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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 149

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My first robot

Elbow students get hands-on look at high-tech future

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

LEGOs + robots = learning? Elbow Elementary students are working — not playing (OK, maybe a little play) — with LEGOs and robots while gaining an insight into engineering.

For the first time, GT (gifted and talented) students in grades second through fifth at Elbow are taking part in the LEGO Robotics Challenge. Students traveled to the Texas Tech campus in Lubbock on March 24 to participate in a practice run and will return for actual competition April 21. There will be about 65 elementary teams competing.

"Since the first competition, we have made adjustments and have been able to make adjustments that allow our robots to complete several tasks instead of just one," said Caden Williams, GEAR (Get Excited About Robotics) robotic team member.

In order to prepare for the new venture, students from the GEAR robotics team at Big Spring Junior High have been working with the Elbow students.

"It was exciting seeing the kids from Forsan and Big Spring learning from and encouraging each other," said Diana Newton, GEAR instructor at Elbow. "Teamwork is a main goal of this program and we hope the students will apply creativity and cooperative life skills to solve problems, both now and in the future."

GEAR is a non-profit volunteer or-



Courtesy photo

David Williams, Big Spring Junior High GEAR robotics participant, works with students at Elbow Elementary before the practice competition in Lubbock at Texas Tech University. The final competition will take place April 21.

ganization created to bring interest in the youth to engineering, science and technology. The six to eight week challenge is designed for elementary and junior high students. The object is to have teams not only build, but program LEGO robots to perform specified tasks. The competition takes place on an 8-foot-square

playing field.

"This is a great program, which had been done at another school I was at, and it is something that can be expanded beyond the Tech program," Elbow Elementary Principal Randy Gartman said. "It is something that can start at

See **ROBOTS**, Page 3A

Tax help deadline Monday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Monday will be area residents' last chance to get free assistance with filing their tax returns from the annual AARP Tax Aid program, as the April 17 federal deadline to file forms quickly approaches.

According to program coordinator Ray Alexander, it has been a busy tax season for him and his team of volunteers, and with just days left to file federal returns, the last-minute rush will be on for many Crossroads residents.

See **TAX**, Page 3A

Academics team claims district title

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Hail to the champs. Spurred by dominating showings from its speech and journalism teams, Big Spring High School claimed the District 5-3A title at this week's University Interscholastic League Spring Academic Meet at the BSHS campus.

Big Spring totaled 456 points to edge Abilene Wylie (424.5 points), while Snyder (363 points) finished third. This is BSHS' first academic district crown since moving down to Class 3A in 2010.

"The amount of work these kids put into this was just tremendous," BSHS Journalism

See **BSHS**, Page 3A

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Law enforcement center talks top agenda

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners face a rather routine agenda Monday, as the court prepares to meet with County Detention Center Administrator Mike Dawson to discuss the ongoing construction of the new Troy Hogue Joint Law Enforcement Center at the facility.

According to County Judge Mark Barr, the discussions are likely to center on the de-



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Work continues on the Troy Hogue Joint Law Enforcement Center, which is being built adjacent to the Howard County Detention Center.

molition of several office areas inside the detention center in order to make way for the law enforcement center, which will be adjoined to the facility on the west side.

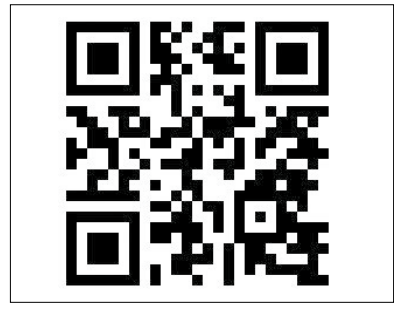
"There are several offices in the jail that are going to have

to be demolished to make way for the joint law enforcement center," Barr said. "I'm sure that's going to complicate things for Mike (Dawson) and the rest of the jail employees, so it's something we certainly need to discuss how to handle

it. "Mike (Dawson) is very particular about the way the detention center is run, and he's a huge asset to the county. We want to do everything we can to make this construction and transition to the joint law enforcement center as smooth for him and the rest of the jail staff as possible."

The project — which is estimated to cost approximately \$2.7 million, with the city of

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A





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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sun 4/8	Mon 4/9	Tue 4/10	Wed 4/11	Thu 4/12
75/56 Variable clouds with scattered thunderstorms. High around 75F.	86/59 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	85/60 Scattered thunderstorms possible.	84/60 Slight chance of a thunderstorm.	87/57 Windy with sunshine. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the upper 50s.
Sunrise: 7:25 AM Sunset: 8:11 PM	Sunrise: 7:24 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM	Sunrise: 7:22 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM	Sunrise: 7:21 AM Sunset: 8:13 PM	Sunrise: 7:20 AM Sunset: 8:14 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	76	58	t-storm	Kingsville	87	66	pt sunny
Amarillo	78	47	rain	Livingston	82	58	pt sunny
Austin	81	60	pt sunny	Longview	79	59	t-storm
Beaumont	81	62	mst sunny	Lubbock	76	49	t-storm
Brownsville	86	68	pt sunny	Lufkin	83	60	pt sunny
Brownwood	80	59	t-storm	Midland	77	57	t-storm
Corpus Christi	83	68	pt sunny	Raymondville	87	67	pt sunny
Corsicana	77	60	t-storm	Rosenberg	82	62	mst sunny
Dallas	78	61	t-storm	San Antonio	83	63	cloudy
Del Rio	84	64	t-storm	San Marcos	81	60	pt sunny
El Paso	81	58	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	76	59	t-storm
Fort Stockton	76	57	t-storm	Sweetwater	76	56	t-storm
Gainesville	72	57	t-storm	Tyler	79	60	t-storm
Greenville	75	58	t-storm	Weatherford	73	57	t-storm
Houston	82	62	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	72	55	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	77	53	mst sunny	Minneapolis	60	36	mst sunny
Boston	56	41	pt sunny	New York	65	48	mst sunny
Chicago	64	43	mst sunny	Phoenix	88	61	mst sunny
Dallas	78	61	t-storm	San Francisco	64	51	pt sunny
Denver	72	43	sunny	Seattle	62	48	cloudy
Houston	82	62	mst sunny	St. Louis	72	51	sunny
Los Angeles	75	54	sunny	Washington, DC	71	48	mst sunny
Miami	78	66	pt sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Sun 4/8	Mon 4/9	Tue 4/10	Wed 4/11	Thu 4/12
7	9	9	9	9
High	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, 0 being the lowest and 11 being the highest. A higher UV Index shows the need for greater protection.

Obituaries

Faye Jean (Miss Faye) McGee



Faye Jean (Miss Faye) McGee, 54, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, April 4, 2012, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 10, 2012, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Pastor Holston Banks and Minister Kathy McGee, officiating. Graveside services will follow at 3 p.m. at Hamlin East Cemetery in Hamlin, Texas.

She was born Dec. 23, 1957, in Hamlin, Texas to Johnny B. (Green) Marshall and John Charles Marshall, Sr. She was a longtime resident of Big Spring. She worked as a certified nursing assistant at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for more than 15 years and as a private sitter.

She is survived by her special friend Steve Sanford and the father of her children, Ray McGee Sr. and the McGee family; one son, Ray McGee of Big Spring; three daughters, Alisha Fay McGee and Ernest Silvas of Big Spring, April McGee Franks and husband David of Big Spring and Angela McGee of Big Spring; eight grandchildren; two brothers, Shelton Marshall and Wayne (Cadillac) Marshall both of Hamlin; two sisters, Mary Ann Coleman and Bonnie Crumpton both of Abilene; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two sisters, May June Marshall (her twin) and Eddie May Jeffery; two brothers: John Charles Marshall, Jr. and Larry Marshall and one grandson Keith.

The family would like to thank Home Hospice nurses, Lisa, Becky, Betty and Pam.

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

Nancy Arlene Reed

Nancy Arlene Reed, 61, of Stanton, formerly of Big Spring, died Friday, April 6, 2012, at Hospice of Midland Inpatient Unit. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Patsy Rowe Humphries

Patsy Rowe Humphries, 86, of Big Spring, died Saturday, April 7, 2012, in a local nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Volunteers needed for Compass

Do you have a minute? An hour? How about making a difference in someone's life? Become a hospice volunteer. One hour a month can make a difference. Whether it be visiting a patient, working in the office, or helping with a craft.

We can work around your schedule. If interested, please call Michelle Coutermarsh, at Compass Hospice, 263-5999 or apply in person at 1003 E. FM 700.

Police blotter

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

- LAFAWN FAYE CANTU, 39, 507 W. Fourth St., was arrested Friday on charges of unauthorized use of motor vehicle and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- PETER MANUEL CANDELARIA, 24, of 1600 S. Nolan St., was arrested Friday on a charge of theft between \$50 and \$500.
- EUGENE SCOTT, 62, of 1511 Tuscon Rd., was arrested Friday on charges of driving while license invalid and failure to appear.
- RAYMUNDO LEON, 36, of 513 N. A St., was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JUAN PABLO LOZANO, 39, of Ozona, was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- AMBER MICHELLE BROWN, 26, of 1406 Young, was arrested Friday on a warrant for no drivers license when unlicensed and driving while license invalid.
- JOEL RODRIGUEZ, 42, of 602 Circle Dr., was arrested Friday on a warrant for theft between \$20 and \$500 by check.
- JOESPH MICHAEL GONZALES, 30, of 2110 N. Birdwell, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid-no insurance.
- THEFT was reported: In the 4100 block of Dixon. In the 1000 block of S. Gregg Street.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 600 block of McEwen.

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.
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, 8-9 p.m., fourth floor, VA Medical Center.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

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ROBOTS

Continued from Page 1A

the elementary level and hopefully expand to the junior high and high school level, where they will have a chance at scholarships. Overall, it's a good program which helps the student ... learn problem solving."

While taking part in this program, students have not only learned how to troubleshoot and gain an insight into engineering — they have learned a few life lessons along the way.

"People think being in GT is easy and I have been told that if only a student could be in GT then things would be so much easier, but we are working too ... we may get out of class, but we are working hard," said team member Sam Howell.

Support from parents, teachers and team members has been a huge factor in the success of the program, team members said. Several of the parents have offered suggestions which have been transformed into working ideas by the students.

"We were struggling with some things and our dads showed us ways to deal with them and taught us some new techniques," Howell

said.

Katie Averette added, "My dad came to help us one day and he had an idea that didn't work, but it made me think of something that ended up working."

The engineering and problem-solving is only a small portion of the program. Learning to work as a team is among the several lessons the students have learned.

"One thing we learned is never say we can't do this, and just keep trying," Reese Rutledge said.

Averette learned more can be accomplished if the work is divided up. One lesson that seemed to resonate with all the students involved was that even if there are disagreements, it doesn't mean the end of the world.

"It's important to not get mad right away. Always listen to what the others have to say," Mason Hillger said.

Zachary Bailey agreed, "Don't ever say, 'This is enough.' Always do extra work."

"Don't give up and learn from your mistakes," Luke Settles, fifth grader, said. "When you fail you just try harder and give 110 percent."

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

TAX

Continued from Page 1A

"People have so much going on in their lives these days, sometimes these deadlines can sneak up on them," Alexander said. "Monday will be our last day to assist area residents with their tax returns, so we hope to see those who need the assistance at the Senior Center bright and early."

According to officials with the Internal Revenue Service, taxpayers will have until Tuesday, April 17, to file their 2011 tax returns and pay any tax due because April 15 falls on a Sunday, and Emancipation Day — a holiday observed in the District of Columbia — falls this year on Monday, April 16.

District of Columbia holidays impact tax deadlines in the same way that federal holidays do, according to federal law; therefore, all taxpayers will have two extra days

to file this year. Taxpayers requesting an extension will have until Oct. 15 to file their 2012 tax returns.

Alexander said he and other volunteers will be at the Big Spring Senior Center on Monday from 8 a.m. until noon.

"The AARP program provides free federal tax preparation assistance to people who cannot afford professional tax help, such as seniors, people with disabilities, those who don't speak English and people with low-to-moderate income," Alexander said. "AARP volunteers explain many special tax credits and deductions and how people may claim them on their tax returns. These volunteers help people complete their returns, right down to any refunds that may be due them."

Alexander said the process is easy, filers just need to be sure to bring a few vital pieces of information with them.

"People need to be sure to bring all of the perti-

nent information with them, including W-2 forms and 1099 forms," Alexander said.

"They also need to bring any forms that show their 2011 earnings and their 2010 tax returns. We also need a social security card for every person named on the return and a photo ID for the person filing."

The Big Spring Senior Citizen Center is located at 1901 Simler Dr. in the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

For more information contact Alexander at 263-4992.

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Vivian Thomas Etheredge, 90, died Thursday. Graveside services were at 1 p.m. today at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland, Texas.

Faye Jean (Miss Faye) McGee, 54, died Wednesday. The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside services will follow at 3 p.m. at Hamlin East Cemetery in Hamlin, Texas.

Nancy Arlene Reed, 61, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

BSHS

Continued from Page 1A

Teacher Samantha Berry said. "Their commitment just so far surpassed anything we could have expected. It was a fantastic result."

Berry's journalism students spearheaded Big Spring's efforts, starting with a 1-2-3 finish in editorial writing — freshman Katelyn Ignecci finished first, followed by sophomore Kenan Lewis and junior Ricky Shubert.

Shubert added another pair of first place showings — in feature writing and news writing — to help Big Spring earn top journalism team honors.

"All of my UIL students worked very hard ... and held themselves to a very high standard," Berry said. "This was like their athletics — they went in as a team

and they won as a team. I couldn't be prouder of them."

Big Spring's speech team, headed by Jennifer and Clint Adams, also dominated at the meet, earning five first-place finishes.

Speech team members claiming first place finishes Wednesday were Shiloh Creswell (informative speaking), Shermila Kher (Lincoln-Douglas debate and persuasive speaking), Lacy McMurtrey (literary criticism), and Belle Guillory (poetry interpretation).

Connor Furqueron also earned a pair of gold medals for BSHS, one in ready writing and the other in chemistry, and finished second in Science.

Earlier this year, Big Spring also earned first-place finishes in Cross-examination debate and one act play.

The top three finishers

in each event qualify for the UIL's Region I-3A Academics Meet, to be held later this month at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

Here are Big Spring High School individual and team results from Wednesday's UIL District 5-3A Academic Meet:

Individual results:

- Accounting — Daniel Coyle, fifth; Daniel Juarez, sixth.
- Calculator applications — Anna Scott, fifth.
- Current issues — Dylan Archer-Pauchet, fifth.
- Computer applications — Charles Anderson, second; Danielle Strickland, fourth; Anna Scott, fifth.
- Editorial writing — Katelyn Ignecci, first; Kenan Lewis, second; Ricky Shubert, third.
- Feature writing — Ricky Shubert, first; Katelyn Ignecci, fourth.
- Headline writing — Ricky Shubert, third.
- Informative speaking — Shiloh Creswell, first; Aron Rios, fifth; Kendra Cook, sixth.
- Lincoln-Douglas debate — Shermila Kher, first.
- Literary criticism — Lacy McMurtrey, first.
- Mathematics — Chelsey

Parker, fifth; Garrett Miller, sixth.

- Number sense — Garrett Miller, sixth.
- News writing — Ricky Shubert, first; Katelyn Ignecci, second.
- Persuasive speaking — Shermila Kher; Seth Trevino, third.
- Poetry interpretation — Belle Guillory, first; Meagan Illas, fifth; Lauren Puga, sixth.
- Ready writing — Connor Furqueron, first.
- Chemistry — Connor Furqueron, first.
- Science — Connor Furqueron, second.

Team results:

- Accounting — BSHS, second.
- Calculator applications — BSHS, second.
- Cross-examination debate — BSHS first and second.
- Journalism — BSHS, first.
- Literary criticism — BSHS, second.
- Mathematics — BSHS, second.
- Number sense — BSHS, second.

- One act play — BSHS, first.
- Science — BSHS, second.
- Speech — BSHS, first.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

Big Spring chipping in \$1.7 million and the county picking up the balance — got under way in early February.

According to Barr, the construction is moving ahead as scheduled.

"Everything is going very smoothly. We're very pleased with the progress so far," Barr said. "They have been pouring concrete this past week, and the weather has cooperated nicely."

The project, which is a joint venture between the county and the city, will eventually house both the Howard County Sheriff's Office and the Big Spring Police Department on the same

grounds as the county's detention center, located on W. Highway 80.

County Auditor Jackie Olson will present commissioners with invoices, purchase requests, budget amendments, as well as present her office's monthly financial report. Olson is also expected to discuss a contract with Howard County 911 for dispatching services during the meeting.

County Treasurer is expected to meet with

the court regarding personnel considerations, payroll report and her office's quarterly report, while County Clerk Donna Wright will present her department's monthly report.

The meeting will get under way at 10 a.m. in the commissioners courtroom, located on the third floor of the county courthouse.

For more information, contact the county judge's office at 432-264-2202.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer	

YOUR VIEWS

Doves

TO THE EDITOR:

Doves have always been special to me ever since I was just a little girl and my granddaddy and I saw a beautiful white dove nesting in a tree.

He told me doves were God's special birds because that is one of the ways God lets us know he is watching over us.

The other day when I took the trash out I saw a little dove laying in the dry winter grass.

When I got closer to her she tried to fly away but couldn't. I knew the dove needed help and if anyone could help the little dove it would be Art and Bebe McCasland, because they have a special place in their hearts for any bird that needs help.

They took the dove and I know they did their best to help, but my little dove died. I cried because I so wanted to see the dove flying free in the vast blue Texas sky.

The little dove will always be special to me because God sent it to me because it needed help.

I would like to thank the McCaslands — because of them the dove spent its last few hours in a warm, safe place surrounded by love because the McCaslands truly love all of God's winged creatures.

Anyone who does what is good is from God ... 3 John 1:11

LANA F. ANGUIANO
BIG SPRING

Bully

TO THE EDITOR:

I wonder if our movie theater will have the movie "Bully" here. I hope it does and I think it should be shown at our schools; make it mandatory for the kids, all kids, to see it. But, I doubt it will come here. It is a movie that should be seen by all kids and to try and help the ones who are the bullies.

I know the manager at the movie theater gets what the office wants them to have, but if it doesn't come here because of that then we as parents and grandparents need to do what we can to get it here.

You know, the theaters could work with the schools and show it there and have the schools come and watch it there. Just a thought.

MARILLYN MIEARS
BIG SPRING

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we never hesitate to ask You, Lord, for help.

Amen

Hitch in Uncle Mort's 'Git Along'

Uncle Mort, my beloved kin, urges family and friends to avoid "putting big pots in little ones" as his 100th birthday on July 4 approaches.

He'd rather do it himself. (Keep in mind his notice several months ago to "save the date.")

Now, he's scurrying around to schedule back surgery the doctor has recommended unless Mort plans to "take things easy." Mort has no such plans, and will not allow a back problem to reduce his "partying" to handshakes, checkers/dominoes and "up to four puffs of blowing" for "candle-snuffing."

"Let's schedule the surgery right away, then," Mort answered. "I've got lots of party plans, including paintball wars, wild cow milking and acrobatic rides in an open cockpit biplane."

"I had no clue surgery requires so much coordination," Mort said. "Surgeons like to work early and tattoo artists prefer late hours. It's gonna take both of 'em."

What? I was puzzled about the need for an artist, forgetting that Uncle Mort came across a new tattoo shop in Houston years ago. A sign offered free tattoos to the first 10 patrons. He got a butterfly tattoo on his lower back, exactly where the incision will be made.

"The doctor said he couldn't guarantee to get the butterfly wings even when he closes the incision, so I figured it would

be best to have the tattoo artist there to back him up," Mort explained.

My uncle is having a hard time processing all the "you ain't gonna believe this" stuff going on in our world. Case in point was the diversion to Amarillo of JetBlue's Flight 191 from New York City to Las Vegas.

"Typically, I would guess if a pilot diverts his airliner from Las Vegas to Amarillo, he may have one whale of a gambling problem," Mort opined.

He admits another scenario possibility. Maybe the pilot wanted to take one more stab at downing the 72-oz. steak at the Big Texan Steak Ranch in Amarillo. (Background: The feat has been attempted more than 87,500 times during the past half-century, and some 9,500 have made good on the "free grub" offer when completed in an hour. The "champion" is Elie Ghattas, an NFL draftee of the New Orleans Saints in the 1960s. Drafted #411 in 1968's 17th round, he succeeded in all three tries during a four-year period. The 6-2, 245-pounder never played a down for the Saints, but he sure could down steaks. Two other "noteworthy's": Klondike Bill collected twice in one hour in 1963, and Rich LeFevre did the same thing in 1999. LeFevre, on a TV show with Donnie and Marie, came on the set weighing 134, and walked away at 143.)

Someone said JetBlue should be renamed "Jet Red-Faced." That was the color of a pilot's face decades ago when he radioed the control tower to check the exact time. "Which airline are you with?" the tower operator asked. The pilot answered defensively, "What difference does it make?"



DR.
DON
NEWBURY



YouTube spacelab challenge

I recently hosted a remarkable group of young people on Capitol Hill - the finalists in the YouTube Space Lab Challenge. We're all familiar

with YouTube, one of the three most popular sites on the Internet. (If you're a parent, you know this from your children.)

Through the YouTube Space Challenge, 14 to 18 year-old students from around the world were given opportunities to design science experiments that could be carried out in space, with the winning experiments to be performed on the International Space Station (ISS) and broadcast on YouTube. The competition drew thousands of entries from the United States and around the world and hundreds of interesting ideas.

YouTube brought the winning students to Washington, D.C. last month. Senator Jay Rockefeller and I (the Chair and Ranking Member respectively of the Senate committee that oversees NASA) hosted an ice cream social in their honor. The kids had a great time, and it was wonderful to talk to them.

One of the winners was Amr Mohammed, a bright young man from Egypt. The experiment he submitted will show how living things change their behavior in zero gravity aboard the ISS, which could help to anticipate human adaptability to long space flights (e.g., to Mars). I

asked Amr how he became interested in science and in submitting an experiment. His reply said a lot about the power of freedom to spark young minds.

"I've always loved science," he said, "I loved watching things under the microscope. I didn't try to do competitions like this before, but after the revolution in Egypt there was hope to change myself. So it was a good opportunity, I just took it and entered the competition, and it just worked."

When asked about the personal meaning of the political revolution in Egypt, he responded, "It sparked hope in me. I wasn't really trying before. Then, when something that seems impossible happens in front of you, you start trying to find new opportunity, and that's basically through science. You begin to believe that it can happen for you, too. So I found the opportunity online with YouTube."

I was also struck by the winning entry from two teenage girls - Dorothy Chen and Sara Ma of Troy, Michigan - who authored the other Space Challenge winning entry. Their experiment will test how bacteria grow in the zero gravity of the ISS, which can shed light on how to fight dangerous germs on Earth. Not too many years ago, it would have been remarkable for a young woman to win a science competition. Today, more and more girls are entering and excelling in the sciences.

We need more girls and boys to pursue science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). One of the keys to capturing young minds is more good

"It makes a lot of difference," the controller responded. "If you're Trans World Airlines, it's 2300 hours. If you're American Airlines, it's 11 p.m. If you're Eastern Airlines, the little hand is on the '11' and the big hand is on the '12.' And if you're Trans Texas Airways, it's Saturday night."

One last aviation note: Charles Murphy began a 35-year career in aviation when Braniff took flight in 1945. His son now flies for Southwest Airlines.

Murphy enjoyed a "picture perfect" day recently. A huge Texas Rangers fan, he took in a spring training game with his son and grandson. The same morning, Murphy, 90-something, enjoyed a plane ride over Surprise, Ariz., where welcome signs claim "mid-life begins at 70." At the controls was his 20-year-old grandson, a third-generation pilot.

If you see a guy at the ballpark wearing an "I-started-with-Braniff" lapel pin, say "hello" to Charlie. He might even share a handful of his two-foot-long hotdog with you.

What with all the negative publicity associated with "pink slime," three of the four plants turning out the filler have halted operations.

At the Amarillo plant, 200 workers are idled.

Anyone else notice all the "pink slime" news was followed by the Texas Rangers' announcement of their new, \$26 hotdog? Surely there's no connection.

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

teachers in the STEM fields. The UTEACH program, which started at the University of Texas, allows undergraduates to earn a core degree in a STEM field while pursuing teacher training and certification as electives. This gives those with STEM credentials an option to teach in high school and enrich the educational experience for students. The program has been so successful that I authored a provision in federal law that provides for replicating the UTEACH program nationally.

Texas is also pioneering collaboration and learning across traditional scientific disciplines. Young students do this instinctively, and they learn more and faster. In 2004, we created The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas (TAM-EST) to spur research and collaboration among Texas' leading scientists and academic institutions. The pace of innovation among participating institutions has accelerated significantly, opening up new opportunities for the next generation of scientists, and the promise of new technologies and industries for America's future.

Science is truly a universal language. If our children, and more children around the world, have freedom and opportunities to further their educations and pursue their dreams, and stretch the envelope of scientific knowledge, the future will be much brighter.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the Texas U.S. Senator. Find out more by visiting www.hutchison.senate.gov.

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PTA fighting membership drop

By DAVID CRARY

AP National Writer

When Otha Thornton, president-elect of the National PTA, signed up to help lead the PTA at Maryland's Meade Senior High School in 2005, the chapter had about 25 members. Within two years, membership soared to 400 as the school community mobilized to boost morale and academic performance. Now he's trying to rekindle that spirit on a larger scale as the PTA strives to reverse a steady decrease in its national membership.

"I tell parents: 'Other people are making choices for you and your children. We need you at the table,'" said Thornton, who will become the National PTA's first male African-American leader next year.

By any measure, the PTA is one of the most venerable and iconic of America's volunteer-based nonprofits. It was founded in 1897 as the National Congress of Mothers and at its peak in the 1960s claimed about 12 million members.

Membership plummeted in the late '60s and 1970s, in part because of the racial rifts caused by school desegregation, then stabilized. But it has dropped steadily over the past 10 years from about 6 million to under 5 million.

Demography is part of the reason: Compared to the PTA's heyday, there are many more single parents and working mothers now who feel they can't spare extra time for engagement at their children's schools.

But the PTA's shrinkage can't be explained only by such factors, given that parents are active at tens of thousands of schools in independent parent-teacher organizations not affiliated with the PTA. Factors driving this trend include frustration with having to pay state and national PTA dues, and disenchantment

with the PTA's role as a vocal advocate on such issues as charter schools, juvenile justice and home-schooling.

"We're still strong, but it is a concern," the current national president, Betsy Landers, said of the membership decline. "We've chosen to try to attack it in several different ways."

One initiative involves expanded use of social media. Members are being kept up-to-date via podcasts on National PTA Radio, some meetings and training sessions are being conducted through Skype, and members with expertise as bloggers or tweeters are being recruited as "social media ambassadors" to enhance the PTA's online presence.

Landers, of Germantown, Tenn., hopes these tactics will help cut costs while also enticing more parents to join.

"We're really trying to give our members the information they seek in a way they prefer," she said.

Thornton, a retired Army colonel who now works as a senior analyst for General Dynamics in Georgia, said other membership-boosting strategies include encouraging urban parents to be more involved in their local schools, expanding outreach to rural schools, and training a new wave of leaders from minority groups.

For Thornton, 44, his PTA mission is intertwined with his family history — a Georgia family that refused to let borderline poverty derail the quest for college education.

"Education was a way out," Thornton said. "When I had kids, it was very important for me to be involved and be sure they got the best education possible."

While Thornton and Landers say the PTA needs to be creative with new membership strate-

gies, one change that's not on the cards is any backing away from the PTA's role as lobbyist on behalf of children and public schools. Among many causes over the years, it has campaigned for better nutrition in school cafeterias, fought to sustain arts programs, called for more empathetic treatment of juvenile offenders, and voiced wariness about school vouchers and for-profit charter schools.

"Advocacy is really the heart of what we do — we're seen as the go-to people on parent engagement," said Landers, who's been active in the PTA since 1989.

She said the PTA's full-time lobbyists on Capitol Hill are reinforced by a vast network of members nationwide who, when mobilized by email, will contact their own members of Congress.

"Any association that takes a stand, there will always be some members who disagree," Landers said. "Any stand we take is decided by membership ... It's not made by staff, not made in Washington. It's made by the grass roots."

For some parents, however, the PTA's advocacy work is cause for annoyance rather than pride.

"I don't feel the PTA's mission and our mission are the same," said Gary Parkes, president of the PTA at Carmel Elementary School in Woodstock, Ga. "Parents think they're joining to be involved with the kids at their school, and they're really becoming part of a massive political action committee."

Annual dues are another source of disgruntlement. The individual dues for National PTA membership may seem modest — they were increased last year, for the first time since 2001, from \$1.75 to \$2.25 — but the total rises when state and district dues are added.

Monarch migration on decline?

By ERIC AASEN

Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — Springtime is prime time for watching the monarch butterflies that flutter from Mexico through Texas as they make their annual northbound journey.

But the monarchs are dwindling. The Mexican monarch population was down 30 percent this past winter, the latest in a years-long decline.

Blame this year's decrease on several factors, including last year's drought and fires throughout Texas, which gave monarchs less nectar as they were heading back to Mexico for the winter.

Experts also point to herbicides that are killing milkweed, on which female butterflies lay their eggs.

There's no immediate danger that the monarchs will become extinct, but observers in Texas worry about the butterfly's future.

"The loss of monarch butterflies would be the reduction in the quality of life and the beauty of the world around us," said Mike Merchant, professor and entomologist with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Dallas.

Each spring, hundreds of millions of monarchs make their way north through the United States to the Canadian border. In the fall, they head back to Mexico, where they spend the winter and mate before traveling north again.

The World Wildlife

Fund reported that the number of monarchs spending the winter in Mexico dropped by nearly one-third in the last year.

There's been a decline in the Mexico monarch population since 2003, reports Monarch Watch, a program based at the University of Kansas. The program says the decline is related to increased herbicide use since the introduction of herbicide-tolerant row crops in the '90s.

The monarchs' decline represents changes that humans are making to the environment, Merchant said.

"If something happens along the migration route at one end or another, it can affect the whole population," he said. "All it takes is one collapse in one of those links in the chain to cause the demise of a species or subspecies of butterfly."

Despite the sagging numbers, scores of monarchs have been sighted recently across Dallas-Fort Worth.

At Fair Park, several have been spotted at Texas Discovery Gardens each week since early March.

But thanks to a warmer winter, monarchs have been flying farther north earlier than usual. Those early arrivals may run into problems: The milkweed they depend on might not be ready. Without milkweed, eggs won't survive, and the emerging caterpillars won't have a food source.

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Obama, Romney focus on women voters

Romney facing challenges closing political gender gap

By LAURIE KELLMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Mitt Romney is starting to hone his appeal to women voters, acutely aware as he turns to the general election that he has little choice but to narrow President Barack Obama's commanding lead among this critical constituency.

None too soon, say many Republican activists. They expect Romney, as well as his popular wife, Ann, to make an explicit pitch to female voters on the economy and jobs, their top issues.

The eventual nominee "needs to start recognizing the power that women voters have," said Rae Lynne Chornenky, president of the National Federation of Republican Women.

Romney, on pace to clinch the nomination in June, if not earlier, acknowledges that the GOP faces a historical challenge in closing the advantage Democrats have with women. Like Obama, he sees pocketbook issues as the key to winning them.

"We have work to do to make sure we take our message to the women of America, so they understand how we're going to get good jobs and we're going to have a bright economic future for them and for their kids," Romney said this past week in Middleton, Wis.

But the Republican's challenge is stark.

Romney must overcome history, political math and the missteps of a party that picked a fight over one provision of Obama's health care law and ended up on the defensive over access to birth control. Romney also has work to do with female voters after inconsistencies or misstatements on issues such as abortion and the future of Planned Parenthood.

Republicans have faced a "gender gap" since 1980, with women generally favoring Democratic candidates. A recent USA Today/Gallup poll found that gap lifts Obama to a lead across a dozen crucial states. The poll showed women favor Obama by 18 percentage points while men split about evenly between the two candidates. Taken together, that means women boost Obama to a 51-42 lead over Romney in those states.

There's evidence that Romney may have a steeper climb among women than Arizona Sen. John McCain, the GOP president nominee in 2008, faced.

Washington Post/ABC News polls at roughly the same point in the political calendar show McCain was viewed favorably by 47 percent of women at this time in 2008, while Romney currently stands at 30 percent favorable among women.

Romney is convinced that women, like men, will vote chiefly on Obama's stewardship of the nation's finances, so he tried to stay focused on the economy during this year's battle over contraception.

But some of his surrogates led the effort to cast the law's mandate for birth control coverage as a violation of religious freedom, widely considered a lost argument that left questions about the GOP's commitment to preserving women's rights.

Romney may have dealt himself trouble with his inconsistent position over the years on abortion and a comment earlier this year that sounded as if he wanted to "get rid of" Planned Parenthood. His campaign later clarified that he was referring to deleting federal funding for the organization, not eliminating it outright.

Then there's the way Romney handles questions about his message to women; conservative Republican women say he has to work do to on that front.

Virtually every time, Romney answers by invoking his wife of 43 years, and reports what's she's told him about what women want.

"She reports to me regularly that the issue women care about most is the economy, and getting good jobs for their kids and for themselves," Romney told the Newspaper Association of America on Wednesday. "They are concerned about gasoline prices, the cost of getting to and from work, taking their kids to school or to practice and so forth after school. That is what women care about in this country, and my vision is to get America working again."

A few days earlier in Middleton, he was asked how he'd counter the Democrats' narrative on contraception. He prefaced his answer this way: "I wish Ann were here ... to answer that question in particular."

Some Republican activists say they are eager to see Romney show a genuine interest in and understanding of how women have experienced the recession, while also using his wife to rally female voters.

She did just that last month on Super Tuesday, saying: "Do you know what women care about? Women care about jobs. They're angry, and they're furious about the entitlement debt that we're leaving for our children."

Romney's efforts are being buffeted by those of the Republican National Committee.

It has an extensive operation of surrogates and specific talking points that connect the party's commitment to lower taxes and smaller government to the "kitchen table decisions" women make every day: fitting rising gas and college prices into family budgets, for example.

Obama: Women are not an 'interest group'

By BEN FELLER

AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama on Friday showered attention on helping women yet warned in the same motion that they should not be reduced to a uniform political bloc, declaring they are not an interest group and "shouldn't be treated that way."

"When we talk about these issues that primarily impact women, we've got to realize that they are not just women's issues," he said at a White House forum on women and the economy. "They are family issues. They are growth issues. They are issues about American competitiveness. They are issues that impact all of us."

Obama's comments came as women's concerns, and the role women will play in choosing the next president, have taken on

intensifying importance. Some Democrats have accused Republicans of waging a "war on women" and have turned national controversies over women's rights into a vehicle for raising campaign cash.

The president has not used that phrase. He appealed for a debate that respected the role and needs of women as a driving economic force.

"There's been a lot of talk about women and women's issues lately, as there should be," Obama said. "But I do think that the conversation has been oversimplified. Women are not some monolithic bloc."

Still, after talking of his commitment to women in personal and policy terms, he offered the political context for his remarks: women and the election. Women have made up a majority of the electorate in each presidential year since 1984, and Obama is

seeking to defend and expand a gender gap now working in his favor.

Without naming Republican Mitt Romney, his likely competitor in the presidential race, Obama warned of the perils of giving power to people who would seek to end coverage for preventative care such as mammograms and contraception, or slash college aid that disproportionately helps young women.

"That's what's at stake," Obama said.

In the 2008 election, exit polls showed Obama won women by 13 points while splitting men about evenly with John McCain.

This time around, in a recent USA Today/Gallup poll of voters in 12 swing states, Obama held a lead of 18 percentage points among women.

Nationwide, the gender gap appears smaller, but still yields a double-digit edge for Obama.

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News in brief

Jet crash in crowded Va. tourist town leaves 7 injured, many wondering how it wasn't worse

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — Zooming along at 170 mph in a fighter jet carrying thousands of pounds of volatile fuel, two Navy pilots faced nothing but bad choices when their aircraft malfunctioned over Virginia's most populated city.

"Catastrophic engine system failure right after takeoff, which is always the most critical phase of flying, leaves very, very few options," said aviation safety expert and decorated pilot J.F. Joseph. "You literally run out of altitude, air speed and ideas all at the same time," he said.

Somehow, however, the student pilot and his instructor and everyone on the ground survived Friday when the men ejected from their F/A-18D jet moments before it crashed in a fireball in an apartment complex courtyard. The pilots and five on the ground were hurt, but all but one aviator were out of the hospital hours later.

Crews had carefully checked 95 percent of the apartments under the charred rubble and only three people remained unaccounted for early Saturday, said fire department Capt. Tim Riley.

Crews would continue searching just in case.

Thomas Kinkade, highly popular painter, dies at California home

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Artist Thomas Kinkade once said that he had something in common with Walt Disney and Norman Rockwell: He wanted to make people happy.

And he won success with brushwork paintings that focused on idyllic landscapes, cottages and churches — highly popular works that became big sellers for dealers across the United States.

The self-described "Painter of Light," who died Friday at age 54, produced sentimental scenes of country gardens and pastoral landscapes in dewy morning light that were beloved by many but criticized by the art establishment.

Kinkade died at his home in Los Gatos in the San Francisco Bay Area of what appeared to be natural causes, said family spokesman David Satterfield.

He claimed to be the nation's most collected living artist, and his paintings and spin-off products were said to fetch some \$100 million a year in sales, and to be in 10 million homes in the United States.

Iran lawmaker: Country has capability to produce nuclear weapons but won't do so

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran has the knowledge and scientific capability to produce nuclear weapons but will never do so, a prominent lawmaker said.

Gholamreza Mesbahi Moghadam said Iran can easily produce the highly enriched uranium that is used to build atomic bombs but it is not Tehran's policy to go that route.

"Iran has the scientific and technological capability to produce (a) nuclear weapon, but will never choose this path," Moghadam told the parliament's news website, icana.ir, late Friday.

Moghadam is a parliamentarian not a government official and his views do not represent the Iranian government's policy. It is the first time that a prominent Iranian politician has publicly stated that Iran has the technological capability to produce a nuclear weapon.

The U.S. and its allies accuse Iran of using its civilian nuclear program as a cover to develop nuclear weapons. Iran denies the charges, saying

its program is peaceful and geared toward generating electricity and producing radioisotopes to treat cancer patients.

Seeking the middle, Obama argues former Republican presidents would be GOP outsiders today

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is embracing an unlikely group of political icons as he tries to paint Mitt Romney as extreme: He's praising Republican presidents from Abraham Lincoln to Dwight Eisenhower and Ronald Reagan.

The Democratic president typically offers up GOP leaders of the past as evidence of how both parties can work together in Washington to pursue big ideas and rebuild the economy. With Election Day seven months away, Obama hopes to convince voters that he, like his Republican predecessors, is a reasonable moderate. At the same time, he's casting Romney as a candidate who would embrace too-conservative policies out of step with most Americans and with his own party in years past.

Obama invoked Reagan's name four times in a speech this week to The Associated Press annual meeting. He said the conservative hero, never accused of being a "tax-and-spend socialist," still recognized the need for tax increases as well as spending cuts to tame federal deficits. Obama's verdict: "He could not get through a Republican primary today."

Painting Romney as an ideological extremist might seem a curious strategy for Obama, given that the GOP nomination front-runner has been considered the moderate candidate in the Republican primary field and has struggled to consolidate support among conservatives in the party. But Obama's team hopes to define Romney in a negative light before the former Massachusetts governor has a chance to pivot toward the general election and emphasize his past positions that could appeal to moderates of both parties and the independent voters who can decide close races in polarized America.

Obama has cited Reagan more than 40 times in speeches and public events since 2009, according to an analysis of public statements and transcripts by the AP. But Eisenhower is Obama's favorite Republican for name-dropping — the president has referenced him more than 90 times. Lincoln is right behind, with 80 mentions in public comments covered by the transcripts.

Opposition groups say at least 24 killed in shelling, clashes in Syria

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian opposition groups say government shelling and firefights between troops and army defectors have killed at least 24 in a village in central Syria.

The Local Coordination Committees activist network said the violence took place Saturday in the village of al-Latamneh in the suburbs of the restive city of Hama.

The British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights put the number of deaths at 27. It said most were killed by shells fired as troops tried to storm al-Latamneh following clashes with defectors there over the past two days.

Syrian forces have launched offensives across the country as a cease-fire deadline nears.

Plus or minus? Jobs report leaves Obama, Romney campaigns unsure where vital issue is headed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's steady-but-modest job growth presents political challenges for both of November's all-but-certain presidential rivals.

Republican Mitt Romney needs an ailing economy to fully exploit his image as a "Mr. Fix-It" who can restore the nation's financial health, as he turned around the troubled 2002 Winter Olympics. President Barack Obama needs job-creation momentum to convince voters that things are moving in the right direction, even if millions of people remain unemployed.

Friday's neither-hot-nor-cold jobs report leaves both campaigns unsure of whether they can sell their narratives. Employers added 120,000 jobs

last month, about half the December-February pace and well short of the 210,000 economists were expecting. Still, the unemployment rate declined from 8.3 percent in February to 8.2 percent, the lowest since about the time Obama took office.

GOP leaders were quick to note that the rate dropped largely because many Americans stopped looking for work and were not counted in the government survey.

The U.S. jobs picture was bleaker when Romney began his second presidential bid a year ago, emphasizing his experience in running the Olympic Games and reorganizing companies while at Bain Capital. He said jobs grew during his four years as Massachusetts governor.

sudoku

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

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

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By Steve Becker

The Maximum Chance

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North-South vulnerable.

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♥ K 6 3
♦ K Q 7 5 3
♣ A Q

WEST
♠ Q 10 6 2
♥ Q J 10
♦ 8
♣ K J 6 4 2

EAST
♠ 9 5
♥ 4
♦ J 10 9 4 2
♣ 10 9 7 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A J 8 3
♥ A 9 8 7 5 2
♦ A 6
♣ 8

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass 1♦ Pass 1♥
Pass 2NT Pass 3♥
Pass 4♥ Pass 6♥
Opening lead — queen of hearts.

Assume you're in six hearts and West leads the queen of trumps. Things look very promising, but when you win the queen with the king and return a trump to your ace, East discards a club.

There's still no cause for alarm, because the slam is certain if the diamonds are divided no worse than 4-2. In that case, you'll be able to dispose of one of your spade losers on a high diamond and the other on dummy's fifth diamond after ruffing a low diamond in your hand.

But when you play the ace and another diamond, West shows out, discarding a club. This is a very sad development, you say to yourself, because what started out as an easy contract has now lost most of its glamour.

After winning the diamond with dummy's queen, it looks as though you'll have to take either a club finesse against the king or a spade finesse against the queen. Which finesse to take is hard to judge, and if you choose the wrong one, you'll probably never forgive yourself.

But suddenly you get a divine inspiration. You don't have to guess which suit to finesse. You can force West to relieve you of the guess, and you can do so in a very simple way. So you play dummy's king of diamonds and on it discard the eight of clubs!

If West does not ruff this trick, you can force him to win the next one by conceding a trump to his jack. Either way, he will then be forced to return a spade into your A-J, handing you the slam, or lead a club to dummy's A-Q.

If he leads a club, you play the queen, and if it holds, your troubles are over. But if East plays the king on the queen, you ruff and still have the spade finesse to fall back on. By playing in this way, you in effect give yourself two shots to make the slam instead of only one.

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Mmm... Hits the Spot

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at breakfast



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Steers edge Snyder, take second place in district

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

If you were in attendance Friday as the Big Spring Steers duked it out with the Snyder Tigers for sole possession of second place in District 5-3A baseball, it may have seemed like you were watching a Red Sox-Yankees playoff game.

The fans were treated to lead changes, questionable umpiring, extra innings and a thrilling finish. When the smoke cleared, the scoreboard read 10-9 — with the Steers on top.

Snyder struck first, scoring two runs in the top of the first inning, then increased their lead to 3-0 in the third.

The Steers' batsmen came alive in the fourth, however, when Gunnar Kennedy reached second as a result of a dropped fly ball in right field. A Max Pappajohn grounder drove Kennedy in for BSHS's first run of the game.

Three consecutive walks plated another run for the Steers and with bases loaded Zach Hernandez hit a two-run double giving BSHS a 4-3 lead.

After a scoreless top of the fifth by Snyder, BSHS added another run in the bottom of the inning to give them a 5-3 advantage.

Snyder answered back with two runs in the sixth, tying the game 5-5, and then took back the lead in the seventh inning, making it a 7-5 game.

With their backs against the wall, the Steers had to produce at least two runs



The Big Spring Steers' baseball squad celebrates after a thrilling, 10-9 extra-innings win over Snyder Friday. The victory put BSHS solely in second place in District 5-3A play.

Photo by Tony Claxton

See STEERS, Page 10A

Couples takes lead at Masters Tourney

By EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Before Tiger Woods thinks about making a weekend move at the Masters, he'll have to get his long game, his putter and, yes, even his temper back in check.

Woods had an early tee time Saturday at Augusta National and opened with two pars. He's trying to make up an eight-shot deficit on leaders Fred Couples and Jason Dufner after a second round filled with bad shot-making and missed putts that had him tossing and kicking his clubs by the end.

He entered the weekend at 3-over 147, hoping to manufacture the kind of comeback he made last year, when he trailed by as many as seven but briefly got into the lead on Sunday before finishing fourth. Woods was among the 63 players who made the cut, the most since 1992 — the year Couples, now 52, won his only green jacket.

Woods has won four since then and appeared to have his game back in shape after two years of personal and professional turmoil. He won in Orlando last month for this first PGA Tour victory in 30 months and was the favorite coming into the year's first major.

But his game unraveled over the first two days — starting with sprayed drives, continuing with blocked approach shots and finishing with four missed putts inside of five feet during a round of 3-over 75 on Friday.

He was tossing clubs, shouting out expletives and, in the worst moment, even kicked his club after sending his tee shot on the par-3 16th hole into a bunker right of the green.

Couples put on a show Friday — the fan favorite bringing his trademark West Coast-casual attitude along with a smooth swing that hasn't broken down much over the years. He made seven birdies in a round of 5-under 67.

"Can I win?" Couples said, repeating the question now on the minds of so many. "Yeah, I believe I can. Yes."

Sports Results 4-6-2012

Baseball

- Forsan def. Post — 22-4.
- Howard College def. Western Texas College — 13-1 (Game One).
- Western Texas College def. Howard College — 7-2 (Game Two).

Softball

- Snyder def. Big Spring — 10-7.
- Forsan def. Post — 19-3.
- Howard College def. Western Texas College — 5-0 (Game One).
- Howard College def. Western Texas College — 14-0 (Game Two).

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

Errors costly in Houston's opening day loss to Colorado

CHRIS DUNCAN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — The Houston Astros made the fewest errors of any team during spring training.

It was hard to tell in the regular-season opener.

Pinch runner Eric Young scored the go-ahead run on one of the Astros' four errors and Troy Tulowitzki homered in the ninth to lift the Colorado Rockies to a 5-3 win on Friday night.

The Astros committed only 13 errors in spring training, and manager Brad Mills was concerned about the number of mental lapses in the first real game.

"Those things we're going to address and move on," Mills said. "They did a great job of that in spring training, but we're going to work on those and move on."

Houston left-hander Wandy Rodriguez made his first career opening-day start and allowed three unearned runs and six hits

in 6 1-3 innings. Fernando Rodriguez (0-1) yielded a hit and an unearned run in 1 2-3 innings to take the loss.

Carlos Lee and Brian Bogusevic hit back-to-back homers for the Astros, who lost for the sixth straight time on opening day.

Lee put Houston up 1-0 with a two-out RBI single off Jeremy Guthrie (1-0) in the first inning.

The Astros' defense started stumbling in the third, after Marco Scutaro led off with a single to left.

Dexter Fowler bunted, Rodriguez threw wildly to first and the Rockies had runners at second and third with no outs.

Rodriguez earned the error, though second baseman Jose Altuve was late getting to the bag.

"It was a tough play," Rodriguez said. "I picked up the ball and threw to first, but there was nobody there."

Tulowitzki tied it with a deep flyout to right, and Fowler scored on Todd Helton's double

to the left-field corner. Michael Cuddyer then singled to right, scoring Helton and prompting a mound visit from Houston pitching coach Doug Brocail.

Rodriguez said he struggled with his control early.

"I missed my location in the first inning. Later in the game, I felt good," he said. "I didn't have my second-best pitch, my breaking ball, but I used my changeup and my two-seam (fastball)."

Lee and Bogusevic started the Houston half of the fourth with solo homers. The Astros last hit back-to-back home runs Sept. 7 against Pittsburgh.

Rodriguez allowed only one hit, a two-out single by Cuddyer in the fifth, after Colorado's three-run third.

Fowler led off the seventh with a walk, and Rodriguez struck out Carlos Gonzalez before he was relieved by right-hander Fernando Rodriguez.

The Rockies capitalized on another Astros mistake to take the lead for good.



The Big Spring Lady Steers' Gabbi Torres belts a double Friday in a 10-7 losing effort against Snyder. Despite a close game, the loss dashed the Lady Steers' District 5-3A playoff hopes.

Photo by Tony Claxton

Duncan scores 19, leads Spurs past Hornets

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs rose to the top of the Western Conference standings by overpowering the weakest team in the conference.

Tim Duncan scored 19 points to lead San Antonio to a 128-103 victory over the New Orleans Hornets on Friday night, giving the Spurs their 10th straight win.

Manu Ginobili and Patty Mills scored 14 points apiece, and Stephen Jackson and Gary Neal each added 13 for the Spurs, who scored 72 points in the first half and swept the four-game season series.

The win, coupled with Oklahoma City's loss to Indiana, moved the Spurs percentage points ahead of the Thunder for first place in the West. The Spurs were prevented from clinching their 15th consecutive playoff berth when Houston beat the Los Angeles Lakers later Friday.

The last time the Spurs didn't make the playoffs was in 1996-97, the season before Duncan arrived.

Duncan said the team's strong play at the outset was a result of its struggles late against Boston on Wednesday.

"We didn't play well the second half of the last game, so we wanted to come out and be a little more focused and play a little better," Duncan said. "It was a good start for us. We got a lot of people in, a lot of different players in. Everybody we kept rotating in kept playing well, so it was a great team

effort."

Eric Gordon, playing in only his second game in three months, scored 31 points to lead the Hornets, who have lost four of their last five games. Marco Belinelli had 15 points, Carl Landry scored 13, and Greivis Vasquez added 12.

San Antonio jumped out to a 72-45 halftime lead and was never threatened the second half. As a result, the Spurs, who have played much of the season without Ginobili because of injuries, sit atop the West.

"It's great, but there's too many games left," Duncan said. "We're going to go through some ups and downs. We're going to lose some games. They're going to lose some games. We'll see how we come out at the other end, but at this point of the season, we haven't been playing for that. But it's great to be in that situation."

The easy win gave the Spurs their second streak of at least 10 victories — they won 11 straight earlier this season — and also allowed coach Gregg Popovich to rest his stars.

Popovich has carefully managed minutes all season in anticipation of the playoffs, something easier to do now with a bench strengthened by the additions of Mills, Jackson and Boris Diaw. The Spurs' reserves, led by Ginobili, scored 82 points, allowing Duncan to play only 20 minutes and Parker just 16. Ginobili played 21.

"The bench contributed another big game for us," Neal said. "Patty came in and made some shots, I was able to make some shots, Matty (Bonner) made some shots. Boris came in and gave us good minutes. Tiago (Splitter) came in and played well. That's going to help us in preparing for the playoffs."

The Hornets, meanwhile, were without point guard Jarrett Jack for the second straight game. Jack, who has a right foot sprain, averages 15.6 points and 6.3 assists per game. Against the Spurs, Jack had been particularly effective, averaging 26.5 points and 7.0 assists in two games.

"I think it's one of those things that may take some time to heal," coach Monty Williams said before the game.

Vasquez started in Jack's place but had only four points in the first half.

Ginobili scored 13 points on 5-for-5 shooting in the first half to help San Antonio take its big lead. The Spurs outscored the Hornets 38-21 in the second quarter to essentially put the game away.

"We couldn't guard tonight," Williams said. "Since I've been here, that was the worst defensive effort I've seen. We couldn't guard a bike if we were riding it tonight. It was unpleasant to watch. Our guys allowed that much penetration over and over. I told them 'if you're going to play that way, you're going to (be) embarrassed.'"

Bynum ejected, Rockets down Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Houston Rockets have discovered a winning formula for beating the Los Angeles Lakers: Stay close long enough until Andrew Bynum gets himself ejected.

That's been the scenario the last two times the teams have met. Friday night, Bynum spent most of the fourth quarter in the dressing room while Goran Dragic and Luis Scola helped the Rockets pull out a 112-107 victory.

"It changed a lot," Houston coach Kevin McHale said. "Bynum was a guy we had to double-team and focus a lot on the defensive end to try to get the ball out of his hands."

Dragic had 26 points and 11 assists, and Scola scored 10 of his 25 points during a 2:39 span of the fourth.

"If you win against them in L.A., then it's something special," Dragic said. "They've won a lot of titles, and that was huge for us — especially in

our playoff push."

The Lakers were trailing 80-75 when Bynum took exception to a foul by Samuel Dalembert with 1:18 left in the third quarter and had to be restrained by teammates, earning his first technical foul. The enigmatic and moody 7-foot center got another one with 11:17 left in the game after hitting a hook shot and mouthing off to the Houston bench on his way downcourt.

"You talk trash, that's the essence of basketball right there," said teammate and former Rockets forward Metta World Peace, who never had a reputation for being the voice of reason — not even when he was known as Ron Artest. "You score, you talk trash. That's fun. You got a bunch of street ball players in the NBA."

Etiquette notwithstanding, Bynum hurt the Lakers again with his selfish antics and his teammates are well

aware of it. For someone who was suspended without pay for the first four games of this compacted 66-game season because of a vicious flagrant foul he committed against Dallas guard J.J. Barea in last year's playoffs — and fined \$25,000 for ripping off his jersey while heading to the locker room — the seven-year veteran apparently hasn't learned anything.

The Lakers, trying to keep the Clippers from catching them for the Pacific Division lead, had a better-than-even chance to win this one. The lead changed hands six times after Bynum left, but they never led again after Matt Barnes tied the score at 99-all on a 3-pointer with 2 ½ minutes to remaining.

"We'll never know," Pau Gasol said when asked how the game would have turned out had Bynum controlled his temper. "It would be good to have him on the floor and help us win games. He's just got to find a way to make sure he can help the team any way he can. And to do that, he has to stay in the game. He's a great guy. He's a good person and he's got a great heart. But

I'm not him, I'm not inside him, and I don't know what goes on all the time in his mind."

Bynum finished with 19 points and seven rebounds in 31 minutes, after scoring 36 points against the Clippers despite a sprained left ankle.

On March 20 at Houston, was ejected late in the third quarter, and the Rockets erased a 17-point deficit scored a season-high 34 points in the fourth. Houston won it 107-104, with Dragic making the go-ahead 3-pointer with 28 seconds left.

"It's always tough when you lose somebody like Bynum because he's a 20-and-10 type of guy," point guard Ramon Sessions said. "I think he was just starting to get rolling, too, and getting hyped up right before that. We definitely needed him down the stretch."

Marcus Camby, playing with a sprained left wrist, had 12 points and 11 rebounds for the Rockets, who overcame a 15-point deficit en route to a 99-93 road win over the league-leading Chicago Bulls in their previous game on Monday night.

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STEERS

Continued from Page 9A

to stay alive.

Haegan Rodriguez reached base on a single to start the bottom of the seventh. Pappajohn drew a one-out walk and Joseph Morelion ripped a RBI single to bring the Steers within one. Jarrod DoPorto took a base on balls, as did Hernandez to bring the score to an even 7-7.

Brett Broman was called out on strikes to end the inning, though the Big Spring side of the crowd begged to differ. Two of the called strikes were so low they grazed homeplate, and what would have walked in the winning run gave way to an extra inning.

Snyder did his job, tacking on two more runs in the top of the eighth and taking a 9-7 lead.

Refusing to give the much-needed victory away, the Steers again charged back. Rodriguez reached first base on a walk, Jeremy Gutierrez singled, then Pappajohn loaded the bases when he was hit by a pitch. DoPorto drove Rodriguez home, bringing BSHS within one run. A RBI single by Garrett Stuteville again tied the game, this time at 9-9 at the end of the

eighth inning.

The Tigers couldn't produce any runs in the top of the ninth.

In the bottom of the ninth, with two outs, it looked like a 10th inning would be played.

Karsten Knudson drew a walk, and with one on and two out, Rodriguez struck again, hitting a double which drove Knudson — and the winning run — home for the Steers, taking the game 10-9 in nine full innings.

Rodriguez — who went 3-6 with two RBI and a walk on the day, including a walk-off double — was happy to put it away for the Steers.

"It felt good," he said. "I knew I could do it. I did it for my team."

As for BSHS Head Coach Bert Otto, the win was a reflection of his team's never say die attitude.

"It is a testament to the kids", Otto said. "They fought through adversity. This is a different group of kids with a different attitude. They just refuse to quit."

The Steers — who are now 3-2 in district play — will be back in action Monday as they travel to Brownwood. Game time is slated for 6 p.m.

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Baylor's Davis, Griner win Wooden Awards

BETH HARRIS

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Anthony Davis of national champion Kentucky accepted the John R. Wooden Award on Friday night, and Brittney Griner of undefeated champion Baylor won the women's award for the nation's top college basketball player.

Davis received 3,350 points in voting by national media — 333 more than runner-up Thomas Robinson, a junior from Kansas. Senior Draymond Green of Michigan State finished third with 2,825. Sophomore Jared Sullinger of Ohio State, a finalist last year, was fourth.

Davis and Green were the only men's finalists in attendance.

For the first time in the award's 35-year history, the men's winner was announced during the Final Four last weekend in New Orleans instead of at the ceremony.

Davis, a freshman, collected the last in a slew of player of the year awards he earned while helping the Wildcats to their eighth national title. Davis was a popular target for autograph hunters before the event at the Los Angeles Athletic Club, where he was accompanied by coach John Calipari. He received the trophy from Wooden's son, Jim.

"When he won the first player of the year, he called his teammates together and said, 'I want to thank you guys.' They all went over and hugged him," Calipari said. "I absolutely had a ball coaching this team and this young man."

Calipari saluted Davis' family, and offered a hint about the freshman's immediate plans.

"Their son is going to be the No. 1 pick in the draft if he goes. I'm hoping he stays," the coach said.

Calipari called Davis "a guard in a big man's body. I said, 'If you come back next year, you can start at point guard.'"

Davis, the first Kentucky player to win the Wooden award, had an eventful visit to the West Coast, with one of his suitcases getting lost on his way from Lexington, Ky., and meeting with Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant earlier Friday.

Davis told the audience how he grew from 6-foot-2 to 6-10 in a year's time.

"I had no growing pains whatsoever," he said, recalling how his parents needed to buy him new clothes every two or three weeks. "They spent a lot of money."

Davis has a twin sister who is 5-8 and doesn't play any sports.

"I love her to death. She is my best friend," he said. "We do everything together."

Griner received 1,424 points in voting — 308 more than runner-up Elena Della Donne, a junior at Delaware. Junior Skylar Diggins of national runner-up Notre Dame was third with 1,073. Senior Nnemkadi Ogumike, who played in four Final Fours with Stanford, was fourth. Senior Julie Wojta of Wisconsin Green Bay was fifth.

Griner and Ogumike were finalists last year, when Connecticut's Maya Moore won for the second time.

Griner, a junior who led the Lady Bears to a No. 1 ranking and 40-0 record, wasn't present. Organizers said she had to attend classes this week and then went to Houston to be with her ill mother.

"I need to focus on finishing the semester strong in the classroom after spending the last month on the road with my team and playing in the Big 12 and NCAA tournaments," she said in a statement.

Baylor assistant Damion McKinney accepted on Griner's behalf.

"We all know Brittney's talents and attributes as far as being a great basketball player, but Brittney's most unique quality is her unselfishness," he said. "She's an excellent teammate and friend. She's the type of person if maybe the ninth, 10th player is maybe having a bad day, she recognizes that and goes and puts her arm around her."

Wooden's daughter, Nan Muehlhausen, announced the women's winner.

UConn women's coach Geno Auriemma received the Legends of Coaching award from Wooden's grandson, Greg Wooden. Huskies men's coach Jim Calhoun earned it in 2005.

Wooden's daughter and son attended for the second straight year since a falling out between their family and the award organizers several years ago.

Comanche Trail Ladies Golf Association News Thursday Couples Play

Twenty players competed in the 9-hole team scramble. Two teams tied for first place, shooting 2-under par. Max and Betty Ray Coffee, along with Kirby Brown and Jo Ann Hilger made up one team. The second consisted of Jerry Roach, Annie Ward, Vaughn Martin and Sandra Bartlett.

Second place went to Bill and Bobbie Holden and Jimmy and Deanna Foresyth.

Foresyth shot closest to the pin on Hole No. 3, while Trish Gabbard took the honor on Hole No. 6.

The Monday morning Ladies' Playday was cancelled due to area schools' golf tournaments.

The Ladies Golf Association will host its annual Spring Fling tournament April 10-11. Upward of 20 cities and 40 players are expected to participate.

The LGA plays Monday mornings. Ladies who are interested in joining the LGA may contact Jo Ann Hilger at 354-2591.

Couples interested in Thursday night competition may call the Comanche Trail Clubhouse at 264-2366.



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Mavs fall to Portland in OT

DALLAS (AP) — The last time LaMarcus Aldridge played in his hometown, he left with a bitter taste. This trip was a lot sweeter. Aldridge's buzzer-beating 17-foot jumper lifted the Portland Trail Blazers to a 99-97 overtime victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Friday night.

Aldridge, a former Dallas-area high school star who finished with 25 points and 12 rebounds, made the fallaway jumper over the outstretched arm of Mavericks 7-foot center Brendan Haywood at the overtime buzzer, then was mobbed by teammates at center court.

"LaMarcus is our All-Star," Portland interim coach Kaleb Canales said. "We were going to LaMarcus. Big-time player, big-time shot."

The Mavericks won the previous meeting between the teams this season, 97-94 in two overtimes on Feb. 11 in Dallas.

"This is big because it was in the crib (his hometown)," Aldridge said.

Raymond Felton scored 16 of

his season-high 30 points during Portland's 30-10 surge in the third quarter.

Jamal Crawford added 14 points for the Blazers, who've won four of six to remain in playoff contention with 10 games left.

"The last time we were here it was a tough loss," Crawford said. "(A loss) tonight would have definitely clouded our playoff hopes."

Dirk Nowitzki had 23 points and 14 rebounds, and Jason Terry scored 18 points to lead defending champion Dallas.

With the score tied at 97 in the final minute of overtime, Felton misfired on a long 3-pointer, and Nowitzki grabbed the rebound. However, he threw the ball out of bounds while trying to pass to a wide-open Shawn Marion streaking downcourt with 19 seconds left.

That gave the Blazers possession, leading to Aldridge's game-winner and a confidence boost for a team that entered the night 7-19 on the road.

"It was just a brutal play," Now-

itzki said of his bad pass. "I got the rebound, and I really wanted to hold it for the last shot. I looked up and saw Shawn was wide open. I tried to rush it to him, and it just got away."

"It was kind of an instinct play. You see a guy open, you want to throw it to him. Sometimes you make decisions in a split second. I made the wrong one."

Terry kept his team close in the fourth quarter, hitting two 3-pointers, then feeding Marion for a layup with 15.6 seconds left in regulation to tie it at 91.

The Blazers set up for a final shot with 8 seconds remaining, but Terry stole the ball from Crawford before missing a desperation 3 at the buzzer, sending the game to overtime.

Portland trailed by 15 in the second quarter, but the Blazers finished the third with a 16-0 run that included 12 from Felton, who had three 3s and a three-point play during the spurt.

"A couple of their guys got going, and it was tough to shut them off," Marion said.

Rangers down White Sox to kick off season

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — John Danks grew up going to games at Rangers Ballpark and imagined pitching there on opening day when Texas drafted him in the first round.

The left-hander with a new \$65 million, five-year contract did get his first opening day start there, for the Chicago White Sox on Friday in Robin Ventura's managerial debut, a 3-2 loss to the two-time defending American League champion Rangers.

"This was a fun game, it really was," said Danks, who struck out six with no walks in six innings. "All in all, it was disappointing to get beat, but I feel like I'm where I need to be. That's a good lineup over there. ... If I can be this good or better, it should be a good year."

Ian Kinsler had a leadoff double in the first for Texas before a sacrifice bunt by Elvis Andrus moved him to third and a sac fly by Josh Hamilton brought him home. Then Kinsler's homer in the third made it 2-0.

After Chicago tied the game by scoring twice in the sixth, including Adam Dunn's record-tying eighth opening day homer, Hamilton led off the bottom of the frame with a single and scored on a single by Michael Young.

Before the game, Ventura had his first meeting with Nolan Ryan since charging the mound 19 seasons earlier against the Hall of Fame pitcher. Ryan is now president, CEO and part-owner of the Rangers.

"We just talked. I congratulated him on the last couple of years. He's done a great job," said Ventura.

Ventura, a surprise hire by the White Sox after Ozzie Guillen departed to become Miami's new manager, was a 26-year-old third baseman for the White Sox when he charged the mound against Ryan on a hot August night at old Arlington Stadium in 1993.

Ryan, 20 years older and in the last year of his playing career, got Ventura in a headlock and landed several blows.

The two hadn't spoken until Ryan went to the White Sox clubhouse before the opener.

As for his first game as a manager, Ventura said, "I figured we'd lose a game at some point this year."

Colby Lewis (1-0), like Danks a former first-round pick by the Rangers, struck out nine in his first opening day start.

Three relievers then worked scoreless innings, with new closer Joe Nathan pitching a perfect ninth.

"It was a well-played game," said Young.



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Big Spring, Tx.

Elbow enters the world of Legos and robots

Courtesy photos

Students at Elbow Elementary prepare for an upcoming competition, set for April 21 at Texas Tech University. Students have to build robots out of legos and be able to make the robots perform designated tasks. In order to prepare, the students received help from Big Spring Junior High students.

Find out more in the article on Page 1A.



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Dixon and Nichols



Kallie Rose Dixon and Jacob William Nichols

Kallie Rose Dixon of Plainview, and Jacob William Nichols of Big Spring, announce their engagement.

Kallie is the daughter of Don and Marcia Dixon of Plainview.

The bride-elect is a 2006 graduate of Plainview High School. She received her bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University in 2010 and a masters degree from Stephen F. Austin State University in 2011. She is a registered dietitian at Covenant Hospital in Lubbock and Plainview.

The prospective groom is the son of Darrell and Sheri Nichols of Big Spring.

He is a 2006 graduate of Big Spring High School. He received his bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University in 2010. He is attending Texas Tech University Health Science Center School of Medicine.

The couple plans to exchange vows June 16, 2012, in Lubbock.

Davis and Hunt



Rebecca Carol Davis and Bennie Lex Hunt Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Kent Davis of Abilene, Texas and Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Lex Hunt Sr., of Auburn, Ala. Announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their children, Rebecca Carol and Bennie Lex Jr.

Grandparents of the bride are Janell Wood Davis and the late Harold Leonard Davis. A May 5, 2012, wedding will be celebrated in First Baptist Church in Abilene, Texas.

Having graduated from Wylie High School, Rebecca obtained her college diploma in 2006 from Hardin Simmons University with a bachelor of science degree in psychology. She is employed by First Financial Trust and Asset Management Company.

A 1998 Auburn High School graduate, Lex attended Abilene Christian University studying Biblical text. He is employed in management by Rosa's Cafe.

Wedding



Mr. and Mrs. Jon Pasley

Delia Gutierrez of Coahoma, and Jon Pasley of Dallas, exchanged wedding vows March 17, 2012, in a 5 p.m. ceremony at Pilot Grove Church in Dallas.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Silberio Gutierrez of Coahoma. She is employed as an analyst II at ISN Software Corporation.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Art Pasley of Dallas. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pasley. He is employed as specialist III with the city of Dallas.

The bridal party consisted of Jackie Mills of Austin; Taylor Mills of Red Oak; Georgia Molina and Angie Gutierrez of Big Spring; Lindsey Chase and Eden Espiricueta of Dallas; and Dawn Cates of Red Oak. Madison Bryant of Big Spring, and Isabella Franco of Dallas, served as flower girls. Matron of honor was Martha Garrets.

After the ceremony, the reception was held at Dallas Heritage Village in Dallas.

Groomsmen included Willie Gutierrez and Juan Molina of Big Spring; Roger Mora, Jeff Rickman and Chris Nelms of Dallas; Brad Gause of College Station; John Lacy of Colorado; Scott Garrets and Justin Benedict of Calagry. Larry Espiricueta of Dallas, served as best man.

Ushers included Brody Gutierrez of Fort Worth; Raymond Vargas of Big Spring; Nate Garrets, Tanner Simpson of Kerrville. Leea and Brooke Hopkins of Big Spring; Julia and Ambria Garrets, Monica Cadenhead and Wanda, all of Kerrville; and Stefanie Bryne of Dallas, served as cake servers.

Angela Haack of Dallas served as wedding planner and Josh Neely of Dallas was the wedding singer. Lynette Holtz Florist is extended a special thank you.

The couple honeymooned in Miami Beach, Fla. Upon their return the couple made their home in Kaufman County.

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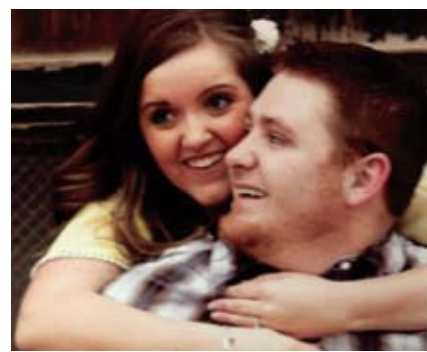
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Shower Date:
April 14



Wedding Date:
June 16

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- ♥ Kallie Dixon & Jacob Nichols
- ♥ Lindsey Butler & Kelby Kemper
- ♥ Krista Blagrove & Clay John Anderson
- ♥ Judi Ashley & Tyler Murphy
- ♥ Larissa Adkins & John Fletcher
- ♥ Meredith Barr & Barrett Durst
- ♥ Samantha Boehringer & Coley Hollandsworth
- ♥ Meredith Nieto & Brandon Skaggs

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Easter Worship Services

Midway Baptist Church

Easter Worship Service
 Sunday School - 9:45 am
 Worship - 11:00 am
 Services - 6:00 pm

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Easter Worship
Coahoma 1st Baptist

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Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

1512 Birdwell Lane Big Spring, TX

Eastside Baptist Church

Easter Service
 9:45 AM
 10:45 AM

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He Lives!

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Sunday School - 10:00 am
 Worship - 11:00 am
 Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 pm

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Revival Services
Berea Baptist Church
 4204 Wasson Road

Begins Sunday, April 8 at 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM
 Monday-Thursday, April 9-12 at 7:00 PM

Evangelist, Dr. Darrell Robinson
 Worship Leader, Sam Craig

Monday Night - Youth Night PIZZA at 6:00 PM
 Tuesday Night - Children's Night
 HOT DOGS AT 6:00 PM

Block Party at Church Location
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Hot Dogs + Popcorn + Snow Cones
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Easter Sunday April 8

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 Sunday School - 9:45 am
 Celebration Worship - 10:50 am

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Salem Baptist Church

Easter Worship Service
 11:00 am
 Sunday School
 10:00 am

8911 Center Point Rd.

First Church of Nazarene

Easter Worship Service
 Sunday April 8, 10:00 am
 1400 Lancaster

Community Easter Egg Hunt
 Comanche Trail Park
 Saturday April 7, 11:00am-1:00pm

St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church

Holy Week & Easter Schedule
 Maundy Thursday, April 5, 6pm
 Good Friday, April 6, Noon & 6pm
 Easter Sunday, April 8, 10:30am

1001 S. Goliad 432-267-8201

Holy Trinity Catholic Parish

Easter Services

April 5
 Holy Thursday
 Mass/Adoration - 7:00 p.m.

April 6
 Good Friday Services
 Stations of the Cross - 3:00 p.m.
 Procession of the Cross in
 the neighborhood - 6:00 p.m.
 Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 7:00 p.m.

April 7
 Easter Vigil - 8:00 pm (no 5pm Mass)

April 8
 Easter Sunday Mass - 8:30 am
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Easter Worship Services

April 6 - Good Friday - 7:30 pm
 April 7 - Easter Fun Festival 10:00 am
 & Egg Hunt - 11:15 am
 April 8 - Easter Sunrise Service - 8:00 am
 Pancake Breakfast following Service
 Easter Celebration Service - 10 am

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▶ Menus

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Bad weather day.
Tuesday: Breakfast: pop tarts, sausage, orange juice, milk. Lunch: smothered steak with gravy, potatoes, bread, peach cups, milk. McRib.
Wednesday: Breakfast: biscuits, jelly, gravy, sausage, grape juice, milk. Lunch: meat loaf, cheese, potatoes, apples, bread, milk. Burritos.
Thursday: Breakfast: oatmeal, ham, apple juice, milk. Lunch: chicken spaghetti, sweet peas, fruit, rolls, milk. Hot pockets.
Friday: french toast, sausage, apple sauce, syrup, milk. Lunch: hot pocket, baked beans, baby carrots, milk.

Sands ISD

Monday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza, juice and milk. Lunch: hot dogs, oven fries, sherbet cup, grapes and milk.
Tuesday: Breakfast: donuts, juice and milk. Lunch: Philly steak sandwich, baked beans, pickle spears, chips, fruit cup and milk.
Wednesday: Breakfast: sausage and biscuit, juice and milk. Lunch: taco salad, seasoned corn, lettuce-tomatoes, cookie and milk.
Thursday: Breakfast: bacon, toast, juice and milk. Lunch: carne guisada, refried beans, tossed salad, tortilla, orange and milk.
Friday: Breakfast: muffin, juice and milk. Lunch: hamburger, lettuce, tomato and pickles, baked beans,

peaches, mixed fruit and milk.

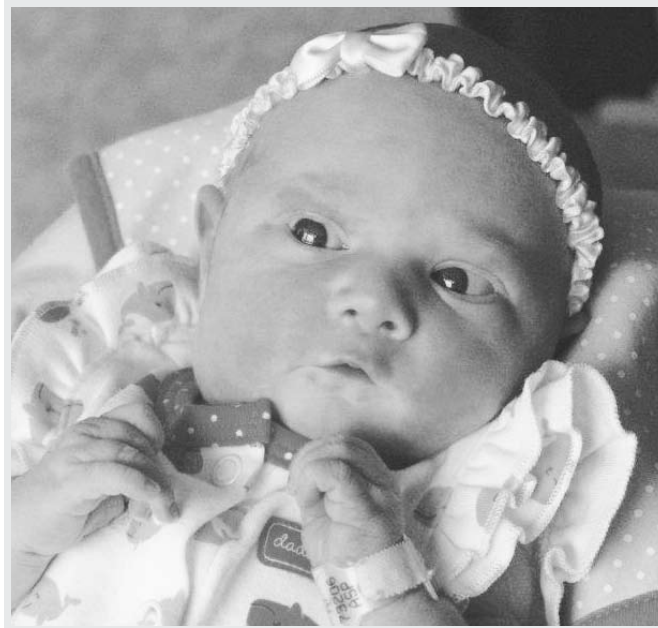
Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast: frosted flakes, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: barbecue chicken flatbread, spicy corn cob, broccoli, ranch dressing, strawberries, milk.
Tuesday: Breakfast: taco roll, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: barbecue rib sandwich, baked Doritos, baby carrots, ranch dressing, peaches, orange smiles, milk.
Wednesday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: asian teriyaki chicken, brown rice pilaf, broccoli, mandarin oranges, egg rolls, milk.
Thursday: Breakfast: peanut butter jelly uncrustable, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, sliced apples, wheat rolls, milk.
Friday: Breakfast: cinnamon french toast, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: chicken fajitas, tortilla, ranch beans, corn, pineapple chunks, lettuce/tomato topping, salsa, milk.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast: cinnamon roll, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal. Lunch: chicken fajitas, refried beans, seasoned corn, mixed fruit, milk.
Tuesday: Breakfast: scrambled eggs, toast, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal. Lunch:

▶ Birth



Sydney Anne Sierra Stewart

Sydney Anne Sierra Stewart, daughter of Kelly Wingert and John Stewart both of Big Spring, was born March 26, 2012, at Odessa Regional Medical Center.

Sydney weighed 7 pounds 12.6 ounces and measured 19 3/4 inches.

Her maternal grandparents are Chris and Karen Wingert of Big Spring. Her paternal grandparents are David and Debbie Stewart of La Vernia, Texas.

She was welcomed home by her siblings, Sean, Walker and Gauge.

cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, pickles, baby carrot dippers, funyuns, orange smiles, milk.

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

Thursday: Breakfast: sausage on a stick, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal. Lunch: beef and bean chalupe, Spanish rice, lettuce and tomatoes, rosie apple sauce, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: cereal, toast, juice, milk. Lunch: chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, savory green beans, whole wheat rice, fruit choice, milk.

Senior Center

Monday: cheeseburger, baked potato chips, carrot coin salad, tropical fruit, milk.

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

Wednesday: spaghetti and meatballs, broccoli, tossed salad, bread sticks, peaches, milk.

Thursday: chicken and beef fajitas, Spanish rice, guacamole, tostada chips/salsa, oranges, milk.

Friday: mexican casserole, pinto beans, tossed salad, tostada chips, pears, milk.

~ Dear Molly ~

My daughter is fat but I can't bring it up

Dear Molly,

Can you offer some advice to a mother whose daughter is very overweight and doesn't have a life? She 17 yrs old and is 5'3" and weighs 280 lbs. Boys don't look at her; she has very few friends who only seem to use her for her car. I feel so badly but every time I bring up the subject she yells at me and says I think she's fat and ugly. She's not ugly, but to be honest she is fat! She can't seem to find a job either which makes it worse because she sits around and eats junk.

Please help
Concerned mother

Dear Concerned mother,

You have every right to be concerned. With the rise in childhood obesity comes early diabetes, heart and lung problems and the effects can last a lifetime. Her refusal is only a defense mechanism to avoid reality. This is very normal.

My first advice is to find a doctor who is willing to speak the truth. She obviously has a doctor and if this person is unwilling or not able to be very clear and offer a program to help her then you need to find one who is. This is an addiction and could be the result of underlying issues such as depression, and perhaps more.

Your daughter needs a dose of reality about her condition. She is morbidly obese and needs help before it goes any further. I understand it may be a difficult

subject but tell her you insist she sits down with you and a professional to discuss her health. If she throws a fit and accuses you of calling her fat, then agree. Tell her she IS fat and morbidly so and this is why you are insisting she faces the truth.

You said she's sitting around eating junk. There needs to be no junk in the house mom. If you are going to talk then you need to walk the walk! No junk, only good food. Trust me she will find something to eat when she's hungry. I would also get on a walking routine. Suggest going out each day and walk to a designated place. Start small then work your way up. Challenge each other and make it fun. Someone walks backward, have a scavenger hunt with something like movie tickets etc. Never use food as a reward though. If you are paying for insurance and gas for the car, I'd use this as leverage and have her participate. This will get her off the couch. She has to work in order to put the car on the road.

I think the friends issues will work itself out. For now I wouldn't go there with her. But be very firm on the junk food and what you think about her health. Keep telling her this is out of concern for her health.

Good luck!

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". Contact Molly Mason by email at 781-710-2148 or by email at mollymason.st@gmail.com.



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- April 8** - EASTER.
- April 9** - Games 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- April 10** - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Supper Club, "KC Steakhouse", 5:30 p.m.
- April 11** - Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie, 1:00 p.m. "Despicable Me"
- April 12** - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy's Café, 10:00 a.m.
- April 13** - EASTER POT LUCK & BINGO, 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- April 14** - BIG SPRING HEALTH FAIR, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- April 16** - Games, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
HOBBS CASINO, 9:00 a.m. (Weather Permitting)
- April 17** - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Supper Club "Papa Chon's", 5:30 p.m.
- April 18** - Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie, 1:00 p.m. "Battle Los Angeles"
- April 19** - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy Cafe, 10:00 a.m.
- April 20** - Senior Circle 13th Anniversary Party 2:00-3:30 p.m.

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

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 Saturday, May 5th • 2 - 4 pm • Carrasco Room, Midland College
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Names will be read during a memorial service, and butterflies will be released as a way to say thank you for how our lives have been brightened. Individual butterflies are available for a \$25 donation to the Hospice House Foundation 501(c)3, if you would like to release one in honor or memory of your loved one.

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www.homehospicewtx.com

Local H-E-B cashier receives Woman of Distinction award

By **AMANDA MORENO**

Staff Writer

Customer service can go a long way if you let it, according to Lucy Flores.

Flores — a part-time cashier at H-E-B — was recently recognized by the grocer with the Women of Distinction award. She was presented with her award at a conference in San Antonio.

The award is presented to a select few in the company who have demonstrated good customer service and community involvement.

"There were about 50 to 60 awards presented at the conference," Flores said. "It is something the customers and other co-workers can nominate you for."

The award has served as personal recognition for Flores and has been an inspiration to her, as well. Seeing the wide range of employees represented, from the top of the chain to the cashier, to bookkeepers, at the conference made an impact, she said.

"It really inspired me to see all these people involved and volunteering in their communities," Flores said. "It really is about



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno
Lucy Flores was recognized with the Women of Distinction award from H-E-B for her customer service and involvement in the community.

serving your community."

Flores has worked at H-E-B for the past five years, a venture started after a bad customer service experience, and is something she continues to do because

of her love for people and the desire to improve customer service throughout Big Spring. When she isn't working at H-E-B, she is working at her full-time job as an IT specialist for Citizens Federal Credit Union.

"I do this because I enjoy working with people. It is something I love to do," Flores said. "For me, it's about striving to deliver great customer service."

In addition to her full-time and part-time jobs, Flores has also spent her time volunteering on the Holy Trinity church council as secretary, has volunteered at the Big Spring State Hospital and been involved in Relay For Life, American Heart Association and several school-related programs.

"There are so many teens needing role models in this community and part of my goal and what the award recognizes is those who are helping others," Flores said. "Helping others is something needed here in the community. It's about forming a unity in the community."

One of her main goals is striving to make things better,

See **FLORES**, Page 6B



Courtesy photo

Brenda Cole is presented a plaque by Big Spring State Hospital Superintendent Ed Moughon during the hospital's annual awards ceremony. Cole was one of five people named employee of the year.

BSSHS names top employees

Special to the Herald

Five Big Spring State Hospital employees were honored March 28 during the hospital's Annual Commendation Awards Ceremony.

Rudy Dominguez, Brenda Cole, Brianne Rich, Ricky Martinez and Doug Evans were named as the top employees for Fiscal Year 2011. They were nominated by their peers and chosen by past recipients from a workforce of more than 600 employees.

Service awards also were given to employees who reached five-year benchmarks in their careers, beginning with five years up to 35 years. Also, employees who won individual department awards during the past year were recognized: Activity Therapies Department Employee of the Year, Joelda Garza; LVN of the Year Lisa Dushane; RN of the Year Suzanne Pearson; and PNA of the Year Lisa Aguero.

Commendation Award winners are nominated by their peers and the final selection is made by a committee of past winners. "They always send me the best of the best," Big Spring State Hospital Superintendent Ed Moughon said before making the surprise announcement.

Rudy Dominguez has served as a hospital security officer since September 2005.

"He is very friendly and easy to get along with," Moughon said. "He covers gaps in staffing and makes sure we have coverage for the hospital. He's a great resource for our nursing staff and he is someone we can always count on."



Dominguez

Doug Evans, RN, manages 48 customers during the hospital's evening shift and continues to develop his own career.

"I love the idea of walking 10 miles in the snow, and when I see people do it, I am amazed," Moughon said. "He has gone on for academic achievement and performs above and beyond." He has been employed at Big Spring State Hospital since June 2007.



Evans

Ricky Martinez works as one of Big Spring State Hospital's switchboard operators. He started his career in January 1994.

"I have interacted with him for years and he is always courteous and always provides great customer service," Moughon said. "Whenever we have a need, he never misses a beat and does well at following procedures. He has continued to work as we filled holes in our workforce and he always did what he could at any time of the day and night."

Brenda Cole, a psychiatric nursing aide at Big Spring State Hospital since June 1993, has always worked on the Adult Psychiatric Services Female Unit.

"This unit has transformed numerous times with how they interact with their customers and how they get through every day. With 48 females that can be a challenge," Moughon said. "(Cole) has been here the entire time. All of the ladies feel a sense of recovery on her unit. She is quick to assist individual patients and she can sense when their mood changes. I have the world of respect for her."

Brianne Rich serves as the risk management coordinator and came to the hospital in November 2009.

"If you are injured on the job, Brianne will navigate you through the system," Moughon said. "And she does so with much efficiency



Rich

See **BSSH**, Page 6B

SAME OWNERS, NEW BRAND



Courtesy photo

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce participated in the new reimaged store opening and ribbon cutting on Birdwell Lane, with Kyle McKeen, president and CEO of Alon Brands, cutting the ribbon. Southwest 7-Eleven stores previously known for their FINA brand, are now taking on the ALON brand.

Donation stocks Glasscock ambulances

Special to the Herald

GARDEN CITY, Texas — Medical treatment aboard an ambulance can mean the difference between life and death in critical emergency situations.

The minutes it takes to get to a hospital can be deadly if treatment isn't administered while en route. The Glasscock County EMS recently received a \$2,500 donation to stock its ambulances with life saving materials through America's Farmers Grow CommunitiesSM. Charles Braden, a farmer in Glasscock

County, was a winner in the program and directed the donation to the EMS.

"The EMS helps the whole community and it is made up of all volunteer workers," Braden said. "They don't get paid for being on call 24 hours a day, so I am happy to do everything I can to help them and make their job easier."

The service will use the \$2,500 to purchase supplies for the ambulances, including new batteries, medications, bandages and blood pressure monitors. These purchases will allow the service to remain in compliance with the

Texas Department of State Health Services.

"Grow Communities is an amazing program," said Christy Seidenberger, president of the EMS.

"We also received the donation last year and it helped us purchase needed pediatric supplies, and this year we look forward to purchasing blood pressure monitors."

In a ceremony held on April 3 at the school in Garden City, Braden got the chance to present the Glasscock County Volunteer EMS with the \$2,500 donation.

USGS releases recharge findings

By **JASON J. GURDAK** and **CASSIA D. ROE**

Playas are ephemeral, closed-basin wetlands that are important zones of recharge to the High Plains (or Ogallala) aquifer and critical hab-

itat for birds and other wildlife in the otherwise semiarid, shortgrass prairie and agricultural landscape.

The ephemeral nature of playas, low regional recharge rates, and a strong reliance on ground water from the

High Plains aquifer has prompted many questions regarding the contribution of recharge from playas to the regional aquifer.

To address these questions and concerns, the U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with the

Playa Lakes Joint Venture, presents a review and synthesis of the more than 175 publications about recharge rates and chemistry beneath playas and interplaya settings.

See **USGS**, Page 6B

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
Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring
Stephen Cruz, 1501 Hilltop Rd., Big Spring
Ramona Davila, 2143

Texas Ave, San Antonio
Julie E. Davis, 5202 Bangor Ave. Apt. K301, Lubbock
Clarissa Dean, 2516 Gunter, Big Spring
Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring
Constance A. Elledge, 1709 Scotland Ave., Azle
Kristi L. Elliot, 603 E. 12th St., Big Spring
Alfredo Flores Jr., PO Box 272, Laredo
Irene Paredez Flores, 1000 E. 20th St., Big Spring
Kenneth L. Freeman, 1401 San Andres, Odessa
Danny Frias, 207 W. 17th St., Georgetown
Hilda Fuentes, 502 S. Seventh, Lamesa
Carlos Garcia, 1211 S. Third St., Brownfield
James Randal Gardner, P.O. Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.
Joe Nick Garfias Jr., of 1309 Runnels, Big Spring
Claudet Garza, 3106 E. Elm No. 10, Laredo
Joseph Garza Jr., 17811 Vail No. 18, Dallas
Misty Goldston, 2429 20th St., Lubbock
Benito Oscar Gonzales, 101 S. Reynolds, Coahoma
James E. Gonzalez, 604 Neff St., Sweetwater
Jeffrey Grams, 224 Lelon Lane, Springtown
Nora Gutierrez, 606 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa
Edna J. Hale, 510 Milton Ave., Brownwood
Sharon Marquis Hanson, 1201 E. Co. Rd. 34, Big Spring
Clifford Arvin Hart Jr., 3234 Drexel, Big Spring
Dana Havink, 600 Star Linda Ct., Arlington
Chris Henry, 3520 28th St., Lubbock
Isaul Hernandez, 523 W. Noble, Falfurrias
Veronica Cervantes Hernandez, 1005 N. 17th St., Lamesa
Gerald Hodges, 4312 Crane, Houston
Allen Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 No. 1502, Big Spring
Herman Hokes, 1303 Sycamore, Big Spring
Danny Holt, of 125 Farney Rd., Lorena
Bradley Ryan Horton, of Linda Lane, Big Spring
Shameka Houston, 1905 Wasson No. 49, Big Spring
Jeanie Renee Ivey, 5326 Old Highway 71, LaGrange
Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio

Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland
Steven Daniel Johnson, 1509 142nd St., Lubbock
Johnny Ray Jones, 501 E. 17th St., Big Spring
Katie Lynn Junkin, 1410 Lancaster, Big Spring
Paige Morgan Kenas, 1003-2 Lake County Rd. 175, Colorado City
Kimberly K. King, 1711 Young, Big Spring
Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan
Lindsey Kay Lee, 1405 S. Benton, Big Spring
Patricia Luttrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa
Jenny Marie Hamilton Lyon, 4201 W. Highway 80 Apt. 6, Big Spring
Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland
Christopher Max Martinez, 2870 S. Highway, Snyder
Jarrod Martinez, 61 E. Eighth St., San Angelo
Sandy Martinez, P.O. Box 43, Stanton
Thomas M. McKellen, 2010 Sierra, Kenah
Ebaline Mendoza, P.O. Box 291, Mertzon
Daniel Mercado Jr., 5611 Lancaster, Houston
Chad K. Merrill, 3300 Manor Rd. Apt. 174, Austin
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas
Jose Munoz III, 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 7, Big Spring
Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland
Ricky L. Nava, 707 Willa, Big Spring
William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring
Pernell Earl Parker, 400 N.E. 12th St., Big Spring
Benson Nelson Payne, 1117 Toby Lane, San Angelo
Katherine Hardin Perez, 4908 Parkway, Big Spring
Joshua Plaia, 1401 E. 18th, Big Spring
Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford Ave, Big Spring
Richard Wayne Rains, 4501 Parkway, Big Spring
Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road #226, Big Spring
Anna D. Riff, PO Box 1321, Denver City
Jerrall Ray Richardson, 1481 Highway 81, Bowie
Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255, S. 11th St., Lubbock
Roberta Garza Rodri-

guez, 1103 Stanford, Big Spring
Robert Rosamond, 801 Lancaster, Big Spring
Thomas Ross, 1206 Lela St., Jasper
Thomas Castillo Ruiz, 1306 W. Tennessee, Midland
Rudy Andrew Salazar, PO Box 1275, Stanton
Nancy Carolina Sauseda, 1707 N. 11th St., Lamesa
Monica Serbine, 304 E. 20th, Big Spring
Harl Bradford Shaffer, 5603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring
Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road, Big Spring
Brian Paul Siverson, 589c Stoddard, Odessa
Donna Smith, P.O. Box 716, Coahoma
Lisa D. Smith, 2010 Sierra Dr., League City
Andrew Sommers, 3110 W. Kansas Ave., Midland
Janie Spurgeon, 1212 Wadley, Midland
Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City
Mickey Jermain Starnes, 402 Holly Oak Dr., Tyler
Misty D. Sternadel, 457 Seventh St., Scotland TX
Andrew Bernard Taylor, 5651 Flamingo, Houston
Tonya D. Conner Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobb, N.M.
Ashley Lauren Teagarden, 6002 103rd St., Big Spring
Paula Valdez, 2220 S. First, Lamesa
Jimmy Vasquez, 4000 W. Illinois No. 16, Midland
Tyler Voss, Fannin Co. Rd. 4925, Leonard
Michael Wagner, P.O. Box 428, Denver City
Irshaad A. Walee, 1306 S. Detroit, Lamesa
Candida Lynn Whitehead, 1405 Runnels, Big Spring
Tina Diane Whitlow, 1407.5 Settles, Big Spring
Denise L. Williams, 1715 Hwy. 350, Big Spring
Calvin Williams, 1313 Mulberry, Big Spring
Mandy Shae Wilson, 210 10th St., Sterling City
Brandi Woodard, 642 Westview Dr., Abilene
Jerry Lee Wrightsil, 2816 Ridge Rd., Fort Worth
Lorenzo Ferrera Yanez, 211 Channing St., Big Spring
Dennis Anthony Zaragoza, 4534 Sinclair, Big Spring

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.



Market Watch: Heard the One About a “Fiscal Cliff”?

For three years, the market has suffered from a severe case of economic hypochondria. Headline after headline proclaimed that this time, for sure, the recession would return. Remember Dubai and Tunisia? What about deleveraging, re-setting adjustable rate mortgages, credit-default-swaps, foreclosures, Greece, state and local budget cuts, rising energy prices, the debt ceiling, unemployment, the Super Committee, or the S&P downgrade? All of these have come and gone ... and yet the recovery is three years old.

Now, some doomsayers are pointing ahead to a “fiscal cliff” in 2013. The supposed cliff is a combination of possible policy changes all happening next year. These include the sunset of the “Bush tax cuts” (on regular income, dividends, capital gains and estates), the end of the payroll tax cut and planned cuts to federal spending.

The theory is that the combination of higher taxes and lower spending will push our economy right back into recession. We don’t think this is going to happen and investors should not waste time worrying about it. First, regardless of the outcome of the presidential election, we think the most likely policy result is a continuation of most, if not all, of the Bush tax rates, at least through the end of 2014.

If a Republican wins the White House, they are also likely to control the House and Senate. This would allow them to keep those lower tax rates (or cut them even further!) with simple majorities, through the budget reconciliation process. In other words, they would not need Democrat votes.

If President Obama wins re-election, he may want to end the lower tax rates on regular income, dividends, and capital gains for high-income taxpayers. But the Republicans would likely retain the House, and so Obama could not extend the tax cuts for the middle class unless he capitulated on extending them for everyone. His advisors, with their eyes then moving toward the 2014 elections, will tell him to extend those tax cuts one more time, just like they did back in 2010.

Worst case scenario: we go back to the tax rates we had under President Clinton. This would hurt the economy, but for many reasons investors should ignore this unlikely scenario for now.

By contrast, the end of the payroll tax cut is likely. Neither side really likes this policy. Conservatives argue that it’s temporary and it’s not really a cut at the margin. Liberals worry that cutting payroll taxes severs the link between worker “contributions” and future benefits, which could ultimately undermine political support for the Social Security program.

From an economic point of view, ending the break will not significantly alter the course of the economy. Personal saving is now running at an annual rate of about \$540 billion. Returning the tax rate to 6.2 percent would cost workers about \$120 billion per year. Given that personal saving hovered around \$270 billion per year from the early 1980s through 2007, the loss of the tax cut can be more than made up for by reduced savings. History suggests the economy will survive.

The least of our worries is the scheduled slowdown in federal spending. We don’t see how the economy gets on a truly sustainable growth path without a significant decline in federal spending relative to GDP. What would worry us more is if politicians found a way to wiggle out of their promises and spending continued on its unsustainable growth trend.

Bottom line: expect to hear more about the “fiscal cliff” for the next several months. Then, when it doesn’t cause a recession, you’ll never hear about it again.

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 26 and provided courtesy of Bhupen Agrawal, managing director, branch manager, of Wells Fargo Advisors’ Midland office, at 432-684-7335. The report was prepared by First Trust Advisors L.P., and reflects the current opinion of the authors. It is based upon sources and data believed to be accurate and reliable. Opinions and forward-looking statements expressed are subject to change without notice. The material has been prepared or is distributed solely for informational purposes and is not a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any security, or instrumental to participate in any trading strategy.

BSSH

Continued from Page 5B

and as little disruption to your employment.”

Commendation Awards winners’ names are placed on a plaque in the entryway of the Administration Building. Moughon urged the more than 150 employees in attendance to take a look at past winners and congratulate those with whom they have an opportunity to work with every day.

“I appreciate the opportunity to

get to work with you,” he said. “I am lucky to get to work with you guys.”

Those receiving Service Awards were:

Five-year honorees: Cheri Arellano, Dee Billingsley, Timothy Garibay, Sandra Goodrich, Lydia Hensley, Lesa Jairst, Alicia Keaton, Desiree Mayes-Fizer, Cheree Reagan, Jane Reed, Brianne Rich, Leslie Rodriguez, Josie Shober, Lea Tolison and Ana Valdez.

10-year honorees: Mary Anguiano, Tonya Baker, Francis Magallanes, Fred Morales, Carmen Morin, Jo Permenter, Blan-

ca Ramirez, Pete Reed, Patricia Ross, Amalia Sanchez and Laura Wilson.

15-year honorees: John Cervantes, Elizabeth Correa, Penne Dean, St. John Garcia, Sarah Marquez and Yvette Preston.

20-year honorees: Elsa Hernandez, Heather Jennings, George Oteiza, Roger Powell, Debbie Ramirez, Debra Vernon, Robin Waddill and Chris Wilson.

25-year honorees: Kay Flowers
30-year honorees: Jay Colvin, Mary Lou Marquez and Ricky White.

35-year honorees: Junior Mathews and Tina Neel.

USGS

Continued from Page 5B

Although a number of questions remain regarding the controls on recharge rates and

chemistry beneath playas, the results from most published studies indicate that recharge rates beneath playas are substantially (1 to 2 orders of magnitude) higher than recharge

rates beneath interplaya settings. The synthesis presented here supports the conceptual model that playas are important zones of recharge to the High Plains aquifer and are not strictly evap-

orative pans. The major findings of this synthesis, yielded science-based implications for the protection and management of playas and ground-water resources of the High Plains aquifer and directions for future research.

The Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District website is www.pbu-wcd.com. For more information on recharge enhancement, call 432-756-2136 begin_of_the_skype_highlighting.

FLORES

Continued from Page 5B

whether it be in her work environment or within the community, Flores said.

“I want people to shop here and to see Big Spring grow. The abil-

ity is here, we have the people, but we need to improve on the customer service and maintaining new businesses that come in,” Flores said. “People aren’t going to want to shop here if they can’t find friendly service and if they can’t find what they are looking for.

“In the end it’s about serving your community, getting involved and coming together to make a difference.”

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

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David LeFever- #13251

Announcements

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

TALL, SLIM, attractive, white male, non-smoker, non-drinker, divorced, no children- Looking for a female 35-52. Wants a Honest, lasting relationship. Call (325)665-0192 after 7pm.

Business Opportunity

ATTN: LOCAL people needed to work from home online. \$500-\$2000/month, part-time/full-time. Internet required. Training provided. Call now! 888.292.7010

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GARDEN OF Sharon Plot 1 & 2, \$1,700 each. OBO. Call Curtisteen Furman (575)808-0349.

Help Wanted

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

Help Wanted

LVNs

Immediate openings for licensed professionals. Competitive rates & benefits for full time employees EOE/MFDV. For more information, call our DON (325) 573-6332, or apply in person:
SNYDER HEALTHCARE CENTER
5311 Big Spring Highway In Snyder

\$\$\$Immediate Opening \$\$\$ Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home
Our employees are our greatest asset, providing flexible schedules and an attractive benefits packet.
Currently hiring the following positions:

RN Supervisor(s)

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Fax (432)268-1987
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Please contact Katee Rubio, HR Director
kmrubio@sears-methodist.com

2012 POSTAL Positions \$13.00-\$32.50+/hr., Federal hire/full benefits No Experience, Call Today 1-800-593-2664 Ext. 148.

AIRLINES ARE HIRING - Train for high paying Aviation Career, FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified - Job Placement assistance. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance 877-803-8630.

Help Wanted

ARE YOU looking for a career? Then check out the positions available at Travel Centers of America. We have a great benefit package for full time help. Positions are currently available in Subway, Popeye's and the Country Fare Restaurant. Stop by today and pickup and application at 704 W I-20.

ASSEMBLY WORKER
Stable company seeks highly motivated person looking for steady employment. Inside work, 40 hrs/wk, non-smokers ONLY, must pass drug test & criminal background check. Call Delta for appt. 267-1000.

BIG SPRING Oil Company needs experienced driller & crew for drilling rig. Work close to home for competitive pay & benefits (recently increased wages). Must be able to pass drug test. Call 432-557-4594 to apply.



KASE CONSTRUCTION- Big Spring, TX.. Specializing in Pipeline Construction; Trenching & Road Boring is currently hiring for the following positions.
* Backhoe Operator
* CDL Driver
* Labors
Applicants must be honest, hard working, dependable & possess a valid driver's license. Must pass pre-employment Drug Screen. Apply in person at 510 E. 1st in Big Spring.

Howard County Sheriff Office has an opening for Dispatcher. Must be 18 or older have a High School dip/ or GED. Must be able to type 45 words or better. Test given by the Texas Work Force. Rotating shifts. Starting pay \$15.39 have benefits retirement, health insurance and dental offered.

Help Wanted

Big Spring State Hospital provides a Hospitalized Sponsored Car Pool for 2-10 & 10-6 shifts. These are no out of pocket expenses to you! Minimize your monthly Gas Expenses!
RNs - All Shifts
Earn up to \$4785.59 per month (DOE)
LVNs - All Shifts
Earn up to \$2666.60 per month (DOE)
Plus 5% Weekend Shift Differentials or 15% Evening Shift/ Weekend Differentials
Psychiatric Nursing Assistants
Varied Shifts
Starting salary \$1,706.75 per month

Our benefit package includes: Paid Vacation, Sick Leave, Holidays, State Paid Insurance, Matching Retirement, Educational Leave, and Nursing Educational Stipends. On campus housing is offered depending on availability
Contact our Job Center for Job Descriptions or to Arrange a Campus Tour 432-268-7341 or 432-268-7298
Or
Complete an application online at <https://accessshr.hhsc.state.tx.us>
Contact Jennifer Patton (432)268-7640 if you are interested In the Hospitalized Sponsored Car Pool!

BLAST MASTERS has positions available for:
* Crew Tech
Must have valid Texas Drivers License, will train, Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., Pick up application. No phone calls please.

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

Help Wanted

BLUE BELL Creameries is seeking a responsible, dependable Full Time Shipping Clerk. Position involves physically working with ice cream products in a cold environment. Must be 18 years old and have reliable transportation. No experience necessary, we will train. We offer competitive pay and great benefits. Apply in person at: Workforce Solutions; 1001 Birdwell Lane (Howard College).

BUFFALO COUNTRY taking application for Sales Clerk (all shifts). Experience required. Must apply in person 4911 South Hwy. 87 ask for Salitta. No Phone Calls.

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

CRUDE OIL TRANSPORT DRIVER NEEDED. Must have CDL with Hazmat and Tanker Endorsements. Crude oil experience a plus, but will train. Excellent pay & benefits. Sign on bonus. Will be driving new equipment. Call 325-698-0200.



D&K HUNT Electric in Lubbock is hiring Journeyman and Apprentice Electricians for a project in Big Spring. If interested please call Gilbert at (806)548-1392.

DAY CAMP Worker Needed at The Boys & Girls Club. Must have outgoing personality, patience, & love children. Apply at The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club, 811 West 5th.

Director of Transportation: Sands CISD has a position open for a Transportation Director. CDL with passenger endorsement and mechanical experience is required. Resumes can be faxed to (432)353-4650 or emailed to wabount@esc17.net before April 20. For more information call (432)353-4888.

KITCHEN HELP & CARHOP. Must be Neat in Appearance. Honest & Dependable. No experience necessary will train. Inquire at Wagon Wheel, 2010 Scurry St. No phone call Please!

Help Wanted

DON'S Tire & Truck Service Inc.
S. Service Rd I-20 Exit 178 Big Spring, Tx 79720
Taking Applications:
Tire Tech: Most weekends Off
All applicants must have a valid Texas Drivers Lic.
Experienced Mechanic: Diesel & Gas
Must have valid Texas Driver Lic. Most weekends Off- Pay on experience
Apply In Person Only/ NO Phone Calls

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HIGGINBOTHAM BARTLETT is now hiring for full time inside sales. Must be able to pass drug screen and criminal background check. Must be great customer service skills. CDL license a plus. Pick up application at 1900 E. FM 700. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

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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.

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LOOKING FOR Part-time Kitchen Help. Daytime shift only. Apply in person at Big John's Feed Lot 802 West 3rd. No Phone Call Please.

LOOKING FOR Single Hand Welders. Must have oil field experienced, dependable, have Class C License, able to work weekends. Good Pay. Call 432-816-4688 for more info.

NEED Backhoe Operator with CDL. \$500. CASH SIGN-ON BONUS. Must pass drug test. Call 432-394-4161.

NEEDING EXPERIENCED Insurance Sales and Service Agent. Send resume c/o P.O. Box 1431/216, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

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

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.

Help Wanted

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

NOW HIRING for the summer session and 2012-2013 School year. Christian Pre-School teachers and child care givers. Part-time and full-time positions available. Prefer at least 1-year experience in a licensed child-care facility, but will train the right person. New Hope Christian School 118 Cedar Rd. Also part-time position available in church nursery. Approximately 6-10 hours per week.

NURSERY WORKER needed at FBC Coahoma; Sundays and Wednesdays. Please inquire at 201 South Avenue or call 432-394-4348. between Noon and 3:00 PM.

PART-TIME CARETAKER Mon.-Fri., 20-25 hrs week. Light housekeeping & cooking. Please send resume to P.O. Box 1791 Big Spring, TX 79721-1791.

PART-TIME HOUSEKEEPER for Elrod's Furniture. Apply in person, 2309 Scurry. 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.

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 WAIT STAFF. MUST HAVE SUPER STAR PERSONALITY AND GREAT WORK ETHICS. MUST BE AVAILABLE TO WORK DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

TOP NOTCH Landscaping is Hiring for all positions. Experience preferred. Call (432)213-0031 Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

Help Wanted

THE COLORADO River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following position for Lake Thomas area.

Park Maintenance Technician- Responsible for general maintenance of park and facilities. Entry to intermediate level position. CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave.

Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432)267-6341 or www.crmwd.org.

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THE SALVATION Army Boys & Girls Club is seeking Program Coordinator Monday-Friday. Child development experience necessary. Apply at 811 West 5th.

RUSSELL CELLULAR in Big Spring and Lamesa Texas is seeking Wireless Sales Store Managers. If you're self-motivated and interested in a career in retail sales, if you are looking for an opportunity for growth and financial stability, then you need to consider being a (Wireless) Retail Sales Store Manager for Russell Cellular. Interested applicants are asked to apply at: www.careerbuilder.com Keyword Search: Russell Cellular

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.

SCHOOL SECRETARY needed for private Christian preschool. Computer experience a must! Apply at 118 Cedar Rd..

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.

Help Wanted

SECURITY OFFICERS Needed for Hospital Federal Inmate Protection detail. All positions are Part-time and PRN.

Physical Requirements: Must be in general good health and vision must be correctable to 20/30 (SNELLEN) in one eye. The ability to distinguish basic colors is required. Emotional and mental stability is required.

Other Requirements: Must be able to pass State and Federal Backgrounds and Credit Checks.

Experience Requirements: One year (2040) hours of experience in the armed forces or coast guard which involved significant performance of guard duty of detainees or prisoners; or the equivalent experience in a federal, state, or local government, or private organization which involved protecting/police duties, or college level training in courses such as corrections or police science may be substituted for experience at the ratio of two hours of instructions for one hour of experience. Apply at Workforce Center (1001 Birdwell Ln., Howard College- Charles Warren Bld. 106), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

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VALID LICENSE & DIPLOMA/GED A MUST. MUST PASS DRUG SCREENING AND A BACKGROUND CHECK AS WELL.

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

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.

WANTED EXPERIENCE Farm Hand. Call 432-213-4332.

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TRUCK DRIVER Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for an experienced truck driver. This position will make deliveries, load and unload product, utilize a forklift, and perform general warehouse duties. The position requires high school diploma or equivalent, CDL with HAZMAT endorsement. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person:

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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.

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Vin# 1GN1ND52T9192288
Tag# BMT502
- 1995 Mercury Marquis
Vin# 2MELM75W6SX629613
Tag# 449XSW
- 1992 Chevy S-10
Vin# INGCS19R1N8170522
Tag# 39FVN7
- 1994 Lincoln Town Car
Vin# 1LNLM81W8R739291
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 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

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 6241-71-001 for PICNIC AREA AND LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE in MITCHELL County, etc will be opened on May 09, 2012 at 1:30 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$19,470.00.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 39684

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.
#7321 April 8 & 9, 2012

Legals

Lee Lewis Construction, Inc. will receive proposals for the **Big Spring Marcy & Washington Elementary Demo/Abatement.** Proposals are due by 4:00pm, April 26th, 2012. No proposals will be accepted after this time. We specifically invite Small Business Concerns and Women Owned Business Concerns, and Small Business Concerns Owned/Controlled by Socially & Economically Disadvantaged Individuals.

Plans are available from:
Lee Lewis Construction, Inc.
7810 Orlando Ave.
Lubbock, Texas 79423
806-797-8400

Plans are available for viewing in the following locations:

- AGC Plan Room - Lubbock
- Dodge Plan Room - Lubbock
- AGC Plan Room - Midland
- Dodge Plan Room - Midland
- Dodge - Scan
- LLCI Virtual Plan Room
- Contact- PDM@leewis.com

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be conducted on Thursday April 12th at 3:35pm inside of the Washington Elementary Cafeteria.
#7319 April 8 & 15, 2012

The Aries sun has a way of stirring up tempers.

Yesterday, Venus and Mars formed a terse angle, and the residual tension still lingers. In order to get on with things, someone may have to apologize. For those hiding Easter eggs, you can bet they won't all be found in a



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, AAA Mini Storage which is located at 3301 E. FM 700 Big Spring, TX 79720 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 11:00 o'clock A.M. on April 28th, 2012, at AAA Mini Storage, 3301 East FM 700, Big Spring, TX 79720. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space.
Tenant: Jerry Lovells
Tenant: Frances McKiski
Tenant: Melton Viera
Tenant: Steven Croft
Tenant: Genice O'Valle
Tenant: Roberto Vasquez
#7325 February 8 & 15, 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

Tomorrow's Horoscope

day. The Scorpio moon has a way of making things nearly invisible.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Talking only about oneself is a bad habit that a friend has been guilty of on many occasions. It's your turn to talk today, and you should gladly take it. You've earned the right.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your words reveal your level of experience in the world. Others will make decisions about how to interact with you based on your vocabulary.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The thing about getting what you want is that it's always going to change your world. It's wise to consider the many effects that will happen, good and bad, and weigh your desire against them.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's polite to make as little noise as possible in many public arenas. But where you're going, it's only appropriate to add noise to the arena in the form of cheers and applause.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Maybe your ultimate ambition is so lofty that few have achieved it. You'll be happiest when your goals that lead up to that place are realistic. Set small achievable goals so you can feel good along the way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's the perfect time to update your contacts, addresses and calendar. You'll have to be ultra-organized to take advantage of the interesting opportunities in the week ahead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Problems and troubles are not the same thing. Today you'll realize that you have problems, not troubles. Everything will work out. It's just an equation that needs to be solved.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). In order to get where you want to go, you'll have to change your attitude. The good news is that this will make your life better on many levels. You'll love what happens next.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Our caveman and cavewoman ancestors didn't live as long as we do now, and their courtships were proportionately brief. You, however, can take your time instead of rushing in like a Neanderthal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A desire to impress someone can be healthy for a relationship up to a point. If this desire is exaggerated, it becomes destructive. You'll find a graceful balance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You want to be

well thought of as much as the next person, but you're not about to let that stop you from contributing freely to the social milieu. You may make a mistake and discover that others don't care so much.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Do what's necessary to get to a smiling, laughing place. There will be a situation that has you unsure, but you'll interpret things in a positive way, demonstrating the difference between a happy person and an unhappy person.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 8). Lifestyle upgrades happen over the next 10 weeks. Friends support you in many ways this year, especially by making life fun and lighthearted. May brings vows and promises. Your experience will pay off in June, and you'll use the money to start a new venture. This could be important to your long-term financial growth, so give it a high priority. Your mentorship will be needed in August. Taurus and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 32, 18 and 50.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail.

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Legals

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

TO: Opal Barber aka Willie Opal Barber, Glen H. Barber, William J. Barber, Glen A. Barber 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 4, Bk 3, Ridglea Terrace Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas,

Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: \$837.50, 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 OPAL BARBER AKA WILLIE OPAL BARBER and others, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on July 28, 2011, in a certain suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. OPAL BARBER AKA WILLIE OPAL BARBER, 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 6024 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 intervenors, 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 11th day of May, 2012 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 30th day of March, A.D. 2012.

Colleen Barton
Clerk of the District Court
Howard County, Texas,
118th Judicial District.
#7327 April 8 & 15, 2012

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Product promotion package
- 8 Not a lost cause
- 15 Demon
- 16 Printing
- 17 Not easily let go
- 18 Let
- 19 Most fundamental
- 20 Commuter reading
- 22 Cable operator's offering
- 23 Aromatherapy supply
- 25 Refinement candidate
- 26 Major span
- 27 Just as expected
- 28 Jolly Roger hand
- 29 Acutely uncertain
- 32 Harangues
- 34 Point of decline
- 35 "Make friends of ___ enemies": Pythagoras
- 36 In a sense?
- 40 Celebrated Carnival, maybe
- 44 Major spans
- 45 Goes
- 47 Early sixth-century date
- 48 Rev (up)
- 49 Results of some substitutions
- 52 Baltimore Ravens mascot
- 53 Rest
- 54 Concert venue
- 55 They're hidden in some L.A. buildings
- 57 Patriot on the move

DOWN

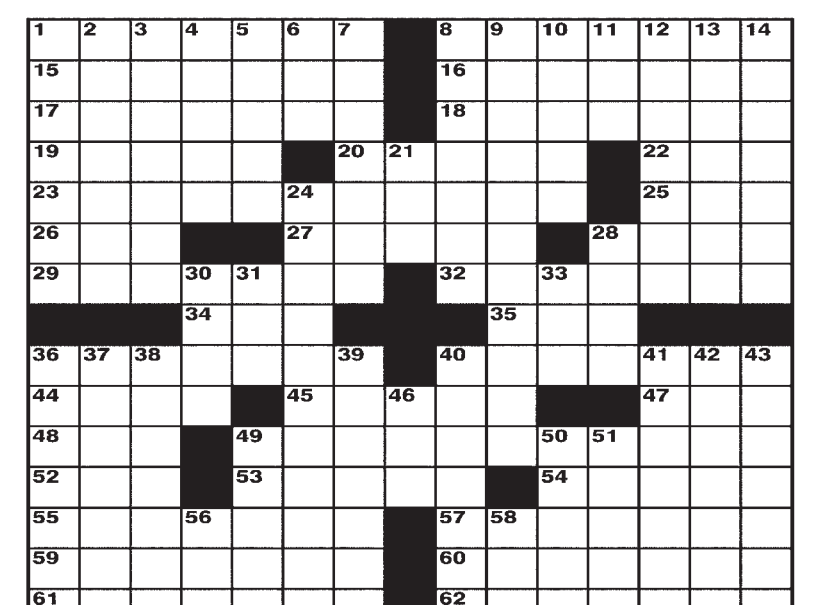
- 1 Something fixed by the meticulous
- 2 Common
- 3 Greer Garson Oscar role
- 4 Shape of chimney smoke
- 5 Day-Lewis' mom in Nine
- 6 Compass reading
- 7 Flushes
- 8 Weighty
- 9 Penguin habitat
- 10 Records, informally
- 11 Any QB throw
- 12 Enclosed ecosystem
- 13 Shuttered, in Sheffield
- 14 Course selections
- 21 Compass writing
- 24 Course rarity
- 28 UN delegate since 2000
- 30 Looks over
- 31 Paper strip around
- 33 Japanese books
- 36 Cake flavoring
- 37 Wardrobe

SATURDAY STUMPER by Lester Ruff

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

- 38 Fashionable outerwear
- 39 Lets off
- 40 Harder to traverse
- 41 Gave as a bonus
- 42 Most free of fluctuations
- 43 Apt rhyme for "charms"
- 46 Its Web site has a "Where's my refund?" page
- 49 Zesty element
- 50 "Down in Yon Forest," e.g.
- 51 Sound off
- 56 One not to be trusted
- 58 King of Diamonds depiction



What exactly is a top story?

For years, the Pew Research Center has identified the top stories in the media according to public interest. Last week, the shooting of Florida teenager, Trayvon Martin by neighborhood watch captain, George Zimmerman was the most watched news story. Before that, the news was dominated by the reports of the U.S. soldier who went on a killing spree in Afghanistan. Prior to that we were debating Rush Limbaugh's critical remarks regarding Sandra Fluke. And, before that we focused on Whitney Houston's sudden death.

All of these are important stories. Some of them reflect how we live and many of them affect how we choose to live with one another. But, as the stories shift almost daily they become something of a blur. Over a lifetime only a few stories stand out. Among them, we would doubtless include the assassinations of JFK and Martin Luther King Jr., Neil Armstrong's first steps on the moon, Watergate and the terrorist attacks on 9/11.

When we look at history, only a few events stand out, and some of those were scarcely known or recognized at the time: Gutenberg's invention of the printing press, Columbus' discovery of the New World, Martin Luther's 95 Theses, Jefferson's drafting of the Declaration of Independence, Gettysburg, Lincoln's assassination and Pearl Harbor.

But the one singular event which most shapes who we are and how we live is the event that will be remembered on every continent and celebrated in almost every language this week. Millions will gather to reflect and remember what happened 2,000 years ago when a Galilean carpenter was executed on a Roman cross and laid in a borrowed grave. Many innocent men have been tortured and ex-

ecuted across the centuries, but what made Jesus unique was the evidence that he rose from the dead.

Luke, a physician in the first century, carefully interviewed the eyewitnesses to give us the best-documented report. He wrote, "Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses. ... I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning." (Luke 1:1-4). And, again, "After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of 40 days and spoke about the kingdom of God." (Acts 1:1-3).

The Apostle Paul was violently opposed to the Christian message until he became convinced Jesus had been raised from the dead. He wrote, "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the scriptures and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the 12. After that, he appeared to more than 500 of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles and last of all he appeared to me also." (1 Cor. 15:3-8).

We will continue to follow important news events week by week. The way we deal with them will inevitably shape our lives. But, no event is more important and life shaping than Jesus' resurrection from the dead. How we choose to respond to that event will ultimately make all the difference in how we live, how we love and how we die.

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. For more info visit www.tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@tinsleycenter.com.



BILL TINSLEY

The greater resistance, the greater the blessing

Opposition, they say what doesn't kill you will only make you stronger. I believe there is some truth in that. Perhaps you are being tried today.

And I believe God will not put more on you than you can bear. He is there to be leaned on. So many times as I sit alone, I still cry. I'm still touched by words spoken by family and friends, church family, strangers who don't even know me.

Proverbs 18:21, we need to understand how powerful words are. For death and life are in the power of the tongue.

But be encouraged, for we are like gold being tried by fire, coming forth pure and more dedicated, more consecrated and more desirable to the Holy One.

A consecrated life means to declare a place holy, dedicate something to a particular purpose. Consecration literally means to associate with the sacred.

Yes there will be times of discouragement in your walk with God and the storms will rage and the heavens will seem like brass. You will even question your salvation. Because of opposition, but after you go through the fiery furnace, you will be like refined gold and your faith will be more precious than gold.

Doors will open that no man can shut. Doors will shut that no man can open. For God tries the righteous. God is bigger than opposition. He will make your enemy your footstool.

Satan's assignments are to discourage you, mock God's word, turn your heart against God and say to you, see God does not answer prayer.

Do not under estimate the power of prayer. Our salvation is not based on how much wealth we obtain while here on Earth. It's not even based on whether you get healed or not. The Egyptians would weigh a dead man's heart against the feather of Maat, symbol of truth, below the scale sat a monster to whom the heart would be thrown should the judgment be unfavorable. But the Bible says, the cleanness and purity of the human heart is God's ultimate concern Ps.51:10. God says through Isaiah, "As the heavens are higher than the Earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Isaiah 55: 9, "Mankind has no access to the thoughts of a transcendent God, except as God reveals them and there is only one Judge." 1 Peter 4:12-13, "Beloved think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you, but rejoice in as much as ye are partakers of Christ sufferings that when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

I believe there is a blessing after every trial, just like when you feel you've been denied, after every tear a question why. Lift up your eyes unto God don't compare yourself to others. Remember you are not being rejected but tried, separated and consecrated.

Cry out to him, praise Him when your discouraged. He loves you, no one can love you like Him. I pray God show himself strong on your behalf and reveal himself like never before to you and your loved ones this is my desire. Don't give up. Remember the greater the resistance the greater the blessing. Faith defeats doubt.

So lift up that shield today.



JOELLE LUDINGTON

Reader's Corner

Sunshine

Her given name is Lea but I call her Angel Because she's truly beautifully with the heart of an angel. It makes her cry when someone has been hurt by life. And with her angels heart she tries to make the world a better place for others. Kind words — pretty cards and flowers

along with much needed hugs and smiles. These are all gifts that she gives to others and she brings sunshine to the ones who are blessed to know her.

Written to honor Lea Newsom My beautiful sunshine angel Happy birthday.

Lana F. Anguiano

My Jesus

I can't help but cry whenever I think about that ugly day so long ago that they took you and nailed you to a cruel wood cross. It hurts to know they not only beat you and tortured you but they laughed at your pain. And when you asked for a drink of water to ease your suffering they poured wine made from vinegar in your mouth and as it dripped down your poor broke and bleeding body

it caused you unspeakable pain. But you my Jesus did not cry or curse the ones who had hurt you. No, you forgave them. You died so that all could receive the gift of life ... My Jesus. I thank you for the precious gift of life you gave to me. A gift I don't deserve.

Lana F. Anguiano

Life forms can be found at www.bigspringherald.com

2012 Boy Scouts of America Spring Sign Up Night



Date: Thursday, May 3, 2012

Arrive Between: 6:00—8:00 PM

First Baptist Church Gymnasium
705 West FM 700
Big Spring, TX 79720

Join us for an evening of information about the variety of programs that the Boy Scouts of America has to offer.

There will be volunteers from the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Aviation Exploring, Fire Service Exploring, and Venturing present to answer any questions. **Don't miss the first signup night of the year!**

For information contact:
Brian Sweeney @ 432-212-3577
or visit BeAScout.org



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