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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**SUNDAY**

FEBRUARY 26, 2012



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 114

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## Man indicted on charge of scalding 1-year-old

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

STANTON — A Martin County man who allegedly held a 1-year-old under scalding water was indicted by a Martin County grand Jury this week on a third-degree felony charge of injury to a child.

Dominick Robert Peña, 24, of 706 N. Gray in Stanton, was indicted on a single charge of injury to a child

during the grand jury's Thursday session.

According to law enforcement reports, officers were called to the Martin County Hospital at approximately 7:10 p.m. Nov. 8 after a Stanton woman brought the child to the emergency room. Statements given by the child's mother indicate she had left the 1-year-old alone with her boyfriend, Peña, while she had gone to work.

She told officers that while she was at work, she received a phone call from Peña telling her the child had been burned. The child is believed to have suffered second-degree burns over much of his body, caused by scalding-hot water.

According to statements from Martin County Sheriff John Woodward and Stanton Police Chief Fred

See **INDICTED**, Page 3A

## Inside 2012 Health & Medical Guide



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno  
Catie Wiedenhofer with Safe Kids San Angelo speaks with Jim Clements after a Rotary Club meeting Friday afternoon in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Wiedenhofer was the featured speaker for the meeting and spoke on child safety and the car seat check set for April.

## Expert: Seat belt safety crucial in saving lives

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
Staff Writer

Car seats are one more way to keep children safe — as long as they are used properly.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center Healthy Woman program has teamed up with Safe Kids of San An-

gelo for the second year to bring the free Car Seat Check to Big Spring. This year, the car seat check will coincide with the annual health fair, scheduled April 14 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

"Through this partnership with SMMC Healthy Woman, we are able to educate these families," Catie Wiedenhofer, representative of Safe Kids San Angelo, said. "To them, this is truly invaluable."

"We had a great turnout last time and this time I think there will be three times as many people," Wiedenhofer said.

Bringing the event back is one way to spread awareness and help shift the way of thinking in the community when it comes to child safety. Once families know how to properly use the car seats and how much safer their children are, the more of a domino effect it has into other safety aspects of their child's lives, including bicycle helmets and life jackets.

"You have to have a repeat event

Last year, of the 76 seats checked, 59 were replaced and 17 were corrected.

See **KIDS**, Page 3A

## Tax-Aide going well, officials say

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Officials with the annual AARP Tax-Aide program say tax preparations and filings have gone smoothly so far, and with the April tax deadline looming on the horizon, expect things to only get busier in the weeks to come.

According to program coordinator Ray Alexander, he and his team of volunteers have been serving between 30 and 40 tax filers each.



Alexander

See **AIDE**, Page 3A

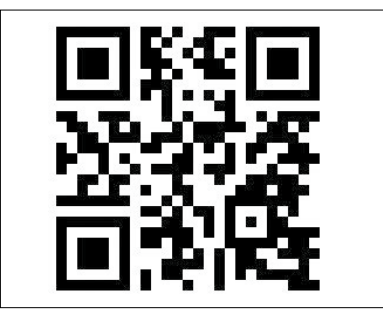
## Court to hear routine fare

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners face a rather brief — and routine — agenda when they meet Monday morning.

Commissioners are expected to meet with County Treasurer Teresa Thomas to discuss routine personnel

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A



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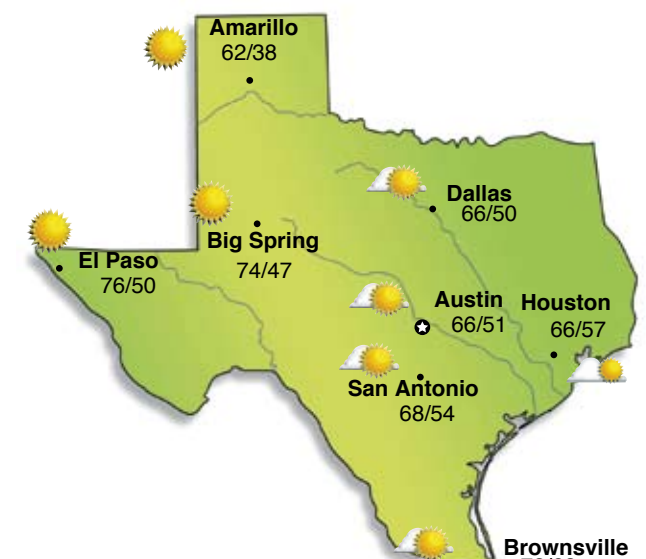
**Today's Weather**

**Local 5-Day Forecast**

Sun 2/26	Mon 2/27	Tue 2/28	Wed 2/29	Thu 3/1
<b>74/47</b> A mainly sunny sky. High 74F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.	<b>67/55</b> Windy with a few showers. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 50s.	<b>72/43</b> Partly cloudy and windy. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.	<b>69/45</b> Sunny. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 40s.	<b>75/43</b> Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 6:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 6:42 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 6:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:14 AM Sunset: 6:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:13 AM Sunset: 6:44 PM

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**Texas At A Glance**



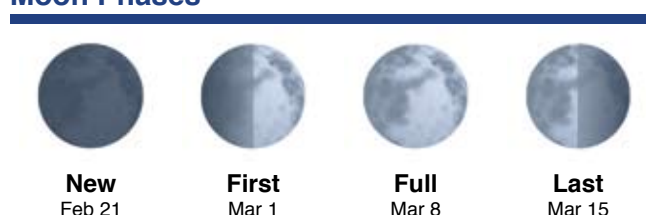
**Area Cities**

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	69	48	sunny	Kingsville	73	60	mst sunn
Amarillo	62	38	sunny	Livingston	66	50	pt sunny
Austin	66	51	mst sunny	Longview	66	48	mst sunn
Beaumont	65	54	pt sunny	Lubbock	70	40	sunny
Brownsville	72	62	mst sunny	Lufkin	66	49	pt sunny
Brownwood	69	52	sunny	Midland	74	49	sunny
Corpus Christi	71	61	mst sunny	Raymondville	72	60	pt sunny
Corsicana	64	48	mst sunny	Rosenberg	66	56	pt sunny
Dallas	66	50	mst sunny	San Antonio	68	54	mst sunn
Del Rio	68	54	pt sunny	San Marcos	67	51	mst sunn
El Paso	76	50	sunny	Sulphur Springs	65	49	mst sunn
Fort Stockton	77	47	sunny	Sweetwater	70	47	sunny
Gainesville	63	46	sunny	Tyler	65	48	mst sunn
Greenville	63	47	mst sunny	Weatherford	64	47	sunny
Houston	66	57	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	67	47	sunny

**National Cities**

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	57	38	pt sunny	Minneapolis	43	19	sn showe
Boston	40	25	windy	New York	45	34	sunny
Chicago	48	31	windy	Phoenix	76	51	sunny
Dallas	66	50	mst sunny	San Francisco	55	42	pt sunny
Denver	43	23	mst sunny	Seattle	42	26	mixed
Houston	66	57	pt sunny	St. Louis	63	37	windy
Los Angeles	64	46	sunny	Washington, DC	51	34	sunny
Miami	78	69	rain				

**Moon Phases**



**UV Index**

Sun 2/26	Mon 2/27	Tue 2/28	Wed 2/29	Thu 3/1
6	5	6	6	6
High	Moderate	High	High	High

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

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**Derwood Zant**



Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial with military honors will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Feb. 12, 1916, in Breckenridge, Texas, to Mae and Joseph Zant. He was a veteran of World War II and was wounded in Battle of the Bulge. He was a lifetime resident of Howard County. He owned D.C. Zant's Fix It Shop until moving to Greenwood in 2007. He was a member of North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church.

He is survived by one son, Gene Zant and wife Zeba of Greenwood; two grandchildren: Melody Holder and husband Jason of Waco and Allen Zant and wife Stephanie of Denton; and two great grandchildren: Jacob Holder and Michael Holder.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Nathan, Kurt and Joe, and one sister Alice.

Pallbearers will be Allen Zant, Jason Holder, Joe Don Zant Jr., Ty Zant, Ronnie Feland and Daniel Drake.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

*Paid obituary*

**Bruce C. Broughton**

Bruce C. Broughton, 57, of La Porte, Texas, passed away Feb. 23, 2012, in Ingram, Texas, after a sudden illness. Mr. Broughton was born Nov. 2, 1954, to W.D. "Slim" and Alberta "Pew" Broughton. He grew up in Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High in 1972. He was employed by Circuit Breaker Sales & Repair in Deer Park, Texas, as an electrician.

Survivors include his mother, Alberta "Pew" Broughton of Big Spring; his brother, Bryan and wife Sharon of La Vernia, Texas; his favorite nephew, Blake Dean Broughton of La Vernia; and numerous cousins, aunts and uncles.

He was preceded in death by his father, W.D. "Slim" Broughton.

At the request of the deceased, no services will be held.

Family requests donations to one's favorite charity or to the American Heart Association.

Condolences may be sent at [www.grimesfuneral-chapels.com](http://www.grimesfuneral-chapels.com).

Arrangements are entrusted to Grimes Funeral Chapels of Kerrville.

*Paid obituary*

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Attorney at Law  
[c.e.mikethomas@gmail.com](mailto:c.e.mikethomas@gmail.com)  
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**Obituaries**

**Paula S. Lafler**



Paula S. Lafler, 61, of Big Spring, died Friday, Feb. 24, 2012, at her residence. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 27, 2012, at the Salvation Army. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Major Orville Chambliss and Captain Russ Keeney, officiating.

Paula was born Nov. 10, 1950, in Denver, Colo. and married Daniel James Lafler, Sr. on May 1, 1970, in Big Spring, Texas.

She graduated from Sands High School in 1969 and worked there in the school cafeteria for 20 years. She worked for MHMR for six years and as a social service director for the Salvation Army for six years.

Survivors include her husband, Daniel James Lafler Sr. of Big Spring; son, Danny Lafler Jr. and wife Ada of Big Spring; and a grandson.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Geraldine Yingst.

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

**Ronald Edward Bulber**



A memorial service to celebrate the 62 years of life of Ron will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 3, 2012, at Biggin Hill Air Park, Shallowater, Texas (Wings Point Ministry). He passed away Monday, Feb. 20, 2012.

Ron was born Jan. 24, 1950, to Edward and Jeanne (Costello) Bulber. He was raised in Sacramento, Calif., where he obtained an associate's degree in aviation from Sacramento City College. Ron joined the U.S. Army as a warrant officer, flying Cobra helicopters. He spent his life flying helicopters for various hospitals and owned and operated helicopter flight schools; teaching more than 100 students. Ron flew charter jets for Chaparral Jet Center in Lubbock and managed Town & Country airport.

Ron was preceded in death by his mother, Jeanne Mae Bulber. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Debbie; three children, Brett and wife Ashley of Lubbock, Scott of Georgia, and Callie of Big Spring; seven grandchildren; his father Ed; his brother Wayne; and his sister Lisa.

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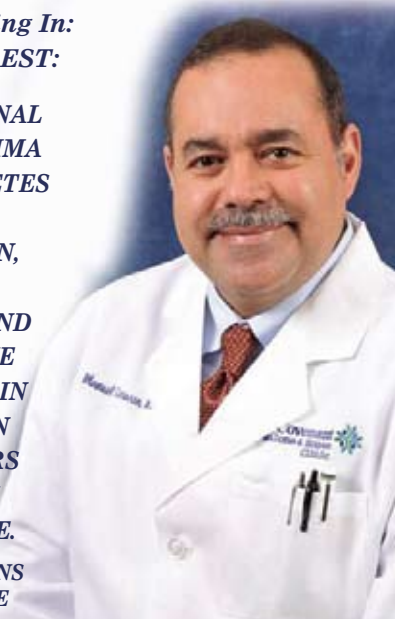
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# Court rules landowners also own groundwater

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas Supreme Court ruled Friday that landowners have an ownership interest in the water underneath their land, a decision that could seriously curtail statewide efforts to manage water resources.

The highly anticipated ruling is the court's most significant decision on who owns water that flows underground. The state and water management districts had asked the court to reconsider a 1904 decision that groundwater was too "occult and mysterious" to understand, and therefore the state could not regulate how much a property owner could pump from underground.

Scientists have since mapped how water flows through aquifers and can predict what happens downstream when someone pumps water upstream.

The city of San Antonio relies on the Edwards Aquifer for its water supply, and the authority sought to restrict pumping from it to guarantee water supplies. The authority said it should not have to pay for reasonable restrictions on how much a landowner can pump from the aquifer. But two landowners, Burrell Day and Joel McDaniel, sued the authority, demanding to be compensated for the loss of their right to pump water for their farm.

Friday's decision expanded a property owner's rights, saying landowners not only had the right to pump the water, but they also actually own it in the same way a landowner may own oil and gas below their property.

"Whether groundwater can be owned in place is an issue we have never decided," the court wrote. "But we held long ago that oil and gas are owned in place, and we find no reason to treat groundwater differently."

The implication is that if the state wants to restrict the use of water, they must pay the landowner what the water is worth.

"The likely result of this opinion will be more, not less, litigation over groundwater management in Texas," said Ken Kramer, director of the Lone State Chapter of the Sierra Club. "The court has done a huge disservice to everyone who has been working for proper management of the groundwater resources needed for our state's people and our environment."

# INDICTED

Continued from Page 1A

Shroyer, Peña made a statement to officers shortly after he was brought in for questioning, although neither would discuss the details of the statement.

"The Martin County Sheriff's Office has assisted with the investigation in various forms throughout," Woodward said shortly after. "We have his (Peña's) statement, and it's pretty straight forward."

According to Shroyer, officers determined Peña immersed the child in scalding hot water. Shroyer would not confirm if Peña's alleged actions were intentional or accidental, citing the ongoing investigation.

"The child was airlifted to Lubbock's University Medical Center Burn Unit with first-degree and second-degree burns to approximately 14 percent of his body," Shroyer said.

If convicted, Peña could face a sentence of two to 20 years in a TDCJ facility and a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

Also true-billed by the grand jury were:

- Jerry Don Armstrong, 30, of 3112 S. County Rd. 1206 in Midland, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

- Charles Elvis Carroll Jr., 25, of 3111 KC 270 in Junction, cruelty to livestock animals (state jail felony).

- Charles Elvis Carroll Sr., 25, of 3111 KC 270 in Junction, cruelty to livestock animals (state jail felony).

- Moises Acosta Barraza, 78, of 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 117, burglary of a building (state jail felony).

- Eric Paul Clark, 44, of 901 Haskell in Wellington, burglary of a building (state jail felony).

- Terry Alan Collins, 40, of 501 E. 17th St., possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

- Christopher Allen Holguin, 29, of 601 E. Front St. or 3054 County Rd. 1920 in Stanton, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon (second-degree felony).

- Eleacer Huerta Jr., 31, currently in the custody of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, burglary of a habitation (enhanced first-degree felony), burglary of a building (enhanced second-degree felony) and burglary of a building (enhanced second-degree felony).

- Alex Carrillo Jaquez, 17, of 1108 N. County Rd. 1110 in Midland, theft — more than \$1,500 and less than \$20,000 (state jail felony).

- Chelcie Joline Larreau-Brown, 19, of 801 Ohio, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

- Darius LaCharles McCalister, 22, of 1309 Wright, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

- Raynaldo Maldonado, 25, of 604 E. 10th St. in Coleman, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

- Angela Ruth Mallone, 40, of 2801 FM 92 South in Woodville, possession of a controlled sub-

stance (second-degree felony).

- Jose Luis Olivas, 39, currently in the custody of the Howard County Detention Center, burglary of a habitation (enhanced first-degree felony).

- Alberto Mata Rivas, 53, of 306 N.E. Sixth St., driving while intoxicated (enhanced first-degree felony).

- Jose Navarrete Salgado, 56, of 503 E. School in Stanton, driving while intoxicated (third-degree felony).

- Justonn Khyle Scott, 24, of 1204 Summer Ave. in Odessa, driving while intoxicated with a child passenger (state jail felony).

- Ruben Sistos, 38, of 601 W. St. Michael in Stanton, assault of a family or household member by impeding breathing or circulation (third-degree felony).

- Polito Trevino III, 41, of 903 E. George St. in Stanton, driving while intoxicated (enhanced second-degree felony).

- James Edward Williams, 44, currently in the custody of the Howard County Detention Center, assault on a peace officer (enhanced first-degree felony).

- Alex Jimenez, 31, currently in the custody of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, indecency with a child (second-degree felony) and indecency with a child (second-degree felony).

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

# AIDE

Continued from Page 1A

"It's been pretty steady. We're very pleased with the way the tax year is going," Alexander said. "We've been filing up to 40 returns each week. Last week was a little slower because we were working on Tuesday instead

of Monday because of the holiday, but it was still a very productive day.

"The AARP program provides free federal tax preparation assistance to people who cannot afford professional tax help, such as seniors, people with disabilities, those who don't speak English and people with low-to-moderate income," Alexander added.

"AARP volunteers explain many special tax credits and deductions and how people may claim them on their tax returns. These volunteers help people complete their returns, right down to any refunds that may be due them."

Alexander said the process is easy; filers just need to be sure to bring a few vital pieces

or information with them.

"People need to be sure to bring all of the pertinent information, including W-2 forms and 1099 forms," Alexander said. "They also need to bring any forms that show their 2011 earnings and their 2010 tax returns. We also need a social security card for every person named on the return and a photo

ID for the person filing."

Taxpayers will have until Tuesday, April 17 to file their 2011 tax returns and pay any tax due.

The program will continue each Monday through April 16 at the Senior Center — located at 1901 Simler Dr. in the McMahan-Wrinkle Airpark — from 8 a.m. until noon. For more in-

formation, contact Alexander at 263-4992.

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

# COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

considerations.

Also during the meeting, the court will meet with County Auditor Jackie Olson who will brief the commissioners regarding invoices, purchase requests and budget amendments.

County Road and Bridge Administrator Eddy Jameson is to discuss possible pipeline crossings and make a report regarding road maintenance within the county.

Jameson is also expected to discuss the possibility of posting a speed limit of 45 mph on K.C. Lane.

County Judge Mark

Barr has requested an item be placed on the agenda reserving the court's right to discuss or possibly take action on items pertaining to the joint law enforcement center, which is currently under construction. However, no items specific to the center are currently on the agenda.

The meeting will get

under way at 10 a.m. in the commissioners courtroom, located on the third floor of the county courthouse. For more information, contact the county judge's office at 432-264-2202.

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

# KIDS

Continued from Page 1A

until it starts changing the thinking in the community," Wiedenhofer said. "Healthy Woman is taking a stand being proactive and showing that our children's safety is a priority."

Car accidents are the No. 1 killer of children, she said. The most common impact is in the front and the deadliest impact is lateral, according to Wiedenhofer. Knowing this, the safest place for a child to ride in the vehicle is in the middle of the back seat.

"Another important thing to remember is

that now it's recommended that infants remain rear-facing until the age of 2," Wiedenhofer said. "Even though the actual age to turn them around is one year and 20 pounds, it is safer and highly recommended that they stay rear-facing until the age of 2."

In case of an accident, a rear-facing child in a car seat will have a decreased risk of spinal cord injury than a child facing forward. Bones can be fixed, but a spinal injury can be a death sentence for a child, according to Wiedenhofer.

To find out more about safety measures for

kids, whether it be life jackets, car seats, bike helmets and more, visit safekids.org. Also, to find out more about the Car Seat Check event, contact Kim Howell at 268-4842.

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

under way at 10 a.m. in the commissioners courtroom, located on the third floor of the county courthouse. For more information, contact the county judge's office at 432-264-2202.

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# MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Ruby Phillips, 87, died Wednesday. Graveside services will be at 3:30 p.m. today at Westbrook Cemetery.

Derwood Zant, 96, died Friday. The family will receive friends Sunday from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial with Military Honors will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

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

Police Officer applications are available at the City of Big Spring Human Resources Office located at 310 Nolan Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or online at [www.mybigspring.com](http://www.mybigspring.com) For more information call: 432.264.2347

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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.

<b>Bill McClellan</b> Managing Editor	<b>Ron Midkiff</b> Publisher	<b>Steve Reagan</b> Staff Writer
<b>Amanda Moreno</b> Staff Writer	<b>Thomas Jenkins</b> Staff Writer	

## YOUR VIEWS

### Voter registration

TO THE EDITOR:

Many e-mails and rumors have been circulating concerning voter registration certificates.

The truth is:

All previously issued voter registration certificates expired Dec. 31, 2011. A voter's registration did not expire, just the certificate.

Under normal circumstances, we mail new certificates during the month of December. However, due to the on-going redistricting litigation, the mailing of new certificates has been delayed.

If there have been no changes in your address and or name, you do not need to take any action. You will be mailed a new certificate. If there should be any changes, you need to make corrections at least 30 days prior to the election.

Once interim redistricting maps are approved and the county can finalize precinct lines, we will mail new voter registration certificates to all registered voters.

SAUNDRA BLOOM

HOWARD COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR

### Remembering a loved one

TO THE EDITOR:

To my brothers, my sisters and my sisters' children:

If ever there was an angel on earth, your mother was one.

She was one of the kindest, sweetest, beautiful, most gentle person I have ever known.

I am proud she is my sister. When Jean's sister and brothers were young, she worked at Wackers (a 5 cent and 10 center store). She would buy Easter baskets for all of us. She taught her younger sisters how to make play houses.

She taught us how to cut out paper dolls and how to make snow flakes. She taught us so much.

We will miss her. She is now in the presence of God.

There is great joy in Heaven. What a great reunion with Christ, Jesus, our savior.

And all who have gone on before us.

This was written by her sister, Fannie Price.

JERRY PRICE

BIG SPRING

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com)

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we search for solid heavenly solutions, Lord.

Amen

# Stepping into Lin's world of words

It's enough to make a grown man — or woman — cry. And it could induce "sniffle-like symptoms" for discerning teen-agers, albeit the latter a shrinking group.

With an "America, love it or leave it" sentiment strong in the land, we yearn for newcomers to learn English. It's a worthy goal.

Trouble is, we natives are having a hard time keeping up with it ourselves, what with new words introduced at a record clip and old words cast aside like old tires in a wrecking yard.

And "talking heads" on newscasts — as well as "mikeside" announcers at sporting events — aren't helping. They often butcher the language, slaughtering both grammar and pronunciation.

English teachers are tossing their pencils — particularly retired ones who hoped and prayed that students whose papers they reddened with corrections would turn out better.

Paces hasten as life is compressed. "Once over lightly" is now a daily practice that blankets our waking hours. Abbreviations are given "thumbs up" for both the written and spoken word.

We welcome shortcuts. Postures for prayer became "Tebowing" — seemingly overnight — and now, the emergence of NBA star Jeremy Lin has sparked such national interest that a new vocabulary is emerging. It applies specifically to him and his growing legion of fans.

He's in the process of copy-

righting the word "Lin-sanity," for goodness sakes, and in the rapidly-whirling literary world of Lin, "L's" now precede dozens of words that formerly began with "in."

We're now "Lin-formed," and visitors in his home need first to be "Lin-vited." He clearly is "Lin-dustrious," and he "Lin-vokes" the sort of verbiage that Christians are hungry to hear.

When's the last time you heard a superstar quoting Corinthians? (It's good to know Harvar — moored by Puritans, then Baptists, in its early years nearly 400 years ago—has at least one graduate acknowledging the scriptures.)

Lin's boldness, brightness and character are traits we dream of in sports stars. Can he be as genuine as he seems? So far, so good.

Millions line up (dare we say "LINear?") to pull for him. Oh, that he might "Lin-spire" our youth, always be "Lin-sational" and never be "Lin-visible."

With luck and continued commitment, this Harvard graduate could change the way we view sports stars. (Wasn't it the Dallas Cowboys' Hollywood Henderson who said Pittsburgh quarterback Terry Bradshaw couldn't spell "cat" if you spotted him the "c" and the "t?") Lin is extremely articulate, using words like "anomaly."

If anyone can have fun with all the new "Lin" words, he can.

"Googled" by gazillions, Lin stands taller than his height and seems wiser than his years. Refreshing. Remarkable.

Getting back to absolutes, maybe Lin could become the "LINchpin" to secure our moorings of truth, fairness,

honor, integrity and a host of other words long viewed as the glue holding square deals together.

Such squaring won't come easily. We've rounded too many corners, essentially making such "deals" circular.

Maybe that's why so many running in circular motions think themselves to be big wheels.

Lin's play on the court — and play on words — provide some relief from "catch phrases" that usually run at a gallop for a season or two. Yes, the reference is to sports announcers and athletes.

We still hear too many "you knows," and we've heard enough "at the end of the day," another expression that is suffering literary fatigue. ("Are you kidding me?" by sports reporters is an expression long since "tuckered out.")

If Lin can succeed in "squaring things up," we may even hear "That's the way we roll" less often.

Whatever, he's bound to give us plenty of "Lin-side" information, and, in some games, add "Lin-sult to Lin-jury."

Millions of admirers hang on his every word and watch his every move. After all, we have "Lin-satiable" appetites for such a feel good story, and will vote "yes" if they introduce "Lin-glish as a second language."

And, if Lin's basketball magic turns to mush, he can grab his cello and head for the symphony. I don't know how many chairs they have for cellists, but he'd be in one of the first ones.

*Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Metroplex. Inquiries/emails to: [newbury@speakerdoc.com](mailto:newbury@speakerdoc.com). Web site: [www.speakerdoc.com](http://www.speakerdoc.com).*

# A budget lacking entitlement reform shows no leadership

Last week, President Obama announced his Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget proposal. Rather than a blueprint for putting our financial house in order, his budget plan would add more than

\$11 trillion to the national debt in coming years - in spite of the nearly \$2 trillion in higher taxes that would only serve to undermine our economic recovery.

The President's new budget would increase spending for dozens of programs that have been proven ineffective. And it would slash defense spending to unprecedented levels that could put our troops and our citizens at risk. But worst of all, President Obama once again ignored our biggest fiscal challenge.

The Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds are on a path to bankruptcy. Social Security's Chief Actuary estimates that its reserves will run out in 2036, which would mean automatic benefit cuts by about one-fourth in order to keep sending out monthly checks to tens of millions of senior citizens. Medicare is in worse shape, with bankruptcy looming as early as 2022.

To ignore all of this is the present day equivalent of Emperor Nero fiddling while Rome burned. Nevertheless, in his 7,000 word State of the Union address, the President devoted 40 words to the Social Security and Medicare programs.

We need - and the American people ought to demand - a serious, bipartisan effort to shore up these two vital programs

before it is too late. By making incremental reforms now, we can protect retirement and health care benefits for several decades. But endless fiddling by Congress and the White House guarantees huge pain for taxpayers and financial insecurity for tens of millions of senior citizens.

The place to start is Social Security. Americans are living longer, healthier lives than when Social Security was first enacted in 1935. If no adjustments are made, these huge demographic shifts will exhaust the Trust Fund's financial reserves in less than 25 years, and big, automatic cuts in monthly benefits (\$270/month, in today's dollars) will be triggered.

Fortunately, such a catastrophe can be avoided without taking drastic steps - provided action is taken soon. Legislation I introduced last year (The Defend and Save Social Security Act) illustrates that only modest steps are needed today.

My bill would assure that Social Security remains solvent until 2085 without raising taxes or cutting core benefits. It would do so by gradually increasing the Social Security eligibility age for those who are 57 or younger by increasing the eligibility age three months each year with a cap at 69 in 2027. Additionally, under my bill, the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) would be modified, so that any year in which the COLA exceeds 1 percent it would be decreased by 1 percent. However, if in any year, the COLA is calculated to be less than 1 percent, the final COLA would be reduced to zero. For example, this year's COLA was 3.6 percent, so under my bill the increase of 3.6 percent would be reduced to 2.6 percent.

Exactly how to adjust eligibility age and cost-of-living adjustments can be worked out, if there is leadership from the White House and a bipartisan Congressional commitment to take responsibility for protecting Social Security now. The same type of timely, bipartisan action would assure that Medicare is shored up, too.

Social Security, Medicare, and other mandatory spending programs already account for more than one-half of annual federal government spending. Without reforms, all of these mandatory spending programs will grow to more than 75 percent of the federal budget within ten years. Not only would this threaten millions of senior citizens, it would leave too little for national defense, education, research, and other vital national priorities.

It is profoundly disappointing that President Obama's last budget proposal before he stands for reelection has all of the weaknesses of his previous ones. The Senate unanimously rejected his budget last year, and will probably do so again this year. But rejecting a bad budget plan isn't enough.

Just as Social Security and Medicare were enacted with broad bipartisan support, securing and saving these programs requires both political parties in Congress to work together. That is the only way to avoid the politicizing of the issue. Constructive dialogue and debating choices openly will bring us to solutions that are in the national interest.

*Kay Bailey Hutchison is the Texas U.S. Senator. To find out more visit <http://hutchison.senate.gov/?p=home>*



DR. DON NEWBURY



KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

## Police blotter

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

- CHRISTOPHER JAMES DUFORAT, 24, of 19201 S. 87 Highway, was arrested Friday on charges of driving while license invalid/DWI related, expired registration, failure to maintain financial responsibility (two counts) and fail to appear.
- COURTNEY JOE BUCK, 36, of 5505 E. Opal Lane, was arrested Friday on a warrant for driving while license invalid.
- TIMOTHY DONALD TAYLOR, 53, of 4000 Blk W. Highway 80 18, was arrested Friday on a warrant from another agency.
- SONNY OLVIO, 38, of 1018 Ridgeroad, was arrested Friday on warrants for assault: family violence threat or offensive touch, possession of controlled substance less than one gram, burglary of habitation.
- THEFT was reported:  
In the 100 block of Cedar Road.  
In the 600 block of McEwen.  
In the 700 block of S. Scurry.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1800 block of Wasson.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 900 block of E. 14<sup>th</sup>.

- State Rep. Jim Landtroop of Plainview, who serves House District 85 in the Texas Legislature, will be in Big Spring at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Hall Center for the Arts on the Howard College campus to conduct a Town Hall meeting. The main purpose of the meeting is to address the concerns of constituents regarding redistricting in Texas.

- 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

## Take Note

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.

- The Salvation Army is holding its annual heater drive and

is in need of heaters. Community members can donate new or used heaters. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. The Homeowner's HOPE hotline is a counseling service provided by HPF to work with you to find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

- The Salvation Army has funding for Texas Military Personnel now serving or has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The military member or their family member may apply at 811 W. Fifth St. or call 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.

## Support Groups

**MONDAY**  
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.

- PEP — Parent Education Program for CPS participating and non-participating parnts, single parent, grandparents, adoptive or fostering parents. Every first and fourth Monday of the month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Northside Community Center. Classes are free. For information, call 263-2673.

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

**TUESDAY**  
• Big Spring Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for those with Parkinson's Disease, Young Onset Parkinson's, caregivers, and those interested in learning more about the illness.

## Charles Myers

Attorney At Law

Family Law And  
Criminal Law

Ward & Myers, L.L.P.



432-683-3700 • Midland, TX

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222735



**South Plains Rural Health Inc. in Levelland**, along with its two additional clinics the Lamesa Primary Clinic, in Lamesa, Texas and the Howard County Community Health Center in Big Spring, Texas has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval for accreditation by demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for health care quality and safety in ambulatory care organizations. The accreditation award recognizes South Plains Rural Health Services Inc. for their dedication to continuous compliance with The Joint Commission's state-of-the-art standards.

South Plains Rural Health underwent a rigorous unannounced on-site survey in November, 2011. A team of Joint Commission expert surveyors evaluated SPRHS for compliance with standards of care specific to the needs of patients, including infection prevention and control, leadership and medication management. SPRHS was also certified as a Patient Care Medical Home.

Since 1975, The Joint Commission has developed state-of-the-art standards for outpatient ambulatory care organizations. Nearly 1,900 free-standing ambulatory care organizations maintain Joint Commission accreditation.

"Organizations that strive for accreditation in ambulatory care from The Joint Commission are demonstrating the highest commitment to quality and safety to their patients, staff and their community," says Michael Kulczycki, executive director, Ambulatory Care Accreditation Program, The Joint Commission. "I commend SPRHS for successfully achieving this pinnacle and for its dedication to continually improving patient care."

"We recognize Joint Commission accreditation as the Gold Seal for providing safe, high quality patient care. Achieving accreditation from The Joint Commission is a team effort that will bring confidence to our patients and give us a framework to provide the best care possible," says Dr. Judith Madura, CEO.

The Joint Commission's ambulatory care standards address important functions relating to the care of patients and the management of an ambulatory care organization. The standards are developed in consultation with health care experts, providers, measurement experts and patients.

We hope that you will consider SPRHS in Levelland or one of our other locations in Lamesa, and Big Spring, as a home for all your medical needs.

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# Miracle diet pill? A safe drug is elusive

**MATTHEW PERRONE**  
AP Health Writer  
WASHINGTON — The battle of the bulge has been a big, fat failure for U.S. drugmakers. But that hasn't stopped them from trying.

For nearly a century, scientists have struggled to make a diet pill that helps people lose weight without side effects that range from embarrassing digestive issues to dangerous heart problems.

Last week, a government panel recommended the FDA approve the latest diet drug Qnexa. The recommendation raises hopes that the U.S. could approve the first anti-obesity drug in more than a decade.

It also highlights how challenging it is to create a pill that fights fat in a variety of people without negative side effects. Even Qnexa was previously rejected over concerns that it can cause heart palpitations and birth defects if taken by pregnant women.

"Having a drug for obesity would be like telling me you had a drug

for the fever," said Dr. Mitchell Roslin, chief of bariatric surgery at Northern Westchester Hospital in New York. "There can be millions of different reasons why someone is obese; it's really a symptom of various underlying mechanisms."

An effective and safe diet pill would be an easy sale in the U.S.: With more than 75 million obese adults, the nation's obesity rate is nearing 35 percent. But the biggest problem in creating a weight-loss drug is that there appears to be no safe way to turn off one of the human body's most fundamental functions.

For millions of years, humans have been programmed to consume calories and store them as energy, or fat. It's this biological mechanism that makes it almost impossible to quickly lose weight by not eating. Cutting down on food instead sends stronger signals to the body to store more calories.

"Throughout most of human history calories

were scarce and hard to get, so we have numerous natural defenses against starvation," said Dr. David Katz of Yale University's Prevention Research Center.

**"Having a drug for obesity would be like telling me you had a drug for the fever. There can be millions of different reasons why someone is obese; it's really a symptom of various underlying mechanisms."**

—Dr. Mitchell Roslin,  
Northern Westchester  
Hospital

"We have no defenses against overeating because we never needed them before."

So, the drug industry has been on a nearly 100-year search for a drug that can help the body shed pounds. It has mostly failed to come up with an effective one and many of the experiments have proven fatal to patients:

— Early attempts focused on speeding up metabolism, or the body's method for breaking down food into energy. The speed of metabolism controls how quickly or slowly we burn calories and ultimately how much weight we take on

In the 1930s, doctors prescribed an industri-

al chemical called dinitrophenol, which accelerated metabolism, but also caused fever, swelling and deadly toxicity in some patients. The 1938 law establishing the Food and Drug Administration was a response to untested drugs like dinitrophenol.

— In the '50s and '60s, amphetamines became popular drugs because they boost metabolism and suppress appetite. But the pills proved to be highly addictive, and doctors discovered they increase blood pressure and heart rate. The amphetamine phentermine is approved for short-term weight loss, usually less than 12 weeks, though it is seldom prescribed because of the potential for addiction.

— Perhaps the worst diet pill safety debacle came in the 1990s and involved the combination of phentermine and another weight loss drug marketed by Wyeth called fenfluramine. The combination of the two pills, dubbed fen-phen, was never approved by the FDA. But because the agency doesn't regulate doctors' decisions about prescribing various combinations of drugs, more than 18 million fen-phen prescriptions were written by 1996.

One year later, studies suggested that up to a third of patients taking fen-phen experienced heart valve damage. In 1997, Wyeth was forced to recall two versions of fenfluramine and eventually paid more than \$13 billion to settle tens

of thousands of personal injury lawsuits.

— In the last decade, drugmakers have moved toward other weight loss concoctions. Currently, the only drug approved for long-term weight loss in the U.S. is orlistat, which is sold as the prescription drug Xenical and over the counter as Alli. The drug works by blocking the absorption of fat.

When launched in 2007, alli received a high-profile marketing push from drugmaker GlaxoSmithKline, complete with TV ads and a celebrity endorsement by country singer Wynonna Judd. But it never took off due to unpleasant side effects, including loose bowel movements. Educational pamphlets for alli even recommend people start the program when they have a few days off work, or bring an extra pair of pants to the office.

— Most drugmakers now are focusing on medications that block brain signals associated with food craving and appetite. Vivus' Qnexa is one of a trio of drugs seeking FDA approval. The diet pill, which was initially rejected due to the risks of heart palpitations and other safety issues, is a combination of two older drugs.

It uses phentermine, the appetite suppressant. The other drug is topiramate, an anticonvulsant sold by Johnson & Johnson as Topamax. Topiramate is believed to make patients feel more satiated, though

it's unclear exactly how. J&J initially studied Topamax alone as a weight loss treatment but concluded the psychiatric side effects, such as memory loss and difficulty concentrating, were too significant.

Still, last week, a panel of FDA doctors and other advisers voted 20-2 in favor of approving Vivus' Qnexa pill, which the drugmaker has re-submitted to the FDA for a second review.

The group touted the drug's benefits, which include weight loss of nearly 10 percent for most patients taking the drug over a year — the highest reduction reported with any recent diet pill. But panelists stressed that the drugmaker must be required to conduct a large, follow-up study of the pill's effects on the heart.

The FDA is expected to issue its decision on Qnexa by mid-April.

"The potential benefits of this medication seem to trump the side effects," said FDA panel member Dr. Kenneth Burman of the Washington Hospital Center in Washington DC. "But in truth, only time will tell."

Tammy Wade of McCalla, Ala., is confident that the diet pill works. She lost nearly 40 pounds, dropping down to 167 while in a two-year Qnexa study.

"I never lost that much weight on any of the programs I've tried," said Wade, who's done everything from Weight Watchers to work out with a personal trainer.



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Dr. Rudy Haddad spoke at the Go Red luncheon and offered the facts to the right.

## Heart Health Awareness Month

- More women die from heart disease than from cancer, chronic lower respiratory disease and alzheimer's combined.
- Hispanic women are more likely to develop heart disease 10 years earlier than non-hispanics.
- 64 percent of women who die suddenly of coronary heart disease had no previous symptoms.

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# Republican candidates on the issues

**CALVIN WOODWARD**

Associated Press  
 WASHINGTON — Here's where the 2012 Republican presidential candidates stand on a selection of issues.

They are former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Texas Rep. Ron Paul, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum.

**GINGRICH:**



**Abortion:** Platform calls for conservative judges and no subsidies for abortion but not for constitutional abortion ban.

**Debt:** As House speaker in mid-1990s, engineered passage of a seven-year balanced-budget plan. It was vetoed by President Bill Clinton but helped form a bipartisan balanced budget two years later. Supports constitutional balanced budget amendment. Said that without a balanced budget, the U.S. had no choice but to raise its debt limit in the deal that avoided a default.

**Economy:** Repeal the 2010 financial industry and consumer protection regulations that followed the Wall Street meltdown, and repeal the 2002 regulations enacted in response to the Enron and other corporate and accounting scandals. Restrict the Fed's power to set interest rates artificially low. Make work training a condition of unemployment insurance and have states run it.

**Education:** "Dramatically shrink the federal Department of Education, get rid of virtually all of its regulations." But supported Obama administration's \$4 billion Race to the Top grant competition for states, which encourages compliance with national education standards, because it also promotes charter schools.

**Energy:** Let oil and natural gas industries drill offshore reserves now blocked from development, end restrictions on Western oil shale development. In Alaska alone, "We could liberate an area the size of Texas for minerals and other development."

**Environment:** Convert EPA into an "environmental solutions agency" devoted to scientific research and "more energy, more jobs and a better environment simultaneously." Supported tougher environmental regulation early in congressional career.

**Gay Marriage:** If the Defense of Marriage Act fails, "you have no choice except a constitutional amendment" to ban gay marriage. Under the act, the federal government does not recognize same-sex marriage and no state is forced to recognize a

same-sex marriage validated by another state.

**Health Care:** Repeal Obama's health care law if Republicans win congressional majorities. Prohibit insurers from cancelling or charging discriminatory rate increases to those who become sick while insured, an element of Obama's law. Offer the choice of a "generous" tax credit to help people buy health insurance or the ability to deduct part of the cost from taxes, another feature similar to the existing law. Limit medical lawsuits to restrain health care costs and let people in one state buy policies in another. "Block-grant Medicaid and send it back to the states." Previously supported proposals that people be required to carry health insurance.

**Immigration:** In contrast to most rivals, supports giving legal status to illegal immigrants who have sunk roots in the U.S. and lived otherwise lawfully. "If you've been here 25 years and you got three kids and two grandkids, you've been paying taxes and obeying the law, you belong to a local church, I don't think we're going to separate you from your family, uproot you forcefully and kick you out." Supports path to citizenship for illegal immigrants' children who perform U.S. military service. Make English the official language. Divert more Homeland Security assets to fighting illegal immigration at Mexican border.

**Social Security:** Give younger workers the option of diverting Social Security taxes to private retirement accounts.

**Taxes:** Cut corporate tax to 12.5 percent from maximum 35 percent, eliminate capital gains and estate taxes, let companies write off all new equipment in one year. For personal taxes, let people choose whether to file under the current system or pay a 15 percent tax, preserving the mortgage interest and charitable deductions. Supported extending payroll tax cut.

**Terrorism:** Supports extending and strengthening investigative powers of Patriot Act. Supports continued use of Guantanamo Bay detention for suspected terrorists. Supported creation of Homeland Security apparatus, because "we need some capacity to respond to massive events." In 2009, said of waterboarding: "It's not something we should do."

**War:** Initially criticized Obama for not intervening in Libya, then did an about-face after the president had sent in U.S. war planes to support the rebels fighting the government. "I would not have used American and European forces." No cuts in defense spending except waste. Supported Iraq war and opposed early timetables for withdrawal.

**PAUL:**

**Abortion:** Says federal government should have no authority either to legalize or ban abortion. Yet signed pledge to advance only anti-abortion appointees for relevant administration

jobs, cut off federal dollars for clinics that perform or finance abortions, and support a ban on abortions after the fetus reaches a certain stage in development.

**Debt:** Would eviscerate federal government, slashing nearly half its spending, shut five Cabinet-level agencies, end spending on existing conflicts and on foreign aid.

**Economy:** Return to the gold standard, eliminate the Federal Reserve, let gold and silver be used as legal tender, eliminate most federal regulations.

**Education:** Abolish the Education Department and end the federal role in education.

**Energy:** Remove restrictions on drilling, coal and nuclear power, eliminate gasoline tax, provide tax credits for alternative fuel technology.

**Environment:** In 2008, said "human activity probably does play a role" in global warming and part of the solution should be to stop subsidizing the oil industry and let prices rise until the free market turns to alternate energy sources. Now calls the science on man-made global warming a "hoax." Says emission standards should be set by states or regions, not Washington.

**Gay Marriage:** Says decisions on legalizing or prohibiting should be left to states. Supports federal law allowing one state to refuse to recognize the same-sex marriages of another state.

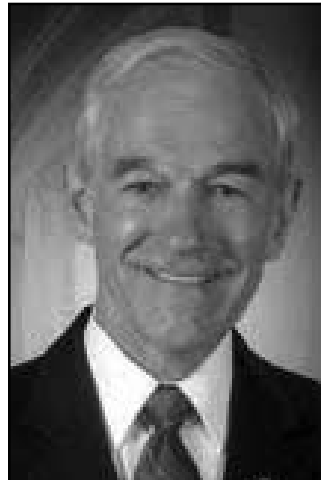
**Health Care:** Opposes compulsory insurance and all government subsidies for health coverage. Favors letting people deduct full cost of their health coverage and care from taxes. Says doctors should then feel an obligation to treat the needy for free.

**Immigration:** Do "whatever it takes" to secure the border, end the right to citizenship of U.S.-born children of illegal immigrants, no social services for illegal immigrants, aggressive deportation of those who overstay a visa or otherwise break U.S. law.

**Social Security:** Says younger workers should be able to opt out of Social Security taxes and retirement benefits. "My plan explicitly protects the elderly and the sick in the transition."

**Taxes:** Eliminate the federal income tax and the IRS. Meantime would vote for a national sales tax, supports certain excise taxes and certain tariffs. Favors massive spending cuts to defund close to half the government and eliminate the need to replace the income tax at all. Supported payroll tax cut.

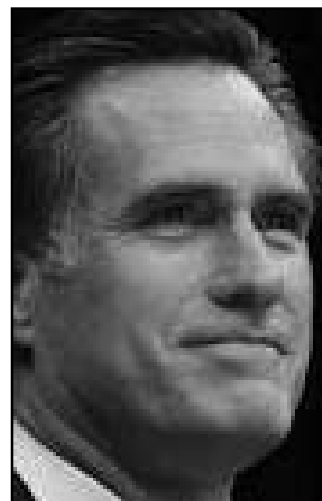
**Terrorism:** Opposes the surveillance and search powers of the Pa-



triot Act. Says terrorists would not be motivated to attack America if the U.S. ended its military presence abroad. "The Patriot Act is unpatriotic because it undermines our liberty." Says: "Waterboarding is torture. And it's illegal under international law and under our law. It's also immoral. And it's also very impractical. There's no evidence that you really get reliable evidence."

**War:** Bring all or nearly all troops home, from Afghanistan and other foreign posts, "as quick as the ships could get there." Opposed U.S. intervention in Libya. "We've been fighting wars since World War II, technically in an unconstitutional fashion." Cut Pentagon budget.

**ROMNEY:**



**Abortion:** Opposes abortion rights. Previously supported them. Says state law should guide abortion rights, and Roe v. Wade should be reversed by a future Supreme Court. But says Roe vs. Wade is law of the land until that happens and should not be challenged by federal legislation seeking to overturn abortion rights affirmed by that court decision. Would not sign pledge to advance only anti-abortion appointees for relevant administration jobs, cut off federal dollars for clinics that perform or finance abortions, and support a ban on abortions after the fetus reaches a certain stage in development. "So I would live within the law, within the Constitution as I understand it, without creating a constitutional crisis. But I do believe Roe v. Wade should be reversed to allow states to make that decision."

**Debt:** Defended 2008 bailout of financial institutions as a necessary step to avoid the system's collapse, criticized the bailout of General Motors and Chrysler

and said any such aid should not single out specific companies. Cap federal spending at 20 percent of gross domestic product, down from today's recession-swollen 25 percent. Stayed silent on debt-ceiling deal during its negotiation, only announcing his opposition to the final agreement shortly before lawmakers cast their votes. Instead, endorsed GOP "cut, cap and balance" bill that had no chance of enactment. Favors constitutional balanced budget amendment. Proposes 10 percent cut in federal workforce, elimination of \$1.6 billion in Amtrak subsidies and cuts of \$600 million in support for the public arts and broadcasting.

**Economy:** Lower taxes, less regulation, balanced budget, more trade deals to spur growth. Replace jobless benefits with unemployment savings accounts. Proposes repeal of the (Dodd-Frank) law toughening financial-industry regulations after the meltdown in that sector. Proposes changing, but not repealing, the (Sarbanes-Oxley) law tightening accounting regulations in response to corporate scandals, to ease the accountability burden on smaller businesses. "We don't want to tell the world that Republicans are against all regulation. No, regulation is necessary to make a free market work. But it has to be updated and modern."

**Education:** Supported the federal accountability standards of No Child Left Behind law. In 2007, said he was wrong earlier in his career when he wanted the Education Department shut because he came to see the value of the federal government in "holding down the interests of the teachers' unions" and putting kids and parents first.

**Energy:** Accelerate drilling permits in areas where exploration has already been approved for developers with good safety records. Says cap and trade would "rocket energy prices." Supports drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic and Pacific outer continental shelves, Western lands, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and offshore Alaska; and supports exploitation of shale oil deposits. Reduce obstacles to coal, natural gas and nuclear energy development.

Says green power has yet to become viable.

**Environment:** Spending a fortune to cut the emissions linked to global warming "is not the right course for us." Has acknowledged the scientific consensus that humans contribute to global warming: "I believe the world is getting warmer, and I believe that humans have contributed to that. But now says: "My view is that we don't know what's causing climate change on this planet." Proposes to remove carbon dioxide from list of pollutants controlled by Clean Air Act, and amend clean water and air laws to ensure the cost of complying with regulations is balanced against environmental benefit.

**Gay Marriage:** Favors constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage, says policy should be set federally, not by states. "Marriage is not an activity that goes on within the walls of a state."

**Health Care:** Promises to work for the repeal of the federal health care law modeled largely after his universal health care achievement in Massachusetts because he says states, not Washington, should drive policy on the uninsured. Proposes to guarantee that people who are "continuously covered" for a certain period be protected against losing insurance if they get sick, leave their job and need another policy. Would expand individual tax-advantaged medical savings accounts and let the savings be used for insurance premiums as well as personal medical costs. Would let insurance be sold across state lines to expand options, and restrict malpractice awards to restrain health care costs. Introduce "generous" but undetermined subsidies to help future retirees buy private insurance, or let them choose traditional Medicare, with a gradually increasing age to qualify for benefits. No federal requirement for people to have health insurance. His Massachusetts plan requires people to have coverage, penalizes those who don't, and penalizes businesses of a certain size if they do not provide coverage to workers. His state has highest percentage of

See **POLITICS**, Page 8A

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# Pres. Obama says, No easy answers to lowering pump prices

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama says there is no easy answer to the problem of rising energy prices and he's dismissing Republican solutions as little more than gimmicks.

"We know there's no silver bullet that will bring down gas prices or reduce our dependence on foreign oil overnight,"

Obama said Saturday in his weekly radio and Internet address. "But what we can do is get our priorities straight and make a sustained, serious effort to tackle this problem."

Oil prices are approaching last year's highs as tensions increase over Iran's nuclear program.

The rise pushed gasoline prices Friday to a national average of \$3.65 a gallon, the highest ever for this time of year.

A spike in gas prices is normal in spring, but it came earlier than usual this year in large part because of world fears that the growing confrontation with Iran will crimp oil supplies. Iran is the world's third-largest crude supplier.

Rising oil prices weigh on the economy, pushing leisure and business travel costs higher.

Every 1-cent increase in the price of gasoline costs the economy \$1.4 billion, analysts say.

Obama said Republicans have one answer to the oil pinch: drill.

"You know that's not a plan, especially since we're already drilling," Obama said, echoing his remarks earlier in the week. "It's a bumper sticker."

Obama is pushing what he calls

an "all-of-the-above" approach to the problem of limited energy resources, meaning an attempt to seek out alternative energy sources while reducing consumption of traditional fuels.

In the Republican address, Texas Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison blamed the rise in gasoline prices partly on the Obama administration, which she said has blocked some potential new sources of oil and gas.

"We can't slow down global demand for oil and gas, but we can do a lot more here at home to assure that we have the energy we need and to halt skyrocketing costs," she said.

"President Obama's policy has resulted in an unprecedented slowdown in new exploration and production of oil and gas."

For all the political claims, economists say there's not much a president of either party can do about gasoline prices.

Certainly not in the short term. But it's clear that people are concerned — a new Associated Press-GfK poll says 7 in 10 Americans find the issue deeply important — so it's sure to be a political issue through the summer.

The price of gasoline, which is made from crude oil, has soared with oil prices. The national average jumped by nearly 12 cents per gallon in a week, with state averages above \$4 per gallon in California, Alaska and Hawaii.

At \$3.65 per gallon, gasoline is still below last year's high of \$3.98 and the record \$4.11 set in 2008.

## ► World briefs

### Romney says he would raise Medicare eligibility age to help program survive in future decades

DETROIT (AP) — Four days before critical primary elections, Republican presidential contender Mitt Romney outlined a far-reaching plan Friday to gradually delay Americans' eligibility for Medicare as well as Social Security.

Romney said the shift, as people live longer, is needed to steer the giant benefit programs toward economic sustainability.

Speaking to the Detroit Economic Club — in cavernous Ford Field, where the Detroit Lions football team plays — he also made a play for primary election support in Michigan, which votes on Tuesday along with Arizona.

Romney said previous steps to toughen government emission standards had "provided a benefit to some of the foreign automakers" at the expense of American companies. He said future changes should be worked out cooperatively between government and industry.

Campaigning in the city where he was born, Romney described himself as "a car guy" who has a Ford Mustang and a Chevy pickup and whose wife, Ann, drives "a couple of Cadillacs." Aides said they were model year 2007 and 2010 SRX vehicles, one each registered in Massachusetts and California.

### Hillary Clinton blasts Russia, China as 'despicable' for opposing U.N. action on Syria

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton blasted Russia and China as "despic-

able" for opposing U.N. action aimed at stopping the bloodshed in Syria, and more than 60 nations began planning a civilian peacekeeping mission to deploy after the Damascus regime halts its crackdown on the opposition.

In his most forceful words to date on the Syrian crisis, President Barack Obama said the U.S. and its allies would use "every tool available" to end the bloodshed by the government of President Bashar Assad.

"It is time to stop the killing of Syrian citizens by their own government," Obama said in Washington, adding that it "absolutely imperative for the international community to rally and send a clear message to President Assad that it is time for a transition. It is time for that regime to move on."

Obama spoke as a group known as the Friends of Syria, led by the U.S. and European and Arab nations, met in Tunisia in the latest effort to halt the Assad regime's nearly year-old suppression of an anti-government uprising.

### Tensions over Iran push oil prices up near 2011 highs; gasoline hits \$3.65 a gallon

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil prices are approaching last year's highs as tensions increase over Iran's nuclear program. The rise pushed gasoline prices on Friday to a national average of \$3.65 per gallon, the highest ever for this time of year.

Western nations fear Iran is building a nuclear weapon and have been trying to force it to open its facilities to inspection. Iran has refused, turning away international inspectors this week for the second time this month. The United Nations said Friday that Iran has responded to the recent scrutiny by speeding up production.

## POLITICS

Continued from Page 7A

insured in nation. On Medicaid, proposes to convert program to a federal block grant administered by states.

Immigration: Favors U.S.-Mexico border fence, opposes education benefits to illegal immigrants. Would veto legislation that seeks to award legal status to some young illegal immigrants who attend college or serve in the armed forces. Proposes

more visas for holders of advanced degrees in math, science and engineering who have U.S. job offers, and would award permanent residency to foreign students who graduate from U.S. schools with a degree in those fields.

Social Security: Protect the status quo for people 55 and over but, for the next generations of retirees, raise the retirement age for full

benefits one or two years and reduce inflation increases in benefits for wealthier recipients.

Taxes: Drop all tax rates 20 percent, bringing the top rate, for example, down to 28 percent from 35 percent and the lowest rate to 8 percent instead of 10 percent. Curtail deductions, credits and exemptions for the wealthiest. End Alternative Minimum Tax for individuals, eliminate capital gains tax for families making below \$200,000 and cut corporate tax to 25 percent from 35 percent. Spending cuts to help cover the cost are unspecified. Dodged an extending cut in payroll tax, saying he doesn't like "temporary little Band-Aids" but also he's not for raising taxes "anywhere."

Terrorism: No constitutional rights for foreign terrorism suspects. In 2007, refused to rule out use of waterboarding to interrogate terrorist suspects. In 2011, his campaign said he does not consider waterboarding to be torture.

War: Has not specified the troop numbers behind his pledge to ensure the "force level necessary to secure our gains and complete our mission successfully" in Afghanistan. "This is not time for America to cut and run." Said Obama was wrong to begin reducing troop levels as soon as he did. Would increase strength of armed forces, including number of troops and warships.

#### SANTORUM:

Abortion: Favors constitutional abortion ban and opposes abortion even in cases of rape or incest because "I would absolutely stand and say that one violence is enough." Previously supported right to abortion in cases of rape,

incest and to save the life of the mother. Says he wouldn't try to take away the pill or condoms but states should be free to ban contraception if they want.

Debt: Freeze social and military spending for five years to cut \$5 trillion from federal budgets. Opposed the financial-industry bailout and stimulus programs of the Bush and Obama administrations. Supports constitutional balanced budget amendment holding federal spending at no more than 18 percent of GDP, down from the current recession-swollen 25 percent.

Economy: Spur jobs by eliminating corporate taxes for manufacturers, drill for more oil and gas, and slash regulations. Repeal every Obama-era regulation that costs business more than \$100 million a year. "You may have to replace a few, but let's repeal them all because they are all antagonistic to businesses, particularly in the manufacturing sector."

Education: Voted for sweeping No Child Left Behind education overhaul, now says he regrets doing so. Wants "significantly" smaller Education Department but not its elimination. Criticized early childhood education programs as an attempt by government to "indoc-



trinate your children."

Energy: Favors drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and scaling back "oppressive regulation" hindering drilling elsewhere. Eliminate energy subsidies in four years.

Environment: The science establishing human activity as a likely contributor to global warming is "patently absurd" and "junk science."

Gay Marriage: Supports constitutional ban on same-sex marriage, not leaving decision to states. "We can't have 50 marriage laws." "Abraham Lincoln said the states do not have the right to do wrong. I respect the 10th Amendment, but we are a nation that has values. We are a nation that was built on a moral enterprise, and states don't have the right to tramp over those because of the 10th Amendment."

Health Care: Would seek to starve Obama's health care law of money needed to implement it, and to repeal it. Was a leading supporter of Bush administration's prescription drug program for the elderly, which he now calls a mistake.

Immigration: Supports border fence, opposes letting children of illegal immigrants qualify for cheaper in-state tuition and says federal government should not require states to offer any social services to illegal immigrants. Favors making English the official language.

Social Security: Proposes immediate steps to lower benefits for wealthier retirees, raise the age to qualify for full benefits and restrict inflation increases in benefits. "We need to change benefits for everybody now." "We should absolutely do something about people

who don't need Social Security." Supports option of private retirement accounts instead of Social Security taxes and benefits for younger workers.

Taxes: Triple the personal exemption for dependent children, reduce the number of tax brackets to two — 10 percent and 28 percent, exempt domestic manufacturers from the corporate tax and halve the top rate for other business. "If you manufacture in America, you aren't going to pay any taxes." Opposes any national sales tax.

Terrorism: Defends creation of Homeland Security Department as an attempt to fix a "complete mess" in the domestic security apparatus. Voted to reauthorize Patriot Act. Says airport screeners should employ profiling; "Muslims would be someone you'd look at, absolutely." Supports continued use of Guantanamo Bay detention for suspected terrorists but says Americans accused of being enemy combatants should have the right to go to court to challenge indefinite detention. Says waterboarding has proved effective.

War: Says he would order that Iran's nuclear facilities be bombed unless they were opened for international arms inspectors. Proposes freezing defense spending for five years. Said in September 2011 that 20,000 to 30,000 U.S. troops should remain in Iraq. Says U.S. troops should withdraw from Afghanistan "a little slower" than Obama is planning. In May, accused Obama of "dithering" in Libya and creating a "morass" because he let the international community take the lead. Opposes closure of U.S. bases abroad.

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March 3 and 4, 2012  
Saturday 9:00 AM.. 5:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM.. 5:00 PM

Howard County Fair Barn  
Big Spring, Texas

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Hourly Prizes, Snack Bar,  
Jewelry Repair, Stone Setting  
and More.

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# Wildcats, Bearkats advance

Herald Staff Report

Two area boy's basketball teams tasted play-off success Friday night, while a third saw its season end at the hands of a state-ranked opponent.

The Stanton Buffalos kept things close for three quarters in the Class 2A area game against No. 9 Childress Friday night in Abernathy, but the Bobcats pulled away in the fourth quarter en route to a 54-40 victory.

The game was tied at 24-all at the half before Childress forged a six-point advantage heading into the final quarter, and the Buffalos (20-12) were unable to rally after that.

Nathan Koonce scored 10 points to lead Stanton.

In Class 1A Div. II play, the Grady Wildcats, ranked fifth in the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches final regular season poll, jumped out to a double-digit lead after one quarter and were never headed as they dispatched Petersburg, 70-51, in their area play-off game Friday in Post.

The Wildcats led by 11 after one quarter, expanded their lead to 22 at intermission, and were never threatened in the second half.

Branson Richards had an outstanding night for the 'Cats, leading all scorers with 31 points, while Zeke Clay added 18 points for Grady (27-5), which will face Valley in the regional quarterfinal round of the playoffs Tuesday at Frenship High School in Wolfforth.

The Garden City Bearkats also advanced to the regional quarterfinal round of the Class 1A Div. II playoffs thanks to a 66-41 victory over Fort Davis Friday night in Imperial. The Bearkats will next face Ira at a time and date to be announced.

Stanton	13	11	7	9	-	40
Childress	12	12	13	17	-	54
Grady	22	22	9	17	-	70
Petersburg	11	11	16	13	-	51



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College's Paul Hendrix belts a hit during action earlier this year. The Hawks played a doubleheader against Lubbock Christian University Saturday at Jack Barber Field. Results will be in Monday's Herald.

## In brief

### County teams in tournament action

Howard County softball and baseball teams had mixed results in tournament action Friday.

At the West Texas Classic Softball tournament in Midland, the Lady Steers found the going rough in their first game, dropping a 14-2 decision to Midland Lee. However, Big Spring rebounded later in the day to take a 7-6 victory over Kermit later in the day.

The Lady Steers (4-3) continued play at the classic Saturday with games against Greenwood and Midland Christian.

The Coahoma Bulldogettes, also playing at the WTC, defeated Ozona, 7-1, before falling to Odessa High School, 11-3, in Friday play.

The Bulldogettes faced Canyon and Midland High School Saturday.

The BSHS baseball team took an early 3-0 lead before Canyon Randall stormed back to take a 12-7 vic-

tory at the Lubbock Cooper High School tournament Friday afternoon.

The Steers returned to action at the tournament Saturday morning vs. Lubbock Coronado.

The Forsan High School baseball team lost to Anson, then defeated Jim Ned in Friday action at the Albany High School tournament.

In their first game, the Buffs fell to Anson, 3-2. Payton Parker took the loss, while Trevor Burchett had four hits for Forsan.

The Buffs took an early 2-0 lead in the first inning, but Anson rallied over the next two innings to grab the lead for good.

The Buffs, rebounded in the nightcap, cruising past Jim Ned, 6-1. Clayton Galloway struck out three in five innings to earn the win, and was aided offensively by brothers Trevor and Foster Burchett, who

See BRIEFS, Page 10A

# Braun: Truth is on my side

By TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

PHOENIX — His voice self-assured, Ryan Braun stood a few feet from the batter's box and hit back at those who he feels tarnished his name and image.

The NL MVP insisted Friday that he always believed his 50-game suspension for a positive drug test would be overturned and that he would be able to suit up opening day along with Milwaukee teammates who never doubted him.

"We won," he said with conviction, "because the truth is on my side. The truth is always relevant, and at the end of the day, the truth prevailed."

Less than 24 hours after Braun's suspension was overturned by an arbitrator, a decision that irritated Major League Baseball officials, the star outfielder was back with the Brewers. With many of his teammates, all in full uniform, sitting in the stands of Maryvale Baseball Park, Braun confidently professed his innocence while questioning the system that allowed him to be suspended for failing a test he took

following a playoff game Oct. 1.

Now he is the first major league player to successfully challenge a drug-related penalty in a grievance, ending a four-month personal "nightmare."

"There were a lot of times where I wanted to come out and tell the entire story, attack everybody as I've been attacked as my name has been dragged through the mud as everything in my entire life has been called in question. I wanted to come out and tell the entire story, but at the end of the day I recognize what is best for the game of baseball," Braun said.

"I can't ever get that time in my life back."

Smartly dressed in a blue pull-over and jeans, the 28-year-old outfielder walked slowly down the right-field line to a podium set up near home plate to address the lifting of his suspension. With about 30 reporters on hand and the sun beating down, Braun spent 13 minutes recapping an episode he called "the biggest challenge I have faced in my life."

Braun rarely looked at his notes while laying out a detailed timeline of events that led to his suspension. He was poised and prepared as he took the first steps in

trying to repair his reputation.

Soon after thanking teammates and fans, Braun expressed disappointment that the confidentiality of his urine test was broken and information leaked. ESPN first reported his failed test for a high testosterone level in October. Braun, who batted .332 with 33 homers and 111 RBIs last year while leading the Brewers to the Central Division title, called some reports he did not single out "inaccurate, erroneous and completely fabricated."

Braun learned on Oct. 19 that his sample tested "three times" the level of any previous specimen, a fact that both startled and confused him. He said he began "a humanistic" defense by showing documentation he never gained a pound, his running times did not improve and he didn't get any stronger.

"I truly believe in my heart and I would bet my life that this substance never entered my body at any point," he said. Braun cited a possible "chain of custody" problem with his sample. He said the urine test he provided on Oct. 1, when the Brewers opened

See BRAUN, Page 10A



Braun

## Sports Calendar

### MONDAY

#### Women's basketball

Howard College at New Mexico Junior College, 5:45 p.m.

#### Men's basketball

Howard College at New Mexico Junior College, 7:45 p.m.

### TUESDAY

#### Baseball

Big Spring at Abilene High School, 4 p.m.  
Crane at Coahoma, TBA.

#### Softball

Big Spring at Midland Greenwood, 6:30 p.m.  
Coahoma at Post, TBA.  
Colorado City at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.

#### Boy's basketball

Garden City vs. Ira, Class 1A Div. II regional quarterfinal, TBA.  
Grady vs. Valley, Class 1A Div. II regional quarterfinal, Wolfforth (time TBA).

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

# Edwards win pole for season-opening Daytona 500

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Carl Edwards fell bitterly short in last season's bid to win the NASCAR championship.

He's starting 2012 out front. Edwards, who lost the

championship last season on a tie-breaker to Tony Stewart, won the pole for the season-opening Daytona 500, beating teammate Greg Biffle for the top starting spot during a windy Sunday qualifying session at Daytona International Speedway.

Edwards turned a lap at

194.738 mph — the fastest pole-winning speed since Jeff Gordon's lap of 195.067 mph in 1999. Biffle was second at 194.087 to give Ford and Roush Fenway Racing a sweep of the front row.

"It's so neat to come down here and to be so fast and to really have fun qualifying

here," Edwards said. "These are the best race cars we've ever had at Daytona. Coming down here I didn't even consider the pole, so this is huge."

Biffle was not as thrilled. "I'm a little disappointed," Biffle said. "I hate the wind. I guess if you're out sailing, it's

good. It was singing down the back, but coming down the front I just got a big gust of wind coming off of (turn) four ... I knew I didn't have it."

Edwards and Biffle were the only two drivers to lock down their starting positions in

See EDWARDS, Page 10A

## EDWARDS

Continued from Page 9A

Daytona's unique qualifying format. The rest of the starting order for next Sunday's race is set through Thursday's twin 150-mile qualifying races.

But only four starting spots are up for grabs.

NASCAR guarantees starting spots to the top 35 teams from last season, three spots go to the fastest drivers in time trials not already locked in and one spot goes to a previous NASCAR champion. The drivers who earned starting spots in qualifying were defending race winner Trevor Bayne, Tony Raines, David Stremme and former NASCAR champion Terry Labonte.

Clint Bowyer, making his debut for Michael Waltrip Racing, was 22nd in qualifying but had his time thrown out when his car failed inspection. NASCAR said Bowyer will have to start last in Thursday's qualifying race, but that's the only penalty his No. 15 team will face.

Scott Miller, vice president of competition for MWR, said he doesn't think starting in the back is too big of a blow for Bowyer.

"As far as the 150 goes, you're going to be to the front and to the back of that thing," Miller said. "Our competitiveness and our ability to go win the 150 hasn't changed any."

Danica Patrick was 29th in qualifying, but is guaranteed a spot in her first Daytona 500 based on a business deal Stewart Haas Racing made with Tommy Baldwin Racing. Patrick goes into the season with the points Dave Blaney earned for Baldwin last season, and gets into the 500 because it was a top-35 team last year.

"To say I wasn't nervous at all is a lie," she said. "Of course I was, a little bit. I want to do a good job."

She watched Saturday night's exhibition Budweiser Shootout from the spotter stand, and is anxious to run in the qualifying race Thursday to get a feel for the pack racing. NASCAR made significant tweaks to the rules package during the offseason to break up the two-car tandem and return racing to the fan-preferred pack.

"I'm not completely unfamiliar with the pack," she said.

Edwards, meanwhile, is eager to race and put 2011 behind him once and for all.

His loss to Stewart in the championship race was gut-wrenching, and despite holding his head high and demonstrating how to lose with dignity, he's been unable to move forward because of the intense attention on his defeat.

"It seems like every media question and all anybody says is, 'How great would it have been to

have one more point and how did you deal with that this offseason?' Edwards said. "I think this is nice to come here and show everyone that, hey, it isn't just talk. Everybody at Roush Fenway went back and worked hard and kept their heads down and dug."

"This is very special. It's not a driving accomplishment. This is a team accomplishment, this pole."

It gave Roush his first sweep of the Daytona 500 front row, but marked the third time in 12 years Ford drivers have taken the top two spots.

It also comes on the heels of Ford's victory last month in the prestigious Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona sports car race.

"What a way to start the season," said Jamie Allison, director of Ford Racing. "Our Fords are fast."

Edwards won his pole without crew chief Bob Osborne, who missed the weekend events at Daytona after the death of his father. Chip Bolin filled in for Osborne, and helped Edwards to his first career pole at Daytona.

"We felt like this was the best crop of superspeedway cars we had brought to the race track in a long time," Bolin said. "Our entire organization was really confident. Bob has built this program on steady, calculated moves and we just tried to execute the plan that he expected us to do here and here we are."

## Not an All-Star, but Lin still stars

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Jeremy Lin was as comfortable in front of a crowd as he is on the court.

Lin shared his story Friday in front of about 100 people during an entertaining press conference before playing in the Rising Stars Challenge consisting of rookies and second-year players.

Lin isn't an All-Star, but he starred Friday in Orlando.

"Just to be here and to see the company and all the players that are here," Lin said, "it's just been unbelievable, and I'm just trying to take it all in and embrace it and enjoy it every step of the way."

The NBA determined there would be too many reporters and cameras to have Lin meet with the media Friday along with the other players in the Rising Stars Challenge. So the league gave him his own availability, territory that only goes to Commissioner David Stern.

Lin's first question was from Knicks teammate Landry Fields, who asked his backcourt mate if he knew who the MVP of the San Francisco Pro-Am was in 2009 and 2010.

"He played for the Oakland Believers, and he doesn't have a lot of friends," Lin said.

Fields is Lin's closest friend on the Knicks, and Lin spent the night before his breakout game sleeping on Fields' couch since his brother's place, where he had been staying, was unavailable.

The couch story became well known — Fields even posted a picture of it on Twitter — and Lin

revealed that a couch was going to be part of the Slam Dunk contest before Knicks rookie Iman Shumpert had to pull out with a knee injury.

"Landry was going to roll a couch out with a cover over it, I was going to be sleeping underneath it, and then we were going to pull the cover," Lin said. "I was going to throw to Iman an alley oop from the couch, and he was going to jump over both me and the couch, windmill it and then sit down and have Landry hand him a Sprite."

Lin has led the Knicks to a 9-3 record since joining the rotation on Feb. 4. He feared for his NBA career only days earlier, praying that he wouldn't be cut before a Jan. 27 game in Miami.

Even with his stellar play, Lin wasn't supposed to be here, his emergence coming after the Rising Stars rosters were set. He planned to be on a beach somewhere, only to be drafted by Shaquille O'Neal for Team Shaq — who never gave Lin the word himself.

"Shaq missed practice this morning, so I don't know, I think we should fine him or something, because we were all expecting him to be there," Lin said.

Lin scored two points in the game, logging only 9 minutes after playing on back-to-back nights. Even his parents got some camera time, both shown looking at their cell phones and ignoring orders to kiss during a "Kiss Cam" segment while Lin looked on in amusement from the bench.

## BRAUN

Continued from Page 9A

the playoffs, was not delivered to Federal Express until Oct. 3. Baseball's drug agreement calls for samples

to be delivered to FedEx on the same day they are collected.

Braun did not rule out the chance that someone may have tampered with his sample.

"I honestly don't know what happened to it for

that 44-hour period," he said. "There are a lot of different things that could have possibly happened. There are a lot of things that we heard about the collection process, the collector and some other people

involved in the process that have been concerning to us. But as I've dealt with the situation, I know what it's like to be wrongly accused of something, so for me to wrongly accuse somebody wouldn't help."

Braun said he was a "victim" of a "fatally flawed" testing system and that there is an inherent presumed guilt within the process.

"As players, we're held to a standard of 100 percent perfection regarding the program, and everybody else associated with that program should be held to the same standard," he said. "We're a part of a process where you're 100 percent guilty until proven innocent. It's the opposite of the American judicial system."

"This is my livelihood. This is my integrity. This is my character. This is everything I have ever worked for in my life being called into question. We need to make sure we get it right. If you're going to be in a position where you're 100 percent guilty until innocent, you can't mess up."

Soon after Braun's news conference, MLB and the players' association each released statements defending the testing program. And the head of the World Anti-Doping Agency, David Howman, said that under his agency's rules, Braun still would have had to show that

the departure from the rules was related to the test result.

"Our program is not 'fatally flawed,'" MLB executive vice president Rob Manfred said. "Changes will be made promptly to clarify the instructions provided to collectors regarding when samples should be delivered to FedEx based on the arbitrator's decision. Neither Mr. Braun nor the MLBPA contended in the grievance that his sample had been tampered with or produced any evidence of tampering."

Arbitrator Shyam Das threw out Braun's ban on Thursday. Das, who has been baseball's independent arbitrator since 2000, informed the sides of his decision but did not give them a written opinion. He has 30 days to do so.

Braun arrived at Milwaukee's facility Friday morning, walking through the complex's glass front doors to avoid reporters and camera crews waiting for him around back at the clubhouse entrance. Braun kissed his girlfriend, Larisa Fraser, before seeing his teammates for the first time this spring.

Braun first met with manager Ron Roenicke, who suggested that the star outfielder also meet privately with Milwaukee's players. The team meeting was "emotional," Braun said.

Moments before Braun

publicly addressed his situation, Roenicke, general manager Doug Melvin and 16 players took seats behind the first-base dugout to show their support.

Outfielder Corey Hart said Braun's case should be a signal for baseball to fix the testing process.

"For a bad system to screw that up is frustrating," he said. "They'll have to move forward and try to fix it. That should be a work in progress. It didn't get in his system. It was a bad circumstance."

Braun's suspension hung over the NL Central champion Brewers all winter, and Roenicke was relieved to know he'll have Braun in the middle of his lineup. Milwaukee lost slugger Prince Fielder to free agency and couldn't be afford to be without their other big bat for too long.

"We got him back," said second baseman Rickie Weeks. "That's all that matters."

And Braun's glad to be back.

"To say that I'm excited to get started would be a significant understatement," the MVP said.

After 25 minutes on the field, Braun headed toward Milwaukee's clubhouse, stopping to accept a few hugs and handshakes along the way.

There's a new season ahead, and he can play.

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## BRIEFS

Continued from Page 9A

combined for five hits.

Forsan broke open a tight game with a three-run fourth inning to seal the victory.

The Buffs concluded play at the tournament Saturday afternoon against Breckenridge.

BSHS golfers  
third in Midland

MIDLAND — The Big Spring High School boy's golf team fired a team total 325 to place third in Division II after the first round of play at the Tall City Invitational Friday afternoon.

Andrews and Frenship

both shot team scores of 311 to hold the first-round lead at the tournament, held at Ranchland Hills Golf Club.

Tate Kennedy led the Steers with a 79 during Friday's first round.

The tournament continued Saturday morning at Hogan Park Quail Course.

# Westwood, Hanson solve Match Play puzzle

MARANA, Ariz. (AP) — Lee Westwood decided to bring a new approach to the Match Play Championship, which has caused him such fits that he had never made it out of the second round in 11 previous attempts.

On the eve of the tournament, Westwood said he was determined to get in front as early as possible and stay there.

It has worked to perfection going into the weekend at Dove Mountain. Westwood halved the opening hole of his first match Wednesday. That's the only time he wasn't in the lead. When he finished off Nick Watney on the 16th hole Friday, the numbers were simply staggering.

Westwood has led in 48 of the 49 holes he has played through three rounds. Little did he know, Peter Hanson was listening to his pre-tournament news conference.

"I've lost in the first round

the last two years here," Hanson said. "He said that he was feeling like a little bit of a slow starter. I thought about it myself, and I think we play a similar kind of game. We kind of ease into golf tournaments and try to be around when it matters Sunday afternoon.

"This is more of a sprint." Perhaps it should not be surprising that Westwood and Hanson, who defeated Brandt Snedeker on Friday, are the only quarterfinalists who have yet to trail in any of their three matches.

Hanson has played 47 holes and was tied in three of them.

Westwood birdied the opening two holes for a 2-up lead on Watney — the second straight day that he has started with two birdies — and was never seriously challenged in his 3-and-2 win that brought a small measure of revenge. Watney had elimi-

nated Westwood each of the past two years in the Match Play Championship.

Hanson went one better. He birdied the first three holes, had a nervous moment in the middle of the match, and then settled down for a 5-and-3 win over Snedeker.

This is not the most compelling bracket remaining at Dove Mountain.

Six of the remaining players are in the quarterfinals for the first time — only U.S. Open champion Rory McIlroy and Matt Kuchar have made it this far.

Only two of the top seeds are remaining — McIlroy at No. 2, Westwood at No. 3. Kuchar knocked off fourth-seeded Martin Kaymer, the finalist a year ago, while Hunter Mahan took care of fifth-seeded Steve Stricker.

Friday was on its way to being the dullest ever. For the longest time, it looked as though none of the eight matches would reach the 18th

hole until Bae Sang-moon was forced to the final hole in the last match, making a 6-foot par putt to hold off John Senden of Australia.

Two players can make it plenty compelling on the weekend, though — McIlroy and Westwood.

They once were part of the same stable at International Sports Management until McIlroy abruptly left in October. Westwood's crowning achievement was reaching No. 1 in the world — he was there twice for a total of 22 weeks — while McIlroy rose to fame with his record-setting win last year at Congressional in the U.S. Open.

Westwood squandered a chance to win in Dubai. McIlroy lost an opportunity to win in Abu Dhabi.

Now, both can get to No. 1 by winning this World Golf Championship.

Westwood lost the No. 1 ranking to Luke Donald in a playoff that Donald won at

Wentworth last May. Such a scenario can't happen at Dove Mountain because Westwood and McIlroy, if they won their quarterfinal matches Saturday, would face each other in a semifinal match Sunday morning.

Their priorities are different, too. McIlroy has never been No. 1. Westwood is more interested in winning a WGC event for the first time. But they are thinking about it, nonetheless.

Westwood said his goals are to win majors, win WGC events, and win in America more regularly.

"If I do that, then the No. 1 in the world ranking just comes along as a product of that," he said. "I'd be lying if I didn't say every guy playing this week wants to be No. 1 in the world. It means you're playing well, for starters."

There were a few big moments even though only one of the matches went the distance in the third round.

# TCU moving ahead after drug arrests

FORT WORTH (AP) — TCU coach Gary Patterson already had a hoarse voice after only one day of spring practice.

The message to this team was the same as each spring, work toward the goal of winning a conference championship — now in the Big 12 instead of the Mountain West, where the Horned Frogs won the last three — and the chance to one day play for a national championship.

"We'll move straight forward," Patterson said after practice ended early Friday night.

Unfortunately for the Frogs, the expanded crowd of nearly two dozen reporters and cameras wasn't because of the pending move to the Big 12.

TCU, coming off its fourth consecutive season with at least 11 wins, started spring practice only nine days after four players were among 15 current and four former TCU students were arrested on drug charges.

Those players, including three past starters on defense, are no longer on the team.

"The most disappointing thing for me is I kind of felt like everybody decided ... all of a sudden that we went from really good to everybody's bad," Patterson said, speaking publicly for the first time since the Feb. 15 arrests. "And that's not true."

The arrested players were linebacker Tanner Brock, defensive tackle D.J. Yendrey, cornerback Devin Johnson, and reserve offensive lineman Ty Horn.

Police said the players and other students were caught making "hand-to-hand" sales of marijuana, cocaine, ecstasy and prescription drugs to undercover officers. They said the bust followed an investigation prompted by complaints from students, parents and others.

In arrest affidavits, charged players indicat-

ed they felt many players could have failed a surprise drug test given to the team Feb. 1.

Patterson publicly acknowledged that test Friday, but never said specifically what led to it.

"Any time I think there is a problem, I'm not saying there was, I'm going to find out and check it off," he said.

Patterson said sometimes kids think they "become invincible" and have to find out the hard way. He also said: "It's our job to protect all the good guys."

Brock allegedly told an undercover officer that he failed the surprise test "for sure," but it wouldn't be a problem because there "would be about 60 people screwed."

When Johnson was asked about the test, he allegedly told an undercover officer, "What can they do, 82 people failed it."

The day after the arrests, a *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* report based on unnamed sources said only five players failed the test.

While not getting specific, Patterson said Friday that "the numbers that were thrown out early are not true. ... Reality is somewhere in between."

Brock was the team's leading tackler as a sophomore in the 2010 season when the Frogs finished 13-0 and won the Rose Bowl. He played the opener last year before season-ending foot surgery. Yendrey started 12 of 13 games last season and Johnson started the last eight while playing all 13. Horn started once.

"I still feel badly for those four," said Patterson, who hasn't yet spoken to them and is still thinking about what he will say when he does. "You wish you could have saved them, you wish you could have gotten to them before it happened."



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# Howard wants All-Star focus on Orlando

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Orlando waited 20 years to host All-Star weekend again, and Dwight Howard wants nothing to spoil the party.

So forget that trade request, Magic fans. Ignore the rapidly approaching deadline for deals.

"All the other stuff can wait," Howard said Friday. "I just want people to have fun and enjoy themselves. This is All-Star weekend. This is a time of celebration for guys who've had great first halves and guys who have never even seen this."

Jeremy Lin has been the NBA's biggest story this month, but the focus shifted back to Howard, where it began this season, with the NBA's midseason event in the city he insists he loves but wants to leave.

That meant a wall of reporters and cameras surrounding him, asking the same questions Carmelo Anthony was peppered with last year during All-Star Friday, just before his trade request from Denver was granted.

"Thank you, Dwight!" Anthony yelled when he spotted

the swarm. "It's your turn!" Howard has asked for a trade, but he's still here and there's no telling for how much longer. The Magic could deal their center before the March 15 trade deadline, or hold onto him all season and risk losing him while getting nothing back in July.

Howard's table was between Anthony and LeBron James, two of the league's best-known stars. Yet neither had anywhere near the attention of Howard, and Anthony was glad to yield the spotlight after his status overshadowed last year's festivities in Los Angeles.

"I'm glad it's not me anymore," Anthony said.

James went through the free agency circus the season before, and acknowledged that it wore on him.

"Yeah, absolutely," James said. "I know exactly what he's going through. It's a tough situation but he's going to handle it. He's a man. He's going to handle it. He's going to do what's best for him."

Lin wasn't forgotten, even after James and the Heat on Thursday forced him into the

worst game since he became the Knicks' starter earlier this month. Many All-Stars were asked about Lin, who was playing only in Friday's Rising Stars Challenge featuring rookies and second-year players yet was given his own evening press conference to accommodate the large media interest.

Howard said every time he watches TV, he sees something about Lin, the NBA's first American-born player of Chinese or Taiwanese descent.

He was asked if there was anything that could stop the undrafted guard from Harvard.

"Uh, he hasn't gone up against the Great Wall of Orlando yet," Howard said.

This wall may be moveable. The Magic have given Howard's agent permission to discuss deals with the Nets, Lakers and Dallas Mavericks, and there was plenty of speculation he could be dealt even before the season began, just as Chris Paul was.

That would have created an awkward All-Star reunion.

Howard literally towers

over this city, his face pictured on billboards overlooking the interstate and on a giant Adidas ad high atop the outside of the Amway Center. This region caters to visitors, but didn't have to consider how it would have welcomed Howard.

"I'm here, so it doesn't matter what would've or should've happened," he said. "But you know I'm here and we want to have a great time. I'm looking forward to all the events and showing everybody my city."

With its new arena in just its second season, Orlando is hosting the All-Star game for the first time since 1992, one of the NBA's most memorable. Magic Johnson won MVP honors only a few months following his retirement after contracting the HIV virus.

Even Shaquille O'Neal, who has been critical of Howard in the past, says he hopes the MVP this time goes to Howard. O'Neal started his career with the Magic before bolting as a free agent, and he said recently it would be a "travesty" if Howard leaves.

If fans fear Howard following Shaq's path, he said they

never tell him.

"Whatever you decide to do, we're behind you 100 percent," they say, according to Howard.

"They've been great," Howard added. "Despite what people may say or think, the fans here have always been great to me. I really appreciate it. They've showed me nothing but love from Day 1 and I've done the same thing. This city means a lot to me."

Howard said he was looking forward to playing this weekend with James, Anthony and Dwyane Wade, who join league MVP Derrick Rose in the powerful Eastern Conference starting lineup.

The West is an L.A. story, with Kobe Bryant and Andrew Bynum of the Lakers joining the Clippers' Paul and Blake Griffin. Oklahoma City's Kevin Durant rounds out the first five.

The All-Star weekend would have been in jeopardy had the lockout lasted much longer. An agreement was reached during Thanksgiving weekend and the season opened on Christmas, allowing for a 66-game schedule.



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# Big Spring High School artists shine

### Regional medalists

Thomas Bazaldua, Connor Furqueron, Sydney Hernandez, Remington Love, Autumn Moore, Adrian Olague, Ashtyn Payne, Savi Vela and Brad Wangard. Three students walked away with two medals. Those students were Furqueron, Payne and Vela.

This year BSHS Art Department had 15 entries in the UIL Art Contest known as VASE or Visual Scholastic Art Event, which was held Saturday, Feb. 18.

- Thomas Bazaldua, junior, entered a tempera painting of an Eagle entitled "Wanbli" which is a Native American word for Eagle.
- Aaron Fierro entered "Car For Sale."
- Junior, Connor Furqueron entered two works: "Grapes of Life" and "Architectural Lane."
- "Bubble Fish" belongs to Sophomore Valerie Goodblanket.
- Junior Sydney Hernandez had the only three dimensional entry from BSHS which is a coil ceramic vase titled "Wave of Water."
- Junior art 3 student Remington Love has a mixed media drawing called "The Arabian" along with a painting entry done in the style of artist LeRoy Neiman titled "Rev Your Engine."
- Freshman art 1 student Autumn Moore a retro style painting aptly titled "Autumn."
- An oil portrait "Cousin" is the entry from Junior Adrian Olague.

• Senior, Ashtyn Payne entered a large mixed media piece titled "Past Meets Future" which is a diptych (two panels) depicting a mirror image of a young lady one of agriculture and one of industry. Her second entry is a self-portrait completed in oils.

• Second year student junior Savi Vela has two entries "Circular Flight" a mixed media of a hummingbird rendered in pencil with a patterned background in tempera paint and a pencil drawing of his Native American heritage titled "Wolf Dreamer." • Brad Wangard, sophomore, entered a mixed media work depicting a scorpion in pencil with a tempera background of pattern called appropriately "Scorpion".



### Courtesy photos

See more photos of BSHS art on Page 11B



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► Births



Carder Knox Partee

Carder Knox Partee, son of Adam and Stormie Partee of Fort Worth, Texas, was born Jan. 24, 2012, at Texas Health Harris Methodist — HEB, Bedford, Texas.

Carder weighed 9 pounds 10 ounces and measured 22 inches long.

His maternal grandparents are Daniel and Beverly Silen of Big Spring, Texas.

His paternal grandparents are Alan and Della Partee of Big Spring, Texas.

He was welcomed home by his brother, Graham Alan Partee.



Rachel Faith White

Rachel Faith White, daughter of Anna and Larry White of Big Spring, Texas, was born Jan. 18, 2012, at 10:56 a.m.

Rachel weighed 7 pounds and measured 19 inches long.

Her maternal grandmother is Zeita Mase. Paternal grandparents are Charlen White and the late Perry White.

She was welcomed home by her siblings, Dakota Anne, Connie Miers and Elizabeth Hope White.

Mark David Miguel Soliz



Mark David Miguel Soliz, son of Vanessa Rodriguez and Jesse Soliz Jr., was born Feb. 11, 2012.

He weighed 6 pounds 4 ounces and measured 17 1/2 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Cynthia and Hector Morin and Luciano Ruben Rodriguez Jr.

Paternal grandparents are Jesse and Kris Soliz Sr. and Judy and Frank Castillo.

► Engagements Blum's Jewelry

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Amaro and Burt

Andrea Ann Amaro, of and Shane Michael Burt both of Big Spring, Texas, announce their engagement.

Andrea is the daughter of Joey and Sally Grant of Big Spring. She is a 2004 graduate of Coahoma High School. She is employed at Department of Veterans Affairs.



Shane is the son of Tommy and Sally Burt of Big Spring. He is a 2001 graduate of Big Spring High School and a 2003 graduate of Texas A&M University-Commerce. He is employed at Sid Richardson Carbon Co.

The couple will exchange wedding vows July 28, 2012, at The Courtyard in downtown Big Spring.

Three area students selected as national youth correspondents

Student leaders to travel to Washington D.C. for highly-selective journalism forum

FAIRFAX, Virg. — The following local students have been nominated as National Youth Correspondents for the 2012 Washington Journalism and Media Conference at George Mason University.

- Meagan Grisham, of Big Spring, a student at Big Spring High School has been nominated to represent Texas.

- Ricky Shubert, of Big Spring, a student at Big Spring High School has been nominated to represent Texas.

- Chelsey Parker, of Big Spring, a student at Big Spring High School has been nominated to represent Texas.

These individuals have been awarded the opportunity to join a select group of students from across the country to participate in an intensive week-long study of leadership in journalism and the media. They received their honor because of their academic accomplishments and a demonstrated interest and excellence in leadership in journalism and media studies.

National Youth Correspondents participate in hands-on, experiential learning through decision-making simulations that challenge them to solve problems and explore the creative, practical, and ethical tensions inherent in journalism and media. The experiential portion of the program is complemented by speakers who are well-known leaders in the media community. Presenters include prominent journalists, CEO's of major media outlets, researchers, and recent college graduates already successfully entering the field. Last year's conference included Hoda Kotb, Chuck Todd, Ann Kornblut, and Jessica Yellin.

With distinguished faculty, guest speakers, and direct access to elite D.C. practitioners, The Washington Journalism and Media Conference offers aspiring journalists an unparalleled experience. The week-long program, held at George Mason University's state-of-the-art campus, encourages and inspires young leaders who desire a unique experience focused on successful careers in this dynamic industry.

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Bride Elect of  
Brandon Skaggs



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- ♥ Megan Tunstall & Jackie "Trey" Thomas
- ♥ Kallie Dixon & Jacob Nichols
- ♥ Lindsey Butler & Kelby Kemper
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# ▶ Menus

### Sands ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Sausage and biscuit, juice and milk. Lunch: chicken stir-fry, oriental vegetables, fruited gelatin, Texas toast, frozen yogurt and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: honey bun, juice and milk. Lunch: chicken nuggets, mac and cheese, tossed salad, apple, hot roll and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: hot pocket, juice and milk. Lunch: carne guisada, refried beans, corn, flour tortillas, cookie and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza, juice and milk. Lunch: chicken patty sandwich, tater tots, baked beans, lettuce, tomatoes and pickles, pudding and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: donut, juice and milk. Lunch: peanut butter and jelly sandwich, cheese stick, carrots with ranch, apple, cookie and milk.

### Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast: cinnamon roll, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal. Lunch: chicken fajitas, refried beans, seasoned corn, orange smiles, sherbet cup, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: scrambled eggs, toast, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal. Lunch: cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato and pickles, baby carrot dippers, funyuns,

mixed fruit, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: biscuit, sausage, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal. Lunch: chicken spaghetti, savory green beans, garlic toast, fresh apple, chocolate pudding cup, milk.

### Stanton ISD

Monday: Breakfast: pancakes. Lunch: grilled ham and cheese sandwich, french fries, vegetable sticks, apple, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: oatmeal. Lunch: burrito/chili, corn, salad, pears, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: omelet. Lunch: roasted chicken, mashed potatoes, carrot coins, peaches, wheat rolls, milk.

### Coahoma ISD

Monday: Breakfast: biscuits, gravy, jelly, sausage, grape juice, milk. Lunch: chicken patty, gravy, macaroni, cheese, green beans, pears, rolls, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: french toast, sausage, syrup, grape juice, milk. Lunch: meatloaf, creamed potatoes, peach cups, bread, milk. Corn dogs.

Wednesday: Breakfast: pancake sausage on a stick, apple juice. Lunch: nacho grande, pinto beans, oranges, cookies, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: oatmeal, ham, apple juice, milk. Lunch: deli turkey, macaroni, carrots, mixed fruit, bread, milk. Ham/cheese sandwich.

### Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast: cocoa krispies, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: pepperoni pizza, baby carrots, sliced bell peppers, ranch dressing, fruit cocktail, orange smiles, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: sausage and gravy pizza, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: chicken spaghetti, garden salad, ranch dressing, green beans, apricots, Texas toast, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: breakfast burrito, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: chili quesadilla, border beans, mixed vegetables, mandarin oranges, banana, salsa, milk.

### Senior Center

Monday: Mexican casserole, Spanish rice, pinto beans, salad, cake, milk.

Tuesday: chicken strips, macaroni and tomatoes, turnip greens, cornbread, peaches, milk.

Wednesday: chicken spaghetti, Caribbean vegetables, garlic bread, salad, apple pie, milk.

## ~ Dear Molly: I'm in love with my boss ~

### Hi Molly,

I am in need of advice. I have been working for the same company for 10yrs and in my mid 30's attractive and intelligent. I come from a wonderful family and have a good support system that includes close friends too. I say all of this so you won't think I'm totally horrible.

I'm falling in love with my boss. I've worked for him for 6yrs. We talk about our personal lives, eat lunch together, go out with the office for drinks regularly and find ourselves hunkered down in a corner usually. He's everything I want in a man, except he's married. He says he's unhappy which I know doesn't make it ok, but I just am crazy about him! I'm having a hard time concentrating at work and find when I'm away from work I'm annoyed and upset. I date but no one comes close to him. I was in a 2yr relationship and we broke up a few months ago. He couldn't commit to me because of some personal issues. I'm so confused and don't know what to do.

### In love with my boss

### Dear In love,

Here is my take. You just got out of a relationship and you are projecting your pain and frustration on to your boss hoping for relief. You have been working with him for a long time (6yrs) and I'm not hearing that you have always felt this way towards him. I'm also not hearing that during your recent relationship you missed your boss or that he was the cause of the break up. My point is that I don't think you are as in love as you may think.

It's time to drum up all that good upbringing and the things you know to be right and act on those values. I always ask women to put themselves in the shoes of the other woman. Then allow yourself to mourn the breakup of your relationship, cry,

look at the good that came out of it, and not project onto your boss. The last thing you need is to be vulnerable and have an affair with a married man. He is married and whether it's going to end in divorce or not, you can't go there. Affairs with bosses in and of itself are bad news and can jeopardize your professional life. So anyway you look at this it's not right.

I also would advise you to tell a couple people you love what you're going through; preferably friends who would not support being with a married man. They can help you when you're feeling down and lend support. I have a feeling that you will jump back pretty quickly and your married boss will be just another guy that you like but hold a clear boundary with.

### ~ Molly

Readers, do you agree that she may not be healed from her breakup? How should she handle the boss situation? Does she owe him an explanation of any kind?

### Dear Molly,

You asked for your readers' opinions, and I cer-

tainly have one, based solely on what he wrote.

Please, please tell the young man whose girlfriend kicks his dog to walk, no, run, as fast as he possibly can in the exact opposite direction from this woman. To marry her would be the biggest mistake of his life.

First of all, if she is kicking his dog when he is in the same room, can you imagine what she might be doing if she is ever, God forbid, left alone with the dog?

And what if she is kicking his dog in hopes the dog will finally have enough, and bite her? Then she could insist that he have the dog put down.

If her parents raised her this way, how will she raise her children?

He should think about that as well. Will his children be the kinds of people who kick dogs? How could he ever live with himself if he allowed her to raise his children that way? Or what if he found out she was hurting the kids? He would always know that he had seen the warning signs, but ignored

See **MOLLY**, Page 11B

## Career Opportunity

I am looking for a particular type of person, one who will take personal interest in my local business. If you are willing to work, follow instructions and can live on average of \$3000 mo., until your skills improve: I will train you; Train you well. Pay you: Pay you well and provide advancement limited only to your own effort and ability.

You must be 21 or older with reliable transportation. Only quality men and women need apply.

Call John Stamper @ **615-476-3850**

Mon., Feb. 27, between 12p-8p

to find out more about our company.

231511

## February Special

New Hope Christian School **LOVES** Children!

During the month of February, you can enroll your child at NHCS and pay NO registration fee! That's a huge savings of \$75.00 and applies to all students previously *not* enrolled at New Hope Christian School.

These savings are only for new enrollees of New Hope Christian School and *ONLY* during the month of February!

**HURRY!** Limited spaces are available for age 17 months - 4 years!

\*N/A to students that are already enrolled through our waiting list.

### New Hope Christian School

118 Cedar Rd.  
Big Spring, TX 797290  
(432) 263-0203

231035

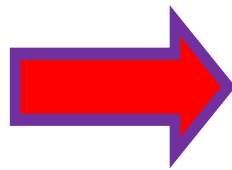
# Walk through 2012

- \* All ages: 0-99
- \* 2 laps around the YMCA
- \* First Sat. Of each month
- \* Starting: March 3rd
- \* Time: 8:00am-9:00am



**First 100 people receive a free t-shirt and water bottle.**

**Come walk through:**



- Stress
- Diabetes
- Cancer
- Bad health



**Start each month on the right path**





Linda Alexander (left) and Kim Howell talk during the celebratory reception for Scenic Mountain Medical Center Tuesday afternoon. SMMC was recently recognized as a Press Ganey award recipient for Top Improver of 2011.

HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

## 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.**

Two prominent measures of consumer confidence dropped unexpectedly in recent weeks. This provided plenty of fodder to those who still think the U.S. economy is teetering on the brink of a long awaited double-dip.

But when it comes to the consumer confidence data, the only thing we're confident about is that confidence doesn't matter. Not one bit.

There is no consistency between what consumers are actually doing and how they tell pollsters they feel. They may talk the talk, but they aren't walking the walk. While saying they lack confidence, consumers are buying vehicles at a relatively rapid rate. Auto and light truck sales jumped to a 14.2 million annual rate in January, the fastest pace since early 2008, even beating August 2009, which was the sales peak for cash-for-clunkers. At the same time, chain-store retail sales were up 4.8 percent from a year ago, and that only includes sales at stores open more than 12 months.

As we look ahead to this week's indicators, it is clear that the economy remains solidly in recovery mode. Industrial production, manufacturing surveys, housing starts and initial claims should all reaffirm the growth story.

And yet, consumer confidence measures remain deeply depressed. The Conference Board's measure is currently 61.1, well below its 20-year average of 93.0. The University of Michigan's measure of confidence is 72.5 versus a 20-year average of 87.6.

Both measures of confidence are lower than they were a year ago, despite roughly 2 million more payroll jobs — 2.2 million in the private sector — and more hours of work per worker, which signals even more jobs to come. Initial claims for jobless benefits are way down and manufacturing production is up more than 3.5 percent from a year ago.

The idea that "how people feel about things" is a driver of economic activity has taken a huge hit in recent times. But don't believe just one data point. Consumers were never more confident than in late 1999, just before the market crash and recession of 2000/2001. And in 2007, confidence hit its high point just before the sub-prime crisis and Panic of 2008 occurred.

Nonetheless, the popular press and many analysts still seem to regard these data as important. Our advice is to ignore it — confidence won't tell you where we are going.

Think of confidence like personal health. When do you finally get the flu? After not being sick for a while, that's when. And when do you get better? After you've been sick, that's when. In other words, the lower confidence is, the more likely a recovery is either on-its-way or underway.

*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 Feb. 13 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.*

## Study shows we're getting less friendly on Facebook

CHICAGO (AP) — Whether it's pruning friends lists, removing unwanted comments or restricting access to their profiles, Americans are getting more privacy-savvy on social networks, a new report found.

The report released Friday by the Pew Internet & American Life Project found that people are managing their privacy settings and their online reputation more often than they did two years earlier. For example, 44 percent of respondents said in 2011 that they deleted comments from their profile on a social networking site. Only 36 percent said the same thing in

2009. The findings come a day after the Obama administration called for stronger privacy protections for people who use the Internet, mobile devices and other technologies with increasingly sophisticated ways of tracking them. Pew's findings suggest that people not only care about their privacy online but that, given the tools, they will also try to manage it.

Along those lines is "profile pruning," which Pew reports is on the rise. Nearly two-thirds of people on social networks said last year that they had deleted friends, up from 56 percent in 2009. And

more people are removing their names from photos than two years ago. This practice is especially common on Facebook, where users can add names of their friends to photos they upload.

Among other findings: — Women are much more likely than men to restrict their profiles. Pew found that 67 percent of women set their profiles so that only their "friends" can see it. Only 48 percent of men did the same.

— Think all that time in school taught you something? People with the highest levels of education reported having the most difficulty figuring out their privacy

settings. That said, only 2 percent of social media users described privacy controls as "very difficult to manage."

— Young adults were more likely than older people to delete unwanted comments. Fifty-six percent of social media users aged 18 to 29 said they have deleted comments that others have made on their profile, compared with 40 percent of those aged 30 to 49 and 34 percent of people aged 50 to 64.

— Men are more likely to post something they later regret. Fifteen percent of male respondents said they posted something regrettable, compared with 8 percent of female respondents.

**Demolition of the old Taco Villa building took place Wednesday morning. The drive through at the new building opened for operation Tuesday.**



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

## Why is an IRA or a 401k a good thing?

What is an IRA and what is a 401k? Why does the government encourage (or tolerate) them? How do they benefit the taxpayer?

An IRA (Individual Retirement Arrangement) is an amount that the IRS allows to deduct every year (if you have the money) from your taxable income in order to save money now. You will be taxed on this amount at a later date, usually when



DEAN ALEXANDER

you retire. The rationale is most likely not egalitarian but rather economic and political. Economic, because nations and individuals who save are better off economically, of course, than those who do not. Politically, because it reflects certain muscles that wanted and were able to get what they desired.

The mechanics? You go to the bank or investment institution and you deposit \$5,000 in an IRA account. You go home and do your taxes and deduct those 5,000 from the 50,000 that you made this year. You pay taxes on only 45,000 rather than the 50,000.

Why would anyone participate in a project like this if they have to pay it back at retirement? The first intuitive answer is that we got a tax break now and who cares about the future. It is a case of a bird in the hand.

Upon more reflection you will find there are great benefits to something like an IRA. First, imagine that you start, let's say at age 18, savings off \$5,000 a year over 40 years. You will have millions at retirement age. This alone can build your wealth and count you among the lucky ones called millionaires.

Secondly, suppose that at \$50,000 income you are at the

15 percent tax bracket. Suppose that you are at retirement because you have no income and what you take out of the IRA you are now at the 10 percent tax bracket.

You protected your money from 15 cents on the dollar and when you paid it you only paid 10 cents, so you saved five cents on every dollar. This savings applies to the millions that you have on the IRA.

Currently, you can deduct 5,000 a year for each of you as husband and wife if both make no more than \$89,000 (otherwise there is a phase out reduction.) Single persons can deduct \$5,000 if the

income is \$56,000 without facing a phase out. People over 50 are allowed an extra \$1,000 to catch up.

(Next time we will discuss 401 k)

*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.*



# USDA announces CRP registration

## Landowners and producers will have 4-week window beginning in March to enroll

WASHINGTON — Acting Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS) Michael Scuse has announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will conduct a four-week Conservation Reserve Program general signup beginning March 12 and ending April 6.

CRP has a 25-year legacy of successfully protecting the nation's natural resources through voluntary participation, while providing significant economic and environmental benefits to rural communities across the United States.

"It is USDA's goal to ensure that we use CRP to address our most critical resource issues," said Scuse.

"CRP is an important program for protecting our most environmentally sensitive lands from erosion and sedimentation, and for ensuring the sustainability of our groundwater, lakes, rivers, ponds and streams.

"As always, we expect strong competition to enroll acres into CRP, and we urge interested producers to maximize their environmental benefits and to make cost-effective offers."

CRP is a voluntary program available to agricultural producers to help them use environmentally sensitive land for conservation benefits.

Producers enrolled in CRP plant long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion and develop wildlife habitat.

In return, USDA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years. Producers with expiring contracts and producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP.

Producers also are encouraged to look into CRP's other enrollment opportunities offered on a continuous, non-competitive, signup basis.

Currently, about 30 million acres are enrolled in CRP; and contracts on an estimated 6.5 million acres will expire on Sept. 30, 2012.

Offers for CRP contracts are ranked according to the Environmental Benefits Index (EBI). USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) collects data for each of the EBI factors based on the relative environmental benefits for the land offered.

Each eligible offer is ranked in comparison to all other offers and selections made from that ranking. FSA uses the following EBI factors to assess the environmental benefits for the land offered:

- Wildlife habitat benefits resulting from covers on contract acreage;
- Water quality ben-

efits from reduced erosion, runoff and leaching;

- On-farm benefits from reduced erosion;
- Benefits that will likely endure beyond the contract period;
- Air quality benefits from reduced wind erosion; and cost.

Over the past 25 years, farmers, ranchers, conservationists, hunters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts have made CRP the largest and one of the most important in USDA's conservation portfolio.

CRP continues to make major contributions to national efforts to improve water and air quality, prevent soil erosion by protecting the most sensitive areas including those prone to flash flooding and runoff.

At the same time, CRP has helped increase populations of pheasants, quail, ducks, and other rare species, like the sage grouse, the lesser prairie chicken, and others. Highlights of CRP include:

- CRP has restored more than two million acres of wetlands and two million acres of riparian buffers;
- Each year, CRP keeps more than 600 million pounds of nitrogen and more than 100 million pounds of phosphorous from flowing into our nation's streams, rivers, and lakes.

- CRP provides \$1.8 billion annually to landowners—dollars that make their way into local economies, supporting small businesses and creating jobs; and

- CRP is the largest private lands carbon sequestration program in the country. By placing vulnerable cropland into conservation, CRP sequesters carbon in plants and soil, and reduces both fuel and fertilizer usage. In 2010, CRP resulted in carbon sequestration equal to taking almost 10 million cars off the road.

In 2011, USDA enrolled a record number of acres of private working lands in conservation programs, working with more than 500,000 farmers and ranchers to implement conservation practices that clean the air we breathe, filter the water we drink, and prevent soil erosion.

Moreover, the Obama Administration, with Agriculture Secretary Vilsack's leadership, has worked to strengthen rural America, implement the Farm Bill, maintain a strong farm safety net, and create opportunities for America's farmers and ranchers.

U.S. agriculture is currently experiencing one of its most productive periods in American history, thanks to the productivity, resiliency, and resourcefulness of our producers.

For more information on CRP and other FSA programs, visit a local FSA service center or [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

# Public Records

## Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Gregory Aguilar Jr., 1508 Sunset Ave., Big Spring  
Irene Lopez Alaniz, 774 E. Highway 80, Abilene  
Brian Layton Allison, 1100 College Circle, Ranger  
Demetrio Alva, 11520 Arrow Rock, El Paso  
Terica Alvarado, 1100 E. 61st St., Odessa  
Anthony G. Anderson, 3401 Cammelia Dr., Temple  
Daniel Antrim, 120 N. 22nd Pl., Lamesa  
Nancy Ramirez Banuelos, 1515 A Sycamore, Big Spring  
Christine Avalos Bara, of 1405 N. Sixth, Lamesa  
Amy Barber, 2602 Ent, Big Spring  
Samantha Ann Barrera, 606 Lamar, Sweetwater  
Daniel B. Barron, 507 N. Ave. F, Lamesa  
Tim Beck, 709 W. Seventh St., Big Spring  
Amy Benavides, 3001 N. Midland Dr., Big Spring  
Crystal Biles, 15885 S. Quartz, Odessa  
Vern Black, 329 W. Tennessee, Floydada  
Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Ave. L, Lamesa  
Edward Bourland, 229 Edgewood Dr., San Angelo  
Alexis A. Bowie, 2811 Lawton, Amarillo  
Dave Bracken, 2720 42nd St., Lubbock  
Johnny William Brown, 507 E. Sixth, Big Spring  
Wanda Heron Brown, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 113, Big Spring  
Melinda Burns, 2218 Carlton Way, San Angelo  
Cristal Cabello, 1314 65th Drive Apt. C, Lubbock  
Melissa Camargo, 2100 Ave. N, Tahoka  
Latonya Campbell, 7549 Ashcroft Circle, Fort Worth  
Antonia Castillo, 206 Fuller St., Hereford  
Donald Cervantes, 1211 Lloyd, Big Spring  
Weldon Montague Cheatham, 4502 Denison, Snyder  
Jared Kendero Coby, 901 S. High Street # 802, Longview  
Vanessa Conatser, 3218 Fordham, Big Spring  
Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring  
Stephen Cruz, 1501 Hilltop Rd., Big Spring  
Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave, San Antonio  
Julie E. Davis, 5202 Bangor Ave. Apt. K301, Lubbock  
Clarissa Dean, 2516 Gunter, Big Spring  
Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring  
Constance A. Elledge, 1709 Scotland Ave., Azle  
Kristi L. Elliot, 603 E. 12th St., Big Spring  
Alfredo Flores Jr., PO Box 272, Laredo  
Irene Paredez Flores, 1000 E. 20th St., Big Spring  
Kenneth L. Freeman, 1401 San Andres, Odessa  
Danny Frias, 207 W. 17th St., Georgetown  
Hilda Fuentes, 502 S. Seventh, Lamesa  
Carlos Garcia, 1211 S. Third St., Brownfield  
James Randal Gardner, P.O. Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.  
Joe Nick Garfias Jr., of 1309 Runnels, Big Spring  
Claudet Garza, 3106 E. Elm No. 10, Laredo  
Joseph Garza Jr., 17811 Vail No. 18, Dallas  
Misty Goldston, 2429 20th St., Lubbock  
Benito Oscar Gonzales, 101 S. Reynolds, Coahoma  
James E. Gonzalez, 604 Neff St., Sweetwater  
Jeffrey Grams, 224 LeLon Lane, Springtown  
Nora Gutierrez, 606 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa  
Edna J. Hale, 510 Milton Ave., Brownwood  
Sharon Marquis Hanson, 1201 E. Co. Rd. 34, Big Spring  
Clifford Arvin Hart Jr., 3234 Drexel, Big Spring  
Dana Havink, 600 Star Linda Ct., Arlington  
Chris Henry, 3520 28th St., Lubbock  
Isaul Hernandez, 523 W. Noble, Fairfuries  
Veronica Cervantes Hernandez, 1005 N. 17th St., Lamesa  
Gerald Hodges, 4312 Crane, Houston  
Allen Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 No. 1502, Big Spring  
Herman Hokes, 1303 Sycamore, Big Spring  
Danny Holt, of 125 Farney Rd., Lorena  
Bradley Ryan Horton, of Linda Lane, Big Spring  
Shameka Houston, 1905 Wasson No. 49, Big Spring  
Jeanie Renee Ivey, 5326 Old Highway 71, LaGrange  
Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio  
Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland  
Steven Daniel Johnson, 1509 142nd St., Lubbock  
Johnny Ray Jones, 501 E. 17th St., Big Spring

Katie Lynn Junkin, 1410 Lancaster, Big Spring  
Paige Morgan Kenas, 1003-2 Lake County Rd. 175, Colorado City  
Kimberly K. King, 1711 Young, Big Spring  
Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan  
Lindsey Kay Lee, 1405 S. Benton, Big Spring  
Patricia Luttrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa  
Jenny Marie Hamilton Lyon, 4201 W. Highway 80 Apt. 6, Big Spring  
Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland  
Christopher Max Martinez, 2870 S. Highway, Snyder  
Jarrod Martinez, 61 E. Eighth St., San Angelo  
Sandy Martinez, P.O. Box 43, Stanton  
Thomas M. McKellen, 2010 Sierra, Kenah  
Ebaline Mendoza, P.O. Box 291, Mertzon  
Daniel Mercado Jr., 5611 Lancaster, Houston  
Chad K. Merrill, 3300 Manor Rd. Apt. 174, Austin  
Alicia Morales, 606 Holbert, Big Spring  
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas  
Jose Munoz III, 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 7, Big Spring  
Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland  
Ricky L. Nava, 707 Willa, Big Spring  
William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring  
Pernell Earl Parker, 400 N.E. 12th St., Big Spring  
Benson Nelson Payne, 1117 Toby Lane, San Angelo  
Katherine Hardin Perez, 4908 Parkway, Big Spring  
Joshua Plaia, 1401 E. 18th, Big Spring  
Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford Ave, Big Spring  
Richard Wayne Rains, 4501 Parkway, Big Spring  
Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road #226, Big Spring  
Anna D. Rich, PO Box 1321, Denver City  
Jerrall Ray Richardson, 1481 Highway 81, Bowie  
Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255, S. 11th St., Lubbock  
Roberta Garza Rodriguez, 1103 Stanford, Big Spring  
Robert Rosamond, 801 Lancaster, Big Spring  
Thomas Ross, 1206 Lela St., Jasper  
Thomas Castillo Ruiz, 1306 W. Tennessee, Midland  
Rudy Andrew Salazar, PO Box 1275, Stanton  
Nancy Carolina Sauseda, 1707 N. 11th St., Lamesa  
Monica Serbine, 304 E. 20th, Big Spring  
Harl Bradford Shaffer, 5603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring  
Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road, Big Spring  
Brian Paul Siverson, 589c Stoddard, Odessa  
Donna Smith, P.O. Box 716, Coahoma  
Lisa D. Smith, 2010 Sierra Dr., League City  
Andrew Sommers, 3110 W. Kansas Ave., Midland  
Janie Spurgeon, 1212 Wadley, Midland  
Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City  
Mickey Jermain Starnes, 402 Holly Oak Dr., Tyler  
Misty D. Sternadel, 457 Seventh St., Scottland TX  
Andrew Bernard Taylor, 5651 Flamingo, Houston  
Tonya D. Conner Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobb, N.M.  
Ashley Lauren Teagarden, 6002 103rd St., Big Spring  
Molly E. Turner, 1905 Wasson Rd., Big Spring  
Paula Valdez, 2220 S. First, Lamesa  
Jimmy Vasquez, 4000 W. Illinois No. 16, Midland  
Tyler Voss, Fannin Co. Rd. 4925, Leonard  
Michael Wagner, P.O. Box 428, Denver City  
Irshaad A. Walee, 1306 S. Detroit, Lamesa  
Marie Wells, 2507 Rebecca,

Big Spring  
Candida Lynn Whitehead, 1405 Runnels, Big Spring  
Tina Diane Whitlow, 1407.5 Settles, Big Spring  
Denise L. Williams, 1715 Hwy. 350, Big Spring  
Calvin Williams, 1313 Mulberry, Big Spring  
Mandy Shae Wilson, 210 10th St., Sterling City  
Brandi Woodard, 642 Westview Dr., Abilene  
Jerry Lee Wrightsil, 2816 Ridge Rd., Fort Worth  
Lorenzo Ferrera Yanez, 211 Channing St., Big Spring  
Dennis Anthony Zaragoza, 4534 Sinclair, Big Spring

## County Court Decisions:

Probated Judgment: Rita Baldwin Hotelling, possession of a dangerous drug, \$500 fine, \$342 court costs, 365 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

Judgment and Sentence: Kevin Boyce, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$500 fine, \$342 court costs, 30 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Luis Alejandro Ramos, criminal trespass, \$500 fine, \$282 court costs, 30 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Alexander Quintana, assault causing bodily injury, \$500 fine, \$332 court costs, 180 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Pedro Rosendo Aguilar, stealing/receiving stolen checks, \$500 fine, \$332 court costs, 90 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Luis Alejandro Ramos, prohibited weapons - switchblade/knuckles, \$500 fine, \$282 court costs, 30 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Roy Guerrero Cervantes Jr., failure to identify - giving false information, \$500 fine, \$282 court costs, 30 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Isaac J. Tarin, bail jumping and failure to appear, \$500 fine, \$332 court costs, 90 days in jail.

Probated Judgment: Alfredo Resendiz Garcia, driving while intoxicated, \$500 fine, \$457 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

Judgment and Sentence: Alexander Quintana, assault causing bodily injury, \$500 fine, \$282 court costs, 180 days in jail.

Probated Judgment: Brent Lee Marin, theft of property - more than \$50 and less than \$500, \$500 fine, \$282 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 6 months probation).

Judgment and Sentence: Juan Miguel Rodriguez, purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor, no fine, \$282 court costs, 10 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Juan Miguel Rodriguez, purchase/furnish alcohol to a minor, no fine, \$282 court costs, 10 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Juan Miguel Rodriguez, purchase/furnish alcohol to a minor, no fine, \$282 court costs, 10 days in jail.

Judgment and Sentence: Shawna Ellison, bail jumping - failure to appear, \$500 fine, \$332 court costs, 30 days in jail.

Probated Judgment: Adrian Dehoyos, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$750 fine, \$342 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

Judgment and Sentence: Jacen Bradley Stott, failure to identify - giving false information, no fine, \$282 court costs, 20 days in jail.

## District Court Filings:

Jody Wilfong vs. Bradley K. Wilfong, divorce.

Asley D'Ann Squyres vs. Johnny Joe Castillo Jr., divorce.  
Jeronimo Puga vs. Mary Lou Puga, divorce.

Ernesto M. Muniz vs. Crystal R. Muniz, divorce.

Sonia Carol Terry vs. Kegan Shane Terry, divorce.

Joseph Henry Hines vs. Deb-

ra Lynn Hines, divorce.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center vs. Dedorah Ann Felts and Robert Felts, accounts, notes and contracts.

Christopher Alan Calvert vs. Traci Seibly Calvert, divorce.

Jesse Jr. Castillo vs. Lori Lee Castillo, divorce.

The State of Texas vs. Rebecca Cantu, seizure.

Rolando Alcocer-Martinez vs. Perla Alcocer, divorce.

Buck Chappell vs. Jamie J. Chappell, divorce.

In Re Chasity Faith Schneider family.

Tim Blackshear Co. Inc. vs. American Eagle Inc., accounts, notes and contracts.

Wind Energy Transmissions Texas LLC vs. David Higgings and Janet Higgings

## Marriage Licenses:

Ryan M. Valdez, 21, and Chanel A. Burger, 22, both of Big Spring.

Ernesto Diaz, 31, and Alicia A. Trevino, 30, both of Big Spring.

Ryan P. Patterson, 34, and Ashley Pierce, 26, both of Big Spring.

Kevin L. Murphy, 25, and Amber L. Sides, 23, both of Big Spring.

Eric L. Perez, 18, and Iris Martinez, 19, both of Big Spring.

## Warranty Deeds:

Grantor: Partee Enterprises  
Grantee: Derek Osburn Construction  
Property: Lot 11, Block 3, Caroline Court Subdivision  
Date: Feb. 14, 2012

Grantor: Partee Enterprises  
Grantee: Derek Osburn Construction  
Property: Lot 10, Block 3, Caroline Court Subdivision  
Date: Feb. 14, 2012

Grantor: Rebecca R. Barbee  
Grantee: Rebecca R. Barbee, trustee Donnie Charles Barbee and Rebecca Barbee Revocable Living Trust  
Property: Tracts out of Section 46, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: Feb. 13, 2012

Grantor: Rebecca R. Barbee  
Grantee: Rebecca R. Barbee, trustee Donnie Charles Barbee and Rebecca Barbee Revocable Living Trust  
Property: Lot 16, Block 9, Kentwood Unit No. 1  
Date: Feb. 13, 2012

Grantor: Bobby Barber and Cheryl Barber  
Grantee: Eddie Word  
Property: A 4.45-acre tract out of Section 8, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: Feb. 7, 2012

## Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:

Grantor: Horace E. Tubb  
Grantee: Dealy E. Blackshear  
Property: A 8.8-acre tract out of Section 31, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: Feb. 14, 2012

Grantor: Horace E. Tubb  
Grantee: Dealy E. Blackshear  
Property: A 7.6-acre tract out of Section 31, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: Feb. 14, 2012

Grantor: Thomas Wayne Morgan  
Grantee: Carol Scott  
Property: Lot 1, Block 2, North McEwen Addition  
Date: Feb. 14, 2012

Grantor: Carol Scott  
Grantee: Priscilla Torres  
Property: Lot 16, Block A, Merrick Green Addition  
Date: Feb. 14, 2012

Grantor: Michael Nairn  
Grantee: Arturo DelValle  
Property: Lot 3, Block 1, Ridgelea Terrace Addition  
Date: Feb. 14, 2012

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**LOCATION:** Howard County Maintenance  
1301 N. Hwy. 360  
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**Closing Date:** March 6, 2012

Application and a copy of the Job Requisition can be  
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**NEED EXPERIENCE** Pulling Unit Operator with CDL. Good pay based on experience. Call (325)207-0858 or 207-0846.

**Help Wanted**

Join our professional cleaning team! \$12/Hrs. & advancement opportunities. We provide paid training, all necessary supplies & uniform. Must have own transportation & speak English. All cleaners are drug tested & background checked. Bonded and insured. Call **J. Williams Management** at 432-699-2090 M-F 8-4.



Looking for highly motivated business owner. Responsible for the daily delivery and sales of fresh baked products. Portfolio includes Oroweat, Mrs. Bairds, Thomas English muffins, Entenmann's, Bimbo, Marinela, and more. Strong customer service, good communication skills, valid driver's license, good driving record and a drive to be successful are a must. Down payment (small initial investment) required. To hear more about this entrepreneurial opportunity fax a letter of interest to (432)520-3337.

**MANAGER/ TRAINEE** person needed for local Furniture and Appliance Store. Bilingual and outgoing personality a plus. All inquires are to be made in person at 1611 South Gregg, Big Spring.

**Help Wanted**

**MARSH TRUCKING**  
Hiring Class A CDL Vacuum Truck Drivers with tanker endorsement. Must have One year experience. Benefits include: Insurance, uniforms, 401k & paid vacation. Top Pay. Call 325-574-3639.

**NABORS WELL SERVICES**

Has Openings For:  
RIG SUPERVISOR  
TRUCK SUPERVISOR  
3 CREW CHIEFS  
3 DERRICK WORKERS  
8 CREW WORKERS  
VACUUM TRUCK DRIVER  
Day & Nights Shifts  
We Offer  
Competitive Salary & Benefits. Please apply in person at 2900 Hwy. 87 N Big Spring, TX  
No Phone Calls Please

**NEED ACCOUNTANT** for Independent Oil and Gas Company in Big Spring. Prefer experience and degree. Competitive pay & benefits. Please send resume to P.O. Box 1888 Big Spring, TX 79721.

**NEED FULL-TIME** Clerical Worker for Independent Oil & Gas Company in Big Spring. Competitive pay & benefits. Experience preferred. Please send resume to P.O. Box 1888 Big Spring, Tx 79721.

**NEED TRANSPORT/BOBTAIL** Driver for fuel deliveries. Starting Salary \$20.00 per hr., all full medical benefits paid, retirement plan, vacation and sick leave. Must have CDL & good driving record. Come by 1st & Johnson, Park Fuels/Chevron, Big Spring. (432)263-0033.

**NEED TUBING** Tester, experience preferred, will train right person. CDL required, clean driving record and must pass drug test. Benefits- Salary based on experience. Call (432)582-2500.

**Help Wanted**

**NEED WAREHOUSE/** Maintenance foreman. Starting salary \$12.50, with all benefits. Must have good driving record and experience in maintenance. Apply at 1st & Johnson, **Park Fuels**, Big Spring.

**NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE** Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

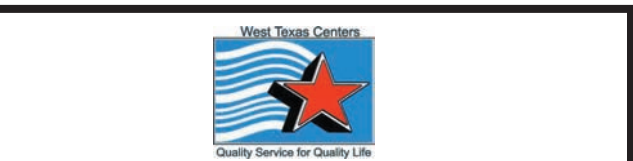
**NEW HOPE** Christian School is hiring substitute and part time teachers at this time. Apply in person at 118 Cedar Road. Prefer at least 1-year experience in a licensed childcare facility.

Also are looking for someone to work in Church nursery on Wed. evenings and Sunday mornings. Apply at 118 Cedar Rd.

**SEEKING ELECTRICIAN** with oilfield and/or plant experience to work at natural gas plant NE of Big Spring, TX. Must provide references. Excellent benefits. Paid medical insurance, paid vacation and 401K. Must have valid Texas driver's license. Must be able to pass drug screen. Send resume to: Plant Supervisor, 11703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, TX 79511 or email [mwcol@wtgas.com](mailto:mwcol@wtgas.com) or fax (432)399-4290.

Answer to previous puzzle

R	I	S	E	T	B	S	P	S	M	I	L	E
A	S	I	A	A	R	I	A	T	U	N	E	S
B	A	T	S	B	O	L	L	A	E	S	O	P
B	A	B	B	L	O	O	M	E	R	S		
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E	M	I	T	C	B	S	A	T	M			
N	O	T	A	B	I	T	P	T	A	C	I	A
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S	P	A	R	S	S	L	I	T	T	E	S	T



**West Texas Centers**

IDD Part Time Service Coordinator

Are you a teacher or a nurse or another professional looking for fulfilling part time employment?

West Texas Centers is seeking someone to perform assessments, service monitoring and advocacy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The right applicant will be able to provide these services through a flexible weekly schedule of 20 to 30 hours. Travel will be required within the service area. Applicant may be required to use personal vehicle when performing job duties with mileage reimbursement provided. Positions are available in Monahans, Pecos and/or Big Spring. Successful applicant may reside in any of these locations or in the Midland/Odessa area. Position requires a bachelor's degree with a specialization in social, behavioral, human services or related fields. If unsure your degree will meet these requirements complete the application and attach your transcript for review. An applicant previously employed as a Service Coordinator for another Home and Community Based Service provider prior to June 1, 2010 may not be required to have the degree and should contact West Texas Centers Human Resources Department. Hrly \$14.71.

**ECI Family Service Coordinator** is responsible for assisting families in gaining access to needed services and supports as outlined in the individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). This person is the primary contact for each family assigned and must have considerable knowledge in the functioning of social services, medical treatment facilities and community resources. These duties include the following activities: referral and intake, service coordination, transitioning, identification of additional assessments, service/services, public awareness, tracking of deadlines, coordination of and participation in initial and ongoing developmental assessments, service planning on an interdisciplinary team and providing developmental services using a routines based intervention strategy. Travel is required 80% of the time within a twelve county service area. Employee is required to use their personal vehicle/ or an agency/rental vehicle. All employees are required to have a personal vehicle available for work purposes and maintain current, valid vehicle liability on the personal vehicle. Personal vehicle usage is subject to Center authorized mileage reimbursement rates. Salary \$16.79-\$17.36 per hr (\$1343.54-\$1388.77 bi weekly \$34,392-\$36,108 annually) Depending on experience. LPC, Social Worker RN, LMFT or Bachelor's Degree which includes a minimum of 18 hrs of course credit relevant to early childhood intervention including three hrs in early childhood development, human development or early childhood special education.

Applications available at 409 Runnels or [www.wtcmhr.org](http://www.wtcmhr.org) or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769.EOE

231485

**FAST FREE PICKUP RUNNING OR NOT**  
**800-324-7403**  
LIVE OPERATORS  
National Veterans Services Fund, Inc.

**COUNTRY FARE RESTAURANT**  
**POPEYES CHICKEN & BISCUITS**  
**SUBWAY**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE, COOKS ...and more**

• Multiple positions • Shift options

**TRAVELCENTERS OF AMERICA** is the largest full-service travel center network in the nation. Join us at our Big Spring location (I-20 Exit 177) - in a full-service restaurant or QSR (Quick Service Restaurant) position.

We'll **TRAIN** motivated individuals - **EARN** while you **LEARN**. You'll enjoy Competitive Compensation

- Medical/dental/vision/life insurance
- Excellent advancement opportunities
- Education assistance program
- Paid vacations/holidays, paid training, 401(k)... AND MORE!

Apply at [www.myTAjob.com](http://www.myTAjob.com)... or call 1-888 669-8256 (hiring code #120).

Visit our website to learn more... [www.tatravelcenters.com/](http://www.tatravelcenters.com/)

**TA TravelCenters of America**  
An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V

**LVN & Medical Assistant** needed for local Doctor's office. Full time positions.

Call **(432) 264- 1900** to set up interview or fax resume to **(432) 264- 1901**

231483

**Class A CDL Drivers Wanted!**

Hardie's Fruit & Vegetable Co. with headquarters in Dallas, Texas is looking for three (3) Class "A" CDL Drivers, domiciled in Big Spring, Texas. Drivers will be delivering fresh produce to military commissaries and to our troops. Drivers will pickup in Dallas and return to Big Spring. The second driver will deliver to Fort Bliss, in El Paso and return to Big Spring. The positions will be a five (5) day drive week with every third weekend off and every second week a four (4) day drive week...**\$1,000/week!!**

Applicants must pass a background check, USDOT physical; possess a clean **MVR, dependability a must!**

Post confidential resume at [careers@hardies.com](mailto:careers@hardies.com) or fax (214) 421-1105 ref Class A Driver Big Springs. Hardies is an EEO.

231474

**BUSINESSES & SERVICES**

**\$55.60 Per Month**  
Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!



**WELDING**

**L.A. Welding Services**  
24/7 Service

- Rig Welding
- Pipe Welding
- Well Heads & More

**Lee Alvarado**  
**(432) 816-4688**  
P.O. Box 1784  
Big Spring, TX 79721

229832

**HOUSE LEVELING/MOVING**

**B&B House Leveling & Foundation Repair**  
LOCALLY OWNED & FAMILY OPERATED FOR 67 Years  
Foundation Repair is Our Specialty & Only Work Our Company Does!

If it's not a deep driven steel pier, it's not a steel pier. Capable of 90 ft. in depth!

The Big Country's only provider for non-corrosive Steel Piers

- Repairs on Solid Slab, Pier & Beam Foundations
- Void Filling & Mud Jacking
- Landscape Friendly

**LIFETIME TRANSFERABLE GUARANTEE**

2008, 2009 & 2010 Winner Abilene's Favorite House Leveler in ARN Readers' Choice Award

**325-675-6613 • Abilene, TX • 800-335-4037**  
**Owner: Rick Burrow**  
Licensed & Bonded for Home Owner's Protection  
Insurance Claims Welcome • Free Inspections • Senior Citizens & Military Discounts

231474

**Help Wanted**

**NEWSPAPER DELIVERY**  
Big Spring Area Routes  
Midland Reporter-Telegram  
The Midland  
Reporter-Telegram  
has delivery positions available  
in the Big Spring Area for both  
Home Delivery and  
Retail Outlet distribution.  
Good organization for  
customer tracking, a reliable  
vehicle and a dependable  
commitment to early morning  
deliveries ranging from  
2:00am-6:00 am.  
If interested please call  
Linda McCumber  
432-967-4150

**NOW HIRING** Concrete Finish-  
ers in Big Spring (local project).  
Contact Tony Alvarez  
Construction 1-806-548-2335  
for more info..

**NOW HIRING** Cosmetologist.  
Booth rent. Please call  
432-816-6588 or  
432-714-4445.

**TOP JOBS**

**NOW HIRING** Experienced  
CDL Drivers, Operators,  
Derrick and Floor Hands.  
Health Insurance and Good  
Pay. You may pick up apps at  
5212 I-20 South Service Road.

Now hiring kitchen staff. Apply  
in person at 802 West I-20 or  
call 432-264-7686.

**NOW HIRING**  
Positions available in the  
Restaurant for the following:  
Grill Cooks, Prep Cooks and  
Buffet Cooks. Excellent  
Benefits. Training Provided.  
Experience Will Get You More  
\$\$\$.  
Please apply on-line at  
WWW.MYTAJOB.COM or  
stop by Restaurant and pickup  
an application.

**NURSERY WORKER** needed  
at FBC Coahoma; Sundays  
and Wednesdays. Please in-  
quire at 201 South Avenue or  
call 432-394-4348.

**TOP JOBS**

**OIL COMPANY** looking for an  
experienced lease pumper to  
operate 3 small fields. Must  
have computer experience  
using Excel. Must have min. of  
5 yrs experience taking care of  
disposal systems, pumping  
wells, chemical pumps, heat-  
ers, FWKO's, handle call out's,  
must turn in daily production &  
work with P.O. system. Please  
call Bruce @ 832-613-3809.  
Experienced only need apply.

**PART TIME** position available  
for "Handy Man". Need to  
paint, mud & tape and minor  
carpentry work. Mon.-Fri.. Call  
(432)213-0775.

**Help Wanted**

**PART-TIME MAINT** Tech  
needed for property in Big  
Spring. Applicant must have  
strong organizational skills and  
enjoy working outdoors. 20  
hrs/week plus Vacation. Fax  
resume to (432)264-1761.



**Pediatric Private Duty  
Nurse needed in Big Spring  
for growing department!!  
Part-time, Night positon  
available.**

\*Benefits  
\*Mileage paid  
\*Competitive Wages  
\*Sign-On Bonus!!  
RN or LVN  
license required.  
Call Kristi Young, RN @  
432-550-1721 or fax resume to  
432-550-1717 today!

**PIZZA INN**  
NOW HIRING COOKS. MUST  
BE AVAILABLE DAYS,  
NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS.  
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.  
APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702  
GREGG.

**PIZZA INN**  
NOW HIRING DELIVERY  
DRIVERS. MUST HAVE  
CLEAN DRIVING RECORD  
AND INSURANCE. MUST BE  
ABLE TO PASS DRUG TEST.  
MAKE UP TO \$12.00 PER  
HOUR. NO PHONE CALLS  
PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON  
AT 1702 GREGG.

**THE COLORADO** River Muni-  
cipal Water District, regional  
raw water supplier for the  
Permian Basin, is accepting  
applications for following  
position in the Big Spring Area.  
**Operations Maintenance  
Technician-** Responsible for  
maintaining the District's raw  
water pipelines, pump stations,  
and wells in the Big Spring  
Area. Entry to Intermediate  
level position.  
CRMWD is an equal opportu-  
nity employer. Benefits include  
health insurance, retirement  
plans, and sick, vacation and  
holiday leave.  
Applications are required and  
are available at the District's  
office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big  
Spring, Texas 79720, by calling  
(432)267-6341 or our website  
[www.crmwd.org](http://www.crmwd.org)

**THE SALVATION** Army boys &  
girls club is seeking Program  
Coordinator Monday-Friday.  
Child development experience  
necessary. Apply at 811 West  
5th.

**RUSTY'S OILFIELD** Service In  
Stanton has immediate open-  
ings for Mechanic, CDL Driver,  
Roustabout Pushers and  
Helpers. Must have valid  
drivers license. Apply in per-  
son at 3327 W I20 in Stanton.  
432-756-2821.

**Help Wanted**

**HOWARD COUNTY** Appraisal  
District  
Full-time Receptionist.  
Requirements:  
High School Diploma or GED.  
Ability to work with Microsoft  
word and Excel.  
Salary is contingent on experi-  
ence. Comprehensive benefits  
package included. Interested  
person needs to apply:  
Ronny Babcock,  
Chief Appraiser  
315 S. Main Street,  
Big Spring, TX 79720  
(432)263-8301  
Position opened until filled.

**UMPIRES NEEDED**

Ages 15 and up.  
No experience necessary.  
Will train, if interested.  
Call  
(432)213-1300

**BIG SPRING** Little League in  
need of Official Score Keepers.  
Pay \$15.00 per game. No  
experience necessary will train.  
If interest call Robert Smith  
(432)816-8161.

**TOP JOBS**

**RUSSELL CELLULAR** in Big  
Spring Texas is hiring for a  
store manager and wireless  
sales representatives. To learn  
more about Russell Cellular  
and to apply please go to:  
[www.careerbuilder.com](http://www.careerbuilder.com)  
Keyword Search: Russell Cel-  
lular

**Secretary/ Receptionist** with  
Quick Book experience pre-  
ferred, but will train. Salary  
DOE. Please send resume/  
application to P.O. Box 2684,  
Big Spring TX. 79721.

**TRUCK DRIVER**

Helena Chemical Company, a  
national agricultural-chemical  
company, has an immediate  
opening for an experienced  
truck driver. This position will  
make deliveries, load and un-  
load product, utilize a forklift,  
and perform general ware-  
house duties. The position re-  
quires high school diploma or  
equivalent, CDL with HAZMAT  
endorsement. We offer an ex-  
cellent working environment  
and outstanding compensation  
and benefits package. For con-  
sideration, please apply in per-  
son:

Helena Chemical Company  
100 S. St. Peter,  
Stanton, Texas  
Pre-employment  
drug screen required.  
EOE M/F/V/H

**T N C NEEDS**

LVN'S, RN'S, CNA'S.  
Must be willing to travel.  
(325)670-0090.  
[texasnurseconnection.com](http://texasnurseconnection.com)

**Help Wanted**

**SECURITY OFFICERS**  
Needed for Hospital Federal  
Inmate Protection detail. All  
positions are Part-time and  
PRN.  
**Physical Requirements:** Must  
be in general good health and  
vision must be correctable to  
20/30 (SNELLEN) in one eye.  
The ability to distinguish basic  
colors is required. Emotional  
and mental stability is required.  
**Other Requirements:** Must be  
able to pass State and Federal  
Backgrounds and Credit  
Checks.  
**Experience Requirements:**  
One year (2040) hours of expe-  
rience in the armed forces or  
coast guard which involved  
significant performance of  
guard duty of detainees or  
prisoners; or the equivalent  
experience in a federal, state,  
or local government, or private  
organization which involved  
protecting/police duties, or col-  
lege level training in courses  
such as corrections or police  
science may be substituted for  
experience at the ratio of two  
hours of instructions for one  
hour of experience.  
Apply at Workforce Center  
(1001 Birdwell Ln., Howard  
College- Charles Warren Bld.  
106), KEYWORD: PARAGON.  
EOE.

**TOP JOBS**

**SNACK SHACK** is now taking  
applications for Manager, grill  
cook, wait staff, drive thru  
cashier. Apply at 910 Lamesa  
Hwy. No phone calls please.

**TEACHING POSITION-** \$14/hr.  
Mon.-Fri. CDA required. Apply  
at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.

**VAN DRIVER/CAREGIVER-**  
Apply in person at Jack & Jill,  
1708 Nolan.

**Items for Sale**

**FOR SALE** Mesquite Fire-  
wood. \$160.00 for half cord. 50  
pound sacks-\$20.00. Call Terry  
Jenkins at 432-270-3122.

**Pets**

**FREE PUPPIES** to good home  
American Eskimo/Pomeranian,  
about 7 weeks old. Call  
816-2760 after 12:00 noon.



This link [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com)  
connects people to pets up for  
adoption from the Big Spring  
Animal Control (432)264-2372.

**Real Estate for Rent**

**403 GALVESTON** large shop  
with fenced yard. \$1250.  
month, \$1250 deposit. Call  
(432)213-2319.

**Real Estate for Rent**

Swimming Pool  
Carports,  
Most Utilities Paid,  
Senior Citizen  
Discounts  
1 & 2 Bedrooms &  
1 or 2 Baths  
Unfurnished  
**KENTWOOD  
APARTMENTS**  
1904 East 25th Street  
267-5444  
263-5555

**BUY/ RENT** 2 thru 6 bdrm  
Homes, 24Hr. maintenance,  
Central Heat/Air, Pool, stove,  
refrigerator, dishwasher,  
Washer/dryer connections,  
also 1 & 2 bdrm Apts, avail-  
able, (432)263-3461-Rosa.

**NOW LEASING** 1, 2 & 3 Bdrm  
Apts. Built in microwave,  
full-size Washer & Dryer in-  
cluded, private patio/balcony  
w/storage area, playground  
area, fitness center, and com-  
munity center. Open  
Monday-Friday 9am-6pm. Call  
Knollwood Heights  
(432)264-1735.

**PONDEROSA APARTMENT**  
Now Leasing  
1 & 2 Bdrms  
Pools & covered parking  
No application fees  
Senior Discounts  
1425 East 6th Street  
(432)263-6319

**SALE or LEASE-** Very nice  
Commercial Property, 6000 sq  
feet building, 3 offices and  
4 overhead doors. Good Loca-  
tion. Call (432)213-2400.

**Real Estate for Sale**

**3/2 PLUS** Bonus Room. 2403  
Carleton. Under Remodel.  
Owner will Finance.  
\$15,000.00 Down. WILL NOT  
RENT. Call (432)264-9907 or  
517-0062.

**3312 AUBURN-** 3 Bedroom,  
1 bath, need fixing up  
\$22,500. Call (432)267-1000.

**BY OWNER/ No Owner**  
Finance. 1202 Buena Vista.  
3 Bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage,  
shop, 1 acre of land. Coahoma  
ISD. Call 432-413-7400.

**OPEN HOUSE**  
Sat & Sun  
March 3rd-4th  
1:00-4:00  
Colorado City Lake House  
3332 LCR 252  
**MUST SALE**  
**PRICE REDUCED---** \$45,000  
3/2 1999 Town & Country  
Double Wide Mobile Home  
Info and Pictures on  
Craigslist-  
Call Mitzi 806-893-2951

**Services Offered**

**PRIVATE HOME** in Andrews  
excepting Alzheimer patients.  
Call for more information  
432-523-4690.

**Vehicles**

**2008 TRAVEL** Trailer- 23 ft.  
Excellent condition. Fully self  
contained. Lots of storage,  
queen bed. Asking \$10,500.  
Call (432)935-9600 for more  
information.

**2010 HONDA CRX** 7- \$20K.  
Call 432-935-8397.

**FOR SALE,** 2005 Mercedes  
Benz ML 500(suv), 8 cylinder,  
392 horsepower, all wheel  
drive, silver, sun roof, naviga-  
tion system, 6-disc CD, Bose  
stereo system, heated seats  
automatic transmission, and  
more. Excellent condition, re-  
cent service with complete  
dealer service records, new  
tires, always garaged. 156,000  
miles, \$10,000 OBO. call  
432-213-2325.

Didn't Get Your  
Paper?  
Call 263-7335  
Mon-Fri. 8am-7pm  
Sun 8am-noon  
**HERALD**  
16162

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Best Pay & Home Time!  
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One Application,  
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the cost of the space actually occupied by the  
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CDLTrainingNow.com is  
NOW Accepting Applications  
for Driver Trainees.  
16-Day Company-Sponsored  
CDL Training Program.

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NO Credit Required.  
GREAT PAY & BENEFITS!  
**CALL RIGHT NOW!**  
**1-800-991-7531**  
**Ad # 3120**  
[www.CDLTrainingNow.com](http://www.CDLTrainingNow.com)  
(Not Valid in IL)

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BLOWN HEAD  
GASKET?**

State of the art 2-part  
carbon metallic process.

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**100% GUARANTEED!**  
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\*\*\*\*\*  
More Than 400,000  
properties Nationwide!!  
**LOW Down Payment**  
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STOP Mortgage & Maintenance  
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100% Money Back Guarantee

**FREE Consultation!**  
**Call Us Now!**  
**888-356-5248**  
**We Can Help!**

Or Contact:  
**Brett Wallace**  
**1-800-821-8139**  
[btwallace@cni.com](mailto:btwallace@cni.com)

**Newsday Crossword**

**SATURDAY STUMPER** by Brad Wilber  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
[www.stanxwords.com](http://www.stanxwords.com)

- |   |                                       |   |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>ACROSS</b>   | <b>DOWN</b>                           | <b>11</b> Jack-o'-lantern effect              | <b>36</b> Garish                              |
| <b>1</b> Sea snails   | <b>1</b> Post-mugging witness         | <b>12</b> Came down                           | <b>37</b> Liability-limiting stock order      |
| <b>7</b> Plus   | <b>2</b> Nicole Kidman's birthplace   | <b>13</b> Pasta topping                       | <b>39</b> Emulated movie monsters             |
| <b>15</b> Traditional Navajo dwellings                          | <b>3</b> Boggle piece                 | <b>14</b> ER regular, 2006-2009               | <b>40</b> Word from the Arabic for "fortress" |
| <b>16</b> Originally, the greatest extent of the Ottoman Empire | <b>4</b> ___ land                     | <b>20</b> Indian music                        | <b>41</b> Michener nonfiction book            |
| <b>17</b> One in a fighting chair                               | <b>5</b> Showed deference             | <b>23</b> Frequent whodunit suspects          | <b>42</b> Buzz                                |
| <b>18</b> Coffee kin  | <b>6</b> Georgia's former designation | <b>26</b> Poison ivy's family                 | <b>43</b> Two-fisted                          |
| <b>19</b> Unqualified   | <b>7</b> Miss Universe 2011, e.g.     | <b>28</b> Plowing woe                         | <b>46</b> Scene of a 2011 secession           |
| <b>20</b> Europe's largest port                                 | <b>8</b> Ready for big news, maybe    | <b>29</b> Panasonic acquisition of 2009       | <b>47</b> Refuse transportation               |
| <b>21</b> Memorable press-conference rhym                       | <b>9</b> All's partner                | <b>31</b> Paint holder                        | <b>50</b> Start of Shelley's "Ozymandias"     |
| <b>22</b> Pre-Socratic philosopher                              | <b>10</b> End of a Mahler title       | <b>32</b> Session-starting student seatwork   | <b>51</b> Hector                              |
| <b>24</b> 21 Across had a healthy one                           |                                       | <b>34</b> ___ manager (cruise-ship executive) | <b>53</b> London Fields novelist              |
| <b>25</b> Is busy   |                                       | <b>35</b> Pamphlets, greeting cards, e.g.     | <b>55</b> Child safety advocate               |
| <b>27</b> "Say it ain't so!"                                    |                                       |   |   |
| <b>28</b> Platform unveiled in 1981                             |                                       |   |   |
| <b>30</b> One living near Mount Cleveland                       |                                       |   |   |
| <b>32</b> Consequence of a revolution south of the border?      |                                       |   |   |
| <b>33</b> Wind sounds   |                                       |   |   |
| <b>34</b> Bee predators   |                                       |   |   |
| <b>38</b> They're ripped on some calendars                      |                                       |   |   |
| <b>39</b> Do-it-yourselfer's nightmare                          |                                       |   |   |
| <b>40</b> Homer's "loveliest of all immortals"                  |                                       |   |   |
| <b>43</b> Nix   |                                       |   |   |
| <b>44</b> Moaned words  |                                       |   |   |
| <b>45</b> Aladdin monkey  |                                       |   |   |
| <b>46</b> Power source  |                                       |   |   |
| <b>48</b> It makes a prophet                                    |                                       |   |   |
| <b>49</b> Not very developed                                    |                                       |   |   |
| <b>52</b> Shade of brown  |                                       |   |   |
| <b>54</b> Trit  |                                       |   |   |
| <b>55</b> Largest citrus  |                                       |   |   |
| <b>56</b> Largest terrier                                       |                                       |   |   |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15									16					
17									18					
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21												24		
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40	41	42												
45														
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56														
58														

Legals

**Notice of Abandoned Vehicles**  
You are hereby notified, as either the last known registered owner or lien holder that the motor vehicle described below has been taken into custody by the Howard County Sheriff's Office.  
Year: 1987  
Make: Ford  
Model: F-150  
VIN: 1FTDF15H3HKA48130  
LP: 22CBP1  
State: TX  
Year: 1988  
Make: Ford  
Model: Ranger  
VIN: 1FTCR14T1JPA00532  
LP: 88WMF2  
State: TX  
Year: 1998  
Make: Dodge  
Model: Laramie  
VIN: 3B7HC16Y0WM264435  
LP: ETG9095  
State: NY  
Year: 2001  
Make: Ford  
Model: F-350  
VIN: 1FTWW32F71EB74227  
LP: 9ZDT01  
State: TX  
Year: 1994  
Make: Mazda  
Model: Pickup  
VIN: 4F4CR16U5RTM91994  
LP: 46ML53  
State: TX  
Year: 1995  
Make: Dodge  
Model: Caravan  
VIN: 1B4GH44R4SX609350  
LP: PMV37D  
State: TX  
Year: 2000  
Make: Pontiac  
Model: Grand AM  
VIN: 1G2NF52T4YM882999  
LP: H534439  
State: IL  
Year: 1999  
Make: Acura  
Model: 4 Door  
VIN: 19UUA6541XA004506  
LP: BBC271  
State: TX  
Year: 1996  
Make: Mercury  
Model: Sable  
VIN: 1MELM50U5TG655833  
LP: 972RCZ  
State: TX  
Year: 2000  
Make: Nissan  
Model: Frontier  
VIN: 1N6DD26S8YC392260  
LP: 14PYW9  
State: TX  
Year: 1985  
Make: Honda  
Model: Rebel  
VIN: JH2MC1307FK019899  
LP: 470S4S  
State: TX  
Year: 1993  
Make: Nissan  
Model: Pickup  
VIN: 1N6SD11S3PC320941  
Year: 1988  
Make: Chevy  
Model: Suburban  
VIN: 1GNER16K2JF149218  
LP: 59TRB2  
State: TX  
Year: 1994  
Make: Dutchmen  
Model: Classic  
VIN: 47CF20P21R1043814  
Year: 2006  
Model: Car Dolly  
VIN: 5JGBH1136E020162  
The lien holder or registered owner of this vehicle may reclaim the motor vehicle upon payment of all towing, preservation, notification and storage charges resulting from placing the vehicle into custody. The Vehicle may be reclaimed at 300 S. Main, Big Spring TX. 79720. 432-264-2231 8:00am.-5:00pm. Monday-Friday.  
In the event the vehicle is not claimed by the 20th day after the date of this notice, the vehicle will be sold at Public Auction. Your failure to reclaim the vehicle causes you to give up any right to ownership and interest in the vehicle in compliance with Article 683.02 Transportation code.  
Stan Parker Sheriff of Howard County  
By: Dean Restelli- Deputy  
#7271 February 26, 2012

Legals

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**  
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, AAA Mini Storage which is located at 3301 E. FM 700 Big Spring, TX 79720 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 11:00 o'clock A.M. on March 3rd, 2012, at AAA Mini Storage, 3301 East FM 700, Big Spring, TX 79720. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space.  
Tenant: Seneca Arguello  
Tenant: Arealle Ortega  
Tenant: J.T. Smith  
Tenant: Frances McKiski  
Tenant: Betty Elaine Hoffman  
Tenant: Jean Noggler  
Tenant: Jacqueline Byrd  
Tenant: Tracy Wilson  
Tenant: Tricia Cooper  
Tenant: Rusty Howard  
Tenant: Jamie Brown  
Tenant: Jessica Reyes  
Tenant: Ronald Wiltsey  
#7269 February 19 & 26, 2012

**DONT LET SOMEONE  
MAKE YOUR  
DECISIONS FOR YOU.  
VOTE!**

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: Abilene  
Contract 6230-40-001 for BRIDGE JOINT AND SPALL REPAIR in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on March 22, 2012 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$188,164.46  
Contract 6240-07-001 for ON CALL MBGF CONTRACT in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on March 22, 2012 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$187,547.50  
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: 39330  
State Office  
-----  
Constr./Maint. Division  
200 E. Riverside Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78704  
Phone: 512-416-2540  
Dist/Div Office(s)  
-----  
Abilene District  
District Engineer  
4250 N. Clack  
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150  
Phone: 325-676-6800  
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.  
#7273 February 26 & 27, 2012

Legals

**LEGAL NOTICE:**  
This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on March 18, 2012. You have until September 14, 2012, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1367 Black Onyx 7's** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.84. These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on May 2, 2012. You have until October 29, 2012, to redeem any tickets for these games: **#1373 Season's Greetings** (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.35, **#1374 Armadillo Cash** (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.69, **#1366 Quick 6's** (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.56, **#1371 Holiday Gold** (\$2) overall odds are 1 in 4.23, **#1341 Loteria® Texas** (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 3.99, **#1342 Bonus Break The Bank** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.81, **#1356 Texas Lottery® Black III** (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.32. The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$1,000,000 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-37LOTTO or visit the Lottery Web site at [www.txlottery.org](http://www.txlottery.org) for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A Scratch-Off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. **PLAY RESPONSIBLY.** The Texas Lottery Supports Texas Education.  
#7276 February 26, 2012

Legals

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Donald Herff McGonagill, Deceased, were issued on the February 21, 2012, in Cause No. P-14047, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Nancy Carroll McGonagill.  
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:  
**Nancy Carroll McGonagill**  
1604 Indian Hills  
Big Spring, Texas 79720  
**DATED** the 22nd day of February, 2012.  
Robert D. Miller  
Attorney for  
State Bar No.: 14108500  
608 Scurry  
Big Spring, Tx 79720  
Telephone: (432)267-7449  
Facsimile: (432)267-1043  
#7275 February 26, 2012

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Taurus moon is a hungry moon. Pisces influences overhead could have us confusing different types of hunger. Emotional needs cannot be met through food and drink. Physical hunger can't be satisfied by love and good intentions. Take a moment to assess the need so that you can assign the correct remedy.  
**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You'll feel the elasticity of time. It's almost as though your internal clock is set to a counting system different from the one dictated by the clock on the wall. For this reason, being punctual will take extra effort.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You may feel that your labor output exceeds your job benefits. This will be especially true if you don't even have a job. The rigors of your familial role are sometimes thankless, which makes self-appreciation necessary.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Usually you project your personality in such a way as to give others a solid idea of who you are. You'll benefit from a more private approach now. Making yourself a bit of a mystery will serve you well.  
**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). It is a rare gift to be able to see yourself as



HOLIDAY MATHIS

others see you. You possess this gift. The honest people around you help, too. You'll enjoy ease in relating to others and will create a healthy interpersonal dynamic.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You can't force things to happen, and yet your attention makes a huge difference in the way things develop. So stay alert to the subtle changes taking place around you, and let others know that you're watching.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It will be your pleasure to stave off the creeping malaise that threatens your domestic scene. Proactive attention does the trick. The work you do to make your home beautiful is especially important.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The first answer that comes to mind may not be the correct one. Be willing to go through the entire problem-solving process, which will include some experimentation.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your live-and-let-live attitude makes you attractive to others, and they'll be generous with you, too. There will be a happy balance between what you expect out of your relationships and what you actually receive.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Keep your cool in the midst of upheaval. You may actually enjoy the flurry of activity around you precisely because you don't get caught up in it. Instead of taking risks,

hold off until a storm blows over.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You are a pillar of stability. You sometimes forget that in order to continue to withstand the pressures of day-to-day living, you need love. Hugs and praise are important factors in your well-being.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are inclined to be intolerant of your own mistakes. Where others are concerned, you're more lenient. Treat yourself with the same gentleness you extend to others. Nothing good comes of being too hard on yourself.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Share what you're doing with others and, perhaps more importantly, what you'd like to be doing. Friends will connect you with your next amazing opportunity.  
**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Feb. 26). You'll feel loved this year. Your sense of humor and self-assurance draw expressive people into your world. Family bonds strengthen through March. You'll feel driven to share your skills through the next 10 weeks, and in teaching others, you'll build a lasting legacy. Income grows through July. Cancer and Pisces people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 5, 24, 13 and 19.  
**FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:** Though Pluto is no longer considered a planet by the International Astronomical Union, you

wouldn't know it by the way this ruler of awesome dormant forces stirs things up this week. It's the start of a significant square involving volatile Uranus in the heated sign of Aries. This aspect will reach its peak on June 24, but because of the slow-moving nature of the involved parties, the distant rumblings can already be heard. The global, societal and political quickly become personal, and vice versa. This is an excellent time to try to understand the big picture and get involved in change.  
Wednesday brings a wonderful occurrence, especially for leap year babies and those who love them. To those rare Pisces born on February 29, your special day is a reminder of how intermittent adjustments can keep the world on track. If it weren't for the addition of February 29 once every four years, it would only take 100 years for our calendar to get off track by 24 days. And if it weren't for the fantastically sensitive and compassionate Pisces people born on February 29, the world would be a much different place from what it is today. Happy leap year!  
*If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail.*  
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Legals

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR OIL & GAS WASTE DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT**  
Endeavor Energy Resources, L.P. 110 N. Marienfeld, Ste. 200 Midland, Texas 79701 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation which is not productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the San Andres/Glonetta formation, West Knott SWD, Well Number(s) 1 SWD. The proposed disposal well is located 1.4 Miles West of Knott, Texas, in the Spraberry Trend (Area) field, in Howard County. The waste water will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3340 to 4800 feet.  
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas.  
Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6814).  
#7277 February 26, 2012

Legals

**Sale of Vehicles**  
The Howard County Appraisal District, 315 S. Main Street, Big Spring, Texas will accept sealed Bid proposals for the sale of one (1) 2001 Nissan Exterra for a minimum bid of \$4,500. The odometer mileage reads 70,830, or, one (1) 2005 Ford Truck, for a minimum bid of \$8,000. The odometer mileage reads 99,700. Sealed bids will be accepted until 3:00 P.M. Wednesday, March 14, 2012. Sealed bids will be opened at the Howard County Appraisal District Board of Directors regular meeting on Wednesday, March 14, 2012.  
The vehicles will be sold "as is" without any warranty. The vehicles can be seen at 315 S. Main Street, Big Spring, Texas weekdays between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. If you desire to bid on these vehicles, please send a sealed bid with the envelope clearly marked "BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLE". Any bid received without being clearly marked will be rejected.  
Address your bid to:  
Howard County Appraisal District  
Board of Directors  
P.O. Box Drawer 1151  
Big Spring, TX 79721-1151  
OR bring it by 315 S. Main Street, Big Spring, Texas before 3:00 P.M. March 14, 2012.  
#7274 February 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, and 29, 2012

Annie's Mailbox



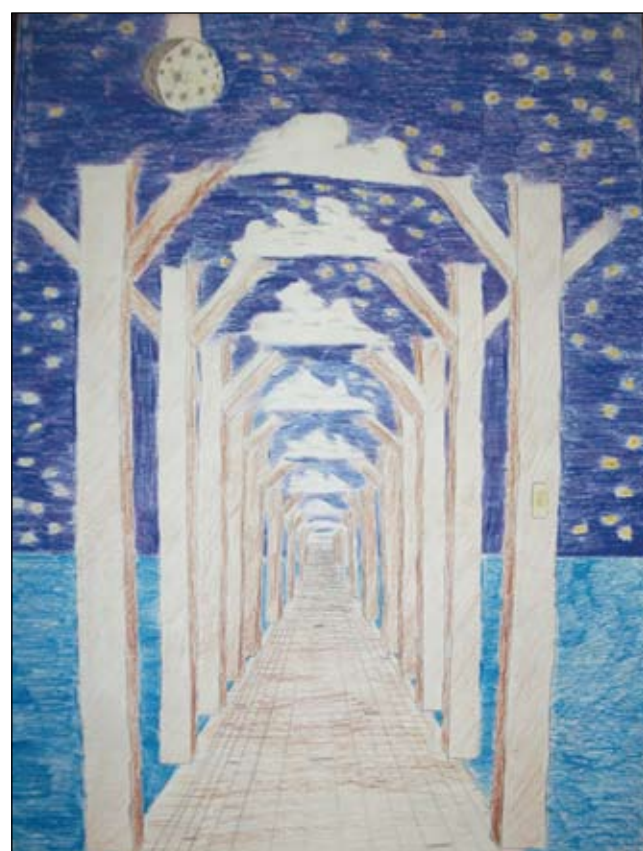
KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

**Dear Annie:** We live in a new neighborhood and take pride in the appearance of our home and yard.  
We were very pleased when new neighbors bought the house next door and moved in.  
Unfortunately, they have a rusting vintage car that's parked in the driveway next to our yard. I can see it from my window every time I look outside.  
Even though they cover it with a tarp, it is an unsightly blot on the neighborhood. Mind you, they neither drive this car nor work on it.  
There is no homeowners association in our area, and while the city has rules about cars parked on the street, there is none for personal driveways.  
How can I tactfully approach these new neighbors and ask that they put the car in their garage to increase the attractiveness of our street? — *Longing for Beauty in the Burbs*  
**Dear Longing:** So you are not actually objecting to the car, which is covered. Rather, you find the tarp unsightly. Instead of making your first interaction with the new neighbors a complaint, bring over some baked goods, and welcome them to the neighborhood.  
Invite them to drop over for coffee. Get to know them well enough to ask about the vintage car and why it's not in the garage. Maybe they'll find a nicer looking tarp so it's less of an eyesore.  
**Dear Annie:** As a child, I remember my mother as a heavily abusive alcoholic. She has been sober for 11 years, but she has slowly started drinking again.  
When she's drunk, she makes vulgar and

belittling comments, which she never does otherwise. After I tell her how much this hurts me, she becomes defensive and acts like she's perfectly OK.  
Being around her when she is even slightly buzzed brings back terrible memories. I have offered to go to AA meetings with her, but she's not interested. My husband has told me I should leave the room when Mom has been drinking.  
Annie, I love my mother with all my heart, but how do I make her understand how much the drinking bothers me and that I wish she would stop?  
I don't want to be her babysitter or tell her how to live her life, but for the sake of my family, how do I get through to her? — *Distraught Daughter*  
**Dear Distraught:** You can't get through if she is determined not to hear you. You do not need to be around your mother when she is drinking. But this is understandably difficult for you, and we think you could use some support. Please contact Al-Anon ([al-anon.alateen.org](http://al-anon.alateen.org)) and also Adult Children of Alcoholics ([adultchildren.org](http://adultchildren.org)).  
**Dear Annie:** Like Road Worrier, I was worried

about my 88-year-old father's driving. When I went with him to the DMV, I was sure they would not renew his license. However, when he couldn't see the chart, the DMV employee said, "We have a different chart for older folks who can't see that well."  
And when he failed the written exam, he was told, "You were probably confused. I'll tell you the answer." So he passed.  
I spoke to his doctor, who refused to get involved. So, right before my father turned 90, I took away the keys to his car and said we'd drive him wherever he wanted to go.  
Tell "Road Worrier" to put on her big-girl panties and take care of her own problem however she needs to. — *M.*  
**Dear M.:** We're glad taking away the car keys worked for you, but it doesn't work for everyone. It helps when those in charge of issuing licenses take their jobs — and the safety issues involved — seriously.  
**To our Baha'i Readers:** Happy Ayyam-i-Ha.  
*Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*  
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# BSHS art on display



## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker  
**Luck Takes a Hand**

South dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ A J 10 6 5  
♥ 6  
♦ A Q 9  
♣ A 8 5 3

**WEST**  
♠ 9 2  
♥ A Q J 7 4 2  
♦ 8 3  
♣ 10 9 6

**EAST**  
♠ Q 7  
♥ 10 9 8 3  
♦ J 5 4  
♣ K J 7 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ K 8 4 3  
♥ K 5  
♦ K 10 7 6 2  
♣ Q 4

The bidding:  
**South** 1 NT  
**West** Pass  
**North** 2♦  
**East** Pass

Opening lead — ten of clubs.  
**How much luck is there** in duplicate bridge? Certainly not much over the long haul, since luck tends to even out over a period of time. But on a given occasion, it is possible to be extremely lucky — or unlucky — even though exactly the same hands are played at the various tables.

**Consider this deal** from a team-of-four match. At the first table, South, supposedly playing weak opening one-notrump bids with a range of 12 to 14 points, decided to

open his 11-count with one notrump. **North**, using a special form of Stayman, responded with two diamonds, asking South to bid a four-card major suit if he had one. When South bid two spades, North took the bull by the horns and raised to slam.

**This tenuous contract** proved to be unbeatable. West led the ten of clubs, and declarer went up with the ace, played the K-A of trumps, then cashed five diamond tricks, discarding a heart and a club from dummy. South eventually lost a club trick, and so scored 980 points.

**Note that it would not** have helped West to lead the heart ace instead of a club. In that case, declarer would have scored 12 tricks consisting of five spades, five diamonds, a heart and a club.

**At the other table**, the bidding went:  
**South** Pass  
**West** Pass  
**North** 1♦  
**East** Pass

**Here North became declarer** at six spades, and East led the ten of hearts. As a result, the slam went down one because North had to lose a heart and a club regardless of how he played. The rub of the green, you might say, but that's what you sometimes run into in duplicate bridge.

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

## Molly

Continued from Page 3B

them. He needs to break up with her, and he needs to take away the key to his house, if he ever gave her one, or better yet change the locks. He needs to keep his dog safely in the house unless he is actually with the dog, because if this woman wants revenge, she will take it out on the dog.

I would be very, very afraid of this woman. If she was in my life I would move out of the state if necessary to get away from her.

Anonymous

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. Catch her daily relationship and advice column "Molly Mason- Let's Talk Love" on www.austin.com and "Straight Talk" in print. You can contact Molly at mollymasonst@gmail.com.



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### sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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# HOWARD COLLEGE

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new time-saving software app that comes down the pike and laughs at the idea of ever sending another fax.

"Ahh, that's just so archaic," she says.

Meanwhile, as companies have downsized, boomers have been hurt to some degree by their own sheer numbers, says Ed Lawler of the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business.

The oldest ones, Lawler says, aren't retiring, and more and more the youngest members of the generation ahead of them aren't either. It's no longer uncommon, he says, for people to work until 70.

"People who would have normally been out of the workforce are still there, taking jobs that would have gone to what we now call the unemployed," he said.

John Stewart of Springfield, Mo., sees himself becoming part of that new generation that never stops working.

"No, I don't see myself retiring," says Stewart, who is media director for a large church. "I think I would be bored if I just all of a sudden quit

everything and did whatever it is retired people do."

Then there are the financial considerations. Like many boomers, the 60-year-old acknowledges he didn't put enough aside when he was younger.

For more than 30 years, Stewart ran his own photography business, doing everything from studio portraits to illustrating annual reports for hospitals and other large corporations to freelancing for national magazines and newspapers.

As the news media began to struggle, the magazine and newspaper work dried up. As the economy tanked, his large corporate clients began to use cheaper stock photos purchased online rather than hire him to take new ones. Eventually he took his current job, producing videos of pastors' sermons and photos for church publications. He says he is glad to be one boomer to make a late career change and keep working.

"There were times when the money was really rolling in," he says of his old business. "But somehow retirement wasn't really in the forefront of my thinking then, so saving for it wasn't an automatic thing."

Steve Wyard of Los Angeles says he and his wife have planned carefully for retirement.

He's worked for 30 years for a company that sells and services commercial washers and dryers, and she's been with a health maintenance organization for even longer. They've invested cautiously, lived in the same house for decades and meticulously paid down the mortgage.

Plus he's one of the few boomers who figures that, no matter what technology comes along, his job won't go away.

"Everyone has to do the laundry," he says.

Still, he and his wife have two sons, 19 and 21, to put through college, and Wyard, 61, sees that pushing back retirement for several years.

Until then he plans to keep work-

ing, which is what every physically able boomer should consider doing, says USC's Lawler.

Union membership, which has been declining for years, now includes only about 10 percent of all eligible U.S. employees, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Meanwhile, the number of defined benefit retirement funds offered by private enterprise have fallen from about one in three employers in 1990 to about one in five in 2005.

With unions no longer in a strong position to fight for benefits like pensions, with jobs disappearing or going overseas, and with Gen. Xers and even younger Millennial Generation members coveting their jobs, Lawler warns this is no time for boomers to quit and allow the skills they've spent a lifetime building to atrophy.

"My advice is above all don't retire," he says. "If you like your job at all, hold onto it. Because getting back in in this era is essentially impossible."

—John Rogers, the Associated Press



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Supplement To The Big Spring Herald Sunday, February 26, 2012

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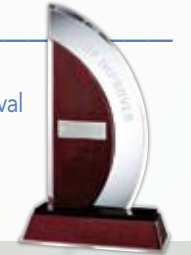
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# Work until you drop

## Job health not so secure for aging boomers

LOS ANGELES — When Paula Symons joined the U.S. workforce in 1972, typewriters in her office clacked nonstop, people answered the telephones and the hot new technology revolutionizing communication was the fax machine.

Symons, fresh out of college, entered this brave new world thinking she'd do pretty much what her parents' generation did: Work for just one or two companies over about 45 years before bidding farewell to co-workers at a retirement party and heading off into her sunset years with a pension.

Forty years into that run, the 60-year-old communications specialist for a Wisconsin-based insurance company has worked more



than a half-dozen jobs. She's been laid off, downsized and seen the pension disappear with only a few thousand dollars accrued when it was frozen.

So, five years from the age when people once retired, she laughs when she describes her future plans.

"I'll probably just work until I drop," she says, a sentiment expressed, with varying degrees of humor, by numerous members of her age group.

Like 78 million other U.S. Baby

Boomers, Symons and her husband had the misfortune of approaching retirement age at a time when stock market crashes diminished their 401K nest eggs, companies began eliminating defined benefit pensions in record numbers and previously unimagined technical advances all but eliminated entire job descriptions from travel agent to telephone operator.

At the same time, companies began moving other jobs overseas, to be filled by people willing to work for far less and still able to connect to the U.S. market in real time.

"The paradigm has truly shifted. Now when you're looking for a job you're competing in a world where the competition isn't just the guy

down the street, but the guy sitting in a cafe in Hong Kong or Mumbai," says Bill Vick, a Dallas-based executive recruiter who started Boomer'sNextStep.com in an effort to help Baby Boomers who want to stay in the workforce.

Not only has the paradigm shifted, but as it has the generation whose mantra used to be, "Don't trust anyone over 30," finds itself now being looked on with distrust by younger Generation X managers who question whether boomers have the high-tech skills or even the stamina to do what needs to be done.

"I always have the feeling that I have to prove my value all the time. That I'm not some old relic who doesn't understand social media or can't learn some new technique," says Symons, who is active on Twitter, Facebook, loves every

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### Take a Ride

To get a clear picture of your dad's driving abilities, the first thing you need to do is take a ride with him, watching for problem areas. For example: Does he drive too slow or too fast? Does he tailgate or drift between lanes? Does he have difficulty seeing, backing up or changing lanes? Does he react slowly? Does he get distracted or confused easily? Also, has your dad had any fender benders or tickets lately, or have you noticed any dents or scrapes on his vehicle? These, too, are red flags.

### Start Talking

After your assessment, you need to have a talk with your dad about your concerns, but don't sound alarmed. If you begin with a dramatic outburst like "Dad, you're going to kill someone!"

you're likely to trigger resistance. Start by gently expressing that you're worried about his safety.

For tips on how to talk to your dad about this touchy topic, the Hartford Financial Services Group and MIT AgeLab offers some guides titled "Family Conversations with Older Drivers" and "Family Conversations about Alzheimer's Disease, Dementia & Driving" that can help, along with an online seminar called "We Need to Talk" that was produced by AARP. To access these free resources, visit [safedrivingforalifetime.com](http://safedrivingforalifetime.com).

Like many elderly seniors, your dad may not even realize his driving skills have slipped. If this is the case, consider signing him up for an older driver refresher course through AARP ([aarp.org/drive](http://aarp.org/drive), 888-227-7669), your local AAA or a driving school.

By becoming aware of his



AP photo

### An 88-year old woman cries in grief after pleading guilty to vehicular homicide in the death of a 4-year-old.

driving limitations, your dad may be able to make some simple adjustments – like driving only in daylight or on familiar routes – that can help keep him safe and driving longer. Or, he may decide to hang up the keys

on his own.

### Refuses To Quit

If, however, you believe your dad has reached the point that he can no longer drive safely, but he refuses to quit, you have several options. One possible solution is to suggest a visit to his doctor who can give him a medical evaluation, and if warranted, "prescribe" that he stops driving. Older people will often listen to their doctor before they will listen to their own family.

If that doesn't do it, ask him to get a comprehensive driving evaluation done by a driver rehabilitation specialist – this can cost several hundred dollars. A driving evaluation will test your dad's cognition, vision and motor skills, as well as his on-road driving abilities. To locate a specialist in your area, contact the Association of

Driver Rehabilitation Specialists ([driver-ed.org](http://driver-ed.org), 866-672-9466) or the American Occupational Therapy Association ([aota.org/older-driver](http://aota.org/older-driver)).

If he still refuses to move to the passenger seat, call your local Department of Motor Vehicles to see if they can help. Or, call in an attorney to discuss with your dad the potential financial and legal consequences of a crash or injury. If all else fails, you may just have to take away his keys.

### Arrange Transportation

Once your dad stops driving he's going to need other ways to get around, so help him create a list of names and phone numbers of family, friends and local transportation services that he can call on. To locate community transportation services call the Area Agency on Aging. Call 800-677-1116 for contact information.

# Being healthy is all about positive choices

This edition of the Health and Medical Edition features columns by local professionals, available mental health services and a segment aimed at senior citizens. It is hoped that the information provided here will prompt those with health needs to seek help and for those who are enjoying good health to continue doing so. As always, good health — and preventative health — revolves around exercise and a good diet. Here are some ideas from [healthfinder.gov](http://healthfinder.gov) to get you going:

### Help a loved one get more active

Lots of people struggle to fit physical activity into their busy lives. If someone you care about is having a hard time getting active, you can help. Here are some tips to get you started.

- Suggest activities you can do together.
- Start small. Try taking a walk after dinner twice a week, or do sit-ups while you watch TV.
- Mix it up. Learn new stretches and warm-up exercises.
- Sign up for a fitness class together. Choose an activity that's new for both of you.
- Make it part of your regular routine. Meet up at the gym or YMCA on your way home from work.
- Give up a TV show to make time for activity.

- Wake up a few minutes earlier to go for a brisk walk together before breakfast.
- Walk or ride your bike to the store or coffee shop.
- Be understanding.

### What are your loved one's reasons for not being more active? Maybe she feels overwhelmed or embarrassed. Ask what you can do to be supportive.

- Recognize small efforts.
- Be patient. Change takes time.
- Offer encouragement and praise. ("You did a great job with your sit-ups today!")
- Point out positive choices. ("I'm glad we decided to walk to the park instead of drive.")
- Choose healthy gifts.

### For birthdays or special rewards, choose gifts to encourage your loved one to exercise. Some ideas include:

- New sneakers or workout clothes
- A basketball or balance ball
- Hand weights
- Pedometer
- Gift certificate to a gym or exercise class
- For more information about increasing physical activity, visit: <http://www.health.gov/paguidelines/adultguide/default.aspx>

### Stay active as you get older

Physical activity is good for people of all ages. Staying active can help: Prevent heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, and some types of cancer. Improve your strength and balance so you can stay independent. Reduce symptoms of depression. Before you begin...

If you have a health problem like heart disease, diabetes, or obesity, talk to your doctor about starting an exercise program. Aim for 2 hours and 30 minutes a week of moderate aerobic activities. Choose activities that make your heart beat faster, like walking fast, dancing, or raking leaves. Start slowly — as little as 10 minutes at a time. Build up to 30 minutes on most days of the week, at least 10 minutes at a time. Tell your doctor if you have shortness of breath, chest pain, or unplanned weight loss.

### Do strengthening activities 2 days a week.

Try using exercise bands or lifting hand weights. You can also use cans of food as weights. Breathe out as you lift something, and breathe in as you relax. Holding your breath can cause changes in your blood pressure.

### Do balance activities 3 or more days a week.

Practice standing on one foot. Stand up from a sitting position. Learn tai chi ("ty chee"), a Chinese mind-body exercise that involves moving the body slowly and gently. Sign up for a yoga class, or try a yoga video that you can do at home. For more information about staying active as you get older, visit:

<http://go4life.niapublications.org/get-started>  
<http://nihseniorhealth.gov/exerciseforall-deradults/toc.html>

### What are the benefits of physical activity?

Physical activity increases your chances of living longer. Exercise can also help: Control your blood pressure, blood sugar, and weight. Raise your "good" cholesterol. Prevent heart disease, colorectal cancer, and type 2 diabetes.

### Being more active can:

- Be fun
- Help you look your best
- Improve your sleep
- Make your bones, muscles, and joints stronger
- Lower your chances of becoming depressed
- Reduce falls and arthritis pain
- Help you feel better about yourself

### How much aerobic activity do I need each week?

If you choose moderate activities, do at least 2 hours and 30 minutes a week. Moderate activities include things like walking fast, dancing, and raking leaves. If you choose vigorous activities, do at least 1 hour and 15 minutes a week. Vigorous activities include things like jogging, jumping rope, swimming laps, or riding a bike on hills. Do moderate or vigorous aerobic activity for at least 10 minutes at a time. You can also combine moderate and vigorous activities. If you have a health condition, be as active as you can be.

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# Veterans Corner

By JIM VINES

February 1, the Department of Veterans Affairs marked its one-year anniversary of the toll-free National VA Caregiver Support Line, 1-855-260-3274. The support line's dedicated staff has helped more than 25,000 veterans, family members and caregivers connect to resources and receive access to services they have earned.

The VA recognizes the importance of caregivers to veterans' health and well being. They also recognize the sacrifices the daily care of veterans requires. It is the care and commitment of caregivers that allow veterans with chronic illnesses or severe injuries to remain in the homes they defended, surrounded by

the loved ones they hold dear.

Since the program began, the caregiver support line has received thousands of calls and email questions through the VA's main page, [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). Local caregiver support coordinators at each VA medical center have responded to more than 8,000 referrals.

Callers to the support line are spouses, children, other family members and friends of veterans, as well as veterans themselves. Caregivers support line responders listen to the callers and assess how best to offer support, appropriate direction and connection to needed resources.

Responders serve as a resource for caregivers by providing guidance, education on VA programs and

## Health & Medical

benefits, information on community resources and emotional support through brief supportive counseling, if needed. The support line responders can also connect callers to the VA's other support lines such as the VA Veteran Crisis Line, 1-800-273-8255 and Coaching Into Care Line, 1-888-823-7458, when these lines better meet the caller's needs.

If a caregiver or veteran who calls the line needs additional guidance, a referral is made to a local caregiver support coordinator, located at every VA medical center, who is the key contact for caregivers at the VA and expert in VA and community programs available to veterans and their family caregivers.

Veterans and caregivers can reach the VA Caregiver Support Line toll free at 855-260-3274. Operating hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

ET, and 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, on Saturdays (an hour earlier for CT). The VA also features a web page, [www.caregiver.va.gov](http://www.caregiver.va.gov), with general information on other caregiver support programs available through the VA and the community. Building upon a 66-year partnership with the states, the Department of Veterans Affairs has signed a formal agreement with the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs to enhance their relationship. Secretary Eric Shinseki signed the agreement Feb. 13, 2012, during the NASDVA mid-winter conference in Alexandria, Va.

State agencies are invaluable partners in providing services to veterans. This historic collaboration with NASDVA has ensured that countless veterans receive the benefits they deserve and have earned.

## February 26, 2012

This agreement pledges the two groups maintain effective communications, an exchange of ideas and information, identification of emerging needs, and continuous reevaluation of existing programs. NASDVA represents veterans affairs in dealings with the VA and veterans residing in their respective states. The states fund about \$5 billion in benefits and services for veterans.

The involvement of state governments in veterans affairs goes back to the American Revolution, with the federal government becoming involved after the Civil War. In 1946, NASDVA was created to coordinate programs between the VA and the states, territories and the District of Columbia.

*Jim Vines is commander of AmVets Post 133 in Mineral Wells. Email, [jim.helpingveterans@gmail.com](mailto:jim.helpingveterans@gmail.com).*

## February 26, 2012

# S THE SAVVY SENIOR



Dear Savvy Senior,

Can you write a column on the shameful crime of elder abuse? I've worked for Adult Protective Services for many years, and it seems like this ongoing problem doesn't get enough attention.

Concerned Citizen

Dear Concerned,

I certainly can! Elder abuse is an immense and often hidden problem that all Americans need to be aware of so they can recognize it, and know what to do if they suspect a problem.

According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, around 3.5 million seniors are victims of abuse, but research suggests that this crime is significantly under-reported and under-identified. Fewer than 1-in-6 cases of elder abuse ever get reported to the authorities because the victims are usually too afraid, too embarrassed, too helpless or too trusting to call for help.

The term "elder abuse" is defined as intentional or negligent acts by a caregiver or trusted individual that causes, or can cause, harm to a vulnerable senior. Elder abuse also comes in many different forms: physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse, abandonment, neglect and self-neglect, and financial exploitation which has increased significantly over the past few years because of the sour economy.

Those most vulnerable are seniors that are ill, frail, disabled, socially isolated or mentally im-

paired due to dementia or Alzheimer's disease.

It's also important to know that while elder abuse does happen in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, the vast majority of incidents take place at home where the senior lives. And tragically, the abusers are most often their own family members (usually the victim's adult child or spouse) or caregiver.

### Recognizing Elder Abuse

So how can you tell if a friend or your loved one is being abused, and what can you do to help?

A change in general behavior is a universal warning sign that a problem exists. If your elder friend or loved one becomes withdrawn or gets upset or agitated easily, you need to start asking questions. Here are some additional warning signs on the different types of elder abuse that can help you spot a possible problem.

- Physical or sexual abuse: Suspicious bruises or other injuries that can't be explained. Sudden changes in behavior (upset, withdrawn, fearful). Broken eyeglasses. Caregiver's refusal to allow visitors to see an elder alone.
- Emotional or psychological abuse (insults, intimidation, threats, social isolation): The elder is extremely upset, agitated, withdrawn, unresponsive, fearful or depressed, or demonstrates some other unusual behavior.
- Neglect or self-neglect: Malnourishment, weight loss, unattended medical needs, poor

## Health & Medical

hygiene, unsanitary and unsafe living conditions.

• Financial exploitation: Missing money or valuables. Unexplained withdrawals from bank accounts, or transfers between accounts. Unauthorized use of credit, debit or ATM card. Unpaid bills despite available funds. Checks written as a loan or gift. Abrupt changes in a will or other documents.

### What to Do

The best ways to help prevent elder abuse is to be in touch, and keep the lines of communication open. If you suspect any type of elder abuse or neglect, report it to your local protective services agency.

Adult Protective Services is the government agency responsible for investigating cases and providing help and guidance. Call the Eldercare Locator at 800-677-1116 or visit the National Center on Elder Abuse website ([ncea.aoa.gov](http://ncea.aoa.gov)) to get the agency contact number in your area.

If however, you feel the person is in immediate danger, call 911 or the local police for immediate help.

Dear Savvy Senior,


I'm worried about my father's driving. At age 84, his driving skills have diminished significantly, but I know he's bound and determined to keep going as long as he's alive. What tips can you recommend that can help me help my dad stop driving?

Nervous Daughter

Dear Nervous,

For many families, telling an elderly parent it's time to give up the car keys is a very sensitive and difficult topic. While there's no one simple way to handle this issue, here are a number of tips and resources you can try to help ease your dad away from driving.

## Senior health



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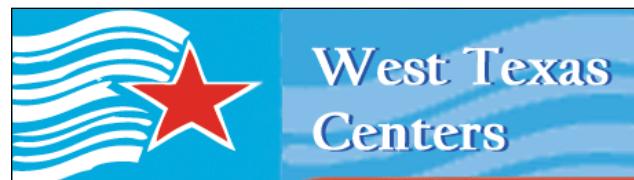
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# West Texas Centers provides help for 2,000-plus individuals

West Texas Centers began operations on March 1, 1997, and continues to serve as the designated local authority for mental health and intellectual and developmental disabilities through a contractual relationship with the Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services and Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services.

The Center provides a wide array of mental health and intellectual and developmental disabilities services in approximately 35 sites across the service area to more than 2,300 individuals through the dedication of approximately 330 staff. Although administrative offices are located at 319 Runnels in Big Spring, local offices are established throughout most of the catchment area.

West Texas Centers serves 23 counties in rural West Texas: Andrews, Borden, Crane, Dawson, Fisher, Gaines, Garza, Glasscock, Howard,



Kent, Loving, Martin, Mitchell, Nolan, Reeves, Runnels, Scurry, Terrell, Terry, Upton, Ward, Winkler and Yoakum.

In addition to services for people with mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities, the Center is host to an Early Childhood Intervention program that is known as Little Lives ECI Program. This program serves children ages 0-3 years old who are developmentally delayed. The ECI site is located at 1104 Henderson in Sweetwater. The phone number is 325-236-6821.

Services can include, but are not limited to, the following: early identification, screening and assessment, assistive technology, audiology, family counseling and education and nursing.

West Texas Centers' 15 mental health clinics serve a large geographic area throughout West Texas. Treatment is provided to help people recover from mental illness and enable them to continue in their jobs, be with their families and remain in the community. Services are provided to people who have serious mental illness and/or have difficulty with daily functioning due to mental illness.

Some of the services provided are 24-hour mental health crisis hotlines, case management, psychiatric evaluations and consultations, medication management and supported housing. The 24-hour Mental Health Crisis Hotline number is 1-800-375-4357

West Texas Centers' goal in providing mental health services to children is with the hope of providing treatment to bring stability

to children, adolescents and their families experiencing difficulty due to a mental health disorder. Services include psychiatric evaluations and screenings, case management, medication monitoring and family counseling.

The Centers' Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Centers offer help and support to hundreds of people with IDD. Intake workers and psychologists determine the eligibility for services. Intellectual and developmental disabilities services provided include day programming, employment assistance, service coordination, nursing, nutrition and occupational therapy.

West Texas Centers is fully committed to the efforts of obtaining local input in designing the organization and service delivery structure. In an effort to implement this process, the Center has established a Planning and Network Advisory Council to advise the Center's management and board of trustees.

# Is your mouth making you sick?

Is your mouth making you sick?

How about your baby, child, spouse or parent? At every phase of life, what's going on with your teeth, gums, jaw muscles and throat can negatively affect you in surprising ways.

Comfort, quality of life, general health, even length of life can be significantly affected.



DR. DAVID WARD

Severe tooth decay in toddlers is rampant and causes more than 500 operating room cases a year at Scenic Mountain alone to repair the devastation.

In young children, narrow upper jaw shape, can affect face development, cause snoring and even sleep apnea. Sleep apnea in kids often results in bed wetting, restricted body growth, nightmares and even learning disabilities.

In teenagers, not all wisdom teeth are bad. Some wisdom teeth, and occasionally other unerupted (not yet in the mouth) teeth, can produce pain, swelling, infection or even cysts. Certain of these cysts can cause major damage to the jaw bone or adjacent teeth, and a few can become cancerous.

In older teens and adults, many common migraine and tension headaches are either caused or worsened by clenching of the teeth while sleeping, and to a lesser extent while awake.

These are often easily prevented with an FDA approved, effective dental device.

In the same group, TMJ (jaw joint or muscle) pain is almost exclusively caused by nighttime, and to a lesser extent daytime, grinding and clenching of the teeth. Symptoms are normally reduced fairly easily with conservative treatment.

Obstructive Sleep Apnea in adults can cause snoring, high blood pressure, headaches, insomnia, gastric reflux, depression, poor concentration, daytime sleepiness, impotence or lack of sex drive, and premature death. Oral appliances, which position the lower jaw forward to open the airway, are often extremely effective in reducing snoring and sleep apnea and are better tolerated than CPAP.

Oral cancer kills more each year than skin or cervical cancer. Even those who survive are usually severely disfigured. Risk factors include smoking,

drinking, and orally acquired genital human papilloma virus (HPV).

Gum disease is the most common cause of chronic bad breath. It is usually easily treated in its early stages. Signs are red, puffy, or bleeding gums.

Severe gum disease destroys the bone around the teeth is the most common cause of tooth loss leading to dentures.

Dentures, while they can look good, and are better for chewing than no teeth, are poor substitutes for real teeth. People with dentures eat softer, more fattening, less healthy foods causing them to have poorer nutrition while being more overweight.

Severe gum disease, like tooth decay, can be contagious.

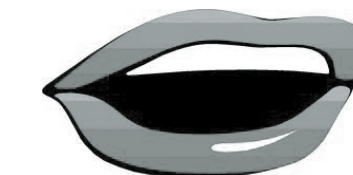
Severe gum disease makes blood sugar control more difficult in diabetics and diabetics are more likely to have gum disease.

Severe gum disease has

been associated with higher rates of heart disease, stroke, and Alzheimer's disease. It does not cause these problems, but it may make them more likely.

That's an overview of the connection between your mouth and the rest of your body. If you, or a loved one, have any of these issues please talk to a dentist about solutions. Your mouth does indeed affect the rest of your body.

Dr. David Ward practices comprehensive family dentistry in Big Spring. These subjects are also covered in more detail in previous Herald articles posted on his website at [www.DavidWardDDS.com](http://www.DavidWardDDS.com).



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Did you know that...?

Gum disease is a risk factor for premature birth and low birth weight babies.

Tooth decay (actually the bacteria that cause it) is contagious. The children are usually infected by their mother in their early years.

Tooth decay is the most common childhood disease, causing much pain and ex-

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# Here's 10 tips to a healthier plate

Making food choices for a healthy lifestyle can be as simple as using these 10 tips from the U.S. Agriculture Department. Use the ideas in this list to balance your calories, to choose foods to eat more often, and to cut back on foods to eat less often.

## 1 balance calories

Find out how many calories you need for a day as a first step in managing your weight. Go to [www.ChooseMyPlate.gov](http://www.ChooseMyPlate.gov) to find your calorie level. Being physically active also helps you balance calories.

## 2 enjoy your food, but eat less

Take the time to fully enjoy your food as you eat it. Eating too fast or when your attention is elsewhere may lead to eating too many calories. Pay attention to hunger and fullness cues before, during, and after meals. Use them to recognize when to eat and when

you've had enough.

## 3 avoid oversized portions

Use a smaller plate, bowl, and glass. Portion out foods before you eat. When eating out, choose a smaller size option, share a dish, or take home part of your meal.

## 4 foods to eat more often

Eat more vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and fat-free or 1% milk and dairy products. These foods have the nutrients you need for health — including potassium, calcium, vitamin D, and fiber. Make them the basis for meals and snacks.

## 5 make half your plate fruits and vegetables

Choose red, orange, and dark-green vegetables like tomatoes, sweet po-

tatoes, and broccoli, along with other vegetables for your meals. Add fruit to meals as part of main or side dishes or as dessert.

## 6 switch to fat-free or low-fat (1%) milk

They have the same amount of calcium and other essential nutrients as whole milk, but fewer calories and less saturated fat.

## 7 make half your grains whole grains

To eat more whole grains, substitute a whole-grain product for a refined product — such as eating whole wheat bread instead of white bread or brown rice instead of white rice.

## 8 foods to eat less often

Cut back on foods high in solid fats,

added sugars, and salt. They include cakes, cookies, ice cream, candies, sweetened drinks, pizza, and fatty meats like ribs, sausages, bacon, and hot dogs. Use these foods as occasional treats, not everyday foods.

## 9 compare sodium in foods

Use the Nutrition Facts label to choose lower sodium versions of foods like soup, bread, and frozen meals. Select canned foods labeled "low sodium," "reduced sodium," or "no salt added."

## 10 drink water instead of sugary drinks

Cut calories by drinking water or unsweetened beverages. Soda, energy drinks, and sports drinks are a major source of added sugar, and calories, in American diets.

# Mental Health: BSSH provides high quality care

Big Spring State Hospital — a state-owned and managed hospital operating since 1939 — continued its commitment in 2011 to providing high-quality care for people with mental illness in West Texas and the Texas South Plains.

The 200-bed hospital is one of 11 state hospitals in the state of Texas operated by the Texas Department of State Health Services, caring for a large geographic region spanning from the Texas Panhandle down to San Angelo, west to El Paso and east to Abilene.

The hospital is run by a professional staff who have immeasurable experience treating patients in a psychiatric setting and possess a longstanding commitment to the region's patients and their care.

Many of the members of the professional staff are long-time employees — they found psychiatric care at an early age and stayed with it, nurturing their knowledge and education, often attending conferences and training sessions emphasizing cutting-edge ideas to keep up with the best and latest in psychiatric care.

The staff is long-standing

because of the commitment the hospital and its administration shows to its workforce, cultivating entry-level workers and guiding them to careers in nursing or other specializations. Many employees have applied and received stipends, grants and incentives to continue their education and return to the hospital to share their knowledge with patients who benefit from their expanded base of understanding of their disease.

The professional team of physicians, nurses, social workers, dietitians and physical and occupational therapists are complemented by an administrative team well-versed in the financial operations of running a hospital and a support staff committed to working in a hospital setting.

Big Spring State Hospital has been cited as one of the leaders in mental health care in the state of Texas and has received many best practice awards from the Department of State Health Services for its innovative care.

Presently, the emphasis is placed on quality treatment

to shorten the period of illness, to rehabilitate, and to return the patient to the community as quickly as possible. In order to do this, treatment modalities have expanded to include a full range of rehabilitation therapies, education, individual and group psychotherapy, and family intervention as an adjunct to medication. Patients who come to the hospital are treated not only for their psychiatric problems, but also for any problem needing medical attention.

Big Spring State Hospital has been certified as a Mother-Friendly Worksite and boasts an active workforce who immerses themselves in charitable organizations, such as the highly popular American Cancer Society's Relay For Life fund-raiser.

The Volunteer Services Council provides tens of thousands of dollars in volunteer-generated income to the patients from sources ranging from the highly successful Chalet Resale Shop, which collects, sorts and sells used clothing and gently used household items to the social event of the spring season — the Cars, Stars and Handlebars fund-raiser



Courtesy photo  
Big Spring State Hospital employees take part in a training session.

at the Big Spring Country Club. Also, many members of the community, including the Lions Club and area businesses, such as Alon USA, help the patients celebrate the holiday season by donating time, finances and resources to ring in the holidays for patients who are away from family members during the season.

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**The Area Agency on Aging is always in need of volunteers. Please contact 432-563-1061 or 1-800-491-4636 for more information on volunteer opportunities.**

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# Massage therapy: Natural pain relief

We all know today's stress and pain levels are at an all-time high. For those looking for natural relief, research has shown professional massage therapy is a time-honored method that, in many cases, can relieve and manage chronic and acute pain. It can also promote a greater level of health and well-being.



SHARON  
M. SMITH

Many people view massage as a "luxury." However, when you compare the cost of other types of care, the cost of massage can be manageable. Some insurance companies are covering the cost of therapeutic massage given by licensed professionals.

Here are some facts for consumers seeking massage therapy. All individuals in the State of Texas who provide massage must have completed a program approved by the Texas Department of State Health Services and have passed both written and clinical exams. All written advertising must include their license number. You can check to see if an individual you are considering has a current Texas license to practice massage at [http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/massage/mt\\_search.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/massage/mt_search.shtm)

Those who seek stress relief and relaxation will benefit from what is known as Swedish massage, which is a light to moderate type of massage. Others who seek natural pain relief will benefit from other specialized types of massage which include compression, trigger points, and neuromuscular work. Pain relief can be enhanced by the use of smooth heated stones, thera-

peutic blends of pain-relieving essential oils and cupping therapy. Cupping therapy is an excellent method for getting rid of tight knotted muscle pain and increasing blood supply to painful areas. It is a comfortable and effective method that has been used in other countries for many years.

Those seeking pain relief should look for a therapist who is familiar in dealing with those problems. This requires advanced training beyond graduation from massage school and takes years of experience for best and long-lasting results. An experienced therapist must also be able to recognize when massage is not advised, or contraindicated, and let the client



know this, too, as there are some medical conditions where massage must not be performed.

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations has suggested massage therapy as one means of managing pain without the use of medications. As the "baby boomers" grow older and seek alternative ways to enjoy good health, massage therapy is sure to become more valuable. Massage is good for all ages as well, from mothers-to-be to seniors.

So, try a massage for yourself and see how much better you can feel!

*Sharon M. Smith, LMT, is the owner of Tranquility Professional Massage in the 1300 block of Scurry.*

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# HEALTH TALK

**Q: I'm afraid that if I quit smoking I'll gain weight. Is there some way around this?**

**A:** Modest weight gain is not unusual when someone quits smoking, but it is not universal. And if you do gain a little weight, the multiple health benefits of getting away from tobacco are worth it.

Still, it's a valid concern, and researchers are studying what people might do to avoid or limit weight gain related to smoking cessation. Nicotine raises your metabolic (calorie-burning) rate, so when you quit smoking your rate drops back to normal. The impact on metabolic rate might amount to burning about 200 calories less per day on average.

Physical activity can be a helpful tool to address this. Two or three 10- or 15-minute blocks of activity should burn up enough calories to compensate for that drop in metabolic rate. In addition, by reducing stress and improving mood, regular exercise can decrease emotion-based eating. A study is underway to test potential help from yoga.



KAREN  
COLLINS  
MS, RD, CDN

Yoga normally does not burn as many calories as more active exercise, but by reducing stress it could help with eating behavior or through regulating stress-related hormones to reduce weight gain.

Another strategy to fight weight gain is to address a common tendency to eat when you would have smoked, which increases calorie consumption. Cravings for foods high in sugar or fat may grow, and snacks are typically a major source of additional calories. Some people find the urge to smoke or overeat easier to handle if they eat small amounts of food several times a day to avoid letting their blood sugar drop too low. The key is to choose balanced snacks, not just sweets or chips.

Studies suggest that addressing both habit change and counter-productive thinking patterns can be helpful. For help with quitting healthfully go to [www.smokefree.gov](http://www.smokefree.gov) for information, tools and support. You can do it!

**Q: Can exercise reduce my risk of prostate cancer?**

**A:** There's no question that getting regular physical activity is the smart move for overall health, but research is not clear yet about whether it affects risk of prostate

cancer.

Although animal studies suggest there could be some benefit, three large population studies do not show any decrease in prostate cancer risk linked to physical activity.

Prostate cancer is a complex disease that comes in different forms and generally develops over many years; some of these studies hint that physical activity may reduce risk of the more aggressive form of the disease, or that benefit may come from activity that is more vigorous or at particular times of life.

Stay-tuned on this subject, but meanwhile, don't wait to get active, since evidence is strong that it can decrease risk of colorectal cancer, one of the top three cancers in men.

For those who have prostate cancer, evidence is good and growing stronger that exercise is important to decrease side effects of cancer treatment — especially androgen deprivation treatment — on heart, bone and overall health.

Strength-training (resistance) exercise is often recommended to decrease the rapid loss of muscle

that can occur with this treatment. Prostate cancer patients should discuss with their physician what might be appropriate for their needs.

**Q: Are pedometers all the same, or what should someone look for before making a purchase?**

**A:** Walking and other forms of physical activity now appear vital to lower risk of heart disease, cancer, diabetes and high blood pressure. And studies support the value of pedometers (step counters) in helping people meet healthy activity goals.

But your question is important, because pedometers are not all alike. You can find pedometers for less than five dollars or as promotional giveaways. These can be fun to use as you make goals and track progress, but most are not highly accurate and may last only a month or two to get your walking habit started. If you plan to use a pedometer for a longer time either daily or periodically and want better accuracy, plan to spend at least 20 dollars.

## Extending Acute Care

from Short-Term Acute to Specialized Extended Acute

When patients need a longer stay in the hospital, we're here.

Select Specialty Hospital and Regency Hospital provide patients with the continuum of care from the traditional hospital setting to a specialty hospital setting. We are designed to meet the needs of medically complex, critically ill patients who require a longer acute care stay than a traditional hospital usually offers.

Extend your acute care stay at Select Specialty Hospital.

### Select Specialty Hospital - Midland

4214 Andrews Highway, Third Floor • Midland, TX 79703  
For more information or to make a referral please call  
Main: 432.522.3044 • Referrals: 432.522.3563

### Select Specialty Hospital - Odessa

500 w. 4th Street, Sixth Floor West • Odessa, TX 79761  
For more information or to make a referral please call  
Main: 432.552.4000 • Referrals: 432.552.4013

To see our patient video or to learn about one of our locations nationwide, go to [www.selectspecialtyhospital.com](http://www.selectspecialtyhospital.com)

## Give a Child a Voice...

Society has a fundamental obligation to ensure the basic rights and needs of every child are met. CASA volunteers are a formidable force that fight for the rights of abused and neglected children. There is no one else like a CASA Volunteer.

...Become a Volunteer Today.

For more information contact Sara Basaldua at (432)683-1114  
sarasab@casawtx.org [www.casawtx.org](http://www.casawtx.org) 877-316-8346  
Big Spring office: 432-263-4162



## Is your family struggling with difficult healthcare decisions?

We'd be honored to listen to your hopes and goals and to respect your choices.



**Home**  
Hospice • Nursing • Healthcare Equipment

Visit our website at [www.homehospicewtx.com](http://www.homehospicewtx.com) or call us today (432) 550-7970