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WEDNESDAY

MAY 2, 2012



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 170

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Martin County Hospital opens

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

STANTON — Officials cut the ribbon on Martin County's new \$22 million hospital Tuesday.

The new 18-bed Martin County Hospital, which was completed ahead of schedule and under budget, officially

opened its doors at 12:01 a.m. Tuesday and initial reviews have been overwhelmingly positive, the hospital's executive director said.

"Everybody's just raved about it," said Peter McKinney, CEO of the Martin County Hospital District. "It's the finest facility this county has

ever seen."

The hospital, financed through a \$22.85 million bond approved by more than 80 percent of the hospital district voters in May 2010, took 13 months to build and replaces a building that simply outlived its usefulness, McKinney said.

"The old building is 63 years old and almost completely out of functional use to the community," he said. "It was almost like being back in the '50s ... We were definitely behind the times in the way we treated our patients, but we've caught up now."

Final construction costs

came in at just over \$22 million, \$750,000 under original estimates. In addition, the hospital was completed two months ahead of schedule, McKinney said.

The new hospital will provide basically the same

See **OPEN**, Page 3A

Business After Hours at airpark

Herald Staff Report

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will hold Business After Hours from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Thursday at McMahon-Wrinkle Airport and Industrial Park.

The public is invited.

Businesses located at the airpark will be represented for those wanting to find out more information. Those attending are invited to exchange business cards at this networking opportunity.

Refreshments and door prizes will be available.

The event will be held at the air terminal at 3200 Rickabaugh Drive West.

For more information about Business After Hours, call the chamber office at 263-7641.



Associated Press photo
Crossroads area residents are invited to a Day of Prayer observance at 12:10 p.m. Thursday on the third floor of the Howard County Courthouse.

Day of Prayer observance set

By AMANDA MORENO
Staff Writer

Prayers will be sent from the third floor of the Howard County Courthouse on Thursday.

A community call to prayer has been organized for 12:10 p.m.

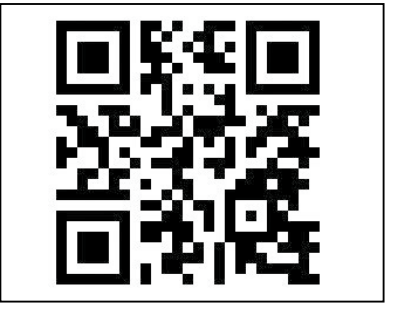
"We don't need our pastors to organize this," Justice of the Peace Kathryn Wiseman said. "This needs to come from the people."

The scripture being used in support of the call to prayer is 2 Chronicles 7:13-15; "If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven"

See **PRAY**, Page 3A



Wiseman



Art gallery opening here

By AMANDA MORENO
Staff Writer

A new venue for art is coming to the area.

I Think 219 Gallery — located at 219 Main — will have a "soft" opening May 11 for a select group of people and will be open for public viewing from 10 a.m.



Bowman

until 4 p.m. May 19.

Local artists Andrew Bowman and Ramone Holguin will be the primary individuals displaying work, but there will be more to come.

"Ramone is just as passionate about art as a movement as I am about making it,"

Bowman said.

Bowman specializes in the creation of art through spray paint and abstract views. Of course, there isn't a specific category for his art, but each of his works can be described as one of a kind.

"When I create a piece it reflects the

See **GALLERY**, Page 3A

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54414 79720 9

Hangar Air Museum holding fundraiser

By AMANDA MORENO
Staff Writer

Hangar 25 Air Museum is responsible for storing years and years of history inside its walls. Soon, even more history will not only be contained inside, but on the walls themselves.

A fundraiser at the former Webb Air Force Base — where thousands of servicemen were trailed as pilots — is aimed at replicating class patches. For a donation of \$500 or more, a class patch will be replicated and hung on the wall inside the hangar.

"We are always thinking of unique ideas on how to raise money," Gloria McDonald, member of the Hangar 25 advisory board, said.

All the money included in



Replicas of patches are being constructed by local artists and will be displayed in Hangar 25 Air Museum. To find out how to have a patch constructed, call the museum at 264-1999.


the donation for the construction of the sign goes as an actual donation and not materials for the sign, according to McDonald. Burcham Signs is providing the boards and installation once the patches

Courtesy photo

See **HANGAR**, Page 3A


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Shirley M. Brashears



Shirley M. Brashears, 74, of Big Spring died Tuesday, May 1, 2012, in a local nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, May 4, 2012, at Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with her son, Don Moore, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday, May 3, 2012, at the funeral home.

She was born Dec. 18, 1937, in Lamesa to Fred and Isabell Wilson and moved to the dairy farm with her family when she was around five years old. She grew up there and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1956.

Shirley married Don Brashears on Aug. 21, 1970, in Lovington, N.M. He preceded her in death July 14, 2010. She and Don raised their combined family of seven kids. She had worked at Furr's Cafeteria and then at Malone-Hogan Clinic as an insurance clerk.

After retiring, she and Don enjoyed camping and going to swap meets. She especially loved working in her yards and also loved and had lots of cats, many of them strays.

Survivors include four sons, Johnny Moore and wife Debbie of Big Spring, Greg Moore and wife Kara of Midland, Don Moore and wife Robin of Lubbock and Mike Brashears and Patricia of Louisville, Colo.; three daughters, Donna McCloskey and husband Mike of Austin, Cathy Broadrick and husband Ronnie of Midland and Susan Hirt and husband Wayne of Garden City; three brothers, Red Wilson and wife Lakie of Odessa, Bill Wilson and wife Joyce of Hallsville and Pete Wilson and wife Sharon of Santee, Calif.; 17 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and two more expected.

She was also preceded in death by her parents. The family suggests memorials be made to the Big Spring Humane Society, P.O. Box 823, Big Spring, Texas 79721-0823.

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

Paid obituary

Shirley M. Davis



Shirley M. Davis, 76, of Big Spring died Monday, April 30, 2012, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 3, 2012, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Walter McCall officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 2, 2012, at the funeral home.

She was born Dec. 19, 1935, in Inola, Okla., and married Bill R. Davis on March 21, 1969, in Big Spring.

Shirley moved to Big Spring in 1950 and had worked for Texas Utilities for 36 years.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Davis of Big Spring; one daughter, Janet Somers and husband Frank of Big Spring; two step-daughters, Reba Williams and Robin Flowers and husband Larry all of Wichita Falls; two brothers, James West of Comanche and George West of Coahoma; one sister, Patricia Hodges of Midland; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Clifford and Lydia (Shimp) West; one son-in-law, Don R. Criswell; one grandson; and two sisters, Bernice Coats and Ester Davis.

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

Camilla Joyce Osburn

Camilla Joyce Osburn, 75, of Big Spring died Tuesday, May 1, 2012, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Obituaries

Leon Kennedy



Leon Kennedy, lovingly known as PaPaw by his grandkids, 75, of Big Spring, peacefully took his last breath April 30, 2012, at 10:30 p.m. and went to be with our Lord, leaving behind a hole in our hearts that will never again be filled.

Family visitation will be at Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home on Thursday, May 3, 2012, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Funeral services will be held at Midway Baptist Church on Friday, May 4, 2012, at 10 a.m. Interment will be immediately held following the services in Big Spring with a graveside service for family and friends at Trinity Memorial Park.

Leon was the oldest son of Ralph Leon Kennedy and Billie Marie Kennedy of Oklahoma. He was born June 2, 1936, in Okmulgee, Okla. He married the love of his life, Donna Spurgeon, on June 10, 1956. He was a third generation oil field worker, working first in Oklahoma for his grandfather, then Kansas, finally moving to West Texas in early 1961. He worked for Getty Oil Company/Texaco for 31 years, retiring as a senior production foreman in December 1992.

He was the much loved and respected patriarch of his family, leading, guiding and loving his wife, children, grandchildren and great-granddaughter. He was an avid fisherman and loved fishing at Lake Ivey, where he had made a second home. He lived to take care of his family, whom he made to feel safe, protected and loved. He was also a true and special friend to many.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Donna Kennedy of Big Spring; one son, Russell Leon Kennedy and wife Tammy of Coahoma; one daughter, Regina Lynne Warren and husband Mike of Big Spring; grandchildren, Leslie Renee Kennedy of Lubbock, Ryan Leon Kennedy of Odessa, Alexandria Jordan Newsom of Lubbock, Rachel Lynn Kennedy of Coahoma, and Regan Michelle Newsom of Lubbock; one special great-granddaughter, Charlotte Kaylynn Kennedy of Lubbock; one brother, Ralph Lynn Kennedy and wife Sandra of Austin; one sister, Patsy Marie Clark of Odessa; two brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Jim Hale and wife Betty of Jenks, Okla., and Henry Johns and wife Wanda of Morris, Okla.; in addition to numerous nieces and nephews.

PaPaw's pain free, happy life in heaven has only just begun, where he has no doubt already put his boat on the lake and gone fishin' catching 20-pound bass.

The family suggests memorials be made to the American Cancer Society, c/o Carolyn Brooks, P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring, Texas 79721-2121.

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

Paid obituary

James Corbett 'J.C.' Abbott

James Corbett "J.C." Abbott, 61, formerly of Big Spring, Texas, died Thursday, April 26, 2012, in Wichita Falls, Texas.

The family selected arrangements with cremation.

Arrangements are entrusted to the White Family Funeral Home of Bowie.

J.C. was born Dec. 17, 1950, to Peat and Dolores (Creel) Abbott in San Antonio, Texas. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. J.C. worked in general construction.

He is survived by his daughter, Renee Abbott of Henrietta; four brothers, Charles Abbott of Bellevue, Timothy Abbott of Wichita Falls, Robert Corneilus of Springtown and Harvey Scott of Dalhart; four sisters, Donna Cantwell of Henrietta, Anna Martel Gill of Vashti, Elaine Rodgers of Henrietta and Tammy Sotan of Henrietta; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Police blotter

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

• SALLY LEANNE HAIR, 32, of Post, Texas, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• DENNIS EDWARD KIMBLE, 27, of 800 W. Marcy Apt. 29, was arrested Tuesday on charges of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less, expired driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear (two counts).

• PHILLIP EUGENE BEBEE, 38, of 1604 Settles, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for assault by contact (two counts).

• MARICRUZ RENA DURAN, 23, of Lubbock, Texas, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of theft – shoplifting (more than \$50 and less than \$500).

• BRENDA AYALA, 21, of Mission, Texas, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of criminal mischief – less than \$50.

• JOE ALBERT DEANDA JR., 51, of 507 N.W. Eighth St., was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for theft – more than \$500 and less than \$1,500.

• THEFT was reported:

In the area of Rockhouse Road.

In the 100 block of W. Ninth Street.

In the 200 block of W. FM 700.

In the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 57 inmates at the time of this report.

• SALLY HAIR, 32, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of public intoxication (two counts).

• PAUBLO R. GONZALES, 27, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated – second offense.

• ZABRINA LOZANO, 25, was arrested Tuesday

See **SHERIFF**, Page 3A

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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.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for those with Parkinson's Disease, Young Onset Parkinson's, caregivers, and those interested in learning more about the illness. For more information, contact Jody at 432-699-6640 or midlandparkinsons@yahoo.com or Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-2732.
- Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerrirosenbaum9488@msn.com
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at the Gold Rush Tobacco Shop, 800 E. Third Street. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.
- Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) will meet at 5:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Parish Hall. For more information, call You call 263-2501.

FRIDAY

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E. 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 264-0015 or visit www.cccbigspring.org
- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at the Gold Rush Tobacco Shop, 800 E. Third Street. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

SHERIFF

Continued from Page 2A

by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated – blood alcohol more than .15

- JOE ALBERT DEANDA JR., 51, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for theft of property — more than \$500 and less than \$1,500.
- PHILLIP EUGENE BEBEE, 38, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for assault – physical contact (two counts).
- DENNIS EDWARD KIMBLE, 27, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and municipal warrants for expired driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear (two counts).
- BRENDA AYALA, 21, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief.
- MARICRUZ RENA DURAN, 23, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property – more than \$50 and less than \$500.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

- MEDICAL was reported in the 7200 block of Kyle Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of N. Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4800 block of Chaparrell. One person was transported to SMMC.

OPEN

Continued from Page 1A

services as its predecessor, but in a more spa-

cious environment and utilizing more modern equipment. In addition, it features a helipad, something the previous site didn't offer. McKinney said the

hospital is looking to expand its day surgery services and seeks to expand the number of doctors who utilize the facility.

Also, the building will feature a cafeteria/dining room that will be open to the public beginning Saturday.

Meanwhile, the old

hospital will be demolished and the lot sold to housing developers, McKinney said.

Contact Staff Writer

Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

PRAY

Continued from Page 1A

and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

Praying will be the only thing taking place

during this gathering. Several community leaders will be on hand leading prayers with time allotted for individuals who wish to add their own prayers.

“We will be praying for rain during this call

to prayer. We desperately need it,” Wiseman said.

“We are a Christian nation. We need to rise up and show God that we are a Christian nation.”

Wiseman also noted

that those attending the Day of Prayer observance may want to take the opportunity to cast an early ballot in the May 12 school board, council and 4B project elections. If so, they should bring identifica-

tion. Voting will be taking place on the third floor as well.

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

GALLERY

Continued from Page 1A

emotions I am feeling at the time, but it also isn't limited to what I see,” Bowman said. “Each piece is meant to inspire and evoke emotion into the person viewing the painting as much as it is a representation of what I was feeling when I painted it.”

The collection, in the beginning, will include several works from Bowman, but will continue to grow as he searches for more local artists to fill the exhibit.

“I will be curating for the gallery and striving to find new artists who can display their work, as well,” he said.

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

HANGAR

Continued from Page 1A

are completed. A local artist is supplying all the paint and talent for the decorating.

“The patch replicas are meant to memorialize all those who served at Webb, in whatever capacity, whether it be as a cook, maintenance person or any other title,” McDonald said.

At this time, three patches have been commissioned for replication. The first of the three was recently installed.

“Hangar 25 is a container of history of what is left from World War II and the Korean Con-

flict. It is important to keep alive those areas that would otherwise be lost,” McDonald said.

To find out more or to make a donation for a class patch replica, contact the Hangar at 264-1999 or visit the website at www.hangar25airmuseum.com

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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.

Major 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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Words cannot adequately express our deep appreciation for the many kind and sympathetic acts that came to us at the time of our recent bereavement.

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Sandra Fierro Muniz
Sylvia Valdez Ormon
Dana Fierro Rieland

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

YOUR VIEWS

Day of Prayer

TO THE EDITOR:

On this National Day of Prayer, I would ask that everyone will take inventory of themselves, consider where we are as a nation, state and our own local community. We need to make an immediate change for the better for our future generations; if not, I weep to think what will come to be for our children and grandchildren.

We need to take back our constitutional rights regarding raising our own children with your (each family's) spiritual and religious beliefs as we are led by God the Father, Jesus and Holy Spirit as He has, does and will always guide us when we want with a commune with Him daily.

Many across our nation are struggling in many ways: loss of income, loss of family and friends, broken homes, broken hearts and worst of all, loss of hope.

We have the highest suicide rate ever in history due to these trials. It can be reduced and prayerfully eradicated completely with prayer and God's divine intervention if we will listen and act on His perfect will for our lives.

In our beloved country, we have so many problems with crimes of passion (hate), corruption in all levels of government, abortion rates, soaring — all of which are bringing to many to their knees with unbearable grief.

These problems are the root cause of so many turning to alcohol, drugs and illicit immoral behavior, all of which I believe is why God is withholding so many blessings that He has for us all.

We need to get down on our knees, ask His forgiveness, repent, ask for healing and daily direction for our lives as individuals, our local community and our nation.

I pray we can come together with honest and open hearts and brotherly love to help when asked, needed or inspired by God to do His will for our lives and this great country of ours.

We are and have been so blessed in this beautiful country and it breaks my — and I am sure many others — hearts to see where we are today in so many areas.

Let's pray together and make a change for and to the glory of God. Amen.

CINDY CHRANE CASPER
BIG SPRING

Editor's Note: National Day of Prayer is Thursday. Locally, a special call to prayer will be held at 12:10 p.m. on the third floor of the Howard County Courthouse. The public is invited.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May You, Lord, be the key person in our life.

Amen

Solving a great mystery of life

I have finally solved one of life's great mysteries. At least, as far as I am concerned, I have discovered when the "good old days" were. Everybody talks about them but I have always struggled to envisage when they actually existed. I have now come to the conclusion that they are different days in the minds and hearts of every one of us individually.

You probably had that figured out already so I acknowledge my slowness, but I am at peace today reveling in my newly discovered wisdom.

I was blessed with a wonderful childhood, having great parents who knew how to give love and security so the collection of good old days started very early. My paternal grandparents lived in Florida so I grew up enjoying fresh oranges and tangerines on the porch with my Grandpa and Grandma Prince and many uncles, aunts, cousins, and friends. It was my grandpa who taught me to use a pocket knife to enjoy sugar cane right out of the field.

My maternal grandparents lived on the Texas Gulf Coast and, along with several uncles, owned and operated commercial shrimp boats and various fishing vessels. As a kid I went out 35 miles in the Gulf of Mexico on the Lawrence Jr. and some of my most cherished memories involve riding along the sandy beach of Padre Island years before it became a tourist attraction in my grandpa's old Desoto that was nothing more than a frame with wheels, a motor, and seats. The body had been removed because the salt water had rusted it away so badly and it was a fun way to feel the spray of the Gulf in your face.

When we moved to Brownfield in 1964, my good old days were in abundant supply. It was those teen years that provided me with countless memories which definitely make the pages of the chronicles of my life journey more priceless.

My first car came from a lot in Odessa and was a 1958 Vauxhall. You'll have to Google that one for sure, but it was mine and I loved it, even though I never knew whether the brakes were going to work or not until I actually approached an intersection. Sometimes they did, and sometimes I unintentionally sailed right through stop signs. After surviving that and saving up by working on farms and at the gas station owned by the dad of my best friend, Randy Wood, I moved on to a 1958 Ford and later to a '62 Falcon, which I drove to Tennessee to attend college.

Every one of those magnificent machines experienced the honor of "making the drag" up and down the Lubbock Highway countless hours. We called it "The Drag" and our teachers referred to it as the "Idiot Parade". Regardless, I burned many a gallon of gas driving back and forth on that short stretch of highway honking and waving at friends I had just honked and waved at a couple of minutes before going the other direction on the same stretch of highway.

The subject of gas always comes up during any discussion of the good old days. I am a youngster but I well remember, as my friend Janette and I were chatting about at the bank this week, the "gas wars" that were a regular part of our growing up years. It was great for us when gas stations in town would compete for our business by lowering their price a penny less than the fellow across the street. They would "war" and we consumers would be blessed with gas prices as low as 18 or 19 cents a gallon. That was for Regular, of course.

Ethyl was more expensive and it never made it into the tanks of any of my cars. They would have choked on that high price stuff.

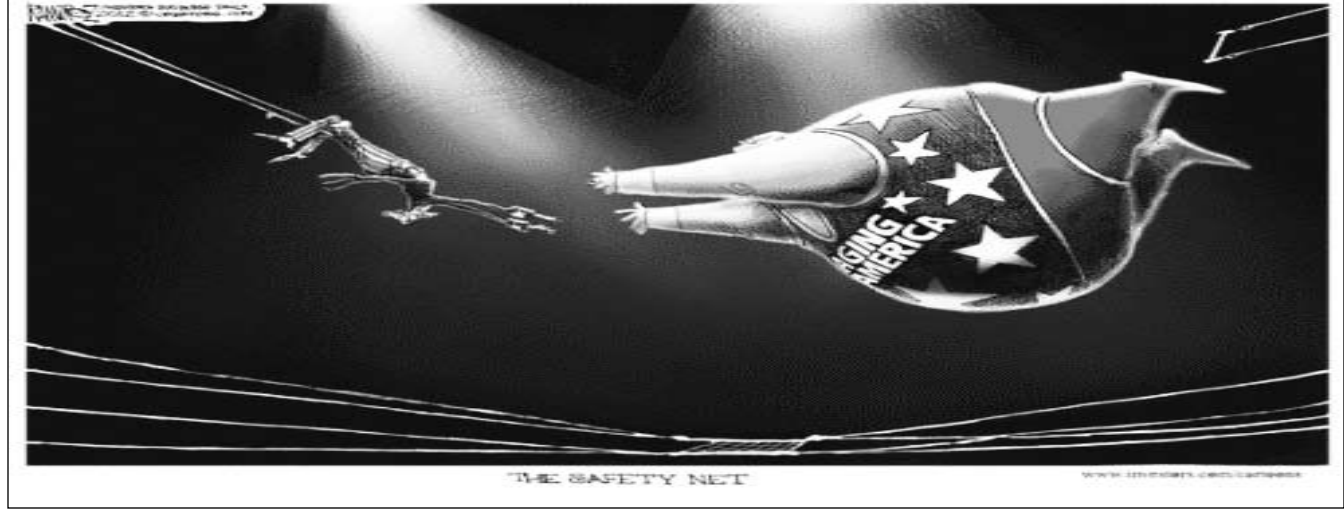
My good old days really expanded when I fell in love with a gorgeous blonde, who married me three weeks after she turned 16. I am very proud to say I still have her and together we have produced a gorgeous daughter and three fantastic sons. Attending their concerts, plays, school events, and ball games have given us a lifetime of memories to embrace and cherish. Those offspring have subsequently created four magnificent offspring of their own which are daily providing us with even more good old days.

But what's exciting to me is that the good old days aren't only in the distant past. I know we will never buy 19 cent gas again, but I bought \$3.64 gas yesterday and created a good old day memory by taking my wife to Midland on a little business trip and we made a date out of it. Today I am enjoying the company of my granddaughter and that qualifies as a good old day for sure.

I'm sure there are plenty of things in all of our lives that we would like to see changed for the better. But why focus on those things at the expense of missing something today that could be a wonderful memory tomorrow? The truth is that even those past good old days were filled with challenges and problems not unlike today. But we somehow found a way to pull something good out of it back then and we can do it again now. Every day can be a good old day.

You may not agree with anything I've said, but I column as I see 'em.

Eddy Prince is the senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church in Big Spring. He can be reached by email at pastorprince@msn.com.



The rich man and a poor dog

Mitt Romney can't get past the Seamus story. In 1983, Romney put the family dog in a carrier on the roof of his Chevy as his wife, their five sons and their luggage squeezed in to the station wagon for a vacation. The dog got diarrhea. Romney has not figured out how to put the 29-year-old story behind him. So critics continue to use the episode as the defining anecdote about the GOP hopeful.

Last month, conservatives unearthed a passage in Barack Obama's book "Dreams from My Father." Obama wrote that his Indonesian stepfather introduced him to eating dog and that dog meat is "tough."

Did Obama go on the defensive? No, he took ownership of the tale. At the Correspondents' Association dinner last week, Obama cracked two jokes about eating Fido. In reference to Sarah Palin, Obama asked, "What's the difference between a hockey mom and a pit bull?" Answer: "A pit bull is delicious."

And: "My stepfather always told me, 'It's a boy-eat-dog world out there.'"

she) isn't. By being cool, Obama blew the oxygen out of the story.

The Romney camp keeps trying to set up Mitt as a regular guy who can relate to American families. But he can't do small talk. At a recent sit-down in Pennsylvania, Romney told his hostess he had doubts about the cookies she was serving. He said they looked as if "they came from the local 7-Eleven bakery or whatever." It turns out a beloved local bakery made the cookies.

Team Romney should give it up. Let Romney be Thurston Howell III.

Let him call Ann "Lovey" and talk with his jaw clenched.

Or let him follow the Steve Jobs model. The two men have parallels. Jobs was a vegan; Romney is a teetotaler. Both have criticized Washington's excessive regulations as job killers. According to Walter Isaacson's biography, Jobs even told Obama to his face that he was heading for a one-term presidency. Jobs didn't try to pretend that he wasn't rich or successful. He reveled in it.

Instead of chatting about baked goods, Romney should be blabbing about Bain Capital's amazing return on investment — an average annual rate of 88 percent over 15 years, according to "The Real Romney," a biography written by two Boston Globe reporters.

A week ago, Obama appeared on NBC's "Late Night With Jimmy Fallon," where he "slow

jabbed" the news in a bit about student loans. On Saturday, Romney adviser Eric Fehrnstrom told a Washington Post forum, "I do think there was something a little bit off-key about the president slow jamming and appearing to make light of the fact that students are struggling." Romney, Fehrnstrom added, would have declined to do that skit.

No, the response should be that Romney has decided he doesn't have to do comedy. He pays his aides top dollar so they can tell his jokes.

As for the Seamus episode, there's no point in telling reporters about how crowded the family station wagon was or about the shield Romney assembled to protect the Irish setter from the wind. Or that dogs traveling on passenger planes probably experience a similar amount of stress.

If he had it to do over, Romney should say, he would have hired a car and driver for his dog. The public would get that.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@schronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Why not check this out? At your Howard County Library

When you come into the library, you may notice it might be a lot warmer than usual, especially in the afternoon. The chiller, the main component of the A/C has gone kaplooye and cannot be repaired. Because of this, the library has temporarily changed our hours. Effective Monday, our hours will be 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. We will be closed Saturday. I am sorry for the inconvenience, but as soon as the A/C is up and running, we will return to our regular hours.



HOLLIS
MCCRIGHT

Jodi Picoult had returned with another best-selling novel, "Lone Wolf" (F PIC J). Luke Warren has spent his life researching wolves. In the wild, when a wolf can no longer contribute to the pack, it will slip away to die in solitude, staying true and proud to its nature. Luke is much like a wolf. His wife Georgie has left, giving up on him. Son Edward fled six years ago, shattering his relationship with his father. A frantic phone call comes; Luke has been gravely injured in a car accident with Edward's younger sister Cara. Edward and Cara will have to make decisions; what would Luke want? And, more importantly, how can those decisions be made with secrets still untold? When I attended TLA in Houston, one of the speakers was Lisa Scottoline. She lives in the Philadelphia area and has written mysteries that have hit the New York Times Best Sellers. Her latest book, "Coming Home" (LP F SCO L) is a riveting story of a mother who sacrifices her future for a child from her past. Jill Farrow is a typical suburban mom who has finally gotten her and her daughter's lives back on track after a divorce. She is about to remarry, her job as a pediatrician fulfills her — though

it is stressful — and her daughter Megan is a happily over-scheduled 13-year-old, juggling homework and the swim team. But Jill's life is turned upside down when her ex-step-daughter, Abby, shows up on her doorstep late one night and delivers shocking news: Jill's ex-husband is dead. Abby insists he was murdered and pleads with Jill to help find his killer. Jill reluctantly agrees to make a few inquiries and discovers that things don't add up. As she digs deeper, her actions threaten to rip apart her new family, destroy their hard-earned happiness and even endanger her own life. Yet Jill can't turn her back on a child she loves and once called her own. This can be found in the large print section.

I don't think I have reviewed "Scarpetta" (M COR P) by Patricia Cornwell. It was published in 2008. Kay Scarpetta, leaving behind her private forensic pathology practice in Charleston, South Carolina, accepts an assignment in New York City, where the NYPD has asked her to examine an injured man on Bellevue Hospital's psychiatric prison ward. The handcuffed and chained patient, Oscar Bane, has specifically asked for her, and when she literally has her gloved hands on him, he begins to talk — and the story he has to tell turns out



to be one of the most bizarre she has ever heard. The injuries, he says, were sustained in the course of a murder he did not commit. Is Bane a criminally insane stalker who has fixed on Scarpetta? Or is his paranoid tale true, and it is he who is being spied on, followed and stalked by the actual killer? The one thing Scarpetta knows for certain is a woman has been tortured and murdered — and more violent deaths will follow. Book Review called Cornwell's 16th book "plodding" but Scarpetta fans will disagree.

Here are a few non-fiction books:
Are you a fan of treats on a stick? Cake Pops? Linda Vandermeer's "Sweets on a Stick" (641.86 VAN L) has more than 150 recipes for cakes, candies, cookies and even pies that can be placed on a pop-stick.

You can decorate them in all sorts of ways. Too, too, cute.

Are you interested in making your own facial or body scrubs? Elaine Stavert, in her "Beauty Masks & Scrubs" (646.726 STA E) will show you how ancient people made body and facial scrubs and how she kind of "modernized" some for today's women and men. Using oatmeal, sea salt, honey, cucumber, oil and other ingredients, see how to

make your own at a fraction of the cost of the expensive store brands.

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Call if you have any questions. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

Strawberries good & good for you, too

Greetings:
May is National Strawberry Month. This delicious red berry contains 45 calories in 1 cup and 3 grams of fiber.

Wow! What more can you ask for in a berry?

Eating strawberries offers some great health benefits. They are full of antioxidants, linked to lowering blood pressure and also lower your risk of cancer and heart disease. So grab the family, locate a patch and enjoy the season. Remember to always wash strawberries as you are ready to use them. Ideas to try:

- Strawberries with a banana nut muffin and a dollop of whip cream makes a delicious Banana Nut Strawberry Shortcake.
- Buttermilk pancakes topped with fresh strawberries.
- Chop strawberries, pineapples, mangoes and jalapeños to create a fruit salsa as a topper for fish, chicken and or beef.
- Add strawberries to your favorite muffin recipe with a savory herb.
- Add fresh slices of strawberries to your favorite breakfast cereal or yogurt.

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Chow Ms. Diva RD

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News in brief

Wildfires threaten remote West Texas resort

FORT DAVIS, Texas (AP) — Wildfire specialists have been summoned to reinforce the fire line guarding a remote, rugged West Texas resort development from an approaching wildfire, officials said Tuesday night.

Wildfires, which had burned about 24,000 acres of slopes and canyons in the Davis Mountains of West Texas, had spread to a half-mile from the Davis Mountain Resort, Texas Forest Service spokeswoman Catherine Hibbard said late Tuesday. The development on the slopes and in the canyons of the Davis Mountains is about 175 miles southeast of El Paso.

Specialists called "hot shots" will be moved to the line closest to the fire in an effort to keep it from entering the rustic development, Hibbard said. "We're putting all of our best-qualified personnel on the line to protect the DMR," she said.

No structural damage or injuries had been reported, but Hibbard said the fire closest to the resort was about 30 percent contained as of late Tuesday night after scorching almost 13,400 acres. About 150 of the more than 400 houses in the resort are occupied year-round, and residents were ordered to evacuate. However, "there are still people in there," Hibbard said.

About 250 firefighters, in all, maneuvered through rugged, remote canyons in West Texas on Tuesday

as they battled the first major Texas wildfires of the season. Part of the area experienced uncontrolled wildfires exactly a year ago.

Efforts to protect the resort were being made on the ground and in the air, but building a fire line around the resort was complicated by the rugged land, said forest service spokesman Patrick Allen said.

"They're working on it," he said, adding that firefighters were being helped by calm winds. "But it's in really tough terrain."

Hearing to be held for 2 children living in bus

CONROE, Texas (AP) — A judge is expected to decide whether two Houston-area children found living in an old school bus will remain in foster care.

A custody hearing is set for Wednesday in Conroe.

Child Protective Services took the children into custody in March after a postal worker raised concerns about their not being in school and living in deplorable conditions.

CPS would like the children to remain in its custody.

At the time they were put into foster care, the children were being cared for by an aunt. Their parents were in prison for embezzling money from victims of 2008's Hurricane Ike.

Their mother, Sherrie Shorten, is now out of prison and is working to regain custody. The children's father remains in prison.

Execution pending in motorcycle theft killing

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — A paroled rap-

ist sent to death row for killing a neighbor in San Antonio and stealing the murdered man's cherry red Harley Davidson motorcycle is counting on appeals to the courts to keep him from execution in Huntsville.

Anthony Bartee is set for lethal injection Wednesday evening for the shooting and stabbing death of 37-year-old David Cook more than 15 years ago.

Attorneys for the 55-year-old Bartee argue he may be innocent and that prosecutors had cigarette butts and drinking glasses from the crime scene that still needed DNA testing to possibly exclude Bartee.

They also contend his trial lawyers were deficient for not pursuing the tests.

State lawyers contend the evidence isn't new and the appeals are delay tactics.

Appeals court to consider Gulf oil spill plans

ATLANTA (AP) — The federal appeals court in Atlanta is set to hear a challenge from environmental groups seeking to block Shell from drilling 10 new deepwater wells off the coast of Alabama, one of the first drilling approvals since the disastrous 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will hear the case Wednesday brought by the Southern Environmental Law Center and other green groups.

They say the risky operations could result in an oil spill far greater than the 2010 disaster that leaked millions of gallons of oil into the ocean over three months.

The groups also contend that federal regulators refused to conduct a detailed environmental review into the project.

Shell has argued that the company's drilling plans are environmentally sound.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Stitches in Time

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Annie's Mailbox



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

seeing him again.

We totally disapprove of this relationship, but she has asked us to accept this guy again and welcome him to our family gatherings.

We don't want him near us. It sounds like Matt is trying to do the right thing, but we can't forget what happened.

We worry about her constantly when she is with him, in case he loses his temper again. How should we handle this? — *Concerned Parents*

Dear Annie: Our daughter is 42 years old and divorced. For the past two years, she has been seeing "Matt." We accepted him and welcomed him at our numerous family gatherings.

Several weeks ago, our daughter drank too much at a party and ended up in bed with another man.

Needless to say, Matt became quite angry. But he went into a rampage. He threw bricks through her car windows, punched her in the eye and showed up at our doorstep to cuss her out. He also confronted her kids.

We strongly advised her to end the relationship. But after Matt calmed down, he apologized, went for court-ordered counseling and now attends AA. So our daughter has started

Dear Concerned: You don't have to approve of Matt in order to have a relationship with your daughter, and it is important that you stay in touch with her.

It is not mandatory that you welcome Matt into your home, but please arrange to meet your daughter in other locations. If Matt abuses her again, she will need to know you are close by and available.

There are men who have managed, through hard work and counseling, to find healthier ways to handle their anger, and we certainly hope Matt is one of them.

Please urge your daughter to contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline for information (thehotline.org), and to give Matt

plenty of time to prove himself before she becomes too entangled. Her life may depend on it.

Dear Annie: A year ago, my teenage daughter, "Shawna," had a new friend spend the night. The next day, Shawna discovered her new friend gave her head lice. We treated it and told her friend to do the same.

The problem is, this friend keeps giving lice to my daughter. We know it's her because it only happens when this particular girl spends the night or Shawna goes to her house.

In between, there are no outbreaks. My daughter has missed several days of school, and I have bought countless treatments, sprayed the house, and washed and disinfected everything. I have talked to the girl's mother, who claims she's doing everything possible, but Shawna says she only vacuums.

I told Shawna there will be no more visits with this girl until her parents figure out how to get rid of the lice. Isn't it time for Shawna to find a new best friend? — *At My Wits' End Here*

Dear Wits' End: They can still be best friends over the phone and online for the time

being. We suspect someone else this girl regularly comes into contact with is causing repeated infestations. The parents should carefully check every person in their home (including themselves) and talk to their pediatrician.

Dear Annie: Your advice to "Stepped Out," whose volunteer organization suffers from a rude and abusive supervisor, left out an important option.

She and her colleagues should document instances of unacceptable behavior with details, dates and times, and present the facts in writing to the board, pointing out how the behavior harms the organization by alienating both volunteers and potential donors, two crucial resources.

They also should document their efforts to get the supervisor to correct his behavior. They should be willing to sign their letter and be prepared to leave if no corrective action ensues. — *Don't Put Up with it in Hawaii*

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2012 CREATORS.COM

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News in brief

Hours after Obama visit, Taliban attack compound for foreigners in Kabul

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Taliban insurgents attacked a compound housing foreigners in the Afghan capital Wednesday, killing seven people, hours after President Barack Obama made a surprise visit and signed a pact governing the U.S. presence after combat troops withdraw.

The Taliban said the attack was a response to Obama's visit, which coincided with Wednesday's anniversary of the killing of Osama bin Laden in neighboring Pakistan.

It was the second major assault in Kabul in less than three weeks and highlighted the Taliban's continued ability to strike in the heavily guarded capital even when security had been tightened for the high profile events.

Obama arrived at Bagram Air Base late Tuesday, then traveled to Kabul by helicopter for a meeting with Afghan President Hamid Karzai in which they signed the agreement. Later, back at the base, he was surrounded by U.S. troops, shaking every hand. He ended his lightning visit with a speech broadcast to Americans back home.

Official: blind activist to stay in China and did not request asylum in U.S.

BEIJING (AP) — A U.S. official says the blind Chinese activist who sought refuge in the U.S. Embassy did not ask for asylum and is staying in China after receiving assurances that he will be treated as a normal citizen.

The U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told reporters that

Chinese authorities promised that Chen Guangcheng will be relocated to a safe environment where he can study at a university.

The U.S. official says that Chen was brought into the U.S. Embassy because after his escape from house arrest in his rural village he was in need of medical care, and that the activist did not request asylum in America.

Fizzled protests indicative of state of stalled immigration movement

ATLANTA (AP) — While a black preacher told 100 immigration protesters that incarcerated blacks and detained immigrants faced similar challenges, Jesse Morgan stood to one side of the May Day demonstrators, holding a large sign that read "Radical Queers Resist."

Although the rally was geared toward illegal immigrants, the 24-year-old Georgia State sociology major said gays can relate, too, because they often face discrimination.

"And besides," he said. "There are queers who are undocumented."

Over the last several years, May Day rallies in the United States have been dominated by activists pushing for a path to citizenship for the estimated 11 million people in the country illegally. But since 2006, when hundreds of thousands took to the streets in cities across America, the rallies have gotten smaller, less focused and increasingly splintered by any number of groups with a cause.

In New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Oakland, Calif., May Day protests were dominated by Occupy Wall Street activists, a sign of how far the immigration has fallen off the radar, unable to compete with

the economy.

Myanmar begins new era as Suu Kyi is sworn in to parliament

NAYPYITAW, Myanmar (AP) — Opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi was sworn in to Myanmar's military-backed parliament Wednesday, taking public office for the first time since launching her struggle against authoritarian rule nearly a quarter century ago.

The opposition leader's entry into the legislature heralds a new political era in Myanmar, cementing a risky detente between her party and the reformist government of President Thein Sein, which inherited power from the army last year.

Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party will occupy too few seats to have any real power in the ruling-party dominated assembly, however, and there are fears the presence of the opposition lawmakers could simply legitimize the regime without any change.

But the new lawmakers are also

likely to bring a level of public debate to the legislative body that has never been seen as they prepare for the next general election in 2015.

Feds: 5 anarchists unknowingly plotted to blow up Ohio bridge

CLEVELAND (AP) — After unknowingly working with an FBI informant for months, five men have been charged with plotting to bomb an Ohio bridge linking two wealthy Cleveland suburbs.

Federal authorities Tuesday described the men as anarchists who are angry with corporate America and the government. They say the alleged plotters researched explosives and obtained what they thought was C-4 explosives. The material, in fact, was harmless, officials said.

Their arrests Monday night marked the latest case in which FBI agents planned fake terrorism plots alongside targeted suspects, an indication it continues to be a top strategy for the government in preventing terrorism.

DC adds 6 new titles to relaunched titles

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — More than eight months after upending its universe of classic heroes and ongoing titles, DC Entertainment is bringing six more titles to readers, including a contemporary take on its vintage war comic, "G.I. Combat."

The book, one of six new titles in comic shops on Wednesday, features a pair of stories that focus on modern-day U.S. soldiers in situations both fantastic, chaotic and, in some cases, out of time, too.

Writer J.T. Krul's offering focuses on a pair of special forces operatives stationed aboard a U.S. Navy ship in the Sea of Japan. As it monitors North Korea, a dead zone immune to any and all radar, sonar, satellite imagery and more pops up, causing concern about what may be hiding there.

What they find there is something out of an H.G. Wells novel or a science fiction film.

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Courtesy photo

Forsan's Sydney Holdampf finished as state runner-up in Class 2A tennis bracket in Austin on Monday.

Forsan's Holdampf finishes as state runner-up in tennis

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

AUSTIN — Forsan senior Sydney Holdampf relished her chance to head back to the state tennis tournament for the second year in a row.

"I feel better about it this year," Holdampf said a few days before making the trek to the state capital. "I am glad I get a second chance."

Though Holdampf didn't end up winning the coveted state championship this year either, she came awfully close.

After winning her first two rounds in tournament play, Holdampf found herself across the court from Tristen Brunson of Florence in the Class 2A final.

Holdampf, unfortunately, lost the match in straight sets. In a coincidental twist of fate, the defeat came at the hands of the younger sister she faced — and lost to — last year in Austin. But, unlike last season, Holdampf wasn't eliminated in the first round. This time, she came home with state runner-up honors.

Coach Cory Richardson wasn't surprised by Holdampf's strong showing.

"(Holdampf) was just phenomenal," Richardson said. "It is a very tough region and a very tough division. She added it up, and her record was 40 wins and three losses. Each loss came at the state or regional level. It was tough competition."

Also making a return to state for Forsan was Kyle Stevenson, who was eliminated in the first round.

"It was a tough draw," Richardson remarked about Stevenson's performance.

"Seven out of eight of the kids that made it had state tournament experience. All eight of them could have won on any given day. (Stevenson) wanted it badly this year, but I am very happy for both of them. You can't ask for much more."

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

Howard College rodeo receives WJCAC honors

As a newly sanctioned sport within the Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC), excellence in rodeo is now being recognized at the local level and the Hawks brought home top honors for the Women's Team as well as coach of the year.

The women's team is the conference champion while Hawk barrel racers Kaci Smith and Mecca Hickock were tabbed as 1st team and honorable mention respectively.

Not to be left out, head rodeo coach Greg Kernick was selected as the WJCAC Coach of the Year for the women's rodeo division.

For the men's team, steer wrestler KC Fryer received a nod for honorable mention for his season of strong performances.

"These kids have worked hard all year long and deserve the recognition they are receiving," said head coach Greg Kernick. "Kaci and KC were both just seconds away from

an appearance at the 2012 college national finals, and they have been top performers in their events all season long."

This is the first time the WJCAC has recognized rodeo as a conference sport after unanimous decision was made last spring to take steps to include it. The rodeo events are still conducted under the rules and guidelines of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) but now the WJCAC can dole out specific honors for the local athletes and honor them in a bigger, better way.

"It's great to get this kind of recognition at the local level now," said Kernick.

"And it's even better to see the conference step up and reward these athletes for their dedication to their sport."

For more on Hawk Athletics, HC Hawk Rodeo and updated schedule and results, visit www.hchawk.com.

Playoff Calendar

THURSDAY

Baseball

• Big Spring vs. Iowa Park (Game One), Mineral Wells, 7 p.m.

Softball

• Forsan vs. Littlefield (Game One), Seminole, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Softball

• Coahoma vs. Bushland (Game One), Lubbock Cooper, 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Baseball

• Big Spring vs. Iowa Park (Game Two), Lubbock Cooper, noon.
Game Three (if necessary), 30 minutes after Game Two.

Softball

• Coahoma vs. Bushland (Game Two), Lubbock Cooper, 10 a.m.
Game Three (if necessary), 30 minutes after Game Two.
• Forsan vs. Littlefield (Game Two), Seminole 11 a.m. Game Three (if necessary), 30 minutes after Game Two.

Bucs sign paralyzed DT

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Paralyzed defensive tackle Eric LeGrand has been signed by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

LeGrand broke two vertebrae and suffered a serious spinal cord injury on Oct. 16, 2010 during a kickoff return against Army. His coach at Rutgers then, Greg Schiano, now is coach of the Bucs.

LeGrand became an inspiration to the Scarlet Knights, eventually being able to stand upright with the help of a metal frame. He resumed his studies via video conferences for the 2011 spring semester, and on Oct. 29, 2011, led the team onto the field before a game. He also has done some broadcast work for the school.

Pettite claims he may have misunderstood Clemens

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pitcher Andy Pettitte says that he might have misunderstood Roger Clemens when Pettitte said he heard his former teammate say he used human growth hormone.

Pettitte, under cross examination by Clemens' lawyer Wednesday, said that it was fair to say it was "50-50" that he misunderstood the conversation from about a dozen years ago.

Pettitte is a key government witness as the prosecution tries to prove that Clemens lied to Congress when he denied using performance-enhancing drugs. The concession by Pettitte Wednesday could undermine the government case.

Just the day before, Pettitte testified, "Roger had mentioned to me that he had taken HGH."

Lucky bounce homers help Toronto down Rangers

TORONTO (AP) — Jose Bautista CRUSHED a no-doubt homer, but the two blasts that meant the most to the Blue Jays on Tuesday night both needed a lucky bounce to get over the wall.

Brett Lawrie homered in the bottom of the ninth inning and Toronto rallied from 5-0 down to beat the Texas Rangers 8-7.

"This was kind of a character win, to get down five runs as we did," Toronto manager John Farrell said.

Lawrie's game winner was one of two Blue Jays homers to bounce out after striking the top of the wall. The same thing happened on Kelly Johnson's three-run shot in the third.

"I've never seen two of them," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "Guess they know their ballpark pretty good."

After Francisco Cordero blew a save opportunity in the top of the ninth, Lawrie won it in the bottom half with a leadoff homer against Mike Adams (0-1), his third.

"It shows a lot about this team and the heart that we have," Lawrie said. "We're not going to quit until the end."

Adams wasn't sure at first whether Lawrie's drive had

enough to clear the fence.

"I thought it might hit off the wall," Adams said. "Obviously it hit off the top of the wall and continued going."

Bautista went back-to-back with Johnson in the third, the first time this season the Blue Jays have hit consecutive home runs. Bautista's towering drive, off the facing of the third deck, was his fourth homer and first since April 23 at Kansas City.

"Hopefully it's a chance for him to just take a deep breath and take some of the weight off his shoulders," Farrell said. "He's been pressing, there's no doubt about it."

Cordero (1-1) got the win despite allowing Michael Young's game-tying single in the ninth.

Trailing 6-4 in the seventh inning, Toronto took advantage of some sloppy Texas fielding to score three runs and take the lead.

Leadoff hitter Eric Thames reached on a fielding error by shortstop Elvis Andrus, Lawrie singled and Colby Rasmus was safe when catcher Mike Napoli couldn't make a play on his slow roller in front of the plate, and was charged with an error.

Alexi Ogando called out of the

bullpen to replace Robbie Ross and Jeff Mathis greeted him by driving in Thames on a fielder's choice, with Rasmus forced out at second, before Lawrie tied it at 6 by scoring on Yunel Escobar's grounder, with Mathis staying out of the double play by running on the pitch. Johnson followed with a single to center that Craig Gentry bobbled, allowing Mathis to score the tie-breaking run.

"They beat us," Washington said. "We may have helped them a little bit but they beat us."

The rally completed Toronto's comeback from Texas' five-run, bat-around second.

Making his third career start, Blue Jays right-hander Drew Hutchison struck out the first four batters of the game before running into trouble.

David Murphy singled, Mike Napoli walked and Mitch Moreland singled to load the bases for Alberto Gonzalez, who hit an RBI single to right.

Another run scored on Gentry's fielder's choice, with Gonzalez forced at second. Gentry stole second before Ian Kinsler lined a two-run double to right. Andrus capped the rally with an RBI single.

Astros take second straight from New York

HOUSTON (AP) — Mets starter Jonathon Niese had pitched well through his first four starts this season and in his career against the Houston Astros.

He wasn't able to build on that success Tuesday night.

Chris Snyder hit a three-run home run and Jed Lowrie had a two-run shot to give the Astros a 6-3 win over the New York Mets.

The two early mistakes cost Niese, and he was pulled after three innings against the Astros. Niese (2-1) allowed a season-high five runs and six hits in

three innings. It was his shortest start since lasting just 2 2-3 innings on Sept. 29, 2010.

Lowrie's homer, which hit the inside of the foul pole in left field in the first inning, got things going for the Astros who have won the first two games of this three-game series. The Astros had lost six consecutive series entering Monday.

Snyder pushed the lead to 5-0 in the next inning with his first home run of the season.

"I thought, looking back, that Lowry pitch I regretted throwing it," Niese said. "I threw him a fastball, and I wanted to throw him a curveball.

I threw one up and in on him, and he got it. The Snyder one he ambushed me. First pitch he got that one, too. Other than that, I felt great. It's just one of those games where it gets to you early."

Niese entered the game 2-0 with a 2.81 ERA this season and was 1-1 with a 1.80 ERA in three career starts against Houston.

"Jon has too good of stuff, too many weapons," Mets manager Terry Collins said. "Again, it's tough for him. Those two home runs, if they were singles

See **ASTROS**, Page 3B

San Antonio, Utah save drama for the court

PAUL J. WEBER
AP Sports Writer

SAN ANTONIO — The NBA playoffs are not even a week old, and already there have been last-second thrillers in Oklahoma City, an All-Star suspended for bumping a ref, a stunning comeback in Memphis and Amare Stoudemire smashing a glass case with his fist.

Then there's the San Antonio Spurs

and Utah Jazz.

What's passed for drama in this series came Tuesday when Spurs coach Gregg Popovich was surprised with the NBA Coach of the Year award — and even that hardly qualified as unexpected. The Jazz aren't even shaking up their lineup for Game 2 on Wednesday night, despite Josh Howard's ineffective return to the starting five.

Down 0-1, the Jazz don't want playoff craziness or drama. They just need a win.

"In the playoffs you never know what's going to happen, so you have to continue to play and you'll have opportunities if you continue to fight," Jazz coach Tyrone Corbin said Tuesday.

Fight?

"Fight may be the wrong word. Bump. Well, you can't bump, either," said Corbin, laughing, alluding to Celtics star Rajon Rondo drawing a one-game suspension for making contact with a referee.

Joking aside, the Jazz are mapping a more physical game plan for All-Star Tony Parker after the Spurs point guard shredded them for 28 points in Game 1.

Jazz point guard Devin Harris said his counterpart will likely be in for a "hard foul or two" after Parker slashed into Utah's big and bruising frontcourt without hesitation.

It wasn't tough talk from Harris, who had complimented Parker in the same breath. Jazz center Al Jefferson said the goal was "not to hurt him or nothing like that," but rather to dissuade Parker from barreling into the paint and punishing Utah with either an acrobatic layup or kicking out to a 3-point shooter.

"The playoffs is physical. We just can't let him feel like he can come down in that paint any time he ready," Jefferson said.

Parker brushed off the warning Tuesday. He's heard worse.

"It's not the first time someone has said that," Parker said. "My answer is always going to be the same: I'm going to keep coming."

Corbin said Howard will remain in the starting lineup despite going

scoreless in 16 minutes in Game 1. Howard returned from knee surgery last week, and despite his bumpy return, Corbin is counting on the nine-year veteran's playoff experience from his years in Dallas.

The Spurs expect to be shorthanded. Backup center Tiago Splitter is doubtful after spraining his left wrist in the series opener, leaving San Antonio even more undersized. Center DeJuan Blair, who had started nearly every game before Boris Diaw took his job last month, will take over Splitter's minutes.

Protecting a 1-0 lead is a position the Spurs haven't been in since 2008. That's also the last time San Antonio took a 2-0 lead, in a first-round series with Phoenix that the Spurs won in five games.

The Spurs would like the same result this time.

"It's a completely different story going Utah 2-0 than 1-1," Spurs guard Manu Ginobili said. "We've been in that position a million times."

Popovich accepted the league's top coaching award Tuesday minimizing his success at how he managed minutes in the lockout-shortened season, and calling the reputation the Spurs have of doing things a certain way "overblown." Popovich said aside from being more efficient on offense and a little worse on defense, the principles have remained the same the last 16 years.

In other words, being like this series so far — steady.

"One thing you've always known about the Spurs: They're going to play the same way, and get it done the same way," Spurs forward Stephen Jackson said. "It's a team that doesn't get rattled, keeps their composure and has Obi-Wan as a coach."



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WADA calls out British Olympic Association

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — World Anti-Doping Agency President John Fahey criticized the British Olympic Association on Wednesday, saying it has been “grandstanding” since it lost its bid to keep lifetime Olympics bans for doping offenders. Fahey rejected the BOA’s claims that WADA’s code needs reform following the ruling by the Court of Arbitration for Sport to overturn the lifetime sanction.

While he expects to see WADA’s current review result in an increase from the basic two-year ban for a first offense, Fahey said the BOA’s proposed four-year ban to cover the following Olympics was unlikely to stand up in court.

“They can be challenged in human rights courts and if they’re seen to be disproportionate, then they’re likely to be thrown out,” the former Australian politician said. “And the view was that if you go to four years, you’ll have the courts throw it all out and it’ll be a waste of time.”

CAS ruled on Monday that the BOA bylaw was invalid and contravened WADA’s global code. CAS said the lifetime ban represented an extra sanction for the same offense.

The ruling cleared the way for British sprinter Dwain Chambers and cyclist David Millar, who both served two-year doping bans, to be eligible for the London Olympics.

BOA chairman Colin Moynihan, who has feuded with WADA for

months, call the CAS ruling a “hollow victory” for the doping body.

Fahey said he hasn’t heard from any other organization supporting Moynihan’s claim that WADA is making it difficult for sports bodies to be tough on drug cheats.

“If there’s a belief from the world’s athletes, officials and governments that penalties aren’t tough enough, let’s hear them,” he said.

WADA’s athletes’ committee is yet to express any opposition to the CAS ruling against the BOA bans, and Fahey said he hasn’t seen any submissions to the WADA review that are critical of its sanctions.

A revised WADA code will be submitted for ratification in September 2013.

Fahey said the current code was agreed to in 2007 by athletes, sporting bodies and governments, including the BOA which offered no objection at the time.

“I hope all this grandstanding that’s been going on about how we’re not tough enough leads to the BOA at least putting some constructive comments together in this review,” he said. “They had the same chance to do that before the 2007 review, they made no submissions.

“It’s all very fine to say we’re not tough enough, how come they didn’t say that a few years ago?”

Fahey said the BOA wasted “a hell of a lot” of WADA’s time and money by pursuing the matter in CAS.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 2B

we would still be in the game. When you’re down that fast in a hurry, you have to somehow get yourself back in it, and we had a big inning going. I think Jon made a couple mistakes, and it came back to hurt him.”

Justin Turner doubled to start the fourth inning and Scott Hairston walked with one out. A two-out single by Andres Torres scored Turner to make it 5-1. Josh Thole followed with a RBI single to center field to get New York within 5-2.

Happ struck out pinch-hitter Lucas Duda to limit the damage.

Niese was disappointed he was pulled so early.

“Obviously, the competitiveness in me wanted to stay in the game,” he said. “I had put up a zero, and I felt my stuff was good enough to keep the team in the game.”

Houston starter J.A. Happ (2-1) allowed six hits and three runs with seven strikeouts in 6 1-3 innings,

which was his longest outing of the year.

Brett Myers threw a perfect ninth for his sixth save.

Reliever Miguel Bautista walked Justin Maxwell in the sixth inning, but Snyder grounded into a double play. Happ singled before Bautista walked Jose Altuve. He was replaced by Ramon Ramirez, who walked Lowrie.

His bases-loaded walk of J.D. Martinez gave Houston an insurance run and made it 6-3. The Mets finally got out of that inning on a fly out by Carlos Lee.

New York finished with eight walks, including three to Lowrie.

“You just can’t put people on and expect to win major league baseball games, especially when you are walking in runs,” Collins said. “It’s going to come back to burn you.”

Turner walked with two outs in the fifth inning and scored after consecutive singles by David Wright and Hairston to cut Houston’s lead to 5-3. Happ got out of that inning by striking out Ike Davis after a short coaching visit to the mound.

Pierce leads Celtics past Hawks

PAUL NEWBERRY

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — Maybe they’ll start calling it Piercing.

Paul Pierce certainly ripped apart the Atlanta Hawks.

Almost single-handedly, Pierce wiped out an 11-point deficit in the second half, scoring 36 points to carry the Boston Celtics to a stunning 87-80 win Tuesday night in Game 2 of the Eastern Conference playoffs, even with Rajon Rondo serving a suspension and Ray Allen sidelined again by an ailing ankle.

“The only way we were going to win a game like this without Ray and Rondo,” Celtics coach Doc Rivers said, “was if Paul had a game like this.”

He also had a game-high 14 rebounds and, for good measure, threw in some Tebowing.

After making a couple of foul shots with just over a minute remaining to clinch it, Pierce paused on his way back to the bench to copy the move named after NFL quarterback Tim Tebow, sinking to a knee and bowing his head for a brief prayer in the middle of the court.

“It wasn’t prescribed,” Pierce said. “It just came to

me.”

Boston heads home for Game 3 on Friday night tied 1-1. Rondo will be back for the Celtics in that one, his short-handed team having claimed the home-court edge while he sat out as punishment for bumping an official in the opener.

Pierce made sure the stellar point guard wasn’t missed, outscoring the Hawks all by himself over the last 15:08.

“I have a lot of experience, a lot of confidence from being in those moments,” Pierce said. “You believe in yourself, your coach believes in you, your team believes in you, it’s a combination of all those things.”

Pierce scored Boston’s first nine points but struggled mightily through the second and third quarters. He came through when the Celtics really needed him, especially with the Rondo-less offense.

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4	8	5	2	3	6	9	7	1
9	3	2	7	1	8	5	6	4
7	6	1	4	5	9	3	2	8
8	2	6	3	9	4	7	1	5
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Stoudemire out for Game Three due to surgery

NEW YORK (AP) — Amare Stoudemire's difficult season may be over. Stoudemire had a small muscle in his left hand repaired Tuesday and will not play for the New York Knicks in Game 3 of their first-round playoff series against the Miami Heat on Thursday.

Stoudemire met with a hand specialist at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York, a day after he was badly cut when he punched the case surrounding a fire extinguisher after the Knicks' 104-94 loss in Miami. The Knicks are listing Stoudemire as doubtful for Game 4 on Sunday. Stoudemire apologized on his Twitter account for the act, which leaves the Knicks without another key player as they try to rally from a 2-0 deficit.

Jeremy Lin is still recovering from knee surgery and Iman Shumpert is out for the season after tearing a knee ligament in Game 1. "We all have done thing out of anger that we regret," Stoudemire wrote. "That makes us human. Bad timing on my part. Sorry guys. This (too) shall pass." Stoudemire scored 18 points in Game 2, though he didn't get into a good flow until the fourth quarter, when the Knicks could never seriously challenge the Heat.

Los Angeles, Bryant weather rally, edge Denver 104-100

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant scored 38 points, Andrew Bynum followed up his playoff-opening triple-double with 27 points and nine rebounds, and the Los Angeles Lakers weathered Denver's late rally for a 104-100 victory over the Nuggets on Tuesday night, taking a 2-0 series lead.

Los Angeles stretched its seven-point halftime lead to 19 in the third quarter with a 14-0 run, but the Nuggets trimmed it back to seven entering the fourth quarter with an 18-4 run. Hill produced another strong performance off the Lakers' bench a day after news broke of a felony assault charge against him in Houston, where he played for the Rockets before a late-season trade. Hill said Tuesday night he was "shocked" by the charges, but thinks he won't miss any time in the Lakers' championship quest.

Pau Gasol had 13 points, 10 rebounds and five assists for the third-seeded Lakers, who still haven't trailed in this series despite nearly crumbling against a much-improved effort by the Nuggets and Ty Lawson, who scored 25 points and led the fourth-quarter charge. Los Angeles' 19-point lead in the third quarter dwindled to four with 3 minutes to play, but Ramon Sessions scored four key points in the final 1:14 before Bryant's icing free throws with 9.4 seconds left. Game 3 is Friday in Denver. Lawson shook his awful series opener with 17 second-half points, but the sixth-seeded Nuggets lost their ninth straight road playoff game despite playing much closer to their preferred speedy tempo after the Lakers muzzled them in Game 1.

Sessions scored 14 points for Los Angeles, which played just enough fast-break ball of its own to stay ahead of Denver — and now the Lakers are halfway to the second round. They have only lost one playoff series in franchise history after winning the first two games, going 42-1. Kenneth Faried had 14 points and 10 rebounds while Danilo Gallinari and Corey Brewer added 13 points apiece, but Denver still couldn't consistently defend Bryant or negate Bynum, who played another outstanding low-post game on both ends until disappearing a bit in a three-point fourth quarter. A 14-5 run in the final minutes eventually trimmed

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sudoku

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

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

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By Steve Becker

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Both sides vulnerable.

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♥ 8 6
♦ A J 9 2
♣ K 3 2

EAST
♠ 6 4
♥ 9 7 5 2
♦ Q 7
♣ J 8 6 4

WEST
♠ 9
♥ A Q 4 3
♦ 8 6 5 4
♣ 10 9 7 5

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

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass
2♣ Pass 4NT Pass
5♥ Pass 6♣

Opening lead — ten of clubs.

Looking at the North-South hands, you can see that six spades is unbeatable regardless of how the opposing cards are divided, provided that — and this is a big proviso — declarer knows which opponent has the queen of diamonds. In that case, declarer can collect six spade tricks, two clubs and four diamonds (by means of a finesse or a drop) to make the slam.

But in real life, the location of the crucial queen is not known to declarer. If he stakes everything on a diamond finesse and misguesses which opponent has the queen, he goes down, since at least one heart trick must be lost.

An alternative line of play is for declarer to avoid the diamond guess altogether by discarding his third diamond on the king of clubs. But as he gets rid of one headache, he acquires another, since he might then lose two heart tricks.

There is, however, a reasonable chance of avoiding two heart losers if the latter approach is adopted. If East has the A-Q, only one heart can be lost. If the heart honors are split, declarer will have to guess whether to play the jack or king when he leads a heart toward his hand. This is essentially a 50-50 proposition. Of course, if West has both honors, declarer has no chance on this line of play.

There is no sure way to guarantee 12 tricks, but the best chance, percentage-wise, is to draw trumps and cash the K-A of diamonds, hoping to drop the queen, roughly a 1-in-5 proposition. This works in the actual deal, and the slam is home.

If the queen does not appear when the K-A are played, declarer can discard his remaining diamond on the king of clubs and then tackle the hearts. In this way, South gives himself two chances to make the slam instead of just one.

Tomorrow: The one that got away.
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Colorado River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications and resumes for the position of Administrative Assistant. Responsibilities include assisting the General Manager with administrative duties of the District. This is a skilled level position, additional information can be found at www.crmwd.org CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave. Resumes are desired. Applications are required and available at the District's administrative office, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432)267-6341 or www.crmwd.org

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

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



DUE TO the continued trust being placed in our staff by Big Spring residents & physicians, Crossroads Hospice is hiring for the position of RN/LVN full-time. We will gladly train the candidate who is selected for this position to OUR STANDARD OF CARE. Bilingual a plus.

Please fax your resume to Debbie Read (432)263-5304 or come by the office.

EYE ASSOCIATES is accepting applications for a Bookkeeper. Quick Books experience helpful. Apply at 2311 Scurry. No calls please.

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

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 afternoons and weekend calls; valid TX drivers license and liability insurance. Apply in person at Bent Tree Apartments, 1 Courtney Place.

Help Wanted

HIRING EXPERIENCED CDL drivers. 1-2 yrs experience required, with clean driving record. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 South Service Road., Coahoma, TX.



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HOWARD COUNTY will be hiring a COUNTY ROAD ENGINEER or COUNTY ROAD ADMINISTRATOR for their unit road system.

The ENGINEER must have supervisory skills and must be a licensed professional engineer experienced in road and bridge construction and maintenance and meet the qualifications required by the Texas Department of Transportation 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 professional training or experience in engineering work.

Applications may be picked up and returned to the County Judge, Howard County Courthouse, 300 Main, Room 207, Big Spring, TX. 79720 Phone 432-264-2218. The deadline for applications is May 4, 2012. E.O.E.

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

Help Wanted

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

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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.

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

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Apply at Workforce Center (1001 Birdwell Ln., Howard College- Charles Warren Bld. 106), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.



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When the Virgo moon goes void, of course, it's not so pretty. People tend to be harder on themselves than is necessary.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

On the bright side, many actions are in line with good manners and general decency. On the dim side, some will tend toward restrictive and conservative behaviors. Lend your compassion generously to self-critical souls.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Avoid preamble. Get right to the point, and tell people what you want from them. Chances are they will be grateful for your directness, and they'll think more of you because you had the guts to operate in this manner.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Politicians aren't the only ones with platforms. You have a platform, too, though maybe you haven't given the idea

Real Estate for Sale

34-1/2 ACRES near country club. Good water well, supported by 3 sides Morgan Ranch. Good deer hunting. For more info contact: sandysmith15@earthlink.net

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

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Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
Howard County is accepting bids for the replacement of HVAC equipment at the Howard County Library. Specifications may be obtained from Jackie Olson in the Auditor's Office, 300 S. Main, Room 203, Big Spring, TX or by calling (432)264-2210. Bids must be received by 10:00 A.M. on Friday, May 11, 2012 in the office of the County Auditor, Jackie Olson, 300 S. Main, Room 203 and will be opened at that time. Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 A.M. on May 14, 2012 for their consideration. Project will be paid for out of current County funds. The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Jackie Olson, County Auditor www.co.howard.tx.us #7346 April 25 & May 2, 2012

Tomorrow's Horoscope

much thought. Now is the time to do so. Figure out what you stand for, and what you're willing to do about it

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You know what you need, but you may be uncharacteristically timid

about communicating it. It will be better to inform others of your intentions, instead of asking permission to do what you want to do. Tell; don't ask.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you owe someone an apology, you give it. Apologizing for unintentional minor errors that don't hurt anyone will erode the confidence others have in you, not to mention your confidence in yourself!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Someone may have a higher position than you, but it doesn't make that person better than you. You treat everyone equally, and you refuse to cower to those who do not.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It will take a greater than normal effort to be present to certain situations. Perhaps the circumstance is tedious, too challenging, or just plain boring. Still, when you drift off topic, it will be important to come back to it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A teacher will help you on a spiritual level, though it isn't necessarily the aim you are going for. Anything that helps you grow into the person you want to be will also expand your spirit.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's a pressure building around an upcoming event. You will be giving a performance of some kind. Perhaps this is informal in nature, but it's still a performance. Imagine yourself executing this perfectly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Even though you know that love is the opposite of fear, you don't go around hugging sharks. Great whites are best admired from a great distance. The same goes for potentially dangerous people. Stay far, far away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The pressure is on. So just remember who you are. You have successfully completed jobs like this several times in the past. You can and will do it again. Rally for the best attitude you can muster.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). This afternoon brings a shift into a more creative headspace. You'll bypass your analytical mind and tap into a wellspring of creative energy.

personal and wonderful comes out of this.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are conscientious about what you do, and you'll feel inclined to work hard. Those with similar responsibilities may rely too heavily on you to pick up the slack. Avoid giving more to the work than you have to.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 2). The next six weeks are a learning process. Stay the course this year, no matter what temptations, distractions and challenges arise and you'll succeed. What you need to know is revealed in June. Solutions to domestic issues make life more enjoyable in July. Relationships get stronger in September through shared adventure. Capricorn and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 13, 49, 38 and 16.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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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.

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

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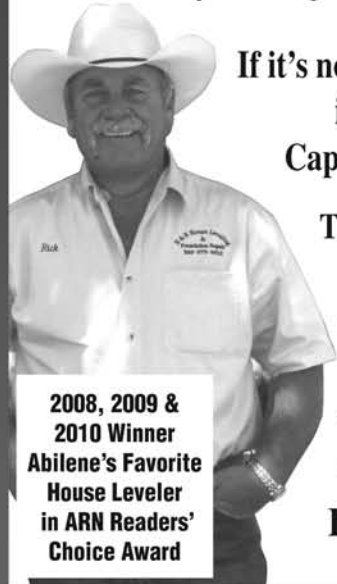
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