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HIGH SPRING HERALD

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 17, 2010



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'Fat Cowboy' rides his own spiritual trail

Hopes to inspire people to make a difference in the lives of children

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Ernest Nunley discovered a unique way to memorialize some family members. Nunley, a burly, bearded Tennessee native who goes by the nickname "One Fat Cowboy," is guiding his horse-drawn wagon across the country as a way to memorialize four cousins who died in their youth from illness or birth defects and to draw attention to problems faced by young people in this nation. "I'm trying to make people aware that we are the ones who can make a difference in a child's life," Nunley said. "I hope this inspires people to get off the couch and do something for the nation's children." Nunley said he had to do something different to call attention to his mission. "Unless you're rich and famous, people really don't want to talk to you," he said. "But when you look like me and you're driving a horse and wagon through a major metropolitan area, people tend to pull over and ask just what the heck you're doing." Nunley started his cross-

"Have you ever heard the old saying, 'If you want to hear God laugh, tell him your plans?' Well, I've decided to quit making God laugh. This is God's ride ... I'll get there when I get there."

country trek in Savannah, Ga., Nov. 7, 2006. Heart problems and finances have sidelined him for more than two years since then, but he's back on the trail. And his nickname isn't quite as apropos, anymore. "I've lost more than 100 pounds since I started," he said. Although his girth has shrunk, his entourage, as it were, has grown. "I started with just a horse," Nunley said. "In Paint Rock, Ala., I added a packhorse and in Greenville, Ala., I added a two-wheeled cart. In Austin, the two-wheeled cart became



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Ernest Nunley, shown with his horses Snowey, left, and Shorty, is guiding his horse-drawn wagon across the country to raise awareness about the plight of young people. Nunley passed through Big Spring Friday.

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Tabernacle replica coming to Big Spring

Herald Staff Report

The Tabernacle Experience is coming to Big Spring. More than 150,000 people have already journeyed through the life-sized, interactive tabernacle. This replica of the portable sanctuary remains true to the precise size and layout of the original tabernacle constructed by Moses. Visitors will take a self-guided, narrated tour, learning at each station

about the tent that housed the Ark of the Covenant more than 3,000 years ago, as described in great detail in the book of Exodus. The duration of the tour is approximately 50 minutes. Presented by the Crossroads Baptist Association, the Tabernacle Experience will be open to guests daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. beginning Friday, Oct. 22 and running through Sunday, Oct. 31. It will be located on the east side of U.S. Highway 87, about three miles south of Big Spring, next to Buffalo Country Fina.

The requested donation is \$5 per adult guest, \$3 for children, with a maximum of \$20 per family. Groups are advised to call in advance for reservations. Group reservations will be available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day including Saturday and Sunday to avoid heavy traffic. To reserve for a group, call (432) 935-9171. More information on the tour can also be obtained at www.tabernacleexperience.com.

Bulldog blog generating interest

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

COAHOMA — Got a comment you want to make about Coahoma Independent School District? Have a favorite photo of your student you want

to share? If that's the case, school officials have something for you. CISD trustees will hear a report on a new interactive blog feature on the district's Web site when they hold their

monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the administration building board room. Randy Brown, CISD superintendent, believes the blog will be a good way for students and parents to help spread

the word about what's going on in the school district. "I think this idea is a way for us to all work together and show some of the good

See **CISD**, Page 3A

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Yankees rally, beat Texas in ALCS opener

ARLINGTON (AP) — A chopper by Brett Gardner with a headfirst slide into first base, and the New York Yankees were rallying again.

"I stepped on his hand. So he was safe," Texas Rangers starter C.J. Wilson said.

Gardner's infield single leading off the eighth inning ignited a five-run outburst against Wilson and four Texas relievers to push the Yankees to a 6-5 victory in Game 1 of the AL championship series Friday night.

"All starts with a hustle play," manager Joe Girardi said.

Alex Rodriguez, who scooted home with the go-ahead run in the eighth soon after

his two-run single that was nearly a double-play ground-er, called Gardner's slide "the big momentum changer." It started a string of seven consecutive batters reaching base.

Just when the Texas Rangers thought they finally might get a home playoff victory, and against their old nemesis, the Yankees beat them again.

The Rangers are 0-7 in post-season home games, with five of those losses against New York. This one hurt the most, since they led 3-0 after Josh Hamilton's homer in the first inning and knocked CC Sabathia out after four innings with a 5-0 lead.

Nolan Ryan was hollering from the front row and manager Ron Washington was pumping his fist in the dug-out.

New York's comeback changed all that. Washington looked on in disgust while fans buried their faces in their hands. Ryan sat with his arms crossed, shoulders slumped for the Rangers' part-owner.

"They used to have this show called the 'Twilight Zone.' That's how I felt," Wilson said. "We were all kind of pacing in the dugout. It was surreal."

The Yankees became the first team to win a postseason game after trailing by at least

four runs in the eighth since the 2005 Astros, according to STATS LLC. Houston was behind Atlanta 6-1 in the eighth of NL division series Game 4 and went on to win 7-6 in 18 innings.

"It got away from us," Washington said. "But gave it away? No. We just didn't execute."

After a majors-best 48 come-from-behind wins in the regular season, the defending World Series champion Yankees have three more this postseason.

"I'm never surprised at what our guys do. Maybe thrilled, but never surprised," Girardi said. "There's a talented group in there that plays with

a lot of passion."

Right-hander Phil Hughes starts Game 2 for the Yankees on Saturday against right-hander Colby Lewis.

Robinson Cano started the Yankees' comeback in the seventh with a solo homer, the first by a left-hander off Wilson since June 2008.

Then Gardner, the speedy No. 9 hitter, got things rolling in the eighth before Derek Jeter followed with an RBI.

Game 2 of the ALCS begins 4 p.m. Saturday in Arlington.

Too Sweet



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Pernall Parker (left), Devante Lloyd (right) and the Big Spring Steers' defensive line attempts to recover a fumble during their 36-13 win over Sweetwater Friday at Memorial Stadium.

Anderson overcomes ankle injury, Steers top Sweetwater 36-13

BY ADAM COLEMAN
Sports Editor

Dennis Merworth wasn't complaining when DaVonte Anderson replaced him at quarterback in the middle of the second quarter.

Merworth reaped the benefits, catching a 13-yard touchdown pass from Anderson, who didn't start because of an ankle injury, but felt confident enough to play and lead the Steers to a 36-13 win over Sweetwater Friday at Memorial Stadium.

It was the first touchdown catch for Merworth this season, and his first one in a long time.

"That's my first touchdown since my freshman year," he said. "It feels good, just doing what I can for my team. It was good, the communication between me and him."

Merworth, who already plays receiver and safety, was named starter at quarterback to originally prevent Anderson from putting pressure on the left ankle he hurt last week at Brownwood.

But once head coach Phillip Ritchey saw Anderson was feeling more confident about his ankle, and knowing Merworth already had his hands full at safety, the call was made.

Anderson looked like he never suffered the injury, too.

The senior quarterback ran for 85 yards and one touchdown on nine carries. His first play on the field was for 13 yards and the Mustangs didn't have much success containing him. Anderson also completed 3 of 4 passes for 53 yards and a score — the touchdown pass to Merworth that put the Steers (5-3, 1-1 in District 5-3A play) up 29-7 at the end of the third.

Naturally, Anderson was worried about his ankle when he went in.

"That was all that was on my mind," he said. "I told myself, 'Hey, you've just got to go out there and play to the best of your ability. If you get hurt, you get hurt trying. I just have to go out there for my team, that's what I did.'"

When Anderson got in, Ritchey said it didn't look like the ankle was bothering him at all.

"We talked all along that we would have him suited up and taped up and if we needed him, he would be in there. I think he felt better than he thought he would. It was almost like he was full speed. I couldn't tell that he was any slower."

Merworth's performance at quarterback wasn't competitive. He completed two big passes to Tyler Hall for 19 and 14 yards, respectively. He also had seven carries for 26 yards.

Backup quarterback Garrett Stuteville, who was expected to play some, missed a long pass that slightly overshot receiver Toby Rodgers on his only attempt.

BSHS running back Pete Chavarria and his three touchdowns on just 12 carries for 64 yards can't be forgotten, though.

Chavarria had Big Spring's first three scores and those were all in the redzone. The senior said he wasn't able to break off those big runs like he usually does — his longest run of the night was for 14 yards. That's a credit to Sweetwater's defense.

"They were pretty good," Chavarria said. "They were tackling us. We kept at it and we kept getting the yards little by little. We got enough of them and got enough touchdowns."

Devante Lloyd was a common sight in the backfield, too. He had two sacks and the Steers holding a talented tailback like B.J. Walker to under 100 yards rushing is something he's proud of.

"I thought we did phenomenal," Lloyd said. "We did the best we've have in a few weeks. I feel like that was a big boost for the rest of the season."

Players and coaches said this is a marquee win, too. The Steers avoided 0-2 in district play and they're heading to Abilene Wylie next week with some confidence.

BIG SPRING 36, SWEETWATER 13

SHS 0 7 0 6 -- 13
BSHS 6 16 7 7 -- 36

First Quarter

BSHS — Pete Chavarria runs for 9 yards (kick no good), 6:21

Second Quarter

BSHS — Chavarria runs for 4 yards (2-point conv. good), 10:38
SHS — B.J. Walker runs for 14 yards (kick good), 6:40
BSHS — Chavarria runs for 7 yards (2-point conv. good), 2:22

Third Quarter

BSHS — DaVonte Anderson passes to Dennis Merworth for 13 yards (kick good), 0:00

Fourth Quarter

SHS — Walker runs for 1 yard (2-point conv. no good), 9:14
BSHS — Anderson runs for 48 yards (kick good), 2:54

	SHS	BSHS
First downs	14	16
Rushes-Yds.	34-84	38-200
Passing Yds.	114	86
Comp-Att-Int.	9-20-0	5-7-0
Punts-Avg.	4-30	2-51
Fumbles-Lost	4-3	2-1
Penalties-Yds.	3-20	7-74

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING — Big Spring: DaVonte Anderson 9-85, Pete Chavarria 12-64. Sweetwater: B.J. Walker 11-73, Jarrell Houston 5-16.
PASSING — Big Spring: Anderson 3-4-0 53 yards 1TD, Dennis Merworth 2-2-0 33 yards.
SWEETWATER: Taylor Jones 9-20-0 114.
RECEIVING — Big Spring: Tyler Hall 2-33. Sweetwater: Tanner Crain 4-42.

Math and Science Night

Math usually equals long division and calculators. Science experiments involve Petri dishes and Bunsen burners. But at Goliad Intermediate School, math and science becomes quality family time Oct. 26 with Math and Science Night.

"We are excited to be offering this engaging night of fun activities that will provide family memories that last a lifetime," said Rosie Lain, assistant principal for Goliad.

Imagine a necklace of planets, airplanes made of foam, and even a conglomerate rock – these are just some of the hands-on activities available to students

participate, as well as select an alternate event.

"The deadline for registration is Wednesday, Oct. 20. We need a few days to gather the materials together and to assign students to each station or activity," Otto said.

Registrations forms are available through the school, and students should have brought one to their parents, she added. Each form requests that students select either two math and one science or one math and two science activities.

"In case one of his or her choices is filled, we ask each student to select an alternate

station. Each station lasts for 30 minutes, but only 15 students may attend any one station," Otto said.

"We are assigning students and their parents or guardians to stations as the registration forms are submitted, so getting the forms returned early helps," she said.

Lain said Goliad math and science teachers will be on hand at the event, to assist and instruct the students and their families at each station. Region 18 funded the event with special grant money available to promote math and science among students, she said.

Otto added that each station brings something unique and remarkable to the table.

"All these activities offer 'make and take' items, which means the families will have things they get to take home. For example, the 5th grade Density Bottle station has students assembling a kind of 'lava lamp' that they will take home with them," Otto said.

"We hope this becomes such a popular event that we have the funding to do this each year," she said.

For more information, contact Goliad at (432) 264-4111.



and families during Goliad's second annual math and science night.

"Students may see how chemicals change when they manipulate putty, for example, or they may build their own tinfoil boat and experiment with how much weight it will carry. We wanted a way to promote math and science and this event is exciting and lots of fun," said Becky Otto, math and science coordinator for Goliad.

Funded with grant money, the event is free to students and their families. It all begins at 5:30 p.m. and lasts until 7:30 p.m., Oct. 26, and pizza will be available for anyone attending two or more sessions.

The only requirement is that a student must register prior to the event and indicate which three activities in which they choose to

Goliad students may register themselves and their parents for Math and Science Night until Wednesday. Trinady Joslin and Vaughn Green, top, examine 'lava bottles,' Edward Ornelas and Caitlin Aaron, above, unpackage the play money used in 'Making Change,' Faith Roberson, left, practices a 'virus cell,' and Brcky Otto and Shasta Phipps, right, demonstrate how to create 'Layers of the Earth.'



Story and photos by Marsha Sturdivant

WHAT: Math and Science Night
WHO: 5th and 6th grade Students and their Parents
WHERE: Goliad Intermediate School
WHEN: Monday, Oct. 26, 2010 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
WHY: Fun and Engaged Learning Through Hands-On Activities!
COST: Free – Plus Pizza!
Registration Required
DEADLINE: Wednesday, Oct. 20
CONTACT: 432.264.4111

6th Grade Math Activities

Thanksgiving Box Making
 Students use Thanksgiving cards and make a framed box

Kaleidoscopes
 Students assemble kaleidoscopes from PVC pipe, mirror and glass

Peanut Butter Cookies
 Students divide a recipe to make cookies they take home

Pinwheels
 Students measure and cut dowel rods and aluminum cans to create a Pinwheel!

6th Grade Science Activities

Conglomerate Rocks
 Students form conglomerate rocks out of candies

Virus Cells
 Students make a 'Virus Cell' from Styrofoam and pipe cleaners after seeing a short video on viruses

Layers of the Earth
 Students create a model of the layers of the earth from various clays

Putty Activity
 Students learn about chemical changes from a "Mystery Putty" they make

5th Grade Math Activities

Making Change
 Students grocery shop with play money as payment

Place Value Bracelets
 Students create a Place Value pony bead bracelet

Make Dice and Play
 Students play fun math games with hand-made dice

Foam Airplanes
 Students construct an airplane and measure the flying distance of their aircraft

5th Grade Science Activities

Terrariums
 Students will create a soda bottle Terrarium and discover the Water Cycle

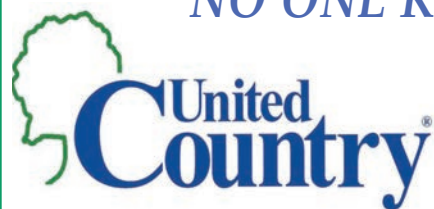
Planet Necklace
 Students create a Solar System Necklace!

Floating Away
 Students design tinfoil boats with the cargo!

Density Bottles
 Students make 'lava lamp' looking Density Bottles

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Obituaries

Melvin Johnson



Melvin Johnson was born in Smithville on June 4, 1947, to the union of Will and Izell Johnson. He was the seventh of nine children. His father, Will Johnson, preceded him in death.

Melvin, age 63, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010, at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Amarillo. Melvin was a member of the Church of Christ in Colorado City. He attended Lakeview Elementary School and graduated from Big Spring High School. He attended Howard College of Big Spring and attended Compton Junior College in Compton, Calif.

Melvin joined the United States Army on Nov. 14, 1967 and served three years. He received a medical discharge. Melvin loved watching TV sports and sitting in the back yard with all his friends (under the tree of knowledge).

Melvin leaves to cherish his memory, his mother: Izell Johnson of Big Spring; and one daughter: Melva Terrell and her husband Abraham Terrell III of Norwalk, Calif.; three grandsons: Abraham Terrell IV, Tyler Terrell and Jelani Terrell, all of Norwalk, Calif.; four brothers: Ullis Johnson and his wife Francis of Big Spring, Robert Lee Johnson and his wife Martha of Lubbock, Roy Conley Johnson of Big Spring, Fredrick Wayne (Tee) Johnson and his wife Mary Sue of Midland; four sisters: Charles Vernell Green and Willene Knox, all of Big Spring, Jennie Lucille Johnson of Odessa, Izell (Twinkle) White and her husband Earl of Paducah, Ken.; one aunt: Algerate Lewis of Smithville; and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

Memorial services with military honors will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Highway 80 Church of Christ with the Rev. Howard Adams officiating.

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

Paid obituary

Support Groups

MONDAY

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

• Diabetes Support Group meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. Medical lectures and information for Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetics and caregivers. Call 267-3806 for information.

Joshua Lane Howell



Joshua Lane Howell, 28, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2010, the result of a motorcycle accident in Big Spring. Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010, at First Baptist Church with the pastor, Rev. Mark Lindsey, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be Robert Strickland, Jason Key, Shane Gressett, Josh Spencer, Clint Bamert, Shane Burt, Garrett Cline and Justin Joy.

Josh was born Sept. 3, 1982, in Big Spring to Terry and Kelley (Sweetman) Howell. He graduated from Big Spring High School and received his associates degree at Howard College. He graduated from Universal Technical Institute in Houston as a gas and diesel mechanic.

He was a great dad and loved his little girl. He was known to be an adrenalin junkie. That sense of adventure took him all over the world to experience thrills like skydiving. He was very generous and his friends could always count on his help. Josh was great at whatever he set his mind to. He had worked as a mechanic and was presently working at Alon for Veolia as a waste water operator.

Survivors include parents, Terry and Kelley Howell; one sister, Sheena Howell; daughter, Marin Delaney Howell; paternal grandparents, Kenneth and Mary Jo Howell, all of Big Spring; maternal grandparents, Leo and Carole Sweetman of Thompsonville, Mich.; two special friends, Hayley Wigington and Kimmy Berry; numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins; and a host of endearing friends.

He was preceded in death by an uncle, Michael Barton Howell.

The family suggests memorials be made to the "Josh Howell Memorial Fund" in care of the Eagles Lodge, P.O. Box 1962, Big Spring 79721.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Friday:

• TOMMY BILLABLBA JR., 22, 3614 Parkway, was arrested on warrants charging expired motor vehicle inspection certificate, driving while not being secured by a safety belt and failure to appear (two counts).

• BENJAMIN REYNOLDS, 64, 101 Carey, was arrested on warrants charging failure to maintain financial responsibility, expired motor vehicle inspection certificate, assault/family violence and failure to appear (two counts).

• SETH ERNEST WILLIAMSON, 23, 1517 Sunset Ave., was arrested on warrants charging consumption of alcohol by a minor, driving under the influence of alcohol, unsafe changing lanes and failure to appear (two counts).

• RCHEL HERRERA, 32, Midland, was arrested on a warrant charging speeding and failure to appear.

• ELEUTERIO TORRES PADRON, 61, 509 N. Goliad, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• ERLINDA EVETTE RIOS, 22, 1906 Winston, was arrested on a charge of evading arrest or detention using a motor vehicle.

• ASSAULT was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.

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

• HARASSMENT was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.

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► Anniversary



Santiago and Margie Pacheco

Santiago and Margie Pacheco of Big Spring will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at 2 p.m. Oct. 23. The celebration will include a ceremony in which the couple will renew their wedding vows at the Birdwell Lane Church of Christ, followed by a

reception and dance at the Dora Roberts Community Center. The couple's children and grandchildren will host the event and friends are invited to celebrate with the family.

Santiago was born in San Antonio Christine and is the son of the



late Doroteio and Rita Pacheco. Margie was born in Big Spring and is the daughter of the late Frolon and Anita Lopez. The couple was married Dec. 12, 1960, at the Howard County Courthouse.

Santiago was a member of the U.S. armed

forces in 1953-55 and served overseas. He was employed by the Big Spring Co-op Gin in 1972 and has been retired for the past 15 years, but still enjoys working part time for the company. Margie is a homemaker and enjoys spending time with her family.

The couple has eight living children: Anita and Irene Quintana, both of Fort Worth; Estrella Pacheco of Joshua; Belinda Garcia of Odessa; and Sandra Lobaton, Betty Sanders, Rebecca Pacheco and Linda Marquez, all of Big Spring.

They are also the parents of the late Valentine Quintana and Israel Pacheco, both of whom resided in Big Spring, and the late Lucy Villanueva of Houston. They are the proud grandparents of 33 and have 42 great-grandchildren.

They are members of the Church of Christ of Big Spring and are happiest spending time with their children and grandchildren.

The couple is certain with love and family, they could make it another 50 years.

► Births



Deegan, Duane and Cheridan Fulgham

Last Sunday marked the 10th day of the 10th month in the year 2010. And on the day of identical numbers, a special birth had everyone at Odessa Regional Medical Center talking.

When Cheridan and Duane Fulgham, both natives of Big Spring, planned the birth of their new baby boy on Oct. 10, 2010, they had no idea what else they were in store for. But as it turns out, little Deegan Jax Fulgham was born Oct. 10 at 10:10 a.m.

As if those coincidences weren't enough, Deegan came into this world in delivery room 10.

The proud mother and father say they were just as surprised as anyone when the doctors told them.

Aside from the unique birthday bragging rights, the parents are treating this phenomenon as a positive sign for Deegan.

"Sure, of course," explained Cheridan. "Maybe 10 will turn out to be his lucky number. Maybe on his 10th birthday something special will happen or something like that, you never know."

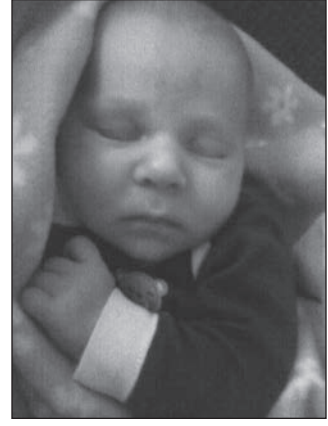
The parents are big motorcycle enthusiasts, so they say Deegan's first dirt bike will have the number 10.

Deegan weighed 7 pounds and two-tenths of an ounce and was 21 inches long. He was welcomed home by big sister Taelyn Fulgham.

Grandparents are Kenny and Jarry Fulgham and Craig and Cherise Felty, all of Big Spring.

...

BreAnna Kay McPherson, a girl, was born at 6:37 p.m. Sept. 22, 2010, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19-1/4 inches long. Parents are Cassi Massingill and Kenneth McPherson of Big Spring.



BreAnna Kay McPherson

Grandparents are Jim and Lori Massingill of Big Spring, Melissa Wells of Big Spring and Brian Wells of Fort Worth. Great-grandparents are Louise Whitaker of Big Spring, Dan Whitaker of Big Spring; Jerry and Paula Copeland of Big Spring; Linda Derringer of Leavenworth, Kan.; Jimmy and Velena of Crowley; and Brenda Oakland of Fort Worth. Great-great-grandparents are Lela and Kenneth Geer of Big Spring.

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2 Timothy 2:15

There is **no** cost to join the club.

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'Raising Teenage daughters can be hilarious. Especially when they argue over which one gets to wear a newly discovered pair of bell bottom Jeans that i wore when i was their age. Trends have come full circle...and now so has my figure. Lipotherme has given me back the body i had before two kids. Maybe i should get to wear those jeans first!'



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Courtesy photo

Regan Newsom is honored by the Howard County Republican Party as the outstanding student of the month. Regan is a senior at Forsan High School and is the daughter of Jimmy and Regina Newsom. This recognition makes Regan eligible for a \$500 scholarship to be presented at the end of the school year by the Republican Party. Pictured are Craig Bailey, Howard County Republican chairman, and Newsom.

More Support Groups

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

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

WEDNESDAY
• RSD (Reflex Symptomatic Dystrophy), a

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

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

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Bring this note when you join and receive a box of Weight Watchers snacks through Oct. 31. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

FRIDAY
• AA open discussion meeting from noon un-

Something different

R.I. cops: Robber had checklist of targets in pocket

PAWTUCKET, R.I. (AP) — Police in Rhode Island trying to stop a string of robberies got a big break this week when they found a key piece of evidence — an alleged robber's checklist of targets.

Jimmy Honeycutt and his girlfriend Stephanie McDole were arrested this week after Pawtucket police found in Honeycutt's pocket torn pages from a phone book, with asterisks next to some of the businesses robbed this month.

Detectives pulled over the pair because their car matched the description of a vehicle wanted in connection with a robbery at an Attleboro Getty gas station.

The 26-year-old Honeycutt is charged with five counts of first-degree robbery. The 27-year-old McDole is charged with two counts of first-degree robbery.

It was unclear if either had hired an attorney.

Wis. woman finds stolen dress, solves burglaries

CHIPPEWA FALLS, Wis. (AP) — Wisconsin police say a 25-year-old woman's search for her stolen wedding dress helped solve several other burglaries as well.

After a storage unit owner called Alena Gadke of Chippewa Falls on Oct. 8 to tell her of some break-ins, Gadke went there and noticed her wedding dress was gone.

Police assured her they would find the thieves, but Gadke was impatient. That night she went to Craigslist and found her dress.

She says she traded 40 texts and voice messages with the seller, who kept changing the time and location to meet.

Gadke alerted police and the next day she met the seller in a Chippewa Falls parking lot, where police arrested the 16-year-old girl. That led police to a 17-year-old boy and a 23-year-old man, who confessed to multiple thefts.

til 1 p.m. at 615 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

• Candlelight Meet-

ing Group of Alcoholics Anonymous at 10 p.m. at 1609 S. Main in Big Spring. For more information call (432) 935-5805 or (432) 517-2272.

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Melvin Johnson, 63, died Sunday. Memorial services with Military Honors will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Highway 80 Church of Christ with Rev. Howard Adams, officiating.

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COWBOY

Continued from Page 1A

a four-wheeled wagon." Nunley, accompanied by his horses Snowey and Shorty, said his message has fallen on receptive ears. "I'm not foolish enough to think I'm going to change the world, but I'm crossing paths with people who were meant to receive this message ... This is a spiritual journey and I'm learning something

new every day."

He has no consistent source of income for the trip, but has received plenty of help during his journey, he said.

"This trip is financed solely by God," he said. "People have shown up and provided me food for my horses and myself. I've never had to ask for anything.

"It's basically just me and God on this trip," he added. "There's a few people in Tennessee who are providing moral support and helping

with my Web site."

The Internet site (onefatcowboy.com) has received more than 15,000 hits in the past few months and more than 120 people have posted memorials or messages of support, Nunley said.

He said he plans to end his trip at the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. As for when the trip will end, that's still very much in the air.

"Have you ever heard the old saying, 'If you want to hear God laugh,

tell him your plans?' Well, I've decided to quit making God laugh," he said. "This is God's ride ... I'll get there when I get there."

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

CISD

Continued from Page 1A

things that are going on in Coahoma," Brown said.

Anyone can sign up for the "Bulldog Blog" at the district's Web site, www.coahomaisd.com, which has been in operation for about a week, Brown said. Monitor-approved comments and photographs can be posted on the blog.

"I think this will be a good way for people to show what's going on around the district," Brown said.

The report will be the highlight of a very routine agenda, he added.

"This is one of the lightest agendas we've had since I've been here," Brown admitted.

In other business, trustees will consider:

- Enrollment reports.
- Check payments and tax reports.
- Investment reports and financial statements.
- Personnel matters.
- Extracurricular participation report.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331

ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

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ATTENTION Martin County Voters

Vote **NO** on the November 2nd election for the purchase of a privately owned golf course in Stanton.

A group of people want our county commissioners to use tax money to purchase the golf course in Stanton. The proposition does not quote the price for the course, or the cost estimate to get the course in shape, or the yearly cost to maintain the course.

The proposal needs a **NO** vote.

If you are disabled or 65 or over you can request a ballot be mailed to you. Call the voter registrars office at (432) 607-2540 or (432) 607-2541 soon.

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Club News

Big Spring Retired Teachers

The Big Spring Retired Teachers Association will meet at 11:30 a.m. Monday in the Cactus Room of the Howard College Student Union Building. Following a Dutch treat lunch, Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks will present a program on the college's improvements.

All interested persons are welcome to attend our meetings. Anyone eligible for the Teachers Retirement System of Texas is also eligible to join the association. We encourage all eligible retirees to join the association because greater numbers help us have a greater influence in Austin.

Daughters of the American Revolution

The Capt. Elisha Mack chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution met Oct. 9 at the Big Spring Country

Club with 10 members and two guests present. D. Ken McIntosh, pastor of the First Christian Church, presented an interesting program on his Creek Indian heritage. He shared pictures and books that told of his ancestors. His third great-grandfather was Chief William McIntosh, who fought with Andrew Jackson and was executed for signing a treaty.

Following lunch, Regent Anne Witherspoon presided over the business meeting. She said the DAR was started on Columbus Day. Charlene Ragan gave a report on early Indian earth lodges and a contribution was collected to benefit the Indian schools.

Witherspoon announced the group will begin to have a conservation report at each meeting. Ragan reported on steps that could be used to reduce solid wastes. Clara Lewis reported on national defense measures.

Witherspoon noted

the chapter had reached Level II on chapter achievement. She said this is a good record for a chapter as small as this one.

Ragan nominated Jessica Williams to represent our chapter for Outstanding Junior. She nominated Sue Ann Damron for the Outstanding Veterans Service Award.

The group voted to fund a quilt Hollis McCright is making for the state conference auction to benefit the Junior's projects.

The chapter will also fund the purchase of a Wii game for the VA Medical Center.

Witherspoon announced that Damron had nominated Tumbleweed Smith for the State Media Award that will be presented at the March state conference.

Carol Lawson won the door prize. The meeting was then adjourned.

The next meeting will be Nov. 13.

TOPS Tx 0021

TOPS Club 0021 met Monday with eight TOPS and one KOPS in attendance. The TOPS cheer was led by Leader

Frank Sickles and Laura Sickles led the welcome song. Dennis Stapel led the group in the TOPS pledge, followed by the newest KOPS member, Olnee Menges, leading the KOPS pledge.

Roll call was conducted by Hughetta Roberts and showed a club loss of 11 pounds. Frank Sickles was the best loser with a loss of 3.5 pounds. He was awarded a best loser certificate and \$1.

Business was a report on the area fun day held in Midland on Oct. 2. A SLIM (Sincere Losers Inspire Me) award was presented to Dennis Stapel as the second-place finisher with a loss of 26.75 pounds in 2010. Linda Stapel was also awarded a SLIM bar for being a best loser in the area's Top 10.

Leola Newton was awarded a WOW bar (Winners Over Weight). She was not in attendance, so she will receive her award at a regular meeting in Big Spring. Ethel Cassady was awarded a "dangle" for her WOW bar she was awarded a few years ago. This was the fifth year in a row she's

received the award.

Chapter angel awards were also given to each TOPS club in attendance. Newton received the award for the club. Cassady was also presented her eight years KOPS charm.

The attendees enjoyed a luncheon catered by Johnny's Bar-B-Que. They sang TOPS fun songs and enjoyed skits performed by Maxine's

relatives.

For more information about TOPS and help with weight loss, call Frank Sickles at 432-213-1342 or Menges at 263-6819.

Meetings begin with weigh-in at 5:30 p.m. and the business portion is from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. each Monday at the First Christian Church fellowship hall. All visitors are welcome.



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Menus

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast - Cereal variety, colby cheese portion, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch - Pizza, baby carrots, rosy applesauce, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast - Sausage roll, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch - Chicken spaghetti, garden salad, green peas, apricots, roll, margarine, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast - Tortilla, chese omelets, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch - Beef taco,

corn, Spanish rice, border beans, lettuce and tomato salad, orange smiles, salsa, milk.

Thursday: Ham and cheese biscuits, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch - Hot dog on a bun, mac and cheese, fruit cocktail, Rice Krispies treat, milk.

Friday: Breakfast - French toast sticks, syrup, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch - Barbecued beef, lettuce, tomato, pickles, french fries, strawberries, fresh

fruit, milk.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast - Honeybun, juice, milk. Lunch - Barbecue on a bun, Cool Ranch Doritos, corn on the cob, pickle spears, apple and orange smiles, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast - Scrambled eggs, toast, juice, milk. Lunch - Pizza, seasoned corn, strawberries and bananas, sugar cookie, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast - Pancakes, sausage, juice, milk. Lunch

- Corn dog, tater tots, pinto beans, mixed fruit cup, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast - Breakfast pocket, juice, milk. Lunch - Cheeseburger, veggies, Sun Chips, baby carrots, apple and orange miles, milk.

Friday: Breakfast - Cereal variety, toast, juice, milk. Lunch - Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, hot roll, pineapple-orange salad, milk.

MILITARY NEWS

Army National Guard Pfc. Dillon S. Walker has graduated from the Fire Support Specialist Advanced Individual Training course at Fort Sill in Lawton, Okla.

The field artillery specialists serve in intelligence activities including target processing in field artillery, cannon battalions, division artillery, artillery and maneuver brigade and headquarters and fire

support elements.

The course is designed to train students to establish, maintain and operate radio and wire communications and speech security equipment, including encoding and decoding messages.

They also must prepare and maintain daily staff journals, fire support situation maps, charts and other fire support and target processing procedures, records and

documents. In addition, students assist in initiating requests for field artillery, mortar, naval gunfire and aerial delivered munitions, and emplace, maintain and assist in the operation of laser range finders, target designation and night observation devices.

Walker is the son of Dale L. and T.J. Walker of Big Spring and is a 2010 graduate of Forsan High School.

Victim Services

Last Year Victim Services helped **196 Victims of Domestic Violence**
134 were Primary Victims
62 were Secondary Victims (children, parents, family members)

There were 111 women Killed in the State of Texas through Domestic Violence.

ONE OF THE 111 WAS A RESIDENCE OF HOWARD COUNTY.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL DOMESTIC AWARENESS MONTH FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Take a stand against domestic violence. Break the silence, Don't just walk on by.

- Domestic Violence effects us ALL.
- Family
 - Friends
 - Neighbors
 - Co-Workers
 - Community

15 WARNING SIGNS OF AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP

1. **PUSH FOR QUICK INVOLVEMENT:** Comes on very strong, "I've never loved anyone like this before!"
2. **JEALOUSY:** Excessively possessive, calling constantly, visiting unexpectedly.
3. **CONTROLLING:** Interrogates you on your whereabouts or who you've talked to, checks the mileage on your car keeps control of the money and insists you get permission to go anywhere.
4. **ISOLATION:** Tries to limit your contact with family and friends, deprives you of a phone or car, may insist that you quit your job or prevents you from working.
5. **VERBAL ABUSE:** Constantly criticizes you or says things that hurt your feelings.
6. **THREATS OF VIOLENCE:** "I will break your neck", then later says, "I didn't really mean it, I was just kidding!"
7. **BLAMES OTHERS FOR MISTAKES:** It is always someone else's fault when things go wrong.
8. **SUDDEN MOOD SWINGS:** In a matter of minutes, goes from loving and affectionate to explosively violent.
9. **MAKES EVERYONE ELSE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS FEELINGS:** "You make me angry. You hurt me when you don't do what I tell you. If you had just done what I said, I would not have had to hit you!"
10. **HYPERSENSITIVE:** Carries on about injustices of every day life.
11. **PLAYFUL USE OF FORCE DURING SEX:** Enjoys throwing you down or holding you down against your will during sex.
12. **RIGID SEX ROLES:** "Serve, honor and obey."
13. **UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS:** Expects you to be perfect and meet their every need.
14. **PAST BATTERING:** Admits to hitting partners in the past but justifies the abuse.
15. **CRUELTY TO ANIMALS AND TO CHILDREN:** Punish or kills animals. Expect children to do things beyond their ability or teases them until they cry.

*A combination of three or more of these behaviors may indicate a potential batterer.

*If you are afraid and want to make a change, Victim Services can help. We are confidential, 24/7 hotline 432-263-3312. To view services go to www.vsofbigspring.com

The Coahoma Clean-Up Day Was A Huge Success!

To The Many Volunteers and To The Companies That Donated Equipment & Manpower:
D & L Smith, Inc. of Stanton
Cowboy Construction
Manual Martinez Backhoe Svc

Thank You!!

From...
Coahoma Pride, Inc. & The City of Coahoma

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

Tax statements going out; Pay them attention

It's usually not until January of each year that we remind people about paying their property taxes. However, we're convicted it's again time to remind everyone that a word to the wise is sufficient — at least that's the way the adage goes.

We've made that point before in this space on a number of occasions, because it applies to so many different matters we all face in life. That's especially true when it comes to paying your property taxes.

Howard County Tax Assessor-Collector Kathy Sayles and her staff have begun the task of making sure tax notices get where they're supposed to go.

"Taxes normally become due as of Oct. 1, but we don't get the statements really ready until several days after that," Sayles noted. "We print close to 36,000 statements each year. This year we'll print about 36,000, which is up some mainly because of the mineral values. We have about 2,000 to 3,000 statements that belong to loan companies which we don't have to mail out separately, but that still leaves about 33,000 tax statements that we have to stuff into envelopes and mail out. We just all grab a box and start stuffing. We have some people who just work with the loan companies to make sure they receive theirs, but the rest of us just get busy stuffing the envelopes."

Sayles said taxpayers have until Jan. 31 to pay their taxes and avoid penalties and interest. After that date, things can get rather costly.

"Taxpayers have from Oct. 1 to Jan. 31 to pay their taxes without any penalties or interest," said Sayles. "In February, the penalties will start at 7 percent (6 percent penalty, 1 percent interest), and increases each month."

The tax penalty and interest schedule is as follows: After Jan. 31, 6 percent penalty and 1 percent interest; after Feb. 28, 7 percent penalty and 2 percent interest; after March 31, 8 percent penalty and 3 percent interest; after April 30, 9 percent penalty and 4 percent interest; after May 31, 10 percent penalty and 5 percent interest; and after June 30, 12 percent penalty and 6 percent interest, including an additional 20 percent attorney fee.

For more information, contact the Howard County Tax Collector's Office at 264-2232.

"Some individuals don't get their statement for whatever reason," said Sayles. "We can pull up their name on the system and tell them the amount that's due. So if you haven't received a statement, call us or come by the office. Some people, because of their homestead exemptions, have no taxes, so we don't send them a notice. However, if they just want to make sure everything is OK, all they have to do is call.

"They can reference their check with an account number that we can give them so they can get their payment in the mail. Once that's done, we mail them back a receipt for their payment."

For taxpayers over the age of 65 or currently on disability, there is an installment plan that can help them avoid penalties and interest.

OK. That's more than a few words to the wise, but that are, we think, words well spent.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we do unto others, Lord, as You would have us to do.

Amen

Washington at work — for wealthy

Scroll through the right-wing blogosphere, or listen in at a tea party rally, and you'll find angry people ranting about an out-of-control federal government that's redistributing the nation's wealth to the underserving poor.

Those rants do have one point right: The federal government is shoveling hundreds of billions of dollars into programs that redistribute wealth. But these "wealth-building" programs aren't redistributing wealth from the top to the bottom. They're actually shifting more wealth to the top.

"We cannot avoid the sad irony," as one new report has just concluded, "that government policy aimed at building wealth is largely helping the rich get richer."

This new report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Corporation for Enterprise Development — Upside Down: The \$400 Billion Federal Asset-Building Budget — dives deep into the programs that aim to help Americans "buy homes, start businesses, put their children through college and retire comfortably."

Upside Down's authors added up all the money the U.S. government devoted to these programs last year and then tracked who exactly reaped the benefits.

In nearly every instance, the

answer came back the same. Federal dollars, as Upside Down details, routinely "subsidize wealth building for the wealthiest among us, rewarding them for (the) size of their homes and investment portfolios."

How could this be? Most federal asset-building programs, the study explains, deliver their benefits through the tax code, an approach that almost guarantees that the wealthy will score, by far, the biggest benefits.

Here's one example: The federal government encourages homeownership — a central pillar of family wealth building — with tax deductions for mortgage interest and local property taxes as well as discount capital gains tax rates on the sale of property.

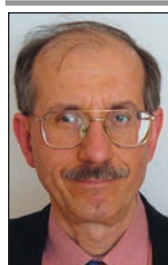
These sorts of tax subsidies work spectacularly well — if you have lots of income you can apply these tax breaks against. But if you don't have much money to report on your tax return, these tax breaks do you precious little good.

Low-income households that "don't make enough money to itemize deductions or even to accrue much tax liability," notes Upside Down, "receive next to nothing from these strategies."

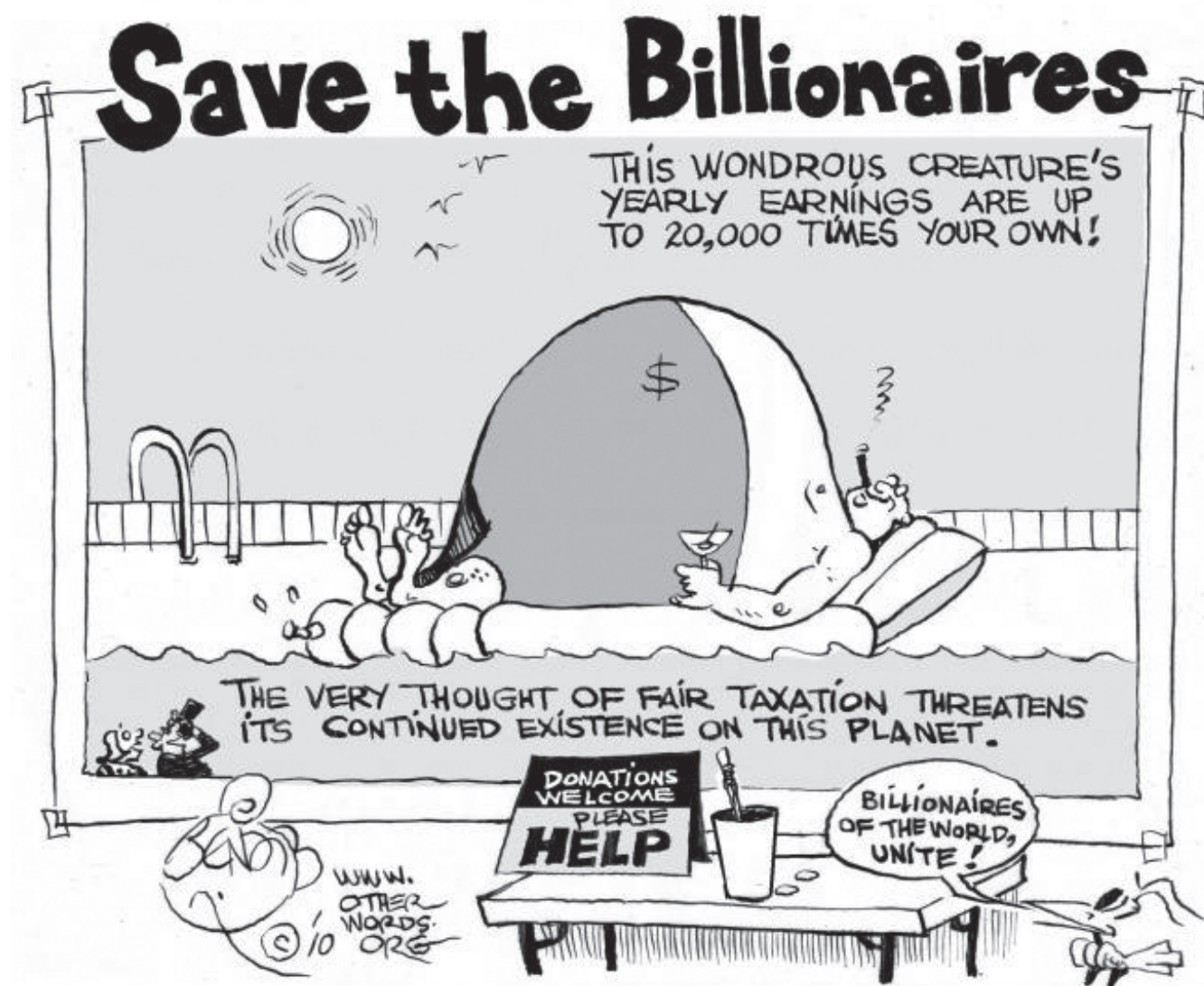
And middle-income families don't see much benefit either.

The typical household making \$50,000 a year, the study relates, received in 2009 only \$500 in benefits from the federal government's mortgage and property tax deductions and investment tax breaks.

Taxpayers making more than \$1 million a year, on the other hand, averaged \$95,820 last year from these same subsidies.



SAM
PIZZIGATI



YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

What a pleasure to see that Mrs. Robinson donated that scholarship fund for technical education.

I worked at the College for Dr. Charles Hays. He saw the value of technical education and had the Industrial Education Building built. I never had much use for Dr. Hays' replacement.

Anyone who can work with his hands is still employed today, if they want to.

So many are out of work here in Florida. After 25 years of living here, I never missed a day of work. If you want a long lasting job, get one in the industrial technical career field.

BRADFORD H. MOSHER
OCALA, FLA.

TO THE EDITOR:

The Christmas Parade has been going down Gregg Street since 1986, and that is great. But as Gregg Street is U.S. Highway 87 and the people traveling north or south must detour onto side streets, it seems like Scurry Street would be a better choice, traffic wise, since it goes right down into the Heart of the City Park and its out of the way for people wanting to do business on

Gregg Street.

Thanks to the city for voting that homeowners can only have so many pets. This is a good idea, but guess where that leaves us who live outside city limits? So far we have gotten two baby kittens, scared and hungry, dropped of on us. They got to us before the freeway traffic got to them.

Please, folks, don't put your pets out like that. After a few days they become hungry, scared, wild and end up on the freeway dead. If adult cats, they go into season and there isn't any way to stop the population of wild cats.

DONNA GROENKE
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

We want to compliment Big Spring on having such an excellent hospital, the Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Last week my husband and I were traveling on Interstate 20 to our winter home in Mesa, Ariz. My husband had a medical issue that required immediate attention, so I drove him to the SMMC emergency room.

He received all the tests and treatment that were required for his condition. He needed to stay overnight and everyone was so

Over half the benefits from these programs went to the most affluent 5 percent of Americans: families making over \$160,000.

Just 4 percent went to the nation's bottom 60 percent: families that earned under \$50,000 in 2009.

In other words, the near \$400 billion the federal government is laying out, largely via tax subsidies, to help families "save, invest and build assets" is doing remarkably little to help the families that really need the money.

Of course, alternatives do exist.

We could, notes Upside Down, easily alter how we "deliver" asset-building assistance. We could, for instance, replace tax deductions with "refundable tax credits," a move that would funnel actual checks to Americans who don't have tax bills big enough to benefit from tax deductions.

And to end the windfalls for the wealthy our current system encourages, we could place "caps on the value of homes and other assets that can be deducted." That would mean no more tax breaks for mansions and palatial beach retreats.

We need to pursue all these alternatives, especially now, with so many millions of Americans facing foreclosure and finding jobs so few and far between.

We don't need to start redistributing our nation's wealth. We're already redistributing. We just need to reverse the flow.

Sam Pizzigati edits *Too Much*, an online weekly on excess and inequality published by the Institute for Policy Studies.

kind to me. I was able to be with him all the time. We felt he had excellent care and everyone we had contact with was so caring and kind.

Thank you for your service.

GALEN AND PAT DUCOMMUN
MARCUS, IOWA

TO THE EDITOR:

As a private citizen, I wish to endorse Kathrine Wiseman for re-election as Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 2.

I have known Kathrine personally and professionally for many years and have found her to be fair, compassionate and honest in her job and private life. She has worked hard, long hours in her profession.

Very little is known by the public of the heartache and worry of the office of justice of the peace. There is heartache upon attending the death of a child, a friend, or a horrific wreck, but this is just part of the job she does.

She is a fine Christian, teaching Sunday School and being available for many public functions.

She has years of schooling and devotion to her profession. It would be a pity to throw away all

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

DOING THEIR PART



Courtesy photo

Larry and Gretchen Wildman are the winners of the Keep Big Spring Beautiful Doing Your Part Award for October. From left are: Terry Hansen, District 6 city councilman; Gretchen Wildman; Jo Ann Staulcup, Keep Big Spring Beautiful president and District 3 city councilperson; Larry Wildman; and Mayor Tommy Duncan. The Wildman's award-winning home is located at 1300 Tucson.

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.



The stock market's action throughout September, including new developments last week, has given investors reasons to be hopeful. However, we also find good reason to worry. As of Monday, Sept. 27, the S&P 500 rose 8.9 percent during the month and then spent the entire week churning with a modest giveback.

The stock market lost some ground as institutional investors did not chase equities into the end of the third quarter as it appeared they would have given the strong stock performance in September.

Some of the highlights popping up on the radar include a Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) downgrade of the Anglo Irish Bank, mixed economic data, a foiled terrorist plot in Europe, contrasting views from Federal Reserve officials about the benefits of quantitative easing and legislation passed by the House of Representatives laying the groundwork for a trade war or, at least, potential tariffs being placed on some Chinese imports.

Let's look briefly at each of these issues. We believe the focus on Europe and the Irish bank was due to a lack of news rather than Europe becoming a new problem for stocks. The stock market has had the European debt crisis on its radar for many months and has largely discounted it in our opinion.

If we are wrong, the potential effect on the market is, at a minimum, gradually deteriorating in magnitude and duration as time passes. It has become more of an excuse for investors to explain declines rather than the real cause.

Our Macro Strategy Team pointed out that economic data showed a continued expansion in manufacturing activity and consumer confidence remains low. Housing prices have stabilized but are still depressed.

The stock market barely batted an eye at the story of al-Qaeda terrorists plotting shooting and bombing rampages in Britain, France and Germany. In the past, such a standalone event would likely have caused a disruption to the market.

Boston Fed President Rosengren stated last week that the Fed still has tools to boost an "anemic" recovery and further asset purchases (quantitative easing) are still at their disposal with the aim to cut unemployment and raise inflation.

In contrast, Philadelphia Fed President Plosser said further asset purchases are not needed because he sees "little risk" of deflation.

Although we see any protectionist measures against China as unlikely, considering the president is against tariffs, they would be a negative for stocks.

Underlying skepticism of the rally is still the most powerful reason why we believe that there is not a high probability of a major decline (more than 10 percent) in the near future.

Media headlines, such as an Associated Press article titled "Stocks Sizzle, but Investors Are Still Skittish," again underlined market skepticism. The gist of the article was that many market analysts think the recent market gains are deceptive because the economy has improved only marginally and there were a small number of participants in the September rise as reflected by volume, which is running about 25 percent to 30 percent below last year at this time. The rally was referred to as deceptive and misguided optimism.

Stories like this reflect skepticism about the rally, but there's also evidence of investor uncertainty that runs even deeper. For example, an Investment Company Institute (ICI) annual household survey of mutual fund shareholders found that overall willingness to take investment risk has not rebounded since the financial crisis.

Thirty percent of mutual fund shareholders were willing to take substantial or above-average investment risk for financial gain in May 2009-2010. In contrast, during May 2008, 37 percent of households owning mutual funds were willing to take such risks.

All this skepticism leads us to believe that if a major decline were to occur, it would be short-lived and a good buying opportunity — provided there are no new shocks to the economy or investing landscape. The hopeful side for the stock market is beyond the short-term uncertainties, brighter days could be ahead. Patience is still necessary, in our opinion, before expecting a sustainable rise above the April 2010 highs.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Portions of this article were produced Oct. 5 by Scott Marcouiller, Wells Fargo Advisors' chief market strategist.

West Texas lawmakers will address TSSWCB directors

Special to the Herald

TEMPLE — Soil and water conservation district directors from across Texas will hear from three state lawmakers at their 70th annual meeting Oct. 25-27 in Lubbock at the Overton Hotel and Conference Center.

Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, will be the keynote speaker at a legislative appreciation banquet Oct. 25. Duncan has served in the Texas Senate since 1996. He holds a seat on the Senate Finance Committee and has been chairman of the Senate State Affairs Committee.

Rep. Joe Heflin, D-Crosbyton, and Charles Perry, Representative-elect, from Lubbock, will address the general assembly of district directors Oct. 26.

Heflin was elected in 2006 and serves on the Texas House Committee on Agriculture & Live-

stock and the House Committee on Elections.

Longtime businessman Perry looks to begin his legislative service in the upcoming session.

In addition to hearing from lawmakers, meeting attendees will participate in a series of workshops concerning wind power, water rights and wildlife.

"The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) has planned an agenda that we believe will address those issues and concerns soil and water conservation districts will be dealing with in the near future," said Mel Davis, TSSWCB special projects coordinator. "The workshop and keynote speakers will provide participants with valuable insight to take home."

Steven K. DeWolf, founder and executive director of Wind Tex Energy, will speak about the

current status of wind power in Texas as well as its future. Wind Tex Energy is a privately held independent wind power development company located in Dallas. The company has developed four Texas projects which are currently in operation.

Jim Conkright, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD) president, will discuss water issues facing the upcoming 82nd legislative session along with surface water rights. TAGD is a non-profit organization established to provide groundwater conservation districts the opportunity to exchange ideas and develop or influence programs for the management, conservation, protection and development of groundwater within Texas.

Linda Campbell, Texas Parks

See **SOLONS**, Page 5C

REFINERY'S CAP COMMITTEE MEETS



Courtesy photo

Members of the Alon CAP, a volunteer committee, are pictured following a recent meeting. Front row, from left, are: Jerry Baker of Power Resources; Roddy Caffey, former interim plant manager; Jimmy Crosby, vice president of refining at the Big Spring Refinery; and Gloria McDonald and Bobby McDonald, CAP facilitators. Middle row: Lyndel Moody, Jan Hansen, Carla Harrold and Ronnie Wood. Back row: Dennis Teeters, Paschal Odom, Roy Worthy, Willia Ledford, Steve Smith, Gail Berringer, Terry Wegman, Maruca Haas, Col. Jim Little and Terry Hansen. Not pictured are Raul Benavides, Terry Chamness, Ken Pope and Terry Wofford. Members of the committee serve in many aspects, primarily to address community/industry/refinery issues. Additionally, the committee studies publications and reviews articles regarding current and future trends relating to energy and transportation.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

this experience and hard work.

Remember, a lot of signs and posters do not make a better elected official. It is the devotion to the office.

I write this endorsement as a private citizen, not connected with my profession.

JOEL MILLER
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

Election time is upon us and there are some local elections which are very important to our community. One of those is the position of Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 2, currently held by Judge Kathryn Wiseman.

There are some little known facts about Wiseman that most folks don't know. She has a big heart and is totally dedicated to serving the citizens of Big Spring and Howard County. She has a deep concern for the youth of our city and county.

Did you know she sends sympathy cards to families whose loved ones have died and she was the one who who took the call? Did you know she will sit and talk to you for as long as it takes to solve a problem? Did you know that if you have a question and she does not know the answer, she will spend hours trying to find the answer?

She has the experi-

ence, knowledge, training and heart to be re-elected for the position of Justice of the Peace for Precinct 1, Place 2. She has been active in Keep Big Spring Beautiful, is a Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church, sings in the church choir and was a past president in the Big Spring Optimist Club. She is community minded and helps wherever it is needed.

The position of justice of the peace is not always an easy one. It is not just sitting in the office. It is paperwork on every issue that comes through the court. It is being on call one week out of the month and going to accident related deaths, unattended deaths or worse. It is not just about salary or benefits. It is caring about the people.

It takes a person of good moral character, a strong heart and a will to serve. Judge Wiseman has all the qualities it takes to get the job and done well.

I know this to be true because I have been her clerk of 4-plus years. I am asking for your vote to re-elect Justice of the Peace Kathryn Wiseman.

Early voting times are Monday, Oct. 18, through Friday, Oct. 29, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday, Oct. 26, and Thursday, Oct. 28, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Regular voting day is Nov. 2.

KAY HULSE
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

This is an open letter

to Rep. Joe Heflin.

Mr. Heflin, my question to you is this: How can you present yourself to the voters of District 85 as a conservative Democrat and at the same time deny that you are a Democrat? (The denial was made during a Big Spring town hall meeting.)

Would a true conservative vote to authorize a new property tax on Texas homeowners? (HJR 112 and HB3477). I think not!

Would a true conservative not support the March 22 Texas Conservative Coalition letter supporting Attorney General Abbot's lawsuit to overturn Obamacare? I think not!

Would a true conservative vote against Amendment 59 to HB 1 (80R), which would have changed state policy (via federal mandatory rules) to no longer allow illegal immigrants to qualify for CHIP benefits? I think not!

You know, my grandmother used to say, "The proof is in the pudding." And she was right!

BO FRYAR
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

As a homeowner and landowner, I cannot support the candidacy of Democrat Joe Heflin in his bid for re-election as Representative of District 85. Mr. Heflin in his public statements to his conservative West Texas constituents continually seeks to distance himself from the Democratic Party platform base, but even

basic research into the voting record reveals a disturbing pattern of support for a party line which continually seeks to remove individual control over our rights and resources.

Mr. Heflin voted for a state controlled water program that makes it much easier for Austin bureaucrats to control the water rights of West Texas. In a day of explosive population growth in cities such as Dallas, San Antonio and Austin, West Texans need to be the ones that decide what happens to our precious aquifers and surface waters and not some bureaucrat in Austin. The minute we relinquish control of our water rights, it will just be a matter of time until liberal politicians like Joe Heflin will use our water as leverage for a bargaining tool. Agriculture producers that do not want to see the use of their water rights controlled and dictated by Austin should think twice before voting for Heflin.

Heflin voted no to a measure to reduce the state margins tax on small businesses, which would have raised the exemption rate for small businesses and for creation of new local taxing authorities, while opposing homeowners' ability to reduce their property taxes.

These disturbing evidences of a willingness to go along with the party line should give pause to many West Texans, but perhaps the most disturbing vote of all was the one he did

not cast for our states rights under the 10th Amendment, which protects West Texas from increasing power grabs by the federal government. Rep. Heflin chose to offer an unexcused absence for the record vote on HCR 50, despite being present for the votes directly before and after it.

I will vote for Republican candidate Jim Landtroop, who is a true conservative with West Texas values and no Democratic loyalties.

MARILYN READ
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

The League of Women Voters-Texas urges each and every registered voter to cast an

informed ballot in the Nov. 2 General Election which will determine who leads Texas for the next several years. Early voting for this crucial election extends from Oct. 18 to Oct. 29.

LWV-Texas' nonpartisan Voters Guide, a trusted source for candidate views in their own words, is available in both English and Spanish at the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main St. The League Voters Guide provides unedited responses of candidates in contested races from governor through State Board of Education on pertinent public policy issues, lists candidates in uncontested races

See LETTERS, Page 6A

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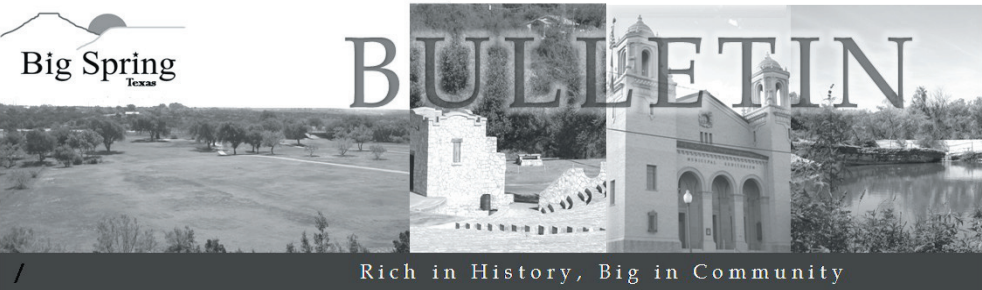


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Rich in History, Big in Community

The next Big Spring City Council Meeting is Scheduled on Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

City Council Meetings are open to the public and are held at the Big Spring City Council Chambers located at 307 East 4th Street. If you need special assistance in order to participate in a City Council meeting, please contact Lesa Gamble, at 432-264-2401, in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.

CONGRATULATIONS

SHAUN POLLARD

THE CITY OF BIG SPRING'S OCTOBER STAR OF THE MONTH



Shaun is being recognized by for his exceptional attention and detail to his job duties. He is always pleasant to citizens in the community and he is always well

aware and respectful of his surroundings. Mr. Pollard exemplifies the enthusiasm and service we would like to see provided by all City employees. We would like to express our thanks to you, Shaun, for the dedication, enthusiasm and hard work you give to the community of Big Spring. You have proven to be a valuable asset to the City of Big Spring and we congratulate you on a job well done.

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Call (432) 264-2348 or (432) 264-2504 for information and contest rules.

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Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Gregory Aguilar Jr., 1508 Sunset Ave., Big Spring
 Amy Rececca Aguilar, 1736 Chestnut, Colorado City
 Demetrio Alva, 11520 Arrow Rock, El Paso
 Terica Alvarado, 1100 E. 61st St., Odessa
 Anthony G. Anderson, 3401 Cammelia Dr., Temple
 Fernando Kyong Arriaga Jr., 606 N.W. Eighth St., Big Spring
 Nancy Ramirez Banuelos, 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 1, Big Spring
 Amy Barber, 2602 Ent, Big Spring
 Christopher Martin Barrera, 1704 Goliad, Big Spring
 Daniel B. Barron, 507 N. Ave. F, Lamesa
 Amy Benavides, 3001 N. Midland Dr., Big Spring
 Crystal Biles, 15885 S. Quartz, Odessa
 Edward Bourland, 229 Edgewood Dr., San Angelo
 Alexis A. Bowie, 2811 Lawton, Amarillo
 Wanda Heron Brown, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 113, Big Spring
 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
 Donna J. Abbott Cantwell, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 101, Big Spring
 Antonia Castillo, 206 Fuller St., Hereford
 Kendra Caston, 700 Lancaster, Big Spring
 Donald Cervantes, 1211 Lloyd, Big Spring
 Weldon Montague Cheatham, 4502 Denison, Snyder
 Cynthia Colene Cole, 2603 Lynn Dr., Big Spring
 Vanessa Conatser, 3218 Fordham, Big Spring
 Julie E. Davis, 5202 Bangor Ave. Apt. K301, Lubbock
 Betty Lou Dekeyser, 5311 Opal 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

Luthe King Blvd. Apt. 215, Big Spring
 Kenneth L. Freeman, 1401 San Andres, Odessa
 Danny Frias, 207 W. 17th St., Georgetown
 Ruby Gaitan, P.O. Box 783, Lamesa
 Carlos Garcia, 1211 S. Third St., Brownfield
 Joseph Garza Jr., 418 Ryon St., Big Spring
 James E. Gonzalez, 604 Neff St., Sweetwater
 Melissa Gonzalez, 2317 CR 220, Garden City
 Edna J. Hale, 510 Milton Ave., Brownwood
 Sharon Marquis Hanson, 1201 E. Co. Rd. 34, Big Spring
 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
 Herman Hokes, 1303 Sycamore, Big Spring
 Vanessa Dawn Hollis, 800 E. 13th St., Big Spring
 Danny Holt, 606 Caylor, Big Spring

Shameka Houston, 1905 Wasson No. 49, Big Spring
 Shauna Danielle Jenkins, 3301 40th Place, Snyder
 Sarah A. Barrow Johnson, 3402 D. State St., Big Spring
 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

Marriage Licenses:
 Stephen Allen Faith, 64, and Glenda Annette Shaffer, 68, both of Big Spring
 Jesus Armendariz, 51, and Erlinda Martinez Armendariz, 44, both of Big Spring
 Beau Eugene Chapman, 27, and Amber Shay Johnson, 27, both of Big Spring
 David Jon Wheaton, 38, and Brenda Kay Patrick, 26, both of Big Spring
 Linn Nix, 47, and Teresa Ann Liff,

54, both of Big Spring
District Court Filings:
 Amy Castillo and Andrew Duenes, protective order
 Daniel Clark and Mercedes Clark, protective order
 Tiffany Land and Adam Jones, divorce
 Bob Brock Ford vs. Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, civil
 Mercedes Clark and Daniel Clark, divorce
 Target National Bank vs. Anthony Aguilar, accounts, notes and contracts
 Target National Bank vs. Juan Ridriquez, accounts, notes and contracts
 Jennifer Horvach and Mike Horvach, protective order
 General Braynat Jr. and Monica Bryant, divorce
 In the estate of Jannie Early (deceased), civil
 Citibank N.A. vs. Juan Fernandez, accounts, notes and contracts
 Derek Moffett and Cynthia Moffett, divorce
 Susan Nino and Jose Nino, divorce
 Barney Edens and Cynthia Edens, divorce

Unemployed find old jobs now require more skills

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The jobs crisis has brought an unwelcome discovery for many unemployed Americans: Job openings in their old fields exist. Yet they no longer qualify for them.
 They're running into a trend that took root during the recession. Companies became more productive by doing more with fewer workers. Some asked staffers to take on a broader array of duties — duties that used to be spread among multiple jobs. Now, someone who hopes to get those jobs must meet the new requirements.
 As a result, some database administrators now have to manage network security. Accountants must do finan-

cial analysis to find ways to cut costs.
 Factory assembly workers need to program computers to run machinery.
 The broader responsibilities mean it's harder to fill many of the jobs that are open these days. It helps explain why many companies complain they can't find qualified people for certain jobs, even with 4.6 unemployed Americans, on average, competing for each opening. By contrast, only 1.8 people, on average, were vying for each job opening before the recession.
 The total number of job openings does remain historically low: 3.2 million, down from 4.4 million before the recession. But the number of openings has surged 37 percent in the past year. And yet

the unemployment rate has actually risen during that time. Companies still aren't finding it easy to fill job vacancies.
 Take Bayer Material-Science, a unit of Bayer. When the company sought earlier this year to hire a new health, safety and environment director for one of its plants, it wanted candidates with a wider range of abilities than before. In particular, it needed someone skilled not just in managing health and safety but also in guiding employees to adapt to workplace changes.
 Joe Bozada, chief of staff for Bayer's CEO, said the company initially interviewed 30 candidates. Then it did final interviews with seven. But none had the additional ex-

perience the company now wanted. Ultimately, Bozada said, the company chose one of its own employees it had already trained.
 That shift, across multiple industries, has caught the eye of David Altig, research director at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Workers aren't just being asked to increase their output, Altig says. They're being asked to broaden it, too.
 A company might have had three back-office jobs before the recession, Altig said. Only one of those jobs might have required computer skills. Now, he said, "one person is doing all three of those jobs — and every job you fill has to have computer skills."
 The trend is magnifying the obstacles facing the un-

employed. Economists have long worried that millions of people who have lost jobs in depressed areas like construction don't qualify for work in growing sectors like health care. But it turns out that some of the jobless no longer even qualify for their old positions.
 Frustrated in their efforts to find qualified applicants among the jobless, employers are turning to those who are already employed.
 "They're hiring a known quantity that already has this specific experience on their resume," said Cathy Farley, a managing director at Accenture. "It is slowing some of the re-hiring from the ranks of the unemployed."
 See **SKILLS**, Page 12C

NRCS urges landowners to sign up now for Conservation Stewardship Program

Special to the Herald

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting applications from Texas agricultural landowners for the next Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). The ranking period cut-off date for producer applications in the program has been extended to Jan. 7, 2011.
 "CSP supports ongoing stewardship of private agricultural lands by providing payments

for maintaining and enhancing natural resources," said Howard County NRCS District Conservationist Lee A. Knox.
 "We're extending the deadline for applications to CSP to provide agricultural producers more time to complete their applications," said Knox. "This will help farmers, ranchers and forestry producers by giving them more time and hopefully allow even more producers to participate in this pro-

gram."
 Congress limited enrollment for CSP nationally at 12.7 million acres per year. Applicants will be ranked on state-identified primary resource concerns, which in Texas are water quantity, soil erosion, plant health and condition, water quality and animal health.
 Producers are encouraged to apply for CSP now to ensure their applications will be considered during this funding and ranking

period. However, they can make their final decision to participate in the program before they sign a contract. The CSP final rule, which establishes the policies and procedures for the program was published in the Federal Register on June 3.
 CSP, authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill, offers payments to producers who maintain a high level of conservation on their land and who agree to adopt higher levels of stewardship. Eligible

lands include cropland, pastureland, rangeland and non-industrial forestland.
 CSP offers two types of potential payments — an annual payment and a supplemental payment. The annual payment will be determined by estimating the environmental benefits produced by the conservation activities a producer installs and maintains. A supplemental payment is available to participants who receive an annual

payment and adopt a resource-conserving crop rotation on cropland.
 Potential applicants are encouraged to use the CSP self-screening checklist to determine if the new program is suitable for their operation. The checklist highlights basic information about CSP eligibility requirements, contract obligations and potential payments.
 For more information, including eligibility requirements, call the USDA Service Center office in Big Spring at 267-1871 or on the NRCS Web site at www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/new_csp.

SOLONS

Continued from Page 4C

and Wildlife Department (TPWD) private lands program director, will present information about the landowner services provided by the TPWD.

For more information about the meeting, visit www.tsswcb.state.tx.us/swcds/annualmeeting or contact Davis at mdavis@tsswcb.state.tx.us or 254-773-2250.

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Would you like to get twice as much for the

dental insurance dollars that you or your employer spend? Each year the fall season should make you think of falling dental expenses for you. How can this be?

Virtually all dental insurance plans have a yearly maximum benefit



DR. DAVID WARD

which is how much they will pay in any one year. Virtually all dental insurance plans use the calendar year, Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, for this time period.

So how can you double your benefit? Go see your dentist now, while there is time to get part of your needed treatment done this year.

Dental insurance plans have done a very poor job of keeping up with the rising cost of quality dental care. Most plans have calendar year benefits of \$1,000 to \$1,500 and have for the last 30 years of so. This really won't go far if you have significant

dental problems.

It's a bad idea to put needed dental treatment off for long; it only gets more costly. Therefore, starting in the fall and finishing up in January is a great idea, but not so good in spring or summer (due to the longer waiting period).

So do you have significant dental problems? Adults who haven't seen a dentist for five years or children who haven't for one year are very likely to have significant problems even if nothing hurts. Pain comes very late in the progression of most dental problems.

You may in fact know you have problems already. If you've been advised already of problems or if they are obvious to you, then please contact your dentist soon.

Every year, people call my office in November or December who want to get a lot of treatment done before Dec. 31. Every year, our schedule stacks up due to this reason and due to holidays. So every year we have to tell people that we wish they had called in October, when there was more time.

If you or your child have not seen a dentist for a while, a thorough examination is

the first step. For children this visit is usually combined with a dental cleaning. In other words, significant treatment will likely not start when you do go to the dentist the first time. Meanwhile, the calendar pages are flying off. Don't wait. Make your dental appointment today.

Dr. David Ward practices family dentistry in Big Spring. For his past Herald articles on topics such as children's needs, sedation, implants, lasers, and orthodontics please see his website www.DavidWardDDS.com.

SMMC Senior Circle advisor honored

Special to the Herald

Scenic Mountain Medical Center has announced that Anita Cline, Senior Circle advisor, has been named

as an Advisor of the Year honoree by the Senior Circle Association, based in Franklin, Tenn.

The Senior Circle Association consists

of nearly 120 Senior Circle chapters across the United States, each with a staff advisor to organize activities and maintain membership records.

Cline has served as advisor to the Scenic Mountain Chapter of Senior Circle, based at SMMC, for most of the chapter's 11 years.

Earlier this year, the association solicited nominations from its members for Advisor of the Year.



Cline

According to Allison Ray, manager at the association's national headquarters, "We received many great nominations and would like to congratulate Anita Cline for winning one of two honorary mentions for this contest." Ray reported that nearly 20 percent of the total number of nominations re-

ceived singled out Cline for the honor.

Cline received a plaque commemorating the recognition from SMMC CEO, Larry Rodgers, at a leadership training session Friday.

"It comes as no surprise to any of us that Anita has received this much-deserved award. Our Senior Circle chapter has thrived under her guidance and she is an asset to the SMMC leadership team," said Rodgers.

The Senior Circle Association is a national, non-profit organization with a mission to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle for those 50 years old or older by providing programs that encourage continued learning, wellness, health and volunteering, coupled with a host of social activities.

To learn more about membership, go to www.smmccares.com or call Cline at (432) 268-4721.



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LETTERS

Continued from 5A

and offers other helpful information.

The League Voters Guide is also available on the League's website, www.lwvtexas.org in both English and Span-

ish. An audio version is available on request. A link on www.lwvtexas.org allows voters to enter an address, review races and ballot initiatives specific to that address and select only the candidates and issues of most interest through print or e-mail.

For 90 years the

League has been agitating and educating for informed public participation in government and believes there is no more important form of participation than informed voting!

KAREN NICHOLSON
AUSTIN

TO THE EDITOR:

In 1621, 389 years ago, in London, England, John Donne, the Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, said "Ask not for whom the bells toll. They toll for you and me!" *

The bells yet ring in Big Spring High School, Coahoma High School and Forsan High School; and with some pride and satisfaction we announce that ringing answered for the 71st consecutive year. Some of the finest and brightest convene, approaching 10 percent of all eligible students, to see the Book opened and the "Word" heard. Yes, the Good News proclaimed in Howard County high schools.

Impressive? No doubt! How would you do that for more than 70 years?

With help, of course. More than \$50,000 per year is spent on six sections at three high schools.

Some have already asked, "Why are you not 'ringing' that we may know it is time to send our help? You must know this continuing interest brightens our hearts and emboldens our very sounds.

Yours in Christ,
HAYES STRIPLING JR.
BOARD MEMBER
HOWARD COUNTY BIBLE FUND

* Quoted later without credit.

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- 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



Jim Landtroop
REPUBLICAN FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE
www.jimlandtroop.com

Political Party: REPUBLICAN
Occupation: SMALL BUSINESSMAN



Joe Heflin
www.DoWeKnowJoe.com

Political Party: INCUMBENT DEMOCRAT
Occupation: LAWYER

Supports increased funding for state and local law enforcement to secure the border.

BORDER SECURITY

Voted to allow illegal immigrants to receive taxpayer funded health insurance. Does NOT support Texas border security enforcement.
Voted against Amendment 59 to HB 1 (80R), Record Vote 231; Heritage Alliance Candidate Survey.

Pro-Life, Endorsed by Texas Alliance for Life PAC.

PROTECTING THE UNBORN

Supported taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood abortion clinics. A+ rating from pro-abortion group NARAL.
Texas Alliance for Life Primary Survey; NARAL Legislative Report Card.

Opposes Obamacare and supports Attorney General Abbott's lawsuit against the federal takeover of health care.

OBAMACARE

Did NOT sign legislator letter supporting Abbott's lawsuit against Obamacare.
March 22, 2010 Texas Conservative Coalition letter to General Abbott.

Believes federal government is spending too much, trampling states' rights, and that Texans can govern Texas better than Washington.

DEFENDING STATES' RIGHTS

Did NOT support legislation asserting states' rights under the 10th Amendment.
Unexcused absence on vote for HCR 50 (81R), Record Vote 1544, despite being present for the votes directly before and after HCR 50.

Supports Voter I.D.

VOTER I.D.

Repeatedly voted AGAINST Voter I.D.
Twice voted against HB 218 (80R), Record Votes 618 and 621; Participated in chubbing during the 81R session, preventing SB 362 (81R) from reaching the floor.

Endorsed by the Texas Association of Business.

JOB CREATION

Received FAILING grades from the Texas Association of Business and National Federation of Independent Business for voting for liberal job-killing legislation.
TAB and NFIB Legislative Report Cards.

★
EARLY VOTING:
October 18-29



Jim Landtroop
REPUBLICAN FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

★
ELECTION DAY:
November 2

806-288-0387 Pol. Adv. Paid for by Jim Landtroop Campaign, Elaine Seagler Treasurer, P.O. BOX 1965, Plainview, TX 79073-1965



My child is going
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Help complete your child's future by encouraging them to get a college degree. Call the Hispanic Scholarship Fund today at 1-877-HSF-INFO or visit **YourWordsToday.org** to learn more.

This following is a corrected version of Mary Elementary's first six-weeks A and AB honor.

Marcy Elementary School

First Six-Weeks "A" Honor Roll

First Grade: Araceli Avalos-Vanderbilt, Alexis Brock, Kylee Castillo, Colton Chappell, Alex Enriquez, Adrianna Escalera, Mathew Galaviz, Maya Gomez, Maryjane Herrera, Matamoana Maumau, Gracie Moore, Teagan Pitts, Michael Stoaks, Vanessa Viasana and Nicole Villegas.

Second Grade: Ashlin Calvio, Ramsey Campbell, Haley Cline, AnnaErwin, Quemarian Lewis, Oscar Lin, Anastasia Rodriguez, William Salazar, Autumn Varndell, Bryan Wilkins and Jaden Wood.

Third Grade: Brianna Bustamante, Marcus Cano, Micheal Christian, Diego Duenez, Robyn Evans, CristianGarrett, Trinity Galloway, Kristiana Gutierrez, Hannah Haven, Amarabi Hernandez-Garcia, Sarah Hodges, Keysi Melendez, Daniel Roberts and Chris

Viasana. Fourth Grade: McKenna Alsobrooks, Eric Arguello, Jakob Brake, Josh Crosby, Hannah Darrow, Alyssa Flores-Lopez, Victoria Frost, Marissa Hernandez, Oria Hernandez, Travis Johnson, Marivel Martinez, Kristi Ontiveros, Isaac Ortega, Hayley Rios, Luis Rios, Alanna Salinas, Thomas Scott, Shaeann Senter, Ehren Soliz and Tomas Tino.

"A-B" Honor Roll

First Grade: Andrew Alaniz, Kaitlyn Ausbie, Javarious Ford, Connor Garrett, Gatlin Granger, Justice Gray, Semaj Howard, Dawson LaFrance, Francisco Laguna, Quetavian Lewis, Skylor Malone, Kylee Mata, Joshua Mireles, Julianna Nava-Wilborn, Roman Perez, Jordan Richards, Benjamin Rios, Chelsie Sanchez, Trinity Sepeda, Shaylie Shults, Jesse Smith, Angel Torres, Zoe Valenzuela and Savanna Zarraga.

Second Grade: Katelyn Anderson, Brooklyn Ausbie, Aaron Carson, Danielle Deatherage, Adriana Flores, Kymbry Ford, Cody Foss, Malaiki Frenzel, Sarah Guzman, Jazmine Holguin, Bryson Kemper, Bradie Leuschner, Amelia Martin,

McCrary, Kelli Munoz, Tanner Ramirez, Justin Raymond, Diego Rios, Brandon Rogers, Kristelle Sanders, Bradlee Saucedo, Cameron Tradewell, Aluanna White, Alyssa White and Kilynn Winters.

Third Grade: Marissa Aguilar, Jerzey Andrae, Ezly Arredondo, Shahayla Ausbie, Brent Bills, Dulce Cedillo, Whitney Chappell, Manuel Chavarria, Stormi Cobb, Aaron Crawford, Damian Cuellar, Mariah Cuellar, Mariah Gonzalez, Jayden Gutierrez, Damian Hewtty, Keaton Hill, Callie Leicht, Layla Lugo, Nathaniel Lyon, Jarred Marquez, Kevin Martiarena, Cruz Martinez, Julian Martinez, Madyson McNeese, Villaldo Mendez, Marcus Miramontes, Valerie Olivarez, Yenifer Ornelas, Kimberly Ortega, Mikel Palaski-Reed, Tyler Phipps, Radley Rhyne, Andrew Roberts, Kayleigh Rodriguez, Jovanni Rosales, Collin Ross, Christopher Sanchez, Adrian Villa and Alex Zavala.

Fourth Grade: Muriel "Gwen" Anderson, Elias Arredondo, Bailee Bingham, Kevon Boyce, Lexsie Brehm, La Sara Cervantes, Pryce

Gibson, Shaundra Gonzales, Christopher Grisham, Maddie Hammond, C.J. Harris, Mikayla Hernandez, Oria Hernandez, Chris Ibanez, Jason Leos, Demetrio Martinez, Rocky Martginez, Kloe' Mata, Sarah Munoz, Travis Oliver, Rudy Ortega, Desiray Perez, Magali Perez, Gary Colton Redlin, Bobbie Rivera, Corey Rodriguez, Jerry Sanchez, Jihad Sanders, Ty Smith, Yazlin Talamantes, Takaila Vasquez, Grayson Winters and Keila Yanez-Castillo.

The following students were inadvertently left off the Howard County honor roll published in Thursday's edition of the Big Spring Herald.

Coahoma Elementary School

First grade "A" Honor Roll: Presley Ruiz, Logan Saverance, and Madison Scott.

Elbow Elementary School

Fifth grade "A-B" Honor Roll: D'Amberly Baldwin, Glen Burch, Tyler Burton, Nathaniel Cantu, Shelbi Carter,

Walker Cimino, Austin Darden, Sierra Darling, Ryan Davis, Loree Dello, Lexie Gee, Caleb Hernandez, Raven Holguin, Elissa Jefferson, Andy Kirkland, Alysa Le, Austin Madry, Tonie Munoz, Meagan Munsell, Desirae Pace, Brycson Pineda, Erica Roach, ColeRosenbaum, Skylar Smith, Robert Stevenson, ShaeUranga, Nathaniel Vidal, Kolby Watson and Marissa Welch.

Bauer Elementary School

First Six-Weeks "A-B" Honor Roll

First Grade: Kaley Alvey, Cody Brim, Isaac Cerda, Nataliah Clark, Angel Contreras, Abewi Delgado, Alyson Fish, Dylan Kinard, Juan Madrid, Elijah Mier, MyaMolina-Rodiriquez, Kayleigh Muniz, Olivia Ortegón, Ty Quinones, Macro Rios, Rosendo Rodriguez, Luis Ubeda and John Michael Valles.

Second Grade: Matthew Arispe, Christopher Carrillo, Rogelio Cervantes, Joseph Cuellar Sanchez, Jenifer Cypert, Theodore Diaz, Joseph Fierro, Clarissa Flores, Roger Hernandez, Riley

Jimenez, Marcus Lee, Isaiah Martinez, Naia Martinez, Pebbles Martinez, Stephen Meyer, Brandon Montemayor, Trinity Ramirez, Andrew Rodriguez, Kevin Rodriguez, Kaden Ruiz, Joshua Salazar, Andrea Sotelo and Javorion Williams.

Third Grade: Justin Beck, Megan Flores, AracelyGalvan, Maribel Gomez, Guillermo Loredó, Butch Montemayor, Richard Pena, Rocky Ramirez, Bradee Rios, Jasmine Smith, Alani Torres and Haven Valencia.

Fourth Grade: Carlos Blanco, Michael Brim, Breanna Castillo, Mercendes Castillo, Brittany Cortez, Hayley Crawford, Ray Daniel Cuellar, Kimberle Dehoyos, Andrew Estraca, Braiden Feaster, Adrian Flores, Abraham Gonzales, Arianna Gonzalez, Jason Lopez, Cordero Martinez, Marvin Martinez, Brianna Mendez, Trinity Newton, Michael Phillips, Summer Quillen, Olivia Ramirez, Sady Ramirez, Alexis Starr, Thomas Valbuena, Timothy Valencia, Janeigh Vanderbilt and Monica Wolever.

The *Big Spring Herald* supports all local and area schools and wishes them the best in all their endeavors

BIG SPRING HERALD



When foster children are bounced around, they can end up feeling homeless. Having their lives repeatedly uprooted leaves these children feeling alone and unwanted. As a CASA volunteer, you can help ensure they'll have a safe, permanent home where they can thrive. Help now at www.casawtx.org or 877-316-8346.



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One Year Anniversary!

Tuesday, October 19
5:30 - 7:30 pm

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- * Investment, Mortgage and Small Business Loan Specialists will be available

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Announcements

WOODEN PALLETS ONLY in back of Big Spring Herald Building (710 Scurry) **FREE** to anyone willing to take them.

CONCEALED HANDGUN CLASS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2010 CONTACT TOMMY SCOTT, (432)394-4492.


Business Opportunity
WESTERN BANCSHARES, Inc. common stock for sale; \$35 per share. Call Cully Lipsey (979)314-1172.

Cemetery Lots
TRINITY MEMORIAL- Olivet, Lot 293 Space 3 & 4. \$1840.00. Call 806-928-6656.

Garage Sales
CARPORTS 18X21- \$695.00 Plus Tax. Installed on your lot Free, other sizes and colors available Bargain Barn. 508 West 3rd. (432)268-9986.

Want to Buy
WANT to Buy- 2 or 3 Bedroom Mobile Home or Camper Trailer. Call 432-263-6292.

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E.O.E.

Help Wanted
AMERICAN STATE bank is seeking a self-motivated employee with excellent sales, communications, and customer service skills to work a flexible part-time teller schedule. Credit and criminal checks are part of our application process. Apply at 1411 Gregg Street.
BELL RINGERS needed for Salvation Army. Seasonal. Come by 811 West 5th Street. M-F 9am-4pm. No Phone Calls Please.
LOCAL SALVAGE yard accepting applications and hiring for a parts puller and a dismantler. Must have own tools. Fill out application at Westex Auto Parts, 1511 Hwy 350 in Big Spring.

Help Wanted

CITY OF BIG SPRING
Communications Officer
Heavy Equipment Operator - Landfill
Cemetery Maintenance Worker
For more information go to www.mybigspring.com, or apply in person in the Human Resources Office located at 310 Nolan. (432)264-2346.

DELIVERY DRIVER needed for Big Spring/Midland/Odessa route. Clean driving record & drug screen required. Submit resume to: PO Box 3462, Big Spring, TX 79721.

DRIVERS WANTED. Find out why our average length of driver employment is 9 years. Reagent Chemical, a family owned company is dedicated to providing great service to our customers and taking care of our employees, is currently hiring professional drivers in Stanton, Texas. Requirements include Class A CDL with Tank and Hazmat endorsements. Minimum of 2 years driving or 1 year tanker experience. Paid weekly by check or direct deposit. Benefits include family health & dental insurance with no premium contribution by the employee. 401K with company match plus profit sharing. Company paid life insurance, short and long term disability, additional life and disability is available thru group coverage. Up to 10 days vacation starting first year plus 10 paid holidays. Uniforms provided. Call 432-458-3446 or 432-661-4079.

EZ PAWN, Now Hiring 2 Full time & 1 Part Time Sales and Loan Representatives. Must have High School/GED, pass background & drug test. Apply online at www.ezpawnjobs.com

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DUE TO our growth, we have a continuing need in our Big Spring field office for:

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To learn more about specific opportunities, visit our Big Spring location at:
Basic Energy Services
2206 North Highway 87



Big Spring, Texas 79721
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Drug Free Environment

ERATH IRON and Metal is looking for experienced yard hands and office help. Contact Nate (432)268-1512 or stop by 3608 N. Hwy 87 for application.

FARM HAND Wanted! Experience only apply. \$500.00 Weekly. Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

FULL TIME BOOKKEEPER needed in local CPA Firm. Prior bookkeeping and payroll tax experience a must. Accounting degree and QuickBooks experience a PLUS, but not mandatory. PO Box 949
Big Spring, TX 79721

OVER-THE-ROAD HAZMAT license Driver needed. Good Home Time. Call Nichols Trucking @ (432)816-1682.

Help Wanted

IMMEDIATE OPENING for Church Custodian. Applications available at First Baptist Church 201 South Avenue Coahoma, TX from 8AM-2PM Monday - Thursday.

LINEMEN/FOREMAN/EQUIPMENT OPERATOR WANTED, must have CDL. Apply at TESSCO 3217 E. FM 700 between 8am-4pm or call 432-263-0633.

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Established operator in Post TX is seeking an experienced gang pusher or roustabout with sufficient experience to become gang pusher. Must live close to Post. Competitive pay and attractive benefits; relocation help provided. Subject to background check and drug test. Qualified candidates should immediately send email to employment@hyperionoil.com.

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Individual needed to expand our business through Outside Area Sales in the Snyder/Big Spring area. Preferred candidate should have a minimum of 2 years of sales experience in the Petroleum industry including Fuel and Lubricants. Some travel is required. We offer competitive pay and excellent benefits. Qualified candidate should submit resumes to openjobs@scfuels.com or submit resumes to SC Fuels -
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MR Direct Care: Responsible for training clients in work and social related skills. Required to work varied hours as necessary to meet individual's needs/schedules. Performs homemaking and respite services. Provides Residential Support Services, Support Housing Living, or Respite Services in compliance with HCS or ICF standards and in compliance with Texas Department of Health Standards part-time and full time positions. \$8.20 an hr (\$655.85 bi weekly \$17,052 annually) Salary Dependent on experience.

MR Residential Support Tech: Provides Residential Services to individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities in a residential setting. Services will be provided within the community and in the person's home. Responsibilities include providing training, supervision, and/or support in the areas of: self-help, independent living, community participation and involvement, social and peer development, financial management, and health maintenance. Staff may share responsibilities with other staff or may work independently of other staff to provide daily supervision, care and training of individuals in their care. Required to work flexible hours and may be required to work rotating shifts. Salary \$8.20-\$8.75 per hr (\$655.85-\$699.99 bi weekly \$17,052-\$18,192 annually). Salary Dependent on Experience.

Mental Health Counselor: This position will be responsible for providing a combination of both intake eligibility assessments and counseling duties. Duties of the position will require routine interactions with individuals with mental illness and their families to complete eligibility assessments on new and returning clients. This position will be responsible for completing diagnostic assessments and making level of care recommendations. This position will also be responsible for providing Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to an individual, group, or family, depending on assignment. Must be licensed by the State of Texas as an LPC, LCSW, LMFT. Travel required within service area. Employee will participate on Crisis Consult Rotation by phone, providing support to Crisis Duty Staff & authorizing options for interventions. Must have a valid Texas driver's license \$19.79 hr \$1583.04 bi weekly \$41,160.00 annually.

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

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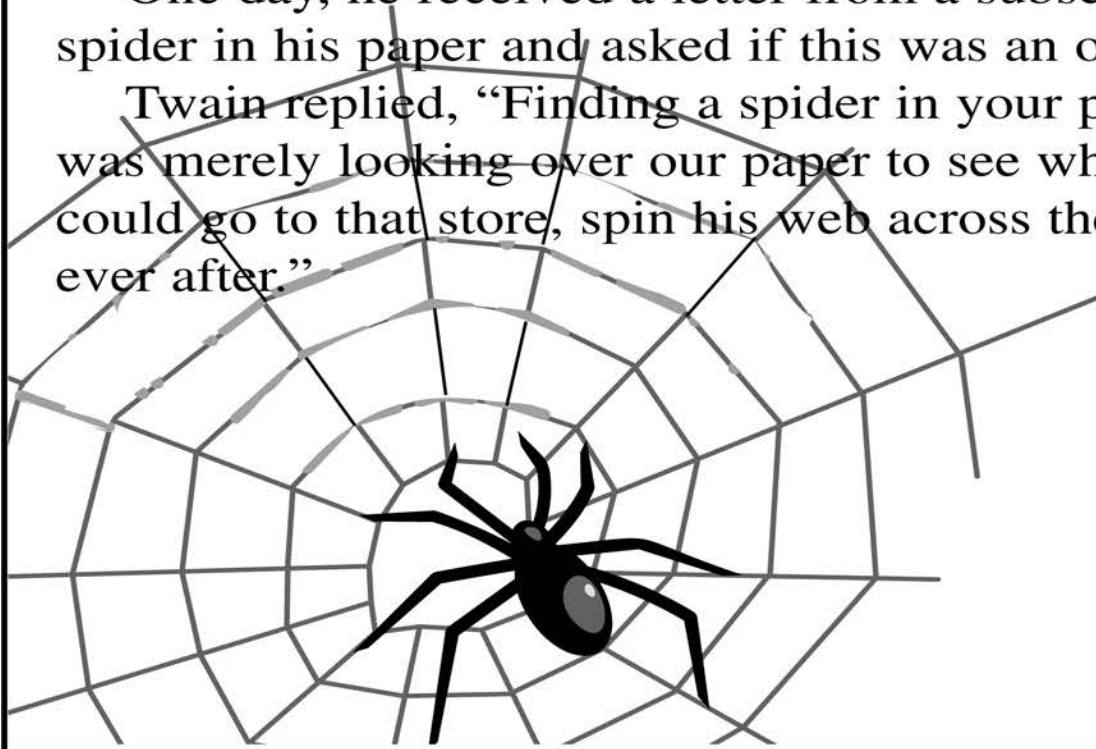
212048

The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."



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Advertise to keep the spider away from your door.
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Annie's Mailbox®

Dear Annie: My 27-year-old son broke up with his 23-year-old girlfriend after a three-month relationship that was largely based on sex.

Six weeks after the breakup, the girl announced that she was pregnant.

My son is sure that he is the father, but marriage is not in the picture.

Here's the sad part: This girl has had rheumatoid arthritis since she was 10 years old and is on disability.

She does not work, attend school or care for herself in any capacity. She is unable to lift 10 pounds or cut her own food.

However, she is quite capable of drinking beer, smoking and singing in karaoke bars. She's been told that her disease will go into remission during pregnancy, but will return in spades once she delivers, making it necessary for her to have 24/7 assistance.

This girl has had at least one abortion

before, and we are now aware of past drug abuse.

All tests show the baby to be healthy. My son does not feel that either of them could offer this child a good life, and he would like to pursue open adoption.

The ex-girlfriend, however, is adamant that friends and family will help her raise the baby.

I am beside myself with concern for my son and his unborn child. What is our next step?
— *A Concerned Mother*

Dear Mother: You cannot force the ex to give up the baby for adoption, even if it would be in everyone's best interests.

Your son will be obligated to pay child support, like it or not.

He doesn't have to marry the ex-girlfriend or assist in her care, but we hope he will take an interest in his child.

Please have your son seek legal counsel to iron out the details about support payments and visitation, and put

them in writing.

Dear Annie: Shortly after my wedding, I sent thank-you notes. Unfortunately, I mixed up two of the cards and ended up thanking the recipients for the wrong present.

Upon returning from the honeymoon, I found a message on my voice mail from a friend who was very upset.

"I didn't send you a salad bowl," she said, and then proceeded to tell me how rude and thoughtless I was.

However, she still didn't say what her gift was, and the person who actually sent the salad bowl has never contacted me.

I called to explain the mix-up and apologized profusely, but she hung



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

up and won't speak to me.

My husband says she is the rude one and I should forget about it.

I feel terrible about the possible loss of this friendship due to an honest mistake. Is there anything I can do to make this right? — *Baffled Bride*

Dear Bride: Your husband is right. This friend apparently believes she's too special to be the victim of an error.

It's also possible something else is going on in her life and she is simply lashing out in your direction.

You could send her a sincere note of apology and ask a mutual friend to intercede, but beyond that, it's up to her.

Dear Annie: You did the right thing by suggesting "Mourning in Massachusetts" refer her sister to Alcoholics Anonymous. Unfortunately, the website you put in your column was incorrect. Please tell your readers it should be aa.org. — *Burlington, Vt.*

Dear Burlington: Thank you and all the other bright-eyed readers who caught that mistake. Alcoholics Anonymous can be found at aa.org, or you can write them at A.A. World Services, Inc., P.O. Box 459, New York, NY 10163. Our apologies.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox

and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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News in brief

Obama looks to rally Democrats

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama has a warning for Democrats: Even in the most reliably liberal states, no candidate is guaranteed a victory in this volatile election season.

Obama was heading to Boston on Saturday to headline a rally and fundraiser for Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick, his longtime friend and political ally. Republicans have tried to use Patrick's close relationship with the president to unseat the governor, who is seeking a second term.

Less than three weeks before the Nov. 2 elections, Obama is campaigning coast to coast, raising money for candidates and looking to energize Democratic voters, whose enthusiasm has waned since the 2008 election. While the White House says it still believes Democrats will retain control of the House and Senate, a sputtering economy leaves the political climate perilous for the president's party.

During a stop Friday in Delaware, a left-leaning state where Democratic Senate candidate Chris Coons holds a solid lead over tea party-backed Republican Christine O'Donnell, Obama said no outcomes should be taken for granted.

"There is no doubt this is a difficult election," Obama said. "This is a tough political environment."

Obama calls for end to tax breaks to end overseas hiring

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is renewing his call for Congress to close tax breaks that reward some U.S. companies with overseas subsidiaries, a proposal that has raised concerns among some lawmakers in the president's own party.

In his weekly radio and online address, Obama said the tax breaks encourage companies to create jobs and profits in other countries.

"There is no reason why our tax code should actively reward them for creating jobs overseas," Obama said. "Instead, we should be using our tax dollars to reward companies that create jobs and businesses within our borders."

At issue is a bill that stalled in the Senate last month that would end some tax credits and deferrals for U.S. companies for operations overseas.

Though Obama singled out Republican opposition, the bill also failed to get support from some Democrats, including Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., who expressed concern that change would put the U.S. at a competitive disadvantage.

The ending of the tax loopholes has been opposed by business groups, including the National Association of Manufacturers.

Obama said that while companies that conduct business internationally do make an important contribution to the

U.S. economy, it doesn't make sense to grant them tax breaks when companies at home are struggling.

Peril, potential as tea party reshapes political landscape

AURORA, Colo. (AP) — Colorado Republicans are hosting a campaign tea party this fall, for better or worse.

Or maybe for better and worse, in a jarring demonstration of the potential and peril generated by a political movement responsible for reshaping the 2010 election season.

One statewide nominee, Ken Buck, won the primary with the support of tea party activists and is a modest favorite to defeat appointed Democratic Sen. Michael Bennet. He enjoys the full backing of the Republican Party, and the groups aligned with it are pouring millions into television ads to help him.

The other, Dan Maes, went into a political nosedive soon after his surprise victory in the gubernatorial primary and has yet to recover. His personal credibility challenged, he's been labeled an embarrassment by the state party chairman and overshadowed by a third-party contender.

Tea party activists in Colorado "provided much of the passion for the primaries on Aug. 10," said Floyd Ciruli, a Denver pollster.

At the same time,

"they have changed what it means to be conservative" with their eagerness to recommend changes to Social Security and calls for shuttering federal departments.

That willingness, in turn, nourishes a Democratic strategy of labeling Buck and others as extremists, part of a nationwide strategy aimed at persuading voters to look past economic woes when voting this fall.

U.S. eyes programs to help clean infected computers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government is reviewing an Australian program that will allow Internet service providers to alert customers if their computers are taken over by hackers and could limit online access if people don't fix the problem.

Obama administra-

tion officials have been meeting with industry leaders and experts to find ways to increase online safety, as they try to strike a balance between securing the Internet and guarding Americans' privacy and civil liberties.

Cyber experts and U.S. officials are interested in portions of the plan, slated to go into effect in Australia in December. But any move toward Internet regulation or monitoring by the U.S. government or industry could trigger fierce opposition from the public.

The discussions come as private, corporate and government computers across the U.S. are increasingly being taken over and exploited by hackers and other computer criminals.

White House cyber coordinator Howard Schmidt told The Associated Press that the U.S. is looking at a number of voluntary ways

to help the public and small businesses better protect themselves online.

Clinton says U.S. committed to ending Mexico's drug violence

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton reiterated her support Friday for ending Mexico's drug violence, saying it was in the United States' interest to crack down on drug cartels that have begun behaving more like terrorists and insurgent groups.

Clinton told a sold-out meeting of the nonpartisan Commonwealth Club in San Francisco that she was surprised comments she made last month comparing Mexico to Colombia

during its past cocaine wars were critically received.

"This is one of the most difficult fights that any country faces today. We saw it over the last couple of decades in Colombia," she said. "We are watching drug traffickers undermine and corrupt governments in Central America, and we are watching the brutality and barbarity of their assaults on governors and mayors, the press, as well as each other, in Mexico."

Similar remarks Clinton made before the Council on Foreign Relations prompted President Barack Obama, among others, to say that Mexico was in much better shape politically and economically than Colombia was during the 1980s.

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ENTRY FORM IN WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY EDITION OF THE BIG SPRING HERALD

051422

News in brief

Mission man sentenced in kidnapping

McALLEN (AP) — A 26-year-old Mission man has been sentenced to more than 19 years in prison for taking a McAllen businessman hostage in January 2008.

Once Domingo Lara III is released from prison, he will be ordered to serve a five-year-term of supervised release and pay \$101,000 in restitution. U.S. District Judge Randy Crane handed down the sentence Friday.

Lara was charged with kidnapping, accused of detaining and threatening to kill a McAllen businessman to make his family pay a ransom. The court noted that Lara had been responsible for collecting the ransom.

Lara pleaded guilty in January.

Three others have pleaded guilty and were sentenced earlier in the kidnapping.

The hostage was released with minor injuries after the ransom was paid.

No one injured when pilot forced to crash-land

GALVESTON (AP) — A pilot walked away unhurt after his single-engine aircraft landed on its belly at a Galveston airport.

The Houston Chronicle reported that the pilot told the tower at Scholes International Airport shortly before 2:30 p.m. Friday that his landing gear had failed and that he had to make an emergency landing.

Department of Public Safety Trooper Mike Gonzales said the single-engine model 1738 Bellanca landed on its belly shortly before 3 p.m. Galveston firefighters extinguished a small fire.

The pilot, whose name was not immediately available, had taken off from Scholes about an hour earlier.

No one was injured.

Beaumont man pleads guilty to bank robbery

BEAUMONT (AP) — A 32-year-old Beaumont man has pleaded guilty to bank robbery in federal court.

U.S. Attorney John M. Bales said Donald Ray Slaughter pleaded guilty to bank robbery and possession of a firearm during a violent crime before U.S. District Judge Marcia Crone on Friday.

Officials said Slaughter entered a Bank of America on July 10 armed with a gun, wearing a baseball cap and using a bandanna to disguise his face. He demanded cash and fled with \$6,800.

He was arrested six days later after trying to flee officers.

Slaughter faces up to 25 years for the bank robbery charge and up to five years for the firearms violation. A sentencing date has not been set.

Lufkin man sentenced in child porn case

BEAUMONT (AP) — A 59-year-old man was given more than eight years in prison on a charge of possession of child pornography.

U.S. District Judge Marcia Crone sentenced Philip Charles Taylor on Friday. Taylor pleaded guilty in May.

Law-enforcement officials received information in January that Taylor was watching child porn in a Lufkin motel room with at least one child present.

Officials said officers received consent to search Taylor's computer and several DVDs and discovered nine videos of minors involved in sexually explicit conduct. Some of the videos depicted children less than 12 years of age engaged in sadistic or masochistic conduct.

Possible explosive device in boy's backpack

HARLINGEN (AP) — A 46-year-old South Texas man accused of placing a possible explosive device in a boy's backpack has been arrested.

Dedrick Alexander Thompson was being held in the Harlingen city jail Friday on charges of endangering a child and having a prohibited weapon. It was not immediately clear if he had an attorney.

Harlingen Police Sgt. John Parrish said officers found another possibly explosive device in Thompson's apartment.

The Valley Morning Star reports that a man placed a suspicious object in an 11-year-old's backpack after the child got off the school bus Thursday.

Once the scared boy got home, his uncle threw the object in the front yard and called authorities. The Brownsville police bomb squad responded and the area was temporarily evacuated.

No one was injured.

TI opens first plant in China

DALLAS (AP) — Texas Instruments Inc. said Friday it opened its first semiconductor-making plant in China, near a growing segment of the company's customers.

TI bought the wafer-fabrication facility in the Chengdu high-tech zone from Cension Semiconductor Manufacturing Co.

The company said the facility could turn out more than \$1 billion in annual production of analog chips and has room for expansion.

Gregg Lowe, TI's senior vice president for analog, said Chinese customers are increasingly using its analog chips in electronics.

Shares of Texas Instruments rose 41 cents to \$28.72 in trading Friday.

No injuries in bank robbery

WAXAHACHIE (AP) — Waxahachie police say

two employees at a bank were locked in a vault while a man robbed a bank and then fled.

Vintage Bank was robbed about 7 a.m. Friday. The Dallas Morning News reports that when police first arrived, they thought the robber might have still been in the bank and a SWAT team was sent to the scene.

When officers entered the bank at about 9 a.m., only the two employees were there. Police chief Charles "Chuck" Edge said that neither woman was hurt.

The school district said an elementary school a few blocks from the bank was locked down for a couple hours on Friday as a precaution, as were all of the schools in the district.

U.S. rig count decreases by 1

HOUSTON (AP) — The number of rigs actively exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. decreased by one this week to 1,670.

Houston-based Baker Hughes Inc. said Friday that 966 rigs were exploring for natural gas and 695 for oil. Nine were listed as miscellaneous. A year ago this week, the rig count stood at 1,040.

Of the major oil- and gas-producing states, Texas lost the most rigs at 12; Alaska, Arkansas and Louisiana each lost two and New Mexico and West Virginia dropped one each. Oklahoma gained nine rigs, Pennsylvania and Colorado each gained two and California, North Dakota and Wyoming each increased by one.

Restaurant turns away veterans over dress code

DALLAS (AP) — The manager of a Dallas restaurant is apologizing after a hostess turned away six World War II veterans because she said their unit baseball caps, POW T-shirts and shorts didn't meet the restaurant's dress code.

Jay Coberly, a 93-year-old veteran, tells The Dallas Morning News, "We weren't dressed like hobos. We were just dressed comfortably."

The veterans were in town this week for a reunion of survivors of a World War II battle on Oct. 14, 1943 known as "Black Thursday" when they were turned away from Wolfgang Puck's Five Sixty restaurant, located in a rotating dining room atop Reunion Tower.

The restaurant's manager has sent the group two bottles of Scotch, a written apology and an invitation to return to the restaurant.

2 Houston cab drivers killed

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police say that two cab drivers were robbed and shot to death this week by passengers picked up from the same gas station after it had closed for the night.

Investigators, who say there's no doubt the crimes are related, are looking for a pair of gunmen who were working together in both slayings.

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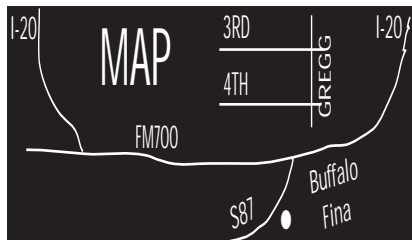
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Loaded Baked Potato **\$5.89**
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Ham & Cheese Sandwich **\$3.99**
Ham & Cheese Club Sandwich **\$4.39**
Hand Breaded Chicken Fry With Homemade French Fries And Salad **\$7.99**



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How to succeed as a small business owner

(Family Features) Michelle Binks has always had an entrepreneurial spirit. A move to a new city provided her a chance to start her own consulting business, building from the experience she received from her employment in large human resource departments.

"Starting my company was not a tough decision, it was learning how to maintain and grow my company to where I wanted it to be that I needed help with," said Binks, president and owner of HR Consulting Solutions.

Binks was not alone in needing help. The Small Business Administration says 50 percent of all small businesses fail within the first five years. But, according to a Dun and Bradstreet study, 90 percent of successful businesses say they sought out expert help.

Binks found that help through the Business Accelerator Program, a free program provided by American Family Insurance that uses nationally recognized small business experts to help small business owners succeed.

"What's great about the Business Accelerator Program is the specific-

ity it provides for individual companies," said Binks. "When starting my business, I didn't realize the huge importance of sales and marketing, but the Business Accelerator experts worked with me personally and covered these areas in a way that I could apply to my business and make a difference to my bottom line."

She is just one small business owner who has seen the positive growth in their business because of the program.

"Entrepreneurs face new challenges every day," said Bob Wright, Business Institute founder and Business Accelerator career coach.

"Overdue payments, materials that don't arrive on time, employees who don't show up for work, and more. It's easy to feel daunted and become paralyzed. Often, just taking one small step in the right direction will get things moving to really take off. The Business Accelerator program is a great step that will provide business owners the tools to make those little changes that can immediately make a difference in their business."

The Business Accelerator program experts offer these tips to help small business owners make those changes to better their business:

- **Target your Audience** — It's tempting to try a little bit of every type of advertising that's offered to you. But with limited budgets, entrepreneurs end up with a tiny presence in each. Instead, select a few mediums that really reach your target audience and that you can afford to establish a presence in by using frequency and larger visuals.

- **Set Goals** — What is your higher purpose for being a small business owner? What matters most to you? Write down your answers and keep them close at hand. Share them with your business partners, allies and friends. Remind yourself of them when you pick up the phone, when you face rejection, when you squeeze in another sales call on the way to pick up the kids.

- **Sell Hope First** — Many sales professionals make the mistake of getting caught up in trying to sell the features and dimensions of their product first — rather



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

than engaging with the customer around their hopes and dreams, about what they hope to accomplish. It's important to understand the bigger picture in posi-

tioning yourself with a client and in the marketplace.

To find out more about the Business Accelerator program, visit www.amfambusinessaccelerator.com

amfambusinessaccelerator.com

Source: American Family Insurance

Tomorrow's Horoscope

With the Libra sun and Mercury so close together, communication flows in an effortless, artful manner. Under the current astrological influences, one of the most immediate and telling forms of expression is the language of clothing. Success depends on paying attention to the messages sent out by your "threads."

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Though you do have reserves of strength inside you that you have yet to tap, you also have more resources outside you than you could ever use in your lifetime. Ask for help, and you'll get a taste of this.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Childhood friendships and sibling relationships will influence your current projects and how you think about them. Family is well meaning but may not have the experience necessary to give you the best advice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You can inspire people without dominating them — it's a forte of yours now. You'll be put in charge of something important precisely because you do this so well.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your needs have changed, and you are still learning how to accommodate your new situation. Think of your schedule as a work in progress. Try not to be too rigid, and leave plenty of time for goofing off.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's much to gain, but you have to engage 100 percent in order to acquire it. Potential partners want to feel that you are fully committed. It will be worthwhile to sacrifice some of your freedom in order to accomplish this.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your friends will help you when you need them the most. In the meantime, you have a policy not to bother anyone with trifling matters. Because of this, you'll be well respected.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's one of those times when the best way to deal with problems is to ignore them. By tomorrow, some of the problem will have fixed itself. And whatever is left over can

then be easily dealt with head on.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have a right to share your feelings and to ask questions, even in new arenas. One who makes you feel otherwise is trying to control you. Stand up for yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You may be putting way too much effort and importance on an unnecessary detail. Asking for the opinions and insights of those around you, especially mentor types, will be very helpful.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When the world seems confusing, you sort things out logically. And though it seems quite natural for you to do this, this skill is not innate in all humans. You'll use the talent to help someone today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Someone wants to give you a responsibility but isn't used to asking for help. You'll have to offer your assistance several times before this person understands that you are really sincere.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are still getting to know an acquaintance, finding out tidbits along the way. It's so much more fun to let the mystery slowly unfold. Also, someone will hear about your talents and see you in a whole new light.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 17). You sincerely wish and work for other people's happiness, and that's how you find your own. Sportsmanship and teamwork bring success. An investment pays in November. There's a welcome surprise in your personal life in January. March is your chance to explore your talent in a new arena. Love signs are Capricorn and Sagittarius. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 20, 3, 11 and 17.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: Scorpio energy is often misunderstood. As the sign of death and regeneration, the handling of serious matters can be a mundane task for this highly capable sign. The phrase associated with Scorpio is "I desire." And while this is a fitting state-

ment for a sign that's about knowing very clearly what to want, I also think Scorpio energy says, "Whatever it is, I can handle it," in the way a seasoned doctor is no longer fazed by the internal workings of the human body. The fearlessness comes from experience and also from an unequivocal acceptance of reality. Scorpio energy is often described as being intense and passionate, and yet there is nothing too big and outrageous about the way this energy operates. When we embrace honesty and seek the truth, the ensuing action resonates with a high level of intensity. When we are not impeded by falsehood or defrayed by having to please anyone, the magnetism gets turned up. That's what Scorpio transits are all about — helping us face and accept the bare-bones truth. This week, first Mercury slips into Scorpio on Oct. 20, and then the sun follows on Oct. 22.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Grammy- and Oscar-winning rapper, producer and actor Eminem is a Libra born under an Aquarius moon. This harmonious arrangement is both artistic and innovative, as Aquarius lunar energy inspires boundary pushing and the opening of new creative channels. Both Venus and Mars in Scorpio indicate depth, intensity and a talent for walking the line between passion and rage.

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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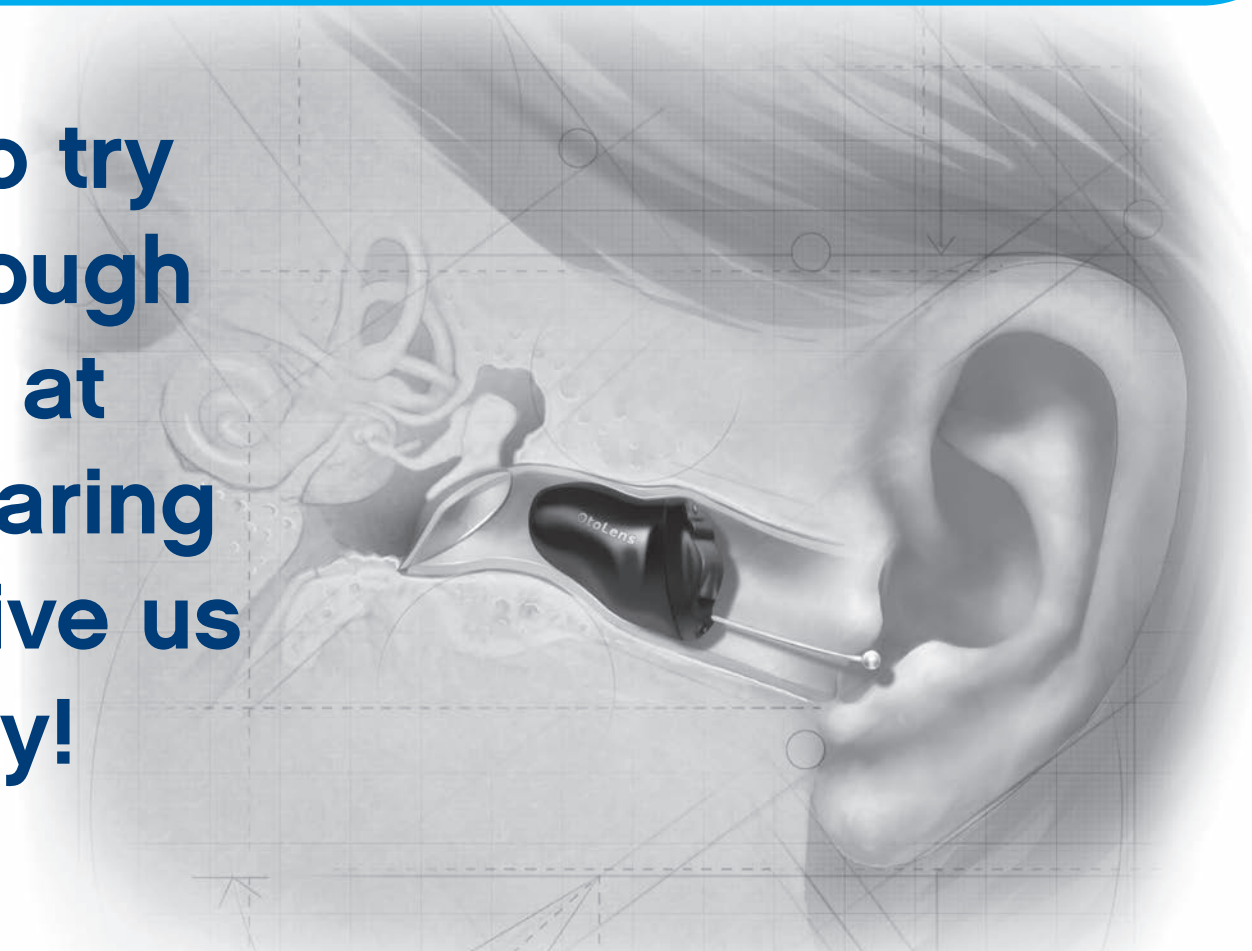
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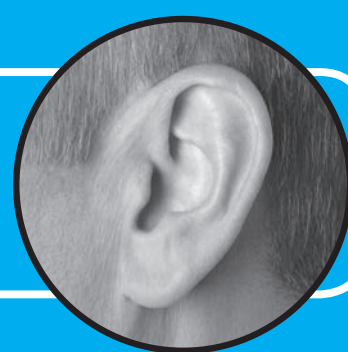
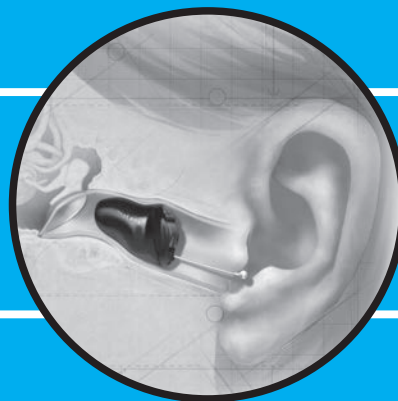
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Take note

• A fund has been established at Citizen's Credit Union for the Lupe Chavarria family, who lost all of their possessions in a recent house fire. For more information, contact the credit union at 267-6373.

• Local resident Gale Pittman is planning to decorate a Christmas tree for the Heritage Museum Christmas Tree Forest in honor and memory of service men and women now on active duty and those who gave their lives for their country. The loved one does not need to be from Big Spring and it does not matter what war they fought in. Families should send information on their service man or woman to Gale Pittman, 3401 Sherrod Rd., Big Spring 79720.

• Do you have a minute? An hour? How about making a difference in someone's life? Become a hospice volunteer. If interested, please call Michelle Coutermarsh, at Compass Hospice, 263-5999 or apply in person at 1003 E. FM 700 in Big Spring.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Bring this note when you join and receive a box of Weight Watchers snacks through Oct. 31. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

• English as a Second Language (ESL) and computer sessions at the Northside Community Center are held during the day and evening on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Class sessions are from 10 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, call 263-2673.

• Big Spring Band Boosters meet the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the BSHS Band Hall.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound elderly in Big Spring. If you can donate at least one hour a week, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016 and leave a

message.

• 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.

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We currently have 55 children in foster care without a volunteer. We need your help. A class is forming in Howard County and we need at least 27 volunteers to fill this need. Contact Suzy Milliken at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

• Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment.

For more information, call 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

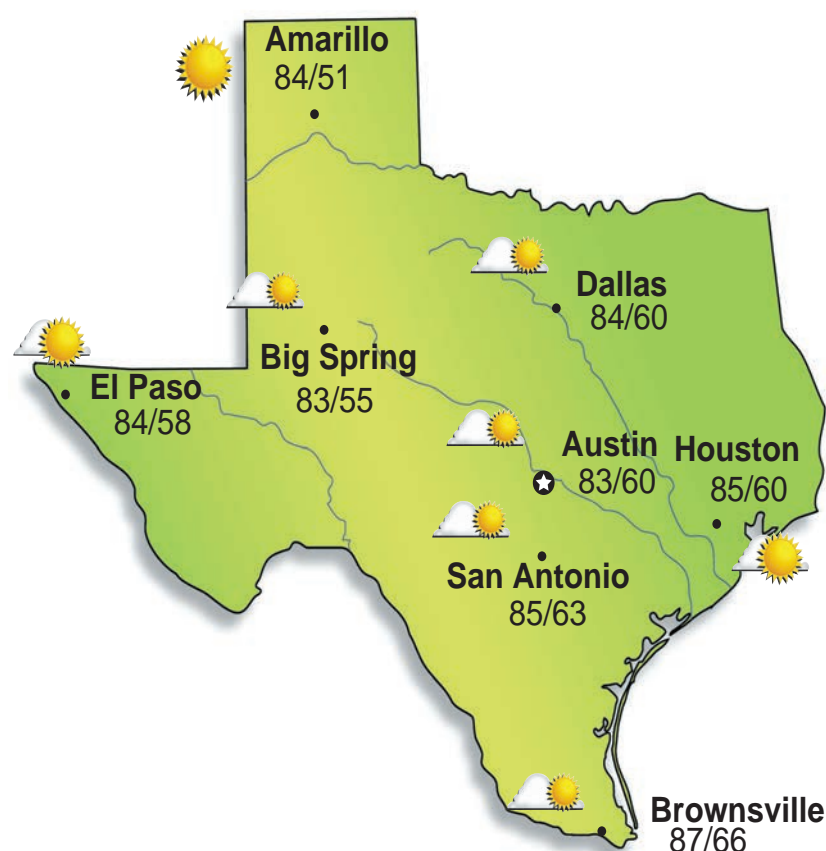
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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sun 10/17	Mon 10/18	Tue 10/19	Wed 10/20	Thu 10/21
83/55	86/55	73/50	74/54	72/55
Partly cloudy. High 83F. Winds SSE at 10 to 15 mph.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	A few clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.	Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 50s.
Sunrise 7:51 AM Sunset 7:11 PM	Sunrise 7:52 AM Sunset 7:10 PM	Sunrise 7:53 AM Sunset 7:09 PM	Sunrise 7:53 AM Sunset 7:08 PM	Sunrise 7:54 AM Sunset 7:07 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	84	59	pt sunny	El Paso	84	58	mst sunny	Midland	86	57	pt sunny
Amarillo	84	51	sunny	Fort Stockton	87	57	pt sunny	Raymondville	89	64	pt sunny
Austin	83	60	pt sunny	Gainesville	83	57	mst sunny	Rosenberg	85	60	mst sunny
Beaumont	85	58	sunny	Greenville	83	57	pt sunny	San Antonio	85	63	pt sunny
Brownsville	87	66	pt sunny	Houston	85	60	mst sunny	San Marcos	84	60	pt sunny
Brownwood	85	58	mst sunny	Kingsville	87	64	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	84	59	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	84	66	pt sunny	Livingston	85	54	sunny	Sweetwater	83	57	pt sunny
Corsicana	83	58	sunny	Longview	85	56	sunny	Tyler	84	56	sunny
Dallas	84	60	pt sunny	Lubbock	85	51	mst sunny	Weatherford	82	58	pt sunny
Del Rio	86	60	pt sunny	Lufkin	86	55	sunny	Wichita Falls	84	57	mst sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	79	47	sunny	Houston	85	60	mst sunny	Phoenix	87	67	pt sunny
Boston	65	42	sunny	Los Angeles	66	57	cloudy	San Francisco	65	56	rain
Chicago	65	44	sunny	Miami	85	69	pt sunny	Seattle	58	41	sunny
Dallas	84	60	pt sunny	Minneapolis	58	42	cloudy	St. Louis	77	52	sunny
Denver	73	45	pt sunny	New York	68	48	sunny	Washington, DC	75	50	sunny

Moon Phases



UV Index

Sun 10/17	Mon 10/18	Tue 10/19	Wed 10/20	Thu 10/21
7	7	7	7	6
High	High	High	High	High

The UV Index is measured on a 0-11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

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OCTOBER - 23

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SHE TOOK CONTROL OF HER LIFE

Surgical Weight Loss Information Seminar

Free bariatric seminar presented by Dr. Fath and the Surgical Weight Loss Center at ORMC. RSVP not required. Dr. Fath will discuss the three different surgical weight loss procedures that he performs laparoscopically.

Wednesday, October 20th at 6:00 p.m.
in the Dora Roberts Community Center
100 Whipkey Dr., Big Spring, TX

ORMC
Odessa Regional
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432-582-8704 • odessaregionalmedicalcenter.com

Surgical Weight
Loss Center
at Odessa Regional Medical Center

SKILLS

Continued from Page 5C

Only 49 percent of people laid off from 2007 through 2009 were re-employed by January 2010, according to a Labor Department survey. It's the lowest such proportion since the survey began in 1984.

And more than 40 percent of the nearly 15 million unemployed Americans have been out of work for six months or longer. That's near the record high set during the recession.

Some of the unfortunate ones are information technology workers. One reason is that tech companies are increasingly combining business analyst and systems analyst positions.

Suppose a company wants a new software application. A business analyst would seek the least expensive approach and then propose the technical requirements. Separately, a systems analyst would build the technology.

But now, employers want "those two skill sets in one human being," said Harry Griendling, chief executive of DoubleStar Inc., a staffing firm outside Philadelphia.

The trend reflects the push that companies made during the recession to control costs, squeeze more output from their staffs and become more productive. Productivity measures output per hour worked. Economy-wide, it soared 3.5 percent last year. It was the best performance in six years.

And it means workers are bearing heavier burdens. In manufacturing, employees increasingly must be able to run the computerized machinery that dominates most assembly lines. They also have to carry out additional tasks, such as inspecting finished products, notes Mark Tomlinson, executive director of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

Manufacturers advertised nearly 200,000 jobs at the end of August,

a jump of about 40 percent from a year ago, according to government data. Yet hiring by manufacturers has risen less than 6 percent over that time — evidence that they are having a hard time finding qualified workers.

"There are jobs available, but the worker just has to have more skills than before," Tomlinson said.

Bob Brown, 49, has felt the demand for broader skills firsthand. After working for 30 years in manufacturing, including 20 as a plant supervisor, Brown was laid off in July 2009.

He spent a year looking for a new job. His efforts yielded only three calls from employers in the first four months.

But once things began to pick up, Brown noticed something else: The plant manager jobs he used to have, and that he was aiming for again, all required certifications in productivity-boosting management practices.

So Brown paid for courses at a community college to learn a management strategy known as "six sigma." It's an approach to cutting waste and raising efficiency popularized by General Electric. The courses allowed him to obtain his certification. In August, he was hired by an electrical product assembly plant near Williamsport, Penn.

"That's the way the industry's going," Brown said. "Everybody wanted certifications."

Human resource specialists say employers who increasingly need multi-skilled employees aren't willing to settle for less. They'd rather wait and hold jobs vacant.

HR specialists even have a nickname for the highly sought but elusive job candidate whose skills and experiences precisely match an employer's needs: the "purple squirrel."

"There are lots of requests for purple squirrels nowadays," said Joe Yesulaitis, chief executive of Aavalor Consulting, an IT staffing firm.

Business briefs

Fla. man to get \$650,000 for strip club injury

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — A South Florida attorney says his client will get \$650,000 after a dancer's platform shoe shattered his eye socket at a strip club.

Attorney Lake Lytal III says the Cheetah club's insurance company agreed earlier this month to pay Michael Ireland for the injury.

Lytal says Ireland has had eye problems since the 2008 incident at the West Palm Beach club.

He says the dancer claimed in a deposition she was walking on the bar, felt someone touch her and swung around. Lytal says her metal heel went into Ireland's eye socket and shattered it, requiring extensive surgery.

The Cheetah club wouldn't comment. The insurance company didn't immediately return a phone message.

Russia agrees to build nuclear plant in Venezuela

MOSCOW (AP) — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez reached a deal with Russia on Friday to build the South American country's first nuclear plant, as questions arose why a nation rich in oil and gas would feel the need to venture into atomic energy.

The two nations also signed other energy

agreements. Russia has cultivated close ties with Chavez's government to expand its global clout and counter U.S. influence in Latin America.

The ITAR-Tass news agency said Russia plans to build two 1,200 megawatt nuclear reactors at the Venezuelan plant. The cost of Friday's nuclear deal wasn't immediately announced.

The deal is likely to raise concern in President Barack Obama's administration but continues a pattern of Russia pressing to export its nuclear expertise.

Russia has just completed Iran's first nuclear power plant and recently reached new deals to build nuclear reactors in China and Turkey. It's talking with Indian officials about building a dozen of nuclear reactors there and also wants to build a nuclear reactor in the Czech Republic.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev sought to pre-empt questions about why Venezuela would need nuclear power by saying the deal would help Caracas reduce its dependence on global market fluctuations.

"I don't know who will shudder at this," Medvedev said at a news conference after the signing. "The president (of Venezuela) said there will be nations that will have different emotions about that, but I would like to emphasize that our intentions are absolutely pure and open: We want our

partner Venezuela to have a full range of energy possibilities."

Federal judge continues ban on NY Indian cig tax

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Rulings by two federal judges will continue to prevent the state from collecting taxes on some Indian cigarette sales while tribes continue their legal fight against an issue that has caused tension for decades.

But Gov. David Paterson's administration said Friday the state is closer than ever to settling the issue after one of the judges confirmed the state's right to tax reservation cigarette sales to non-Indian customers and said doing so would not infringe on tribal sovereignty.

"It's time for decades of court battles to come to an end," Paterson spokesman Morgan Hook said.

U.S. District Judge Richard Arcara on Thursday denied the Seneca and Cayuga Indian Nations' request for a preliminary injunction against the tax, saying it was unlikely that the western New York tribes could substantiate their claims that it would overburden them and impinge on their sovereignty.

Arcara, in a separate order, granted a delay in the start of collections to give the tribes time to follow through on a promised appeal of his ruling. A temporary order was set to expire Friday.

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w/5,800 Miles.



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w/Gray Cloth.



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Carroll Shelby Signed

Bob Brock Ford Lincoln

0001010

Election Guide 2010

Thank you for taking the time to acquaint yourself with the candidates and issues facing Howard County and the Crossroads area going into the Nov. 2 general election.

These men and women are asking you, the voters of Howard County, to step up to the voting booths election day and cast your ballot, exercising a right granted to us through the wisdom and forethought of this nation's founding fathers. Each candidate brings different opinions and ideas to the political table, spanning a sea of philosophy and practices. They also bring their own experiences and knowledge to the races, hoping to represent the West Texas men and women that make up Howard County.

Some candidates have aligned themselves with the GOP, while others have followed the Democratic or Libertarian path. Regardless of political affilia-

tion, however, I would encourage you, the reader, to judge each candidate solely on their merit and political platforms.

Howard County voters will have several local races to weigh in on, including the battle for the Precinct 4 seat on the commissioners court, as incumbent Dem Gary Simer will square off against GOP candidate John Cline.

Also on the ballot is the Precinct 2 seat on the county commissioners court, as Republican nominee Donnie Baker will face off against Democratic nom Jim Sinclair.

In the race for Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 Place 2 incumbent candidate Kathryn Wiseman will represent the Republican party, while Dem nominee Ricky Hughes will try to unseat her.

The State Representative District 85 seat will also be decided in November, as incumbent Democrat Joe Heflin faces off against Republican nominee

Jim Landtroop.

The District 19 seat on the U.S. House of Representatives will also be up for grabs in November, as Republican incumbent Randy Neugebauer faces off against Democratic nominee Andy Wilson and Libertarian Richard "Chip" Peterson.

Early voting in this year's contest is set to run from Oct. 18 until Oct. 29 in the elections office located on the third floor of the county courthouse. Oct. 26 is the deadline to request a mail-in ballot.

We at the Big Spring Herald wish each candidate luck going into this general election and applaud their willingness to serve their community. And, as these candidates step forward, we hope area voters will do the same and cast their ballot in this year's contest.

— Thomas Jenkins, staff writer

Howard County commissioner, Precinct 2

• **During the past several years, incentives to businesses to relocate or expand their operations within Howard County have become an issue with the commissioners court. What do you feel the court can do to help stimulate economic growth, and how can the negative impact these incentives have on the tax base be minimized?**



Donnie Baker — I feel the commissioners court should work with the other taxing entities and the economic development corporation to use whatever tools are available to increase the tax base and bring jobs to our community.



Jim Sinclair — It is important to remember that the business assets associated with a business that are not here can't be taxed, so there is no tax revenue being lost to start with. If a business relocates to Big

Spring or Howard County, or expands its current business, they bring new assets into the tax base. They also bring jobs and spend money during the relocation process, which benefits the county. Commissioners need to keep the county competitive to attract business, but need to evaluate all requests for incentives to make sure that they are businesses that we wish

to attract and that will enhance the county's economy.

• **As a county commissioner, what programs or plans would you institute to help protect county residents and reduce crime beyond the city borders?**

Jim Sinclair — We have an excellent asset for crime prevention in our sheriff's department. Awareness training for our county residents and neighborhood watch groups to assist the department helps provide extra eyes and ears for crime prevention.

Donnie Baker — With the state of our economy, I feel we will see crime on the rise as unemployment increases. We are fortunate to have a sheriff who works well with other law enforcement agencies and we should try to furnish him with the tools and personnel to keep the county safe. It is everyone's responsibility to be a concerned citizen who watches out for his neighbors.

• **What unique experience or insight do you feel you can bring to the commissioners court? Why do you feel you're the best candidate for the position?**

Donnie Baker — Because I am self employed and have run a business for 30 years, I understand the aspects of working within a budget. I worked at the refinery for nearly 14 years and ran a cow/calf operation for several years. I have served the community

as a board member for Big Spring ISD for nearly 10 years. At the present time, I am chairman of the Howard County Tax Appraisal Board, which I have served on for 20 years. I am objective and listen to the concerns of others before I make decisions. I will represent all of the residents of Howard County and I will work with the other commissioners to make the best decisions concerning our county.

Jim Sinclair — I am currently very active in the community as a member of the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club, as a board member with the Big Spring Symphony and on the supervisory committee with the Cosden Credit Union. I attend many community-related planning meetings that address efforts at revitalization of the Big Spring downtown area. I have experience in developing large capital and expense budgets for industry that are larger than our county budget. I am interested in our county. I feel that we can be better and I want to make a difference as a county commissioner.

• **What do you feel is the most urgent issue facing the county today, and, if elected, what will you do to address it?**

Jim Sinclair — We have too many of our families living below the poverty level and we need to diversify our economy with more and better paying jobs. I think that we have a lot of great people with excellent ideas

for growth in our county. I would like the county to have a forum that would bring together people with ideas with mentors that could help them turn those ideas into reality.

Donnie Baker — Because of shrinking tax dollars, we need to be frugal and work toward decreasing our tax rate. I will address issues by running as a conservative candidate.

• **Energy conservation — including gasoline, electricity, natural gas, etc. — has become a major concern over the past several years thanks to the "green" movement. As a county commissioner, what plans do you have in mind to make the county's operations more Earth-friendly?**

Donnie Baker — Hopefully, when the jail was built the building was designed to be as energy efficient as possible. We need to work toward that goal in our existing buildings, our equipment and maintenance. As for the equipment and vehicles are concerned, we need all employees to be conservative with fuel in their daily operations.

Jim Sinclair — As a county we need to replace aging vehicles with more fuel efficient ones, add insulation and energy efficient windows where practical and evaluate the addition of solar panels to generate part of the electricity we use.

Howard County commissioner, Precinct 4

• **During the past several years, incentives to businesses to relocate or expand their operations within Howard County have become an issue with the commissioners court. What do you feel the court can do to help stimulate economic growth, and how can the negative impact these incentives have on the tax base be minimized?**



Gary Simer — The Moore Board examines the requests presented to them by businesses wishing to expand or locate in

Howard County. They present their findings to the commissioners court and other entities involved. Each case is different and handled as such. We try to entice these new businesses and local businesses wishing to expand with tax abatements (as needed), help to locate viable properties and demonstrate to new businesses that we offer a great place for their employees to live and raise families. By bringing in the families associated with the businesses, you will help to broaden the tax base. These families will rent and buy homes, autos, groceries, eat out and pay taxes.

John Cline — We need to first look at each case if both

sides are going to benefit. It does not do much good to give these incentives if the business is not going to be here in the future. Then we need to support the local business that has been here for years, maybe giving them the opportunity to expand their business.

• **As a county commissioner, what programs or plans would you institute to help protect county residents and reduce crime beyond the city borders?**

John Cline — I believe the sheriff's department is already on the road to improvement. I would like to see the city police and sheriff's office work closer together to solve crime.

Gary Simer — Howard County now has one of the leading sheriff's departments in West Texas. The crime rate in the county is less now than we've seen in several years. The commissioners court has added more personnel to the sheriff's department and upgraded its equipment. The county just signed an inter-local agreement with the city of Big Spring that allows the city police officers to go outside city limits and assist the sheriff's deputies in enforcing the law, and, in turn,



reducing the crime rate outside of the city borders. As a commissioner, I would like to see the county sponsor classes in neighborhood awareness and home safety.

• **What unique experience or insight do you feel you can bring to the commissioners court? Why do you feel you're the best candidate for the position?**

Gary Simer — After sitting on the commissioners court for the last 12 years, I have come to know the ups and downs of our local economy, and the effects this can have on our taxes and, therefore, our citizens. I have attended classes and schools to learn the laws and rules governing Texas counties and have developed a good working relationship with state and local governments. I stay in touch with the citizens in this precinct and listen to their concerns and needs.

John Cline — As co-owner of Cline Construction and several other companies, I have successfully operated in Howard County for 33 years. I have experience in personnel, road work, equipment purchases, insurance costs, building experience and budgeting. I've had to learn to operate through the good times and through the lean times. I will look at all costs to make the county more efficient.

• **What do you feel is the most urgent issue facing the county today, and, if elected, what will you do to address it?**

John Cline — The most urgent issue is for the county to adopt better plans for saving and planning for future projects. Also, I believe I have some new ways to aid with our county's deteriorating road problems.

We, as a county, have to learn to operate as a business. We have to find innovative ways to get the most out of every tax dollar. We can not spend more than we collect. Continuing to raise taxes or spending the savings is not an option.

Gary Simer — The county is in better fiscal shape now than it's been since I took office 12 years ago. The county has a very strong sheriff's department, a better working relationship with the city and a new, state of the art county jail.

If this question had been asked two years ago, the answer would have been the jail. The 96-bed jail now houses, on average, 70 inmates. This includes county prisoners, city prisoners and prisoners from three or four surrounding counties. We fund the jail, have increased personnel in the sheriff's department and the road and bridge department, updated equip-

ment in both and also the equipment in the volunteer fire department, all without raising taxes. Our biggest concern now is to keep taxes low and still maintain our strong support base.

• **Energy conservation — including gasoline, electricity, natural gas, etc. — has become a major concern over the past several years thanks to the "green" movement. As a county commissioner, what plans do you have in mind to make the county's operations more Earth-friendly?**

Gary Simer — The commissioners court tries, as taxes allow, to replace outdated vehicles and equipment with more energy efficient models. We recycle our oil, tires and batteries. I would like to see our court go to the use of laptop computers. We have a mountain of paper that we go through each session, and by using laptops all members could view and delete items as visited. I would like to see Howard County implement recycle bins for the citizens, placed in convenient areas, as you see in other counties.

John Cline — We need to look at the county's operations. As we replace equipment, order more efficient lights, air units and fuel effective vehicles, as well as study more solar and wind options



Jim Landtroop

Republican for HD 85

Meet Jim.

Jim Landtroop, the Republican nominee for House District 85, is an active member of his community. As a small business owner, Jim serves over 1,400 clients and helps create jobs. Jim is a community leader who coaches varsity basketball and is a member of his church worship team. A successful small businessman and dedicated husband and father, Jim is committed to representing the conservative values of West Texas families.

Like most West Texans, Jim is tired of government spending too much and ignoring the common sense values and needs of working families. Landtroop authored and signed a conservative "Contract with West Texas," committing to fight for smaller government, lower taxes, and stronger border security. Jim will also fight to repeal Obamacare, balance the state budget, and create jobs for West Texas families.

Jim is an active civic leader involved in many aspects of his community including the Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, United Way, and the American Cancer Society. In 2006, Jim and his wife chaired the Cotton Baron's Ball, raising significant local dollars for cancer research and patient services. Landtroop was appointed to the Brazos River Authority Board in 2009, where he worked to protect West Texas water rights.

Jim graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Business Management, and his wife Cathy, is a graduate of Texas Tech University. The Landtroop family helped found Plainview Bible Church where Jim has served as an Elder, a Sunday school teacher, and a facilitator of home groups.

Jim and Cathy have been married for 17 years and are the proud parents of three children: Braden (15), Kenneth (13) and Lauren Grace (10).

★ EARLY VOTING:
October 18-29
ELECTION DAY:
November 2 ★

Hale County Early Voting Locations:

Hale County Courthouse 500 Broadway Plainview, TX 79072	Abernathy City Hall 811 Avenue D Abernathy, TX 79311
Hale Center City Hall 702 Main St. Hale Center, TX 79041	Petersburg City Hall 1524 Main St. Petersburg, TX 79250

On the Issues.

Jim pledges to represent the conservative values of West Texas with integrity and consistency. If elected, Jim will:

- Fight for smaller government and a cap on government spending.
- Cut taxes on hard-working Texas families.
- Never support a tax increase to fund the state budget shortfall and instead demand that state agencies reduce spending.
- Secure the border to protect Texans from the Mexican drug cartel violence that is spilling across the border.
- Defend states' rights against federal government overreaches into Texas.
- Defeat Obamacare and implement real reform to our health care system through free market solutions.
- Pass a Voter ID bill to protect the integrity of our elections.
- Improve teacher pay and encourage excellence in the classroom. Will never support vouchers or any other policies that take money away from our public schools.
- Advocate for tier one status for Texas Tech University.
- Promote and protect Texas' agriculture and energy industries.
- Preserve local control of water rights.
- Defend private property rights.
- Support and strengthen our right to bear arms.
- Protect the unborn and traditional marriage.

Why Support Jim?

Jim is not running to represent a political party – but rather the people of HD 85. He has broad support from across the district and is the only candidate endorsed by the independent TEA Party, the Texas Association of Business, and the Texas Alliance for Life. If elected, Jim will fight first and foremost for the interests of West Texas. This includes protecting private property and water rights to ensure that agriculture remains the cornerstone of rural West Texas. He will also actively support economic development incentives for HD 85 to attract businesses and jobs to our community.

As a member of the Texas House, Jim will always vote his conservative values and support conservative policies proven to benefit all of Texas. He will fight for smaller government, lower taxes, and stronger border security. He will also fight for a Voter ID bill to protect election integrity, support Attorney General Greg Abbott's lawsuit against Obamacare, and advocate for legislation recognizing that life begins at conception.

In the next legislative session, the Texas legislature will be faced with balancing an \$11-\$17 billion budget shortfall and implementing redistricting, which will determine the ideological direction of Texas for years to come. Jim will seek to build consensus around America's founding principles of small government, low taxes, free enterprise, and personal responsibility, and he will never sacrifice his conservative West Texas values for the sake of political correctness in Austin.

To support Jim's candidacy for Texas House District 85, please visit his website at www.jimlandtroop.com or call him at 806-288-0387.



Political Party:
REPUBLICAN
Occupation:
SMALL BUSINESSMAN



Political Party:
INCUMBENT
DEMOCRAT
Occupation:
LAWYER

Supports increased funding for state and local law enforcement to secure the border.

BORDER SECURITY

Voted to allow illegal immigrants to receive taxpayer funded health insurance. Does NOT support Texas border security enforcement.

Voted against Amendment 59 to HB 1 (80R), Record Vote 231; Heritage Alliance Candidate Survey.

Pro-Life, Endorsed by Texas Alliance for Life PAC.

PROTECTING THE UNBORN

Supported taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood abortion clinics. A+ rating from pro-abortion group NARAL.

Texas Alliance for Life Primary Survey; NARAL Legislative Report Card.

Opposes Obamacare and supports Attorney General Abbott's lawsuit against the federal takeover of health care.

OBAMACARE

Did NOT sign legislator letter supporting Abbott's lawsuit against Obamacare.

March 22, 2010 Texas Conservative Coalition letter to General Abbott.

Believes federal government is spending too much, trampling states' rights, and that Texans can govern Texas better than Washington.

DEFENDING STATES' RIGHTS

Did NOT support legislation asserting states' rights under the 10th Amendment.

Unexcused absence on vote for HCR 50 (81R), Record Vote 1544, despite being present for the votes directly before and after HCR 50.

Supports Voter I.D.

VOTER I.D.

Repeatedly voted AGAINST Voter I.D.

Twice voted against HB 218 (80R), Record Votes 618 and 621; Participated in chubbing during the 81R session, preventing SB 362 (81R) from reaching the floor.

Endorsed by the Texas Association of Business.

JOB CREATION

Received FAILING grades from the Texas Association of Business and National Federation of Independent Business for voting for liberal job-killing legislation.

TAB and NFIB Legislative Report Cards.

★ EARLY VOTING:
October 18-29



★ ELECTION DAY:
November 2

Howard County Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1 Place 2

• **What unique experience or insight do you feel you can bring to the office of Justice of the Peace? Why do you feel you're the best candidate for the position?**



Kathryn Wiseman — To date I have eight years experience and more than 290 classroom hours of specialized training to be a Justice of the Peace. I've attended seminars on domestic violence, animal cruelty, civil court issues, juvenile issues, including truancy, and death investigation. I deal with these issues daily at the courthouse. I preside over traffic court, evictions, small claims and justice court, conduct temporary commitment hearings and I'm on 24-hour call for one week every three weeks. Howard County has an investment of eight years in me. Now it's time for my report card.

I count as resources my service to the Howard County citizens these last eight years, my faith, my experience in raising four children and my church work dealing with underprivileged children. I love my job. I don't love everything I've had to do, but I love my job as justice of the peace. I want the opportunity to continue as your justice of the peace.



Ricky Hughes — I believe and feel strongly about the rights of the

people and the protection of our community. I have experience in making business decisions and 13 years of working with the public. I have owned and operated my own business for more than 35 years.

I farmed for 25 years, and then, in 1998, I bought Kwik Kar oil change. It was in bad shape with very few customers. However, I turned the business around and sold it. Now, I have built Mr. Scrubs Carwash and Oil Change, which I own and operate.

I have valuable experience in making common sense and fair decisions. I believe my business experience, strong Christian values and sense of duty will make me an asset to our local government and the best candidate for justice of the peace.

• **What do you see as the most urgent issue facing Howard County's JPs, and, if elected, what do you propose to address it?**

Ricky Hughes — I feel that in this election the most urgent issue facing this JP's race is electing someone that will work diligently with the other JPs, all law enforcement officers, probation officers, school attendance officers, with the hospital, funeral homes and especially the people of Big Spring and Howard County. My judgement will not be intimidated by the person or influenced by the situation.

If elected, I will show respect and honesty to my co-workers and the people of this community. It is time for new views, new ideas and new

energy.

Kathryn Wiseman — Texas Justices of the Peace face challenges with each decision they make; every person and every process involves different circumstances. The Texas Legislature changes the rules every two years; we scramble to adjust fines and fees and understand new structure and procedure.

County budget continues to shrink because of new demands imposed by the legislature; there simply isn't enough money to fund all the new laws imposed every two years. I'm committed to serving the citizens of Big Spring and Howard County while upholding the law. Sometimes that's a challenge.

I've invested a lot into truancy issues. It's extremely important that our children get a good education here in Howard County. We have a problem with kids that "fall through the cracks" for whatever reason, and not only do not graduate, but end up using and selling drugs or committing burglary, ending up in the juvenile justice system. Texas is now owning up to a 30 percent drop out rate.

I am part of a group that meets monthly to address truancy issues. This group initiated the Alternative Dispute Resolution program that Debbie Jensen administers, and I think the program is really helping the at-risk students resolve some of the issues they face that hinder their ability to be successful at school.

• **If elected, what are your long-term goals for the Justice of the Peace office?**

Kathryn Wiseman — My goal is to remain accessible to the citizens of Howard County. Justices of the peace have more contact with the public than judges at the county, district and federal level. We preside not only at traffic court, but also small claims court, which is the only court designed for pro se litigants: translation — you can represent yourself without an attorney. This is the only court left in the land in which the presiding judge has not only the right, but the responsibility to ask questions to develop the case in the interest of justice. Attorneys at the state and federal level are constantly proposing amendments to the law that would abolish this court, and also proposing that judges at all levels be required to have a law degree. The people have a right to settle their differences at the local level without great expense in the process, and county government cannot bear the expense of judges with law degrees at the precinct and county level.

Ricky Hughes — My goal is to serve the people. I want the citizens of Big Spring and Howard County to know that as justice of the peace I will work hard to serve our community. My goal is to develop a good working relationship with law enforcement officers and to have the office of justice of the peace run with respect and fairness.

District 85 Texas State Representative

• **The continuing growth of independent voters — a broad category that includes those who choose not to register with a major party even though they tend to identify with one more than the other, as well as a lot who are skeptical of both — in the U.S. illustrates a lack of patience with partisan politics. Are you willing to cross party lines for the betterment of Texans, and, if elected, will you vote your conscience or in the manner party leaders instruct you to?**



Joe Heflin — I have been known as a person who voted his district since I was first elected. I was not elected to represent a political

party, as the fine citizens of House District 85 elected me to represent the district. Partisan politics removes the public from consideration. One example of politics gone wild is the immigration and border control issue. Why has the federal government ignored this issue since the early 1980s? It is a difficult issue that can be politically dangerous so the issue has been ignored. I liked what Congressman Conaway said: "Before the issue of border control and immigration can be resolved, the level of hate must go down and then some wise, cool heads must get together and resolve this issue."

I am pleased to have the reputation of being "a get the job done" person. Last session, Senator Seliger and I passed a major part of the Texas Economic Development Act. The Economic Development Act has brought thousands of new jobs to Texas. These jobs are coming from wind energy development, a new Caterpillar engine facility, expansion of Toyota and many other new industries moving to Texas. Without the help of Senator Seliger and Governor Rick Perry, the program could have died.

I was the only member of the Democratic party who voted for voter identification last session. Senator Fraser's bill was a good, level-headed bill that was not designed to hinder voters from exercising their right to vote. Unfortunately, the bill got in a political fight inside the committee, a committee with a Republican chair and a Republican majority, the

prime example of what partisan politics can do to ignore the will of the people.



Jim Landtroop — I am not running to represent a political party. I am running to represent the people of House District 85. I

have broad support from across the district and I am the only candidate that is endorsed by the independent Tea Party. If elected, I will fight first and foremost for the interests of West Texas. This includes protecting private property and water rights to ensure that agriculture remains the cornerstone of rural West Texas. And I'll actively support economic development incentives for House District 85 to attract businesses and jobs to our community.

As a member of the Texas House, I will always vote my values and support conservative policies proven to benefit all of Texas. I will fight for smaller government, lower taxes and stronger border security. I will also fight for a Voter ID bill to protect the integrity of our elections, support Attorney General Greg Abbott's lawsuit against Obamacare and advocate for legislation recognizing that life begins at conception.

In the next legislative session, the Texas legislature will be faced with balancing an \$11-\$17 billion budget shortfall and implementing redistricting, which will determine the future ideological direction of our state. I will seek to build consensus around America's founding principles of small government, low taxes, free enterprise and personal responsibility. I will never sacrifice my West Texas values for the sake of political correctness in Austin.

• **What are your feelings on the current structure of funding for Texas schools? What do you feel can be done better, and if elected/re-elected, how do you propose to improve on these issues?**

Jim Landtroop — School funding has always been a complicated issue within the state of Texas. I do not have the magic bullet that will solve all of our state's school funding concerns, but I do have some ideas that may help. First of all, I want to be

clear that I do not support school vouchers. I do not support anything that takes money away from public schools, or puts government restrictions on private or home schools.

What I do believe in is local control — we can no longer force a one-size-fits-all solution to the issues surrounding education. We have independent school districts in Texas, and we need to focus on the independent part. Local schools are in the best position to determine how they can operate most efficiently. I have spoken to teachers and superintendents across this district, and they agree we need more local control.

I believe we should eliminate and prohibit any and all unfunded mandates. This puts unsustainable burdens on our rural schools, and places them at a disadvantage.

We must solicit the views of parents, teachers, taxpayers and administrators to determine the impact of policy options on our local schools, prior to passing legislation.

Most importantly, I will be working during this next legislative session to preserve or increase funding for public education without adding new taxes to our already over-taxed public. We need to continue to follow through on the state's commitment to fund education while demanding accountability and excellence for our students.

Joe Heflin — The current school funding formula is a system that is not working to the best interest of our children. There is no equity in a system designed to provide equity through the Robin Hood program. The issue of rich schools and poor schools is prime fodder for another law suit. Some schools send money to the state and yet they have to borrow money to repair buildings while other schools have trouble meeting payroll for teachers they are forced to hire under guidelines of the TEA.

I attended a wonderful musical presented at Marcy Elementary in Big Spring by the third grade class. The children were literally stacked on each other. The teachers did a wonderful job of maintaining order under the crowded conditions.

I recently held an education summit in Anson. I brought in other members of the House, all major players in school finance and superintendents and administrators

from schools across the district. It was a great opportunity for the legislators to hear from the local schools and the schools to hear about the difficult attitudes that exist regarding funding, especially while the state is facing a budget shortfall.

One new proposal being studied is a state wide property tax to fund education. I will not support this unless other taxes are reduced.

• **Prison overcrowding continues to be a major problem for the Lone Star State. What measures do you feel the state needs to take to address this issue?**

Joe Heflin — We currently have new prisons already built and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice does not have the resources to staff and open the facilities. One of these units is located in Anson.

One measure that was passed last session was an attempt to place more people on probation or the always standby measure of early parole for non-violent offenders. The results of this have been luke warm at best. The courts have been hesitant to load up the probation and parole system and heaven forbid turn loose someone that commits a violent crime at a later time. Another failed program is the idea of leaving the inmates in the county jails for as long as possible and forcing an unfunded mandate on the counties.

I believe that we must remember that prisons are designed to punish. Our jail standards should reflect that we are not building hotels for extended-stay guests. The purpose is not to be a pleasant vacation. Those that have violated others should not expect to have expensive facilities. I am not sure the tent system is the answer but maybe something in between what we have now and the tent.

Jim Landtroop — Public safety is one of my top priorities. I favor providing additional funds for the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Rangers and local law enforcement to combat Mexican drug cartel violence that is threatening Texas lives. I also favor pressing the federal government to reimburse Texas taxpayers for the cost of our state and local law enforcement having to step in where the federal government has failed. Our prison system is no dif-

ferent. I favor a thorough review of state prison system operations, including verifying the citizenship status of all inmates. Our taxpayers should not have to pay for housing inmates who are in our country illegally. We must expedite the return of illegal immigrant offenders back to their home country. We should also attempt to identify resources that could be diverted to create more beds and increased capacity. In order to keep the illegal immigrant population at a minimum, I'd work with our local, state and congressional officials to press the case for tighter border control and require the federal government to fulfill its constitutional responsibility to protect our borders.

I would also like to examine potential new prison construction because we must be a state that upholds and enforces the rule of law in order to preserve public safety.

• **With unemployment rates in Texas hitting a near 22-year high in August — the highest since the 1987 oil bust — what do you feel should be done at the state level to stimulate job growth and support the small and mid-size business owners still struggling with the sluggish economy?**

Jim Landtroop — The solution to our economic problem is clear — there needs to be a fundamental shift in our approach to taxing and spending. We need to exercise fiscal responsibility in order to keep our taxes low. Texans are taxed enough already.

As a small business owner myself, I have the same concerns as other small business owners across this district. I understand the harmful effects of high taxes, as well as the uncertainty of what Obamacare will do to our bottom line. In order to create jobs in rural West Texas we must lower taxes to give business owners the money they need to invest in growing their business and hiring new employees. We must fight against the federal power grabs of Washington and create a safe and stable work environment.

I put forth several key economic ideas in my contract with West Texas, all of which will benefit small businesses and help promote job growth.

ELECTION

Continued from Page 3

First, to help keep taxes low, I will demand no "pork" earmarks and/or kickbacks for Republicans or Democrats, and I will support transparency in the state budget. Second, I will advocate for a spending cap based on inflation plus population and support a zero-base starting point for all state agency budgets. Third, I will work to defeat any effort to raise taxes on hard working Texas families, and I will certainly never support any tax increases as a means to balance the budget. Fourth, I will support meaningful property tax reform through an appraisal or revenue cap to provide Texas homeowners with real property tax relief. Fifth, I will fight for a reduction or elimination of the margins tax on small businesses in Texas, so small businesses can free up revenue and create jobs. Finally, I will support Attorney General Abbott's lawsuit against the unconstitutional federal health care takeover (Obamacare), which is putting a strain on already struggling small businesses by requiring them to carry health insurance for all their employees.

By lowering taxes, restricting the size of government, balancing the budget and providing businesses a reliable

and friendly place to operate and create jobs, the Texas economy will recover.

Joe Heflin — It is true that unemployment rates are higher in Texas than in years past, however, our unemployment rate is way below other states. In fact, the unemployment rate for West Texas is the lowest in the state. We must continue to grow Texas out of the recession. We were the last to go into the recession and are the first coming out of the recession. Texas is still considered the number one state for industry when considering moving to another state or nation for that matter.

Those who have watched Washington for the last four years know that we cannot spend or tax our way out of a recession. We must continue to provide an environment that encourages industry and businesses to move to Texas. We are in a global environment and must compete world wide to entice those with jobs to move to Texas. The Texas Economic Act had provided thousand of new jobs and will continue to contribute to the growth of Texas. We are getting in place a transmission line system to provide electricity produced in West Texas to the major population centers of Texas. New jobs will come with the new wind energy development projects to be built. Also the ancillary industries, mainte-

nance and supplies will also provide other new jobs.

As a member of the National Conference of State Legislators, I have pushed for and passed resolutions sent to Congress, urging Congress to push forward with an aggressive energy program for the United States that will ensure long term jobs in West Texas. I have also pushed for congress to pass a worker visa program to help our agriculture industry.

• What do you feel is the most urgent issue facing District 85, and, if elected, what will you do to address it?

Joe Heflin — Actually, there are two important issues facing House District 85 during the next legislative session. The first issue is redistricting. Leadership and seniority are now more important than ever. It is important that I have the ability to cross party lines and can work to protect the district. We are blessed that Senator (Kel) Seliger is chairman of the Senate Committee on Redistricting, but we must have a strong voice in the house side as well.

We face the danger of losing representation in West Texas because the population growth is along and east of the I-35 corridor. Major funding issues are at stake for our schools, our highways and our citizens.

The second issue facing West Texas is rural health care. I am not talking about Washington healthcare; I am talking about our health care facilities. With the expected budget cuts our hospitals and clinics are in danger of closing, as well as our residential care facilities. We must have these rural health care facilities or our senior citizens will be forced to move to a major medical center. When the senior citizens move, then jobs go with them. I have worked to make sure that our facilities stay open. I know what it means to a senior citizen to be able to live in their home or at least in their hometown.

Jim Landtroop — There are several important issues that will need to be addressed in this next session. Among those are smaller government, lower taxes and strong border security.

As a state legislator, I will never support a tax increase to fund the state budget shortfall and instead will demand that state agencies reduce spending. I will also be an outspoken voice against federal and state economic policies that threaten the prosperity of Texas. It's time to return accountability and common sense to government spending to balance the budget and protect our children's future.

Another urgent issue facing West Texas is the federal

government's failure and state government's empty promises to secure the Texas/Mexico border. If elected, I will demand increased funding for the Department of Public Safety, Texas Rangers and local law enforcement to fight the Mexican drug cartel violence that is threatening Texas lives. In a recent Heritage Alliance survey my opponent said he disagreed that Texas should enforce laws that would secure our border, and voted to give taxpayer funded healthcare to illegal immigrants. I believe that sends the wrong message and makes securing our border even more difficult.

Finally, our democratic system is at risk due to election fraud. I will fight for the very reasonable and long overdue Voter ID bill in order to protect the integrity of our ballot box. The Legislature had the opportunity to address this issue in both 2007 and 2009. My opponent voted against the bill in 2007, and then participated in a cheap political tactic called "chubbing" to kill the bill in 2009.

I will never back down to political pressure, or the lobby in Austin. If given the opportunity, I will vote for the best interest of this district every time, all the time. If you agree with my stand on the issues and in my contract with West Texas, then I would be honored to have your vote in this election.

District 19 U.S. House of Representatives

• One of the most pressing issues facing the federal government today is immigration reform. What do you feel is the best approach to this issue, and, if elected, what specific goals do you have concerning this issue?



Randy Neugebauer

— First, we must secure our borders. We need to know who and what is coming into this country. Secondly, we need to update our immigration laws to have a more streamlined process for

those entering our country legally to become citizens. Our current immigration system is antiquated and badly in need of repairs. We want people to come to the U.S., but we want them to do it legally. This is the land of opportunity, but we are also a nation under the rule of law. We need immigration policy that both encourages people to obey the law and will make America stronger.



Andy Wilson

— Congress has failed in their constitutional responsibility to establish a uniform immigration policy. I will promote legislation that provides a means of legal immigration for those

that want to be productive citizens as well as penalties for employers who hire those who are here illegally.



Richard "Chip" Peterson

— No reform will work without securing our borders, so that should be a first priority. We need to secure our borders to keep out criminals, terrorists, traffickers and welfare seekers.

However, securing the borders against undesirables will be harder if we also keep out people who want to come to the U.S. to work and be productive members of our society. Thus, we need to allow easier immigration for good people who want to come to the U.S. to work and contribute to the U.S. That could take the form of allowing people to obtain work permits more easily, or visas based upon the type of contribution that the individual is prepared to make to our society. Some countries allow immigrants to come if they invest in and start businesses in the host country, possibly we should do the same.

Others allow immigrants to serve in their military forces. We need to allow legal ways for people who want to contribute to the U.S. to do so more easily, including simplifying and reducing the present high costs and delays associated with visa, green card and citizenship applications in the U.S. If people are here illegally but are working and contributing to our society, we should not forcefully

deport them as long as they are willing to stay here on probation and learn English, study our Constitution, pay taxes and fines and embark on a path to citizenship. If people who are here illegally commit felonies, they should be prosecuted and deported. Terrorists should be jailed and prosecuted. Welfare and residency rights should be denied to illegals who have come illegally and have not applied for work permits or a path to citizenship.

• As health care reform continues to move forward in the United States, how do you feel the President's current plan will impact the people of District 19? What vision do you have for health care reform, and how will you work to make that vision a reality if elected?

Andy Wilson — Here in West Texas, we have a large number of residents that are self-employed or are employees of small business. As I have traveled the district, the consistent message that I have heard is that these hard-working Texans do not want a hand-out. What they want is the ability to be able to purchase health insurance at the same price that a large corporation pays for the exact same product. I believe that the Health Care plan should be simplified into health insurance reform that makes affordable medical insurance available.

Richard "Chip" Peterson — The President's current health care plan will (1) raise the cost of medical care and reduce consumer choice regarding doctors, insurance plans or levels of care, (2) tie up medical providers in red tape and cause many to leave the profession, and (3) deny adequate care to old people, and possibly the very young. The last point is implied by the President's recess appointment of a man to run his new health-care system who favors the British system of medical care — and also favors the establishment of advisory panels that would prescribe appropriate care for patients depending upon the cost of the procedure and the expected net future contribution of the individual to society. Since young people have to be educated before they can contribute and old people are often retired, it is to be expected that these panels would not recommend that expensive care be provided to either very young or old patients. Because of his views, that man could not be confirmed by the Senate so the President appointed him during a Congressional recess.

My views are that the healthcare system would work better if consumers had more choice and more responsibility for determining their own level of care. Each person should have a portable individual health savings account. Poor people without income could receive such an account

as part of their welfare benefits, working people could fund such accounts through tax-deductible wage deductions and/or employer contributions. People could use such accounts to purchase whatever level of health catastrophe insurance they desired, so they would be covered for large adverse events, and would use the balance for regular medical expenses, which they would pay for themselves out of their health savings accounts, therefore making medical services price and cost sensitive. This process would bring down overall costs as people elected to buy less expensive treatments in order to save money. For instance, they might choose to buy generic drugs if they wished to save money. However, they would not be required to buy generic drugs if a branded drug might work better — it would be their choice, not the government's choice. Alternatively, people with choices might contract with a doctor to provide annual care as needed rather than being billed separately for each service—therefore sparing administrative costs and reducing their costs of care. If people didn't spend all their money in their health savings accounts, they could roll the money into their retirement funds, so any excess would ultimately be theirs to keep.

I also favor providing basic medical services through county clinics that could be funded through the Centers for Disease Control or the Department of Homeland Security in addition to state and local authorities. Such clinics could provide basic health needs for county residents at low cost and have needed staff available in case of a national emergency. Federal funding of Disease Control and anti-terror treatment facilities can be justified via the general welfare clause of our Constitution.

Randy Neugebauer — As many Medicare recipients will tell you, just because you have health insurance it doesn't mean you have access to health care. The new health care law will raise the costs of care and decrease access, especially in rural areas where Medicare and Medicaid providers are already limiting the number of patients they see.

I believe that the health care law should be repealed and I have cosponsored several bills to accomplish this goal. In the 112th Congress, I will continue to support efforts to repeal and replace ObamaCare. Additionally, I will work with my colleagues to limit the resources and funding available for the programs that were created or increased when the bill passed. You cannot run a government program if it is not funded. We need to start over with legislation that will actually reduce costs and increase access for Americans. As we continue to learn, ObamaCare does neither.

In terms of replacing ObamaCare, I will work with my colleagues to put in place health care reforms that will

increase access to care, reduce costs and will protect the relationships patients have with their doctors. I believe we can look right here in West Texas at a successful model which utilizes the local Chamber of Commerce in Lubbock as mechanism to provide insurance options at lower costs by pooling businesses together. I also believe we should look at the example Texas has set with tort reform. Because of reforms made in this area, doctors are moving to Texas to practice medicine.

• With unemployment rates in Texas hitting a near 22-year high in August — the highest since the 1987 oil bust — what do you feel should be done at the federal level to stimulate job growth and support the small and mid-size business owners still struggling with the sluggish economy?

Richard "Chip" Peterson — There are a number of things that should be done at the Federal level. First, the government needs to get off the back of business. It has recently passed an extremely large number of onerous regulations, such as the 1099 reporting requirement for all firms from which a firm purchases supplies. In addition, it has a number of regulations that have yet to be written for implementing the health care and financial reform bills. All these regulations increase business uncertainty, potentially raise their costs and make it difficult for them to determine if they can operate profitably and earn a decent return on their capital. Thus, they don't borrow, don't invest and don't expand, no one will be hired.

If I were in Washington I would try to shut down much of the federal regulatory apparatus, by defunding it if possible. What people don't know is that I have had a small corporation as well as a sole proprietorship so I have borne the burden of complying with numerous government regulations and reporting requirements. I shut down my little corporation so I could escape some of that burden. I feel sorry for small and medium sized business owners since they need to concentrate on their businesses rather than waste time and effort on complying with often questionable and arbitrary regulations. Since regulations are a de facto tax on business, they need to be simplified and reduced. Second, the costs of hiring individual employees also need to be reduced in order to increase employment. As government increases the employers' burdens associated with hiring more employees, employers will try to avoid hiring full-time employees, or maybe any employees at all.

Third, I believe that marginal tax rates should be kept low. Businesses typically have some good years and



Voters Guide

2010 GENERAL ELECTION EDITION

GOVERNOR

Four-year term. Must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Texas for the five years immediately preceding the election. Among duties: executes all laws and conducts all business with other states and the federal government; fills appointive offices; fills vacancies in state or district elected offices by appointment; calls special sessions of the Legislature and sets their agenda; signs or vetoes bills passed by the Legislature. Current annual salary: \$150,000


Background: What training and experience qualify you for this office? (50 words)

Economy: What are the most important issues for the state's economy and jobs and how would you address them? (75 words)

State Rank: Texas is among the top-ranked states in the nation in some areas (such as fastest-growing cities, low business taxes, wind power) and among the lowest-ranked in other areas (such as greenhouse gas emissions, tax burden for low-income residents, teen pregnancies, wrongful convictions, uninsured children). How would you address these issues? (75 words)

Other Issues: Aside from the issues above, what do you consider the two most serious issues facing Texas during the next four years, and how would you address them? (75 words)


RICK PERRY (R)



Background: My experience balancing budgets without raising taxes, trimming billions in unnecessary spending and creating a climate that has helped Texas generate more jobs than any other state this decade embody the Texas values of limited government, low taxes and fiscal restraint that our state needs to continue its forward momentum.
State Rank: Texas will continue implementing policies based on principles of limited government, low taxes, restrained spending and individual freedom. Although Texas has its challenges, we have the tools to effectively tackle these issues. We believe that the government's role is to create a climate that frees people to succeed and then get out of the way to let the private sector create the jobs that Texans need to provide for their families and contribute to society.

Economy: Texas is the example that other states should emulate to strengthen their economy and create jobs. There are four basic rules we have stuck to: don't spend all the money and keep taxes low; keep a predictable regulatory system so that employers aren't burdened with unexpected changes; maintain a legal system that minimizes frivolous lawsuits; and strengthen education by holding schools accountable and calling students to higher standards as we build the workforce of tomorrow.
Other Issues: Texas needs to remain competitive in the national and global economies so Texans are free to succeed. We'll achieve this goal by maintaining our focus on economic development, job creation, fiscal responsibility, education and border security. We will also continue to resist the encroachment of the federal government upon our liberties. Their spend it all, spend it now, one size fits all approach to governance will cripple our economy.


BILL WHITE (D)



Background: With a long business career, I've met a payroll, balanced budgets, and increased efficiency. In six years as Houston's mayor, I brought people together to get results. We led the nation in job growth, cut crime, cut property tax rates, and helped the city become a clean energy leader.
State Rank: Texas should be a leader, and our poor rankings in children's health insurance and education are troubling. I worked to make Houston a top city in the US, and will work to repeat that success statewide. Existing programs like CHIP should have higher enrollment. I helped cut the drop-out rate in Houston by reaching out to students not returning to school. Giving students access to summer school and tutoring increases student investment in education.

Economy: The deficit facing the state means that as governor, I would be responsible for identifying efficiencies and productivity improvements that would allow a reduction in spending without the compromise in service delivery. We need to cut costs and stimulate job growth in the state. As governor, I will work to bring new business here, allow small businesses to flourish, and will ensure a skilled workforce by focusing on improving education and job training.
Other Issues: Education is key in Texas. For the first time, young Texans entering the workforce are less educated than the previous generation. Our long term economic future depends on the investments we make in students today. We must improve achievement in public schools, cut the dropout rate, and reduce barriers to higher education. Examples of potential solutions to improving achievement include: voluntary summer programs, expanded pre-K, closing the digital divide, attracting and retaining great teachers.

KATHIE GLASS (L)



Background: I am a civil trial lawyer and citizen who has run a business and understands our Constitution, history, and rule of law. I played no role in the corruption and cronyism that created our problems. "Experienced" people caused this mess; "experienced" people will not lead us out.
State Rank: Such dubious negative rankings are attempts to foist increased taxes and spending upon us. Other states really cannot compare to Texas. In things that matter most -- the desire, will, and ability (given effective leadership) to assert our sovereignty and resist unconstitutional federal acts, defend our border, restore fiscal sanity, and defeat seizure of private property to enrich well-connected cronies -- Texas is No. 1.

Economy: Problem: High property taxes and a budget that doubled the last decade. Solution: Slash the budget 50% to levels seen 10 years ago. Eliminate property taxes, reduce education spending, increase local control including the ability to supplement funding. Medicaid was 26% of our \$180,000,000,000 budget when Obamacare increased our liability by 75%. Texas should opt out, using the savings to fund healthcare we choose, creating better services at lower cost.
Other Issues: The most serious issues facing Texas are unconstitutional federal acts in violation of our 10th Amendment sovereignty and our insecure border. We must restore Texas sovereignty and resist unconstitutional acts using nullification and interposition. We must defend our border using our Texas State Guard and eliminate taxpayer-funded services to non-citizens. Our porous border is also an economic issue, as 25% of our \$180,000,000,000 budget goes for non-citizens.

DEB SHAFTO (G)

Background: I have sold insurance, owned and operated a moving company, adolescents, run a group home for disturbed adolescents and taught kindergarten. I put a son through college, a daughter through nursing school. I know what meeting payroll means, keeping within budget, doing hard work and being where the buck stops.
State Rank: First, we need a graduated state income tax. We need to strictly follow EPA guidelines. We need state medicare for all. We need to give factual, relevant sex information to our adolescents and stop pretending that ignorance works. We need to put a premium on justice not on convictions, and we need a judicial review to be sure all evidence has been presented and tested, not just when the defendant can afford it.

Economy: We need to create living wage jobs to create renewable energy throughout the state, create a power grid to get the energy where it is needed, and retrofit public buildings and private housing to be energy efficient. We need to rebuild and update drainage solutions and repair aging infrastructure, including schools, streets and highways. Good schools and subsidized college in-state tuition will attract business, and bring jobs.
Other Issues: We need to rethink education entirely. We are 49th among 50 states and, clearly, more of the same will not bring improvement. We are born learning machines and need authentic opportunities to experience and learn, not discipline and grinding memorization which dulls the brain and discourages the learner. We need longer school days to accommodate the work force and classes interspersed with physical activity to maintain alertness and physical health. We need to de-emphasize testing

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Four-year term. Must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Texas for the five years immediately preceding the election. Among duties as part of both the Executive and Legislative branches: assumes powers of Governor when Governor is absent or unable to serve; acts as President of the Senate; by statute, is a member of several Legislative branch boards and committees. The salary is that of a state senator when serving as President of the Texas Senate and that of the Governor when serving as Governor.

Background: What training and experience qualify you for this office? (50 words)


Transportation: What is the best way for Texas to meet its growing transportation needs? (75 words)

Education: How should Texas finance public education in light of reduced revenues from property and business taxes? (75 words)

Function: What do you think is the most important function of the Lieutenant Governor during the legislative session? (75 words)

DAVID DEWHURST (R) - No reply received

LINDA CHAVEZ-THOMPSON (D)



Background: I've led an international union with millions of workers. I've negotiated contracts, developed policy papers, and secured a living wage for thousands of workers across in my 28-year career as a labor organizer, culminating as the first woman of color to serve as Executive Vice President of the AFL-CIO.
Education: State leaders are failing to heed the warnings of former state demographer, and Bush appointee, Steve Mur-

doch, who has warned that real wages will be lower in 2030 than they were in the year 2000. Today's economy is driven by technology and innovation — and leaders of the new economy understand its an economic imperative that big business paying its fair share. This message was echoed in a recent report by the Texas Association of Business.
Transportation: Response does not meet criteria
Function: Response does not meet criteria

SCOTT JAMESON (L)

Background: I will not spend millions to convince everyone I should be elected. I share your financially conservative values. I will lead the Texas Senate to vastly improve education at all levels, provide a smart, affordable transportation infrastructure, while ardently defending all Texans with a shield of transparent and ethical values.
Education: A Modified Voucher System would provide optimal education choices and progressively save the state system billions. When individuals and corporations contributed to a voucher school that school's provision of education tax dollars would be scaled down. Public school crowding and capital expenditure pressures would be reduced. The successful model of magnet schools should be expanded. Also, we should provide some property tax exemption for homeschoolers. We must repeal the NCLB Act and end federal intervention.

Transportation: Public-Private Partnerships are important in meeting the state's highway infrastructure needs. However, we need to use proper revenue sharing models to limit windfall profits. Also, as a Realtor, I am informed about the controversial expanded use of eminent domain, and I oppose this expansion. Private property rights combined with good environmental laws must be preeminent. Finally, Texas is a leader in technology and we need to support building infrastructure for hybrid and fuel cell (///)
Function: The Lt. Governor must help implement the Texas Constitution for everyone's well-being. Legislatively, I would be a fulcrum between the two legacy parties' agendas. As a conservative Libertarian, I am in the best political party to set the calendar of the Senate for the best possible results -a conservative balanced budget, an optimal education framework, great transportation infrastructure and a clean environment. As your Lt. Governor, I will listen to you and work for you.

HERB GONZALES, JR (G)

Background: My experience is based on studying and being actively involved in politics and government. I have a BA in polisci and was a representative for student group in student government. I was elected precinct chair and a delegate to Green convention. I have been campaign coordinator in city and county.
Education: The present system is in need of dismantling and creating a Permanent Public Education fund that is financed by a minimum tax on the fortune 500 corporations that whether they are chartered in Texas or not will pay this minimum tax in order to profit from the income of Texans.

Transportation: Texas should begin to invest in transportation that will be used by all to reduce and eliminate the need of oil and gas. Urban areas must begin to create a public transport system that is energy efficient in not releasing greenhouse gases. Monies should be directed at creating not toll but roadways that are for public transportation electric and rail and to create a system to rebate citizens who use public transport instead of privately (///)
Function: It is affirmed that I will promote the public good and ensure with the Texas Senate that legislation will be of benefit to the citizens and persons who reside in Texas.

Howard County

LET YOUR
VOICE
BE
HEARD!



VOTE
**DONNIE
BAKER**
For County Commissioner
Precinct 2

VOTE
**JOHN
CLINE**
For County Commissioner
Precinct 4



RE-ELECT
**KATHRYN
WISEMAN**
Justice of the Peace
Precinct 1, Place 2



Let's Make A Difference!

Get out &
VOTE

EARLY VOTING
October 18 - 29
ELECTION DAY
November 2



ELECTION

Continued from Page 4

some bad years. If the government takes most of what they earn in the good years, they will have nothing to offset the losses during the bad years. Thus, marginal tax rates need to be low. I favor a flat tax with low marginal rates, but in the absence of that, I am adamantly opposed to raising the marginal tax rates—even on the so-called “rich,” since high marginal tax rates will discourage businesses from expanding and hiring people. Thus, I support maintaining all the “Bush” tax rates that presently apply. We need to reduce the burdens that government imposes on business so they will have incentives to expand and hire more employees.

Randy Neugebauer — To start, government needs to get out of the way. After 14 consecutive months of unemployment rates higher than 9.5 percent in America, it seems obvious that big government and big spending policies are not the answer. What we need to do is provide certainty for the businesses, large and small, that will bring the jobs back that will put Americans back to work. We need to prevent a looming \$3.9 billion tax increase which, if allowed to occur, will only further burden American families and businesses. If anything, we should seek to lower the tax burden so that families can afford to go out and buy goods and services and businesses can afford to hire new employees. This will get Americans back to work and our economy back on track.

Andy Wilson — I have been employed my entire career in the manufacturing sector and have a fundamental belief that our nation produces our way to prosperity. Yet, in the 20 years since graduating from college, I have seen us continually ship our production overseas. We are left today with an economy that is totally dependent on consumer spending — so we are no longer building wealth, we are spending it. The result is stagnating job and wage growth. We must put into place the incentives to encourage companies to invest here in the U.S. and enact strong trade policies that prevent domestic producers from being undercut by unfair foreign competition.

• **The continuing growth of independent voters — a broad category that includes those who choose not to register with a major party even though they tend to identify with one more than the other, as well as a lot who are skeptical of both — in the U.S. illustrates a lack of patience with partisan politics. Are you willing to cross party lines for the betterment of Texans, and, if elected, will you vote your conscience or in the manner party leaders instruct you to?**

Randy Neugebauer — As I have proven over the last seven years in office, I vote my conscience and the will of the people of the 19th District. I don't care where the party lines are drawn; I align on the conservative side of the issue. I am a Constitutionalist and believe that the federalist principles created by our founding fathers should always be the center of our focus. My loyalties lie with my constituents and my country, not with a political party or political party leaders.

Andy Wilson — In West Texas, we have a heritage of sending independent minded representatives to Washington. Men like George Mahon (a Democrat) and Larry Combest (a Republican) regularly crossed party lines. Our current representative, Randy Neugebauer, has voted 98 percent of the time with the Republican Party. He does a better job representing the interests of the Republican Party than he does the interests of West Texas. I will carry on the tradition of Mahon and Combest and cross party lines to make sure that I am voting with my district rather than voting with a specific political party.

Richard “Chip” Peterson — I would have no problem working across party lines. As a Libertarian, I am fiscally conservative so I would cooperate with Republicans in trying to cut taxes and public spending. I would probably be even more forceful in trying to cut federal spending than most Republicans, with the exception of Ron Paul, since I would not want to fund things that were not justified by our U.S. Constitution. I also would cooperate with Republicans in protecting people's right to keep and bear arms and in maintaining a strong national defense for the homeland. However, as a Libertarian, I am very concerned with civil liberties, and I could cooperate with the Democrats on any issue where they tried to prevent the government from intruding unnecessarily into all aspects of people's lives.

I would oppose the warrantless searches authorized under the misnamed Patriot Act — searches that violate our 4th amendment — and arbitrary confiscation of private property. In addition, I would cooperate with

Democrats insofar as they tried to prevent our government from wasting our resources and valuable young military peoples' lives by trying to be the world policeman. I believe it is futile to try to democratize uncivilized people and that rich countries ought to defend themselves rather than rely upon us to defend them — thus, while I think we should defend ourselves strongly, I don't think we should try to defend the whole world. Because we need to defend ourselves strongly, however, I think we need to maintain a strong nuclear force and the ability to project force around the world. This would put me at odds with many Democrats but in agreement with many Republicans.

• **Do you support capital punishment, and if so, for what specific crimes?**

Andy Wilson — Capital punishment has primarily been a state issue, and I believe that it should remain so. I do not believe that the federal government should prohibit a state from carrying out capital punishment. Nor should the federal government compel a state to carry out capital punishment.

Richard “Chip” Peterson — I support capital punishment for premeditated murder, treason and terrorist attacks upon U.S. citizens.

Randy Neugebauer — Yes, when a court of law and a jury of the plaintiff's peers conclude that this is the most just sentence for the crime.

• **Between 1970 and 1990, firearm-related injuries surpassed motor-vehicle crashes as the leading cause of death from injuries in Texas, and from 1979 through 1987, Texas was ranked fifth for age-adjusted firearm-related death rates (statistics provided by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention). Do you support restrictions on the purchase and possession of guns?**

Richard “Chip” Peterson — I support very few restrictions upon peoples' right to keep and bear arms. This right was placed in our Bill of Rights because our founding fathers thought it was essential for citizens to be able to defend themselves against a possibly tyrannical government. I believe all people should be allowed to have firearms for self-defense on their property. I believe felons convicted of robbery or offenses against other people should not be licensed or allowed to carry firearms in public. Also, I believe that some protections or waiting periods could be warranted if someone who was mentally unstable or drunk and in a rage wished to purchase a firearm.

Randy Neugebauer — I am pro-gun and anti-big government. I do not support restrictions on the possession or purchase of guns. I believe that the right to bear arms is a right given to Americans by our founding fathers in our Constitution. Guns do not kill people, people kill people. We should look to enforce the gun laws on the books for the people that misuse or abuse them, not take guns away from law abiding citizens.

Andy Wilson — I do not support further restrictions on the purchase and possession of firearms.

• **With the argument regarding the legitimacy of recent global warming claims in question, do you support enacting environmental regulations aimed at reducing the effects of climate change?**

Randy Neugebauer — I believe that the effects of global warming have been grossly misrepresented and recent legislation regarding the issue has been nothing more than a tax levy on the American people — the largest proposed in our nation's history. I do not support enacting increased environmental regulations.

Andy Wilson — Our dependence on the Middle East for petroleum has threatened our national security. We need an Energy Policy that puts us on a path of energy independence. This will require an increase in domestic production and an increased investment in alternative energy resulting in a reduction of greenhouse gases.

Richard “Chip” Peterson — I believe that climate change can be studied by reliable — not biased — investigators, but that nothing needs to be done now. I am very suspicious that much of the reported data have been massaged to show a problem that doesn't exist, but which could be used to justify massive tax hikes on the public in the form of elevated utility bills and energy costs. Politicians who want to intrude into peoples' lives have generously funded research that shows that climate change could be a problem, but the recent release of e-mails and retractions by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change shows that the problem has been, probably intentionally, overstated.

I organized a seminar on Cap and Trade at Texas Tech last year. Presenters included Alex Mills, president of the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers; Gary Gregory, president of

the West Texas Division of Atmos Energy; James Driver, general manager of South Plains Electric Cooperative; Andy Swift, director of Wind Science and Engineering Research Center at Texas Tech; and myself. The conference was filmed but the tape was too long to put up on the internet easily. The organization, Americans for Integrity in Government (AFIIG) in Lubbock has a copy, as do I. We could show the tape for interested parties. Presenters with industry ties showed that the proposed Cap and Trade Legislation would impose very high costs on consumers in the form of higher utility bills and higher energy prices. Andy Swift discussed the growing potential and cost effectiveness of wind power in our Region, and I presented a survey of economics views of the cap and trade issues. My paper is available on the “Statements” page of my website: <http://www.chippeterson.com>. It is titled, “A Two-Handed Economist looks at Cap and Trade.”

Basically, I concluded, along with other economists cited, that carbon dioxide is not a present threat. It has attained far higher levels in the atmosphere in the past and the earth has thrived. It is plant food, in that plants grow faster, including cotton, corn and all other crops, if carbon dioxide is more abundant. Furthermore, the Earth has been far warmer in the past — dinosaurs lived in a temperate climate in Alaska and Greenland was arable — and the Earth did not have a crisis. In addition, the present evidence that carbon emissions are harmful is not convincing yet and is politically charged since it would provide an excuse for statist politicians to try to control all aspects of citizens' energy use and their lives.

Moreover, some of the motivation for cap and trade controls is suspect as it comes from politically connected investment banks, such as Goldman Sachs, that would profit greatly from trading pollution permits in the U.S. Finally, cap and trade policies have been adopted in Europe and they haven't worked.

I am not opposed to the regulation of harmful pollutants, such as sulfuric acid or mercury. However, I am opposed to the regulation of carbon dioxide emissions, as it is a useful gas for agriculture, it is not directly harmful to humans, the evidence that it would harm the Earth through global warming is not yet convincing, and the regulation of carbon emissions would be very harmful to the energy industry and consumers in West Texas.

• **The US Patriot Act has been in effect since Oct. 26, 2001, nearly nine years since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon. Do you feel the act**

continues to serve the best interest of Americans? Do you feel it should someday be abolished, and if so, when?

Andy Wilson — The Patriot Act was intended to be a temporary measure that would expire in 4 years. However, international terrorism remains a threat today. Moving forward, the Patriot Act should be replaced with sustainable legislation that provides a balance between national security and personal privacy.

Richard “Chip” Peterson — The Patriot Act has some useful features in helping to prevent another terror attack like Sept. 11, 2001. However, it has a number of features that violate the U.S. Constitution and individual citizen's privacy that should be repealed. First, in violation of our Constitution 4th amendment, it authorizes warrantless searches. The argument is that it is not always possible to obtain needed warrants on a timely basis. However, we have Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Courts that can authorize searches designed to protect us against terrorists. If we just had a sufficient number of judges on call at all times of day, they could be requested to authorize needed searches on a timely basis.

The Patriot Act also incorporated a number of provisions that would allow the government to spy upon the personal — particularly the financial — lives of U.S. citizens. Many of those provisions had been proposed previously during the Clinton administration and had very little to do with preventing terror attacks.

Those provisions may be used to prevent some possible tax evasion, but they do not prevent terror, and, in fact, they probably intrude upon the financial privacy of all citizens, whether they are breaking a federal law or not. Former Governor Elliot Spitzer of New York had to step down after it was found that he had made large cash transfers to a prostitute; those cash transfers were discovered only because of the mandatory cash reporting requirements imposed on banks by the Patriot Act.

Thus, I believe that certain provisions of the Patriot Act should be repealed so the government cannot intrude into all aspects of citizens' lives. However, unfortunately, I believe that certain anti-terrorist provisions will need to be maintained as long as there are a substantial number of people in this world who believe they will go to paradise if they kill Americans.

Randy Neugebauer — The safety of our country and its citizens is top priority. I am a supporter of the Patriot Act and will continue to support its existence.

“By the people, For the people”

RE-ELECT

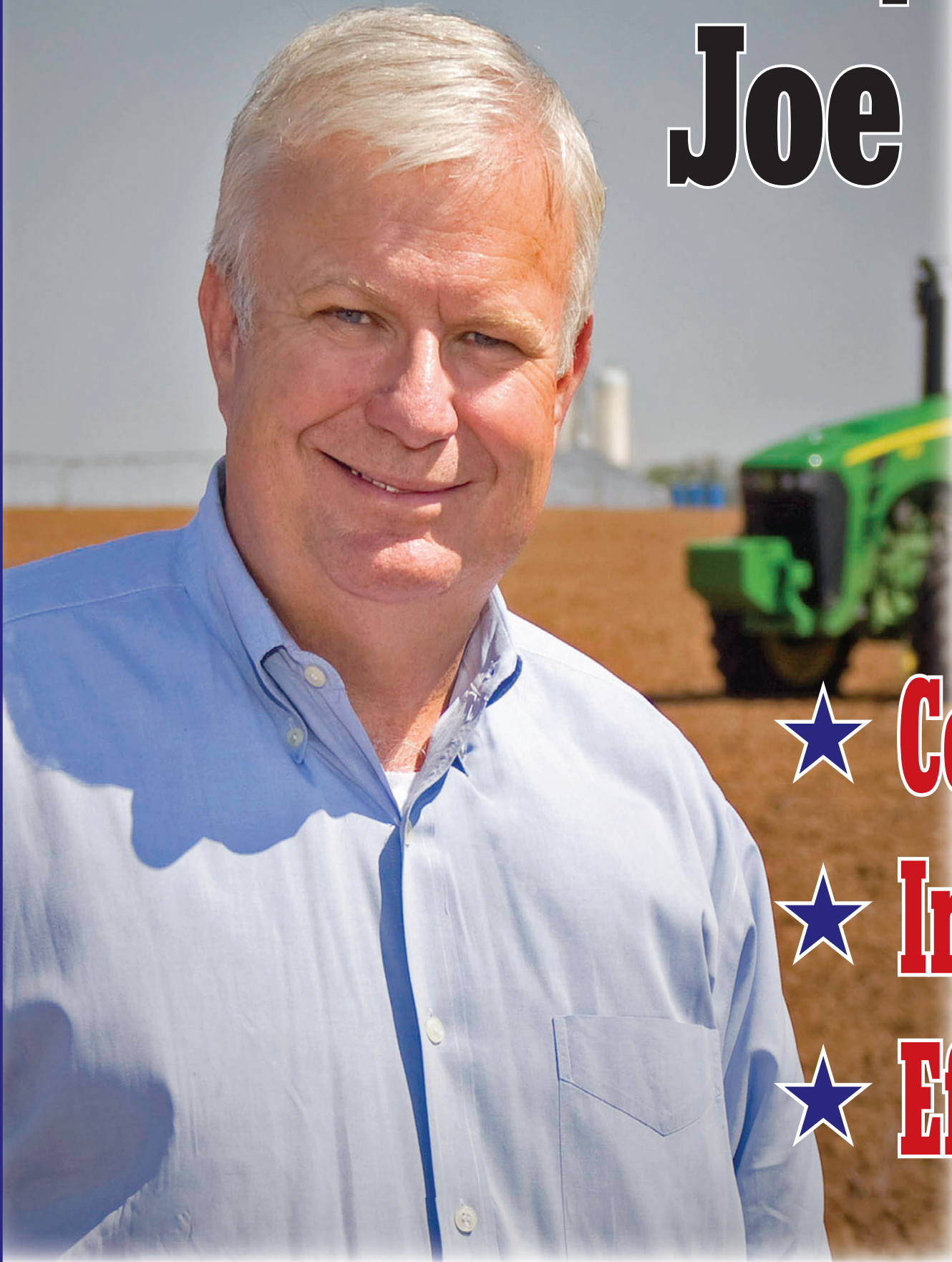
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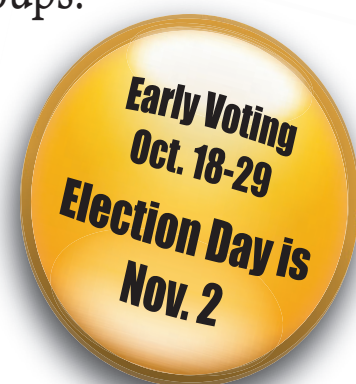
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***Some people talk about West Texas values.
Joe Heflin lives them.***

The grandson of cotton farmers and carpenters, Joe was born in Morton and his home has always been in West Texas. His parents instilled in him a strong work ethic and a focus on three priorities: God, family and community.

He has been endorsed by Texas Farm Bureau, the National Rifle Association, Texas Parent PAC, the Texas State Teachers Association, and dozens more respected groups. He also is certified as meeting the criteria of Texas Right to Life.

Today, Joe and his wife, Linda, are long-time members of the First Baptist Church of Crosbyton, where he is a past Missions Committee chairman.



RE-ELECT

Joe Heflin
State Representative
District 85