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H BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 3, 2010

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

VOLUME 105, NUMBER 73 COPYRIGHT 2009

Yeats wins district judge race

Precinct 2 county commissioner candidates headed to April runoff

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer
Local attorney Tim Yeats took a convincing victory in the race for the Republican nomination for 118th District Court Judge Tuesday night, while the GOP race for the Precinct 2 seat on the Howard



County commissioners is headed to a runoff election in mid-April. Yeats, who ran against former County Attorney Mike Thomas for the Republican

Perry wins
See Page 5A

nod, took 2,662 ballots from Howard, Martin and Glasscock counties in Tuesday's primary election, accounting

for more than 60 percent of the vote. In Howard County alone, Yeats received 2,132 ballots, or 64.12 percent of the vote. Thomas finished the night with 1,563 ballots in all three counties, more than 30 percent of the vote. In Howard

County Thomas received 1,193 ballots, or 35.88 percent of the vote. Yeats said he and his campaign team worked right up until polls closed at 7 p.m. and was very happy to see the See **YEATS**, Page 7A



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins
The audience listens as Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen (not pictured) goes over the successes and challenges faced by the city in the past year during his annual State of the City Address and luncheon Tuesday afternoon in the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Future bright for Big Spring, mayor remarks

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen tackled several tough subjects Tuesday during the annual State

of the City Address, including the \$60 million bond issue proposed by the Big Spring Independent School District heading into the May elections.

McEwen stated his overwhelming support for the bond, which, if passed by the Big Spring voters, will help to build several new elementary schools and renovate existing facilities.

"Of all the elections that will be voted on in Big Spring in the next



Mayor McEwen

See **MAYOR**, Page 3A

School elections draw more candidates

Monday is last day to file

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

With the filing deadline less than a week away, more and more candidates are stepping forward to run for spots on area school boards.

While only half of the board elections feature contested races to date, the number of candidate filings took a major jump up in the past few days, school officials said.

The deadline to file for the May 8 election is Monday.

At Big Spring Independent School District, no challengers have emerged yet to face incumbents Jeff Broman and Phil Furqueron in Districts 6 and 7, respectively. In District 5, however, a three-candidate race to suc-

ceed long-time board member Mike Dawson is emerging.

BSISD Business Manager Debbie Green said Jeremy Blount, who recently retired from the U.S. Army, is the latest candidate to file for the District 5 race, joining CWOC owner Chad Wash and registered nurse Michelle Hamby on the ballot.

Dawson has announced he will not seek a fifth term on the board.

Filings have also stepped up at Coahoma ISD, which

will elect two at-large board members this May. Administration Secretary Judy Dobbs said Brandon Atkins, a supervisor at Plains Pipeline, Ashley Niblett, manager of operations at Wilson Systems, and Mike Blizzard, owner of Cat Construction and a former board member have filed their candidacies.

But the races attracting the most number of candidates is at Ackerly, where five candidates are running for two at-large seats on the Sands CISD

board.

Superintendent Wayne Blount said incumbent Michelle Zant has been joined by challengers Nate Avey, Jody Farmer, Blayne Archuleta and Michael Wigington on the ballot.

In other area school races:

- Forsan ISD — Incumbents Tom Bill Kuykendall and Chris Evans have filed for reelection. No challengers have filed for the at-large posts.

See **SCHOOLS**, Page 3A

Ode to banking on display

Exhibit will open Thursday at Heritage Museum

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Banks and banking have been a constant in Big Spring since the 1890s and the Heritage Museum is about to celebrate that constancy.

"Banking in Big Spring," an exhibit honoring the first five banks in Howard County, will open with



Schrecengost

a reception from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday and run through May 8 at the museum, located at 510 Scurry.

Displays ranging from vintage photos to all sorts of banking memorabilia make up the exhibit, said Tammy Schre-

cengost, museum curator.

Banking in Howard County got its unofficial start in 1882, when officials at the J&W Fisher Store began cashing railroad employees' paychecks, but the first official banking institution, First National Bank, opened its door for business

See **BANKING**, Page 3A

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Carter, Baylor use late push to drop Tech

Associated Press

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Tweety Carter always seems to come up with what No. 21 Baylor needs.

He did it again Tuesday night when the Bears beat Texas Tech 86-68, their sixth win in seven games.

"All year long Tweety's given us what we need," Bears coach Scott Drew said. "If we needed scoring, he gives

us scoring. If we need assists, he takes care of the ball. I thought between him and Epke (Udoh), they really controlled things from the inside and outside."

The Bears (23-6, 10-5 Big 12) got off to a slow start and trailed by 11 points in the first half but came to life right after the break.

Carter knows sputtering first halves must change.

"We can't continue

to start like this," said Carter, who had nine assists and two steals. "When we huddled up, I think their lead was up to 12 or 11 or something like that. We knew we had a run in us but at the same time we were lucky to cut it down to one at half and get back into the game."

Baylor used a 14-5 run to go up 51-43, then built its largest lead, 76-58, on a dunk by Udoh with 5:29 remaining.

Texas Tech whittled its deficit to 81-68 on a jumper in the lane by Mike Singletary with 2:32 remaining but the Red Raiders could get no closer.

Carter was 7 of 12 from the field, including 3 of 6 from behind the arc.

Singletary scored 20 points to lead Texas Tech (16-13, 4-11).

Baylor, which has its most conference wins since the Big 12 began

in 1996, had five players score in double figures.

The loss was the Red Raiders' sixth straight overall and their fourth consecutive at home. The last time Tech lost four straight conference games at home was in 2000.

The Bears owned the boards, outrebounding the Red Raiders 39-23.

Udoh scored 17 points, Josh Lomers added 13, Quincy had 12 and Anthony Jones got 10.

Udoh, who averaged 4.4 blocks per game coming in, had one against Texas Tech.

Carter said he couldn't be as effective without Udoh.

"When Ekpe is knocking down jumpers like that it's easy for me and it's easier for everybody to just spread out," he said. "He's a big threat on offense. Coach called some great plays, got

See **TECH**, Page 2B

Pirates plunder Steers' home debut

By JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

Lubbock Cooper foiled the Steers' home opener Tuesday with nine runs in the first two innings as the Pirates went on for a 14-4 win at Steer Park.

Steer pitchers gave out 14 bases on balls, which led to the Pirates' runs. All of Cooper's runs were scored in the first, second and seventh innings.

"I feel good about our hitting, and we can live with two errors, but we can't live with 14 walks," Steers coach Burt Otto said. "Not against a team like Cooper."

Alex Hensley tossed four innings, including four scoreless before he left in the seventh, in relief for Big Spring (1-5), but the Steers couldn't climb out of the early hole as they dropped their fifth straight.

"Alex came out and did a great job for us," Otto said. "He's been a good surprise."

Shortstop Steven Islas highlighted Big Spring at the plate with two RBI singles. Catcher Jacob Acosta drove in one run with three singles, and third baseman Max Papajohn and designated hitter Anthony Saracho each notched two hits. Big Spring pounded out 13 hits in the game.

Adam Taylor earned the win for Cooper (5-1),



HERALD PHOTO/Tony Claxton

Big Spring shortstop Steven Islas catches a pop fly Tuesday in the Steers' home opener against Lubbock Cooper. The Pirates beat the Steers 14-4. Islas had two RBIs on two hits in the game.

allowing three runs and six hits in three innings with three strikeouts and one walk. Nick Gonzalez tossed two scoreless innings in relief, and Will Brown ended the

game allowing one run in two innings.

"Cooper is always two or three rounds deep in the playoffs," Otto said. "We need to learn how to compete with those teams

— we just need consistency."

Cooper got things started off Big Spring starter Gunnar Kennedy with five

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Lady Steers ready for softball tourney

Herald Staff Report

The fields are ready — the dirt is swept, the brackets are set and Thursday, 24 teams from across West Texas will converge on Big Spring for the inaugural Big Spring Tourney.

It will be more than just the Big Spring booster club, Big Spring ISD and the city of Big Spring parks and recreation, which are sponsoring the event.

Several of the teams participating are building new softball programs.

"They're just trying to get games in," softball coach John Sparks said. "And we're happy to have them."

The tournament also has its share of softball powers as well. Class A champion Forsan will be participating in the

event as well as several 5A schools' junior varsity squads.

"All the coaches I've talked to are excited about the teams we have," Sparks said. "That's a good thing."

Sparks also noted the Big Spring booster club's support for the event.

"They have to raise money, put together the concession stand and get people lined up to work; that's a major part of it," Spark said. "They've done a fantastic job."

The tournament gets under way Thursday at noon at the Roy Anderson Sports Complex. Check the Herald for tournament results.

Contact Sports Editor Joe Zigtema at 263-7331 or e-mail him at sports@bigspringherald.com

Rangers' Hamilton scratched from start

Associated Press

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Texas Rangers outfielder Josh Hamilton will miss the team's exhibition opener Thursday because of a bruised left shoulder.

Hamilton was scratched Tuesday from the second of the team's two intrasquad games because of the shoulder contusion, sustained

during a pop-up drill on Feb. 25.

Rangers manager Ron Washington said there's no timetable for Hamilton's return.

"He'll let me know when," said Washington, whose team opens against the Kansas City Royals in the annual charity

See **RANGERS**, 2B

Tennis update: Steers win boys title in Palo Duro, medal in Andrews

Herald Staff Report

Results are in for the Big Spring Tennis team's progress thus far in the 2010 season.

The boys tennis team took the overall team title in Palo Duro on Feb 24 out of 16 teams.

Jeremy Langford and Jonathan Ray won the boys doubles title

over Amarillo High's No. 1 doubles team 7-6, 6-4. The Steers' No. 2 doubles team of Jared Bowles and Tyler McKinley took sixth in the meet.

On the singles side, Mike Gonzalez beat teammate Matt Garza for fifth in the meet.

The girls squad finished third in Palo

Duro as Christina Chang took second in the meet. She fell in the finals to Elizabeth Talley of Amarillo High 6-3, 6-3.

Reba Smith placed 13th in the tournament with a 6-4, 6-2 win over a Clovis, N.M. player.

In doubles, Teresa Turner and Mariah Horvatic took 15th

place in the meet. Andrea Cansino and Nikita Wagenmann took 21st.

The mixed doubles squad of Alyssa Byrd and C.J. Bureson beat Borger's squad 6-3, 6-2 for ninth place. Matt Ryan and Anna Scott took 15th in the meet when they defeated teammates Amber

Bernat and Todd Takeda 6-2, 6-2.

In Andrews on Feb. 16-17, Big Spring took third out of eight participating teams.

Langford and Ray won the boys doubles title, and Chang took first in girls singles.

Byrd and Bureson took third in mixed doubles, and Mikael

Gonzalez placed fourth in boys singles.

The team will travel to Abilene this weekend for the Abilene Cooper team tennis tournament, a late addition to the schedule.

Contact Sports Editor Joe Zigtema at 263-7331 or e-mail him at sports@bigspringherald.com

Sports in brief

Youth baseball league signups to go until Saturday

March 6 is the last chance to sign up for the Big Spring Youth Baseball League.

Children 5-15 can sign up from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Big Spring Mall until Friday. Signups will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the mall. Registration fee is \$65 and \$60 for additional siblings. Birth certificate required. Children 8-12 must participate in a tryout session March 8-10.

Forsan softball rescheduled to today

The Forsan softball home game canceled Monday has been rescheduled to today in San Angelo.

The Lady Buffs will play Eden at Bell Park in San Angelo, located at the corner of Upton and N. Schroeder streets.

The Lady Buffs are 1-5 on the year and 1-0 with a full varsity squad. They will play in the Big Spring tournament Thursday.

Coahoma softball signups getting under way

Coahoma youth softball signups will take place Saturday at the Big Spring Mall for girls 4 and up.

Signups will go from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the mall. On March 23, 25-26 and 29-30, signups will be at the Coahoma Community Center from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Cost is \$50 per child. Tryouts will be April 10 at 10 a.m. Contact Amy Shifflet at 213-5615 for more info.

Obituaries

B.R. 'Jr.' Leach

B.R. "Jr." Leach of Brownwood died Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010, in the hospital. Funeral services will be at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 4, 2010, in the Davis-Morris Funeral Home Chapel with Dayton Leach and Dave Fair officiating. Burial will follow at Cedar Point Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, 2010, at Davis-Morris Funeral Home.

B.R. was born Oct. 2, 1932, in San Saba County to Ben and Rodie Leach. He attended school in Holt, Texas. He moved to Brownwood in 1953. He later married Naomi F. Gober on July 3, 1956. He worked as a truck driver and also did landscaping.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Naomi; his children, Sharron Humbert and husband Jay of Waco, Glenn Leach and wife Sharon of Brownwood, Glenda Sheffield and husband Randy of Brownwood, Dayton Leach and wife Robin of Brownwood and Lyndon Leach and wife Gloria of Bangs; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three sisters, Gussy Watkins of Big Spring and Ruth Lowe and Carolyn Morgaridge of Lampasas; two brothers, Gary Neil Leach of Lufkin and Jimmy Steve Leach of Houston; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ben and Rodie Leach; two brothers, Ben Leach and Clifford Leach; and two sisters, Dee Lusty and Willee Kelly.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to American Cancer Society or Walker Cancer Center at Brownwood Regional Medical Center in Mr. Leach's honor.

Condolences memories and messages may be left for the family at www.davismorrisfuneralhome.com

Dorcas Bedford

Funeral services for Dorcas Bedford, 82, of Burleson will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, 2010, in the Rosser Funeral Home Chapel in Cleburne. The Rev. Gary Little will officiate.

Burial will take place at noon, Thursday, March 4, 2010, in the Colorado City Cemetery in Colorado City.

There will be no visitation.

Mrs. Bedford passed away Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010, in Alvarado. She was born in Quinlan on March 17, 1927, the daughter of Sybil (Hancock) and Willie Flem Little.

She was a retired nanny and was a member of the United Methodist Church of Joshua.

Mrs. Bedford is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Bob Bedford; brothers, Earl and Jim Little; and sister, Evelyn Little.

She is survived by her sons, Johnny Bedford and wife Desiree of Lubbock and Tommy Bedford and wife Priscilla of Plano; daughter, Bobbie Swan and husband Clyde of Burleson; brothers Joe Little and wife Margie and Glen Little and wife Barbara, all of Quinlan; sister, Wanda Boyd; sister-in-law, Cora Little, both of Greenville; 10 grandchildren; and 15 great grandchildren.

Condolences may be sent to the family at condolences@rosserfuneralhome.net.

Norman Cox

Norman Cox, 71, of Big Spring died Tuesday, March 2, 2010, at his residence. His services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Police blotter

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

- **FULANI LADI WILLIAMS**, 30, of 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 155, was arrested Tuesday on two local warrants.
- **CATHY ANN RAMIREZ**, 34, of 1216 Ridgeroad, was arrested Tuesday on four local warrants.
- **GARRY MONTEL STEPHENSON**, 48, of 701 E. Seventh St., was arrested Tuesday on a Howard County warrant.
- **EDWARD GLENN MEYERS**, 44, of 1800 Monticello, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.
- **JAMES CLINTON PIERCE**, 50, of El Paso, was arrested Tuesday on charges of evading arrest, driving while intoxicated and two warrants from other agencies.
- **HEATHER DAWN MCNEW**, 34, of 2703 Cindy, was arrested Tuesday on a Howard County warrant.
- **SELESTINO HERNENDEZ**, 60, of 307 San Jacinto, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **MARK ANTHONY ROCHA**, 34, of 631 Settles, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE IN A DRUG FREE ZONE** was reported in the 1800 block of Monticello.
- **EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION WITH A VEHICLE** was reported in the 1200 block of Ninth Street.
- **ASSAULT BY CONTACT** was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.






Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 61 inmates at the time of this report.
- **DEVON LEE BUTLER**, 24, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated – second offense and a charge of violation of a protective order.
- **FULANI LADI WILLIAMS**, 30, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of unrestrained child under 5 years of age and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- **MARK ANTHONY LOPEZ**, 19, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of criminal mischief and evading arrest or detention.
- **GARRY MONTEL STEPHENSON**, 48, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance (two counts) and a motion to revoke probation for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- **CATHY RAMIREZ**, 34, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of running a stop sign, violation of a promise to appear (two counts) and driving while license invalid.
- **HEATHER DAWN MCNEW**, 34, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of fraudulent possession of a controlled substance prescription schedule.
- **EDWARD GENE MEYERS**, 44, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.
- **JAMES CLINTON PIERCE**, 50, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and a parole warrant.
- **KEVIN PATRICK THOMAS**, 21, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on charges of fugitive arrest – failure to appear, fugitive arrest – failure to change address and unlawfully carrying a weapon.
- **JASON MICHAEL GONZALES**, 34, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana.
- **SELESTINO HERNANDEZ**, 60, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **MARK ANTHONY ROCHA**, 34, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **JONATHON ANDREW WRIGHT**, 23, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 3/4	Fri 3/5	Sat 3/6	Sun 3/7	Mon 3/8
 69/45 Mainly sunny. High 69F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.	 66/49 Partly cloudy. High in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 40s.	 66/51 Cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 50s.	 68/52 Chance of showers. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 50s.	 70/43 Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise: 7:10 AM Sunset: 6:46 PM	Sunrise: 7:09 AM Sunset: 6:47 PM	Sunrise: 7:07 AM Sunset: 6:47 PM	Sunrise: 7:06 AM Sunset: 6:48 PM	Sunrise: 7:05 AM Sunset: 6:49 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	67	46	sunny	Kingsville	73	54	pt sunny
Amarillo	67	40	pt sunny	Livingston	66	38	sunny
Austin	67	45	mst sunny	Longview	63	40	sunny
Beaumont	65	42	sunny	Lubbock	69	42	sunny
Brownsville	74	58	pt sunny	Lufkin	67	39	sunny
Brownwood	68	46	sunny	Midland	72	48	sunny
Corpus Christi	69	55	pt sunny	Raymondville	73	56	pt sunny
Corsicana	63	43	sunny	Rosenberg	66	45	mst sunny
Dallas	64	44	sunny	San Antonio	70	49	mst sunny
Del Rio	72	52	windy	San Marcos	68	45	mst sunny
El Paso	73	46	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	62	42	sunny
Fort Stockton	73	46	windy	Sweetwater	68	46	sunny
Gainesville	62	42	sunny	Tyler	63	41	sunny
Greenville	61	40	sunny	Weatherford	63	42	sunny
Houston	66	45	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	66	43	sunny

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of E. Third Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Drexel. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of N.E. Sixth Street and Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.

Lottery

The winning numbers in Tuesday evening's Mega Millions drawing were: 09-12-47-48-56, Mega Ball: 25

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 4-16-14-5-18. Number matching five of five: 2. Prize: \$11,791. Winning tickets purchased in: Kingsville, New Braunfels.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-2-6-5. Sum It Up: 16.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-6-5. Sum It Up: 18.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Woods readying
for return to golf

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Tiger Woods is closer to competing again.

Woods is back home after a week of family counseling in Arizona and is trying to get back into a routine that includes fitness and his first significant practice in 15 weeks, a person with knowledge of his schedule said.

Woods returned to his home near Orlando on Saturday and has been hitting balls on the range at Isleworth, not far from where he ran his SUV into a fire hydrant and a tree in a middle-of-the-night accident on Nov. 27 that set off shocking revelations of infidelity.

The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because only Woods is authorized to release such information, said golf's No. 1 player still has not decided when he will return to competition.

Woods was photographed hitting balls at Isleworth on Feb. 18, the day before he ended nearly three months of silence by speaking to a small group of associates at the TPC Sawgrass in a 13½-minute statement that was televised around the world. Those

photos of Woods were arranged to counter the paparazzi trying to follow his every move since Thanksgiving.

Woods has not practiced in earnest since winning the Australian Masters in Melbourne on Nov. 15 for his 82nd victory worldwide.

Arenas would
play for Wizards

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gilbert Arenas says he'd have "no problem" playing for the Washington Wizards again.

In his first interview since pleading guilty to a felony gun charge in January, Arenas also tells The Associated Press he's not nervous about his sentencing date later this month — as long as the judge goes off the "real story" of what happened when he brought guns to the team's locker room in December.

Arenas spoke while helping distribute used fur coats to needy people at an appearance on behalf of the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Arenas said he was happy to help PETA because he has "a lot of free time" on his hands. He's been suspended until the end of the season by the NBA.

Beltran talks
to Feds about
seeing Galea

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. (AP) — Mets center fielder Carlos Beltran talked to federal investigators last week about a Canadian doctor accused of selling an unapproved drug and said he recommended the physician to teammate Jose Reyes.

Beltran went to Toronto last summer seeking Dr. Anthony Galea's opinion on his bruised right knee, the All-Star said. He worked with Galea for a month and felt better following a rehab program, but his knee regressed when he went home to Puerto Rico.

Galea is facing four charges in Canada related to the drug known as Actovegin, which is extracted from calf's blood and used for healing. His assistant also has been charged in the U.S. for having HGH and another drug while crossing the border in September.

Investigators talked to Reyes last week. New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez said Monday that he had been contacted about the probe.

NFL, NFLPA
argue over
salary cuts

NEW YORK (AP) — In their latest round of bickering, the NFL and its players' association have exchanged prickly statements disputing whether players will have to take pay cuts as part of a new collective bargaining agreement.

After the NFL wrote on its labor Web site last week that no player would take a cut as a result of its proposal, the NFLPA responded by saying — tongue in cheek — that it was ready to sign a deal guaranteeing that the salary cap won't be lowered and there will be no reduction in retired players' or other benefits under the CBA.

The NFLPA says on its site that, based on the league's statement, it renewed its proposal to freeze the salary cap at the 2009 level and asked the league to meet with its representatives immediately to extend the current labor agreement.

The NFL released a statement in response, saying the NFLPA intentionally misstated the league's proposal and is simply trying to "preserve an unacceptable economic sys-

tem."

The current CBA expires in March 2011 and NFLPA executive director DeMaurice Smith has characterized the possibility of a work stoppage as a "14" on a scale of 1 to 10.

Pro Bowl to have
same slot as '09

HONOLULU (AP) — The Pro Bowl will be played before the Super Bowl when it returns to Honolulu next year.

The Hawaii Tourism Authority and the NFL announced that the game will be at Aloha Stadium on Jan. 30, the Sunday before the Super Bowl in Arlington, Texas.

The Pro Bowl had historically been played in Honolulu the week after the Super Bowl, but was changed when the all-star game moved to Miami this year.

Frank Supovitz, the NFL's senior vice president of events, said playing the Pro Bowl before the big game generated more excitement and interest and was a good kick off to Super Bowl week.

Ratings were up for the AFC-NFC matchup that was televised on ESPN. It was watched by an average of 12.3 million viewers, the most since 2000. That's

up 40 percent from the 2009 Pro Bowl on NBC, which drew 8.8 million viewers when the event was held after the Super Bowl.

No. 1 seed loses
in Monterrey

MONTREY, Mexico (AP) — Top-seeded Jelena Jankovic was upset in the first round of the Monterrey Open, losing 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 to Latvia's Anastasija Sevastova.

Jankovic is ninth in the WTA rankings, while Sevastova is No. 72.

Two other seeded players fared better in the hard-court event.

Third-seeded Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia defeated Anna Tatishvli of Georgia 6-1, 6-2; No. 4 Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia downed Italy's Roberta Vinci 6-4, 6-3; and No. 5 Agnes Szavay of Hungary beat Julia Goerges of Germany 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Slovenia's Polona Hercog, who lost the final on clay Saturday against Venus Williams in Acapulco, reached the second round by beating Corinna Dentoni of Italy 6-2, 6-4.

TECH

Continued from Page 1B

Ekpe the ball early, got the big one and got them touches."

The 14-5 run that

broke the game open in the second half included four points from Udoh, a 3-pointer by Carter and field goals from Lomers, Jones and LaceDarius Dunn.

"When we got active

and we got aggressive, we were able to get some transition baskets," Drew said. "When we got transition baskets going it really opened things up for us."

The game was similar to when the Red Raiders lost at Baylor by the same margin two weeks ago, Texas Tech coach Pat Knight said.

"We just quit again like we did in the sec-

ond half up there when they jumped on us," he said. "We beg and plead with our guys, and you can't make dumb mistakes with bad passes and bad shots against a good team. Our guys are careless."

The Bears were nearly flawless from the free throw line, missing only three of 24 attempts.

Baylor started slowly and fell behind as Tech made six of its first

seven shots.

The Red Raiders used a 14-2 run, including five points from Singletary and four from D'waylon Roberts, to lead 22-11 with just over 10 minutes left.

The Bears gradually came to life, chipping into their deficit with a 14-4 run that included seven points from Carter to trail 26-25 with just over 6 minutes remaining in the half.

"Tweety was huge all game but especially early on offensively," Drew said. "When (Tech) had that big run, he was able to help get us back into the game and in the second half he did a tremendous job finding people."

Tech cooled off as the half progressed, finishing 14 of 28 from the field, including 4 of 10 from beyond the arc. The Red Raiders led 38-37 at halftime.

In Sunday's
Big Spring Herald

Serious business

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RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

game Thursday.

Tuesday's intrasquad game between the regulars and reserves ended after four innings in a 4-4 tie.

David Murphy had an RBI double, scored a pair of runs and stole

a base, and Vladimir Guerrero had an opposite-field RBI single for the regulars. Justin Smoak hit a two-run double off closer Frank Francisco in the first inning for the reserves.

Francisco recorded only one out in the shortened inning, striking out Taylor Teagarden after surrendering four

consecutive base hits capped by Smoak's double.

"I thought he threw the ball well," Washington said. "It looked good leaving his hand. Guys just put it in play on him."

NOTES: RHP Chris Ray was a late scratch with what was described as general

soreness. He and fellow RHP Warner Madrigal, who also skipped the intrasquad games, will throw bullpen sessions Wednesday. Ray was 0-4 with a 7.27 ERA in 46 games last season. ... RHP Luis Mendoza, pitching for the reserves, threw a perfect inning.

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

runs in the first, four of which scored with two out. Cooper's Jared Flowers hit a triple just out of the reach of Big Spring center fielder Michael Felton to score two, followed by three straight RBI hits.

The Steers would retaliate with two in their half of the opening frame after Papajohn singled and scored on a Mike Enriquez double, followed by a Jacob Acosta RBI single, scor-

ing Enriquez.

The Pirates scored four more in the second off Kennedy as Cooper right fielder Ethan Kohnle belted a two-run shot out of right field. The Pirates would get two more in the inning off an RBI single and a bases loaded walk.

Kennedy went two innings, earning all nine runs. He was charged with the loss.

Big Spring got one more in the second when Saracho doubled off the left field fence and scored on an Islas

RBI single to center.

No runs were scored again until the sixth, when Islas singled home Saracho with two out.

But Cooper would add on to their lead in the top of the seventh with four runs off Hensley. The Pirates had the bases loaded with nobody out when Enriquez was called to the mound. Enriquez got the first two he faced on a flyout to left and a strikeout but then walked in a run, followed by a Taylor double that drove in

three.

The Steers will be in action again this weekend in the Snyder tournament against Midland Greenwood at 9 a.m. Thursday.

Cooper 14, Big Spring 4
LCHS 540 000 5 -- 14 12 1
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Taylor, Rodriguez, Brown and Bednarz; Kennedy, Hensley, Enriquez and Acosta; W- Taylor, L- Kennedy, HR- C- Kohnle; 2B- C Taylor, Kohnle, Brown, Flowers, Keane, Chandler; BS- Papajohn, Enriquez, Saracho;

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BANKING

Continued from Page 1A

April 19, 1890. Following it was West Texas National Bank, which was chartered in February 1903 and remained in business until it merged with First National in 1934.

State National Bank began business in 1903 as The First State Bank in Big Spring and began using its current title in 1924.

After First National merged with West Texas National in 1934, it and State National enjoyed banking primacy in Big Spring for more than 20 years until Security State Bank (now known as American State Bank) opened its doors in 1956, followed by Coahoma State Bank (currently titled Western Bank) in 1961.

Tracking down information for the exhibit proved to be a bit challenging, Schrengengost said.

“I was doing a little bit of research and came across some confusing facts about the first downtown banks,” Schrengengost said.

gost noted. “They rotated in and out of buildings a lot.”

For example, Schrengengost said, the building at Second and Main streets that long-time residents call the old State National building originally was home to First National Bank, which stayed in that location until it merged with West Texas National and moved into that bank’s building diagonally across the corner from its former location.

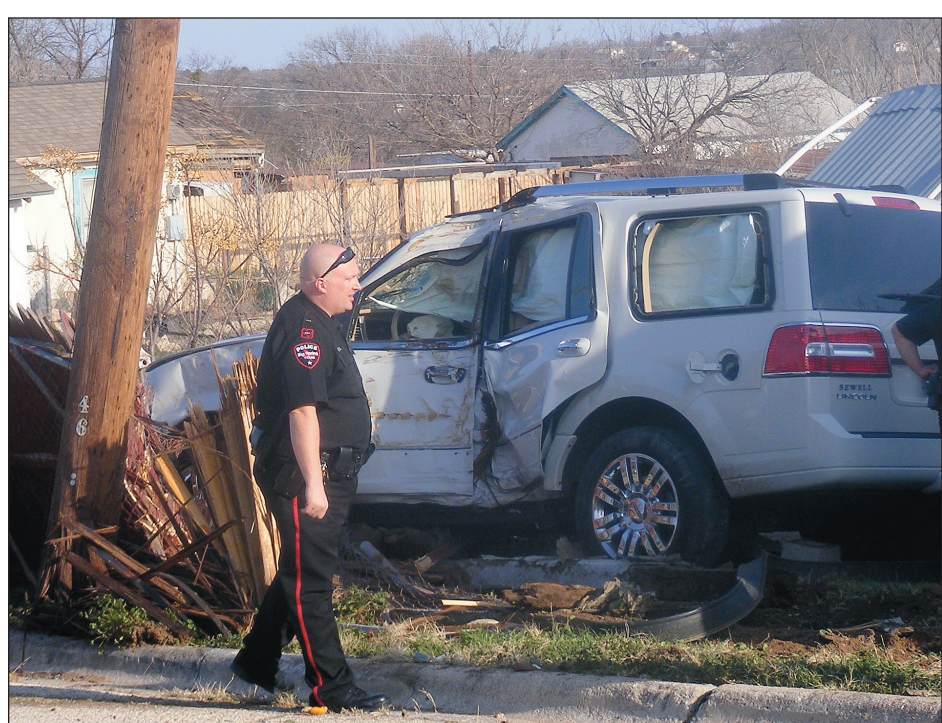
State National then moved into the Second and Main location, where it stayed until 1979, when it moved to its current location at 901 Main.

First National Bank got the moving bug in 1963, moving to its current location at 400 Main.

Security State and Coahoma State Bank have been models of stability in comparison, remaining at their respective locations.

For more information on the exhibit, contact the museum at 267-8255.

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



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Police and emergency medical personnel responded to the scene of a one vehicle accident on N.E. Sixth Street Tuesday afternoon. According to police reports, the driver was attempting to elude police when he lost control of his vehicle, which then careened into a utility pole. The driver, who received minor injuries, was taken into custody.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 1A

• Stanton ISD — Incumbents Daniel Ramos (District 1) and Darren Patrick

(District 5) have filed election papers, said Superintendent David Carr.

• Howard College — Incumbent trustees Murray Murphy (District 2), Larry McLellan (District 3 unexpired term) and Maxwell Barr (District 4 unexpired term) and Michael Flores

(District 1) have filed election papers, Executive Assistant Julie Bailey said.

Persons may file candidacy papers at the respective school districts’ business office. Howard College filings will be accepted at the temporary

administration offices in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

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

MAYOR

Continued from Page 1A

year, none is more important than the school bond,” said McEwen firmly. “It is the most important election we’ll see in the next decade. We are being given the opportunity to position Big Spring as a progressive and proactive community. We have neglected our students for too long. It is time to step up and say to our children, ‘We care.’ I am convinced teachers teach better in a modern environment. Studies have shown conclusively that kids learn better in a modern environment. There’s something special about going to a school that you can be proud of. We have, for too many years, just gotten by. As I travel West Texas, I do not see any community that has not addressed the need to upgrade their schools. Many of the business prospects that come to Big Spring looking to relocate or expand have young managers with kids. They want to know how kid-friendly we are, and taking any of these prospects through a tour of our elementary schools seals the deal, and it’s not in our favor.

“There are too many rural communities in West Texas that have addressed their school issues and have modern campuses. People gravitate to those communities. We must pass this bond or be faced with the justifiable prospect of being identified as a community that is not prepared to plan for the future of their children, and that turns people away from us. More good is done by being perceived as a community that cares deeply for its children than any other aspect. It is a quality-of-life issue. Most importantly, it makes a strong statement to our kids that we take care of them and that they are loved and respected. Parents will move mountains to get

what is best for their children. It’s time for all of us to step up to the plate and vote for a bond issue that will have positive consequences for all involved.”

Most of all, the bond — along with a number of other projects either ongoing or upcoming in the Crossroads area — represent a step in the right direction for the area, said McEwen.

“Most of you know I was raised in Big Spring, and I am very proud of that fact,” said McEwen. “I grew up with a fierce loyalty to this community. This is my hometown. I remember sitting in the stands at Memorial Stadium while my beloved Steers were being killed by a Midland, Odessa, Abilene or San Angelo (team). I remember the anger I felt when I heard Big Spring referred to as a second-class community. I was overwhelmed by a sense that we could do better than anyone else, and there was no reason we couldn’t compete at every level with any community in West Texas. I’ve spent my adult life trying to find a way to make sure we’re doing all in our power to become all we can be.

“While teaching gymnastics for 20 years my criteria for whether a child was doing good was if she was maximizing her potential. I didn’t care whether she won medals, ribbons or anything else. If she met her potential, that was the criteria I used. I use the same standard for our community. Are we maximizing our potential? I don’t believe we have in the past, but I truly believe we have turned the corner and are well on our way to discovering who we can be.”

Also at the heart of McEwen’s speech Tuesday afternoon was the growing level of cooperation between government agencies and taxing entities in Howard County, a process that started more than a year

ago with a chance question from a Big Spring ISD official.

“About 18 months ago the leaders of all of the taxing entities and the executives with the Chamber of Commerce began to meet twice each month,” said McEwen. “Mick Stevens came to Big Spring as the interim superintendent (for Big Spring ISD). He asked Dr. Cheryl Sparks when our taxing entities met because he wanted to begin attending the meetings. When she told him there was no such group, Mick, in his subtle style, asked her, ‘Are you people crazy?’ That was the beginning of what has become one of the most important endeavors benefitting the citizens of Howard County.

“We have learned so much about the problems we all face, and because of these meetings together, we have found many areas of common interest. Because of these meetings we determined there was a real need for vocational training in Howard County. No one was supplying that. It was determined by all involved Howard College would be the logical place for this training to take place. It is amazing how quickly Dr. Sparks took up the mantle. I’m pleased to report that most aspects of this plan have been implemented and students at Howard College and the three school districts are reaping the benefits of this program. I know this program will continue to expand and will reward our community in the future.”

Another project McE-

wen said he sees as a step forward for the city is the ongoing multimillion dollar renovation and restoration of the Settles Hotel by the Settles Hotel Development Company.

“One of the Big Spring EDC’s (Economic Development Corporation) major projects over the past few years, and maybe even in its history, is the Settles Hotel,” said McEwen. “Today, as I look at this project, I see activity accelerating and there is no doubt this project will be completed and it will be a source of pride for our community, stimulating the revitalization of the downtown area. The Settles Hotel will be a landmark that will draw people to Big Spring for years to come. It will be first class.

“The renovations to the streets of Big Spring are winding down. It has been a slow and arduous process. Streets that have been in need of replacement for decades are being resurfaced and are infinitely more drivable than they were. We had the good fortune to go out for bid at a time of an economic downturn, and because of that, we’ve been able to add Lancaster to Main and Scurry, which were originally planned. I know the reviews I have received from those who travel Lancaster have been fantastic. When the landscaping and period lighting is completed (in the downtown area), we will have Main Street that is so different in feel from what we’ve ever had in the past, and I think it will be an asset to everyone in our community.”



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McEwen said the fight against illegal drugs and crime in the city of Big Spring has also covered considerable ground during the past year, making the Crossroads area less than hospitable for the criminal element.

“If we can make it so uncomfortable for drug dealers in our community — and I hate to say this — but maybe they will move somewhere else,” said McEwen. “At least it’s not our problem anymore. And the fact of the matter is, Mark (Barr, Howard County judge) told me this morning that he’s had people appear before him and after he’s sentenced them to time in jail, they told him as soon as they get out they are leaving Big Spring. That’s good news.”

And while many of the recent projects undertaken by the city have had their share of opposition and controversy, McEwen said the frustration has been well worth the results.

“Your presence is an indication of how much you care about our community,” McEwen told the audience. “I’ve talked to you in the past about us being on the cusp of greatness. Today, as I stand before you, we are so close we can almost touch it. So much has been accomplished in the past 10 years that it is impossible not to be filled with anticipation looking to our future. In many ways, the

past 10 years have been painful. There has been much consternation and change we’ve seen has not been without controversy. No change ever is.”

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

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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 destruccion de los Expedientes Academico
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

Legals

Notice of Application for Fluid Injection Well Permit
Linn Operating, Inc., 600 Travis, Suite 5100, Houston, TX, 77002, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Gorieta/Clearfork formation, TLM&B Lease, Well Number 16W1. The proposed disposal well is located 3.8 miles Northwest of Coahoma, in thelatan, East Howard Field, in Howard County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2,650' - 3,050'.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

#6452 March 3, 2010

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FORECLOSED HOME AUCTION 100+ Homes, March 13th. OH: 2/27, 3/6 & 3/7. View full listings at www.auction.com. REDC -RE 0580708

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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

Bill McClellan
News Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

OUR VIEW

Gem Show place to be this weekend

Trying to come up with something to do this weekend? Well, you're in luck and in the right place for that matter, because the 41st annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show staged by the Big Spring Prospectors Club is Saturday and Sunday.

The show is the place to go if you have any interest at all in rocks. From fine-crafted jewelry to rough materials that have only been cleaned up a bit, the show features something for everyone. There will be demonstrations in wire-wrapping, faceting and bead making, and even the fashioning of arrowheads and spears. You'll even be able to purchase a gem and have it mounted before you leave.

The talents displayed at this annual show are nothing short of amazing and all of the demonstrations are free to the public.

It's a great place for gifts, as well. Dealers from all over the state, and quite a few from outside the state, will have finished jewelry, rough rock, mountings, crystals, novelty items and more for sale.

You'll find things you never dreamed could be fashioned out of rock — from small animals to wall decorations that burst with color.

There's always a concession stand for those who get hungry, and a spinning wheel for children will guarantee a prize with every spin.

Hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. It will all be going on at the Howard County Fairbarns adjacent to the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl, just off FM 700.

We've long said the Big Spring Prospector's Club is one of the best-kept secrets in our community and we haven't changed our minds about that.

The club's members have one of the longest-running activities in the area and it seems we're always trying to acquaint people with the event.

Anyone with questions about the event, or the sponsors, can contact Club Secretary Lola Lamb at 263-3340.

So, whether you're one of those people who are always looking forward to this show, or one of those who's never been, be sure to make plans now and pay the Prospector's Club a visit this weekend and join in the fun.

We'll see you there.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we walk with You, Lord, we get more than we expect. Thank You.

Amen

His death has many culprits

A Cuban political prisoner starved himself to death last week to protest against the human rights violations of the Castro communist dictatorship, but don't expect the kind of world outrage and condemnation that would have followed if this tragedy had occurred anywhere else.

Orlando Zapata Tamayo, 42 — recognized by Amnesty International as a "prisoner of conscience" — was a black man. But don't count on African-American leaders to condemn the Cuban apartheid. Don't count on black world leaders, either, not even Nelson Mandela. After all, from their perspective, challenging the world's anti-American despots is simply not politically correct.

When it comes to Cuba and the atrocities of the Castro brothers, many world leaders are willing to overlook all kinds of cruelty. Propelled by unscrupulous business interests or simply an envy-triggered need to defy the United States, these so-called "progressives" are willing to accept — for the Cuban people — human and civil rights violations they never would tolerate on their own soil.

Their hypocrisy is repulsive. Zapata went on a hunger strike Dec. 3 to protest against the beatings and other abuses committed by his guards in Cuba's Kilo 7 gulag, where prisoners languish for years for the mere crime of opposing the government.

Arrested in 2003 as part of a government crackdown that sent 75 prominent dissidents to prison, Zapata was charged with "disobedience" and initially sentenced to three years in prison. Yet Feb. 23, when he died after refusing solid food for weeks, he was facing some 30 more years behind bars. That's because his sentence had been extended for more acts of "disobedience" — such as refusing to wear prison garb — while he was incarcerated.

When Cuban dissidents are detained, there is really no way of telling how long the government will keep them behind bars. Sentences are really indefinite. And that's because these Cuban martyrs usually continue their daring activism once they are behind bars. Having no other way to protest, they constantly are going on hunger strikes and refusing to wear the uniforms of common prisoners, thus earning the respect of those who follow their Gandhi-like courage to defy the government.

Under its single-party communist system, the Cuban govern-

ment doesn't tolerate political opposition. In spite of all the evidence gathered by international human rights organizations, the government actually claims it has no political prisoners, because dissidents are considered either common criminals or paid agents of the U.S. government.

In Zapata's case, both of those arguments were made in Cuba's government-controlled news media last week. According to Granma, the Communist Party's daily newspaper, "forces of the counterrevolution" are making a martyr out of Zapata when he was actually a common criminal.

Yet seeing as it is obvious that the Cuban government could have prevented Zapata's death, perhaps the common criminals are those running the Cuban government.

When Raul took over the reins of Cuban power from his brother Fidel, there was widespread speculation that the younger Castro would be much more pragmatic and willing to ease the repressive grip his brother has had on the island for 50 years.

Yet in spite of U.S. overtures, according to Human Rights Watch, Raul has turned out to be as good a tyrant as his brother, proving what skeptics always predicted: The Castro brothers will resist any change that would undermine their totalitarian authority.

Under Raul, according to Human Rights Watch, "dissidents who try to express their views are often beaten, arbitrarily arrested, and subjected to public acts of repudiation."

Yet their sacrifices are shamefully ignored by apolitical tourists, unscrupulous business tycoons, Hollywood celebrities and U.S. legislators who visit Havana wearing horse blinders and refuse to see the plight of the Cuban people.

Zapata was already in a Cuban prison, considered among the world's worst, when a delegation of mostly Congressional Black Caucus members went to Havana last year, made no effort to meet with imprisoned dissidents and embraced government officials who have blood on their hands. The release of dissidents like Zapata was not something they felt should be a precondition for the United States to re-establish diplomatic relations with the world's oldest dictatorship.

Zapata already was languishing in prison when Colombian pop singer Juanes and a few other useful fools went to Havana last summer to perform in a concert that gave legitimacy to a murderous regime. Zapata's health already was deteriorating as the Obama administration

kept making unreciprocated overtures to the Castro tyrants in recent weeks.

Amazingly, Zapata died on the same day that legislation to ease the U.S. economic embargo against Cuba was being proposed in Congress. The bill would end the ban on U.S. travel to the island and make it easier for the Castro regime to buy food from the United States. But it would do nothing to stop Castro's henchmen from continuing to trample over the Cuban people.

When word of Zapata's death began to spread throughout the island last week, the government cranked up its repression machine to squelch possible protests immediately. Authorities reportedly began a new round of dissident detentions, which is standard operating procedure for the most repressive regime in the Western Hemisphere. And when Zapata was buried, access to his hometown of Banes, in Cuba's eastern Holguin province, was limited to prevent a huge funeral.

Nevertheless, five other dissidents, including four currently in prison, reportedly have begun new hunger strikes in a new effort to pressure the regime to release political prisoners.

In the meantime, in Washington, instead of seeking similarly courageous methods to pressure the Cuban regime to act a little more humanely, political observers are worried that Zapata's death represents a setback to U.S.-Cuba relations! Some of them actually look at it from the Cuban perspective, asking whether now it will be possible for Cuba to pressure the United States to lift the embargo. It's nauseating!

The Cuban government allows a dissident to die in a peaceful protest and submits hundreds of others to beatings, humiliation and unjust incarceration, yet there are people still looking for ways to appease the Castro regime.

Count them: The Cuban government; U.S. legislators who, when they go on their Havana junkets, keep embracing Cuban tyrants; the performers who go there and ignore the plight of the dissidents; the tourists who stay in apartheid resorts so they don't have to see the suffering of the Cuban people; the world leaders who befriend the Castro brothers only to defy the United States; the members of the Obama administration who keep making unreciprocated overtures to a regime that deserves only condemnation — in my book, they are all responsible for Zapata's death.

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Why Americans hate Washington

In January, the Senate joined the House in passing "pay-as-you-go" rules to require Congress to pay for new discretionary spending. On Feb. 12, President Obama signed the bill. "Now Congress will have to pay for what it spends, just like everybody else," Obama crowed. Less than a month later, Obama and fellow Democrats are busily demonizing a lone senator for pushing Washington to spend responsibly. It seems this administration is all for fiscal restraint — as long as you don't mean it.

The story began last week when Sen. Jim Bunning, R-Ky., blocked Senate passage of a bill to extend one month unemployment and COBRA health insurance benefits, and other spending, because it did not comply with PAYGO. As the Baseball Hall-of-Famer explained, "When 100 senators are for a bill, and we can't find \$10 billion to pay for it, there's something the matter, seriously the matter, with this body." For that, he is Satan.

On Sunday, The New York Times ran a story about the Bun-

ning brouhaha without mentioning why Bunning was blocking the bill. A CNN television crawl warned: "Thousands hurt by one senator." Veep Joe Biden lamented the prospect of a single senator filibustering a measure, and wished, as Politico reported, only that the senator would have to explain to the families of the Americans who could lose their benefits "how they're going to get by."

It's a heartbreaking scenario — but it can be avoided if Capitol Hill leaders either find the \$10 billion in a government that spends \$3.8 trillion annually or the 60 votes needed to bring the bill to the Senate floor.

A month ago, Democrats were suggesting the Repubs were phony tightwads for not joining them in support of PAYGO.

It turns out, PAYGO is the phony. Two weeks after it became law, the Senate passed a \$15 billion jobs bill exempt from PAYGO. Now Bunning is not budging. As spokesman Mike Reynard put it, "If everyone's serious about PAYGO, let's act like it."

I used to like the concept, and remember arguing with Brian Riedl of the libertarian-leaning Heritage Foundation. But he was right. As he said Monday, "PAYGO exists as a talking point in order to create the illusion of fis-

cal responsibility while they're ignoring it. It's designed for TV ads."

And: "The offsets are out there. Congress just has to make a difficult decision for once."

James Horney, director of federal fiscal policy at the left-leaning Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, has a different take. The PAYGO rules, he noted, exempt emergency spending. "Right now, adding to the deficit in fact helps the economy, it doesn't hurt," Horney noted. The benefits extension "is temporary and deals with a short-term economic problem." To Horney, in exempting the bill to extend jobless benefits, PAYGO is working as it should.

Horney added, "I would have more sympathy for (Bunning) and others if they applied the same logic to new tax cuts or to extending expiring tax cuts like the estate tax."

Point taken, and it's a good one.

But if supporting tax cuts years ago means a lawmaker cannot push for fiscal discipline today, then Washington will never grow up and, as Obama put it, "pay for what it spends."

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunder@sfchronicle.com.

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Perry rides anti-Washington sentiment to victory

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Gov. Rick Perry tapped into a rising wave of anti-Washington ire and rode it to an easy Republican primary win over Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, once seen as the candidate who could block his march toward four more years in the state's highest office.

Perry emerged from the rancorous battle with Texas' senior senator and a third candidate backed by some in the tea party movement to face a Democrat in many ways his polar opposite. Former Houston Mayor Bill White, a calm consensus-builder, easily defeated six opponents to win his party's nomination.

Shortly after Hutchison called him to concede, Perry continued his non-stop attack on the nation's capital, slamming Washington on spending, job losses and the health care debate.

"Texas voters said no to Washington bureaucrats ... and yes to leadership that controls spending, fights for individual freedoms and the United States

Constitution," Perry told cheering supporters at the famous Salt Lick barbecue restaurant in Driftwood, just outside Austin. "Hardworking Texans sent a simple, compelling message to Washington: Quit spending all the money!"

With nearly all precincts reporting, Perry had 51 percent to Hutchison's 30 percent. He managed to avoid a runoff even though nearly one in five voters cast ballots for the third candidate — Debra Medina, a GOP party activist who has strong libertarian leanings and supporters in the tea party movement.

Competing with Perry for the most conservative GOP voters, Medina raised relatively little money and told talk show host Glenn Beck there were "some very good arguments" that the U.S. was involved in the 2001 terrorist attacks. Yet she still managed to win over some voters who might otherwise have sided with Perry.

The tea party movement's influence wasn't limited to the gover-

Landtroop wins GOP nod in Texas House 85 primary

Herald Staff Report

Jim Landtroop is getting another crack at the District 85 Texas House seat.

Landtroop, a Plainview insurance salesman, easily won the Republican nomination in the District 85 race, out-polling David Andrews by a 7,234-3,800 vote margin.

nor's race; tea party-backed candidates ousted a longtime ally of the Texas House speaker Tuesday and sent another into a runoff.

"A lot of people did not understand, including myself, the growing resentment, the growing opposition in the state toward Washington, D.C.," said longtime Republican consultant Reggie Bashur, who credited Perry with identifying the anti-Washington sentiment just as the tea party movement was taking off a year ago — and

In Howard County, Landtroop held an 1,844-1,164 vote advantage.

Landtroop, who earned the GOP nod in 2006 but lost in the general election, will face incumbent Democrat Joe Heflin in November.

Heflin was unopposed in the Democratic primary.

jumping aboard.

Perry spoke to tea party activists on April 15, 2009 — federal income tax filing day — and in response to a question by The Associated Press even flirted with the idea of Texas seceding from the Union as he criticized the federal government.

"I think the governor and his team recognized and became a leader in

the anti-Washington movement," Bashur said.

White, in his measured and deliberate style, saluted the two Republicans who challenged Perry for the GOP nomination, saying Tuesday night in Houston that he admires their courage for taking on a "career politician" who knows every "trick in the book."

White easily dispatched with hair care magnate Farouk Shami and five others to win the Democratic nomination with 76 percent of the vote with nearly all precincts reporting. A lawyer and businessman with money to spend on an expensive race, White represents the Democrats' best hope in years at winning the governorship.

Democrats haven't won a statewide office since 1994, when George W. Bush was elected governor and the Republicans started

their Texas takeover.

White predicted Perry will try to take credit for good things going on in Texas, including the creation of new jobs, but won't accept responsibility for a record 1 million jobless or the high dropout rate.

"I think we're catching up to Mr. Perry," White said.

Already the state's longest-serving governor, Perry hammered Hutchison for her ties to the nation's capital as he pressed hard for a third, full four-year term.

He criticized her votes in favor of bailing out troubled financial institutions when Bush was president.

Hutchison said she tried to remind voters that she always fought for Texas values in Congress, but admitted during an interview last week that Perry succeeded in sticking her with a Washington label.

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Six steps for a healthy heart

(Family Features) Heart disease is the number one cause of death in the U.S. The good news is that there is much you can do to fight, as well as slow the progression of heart disease by simply following some heart-healthy lifestyle and diet habits.

Here are six simple ways to protect your heart, from Elizabeth Somer, M.A., R.D.

1. Waist Not, Want Not

Excess weight increases the risk for high blood pressure, diabetes, and high cholesterol, factors that escalate the chances of developing heart disease.

One way to control calories, which will help manage weight is to choose "low energy-dense" foods.

These are foods that supply few calories, but still fill you up and leave you feeling satisfied. Foods such as fruits, vegetables, cooked whole grains, and broth-based soups are typically high in water, fiber and nutrients, but moderate in calories, so you feel fuller after eating them and are likely to consume fewer calories.

So, snack on watermelon, have a fiber-rich bowl of oatmeal for breakfast, a bowl of vegetable soup for lunch, and add an extra serv-

ing of steamed vegetables to dinner.

2. Don't be a Salty Dog

Diets high in sodium are linked to an increased risk for high blood pressure, a major risk factor in heart disease.

Limit daily sodium intake to no more than 2300 milligrams, or about one teaspoon of salt. Use salt substitutes when cooking.

Look for lower-sodium varieties of your favorite foods, including foods with the American Heart Association's heart check mark on the label.

3. Boost Nutrients

A varied diet filled with minimally-processed foods, such as fruits, vegetables, legumes and fish, is rich in vitamins, minerals, fiber and omega-3s, which help keep the heart in tip top shape.

Salmon with a side spinach salad is a delicious example of a heart-healthy meal loaded with antioxidants, vitamins, and omega-3 fatty acids.

Add some sliced watermelon, which contains citrulline, an amino acid that helps maintain the arteries, blood flow, and heart health.

4. Think Produce

A diet rich in vegetables and fruits is key for a healthy heart. Find simple and tasty ways to include at least two servings in each meal and at least one serving at snack time. Aim for at least the MyPyramid daily recommendations of two and a half cups of vegetables and two cups of fruit.

For example, toss dried fruit onto a tossed salad or add grated carrots and broccoli to pasta sauce.

You even can drink your produce. Blend watermelon with lemon yogurt and a touch of ginger for a refreshing mid-morning snack. Besides, produce such as watermelon is cholesterol-free, fat-free, and very low in sodium.

5. Cut Back on Saturated and Trans Fats

Choose extra-lean meats and poultry without skin, preferably breast meat. Then prepare those meats with little or no saturated or trans fats. Choose non-fat or one percent low-fat milk products. When choosing processed foods, make sure they are trans fat free. Also keep an eye on portions; a serving of meat is three to four ounces, about the size of a deck of cards.



6. Move More

Balance a healthy diet with daily physical activity. Take the stairs instead of the elevator; wear a pedometer and aim for 10,000 steps a day; opt for a bike ride instead of an afternoon on the couch. Regular physical activity can help reduce blood pressure, improve cholesterol levels, drop pounds, and is a great stress reliever. Aim for at least 30 minutes of physical activity most days of the week.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

There's no telling which relationships will be affected by today's Venus-Uranus alignment, as no type of affection will be immune to the zing of this conjunction. Friendships will be rocked. Romances will be turned up to a surprising intensity — or down to a simmer. Not knowing what to expect will help us tune in to one another more closely.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

An ill-timed comment could get you into trouble with someone you can't afford to offend.

Watch your words. If you do make a mistake, follow it up with a sincere bit of praise, and everything will be saved.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Unreasonable requests can be frustrating. But you're also kind of flattered that someone thinks you can manage such impossible feats. And who knows? Maybe you actually can deliver a little bit more than you thought you could.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

Some flowers only bloom once. You are not that kind of flower.

Yours is a bloom that won't quit, attracting all bees in sight, over and over again. Maybe your petals faded for a second, but they're back now, alluring as ever.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). While some around you blunder forward, bumping into every obstacle in sight, you prefer to parse out your time — observing, then planning, then acting. Your work style looks less busy, but you get more results.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You want to get in the mix. Working with others will sharpen you and make you better. You'll be attracted to commitments, partnerships and teams. Just be sure you know the exit strategy before you go in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's such a thing as being too confident, especially when you're faced with a new situation. It's important to take the time to learn the rules. Certainty could actually be a bad thing. Be open-minded and humble.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll deliver your wacky performance, and only a few people will really understand it. Don't let the numbers get you down. Keep honing your unique qualities. You're a true original.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Look in the mirror, and deem yourself a 10. You'll perform better when you estimate your looks, talents and personhood as top-notch. Indeed, you can go head to head with any that ever has been.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A bookstore is the ideal place for you now. When you follow your curious mind, life will unfold in strange and unexpected ways. Your ideal partner is as adventurous as you are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Steer clear of people who are wasting time or wandering with a lost look in their eye. Stick with those who have a direction but don't mind being diverted by you, because you are interesting.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You can resolve issues efficiently, as long as they don't involve your emotions. Stay objective and you see the most logical and fair way to go. Remain detached and reasonable. Taurus helps you in this regard.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's difficult to completely understand why you feel empowered around certain people and intimidated around others. And it's a relief today when you find that you feel the same around everyone.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 3). You'll get into great shape and will be physically and emotionally riding high. A new source of immense happiness opens up for you this month. Living improvements occur in June. There will be additions to your support system and perhaps to your family tree in August. Your practice pays off with an award in September. Aries and Virgo people adore you. Lucky numbers are: 8, 25, 19, 30 and 23.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "What's an ascendant in astrology?"

Your ascendant is more commonly referred to as your rising sign. So, if someone says they're a "Pisces with Leo rising," it means Leo is their ascendant. The ascendant is the constellation that was just rising on the eastern horizon at the moment of your birth. For those who believe

in reincarnation, it is said that your ascendant in this life was your sun sign in your previous life. The Pisces in the example above was supposedly a Leo in a past life. Knowing your rising sign can give you a clue as to what sort of karmic lesson you might need to learn this time around here on earth and what your true purpose might be. Because of this, your rising sign is equal in importance to your sun sign, so be sure to read horoscopes for both to get a more accurate astrological picture of your life. To learn your rising sign, you'll need to get your astrological chart done. Many websites will do this for free — just Google "free astrological charts." You'll need to know the date, time and city of your birth to cast your chart.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Jessica Biel is a sensitive Pisces who, like many in her sign, caught on early to her career ambitions. She has been starring on stage since childhood, with an early start in musical theater. Her natal Mercury and Venus in musical Aquarius indicates that she's unlikely to resist future opportunities for singing performances. And with eight film projects in development, this young star is on the rise.

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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su | do | ku

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Add a String to Your Bow

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 6 3
♥ A 9
♦ A J 9 5 3
♣ K J 8 4

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

EAST
♠ A 10 7 4
♥ 6 4 2
♦ K 10 8
♣ Q 9 3

SOUTH
♠ Q 8 5
♥ K Q J 10 8 3
♦ 4
♣ A 6 2

The bidding:
1♦ East 1♥ South
2♣ Pass 3♥ Pass

Opening lead — two of spades.
While declarer should certainly formulate a plan at the start of play, he also should remember that he is not playing in a vacuum. He has real live opponents who won't sit idly by and allow him to achieve his goal without putting up a fight.

Consider this deal where the obvious approach at four hearts would be to negotiate a spade ruff in dummy, thereby limiting your losses to at most two spades and a club. This is a fine idea — if the opponents let you get away with it. But when the deal occurred, East won the

opening spade lead with the ace and promptly shifted to a trump.

South won the heart in dummy and, in keeping with his game plan, led a spade to the queen and king, whereupon West returned a second trump. Unable to ruff his losing spade in dummy, declarer now had to rely on a club finesse. But when the jack of clubs later lost to the queen and East returned a spade, the contract was down one.

The final result was due directly to South's failure to adjust to the defense he encountered. Once East shifted to a trump at trick two, declarer should have abandoned his initial plan and instead sought an alternative to staking everything on the club finesse. He might then have spotted a better approach.

When the trump is returned at trick two, South should win in his hand and lead a club to the jack. If the finesse succeeds, his worries are over. But if, as in the actual deal, the finesse fails, all is not yet lost.

Assume East returns a trump to dummy's ace. Declarer cashes the diamond ace, ruffs a diamond and draws the remaining trump. He then makes his contract because the missing clubs divide evenly, allowing him to discard his third spade on dummy's fourth club.

This line of play is superior because it gives South two chances to succeed instead of only one.

Tomorrow: The almighty deuce.
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ANSWERS

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

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5:PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Notic.	Lopez	News CBS	Noticiero	News NBC	Friends Office	Cortes Harris	World Business	Cash Cab	Terminator, Michael Biehn	DEA	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Deck	NASCAR Interrupt	SportsCenter
6:PM	News Ent	Jeopardy! Wheel	Nombre-Amor	Lopez	Two Men CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld	Harris House	PBS News-Hour	Cash Cab	Die	Bones		Wizards College Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball
7:PM	Family Middle	Family Middle	Hasta que el Dinero	Chris	American Idol	El Clon	Mercy	Browns	Rabbi Ralph Messer	Faces of America	Alaska's Most	Movie: Enter the Dragon, Jim Kelly	Die	Bones	Movie: Devil in a Blue Dress, Jennifer Beals	Wendy Wu: Warrior		
8:PM	Family Cougar	Family Cougar	Corazon Salvaje	Criminal Minds	Perro Amor	Law & Order: SVU	Browns	Light of the Southwest	Payne	The National Parks: America's Best Idea	Mayday! Berling Sea	Die	Movie: 300, David Wenham		Phineas	College Basketball	College Basketball: Duke at Maryland.	
9:PM	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Don Francisco	Simpsons Friends	CSI: NY	Sin Hay Parais	Law & Order: SVU	Payne	Payne	Charlie Rose	Alaska: Ext.	Movie: Fight Club, Helena Bonham Carter	MAN	Leverage	The Mo'Nique	Wizards Deck	SportsNation	SportsCenter
10:PM	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Lopez Tonight	Uri Harel Dr. Young	World	Mayday! Berling Sea	Die	Leverage	Wendy Williams	Suite Life	Final	NFL Live	
11:PM	Family Jimmy Kimmel Live	Family Jimmy Kimmel Live	Gancho	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones	Late Night	Sex & Sala	Israel	(Off Air)	Solv:History	Movie: The Terminator, Michael Biehn	Unsolved Mysteries	Leverage	Movie: Devil in a Blue Dress, Jennifer Beals	Kim	NASCAR	SportsCenter
12:AM	News Paid	News Paid	Mujer...	King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	News	Sex & Sala	Charles	Overhaul					Replace	Baseball	SportsCenter	
1:AM	News Paid	News Paid	Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Pagado	News	Light of the Southwest							Emperor	College		

DENNIS THE MENACE

"IF MR. WILSON WAS WORTH HIS WEIGHT IN GOLD... HE'D BE A MILLIONAIRE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"This is the desk where Dad makes up naughty words."

HAGAR

"HAGAR, TODAY I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS... ...SOME OF THE ADVANTAGES OF LOSING WEIGHT..."

"FIRST, YOU WOULD PRESENT A MUCH SMALLER TARGET TO YOUR ENEMY"

BC

"LOOKS PRETTY HEALTHY..."

"WE'LL JUST NEED A FEW SHOTS, AND HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT NEUTERING HIM?"

"WE'LL PASS ON THE NEUTERING."

WIZARD OF ID

"I'M INTIMIDATED BY PRETTY WOMEN"

"WELL, THEY DON'T BOTHER ME"

"NO MATTER HOW MUCH I TRY"

BLONDIE

"WHY WAS FIVE PERCENT OF MY PAY VOLUNTARILY DONATED TO SOMETHING CALLED 'BEGF'?"

"THAT'S A FAVORITE CHARITY OF MINE"

"IT'S THE 'BUMSTEAD EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE FUND' WHICH GOES BACK INTO THE COMPANY TO MAKE SURE NOBODY SUDDENLY DECIDES TO FIRE YOU!"

"SHOOT, THAT'S MY FAVORITE CHARITY, TOO!"

AGNES

"I HAVE A NEW HANDLE ON HANDLING LIFE... A PLAN I'D LIKE TO SELL TO YOU FOR A SMALL FEE."

"I'M FINE, THANKS."

"HA! YOUR LIFE IS UNRAVELING LIKE A CHEAP SWEATER! YOU NEED MY PLAN, AND IT'S ONLY SIX BUCKS."

"NO."

"A BIG PART OF MY PLAN HINGES ON YOU BUYING INTO THE SIX-DOLLAR THING."

"SORRY... NOT INTERESTED"

HI AND LOIS

"CAN I CALL YOU BACK AFTER I FINISH GIVING TRIxie HER BATH?"

"SPLASH"

"WE NEED TO GET A WATERPROOF PHONE."

THE OTHER COAST

"TODAY'S SPECIAL IS OFF THE MENU. THE CHEF BURIED IT IN THE BACKYARD, AND WE CAN'T FIND IT."

SNUFFY SMITH

"HOW WUZ SCHOOL, JUGHAID?"

"AWESOME !! TH' SUBSTITUTE TEACHER BURST INTO TEARS AN' CALLED TH' PRINCIPAL A DOO-DOO HEAD !!"

"I CAN'T WAIT T'SEE WHAT HAPPENS TOMORRY !!"

BEETLE BAILEY

"SIR, YOU ASKED ME TO REMIND YOU WHEN..."

"GENE HALFT"

"SEE YOU LATER!"

"HE'S LATE FOR EVERYTHING BUT HIS GOLF GAMES"

"ZOOM"

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, March 3, the 62nd day of 2010. There are 303 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 3, 1931, President Herbert Hoover signed a measure making "The Star-Spangled Banner" the national anthem of the United States.

On this date:

- In 1845, Florida became the 27th state.
- In 1849, the U.S. Department of the Interior was established.
- In 1894, British Prime Minister William Gladstone submitted his resignation to Queen Victoria, ending his fourth and final premiership.
- In 1918, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, the Ottoman Empire and Russia signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, which ended Russian participation in World War I. (The treaty was rendered moot by the November 1918 armistice.)
- In 1940, Artie Shaw and his

orchestra recorded "Frenesi" for RCA Victor.

In 1945, the Allies fully secured the Philippine capital of Manila from Japanese forces during World War II.

In 1960, actress-comedian Lucille Ball filed for divorce from her husband, Desi Arnaz, a day after they'd finished filming the last episode of "The Lucy-Desi Comedy Hour" ("Lucy Meets the Mustache") on Arnaz's 43rd birthday.

In 1969, Apollo 9 blasted off from Cape Kennedy on a mission to test the lunar module.

In 1974, a Turkish Airlines DC-10 crashed shortly after takeoff from Orly Airport in Paris, killing all 346 people on board.

In 1991, motorist Rodney King was severely beaten by Los Angeles police officers in a scene captured on amateur video. Twenty-five people were killed when a United Airlines Boeing 737-200 crashed while approaching the Colorado Springs airport.

Today's Birthdays: Socialite Lee Radziwill is 77. Movie producer-director George Miller is 65. Actress Hattie Winston is 65. Singer Jennifer Warnes is 63. Actor-director Tim

Kazurinsky is 60. Singer-musician Robyn Hitchcock is 57. Rock musician John Lilley is 56. Actress Miranda Richardson is 52. Radio personality Ira Glass is 51. Actress Mary Page Keller is 49. Olympic track and field gold medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersey is 48. College Football Hall of Famer Herschel Walker is 48. Rapper-actor Tone-Loc (Iohk) is 44. Rock musician John Bigham is 41. Actress Julie Bowen is 40. Country singer Brett Warren (The Warren Brothers) is 39. Actor David Faustino is 36. Singer Roman Keating (Boyzone) is 33. Rapper Lil' Flip is 29. Actress Jessica Biel is 28. Rock musician Blower (aka Joe Garvey) (Hinder) is 26.

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Answer to previous puzzle

TAPS	THESE	ITAL
ARUN	RAPON	NINE
LIRA	ARISE	FETA
CARPAND	COMPLAIN	
ABS	YEA	
PASTA	LIP	AMISS
IVY	SHINES	ETAL
PERCHUN	STEADILY	
ERIE	TEETER	SSE
STAND	STY	BRIAR
SEA	COO	
FLOUNDER	THROUGH	
ROAD	AWOKE	TRIO
ACRE	PESOS	EGGS
TOSS	TRYST	REST

Newsday Crossword

BEATS ME by Fred Jackson III
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bottomless pit
 - 6 Ranch hand's mount
 - 10 Star Wars heroine
 - 14 Famous fountain of Italy
 - 15 Bird-feeder food
 - 16 Semester ender
 - 17 Well- (working smoothly)
 - 18 Post-axing leftover
 - 20 Bit of buckshot
 - 22 Only
 - 23 Baton Rouge sch.
 - 24 Pulled tight
 - 26 Aircraft carrier, in Navy slang
 - 28 Asian beast of burden
 - 32 Get a move on
 - 33 Lion's locks
 - 34 Worked with wood
 - 38 Dutch cheese
 - 40 Sailors
 - 43 Spicy cuisine
 - 44 Fortuneteller's deck
 - 46 Washing machine contents
 - 48 Rangle
 - 49 Fitting activity?
 - 53 Circus performer
 - 56 "Your Majesty"
 - 57 Golf prodigy
 - 58 Michelle
 - 58 007 school
 - 60 "Aw, heck!"
 - 64 Basketball shot
 - 67 ___ prize (unenviable award)

- DOWN**
- 1 On
 - 2 Creamy cheese
 - 3 "Gimme a C!" e.g.
 - 4 Graceful and slender
 - 5 Like some baseball pitches
 - 6 FDR successor
 - 7 Not just mine
 - 8 Accompany to the airport
 - 9 Name that means "star"
 - 10 Suffix for cut
 - 11 Jump for joy
 - 12 "No you're not!" retort
 - 13 Intensity, slangily
 - 19 Waterproofs
 - 21 Marching-band instruments
 - 25 Sushi staple
 - 27 Precisely
 - 28 Improve, as an edge
 - 29 Opera set in Egypt
 - 30 Lacerate
 - 31 One's beau
 - 35 Expert
 - 36 Countess' spouse
 - 37 Water barrier
 - 39 Magic charm
 - 41 Tugboat jobs
 - 42 Savory
 - 45 Lost Horizon setting
 - 47 Built to
 - 71 Across
 - 50 Assemble
 - 51 Far from calm
 - 52 Focus
 - 53 Bad and then some
 - 54 Right around
 - 55 Reacts to a shock
 - 59 Alaska city
 - 61 Dessert, to a dieter
 - 62 "A likely story!"
 - 63 Daly of Judging Amy
 - 65 "Clean your plate!"

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YEATS

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final tabulations.

"This is my first time running for office, so I was pretty nervous going into things tonight," said Yeats. "However, we really didn't have much time to think about it since we campaigned right up until the polls closed tonight. We worked hard on this election and I really feel like it paid off."

"I really appreciate the race Mike (Thomas) ran in this election. It was a really good, clean race, and we've been friends for many years now, and we'll be friends for many more. I'm very happy with the way it went."

With no Democratic candidate to challenge him, Yeats is expected to take the office in approximately nine months. However, the local attorney said he won't be able to spend that period celebrating.

"I still have plenty of cases from my private practice that I have to wrap up, and I imagine it will take all nine months to do it," said Yeats. "However, I think it will be a pleasant task. I'm really looking forward to serving the people of the 118th District."

While Yeats can breathe easy, candidates in the race for the Precinct 2 seat on the Howard County Commissioners Court won't have that luxury.

Local resident Donnie Baker came out ahead in the contest, pulling in 617 ballots for 43.45 percent of the vote in the Republican contest. Incumbent candidate Jerry Kilgore came in second with 532 ballots, or 37.46 percent of the vote, while third-place finisher Melanie Gambrell garnered 271 ballots to make up the final 19.08 percent of the vote.

"I was really confident going into today's election. I didn't want to seem arrogant, but I really did feel confident,"

said Baker. "However, looking back I kind of wish I had worked a little harder and gone out and met a few more people. I'm happy with the results, and Jerry (Kilgore) and I are friends, so we'll go at it again in the runoff election."

"One thing I can definitely say is I'm pleased with the fact everyone ran a clean race. I've met Melanie (Gambrell), and I'm very pleased with how everyone campaigned. It was a good race, and I'm sure the race leading up to the runoff election will be just as good."

Kilgore said he's pleased with the way the race turned out and is now turning his attention to the runoff.

"Melanie and I talked about it beforehand, and we both knew she would play the role of spoiler in the primary," said Kilgore. "Looking at the final numbers I suppose I didn't work as hard as I should have. When you're a new candidate I suppose it's a little easier to get people ex-

cited about going out and voting, and I think that's going to play a pretty big role in the runoff election."

In the Democratic primary for the same seat, political newcomer Jim Sinclair took a narrow victory over his challenger with 80 ballots, or 55.56 percent of the vote. Fellow Dem candidate Richard Belew drew 64 ballots, or 44.44 percent of the vote.

Sinclair said the uncertainty going into the GOP runoff for the Republican nomination does little to soothe his nerves.

"I'm pleased I was able to get my party's nomination, but the uncertainty of who I'm going to face in November makes it sort of hard to celebrate," said Sinclair. "Regardless, however, I'm very excited about the outcome of tonight's election. Whoever wins the runoff, however, we're going to have a pretty substantial job putting together a campaign for November. Both are very strong

candidates."

In the race for Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 Place 2 incumbent candidate Kathryn Wiseman took the GOP nod with 1,729 ballots, or 72.31 percent of the vote. Challenger David Baird received 662 ballots, or 27.69 percent of the vote.

Wiseman said she takes the convincing victory as the voters way of telling her she's doing a good job.

"I was very interested to see how it was going to turn out," said Wiseman. "I felt pretty confident coming into the primaries. However, you can never take the voters for granted. They will let you know if they don't feel like you're doing a good job. They'll let you know."

Wiseman will face local businessman Ricky Hughes in the November election. Hughes ran unopposed on the Democratic ticket.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232.

Why not check this out? At the library

I have raided the processing room for our newest acquisitions.

Edward M. Kennedy died Aug. 8, 2009, and in September 2009,

his memoir "True

Compass"

(B KEN E)

was published.

Five

years in the

making, Sen.

Edward M.

Kennedy tells

his extraordinary

personal

story — of

his legendary

family, politics

and 50 years

at the center of

national events.

In this his-

toric memoir,

Ted Kennedy

takes us inside

his family,

re-creating life

with his parents

and brothers and

explaining

their profound

impact on him.

For the first time,

he describes his

heartbreak and

years of struggle

in the wake of

their deaths. Through

it all, he describes

his work in the Sen-

ate on the major issues of our time:

civil rights, Vietnam, Watergate, the

quest for peace in Northern Ireland

and the cause of his life

— improved health care

for all Americans. This

is not a review, but a

description of what is

in the book.

Remember the U.S.

Airways flight that

landed in the icy

waters of the Hud-

son River? Captain

Chesley "Sully"

Sullenberger (along

with Jeffrey Zaslow)

writes in "Highest

Duty: My Search

for What Really

Matters" (B SUL C)

how his life lessons

formed him. He

began flying crop

dusters in Texas,

progressed to fly-

ing F-4 Phantoms

in the USAF and then finally

became a commercial pilot. It should

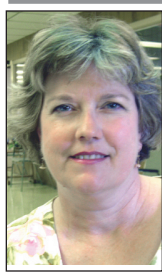
be an interesting book to read.

While this is in the fiction section,

Jeannette Walls ("The Glass Castle")

writes about her inimitable grand-

mother, Lily Casey Smith. From



HOLLIS
MCCRIGHT

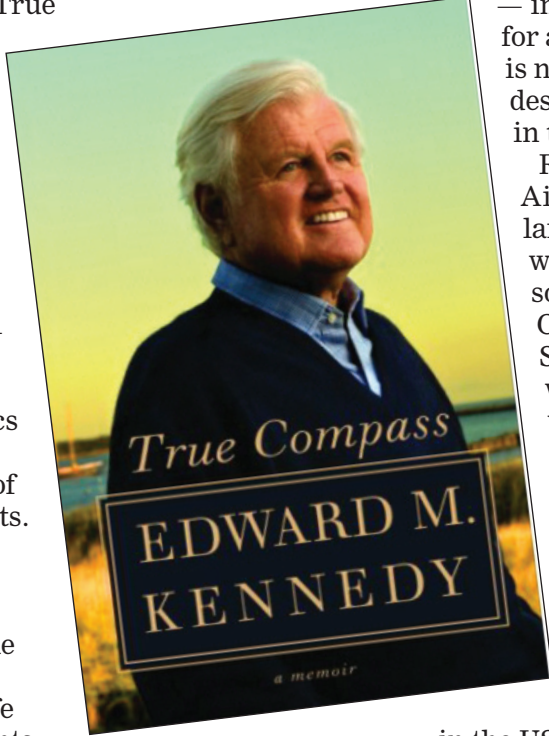
the book flap, Walls writes that by age 6 Lily was helping her father break horses. At age 15, she left home to teach school to teach in a frontier town, riding her pony 500 miles (alone) to get her job. She loved cars (didn't have to feed them) and learned to fly. She and her husband Jim ran a vast ranch in Arizona and raised two children. If you read Walls' first book, then you should read this one to further understand her life. The title is "Half Broke Horses" (F WAL J) and in spots it sort of reminds me of Sandra Day O'Connor's life growing up.

How many of you have really read

Charles Darwin's book "On the Origin of the Species"? The library has received an exquisite copy of his book. It is illustrated so beautifully, photos and illustrations from the original book make this so very interesting to read. The title is "On the Origin of the Species - Charles Darwin" (876.82 QUA D); author/editor is David Quammen and it will be ready for checkout this week.

So many of our great authors have died in 2009 and early 2010. Michael Crichton, Dominic Dunne, Edward E. Kennedy, Frank McCourt, Donald Westlake, Tony Hillerman and Robert B. Parker, just to name a few. Found among Michael Crichton's papers was a completed manuscript, "Pirate Latitudes" (F CRI M). Ac-

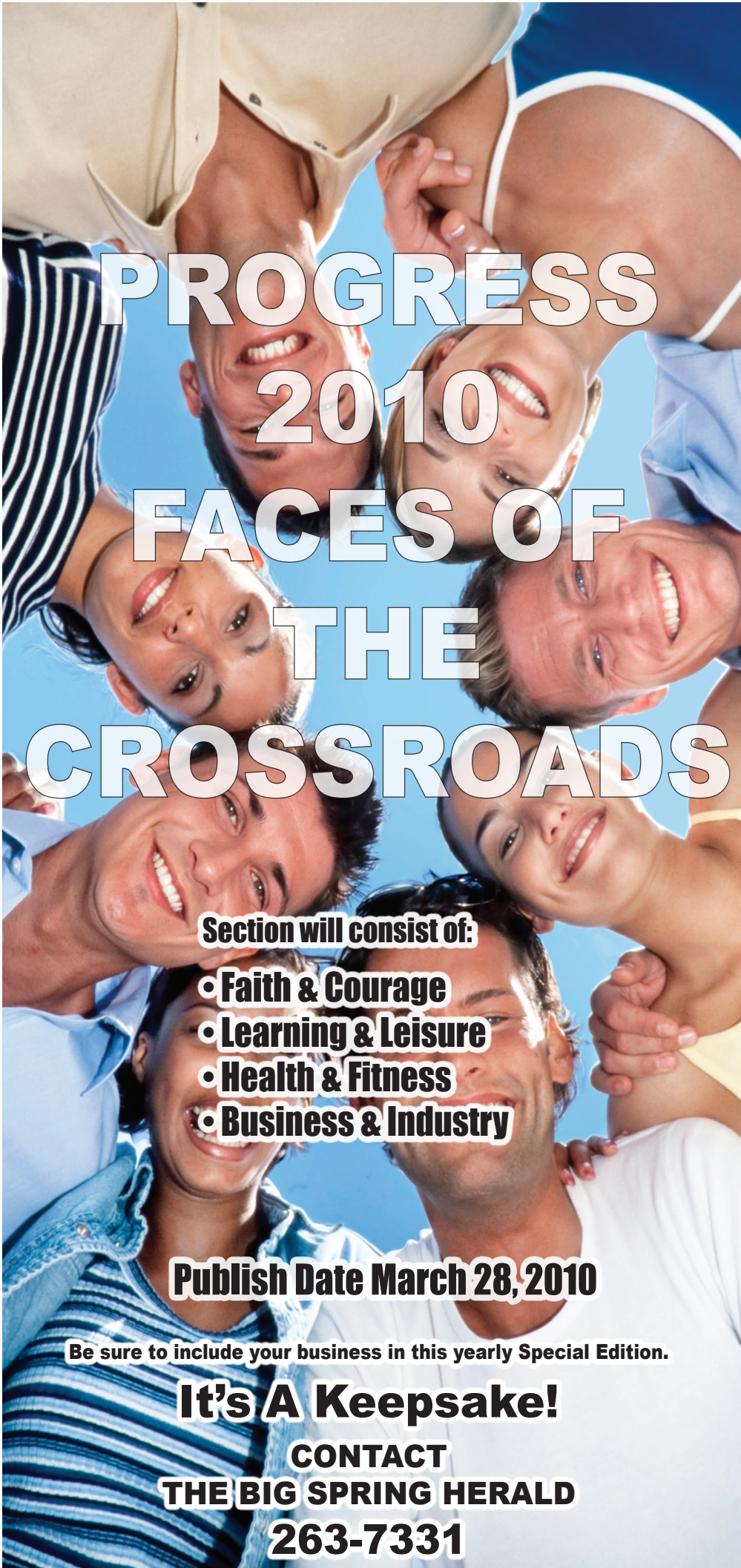
See LIBRARY, Page 8A



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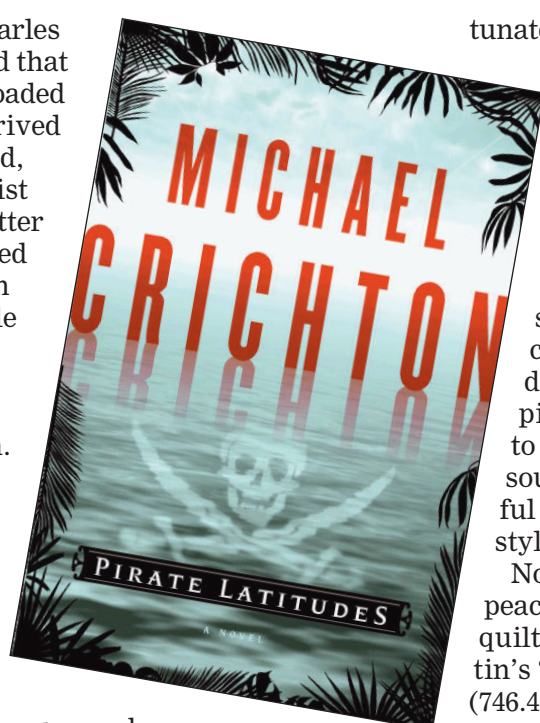
Continued from Page 7A

According to Amazon.com., Steven Spielberg has already signed on to film it.

Crichton has cross-bred Johnny Depp and Daniel Craig to create the coolest, handsomest, daringest sea dog in the world. He opens

the story in 1665 in "a miserable, overcrowded, cutthroat-infested town" on the island of Jamaica, a wealthy if precarious British settlement deep in Spanish territory. King Charles II has signed a fragile treaty with Spain, but English pirates, who euphemistically call themselves "privateers," continue to operate whenever and wherever opportunity

arises. When Charles Hunter gets word that a Spanish ship loaded with gold has arrived at a nearby island, Hunter can't resist the prize. No matter that 300 men failed in their attack on that impenetrable fortress just last year or that the commander is a notorious villain. The adventure that follows is a sort of "Great Train Robbery" with an eye patch and a peg leg — one impossible deadly fix after another. "It was unheard of," Crichton reminds us, "an insane thing to do." From sword fights in



burning buildings filled with gunpowder to crossbow attacks on sinking ships. For-

tunately, Hunter is indestructible, the kind of guy who can jump 30 feet and still look suave in a puffy shirt, while dispatching battalions of Spanish soldiers: stabbed, crushed, strangled, drowned, shot, pierced and blown to smithereens. It sounds like a delightful romp — pirate style.

Now to a relatively peaceful activity — quilting. Judy Martin's "Stellar Quilts" (746.460 MAR J) is now available to check out. Martin's book is, as the name implies, about stars; stars that are scrappy, gradu-

ated stars and all are original designs by the author. While they look complicated to cut and piece, Martin will show you how to use the rotary cutter, rulers and paper templates to cut the sharpest point accurately. I encourage you to check it out to try.

Howard County Library is open from 9 to 6, Monday through Friday and Saturday from 10 until 2. 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.

St. Jude patient Brook (center) with her sisters



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