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JULY 1, 2012



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 221

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HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

A Dance Gallery student prepares to make a tumbling run during the group's performance at the Funtastic Fourth festival held in downtown Big Spring Saturday.

Four wounded in Friday shooting

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

A local man is in custody after being arrested in connection with a Friday shooting that wounded four people at a birthday party in east Big Spring. Holston Banks III, 20, was arrested on four counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon for his alleged role in the shooting, which occurred late Friday night in the 1400 block of East Sixth Street. Police responded to a "shots fired" call shortly before 11 p.m. Upon arrival at the scene, they discovered four gunshot victims, two of whom had received multiple wounds.

The four victims are:

- Daryl Washington, 47, of Lubbock, who suffered two upper-leg wounds.
- Mark Johnson, 41, of Lubbock, who was shot once in the lower right leg.
- Samantha Dawson, 25, of Midland, who was wounded in the neck and upper leg.
- A 16-year-old female, whose name was not released, was struck in the right shoulder area.

All four victims were transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center's emergency room. The teenager remains at Scenic Mountain, while

See **SHOOTING**, Page 3A

Delinquent taxpayers face Monday deadline

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Area residents who are delinquent in paying their property taxes will reach a very important — and costly — legal milestone Monday, as penalties and interest continue to pile up on unpaid tabs.

Taxpayers who are delinquent on their property tax will have until the end of the business day Monday to pay their bill if they want to avoid additional penalties and interest, as well as a large attorney fee, according to County Tax Assessor Kathy Sayles.

"The deadline actually falls on July 1, which is Sunday. However, state law mandates when the deadline falls on a holiday or weekend, it be moved to the next business day, which, in this case, is Monday," Sayles said. "If folks will come in and pay their delinquent taxes, they can avoid the increase in penalties and interest, which will go up to a total of 18 percent, and the 20 percent attorney fee."

See **TAX**, Page 3A

Pops organizers hashing out final details

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

With less than a week to go, plans for Pops in the Park are coming together. During the last meeting before Pops takes place Tuesday at the amphitheater, committee members finalized plans for the annual event which will be celebrating its 15th year.



Val Verde

"We hope everyone comes out to join us for this extra special milestone anniversary event," Kelly Grant, Pops in the Park co-chair said. "It will be a memorable event for the community with similarities from previous years

and a few new additions." Gates are expected to open at 5 p.m. Tuesday along with the food vendors located at the top of the amphitheater. At this time, there are 26 vendors signed up with a few spaces left. The evenings performances will begin at 6 p.m. with Don Turner and the Dixieland Band performing. A welcome


ing and announcements will follow the pre-show at 7:45 p.m. "We're looking forward to having someone local do our pre-show. We think he is someone people will enjoy hearing," Pops in the Park Treasurer Debbye Val Verde said. Following the pre-show will be the traditional per-

formance by the Big Spring Symphony and flag ceremony at 8 p.m. A flyover — scheduled to take place at 8:28 p.m. — put on once again by the Commemorative Air Force Museum in Midland, will include four planes. "For those who were sta-

See **POPS**, Page 3A

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Big Spring State Park hosts moonlight run

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

A full moon will be present soon and we know what that means. The time has come for the second Scenic Mountain Moonlight Rave Run. Saturday, July 6, those wanting to take advantage of the unique scenery provided by the mountain can do so.



Alton

"This is a beautiful time with the moon out to take a walk or run on the mountain," State Park Manager Ron Alton said. "Plus, the temperatures will be cooler than they have been during the day time." Registration will be from 10 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. and

the race is set to start at 11:55 p.m. In order to ensure safety for the participants, no entry will be allowed in to the park after 11:30 p.m. The run is open to all ages and Alton encourages families to get out and enjoy the time together. Registration is \$20 per person for each run, \$35 for two runs, \$45 for three and \$50 for the complete series. A \$5 discount will be

given if you wear your Moonlight run shirt to the second through fourth runs for those paying for each individual race. Participants at the first moonlight run of the year, which was held June 8, was around 35. According to Alton, those participating included not only Big Spring

See **RUN**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Marietta Harris



Marietta Harris, 96, of Big Spring, died Friday, June 29, 2012, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 1, 2012, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home Chapel with Home Hospice Chaplain Cherise Felty officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Dec. 28, 1915, to Cora and W.T. Wilson in Oklahoma. She graduated from Big Lake High School. She married J.B. Harris in 1935. He preceded her in death in 2000. She lived most of her life in San Angelo and had been a resident of Big Spring for more than 29 years. While in San Angelo, Marietta worked at Hatatorium. She also owned a sewing and quilting business and participated in arts and craft shows.

She is survived by two sons, Gary Harris of Big Spring and Jimmy Harris and wife Ginger of Ohio; one daughter, Nancy Mabry and husband Jimmy of Hobbs, N.M.; 13 grandchildren and a number of great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; two sons, Ken Harris and Carl Harris; one daughter, Francis Webber; and two brothers, Theodore Wilson and Grover Wilson.

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

Judy Randall



Judy Randall, 61, of Big Spring, died Thursday, June 28, 2012, at her residence. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday, July 2, 2012, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Pastor Abner Razon officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Aug. 12, 1950, in Atlanta, Ga. to Gloria and James Seward. She graduated from Walter F. George High School in Atlanta.

She moved to Big Spring from Georgia in 2001. She had lived most of her life in Georgia. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

She is survived by one daughter, Kimberly Hatcher; two sons, Dane Hatcher and Trey Hatcher, both of Georgia; two sisters, Susan Messer and Tina Holt, both of Griffin, Ga.; two brothers, Joel Seward of Griffin, Ga. and Timothy McBrayer of Stockbridge, Ga.; grandchildren, Amber Hatcher, Summer Hatcher, Sara Hatcher, Addie Hatcher and Jake Hatcher; two sister-in-laws, Sharon Olivas and Ollie Castanuelas, both of Big Spring; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by one sister, Jaimie Pelouquin.

Pallbearers will be Kelly Hogue, Aaron DeLeon, Anthony DeLeon, Richard Anderson, Ricky Anderson and Lupe Olivas. Honorary pallbearer will be David Anderson.

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

Paid obituary

Jackson Lee Burris

Jackson Lee Burris, infant, died Friday, June 29, 2012 at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- KRYSTAL LYNN DEHOYOS, 23, of 1308 Wood, was arrested Friday on a warrant for safety seat system-child younger than eight or less than 4'9" tall.
- LUIS ARRIAGA, 49, of 905 Second #12, was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOEL BARRERA, 28, of 308 E. St. Anna, was arrested Friday on a warrant from other agency and evading arrest/detention.
- WILLIAM RAY MCGARY, 31, of 2300 N. Hwy 350, was arrested Friday on a charge of assault: family/household member and intentionally/recklessly impeding normal breathing or circulation.
- ANDREWS NIETO, 42, of 1901 Hilltop Rd., was arrested Friday on a warrant for speeding and fail to display drivers license.
- JASON RANDALL PORTER, 24, of 502 N. Runnels, was arrested Friday on a warrant for harassment.
- BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street.
- ASSAULT was reported:
In the 2200 block of N. Hwy 350.
In the 1100 W. Second Street.
- THEFT was reported:
In the 900 block of Willia Street.
In 1900 block of Gregg.
In the 600 block of Highland.
In the 200 block of W. FM 700.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported:
In the 1900 block of E. 25th Street.
In the 1900 block of Martin Luther King.

Take Note

• Community meeting will be held at West Texas Opportunities Inc., located at 2001 Scurry, on July 3 at 10 a.m. The guest speaker will be Linda Calvio with Victim Services.

• Christ Community Fellowship will be selling hot dogs and burritos at Pops in the Park on top of the amphitheater. Funds raised will benefit the mission program at the church.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council needs assistance in The Chalet Resale Shoppe, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shoppe is a fast-paced retail shop specializing in gently worn clothing and small household appliance. Volunteers are needed to sort, price, check out and stock donated items. Volunteer hours are flexible. The Chalet is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, contact Jamey Stegall at james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us or 432-268-7535

• Watercolor Horizons Art Show Exhibition at UTPB opened Friday, and will continue until July 30. Anyone interested in submitting work may receive a prospectus from Petra Eubanks, show chair, 432-366-1757, cpeubanks@juno.com.

• An immunization clinic for school children will be held from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday at the DSHS Big Spring Health Clinic, 501 Birdwell, Suite 28-B. Children age 2 months to 18 years, CHIP, Medicaid or uninsured only. \$5 per visit, per family. Call 432-263-9775 for an appointment.

• 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.

• Every Friday night from 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. is dance night at the Senior Citizen Center. The cost is \$8 per person.

• An account has been established at American State Bank to help defray medical expense for Brad "Ghost" Ugstad, a local resident who was severely injured in a motorcycle accident. All donations will be appreciated.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you can donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and get two for one plus a rehab meeting.

• Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. A training will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 18. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help. We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

• The Salvation Army is holding its annual fan drive and is in need of fans. Community members can donate new or used fans. Monetary donations are also welcomed.

Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

• The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now.

The Homeowner's HOPE hotline is a counseling service provided by HPF to work with you to find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Free free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

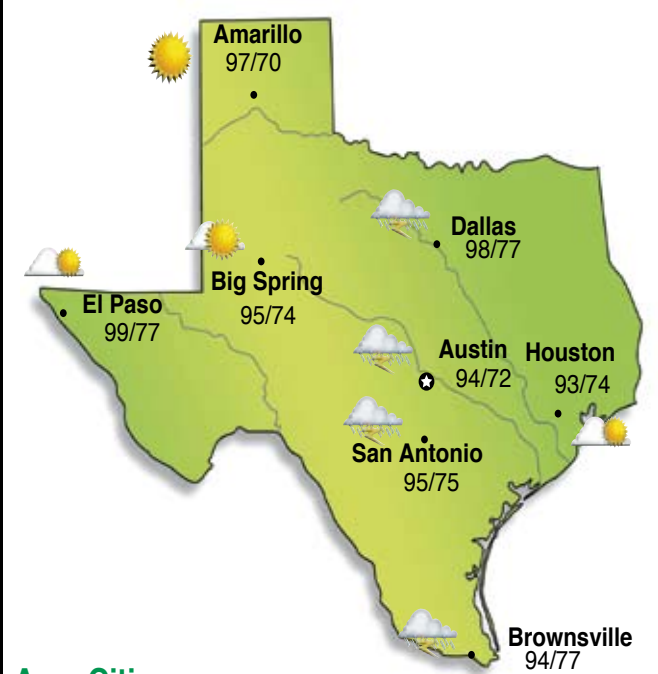
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

| Mon 7/2 | Tue 7/3 | Wed 7/4 | Thu 7/5 | Fri 7/6 |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| | | | | |
| 95/74 More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the mid 70s. | 99/74 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the mid 70s. | 100/74 Mainly sunny. Highs 98 to 102F and lows in the mid 70s. | 101/75 Abundant sunshine. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 70s. | 101/76 Plenty of sun. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 70s. |
| Sunrise: 6:44 AM Sunset: 8:57 PM | Sunrise: 6:44 AM Sunset: 8:56 PM | Sunrise: 6:45 AM Sunset: 8:56 PM | Sunrise: 6:45 AM Sunset: 8:56 PM | Sunrise: 6:46 AM Sunset: 8:56 PM |



Texas At A Glance



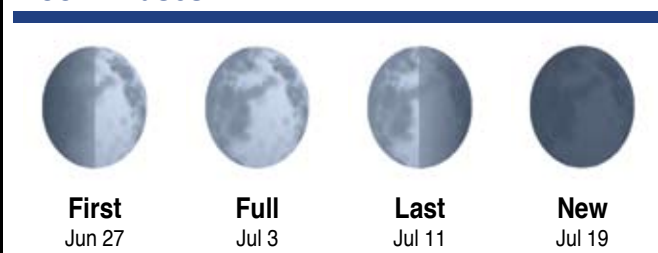
Area Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|----------------|----|----|-----------|-----------------|----|----|-----------|
| Abilene | 97 | 73 | mst sunny | Kingsville | 96 | 76 | mst sunny |
| Amarillo | 97 | 70 | sunny | Livingston | 94 | 70 | pt sunny |
| Austin | 94 | 72 | t-storm | Longview | 94 | 74 | pt sunny |
| Beaumont | 93 | 73 | mst sunny | Lubbock | 95 | 70 | sunny |
| Brownsville | 94 | 77 | t-storm | Lufkin | 95 | 72 | pt sunny |
| Brownwood | 98 | 72 | pt sunny | Midland | 94 | 74 | mst sunny |
| Corpus Christi | 92 | 78 | pt sunny | Raymondville | 96 | 75 | t-storm |
| Corsicana | 96 | 74 | t-storm | Rosenberg | 93 | 73 | pt sunny |
| Dallas | 98 | 77 | t-storm | San Antonio | 95 | 75 | t-storm |
| Del Rio | 98 | 77 | t-storm | San Marcos | 94 | 72 | t-storm |
| El Paso | 99 | 77 | pt sunny | Sulphur Springs | 94 | 75 | pt sunny |
| Fort Stockton | 91 | 70 | windy | Sweetwater | 97 | 72 | mst sunny |
| Gainesville | 95 | 74 | pt sunny | Tyler | 95 | 74 | t-storm |
| Greenville | 95 | 74 | pt sunny | Weatherford | 96 | 73 | pt sunny |
| Houston | 93 | 74 | pt sunny | Wichita Falls | 99 | 75 | sunny |

National Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|-------------|----|----|----------|----------------|-----|----|-----------|
| Atlanta | 97 | 75 | t-storm | Minneapolis | 97 | 77 | mst sunny |
| Boston | 82 | 65 | pt sunny | New York | 87 | 72 | mst sunny |
| Chicago | 93 | 73 | t-storm | Phoenix | 105 | 83 | mst sunny |
| Dallas | 98 | 77 | t-storm | San Francisco | 62 | 54 | pt sunny |
| Denver | 94 | 67 | pt sunny | Seattle | 68 | 54 | cloudy |
| Houston | 93 | 74 | pt sunny | St. Louis | 101 | 80 | pt sunny |
| Los Angeles | 72 | 61 | pt sunny | Washington, DC | 95 | 77 | mst sunny |
| Miami | 88 | 78 | t-storm | | | | |

Moon Phases



UV Index

| Mon 7/2 | Tue 7/3 | Wed 7/4 | Thu 7/5 | Fri 7/6 |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| Extreme | Extreme | Extreme | Extreme | Extreme |

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

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POPS

Continued from Page 1A

tioned at Webb Air Force Base, some of the planes should look familiar," Kelly Grant, co-chair, said. "A couple of the planes were actually test planes at Webb."

The flyover is taking place a little later this year than in previous years because of some changes in the schedule.

A video presentation recognizing local servicemen and women will begin at 9:15 p.m. The firework display, provided by Atlas — a Fort Worth company — will be choreographed to the Symphony's music again and is set to start at 9:35 p.m.

"We are expecting new things this year since we are using a new company, but we are still expecting the same great big show we have had in the past," ValVerde said.

With hot temperatures and little moisture in the area, Hansen and ValVerde said the committee will continue to work with the Big Spring Fire Department and Howard County Volunteer Fire Department regarding precautions as they did last year.

"We are working to make sure we not only have a great show again this year, but also that we have a safe show, just like we have in the past," ValVerde said.

According to Zack Johnson, fireworks coordinator for Pops in the Park, the fireworks were received last week and work has begun to prepare them for the upcoming event.

"Everything seems to be on schedule with the fireworks," Johnson said.

Even though plans are set and the show is ready to go on, it is important to remember that the donations received from the community help fund the event, including pre-show entertainment, fireworks and other expenses accrued in the process. Any excess funding raised will be seed money for next year's event, according to ValVerde.

Donations can be taken to the chamber office at 215 W. Third or mailed to P.O. Box 1391 c/o Big Spring Chamber of Commerce.

"We hope to see everyone there," ValVerde said.

To get more information, stop by or call the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce at 432-263-7641.

Support groups

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

• PEP — Parent Education Program for CPS participating and non-participating parents, single parent, grandparents, adoptive or fostering parents. Every first and fourth Monday of the month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Northside Community Center. Classes are free. For information, call 263-2673.

• Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, 8-9 p.m., fourth floor, VA Medical Center.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342

or 263-6819.

TUESDAY
• Big Spring Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for those with Parkinson's Disease, Young Onset Parkinson's, caregivers, and those interested in learning more about the illness. There is time for socializing and information. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jody at 432-699-6640.

• Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerriroosenbaum9488@msn.com

RUN

Continued from Page 1A

residents, but some from surrounding communities including Midland and Odessa.

"The first race actually drew the participation of a fair amount of families,"

Alton said. "We are hoping that this time around we are able to eclipse the 35 participants from the first race and draw in a few more."

He continued, "As everyone knows the state wants to see activity at the park so participation in the events is crucial."

Two more moonlight races will take place this

year. The presence of a second full moon in the month of August allows for four races this year compared to the three held last year. The other races will take place Aug. 3 and Aug. 31.

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

TAX

Continued from Page 1A

Sayles said once her office closes Monday at 5 p.m., however, area taxpayers will be stuck paying 12 percent penalty and 6 percent interest, including an additional 20 percent attorney fee.

The official deadline to pay property taxes was Jan. 31, with penalties and interest compiling at the following rate: After Jan. 31, 6 percent

penalty and 1 percent interest; after Feb. 28, 7 percent penalty and 2 percent interest; after March 31, 8 percent penalty and 3 percent interest; after April 30, 9 percent penalty and 4 percent interest; after May 31, 10 percent penalty and 5 percent interest; and after June 30, 12 percent penalty and 6 percent interest, including an additional 20 percent attorney fee.

Sayles said delinquent tax payers should take

this weekend's deadline seriously.

"The penalties and interest add up quickly, there's no doubt about that," Sayles said. "However, the 20 percent attorney fee more than doubles everything. For example, if your tax bill was just \$200, your penalties and interest — for the month of July only — would be \$36. Then, add another \$40 for the attorney fees and you're already up to \$76, and that's not even counting

all the other penalties and fees accrued during the previous months. It's not hard to see how quickly it can spiral out of hand."

Sayles said area taxpayers who aren't sure about how much they owe can contact her office.

"If you're not sure about your status, it's always better to check," Sayles said. "All you have to do is give us a call and we can check the status of your prop-

erty tax. I'd rather waste a few minutes on a phone call and know for sure than get stuck with a bill for penalties and interest."

For more information, contact the Howard County Tax Collector's Office at 264-2232.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Judy Randall, 61, died Thursday. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Marietta Harris, 96, died Friday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

SHOOTING

Continued from Page 1A

Washington, Johnson and Dawson were transferred to a Lubbock hospital.

The condition of the victims was not released as of noon Saturday.

Big Spring Police Department Sgt. Tony Everett said witness accounts state gunfire erupted from the driver's side window of a white Chevrolet Suburban which passed slowly by the scene of the birthday party.

"Numerous" spent .22 caliber shell casings were recovered in the street in front of the residence, Everett said.

Approximately 90 minutes after the shooting, a Howard County Sheriff's Department deputy stopped an automobile matching the description of the suspect vehicle.

"Based on witness accounts and evidence at the scene, the driver (Banks) was arrested and charged with four

counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon," Everett said.

Banks remains in the Howard County Detention Center this weekend, pending ar-

raignment. Aggravated assault with a deadly weapon is a second degree felony punishable by a term of between two and 20 years in pris-

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

| | | |
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| Amanda Moreno Staff Writer | Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer | |

YOUR VIEWS

Texting and driving

TO THE EDITOR:

Texting and Driving has now expanded to reading kindles, watching tv on small devices. Every day there are more and more distractions causing crashes and unnecessary injuries.

The simple answer is don't do those things and drive. Which is getting harder to do with the commercials pushing broadcast internet inside the vehicle. What passengers do, the driver will do.

The statistics are going through the roof and show no signs of even slowing down. People are driving and they are not making it home. All because of doing fun internet things while driving.

Of course after the crash, if they can, they throw that device under the seat. Don't do internet things while driving. Be a defensive driver, a safe driver. Take a defensive driving class. You can do it online or in person, LubbockClass.com, be safe don't text and drive and don't watch tv and do the internet and drive.

THANK YOU
BILLY DURHAM
PLAINVIEW

Tax hikes

TO THE EDITOR:

Regarding the recent tax evaluation hikes on Howard County taxpayers. This is nothing but a big con job and money theft on the taxpayers. This hike is supposedly due to rising values due to the oil boom. There is a boom in Midland, Odessa, Andrews, etc: But not in Big Spring. House builders and business investors avoid Big Spring like the plague.

This is a result of the highest taxes by the taxing entities and excessive building regulations by the city. There are currently two new homes under construction and no new apartments compared to hundreds in Midessa and smaller towns like Andrews and Monahans. No new business to speak of except Mom and Pop taco stand types.

Some values on older homes that should have depreciated due to age have nearly doubled in evaluation and others jumping 16 to 25 percent. A few homeowners have had little or no increase this year But have no fear they will get to you in the next one or two years.

This all starts when they import some new chief appraiser, usually from no where near West Texas that tells them taxes are to cheap compared to wherever he comes from and that he can reevaluate everything and bring in millions more money.

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

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 speak up, Lord, and let others know our love for You.

Amen

This week: Uncle Mort on line

Truthfully, It stands to reason that my Uncle Mort, who'll reach the century mark July 4, would be busy with final party details. He's been promising the ultimate in "whoop-te-doing" since last summer. Friends from far and wide are invited, all expecting a unique birthday observance.

Oddly, he's been leaving home early and coming in late during the final days of his 99th year and now we know why: Mort, long known as a "promise-keeper," is particularly reliable on promises made to himself. Years ago, he vowed to be "in the e-mail business" before his 100th birthday.

He's made good, thanks to a crash course — "computers for dummies" — at the county library. Mort was the last to enroll, tears streaming as he turned loose of a \$20 bill. He joined half a dozen others, increasing the average age of enrollees by a dozen years.

I was privileged to receive his very first e-mail. It didn't say much, but indicated he was at work on his first "official" e-mail to be sent later in the day.

Saying he was mighty proud of Texas A&M University, his "alma mater" (where he took a week-end course in first-aid for snake bites a half-century ago), he composed an e-mail for the "top-most" Aggie official.

I assume A&M System Chan-

cellor John Sharp got it a few hours later and that it resulted in a grin or two. My uncle copied it to me. It was brimful of congratulatory thoughts, suitable for framing. (I speak from limited personal experience, but when chancellors receive correspondence opening with congratulatory sentiments, the next paragraph usually begins with "However"). In the interest of time and space, I'll quote the e-mail in its entirety.

Dear Chancellor Sharp: First off, I want to express belated appreciation for training received in the weekend snake-bite treatment class back in the 50s. True, I was admitted on probation, perhaps for my offer to "take the bite" if the teacher wanted to demonstrate the "real deal." This was my only formal higher education, but it did qualify me to receive periodic fund-raising appeals from the development office even to this day.

I hope to send a little check when I get to doing better. Please direct it to the medical school. I am "pleased as punch" about the government grant announced a few days ago. You claim it's "one of the biggest federal grants coming to Texas since NASA." Now that's a mouthful about a tubful, but if the feds have a couple of billion dollars for development of a vaccine for pandemic diseases, take it! A&M's been "needed" a lot over the years, so now we can "needle back!" Ain't this a step up from 'giggin'?

I admit, though, that my pandemic has never acted up — knock on wood! Pandemonium could break out in a flash. This is not to say that you, or tons of other

people, haven't been "laid low" by pandem problems, so bring on the serum, ASAP.

Now that you've made a chancellor of yourself, don't put "pre-academia" jokes completely aside. You used to claim that you ate so much boiled okra as a kid, your socks wouldn't stay up until you were 20 years old. BTW, is "controlling" faculty any tougher than "comptrolling" Texas? (Please—no lecture about pronunciation of "comptroller.")

Back to my possible pledge: I'll send 10 percent of next month's pension — if birthday party expenses don't go over budget. Please use part of it for the School of Engineering.

With all the increases in railway freight, there's always going to be jobs for folks to drive the trains.

A "shade tree" vet nearby has a diploma on his wall. He claims to have two A&M degrees — veterinary medicine and taxidermy — that may be fakes. A sign reads: "Either way you get your dog back."

Hope life goes well for you in academia and sorry you have to wear a tie every day. Somehow, it don't seem right, since administrators spend so much time squirming. Hope your "squirm-er" doesn't go out before your pandem fails! (At least you're out of politics. Oh? You mean there are politics there, too?)

Signed: Your friend, Uncle Mort, Snake-bite Class of '54.

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Metroplex. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Twitter: @donnewbury. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.



Recovery? What is a recovery?

June 20th marked the first official day of summer, which means we are now officially at the two-year anniversary of the "recovery summer" - meant to showcase that the Administration's economic policies were working. There isn't much need to point out that we're still looking for some economic sunshine.

The President forecast 3 percent economic growth in his budget proposal for the next fiscal year, but the bipartisan Congressional Budget Office recently lowered its 2013 growth estimate to an anemic 0.5 percent. Unemployment is stuck at 8-plus percent - for 40 straight months and counting. In fact, last month's jobs numbers were worse; unemployment is actually increasing.

The President recently said, "The private sector is doing fine." Most Americans, especially the 23 million who are unemployed or underemployed, are scratching their heads, thinking, "What is the definition of 'fine'?" And they look at his proposals for our economy - another round of federal borrowing to enable local governments and school districts to do more short-term hiring - and recognize that this costly, temporary approach has already failed once.

Full implementation of the health care law next year scares both workers and businesses. Families and individuals are worried about losing their current health insurance coverage and losing their doctors. For businesses, the health care law is one huge uncertainty among several - including higher taxes and more over-regulation - that is forcing them to hold back on investing and hiring more workers.

I've heard from a small-business owner in Texas who was facing a 44 percent increase in health insurance premiums. This is nothing less than a hidden tax on hiring, and that is before the President's health care program is fully implemented. Almost half of small-business employers say that the health care law has stopped them from hiring.

Small businesses - the engines that are responsible for driving most job growth in the country - are also threatened with huge tax increases. Small businesses are usually organized so they pay income taxes at individual rates, and 53 percent of small businesses' income is subject to the top two individual income tax rates, which will rise to 36 and 39.6 percent on January 1st, unless Congress and the White House act before the end of this year.

About 25 million middle-income taxpayers will also be hit in January by the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). The AMT was introduced in 1969 to target a couple of

hundred millionaires who were avoiding taxes. Today it drives up tax bills for millions of Americans, and tens of millions more are threatened next year.

On January 1st, two middle-class tax provisions that I've fought hard to enact are set to expire: marriage penalty relief (so that married couples don't pay higher taxes than if they were single) and state sales tax deduction. The sales tax deduction is particularly important to Texas taxpayers - an average tax savings of \$500 per year - because we don't have a state income tax.

America's economy is trapped in a vicious cycle. The threat of higher taxes and higher costs holds back job creation by our entrepreneurs. Unemployment stays high, deficits soar and the economy continues to stagnate. The White House calls for higher taxes and more stimulus, the deficit goes up and the job-killing environment flourishes.

We cannot go on like this. We need a real, permanent economic recovery, led by an innovative, job-creating private sector. We need long-term solutions: repeal the ruinous health care law, end unnecessary regulations and reform the tax code to promote growth and job creation.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the Texas representative in the United States Senate. Find out more at <http://hutchison.senate.gov/?p=home>



KAY
BAILEY
HUTCHISON

Vierra retires after 30 years from Howard County library



A retirement party was held at the Howard County Library for Martha Vierra on Friday afternoon. Vierra will be retiring from the library after working there for more than 30 years.

HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

News in brief

Vigil planned for 2 women shot in park

PORTLAND, Texas (AP) — Friends and supporters of a South Texas couple gathered in a Gulf shore park where they were shot in a usually quiet Texas Coastal Bend community.

They gathered Friday evening at Violet Andrews Park in Portland, about seven miles north of Corpus Christi, one week after Mollie Olgin was shot dead. Police say the 19-year-old Ingleside woman was killed and 18-year-old Mary Kristene Chapa was wounded in a shooting in the park June 23.

Many of those friends and supporters had gathered earlier Friday at a memorial service for Olgin.

Police describe the suspected gunman as a 5-foot-8-inch, 140-pound white male in his 20s with dark hair.

Police say they haven't determined a motive, and Police Chief Randy Wright has said there's no evidence suggesting the women's relationship was involved.

Man gets death for killing College Station woman

BRYAN, Texas (AP) — A Central Texas jury has returned a death sentence for a man convicted of killing a woman whose wounded 9-year-old son managed to call a relative for help.

The Brazos County jury deliberated about 4½ hours in Bryan on Friday before sentencing 47-year-old Stanley Lamar Griffin to death row.

The jury had found Griffin guilty last week of capital murder in the strangling of 29-year-old acquaintance Jennifer Hailey. Investigators say Hailey and her son were attacked at their College Station home. The boy called his grandma to say a man killed his mother and "choked" him. The boy, who's now 11, suffered stab wounds.

DNA evidence helped link Griffin to the attacks. Defense attorneys argued that he was mentally retarded and ineligible for the death penalty.

Driver hurt as Amtrak train slams into 18-wheeler

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The driver of a tractor trailer rig carrying grass pallets is hospitalized with life-threatening injuries after an Amtrak train slammed into the truck's cab at a private crossing in far western Arlington.

The crash happened about 5 p.m. Friday on the driveway to the Howell Farms banquet center, just off Texas 180 near the Arlington-Fort Worth line.

Arlington police spokeswoman Zhivonni McDonnell tells the Fort Worth Star-Telegram (<http://bit.ly/MH7OB6>) that the locomotive of the westbound Texas Eagle, carrying 140 passengers and crew on its Chicago-to-San Antonio run, tore the tractor from the trailer and dragged it 300 feet down the Union Pacific track.

Amtrak spokesman Steve Kulm says the train remained on the tracks and that no one aboard was hurt. However, McDonnell says a few passengers did seek medical attention.

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Congress: BP fines should target restoration

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — When BP PLC and its partners pay water pollution fines that could run to billions of dollars for the massive 2010 oil spill off the Louisiana coast, Congress says 80 percent of that money should be spent on ecosystem and economic restoration in five Gulf states.

The House and Senate included the provision in a transportation bill both chambers passed Friday. The bill — which would also result in Medicaid cuts in Louisiana — now goes to President Barack Obama.

BP could be fined between \$5.4 billion to

\$21.1 billion under the Clean Water Act, depending on whether the company is found grossly negligent.

The British oil giant and its contractors were drilling an oil well when it blew out on April 20, 2010, killing 11 workers and spewing more than 200 million gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico.

Congressional members from the Gulf states were relieved by the bill's passage. They had worried that the hefty fines would have ended up going into a general fund unless they passed language specifying how the money was to be spent.

U.S. Sen. David Vitter,

R-La., said setting aside the fines was "an absolute top priority."

Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant called the bill "unprecedented" and said he would "make certain that Mississippi receives its share" of the money.

Environmental groups also applauded the bill's passage and called it an opportunity for billions of dollars to be spent on Gulf ecosystem projects.

In a joint statement, several environmental groups said the money would help restore the Gulf and create new jobs.

Aaron Viles, deputy director of the Gulf

Restoration Network in New Orleans, urged the Gulf states to use the money wisely and "not fall prey to the pork-barrel politics of the past."

Passage of the transportation bill also carried some bad news for Louisiana.

Under the bill, more than \$650 million in federal funding is stripped from Louisiana's Medicaid program over two years.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

He is hired and answer to nobody except the tax appraisal board. This board answers to no one but the taxing entities. In example Big Spring City Council, Howard County commissioners, school boards for Forsan, Big Spring and Coahoma (I recently spoke with two council members who agreed the new tax hikes were ridiculous and something needed to be done, but did not have a clue how to guide or instruct the appointed not elected tax board members.

They say you protest these evaluations to a three person board of protest. I saw this board in action when seven people went before me in front of them. They gave them four or five minutes to speak and give their reasons why this hike was wrong, they did a quick motion and vote to proceed as proposed by the appraisers office and steamrolled over everyone of them.

They did this with an arrogance and smugness that bureaucrats get when they know there is no one to answer to. They say there is no appeal after except legal arbitration (which is very costly and they know it).

It is like telling everyone to eat this B.S. Sandwich and by the way you had just as well learn to like it!

Someone needs to get control of these arrogant out of control bureaucrats.

If not the appraisal board then the board members of tax entities better otherwise they will force a movement to vote out every incumbent in every upcoming election for years. These board members of city, county and schools are one of three things: 1. Either naïve or dumb as a rock. 2. Misinformed and mislead about what the tax office was doing. 3. guilty of perpetuating this con job and theft on the taxpayer. We can stop this ripoff by everyone showing up at the month tax board meeting on Wednesday, July 11 at 5:15 p.m.

Anyone wishing to speak their minds needs to stop by the tax appraisal office prior to July 11 and request to be put on the agenda. If not they will snub you from saying anything. Show up even if you don't want to speak. A show of numbers and support speaks volumes.

It is time to load the proverbial silver bullet and rid ourselves of some of these bulletproof bureaucrats.

Those who choose not to should just be content in learning to like that sandwich.

STEVE CHRANE
BIG SPRING

Something special's happening in the Circle.

July 2012 Activities

- July 2 - Games 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- July 3 - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Lemonade @ PRL, 4:00 p.m.
Supper Club, "Casa Blanca", 5:30 p.m.
- July 4 - Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
HOLIDAY - SR. CIRCLE OFFICE CLOSED
- July 5 - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy's Café, 10:00 a.m.
- July 9 - Games, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- July 10 - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Supper Club, "Red Mesa", 5:30 p.m.
- July 11 - Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie, 1:00 p.m. "Larry Crowne"
- July 12 - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy's Cafe, 10:00 a.m.
- July 13 - Lunch Bunch & Birthdays
"Just Peachy's", 11:30 a.m.
- July 16 - Games, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
LUNCH-N-LEARN, 11:30 a.m.
Healthy Woman, 5:30 p.m.
- July 17 - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Supper Club, "KC Steakhouse", 5:30 p.m.
- July 18 - Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie, 1:00 p.m. "Mr. Popper's Penguins"
- July 19 - Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy's Cafe, 10:00 a.m.
Bunko, 5:00 p.m.
- July 20 - POT LUCK & BINGO, 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

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

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Senior Circle Members: This program will be offered at 11:30 as the July Lunch-n-Learn.



Senior Circle

News in brief

Russia, U.S. struggle to overcome differences at last-ditch Syria talks

GENEVA (AP) — Russia's determination to preserve its last remaining ally in the Middle East collided head-on with U.S. and other Western powers' desire to replace Syrian President Bashar Assad with a democracy at a pivotal U.N.-brokered conference on Saturday.

Efforts at bridging the Russia-U.S. divide hold the key to international envoy Kofi Annan's plan for easing power from Assad's grip through a political solution that ends 16 months of violence in a country verging on a full-blown civil war, in one of the world's most unstable regions.

Without agreement among the major powers on how to form a transitional government for the country, Assad's regime — Iran's closest ally — would be emboldened to try to remain in power indefinitely, and that would also complicate the U.S. aim of halting Iran's nuclear goals.

At talks Friday night, top U.S. and Russian diplomats remained deadlocked over the negotiating text to agree on guidelines and principles for "a Syria-led transition." Annan, a former U.N. chief whose efforts to end the Syrian crisis have thus far fallen short, arrived Saturday morning without speaking to reporters.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague, arriving at Saturday's conference, urged Russia and China, which is following the Russian lead, to join Western nations in speaking with one voice on Syria, though he acknowledged that will be a stiff challenge.

Egypt's Islamist president-elect to be sworn in before court, but generals' power to remain

CAIRO (AP) — Islamist Mohammed Morsi arrived before Egypt's highest court to take the oath of office on Saturday as the country's first freely elected president, succeeding Hosni Mubarak who was ousted 16 months ago.

When sworn in before the Supreme Constitutional Court, Morsi will also be the Arab world's first freely elected Islamist president and Egypt's fifth head of state since the overthrow of the monarchy some 60 years ago.

The court, housed in a Nile-side structure built to resemble an ancient Egyptian temple, stands next door to a military hospital to which Mubarak, 84, was transferred about two weeks ago after suffering a health scare in a nearby prison hospital. He is serving a life sentence for failing to prevent the killing of protesters during last year's uprising.

Hundreds of soldiers and policemen guarded the building as Morsi arrived shortly after 11 a.m. local time (9 a.m. GMT) in a small motorcade. Only several hundred supporters gathered outside the court to cheer the new president and, in a departure from

the presidential pomp of the Mubarak years, traffic was only briefly halted to allow his motorcade through on the usually busy road linking the city center with its southern suburbs.

Morsi took a symbolic oath on Friday in Cairo's Tahrir Square, birthplace of the 2011 uprising, before tens of thousands of mostly Islamist supporters.

Democrats divided on pitching health care to voters while court ruling emboldens GOP opponents

WASHINGTON (AP) — The constitutional win for President Barack Obama and Democrats on health care overhaul is reopening political cuts within the party over the unpopular law.

Four months to an election with control of Congress in the balance, the Supreme Court's affirmation of the law left several Democrats insisting that the issue was settled and it's time to focus on jump-starting a sluggish economy.

Other Democrats saw the newfound attention as a chance to reset the debate and make a fresh case for the law's more popular elements, especially as 12.8 million Americans start getting health insurance rebate checks in the coming months.

The most vulnerable Democratic incumbents and challengers — Montana Sen. Jon Tester and North Dakota's Heidi Heitkamp among them — cautiously welcomed the court's judgment but argued that the law could be improved.

Even before Obama signed the landmark measure in March 2010, Republicans were unified in opposition and clear in their message: repeal and replace. The White House and divided Democrats have been frustrated in trying to explain and sell the law to a skeptical public in a sharp contrast to the GOP. The court's decision was a reminder of political reality.

Storms leave more than 2M people without power across eastern U.S.; 2 fatalities reported in Va.

Violent evening storms following a day of triple-digit temperatures wiped out power to more than 2 million people across the eastern United States and caused two fatalities in Virginia — including a 90-year-old woman asleep in bed when a tree slammed into her home, a police spokeswoman said Saturday.

Widespread power outages were reported from Indiana to New Jersey, with the bulk of the service interruptions concentrated on Washington, D.C., and the surrounding areas. Earlier Friday, the nation's capital reached 104 degrees — topping a record of 101 set in 1934.

More than 20 elderly residents at an apartment home in Indianapolis were displaced when the facility lost power due to a downed tree. Most were bused to a Red Cross facility to spend the night, and others who depend on oxygen assistance were given other accommodations, the fire department said.

The storms, sometimes packing 70 mph winds, toppled three tractor trailers on Interstate 75 near Findlay, Ohio. Fallen trees were blamed on both deaths in Springfield, Va. — the 90-year-old woman in her home and a man driving a car.

In addition, a park police officer was injured by an uprooted tree in the northern Virginia county, and an 18-year-old man was struck by a power line,

Jennings said. He was in stable condition after receiving CPR, she said.

Crews sifting through Colo. fire damage find remains of second person; progress made on flames

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — Making slow but steady progress against a wildfire that has killed at least two people, authorities hoped for continued favorable weather and asked for patience from thousands of evacuees who fled encroaching flames that destroyed nearly 350 homes.

A second body was found Friday in the rubble of a home where another person was found dead earlier. Officials, who were searching each charred lot for more possible victims, have not yet released identifications. Police Chief Pete Carey said fewer than 10 people altogether were unaccounted for.

The 26-square-mile blaze — one of several wildfires burning across the West — was reported to be 25 percent contained — up from 15 percent Thursday.

Evacuation orders were lifted for some of the more than 30,000 people forced from their homes earlier this week, but restrictions remained on neighborhoods with the most damage.

"We're just pleading with people to have some patience while we work through this, this is a very stubborn situation we're dealing with," said Colorado Springs Fire Chief Richard Brown.

Bernard Madoff's brother pleads guilty, saying he was kept in the dark about epic fraud

NEW YORK (AP) — In pleading guilty to criminal charges, Peter Madoff portrayed himself as a victim of a domineering older brother who he revered right up until an evening in December 2008 when his sibling revealed that his wildly successful investment business was a sham that lost its customers their nearly \$20 billion investment.

"I was in total shock," Madoff said Friday as he described the confession by his older brother, Bernard. "My world was destroyed. I lost everything I worked for."

The 66-year-old Madoff, saying he was "deeply ashamed and terribly sorry," spoke angrily about his 74-year-old brother, who is serving a 150-year prison term after admitting his creation of the largest known Ponzi scheme.

"My family was torn apart as a result of my brother's atrocious conduct," he said. "I was reviled by strangers as well as friends who assumed that I knew about the Ponzi scheme."

He said his brother had made it clear that he would never become a partner in the business where he had worked since 1966, even as he was showered with tens of millions of dollars in salary, bonuses and other financial gifts.

Marathon swimmer Palfrey in attempt at Cuba-Florida record crossing

HAVANA (AP) — Marathon swimmer Penny Palfrey stroked across the Straits of Florida early Saturday as she attempted a record 103-mile (166-kilometer) unassisted swim from Cuba to Florida that tests the limits of human endurance.

If the 49-year-old mother and grandmother is successful, she'll go in the record books as the first woman to swim the Straits without the aid of a shark cage. Instead she's relying on equipment that surrounds her with an electrical field to deter the predators in the infested waters.

Early Friday, the British-born Australian bade farewell to onlookers, dove headfirst into the calm, bathwater-warm seas off Havana and began stroking slowly northward with a kayaker as escort.

"There's a lot of work that's gone into this over the past year," Palfrey said, thanking her husband, her team and Cuban officials who helped facilitate the trip. "It's all coming together, and so exciting to finally get to this point where we can get started."

A member of Palfrey's crew was tweeting to fans, while a webpage updated her location every 10 minutes or so based on data from a GPS device worn by the swimmer. The site showed her making steady northward progress through the Straits of Florida, where the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean meet.

Myanmar opposition leader Suu Kyi returns home after triumphant 2-week tour of Europe

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — Cheering crowds welcomed Aung San Suu Kyi home Saturday from her triumphant tour of Europe, where she won enthusiastic support for her role in Myanmar's democratic transition and was celebrated like a head of state.

Thousands of jubilant supporters packed into Yangon's airport and lined the roads outside waving opposition party flags and holding banners, including one that said: "We are proud of you Mother Suu!"

Others were clearly impressed by the honorary doctorate degree she was awarded at Oxford University, shouting: "Long Live Dr. Aung San Suu Kyi!"

The 67-year-old opposition leader smiled and waved as supporters lavished her with floral bouquets and she was escorted into a waiting car, which inched through the crowd on the way to her lakeside villa.

During her two-week trip, Suu Kyi met with political leaders in Switzerland, Norway, Ireland, Britain and France.

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Gentry, Texas spoil Griffin's strong outing

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — A.J. Griffin held down baseball's top-scoring team Friday night. Unfortunately for the Oakland Athletics' 24-year-old rookie starter, his bullpen didn't help him pick up his first career victory.

Craig Gentry had a bases-loaded triple with two outs in the eighth to spoil Griffin's stellar performance as the streaking Texas Rangers beat the A's 4-3 on Friday night.

Griffin allowed two singles in six shutout innings before Oakland's bullpen gave up four runs in the eighth.

"I always just try to go out there, do my job and just keep us in the game," said Griffin, who gave up two runs in his debut Sunday against San Francisco. "It's pretty satisfying to do well against a team like that. But it was a bittersweet game."

Elvis Andrus singled with one out in the eighth off reliever Grant Balfour (1-2), and Josh Hamilton and Michael Young loaded to lead the bases.

On a 3-2 pitch, Cruz walked to force in Andrus and cut Oakland's lead to 2-1. Ryan Cook, who had allowed opponents to hit just .102 against him, replaced Balfour and gave up Gentry's game-deciding triple with two outs.

Oakland left fielder Yoenis Cespedes appeared to misjudge Gentry's deep fly ball. Cespedes took



AP photo
Josh Hamilton, Nelson Cruz and Michael Young celebrate after scoring on a three-run triple by Craig Gentry on Friday during the Rangers' 4-3 victory over the Athletics.

See GENTRY, Page 8A

Public hunting permit application process to begin for O.H. Ivie

Applications for public hunting permits on the O.H. Ivie Reservoir Wildlife Management areas are being accepted by mail only from July 15 through August 15 at the O.H. Ivie Reservoir Field Office.

Hunting permits will be limited. Requests for information and application packets should be made by calling the Colorado River Municipi-

pal Water District at 267-6341, or by writing to CRMWD ATTN: Public Hunting, P.O. Box 869, Big Spring, TX 79721. A public drawing for the WMA public hunting permits for the 2012 hunting season will be held at 1 p.m. on August 24 at the O.H. Ivie Field Office located near the north end of the dam. All applicants are welcome to attend the drawing.

Rangers prospect receives 50 game drug suspension

NEW YORK (AP) — Texas Rangers prospect Jake Skole, a former first-round draft pick, has been suspended for 50 games.

Skole tested positive for a performance-enhancing substance under baseball's minor league drug program.

Skole was selected No. 15 overall in the

2010 draft out of Blessed Trinity High School in suburban Atlanta.

The 20-year-old outfielder, who plays for Class A Myrtle Beach, tested positive for an amphetamine.

The commissioner's office announced the ban on Friday and said it was effective immediately.

A&M freshman QB Manziel arrested for brawl, fake I.D.

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M freshman quarterback Johnny Manziel was arrested and jailed early Friday after he was involved in a fight and police said he produced a fake ID.

College Station police spokeswoman Rhonda Seaton says Manziel, 19, was charged with disorderly conduct, failure to identify and possessing a false identification card, all misdemeanors. He was jailed overnight and released Friday afternoon, Seaton said.

Manziel, a prep standout at Kerrville Tivy High School, redshirted last season. He was ex-

pected to compete for the starting job with sophomore Jameill Showers in the fall.

"I have been made aware of the situation with Johnny Manziel," incoming coach Kevin Sumlin said. "We are gathering all the facts and will handle the situation once we have all of the information. We are disappointed with his actions and this is out of character for Johnny."

Police also arrested 20-year-old Steven Brant and 47-year-old Marvin McKinney after the incident, which occurred just after 2 a.m. in a street in the Northgate entertainment district.

Chicago, Maholm blanks Astros 4-0

CHICAGO (AP) — Paul Maholm was eager to finish off one of his best pitching performances of the season. He settled instead for his first win in seven weeks, and that was plenty satisfying.

Maholm allowed just four hits, pitched into the ninth inning and benefited from three homers and some good defense Friday, leading the Chicago Cubs to a 4-0 win over the Houston Astros.

"I wanted it obviously. I understand the situation," Maholm said of being pulled in the ninth. "I gave up two hits, but after my last outing, I'll take what I got and go on."

Maholm had given up nine hits and seven runs in just 3 1-3 innings of his previous out-

ing against the Diamondbacks and had been 0-4 in his previous eight outings, although he pitched well enough to win in some of those games.

Friday he mixed his pitches, had good control and worked well with rookie catcher Steve Clevenger, who also hit his first major league homer.

"If you are doubting your pitches or whatever you are not going to be as crisp," Maholm said. "Whether I was throwing the so-called correct pitch, I was aggressive with it. And obviously I've faced those guys a decent amount and kind of know their tendencies."

Maholm (5-6), making 200th major league start, earned his first win since he tossed seven

shutout innings in a 1-0 victory over Atlanta on May 9. He walked one, hit a batter and struck out six in his 8 1-3 innings.

Brian Bixler started the Houston ninth with a base hit and Carlos Lee's one-out double put runners on second and third before Carlos Marmol finished for his sixth save in eight chances.

Marmol plunked Chris Snyder to load the bases with two down, but Chris Johnson lined to third to end the game.

"My job is to hit the ball hard. I can't place it. I wish I could," said Johnson.

Coming off a tough 7-3 loss to the Padres on Thursday night when they gave up six runs in

See ASTROS, Page 8A

Aggies say 'Howdy' to new SEC conference

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M is using its move from the Big 12 to the Southeastern Conference as a chance to reinvent itself from a regional brand to a national one.

But first the Aggies wanted to introduce themselves, or as they would put it, say "Howdy" to their new conference.

Roll Tide? War Eagle? Get ready for "Gig 'Em!"

In the last few months, one of the school's initiatives has been using its website, Facebook, Twitter and various SEC forums to educate people about A&M and answer questions concerning some of the unique traditions at this once all-male military school — the male-only Yell Leaders instead of cheerleaders, for example, and the 12th Man tradition.

"I always tell people that Texas A&M has always been an SEC school in terms of our traditions, our spirit and our passion," said Jason Cook, Texas A&M's vice president for marketing and com-

munications. "We've just been positioned in the wrong conference."

If that sounds like a jab, well, it probably is. The school's departure from the Big 12 was at time acrimonious and dominated by a falling out of sorts with Texas, its biggest rival. The Aggies were worried about the future of the Big 12 after the departures of Nebraska and Colorado, and the creation of the Longhorn TV network by Texas and ESPN simply made things worse.

Texas A&M began exploring the possibility of joining the SEC a year ago to increase the school's profile nationally — as well as increase revenue.

They were welcomed into the league on Sept. 26 and will officially make the transition along with Missouri on Sunday when they will become the first newcomers to the league since South Carolina and Arkansas joined the conference in 1992.

Texas A&M president R. Bowen Loftin, who led the charge for the move, has called it a "100-year decision"

and believes the SEC is the perfect place for the university to flourish, not only athletically, but also in academics.

"There is absolutely no hierarchy within the SEC, every member is equally valued, at the table for every decision that's made and treated with genuine respect," Loftin says in a university video promoting the move.

The SEC allowed Texas A&M to begin co-branding merchandise immediately after the conference change was announced and the response so far has been huge, school officials say. In the first six months after the announcement, Texas A&M's licensing revenue increased 24 percent, according to Cook.

That's just one sign of the support among students and fans about the upcoming move.

"It's been extremely positive and it's actually grown," interim athletic director John Thornton said. "It's exciting. There's a buzz and it's just been consistent. I've been at A&M for over 30 years

as a coach and an administrator and gone through the Southwest Conference and the Big 12 and there's nothing you can compare this to. There's just genuine, genuine excitement and anticipation."

The change puts Texas A&M in the toughest football conference in the country, a fact not lost on new coach Kevin Sumlin, who was hired from Houston in December.

"There is no better, no higher level of competition in college football than the SEC," Sumlin said.

That, Thornton said, is one of the most alluring parts of the change. "Being a former student-athlete and a coach, I think that one of the appeals is to play against the best and I think that's the exciting part of it," said Thornton, who played basketball at A&M in the 1970s and was later an assistant basketball coach at the school. "We're going to be challenged like we've never been challenged before, but that's why you're in

See A&M, Page 8A

ASTROS

Continued from Page 7A

the ninth, the Astros didn't get into Chicago until 2:20 a.m. and then to their hotel around 3:30 a.m.

"How much sleep we had, no one wants to hear about that," Johnson said, crediting Maholm. "He is one of those guys who really mixes his pitches well."

Jordan Schafer and Matt Downs had the only other hits for Houston against Maholm. Schafer's third-inning single came on a fly ball that fell in front of left fielder Alfonso Soriano, and Downs singled in the eighth.

"The guys made some great plays," Maholm said. "And three homers always helps."

Luis Valbuena hit a two-out solo homer off Bud Norris (5-5) in the second. Clevenger belted a two-run shot in the fourth for his first major league homer, and Soriano connected in the sixth.

All 15 of Soriano's homers have come since May 15. Clevenger will savor his first. He got the ball, as well.

"To hit a home run in the big leagues, it's a great feeling," he said. "But more important we got the victory and we got the shutout."

Norris allowed four runs and seven hits in six innings. He came off the disabled list earlier in the day after being sidelined with a sprained left knee. He wanted to go longer after throwing only 87 pitches but manager Brad Mills pulled him.

"Manager made his decision, so I've got to let it be with that," Norris said. "But I felt strong."

Houston put the first two men on in the third, but Downs was thrown out at third with Norris attempting to bunt, dousing the rally. Cubs shortstop Starlin Castro ended the inning by roaming behind second to flag down Bixler's grounder and throw him out.

Bixler hit a long drive to center in the sixth, but David DeJesus leaped into the ivy to pull it down. The Cubs nearly doubled off Norris, who had walked, but Castro's relay throw was wild past first, allowing Norris to move to third.

Darvish says he's 'not worthy' of All-Star selection

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Yu Darvish doesn't think he's deserving of being an All-Star in his first season in the major leagues, despite his 10-4 record with the Texas Rangers.

"Personally, do I feel like I'm an All-Star? I don't think so," Darvish said through his translator Friday. "And I'm also hearing there's a possibility that I might start an All-Star game, and to me that's totally out of context. ... Am I

going to be an All-Star? I don't know. But do I think that I'm worthy? Probably not."

The Japanese standout made his comments two days before the All-Star teams will be announced. He also makes his next start for the Rangers on Sunday, in the finale of a four-game series against Oakland.

Darvish was a five-time All-Star and two-time Pacific League MVP over the past seven seasons in Japan.

The Rangers paid more than \$107 million to sign the 25-year-old pitcher last winter.

"I think that the fact that I'm Japanese, the first year over here, the Texas Rangers paid a lot of money for me to come over here, I think the fact that I am an All-Star candidate, I think that's more of a buildup by just who I am and where I came from," he said.

The AL All-Star manager is the Rangers' Ron Washington.

Darvish was tied for the AL lead with 10 wins and had a 3.57 ERA after beating Detroit on Tuesday night, when he became only the second major leaguer in a half-century to win his first seven career home starts.

The 6-foot-5 right-hander has 106 strikeouts and 50 walks in 95 2-3 innings over 15 starts. He was fourth in the AL in strikeouts, but also had the third-most walks in the league.

A&M

Continued from Page 7A

it and that's something that our coaches and our student athletes are fired up about."

There have already been some challenges associated with the move. Texas A&M had to scramble to fill its non-conference football schedule over seven months.

The most controversial change, of course, was the end of the annual game against Texas, one of the oldest and most storied rivalries in college football.

Aggies versus Longhorns had always been about more than football, carrying a hint of the culture war pitting the state's liberal intellectuals at Texas against the farming and military traditions of Texas A&M, which started as a military college and didn't allow women until the 1960s. The game,

which was first played in 1894, is on indefinite hiatus after the Longhorns said their schedule is full through 2018.

At least the Aggies will get the exposure that comes with playing in the SEC.

"There's way more positives right now with what we're going into than anything to hold onto as far as not being excited," Thornton said. "I think the consensus is by far that the positives outweigh the negatives."

Cook said Aggie fans who live outside of the area have been unhappy about their inability to watch football games on television in years past because they were mostly broadcast regionally.

"That's going to change in the SEC," Cook said. "Even their syndicated SEC network package is seen in 66 million households across the country."

The school has slowly been

replacing all of its Big 12 logos with SEC ones over the last few weeks. A key moment came on June 7 when the first SEC logo was prominently placed on the outside of Kyle Field, famous for that "Home of the 12th Man" sign. The tradition dates to 1922 when a short-handed Aggies team asked a former player, E. King Gill, to suit up, just in case.

The Aggies will wait until Monday to officially mark their entrance to the SEC by raising the SEC flag and flags from each conference member outside their indoor track stadium.

Loftin, Thornton and athletes and coaches from each of A&M's sports will attend the event.

"What I like is the national stage that we're going to be on now," Thornton said. "We've always been in the national spotlight, but this is going to take it to another level."

GENTRY

Continued from Page 7A

a couple of steps in at first and then sprinted back toward the wall, but the ball easily sailed over his head.

"It looked like he broke in," Melvin said.

"I'm not 100 percent sure from my angle. I probably need to look at video."

Gentry was an unlikely hero for the Rangers, who have won four in a row and 16 of 20 since June 8. The speedy outfielder came in as a pinch-hitter for David Murphy in the seventh.

"I knew I hit it decent," Gentry said. "But to be honest, I thought he was going to catch it."

In his second career start, Griffin threw 67 of his 105 pitches for strikes and retired 13 in a row at one point before Hamilton's bloop single in the sixth.

Griffin struck out four and walked two against baseball's top-scoring team. Hamilton and Cruz had the only hits off Griffin, who started

the season pitching for Double-A Midland.

"He certainly did his job against a lineup here in a venue that's tough to pitch in," Melvin said. "It was a great performance."

Matt Harrison (11-3) threw a season-high 121 pitches and allowed two runs and eight hits over eight innings. The left-hander joined Tampa Bay's David Price as the American League's only 11-game winners.

Harrison is making a push for his first All-Star game appearance two days before the teams are announced. He improved to 5-0 with a 1.29 ERA in six June starts.

"Our team can explode at any time and they did it in the eighth inning," Harrison said. "I just wanted put up as many zeros as I could to keep it close."

Cespedes was 2 for 4 and improved to 12 for 20 this season against Texas. Derek Norris and Jemile Weeks each had two hits for Oakland.

Weeks led off the fourth with a triple and scored on Cespedes' single in the fourth. Coco Crisp had a two-out, RBI single in the fifth to extend Oakland's lead to 2-0.

The A's lost the opener of the four-game series 7-6 on Thursday. In that one, Oakland couldn't tie the score despite having runners on first and third with one out in the ninth.

"It's frustrating, obviously," Melvin said. "I'm sorry I don't have better adjectives. But yes, frustrating would be the word."

Tanner Scheppers gave up a solo homer to Chris Carter with two outs in the ninth. He retired Seth Smith to end the game and pick up his first career save.

Washington said afterwards that eighth-inning reliever Mike Adams and closer Joe Nathan weren't available Friday. Nathan and Adams had both pitched the past three games.

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The Spirit of Relay For Life

Community wrap-up highlights several key players and shines light on next year



HERALD photos/Amanda Moreno
Above: Spirit of Relay award was presented to 8-year-old Madison Rodgers during the community wrap-up, which was held in Garrett Hall at First United Methodist Church.

Above right: Relay For Life Chairman Manny Negrón gives recognition to the 2012 Hero of Hope Debbye ValVerde during the community wrap-up.

Right: Whitney Wine, American Cancer Society representative, and Manny Negrón, recognize the TexaStone Racers for their several years of contributions and support to the Howard/Glasscock County Relay For Life.

Below: Team captains were recognized for their involvement and support of the Relay event this year. The total raised for the year was \$165,447.28 with the 25 teams bringing in \$98,782.92.



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The Rev. Ken McIntosh named Rotarian of the Year



Courtesy photo

The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club named the Rev. Ken McIntosh as their 2011-2012 Rotarian of the Year during the installation of officers held at the home of David and Marie Justice on Tuesday, June 26, 2012. Pictured are Debbie Wegman – 2010-2011 Rotarian of the Year and this year's recipient Ken McIntosh.

Reader's Corner

To Mommy from Heaven

Dear Mommy, I love you.
Please don't cry, Mommy.
There is so much here to do.
I have no more pain, Mommy.
I feel so wonderful, too.
It is so great to see our
Lord Jesus at His Holy Throne.
There are so many angels.

I will never be alone.
Mommy, I will be waiting
for you until God calls
you home
I love you, Mommy
from your child

Fannie Price

Opinion

A Word, Please

By June Casagrande

I don't usually read advice columns. If I need to tell my great-grandmother to lay off the Cuervo or tell a co-worker I don't want to attend her nudist wedding, I can find the words without any help.

Besides, as anyone with a computer keyboard knows, it's more fun to give advice than to listen to it.

But when I'm flipping through the newspaper on a lazy Sunday, anything can catch my eye, as did this sentence from a recent "Ask Amy" advice column: "Reach out to whomever is in charge of the arrangements."

It's ironic, because it illustrates one of my favorite pieces of advice: Don't bother with "whom."

I know that's an odd thing for a grammar buff to say. "Whom" is, after all, the quintessential icon of grammatical propriety.

The problem with "whom" isn't the word itself, but its cousin, "whomever." They're a set. If you invite "whom" to the party, you're obligated to invite "whomever," too. And "whomever" is more difficult to work with.

"Who" and "whom" are easy if you know the basics.

"Whom" is an object pronoun, meaning it's either the object of a verb, "You invited whom?" or the object of a preposition, "To whom it may concern."

"Who" is a subject pronoun. It functions as the subject of a clause — the doer of the action in the verb: "Who wants cake?"

These are even easier to keep straight when you note that "who" is to "whom" as "I" is to "me," "he" is to "him," and "we" is to "us." You never slip up and say, "Us went to the movies" because your understanding of subjects and objects is innate. When you understand that "who" and "whom" work the same way, they're simple.

That's why a lot of people don't shy away from using "whom," thus setting a formal tone in their writing.

It works fine until they need to write a sentence like "Reach out to whom-

ever is in charge."

That, as our advice columnist's editor should have known, is an error. It occurred because someone — either the writer or the editor — looked at the words "reach out to," saw that an object was needed for the preposition "to" and figured the object pronoun "whomever" was on the job.

But in this case, the object of "reach out to" isn't the lone word that follows. It's a whole clause: "whoever is in charge."

Clauses, which are units made up of a subject and a verb, need their subjects.

The fragment "is in charge" clearly needs someone in charge — a subject for the verb "is."

"Whomever" can't do the job. It's an object pronoun. "Whoever" is the only grammatical choice.

Consider the sentence, "I know he will prevail." If the object of the verb "know" were just the one word that follows, you would use the object pronoun "him" instead of the subject "he," giving you "I know him will prevail."

Instead, the object of the verb "know" is a whole clause, "he will prevail."

That's why this sentence uses the subject form in "he."

Without "will prevail" it would be different. You'd say, "I know him." But add "will prevail" and you have a verb that needs a subject like "he." So the whole clause "he will prevail" is the object of "know."

An easy way to handle tough whomever/whomever situations is to remember that whenever a pronoun is positioned to be the object of one word and the subject of another, the subject form wins.

But that can be tough for some people to keep straight. That's why, if Amy asked, I'd advise her to avoid "whom" altogether.

June Casagrande is the author of "It Was the Best of Sentences, It Was the Worst of Sentences." She can be reached at JuneTCN@aol.com.

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United Way board to meet in July

The United Way of Big Spring and Howard County will be meeting July 11 at noon at Scenic Mountain Medical Center in the Senior Circle room on the Fourth Floor.

The meeting will be focused towards preparing for the upcoming kickoff

event set for Aug. 18 at the Big Spring Country Club.

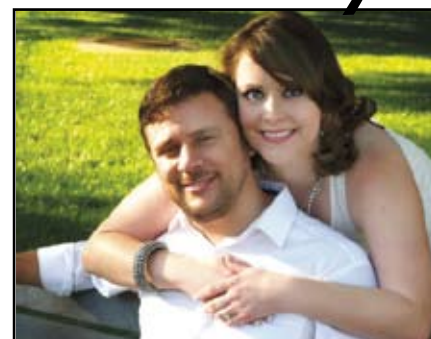
This will be the 68th annual kickoff.

For more information or to help support the local United Way call 267-5201.

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- ♥ Whitney Anderson & Kye Fuston
- ♥ Emily Hanes & David Hinckley
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Pest control inside and out

Make your home and landscape less susceptible to pests



With the recent mild winter across the U.S., insect activity is occurring even earlier this year.

This means there is a greater chance that homes and landscapes will be infested by pests this summer.

Here are some tips to make your home and landscape less of a target for infestation:

•Choose plants wisely: Many insect and disease issues can be prevented by selecting plants that are less prone to insect problems. For example, native plants are less inviting to pests when planted where sun and soil are right for them.

• Combat insects with essential nutrients: Proper fertilization is essential to maintaining landscape beauty and plant development, helping sustain optimum plant growth and resistance to insects, diseases and environmental stresses.

When fertilized properly, plants are supplied with the essential nutrients (i.e. nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium) they need for strength and growth.

• Create a line of defense: Use a bait formulation, such as Amdro Ant Block Home Perimeter Ant Bait, to create a barrier around your home. The bait kills a range of ant species outside so they are unable to infest interior areas. Foraging (worker) ants bring the granules back to their mound, resulting in the entire colony, including the queen, being destroyed.

• Clean up debris: Along with applying bait, you

should also remove loose debris from around the home and at the foundation of plants.

This includes fallen leaves or dropped fruit. Pests often use these types of debris for nesting and feeding.

For more information and helpful advice, visit www.amdro.com.

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15th Annual
POPS IN THE PARK
Tuesday, July 3rd
Comanche Trail Amphitheater
Featuring Music By
The Big Spring Symphony And Chorus

Schedule Of Events:

- 5:00 P.M. ~ Gates Open at Amphitheater
- 5:00 P.M. ~ Food and Novelty Booths Open
- 6:00 P.M. ~ Performance by Dixieland Jazz Band
- 7:45 P.M. ~ Welcome and Announcements
- 8:00 P.M. ~ Symphony & Flag Ceremony
- 9:15 P.M. ~ Video Presentation Recognizing Servicemen & Women
- 9:35 P.M. ~ Fireworks Display

Presented By:

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Herald, Big Spring Symphony, City of Big Spring, GEO Group, Robinson Drilling, "94.3" The Fuse -The Official Radio Station of Pops In The Park, K-Best 95.7 & KBST 1490, KBYG 1400AM & 106.3 FM, Weeks Boadcasting Inc.

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Education topic of CoC meeting



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Gloria and Bobby McDonald, center, and Executive Dean of Big Spring at Howard College Terry Hanson speak after the State of Community Series on education held Tuesday morning in the Cactus Room.

By AMANDA MORENO
Staff Writer

Education was the topic of discussion Tuesday morning at the Chamber of Commerce State of the Community Series.

Area superintendents and representatives of Howard College delivered reports about renovations, standardized tests, budgets and other improvements happening in their respective districts.

Dr. Cheryl Sparks, president of the Howard College Junior College District, was the first to take the podium, providing background information and statistics regarding the college's involvement with area school districts.

"Our motto is to be a 'Leader in education, for learning, for earning, for life,'" Sparks said.

Area high schools, including Coahoma, Forsan and Big Spring, have a number

of students taking advantage of the dual-credit courses offered. Students at the three school districts have received scholarships in the amount of \$44,800 at BSHS, \$16,900 at Coahoma High School and \$11,600 to students at Forsan.

Technical courses, focused on providing job skills to be used in local businesses, are also provided with no tuition costs at Howard College.

"Some people ask why we provide the tech courses without any tuition fees and the reason is because those taking the tech courses will have insurance fees, kits to purchase and state testing fees," Dr. Sparks said. "We want to try and keep these classes just as affordable and have those students paying about what the students taking the other classes we offer."

Over the years, several See TOPIC, Page 5B

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a managing director of investments for the Wells Fargo Advisors Midland office.



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

Bad news is coming from everywhere. Our domestic recovery seems to have hit a bump in the road, the euro-zone crisis continues to rage, China's economy has been slowing down and multiple countries in the Middle East are experiencing high levels of civil strife. And yet, the S&P 500 Index has rallied more than 7 percent off its June 4 intraday low. With all the global uncertainties making headlines on a day-to-day basis, how could the market be in a rally mode for the past couple of weeks?

Investor sentiment, by most measures, is not good. What is likely fueling a large portion of the bounce in the market over the last 10 or 12 trading days is a good, old fashioned short squeeze. Two lousy employment reports and a host of other worse than expected U.S. economic data took the wind out of the market's sails over the past month or two. The first Greek election, in early May, resulted in anti-austerity forces garnering a meaningful amount of support, which spooked global investors who feared the euro zone might have reached a tipping point of no return. Traders started making bets that the stock market's next move was down.

An indeed, the market did have room to fall, dropping more than 10 percent at one point during the month of May into early June, breaching the closely watched 200-day moving average and triggering more selling by technical traders. But the follow-through selling was minimal and the S&P 500 held its ground. Then, Spanish banks received their needed bailout funds, putting a temporary fix on that problem. It was time for the shorts to begin to cover their bearish bets.

And short covering has continued to have an effect on trading in recent days as rumors swirled that central banks around the world were ready to step forward and provide liquidity to the global financial system should the lending market seize up in the aftermath of the second round of Greek elections this past weekend. But the worst fears were not realized, as pro-austerity parties claimed victory and vowed to remain in the euro zone. Additional short covering ensued as the new trading week began to unfold.

We are not sure how much further the recent short covering will carry the market. Keep in mind, there are a number of positives; most of the world's major central banks are committed to keeping interest rates low and liquidity high, the American economy and corporate earnings are growing, not contracting, and stock valuations are well below the long-term average.

We do feel confident that the recent volatility in the market is here to stay. Economic news and global headlines are bound to affect the market on a day-to-day basis. And there very well could be more upside in the near term as those bearish bets become increasingly painful with each tick higher in the major indices.



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Just Peachy had its ribbon cutting Thursday morning. The local business is still located across from the Heritage Museum at 505 Scurry St., but has a new owner, Kandi Burris. Also, as a trial period, the restaurant will be open a few days in the evenings as well. To find out more information, call Just Peachy at 263-7000.

Blissard earns top awards at steer show

PLAINVIEW — Big Spring's Myka Blissard took top honors in the 2012 Panhandle Parade of Breeds this month.

In Right A Heifer Show, judged by Josh Cribs of Lubbock, Blissard exhibited the champion and reserve champion shorthorn heifers and a first place Chianina heifer.

In the Ring B Heifer Show,

judge by Dr. Chris Skaggs of College Station, Blissard exhibited the champion and reserve champion shorthorn heifers and the champion Chianina heifer. Her champion shorthorn heifer was named reserve grand champion heifer.

In Ring A Prospect Steers weighing 849 pounds and under, Blissard exhibited the sec-

ond place light weight shorthorn steer, the first place heavy weight and champion shorthorn steer and the third place middle weight Chianina steer.

In Ring B Prospect Steers, Blissard stood first with her light weight shorthorn steer, second with the heavyweight shorthorn and second place with a Chianina steer.



Courtesy photo

Big Spring State Hospital Assistant Superintendent Lorie Couch, right, presented Elena Galaviz (left) with the hospital's Psychiatric Nurse Aide of the Year Wednesday during a ceremony at Big Spring State Hospital. Galaviz was selected from more than 230 Psychiatric Nurse Aides at Big Spring State Hospital.

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Amanda Nicole Bair, 1103 E. 15th St., Big Spring
 Jessica Lynn Banks, CR 1200, Lubbock
 Nancy Ramirez Banuelos, 1515 A Sycamore, Big Spring
 Johnny Barraza, 429 Westover, Big Spring
 Bobby Gene Bricker, 1909 Alabama, Big Spring
 Vanessa Malu Calderon, 1506 Kentucky Way, Big Spring
 Charles Campanella, 2511 Fisher St., Big Spring
 Charles Elvis Carroll, 529 Westover Apt. 11, Big Spring
 Donald Cervantes, 1211 Lloyd, Big Spring
 Trystan Taelor Cevallos, 3912 E. Hwy. 350, Big Spring
 Crisleda Chavera, 1601 Grand Ave., Sweetwater
 Melissa Crawford, 1207 Mulberry, Big Spring
 Julie E. Davis, 5202 Bangor Ave. Apt. K301, Lubbock
 Stefan Deal, 102 Casie Ln. Apt. 1, Fort Worth
 Manuel Delosrios, 707 Lorilla, Big Spring
 Delores Dohnalik, 1500 Stones Throw, Horseshoe Bay
 Virginia Louisa Duenez, 6412 N. Co. Rd. 25, Big Spring
 Josepy James Eckert, 1123 Newhaven Trail, Pearland
 Maria Luisa Elizondo, 603 S. Second, Meadow
 Kristi L. Elliot, 603 E. 12th St., Big Spring
 John Randall Evatt, 4301 W. 49th St. Apt. 329, Amarillo
 Kristen Falcon, 2606 Fairchild, Big Spring
 Sharlamarr Frink, 3723 Monclair, Odessa
 Joey Lee Garcia, 3102 Ave. C, Snyder
 Joe Nick Garfias Jr., of 1309 Runnels, Big Spring

Rosa M. George, 509 W. Second, Stanton
 Joseph Blake Gist, 3500 Cedar Run, Abilene
 Roxanne Deanda Gonzales, 539 Westover Apt. 211, Big Spring
 Eunice Torres Gonzalez, 7311 Westmoor, Odessa
 Robert Earl Green II, 2512 Fairchild, Big Spring
 Kimberly Hargrove, PO Box 1985, Big Spring
 Gloria Annette Henry, 100 Ash, Coahoma
 Ruby G. Hernandez, 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 48, Big Spring
 Ashley Rae Hodge, 3214 Drexel, Big Spring
 Danny Holt, of 125 Farney Rd., Lorena
 Kenneth Lloyd Hopper, 2011 W. Highway 80, Big Spring
 Bradley Ryan Horton, of Linda Lane, Big Spring
 Dana Michelle Hudgins, P.Q. Box 837, Coahoma
 Regina Hunt, 804 Longhorn, Welch
 Ashley Nicole Islas, 1104 Wood, Big Spring
 Justin Lee Jernigan, 2302 Lynn, Big Spring
 Lonnie Malcolm Johnson, 1211 Ridgeroad, Big Spring
 Terry Lee Johnson, 4802 S. Co. Rd. 1200, Midland
 Donald Jones, 3718 Ave. V, Snyder
 Jesse Campbell Lockett, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 141, Big Spring
 James Elijah Marlow, 2001 Runnels, Big Spring
 Todd Vincent Martin, 409 Woodcrest, Midland
 Joe Martinez, 2525 Fairchild, Big Spring
 Manuel Martinez Jr., 702 NE Iowa, Lamesa
 Ronnie Trevino Martinez, 1109 E. 11th place, Big Spring
 Cory James Michalewicz, 1106 Briscoe Cove, Hutto
 Chelsea Kristyne Millspaugh,

7403 N. Service Road, Big Spring
 Agustine Mendez Moreno, 1303 Mulberry, Big Spring
 Jose Munoz III, 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 7, Big Spring
 Tammy Jean Newton, 600 E. 17th, Big Spring
 John Randall O'Harrow, 107 S. Main, Big Spring
 Abigail Lynn Ortega, 700 E. 17th St., Big Spring
 Arealle Ortega, 1902 S. Main, Big Spring
 James Michael Perez, 626 Tulane, Big Spring
 Fred Allen Perry, 1425 E. Sixth, Apt. 107, Big Spring
 Joshua Plaia, 1401 E. 18th, Big Spring
 Jarum Renee Pryor, 802 N. Plaza, Big Lake
 Bobbie Ann Ritchie, 803 St. Francis, Stanton
 Michael Neal Roberts, 538 Westover, Apt. 103, Big Spring
 Mary Lopez Rodriguez, 1518 Kentucky Way, Big Spring
 Oliva Rosa Rodriguez, 1201 Settles, Big Spring
 Roberta Garza Rodriguez, 1103 Stanford, Big Spring
 Lisa J. Rubio, 1303 Sycamore, Big Spring
 Melissa Rodriguez Ruiz, 303 N.E. 11th St., Big Spring
 Anastasia Clarice Sanders, 1401 Culppepper Ave., Wilson
 Brittany Nicole Savell, 425 E. Davis Rd., Big Spring
 Kennedra Wynell Shelton, 400 N. Fourth, Corsicana
 Amy Leigh Shifflett, 209 N. Main, Coahoma
 Charles Ray Smith, 2911 W. Highway 80, Apt. 155, Big Spring
 Tiffany Katherine Stokes, 1407 E. 19th St., Big Spring
 Desiree Marie Thompson, 406 E. Marcy Dr., Big Spring
 David Wayne Turner, 3204 Irving, Snyder
 Abram Unger, 503 NE Fourth, Seminole

Brittania Kay Upchurch, 4303 Princeton, Midland
 Alonzo Vasquez, 306 W. Seventh St., Iraan
 Anthony A. Vasquez, 710 Willia, Big Spring
 Timothy Shea Wargo, 624 State, Big Spring
 Charles Watson, 804 W. I-20 Apt. 127, Big Spring
 Thomas Weeks, P.O. Box 110891, Anchorage, Alaska
 Linda Cortez White, 400 College, Coahoma
 Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. 28, Big Spring
 Calvin Williams, 1313 Mulberry, Big Spring
 Frances Elena Yanez, 1610 Cardinal, Big Spring
 Dennis Anthony Zaragoza, 4534 Sinclair, Big Spring
 Mary Esther Zubiate, 1103 S. 11th Place, Big Spring

District Court Filings:
 Ronnie L. Phillips vs. Andrea C. Phillips, divorce.
 In Re Martha Hernandez, name change.
 Robert Jewett vs. Naomi Jewett, divorce.
 Athlon Fe Operating LLC vs. Mid-sun Oil Corp., civil.
 Wind Energy Transmissions Texas vs. Pamela Hicks, civil.
 Michael Wayne Suggs vs. Erin Lea Suggs, divorce.
 Robert Williams vs. Teresa Lynn Williams, divorce.
 Traci Herrera vs. Eurvin Winters, protective order.
 Sarah M. Herbert vs. Charles B. Harrington, injury or damages with a motor vehicle.
 Ronald E. Barrow vs. Mike L. Scott, injury or damages with a motor vehicle.

Marriage Licenses:
 Lee R. Vasquez, 36, and Amanda J. Baker, 27, both of Big Spring.
 John Michael Leggett, 28, and

Amy N. Osborn, 31, both of Big Spring.
 Merrill Clayton Campbell III, 44, and Angela Lee Morrow, 59, both of Big Spring.
 John Flores Jr., 48, of Midland, and Misty Haley LaFrance, 40, of Big Spring.
 Lon Odale Rhoudes, 38, and Brandi Lynn Rhoudes, 39, both of Big Spring.

Warranty Deeds:
 Grantor: Tanner Potter
 Grantee: Sabin Tanner Ray Potter
 Property: A 5-acre tract out of Section 46, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: May 24, 2012

Grantor: Steven Johnson and Stephanie Johnson
 Grantee: Sabin Tanner Ray Potter
 Property: A 5-acre tract out of Section 46, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: May 24, 2012

Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:
 Grantor: Lynnard W. Denton and Lori Kelley Fuqua
 Grantee: Kim M. Denton and Cathy Denton
 Property: Section 46, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: May 10, 2012

Grantor: Gary Stephen Lancaster
 Grantee: Matt Dahmer
 Property: Lot 36, Block 6, Highland South 6 Addition of Big Spring
 Date: May 11, 2012

Grantor: Walter L. Shipman
 Namiqa Shipman
 Grantee: Elizabeth Ann McClarty
 Property: Lot 1 and part of Lot 2, Block 2, Indian Hills Addition
 Date: May 11, 2012

World markets surge after Europe finds rescue plan

(AP) — Financial markets around the world stormed higher Friday after European leaders came up with a breakthrough plan to rescue banks, relieve debt-burdened governments and restore investor confidence.

On the final trading day of the second quarter, the Dow Jones industrial average was on track to record one of its biggest gains of the year, and stocks advanced even further in Europe — in strong and weak countries alike. Prices for oil and other commodities shot higher.

In Brussels, leaders of the 17 countries that use the euro appeared finally to have found a broad strategy to fight a debt crisis that has hounded European governments and world investors for three years.

The leaders agreed to pump money directly into stricken banks, let some countries tap into rescue money without submitting to stringent budget requirements and, later, tie European governments closer in economic union, officials said.

There was a sign immediately that it was working: The cost for the troubled government of Spain to borrow money on the bond market fell dramatically, by more than half a percentage point, to 6.34 percent.

Previous market rallies tied to progress in Europe have proved temporary.

But for the day, at least, global stock markets were jubilant.

In New York, the Dow Jones industrial average climbed as much as 236 points, its second-best showing this year, and the Standard & Poor's 500 index soared more than 2 percent.

TOPIC

Continued from Page 4B

productive partnerships have been put into place at Howard College. Those partnerships include Dora Roberts Foundation, Big Spring Economic Development Corporation, Career Technical Education and extended research into early college high schools. Some of the other community involvements include career roundup, campus tours, TAKS Free Day and more.

All of those presenting at the community series are involved at the Howard County Group, including representatives from the BSEDC, county and Chamber of Commerce. The group meets once a month in the Howard College Cactus Room.

Danny Ferrell, assistant superintendent, took the place of BSISD's superintendent Steven Saldivar for the morning's presentation.

Ferrell's PowerPoint included updates and photos of the four new elementary schools. Marcy, Goliad and Washington are set for completion within the next couple of weeks and Moss Elementary — which is about four to five weekends behind schedule — has a projected completion date in the first part of August.

"Moss was the one school that was started

late because construction had to wait for school to let out before it workers could begin. All the other locations were able to be build adjacent to the existing building," Ferrell said. "The oil field has also put a crunch in the construction with the competition for workers taking its toll."

As part of the bond project, BSHS is also receiving renovations. The high school will receive a new science lab, which is expected to be completed for the first day of the upcoming fall semester.

Also expected to be completed by the first day of school, the choir hall renovations. The band hall and office spaces are being extended in order to provide for a separate area for the choir and band are not expected to be completed until April. Memorial Stadium, located on the Howard College campus, recently received a new installation of turf and renovations on the field house and concession stands continue.

New Coahoma ISD superintendent Amy Jacobs, focused on the state of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) test compared to previous state designated testing.

"The STAAR test is going to be more rigorous than the TAKS test," Jacobs said.

Students will be tested on Algebra, Geometry, English, Biology,

Chemistry, Physics, World Geography, U.S. and World History. The testing, according to Jacobs, is going to be more aligned on the current high school curriculum. Students in third to eighth grade are going to be tested on reading, math, writing, science and social studies.

After a brief synopsis of the new state standardized testing, Jacobs gave a short update about happenings at CISD.

The student population is sitting at 795, which seems to be holding steady from previous years. The staff is comprised of 115 people. CISD is expecting a \$600,000 to \$700,000 budget cut over the next two years.

"At this point we are doing our best and trying to figure out how to balance the staff and what we need in the current situation," Jacobs said.

CISD still has a few vacant positions, including some in the coaching field and administration.

"The toughest thing is we need to prepare our students in the same manner and give them what they need so they have a shot because they are going into the same world as those students from a school in Dallas," Jacobs said. "We have to give them what they need to have a shot while maintaining that small school atmosphere."

Presentations concluded with a report from Forsan ISD Superintendent Randy Johnson.

According to Johnson, the study body is sitting at about 700 students enrollment and working on a 90 person staff. The district extends from the western portion of Howard County and into a small portion of Mitchell County. The two schools — Elbow Elementary and Forsan Jr./Sr. High School — sit 15 miles apart, due to a consolidation made in the 1950s.

In addition to the local updates, Johnson briefed the audience in regards to the current lawsuits in place involving several Texas schools including Forsan ISD.

"In the last legislative session there was a \$4 billion cut to public education," Johnson said. "There was also another \$1.4 billion cut from federal grant programs. In this FISD lost 15 percent in revenue."

According to Johnson, Forsan is looking at losing another 3 percent in state funding and about 10 percent of federal funds next year. The school, under the Robin Hood plan — which requires "property wealthy" schools to send a percentage of their local tax revenue to the state in order to help support the education system — is responsible for sending \$2 million to the state in

2013.

"Of course, tax payers aren't happy about this because they would like to see their tax dollars stay here, which is one of the reasons we joined in the lawsuit," Johnson said.

"We don't expect the Robin Hood plan to ever go away, but we want to try and ensure that we are keeping the majority of our tax dollars local."

Johnson said that the lawsuits are expected to be combined and heard by Judge Deitz in October. To find out more about the lawsuit, visit crctx.org/index.html.

"We are working to get better and be the best that we can," Johnson said. "Even with all that is happening, we still have the best job in West Texas being able

to work with these students."

The next State of the Community Series will focus on the medical field and is scheduled as a breakfast Aug. 21 at the Cactus Room. The final part of the series, Industrial, will be a lunch held at Dora Roberts Community Center on Nov. 6.

"We hope that all in attendance were able to go away with information they didn't have before," Jan Foresyth, chamber president, said. "After all that is the main goal of these series."

To find out more information, call the chamber at 263-7641.

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

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- Assistant Finance Director

For more information go to www.mybigspring.com or apply in person at the **Human Resources Office** located at 310 Nolan (432) 264-2346

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The Big Spring Herald is looking for an individual to sell advertising in our retail department.

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ANIMAL CARE Taker Needed, (full-time), 8:00am-4:00pm., \$8.00 per hour. Call Howard County Humane Society 432-267-7832.

APARTMENT PROPERTY Manager needed. Must be task orientated, dependable & interact with different personalities.

Will be dealing with tenant relations and overseeing maintenance staff. HUD experience is very helpful! Background check required. Onsite Apt available if needed. Fax Qualifications to 806-763-4750.

Assistant Manager/Collector Security Finance is now taking applications. We offer benefits, competitive pay, and advancement opportunities. Apply in person at 501 E. 3rd.

BASIN ENGINE & Pump is looking for a warehouse manager for a busy-fast paced warehouse to oversee inventory activity, ordering, receiving, purchasing and product control. Surface Pump experience preferred. Please submit resume to shaww@basinengine.com or fax to (432)570-1115. Applications are also being accepted at 1914 S. County Rd. 1083, Midland.

LOCAL CHEMICAL Production Company seeking qualified candidates for the following positions: Field Service Technician & Treater Truck Driver. \$2,000 SIGN-ON BONUS. Individual will provide excellent customer service utilizing related equipment. This position is based in Big Spring, TX. Must have CDL & Hazmat endorsement. We offer a competitive salary, 401(k), Medical, Dental/Vision, paid vacation and holidays. Equal Opportunity Employer. Submit resume to c/o P.O. Box 1431/222, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

MAINTENANCE person needed. Pay DOE. Call 432-517-0311.

Help Wanted

BLAST MASTERS has positions available for:

* Crew Tech
Must have valid Texas Drivers License, will train, Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., Pick up application. No phone calls please.

BLUE BELL Creameries is seeking a dependable, responsible Full Time Office Clerk for a busy office. 40 Hour work week that will require Saturday work. Preferred candidates will possess Ten-key by touch, Excel, Word and other basic office skills. Professional telephone skills necessary. Great benefits + Competitive hourly wage, depending on experience. Apply in person at: 401 East Interstate 20.

CARING HEARTS Home Health is accepting resumes for a **PRN/LVN** and **FT RN**. We offer Freedom of flexible scheduling, paper work made easier with lap top and a pleasant environment. Bilingual a plus. One year of experience required. Prior Home Health experience preferred. Fax resumes to (432)714-4511 or come by 1900 Scurry Street.

COUNTER & SALES person needed for local Furniture and Appliance Store. Bilingual and outgoing personality a plus. All inquiries are to be made in person at 1611 South Gregg, Big Spring.



CROSSROADS REFRIGERATION is looking for qualified service technician. Must have A/C experience. Experience in refrigeration is a plus. Salary is DOE. Call 432-270-0501 and leave message.

DENTAL ASSISTANT Wanted for Busy Dental Office. Must be energetic, professional and organized. Experienced Preferred but willing to train right person. Resume Only, 710 Main, Big Spring, TX 79721.

DRIVER WANTED for Hang Gliding Meet. July 22-28. Use our car to retrieve us from La Mesa, Lubbock, or maybe farther. \$100/day. Please email mcgowantk@yahoo.com if interested.

MOVENTAS Hiring shop techs. Must have Mechanical experience. Quality Assurance and Fabrication skills are valued. Salary DOE. Fax or bring resume. 604 N. Owens (432)517-4441.

Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED MAINTENANCE needed at Big Spring Mall. Full-time. Must pass criminal background check. Apply at Mall Office or fax resume 432-267-3490.

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

FULL-TIME Property Manager Assistant needed. Experience preferred. Apply at Limestone Ridge Apt., 1401 North Hwy 87 Office. No Phone Calls Please.

HIRING EXPERIENCED dozer operators and blade operators for finish work. 2 yrs. minimum experienced required. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid! Apply in person at 9400 South Service Road., Coahoma, TX, or call 432-394-4604 for more information.

HOWARD COUNTY Road Department will accept applications from July 2, 2012 through July 13, 2012 for a MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN. Must have a Valid Texas Class A C.D.L. licenses. Applications may be picked up and returned from 8:00a.m. to 4:00p.m., at Howard County Road & Bridge office, 1011 N. San Antonio St. All applicants will be pre-job drug tested.

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West Texas Center

The ECI Occupational Therapist: is responsible for assisting families in gaining access to needed services and supports as outlined in the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). This person must have considerable knowledge for children (0-3) needing occupational therapy. These duties include the following activities: ongoing developmental assessments, program planning on an interdisciplinary team, and direct services to children requiring occupational therapy services using the routines based intervention mode. Travel is required 80% of the time within approximately 6 county area. Flexible scheduling is available. A rental vehicle may be provided or mileage reimbursement at the discretion of the Program Director. A laptop and Blackberry cell phone are also provided. Must be a Licensed Occupational Therapist \$65,000-\$72,000. Salary dependent on experience.

The ECI Speech Language Pathologist is responsible for assisting families in gaining access to needed services and supports as outlined in the individualized Family Service Plan. This person is the primary contact for each family assigned and must have a considerable knowledge for speech delayed and/or communication disordered children (0-3), medical treatment facilities and community resources. Duties include the following activities; referral and intake, service coordination, transition, identification of additional resources/services, public awareness, tracking of deadlines, coordination of and participation in initial and ongoing developmental assessments program planning on an interdisciplinary team, and direct services to children requiring speech services. Travel is required 80% of the time within twelve county service areas. Master degree major in Speech, Language or Communication Disorders. Must have current licensure as Speech Language Pathologist \$65,000-\$72,000 annually Salary Dependent on experience. Midland/Odessa area.

The ECI Service Coordinator is responsible for assisting families in gaining access to needed services and supports as outlined in the individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Primary contact for each family assigned and must have considerable knowledge in the functioning of social services, medical treatment facilities and community resources. Duties include the following activities: referral and intake, service coordination, transition, identification of additional assessments, service/services, public awareness, tracking of deadlines, coordination of and participation in initial and ongoing developmental assessments, service planning on an interdisciplinary team and providing developmental services using a routines based intervention strategy. Travel is required 80% of the time. Employee is required to use their personal vehicle/or an agency/rental vehicle. All employees are required to have a personal vehicle available for work purposes and maintain current, valid vehicle liability on the personal vehicle. Personal vehicle usage is subject to Center authorized mileage reimbursement rates. LPC, Social Worker, BSRN, LMFT or Bachelor's Degree which includes a minimum of 18 hrs of course credit relevant to early childhood development, human development or early childhood special education \$17.36-\$21.15 hr (\$36,108-\$43,992 annually) Salary Dependent on Experience Big Spring or Andrews area.

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A Master's degree in Nursing; a degree or certification in psychiatric nursing is preferred. Candidates must have five years of progressive management experience in psychiatric acute care, residential care, partial care or equivalent along with demonstrated ability to successfully meet licensing and accreditation standards. The ability to work with child, adolescent, adult and geriatric populations is required along with a working knowledge of TJB, state MH regulations, and patient rights standards, and any other applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing mental health care facilities relating to direct patient care.

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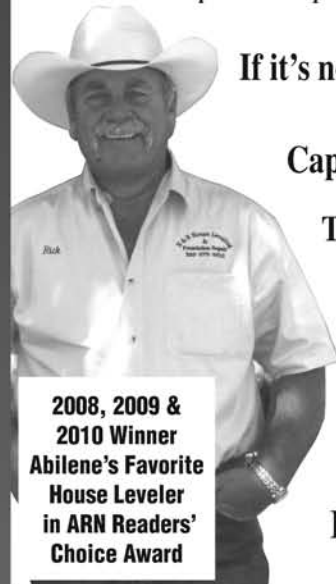
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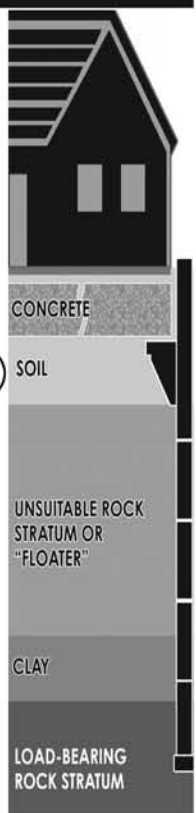
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House for Sale, TO BE MOVED 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1167 Sq Ft Pier & Beam. 432-263-4993.

INVESTMENT PROPERTY 1308 College Ave., AS IS. Needs to be completely remodeled. 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, carport, behind New Washington School. Serious inquires only. Call (432)517-8443.

OWNER WILL Finance- 1300 Stanford 3 bed, 1 bath, fenced yard pymt under \$500 a month. Call 325-277-4923.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The waxing Sagittarius moon builds anticipation and continues to do so until the release of Tuesday's full Capricorn moon. There are times when expectation ruins the fun of what actually occurs, but not today. If anything, imagining what might occur makes things more magical, as long as you don't get too attached to one particular outcome.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You may feel like you're drifting from your joy, but a little effort and intention are all you need to get back on track. Think of what you've done in your life, what you do well and what you are passionate about.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be exposed to new ideas. Learning is a process. Try to explain your newfound knowledge to a child in a few sentences. If you can do this, you



HOLIDAY MATHIS

really understand it yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your easy social manner is legendary. Be careful not to talk too much, though, as you'll be more respected for listening. You'll be most effective by speaking only 30 to 40 percent of the time.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Narrow your focus. Trying to do too much today will be less than satisfying. Find a tiny segment of your grand plan and get deeper into it. This will give you a sense of accomplishment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's something to be gained from winning back what was lost. Maybe it's a customer, or maybe it's a lost love. In either case, the way back is the same: a bold gesture that puts the other person's needs before yours.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Suggest a cut-off date for the project you're working on, or it may take over your life indefinitely. Something about establishing a deadline will put you in the right headspace for a prompt, successful ending.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll throw plenty of positive energy toward the person you like. You'll look at this person's face admiringly — and not just the eyes, but everything. Infatuation can be exhilarating.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Genuine compliments are charming. Phony compliments are manipulative. You will know the difference and will react accordingly. Also, you'll give only the most sincere words to the ones you appreciate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll make things happen in your world by resonating at a cheerful emotional tone. This is easy to do since positive influences are all around you. They exist because you love to feel upbeat and full of energy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll maximize

each connection you make. You won't even bother to contact people unless you feel you have something in common with them or that you could add to their scene in some way that will matter to them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Realistic goals are not so easy to come up with in your current ambitious mood. Whatever you want to accomplish, find the halfway mark and shoot for that milestone in the days to come.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You like to do favors, but taking too much onto your plate is counterproductive to your helping nature. You have a strong feeling about when you should say no, so honor that.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 1). You get the lucky break you deserve this year. This month features well-considered financial and lifestyle decisions. August brings new friends, harmonious partnerships and shared adventures. October shows you the way to make more money. Family grows in November. Compelling new interests crop up in January. Aries and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 23, 14, 39 and 15.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Liv Tyler recently co-starred opposite a robot in the sci-fi comedy "Robot and Frank." This Cancer moonchild has an otherworldly quality about her, which is why she's oft chosen for roles that place her in a fantasy ("The Lord of the Rings") or futuristic ("Armageddon") setting. Tyler has dreamy Neptune in exploratory Sagittarius. Her Saturn in Leo suggests that the spotlight brings her important life lessons.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2012 CREATORS.COM

Real Estate for Sale

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

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Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Anna Stiga
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | |
|--|---|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Cooper's creation | 1 Prefix like E- |
| 5 Indonesian tourist mecca | 2 Opposite of odio |
| 9 Treacherous | 3 Time called him "Bard of the Litigious Age" |
| 14 Its Web site has a Swim, Sports & Play page | 4 Hawaii honoree in National Statuary Hall |
| 15 Two and a Half Men character | 5 Berth places |
| 16 A member of | 6 Shakespearean lament |
| 17 Growth spurt | 7 It may be express |
| 18 City named for a Paduan priest | 8 Distressed |
| 20 Costume designer for both versions of Ben-Hur | 9 Super PAC benefactor |
| 21 Hotel purchases | 10 Out of control |
| 22 Take a new look at | 11 Isolated |
| 24 Nicknamed | 12 Cause of some blowups |
| 25 Part of Royal Highland Fusiliers' uniforms | 13 Causes of some blowups |
| 26 Word processor feature | 19 Food preparation of a sort |
| 31 Crab | 23 Wizard's minion |
| 33 Get fast cash for | 26 tone |
| 34 Old pair | 27 Macroeconomic stat |
| 35 Attraction | 28 Standard Oil descendant |
| 36 Rapper wrapper | 29 "Ambition, like a torrent, looks back": Jonson |
| 37 Removes from the prime-time lineup | 30 1980 Olympics host |
| 38 "I don't like the looks of that" | 31 Dejected |
| 39 Overly stylized | 32 Region near Düsseldorf |
| 40 Big name in the stock market | 33 Lawyer's case, maybe |
| 41 Documentary on Don Rickles | 36 Senator Schumer's predecessor |
| 43 Element of change | 40 Travel franchise with a tepee logo |
| 44 Fool | 42 Ed Murrow's middle name |
| 45 Land on the Bay of Bengal | 43 José Ferrer's Oscar role |
| 48 Former world's tallest building | 45 George Cross, for one |
| 53 Digs for doves | 46 Wake Island or Midway |
| 54 Caribou Lou's cousin | 47 Evinces unsteadiness |
| 55 Word from the French for "high wood" | 48 Something compared by lotion shoppers |
| | 49 Harp neighbor on some euros |
| | 50 Pretty soon |
| | 51 Hope, metaphorically |
| | 52 End of numerous reality-show titles |

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Legals

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed proposals until 2:00 p.m., August 1, 2012 for the following area:

Flagship Radio Broadcasting Status

Specifications and proposal documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone number (432)264-3620. Proposals will be received in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District until the above listed date and time. Proposals received after the above deadline will be returned unopened. Proposals will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on August 9, 2012, at 5:15 p.m. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.
#7417 June 24 & July 1, 2012

Legals

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bid proposals for the following areas:

Career & Technical Education-- Supplies & Equipment And Supplemental Instructional-- Supplies & Equipment

These bids will form a multi-vendor list for instructional personnel to secure supplies, equipment, and contracted services. Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone number (432)264-3620, or from the district's website, www.bsisd.esc18.net. The school district will begin opening bids on July 10, 2012, in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. The Business Office will continue to receive and open bids through 4:00p.m., July 31, 2012. All bids must be received by 4:00pm., July 31, 2012. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on August 9, 2012, at 5:15pm at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
#7421 July 1 & 8, 2012

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

ConocoPhillips Company, 3300 North A Street, Building 6, Midland, Texas 79705 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Clearfork formation, Chalk, Sloan Well No. 29W. The proposed injection well is located 6 miles Northeast of Forsan, Texas in the Howard Glasscock Field in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into the subsurface depth interval of 2500 feet to 4200 feet.
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711. (Telephone (512)463-6792).
#7422 July 1, 2012

Legals

Notice is hereby given that Laredo Petroleum, Inc., Operator 486610, has filed with the Texas Railroad Commission the following: P-17 application for the exception to SWR 26 and/or 27 to surface commingle Production, allocate production and for off-lease storage, from oil and gas leases in Section 5, Block 34, T2S, T&P RR Co. Survey in Glasscock County, Texas and the S/2 of Section 43, Block 34, T1S, T&P RR Co. Survey in Howard County, Texas under other leases. Any affected mineral interest owners who have not received written notification are advised to contact Daniel Temple of Laredo Petroleum, Inc., in Midland, Texas at 508 W. Wall, Suite 600, Midland, Texas 79701, (432)684-9955 by July 22, 2012.
#7424 July 1, 8, 15 & 22, 2012

Legals

Public Notice

The County will list larger surplus items as they become available online at www.GovDeals.com. Please check the website periodically as the County will not advertise each item.
#7361 July 1, 2012

Lost a Pet?

visit www.bigspringpd.net and click onto the Animal Control gallery to see if you pet has been found by Animal Control.

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Available for adoption until July 11

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Legals

Public Meeting Notice

2012 and 2013 Unified Transportation Program Revision and the 2013-2016 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will host an open-house style public meeting to solicit public comments and input for revisions to the 2012 Unified Transportation Program (UTP), which covers fiscal years (FY) 2012 through 2021, revisions to the 2013 UTP, which covers FY 2013 through 2022 and the 2013-2016 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP).

The statewide public meeting will be held at 6:00 to 7:00 PM (CDT) on Thursday, July 12, 2012, at the following locations:

Abilene District
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79601
Amarillo District
5715 Canyon Drive
Amarillo, Texas 79114
Childress District
7599 US 287
Childress, Texas 79201-9705
El Paso District
13301 Gateway West
El Paso, Texas 79928-5410
Lubbock District
135 Slaton Road
Lubbock, Texas 79404-5201
Odessa District
3901 East US Highway 80
Odessa, Texas 79761
San Angelo District
4502 Knickerbocker Road
San Angelo, Texas 76904
Unified Transportation Program

The UTP is a comprehensive ten-year plan for the development and construction of State of Texas transportation projects including roadways, aviation, public transportation, waterways and coastal waters, and rail projects and includes specific funding levels for each fiscal year.

Beginning promptly at 6:15 p.m., TxDOT staff will conduct a brief presentation on the purpose and revisions of the 2012 UTP and the 2013 UTP. Additional information will be available for public viewing and TxDOT representatives will be on-hand to discuss the development process and answer questions. Forms will be provided in order to receive written comments. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. For additional information, please go to http://www.txdot.gov/public_involvement/utp.htm

or call the toll-free information line at (800)687-8108.

Written comments may be submitted on the UTP website at: <http://www.txdot.gov>

using search engine keyword: UTP; by email at: TPP_UTP@txdot.gov; or by mail to: TxDOT TPP Division UTP, 150 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, 78704. Public comments will be received until 4 PM on August 20, 2012.

Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan

The STIP is a mechanism used by TxDOT and the Federal Highway Administration to fund projects for the next four years and includes all federally funded projects. This public meeting pertains specifically to the 2013-2016 STIP; TxDOT representatives will be on-hand to answer STIP related questions. The 2013-2016 STIP may be viewed online at <http://www.txdot.gov/business/governments/stips/htm>

or at any TxDOT District Office no earlier than Wednesday, July 11, 2012. Locations of these offices can be found at: http://www.dot.state.tx.us/local_information/

Written comments may be submitted to Lori Morel, 118 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704. Persons with special communication or accommodation needs may call Joe Clark at (325)676-6821 for assistance. Requests should be made no later than three days prior to the meeting. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate needs.

Aviso de Reunión Pública
Departamento de Transporte de Texas
Revisión del Programa de Transporte Unificado 2012 y 2013,

Programa de Mejora de Transporte Estatal 2013-2016

El Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT, por sus siglas en inglés) llevará a cabo una reunión pública para solicitar comentarios públicos y aportaciones para el Revisión del Programa de Transporte Unificado 2012 y 2013 (UTP, por sus siglas en inglés), y el Programa de Mejora de Estatal de Transporte 2013-2016 (STIP, por sus siglas en inglés). Las reuniones públicas se celebrará el **Jueves, 12 de Julio de 2012 6:00 p.m. (CST) a 7:00 p.m.** en los siguientes lugares:

Distrito de Abilene
4250 Clack N.
Abilene Texas 79601
Distrito de Amarillo
5715 Canyon Drive
Amarillo Texas 79114
Distrito de Childress
7599 US 287
Childress, Texas 79201-9705
Distrito de El Paso
13301 Gateway West
El Paso, Texas 79928-5410
Distrito de Lubbock
135 Slaton Road
Lubbock Texas 79404-5201
Distrito de Odessa
3901 East US Highway 80
Odessa, Texas 79761
Distrito de San Angelo
4502 Knickerbocker Road
San Angelo Texas 76904
Programa de Transporte Unificado

El UTP es un plan comprensivo de diez años para el desarrollo y construcción de proyectos de transporte del estado de Texas que incluye carreteras, aviación, transporte público, vías fluviales y aguas costeras, proyectos ferroviarios, e incluye niveles de financiamiento específicos para cada año fiscal.

Empezando a las 6:15 p.m. en punto. Representantes de TxDOT harán una presentación breve sobre el propósito y revisión del UTP. Información adicional estará disponible y representantes de TxDOT estarán presentes para discutir el proceso del desarrollo y para contestar preguntas. Se proveerán formas para recibir comentarios por escrito. A las personas interesadas se les urge asistir. Para más información, por favor vaya a www.txdot.gov/public_involvement/utp.htm

o llame gratis a la línea de información (800)687-8108.

Comentarios por escrito pueden ser sometidos en el sitio de Web del UTP: <http://www.txdot.gov> por correo electrónico a: TPP_UTP@txdot.gov; o por correo a: TxDOT TPP Division UTP, 150 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, 78704. Comentarios públicos serán aceptados hasta el 20 de Agosto del 2012.

Programa de Mejoras al Transporte Estatal

El STIP es un mecanismo utilizado por el TxDOT y la Administración Federal de Carreteras (FHWA, por sus siglas en inglés) para financiar proyectos para los próximos cuatro años e incluye todos los proyectos financiados por el Gobierno Federal.

La enmienda de 2013 - 2016 STIP se puede ver en línea en la siguiente página de Web: <http://www.txdot.gov/business/governments/stips.htm>

o en cualquier Oficina de Distrito de TxDOT no mas antes que el Miércoles, 11 de Julio de 2012. Ubicaciones de estas oficinas se pueden encontrar en http://www.txdot.gov/local_information/

La reunión será informal y se invitan a todos los ciudadanos interesados a participar y expresar sus opiniones sobre el programa. Las personas con necesidades especiales de comunicación o alojamiento pueden llamar a Joe Clark en (325) 676-6821 de asistencia. Las solicitudes deben realizarse a más tardar tres días antes de la reunión. Se harán todos los esfuerzos razonables para dar cabida a las necesidades. Escritos comentarios podrán presentarse al Departamento de Transporte de Texas, Atención: Lori Morel, 118 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, 78704, o por correo electrónico a Lori.Morel@txdot.gov por 5:00 p.m. el 13 de Agosto de 2012.
#7419 July 1, 2012

~ Dear Margo ~

Of blood and turnips

Dear Margo: My mom and I aren't overly close, but we talk about once a month. She has run out of money, having retired three years after quitting a part-time job, and says she doesn't want to work anymore, that she has "worked long enough."

She has a small pension and Social Security, and I suggested she apply for food stamps, which she receives.

Mom has asked me to give her \$100 a month, and my brother will match whatever I agree to pay her.

I told her I would help out when possible, but I couldn't agree to a monthly payment.



MARGO HOWARD

We are a middle-income family of four. One child is a college sophomore; the other, a junior in high school soon to be in college. The money I make goes to their schooling and some of our bills.

My brother has two houses in two different states, owns several buildings and exotic cars, and has just a dog, no kids.

I do not have the financial means he does. Now my brother is calling my husband at work and trying to talk to him about it.

He won't call me because the last time this issue came up, I told him I would talk directly to Mom because he tries to tell me what to do and that we "owe" it to her.

What can I say to them without feeling guilty? — *In a Quandary*

Dear In: In tough situations where you feel you are not being heard, I

recommend writing a letter. In your case, write one letter to your brother, with a copy going to your mother. You will have gone on record, the letter can be reread, no one can interrupt, and it short-circuits any efforts to talk about it.

The gist of the letter should be who can afford what. When you state that you simply don't have the money to give your mother a set allowance per month, no one can tell you that you do. You might gently point out to your brother that, from all outward appearances, he is the better able to kick in an extra \$100 a month.

If he chooses not to, that's his business. As for "owing" people, at this period in your life, the people you owe are your husband and two sons. — *Margo, guiltlessly*

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Annie's Mailbox ®

Dear Annie: My father and mother were both sick and only weeks away from dying when my niece went to my father's bedside and asked if she could have his house when he "didn't need it anymore." She made sure that her mother was with her to witness the question and answer.

My father suffered from dementia for several years, and it was no surprise that he agreed that "Rhoda" could have the house. But his will was made out many years before, and it left everything to be equally divided between his eight children.

After my parents died, Rhoda put pressure on her mother to get the house. When I questioned Rhoda's actions, her mother defended her. When my brother said we were going to sell the house, Rhoda told us we could sell it only to her and at a greatly reduced price.

My father intended to leave everything to his children, not his grandchildren. This has split our family apart, and I don't know if we ever will get over the hard feelings that Rhoda has caused. She feels no remorse and still believes she should get the family home because Dad "promised" it to her.

I say she gets nothing. More importantly, she never should have gone to my father on his deathbed to begin with. What do you say? — *Split Families*

Dear Split: Rhoda sounds like a vulture. If your father had a legal will, the attorney (not the family members) should inform Rhoda that she is not entitled to the house or the proceeds from its sale. Of course, if the majority of your siblings choose to sell her the house anyway, there's not much you can do. Your letter should serve as a reminder to our readers to put their wishes in writing while they are of sound mind and not leave the door open to mercenary relatives who try to take advantage.

Dear Annie: What should you do if your husband of 46 years tells you that you are terribly obese?

Yes, I am 30 pounds over my ideal weight, but that hardly justifies his comment.

He has made other insulting remarks to me in the past.

But this one hurt my feelings so much that I



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

cannot deal with it. Is this abuse? — *Crying in Ohio*

Dear Crying: If your husband constantly belittles and humiliates you, it is emotional abuse. If he makes an insulting remark once every few years, he is simply a jackass. But after 46 years, why did this particular comment strike you so hard? Are you sensitive about your weight? Do you fear he no longer finds you attractive? Or was it just the straw that broke the camel's back? Tell your husband how much his remark hurt you. You also can get some counseling, with or without him, to learn how to best deal with such an insensitive partner.

Dear Annie: I laughed when I read the letter from "Bad Back" about the terrible mattress in her parents' guest bedroom.

A while back, my elderly "Aunt Millie" had out-of-town guests, and they, too, mentioned how uncomfortable the mattress was. Millie was convinced it wasn't the mattress because she said it wasn't that old and, after all, it had a board under it. I asked when she got it, and she told me, "We bought it for Daddy."

She didn't mean her husband, who died 20 years before. She meant her father, for whom she bought the mattress in 1950 when he moved in with her. When we took off the mattress pad, we found the original tag saying the entire set cost \$29.99.

We then checked the rest of the mattresses in the house and ended up replacing three. People tend to forget how long they have had their beds, even if it's been a half-century. — *Still Chuckling*

Dear Chuckling: Some of those mattresses can get mighty old before we

notice.

Dear Annie: I have been with my husband more than 20 years. We have never been separated, even for a few days. We have stuck it out through the good, the bad and the horrible.

We have two boys who are about to graduate high school, and I am wondering how this will affect our relationship. I am scared that he won't find our life together interesting without any kids to keep things active. I worry that the kids have been the knot that has kept us together. Will change split us up? — *Patty*

Dear Patty: It's true that once the kids leave the nest, some couples discover that they have nothing else in common. But most couples use this time to revitalize their marriages and enjoy things they could not do when raising children. This actually can be the best time of your married life.

Think of the qualities that first attracted you to your husband. Start cultivating interests that don't involve your kids, but in which you and your husband can participate together: gym memberships, book clubs, community choirs, dance lessons, travel, whatever could be fun for both of you. Plan a romantic vacation. Become members of a local theater troupe. Schedule a cooking class together once a month. And you do not have to do everything together. You and your husband undoubtedly have hobbies you'd like to devote time to now that you can, and they don't have to be joint activities. It's OK to have your own interests. It will give you something to talk about over dinner.

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.

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Pops T-shirts being sold for first time this year



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Pops in the Park T-shirts are back, with a twist this year. Due to popular demand, the T-shirts will be sold for the first time for \$12 a shirt. Each purchase must be made with cash, no credit cards or checks will be accepted.

All sizes including youth sizes can be purchased Monday from 8-5 p.m. and until 3 p.m. Tuesday at KBST studios, located at 608 Johnson St.

All sponsors listed on the shirt not only made the T-shirts possible but are helping support the Pops In the Park fund. A portion of the proceeds from sponsorships is being donated to the fund as well as a portion of the money made from the sale of T-shirts.

However, for those not wanting to purchase a shirt. There will still be a chance, as usual, to receive a free shirt during the Pops In the Park event. Each shirt launched July 3 will include a prize. Shirts will also be given away.

According to Malinda Flenniken, general manager of KBST, this is the fifth year the radio station has provided shirts for the annual Pops in the Park Event.

The limited time sale of T-shirts is something that is expected to be continued next year.

This year the souvenir shirts are red.

Pictured at left, Malinda Flenniken shows off the 2012 design for the Pops in the Park T-shirt.

Submit Club News to life@bigspringherald.com or to editor@bigspringherald.com

sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Common household problem solutions



products on hand. Raid(r) offers a trusted and effective line of products for killing and clearing homes of a variety of unwanted pests including ants.

- Tackle Your Do-It-Yourself Projects - Be sure to tackle your outdoor and indoor DIY projects to repair any damage including weather stripping windows and doors and filling in any cracks in the wall or flooring. The more prepared your home is for peak bug season, the less likely insects and other pests can get in.

- Don't Bring Bugs Home - Be sure to check the purchases you make at estate and garage sales for signs of insects including actual bugs. It's easy to get an infestation if you bring unwanted bugs into your home.

To learn more about how to keep bugs out of your home, visit www.RaidKillsBugs.com.

Note: Number of bugs passing through the yard are attributed to an experiment conducted by Entomologist Steven Kutcher over the summer months

Steven Kutcher, a Hollywood entomologist with more than 35 years of experience says that during warm weather season, more than 180,000 bugs could pass through your yard and several could make it inside your home through openings you may not even notice.

To help keep unwanted bugs out of the home Kutcher suggests these simple tips:

- Know Your Bug — If you have a pesky bug you cannot control, catch it and do your research. Visit Bug University at www.RaidKillsBugs.com for pictures of common household pests.
- Prepare for Pests — To help protect your home and family from bug infestation, prepare in advance by having pest

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Accidentally on Purpose

Fast dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 10 8 6
♥ A J 7 4
♦ 10 9 8 6
♣ Q J
WEST
♠ 7 5 4 3
♥ K 8 6
♦ Q J 5 3 2
♣ 8
EAST
♠ 9
♥ Q 10 9 2
♦ A 7
♣ A K 10 9 7 6
SOUTH
♠ A K Q J 2
♥ 5 3
♦ K 4
♣ 5 4 3 2

The bidding:
East 1♣ South 1♠ West Pass North 2♣
Opening lead — eight of clubs.

One way to describe a poor bridge player is to say that he plays so badly, he even trumps his partner's aces. Sometimes, though, trumping partner's ace is absolutely necessary to achieve the best result.

Consider this deal where South got to three spades on the sequence shown. North's three-spade bid was clearly wrong, as he was in effect punishing his partner for competing against a partscore.

South had previously limited his

values by overcalling with one spade, so he could hardly have a hand that would make a game opposite North's mediocre values.

West led his singleton club, and East started the defense on the right path when he took the king and returned a trump. Declarer won with dummy's ten and led the queen of clubs. East played the ace, and it was at this point that West trumped his partner's ace and led a second round of trumps!

As a result, South went down one. He could ruff his third club in dummy, but he could not avoid losing his remaining club to East. All told, he lost three clubs, a heart and a diamond.

Had West failed to trump his partner's ace at trick three, South would have made the contract, trumping two clubs in dummy instead of one to finish with nine tricks.

The hand illustrates the importance of keeping an open mind on defense. All too often a declarer is allowed to conduct his business without interference and so achieve what appears to be a normal result. East's trump shift at trick two was not difficult, but West's ruff of his partner's ace showed a high degree of awareness at the critical point in the play.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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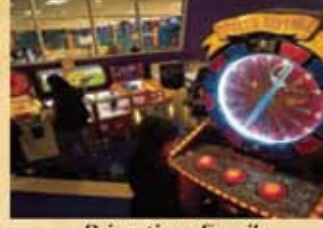
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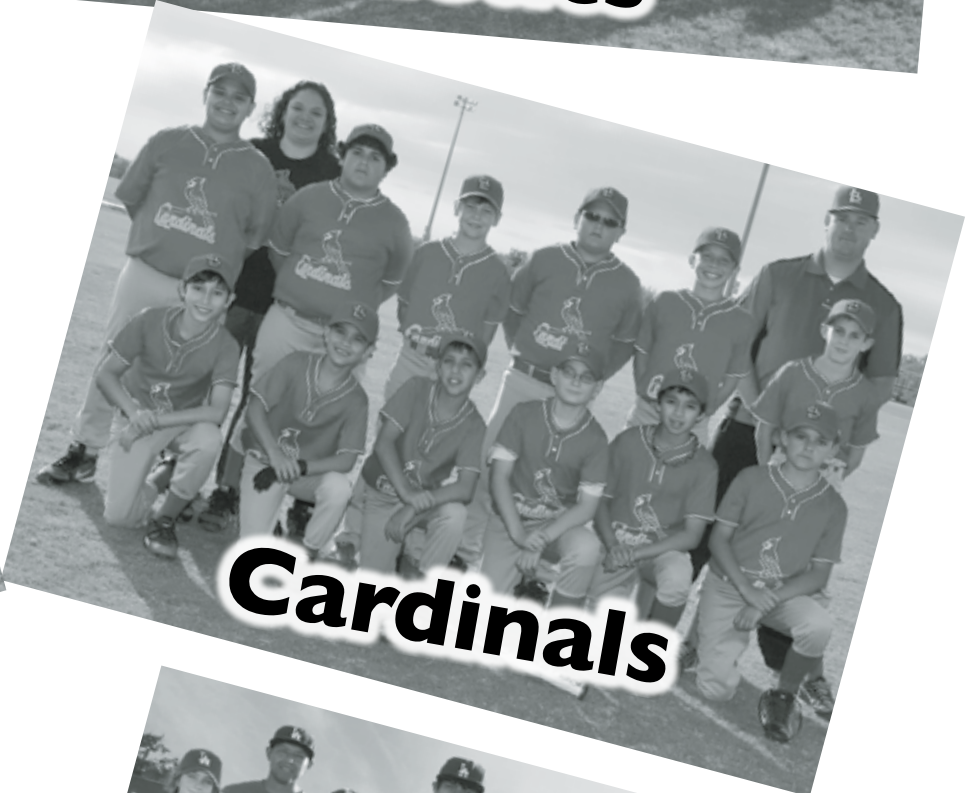
Astros



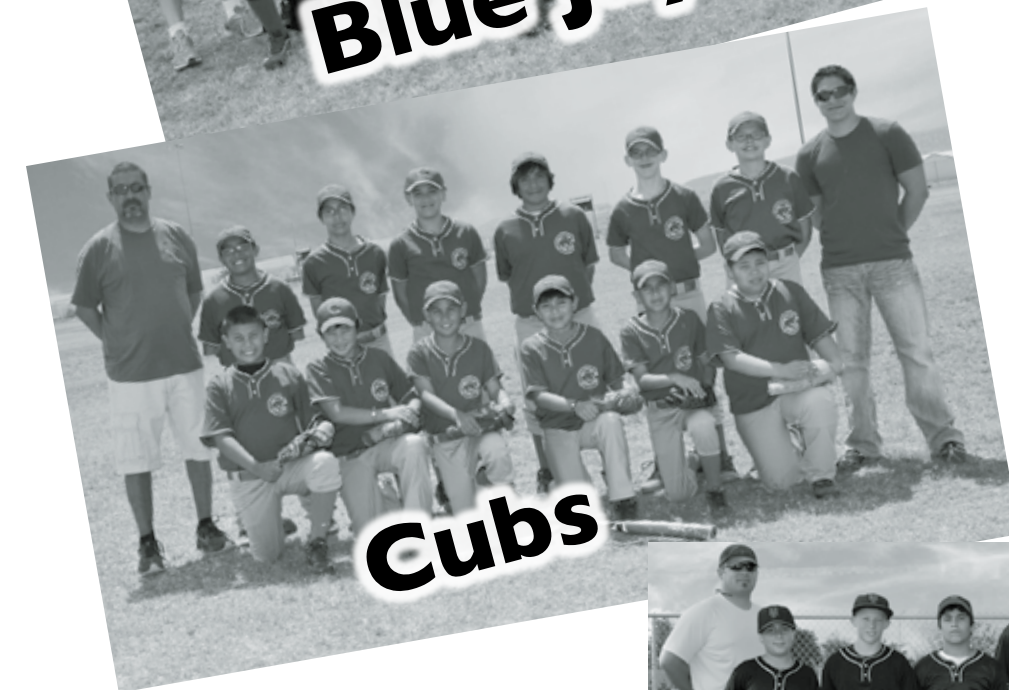
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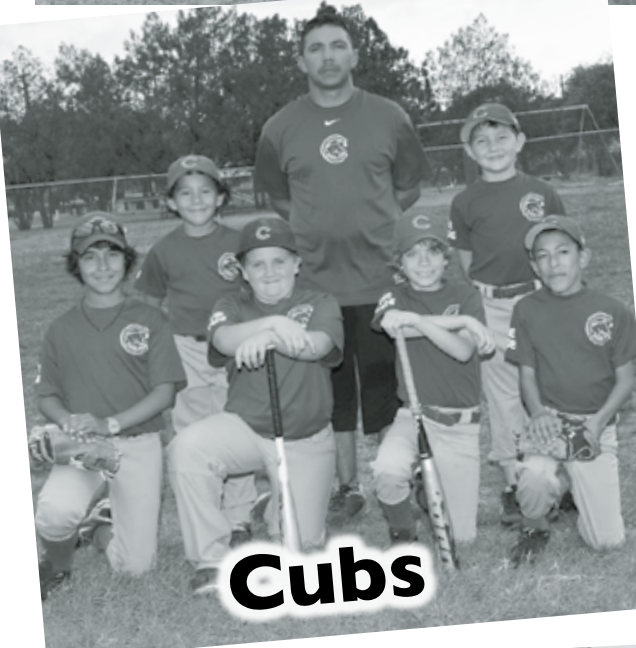
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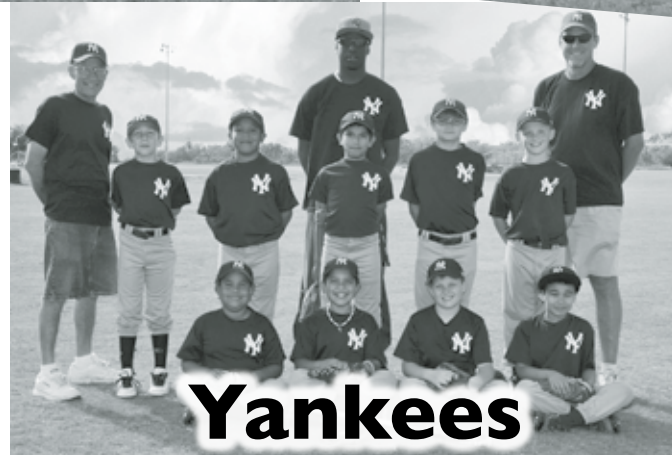
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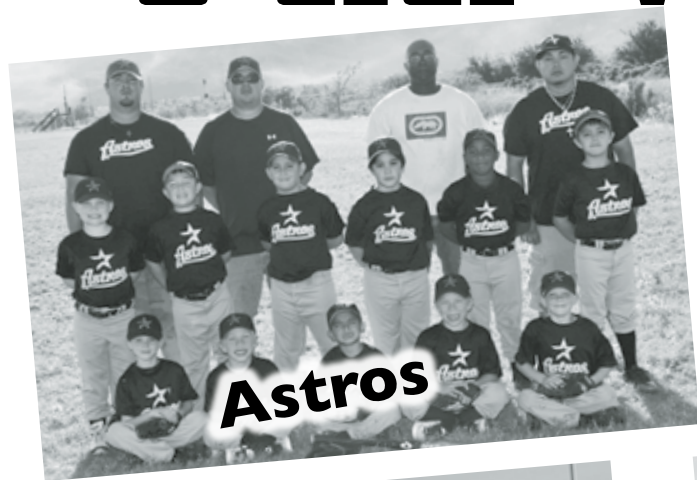
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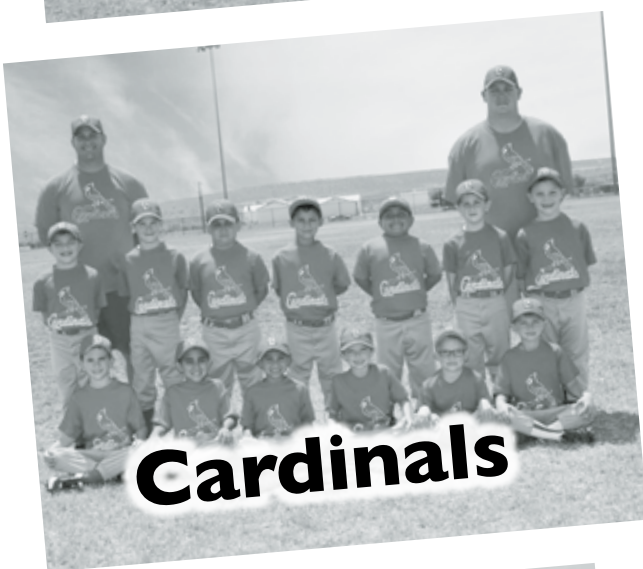
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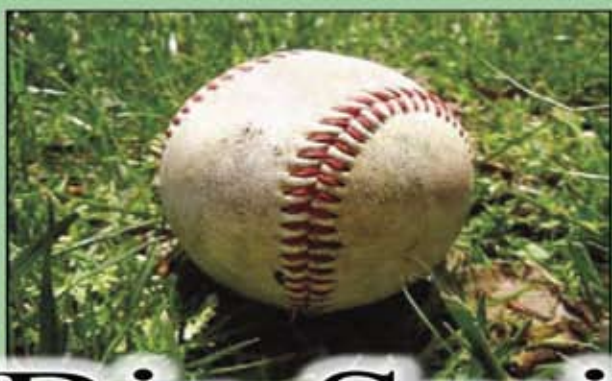
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