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HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Paul Pittman, local resident, stopped by Inspirations Flowers and Gifts Saturday morning during Kathleen Rigdon Highley's book signing. Highley was featuring her newest book, "Coming Home" — her third novel — and also had copies of her previous two books, "106 Arrowhead Drive" and "In Search of Tranquility" on hand.

EDC to meet on 4B project

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

Big Spring Economic Development Corporation board members will discuss the Type B project being proposed by the Big Spring City Council during a special meeting at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Board Room.

During the meeting there will be consideration, discussion and possible action concerning the Type B project proposed by Mayor Tommy Duncan, which would set some economic development funds aside for the repair and rehabilitation of the city of Big Spring's water and wastewater treatment plants and repair and replacement of water distribution lines.

Big Spring City Council re-

cently approved, on first reading, sending the measure to voters in an May 12 election. Second reading is planned during the council's next meeting, which is Tuesday night.

"Our board (BSEDC) has not formally discussed the Type B project and we feel we need to present that information to our board members in a formal setting," Executive Director of the BSEDC Terry Wegman said.

After the board has had its discussion, there will be allotted time for public input as well as additional board input, according to the agenda.

The chamber board room is located inside the Chamber of Commerce building, located

See **EDC**, Page 3A

Breast-feeding mom cries 'foul'

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

A Big Spring woman says she believes her civil rights were violated when a local daycare facility asked her to breast feed her 8-month-old daughter in a designated room because the nursing was making male patrons uncomfortable.

Anna Preciado, who recently moved to Big Spring with her husband and three children from New Mexico, said a recent altercation at Learning Tree Academy left her confused regarding the daycare facility's familiar-

ity with state law regarding breast feeding.

"Before I moved here, I was already back at work so my daughter was taking a bottle fine. However, after we moved to Big Spring and being home with her for five months, she got used to nursing and she regressed," Preciado said. "I started my new job in January, so I began taking my



Preciado

daughter and my son to the Learning Tree Academy. I spoke with them then about breast feeding my daughter when I enrolled her. I get there early enough so I can nurse her for 30 minutes in the morning before I leave for work, and then, at about noon I go over there and nurse her for about 30 minutes, and then, right when I get out of work at 5 p.m.

I nurse her for 30 minutes before I take her home because she's really hungry.

THE LAW

Sec. 165.001 Legislative Finding

The legislature finds that breast feeding a baby is an important and basic act of nurture that must be encouraged in the interests of maternal and child health and family values. In compliance with the breast feeding promotion program established under the federal Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. Section 1771 et seq.), the legislature recognizes breast feeding as the best method of infant nutrition.

Sec. 165.002 Right to breast feed

A mother is entitled to breast feed her baby in any location in which the mother is authorized to be.

"Friday evening, when I went in to pick up my daughter, the rocking chair I always

used to sit in wasn't in the

See **LAW**, Page 3A

Barr, McLellan file for re-election

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

Start the list for the upcoming board of trustees election

at Howard College.

As of Thursday afternoon, Maxwell Barr — seat holder of District 4 — and Larry McLellan — trustee for District 3 — have announced they will be seeking re-election.

Barr was appointed to his current seat in Feb-

ruary 2009 in order to fill the position of long-time board member Don McKinney, who passed away. After his fill-in term, he was elected to the position in 2010.

"It has been a great honor and a privilege to serve my community and the college on this board," said Barr. "I feel my agricultural background allows me to bring a unique voice to the table regarding our students' educational needs as well as the need of our area's ag industry."

McLellan was appointed to the District 3 seat upon the passing of long-time board member Harold Davis in 2008. He was elected

to the position in 2010.

"I am honored to represent District 3," McLellan said. "I feel like I bring something to the table at Howard College and want to continue serving in this capacity."

Barr holds more than 30 years of experience in farming and ranching and was named Howard County Ag Producer of the Year in 2002. He has also held positions on the Big Spring Co-Op Gin, Howard County Farm Bureau and was on the Howard County Farm Service Agency County Committee.

Barr's father, Buddy Barr, also served as a trustee on the Howard College board from 1975 to 1994 as an at-large representative.

McLellan has made his mark in the community the past 24 years serving as a licensed pharmacist and is the acting president and CEO of Leonard's Pharmacy Prescription Services Inc.

Before serving on the Howard College board, he served on the Big Spring Independent School 1 District Board from 1992 until 2002.

He also served on several other community organization boards including Big Spring YMCA, United Way, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation and the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation board.

"Through my exposure and

See **FILING**, Page 3A

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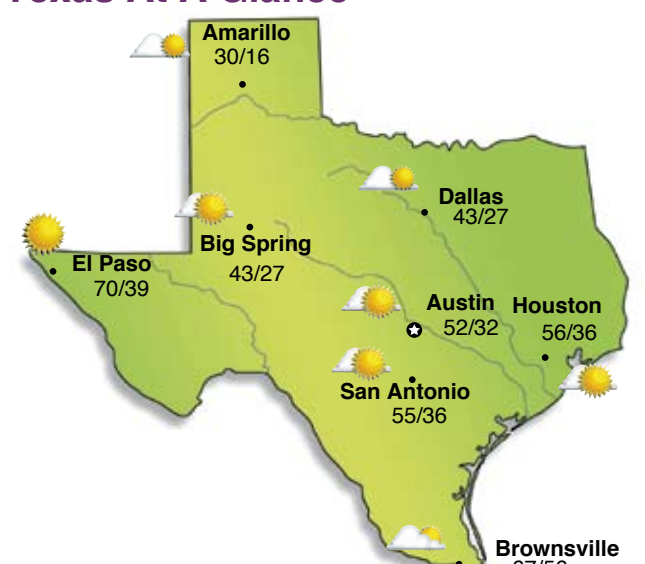
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sun 2/12	Mon 2/13	Tue 2/14	Wed 2/15	Thu 2/16
43/27 Sunshine and some clouds. High 43F. Winds ENE at 15 to 25 mph.	42/37 Rain and snow. Highs in the low 40s and lows in the upper 30s.	66/37 Morning clouds followed by afternoon sun.	70/40 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.	69/42 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise: 7:33 AM Sunset: 6:28 PM	Sunrise: 7:32 AM Sunset: 6:29 PM	Sunrise: 7:31 AM Sunset: 6:30 PM	Sunrise: 7:30 AM Sunset: 6:31 PM	Sunrise: 7:29 AM Sunset: 6:32 PM

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abiene	43	24	mst sunny	Kingsville	66	47	mst sunny
Amarillo	30	16	pt sunny	Livingston	54	29	sunny
Austin	52	32	mst sunny	Longview	46	28	pt sunny
Beaumont	55	32	sunny	Lubbock	37	18	pt sunny
Brownsville	67	56	cloudy	Lufkin	52	29	sunny
Brownwood	49	30	mst sunny	Midland	45	30	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	62	47	mst sunny	Raymondville	68	52	pt sunny
Corsicana	42	26	pt sunny	Rosenberg	57	36	mst sunny
Dallas	43	27	pt sunny	San Antonio	55	36	mst sunny
Del Rio	60	40	pt sunny	San Marcos	53	32	mst sunny
El Paso	70	39	sunny	Sulphur Springs	38	25	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	59	34	windy	Sweetwater	43	25	mst sunny
Gainesville	37	21	pt sunny	Tyler	45	26	pt sunny
Greenville	38	23	pt sunny	Weatherford	40	23	pt sunny
Houston	56	36	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	36	21	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	38	21	windy	Minneapolis	18	7	sunny
Boston	37	16	snow	New York	39	24	mixed
Chicago	23	16	pt sunny	Phoenix	75	50	pt sunny
Dallas	43	27	pt sunny	San Francisco	58	47	pt sunny
Denver	29	21	sn shower	Seattle	49	39	rain
Houston	56	36	mst sunny	St. Louis	27	17	pt sunny
Los Angeles	62	46	pt sunny	Washington, DC	45	24	mixed
Miami	80	50	rain				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Sun 2/12	Mon 2/13	Tue 2/14	Wed 2/15	Thu 2/16
5	3	5	5	5
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

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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Obituaries

Kelvin Allen Branch



Kelvin Allen Branch, 48 of Big Spring, Texas, formerly of Paris, passed away Thursday, Feb. 9, 2012, in Midland, Texas.

Funeral services have been set for Monday, Feb. 13, 2012, at 11 a.m. at Fry-Gibbs Funeral Home with Bill Coleman officiating. Interment will follow at Hopewell Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday evening at the funeral home.

He attended East Texas State University where he received his bachelor of business administration degree. He then attended Stephen F. Austin University where received his master of education degree. He was the athletic director at Goddard Jr. High in Midland, Texas. He coached at Dallas Carter, John Tyler, North Lamar and Paris high schools.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Alcantar Branch of Big Spring, Texas; parents, Allen Jr. and Geri Branch; sisters, Janice Ellis and Lana Jorski; his nieces, who were dear to his heart, Katie Jorski, Christie Skidmore and husband Ryan, Jamie Ellis, Bianca Cuellar; son, Zachary Branch; step-children, Ashleigh Ramirez, Allison Rodriguez and husband Patrick, Richard Alcantar, Alan Alcantar and Jonathan Alcantar; and mother-in-law, Ofelia Alcantar. He was preceded in death by grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Coy Branch, Sr., and Fruetrell Wright.

Serving as Pallbearers will be coaches Adam Portillo, Chad Dempsey, Jay Jordan, Juan Antonio Molinar, Ryan Hritz, Steve Gilpin, Randall Shaw, Allen Wilson, Tommy Felty and Paul Allen. Honorary pallbearers will be Jonathan Alcantar, Richard Alcantar, Joe Cuellar, Sid Branch and Billy Hall.

The eagle has landed in Heaven, his final destination.

Online condolences may be sent to the Branch family at www.fry-gibbs.com

Paid obituary

Bill Raney



Bill Raney, 82, of Big Spring, died Friday, Feb. 10, 2012, at Sennic Mountain Medical Center. Graveside services with military honors will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, 2012, at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Ken McIntosh, pastor of First Christian Church, officiating.

Bill was born Jan. 24, 1930, in Lubbock, Texas, to Oddie and William Raney. He was a resident of Big Spring for more than 75 years. He attended Tarleton and Texas Tech Universities. He began working for Texas Electric in 1953 and retired from TXU May 1, 1985. He married Eddie Thomas on Oct. 3, 1985, in Big Spring. He was a veteran of the United States Army and served in Korea. He was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene.

Bill is survived by his wife, Eddie Raye Raney of Big Spring; two daughters: Kathleen Sanford and husband Dale of Dallas and Vickie Perry and husband Allen of Big Spring; two sons: Carl Railsback of Big Spring and Gerald Railsback and wife Paula of Azle; four grandchildren, A.J. Perry, Brandy Pace, Kevin Railsback and wife Jennifer and Brandy Gentry and husband Derrick; six great-grandchildren: Audrey Floyd, Lainey Gentry, Jude Gentry, Morgan Owens, Allie Jo Owens and Hatcher Railsback; and his mother-in-law Earline Davidson.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary, in 1984; one son, William Carl Raney in 1982; and a great-grandson, Alex Gentry.

Pallbearers will be Carl Railsback, Gerald Railsback, Allen Perry, Dale Sanford, Jordan Aguilar and Ethan Aguilar.

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

Paid obituary

Federico 'Fred' Salgado



Federico "Fred" Salgado, 62, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Feb. 08, 2012, at his niece's residence. Vigil services and memorial services will be at 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, 2012, at Myers & Smith Chapel, with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating.

He was born Nov. 13, 1949, in Vealmoor, Texas, to Virginia and Cirilo Salgado. He has been a lifetime resident of Howard County.

He married Alice Jimenez on June 26, 1971, in Midland, Texas. She preceded him in death Jan. 14, 2009. He was a self-employed carpet layer for more than 40 years. He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

He is survived by one daughter Linda Salgado and husband Ramiro Mier of Big Spring; five grandchildren: Ramiro Mier, III, Kimberly Mier, Fred Mier, Cirildo Mier and Jessica all of Big Spring; mother Virginia Salgado of Odessa; three sisters: Virginia Beltran and Manuela Salgado of Odessa and Minnie Vasquez and wife Porfirio of Albuquerque; two brothers: Cirilo Salgado and wife Isabel and Tony Salgado and wife Maggie of Odessa.

In addition to his wife and father, he was preceded in death by one son Federico Salgado, Jr. and three brothers Marion Andrew Salgado, Sr., Carlos Salgado and Oscar Salgado and one sister Mary Helen Salgado.

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

Paid obituary

Johnny Ray Liedecke

Johnny Ray Liedecke, 55, of Big Spring died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012, in Scurry County, Texas. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

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LAW

Continued from Page 1A

same room. I asked the staff members where the chair was and one of the girls who works there told me Miss D (Deidrei Knight, Learning Tree Academy director) had removed it. I asked her why and it just seemed like no one wanted to say anything at that point. So I just sat in a different chair to feed my baby and one of the employees told me they didn't want us to be in that room just chit-chatting, so they were making another room to nurse my daughter in. I thought that was really

weird, and she told me her husband was really shy and it bothered him when he came to pick up their baby to see me feeding my daughter. I thought she was just making that up to defend Miss D or some other reason. At that point, I really didn't know what the truth was."

According to the Texas Department of State Health Services, state law gives a mother the right to breast feed wherever she is allowed to be. It also encourages businesses to support a working mother to continue to breast feed for as long as she wants.

"One of the employees finally came in and told me, 'I told her (Knight)

to come talk to you, but she didn't want to come talk to you, but she did say she's not picking on you," Preciado said. "I told the employee, 'Well, that right there tells me, yes, she is picking on me.' If I tell you, 'I don't want to hurt your feelings, but...' what am I going to say? I'm going to say something that's going to hurt your feelings, and that's why I'm defending myself prior to my statement ... I had been feeding my daughter since the beginning of January and I didn't understand why it was a problem now? The employee told me she didn't understand it either, but I was going to have to discuss it with Miss D (Knight), so I just figured she would talk to me when she was ready.

"So, I was on my way out the door because I had to get to my meeting and Miss D approached me. I explained to her I had to get to an early meeting that morning and asked her if we could discuss it that afternoon because I was really pressed for time. She said, 'I just want you to know I'm not picking on you,' and I said, 'Sure you are, you are picking on me. It's the law. I have the right to feed my child anywhere I have the right to be. I'm a paying customer of yours and I have the right to feed her in the nursery.' I told her I wasn't going to argue with her and if I had to, I'd pull my children, and she said, 'You do whatever you feel is going to be best.'"

Knight confirms Preciado was asked to nurse in a designated room — a room she said other mothers use for that very purpose on a regular basis — but said questioning the maturity of the men who were uncomfortable with the local woman breast feeding in the nursery area three times a day is not painting an accurate picture of what happened.

"Anna is upset, and she's lashing out. Blaming this on the men who were uncomfortable with her breast feeding in the nursery really isn't fair," Knight said. "First of all, despite what she says, she isn't a modest breast feeder. While she was nursing, she was eating her lunch, so both of her hands were occupied, and the baby was lifting her shirt and exposing all kinds of flesh. There was plenty for our male guests — not to mention

our staff — to be uncomfortable with.

"We have a very nice room designated for just this purpose, so the mothers and their children can not only nurse, but can also bond. Anna had used that area previously, so she knew it was not only adequate for her needs, but more than adequate."

Preciado said the confrontation left her feeling discriminated against, at which time she decided to contact the Texas Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program for advice

"So I called the local WIC office and they gave me the number to the Midland office, and I also called another daycare in town and explained what had happened," Preciado said. "I asked them in advance if it would be a problem if I nursed my daughter in her classroom, and they told me it wouldn't. They offer another room for women if they want it, but you can nurse in the classroom and no one is going to say anything.

"Miss D (Knight) never called me or offered to talk things out with me. I just feel like her ethics are in question because to me the obvious choice would have been, if she was trying not to pick on me and trying to work things out to tell her employee if her husband was uncomfortable, then why don't you take your child to him at the door? Instead of us making the mother move to another room? And, any of the other parents who were uncomfortable, that's their own issues. If you have an issue with me breast feeding my child, you need to look inside yourself ... It wasn't like I was exposing myself or anything like that. I made sure my flesh wasn't showing when I was nursing. There was no reason at all for any mature man to feel uncomfortable in that situation."

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

Stanton man jailed on multiple charges

Herald Staff Report

MIDLAND — Police say a 32-year old Stanton man, arrested for driving while intoxicated, spat on one officer, resisted arrest and made verbal threats to them.



Davis

Cody Dean Davis was taken to jail Wednesday after police responded to a two-vehicle traffic accident at the intersection of Florida Avenue and Terrell Street. According to affidavits, police officers attempted to get Davis to take a field sobriety test, but he refused.

A background check indicated Davis had three prior convictions for DWI. Officers then took him to a hospital emergency room for a mandatory blood test.

According to officers, Davis became combative at the ER, yelling obscenities at medical

staff, officers and other patients, so he was taken back to the patrol car. Affidavits claim he continued to struggle with officers and as he was placed in the back of the car he spit, striking one of them in the face. Officers then placed a spit mask over Davis' head.

Police said upon arrival at the jail, Davis refused to walk and had to be carried inside. According to an affidavit, Davis said "I'm going to whoop all y'all's asses." and "I'm going to get y'all. I'm going to blow you all up."

A blood specimen was eventually taken at the jail nurse's station and Davis was taken back to the hospital ER for an "exposure" blood draw for spitting in an officer's face.

Davis was charged with three-third degree felony charges of retaliation, harassment of a public servant and driving while intoxicated. Bond was set at \$45,000.

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Take Note

• Hangar 25 Air Museum is hosting a patch workshop for kids Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Registration is \$4 per child. To register, call the Hangar at 264-1999.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you can donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• As the 8th annual Powwow is coming near, organizers are seeking people interested in native American culture. The group is a family oriented organization that is looking to expand. You do not have to be native American to join. For comments, questions and answers, call Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125 or Connie Lesser at 432-816-6772.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and get two for one plus a rehab meeting.

• American Cancer Society will have its board meetings at noon on the second Tuesday of the month through April. Lunch will be furnished. Meetings will take place at Home Hospice, located at 111 E. Seventh.

• Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Training will be provided and geared to your time frame. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.

• Every 10 years, Texas requires that marks and brands be re-registered in the county or counties in which you operate. The re-registration period began Aug. 31 and runs through Feb. 29, 2012. At the conclusion date, all marks and brands that have not been re-registered are automatically available for registration by another party. For additional information, contact the Howard County Clerk's Office at 264-2214 or 264-2213.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help. We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

FILING

Continued from Page 1A

experience in education, economic development and private industry, I feel I bring some new insight to the board which will only be a benefit for our students and the communities we serve, he said.

Howard College will hold its board of trustees election May 12. Early voting will take place

starting April 30. To find out more information, contact the Howard County Elections Administration Office at 264-2273.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

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EXP. 2/29/12

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Federico "Fred" Salgado, 62, died Wednesday. Vigil services and Memorial services will be at 7 p.m. Sunday, February 12, 2012 at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Bill Raney, 82, died Friday. Graveside services with Military Honors will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Judy Hokett, 80, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

The City of Big Spring is testing for: Certified Police Officers

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan
Managing Editor

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

Steve Reagan
Staff Writer

Amanda Moreno
Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins
Staff Writer

YOUR VIEWS

On behalf of veterans

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing on the behalf of veterans all over the United States. The ones who are coming home from overseas, they will have a hard time getting their benefits. I know, just because I was in the Navy and I didn't set foot "in" the country of Vietnam.

Nineteen times I have been turned down for compensation or pension or upgrade of my disability. The VA said because the ones in the Navy didn't county as an honorable Vietnam service. I didn't believe it but the VA has nearly convinced me that there is discrimination in the U.S. service.

I feel sorry for anyone who has to depend on the VA benefits for a help in just living. Only Army and Marines get most of the benefits. Oh there are some, but few Air Force or Navy.

I am a 100 percent true veteran and it hurts me to know there are true veterans not qualified for VA compensation or pension. The U.S. government lied to us when we joined up and went into the service to fight wars. We were told we would be taken care of.

Please, if you have been turned down, write your congressman or even the president. I do. Stand up for your rights. Veterans are treated so badly. Thirty percent of homeless people are veterans and 12 percent are in prison.

THANK YOU,
JIMMY LEE HUFF
U.S. NAVY VETERAN
COLORADO CITY

Trade

TO THE EDITOR:

Since its inception, the World Trade Organization has been an undemocratic organization run by haves at the expense of the have-nots — sold as a way to combat income inequality around the world and allow everyone's boat to rise.

The organization has actually increased the gap between the rich and poor, favored multinational corporations over people and blatantly ignored labor and environmental issues. Since China's entry into the World Trade Organization in 2001, enormous trade deficits with the Asian nation have resulted in the loss of millions of jobs domestically and precious export capacity, decidedly lower wages and less bargaining power for American workers along with the accumulation of massive amounts of foreign debt, according to EconomyInCrisis.org.

In Texas, the losses have been significant. From 2001 to 2007, the state lost 202,900 jobs due to the

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

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 Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- 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 newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

With You, Lord, we have a fresh sense of adventure and opportunity.

Amen

Wolves out and on the prowl

Wolves have gotten generally "bad raps" for the longest time. Alaskan grey wolves were lurking about during the most recent Ice Age, several thousand years ago, and the species — Genus Canis — has been "dogged" by wolves' behavior. Jackals and coyotes — other members of the species — don't get as much bad press, and dogs feel their family linkage with any of 'em is a monumental genetic foul-up.

It didn't help that "were" was added to "wolves" in frightening stories from the Middle Ages. Later, in "Little Red Riding Hood" — a folk tale oft retold — "big/bad" preceded the wolf's name. The nerve of that wolf, trying to pass himself off as the little girl's grandmother by merely dressing in her nightie and pulling the bed covers high around his neck.

It is noted some wolves pick up on the masquerade thing, wearing — of all things — sheep clothing. One greatly obsessed with putting down the three little pigs — overestimated his huffing and puffing skills. Others in masquerade huff and puff themselves into public office.

Whatever, wolves have also taken it on the chin, playing scary creatures in horror movies. Count Dracula called the shots in some of 'em.

We mustered courage as kids to take on the scariest movies at matinees, but going to the movies in the dark of night was out of the question.

Suffice it to say wolves' image remains messy. Little wonder that kids rarely check to see if they have any wolf pups at the pet store. (And when Mrs. Hitler named her son Adolph, she likely didn't clear it with the wolves. It means "noble wolf," so she got his name only half right.)

Don't look now, but the mysterious creatures are back in the news, big time. Drought conditions have forced them out of the wilds and into neighborhoods to forage for food. In some areas, they enjoy immunity with endangered species status that is "on again/off again," depending on wolf populations in various regions.

Their fierce attacks pulled off in pack fashion are taking tolls on animals as large as cattle. In Michigan, bovine owners are frustrated but often handcuffed by protective regulations. So far, "shooing 'em off" hasn't worked worth a flip.

And never underestimate the cinematic powers of Hollywood to paint frightening pictures of whatever it chooses. Currently, a motion picture entitled "The Grey" features wolves scaring the bejebees out of human folk. Yep, wolves are back.

Several years ago, the sheep population in West Texas was taking regular hits from marauding wolves that licked their chops over lamb chops and other cuts of mutton.

Ranchers were frantic, unable to protect their flocks against wolf attacks.

A Texas A&M researcher visited the area, promising a "can't miss" solution. One little old lady, a rancher for decades, found anyone pushing "book-learning" to be highly suspect,

and the Ph.D. in front of the prof's name made it worse.

She went to the meeting to hear his pitch, certain his theoretical stuff wouldn't work in the real world. At first, she sat still, this little woman with skin weathered by the snows of many winters, her gray hair bunned in back. She silently thought "strike two" before the guy opened his mouth.

His initial statement did her in.

"You folks are in luck," he said. "We've concocted a new chemical at Texas A&M that will solve your problems. Just soak raw meat in the solution and throw it out on the range. When male wolves chow down on it, they become sterile."

The little old lady leaped from her chair, standing pine tree tall. All eyes of her 100 or so rancher friends darted her way.

"Send him on back to College Station," she yelled, "He don't even understand the problem. The wolves ain't assaulting the sheep, they're eatin' 'em!"

One fellow, hopelessly in arrears with the IRS, sent in a \$5 check. He cited all manner of ill fortune, apologetic that he was able to send so little.

There was, however, a single ray of sunshine in his cloudy lament.

"I couldn't even send the \$5 except for unexpected good fortune," he wrote. "The wolf that has been at my door for weeks had pups, and I got \$5 for 'em at our garage sale."

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Metroplex. Inquiries/comments: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.



Using penny plan to get the financial house back in order

Today, we face the most predictable - and preventable - crisis in American history.

Consider the flashing warning signs: The U.S. has accumulated more than \$5 trillion in new debt in less than four years; total debt recently surpassed our country's gross domestic product (more than \$15 trillion), and the Congressional Budget Office forecasts that 2012 will be the fourth consecutive year of more than \$1 trillion federal budget deficits.

There is no end in sight - unless we change direction.

After a tumultuous 2011, Congress and the White House still face the same challenge - to find a responsible, bipartisan way to reduce deficits by cutting spending. The 1 Percent Spending Reduction Act, or "Penny Plan," was introduced in the House by Rep. Connie Mack (R-FL) and by Sen. Mike Enzi (R-WY) in the Senate. I co-sponsored this bill because it illustrates how a modest, common-sense approach could be used to put our financial house in order.

The Penny Plan would reduce total federal spending 1 percent per year for six years. In the seventh year and thereafter, overall

spending would be capped at 18 percent of the GDP.

Of course, not every program would be cut. But Congress would need to set budget priorities and cap annual spending by 1 percent overall.

Why stabilize spending at 18 percent of GDP? First, this is the average percentage of tax revenue as a portion of GDP since World War II. In contrast, federal spending has skyrocketed in recent years to a stratospheric 24 percent of GDP. Second, tax revenues are also expected to return to about 18 percent of GDP as our economy regains strength in coming years, according to the Congressional Budget Office. If spending is capped permanently at 18 percent of GDP, balanced budgets would follow.

Under the Penny Plan, if Congress and the White House fail to agree on the required 1 percent annual reduction in total spending, automatic, across-the-board spending cuts would be triggered. This can put constructive pressure on the president and members of Congress to do the jobs they were elected to do - and put our nation's financial house back in order.

The Penny Plan is not based on any political ideology but, rather, on the everyday common sense in every American home. When a family budget must be tightened, the adults figure out how to reduce spending by 1 percent per year. A little of

that kind of reasonableness and discipline is what is needed to restore financial responsibility in Washington.

Continuing on our current path of record deficits is reckless and unacceptable. It assures that our weak economy will remain weak and that unemployment will stay at historically high levels. The fiscal status quo also keeps Social Security and Medicare on course for bankruptcy in the years ahead, threatening the financial security and health care of tens of millions of current and future retirees.

The Penny Plan - reasonable, nonideological and fair - is a way for Congress and President Barack Obama to come together to ensure that the federal government stops spending money it doesn't have - the most critical investment we can make in our future.

Combine that practical approach to financial responsibility with pro-growth tax reforms and sensible regulatory restraint, and we'll get our economy moving. Millions of unemployed Americans will again be able to find work to support their families and communities. And America can get back on the right track.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the Texas U.S. Senator. To find out more about Hutchison or to read more of her columns, visit <http://hutchison.senate.gov/?p=home>



DR. DON NEWBURY



KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

growing trade deficit with China, an unfortunate trend that will likely continue under the current trade regime.

THOMAS W. SCOTT JR.
IRVING

Please don't take my bench

TO THE EDITOR:
I am writing this letter in reference to recent changes at Mount Olive Cemetery. On Jan. 18, my sister went to visit her daughter and noticed the cement bench she had permission to place at the foot of the plot was gone. She immediately went to the office to inquire about its removal. She was told they are removing everything that cannot be mowed around.

First of all, anyone who has been to Mount Olive knows they lack in the area of mowing and keeping trash picked up. Second of all, she had permission to place the bench there. My sister, for as long as I can remember, weed-eats around our parent's plot, her daughter's plot and now my husband's plot.

I went to the office on the same day to gain permission to keep the cement bench at my husband's foot end of the plot. I was told I needed to get permission from (City Manager) Gary Fuqua. I emailed him immediately. After a week of not getting a response from Mr. Fuqua, I personally went to his office. I have expressed the reasons I would like to keep the bench out there.

I am 64 years old, have had a total hip replacement and now in the need of back surgery due to extensive herniated discs. I visit my husband daily for long periods of time. I am unable to stand during this time. Having a bench there allows me to spend as much time there as I want.

I understand the cemetery's need to mow, but we keep our area weed-eated and the trash picked up. After meeting with Mr. Fuqua's secretary, I was told he can't promise anything. We were not told or

given any policy about things that could or could not be placed at Mount Olive.

If you have a loved one at Mount Olive, be prepared to find the things you have placed gone at the discretion of their employees.

Once again, I am not criticizing them trying to clean up. There are areas that have excessive clutter that is old and needs to be removed. My issue is, trying to find someone to grant me permission to leave my cement bench at my husband's plot, with the condition that we will be responsible for keeping the grass/weeds trimmed around it.

Mount Olive should not be allowed to remove anything until the families are notified first.

EVELYN BENNETT
BIG SPRING

Wasting the labors

TO THE EDITOR:
Thomas Jefferson is quoted as saying, "It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes." He also said, "... future happiness for Americans, (is) if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under pretense of taking care of them."

We are all aware of the increasing debt limit. It is interesting to note that President Bush, in 2001, warned congress that this economic crises was coming, if something was not done. Of course, congress did not listen.

Now, after the debt limit has been raised a few times in 2011, we are told that it will need to be raised in November of this year. To try to reduce this, there have been proposals to reduce Social Security payments, among other things. Have you ever wondered why, if every politician is against inflation, high taxes and deficits, that we have inflation, high taxes and deficits?

I find it interesting that the constitution established only three governing bodies: Executive, Legislative and Judicial. At present, there are 545 people who affect the lives of 300 million people and are responsible for America's woes. The president is the sole member of the Executive body. The Legislative branch is the congress (100 senators and 435 representatives). The Judicial branch consists

of nine Supreme Court judges. The salaries of these 545 is a very significant part of our country's budget.

During the next few months, I shall discuss the salaries, retirement pay, holidays, vacation and other expenditures that many taxpayers do not know exist.

CAD WINGERT
BIG SPRING

Extending thanks

TO THE EDITOR:
I wish to thank John and Diana Dobbs of the Bowl A Roma.

Thursday night they held a Valentine bowling tournament, which my granddaughter bowled in. It was very nice and everyone had a great time.

My granddaughter and her friend placed fourth in the finals. It was no tap and she bowled her 300, understand it is kind of easy when it is no tap, but anyway, when she bowled that 300 she flew over the counter and grabbed her mom.

I would like to thank the Dobbs again for putting on that tournament. Lexie said she had a great time bowling with everyone.

MARILLYN MIEARS
BIG SPRING

Great sports

TO THE EDITOR:
I want to thank you for the improvement in the new's coverage of the local sports, both high school and college. Steve Reagan is doing a fine job.

W.H. SMITH
BIG SPRING

NOTICE OF AVAILABLE EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Those eligible to apply for a Sid Richardson Memorial Fund scholarship are direct descendants (children or grandchildren) of persons who qualified for Early Retirement, Normal Retirement, Disability Retirement, or Death Benefits from The Bass Retirement Plan (formerly The Retirement Plan For Employees of Bass Enterprises Production Co.), Retirement Plan for Employees of Barbneth / San Jose Cattle, Retirement Plan for Employees of City Center Development Co., City Club Retirement Plan, Retirement Plan for Employees of Richardson Aviation, G.P., Retirement Plan for Employees of Sid W. Richardson Foundation, or Retirement Plan for Employees of Sundance Square. Those eligible also include direct descendants (children or grandchildren) of persons presently employed with a minimum of three years' full-time service with any of the following employers: Barbneth Investment Co. (tax ID #75-2033355), BEPCO, L.P. (tax ID #75-1076930), BOPCO, L.P. (tax ID #37-1483123), City Club of Ft. Worth (tax ID #75-2035506), Richardson Aviation (tax ID #75-2125310), San Jose Cattle Co. (tax ID #75-1018369), Sid Richardson Carbon Co. (SRCE, L.P.) (tax ID #75-2468081), Sid W. Richardson Foundation (tax ID #75-6015828), and Sundance Square Management, L.P. (tax ID #20-1942332). Limited funds are available to assist in defraying the cost of college education or of vocational training. These scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis according to academic achievement and financial need. Eligible candidates for the 2012-2013 academic year must return completed applications postmarked no later than March 31, 2012.

Direct a written request for an application to Peggy Laskoski, Sid Richardson Memorial Fund, 309 Main Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102 or plaskoski@sidrichardson.org. The request may also be faxed to 817-332-2176. Include student name and address, qualifying employee name, Social Security number of employee, qualifying company name, and dates of employment.

Police blotter

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

- DUSTY FRIAR FRIAR, 24, of 604 Drake, was arrested Friday on a warrant from another agency.
- ALFONSO BACA III, 29, of 506 State, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with previous conviction.
- EDWARD MYERS IV, 41, of 1204 Lamar, was arrested Friday on a warrant for failed to maintain financial responsibility, safety seat system-child under 8 years or less than 4'9" tall and no drivers license when unlicensed.
- THEFT was reported in the 1100 block of W. Third Street 3.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1900 block of N. Hwy 87.
- BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported: In the 600 block of S. Bell Street. In the 2200 block of Main Street.

Take Note

- Hangar 25 Air Museum is hosting a patch workshop for kids Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Registration is \$4 per child. To register, call the Hangar at 264-1999.
- Mobile Meals needs volunteer delivery drivers. If you can donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.
- As the 8th annual Powwow is coming near, organizers are seeking people interested in native American culture. For comments, questions and answers, call Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125 or Connie Lesser at 432-816-6772.

Get your news online at www.bigspringherald.com

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Attorney At Law

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Casual Cooking with Kris

Welcoming readers to my world where I enjoy simple, sometimes quick, but always delicious meals.

This week's recipe is inspired by ... aaahhhh love! I like looking at all the red and pink because it's so pretty, but when it comes to my house, my husband knows not to bother with the commercial hype of the holiday. For a woman, I am not real sentimental or frilly.

Don't get me wrong, if someone gives me something from their heart I am touched and it's special to me. My husband knows not to bother with a box of assorted chocolates, because I stick my fingers in each one looking for the nuts or coconut. I think cards are great at expressing words we just can't say, but don't waste money on the ones over 50 cents because I won't save them.

I don't do fuzzy wuzzy was a bear, or monkeys or anything else that looks cuddly. I love flowers and purple roses are my favorite — they are called Sterling roses — but I have five cats so for me to even bring them home would be a disaster. They would want to try to eat the greenery and I would have to put them up so high I just couldn't enjoy them.

Now you're probably thinking

“what a scrooge” for Valentine's Day, but that is not so. I love the meaning behind it, but I prefer that my other half not want to give me something for others to see just to make themselves look fabulous. That is why I have a gold mine at my house and my husband gets something out of there several times a week and usually only for me to see. It's called the little things in life gold mine, and those are the ones that impress me. I'll take those little things all year long, over a big box of chocolates that are poked through or have bite marks on them.

Enjoy!

Valentine's Dinner for Two Lemon and Chive Roasted Cornish Hens

Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Grilled Bacon Wrapped Asparagus
Dinner Rolls

2 Cornish Hens (look like baby chickens)
1 lemon
1 stick real butter (softened to room temp)
chopped fresh chives (in herb section of produce)
3 potatoes (peeled and cubed)
2 garlic cloves, smashed
3 Tbls of additional butter for potatoes
1/3 cup warm milk
20 asparagus spears
20 half slices of bacon
olive oil
salt and pepper
garlic powder
Dinner rolls of your choice

Place birds in a large baking dish or roaster pan. Add 1-2 Tbls of chives to softened butter and mix well. Rub half of butter on and under the skin of each hen, add salt and pepper. Slice lemon and place 3-4 slices on each bird. Preheat oven 350 degrees, bake covered for about 25 minutes. Remove covering and bake about 10-15 more minutes until hens are done and skin is golden.

Place peeled and cubed potatoes in a small pot, covered with water. Add salt and smashed garlic to the potatoes and boil on medium to med/high heat until fork tender. After chicken is in the oven and potatoes are on to boil, use a cookie sheet or shallow baking dish.

Take one of the bigger asparagus spears, and holding the ends gently, bend it until it breaks near the end. Use that single one to measure your cutting length for the other 19 spears. Wrap each asparagus spear with half a piece of bacon. Toss in olive oil, and place in pan. Sprinkle with garlic powder, salt and pepper. Place in oven for about 25 minutes

After then hens and asparagus are finished, brown the rolls. When potatoes are fork tender, drain and put back in a pot for a few seconds to cook off moisture.

Turn off burner and pour potatoes into a bowl with 3 tbs butter. Salt and pepper for taste and you will have cooked garlic in as well. With a hand mixer or potato masher, mash potatoes a little bit and add warmed milk and mash until smooth.

Hungry Girl's Hey Mambo! Veggie Italiano Quesadilla

Makes 1 serving

1/3 cup canned cannellini (white kidney) beans, drained and rinsed
1/4 teaspoon Italian seasoning
1 large low carb/high fiber tortilla with about 110 calories
1 wedge The Laughing Cow(r) Light Mozzarella, Sun-Dried Tomato & Basil cheese
1/4 cup sliced zucchini
1/4 cup sliced red bell pepper
1/4 cup chopped onion
1 piece Mini Babybel(r) Light cheese, chopped
Optional toppings: low-fat marinara sauce, fat-free sour cream

Place beans in blender or food processor with 1 tablespoon water; blend until mostly smooth. Add Italian seasoning and mix well.

Lay tortilla flat; spread half of the upward-facing side with bean mixture. Spread cheese wedge on other half; set aside.

Bring skillet sprayed with nonstick spray to medium-high heat on stove. Add veggies and, stirring occasionally, cook until softened, about 4 to 5 minutes. Transfer veggies to side of tortilla spread with cheese wedge.

Top veggies evenly with chopped cheese. Fold bean-covered side of tortilla over other side and press gently to seal, forming quesadilla.

Remove skillet from heat, re-spray with nonstick spray, and return to medium-high heat. Place quesadilla in skillet; cook for about 2 minutes per side, until outside is toasty and inside is hot.

Cut into triangles and, if you like, top or serve with marinara sauce or sour cream.

Per Serving (entire quesadilla): 295 calories, 8g fat, 858mg sodium, 44.5g carbs, 11g fiber, 5g sugars, 18.5g protein

—Courtesy of Family Features

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World Briefs

Analysis: Obama's midcourse correction on birth control policy divides the opposition

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's opposition is now the divided one.

For three weeks of heated rhetoric, Republicans cast the president's new rule that religious schools and hospitals must provide insurance for free birth control to their employees as an attack on individual liberty. The contentious issue united recently fractured Republicans, Catholic bishops and religious groups while badly splitting Democrats who feared an election-year fallout.

Obama's leading GOP rivals — Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum and Newt Gingrich — had sensed a political opening and were relentless in criticizing the president.

Obama caved to the pressure on Friday, announcing a compromise that allows employees at religious-affiliated institutions to get free contraception directly from health insurance companies rather than employers who say it would violate their long-held convictions.

Almost immediately, Democrats who had disagreed with the White House backed the revised policy. So did Sister Carol Keehan, president and chief executive officer of the Catholic Health Association of the United States and a crucial player in both this debate and the fierce fight over Obama's health care overhaul law. The head of the nation's bishops called it a good first step but reserved final judgment.

Conservatives shrug at Obama birth control shift, say real problem 'coercion' of 'Obamacare'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's political shifting over contraception coverage has united conservative Republicans in protest even as they split over which GOP presidential hopeful should face him in the general election.

The candidates themselves, campaigning for votes in the Conservative Political Action Conference's straw poll Saturday, competed to present themselves as most opposed to Obama's health care law. It includes a requirement that most religious-affiliated employers cover birth control costs regardless of their beliefs.

On Friday, after three weeks of controversy that pitted the nation's Catholic bishops against the White House, Obama retreated. Instead of requiring employers to cover contraception, the policy would now require insurance companies to provide free birth control coverage in separate agreements with workers who want it.

Conservatives scoffed.

"It's an accounting trick — the employer still plays the insurance," said Mike Gonzales of the Heritage Foundation. "Do (White House officials) think people are stupid?"

Socialist leader Papandreou says alternative to austerity measures would be a 'catastrophe'

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Lawmakers from two parties backing Greece's coalition government are meeting to consider support for legislation containing new austerity measures in the wake of six resignations from the cabinet and the withdrawal of a small right-wing party from the coalition.

Socialist leader George Papandreou has urged his deputies to back the legislation, saying that this is the only real option for the country, which, he says, faces disaster if a new bailout deal worth €30 billion (\$171.6 billion) falls through.

Conservative lawmakers have just started their meeting.

Debate on the legislation and a debt-swapping deal with private creditors begins Saturday. A plenary session will debate and vote on it Sunday in the face of planned protests.

Facing a feisty Ron Paul, Mitt Romney looks to end losing streak in Maine

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Maine's presidential

caucuses come at a critical time for Mitt Romney, the one-time Republican front-runner.

Shaken by a string of failures, Romney is hoping to avoid a fourth consecutive defeat Saturday on the path to his party's nomination.

The former Massachusetts governor has stepped up efforts to court local Republicans in recent days, reflecting growing concern over feisty GOP rival Ron Paul in what has essentially become a two-man race here. Neither Newt Gingrich nor Rick Santorum, who defeated Romney in contests in Missouri, Minnesota and Colorado on Tuesday, are actively competing in Maine.

Romney wants Maine to help assuage heightened scrutiny over his on-going struggle to win his party's skeptical conservative wing. State officials will announce a winner Saturday evening, a day after Romney delivered a high-profile Washington address in which he described himself as "a severely conservative Republican governor."

Paul, a libertarian-minded Texan, is fighting to prove he's capable of winning at all, particularly in a state where his campaign has focused considerable attention. He has scored a handful of top three finishes in other early voting states, but his strategy is based on winning some of the smaller caucus contests where his passionate base of support can have an oversized impact.

Calling himself 'severely conservative,' Romney tries new strategy in wake of Santorum surge

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney is casting himself as a strict conservative as he looks to reset his campaign following three losses to rival Rick Santorum.

The former Massachusetts governor has spent this campaign focusing on his business credentials and downplaying his ideology, four years after he failed in his attempt to win the GOP nomination by running as a social conservative.

"I was a severely conservative Republican governor," Romney told the Conservative Political Action Committee's annual gathering Friday in a major speech that, advisers say, Romney viewed as an important campaign moment — a chance to speak directly to the conservatives who rejected him in three contests last Tuesday.

The speech represented a full-throated insistence that he is conservative in both record and background, a message he sought to send as he worked to convince the GOP's skeptical right flank that he is acceptable as the party's nominee.

"My path to conservatism came from my family, from my faith and from my life's work," Romney said.

AP Exclusive: Interrogation reveals details of making huge bombs used in Bali terror attacks

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — An Indonesian militant charged in the 2002 Bali terrorist attacks has told interrogators he spent weeks holed up in a rented house, painstakingly building a half-ton bomb using household items including a rice ladle, a grocer's scale and plastic bags.

A transcript of the Umar Patek's interrogation obtained by The Associated Press offers extraordinary detail of the Bali plot just days before Patek — a radical Islamist once Southeast Asia's most-wanted bomb-making suspect — goes on trial in Jakarta for his alleged role in the nightclub attack that killed 202 people.

Patek known as "Demolition Man" for his expertise with explosives, says he and other conspirators stashed the 1,540-pound (700-kilogram) bomb in four filing cabinets, loaded them in a Mitsubishi L300 van along with a TNT vest bomb. The van was detonated outside two nightclubs on Bali's famous Kuta beach on Oct. 12, 2002. Most of those killed were foreign tourists.

The suspect told police that a small explosion occurred when they were loading the bomb in a van, nearly derailing the plot, according to the transcript.

Although homemade bombs are easily assembled by militants all over the world, making such powerful devices as those used in Bali — and using such

unsophisticated equipment — would have taken enormous amount of care and expertise.

Old well in Calif. becomes focus of search for victims of meth-fueled killing spree

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A death row inmate has led authorities to an area of Northern California believed to be the burial sites of two victims of the notorious "Speed Freak Killers," as searchers focused Saturday on an abandoned well for any additional remains.

A partial human skull and bones were found buried Friday on a remote property in Calaveras County. A day earlier, searchers found a skull and bones at another site in the area about 60 miles south of Sacramento.

They were led there by inmate Wesley Sherman, who was convicted of murdering 16-year-old Chevelle "Chevy" Wheeler. Authorities say he and childhood friend Loren Herzog killed the girl as part of a methamphetamine-fueled killing spree in the 1980s. The two were arrested in 1999.

Deputy Les Garcia, spokesman for the San Joaquin County sheriff's department, said it would take time to identify the remains found Friday. But Wheeler's parents said authorities notified them that the remains were found in a spot where Sherman said their daughter was buried after she disappeared in 1985.

"They said they found her wrapped in a blanket," Paula Wheeler, the girl's mother, told The Associated Press by phone from the family's home in Crossville, Tenn. "This is a happy day. We can finally have some closure."

U.S. government official meets with new Maldives leader to get clarity on political situation

MALE, Maldives (AP) — The new president of the Maldives said Saturday that he was ready to face an independent investigation into the transfer of power in the Indian Ocean nation that his predecessor alleges was a coup.

President Mohammed Waheed Hassan said he had given an assurance to visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Blake that he was willing to submit to a probe by an independent body as questions had arisen about his takeover of power.

Blake flew into the Maldives early Saturday to assess the political situation in Maldives after the former president Mohamed Nasheed said he was ousted in a coup.

Blake also met with Nasheed and was scheduled to meet other leaders of the island republic later Saturday.

Nasheed resigned Tuesday after police joined months of street protests against his rule.

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HC honors its first champions



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Jan Foresyth, right, of Howard College, presents medals to members of the 1961-63 track team during a special ceremony at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Thursday. The track team won three consecutive national junior college titles in the early 1960s.

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Howard College's "forgotten" champions received some overdue recognition from the school this week.

With the recent spate of national championship teams at Howard — the baseball squad won the national junior college crown in 2009, while the men's basketball team followed suit the next year — it's easy to forget the group that started it all.

The Howard County Junior College track team didn't overwhelm anyone with individual talent or numbers, but it didn't lose, either — claiming three straight national JUCO titles in the early 1960s.

Several members of that team — the schools' first national champions — were honored Thursday, and they took the occasion to recall their remarkable run of success.

"We were just a bunch of guys who came together," said Dean Cheatham, who ran sprints for the Jayhawks. "None of us really set the world on fire, but we came together at the right time."

The team was led by a math teacher who had never coached track before, but apparently knew plenty about motivating athletes.

Leslie "Red" Lewis, who served as a mathematics instructor and later registrar at the college, took the helm of the track team in the mid-1950s and began laying the groundwork — literally — for the national championship squads to come by building the cinder track at Memorial Stadium.

Lewis was described as a demanding

See **TRACK**, Page 9A

BSHS defeats Permian in playoff tune-up

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

If the results of Friday's practice game are any indications, the Big Spring Lady Steers are fully ready for the Class 3A state basketball playoffs.

The Lady Steers tore through Odessa Permian's full-court press en route to a 60-50 victory over the District 3-5A co-champions Friday night in Steer Gym.

Big Spring (21-8) raced out to a 20-11 lead after one quarter, and were never threatened after that.

The Lady Panthers, who finished the regular season tied with Midland High School for the District 3-5A title, tried to negate Big Spring's height advantage by employing full-court pressure throughout the game, a tactic BSHS Coach Mike Warren was happy to see.

"We worked on that the whole week," he said. "We knew that was what they were going to do, and Burkburnett (the Lady Steers' first round playoff opponent) is going to use the game thing."

Permian's press had little impact, however. Point guards Bridgette Tuitt and Ambra Hill were able to consistently get the ball upcourt and find open shooters throughout the evening.

Senior forward Cerbi Ritchey

"They played like they were hungry and they want to go out and win some playoff games. I'm proud of what they accomplished and the way they played (Friday)."

Mike Warren
BSHS girls' basketball coach

led the Lady Steers with 15 points, while fellow senior McKenzie Stone chipped in 11. April Williams and Cheyenne Swoops led Permian with 18 and 14 points, respectively.

Big Spring set the tone early, attacking the Lady Panthers' zone defense from the perimeter. Stone, Hill and Mary King all connected from three-point range to help the Lady Steers gain their early advantage.

The Lady Steers expanded their lead to 23 early in the fourth quarter before Permian rallied to make the final score relatively close.

Although the game meant nothing

See **BSHS**, Page 9A



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Cerbi Ritchey shoots during the Lady Steers' practice game against Odessa Permian Friday at Steer Gym.

District champion Wylie holds off Steers, 56-47

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

In a matchup of District 5-3A playoff representatives, Abilene Wylie's Bulldogs proved they were a bit more elite than the Big Spring Steers.

Wylie jumped out to an early advantage and withstood several Big Spring challenges en route to a 56-47 victory in

Steer Gym Friday night.

With the loss, the Steers end the regular season with a 13-17 overall record and 4-4 district mark.

The Bulldogs proved why they were district champions Friday, overcoming an early deficit to take a 14-12 lead after one quarter, then never trailing from that point.

Things were anything but

easy for Wylie, however, as the Steers made several charges throughout the night. But turnovers — Big Spring lost the ball 17 times during the game — proved too much for the hosts to overcome.

Richard Lewis was the only Big Spring player in double figures with 10 points, while Mike Lopez scored 15 to top Wylie.

The game was close for most of the evening; Wylie never led by more than eight until the late stages, and Big Spring closed to within two points on four occasions. Every time the Steers seemed poised to claim the lead, however, the Bulldogs were able to respond.

"We just had too many turnovers," BSHS Coach Cliff

Thompson said. "But I was pleased with our effort ... the kids were competitive all night."

The Steers will have a warm-up game against Nazareth Tuesday in Lubbock before opening the Class 3A playoffs against a to-be-determined opponent.

See **STEERS**, Page 9A

Area basketball roundup

BOYS

Denver City 57, Coahoma 51

COAHOMA — A hot second quarter by the Denver City Mustangs propelled them to a 57-51 victory over the Coahoma Bulldogs Friday night.

The Mustangs led by three points after the first quarter, but outscored the Bulldogs 20-10 in the second eight minutes to build a comfortable lead.

Tanner Ruiz scored 12 points and Sheigh Cravens 11 for the Bulldogs, who fell to 11-19 overall and 2-10 in District 3-2A play with the loss.

The Bulldogs return to action Tuesday at Post. Game time is 6 p.m.

D-City 15 20 10 12 — 57
Coahoma 12 10 15 14 — 51

Roosevelt 50, Forsan 45

LUBBOCK — The Forsan Buffaloes couldn't overcome a cold second quarter as they dropped a 50-45 decision to Lubbock Roosevelt in District 3-2A action.

The Buffaloes led 16-11 after one quarter, but managed only four points in the second eight minutes, as Roosevelt regained the lead.

Tyler Evans scored 10 points to lead the Buffaloes, who fell to 12-16 overall and 3-10 in district play.

The Buffs conclude their 2012 season Tuesday when they host Colorado City. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

Forsan 16 4 12 13 — 45
LRHS 11 15 14 10 — 50

Garden City 54, Robert Lee 39

ROBERT LEE — A solid start was the difference as the Garden City Bearkats earned a 54-39 victory over Robert Lee in District 12-1A Div. II action Friday.

The Bearkats opened up a 13-9 lead after one quarter, and gradually increased their lead from there to take the win.

Corbin Davis led the Bearkats with 20 points.

Garden City (19-11 overall, 10-3 in district play) returns to action at home against Sterling City. Game

time is 6:30 p.m.

G-City 13 13 17 9 — 54
RLHS 9 11 13 6 — 39

Stanton 36, Slaton 35

SLATON — The Stanton Buffaloes withstood a late Slaton rally to take a 36-35 win in District 3-2A action Friday night.

The Buffaloes (18-11, 9-4 in district) were led by Ethan Mauldin, who scored 10 points.

Stanton returns to action Tuesday when it hosts Lubbock Roosevelt. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

Stanton 8 10 10 8 — 36
Slaton 10 7 5 13 — 35

Sports Calendar

MONDAY

Men's basketball

Howard College at New Mexico Military Institute, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

Girls' basketball

Big Spring vs. Burkburnett (Class 3A bidistrict play-offs), 6 p.m., Anson High School.

Boys' basketball

Big Spring vs. Nazareth (practice game), 6 p.m., Rip Griffin Center, Lubbock Christian University. Coahoma at Post, 6 p.m.

Forsan at Colorado City, 6:30 p.m.

Sterling City at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 235, or e-mail reporter@bigspringherald.com

U.S. sweeps Swiss out of Davis Cup

FRIBOURG, Switzerland (AP) — The United States swept favored Switzerland out of the Davis Cup on Saturday when Mardy Fish and Mike Bryan beat Roger Federer and Stanislas Wawrinka 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.

Teaming for only the second time, Fish and Bryan comfortably handled the 2008 Olympic doubles champions in front of an occasionally hostile Swiss crowd of 7,000.

"This is probably going down as one of the most memorable (wins)," said Bryan, who played on the 2007 winning team.

The doubles victory gave the Americans a 3-0 lead in the best-of-five first-round series. They advanced to the quarterfinals in April when they again will be on the road — against France or Canada.

The Americans were kept under control for a set and

a half, then seized every opportunity to exploit errors on Wawrinka's serve. The crowd got angry when Bryan hit Federer and Wawrinka with volleys at close range later in the match.

Fish and Bryan picked up the momentum from Friday's thrilling singles matches when John Isner stunned Federer in four sets and Fish outlasted Wawrinka in five.

Bryan is a doubles specialist who usually plays with his twin brother. Bob Bryan, however, was unavailable because of the birth of his daughter last week. The only other time Fish and Mike Bryan played together was a five-set victory over Feliciano Lopez and Fernando Verdasco in a 2008 semifinal in Madrid that Spain won 4-1.

Courier initially chose 19-year-old Ryan Harrison to play with Bryan when the

draw was held Thursday. But Davis Cup rules allow lineup changes up to one hour before a match.

"It's great that the guy I have to tee it up with is the best doubles player ever," said Fish, who had played 4 hours, 26 minutes to win on Friday. "I'm just trying to do my part."

Mike Bryan extended his exceptional record in Davis Cup doubles to 20-2, and is unbeaten in 11 away matches.

In a match of few break-point chances, the Swiss had an opportunity on Fish's serve in the opening game when Wawrinka struck a winner. Federer served for the set, but the first chance was lost when Bryan's forehand looped off the net cord for a winner.

That stroke of luck brought boos from some fans — a sign of tension in the sold-out arena.

STEERS

Continued from Page 8A

Thompson believes his team is ready to make some noise in the postseason.

"I'm confident in our ability to compete," he said. "That's a good team (Wylie) over there ... and being able to compete with them makes

me confident that we can do well in the play-offs."

The warm-up game with Nazareth will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the Rip Griffin Center on the Lubbock Christian University campus.

AWHS 14 14 10 18 — 56
BSHS 12 10 12 13 — 47

WYLIE (56) — Duane Hopper 3 6-7 12; Patrick Walker 2 1-2 7; Josh Davila 1 0-0 2; Bryson Fowlkes 1 0-1 2; DeAndre Key 4 2-2 10; Tyler Hicks 2 2-2 6; Hunter Herrera 1 0-0 2; Mike

Lopez 5 2-2 15; totals 19 13-16 56.
BIG SPRING (47) — Tyrrel Menefield 3 0-0 6; Marc Segundo 3 0-0 9; Ryan Pollard 1 0-0 3; Morgan Ausbie 1 1-2 3; Tavaris Walker 2 0-0 5; Richard Lewis 3 4-4 10; Ty Sealy 1 0-0 2; Chazell Robinson 2 5-9 9; totals 16 10-15 47.

Three-point goals — Wylie 5 (Walker 2, Lopez 3), Big Spring 5 (Segundo 3, Pollard, Walker); Total fouls — Wylie 14, Big Spring 16; Fouled out — none.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

BSHS

Continued from Page 8A

ing in the standings, Warren liked what he saw from his team.

"We didn't want to just go out there and mess around — we wanted this to mean something," he said. "They played like they were hungry and they want to go out and win some playoff games. I'm

proud of what they accomplished and the way they played (Friday)."

The Lady Steers open the Class 3A playoffs with a bidistrict matchup against Burkburnett Tuesday at Anson High School. Game time is 6 p.m.

OPHS 11 9 7 23 — 50
BSHS 20 12 14 14 — 60

PERMIAN (50) — Jamia Graham 3 1-2 9; Tailor Dominguez 0 1-2 1; Elizabeth Aguilar 0 1-6 1; Cheyenne Swoops 7 0-4 14; Yana Scott 1 -2-2

4; April Williams 6 4-6 18; Tenesia Pointer 1 1-2 3; totals 18 10-24 50.

BIG SPRING (60) — Ambra Hill 2 0-0 5; Lashaunte AndersonAnderson 1 0-0 3; Yaneria Tuitt 1 7-7 9; McKenzie Stone 4 0-0 11; Mary King 3 1-2 8; Bridgette Tuitt 2 3-6 7; Cerbi Ritchey 5 5-6 15; Diamond Mayes 1 0-0 2; totals 19 16-20 60.

Three-point goals — Permian 4 (Graham 2, Williams 2), Big Spring 6 (Hill, Anderson, Stone 3, King); Total fouls — Permian 16, Big Spring 20; Fouled out — Permian (Gonzales).

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

TRACK

Continued from Page 8A

coach who cared a great deal about his athletes.

"He was a wonderful guy," said former sprinter Tommy Yarbrow. "He was a hard coach, but he was very fair ... We all had tremendous respect for him. I'll never forget the look he'd give us when we accomplished something."

Lewis was a disciple of hard work and he preached that discipline to his team. Regardless of the weather — team members recall Lewis once plowing snow off the track so the squad could practice — the team worked, and it worked hard.

"He managed to get the most out of us," said

Gary Walker, who threw discus and shot put for the team. "He took a bunch of guys who really weren't all that special and turned us into national champions.

Perhaps it was that work ethic that set the team apart from its competition. Despite never fielding a team of more than 12 athletes, the Jayhawks consistently bested teams with more than two or three times as many members.

In the early 1960s, the team reached its apex, winning the national junior college team title in 1961 through 1963. And the team didn't just shine at the end of the season — Yarbrow said the Jayhawks went more than two years without losing a track meet.

"We never doubted we'd win," Walker said.

"We always knew we were going to win. Our runners and pole vaulters were going to beat everybody, so it didn't matter what I did."

Many team members went on to have successful careers, something they credit to their time under Lewis.

"It was an honor and a privilege to be at Howard County Junior College with Coach Lewis," said Tommy Wise, who ran hurdles for the team. "He was just a great guy. He encouraged us on a personal level and made a difference in our lives. It was definitely an honor to be national champions."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

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Sandusky believes people have turned on him

By **MARK SCOLFORO**

Associated Press

BELLEFRONTE, Pa. — Jerry Sandusky declared Friday that people have turned against him, moments after the ex-Penn State football coordinator asked a judge for greater freedom while he awaits trial on child sex abuse charges.

Sandusky was in a Centre County courtroom and asked a judge to let him see relatives, including supervised visits with his grandchildren, and friends. He denies the criminal allegations.

The judge could rule early next week on Sandusky's request.

Sandusky also said he felt people who had been welcomed in his home were now trying to keep him confined indoors.

"I've associated with thousands of young people over the years," said Sandusky, 68, the former Penn State defensive coordinator charged with 52 criminal counts involving 10 victims over 15 years. "And now, all of a sudden, because of allegations and perceptions that have been tried to

be created of me, now I can't take our dog on my deck and throw out biscuits to him."

Sandusky's home borders an elementary school and its playground.

After he sought permission to see relatives and friends and leave his home to help lawyers prepare his case, the attorney general's office countered with a court filing that said neighbors expressed concern for the safety of children. A teacher and intern also reported that he had been watching children from his back deck.

Prosecutors want an order that restricts Sandusky to the inside of his home, which a county probation officer said would be unusual for people under in-home detention.

His lawyer, Joe Amendola, told Judge John Cleland that Sandusky had not sought probation officers' approval for adult visitors, but he was seeking the judge's permission because he sensed the officers were reluctant to do anything out of the ordinary. An investigator said none of the complaints involved Sandusky approaching children.

State prosecutor Jonelle

Eshbach told the judge that a clearly defined trip to help his legal team would be one thing, but she was against letting him have visitors. The allegations include charges he sexually attacked a boy in the basement of his home, while his wife was upstairs.

"This home was not safe for children for 15 years, and it's not safe for children now," Eshbach said. "We think that the actual contact, visitation with his grandchildren is not a good idea. And we also feel that way with regard to visitors."

Prosecutors noted that one daughter-in-law strongly objects to increased contact between her children and Sandusky, while Amendola presented the court with letters from Sandusky's children, and notes and drawings from his grandchildren, expressing their desire for increased contact.

He also noted a court-appointed guardian for grandchildren who are part of a custody dispute found no reason Sandusky couldn't see them.

"Comparing with a jail situation, were he in jail, he

would have certain rights to have visitors," Amendola told Cleland.

State investigator Anthony Sassano testified that children had noticed Sandusky from their classroom, and that his presence was disrupting school activities.

One neighbor had used a video camera to document Sandusky's time on his deck, Sassano said.

He said Sandusky was seen on the video brushing his dog or letting the dog go outside to play. Sandusky cannot walk the dog because of his bail restrictions, Amendola said.

Sandusky said after the hearing that his neighbors have changed toward him.

"Now all of a sudden, these people turn on me when they've been in my home with their kids," he said. "They've attended birthday parties when they've been on that deck. When their kids have been playing in my yard. When their kids have been sled riding when they've asked to sled ride. It's difficult for me to understand."

His home at the end of a dead-end street has a black and orange "No Trespassing"

sign at the driveway, while earlier this week the two properties directly adjacent to his home sported white signs supporting the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network.

Widener University law professor Wes Oliver, who observed the proceeding, predicted Cleland was unlikely to order Sandusky to remain indoors.

"Clearly what the prosecution was doing was trying to appease the community," said Oliver, who teaches criminal procedure.

The hearing concerned various issues that have arisen since Sandusky was first arrested in early November. Cleland indicated he hoped to start trial May 14.

In an unusual move, prosecutors are seeking a jury from outside Centre County, home of Penn State and a charity for children that Sandusky founded in 1977, The Second Mile.

Sandusky wants a jury made up of people who live in State College and the surrounding area, and Cleland had him testify to ensure that he was fully aware of the ramifications.

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Mavs hold off Timberwolves, 104-97

By **DAVE CAMPBELL**

AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Dirk Nowitzki and his smooth, soaring jump shot were in prime form.

What truly made the Mavericks too tough for the sloppy Timberwolves to handle was the presence of their savvy old point guard, Jason Kidd.

Nowitzki welcomed Kevin Love back from his two-game suspension with a season-high 33 points, winning the matchup of Western Conference All-Star power forwards and helping Dallas stave off a Minnesota in a 104-97 victory over on Friday.

"He makes the game so much easier for everyone," said Jason Terry, the other part of the veteran trio that steadied the Mavericks down the stretch after a 19-5 run spurt by the Wolves brought them within 78-75 on Nikola Pekovic's putback to open the

fourth quarter.

Kidd, playing for the first time in seven games due to a strained right calf muscle, responded by swishing a 3-pointer to stretch the lead to six with 10:15 left.

"He's a big part of our heart and soul. When we're without him, we can win some games but we're not the same team," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said.

Terry had nine of his 16 points in the final period. Kidd had eight points, 10 assists and five rebounds. The Mavericks blamed most of his eight turnovers on teammates unprepared for his slick passes, since they hadn't seen them in a while.

Kidd joked it must've been fan appreciation night because of all the balls being thrown into the seats. He didn't have time to think about his big shot because he was huffing and puffing on the stationary bike behind the

bench — riding all the way across the river to St. Paul, he joked — until entering the game 17 seconds before.

"Whatever I can do to help my team," he said.

Nowitzki topped 24 points for the fourth straight game by shooting 11 for 19 from the floor, including 4 of 7 from 3-point range. Love finished with 32 points and 12 rebounds, going 14 for 14 from the free-throw line, but the Wolves missed a chance to sweep the season series from a Western Conference foe since beating the Memphis Grizzlies all three times in 2008-09.

"That is definitely vintage Dirk. He's a Hall of Fame player and when he decides he wants it, more often than not he's going to have success," Love said.

The Wolves had a season-high 28 turnovers and shot just 6 for 23 from 3-point range.

"Just being a youthful team, we're going to have lapses like that and unfortunately it was against a team that we beat a couple of times," Love said.

Love was punished for stepping on Luis Scola's face against the Houston Rockets last weekend. He was by far Minnesota's most productive player in his return, but his was still a rather quiet performance. He made nine of 12 shots from 3-point range over the Wolves' two previous wins over the Mavericks, but he went 0 for 3 behind the arc in this one.

Nowitzki, named to his 11th straight All-Star game despite a relatively slow start to his 13th season, has clearly worked himself back into shape. After averaging less than 10 points over the three games prior to this spurt, Nowitzki is averaging 28 points in the last four games while shooting 60.5 percent. Though he lost his touch late,

he seemed to have an extra edge against Love. The two of them bumped elbows and toros in the post all night.

"He's been fun to watch. He's an animal on the glass. We all know that. He's tough to play," Nowitzki said.

The Wolves (13-14) still haven't had a record this good this late in a season in six years.

The Mavericks (16-11) didn't have to be convinced. They were blown out in both of the first two meetings.

But the league's oldest team still has plenty of pride — and championship rings on their fingers. They showed the Wolves, who were the second-youngest team in the NBA when this lockout-sliced season began, that they're still a team to be reckoned with in the top-heavy West.

The Wolves made only two baskets outside the lane in the first quarter and fell behind 29-16.

Wi patiently waits for his turn to win

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Charlie Wi is pleasant by nature, so he was not likely to be insulted when someone asked him if it felt like an out-of-body experience to see his name atop the leaderboard through two rounds of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

He escaped most of the rain Friday at Pebble Beach, holed out a wedge for eagle from the 13th fairway and escaped with bogey on his final hole for a 3-under 69 that gave him a three-shot lead over Dustin Johnson.

"It's my seventh year on the PGA Tour," Wi said. "I'm doing something good to be here for that long."

The leaderboard was filled with possibilities going into Saturday, when everyone completes the three-course rotation, and it was easy to overlook the guy at the top — especially because Wi has never won on tour.

Johnson is a two-time Pebble Beach champion in the last three years, and a rare lapse in his short game forced him to settle for a 72 at Spyglass Hill. Another shot behind were a pair of multiple major champions, Vijay Singh and Pádraig Harrington. Right behind was Phil Mickelson, a three-time winner at Pebble, a four-time major champion.

And still in the mix: Tiger Woods.

Woods took 33 putts at Monterey Peninsula and had to settle for a 68, leaving him six shots behind.

"I've going to have to shoot a low one tomorrow," Woods said.

Wi and Woods have a history, even if Woods might not remember. They played junior golf together in Southern California in the 1980s, and one tournament stands out for Wi.

"I knew he was a fierce competitor, even when we were younger," Wi said. "I remember playing with him when I was 13 and he was 9, and we were playing together. There's a golf course in Long Beach called El Dorado. The ninth hole is a really long par 3. I didn't know what he did with his tee shot, but I remember he had 70 yards left, and he lipped it out and got so mad."

"I said, 'What's wrong?' I thought it was a great shot," Wi said. "He said, 'I was trying to hole that.' I said, 'Oh, come on.' And that always stuck with me — 9 years old at El Dorado."

Did he beat Woods that day?

"He was 9," Wi said with mock indignation. "Yes. I was outdriving him back then."

Woods went on to six consecutive USGA titles, 14 majors, 83 wins worldwide, No. 1 in the world longer than anyone. Wi wound up at Cal and then traveled the world — Asia, Europe, anywhere he could find to play. He's on the slow road, but happy with the progress.

He has made over \$1 million his last five seasons on the PGA Tour, enough to comfortably keep his card.

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HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring guard Marc Segundo attempts a shot during the first half of the Steers' regular season-ending 56-47 loss to Abilene Wylie Friday night in Steer Gym. BSHS will face Nazareth in a practice game Tuesday in Lubbock before opening play in the Texas Class 3A basketball playoffs.

Girls' high school playoff pairings

Class 3A
REGION I
Bidistrict Playoffs
Greenwood (16-16, W4), bye.
Dalhart (18-10, R1), vs. Lubbock Estacado (15-15, T2), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Canyon HS.
Lubbock Cooper (26-6, W2), bye.
Clint (12-15, R3) vs. Seminole (16-14, T4), 6 p.m. Monday, Sul Ross State University Gallego Center, Alpine.
Kennedale (26-6, W8), bye.
Brownwood (24-7, R5) vs. Wichita Falls Hirschi (15-12, T3), 6:30 p.m. Monday, Mineral Wells HS.
Bowie (24-7, W6), bye.
Burleson Centennial (R7) vs. West (T8), 7 p.m. Tuesday, Mansfield Timberview HS.
Mountain View (15-11, W3), bye.
Shallowater (25-5, R2) vs. Pampa (T1), 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wayland Baptist University Hutcherson Center, Plainview.
Perryton (25-5, W1), bye.
Andrews (15-10, R4) vs. Pecos (16-12, T3), 6 p.m. Monday, Kermit HS.
Decatur (25-5, W7), bye.
Burkburnett (17-9, R6) vs. Big Spring (22-9, T5), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Anson HS.
Abilene Wylie (29-5, W5), bye.
Glen Rose (R8) vs. Bridgeport (17-12, T7), 7 p.m. Monday, Aledo HS.

Class 2A
REGION I
District Playoffs
District 4 First-Place Playoff
Game 1: Kermit 46, Crane 32.
Game 2: Tornillo (22-8) vs. Kermit (20-11), 5 p.m. Saturday, Fort Stockton HS. Loser is No. 2 seed; winner is No. 1 seed.
District 6 Third-Place Playoff
Bangs (17-12) vs. Hico (16-13), 2 p.m. Saturday, Cisco HS.
District 7 Second-Place Playoff
Brady 45, Ballinger 32
Bidistrict Playoffs
Tornillo or Kermit (W4), bye.
Sanford-Fritch (20-10, R1), vs. Idalou (18-12, T2), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Canyon HS.
Tulia (25-7, W2), bye.
Slaton (R3) vs. Crane (14-17, T4), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Lubbock Christian University Rip Griffin Center.
Junction (16-13, W8), bye.
Jim Ned (25-8, R5) vs. Bangs or Hico (T6), TBA. (IF BANGS, 6 p.m. Tuesday, McMurry University Hunt P.E. Center, Abilene; IF HICO, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Cisco HS).
Early (23-10, W6), bye.
Brady (25-8, R7) vs. Harper (11-17, T8), 6 p.m. Monday, Llano HS.
Lubbock Roosevelt (22-8, W3), bye.
Littlefield (21-9, R2), vs. Childress (18-14, T1), 6 p.m. Monday, Canyon HS.
Spearman (21-6, W1), bye.
Tornillo or Kermit (R4) vs. Denver City (12-13, T3), TBA.
Wall (23-7, W7), bye.
Comanche (28-3, W6) vs. Clyde (26-7, T5), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Eastland HS.
Merkel (31-0, W5), bye.
Blanco (16-11, R8) vs. Ballinger (22-11, T7), 8 p.m. Monday, Llano HS.

Class 1A Division I
REGION I
District 1-1A playoff for No. 1 seeding
Gruver (29-3) vs. Canadian (25-6), 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Pampa HS.
District 2-1A playoff for No. 3 seeding
White Deer (11-19) vs. Vega (10-21), 2 p.m. Saturday, Amarillo HS.
District 5-1A playoff for No. 1 seeding
Sudan 40, Olton 34
Bidistrict Playoffs
New Deal (16-13, W4), bye.
Gruver or Canadian (R1) vs. White Deer or Vega (T2), TBA.
Panhandle (25-7, W2), bye.
Wellington (R3) vs. Hale Center (T4), 7 p.m. Monday, Amarillo Tascosa HS.
Van Horn (19-11, W8), bye.
Olton (27-6, R5) vs. Sundown (20-11, T6), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Lubbock Christian University Rip Griffin Center.
Smyer (31-2, W6), bye.
Eldorado (17-11, R7) vs. El Paso Harmony (T8), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Kermit HS.
Clarendon (W3), bye.
Claude (22-9, R2) vs. Sunray (20-12, T1), 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Amarillo River Road HS.
Gruver or Canadian (W1), bye.
Lockney (17-13, R4) vs. Memphis (T3), 7:30 p.m. Monday, Canyon HS.
Reagan County (21-10, W7), bye.
Plains (27-4, R6), vs. Farwell (T5), 7 p.m. Tuesday, Littlefield HS.
Sudan (28-3, W5), bye.
Marfa (R8) vs. McCamey (18-13, T7), 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jerry Larned Sports Complex, Monahans.

REGION II
District Playoffs
District 16 third-place playoff: 41, Newcastle 28.
Bidistrict Playoffs
Garden City (26-5, W12), bye.
Fort Davis (15-7, R9) vs. Buena Vista (13-13, T10), 6 p.m. Monday, Pecos HS.
Wink, (19-7, W10), bye.
Roscoe Highland (22-8, R11) vs. Sterling City (22-9, T12), 7 p.m. Monday, Winters HS.
Lipan (29-2, W16), bye.
Vernon Northside (12-10, R13) vs. Paint Creek (10-7, T14), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Guthrie HS.
Throckmorton (23-8, W14), bye.
Gorman (12-12, R15) vs. Graford (16-13, T16), 6:30 p.m. Monday, Breckenridge HS.
Roby (20-11, W11), bye.
Rankin (12-16, R10), vs. Balmorhea (16-8, T9), 6 p.m. Monday, Fort Stockton HS.
Sierra Blanca (24-2, W9), bye.
Bronte (20-12, R12) vs. Loraine (20-9, T11), 7 p.m. Tuesday, Colorado City HS.
Baird (20-10, W15), bye.
Aspermont (25-6, R14) vs. Knox City (8-14, T13), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Guthrie.
Crowell (17-7, W13), bye.
Strawn (24-5, R16) vs. Rising Star (T15), 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Ranger College.



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Healthy, Hearty Comfort Food

FAMILY FEATURES

During the short days and cold nights of winter, many of us crave comfort foods. Unfortunately, the rich dishes we usually think of tend to be low in nutrition and packed with fat and calories. Well, take heart. It's possible to enjoy satisfying dishes that are tasty, hearty and nutritious.

Dry peas, lentils and chickpeas (garbanzo beans), all part of the legume family, are one way to make comfort foods more healthful. These ingredients pack a nutritional punch while adding flavor to recipes: just one cup of dry peas, lentils or chickpeas gives you more than half the recommended daily dosage of fiber and up to 18 grams of protein. They also contain little to no fat, making them a healthy meat alternative.

Chef Tracy O'Grady, from Willow Restaurant in Arlington, Va., knows how to make the most of these versatile ingredients. "You may already love lentil soup," she says. "But lentils have a wide range of uses, and are a great addition to hearty fare like enchiladas, veggie burgers — even chocolate cake."

And while chickpeas are best known as the key ingredient in hummus, they also appear in rich-tasting foods like Willow's Chickpea Fries (see O'Grady's recipe).

For more recipes and information from the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council, visit www.pea-lentil.com.

Willow's Chickpea Fries

Serves: 8 (6 per person)

- 2 1/2 cups water
- 1 garlic clove, minced fine
- 2 cups whole milk
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 3 cups chickpea flour; reserve 1 cup for dusting
- 1 cup cooked chickpeas, roughly chopped
- 2 cups Parmesan cheese, finely grated
- 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 gallon canola oil

Place water, garlic, milk, salt, cayenne and paprika in a non-reactive sauce pot and heat until it boils.

Lower heat to gentle simmer and whisk in chickpea flour. Whisk just until smooth and then use a high heat spatula to finish the process. Cook mixture for about 5 minutes, constantly stirring to make sure there is no scorching.

Once flour is nearly cooked, fold in chopped chickpeas, Parmesan cheese and extra virgin olive oil. Stir until well incorporated and hot. This should take about 3 additional minutes.

Place in a plastic wrap lined 10 x 12-inch tray. Cover with plastic wrap and push down so it is even. Chill for at least 2 hours in the refrigerator or until completely chilled.

After well chilled, turn the chickpea mold onto a cutting board. Cut fries 12 times in 1-inch pieces and then cut each strip into 4 pieces, forming 48 pieces.

Heat canola oil in a large stainless steel fry pot to 350°F. Dust fries with remaining chickpea flour and fry in 4 batches until hot and golden brown.

Drain in paper towels to remove excess oil. Serve immediately with Orange Preserved Lemon Dipping Sauce.



Orange Preserved Lemon Dipping Sauce

Makes: About 1 cup

- 2 oranges, juiced and zested with a microplane zester
- 2 preserved lemons juiced, the peel minced fine*
- 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt to taste

*If preserved lemons are unavailable, can be substituted with 2 fresh lemons, juiced and zested.

Tips for cooking dry peas, lentils and chickpeas

- Dry peas and lentils don't require soaking. Soak dried chickpeas in cold water for 12 hours before cooking (or you can buy pre-cooked, canned chickpeas).
- Spread dry peas and lentils in a single layer on a baking sheet. Check for and discard any debris. Rinse under cold water.
- To cook lentils, use 1 1/2 cups of water to 1 cup of lentils. Bring water to boil and add lentils. Boil for 2 or 3 minutes and reduce heat to a simmer. Cook until tender. Green or brown lentils take approximately 30 minutes and red lentils about 8 to 10 minutes.

Savory Chickpea Pancakes

Makes: 36 2 1/2-inch pancakes

- 8 ounces chickpea flour (about 2 cups)
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 3/4 cup buttermilk
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 egg yolks, beaten
- 3 egg whites, whipped to soft peaks
- Zest of one lemon; use a microplane zester
- Additional butter to cook the pancakes

Mix all dry ingredients together in one bowl.

In a separate bowl, combine buttermilk, melted butter, olive oil and egg yolks.

In third bowl, whip egg whites until soft peaks form.

Fold dry ingredients into buttermilk mixture gently (do not over mix or pancakes will be tough).

Let batter stand for 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, gently fold half of the egg whites into batter, then fold remaining egg whites in.

Heat a non-stick skillet over medium heat until moderately hot. Add in a pinch of butter and spoon a heaping tablespoon batter into pan. Cook each pancake until golden brown; flip; cook for another minute or two and keep warm.

To serve, place two chickpea pancakes on individual plates and spoon ragu (recipe follows) on top.

Chickpea, Shrimp and Caper Ragu

Serves: 6

- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves fresh garlic, finely sliced
- 1 cup cooked chickpeas
- 2 tablespoons capers
- Peel of 1/2 a preserved lemon
- 1 teaspoon esepette or smoked paprika
- 1/2 cup water, plus more if needed
- 18 peeled and deveined shrimp
- Kosher salt, to taste
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter

Heat large stainless steel pan until moderately hot. Add olive oil and sliced garlic. Once garlic starts to soften and just brown, add chickpeas and cook for about 2 minutes.

Add capers, lemon peel, esepette/smoked paprika and water. Bring to a boil, then add butter.

Reduce heat and add shrimp; stew gently until just cooked, about 4 minutes. If water evaporates too quickly, add a little more. Season with salt to taste.



Red Lentil Crusted Goat Cheese with Three Lentil Salad and Ruby Red Grapefruit Vinaigrette

Serves: 6

- 1 cup cooked red lentils, al dente
- 1 cup brown lentils, cooked
- 1 cup green lentils, cooked
- 5 spears Broccolini, cooked and roughly chopped
- 1 head endive, sliced
- 1/8 cup, plus 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
- Kosher salt, to taste
- Cracked black pepper, to taste
- 9 ounces goat cheese, sliced into 6 2-inch slices
- 1/2 ruby red grapefruit, peeled and seeded and remaining juice

squeezed into a bowl
1 lime, juiced

Combine the three varieties of lentils in a glass or Pyrex bowl, reserving 1/4 cup of red lentils to crust the goat cheese. Add Broccolini, endive, 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, red wine vinegar, salt and pepper and mix well. Set aside for 1/2 hour to 1 hour to allow flavors to meld.

Place remaining red lentils on a shallow tray and roll goat cheese slices in lentils until coated. Place lentil slices into a baking pan.

For vinaigrette, combine, grapefruit juice, lime juice, and 1/8 cup extra virgin olive oil and whisk until emulsified. Add grapefruit segments; season with salt to taste.

Just before serving, heat goat cheese slices for 3 to 5 minutes in a 350°F oven until warm, but not melting apart. Distribute lentils onto six plates, place goat cheese slices on lentils and drizzle with vinaigrette.

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Weddings

Churchwell

The celebration and blessing of a marriage took place Jan. 21, 2012, in Litchfield Park, Ariz. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church for Katherine Carlsen Crawford and Logan Choate Churchwell, of Arlington, Va. Officiated by the Right Reverend Kirk Smith, Bishop of Arizona, the bride and groom made their life long vows to each other in the presence of God, their families and friends.

late Christine Crawford of Goodyear, Ariz. Representing the mother of the bride was Katie's sister, Maya Crawford, of Portland, Ore. Logan is the son of Tommy and Laurie Churchwell of Big Spring, Texas. Proudly witnessing the vows were his grandparents, Tom and Eva Churchwell and Carroll and Joyce Choate, of Big Spring, Texas.

The guests were seated by the groomsmen, Benjamin Hoyer, best man from Copenhagen, Denmark; Tanner Churchwell of Big Spring, Texas; Gerrit Choate of Dallas, Texas; Daniel Cenci of Speed, N.C., Rodrigue Garcia of Portiers, France; James Perl of Columbia, S.C.; and Kyle Miller of Durham, N.C. The groomsmen presented each lady with a vintage handkerchief, a gift from the bride.



Mr. and Mrs. Logan Churchwell

At 2 p.m., church bells rang as the procession began. Assisting the service were Sydney Island, Thru-rifer; Katie Ann Franklin, Crucifer; Thor Island and Andrew Ryan, torch bearers; and the Rev. Gay Romack. Bridesmaids were Alicia Solis of Palo Alto, Calif., maid of honor; Jennifer Williams, matron of honor, Sara Crawford, Lindsay Shea of Goodyear Ariz.; Emilie Guthrie of Portland Ore.; Molly Guthrie of Seattle Wash.; Whitney Kirby of San Antonio, Texas; and Chandler Choate of Dallas, Texas.

The flower girl was Vivian Williams from Goodyear, Ariz. Ring Bearers Liam and Ezra Brown of Portland Ore., carried the rings in hand-made West Texas mesquite bowls.

The bride, escorted down the aisle by her father, wore a Vera Wang ball gown with 100 yards of tulle that flowed into a cathedral-length train. The asymmetrically draped taffeta bodice was accented with a floral sash made by the bride. Hand sewn next to her heart was fabric from her mother's wedding dress. Her bouquet consisted of white roses, anemones, miniature calla lilies and willow branches. The groom wore a black tuxedo and met his beautiful bride at the alter. After the declaration of consent and exchanging of vows, all were welcomed to the Lord's table for Holy Eucharist.

The reception was held at the The Raven at Verrado Golf Club in Buckeye, Ariz. The guests enjoyed a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing at the foot of the White Tank mountains and Sonoran Desert sunset.

Preceding wedding day, a bridal luncheon featuring an Italian buffet was hosted by Maureen Haddad, Mary Miller and Sue Partee at Litchfield's in the Wigwam Resort. Family, friends and the bridal party toasted the couple at the rehearsal dinner at Old Pueblo as guests enjoyed a jazz trio, Mexican cuisine and margaritas.

The bride is in her last semester at Virginia Theological Seminary and will be ordained as a priest in May. The groom is director of public relations of accuracy in media in Washington, DC.

After a honeymoon to Aruba, the couple will make their home in Alexandria, Va.

Krista Blagrove Bride Elect of Clay John Anderson



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50th Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. James and Beverly Norman

James and Beverly Norman of Big Spring will be honored with a reception celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012, from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. at the College Baptist Church fellowship hall. The reception will be hosted by the couple's children: Leslie and Albert Harris, Larrie and Greg Estes, all of San Angelo; and Craig Norman of Big Spring. They have been blessed with five grandchildren.

James was born to James J. and Elsie Norman in Lamesa, Texas, and Beverly Osborn was born to D.M. (Dock) and Juana Osborn in Abilene, Texas.

They met in 1953 at the Airport Baptist Church in Big Spring. They both attended Runnels Junior High and Big Spring High School where they graduated in the class of 1959. They were married Feb. 16, 1962, at the Airport Baptist Church. They have resided in Big Spring all their married life.

James is a master carpenter and cabinet maker and has constructed numerous homes in Big Spring. He enjoys playing golf and lots of woodworking projects in his shop. Beverly is a church pianist, homemaker and drove a school bus 36 years for BSISD. She also enjoys cardmaking, cooking and gardening. They both like music and attend the Big Spring Symphony concerts.

James and Beverly are both retired from BSISD. They are active members of the College Baptist Church and attribute their 50 years of marriage to their commitment to each other, God and their family.

Life forms can be found at
www.bigspringherald.com

Valentine's Day

Gift Guide

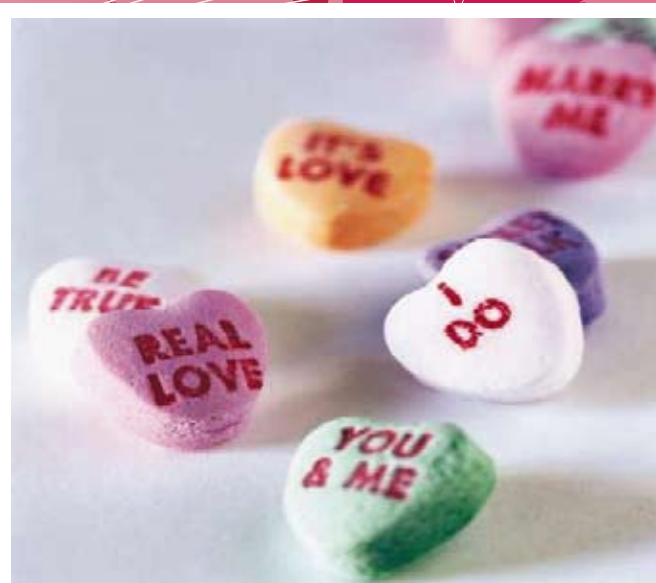


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Births



Kinsler William and Carter Gray Wash

Derek and Crystal Wash of Big Spring announce the birth of their twin boys, Kinsler William and Carter Gray Wash.

Both boys were born Jan. 11, 2012, at 6:58 p.m. Kinsler William weighed 4 pounds 7 ounces and measured 16 inches long. Carter Gray weighed 5 pounds and measured 16 1/4 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Larry and Kim Bridges of Big Spring.

Paternal grandparents are David and Lisa Hobbs of Big Spring and the late Billy Wash.



Jaxson Gage and Jace Mathew Necaice

Jaxson Gage and Jace Mathew Necaice, sons of Joseph Necaice and Kyndra Pennington Necaice of Big Spring, were born Jan. 19, 2012, at 8:10 p.m. and 8:20 p.m.

Jaxson weighed 4 pounds, 13 ounces and measured 17 1/2 inches long.

Jace weighed 4 pounds, 13 ounces and measured 17 inches long.

Their maternal grandparents are Natalie and Horace Wheat of Poplarville, Miss., and Doug and Michele Pennington of Stephenville, Texas. Paternal grandparents are Rodney and Debbie Necaice of Pass Christian, Miss. Maternal great-grandparents are Carolyn and Tom Mills of Big Spring, Texas.

Who's Who

• Angelo State University conferred degrees upon 438 students during the 2011 fall commencement exercised Dec. 10 in San Angelo.

The 2011 fall graduates from Big Spring are:

Samantha N. Boehringer with a bachelor of science; Donna G. Brabham with an associate in applied science and Whitney A. Kellermeier with a bachelor of science, magna cum laude.

• The Dean's List for the 2011 Fall Semester has been announced at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must be enrolled full-time and maintain a 3.25 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

The honorees include the following from the Big Spring area: Samantha N. Boehringer, Harrison B. Chevalier, Judson C. Chevalier, Sloan B. Davis, Danielle A. Freeman, Mario A. Hernandez, Whitney A. Kellermeier, Jessica A. Lewis, Aaron J. Long, Guadalupe Perez, Brittany A. Schniers, Macy F. Schwartz, Kay C. B. Stanley, Haylea D. Stuteville, Brendan C. Tarleton, Krista D. Tarleton, Marshall D. Van Pelt and Ryan C. Ward.

• Air Force Airman Alex M. Huckabee graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Huckabee earned distinction as an honor graduate.

He is the son of Gary and Angie Huckabee of West Ninth Street, Forsan.

The airman is a 2009 graduate of Forsan High School.

Dear Molly: 'Needy' Man

Molly, can you help me understand a "needy" man? I have been dating one for over a year now and it seems to be getting worse over time. Even a simple night out with girlfriends turns in a dozen texts of "I miss you". The tighter he tries to hold on, the more I pull back. I have raised 3 boys by myself and feel like I am raising another one. He is always asking "aren't you proud of me"? He has health issues that he won't address but has no problem complaining about how he doesn't feel good. I have gotten to the point where I don't even comment back to him. I love him dearly, but I feel like he is sucking the life out of me with this "neediness" he has. Even when I am at work if I don't answer a text I start getting "are you ok", "did I do something" "I am sorry for whatever I did". I would have thought over time, something like this would get better. Thank you.

Tired in NY

Dear Tired,

You are not going to change this man and that's a fact. He can change himself, but admitting he has a problem is the first step. Whether it's an obsessive need he has for validation, or abandonment fears, it seems like there's more to his behavior than you are prepared to handle. You've answered your own question. You have raised three children and the responsibility of having another "child" in the house is not what you want. So pulling back is a sign that you need to make a change. It doesn't mean that you can't support him, but it has to be on your terms. Have you addressed this together? Does he validate your concerns and know that you are separating yourself from him? Does he think his behavior is causing a problem?

I know you love him, but I question what he brings to you that you love so much. I'd start by writing down the positives that he contributes to the relationship. Then write down what he takes from it. When we stay in relationships that are not healthy, sometimes there is codependency. Ask yourself as you write your list if you feel like you are trying to fix, rescue and/or nurture him, and feel guilty leaving. If so you could be codependent and may want to seek some advice as to how to break this pattern.

His unresolved health issues tell me that perhaps he doesn't love himself enough to get the help he needs. Some people who act this way would rather be sick to receive the sympathy and attention they crave. The thought process goes something like this: If I stay sick she will feel sorry for me and by showing her concern she must love me therefore I'm worthy. Obviously this is flawed thinking and the only reason I bring this up is because he has health issues he's not addressing and displays insecure behavior. It could be as simple as denial, but only a trained professional can know this.

The fact that he's insecure when you separate from him needs to be addressed as well. It could be narcissism, a control issue or as we've discussed a symptom of a bigger issue. There are many layers here, but one thing is clear, you see the behavior in him and it doesn't feel right.

Perhaps the best advice is to encourage him to address these concerns in therapy. It doesn't mean either of you has failed; it just means there are things to figure out. It is not your job to validate this man or be his therapist. Relationships enhance our lives, make life better and teach us valuable lessons. They shouldn't "suck the life" out of us. My advice is having a candid conversation about the issues. See where that takes you and hopefully you can figure out the behavior, either together or with a therapist.

Good luck! Let us know how it goes.

~Molly

Readers, how should she handle his not giving her space? Do you think it's a control issue or something more?

Molly is a writer and business professional with years of experience in finance, business development and management. Her lifelong passion and learning has been focused on the understanding and complexity of relationships as well as effective communication. Originally from Texas she has lived in many cities including St Louis and Portland finally settling in Boston where she raised her family and received her education in Business Administration. She is now living in Texas with her family and is excited to be home.

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HELPING NEIGHBORS



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

John Keller, secretary of the Big Spring Shrine Club, left, Bo Clawson, president of the Big Spring Shrine Club, present Paul Smith, chaplain and vice president of local charity Isaiah 58 with a \$4,000 check, along with Frank Sickles, board president of the Staked Plains 598 Masonic Lodge, and Bob Noyes, treasurer of the Staked Plains 598 Masonic Lodge. The funds were from the local Shrine Club, the Staked Plains 598 Masonic Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Stories behind the numbers of long-term unemployed

SHARON COHEN
AP National Writer

J.R. Childress is up before the sun, bustling about in the French colonial brick house he built. He helps pack his wife's lunch, downs some eggs or cereal for breakfast, pores over online and newspaper job listings and hopes — even prays — this will be the day when his fortunes turn around.

He's determined to stay busy, job or no job, for sanity's sake. Maybe he'll help a neighbor. Exercise. Or check out computer blueprints of construction projects around Winston-Salem, N.C., to stay connected to the world where he thrived for three decades. Childress has

been laid off twice since late 2009, most recently for 10 months.

"Every day is a struggle," he says in a soft drawl. "The struggle is the unknown. You've worked your way up the ladder and you get to a point in life and a position in work where you're comfortable ... then all of a sudden everything goes away. It's like being thrown into a hole and you're climbing to get up, but it's greased. There's no way of getting out."

The frustrations of one 53-year-old North Carolina man are multiplied millions of times over across time zones and generations in a country still gripped by economic anxiety, de-

spite increasing signs of recovery. And they rebound in a presidential campaign pitting an incumbent defending his economic record against GOP opponents who are attacking it.

Unemployment in January was at its lowest level in three years — 8.3 percent — and 1.8 million jobs were added last year, compared with about 1 million in 2010. But there's still a long way to go: There are 5.6 million fewer jobs than there were when the recession began in late 2007.

About 12.8 million people are out of work and what's especially troubling, according to Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke,

is the large number of long-term unemployed — more than 40 percent have been jobless more than six months.

The long-term unemployed don't fit into any neat category. They're young and old. They have high school diplomas and master's degrees. Some become so discouraged, they stop looking for a time or become mid-life college students. Others find temporary jobs, then return to the jobless rolls for long stretches. In 2011, the average length of being out of work was 39 weeks — about nine months.

But statistics tell only part of the story. They

See **JOBS**, Page 6B

2011: The tax man cometh

Perhaps the picture of the Tax Man is not as dramatic as that of the Roman soldiers flipping carts of peddlers in the market to collect their taxes on the spot. But the Tax Man still commands a healthy cosmic fear.

The arena is a mix of annual tax filings, audits, back taxes, tax liens, bank levies and wage garnishments. The pleadings for settlements ranging from an offer in compromise, begging for currently not collectible status and installment agreements are still knocking on the gates of the tax collectors. Perhaps they will give those under their mercy some respite.

For now, the decks are cleared just for the droves of the tax filers. Some anticipate the years with fear they will owe money to the IRS, money they may not have. Some actually can't wait for the Tax Man to open the gates to rush in and ask for their earned income credit that could be in the thousands. That credit is to some the only romantic rendezvous with money; a

yearly ritual of breaking all the rules, for a hedonistic moment of spending and be happy.

Now on a more serious note, how can we prepare for this reluctantly anticipated moment of filing our income tax? Obviously the issues may be as many as there are taxpayers. I want to just touch on some general ideas. To bring some semblance of organization to our thoughts, let us just discuss both the individual and small business taxpayers.

Taxpayers with w-2s only do not have much to worry about. Just to make sure to attach the w-2 to their tax returns. Taxpayers who have homes have other issues to contend with:

Medical Expenses:
The word here is "not do" rather than "do" for most taxpayers. Do not bother to gather medical expenses unless they are above 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income.

So, if your adjusted gross income (and this is a very important number because many calculations depend on it; it is the last line on the first page of the tax form 1040) is \$100,000 and you have medical expenses totaling \$6,000, don't bother, because you would not benefit from these

expenses.

Property Taxes and Interest Expenses:

This is a straightforward item to look for. As soon as the bank sends you the annual statement you will have both numbers, unless you do not escrow. In this case you will have the tax total from the taxing authority. Make sure to include all the taxes such as the school district, the county, or any other taxes.

Some people don't know that and include only one type of taxes when they receive just one statement. Wait for all the statements. If you own a piece of land include the property taxes for the land as well.

We will continue the discussion in the next article.

Dean Alexander has more than 30 years experience as a CPA and tax consultant and he is currently on two radio shows. He is the managing director of National Financial Advisors (NFA Tax Help), a national firm headquartered in Houston. He is both a Chartered Financial Consultant and Life Underwriter. He consults exclusively on tax matters, particularly tax audits and tax collections at both the federal and the state levels.



DEAN ALEXANDER

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 Federal Reserve is doing everything in its power to hold down long-term interest rates because it thinks that doing so will help lift economic growth. In addition to quantitative easing I & II, the Fed is buying long-term Treasury bonds and also promising to hold short-term interest rates low for an extended period.

Since long-term interest rates are just a series of short-term yields strung together, promising to hold short-term rates down can influence long-term interest rates. The Fed thinks that this will help lift housing and the economy and push down unemployment.

Last summer, the Fed promised to hold rates down through mid-2013. Headlines from last week suggest that the Fed now thinks 2014. But, how committed is the Fed to this strategy? What will it take to change course? Some analysts argue that this is an ironclad commitment and there will be no course changes.

We believe this is a misreading of the Fed's intentions. There are 19 potential economic views that are important at the Federal Reserve — seven are on the Board of Governors and 12 are presidents of regional banks. Right now, two governorships are unfilled, which means there are 17 forecasters (12 regional bank presidents and five governors). Of these, six expect a rate hike before the end of 2013. Of the 11 who think rates will end 2013 where they are today, five expect a rate hike before the end of 2014. In other words, there is more disagreement at the Fed than meets the eye.

In his press conference after the release of these forecasts, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke said that if the economic data proves the Fed either too optimistic or too pessimistic, it would most likely change its forecast and alter policy expectations.

In other words, faster growth, lower unemployment, and higher inflation — like we anticipate — would move up the start of rate hikes before late 2014, possibly even before mid-2013.

Within the Fed's new and more transparent communication of its economic beliefs there are some very important pieces of data. While members forecast their near-term expectations for growth, inflation and interest rates, they also put figures on what they deem to be the long-term, steady-state, equilibrium world.

Every single one of the 17 forecasts put the long-run forecast of an appropriate (equilibrium) federal funds rate at or above 3.75 percent. This is not a surprise. Fed forecasters judge the equilibrium growth rate for long-run nominal GDP to be 4.3 percent to 4.6 percent — about 2 percent inflation and 2.3 percent to 2.6 percent real GDP.

We look at these two long-run forecasts as consistent with our models which use nominal GDP growth as a target rate for the federal funds rate. The only problem is that nominal GDP grew 3.7 percent in 2011 and 4.2 percent at an annual rate over the past two years. In other words, the current economy is already very close to the Fed's long-run forecast. This means that the federal funds rate is currently too low. A zero percent rate with growth already near 4 percent makes no sense from a monetary policy perspective. The funds rate should be much higher if the goal is keeping inflation stable.

But the Fed is convinced that it can keep rates below its long-run levels without risk of inflation because the economy has unused potential (high unemployment and unused capacity). The Fed thinks the housing market needs zero percent interest rates to heal and to grow again.

We think this is a mistake. For example, a zero percent interest rate may not even be low enough to boost housing, but the same zero percent rate is already too low for manufacturing or farming or commodities. In the 1970s, when the Fed unwisely attempted to bring unemployment back down to levels it thought were sustainable, the U.S. experienced its worst inflation ever. We side with those members of the Fed who want rates up sooner rather than later. However, the Fed is a democratic organization and right now those hawkish members are outnumbered by the ones who think the economy can be manipulated.

As a result, look for growth and inflation to continue heading higher. This is a short-term positive for stocks and the economy, but it comes with a long-term downside. It's called inflation.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. This article was written by Brian S. Wesbury, chief economist for First Trust Advisors L.P., on Jan. 30 and provided courtesy of Bhupen Agrawal, managing director/branch manager of Wells Fargo Advisors' Midland office, at 432-684-7335. The report was prepared by First Trust Advisors L.P., and reflects the current opinion of the authors. It is based upon sources and data believed to be accurate and reliable. Opinions and forward-looking statements expressed are subject to change without notice. The material has been prepared or is distributed solely for informational purposes and is not a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any security, or instrumental to participate in any trading strategy. Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC, member SIPC, is a registered broker-dealer and a separate non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.

Public Records

Marriage Licenses:

Benjamin M. Jones, 24, and Stephanie L. Samaniego, 23, both of Big Spring. Kenneth Wayne Phillips Jr., 19, and Marissa Yvette Benites, 18, both of Big Spring. Christopher Michael Salazar, 23, and Theresa Katherine Rodriguez, 21, both of Big Spring.

Zechariah Marshall Akin, 19, and Ashton Lou-rissa Gray, 18, both of Big Spring. Allen David Gilbert, 37, and Amber Nicole Terry, 19, both of Big Spring. Jamie Olivarez, 35, and Candace Deane Rodriguez, 27, both of Big Spring. Jeremy Benton Saucedo, 20, and Ariel Ann Fuentes, 21, both of Big Spring.

Johnny Clifford Williams, 23, and Carlita Lynette Green, 21, both of Big Spring. Valatine Torres Jr., 33, and Rachel L. Ruiz, 31, both of Big Spring.

District Court Filings:

Felipe L. Villa vs. Estella Villa, divorce. Matthew Jirasek vs. Marybeth Jirasek, divorce.

Bobby Lee Edmondson vs. Rhonda Kay Edmondson, divorce. Brian and Kori Lewis vs. Debra Dodson and Max Ellsworth, civil. Michael Neal Roberts vs. Jennifer Jo Roberts, divorce. Green Tree Servicing LLC vs. John and Elvira Stillwell, accounts, notes and contracts.

Jacob Mark Rios vs. Tina Baldomino, divorce. Marcos Chavera Jr. vs. Jessica Chavera, divorce. Cassie Cantu vs. Nicholas Lova, protective order. Raul Robles III vs. Natividad Robles, divorce.

JOBS

Continued from Page 5B

don't gauge the despair of a thirtysomething office manager who has stopped counting how many resumes he's sent out. Or the apprehension of a 60-ish tool-and-die maker who lost his job, returned to school, but still can't find work — and doubts he ever will again.

Or the rejection J.R. Childress feels, declaring that unemployment "makes you feel you're not a part of society because you're not earning your way."

Childress started working after high school, first in factories, then in construction, eventually earning a six-figure salary as vice president of operations at a company.

In October 2009, he was laid off when road construction and building projects came to a near halt. After a year without work, Childress took a huge pay cut to be a construction foreman, but that job ended last April. He's convinced he has two strikes against him: his age and lack of college degree.

"I'm putting out resumes, but they're going into a black hole," he says. Prospective employees, he says "want 33, not 53. ... They say, 'We really like you, but if we spend our time training you, when construction comes back, you're going to leave.'" He pauses, and adds: "That's not paying my bills."

Childress' wife works and their 24-year-old twins are out of college so that eases their financial burden, but he says he asks himself: "Am I going to be 75 or 80 and not be able to retire? ... What did I do to deserve this? When is it going to turn around for me?"

Jerome Greene doesn't mince words when he describes life without a steady paycheck for more than three years.

"It's been like hell," he says. "It's very hard to see people leave and go to work in the morning and come home every night. It's hard to see people spending money, going out and having fun and you can't. It's very stressing. But there are people in worst situations than I have and I feel sorry for them."

Greene, about to turn

50, worked for 16 years as an Oracle software developer, most recently at a Pennsylvania company that made electronic components for cars. When he was laid off in June 2008, the recession was just taking hold, and he still had job interviews. By fall, with the economy in free fall, his phone stopped ringing.

Greene hoped the downturn would be brief and he'd weather it with unemployment benefits.

But the jobless rate hovered above 9 percent and Greene's 99 weeks of unemployment expired. He had trouble sleeping. Depression set in. Without health insurance, he took precautions — carrying hand sanitizer and his own pen when doing errands to avoid getting sick and having to pay \$65 for a doctor's visit.

"There's no room for error," he says "There's no extra money."

At the same time, Greene, who is single and lives outside of Pottstown, Pa., has become an active social networker, online and in person. He participates in several groups, looking for job tips, sometimes doing presentations himself, perfecting his "elevator speech" — the 30-second pitch to prospective employers.

"Emotionally, it helps," he says. "You see that you're not alone. ... I guess you can say misery loves company. But there are positive people, too."

Mingling has other benefits, too. One holiday party led to freelance work on web development projects.

Greene is encouraged by the improving economy and has been getting calls for interviews, though they're outside the Pennsylvania area and he'd prefer to stay put. "Maybe," he says, "there is an end to this."

No matter, the experience has changed his outlook.

"It has made me very cynical when it comes to the work environment," he says. "People have to take charge of managing their careers. They should prepare for the next round of layoffs ... The rest of the world is beginning to catch up with the U.S. Companies are going to continue to outsource, they're going

to continue to do stupid things ... and I don't think recessions are ever going to go away. Having a job just interrupts a job search."

The memory stings even now for Jon Creek, all these years after the job interview.

He'd applied to be a bookkeeper at a property management company when one of the owners caught him off guard: "He said, 'You've been out of work for a year now. You can only clean the garage so many times. Why can't you get a job?'" Creek recalls.

"My answer was, 'I'm trying to get a job now,'" he says.

Creek, who lives in Mason, a suburb of Cincinnati, was a construction company office manager until he and almost everyone else at the firm were laid off in December 2007. He'd known the business was in trouble and says he actually turned down another better-paying job earlier, out of loyalty.

It took 18 months to land part-time work as an insurance agent's assistant at \$240 a week — a dollar less than his unemployment checks.

A year later, Creek was stunned when a certified letter arrived with his final paycheck and notice that his job was over. Again, it was the economy. To add to the injury, his boss had posted the news on her Facebook page before telling him. "Everybody knew but me," he says.

And since she hadn't done the proper paperwork, he couldn't file for unemployment.

That was August 2010. Creek — who holds a bachelor's degree in business administration — has been looking since, worried that as time passes, someone unemployed for, say, six months may seem more appealing.

"I worked hard. I did everything right," he says. "Now I'm at the point of asking myself, 'Will I ever be able to get anything?' It's not just about a salary. It's about being able to go out and say, 'I do this. This is my identity.'"

On occasion, Creek, now 35, has become so discouraged, he's temporarily quit looking. "If you send out your resume so many times, every employer in the city

has it," he says. "If you take it out of the mix for a while, perhaps you'll get noticed next time."

Being unemployed not only hurts financially — Creek has an \$11,000-plus student loan — it leaves emotional scars, too. "The only people I talk to during the day are my wife, my dogs and service people," he says. "It's very isolating, very lonely."

His wife, Leslie, a financial analyst, is a constant comfort. "She tells me I'm smart, that I have a lot to offer," he says.

Creek is considering returning to school this fall to get a master's degree in accounting.

"Sometimes you feel like playing the victim card," he says, "but you really don't want to. It tells the employer you're not very confident. I tell myself good things are to come ... but it's hard to remain hopeful."

Jean Coyle knows it's ironic that long ago, she taught college classes about retirement planning.

As a tenured professor at universities in Illinois and New Mexico, she lectured on gerontology, age discrimination and women's issues. When she was 52, she made a life-changing move, entering the seminary and leaving with two masters' degrees. In 2002, she was ordained as a Presbyterian minister.

As an associate pastor at a Presbyterian church in Washington, D.C., Coyle did crisis work, visiting homes and hospitals, counseling and preaching, conducting funerals. She expected a long career but in 2007, she lost her job in a church budget cut.

At 62, Coyle — who holds five degrees — thought she had much to offer. She applied to hundreds of churches and organizations around the country.

"I don't know if I was really naive or not, idealistic or not," she says. "I just believed I was supposed to be doing this and something would happen. There would be an opportunity."

She hoped her past dealing with the sick and dying would prove especially valuable. "I think you might find a 26-year-old seminary graduate with that experience but not often," she says. "Churches say, 'We want someone who's going to be there 20 years.'"

Coyle found a temporary staff job with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) but after three years of looking for a pastoral position, she reluctantly retired in 2010.

"I'm literally sitting in the midst of job search files that I'm finally throwing away," she says, from her home in Washington's Virginia suburbs. "I know I'm never going to be interviewed again. This is a major thing for me. It's hard to say. I'm a type-A person. I love working. I want to work until I drop and collapse at my

desk. That wasn't meant to be. It's very painful, very difficult. ... The positive part is to be able to say I'm retired rather than I'm unemployed. But people often turn away and say, 'Oh you're retired.' You feel discarded. You feel invisible."

Coyle stays busy by filling in for pastors when they're on vacation or ill and participates in 13 volunteer activities — everything from pet therapy to neighborhood watch to usher at a college theater.

"I always used to tell my gerontology students," she says, "that the saddest thing in the world is to have the answers and no one is asking you the questions anymore."

Ted Casper figured the path to a paycheck would pass through the classroom.

When he was laid off at a semitrailer plant in southern Wisconsin in spring 2009, he initially thought he'd rebound quickly. He was a skilled tool-and-die maker and had never been unemployed for more than a few days.

"I thought I'd spend a week filling out applications," Casper says, "and I'd spend my next week deciding which of the three or four jobs I would take."

He soon discovered he had misjudged. "It was a real eye-opening experience," he says. "I started looking for work and no one was looking back."

It wasn't just that he had no prospects. His wife, Gail, who has diabetes and Addison's disease, a hormonal disorder, had already lost her job at an auto dealership. And they were in the final stages of foreclosure, no longer able to make their \$900 monthly mortgage payments. Their annual income had plummeted from \$90,000-\$100,000 to about \$23,000 — mostly his unemployment checks.

Casper, then in his late 50s, followed a familiar route for unemployed blue-collar workers. He returned to school, enrolling at Blackhawk Technical College in Janesville, Wis.

Two years later, he had an associate degree in industrial engineering technology. But he was 60, and competition was fierce — and younger — with thousands of unemployed factory workers in the area, many from a recently shuttered General Motors plant.

"I got zero responses," says Casper, of Edgerton, Wis. "I literally didn't even get the form letter that goes along with the 'thank you but no thanks.'"

Solastsummer, Casper returned to Blackhawk to study business management.

"I kind of accepted the fact there's no employer out there that will hire me," he says wearily. He'd like to start a business — making furniture is a possibility.

Casper is philosophical about his fate.

"There are times when you realize a lot of this is my fault," he says. "There were times when I was working and wasn't saving. ... On one level, it feels like someone should be taking care of me. On the other level, I feel I should have been doing it on my own."

He just received his first Social Security check, but still hopes for another career.

"If you can't find a job," he says, "maybe you've got to go out and create one. ... There's always something ahead. You just have to reach out for it."

Dennis Hansen sometimes wonders whether all his schooling was worth it.

An aquatics biologist, Hansen has taught college, had his research published in scientific journals and spoken at conferences from New York to Hawaii, but in recent years, he's bounced from no job to temporary job to taking any job for a paycheck.

In late 2009, the Duluth, Minn., lab where he worked as operations manager, testing the toxicity of chemicals (and the impact on fish and water), closed because of declining business. Much of its work had come from Department of Defense contracts.

After a year without work, Hansen, 32, was hired to monitor Lake Michigan and Lake Superior water for the state and federal governments over two summers. He also had short stints as a census worker and as an extra post office hand during one holiday crush.

It hasn't been enough: Hansen says he has a \$13,000 credit card debt and that's just for basics — his \$600 monthly mortgage, heat and food.

"It's definitely a roller coaster," Hansen says, with the ups coming when he's done well in a job interview and the downs when there's a rejection: "That's when I'm frustrated, angry and wondering why I went to college for 10 years."

Hansen is resourceful and versatile: In college, he stocked grocery shelves, put motors in yachts and worked as a valet. Since 2009, he's applied for everything from oil field worker in Williston, N.D. to chemist in Iraq for a government contractor.

"The more money they offer," he says, "the farther I am willing to go."

Hansen says he never expected to be out of work so long, figuring his experience and research would make him a shoo-in for a job.

In December, he had an interview but lost out to someone with a Ph.D. "I was beat out by someone even more overqualified than I was," he says. In January, another rejection.

His marriage plans are on hold — "I don't want to have a potluck welfare wedding," he says.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The mood starts out light and busy and then gets more serious as the moon moves from Libra into Scorpio. Mercury and Saturn are lining up to bring greater ease to some of the weightier day-to-day issues. As the messenger planet travels Aquarius, many problems have a tech-nological fix that is actually simple and inexpensive — really!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The pendulum swings between the mundane and madness.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

You appreciate each tone more because the other one exists. The varied pace keeps you on your toes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You are firing on all cylinders today, and you are primed to make excellent choices. You will act as though you thought things through and think as though you were in action.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Most people are likely to choose the road they know, perceiving it to be the safest route. Just because it's right in front of you doesn't make it the best choice. Go out of your way to find the best option.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Get the inside story. Seek knowledge over

information. Better to learn how to learn than assemble to be given answers that will only work for you in a particular circumstance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're in just the fighting mood to break records and push through barriers. In order to break through to the realm of the extraordinary, you have to require yourself to do things that can't be done.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A developmental process is beginning. In much the same way that children show early signs of the adults they will turn into, you are showing signs of the person you will be in but three short months.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Because you value humor, you'll love the odd scenarios that drop into your world. The day will be a series of interesting and entertaining events, strange little tests and funny problems to solve.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). When a loved one isn't giving you the kind of attention you want, it may lead you to wonder whether you are giving your loved one the kind of attention he or she would prefer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Being the sign of expansion, you sometimes equate moderation with boredom. But now you'll see how a little restraint can bring you great contentment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll be alert to the feelings and moods of those around you. Do not, however, change your whole schedule to accommodate others. Doing so will only start a trend that you will not enjoy later down the line.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There is no sense in worrying about what you cannot control. Also, the things that "might" happen are not worthy of your energetic investment. Concentrate on what's actually going on right now.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be like a human buffer as you attempt to protect people from news that might bring down the mood or from details that may cause unnecessary worry. You'll be quite successful in this, too.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 12). Your heart's desire burns bright this year, giving you fuel to reach your goals. In March, you'll receive the happy repercussions of a move you made last year. May is your chance to see what you've always wondered about. You sincerely want to help people, and you'll be proud of how you're able to do this in June. Virgo and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 1, 24, 39 and 18.

changed you. Maybe you're inspired to join with the times in new ways. Maybe you're now eager to adopt methods of communicating, socializing or helping others that you simply haven't been ready for until now. Maybe you're accepting that in your own way you are also an inventor, a music maker, an intellectual and a philanthropist. Whatever you've discovered, this is your week to take the ball and run with it. Late Saturday or early Sunday the 19th, depending on your time zone, the Pisces sun will move the action in a different direction. Stay tuned!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Happy birthday to the 16th president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, the humanitarian Aquarian leader who saved the union and emancipated the slaves. His moon in Capricorn shows hardworking determination and a character unfazed by challenge. "Give me six hours to chop down a tree, and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe." — Abraham Lincoln

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: Aquarius sunbeams seem to have a special activation code to unleash the great waves of imagination that are vital to human progress. During this last week of the solar journey through Aquarius, we'll be reminded of what it means to be human and of all the positive and unique qualities that humans possess. The associations of music, humanitarianism, social change, individuality and eccentricity will continue to weave themselves through the cosmic tapestry this week. Perhaps you have seen these themes working through your life in recent weeks and they have in some way

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Discover Another World, Read! You never know what you might find.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Voyage of Discovery

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A Q 4
♥ J 6 4
♦ A 8 2
♣ J 9 7 2

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

EAST
♠ 9
♥ A K Q 10 9 7 2
♦ Q 5
♣ K 10 8

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 7 3
♥ 8 5 3
♦ K 6
♣ A Q 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1♣ Pass 2♣ 4♥
Pass Pass 4♣

Opening lead — jack of diamonds.

Assume you're in four spades and West leads a diamond. The obvious losers are three hearts and a club, so all your thoughts should be devoted to trying to escape one of them. In line with this, you begin a campaign to learn everything you can about how the unseen cards are divided.

You have a good start in this direction, because it seems certain — judging from the bidding and the opening lead — that West didn't have a heart to lead. So East has all seven missing hearts.

Upon winning the diamond jack with the king, you cash the A-Q of trumps, learning in the process that East started with a singleton trump. You then lead a low club from dummy and finesse the queen, which wins.

After drawing West's two remaining trumps, you arrive at the critical stage of the play. One possibility is to cash the ace of clubs, hoping East started with the doubleton king, in which case the king would fall under the ace. But if it turned out that East originally had three clubs, you would have to go down one on this line of play.

In order to resolve the critical question of whether East started with two clubs or three, you should first lead a diamond to the ace and ruff a diamond. When East shows out on the third diamond, you learn that he started with exactly two diamonds to go with the seven hearts and one spade already known, which in turn means that he must have been dealt three clubs.

Accordingly, you now put East — who at this point is down to the A-K-Q of hearts and the K-10 of clubs — on lead with a heart. He cashes the A-K-Q but is then forced to return a club, allowing you to score both the jack and ace and bring a satisfying conclusion to a well-played hand.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

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Newsday Crossword SATURDAY STUMPER by Doug Peterson

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Paper work
8 Paper work
15 Warsaw Pact member
16 Like some traffic markers
17 Checkout return
18 Steep-sided ridge
19 Heavy duty
20 Clifford the Big Red Dog poodle
22 F. Murray Abraham and Ethan Hawke awards of 2011
23 Ending like -ule
24 Pieces of puzzles
25 AL East team
26 Pitcher's field
28 Get moving
30 When doubled, D
33 Not fancy at all
34 Tumblers, e.g.
36 Hearty brunch fare
38 Causing heads to turn
39 Recurring theme for Kafka
40 Early-round pass
41 Leg : fibula :: arm : —
42 Brow revealers
43 Chat-room qualifier
44 Have something elegant
46 Atwitter, with "up"
48 Knocking out
51 "A Nation Prepared" org.
52 Strike site

53 "It's over"
55 Half-brother of Solomon
57 Battler of Hera in the Trojan War
58 Get gloomy
59 Cop-show staple
60 Faxes, perhaps

DOWN

1 Portrayer of Don Juan and Robin
2 First strip to win a Pulitzer
3 Checkout line
4 Floppy lids
5 Red —
6 "Grand" group
7 Crystal in many a jewel box
8 Toledo's two-by-four?

9 Hundred Acre Wood denizen
10 Sound
11 Mega-selling singing family
12 Exotic juice berry
13 Dungeons & Dragons weapon
14 Stripes
21 Scenic walkway
24 Concept in economic theory
25 Nectar source
27 Frequent letter ender
29 Tried to reach
30 Merchantmen have them
31 Struck
32 In case
33 Starbuck's boss
34 Make a face, in a way

35 Navigate
37 Town SE of Cherbourg
42 Lacking the resources
43 Small arm
45 Machines with SuperDrives and FaceTime cameras
47 Beat
48 Not very much
49 Starting to come apart
50 Crumb
51 Talk finisher
52 Talk up
54 Quaint affirmation
56 "Dear ___ of memory, great heir of fame . . .": Milton

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15									16						
17									18						
19						20			21			22			
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53						54				55	56				
57											58				
59												60			

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Moving in together? Take your time combining pets

LEANNE ITALIE

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kelly Lucas blissfully wed three years ago. For her cats, it was more like hell.

Happy to have married a fellow cat person, she and her husband were hopeful they could blend their pets: two males for her and a plump old moody female for him. It was a no-go, then and now.

"I wouldn't call them oil and water," Lucas said. "It's more like gasoline and fire. BOOM! It's been over three years and they still hate each other with a passion."

The Atlanta couple, who also have an 18-month-old human baby, keep their animal camps apart using a Plexiglas-reinforced screen door on the stairs of their two-story house. It's a measure they had hoped would be temporary.

"Basically all it serves as now is a buffer so they can hiss and swipe at each other," Lucas said. "We rotate them around so that they all get the opportunity to be in all parts of the house and hang out with all of us. It's nerve-racking, to say the least."

Merging pets when moving in together usually has a happy ending, but it can take time, patience, medication (for the pet), or the help of an animal trainer or behaviorist, said Dr. Chessie Green, who heads the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association in Raleigh, N.C.

"It goes pretty well for probably eight out of 10 of my clients who blend their families," she said. "Most people don't consider their pets before moving in. Sometimes people are forced to find them new homes because they don't get along or somebody is allergic."

Suzanne Finch in San Diego didn't have allergy issues, but she's had her share of CATastrophes.

The fur flew in 1990, when she realized just how much her boyfriend's cat hated her three cats — and herself for that matter — after the whole gang moved in together.

"My boyfriend's cat loved him and was a jealous mistress. One of mine was a queen bee," Finch said. "His would pee on the carpet and my Queenie would poop on the carpet. We finally had to put plastic drop cloths all over the floor for the entire time we were together."

That turned out to be four long years, until he and his cat moved to Detroit and she stayed in California. The following year, she met the "love of my life" and a fellow cat owner.

Combining their four-legged brood went off with only minor hitches.

Does love — or, for platonic roommates, simple convenience — trump all when pets can't get along?

"I'll admit the thought of finding them a new home has crossed my mind, not so much for our sake but because I hate that they have to go through rotations and get annoyed at each other," Lucas said. "But I'm selfish and can't stand the thought of being without them."

Making it work involves many variables. But Valarie Tynes, a veterinarian and behaviorist in Sweetwater, Texas, has one key observation:

"The first thing pet owners should be aware of is the importance that early socialization plays in future behavior of a dog or cat," she said. "A cat or a dog that has not spent much, if any, time around other dogs and/or cats during their adolescence will be much less likely to ever get along well with other animals."

Getting two adult cats to live in peace can take longer and pose greater challenges than blending unrelated dogs, Tynes said.

"It's very important that people realize that some cats and cat-dog combinations may never work great," she said. "Some animals just don't like to live with other animals."

Giving away her cat, Kitty, is under consideration for Liza Gonzalez in Miami. After two years of dating, she plans to move in with her boyfriend next month. She also has a rat terrier, Jules.

"My boyfriend is allergic to cats but takes medicine. He has a large German shepherd, Guinness, who has harmed two stray cats in their neighborhood," Gonzalez said. "He asked me if I can give my cat to someone and my response was, 'Why don't you give your dog to someone?' We settled that we needed to figure this out and giving up my cat was not the solution."

The dogs regularly spend time together and get along, but Kitty is another story.

"I'll probably need to assign a special room for Kitty since she tends to be anti-social and likes to have hiding places," Gonzalez said. "This will most likely be very emotionally stressful for her."

Gonzalez is making the right moves, Green said.

When combining dogs, Green suggests introducing them on neutral territory first, using leashes. "Do it in a neighbor's yard or the

park or a friend's house, where the dogs don't have a stake."

Don't convey your own anxiety by holding the leashes too tight. "Dogs can read that," Green said. "Everybody in the environment needs to stay calm."

Let them sniff each other and investigate, and pay attention to their body language. Are their ears down or back, indicating anxiety, fear or aggression? Are their tails up or down? Down might mean they're feeling anxious or scared; up signals confidence. A tail straight out can mean either neutral feelings or aggression, Green said.

Barking is OK. "It's just another means of communication for dogs. They may even growl or snarl at each other a little bit, and that's OK initially because it's establishing who's dominant and who's submissive. They have to get that straightened out first. You've got to let it happen."

What happens on neutral ground may or may not carry over to cohabitation, Green said, noting that some breeds, such as terriers, are more territorial than others. "You might have to do it all over again" when you get home, she said.

Providing separate spaces at first is a good idea. That can mean giving dogs their own rooms or crates, especially when nobody is home. Make sure to reward good behavior and set up separate feeding stations to avoid conflict, Green said.

But if a truly bad situation doesn't improve over time — it could take six weeks or longer — and health issues have been ruled out, an animal behaviorist should be consulted, Green said.

"Behavioral medication may be needed," she said. "Or it could be a medical problem that can exacerbate behavior problems and make them aggressive or not get along."

Much of the same advice goes for cats, or mixing cats and dogs.

When mixing dogs and cats, Green said, "make sure the cat has a place to get away from the dog, whether it's on a counter or in another room separated by a baby gate."

Let cats sniff each other through a barrier at first, or try a pheromone spray lightly around the house to create neutral territory. Hard-luck cases can take a year or two.

"Some cats end up preferring their own space," Green said. "They won't necessarily be buddies, but in the majority of cases they won't kill each other either."

Available for Adoption

Sheldon is a young, medium size, male Shetland Sheepdog Sheltie. He is about four months old. He will be available for adoption until Feb. 15.



Sheldon

Lotti is a large, adult female, German Shorthaired Pointer mix. She will be available for adoption until Feb. 15.



Lottie

Duke, is a large, adult, male Great Dane mix. He will be available for adoption until Feb. 23.



Duke

Ginger is a young, medium, female Shepherd mix. She will be available until Feb. 23.



Ginger

Kiki is a small, young, female Chihuahua. She will be available until Feb. 23.



Kiki

Leo is a large, adult, male Rottweiler. He will be available until Feb. 23.



Leo

For more information about how to adopt these furry friends or others, call the Big Spring Animal Shelter at 432-264-2372

www.petfinder.com or
bigspringpd.net

Share Curiosity.
 Read Together.



www.read.gov



Legals

mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Pat H. Stanford
EXHIBIT 42
Property and Amounts Owed
Lt 19, Bk 2, Original Town of For-
san, Howard County, Texas
TOTAL DUE:.....\$134.87
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Stanford John Stewart
1305 W. Selby Lane
Redwood City, CA 94061-3526
Bobby Merrick,
A Guardian of Lucille Collins
3239 Drexel Ave.
Big Spring, TX 79720
Lewis B. Rex, Jr.
Lucille Collins
Ruth Ann Walton Guimbellot
Keith M. Stewart
Laverne Yeatman

EXHIBIT 43
Property and Amounts Owed
A tract of land out of the SE/4 of
Sc. 42, Bk 32, T1N, T&P Ry. Co
Survey, Howard County, Texas;
described by metes and bounds on
the attached exhibit
TOTAL DUE:.....\$597.21
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

T.W.M. Inc.
by and through
Registered Agent for Service
George T. Thomas
501 Gregg St.
Big Spring, TX 79720

EXHIBIT 44
Property and Amounts Owed
The S/50' of the SW/4 of Bk 30,
of Government Heights to Bauer
Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard
County, Texas
TOTAL DUE:.....\$1,095.59
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Amelia Torres aka
Amelia D. Torres
Amalia O. Torres
1301 Lincoln
Big Spring, TX 79720
Ricky Torres
1509 E. 6th
Big Spring, TX 79720
Debra Torres Molina aka
Debra Molina
2911 W. Hwy. 80, #212
405 N. 11th St.
Big Spring, TX 79720
Marco Antonio Torres
1301 Lincoln
Big Spring, TX 79720
Valentin Torres, III aka
Valentin Torres
1707 Aylesford
1301 Lincoln

Big Spring, TX 79720
146 Atwell Circle
Marshfield, MA
R. Torres
1905 Wasson
Big Spring, TX 79720

EXHIBIT 45
Property and Amounts Owed
A tract of land out of Sc 32, Bk
33, T1N, T&P Ry. Co. Survey,
Howard County, Texas; described
by metes and bounds on the at-
tached exhibit "A" SAVE & ACC-
CEPT a tract that is 371' Northward
and Southward and 232' in width,
Eastward and Westward, Sc. 32,
Bk 33, T1N, T&P Ry. Co. Survey,
Howard County, Texas; described
by metes and bounds on the at-
tached exhibit "B"; and SAVE &
ACCEPT a tract of land out of Sc.
32, Bk 33, T1N, T&P Ry. Co. Sur-
vey, Howard County, Texas, de-
scribed by metes and bounds on
the attached exhibit "C"
TOTAL DUE:.....\$2,839.41
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

R.A. Trantham
Maurine Trantham
EXHIBIT 46
Property and Amounts Owed
A tract of land out of Tract No. 19
of the Wm B. Currie Subdivision of
the SE/4 of Sc 42, Bk 32, T1N,
T&P Ry Co. Survey, Howard
County, Texas; described by metes
and bounds on the attached exhibit
TOTAL DUE:.....\$659.15
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Ector Valdez
912 N. Magdelene
San Angelo, TX 76903
Carmen Valdez
912 N. Magdelene
San Angelo, TX 76903

EXHIBIT 47
Property and Amounts Owed
A tract of land of the SE/4 of
Sc 42, Bk 32, T1N T&P Ry Co.
Survey, Howard County, Texas;
described by metes and bounds on
the attached exhibit
TOTAL DUE:.....\$797.04
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Florida I. Viera aka
Florinda H. Viera
David H. Viera
Ricardo H. Viera
Norma H. Viera
Larry H. Viera
Joe H. Viera aka
Joe Viera
501 NE 2nd St.
Big Spring, TX 79720

EXHIBIT 48
Property and Amounts Owed
Lt 10 Bk H, Moore Heights Addn.,
City of Big Spring, Howard County,
Texas
TOTAL DUE:.....\$233.29
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by

Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Preciliano H. Viera
EXHIBIT 49
Property and Amounts Owed
A tract of land 40' Eastward and
Westward by 110' Northward and
Southward out of the NW corner of
Tr 29, Wm. B. Currie Subdivision,
SE/4 Sc 42, Bk 32, T1N T&P Ry.
Co. Survey Howard County, Texas;
described by metes and bounds on
the attached exhibit
TOTAL DUE:.....\$458.18
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Manuel Villa
705 County Rd. 109
Sweetwater, TX 79556
3603 Lajunta
909 W. 5th
Big Spring, TX 79720
Esther Villa
705 County Rd. 109
Sweetwater, TX 79556
3603 Lajunta
909 W. 5th
Big Spring, TX 79720

The following are lienholders:
City of Big Spring
Attn: City Attorney Linda Sjogren
310 Nolan
Big Spring, TX 79720

EXHIBIT 50
Property and Amounts Owed
A tract of land out of Sc. 32, Bk
33, T1N, T&P Ry. Co Survey, How-
ard County, Texas; described by
metes and bounds on the attached
exhibit
TOTAL DUE:.....\$946.41
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

E.R. Weatherman
EXHIBIT 51
Property and Amounts Owed
A certain 1.93 acre tract of land
out of Sc. 40, Bk 32, T1N, T&P Ry.
Co. Survey, Howard County,
Texas; described by metes and
bounds on the attached exhibit.
TOTAL DUE:.....\$508.69
Years owed:
1993-1996 & 2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

William Lewis West
P.O. Box 73
Orla, TX 78770
5600 Walter Rd
P.O. Box 3324
Big Spring, TX 79720
Johnnie R. West aka
Johnnie Ruth West
P.O. Box 73
Orla, TX 78770
5600 Walter Rd
P.O. Box 3324
Big Spring, TX 79720

EXHIBIT 52
Property and Amounts Owed
Lt 1, Bk B, Moore Heights Addn.,

City of Big Spring, Howard County,
Texas
TOTAL DUE:.....\$234.09
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Artis White
Virginia White
EXHIBIT 53
Property and Amounts Owed
A tract of land out of 5.75 acre
tract out of Sc 32, Bk 33, T1N T&P
Ry Co. Survey, Howard County,
Texas; described by metes and
bounds on the attached exhibit
TOTAL DUE:.....\$788.94
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

W.W. White aka
Walter W. White
718 Greenbriar Dr.
Clyde, TX 79510-3519
Verna May White
718 Greenbriar Dr.
Clyde, TX 79510-3519
The following are lienholders:
City of Big Spring
Attn: City Attorney Linda Sjogren
310 Nolan
Big Spring, TX 79720

EXHIBIT 54
Property and Amounts Owed
The E/2 of a certain 100' North
and South by 208.7' East and West
out of the E/2 of Sc 2, Bk 33, T1S,
T&P Ry. Co. Survey, Howard
County, Texas; described on the
attached exhibit.
TOTAL DUE:.....\$1,339.13
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Max M. Winn
Shizuyo Winn
EXHIBIT 55
Property and Amounts Owed
A 1.0 acre tract out of Sc 41, Bk
31, T1N, T&P Ry. Co. Survey,
Howard County, Texas; described
by metes and bounds on the at-
tached exhibit "A". Save & Accept
a .47 acre tract described by metes
and bounds on the attached exhibit
"B"
TOTAL DUE:.....\$308.45
Years owed:
1991-2010

The following defendants are owners of a property interest in, or lien against, the property described in this exhibit and may be notified by service of citation by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested at the address shown below, or by Citation by Publication and Citation by Posting, if no address is shown for any one or more of those listed below, and no address was disclosed in the taxing units' tax records, the appraisal district records, the title search, telephone directories in Howard County or the area of any last known address for each such Defendant, the voter registration records for Howard County, Texas, or, where appropriate, the assumed name records of the Howard County Clerk or the records of the Secretary of State.

Theresa J. Winn
#7261 February 12 and 19, 2012

Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
OF PROPOSED
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT)
CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for contracts
listed below will be received by
TxDOT until the date(s) shown
below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/
MAINTENANCE/BUILDING
FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Odessa
Contract 6235-17-001 for ROAD-
SIDE MOWING in MARTIN
County, etc will be opened on
March 13, 2012 at 2:00 pm at the
District Office for an estimate of
\$105,468.00.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 39142

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)

Odessa District
District Engineer
3901 E. U.S. Hwy 80
Odessa, Texas 79761
Phone: 432-332-0501

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
#7257 February 5 & 12, 2012

Legals

Notice is hereby given that Laredo Petroleum, Inc., Operator 486610, has filed with the Texas Railroad Commission the following: P-17 application for the exception to SWR 26 and/or 27 to surface commingle production, allocate production and for off-lease storage. From an oil and gas lease on the NE/4 of Section 20, Block 34, T2S, T&P RR Co. Survey; and the NW/4 of Section 20, Block 34, T2S, T&P RR Co. Survey; all with production from the SE/Quarter of Section 14, Block 34, T2S, T&P RR Co. Survey; all in Glasscock County, Texas under other leases. Any affected mineral interest owners who have not received written notification are advised to contact Daniel Temple of Laredo Petroleum, Inc., in Midland, Texas at 508 W. Wall, Suite 600, Midland, Texas 79701, (432)684-9955 by March 3, 2012.
#7244 January 22, 29, 2012 and February 5, & 12, 2012

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARION NEWTON, JR., Deceased, were issued on February 3rd, 2012, in Cause No. P-14041, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: SHERRY THOMAS NEWTON.

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

c/o:
SHERRY THOMAS NEWTON
6505 NCR 23
Big Spring, Texas 79720
DATED the 3rd day of February, 2012.
GLYNNA MOUTON
Attorney for
SHERRY THOMAS NEWTON
State Bar No.: 14606500
MOUTON & MOUTON, PC
200 West Third Street
Big Spring, TX 79720
Telephone: (432)263-8397
Facsimile: (432)263-8686
#7262 February 12, 2012

Legals

INVITATION TO BID
The Colorado Municipal Water District and Garney Companies are soliciting General Contractor, Subcontractor and supplier participation including those that qualify as SWMBE's for the following: Bid Package 6 Above Slab Work for the Ward County Water Supply Expansion Project. Bid Deadline is March 1, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. Bid will be received at CRMWD 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, TX 79721-0869. For more information contact Marcus Grace at (816)536-6485 or email mgrace@garney.com Garney Companies, Inc is an Employment/ Opportunity Employer.
#7254 February 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 2012

GARAGE SALES
Hidden treasures?
Junk?
Recycle your unwanted items!
Call 263-7331 today.
A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results!

THE CLASSIFIEDS THAT CLICK

They're fast....
They're convenient....
They're updated every day....
They're our on-line classified listings.

For details on placing or answering a classified ad, see our Web site:
www.bigspringherald.com, or call:
432-263-7331.

BIG SPRING HERALD
710 SCURRY
BIG SPRING

5 Easy Ways to Place Your Ad In The Big Spring Herald Classifieds!

- 1**
By Phone...
263-7331
- 2**
By Fax...
264-7205
- 3**
In Person...
710 Scurry
- 4**
By e-mail...
classifieds@
BigSpringHerald.com
- 5**
By Mail...
P.O. Box 1431

VISA
Master Card
Discover
American Express
HERALD

Menus

Forsan ISD

Monday: Bad weather day!
Tuesday: Breakfast: cheese omelet, toast, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal. Lunch: beef fajitas, Spanish rice, pinto beans, fancy gelatin, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: pancake, sausage, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal. Lunch: spaghetti with meat sauce, garden salad, seasoned corn, Texas toast, fresh fruit choice, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: breakfast burrito, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal. Lunch: submarine sandwiches, lettuce, tomato and pickles, tater tots, sliced peaches, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: cereal, cinnamon toast, juice, milk. Lunch: chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes and gravy, savory green beans, whole wheat roll, strawberries and bananas, milk.

Sands ISD

Monday: Breakfast: sausage and biscuit, juice and milk. Lunch: sloppy joes, corn cobbett, baked chips, apple and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: honey bun, juice and milk. Lunch: steak fingers, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, frozen cherry bar, hot roll and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: hot pocket,

juice and milk. Lunch: chicken quesadilla, pinto beans, seasoned corn, tossed salad, orange smiles and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: pancake, juice and milk. Lunch: Teriyaki chicken, rice pilaf, English peas, pineapple tidbits, Texas toast and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: donuts, juice and milk. Lunch: hamburger, lettuce, tomatoes and pickles, baked beans, carrots with ranch, cookie and milk.

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast: apple jacks, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: ground beef nachos, border beans, lettuce/tomato topping, fruit cocktail, celery and peanut butter, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: sausage roll, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: steak fingers, mashed potatoes/gravy, mixed vegetables, apricots, orange smiles, roll, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: baked cheese stick, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: chicken nuggets, mac and cheese, carrots, pears, roll, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: blueberry muffin top, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: southwest chicken flatbread, tossed salad, ranch dressing, corn, applesauce, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: pancake on

a stick, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: turkey/cheese sandwich, lettuce, tomato, pickles, broccoli, ranch dressing, strawberries and bananas, baked cheetos, milk.

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Breakfast: biscuits, gravy, sausage, apple juice, jelly, milk. Lunch: spaghetti, corn, bread, pear, milk. Barbecue beef on bun.

Tuesday: Breakfast: pop tarts, sausage, orange juice, milk. Lunch: nacho grande, pinto beans, pineapple, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: donuts, sausage, fruit, milk. Lunch: chicken fajitas, pepper/onions, cheese, salad, refried beans, cake, milk. Burritos.

Thursday: Breakfast: oatmeal, sausage, juice, milk. Lunch: green enchiladas, ranch beans, orange smiles, milk. Corn dogs.

Friday: Breakfast: pancakes, sausage on stick, juice, syrup, milk. Lunch: chili dogs, mixed fruit cups, baked beans, milk.

Stanton ISD

Monday: Breakfast: pancakes. Lunch: hot dog/chili, corn, vegetables sticks, fruit cocktail, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: oatmeal. Lunch: spaghetti, green beans, garden salad, applesauce gelatin, garlic bread, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: omelet. Lunch: corn dog, macaroni and cheese, mixed vegetables, pears, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: French toast sticks. Lunch: chicken fajitas, pinto beans, lettuce/tomato, pineapple, cornbread, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: burrito. Lunch: hamburger or cheeseburger, french fries, hamburger salad, appl, milk.

Senior Center

Monday: taco salad, fiesta corn, tortilla chips/salsa, guacamole, oranges, milk.

Tuesday: beef tips, parsley noodles, okra and tomatoes, rolls, banana pudding, milk.

Wednesday: chicken enchiladas, Spanish rice, refried beans, salad, cherry pink cloud, milk.

Thursday: barbecue smoked sausage, baked beans, coleslaw, cornbread, blushing pears, milk.

Friday: hot dogs, chili, onions and cheese, baked potato chips, cake, milk.

Reader's Corner

Be a sweetheart

Be a sweetheart or have a heart that's sweet. Valentine's Day, a day to show your love and compassion.

To give freely gifts that speak a thousand languages.

We show those we respect and hold in our heart that they're cherished

But it's not the material things that matter. It's the thought that counts.

A kind word of encouragement helps greatly to those in need of uplifting words.

A good morning lets people know they're noticed and not alone or a stranger.

Telling someone Happy Valentine's Day lets people know they still have somebody and a chance.

Today, shake somebody's hand and ask how they are doing.

Tell somebody good morning and Happy Valentine's Day.

Not just a friend or a loved one. Pick somebody at random and give them a hug.

You never know if they are lonely and don't have that blessings to share these joys with.

You don't know if they're as fortunate to smile in the love of their life's face

and have a heart full of peace and happiness that only somebody special can bring.

Be somebody God meant for you to be and that's sweet.

Be a sweetheart or have a heart that's sweet.

Have a Happy Valentine's Day.

Michael Lopez

Made by God's hand

How can I build
God a temple
made by man's
hand
I have no silver, I
have no gold
nothing to
sacrifice
that's of any worth
How can I build
God a temple
Oh I know the lit-
tle boy said
I heard him say
he likes obedience
rather than sacrifice
and he also said

my faith was more
precious than gold
and worship was a
sweet essence
Now only if i had
something to wrap
it in
I know I'll place it
in my heart
and do it with love
and I'll be his
temple
made by God's
hand.

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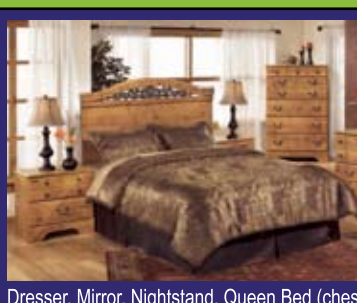
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BRAND SOURCE

BSISD trustees tour new Goliad campus



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Big Spring Independent School District board of trustees toured the construction site of the new Goliad campus. Wayland Pierce, director of transportation and maintenance, guided the tour and explained the layout. Construction is expected to be completed on three of the campuses, Goliad, Washington and Marcy, by June with the Moss construction site running behind.

Brown earns Ph.D. in English

Dr. Kirby Brown II, son of Kirby Brown of Sand Springs and Sharon Starr Sneed of Big Spring, recently earned his Ph.D. in English at the University of Texas at Austin.

His dissertation, "Stoking the Fire," examines how Indian writers kept Indian nationhood alive through writing in the early 20th century and was dedicated to his wife and his grandfather, Henry (Hank) Starr, a citizen of the Cherokee nation.

Kirby graduated from Coahoma High School in 1993 and attended San Angelo State University. In 1995, he transferred to the University of Texas, graduating in 1998 with a bachelor of arts in biology. Taking some time off, he moved to San Francisco where he wrote and produced a play called "Thicker than Water."

In San Francisco, Kirby met his wife, Katharine Carvelli, and they

married in 2005.

In 2002, a move back to Texas allowed Kirby to begin work on his master's degree. After fulfilling undergraduate prerequisites in a new major at San Antonio Community College and the University of Texas at San Antonio, Kirby enrolled for graduate study at UTSA.

He earned his master of arts in English in May 2005. That fall he began doctoral course work at UTSA before returning to UT Austin in the spring of 2008. He will officially be awarded his doctoral degree in May of this year.

Kirby has been in Big Spring visiting his family, including his sister and brother in law, Andrea and Gary Gee and his aunt, Sue Carter, before moving to Eugene, Ore., where he has been hired as assistant professor of Native American Literature at the University of Oregon.



Brown

Keep Big Spring Beautiful to host annual banquet

Keep Big Spring Beautiful will be hosting its annual banquet in the Dora Roberts Community Center Lakeroom.

The banquet is set for 6 p.m.

Monday. The next regular meeting will take place March 5 at noon in the Cactus Room on the Howard College Campus.

Celebration Players set to perform Sunday in Odessa

The Pentecostals of Big Spring, located at 1004 Locust Street, announces a performance by Celebration Players.

Celebration Players will be performing Sunday at First United Pentecostal Church in

Odessa, Texas. The performance will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will include drama, sign language, dowel rod and ministry.

For more information, call 432-816-4725.

Have an idea for a Feature story? Want to share an idea? Send your idea to life@bigspringherald.com



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