: "go getter") the first "go getters" were ancient Romans... more specifically, Roman politicians out to "go get" votes. At the time political ambition was a worthy calling, as it was one of the few ways a commoner could better his placement in life simply by participating in civic dialogue. It didn't take long, however for the "ambitions" to become known as those who would use that political power and clout to better their personal lives, which in turn, changed the tone and tenor of the word ever so slightly, by adding a touch more pride, a dash more cynicism, and a lot more ego.

Karlen Evins, author of "I Didn't Know That," welcomes your feedback at www.karlenevins.com

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 7A

of us spend more time with our workmates than we do at home. In "Then We Came to the End" (F FER J) Ferris explores the characters we all know and love. The office bully, brain, paranoid co-worker — you name it, Ferris writes brilliantly of the interwoven lives in an office that is one step from being closed down.

Another tear jerker from Nicholas Sparks is "The Choice" (F SPA N). Travis Parker has everything he ever wanted — a fulfilling career, friends and a marvelous home in North Carolina. What

he didn't have was a wife and children. From Sparks comes a story of life and accidents, compromises and heartbreak. It wouldn't surprise me that a movie could be made from his latest novel. We do have it in CD format too.

Sue Grafton's latest Alphabet mystery starring Kinsey Millhone is here. You will find this in the Large Print Mystery section. Also found in the Large Print aisles is John Lescroat's "Treasure Hunt" (LP F LES J); Tracey Chevalier's "Remarkable Creatures" (LP F CHE T); one of Robert P. Parker's last mystery with Spencer is "The Professional" (LP M PAR R); and J.A. Jance "Trial by Fire" (LP M JAN J). Jance has

departed from the Beau Beaumont and Joanna Brady storyline and has introduced Ali Reynolds, the media relations consultant for a Arizona police department. It has an intriguing storyline.

The library will be closed from 10 until 2 Thursday, Feb. 25 for training. The library will reopen at 2 p.m.

Howard County Library is open from 9 to 6, Monday through Friday and 9 until 5 Saturday. The internet/video room closes one-half hour before closing and Saturdays it is closed from 12-1. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.



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5:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Friends Office	Cortes Harris	BBC Business	Cash Cab	the Dragon, Jim Kelly	Ways Die	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Deck	Around Interrupt	SportsCenter	
6:PM :30	News Ent	Jeopardy! Wheel	Nombre-Amor	Two Men	News Ent	12 Corazones	Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Mark Swallow	PBS News-Hour	Man vs. Wild	Man vs. Wild	Ways Die	Leverage		Wizards Montana	College Basketball	College Basketball: Duke at Miami.	
7:PM :30	Family Middle	Family Middle	Hasta que el Dinero	Human Target	Christine Gary	EI Clon	XXI Winter Olympics: Snowboarding, Speed Skating, Skiing.	Payne Upd Payne	House	Faces of America	Man vs. Wild	Movie: Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life	Die Die	Leverage	BET Honors 2010	Movie: Hounded			
8:PM :30	Family Cougar	Family Cougar	Sortilegio (SS)	American Idol	Criminal Minds	Perro Amor		Browns Browns	Light of the Southwest	The National Parks: America's Best Idea	Man vs. Wild	Solv.History	Die Die	Leverage	Game Game	Phineas Phineas	College Basketball: Texas at Missouri.	NBA Basketball: Phoenix Suns at Dallas Mavericks.	
9:PM :30	(:01) Ugly Betty	(:01) Ugly Betty	Don Francisco	Simpsons Friends	CSI: NY	Fútbol de la Liga Mexicana		Lopez Tonight	Upd Dr. Young	Charlie Rose	Man vs. Wild	Movie: Superman Returns, James Marsden	MAN Blue Die	CSI: NY	The Mo'Nique	Wizards Deck	College Basketball	SportsCenter	
10:PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Notici.	Raymond TMZ	News Letterman														
11:PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Gancho	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late	Noticiero EI Clon	XXI Winter Olympics	Name Name	Israel	BBC	Man vs. Wild	MAN Die	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Suite Life				
12:AM :30	News Ripped	News Ripped	Torrente, un Torbel	Paid King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	XXI Winter Olympics: Snowboarding, Speed	Sex & Lopez	Sanchez	Overhaul'ing	Movie: Mystery Man, William	Unsolved Mysteries	Saving Grace	Movie: Lockdown, Melissa De Sousa	Cory Kim	Final Fastbreak			
1:AM :30	News Ripped	News Ripped	Mujer... Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Pagado													

DENNIS THE MENACE



"IF A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS, DON'T EVER SHOW MARGARET ANY PICTURES!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



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HAGAR



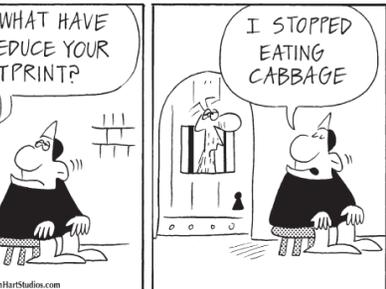
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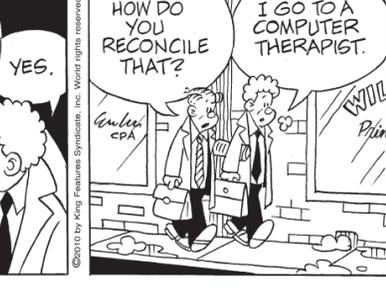
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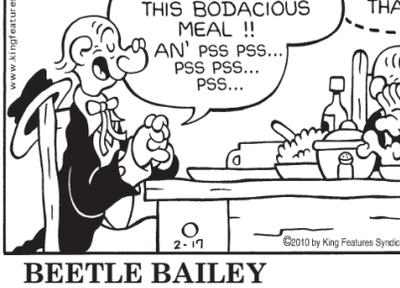
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THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17, the 48th day of 2010. There are 317 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 17, 1897, the forerunner of the National PTA, the National Congress of Mothers, convened its first meeting, in Washington.

On this date:

In 1801, the U.S. House of Representatives broke an electoral tie between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, electing Jefferson president; Burr became vice president.

In 1809, the Ohio legislature voted to establish Miami University in present-day Oxford. (The school opened in 1824.)

In 1864, during the Civil War, the Union ship USS Housatonic was rammed and sunk in Charleston Harbor, S.C., by the Confederate hand-cranked submarine HL Hunley, which also sank.

In 1865, Columbia, S.C., burned as the Confederates evacuated and Union forces moved in. (It's not clear which side set the blaze.)

In 1904, the original two-act version of Giacomo Puccini's opera "Madama Butterfly" was poorly received at its premiere at La Scala in Milan, Italy.

In 1909, Chiricahua (chi-rih-KAH'-wuh) Apache leader Geronimo (also known as Goyathlay, "One Who Yawns") died at Fort Sill, Okla., at age 79.

In 1947, the Voice of America began broadcasting to the Soviet Union.

In 1964, the Supreme Court, in Wesberry v. Sanders, ruled that congressional districts within each state had to be roughly equal in population.

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon departed on his historic trip to China.

Today's Birthdays: Bandleader Orrin Tucker is 99. Actor Hal Holbrook is 85. Mystery writer Ruth Rendell is 80. Singer Bobby Lewis is 77. Comedian Dame Edna (AKA

Barry Humphries) is 76. Country singer-songwriter Johnny Bush is 75. Football Hall-of-Famer Jim Brown is 74. Actress Mary Ann Mobley is 71. Actress Brenda Fricker is 65. Actress Rene Russo is 56. Actor Richard Karn is 54. Actor Lou Diamond Phillips is 48. Basketball Hall of Famer Michael Jordan is 47. Actor-comedian Larry, the Cable Guy is 47. TV personality Rene Syler is 47. Movie director Michael Bay is 45. Singer Chante Moore is 43. Rock musician Timothy J. Mahoney (311) is 40. Actor Dominic Purcell is 40. Olympic gold medal skier Tommy Moe is 40. Actress Denise Richards is 39.

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Answer to previous puzzle

B	R	O	T	H	C	H	I	C	W	A	R	S
R	A	D	I	O	L	O	C	I	I	D	O	L
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Newsday Crossword MARK MY WORDS by Norma Steinberg Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Debating-team contender
- 5 Austere
- 10 Religious offshoot
- 14 __ hygiene
- 15 California/ Nevada lake
- 16 Boat's front
- 17 LP, e.g.
- 18 Furious
- 19 Philbin's cohort
- 20 Hearth residue
- 21 Offer major discounts
- 23 Snow-clearing tools
- 25 __ Francisco, CA
- 26 Makes sense
- 27 Surprised
- 32 Desert rest areas
- 34 Fast-food drink
- 35 Lumberjack's tool
- 36 Blemish
- 37 Pine Tree State
- 38 A __ "apple"
- 39 Funnyman Brooks
- 40 Barbie and Ken
- 41 Glazier's goo
- 42 Outside
- 44 Nervous swallow
- 45 Pull-ups' target, for short
- 46 House add-on
- 49 Shelf support
- 54 Regret
- 55 Acknowledgment phrase
- 56 __ Island (immigrants' site)
- 57 Snowman accessory
- 58 Perjurer
- 59 Eagle-eyed
- 60 Vex
- 61 Lord's spouse
- 62 Elevates
- 63 Racing-form info
- DOWN
- 1 Fast-food drinks
- 2 From Cork
- 3 A little seasoning
- 4 Member of the deer family
- 5 Moonshiners' contraptions
- 6 __ Bulba (Gogol novel)
- 7 Sounds of surprise
- 8 Portnoy's creator
- 9 Memento
- 10 Short race
- 11 Guitarist Clapton
- 12 Manage somehow
- 13 Poetic contraction
- 21 Stage scenery
- 22 Barely cooked
- 24 Vista
- 27 Con artist's decoy
- 28 Sunbathes
- 29 End of the school day
- 30 The way out
- 31 Refuse to admit
- 32 "How silly __!"
- 33 Trebek of TV
- 34 Room in a casa
- 37 NHL city
- 38 New Year's song word
- 40 Dreary
- 41 Fourth-down option
- 43 Queen of whodunits
- 44 Invitees
- 46 Manage to avoid
- 47 Venus' son
- 48 Falls (over)
- 49 Determination
- 50 Where most of Turkey is
- 51 Starring role
- 52 "That's __ need to know"
- 53 Music-score marking
- 57 Old hand

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