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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY

MAY 23, 2012



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 188

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City council Getting the ball rolling

1st steps taken in water facility upgrade process

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Big Spring City Council on Tuesday approved first reading of an ordinance calling for the publication of notices to begin the funding process for the \$13 million overhaul of the municipality's water and wastewater facilities, a 4B sales tax project approved by voters May 12.

The project — which calls for the use of economic development funds for rehabilitation of the city's water and wastewater systems — passed during the municipal election with 1,182 ballots in favor, making up a whopping 71.51 percent of the vote, with 471 casting their ballot against the proposition, accounting for 28.49 percent of the tally.

According to City Finance Director Peggy Walker, Tuesday night's move by the council

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3



Big Spring High School Algebra Teacher Corey Green, center, was named winner of the Big Spring Mason's Mirabeau B. Lamar Award, presented annually to the top teacher in the local school district. Also shown are Dennis Burns of Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 598 AF&AM, left, and BSISD Principal Mike Ritchey.

Green BSISD's top teacher

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

You don't have to be a long-time teacher to be an outstanding teacher. Corey Green is proof-positive of that.

Green, in the second year of his educational career, was named the recipient of the Mirabeau B. Lamar Award Tuesday, presented annually by the Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 598, AF&AM, to the top teacher in the Big Spring

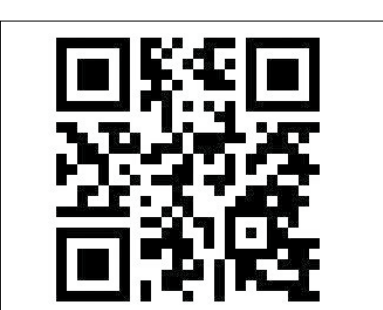
Independent School District. Dennis Burns of the Masonic Lodge said nominees for the award were submitted by campus principals and the winner was named by a committee of Masons.

Green, an Algebra I instructor at Big Spring High School, was well-deserving of the honor, BSISD Principal Mike Ritchey said.

is the first time a teacher from the high school has been selected for the Lamar Award," Ritchey said. "We're excited, not only for Corey, but for the high school, as well. I know his students were excited, because they were there for the award presentation. He's very deserving of this award. He's a great teacher."

Ritchey said Green's personal

"As far as I can remember, this See **GREEN**, Page 3



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Holdampf, Cimino highlight Forsan's 2012 graduating class

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

FORSAN — Forsan High School has announced its top graduates for the Class of 2012.

Sydney Holdampf, daughter of Paula and James Holdampf of Big Spring, is class valedictorian, while Hope Cimino, daughter of Sam and Steve Cimino of Big Spring, is class salutatorian.

Holdampf will graduate with a ranking grade point average of 5.11111, while Cimino's ranking GPA is 4.89361.

Holdampf, runner-up at this year's Class 2A state tennis singles competition, has been a member of the annual staff since her sophomore year and is active in the National Honor Society, Gifted and Talented Program, band and drum line and was a varsity cheerleader and cross-country team member.

She has qualified for regional competition in University Interscholastic League academics since her freshman year and went to the state number sense tournament this year.

In athletics, she has been a member of the varsity tennis team since her fresh-

man year and has been named team most valuable player the past three years, as well as being selected to the all-state academic tennis team.

She plans to attend the University of the Texas at the Permian Basin and major in nuclear engineering.

Cimino's school activities include band, theater, UIL academics and the student council, of which she has been a member the past three years. In addition, she has been a NHS member the past two years. As a member of the cross-examination debate team, she qualified for the state tournament her sophomore and junior years and was named one of the top 15 debaters in the state in 2011.

In athletics, she participated in basketball, cross-country and tennis.

FHS will hold 2012 commencement at 8 p.m. Friday in the high school gymnasium.

Members of the Forsan High School Class of 2012 are:

Autumn Alton, Tanner Bailey, Joshua Bailey, C.J. Ballard, Courtney Blair, Tiffani Box, Foster Burchett, Ashley

See **FORSAN**, Page 3

Borden top graduates announced

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

GAIL — Shayli Boles and Austin Fields have been named the top graduates for the Borden County High School Class of 2012.

Boles, daughter of Scott and Sheri Boles of Lamesa, is class valedictorian. She is a member of the National Beta Club and is a Distinguished Achievement graduate. Also, she completed 30 hours of dual credit college classes through Western Texas College of Snyder during her high school career.

She has been active in the local Future Farmers of America chapter and was a member of the state-qualifying skills team. She also participated in stock

See **BORDEN**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Louis C. Ramirez



Louis C. Ramirez, 80, of Big Spring died Monday, May 21, 2012, at his residence. A vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 23, 2012, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 24, 2012, at the Holy Trinity Catholic Parish. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Feb. 29, 1932, in Buda, Texas, and was raised in Knott, Texas. He married Isabel Chavarria on May 6, 1958, in Big Spring and she preceded him in death Feb. 23, 2001.

Louis is a United States Army Veteran of the Korean War. His 40 years of dedication to R.E. Janes Gravel Co. culminated in his retirement as site manager.

He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Parish and was an active and longstanding member of the Holy Trinity Catholic Choir.

His family will remember this outstanding man forever in their hearts as a hardworking, reliable man who was passionate about his family. A special thanks goes to Compass Hospice for their excellent care during his most critical time of need.

Survivors include four daughters, Mary Bonilla and husband Merardo of El Paso, Ruth Calderon and husband Vicente, Louise Ramirez and Lisa Rodriguez and husband Sam, all of Big Spring; two sons, Felix Hilario of San Antonio and John Hilario and wife Pilar of Carrollton; three sisters, Luz Luna, Simona Martinez and Martina Moron, all of Coahoma; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, Carlos and Lorenza (Fabela) Ramirez; one son, Richard Hilario; one daughter, Josephine Calderon; and one sister, Isabell Ramirez.

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

Juanita Stinnette Roberts



Juanita Stinnette Roberts, 93, of Eastland County, formerly of Big Spring died Tuesday, May 22, 2012. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, May 25, 2012, at Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with Pastor Craig Rhoton of Lake Leon Baptist Church officiating.

She was born May 17, 1919, in Sweetwater, Texas, to L.B. and Myrtle Stinnette. She lived most of her life in Big Spring, Texas. For the past eight years she lived at Lake Leon in Eastland, Texas. She was a member of Lake Leon Baptist Church in Eastland.

She is survived by her daughter, Carol Chamberlain and husband Charles of Eastland; one grandson; one granddaughter; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Earon Roberts; her parents; two brothers; and one sister. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

Take Note

• YMCA is looking for childcare help for summer camp. Summer camp will start May 29. Those wanting to apply for childcare help must be over 18, have high school diploma or GED, know first aid and CPR, must pass drug test and background check and FBI print. For more information, contact Rosie Franco at 267-8234. YMCA is located at 801 Owens.

• An account has been established at Wells Fargo Bank to help defray medical cost for Brittney Phillips Smith. Brittney will be undergoing a kidney transplant in San Antonio on June 14. Brittney is a graduate of BSHS and is the daughter of Karan and Gary Phillips. All donations and prayers will be greatly appreciated.

• Dr. Clipper Strickland will be the guest speaker at the next Visual Awareness Support Group set for 5:30 p.m. Thursday, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad St. Dr. Strickland will speak on the topic of diabetic retinopathy. Call 263-2501 for information or email us at: eyeassoco@crcom.net

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Tuesday and 6 a.m. today:

• MARY JEAN BERRY, 41, of 4000 W. Highway 80, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for theft between \$500 and \$1500.

• PAULA SUE BAKER, 52, of 101 E. 16th Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• VERONICA MARIE ORTIZ, 29, of 1509 W. Fourth St., was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from other agency.

• DAVID LYNN DOW, 29, transient, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of criminal trespass-habitation/shelter and evading arrest/detention.

• ROXANNE BLACKWELL, 38, of 801 E. 14th St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• MICHAEL GUNTER, 25, of 1804 S.Owens, was arrested on warrants for expired registration, fail to appear (three counts), expired motor vehicle inspection certificate, failed to maintain financial responsibility.

• CRYSTAL LASHLE COBLE, 24, of 2710 S. Anderson Rd., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of disorderly conduct language.

• TINA L. REDFEARN, 34, of 2701 E. Highway 350, was arrested on a warrant from other agency.

• TIMOTHY TOD BECK, 51, of 709 W. Seventh, was arrested on warrant for expired registration, failed to maintain financial responsibility, expired motor vehicle inspection certificate, fail to appear (two counts).

• THEFT was reported:
In the 700 block of W. I-20.

In the 1600 block of E. Sixth Street.

• BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported in the 700 block of Creighton Street.

Support Groups

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. May 24, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Parish Hall. VASG is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. Dr. Clipper Strickland will be the guest speaker at the next meeting, and he will speak on the topic of diabetic retinopathy. For more information, 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 at 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.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

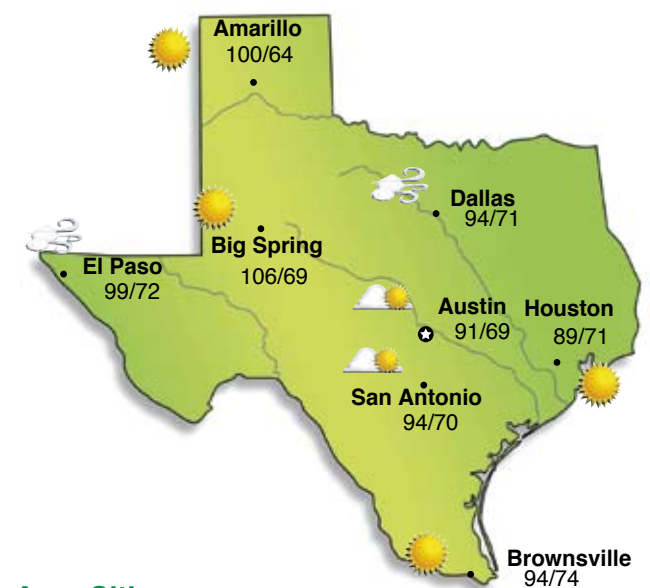
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 5/24	Fri 5/25	Sat 5/26	Sun 5/27	Mon 5/28
 106/69 Mainly sunny. Near record high temperatures. High 106F.	 103/71 Mainly sunny. Highs 101 to 105F and lows in the low 70s.	 103/70 More sun than clouds. Highs 101 to 105F and lows in the low 70s.	 93/69 Windy with times of sun and clouds.	 95/69 Windy with times of sun and clouds.
Sunrise: 6:43 AM Sunset: 8:43 PM	Sunrise: 6:43 AM Sunset: 8:43 PM	Sunrise: 6:42 AM Sunset: 8:44 PM	Sunrise: 6:42 AM Sunset: 8:45 PM	Sunrise: 6:42 AM Sunset: 8:45 PM

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Texas At A Glance



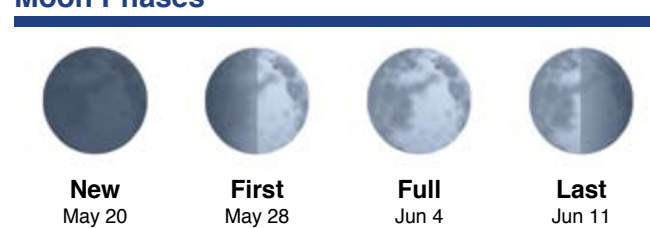
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	99	71	windy	Kingsville	94	72	sunny
Amarillo	100	64	sunny	Livingston	91	67	sunny
Austin	91	69	pt sunny	Longview	92	68	sunny
Beaumont	89	71	sunny	Lubbock	102	66	sunny
Brownsville	94	74	sunny	Lufkin	94	69	sunny
Brownwood	97	71	windy	Midland	105	72	sunny
Corpus Christi	90	75	sunny	Raymondville	95	72	sunny
Corsicana	92	69	windy	Rosenberg	89	71	sunny
Dallas	94	71	windy	San Antonio	94	70	pt sunny
Del Rio	99	72	sunny	San Marcos	92	69	pt sunny
El Paso	99	72	windy	Sulphur Springs	93	70	sunny
Fort Stockton	103	69	sunny	Sweetwater	101	71	windy
Gainesville	93	69	windy	Tyler	92	67	sunny
Greenville	92	68	windy	Weatherford	94	69	windy
Houston	89	71	sunny	Wichita Falls	97	70	windy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	83	63	mst sunny	Minneapolis	85	63	t-storm
Boston	77	59	rain	New York	73	64	rain
Chicago	79	58	sunny	Phoenix	100	72	windy
Dallas	94	71	windy	San Francisco	64	51	sunny
Denver	76	44	windy	Seattle	56	48	rain
Houston	89	71	sunny	St. Louis	86	63	sunny
Los Angeles	76	58	pt sunny	Washington, DC	78	67	t-storm
Miami	80	75	rain				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Thu 5/24	Fri 5/25	Sat 5/26	Sun 5/27	Mon 5/28
11	11	11	11	11
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme

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

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Commissioners name new road, bridge administrator

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer
Howard County commissioners hired a new road and bridge administrator during a special meeting Tuesday, as Brian Klinksiek will take over as head of the county department in two weeks.

Commissioners gave the go ahead to offer the job to Klinksiek during a called meeting Monday morning, according to County Judge Mark Barr.

"We met in executive session and decided which out of the two candidates we wanted to offer the position to," Barr said. "We met with the candidate and made the offer, at which time he asked for a day to discuss the mat-

ter with his family. He accepted the position shortly after that."

The decision to accept Klinksiek for the position came on a unanimous vote, according to Barr.

"We had been looking at two candidates and both are very well qualified," Barr said. "On paper, they had very similar qualifications and experience. However, the other candidate lived in Greenwood and the commissioners felt it was important to hire someone who lived here in Howard County."

Barr said Klinksiek's experience with roads is considerable.

"He's currently employed with Price Construction," Barr said. "Be-

fore that, he went to school at Texas Tech and worked for the Texas Department of Transportation. He has a strong handle on roads, which is something we need.

"I think he'll do really well in the position. I think he'll do a good job. He has a lot of experience, which was something we were looking for when we began looking at applicants. I'm very pleased with the way it has gone."

Howard County has been without a road and bridge administrator since Eddy Jameson, who was with the county for 18 years, was dismissed from the position in late March. The decision to dismiss Jameson was made by a

unanimous vote of the court following an executive session concerning the matter.

Barr declined to discuss the specifics of the dismissal following the March meeting, saying only the working environment between management and employees in the department had become dysfunctional. Despite the dismissal, Jameson remained eligible for retirement benefits and received thanks from the court for his many years of service to the county.

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

BORDEN

Continued from Page 1

shows through the Dawson County 4-H Club.

In high school, Boles was a regional qualifier in tennis and a member of the cross-country team, as well as being a class officer and voted "most likely to succeed" by the student body.

She will attend the Mays Business School at Texas A&M University and major in marketing.

Fields, the son of John David and Sonja Fields of Post, is BCHS class salutatorian. He also is a member of the National Beta Club, is a Distinguished Achievement graduate and has completed more than 30 hours of dual credit college classes through WTC.

He was a regional qualifier for two years in University Interscholastic League academic competition and was a member of the football, cross-country, track, golf and baseball teams. In addition, he was a class officer all four years in high school.

Fields plans to attend Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene.

Commencement for the BCHS Class of 2012 will be at 7 p.m. Friday in the school auditorium.

Members of the Borden County High School Class of 2012 are:

Raegan Belongia, Shaylie Boles, Luke Burkett, Stefanie Cooley, Austin Fields, Seleste Herridge, Aubree Lester, Quinton Shafer, Chance Taylor, Collin Telchik, Dalton Thuett and Austin Tyler

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

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1

Buzbee; Hope Cimino, Jessica Cortez, Megan Crane, Nicholas Emerson, Sassy Farmer, Cheyenne Galloway, Brittany Glasco,

Aaron Goff, Alejandra Hernandez, Sydney Holdampf, Shandi Huitt, Ricky Jaime, Ty Johnson, Katie Kirby, Adam Lloyd, Leah Lloyd and Jordan McMahan.

Amber Neighbors, Trent Newton, Patric Paredes, Alex Park, Payton Parker,

Billy Perry, Bryson Phillips, Tyler Roach, Patrick Robles, Kimbra Rodriguez, Patrick Rodriguez, Caden Rosenbaum, Kaidie Saverance, Mara Sheets, Kylie Soles, Kyle Stevenson, Elgen Suazo, Patrick Taylor, Sterlyng Thurman, Chris

Villa, Darien Walker, Spencer Wells, Garrett Willey, Megan Wilson and Stevie Wilson.

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

GREEN

Continued from Page 1

approach as a teacher is what makes

him so successful.

"He just builds a very positive relationship with his students. They're not just numbers to him — they're people," Ritchey said. "He really cares for them as students."

Burns said the award is part of the Masons' long-standing support of public education and is named after the second president of the Republic of Texas. Lamar is known as the father of Texas education for his work

in establishing a public school system in the state.

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

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

will actually begin the process by which the city will fund the project.

"We are actually taking the next step to issue the debt related to the 4B project," Walker told the council.

The council also met with George Williford, representative of First Southwest Company of Dallas, who explained the timeline of the sale of certificates of obligation to the council.

"The form of notice provides for issuance of up to \$12 million in certificates of obligation for the purpose of improvements to the water works and sewer

system," Williford said. "The notice has to be published no later than 31 days preceding the date on which you anticipate authorizing issuance, and that, of course, is July 10

"Ultimately, July 9 we'll be working with the underwriters to actually price and market the issue. That means, when it's brought back to council July 10 you'll have all of the documents prepared by the bond council to enable you to authorize and actually approve the issuance and sale."

As part of the agreement between the council and the Big Spring Economic Development board of directors, the EDC will provide \$750,000 a year for the first two years, and then 40 percent of its sales tax revenue — with a floor

of \$500,000 and a ceiling of \$750,000 for the following 18 years — with the city of Big Spring picking up the remainder of the tab.

Also during Tuesday's meeting, the council approved final reading of a resolution denying a rate increase requested by Atmos Energy's West Texas Division estimated at \$11.6 million, a move Walker said will likely force the issue before the Texas Railroad Commission.

"The company is requesting an \$11.6 million increase. Our consultant found there is actually a decrease that could be substantiated," Walker said. "As part of the steering committee, our city has been working diligently with the company to negotiate a settlement. However, for some reason the

company does not seem to be willing to settle this case. A lot of that deals with the fact that Amarillo and Lubbock have stand-alone rates, which are considerably lower rates than what our citizens pay. They are trying to maintain that stand-alone status."

Walker said efforts to set up meetings to negotiate with Atmos during the past several weeks have been unsuccessful.

"It will likely take several months before this matter goes before the Railroad Commission. However, we are still trying to set up a meeting with them so we can negotiate," Walker said. "Unfortunately, until they are ready to come to the table, there isn't much we can do."

Walker said officials

with the cities of Amarillo and Lubbock have recently requested a meeting with Big Spring officials, however, she doesn't expect it to move the matter forward.

"We're supposed to meet with those city officials, but my understanding is Atmos will not be at the meeting," Walker said. "I doubt we'll be able to accomplish much when the people we're supposed to be negotiating won't be in attendance."

Also Tuesday, outgoing council members Manuel Ramirez Jr., Gloria McDonald and Terry Hansen were presented with plaques of appreciation, as well as

standing ovations from the city staff and audience.

Newly elected council members — Carmen Harbour, District 2; Bobby McDonald, District 4; and Marvin Boyd, District 6 — were administered the oath of office and seated by Walker during the meeting.

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

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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Vernon Parnell, 71, died Saturday. Graveside services with Military Honors were at 10 a.m. today at Mount Olive Memorial Park.
Juanita Stinnette Roberts, 93, of Ranger formerly of Big Spring, died Tuesday. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

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- Member of Howard County Bar Assoc., State Bar Assoc., American Bar Assoc.

C.E. Mike Thomas Attorney at Law
c.e.mikethomas@gmail.com

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Sweetwater Reporter HERALD

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	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

OUR VIEWS

Seniors 2012: Graduation time

Seniors across the Crossroads area are counting down the days — which are now fewer than five — until they can walk across the stage and conclude their high school careers.

Seniors of 2012 will be starting a new chapter in their lives and Seniors of 2013 will be coming in to write their own memories for their last year of high school.

Graduations will be taking place starting Thursday with celebrations occurring throughout the weekend.

Even though this is an exciting time for area youth, it is also wise to remember while celebrating to be safe.

There are several ways to enjoy the milestone while making sure you are safe.

- Gather together at a friend's house and act like a kid again. Pull out the board games and sing karaoke.

- Plan a group trip with your closest friends and family and sight-see.

Being a kid again may not seem cool for graduating seniors, but it will be a treasured memory as time passes.

Remember there are still a lot of years left in your future and the outcome has yet to be determined and shaped.

Make the most of the time you have with family and friends now because those will be the memories you will always treasure.

For those wanting to attend the area graduation ceremonies, times and dates follow:

Big Spring High School — 7 p.m. Friday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Forsan High School — 8 p.m. Saturday at Forsan High School.

- Coahoma High School — 7 p.m. Thursday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Congratulations to all area graduates!

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 we prove we are part of Your family,
Lord, through our deeds and attitude.
Amen

The Democrats' war on money

Cory Booker, mayor of Newark, N.J., came across as a moderate,

sensible Democrat when he said on "Meet the Press" Sunday that negative political ads are "nauseating to the American public. Enough is enough. Stop attacking private equity. Stop attacking Jeremiah Wright."

Booker, a Barack Obama surrogate, later tried to walk back his comments.

He posted a video in which he explained he was expressing his frustration with negative campaigning when he spoke out, effectively undermining the president's re-election narrative.

(Booker also referred to the biggest non-story in politics last week, about a political consultant who recommended that a super PAC use Wright in an anti-Obama ad. That ad didn't get made.)

But there is no walking back from Booker's disapproval of the Obama campaign's attacks on Bain Capital, the private equity firm that Mitt Romney founded.

Last week, Team Obama released an ad that told the story of a Kansas steel mill that Bain bought in 1993 and that went bankrupt in 2001.

In the ad, laid-off steelworkers had some choice words for

Romney. Like "vampire" and "job destroyer."

The problem with such ads, Booker said Sunday, is that "we're getting to a ridiculous point in America."

Pension funds, unions and others invest in companies like Bain Capital. Bain's record has been to grow businesses. To Booker, Bain Capital has been good for America. To Obama-land, Bain Capital has been bad for America.

As a mayor, Booker said, he, too, has had to lay off workers "because it's the only way" his "government would survive."

He added, "Call me a job cutter if you want."

I should note that PolitiFact rated as "mostly true" this statement from the Obama campaign:

"After purchasing the company, Mitt Romney and his partners loaded it with debt, closed the Kansas City plant and walked away with a healthy profit, leaving hundreds of employees out of work with their pensions in jeopardy."

Missing from the story: the fact that Romney wasn't in charge anymore and that in 2001, the steel industry was in a world of hurt — with low steel prices and high production costs — which drove a lot of mills out of business.

I would add that the steelworkers in the political ad were talking about the heyday of the steel industry, which occurred long before Bain stepped in to rescue an ailing mill.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

Taking a pause this weekend

Patriotic Americans all over the world will pause this coming weekend and pay tribute to those who have served in the United States military to preserve our freedom, and especially those who paid the ultimate price by sacrificing their lives fighting against tyranny and evil.

I don't have an adequate vocabulary to express the depth of my appreciation for all men and women who have given so much to preserve our precious liberties.

I graduated from High School in San Antonio in 1969 during the Vietnam War and registered with the Selective Service immediately after graduation. I then attended our church college in Tennessee and was deferred from serving by entering the full-time ministry. But my heart was always willing to do my patriotic duty and I would have been proud to wear any uniform representing our great country.

Most of our church family, and many of our closest friends at that time, were stationed at Fort Sam Houston, Kelly Air Force Base, Randolph Air Force Base, or the world-famous Lackland Air Force Base. Some of my most treasured friendships were established during those years and I still maintain contact with some who became significant parts of our lives during that time.

I am not a pacifist by any stretch of the imagination, but I do hate war.

Killing other human beings, no matter how diametrically opposed we may be to their opinions and beliefs, is a pitiful and tragic way to settle for conflict.

It's been going on for centuries and I guess it will always and forever be a part of life, but I don't have to like it.

I know evil will always exist in the hearts of men and those who have no morals or compunction for decency will use violence as a means to gain a position of control over those who oppose them.

And I realize that there are countries where human life is not valued and therefore killing others is no big deal.

Since that's the way the world is going to be there will always be a need for strong defense of our beliefs and lifestyle.

Dwight D. Eisenhower said, "Neither a wise nor a brave man lies down on the tracks of history to wait for the train of the future to run over him."

He also said, "A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both."

Our nation is on the brink of social, economic, political and spiritual collapse and unless there is radical change soon, there is an ominous bank of dark clouds hanging over this land and her future.

Yet, being the optimist and Christian that I am, I know all will end well.

But there is a false sense of security in the minds of many who foolishly subscribe to the ideology that nothing will ever be able to dislodge us from the peace and serenity of living comfortably in a country where we never have to worry about bombs falling in our neighborhoods on a daily basis.

Know this, dear reader, that as Edmund Burke is reputed to have stated, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."

There is a story of a Bolshevik revolutionary who was standing on a soap box speaking to a small crowd in Times Square.

After describing the glories of Socialism and Communism, he said: "Come the revolution and everyone will eat peaches and cream."

A little old man at the back of the crowd yelled out: "I don't like peaches and cream."

The Bolshevik thought about that for a moment and then replied: "Come the revolution, Comrade, you will like peaches and cream."

I desperately want America to always be the land of the free and the home of the brave that our dear soldiers have fought and died for throughout the generations. But if good people do nothing, evil will prevail.

I have seen so much negative and destructive change in the last few years that something

Monday, a reporter asked Obama about Booker's remarks and the role of private equity.

The president explained that the goal of private investment is to "maximize profits," whereas a president's job is to make sure that everyone has "a fair shot" and that everyone pays his or her "fair share" of taxes.

That's the problem with Obama; he thinks he's the fairness czar.

He didn't say a president is supposed to create an environment that nurtures business success.

He said a president is supposed to make sure that nobody walks away with too much.

When you're president, Obama said, "your job is to think about those workers who get laid off and how are we paying for their retraining."

Obama's war is a war on private money.

He thinks his job is to create job training programs, not create an environment that creates real jobs.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.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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deep inside me on this Memorial Day week cries out for an awakening to truth and reality that spurs men and women of integrity to action.

There will never be another world like many of us grew up in, where riding our bikes all over town or walking to school was commonplace and nothing to be concerned about.

Our children and grandchildren are growing up in a world where almost everything is a threat to their safety and well-being.

And, regardless of what we are being told, government intervention and control is not the solution to the problem. The potentially destructive issues we face need to be confronted by God-fearing parents and men and women who care more about what is right than what our enemies or the politically correct maniacs might think of us if we stand up for righteousness and truth.

Certain elements within our government are trying to monitor and control every aspect of our lives.

Even our kid's school lunches are inspected by government control freaks to make sure that they contain the "correct foods" in many areas of the country.

For example, one 4-year-old girl recently had her lunch confiscated by a "lunch monitor" because it did not meet USDA guidelines.

A preschooler at West Hoke Elementary School in North Carolina ate three chicken nuggets for lunch Jan. 30 because the school told her the lunch her mother packed was not nutritious. The girl's turkey and cheese sandwich, banana, potato chips, and apple juice did not meet U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines.

May God give us wisdom to deal with the chaos that is inevitable if change doesn't happen soon.

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

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

Powell not yet ready to endorse president

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Secretary of State Colin Powell declined Tuesday to renew the presidential endorsement he gave Barack Obama four years ago, saying he wasn't ready "to throw my weight behind someone" at this time.

The former chairman of the military's Joint Chiefs of Staff and Cabinet member under President George W. Bush demurred when asked if he was backing Obama again. A longtime GOP figure, Powell caused a stir in Republican political circles four years ago by endorsing Obama over war hero Sen. John McCain, calling Obama a "transformational figure."

Not so this time, Powell said on NBC's "Today" show. At least, not yet.

"It's not just a matter of whether you support Obama or (Mitt) Romney. It's who they have coming in with them,"

he said.

Pressed to say why he was holding back on giving Obama his blessing a second time, Powell said: "I always keep my powder dry, as they say in the military."

He said Obama had "stabilized the financial system" following the deep recession of 2008-2009 and had "fixed the auto industry." Powell also said he thought the country was on the right path toward ending the war in Afghanistan.

But he also said he thought Obama needed to work more on the economy and said he thought that he owed it to the Republican Party to listen to the proposals that likely nominee Romney will be offering, particularly on the economy.

Powell said he's "still listening" to Republican ideas, calling Romney "a good man" and saying he wasn't ready to make a commitment to Obama.

Powell has been an enigmatic figure in the Republican Party, and his name often has been mentioned in both presidential and vice presidential speculation. He was the first black head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Last year, Powell told graduates of South Carolina's premier historically black university that, among other things, he had been particularly heartened by a recent event.

"That was when President Obama took out his birth certificate and blew away Donald Trump and all the birthers," he told students at South Carolina State University. That was a reference to those who doubt Obama was born in the U.S.

Powell also supported Obama in getting the U.S. Senate to ratify the New START treaty with Russia, trimming the nuclear stockpiles held by both countries.

Romney playbook on Bain unclear as attacks increase

NEW YORK (AP) — The core of his presidential candidacy under attack, Mitt Romney has yet to shape a playbook to defend a quarter-century in the business world that created great riches for him and great hardship, at times, for some American workers.

Romney and his aides have struggled to respond consistently to intensifying criticism about his tenure at Bain Capital, the private equity firm he helped found, and how it would be reflected in his presidency. The lack of a cohesive message stems, in part, from Romney's fundamental belief that any debate that puts the economy front and center is a win for Republicans. Public polling shows most Americans are not satisfied with the pace of the recovery under President Barack Obama.

The election, Romney aides say, will be a referendum on Obama's economic leadership far more than a question of Romney's business career, regardless of how much Democrats highlight that issue.

So far, Romney aides have let Democrats — led by Obama — do most of the talking.

Obama on Monday sharply attacked Romney's background as a venture capitalist, offering his most expansive comments to date about how Romney's role as founder of the Boston-based private equity firm doesn't necessarily translate to the White House.

"If your main argument for how to grow the economy is 'I knew how to make a lot of money for investors,' then you're missing what this job is about," Obama said during a news conference at an international summit in Chicago. "It doesn't mean you weren't good at private equity, but that's not what my job is as president. My job is to take into account everybody, not just some. My job is to make sure that the country is growing not just now, but 10 years from now and 20 years from now."

He added: "This is not a distraction. This is what this campaign is going to be about — is what is a strategy for us to move this country forward in a way where everybody can succeed?"

Romney ignored Obama's criticism as he courted donors on Wall Street during a three-day fundraising tour. He issued a written statement that said Obama was once again attacking the free enterprise system.

Romney's campaign has offered several defenses since Obama's re-election team launched an all-out assault against Bain: It's a simple distraction, an affront to free markets, an attempt to divide the nation, a misreading of the firm's success. The campaign released a Web video last week featuring workers from an Indiana company that benefited from Bain's involvement.

On Tuesday, a prominent Romney supporter, former New Hampshire Gov. John H. Sununu further muddied the campaign's position when he said "the Bain record as a whole is fair game."

In 80 percent of the cases, he said the company saved jobs. A Bain spokesman also said "revenues grew in 80 percent of the more than 350 companies in which we have invested," which does not necessarily mean that the companies' bottom lines or job numbers improved.

"That's a good batting average in the private sector business — private equity business," Sununu told reporters during a conference call. He added that any "cherry picking" focusing on the company's failures is "a distortion."

Romney himself generally has avoided the issue as he spends most of his time privately raising money, and did so during a \$2,500-a-plate reception Monday at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

"I understand the economy because I've lived in it," he said. "And by the way, I've been successful, but I've also lost. There's sometimes I failed. I probably learned more from failures than from the successes. But I know how this economy works."

Romney's relative silence was made possible, in part, by a gaffe by Newark, N.J., Mayor Cory Booker, an Obama supporter who on Sunday said exchanges by the campaigns over Bain were "nauseating" and a distraction from issues that interest voters. He walked back his comments after they dominated the campaign news for a day.

Obama is running television ads across five swing states featuring a former worker who likens Bain Capital to a vampire.

The president's re-election campaign has also released Web videos and arranged multiple conference calls for reporters with employees from companies that suffered under Bain's leadership.

Romney senior aide Stuart Stevens described the television ad as "performance art gibberish."

"Shouting louder and getting more angry is not very persuasive," Stevens said in response to the line of attack. "The idea that people are walking around with less of a paycheck or higher gas prices because of something Bain Capital did 20 years ago is absurd."

Romney faced similar criticism from former House Speaker Newt Gingrich during the Republican primary. Gingrich accused Romney of "looting a company" and suggested that he return money earned "from bankrupting companies and laying off employees over his years at Bain."

193 & Counting!



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Why not check this out at the library?

Shhh! Listen! Do you hear that? It is cold air coming from the vents at the library on Tuesday, May 29, when we come back from the Memorial Day weekend holiday. We will close at 3 p.m. Friday and that is when our old chiller will be taken to the scrapyards (I suppose) and a bright shiny new one will take its place, and cold air will gush from the vents and we will be wearing sweaters as we greet you at 9 a.m., our new opening time. Yes, we had quite a few people tell us they liked the earlier time, so we decided we would go back to the 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. hours.

I don't have any new books to tell you about, so I am digging in the archives to remind you of what we have to check out, in case you have forgotten. Reviews range from a few months ago to two or three years ago.

"Ghost: Confessions of a Counterterrorism Agent" (B BUR F), is by Fred Burton. Burton worked for many years in the Diplomatic Security Service. These are the people who protect the Secretary of State and other



HOLLIS
MCCRIGHT

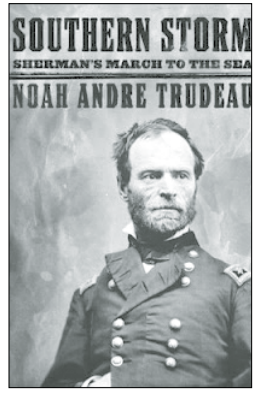
high-ranking governmental officials. In this account of his 40-some odd years as an agent, he addresses the issues of terrorism, when it first came to their attention and what can or has been done. There are not any state secrets being revealed, but it is a very interesting and informative work on a very timely subject.

Are you a fan of Civil War literature? "Southern Storm: Sherman's March to the Sea" (973.737 TRU N), is by Noah Andre Trudeau.

Trudeau, a prize-winning Civil War historian, addresses William T. Sherman's march to the sea in the autumn of 1864. Sherman's inclusion of civilian and commercial property on the list of military objectives was not a harbinger of total war, says Trudeau. Rather, its purpose was to demonstrate to the Confederacy that there was no place in the South safe from Union troops. In many parts of Georgia, Sherman is still an anathema. The March ripped Georgia right down the middle, devastating both civilians and the Confederate army's supply line.

From one of booksellers who come to see us each year, we pick up local books

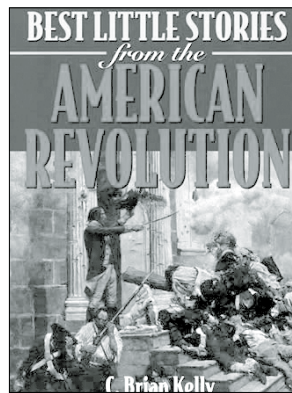
of interest we don't get from the big book sellers. From C. Brian Kelly with Ingrid Smyer comes "Best Little Stories from the American Revolution" (973.3 KEL C). These are true stories you will not read about in military dispatches or newspapers. They



come from letters or personal histories penned by those who were there. Did you know that David Bushnell, desperate to aid the American naval forces, devised the first underwater torpedo? And more importantly, a submersible boat, dubbed "the Turtle,"

America's first submarine? Joanne S. Liu, in "Barbed Wire: The Fence That Changed the West" (978 LIU J), reveals how the simple twist of wire transformed a country's landscape and ushered in a new way of life.

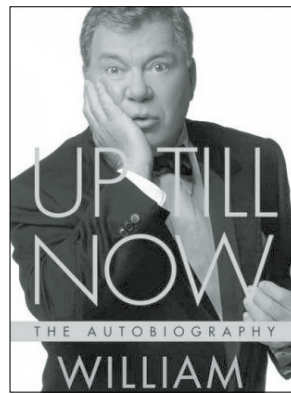
An iconic figure, Peter Jennings, comes to life in "A Reporter's Life: Peter Jennings." It is ed-



ited by Kate Darnton, Kaycee Freed Jennings and Lynn Sherr. While it is not a typical biography, it is a compilation of remembrances

from many persons who played a part in Jennings' life. A particular quote of his resonates with me: "Once you are clear about what your values are, you must always stand up for them." He took this as his criteria in the reporting he did and the stories he produced.

Ridley Pearson is an excellent writer. The library has dozens of his books and this one is in Large Print. In "Killer View" (LP F PEA R), Sheriff Walt Fleming is faced with a lost skier, a murder, and trouble at the local water-bottling plant. Evidence leads in mysterious ways, but Walt always finds



the answer. As with many of Ridley's books, there is a kernel of truth. We also have it in regular print.

If you go to <http://www.ridleypearson.com>, you can see everything that Ridley has written, including quite a few television shows.

"Up Until Now" (B SHA W), by William Shatner is his life story. After almost 60 years as an actor, he has become one of the most beloved entertainers in the world. And it seems as if Shatner is everywhere. Winning an Emmy for his role on "Boston Legal," doing commercials for Priceline.com, in the movie theaters. Singing with Ben Folds. He's sitting next to Jay Leno and Jimmy Kimmel, and he's practically a regular on Howard Stern's show. He was recently honored with election to the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Hall of Fame. In "Up Till Now," Shatner sits down with readers and offers the remarkable, full story of his life and explains how he got to be, well, everywhere.

Beginning Tuesday, the library is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m., with the Internet/Video room closing at 5:30.

The library is located at 500 S. Main St.

Our phone number is 264-2260.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

Say what? The odyssey of Kraft's new name

NEW YORK (AP) — "MONDEWHAAAAT?"

The sarcasm was palpable in the one-word headline that appeared in The New York Post on the day after Kraft Foods revealed that it planned to name its new global snack business "Mondelez," an interpretation of a mash-up of the Latin words for "world" and "delicious." But that wasn't the only dig.

One blogger teased that she would've been "stifling giggles" if she'd been in meetings to determine the name. A Forbes contributor suggested a trick for remembering how to say it: "Just think Bush

Administration Secretary of State. You know, Mon-de-leza Rice." Crain's Business Chicago tittered that it bears close resemblance to a vulgar Russian term for a sexual act.

Michael Mitchell, a Kraft spokesman, said executives took all the joking in stride, and he's quick to point out why the Crain's observation didn't alarm the company: "The name has to be mispronounced to get that unfortunate meaning."

The made-up moniker, pronounced "mondah-LEEZ," became a punch line after it was unveiled in March. Today, Kraft shareholders

will decide whether to approve the name for the company's business that sells global snack brands such as Oreos, Fig Newton and Cadbury.

The four-month odyssey of how "Mondelez" was picked — and how it was received — illustrates the great pains companies take to come up with powerful names for their businesses, products and services. For them, it's akin to parents obsessing over a name for their newborn: it's a moniker that sticks for better or worse, so it better be good.

"You have to generate thousands of ideas, even if it's just for a cookie,"

said Nik Contis, the global director of naming at branding company Siegel+Gale.

That's just what Kraft did after it decided to split into two publicly-traded companies — one for its North American grocery business that makes products like Oscar Mayer and Miracle Whip and the other a bigger company to focus on selling snacks worldwide.

It was clear to executives at Kraft's Northfield, Ill., headquarters that the name of the snack business would have to appeal to a global audience. So the world's biggest maker of sweet snacks started the ardu-

ous process of picking a name in November by soliciting suggestions from its employees.

On its internal website, Kraft proclaimed that it would host a naming contest. The announcement included a "mood video" set to music and showing images of life milestones, such as a wedding and a baby's birth. Employees were encouraged to make suggestions through an "Idea Kitchen" page, where they could see and build off of the suggestions of their peers.

More than 1,000 employees submitted more than 1,700 entries.

Discarded name can-

didates ranged from the cultivated ("Panyoro," Latin for eating) to the not-so-cultivated ("tfark," which is Kraft spelled backward) to the outright cryptic ("Artrix" — the employee who suggested it provided no explanation on what the letters signified).

The names went through two rounds of testing with native speakers in 28 different languages. Consumers in small focus groups were asked again and again if any of the names conjured up negative associations. "Mondelez," a favorite among Kraft executives from the get-go, didn't raise any big red flags.

Charles Myers

Attorney At Law

Family Law And
Criminal Law

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To receive further information about the Lifeline and Tribal Link Up programs, call Verizon Wireless at 800-924-0585 or go to verizonwireless.com/lifeline. Lifeline is only available in limited areas where Verizon Wireless has been designated to offer these programs. Requirements vary by state.

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Modern twists on wood furnishings

By KIM COOK

For The Associated Press

Industrial designer Robert Hendrick was on a tech career track out of college until two things happened that changed his trajectory.

First, he bought a company that maintains and rebuilds railroad tracks. Then he started spending Saturdays building stuff with his father, Jim.

The two launched Rail Yard Studios in 2010. Using century-old railroad steel and hardwood timber, they make one-of-a-kind chairs, desks, tables, beds. Some of the rails date back as far as 1898. Each

piece is numbered using a salvaged date nail that's been scavenged from the tracks themselves.

Many wood furniture artisans are interested, as the Hendricks are, in honoring the provenance of their material, whether it's repurposed, recycled or just reimagined as something that can be used in the home.

That creative respect makes for some beautiful and intriguing pieces.

Naomi Neilson Howard, founder of the company Native Trails in San Luis Obispo, Calif., uses staves and barrels from nearby wineries to make bathroom vanities for

her Vintner's Collection. Her Cabernet model has a deep, warm patina, the result of the oak soaking in red wine for several years. The pieces have an Old World, weathered quality.

This spring, Howard added the Renewal series to her line, a departure from the more rustic pieces. She molds tightly grained, compressed bamboo into contemporary vanities such as the Halcyon, a curvy, wall-mounted piece fashioned from two proprietary varieties, Caramel Bamboo and the darker Woven Strand Bamboo.

Fred Strawser and David Smith have an eponymous

Brooklyn shop selling refurbished and repurposed furnishings whose components started life back in Rust Belt factories. With its mix of heartland craftsmanship and modern high style, the shop has attracted the attention of design enthusiasts as far away as Japan.

For examples, a medical cart from late 19th-century Toledo, Ohio, gets a walnut top that used to be a leather worker's work surface, and is ready for action as a hip new desk or console. Industrial-chic side tables are made of thick, lustrously finished slabs of reclaimed wood with wrought-iron, hanging ma-

chinist's baskets instead of shelves.

Sarah Reiss is a Dallas-based artist, furniture designer and writer, who found her inner craftsman when buying a fixer-upper.

She invested in a jigsaw and some other equipment and built a wall out of interesting reclaimed lengths of wood. The striking result — a colorful, textural geometric piece of art — caught the attention of design bloggers, and her business took off.

"Piecing a wall together is like a long-form improvisation with a permanent outcome. I think that's pretty cool," she says.

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: After more than 40 years of devotion to my husband, I have finally realized what a stonehearted jerk he is. I have done everything in my power to love, respect and encourage him. But I've fallen into a pattern of picking up the pieces of my heart and overlooking my own hurt in order to give him another chance and keep peace in our home.

All of this is "not important" to him, as he has told me numerous times. My marriage is terribly lonely. Year after year, his disinterest and disregard for my feelings have chipped away at the love I once had. I have fought hard to stay in his life, and he tells me, "So what?" and "Leave if you want to." My pleadings fall on deaf ears, and he refuses to discuss it.

I have raised our children and worked beside him and also outside the home. I have contributed as much as he has to build our life together. This is obviously not how I envisioned our retirement, but I have had enough and am finally ready to begin a new life without him.

Where do I start? — Beyond Sad

Dear Beyond: With counseling. Not necessarily to save your marriage, but to help you move forward in whatever direction helps you. After 40 years,

there may be a great deal of grief for the loss of your relationship, fear of the unknown future, worry about finances and loneliness, as well as the need to forgive. You have a great many choices and adjustments to make, and counseling will help you navigate. If you choose divorce, please also see an attorney. Good luck.

Dear Annie: I have an ongoing dilemma about an extremely uncomfortable bed. My parents recently turned 80. They have a guestroom with a bed that desperately needs to be replaced. I can tolerate sleeping there if I am exhausted, but it is truly awful.

My parents are not rich, so a new bed would be a major expense. But they don't like hand-outs, so buying one for them might be resented. How do I tell them that my siblings and I would prefer to buy them a new mattress rather than spend the money staying in a motel? I don't want to embarrass or offend them. — Bad Back

Dear Back: Your parents don't sleep in the guestroom and have no idea how bad the bed is, nor are they in any hurry to replace something they don't actually use.

Their embarrassment would be temporary, so simply make the arrangements and then



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

tell them, "Mom and Dad, it's time to update your guestroom mattress. We've bought you one as a gift, since we are the ones who use it most." Then say it's a done deal, no argument, and give them the delivery date. It would help if one of you could be there when it arrives.

Dear Annie: I feel bad for "Puzzled in Indiana," whose brother has mul-

tipple sclerosis. The brother is holding a grudge against Dad because he sold the family home and used the proceeds to build a new one instead of distributing the money to his kids.

I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis 16 years ago. Some people with MS have problems with memory, reasoning, judgment and depression. The stresses of life, especially the loss of a job or a loved one, can exacerbate flare-ups. All communications should be done with this in mind.

My mother also had MS. She spent the last 10 years of her life bedridden and in pain. My advice to "Indiana" is to contact the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (nationalmssociety.org) at 1-800-FIGHT-MS (1-800-

344-4867). — Maryland
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.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

First Things First

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A 8 4 2
♥ 9 8 6 5 3
♦ Q 5
♣ A K
WEST
♠ Q 10 9
♥ 4
♦ A K J 10 9 3
♣ J 10 7
SOUTH
♠ K J 6
♥ A K Q 10
♦ 7 6 4
♣ Q 5 3

The bidding:
West North East South
1♦ Dble Pass 4♥
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Assume you're declarer in four hearts and West leads the K-A of diamonds, East playing the eight and then the deuce to show a doubleton. When West continues with the jack, you ruff with dummy's nine, which East overruffs with the jack. Later you try a spade finesse that fails, and you finish down one.

When you begin to think about

whether the contract could have been made, it suddenly dawns on you that you could have — and should have — made four hearts.

It all goes back to your play at trick three when you ruffed the third round of diamonds in dummy and East overruffed. It would have been far wiser to discard a spade from dummy instead. For practical purposes, this play would have assured the contract. Whatever West did next, you would win, draw trumps, cash the A-K of clubs and A-K of spades, then discard dummy's last spade on the queen of clubs, eliminating your spade loser.

It might seem odd that the best method of play is to make no effort whatever to win the third round of diamonds when there is a reasonable chance of taking the trick by ruffing high in dummy. After all, East might not be able to overruff the nine.

But the fact remains that it is far better to allow West's jack of diamonds to win at trick three. By doing so, you virtually eliminate all chance of losing a spade trick later on. The long-term view of protecting the contract takes precedence over the short-term view of winning the trick.

Tomorrow: A trusty counterweapon.

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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.

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

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Local Color

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Minor Leaguer Brandon Valdez crosses home plate after crossing home plate in the park homeing run during the Diamondback-Pirates game. The run gave the 8-2 Diamondbacks a 3-0 lead.

HERALD photo/Brian McCormack



Several Steers named to All-District baseball

Several Big Spring High School baseball players were named to the 5-3A All-District team after recording its best season in more than a decade.

The Steers went 4-4 in district play, securing a third seed designation in the playoffs. After defeating Iowa Park in the bi-district match-up, BSHS fell to Mineral Wells in the second round.

With a majority of the roster returning, there

is no telling how far the Steers could go.

Haegan Rodriguez was named the district's Newcomer of the Year. Receiving first team honors were pitcher Adam Franco, infielders Brett Bromman and Joseph Morelion, outfielder Jarrod DoPorto and designated hitter Max Pappajohn.

Named to the second team was pitcher Garrett Stuteville and outfielders Gunnar Kennedy and Karsten Knudson.

Baylor top seed at Big XII tourney

JEFF LATZKE

AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Just a few short years ago, the Big 12's baseball product was so strong that even a team that couldn't qualify for the conference tournament was able to make it into the NCAA tournament.

That's certainly not the case in the first year after conference realignment took effect.

In a year dominated by regular-season champion Baylor, the Big 12 enters its conference tournament this week in Oklahoma City hoping to avoid setting a record low for teams that move on to the postseason.

At least five Big 12 teams have made it into the NCAA tournament every year since 1998, with a record eight teams in 2009. That's the year Oklahoma State finished ninth out of 10 teams but still made it despite missing the Big 12 tournament.

But this year, there could be as few as three teams that get into the NCAA tournament — one less than in the first year of the Big 12 back in 1997.

"I do believe Baylor will be a national seed, I think Texas A&M, with a couple wins, can become a national seed. ... I think we're going to be a lock to be in the NCAA tournament," Oklahoma coach Sunny Golloway said Tuesday. "I think Texas would feel more secure with a win or two because their RPI is behind ours, and you've got four other teams that know they've got to win the tournament outright. So, it's going to make for a great and interesting competition."

The double-elimination tournament starts Wednesday with Baylor (42-12, 20-4 Big 12) facing Kansas State (26-29, 7-17), fourth-seeded Oklahoma (35-21, 13-10) taking on Oklahoma State (32-23, 13-11), No. 2 seed Texas A&M (41-14, 16-8) playing Kansas (22-32, 7-16), and third-seeded Texas (30-20, 14-10) against Missouri (28-26, 10-14).

The top-seeded Bears grabbed the conference's top honors after reeling off a record 18 straight conference wins to start Big 12 play. Steve Smith was named coach of the year and designated hitter Nathan Orf was the newcomer of the year in voting announced Tuesday.

Oklahoma State lefty Andrew Heaney won pitcher of the year while Texas pitcher Parker French earned freshman of the year honors.

Smith suggested that Baylor's dominance may have hurt the Big 12 from an RPI perspective. The

See **BAYLOR**, Page 13

Rangers, Harrison top Seattle

TIM BOOTH

AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE — It took Matt Harrison nearly three dozen pitches just to get the first three outs, only to cruise through the next six innings. Two of Texas' four hits all night came in a two-pitch sequence. Josh Hamilton's biggest contribution wasn't at the plate, but two tremendous run-saving catches in the field.

Maybe Ron Washington is right when he says that Texas can win without relying on entirely on the best offense in the league.

"We got four hits and we made them all count. Sometimes you have to win ball games like that," Washington said. "I feel like we can win ball games any kind of way and tonight took that to win it. It took some good pitching and some good defense."

Elvis Andrus lined a two-strike pitch into the left-center field gap for a two-run triple, Hamilton made two great catches in center field and added an RBI

double, and the Rangers snapped Seattle's win streak at four with a 3-1 win over the Mariners on Tuesday night.

While Hamilton continues to scuffle at the plate, his defense in the outfield remains superb. His biggest play came in the first inning when he chased down Casper Wells' two-out bases loaded drive to deep left-center and contorted his body to make the catch on the warning track. He then robbed Alex Liddi of at least a double with a leaping grab crashing into the wall leading off the third.

Andrus' triple in the third came after Seattle starter Hector Noesi (2-5) hung a 1-2 breaking ball and Andrus drove it to the wall in left-center to give the Rangers the lead. Hamilton followed by dumping his double on the chalk of the left-field line.

And basically, that was it for a Rangers offense that came in to Tuesday night having slugged homers in 15 straight games. Two chances were all the Rangers got and they made the most

of them.

"When things aren't going the way we want to for sure an inning like (that) can be enough like today," Andrus said.

The four hits were the fewest in a Rangers victory this season and just the third time in the past two seasons the Rangers won with less than five hits according to STATS LLC. Texas was able to get away with relatively meager offensive output thanks to Harrison.

By the end of the first inning, Harrison appeared on his way to a short night, needing 35 pitches just to escape. From there, Harrison (5-3) was nearly unhittable. Harrison retired 20 of 24 batters between the second and seventh innings, giving up hits to Michael Saunders, a pair to Brendan Ryan and watching Liddi reach on an error. Liddi's grand slam in the fifth hit Adrián Beltré's glove and rolled into shallow left field but Ryan was held by third base coach Jeff

See **RANGERS**, Page 13

Astrodome's future remains uncertain

RAMIT PLUSHNICK-MASTI

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — The Astrodome was once the envy of other cities, a fully air conditioned facility with a translucent roof that kept out the heat and humidity, gave synthetic grass its name, made Houston a sports entertainment destination and sparked the imaginations of baseball lovers, concert-goers and some of the country's most creative minds.

Walt Disney, according to local legend, was so blown away when he stood under the dome that he dubbed it the Eighth Wonder of the World.

Then came the retractable roof, and the Astrodome, in its heyday the proud host to everyone from Muhammad Ali to Madonna, rapidly became

a venue of the past.

Now, after years on the sidelines, the Astrodome is in the spotlight again as the leader and staff of the agency that runs the facility are set Wednesday to make a recommendation on its future.

One option could be a fate that other domes have met in recent times — demolition.

For now the Astrodome sits there, a signature feature of Houston's skyline, in disrepair and decaying, dirt covering the floors, mold creeping up the walls, the AstroTurf that got its name from the building a dirty, rumbled mess.

"It was an amazing structure at its time," said Mark Miller, general manager of the Harris Coun

See **ASTRODOME**, Page 13

NFL's Driver new 'Dancing' champ

LOS ANGELES (AP) — He already has a Super Bowl ring, and now football star Donald Driver can add the "Dancing With the Stars" mirrorball trophy to his awards collection.

The Green Bay Packers receiver won the ABC dance show Tuesday after wowing audiences and judges with his kickin' country-themed freestyle routine. The glitter partner Peta Murgatroyd hoisted the shiny prize above their heads after being named the new "Dancing" champs.

Streamers and confetti rained down from the ceiling, filling the ballroom as they celebrated. Driver's wife and children joined him on the dance floor.

He and his fellow finalists, Welsh singer Katherine Jenkins and Cuban actor William Levy, each earned perfect scores for their last performances Tuesday. Jenkins came into the final contest with a perfect 60 points; Driver and Levy each had 59.

NFL wins salary cap battle

ATLANTA (AP) — An arbitrator upheld the NFL's salary cap reductions on the Dallas Cowboys and Washington Redskins for this season and next.

Stephen Burbank ruled Tuesday in favor of the league and dismissed the grievances by both teams.

The Redskins lost \$36 million over two years. The Cowboys lost \$10 million for overloading contracts during the uncapped 2010 season despite league warnings about such maneuvering.

The Cowboys and Redskins, who filed their grievances against the

league and players' association, said in a joint statement they would "abide by the arbitrator's decision to dismiss."

"We will continue to focus on our football teams and the 2012 season," the NFC rivals said.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones compared the dynamics of the salary cap with using a credit card.

"The way you work around the salary cap is you kind of use the credit card to spend money that you won't be spending in the future," Jones said Tuesday at the owners meeting.

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Interim Homecare & Hospice: Our growing Hospice agency is seeking position in the Big Spring area. Community Liaison/ Marketer. Experienced preferred. Fax your resume to (432)618-0307 or come by the office to fill out an application at 1031 Andrews Hwy., Ste 200, Midland, TX. EOE.

JOB OPENING Part-time position for Wellness Trainer. Hours will be M-F 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Successful applicants will be fitness-minded and dependable. Apply in person at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. 3rd Street, Big Spring, TX or email resume to pennyp@crcom.net or fax resume to 432-267-3809.

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ARIES (March 21-April 19). People don't like to think about it or admit that it's going on, but within every relationship, there is a tally, and everyone involved knows the score. Someone owes you in a subtle way, and you owe someone else too. Settle up.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Build some accountability into your plans. You'll have a greater sense of purpose if you know you will have to report your progress to another person. You won't feel that you're alone in your ambitions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll shine in the spotlight, so go where you're likely to get the chance to present your

Tomorrow's Horoscope

case or talk about your cause. Also, if you have a shot at showing off your skill and knowledge, all the better.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You will be swimming with the sharks again, so get prepared. Don't think out loud. Answer the tough questions decisively, or you'll risk being dismissed as wishy-washy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Lay your cards on the table. After all, you can't help what you were dealt. Right now it's better to err on the side of full disclosure rather than being accused of withholding information.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are not easily manipulated, and yet when there's a part of you that needs or wants something, a mere suggestion — or just the look that suggests a suggestion — is all it takes to convince you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You read the signs but that doesn't mean you have to follow them. Sometimes the signs were placed just to get you to the conventional route, which is not the only way. Test, poke, prod and investigate. You'll find your own way.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Every culture (and businesses are cultures too) has an indigenous language and jargon. If you are going to live in that world successfully, you have to get comfortable with the language. It's not an option, it's a must-do.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't have to be told to think positively because it's your natural inclination. Even when people seem to be disappointing you, you reserve a small window of faith and hope that they will prove you wrong.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). People need to know you exist. Take up as much space as possible. Walk the parameters of your territory. Gesture broadly. Make waves in the air around you. Be the force.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have this way of disarming people, and it will be most effective now as you want to get to know someone better. You'll ask personal questions, and the tilt of your head will get the object of your affection to open up.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Use your time at a leisurely pace, especially when it's your turn to take the floor. When you relax, your audience will relax. There's really no rush to get to the point. Everyone wants to go on the journey with you.

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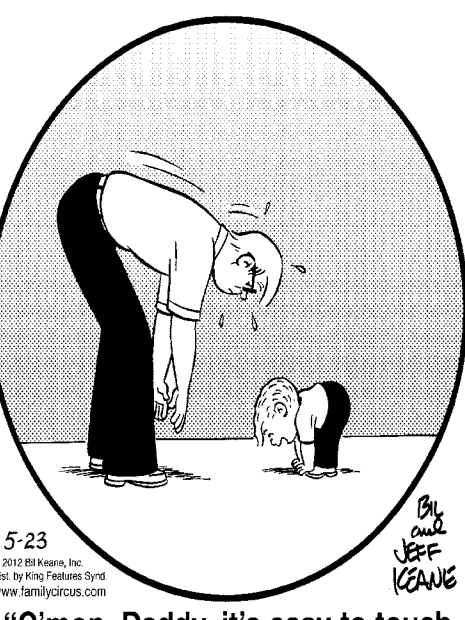
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5:PM	News ABC	La Mujer Notic.	Two Men CBS	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	King King	Swallow House	Charlie Rose King	American Guns King	CSI: Miami	Auction	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Shake It	NFL32	SportsCenter	
6:PM	Jeopardy! Wheel	Una Familia con Suerte (SS)	Big Bang American Idol	News Ent	Caso Cerrado	Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Diana CCM	PBS News-Hour Nature (DVS)	Seinfeld Top Model	American Guns	CSI: Miami	Law & Order	Good	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA.	NBA		
7:PM	Middle Mod Fam	Abismo de Pasión	Two Men Criminal Minds	Big Bang Two Men	Una Maid en	Betty Betty	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy	Upd Chevalme	NOVA (DVS)	Top Model	American Guns	Movie: The Enforcer, Harry Guardino	Law & Order	Movie: Rebound, Breckin Meyer	Good Austin	NBA Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA.		
8:PM	Mod Fam Apt. 23	La Que No	Simpsons How I Met	Criminal Minds	Relaciones Pelu	Law & Order: SVU	Big Bang Big Bang	Conan	NOVA (DVS)	Cops	Auction	Movie: Sudden Impact, Pat Hingle	Law & Order	Movie: Hurricane Season, Isaiah Washington	Fish ANT Farm	Baseball Tonight	NBA Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA.	
9:PM	News Nightline	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	McGee	Charlie Rose	'Til Death '70s	American Guns	CSI: NY	CSI: NY	Jessie	SportsCenter			
10:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Office Office	Yohan	World	'70s	Auction	(15) Movie: Backdraft, Robert De Niro	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards	SportCtr		
11:PM	Extra Mazda	Mañana-Siempre	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd	T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk Focus 4	American Guns	CSI: NY	CSI: NY	Good	NBA			
12:AM	Paid	La Jaula	American	Ent	Pagado	(.06) Today	Seinfeld	Light.	Wretched	American Guns	Repo	Southland	Repo	Random	Random	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA		
1:AM	Paid	Par Ases	TMZ	Paid	Pagado	Pagado	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	L. Tripp	American Guns	Repo	Southland	Repo	Random	Random	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA		

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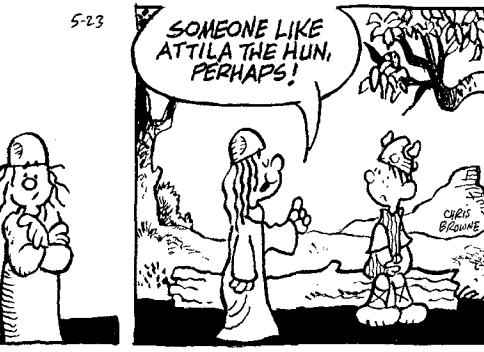


"C'mon, Daddy, it's easy to touch your toes. Look!"

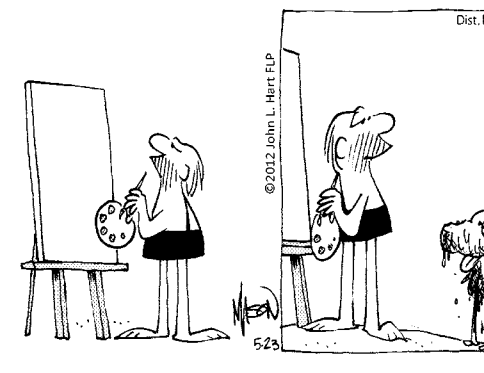
HAGAR



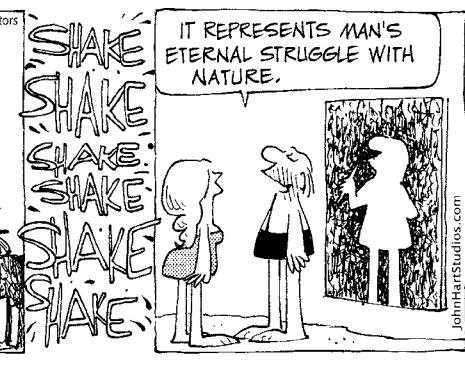
BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



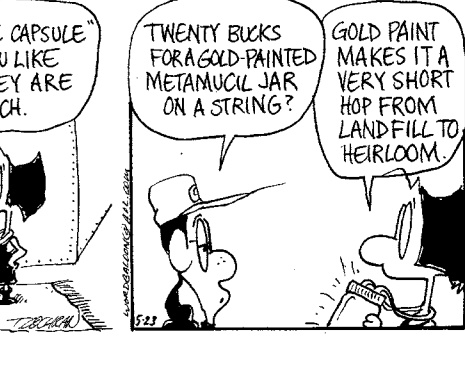
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



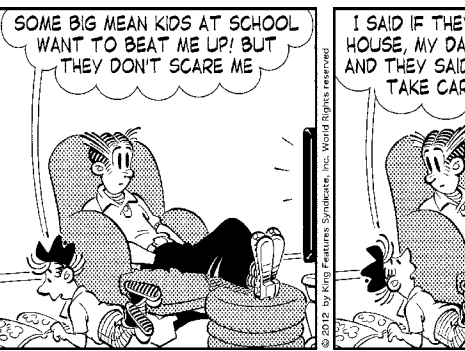
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NEWSDAY CROSSWORD



BLONDIE



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, May 23, the 144th day of 2012. There are 222 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

- On May 23, 1937, industrialist and philanthropist John D. Rockefeller, founder of the Standard Oil Co. and the Rockefeller Foundation, died in Ormond Beach, Fla., at age 97.
- On this date: In 1430, Joan of Arc was captured by the Burgundians, who sold her to the English.
- In 1533, the marriage of England's King Henry VIII to Catherine of Aragon was declared null and void.
- In 1701, William Kidd was hanged in London after he was convicted of piracy and murder.
- In 1788, South Carolina became the eighth state to ratify the United States Constitution.
- In 1873, Canada's Parliament voted to establish the North West Mounted Police force.

Today's Birthdays

Today's Birthdays: Bluegrass singer Mac Wiseman is 87. Actor Nigel Davenport is 84. Actress Barbara Barrie is 81. Actress Joan Collins is 79. Actor Charles Kimbrough is 76. Actress Lauren Chapin is 67. Country singer Misty Morgan is 67. Country singer Judy Rodman is 61. Singer Luka Bloom is 57. Actor-comedian Drew Carey is 54. Country singer Shelly West is 54. Actor Linden Ashby is 52. Actress-model Karen Duffy is 51. Actress Melissa McBride is 47. Rock musician Phil Selway (Radiohead) is 45. Actress Laurel Holloman is 44. Rock musician Matt Flynn (Maroon 5) is 42. Singer Lorenzo is 40. Singer Maxwell is 39.

Answer to previous puzzle

EDGES	SLAV	SALT
DINAH	TALE	ALIE
ERASE	AWOL	PILE
NEWYEAR	SEVE	BAT
OPTS	ENRICH	
DARNIT	NOTSO	
ABE	SWOON	ALLI
FRESHOUT	OFIDEAS	
TAKE	SCROD	ATL
TRUTH	YANKEE	
AIMSAT	PERU	
PGM	NOVELREADER	
ALSO	PETA	SNARE
ROOK	IRAN	ACTAS
TONS	ABLE	YEAST

CATCH OF THE DAY by Fred Piscop

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Chew out
- 6 Existed
- 10 Captain of industry
- 14 Job applicant's quest
- 15 Stay to the finish
- 16 Protagonist
- 17 Envious vantage point
- 19 Stork cousin
- 20 Home to many Kurds
- 21 Cause to smile
- 22 Brandy flavoring
- 26 Tries a bite of
- 28 Ground down
- 29 "This is how it's done"
- 30 Auction off
- 31 Erection man
- 33 Hotel rm. identifiers
- 36 Makes eyes at
- 38 Prefix for system or sphere
- 39 March 17 honoree
- 41 "The Raven" writer
- 42 Curved brackets, for short
- 45 Novelist
- 46 Muddled up
- 48 More diluted
- 50 Clears up, as misconceptions
- 52 Toddler's togs
- 53 Irritated
- 54 Steak order
- 55 James of *The Godfather*
- 56 Underside of some shoes

DOWN

- 1 The Sun's name
- 2 Corp. money manager
- 3 Not working today
- 4 Allow
- 5 Food-freezing agent
- 6 Sheep's cry
- 7 Qualify for
- 8 Upper-left key
- 9 Ultimate degree
- 10 Some circus performers
- 11 He reached his Peak in 1806
- 12 Crop up
- 13 Valentine's Day bouquet
- 18 Urges on
- 21 Prayer closings
- 22 Fable source
- 23 Ragu competitor
- 24 Move on a rink
- 25 Not in use
- 26 *The Odd Couple* playwright
- 27 Alias preceder
- 29 Tied up
- 32 Toast starter
- 34 Movie with a posse
- 35 Rating units
- 37 Noticed
- 40 Mouth, so to speak
- 43 Monopolist's portion
- 44 Declared under oath
- 47 Door pounder's cry
- 49 Cable TV chef
- 50 Chopped into cubes
- 51 More than miffed
- 52 Morocco's capital
- 54 MLB stats
- 56 Hip-hop music
- 57 Expend
- 58 Tackle a slope
- 59 Hydrogen's atomic number
- 60 Captain's journal
- 61 It sounds just like "you"

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5/23/12

Houston hands Cubs eighth straight loss

HOUSTON (AP) — J.D. Martinez has had a bad month at the plate. The Houston Astros hope his big hit on Tuesday night will help turn things around. Martinez had the go-ahead RBI single in the sixth inning and Jose Altuve had a solo homer to give the Houston Astros a 2-1 win over the Chicago Cubs. The loss extends Chicago's losing skid to a season-long eight games. Martinez hit .282 in April, but is 6 for 50 in May to drop his average to .219. "There's no doubt

that he's probably been pressing a little bit and trying to do a few things and it was a big hit," Houston manager Brad Mills said. "To come through at that time of the game and get that hit is definitely something (good)." The hit by Martinez was the first for Houston since the first inning, but Justin Maxwell and Carlos Lee both drew two-out walks before it to set up the score. "I was glad I was able to come through for the team tonight," Martinez said. "I know they've been behind me and they've been push-

ing me." Houston starter J.A. Happ (4-3) allowed five hits and a run in six innings for the win. Closer Brett Myers pitched a perfect ninth for his 11th save. Alfonso Soriano led off the fourth inning with a solo shot to left-center field that tied it at 1-1. The home run marked the first time in four games that Chicago had scored before the ninth inning. Soriano has had four homers in the last eight games, but is unhappy that none of those scores have helped the Cubs to a victory.

"The more important thing is to get wins," he said. "I don't know what we have to do to win one game and hit more, because right now we are struggling." Altuve hit a leadoff home run to put Houston up early. It was his second career leadoff homer after his first career home run was an inside-the-park home run on August 20. Wood allowed two hits and two runs with three strikeouts in 5 2-3 innings in his second major league start of the season. He was recalled from Triple-A Iowa before Tuesday's game.

BAYLOR

Continued from Page 8

Bears swept six straight Big 12 series before getting swept themselves in a three-game set at Oklahoma. "Nobody really gained a lot by playing us this year because we didn't lose any to them," Smith said. The coaches even traded ideas Monday night on how they might change the conference schedule to boost the RPI. Oklahoma State coach Frank Anderson pointed out that Nebraska's departure to the Big Ten came at the price of 27 conference games. Some teams ended up replacing the Cornhuskers' void with low RPI opponents.

West Virginia will replace them. "It's going to be a disappointment to not to be able to compete week in and week out with the great group of coaches that we have," Childress said. "We'll definitely carry the Big 12 flag with pride as long as we can, until somebody knocks us out." Jamieson recalled memories of his wife being pregnant with their first son during the first Big 12 tournament in Oklahoma City and their second son the following year, when the event moved across town into its current location at the Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark for the first time. There were also the hard-to-swallow moments losing the 2004 and 2011 championship games after leading with one out left. "I know that where we're headed is going to be a challenge but I can guarantee you — I can guarantee you — that the experiences I've had over the last 24 years being a part of the Big Eight and Big 12 will not be near what they will be in the future just because of the people, the venue, the competition, the coaches," Jamieson said. "It's very special." This year, his team is among a group can only get to the NCAA tournament by claiming the automatic bid that comes by winning the Big 12 championship. "I think our focus is really to win it all," Heaney said.

ASTRODOME

Continued from Page 8

ty Sports and Convention Corp., the agency that oversees the Astrodome, Reliant Stadium and the other complexes on the 340-acre campus. "People were coming from all over the world to see the Astrodome, it was that significant. People like Frank Sinatra, Walt Disney, John Wayne ... just came to Houston to see the Astrodome because it was such an amazing thing at the time," Miller added. "It seems commonplace now, but for its time, being the first, it was just incredible." However, the last time it was used for an event was in 2008. More memorably, in 2005 it housed refugees from Hurricane Katrina. Today, piles of cardboard boxes litter the stadium floor alongside a crumpled mat of synthetic football field. Trash litters the stands under torn stadium seats, from which spectators watched major events from the "Battle of the Sexes" tennis match between Bobby Riggs and Billie Jean King, to concerts by Elvis and the Rolling Stones, to the Re-

publican National Convention. In 1965, after Houston unveiled its marvel, complete with luxury suites, almost tasty food and beer served at clean Formica counters, comfortable press boxes and cushioned seats, other cities quickly followed suit. There was the Kingdome in Seattle — now gone. The Sun Dome in Tampa, Fla. Minneapolis' Metrodome. And New Orleans' Superdome, considered an improvement — bigger and better — on the Astrodome. "Eventually, it's always about money," said Bob Bluthardt, former chairman of the ballparks research committee at the Society for American Baseball Research. "And the Astrodome went from being state-of-the-art to being obsolete in barely a generation." A roof that opens and closes has the benefit of beating back the elements when necessary while also being able to let in the air and the view. Houston, too, wanted bigger and better. Like other teams, the Astros wanted their own stadium, so they built Minute Maid Park with a retractable roof. The NFL's Texans also got a new retractable roof stadium — Reli-

ant — that opened in 2002. Since then, the Astrodome hasn't turned a profit. So when it came to paying millions to get inspections and permits reapproved, the corporation opted out. And the Astrodome has stood largely vacant. A dark shadow floating above, always, was demolition, the very idea of which offends some Houstonians. But the option remains the cheapest, \$128 million as of 2010, including the cost of transforming the site into a plaza with green space and a water feature, compared with nearly \$400 million for a simple multipurpose facility and nearly \$600 million to make the "renaissance" idea reality. And in a state where there is no income tax and in a city that collects only sales and property taxes, the idea of using public money to build a new facility might be less popular than demolition. If the planners can find a sustainable model for saving the structure it is possible the Astrodome will remain. Otherwise, it could also disappear in a large boom and a cloud of smoke.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 8


Datz and the Mariners missed a chance to cut into the Rangers lead when Ichiro Suzuki grounded out to end the inning. Harrison came out for the eighth but his time was short. Liddi led off the eighth with a sharp single to center and Suzuki placed his second base hit of the night in almost the same spot. Harrison was replaced by Mike Adams, who got Jesus Montero to pop out, then struck out Justin Smoak and Kyle Seager, both on a 3-2 pitches off the outside edge of the plate. Joe Nathan pitched the ninth for his 10th save in 11 chances.

Harrison struck out six, walked two and gave up seven hits in winning for the second time since April 21. "I knew that I was just a little bit off and I knew if I got frustrated it would only get worse," Harrison said of his rough first inning. "I was able to get out of the inning and then from then on I backed off a little bit with my fastball and started hitting my spots." Seattle's chance at a huge first inning was chased down by Hamilton. The Mariners got a two-out RBI single from Smoak to take an early lead and worked nine- and eight-pitch at-bats in the inning off Harrison driving his pitch count up early. But Wells didn't hesitate jumping on Harrison's first pitch and driving it to deep

left-center field. Hamilton sprinted to the warning track then leaned back and caught Wells' drive above his head, likely keeping the bases from clearing. His catch in the third on Liddi's drive was just as good, pulling it in right at the yellow line at the top of the fence. He left some repairs for the Seattle grounds crew when Hamilton's spike ripped a chunk of material off the padded wall. "I thought it had a chance. It was going to go out but then he made a good play," Liddi said. "It's tough to hit it out to center field."

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Museum unveils dinosaur hall

HOUSTON (AP) — Pups in her womb, a large eye visible behind the rib cage, one baby stuck in the birth canal: all fossilized evidence that this ancient marine beast, the Ichthyosaur, died in childbirth.

JurassicMom's almost certainly painful death is perfectly preserved in a rare fossil skeleton, one of the many unique items that will go on display in the Houston Museum of Natural Science's \$85 million dinosaur hall when it opens to the public June 2. The Associated Press got a first peek at the exhibit as the finishing touches were put in place.

Paleontologists and scientists at the museum and the Black Hills Institute of Geological Research in Hill City,

S.D. have worked tirelessly for three years to collect, clean and preserve artifacts designed to give visitors a look at how life evolved beginning 3.5 billion years ago.

"You'll actually be able to touch a fossil that's 3.5 billion years old," Robert Bakker, the museum's curator of paleontology, says in a conspiratorial whisper. "A microbe, simpler than bacteria, which had in its DNA the kernel that would flower later on into dinosaurs, mammals, then us. That's the beginning of the safari."

His long white beard and locks bobbing with all-too-obvious excitement, Bakker raises his brows below his cowboy hat as he continues to describe the journey visitors will experience when they enter "The Prehistoric Safari," expected to be among the top six dinosaur exhib-

its in the United States.

Jack Horner, curator of the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Mont., who acted, along with Bakker, as an adviser on the Jurassic Park movie series, agreed there will be some unique and exclusive items on display in Houston, including Triceratops skin. But he said that to him, an object's value is determined by science and should always be peer-reviewed before being displayed.

Bakker says the safari is designed to teach about evolution. Visitors, he explains, will experience the Cambrian explosion, when life went from "literally slime" into "beautiful, elegantly sculptured things, the trilobites, which are gorgeous."

These bizarre, insect-like creatures, which are sometimes horned or sporting antennae, roamed the Earth's seas

in the Paleozoic era before the dinosaurs and were one of the most complex living things that existed to that point. At the Houston museum, visitors will be treated to one of the largest displays of trilobite fossils in the world, and Bakker rubs his hands with enthusiasm at the thought of young children pressing their nose to the glass to get a glimpse or reaching a tiny finger out to touch an impossibly old piece of rock.

For scientists, and the museum community, the exhibit offers unique objects, including the only Triceratops skin found to date, a specimen that showed they had been wrong in believing the horned vegetarians had smooth skin.

Then there is the museum's skeleton of a T. rex, one of only two with complete hands, two long fingers and one stub, which Bakker believes could be proof this massive, feared predator also had a soft side. The fingers, too small and badly configured, wouldn't have helped in hunting, or even grabbing things, leaving Bakker and other paleontologists to believe they were for tickling, fondling and even falling in love. The fossil also has a piece of its tail missing, likely because it was bitten off by another Tyrannosaurus Rex.

The hall also will house the world's only complete fossil of a snake-type creature from 50 million years ago, said David Temple, the museum's associate curator of paleontology. The snake is related to the constrictor, and the only other fossil of this type disappeared about 60 years ago.

Original sculptures, paintings and murals will depict scenes scientists and paleontologists believe occurred based on the fossil evidence, Temple said. And there are creatures native to Texas, including a Glyptodon, an Ice Age creature.



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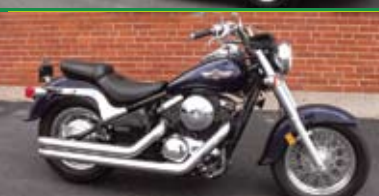


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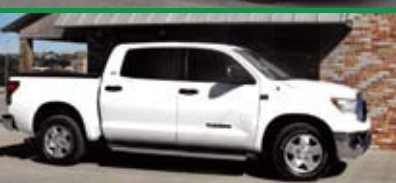


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Andrea Cansino



Edward Acosta



Feels like this
was just last year!



Wasn't this just
last month?



I could swear
this was last week!



**LOOK AT YOU
NOW!!!!**

Reba,

You have grown up so fast it is hard to believe. We could not be more proud of you. You have grown into a vivacious beautiful young lady with a good head on your shoulders. You are bright, bubbly, hard working and enthusiastic.

When you set your mind to something nothing can stop you or get in your way. 13 years of school and no absences really proved that.

We are excited that God came into your life and is guiding you along the path you have chosen. You are the most loving and caring person we know.

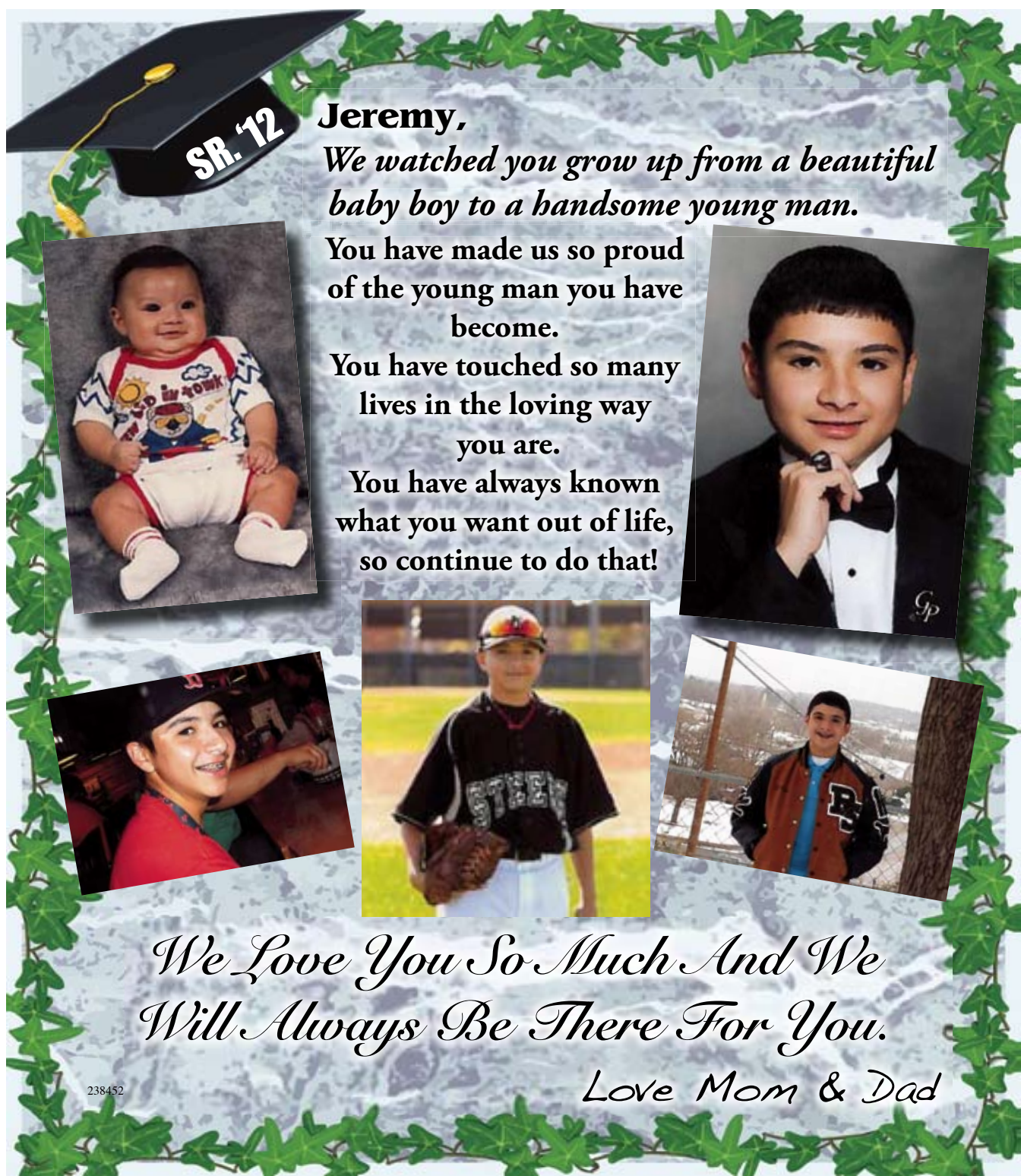
We look forward to the next stage in your life and know that you will become a wonderful teacher and youth minister.

Sul Ross is gaining a super young lady. Go Lady Lobo Tennis.

*We Love You
With All Of
Our Hearts.*

*Forever,
Mom, Dad &
Stormi*

238453



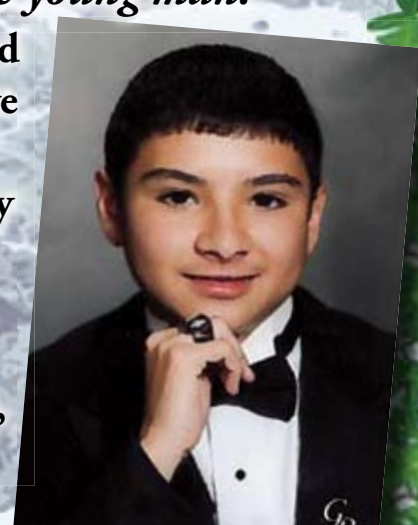
Jeremy,

We watched you grow up from a beautiful baby boy to a handsome young man.

You have made us so proud of the young man you have become.

You have touched so many lives in the loving way you are.

You have always known what you want out of life, so continue to do that!



*We Love You So Much And We
Will Always Be There For You.*

Love Mom & Dad

238452



Stephanie Carrillo
Cordero Carrisalez
Robyn Castle
April Cevallos
Kaycee Clayton
Ivory Clemons

Jesi Coates
Kendra Cook
Daniel Coyle
William Currie
Eric Dahlberg
Travis Dedrick



Andrea DeLeon
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Mai Gomez



Caleb Gonzales
Maria Gonzales
Mario Gonzales
Tiffany Gonzales
Vanessa Gonzales
Alejandro Gonzalez



Kimberly Gonzalez



Amber Grandstaff



Walter Bryce Green



John Dalton Grenier

CONGRATS TO
Ashten Galan & Ruben Mier, Jr.

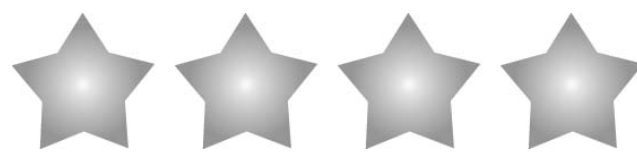
WE
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OF
YOU!

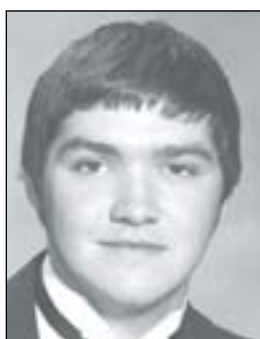
Love You Both So Much
**Robert & Shannon Galan
&
RJ & Ian**

**Ruben-Jennifer Mier
&
Talia**

SENIORS 2012

238494





Bianca Griego
Kasandra Gross
Jeremy Gutierrez
Dymeachi Hall
Tyler Hall
Aaron Hanes

Clay Harris
Colton Hawkins
Lindsey Heckler
Faith Hernandez
Rodolfo Hernandez
Sebastian Hernandez



Zachary Hernandez
Azareia Herrera
Laura Herrera
Tyler Hester
Bianca Hilario
Ambra Hill

Will Huang
Shelbie Hudgins
Jonathon Hughes
Nicholas Islas
Jodi Jones
Sherada Jones



Brandon Joslyn
Daniel Juarez
Joshua Jumper
Alison Karavatos
Shermila Kher
Marco Kuijt

Richard Lewis
Rebecca Loya
Noah Lozano
Lilia Lugo
Michael Mahaney
Bethany Martin



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Love,
Mom & Dad
& Kelly

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*May God Bless you
and be your guide.*

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Zachory
and Ryan

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SHOOK
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Psalm 118:24 **The Message**



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Jacob Nieto



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We are proud of you.

*With All My Love
Mom, Melonie
& Kids*

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&
KRISTA MARTINEZ
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Kendra

*We are
so proud
of you
and all*



*your accomplishments
May God continue
to bless you and
protect you now and
forever more.*

Psalm 121: 8



*Love You,
Dad & Mom*

**KENDRA
COOK
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Taylor,



*We are so proud of
the lovely person
you have become,
and the amazing
things you have
accomplished.*

**Keep your focus on
God, while you reach
for the stars!**

*We love you
more than
words can
express...*



Mom, Dad,
Morgan & Peyton

**TAYLOR
SEATON
SR. '12**



**We are proud
of you, Nolan!**

We Love You,



Mom, Dad
and Matt

**NOLAN
BEAL
SR. '12**

*Congratulations
Lil Baby Girl.
We are so very
PROUD
of you.*



*You have brought so much joy and love to
our lives. You are a beautiful young lady
with a smile that brightens the world. It is
now time for you to step into the big wide
world; and make all your goals and dreams
come true. We wish you success in all
that you desire.*

*We are truly blessed to have you in our
lives. Our love is with you wherever you go.*

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not
depend on your own understanding.*

*Seek his will in all you do, and he will
show you which path to take.*

(Proverbs 3: 5-6)

**WE LOVE YOU
AARON!!**



**AARON
PAIGE
ARISPE
SR. '12**

Sydney,

*In March 1994 you changed our
lives forever for the better!*



**We are so proud of you.
You are the "Perfect Daughter"
We know God will always bless
you like you bless us.**

Romans 12:2

*Love Forever
Mommy, Padre, Amy and
your Grandma's*

**SYDNEY
WINTERS
SR. '12**



Laurie Pineda
Caleb Pirkle
Joseph Porras
Brandon Portocarrero
Lauren Puga
Anastacia Ramirez

Crystal Ramirez
Merced Ramirez
Rebecca Ramirez
Colette Reed
Erica Reyes
Cerbi Ritchey



Sawyer Roberts
Scarlet Robertson
Toby Rodgers
Alex Rodriguez
Alma Rodriguez
Chasity Rodriguez

Nina Rodriguez
Rogelio Rodriguez
Brandi Sanchez
Shantelle Sanchez
Anna Scott
Taylor Seaton



Marc Segundo
Brandon Shook
Andrea Silva
James Sink
Morgan Slaughter
Ashley Smith

Jeremy,



I can't believe you are fixing to graduate already. All those years of seeing you grow up and all of a sudden a senior now. I really am proud of you and I know you will achieve many great things. You certainly have the ability.

Congratulations!

Uncle David

**JEREMY
GUTIERREZ
SR. '12**



*We are so proud of your accomplishments!
May God richly bless your future.*

Jeremiah 29:11



*Love Always,
Dad, Darine,
Samuel &
Conner*

**JOSHUA
SMITH
SR. '12**

*Congratulations
Nikki*



We Are Proud Of You.

*Love Mom, Dad, Belle
and
Sophie*



**NIKKI
RAMIREZ
SR. '12**

Congratulations

Area Graduates
and

We would like to especially congratulate the following graduates of the Alon Family for all their hard work, determination and perseverance.

GRADUATES

Dominic Cruz Holguin - First Baptist Church (Pre-K)
Kaylie Renae Rosenbaum - New Hope Christian School (Pre-K)
Chance Leonardi - Rainbow Christian Preschool (Pre-K)
Armando J. Bravo - Lakeview Head Start (Pre-K)

Patric Louis Paredes - Forsan High School
Tyler Jordan Hall - Big Spring High School
Kendra LeeAnn Cook - Big Spring High School
Zachary A. Hernandez - Big Spring High School (w/Honors)
Ryan Stockton - Sands High School (w/Honors)
Ashley Nicole Hall - Bangs High School
Jessica (Saydee) Mercedes Bailey - Coppel High School

Michael Jon Paredes - Texas Tech University (BS Mechanical Engineering Technology)
Brittany Parks - Baylor University (BBA Business, BBA Marketing)
Melissa Pridemore - Georgetown University (MS Nursing w/Family Nurse Practitioner Certification)
Matthew James Gwin - Howard College (Associates of Science)

From All Of Your Friends & Family

ALONUSA

238051

You Did it, Grads!

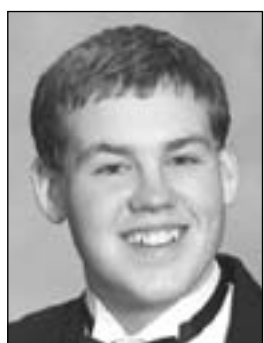
As a proud member of the graduating class of 2012 you've been part of a hardworking, dedicated team of students. Together, you've studied, grown, overcome obstacles and made important decisions about your futures.



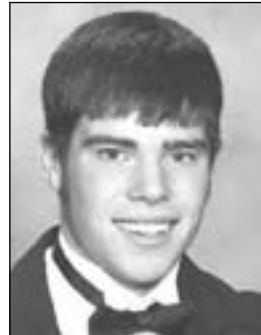
**The City
of
Big Spring**

We hope you'll continue to encourage and support one another as you move forward, whether it be toward college or an exciting new job. We're proud of you, graduates, and we look forward to seeing each one of you achieve great things.

Joshua Smith
Reba Smith
Willis Smith
Pete Sosa
Selene Sosa
Victoria Sotelo



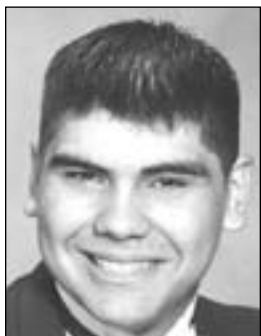
Samuel Spivey
Stone Mackenzie
Danielle Strickland
Anthony Stuckert
Garrett Stuteville
Matthew Thompkins



Chelsea Torres
Sergio Torres
Aspen Trent
Austin Trevino
Bridgette Tuitt
April Turner



Israel Valdez
Richard Villa
Crystal Villareal
Nikita Wagenman
Kelsey Weir
Roy Williams



Sydney Winters
Jessica Ybarra
Martin Zambrano



Sebastian,
Congratulations!



We are
proud of
you.

Good luck on the next chapter of your life. The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you." Psalm 32:8

Love you to
pieces mijo,

Your #1
Fan



**SEBASTIAN
HERNANDEZ
SR. '12**

Austin,

We are
so proud
of you!



You have overcome so much to be where you are today - you are beginning a new path in life - you will do great things!!

*** I Hope You Dance! ***



Love,
Mom, Dad,
Dylan, Logan
& Gloria.

**AUSTIN
PIERCE
SR. '12**

Vicki

Follow
Your
Dreams



We Love You and are very proud of you!

God
Bless

Mom &
Dad
& All The
Family



**VICTORIA
SOTELO
SR. '12**

Hooray, Hooray!

You're the greatest, Class of '12
You've shown great promise, and all signs point to continued success and accomplishment.

Best Of Luck To You All.

**Big Spring Education
Employees Federal
Credit Union**

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**Best Wishes To The
Graduating Class Of
2012!**



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432-267-6331



No Photos Available

Zachary Alexander
Juanita Annalia
Krista Bailey
Ashley Barrientes
Joshua Basurto
Courtney Boyd
Jesse Davis
Adrian Deleon
Alyssia Douglas
Timothy Evans
Raheem Farr
Fidel Galvan
Jesse Garza

Matthew Garza
Richard Grant
Adam Guzman
Ashley Henderson
Shady-Marie Higgins
Alphonso Hilario
Brittney Hilger
Cody Jones
Brent Kelly
Marivell Martinez
Janie Mendez
Michaelle Ornelas
Ashtyn Payne
Audree Perez
Tami Rainwater
Alexandria Ramirez

Garrett Robbins
Cayla Rodriguez
Miguel rodriguez
Tony Scaggs
Robert Schaaf III
Ed'Dray Smith
Melchezidek Smith
Tyler Smith
Trinity Terrazas
Jim Torres Jr.
Kara Tyree
Emilia Velasquez
Alfonso Vera
Maegan Walker
Evan White
Seth Yarbar

Congratulations
Hunter!!!



It's hard to believe this day has arrived.
We are so proud of the man you are
today and will become tomorrow.
This is not the end, but just the beginning!

We Love You!

Mom, Dad, Kyler,
Mykal, Gran,
Grandy, Grandma
and Grandpa



**HUNTER
MAHANEY
SR. '12**

Congratulations Becca!

We are so
proud of
you
and all
you've



accomplished and what
you'll continue to do
in your life.

**YOU'RE A REMARKABLE
GIRL!**

We Love You

Mom, Roger,
Dad & Family



**REBECCA
RAMIREZ
SR. '12**

Congratulations
Jeremy



*Follow your goal in life. Good luck.
God bless you & the Blessed Mother
watch over you.*

We are very proud of you.

We Love You
Your Grandparents
Jose & Mary

**JEREMY
GUTIERREZ
SR. '12**

If you raise your
children to feel that
they can accomplish
any goal or task
they decide upon,
you will have
succeeded as a
parent.



You will have given your children the
greatest of all blessings.

**"Our Daughter is a Little Girl
who grew up to be everyone's
Princess!"**

*Congratulations Allison Perez
We Are So Proud Of You!!*

Love,
Mom, Dad, Adrian,
Your Sisters,
Grandma & Grandpa



**ALLISON
PEREZ
SR. '12**

Sebastian

Words cannot
describe how
proud I am of
you son.
You have
become one
of the best
brothers, son, and grandson anyone
could ever wish for.



**Don't change for anyone and
stay focused.**

*We Love
You.*

Mom, Dad,
Marissa,
Gabby



**SEBASTIAN
HERNANDEZ
SR. '12**

Congratulations
Mackenzie Stone!

*We could not
be more proud
of you for the
work that you
have done and
the young lady
you have
become!*



You have faced each day with a conscience,
amazing work ethic, and a drive to contribute
to society. The road ahead won't be without
bumps but you are solid as they come!
With God, family, and friends the future is
yours for the taking.

We Love You!

Mom and Tony,
Dad and Erin



**MACKENZIE
STONE
SR. '12**

Congratulations Class of 2012

*Graduates, you've made us proud.
Congratulations on such a fine
accomplishment. Your hard work, motivation
and intelligence will continue to serve your self
as you pursue the future of your dreams.
May you achieve all of your life's ambitions.*

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237041



Jacob,



We are so proud of you.

Keep reaching for the stars....

*Love,
Mom, Dad
& Family*



**JACOB
GARCIA
SR. '12**

Sebastian

We love you and are very proud of you.



Good Luck, God Bless You.

*Love,
Mama Eya and all
the Trevinos*

**SEBASTIAN
HERNANDEZ
SR. '12**

Monica,



We are so proud of you.

May all your dreams come true.

*Love,
Mom, Dad
& Family*



**MONICA
GARCIA
SR. '12**

236998

237105

236997

*Congratulations
Benjamin Anthony
Islas*

*We are so proud of you!
Baby.*



Especially the man that you have become. It was amazing seeing you when you first came into this world and how amazing you have accomplished through out the years. Just keep God in your life, you will continue to achieve more and more.

*We Love You...
Mom, Jack, Matt,
Rene, Jena, Carlos
& Marcos*



**BENJAMIN
ANTHONY
ISLAS
SR. '12**

**TYLER HESTER
BSHS**



*Congratulations!
We are so proud of you.*

*Love,
Mom, Dad,
Jara, Robin,
Hannah and
Gentry.*



**TYLER
HESTER
SR. '12**

Cerbi

We are so overwhelmed at you, your precious devotion to God, your sweet spirit, your amazing athletic ability, your beauty,



your intelligence and the wonderful young lady you have become. To say you make us proud is such an understatement. Always keep God first sweet girl. You know that is the key to everything you do. Continue to let God's spirit shine through you in everything that you do. We cannot wait to continue to watch you grow into adulthood and be a part of all the wonderful things God has set before you.

*We love you more than you will ever know.
Dad & Mom*



**CERBI
RITCHEY
SR. '12**

237104

237103

237097

*Our boy
has grown up!*

So proud of the boy you were... and the man you have become.



*We Love You!
Mom, Dad,
Jacob and Ryan*



**BRANDON
KEITH
JOSLYN
SR. '12**

Lane,



The last 18 years have gone so fast. God has truly blessed us with you. We are so proud of you. Keep reaching for the stars & keep your dreams going. God Bless You.

*Love
Mom & Gran*

Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.
Proverbs 16:3



**LANE
WILLIAMS
SR. '12**

Richard,

It seems like only yesterday the doctor said you have a son. You always seem to know which road to take in life.

I hope you never change now that you have come to a mile stone in your life.

*Love Always,
Dad, Mom,
Jessica,
Martha
and Arron*



**RICHARD
LEWIS
SR. '12**

238519

237108

237096

State National Bank

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Hats Off To The Class of 2012

Big Spring Printing
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Congratulations Area Graduates!

Allstate
We're in good hands.



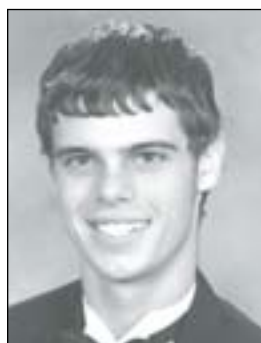
Commencement

7 p.m., Thursday, May 24

Dorothy Garrett Coliseum



Teresa Armendariz



Josh Bridge



Kimberly Buchanan



Katherine Calvert



Jennifer Castilaw
Justin Coker
Sheigh Cravens
Jimmy Cruz
Autumn Dulin
Jacob Eschavarria

Lynzi Ferrell
Kyle Gerstenberger
Keveen Gilbert
Silvia Gonzalez
Minnie Goodblanket
Dustin Gutierrez



Robert Guzman
Kaitlyn Hector
Isaiah Hernandez
Vanessa Hernandez
Breanna Hilario
Heather Hildebrand

Shannon Kincaid
Heather Kirby
Larue Bailey
Gabriel Lopez
Alberto Mejia
Rebecca Mince



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New Trial Hours for May

Mon. thru Friday
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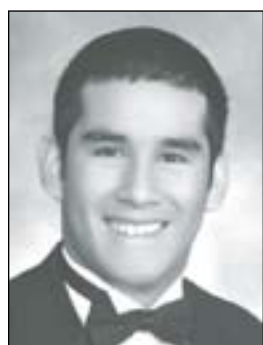
Saturday
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Sunday
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

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Marco Molina



McKenzie Moore



Jessi Morgan



Maria Orozco

Isaiah, Congratulations!

We are proud of you.



You are mom & dad's baby boy and to see you becoming a man, the Lord blessed us with you. We love you very much.
Te Amamos Mucho Con todo Nuestro Corazon.



Dad & Mom
Jesse & Joann
Hernandez
& Page.

**ISAIAH S.
HERNANDEZ
SR. '12**

238524

Congratulations CLASS OF 2012



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238165



Laura Ortiz
Yesenia Ortiz
Kaley Owens
Haley Pace
Dillon Quinn
Tomas Ramirez

Katelyn Rice
Miranda Rodriguez
Anthony Salazar
Paul Salazar
Brandon Sanders
Kristina Skiles



Coleman Sneed Calvin Stansel McKenzie Stolarczyk Julian Uranga

*Congratulations,
Coahoma & Area Grads!*
Coahoma United Methodist
401 N. Main
Coahoma, TX



Commencement
8 p.m. Saturday, May 28
High School Gym



Autumn Alton Joshua Bailey Tanner Bailey C.J. Ballard



Courtney Blair
Tiffani Box
Foster Burchett
Ashley Buzbee
Hope Cimino
Jessica Cortez

Megan Crane
Nicholas Emerson
Sassy Farmer
Cheyenne Galloway
Brittany Glasco
Aaron Golf



Caden



We are so blessed to have the honor and joy of having you as our son and brother. You have worked so very hard for your many accomplishments. With your drive, talent, and integrity, we know you will be a success! We have watched you strive to be the best and it has been such a wonderful journey for us all. As we watch your future begin to unfold and new doors open, we are bursting with pride! We know you will continue to chase your dreams and achieve your goals. It's with excitement we send you to take on the world.



The best is yet to come!

Love: Dad, Mom, Cody, and Cayla






Alejandra Hernandez
Sydney Holdampf
Ricky Jaime
Ty Johnson
Katie Kirby
Adam Lloyd

Leah Lloyd
Jordan McMahan
Amber Neighbors
Trent Newton
Patrick Paredes
Alexandria Park



Payton Parker
Billy Perry
Bryson Phillips
Tyler Roach
Patrick Robles
Kimbra Rodriguez

Alexandria,



We are so proud of you!

Love,
Nanny & Gramps

**ALEXANDRIA
PARK
SR. '12**

*Congratulations
2012 Seniors*

**Buffet
7 Days A Week**

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Pizza Inn

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Autumn,



We are very proud of you and your many accomplishments!


With your steadfast reliance on God, you will Continue to succeed.

al 1:
Ble ed a e th e
wh deli ht i in the
law f the L d



*We Love You!
God Bless You!
Mom & Dad*

**AUTUMN
ALTON
SR. '12**





Bryson,
They may forget what you said but they will never forget how you made them feel.

We are very proud of you.
We wish you much luck, success and happiness.
We love you bigger than the universe.

*Dad, Mom, Hadden, Jared,
Jessica and Llianna*

PS (you are braver than any lion you encounter)



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Class of 2012!**

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**Congratulations!
CLASS OF 2012**

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Patrick Rodriguez
Caden Rosenbaum
Kaidie Saverance
Mara Sheets
Kyle Stevenson
Elgen Suazo

Patrick Taylor
Chris Villa
Darien Walker
Spencer Wells
Garrett Wiley
Megan Wilson



No Photos Available

Shandi Huitt
Kylie Soles
Sterlyng Thurman



Stevie Wilson

Congratulations,
CLASS OF 2012!

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432-267-5504

Cheyenne,

You are closing one chapter of your life and beginning another.

We are so proud of you and everything that you have accomplished! We can not wait to see what the future holds for you!
Phil 4:13

*We Love You!
Dad, Mom & Clayton*

CHEYENNE GALLOWAY SR. '12

Alexandria,

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths."
Proverbs 3: 5,6

Thank you for being such a blessing to your family, friends, and anyone who is lucky enough to come in contact with you!

~~~~~

We can't wait to watch you take on the world!

*Love,  
Mom, Dad, Ian,  
Walker and Nolan*



**Alexandria,**

*Congratulations to the best, silliest, funniest Sissy in whole wide world!  
I Love You,  
Sydni Lyn!*

**ALEXANDRIA PARK SR. '12**

**How did it get so late so soon?**

*You have made us all so proud! All you need is the love of God & Family: you have these in abundance.*

*Remember to speak your mind, follow your heart, believe in yourself, and live the life you dreamed!*

**ASHLEY BUZBEE SR. '12**

*We love you!*  
*Mom, Mema, & Papa*

**BARGAIN MART**  
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**Congratulations Class of 2012!**

**First United Methodist Church**

**Happy Graduation Day!**  
From All Of Us At  
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Big Spring, TX 79720  
432-263-3600

**Mara,**



These 18 years have passed in the blink of an eye. God has truly blessed us with you. Keep reaching for your dreams



Love,  
Mom & Dad

**MARA SHEETS SR. '12**

*Congratulations Ashlei!*

We remember watching you as a baby... We remember even at an early age, you had a strong determination and we knew you were going to Represent....



We Are So Proud Of You! May God Bless You in Every Step that you take. Love, Your Granny and all of your family.



Graduating With Honors!

**ASHLEI RENAE WATSON SR. '12 TEXAS TECH**

**Amber,**

We are proud of you!



May God Bless and Be With You Forever.



We Love You! Mom & Dad

**AMBER NEIGHBORS SR. '12**



**Jeremiah 29 v.11**

The plans I have for you... plans to give you hope and a future.



Love,  
Mamaw & Papa

**ALEXANDRIA PARK SR. '12**

FORSAN HIGH SCHOOL  
*Courtney Blair*

Congratulations Court you did it!!!



We are all so proud of you.



Love  
Mamaw, Dad & Gail

**Congrats Class Of 2012!**



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201 W. Marcy

267-3363



Congratulations Class of 2012!

238128

1005 Scurry

264-9600

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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2012!



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238121



**YOU MADE IT TO THE TOP!**

We are so glad to see you succeed.

Now is the time, and today is the day, it's your moment to celebrate!

Telephone

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High Speed Internet



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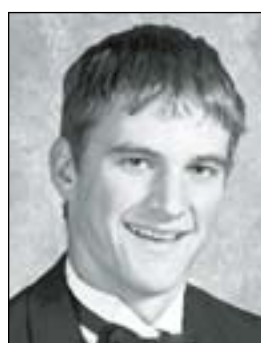
711 Scurry  
Big Spring, TX 79720

432-263-0091





**Commencement**  
**8 p.m. Friday, May 20**  
**High School Auditorium**



Sean Blgrave



Katyana Campbell



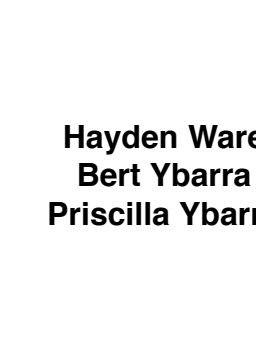
Gina Cantu



Jennifer Gomez



Michael Gomez  
Nora Gomez  
Adam Hernandez  
Junior Rogers  
Justin Rogers  
Ryan Stockton



Hayden Ware  
Bert Ybarra  
Priscilla Ybarra



**Farmer's Coop Gin of Knott**  
*Congratulates the*  
**Class of 2012**  
*May God Bless*  
*Each Of You!*

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**YOU MADE IT!!**



*Congratulations on your many accomplishments.*

**ALBERTO YBARRA SR. '12**

**We are so proud of you and Best of Luck in your future endeavors.**

*Love Nana, Tata Segundo's & Ybarra*



**Michael,**  
*Congratulations on Your Graduation!*

*The knowledge you gained is a source of happiness and a Bright Future. (Truely Priceless!)*



*We are so proud of you and love you so much.*



Mom, Zander, Grandpaw & Grandma Barraza, Uncle Robin, Aunt Debbie and cousins.

**MICHAEL WAYNE GOMEZ, JR. SR. '12**

**Hayden,**

*You are truly a gift from God brought into our lives. We are so proud of you and all your accomplishments and know that this is only the beginning.*

*We can't wait to see all the wonderful things God has planned for your life!*



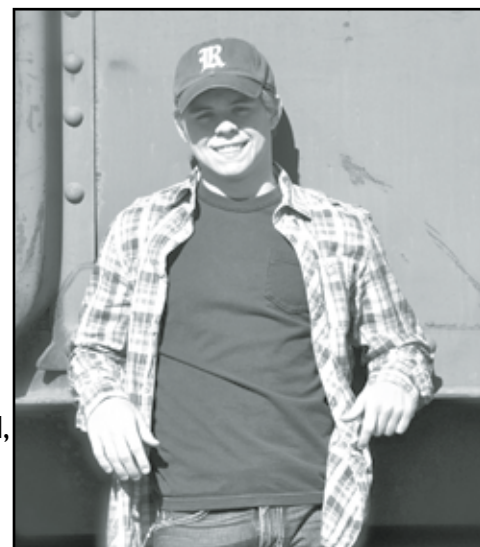
**SR. '12**

*We love you!*

*Mom, Eric, Tyler, Braydon, Dad, Kimberly, Dyllan and Kailey*

**Jeremiah 29:11**

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.





**Commencement**  
**8:00 p.m. Friday, May 25**  
**High School Auditorium**



Joseph Acosta



Christian Arndt



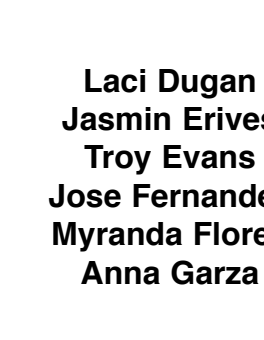
Sarah Baker



Keanan Barboza



Sean Barboza  
Jennifer Beasley  
Shayne Conaway  
Edgar Cortez  
Elizabeth Cox  
Rebecca Cox



Laci Dugan  
Jasmin Erives  
Troy Evans  
Jose Fernandez  
Myranda Flores  
Anna Garza

Jessica Hernandez  
Lee Hull  
Daniel Juarez  
Maria Juarez  
Eva Klassen  
Nathen Koonce



Morgan Latham  
Ethan Mauldin  
Adrian Mendoza  
Ariella Moreno  
Rene Padron  
Jacob Nichols



**TO THE CLASS OF 2012**

*We're proud to wish you much success for tomorrow and beyond.*

2311 South Gregg Big Spring 263-6663

**Congratulations To The Class of 2012!**

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Rene Padron  
Tara Patterson  
Lynette Quiroga  
Giovani Ramirez  
Selah Ramsey  
Oscar Reyna

Fernando Rodriguez  
Alexis Salazar  
Joseph Sendejo  
Rebecca Sendejo  
Allison Simpson  
Dallas Smith



Timothy Smith  
Taylor Smith  
Kara Stevnenson  
Cassie Tomlinson  
Genesis Villa  
Dawson Weaver



## Commencement 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 25 Ruth Cook Auditorium



Rachel Barnes



Jose Bautista



Brett Chudej



Josh Colunga



Hayden Halfman  
Heather Havlak  
Kelsi Hicks  
Brian Hirt  
Rachel Hirt  
Katelyn Hoelscher

Samantha Kellermeier  
Aaron Long  
Victoria Montoya  
Leticia Ramirez  
Ian Schaefer  
M'Call Shaefer



**Congratulations  
Graduates  
of  
Garden City High School!**  
*Glasscock Co. Coop*



Brittany Schniers  
Johnathon Young  
Cassandra Zamudio

**Congratulations  
Graduating  
Class of 2012!**  
From your Friends at  
**Papa Chon's Mexican  
Restaurant**  
310 Owens St. • 264-1711  
Owned & Operated by  
**The Rodriguez Family**

**Phillips Fabrication Inc.**  
*Salutes Forsan High School  
& Area Graduates!*  
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF  
**2012**  
**432-264-6600**  
1305 E. Airbase Dr.

**AIM HIGH  
CLASS OF 2011**  
*Congratulations  
from all of us!*  
  
**CWS Choate Well Service, Inc.**  
393-5931

# Congratulations!

# CLASS OF 2012



**Congratulations Graduates!**

**Class of 2012**  
from your friends  
at

**WELLS FARGO** Wells Fargo Bank  
400 S. Main  
Big Spring, Texas  
432-267-5513

238469

**Your Day Has Finally Arrived!**



**Congratulations**  
**Class of 2012**

**POLLARD**  
Chevrolet • Buick • Cadillac 1501 E. 4th

267-7421

238172

**Congratulations!**

Sherry Wegner Agency

238170

**Raul Benavides, AAMS®**  
Financial Advisor

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

2108 Scurry  
Big Spring, TX 79720  
Bus. 432-267-2501 Fax 888-638-1707  
TF. 800-658-6217  
www.edwardjones.com

238168

**Maribel's Handbags & More**

**Congratulations**  
**Crystal!**

*We Are So Proud Of You & We Love You!*  
*May God Bless You!*

Love, Mom, Dad, Sammy Jr.,  
& The Vera Family!

"For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."  
Jeremiah 29:11

238167

**Congratulations**  
**Class of 2012!!!!**

White Motor Co.  
201 E. Saint Anna St.  
Stanton, Texas

432-756-3321 1-800-953-3321

238169

HERE'S TO THE CLASS OF

**2012**

Coca-Cola SONIC  
America's Drive-In.

1200 Gregg • 263-6790 601 E. FM 700 • 263-2700

238166

**Congratulations Graduates!**

**MYERS & SMITH**  
Funeral Home & Chapel

Convenient Location Away From Heavy Traffic

Bill & Charlsa Myers - Owners  
301 E. 24th • 267-8288

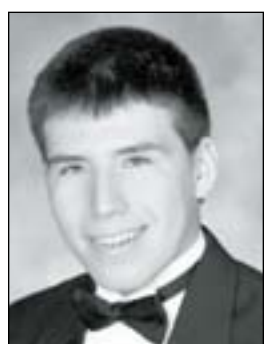
206856



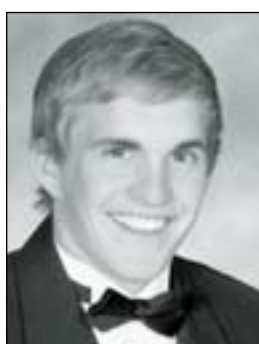


# Commencement

**6:00 p.m. Saturday, May 26**  
**High School Auditorium**



Gerry Adkins



Ty Beaty



Zeke Clay



Kelly Cook



Alex Flores  
Jorge Flores  
Melina Flores  
Abby Hanson  
Jackelina Martens  
Morgan McDonald

MJ Price  
Bransen Richards  
Ashley Sigler  
Jayden Thigpen  
Victoria Torres  
Sam Warren



# Commencement

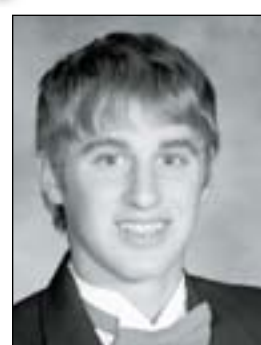
**7 p.m. Friday, May 25**  
**Borden County Auditorium**



Raegan Belongia



Shaylie Boles



Luke Burkett



Stefanie Cooley

Austin Fields  
Seleste Herridge  
Aubree Lester  
Quinton Shafer  
Chance Taylor  
Collin Telchik



Dalton Thuett



Austin Tyler

*Saluting All 2012 Graduates*

From

**Farmers Co-Op Gin  
of Ackerly**

6th & Avenue F  
Ackerly, Tx.

353-4494

238132



# Commencement

8:00 p.m. Friday, May 25  
High School Auditorium



Casey Bass



Kyle Beights



Robin Casebeer



Dylan Fulton



Alejandro Gaona  
Chelsea Martinez  
T.J. Mize  
Tyler Morris  
Cutter Rees  
Laura Vigil



Klanci Whitesides



2012 Congratulations  
Graduating Seniors  
.....from  
**GreenHouse**  
GP Photography  
Your Hometown Professional Senior Photographers