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# THE BIG SPRING HERALD

**SUNDAY**

**MARCH 25, 2012**



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 137

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At top, Bill Fuller, AMBUCS member, holds up a snake during the 48<sup>th</sup> Rattlesnake Roundup at the Howard County fairbarns Saturday morning. At right, Dennis Cumby, milker, speaks to attendees about the process of milking. The roundup continues from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday.

HERALD photos/Amanda Moreno



*Special edition*  
**2012**  
 Progress &  
**PROFILE**

## Remains are male

*Finding rules out Hailey Dunn; leaves questions unanswered*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Officials with the Big Spring Police Department say the human remains found on the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark Tuesday are male, eliminating any possibility they were of Hailey Dunn, the missing Colorado City teenager.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the BSPD, the autopsy on the remains began Friday morning in Fort Worth.

"The autopsy is being conducted by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office," Everett said. "Det. George Oliver of the BSPD was in attendance for the autopsy and it has been determined the remains are male. However, as of this time nothing else has been determined."

Everett said investigators don't anticipate releasing any further information in the case until the autopsy has been completed and the preliminary report is provided by the medical examiner.

Law enforcement officials were called to an area in the 2500 block of Apron Drive on the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark Tuesday afternoon when employees of Desert Tank discovered the remains.

"The remains were found by workers in the area," Everett said. "The area where the remains were

See **REMAINS**, Page 3A

# Snake City

## Roundup under way at county fair barns

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
 Staff Writer

Rattles are shaking at the Howard County fairgrounds and will continue until 5 p.m. Sunday.

The Big Spring 48<sup>th</sup> Rattlesnake Roundup started Saturday with snake demonstrations and a free arts and crafts show.

"The snake numbers are down this year, but it looks like the number of people is going to be up," Roundup Chairman Dennis

Burns said. Those attending can expect to see milking demonstrations, snake shows and races.

"We want people to come out and see us. While they are here

See **SNAKES**, Page 3A

## Contracts, routine items on slate for county court

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners have a routine agenda awaiting them when they meet Monday morning.

Commissioners are to discuss and possibly take action

on a contract with West Texas Services regarding mentally ill inmates at the county detention center. According to officials, the discussion is expected to center around possible updates to the contract, which is renewed periodically between the two government agencies.

The court is also expected to hold an executive session during Monday's meeting to discuss personnel considerations.

County Auditor Jackie

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A



## Accountability issues to confront Howard College

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

Accountability issues will highlight the agenda when Howard College trustees hold their monthly meeting at 12:30 p.m. Monday in the Student Union Building's Tumbleweed Room.

Trustees will hear a report on a program the college has initiated to develop accountability measures at the college.

"Student Success by the Numbers" is a partnership between Howard College and

the University of Texas, HC President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said.

"UT has a consultant working with us to develop accountability measures to adequately measure student success," Sparks said.

"Accountability" has become one of the biggest buzzwords in education within the past few years. In return for its aid to schools and colleges, the state is requiring those institutions to show the money is being put to

See **COLLEGE**, Page 3A

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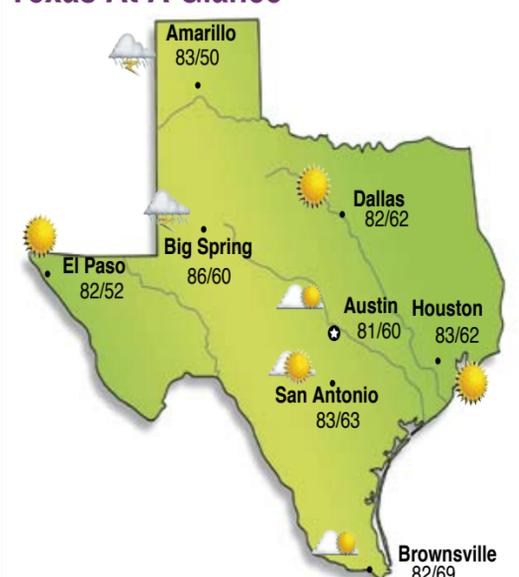
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Mon 3/26	Tue 3/27	Wed 3/28	Thu 3/29	Fri 3/30
<b>86/60</b> Windy, slight chance of a thunderstorm.	<b>86/60</b> Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	<b>80/60</b> Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 60s.	<b>82/56</b> A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	<b>86/53</b> Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 50s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:41 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:02 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:40 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:03 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:39 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:03 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:37 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:04 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:36 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:05 PM



Texas At A Glance



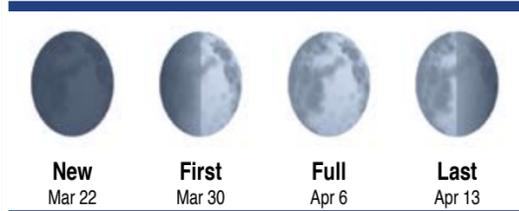
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	84	63	pt sunny	Kingsville	84	68	pt sunny
Amarillo	83	50	t-storm	Livingston	85	57	sunny
Austin	81	60	pt sunny	Longview	85	61	sunny
Beaumont	83	63	sunny	Lubbock	83	53	t-storm
Brownsville	82	69	pt sunny	Lufkin	87	59	sunny
Brownwood	85	63	mst sunny	Midland	86	61	t-storm
Corpus Christi	81	69	pt sunny	Raymondville	85	68	pt sunny
Corsicana	80	60	sunny	Rosenberg	82	61	sunny
Dallas	82	62	sunny	San Antonio	83	63	mst sunny
Del Rio	82	67	cloudy	San Marcos	82	60	pt sunny
El Paso	82	52	sunny	Sulphur Springs	82	61	sunny
Fort Stockton	85	59	t-storm	Sweetwater	84	61	t-storm
Gainesville	80	60	sunny	Tyler	84	60	sunny
Greenville	81	59	sunny	Weatherford	82	60	sunny
Houston	83	62	sunny	Wichita Falls	84	62	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	81	53	sunny	Minneapolis	47	42	rain
Boston	49	26	pt sunny	New York	55	33	windy
Chicago	45	41	rain	Phoenix	71	51	pt sunny
Dallas	82	62	sunny	San Francisco	58	51	pt sunny
Denver	78	43	windy	Seattle	52	46	rain
Houston	83	62	sunny	St. Louis	74	54	pt sunny
Los Angeles	63	47	rain	Washington, DC	67	38	windy
Miami	84	66	pt sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Mon 3/26	Tue 3/27	Wed 3/28	Thu 3/29	Fri 3/30
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
Very High	Very High	High	Very High	Very 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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Obituaries

Donna N. Smith



Donna N. Smith, 86, of Midland passed away Wednesday, March 21, 2012. She was born in Duchesne, Utah, on March 27, 1925, to Alonzo C. and Fern (Gordon) Fitzwater. Donna had a passion for flowers and was a longtime member of the Green Thumb Garden Club.

She is survived by her husband, Darrell E. Smith; her children, D. Craig Smith, Kirk E. Smith and wife Debbie, Shelley F. Smith and husband Russell Erwin and Christine H. Vest and husband Steve; her seven grandchildren, Ann Marie Smith, D. Bryan Smith, James G. Smith, Micheal K. Smith, G. Ryan Peckham, S. Keith Vest and Donna Nicole Vest; and five great-grandchildren.

Also left to cherish her memory are her brothers, Jay Gordan Fitzwater and wife Henrietta, Stan Smith and wife Leola and Ted Smith and wife Beverly.

Special thanks to the Carlos and Yolanda Jimenez family for all of their love and support.

Graveside services were planned for Saturday, March 24, 2012, at 11 a.m. at Resthaven Memorial Park (4616 N. Big Spring Street). Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home of Midland. Condolences may be made at: [www.ellisfunerals.com](http://www.ellisfunerals.com).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Hospice of Midland, P.O. Box 2621, Midland, Texas 79702.

*Paid obituary*

Jose "Chepe" Marquez Hernandez



Jose "Chepe" Marquez Hernandez, 83, of Big Spring, died Friday, March 23, 2012, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Prayer services will be at 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, March 26, 2012, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with Pastor Pedro Tobias, officiating. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Aug. 27, 1928, in Big Spring, Texas to Guillrma and Valente Hernandez. He has been a lifetime resident of Big Spring. Jose retired from the City of Big Spring where he worked in Street Department. He also retired from Big Spring Independent School District where he worked at Runnels Junior High in the maintenance department. He was active with local baseball and his church. He was a member of Church of Christ.

He is survived by three brothers: Jesus Hernandez and wife Viola and Aristeo Hernandez of Big Spring and Javier Hernandez and wife Josie of Midland; three sisters: Alicia Monje of Mansfield, Texas, Lusila Garcia of San Antonio and Olivia Martinez and husband Alfredo of Pflugerville; his ex-wife Julia Hernandez of Watsonville, Calif. and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother Enrique Hernandez; two sisters: Consuelo "Connie" Hernandez and Emma Hightower.

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

Jonnie Gunnels



Jonnie Gunnels, 87, of Big Spring, died Thursday, March 22, 2012, in a local nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Monday, March 26, 2012, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Ken McMeans, pastor of College Baptist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, March 25, 2012, at the funeral home.

She was born March 21, 1925, in Rising Star, Texas, and married Clyde Gunnels on Nov. 27, 1945, in Eastland, Texas. He preceded her in death July 1, 1989.

Jonnie moved to Big Spring in 1951 from Rising Star. She served as interim director of the Heritage Museum after her mother, Geraldine Atwell, who was the founding curator for the museum, retired. She was a homemaker and was a member of College Baptist Church.

Survivors include one son Kerry Gunnels and wife Marice of Grapevine; one daughter, Kathy Sellman and husband, Joe of Midland; and four grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Alva Moore and Geraldine Atwell.

The family suggests memorials be made to the American Cancer Society, c/o Carolyn Brooks, P. O. Box 2121, Big Spring, Texas 79721-2121 or to the American Diabetes Association, 8008 Slide Rd., Lubbock, Texas 79424.

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)

Debbie Hicks Puente



Debbie Hicks Puente, 37, of Big Spring, died Thursday, March 22, 2012, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Prayer services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home followed by visitation until 5 p.m. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, March 26, 2012, at Gateway Baptist Church with Pastor Jim Mills, officiating. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born April 26, 1974, in Big Spring, Texas, to Lydia Marquez Hicks and John Hicks. She has been a lifetime resident of Big Spring. She worked 15 years at Dairy Queen and Wal-Mart for six years. She was a member of Gateway Baptist Church.

She is survived by three brothers: Johnny Hicks and wife Robin, Ernest Hicks and Robert Hicks, all Big Spring; one sister: Crystal Doport and husband John of San Antonio; several nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews; four aunts and one uncle.

She was preceded in death by her parents, several aunts and uncles and one nephew.

A memorial fund has been set up at Myers & Smith Funeral Home to help defray funeral expenses.

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

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**Take Note**

- Blankenship Field track is closed to the general public. The band practice field (located to the west of the track) is available for walking. There will be a timer that will turn on the lights for early morning walkers and the lights will come back on late in the evening for those who want to walk at night.
- An account has been established at American State Bank to help defray medical expense for Brad "Ghost" Ugstad, a local resident who was severely injured in a motorcycle accident. All donations will be appreciated.
- The Lone Star District will be holding its Spring School Night for Scouting signups from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. April 26 in the First Baptist Church gymnasium.
- 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. A training will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 18. 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.

• 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 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 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. Free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

**SNAKES**

Continued from Page 1A

they can expect to learn about snakes, what to do and what not to do when they encounter a snake," Burns said.

During the roundup, awards will be given for the heaviest snake and the snake with the most rattles.

Admission to the arts and crafts show is free and admission to the snake shows are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children age 4 to 11 years old.

The annual rattlesnake show is put on each year by AMBUCS (American Business Club).

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

**COUNTY**

Continued from Page 1A

Olson will present invoices, purchase requests and budget amendments, while the county treasurer is to discuss personnel con-

siderations.

County Road and Bridge Administrator Eddy Jameson will report on road maintenance, as well as present any proposed pipeline crossings.

Jameson will also request permission to go out on bids for seal coat-

ing county roadways.

County Judge Mark Barr has set aside an agenda item in case the court needs to discuss or take any action regarding the ongoing construction of the Troy Hogue Joint Law Enforcement Center.

The project — estimat-

ed to cost approximately \$2.7 million, with the city of Big Spring chipping in \$1.7 million and the county picking up the balance — got under way in early February and is expected to be completed in the next six to eight months.

The joint venture will

eventually house both the Howard County Sheriff's Office and the Big Spring Police Department.

Monday's meeting will begin 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

**REMAINS**

Continued from Page 1A

found was fenced and gated, but it could have been accessed. The body was obscured, but at least part of it was visible, which is what the workers saw, causing them to call 911. It was an area that isn't often traveled."

The discovery of the remains quickly gained national attention due to several high-profile missing person cases in the Crossroads area, the

most prevalent of which is Dunn, who disappeared from her home Dec. 27, 2010.

While questions regarding the possibility the remains were that of Dunn swirled, law enforcement officials repeatedly warned against getting ahead of the analysis of the evidence in the case.

"All we can really do right now is wait and see what the evidence tells us," Everett said after an FBI evidence recovery team from Dallas finished processing the

scene Wednesday. "Until the pathologists give us more information to go on, trying to say these remains belong to any of these missing persons is merely speculation."

While Friday's determination rules out Dunn, at least two other missing person cases are being spotlighted by the media as the wait for more information continues.

Arlin Bynum, who was 40 years old at the time of his disappearance, was last seen Aug. 14, 2003, in the vicinity of

the San Franciscan Bar and Grill in downtown Big Spring. According to police reports, witnesses claim he left the establishment late in the evening, supposedly accompanied by another man who has never been identified. Bynum's truck was later found near the bar.

The oldest of the cases, however, is that of Bobby Marquez Jr., who has been missing approximately 14 years. In December 2006, the Texas Rangers, assisted by the BSPD and other law

enforcement agencies, excavated a cement slab in the 1000 block of N.W. Second Street in hopes of recovering Marquez's remains. However, no body was found during the search, according to BSPD officials.

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

**COLLEGE**

Continued from Page 1A

good use and that students are performing up to acceptable academic standards.

The emphasis on increased accountability is already well-established at the public school level and now the push is on for colleges and universities to follow suit.

"There has definitely been an increased expectation of accountability and discussions relative to future funding being tied to accountability measures," Sparks said. The difficulty in adopting new measures, how-

ever, is you can't determine success at the college level the same way you do at public school districts, she added.

"The reality for community colleges is we have students enrolling for a variety of reasons," Sparks said. "For instance, we may have a student enroll in only one course for career reasons. Those kind of successes are not measured in a traditional manner."

"We certainly have no trouble with (the state push for increased accountability), but measuring it at the community college level is very different than at

the public school level," Sparks added.

In other business Monday, trustees will consider:

- Updates on construction of the agriculture complex and water wells, as well as the search for a new provost at SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.
- A report on enhanc-

ing the interpreter training program at SWCID.

- Catalog and handbook changes.

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

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Teresa (Walker) Polk, 54, died Sunday. Funeral services were at 11 a.m. today at Mount Bethel Baptist Church.

Patsy Evans, 82, died Thursday. Graveside services were at 3 p.m. today at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Debbie Hicks Puente, 37, died Thursday. Prayer services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel followed by visitation until 5 p.m. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, at Gateway Baptist Church. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Jose "Chepe" Marquez Hernandez, 83, of Big Spring, died Friday. Prayer services will be at 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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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	

## 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)

# The situation makes me sick

**A**m I the only person in the Crossroads area who was absolutely sickened by the television coverage of the human remains found at the McMahan-Wrinkle Airpark Tuesday?

Bear in mind, I'm not referring to the type of "sickened" you commonly find after someone stumbles onto a corpse, mummified or not.

No, I mean that sick feeling you get in the bottom of your stomach, sort of like what you feel when you hear someone on death row was executed and they found out the next day they were innocent of their crime.

That kind of sickened.

For those who live under a rock — and I hear you can even get Wi-Fi there these days — the short and skinny version is this: Human remains were discovered on the airpark, and as law enforcement officials went about doing their job, the media immediately turned it into an Easter egg hunt for the area's high profile missing persons.

The sad part about it, however, is no matter how horrified I was with the circus tents going up all over town, that pain absolutely pales in comparison to what the families of the missing people — Colorado City teen Hailey Dunn and Big Spring's own Arlin Bynum and Bobby Marquez Jr. — were going through as the video tape whipped by at breakneck speed.

My phone literally blew up within the first 24 hours, as my friends and family tried frantically to sort through the chum-filled waters the TV stations were

setting their hooks in for just a bit of true-life information, free of the sensationalism that is the brimstone of the industry.

After going through two fully charged batteries before 9 p.m., I had hoped the worst was over. I was wrong.

I find myself reminded of something John Foster, former general manager of NewsWest 9, said to me during an afternoon meeting while I served as their Big Spring bureau chief and news anchor.

"Never underestimate the stupidity of national news."

Now, Foster was an amazing boss to work for and the day he passed away TV journalism in the Permian Basin took a serious blow. But it's those little nuggets of wisdom he left behind for us that are so, so important.

He couldn't be more right. Thursday, HLN Network TV personality Nancy Grace — I use the term personality because calling her a reporter is an insult to every man and woman who has ever held a press pass — went on national television with the report the remains were "likely" those of Hailey Dunn.

Bear in mind, Grace is no fool. She covered her rear-end by adding that ever-so-slight disclaimer "according to a local news source," although she never cites which news source ever said it was "likely."

Either way, Grace and her cronies did what they do best Thursday, they turned something into nothing, then turned that into something else, discussed it some more and then drew their own outrageous conclusion.

If you look closely enough at the formula, you'll probably figure out how most of the episodes of Seinfeld were written.

The entire time this is going on — and don't think Grace was alone, because other news

sources, national, local and otherwise were also spewing their sensationalist bull, as well — law enforcement is saying the same thing, over and over again: Please don't jump to conclusions.

Unfortunately that's exactly what happened, and people in the Crossroads area — including family and friends of those missing — collectively held their breath, on one hand hoping for closure in the case, while simultaneously hoping they are still out there somewhere, no matter how unrealistic that may actually be.

I'm of the opinion Nancy Grace — and the rest of the news outlets who sensationalized the story, because each of you know who you are — owes the Crossroads, as a whole, an apology. Shame on each and every one of you for using other people's pain and suffering for your own ends.

I know full-well TV news is going to beat us — and by us, I mean the newspaper — to the punch almost every time. The ability to reach viewers nearly 24-hours a day is huge, however, with such an amazing gift there should come a level of responsibility.

Unfortunately, not only does that level not exist at this time, Americans aren't exactly clamoring for it.

In the meantime, you'll find me here, stomping my feet and yelling at the top of my lungs for change.

I hope the families and loved ones who had their lives turned upside down by all of this find the peace they deserve.

This column is dedicated to them and them alone.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)



THOMAS JENKINS

## YOUR VIEWS

### Who do you call?

TO THE EDITOR:

The question about Big Spring, is who do we call for help?

Today I was on my way home for my lunch break and was stopped at the stop light on the corner of Fourth and Goliad. I had a guy run into the back of me and then backed up and fled the scene. Luckily (or so I thought), a guy working at the Avis Lube on the corner recognized the driver as someone who had recently stopped in for service.

When the officer arrived to the scene, I told him the guy had some information for him. He spoke to him and to my surprise, the officer didn't write any of the information down. The employee was able to give the officer the first name, the type of car, and even the place where the car had been purchased, because it had paper tags on it. The officer then told me that he did not have enough information to even make a report.

Needless to say, I got irate. He informed me I was not going to tell him what to do and demanded my license like I had done something wrong. He talked to the guys inside for a few more minutes, came and returned my license and informed me he would make a report, but all he was putting on there was it was a silver car hit and run. This excludes where the car was purchased, the type of car and the driver's first name.

This tells me that nothing will be done about this situation. As rude as this officer was, I will think twice about even contacting the police next time. Who can we depend on?

KENNETH CASBEER  
BIG SPRING

P.S. Something I forgot to add to my news earlier. I started a Facebook group entitled "Speak up against Big Spring Police Department." As rude as the officer was, I am confident there are plenty of others out there who have had the same issue. If we don't speak up, things will just get worse.

### My condolences

TO THE EDITOR,

I am writing this letter to send my condolences to the Hicks family. I was told late last night one of their family members had passed away. The person I am speaking about is Debbie Hicks.

She was a very good friend to my daughter and granddaughter. She lived across the street from my daughter; she went to school with my daughter. She was loved by everyone who knew her and she will be missed terribly.

My prayers go to the whole Hicks family and to her friends who will miss her alot. She now is with the angels whom she spoke of a lot. So, good-bye old friend. You will be missed so much and we will all see you again.

LOVE YOU MISS YOU,  
MARILLYN, DEBBIE, LEXIE, BRIAN  
BIG SPRING

### National Doctors' Day

TO THE EDITOR:

Friday, March 30, is National Doctors' Day. Throughout the year, the independent members of the medical staff at Scenic Mountain Medical Center touch the lives of so many of our friends and families here in Big Spring and Howard County, it seems like a single day of thanks really isn't enough to do their work justice.

But then again, what could repay them for the lives they've saved, fears they've alleviated, pain they've eased and care they've offered.

For all they have done and all they will do in the days ahead, we honor our physicians and simply say, "Thank you" to Alan Abel, MD, Steve Ahmed, MD, Scott Barclay, DO, Erich Byerly, MD, Manuel Carrasco, MD, Mario Castillo, MD, Joseph Chavez, MD, Carlos Dimidjian, DPM, Christopher Haddad, MD, Rudy I. Haddad, MD, Rudy M. Haddad, MD, Robert Hayes, MD, Daniel Hinkley, DDS, Ladd Hoffman, MD, Rudy Izzard, DDS, Melencio Juan, MD, Cezary Kuprianowicz, MD, John Lang, MD, Keith Ledford, MD, David Long, MD, Manmeet Mangat, MD, Clark McDaniel, MD, Susan Roberts, DO and Manish Shroff, MD.

LARRY RODGERS, CEO  
SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER

### Government and church

TO THE EDITOR:

The U.S. Catholic bishops strongly noted that the Department of Health and Human Services mandate that forces all private health plans to provide coverage of sterilization and contraceptives — including abortion-inducing drugs — called for an immediate response. Of particular concern for the bishops are a religious exemption from the mandate that the bishops deem "arbitrarily narrow" and an "unspecified and dubious future" accommodation.

The U.S. Catholic bishops are strongly united in their ongoing and determined efforts to promote religious freedom. We will continue our vigorous work of education on religious freedom, dialogue with the executive branch, legislative initiatives and efforts in the courts to defend religious freedom.

We bishops are very grateful for those who have stood firmly with us in our vigorous opposition to this unjust and illegal mandate. It is our enthusiastic unity in defense of religious freedom that has made such a dramatic and positive impact in this historic public debate.

The bishops clearly point out that this dispute is not about women's health care or access to contraceptives but about the government's forcing the church to provide them. Our concerns are not just for the Catholic church, but also for those who recognize that their cherished beliefs may be next on the block. This is not a Republican or Democratic, a conservative or liberal issue; it is an American issue.

Government has no place defining religion and religious ministry. As we deal with this critical issue, the bishops encourage all people to pray for the light and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

MOST REV. MICHAEL PFEIFER OMI  
BISHOP OF SAN ANGELO

### Cruelty beyond cruel

TO THE EDITOR:

What in heaven's name is going on? More defenseless animals.

Here we have more horses being starved to death.

Why did the owners do this to a beautiful creature of the Lord God Almighty?

If they couldn't feed and water them, why didn't they give them to someone or sell them? That way, the horses wouldn't have starved and suffered greatly.

What has been and what is going to be done to these in-humans who did this to a very beautiful creature?

I don't understand how someone can do this. Can all of you?

This country and the laws of this country need to get tougher on cruelty to defenseless children, elderly, handicapped and animals. Wake up everyone. If you see cruelty to anyone or anything, turn it in right then, don't wait to see if someone else will do it.

JUDY LATIMER  
BIG SPRING

### So many topics

TO THE EDITOR:

Golly! Every time I start a letter to the editor, something comes up that piques my interest. Should I comment on the Occupy Wall Street celebration of their six months of trespassing and flaunting the law, the contraception issue (should the government force companies to pay), the controversial NDAA legislation (does it really mean U.S. citizens can be detained by police indefinitely without trial or cause), global warming (snow in Florida and heat wave in northern states), who will win the basketball tournament (is the president's prediction correct), etc. etc.?

Having survived the depression and two world wars, I felt that the United States of America could survive anything, but hostile nibbling at the country's foundation for the last few years has caused me to be concerned about the future.

Recently, I found something that expressed my opinion better than I could. I cannot verify the validity of the information, but the following are excerpts from a letter allegedly printed in the Iosco County News Herald on June 9, 2010. The writer is named Ken Huber, resident of Tawas, Mich., and the title of his letter is "What has America Become?"

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

## Police blotter

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

- JAVIER MANZANA PINEDA, 31, of 821 W. Sixth St., was arrested Friday on charges of driving while intoxicated — open container, possession of w mariju-juana less than or equal to two ounces.
- DANIEL ERNEST WRIGHT, 56, transient, was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1200 block of S. Gregg Street.
- THEFT OF FIREARM was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.
- BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported in the 100 block of North Avenue.
- HARASSMENT was reported in the 100 block of N.W. Ninth Street.
- THEFT was reported in the 1800 block of S. Gregg Street.

## LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

"Has American become the land of special interests and home of the double standard?" He demonstrates his last remark by stating "If we lie to Congress, it is a felony, but if Congress lies to us, it is just politics. If a white person dislikes a black person, it is racism, but if a black person dislikes a white person, it is his First Amendment right."

He continues with the observation that the government spends millions of dollars to "rehabilitate" prisoners (who are now referred to as 'sick people') but sends very little or nothing to the victims (if they survive) or the victim's family (if they are murdered). Additionally, he observes that you can have pornography on the internet, but, by golly, you cannot have a nativity scene in public during Christmas.

Parenting, he suggests, has almost been abandoned now that we have Ritalin, cell phones and video games. If you protest against presidential policies, you are a traitor, but it is OK to spit on or burn the U.S. flag because you have protection of the First Amendment. You are really in trouble if you should be so cruel as to complain against the government taking money from those who work hard and sacrifice, and give it to those who do not work.

Mr. Huber then asks the question, "And how do we handle a major crisis today? And then answers it by saying, "The government appoints a committee to determine who is at fault, threatens them, passes a law, raises taxes and tells us the problem is solved..." Then they can get back to re-election campaigning.

I agree with Mr. Huber when he asks, "What has happened to the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

In closing, let me add that we still have freedom of speech, but only if it is "politically correct."

CAD WINGERT  
BIG SPRING

## Support Groups

### MONDAY

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

• PEP — Parent Education Program for CPS participating and non-participating parents, 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. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jody at 432-699-6640 or midlandparkinsons@yahoo.com.

## World Briefs

### Obama returns to world stage, seeking progress on world effort to prevent nuclear terrorism

WASHINGTON (AP) — Far from home if not away from election-year politics, President Barack Obama is returning to the threat to American security that he calls the gravest of all: terrorists getting material for a nuclear bomb.

In South Korea, where Obama is headed, the president will join a massive gathering of world leaders whose united goal is to secure nuclear material and prevent it from being smuggled to states or groups intent on mass destruction.

Right across the border but not participating: nuclear North Korea, labeled by the White House as "the odd man out." It is brinkmanship with North Korea and Iran, another nation not invited to the summit, that has dominated much of the nuclear debate and that will cast an unquestionable shadow over talks in Seoul.

Obama's mission over three days in the South Korean capital will be to show progress — in pressuring North Korea to change its rogue ways and in approaching a lofty goal of locking down nuclear material around the globe by 2014.

For a president up for re-election, this will be a rare Asia trip devoted to just one country, built around a nuclear security summit that carries his imprint. Obama held the first one in Washington two years ago. This one is considered a status check and a time for nations to offer new and tangible pledges, but no breakthroughs are expected.

### How the health care overhaul case will unfold before the Supreme Court

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court will begin hearing arguments on Monday over President Barack Obama's health care overhaul, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, derisively labeled "Obamacare" by its opponents. A look at how the case will unfold before the court in question-and-answer form:

Q: What's this all about?

A: The Supreme Court is hearing a challenge to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which is Obama's signature domestic achievement. Passed by Congress in 2010, its aim is to provide health insurance to more than 30 million previously uninsured Americans, while trying to restrain costs and prevent disruptions to the majority already with coverage. Opponents say the law is unconstitutional; their chief argument is that Congress does not have the power to force unwilling Americans to buy health insurance or pay a fine.

Q: When will the court get started?

A: Justices will begin hearing arguments shortly after 10 a.m. EDT Monday, March 26. They will hear six hours of arguments on several different issues on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

### Pope's presence in Mexico prompts screams, tears, hope for personal, national healing

LEON, Mexico (AP) — There was little excitement in Leon in the hours before the pope arrived.

Crowds were thin. Spectators napped under trees. Vendors complained about the low turnout here in the conservative heartland of Mexico's Roman Catholicism.

Then, as Pope Benedict XVI's plane appeared in the shimmering heat of Friday afternoon, people poured from their homes. They packed sidewalks five and six deep, screaming ecstatically as the pope passed, waving slowly. Some burst into tears.

Many had said moments earlier that they could never love a pope as strongly as Benedict's predecessor, John Paul II. But the presence of a pope on Mexican soil touched a chord of overwhelming respect and adoration for the papacy itself, the personification for many of the Catholic Church, and God. Thousands found themselves taken aback by their own emotions.

As a girl, Celia del Rosario Escobar, 42, saw John Paul II on one of his five trips to Mexico, which brought him near-universal adoration.

### Lawmakers, U.S. enforcement agency, favor Hatch Act changes for state, local officials

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jon Greiner's election to the Utah Senate caused his firing as Ogden police chief. Philadelphia transit cop Matthew Arlen was barred from a local school board race in Pennsylvania. And New York state port official Terrence Hurley was knocked out of a county race.

All were blindsided by a 1939 law that prohibits federal employees from running in partisan elections but also places the same restriction on state and local government workers whose jobs are connected to federal dollars.

Three committee chairmen in the Senate and one in the House say it's time to update the Hatch Act. Bills in both houses still would prohibit federal employees from participating in partisan political activities, while ending federal prohibitions on state and local government employees seeking elected office.

The changes are enthusiastically supported by the Office of Special Counsel, the federal agency that enforces the Hatch Act.

"Fixing this broken law will cost taxpayers nothing and will demonstrate respect for the independence of state and local elections," said Carolyn Lerner, who runs the office.

### Fla. shooting: Teen's friends say he wouldn't have picked a fight

MIAMI (AP) — Wearing a hoodie. Listening to music and talking on his cellphone. Picking up Skittles for his soon-to-be stepbrother. Friends say that's how they would have imagined 17-year-old Trayvon Martin on a Sunday afternoon.

Starting a fight? Possibly high on drugs and up to no good? No, friends say that description of Martin from the neighborhood crime-watch volunteer who shot and killed the unarmed black teenager doesn't match the young man they knew.

"There's no way I can believe that, because he's not a confrontational kid," said Jerome Horton, who was one of Martin's former football coaches and knew him since he was about 5. "It just wouldn't happen. That's just not that kid."

Martin was slain in the town of Sanford on Feb. 26 in a shooting that has set off a nationwide furor over race and justice. Neighborhood crime-watch captain George Zimmerman, whose father is white and mother is Hispanic, claimed self-defense and has not been arrested, though state and federal authorities are still investigating.

Since his death, Martin's name and photographs — in football jerseys, smiling alongside a baby, and staring into the camera in a gray hoodie — have been held up by civil rights leaders and at rallies stretching from Miami to New York.

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# Steers fall to Brownwood



HERALD photo/Brian McCormack

**BSHS Sophomore Adam Franco delivers a pitch during Friday's game against Brownwood. The Steers lost 5-2, and now have a District 5-3A record of 1-1.**

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

The Big Spring Steers did a good job matching their Brownwood defensively in their District 5-3A baseball matchup at Steer Park Friday.

Unfortunately for Big Spring, the Lions' offense was more effective on this night as Brownwood took a 5-2 victory.

Brownwood jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning, but Big Spring answered back with two runs of its own in the bottom of the second.

A Joseph Morelion grounder produced a base hit, Jarred DoPorto then singled to advance Morelion to second. Zach Hernandez drew a lead to head the bases, and Brett Broman singled up the middle to score Morelion and DoPorto, tying the game at 2-2.

Brownwood added another run in the top of the third inning, taking a 3-2 lead, and a raucous top of the fifth inning — involving two balks and a wild pitch on BSHS' part — resulted in two more runs scored for the Lions, making the score 5-2.

The Steers had their chances offensively, leading the bases three other times in the game, but were unable to produce any runs.

Sophomore Adam Franco pitched a complete game for

BSHS in a losing effort, and was backed up by solid defensive play, especially by outfielders Knudsen and DoPorto.

BSHS Coach Bert Otto was disappointed with the loss, but remains optimistic for the Steers, who are now 1-1 in district play.

"This district is real competitive," he said. "(Brownwood's) pitcher had a good fastball and velocity, as well as a good curve ball. We made some great plays, though, defensively. It's finally coming together. It's a loss, but you don't see five or six marks in the error column."

Otto said the Steers will remain focused on playing their style of ball Wednesday when they travel to Abilene to take on Wylie. First pitch is scheduled for 4 p.m.

"We need to get some timely hits, that's what kept us going against Snyder," he explained. "We're going to continue to take the same approach. We will go in with what we have and try to compete against Wylie."

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

## Disc golf tourney slated for April

By **AMANDA MORENO**

Staff Writer

One round, two rounds, three rounds ... play!

The West Texas Disc Golf Champions Tournament — started in 2004 — is coming back to Comanche Trail Park. The tournament is set for April 21-22.

"The tournament will be three rounds, with two rounds happening April 21 and one round taking place April 22," Chanz Reed, tournament director, said.

Registration will occur from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. April 21 if spots are still available. Early registration can be made online at PDGA.com. A players' meeting will take place at 9:30 a.m.

Registration fees differ for each category. Junior registra-

**What:** West Texas Disc Golf Champions Tournament.

**Where:** Comanche Trail Park.

**When:** April 21-22.

tion is \$30, recreational is \$40, intermediate is \$45, advanced is \$70, open women is \$75, grandmaster and master is \$80 and open men is \$85. There is a \$10 discount for PDGA members.

"If you are going to register the day of the tournament, we ask you bring the paperwork showing you are up to date on PDGA membership," Reed said. "We also want people to know space is limited and if all the spots are filled, we won't be able to take registration that

day."

Trophies will be given to the top three in each division. The first 75 registrations will receive player packages including a T-shirt and disc. Discs will be available in 11 different colors. Last year, there were 93 participants, and tournament organizers are expecting more this year.

For those unable to make the upcoming tournament, another tournament will be held in October at the Birdwell Park course.

"The tournament in October will just include two rounds and will be completed in one day," Reed said.

For those needing to purchase discs, contact Reed at 213-55478 or Greg Brooks at Blum's Jewelers. For information, contact Reed.

## Sports Calendar

**Tuesday**

**Softball**

Lubbock Roosevelt at Forsan, 5:30 p.m.  
Coahoma at Denver City, TBA.

**Wednesday**

**Baseball**

Big Spring at Abilene Wylie, 4 p.m.

**Softball**

Big Spring at Abilene Wylie, 4:30 p.m.

**Golf**

Big Spring girls at Abilene, TBA.  
Forsan vs. Coahoma, Comanche Trail Golf Course, TBA.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com

## Top-seeded Kentucky defeats Indiana

By **PAUL NEWBERRY**

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — Anthony Davis had a rather quiet night. No worries. He's got plenty of help at Kentucky.

The top-seeded Wildcats took care of the team that beat them back in early December and are off to another regional final, putting all their weapons on display in a 102-90 victory over gritty Indiana on Friday night.

Michael Kidd-Gilchrist scored 24 points and four other players were in double figures for Kentucky (35-2), which made up for a 73-72 loss to the Hoosiers.

Davis, the Wildcats' freshman star, wasn't a huge factor after picking up two early fouls, finishing with nine points and 12 rebounds. Kidd-Gilchrist took the starring role with a double-double, also grabbing 10 rebounds. Doron Lamb had 21 points, Darius Miller 19, Marquis Teague 14 and Terrence Jones 12.

Christian Watford had 27 points to lead the Hoosiers (27-9), whose comeback season ended two wins shy of the Final Four. Indiana, which won a total of 28 games the previous three seasons, has regained its usual place among the college basketball blue-bloods under coach Tom Crean.

third straight regional final.

Kentucky will face Baylor on Sunday for a trip to the Final Four.

Indiana's freshman star, Cody Zeller, had 20 points, while Victor Oladipo chipped in with 15 before fouling out. Kidd-Gilchrist just kept pounding the ball inside, drawing foul after foul on the Hoosiers, then knocking down the free throws. He went 10-for-10 at the line.

Jones, who had only four points in the December meeting, signaled this would be a different night by scoring Kentucky's first five points in the rematch. That set the tone for a shootout, both teams running and gunning in an exhilarating display that kept fans in both blue and red on their feet most of the time at the Georgia Dome.

There wasn't much to fear on the inside in the opening half, not with the two big men, Davis and Zeller, both spending much of the period on the bench, each saddled with two fouls.

Davis sat for the final 14:05 of the half, the Wildcats not wanting to take any chance on their best player picking up another foul. The 6-foot-10 freshman had two early blocks, but Indiana altered its offensive philoso-

See **DEFEAT**, continued on page 8A

## In brief

### Brownwood tops Lady Steers

Big Spring Softball Coach John Sparks knew Brownwood would be a tough District 5-3A opponent, and he was proven right as Big Spring was on the short end of an 8-3 decision at the Big Spring ISD Softball Complex Friday.

Things got out of hand quickly for BSHS — Brownwood came out swinging, putting up five runs in the top of the first.

Errors — seven to be exact — derailed the Lady Steers.

Sparks said those miscues were the major reason the Lady Steers dropped to a 1-2 district record.

"If you have that many errors, you aren't going to be able to win games. Not at this level," he said. "We also have to go back and look at our hitting."

Big Spring returns to action Wednesday when the Lady Steers travel to Abilene to face Wylie. Game time is 4:30 p.m.

### Lady Buffs shellack Slaton

FORSAN — With the first four batters in the Forsan Lady 'Buffs' line-

up averaging .500 or better, it's no surprise that they are currently sitting atop of District 3-2A in a three-way tie with Coahoma and Colorado City.

Forsan remained in the mix after soundly defeating Slaton 15-1 at home Friday.

It was a short game for the Lady 'Buffs' as they ran the score up to 12-0 on Slaton in the bottom of the first inning, then tacked on three more runs in the bottom of the second.

The game was called in the middle of the third as a result of the 10-run mercy rule.

"We went into the game with intensity," Forsan Coach Shanna Taylor said. "We make sure we are serious every game. We hit the ball well and played well on defense, which is always our goal."

Forsan improved its district record to 5-1 (9-5 overall) and will host Lubbock Roosevelt at home at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday.

### C-City tops Bulldogettes

COAHOMA — The Coahoma Bulldogettes dropped their first District

See **BRIEFS**, Page 8A

# Baylor holds off Xavier, still rolling in NCAA tourney

**CHARLES ODUM**

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — Quincy Acy picked up the slack for his roommate to help push Baylor to another regional final.

The 6-foot-7 senior had a double-double on an off night for the sharpshooting Brady Heslip as the Bears moved their attack inside to beat Xavier 75-70 Friday.

"I think I got a little of that magic from him," Acy said.

The Baylor post players were not double-teamed most of the game and Acy took advantage of it to the tune of 20 points and 15 rebounds, Perry Jones III added 14 points for Baylor, which advanced to the its second regional final in three years.

"You stay with Brady, that means we're one-on-one down in the post, and you see what happens," said Baylor coach Scott Drew.

Heslip, coming off his career-high 27 points on nine 3-pointers in Baylor's second-

round win over Colorado, made only one against Xavier. He finished with 11 points.

But Acy had his back, throwing down several dunks and added a few jump shots that surprised Xavier coach Chris Mack.

"He's a cage-rattler," said Mack of Acy. "We knew that. ... I never saw him hit a 15-foot jump shot, and he does that in the first four minutes of the game."

Acy made 8 of 11 shots from the field and each of his four free throws, including two with 31 seconds remaining after Xavier cut the Bears' lead to six points.

Acy, Baylor's only starting senior, has his second chance to help the Bears win a regional final.

Baylor also won three NCAA tournament games in 2010 before losing to eventual national champion Duke.

The Bears will play Kentucky, which beat Indiana 102-90, in Sunday's South Re-

gional final.

"We're just looking forward to go a little farther and make a little history," Acy said.

Drew said it never gets old watching Acy play.

"Baylor fans have been blessed, the nation's been blessed, and he is a better person than a player," Drew said.

Baylor, wearing bright neon-green uniforms, led by 18 points less than 8 minutes into the game.

Xavier played from behind all night, but never quit. The Musketeers cut the lead to just three, 71-68, with 22 seconds remaining.

"Down the stretch there, we made it a little closer than it needed to be with some careless turnovers, but credit them for not giving up and fighting through," Drew said of Xavier.

Pierre Jackson had 16 and 10 assists for Baylor.

Tu Holloway led Xavier with 22 points.

Xavier was hurt by poor shooting, especially from beyond the arc.

The Musketeers were 0-for-11 on 3-pointers before Justin Martin ended the drought with 2 minutes remaining. He added another 3 40 seconds later, and Holloway's 3 with 22 seconds remaining cut the lead the 71-68.

Heslip's four free throws in the final 17 seconds protected the lead.

Xavier (23-13) couldn't advance after making the round of 16 for the fourth time in five years.

Kenny Frease had 18 points and Mark Lyons had 16 for the Musketeers.

With Xavier stretching its defense and Baylor working the clock, Jackson sank a 3-pointer with 2:50 remaining to give the Bears their biggest lead of the half at 65-54.

Following a missed free throw by Lyons, Acy's basket pushed the lead to 13 points — too much for the Musketeers

to overcome.

Heslip surprised the Musketeers by scoring on two drives to the basket in the opening minutes.

Heslip added a 3-pointer before a jumper by Quincy Miller stretched Baylor's lead to 22-4.

Xavier needed 10 minutes to reach double figures, but a flagrant one foul by Acy on Frease helped the Musketeers recover from their slow start.

Acy, who scored a combined 11 points in the Bears' first two wins in the tournament, knocked Frease to the floor when he hit the 7-foot center from behind with 5:08 remaining in the half.

The officials reviewed a video replay before ruling on the severity of the foul.

"It was definitely a turning point," Frease said. "That definitely was a boost."

"I think we sort of woke up on the defensive end, too. We were able to make a really good run."

# Payton accepts responsibility for bounty scandal

**BRETT MARTEL**

AP Sports Writer

METAIRIE, La. —

Sean Payton apologized Friday for the bounty system under which Saints players were offered payouts for big hits on opponents, saying he takes "full responsibility" for the program that operated for three years under his watch.

"I share and fully support the league's concerns and goals on player safety," the New Orleans coach said in a written statement released by the team. "It is, and should be paramount."

"Respecting our great game and the NFL shield is extremely important to me," Payton added, referring to the league's famous logo.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell on Wednesday suspended Payton for the 2012 season, effective April 1, one of several unprecedented penalties he issued against the Saints.

Payton said that, as head coach, he should take full responsibility for an operation which the NFL says offered improper cash bonuses for blows that either knocked targeted star players out of the game or left them needing help off the field.

The NFL has said Payton initially lied to NFL investigators about the program, at first denying its existence, and also instructed his defensive assistants to lie. The league also slapped an eight-game suspension on general manager Mickey Loomis and a six-game suspension on assistant head coach Joe Vitt, who also coaches linebackers.

Former defensive coordinator Gregg Williams, who left the Saints after last season, ran the bounty program and has been suspended indefinitely. Goodell also fined the Saints \$500,000 and took away second-round draft choices in 2012 and 2013.

The NFL has said the bounty program started in 2009, Williams' first season, when the Saints also won their only Super Bowl. The league

also found that the program continued through 2011 even after NFL officials told the Saints to check into it and put a stop to it if they found anything improper was going on.

Payton issued one earlier written apology a few days after the NFL first released the findings of its probe.

In his latest statement, Payton said the Saints "will implement all necessary protections and protocols, and I will be more vigilant going forward."

The coach thanked team owner Tom Benson, his players and Saints fans "for their overwhelming support."

Some Saints players have already been in touch with Payton to let him know they are behind him, and starting right tackle Zach Strief said on Friday players "owe it" to their embattled coach to come closer together, live up to the standards he set during the past six seasons and do everything they can to win in his honor while he is away.

"The perception at this point is not positive with us. We've worked very hard, I know as players, to gain respect, not only as a good team but as a good group of guys. That perception will go completely out the window now, and I think that'll be kind of a rallying cry for us. It will give us a chance to kind of come together closer than we've ever been and say, 'Look, nobody wants us to even win anymore, and we're going to win for each other, and for coach Payton and Mickey and the guys that essentially took this fall.'"

The NFL has said punishment for players who participated what it's going to be like for him," said Strief, who sprained his right knee and missed part of the season. "And I know that for me personally, he will be a big motivating factor in working hard and being a better player because he deserves to have us do that."



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# Ogando strong as Rangers down San Francisco

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Whether it is as a starter or long reliever, Alexi Ogando just wants to pitch for the Texas Rangers and help them reach the World Series for the third straight season.

He made his first spring start Friday night and gave up three hits in 4 2-3 shut-out innings in the Rangers' 4-1 victory over San Francisco at Scottsdale Stadium.

Elvis Andrus broke a scoreless tie with an RBI single off Giants starter Madison Bumgarner in the fifth inning and Texas scored three more on four hits in the ninth. The Gi-

ants also scored in the ninth on Brett Pill's home run.

"I felt good out there, worked on both sides of the plate," said Ogando, who walked three and struck out three. "As far as I can remember, it is my best of the spring."

Ogando is ticketed to start the regular season in the bullpen, although he did start 29 of his 31 games in 2011 and posted a 13-8 record.

"I am ready for anything. Having a couple of starts (in the spring) will help just in case. I want to be ready for any occasion," Ogando said.

Andrus' hit to center field

scored Mitch Moreland from second base in the fifth, and the play might have been even more significant for the Giants.

The play at the plate was the first such play in a game situation for catcher Buster Posey after Posey was lost for the season last on May 25 when he broke a bone in his left leg and tore three ankle ligaments on a collision at the plate with Florida's Scott Cousins.

Posey admitted he probably stepped more away from the plate than in the past and put a swipe tag on Moreland that missed on the throw from Angel Pagan.

"It wasn't that much different than last year," Posey said. "Instincts take over and you just try to get the man out. You work on those types of plays, but no play is the same, short hop, long hop, left or right."

He said a catcher gets a sense of whether the play is going to be close.

If the Giants position Posey where he is not directly in the line of fire, there is a chance it might make a difference in an extra run or two for the opponent.

That is fine with Bumgarner, who said he was thinking about a play at the

plate as the play developed.

"I agree with that (decision)," Bumgarner said. "One run is not worth losing Buster for the whole season."

Moreland didn't realize people were keeping such close attention to Posey's play at the plate.

"I did what I needed to get in there," Moreland said. "He gave me the plate. That's why I slid on the outer half. There was not going to be a collision."

The run was the only one given up by the left-handed Bumgarner, who scattered eight hits, walked two and struck out five.

## BRIEFS

Continued from Page 6A

3-2A softball game of the season to Colorado City, as they were on the short end of a 6-0 score Friday.

Though still tied for first in a competitive district, Coahoma was unable to produce any offense

to back up pitcher Kyla Clanton, a sophomore, who struck out five C-City batters.

Coach Rob Glasscock recognized the issue plaguing Coahoma throughout the game.

"It was one of those offensive nights," he said. "But, we're still right there in the thick of the race. We just couldn't get any run support for (Clanton)."

The Bulldogettes, now 9-11 on the season, will return to action Tuesday at Denver City.

## Hawks split with Midland

MIDLAND — The No. 5 ranked Howard College Hawks (19-4, 5-1) split a Western Junior College Athletic Conference doubleheader with Midland College Friday, winning the early game 12-0, then dropping the nightcap 11-10.

The first game was all Hawks, after they put up 12 runs in five innings, forcing an early end to the game as a result of the 10-run rule.

Game two proved to be more of a nail-biter, as HC led the Chaparrals 9-4 heading into the bottom of the eighth.

The five run advantage wasn't enough for the Hawks, however, and Midland stormed back, driving in six runs in the eighth. HC tied it up 10-10 in the top of the ninth, but a two-run rally in the bottom of the inning gave Midland the win.

The two teams continued their series Saturday at Jack Barber Field on the HC campus. Results will be in Monday's *Herald*.

## DEFEAT

Continued from Page 6A

phy when he went to the bench. The Hoosiers started pounding the ball inside without fear of having it swatted away — especially Watford.

The hero of the first game had 17 points by half-time, including a short jumper with 3½ minutes left that capped a 21-10 stretch for the Hoosiers. Coach John Calipari quickly called a timeout with team trailing 43-39, and Teague slammed the ball in frustration.

That was just a minor blip.

Miller hit a jumper, Indiana's Tom Prichard botched a left-handed dunk, and the Wildcats raced the other way, tying it up just like that on Jones' tip-in. They led 50-47 at the half and never surrendered the lead in the second half, wrapping it up with a dead-eye 35-of-37 showing at the free-throw line.

Davis wasn't completely out of the loop. He also had three blocks, including an emphatic stuffing of Zeller when the Indiana big man tried to go under the basket and flip it in backhanded. Davis reached out his right hand and squashed the ball out of bounds.

Indiana had hoped for some more magic at the Georgia Dome, where they capped a surprising run to the championship game in 2002 before losing to Maryland.

After that, the Hoosiers fell on hard times. The scandalous regime of Kelvin Sampson left a massive rebuilding job for Crean, whose first three years were downright hideous — 28-66 overall, 8-46 in the Big Ten, a stunning fall for a program of Indiana's stature.

This season, they turned it all around with a performance befitting the logo worn by many of their faithful who descended on Atlanta, "We're Back."

But this is "Cat-lanta," a frequent site of the Southeastern Conference tournament and familiar surroundings for Kentucky and its fans. The Georgia Dome is hosting the Final Four in 2013, and the Wildcats view it as merely a stopping-off point this year on the way to their ultimate goal.

Calipari arrived in the Bluegrass State three years ago with a one-and-done philosophy — sign a bunch of the best high schools players every season, even if you know most of 'em are bound for the NBA after their freshman years.

It produced a regional final in 2010 and a trip to the Final Four last year.

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# New beginnings

*Businesses have been popping up all over Big Spring the past year and helping the Crossroads area grow*

# 2012 Progress & PROFILE



Photos by: Thomas Jenkins and Amanda Moreno

See more new businesses, Page 12B



**Top:** Stellar Automation Inc. opened its doors in August 2011, but had its official ribbon cutting earlier this month. The company is locally owned and focuses on oilfield and gas automation. It is located at 1309 S. Gregg Street.

**Left:** Jake Witzel Gifts and Interiors opened in February this year bringing a unique place to shop to the downtown area. Jake Witzel's is located in the former Good Music building on the corner of Main and Third Street.

**Bottom:** Taco Villa was able to get into the new facility in March after several months of construction and demolition. Taco Villa is located at the intersection of 15th Street and Gregg.



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Births



Alejandro Jeremiah Gonzales

Alejandro Jeremiah Gonzales, son of Monica Gonzales of Big Spring, was born Feb. 23, 2012, at 8:10 p.m. Alejandro weighed 6 pounds and measured 17 3/4 inches long. His maternal grandparents are Yolanda Martinez and Manuel Gonzales of Big Spring. Great-grandparents are

Lupe and Simona Martinez of Coahoma and Eufrosia Gonzales of Big Spring, and the late Geronimo Gonzales. He was welcomed home by his cousins Amorina Gonzales and Ma'Kiah Gonzales.



Peyton Everlee Canales

Peyton Everlee Canales, daughter of Veronica Ruiz and Moses Canales of Big Spring, was born March 2, 2012, at MCH Center for Women and Infants in Odessa, Texas. She was 20 1/2 inches long and weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces. Her grandparents are Leticia and Robert Ruiz of Big Spring. Paternal grandparents are Lee and Jeannie Canales. She was welcomed home by her sibling, Kloe Canales.

Dear Molly: A room of death

Dear Molly,  
My husband loves to hunt. We have a "room of death" as Jim Carey would say. All of his prize conquests are grandly hanging on the walls of this room. I choose to not go in there because I'm not exactly for hunting except for eating, not as sport.

If however the two are combined then I guess I'm OK. Here is the problem, my husband and two friends went on a very expensive safari. He came back with the head and neck of a giraffe he shot! He mounted it in his den. I had a party last weekend and as many of my guests went through the house socializing they became mortified by the sight of the giraffe. One by one couple began leaving. It was horrible! I did nothing but apologize all evening. What do I do? My husband doesn't care what our friends think and is proud of his kill. I'm so turned off that I can hardly look at him.

Signed,  
Living with a room of death

think your husband is the same guy you cared for prior to going on the safari and making this an issue of character or something else is damaging and can be risky to your relationship.

I suggest at least having a conversation with him and tell him your feelings, from the beginning until now. See what your real thoughts are and make sure you know what you ultimately want from him.

Good luck!  
~Molly



MOLLY MASON

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- Straight Talk". To reach Molly email mollymason\_st@gmail.com or call her at 781-710-2148.

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Dear Living with a room of death,  
I have to ask if you were offended before your friend's reaction or if you felt the same but didn't voice your opinion. Communication is so vital and keeping something like this inside makes it much worse. If you hid your feelings and are now trying to deal with them, it may be too late. But if not please don't let your friends control how you feel. Your husband has a room for which he displays what he wants; even if you think it has gone too far. He doesn't care what people think because he obviously sees animals in a different way than they do.

What you do really is up to you. Can you shut off, install locks or ask folks not to go into the room during parties? I'm not sure if you are saying you are uncomfortable living in the house with the giraffe, or that because of it you feel differently about your husband. It could be a matter of you being embarrassed by your friends' reactions. I

Submit your weddings, births, engagements, anniversaries and other special occasions to  
life@bigspringherald.com

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Newsday Crossword SATURDAY STUMPER by Lars G. Doubleday

Edited by Stanley Newman

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Demagogue's asset
- 9 Ancient gold bearer
- 15 Switch of a sort
- 16 In recent memory
- 17 Use a melon baller on
- 18 When the middle watch ends
- 19 Intersection abbreviation
- 20 Hold, as spectators
- 21 *Mona Lisa* tone-blending technique
- 22 Begin to list
- 24 Service center
- 26 Sched. B item on a 1040
- 27 Fund
- 29 Almond-tree cousin
- 30 Frantic waver's cry
- 31 Subject of 2011 Arab League sanctions
- 33 Like an amateurish cake
- 35 Toused, perhaps
- 37 Bomb
- 40 Fitness portmanteau
- 43 Unique
- 44 Apple variety
- 46 Laborious stuff
- 48 Top-10 baby girl's name since 2005
- 49 Jim Beam or Jack Daniel
- 51 Rock \_\_\_
- 52 Suds holder
- 54 Deep-fried delicacy in India
- 56 Frequent e-mail destination
- 57 Subject for Socrates
- 58 Disingenuous
- 60 Recess riposte
- 61 Confidentially
- 62 Was shellacked by
- 63 Won't deal with
- DOWN**
- 1 Beginner's piano lesson
- 2 "Oh my!"
- 3 Procrastinator's query
- 4 Cause to roar
- 5 Clinches
- 6 Very cool
- 7 Raves, with "off"
- 8 Certain collectibles
- 9 Source of refills
- 10 On the wrong side (of)
- 11 Renewal candidate
- 12 Showed off
- 13 Concurrently
- 14 Shed
- 21 Line's place
- 23 Two-time Winter Olympics host
- 25 Fiber One alternative
- 28 Systems with Nunchuk controllers
- 30 Pit-crew members
- 32 Certain starter
- 34 Trade-show freebies
- 36 One interested in possessions
- 37 Come to terms
- 38 Experimentally, in a way
- 39 Drives down
- 41 A line or two
- 42 Following doctor's orders, perhaps
- 45 Duelist/poet of literature
- 47 Some energy audit findings
- 49 Setting of an Innoventions exhibit
- 50 Far from stylish
- 53 Get (at)
- 55 Guv, for one
- 58 Minor invention
- 59 Squad VIP

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- ♥ Krista Blagrove & Clay John Anderson
- ♥ Judi Ashley & Tyler Murphy
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- ♥ Meredith Barr & Barrett Dcurst
- ♥ Samantha Boehringer & Coley Hollandsworth

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# Menus

## FORSAN ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Grahamwich, juice, milk. Alt. cereal. Lunch: toasted ham and cheese, veggie dippers, baked doritos, orange smiles, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: cheese omelet, toast, juice, milk. Alt. cereal. Lunch: beef fajitas, Spanish rice, pinto beans, fancy gelatin, milk.

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

Thursday: Breakfast: breakfast burrito, juice, milk. Alt. cereal. Lunch: submarine sandwich, lettuce, tomato, pickles, tater tots, sliced peaches, milk.

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

## BIG SPRING ISD

Monday: Breakfast: cocoa krispie, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: charbroiled meatballs, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, peaches, wheat bread, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: sausage/gravy pizza, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: oven fried chicken, red beans and rice, garden salad, ranch dressing, fruit

cocktail, roll, orange smiles, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: breakfast burrito, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: spaghetti, pears, garden salad, ranch dressing, green peas, roll, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: mini maple pancakes, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: chicken patty sandwich, french fries, baby carrots, ranch dressing, sliced apples, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: breakfast quesadilla, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: barbecue beef sandwich, sweet potato fries, sliced cucumbers, ranch dressing, pineapple chunks, banana, milk.

## COAHOMA ISD

Monday: Breakfast: pop tarts, sausage, apple juice, milk. Lunch: taco beef pie, salad, mixed fruit, cookies, milk. Corn dogs.

Tuesday: Breakfast: donuts, sausage, applesauce, milk. Lunch: chicken fajitas, bell peppers, onions, refried beans, salad, milk. Burritos.

Wednesday: Breakfast: waffles ham, syrup, orange juice, milk. Lunch: spaghetti, salad, mixed fruit cups, rolls, McRib on bun, pickle spears.

Thursday: Breakfast: biscuits, sausage, gravy, jelly, orange juice, milk. Lunch: chicken patty, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: pancakes, sausage, syrup, orange juice, milk. Lunch: hamburgers, chips, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, grapes, milk.

## SANDS ISD

Monday: Breakfast: biscuit and sausage, juice and milk. Lunch: hamburger, lettuce, tomatoes and pickles, tater tots, carrots with ranch, grapes and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: donuts, juice and milk. Lunch: chicken alfredo, green beans, hot roll, slice pears and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: breakfast stick, juice and milk. Lunch: beef and bean burrito, Spanish rice, seasoned corn, apple and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: muffins, juice and milk. Lunch: golden fish strips, mac and cheese, tossed salad, cookie and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza, juice and milk. Lunch: barbecue on a bun, baked chips, pickle spears, corn cobbett, pudding and milk.

## SENIOR CENTER

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

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

Wednesday: steak fingers, mashed potatoes, pears and onions, tossed salad, cake, milk.

Thursday: smoked sausage, baked beans, sauerkraut, rolls, blushing pears, milk.

Friday: chicken spaghetti, green beans, garlic bread, salad, apple pie, milk.



## Howard County Republican groups honor Morgan as student of the month

Courtesy photo

Jessi Morgan is the Howard County Republican Groups student of the month for February. Jessi is the daughter of Jesse and Donna Morgan, and is a senior at Coahoma. Jessi has participated in band, basketball, student council and the FFA in each of her four years at Coahoma High School. She has also been very active in community service and is currently vice president of the Coahoma High School student council. Pictured left: Craig Bailey, Howard County Republican chairman presents Jessi Morgan with her certificate.

## Join Boy Scouts & Go Fishing!

17TH ANNUAL  
SNYDER FISH-A-TON

SATURDAY  
APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>  
TOWLE PARK  
POND IN SNYDER

8:00AM - 4:00PM  
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 7:00AM

Camp at the Towle Park  
the night before!  
(Arrive Friday between 6:00-8:30pm)

\$5.00 ADMISSION

PATCHES AVAILABLE FOR \$3.00/EA.

NO LICENSE REQUIRED

Pond stocked with  
Catfish & Perch!

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Hourly Prizes  
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In Scurry County

For more information contact  
Brian Sweeney (432) 212-3577  
Email: [Brian.Sweeney@Scouting.org](mailto:Brian.Sweeney@Scouting.org)

[www.buffalotrailbsa.org](http://www.buffalotrailbsa.org)

BIG SPRING, TEXAS  
48th Annual

## RATTLESNAKE ROUNDUP

and  
Arts & Crafts Show & Flea Market

March 23, 24, & 25, 2012

Howard County Fair Barns

Featuring: Professional Snake  
Handlers

SPONSOR: Big Spring AMBUCS



Admission to Roundup  
ADULTS: \$5.00 CHILDREN (4-11) \$3.00  
FREE Admission to Arts & Crafts & Flea Market

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Friday, March 23

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

◆ Weigh-in of snakes

#### Saturday, March 24

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

◆ Snake Shows, Demonstrations, Races

◆ Arts & Crafts Show - Dora Roberts Bldg.

#### Sunday, March 25

Noon to 4:00 p.m.

◆ Weigh-in of snakes

Noon to 5:00 p.m.

◆ Snake Shows, Demonstrations, Races

◆ Arts & Crafts Show - Dora Roberts Bldg.

Contest for: Heaviest Snake and Snake with Most Rattles

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# Dear Margo: Time for psychological warfare

**Dear Margo:** My roommate's mother commented about my weight — to the roommate, who is now giving me an ultimatum a b o u t W e i g h t Watchers, or she will never do anything for me again. (I tried WW once, and it's not an experience I wish to repeat.) That she is issuing an ultimatum really hurt, but to make it worse, she said she won't hear any "excuses."



MARGO HOWARD

ments on my eating habits and reiterations of the ultimatum. Did I mention she says, "I'm not saying this to be mean" every time? And that she's called me fat, adding, "I'm sorry but you are."

I have nowhere else to go. I have a cat and can't afford my own place. I would also hate to lose a friendship over this. I'm not in the least proud of my weight, but the mother's butting in and the roommate's behavior as a result upset me greatly. I doubt either of them is concerned about my health, and in the mother's case, what should she care anyway? What can I do? — *Beleaguered*

**Dear Be:** I would

throw the discomfort back her way. Tell the pushy roommate you resent being browbeaten, the subject is none of her business or her mother's, you're tired of the insults, and maybe she should see a counselor about her insensitivity, if not meanness. I suspect her financial situation is similar to yours, so maybe drop into the conversation that if she doesn't tone it down about your weight, one of you may have to consider alternative living arrangements. — *Margo, tactically*

**"Female Trouble"**

**Dear Margo:** I work for a small company on a team of four women in

their late 20s. There's a problem with one of my colleagues that might strike you as odd.

"Mary" suffers from severe PMS. Several days before the onset of her menses, she turns into a nightmare. Moreover, she gets a leave of absence for a couple of days each month because she feels ill when she has her period.

I'm not a freak who makes another lady's cycle her business, but after working so closely for two years, you just notice such things.

In the first months of working together, I sympathized, but it's getting to be too much now. She's not the easiest person to begin with, but during the week

prior to her period, she becomes intolerable.

I am getting fed up covering her workload when she is out. I gently suggested she consult a doctor. Her answer boils down to "no use seeing a doctor, that's the way I was born."

I brought this up to our boss, who told me he is aware of the behavior but is reluctant to let her go because of her knowledge of our company, which is true. Also, he is reluctant to deal with the whole subject. Should I start looking for another job? Should I start nagging our boss? — *Feeling Stuck*

**Dear Feel:** "I was born this way," ergo no need to see a doctor, is falla-

cious. Were that the case, there would be no need for orthodontists. While it is often true that PMS sufferers are stuck with this unfortunate periodic personality change (no pun intended) in addition to the pain, I would try to get your colleague to give her doctor a try. I asked a doc about this, and the first line of treatment for severe PMS is an SSRI, usually Prozac. Good luck with either fixing it or living with it. — *Margo, hopefully*

*Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. © 2012 MARGO HOWARD. DISTRIBUTED BY CREATORS.COM*

As if the Mercury retrograde wasn't enough, Uranus adds a "Can I get a what-what?" to the mix as he commits to his annual alignment with the sun. There's a layer of glossy tension reaching around the cosmic scene like a bubble. It's just the kind of thing that Aries energy can't resist. Don't you just want to pop it to see what happens?

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Your joy may be playing tricks on you now. Making happiness your ultimate goal will not bring you happiness. However, working toward a worthy purpose will have a happy side effect.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). "You are loved. There's an invisible world all around you. A kingdom of spirits commissioned to guard you, do you not see it?" From "Jane Eyre," by your sign mate Charlotte Bronte, and most applicable.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You have a talent that you never think of as such: You can quickly unwind your mind and change gears when it's time. This ease you feel in the transitions will help you win at life today and beyond

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). If your body expects



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

a certain sensation, it will not feel it as acutely. It's the surprises that hurt or thrill your senses the most. You'll use this principle to your advantage.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You have marvelous potential for getting what you want out of whatever kind of relationship you focus your powers on now. This is true mostly because you're so adept at sensing what others need and offering it in exchange.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You can improve other people's moods just by listening to them. You have a way of making people feel heard and understood on deeper levels. Your ears are instruments of healing.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When accidents happen, you have a mature approach. Life has taught you not to take things too personally. However, if you think someone hurt you on purpose, that changes the entire scenario.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your offerings are strong, and you present them in a very appealing light. In the end, it boils down to confidence. Your opinion of yourself will be the determining factor in whether you get a deal or not.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have reason to be ever so cautiously optimistic. Expecting to have an easy road will make the road harder. Conversely, preparing for hardship somehow

makes you rather magically immune to it.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's humor in the argumentative banter that goes on between you and a loved one, though you don't always see it as funny in the moment. The evening's objectivity makes prior interactions seem ridiculous.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Preconceptions will work in your favor now. Play out imaginary scenarios in your head as a way of getting ready. Think a situation through several times before enacting it in real life.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll exert high energy for most of the day and then hit a definite turning point this evening. Relax when it's time to relax, and you'll save yourself from burning out or feeling run down later.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (March 25). You've pushed yourself hard. Now take a breather. Even though the next three months feel like a lovely coast, you'll learn from this period of your life. May brings family bonding. In late June, work gets more challenging and, after you rise to the occasion, more lucrative, too. Love makes life exciting in August. Aquarius and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 1, 33 and 41.

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2010 Chevrolet Cobalt LT, Stk# A199, Silver.....	\$13,995
2011 Chevrolet Aveo LT, Stk# B045, White.....	\$14,495
2008 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ, Stk# B009, White.....	\$15,995
2011 Chevrolet Malibu LS, Stk# A142, Silver.....	\$16,495
2011 Chevrolet Malibu LS, Stk# A160A, Silver.....	\$16,495
2010 Chevrolet Impala LT, Stk# L168, Black.....	\$17,495
2010 Chevrolet Impala LT, Stk# L184, White.....	\$17,495
2009 Mercury Milan Premier, Stk# A079, White.....	\$17,495
2011 Chevrolet Impala LT, Stk# A071, Gold Mist.....	\$17,995
2011 Chevrolet Cruze LT, Stk# A192, Blue.....	\$17,995
2011 Chevrolet Malibu 1LT, Stk# B044, Gold.....	\$17,995
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2008 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ, Stk# B012, Gold Mist.....	\$18,995
2007 Cadillac DTS, Stk# A127, Gray.....	\$20,995
2011 Chevrolet Malibu 2LT, Stk# B008.....	\$20,995
2008 Honda CR-V EX-L, Stk# A110, Silver/Blue.....	\$21,495
2011 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ, Stk# B046, Brown.....	\$21,995
2011 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ, Stk# B033, White.....	\$22,995
2011 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ, Stk# B035, Black.....	\$22,995
2011 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ, Stk# B041, Black.....	\$22,995
2011 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ, Stk# B049, Black.....	\$22,995
2004 Chevrolet Corvette, Srk# A081A, Red.....	\$23,895
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2011 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ, Stk# B050, Diamond White.....	\$23,995
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2007 Chevrolet Silverado, Stk# A181, White.....	\$17,995
2009 Chevrolet Silverado, Stk# B010, White.....	\$17,995
2009 Chevrolet Silverado, Stk# A161A, Black.....	\$20,995
2011 Chevrolet Silverado, Stk# B042, Black.....	\$25,995
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2011 Chevrolet Silverado, Stk# A197, White.....	\$34,995
2011 Chevrolet Silverado, Stk# A198, White.....	\$35,495
2010 Ford F150, Stk# A113, Black.....	\$37,995

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2006 Buick Rendezvous, Stk# B029, Red.....	\$11,995
2007 Chevrolet HHR LT, Stk# A190A, Orange.....	\$11,995
1983 American Motors Scrambler, Stk# A150, Blue.....	\$12,995
2008 Chevrolet Uplander, Stk# B016, Red.....	\$15,495
2011 Chevrolet HHR LT, Stk# A154, Brown.....	\$15,495
2011 Chevrolet HHR LT, Stk# A155, Red.....	\$15,995
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2008 Pontiac Torrent GX, Stk# A166, White.....	\$20,995
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2011 Chevrolet Equinox LT, Stk# A143, White.....	\$23,995
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2009 Chevrolet Tahoe C150, Stk# A175A, Black.....	\$27,995
2011 Chevrolet Traverse L, Stk# B034, White.....	\$28,995
2011 Chevrolet C1500 Suburban, Stk# A171, Silver.....	\$34,995
2011 Chevrolet C1500 Suburban, Stk# A169, Silver.....	\$36,995
2010 Lexus RX 350, Stk# A122, Blue.....	\$37,995
2011 Buick Enclave CX, Stk# B048, Red.....	\$37,995
2010 GMC Yukon Denali, Stk# B039, Silver.....	\$46,995
2010 Cadillac Escalade, Stk# B038, Black.....	\$53,995

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# Workforce solutions has means to help employers, job seekers

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
Staff Writer

Building a better workforce is only possible if employers and employees can find each other.

Workforce Solutions Permian Basin — located in the Warren Building on Howard College's campus — is doing its part in helping make those matches.

"We are employer driven. We are trying to help the employer and



Miramontes

jobs seekers. Veterans are our main priority," said Sylvia Miramontes, Workforce Solutions Permian Basin office manager.

In order to further their efforts in building the workforce, Workforce Solutions offers several services at no cost. For those seeking employment, there is free access to fax machines, email, internet, phones and other resources.

"Any of the resources they need, as long as it is job-related, are free to them and accessible," Miramontes said.

Telephones and a copy machine are only some of the tools accessible to those seeking new employment. There is also a website providing 24-hour, 7-day-a-week support at [www.workintexas.com](http://www.workintexas.com).

"Employers and employees can use this website to find the best match," Miramontes said. "The employers are able to see the skills of those applying for jobs and job seekers are able to see the requirements of a job. Both can tell if they will be a match before ever having to contact the other."

Through the use of Workforce Solutions, Miramontes said employers' cost can be lowered when it comes to the recruitment process.

"Not only will it simplify their recruiting process and lower their costs, it will help them evaluate the job market," Miramontes said.

Workforce Solutions Permian Basin helps 17 counties.

"We are investing in the future through jobs and training," Miramontes said. "Our motto

See **WORK**, Page 6B

# Energy Watch



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

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



The economic bears have had it rough the past few years. They keep bashing the economy, but it keeps recovering. Watching them fight through the five stages of grief is educational. First there was denial, then anger (some are still in this stage), now it's bargaining.

The bears say, yes, the jobs numbers were good in February: nearly 300,000 private payrolls (with revisions) while the household survey showed 428,000. The unemployment rate stayed at 8.3 percent due to an increase in the labor force of 476,000. That gain undermined the bears' denial about the recent drop in the jobless rate, where they were saying it was all due to a shrinking labor force, with fewer people looking for jobs.

The bargaining has now begun and the bears are saying "job growth might be OK, and the labor force may be growing, but the jobs are inferior, low paying and of low quality." This is actually an old argument, the same one liberals used in the 1980s to denigrate the huge job creation in the Reagan expansion, calling them "McJobs."

It's true that temporary jobs, which make up only 2.2 percent of all private sector positions, have accounted for almost 13 percent of job growth in the past two years. But this is not unusual. Temp jobs are always more cyclical than the rest of the economy, falling more when the economy shrinks and rising faster when it recovers. At 2.2 percent of all private sector jobs, the share is still lower than the peak in 2000, as well as where it was in 2005-07.

It's true, as well, that health care jobs are expanding. But, in the past two years, health care jobs have held steady at just below 13 percent of all private-sector jobs. No increase in their share of the workforce. In other words, the growth in this sector mirrors job growth overall.

It's also true that jobs at bars and restaurants are growing faster than the rest of payrolls. But that's part of a long-term trend. In the past two years, 13.5 percent of all private payroll gains have been at bars and restaurants. But these same positions accounted for 15 percent of private payroll gains in 2003-07.

None of this is to say that that the job market could not be better, even much better. The expansion in the size of government over the past several years has resulted in slower job creation and slower wage growth than would otherwise be the case. The bigger the government, the smaller the private sector becomes and the less dynamic the economy. This undermines opportunity and interferes with free market growth. If you want to understand this, think jobs not created by the Keystone project, and the bankruptcy and job loss at Solyndra.

Shrinking the size of government over the next decade would accelerate payroll gains and raise living standards at a faster pace. But even these mistakes can't stop an amazingly resilient economy. The bears need to move toward acceptance. It could be better, but it ain't as bad as they think.

*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 March 12, and provided courtesy of Bhupen Agrawal, managing director/branch manager of Wells Fargo Advisors' Midland office. 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. 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. Additional information is available upon request at 432-684-7335. Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC, member SIPC, is a registered broker-dealer and a separate non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.*

# EDC to aid job fair

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
Staff Writer

Not a lot of action came out of the monthly Big Spring Economic Development Corporation meeting Tuesday afternoon, but what did might result in filling some jobs locally.

The board approved sponsorship for a job fair — scheduled from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. April 24 at the activity center on the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf campus

— to be put on through the joint efforts of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and Workforce Solutions.

"The board decided to help support the workforce and chamber event like we did last year," Wegman said. "It includes local employers looking for local employees and this is one of the ways we can help support our employers in the job search."

See **EDC**, Page 6B

# Scenic Mountain looking for patients' choice in nursing

Special to the Herald

Scenic Mountain Medical Center is once again seeking to honor one of its nurses with the Patient Choice Award, which recognizes the quality care, comfort and compassion demonstrated in his or her daily work.

Continuing the tradition of the last few years, the hospital is asking for input from the community. One nurse chosen from the nominations will receive the Patient Choice Award at SMMC during Nurses' Week, May 6-12.

Scenic Mountain asks former patients and family members to be involved in spotlighting an exceptional nurse because patients are the ones directly impacted by outstanding care.

"Sometimes it's just too hard to

spot one nurse when there are so many nurses in our hospital doing such an incredible job caring for our patients," said Dr. Judy

come to Scenic Mountain for inpatient, outpatient or emergency care in the last year and you have a nurse you'd like to thank for going the extra mile, don't miss this chance. Nominations for the 2012 Patient Choice Award will be accepted until Friday, April 23. Nominations can be made online at the hospital's website at [www.SMMCCares.com/nominations](http://www.SMMCCares.com/nominations).

Or, nominations can be e-mailed, mailed or faxed (as long as it arrives by the deadline). Email nominations to [kim\\_howell@chs.net](mailto:kim_howell@chs.net), mail to: Kim

Howell, Marketing Director, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 West Eleventh Place, Big Spring, Texas, 79720 or fax to: 432-268-4732.

Roever, chief nursing officer for SMMC. "That's why we are asking patients to help us make the choice. They see the little things that matter so much on a very personal level."

If you or a family member have



**Alon Brands, Alon USA and Big Spring community leaders invite Crossroads area residents to a special event from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday, April 2, at the 7-Eleven store on 401 Birdwell Lane.**



# Obama taps Jim Yong Kim for World Bank

**JULIE PACE**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Friday nominated Dartmouth College president and global health expert Jim Yong Kim to lead the World Bank, an unconventional pick that could help to quell criticism in the developing world of the U.S. stranglehold on the international organization's top post.



Kim

Obama said Kim, a Korean-born physician and pioneer in the treatment of HIV, AIDS and tuberculosis, has the breadth of experience on development issues needed to carry out the financial institution's anti-poverty mission.

"It's time for a development professional to lead the

world's largest development agency," Obama said Friday morning during a Rose Garden ceremony.

Obama was joined by Kim, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who first recommended that Obama consider Kim for the World Bank post.

The 187-nation World Bank focuses on fighting poverty and promoting development. It is a leading source of devel-

opment loans for countries seeking financing to build dams, roads and other infrastructure projects.

Since its founding in 1944, the World Bank has always been headed by an American. But developing countries, who have long sought to gain more power in the organization, planned an unprecedented challenge to Obama's pick this year and considered nominating three other candidates.

However, Kim is still expected to succeed outgoing president Robert Zoellick, who announced in February that he was stepping down.

The actual selection will be made next month by the World Bank's 25-member executive board. The United States, as the world's largest economy, has the largest percentage of the votes.

Kim is expected to travel around the world to rally support for his nomination.

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 Cammellia 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

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Grantor: Holy Trinity Catholic Church Grantee: R2 R&D LLC Property: The S/4 of Lot 3 and all of Lots4-6, Block 44, Original Town of Big Spring Date: March 5, 2012 Grantor: Costatex Inc. Grantee: Diane Click Fryar Property: The S/50 feet of the SW/4 of Block 38, College Heights Date: March 7, 2012 Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien: Grantor: Horace E. Tubb Grantee: Bobby Edmondson and Melissa Edmondson Property: A 5.82-acre tract out of Section 46, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 27, 2012 Grantor: Horace E. Tubb Grantee: Bobby Edmondson and Melissa Edmondson Property: A 1.798-acre tract out of Section 46, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Feb. 27, 2012 Grantor: Howard Smith and Renee Smith Grantee: Billy Rawls and Rebecca Rawls Property: Lots 25-26, Block 10, Amended Plat of South Haven Date: Feb. 27, 2012 Grantor: Mike Craddock Grantee: Richard Hirzel Property: Lot 8, Block 23, College Park Estates Date: March 5, 2012 Grantor: Julian Moncada and Vicki Moncada Grantee: Clippa Strickland and Sunni Strickland Property: Lot 2, Block 3, College Park Estates Date: March 7, 2012 Grantor: Horace E. Tubb Grantee: Michael Williamson and Magen Williamson Property: An 8-acre tract out of Section 46, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: March 7, 2012

WORK

Continued from Page 5B

we have been using is, 'We put people to work.'" Some of the programs supported by Workforce Solutions include the

Workforce Investment Act and an in-school/out-of-school program. "As part of the Workforce Investment Act we use a target list which shows us what jobs are in demand in West Texas," Miramontes said. "We even provide finan-

cial help for those who are looking at a career change and are needing to further their education or training." Another program which draws in the youth is the in- and out-of-school program. "Our main goal is to

prompt youth to stay in school and help them find a job when they get out," Miramontes said. The program offers tutoring, tuition help and setting goals for career occupational training. A GED assistance workshop and help for dis-

abled workers are also available. To find out more about Workforce Solutions or to take advantage of its resources, stop by its office on the Howard College campus between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday

through Friday. For more information, call 263-8373. Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

EDC

Continued from Page 5B

Last year was the first time for the job fair to be held and there were an estimated 30 employers participating and some 150 people looking for employment or career change ideas. Usual business opened Tuesday's meeting, with board members approving the February financials and investment reports. The annual au-

dit for 2010-2011 was presented and approved by the board. "Now it will be presented to the city council next week in their meeting," Executive Director Terry Wegman said. An executive session was also held, though no action was taken. According to Wegman, a local company is looking to expand, but at this time ideas are still being discussed. The meeting conclud-

ed with Wegman delivering the director's report. One of the updates included was in regards to the Big Spring Rail System. Another grant has been applied for by Transport Handling Specialist and the city of Big Spring to help with the operation and repair to the rail line. Approval or denial for the grant is expected to come within the next few months. To find out more about the BSEDC, visit its website at www.big-

springtx.com or follow it on Facebook. Also more information can be obtained by calling, 264-6032 or stopping by the office at 215 W. Third. Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

Answer to previous puzzle grid with letters SLUR, BOCA, SPYON, LOVE, LINZ, TRUMP, AGUA, ALBA, MOLAR, WALLABY, CLEAVER, SNAIL, EBRO, STEPBABYSTEP, TAJMAHAL, STOLE, ONO, SNARF, NBC, ETHEL, DAYBREAK, SINGABLEFILE, OBOE, AMISS, EXTRABASEHABIT, MALIA, RITZ, TITO, GRIST, ODOR, CZAR, SLITS, NAPA, HARM

sudoku ANSWERS grid with numbers 8 7 6 4 2 5 3 9 1, 2 4 1 9 7 3 8 6 5, 5 3 9 1 6 8 7 4 2, 9 6 8 3 1 7 2 5 4, 7 5 3 2 9 4 6 1 8, 1 2 4 8 5 6 9 3 7, 6 9 7 5 8 1 4 2 3, 4 8 5 6 3 2 1 7 9, 3 1 2 7 4 9 5 8 6

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406 Rannels  
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"Se Habla Espanol"  
With RAL Approval"

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Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal.

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(432) 213-0391 cell  
lane@bondwebs.com

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**This Could Be Your Ad**

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL **432-263-7331**  
Herald Classifieds

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**C & D Truck Accessories**

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Tint  
Cars, Trucks and Houses  
5 year limited warranty

**Help Wanted**

**Coastal Transport**  
We now have a  
**\$2000.00**  
**Sign On Bonus!**

We are now hiring drivers to deliver petroleum products in and around the Permian Basin. Qualifications:  
\*Class A CDL drivers w/hazmat and tanker endorsements  
\*23 years of age or older  
\*Scheduled Days Off  
\*Home Everyday  
Please contact  
1-888-527-7221

**COCKTAIL WAITRESSES.** Outgoing & Enthusiastic? No experience necessary. Must be 18 or older. Call 432-213-0946 for application, San Franciscan Bar & Grill.

**DAY'S INN** needs Front Desk person. Apply at Front Office @ 2701 South Gregg Street.

**Dependable Maintenance** person needed for local Apt. Complex. Experience required. Must have reliable transportation background check required. Apply at 1002 North Main. 1pm-5pm.

**EXPERIENCED WAIT-STAFF** needed for day and evening shift. Apply in person at Big Spring Country Club. No phone calls please.

**FARM HAND** Wanted! Experience only apply. \$550.00 Weekly plus Bonus. Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

**FULL or PART-TIME** Sales Clerk and Yard Man needed. Must be dependable and have a valid drivers license. Apply at 1515 E. FM 700. No Phone Calls, Please.

**GENERAL MAINTENANCE:** Must have a desire to work in a team environment and the ability to follow directions. Must have at least 1 yr maintenance experience. Abilities to include: painting experience; general plumbing, general sheetrock repair and texture and HVAC skills. Must have own tools, ability to take afterhours and weekend calls; valid TX drivers license and liability insurance. Apply in person at Bent Tree Apartments, 1 Courtney Place.

**HELP WANTED** Class A CDL Drivers with Tanker Endorsement. Only applicants that are able to pass a Drug Test, have a Clean Driving Record and Valid Medical Card. Please call Richard at 432-853-5998.

**HILLCREST CDC** has a Part-time Position Available, Mon.-Fri. If you are energetic and love kids please come apply. Must have high school diploma or GED. Hillcrest CDC, 2000 West FM 700.

**Help Wanted**

**IMMEDIATE OPENING** for a full and part time Sales Person. Apply in person Allan's Gallery, 202 Scurry.

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.

**TAKING APPLICATION** for Front Desk and Housekeeper. Experience will be helpful. Come by LaQuinta Inn and Suites 1102 W. I-20. No phone calls please.

**LOOKING FOR** a Change? CNA/Personal Assistant needed for PRN work with Caring Hearts Home Health. Duties include but not limited to: bathing, cooking, light housekeeping, laundry, running errands and sitter service. To join our team for an exciting career come by 1900 Scurry to fill out an application and talk with our Personnel Manager.

**MIDWEST FINANCE CORP** now hiring Part-time CSR. Apply in person, 600 S. Gregg. No Phone Calls!

**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** Backhoe Operator with CDL. Must pass drug test. Call 432-394-4161.

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

**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

**POSITION OPEN** for a Multi-task person for Office Manager & Safety Person. Must have computer skills and be able to do general office duties. Fax resume to (432)354-2669.

**Help Wanted**

**NOW HIRING** Mechanic Helper/ Lot Person. Would prefer someone with experience. Must have Valid Drivers License. Please come by Neighbors Auto Sales 1300 East 4th Street. No Phone Calls Please.

**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.

**PHILLIPS CRANE & RIGGING** Looking for Crane Operator. Must be able to operate a 60 ton crane. Starting Pay: \$18.00/hr Benefits, Holidays & Vacation 432-264-6600 1305 E. Airpark Drive

**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 DEPARTMENT** of Family and Protective Services has openings for a CPS Family Based Safety Services Workers and Conservatorship Workers in Big Spring, TX. The position, under the direction of a child placement supervisor, performs advanced social work related to protective services, intake, child abuse or neglect, investigation, foster care and adoptions. Work involves making determinations of appropriate actions necessary to resolve family emotional and/or physical stress situations which cause child abuse or neglect. The position interacts routinely with children and families, representatives from various organizations and the general public. Monthly salary range is \$2,644.08 - \$4,098.33. Minimum qualification: Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university. Knowledge of child development, family dynamics, child protective services policy and procedures, community resources and computer skills. Please apply on-line at <http://hhsjobs.hhsc.state.tx.us>. Refer to Requisition # 188562, 193800 and 183784. EO/AA/VR Employer.

**Help Wanted**

**WYLIE IMPLEMENT** seeking Service Technicians for Lamesa & Seminole divisions. Experience required. Applicants must be able to diagnose and repair electrical systems, hydraulic systems, power train systems, and diesel engines. Salary plus commission package averaging \$55,000-\$75,000. Salary based on experience, commission, major medical, 401k.

Call 1-800-722-4001 fax resume to (806)744-6440 or email: jimmyw@wyliesprayers.com Attn: Jimmy McLearn

**PREMIER NEWSPAPER** Seeking qualified bookkeeper, knowledge in quickens, payroll and AR. Some travel. Vacation, sick leave, 401k, health insurance available. Salary based on experience. Contact Heritage Publications 432-263-7331 attention Ron or email: publisher@thebigspringherald.com

**RESPECT IS WHAT AVERITT IS ALL ABOUT! LOCAL COMBO DRIVERS**  
\* \$2,000 SIGN-ON BONUS!  
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\* Home Daily! Predictable Schedule  
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**RUSTY'S OILFIELD** Service In Stanton has immediate openings for Mechanic, CDL Driver, Roustabout Pushers and Helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

**SEEKING ACCOUNTING** clerk- accounting experience a plus, but not required. Must have excellent written communication skills. M-F 8-5. Pay starting at \$12/hr. Health, vision, and dental ins. 100% paid! EOE. Apply in person at 9400 S. Service Rd, Coahoma, TX, or call 432-394-4604.

The **BEST WESTERN** in Big Spring is currently accepting applications for Front Desk. Apply at 915 Lamesa Hwy..

**TOOL SPECIALIST** needed Downhole experience needed, packer experience preferred. Great Pay and benefits. Call Russell Thunderbird Tool & Rental (325)207-9822

**Help Wanted**

**VETERINARY ASSISTANT POSITION**

Outgoing, friendly personality. Experience with animals and computers a plus. Duties involve Front Desk, plus rotation on weekends and emergencies. Salary based on experience. Animal Care Position- 20 hr/wk. Great for High School or College Student. Call 432-263-0514.

**WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY** Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are background check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 19 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

**Items for Sale**

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

**Miscellaneous**

**PAYING TOO** much for Car Insurance? We find you the best carrier & SAVINGS in your area Call NOW to get a FREE QUOTE- 800-380-4286.

**REDUCE YOUR CABLE BILL!** \*Get a 4-Room All-Digital Satellite system installed for FREE and programming starting at \$24.99/mo. FREE HD/DVR upgrade for new callers, SO CALL NOW. 1-800-795-6129.

**TI-TEX TRAILER SALES** Cargo Van & Flat Bed utilities. Can Custom Order Come by and see 1211 East 4th Street

**Mobile Homes**

**NEW 2624** sq. ft. 4/3 Home DRY WALL CONSTRUCTION 2 X 6 WALLS + OFFICE DOUBLE PANE WINDOWS WILL FINANCE 325-677-3113 r36525.

**On the Farm**

**2004 BOBCAT T300** Track Skid Steer Loader Cab Heat Air. Asking \$5500 E-mail me for pictures and details hauryte3@msn.com 832-548-4507.

**Pets**

**Check this one!** 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**

**1 & 2 BDRM APTS.** furnished or unfurnished. All bills paid. also 2 thru 6 bdrm Homes, 24Hr. maintenance, Central Heat/Air, Pool, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, Washer/dryer connections. Call **(432)263-3461- Rosa.**

**1905 MAIN** 2 bedroom 1 bath with gargeage central heat and air. \$800 month 1 year lease required plus deposit. No pets. Call 432-263-6514, Owner/broker

**3 BDRM,** 1 bath, game room, privacy fence. Very Nice, Near College, Quite Neighborhood. \$625.00 month. Call (432)816-5279 for more information..

**3225 AUBURN.** Three or four bedroom with one bath & CHA. \$35,000, as is. Needs carpet. No owner finance, not for rent. (432)267-6667.

**NOW LEASING** 1, 2 & 3 Bdrm Apts. Built in microwave, full-size Washer & Dryer included, private patio/balcony w/storage area, playground area, fitness center, and community 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

**NOW RENTING**

**RV COURT** has Spaces for Rent, also have RV trailers on lots for Rent. All Bills Paid. Call (432)263-3461- Irma.

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

**Real Estate for Sale**

**20 MINUTES** West of Big Spring **BRICK HOME,** 3-2-2 1810 sf, 2+ acres, metal roof, water well, sprinkler system, new wood floor, granite countertops, 30x50 shop, 30x45 shop. \$275,000 (432)756-3415.

**West Texas Centers**  
Looking for a rewarding career? Look no further. If this sounds like the opportunity for you the responsibilities would include working with a highly trained team to provide daily living skills training and supports to clients. West Texas Centers has part-time openings up to 32 hours weekly starting at \$9.30 an hour. Full time positions are also available with salary ranges of \$8.20-\$8.75 per hour plus benefits. Full time positions offer a full benefit package to include health insurance, dental, generous paid personal time off and a great retirement program. Applications available at 409 Rannels or [www.wtcmhmr.org](http://www.wtcmhmr.org) or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769.EOE 220636

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**FAST FREE PICKUP RUNNING OR NOT**  
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Try Progene to restore power, performance, and confidence... **NATURALLY!**  
**progene** DAILY COMPLEX  
**CALL FOR FREE SUPPLY** Pay Only \$8P  
**800-217-6755**

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



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- Well Heads & More

**Lee Alvarado**  
**(432) 816-4688**

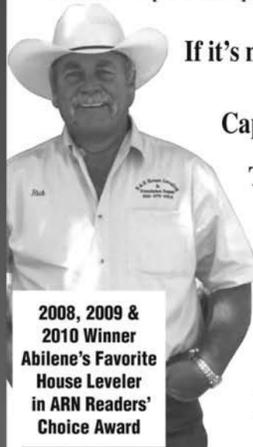
P.O. Box 1784  
Big Spring, TX 79721

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- Landscape Friendly

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**Owner: Rick Burrow**



Licensed & Bonded for Home Owner's Protection  
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CONCRETE  
SOIL  
UNSATURABLE ROCK STRATUM OR 'FLOATER'  
CLAY  
LOAD-BEARING ROCK STRATUM



**Real Estate for Sale**

**2200 MERRILY**, 2021 sq. ft., 3-2-2 corner lot, Spectacular View, 2 living areas + sunroom, fireplace, 24'x36' workshop, sprinkler system, storm windows. \$165,000.00. Call (432)260-9922.

**2601 APACHE Drive**- 3 bdrm, 2 bath, approx. 2084 sq. ft. with extra lot, workshop in back. \$115,000.. No Owner Financing. Call (432)466-1441.

**3 BEDROOM** 2 bath mobile home with 3 lots, new metal roof, fence and carport. All new windows. New Septic System. In Ackerly. Very nice. No owner financing. \$41,500 432-517-0468

**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.

**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.

**NOBODY ASKS FOR IT**

Help **STOP** Sexual Assaults  
**Call 263-3312**  
Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring

**Legals**

**NOTICE OF SALE ABANDONED VEHICLE**

In compliance with article 683.02 Transportation Code. I will proceed to sell at the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office on Tuesday April 10, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. to the highest bidder.

**Abandoned Motor Vehicles at the described locations and the times listed below.**

- 1999 Chevy Malibu  
Vin# 1GN1ND52T9192288  
Tag# BMT502
  - 1995 Mercury Marquis  
Vin# 2MELM75W6SX629613  
Tag# 449XSW
  - 1992 Chevy S-10  
Vin# INGCCS19R1N8170522  
Tag# 39FVN7
  - 1994 Lincoln Town Car  
Vin# 1LNLM81W8Y739291  
Tag# CR9B311
  - 1982 Ford Dump truck  
Vin# 1FDYS80K7CVA28216  
Tag# NR7650
  - 2001 Ford F-350  
Vin# 1FTNW20F61EB73045  
Tag# AU55477
  - 1997 Mercury Mountaineer  
Vin# 4M2DU52P3VUJ07647  
Tag # JRW821
  - 2000 Mercury Marquis
- Any questions, please contact the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office.  
The successful bidder upon payment of the money to The Glasscock County Sheriff's Office, is entitled to take possession of the vehicle and apply for a title free and clear of all liens and claims to ownership. All vehicles are sold as is, without warranty or guarantee of performance.  
#7306 March 25 and April 1 & 8, 2012

**Legals**

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS**

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

**CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)**

Dist/Div: Abilene  
Contract 6240-07-001 for ON CALL MBGF CONTRACT in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on April 12, 2012 at 1:30 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$286,597.50.

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](http://www.txdot.gov) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 39594

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.

#7307 March 25 & 26, 2012

**Legals**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of WILLIAM (BILL) NEEL CURRIE, Deceased, were issued on March 19, 2012, in Cause No. P-14053, pending in the County Court of HOWARD County, Texas, to: LAURA MAUD HUITT.

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: **LAURA MAUD HUITT**  
**PO Box 238**  
**Garden City, Texas 79739**  
**DATED** the 19th day of March, 2012.

GLYNNA MOUTON  
Attorney for  
LAURA MAUD HUITT  
State Bar No.: 14606500  
MOUTON & MOUTON, PC  
200 West Third Street  
Big Spring, TX 79720  
Telephone: (432)263-8397  
Facsimile: (432)263-8686  
#7314 March 25, 2012

**Legals**

**LEGAL NOTICE:**

This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on April 9, 2012. You have until October 6, 2012, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1343 Monthly Bonus** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 4.94. This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on April 30, 2012. You have until October 27, 2012, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1360 Triple Tripler** (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 4.85. These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on May 30, 2012. You have until November 26, 2012, to redeem any tickets for these games: **#1293 Double Blackjack** (\$2) overall odds are 1 in 4.85, **#1370 Silver Bells** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.86, **#1378 Instant Cash Five**® (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 2.63. 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.  
#7312 March 25, 2012

**Legals**

Forsan Independent School District will be accepting proposals for construction/remodel work on one teacherage. Remodeling work is to follow a specific timeline (May-June). Fisd will purchase all materials. Work includes floor tiling, painting, drywall install/repair, texturing, hanging kitchen cabinets, and closing in a carport. Must be experienced company with references, insurance and bonding. Sealed proposals will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on April 4, 2012. Proposals must be clearly marked on the envelope: **SEALED PROPOSAL- TEACHERAGE REMODELS.** Please mail or deliver your proposal to:  
Forsan ISD  
Attn: Randy Johnson  
411 W. 6th Street  
P.O. Drawer A  
Forsan, TX 79733  
Forsan ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Requests for specifications and any additional information shall be made no later than April 3, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. by contacting Randy Johnson, Superintendent at (432)457-2223, ext. 2..  
#7308 March 25 & 29, 2012

**Legals**

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:**

TO: Floyd Wayne Dugan if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of such person if he should be deceased, and any and all other persons, including adverse claimants, owning or claiming or having any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause; and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees, devisees, trustees, officers, directors, stockholders, partners, managers or other governing persons of the above named persons or entities, who own or claim some interest in the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, to-wit:

Lt 5, Bk 11, Brennand Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas,  
Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: \$1,104.08, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and cost thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein.

You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL as Plaintiffs, against DAN LEE DUGAN, JR. and others, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on July 28, 2011, in a certain suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. DAN LEE DUGAN, JR., for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 6032 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE.

Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.

All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenor, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefore, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all other parties herein and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.

You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 16th day of April, 2011 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 2nd day of March, A.D. 2011.

Colleen Barton  
Clerk of the District Court  
Howard County, Texas,  
118th Judicial District.  
#7292 March 18 & 25, 2012

**Legals**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT**

ConocoPhillips Company, 3300 North A Street, Building 6, Midland, Texas 79705 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Queen and Seven Rivers formations, Chalk, G.O. -E-, Well No. 25. The proposed injection well is located 5.5 miles East of Forsan, Texas in the Howard Glasscock Field in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into the subsurface depth interval of 1478 feet to 1946 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711. (Telephone (512)463-6792).  
#7316 March 25, 2012

**Legals**

**CITY OF BIG SPRING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The City of Big Spring and the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation will hold a public hearing to provide information to the citizens of the City regarding the cost and impact of the Water Facility and Water Conservation Project that will be submitted to the voters of the City at a special election to be held on May 12, 2012. The Project is to construct, acquire, improve, renovate and equip water supply facilities and water conservation improvement projects as allowed under Section 4B of the Texas Development Corporation Act, specifically including repair and rehabilitation of the City's water and wastewater treatment plants and repair and replacement of water distribution lines located in the City.

If the use of 4B funds for the Project is approved by the voters at the special election, the EDC will use 4A sales and use tax funds to pay up to Thirteen Million Dollars (\$13,000,000) toward the Project over a twenty year period.

Public Hearing to be held on: April 24, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

Location:  
City Council Chambers  
307 E. 4th Street  
Big Spring, TX 79720  
For additional information call 264-2401  
#7311 March 25 and April 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2012

**Legals**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT**

ConocoPhillips Company, P.O. Box 358, Borger, Texas 79008-0358 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Grayburg and San Andres formations, Settles, W.R. -A-No. 38. The proposed injection well is 3 miles South of Forsan located in the Howard Glasscock Field, in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into the subsurface depth interval from 2075 to 2611 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711. (Telephone (512)463-6792).  
#7313 March 25, 2012

**Legals**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT**

ConocoPhillips Company, P.O. Box 358, Borger, Texas 79008-0358 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Grayburg and San Andres formations, Seven Rivers, Queen, Grayburg, San Andres. The proposed injection well is 6 miles East of Forsan located in the Howard Glasscock Field, in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into the subsurface depth interval from 1300 to 2450 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711. (Telephone (512)463-6792).  
#7315 March 25, 2012

**Legals**

Notice is hereby given that Laredo Petroleum, Inc., Operator 486610, has filed with the Texas Railroad Commission the following: P-17 application for the exception to SWR 26 and/or 27 to surface commingle production, allocate production and for off-lease storage, from oil and gas leases in SW/4 of Section 2, Block 33, T4S, T&P RR Co. Survey, SE/4 of Section 2, Block 33, T4S, T&P RR Co. Survey, NW/4 of Section 2, Block 33, T4S, T&P RR Co. Survey and NE/4 of Section 2, Block 33, T4S, T&P RR Co. Survey; All in Glasscock County, Texas under other leases. Any affected mineral interest owners who have not received written notification are advised to contact Stephen B. Dickerson of Laredo Petroleum, Inc., in Midland, Texas at 508 W. Wall, Suite 600, Midland, Texas 79701, (432)684-9955 by April 9, 2012.  
#7304 March 18, 25, 2012 and April 1, & 8, 2012

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# TSDAR state conference awards

Chapter Regent Anne Witherspoon, Vice Regent Hollis McCright and Registrar Sue Ann Damron attended the Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution's 113th annual state conference from March 8 through March 10 in San Antonio. The theme this year was Six Flags Over Texas. One of the flags was featured at every meal. A conference medal depicting Texas' six flags in an adaptation of the Reverse of the Texas State Seal was available as a souvenir and revenue source for the Conservation Committee. The proceeds will be used to plant trees in Galveston in honor of Texas State Regent Joy Dabney Hagg.

Wednesday night, there was a display of Colonial gowns created for the annual George Washington's birthday celebration in Laredo. DAR member Linda Leyendecker Guterres has been designing and producing these elaborate colonial gowns since 1975. General Bernardo de Galvaz sent money, rifles and other supplies to General George Washington and Latinos raised special collections to aid the fight for American independence.

Charter member June Reid and long time member Mary Christensen were paid respect at the memorial service Thursday afternoon.

Thursday evening activities recognized achievements by junior members. As state junior membership chairman, Witherspoon introduced the presenters of each award. The junior council members surprised her by naming her an honorary junior member for life. She was presented with a tiara and tiara pin.

Friday, Damron was selected to be next year's chaplain of the Chapter Regents' Club. Also on Friday, a new executive board was voted on and contributions were solicited for the lay light project at the DAR library in Washington, D.C.

The glass ceiling, made of 25 art glass panels, sustained \$1.2 million damage in the August earthquake. One of McCright's contributions was in memory of charter member June Reid. Enough money was raised to enable Texas to replace two of the panels.

At Friday's national defense night, chapter nominee Sue Ann Damron was awarded the prestigious Outstanding DAR Service for Veterans Award, which is presented to DAR member in recognition of her meaningful contributions to veteran patients. Damron has been the DAR representative on the VAVS committee for more than a decade and has contributed time and effort on many VA projects. She was also named the VAs 2009 woman



Courtesy photo

**Pictured from left to right are: Chapter Regent Anne Witherspoon, newly appointed assistant TSDAR Treasurer; Vice Regent Hollis McCright, whose Yellow Rose of Texas quilt raised significant funds; Tumbleweed Smith, winner of the Texa Media Award ; and Sue Ann Damron, winner of Outstanding DAR Service for Veterans Award**

volunteer of the year.

At Saturday's junior breakfast, local member Jessica Williams was one of 45 young women announced as chapter outstanding juniors.

The winning ticket for the yellow rose quilt made by McCright to raise funds for DAR juniors was drawn Saturday afternoon. More tickets were sold for her quilt than any other voice item.

At Saturday night's general conference banquet, chapter nominee Tumbleweed Smith was awarded the Texas Media Award. This award is presented to promote recognition and encouragement of quality broadcast programming and to honor an individual who has contributed greatly to American culture within the historical, educational or patriotic objectives of the DAR. Smith, with his radio series The Sound of Texas, weekly newspaper column Rolling

Around Texas, books and historical DVDs, has captured the unique spirit and culture of Texas.

After the newly elected state officers were introduced, the incoming state regent Pamela Wright announced the appointment of Witherspoon to be the assistant TSDAR treasurer.

Mary Schuelke and Sue Ann Damron received certificates of merit for their work on the DAR's genealogical preservation project. Sixteen other certificates of merit were awarded the chapter for various endeavors .

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

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# Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

## With a Little Bit of Luck

West dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♦ Q J 6  
♥ K Q 9 5  
♦ K 4 2  
♠ 10 9 7

**WEST**  
♦ K 8 5  
♥ A 3  
♦ 8 6  
♣ A J 8 5 3 2

**EAST**  
♦ 9 7 4 3  
♥ 8 6 4 2  
♦ 10 3  
♣ Q 6 4

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 10 2  
♥ J 10 7  
♦ A Q J 9 7 5  
♣ K

The bidding:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ Pass Pass Dble  
Pass 1 ♥ Pass 2 ♦  
Pass 3 ♦ Pass 3 NT

Opening lead — five of clubs.  
All important championships, whether local, regional, national or international, are played in a duplicate format in order to reduce the element of luck that might otherwise determine their outcome. Nevertheless, the luck factor cannot be entirely eliminated.

For instance, the succession of opponents you meet might or might not play well against you, which certainly will have an important bearing on how you fare. Also, you (or your opponents) might get to excellent contracts that go down because of

horrendous distribution, or get to poor contracts that make because of highly favorable distribution.

Consider this deal played in the Blue Ribbon Pairs many years ago by Dorothy Hayden Truscott and B. Jay Becker. They reached three notrump on the bidding shown. Mrs. Truscott's three-notrump bid with the singleton king of clubs was certainly imaginative and was amply rewarded when she made the contract after West led a low club.

She won East's queen with the king and ran six diamonds, subjecting West to severe pressure. He followed twice and was able to discard a heart and a spade comfortably, but then, in order to protect his king of spades, he was forced to discard two clubs.

Mrs. Truscott next led a heart. West took the ace and cashed three clubs, but that was the end of the line as West was forced to lead from the K-8 of spades at the end.

You could call the hand a brilliant success — if you were so minded — but, all the same, there was a lot of luck attached to it. At another table, against similar bidding, West made the inspired lead of the ace of clubs against three notrump, and East-West collected the first seven tricks to put the contract down three!

Fortunately for Mrs. Truscott and Becker, they were sitting at the right table.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.  
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# More new businesses locate in Big Spring



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Loco Flamingos, located at the corner of Third Street and Union has been open since Christmas. The collection features an eclectic selection of home made items and paintings from local artists and crafters.



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Goodwill West Texas took over the previous location of Advanced Auto Parts in late 2011.

## Life Policies

The Big Spring Herald has instituted a 600 word limit for all wedding submissions.

All wedding articles will be edited to fit the above listed policy.

All submissions for Sunday's life section must be turned in by noon Wednesday to be published in Sunday's edition.

Submitting articles by the deadline does not guarantee publication in the Sunday Life Section.

The Herald attempts to publish articles in a timely manner but because of space limitations submissions may held until the following week.

For more information, call 263-7331



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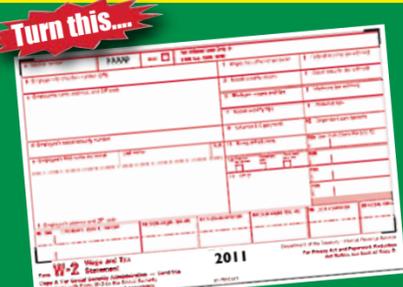
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# 2012

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## PROFILE



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Sunday, March 25, 2012



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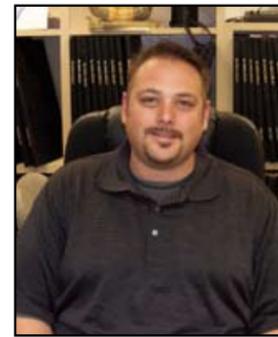
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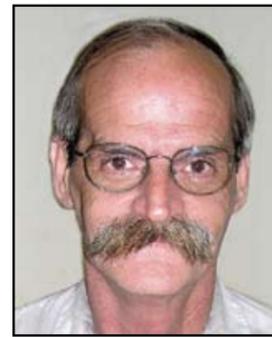
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# Big Ball's in Cowtown

*Let's all go down* —Hoyle Nix

You would be hard pressed to have a conversation about traditional country and western music in West Texas — and some would say the Southwest United States — without at least mentioning Hoyle and Ben Nix and, eventually, one of Howard County's most well-known attractions: The Stampede.

In fact, Hoyle and Ben's legacy — which is kept alive and well these days by Hoyle's son, local country music legend Jody Nix — remains as much a landmark as the dance hall, which has brought boot scooters from all over the state to the Crossroads area since 1954. The Stampede is a Lone Star legend and one of the premier dance halls in the state.

And while the tradition of The Stampede began in the mid-1950s, don't be fooled, as the family tradition which has kept the music playing in and around The Stampede goes even further back, according to Jody Nix.

"The tradition started with my dad, Hoyle, and my uncle, Ben, right here in Big Spring in November 1946," Nix said. "They both had long ca-

reers and left a legacy and trail of music I've kept alive, and I plan to keep alive as long as I can. I mean, it's a dance hall. It's not anything really fancy, but it's a big part of our family tradition, and a big part of the country and western tradition out here in West Texas."

Nix said the stage at The Stampede has hosted some of country music's brightest stars over the years, but few have been able to compete with the run Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys had between 1956 and 1969.

"My dad, Hoyle, got to be really good friends with Bob Wills, and during that time they would play at The Stampede two or three times a year," Nix said. "Again, it goes back to that tradition of country music we have, and Bob Wills was certainly a big part of that."

Nix knows a thing or two about the legendary dance hall himself, starting all the way back when it was first built.

"I was 2 years old when The Stampede was built, so I've had the opportunity to be a part of its history," Nix said. "The first time I got to actu-

ally play on the stage I was about 4 years old, and the band let me sit in on the drums. To look at us then and now, it's really a good feeling."

Each year, in mid-November, the Nix family — along with country and western dancers from all over the state, and even further — celebrates its musical history with a performance at The Stampede, and according to those who have attended, it's truly something to see.

"This has been a really big event for us the last several years. I started doing this in November of 1996 to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of when this all started, and we've just kept it going through the years," he said. "We had several reunions of the former West Texas Cowboys, as well.

"They come from all



Jody Nix

over the place to see that show, and we're more than appreciative of that fact. My favorite part is the nostalgia — remembering how all of this started and where it's come to today. We've kept a tradition alive all these years, and people have supported us.

And it honors the men who started the whole country music world — as well as The Stampede, as Nix and his

While change has certainly been felt in the See **STAMPEDE**, Page 4D

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# Made in (hog) heaven



## Same name, new owners

The location may be the same, but the owners have changed.

Hog Heaven is still located at 4009 Old State Highway 80, but now has new owners. Randy and Jenifer Golforth took over ownership of the barbecue restaurant March 1.

"We have been in Big Spring for a little more than a year and we love the neat atmosphere this place has and the people here are extra nice," Randy Golforth said.

The couple has taken

over the original location of Hog Heaven and will be operating it as the only location in town. The location on FM 700 will not be reopened.

The Party Barn will be available for catering events through Hog Heaven, but the previous owner retains the property.

"The original owner still owns the party barn, but we do have access to it if any of our clients want to use it for an event," Jenifer Golforth said.

Hog Heaven will continue to offer catering, dine in and delivery for larger orders.

For those wanting to dine in, but still enjoy the outdoor atmosphere there is a patio available.

"It is still the same great taste and it is food that will get you full," Randy said. "Our customers can expect fresh food, fun atmosphere and the friendliest service you will find around."

An addition to the regular menu will be

home-baked desserts, including cobblers and pies.

"We will be making whatever we feel like that day, but there will probably be a lot of homemade cobbler," Jenifer said.

The Golforths said the venture has been nothing like they expected, but have appreciated the support offered by the community.

"We thank the community for all the support," Randy said. "We truly have appreciated all the generosity and support we have received."

—Amanda Moreno



## STAMPEDE

Continued from Page 3C

Texas Cowboys continue to carry on the tradition — there's one thing that will never change about the West Texas icon.

"It's a family place. It always has been, and it always will be," Nix said with a smile. "That's one thing that will never change."

Area residents can get a taste of that family charm April 7, when Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys will be performing at The Stampede, located at 1610 E. Highway 350, from 9 p.m. until midnight. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. Setups are available but you have to BYOB. For ticket information, call 432-267-2060.



### Mission

"The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's mission is to advance the civic, economic, cultural and social betterment and interests of its members and the people of Howard County."

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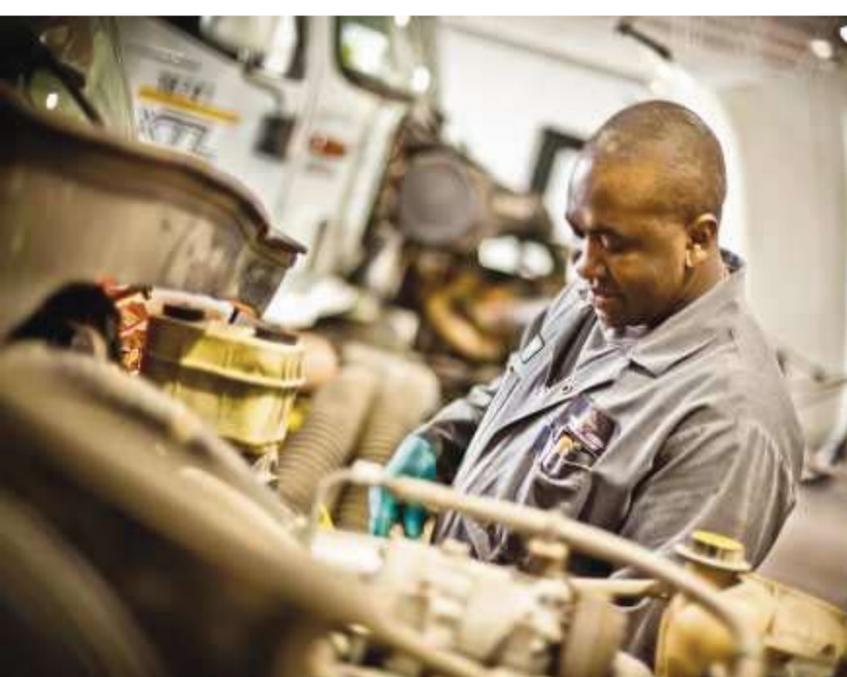
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# Turn your radio on

"Ask Your Neighbor" is more than just the catchy title for Big Spring's most popular radio show. It's a public service where people call in and ask a real neighbor about where to buy, sell and find all sorts of items. The neighbor who answers the phone six mornings a week for three hours is Big Spring native Vents Allyn Solis. That's the name you'll find on the KBYG website.

Radio personalities are like actors in that they usually adopt a professional pseudonym to protect their privacy. Most of us didn't know that Cary Grant's real name was Archie Leach until the computer age. When Vince Solis started working at KBST Radio as a 16-year-old high school boy, he had a disc jockey show for an hour in the evenings and then "ran the board" for the eight to midnight "Nostalgia Nights" show hosted by Luther Kelly.

Back in the '80s, a Hispanic name was not always considered an asset, so Vince was asked to invent a radio name. He thought the unusual spelling of Vents might provoke notice, and he chose the last name to honor a girlfriend, with a minor spelling change. He had been in theater and forensics in high school and saw radio as another form of theater. "Radio has been my school," Solis said. "All the math, English, science, that I didn't pay much attention to in school, I learned by working in radio."

"My dad gave us lots of incentive to get an education. I remember going out to the field with him and working, he'd



## Vents 'Ask Your Neighbor' Solis

**"One lady said she wanted to pray so I just let her pray over the air. That made CNN and was a featured story all over Texas."**



say, 'Do you like working out here like this?' When I said, 'No,' he'd tell us that we needed to study so we could do better."

After working for many years at several stations, Solis came to KBYG while B. Michael Brown was still doing the "Ask Your Neighbor" show. He remembers thinking that recalling all those numbers and talking to people for three hours every morning would be really difficult, and he was glad he didn't have that job. However,

Brown fell ill, and Solis was pressed into service to "fill in temporarily." Later, the job was thrust on him as a permanent position.

"The transition from B. Michael to me was really rough. He had a real following. I knew that I couldn't be him; I had to find my own way. We came from different eras of radio, and I decided to bring the show up to more modern times."

Solis realized that being bilingual could be a real help on the call-in show. He began to find his own radio persona.

Listeners hear him daily reminding them when they call in to speak clearly, turn down their radio, not use bad language, and mind their manners. He sometimes gives job interviewing tips such as "Wear a clean shirt, look neat, and don't take a beer in to an interview."

"We're about helping people — find a house, get a job, sell stuff they don't need," he said. "For example, one day a woman called in to say that she couldn't afford the medication that she needed, which took a lot of guts to say on the radio. The next day she called to let us know that an anonymous donor had given the money for her meds for a year."

Vents admits he has learned patience with his job and has found that good manners get you farther, even if you can't please everyone. He always refers to women callers as "young lady" and men as "gentlemen."

"We enjoy hearing from folks, but we're not

a public forum for opinions," he commented.

Keeping up with all the phone numbers and items requires intense focus. Solis said when he sleeps, he dreams about the show; and when he wakes up, he knows he's got to do it again the next day. He sees "Ask Your Neighbor" as the pinnacle of his career and feels fortunate he has a job he enjoys coming to every day.

One highlight of his radio life was during the refinery fire, when David Pappajohn broke in to the show and said, "You're gonna talk about the fire." Solis began the broadcast with the disclaimer, "I'm not a newscaster," then proceeded to go all day as people called in from across the community.

"One lady said she wanted to pray so I just let her pray over the air. That made CNN and was a featured story all over Texas," Solis recalled.

When not at the station, Vince enjoys work-

ing out at the gym and spending time with his son, Vinnie. He listens to 80s music, saying, "I guess I'm stuck in the '80s." He has a daughter who lives with her mom near Fort Worth. He values his privacy.

Family is important to Solis; his parents, Vicente and Maria, live in Big Spring. He's proud of his brother, who is a retired major in the Air Force; his sister, an ESL teacher in Paris, Texas; two brothers who are fire fighters; and another who is a case worker for GEO.

As for advice to anyone considering a career in radio, the veteran program director said, "You have to have technical skills because it's all based on computers; otherwise, it's not going to work. But still, if you're the 'the voice' on the radio, it's the personality that comes across and people need to know that they can trust the source."

—Nancy Koger

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# Forward thinking

## Terry Wegman, EDC working for community

A legacy 20 years in the making is what the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation — formerly known as the Moore Board — is constantly working on.

Though some may beg to differ, the BSEDC isn't working on the legacy for themselves, but instead, they are working on a rich legacy for the citizens of Big Spring and Howard County.

"The problem with most rural communities is they end up losing population because the youth go off to college and end up not coming back; they end up going to metropolitan areas because they feel there is nothing in their rural communities," Executive Director Terry Wegman said. "One of the goals of the EDC is to change that and do what we can to provide opportunity for our children which would allow them to stay here.

"As much as we are about creating jobs and bringing industry to the community, we are also about creating opportunity."

The BSEDC was the brainchild and vision of Wayne Moore — the chief executive officer for economic and community development for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Moore passed away in July 1990, the same year his vision became reality.

"He was a major force in the effort to adopt the sales tax for economic

development in Big Spring. His vision for Big Spring will always be remembered," Wegman said.

Since its inception, the BSEDC receives funding of one-half cent Type A sales tax referendum under the Development Corporation Act of 1979. With those funds serving as the majority of its budget, among other funding dollars, the EDC is able to promote Big Spring and do its best to stimulate and enhance the local economy through the attraction and partnerships with industries, both local and non-local.

"One of the details about the EDC most people don't quite notice is that we do a lot of work with companies who aren't looking for incentive agreements, but are still needing help finding a location for their business," Wegman said.

The idea of communities having an EDC has grown and companies that are looking to relocate tend to turn toward them because they can find all the answers they are looking for in a central location.

"Many times, companies looking to relocate will hire site selectors, whose main job is to eliminate certain locations," Wegman said. "They are charged with finding ideal locations and if you aren't out on the forefront in some way or don't have all the information they are looking for in one



**Terry Wegman**

spot, you have more of a chance of getting looked over."

There are five members on the BSEDC board of directors, each serving three-year terms. Each member of the board is appointed by the Big Spring City Council. However, the actual staff at the EDC is made up of two people, an executive director and executive assistant. "I have been here almost all of my life. I have raised a family here and I do this job because I want to see Big Spring prosper. I want to help Big Spring prosper," Wegman said. "This is so much more than a job though; it's more of a passion."

Since its inception, BSEDC has facilitated and incentivized about 50 businesses. Through those ventures there have been more than 530 jobs either created or retained and those jobs have generated \$20,750,000 in payroll and \$1,149,900,000 in

would do well in the Big Spring area," Wegman said. "It's important we are going after businesses that are going to fit into our region."

The best way to describe the job of an EDC, according to Wegman, is to think of a bucket that is constantly being churned. When you spend money in Big Spring, the money will continue to rotate through the community, but there is a constant flow of exporting money through the purchasing of new vehicles and other spending expenditures. There has to be a way to be importing money as well as exporting on a regular basis.

"We want to find the industries who are involved in manufacturing because they are sending their products out and that money is coming back here to Big Spring. Just like when you purchase something at Wal-Mart or you go to purchase a car, there is a portion of the money staying here but there is also a portion going somewhere else," Wegman said. "If you aren't doing something to bring dollars in then the bucket will eventually get empty with the money still going out."

When it comes to economic development, Wegman and the five

board members know it takes more than just themselves to bring prosperity to the community of Big Spring — it takes a joint effort. There isn't a community out there that has one particular group bringing growth.

"We do what we do, which is the detail stuff, but it takes the entire community having the mindset of wanting to make Big Spring grow," Wegman said. "It takes the entire community working together to have economic development."

In order to attract outside businesses, there has to be a good school system in place, a strong local government and the community has to show signs of progression not characteristics of a regressive community. Those are the components industries look for, according to Wegman.

"It's all about the forward thinking and the desire to grow and make Big Spring a better place to live."

To find out more about the BSEDC, visit [www.bigspringtx.com](http://www.bigspringtx.com) or take a look at its Facebook page. Information can also be obtained by stopping by the EDC office, located at 215 W. Third or calling 432-264-6032.

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# Best kept secret

## Vocational training is alive and well at Howard College

Training for the community is exactly what Howard College is trying to do.

For the past year, Howard College has been improving and expanding its vocational training program.

"We want to provide training to fit the needs of the community," said Jimmy Hobdy, director of Workforce Training and Industrial Production Technology.

The program includes courses in energy systems — wind energy, welding, electrical, heating and air conditioning, heavy equipment operators and hydraulics. Each of the courses can be followed through for certification or all the way through to associate degrees.

"We are, sadly, one of the best kept secrets in Howard County," Hobdy said. "Not a lot of people know we exist."

In addition to providing courses for first-time college students, the vocational training program can be structured to fit the needs of existing employees and local businesses.

"We will work around the businesses schedule and provide the training they request for their employees," Hobdy said.

Currently, Howard College works with Alon USA, the Colorado River Municipal

Water District, Sid Richardson and GEO Inc. Each of the special classes are focused on not only training the incoming workforce, but for the incumbent workers.

According to Hobdy, the target group for the workforce training program is the non-traditional college student.

"We are looking for those students who aren't necessarily going to go to college and pursue a master's degree, but yet they still want to learn a skill or trade. We even focus on those who are just looking for a career change," Hobdy said.

In order to keep up with the needs of the community, new courses will be added for the upcoming fall semester. A course on green construction technology will be added, as well as a CNC (computer numerical controlled) program. There will be a new router for wood cutting and a 3-D printer put into use.

"I am pretty sure we are the only school in the area that is going to have the 3-D printer," Hobdy said. "This printer is a machine used by Motorola, brake manufacturers and other companies. It is used for prototypes."

Another unique feature about the programs is that Hobdy is a Tractel safe access and rescue for wind turbines

certified teacher.

"There are few in the nation who are certified to provide this type of training," Hobdy said. "We have a company out of Abilene that sends their employees here to train because of this credential."

Hobdy, a Coahoma High School graduate, has been the director of the program since January of last year. Before taking over the position, he was working in the wind industry.

"The training we provide here is for the real world. We are training them in real scenarios and with the equipment they would be using out in the workforce," Hobdy said. "We spent a little extra money in order to train them with real life equipment instead of using the teaching kits and then putting them out in the real world."

The training provided by Howard College is offered in a number of different ways, according to Hobdy.

"We are pretty diverse in what we offer and how we offer it," he said. "From specialized classes for area businesses, day and night classes and more."

Hobdy said he encourages local businesses to provide feedback, whether it be on the training being provided and its quality or other courses that are needed in the community.

es that are needed in the community.

"We are training to the needs of the community, but we don't know those needs unless the community lets us know," Hobdy said. "One of the things we do hear from businesses is that it's hard to find trained workers and we are trying to meet that need and provide a trained workforce."

The mission of the workforce training program has been supported by several area businesses as well as the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation.

"The BSEDC has played a very instrumental part in supporting our program," Hobdy said. "They have helped with a lot of our upgrades, including the plasma CNC cutter and the heavy equipment simulator trailer."

Of course, the growth isn't anywhere close to coming to an end as far as Hobdy is concerned. He said the wind program will be expanding its reach and training equipment with the use of a mobile unit. The mobile unit will be an addition to the wind tunnel and the indoor platform currently being used.

nel and the indoor platform currently being used.

The platform was designed by Hobdy and constructed by the welding students last summer. The mobile unit will be used not only at the Big Spring campus, but area campuses, too.

Another class to be added to the electrical program will be based on teaching students to operate the programmable logic controls (PLCs). The equipment for the class came from a recent donation from University of Texas of the Permian Basin. According to Hobdy, the equipment donated totals an estimated \$125,000 value.

Another course coming up will be a CDL class — four weeks — starting April 16.

To find out more about the workforce training program or register for classes contact Hobdy at 264-5131. Local businesses wanting to provide input on the program may contact Hobdy.

More information can also be obtained by visiting [www.howardcollege.edu](http://www.howardcollege.edu).

—Amanda Moreno

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# Goodbye FINA, hello ALON

*Alon brands announce new trade name, mark*

Alon Brands, the Dallas-based supplier and marketer of fuels and the largest licensee of 7-Eleven in the United States, has announced it is changing the company's trade name and associated brand mark from FINA to ALON. In a process that will

new ALON signage and to communicate the new trade name to retail customers through regional and local advertising, promotion and community relations initiatives. Additionally, the new brand mark will begin appearing at the company's more

the ALON trade name sends a clear message of opportunity to our distributors and to the motoring public, better aligns us to our dependable source of supply and builds on the existing equity of the Alon brand," said Kyle McKeen, president and CEO of Alon Brands. "This new trade name characterizes Alon's deeply rooted business values and culture — including a partnership-to-success mentality, highly valued relationships, reliability and strong, dependable lines of supply. — attributes that, for years, have been voiced by distributors and others who do business with us as central to their affiliation." Development of the combined new trade name and visual identity, designed to replace the more than 50-year-old FINA name and mark, needed to accomplish twin goals of the company — delivering a new level of excitement and opportunity throughout the business, while honoring and preserving the company's strong heritage. According to McKeen,



stores in today's highly challenging environment means having every aspect of the business performing at optimal levels," said McKeen. "Our plans for implementing the new market identity have passed the most critical test, and that's securing the confidence of the distributors we serve and support, demonstrating our redoubled commitment to innovation, service and support to convenience store owners and operators.

"We're excited about the future." In addition to its corporate website, www.alonusa.com, the company has a new site, www.myalon.com, which features Alon T-

**Alon Brands, Alon USA and Big Spring community leaders invite the public to a special event from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday, April 2, at the 7-Eleven store on 401 Birdwell Lane.**

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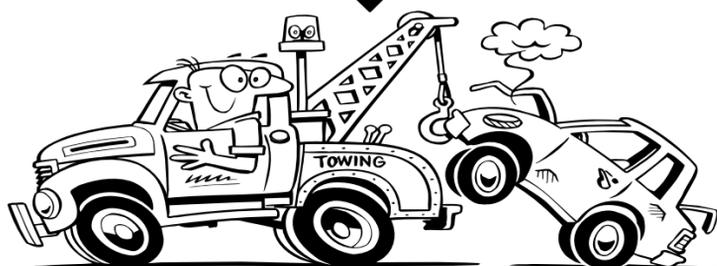
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# Spurgin: To Iraq and back

When the 36th Infantry Division of the Texas Army National Guard returned from a 10-month deployment to Iraq, there was one soldier ready to return to his civilian duties in Howard County and aid in the restoration of the nation's natural resources.

Maj. Gen. Eddy M. Spurgin, originally from Anson, Texas, became the commanding general for the division on March 27, 2009, but when not on active duty he serves as the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) District Conservationist in Big Spring. His typical daily duties with the NRCS in Howard County involve helping farmers and ranchers make resource-conscious land management decisions, as well as manage several employees.

For more than three decades, Spurgin has been active in the military. While enrolled at Texas A&M University, he was in the Corps of Cadets and has been part of the Texas Army National Guard since that time.

Spurgin received notice in July 2009 that he would be taking a leave of absence from his federal position and his scenery and duties would soon change.

"After our division was mobilized we were sent to Joint Base Lewis-McCord in Washington State to receive our final training in preparation for deployment to southern Iraq," Spurgin said. "We essentially had four missions to accom-

plish while overseas: advise, train and assist the Iraqi Security Forces, close down or transfer U.S. bases to the government of Iraq, conduct counter-terrorism operations, and transition the military mission in Iraq to the U.S. State Department."

Maj. Gen. Spurgin was responsible for all combat and stability operations of U.S. forces in the southern nine provinces of Iraq, focused on achieving the strategic objectives of the United States.

He was responsible for the actions, welfare and sustainment of more than 10,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsman, government civilians, contractors and local or third-country nationals within his area of operations.

Within a 10-month time frame, his forces

worked with all Iraqi security forces, began to close bases and move military equipment out of Iraq and provided security to the U.S. State Department's Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT). PRTs are small civilian-military units that support reconstruction efforts in unstable areas and assist local units of government to deliver goods and services to their constituents.

PRTs, backed with financial support and



working knowledge, helped install agriculture practices such as drip irrigation, greenhouses and practices

Extension, other USDA agencies, Department of Justice, colleges — really, anyone who can provide education and resources to the local population." Spurgin said.

Spurgin's troops supported the PRTs and allowed them to educate the people

and apply healing management practices to the land. Their support allowed the reconstruction team the time and peace of mind to aid in areas of agriculture, budgeting, government and overall local community structure.

Something Spurgin never took for granted was his solid agriculture foundation, layered with an understanding of similar terrain and working conditions. NRCS offered a strand of familiarity not only to the mission his troops set forth to accomplish, but gave him an avenue to communicate with members of the PRT team and local population.

"The National Guard gives you the skills to work and communicate with a variety of people," Spurgin said. "Being a USDA-NRCS employee was value added in southern Iraq because of the amount of agriculture that ex-

ists along the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. It gave me a common link with the members of the PRT and made communication much easier."

Spurgin had a front row seat to the progress his division made over 10 months, and the impact the U.S. has made through almost a decade in Iraq.

"Challenges still remain, but the population has made progress. They can defend themselves from an internal insurgency and they have made positive changes both politically and within their military, but they still have a ways to go," Spurgin said.

"When you're attempting to bring together a country and parliament of different ethnicities and beliefs, you will have challenges. However, now they have a central government based on democratic principles," he added.

Another task accomplished by the 10,000 men and women under Spurgin's command was international oil security. They provided an elevated means of safety and security to the employees of Shell, Exxon-Mobil and other oil companies from Russia and China.

"On average, 2.6 million barrels a day are piped out to the Persian Gulf and exported," Spurgin said. "My troops helped ensure the safety of the people who work so hard to get that done."

"Our efforts overseas did not go without sacrifice," Spurgin said.

**"Challenges still remain, but the (Iraqi) population has made progress."**

Eddy Spurgin

to improve production, water quantity and water quality. They also educated local and provincial government officials on rule of law, budget planning and execution, as well as providing essential services to the population.

"One of our major responsibilities was to provide security to the PRT. Members of the PRT may be from AgriLife



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# 2012

# Progress &

# PROFILE



# Faith & COURAGE

A publication of the

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Sunday, March 25, 2012

# East Side Baptist Church



### WEEKLY SERVICES:

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Evening Worship.....1:45 p.m.  
Morning Worship.....10:45 a.m. Wednesday Worship.....7:00 p.m.

**Pastor Doug Shelley**  
East 6th & Settles ~ Big Spring, TX  
267-1915  
E-mail dshelley62@gmail.com



231592

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9:45 am

Worship Service:  
9:45 am

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Calvary Callender  
Pastor

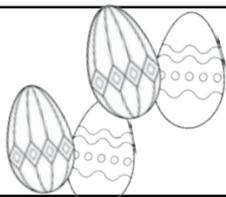
### Ministry For The Whole Family!

- Adult Ministries
- Student Ministries (7th Grade - College)
- Children's Ministries (Nursery - 6th Grade)



### Service Schedule

- **Sunday** •
- Celebration Service & Children's Church Ministry....10:00 am
- **Wednesday** •
- Bible Studies (All Ages).....6:30 pm



**COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT**  
Saturday, April 7th, 11 a.m. • Comanche Trail Park  
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Call the church office @ 267-7015 for more info.

# House Of Hope Community Church

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(325) 728-5900

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### SERVICES:

#### Sunday

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.

#### Wednesday

Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.

Rev. Floyd Green, Jr., Pastor



**BUT SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD  
AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND ALL THESE  
THINGS SHALL BE ADDED TO YOU.**

**Matthew 6: 33**

# Cornerstone Covenant Church

Cornerstone Covenant Church is a multiracial, non-denominational church planted in the city of Big Spring, Texas. Here at CCC, we are a spirit-filled, spirit-led community; committed to serving God and the needs of you and your family.

### Worship Services

Wednesdays - Mid-Week Bible Study - 7pm  
(Held in various Classrooms)

Sundays - 10:30am Worship Service



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- Pastor Michael Williard

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231551

# Law enforcement lifeline

*As a dispatcher, Jennifer Bakley finds her job rewarding but draining*



Jennifer Bakley takes a 911 call in her position as a dispatcher for the joint law enforcement center in Big Spring.

If you had told local resident Jennifer Bakley 18 years ago she'd be a police dispatcher, she would have probably laughed at you.

However, after 14 years on the job with the Big Spring Police Department — and now, since the creation of the joint law enforcement center, the Howard County Sheriff's Department — Bakley said she honestly can't imagine herself in a different career.

"Never did I ever think I would ever do anything that had to do with law enforcement, even from the day I graduated high school. It was something that I just sort of fell into," Bakley said. "I started my career as a dispatcher back in 1998. I was 22 years old at the time and working at Wal-Mart. I heard from a close friend the Big Spring Police Department was hiring, and honestly I took my chances when I decided to apply.

"I was 22 when I applied — which, in my opinion, is kind of young for this type of work — and I didn't think I would get hired, but I did. I was so happy! I had also never been so intimidated in my life."

If being a dispatcher sounds cool or flashy, Bakley will be the first to set you straight — the job is anything but glamorous.

"I learned really quick that this job was not cool — interesting, maybe — but not cool. It's not cool when you learn that you can be the only difference between life and death," Bakley said gravely. "I caught on fast, though, and found that I loved the work. Despite my age, I was good at it. I have had my share of mistakes, but I quickly learned from them, and now just turning 36, I don't see myself doing anything else."

Bakley, the single-mother of four beautiful girls ranging in age from 15 years to 8 years, said training for the position was tough and the 12-hour shifts can get pretty hectic.

"The training was very

time consuming. It's a lot of information to take in, and you're learning so many different aspects of the job, then having to put it all together," she said. "It is definitely a job which requires a certain mentality, and the

gift to multi-task is a must. There are some parts of the job you can't be trained for, either. You must know the importance of your position and that is something you can't teach or train someone do. It has to come from within to understand that. I was lucky to have strong trainers with lots of patience and even though I have been dispatching for almost nine

years now, I still find myself learning something new each day. And things are always changing, so you have to

keep up your training through your career.

"Yes, 12-hour shifts can be long and more stressful at some times than others, and the rotating from days to nights is always strenuous on your body and mind," Bakley said. "We all have our preferences. Some of us like days and some nights, but we work the same.

"Anytime you bring a group of different personalities together, you're going to have conflict and difference of opinion. We all have our own way of doing things, and each of us does the same job, but in our own groove. The one thing we all remember is no

matter what the difference of opinion is, we all work for the same team. No one dispatcher is more important than the other. We are all important to the job and we learn to just agree to disagree and move on."

You'll most often find Bakley in a fun and jovial mood, however, she's quick to admit the stress of the job can take its toll on her, both emotionally and physically.

"Being more or less the life line of the officers on the street is a lot to deal with," she said. "The toughest times to deal with, in my opinion, are when there is an injury to an officer while you are the one on duty. We receive hundreds of calls everyday and the thing is, you never really know what you're sending an officer into. You're not there to see what's really going on. All you have is what the person is telling you over the phone.

"We are always on alert, no matter how simple you think the call is, because the simplest call can turn disastrous in seconds. There has to be a great deal of trust and respect between the officers and their dispatchers because we are their lifeline. Knowing that the only difference between life and death is the communication between the officers and their dispatcher is not only mentally and emotionally draining, but it can be just as physically exhausting as well."

Bakley said she's seen her fair share of tense and nerve-wracking calls during her tenure as a dispatcher for local law enforcement; however, her faith in God is something she turns to on a daily basis to get her — and the officers and deputies she serves — through each shift.

"I do have my faith, and I believe in God. I do put my trust in him to help me stay calm during the more dangerous situations," she said. "I say a silent prayer to watch over my officers when I'm sending them out on calls, and I say thanks at the end of every shift that they returned home safely to their families."

Unfortunately, being a dispatcher

Continued on Page 4F

**"The toughest times to deal with, in my opinion, are when there is an injury to an officer while you are the one on duty. We receive hundreds of calls everyday and the thing is, you never really know what you're sending an officer into. You're not there to see what's really going on. All you have is what the person is telling you over the phone."**

- Jennifer Bakley

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219484

## 14TH AND MAIN CHURCH OF CHRIST



The churches of Christ have a unique history. Rather than being Catholic, Protestant, or Jewish, the churches of Christ are Restorationist. Their aim is to restore the church of Christ by doing exactly what Jesus and his apostles taught when the church was first established in Jerusalem.

This idea of restoring the New Testament church came about primarily in America in the 19th century. A movement to abandon man-made religious creeds and to "speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent", was the catalyst for the development of many congregations of the churches of Christ.

The Church of Christ that now meets at 14th and Main in Big Spring was first assembled in 1912. Believers in this restoration plea first began meeting in the "Old School Presbyterian church building". By 1924 the group had out grown that facility. They purchased land at the corner of 4th and Gregg where a small meeting place was built. By 1928 the membership was approximately 160 members and still larger facilities were needed. After lots were obtained at the corner of 14th and Main, a building was begun in January 1929 and completed in March. Other buildings have been added through the years as needed.

Today the Christians meeting at 14th and Main remain true to the restoration plea. The Bible is the only source of direction for conversion, worship and living. Jesus is the head of the church. Elders, deacons, preachers and teachers are appointed by the guidelines of the Bible. Unity is achieved by letting God's Word be the final word in all matters.

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**Rick Cunningham, Pulpit Minister**

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SUNDAY AM WORSHIP.....10:00 AM  
SUNDAY PM WORSHIP.....5:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS.....7:00 PM  
TUESDAY LADIES CLASS.....10:00 AM

# Ball of fire (faith) beating the odds

## Five-year-old Ryan is an inspiration

**A** reason, season or a lifetime — each moment is defined as one or the other.

For 5-year-old Ryan Eilenberger — described as lively, funny, spunky yet stubborn and ornery — and his family, this battle with cancer is one they have come to consider as something only around for a season.

“We know this is just for a season and when it’s all over we get to go back to our normal lives,” Delana Eilenberger, Ryans mother, said.

The journey started out with what Ryan’s mother and doctor thought was just a typical respiratory infection. After being treated with antibiotics for a week and no improvement being seen, Dr. Ahmed — Ryan’s pediatrician — admitted him into the hospital and after running several tests discovered a mass the size of a grapefruit on Ryan’s liver.

“The first set of tests showed nothing abnormal, except his white count was high —



Five-year-old Ryan Eilenberger has been successful in his battle against liver cancer.

which basically meant his body was trying to fight something,” Eilenberger said. “After all the tests were run, at

the end of the day Dr. Ahmed was examining Ryan one last time and that’s when he noticed he could feel Ryan’s liver, it was enlarged.”

Soon after the discovery and a CT scan, the news — the night of Nov. 7, 2011 — Ryan and his family were flown to Cook Children’s hospital in Fort Worth. A confirmed diagnosis was received Nov. 22, and since then, Ronald McDonald house in Fort Worth has become a place to call home.

The official diagnosis was embryonic cell sarcoma, extremely rare, a cancer of the liver and very aggressive, according to Eilenberger. At the initial diagnosis, the oncologist gave the family a 50 percent chance of the tumor responding to chemotherapy.

“In the beginning it was extremely scary and heartbreaking,” Eilenberger said. “They had to explain there was a chance for ‘heroic sur-

geries’ and a liver transplant if the tumor did not respond to chemo.”

Ryan and his mother have been spending their time at the Ronald McDonald house while Josh — Ryan’s father — travels back and forth for work in Snyder. Ryan’s sister has moved in with their grandparents and makes weekend visits as well.

“Pretty much the only time we are all together is a day during the weekends. That has definitely brought some challenges as we are very used to always being together,” Eilenberger said.

Ryan has undergone four rounds of chemo in order to shrink the tumor on his liver and two biopsies and his “big” surgery to remove the tumor, which took place Feb. 16.

Through all of this, the hardest day, besides the initial diagnosis, for his parents was the day his beautiful red hair started to fall out because of the treatments.

“He (Ryan) is a red-headed little ball of fire. He brings so much life to a room and will put a smile on your face the first time you meet him,” Eilenberger said. “He is such a kind-hearted, adventurous little kid. He has the type of personality that just draws people in and when he is not bald, the red hair matches exactly who he is.”

The loss of his hair, although sad, was a brave moment according to Eilenberger. Instead of having to deal with “being itchy,” he told his parents to just shave his hair off. Looking into the mirror after having his head shaved Ryan said, “This looks good. I have the head for it.”

“That’s the kind of attitude he carries with him. If life throws him a curve ball you can bet he will keep swinging ‘til he hits it out of the park,” Eilenberger said.

Throughout the journey, Ryan and his family have continued to rely heavily on their



Sheriff Stan Parker goes over some material with dispatcher Jennifer Bakley.

Continued from Page 3F

has also forced Bakley to make sacrifices in her life, many of which involve time with her daughters, family and friends. However, it’s a sacrifice she makes willingly.

“Doing the type of work I do weighs heavily on my home life. I’m a single mother of four girls,” she said. “The hours I work are long. I miss out on a lot. Being a 911 dispatcher, I don’t have the luxury of just being able to leave when I want to attend school functions and things like that. The dispatchers, as well as the officers, have to be on 24/7.”

“I do have great co-workers and we all work together to help each other out, but sometimes it’s hard and we understand that we all have a life outside the office. My girls understand what I do and how important it is that I be there, so they make a lot of sacrifices, just as I do.

“In the time we have off together, I do try my best to make up for the time we miss out on. I miss birthdays, holidays and those are times I can’t get back, but the understanding from my family is a blessing, and they understand that my job is important in more ways than one. Not only for us to live, but as well for my co-workers and the public. It is hard on them, as well, but we manage and get through the rough times as a family.”

Bakley said some area residents who call 911 may find the dispatcher — whether it be her or others — to be curt and direct with their questions, a fact that sometimes rubs people the wrong way. However, she said it is all part of a process they are trained to follow, and doesn’t show a lack of empathy for the caller.

“We dispatchers are sometimes perceived as being rude, hateful or even uncaring. What the public needs to understand is that we have a job to do, and not only do we have to protect the safety of our officers, but the public, as well,” Bakley said. “We have to be calm and controlling of the call because there is certain information that is very important and we need to gather it to ensure the safety of everyone involved.

“It’s not that we don’t care about your situation, because we do. However, no matter what the situation is, we live by a series of questions to ask, The 4 W’s — who, what, where and weapons. Prioritizing plays a major factor in what we do. Not only are we taking your call, but at the same time we could be needing to dispatch an ambulance to an unresponsive child, or stay with an officer who is out with a suicidal subject.”

—Thomas Jenkins

Continued on 5F

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Sunday Morning.....10:00 AM

Tuesday-(Jail) Guy's.....2:00 PM

Wednesday-(Jail) Girl's.....2:00 PM

Thursday-Food Ministry...10:00-11:00 AM

Thursday Rehab & Community  
Service.....9:00-11:00 AM

231510



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#### SUNDAY

BIBLE STUDY.....9:30 AM  
 MORNING WORSHIP.....11:00 AM  
 CHILDREN’S EXTENDED WORSHIP.....11:00 AM  
 EVENING WORSHIP.....6:30 PM

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PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY.....7:00 PM  
 YOUTH BIBLE STUDY.....7:00 PM

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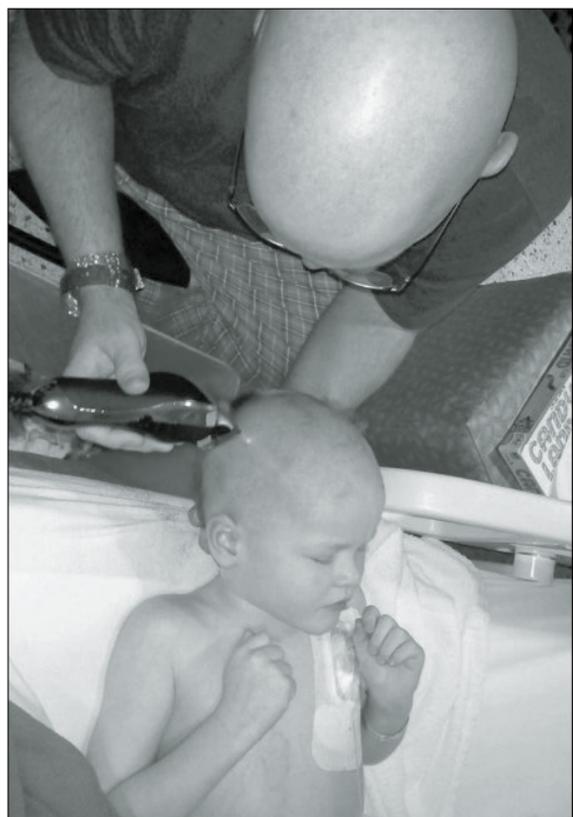
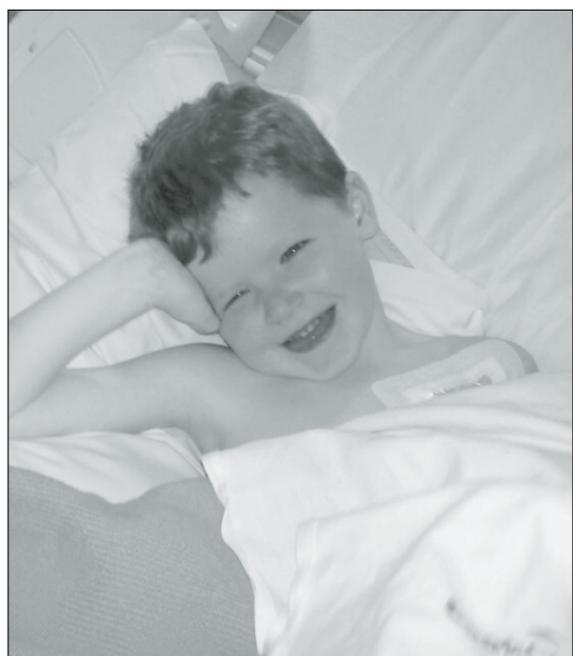
Sunday Service 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am  
2805 Lynn Street Big Spring, Tx 79720  
Phone: (432) 264 - 7818

# What's your favorite toy? or, 50 questions I want to ask God

By LAURA ROMERO

5th grader, Coahoma Elementary student

1. Where is the composer who wrote symphonies buried at?
2. Can I go back to the day I was born?
3. Can we go explore the Titanic?
4. Can we go to the bottom of every ocean?
5. How did the dinosaurs die out?
6. Can we see the Hello Kitty museum?
7. Exactly how big is outer space?
8. Can I get a job in heaven?
9. Can me, you and my grandpas go to Ripley's Believe It Or Not?
10. Can I go back in time with you?
11. Are there people at the ocean floor from the Titanic?
12. Please explain where the things that enter the Bermuda Triangle go.
13. Explain the Bermuda Triangle.
14. Let's go see the pirates that sunk in the sea, please!
15. What gave you ideas on how people and places and animals should look?
16. Is there a cure for cancer?
17. Are all my pets here?
18. Wanna see a giant squid and a bull sperm whale fight? I do!
19. What happened to the Mary Celeste and the Octavia and the Ourang Medan ships?
20. Is there a color shade man has not seen yet?
21. What happened to Atlantis?
22. Are mermaids real?
23. Are the Mothman, Big Foot, zombies and Jersey Devil real?
24. Can we go back in time?
25. Can we go to King Tut's tomb?
26. In 1866, February 3, why did Mollie Fancher sleep for 46 years then three years later die?
27. On February 2, 2000, what caused the painting to move and be different every time you saw it?
28. If the year started when the earth was made, how old would it be?
29. What happened to Hailey Dunn?
30. How old are you?
31. What fish has man not discovered yet?
32. Are there planets out of our solar system scientists have not discovered yet?
33. Do animals, dolls and other objects move around when we're not looking?
34. Were there any more angels that turned into "Him?"
35. Before you turn human-like, do you be every single animal alive and then after each time you die do you erase our minds then turn us into the next animal and the human is the last thing we are turned into?
36. Do you follow the latest trend?
37. Did you ever get my ballons I sent to you?
38. Do aliens exists?
39. Is there life on other planets?
40. How many people are in heaven?
41. Why can't there be world peace?
42. What's your favorite toy?
43. When did man start naming the year?
44. Do you remember every single thing you have ever seen?
45. Who are your parents?
46. What's your last name?
47. Did you have a pet?
48. What does the other side of the moon look like?
49. Is the sun made from gold?
50. What's the coolest thing you've ever seen?



Continued from Page 4F

faith and the love and support of family and friends. The family spends a lot of time in prayer and stands firm on the belief in the Bible's message.

"We have had so many amazing people walk with us through this and have had so many prayers, it's truly wonderful," Eilenberger said. "We just take everything day by day and with a lot of humor and even more faith."

Ryan and his sister have taken the journey in a beautiful manner, according to Eilenberger. He never feels sorry for himself or thinks about what still lies ahead; instead, he lives for the moment and continues to have fun. Just as his mother and father rely on their faith, Ryan knows there is a higher power helping him along the journey.

"God,," Ryan replied, pointing toward the ceiling when asked what makes him get better.

Of course, as with any child, a little motivation doesn't hurt in helping make a hard moment pass by faster. Ryan's

inspiration ... Disney-world. Ryan's name was submitted to the Make-A-Wish Foundation and his wish was granted. At the end of his treatments he will be able to make a trip to "the happiest place on earth."

That trip is getting closer and closer for Ryan. As of Feb. 16, when his tumor was removed, he is considered to be cancer free. The surgery was a success and the tumor was removed. Radiation will follow and three follow-up rounds of chemo will take place to ensure all the cancer is gone.

"Our faith is honestly the only thing that has kept us moving forward. Believing that God has a bigger plan and purpose for Ryan's life and knowing he loves us is a very strong driving force," Eilenberger said. "Through this experience we have seen God's love displayed through the other people and the fact that Ryan is being healed and beating all the odds is a huge blessing."

"God is and will continue to be what we cling to and depend on. We are very blessed and

know beyond a shadow of a doubt God's hand has been with us and his favor upon us through this whole thing."

Before long, Ryan will be up and running around, letting his ornery self show through, but the lessons he has learned through the journey will never leave him.

When asked what he would do to help oth-

ers in this situation, he replied: "I would give them a Build a Bear and tell them it will go back where it started."

As his mother said, "He means, thing will get better and life will be life again."

"Our son truly is a miracle and an example of God's love and faithfulness."

—Amanda Moreno



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Sunday School.....9:30 am  
Sunday Holy Communion.....10:30 am  
Summer Schedule Worship.....9:30 am

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**The Reverend Barbara Kirk-Norris**  
Web: <http://www.stmarysbst.org>

## Coahoma First United Methodist Church

401 N. Main • Coahoma, Tx. 79511  
(432) 394-4432

Children's S.S. Class - 10:00 a.m.  
Youth S.S. Class - 10:00 a.m.  
Seekers S.S. Class - 10:00 a.m.  
Wesley S.S. Class - 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Spanish Service - 5:00 p.m.  
Youth Meet every Wednesday  
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MARK 9:23



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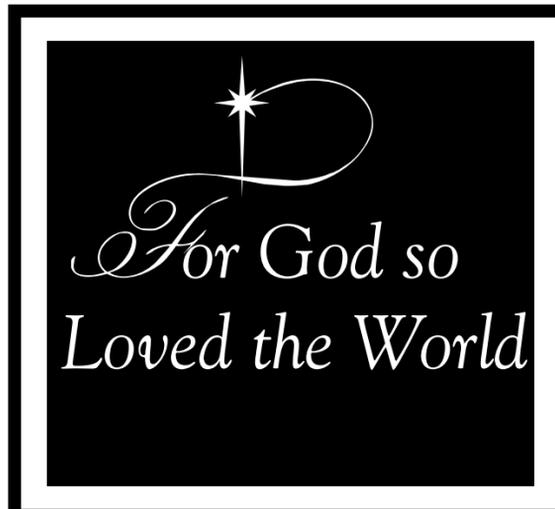
Wednesday: Women's Fellowship.....6:00  
Men's Fellowship.....6:00  
Teen Bible Study..... 5:00  
Thursday: Youth Program.....4:30  
Jr. Choir.....5:30  
Jr. Band.....6:00  
Sunday: Sunday School.....9:45  
Worship.....11:00  
Social Service Office.....Mon.-Fri. 9-12 & 1-4  
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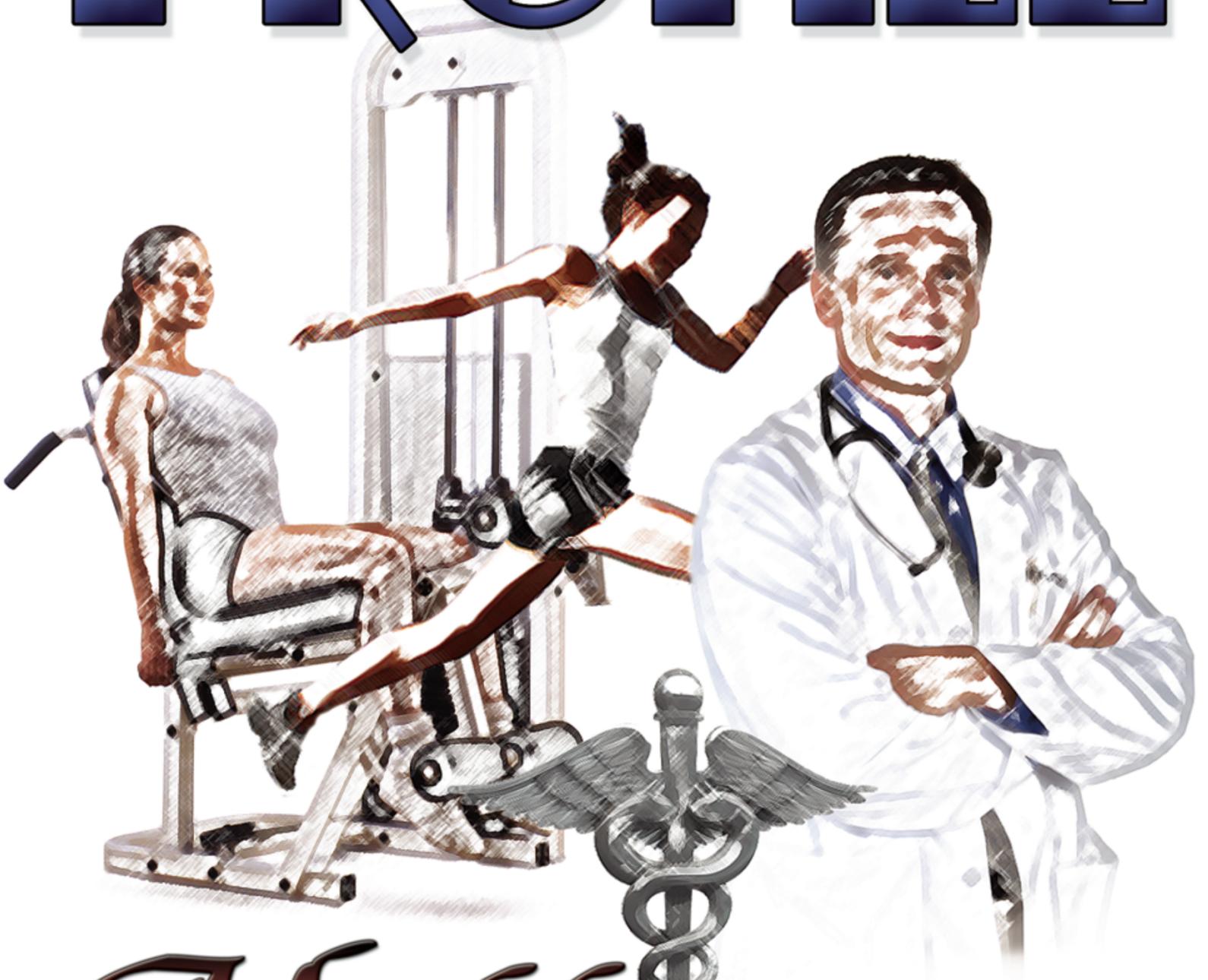
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# 2012

# Progress &

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*Funded by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services*

231652

# For Shalina Bogard, it's all Puppy Love

When Crossroads resident Shalina Bogard's alarm clock goes off in the morning, she may very well be the happiest person in the community — not because she likes getting up early — because she loves her job.

Bogard is a veterinarian technician at Highland Animal Hospital, and while a day spent chasing down rowdy — and sometimes quite ill — pets may not sound like a lot of fun, she said she wouldn't trade it for anything.

"I have always had a love and passion for animals. As a child, we had many animals, even a pet raccoon," she said with a laugh. "My dad had hit the den while he was building something, so he brought the remaining little one home. We raised it for several months until, one day while we were outside, he ran off. He was ready to face the world, I suppose. About six years ago, I lived in the Dallas area and got a part-time job at an animal boarding facility, and while I was there my love for animals just kept growing.

"When I moved back to West Texas I applied for a job here at Highland Animal Hospital. I was so excited to be working with animals again. I suppose working with animals had always been my calling. I tried working with people but always thought about working with animals. They can't tell you their problems, so you have to focus and really pay attention to details with them. It makes the end results so much more rewarding."

While Bogard enjoys her work, she'll be the first to tell you it's not the easiest career choice.

"I started out walking, feeding and cleaning up after the animals. After a few months, I was wanting to try my hand at the vet tech aspect of helping animals," Bogard said. "Dr. Burt gave me on-the-job training, which I was so grateful for, but I was so scared at the same time. I was so unaware of the skill set and knowledge it took to be a vet tech. They made it look so easy. I also took some online classes to help ease the transition.

"The training was not easy, by any means. I had to make sure I held the animals properly, took the temperature without causing pain and made the owners feel at ease. Plus, you have to know the correct dosage of meds to give a sick or injured animal, which can get overwhelming at times. Trying to keep the dogs still for an exam or entertained while blood work is being done is

quite the chore, as well. There have been times I wondered if maybe I wasn't cut out for this, but with the help of my coworkers and Dr. Burt, I am now confident and glad I didn't give up when I felt like I wanted to."

Bogard said the work has its ups and downs — especially when it comes to giving pet owners bad news — but it's something she has learned to deal with.

"The hardest part is feeling that even though you did all you could to save an animal in a bad situation, what if there was more you could have done?" she said. "The scariest part of my job would be having to be the bearer of bad



news. That is so difficult, no matter how many times you have done it. To inform someone that a loved one is in pain or must depart them for

whatever reason is a very difficult part of the job. You feel they are a part of your life as much as their owners.

"I can deal with losing

patients because I know they are in a better place and no longer suffering from what might have been keeping them from living a happy life here on Earth. I would rather help an animal end its suffering than watch them be in pain or yelling out for help, as bad as that may seem. They become a big part of your life — just like family — and losing them is not an easy thing to deal with. My faith in God helps me to deal with the bad days. Knowing that He is there watching over us and listening when I feel the need to vent over a loss is important to me.

"As for animals growling, snipping or biting, that's a daily happening. We have muzzles to protect us from their teeth, but sometimes its not until halfway through the exam they decide to be aggressive. So, if we didn't muzzle from the beginning, there is the possibility of getting bitten. I have had my share of being clawed and snapped at, but I haven't let that make me fearful. I give them the benefit of the doubt until proven wrong. As for dealing with the fear, I make sure if the patient is aggressive, I have them properly secured and know my training will pay off."

So, what is a day in the life of a vet tech like?

"On a normal day, I arrive to feed and care for the cats boarding with us. We have two cats that live at our facility and one is a diabetic, so first I feed her and give her a shot of insulin," Bogard said. "Then it's time to look over our appointments for the day and get prepared. We see anywhere from 15 to 25 patients each day. Most are there for vaccinations, but we do have the occasional sick and wounded ones.

"Once the animal and owner arrive, it's time for me to get vitals on the animal and discuss any problems or concerns with the owner. I relay the information to Dr. Burt, who then goes to examine the pet and determine what the course of treatment will be. No two appointments or situations are the same and the variety of it all is what makes my day.

"Some animals must stay with us and be admitted to the hospital for extra care, which can require us to administer fluids via IV, the same way you would with a human patient. We may have a bite wound that required stitching. Whatever the case may be, that day I go home happy to have helped someone's pet."

Speaking of pets, Bogard said she and her family have their fair share waiting for them at home.

"I own 11 animals: three chihuahuas, Mutley, Little Boo and Trouble; two English bulldogs, Big Mac and Half-Pint; two ferrets, Otter and Weasel; a hamster named Yogi; a turtle named Smiley The Lil Squirt; and two beta fish, Red and Blue. We have rescued all but the bulldogs and the fish. I can't see myself doing it any differently. Most people think I'm crazy or just a glutton for punishment, but I just have a really big heart.

"My boys are glad I am able to help animals and enjoy the variety of pets we have. They help me daily with feeding, watering, grooming and bathing the animals. I believe it helps them understand responsibility. As for my husband, well, it wasn't just my idea to help give all these animals a loving home. He had a big hand in it. All in all, the guys and I are very happy and love each of our animals as family. And I am told how proud of me they are for being able to help animals."

—Thomas Jenkins



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# Rx goes high tech

## Larry Thompson's chosen profession is always changing

Larry Thompson has found himself in the middle of a high-tech revolution.

Like almost everything else in life, computers have changed the ways pharmacies do business, and no one knows that better than Thompson, assistant pharmacy chief at the Big Spring VA Medical Center.

Thompson, a native of Amarillo, came to the local VA hospital after receiving his doctor of pharmacology degree from Texas Tech University in 2005.

Pharmacology appealed to him because it appealed to his twin interests in science and medicine.

"I had a chemistry degree, and I wanted to pursue something in

the medical profession," Thompson said. "Growing up, I was friends with the son of the chief of the pharmacy at the VA in Amarillo, so I got kind of an insider's look at it, and it sounded like a really interesting career field to get into."

And working for the VA appealed to Thompson on a personal level.

"My father is a disabled veteran — his leg was almost blown off in Vietnam," Thompson said. "He had an extensive series of surgeries done at the VA hospital ... and I decided I wanted to make a difference in a place like that."

Thompson came to the Big Spring facility right after graduating from pharmacy school and found the work anything but boring. He and



four other pharmacists were responsible for dispensing more than 2,000 prescriptions a day to veterans served by the medical center.

Within the past few years, however, the pace has become less hectic, thanks to an increase in staff (there are now 12 pharmacists working at the local VA hospital) and a big-time commitment to technology, which touches virtually every aspect of Thompson's job.

"It's a very evolving field," he said. "It's changed significantly in the past 15 years."

Computers now keep track of dosages and drug inventory, schedule refills and allow pharmacists to access a patient's medical history and even talk face-to-face with patients hundreds of miles away.

The videoconferencing, for example, allows pharmacists at the Big

Spring VA to talk with and see patients at any of several VA clinics in the West Texas VA Healthcare System's service area.

Aside from allowing the local staff to have valuable "face time" with patients, the system has an additional benefit.

"We can see not only the patient, but we can actually view his prescription. What makes this really unique is it allows us to tweak prescriptions for high-risk patients, such as those with hypertension and (high cholesterol levels) right there on the spot," Thompson said. "The end result is it improves the quality of care while improving the patient's access to healthcare."

"Used to be, some veterans would have to travel all the way to Big Spring to see us," Thompson said. "Now, we're at every clinic ... A process that used to take all day for some veterans now takes 15 minutes or less."

The videoconferencing system has proven

to be a huge success and was recently named a "most innovative practice" in the VA's South-west Region.

And the technological revolution doesn't stop there.

For example, pharmacists at the Big Spring hospital can view a veteran's medical records simply by punching a few computer keys, which saves valuable time for both the patient and the healthcare provider, Thompson said.

"A veteran could walk into a VA hospital in Washington D.C. or Big Spring, Texas, and we'd all have access to the same kind of information," he said.

And saving time can be valuable, especially at a pharmacy as busy as that at the local VA hospital. Thompson said the facility dispenses about 2,000 prescriptions a day — about 600 are handed out locally and the remainder are shipped to clinics in the VAMC's service area.

Computers also keep track of inventory and help dispense dosages,

providing pharmacists with a valuable security blanket in avoiding errors, he noted.

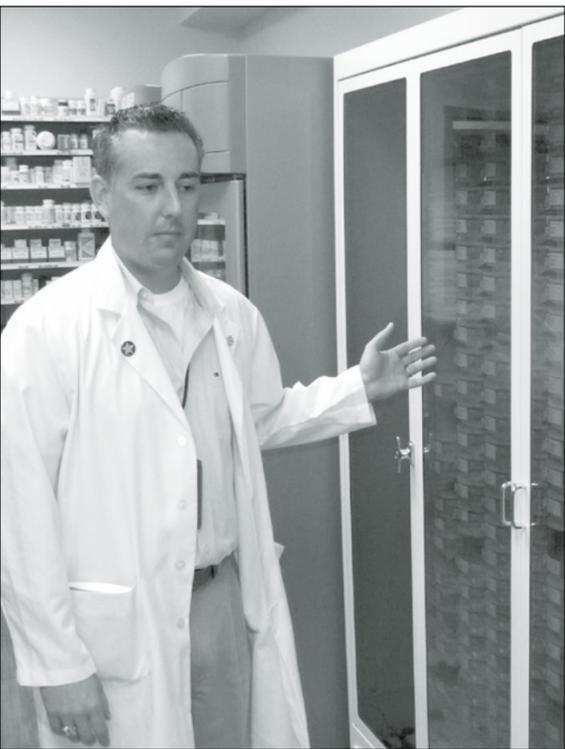
But the pharmacy is not all machines and computer screens — it does provide a very human service.

"We also counsel patients on their medications," Thompson said. "Every time a veteran comes in with a new prescription or for a refill, he talks to a counselor."

All these changes have made the local VA pharmacy one of the best in the nation, Thompson believes.

"The Joint Commission (the accrediting organization for hospitals) recently conducted an audit, and they had zero (error) findings, which is unusual, because those folks are paid to find errors," Thompson said. "We're also been audited by the (federal) Office of the Inspector General, and they had zero findings, as well."

—Steve Reagan



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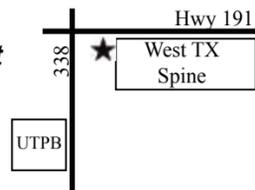


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# Getting them back in the game

## BSISD Athletic Trainer Jim Campbell aims to help injured students return to playing field

One of the first things Jim Campbell wants you to know is he is not a doctor, but he might just be one of a doctor's best friends.

Campbell, the athletic trainer for Big Spring Independent School District, is charged with overseeing the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries suffered by BSISD athletes over the course of a school year. As such, he will see hundreds of athletes, treat countless injuries and go through an impressive amount of tape, splints, ice and other supplies in the process.

But he doesn't want people to be confused about his job duties.

"One of the things I was taught in college is that athletic trainers are evaluators," Campbell said. "We don't diagnose injuries. Doctors diagnose — we don't."

But Campbell does work very closely with doctors during the time immediately after an athlete suffers an injury to the sometimes lengthy rehabilitation process that follows.

And that suits Campbell just fine.

"Actually, I'm a frustrated wanna-be doctor," he said. "Plus, I love sports. Combine all that, and that's what drew me into sports medicine."

The Lovington, N.M. native was already an established athletic trainer when he first joined the BSISD staff in the late 1980s. After

a few years here, however, he quit for a very basic reason.

"My wife was sick at the time and we had some little ones at home," he said. "And, let's face it, you're never going to get rich in the education business."

Even though he was working in the private sector, Campbell never lost the sports medicine bug. He maintained his athletic trainer license and provided his services to smaller school districts through a contract with a San Angelo hospital. He even took over the Howard College athletic training program for a few years following the death of longtime HC trainer Everett Blackburn.

During this time period, his wife's health improved, his children began leaving the nest and Campbell started looking for a way back into the profession.

He didn't have to look far. Andy Rankin, who took over from Campbell as the BSISD athletic trainer, relocated to Granbury three years ago, leaving a vacancy Campbell was more than happy to fill.

"I'm in my third year back at Big Spring, and I hope to stay here until they run me out of this place," he said. "I really enjoy working with this coaching staff and we have a bunch of good boys and girls here, too ... I really enjoy being around the kids. They are what makes the job fun, especially when

you consider I'm still wondering what I'm going to do when I grow up."

Campbell's demeanor turns more serious when he begins discussing his profession, which has undergone a startling transformation in the last few decades.

"When I got into athletic training, it was nothing like it is today," he said. "It's exploded like you wouldn't believe, it's changed so much ... a lot of it starts at the doctor level, just with all the advances they've made in sports medicine."

Another major area of change, he said, has come in the recognition and treatment of concussions.

It wasn't that long ago head injuries were wildly misdiagnosed, particularly in contact sports such as football, Campbell said.

"The old standard was we'd sit them down for a little bit and if they seemed OK and were able to answer our questions, we'd send them back out there," he said.

But an increase in awareness has led to drastic changes in how school officials deal with head injuries. In Texas alone, state law mandates schools to take a very cautious approach when determining when to allow athletes to return to action.

"Now, if a kid reports any number of (concussion-related) symptoms, they are removed from



games and not allowed to re-enter," Campbell said. "They can't return to play until they've been cleared by a physician and even then it's a gradual process ... In the long run, it's a good rule. The last thing you want is to risk long-term injury by rushing the athlete back into a game."

Campbell has seen his share of major injuries over the years — perhaps the scariest of which happened two years ago when a BSHS football player suffered a broken neck during a game against Greenwood. Quick action by the trainers, emergency medical technicians and physicians, however, helped the athlete avoid paralysis or other dire consequences.

Fortunately, however, most injuries Campbell sees on a daily basis qualify under the "bumps and bruises" category.

"During football season, I might have between 30 and 40 kids in here a day, and the vast majority of those injuries are cuts,

bumps and bruises," Campbell said. "After football season, that number tapers off to about eight to 10 kids a day."

But Campbell said he can ill afford to take any athlete injury lightly.

"One of the biggest frustrations about this job is that sometimes, it's a lot like running livestock through here — they're in one door and out the other," he said. "My biggest concern is possibly overlooking something that turns out to be significant later."

But Campbell has a lot of help in that area — he currently has 11 student trainers who act as his "eyes and ears" at games he's not able to attend.

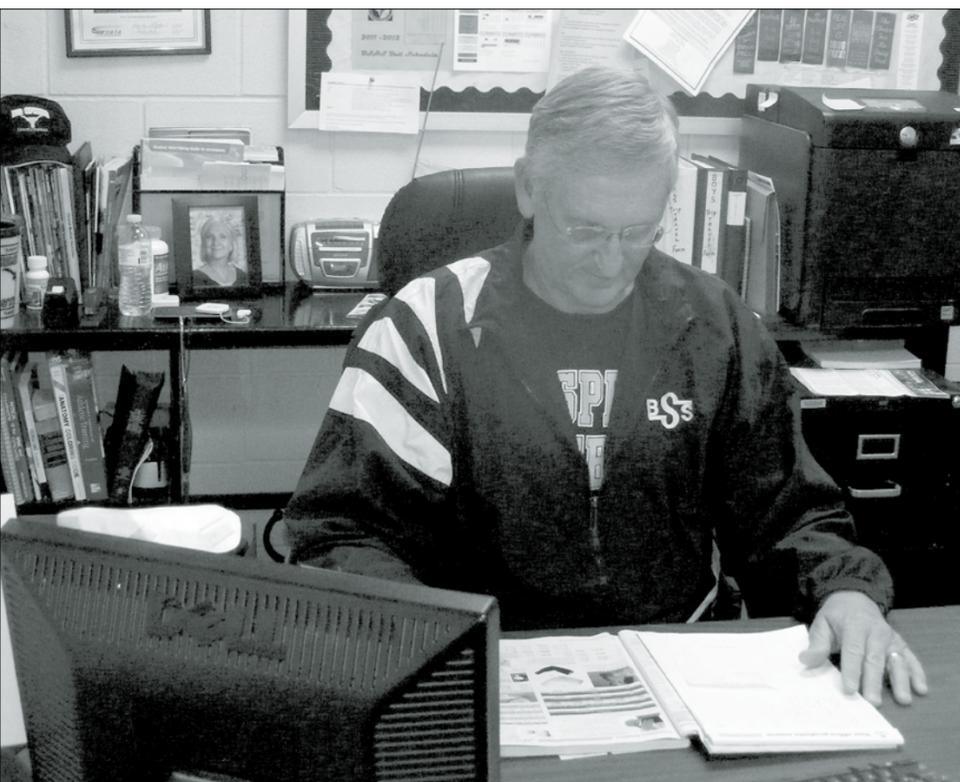
"They're invaluable,"

he said. "You couldn't run a program like this without student trainers — it would be virtually impossible, because I can't be everywhere at the same time. If you get a good student trainer, they're worth their weight in gold."

Campbell, who just turned 60, admits he's heading toward the tail end of his career, although he's not ready to retire just yet.

"It's not as easy as it used to be, but I'd like to give it a few more years if I could," he said. "I'm having fun, I enjoy being around the kids and coaching staff and what I do is important — you hate to see a kid get injured, but it's going to happen."

— Steve Reagan



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# A 'livelihood' of service

No one can accuse Charlie Gray of lacking in enthusiasm.

About once a week, Gray's staccato voice punctures the otherwise pervasive quiet of the Big Spring VA Medical Center's sixth floor, but nobody ever objects.

It's bingo time, you see. Every Tuesday, Gray, a long-time volunteer at the hospital, takes his seat behind the bingo machine and calls out game numbers for a roomful of players. Like the rest of the sixth floor, the atmosphere is quiet — or nearly so.

The only sounds during the next hour will be the hum of the machine, occasional murmurs from players and Gray's slightly nasal, high-pitched voice as he goes through the patter familiar to anyone who has ever set foot inside a bingo hall.

"B5!"  
"119!"  
"O62!"

The familiar litany of letter-number combinations continues until someone announces his or her winning card, the numbers are checked and a new game commences.

Listening to Gray speak afterward is much like listening to him call out bingo numbers — the man is direct and to the point.

"I like being around the veterans and other volunteers," he said when asked why he started volunteering at the VA hospital.

The rough exterior, however, is a bit of a front, said Iva Jo Hanslik, who oversees volunteer operations at the



hospital.

"He lives through serving veterans — it's his livelihood," Hanslik said. "This is his life — coming up here to do what he can — and it's an honor to have a volunteer like him who is so dedicated to helping and serving veterans. He is a very caring gentleman."

The Stephenville native is a long-time Big Spring resident, having moved here from Post during his fifth-grade year in 1953. His father worked for the local water district, while his mother worked for Big Spring Independent School District.

He graduated from Big

Spring High School in 1961 and, by his own admission, drifted for a few years.

"All I wanted to do was get out of school," he said. "You know how school kids are — all you want to do is graduate so you don't have to get up so early every morning."

Soon, however, life had other plans for Gray — he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1964.

After completing basic training at Fort Polk, La., he received training as a radio communications specialist before serving an eight-month stint in South Vietnam.

Gray doesn't like to talk about his time in the war

zone.

"I've got some memories, but I don't want to repeat them," he said.

After receiving his discharge in 1966, Gray returned to Big Spring and started work at the local refinery. He split time between there and the facility's pipeline unit for more than 30 years before a degenerative medical condition forced him to retire in 1998.

"It's an inherited condition that effects the way I walk," he said. "It started showing up in about 1995, but it wasn't as bad as it is now."

After retiring, he "didn't do anything" for a couple of

years. Then, he decided to give volunteer work a try and landed at the VA hospital.

Although Gray needs a motorized chair to get around, that doesn't stop him from making his weekly rounds at the hospital.

There, he heads up to the sixth floor activity room, eases out of his chair, takes a seat at the bingo machine and gets ready to start barking out numbers.

"It seems like (I started) about 100 years ago," he said with a chuckle. "Actually, it's only been 20 years, give or take a few. ... I just started coming here and never really quit."

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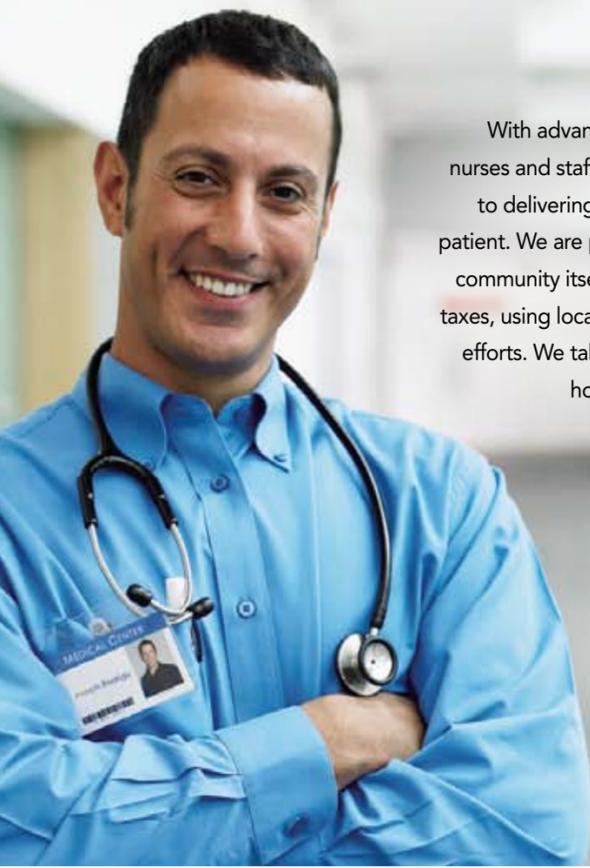
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ER Patient Visits ..... 15,996  
Inpatient Visits..... 2,967  
Outpatient Visits ..... 58,791

#### Financial Benefits:

Payroll (322 Employees)..... \$20,301,628  
Capital Investments..... \$2,083,553  
Property & Sales Taxes ..... \$654,267

#### Caring for Our Community:

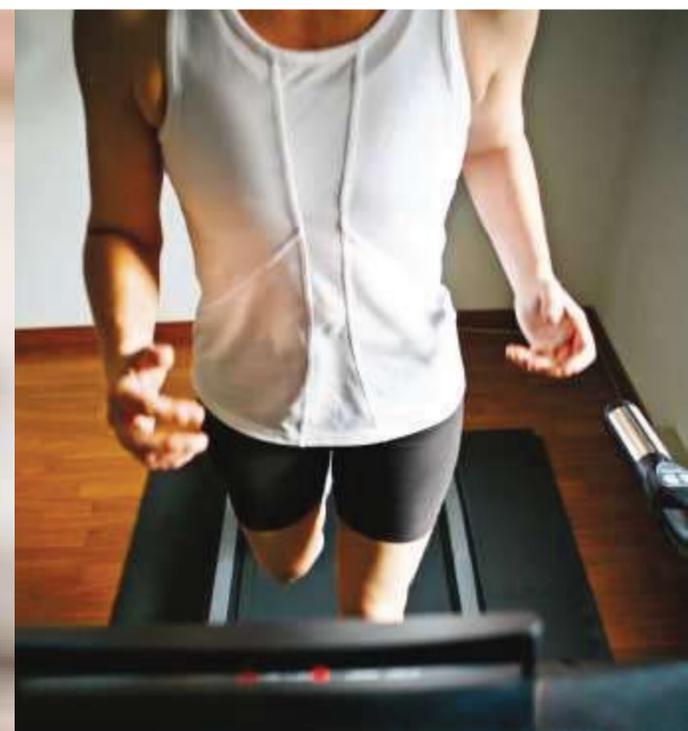
Charity & Uncompensated Care ..... \$17,265,551  
Dollars Spent Locally..... \$783,802  
Donations to the Community ..... \$12,685  
Total Community Investment.....\$41,101,486\*

\*Dollar amounts are approximate.

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# 2012 Progress & PROFILE

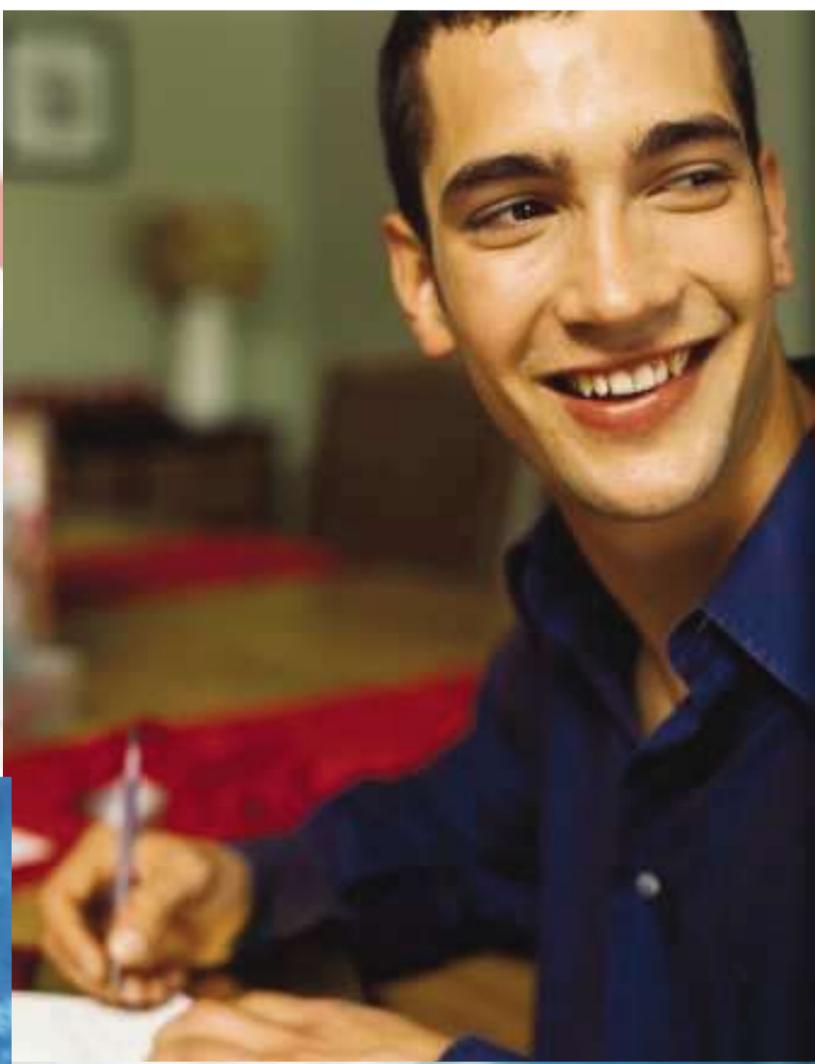


## Learning & LEISURE

A publication of the

**BIG SPRING**  
**HERALD**

Sunday, March 25, 2012





Wanda Erickson, left, and Carmen Mendoza have developed a friendship that has only gotten stronger through the years. Both nonagenarians, they are also former educators.

# Old friends

Despite being miles apart most of their lives, Wanda and Carmen share a bond

Don't say friendships that last a lifetime don't exist, because 96-year-old Wanda Erickson and 93-year-old Carmen Mendoza will disagree. Their friendship has lasted, despite several hundred miles and many years apart.

Erickson and Mendoza — who was the first Hispanic teacher in Big Spring and Abilene — met 70 years ago as they entered their teaching frontier. Both were first-time school teachers at Kate Morrison — constructed in the 1930s for Mexican American students — in June 1942.

"I had just graduated from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene," Mendoza said. "I left my hometown and came to Big Spring to teach."

Erickson added, "I had received my degree from Texas Tech. When we met we were both first-time teachers."

The two quickly became friends.

Erickson taught third grade and Mendoza taught first grade. Both not only shared an instant friendship, but a great love for children. However, the two would part ways a couple of years into their teaching career when Erickson got married and moved to Michigan.

"I taught third grade in Michigan for 19 years," Erickson said. "It was the love for children that kept me teaching."

She went on to describe just how deep her love for the children was.

"I didn't have any children of my own, but I loved the students like they were my children. While I was teaching in Michigan there was this one little girl who

was going to graduate and she was crying and when I asked her why, she told me she didn't want to let me go."

With emotion flowing through her voice, Erickson added, "I got so attached. I ended up going down the hallway and crying too, because I didn't want to let her go either."

"You had to let her go. You had to let her spread her wings and let her go," Mendoza told Erickson.

Mendoza would also make a move to Abilene. But after she got married, she found her way back to Big Spring — the hometown of her husband, Robert H. Mendoza. However, before long, she and her family would pick up and move to Washington D.C.

"I taught school for six years and once we moved to Washington D.C. I stayed home and took care of the kids because my husband was working a good job," she related.

Erickson taught school for 40 years before she retired. Of course, despite the years apart and hundreds of miles between them, both women would eventually find their way back to Big Spring ... and their way back to each other.

Upon returning to Big Spring, Erickson decided to put one of her interests to use by teaching an art class at the Senior Center. In that time, Mendoza had also made her way back to Big Spring — where the two had originally met — in 1991.

"We picked up our friendship right where we left off like nothing had happened," Mendoza said.

Of course, the friend-

ship was not the only bond that survived between the two friends. The love they have for teaching and children continues still.

"I always loved teaching and continued my education even when I wasn't teaching anymore," Mendoza said. "Even being in the nursing home I have the opportunity to ask questions to the ones who work here and they provide me with the answers."

When she isn't asking others questions, Mendoza likes to read — that is, when she isn't spending time playing Skip-Bo and Bingo with her friend Erickson.

"Wherever the activities are, Wanda and I are," Mendoza said.

Erickson's go-get 'em attitude is still driving her. She is vice president of the resident council.

Mendoza is still willing to offer advice to the youth of today. She said whenever she comes across a child, she shakes their hand and introduces herself.

"I shake their hand and I tell them, 'See that big world? You can reach that goal, but you have to be persistent and be interested.' The world is close to us in our specialty and knowledge."

The teaching world of today and the world Erickson and Mendoza taught in are two completely different ones, according to Mendoza. The two taught back in the time of World War II and now students are in the computer age.

"I am not one bit interested in the computer age," Erickson said.

Mendoza added, "It has its pros and cons,

but it is like being in another world."

Both ladies may be losing their eyesight and their hearing, but when it comes to memories of their teaching career, there is no end in sight. The two recall their teaching days as if it was yesterday and the compliments they pay each other reflects the friendship they share.

"She was such a good teacher and the stu-

dents had such respect for her," Erickson said of Mendoza.

Mendoza reiterated the same feeling of Erickson and her students, "She loved her students as if they were her own and her students returned the respect."

Just as they were all those years ago, the two friends spend as much of their day together as possible. They share lunch and a game of

Skip-Bo or Bingo as often as they can. Sunday mornings, they attend church together.

"We eat lunch together each day, we are dining mates. We have some good food and lots of it," Erickson said.

Mendoza put it best, "Wanda and I are blessed, very blessed to be here and to have our friendship renewed."

—Amanda Moreno

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## BSISD SCHOOLS

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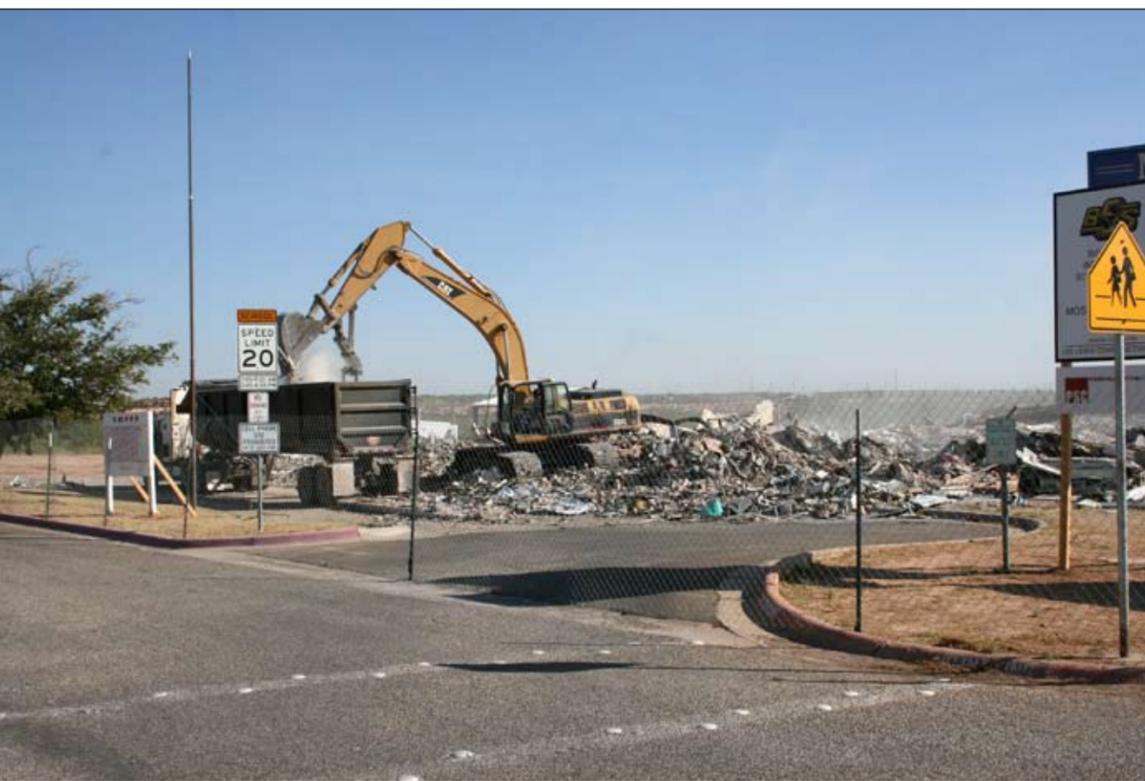
Kentwood Elementary

Marcy Elementary

Moss Elementary

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# Preparing for the future

*4 new elementary campuses to greet Big Spring students*

Big Spring Independent School District is counting down the days until construction is completed on four new elementary schools.

The need for new facilities comes under the direction of Supt. Steven Saldivar. After a large amount of research and planning was conducted, the decision to build four schools was made. The bond was approved by voters in May 2010, which allowed the construction phase to move forward.

At the beginning of the 2012-13 school year, students at Marcy, Goliad, Washington and Moss elementary schools will be walking into new buildings.

The project is estimated at \$60 million and includes renovations to the Big Spring High School as well. High school construction includes the addition of a science room and changes to the choir area and band hall, as well as a new roof.

Ground breaking took place at the Marcy Elementary School campus May 4. Actual building construction began at the beginning of the school year.

Throughout the process, all structures have been moving along

according to schedule, except for Moss Elementary, which is a few weeks behind. Construction was delayed on that campus because of the need for use of the school building until the school year ended. Each of the other schools were able to be built adjacent to the existing buildings, but Moss had to be demolished before construction could get under way.

By the time the four schools are completed, each will be identical in structure, but be personalized according to school colors, officials said.

"This has taken many hours of planning and a huge amount of working together with numerous people," Saldivar said at the groundbreaking ceremony. "We are doing this because the kids deserve a conducive environment to learn in."

Lee Lewis Construction has been serving as the contractor on the project.

"We look forward to great things to come here in Big Spring because we are working with the best kids in the state of Texas," Saldivar said.

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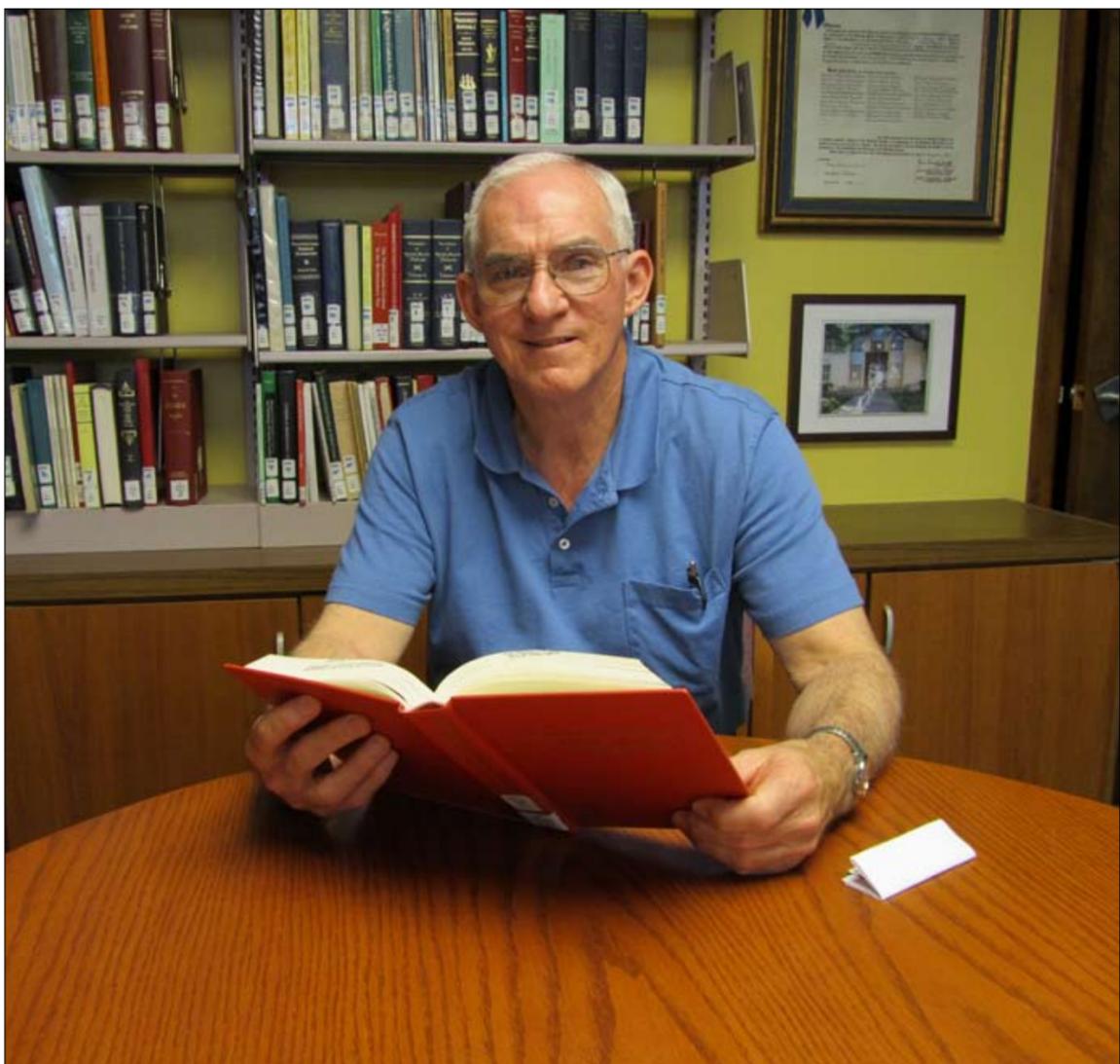
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After teaching for 28 years, Johnny Schafer is enjoying a second career. You might say he is ...

# Book smart



Nine years ago, Johnny Schafer decided he'd close the book on a teaching career that spanned almost 30 years.

"I did nothing for a year and decided that wasn't for me," said the longtime educator, who grew up in Garden City. "I started looking for work."

As fortune would have it, he found employment with the Howard County Library, and is more than pleased with his second profession. It's close to "home," for one thing. After graduation from Garden City High School, he earned his associate's degree at Howard College.

He received his bachelor's from Angelo State and his master's in secondary education from North Texas University.

He then took off on a 28-year career in secondary education, spending three years in Port Lavaca and another three with the Big Spring Independent School District. Then it was on to Forsan ISD for 22 years.

"I enjoyed teaching," he said. "My background in education has certainly helped me in this job."

Johnny is in his eighth year as an employee at the library and while the job can be hectic, he finds it rewarding.

"Helping people find answers they are looking for or information they need is really special. When I see the gratitude on their faces it really makes my job pleasurable," he said.

When Johnny was teaching, he found himself in a variety of coaching roles as well.

"You know how it is in a small school. Everybody does everything," he said with a grin.

It's the same at the public library in a town the size of Big Spring. Johnny answers the phone, responds to emails and snail mail. He conducts research and instructs patrons on how to use the computer card catalog, microfilm reader and online data bases. He fills inter-library loan search requests when a patron needs a book not available locally. He maintains the library website, and assists the children's librarian with tours and



There isn't much at the Howard County Library that Johnny Schafer can't do or hasn't done, but his love is helping other people find what they need. At left, Johnny visits with Martha Vierra, acquisitions clerk and a long-time library employee.

the circulation desk with checking books in and out.

"I enjoy the variety," said Johnny, who believes the library is a vital part of the community.

"It's a central location for people to seek out knowledge or relaxation. We have a wealth of information and the services are free. It's not just a place to check out books. We have Wi-Fi, we provide internet, a copier, summer reading programs for children and storytime during the year for pre-schoolers," he noted.

In addition, the library makes available meeting rooms for the public, which are accessible from outside the main library doors.

"They just check out a key and return it with a packet when their meeting is over," said Johnny. "There is no fee."

Most of what the library offers is free, though there is a charge for some activities, including \$1 to send a fax, \$1 for a color copy of a document and 20 cents for a black and white document. There may also be a fee charged for research, depending on how complex the search is and the resources needed.

Johnny is glad to do it all. "I have really enjoyed this as a second career," said the 61-year-old, who doesn't plan on quitting anytime soon. "The peo-

ple who work here, and the people you meet — that's really been pleasurable. My co-workers are all great to work with."

Howard County Library is open from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. The internet/video room is closed during lunch from noon to 2 p.m. and at 5:30 in the evening. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the internet/video room closing at 1:30 p.m.

The library relies, in part, on donation of books and other materials and on Friends of the Library, a non-profit

group. For information on Friends of the Library, call 432-264-2260. The library is located at

500 S. Main St.

—Bill McClellan



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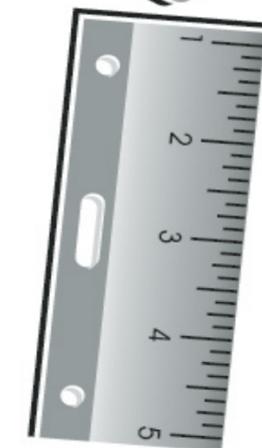
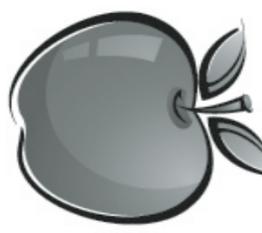
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*Kaleb Hill has a message for Big Spring:*

# Listen to the music

When local resident Kaleb Hill sat down to his first piano at the young age of 7 years, with the ebony and ivory keys shining dauntingly up at him, it might have seemed like the world had become a rather boring place.

After all, most 7-year-old-boys are dreaming of mailing their little brother to Kalamazoo, Mich., or becoming the next Cobra Commander. However, Hill's mother, who played the piano at church, had other plans for the youngster.

Fortunately for Hill, his dad intervened.

"I started playing piano at about 7 years old. My mom gave me lessons," Hill said.

"She has played at her church for more than 30 years. However, after getting bored with piano I learned a few chords on the guitar from my dad. He is a pure country strumming type, so I didn't learn much. After learning that, I moved on to taking lessons from Marshal Horn and then Eric McKinney, Mark McKinney's brother. So I've been around music and played music my whole life. I played in bands in high school with Adrian Calvio, Jeremy Edens, Daniel Freshour, Jesse Loya, Sunday Abreo and jammed with countless others.

"Music has a lot of meaning in my life. I won a scholarship playing guitar to go to Arlington Baptist College. I've played all kinds of music, from 80s rock to blues to country, taking something from each person I ever had the pleasure of jamming with and turning it into something of my own."

Unfortunately, like so many other budding musicians, Hill lost touch with his inner-guitarist as he got older ... until recently, when he began helping to promote bands and benefit

shows locally.

"I was done and out of music for several years," Hill said. "I still did the occasional living room jam for the kids, but nothing major. I was asked to help out with the Funtastic Fourth show last year, and that got the juices flowing again. Working with the bands, taking care of their travelers, getting their gear set up, getting the stage ready, being around the stage again ... I loved it. I worked with every group that day, from Allan Johnson, Buzzkill, Jared Thomas and the Vagabonds, Lenorah, then the headliner, Mark McKinney.

"I knew the crowd was getting larger throughout the day, but honestly, I thought we might have 800 to 1,000 people out there for Mark. I was working with Mike Schaefer that day with all the stage stuff and he asked if I had looked out in the street at the crowd, so I walked up on the side of the stage and could not believe there were more than 3,000 people out there having a great time. That moment proved to me how much people in this town love music and how they have wanted something big for so long.

"After that night and seeing Chris Mason start with WestFest, I knew I could do something. I wanted it to be different. The Funtastic Fourth is a huge free event. WestFest showcases local bands from all around West Texas and I wanted to do something that would help others out. I wanted to use my love for music to make a difference in lives that need help. To be able to bring music to this town is really important. To be able to use these shows to raise money for various organizations was just an



easy decision to make. I love working with bands, but I love helping people even more."

Making the switch from musician to promoter has been anything but a cakewalk for Hill.

"The absolutely most challenging thing has been to gain the trust of sponsors," Hill said. "It's only been the past year or so that there has been much music outside of bars in this town. Local businesses are very leery of someone coming in and asking for money to help with a benefit concert. I don't know if it's because they think that since it's a concert it will generate a lot of money on its own and they don't need help.

"There is so much that goes into planning a show. There are the negotiations with the bands, securing the bands, getting a stage,

venue, getting sound companies, meals for the bands, food, drinks and on and on. There is cost in all of this. Once you agree with a band you have 14 days to get them the deposit, after that if you don't have the money, you've lost them."

While the battle may be up Hill — no pun intended — it's one he said he's willing to wage to make Big Spring a better place, not just for the audiences in the Crossroads, but for the young, budding musicians looking to get their start.

"I want to see it grow as a whole. I want to see WestFest get huge, I want to see more and bigger bands coming in for the Funtastic Fourth celebration," Hill said excitedly. "I want to see the music scene grow. I would love to have all kinds of shows

"I want to see the music scene grow. I would love to have all kinds of shows here, Texas country, rock, blues, jazz, all of it. I want to see local bands get more exposure opening for bigger acts. I want to see the garage bands get back into it."

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"I would love to see something like Crudefest here. There is no reason this can't happen. We have the venues and the hotel rooms. If things like this start taking place it will add so much to this town. It will bring people in from all over and that will help the local restaurants, hotels, gas stations ... everyone. It could even help attract new business to this town. It's all about bet-

tering this town. It's all about opening peoples' minds and hearts to something new and exciting."

Unfortunately, Hill knows it's not something he or anyone else will be able to accomplish overnight.

"Will this be hard to do? Sure. This town has been silent for so long people are now thinking that's the norm. It's time to change things up," he said. "All I want is for people to have fun here in Big Spring. Why should Midland, Odessa, San Angelo — even Snyder — have things to do, but we don't? Why should the money people earn here in town have to go out of town for folks to have fun? It shouldn't. Every day we should strive to make this town better. We should strive to reach out and help someone. People always say they want to help but just don't know how.

"Go support things happening in town. Open your mind to new things, new music new adventures in this town. Let's all work together to make Big Spring better. This town is opening up to the idea of new shows. It will only get better from here if we all have the support of the people in this town and surrounding areas."

For more information on Hill's work and ongoing promotions find him on Facebook or e-mail him at kalebhill@hotmail.com

—Thomas Jenkins

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