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SUNDAY

APRIL 29, 2012



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Early voting begins Monday

Big Spring 4B project on ballot as are city and school board contestants

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 Early balloting in the May 12 municipal and school district elections begins Monday with a proposed multi-million dollar 4B project expected to

be a driving force in voter turnout. Early voting will take place in the Elections Administration Office — located on the third floor of the Howard County Courthouse — between Monday and May 8,

according to Sandra Bloom, county elections administrator. Normal voting hours are 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with special 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. extended hours scheduled Tuesday and

Thursday. "The extended hours are designed to give people a chance to come in and vote early who work between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. during the week and just can't get away," Bloom said. "We're hoping local voters

will take advantage of these extended hours and go ahead and come in. It beats waiting until election day and having to wait in line." Big Spring voters will only See **VOTE**, Page 3A



Big Spring takes time to get together

By AMANDA MORENO
 Staff Writer

A reunion for everyone was held this weekend throughout Big Spring. The First Annual Coming Home to Big Spring Spring Picnic was held at Comanche Trail Park starting Saturday morning. From the central location, attendees dispersed throughout the community to revisit the town each once called home. "The closer it got and everyone said they were coming, I started getting excited and said 'I'm going, too,'" Peggy Rogers, Big Spring resident, said. "I just want to meet everyone; that is just so much fun." The reunion started with a woman looking for a friend on Facebook. In the process, she started a group called Remember When in Big Spring which quickly grew to a couple of thousand members. Born here in 1949, Bobby Watson left upon entering

"I realized whether these people lived next door to each other or not they all felt like they knew each other and I thought let's have a different kind of class reunion"
 Bobby Watson


HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno
 Carla Weaver, left, Peggy Rogers, middle, and Jane Hutchings shared memories of Big Spring during the First Annual Coming Home to Big Spring Spring Picnic on Saturday. Several hundred residents and former residents of Big Spring gathered to create new bonds and rekindle old ones.

See **REUNION**, Page 3A

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To reach us:
 Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.



Pre-K registration planned at BSISD

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

Big Spring independent School District officials have announced registration times for parents wishing to enroll their children in 2012-2013 pre-kindergarten classes.



Pre-K registration will be held from noon until 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Goliad Intermediate School Library, officials said. Any child who will be 4 years old by Sept. 1 and lives within Big Spring ISD may be enrolled in pre-kindergarten classes, providing they meet one of the following eligibility criteria:

- The family qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches. Proof of income, such as a paycheck stub or 2011 tax

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

HC Spring Concert scheduled Tuesday

By AMANDA MORENO
 Staff Writer

Hawk Jam is gearing up to perform Tuesday at the Hall Center for the Arts. The 20-member cast will take the stage at 7 p.m. for the Howard College Band and Choir Spring Concert. "The number of students coming together on this stage is amazing," Eddie Vandewalker, music department director and associate professor, said. "The band and the choir are coming together and performing together on stage for most of the time." Community members will be able to see the 2012 tour show, "Goes Great on Toast." Music will include scores from classical composers Aretha Franklin and Journey. "This is going to be a high-energy performance and a great way to support local students," Vandewalker said. "Many of these students went to high school here and this could be the last time to see them perform locally before

See **CONCERT**, Page 3A

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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sun 4/29	Mon 4/30	Tue 5/1	Wed 5/2	Thu 5/3
85/64 Cloudy in the morning with isolated thunderstorms developing later in the d.	91/65 Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm. Potential for severe thunderstorms.	94/67 More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	96/66 Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the mid 60s.	93/65 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the mid 60s.
Sunrise: 7:01 AM Sunset: 8:26 PM	Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 8:27 PM	Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 8:27 PM	Sunrise: 6:58 AM Sunset: 8:28 PM	Sunrise: 6:57 AM Sunset: 8:29 PM

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Texas At A Glance

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	82	65	cloudy	Kingsville	90	73	pt sunny
Amarillo	73	55	t-storm	Livingston	85	67	pt sunny
Austin	87	69	windy	Longview	84	68	pt sunny
Beaumont	83	70	pt sunny	Lubbock	78	59	t-storm
Brownsville	90	74	pt sunny	Lufkin	87	70	pt sunny
Brownwood	88	67	cloudy	Midland	89	66	t-storm
Corpus Christi	85	74	pt sunny	Raymondville	90	73	pt sunny
Corsicana	83	67	pt sunny	Rosenberg	83	70	pt sunny
Dallas	85	68	pt sunny	San Antonio	89	71	windy
Del Rio	92	71	windy	San Marcos	88	69	windy
El Paso	90	62	sunny	Sulphur Springs	83	68	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	92	65	t-storm	Sweetwater	83	64	t-storm
Gainesville	81	65	cloudy	Tyler	84	66	pt sunny
Greenville	82	66	pt sunny	Weatherford	82	65	cloudy
Houston	83	72	cloudy	Wichita Falls	80	63	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	88	62	sunny	Minneapolis	61	46	pt sunny
Boston	58	34	sunny	New York	62	40	sunny
Chicago	57	44	cloudy	Phoenix	91	65	sunny
Dallas	85	68	pt sunny	San Francisco	71	55	mst sunny
Denver	64	42	mst sunny	Seattle	62	48	pt sunny
Houston	83	72	cloudy	St. Louis	66	59	t-storm
Los Angeles	74	58	cloudy	Washington, DC	68	48	pt sunny
Miami	79	73	t-storm				

Moon Phases

New Apr 21
First Apr 29
Full May 6
Last May 12

UV Index

Sun 4/29	Mon 4/30	Tue 5/1	Wed 5/2	Thu 5/3
8	10	10	10	10
Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High

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

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Take Note

- Spring of Siloam CWJC will be hosting the spring graduation Saturday, May 5 at 4 p.m. A reception will follow the graduation in the Holy Grounds Cafe. The ceremony will take place at Spring Creek Fellowship at 501 Birdwell Lane.
- Every Friday night from 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. is dance night at the Senior Citizen Center. The cost is \$8 per person.
- An account has been established at American State Bank to help defray medical expense for Brad "Ghost" Ugstad, a local resident who was severely injured in a motorcycle accident. All donations will be appreciated.

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Obituaries

Bettie Wilcox

Bettie Wilcox, 74, of Lake Thomas, died April 26, 2012, at her residence. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Gail Cemetery with Chaplain Cherise Felty of Home Hospice officiating.

She was born Oct. 2, 1937, in Cordell, Okla. She married Wayne Wilcox on June 2, 1973, in New Mexico. She was a homemaker and has lived at Lake Thomas since 1979.

She is survived by her husband, Wayne Wilcox of Lake Thomas; one daughter, Bonita Chadwick and husband David of Fritch; four sons, Marlin Wilcox and wife Vickie of Perryton, Dennis Wilcox and wife Jackie of Big Spring, Butch Key of Santa Barbara, Calif., and Kenny Key of Dallas; mother, Nell Scoggin of Bossier City, La.; one sister, Edna Watkins of Haughton, La.; sister-in-law, Gail Wilcox of Milesheo; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Lloyd Scoggin; and one son, Kenneth Wilcox.

The family suggests memorials be made to Home Hospice, 111 E. Seventh Street, Big Spring, TX 79720

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

Milton James Junek

Milton James Junek, 85, of Big Spring, died Friday, April 27, 2012, in a Midland hospital. Graveside funeral services will be 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, 2012, at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Robert Cavanaugh officiating.

Family and friends are invited to a reception to visit and tell stories at the funeral home following the services.

He was born June 1, 1926, in Cameron, Texas, and married Emma Clara Kernell on Feb. 16, 1964, in Lovington, N. M. She preceded him in death Dec. 13, 2007.

Milton served in the United States Army in the Philippines during World War II. He farmed around Big Spring for over 50 years.

Survivors include two daughters, Corine Breedlove and husband, William O. of Las Cruces, N.M. and Mary Dupre and husband David Hildebrand of Odessa; three grandsons; two sisters, Irene Hirt and Mildred Hirt; and a number of nieces and nephews.

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

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Police blotter

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

- ADAN CHAVERA, 42, of 600 Holbert, was arrested Friday on warrants for theft less than \$50, failed to maintain financial responsibility, fail to appear.
- LORI ANN WRIGHT, 48, of 312 N. Main St., was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- GUADALUPE JR. LOMAS JR., 40, of 1405 Nolan St., was arrested on warrants for failed to maintain financial responsibility and fail to appear.
- COREY PRESTON HOFFPAUIR, 35, of 1100 Sycamore St., was arrested Friday on a warrant from other agency.
- SHAYNE CHRISTOPHER HUDGINS, 42, of 1425 E. Sixth St., was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated, third or more.
- WESLEY ALLEN WARLICK, 34, of 606 Jeffrey Rd., was arrested on a charge of assault: family violence causes bodily injury.
- ROY REESE, 36, of 6305 E. Midway Rd., was arrested on a charge of assault: family violence threat or offensive touch.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 600 block of Jeffrey Road.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 6300 block of E. Midway Road.
- BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 3700 block of Hamilton Street.

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 at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

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Courtesy photo

Coahoma Elementary students Jori Hanlan and Trey Brumley recently received word they were named to the Texas Choral Directors' Elementary Honor Choir. They will be part of a 160-voice choir which will rehearse and perform a concert for the TCDA annual convention to be held in San Antonio in late July. Jori and Trey are both sixth graders and third-year members of the Coahoma Choir Kids. Jori was named to the Honor Choir two years ago as a fourth grader so this will be her second time to enjoy the experience of singing with a large group of excellent singers from all across the state of Texas. Jori is the daughter of Misti and Rod Henson and James Hanlan. Trey is the son of Robin and Walter Brumley.

REUNION

Continued from Page 1A

high school. However, wanting to reconnect with those he once knew and seeing the response on Facebook, he had an idea.

"The big thing is to be able to go to class reunion, but I left when I was entering high school so there was no

class," Watson said. "I realized whether these people lived next door to each other or not they all felt like they knew each other and I thought let's have a different kind of class reunion ... no worrying about what class you were in, not worrying about whether you graduated from school or not or what clique you were in back then."

After planning for nine months, the re-

union finally came to fruition. Several people met at Al's Barbeque for an impromptu lunch and then gathered at the Wagon Wheel on Friday.

"We were at the Wagon Wheel doing the twist and just having fun," Rogers said.

This weekend I plan to put a person with the names on Facebook and get acquainted with our new-found friends,"

Jane Hutchings, reunion attendee, said.

"During this reunion I just want to communicate with people my own age and enjoy life," said Carla Weaver.

"There is no ulterior motive; we are just trying to recreate or create new bonds with each other. Each of us has fond memories of Big Spring and want to share them. Big Spring isn't what it was 50 years ago, but

then again no place really is," Watson said.

"We would like young people to realize it doesn't have to be like it is today; why wouldn't you want to be able to sit down with 200 people you consider to be friends and have a good day?"

And this weekend, that is exactly what

they did. For those who couldn't attend, Watson said there will be more.

"This is only the first annual. We are doing it again next year."

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

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

return, will be required.

- The family is homeless.
- Parent is a member of the U.S. armed forces (military identification will be required).
- The child has been in foster care.

The following docu-

ments will be required at registration:

- Official birth certificate.
- Immunization records.
- Child's Social Security card.
- Proof of residence, such as a utility bill or lease agreement.
- Parent's driver's license.
- Proof of guardianship.

Vickie Cheyne, PEIMS

coordinator for the district, said pre-k will change significantly next school year — not only will more classes be offered, but they will change from half-day to full-day status. All pre-kindergarten classes during the 2012-2013 school year will be held at the Kentwood campus.

Despite the expanded number of classes, Cheyne cautioned that

admission to the program will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

"We have had a waiting list the past two years," she said.

For more information, contact the school district at 264-3600.

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

CONCERT

Continued from Page 1A

they go on to further their education."

During the concert, several students who have earned scholarships and other achievements will be recognized. Admission is free, but seating is limited to 150 people.

"We want to encour-

age the entire community to come out and show their support for these kids and our organization," Vandewalker said. "These kids are representing Big Spring when we go on the road and several of them will soon be moving on to other schools to continue their education.

"We are sure people will be leaving with a smile on their face."

For more information, contact Vandewalker at 264-5145.

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

VOTE

Continued from Page 1A

have one city council contest to weigh-in on this year, as the race for the District 4 seat begins to heat up.

Bobby McDonald — businessman and husband of incumbent District 4 Councilwoman Gloria McDonald, who decided not to run for re-election — faces off against Loretta Farquhar for the seat.

Big Spring voters will also be asked to decide the fate of a proposed overhaul of the municipality's water and wastewater facilities using up to \$13 million in economic development funding through a 4B project.

Members of the Big Spring City Council voted unanimously to have the proposed project placed on the May ballot during their Feb. 14 meeting, a move that drew both praise and criticism from various voices in the community.

As part of the agreement between the council and the Big Spring Economic Development board of directors, if voters approve the project the EDC will provide \$750,000 a year

for the first two years, and then 40 percent of its sales tax revenue — with a floor of \$500,000 and a ceiling of \$750,000 for the following 18 years — with the city of Big Spring picking up the remainder of the tab.

Big Spring ISD has one contested election — District 2. Incumbent Maria Padilla is running against Ed Ware and Pat Deanda. Early voting will be at the county courthouse.

Forsan ISD has two at-large positions, held by Lewis Boeker and Misty Rhoton. Other names appearing on the ballot will be Chris Olson and Beckie Wash. Wash was appointed to the board last month to fill a spot left vacant by Derrick Looney. The position will be for an unexpired two-year term, while the other positions are for three year terms. Early voting will take place at the Howard County Courthouse.

Sands ISD will have three at-large positions on the ballot. Incumbents Tommy Staggs and Bill Barnes are running for re-election. Michael Wington, Wes Higgins, Blayne Archuleta and Matt Snell are also seeking election. Early voting will take

place at the school business office.

Coahoma Independent School District has three positions — all at large — up for election Brian Moore, board president, Jody Reid and Alan Wright are all incumbents running for re-election. Challengers are Leslie Tindol, Gerald King and Paul Lewis. Early voting will take place at the Howard County Courthouse.

Bloom said construction going on around the courthouse square shouldn't hinder voters looking to cast their ballots early.

"I spoke with officials from Price Construction about the work and how it might impact people's ability to get to the office," Bloom said. "They have assured me it won't hinder the amount of parking available. It had me a little worried, but it shouldn't be a problem at all."

For more information on the upcoming elections, contact the Howard County Elections Administration at 432-264-2273.

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

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Bettie Wilcox, 74, died Thursday. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Gail Cemetery.

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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	

The Jobs Act

In a rare moment of bipartisanship in Washington, The Jumpstart Our Business Startups (JOBS) Act beat the odds and was signed into law recently, after passing both Houses of Congress by overwhelming margins.

The JOBS Act reduces burdensome and outdated regulations, and will help small businesses, entrepreneurs, and start-up companies to do what they do best: innovate, grow, and create jobs. I authored one of the key sections of the JOBS Act. My JOBS Act provision will enable community banks to raise more capital that can be loaned to small businesses, by increasing the number of bank shareholders permitted to invest from 500 to 2,000, without costly approvals by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

When President Obama signed the JOBS Act into law a couple weeks ago, he emphasized the importance of America's entrepreneurs and small businesses, saying, "America has always had the most daring entrepreneurs in the world... when their businesses take off, more people become employed." And he pledged that, "We're going to have to keep working together so that we can keep moving the economy forward."

Nevertheless, five days later, the President went off in the wrong direction - championing the so-called "Buffett Rule" tax, and pushing the Senate to approve that tax as soon as possible. Ironically, the Buffett Tax would punish the very job creators that the President said we should encourage to expand and hire more people.

Unlike the JOBS Act, which encourages more opportunities for start-up businesses and entrepreneurs, the Buffett Tax would do just the opposite. If the Buffett Tax becomes law, what could be the next Google, Dell Computer, or Facebook might never get the chance to move beyond a business plan or mom's garage.

The Buffett Tax is a roundabout way of raising the capital gains tax on investors who are willing to take the risk of providing seed money for early-stage start-up businesses, particularly for tech start-ups. If and when one of these new enterprises becomes successful enough to be acquired or go public, the Buffett Tax would take a much bigger bite out of investors' profits. This would discourage risk-taking, and drain away private investment capital that entrepreneurs and start-up businesses must have.

The President argued initially that the Buffett Tax is needed for deficit reduction. But the U.S. Treasury Department estimates that the Buffett Tax would raise no more than \$5 billion annually. That's less than one half-percent of this fiscal year's \$1.2 trillion deficit, and barely a drop in the \$15+ trillion ocean of national debt. But it's a crucial \$5 billion that the President would drain from the pool of private capital available to help entrepreneurs.

Even after the President conceded his tax proposal would have no impact on deficit reductions, he has continued to argue the Buffett Tax should be enacted as a matter of "fairness." In other words, big tax increases on small businesses and on investors who fund start-up companies - the same businesses that he described when signing the JOBS Act as responsible "for almost every new job created in America." That doesn't seem "fair" to the millions of Americans who are looking for jobs.

Our economy has been the most dynamic job-creating machine in world history. One of biggest problems holding it back now is an incredibly complicated, inefficient tax code that imposes some of the highest taxes in the world on businesses and job creation.

Bipartisan cooperation is needed to enact comprehensive tax reform. Lower, flatter tax rates and a fairer, simpler tax code would unshackle job creation in the private sector. That's what we should be working on now, not an election-year ploy that would make our economy worse.

Kay Bailey Hutchison represents Texas in the U.S. Senate.

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we let You, Lord, be our life preserver.
Amen

Gratitude

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to express my gratitude to Roy Don Beauchamp, owner of Vision Makers, for caring enough about Keep Big Spring Beautiful to take it upon himself, free of charge, to mow 2900 Hunters Glen.

This property is vacant and has been for many years without any yard maintenance unless neighbors complain to the city.

Vision Makers is to be congratulated for their unselfish contribution to the community of Big Spring.

SINCERELY
SHIRLEY BURGESS
BIG SPRING

Open letter

TO THE EDITOR:

Greetings!

This is an open letter to the citizens of my hometown, Big Spring, Texas, in regards to the upcoming 4B election and a plea to each voter to know the facts.

I had to have it explained to me in a simple way and my gut feeling about the issue to vote against it only became clearer.

It seems to me Mr. Duncan is trying to rid Big Spring of its citizens, wants no new businesses and then has his "citizen" voice make public comments about new business' that located to Howard County not be eligible for assistance from the EDC if they do not locate within the city limits.

Regarding the 4B funding, how in the world can he or you justify taking funds from the EDC to pay for infrastructure for the city? I have been given statistics provided by the city of Big Spring that state as of May 2011, the total count for water meters was 8,707. If as mentioned by several knowledgeable gentleman, if the city would increase the water rate by .26 per meter per day that would generate enough funds to proceed with the proposed plans.

Do I want my water bill to increase again, no, but I also want Big Spring to continue to grow and attract new business. That .26 per day would cost me an extra \$7.80 per month and annually \$93.60.

One might say why increase the rate if we can use money we have already paid and allowed the EDC to use via sales tax receipts?

Why not?

When our community approved the formation of the EDC we voted to allow those sales tax receipts to attract and or expand local business, not to have it as an "emergency mayor" fund so he can continue to keep his thumb on the vote (another subject for later).

What happens if and when this passes and the upgrades are made? Where will the monies come from to repair the 302 miles of water and sewer lines inside the city of Big Spring? Oops, we cannot take from the EDC again so Mr. Duncan, where is that money going to come from? Have you thought about a solution to repair those lines?

I would like to hope our citizens would be willing to find out the facts for real before casting their vote. Do not take the word of those some of our elected leaders have recruited to speak in favor of this most important vote. Perhaps we could have avoided this vote had the proposed retirement village been approved or better yet, an alternate plan presented to the group before the silent and behind the scenes move made to encourage the neighborhood to turn out against the proposal. Was property owned by the city of Big Spring, still close to the golf course ever mentioned to the group in lieu of the site they chose? Probably not, but then again, why would our city elected leaders want to increase the tax base by \$70,000 a year. Go figure.

Are their other problems we need leadership to address, yes and it will not happen unless it's Mr. Duncan's idea. If he is able to get enough of "his" votes on the council and in the mean time, the only one it hurts is you and I. The

YOUR VIEWS

best I remember from the old TV Show the Lone Ranger, he only needed one back up in Tonto, Mr. Duncan needs three or four.

I urge my fellow citizens to get the real facts and vote no. If not, then when it does come time to repair/replace water and sewer lines, that money will have to come from somewhere and if passed, he will have used his "free parking" this round and watch out tax rate.

Thank you and May God Bless America (again) and God Bless Big Spring and Howard County.

DALE PITTMAN
BIG SPRING

Vote on 4B

TO THE EDITOR:

In the upcoming local election, registered voters of Big Spring will have the opportunity to determine whether state mandated improvements to the water and waste water treatment plants will be paid for with increases to our property taxes and water rates or by means of a tax neutral 4B project which will re-direct, but not raise, taxes.

If the 4B proposition passes, a portion of the sales tax money currently used to entice businesses to relocate here with costly, high risk incentives will instead be used to make much needed repairs to our crumbling infrastructure. If the 4B proposition passes, we will move forward with no risk investments in our infrastructure. If the 4B proposition fails, some combination of property tax and water rate hikes will have to be made by the city council to pay for the treatment plant repairs.

Be aware, even if you do not directly pay property taxes, it will cost you more to live in Big Spring if the 4B proposition fails. Businesses, including apartment owners, will be faced with absorbing the increases or passing them through as higher rents and higher prices on goods and services.

Early voting begins Monday at the courthouse and election day is May 12 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Please join me in voting for the 4B proposition so we can make Big Spring better.

AUBREY WEAVER, JR
BIG SPRING

Almost time to vote

TO THE EDITOR:

Soon the registered voters of this community will determine either (1) if they want to go further in debt in order to have essential services provided by the city; or (2) use monies already in hand to fund part of the expenses so neither taxes or water rates will be increased.

The topic to be considered is whether some of the EDC funds will be used as a 4B project to help pay for improvements to our potable and waste water treatment facilities. Both of these utilities need major repairs.

The EDC continues to expound on the argument if their funding is reduced, we will not have the benefit of new business or industry locating in our community. The benefits during the time of the EDC's existence are very nebulous. Under the guise that releasing too much information to the taxpayer would possibly jeopardize some of their negotiations, the organization has been quite secretive in its operation. As a result, very little is known about the cost-benefit ratio of their dealings. A printed, detailed report giving the distribution of the funds provided to them by the taxpayer, in relation to the actual monetary benefits received by those distributions, should be forthcoming.

Taxpayers should expect to see how they are profiting by these investments. Statements have been issued by the EDC about businesses to which they have donated, number of jobs created, etc., but this does not show return on investment. What should be publicly shown is how much actual tax money the EDC has brought into the community in relation to its donations, and how

long will it take for the taxpayer to start seeing entries in the plus column of the accounting sheet. The fact that this information has not been made available to the public would lead you to believe they are not too proud of their past endeavors. All in all, their track record is not too good.

The April 25, 2012, edition of the Big Spring Herald had a comment by Bobby McDonald that stated: "If the EDC is shackled, it can't serve its purpose." The corporation does not seem to be serving its purpose today. In this same edition, Larry McLellan stated "I think we could have broken this apart - a little with the taxes, a little with the water department... For as little as \$2 a week, we could fund it totally through an increase in the water rate." Once again, don't touch "our" monies, sock it to the tax payer. The EDC is obviously in favor of keeping, or even increasing, our existing tax rate.

The basic purpose of an EDC should be to benefit every community citizen, not just a few. Until the EDC can show a detailed analysis of the cost/benefit ratio proving otherwise, it appears that relatively few citizens will receive benefits from the EDC operations.

It is hoped the citizens will vote in favor of a 4B project, using logic, not their emotions.

ARDIS MCCASLAND JR.
BIG SPRING

4B Project support

TO THE EDITOR:

I want to voice my strong support for the 4B project that will use a portion of the EDC sales tax to rebuild our water and waste water facilities. We have needed these repairs for a long time and now we have a way to pay for them without raising our taxes or water rates.

If this proposition fails it will hurt us all in one way or another. There are many residents in this community who are on fixed incomes, earn minimum wages, single parents with children who cannot afford raised taxes or increase in water rates.

Why would we want to hurt the citizens of this community, if the money is available for the repairs necessary. We should all be working together for the best interest of this community. Let's use some common sense and pass the 4B project to get some decent services in our community then maybe some new businesses will want to come to Big Spring.

I encourage you to vote for the Big Spring city proposition. Early voting starts Monday, April 30 through Friday, May 25 at the Howard County Courthouse and election day is Tuesday, May 29.

NORMA GARCIA
BIG SPRING

Time to vote

TO THE EDITOR:

The citizens of District 4 will soon make a very important decision: Who will represent them on the City Council?

Bobby McDonald stands out as the ideal person to represent our area. You can count on him to be a strong voice on the council and to insure our concerns are represented.

Not only will he strive to keep our taxes low and develop a sound infrastructure, he will also help prepare Big Spring for the future. We know we need to expand our tax base in order for the city to grow, provide jobs, and offer an environment where our children can progress and succeed. Bobby is willing to explore and research every possibility; he has done this as a private citizen and will be better able to do so as an official representative of Big Spring.

He has demonstrated his ability as a successful businessman and has proven his interest and love of our city through the many, many projects he has been involved in and spearheaded to make Big Spring a better place to live.

We need his insight and willingness to work hard to ensure See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

our well being. The citizens of Big Spring need to make sure the city will be viable in the years to come. Bobby McDonald is the candidate who can improve our present environment and provide for our future growth. He is the right person at the right time.

Vote for Bobby McDonald for City Council, District 4.

CONCERNED ABOUT OUR FUTURE AND LEADERSHIP,
JAN HANSEN

No on 4B project

TO THE EDITOR:
Myths and facts about our Economic Development Corporation.

Myth: The funding comes from property taxes.
Fact: The economic development funding comes from sales tax on purchases. This is paid by anyone who shops in Big Spring; not just Big Spring city residents but county, state or national residents who make a purchase within our city. The amount is 1/2-cent of the 8.25 percent rate.

Myth: Anyone can do to the EDC for funding and walk away with free money with no strings attached.

Fact: Funding a project from the Economic Development Corporation is dependent upon many factors such as a sound and viable business plan, the number of jobs created or retained, the potential to repay the load, etc. Less than 10 percent of potential projects are actually accepted.

Myth: Economic development does nothing for Big Spring.

Fact: Economic development helps with job development and business retention, creates economic diversification, establishes a productive use of property, adds to our quality of life and adds to sales tax, occupancy tax and other revenues. Economic development also increases the tax base by using smart growth practices and targeting development on idle or underutilized sites which, in turn, reduces our property taxes.

Myth: Big Spring EDC does not effect me.

Fact: The Big Spring EDC is about more than increasing jobs and income. It is about improving the standard of living and quality of life in Big Spring. Economic development includes improvement in human development, education, healthcare and environmental sustainability. The EDC also increases or ability to attract and retain skilled workers and high growth companies. Therefore, per capita income increases and residents are less likely to be in poverty. More workers also equates to shorter shifts. Without the EDC, taxpayers will suffer a

double whammy, declining services as well as rising tax rates.

Overall, economic development saves taxpayers money and allows governments to stretch their dollars farther.

LARRY G. McLELLAN
BIG SPRING

Vote yes on 4B

TO THE EDITOR:
Regardless of the numbers spouted by the EDC the fact is they have had some success and some failure.

The only sure things are we must complete the water and wastewater repairs, our taxes and water rates are too high already, and we can't reduce city services so let's use a portion of the EDC revenue for this project.

I will vote for the 4B proposition.

COTTON MIZE
BIG SPRING

Bullying

TO THE EDITOR:
I have been reading on the internet about all of the bullying going on in our schools that are supposed to be protecting our children and in fact they are not.

I just read about a 7-year-old who had enough of a bully and fought back. He got in trouble and expelled from school. The school said it has a zero tolerance against bullying and lets see who got in trouble? The one the school should have been protecting.

This is happening everywhere and it needs to stop. I have also seen and heard of students killing themselves when their complaints keep falling on deaf ears which is the school districts. Come on parents of the kids who are being bullied and speak up and fight this and the school system where it is happening. We all love our children, the bullies and the ones who are being picked on. and we need to teach them wrong from right. That starts from home, we can not expect the schools to raise our children, that starts at home, and the schools should be proud of our children that reflects back on the parents of good raising and getting the right teaching. We as parents, and grandparents need to work together to stop this stupid act that these kids are doing. The old


saying that says Sticks and Stones may break your bones but words will never hurt you, is not true anymore. Words can and have killed children from the hateful things that are being said from Bullies. Think about it our schools here, we need to do something about this, instead of turning a deaf ear to our kids when they begging for help! We need a support group, and outlet for our kids to go and let out and talk about their fears of not only going to school but when they go to the movies, the mall or anywhere for fear they will be bullied. This needs to stop here and now.

Marillyn Mears
Big Spring

ELECT

LORETTA FARQUHAR

To The Big Spring City Council
District 4



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CITIZENS NEED TO BE ALLOWED TO VOTE ON COSTLY ISSUES

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Political Ad Paid for by Loretta Farquhar, Candidate for Big Spring City Council, District 4, Gail Zilai Treasurer

CITY OF BIG SPRING
SINGLE MEMBER
DISTRICT FOUR AND
4B PROJECT ELECTION

Please remember to vote in the May 12, 2012 election. In addition to the contested race for Single Member District 4 between Bobby McDonald and Loretta Farquhar, there is a proposition on the ballot for citizens to vote **For** or **Against** the use of Type 4A Economic Development sales tax revenue to fund a Type 4B project of up to \$13 Million of the approximate \$23.8 Million in planned improvements to the City's water and wastewater infrastructure.

Mayor Impacts if Use of 4A Funds is Approved by a Majority of the Voters:

- The use of 4A sales tax revenue to fund a portion of the infrastructure improvements will reduce the need to use other sources of City revenue, such as increased property taxes or water utility fees.

- The use of up to 40% of the Big Spring EDC's annual sales tax revenue will reduce the amount of funds available for cash incentives on other economic development projects.

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World Briefs

Secret Service's Sullivan to agents: Consider your conduct, confront abuses

WASHINGTON (AP) — No excessive drinking — and no alcohol at all within 10 hours of working. Disreputable establishments are off limits, as is entertaining foreigners in the hotel room.

Those are among the tightened conduct rules the Secret Service issued Friday for its agents and employees. They apply even when traveling personnel are off duty.

The new behavior policies, issued in a memorandum obtained by The Associated Press, are the agency's latest attempt to shake off a prostitution scandal that surfaced as President Barack Obama was headed to a Latin American summit in Cartagena, Colombia.

The embattled Secret Service director, Mark Sullivan, urged agents and other employees to "consider your conduct through the lens of the past several weeks."

Sullivan said the rules "cannot address every situation that our employees will face as we execute our dual-missions throughout the world." He added: "The absence of a specific, published standard of conduct covering an act or behavior does not mean that the act is condoned, is permissible or will not call for — and result in — corrective or disciplinary action."

Unprecedented surge puts stress on federal support system

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — An unprecedented surge of children caught trudging through South Texas scrublands or crossing at border ports of entry without their families has sent government and nonprofit agencies scrambling to expand their shelter, legal representation and reunification services. On any given day this year, the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement has been caring for more than 2,100 unaccompanied child immigrants.

The influx came to light last week when 100 kids were taken to Lackland Air Force Base near San Antonio for temporary housing. It was the first time the government has turned to the Defense Department — now, 200 boys and girls younger than 18 stay in a base dormitory.

While the issue of unaccompanied

minors arriving in the U.S. isn't new, the scale of the recent increase is. From October 2011 through March, 5,252 kids landed in U.S. custody without a parent or guardian — a 93 percent increase from the same period the previous year, according to data released by the Department of Health and Human Services. In March alone, 1,390 kids arrived.

"The whole community right now is in triage mode," said Wendy Young, executive director of Kids in Need of Defense, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit that matches pro bono attorneys with unaccompanied minors navigating the immigration system. "It's important that the resources and the capacity meet the need, and we're not quite there yet."

The Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement facilities in 10 states range from shelters to foster homes and have about 2,500 beds. Government-contracted shelters were maxing out their emergency bed space, setting up cots in gymnasiums and other extra spaces.

Group says escaped blind Chinese activist under U.S. protection

BEIJING (AP) — A blind legal activist who fled house arrest in his rural China village is under the protection of U.S. officials and high-level talks are taking place between the countries about his fate, an overseas activist group said Saturday.

The whereabouts of Chen Guangcheng — amid unconfirmed reports that he sought protection at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing — could be a major political complication for the two countries, with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and other top U.S. officials due to arrive in China this coming week for the latest round of the Strategic and Economic Dialogue.

"Chen is under U.S. protection and high-level talks are currently under way between U.S. and Chinese officials regarding Chen's status," said a statement from the ChinaAid Association. It cited a source close to the situation.

Texas-based ChinaAid and its founder, Bob Fu, have been active in promoting Chen's case and confirmed Friday that Chen had escaped to Beijing from where he was being held in his village in Shandong province in eastern China.

The U.S. Embassy in Beijing declined to comment Saturday, as have U.S. officials in Washington.

Tear gas fired as 25,000 rally demanding electoral reforms in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Police unleashed tear gas and chemical-laced water Saturday at thousands of demonstrators who staged one of Malaysia's largest street rallies in years, demanding fair rules for national elections expected soon.

At least 25,000 demonstrators swamped Malaysia's largest city, hoping to pressure Prime Minister Najib Razak's ruling coalition — which has held power for nearly 55 years — to overhaul electoral policies before polls that could be held as early as June.

Authorities insist the elections will be free and fair, rejecting activists' claims that the Election Commission is biased and that voter registration lists are tainted with fraudulent names.

Demonstrators wearing yellow T-shirts, waving banners and chanting slogans poured into downtown Kuala Lumpur, massing near a public square that police had sealed off with barbed wire and barricades.

"I'm here because I'm a Malaysian and I love my country," said information technology manager Burrd Lim. "There's no election that's perfect, but I want one that's fair enough."

U.S. looks to S. America to boost global security and strengthen ties

ABOARD A U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT (AP) — In these days of shrinking defense budgets, the U.S. is looking to its southern neighbors to help monitor and protect the Asia Pacific region in the years ahead.

Traveling to Colombia, Brazil and Chile this week, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta underscored the importance of those nations as military partners in a region where the U.S. influence in a number of countries is being challenged by China. And as the military relationships grow, defense officials say it can only help U.S. economic and political ties across the continent.

Panetta's talks with senior defense leaders from the three nations also fo-

cused on how the United States can support their military efforts, including those directed at the expanding threat of cyberattacks, according to several senior defense officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because the meetings were private.

U.S. officials left the region thinking that at some point there may be opportunities to talk with South American nations about helping to train Afghan forces after NATO combat troops leave at the end of 2014. Officials would provide no details on which nations might eventually be willing to take on some of the training mission, which will be in need of advisers as other NATO nations pull their troops out.

With the U.S. shifting its focus away from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Pentagon's new military strategy puts more importance on the Asia Pacific region, where North Korea is a growing threat and China is rapidly building its military and its political and economic influence.

Syria's state-run media says UN chief encourages militant attacks

BEIRUT (AP) — A Syrian government newspaper says U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is encouraging militant attacks by focusing his criticism on the government.

Saturday's editorial in the state-run Tishrin daily comes a day after Ban said Syrian President Bashar Assad's continued crackdown on protests has reached an "intolerable stage."

Tishrin says Ban has avoided talks about rebel violence in favor of "outrageous" attacks on the Syrian government.

The Syrian capital was hit by four explosions Friday that left at least 11 people dead and dozens wounded.

Assad's government blamed the blasts on "terrorists," the term the government uses to describe opposition forces that it says are carrying out a foreign conspiracy.

Reader's Corner

The Park

I went to the park today.
What a joy to see the children play.
They ran and they jumped.
They scampered and bumped.
At the close of the day I thanked God
that I live in a country where children can play.
Thank God for the men and women who keep it
that way.

Fannie F. Price

Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 3188 - First Annual -

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"GET YOUR SWEAT ON" 5 MILE-RUN FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS

WHEN: MAY 12TH, 2012

WHERE: BIG SPRING STATE PARK

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Lubbock Christian University

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Hawks rally, take first two games from NMJC



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College's Levi Scott gets the out at first during Game Two of a four-game series against conference foe New Mexico Junior College. The two teams are battling for first place in the WJAC. The Hawks took Game One by a score of 8-3 and staged a dramatic comeback to win Game Two by a score of 19-11. A full four-game sweep would guarantee the top seed for the Hawks heading into regional play.

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

When Howard College and New Mexico Junior College meet on the baseball diamond, there is no telling what will happen. The two Western Junior College Athletic Conference bullies met Friday at Jack Barber Field for another chapter in its storied rivalry.

This time, the Hawks would sweep the first two games of the four-game series winning the first outing by a score of 8-3 and taking Game Two 19-11 after a dramatic, eight-run comeback.

In Game One, patience at the plate and fundamentally sound defense were the keys to victory for the Hawks. Elliot Richoux and Jordan Allen each recorded their fifth home runs of the season and starting pitcher Logan Ehlers struck out 11 Thunderbird batters in a complete game showing to help guide HC to the victory.

Things wouldn't go as smoothly for the Hawks in the second.

Before the home team had a chance to swing a bat, they found themselves in a massive hole.

The NMJC batters lit HC's starter Ethan Carnes up, crossing home plate

five times in the top of the first inning. HC Coach Britt Smith replaced Carnes after just two-thirds of an inning in an attempt to stop the bleeding.

Pitching in relief was Brandon Cogbill, who saw three more runs scored while he was trying to get the elusive final out to end the inning. Before it was over, the T-birds had racked up eight runs on eight hits and two HC errors.

Fortunately, Cogbill settled in on the mound, and the Hawks slowly started mending a comeback.

Paul Hendrix smacked a two-out solo homer to put the first HC run on the board in the bottom of the first.

Over the next three innings, NMJC added two runs to its score and the Hawks picked up one more run on a RBI single by Brendan McCurry in the bottom of the second.

A two-run single belted by Levi Scott in the bottom of the third made it a 10-4 game.

With one out in the bottom of the fifth, Colt Bickerstaff knocked a two-run shot out of the park and Hector Lorenzana added a run when he singled to send Levi Scott home, cutting the T-Bird's lead to three.

A wild pitch charged to the Hawks in

the top of the sixth would make bring the score to 11-7 in NMJC's favor.

It took five and one-half innings, but HC's offense caught fire in the bottom of the sixth inning.

The rally started with a lead off double by Todd Ritchie followed by a walk drawn by Hendrix. Richoux made contact and was thrown out at first but picked up a RBI. Bickerstaff walked and Allen struck again, this time hitting a two-run single.

With two on and two out, Lorenzana recorded contact for another clutch hit, recording a two-run single and tying the game at 11.

NMJC couldn't respond in the seventh, but the Hawks were on a mission.

Hendrix started things off in the bottom of the seventh with a one-out single. Richoux tripled, scoring Hendrix to give HC its first lead of the game.

Allen and Bickerstaff hit back-to-back doubles. Scott got a base hit that turned into a double thanks to a bobbled ball. McCurry singled and Dexter Kjerstad followed suit with a two-run single of his own, bringing the score to 16-11 by the inning's end. Again, the Thunderbirds failed to

manufacture a run in the top of the eighth.

Hendrix led off the bottom of the eighth with a double, Richoux tripled to send Hendrix home and Allen, though called out at first, scored Richoux on a RBI. Bickerstaff took a base after being hit by a pitch then Lorenzana put the game in the bag for HC with a game-winning RBI, ending the affair with a run-rule, 19-11 victory.

Smith cited the bullpen — which combined for 10 strikeouts — as the timely hits from the offense and the driving force behind the win.

"The credit goes to the hitters," Smith said. It was 8-0 and we hadn't even hit yet. For a team that averages 11 runs per game, we knew we had to stop them. The bullpen did a great job of keeping us alive. We had a really good day."

Smith said the bullpen — which combined for 10 strikeouts — as the timely hits from the offense and the driving force behind the win.

The final two games of the series were played Saturday in Hobbs, N.M. Results will be in Monday's edition of the *Herald*.

Howard earns split with Odessa in doubleheader

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

Howard College Head Softball Coach Kelly Raines knew going into Friday's series against conference rival Odessa College that the Hawks needed to win at least three of four games against the Wranglers to earn the top seed in regionals.

A two-game sweep at home would have given Raines' team a head start, but a rough inning by HC's ace, Sandra Serna, and a batting clinic staged by the Wranglers dashed that plan as the Hawks found themselves on a short end of a 10-1 ball game — a rarity for the 19-3 (41-14 overall) squad.

It only took one-half of the first inning for the Hawks to be trailing OC by seven. Serna gave up five earned runs before Raines replaced her with Megan Granado.

The only run recorded by HC came in the bottom of the fourth inning when Shelby Shelton — returning to the lineup for the first time since she broke her jaw in a practice before a game against Clarendon College — singled.

Granado followed with a single as well, and a balk charged to the Wranglers advanced the base runners to second and third.

Carlyn Teichmann stepped into the batters box and made contact but was thrown out at first base. It was enough to drive Ashley Hall, who was pinch running for Shelton, home to make it a 10-1 game.

The outing came to an early close due to the run-rule at the end of the fifth inning, as the Hawks just couldn't produce any offense.

In the second game, Serna was again given the nod as starting pitcher. This time around, it was business as usual for Serna, as she picked up the complete game victory and allowed just four runs from the stagnating Wranglers.

The offense picked up as well. The Hawks batters put 12 runs on the board through five innings and ended the game early with a run-rule win of their own.

Raines took the loss with a grain of salt, knowing that every team has a bad outing once in a while.

"It was just one of those days," Raines said. "(Serna) was trying to over throw. We were trying to do too much. It's not that we weren't focused — we were so ready to play these games, we had too much built up."

Raines said the key to overcoming the disappointing loss was a more laid-back approach to Game Two.

"I told them to relax, and just play our game," Raines added. "Just play — don't overplay, and try to do the things we know we are capable of."

Raines also feels confident about the upcoming regional tournament.

"I feel good about going into regionals," Raines said. "We're in a good place. I feel they are the best team. It will come down to who plays well next week."



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College's Ashley Hall slides safely into home for the game winning run during game Two of the Hawks' doubleheader with Nemesis Odessa College on Friday at Foundation Field. HC lost the first game 10-1 but came back to earn the split by winning the second game 12-4.

Day two of draft ends well for Fleener, Randle

NEW YORK (AP) — Hanging around for an extra day at the NFL draft turned out well for Coby Fleener and Rueben Randle.

Fleener was reunited with his Stanford teammate — a quarterback named Andrew Luck — when the Indianapolis Colts grabbed the tight end with the second pick of the second round Friday night.

Less than two hours later, Randle was all smiles when the Super Bowl champion New York Giants selected the wide receiver with the final pick of the second round.

Both players got to walk on stage at Radio City Music Hall and receive a hug and handshake from Commissioner Roger Goodell as well as acknowledge the draftniks who were cheering for them. It was a long time coming.

"I was just waiting. There was nothing else I could do. It was all out of my control," Randle said a day after he was passed over in the first round. "I did everything I was supposed to do, so it was up to the coaches."

It was the Giants who decided to give the 6-foot-3, 210-pound Randle a chance to replace the departed Mario Manningham.

Randle averaged 17.3 yards per catch in helping the Tigers reach the national championship game last season.

"Coming in with a great quarterback (Eli Manning) and a great receiving corps with Victor Cruz and Hakeem Nicks, this will be an opportunity for me to help these guys out," Randle said. "I am thankful to be here and want to take advantage of this opportunity."

Randle was the ninth wideout taken, and the Giants felt lucky he was still around.

"He was one of those where at the end of the (first) night you're saying he's going to be one of the first few guys taken in the top of the (second) round," said Giants director of college scouting Mark Ross. "Very surprising that he was still there. Just keep holding your breath, holding your breath. Nah, somebody will pick him. Until you start seeing some of these other receivers go. All right, there's a chance and he was there."

Fleener, at 6-6 and 244 pounds, has a very good chance to become a starter — and main target — for Luck.

"I just sent him a text message that had a lot of exclamation points in it," said Fleener, who had 10 touchdown catches last season and 18 for his career in Stanford's prodigious offense. "We're very good friends. I can't even describe how excited I am right now."

Indy not only parted with four-time MVP quarterback Peyton Manning this year, but also lost tight end Jacob Tamme to free agency and isn't expected to bring back injury-ravaged veteran Dallas Clark. Owner Jim Irsay also brought in a new front office team and coaching staff and didn't bring back many of its players from a 2-14 team.

"I expected to be on a team where I wasn't familiar with the offense or the quarterback," Fleener said. "I can't wait to get started, to be honest with you."

Neither can Luck, the No. 1 overall pick on Thursday who arrived in Indianapolis on Friday, visited the place that Peyton built, and then held a news conference.

"For me, getting to play with him the past couple of years, it is speed, he is dynamic," Luck said of Fleener. "Anytime we crossed the 50-yard line it seemed like we just said, 'Coby, go run. Go run past the safeties.' Hopefully it continues to work out."

Among the other notable selections in the second and third rounds were Oregon running back LaMichael James by San Francisco, Wisconsin quarterback Russell Wilson by Seattle and Alabama linebacker Courtney Upshaw by Baltimore.

After eight trades in the first round, there were five trades in each of the second and third rounds. The final four rounds of the draft are Saturday.

The Rams opened the second round by selecting Appalachian State wide receiver Brian Quick. A day earlier St. Louis traded down twice, accumulating several extra picks and also taking LSU defensive tackle Michael Brockers 14th overall.

In the second-round spot they earned for going 2-14 in 2011, the Rams took a wideout from an FCS powerhouse who excelled in the Senior Bowl, which helped his stock in the draft.



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Jorge Armandariz

► Sports in brief

Booth hits hole-in-one during Couple's Scramble

Comanche Trail Ladies Golf Association held a couple's nine-hole scramble Thursday where Ron Booth nailed a hole-in-one — a 132 yard shot — on Hole No. 3 using a 5-iron. The feat was just one of six holes-in-one that Booth has made as a golfer.

The feat was witnessed by Bill and Bobbie Holden and Daury Booth.

A scorecard playoff using handicap holes was used to determine a winner after two teams tied with scores of two strokes under par.

The team of Vaughn Martin, Sandra Bartlett and Paul and Dee Jenkins took the top honors.

Placing second were Ron and Daury Booth and Bill and Bobbie Holden. Third place went to Jo Ann Hillger and Max and Betty Ray Coffee.

Ron Booth won closest to the pin with his hole-in-one. Jo Ann Hillger shot closest to the pin on Hole No. 6.

The LGA saw Joan Daniel winning low gross in individual play Monday, with Patsy Sharpnack taking low net. Mary Gilbreath had the fewest putts in the nine-hole round.

Girl's Select Summer League seeking donations

The Big Spring area Girl's Select summer league basketball squad is seeking donations to help pay for its traveling expenses as the hoopsters hit the road to play ball. The cost of the uniforms has been covered but the team will need additional funding to defray lodging, meals and other necessities. If you are interested in helping out contact Patrick Shellman at (325) 864-2811.

Howard College's Earl Diddle basketball camps to hold registrations

The 2012 Earl Diddle boys and girls basketball camp are just around the corner.

The girl's Shooting and Position Camp (grades 7-12) is set for June 4-7 between the hours of 9-11 a.m., with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. the first day; the boy's Shooting and Position Camp (grades 7-12) will be held the same days, but from 1-3 p.m. Registration will be held at 12:30; The girls and boys Little Hawk Camp (grades K-3) is sched-

uled for June 11-14 between the hours of 9-10:15 a.m. Registration will be from 8:30-9 a.m.; The girls Individual Skill Camp (grades 4-6) is slated for June 11-14 with registration from 10-10:30 a.m. on June 11. Hours of the camp will be from 10:30-noon. Lastly, the boys Individual Skill Camp (grades 4-6) is set for June 11-14, with registration slated for 1-1:30 p.m. on June 11.

All registrations and camps will be held at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the campus of Howard College. Pre-registration is encouraged. All camps are \$50 per child.

Chubby Abrego Scholarship Fund Memorial Golf Tourney set

The Chubby Abrego Memorial Scholarship Fund, which benefits Coahoma High School athletes, is set for May 5 at 8 a.m. at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

It is a four-person scramble format with a shotgun start. Prizes will be awarded and the \$70 fee includes lunch. Mulligan packages are available for \$20. Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 2. Call Gene Piercefield at 816-1134.

Texans trade down for WR Posey

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans traded themselves out of the second round of the NFL draft Friday night and still filled two critical needs.

Houston picked Ohio State receiver DeVier Posey and Miami (Ohio) offensive lineman Brandon Brooks in the third round, addressing two roster positions with depth questions.

The 6-foot-3, 205-pound Posey caught only 12 passes for 162 yards and two touchdowns in three games last year. He served two five-game suspensions for taking improper benefits, first cash and tattoos for signed memorabilia and then being overpaid for a summer job.

"It was something I learned my lessons from, I'm moving forward," Posey said. "It's made me a better man and a better person. I'm just excited just to get down to Houston and get to work."

Posey could be valuable soon, with star receiver Andre Johnson aging and no consistent threat behind him. Texans offensive coordinator Rick Dennison says Houston felt confident about Posey's character after an extensive background check.

"He made a mistake," Dennison said. "We all checked with whoever we could and we all felt pretty comfortable that it was a mistake he made, he worked hard and still went to practice the entire year, even though he only played a few games. He made a mistake and he learned from that."

The 6-foot-4, 353-pound Brooks started 41 of 45 games for the Redhawks and split time at guard and tackle.

The Texans were thin on the line after cutting right tackle Eric Winston and losing right guard Mike Brisiel in free agency. Antoine Caldwell is tabbed as the new starter at right guard, and Rashad Butler is slated to take over Winston's role. Derek Newton, a seventh-round draft pick last year, will back up Butler.

Brooks made 15 starts at left guard, 14 at left tackle and 12 at right guard in college.

NBA postseason ready to begin

The sprint to the NBA playoffs is over and the postseason lineup is one of the most intriguing ever.

LeBron James vs. Carmelo Anthony, the young and confident Oklahoma City Thunder looking for an early knockout against the defending champion Dallas Mavericks, two Los Angeles teams shooting for one title and the venerable San Antonio Spurs looking for a second lockout-season title.

Yes, the shortened yet surprisingly successful regular season is the books and the playoffs promise to be even better.

"I think our fans are hungry for the playoffs," Commissioner David Stern said. "Our network partners are excited by the prospect, and you know, I think, I can tell you, I'm looking forward to it in the same way. So I think it's going to be great."

It starts Saturday with the Chicago Bulls, the overall No. 1 seed, hosting the Philadelphia 76ers. Then it's Miami against New York, with James and Anthony just a couple of the big names in a series loaded with star

power.

And with history.

The teams met four straight years from 1997-00, the Knicks winning three of the series and earning a draw in the fights. The animosity doesn't exist between these players — James and Anthony have known each other since high school before entering the league together in 2003 — but you bet it's still around for the organizations and fans.

"Once the ball tips off, it's a series that we're both trying to win," Miami's Dwyane Wade said. "Obviously it makes great headlines and makes everyone in the organization really tuned in to what's going on. It's kind of like they're looking at us like, 'All right, go get it done for us.' But when the ball tips off, it's another game against a very talented opponent."

Also Saturday, the Indiana Pacers host the Orlando Magic, who playoff hopes seem to have left along with Dwight Howard, before the Mavericks visit the Thunder in the nightcap.

Dallas eliminated Oklahoma City in five games last year on its way to the NBA championship. The teams ended up in the first round this season after the Thunder fell into the No. 2 seed with a late-season stumble, and the Mavericks could never put together a run to move up.

"It's all we've been looking forward to for a long time," Thunder All-Star Kevin Durant said. "It's going to be a tough, tough series for us playing against the reigning champions. They cause so many problems on the offensive end and defensive end for us."

The other four series start Sunday. San Antonio hosts Utah in the opener, followed by the Lakers against Denver. Boston visits Atlanta before Memphis welcomes the Clippers in the two 4-5 series at night.

The Celtics have the higher seed as Atlantic Division champions but the Hawks get home-court advantage based on their better record. The Grizzlies snatched home-court advantage from the Clippers by winning their final six games while Los Angeles dropped three of its final four.

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Cowboys focus on defense, take DE Tyrone Crawford

IRVING, Texas (AP) — After a long wait to make their second pick of the NFL draft, the Dallas Cowboys kept their focus on the defense.

The Cowboys got Boise State defensive end Tyrone Crawford with the 81st overall pick in the third round.

It was their only selection and owner Jerry Jones had to wait more than three hours and watch 48 other players get selected Friday night before he got his turn.

"Long day," Jones said. "Long day."

Dallas didn't have a second-round pick, having traded the 45th overall pick to be able to move up eight spots and get LSU All-American cornerback Morris Claiborne at No. 6 on Thursday night.

There was only one time since Jones bought the team in 1989 that the Cowboys had to wait longer to make a second pick in the draft. That was in 2000, when they didn't have picks in the first or third rounds and their second selection wasn't until the 109th overall in the fourth round.

One of their pressing offseason goals this year was to add potential impact players for defensive coordinator Rob Ryan. That includes pass rushers up front.

The 6-foot-4, 285-pound Crawford has that kind of potential after having 13½ sacks in 25 games in his two seasons at Boise State.

"A guy that we really feel like has some upside and can do a few different things for us," coach Jason Garrett said. "The thing we probably like about

him most is his potential, maybe more than that his motor, the way he plays. He's a high-energy guy, very active. ... We just love the demeanor that he plays with."

Jones said a good comparison is Jay Ratliff, the Cowboys' former seventh-round pick who blossomed into a three-time Pro Bowl player.

Garrett said the Cowboys believe Crawford, who didn't start playing football until ninth grade, has the "real potential" to grow into a first- and second-down player and also be a third-down rusher.

"I definitely consider myself a student of the game" Crawford said, adding that he will be looking to learn a lot from the veterans.

In his first season in Dallas, Ryan installed his scheme without the benefit of offseason workouts because of the NFL lockout last summer. The Cowboys were better last year, allowing only 347 points after giving up a franchise-worst 436 the season before he got there, but still lost four of their last five games and missed the playoffs after losing the season finale to the eventual Super Bowl champion New York Giants.

Dallas was active in free agency last month, signing cornerback Brandon Carr to a \$50 million, five-year deal that includes \$26.5 million guaranteed. Among other free agents they signed were safety Brodney Pool and linebacker Dan Connor.

Now with their first two picks in the draft, the Cowboys have picked as many defensive players as they did with their eight selections last April.

The last time Dallas used its first two picks on defenders was 2005, when linebacker DeMarcus Ware and defensive lineman Marcus Spears were taken in the first round.

Jones said Crawford was the top player on their list of potential third-rounders and fits the bill of "a guy you can draft that's not necessarily a starter that has a chance" to grow into a starter's role.

Crawford started 11 of his 25 games at Boise State. He had 76 tackles, caused four fumbles and recovered three others for Boise after two junior college seasons in California. Asked if he was an overachiever, Crawford said, "I guess I would consider myself one of those. I go hard in practice and when it comes to games."

Crawford is from Canada, having lettered in football, basketball and track and field at Catholic Central High in Windsor, Ontario. He was the first Canadian player selected in this year's NFL draft.

Dallas has five picks to wrap up the draft Saturday, including two in the fourth round (113th and 135th overall).

They also have one pick in each of the last three rounds, Nos. 152, 186 and 222 overall.

There is always the chance that the Cowboys could do some dealing to add picks, or move up again like they did in the first round.

The Cowboys have made 59 draft-day trades under Jones. Their first-round pick has been involved in 18 of the owner's 24 drafts, including this year's move.

Luck ready to get started in Indy

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Andrew Luck walked into the stadium Peyton built, looked around the building and seemed right at home.

Dressed in a gray suit, a light blue button-down shirt and speaking from behind the same podium Manning routinely answered postgame questions, he savored the moment and honored his predecessor.

"He (Manning) was the epitome of class and winning and everything he did was so gracious," Luck said. "In college you're watching film of Peyton and Aaron Rodgers and Tom Brady to see why they're so successful. He's such a great example for high school kids, middle-school kids. I was one of those kids who looked up to him."

And now, he's the one trying to replace Manning. It won't be easy.

After next weekend's three-day rookie mini-camp, the Stanford quarterback will head back to school to finish the two courses he needs to earn his architectural degree. League rules prohibit him from participating in any more practices until classes wrap up June 7.

Between now and then, though, Luck will be doing his NFL homework.

He now has a Colts playbook and is already trying to arrange some individual work with Pro Bowl receiver Reggie Wayne. With the Colts taking his college teammate, tight end Coby Fleener, in the second round, he won't have to go far to find another receiver to help out.

Still, Luck promised he would be creatively cramming, something team owner Jim Irsay promised to help with.

"We'll try to be as creative as we can be with planes or helicopters or what have you," Irsay said. "We'll do what we can within the rules."

The introduction here Friday was the culmination of a wild 24-hour work period.

First, he had to contend with New York City's media circus. Then, after dinner with Fleener in New York and a short night's sleep, Luck flew to Indy on Irsay's private plane. The new franchise quarterback arrived about 4 p.m., spent two hours at the team complex, meeting with his new coach, Chuck Pagano, his new general manager, Ryan Grigson, and Irsay before heading to the stadium for more introductions.

While he looked tired, Luck sounded eager to start working on the biggest challenge of his football career -- filling the shoes of Manning.

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Longoria powers Tampa Bay over Rangers

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Tampa Bay came out swinging against their postseason nemesis. Evan Longoria homered to key a four-run first inning and the Rays won their sixth straight game, beating the Texas Rangers 8-4 Friday night in the first meeting this season between the playoff rivals. Tampa Bay's first six batters of the game reached base and it had a 7-1 lead by the fourth inning against Texas starter Matt Harrison (3-1). "Against a team like this," said Tampa Bay start-

er James Shields, who won his fourth straight start, "you have to score runs early." The Rangers beat the Rays the past two seasons in the American League Division Series along the way to consecutive World Series appearances. Texas' Elvis Andrus lined out to center with the bases loaded to end the eighth against reliever Wade Davis. The Texas shortstop just missed hitting a grand slam on the previous pitch when his shot down the line in right landed a few feet foul. "It was the most intense 8-4 game you're ever go-

ing to find in April," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. Tampa Bay had a season-high 16 hits in support of Shields (4-0). The Rays' ace became the first starter in the AL to win four games this season. Shields, who struck out eight, allowed four runs and 11 hits in six innings. Josh Hamilton hit his league-leading ninth home run and Andrus added three hits for the Rangers. Harrison gave up seven runs and a career-high 14 hits in five innings. The left-hander had allowed a combined four runs in winning his first three starts of the season. "That's the way it goes," Harrison said. "Tonight, they just had my number." Longoria drove a 3-2 change-up just over the wall in the center. It was his fourth home run of the season. Ben Zobrist walked, and Jeff Keppinger and B.J. Upton followed with singles. Upton's hit scored Zobrist and gave the Rays a 4-0 lead. After Hamilton's RBI grounder in the first, Tampa Bay picked up a run in the third on Chris Gimenez's RBI single. Longoria had an RBI single and scored on Zobrist's double in the fourth, extending Tampa Bay's lead to 7-1. Harrison had his ERA jump from 1.66, which led the AL coming into the game, to 3.38. "They came out swinging the bats and scored some runs early," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. Luke Scott homered in the sixth, and Upton and Keppinger each had three hits for the Rays. Hamilton hit a two-run blast in the fifth and David Murphy chipped in with a solo shot in the sixth off Shields. The Rangers had runners on first and third with two outs in the sixth, but Shields induced a weak grounder to the mound from Andrus to end the threat.

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Astros roll past Reds

CINCINNATI (AP) — Jose Altuve and the Houston Astros did plenty of damage with two outs. Altuve drove in two runs with a triple and a double, leading Wandy Rodriguez and the Astros past the Cincinnati Reds 6-4 on Friday night. Jed Lowrie also had two hits for the Astros, who have won consecutive games for the first time since a three-game winning streak April 7-9. Houston hit .316 during three games in Milwaukee this week and had 14 hits in a 7-5 win in the series finale Wednesday. "Offensively, we had big two-out hits," manager Brad Mills said. "Altuve had a couple two-out hits. Jordan Schafer a big two-out hit. That's what we've been looking for." Rodriguez (2-2) gave up two runs and six hits in six innings. He walked two and struck out six. The left-hander allowed only one earned run over 14 innings in his previous two starts. Astros first baseman Carlos Lee left in the first inning because of a sprained left ankle. X-rays were negative, but Mills expects Lee to miss two games. "I knew I hurt it pretty good," Lee said. "It takes a lot to get me out of a game. This was one of those games." Leake (0-3) lasted only 3 2-3 innings, matching the shortest start of his career. He gave up seven hits and six runs, three earned, with one strikeout.

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On the wings of a butterfly

Students at Coahoma Elementary raised butterflies as part of the upcoming butterfly release



By Amanda Moreno
Staff Writer

Students at Coahoma Elementary not only learned about the life cycle of a butterfly, but the meaning of new life and the symbolic nature of the butterfly.

For the past month, students have been caring for the painted lady butterflies delivered by Home Hospice's Sherry Hodnett. The butterflies will be released as part of the Butterfly Release set for Sunday.

Upon pick up of the hatched painted ladies, several of the students revealed that they had named their butterflies. The attachment over the past few weeks was evident, according to Hodnett.

As part of the pickup, Hodnett shared personal stories of previous butterfly releases as well as read the students a story, "Flutterby Butterfly."

"There is significance in a butterfly, a lot of people have their own butterfly stories," Hodnett said. "They symbolize new life."

Each of the three first grade classes — taught by Misty Henson, Margaret Hallford and

Lacey Wolf — were in charge of making sure the butterflies hatched and that they were properly cared for until the release.

Sunday's butterfly release will be the fourth annual family celebration. Since the beginning students from Big Spring, Snyder and Elbow Elementaries have also taken part in raising butterflies to be used at the releases.

For \$25 area residents can purchase a butterfly to release during the event in memory of a loved one. Butterflies can be purchased at the door Sunday.

The painted lady butterflies will be released with monarch butterflies between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Comanche Trail Lake on Sunday.

HERALD photos/Amanda Moreno
Top left, Sherry Hodnett and Megan Chandler, representatives of Home Hospice, display a donated butterfly puzzle, which has become part of the Butterfly Release ceremony over the past few years.

Above, first grader Austin Herrod checks on the butterflies one last time before Sherry Hodnett from Home Hospice picked them up.

Below, the first grade classes at Coahoma Elementary pose with the hatched painted lady butterflies before they were picked up for the Sunday Butterfly Release at Comanche Trail Park.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 432-263-7331 ext. 234 or by email at life@bigspringherald.com.



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► **Wedding**



Mrs. Krista LaDawn Anderson

Krista LaDawn Blagrove of Ackerly and Clayton John Anderson of Gail exchanged wedding vows April 14, 2012. The couple exchanged vows at Green Lawn Church of Christ in Lubbock at a 5 p.m. ceremony. Larry Marshall of Garland officiated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Stan and Carla Blagrove of Ackerly. She is the granddaughter of Richard and Jean Parker of Knott and Derwood and Joan Blagrove of Ackerly.

The groom is the son of John and Kevva Anderson of Gail. He is the grandson of Rich and Barbara Anderson of Gail and Wilella Tucker of Vealmoor and the late Sonny Tucker.

Kyle Fambro, a friend of the bride, provided the music, which consisted of "Feels Like Home," "Forget Me Not." During the seating of the parents, "Who I Am" by Fambro was played. As the couple left the alter, "A Thousand Years," "Marry Me," "Give in to Me," and "Shout" played.

The bride, given away by her parents Stan and Carla Blagrove, wore a sapphire, mermaid style dress by Alfred Angelo, the color of ivory/moonlight waltz with a re-embroidered lace at the waist. The taffeta strapless sweetheart drop waist satin and organza gown detailed with draped body had a full-flared skirt with mock wrap front and beaded

detail rhinestones and crystal beading. The iridescent satin gown with crystal beading and embroidery added a splash of the unexpected with a lace-up corset back. The dress was completed with a modesty piece and a chapel train.

The bride's veil was made of ivory tulle and clipped to the back of her hair trimmed with rhinestone brooch barrette. She carried a handmade vintage brooch bouquet embellished with a family given pearls and brooches tied together with oasis ribbon.

Shelli Jordan of Ackerly, sister of the bride, served as matron of honor and Brittini Blagrove of Wichita Falls, sister of the bride, served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids included Megan Broyles of Muleshoe, friend of the bride; Jade Martin of Weatherford, friend of the bride; Jennifer Happe of Paton, Iowa, friend of the bride; and Ashley Baker of Monahans, friend of the bride. The bridesmaids wore oasis-short strapless pickup and bubble hem dresses and carried a bouquet of oasis and coral gerber daisies with white roses and an accent of rhinestones.

Honorary bridesmaids included Whitney Anderson of Lubbock, sister of the groom; Bailey Anderson of College Station, sister of the groom; Courtney Dennis of Del Rio, friend of the bride; Samantha Casperite of Milton, Fla., friend of the bride; Alison Colburn of Winters, friend of the bride; and Rachel Frosch of Midland, friend of the bride. Honorary bridesmaids wore black satin short strapless and pocket dresses. Each carried a lighted candle that was placed on an ivory satin decorated table representing a circle of friends.

Flower girls included Jolee Jordan of Ackerly, niece of the bride; Aleigha Higgins and Paizley Higgins both of Knott and cousins of the bride. Ring bearer was Patton Wagner of Wolforth, friend of the groom.

Ushers included Brooks Bland of Canadian; Kit Wood of Alpine; and Tyler Witte of Karnes City, all friends of the groom. Candlelighters were cousins of the bride, Will and Aaron Thomas of Knott.

The groom, best man and groomsmen were dressed in western wear attire including starched blue jeans with a black tux and platinum colored vest and tie with black cowboy hat and custom made black Anderson Bean boots.

Chance Tatum of Snyder, friend of the groom, served as best man. Groomsmen included Will Wagner of Wolforth; Bryan Skehan of Ozona; Jonathan Good of Lamesa; Clint Cowart of Gail; and Wade Fisher of Houston, all friends of the groom.

Kailey Tindol of Ackerly and Jacy Parker of Haslett, cousins of the bride, served at the guest registry table.

The reception took place at Stone Creek Event Center in Lubbock.

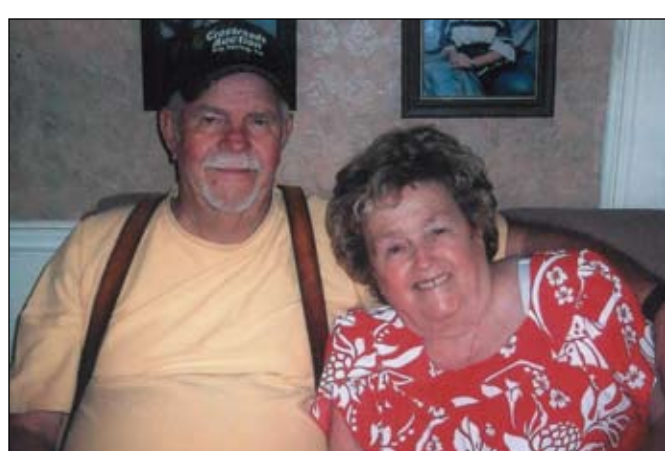
The brides cake was a four-tier vanilla strawberry swirl alternating with Italian Cream cake, ivory cream icing detailed with polka dots and paisleys topped with a brooch bouquet of flowers. The groom's cake was a three-tiered double chocolate cake in the shape of a tree stump with carvings of CJ loves Krista.

The couple honeymooned at Sandals Emerald Bay in the Bahamas. After their honeymoon, the couple made their home at Muleshoe Ranch in Gail.

The bride is a 2004 Sands High School graduate and a 2009 Texas Tech University early childhood education graduate.

The groom is a 2004 Borden County High School and 2008 Texas A&M ag leadership and development graduate. He is employed as an assistant manager for the Muleshoe Ranch in Gail.

60th Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gleason

Walter and Jean McCaig Gleason celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary April 26, 2012.

The couple was married — in the bride's hometown — April 26, 1952, at St. Mary's Church in Widnes, England.

The couple celebrated their anniversary with a dinner given by their daughters Saturday, April 28, 2012 at KC's Steak House. They were joined by the grandchildren and great-grandchildren who all shared lots of laughter.

The Gleasons have three daughters, Joanne Sayles and husband Ron of Big Spring; Susan Williams and husband George of Big Spring; Sandra Crockett and husband Don of Midland.

Their seven grandchildren include Shane Sayles and wife Jenny of Forsan; George Williams and wife Jamie of San Antonio; Tiffany Fernandez of Big Spring; Lee Walter Marshall and wife Emily of Austin; Nicole Jones and husband Nell of South Carolina; Ryan Sayles and wife Jennifer of Big Spring; and Norma Jean Crockett of Waco.

Great-grandchildren include Sydny Lyn Sayles of Forsan, Colin and Lucy Lynn Williams of San Antonio, Emma and Reese Fernandez of Big Spring and Hadley Marshall of Austin.

The couple resides in Big Spring, are both retired and enjoy fishing, gardening, auctions and their family.

On top of the couple's anniversary celebration, the family celebrated Jean Gleason's 80th birthday.

Happy Birthday Mom and the family wishes many more years of happiness.

► **Birth**



John Lucas Davis

Ashley Dean and Jason Davis, both of Big Spring, announce the birth of their son John Lucas Davis.

John was born April 23, 2012, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

He weighed 5 pounds 12 ounces and measured 18 1/4 inches long.

His maternal grandparents are Bob and Janis Noyes of Big Spring. Paternal grandparents are Earl Griffin, Debra Davis and the late Joe Hurst.

John was welcomed home by his siblings, Jazlynn Davis and Daelynn Davis.

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Shower: **May 5 & 12**
Wedding: **June 23**

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- ♥ Kallie Dixon & Jacob Nichols
- ♥ Lindsey Butler & Kelby Kemper
- ♥ Larissa Adkins & John Fletcher
- ♥ Meredith Barr & Barrett Durst
- ♥ Meredith Nieto & Brandon Skaggs
- ♥ Megan Tunstall & Jackie Trey Thomas
- ♥ Samantha Boehringer & Coley Hollandsworth
- ♥ Shanna Remppe & Beau Niewoehner

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▶ Menus

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast: grahamwich, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal.
 Tuesday: Breakfast: oatmeal, toast, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal.
 Wednesday: Breakfast: pancake, sausage, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal.
 Thursday: Breakfast: breakfast bar, juice, milk. Alt. Cereal.
 Friday: Bad weather day/No school.

Elbow

Monday: Lunch: toasted ham and cheese, veggie dippers, baked doritos, orange smiles, chocolate chip cookie, milk.
 Tuesday: Lunch: spaghetti with meat sauce, garden salad, seasoned corn, Texas toast, frozen fruit cup, milk.
 Wednesday: Lunch: chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes/gravy, seasoned corn, frozen fruit cups, chocolate chip cookie, milk.
 Thursday: Lunch: submarine sandwich, lettuce, tomato, pickle, tater tots, diced pears, milk.
 Friday: Bad weather day/No school.

Forsan

Monday: Lunch: toasted ham and cheese, veggie dippers, baked doritos, orange smiles, chocolate chip cookie, milk.
 Tuesday: Lunch: spaghetti with meat sauce, seasoned corn, Texas toast, frozen fruit cup, milk.
 Wednesday: Lunch: chicken nuggets, potatoes au gratin, green beans, whole wheat roll, strawberry shortcake, milk.
 Thursday: Lunch: beef and bean chalupas, Spanish rice, lettuce and tomato, cinnamon apples, milk.
 Friday: Bad weather day/No school.

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast: frosted flakes, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: pepperoni pizza, baby carrots, sliced bell peppers, ranch dressing, fruit cocktail, orange smiles, milk.
 Tuesday: Breakfast: taco roll, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: chicken spaghetti, garden salad, ranch dressing, green beans, apricots, roll, milk.
 Wednesday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: chili quesadilla, border beans,

mixed vegetables, mandarin oranges, banana, salsa, milk.
 Thursday: Breakfast: peanut butter jelly uncrustable, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: hot dog, mac and cheese, applesauce, sliced cucumbers, ranch dressing, milk.
 Friday: Breakfast: cinnamon french toast, assorted fruit juice, milk. Lunch: pepperoni flatbread, spicy corn cob, broccoli, ranch dressing, strawberries, milk.

Sands ISD

Monday: Breakfast: biscuit with gravy, juice and milk. Lunch: chicken fajita over rice, broccoli and cheese, corn, breadstick, fruit cup and milk.
 Tuesday: Breakfast: cereal, yogurt, juice and milk. Lunch: chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, hot roll, cookie and milk.
 Wednesday: Breakfast: breakfast on a stick, juice and milk. Lunch: beef and bean, chalupas, Spanish rice, lettuce, tomatoes, apple and milk.
 Thursday: Breakfast: donuts, juice and milk. Lunch: popcorn chicken, broccoli-rice-cheese, tossed salad, cornbread, pears and milk.
 Friday: Breakfast: muffins, juice and milk. Lunch: hamburger, lettuce, tomatoes and pickles, oven fries, carrots with ranch, cake and milk.

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Breakfast: waffles, ham, apple juice, milk. Lunch: chicken fried steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, pineapples, roll, milk. Corn dogs.
 • *Editors Notes: No further menu was available at press time.*

Senior Center

Monday: hamburgers, french fries, peaches with whipped topping, milk.
 Tuesday: chopped steak, broccoli, rice/spinach salad with dried cranberries, rolls, oranges, milk.
 Wednesday: chicken enchiladas, refried beans, salad, tortilla chips/salsa, tapioca pudding, milk.
 Thursday: chicken fried steak, oven roasted potatoes, baby carrots, rolls, fruit cocktail, milk.
 Friday: tuna salad sandwich, vegetable soup, green salad, crackers, fruit, milk.

▶ Who's Who

Nicholas M. Foley, son of Linda and Richard Foresyth of Canyon Lake, Texas and grandson of Jimmy and Deanna Foresyth of Big Spring received the rank of Eagle Scout on Saturday, April 21, 2012.

The ceremony was held at the LDS Chapel in Canyon Lake, Texas.

Nicholas is 16 years old and a sophomore at Canyon Lake High School. For his Eagle project he and his volunteers created a mini bird preserve at the Gene Ward Elementary School garden, known as Jardin Del Sol, in Las Vegas, Nev.

Utilizing an unused portion of the garden which has previously been a barren piece of land behind the school, a small pond was built. Irrigation was laid and native plants were placed around the pond. In addition a covered observation area was built for students and teachers to have an opportunity to teach and learn in true natural environment. Sixty-seven volunteers came to support Eagle Scout Foley with the project with a combined total of 276 volunteer hours. The project was completed in Las Vegas, prior to the Foresyth family relocating to Canyon Lake.

Foley was the recipient of the Potasi Pete Award and served as a Troop Guide and senior patrol leader.

He enjoys bike riding, sports, fishing, camping, swimming, traveling and spending time with his family and friends.

He is planning a possible career in the military with a medical focus.



Nicholas M. Foley

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Big Spring
 Sunday, April 29th • 2 - 4 pm • Dora Roberts Community Center
 264-7599

Midland
 Saturday, May 5th • 2 - 4 pm • Carrasco Room, Midland College
 570-0700

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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Please contact one of these Board Members if you would like to contribute.

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HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Tommy Churchwell recognizes Kathleen Morton, center, for 40 years of service to the Dora Roberts Rehab Center, while DRRC Executive Director Penny Phillips looks on during the 50th anniversary celebration and open house.

DRRC celebrates 50th anniversary

By AMANDA MORENO

Staff Writer

50 years and still going strong in the community.

Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center celebrated 50 years of service with an open house and ribbon cutting Thursday afternoon. Members of the community and representatives from the offices of U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer, State Sen. Kel Seliger and State Rep. Jim Landroop were on hand for the celebration.

Each representative delivered a personalized message. Mayor Tommy Duncan delivered a proclamation for the event.

"The center's services and facilities continue to evolve to meet the needs of the community. Currently providing physical therapy, occupational therapy, cardiac rehabilitation, audiology and wellness programs, the center remains the source for quality rehabilitation and wellness in Howard County," said Penny Phillips, executive director.

Recognition was given to Jim Weaver, son of Jan Weaver Morgan, for contributions he made in his mother's name to the center. Because of his donation, the facility was able to upgrade equipment used by its patients.

Also honored was Kathleen

Morton, for 40 year of service to the DRRC.

"The Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center wishes to thank the community of Big Spring and Howard County for all the wonderful support over so many years. We hope to continue its mission for many years to come," Phillips said.

Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center is located at 306 W. Third Street. For more information, call 267-3806.

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

Mackenzie named ASB vice president

Special to the Herald

American State Bank has announced the promotion of Scott Mackenzie to vice president.

Scott began his ASB career in 2006 as a loan officer in Big Spring. He was previously promoted to assistant vice president in 2008. Scott earned his bachelor's degree in management from Texas Tech University. Scott is also a director with the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation and active in the First United Methodist Church of Big Spring.

Scott has been married for 12 years to his wife Erin and they have two children, Jacy and Jake. In his free time, Scott enjoys playing golf and following Texas Tech athletics.

"ASB would like to congratulate Scott on his recent achievement and wish him the best with his new title," a company spokesperson said.



Mackenzie

Obama targets diploma mills that market to vets

FORT STEWART, Ga. (AP) — The Obama administration wants to trademark the term "GI Bill" in an effort to shield veterans and military families from being swindled or misled by schools that target their federal education benefits.

President Barack Obama is signing a wide-ranging order on Friday that partially addresses growing complaints about fraudulent marketing and recruiting practices aimed at military fami-

lies eligible for federal education aid under the GI Bill.

First, the president and first lady Michelle Obama paid tribute to fallen soldiers, walking slowly hand in hand along the Fort Stewart Warriors Walk, a wide path lined with 441 memorial trees. The base of each tree bore a granite marker with a soldier's name.

The president and his wife then were to speak to troops at this Army post in Georgia, where

Obama will sign an executive order mandating several new education protections for military service members

Though there is little the federal government can do to shut down diploma mills, the new protections would make it harder for post-secondary and technical schools to misrepresent themselves to military students.

The main target of the White

See MILLS, Page 5B

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.



From the April 2 intraday high to the April 10 intraday low, the S&P 500 fell 4.5 percent. Is the market going to offer investors more than a six-day pullback of less than 5 percent? We certainly hope so. From a technician's standpoint, support in the market does not come into play until well underneath the low seen in the middle of last week. We would welcome a pullback in the neighborhood of 8 percent to 10 percent after the major indexes' big run higher during the last six months.

The market has been buoyed in recent months by improved economic data coming out of the United States. However, the euro zone is still a mess, despite the Greek bailout. The spread between Spanish and Italian interest rates and German rates has increased in recent weeks. Government funding difficulties are at the heart of the European financial problems. One test will come on Thursday when Spain will auction 10-year bonds. Spanish banks have bought the bulk of recently auctioned debt with shorter maturities, but global investors are wondering if they will step up and purchase longer-dated (and more risky) paper. We are quite convinced the European Central Bank (ECB) has spent the last few days coming into the auction working the phones, twisting arms and lining up buyers for the Spanish sovereign debt. The ECB does not want Thursday's auction to go poorly.

If Thursday's auction does go poorly, global markets are likely to respond negatively. This could be one step on the road toward opportunity. If the auction goes well, keep in mind that Spain and Italy will still need to sell large amounts of government bonds as the year progresses. Much of this debt will be longer term — in the 10-year maturity range. We anticipate that several of these auctions will not go well and will likely spark a selloff in global markets. This could create another buying opportunity.

Long-term investors can still justify buying stocks at current levels. Valuations are below average based on numerous historical metrics, including the price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio. Unfortunately, many investors have missed the three-year rally in stocks and did not take advantage of the opportunity to increase equity exposure as the market and economy began to stabilize and improve after the financial crisis.

But the stock market tends to offer many opportunities to patient investors. The key is to take advantage of those opportunities as they present themselves. Some of the best advice comes from legendary investor Sir John Templeton, who said, "Buy at the moment of maximum pessimism." While the moment of maximum pessimism in this market cycle likely occurred in 2009, the market offers opportunities at less severe moments of pessimism on a fairly regular basis. One of these opportunities may come on the heels of disappointing news on European sovereign debt auctions or fears of a worse-than-expected slowdown in the emerging-market economies. If opportunity knocks, the key will be to take action and take advantage.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Portions of this article were produced April 18 by Scott Wren, Wells Fargo Advisors senior equity strategist, and provided courtesy of Bhupen Agrawal, managing director, branch manager of Wells Fargo Advisors' Midland office, at 432-684-7335. Wells Fargo Advisors did not assist in the preparation of this article, and its accuracy and completeness are not guaranteed. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of Wells Fargo or its affiliates. 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.

Child labor groups upset farm rules being dropped

SAM HANANEL

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Child labor groups say they are stunned and disappointed that the Obama administration is backing off a plan to keep children from doing the most dangerous farm jobs.

Reid Maki, coordinator of the Child Labor

Coalition, said the Labor Department's sudden decision to withdraw the proposed rules means more children will die in farm accidents that could have been prevented.

"There was tremendous heat and I don't think it helped that it was an election year," he said. "A lot of conservatives made a lot of

political hay out of this issue."

Under pressure from farm groups and lawmakers from rural states, the Labor Department said it is withdrawing proposed rules that would ban children younger than 16 from using most power-driven farm equipment, including tractors. The rules also would

prevent those younger than 18 from working in feed lots, grain silos and stockyards.

The plan specifically excluded children who work on their parents' farms. But the proposal still became a popular political target for Republicans who called it an impractical, heavy-handed regulation that ignored the reality of

small farms.

"It's good the Labor Department rethought the ridiculous regulations it was going to stick on farmers and their families," said Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa. "To even propose such regulations defies common sense, and shows a real lack of understanding as to how the family farm works."

The surprise move comes just two months after the Labor Department modified the rule in a bid to satisfy opponents. The agency made clear it would exempt children who worked on farms owned or operated by their parents, even if the ownership was part of a complex partnership or corporate agreement.



Members of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce were on hand for a ribbon cutting honoring Big Spring Health Food Store this past week. The health food store is located at 1305 S. Scurry St.

HERALD photo/
Amanda Moreno



Texas Forest Service unveils wildfire app

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texans will be armed with a new Internet tool this wildfire season designed to help anyone spot their wildfire risk and how to respond to it.

The Texas Forest Service on Friday unveiled the new app, the Texas Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal, or TxWRAP, on the steps of the state Capitol.

It uses mapping technology to allow not just emergency response officials but homeowners and the general public to spot acute wildfire risk within a 2-mile radius of where they live.

The projections are based on climate and topography factors that could make fire likely.

Some 26,000 fires across Texas since December 2010 have burned more than 3.9 million acres.

MILLS

Continued from Page 1B

House action is for-profit colleges and universities that market heavily to military families because of the easy availability of federal money under the GI Bill.

Some post-secondary schools target current and former military service members using deceptive military-themed websites that appear to be government-run or connected to the GI Bill benefit system, administration officials said.

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
Amanda Nicole Bair, 1103 E. 15th St., Big Spring
Nancy Ramirez Banuelos, 1515 A Sycamore, Big Spring
Christine Avalos Bara, of 1405 N. Sixth, Lamesa
Amy Barber, 2602 Ent, Big Spring
Johnny Barraza, 429 Westover, Big Spring
Christopher Martin Barrera, 1704 Goliad, 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
Tracy Lynne Carey, 202 W. Main, Forsan
Charles Elvis Carroll, 529 Westover Apt. 11, Big Spring
Antonio Castillo, 206 Fuller St., Hereford
Donald Cervantes, 1211 Lloyd, Big Spring
Crisleda Chavera, 1601 Grand Ave., Sweetwater
Weldon Montague Cheatham, 4502 Denison, Snyder
Jared Kendero Coby, 901 S. High Street # 802, Longview
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. #301, Lubbock
Stefan Deal, 102 Casie Ln. Apt. 1, Fort Worth
Manuel Delosrios, 707 Lorilla, Big Spring
Delores Donnalik, 1500 Stones Throw, Horseshoe Bay
Johnnie Lou Dry, RR 11, Box 156, Longview
Maria Luisa Elizondo, 603 S. Second, Meadow
Constance A. Elledge, 1709 Scotland Ave., Azle
Kristi L. Elliot, 603 E. 12th St., Big Spring
Kristen Falcon, 2606 Fairchild, Big Spring
Alfredo Flores Jr., PO Box 272, Laredo
Irene Paredes Flores, 1000 E. 20th St., Big Spring
Kenneth L. Freeman, 1401 San Andres, Odessa
Danny Frias, 207 W. 17th St., Georgetown
Shariamarr Frink, 3723 Monclair, Odessa

Hilda Fuentes, 502 S. Seventh, Lamesa
Carlos Garcia, 1211 S. Third St., Brownfield
James Randal Gardner, P.O. Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.
Joe Nick Garlias Jr., of 1309 Runnels, Big Spring
Claudet Garza, 3106 E. Elm No. 10, Laredo
Joseph Garza Jr., 17811 Vail No. 18, Dallas
Rosa M. George, 509 W. Second, Stanton
Joseph Blake Gist, 3500 Cedar Run, Abilene
Katherine A. Gladhill, CR 7670 W. Rear Trailer, Lubbock
Misty Goldston, 2429 20th St., Lubbock
Roxanne Deanda Gonzales, 539 Westover Apt. 211, Big Spring
Eunice Torres Gonzales, 7311 Westmoor, Odessa
James E. Gonzalez, 604 Neff St., Sweetwater
Jeffrey Grams, 224 LeLon Lane, Springtown
Robert Earl Green II, 2512 Fairchild, Big Spring
Edna J. Hale, 10 Milton Ave., Brownwood
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
Nicholas D. Hasenbalg, 207 W. Williams, Breckenridge
Dana Havink, 600 Star Linda Ct., Arlington
Chris Henry, 3520 28th St., Lubbock
Gloria Annette Henry, 100 Ash, Coahoma
Isaul Hernandez, 523 W. Noble, Fairfuries
Veronica Cervantes Hernandez, 1005 N. 17th St., Lamesa
Robert Stephen Hoback, 1516 Comberland, Odessa
Gerald R. Hodges, 4312 Crane, Houston
Allen Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 No. 1502, Big Spring
Danny Holt, of 125 Farney Rd., Lorena
Kenneth Lloyd Hopper, 2011 W. Highway 80, Big Spring
Bradley Ryan Horton, of Linda Lane, Big Spring
Shameka Houston, 1905 Wasson No. 49, Big Spring
Joann Baldwin Hubbard, 504 Eugene, 4000 W. Illinois, Midland
Dana Michelle Hudgins, P.Q. Box 837, Coahoma
Regina Hunt, 804 Longhorn, Welch
Ashley Nicole Islas, 1104 Wood, Big Spring
Jeanie Renee Ivey, 5326 Old Highway 71, LaGrange
Justin Lee Jernigan, 2302 Lynn, Big Spring
Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio
Lonnie Malcom Johnson, 1211 Ridge Rd., Big Spring
Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland
Steven Daniel Johnson, 1509 142nd St., Lubbock
Terry Lee Johnson, 4802 S. Co. Rd. 1200, Midland
Donald Jones, 3718 Ave. V, Snyder
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
Alama Marie Lee, 2711 66th St., Lubbock
Lindsay Kay Lee, 1405 S. Benton, Big Spring

Laura Lea Leon, 319 Rocky Ln., Midland
Christopher Erne Luellen, 599 Truehart St., Paint Rock
Patricia Lutrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa
Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland
James Elijah Marlow, 2001 Runnels, Big Spring
Todd Vincent Martin, 409 Woodcrest, Midland
Christopher Max Martinez, 2870 S. Highway, Snyder
Jarrod Martinez, 61 E. Eighth St., San Angelo
Manuel Martinez Jr., 702 NE Iowa, Lamesa
Sandy Martinez, P.O. Box 43, Stanton
Thomas M. McKellen, 2010 Sierra, Kenah
Ebaline Flores Mendoza, P.O. Box 291, Mertzon
Daniel Mercado Jr., 5611 Lancaster, Houston
Chad K. Merrill, 3300 Manor Rd. Apt. 174, Austin
Cory James Michalewich, 1106 Briscoe Cove, Hutto
Agustine Mendez Moreno, 1303 Mulberry, Big Spring
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas
Esiquio Moreno, 709 Parker, Andrews
Jose Munoz III, 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 7, Big Spring
Ricky L. Nava, 707 Willa, Big Spring
William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring
Robert Paul Newton, 715 Dealy Rd., Big Spring
Tammy Jean Newton, 600 E. 17th, Big Spring
John Randall O'Harrow, 107 S. Main, 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
Fred Allen Perry, 1425 E. Sixth, Apt. 107, Big Spring
Joshua Plaia, 1401 E. 18th, Big Spring
Jarum Renee Pryor, 802 N. Plaza, Big Lake
Richard Wayne Rains, 4501 Parkway, Big Spring
Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road #226, Big Spring
Jerrall Ray Richardson, 1481 Highway 81, Bowie
Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255, S. 11th St., Lubbock
Bobbie Ann Ritchie, 803 St. Francis, Stanton
Michael Neal Roberts, 538 Westover, Apt. 103, Big Spring
Jessie Robles, 1417 Millsbaugh, San Angelo
Roberta Garza Rodriguez, 1103 Stanford, Big Spring
Robert Christopher Rosamond, 801 Lancaster, Big Spring
Thomas Ross, 1206 Lela St., Jasper
Thomas Castillo Ruiz, 1306 W. Tennessee, Midland
Rudy Andrew Salazar, P.O. Box 1275, Stanton
Nancy Carolina Sauseda, 1707 N. 11th St., Lamesa
Jacey Lynn Sellers, P.O. Box 244, Roscoe
Monica Serbine, 304 E. 20th, Big Spring
Hari Bradford Shaffer, 5603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring
Kennedra Wynell Shelton, 400 N. Fourth, Corsicana
Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road, Big Spring
Amy Leigh Shifflett, 209 N. Main, Coahoma
Brian Paul Siverson, 589c Stoddard, Odessa
Amanda Lee Smith, 4109 Ratliff, Big Spring
Charles Ray Smith, 2911 W. Highway 80, Apt. 155, Big Spring
Lisa D. Smith, 2010 Sierra Dr., League City

Jennifer Smoot, 5405 Opal, Big Spring
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., Tylor
Laura Contreras Starr, 2214 Lynn, Big Spring
Marsha E. Sturdivant, 1600 Owens, Big Spring
Andrew Bernard Taylor, 5651 Flamingo, Houston
Tonya D. Conner Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobbs, N.M.
Ashley Lauren Teagarden, 6002 103rd St., Big Spring
Arelina Tercero, 127 Arthur, Longview
Amy Michelle Trevino, 1313 Dixie, Big Spring
David Wayne Turner, 3204 Irving, Snyder
Abram Unger, 503 NE Fourth, Seminole
Paula Valdez, 2220 S. First, Lamesa
Anthony A. Vasquez, 710 Willia, Big Spring
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
Timothy Shea Wargo, 624 State, Big Spring
Charles Watson, 804 W. I-20 Apt. 127, Big Spring
Thomas Weeks, P.O. Box 110891, Anchorage, Alaska
Linda Cortez White, 400 College, Coahoma
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
Jerry Lee Wrightsill, 2816 Ridge Rd., Fort Worth
Lorenzo Ferrera Yanez, 211 Channing St., Big Spring
Dennis Anthony Zaragoza, 4534 Sinclair, Big Spring
Mary Esther Zubiate, 1103 S. 11th Place, Big Spring

District Court Filings:
Jerry Don Hardin vs. Monica Hardin, divorce.
State Farm Mutual vs. Fidencio Rodriguez and Petra Rodriguez, injury or damages with a motor vehicle.
Wind Energy Transmissions Texas vs. Scott Klarer, civil.
Erica Gonzalez vs. Julie Johnson, injury or damages with a motor vehicle.
Nicole Willis vs. Buffet Partners, injury or damages.
William Charles Williams IV vs. Lahoma R. Goodblanket, divorce.
In Re Jonathan Jirasek, family.
Stacey Freshour vs. Ruben Garcia, protective order.
Fred Weatherby vs. Amy Renee Weatherby, divorce.
Richard E. Cahill vs. Cynthia Clinton, civil.
Portfolio Assoc. LLC vs. Paula Martinez, accounts, notes and contracts.
Portfolio Assoc. LLC vs. Gary W. Howell, accounts, notes and contracts.
Robin R. Porter vs. Otis J. Porter,

divorce.
Shannan Wilson vs. Daniel Gibbs, family.
Citifinancial vs. Thelma Reed, civil.
Mark Settles vs. Melanie Settles, divorce.
Andrea Hernandez vs. Ray A. Hernandez, divorce.
Brian Keith Grant vs. Kathran Renee Grant, divorce.
Martha Haynes Munoz vs. Nellie M. Haynes, civil.
Nelda J. Gerstenberger vs. Tony L. Jetton, divorce.
Lenard D. Garrard vs. James E. Gray, family.
Jordan S. Tristan vs. Daniel Tristan, divorce.
Julie A. Cruses vs. Margarito Cruses, divorce.
J.D. Bullard vs. Union Pacific Railroad Comp., injury or damages.
Colin Carroll vs. Union Pacific Railroad Comp., injury or damages.
Shirley Cross vs. Terry G. Montgomery, divorce.
Christina Myrick vs. Christopher L. Myrick, divorce.
Herminia Martinez vs. Enrique Castrejon, protective order.
Antolina R. Dehoyos vs. Kyler Cannady, protective order.
Eddy Pyburn vs. Gloria L. Pyburn, divorce.
In Re Ashly D. Gutierrez, name change.
Pamela K. Kennedy vs. Mickey L. Kennedy, divorce.

Marriage Licenses:
Justin L. Rivera, 19, and Bianca S. Ryle, 17, both of Big Spring.
Tyler Shane Gregg, 25, and Dianna Marie Barraza, 23, both of Big Spring.
James Gregory Jacobs, 38, and Katrina Louise Sudderth, 33, both of Big Spring.
Weldon James Akin, 40, and Brandy Sue Merrill, 31, both of Big Spring.
Jacob J. Garcia, 31, and Frances Alcantar, 33, both of Big Spring.

Warranty Deeds:
Grantor: Marcellous Weaver
Grantee: Syble Pope
Property: A tract out of Section 45, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: March 26, 2012

Grantor: Patricia Cherry Stewart and Tom Stewart Jr.
Grantee: Frank Long and Glenda Long
Property: The SW/4 of Section 23, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: March 12, 2012

Grantor: Glenn Fillingim
Grantee: Hubert L. Rowden and Sherry Rowden
Property: Lots 1-4, Block 10, Saunders Addition
Date: March 13, 2012

Grantor: Vianey Jaimes
Grantee: Silvia Larraga
Property: Lots 11-12, Block 4, Original Town of Coahoma
Date: March 13, 2012

Grantor: Glenn Fillingim
Grantee: Michael Lynn Brooks and Marty Lane Brooks
Property: A 0.934-acre tract out of the NE/4 of Section 47, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: March 13, 2012

Grantor: Michael Nairn
Grantee: Malinda Olivares
Property: Lots 3-6, Block 3, Fairview

Heights
Date: March 14, 2012
Grantor: Richard D. Belew and Virginia Belew
Grantee: Gaylord Rich and Roxann Rich
Property: A 4.4-acre tract out of Section 1, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: March 9, 2012

Grantor: John D. Jones
Grantee: Randy Ver Steeg and Jeri Ver Steeg
Property: Lot 3, Block 3, Caroline Court
Date: March 9, 2012

Grantor: Louise Booth of the Booth Trust
Grantee: Louise Booth
Property: Lots 2-3, Block 13, McDowell Heights
Date: Feb. 22, 2012

Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:
Grantor: Bob J. Addy and Jody Addy
Grantee: Ivan Pina
Property: A .20-acre tract out of Section 5, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: March 15, 2012

Grantor: Horace E. Tubb
Grantee: Gerald D. Hall and Cheri Ramirez
Property: A 5-acre tract out of Section 105, Block 29, W&NW RR Co. Survey
Date: April 2, 2012

Grantor: Horace E. Tubb
Grantee: Gerald D. Hall and Cheri Ramirez
Property: A 4.9-acre tract out of Section 105, Block 29, W&NW RR Co. Survey
Date: April 2, 2012

Grantor: Robert Warren Sullivan
Grantee: Dustin B. Herrod and Ginger Herrod
Property: A tract out of Section 34, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: April 2, 2012

Grantor: Douglas Lloyd and Sandra Lloyd
Grantee: Norma Garcia and Robert Garcia
Property: The E/2 of Lot 22 and all of Lot 23, Block 30, College Park Estates
Date: April 2, 2012

Grantor: Green Tree Servicing LLC
Grantee: Pedro Garcia
Property: Lot 10, Block 37, Cole & Strayhorn Addition

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno
Maggie Moran, Karan Cornett and Virginia Rodriguez speak during the Spring of Siloam Open House on Friday afternoon. Participants in the program spoke and those attending were able to enjoy home made goodies and tea.

Spring of Siloam shows off renovated facilities

Open house invites public to know about Spring Of Siloam

www.bigspringherald.com

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Butterflies make an impression on Coahoma students

HERALD photos/Amanda Moreno
Top right, first grade Coahoma Elementary teachers show off some of the butterflies their students helped grow over the past few weeks. Pictured from left to right are: Lacey Wolf, Margaret Hallford and Misty Henson.



Middle right, first graders Adaleigh Lopez, left, and Serena Dobbs check on some of the hatched butterflies.



Bottom right, Home Hospice's Sherry Hodnett speaks with the Coahoma first graders before she reads them a story and picks up the butterflies for the Butterfly Release set for Sunday.



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Once Upon a Time

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 4 3 2
♥ Q 10 3
♦ A K 7 6 3
♣ 10 5

WEST EAST
♠ Q 9 7 6 5 ♠ K J 10 8
♥ 7 6 ♥ 8 5 4 2
♦ 9 8 5 ♦ J 10
♣ 9 7 2 ♣ J 6 3

SOUTH
♠ A
♥ A K J 9
♦ Q 4 2
♣ A K Q 8 4

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass Pass 2 ♣
Pass 3 ♦ Pass 5 NT
Pass 7 ♦ Pass 7 NT
Opening lead — six of spades.

Many years ago, B. Jay Becker, the former editor of this column, was playing in a team contest and held the South hand. He opened two clubs, and his partner, Dorothy Hayden, responded three diamonds.

Becker thereupon invoked the grand slam force convention by bidding five notrump. This asked his partner to bid seven of her suit if she had two of the three top diamond honors. Mrs. Hayden duly bid seven diamonds, which Becker converted

to seven notrump in the interests of greater safety. Score — 2,220 points.

This was, of course, an excellent result, since they had scored the maximum number of points possible, and they waited anxiously until they could compare results with their teammates to find out whether the opposing North-South pair had also bid the grand slam.

Their high hopes more than materialized when it was learned that at the other table the bidding had gone: West North East South
1 NT! Pass Pass Dble
Pass Pass Pass

Becker-Hayden's teammate, Sam Fry, had chosen this moment to psych a one-notrump opening, and his timing couldn't have been more perfect! When East (Peter Leventritt) passed — showing zero to seven points — and South doubled, Fry realized that his opponents had a sure game and, possibly, a small or grand slam. He thought North would probably pass the double and that he (Fry) would take very few, if any, tricks.

He was certainly right in this respect — so much so that as soon as North led a low diamond and dummy appeared, Fry conceded all the tricks. Down seven amounted to a loss of 1,300 points (today, it would be 1,700), but this brought Fry's team a gain of 920 points, as well as something to talk about.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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qualifications required by the
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tation for its district engineers.

The ROAD ENGINEER must
have supervisory skills and
have had experience in road &
bridge building or maintenance
or other types of construction
work qualifying the person to
perform the duties of the
position but need not have had
any particular amount of pro-
fessional training or experience
in engineering work.

Applications may be picked
up and returned to the County
Judge, Howard County Court-
house, 300 Main, Room 207,
Big Spring, TX. 79720 Phone
432-264-2218. The deadline
for applications is May 4, 2012.
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water supplier for the Permian
Basin, is accepting applications
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www.crmwd.org



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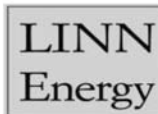
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238689



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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

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) or our office at 401 East Interstate 20.

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

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.

NEED A Pusher & Roustabout. Must have experience, pass a drug test and have a valid drivers license. Apply at 2000 North Birdwell Lane.

Help Wanted



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SALES ASSOCIATE

Sherwin-Williams, a leader in the paint and coatings industry, has an opening at our Big Spring, TX store for a (part-time) Sales Associate. In this position, you will assist customers, stock and price products, maintain store displays and tint and mix paint.

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Chanz Reed,
Store Manager
Stormie Dugan
Assistant Manager
Apply at:
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PARKPLACE RETIREMENT

Living is hiring! We're looking for a team player who is enthusiastic and outgoing. This position is rotating shift work which could involve weekends, midnights, days and evenings. Duties include facilitating activities, housekeeping, and kitchen work, etc. Must be able to multitask and be active. Apply in person at 501 W. 17th Street.

Hints from Heloise

NO STAMP OF APPROVAL

Dear Heloise: I work for the U.S. Postal Service, and occasionally customers will come into our office with stamps on their letters that have been cut or peeled off other envelopes because they are not canceled.

Once a stamp has been adhered to an envelope, it is considered USED even if it hasn't been canceled. It cannot be steamed, peeled off or cut and glued onto another envelope.



HELOISE

I know in this economy we all try to cut corners and save, but I want to inform your readers of this.

Thank you for your time and for all the help you have given through the years. — *Shawn A., Youngstown, Ohio*

Readers, please remember that once a stamp has been processed by the Postal Service, whether or not it has been canceled, it cannot

be pasted on another envelope to use as postage. — *Heloise*

EASY READER

Dear Heloise: I love to take long, soaking baths with a good book. Since I received an e-reader (an electronic tablet computer to read downloaded books on), I had been afraid to get it near the tub until I came up with this idea: I seal it in a 1-gallon zippered bag, and now there's no fear of getting it wet! — *Kay in Colorado Springs, Colo.*

Check with the manufacturer to make sure humidity won't damage the unit. — *Heloise*

WHO'S YOUR DOCTOR?

Dear Heloise: It is helpful for people to get a business card from their doctors so they have their name, address, phone number, fax number and e-mail address.

It's surprising how many people are not sure of their doctor's name and information. It would simplify communication if they had cards to show when doctors need to coordinate care. — *Ruth, via email*

Send a money-saving or timesaving hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795000, San Antonio, TX 78279-5000, or you can fax it to 1-210-HELOISE or email it to [Heloise\(at\)Heloise.com](mailto:Heloise(at)Heloise.com). I can't answer your letter personally but will use the best hints received in my column.

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Answer to previous puzzle

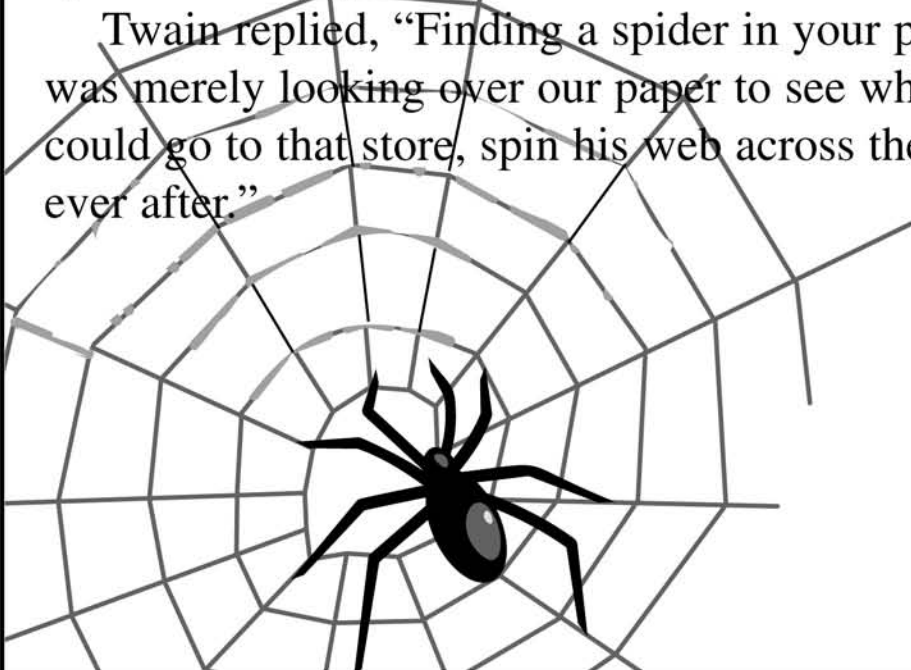
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The Spider

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

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

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



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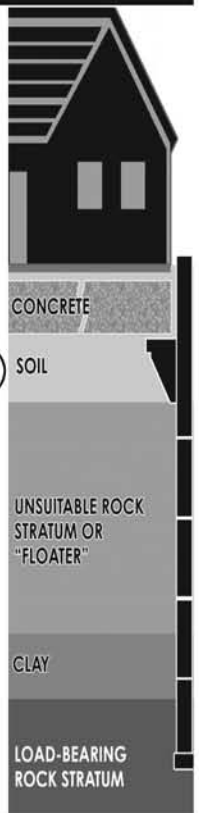
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 - Seasonal PT Senior Attendant (Aquatic Center)
 - Seasonal PT Attendant (Aquatic Center)
 - Customer Service Technician (Water Office)
 - Permit & Code Technician
- For more information go to www.mybigspring.com or apply in person in the Human Resources Office located at 310 Nolan (432) 264-2346

Help Wanted

FULL-TIME Position available at The Decorator Center for Assistant/ Salesperson. Must be good with math and have good people skills. Salary plus commission. Call (432)267-8310.

HIRING EXPERIENCED heavy equipment operators. 1-2 yrs experienced required. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental ins. 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX.

HIRING FULL-TIME salaried shop foreman. Requires 3yrs. minimum verifiable experience w/diesel & heavy equipment, as well as supervisory experience. Pay negotiable DOE. Health, vision, and dental ins. 100% paid! Apply in person at 9400 South Service Rd., Coahoma, TX, or call 432-394-4604.

IMMEDIATE JOB Opening Part-time position for a Housekeeper. Hours will be Monday thru Friday, 4 hours per day as scheduled. Competitive applicants will have a dependable work history and good references. Apply in person Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. 3rd Street, Big Spring

IMMEDIATE KITCHEN Help needed. Must be Neat in Appearance. Honest and Dependable. Inquire at Wagon Wheel, 2010 Scurry St. No phone call Please!

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LOCAL ACCOUNTING firm is seeking full charge bookkeeper. Candidate should possess skills that allow for routine general ledger and payroll duties to be completed with minimal supervision. Microsoft Excel and Word skills are preferred. Applicants should send resume c/o P.O. Box 1431/207, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

NEED COUNTER help. Apply in person at Classic Cleaners, 2107 S. Gregg. No Phone Calls.

Needed Belly Dump Truck Driver. Must have truck driver experience. Must pass drug test. Walker Construction 432-264-2976 or 264-2975

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

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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.

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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.

PLAZA INN is looking for Front Desk person and Night Audit person. Apply in person at 700 West I-20. No phone calls please.

RED MESA Grill hiring Cooks, experience preferred. Send resume or inquires to: gloria.redmesa@gmail.com

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.

WESTERN BANK is seeking An experienced Customer Service Representative Full Time Position with Benefits available in Coahoma. Excellent customer service skills and a willingness to work extensively with the public is required. Experience handling bank documents is preferred. Salary is DOE. Western Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please apply in person at 500 West Broadway, Coahoma, TX.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The harmonious angle of the sun and Pluto pushes for beautiful transformations and fortuitous fateful encounters. The Leo moon is a cheerleader for the action, reminding us that we are but players on the stage of life — and so we may as well be playful. Change doesn't have to be such a serious matter. Let go and see who you become.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You will leap into your life with new passion and creativity. You're not fearless, but you use your fear with grace. Like a trapeze artist, you will throw your heart over the bar, and your body will follow.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Some days it's easy to be optimistic, but right now you'll have to work harder at it. You'll willfully push negativity out of your head and create some positive thoughts to guide you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may think your life is a bit messy right about now, but another person looking in on it is thinking it looks pretty neat. Either way, the judgments don't help matters as much as getting in there and

handling things does. **CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Just because something looks cool doesn't make it cool — but it's half the battle. You'll be working on a presentation, and you'll draw people in and keep them there if you give equal weight to style and content.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You seldom miss the opportunity to tell someone how awesome he or she is. Because you are looking for reasons and ways to support people, you will find many.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may be asked to wait longer than you think is needed. There's nothing wrong with asking, "Why so long?" If there's a legitimate reason, you'll feel more at ease, and if not, you'll know it's time to explore other options.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You want to say "no" to something or someone, but you don't know how. The shortest, most direct way is best. You don't owe anyone a long explanation. You have a right to keep your innermost feelings to yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be tempted to take on a task that is as challenging as it is ridiculous. Remember the old saying, and don't teach a pig to sing; it frustrates you and annoys the pig.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Be careful not to relinquish ownership of your ideas too soon. There will be people around who are far too eager to take credit for what you come up with and run with it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You've been generous, and that generosity is about to boomerang back to you. Unexpected help will help you accomplish more with this day than you thought you could.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You will not suffer fools lightly. When someone's body language and words do not match, you'll wisely believe the body language and make your move accordingly.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be comfortable expressing your feelings, and those around you will emulate this ease. Your communicative style paves the way for smooth, open relations.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 29). You'll complete a project in the next four weeks, and you'll celebrate with your nearest and dearest. New people appreciate the work you've done, and you'll be hired to create similar results in another situation.

Your popularity rises through February and March. June brings passion into your life. Aries and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 4, 44, 29 and 16.

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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.

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.

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

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

GILLIHAN PAINT & Body is looking for a shop porter. Must be honest and dependable, come by 821 W.4th St.

AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

at the Big Spring Animal Shelter



Tatu

Tatu is a small, adult, male, Chihuahua, black and tan dog. He is affectionate. Available for adoption until May 2.



Cleopatra

Cleopatra or Cleo is a large, adult, female Rottweiler. She is very playful and loves to play ball. Available for adoption until May 2.

See Page 11B for more pets available for adoption

THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

America's Nationwide Classified Market With Over 10 Million Readers

TRAVEL

Discount Cruises! Carnival, Royal Caribbean, Disney Cruise Lines, etc. Group Discounts, Family Reunions, Weddings, Company Meetings. Disney Vacations Book NOW and SAVE! 1-877-319-4097 www.NationwideCruise.com

EMPLOYMENT

Truck Drivers WANTED Best Pay & Home Time! Apply Online Today! OVER 750 COMPANIES! One Application, Hundreds of Offers! HammerLaneJobs.com

The American Community Classified Network ("AC-CAN") accepts no liability or responsibility for failure to insert an advertisement. The AC-CAN accepts no liability for any error in an advertisement, regardless of course, except for the cost of the space actually occupied by the error. The AC-CAN reserves the right to reject, at its discretion, any advertisement deemed objectionable by The AC-CAN in subject matter, phraseology or composition, or to classify any advertisements.

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CDLTrainingNow.com is NOW Accepting Applications for Driver Trainees. 16-Day Company-Sponsored CDL Training Program. NO Experience Required. NO Credit Required. GREAT PAY & BENEFITS! CALL RIGHT NOW! 1-800-991-7531 Ad # 3120 www.CDLTrainingNow.com (Not Valid in IL)

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Or Contact: Brett Wallace 1-800-821-8139 btwallace@cnhi.com

For advertising rates and information on National Classified Advertising visit: www.cnhi-can.com

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Barry C. Silk Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Spelling practice?
- 8 Sign of authority
- 15 Mechanics concept
- 16 Syrupy concoction
- 17 Unit of power
- 18 Stuff
- 19 "___ not to send peace, but a sword": Matthew 10
- 20 Miss
- 22 Land's end
- 23 "I think we should"
- 24 NJ army outpost
- 26 Result of a good pitch
- 27 Medical specialty
- 28 Scram
- 30 Vet, for one
- 31 Reputation
- 33 Drain
- 35 US capital before Philadelphia
- 36 Prefix like a-37 Annoy
- 41 Something impressive, or not at all impressive
- 45 Shaver
- 46 Metaphors for fright
- 48 Through
- 49 Maintain
- 51 Don't go
- 52 Put together
- 53 Try to bite
- 55 Shade
- 56 Exclamation after a revelation
- 57 Country quarters

DOWN

- 1 Animal analogies, often
- 2 Words over a 2012 Union Shield
- 3 Aegean Rally, for one
- 4 Stuffs
- 5 Major conclusion
- 6 #1 tourist city in the Southern Hemisphere
- 7 Sight from Shanghai
- 8 1948 literature Nobelist
- 9 Days ___
- 10 Scrubbed
- 11 Freight haulers
- 12 Radar detection
- 13 2011 Medal of Freedom awardee
- 14 Set up differently
- 21 Home deconstruction tool
- 24 One of the oldest forms of dress
- 25 Time Warner Cable competitor
- 28 Trade-show attendee
- 29 Fairy-tale stock characters
- 32 17 Across basis of comparison
- 34 Keyboard key
- 37 Ricocheted
- 38 They're filled at the market
- 39 Took on
- 40 Thunder, e.g.
- 41 Follow carefully
- 42 Unfolds
- 43 What fighters call home
- 44 Evinces displeasure with
- 47 Car-bumper protector
- 50 Vigilant guard
- 52 Has graceful continuity
- 54 Cheery send-off
- 56 Cut ___ (deplete)
- 58 It means "Get away from me!"
- 60 "___ Song" (Taylor Swift single)

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63										64			

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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.

SHELL STAR STOP looking for new team members. Full & Part time employees needed. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Spring. Drug Free Environment.

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

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:

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

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.

Instructional

MEDICAL CAREERS begin here - Train ONLINE for Allied Health and Medical Management. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV certified. Call 877-692-9599 www.CenturaOnline.com

Items for Sale

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

Pets



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

Real Estate for Rent

Swimming Pool
Carports,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen
Discounts
1 & 2 Bedrooms &
1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished

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263-5555

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1406 EAST 6th
1 Bdrm, 1 bath. \$700.00 plus \$500.00 deposit. Stove and fridge furnished. Utilities paid. Call (432)816-1746.

2607 CHEYENNE 3 bedroom 2 baths central heat/air. \$950 monthly with a \$850 deposit. Call 432-770-1302 or 267-7032

820 TIMOTHY Lane., Forsan ISD, 2 bdrm, 1 bath. CH/A, Stove & Dishwasher. \$425. month. \$500 deposit. Water, Cable and Trash Paid. Call (432)268-6424.

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

OFFICE SUITE for Lease- \$650 per month. Corner of 16th Street and Scurry. Call (432)213-1052.

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



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



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

TIRED OF THAT HOTEL? Tastefully fully furnished 2/1 house in a great location. WIFI, cable, UTIL & maid service. Minimal one week stay. Paid in advance. Credit card Okay. Available May 1st. Call 432-213-8456.

Real Estate for Sale

HOME REALTORS 110 W. Marcy
263-1284
263-4663

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, APRIL 29
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

1600 PHILLIPS RD.
3-BEDROOM-2 BATH

Real Estate for Sale

20 ACRES IN WEST TEXAS \$0 Down, \$99/mo. \$12,900 Beautiful Mountain Views, Money Back Guarantee FREE map/pictures 1-800-343-9444.

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

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

OWNER FINANCE, 3225 Auburn, 3 bdr/1bath, CH/A, new carpet, fenced yard, asking 62,500.00, call 325-277-4923.

Legals

COLLEEN BARTON
312 SCURRY
BIG SPRING, TX 79720
Glenn Pipes
901 W. Wall
Midland, Tx 79721

THE STATE OF TEXAS
NOTICE OF DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

To: JAMES RUSTIN
Respondent Greeting:
The petition of Texas Department Of Family And Protective Services, Petitioner has been filed in the 118th District Court of Howard County, Texas, on the 10/18/2011 against James Rustin, Respondent, numbered 48127 and styled IN THE INTEREST OF CHILDREN. This case requests Termination. The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment and which will be binding on you. Issued and given under my hand seal of said court at office this 20th day of April, 2012.
COLLEEN BARTON
District Clerk of Howard County, Texas
By: Laura Martin
#7347 April 29, 2012 and May 6, 13 & 20, 2012

Legals

LEGAL NOTICE:
This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on May 13, 2012. You have until November 9, 2012, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1361 Triple 7's** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 4.00. This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on May 21, 2012. You have until November 17, 2012, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1388 3 Times Lucky** (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 4.68. This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on May 25, 2012. You have until November 21, 2012, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1380 Groovy Cash** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.25. This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on June 2, 2012. You have until November 29, 2012, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1396 Emerald 7's** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.38. These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on July 4, 2012. You have until December 31, 2012, to redeem any tickets for these games: **#1379 Gold Class** (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.34, **#1310 Triple Your Money** (\$2) overall odds are 1 in 4.66, **#1333 Break the Bank** (\$2) overall odds are 1 in 4.80, **#1382 Happy Hearts Cash** (\$2) overall odds are 4.73, **#1322 Funky 5's** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.87, **#1363 Dallas Cowboys** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.67, **#1364 Houston Texans** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.66, **#1197 Set for Life** (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.96. The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$1,000,000 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-37LOTTO or visit the Lottery Web site at www.txlottery.org for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A Scratch-Off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. PLAY RESPONSIBLY. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education. #7356 April 29, 2012

Don't throw those unwanted items away! Sell them!
Call
263-7331 and place your garage sale in the **Herald Classified** section and receive a **Garage sale kit Free!**
Call Today!

Jewels

This gorgeous young, female Vizsla was found with her traveling partner, Emma (see below). She is very reserved and shy, but sweet. According to the American Kennel Club (AKC) website, Vizslas are originally from Hungary, bred for hunting and companion dogs among the Magyar hordes. They soon became favorites of the early barons. The Vizsla breed was nearly extinct at the end of the world wars in Europe, but gradually they regained popularity. These athletic dogs thrive in an active family. They are lively and affectionate.

Available for adoption until May 11.



Emma

Emma was found with her traveling partner, Jewels. She is a large, adult female. Like her friend, Emma's breed is a hunting animal. According to the ACK, the Bloodhound is one of the oldest breeds of dogs that hunt by scent. Emma is sweet, very laid back and an easy going animal. The website states "the Bloodhound made its appearance in Europe long before the Crusades, when the first specimens were brought from Constantinople." This aristocratic breed is extremely affectionate, and is a "take charge" kind of dog. An owner needs to be the undisputed boss in the household but also kind because Bloodhounds are known to be sensitive.

Available for adoption until May 11.



Minnie

Minnie is a small, senior, female Miniature Pinscher. She may be older, but she is still very active and playful. According to the AKC web-site, Miniature Pinschers are known as the "King of the Toys."

They are alert, spirited, intelligent and fearless. The site states they are happiest with a family who treats them just like standard-size dogs. Their small size makes them adaptable to apartment life.

A little playtime and a walk takes care of their daily exercise needs, and their short, easy-care coat needs only occasional brushing.

Available for adoption until May 9.



Sasha

Sasha is a friendly girl who is sweet and loveable and is used to being part of a family. She is already spayed and declawed and would need to be an indoor cat. Sasha is a small, adult, female cat with a short-haired, black coat.

Available for adoption until May 10.



Lost a pet?

Visit bigspringpd.net and click onto the Big Spring Animal Shelter gallery page to see if your pet was found by Animal Control.

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGES IN ELECTION PRECINCTS
Pursuant to §42.035, Texas Election Code, the city council for the City of Big Spring herein provides notice of changes in the council political boundaries as adopted, and as precleared by the United States Department of Justice on 3rd day of April, 2012. Interested individuals may review the adopted changes at city hall during regular business hours. The changes in district election precincts were necessitated by re-districting of the city council precincts in compliance with the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. §1973, also known as the Voting Rights Act, following the release of 2010 census data. Changes in the city council election precincts were designed to achieve numerical balance between the council precincts, and to insure the voting rights of all citizens in the City of Big Spring.

A VISO PUBLICO DE CAMBIOS EN DISTRITOS ELECTORALES
Con arreglo a §42.035, Texas código de elecciones, el Ayuntamiento de la ciudad de Big Spring aquí proporciona aviso de cambios en los límites políticos Consejo aprobado y como precleared por el departamento de Justicia de Estados Unidos el día 3 de abril de 2012. Personas interesadas podrán revisar los cambios adoptados en el ayuntamiento durante el horario regular. Los cambios en los precintos electorales de distrito fueron requeridos por la delimitación de los recintos del Ayuntamiento de conformidad con la Constitución de Estados Unidos y 42 U.S.C. §1973, también conocida como la ley de derechos electorales, tras la publicación de datos del censo de 2010. Cambios en el recinto de elección del Consejo de la ciudad fueron diseñados para lograr el equilibrio numérico entre el recinto del Consejo y para asegurar los derechos de voto de todos los ciudadanos en la ciudad de los Alpes. #7357 April 29, 2012 and May 4, & 11, 2012



Samson

Samson is an affectionate fellow who loves to be held. He has beautiful blue eyes and a light-orange and white striped, medium-hair coat. He is a small, adult male, domestic, medium-hair cat.

Available for adoption until May 2.

www.petfinder.com

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JOSEPHINE LEWIS MASSEY, Deceased, were issued on April 19, 2012, in Cause No. P-14067, pending in the County Court of HOWARD County, Texas, to: NANCY DARLENE MURPHY. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o:
NANCY DARLENE MURPHY
4207 Theo
Big Spring, Texas 79720
DATED the 19th day of April, 2012.
GLYNNA MOUTON
Attorney for
NANCY DARLENE MURPHY
State Bar No.: 14606500
MOUTON & MOUTON, PC
200 West Third Street
Big Spring, TX 79720
Telephone: (432)263-8397
Facsimile: (432)263-8686
#7354 April 29, 2012

For more information on how to bring home one these or other furry friends, call the Big Spring Animal Shelter at 432-264-2372.

Legals

AMERICAN SELF STORAGE
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, American Self Storage which is located at 3314 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 Saturday, May 19, 2012, at American Self Storage 3314 East F.M. 700 Big Spring, Texas. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property may be sold item by item or in batches, or by the space. All sales are subject to Texas State Sales Tax. Sale is on the contents of:
Tenant: Curiel Blas
Consisting of: misc. EHG curio cabinet, exercise equipment
#7358 April 29 & May 6, 2012

CONNECT TO HIGHER CARE. A career connection worth making.

Relationships. That's what a FMCNA nursing career is all about. Our nurses thrive on the bonds they create as they build a dynamic and committed team, and bask in the gratitude and confidence reflected back to them in our patients' eyes. If you're looking to elevate your career from a practice to a way of life, join our devoted, supportive team and find yourself an essential member in our community of caring. We are currently seeking applicants for the following position:

STAFF NURSE/TEAM LEADER
Big Spring

Qualifications:

- Graduate of an accredited School of Nursing (R.N.)
- Current state licensure
- One year clinical experience
- At least one year medical-surgical or ICU nursing experience preferred
- At least one year of hemodialysis experience preferred

We offer a generous compensation and benefits package that includes medical and dental, 401(k) match, profit sharing, short and long term disability, tuition reimbursement, and a generous paid off program.

To apply, please visit our website at:
<http://fmsjobs.fmcna.com/big-spring>

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jake witzel
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A publication of the
BIG SPRING
HERALD
Sunday, April 29, 2012

Community partner

Airpark home to air traffic, industry, tourism, education

The Big Spring Airport has performed many roles in the community since its inception. After all these years, the long tradition continues.

The airport first opened before World War II. It closed after the war ended, but reactivated and expanded in 1952 by the Department of Defense. Ultimately, it was named Webb Air Force Base and continued its mission of training pilots until it was closed in 1977.

Ownership was transferred to the city of Big Spring at that time, and today, McMahon-Wrinkle Industrial Airpark serves as both the community airport and a site for industry.

"The airpark has served a variety of purposes and has long been a part of Big Spring history," Airpark Director Jim Little said. "Each purpose shows where we have been and now the industrial park has a way of tying all that together."



HERALD photo

Airborne arrivals are greeted at the airport terminal which includes a waiting area, conference room and pilot's lounge.

In addition to the types of industrial businesses, numerous planes utilize the terminal, including corporate and medical planes, crop dusters and firefighting planes. The airport has two runways — 17/35 which is 100 feet wide and 8,802 feet in length and 6/24 which is 75 feet

wide and 4,601 feet in length.

The airport terminal, more than 4,000 square feet in size, includes a conference room, pilots' lounge, passenger waiting area and office.

A new incorporation to the industrial park is a short-line rail spur — dormant for a time — that will soon be active again. The addition will further enhance activity, according to Little.

"When it comes to community, larger businesses and tourism, people tend to look and question if there is an airport," Little said. "We serve as the community airport."

Some of the businesses located on the airpark include Western Container — a large employer in the community and economy booster — and newly added Desert Tanks. Long-time businesses include Ce-Ram Kote and Phillips Fabrication, which also have ties to the community.

"Each inclusion serves to aid in the growth of the vast dynamic," Little said. "All these businesses employ and support the company in their own way."

Also making their home on airpark property are several prison facilities, a senior citizens center, Hangar 25 Air Museum and South-West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

Some of the annual attractions include the annual Prairie Dog Fly In, sponsored by the Air Park board. The Young Eagles — an aviation program aimed at introducing youth to flight — has been a yearly event for several years. The national hang gliders competition and Webb Reunion are also regularly held at the McMahon-Wrinkle Industrial Airpark.

The airpark is located in the southwest portion of the city, just south of Interstate 20.

The Big Spring Airport over 80 years of history ...

The Early Years

The Big Spring Airport officially opened on September 11, 1929 with a crowd of over 15,000 spectators. In 1930, the facility became one of the first Air Mail hubs in Texas. In the early years, the Big Spring Airport even had commercial Airline Service through Trans-Texas Airways, later known as Continental Airlines. A round trip flight aboard TTA to Abilene, Texas was \$11.00 or you could fly round trip from Big Spring to Albuquerque, New Mexico for only \$33.00.

Military Background

In 1942 the airport became the United States Army Big Spring Bombardier School and subsequently trained over 6,000 bombardiers for combat in WWII. In 1945 the airport returned to municipal airport status and remained such until 1950, when it became Webb Air Force Base. The facility was named after 1st Lt. James L. Webb, a Big Spring native and WWII Combat Pilot who was killed in the crash of his P-51 Mustang off the coast of Japan in 1949.

As a jet pilot training facility during the Korean conflict and Vietnam War, over 14,000 pilots earned their wings in Big Spring. Many of the Webb AFB pilots distinguished themselves in combat; many became senior officers in the military, some became astronauts, and some became politicians, including the longest serving Texas state governor, Rick Perry. After Vietnam, the airport again reverted to civilian status and became the municipal airport for the City of Big Spring.

Current Uses

In 2001 the Airport Terminal was built and has been an integral part of the success and popularity of the airport with transient pilots. The Airport is used for general aviation, with around 14,000 operations per year and is home to approximately 50 airplanes ranging from Ultra-Light to Corporate Jets. We currently have an Air-Ambulance stationed in Big Spring Airport and we frequently host Heavy Tanker Fire Helicopters on contract with the Texas Forest Service in order to help combat area wildfires.

Over the past few years, we have had an influx of United States Military crews land at our airport, from all branches, including a surprise stop by the Marine's Presidential Helicopters. They stop here when traveling to and from various training missions, and en route to and from combat deployments. They seem to find our West Texas hospitality and tasty local BBQ to be a very welcomed distraction, and we feel both honored and privileged to serve them in any small way possible.

The Big Spring Airport has hosted a World Hang Gliding Championship Competition, one of only two such competitions to ever be held in the United States, as well as several national Hang-Gliding competitions. These competitions bring in people from all over the world due to our unique weather conditions and superior cloud formations which are most desirable for hang gliding. The 2012 National Hang Gliding Competition will be held here at the Big Spring Airport on July 21 through the 28th.

In 2009, the Airport completed the Runway 17/35 reconstruction project. The new, 11-inch thick concrete runway will enable the facility to handle much larger aircraft and ensure that the airport remains in use for many more years to come. Current projects include an upgrade of the Aircraft Fuel Farm and the Terminal Ramp parking area. We recently leased the Airport's Rail Spur to a company that will be operating a Short Line Railroad, serving our Industrial Park business needs.

The Airport & Industrial Park is home to approximately 30 different businesses, big and small. Collectively, the Industrial Park provides almost 1,200 jobs within our community. In addition, our self-storage rental units are in extremely high demand, with various sizes to choose from, reasonable pricing, variable term leases, and near-full occupancy rates for our vast inventory of over 150 individual units.

Our modern, open terminal creates a great first impression for many folks coming into Big Spring, whether flying in on business or just visiting. We take pride in being a major focal point for the visitors coming into our community. We invite you to come see for yourself, the great amenity our Airport is to Big Spring.



Pilots still being trained at airpark

If you literally want to take the skies,, there's a business at the local airpark that has a deal for you.

The U.S. Flight Academy, 2000 Rickabaugh Drive, was established Aug. 22, 1988, and offers approved curriculums ranging from basic pilot to airline transport pilot training.

One of the academy's biggest drawing cards is the West Texas weather. The Big Spring Airport, originally the home to Webb Air Force Base, is one of the highest-ranked U.S. airports in terms of number of flying days per year.

The academy utilizes its own written and approved flight training curriculum, according to information found on its website (www.us-flightacademy.org).

"Our personalized instruction is designed to meet your personal needs, and tailored to fit your learning abilities and schedule. We go the extra mile to make sure you understand the subjects and pass all required tests without difficulty," said Jarle Boe, president of the academy. "But more importantly than just passing tests, you will graduate as a highly competent and safe aviator. Our entire staff is totally dedicated to this goal and will do whatever is required to accomplish it."

Boe said the academy not only



stresses competency in the air, but safety, as well.

"Our graduates will confirm that safety is our most important concern and also that the USFA learning experience is pleasant, fun and rewarding," he said.

The academy recently entered into a partnership with Howard College in which students can obtain an associate of science degree along with flight training received at USFA.

"This work can be directly accredited towards the ... bachelor of

science professional pilot degree," Boe said. "This is ideal for the pupil who prefers for the first two years of his or her college education to be in a traditional classroom setting."

For more information, contact USFA at 264-7335.

Noltech Truss gets the job done faster

Noltech Truss Inc., located at 1700 Rickabough on the former air base, performs a service you see everyday — but don't realize it.

Noltech builds professionally designed, engineered and factory built wood trusses — rafters if you will — for homes and other buildings.

Why choose Noltech?

The company website suggests:

- A wood trussed-home costs less. The total in-place cost of trussed roof and floor systems is lower. Trusses are delivered to the site ready to be installed. Labor is saved because trusses can be installed three to four times faster than it would take a carpenter to build the roof on-site. The open spaces in the trusses allow duct work, plumbing and wiring to be installed quickly and easily.

- You get peace of mind - knowing that the trusses were professionally

computer-designed, engineered and factory-built to assure the highest quality and reliability. It's easy to remodel or make an addition because most interior walls can be moved if your needs change.

- Trusses allow virtually unlimited architectural versatility. That means designs can include vaulted or studio ceilings inside the home and high pitched or hipped roofs on the exterior, offering greater aesthetic and functional advantages.

- Proven performance. Hundreds of millions of wood trusses have been installed throughout the country. In fact, wood trusses are used in more than 75 percent of all homes built in the U.S. and Canada today.

- Pre-engineered wood trusses are scientifically designed for strength. A pre-engineered framing system eliminates guesswork on the construction site.

Freemans have been onsite since 1985

It only makes sense CeRam-Kote has been in Big Spring since 1985 — when John Freeman first started the company — with the roots running as deep as they do.

"There are five generations and almost 90 years of Freemans with history here in Big Spring," Kevin Freeman, president of CeRam-Kote said.

"We are glad to be here and the thought of leaving Big Spring never even enters the equation."

The company, located in the industrial park, produces an



industrial type coating which combats corrosion and acts as a chemical protectant. The coating is used throughout the Permian Basin as well as nationally and internationally.

"We are used on Air Force planes,

on the bottom of floating museums and basically anywhere else that is subject to corrosion," Freeman said.

Last year, CeRam-Kote received assistance from the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation to expand. BSEDC entered an agreement for \$350,000 to be used to construct a new building, allowing the company to increase its production flow to keep up with client demand.

"I have to commend Kevin for

choosing to not only stay on the air park, but to continue to expand the business," Terry Wegman, executive director of the BSEDC said. "Not only is he expanding his business, but he is creating more jobs and adding to the industrial park. It is a win-win situation."

As part of the agreement, CeRam-Kote was to add an additional 13 jobs.

Freeman said since 2010, the employee base has almost doubled at the facility, jumping from 15 employees to 29.

Baird — no, not the bread — a growing company

While businesses may come and go at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, Wes Baird and Baird Companies have managed to prosper during the past 12 years, but not for a lack of hard work.

Owner and operator Wes Baird said the company — which first opened on the airpark in 2000 — does dirt work, welding, construction and provides heavy equipment work for a number of businesses throughout the Crossroads area and beyond.

"If you've seen the work going on next to Scenic Mountain Medical Center, that's us," Baird said. "We also contract with the city of Big Spring and have done some dirt work for them and constructed some metal buildings for them. Right now, we're also working in

the Midland area building gas stations."

Baird said he decided to start the business with little more than a welding machine and has watched it grow during the past decade.

"When I opened Baird Companies I was just a welder. However, I kept working and made enough money to buy a backhoe," Baird said. "So I kept working with that and made enough money to buy an excavator, and after a while I was able to afford another piece of equipment. It just kept growing."

Baird said his business currently employs 16 people, but don't think for one minute he's not out there, working with them each and every day.

"There are a lot of absentee business owners out there. They will be

off playing golf while their employees do all the work," Baird said. "I'm not like that. I get out there with my hands every day."

Baird said the air park has been an excellent place for him and his business to grow.

"It's a good place to keep a shop and a yard," he said. "We've been with the city for a very long time now, out here on the airpark, and I like it here."

For more information on Baird Companies, call 432-213-2661.

Fire Station #1



**1401 Apron Dr.
Big Spring, TX
Ph: 432-264-2304
Fax: 432-264-2399**



Jim Little, Air Park Director

BIG SPRING AIR PARK

3200 Rickabaugh Dr. West 264-2362



Lonestar Aviation: Fill 'er up

If you fly the friendly skies in and around the Crossroads area — the non-commercial ones, mind you — you've likely heard of Jack Terry and his business, Lonestar Aviation.

The one-stop-shop for fuel — both the gasoline and jet variety — and general maintenance for light aviation aircraft, Lonestar Aviation has built its reputation in the Big Spring area on nearly 20 years of hard work and quality workmanship.

According to Terry, the company actually got its start in a slightly "taller" city to the west, however, it was only a matter of time before he and his business would find its way home to Big Spring and the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

"I opened Lonestar Aviation in 1992 at the airport in Midland," Terry said. "I had lived in Big Spring since 1985, however, so I was commuting back and forth each day. I had worked as a mechanic for an aviation company on the airpark prior to that, and when they closed I decided it was time to move the

operation to Big Spring.

"The majority of my customers at that time were from Big Spring already. I was able to negotiate a deal to set up a shop on the airpark and pretty much everything else is history."

Terry runs the business along with two other full-time employees and a single part-time employee, however, if you expect to catch him lounging in his office during the work week, you may be disappointed.

"Our number of employees has gone up and down over the years. You just have to work with what the economy will give you," Terry said. "These days, there's plenty of work to be done so I'll spend a good bit of time working on the aircraft."

In addition to providing aircraft repairs and maintenance to the sky's friendly travelers, Terry said a big part of his business is fuel sales.

"We provide fuel for the local pilots, as well as the aircraft that are stopping over," Terry said. "We're

sort of like the gas station on the interstate — we serve everyone who needs fuel. Sometimes it's jets coming through bringing business men to meetings at Alon USA or Western Container, sometimes it's just people going across country who need a couple gallons of gas before moving on."

Terry said he doesn't consider his fuel business "big," mostly because of the airpark's proximity to Midland's larger airports.

"Because of our location, we've never been a major fuel supplier. If we were further away from Midland and those airports, I imagine we would do a lot more business," Terry said. "However, we actually have some pilots come to Big Spring instead of Midland because we're smaller and they can avoid a lot of the traffic and hassle. It's much easier to get in and out of here than it is to the west."

For more information on Lonestar Aviation — which is located next to the Big Spring Air Terminal — and the services it offers, call 432-264-7124.

Ryder knows trucks

Though Ryder Trucking has been serving Big Spring since 1985, several changes have taken place.

Most people associate Ryder with fleet transportation or moving trucks. However, the Big Spring location focuses service in a different direction.

According to the technician in charge, Hans Pranschku, the main focus of the Big Spring location is for commercial business maintenance of trucks.

At this point, Pranschku is responsible for taking care of Western Container trucks, Universal Well and Laredo Paving trucks, among others.

Local rental locations can be found in Midland and Odessa according to Pranschku.

Ryder Trucking is located at 1909 Apron Drive No. 42. Call 432-267-7145 for more information.

To find out more about Ryder Trucking corporation, visit the website www.ryder.com.

Herald contributors

Thomas Jenkins

Bill McClellan

Amanda Moreno

Steve Reagan



John Crane continues tradition

Though the name may have changed a few times, the inception of John Crane Production Solutions Inc. and the products produced there is rooted in Big Spring.

"We started in Big Spring about 10 years ago as Fiberod and switched over to John Crane in May 2008," Mike Rowland, director of operations, said.

Fiberod was founded in 2003 by Russ Rutledge. It specialized in the design and manufacture of fiberglass sucker rods, which are lighter, more energy efficient and help pump more oil out of the ground than traditional steel rods.

This technological edge was the driving force behind Fiberod being named one of the 500 fastest growing privately owned companies in the world by Inc. Magazine in 2007. The company was bought by John Crane the following year.

John Crane is one of three recent companies receiving support from Big Spring Economic Development for a company expansion.

With the help of BSEDC, John Crane was able to construct a new pultrusion area in addition to its existing facility and install energy efficiency lighting. The new construction expanded the building by

18,000 square feet.

"John Crane focuses on environmental, health and safety issues and part of our efforts is going to be spreading the energy efficiency lighting throughout the building," Rowland said.

Through the expansion, production at the Big Spring facility was doubled and an additional 24 personnel positions were created.

John Crane products are mainly used and distributed in the Permian Basin and southeast New Mexico, but products are delivered to Mon-

tana, Canada, Sydney, Louisiana, Michigan, Oklahoma and California, as well as internationally. Company wide, there are 500 employees with the Big Spring location accounting for 105 of those positions.

John Crane Productions is located at 3604 Bethel Drive.



Desert Tanks keeps on growing

Stability and loyalty to Howard County — only two of the things Desert Tanks brings to Big Spring.

Desert Tanks is a local producer of frac and storage tanks for the oil-field industry.

“We were started from scratch and operated right here in Howard County by Howard County citizens. We are looking to be one of the stable companies that exists, like Sid Richardson or Alon,” Arturo Del Valle, CEO of Desert Tanks, said.

Located in the industrial park, the local company produces three different types of storage tanks and provides them to oilfield locations within a 100 square mile radius. Since its inception in July 2007, the company has produced more than 500 frac tanks.

With the recent availability of the American Limestone building, Del Valle saw an opportunity to increase production by expanding the facility workspace.

“Now we are able to produce one type of storage tanks in the new facility instead of trying to produce all three in one building, which has increased our production,” Del



Valle said. “We have gone from being able to produce about one tank a day to pushing out eight tanks a week.”

The company started with 17 employees and has already increased staff to 55. The new facility is already being put to use.

“Just since we opened the new building, we are having to already pay \$45,000 in sales tax which in

turn helps the community,” Del Valle said.

The majority of the staff — 75 percent — has been trained on the job and promotions are based from within.

“One of the things we are most proud of is the diversity of our workforce. These are trade jobs and most of the people we are employing are from Big Spring,” Del Valle

said. “There is a lot of opportunity here and we are hoping to create the kind of environment where the kids won’t graduate and leave, but stay here and be able to have their skills utilized.”

Del Valle said the company has no plans of moving production out of Big Spring and has chosen to stay because of the low cost of production, the proximity of their customers and the ability of the labor force. Most of the supplies needed to continue operation can be found in the area and it is more efficient for the company.

“We are hoping to be here 20 to 25 years if not longer,” Del Valle said. “We survived the worst part of the recession and we will continue to be here.”

With the current projections, Del Valle said the company will continue to see a boom for the next three to five years — at this time there are more than 200 drilling wells in the area — which will allow the company to continue to improve and expand to meet the needs of their customers without sacrificing quality.



FCI Big Spring

The Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Big Spring, Texas, is located on a portion of the former Webb Air Force Base, which closed in 1977. Originally, the Federal Prison Camp opened in 1979, with approximately 150 inmates. By the end of the year, 101 staff members were employed. FCI Big Spring was approved for a mission change and the conversion to a low-security facility was completed Sept. 1, 1990.

In 2007, FCI Big Spring initiated an energy conservation project, replacing light bulbs and water fixtures as well as updating heating and cooling systems over the course of two years to reduce electricity and water consumption. The project also includes a wind turbine which was placed in front of the institution.

FCI Big Spring continues to enjoy an outstanding relationship with the community of Big Spring.

In the past 30 years, 15 wardens have served at the institution with the current warden being Karen Edenfield. There are 234 staff members who operate and maintain FCI Big Spring and Satellite Camp. Currently, FCI Big Spring has approximately 1,800 inmates confined to the FCI and Camp. Many of the staff that have come through Big Spring have retired here and make Big Spring their home.

The Big Spring facility is one of 117 institutions operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons,



which was established in 1930. The purpose was to provide more progressive and humane care for federal inmates, to professionalize the prison service, and to ensure consistent and centralized administration of the 11 Federal prisons in operation at the time.

Today, the Bureau consists of 117 institutions, six regional offices, a central office (headquarters), two staff training centers, and 22 community corrections offices. The regional offices and central office provide administrative oversight and support to Bureau facilities and community corrections offices. In turn, community corrections offices oversee residential re-entry centers and home confinement programs.

The Bureau is responsible for the custody and care of approximately 217,000 Federal offenders. Approximately 82 percent

of these inmates are confined in Bureau-operated facilities, while the balance is confined in secure privately managed facilities such as those operated by GEO Group in Big Spring or community-based facilities and local jails.

The Bureau protects public safety by ensuring that Federal offenders serve their sentences of imprisonment in facilities that are safe, humane, cost-efficient, and appropriately secure. The Bureau helps reduce the potential for future criminal activity by encouraging inmates to participate in a range of programs that have been proven to reduce recidivism. Approximately 38,000 BOP employees ensure the security of Federal prisons, provide inmates with needed programs and services, and model mainstream values.

GEO Corp.

Big Spring has housed federal prison inmates under private management for 23 years.

It was 1989 when the city began housing inmates in a former motel, under approval of federal prison officials and the Immigration and Naturalization Service. At that time, it was a city department under jurisdiction of the city of Big Spring — fitting, perhaps, since it was City Councilman Johnny Rutherford who came up with the idea.

Soon, Cornell Companies took over management and the operation grew to include the Interstate Unit, Airpark Unit, Flightline Unit and Cedar Hill Unit. Watchful eyes were needed to look after the facilities, which totaled more than 3,500 inmate beds — making Cornell one of the area’s top employers.

In April 2010, Cornell combined with GEO Group Inc. in a \$385 million merger.

GEO’s operations include the management or ownership of 114 correctional, detention and residential treatment facilities — some 80,000 beds in all. The worldwide corporation boasts more than 20,000 employees.

A breakdown shows GEO oversees 65 corrections facilities in the United States, with seven facilities located overseas. Residential treatment centers number six; community based services, 21; day reporting centers, 35; youth detention facilities, 16; and youth non-residential facilities, seven.

Due to wide diversity within the corrections systems, GEO employees as a group are knowledgeable in facility design, financing, contract compliance, risk management, general administration, security, health services, human resources, information technology, basic education, vocational training, counseling, substance abuse treatment, mental health services, special needs populations, food service, and facility maintenance.

GEO encourages its employees to be active citizens and the company supports a number of local endeavors, including the United Way, Pops in the Park and others.

HWYCOM: It's TxDOT approved

HWYCOM Universal Systems, LP is a producer of quality fiberglass breakaway sign supports and barricades.

HWYCOM’s Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic (FRP) sign support system consists of a patented three-inch-diameter Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic hollow post and approved anchor system. It is a proven long-life sign support system with UV protection. This system is easy to install and maintain in both rural and urban applications, and is available in safety yellow, gray, brown or green.

The HWYCOM system has proven benefits for sign crews, pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcyclists, vehicle op-

erators and vehicle occupants. The system can be installed in a long-life reusable concrete foundation, or drivable base. Installation can be performed by a one-person crew, thus minimizing maintenance costs and the risk of worker injury.

The single sign support is approved for 16 square foot signs and dual post systems are approved for 32 square foot signs.

The HWYCOM system is approved by the Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration for use on all streets and highways. Additionally, the Texas Transportation Institute at Texas A&M University certified the units for compliance with NCHRP

350 on both single and double post small sign support installations. For more information on HWY-

COM Inc., call 432-267-4565 or visit www.hwycom.com

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Looking out for your welfare

Air Evac

For the Air-Evac Life Team, the motto is simple: Seconds count.

In a rural area such as Howard County, rapid emergency medical response may not seem like a practical idea, but Air-Evac officials believe just the opposite.

“Our mission is to provide air ambulance service in rural areas,” said Debra Wallace, a company spokesperson. “Just because you live in a rural area, doesn’t mean you shouldn’t be able to count on fast medical service in an emergency.”

Air-Evac EMS, located adjacent to the Big Spring Airport Terminal, provides air ambulance service for this area. Four three-person teams (pilot, nurse and emergency medical technician) rotate in and out at the local facility, providing residents with around-the-clock service 365 days a year, Wallace said.

Air-Evac, which opened its facility in 2007, averages about 25 flights a month and receives approximately 50 service calls a month.

Air Evac EMS, Inc., is the largest independently owned and operated membership-supported air medical service in the United States, conducting operations through 107 mutually-supporting air medical bases across 15 states. The company has established itself as one of the top providers of air ambulance services to rural markets, serving over 1,700 communities, including more than 1,000 hospitals and 700 EMS agencies.

Statistics show rural trauma victims are more likely to die from their injuries, simply because they live further away from hospitals, making the need for air ambulance service even more critical, officials said.

Aside from responding to emergency calls, Air-Evac also provides transfer services, such as, for example, airlifting a heart patient from



Big Spring to more specialized care at an urban-area hospital.

Purchasing an annual member-

ship with the company allows persons to be transported for free, should the need arise. Member-

ships begin at \$50 and can be secured through the company’s website, www.lifeteam.net

Big Spring Fire Station 1

The Big Spring Fire Department’s administrative and training nerve center is Station 1, located at 1401 Apron Drive.

The building housing Station 1 was formerly the Non-Destructive Testing Center when Webb Air Force Base was up and running from the 1950s until the late 1970s. There, airplanes would be X-rayed for metal fatigue.

After the base’s closure, the building passed over to city management and became the permanent home to Station 1 in 1993.

Station 1 serves a variety of purposes for the local fire department,

including:

- Administrative — The station houses offices for Interim Fire Chief Rich Groves, Fire Marshal Carl Condray, Emergency Medical Services Director Craig Ferguson and Training Officer Lt. James Phelps.

- Training — Most of the training regimen for local firefighters is conducted either adjacent or near Station 1. Aside from a training classroom, there is also a pair of five-story-high drill towers available to train firefighters on a wide variety of scenarios, including rescue, repelling, ladder exercises and how to fight fires in enclosed or

high-rise spaces.

- Storage — Reserve engines and ambulances are stored in a hangar adjacent to Station 1. Also at the hangar are the department’s Cascade system, which provides air for firefighters’ breathing apparatuses, and the city’s emergency management trailer, which provides mobile command post capability in case of natural disasters.

And, of course, the station provides firefighting and reserve EMS services for the far west end of Big Spring. Three firefighters are stationed there during each 24-hour shift.

Plastic perfection

Western Container has been producing bottles for Coke since 1980

It might surprise you to know that if you walk into a local convenience store and purchase a Coca-Cola, Sprite or Barq’s, chances are the plastic bottle you’re holding was made in Big Spring.

Western Container, located in the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, has been making plastic bottles for the Coca-Cola Bottling System for almost 32 years.

Since producing its first bottle in Big Spring in July 1980, the company has expanded to include five plants and approximately 500 em-

ployees. In 2010 the plants — located in Big Spring; Fife, Wash.; Halliesburg, Miss.; Houston and Tolleson, Ariz. — produced more than 3.8 billion bottles for Coca-Cola. The company utilizes 36 injection molding machines and 19 blow molding machines at those facilities.

The Big Spring plant produces enough bottles to keep seven or eight filling locations in operation across the Southwest. And those products include just about any Coca-Cola Corp. sparkling drink — think “soda” — you can buy within

a 300-mile radius. To do so, the local plant runs 24 hours Monday through Friday.

The plant and its employees have been important contributors to the various functions and events in the Howard County community during their 30-plus years here, including youth sports, the United Way, Relay For Life and others.

Western Container’s head office is located in Midland and under the direction of president and CEO Mike Andrysiak.

Local manager is Gregg Johnson.

Assistant manager is Pat Chesworth.



Preserving the air park's history

What once was a piece of history now holds thousands of pieces of history.

Hangar 25 Air Museum, located at 1911 Apron Drive, has been restored and is serving a new purpose in the Big Spring community.

The training location for more than 10,000 pilots in World War II, the former Bombardier School reopened in 1951 as Big Spring Air Force Base, and was renamed Webb Air force Base soon after. The base closed in 1977 and the museum has become a place where former Webb Air Force Base service personnel can come to remember the past and residents can learn about the historical role Big Spring played in aviation — not only World War II, but Korea, and Vietnam.

The tactics of bombing the enemy were in the early stages of development from World War I. It became a strategic element of WWII and was a large part of the Allied powers' success.

The main focus of the museum, which was re-

stored by a group of local residents wanting to preserve the history of Webb Air Force Base and honor those who served here, is to promote education. In the process of preservation, all veterans — past and present — are honored for their contributions.

Genevieve Stockburger took over as museum administrator in 2011 and works to bring new exhibits and community activities through the facility.

The Webb Reunion is one of the bigger events and is held every other year. It allows those who once served or worked at the base to come back and reminisce with friends. Several fundraisers and children's activities are planned throughout the year as well.



Hangar 25 is managed by Stockburger, volunteers and a 12-person board of directors.

Hangar 25 Air Museum is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donations are appreciated and are used to help fund the museum.

To find out more information or to schedule a tour, call 432-264-1999.



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President

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Email philfab@basin-net.net

Westside takes care of all the little folks

West Side Day Care has been providing a place for the little residents of Big Spring for more than 30 years.

The day care center is funded by CCMS (child care management services) and United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.

A staff of nine is in charge of 85 students between the age of zero to

12 years old. Students in the center take part in the Little People program.

Business hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Melinda Hernandez is the director.

The facility is located at 4200 Simler Avenue. To find out more information, call 432-263-7841.

Phillips Fabrication

If you can imagine it, Phillips Fabrication Inc. has probably built it.

Tanks, conveyor systems, stairs, railings, trailers — even the stationary charcoal grills you find at campsites in local and state parks — are examples of the products manufactured by Phillips Fabrication.

Clients range from small, local businesses to large national corporations. Phillips has built products for food processing, farms, waste management, aircraft maintenance, wastewater treatment, heavy equipment, hotels and apartments.

They are experts in custom fabrication and welding, and are capable of handling short or long production runs.

They've been making high quality loader attachments since 1990 and have been a manufacturer of FireFan since 1997.

To learn more about Phillips Fabrication and what the company offers, contact founder Bruce Phillips at 432-264-6600 or go online at www.phillipsfab.com



Triformance

West Texas has plenty of rough and rugged land to play on and Triformance is making sure your vehicle has the parts to do it.

Triformance, dealer for West Texas off road parts, carries a full line of parts for 4-wheel drive vehicles and jeeps. Their inventory includes lift kits, tires and wheels, winches, custom bumpers and suspensions. They provide general 4-wheel drive repair, engine swap, diesel repair and MIG welding.

Originally started in February 2011, co-owners Jenn and Todd Patterson with Dave Hayhurst moved to their current location on the industrial airpark. The company was the product of the trios love for rock crawling and playing in their jeeps and 4-wheel drives.

According to Jenn Patterson, the company prides itself on customer service and helping those with 4-wheel drive vehicles and jeeps make their ideas become a reality.

Business hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Triformance is located at 2620 Warehouse Avenue. To find out more about the product line, visit the website at www.triformancewtx.com or call 432-816-0612.



Liberty Machine

Individuals and businesses needing custom plastic items need look no further than Liberty Machine and Fabrication.

Located at 1417 Apron Drive on the McMahon-Wrinkle Industrial Airpark, the facility is open to the public.

Owner David Bagnall describes the company as a general precision machine shop service and supplier of plastic moldings. Customers include companies such as Western Container.

Liberty Machine and Fabrication has four employees and has been serving the Big Spring community for 25 years.

For more information, call 263-7703.



TSG Distributors

TSG Distributors Inc. Tank Safety Gauge, located at the industrial airpark, was the first to design and patent the successful outside visual tank gauge for the oil industry in 1991.

With the use of the gauge, oilfield workers are able to visually gauge the fluid level in storage tanks at ground level. The ability to monitor these levels helps to eliminate hazards, potential injuries and casualties.

Tank Safety Gauge employs four people, with Donnie Reagan serving as president. The company originally started out providing service to Chevron and from there grew into its current service area which includes most of West Texas and New Mexico. Recently, business has expanded to the South and North Dakota area.

Another branch of TSG is Protech Safety Systems. The new addition focuses on alarm systems for jacks. Wes Beauchamp is the acting president.

To find out more information, call 432-264-9109 or toll-free 800-449-9109. Also, for more information, visit www.tanksafetygauge.com.

SWCID: Unique opportunities

Vision for the future continues on deaf campus

SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf has been a part of the Crossroads — and the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark — for more than 30 years, providing higher education and career training for the deaf, not just in West Texas, but for those from across the nation.

SWCID was established by the board of trustees of the Howard County Junior College District (HCJCD) on Nov. 6, 1979, following completion of a feasibility study conducted by Howard College with the financial support of the Texas Education Agency. The study indicated a significant need for a post-secondary institution to serve the deaf community.

The first classes were taught at SWCID in 1980 and on May 14, 1981, the governor of Texas signed into law the bill which established SWCID as a state-supported institution within the HCJCD.

Creation of the SWCID campus is due largely to the hard work of Dr. Douglas J.N. Burke, the school's first executive director, who saw the need for a college to cater to students not yet ready to enroll at Galaudet College or the National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

It was Dr. Burke who saw the former Webb Air Force Bas as an opportunity to serve as the home for the facility, which has grown exponentially during the past 30-plus years.

Danny Campbell, who has been an instructor at the campus since the school's inception, said Dr. Burke had a grand vision for the school despite its humble beginnings.

"When I first came here, there was just one building, the old (Webb AFB) hospital — and you could tell it was a hospital," Campbell said



through an interpreter. "But Doug didn't see maternity wards or surgical suits or patient rooms; he saw classrooms and offices and a library and a cafeteria. I remember how excited Doug was when we went through that building for the first time."

Burke passed away in 1988. However, that hasn't stopped college officials from plowing ahead with his dream.

"The SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf campus is designed

for both self-contained and inclusive instruction to meet the needs of deaf and hard of hearing students," said Dr. Cheryl Sparks, president of Howard College. "Special emphasis has been given to career objectives and special placement combined with social activities to help each student reach their maximum potential."

Among the programs having seen the most growth during the years are graphic arts technology, dental laboratory technology and construction and building technology. The interpreter training program and paraprofessional for the deaf and hard of hearing programs remain popular with those individuals who choose to work within the deaf community.

Over the years, the college has grown, in both student count and buildings as well as services provided. Aside from modern dormitories and activity center, the school recently unveiled a 5,000 square-foot career technology center.

"And we're not finished," Sparks said. "We have the buildings, faculty, staff and tradition in place. Now, we just need to get the greater world to embrace what has happened here."

Dr. Mark Myers, former SWCID provost, said the institution is looking forward to the future.

"SWCID is the only community college in the nation to provide full instructional services to the deaf and hard of hearing. It is unique," Myers said through an interpreter. "We will continue Dr. Burke's vision and legacy and my vision for the future includes improvements in educational opportunities, such as building support for distance learning classes ... Big Spring is a small town and we realize it is difficult for most people to get here, so we need to be creative in reaching out to them."

Myers recently stepped down, with Dominick Bonura taking over the helm as interim provost. The school hasn't yet named a new provost.

For more information on SWCID, call 432-264-3700 or visit the college online at <http://www.howardcollege.edu/swcid>

Sanctuary for seniors

The McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark may seem like an unlikely haven for the Crossroad's senior residents, but it's home to the Big Spring Senior Center, which offers a number of invaluable services to the area's retired community.

The Senior Center — located at 1901 Simler Dr. — has been a part of Big Spring for many years, being first overseen by Howard County. However, the city took over operations in June of 2008 following negotiations between the two government entities, launching the facility into an intense series of renovations.

According to Michael Mahaney, senior services manager for the city of Big Spring, anywhere between 160 and 180 meals are prepared a day at the facility.

"We provide meals at the Senior Center for those who come in each afternoon," Mahaney said. "We also deliver meals to area residents through our Mobile Meals program. In all, depending on the menu and the weather, we feed about 180 people each day."

Meals are served Monday through Friday at noon. There is no charge for the meal to seniors over the age of 60, although a \$3.50 donation is suggested. There is a \$6 charge to those under age 60.

The Senior Center offers darts, dominoes and board games — ranging from chess and checkers to backgammon — as well as jigsaw puzzles. Regulation-size pool tables are also available, and all the necessities, such as cues and balls, are provided.

Bingo is held every Tuesday and Thursday and has been enhanced after a donation of a complete bingo system was donated to the Center.

"We provide many daily and weekly recreational, educational and wellness opportunities for our seniors. We have dances every Friday night and host monthly birthday parties and holiday celebrations," Mahaney said. "Our center

is a place where seniors can meet friends for coffee, attend educational lectures or participate in classes and games such as Bible study, bingo and checkers. Also, AARP provides the '55 Alive' driving course on a regular basis and we have the

AARP Tax Aides during tax season."

There is a Bible study each Wednesday from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and a caregiver support group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

For area seniors who like a little nightlife in their weekly plans, the center hosts a country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. each Friday for a \$6 fee per person.

The center is open from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.



A Hospital

Quick Check for Quality

Look for a hospital that:

- Is accredited by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.
- Is rated highly by State or consumer or other groups.

*Is covered by your Health Plan

Does Hospital meet national quality standards?

- *Check Accreditation status
- *Date of survey
- *Evaluation of the key areas reviewed during the survey.
- *Results of any followup activity.
- *Areas needing improvement.
- *Comparison with national results.

Experience with specific conditions

*Research show that hospitals that do many of the same types of procedures tend to have a better success with them.

Patient's Bill of Rights

Available from the American Hospital Association. Free
Telephone: 312-422-3000
website: <http://www.aha.org>

Also available on Fax on Demand
at 312-422-2020;
document number 471124

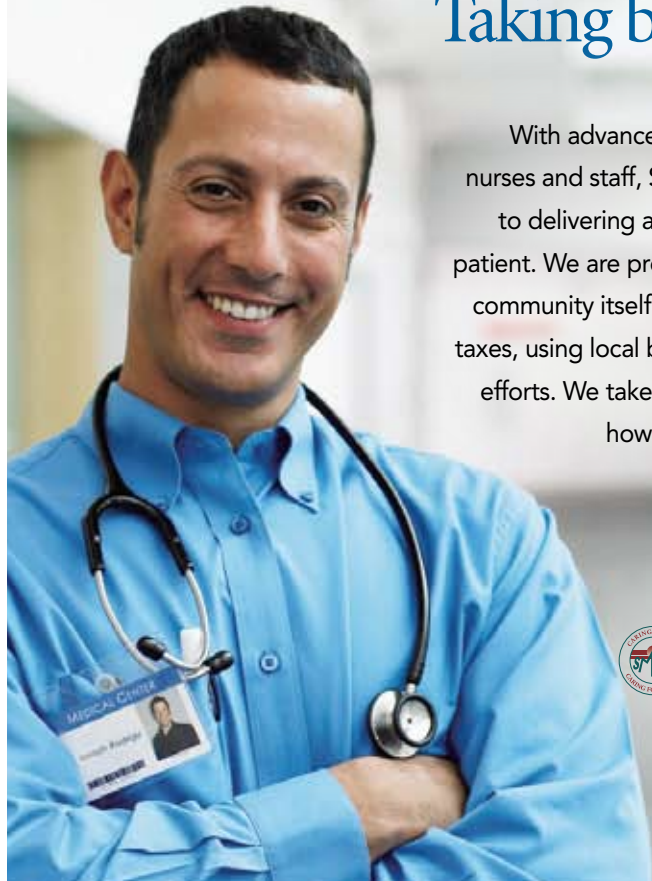
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Consumer HOW-TO GUIDE

Supplement To The Big Spring Herald
Sunday, April 29, 2012

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2011 Statement

Providing Quality Care:	
ER Patient Visits	15,996
Inpatient Visits.....	2,967
Outpatient Visits	58,791
Financial Benefits:	
Payroll (322 Employees).....	\$20,301,628
Capital Investments.....	\$2,083,553
Property & Sales Taxes	\$654,267
Caring for Our Community:	
Charity & Uncompensated Care	\$17,265,551
Dollars Spent Locally.....	\$783,802
Donations to the Community	\$12,685
Total Community Investment.....	\$41,101,486*

*Dollar amounts are approximate.

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Jerry and Debbie Read, Owners

HOW TO CHOOSE

A Hospice

Hospices offer services to help patients live as fully as possible until death and helps their families continue living afterward.

Hospices provide palliative care, as opposed to curative care. Their services include supportive medical, social, emotional and spiritual services to the terminally ill, as well as support for the patient's family. The care is primarily provided in the patient's home to allow peace, comfort and dignity. Hospice care relies on the combined knowledge and skill of a team of professionals—physicians, nurses, medical social workers, therapists, counselors and volunteers—who coordinate an individualized plan of care for each patient.

While the hospice concept dates to ancient times, the American hospice movement did not begin until the 1960s.

Most patients receiving hospice care are elderly — more than 79 percent are age 65 or older. Hospice patients are nearly as likely to be male as female. Nearly half of all hospice patients are married.

HOSPICE STAFF

Hospices employ physicians, nurses, home care aides, social workers, chaplains, therapists, and counselors who work together as an interdisciplinary team to coordinate an individualized plan of care for each patient and family. Little information is available on the total number of "formal" hospice caregivers.

Hospice organizations also rely heavily on volunteers. Table 18 shows that on average Medicare-certified hospices nationally have about 80% of the number of volunteers as employees. A closer look at each caregiver type shows that there are generally more employees than volunteers, except for the homemaker

and "other" categories.

It is also important to note that many terminally ill patients receive informal care. Informal caregivers represent family members, friends, or other unpaid helpers who are not trained as hospice volunteers. All Medicare hospice volunteers must participate in intensive volunteer training programs.

The Medicare program identified 2,265 hospices as of January 2002. There are also an estimated 200 volunteer hospices in the United States.

HOSPICE PARTICIPATION IN MEDICARE

Congress enacted legislation in 1982 creating a Medicare hospice benefit. Hospice services may be provided to terminally ill Medicare beneficiaries with a life expectancy of six months or less.

Following enactment of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 the Medicare hospice benefit is divided into the following benefit periods:

- An initial 90-day period;
- a subsequent 90-day period;
- an unlimited number of subsequent 60-day benefit periods as long as the patient continues to meet program eligibility requirements.

Covered hospice services are provided as necessary to give treatment for conditions related to the terminal illness: nursing care; services of a medical social worker, physician, counselor, home care aide and homemaker; short-term inpatient care; medical appliances and supplies including drugs and biologicals; physical and occupational therapies; and speech-language pathology services. Bereavement service for the family is provided for up to 13 months following the patient's death.

VALUE AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF HOSPICE

In comparison to hospital and skilled nursing facilities' costs, hospice is cost-effective. A comparison of the average cost for a Medicare patient to stay one day in a hospital, a skilled nursing facility and a hospice show that hospice charges per day are substantially lower.

Cost-effectiveness is not the sole rationale for hospice care. More compelling is the fact that hospice is a humane and compassionate way to deliver health care and supportive services. A study of the end-of-life experience of 3,357 older decedents reported that 40 percent were in severe pain prior to their death and 25 percent experienced moderate to great anxiety or depression before they died.

HOW TO MAKE A DECISION

1. Visit with your physician. He will help you and your family decide when the time is right for hospice service.

2. Be informed. Find out about the hospice services available in your area. Visit with representatives from any hospice you are considering.

3. If you or a family member resides in a nursing home/assisted living facility, visit with staff there. They can provide you with information on the hospices available.

4. Visit with friends and family members who have used a local hospice service. Find out if they were satisfied with the service they received. Remember, although all hospices provide the same basic services, how those services are rendered will vary from hospice to hospice.

5. Always remember that you and your family have the right to choose which hospice you use. Be leary of physicians, hospital personnel, hospice staff, etc. who attempt to deny your right to choose.

HOW TO CHOOSE

A Realtor®

WHO IS A REALTOR®?

The terms sales associate, broker and REALTOR® are often used interchangeably, but have very different meanings. For example, not all sales associate or brokers are REALTORS®. Learn who is a REALTOR® and the reasons why you should use one. As a prerequisite to selling real estate, a person must be licensed by the state in which they work, either as a salesperson or as a broker. Before a license is issued, minimum standards for education, examinations and experience, which are determined on a state by state basis, must be met.

After receiving a real estate license, most sales associate go on to join their local association of REALTORS® and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, the world's largest professional trade association. They can then call themselves REALTORS®. The term "REALTOR®" is a registered collective membership mark that identifies a real estate professional who is a member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and subscribes to its strict Code of Ethics (which in many cases goes beyond state law).

It is the REALTOR® who shares information on the homes they are marketing, through a Multiple Listing Service (MLS). Working with a REALTOR® who belongs to an MLS will give you access to the greatest number of homes.

The following are important questions to ask a potential agent:

- Are you a REALTOR®?
- Do you have an active real estate license in good standing? To find this information, you can check with your state's governing agency.
- Do you belong to the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) and/or a reliable online home buyer's search service? Multiple Listing services are cooperative information networks of REALTORS® that provide descriptions of most of the

houses for sale in a particular region. If there's on nearby MLS, how often do you cooperate with other local brokers on a sale? • What have you listed or sold in this neighborhood lately?

- Do you cooperate with buyer's brokers?
- What share of the commission will you offer a cooperating broker who finds the buyer?

And in addition to the criteria mentioned above, there are a number of very important reasons you will typically prefer to work with a REALTOR®. Among them is the fact that they adhere to the NAR's highest standards of ethical conduct and professional training.

WHAT A REALTOR® WILL DO FOR YOU

Some of the duties your REALTORS® will perform for you include:

- Walk through the process of selling your home from beginning to end.
- Provide comparable information about the prices for which other properties have sold and analyzing data for you to gain a true comparison.
- Supply information regarding local customs and regulations you may want to consider.
- Share information about your home through the Multiple Listing service and on the Internet.
- Place advertisements for your home.
- Field phone calls.
- "Qualify" potential buyers to make sure they would be financially able to buy your property.
- Prepare and present a sales contract.
- Alert you to potential risks.
- Comply with the disclosures required by law.
- Provide you with an estimate of the closing costs you will incur.
- Help you prepare for a smooth closing of the transaction.

THE TOP FIVE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW...

1. Look for a sales associate who is a member of the local board or association of Realtors®.
2. A sales associate should explain and disclose their role and who they represent at the serious first contact.
3. The sales associate should advise you on preparing your home for the market.
4. Be sure the professional shows enthusiasm, listens well, instills confidence and has a personality that is complementary to yours.
5. The sales associate should research your property and provide data on nearby homes that have or have not sold.

Selling or buying on your own is not an easy undertaking. It requires a significant amount of time to study the process, understand your obligations, and do some of the complicated work that a real estate sales associate does.



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*The Rings pictured are just a few of each collection. Each Collection has many more to choose from.

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HOW TO CHOOSE

An Internet Provider

GETTING STARTED

The first step is to figure out how you will want to use the Internet in your home or in your business: E-mail, virtual gaming, on-line banking, large file downloads, information searches, streaming video/audio, all or some of the above?

The next step is to decide how much you want to spend on installation and monthly charges. You will also need to ask yourself how often you will be online. Some dial-up packages have a set number of hours and anything over is extra.

Keep in mind, those with a high-speed connection, while actually spending less time downloading, spend more time on the internet than those with dial-up. This is mainly due to the fact that with a high-speed connection the Internet becomes a quicker, more convenient tool, and is a lot more fun to use.

WHICH IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Dial-Up
The normal speeds for dialup are 14 kilobits per second (kbps) to 56 kbps. This type of Internet connection is most common today, but is also the slowest. Web sites with moving pictures and lots of graphics may have trouble downloading at anything less than 28.8 kbps.

Because dial-up modems run over standard telephone lines, they supply Internet access to almost everyone. While you're connected, though, your phone line is engaged and unable to receive calls; some people install a second line for their computer, which adds onto the monthly cost.

Your internet service provider (ISP) will give you a telephone number to use for connecting to their service in your area, the settings you need, and the software on CD-ROM to set up on your computer. Not every provider will have a local access number.

To avoid long distance charges this is something that should be asked up front.

Digital Subscriber Line
Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) uses your standard copper pair wiring that exists in almost every home and office. It operates over normal telephone lines and can be used at the same time with the telephone so only one phone line is needed and there's no boundary on how long you're connected. DSL also has the convenience of an always-on connection

making disconnects and dial-in busy signals a thing of the past.

DSL can increase your access speed by as much as ten times as compared to a standard dial-up modem. Average speeds range from 200 kbps to 1,000 kbps, depending on the type of DSL you choose. It gives you full advantage of graphics and enhanced streaming audio, video, gaming, and multimedia.

Some DSL providers offer the convenience of selfinstallation for quicker activation times making a technician visit unnecessary.

Broadband Cable
Cable modems link you to the Internet through your cable TV line. Many cable companies now offer Internet as well as TV service. This gives you faster Internet than dial-up and better streaming audio, video, and multimedia.

Like DSL, you're connected all the time making it unnecessary to dial in and it doesn't affect your phone line. Average speeds range from 600 kbps to 1,000 kbps download. This is much faster than dial-up and good for multifaceted Web sites.

Satellite Broadband
Two-way satellite broadband connection transmits high-speed information via satellite to a dish receiver at your home. With one-way satellite, you needed a conventional modem and telephone link to an ISP for uploads, but the newer twoway satellite systems allow you to download and upload through your satellite dish.

It's usually higher-priced than other Internet connections but may be the only fast option for people who are beyond the service area of DSL or cable providers. A clear line of sight to the south is necessary to aim the satellite dish. Speeds average about 400 kbps download.

INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS

The number one thing you'll need in an ISP (Internet Service Provider), especially if you're just beginning on the Web, is high quality service and support. This means both a dependable company that uses the newest technology and, just as importantly, patient and knowledgeable technical support that will answer your questions or walk you through any problems that may come up when you and your family are online.

TOP 10 QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK:

1. Which speed is right for you?
2. What is the final cost per month?
3. Is there extra equipment required?
4. Is local access available?
5. Is all software provided?
6. What are the activation costs?
7. How many e-mails are included?
8. Is technical support available?
9. Is a contract necessary?
10. What extra options are available?

“Please wait for the next available service representative.
Approximate wait: um-m.”

- AT&T®

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HOW TO CHOOSE A Jeweler

Visiting a jeweler can be an overwhelming experience because most shoppers simply don't know enough about the intricacies of gemstones and precious metals to make their choices easily. That's why finding a reputable and competent jeweler is so important.

Any jeweler should be willing and able to show customers a variety of gemstones and jewelry in different shapes, sizes and qualities and should stock a broad selection of ring styles to enable you to decide which best fits your pocket book.

Your jeweler also should be able to help you learn to see with your own eyes why some diamonds of similar size differ greatly in value, or from a practical perspective — how you might reasonably select from a variety of different sizes, all priced similarly to fit your budget.

All of us like to feel that we receive a good value when we make a major purchase.

Take time to find what you want and where you want to buy it. Diamonds, for instance, can be confusing. Even if two diamonds are the same size, color and clarity, differences in the way they were cut, their finish and fluorescence can cause one to be worth much more than the other.

BUYING GEMSTONES

Gemstones have been sought after and treasured throughout history. They have been found in ruins dating back several thousand years. They are valued as gifts symbolizing love. Generally, the price of any gemstone is determined by size, cut, quality — which includes color, clarity and treatments — and type.

Here are some simple questions to ask about quality:

- Has it been heat treated?
- Is the stone natural or

synthetic?

- Are there any noticeable scratches, chips or inclusions?
- Is the color even throughout the stone?
- How strong is the color? Is it vivid?
- If you are buying the stones for earrings or cufflinks, are the stones well-matched?

ADVICE TO PROTECT JEWELRY

Try to protect any jewelry from scratches, sharp blows, harsh chemicals, extreme temperatures and sunlight.

Here's some advice about how to keep your jewelry in good condition:

- Store jewelry separately so it doesn't scratch other jewelry.
- When doing household tasks such as gardening and cleaning, be certain to remove rings.
- Put your jewelry on after washing or bathing and applying any makeup or hair spray.
- Never wear jewelry while swimming in a swimming pool. The chlorine can cause damage to various gemstones and gold.
- Avoid storing your jewelry next to a heating vent, window sill or on a car's dashboard. Store jewelry away from sunlight (the sun may fade the gemstones).

• Always store bead necklaces (such as lapis, pearls, etc.) flat; silk stretches over time. Do not store pearls in plastic bags.

• Gemstones may become loose in their settings (and possibly fall out). Be certain that stones mounted in rings are not loose and don't rattle. The prongs of a ring can and do wear down. If the prongs wear down too much or break, you can lose the stone. Prongs are easily "retripped" by most jewelers to keep the stone secure.

- Most jewelers will restring

necklaces or reset stones (for a fee).

• Sterling silver will polish up by rubbing or buffing it with a soft cotton cloth.

• Store silver in plastic bags with an interlocking seal to make it less prone to tarnish.

Remember, also, that the hardness of stones plays into how they can be treated.

Hardness is based on a gem-trade standard called the Mohs Scale. The higher the Mohs Scale number, the harder the stone. The highest Mohs Scale rating is 10, for diamonds. Anything rated less than 7 on the scale can be easily scratched — coral, lapis lazuli, opal, pearl, turquoise, for instance. Gold, silver and platinum are at the soft end of the scale.

KEYS TO A FINE JEWELER

When you're searching for a jeweler, remember that you may spend thousands of dollars over time at this business. It's imperative to find someone you feel comfortable with and someone who is willing to work with you when you have questions about jewelry, repairs or perhaps special orders

Find a store where the owner is the jeweler, someone actively involved in the store's operation who knows his clientele and the business.

Your chosen store should be able to design and create fine jewelry. The staff should be happy to spend time with customers to educate them about jewelry and what's currently available on the market. Work should be done on the premises. After all, you've chosen your jeweler because of his or her expertise.

Look for well-known jewelry and watch lines while you're shopping. Your jeweler should offer free gift wrapping, intown delivery and above all superb customer service combined with an expert staff.

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HOW TO CHOOSE!!

A Builder

These days, buying a home means more than just looking at the structure. Buying a home now means talking to the builder as carefully as you shop for a home.

Home buyers need to know the home they're buying - whether it be a house, condo or custom build home - is a good quality home built by a reputable builder.

A local builders association is a good place to start to obtain a list of builders who construct homes in your area. Other good places to find information are in the classified section of the local newspaper, Internet and radio ads. Looking through these sources of information can provide information such as types of homes, locations and cost.

Local real estate agents, friends and relatives can also help provide this information.

Another way to gather information is to drive around and look at subdivisions and houses that are being built.

Next, make a list of the information you have gathered.

Along with that, include a list of questions to ask others about the builder, and to ask the builder themselves.

A good way to get the answers from homeowners is to drive around the areas of interest on weekends or evenings when current residents may be outside exercising or doing outdoor chores.

Ask builders for the addresses of some of the work they have done so you can visit them in person. Visiting these homes and talking with their owners is a good source of information.

Taking a notebook along when asking questions of builders or homeowners is a good way to keep all the information in one place for future reference.

Some questions to ask homeowners are:

- Are you happy with your home?
- If you have had any problems, were they fixed promptly and properly?
- Would you buy another home from this builder?

Some questions to ask builders are:

- How long has your company been in business?

• Who do you contact for customer service after the sale is complete?

• Who is responsible for correcting problems with major appliances?

• Does the builder use state-of-the-art energy features?

• Take detailed notes on the information you receive.

When you find a home you want to examine, take notes on a number of features. The quality of cabinetry, carpeting, trimwork and paint are important features of a home.

Take into consideration the design of the home as well when looking to buy.

• Are there enough bedrooms and bathrooms?

• Is there enough storage space?

• Is there enough extra space for particular hobbies or an office or exercise room?

• Is the lawn large or small enough?

Neighborhood associations are also a key factor to buying a home. If the neighborhood has one, get a list of their rules.

• Do they allow fences?

• Do they allow boats or campers to be parked at the house?

Service contracts are another important key in buying a home. A builder will typically make two service calls, the first within one to four months after moving in, and the second around the 11th month just before warranties on workmanship and materials expire.

Buying a home is a costly move that should be done with patience and caution, making sure all the important questions are asked before the deal is complete. How to...

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

• Contact your local builders association.

• Scan advertising in newspapers, listen to ads on radio and television, search the Internet and talk to builders and friends. Gather all the information possible.

• Ask real estate agents for their recommendations, and for a list of names of builders.

• Drive around to communities under construction.

• Ask for references from current homeowners.

• Make sure your builder's license is active.

• Home buyers need to know if the home they're buying is a good quality home built by a reputable builder.

• Drive around and look at subdivisions and houses being built.

• Taking a notebook along when asking questions of builders or homeowners is a good way to keep all information in one place.

• A local builders association is a good place to start to obtain a list of builders who construct homes in your area.



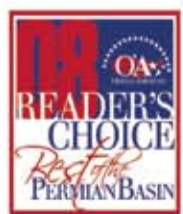
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HOW TO CHOOSE: A Financial Advisor

Like most people, you probably are plenty busy with your work and family. So you may not have the time and expertise needed to thoroughly understand the investment world. That's why you may want to work with a professional investment representative. But how do you find the right one? You can start by asking the right questions.

Here are a few to consider:

- Have you worked with people in my situation? — As an investor, you have your own special set of characteristics: level of assets, stage of life, long-term goals, etc. Before you sign up to work with an investment professional, you need to make sure that he or she is comfortable working with someone like you.

- What are your credentials? — Inquire about an investment professional's qualifications. Make sure anyone you might work with has all the necessary securities licenses.

- What is your investment philosophy? — Just like investors, investment professionals have different investment personalities. Some might be naturally more aggressive, while others are conservative. But the ideal professional is someone who will provide you with guidance that's based on your risk tolerance and investment preferences.

- How will you communicate with me? — You'll want to make sure that your broker will communicate regularly with you. Find out when you'll receive statements and how often you'll meet in person to review your portfolio. Will you receive e-mail with suggestions and recommendations? Are you free to contact your broker at any time? If the broker is not available, is there someone else

that he or she works with who will be familiar with your situation? It's important to find these things out as soon as possible. Remember, you're entrusting this person with your financial future — so you have a right to expect open, honest and frequent communications.

- What sort of resources do you have to draw on? — Find out if a prospective investment professional has access to high-quality research and technical expertise in key areas, e.g., investments, insurance and estate planning. In some cases, a broker may be able to bring in added expertise through a relationship with another professional, such as an attorney or accountant.

- How do you get paid? — Investment professionals get paid in a variety of ways: fees, commissions, percentage of assets under management, or even a combination of these. You need to know, right from the start, how your broker is getting compensated.

- Can you provide me with references? — A lot of people are too shy to ask for references. However, a reputable financial professional will be happy to give you some names of people you can call. Of course, you shouldn't expect a broker to provide you with the specifics of other clients' financial transactions. But you should be free to ask about a broker's style, responsiveness, etc.

You may need to interview several candidates before you find a suitable investment professional. But it's worth the effort. Making the right choice today can pay off far into the future.

Tax preparation can be complicated. So, if you do want some personal help, you'll need to turn to a professional. But how can you find one? Should you just look in the Yellow Pages under "Tax Preparation?"

You could, but there are better ways. Start by asking your friends or relatives who they use. If they can recommend someone they've had good experience with, seek this person out, but don't automatically hand over your 1040. Before you sign on the dotted line, ask some questions. Here are some you might want to use:

Are you accredited?

A lot of people claim to be "tax preparers," but they're not all experts - or even professionals. Make sure the preparer you're considering has the proper credentials, either as a tax attorney, a certified public accountant or an "Enrolled Agent" - someone who can present you before the IRS in case of an audit. Usually, all these people are required to attend continuing education classes - a big plus for you, since it means they'll be familiar with the latest tax law changes.

Do you have experience working with people like me?

This might be the most important question of all. You'll want someone who is familiar with your general situation. For instance, if you're self-employed, you'll want someone who has worked with people like you, and who knows all the various deductions you can claim, the business expenses you can write off, etc.

Can I reach you when tax season is over?

Tax preparers work very hard during tax season. In fact, some of them work so hard that they take several months off when the season is over, but you could have a question about your taxes at any time. Maybe you want to know the tax consequences for converting a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA. Or maybe you want to donate some appreciated stock to a charity and you want to find out how this might affect your tax picture for the year. Dozens of issues could arise outside tax season - which is why you'll want to pick someone who's available the year round.

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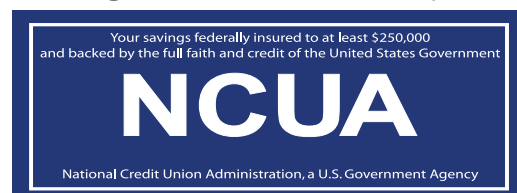
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221189

HOW TO CHOOSE A Plumber

Know who to call before it's an emergency

When drains clog, pipes burst or other problems strike, a good plumber can seem like a long lost friend. Plumbing emergencies can be devastating and certain kinds, such as gas leaks or sewage back-flow, can be dangerous.

If you've never had to do it, you've probably never thought about it. But choosing the right plumber can actually be a pretty big decision to make, especially if the job you need done is a big one or if it is an emergency.

After all, the plumbing system in your house is important to your family's overall comfort, safety and health. In fact, the average household plumbing system represents an investment of about fifteen percent of the value of the house. No part of the house is more important. Nothing in the house is used more often.

A good plumber knows how to intervene quickly to minimize damage and prevent hazards. And a good plumber knows how to intervene quickly to minimize damage and prevent hazards. And, of course a plumber can handle plenty of non-emergencies, too - from replacing a faucet washer to re-piping a house.

Whether you are planning to install a new fixture, remodel a bathroom or make simple repairs, you'll want to carefully select the right plumbing company for your needs.

Finding qualified help

When the time comes to call a plumbing contractor, make sure you choose a qualified, full-time professional and not just a 'handyman' who does this type of work on the side. Here are some of the best ways to find a good plumbing contractor:

- Ask for recommendations from friends who have had similar work done. You can also ask hardware or plumbing supply clerks for suggestions.
- Look through the Yellow Pages under 'Plumbing Contractors' or 'Plumbing, Drain & Sewer Cleaning' and look for licensed plumbing contractors.
- Find out how long they have been in

business and how or what they charge for the type of work you need. Be specific about the job.

- Consider the company's reputation. To be sure you get a reputable plumbing contractor for a large job, ask for names of satisfied customers you can call for referrals.
- Also, be sure to ask for a response lead time. You should be able to have the repairs done on the same or next day. And, of course, in case of an emergency, time is of the essence and the plumbing company should be able to respond very quickly.
- Check for membership in trade organizations, such as the local chapter of the National Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors. Companies that participate in these organizations are more likely to keep up to date on new regulations and codes.

In a plumbing emergency, you may have to resort to cold calling plumbers listed in the Yellow Pages. Ask for a rate based on time and materials; that way you can shop around quickly by phone and set the job's cost before the plumber arrives. If the plumber won't give you a time and materials rate, find one that will. It's also a good idea to check the company's reliability report with the Better Business Bureau.

Plumbing checklist

Your home's plumbing system is important to your family's health, safety and comfort. Don't gamble with them by selecting a contractor by chance. Remember your plumber should always:

- Listen to you attentively when you explain your problem.
- Diagnose the problem and explain what needs to be done in terms you understand.
- Use drop sheets or service mats to protect the floor in the area where they are working.
- Show you the work they have done, explain it in detail and ask if you have any questions.
- Explain their estimate and provide it to you in writing.
- Re-check their work.

Hints when getting estimates

When looking for a reliable plumbing company, you cannot simply rely on hourly rates. Plumbing companies' billing systems vary.

By asking for an hourly labor rate and an approximate time frame that the repairs may take, you can shop around quickly, and have an idea of what the job will cost before the plumber arrives.

Rules and regulations

Some state laws regulate the sale of home improvement goods and services; it applies to most types of home improvements costing more than \$500.

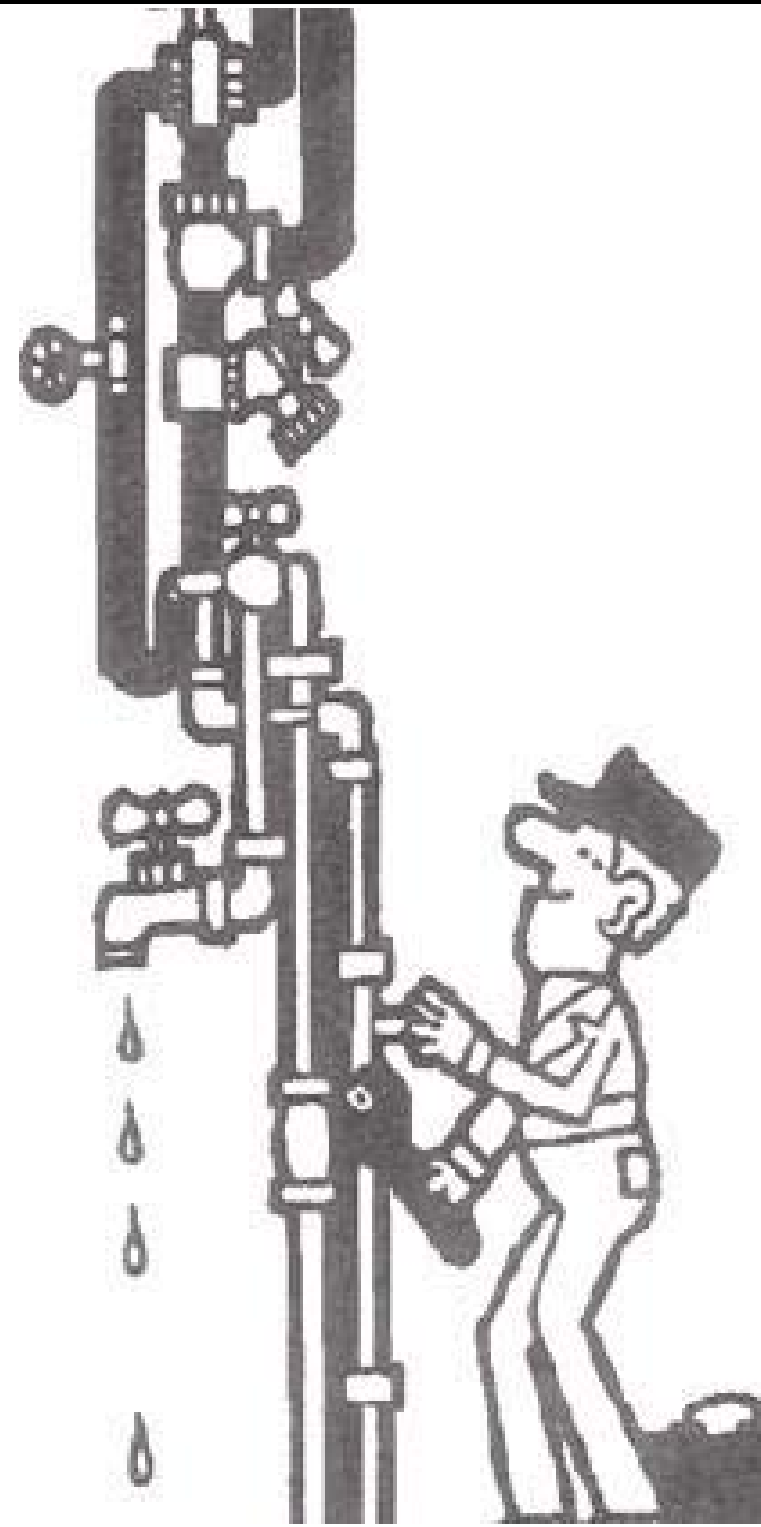
Most localities require a building permit for large home improvement projects. Contact your local licensing or permit department to see if you need one for your project. Make this call before the work begins.

It is critical to hire someone who knows your local codes. Many municipalities and towns require that plumbing contractors be licensed to ensure that all health, safety and building codes are followed. If that's the case where you live, ask the contractor for his or her license number, or call the Building Inspection and Licensing Department at your local city hall.

- Confirm insurance credentials.

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A Credit Union

HOW TO CHOOSE

Congratulations on your decision to join a credit union! Credit unions exist to serve their members and communities. They are democratically owned and controlled institutions, based on "people helping people" philosophy. As not-for-profit cooperatives, credit unions use excess earnings to offer members more affordable loans, a higher return on savings, lower fees or new products and services. Credit unions serve members from all walks of life, and offer a full range of financial services, giving members greater flexibility to meet their individual needs. It is important to weigh all the factors carefully just as when making any large purchase. Now that you've made the decision to join a credit union, your next step is selecting right credit union for you.

It is important to weigh all the factors carefully:

1. Do you need a personal account, commercial or both? Are your account needs simple or complex? Specialty accounts offer a variety of services for one fee, while simple accounts offer a minimum of features for a much lower rate. The size of your account can determine what will best suit your needs.
2. Do you plan to apply for a loan in the future? Consider what loan services are avail-

able. If you plan to purchase a home or automobile, you will want to find a credit union that offers great loans for homes and automobiles. Farmers will be looking for a credit union with a strong agricultural loan department, while businessmen will be looking for a financial institution that has a good commercial loan department.

3. Do you plan to save for a big expense or toward your child's education? Look at the different types of saving plans offered. Many credit union are now offering uninsured investments such as mutual funds, as well as traditional insured deposit accounts.

4. Do you require the conveniences of automated teller machines and other types of electronic services? If you travel extensively, a credit union with an extensive branch network or ATMs and PC banking may be a necessity for you.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

When doing business with any entity, company or organization, it's important to take the following into consideration:

1. Friendliness - Are the tellers, customer service representative and loan offers cordial or unfriendly?
2. Professionalism - Do the employees keep the work environ-

ment orderly and demonstrate proper respect?

3. Knowledge - Are the customer contact people able to answer your questions? If not, do they know where to get the answer?

4. Promptness - Do credit union personnel and officers return your calls in a timely manner? Is the response on loan requests reasonable?

5. Community involvement - Do you see credit union employees involved in a community organizations and activities?

6. Turnover - Do you see a lot of new faces? Do the employees seem to enjoy their jobs?

PICK BASED ON YOUR NEEDS

When it comes to choosing a credit union, everyone has different needs. Some want more customer service, others prefer wider access to ATMs. For some people, a nearby credit union branch is a must, while others may be more interested in online banking. There are many options and you will find that financial institutions are aggressively competing for your business. Use this to your advantage as you begin your search.

Whichever credit union you choose, you can rest assured that your deposits are federally insured.

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HOW TO CHOOSE

A Funeral Home

HERE ARE SOME QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING A FUNERAL HOME

- Are you a locally owned funeral home?
- Life insurance and pre-paid services cover the cost of many funeral services. What types of services could I receive here if I have these options (Note: Ask only if a loved one made such previous arrangements)?
- What are the necessary steps, materials and/or government regulations to consider when pre-arranging a funeral (Note: Ask only if pre-arranging a funeral)?
- Am I able to customize the funeral service I want for the deceased?
- What kinds of funeral packages (if any) do you offer?

MATERIALS TO PICK UP WHILE AT THE FUNERAL HOME

- A general price list and list of services
- A copy of specific prices if the general list does not include prices for such things as caskets, urns, etc.
- A written memorandum of charges (if funeral goods and services are agreed upon/purchased)

WHAT IS A FUNERAL AND WHY HAVE ONE?

A memorial service or funeral is a gathering of family and friends who come together to honor the memory of someone who has died.

It is important to most of us to commemorate the significant events that happen throughout our lives. Baptisms, graduations, weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, and memorial services or funerals are all examples of important life events that we recognize through some form of ritual or ceremony.

Memorial services and funerals provide an important rite of passage. Similar to rituals which mark other transitions in life, memorial services and funerals provide a time for family and friends to acknowledge

the life of the loved one, and share their feelings concerning the loss of this person in their lives. Coming together like this helps people accept the death, which is a critical part of adjusting to the loss and like other life events, they allow us to come together and help each other.

Memorial services and funerals can be as unique as the people planning them. While they are often held at churches, synagogues, or funeral homes, they may be held in any location requested by the family. Memorial services and funerals that remember the individual in personal ways can be very healing. We all carry memories, and it is helpful to share these memories through readings or music, or other kinds of participation.

Memorial services and funerals are an important ritual in our lives. They affirm our basic beliefs about life and death, and help us through our loss.

WHAT DO FUNERAL DIRECTORS DO?

The primary role of a funeral director is to help, and to serve people after they have experienced a death.

Funeral directors help the family plan the memorial service or funeral, and then take responsibility for coordinating those decisions. This includes matters such as: securing the location for the service; arranging for someone to officiate; ordering the flowers and memorial folders; providing the obituary and other information to newspapers; filing legal documents with governmental agencies; and, directing various aspects of the service itself. The funeral director is also responsible for preparing the deceased for the services and making sure the presentation fulfills the wishes of the family.

In all these activities, it is the concerned, caring service to families that is the hallmark of the funeral director. Advisor, counselor, organizer, and caregiver are just some of the roles which funeral directors play in helping you through your loss.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Visit several funeral homes before deciding on one.
- Check the funeral home's reputation by talking with friends or clergy first.
- Make sure the person handling your funeral arrangements is licensed.
- Plan ahead if possible, but that doesn't necessarily mean pay ahead.

CHOOSING A CEMETERY

- Make sure the cemetery is licensed.
- Check the cemetery's reputation by talking to friends, local clergy and the Better Business Bureau.
- Inspect the cemetery yourself.
- Ask questions. How do they handle complaints?
- If buying a plot in advance, make sure the cemetery has a certificate of authority to sell pre-need.

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HOW TO CHOOSE A Florist

FLOWERS ARE LIKE SUGAR. THEY MAKE EVERYTHING BETTER.

But, of course, the experience with the florist is just as important as the flowers themselves. Whether planning for a 200-person wedding, a birthday party or simply covering your rear on Valentine's Day, it pays to develop a relationship with a florist who can help you through those special times.

Here are a few questions and tips to help you get started:

- Do they help educate you about flowers?
- They should provide the best advice in helping you choose the perfect flowers for your wedding day or event. Most customers do not know where to begin with flowers. A floral designer should be willing to offer advice and help you coordinate flowers that are available for that time of year and that would best suit your event colors.
- Ask to see photos of their work. Florists should have photographs of some or all of their work from previous events and weddings. Every florist is different and this allows you to get a feel for what their style is and see variety in their work. Further, it also provides means for you to pick out a similar design that you may want for your event or wedding.
- How many events do they have per day? They should be able to tell you how many weddings and events they do each day. Having too many events in one day increases the chance of mistakes and reduces the ability to personalize. Some florists who are overly busy during your event may lose attention to detail. The more unique you want your event to be, the more time it should take to organize and set up.
- Will the same floral designer that met with you be giving your wedding personal attention? The person who is meeting with you should also be the person who is working with your flowers. Floral design is a detailed process and if the person you meet with is not the person who works with your flowers, then they may not come out looking exactly like what you expected.

• Do they provide samples? Florists should provide a sample of the centerpiece you have chosen or something they may have already prepared that is similar to it.

Choosing the right flowers is a very important process. You will be putting a lot of time, effort, and money into having the perfect reception or event and seeing a sample will help relieve the uncertainty of not knowing what it will look like. At the same time, it confirms that the florist can actually deliver what it is that you have chosen.

• Do they do custom work or just provide packages? After all, it is your wedding or event and it should look exactly the way you want it to. You should never settle for a package that looks like what everybody else may be getting or what seems to be popular at the time.

• Do they encourage you to get quotes from other florists? They should encourage you to shop around. You can get an idea and feel for each different floral designer. You can

compare which one you feel best suits your needs and is more willing to customize what you want, rather than what they offer. You can also get a range of different services in different price ranges.

• Do they put your offer in writing? No matter how good the florist is, or how much they care about you, if they don't put it in writing, then do not make the deal. No matter what, there is no way they are going to remember the exact details of what they "promise" you that day.

• Are they familiar with the reception and/or event sites? Florists should be familiar with the sites local to their area. Being familiar with the sites in their area gives them the expertise of knowing exactly how to prepare and set-up for an event. They will also be aware beforehand of any problems they may have had with the site in the past.

• Will they re-use flowers from my ceremony for my reception? A florist should be flexible and able to offer a way to re-use flowers. The re-use of flowers is extremely economical.

Most flowers from the ceremony end up being donated to a church that will already be receiving its own flowers. Ceremony flowers can be used as entrance decorations or behind the head or sweetheart tables. What are their guarantees regarding freshness and availability? A florist should be able to guarantee freshness and availability of flowers promised to all brides and customers. Flowers that are chosen should be the exact flowers used on the day of the event. Walking into your event and finding a different variety of flowers and colors than were chosen is not acceptable. Florists should also know that certain flowers are not available year round and should not promise that flower if it will not be available during the time of your event. If they can manage to get a flower that is not in season, chances are it will not look its best for the event.

OTHER QUESTIONS

- Are there rental fees, or does the price include baskets, runner, arch or any props?
- Will the florist label all personal flowers or does he/she stay to pin them on?
- Does the price include delivery and pick-up of rental items after reception?
- When does the florist purchase the flowers? One to two days before the wedding is ideal.

Does the florist have a refrigerator? Roses, gardenias, and other delicate flowers need to be kept cool, especially during summer months.

Will the florist be there for setup or will it be left to the delivery driver? Especially for outdoor weddings, the arch, gazebo, or chuppah needs to be decorated as close to the ceremony as possible - not hours beforehand.



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HOW TO CHOOSE!

A Gift

Some of us spend days picking out the right present for friends and family, then spend even longer painstakingly wrapping them. Of course, not everyone enjoys this process, and choosing the right thing can be a minefield.

WHAT TO BUY

First of all, try not to spend more than you can afford. Giving expensive presents does not prove how much you love someone, and putting a little thought into something they'd really like is much better than splurging on luxury goods just for the sake of it.

Other tips:

- Try not to worry too much. Women worry more about present buying than men, with 52 percent of them saying that they found it stressful.
- If someone asks for something that you can't afford, find out what their second choice is instead. Don't feel guilty about giving them a gentle reality check.
- Don't buy something for them with just yourself in mind. Go to the returns desk of any department store after Christmas and look at the long queue of women bringing back red and black lacy underwear and changing it for something a bit more classy. Nuff said.
- How do they think of themselves? Buy a gift for the most flattering way they see themselves, not the everyday ordinary way that you usually see them. Don't copy the boy who bought his mom a frying pan and wondered why she got upset. She resented the amount of time she spent in the kitchen and it made her feel taken for granted.
- If you really can't think of what to buy for someone, ask a close friend of theirs what they'd really like.
- Gift certificates may seem a bit impersonal, but if you're not sure about someone's personal taste, they are a safe option. They are not good as a romantic gift, though.
- If you're buying online or from a catalogue, remember that although they may say it takes 14 days for deliver, the

package is often delayed due to the extra number of things sent during holiday periods. Allow some extra time.

YOUR SHOPPING RIGHTS

- Goods that you buy must be safe and fit for the purpose that they are sold for.
- Keep the receipts just in case something goes wrong or the gift is unwanted.
- Don't put down a deposit on anything without getting a receipt for it and reading the small print. Is it returnable?
- If you're buying online, remember that UK-based companies are bound by the same laws as other shops, unless it's a single person trading on their own.

GIVING THE GIFT

After choosing your gift, pay attention to presentation. Wrap the gift beautifully. Include a warm note expressing your affection for the recipient and perhaps a bit of why you chose the gift you did.

As a service, some stores may offer free gift wrapping and even mailing services, saving the customer the hassle of wrapping, packing and shipping the gifts purchased at the store.

THAT UNWANTED GIFT

If you have the receipt and the gift hasn't been used, many shops will take things back.

Returning unwanted items without a receipt can be tricky, although some items are often taken back as a goodwill gesture.

If an elderly relative gets you a horrible jumper, you could always tell them that it didn't fit and that you need to have the receipt so you can exchange it for the right size. Then you can exchange it for something you prefer.

Then again, you could just auction it off on eBay.

Try not to tell anyone outright that you hated their present.

In most cases it's better not to hurt their feelings. Just chalk it down to experience and start dropping hints in the spring about what you want for Christmas.

GIFT GIVING IDEAS

• HOME DECOR

- Art
- Dinnerware
- Stoneware
- Fragrances
- Candles
- Vases
- Lamps
- Linens.

• FIGURINES

- Angels
- Bears
- Crystal
- Frogs

• PERSONAL GIFTS

- Fragrances
- Jeweled purses
- Jewelry