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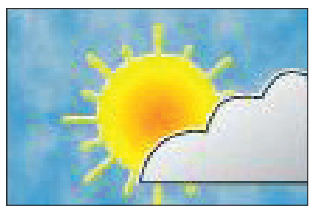
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THE BIG SPRING HERALD

SUNDAY

APRIL 25, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 119

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2010 Big Spring municipal elections questionnaire

INSIDE: Candidates for Big Spring mayor and city council respond to questions from the *Herald*. See Pages 6-9A.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

The Big Spring Steers defeated San Angelo Lake View 12-10 Friday to earn a spot in the playoffs, despite a season as bumpy as the shot Jacob Acosta took on this bad pitch. See Page 1B.

Early voting begins Monday

Coahoma residents ponder economic development

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer
Early voting in this year's municipal elections is set to get under way Monday morning at the Howard County Courthouse, as area candidates look to make their way into the home stretch for the

May 8 contest. In the city of Big Spring, four candidates will be vying for the mayor's seat on the city council. Incumbent Russ McEwen will face off against challengers Tommy Duncan, Shannon Thomason and Oscar Velasco.

The race for the District 5 seat on the city council pits incumbent Troy Tompkins, who is finishing his first three-year term in the seat, against challenger Craig Olson.

See **VOTE**, Page 3A

No shortage of candidates for trustee elections

By BILL McCLELLAN
News Editor
There are candidates aplenty for area school board elections, which begin Monday with early voting. District 5 on the Big Spring Independent School District is guaranteed to have a new face following election day, May 8. That's because incumbent Mike Dawson is stepping down after four terms on the board. He'll be making way for one of three challengers. They are Jeremy Blount, U.S. Army retiree; Chad Wash, owner of CWOC Inc.; and Michelle Hamby, a registered nurse at the Big Spring State Hospital.

owner of Cat Construction and a former board member. Incumbents James White and Sissy Franklin are not seeking re-election. Citizens casting early ballots in the Big Spring ISD or Coahoma ISD elections should vote at the Howard County Courthouse. Hours will be weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through May 4. Branch voting will be held from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 3 at the Big Spring High School Library. Extended hours, until 7 p.m., will be held April 29 and May 4. Residents within the Sands CISD will also be electing trustees during the same time period. Voting in the CISD board of trustees election will be held at the school board room in Ackerly from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. weekdays. Two at-large seats are up for election. The candidates include incumbent Michelle Zant and six others: Nate Avey, Jody Howard, Blayne Archuleta, Nelda Saldivar-Franco, Matt Snell and Michael Wigington. The other incumbent, Stan Blaggrave, board president and a 15-year veteran of the board, decided to step aside.



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Katherine McCallister, left, and Xana Dennis with Odessa-based Chili Twister Co. get their wares ready to sell Saturday morning during the Dee's Trade Show at the Howard County Fair Barns. The show continues through 5 p.m. Sunday.

Economic development grant on county's agenda Monday

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer
A possible economic development grant for the Plains Cotton Cooperative Association tops the agenda for the Howard County commissioners, as the county takes a second look at a tax break for the growing company. Jay Cowart, a representative of PCCA, will present the court with a plan for an economic development

grant that would accomplish the same thing a recent tax abatement issued to the cotton company by Howard College did, according to County Judge Mark Barr. "The PCCA came before us sometime back and requested a tax abatement for several new warehouses they were in the process of building," said Barr. "The commissioners decided not to approve the abatement at

that time. However, since then we've had a chance to look at it, and this grant will accomplish the same thing the tax abatement issued by the college did." Barr said PCCA is expanding its warehouses in a three-phase program. "The first phase has already been completed," said Barr. "They are in the process of

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Spurs gain upper hand vs. Dallas

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Blood dripped from Manu Ginobili's nose. He had caught an elbow from Dirk Nowitzki, then disappeared into the locker room while leaving a trail of red blotches behind him on the tunnel floor.

He didn't know yet his nose was broken. That diagnosis would have to wait.

Ginobili still had work to do, so he patched up his gushing nose with a bandage and came back late in the third, then scored 11 of his 15 points in the fourth to lead the San Antonio Spurs to a 94-90 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Friday night.

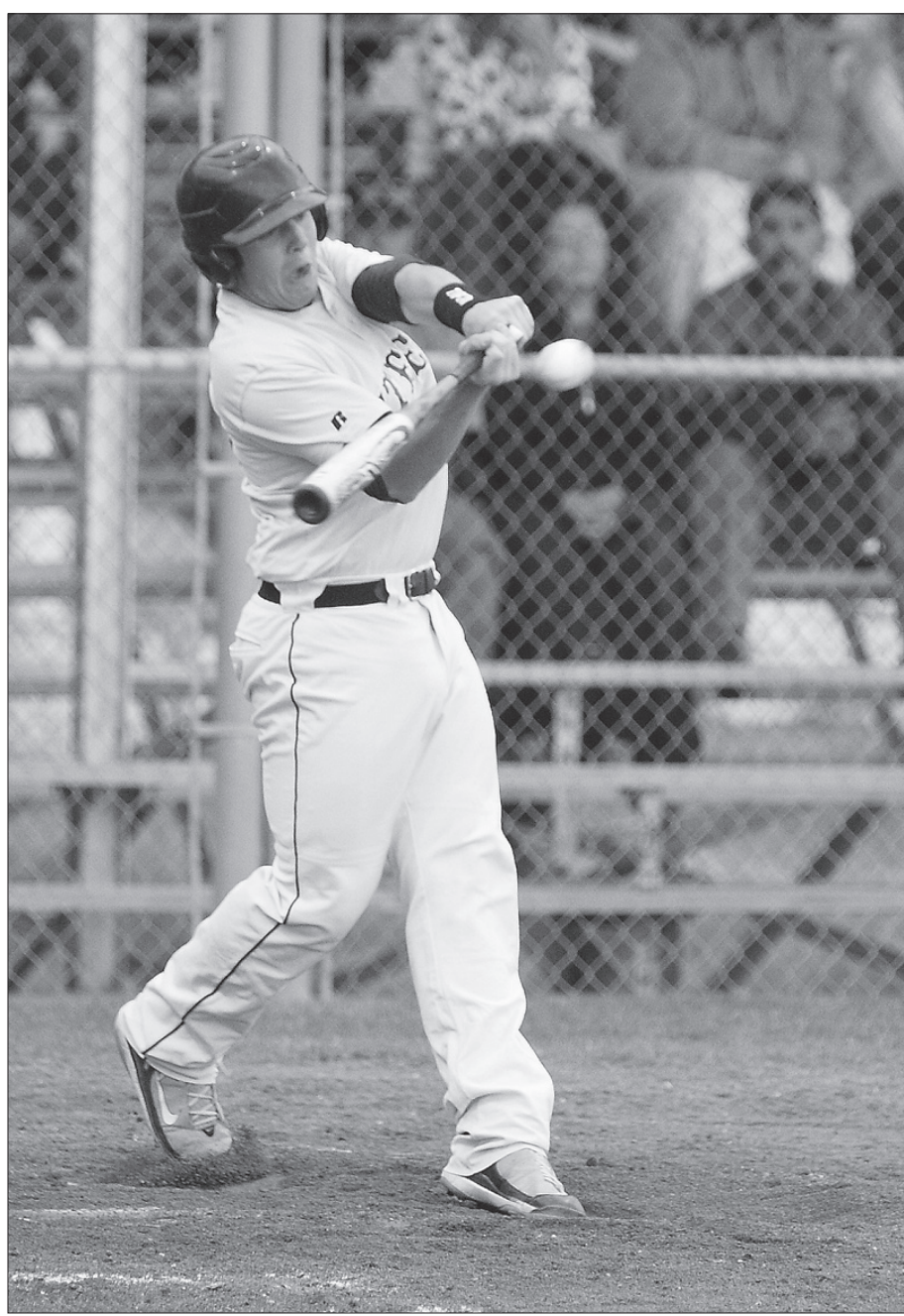
The Spurs took a 2-1 lead by driving the first shot at home from the NBA's best road team. The Mavs will try again Sunday night in Game 4 — or risk facing a steep deficit.

"If Dirk or Jason Kidd get hurt, people like that who are ultimate competitors, they play unless they can't do it," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "That's what (Manu) did."

Ginobili was diagnosed with a nasal fracture and did not speak to the media after the game. He was scheduled to undergo a CT scan on Saturday.

The Mavs have their own problems to diagnose. Nowitzki made good on his vow after the Game 2 loss to hit the looks he got last time, scoring 35 points.

See SPURS, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton
Big Spring shortstop Max Poppajohn connects on a triple during first inning action of the Steers' game with San Angelo Lake View Friday at Steer Park. The Steers won, 12-10, to qualify for the Class 4A state playoffs.

Steers earn spot in playoffs

Big Spring outlasts Lake View, 12-10

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Steers had to fight off both San Angelo Lake View and Mother Nature Friday night to earn a spot in the state baseball playoffs.

The Steers' bats came alive just in time to punch the team's ticket to the playoffs as Big Spring took a 12-10 victory in the season finale for both teams at Steer Park.

With the victory, Big Spring (2-8 in District 4-4A) advances to the Class 4A baseball playoffs, where the Steers will face either Canyon High School or Canyon Randall in a first-round series at a site and time to be determined.

With the struggles the team's faced this season, it stood to reason that earning a playoff spot would be anything but easy, but Friday might have taken the cake.

The Steers not only had to hold off a determined Lake View squad, but also a westerly, gusting wind that turned pop flies into crap shoots, pushed pitches and throws off-line

See STEERS, Page 2B

Area roundup

Cooper downs BSHS in extra game

HERALD staff report

SWEETWATER — Abilene Cooper in its half of the third inning, then made that margin stand up as it defeated the Big Spring Lady Steers, 4-1, in an extra District 4-4A game to determine playoff seeding Friday evening.

Sierra Sudberry earned the win for Cooper, while Kenzie Hunt took the loss for Big Spring, which ended the regular season with an overall record of 18-13 (4-4 in district play).

Big Spring scored its only run in the top of the sixth on consecutive singles by Jillian Valle, Hunt and Valerie Ross.

"We played pretty good defense, which I was proud of," BSHS Head Coach John Sparks said. "That was something we've been working on."

The loss dropped the Lady Steers to the fourth playoff seed out of 4-4A. They will face either Canyon Randall or Pampa in the first round of the Class 4A playoffs at a site and date to be determined.

Despite the loss, Sparks said he feels good about his team's playoff chances.

"We can play with anybody when we show up," he said. "If we play the way I know we can, we'll be OK. I'm good



Courtesy photo/Claudene Cooper
Coahoma pitcher Katie Dunn is shown in action against Grape Creek Friday afternoon. The Bulldogettes closed out the 2010 regular season with a 4-3 victory.

with whoever we play."

BSHS 000 0010-140
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Coahoma falls to Grape Creek

GRAPE CREEK — The Grape Creek Eagles

scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to defeat Coahoma, 8-7, in the season finale for both teams Friday afternoon.

The loss dropped Coahoma into a second-place tie with Grape Creek in the District

5-2A baseball standings and means both teams will meet again to determine playoff seeding. The extra game has been tentatively set for 7:30 p.m. Friday in Abilene at a site to be determined.

Ray Gutierrez and Chance Hart pitched for Coahoma Friday. The duo also produced at the plate, with Hart delivering a home run and Gutierrez adding a double.

The game featured three ties and four lead changes.

The loss dropped Coahoma to 15-9 overall and 7-3 in district action.

CHS 030 022 0-7 5 1
GCHS 120 111 2-8 11 1

Bulldogettes end season with win

GRAPE CREEK — The Coahoma Bulldogettes ended the regular season with a 4-3 victory over Grape Creek in District 5-2A softball action here Friday.

The Bulldogettes rallied from a 3-2 deficit with runs in the fourth and fifth innings to take the victory, which improved their season record to 24-8.

Joanna Gonzales had two hits, including a double, and Kylie Gee had a pair of hits as well for the Bulldogettes, who finished second in

See AREA, Page 2B

Weather woes cancel Saturday NASCAR action

TALLADEGA, Ala. (AP) — NASCAR canceled all Saturday track activity at Talladega Superspeedway because of threats of extended periods of severe weather.

Track officials said the decision was made on advice from the Talladega County Emergency Management Agency and the National Weather Service, which said Talladega County was one of the areas in Alabama facing a high risk of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes on Saturday.

"Fans are strongly encouraged to take necessary precautions to ensure their safety, especially those guests camping on speedway property," track officials said.

The Nationwide Series race scheduled for Saturday will now be held Sunday following the Sprint Cup Series race. It's the second consecutive weekend that NASCAR will attempt a doubleheader.

Rain last weekend in Texas washed out both Cup and Nationwide events, and they were run back-to-back on Monday. Drivers who competed in both series totaled 801 miles

of racing.

There are 10 drivers scheduled to run both of Sunday's races, which are scheduled to total 811.30 miles barring any additional "overtime" laps.

Qualifying for Talladega's Cup race was canceled, and the field for Sunday's race will be set by owner points. Four-time defending champion Jimmie Johnson will lead Matt Kenseth and Greg Biffle to the green flag.

With the new schedule set, officials turned their attention to safety.

Fans camping on the sprawling speedway grounds were encouraged to dismantle their tents and seek more stable shelter. Most drivers and crew chiefs are also on property in their private motorhomes located just aside the garage. Security was going motorhome-to-motorhome to advise competitors of areas inside the track where they could seek shelter.

At least one driver, Penny Hamlin, left the property. Hamlin posted on his Twitter page he was headed back to Charlotte, N.C., to

See NASCAR, Page 2B

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As you're getting ready for this year's fiesta, keep Mama Ortega in mind. Maria Conception Jacinta Dominguez Ortega, otherwise known as Mama Ortega, raised a family of 13 children with homemade Mexican meals every night. One hundred fifty years later her traditions still live on with great Mexican foods from Ortega.

Make some of your own family traditions with great recipes such as Pasta and Grilled Vegetable Salad with Cilantro Dressing, BBQ Chicken Tacos, Taco Casserole or, perhaps, a Frozen Margarita Pie. From tasty whole kernel corn taco shells and delicious salsas to authentic taco sauces and diced green chiles, Ortega offers a wide variety of Mexican food products to meet all of your family's needs.

To get some new ideas on Cinco de Mayo recipes and valuable coupons, visit www.ortega.com.

Taco Casserole

Prep Time: 10 minutes / Start to Finish: 30 minutes
Makes: 8 servings

Casserole

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 bottle (8 ounces) Ortega Taco Sauce
- 3/4 cup water
- 1 can (4 ounces) Ortega Fire-Roasted Diced Green Chiles
- 1 packet (1.25 ounces) Ortega 40% Less Sodium Taco Seasoning Mix
- 1 package (12-count) Ortega Whole Grain Corn Taco Shells, broken, divided
- 2 cups (8 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- Chopped tomatoes, chopped green bell pepper, sour cream

Preheat oven to 375°F. Grease 11 x 7-inch baking dish.

Cook beef and onion in large skillet over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until beef is browned. Drain and discard excess fat.

Stir in taco sauce, water, chiles and seasoning mix; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low. Cook 3 to 4 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Layer half of broken taco shells on bottom of prepared baking dish. Cover with half of meat mixture; sprinkle with 1 cup cheese. Repeat layers with remaining ingredients.

Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until bubbly and cheese is melted. Serve with desired toppings.



Pasta and Grilled Vegetable Salad with Cilantro Dressing

Prep Time: 15 minutes / Start to Finish: 30 minutes
Makes: 6 to 8 servings

Dressing

- 1 can (4 ounces) Ortega Fire-Roasted Diced Green Chiles
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 tablespoon Regina red wine vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon Polaner minced garlic
- Salt and black pepper, to taste

Salad

- 1 red bell pepper, cored, seeded, cut in half
- 1 green bell pepper, cored, seeded, cut in half
- 1 medium zucchini, cut lengthwise into thin slices
- 1 medium yellow squash, cut lengthwise into thin slices
- 1 large red onion, cut into 1/2-inch-thick wedges
- 1 pound pasta shells or penne, cooked
- 1 jar (16 ounces) Ortega Garden Vegetable Salsa
- 1/4 cup firmly packed fresh basil, cut into thin strips
- Lettuce leaves (optional)

Combine chiles, cilantro, oil, vinegar and garlic in small bowl. Whisk until well blended. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Set aside.

Preheat grill to medium-high heat, about 15 minutes. Lightly brush grill grid with vegetable oil.

Grill bell peppers, zucchini, squash and onion 3 to 5 minutes per side or until fork-tender. Remove vegetables from grill; cut into bite-size pieces.

Toss cooked pasta, salsa, sliced vegetables and basil in large bowl or serving platter. Serve with dressing on lettuce leaves, if desired.

Frozen Margarita Pie

Prep Time: 15 minutes / Start to Finish: 4 hours
Makes: 8 servings

Crust

- 10 Ortega Yellow Corn Taco Shells
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar

Filling

- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
- 1/3 cup frozen limeade, thawed
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 1 drop green food coloring
- 1 cup whipping cream
- Lime curls (optional)

Place taco shells in food processor and pulse until evenly ground.

Melt butter in medium saucepan over low heat. Remove from heat. Stir in taco crumbs and sugar until well blended. Press firmly over bottom and up sides of 9-inch pie plate.

Place in freezer until firm.

Combine sweetened condensed milk, limeade, orange juice and food coloring in large mixing bowl.

Whip cream until soft peaks form. Fold whipped cream gently into condensed milk mixture until blended. Pour onto prepared crust.

Freeze uncovered, 4 hours or until firm. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Garnish with lime curls, if desired.

Tip: To crush taco shells without a food processor, place them in a resealable plastic food storage bag and run a rolling pin over the shells until they're evenly crushed.

BBQ Chicken Tacos

Prep Time: 6 minutes / Start to Finish: 12 minutes
Makes: 6 to 8 servings

- 2 pounds prepared shredded chicken in barbecue sauce, warmed (Available fully cooked in the supermarket refrigerated meat case)
- 1 Ortega Grande Taco Dinner Kit — includes 8 hard taco shells, 8 soft flour tortillas, 1 packet taco seasoning mix, 1 packet taco sauce and 1 packet Land O Lakes cheese sauce
- 1 cup Smokin' Chipotle Coleslaw
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Monterey Jack cheese (optional)

Combine chicken and seasoning mix from dinner kit; mix well. Fill warmed tacos and tortillas with chicken mixture. Evenly divide coleslaw among tacos and tortillas. Top with taco sauce and cheese sauce from dinner kit. Garnish with shredded cheese, if desired.



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Obituaries

Roberta Wright

Roberta Wright, age 88, of Big Spring and in recent years, Weatherford, passed away peacefully April 22, 2010, at Holland Lake Nursing Center in Weatherford. Roberta Davis Wright was born Oct. 10, 1921, to Doyle and Ethel (Forester) Davis in the Brown Community. Ms. Wright grew up playing basketball, volleyball and tennis at Knott and Flower Grove school districts. After graduating as salutatorian of the Flower Grove class of 1940, Roberta married Dalton Wright on Feb. 2, 1941. She and Dalton had met at a Primitive Baptist Association meeting in 1938. After marriage in her Davis family home at Knott, she and Dalton moved to the Wright family farm at Loop. In 1946 they welcomed the joy of their lives, their daughter, Darlene. "The Three Musketeers," as they often called themselves, had lots of fun and love throughout their daughter's growing up years. When Darlene grew up and married Larry, they said they finally had the son they had always wanted, as well.

Roberta and Dalton moved to the Knott community in 1948, where they farmed throughout their careers until moving to Big Spring upon retirement. They were active members of the Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church in Big Spring. Ms. Wright was preceded in death by her husband of 51 years in 1992.

In 2005 Ms. Wright moved to Weatherford to live near her daughter and family. She made many friends and enriched the lives of many during her last years. On her 87th birthday, several family members and current and former caregivers from her assisted living facility came to pay tribute and to tell her what an encouragement she had been to



them, and how she had helped them make significant, positive changes in their lives by her loving talks with them and her care and concern for each person she met.

Roberta loved the Lord, her church, her family and friends. She enjoyed getting her hair done, dressing up, pretty flowers, good laughter and cooking, and the Dallas Mavericks.

Roberta Wright was preceded in death by her parents, Doyle and Ethel Davis; her husband, Dalton Wright; and a brother, Howard Davis. She is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Darlene and Larry Chapman of Weatherford; sister, Adele Fleming of Big Spring; brother and sister-in-law, Travis and Joyce Davis of Marlin; granddaughter, Lauren Chapman of Weatherford; granddaughter and grandson-in-law, Gayla and Erik Fernandez of Littleton, Colo.; one great-granddaughter, Zoe Fernandez of Littleton, Colo.; numerous nieces, nephews and a host of family and friends.

A special thanks is extended for the loving care Ms. Wright received by the staff at Holland Lake Nursing Center, especially to Dr. Welch, medical director, and to Alpha Omega Hospice, which assisted in making her last days as comfortable and peaceful as possible.

Funeral services will be held at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring on Monday, April 26, 2010, at 2 p.m. with Elder Jeff Harris and Elder David Machiavello officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Cemetery.

The family will receive visitors at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home on Sunday, April 25, 2010, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

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

Paid obituary

Manuel Marty Pineda

Manuel Marty (Meme) Pineda, 65, of Big Spring died Monday, April 19, 2010, in Stanton. Memorial services will be held at 7 p.m. Monday at Lighthouse Restoration Center, located at 604 E. 13th St., with pastor Reynaldo Bennett and nephew Mike Villareal officiating. The family will be at 1217 W. 3rd Street.

He was born Oct. 5, 1944, to Sulema and Manuel Pineda Sr. in Big Spring. He married Rosa Chavarria in July 1963. He had been an agent for Banker's Life Insurance and a salesman for KBYG/La Favorita Radio. He was later owner and publisher of EL Pueblo Magazine for many years. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring.

He is survived by his wife, Rosa Pineda of Big Spring; one daughter, Corinna Cervantes of Big Spring; one son, Rick Pineda and his wife Marie of Big Spring; three sisters, Valinda Pineda of Big Spring, Florinda Davis of Oklahoma City and Erma Fortune of Long Beach, Calif.; four brothers, Evaristo Pineda, Carlos Rodriguez and Johnny Flores, all of Oklahoma City, and Angel Pineda of Haltom City; nine grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother and two sisters.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com



William H. 'Bill' McMurray

William H. "Bill" McMurray, 95, of Big Spring died Thursday, April 22, 2010, at his residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, April 26, 2010, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday, April 25, 2010, at the funeral home.

He was born on April 7, 1915, in the Elbow Community in Howard County and married Dortha Ann Tate on Aug. 6, 1938, in Big Spring. She preceded him in death July 26, 1992.

He was raised in the Elbow Community and was a longtime resident of Howard County. He retired from Webb Air Force Base, where he worked in civil service.

Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Dale and Barbara McMurray of Big Spring; one grandson; three granddaughters; one great-granddaughter; and one sister, Thelma McMurray of Stanton.

He was also preceded in death by his daughter, Geraldine Laverne Fry.

The family suggests memorials be made to Home Hospice, 117 E. Seventh St., Big Spring 79720.

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

Lula Mae Greene

Lula Mae Greene, 88, of Big Spring died Saturday, April 24, 2010, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Gilbert Reyna

Gilbert Reyna, 77, of Big Spring died Saturday at Medical City Hospital in Dallas. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Sharlene Shree Moore

Sharlene Shree Moore, 48, of Big Spring died Saturday at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Friday and 9 a.m. Saturday:

- GUADALUPE CANALES, 25, of 409 S. Owens, was arrested Friday on a warrant from another agency.
- JUAN ARNULFO CARDONA, 24, of 1312 Sycamore, was arrested Friday on a warrant from another agency and a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported: In the 1100 block of N. Aylesford. In the 1100 block of N. Aylesford.
- THEFT was reported: In the 1100 block of Lamesa. In the 200 block of W. Marcy.

Take Note

• So many veterans feel confused about benefits and services they've earned. There's much to know and many changes from year to year. That's why the DAV offers help. The DAV Mobile Service Office will be at the Big Spring VA Medical Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to provide the best counseling and claim filing assistance available.

Support Groups

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AREA

Continued from Page 1B

the district standings. Katie Dunn earned the win for the Bulldogettes, striking out seven and walking one while surrendering seven hits over six innings of work. Heather Newton pitched the seventh inning to collect the save.

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Hawks sweep Midland Friday

MIDLAND — The Howard College Hawks opened their four-game series against Midland College on a positive note, earning a 8-7, 16-7 doubleheader sweep at Christensen Stadium Friday.

The Hawks (35-7 overall, 20-2 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference play), rallied from a 4-1 deficit in the fourth inning, then survived a three-run

Midland College rally in the final inning to take the opener. Sophomore pitcher Burch Smith took the win, striking out four and walking one while scattering 11 hits.

In the nightcap, Howard jumped out to an 8-2 lead after four innings and never looked back.

The two teams continue their series today with a doubleheader beginning at noon at Jack Barber Field on the Howard campus.

NASCAR

Continued from Page 1B

catch Game 3 in the NBA playoff series between the Bobcats and Orlando Magic.

Dale Earnhardt Jr., still on the clock as he and Jamie McMurray helped Daytona International Speedway

announce a repaving project set to begin in July, said he didn't know what he'd do during the storms — particularly if there's a tornado.

"I was gonna ask for advice about the best plan," Earnhardt said. "I ain't got my plan together yet. I'll look up in the sky a lot, I reckon."

All tickets for either

race will be honored Sunday, with seat priority given to those with tickets to the Cup race. Fans with tickets to the Nationwide event will be directed to the nearest open seat.

The Sprint Cup race will begin at 1 p.m. Eastern, as scheduled, and the Nationwide Series race will follow.

SPURS

Continued from Page 1B

He and J.J. Barea jump-started the Mavs back into the game with a 17-0 run in the third quarter that gave Dallas a lead for only the second time in the series since their Game 1 win when Nowitzki had 36 points.

Nowitzki had help in that game — notably from Caron Butler, who had 22 in the victory. But Butler never left the bench in the second half on Friday as coach Rick Carlisle instead went instead with Barea in the backcourt.

Butler went from being a major force in Game 1 to being nonexistent by Game 3.

He made just one of three shots and finished with two points, which comes after he averaged

19.5 points in two games in Dallas.

Carlisle said the Mavs needed penetration. Barea did help the Mavs build a 68-59 lead in the third, but the lead didn't last long.

"The only thing I can look at now is missed opportunities," Mavs guard Jason Terry said. "You've got a nine-point lead in the latter stages of the game. A good team, a championship team, holds that lead and walks away with it."

Mavs center Erick Dampier took aim at the officiating, a risky move after NBA commissioner David Stern cautioned coaches earlier Friday about criticizing foul calls.

"It seems like we're under the magnifying glass when we play defense," Dampier said. "When we're on offense,

there's no magnifying glass. You've got to call it both ways. Dirk drives, he doesn't get a foul. They drive, they get a ticky-tack foul. Just keep it consistent. Don't be one way or the other."

Terry scored 17 points and Barea had 14.

The run came when Ginobili was out.

Blood dripped from his nose after taking the inadvertent elbow from Nowitzki, who had jumped to take a shot. Ginobili left for the locker room and returned 5 minutes later.

When he did come back, the Spurs said it was "up to his ability to tolerate the pain."

He managed just fine.

"I had no doubt that he was going to return," San Antonio forward Tim Duncan said. "He has a strong nose on him."

To submit a sports item call 263-7331, ext. 234

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

and doubtless had fielders muttering to themselves throughout the game.

The results weren't pretty — the teams combined for eight errors and five hit batters — but the Steers will definitely take it.

"The guys knew what they had to do," BSHS coach Bert Otto said. "After our last game (a 12-0 loss to Abilene Cooper), we focused a lot more on hitting and worked on it a lot this week. It just goes to show that good things happen when you put the ball in play — especially on a day like this."

A perfect snapshot of the game came in the third inning, when the Steers turned one hit, an error and five walks into six runs and a 10-4 lead. Big Spring never trailed after that, although the lead was anything but

comfortable, given the conditions and fielding misadventures.

Freshman Gunnar Kennedy took the win on the mound for Big Spring, striking out five and walking one while surrendering 10 hits.

"The wind was definitely a factor," Kennedy said. "Coach Otto told me to keep the ball down and try to stay ahead in the count. But it was difficult. Anything that got up in the wind went for a crazy ride."

Taking a four-run lead into Lake View's final at-bat, the Steers had to withstand one last rally to secure the win, but after allowing the first two batters to score, Kennedy closed the door on the Chiefs and punched Big Spring's ticket to the playoffs.

This Big Spring team is young — only one starter from last year returned this season — and will be a decided underdog when the playoffs begin. But that

suits the lone returning starter just fine.

"I like our chances," team captain Martin Yanez said. "It's one of those things where you just need to enjoy it. Baseball's supposed to be fun. So, regardless of the outcome, we're going to enjoy ourselves."

Otto said he was very proud of his team's accomplishments.

"This team has only one returning starter and one other letterman, so what can you say?" he noted. "This is just a bunch of new faces ... who decided to put it together at the end. All I know is that I'm excited to be able to spend a couple more weeks with this team."

Lake View 203 210 2 — 10 10 3
Big Spring 046 020 x — 12 7 5
W — Kennedy; L — Davidson; 2B — Martin, Manuel, Anderson, Felton; 3B — Poppajohn; SB — Davidson, Anderson, Hill, Yanez (2), Islas.

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

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Births



Harlee Jayde Brown

Harlee Jayde Brown, a girl, was born at 10:23 a.m. April 10, 2010, weighing 5 pounds, 7 ounces and was 19 inches long.

She is the daughter of Kendel Light and Corbin Brown of Big Spring. Grandparents are Wylene Landrum of Big Spring, Larry Light of Irving and Angela and Ricky Brown of Big Spring.

Contact the Herald at
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Engagements

Wingert-Hutchinson

Crystal Leanne Wingert and Michael Daniel Hutchinson were united in marriage April 10, 2010, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Bryan.

The bride is the daughter of Chris and Karen Wingert of Big Spring and the granddaughter of Charles and Linda Towne of Houston and Cad and Anne Wingert of Big Spring.

The groom is the son of Bob and Kathy Hutchinson of Spring and the grandson of Jimmy and Nancy Boney of Jackson, Miss., and Dan and Mary Hutchinson of Meridian, Miss.

The couple exchanged vows before the Rev. Allen Duty, pastor of the New Life Baptist Church in College Station.

Kelly Wingert, the bride's sister, served as maid of honor, while Colleen Lee was the matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Heather Hendrick, Katy Starnes, Chelsea Groves and Amy Hutchinson, the groom's sister.

Kaleb Deese was the groom's best man, while groomsmen were Brandon Cook, Jason Pittman, Josh Hall, Josh Cowling and Brian Wingert, the bride's brother.

Flower girls were Isabella Aguirre and Rylee Kinard and music was provided by Aaron Hendrick and Celeste Cox.

The bride is a 2004 graduate of Big Spring High School and graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in kinesiology in 2008. She currently teaches physical education at Oakwood Intermediate School in College Station.



Crystal Leanne Wingert and Michael Daniel Hutchinson

The groom is a 2002 graduate of Northlake Christian School in Covington, La., and a 2006 graduate of Mississippi College. He received his master's degree from Texas A&M University in 2007 and is expected to receive his doctorate in sport marketing from Texas A&M in August of 2010.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Brazos Cotton Exchange in Bryan.

The couple will reside in College Station until the summer of 2010 when they will move to Conway, S.C., where Michael will be a professor of sports management at Coastal Carolina University.

Menus

Stanton ISD

Monday: Breakfast - Pancakes. Lunch - Chicken patty or steak on a bun, potato puffs, sandwich salad, apple, milk, Teddy Grahams.

Tuesday: Breakfast - Oatmeal. Lunch - Spaghetti or Salisbury steak, green beans, garden salad, applesauce gelatin, bread sticks, milk, ranch dressing.

Wednesday: Breakfast - Biscuit, sausage and gravy. Lunch - Steak fingers or baked chicken, mashed potatoes, carrots, peaches, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast - Coffee cake. Lunch - Pizza or pizza cheese sticks, broccoli and cheese, garden salad, pears, milk, ranch dressing.

Friday: Breakfast: Burrito. Lunch - Hamburger or

cheeseburger, baked chips, vegetarian beans, hamburger salad, fruit cup, milk.

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Breakfast - Pancakes, ham, juice, milk. Lunch - Chalupas, salad, oranges, milk, burritos.

Tuesday: Breakfast - Biscuits, jelly, gravy, sausage, juice, milk. Lunch - Pizza, corn, baby carrots, Jello with fruit, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast - Pop Tarts, ham, juice, milk. Lunch - Tacos, ranch beans, salad, strawberries and bananas, milk, corn dogs.

Thursday: Breakfast - Oatmeal, sausage, juice, milk. Lunch - Oven crispy chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, rolls, Hot Pockets.

Friday: Breakfast

- French toast, ham, juice, milk. Lunch: Taco beef pie, pinto beans, tossed salad, pears, milk, barbecue on a bun with chips.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast - Biscuit, sausage, juice, milk. Lunch - Burrito, Spanish rice, pinto beans, chocolate cake, fruit, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast - Scrambled eggs, toast, juice, milk. Lunch - Fish, macaroni and cheese, cooked carrots, high puppies, apple, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast - Sausage on a stick, juice, milk. Lunch - Grilled chicken sandwich, lettuce, tomato, pickle, tater tots, ranch style beans, Orange Smiles, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast - Cinnamon roll, fruit, juice, milk. Lunch - Chili Mac, seasoned corn, garlic toast, pineapple tidbits, milk.

Friday: Breakfast - Cereal, toast, juice, milk. Lunch - Steak fingers, mashed

potatoes and gravy, green beans, roll, pineapple orange salad, milk.

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast - Cereal, cheddar cheese, juice, milk. Lunch - Nacho grande, ranch beans, lettuce and tomato salad, sliced apples, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast - Sausage patty, biscuits, juice, milk. Lunch - Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, garden salad, fruit cocktail, oatmeal cookies, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast - Breakfast pizza, fruit cup, milk. Lunch - Barbecued chicken, rice, green beans, peaches, roll, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast - PB&J Uncrustable, juice, milk. Char meatballs, baked potato, pears, green peas, roll, milk.

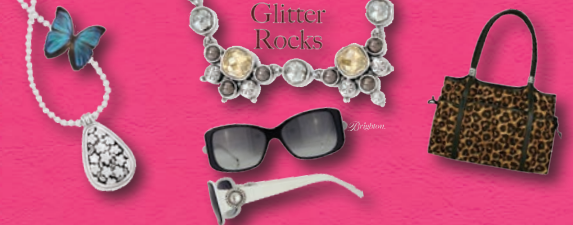
Friday: Breakfast - Honey Bun, juice, milk. Lunch - Chicken patty with cheese, french fries, baby carrots, lemon pudding, fruit, milk.

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Boy Scouts ordered to pay \$18.5 million in sex abuse case

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — An Oregon jury's decision to award a man \$18.5 million in punitive damages in his case against the Boy Scouts of America will likely be the first of many financial hits the Scouts

will take as it prepares to defend itself against a series of sex abuse lawsuits.

The jury on Friday ordered the Scouts to make the payment to Kerry Lewis, the victim of sex abuse by a former

assistant Scoutmaster in Portland in the early 1980s.

The case was the first of six filed against the Boy Scouts in the same court in Oregon, with at least one other separate case pending. If media-

tion fails to settle the other cases, they also could go to trial.

Lawyers for Lewis had asked the jury to award at least \$25 million to punish the Boy Scouts for what the jury had already agreed in the first

phase of the trial was reckless and outrageous conduct.

They also noted the Boy Scouts had never apologized to Lewis, who said Friday at a news conference that the verdict shows that

"big corporations can't be above the law."

VOTE

Continued from Page 1A

In the city of Coahoma, no candidates will be on the ballot as incumbents Linda Luce and R.L. Coates will maintain their at-large seats, while newcomer Zach Johnson moves into the seat vacated by Brandon Atkins, who opted not to run for re-election. With the at-large seats available and three candidates, the city of Coahoma will elect the trio by default.

While Coahoma residents won't be asked to choose candidates, they will be asked to decide on a proposition to adopt a new sales tax. The proposition calls for the adoption of a sales and use tax within the city limits at the rate of one-half of 1 percent to be used and applied to projects authorized by section 4B of the Devel-

opment Corporation Act of 1979. The tax can also be used for the maintenance and operation costs associated with such projects.

According to Coahoma Mayor Warren Wallace, the proposition, if approved, could go a long way for the city in its efforts to improve the quality of life.

"This could be a very big step in the right direction for Coahoma," said Wallace. "This is something we should have done 10 or 15 years ago. The money we get from the tax will allow us to make some improvements to the city and the surrounding area, so we're very excited about it."

Wallace said the city would form its own 4B economic development corporation — similar to the Big Spring EDC — including a board of directors, if the tax is approved. The board would then answer to

the Coahoma City Council, similar to the relationship between the Big Spring EDC and Big Spring City Council.

Voters can cast their early ballots in these contests from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Howard County Elections Office, located on the third floor of the county courthouse. Early voting continues through Tuesday, May 4. Extended poll hours from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. will be held April 29 and May 4 and branch voting at the Big Spring High School library is set from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday, May 3.

The city of Forsan was able to make it through election season without a contested race, as city council members Mayor Roger Hudgens, Allie Lansford and Dianna Walker all failed to draw challengers. The trio will also be elected by default.

The city of Stanton has

one race on the May ballot, as the mayor's seat is up for grabs. Mayor Lester Baker announced early in the filing process he would not seek another term in the office, which quickly drew at-large council member Tommy Haislip's candidacy. Haislip is a tech manager for AT&T. Shortly before filing closed, Haislip drew a challenger in Stanton resident John Smith, a self-employed contractor. The winner of that contest will take the mayor's seat on the council. According to Stanton officials, if Haislip is elected mayor, his councilman's seat will be vacated and will need to be filled, either with a special election or by appointment.

Stanton City Council members Ronnie Christian (District 1), Michelle Kidd (District 2) and James Jenkins (District 3) are all running unopposed, and

will be re-elected by default, according to city officials.

For information on early voting polls in the Stanton contest, contact Stanton City Hall at 756-3301.

According to officials with the city of Ackery, no municipal seats are up for election this year.

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

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Manuel Marty (Meme) Pineda, 65, of Big Spring, died Monday, April 19, 2010 in Stanton. Memorial services will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Lighthouse Restoration Center located at 604 E. 13th.
Sharlene Shree Moore, 48, of Big Spring, died Saturday at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Gilbert Reyna, 77, of Big Spring, died Saturday at Medical City Hospital in Dallas. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

starting the second phase now. These warehouses will all be located just north of Big Spring. If the court approves this grant Monday, it will get the ball rolling and help PCCA complete all three phases."

Also during Monday morning's meeting, County Auditor Jackie Olson, will report on invoices and purchase requests, as well as consideration of a proposal for preventive maintenance services for the HVAC systems in county buildings.

The court is to hear about personnel considerations from County Treasurer Teresa Thomas, a monthly report from County Clerk Donna Wright and in-

formation on pipeline crossings and road maintenance from Road and Bridge Administrator Eddy Jameson.

Barr is also slated to sign a proclamation recognizing the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service 75th anniversary.

Also on the agenda — an executive session

concerning personnel matters.

The meeting is at 10 a.m. in the commissioners courtroom, located on the third floor of the county courthouse. For more information, contact Barr's office at 264-2202.

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

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Eddie Simer

The family of Eddie Simer would like to thank everyone who helped before, during and after his death. To all the doctors and nurses who took such good care of him. Thanks to Myers and Smith for their kindness. Thank you to everyone who sent flowers, memorials, food, kind words and prayer, they meant a lot to us. Thanks to Pastor Joel for his loving sermon. A special God, bless you to the anonymous person who picked up the tab at Hog Heaven. God bless to everyone who attended his funeral.

We appreciate all of you!

The Simer Family

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Elect CRAIG OLSON to the Big Spring City Council, District 5

This is to inform you early voting for the Mayor and City Council - District 5 begins tomorrow, April 26th, on the 3rd floor of the courthouse and concludes with the May 8th general election at the high school.

I have invested countless hours of time, energy, effort, and my own personal finances to offer you a responsible alternative to the current District 5 representative. I have attempted to go door-to-door and to personally contact each and everyone in District 5. No doubt I have missed some. I have done about all I can do to inform you of vast philosophical differences between myself and the current District 5 Councilman up for re-election. The choice is clear and the issues precisely defined. There is no grey area here! If your choice is the incumbents, you are going to receive more of the same conduct, behavior, and spending which do not address long-term infrastructure needs of the City, just more cosmetic imagery and legacy.

On the other hand, if your choice for District 5 representative is me, Craig Olson, I will pledge to listen to the people of this community, take your wishes to heart, make financial decisions which reflect the long-term interest of this community and to never embarrass my constituents by engaging in violations of State Law (TOMA) to circumvent the will and wishes of the citizens I represent. I will also be present to defend each and every one of my actions and decisions when called upon to do so.

As I have campaigned throughout District 5 I have heard and witnessed a level of dissatisfaction, frustration, and even anger in some instances with the conduct, actions, and spending habits of the present Mayor and City Council. Their governing against the will of the people they represent has galvanized this community to a point I have never witnessed in my 37 years of residency. There is only one method of changing that galvanization, vote the incumbent out of office! Please seize the moment and vote.

In closing, I would like to again remind you the direction and future of our community is at stake. I can and will make a difference with your assistance at the polls. I once again respectfully refer you to the wit and wisdom of an old wise man and philosopher when he stated, "The most effective method to guarantee real change is to vote the incumbents out of office at the earliest opportunity." That opportunity will be April 26 - May 4 and May 8th. Please take the time to assist me with this opportunity.

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Craig Olson, Candidate for City Council, Joanne Sayles Treasurer

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Andrus the hero on Elvis Night for Texas

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers are celebrating all things Elvis this weekend, hosting dozens of Elvis Presley impersonators and showing clips of the King on the video board.

But the star of the show was 21-year-old Elvis Andrus.

Andrus drove in the winning run with a one-out single in the ninth to lift the Rangers to a 5-4 victory over the Detroit Tigers on Friday night.

“What a finish to a nice game,” Rangers manager Ron Washington said.

“Elvis Weekend, and he’s the one that gets the hit for us. Those guys in that clubhouse, they don’t quit. They keep trying.”

With the game tied at

4, Justin Smoak, called up from Triple-A Oklahoma City earlier in the day for his major league debut, led off the ninth with a walk off Fu-Te Ni (0-1).

Smoak advanced to second on Matt Treanor’s sacrifice bunt, and pinch hitter Ryan Garko was intentionally walked.

Ryan Perry walked pinch hitter Nelson Cruz to load the bases, and Andrus drove in pinch runner Joaquin Arias from third with a line drive to center on an 0-2 pitch.

Andrus anticipated a cut fastball from Perry, and that’s what he got.

“My first two swings, I was trying to get a fly ball deep to the outfield to drive in the run,” Andrus said. “I was look-

ing for that cutter again and I put a good swing on it.”

Andrus was mobbed by teammates near first base, and then got a shaving cream pie in the face from a few of the veteran players while he was being interviewed on the field.

“It my first time for a walk-off hit,” Andrus said. “It feels amazing, like you’re the champion, the best that night. I can’t wait to get more walk-off hits.”

Vladimir Guerrero homered and reached base three times for Texas. He hit a two-run homer in the first, doubled and later scored in the fourth, and walked in the eighth.

The Rangers got strong work from their bullpen until closer Naftali Felix faltered in the ninth for his first blown save after converting his first two opportunities of the season.

Dustin Nippert pitched 1 2-3 innings of one-hit relief, Frank Francisco followed with a perfect seventh, and Chris Ray retired the side in order in the eighth.

Feliz retired the first two hitters he faced in the ninth, but he gave up an infield single to Austin Jackson, a double to Johnny Damon, and Magglio Ordonez tied it at 4 with a two-run single.

Feliz (1-0) got the decision when the Rangers rallied in the bottom of the inning.

Miguel Cabrera had two RBIs for the Tigers.

Tigers starter Max Scherzer gave up four runs — three earned — and five hits in seven innings. He struck out seven and walked two.

The Tigers were looking for a long outing from Scherzer to give their overworked bullpen a break.

“I needed to put in a good quality start tonight,” Scherzer said. “I knew I couldn’t walk a bunch of guys.”

Scott Feldman had been scheduled to start for Texas, but had a stomach virus and the Rangers decided to give him an extra day to recover, giving the ball to Rich Harden.

Harden allowed two runs and six hits in 4

1-3 innings. He struck out five and walked four while throwing 99 pitches.

Harden, who went on regular rest because of last Monday’s off day, has been struggling with high pitch counts in his first four starts for the Rangers.

He’s thrown at least 90 pitches in each start but hasn’t been able to last longer than six innings.

“Tonight I thought he was better,” Washington said. “They didn’t exactly hit him around the ballpark.”

In the first, Michael Young singled and Guerrero ripped a two-out homer onto the grass hitter’s background in center field.

Guerrero gave the Rangers a 3-0 lead in the fourth when he doubled, went to third on Scherzer’s wild pitch, and scored when an error was charged to Tigers catcher Alex Avila.

Avila tried to scoop the ball with his mask on the wild pitch, an illegal play that cost Avila an error and allowed Guerrero to cross the plate.

Cabrera’s two-run sin-

gle in the fifth narrowed the deficit to 3-2. Rookie Brennan Boesch’s single later in the inning loaded the bases and ended Harden’s outing.

Nippert got Brandon Inge to line into a double play on his first pitch to keep Texas in front, 3-2.

Notes: The Tigers placed OF Carlos Guillen on the 15-day disabled list with a strained left hamstring and called up Boesch from Triple-A Toledo. Boesch was the DH in the No. 5 slot and doubled in the second inning on his first major league at-bat. ... Rangers 2B Ian Kinsler had 10 at-bats and four innings on defense during an extended spring training game in Arizona on Friday. Kinsler is on the 15-day DL due to a sprained right ankle sustained during spring training and there’s no timetable for his return. ... Cruz missed the start due to a right hamstring problem. Cruz, who leads the Rangers with seven homers, DHed on Thursday night in Boston after leaving the two previous games early as an outfielder.

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In Regards To Gary Harris:
Gary has finally made it home and would like to extend many thanks to all friends, neighbors, and co-workers of Big Spring. We appreciate all prayers, donations, food, flowers, cards, phone calls and visits. Gary would also like to extend a special thanks to the gentleman pumper that drove him to the ambulance on Oct. 20, whom he'd very much like to thank in person. Thank God For You All!
Harris Family

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LB.

Celtics on verge of sweeping Heat

MIAMI (AP) — The first order of business after Game 3 for Doc Rivers was making a plea to his Boston Celtics, begging them to not fixate on finishing off a first-round sweep.

Good luck, Doc.

These Celtics have everything going their way against the Miami Heat — and a big chunk of rest before the second round starts might be Boston’s just reward.

Paul Pierce’s 21-footer at the buzzer Friday night gave Boston a 100-98 win over Miami in Game 3 of the teams’ Eastern Conference first-round series. The Celtics lead 3-0, and will try for a sweep in Miami on Sunday afternoon.

“We’re going to be a team that’s tough to beat four times,” Pierce said. “But it’s very demoralizing, I think, for the other team when you go down 3-0.”

No team in NBA history has rallied from a 0-3 deficit in a series, and the hole the Heat are in looks even deeper than that. Miami is 0-6 against Boston this season and 1-14 since April 2007.

But as far as looking ahead to the second round, Rivers is understandably leery.

“I’m not worried about that,” he said. “We’ve just got to keep playing. I told our guys, I don’t want to hear about that. I told

them right after the game, we’ve got to focus on basketball. All the other stuff, you focus on the process and the results will happen. Whatever happens out there, it happens. We’ve got to get our job done.”

Pierce got it done Friday.

Game tied at 98, less than 20 seconds left, the Heat had exactly what it wanted — the ball in Dwyane Wade’s hands. The 2006 NBA finals MVP tried a straight-away 3-pointer and missed with 14 seconds left, which is where the game and perhaps the season slipped away from Miami.

Wade crumpled to the court in a heap, his left calf cramping for the second time in the final quarter. He had to be carried back to the Miami bench by Heat reserve center Jamaal Magloire and trainer Jay Sabol, and the Heat huddled together to figure out what to do.

There was no such conversation 60 feet away in the Boston huddle.

Pierce demanded the ball. Rivers agreed. Pierce dribbled the clock down, took the shot over Heat forward Dorell Wright, and the Celtics stormed Miami’s floor in celebration.

“Great player made a great shot,” Wade said. “I couldn’t really see it too much. But I did see the ball go in the basket.”

Pierce finished with 32 points and Ray Allen added 25 for the Celtics, who got 17 from Rajon Rondo and 16 from Kevin Garnett.

Wade finished with 34 points, eight assists and five rebounds for the Heat, who rallied from a nine-point deficit in the fourth quarter to take the lead. Michael Beasley scored 16 points, Wright scored 15 and Udonis Haslem and Mario Chalmers each scored 10 for the Heat.

“We’ve just got to go out there Sunday and give them another fight,” Wright said. “That was definitely a backbreaker, right there.”

That long-awaited offseason of 2010, when the Heat are expected to revamp their roster, is closer than Miami ever expected.

“It hasn’t really set in yet,” Wade said. “Down 3-0 hurts. This team’s good. They’ve got a lot of veteran guys who step up to the billing.”

Especially on the road, which is where Boston has excelled all season.

The Celtics were the only play-off team this year to win more games on the road than at home, and they’ve had a flair for drama in Miami. Back on Jan. 6, Rondo caught a lob from Pierce and laid in a buzzer-beater to force overtime.


Re-Elect Mayor Russ McEwen

PROVEN LEADERSHIP:
I have worked with the Big Spring City Council to:

- *Lobby successfully to prevent closure of VA Hospital.
- *Increase fund balance from \$393,497 in 2000 to \$8,576,102 in 2010.
- *Establish drug enforcement unit in police department, resulting in 514 arrests and almost \$100,000 seized since 2007.
- *Create a full time airpark manager position responsible for securing \$7,347,642 in grant funding.
- *Institute a systematic waterline replacement program responsible for the replacement of 21 miles of waterlines.
- *Institute a program responsible for eliminating all dirt streets in Big Spring. (18.5 Miles)
- *Work with local youth league leadership to design and build a youth sports complex.
- *Develop plans to revitalize downtown Big Spring including street replacement, waterline replacement, hardscaping and landscaping along with ADA compliance.
- *Negotiate with Settles Development, LLC to effect the current renovation of the Settles Hotel.
- *Redesign Comanche Trail Golf Course and club house.
- *Accept management of Senior Center, replacing dance floor and outdated equipment.

If you believe that the above progress is moving Big Spring towards being the best that we can be I would ask for your vote for mayor. Much has been accomplished. Much still needs to be done.

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Secrets of a Former Fat Girl

by Lisa Delaney

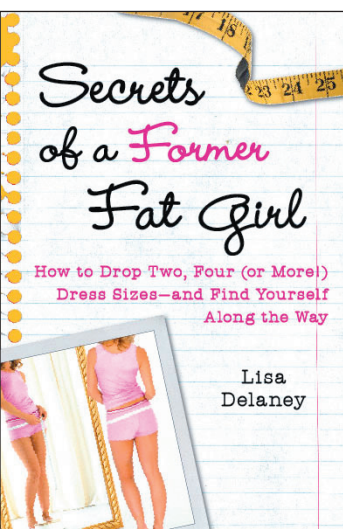
Lisa Delaney is one of the rare souls who know what it's like to be an "after." This journalist, author, and mom shed 70 pounds — and six dress sizes — and has kept it off for 20 years.



Those Stubborn Pounds!

In the past six months I have made some significant changes to my lifestyle. In the past, I would eat three large meals a day (muffins, bagels, burgers, beer and tacos etc.) and never worked out. Now, I'm eating whole grains, fruit, veggies, salads, low-fat cheese, chicken, fish and turkey. I'm also working out 4 to 5 days a week, running about 30 minutes and walking my dog at least 15 minutes a day on top of that. I haven't lost any weight, and I'm feeling very defeated. What gives? — Chelsea

DEAR CHELSEA: Wow. Maybe you need a new scale—it certainly sounds like you're doing everything right. You didn't say how much you have to lose, which does affect the speed at which you lose weight. But regardless — after six months of healthy eating and exercise, you should see some results on the scale. To get to the bottom of this metabolic mystery, start by keeping a food journal for a week. Record what you're eating, and how much — be as precise as you can. It may be that while you're eating all the right things, you're eating too much for the amount of activity you're doing. You probably should be eating 1,200-1,500 calories a day with the activity you describe to achieve a modest weight loss. With the info from your food journal, you can figure out whether you need to cut calories or amp up your exercise program to achieve the weight loss you want.



Now — if your food journal shows that your calories are in the weight loss range, you may want to see your doctor to find out if there's an underlying reason why you aren't losing weight. Large numbers of women have thyroid disorders or other conditions that make it harder to lose weight. If your doctor doesn't find any medical reason for your inability to lose, ask him or her for advice. If you have a condition like prediabetes or hypertension, you may qualify for physical therapy or nutritional counseling at low or no cost. Take advantage of such professional help to get on a program that will lead you to success.

Lisa Delaney is editor of *Spry* magazine and author of *Secrets of a Former Fat Girl*. Send your questions to lisa@formerfatgirl.com. And sign up for Lisa's bi-weekly email newsletter, *The Big Weigh-In*, at spryliving.com/newsletter.

DEAR CHELSEA: (Continued from previous page) ...

Lisa Delaney is editor of *Spry* magazine and author of *Secrets of a Former Fat Girl*. Send your questions to lisa@formerfatgirl.com. And sign up for Lisa's bi-weekly email newsletter, *The Big Weigh-In*, at spryliving.com/newsletter.

Wedding



Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Lee Newsom

Williams-Newsom

Jimmy Lee Newsom and Irene Williams began their new life together April 24, 2010, in a private family ceremony at The Courtyard. The Rev. Wade Cobb performed the ceremony.

The couple's parents are Jimmy and George Newsom of Big Spring, Norma Andrews of Abilene and the late Norman Fred Andrews.

The couple make their home in Big Spring.

Who's Who

Dorothy Graves recently received her doctorate degree from the University of Edinburgh in Edinburgh, Scotland. Graves, daughter of Big Spring residents Arthur and Delia Graves, received her doctorate in archeology from the university during commencement exercises Nov. 25, 2009.



Graves is currently employed as a junior support consultant at a geostatistical software company and part-time lecturer at the university.

Justice of the Peace Kathryn G. Wiseman was certified at the recent Twenty Hour Justice of the Peace Seminar in San Antonio.



The seminar was sponsored by the Texas Justice Court Training Center. It was one of six held for elected justices of the peace so they can fulfill the Continuing Judicial Education Requirements as set forth

in the Texas Government Code.

Topics discussed included family violence, pre- and post-judgment issues, rules of evidence, residential evictions, commercial evictions, manufactured housing, tenants rights, elderly drivers, commerce drivers licenses, traffic laws, enforcement of judgments, mediation, torts, contracts, contempt, judicial demeanor, death investigation, judicial liability, judicial ethics, juvenile gender issues, failure to attend school and rights of the accused.

Navy Operations Specialist Second Class Angelo G. Garcia has been

awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his performance as anti-submarine warfare module supervisor and divisional aviation warfare specialist program coordinator aboard the USS John C. Stennis.

He is the son of Sammy and Irma Ortega of Big Spring and is stationed in Bremeton, Wash.

SPRY ON THE FLY

Live better now with quick tips, tricks and recipes from America's newest health magazine.

Green your kitchen

Use these tips from Myra Goodman, author of *The Earthbound Cook* to go green — and save money — in your kitchen.

1. Cover wisely. Instead of covering a dish with plastic wrap before you put it in the refrigerator or microwave, consider topping it with a ceramic plate instead. It works well and is reusable.
2. Be mindful of water. Washing dishes by hand can use as much as 2 gallons of water per minute. Instead of keeping the tap running, fill a dirty bowl with soapy water. Wash as many dishes as you can, then rinse them at the same time. If you're using a dishwasher (new Energy Star dishwashers use about 6 gallons of water per cycle), make sure you're washing a full load.
3. Go green at the grocery store. Taking your own bags to the grocery store sounds simple, but if every person in America use a reusable tote for just one shopping trip per week for a year, we could keep about 16 billion bags out of our landfills.



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April/May 2010 Activities

- April 26** – Games, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- April 27** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Supper Club, "Cowboy's", 5:30 p.m.
- April 28** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie, 1:00 p.m., "Watchman"
- April 29** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy Café "Coffee Club," 10:00 a.m.
11th Anniversary Party, 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
- May 1** – Healthy Women Mother/Daughter Style Show, Heritage Museum, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- May 3** – Games, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- May 4** – Mall Walking, 8 a.m.
Coffee @ Parkplace Retirement, 10:00 a.m.
Supper Club, "Spanish Inn", 5:30 p.m.
- May 5** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie, 1:00 p.m.
"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
- May 6** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy Café "Coffee Club," 10:00 a.m.
Bunko, 5:00 p.m.
- May 7** – Lunch Bunch & Birthdays
"Al's B-b-q - 11:30 a.m.

Call Anita Cline today at 268-4721 to find out what the Circle is all about.

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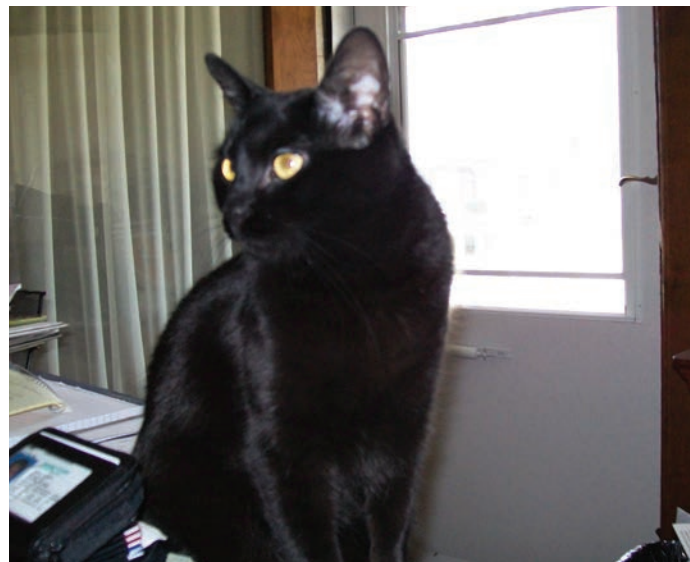
"Pretty In Pink" Mother-Daughter Style Show
Saturday, May 1st ~ 11:30 a.m. at the Heritage Museum

Featured Speaker: Carylon Frerich, PA-C

Tickets are required for this free event & are available at Blissful & the Heritage Museum until Wednesday, April 28th.

REWARD

HAVE YOU SEEN ME?



Lost in one of three places in early morning (3:30AM to 8:00AM) on 4-9-10.

1. The east bound rest area on Interstate 10 just east of Van Horn, TX (approx. 3:30AM)
2. Chevron station/Garden Center of the Alco Discount store in Monahans, TX (5:30AM)
3. Denny's Restaurant in Big Spring, TX (8:00AM)

DESCRIPTION: All black. Answers to "Maggie". Large scar on belly. Front paws are declawed. Has microchip ID implanted in her neck that can be scanned at animal shelters or veterinary offices.

If seen or found please call Vicki at 812-240-0028.

GENEROUS REWARD OFFERED

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

Take advantage of the chance to go vote early

It's that time again. Early voting for the May 8 municipal and school district elections begins Monday and continues through May 4, and as usual, we want to encourage readers to cast their ballots soon.

Polls will be open at the Howard County Courthouse for Big Spring and Coahoma voters from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

There are plenty of reasons for voting early, not the least of which is the unpredictability of our West Texas weather.

Another reason to cast your ballot in the next few days is human nature. The fact is, the longer we put things off, the less likely we are to ever get them accomplished. Too many other things come up and suddenly we find ourselves out of time.

There are a plethora of key races on the ballot this time around — spots on the Big Spring City Council, including four candidates seeking the mayor's post; three on the Big Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees, although only one is contested; a five-candidate contest for two seats on the Coahoma school board; and a seven-candidate race for two seats on the Sands school board.

Needless to say, these are decisions which will impact our lives for some time to come. So, we hope you will take time to study the candidates and issues. Then make your choice at the polls.

And remember, if you don't bother to go vote — either during the early voting period or on election day — you really have no right to complain about the decisions made by your representatives.

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

It makes sense to trust in You, Lord, with all our heart. You have Your finger on the pulse of everything.

Amen

A quarterback's bad calls

Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger is a bad guy. He may not be a rapist, in the sense that it can be proved beyond a reasonable doubt that he had nonconsensual sex, but not being guilty of a crime doesn't mean you're innocent. In my book, this guy should pay.

Twice in the past two years, Roethlisberger has faced accusations that he engaged in non-consensual sex. A civil suit is pending based on a 2008 incident.

Most recently, the 28-year-old quarterback appears to have had sexual contact with a college coed after providing her and her sorority sisters with shots of alcohol at a Georgia bar. First he gave them drinks. Then his bodyguards reportedly "escorted" the drunken young woman into a small bathroom with Roethlisberger. When she came out of that room, her sorority sisters, apparently horrified, took her to the police and then to the hospital.

Earlier this week, the district attorney announced that he was not pursuing charges against Roethlisberger because there was not sufficient evidence to prove rape beyond a reasonable doubt: The girl was intoxicated. She and her family do not wish to press charges. While the medical evidence established lacerations in the vaginal area, only a "min-

ute" amount of DNA evidence was recovered, and apparently no effort was made to establish a match with the quarterback.

Rape is a hard crime to prove. Almost by definition, there are rarely any witnesses. Most cases, particularly of the "acquaintance" variety, involve alcohol or drugs.

Bringing a case that you can't prove doesn't help anyone in the long run. A good prosecutor has a responsibility to convince himself that a would-be defendant is guilty, and a responsibility not to bring charges unless he believes he could also convince a jury of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. To put the victim through the horror show of an impossible prosecution is a disservice to everyone.

If you doubt that, think about the Kobe Bryant case. He's back at the top of his game. She would be better off had no charges ever been filed.

But that doesn't mean that bad guys should get away with behaving badly. It just means that we need remedies other than criminal prosecutions — remedies that include civil sanctions and other penalties.

I hope the woman who was "escorted" into that bathroom and then emerged with lacerations and "minute" amounts of male sperm in her vagina sues Roethlisberger for millions. A civil suit requires only a preponderance of the evidence, not proof beyond a reasonable doubt. In a civil suit, the issue is not whether the defendant should be imprisoned, but whether he should pay.

Answering that question in the affirmative is, as it should be, a whole lot easier than finding guilt, especially when there are two women telling very similar stories. One woman may be destroyed as a nut and a slut. But two? Not so fast. And in a civil case, there is no question that all the testimony comes in.

The district attorney made clear that in deciding not to pursue charges, he was not condoning Roethlisberger's conduct that night. The prosecutor's office, he emphasized, is not in the business of enforcing morals. But the same is not necessarily true of the National Football League.

Like a university or an employer, the league and the team have a responsibility to demand more of people than the criminal law does. Organizations that hold themselves out as role models to young people should not let bullies and bad guys get away with abuse.

The answer to the difficulty of proving rape in the criminal justice system is not to change the rules of prosecution, but to recognize the critical importance of other institutions in enforcing rules of decent conduct — including civil courts, university tribunals and professional sports leagues.

I have no doubt that a wrong was done here. The question is whether it will be righted. That is not for the prosecutor to answer, but for the league and the team. The buck stops with them.

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"The product was new and complex, but the deception and conflicts are old and simple."
— Securities and Exchange Commission

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

The AARP Tax-Aide program has concluded another very successful year. The number of people that took advantage of our program was slightly down from last year, but we still helped more than 285 people either by completing their returns, or just by answering their questions.

On behalf of the tax-aid program, I would like to express my appreciation to everyone that helped us through this tax season. Getting the word out about our program was great and I would like to thank Suddenlink of West Texas, KBST and KBYG radio stations, the city of Big Spring and Channel 17 and, a most special thanks to the *Herald* and especially Thomas Jenkins for your continuous support of our program.

I would also like to thank Nancy Jones and the staff of the Big Spring Senior Center for their hospitality and help through this tax season. Their time helping us did not end at noon on Mondays, but continued throughout the week as they answered questions from people calling or just showing up at the center on days other than Monday.

Most of all I would like to express my appreciation for the tax-aid volunteers. We had

three wonderful people with ready smiles on their faces to greet and help individuals who came for our services and seven incredible individuals who gave so willingly of their time and talent to complete individual tax returns. As I say every year, these volunteers are the heart and soul of the tax-aid program and I am so privileged to work with them.

GLORIA HOPKINS
AARP TAX-AIDE COORDINATOR
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

The Coahoma High School Class of 1965 is planning a class reunion this summer and we need help finding a few of our classmates.

We are searching for the whereabouts of several of our classmates. They are Charlotte Allison, Delores Bender, Terry Woods, Larry Newman, Richard Lacy, Charlotte Mann, Cynthia Harrington, Janice Steagald and John Dorton.

Also, some may know of more current address of others. If you have any information, please contact Judy West at 432-394-4305 or 432-264-8011.

JUDY WEST
COAHOMA

TO THE EDITOR:

I want to send out a really big thank you to Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home in Big Spring.

My husband was a resident there for 16 months and the care he received was such that I could leave and know that they were taking very good care of him.

My family and I got to know the people in C wing and the rehab department. They are like family and treated my husband with compassion and respect.

My hat is off to all personal at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez.

JILL SHANNON
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

As news of teenage drug abuse and drugs found in drinking water abound, our pharmacy wants to help. The Office of National Drug Control has found that prescription drugs are the drug of choice among 12- and 13-year-olds, while a third of all new abusers of prescription drugs were between the ages of 12 and 17. Though it may be argued that the presence of drugs in drinking water is negligible, more and more consumers are disposing

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

Browns select UT's McCoy in third round

BEREA, Ohio (AP) — As he waited for the phone to ring, Colt McCoy tossed around a football in the yard with his brothers to pass the time.

Hours ticked by. McCoy, the winningest quarterback in NCAA history, began losing hope.

Finally, a call. The Cleveland Browns were on the line. They wanted him.

"My heart skipped a beat," McCoy said.

After two long days, the Texas quarterback, whose size may have scared off some teams, was selected in the third round of the NFL draft on Friday by the QB-challenged Browns, who held off until the No. 85 pick before finally pulling the trigger and taking McCoy.

One wait for him is over. Another has just begun.

The Browns have spent the past decade searching for a quarterback to take them to their first Super Bowl. McCoy won't be expected to do that right away, but guided by new Browns president and QB guru Mike Holmgren, McCoy could be the solution to a troublesome position.

The Browns have had eight different opening-week quarterbacks since their 1999 expansion return.

"The last two days have been pretty long, but at the same time, I am where I am supposed to be and that is Cleveland," McCoy said. "I couldn't be more excited. From the time I left Cleveland I called my folks and I

said that I would love to be a Cleveland Brown.

"It's a dream come true." Holmgren never thought McCoy would still be available when the Browns' turn came up again in the third round. They had passed up two previous chances to take him.

"It was something I really wanted to do," Holmgren said, adding that he pushed coach Eric Mangini and general manager Tom Heckert to take McCoy. "If it happened, it happened. Sometimes it just kind of falls to you."

The Browns have spent the offseason reshaping the quarterback position, which has been an almost constant headache for more than a decade. Since last season, they've

traded Brady Quinn, released Derek Anderson, acquired Seneca Wallace and signed free agent Jake Delhomme.

Now, they've added McCoy, who was drafted after fellow college QB stars Sam Bradford, Tim Tebow and Jimmy Clausen were chosen. He also went one pick after Jordan Shipley, his former Texas teammate and close friend was drafted by the Cincinnati Bengals.

McCoy will likely sit behind Delhomme until he's ready. That probably won't be for at least two seasons.

And that's OK with McCoy. "I fully expect to come in there and learn from Jake, do my best, work my tail off and do exactly what the team needs me to do," McCoy said.

"That's what I have done my whole career. When my name is called, then I am going to go out there and produce and be the best. That's how I was raised and that's how I've been coached. I'm fired up and I can't wait to get there."

In four years at Texas, McCoy passed for 13,253 yards and 112 touchdowns, both school records. He went 45-8 as a starter and was a finalist for the Heisman Trophy as a junior and senior.

"We love his leadership. We love his track record," Holmgren said. "He runs well. He's intelligent. He's fiery. He's everything you look for in the position."

Earlier, the Browns made their secondary a primary priority.

Cowboys give Bryant No. 88 jersey

IRVING (AP) — Trading up to pick Dez Bryant in the first round was only one way Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones showed his affection for the receiver.

He went a step further Friday by giving Bryant No. 88.

Made famous in the 1970s when Drew Pearson wore it while catching passes from Roger Staubach, the jersey's reputation grew when Michael Irvin wore it while catching passes from Troy Aikman in the 1990s. Now Bryant gets the chance to turn it into an inviting target for Tony Romo.

"Dez has the chance to make the same kind of impact that the people

who have worn this jersey before have had, and personally I think it has a nice synergy relative to our fans," Jones said. "One of the first things I said when we made the pick was, 'Get No. 88 out.'"

Bryant realizes this is an honor, even if he doesn't understand the details. After all, he was just 10 when Irvin caught his last pass and Pearson's last reception was five years before Bryant was born.

"I know it means a lot to Mr. Jerry Jones," Bryant said. "I'm excited to wear that. I'm very excited he thinks that I can be a great player."

The Cowboys made one pick Friday, mov-

ing up from 59 to 55 to get linebacker Sean Lee from Penn State. Jones said the Cowboys had him rated among their top 16 selections in the entire draft. They tried moving up to the front of third round, but wound up able to land him near the end.

Other teams shied away because of knee injuries: a torn ligament in the right knee that cost him his 2008 season, then a sprained left knee that kept him out three games last season.

Dallas gave up the lower of two fourth-round picks to get him, and sees him as a younger version of Keith Brooking, both in intensity and ability.

ELECT Tommy Duncan for Mayor

- Education:** Associate of Science, Business Management; Bachelor of Science Technical Management
- Experience:** Retired as a Chief Executive Officer who had responsibility for a \$100 million budget. Provided oversight, Guidance and Training to other CEO's and Departmental Managers.
- I Support:** Safe, High Quality water for Big Spring
- I Oppose:** Large expenditures of our tax revenues on non-essential items, while postponing meaningful improvements of water quality until a new bond issue is proposed in 2014
- I Support:** Improving local streets and roads throughout Big Spring.
- I Oppose:** Lavish and expensive changes to one particular area of Big Spring, that destroy historical Trees and create driving and parking hazards.
- I Support:** Attracting new business and industry by taking advantage of our geographical locations, our "West Texas Work Ethic" and our Christian values.
- I Oppose:** High property taxes, poor water quality and unsafe streets that discourage new business and industry.
- I Support:** Recreation including swimming, for our youth.
- I Oppose:** Increasing bond debt to \$17.8 million for a non-essential "water park" without voter approval.
- I Support:** Fiscal responsibility by "Living within our means," managing our budget and paying off bond debt.
- I Oppose:** Bankrupting our children's future, by continuing to increase property taxes and bond debt.



Vote Tommy Duncan for Mayor on May 8th, and early voting is April 26 to May 4th

Pd. Pol. Ad Tommy Duncan for Mayor, Frances Kay Hobbs, Treasurer

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*** PROGRAM VEHICLES ***

2010 Ford F-150 Supercrew XLT - White With Gray Cloth, Running Boards, All Power, Ford program unit, 36,000 Miles, 5.4 V-8. **\$29,995**

2010 Ford Fusion SE - White With Gray Cloth, All Power, Ford Program Unit, 32,000 Miles, Excellent Size And Economy. **\$19,995**

2010 Ford Escape XLT - 3.0 V-6, Gray With Charcoal Interior, All Power, 4Dr SUV, Ford Program Unit, 17,000 Miles. **\$23,995**

2010 Ford Fusion SE - Silver W/Gray Cloth, Excellent Fuel Economy, 4 Door, All Power, come See **\$19,995**

2010 Ford F-150 Supercrew XLT - Tan to Black, 5.4 V-8, Only 8,500 Miles, Great Value. **\$29,995**

2010 Ford F-150 Supercrew XLT - Blue Flame, 5.4 V-8, Only 5,500 Miles, Special Purchase. **\$29,995**

2009 Ford Expedition XLT - Ford Program Vehicle, Solid White, With Tan Cloth, Third Row Seats, Dual Air, Power Seat, Running Boards, Luggage Rack. **\$29,995**

2009 Ford Taurus X SEL - Silver With Gray Leather, Third Row Seating, Rear A/C In This Unique Molded SUV, Only 25,000 Miles, Ford Program Unit. **NOW \$24,995**

2009 Ford Taurus X SEL - Medium Blue With Gray Cloth, Ford Program Unit, Rear A/C And Third Row Seating, Only 22,000 Miles. **NOW \$24,995**

2009 Ford Focus SES - Blue With Charcoal Cloth Interior, Aluminum Wheels, Cruise, All Power, Ford Program Unit, 36,000 Miles. **NOW \$14,995**

2006 Ford F-250 Super Duty Crew Cab - Silver With 5.4 V-8 Gasoline motor, XLT, All Power, Great Condition, Perfect Condition. **\$19,995**

2006 Ford F-150 Super Crew Lariat - Power Sunroof, Tan Leather Interior, Gold Exterior, Local Trade-in, 5.4 V-8, Great Value. **\$19,995**

2008 Ford Focus SE - White, w/Gray Cloth, Ford Program Unit, Like New, Only 12,000 Miles. **NOW \$12,995**

2008 Ford Focus SE - Silver, w/Gray Cloth, Ford Program Unit, Like New, Only 19,000 Miles. **NOW \$12,995**

2009 Mercury Grand Marquis-Ultimate - White With White Leather, Only 8,434 Miles-Like New. **\$21,995**

2009 Ford Edge SEL - Beautiful Redfire SUV - Ford Program Unit, Only 21,000 Miles. **\$26,995**

2009 Ford Flex SLE - Black With Tan Leather, Third Row Seating, Rear Air, Only 22,000 Miles On This Beautiful Crossover SUV. **\$31,995**

2010 Ford Focus SE - Bright Red All Power, Only 15,000 Miles, Excellent Condition And Price. **\$15,995**

*** FORD/NISSAN TRUCKS ***

2002 Ford F-150 Super Crew Lariat - Bright Red With Tan Leather, Local One Owner, Only 76,000 Miles, Perfect Condition. **\$12,995**

2007 Ford F-250 Superduty King Ranch FX4, Crew Cab, 4X4, 6.4 Diesel - One Owner, Only 48,000 Miles, 38,995.00. **\$38,995**

*** FORD/NISSAN TRUCKS ***

2008 Ford F-150 Super Cab XLT - Low Mileage Trade, Only 15,000 Miles, Automatic, All Power, V-8. **\$22,995**

2006 Ford F-250 Super Duty Crew Cab - Silver With 5.4 V-8 Gasoline motor, XLT, All Power, Great Condition, Perfect Condition. **\$19,995**

2006 Ford F-150 Super Crew Lariat - Power Sunroof, Tan Leather Interior, Gold Exterior, Local Trade-in, 5.4 V-8, Great Value. **\$19,995**

2006 Nissan Frontier Crewcab, 4X4 SE - Black With Tan cloth, New Tires, Excellent Condition, Power Locks, Power Windows, Aluminum Wheels. **\$18,995**

2005 Ford F-150 Supercrew XLT V-8 - Gray W/Gray Cloth, Nice Truck, Special Price, Automatic, Local Trade-In. **\$12,995**

2005 Ford F-350 4X4 Pwr Stroke Diesel, Crew Cab XLT - Long Wheel Base, White With Gray Cloth, Only 78K Miles. **\$23,995**

2006 Ford F150 V-6 - Short Bed, Bright Red, Automatic, Cruise, Regular Cab, Only 34K Miles, Tan Cloth, Seats **NOW \$13,995**

2003 Ford F250 Crew Cab XL - White, 5.4 V-8. **NOW \$9,995**

2008 Ford F-150 Supercrew Lariat - Solid White With Tan Leather, Fully Equipped, Local Trade-In Only 28,000 Miles. **\$27,995**

*** DODGE TRUCKS ***

2007 Dodge Ram 1500 Crew Cab Texas/Oklahoma Edition - Two Tone Maroon And Tan Leather Interior, Power Third Row Seats, Rear A/C, Local Trade. **\$22,995**

*** CHEVROLET & GMC TRUCKS ***

2005 GMC Sierra SLE Crew Cab 4 Door - Pewter With Cloth Interior, Running Board, Only 48,000 One Owner Miles, 5.3 V-8, Nice. **\$17,995**

2004 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 L.S. Reg. Cab - Pewter, V-6, Automatic, A/C, 58K Miles. **NOW \$11,995**

2007 Chevrolet Crew Cab LS 1500 4X2 - V-8, Midnight Blue, Local Trade In, Fully Equipped, Only 31,000 Miles. **\$19,995**

2007 Chevrolet 1500 Crew Cab LT - New Body Style, Only 31,000 Miles, Fully Equipped, Ocean Blue Exterior, Chrome Steps, Towing Package. **NOW \$23,995**

*** CARS ***

2009 Chevrolet Impala LT - Leather Interior, Only 2,000 Miles, Special Local Trade In, As Close As It Gets To Brand New, All Power, Alloy Wheels.. **\$19,995**

*** CARS ***

2008 Lincoln MKZ - Light Gold With Neutral Leather, Power Sunroof, Only 42,400 Miles, Beautiful Luxury Sedan. **\$23,995**

2007 Lincoln MKZ - Amethyst With Camel Leather Interior, AWD, Sunroof, Local One Owner With 37,000 Miles. Come See This Luxury Car. **\$23,995**

2006 Honda Accord - 4-Dr., Automatic, Silver With Gray Cloth, Excellent Car, Low Price. **\$9,995**

2008 Nissan Versa 5DR Hatchback - Bright Red, All Power, Only 39,000 Miles, Excellent Economy, One Owner, Local Trade. **\$12,995**

2006 Lincoln Mark LT Super Crew Pickup - 5.4 V-8, Maroon With Gray Leather, Sunroof, Rear DVD, All Power, Come See This Hard To Find Lincoln Pickup, Only 62,000 Miles, One Owner, Local Trade-In. **\$23,995**

2003 Cadillac Sedan DeVille - Tan With Neutral Leather, Extra Nice Luxury Car, Special Price.

2003 Mercury Grand Marquis LS - Arizona Beige, With Tan Leather, Local One Owner, Only 31,000 Miles, Fully Equipped, Excellent Value. **\$10,995**

2004 Nissan Maxima - Solid Black With Gray Leather, Nissan's 4 Door Sports Car, **NOW \$13,995**

2007 Toyota Camry LE - Moonroof, Gold, Automatic, Local Trade-In, 74,000 Miles. **\$14,995**

2006 Nissan Altima 2.5 SL - Tan With Neutral Leather, Power Sunroof, All Options, Midsize Economy. **\$13,995**

2003 Ford Focus ZTS -Automatic, Wheels, Tilt And Cruise, Nice Economical Car 70K Miles. **\$6,995**

*** SUV'S ***

2008 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer Edition - Two Tone Maroon And Tan Leather Interior, Power Third Row Seats, Rear A/C, Local Trade. **\$22,995**

2006 Ford Explorer XLT - Blue With Tan Leather, Third Row Seating, Wonderfully Sized SUV, V-6. **\$15,995**

2008 Jeep Wrangler-Sahara-4X4 - Perfect Jeep, Automatic, Air, Three Way Hard Top, All Power, Back Seat, All Great Options. **\$23,995**

2002 Chevrolet Suburban -Local Trade-In, Tan With Cloth Seats, Dual Air, Third Row Seats, Only 92,000 Miles, Lots of Life Left on this 8 Passenger SUV. **NOW \$11,995**

2004 Nissan Murano SE - Black/With Gray Cloth, Only 78,000 Miles, Come And Drive This Best Selling SUV. **NOW \$14,995**

2004 GMC Yukon XL - Beautiful Maroon With Leather, Third Row Seats, Rear Air, Fully Equipped. **\$14,995**

2005 Nissan Armada 4X4 LE - Every Available Equipment Option, Navigation, Sunroof, DVD, Rear Bucket Seats, Leather, Power Lift Gate, Local Trade-In, Silver With Gray Leather. **\$22,995**

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NRCS celebrating 75 years of service

Special to the Herald

TEMPLE — USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will turn 75 Tuesday.

"For the past 75 years, the NRCS has led the nation in protecting our natural resources," said Don Gohmert, NRCS state conservationist for Texas. "We have followed the lead of the first chief of our agency, Hugh Hammond Bennett, who envisioned the agency's soil conservationists working one-on-one with pro-

ducers on private lands and walking the land to develop a conservation plan with private landowners," he said.

In Texas, approximately 90 percent of the land is privately owned. Gohmert said that means that the quality of our Texas land, water, air and habitats are dependent on the stewardship decisions that thousands of private landowners make every day.

Although programs and technology have provided many changes in the way

NRCS delivers its services, Gohmert said working with the private landowner and getting conservation on the ground remains NRCS's No. 1 priority.

"That priority is reflected in our agency's mission — Helping People Help the Land," he said.

Conservation practices carried out by farmers, ranchers, and other landowners in Texas have improved the quality of life and built stronger rural communities in the state.

The state's natural resources have improved because of conservation practices such as crop rotations, terraces, waterways, windbreaks, wetland restoration, no-till farming, buffers, watershed dams, rangeland management, ponds, nutrient and pest management, to name a few.

"The 75 years of success of NRCS can be attributed to dedicated producers, agency employees, local soil and water conservation district supervisors and staff, and

partners, all of whom worked together to accomplish the goal of protecting our natural resources," Gohmert said.

"This agency's rich conservation legacy has resulted in many benefits to the state's citizens—abundant food and fiber, clean water, clean air, productive soils and open spaces to use and enjoy," he said.

NRCS was created as the Soil Conservation Service

See **NRCS**, Page 14C



Courtesy Photo

Humana Insurance Company representative Anna Gonzalez, left, presents RSVP member Bill Birrell with the Volunteer of the Year award at RSVP's annual volunteer recognition banquet held Thursday night. Also pictured is Kim Carei of Humana Insurance Company

RSVP salutes volunteers

Special to the Herald

Described as having "a volunteer's heart, soul and vision," a member of RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) received the Volunteer of the Year award Thursday night in honor of his dedication to helping his community and neighbors.

"This year the Advisory Council decided on a volunteer, who, like last year's recipient, Erma Dunne, exemplifies all the qualities that makes a great volunteer," said RSVP Advisory Council member Gloria Hopkins in introducing Bill Birrell during the volunteer recognition banquet at the Big Spring Senior Center.

"He is a gentleman who has a volunteer's heart, soul and vision. He has helped to create organizations to meet the needs of people in our community," Hopkins continued. "The foundation he helped to create will continue to impact lives long after you and I are gone."

Birrell, a native of Pennsylvania and a U.S. Army World War II veteran, is a long-time Big Spring resident and has been a member of RSVP for the past 20 years. RSVP is a city-sponsored service that matches seniors with area institutions and programs in need of volunteers. Members qualify to join RSVP at age 55.

Among the long list of Birrell's civic activities are participating in the the First United Methodist Living Christmas Tree, school reading programs, gifted and talented intergenerational project, Christmas in April project and singing in nursing homes,

"He was instrumental in the beginning years of the Mobile Meals program — he gave more than time — he personally delivered meals to homebound senior adults," Hopkins said. "He volunteered with the Cancer Society's Road to Recovery for many years — driving cancer patients to and from Allison Cancer Center in Midland. He is a cancer survi-

vor and served as spokesman for their prostate cancer awareness program."

Anna Gonzalez, a representative of Humana Insurance Company, presented Birrell with a certificate and engraved pen set. Humana Insurance is a sponsor of Texas Senior Corp — RSVP and provides funds for volunteer recognition activities and volunteer of the year award.

Receiving the Presidential Service Awards were Madeline Boadle, Lynda Sliger, Lupe Brito, Ina Stewart, Emma Dunne, Doris Smith, Doris Huibregtse and Clarence Hartfield Jr.

Volunteer RSVP members recognized for their years of service are as follows:

- 25 years: Myrl Soles
- 24 years: Lou Hill and Doyce Reed
- 23 years: Virginia King
- 21 years: Norma Perkins
- 23 years: Bill Birrell

See **RSVP**, Page 11C

District II to elect TSSWCB board member

Special to the Herald

Soil and water conservation districts in State District Two will elect a member to the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) on Tuesday, May 4. The election will be held at 6 p.m. in the Saint Ambrose Parish Hall in Wall.

State District Two consists of 51 counties within which there are 43 soil and water conservation districts in the Hill Country and Big Bend-Trans Pecos region of Texas. Among those counties are Howard, Martin and Glasscock counties.

The current TSSWCB member for State District Two is Marty H. Graham of Rock Springs. Graham, who has been a member of

the TSSWCB since May, 2008, is a rancher in Edwards County.

"Since its beginning, the TSSWCB has been governed by five board members. Each respective board member is elected in a convention type election by delegates from soil and water conservation district directors within the state district that the member resides. However, with the enactment of SB 1828 by the 78th Legislature, two governor appointees also serve on the TSSWCB to create a seven-member board," said Rex Isom, TSSWCB's executive director.

"Elections occur annually to comply with the soil conservation laws of Texas. The elections are held in state district conven-

tions and TSSWCB members serve two-year staggered terms. Since this is an even numbered year, TSSWCB member elections are being held in State Districts Two and Four," added Isom.

Elected state board members must be 18 years of age or older, hold title to farmland or ranchland and be actively engaged in farming or ranching. The governor appointees must be actively engaged in the business of farming, animal husbandry, or other business related to agriculture and wholly or partly owns or leases land used in connection with that business. They; however, may not be a member of the

See **VOTE**, Page 11C

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a managing director — investments for the Wachovia Securities Midland office.

Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior registered client associate and the senior associate to the branch manager.



April 15 has come and gone with its usual gloom and uncertainty. Yes, it remains one of the two things in life that we can rely on. It is a fact; it is known and thus no surprise to investors.

Our nation will face another fact of life Jan. 1, 2011, when the Bush tax cuts expire.

April 15 is a known event; Jan. 1 holds a ton of uncertainties and thus will probably be a major negative for the stock market, perhaps by the fall and reaching a crescendo by year end.

This prospect may not cause serious problems for this bull market, and recent market action says not to worry about it at this time. So why discuss it now?

Well, as we stated last week, it is what you don't know that can hurt the market. Perhaps by thinking about the Bush tax cut expiration some eight months early, we can reduce its potential negative impact. This is particularly true if the economy continues to recover.

No one knows what Congress will do to the Bush tax cuts. If they are simply allowed to go away, dividends would go back to being taxed at ordinary income rates and the maximum capital gains rate would return to 20 percent from 15 percent. We believe this development would be quite negative for the economy and the stock market.

As the economy will still probably be in a fragile condition at year end, the tax cuts could be extended for a year. And there is also the possibility that some adjustments will be made so that the effects of the expiration will not be as severe as they would be otherwise.

The timing of Congressional action is also unclear. Politicians may not want to touch taxes before the November elections or the Democrats may believe that before the election they will have more power.

We are not sadistic and we don't want to push this tax thing on our readers just because it's causing us to lose sleep. There has been little talk about the Jan. 1 expiration, but it will pick up by late summer. We want our readers to be prepared because we all know the market hates uncertainty.

The very good news is that the economy is recovering, the labor market outlook is improving and the market is selling at reasonable valuation levels.

Most critical, the market is acting very well. Our economy and stock market have often adjusted to major changes, and higher taxes in the 1990s did not stop the bull market from following the good economy.

Market action has been very strong for nine weeks and stocks are stretched out. A pause to refresh is likely soon.

The Bush tax cut expiration may not be added to the wall of worry for several months, and then perhaps, some of the uncertainties will be cleared up.

We remain bullish but cautious. One of the positive things about not sleeping well is that we can change our mind at 3 a.m., if market action has deteriorated and says we should.

Past Performance is no guarantee of future results. Portions of this article were produced April 13, 2010, by Al Goldman, Wells Fargo Advisors chief market strategist. The opinions expressed in the report are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of Wells Fargo or its affiliates. The material has been prepared or is distributed solely for informational purposes and is not a solicitation or an offer to buy any security or instrumental to participate in any trading strategy. Additional information is available upon request 432-684-7335.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

of unused medicines by flushing them down the drain, adding pharmaceutical pollution to our waters. In addition, medicines thrown in the trash can end up in landfills if not first picked up by children, pets, sanitation employees, or anyone who rummages through trash.

That is why we're pleased to have started a new drug take back program to help our patients safely dispose of medicines that may be dangerous to others and to the environment.

Patients of any pharmacy can now safely dispose of unused and expired medications at our stores, free of charge. Simply bring in the drugs in their original stock containers and we will work to dispose the medications in an environmentally friendly way.

We welcome you to come and talk to your community pharmacist about any medications.

And remember to never give away your medications or take someone else's. Prescription medicines are powerful and when taken correctly, can save lives, but when not taken properly, can have dangerous and potentially deadly consequences.

Our extensive education and experience in community pharmacy make us the most qualified health care professionals when it comes to medication therapy, and often the most accessible. We look forward to talking to you soon.

PAUL E KENNEMUR
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I just want people to know my experience.

I mailed a small letter (4.2 inches by 4.2 inches) and put a 44-cent stamp on it. It was returned, stating "Returned for 20 cents postage."

So, it's costing me 64 cents to mail this small letter.

I called the post office and was told that because it was a square letter, their machines could not handle it.

So, my advice is: Avoid square letters!

DEL HARTIN
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

The "Don't Mess with Texas" Trash Off was a very challenging day in that there was much distraction. Picking up trash could not compete with the Health Fair, Master the Mountain, Old Sore Head's Day and a golf tournament. But, with all of that said, we had 171 volunteers with 72 of those from the Adopt a Highway group and 33 were under the age of 18. They collected 3,580 pounds of trash.

Cornell Corrections employees have cleaned Midway Road from FM 700 to Jack Cathey's business for a number of years, which we really appreciate and I'm sure the residents in that area do also. They had about 23 that collected 80 bags of trash from that busy stretch of road.

After they had almost completed their task and before they could pick up the bags, some person decided it would

be fun to run over one of the bags, but they did not know that a highway patrolman was behind them, saw the act, got their license and I'm sure they've been contacted.

To that person, I hope you got some community hours for this act, and maybe you will think twice before doing something like that again. Shame on you.

Those wonderful people taking part in the clean up were First Baptist Church Chapel Sunday School class, John and Jo Ann Staup, Goliad Cavaliers, the Rev. Ken McIntosh, Howard College and SWCID, Robert and Charlene Ragan, Barbara Tarpley, Sally Westbrook and Girl Scout Troop 498, Sharon Westerhof, Wally Slate and Adult Probation.

Adult Probation not only cleaned its ADH spots, but has been working with us on projects and will continue assisting us on future projects.

Those participating from Adopt A Highway group were the American Legion, Concerned Citizens Council, Disabled American Veterans, Family of Philip Guzman, Howard County Adult Probation, Keep Big Spring Beautiful, U.S. Flight Academy, West Texas VA Healthcare and WIA Youth.

The most common items found were beer bottles, plastic water bottles, Styrofoam products, etc. The most unusual items found were a wooden Christmas yard decoration, a stainless steel serving spoon and four 45-caliber shells.

Some items might get everyone interested in the picking up trash mode. You know, the Lord put good things in our path as we are challenged. Last week there was a \$100 bill found, then during the trash off there was a \$20 bill, a \$5 bill and a \$2 bill found. So, check it out, you might find some money.

It was a good day and the Greater Big Spring Rotary fed about 25 volunteers. Chad Averette assisted with other Rotary members cooking hot dogs, and Interact members served the meal. Cookies were provided by members of KBSB.

PAT SIMMONS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

Well, Shannon Thomason has seen fit to go on a personal tirade of self justification for his actions.

First, I stand by my letter to the editor. And, Mr. Thomason, let me point out that you must be suffering from delusions, since you still want to claim that you and your group are in the majority here in our fair city.

How can you so conveniently forget that the CCC could not muster the names you needed on your petitions twice? You still believe you represent the majority?

I called you and yours the irate minority and your last letter to the editor confirms this.

I still believe there are more good people out there not willing to engage the CCC for whatever reason, but I am not one of them.

I would like to point out the money the city was fined not only took

money from the city, but from me and my family. I do not appreciate that.

If the Big Spring City Council has not been perfect, I apologize for that, but where do you believe that a group of human beings exist that are completely perfect?

You wrote something about a "political circus," but from where I sit, it is you and your followers who have provided the circus.

Let's cut to the chase. In the upcoming elections, if you are not elected our new mayor, you and the CCC please just go away.

Will that be reason enough to bring you back to reality and break you loose from your grandiosity of supposedly being the protector of our city? Will you then fade away or continue to be a thorn in the side of our city government and the majority of Big Spring citizens?

TONY M. MARQUEZ
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I attended the mayoral debate this evening and it was a good meeting. I just can't believe how uninformed some of the

people who ask the questions are.

For one, they ask if the city would continue to fund the Trail of Lights. Well, first off, it is the

Festival of Lights and "no" the city does not fund us, nor has it ever. It certainly supports us

See LETTERS, 11A



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- ▲ No Spending Increases Over 5% Without YOUR Vote
- ▲ Water Quality 1st... Water Park Later

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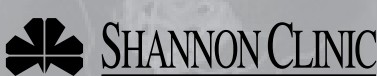
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Board Certified in Neurological Surgery

Dr. Hopkins is available in Big Spring monthly for neurosurgery evaluations and consultations at Family Medical Center, 1501 W. 11th Place.

Dr. Hopkins is affiliated with Shannon Clinic in San Angelo. He received his medical degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine in Jackson and completed his residency in neurosurgery at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. He has lived in West Texas and practiced at Shannon Clinic since 2004.

Dr. Hopkins's specialties include:

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- back and neck pain
- minimally-invasive spine surgery
- brain tumors
- trauma
- hydrocephalus
- carpal tunnel syndrome
- chronic pain syndrome



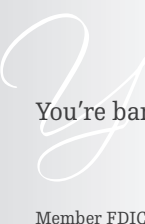
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Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:
Gregory Aguilar Jr., 1508 Sunset Ave., Big Spring
Irene Lopez Alaniz, 774 E. Highway 80, Abilene
Bryan Layton Allison, 1100 College Circle, Ranger
Demetrio Alva, 11520 Arrow Rock, El Paso
Teresa Alvarado, 1100 E. 61st St., Odessa
Daniel Antrim, 120 N. 22nd Pl., Lamesa
Fernando Kyong Arriaga Jr., 606 N.W. Eighth St., Big Spring
Nancy Ramirez Banuelos, 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 1, Big Spring
Christine Avalos Bara, of 1405 N. Sixth, Lamesa
Amy Barber, 2602 Ent, Big Spring
Toby Barnett, 1713 Dwayne Barnett, Lubbock
Christopher Martin Barrera, 1704 Goliad, Big Spring
Daniel B. Barron, 507 N. Ave. F, Lamesa
Teresa Baumann, 1509 E. Sixth, Big Spring
Amy Benavides, 3001 N. Midland Dr., Big Spring
Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Hereford
Crystal Biles, 15885 S. Quartz, Odessa
Vern Black, 329 W. Tennessee, Floydada
Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Ave. L, Lamesa
Edward Bourland, 229 Edgewood Dr., San Angelo
Alexis A. Bowie, 2811 Lawton, Amarillo
Dave Bracken, 2720 42nd St., Lubbock
Wanda Heron Brown, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 113, Big Spring
Johnny William Brown, 507 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
Richard Henry Burk, PO Box 171933, Arlington
Melinda Burns, 2218 Carlton Way, San Angelo
Michelle Ann Bustamante, 1744 Purdue, Big Spring
Cristal Cabello, 1314 65th Drive Apt. C, Lubbock
Melissa Camargo, 2100 Ave. N, Tahoka
Wendell Campbell, 600 N.W. Eight St., Big Spring
Latonya Campbell, 5948 Callaston Lane, Fort Worth
Donna J. Abbott Cantwell, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 101, Big Spring
Leonard Carson Jr., 102 S. Peach, Pecos
Scott S. Carter, 3223 Cornell, Big Spring
Krisha Nicole Castillo, 905 Walnut, Colorado City
Antonia Castillo, 206 Fuller St., Hereford
Donald Cervantes, 1211 Lloyd, Big Spring
Weldon Montague Cheatham, 4502 Denison, Snyder
Jared Kendero Coby, 901 S. High Street # 802, Longview
Vanessa Conatser, 3218 Fordham, Big Spring
Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring
Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring
Wanda Cunningham, 1505 Avion, Big Spring
Corey D. Dancer, 2605 Alamesa Dr., Big Spring
Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave, San Antonio
Julie E. Davis, 5202 Bangor Ave. Apt. K301, Lubbock
Clarissa Renteria Dean, 2711 Rebecca, Big Spring
Johnnie Lou Dry, RR 11 Box 156 FM 2011, Longview
Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring
Constance A. Elledge, 1709 Scotland Ave., Azle
Kristi L. Elliot, 603 E. 12th St., Big Spring
Alfredo Flores Jr., PO Box 272, Laredo
Irene Paredes Flores, 1000 E. 20th St., Big Spring
Alejandro Franco Jr., 1900 Martin Luth King Blvd. Apt. 215, Big Spring
Kenneth L. Freeman, 1401 San Andres, Odessa
Danny Frias, 207 W. 17th St., Georgetown
Hilda Fuentes, 502 S. Seventh, Lamesa
RUBY GAITAN, P.O. Box 783, Lamesa
Aldo Gustavo Galindo, 922 Jeter, Odessa
Carlos Garcia, 1211 S. Third St., Brownfield
James Randal Gardner, P.O. Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.
Joseph Garza Jr., 418 Ryon St., Big Spring
Claudet Garza, 3106 Elm Jno. 10, Laredo
Misty Goldston, 2429 20th St., Lubbock
Remando Gonzales, 3000 Schadt No. B, Fort Worth
Raul Gonzales, 2016 Johnson, Big Spring
James E. Gonzalez, 604 Neff St., Sweetwater
Melissa Gonzalez, 2317 CR 220, Garden City
Jeffrey M. Grams, 224 Lelon Lane, Springtown
Gabriel Guerrero, 411 NE 10th Street, Big Spring
Nora Gutierrez, 606 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa
Steven Joe Guzman, 4172 Lake County Rd. 254, Colorado City
Edna J. Hale, 510 Milton Ave., Brownwood
Sharon Marquis Hanson, 1201 E. Co. Rd. 34, Big Spring
Clifford Arvin Hart Jr., 3234 Drexel,

Big Spring
Dana L. Holguin Havink, 600 Star Linda Ct, Arlington
Chris Henry, 3520 28th St., Lubbock
Cherie Brandy Hernandez, 2006 Ave. L, Snyder
Isaul Hernandez, 523 W. Noble, Falfurrias
Veronica Cervantes Hernandez, 1005 N. 17th St., Lamesa
Robert Stephen Hoback, 1516 Cumberland, Odessa
Gerald R. Hodges, 4312 Crane, Houston
Allan J. Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 No. 15, Big Spring
Herman Hokes, 1303 Sycamore, Big Spring
Danny Holt, 606 Caylor, Big Spring
Emily Howard, P.O. Box 2224, Big Spring
Joann Baldwin Hubbard, 4000 W. Illinois, Midland
Jeanie Renee Ivey, 5326 Old State Highway 7, La Grange
Shauna Danielle Jenkins, 3301 40th Place, Snyder
Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio
Byron Johnson, 801 Ohio, Big Spring
Sarah A. Barrow Johnson, 3402 D. State St., Big Spring
Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland
Steven Daniel Johnson, 1509 142nd St., Lubbock
Johnny Ray Jones, 501 E. 17th St., Big Spring
Luz Martinez Juarez, 602 N.W. Seventh St., Big Spring
Katie Lynn Junkin, 1410 Lancaster, Big Spring
Paige Morgan Kenas, 1003-2 Lake County Rd. 175, Colorado City
Kimberly K. King, 1711 Young, Big Spring
Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan
Eloy Escobar Leal, 1806 E. 11th, Big Spring
Alana Marie Lee, 2711 66th St., Lubbock
Lindsey Kay Lee, 1405 S. Benton, Big Spring
Juan Miguel Lerma, 1509 N. Eighth St., Lamesa
Patricia Lutrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa
Jenny Marie Hamilton Lyon, 4201 W. Highway 80, No. 6, Big Spring
Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland
Terry Marquez, 1518 El Camino, Big Spring
Christopher Max Martinez, 2870 S. Highway, Snyder
Jarrod Martinez, 61 E. Eighth St., San Angelo
Lorene Martinez, 702 N. Iowa, Lamesa
Roberto P. Martinez, 3301 Auburn Ave., Big Spring
Sandy Martinez, 1610 Eubanks, Big Spring
Sullivan Mathis, 4040 N. 10th St., Abilene
Shawn G. McKay, 3107 Bonham Ave, Odessa
Thomas M. McKellen, 2010 Sierra, Kenah
Ebaline Flores Mendoza, P.O. Box 291, Mertzon
Daniel Mercado Jr., 5611 Lancaster, Houston
Chad K. Merrill, 3300 Manor Rd. Apt. 174, Austin
Brandy A. Molina, 1906 S. Alabama, Big Spring
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas
Robert Wayne Moseley, PO Box 39, Hondo
Jose Munoz III, 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 7, Big Spring
Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland
Ricky L. Nava, 707 Willa, Big Spring
William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring
Alesha Pace, 700 N. Dixie, Odessa
Pernell Earl Parker, 400 N.E. 12th St., Big Spring
Benson Nelson Payne, 1117 Toby Lane, San Angelo
Katherine Hardin Perez, 4908 Parkway, Big Spring
Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford Ave, Big Spring
David Lee Powell Jr., 2511 Broadway, Big Spring
Rickie Dan Pruiett, 979 FM 977, Lamesa
Richard Wayne Rains, 4501 Parkway, Big Spring
Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road #226, Big Spring
Bruce Allen Rawson, 4730 Orange Street, Bacliff
Anna D. Rich, PO Box 1321, Denver City
Jerrall Ray Richardson, 1481 Highway 81, Bowie
Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255, S. 11th St., Lubbock
Robert Christopher Rosamond, 801 Lancaster, Big Spring
Jennifer Ann Rositas, 1429 E. Sixth No. 10, Big Spring
Kenneth Wayne Ross, 12101 Des-sau Rd., Big Spring
Thomas Ross, 1206 Lela St., Jasper
Thomas Castillo Ruiz, 1306 W. Tennessee, Midland
Rudy Andrew Salazar, PO Box 1275, Stanton
Mona Saldana, 400 Circle, Big Spring
Nancy Carolina Sauseda, 1707 N. 11th St., Lamesa
Carol Ann Sawyer, 700 S. Lancaster, Big Spring
Monica Serbine, 304 E. 20th, Big Spring
Stephanie Serrato, 1306 Wright, Big Spring
Harl Bradford Shaffer, 5603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring
Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road, Big Spring
Korina Simon, 608 W. 15th St., Big Spring
Brian Paul Siverson, 589c Stoddard, Odessa
Lisa D. Smith, 2010 Sierra Dr., League City
Anthony Solis, 1303 Elm St., Big Spring
Rosa Soto, 407 E. Vealmoor, Coahoma
Janie Spurgeion, 1212 Wadley, Midland
Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City
Mickey Jermain Starnes, 402 Holly Oak Dr., Tyler
Misty D. Sternadel, 457 Seventh St., Scotland TX
Robert Summers, 1905 Wasson Dr. Apt. 5, Big Spring
James Sutton, 2225 Oakland, Abilene
Tonya D. Conner Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobbs, N.M.
Ashley Lauren Teagarden, 6002 103rd St., Big Spring
Paula Valdez, 2220 S. First, Lamesa
Jimmy Vasquez, 4000 W. Illinois, Midland
Liandro Ventura, 1905 Wasson No. 23, Big Spring
Alicia N. Vernon, 9614 Dover Ridge, San Antonio
Rene O. Villa, 106 Circle Dr., Big Spring
Tyler J. Voss, Fannin Co. Rd 4925, Leonard
Amy Wagner, PO Box 784, Blanco

Michael Wagner, P.O. Box 428, Denver City
Irshaad A. Walee, 1306 S. Detroit, Lamesa
James M. Ward, PO Box 279, Colorado City
Jim Bob White, 412 Davis Rd., Big Spring
Candida Lynn Whitehead, 1405 Runnels, Big Spring
Tina Diane Whitlow, 1407.5 Settles, Big Spring
Brandi Woodard, 642 Westview Dr., Abilene
Chad Matthew Wright, 211 E. Robinson, Big Spring
Jerry Lee Wrightsill Jr., 2816 Ridge Road, Fort Worth
Lorenzo Ferrera Yanez, 211 Channing St., Big Spring
Dennis Anthony Zaragoza, 4534 Sinclair, Big Spring

District Court Filings:
U.S. Bank National Association vs. Karen Licko, accounts, notes and contracts.
Amy Shifflett vs. Jason Heath Shifflett, divorce.
Geoffery Woodruff vs. Melissa Lynn Woodruff, divorce.
Clyde Warren Himes vs. Candice Bush Himes, divorce.
Bluebonnet Financial Assets vs. Jose G. Ramos, accounts, notes and contracts.
In Re Haileigh Araselie Ramirez, family.
Marriage Licenses:
Aaron H. Bogard, 30, and Shalina L. Reyes, 30, both of Big Spring.
Warranty Deeds:
Grantor: Brad R. Milliken and Chantal S. Milliken
Grantee: James L. Green and Cheryl Green
Property: A 1-acre tract out of Section 47, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P Rr Co. Survey; and a 3.86-acre tract out of Section 47, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: April 16, 2010
Grantor: Gary Faulkner and Rita Faulkner
Grantee: Jimmy Bailey and Diana Bailey
Property: Lot 2, Block 3, Stanford Park Addition
Date: April 16, 2010
Grantor: Michael Self and Christi Self
Grantee: First Rate Mobile Homes Inc.
Property: A tract out of Section 41, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey; and a tract out of Section 41, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: April 16, 2010
Grantor: Saul Burciaga
Grantee: Darinel Gonzalez
Property: Lot 3, Block 16, Boydston Addition
Date: April 16, 2010
Grantor: Benny Martin
Grantee: Clint Martin
Property: A tract out of Section 28, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: April 16, 2010
Grantor: Donnie J. Duffey and Linda Duffey
Grantee: Douglas E. Mayes
Property: Lot 10, Block 2, Muir Heights Addition
Date: April 19, 2010
Grantor: Paul Arms
Grantee: Matthew Collins and Teresa Collins
Property: Tract 14 in Section 42, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P Rr Co. Survey
Date: April 19, 2010
Grantor: Daria Medrano
Grantee: Maria Escanuelas and Steven Escanuelas
Property: Lot 1, Block 14, Earle's Addition
Date: April 20, 2010
Grantor: Raymond C. Montez
Grantee: Charlie Lewis and Charla Lewis
Property: The S/50 feet of the SW/4

of Block 13, Government Heights to Bauer Addition; The middle 50 feet of the SW/4 of Block 13, Government Heights to Bauer Addition; and The N/50 feet of the SW/4 of Block 13, Government Heights to Bauer Addition
Date: April 20, 2010
Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:
Grantor: Ronald L. Howell and Patricia Howell
Grantee: Ricky Viera
Property: The W/48 feet and the N/50 feet of Lot 2, Block 40, Original Town of Big Spring
Date: April 19, 2010
Grantor: Larry Pick
Grantee: Manuel Alonzo III
Property: Lot 1, Block 67, Original Town of Big Spring
Date: April 20, 2010
Grantor: Charlie Lewis and Charla Lewis
Grantee: Juanita Subia Porras and Joe Alexander Jr.
Property: The S/50 feet of the SW/4 of Block 13, Government Heights to Bauer Addition; The middle 50 feet of the SW/4 of Block 13, Government Heights to Bauer Addition; and The N/50 feet of the SW/4 of Block 13, Government Heights to Bauer Addition
Date: April 20, 2010
Grantor: Shirley Marks
Grantee: Paul A. Platt and Angela Platt
Property: Lot 2, Block 10, Parkhill Addition
Date: April 21, 2010
Grantor: Gary Duck
Grantee: Terry Carter and Marsha Carter
Property: Three tracts out of Section 30, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: April 21, 2010

APRIL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

Governor Rick Perry designated April 2010 as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) in Texas. Victim Services joins rape crisis centers across the state in commemorating Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month to promote awareness and encourage support of this issue.

According to a 2003 study conducted by the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault and the University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work, approximately 1.9 million Texans have been sexually victimized.

- 1 in 5 women and 1 in 20 men are victims of Sexual Assault.
- Most victims are sexual assaulted by someone they know.
- Less than 20% of sexual assaults are ever reported to the police.
- Sexual assault is never the victims fault.

Last year our agency served a total of 68 Victims of Sexual Assault:
50 were child victims 39 Primary and 11 Secondary
18 were adult victims 14 Primary and 4 Secondary

Sexual violence is a persistent and pervasive problem in our society, one that requires attention year-round. In order to foster healthy communities, all citizens of Big Spring, must support the effort to end sexual violence every month of the year.

LAST YEAR VICTIMS SERVICES SERVED:

Child Victim Of Physical Abuse	4
Child Victim Of Sexual Abuse.....	50
Victim of DUI/DWI.....	0
Victim of Domestic Violence.....	203
Adult Victim of Sexual Assault.....	18
Elder Abuse.....	0
Adult Molested as a Child.....	4
Survivors of Homicide Victim	11
Robbery.....	9
Aggravated Assault.....	16
TOTAL	388

"The U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victim of Crime states in their Crime Clock:"

- 2 People are murder every hour.
- An average of 24 people are raped each hour.
- 510 people are assaulted each hour.
- 1,622 thefts are committed each hour
- 67 women are victimized by an intimate partner every hour
- 391 homes are burglarized every hour
- 103 children are abused every hour
- There are 2 alcohol-related deaths every hour
- 1062 people are victims of identity fraud every hour.
- 157 people are stalked every hour



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Victim Services

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2010 Big Spring municipal elections questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to acquaint yourself with the candidates in this year's municipal elections for the city of Big Spring. All four candidates currently running for the mayoral seat — incumbent Russ McEwen, as well as challengers Tommy Duncan, Shannon Thomason and Oscar Velasco — have agreed to answer a series of six questions as part of a questionnaire provided to them by the Herald.

Candidates for the District 5 seat on the city council — incumbent Troy Tompkins and challenger Craig Olson — have also agreed to take part.

Each of these men are asking for the opportunity to represent the citizens of Big Spring during the next three years, and have spent considerable time and money to support their candidacy. We at the Herald hope these questions and response will help the voters of Big Spring make an informed decision during

this election.

Early voting begins Monday in the Howard County Elections Administrator's Office, located on the third floor of the county courthouse, with election day set for Saturday, May 8. Please be sure to cast your ballot and make your voice heard. Good luck to all of the candidates.

— Thomas Jenkins, Staff Writer

The situation surrounding the recent closure of the Municipal Swimming Pool has many residents divided on how best to serve the needs of the community while remaining fiscally responsible. According to city officials, estimates to repair or replace the existing pool facility and bring it into compliance with federal law are approximately \$2.5 million, while the aquatics center currently being considered carries a \$4.2 million price tag. What solution — please explain your plan, in detail — do you feel is in the city's best interest? Also, how would you finance your plan?

Russ McEwen: When the city was forced to close the municipal pool in 2009 due to ADA and Virginia Graham Baker Act implications, the City Council did an extensive study to determine what we should do concerning the pool. It was determined that the incremental cost of providing an aquatics center was acceptable considering the life of a swimming pool. We discovered that other communities that had built this type of center (Brownfield and Snyder) had been able to operate in the black, which our pool had never done.

I feel that the family aquatics center is in the best interest of the city as it will provide quality recreation to our citizens and attract visitors from surrounding communities. Obviously, I feel that CO's were the best funding source in that we will be able to reopen a swimming facility one year quicker using that method.

Tommy Duncan: I concur with Mr. Jenkins preface that citizens are divided on how best to serve the community regarding the proposed "family aquatic center." I believe most citizens prefer utilization of our tax revenue on more important issues, such as quality water. I am confident that a large majority of our citizens believe they have the right to voice their preferences in this area via the voting process and are greatly concerned that the city council refused to allow them that opportunity.

I spoke personally with our city manager and questioned what documentation was available that confirmed the estimated \$2.5 million price tag on repairing or replacing

the existing city pool. He stated that the city has received no actual written estimates but that two firms had sent "representatives" who "looked" at our pool and their best guess was around \$2.5 million. I have done some research into this and have received input from reputable pool builders and I do not accept the \$2.5 million figure. It could, in fact, be much lower.

However, as certificates of obligation have already been let regarding this bond issue the city now has only two options. First, we can build a "family aquatic center" that I do not believe will be financially sound and will be a continuing burden on the tax payer, or second, we can use what money is necessary to repair or replace our existing pool and divert the remainder of those funds to our current bond debts. I prefer the second option and will work hard to move the city council in that direction.

Shannon Thomason: I feel that there have been several problems with the water park project. The foremost being that the citizens of Big Spring should have been given a vote on the project, plain and simple. With the kind of money involved and the fact that it isn't exactly an "essential city service," it only makes sense to put the project in front of the people who have to pay for it.

In your question you state that city officials estimate that it will take \$2.5 million to repair or replace the existing pool and that the "wading park" (since it is only 3.5 ft. deep) carries a \$4.2 million price tag. I notice that the repair estimate has increased drastically since the city first started talking about the water park and I have to wonder how much of the \$2.5 million is fact and how much of it is political spin designed to "sell" the wading park to the public.

Personally, I think that we should look at repairing and reopening the municipal pool, municipal auditorium and the northside pool as well, which I think would make much more sense than opening a single "wading park." Also, one can't gloss over the fact that the "wading park" will actually cost the taxpayers more than \$6 million due to the debt service (interest) paid on the certificates of obligation. In short, I would have to recommend to the council that we pay for the repairs out of the certificates of obligation that have already been issued and set aside any remain-

ing funds to repay the certificates.

Oscar Velasco: No municipal swimming pool. Let's be practical. This idea was tried in Odessa/Midland, Brownfield and other places and it didn't work. Let's use the \$4.5 million and fix the water quality standards to an accepted standard. This idea is not in the best interest of the Big Spring community. Let's poll the entire population, not just the selected few.



Troy Tompkins: Our city pool and bath house can no longer comply with regulatory requirements for accessibility and safety. Preliminary estimates to rebuild the complex "back like it was" exceed \$2 million. A group of local officials studied the issue, visiting with engineers, architects, pool designers and other municipalities with similar facilities. After reviewing all the information, the group's recommendation to the council was to incur an incremental \$2 million to build an aquatic center. It would be designed to meet the needs of a diverse group of potential users. One of the design firms stated that this type of layout provides better recreational benefits and increased usership over old style pools. It also has the added benefit of using substantially less water than old style pools.



The family aquatic center may also have some benefits that are difficult to measure at this point. Having adequate, modern recreational facilities is a quality of life issue. I believe the facility will improve our recreation opportunities and make our park more appealing for residents and visitors. A study done by R&R Global Hospitality for the Settles Hotel development project indicated that weekend getaway packages could be structured around our park amenities. I believe the family aquatic center enhances that proposition, and that a strategic marketing plan can be developed to attract regional tourism to the park. Additional tourism dollars would have an economic impact that would help validate the investment.

While I am in favor of the family aquatic center concept, I believe our first priority is to complete the analysis of our water quality issues, and to determine the best approach to dealing with them. Assuming that water treatment upgrades are made, the accompanying benefits from modern

technology and construction methods will certainly provide operational and maintenance cost savings. Those savings could offset part of the debt service associated with the underlying revenue bonds that will finance the project.

At my prompting, the city has engaged a firm to complete pro forma financial statements for the aquatic center, which will help us determine what the revenue and expense stream might look like before we proceed. This is a critical component of the evaluation process.

It remains to be seen whether the two projects are mutually exclusive. It may be possible to complete both projects, and it certainly warrants careful, open minded analysis of the alternatives.

Craig Olson: I feel the recent closure of the municipal swimming pool and the timing of such, as well as the only cost estimate to be considered to be a \$2.5 million rectangular pool or a \$4.2 million "water park," to be suspicious, at best. I will never be convinced by the present mayor or city council these are the only options available.



I, as a businessman of 34-plus years, firmly believe there are many other attractive and less expensive options available, and will, if elected, demand these options be explored and presented to the citizens of Big Spring for their review and approval and then make a decision based solely on what's in the best economic interest of the taxpayers of the city of Big Spring. The mentality being floated that only a \$4.2 million "water park" (\$6.1 million over 20 years) which is open approximately 75 days a year serves the needs of Big Spring flies in the face of reality, common sense and good financial judgment.

The spin coming out of the present mayor and city council that the "water park" will break even or even make a profit is absurd. If this fact is in doubt, make an inquiry of owners of the water park between Midland and Odessa. The old pool operated at a \$30,000-\$40,000 yearly loss. The new water park would lose \$100,000 a year, an expense we cannot afford. With many more serious financial issues on the horizon which are going to have to be addressed, wasting limited taxpayer dollars on cosmetic imagery and legacy makes no sense.

The city of Big Spring's recent failure to meet the minimum water quality standards set by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has many residents asking what can be done to improve the quality of the water being delivered to municipal customers. What, if any, measures do you feel should be taken to improve the quality of water in the city of Big Spring? Please explain your plan in detail, and, when possible, cite estimated costs, as well as how you would finance these changes or improvements to the city water system.

Tommy Duncan: The city has postponed meaningful progress on our water quality problems for too long. In reading the proposed budget for fiscal year 2009-2010, I note the city manager and director of finance clearly state that our utilities budget, at the beginning of the fiscal year, will have an unrestricted fund equity of \$640,610. In order for

this fund to be considered financially stable it should begin the year with a \$2.5 million fund equity. I fully expect our city leaders to transfer appropriate funding to the utilities department, but regret that we found ourselves in this position.

Additionally the proposed budget

clearly states the city is operating treatment plants that have multi-million dollar components through a distribution and collection system that is suffering drastically from aging lines and outdated technology. Further, the proposed budget suggests that new bond debt should be issued in 2014 to upgrade our utility systems.

Rather than wait until 2014 and issuing new bond debt I propose beginning to live within our means, having an aggressive approach to paying off our current debt and beginning a systematic, step by step approach to replacing existing equipment and systems now.

Please recognize that according to the proposed city budget, at the end of fiscal year 2008-2009, the city had bond debt totaling \$13.6 million. At that time our scheduled payments for the year 2010 included \$520 thousand toward the principle and \$590 thousand toward the interest. With the additional money borrowed for our pool, our total bond debt rises to \$17.8 million and our payments will rise accordingly.

We must get out of debt and begin living within our means. Money paid on interest and fees for bond debt is money that is not available for the more important issues in our city like quality water.

Shannon Thomason: Big Spring water quality has been an issue to my

knowledge since the mid 70s, when I would spend summers with my aunt and uncle here in Big Spring. Growing up on the farm, we had to replace our hot water heater once in about 20 years. I'm currently on

my third hot water heater since moving to Big Spring in 2000. Obviously, our city's water issues go back much further than this most recent round of "water quality cards."

So, how do we fix it? I'm told by the folks at the water department that most of our quality issues stem from an aging distribution system. The city already has a water line replacement program in place, but I don't feel that it is being done quickly enough. My position is that we need a "crash" program to update our water treatment and distribution system and that we need to call in "real world" help from other cities that have had similar problems to find real solutions that have worked for them. Unfortunately, this won't be a cheap or quick fix, so, to pay for it, I would suggest that we seek out state and federal infrastructure grants.

Oscar Velasco: We should hire the right people with the vast experience in the area of water problems and effective solutions. We have been "experimenting" for too many years. The water pollution is still with us.



We can't solve this problem if we decide to attack it only in election time. If elected, I will make this water problem one of my main priorities. Let's face it, if we continue to bring polluted water into our commu-

nity, we will never solve this disastrous problem. Have you noticed how many reverse osmosis businesses have flourished in our community?

To finance this improvement plan, I would use the \$4.5 million that we can save by not going along with the municipal swimming pool. After all, this whole idea was fabricated by a "selective few" and is not the desire of all the hard-working citizens of Big Spring. Let's listen to the expressed wishes of all the citizenry of Big Spring. I will not have a "rubber stamp" council that caters only to the whims of a few. This community belongs to all of us who live and work for a better way of life.

Russ McEwen: The quality of water that is being delivered today is actually at the standards set by TCEQ. We have experienced what could be described as the perfect storm since the end of 2009. Water quality has suffered because



See ELECTION, Page X

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NEEDED: CONSTRUCTION Superintendent for project at Big Spring VA. Must be experienced with good communication and scheduling skills. Please send resume to or e-mail questions to choctaw@wvf.net

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Resumes will be accepted until May 4, 2010. No phone calls. EOE

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For more information go to www.mybigspring.com or call (432)264-2346

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205985

ELECTION

Continued from Page X

CRMWD had to stop the blending of Spence water with that from Lake Thomas, which lowered the quality of the raw product that the city was receiving.

At about the same time a golden algae bloom developed in Lake Spence. Lake Spence has also been at 5 percent of capacity. The result of these occurrences was that TCEQ turbidity standards were exceeded. At no time has there been any type of health risk. The city is currently working with Parkhill, Smith and Cooper, its engineering firm, to develop plans for the future. No determination has been made at this point as to what should be done or any estimated cost.

Craig Olson: The failure of the city of Big Spring to meet minimum water quality standards is only one of the many issues the city and the taxpayers of the city of Big Spring are going to be faced with in the near future.

The ongoing renovation of the historic Settles Hotel continues to be a bright spot for the city's downtown area, along with the recent street resurfacing and the placement of medians and period lighting. Please explain what work you've done or participated in to help revitalize the downtown area, and, if elected, what do you plan to do to support growth in downtown Big Spring?

Shannon Thomason: I have yet to talk to anyone who considers the medians on Main Street a "bright spot." Quite frankly, decorum prohibits my repeating most of the comments I've heard about the medians. While I admit that properly landscaped and maintained medians downtown are a nice decorative touch, I personally prefer function over form.

Medians in city streets have pretty much gone the same way as tail fins on cars, they were a nice styling touch once upon a time, but their time has past. With regards to the Settles Hotel project, I believe that the citizens of Big Spring have a vested interest in seeing the project succeed, as more than \$3 million of our money has been applied to the project. As mayor, I will continue to support the project, but will of course hinge all of my decisions upon what is in the best interests for all of the citizens of Big Spring.

Oscar Velasco: We definitely do not need the renovation of the Settles building. We need to encourage and support the businesses that are already functioning and have a hard time because of our declining economy. There is no point in bringing in more competition to these hard working people who are only trying to work hard to make a decent living. Again, this projected idea of renovation and beautification of downtown Big Spring is the idea of only a few of the elected officials who do not take into account what the majority of the citizens really need. The select few are ramming down our throats projects that are experimental and not at all practical

The Big Spring Police Department's Narcotics Task Force has enjoyed a great deal of success since the city gave the go-ahead for its creation, putting a hefty dent in drug trafficking in the Crossroads area. The city has also seen a fairly dramatic drop in the number of gang-related violent crimes reported in the past year. If elected, how do you propose to continue this trend, and what new programs or policies, if any, do you hope to implement to reduce crime in the city?

Oscar Velasco: The problem with narcotics and crime has to be addressed. If elected, I will work to establish an athletic gymnasium on the north side and the west side of our city. I propose a modern, well equipped, fully furnished center. It will provide all of our children with an opportunity to exercise, swim, box, play basketball, table games and other related sports. It will give our youth an opportunity to participate in lawful and legal activities, rather than "hanging around" and engaging in illegal and unlawful activities. We



With a declining tax base, wasting taxpayer funds on projects which do not address the longer term needs of the city, such as the water park, will make the task of bringing the water quality up to state standards more difficult and expensive.

The expense involved in bringing city infrastructure up to 21st Century standards is going to be a drawn out process which will not be achieved over night. This fact makes it even more important that the limited amount of taxpayer dollars be spent wisely and in a manner that does, in fact, address these long term infrastructure needs. It might be determined that a bond issue be presented to the taxpayers down the road to deal with the issue and many others facing the city. Only after a careful study, review and evaluation of each and every issue to be dealt with and approved by the citizens can this issue be resolved.

Troy Tompkins: Big Spring's water treatment problems are a result of

to our needs. Let's stop spending money all over this community that doesn't need these expenses with the present economic crisis.

Russ McEwen: I have promoted a program that is designed to revitalize the downtown area. I have argued



that I can find no example of a rural community being reinvigorated without the revitalization of its downtown area. I have engaged in the negotiations with Settles Development, LLC, to finalize an agreement for the restoration of the Settles Hotel.

I promoted and was involved with the design of the landscaping and streetscaping downtown. I served on an ad-hoc committee that met for over a year to determine the best path for the revitalization of the downtown area. If re-elected I will continue to do all in my power to promote our downtown. I will continue to work with our Historic Committee to make certain that we preserve the integrity of our historic buildings.

Tommy Duncan: The preface to this question assumes all citizens are pleased with the downtown renovations. I have not found that to be the case.



I am pleased that we have someone investing in our downtown area by renovating the Settles. However, I am concerned about the amount of our tax dollars that are obligated either through the Economic Development Corporation, or other avenues, toward this project.

Additionally, I have not found all citizens thrilled at the loss of our old trees that had been donated by friends and relatives. I am also concerned that we are spending lavish amounts of money to "beautify" one small area of the city and would have suggested many more streets and roads could have been repaired or upgraded for the cost of the center medians and very expensive sidewalks.

I have also heard many concerns regarding possible safety issues for those backing out of parking areas at the post office and other businesses, noting the limited driving area now that medians have been added to the

must try all that is in our power to help make these young people into productive, positive and law abiding citizens. After all, these young people are our future.

Russ McEwen: I am proud of the fact that I was part of a decision to establish a narcotics division in our police department. I must give credit to the person who came up with the idea, and that was Stephanie Horton. I have supported that endeavor from its inception and will continue to do so.



The program that I am supporting very strongly is to foster the great working relationship between the police department and the sheriff's department. By having those two entities work more closely together we will be in a better position to fight crime in Big Spring and Howard County.

Tommy Duncan: I am extremely pleased with the success of the Police Department's Narcotics Task Force. If elected I will support continuing this program.

Additionally, if elected, I will work closely with the chief of police, fire

several years of severe drought conditions combined with an outbreak of golden algae, which is negatively impacting the suspended solids content of our raw water supply. Of our three source lakes, CRMWD is only delivering water from one source, Lake Spence, due to their inability to blend in water from Thomas or Ivie. Spence typically



has higher chloride and salt content, and due to limited inflows to the lake the last few years, dissolved solids have been increasing. The increased sedimentation load has made treating the raw water challenging, placing an overload on the residuals management process, and causing turbidity (or murkiness) in the water, which has triggered regulatory threshold reporting. Water deliveries from Lake Ivie are scheduled to resume by the beginning of May. In addition, recent rainfalls have created ideal conditions for additional runoff. The city is working with CRMWD to stay assessed of raw water quality issues, and to the extent possible, to be pre-

downtown streets.

I plan to support growth in all areas of Big Spring, not just the downtown area, by taking advantage of our geographic location, the reputation of our "West Texas Work Ethic" and the Christian values present in our citizens. I will work hard to eliminate the negative aspects of our community such as the high property tax rates, poor water quality and the poor condition of our streets and roads that encourage new business and industry to go elsewhere.

Troy Tompkins: Early in 2006, I made a phone call to Brint Ryan to talk about how we might help facilitate Big Spring's downtown revitalization. I believed that Ryan's expertise in tax credits and incentives might prove valuable to those involved in the Heritage Plaza project, which was in its early stages. During that conversation, he and I conceived the idea of restoring the Settles Hotel. Ryan asked me to begin making inquiries and laying the groundwork.



For the next several months I provided the initial momentum for the project. I engaged the people necessary to make it happen, including the mayor, city executive staff, the Economic Development Board members and others. Ryan and I were confident of his ability to orchestrate all the moving parts needed to make the project a success. I advocated strenuously on his behalf to all the local players, who did not know him, to convince them that he could indeed complete the task.

I located historic records and architectural drawings, without which the project would have not been possible. I hosted meetings, made phone calls and did all the leg work locally until he brought in his brother, Kris, to take over the day-to-day operations of the business.

Last summer, after the closure of the Municipal Auditorium, I called Ryan and asked him if he would consider having his team evaluate that building for renovation. Ryan agreed to do so at no cost to the city, and his experts quickly came up with several alternative concepts to bring the auditorium back on line. In addition, Ryan created a site plan that incorporates the Settles and the auditorium



chief and all city department heads to develop goals and long range plans to ensure the citizens needs are met.

However, I will not stop there. I strongly believe in the principle of "management by walking around." Meaning, that in addition to setting across the table from department heads, I will stand next to those working on our water lines, I will ride in a patrol car with the police (on all shifts), and I will sit at a table at our fire stations with the front line people we entrust our safety to. I will seek their ideas and their thoughts on how to make our city a better and safer place to live and how to give them the tools they need to do their jobs.

Let me also take this opportunity to stop the rumor that if elected I would eliminate cost of living raises and overtime for city employees. I have absolutely no intention of making any changes in those areas.

Shannon Thomason: I would consider the successes of the Narcotic Task Force a darn good start. However, there is still much to do as many folks in town will attest. As

pared to treat raw water to the best of our ability.

The city is working with Parkhill, Smith, & Cooper engineers who specialize in water treatment to evaluate options for both short and long term solutions to improve our treatment process. Based on preliminary reviews, potential solutions include a retrofit to the existing sedimentation management system, at an estimated cost of \$2 million, or even possibly building a new primary sedimentation process, which would give Big Spring more control over future fluctuations in water quality, and put us in a better position in the event that regulatory standards continue to tighten. The estimated cost for such an upgrade is \$7 million. In most instances, water treatment expenditures are financed by the issuance of dedicated revenue bonds, whose payment is derived from revenues generated by selling treated municipal water to end users. This structure would not typically impact the tax rate per thousand assessed on property owners. There may also be private equity options in the marketplace that should be explored.

into a complex that Ryan is dubbing Big Spring's "Central Park." This would be an area of downtown connecting the two historic buildings with green space, providing a venue for festivals, concerts and other gatherings. The city is currently seeking private funding sources for the auditorium, and Ryan is providing support through his team of historic restoration specialists.

Kris Ryan and I introduced the city to the National Development Council, a firm that is dedicated to increasing the flow of capital to under-served urban and rural areas for job creation, affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization and community development. This initiative is in its infancy, but offers great promise for Big Spring. This relationship could result in Historic Tax Credit and New Market Tax Credit benefits for local projects.

Craig Olson: The issue of the Settles Hotel being a "bright spot" for the downtown area continues to be very controversial, at best. I, as a businessman, look at long term issues and wonder how the Settles is going to be a viable entity after completion. Is it going to require city funds to keep the doors open? The fact that \$3 million in economic board money was funneled into it is also troubling.



As a private-sector small businessman, I wonder if private investors thought this a viable project then why weren't private sector investors more involved? As for the street resurfacing, medians and period lighting of the downtown area, many have wondered "is this what we really voted for?" The complaints about the narrowing of Main Street down to the point of creating traffic hazards have validity.

The most interesting and difficult to answer question asked of me while campaigning is why the medians were placed up to the current mayor's place of business and then discontinued. If elected, I will see all taxpayer funds are spent in the manner they are intended to be spent and the citizens are fully aware of city officials' intentions.

mayor, I would support the expansion of our police department with more personnel, better equipment and more training. I also feel that the police department's pay scale and personnel policies need to be addressed to improve employee retention. I would also encourage more citizen involvement with the police department through neighborhood watch programs and an expansion of the Citizens Police Academy program.



Craig Olson: As a former Texas DPS trooper, I personally know and have worked with many of the older officers still with the Big Spring Police Department. I still have occasional contact with many of them and appreciate the job they do under difficult circumstances. I fully support the efforts of our city's narcotics task force and intend to see it funded to the amount requested each year by its governing body. The

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ELECTION

Continued from Page X

drug and crime problem in Big Spring is not an asset to this community, and, if elected, I will strive to see that

What training or experience do you feel makes you uniquely qualified to serve the city of Big Spring and help direct the future of the municipality? Also, please provide details on your highest level of education and any certificates or degrees you currently hold, boards or committees you have served on or job experience you feel makes you the best candidate for the position.

Russ McEwen: I hold a bachelor of business administration from the University of Texas. I feel that I am qualified because of being an independent businessman in Big Spring. I have served as president of the United Way, committee chairman in the Big Spring Rotary Club, board member of YMCA, city councilman (1980 to 1987), President of Texas Municipal League Regional Organization, member of Permian Basin Community Block Grant Committee, member National YMCA Gymnastics Council and member USA Gymnastics State Board. I have served as mayor of Big Spring since 2000. I believe that the experience that I have gained serving on committees, boards and city council make me qualified to continue as mayor.

Tommy Duncan: I hold an associate of science degree in business management as well as a bachelor of science in technical management.

After serving 15 months in Vietnam on the Mekong Delta with a naval support detachment and receiving an honorable discharge as an E-5 (non commissioned officer), I began a civil service career as an electrician with the Federal Aviation Administration.

I worked my way up through the ranks to retire as the chief executive officer for detention services in the South Central Region of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. My responsibilities included control and management of a \$100 million budget, as well

What do you see as the most important challenge facing the city of Big Spring in the coming years, and, if elected, how do you plan to address this issue? Please explain, in as much detail as possible, and provide information on how you would enact and finance your solution.

Note: Oscar Velasco did not provide a response for this question.

Tommy Duncan: The single most important issue facing Big Spring today is the poor quality of our water and the condition of our distribution and collection systems. These conditions add unnecessary burdens to our citizens, as well as local business and industry. We cannot accept the proposed plan of continuing to simply "patch up" our water systems and equipment, then waiting until the year 2014 to issue new bond debt to make meaningful improvements. The high property tax rate and ever increasing debt that we will pass on to our children are also of great concern to me.

If elected, I will do everything in my power to divert monies borrowed for a "family aquatic center" to either repairing or replacing the existing pool, and using the remainder of those tax dollars to pay bond debt to begin lowering and finally eliminating high interest payments. I will support the immediate development of a plan to begin a "step by step" approach for meaningful improvements in our water.

By first lowering and finally eliminating huge interest payments on bond debt, we begin the process of "living within our means." These funds coming available for use along with current revenues will allow us to begin replacing our outdated water systems "step by step."

Additionally, I will pursue every avenue to gain assistance from our federal and state representatives in correcting the water quality issue that has plagued Big Spring for so long.

As a "retiree" I will have no professional responsibilities other than serving Big Spring.

the judicial system works in a manner that complements the efforts of our local law enforcement agencies (city police, sheriff's office and state officers).

Troy Tompkins: The task force was

as providing guidance, oversight and training to CEOs and departmental managers of multi-million dollar entities such as contract prisons and jails that housed federal inmates.

As you may be aware, prisons operate much like cities in that they have virtually all the component parts found in the operation of a city. I believe my experience as stated above will be a valuable asset to Big Spring.

Shannon Thomason: I grew up on a cotton farm near Brownfield. My parents and grandparents instilled in me the idea of stewardship at a very young age. As farmers, we had to be good stewards of the land. If we didn't take care of it, it couldn't take care of us. The same ideals apply to the public trust. A public servant must ensure that the basic needs of

his or her constituents are met before investing the citizens money in niceties.

As a corporate pilot and flight instructor, my employers, clients and students have entrusted me not only with their money and equipment, but their very lives. As such, I have a unique sensibility when it comes to the public trust. A public servant isn't just a steward of the citizens money, but their very lives and livelihoods. I am a firm believer in the idea of "public servants" instead of "elected officials" and I support an amendment to our city charter to institute a system of term limits for the entire city council, including myself.

Oscar Velasco: Midland High School - 1959. Texas Tech, 1963, BA. Texas Tech, masters. University of Illinois (PHD) ABD, 1986. director Peace Corps Managua, Nicaragua. superintendent of schools, Presidio. Owner of Veromeka School of Language, Midland. Owner of Veromeka Car Pilot Services, Big Spring.

Troy Tompkins: I am a lifelong resident of District 5. My entrepreneurial

Shannon Thomason: I see the tax situation in Big Spring as our most important challenge in the coming years. Our taxing entities have gone to the "taxpayer well" too many times recently for quality of life improvements and have failed to maintain essential services. A \$3.5 million golf course is nice, but that

money could have just as easily been spent on improving water quality or streets. As of 2008, the city of Big Spring had the 19th highest tax rate out of 1174 Texas cities. Looking at our streets, water leaks, and sewer leaks, does it really appear that we're getting our moneys worth? Recent tax increases have also placed an especially heavy burden on our citizens who live on fixed incomes. I propose that the city of Big Spring freeze taxes for our citizens who are 65 and over or disabled, allowing them to budget for their taxes. They deserve the peace of mind that comes with the knowledge that they will never have to pay more than they do now.

Obviously I feel that city property taxes are too high. I believe that it is time to take a serious appraisal of how the city is spending our money. I also propose that we amend the city charter to limit spending increases to 5 percent per year. Any more than that and the city council would have to put it on the ballot for the citizens to decide. Our city charter already requires that bonds be voted upon by the taxpayers; I support amending the charter to include certificates of obligation under the same requirement. An expansion of the Big Spring EDC to support local businesses will also help expand the tax base and reduce the citizen's tax burdens.

Finally, I worry that a major reduction to our local tax base will be caused by the proposed U.S. 87 bypass. I fear that the bypass will result in a major loss of income for our Gregg Street businesses just as bypasses have in other towns all over the nation. The loss of any one of those businesses is intolerable; the loss of several would be devastating. In short, I believe that protecting the

funded by the current council. I will continue to support the funding for that effort at its current levels. I have also advocated for a juvenile justice officer position for the municipal court. The position would be funded by court fees and traffic fines. Doing

roots are four generations deep in Big Spring. I was reconciling bank statements for my after-school job by the time I was 17. I earned a BBA in accounting from Texas Tech. I took classes in management, marketing, finance, economics, law, and auditing while acquiring my degree. I hold multiple securities licenses, and

take at least 30 hours annually of continuing education, primarily dealing with financial topics and ethics. I have attended the Texas Municipal League conference annually, concentrating my attention on sessions addressing economic development for cities.

I am a member of the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club. Currently serving as Literacy Chair, I have led Rotarian volunteer reading programs at five different BSISD campuses. As part of that initiative, we have donated books to various school libraries, using proceeds from fund-raising events and matching grants from Rotary. In the 2010-2011 school year, we expect to reach the \$10,000 mark in donated books. I was awarded the Prudential Community Champions Award for work our club did during my year as president; the honor was accompanied by a \$1000 honorarium to the Rotary Foundation. I have also been honored by my club as the Rotarian of the Year.

I serve on the Big Spring Convention & Visitors Bureau board, which is funded entirely by hotel occupancy tax revenue. I have strongly advocated increased promotional funding for local events, to extend Big Spring's reach for regional tourism. Many local events are already seeing the results of that additional exposure beyond our city's borders. I spearheaded an effort to update our city logo and Web site as part of a re-branding strategy. This should make interacting with the city via the Web easier for citizens. It will also help us to capitalize on regional tourism and make us easier to find for those performing Web searches. I initiated the Comanche Warrior Triathlon, held in Comanche Trail Park, a unique venue for triathlons and triathletes in this

Gregg Street business community is every bit as important as protecting the VA Hospital. Whether elected or not, I will use every opportunity available to keep potential business and customers from "bypassing" Big Spring.

Russ McEwen: The most important challenge facing Big Spring lies in its ability to grow its population and tax base. I have been involved in decisions that promote the achievement of that challenge. We must continue to promote ourselves as the place to live and visit in West Texas. We have made great strides in that area.

There is still work to be done in the downtown area and as we see more and more business locate in that area we will be faced with the prospect of needing to continue the streetscaping and landscaping that is currently being done. Funding for those programs will come from grant funding, private contributions and the use of increased income that the city will realize due to increased retail activity.

Craig Olson: I believe the financial future of our community is at stake in the upcoming election. We are experiencing a drastic reduction in our tax base while local taxing entities on a yearly basis continue to raise tax rates on an ever declining private sector's ability to pay them. As we all know from watching our federal and state government's reckless spending habits, many of them are on the brink of fiscal insolvency and bankruptcy.

It seems locally our government entities have learned nothing and continue to tax and spend like there is an endless supply of someone else's money on projects which do not address the needs of the community and the private sector's ability to pay the yearly increases in taxes.

If elected, and as a member of the Big Spring City Council, I will focus

so would free up the municipal judge to concentrate on adult offenders, and create a designated person to deal specifically and solely with the underaged.



part of Texas. Going into its third year, we are expecting in excess of 100 participants, most of whom will be from out-of-town.

My other activities include: Boy Scouts of America - Lonestar District chairman and Assistant Scoutmaster; Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce - board member; United Way of Big Spring - board member; West Texas Centers for MHMR Planning Network and Advisory Committee member.

Craig Olson: In my younger days I traveled worldwide with my family as my dad was a career naval officer. Because of this, I got to experience an

opportunity to see and visit other parts of the world. I attended many schools and colleges, spending the last two years at the University of Texas. I then worked for about one year with the Waco Police

Department before becoming a state trooper and spending six years with the Texas Department of Public Safety, which brought me to Big Spring.

About the time Webb Air Force Base began to close I decided to also become involved in real estate in the Big Spring area. After 34-plus years as a successful small business owner I have come to realize private sector businesses, unlike the public sector government entities, are impacted by economic conditions and have to formulate a business model around those economic conditions to remain financially viable.

My 34-plus years of business experience will allow me to closely examine the expenditures that will impact our community most adversely and eliminate those that have an adverse impact on our quality of life. The city of Big Spring is not going to have an endless supply of funds taken from others forever. My proven ability in the private sector gives me the ability to recognize those expenditures which can be cut back or eliminated in contrast to those which need to be fully funded, such as quality of life items.

on the constitutionally mandated functions of city government and see they are funded in a manner which allows our streets, water distribution systems, water quality and other mandates which will allow our city to compete with other communities for opportunity of growth. Families, individuals and businesses looking to this area to relocate are going to be interested in the quality of life issues and the conditions of our city, as well as tax rates, not cosmetic pageantry and non-essential amenities which do not enhance the quality of life.

For instance, a family relocating in January is not going to be concerned whether Big Spring has a modern pool this community approves of, can afford and is paid for, in comparison to a \$6.1 million "water park" when they see water running down the streets, streets too rough to drive on, and water they cannot safely drink.

We residents and taxpayers of Big Spring are going to have to address these very important issues in the near future and it might require a future bond issue to deal with these important infrastructure issues. This is why it is of critical importance our elected representatives realize this and not waste precious taxpayer dollars on other nonessential cosmetic projects. As our current mayor has correctly stated, 65 percent of our population is considered underprivileged. I submit to you the remaining 35 percent cannot, for long, continue to support 100 percent without serious examination of our spending habits.

Troy Tompkins: The single most critical challenge for Big Spring is growing our tax base. Achieving progress would benefit the city, the school district, the county and the college. We must focus on economic development to attract new business and foster growth for existing ones to expand our tax base. I support the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation (BSEDC) in its efforts to creatively, proactively

See **ELECTION**, Page 9A

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3 PLOTS at Trinity Memorial- \$1200 each. Call 432-894-0480.

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Discounts
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1 or 2 Baths
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267-5444
263-5555

1412 STADIUM- 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$450. month, \$300. deposit. Central Heat & Air. No pets. Call (432)270-1022 or 353-4224 for more information.

1702 MORRISON 3 bdr, 1 bath, Tile floors, CH/A, fenced yard. \$725/month, \$650/Deposit. (432)213-4647

Real Estate for Rent

1800 WALLACE, 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, garage, CH/A. \$700. Month, \$400. deposit. No HUD. No Pets. Non-smoker. References required. Call (432)270-3849 for more information.

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704 S. LANCASTER (Close to Restaurants and Businesses) 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, refrigerator furnished. NO HUD. \$385 Month, \$250 Deposit. No pets. References required. (432)816-5025.

BUILDING FOR Rent- 501 East 1st Street (Big Spring). \$350 month, \$350 deposit & 1 year lease required. Please contact Lucy (432)263-5000 for more information.

BUSINESS PROPERTY- 207 West 10th Street. Call (432)263-1281 weekdays 9:00am-5:00pm.

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ATTENTION

THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

Real Estate for Rent

Huge 1 Bdrm Duplex, includes washer/dryer, refrigerator, built in stove top, built in range, CA, drapes, wood floors, covered parking. All bills separate. \$515. monthly, \$350. deposit. **ALSO** Upstairs Efficiency Apt. includes refrigerator, stove, drapes, covered parking. All bills separate. \$400. monthly, \$350. deposit. Call Jose (469)878-4967.

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PERFECT 3 Bedroom, 2 bath. Remodeled, brand new AC/H, sprinkler system, 2 new water heaters, carport and garage, in great location. 422 Hillside Dr. Call 432-816-1035 for price.

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SALE or LEASE. 4 bedroom, 3 bath. Executive home, outside city, Coahoma ISD, horse pen, shop. Call (254)643-1145.

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HERALD

Sample Ballot

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Vote for the candidate/statement of your choice by darkening the oval to the left of the name of that candidate/statement.

(NOTA DE INSTRUCCIÓN:)

(Vote por el candidato/completamente de su opción obscureciendo el óvalo a la izquierda del nombre de ese candidato/completamente.)

21

CITY OF BIG SPRING
 CIUDAD DE BIG SPRING

MAYOR
 ALCALDE

- Tommy Duncan
- Shannon D. Thomason
- Russ McEwen
- Oscar R. Velasco

40

CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 5
 CONCILIO DE LA CIUDAD, DISTRITO 5

41

42

- Troy Tompkins
- Craig Olson

45

BIG SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
 DISTRITO ESCOLAR INDEPENDIENTE DE BIG SPRINGS

TRUSTEE, DISTRICT 5
 FIDEICOMISARIO, DISTRITO 5

- Chad Wash
- Michelle Hamby
- Jeremy Bount

52

PROPOSITION
 PROPOSICIÓN

THE ISSUANCE OF \$60,000,000 OF BONDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION AND EQUIPMENT OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS, AND FOR THE RENOVATION, EQUIPMENT AND ADDITIONS TO THE EXISTING JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN AND FOR THE BIG SPRING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE LEVYING OF THE TAX FOR PAYMENT THEREOF

LA EMISIÓN DE BONOS POR VALOR DE \$60,000,000 PARA LA CONSTRUCCIÓN, REFORMA Y EQUIPAMIENTO DE LOS EDIFICIOS DE LA ESCUELA PRIMARIA Y LA REFORMA, EQUIPAMIENTO E INCORPORACIÓN DE EDIFICIOS PARA LA ESCUELA SECUNDARIA (JUNIOR Y SENIOR) EN Y PARA EL DISTRITO ESCOLAR INDEPENDIENTE DE BIG SPRING Y EL GRAVAMEN DE IMPUESTOS PARA EL PAGO CORRESPONDIENTE

- FOR (A FAVOR)
- AGAINST (EN CONTRA)

SAMPLE

ELECTION

Continued from Page 8A

ly and aggressively seek out companies looking to expand or relocate, using cutting edge incentives to lure them here.

The funding mechanism for our EDC is already in place, so there is no incremental cost for this effort. The Texas Enterprise Fund is a \$375 million resource that is available to the BSEDC to access. Our EDC must reach out to the state and partner in leveraging these monies for business growth. I have met with our EDC director and each of the board members one-on-one, educating them about and urging them to take advantage of this resource.

I will continue to encourage them in their efforts to improve our prospects. The city itself also plays a role in economic development. I have worked with the executive city staff, especially the city attorney, to make sure staff is abreast of incentive tools that are available to the city, and that where appropriate, they utilize resources available through outside providers such as the Texas Municipal League and the National Development Council.

Dog honored for leading troopers to fire

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Buddy the German shepherd was hailed Friday as a hero for guiding Alaska State Troopers through winding back roads to a fire at his owners' workshop.

"Buddy is an untrained dog who for some reason recognized the severity of the situation and acted valiantly in getting help for his family," Col. Audie Holloway, head of the troopers, said Friday at a ceremony for the 5-year-old dog, who stood quietly before an adoring crowd.

Buddy, whose good deed was caught on a patrol car's dashcam video, received a stainless steel dog bowl engraved with words of appreciation from troopers for his "diligence and assistance."

Buddy also received a big rawhide bone, and his human family got a framed letter documenting his efforts.

"He's my hero," owner Ben Heinrichs said, his voice breaking. "If it wasn't for him, we would have lost our house."

The dashcam video shows Buddy meeting the trooper's vehicle, then dashing to their property about 55

miles north of Anchorage on April 4.

Heinrichs said he was working on parts for his truck when a spark hit some gasoline and ignited, lighting his clothes blaze. The 23-year-old man ran outside to stomp out the flames by rolling in the snow, closing the door to keep the blaze from spreading.

Heinrichs then realized Buddy was still inside the burning building and let the dog out. Heinrichs suffered minor burns on his face and second-degree burns on his left hand, which was still heavily bandaged Friday.

Buddy was not injured.

"I just took off running," Heinrichs said. "I said we need to get help, and he just took off."

Buddy ran into the nearby woods and onto Caswell Loop Road, where the dog encountered the trooper, Terrence Shanigan, whose global positioning device had failed while responding to a call about the fire. He was working with dispatchers to find the property in an area with about 75 miles of back roads.

Shanigan was about to make a wrong turn when he saw a shadow up the road. His vehicle lights caught Buddy at an intersection, and the dog eyed

the trooper and began running down a side road.

"He wasn't running from me, but was leading me," he said. "I just felt like I was being led ... it's just one of those things that we're thinking on the same page for that brief moment."

The video shows Buddy occasionally looking back at the patrol car as he raced ahead, galloping around three turns before arriving in front of the blaze, which was very close to the Heinrichs' home.

From there, the trooper guided firefighters to the scene.

The workshop was destroyed and a shed was heavily damaged, but only some window trim on the house was scorched.

The Heinrich family said they knew Buddy was smart ever since they got him six weeks after he was born to a canine mother and that he was brave, twice chasing bears away while Ben Heinrichs was fishing.

But saving their home beat them all.

"Downright amazing, I would say," said Tom Heinrichs, Ben's father. "Maybe there was some divine intervention."

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING
310 Nolan Street
Big Spring, TX 79720-2657
432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 28-2009 WHICH ORDINANCE ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2009 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2010; PROVIDING FOR DECREASING THE GENERAL FUND'S FUND BALANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DECREASING PROPERTY TAX REVENUE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

TAMI L. DAVIS
ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY
#6513 APRIL 25 & 26, 2010

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of John Henry Fish, Deceased, were issued on April 15th, 2010, in Cause No. P-13841, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: John Ronald Fish and Gary Edd Fish.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **GLYNNA MOUTON**
200 West Third Street
Big Spring, Texas 79720
DATED the 15th day of April, 2010.
GLYNNA MOUTON
Attorney for
John Ronald Fish and
Gary Edd Fish
State Bar No.: 14606500
200 West Third Street
Big Spring, TX 79720
Telephone: (432)263-7676
Facsimile: (432)263-8686
#6518 April 25, 2010

Legals

Region 18 Education Service Center is issuing three (3) "Open Catalog" bids on behalf of approximately forty-five (45) Texas school districts. The bid categories are:

1. School and Office Supplies, Instructional Materials and Furniture (R18C054)
2. Computer Hardware, Software, Supplies and Accessories (R18C055)
3. PE and Athletic Equipment and Supplies (R18C056)

Bids will be received until 11:00 a.m., May 13, 2010 at Region 18 ESC, PO Box 60580, Midland TX 79711-0580. Bids will be opened and recorded as they are received. Bids will be approved by the Region 18 ESC Purchasing Committee at a special meeting to be held at the above address after all bids have been received and recorded.

Bid forms are available from Gary Bond, Region 18 ESC at PO Box 60580, Midland TX 79711. Please call (432)567-3258 should you have any questions.
#6506 April 18 & 25, 2010

Let Classified Work for You!
Call 263-7331 Today!

Legals

LEGAL NOTICE:
This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on May 23, 2010. You have until November 19, 2010, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1168 Casino Royale** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.88. These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on June 30, 2010. You have until December 27, 2010, to redeem any tickets for these games: **#1207 Spicy 7's** (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.46, **#1182 Five Star Cash** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.95, **#1083 Best Of 7's** (\$7) overall odds are 1 in 3.36. The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$1,000,000 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at **1-800-37LOTTO** or visit the Lottery Web site at **www.txlottery.org** for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A Scratch-Off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. **PLAY RESPONSIBLY.** The Texas Lottery Supports Texas Education.
#6517 April 25, 2010

Legals

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
HOWARD COLLEGE and LEE GEORGE CONSTRUCTION, INC., will receive competitive sealed proposals for construction of the Howard College Bond Program **PHASE III SCIENCE BUILDING RENOVATION** located on the academic campus in Big Spring, Texas. Sealed proposals (prepared according to the Instructions to Bidders) may be sent to the Construction Manager at Risk, **LEE GEORGE CONSTRUCTION, INC., P.O. Box 3298-79721, 1400 W. 4th St, Big Spring, TX 79720.** Proposals will be opened and publicly read at **3:30 P.M., local time, May 20, 2010** in the Tumbleweed Room, Student Union Bldg., Howard College. All proposals received prior to this time will be securely kept, unopened. Proposals received after the deadline for submissions will not be considered. A **Pre-Proposal Conference** and site visit will be conducted **May 5, 2010 at 10:30 A.M., local time** in the Tumbleweed Room, Student Union Bldg., Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720. Construction Documents are available for a refundable deposit of \$100.00 per set beginning April 22, 2010 and may be secured from **LEE GEORGE CONSTRUCTION, INC., P.O. Box 3298-79721 or 1400 W. 4th St, Big Spring, TX 79720.**
#6516 April 25 & May 2, 2010

Legals

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL)
To the Registered Voters of the COAHOMA ISD, Texas: (a los votantes registrados COAHOMA ISD, Texas): Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, **May 8, 2010**, for voting in a general election to elect (2) **TWO TRUSTEES (DOS CONSEJEROS)**. (Notifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitados abajo se abirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 8 de Mayo de 2010 para votar en la Eleccion General para elegir.) **On Election Day, voters must vote in their precinct where registered to vote.** **(El Dia de Eleccion, los votantes deberan votar en su precinto donde estan inscritos para votar.)**

Location of Election Day Polling Places
Include Name of Building and Address
(Ubicacion de las casillas electorales el Dia de Eleccion)
(Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Direccion)
COAHOMA COMMUNITY CENTER
Centro de la Comunidad de Coahoma
Precinct Number(s)
(Numero de precinto)
207 207C
407, 408, 409

For early voting, a voter may vote at any of the locations listed below:
(Para Votacion Adelantada, los votantes podran votar en cualquier de las ubicaciones nombradas abajo.)

Locations for Early Voting Polling Places
Include Name of Building and Address
(Ubicacion de las casillas electorales de votacion adelantada)
(Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Direccion)
Third Floor Courthouse
tercerpiso juzgado
Days and Hours of Operation
Dias y Horas Habiles
April 26-May 4 8-5
26 de Abril-4 de Mayo
April 29, May 2 7:00-7:00
29 de Abril, 2 de Mayo

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas de votacion adelantada por correo deberan enviarse a:)
Saundra Bloom
Name of Early Voting Clerk
(Nombre del Secretario de la Votacion Adelantada)
P.O. Box 1069
(Address) (Direccion)
Big Spring, Texas 79721
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code)
(Codigo Postal)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on: April 30, (Las solicitudes para boletas de votacion adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el: 30 de Abril) Issued this the 21st day of April, 2010 (Emitida este dia 21 de Abril, 2010.)
Jody Reid
Signature of Presiding Officer
(Firma del Oficial que Preside)
#6514 April 25, 2010

Legals

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL)
To the Registered Voters of the CITY OF BIG SPRING, Texas: (a los votados registrados del Ciudad de BIG SPRING, Texas): Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, **May 8, 2010**, for voting in a general election to elect **MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER DISTRICT 5.** (Notifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitados abajo se abirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 8 de Mayo de 2010 para votar en la Eleccion General para elegir.)

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES
(DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)
BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
Gran biblioteca de Primavera de alta escuela

Early Voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at:
(La votacion adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en:)

HOWARD COUNTY COURTHOUSE
(Palacio de justicia decondado de Howard)
between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning (entre las 8:00 a.m. de la manana y las 5:00 p.m. de la tarde empezando el 26 de Abril, 2010) and ending on (y terminando el) May 4 (4 de Mayo.) Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran em aismecoa por correo deberan enviarse a:)
Saundra Bloom
Name of Early Voting Clerk
(Nombre del Secretario de la Votacion Adelantada)
P.O. Box 1069
(Address) (Direccion)
Big Spring, Texas 79721
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code)
(Codigo Postal)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el:)
April 30, 2010
30 de Abril, 2010
(date) (fecha)
Issued this the 26th day of April, 2010 (Emitida este dia 26 de Abril, 2010)
Russ McEwen
Mayor (Firma del Alcalde)
#6515 April 25, 2010

Legals

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROBERT CECIAL ALLRED
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ROBERT CECIAL ALLRED, Deceased, were issued on April 12, 2010, in Cause No. P-13843 pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to:
JOAN MARIE BLAGRAVE
The addresses of such person is:
7011 Blagrove Road
Ackerly, Texas 79713
Persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Law Offices of
BAKER, BROWN & THOMPSON
A Professional Corporation
By Norton Baker
State Bar No. 01602000
Attorneys for the Estate
#6507 April 25, 2010

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Addie Marie Watkins, Deceased, were issued on April 13th, 2010, in Cause No. P-13840, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Leonard Watkins.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: **Leonard Watkins**
4606 Ratliff Road
Big Spring, Texas 79720
DATED the 13th day of April, 2010.
GLYNNA MOUTON
Attorney for
Leonard Watkins
State Bar No.: 14606500
200 West Third Street
Big Spring, TX 79720
Telephone: (432)263-7676
Facsimile: (432)263-8686
#6511 April 25, 2010

Legals

Invitation for Bids
Garrett & Associates General Contractors, Ltd. is accepting bid proposals for concrete flatwork, rock excavation, solar electrical, and masonry subcontracts for work located at Big Spring State Park. Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m., on April 29, 2010 - via fax at 903-839-9265 or delivered to 21405 CR 2182, Whitehouse, TX 75791. Prospective bidders may obtain additional information and bid instructions by calling 903-839-7909. GAGC reserves the right to recommend to the Owner the bid proposal that provides the best value for the Project. #6502 April 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26 and 27, 2010

DON'T PAY

to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 800-876-7060.

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www.Hurdle.com

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Mark Weingarten
1-800-821-8139 ext 210

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Barry C. Silk
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 46 Very close | 8 Go over | 30 Saudi Arabian |
| 1 Padding | 49 Popular pet | 9 Took the loss | racer |
| 7 Onetime | 50 Wireless | 10 Kisser | 31 The Pope, e.g. |
| Cheyenne allies | apparatus | 11 <i>American Gladiators</i> | 32 Amy Carter alma mater |
| 15 Melodic | 51 Keepers | cohost | 33 Astrologer's collection |
| 16 Cranky | 52 Keys in some chains | 12 Household coverage | 34 Nth degrees |
| 17 "Star" of <i>Switched-On Bach</i> | DOWN | 13 Narrow margin, in a way | 36 Left |
| 19 Lint collector | 1 Make fast, maybe | 14 <i>Leipzig</i> (German parliament's home) | 38 Not happy with quantity |
| 20 <i>Henry & June</i> role | 2 Settled, with "out" | 18 Aced | 39 Congregates in quantity |
| 21 Analysts' org. | 3 <i>It's a Wonderful Life</i> | 23 Carries on | 41 Bansai candidate |
| 22 Spotted | 22 Her two Oscar roles were directed by the same person | 24 ESPN football reporter | 42 Emerald, essentially |
| 24 Desire | 25 Aerobic exercise raises it | 26 Verbose | 44 "This Is It" co-composer |
| 25 Aerobic exercise raises it | 26 <i>90210</i> surname | 27 Good for grinding | 45 Kitchen cleaners |
| 26 <i>90210</i> surname | 27 Some dresses | 29 When Spain's <i>Día de Reyes</i> is | 47 Detroit-based org. |
| 27 Some dresses | 28 Yellow Mist and Old Lace | 7 Propensity | 48 CBS franchise |
| 28 Yellow Mist and Old Lace | 30 Scientific calculator function | | |
| 30 Scientific calculator function | 31 Turned bronze | | |
| 31 Turned bronze | 32 Gift | | |
| 32 Gift | 33 Scraps | | |
| 33 Scraps | 34 You and me | | |
| 34 You and me | 35 Where Tralee is | | |
| 35 Where Tralee is | 36 Chesapeake Bay occupation | | |
| 36 Chesapeake Bay occupation | 37 Fleet letters | | |
| 37 Fleet letters | 40 Sleeper, at times | | |
| 40 Sleeper, at times | 41 Part of CAT | | |
| 41 Part of CAT | 42 Anatomical ridge | | |
| 42 Anatomical ridge | 43 When the Boxers rebelled | | |
| 43 When the Boxers rebelled | 44 True | | |
| 44 True | 45 '60s <i>Ed Sullivan Show</i> regular | | |

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Advocates vow challenges to Ariz. immigration law

PHOENIX (AP) — Arizona's governor vows the state's tough new law targeting illegal immigration will be implemented with no tolerance for racial profiling, but at least two advocacy groups were preparing legal challenges and Mexico has warned that the law could affect cross-border relations.

Republican Gov. Jan Brewer on Friday signed into law a bill that supporters said would take handcuffs off police in dealing with illegal immigration in Arizona, the nation's busiest gateway for human and drug smuggling from Mexico and home to an estimated 460,000 illegal immigrants. The law requires police to question people about their immigration status — including asking for identification — if they suspect someone is in the country illegally. It's sparked fears among legal immigrants and U.S. citizens that they'll be hassled by police

just because they look Hispanic.

With hundreds of protesters outside the state Capitol shouting that the bill would lead to civil rights abuses, Brewer said critics were "overreacting" and that she wouldn't tolerate racial profiling.

"We in Arizona have been more than patient waiting for Washington to act," Brewer said after signing the law. "But decades of inaction and misguided policy have created a dangerous and unacceptable situation."

Earlier Friday, President Barack Obama called the Arizona bill "misguided" and instructed the Justice Department to examine it to see if it's legal. He also said the federal government must enact immigration reform at the national level — or leave the door open to "irresponsibility by others."

"That includes, for example, the recent efforts in Arizona, which threat-

en to undermine basic notions of fairness that we cherish as Americans, as well as the trust between police and their communities that is so crucial to keeping us safe," Obama said.

Current law in Arizona and most states doesn't require police to ask about the immigration status of those they encounter, and many police departments prohibit officers from inquiring out of fear immigrants won't cooperate in other investigations.

The new law makes it a crime under state law to be in the country illegally. Immigrants unable to produce documents showing they are allowed to be in the U.S. could be arrested, jailed for up to six months and fined \$2,500.

It also allows lawsuits against government agencies that hinder enforcement of immigration laws and toughens restrictions on hiring illegal immigrants for day labor and knowingly transporting them.

The Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund said it plans a legal challenge to the law, which it said "launches Arizona into a spiral of pervasive fear, community distrust, increased crime and costly litigation, with nationwide repercussions."

William Sanchez, president of the National Coalition of Latino Clergy and Christian Leaders Legal Defense Fund, said his group is preparing a federal lawsuit against Arizona to stop the law from being applied. The group represents 30,000 Evangelical churches nationwide, including 300 Latino pastors in Arizona.

"Millions of Latinos around the country are shocked," Sanchez said.

Brewer ordered the state's law enforcement licensing agency to develop a training course on how to implement it without violating civil rights.

SUMMER MUMMERS

At the historic Yucca Theatre
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and AUDITIONS

Rosa's Cafe
TORTILLA FACTORY

Sunday, April 25
5pm
6:30pm - Melodrama
& 8:30pm - Olio

Mon., April 26 7pm - Olio
Tues., April 27 7pm - Melodrama

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For
Mayor



Craig **OLSON**

For
City Council
District 5



Please join us in Electing **DUNCAN/OLSON**
by voting Saturday, May 8

Tommy Duncan - A "Common Sense" man to manage your Tax Dollar
Craig Olson - Change The Financial Direction of Big Spring

*Pd. Pol. Adv. By Tommy Duncan Campaign, Frances Kay Hubbs, Treasurer
& Pd. Pol. Adv. By Craig Olson Campaign, Joann Sayles, Treasurer*

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury and Mars square off — again. With Mercury currently retrograde, Mars is getting more than its fair share of attitude from the communication planet. And since manly Mars is in mouthy Leo right now, suffering quietly is so last month.

People speak their minds and get right to the point, and with a fair amount of color and style.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You have the same amount of time in every day as the rest of the creatures on this planet. However, because you do something remarkably creative with your hours, the time will seem to stretch to accommodate you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're so attractive now, which has pluses and minuses. You enjoy the attention for a while, but the constant ringing of your phone gets old fast. Peace and quiet with

one special person will thrill you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You won't know the answers, and that's nothing to try to cover up. Saying "I don't know" is perfectly acceptable — maybe even preferred. Only dull and smug people know everything.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Be an inventor. This won't be as hard as it sounds. You don't have to come up with a new model of hovercraft. An enjoyable life that runs smoothly for you will be the perfect invention.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Being too picky isn't always a fine character trait, especially in matters of food or entertainment. But picky is good in some things — for instance, love. Be selective in your romantic choices.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When you take a chance, be proud of yourself. Ultimately, risks will be rewarding, though it may not seem to be going in that direction just after you stick your neck out. Keep at it awhile. Trust that good things are coming.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You know better than to get your ego too involved in your work. In fact, you can go too far in the other direction, being modest to a fault. A little arrogance might actually benefit you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be slightly out of your element, and that's a beautiful place to be. Looking for answers will be an adventure. You'll find treasure, perhaps in the form of a new friendship.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your social graces will be appropriate, but you should also find the time to be alone so you can process your true thoughts and emotions. If you work through your feelings, you won't have to suppress them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There may be tension in a relationship, but this is easily remedied. Instead of struggling, give in. Instead of worrying about who is in the right, agree to be wrong. Fallible people are the most openhearted.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Someone seeking opportunity may be too aggressive for your taste. You are right to be wary. Those who truly have something to offer you won't seem to be trying too hard.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Knowledge is the opposite of originality, since you can only know what has already been established. You have the courage and enterprising spirit to be a trailblazer. Embrace the unknown.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 25). Happy meetings in May set the tone for a year of romance and adventure. You'll be extremely mobile and will see many places. Avoid getting bored in June. Mix up your tools or move to a different location. A change in the way you work will free your thinking, and you'll attract much more money, to boot. Sagittarius and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 15, 44 and 20.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: Saturn is the Roman

name for the Greek god Cronus, the father of Zeus and, according to the Romans, "human" time. Uranus is the father of Cronus (Saturn), who represents structure, order, limitations, laws of nature and the hard lessons of life, including such nuisances as death and taxes.

On Monday, the father and son planets form an exact opposition. But since the outer planets take so long to move from our perspective, the effects of this aspect will be felt clear into August.

This opposition brings to mind one Greek myth involving Uranus and Saturn, in which Saturn cuts his father, spilling his blood over all the earth, ocean and sky. From the spillage, many creatures are born, including the lovely Aphrodite, otherwise known as Venus. There is a lesson for us in the myth.

During this time, our focus on the strife and conflicts of our forefathers will be a theme, as well as a challenge. If we can focus on finding solutions, practicing

tolerance and believing in the good will of humanity, something good — even beautiful — can come of this time.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Academy Award-winner Renee Zellweger may have been voted "best looking" in her high school yearbook, but she's also a serious actress who changes her appearance to suit the role she's playing. This year, she roughs it up a bit to play a tattooed country music singer who belts out gritty tunes from the confines of a wheelchair. Taurus rules the voice, and Zellweger uses hers well.

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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HOLIDAY MATHIS

su | do | ku
© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

8								7
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Dear Margo: Homesick ... three times

Dear Margo: When my mother remarried, we moved about 45 minutes from where we were originally.

Then my stepfather took a job (which they forgot to tell us he was looking for) about nine hours away. We moved again.

He got another new job about two hours away that paid much more, so he now lives there and comes home on the weekends.

But our mother is telling us that we will most likely move there.

I didn't complain about the first three moves, but I am actually enjoying the place we are living in now.

She told us each move was permanent, but after her husband's most recent move, she said we would stay until I was out of high school.

This was a promise from her, partly because we had already moved so much.

I'm sick of her broken promises, and although I love her dearly, I would never be able to forgive her for a stunt like this. She is tap dancing on my last good nerve by

still planning on moving.

If she hadn't promised us so many times, or if she had thought about what my sister and I might need instead of continually moving wherever my stepfather wanted to go, it might not be this way.

If she does make this move, I know our relationship will be damaged permanently. — *Homesick*

Dear Home: I think it's nice that your mother is being so accommodating of her husband, but sheesh, all right already.

I think three moves, with a fourth on the horizon, is unfair when there are high-school-aged kids involved.

I suggest you show her this column and remind her that her word should be worth something, and that there are others in the family to be considered besides her husband.

This man, as well, does not sound as though he is considering his family. I hope you can change your mother's mind. — *Margo, stably*

A 7-Year-Old Headed for Project Runway?

Dear Margo: I have been sewing since I was a child and had hoped one of my daughters would be interested in it, as well, but this has not happened.

My 7-year-old son (fascinated with power tools and woodworking), however, asked for a sewing machine.

He has made things such as beanbags, pillows and small items for his sisters' stuffed animals.

He's not the least bit interested in designing clothes, although I did help him make pajamas for himself.

Recently, I was telling my mom (from whose mother I inherited the sewing talent) that "Joey" had helped me make sashes for our church's decorating committee, and she accused me of trying to "turn him into a girl."

I find this highly insulting, as sewing is gender neutral. (Aren't men tailors?)

Her implication that my son is gay because he wants to sew is ridiculous.

He is so proud of the work he does, and she refuses to acknowledge it, unlike everyone else in the family, as well as teachers, our priest and friends.

Do I continue to foster his creativity and ignore her? I don't want her saying hurtful things to him.

I would think she'd be happy that the talent I inherited was being passed along, whether to her grandson or granddaughter. — *Sputtering*

Dear Sput: Your benighted mother is stuck in gender-stereotype limbo. I did a scientific survey — well, OK, I asked four gay male friends, but they all said they cannot even sew on a button.

My husband sews buttons on for me — a fringe benefit of a surgeon's familiarity with needle and thread. In any case, continue to encourage your son in whatever interests him, and inform your mother that his sexuality will be determined by time and instinct, not a sewing machine.

Also, tell her that remarking to her grandson on her "interpretation" of his interest in sewing is verboten and that she must ... well, button her lip. — Margo, rationally

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Never Say Die

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7 6 5 3
♥ A 10 9 4
♦ A K 9 4
♣ K

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

WEST
♠ A J 8 4
♥ J 7 5
♦ J 8 7 5
♣ 9 6

SOUTH
♠ Q 10
♥ K 8 6 2
♦ Q 2
♣ Q J 7 5 4

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
2♥ Pass 2NT Pass
4♥

Opening lead — nine of clubs.

Everyone gets to a terrible contract from time to time, but that does not absolve declarer from giving the play his best effort. Take this case where West led a club against four hearts. East taking dummy's king with the ace and returning a spade. West then cashed two spades and led a third one, ruffed by South.

Proceeding on the assumption that his best chance was to find the Q-J of hearts alone, declarer drew two rounds of trumps and later lost a

trick to the jack to go down one.

However, South could have made the contract. Even though it appears that he must lose a trump trick, the fact is that if he plays correctly, he finishes with 10 tricks. After ruffing the third spade, South trumps a club in dummy, cashes the Q-K-A of diamonds and ruffs a diamond, producing this position:

North
♠ 7
♥ A 10 9

West East
♠ 8 ♠ Q 3
♥ J 7 5 ♥ 10 8

South
♥ K 8
♣ Q J

Declarer now leads the queen of clubs, on which West, who cannot gain by ruffing, discards a spade, as does dummy. South then leads the jack of clubs. If West ruffs low, dummy overruffs, and declarer easily makes the rest. If West trumps with the jack, he might worry declarer, but the outcome is the same. South overruffs with dummy's ace and returns the heart ten, trapping East's queen.

The suggested method of play has a far greater chance of avoiding a trump loser than playing for the doubleton Q-J of hearts to fall. True, a goodly measure of luck is still required, but not as much as is needed to find the Q-J doubleton.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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VOTE May 8

Mayor
City Council
School Boards
School Bond

When what to her wondering eyes should appear...

Share the Journey

Read with your child

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Call 263-3312
Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring

Take Note

• The Breathing Believers team is holding a fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in honor of Raelynn Lee and in memory of Casie Wood, will be held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday at Pizza Inn. The restaurant will donate 10 percent of the night's sales, plus all tips and donations.

• The Big Spring High School Class of 2012 will hold a play day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 1, at Blankenship Stadium to raise money for the prom. There will be Air Extreme sports games and

a dunking booth. Cost is \$10 per person. For tickets, call Valerie at 213-8315 or Shannon at 264-3641, ext. 1416.

• The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications for scholarships from high school students who are graduating this May and have been accepted at Texas A&M University for the following autumn. Students must be Howard County residents who will be enrolling for at least 12 hours. Deadline for applications is May 1. For more information, visit the

club's Web site at <http://clubs.aggienetwork.com/howard-countyamc/webhome.htm>

• On May 22, the Howard County Road Kill Running Club (HCRK) will host the first Bob Fishback 5K fun run/walk in Comanche Trail Park. The event will start at the Alice Hayes Pavilion which is located by the Kids' Zone play area. All proceeds will be donated to the Fishback family to help pay for medical expenses. Entry fee is \$20 and there will be awards for first through third place

female and male participants. You can either pre-register, or register the morning of the event. Registration will open at 6:30 a.m. You can download the flyer at <http://pages.suddenlink.net/hcrk/docs/Annual%20Bob%20Fishback.pdf>

• If you were laid off between December 2008 and March 2010 and are interested in training, contact the Workforce Solutions Permian Basin office in Big Spring at 263-8373 or 1-800-749-8373. Training dollars are available to assist those affected

by the layoffs and ultimate plant closure.

• Tyler Keeton/Hightower has been diagnosed with osteosarcoma (bone cancer). He is undergoing chemotherapy at Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth. He has a surgery scheduled April 20 to remove a tumor and replace part of his femur and knee. An account has been established at Citizens Federal Credit Union under the name Tyler Keeton for those who would like to help with medical expenses.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 5A

with manpower and vehicles.

The same question was asked about Keep Big Spring Beautiful and Pops in the Park. No, they do not fund either of these.

We of KBSB have fundraisers and the other funds are derived from membership fees. Pops in the Park funds come from solicited donations, as well as donations received at the park during the event. They, Pops organizers, have a lot of expense in the cost of fireworks, other entertainment they bring in, plus the symphony.

We, of Comanche Trail Festival of Lights and Keep Big Spring Beautiful, are so happy to be a part of making a difference in our city and drawing attention to Big Spring.

I am a volunteer and supporter of Pops in the Park. This event is headed up by Jan Hansen and a host of volunteers. This is a big draw to Big Spring in that it occurs on July 3, so you and others may attend a Fourth of July celebra-

tion. This, too, is another way of bringing recognition to Big Spring.

PAT SIMMONS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

Navigating construction can be difficult, not to mention risky for both drivers and workers.

The Texas Department of Transportation manages more than 1,000 highway projects at any given time on 80,000 miles of Texas roads. Due to last year's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds and other transportation investments, Texas has seen a substantial amount of road construction. As work volumes remain high, so does the risk of crashes.

TxDOT is joining the Federal Highway Administration and other transportation partners

the week of April 19-23 to observe the 11th annual National Work Zone Awareness Week. The event is designed to remember victims and raise safety awareness for workers and motorists.

Each year in Texas, there are approximately 20,000 crashes and 175 people killed in highway construction and maintenance work zones. Since 1938, there have been 268 TxDOT employees killed in work zones.

Thankfully, in 2008 the Abilene District had no fatalities, but there were 163 crashes that occurred in work zones. More than four out of five fatalities are motorists. Speeding and inattention are the most common causes cited. Rear-end collisions account for one in three crashes.

Safety is TxDOT's first

priority, no matter what job — behind the desk or on the highway.

Slow down and follow posted speed limits. Traffic fines double in work zones.

Pay attention. Workers are often close to

traffic.

Be patient. Delays can be frustrating, but it only takes a few minutes to slow down in a work zone.

Plan ahead. Leave early to reach your destination.

Remember, work zones need our undivided attention. Drive safely to be safe.

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Bottom row: Mani Villa III, Matthew Wood, Hunter Wigington, Alex Franco. Middle row: Jacob Scott, Bryson Burt, Dylan Marquez, Joshua Gutierrez, Jeremy Cervantes, Top row: Jaime Scott, Coach. Manuel Villa, Manager, Gary Watkins, Jr., Toa Maumau, Rudy Gutierrez, Coach, Corey Wood, Coach. Not pictured is Triston Deleon.

206628

206585

RSVP

Continued from Page 4C

19 years: Mary Womack
18 years: Pat Dickenson, Betty Franklin and Joy Harrison
17 years: Virginia Davidson, Donna Reid and Ina Stewart
16 years: Frances Mathie, Raymond Sturkel and Loma Jean Wynn
15 years: Lupe Brito, Bea Kelly, Leta Kirby, Ruth Manuel, Guy Mathie and Eunice Thixton
14 years: Joan Blackburn, Jobeth Corwin, Thomas Corwin, Clara Lewis, Margie Myers, Charlene Ragan, Ruth Salazar, Pat Simmons, Rose Stukel and Eddie Vela.
13 years: Shirley Bodin, Nena Grenon, Betty

Lee, Dorothy McQuerry, Tommy Mills, Grace Phelps, Robert Ragan, Cruz Salazar, Lynda Sliger, Mary Sue Walker and Frances Wiggins.
12 years: Arlene Blakeney, Madeline Boadle, Evelyn Elrod, Clarence Hartfield, JoAnne Hyer, Gamer Thixton, and Jo Wyatt.
11 years: Mary Ann Fincher/Gunn, Peggy Plew, Patricia Smith and Paul Smith.
10 years: William Adams, Fannie Bell Adkins, Glendia Brown, Erma Dunne, Allan Guthrie, Ethel Guthrie, Doris Huibregtse, Dolores Schaedel, Jo Ann Staulcup, Melba June Waters and Thomas Yeats.
Nine years: Shelbie Capps, Betty Daily, Sherry Hodnett, Bobby McDonald, Gloria McDonald, Edward Reeves

Moren, Georgie Newsom, Theda Perez and Mary Rosson.
Eight years: La Verne Atwell, Helen Crandall, Sophia Crawford, Zella Gibbs, Jimmy Newsom, Jane Ramsey, Ann Juanell Roever, Thelma Fern Smith, Kolia Strickland and Bertha Turner.
Seven years: Janice Byrd, Margaret Cline, Janice Creel, Connie Fowler, Gloria Hopkins, Elvis Knowlton, Velma Knowlton, Suzanne Markwell, Ruth Ann McKay, LaNell Morgan, Edna Rawls, Alvin Smith, JA Smith and Janice Wagner.
Six years: Audrey Abel, William Bodin, Connie Chase, Robert Chase, Clara Cline, Hilda Craven, Dorothy Gilbreath, Mike Holt, Ruth Nanny Bill Phelps, Pedro Ruiz, Rose Sib-

ert, William Sibert, Gay Smith, Dorothy Stovall, Rayburn Tyler, Mary Vera and Ed Wilkerson.
Five years: Lane Bond, John Craven, Frances Emerson, LeNier Emerson, Gloria Fedderson, Sara Fryar, Jerry Grimes, Kathleen Grimes, Peggy Hodnett, Dolores LeVier, Rafael Lopez, Lorena McWhorter, Mozelle Osborne, Dwight Perkins, Doris Smith, Mary Smith, Maurice Smith, Ruby "Fay" Turner, Gwen Tyler, Sandy Wallace and Tom White.
Four years: Martha Beene, Joan Bell, Wilbur Cunningham, Barbara Ervin, Fredrick (Rick) James, Nancy Jones, Barbara Lewis, Roger Ridgway, Patsy Self, Charlene Shanks and Velma Wood.
Three Years: Ray Alexander, Ellen Austin,

Nanci Byars, Mildred Callihan, Elva Lucille Damgaard, Rosemary Edens, Bernard Fischer, Joyce Hill, Beverly Johnson, Elizabeth (Beth) Moren, Oneal Philley, Jonel Smallwood, Robert Thompson, Ann Townsend and Adron Welch.
Two years: Janie Alaniz, Deanna Burnett, Beth Cobler, Jim Craft, Nita Melinda (Linda) Holmes, Barbara Hulse, Jayne Kelso, Joe McCright, Wanda McMurray, Dawne Pearson, Jessie Pretree and Marla Rainwater.
One Year: Donald Allen, Doroteo Alviar Jr., Donald Austin, Netha Barcus, Manuel Chavarria Jr., Dena Fleharty, Shirley Froman, Enrique Garcia, Sue Holguin, Jimmy Honea, Bill Lovelace, Jacquelyn Mauch, Don-

na Menges, Thomas Mindling, Sharon Osburn, Glenn Phillippe, Laura Phillippe, Ruth Quisenberry, Eulalio Rodriguez, Gloria Rodriguez, Deborah Rupard, Flora Salazar, Alice Stevens, Alicia Torres, Victor Torres, Betty VanDee Shelia Welch, Eloise Wynn and Susie Yancey.
New volunteers: Lupe Barraza, Virginia Bryant, Betty Honea, Marylou Lankford, Nancy McGonagill, Rosario Medrano, Johnnie Molinare, Jim Montgomery, Patricia Nabors, David Rawls, Erlinda Rios, Malena Rios, Deborah Robinson, Frank Sickles, Charlie Smallwood, John Staulcup, Beverly Sundy, Patsy Tercero, Paul Townsend, Dorothy Treat, Nancy Vassar, Dwayne Wagner and Nancy Wagner.

VOTE

Continued from Page 4C

board of directors of a conservation district. The TSSWCB is responsible for numerous

natural resource conservation efforts, the most prominent of which is serving as the lead state agency for the prevention, management and abatement of nonpoint source pollution resulting from agricultural

and forestry-related activities in Texas. "In short, the services and programs provided by the TSSWCB target rural Texas farmers and ranchers through soil and water conservation districts, but the results

of these services benefit all Texans. For example, soil and water conservation districts provide technical assistance in cooperation with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to assist

agricultural producers implement voluntary conservation plans that best address the capabilities of the land they operate," said Isom. "In addition to on site soil and water conservation benefits to a farmer

or rancher, the public enjoys residual benefits which includes wildlife enhancement as well as the prevention of sediment, pesticides, nutrients, bacteria and other contaminants from impairing Texas waters."



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Annie's Mailbox®

Dear Annie: After five years of regular and consistent visits with my 8-year-old son, I have decided to stop seeing him. This is heartbreaking for both of us, but I can no longer tolerate my ex-wife's behavior.

This woman insults and bullies me, continues to interfere with my decreed visits with our son and shows me absolutely no respect.

Worse, I am still physically attracted to her, and when I pick up my son, she intentionally makes me see her. This is especially painful since I still have feelings for her. Reconciling is out of the question.

I married her for the right reasons, but she married me because she had an opportunity to get a green card.

I think I should unleash her by no longer exercising regular visitations with our son. This is a very difficult decision, but it should help me in the long run. Am I thinking right? — *Walking Away*

Dear Walking Away: Absolutely not. It may be in your best interest right now to abandon your son, but it is not in his best interest, and in the long run, you will regret it, as well.

This is not about your ex-wife. It is about your child, who needs you and will not understand why you don't love him enough to stick it out.

You have a responsibility to this boy and should not give up on him because it's difficult and distracting for you.

You need to find a healthier way to deal with your ex.

First talk to your lawyer about arranging a visitation so she cannot "interfere." Then get some counseling to figure out how to stop letting her manipulate you into giving her exactly what she wants — sole custody of your son.

Dear Annie: I want to throw a birthday party for my best friend, "Olivia." However, she is still friends with "Ava," a person I can't stand. We used to be friends, but no longer.

Now some mutual friends say I have to invite Ava to the party anyway.

Do I have to do this, even though I'm paying for everything? These friends know I don't like Ava, and they insist I include her, which makes me feel as if they like her more than me. Am I being petty? — *Loudmouth in Connecticut*

Dear Connecticut: If you are paying for the party, you get to invite the people you want.

However, those mutual friends have a point — the party is for Olivia, and it might make her happy to have all her friends there.

Ava's absence would surely be noticed and commented on, making her more of a focus than you'd like.

You are not obligated to invite Ava, but doing so would make you seem gracious and mature. The choice is yours.

Dear Annie: This is for "Never Kissed a Girl," the 17-year-old boy who has never had a girlfriend. I suggest he follow Dale Carnegie's "Six Ways to Make People Like You."

When he does (especially rule No. 4), he will have more girlfriends than he will know what to do with.

I've been following these rules for 50 years, and people think I'm the greatest conversationalist alive. — *Manchester, Mo.*

Dear Manchester: Several readers suggested Dale Carnegie's list. Here it is:

1. Become genuinely interested in other people.
2. Smile.
3. Remember that a person's name is to him or her the sweetest and the most important sound in any language.
4. Be a good listener. Encourage others to talk about themselves.
5. Talk in terms of the other person's interest.
6. Make the other person feel important — and do it sincerely.

Printed with permission from Dale Carnegie, "How To Win Friends and Influence People."



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: My mother recently decided to sell her house and move into a senior living complex. As a result, she needed to downsize.

My sister, "Liz," came for a visit and made a list of things she wanted, and not really caring about the material things, I wrote down a few items I wanted as remembrances.

Liz decided to ship some of her things back home, and she and my mother gave the rest to my wife.

My wife was so pleased, as this made her feel closer ties to the family.

Unfortunately, at Liz's next visit, she borrowed my truck, went to a party and drove back completely intoxicated.

When she asked to borrow the truck the next time, I said no and told her why. She replied that she wasn't drunk — she'd had only three or four margaritas and maybe five glasses of wine.

The next day, Liz demanded we return the things she gave my wife.

She called again the next night, intoxicated, and screamed that we were "stealing her inheritance" and demanded that we return the items or pay

for them.

My wife and I decided to give Liz back the stuff she wants and write her off. But, Annie, what right does she have to demand that we give back gifts we were given freely?

My mom refuses to get involved, which essentially means she is siding with my sister.

My wife is so deeply hurt by this that it has ruined her relationship with my mother. What should we do? — *Wronged in South Dakota*

Dear S.D.: Liz is punishing you for noticing that she has an alcohol problem.

Shame on Mom for not having the courage to tell her daughter to knock it off and get some help.

Please explain to her why this is so hurtful. Still, Liz was under no obligation to give you those items, and returning them is the only way for this to end.

We hope Mom will give your wife something else of equal emotional significance so she once again feels like a valued member of the family.

Dear Annie: My boyfriend and I broke up two weeks after Valentine's Day, which also happens to be my birthday.

Our relationship was always a bit rocky, so the split was not a shock. However, my now ex-boyfriend gave me a pair of lovely diamond earrings as a birthday gift — only to ask for

them back when he broke up with me.

I was stunned at what I thought was clearly a lack of propriety on his part, but enough of my friends have supported his position that I feel I must seek your help.

Tell me, Annie, wasn't it rude for him to take the earrings back? They were a gift, after all, not a loan. — *Samantha*

Dear Samantha: Birthday gifts belong to the recipient. However, when a gift is particularly valuable or if it is a family heirloom, it is extremely gracious of the recipient to return it. So although your assumptions are correct, we recommend you take the high road.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Kentucky," who asked what to do with her mother's custom-made wedding dress, which she also wore at her own wedding.

She assumed neither of her sons would want to give it to their brides, since her own marriage to their father ended in divorce.

Here's my suggestion: If "Kentucky" can stand to have her wedding dress cut up, I'm sure it would make a beautiful bassinet cover or christening gown for her future grandchildren. — *Practical in Peoria*

Dear Practical: What a lovely and useful idea. Thanks for sending it on.

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Wedding Special

Look For

The

Wedding Section

In Next

Sunday's Edition

Of The

Big Spring Herald

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Zesty Roasted Chicken: From the AICR Test Kitchen

Once upon a time, “a chicken in every pot” was a popular political slogan and a symbol of prosperity. Today, this low-fat meat with a fascinating history is the symbol of health.

The Romans considered chickens to be sacred to Mars, the God of War. And, interestingly enough, the chicken is purportedly the closest living relative to Tyrannosaurus Rex, the king of dinosaurs. No wonder they are considered sacred in some cultures.

U.S. chicken consumption has steadily increased over the past forty years; the average American eats about 90 pounds of the bird annually. Perhaps we are learning something about the old ways as we return to the agricultural wisdom of the past. In 1950 a full 80 percent of all chickens were “free range,” but by 1980 only 1 percent fell into this category. Today, 15 percent of birds are sold as “free range” and that market

is expected to continue increasing.

One of the secrets of this week’s chicken recipe is the marinade. The verb “marinate” originally applied to fish, as the word comes from the Latin mare, meaning “the sea,” but it has since evolved as a technique to tenderize meat. Yogurt makes a surprising marinade, helping to keep the meat moist while infusing it with a delicious flavor.

The other secret is the two-temperature technique. By setting the oven higher and letting the temperature drift down, the roasting is initiated when you first place the bird in the oven, then baking at a lower temperature provides slow cooking to ensure the meat stays juicy.

The chili and hot sauce give it a kick, much in the style of New Orleans-type chicken. So enjoy this easy to prepare dish that provides a different type of flavor. Since it’s tasty

cold as well as hot, it makes a great on-the-run leftover.

Zesty Roasted Chicken

- 3/4 cup plain low-fat yogurt
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp. chili powder (or to taste)
- 1 tsp. Tabasco sauce or your favorite hot pepper sauce (or to taste)
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- Salt and black pepper, to taste
- 1/2 roasting chicken, cut into parts, skin removed (approximately 1 1/2 pounds)
- 1 tsp. dried Italian seasoning

In deep glass baking dish, mix yogurt, cinnamon, chili power, hot sauce and garlic.



Add salt and pepper to taste. Add chicken and coat well with marinade. Cover dish tightly and marinate in refrigerator overnight.

Preheat oven to 500 degrees.

Sprinkle Italian seasoning on chicken and place it on a raised broiler rack in oven. Immediately reduce the bak-

ing temperature to 350 degrees. Roast for about 1 1/2 hour.

Serve hot or cold. Makes 6 servings.

Per serving: 160 calories, 4 g total fat (1 g saturated fat), 3 g carbohydrate, 26 g protein, 0 g dietary fiber, 110 mg sodium.

HealthTalk

Q: Is it true that it’s best to avoid all white food?

A: No. That common phrase is an unsupported over-simplification of recommendations to limit refined grains (e.g., white bread) and eat lots of colorful vegetables. Deeply colored vegetables, such as deep green broccoli and spinach, orange carrots and red tomatoes, do supply valuable nutrients and protective phytochemicals.

However, white vegetables are valuable, too. Onions, cauliflower and white mushrooms all provide compounds that seem to intervene to inhibit several steps in the process of cancer development. White potatoes provide vitamin C and fiber, as well as other nutrients.

The problem is the average American relies on them for far too great a proportion of their vegetable choices, ignoring more colorful ones, and sometimes over-doing potato portions so much that they get a lot of carbohydrate that may quickly raise blood sugar levels.

White milk, yogurt, soymilk and tofu all provide valuable nutrients. White bread and white rice are not as nutritious as whole-grain bread and brown rice, because they are lower in fiber, several nutrients and natural antioxidant compounds. So general health recommendations advise choosing whole grains for at least half your grain products (or at least three servings daily). Cancer prevention recommendations from the American Institute for Cancer Research emphasize whole grains and advise limiting refined grains, but that doesn’t mean that you need to totally avoid all refined grains in order to eat a healthful diet.



KAREN COLLINS
MS, RD, CDN

Q: Is stretching really that important?

A: Exercise research says yes. It may not be as effective as once thought for decreasing muscle soreness from exercise, but stretching at least two to three times per week has been demonstrated to help maintain the range of motion in joints that we otherwise tend to lose as we get older.

Maintaining this flexibility is important for the basic activities of daily living and has also been shown to decrease falls in older adults. And regular stretching done after, not before, strength training or sports seems to enhance athletic performance.

The American College of Sports Medicine recommendations for preventive and rehabilitation exercise and for older adults’ general health call for activities to promote flexibility. Stretching should always be done after muscles are warmed up, either by movement for 10 minutes or so, or by heat from a shower, bath or heat treatment when necessary. So do your stretching after your walk or other exercise, not before.

The bouncing that some of us learned as part of stretching in high school gym class is not recommended for most people, as experts say it increases the chance of injury. Several different stretching techniques have been developed, but for most of us the simplest and safest is called static stretching: exhale slowly as you relax the muscle and stretch to the limit of movement (not to the point of pain), hold it for 15 to 30 seconds, and repeat one to three more times before you move on to stretch another muscle.

NRCS

Continued from Page 4C

within USDA on April 27, 1935, in response to the devastation of the Dust Bowl on the nation’s agricultural land. The agency’s primary mission then was to conserve soil on agricultural land. It became

the Natural Resources Conservation Service in 1994 to better reflect its expanded role of servicing other natural resources such as water, air, plants, and animals on private lands.

For more information about NRCS in Texas, visit www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov or stop by your local county USDA Service Center.

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