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THURSDAY

JULY 19, 2012



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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
 A worker uses a scissor lift to inspect the cafeteria ceiling area at the new Goliad Elementary on Wednesday afternoon. Four new elementary campuses will open to Big Spring students when the school year begins Aug. 27.

Ferguson selected fire chief

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

City officials announced this week Craig Ferguson will step in as fire chief for the Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services, taking over for Brian Jensen, who retired from the position in January.

Big Spring City Manager Gary Fuqua made the announcement Wednesday, ending the search that began when Jensen retired after more than 23 years with the BSFD.

According to Fuqua, Ferguson was chosen by the Big Spring Selection Committee for the position from more than 28 applicants.

Ferguson said he's excited to accept the position and is looking forward to the new opportunity.

"I feel like this is definitely an opportunity for growth and experience," Ferguson said.



Ferguson

"We have plenty of challenges to meet in the coming years."

The biggest challenge facing the Big Spring Fire Department, in Ferguson's opinion, is personnel retention and longevity, a matter he hopes to be able to address in his tenure.

"It's definitely an issue in our industry, especially with the oil boom pulling guys away to the oilfield," Ferguson said. "We have to look at ways to address it, as well as education and training. This isn't something we're going to be able to fix overnight. We only hire the best. However, we're ready to work toward a solution."

Ferguson began his career as a firefighter and para-

See **CHIEF**, Page 3

Upcoming

Community Guide, the Herald's annual "get acquainted with Big Spring" publication, will be featured in the Sunday, July 29 issue. This special edition will include information about local and county government, education, health care and more.

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CISD coping with state shortfall

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

COAHOMA — School officials here are trying to be creative in dealing with an anticipated budget shortfall.

With Coahoma Independent School District expecting to lose more than \$275,000 in state revenue support this

coming fiscal year, administrators are looking for ways to save money while maintaining current programs and services.

"We haven't received final word from the state as to exactly how much money we'll lose, but it appears as if it will be approximately \$280,000,"

CISD Superintendent Amy Jacobs said. "So, we're preparing our budget along those lines ... We're looking for ways to reduce our costs without negatively affecting our programs and classroom instruction."

One area CISD is looking at is balancing class sizes.

Jacobs said there is a noticeable disparity in class sizes between the elementary and secondary levels in the district. Part of that disparity is state-mandated — the Texas Education Agency requires there be no more than 22

See **CISD**, Page 3

Big Spring cyclist dies in accident

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

SAN MARCOS — A Big Spring man was pronounced dead Monday morning after the bicycle he was traveling on was struck by an 18-wheel truck on an I-35 access road

here, according to law enforcement officials.

Jeffery David Stevenson, 40, of Big Spring was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident, which was reported in the 5600 block of the southbound access road

of Interstate Highway 35 at 2 a.m., according to accident reports.

The driver of the truck told law enforcement he crested the top of a hill and Stevenson was suddenly in front of him in the center of the right lane.

He applied his brakes but was unable to avoid hitting the cyclist.

According to investigators, the bicycle did not have a headlight or rear red

See **DEATH**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Marlene Riffe



Marlene Riffe, 58, of Forsan died Tuesday, July 17, 2012, at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Coahoma Cemetery.

She was born Oct. 19, 1953, in Big Spring, Texas, to Melva and Joe Swinney. She was a lifetime resident of Howard County. She was a bus driver for Forsan Independent School District. She is survived by her husband, Archie Riffe of Forsan; one daughter, Carissa Hughes and husband Keaton of Big Spring; two sons, Jeremy Jenson and wife Shelie of Killeen and Rian Jenson and wife Jodi of Colorado City; two step-sons, David Riffe of Big Spring and Brandon Riffe and wife Heather of Elk City, Okla.; one step-daughter, Tanya Riffe and her three children of Ira; four grandchildren; two brothers, Dean Swinney and wife Jackie of Kerrville and John Swinney and wife Rachel of Sugarland; her parents, Joe and Melva Swinney of Rising Star; and many aunts, uncles, nieces and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

Jeffery David Stevenson

Jeffery David Stevenson, 40, of Big Spring, Texas, died Monday, July 16, 2012, in San Marcos, Texas.

He was born Aug. 26, 1971 in Big Spring, the son of David Stevenson of New Matamoras, Ohio, and Mary Stevenson of Barto, Pa.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Josh Moore; paternal grandfather, William Stevenson and maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William Bard.

Surviving in addition to his parents, are step-mom, Melinda Stevenson; stepfather, Greg Catanzaro; siblings, Cheryl Stevenson of Marietta, Ohio, Tim Stevenson of Swedeland, Pa., and Chris Schauburger of Mt. Airy, Md.; paternal grandmother, Rosita Stevenson of Flint, Texas; and many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Private memorial services will be held at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made in Jeffery's name, to Judy's Place, YWCA Wheeling, 1100 Chapline St., Wheeling, WV 26003.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

- Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. Dr. Clipper Strickland will be the guest speaker at th

FRIDAY

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

- Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E. 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit www.ccbigspring.org

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

Police blotter

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

- CORY JOHN DEWART, 21, of Childress, Texas, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency.
- ARTHUR LYNN RICHARDSON, 48, of 906 S. Douglas, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- GUADALUPE DEANDA, 24, of 1211 Lloyd, was arrested Wednesday on five warrants from other agencies.
- DOLORES MORA JENNINGS, 25, of 1503 Sycamore Apt. B, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of assault – family violence.
- THEFT was reported: In the 300 block of S. Main Street. In the 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. In the 100 block of E. Marcy.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 500 block of W. Third Street.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 74 inmates at the time of this report.
- BENJAMIN HERNANDEZ JR., 23, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a Pattawattamie County warrant for fugitive – failure to appear probation violation organized criminal gang participation.
- DAVID ANTHONY MCCARLEY, 29, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- NANCY ANN ARENIVAZ, 45, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- GILBERT SANCHEZ, 38, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MICHAEL SCOTT WATTS, 27, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of occupational license.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of S. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of S. Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of S. Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Mulberry. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2700 block of Ann Drive. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1000 block of E. 17th Street.
- GAS LEAK was reported in the 1300 block of Birdwell Lane.




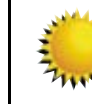

* American Legion Post 506 will have a fish fry from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the post home, 3203 W. Highway 80. Delivery will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084. Everyone is welcome.

- Operation Back 2 School Drive, benefitting the children of Knollwood Heights, is in progress until Aug. 24. We are collecting backpacks and school supplies. Donations may be dropped at Knollwood Heights office, 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd. (across from the hospital), or Allans Gallery Furniture, 202 Scurry. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please call Sharon Rich at 432-517-0723.

- 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

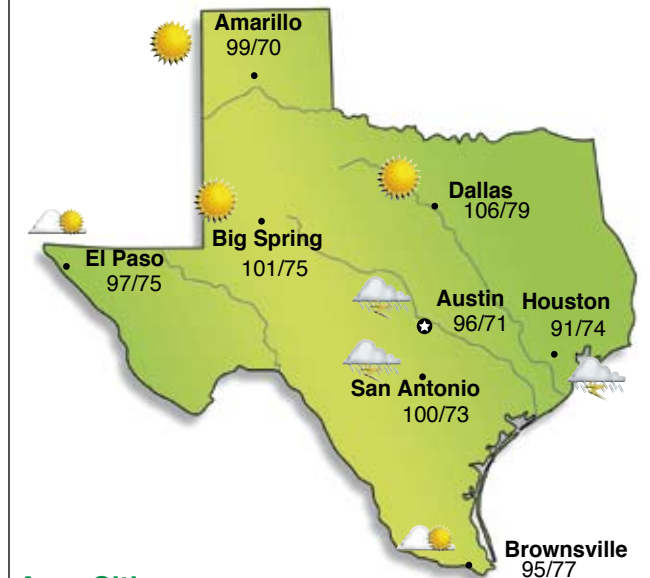
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 7/21	Sun 7/22	Mon 7/23	Tue 7/24	Wed 7/25
 101/75 Mainly sunny. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 70s.	 102/76 Sunny. Highs 100 to 104F and lows in the mid 70s.	 102/76 Plenty of sun. Highs 100 to 104F and lows in the mid 70s.	 100/76 Sunny. Highs 98 to 102F and lows in the mid 70s.	 103/77 A few clouds. Highs 101 to 105F and lows in the upper 70s.
Sunrise: 6:54 AM Sunset: 8:50 PM	Sunrise: 6:55 AM Sunset: 8:50 PM	Sunrise: 6:55 AM Sunset: 8:49 PM	Sunrise: 6:56 AM Sunset: 8:49 PM	Sunrise: 6:57 AM Sunset: 8:48 PM



Texas At A Glance



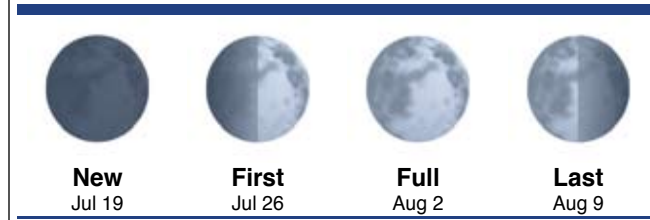
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	103	76	sunny	Livingston	97	73	pt sunny
Amarillo	99	70	sunny	Livingston	94	72	t-storm
Austin	96	71	t-storm	Longview	96	75	pt sunny
Beaumont	91	74	t-storm	Lubbock	99	71	sunny
Brownsville	95	77	pt sunny	Lufkin	96	74	t-storm
Brownwood	104	75	sunny	Midland	100	75	sunny
Corpus Christi	93	77	pt sunny	Raymondville	99	75	pt sunny
Corsicana	102	76	mst sunny	Rosenberg	91	73	t-storm
Dallas	106	79	sunny	San Antonio	100	73	t-storm
Del Rio	103	74	sunny	San Marcos	97	72	t-storm
El Paso	97	75	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	103	75	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	98	70	sunny	Sweetwater	102	75	sunny
Gainesville	105	75	mst sunny	Tyler	98	75	pt sunny
Greenville	103	75	mst sunny	Weatherford	105	75	sunny
Houston	91	74	t-storm	Wichita Falls	109	75	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	83	72	t-storm	Minneapolis	88	74	t-storm
Boston	78	58	pt sunny	New York	78	67	rain
Chicago	91	73	cloudy	Phoenix	104	85	t-storm
Dallas	106	79	sunny	San Francisco	70	55	sunny
Denver	96	66	pt sunny	Seattle	70	55	pt sunny
Houston	91	74	t-storm	St. Louis	95	74	mst sunny
Los Angeles	82	65	sunny	Washington, DC	81	73	t-storm
Miami	88	80	t-storm				

Moon Phases



Take Note

Stegall at james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us or 432-268-7535.

- 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.

- 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.

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ODDS & ENDS

Need a room for the Olympics?

Sleep in a cab

LONDON (AP) — A London taxi driver has come up with a novel way of solving the Olympic hotel dilemma: Visitors can sleep in his cab for 50 pounds (\$78).

Cabbie David Weekes had feared that busy traffic throughout the Olympics and special road lanes only for Olympic VIPs would mean fewer taxi fares.

So he's converted his traditional black London taxi into a cozy single bed with a Union Jack blanket.

Weekes said some London taxi drivers think working during the Olympics will be "a total waste of time" because of the congestion. But others like himself will be driving during the games, which run from July 27 to Aug. 12.

Outside parliament earlier this week, hundreds of London taxi drivers protested their exclusion from the special Olympic lanes.

Phony massage parlor inspector sentenced in California

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — A Mission Viejo man has been sentenced for impersonating a police officer to demand a rubdown and \$200 at a massage parlor.

Orange County prosecutors say 48-year-old Edward Justin LaPorte was sentenced Wednesday to six months in prison and probation.

Prosecutors say LaPorte is a former police officer from Illinois who was wearing a badge when he entered the Golden Spa massage parlor in Lake Forest on Jan. 31. He told the manager he was investigating a complaint.

Prosecutors say he then complained of back pain, and a masseuse gave him a back rub before LaPorte asked for a frontal massage, which was refused.

The manager called city officials, who sent a real inspector who confronted LaPorte. LaPorte fled, but not before his license plate number was recorded.

Man allegedly DWI on a Wal-Mart scooter

HOUMA, La. (AP) — Houma police say a 24-year-old man is accused of driving a shopping scooter while drunk.

Police say Thomas J. Phillip's breath tested at more than double the amount considered legal proof of intoxication under Louisiana law when he was pulled over Sunday.

Police say they got a call about a motorized scooter pulling a wheelchair, and found Phillip on the scooter and a friend of his in the wheelchair. They say Phillip was arrested after allegedly telling police he'd been at a Wal-Mart store and decided to take the scooter for a joyride.

Police say he was booked with operating a vehicle while intoxicated and with theft.

Phillip could not be reached for comment because no phone listing was available for him.

Police say the wheelchair occupant was not cited.

CHIEF

Continued from Page 1

medic in 1999 with the city of Midland's fire department, before joining the BSFD in 2001. He worked his way from

firefighter and paramedic up to operations lieutenant and has now assumed the position of fire chief.

He holds a bachelor's degree in business from Texas Tech University, as well as numerous certifications, including

CISD

Continued from Page 1

students per teacher in grades kindergarten through 4 — but officials hope that making class sizes more uniform can help the district save some revenue.

"We're aligning schedule differences and uti-

lizing our staff in different ways to try to bring this more in line," Jacobs said.

CISD also is asking some personnel to take on additional responsibilities. An example of that is newly hired Andy Reddock, who will serve as both the district's assistant superintendent and as principal at the

Obama's aim in Florida? Keep pressure on Romney

WASHINGTON (AP)

— President Barack Obama is trying to keep the pressure on Republican rival Mitt Romney, opening two days of campaigning in Florida in search of military veterans, seniors and unaligned voters in the state's crucial midsection. Romney's wife said no more of her husband's tax information would be made public.

Obama was appearing Thursday in Jacksonville and West Palm Beach as his campaign urges Romney to release more years of his tax returns and keeps a sharp focus on the former Massachusetts governor's tenure as the head of a private equity firm.

"We've given all that people need to know and understand about our financial situation and about how we live our life," Ann Romney told ABC News in an interview broadcast Thursday.

Florida is the largest and most coveted of the nation's Election Day toss-up states, a place where Romney could severely damage Obama's chances of winning reelection. Republicans are holding their national convention in Tampa in August in hopes of giving themselves an edge in the state.

Yet, if Obama can lock down Florida's 29 electoral votes, it would be difficult for Romney to mount enough support elsewhere to capture the White House.

Polls have shown Obama and Romney in a dead heat in the state, which has struggled

with an unemployment rate of 8.6 percent, above the national average, and a still-recovering housing market. Florida provided the deciding margin in George W. Bush's victory in 2000 and the state has been closely contested ever since. Obama carried it in 2008.

Obama aides noted that since 1992, Floridians have cast more than 32.5 million votes during the past five presidential elections and only 57,000 votes have separated the two parties in those campaigns. "Florida's always a close state and we don't expect that to change between now and November," said Obama campaign spokesman Ben LaBolt.

Both sides are jockeying for an advantage.

Obama has repeatedly criticized Romney's private equity firm, Bain Capital, arguing that it promoted the outsourcing of jobs to countries like China and India. And Democrats want Romney to make public past tax returns, noting that the one year for which he has released returns showed investments and offshore accounts in Switzerland and the Cayman Islands.

Several Republicans have joined in the call for more transparency, including several GOP senators and Texas Gov. Rick Perry, who challenged Romney for the GOP nomination earlier this year.

In an interview aired Thursday on WTOL-TV in Toledo, Ohio, Rom-

ney said one reason not to release more of his returns was that "the Democratic party and the opposition has all these people that comb through and try and find anything they can to distract from the issues people care about, oftentimes in a dishonest way."

In recent days, Romney has pointed to Obama's record on the economy and noted that the Democrat hasn't met with his jobs council in more than six months. Romney was in Massachusetts Thursday, before an event Friday in Bow, N.H.

Romney's team sees an opportunity to seize on what they say is another Obama misstep on jobs. At the White House briefing Wednesday, press secretary Jay Carney said there was "no specific reason" why Obama and the jobs council haven't met for six months "except that the president's obviously got a lot on his plate."

Romney, under attack for days over his record running Bain Capital and over his tax returns, went on the offensive this week and lashed out at Obama for saying: "If you've got a business, you didn't build that. Somebody else made that happen." At a town hall in Ohio on Wednesday, Romney asked audience members who had built or were running a business to stand. "Take that, Mr. President," he said as the crowd cheered.

The president was starting Thursday with a campaign event in

Jacksonville, home to a large swath of veterans and military members connected to Naval Air Station Jacksonville. Before military audiences, Obama has talked about his efforts to bring home U.S. combat troops from Iraq, end the conflict in Afghanistan and pressed Congress to promote job opportunities for veterans.

Obama is expected to make a pitch to seniors in West Palm Beach, where he'll visit Century Village, a condominium complex home to thousands of retirees, long a bastion of reliable Democratic voters.

Obama and Democrats have warned that Romney would seek to implement a budget plan authored by Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., that includes an overhaul of Medicare that would change it into a voucher-like program for those who retire in 10 years.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Alice Loraine Baker Rueda, 64, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Marlene Riffe, 58, died Tuesday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Coahoma Cemetery. Ulysses Mathews, Jr., 55, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 9 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.

NIMS and ICS, hazmat, simple triage and rapid treatment (START), first responder radiological transportation, and AHA pediatric advanced cardiac life support, among others.

Ferguson, his wife Stephanie and their two

children are long-time residents of Howard County.

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

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EXP. 7/31/12

DEATH

Continued from Page 1

reflector required by state law for night time operation.

Police reports indicate Stevenson was not carrying identifying information at the time of the accident and had to be identified through fingerprints.

No charges have been filed against the driver of the truck.

The accident report

states the stretch of roadway where the accident took place is not lit by street lights.

An autopsy has been ordered in the case.

Funeral services are under the direction of Jarvis-Williams Funeral Home of New Martinsville, W.V. Private services will be held at a later date.

Stevenson was born in Big Spring on Aug. 26, 1971. Survivors include his parents, step-children, a sister and two brothers.

elementary campus.

Another example of non-traditional job duties personnel will undertake this year is in the case of Thurman Brown, who was hired as both a coach at the junior high and as a part-time elementary principal.

Coahoma school trustees will continue to re-

fine the new budget at an Aug. 14 workshop. Formal adoption of both the budget and proposed tax rate of \$1.27 per \$100 valuation is tentatively scheduled for Aug. 21, Jacobs said.

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

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

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Devotion To Saint Jude

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, loved, preserved & glorified throughout the world now and forever. The sacred heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, Helper of the Hopeless, pray for us. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ for the help of your servant St. Jude in listening to my prayers. Say this prayer nine times for nine days. By the end of the eighth, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you Sacred Heart of Jesus & St. Jude for prayers answered.

M.E.H.

AN ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

Some of the blessings in Christ include: redemption (Ephesians 1:7); hope (Ephesians 1:12) the surpassing riches of God's grace (Ephesians 2:7); forgiveness (Ephesians 4:32); and salvation (2 Timothy 2:10).

Those in Christ are encouraged by the following promises: "Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold new things have come." (2 Corinthians 5:17) and "...Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord...that they may rest from their labors for their deeds follow with them." (Revelation 14:13).

Are you ready to claim the promises of God's word?" Are you in Christ?" "For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." (Galatians 3:27).

WE ARE FAMILY
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SERVICES:

Sunday Class.....9:30 AM
Sunday Worship.....10:20 AM
Sunday Worship.....5:00 PM
Wednesday Class.....7:00 PM

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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- Sign your letter.
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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

With You, Lord, the light at the end of the tunnel is wonderful. Amen

The war on soda pop

New York City, ever the leader in healthy living, is about to ban the sale of supersized sodas and other sweetened drinks by its restaurants, movie theaters, and street carts.

As part of a continuing campaign against obesity, it's going to prohibit beverage containers bigger than 16 ounces.

"Obesity is a nationwide problem, and all over the United States, public officials are wringing their hands saying, 'Oh, this is terrible,'" said Mayor Mike Bloomberg. "New York City is not about wringing your hands; it's about doing something."

Good luck with that, Mayor. On the one hand, the ban seems a little like passing a law against shoving beans up your nose. I mean, really. Do we have to make stupid actions illegal before people stop doing them?

Apparently so. Recent studies have found that as many as two-thirds of New Yorkers are overweight, with a third of them classified as obese. (And the numbers for the rest of the country are no better.) Part of the reason is that people are encouraged to buy heavily sweetened

soda in containers the size of fire buckets.

Under the new law, if someone wants to wash down his or her double cheeseburger with 32 ounces of Pepsi or Coke's finest, they'll have to buy two 16-ounce servings.

And if that doesn't sound like a big deal, it's because it isn't. But it will make people — and especially kids — think twice before doing something really dumb. After that, they're on their own.

On the other hand, as much as I hate to admit it, there's something almost un-American about forcing people to do the right thing. We're famous for embracing the freedom to do the wrong thing, as often as we please.

Conservatives are particularly vociferous about this. The ban on supersized sweet beverages is another example of the "nanny state," they say, the government thinking that it knows best.

As one college student, with the clarity of mind typical of college students, told The New York Times in response to the proposed ban: "If people want to drink 24 ounces, it's their decision."

What's next, conservatives ask? Loudspeakers mounted in public parks so that the government can lead mass exercise drills? That's North Korea, not us.

On the third hand, how is forcing people to do the right thing

un-American? We do that all of the time. We pass laws to make people wear seat belts and motorcycle helmets and strap small children into car seats. We prohibit them from buying drugs we think are harmful to them, we limit their freedom to smoke in public and private spaces. We've even made suicide illegal in most places (although that seems to me a classic case of locking the barn door after the horse is way gone).

On the fourth hand, the problem with granting people the freedom to act in self-destructive ways is that the damage they do isn't just to themselves. The societal costs of obesity, for example, are enormous in terms of health care costs, insurance premiums, and lost productivity.

On the fifth hand, how much choice do we really have anyway? From the time they are tykes, children are bombarded with messages that sweet is not merely good but the only good. Frosted cereal, syrupy drinks, and candy treats make up a good share of the foodstuffs advertised on kiddie shows. By the time most kids get through kindergarten, they are brainwashed.

New York is simply trying to give those brains a light rinse.

After all, who would really choose to be obese?

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DONALD KAUL



Confessions of a flip-flopper

Do not share this column with your friends, unless you really must. And, please, no Twitter or Facebook. It's quite embarrassing.

Nevertheless, I no longer in good conscience can withhold this information. In the grand tradition of the father of our country, I cannot tell a lie.

I have been — and still am on occasion, alas — a flip-flopper.

Indeed, if I were to be under subpoena by a House committee and asked the eternal question: "Are you now or have you ever been a flip-flopper?" I would — under penalty of perjury — have no recourse but to answer: "Yes. Yes, Congresswoman Pelosi (or whoever), I have. I have done it many times. Sometimes I just ... change my mind."

In truth, I have been flipping and flopping from a very young age. I had been gobbling M&M's when I went to Raisinets as my candy of choice. I drifted from "Howdy Doody" to "Captain Video" as my favorite television show without so much as notifying the network.

It went on from there. In junior

high school, I switched girlfriends. And even worse, they switched on me. I went from basketball to tennis as my favorite sport. (OK, I was too short for the former.)

It was a downhill slide into college, where I couldn't make up my mind between Hemingway and Fitzgerald, and then Balzac and Flaubert, as my favorite author. I even considered changing majors from English to Comp. Lit.

My senior year, I flirted with a career in the CIA while, at the same time, participating in anti-bomb demonstrations on campus.

Talk about flip-flopping! Maybe I should have changed my middle initial from L to I — Roger Inconsistent Simon.

In my adult life, I have been a disgraced muddle of thought. I waffle on everything from preferred cuisine (Japanese or Italian?) to the existence of God.

Which leads, of course — and you knew this was coming — to politics.

As some readers know, I am one of those who switched from left to right. This didn't come in a blinding flash. It came over a period of years and still continues. I am constantly evolving, at least I hope so.

But still, I did flip-flop, big time. Not in all areas, but in a substantial number of them.

So can I be trusted? Will I flip-flop backward and make enemies of my conservative friends, just as I did many of my liberal friends?

I don't know the answer to that, although I suspect I won't. But some ideas and opinions that I have now more than likely will change or alter to some degree over time. I am a human being, and few us remain the same throughout our lives. Most of us react to the flow of events, both internal and external.

In fact, there is reason to be suspicious of those that don't ever change their views. Besides often being rigid personalities, they may have difficulty responding to the constant unpredictability of the world. (John Lennon, wrong on a number of things, surely was onto something when he said, "Life is what happens when you're making other plans.")

So flip-flopping may be closer to the natural state of things than not.

Which now leads us to the key question in this election season. Since it can be argued that most of us have flipped or flopped one time or another in our lives — except, of course, for those "saintly" or "brilliant" few who realized the truth from birth and have been, ahem, unwavering in its pursuit ever since — how do we determine if a candidate is a flip-flopper or a FLIP-FLOPPER, if you know

what I mean?

Many, as we know, have been accused of this crime: Mitt Romney, Newt Gingrich, John Kerry (and how), Clinton (he and she), Al Gore, Herman Cain, Barack Obama (of course) ... I could go on, but you get the point. And I'm not sure there would be room for all the names on the website anyway. If you examined it closely, you could probably find that everyone running for office from POTUS to dog catcher has flip-flopped at one time or other.

So what do we do? A solution to this conundrum might ironically be found in a wise and cynical quote attributed to Holy Roman Emperor Franz II. When assured that a certain Austrian was a patriot, the Emperor is said to have replied, "But is he a patriot for me?"

If we replace "patriot" with "flip-flopper," we get: This man is a flip-flopper, but "is he a flip-flopper for me?" Or, more simply, is he basically going my way?

With politicians — as with ourselves — I'm not sure we can ask for more.

To find out more about Roger L. Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

Texas news in brief

Ex-school nurse near Waco gets 10 years for fire

WACO, Texas (AP) — An ex-school nurse in Central Texas upset about a poor evaluation has been sentenced to 10 years in prison for setting a campus building on fire.

Mary Lucille Gutierrez on Monday pleaded guilty to criminal mischief of more than \$200,000 over last summer's fire at Speegleville Elementary School in Woodway. A jury in Waco on Wednesday sentenced Gutierrez to prison and also fined her \$10,000.

Nobody was hurt in the Aug. 9 pre-dawn blaze that caused about \$2 million in damage. Video surveillance showed the 56-year-old Gutierrez going in and out of the school.

Investigators say Gutierrez hoped the fire would lead to a transfer for her or the administrator behind her poor review.

Mom, child die in fire, cause sought

HOUSTON (AP) — Investigators say a woman and her 7-year-old daughter have died in a Houston-area house fire that left another family member hurt.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office says the fire was reported around midnight Wednesday near Aldine.

Authorities believe the woman's husband tried to rescue her and their child, but was overcome and suffered burns. He was transported to a hospital. Further details on his condition were not immediately available Thursday.

Man accused in smuggling by plane attempt

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — A Mexican man has been accused of trying to smuggle five suspected illegal immigrants to San Antonio via charter airplane.

Prosecutors in South Texas say 39-year-old Jorge Luis Gallegos-Avila remains in custody without bond on charges of harboring and transport-

ing illegal immigrants. He appeared Wednesday before a federal judge in McAllen.

Gallegos-Avila, who also faces a conspiracy charge, was arrested June 20 near McAllen-Miller International Airport. Investigators say he was spotted dropping off five immigrants. The individuals were detained while trying to board the charter plane.

Prosecutors say Gallegos-Avila allegedly picked up the immigrants from along the Rio Grande and took them to stash houses.

Texas girl's lighter fluid death ruled accident

DICKINSON, Texas (AP) — Police say the death of a 5-year-old Southeast Texas girl after she drank lighter fluid has been ruled an accident.

Dickinson police said Wednesday that no charges are expected against the mother of 5-year-old Kyndal-Rae Eldridge.

Authorities say the girl died Tuesday at a Houston hospital where she was transported following Saturday's incident. Her 5-year-old sister was treated and released from another hospital after also drinking lighter fluid from the unmarked water bottle.

Texas leaders to discuss policies at energy summit

IRVING, Texas (AP) — State leaders and private-sector energy experts will meet at the Irving Energy Summit to discuss developing Texas' natural resources.

Officials also will discuss at the Thursday summit whether the current electricity infrastructure is sufficient to supply power to businesses and residents statewide.

Last month, the Texas Public Utility Commission voted to raise the price cap on wholesale electricity rates by 50 percent later this summer. Advocates hope it will spur construction of new power plants.

Teens who lost kin to terror unite in camp

NEWBURY, Mass. (AP) — On a windowsill at a Massachusetts boarding school, a white candle burned in memory of a man who died half a world away in Argentina.

The man's daughter, Astrid Malamud, was a toddler when it happened.

On Wednesday, 18 years later, Malamud, who barely remembers her father's face, was far from home as she marked the anniversary of his death in their homeland's bloodiest-ever terrorist attack. But the 20-year-old Argentine university student was still close to people who understood her loss.

Beside Malamud's candle, a second wick burned to commemorate another of the 85 victims of the July 18, 1994, bombing at the Argentine Israeli Mutual Association in Buenos Aires.

That man's daughter also was nearby, as were more than 70 other teenagers and young adults who have lost family members to terrorism.

They came from the United States and 15 other countries, gathering at Governor's Academy, about 30 miles north of Boston, for a summer camp known as Project Common Bond. The program, now in its fifth year, is part of the New York-based nonprofit Tuesday's Children, which helps families of victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The nonprofit's executive director, Terry Sears, said Wednesday that the camp is a way for the children of Sept. 11 victims to reach out to children around the world who've suffered similar losses. She and other organizers said it's a chance for participants to heal and

to work on becoming the world's next generation of peacemakers.

The curriculum design comes in part from a mediation and negotiation program at Harvard Law School. It's meant to teach conflict resolution and leadership skills that campers can take home to do projects that make a difference in their communities.

Campers, ranging from 15 to 20 years old and some attending with the help of scholarship money, said it's also a chance to be around others their age who understand them. As they sat talking Wednesday below the flags of their countries, each had a story of a childhood that changed because of a loved one who was lost.

"I think you get independent sooner and you grow up faster because you need to understand things little kids don't understand," Malamud said later. "... I wish we all weren't here. If I could take my flag off of there, I would. Or any flag."

For 19-year-old camper Farah Sarrawi, a Palestinian, the program is a chance to make friends with Israelis. That was something she never expected could happen, she said, after she saw her father die in 2001 when Israeli soldiers shot him on the balcony of the family's home.

"At first, it was hard," Sarrawi said. "But I look at them now as humans ... and I believe that in every country we've got some crazy people that make that conflict."

Sarrawi said she grew up wishing that her father, who used to spin her on the dance floor, was still with her. She said she can't imagine that someday she will get married and not have him there to see it.

Nation/world news in brief

Syrian troops attack rebel areas in and around Damascus a day after bomb kills regime leaders

BEIRUT (AP) — Anti-regime activists say government forces are shelling a number of neighborhoods in and around the capital Damascus a day after a bomb killed three members of President Bashar Assad's inner circle.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported shelling in number of areas Thursday. It says residents are fleeing parts of the Mezzeh neighborhood after troops surrounded it and clashed with local rebels.

The group says rebels damaged one helicopter and disabled three military vehicles.

Wednesday's bombing targeted a high-level crisis meeting, killing the defense minister, his deputy, who is Assad's brother-in-law, and a former defense minister. Other officials were wounded.

The whereabouts of Assad, his wife and his three young children remain unknown.

Bulgaria: Israeli tourist bus bombing most likely a suicide attack;

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) — A brazen daytime bombing that killed seven people and injured dozens on a bus full of Israeli tourists was most likely a suicide attack, Bulgarian officials said Thursday. Israel stood by its claim that Iranian-backed Hezbollah was responsible and vowed to hit back.

The identity of the suspected bomber was still unknown but a Michigan driving license that he carried was a fake, Bulgarian Prime Minister Boiko Borisov said.

"We worked on this with colleagues from the FBI and the CIA," Borisov said. "They said that there is no such person in their database."

The suspected bomber appeared on security camera tape for nearly an hour before the Wednesday attack, which gutted the bus at the airport in the quiet Black Sea resort of Burgas, 400 kilometers (250 miles) east of the capital, Sofia.

Borisov said he wants a photo of the suspect taken from the tape released and that a DNA expert is checking the

suspect's fingerprints.

Judge to decide whether Latinos are racially profiled in Ariz. sheriff's immigration patrols

PHOENIX (AP) — For six years, the self-proclaimed toughest sheriff in America has vehemently denied allegations that his deputies racially profile Latinos in his trademark immigration patrols.

Joe Arpaio will dismiss his critics in his signature brash style at countless news conferences and in numerous appearances on television.

Now, the sheriff in Arizona's most populous county will have to convince a federal judge who is presiding over a lawsuit that heads to trial on Thursday and is expected to last until early August.

The plaintiffs say Arpaio's officers based some traffic stops on the race of Hispanics who were in vehicles, had no probable cause to pull them over and made the stops so they could inquire about their immigration status.

"He is not free to say whatever he wants," said Dan Pochoda, a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona, one of the groups that has pushed the lawsuit against Arpaio.

More than 3 million older Americans risk losing homes

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 1.5 million older Americans already have lost their homes, with millions more at risk as the national housing crisis takes its toll on those who are among the worst positioned to weather the storm, a new AARP report says.

Older African Americans and Hispanics are the hardest hit.

"The Great Recession has been brutal for many older Americans," said Debra Whitman, AARP's policy chief. "This shows that home ownership doesn't guarantee financial security later in life."

Even working two jobs hasn't been enough to allow Jewel Lewis-Hall, 57, to make her monthly mortgage payments on time. Her husband has made little money since being laid off from his job at a farmer's market, and Lewis-Hall said her salary as a school

cook falls short of what she needs to make the payments on her home in Washington.

Lewis-Hall and her husband have been making their payments late for about a year, but panic didn't set in until recently, when the word "foreclosure" showed up in a letter from the bank.

With quixotic bills, Congress can't resist allure of presidential race

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate is spending this week debating, and summarily rejecting, Democratic-written bills to disclose the names of people who give more than \$10,000 to help elect people such as, say, Mitt Romney, and to take away tax breaks from companies taken over by people such as, say, Mitt Romney, who move operations overseas.

Their latest effort, unveiled Wednesday, would make candidates for federal office, like, say, Mitt Romney, disclose any of their financial holdings in offshore tax havens, such as Bermuda or the Cayman Islands.

Senate Democrats certainly aren't alone in devoting congressional workdays to bills attacking the other party's presidential candidate.

House Republicans last week voted to repeal President Barack Obama's health care overhaul. Next week, they plan to vote on freezing all of former President George W. Bush's tax cuts for another year, including those on the top 2 percent, whom Obama says should pay more. On Wednesday, the House passed a GOP bill ordering Obama to specify how many thousands of defense workers will lose their jobs if the deficit-cutting deal

he and Republicans negotiated a year ago stands.

Congress is just two weeks away from a five-week August recess, with plenty of critical issues hanging over the Capitol.

But neither party seems able to resist the allure of presidential politics. As tourists crowd the galleries to escape a record heat wave, lawmakers in both parties bash their opponents and push quixotic bills even as they complain about key work not being done.

'Mad Men' seeks Emmy bid that could lead to a record

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Mad Men" is making a bid for Emmy history, while a couple of fresh-faced girls are flirting with possible first-time nods at the 64th annual Primetime Emmy nominations.

"Mad Men," AMC's saga of ad exec Don Draper and 1960s America, has won four best drama series trophies to tie with "Hill Street Blues," "L.A. Law" and "The West Wing." A fifth nomination at Thursday morning's announcement ceremony would give it a shot at the record.

Newcomers "Girls" and "New Girl" are vying for honors in the comedy series categories.

The nominations by the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences were to be announced by late-night host Jimmy Kimmel and Kerry Washington of "Scandal."

Kimmel, who will host the Sept. 23 Emmy ceremony on ABC, is stepping in for Nick Offerman of "Parks and Recreation," who was delayed on the East Coast by weather problems.



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AP photo

Rangers' starting pitcher Colby Lewis delivers a pitch during Thursday's game against the Oakland A's. Texas lost the outing 4-3.

Hicks homers in 9th to lead A's past Texas

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Dressed in a full-length bright yellow A's bathrobe, Josh Reddick snuck up on Brandon Hicks and planted a whipped cream pie in his teammate's face right there at his locker.

"How dare you avoid me!" Reddick screamed. "I sure wasn't expecting that one," Hicks said, grinning.

He should have been after he led off the bottom of the ninth with a towering home run to center for his first major league clout, lifting the Oakland Athletics to a 4-3 victory over the Texas Rangers on Wednesday.

Hicks connected off Michael Kirkman (0-1) for Oakland's majors-leading ninth walkoff win. He became the fourth player in franchise history to hit a game-ending homer for his first career long-ball and the second this year — joining Derek Norris, who did it June 24 against San Francisco.

See **TEXAS**, Page 12

Padres down Astros 8-4

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Yonder Alonso's propensity for hitting doubles helped his team to another win.

Alonso went 2 for 4 with 3 RBIs and the San Diego Padres used a five-run fourth inning to beat the Houston Astros 8-4 on Wednesday.

With two more doubles on Wednesday, Alonso has 23 this year and has hit two or more in a game seven times this season, which is a franchise record.

Adrian Gonzalez and Tony Gwynn held the previous mark with six each.

"That's pretty unique," Alonso said. "It feels good when you're in the company of those guys. I knew what was going on and the guys on the team were making jokes about it. It's a cool moment for myself."

Clayton Richard (7-10) allowed four runs in 8 1-3 innings to snap a two-game losing streak. The left-hander gave up nine hits, including two home runs by Matt Downs and struck out two.

"It's so nice to have that type of padding in the game," Richard said. "You know you can make a couple of mistakes."

Richard fell short of his first career complete game and added an RBI double in the sixth.

"When you come to the ballpark as a starting pitcher, that's what you want to do," Richard said.

"It's disappointing not making a few pitches at the end there to go through with it."

The Padres won for the fourth time in five games.

"It was a good performance today with contributions all around the lineup," Padres manager Bud Black said. "It's like we've talked about that it's going to take all of our guys to get it done, and today was a good example of a lineup contributing top to bottom."

After Carlos Corporan singled to chase Richard in the ninth, Nick Vincent got one out, but walked Jordan

Schafer to put the tying run on deck. Huston Street entered and struck out Scott Moore to convert his 15th save.

"We've talked about Clayton's work ethic and what he does between starts, and he's equipped for a complete game," Black said. "I was pulling hard for him."

Downs' three-run home run in the sixth landed in the first deck of the Western Metal Supply Co. building in left field.

He hit a solo shot off Richard in the ninth, also to left and has three home runs against Richard this season. Houston has lost 14 of 15 games on the road.

"He's very good," Downs said of Richard. "I think it's just he made two mistakes and I think they were both to me."

After Astros starter Wandy Rodriguez retired the first nine batters, the Padres broke through in the fourth.

The first six batters reached base, highlighted by Alonso's and Chris Denorfia's run-scoring hits. Rodriguez also walked two in the inning and threw a wild pitch as San Diego built a 5-0 lead.

"It's kind of tough to put your full finger on," Astros manager Brad Mills said.

"That's kind of been his Achilles' heel, being able to stop those from getting started."

Rodriguez (7-8) allowed five runs and four hits over four innings, snapping a streak of 48 games in which the left-hander had lasted at least five innings.

"He didn't want to come out of the game, but we had to try to get a run on the board," Mills said.

Alonso's double in the seventh scored Denorfia and gave San Diego an 8-3 lead. Chase Headley scored on a Houston defensive breakdown in the fifth as Enerio Del Rosario threw wide of first base on an attempted pick-off. Headley ran to third and Downs skipped the ball past Chris Johnson as Headley scored.

Big East drops lawsuit against TCU, will get \$5M

The Big East has dropped its lawsuit against TCU and will receive the \$5 million it was seeking from the school after it bailed out on a commitment to join the conference.

The Big East filed the suit last month in Washington, claiming TCU failed to pay the league the \$5 million it agreed to when the school reneged on an agreement to become a member and instead joined the Big 12.

Bloomberg News first reported the lawsuit had been dropped. The Big East confirmed it in a statement to the AP on Wednesday night.

"TCU has fully discharged its obligations to the Big East and the lawsuit is amicably settled without admission of liability of any party," said a statement from the Big East.

Conditions of the settlement were not released, but a person familiar with it told The Associated Press the Big East will receive \$5 million from TCU. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcement was to be made on the agreement.

Earlier in the day, Pittsburgh and the conference announced that the school will pay \$7.5 million to join Syracuse in leaving the Big East for the Atlantic Coast Conference on July 1, 2013. The Big East reached a similar deal with Syracuse earlier this week.

Earlier this year, the Big East and West Virginia settled dueling lawsuits, with the school agreeing to start competing in the Big 12 this year.

TCU was never an official member of the Big East but accepted an invite in November 2010 to join in 2012. The Big East contended TCU agreed to pay \$5 million if it didn't. TCU accepted an invite to the Big 12 in October and will start playing in the conference this year.

When the Big East filed suit against TCU, the school said in a statement that its "administrators were surprised by this lawsuit and believe it is premature. The University is hopeful for an amicable resolution of this matter."

Safety under scrutiny after bomb hoax

DETROIT (AP) — As they watched a Detroit Tigers baseball game, 40,000 sports fans were unaware that dozens of police, security guards and federal agents were swiftly searching the stadium for a possible bomb after someone phoned in a threat to 911.

Authorities made no announcement over the public address system. Ushers said nothing to the crowd.

Jason Miller, a sub-

urban Detroit rabbi, left the game against the Los Angeles Angels on Tuesday night and didn't learn about the threat until the following day.

"I immediately started thinking, 'What if?'" he said. "What if they had to evacuate?"

Miller's concerns highlighted a vexing question for organizers of major public events: Should large crowds be informed about unconfirmed threats to their

safety? Or is better to keep the matter quiet until investigators can check into it?

If every time there is a bomb threat, there will be a lot of empty places," said Steve Layne of Layne Consultants International, a Denver-based firm that specializes in the protection of libraries, museums and other cultural institutions and public

See **HOAX**, Page 12

With Lin back in Houston, Rockets ready to cash in on \$25M investment

HOUSTON (AP) — Jeremy Lin is starting over in Houston. He will have to explain why he said he would have rather stayed in New York.

The 23-year-old undrafted point guard out of Harvard is scheduled to meet the Houston media on Thursday, two days after the Knicks opted not to match the Rockets' bold three-year, \$25 million offer sheet.

Shortly after the deal became official on Tuesday night, SI.com reported that Lin had acknowledged in an interview, "Honestly, I preferred New York. But my main goal in free agency was to go to a team that had plans for me and wanted me."

The Rockets certainly did.

"They made a very compelling pitch in terms of what I could bring to the team and for the city," Lin said in a

statement released through the team on Wednesday. "I am also impressed with (Houston owner Leslie) Alexander and the management's commitment to improving the team."

Houston had Lin in training camp in December, but waived him because the Rockets already had Goran Dragic and Kyle Lowry. He got to New York when the Knicks claimed him off waivers, was briefly dropped to the developmental league, was recalled, and then got his chance to play when coach Mike D'Antoni put him in after the Knicks' record dropped to 8-15.

He scored 25 points in a 99-92 win over New Jersey Nets, and "Linsanity" was born. Soon, New York was in playoff contention, and Lin was having drinks named after him.

Lin said Wednesday that he "loved

this past year with the Knicks and truly appreciate the opportunity that New York gave me," even though the team decided to let him go.

"The way the fans fully embraced me and our team was something I'll always cherish forever," he said. "It was an extraordinary and unforgettable time that was easily the best year of my life."

And now it's on to Houston, which made its biggest move in years and got its man.

The Rockets not only filled a position of need, but also snagged a player who might re-establish the franchise in Asia, where the team enjoyed massive popularity during Yao Ming's career.

Lin is American-born, but of Chinese and Taiwanese descent. His

timing is perfect to capitalize on the NBA's explosive growth in China. He will wear No. 7 for the Rockets, a change from the No. 17 he donned with the Knicks. The team began taking pre-orders for Lin jerseys online on Wednesday.

Lin was the buzz of sports radio in Houston on Wednesday and the topic exploded on social media. About 18 hours after the move became official, the Rockets' Twitter page had picked up 3,000 new followers, and the Facebook page added 10,000 "likes."

Rockets forward Patrick Patterson is eager to work with Lin, and feels he is an ideal fit for coach Kevin McHale's system.

"With the type of athletes that we

See **LIN**, Page 12

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GARAGE SALE: 1508 East 17th, Friday & Saturday 8am-? Antiques, tools, BBQ Pit, rod & reels, signs, coke items, platform scale, knives, clothes, lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: 2807 Stonehaven Dr., Saturday 7:30-1:00. Furniture, clothing and lots of misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: 3621 Calvin, Friday & Saturday 8-? Lots of items.

GARAGE SALE: 800 Douglas, Saturday 7:00am-? Stop by and see us FIRST!! Will also be selling burritos.

GOING OUT of Business Sale: 1901 West 16th Street (Old National Guard Building), Saturday 7:30-5:00 & Sunday 12:00-? Rugs, tables, chairs, security system, book shelves, play ground equipment, toys, stove, refrigerator, cubbys, and etc..... Can preview call 432-268-8762.

HUGE GARAGE Sale: Baby bed, changing table, lots of material, luggage, kitchen items, purses, western rocking chair, golf balls, candles, pictures, tools, blankets, sheets, Just come on out we have it at this sale. 1301 Buena Vista, Saturday 8-1 & 12-1 everything 1/2 price.

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 1500 Robin, Friday Only 8-? Lots of clothing, shoes, household items, and lots of misc.

MULTI FAMILY: 2217 Lynn Drive, Thursday & Friday 8-? Clothing, toys, furniture, dishes, and lots more.

Help Wanted

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

Help Wanted



ALON TRANSPORTATION

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APARTMENT COMPLEX Maintenance. Experienced in AC, plumbing some electrical and general remodeling. Apply in person only by appointment Call 432-263-6319.

BIG DOG RIG Movers is looking for Fork Lift Operator, Gin Truck Driver, Poll Truck Driver & Slickback Driver. Great Pay with benefits. Must live in Howard County. Apply in person at 309 East IH-20, Big Spring. EOE.

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 responsible, dependable Full Time Shipping Clerk. Position involves physically working with ice cream products in a cold environment. Must be 18 years old and have reliable transportation. No experience necessary, we will train. We offer competitive pay and great benefits. Apply in person at: 401 East Interstate 20.



BLUE SKY Service is looking for Pipeline Welder's, Laborers & Operators for more information please call 432-580-7332.

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Immediate Booker/ Teller Position in Coahoma.

Knowledge of banking procedures preferred.

Knowledge of computer applications desired.

Paid depending on experience.

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or deliver to

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Help Wanted

CERTIFIED DIESEL tech needed for busy Pollard Chevrolet Service Department. Must have own tools. Sign on bonus and help with relocation expenses if needed. Apply at 1501 E. 4th in Big Spring. You may fax resumes to 432-267-7284 or e-mail to jay@pollardchevy.com No phone calls please.

CERTIFIED TECH needed for busy Pollard Chevrolet Service Department. Must have own tools. Sign on bonus and help with relocation expenses if needed. Apply at 1501 E. 4th in Big Spring. You may fax resume to 432-267-7284 or e-mail to jay@pollardchevy.com No phone calls please.

CHEMICAL PRODUCTION company seeking qualified candidates for Field Service Technician. Individual will be responsible for delivering chemical to customer locations, treating wells, and other duties, as needed. The ideal candidate will have 1-3 years experience in a similar role. This position is based in Big Spring, TX. Must have CDL and Hazmat endorsement. We offer a \$2,000 sign on bonus, competitive Salary, 401(K), Medical, Dental & Vision, paid vacation and holidays. Submit resume c/o P.O. Box 1431/224, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.



CHILD CARE POSITIONS Part or Full time. Apply at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.

COMET CLEANERS Full-time Presser needed, Apply in person at 1500 East Marcy.



COOK/HOME-STYLE Cooking Apply at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.



KASE CONSTRUCTION- Big Spring, TX.. Specializing in Pipeline Construction; Trenching & Road Boring is currently hiring for the following positions.

- * Dozer Operator
- * Backhoe Operator
- * Ditcher

Applicants must be honest, hard working, dependable & possess a valid Class A CDL. Must pass pre-employment and random Drug Screen. Apply in person 510 E. 1st in Big Spring or call (325)868-0300.

Help Wanted



DANLIN INDUSTRIES IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR:

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 - *Chemical Delivery Driver/ Must have: *CDL Class A license *HazMat *Tanker Endorsement *Air Brake Endorsements
 - *Treater Truck Driver/ 1 year experience required. *CDL Class B license *HazMat *Tanker Endorsement *Air Brake Endorsements
- Please apply at www.danlin.us Please download to complete in full.

All applicants must be willing to submit to drug testing and background check prior to employment. Danlin is an Equal Opportunity Employer and will not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, religion, race, color, national origin, or disability.

DRIVERS NEEDED Professional Transportation, Inc. is seeking local drivers for 7-passenger mini-vans in the Big Spring, TX area. Drug screen, driving record, and criminal background check required. 1-800-471-2440 www.professionaltransportationinc.com EOE

EXPERIENCED HAIR Dresser & Nail Tech. needed. Call Christy at Christy's Hair Studio 432-466-2268 to set up interview.

HIRING EXPERIENCED Housekeepers, Front Desk person and Breakfast Hostess. Need good references & clean background check. Please apply in person, Super 8, Big Spring, TX.

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

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

HELP WANTED: Full time Delivery/Warehouse Driver needed for BSISD Food Service. Apply online at BSISD.esc18.net



HIRING FOR FRONT DESK, HOUSEKEEPING AND MAINTENANCE. PAY BASED ON EXPERIENCE. APPLY AT LAQUINTA INN & SUITES 1102 W. I-20. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

INGRAM CONCRETE is seeking full-time employees to fill Mixer Driver positions. CDL license required. Paid weekly. No waiting period on medical insurance. Other excellent employee benefits available. Please apply at 605 North Benton in Big Spring, TX 79720 or call 432-267-6348 for additional information. EEO Employer.

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

Help Wanted

LOOKING FOR a rock solid company to grow and retire with? Blue Bell Creameries is accepting applications for a full time Route Salesperson in the Big Spring Area. Route Sales Experience and Commercial Drivers License helpful. Good driving record required. Job will require physically working with Ice Cream Products in a cold environment. Blue Bell is a market leading company with a 105 year proven history. Competitive Salary + great benefits. Never had a lay off! Apply in person: 401 East Interstate 20.

Looking for reliable people to deliver The Big Spring Herald.

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NEED TRANSPORT/BOBTAIL Driver for fuel deliveries. Starting Salary \$20.00 per hr., all full medical benefits paid, retirement plan, vacation and sick leave. Must have CDL & good driving record. Come by 1st & Johnson, Park Fuels/Chevron, Big Spring. (432)263-0033.

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

NOW ACCEPTING Resumes For Plant Operator @ Natural Gas Processing Plant NE of Big Spring, TX. Excellent Salary, Paid Vacation, Medical Insurance, and 401k. Please Send Resume To: Plant Supervisor 11703 E. FM 846 Coahoma, TX 79511 Or Fax (432) 399-4290 Or Email carcher@wtggas.com



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 - *Bright & Friendly people only!
- Shift Leaders:
- *Great part-time & full-time shifts
 - *Starting wage of \$9 an hour
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Apply at any Domino's Pizza in Midland, Odessa, or Big Spring- 2111 S. Gregg St. or send resume: cassie@clearwire.net Senior citizens & stay at home moms always welcome. EOE



NOW TAKING applications at the Burger Chefs. Opening Soon. Call (432)264-1707 for application and interview ask for Dennis.

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

Help Wanted

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST wanted, part-time with generous salary. Call S. Whitteker at Sweetwater ISD, 325-235-8621.

PART TIME and Full Time Teacher/ Caregivers needed for busy Christian Preschool for 2012-2013 School year. Apply at New Hope Christian School 118 Cedar Rd.

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



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

RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service In Stanton has immediate openings for Mechanic, CDL Driver, Roustabout Pushers and Helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

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

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

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

SERVICE TECH helps needed for busy Pollard Chevrolet Service Department. Some experience preferred. Will help train to become certified techs. Must have own tools. Apply at 1501 E. 4th in Big Spring. You may fax resumes to 432-267-7284 or email to jay@pollardchevy.com No phone calls please.

SUNSET BAR now hiring Bartender and DJ. Call 432-263-6292.

ELECTRICIAN

Chevron Corporation in Big Spring, Texas is seeking safe, conscientious, and career-oriented professionals for the above position.

How to Apply:

To learn more about this position and to apply, visit chevron.com/careers, enter the title, and click on the Search button. Or search by requisition number 006423856. Individuals must follow Chevron's process by applying online. No phone, fax, or email inquiries, please, from candidates or external recruiters. Chevron is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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DOWNTOWN LOFT for Lease 1700 plus sq. feet. Jacuzzi tub, extra large closets. \$1250 month plus deposit. 1 Year lease required. No pets/smoker and no children please. Call (432)263-6514 Owner/Broker.

GATED COMMUNITY now leasing 1, 2, & 3 Bdrm Apts. with beautiful pool covered parking, playground area, 24hr maintenance, built in microwave and disposals, big walk in closets.

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Real Estate for Rent

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

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BY OWNER: 3 Bdrms, big den, dining, double work room, double carport, carport, 2 water wells on 1 acres. Needs a little TLC. \$48,000.00. Call (432)270-1552 leave message.

BY OWNER: Updated/ As Is. 2100 sq. feet. 2 living areas, fenced backyard, large patio. Near College/ High School. Washington Blvd. \$85,500.00. Call (432)267-2653.

DRIVER ROAD in Big Spring, TX- 2 Bdrm, 2-1/2 bath, 2 car garage detached, pool, storage building, 5-1/2 acres. Remodeling. Call (432)816-6271 or (806)797-1600.

ENJOY THE pool. Lovely in ground pool. Nice three bedroom two bath brick home in great location. Seller is ready to sell. 1,568 sq. ft. This might be the one. Call Home Realtors, (432)263-1284 or Clovie (432)935-2135.

INVESTORS/ SINGLE Family Rental Homes Available, average less than \$35 per square foot. Call Shirley Lee Broker Associates, (432)967-2565 Apex Real-estate Company (432)366-6660.

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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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2003 MERCURY Sable with 105,000 miles. Perfect condition inside/out. Silver paint/grey interior. Solid engine/power train. 26 MPG HWY. Low miles on 2 year old tires. No problems. Asking \$3900. Please Call 432-466-1979.

Tips for tapping into your inner master chef at home

(Family Features) When it comes to preparing the family dinner during a busy week, every minute spared is a minute you can spend helping with homework, tackling laundry, or even catching up with the family at the end of the day.

Marco Canora, chef, restaurateur, cookbook author and owner of Hearth Restaurant in Manhattan's East Village, understands that shortcuts are often necessary when cooking at home. "Saving time is crucial when preparing family meals, but that doesn't mean you have to sacrifice flavor or quality ingredients. Finding the right tools to help you prepare well-balanced and inspiring meals is key for making more time for your family while ensuring they're properly fed."

With his recipe for Soffritto, Canora uses the Quick Chef Pro and Chef Series Griddle Pan from Tupperware to help save time. "Look for quality tools that can make chopping, dicing, mixing, cooking and storing easier and more efficient," suggests Canora.

And to save even more time during the week, consider batch cooking meals. "The best part about cooking up family-style meals is that you can save leftover-worthy options to reheat for lunch the following day."

For example, dice up enough fresh herbs, tomatoes, onions and garlic for the entire week. Then, simply store each ingredient separately in the refrigerator to help save time later in the week, whether you're preparing an Italian or Mexican-inspired meal. You can grill up steaks, assemble quick quesadillas, or personalize a



freshly-tossed salad with those same go-to ingredients for fast, convenient and wholesome meals.

Try these delicious recipes for your next family meal; you'll be surprised by how much time you can save.

To learn more about Tupperware's timesaving kitchen tools and storage solutions, visit www.tupperware.com.

Santa Fe Chicken Salad with Quesadillas

From Tupperware's "Sensational Salads for You and Your Family" Cookbook

Cook Time: About 30 minutes
Yield: 4 servings

- 10 ounces mixed salad greens
- 1 15-ounce can of black beans, drained
- 1 cup frozen corn
- 2 chicken breasts
- 1 teaspoon vegetable oil
- 4 8-inch flour tortillas
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup cilantro-lime vinaigrette

In the Tupperware SmartSteamer, place the chicken in the Steamer Base and the corn in the Colander. Fill the Water Tray with 1 1/2 cups water. Microwave on high for 15 minutes or until the chicken is cooked through.

When cool enough to handle, slice the chicken into thin slices. Set aside.

Heat the vegetable oil in a pan over medium-high heat. Place 1/4 cup of the cheese on one side of each tortilla.

Fold the tortilla in half and then place in the pan, cooking in batches. Cook for 2 minutes on each side, until cheese is melted and exterior of the tortilla is golden. Set aside and keep warm.

In a serving bowl, toss the mixed greens, corn, beans, chicken and prepared dressing together. Top with the quesadillas. Serve immediately.

Soffritto
Cook Time: About 1 hour
Yield: Over 4 cups
1 1/4 cups extra virgin olive oil
4 cups onions, minced
4 cups celery, minced
2 cups carrots, minced
Heat olive oil in pan. Mince onion, celery and carrot in Quick Chef Pro before adding to pan.

Stir occasionally to cook vegetables evenly. Once water has evaporated (about 1 hour), vegetables will begin to caramelize. Cook to desired tenderness.

Store in refrigerator for up to one week.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

21). There's no time to waste in censoring your actions. Whatever version of you shows up for the occasion is the right one. Trust that you have your reasons, and go forward.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The problem you face is rather boring. Didn't you deal with this yesterday? Think of yourself as a creative person, and suddenly your imagination will be ablaze with ideas about how to solve this one.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're due for a breakthrough in a special relationship. You'll reach the part of the journey where you look at each other and aren't quite sure how to react. It's a sign that the bond is new again.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). An air sign friend of yours (Aquarius, Libra or Gemini) will help you glimpse your potential. Place the image of it alongside a snapshot of your current status, and keep moving forward.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Feeling out of control is silly. All you have to do is change your mind, and you'll sense that you're indeed very influential in this moment. In fact, it just may be that all the power that ever was is inside of

you.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be trimming certain areas of your life in the weeks to come — for instance, slimming down or shaving your lifestyle to match your income. Right now you'll research to decide how you want to do it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). This day will be good. The circumstances support innovation, inviting you to be fully present in the moment and to engage all of your senses in the process.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your opinion of yourself will be the most important factor in a relationship, affecting all major and minor decisions and interactions. Hint: Feeling good about yourself is a decision that doesn't cost a thing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). On the one hand, it's nice if you can be sincere in your dealings and honest with yourself — unless you're telling a good story or making people laugh. There's such a thing as poetic license.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's something irresistible about your wholehearted approach to life, especially when you're

in an environment where people are trying hard to be appropriate or, worse, "cool."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 19). You are good at many things and great at something that is rare. Use your exceptional gift often this year. Instead of spending time doing things you don't enjoy and aren't good at, rely on your talents. Love multiplies through August, and the social vibes keep rolling all year. November brings happy news for your family. Virgo and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 4, 30, 33 and 18.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Lead guitarist for Queen, Brian May composed "We Will Rock You" — and rock us he did. Then this Cancer became an astrophysicist and published his doctoral thesis on zodiacal light. May was born when the sun, Mercury and Venus were in soulful Cancer. His moon, Saturn and Pluto are in entertaining Leo, and his natal Mars is in intellectual Gemini.

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

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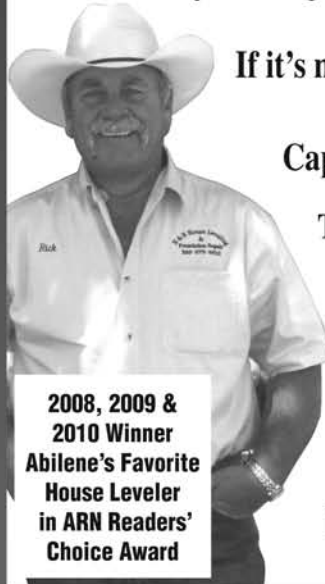
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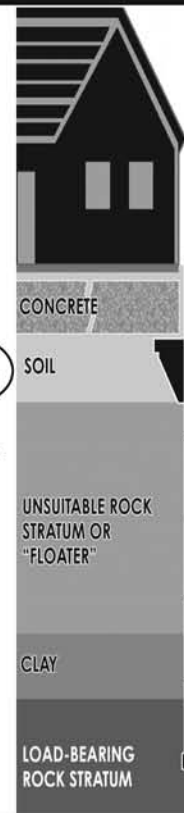
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Annie's Mailbox

KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: My college daughter is very hard on herself. "Sharyn" is a beautiful, intelligent and wonderful person at heart, but she cannot see it, even though everyone else does.

For 12 years, Sharyn has been in some form of therapy. She has damaged herself, starved herself and even run away.

As a child, she was "different," and so she was badly bullied and had unreliable friends who briefly entered her life and left suddenly.

After years of rejection and failure to achieve her goals, she began to isolate

herself and give up. Much of her time was spent alone and lonely. It was unbearably painful to stand by and watch my child undeservingly suffer like this.

Sharyn seemed to make progress once she started college. She's maintained a 3.5 GPA, developed incredible artistic and writing abilities, found a summer job and will be living with her friends this coming year.

However, she still believes no one really likes her. She says, "Everyone wants me gone," and "Everyone thinks I'm

stupid, lazy, weird and mean."

She has many great things going for her now, but she still allows her negativity to control her life. She has even said to me, "You hate me," and "I'm a bad daughter." I have overheard her yelling both hurtful and hateful comments to herself while she looks in the mirror.

I tell Sharyn repeatedly that I love her and am proud of her, but she accuses me of lying. I'm frustrated and heartbroken that she believes these things when she has come so far. What else can I possibly do to help my daughter understand that she is a wonderful person who deserves happiness? — *Peace Bound Parent*

Dear Parent: You are doing the best you can with your bedrock reassurances. Sharyn's conception of herself is so distorted and negative that she assumes your opinion is too biased to count. Her accusations are a way to test your commitment. These issues are best addressed in therapy. Since she seems to be making progress, albeit slowly, please continue to

provide calm, loving support. You also can get some therapy on your own and develop some coping strategies.

Dear Annie: I've been dating "Don" for eight months. When I met him, I didn't realize he had been seeing a woman for two years. Apparently, they had an understanding that if someone else came along, it would be OK to break up because they live three hours apart. They still communicate on Facebook.

This girlfriend's family owns some property that is pretty much in Don's backyard. She stays at a cabin on the property a few times a year. It makes me really uncomfortable. But when I talk to Don about her, he says, "You have nothing to worry about."

But there have been a few nights when he's called her name in his sleep. He also once told me that if he wanted her back, all he had to do was call her.

Don wants me to move in with him, but I can't. His relationship with the other woman eats at me all the time. What do I do? — *On the Rebound*

Dear Rebound: You don't completely trust Don, partly because he has given you the impression that this woman is always available to him. Trust is the bedrock of any relationship. If it doesn't exist with Don, there won't be a happy future for the two of you, and you should move on.

Dear Annie: A reader asked why there wasn't a Viagra-type pill for women, and your response implied that Viagra restores desire. This simply is not the case. Viagra and other medications like it allow the body to carry through on the desires of the heart and mind. In the absence of desire, these medications do nothing except possibly give a confidence boost. — *My Two Cents*

Dear Annie: I'm a middle-aged man who has been divorced for four years. I am currently a

caregiver for my mother, so I don't get out much. I've taken to many social media sites as a way to meet people with similar interests and have developed several relationships, purely platonic, with women I've met online.

I also started an on-again, off-again romance with an old flame. We live two hours apart. Six months ago, we decided to become exclusive and work on a future together.

The problem started when one of my female Facebook friends posted on my page and my girlfriend wanted to know who she was. From there, the floodgates opened.

When I told her that many of my Facebook friends are women, she flipped out and said it was inappropriate for a guy in a committed relationship to have female Facebook friends.

I tried to reassure her that she had nothing to worry about, and frankly, I resent being told who my friends can be. After several days of this endless argument, I tried to be more sensitive to her needs and unfriended several of these women, hoping that would be the end of it. It wasn't.

The other day, I greeted a lady friend with the nickname "Sunshine." It's a name I use frequently, and it has no romantic overtones. We've been fighting about it ever since.

She says she should be the only female friend I need. When I suggest this is about her insecurities, she says I'm seeking attention from other women.

She's a great girl, but I'm having serious reservations about committing to someone who is determined to find smoke so she can accuse me of starting fires. I have no history of cheating and zero interest. Any advice? — *Faithful and Upset*

Dear Faithful: We agree that your girlfriend seems insecure and controlling and will likely demand that you give up all of your female friends at some point. However, we believe she also is responding to the apparent fact that the majority of your friends are women. Your girlfriend attributes it to your desire for female attention. Please examine your behavior and ask yourself whether she has a point.

Dear Annie: I would like to ask some questions of married women. What makes you think that your family is more important than your husband's? Why do you want him to ignore his family and "cleave unto yours"? How did you convince him that his mother isn't hurt by this?

My son has been married for 30 years, and in all that time, he's ignored me and spent time with his in-laws. I hold my tongue because it would make things worse if I did not. Everyone thinks my son and his family are the greatest. She and her family are shrewd, and my son is spineless and blind. Worse, the grandchildren think I do not deserve to be treated any better.

My son has siblings, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins who are all ignored. Of course, they know where we are when they want a gift. But there is never a thank-you note or even so much as a photo of the children. — *Venting*

Dear Venting: The best way to make sure you stay close to your children is to ingratiate yourself with their spouses. We are so sorry you've had such a bitter experience, and we hope your words will mean something to our married readers.

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

Legals

NOTICE OF DRAFT FEDERAL OPERATING PERMIT

Draft Permit No.: O1550

Application and Draft Permit: Sid Richardson Carbon, LTD., 201 Main Street, Suite 3000, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-3105, a Carbon Black facility, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of Federal Operating Permit (herein referred to as Permit) No. O1550, Application No. 17997 to authorize operation of the Sid Richardson Carbon Big Spring Facility. The area addressed by the application is located at Midway Rd, 1 mi north of IH-20, 2.5 mi east of Big Spring in Big Spring, Howard County, Texas 79721. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=32.254166&lng=-101.4375&zoom=13&type=r>.

This application was received by the TCEQ on May 14, 2012.

The purpose of a federal operating permit is to improve overall compliance with the rules governing air pollution control by clearly listing all applicable requirements, as defined in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). The draft permit, if approved, will codify the conditions under which the area must operate. The permit will not authorize new construction. The executive director has completed the technical review of the application and has made a preliminary decision to prepare a draft permit for public comment and review. The executive director recommends issuance of this draft permit. The permit application, statement of basis and draft permit will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Central Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building E, First Floor, Austin, Texas; the TCEQ Midland Regional Office, 9900 W Interstate 20 Ste 100, Midland, Texas 79706-2636; and the Howard County Library, 500 S Main St, Big Spring, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. At the TCEQ central and regional office, relevant supporting materials for the draft permit, as well as the New Source Review permits which have been incorporated by reference, may be reviewed and copied. Any person with difficulties obtaining these materials due to travel constraints may contact the TCEQ central office file room at (512)239-1540.

Public Comment/Notice and Comment Hearing: Any person may submit written comments on the draft permit. Comments relating to the accuracy, completeness, and appropriateness of the permit conditions may result in changes to the draft permit.

A person who may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the permitted area may request a notice and comment hearing. The purpose of the notice and comment hearing is to provide an additional opportunity to submit comments on the draft permit. The permit may be changed based on comments pertaining to whether the permit provides for compliance with 30 TAC Chapter 122 (examples may include that the permit does not contain all applicable requirements or the public notice procedures were not satisfied). The TCEQ may grant a notice and comment hearing on the application if a written hearing request is received within 30 days after publication of the newspaper notice. The hearing request must include the basis for the request, including a description of how the person may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the application area. The request should also specify the conditions of the draft permit that are inappropriate or specify how the preliminary decision to issue or deny the permit is inappropriate. All reasonably ascertainable issues must be raised and all reasonably available arguments must be submitted by the end of the public comment period. If a notice and comment hearing is granted, all individuals that submitted written comments or a hearing request will receive written notice of the hearing. This notice will identify the date, time, and location for the hearing.

Written public comments and/or requests for a notice and comment hearing should be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at

www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html and be received within 30 days

after the date of newspaper publication of this notice. If you communicate with the TCEQ electronically, please be aware that your email address, like your physical mailing address, will become part of the agency's public record.

A notice of proposed final action that includes a response to comments and identification of any changes to the draft permit will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments, a hearing request, or requested to be on the mailing list for this application. This mailing will also provide instructions for the public petitions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to request that the EPA object to the issuance of the proposed permit. After receiving a petition, the EPA may only object to the issuance of a permit which is not in compliance with the applicable requirements or the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 122.

Mailing List: In addition to submitting public comments, a person may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Chief Clerk for this application.

Information: For additional information about this permit application or the permitting process, please contact the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Public Education Program, MC-108, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or toll free, at 1-800-687-4040. If you desire information in Spanish, please call 1-800-687-4040. Further information may also be obtained for Sid Richardson Carbon, LTD., by calling Mr. Long Nguyen at (817) 390-8604. Notice Issuance Date: June 26, 2012

Aviso de permiso de operacion Federal de proyecto
El proyecto de permiso No: O1550

Solicitud y permiso de proyecto: SID Richardson Carbon, LTD., 201 Main Street, Suite 3000, Fort Worth, TX 76102-3105, una instalacion de negro de humo, ha solicitado a la Comision de Texas sobre calidad ambiental (TCEQ) la renovacion de Federal permiso de funcionamiento (en adelante, permiso) num. 01550, aplicacion No. 17997, para autorizar el funcionamiento de la instalacion de Big Spring Sid Richardson carbono. El area dirigida por la aplicacion se encuentra en Midway Rd, 1 km al norte de IH-20, 2.5 mi este Big Spring en Big Spring, Howard County, Texas 79721. Este enlace a un mapa electronico del sitio o ubicacion general de las instalaciones se proporciona como un publico cortesia y no forma parte de la solicitud o aviso. Para la ubicacion exacta, consulte aplicacion. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=32.254166&lng=-101.4375&zoom=13&tipo=r>.

Esta solicitud fue recibida por TCEQ el 14 de mayo de 2012. El proposito de un permiso de operacion federal es mejorar el cumplimiento de las normas que rigen el control de la contaminacion de aire listando claramente todos los requisitos aplicables, tal como se define en el titulo 30 codigo administrativo de Texas 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). El borrador del permiso, si se aprueba, codifica las condiciones bajo las cuales debe operar el area. El permiso no autorizara la construccion nueva. El director ejecutivo ha completado la revision tecnica de la aplicacion y ha tomado una decision preliminar para preparar un borrador del permiso para comentarios del publico y revisar. El director Ejecutivo recomienda la emision de la autorizacion de este proyecto. La solicitud de permiso, declaracion del borrador del permiso y estara disponible para ver y copiar en la Oficina Central de TCEQ, 12100 Park 35 circulo, edificio E, primer piso, Austin, Texas; la Oficina Regional de TCEQ Midland, 9900 W Interestatal 20 Ste 100, Midland, Texas 79706-2636; y la biblioteca del Condado de Howard, 500 S. Main St, Big Spring, Texas, empezando el primer dia de publicacion de este aviso. En las oficinas centrales y regionales de TCEQ, materiales de apoyo pertinentes para la autorizacion del proyecto, asi como la revision de nuevas fuentes permite que han sido incorporadas por referencia, puede ser revisado y copiado. Cualquiera persona con dificultades en la obtencion de estos materiales debido a las restricciones de viajes puede ponerse en contacto con la sala de archivo de la oficina central de TCEQ en 239-1540(512).

Comentario/aviso publico y audiencia de comentario: Cualquiera persona podra presentar observaciones por escrito sobre el proyecto de permian. Observaciones relativas a la exactitud, la integridad y la idoneidad de las condiciones del permiso pueden resultar en cambios en el borrador del permiso.

Una persona puede verse afectada por la emision de contaminantes del aire de la zona permitida puede solicitar una notificacion y comentario de audicion. El proposito de la notificacion y comentario audiencia es proporcionar una oportunidad adicional para presentar sus observaciones sobre el proyecto de permiso. El permiso puede cambiarse segun comentarios relativos a si el permiso se proporciona para el cumplimiento de 30 TAC capitulo 122 (ejemplos pueden incluir que el permiso no contiene todos los requisitos aplicables o los procedimientos de aviso publico no estaban satisfechos). La TCEQ podra conceder un aviso y audiencia de comentario sobre la aplicacion si se recibe una solicitud de audiencia por escrito dentro de 30 dias despues de la publicacion del anuncio de periodico. La solicitud de audiencia debe incluir la base de la solicitud, incluyendo una descripcion de como la persona puede verse afectada por la emision de contaminantes del aire de la zona de aplicacion. La solicitud tambien debe especificar las condiciones de la autorizacion del proyecto que son inapropiadas o especifican como la decision preliminar de expedir o negar el permiso es inadecuada. Deben levantar todas las cuestiones razonablemente comprobable y todos los argumentos razonablemente disponibles deben presentarse al final del periodo de comentario publico. Si se concede un aviso y audiencia de comentario, todas las personas que presentaron observaciones por escrito o una solicitud de audiencia recibira notificacion por escrito de la audiencia. Este aviso identificara la fecha, hora y lugar para la audiencia.

Escrito comentarios publicos o peticiones de un aviso y audiencia de comentario deben ser presentadas a la Comision de Texas sobre calidad ambiental, la Oficina de la Secretaria del jefe, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 o electronicamente en

www.TCEQ.Texas.gov/about/comments.html

y ser recibidos dentro de 30 dias despues de la fecha de publicacion del periodico de esta notificacion. Si usted se comunica con la TCEQ electronicamente, por favor tenga en cuenta que su direccion de correo electronico, como su direccion de correo, pasaran a formar parte del registro publico de la Agencia. Un aviso de accion final que incluye una respuesta a los comentarios y la identificacion de cualquier cambio en el borrador del permiso se enviara a todos los que presentaron comentarios publicos, una solicitud de audiencia, o pidio a estar en la lista de correo para esta aplicacion. Este correo tambien proporcionara instrucciones para peticiones publicas a la Estados Unidos Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) para solicitar que permite que el objeto de la EPA para la expedicion de la propuesta. Despues de recibir una peticion, la EPA solo podra oponerse a la expedicion de un permiso que no cumple con los requisitos aplicables o los requisitos del capitulo de TAC 30 122.

Lista de correo: Ademas de presentar los comentarios del publico, una persona puede pedir a colocarse en una lista de correo para esta aplicacion, enviando una solicitud a la Oficina de la Secretaria del jefe en la direccion anteriormente mencionada. En la lista de correo recibiran copias de futuros avisos publicos (si existe) enviadas por la Secretaria del jefe para esta aplicacion. **Informacion:** Para obtener informacion adicional acerca de esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de concesion de permisos, por favor pongase en contacto con la Comision de Texas sobre calidad ambiental, programa de educacion publica, MC-108, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 o al numero gratuito 1-800-687-4040. Si desea informacion en Espanol, Call can al 1-800-687-4040. Puede obtenerse mas informacion para Sid Richardson carbono, LTD por llamando al Sr. Long Nguyen a (817)390-8604. Fecha de emision del aviso: 26 de junio de 2012 #7445 July 19, 2012

26 de junio de 2012 #7445 July 19, 2012

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION-CIVIL

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LELDON GENE NIX, DECEASED; UNKNOWN STOCKHOLDERS OF L.G. NIX CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS OR CLAIMANTS OF INTEREST IN LAND HERETOFORE GIVEN TO L.G. NIX DIRT COMPANY, INC. OF P.O. BOX 2395, BIG SPRING, TEXAS 79720, collectively Defendants.

Defendants Greeting: NOTICE

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney does not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 AM on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after the date of issuance of this Citation, default judgment may be taken against you.

Said Plaintiff's Petition in Condemnation was filed with the 118th District Court of Howard County, Texas on July 3, 2012, the file number of said suit being Cause No. 48615.

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition in Condemnation at or before ten o'clock AM of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance of this Citation before the Honorable 118th District Court of Howard County, Texas at the Courthouse of said County in Big Spring, Texas.

The names of the parties in said suit are:

Wind Energy Transmission Texas, LLC (Plaintiff)

v.

L.G. Nix Dirt Company, Inc.; R. Dirt Company, LLC aka or fka L.G. Nix Dirt Company, Inc. and aka or fka L.G. Nix Construction Company, Inc.; L.G. Nix Construction Company, Inc. aka L.G. Nix Dirt Company, Inc.; Martha Anna Nix, individually and as independent executrix of the Estate of Leldon Gene Nix, deceased; the Unknown Heirs of Leldon Gene Nix, deceased; the Unknown Stockholders of L.G. Nix Construction Company, Inc.; and the Unknown Owners Or Claimants of Interest in Land Heretofore Given to L.G. Nix Dirt Company, Inc. (Defendants).

The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit: Eminent Domain/ Condemnation as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition in Condemnation on file in this suit in connection with property described as follows:

A 1.104 acre transmission line easement out of the Texas and Pacific Railroad Company Survey, Section 48, Block 32, Township 1 North, Abstract 1016, situated in Howard County, Texas, being a portion of that certain called 10.0 acre tract of land described in a deed to L.G. Nix Dirt Company, Inc., and recorded in Volume 566, Page 608 of the Deed Records of Howard County, Texas.

Plaintiff is represented by: Clark Aspy of NAMAN, HOWELL, SMITH & LEE, P.L.L.C. whose address is 8310 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 490, Austin, Texas 78731.

A Condemnation Hearing will be held on the same on August 30, 2012 at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Court in the Howard County, Texas Courthouse located at 300 Main Big Spring, Texas 79721.

Issued and given under my hand and the Seal of said Court, at office in Big Spring, Texas, this 17th day of July, 2012.

Colleen Barton, Clerk of the Court DISTRICT COURT, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS
312 Scurry
Big Spring, Texas 79721
Jury Gomez, Deputy
#7446 July 19 & 26 and August 2 & 9, 2012

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CLERK OF THE COURT:

Colleen Barton
Howard County District Clerk
P.O. Box 2138
Big Spring, Texas 79721-2138
PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY:
George S. Bishop
401 Cypress Street, Suite 210
Abilene, Texas 79601

THE STATE OF TEXAS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

TO: MIDSUN OIL CORPORATION, and ITS SUCCESSORS, SHAREHOLDERS, ASSIGNS, AND/OR THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS, Defendant in the cause herein described.

You are hereby commanded to appear and answer before the 118th Judicial District Court in the Howard County Courthouse located in Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, at or before 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, being at or before 10:00 a.m. on Monday the 13th day of August, 2012, then and there to answer the petition of Athlon FE OPERATING LLC, Plaintiff in Cause No. 48604. The said petition, filed on the 25th day of June, 2012, discloses that the nature of said suit is as follows:

This suit is brought to have a receiver appointed under the provisions of Sections 64.091 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code for undivided mineral interest owned by the Defendant in the following described lands in Howard County, Texas, to-wit:

Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of Section 19, Block 33, T-1-N, & P Ry. Co. Survey, Howard County, Texas, and to execute oil, gas and mineral leases thereof to the Plaintiff and take such other action deemed necessary under the provisions of said statute.

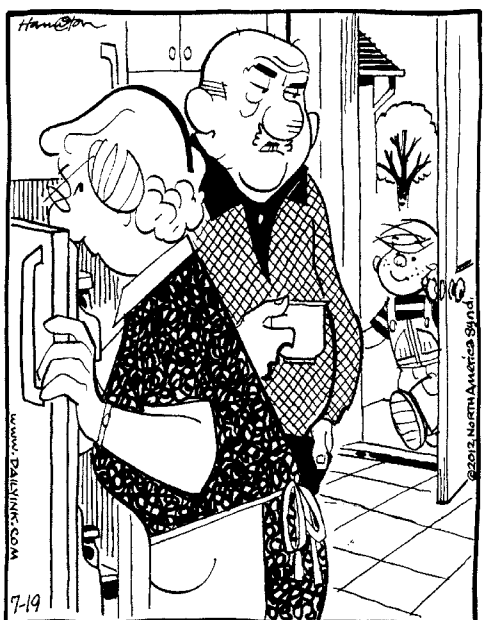
If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT on this the 25th day of June, 2012, at Big Spring, Howard County, Texas.

Colleen Barton,
District Clerk of
Howard County, Texas
By: Jury Gomez, Deputy
#7420 July 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2012

	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWTT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Casa	Two Men Notic.	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	King King	Schwarz Andrew	Charlie Rose	King King	Auction Auction	CSI: Miami	Jail Jail	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Un Refugio	Big Bang	News CBS	Especial	News News	Seinfeld	Dr. Wil	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Auction Auction	CSI: Miami	Tenants	The Mentalist	ANT Farm	NFL Live	2012 British Open Golf Championship: Best of the First Round.	
7:PM	Wheel	Premios Juventud 2012 (SS)	Big Bang	Ent	Una Maid en	Millionaire	Seinfeld	Alan Lee	CEO	Seinfeld	Auction Auction	Movie: Alien vs. Predator	IMPACT Wrestling	The Mentalist	Movie: The Marriage Chronicles, Terri J. Vaughn	Good Shake It	SportsCenter Spec.	
8:PM	Wipeout	New Girl	Big Brother	Corazón Valiente	Saving Hope	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	Frontline	The L.A. Complex	Auction Auction	Movie: Alien vs. Predator	UFC Unleashed	The Mentalist	Movie: Truth Hall, Tamara Curry	Vampire Vampire	SportsNation	Baseball Tonight	
9:PM	Rookie Blue	La Que No	Simpsons How I Met	Person of Interest	Pablo Escobar	Rock Center	Sullivan Sullivan	POV	Til Death	Auction Auction	Movie: Alien vs. Predator	MMA	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards Wizards	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter	
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met Raymond	News Noticias	Titulares	News (0:3) Conan	Dr. Diana Justice	Charlie Rose	Til Death	Auction Auction	Movie: Com-mando, Dan Hedaya	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards Wizards	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Ferguson	Decisions (SS)	Jimmy Fallon	Sullivan Sullivan	World (Off Air)	70s Show	Property Wars	Movie: Com-mando, Dan Hedaya	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards Wizards	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter	
12:AM	Extra	Mañana-Siempre	Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	South Pk	Auction Auction	Movie: Heartbreak Ridge	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards Wizards	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter	
1:AM	Paid	La Jaula	American	Ent	Pagado	(0:6) Today	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Cornerstone	Teleton Forward	Auction Auction	Movie: Heartbreak Ridge	Rizzoli & Isles	Good	2012 British Open Golf	SportsCenter		

DENNIS THE MENACE



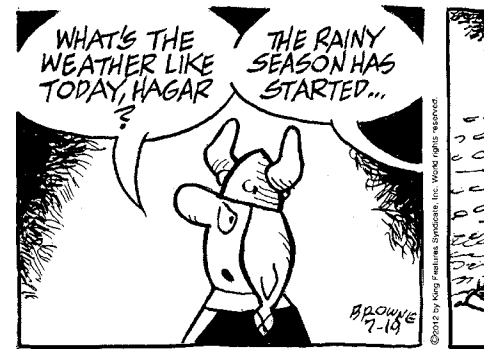
"I DON'T KNOW WHERE THE BRATWURST IS, BUT I CAN TELL YOU WHERE THE WORST BRAT IS."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Now the kids in Australia get to enjoy the sun."

HAGAR



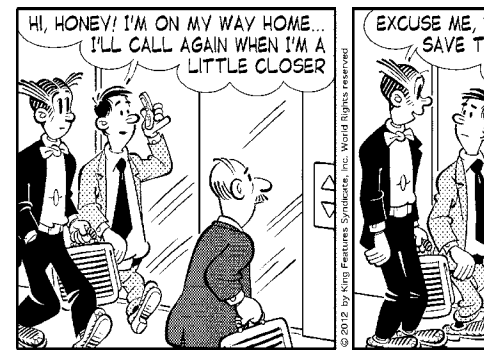
BLONDIE



BC



BLONDIE



WIZARD OF ID



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, July 19, the 201st day of 2012. There are 165 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 19, 1812, during the War of 1812, the First Battle of Sacket's Harbor in Lake Ontario resulted in an American victory as U.S. naval forces repelled a British attack.

On this date:

In 1553, King Henry VIII's daughter Mary was proclaimed Queen of England after pretender Lady Jane Grey was deposed.

In 1848, a pioneer women's rights convention convened in Seneca Falls, N.Y.

In 1870, the Franco-Prussian war began.

In 1943, allied air forces raided Rome during World War II.

In 1952, the Summer Olympics opened in Helsinki, Finland.

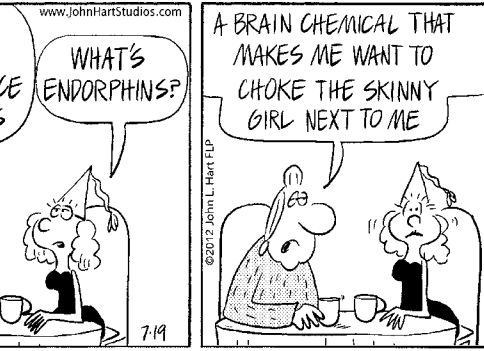
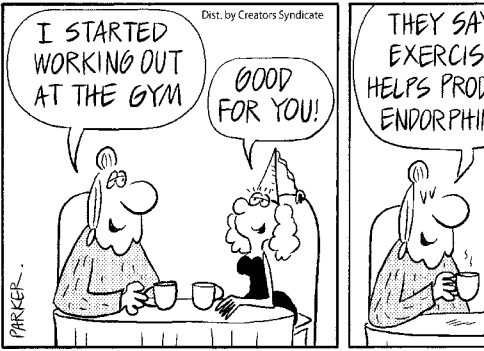
In 1961, TWA became the first airline to begin showing regularly scheduled in-flight movies as it presented "By Love Possessed" to first-class passengers.

Today's Birthdays: Former Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., is 90. Actress Helen Gallagher is 86. Country singer Sue Thompson is 86. Country singer George Hamilton IV is 75. Singer Vikki Carr is 72. Country singer-musician Commander Cody is 68. Actor George Dzundza is 67. Rock singer-musician Alan Gorrie (Average White Band) is 66. Rock musician Brian May is 65. Rock musician Bernie Leadon is 65. Actress Beverly Archer is 64. Movie director Abel Ferrara is 61. Rock musician Kevin Haskins (Love and Rockets; Bauhaus) is 52.

along with five members of his security escort in a car bombing in Palermo, Sicily.

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AGNES

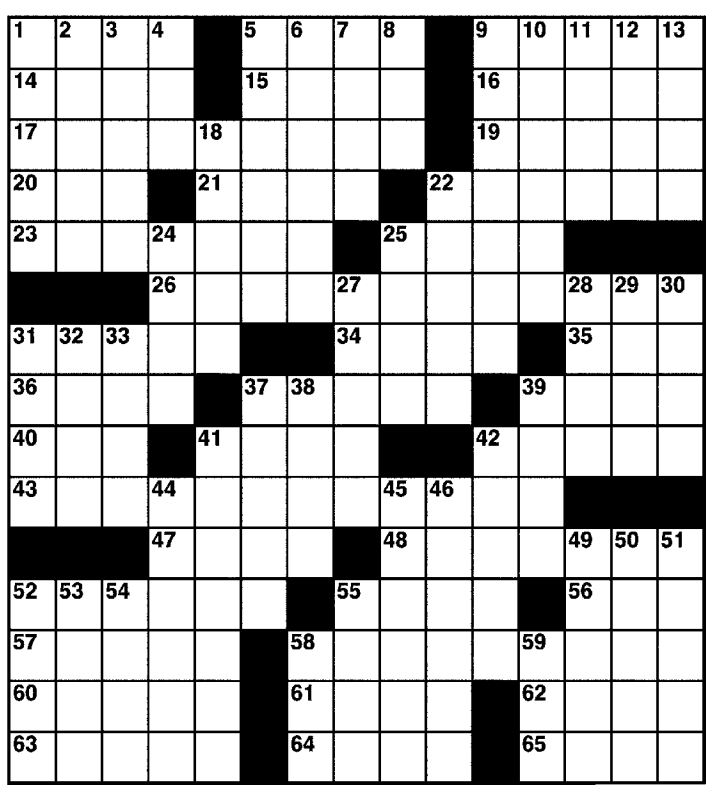


Newsday Crossword

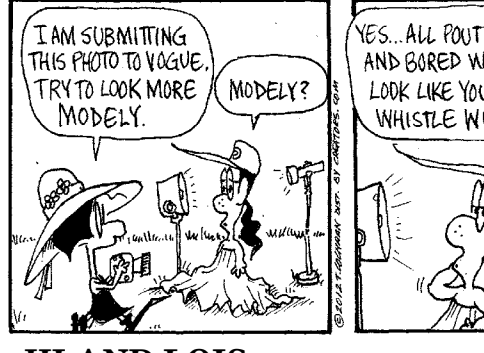
UNDER THE HOOD by David W. Cromer

- ACROSS
- 1 Temporary shelter
 - 5 With 7 Down, Minute Maid owner
 - 9 Tale spinners
 - 14 Garfield dog
 - 15 Each, so to speak
 - 16 Loosen
 - 17 Karate level
 - 19 "Benjamin"
 - 20 Hoop edge
 - 21 Peter Pan dog
 - 22 Usurps
 - 23 Eisenhower Library site
 - 25 Chance to play
 - 26 Google or Yahoo!
 - 31 Last of the Mohicans character
 - 34 Keep a low profile
 - 35 Wand
 - 36 "Get outta here!"
 - 37 Uplift
 - 39 Blast sound
 - 40 Scratch the surface of
 - 41 Soup herb
 - 42 ... Cuckoo's Nest author
 - 43 St. Louisan, typically
 - 47 Symbols of sturdiness
 - 48 Vitality
 - 52 '50s Fords
 - 55 Alec's 30 Rock colleague
 - 56 Transportation Dept. agency
 - 57 Wake up
 - 58 Hogwash
 - 60 Pick-me-up

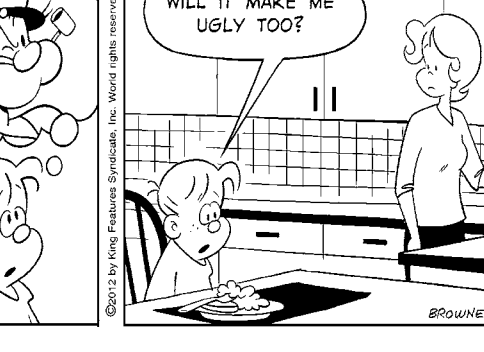
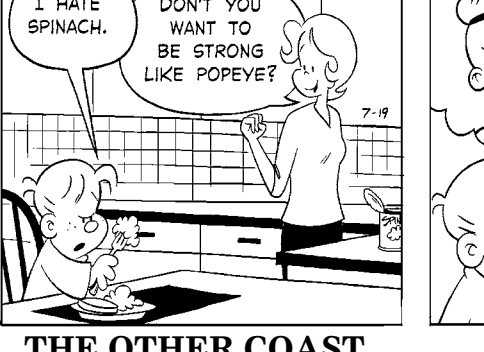
- DOWN
- 1 Hooded slitherer
 - 2 Do improv
 - 3 Major cruise port
 - 4 Chest muscle
 - 5 Beach club amenity
 - 6 First game
 - 7 See 5 Across
 - 8 Well-put
 - 9 Central Swiss city
 - 10 Segment of cricket
 - 11 All-inclusive
 - 12 Solemn ceremony
 - 13 Ascertain
 - 18 Leg parts
 - 22 Shoe material
 - 24 Exam for some college srs.
 - 25 The one here
 - 27 Nip in the air
 - 28 S&L holdings
 - 29 Not a single person
 - 30 Antsy
 - 31 "Semper Fidelis" org.
 - 32 March Madness letters
 - 33 Author Caleb
 - 37 Icy arenas
 - 38 "Too bad"
 - 39 German auto pioneer
 - 41 Language variant
 - 42 On the Waterfront director
 - 44 Swindles
 - 45 Small piano
 - 46 "Grand" act
 - 49 Taking place now
 - 50 Former name of a Congolese nation
 - 51 Kay Jewelers competitor
 - 52 Erodes
 - 53 Slight amount
 - 54 ... qua non
 - 55 Prepare to take off
 - 58 Blast sound
 - 59 Truth in Lending stat



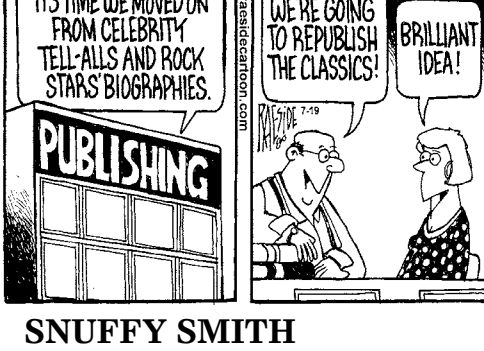
HI AND LOIS



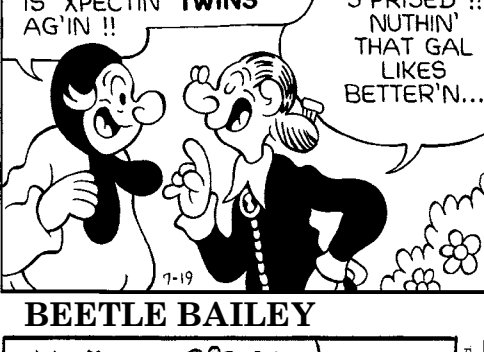
THE OTHER COAST



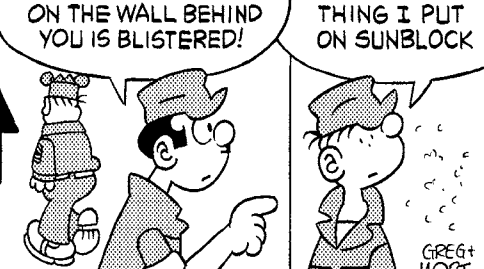
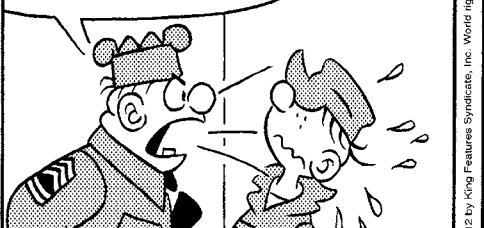
SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



BEETLE BAILEY



Answer to previous puzzle

PROP	ANTON	SAGE
REPS	SERIF	USED
OCEANSWELL	BING	WAR
OASES	PASTY	PARTI
OAR	SUPER	BUILDINGS
ERA	URALS	BUST
PAIN	SEEME	TUFT
HARE	OPINE	ELF
ABANDONED	DWELL	NETS
ARMOR	YET	NETS
NUT	ASTRO	BAWLS
FINE	UNPAID	AMEN
ROTE	SNAKE	AMEN
ANON	SANER	NETS

HOAX

Continued from Page 6

facilities.
"You can't just pull a fire alarm and yell run. An evacuation in the middle of a ball game does cause some problems. You're running the risk of causing injuries."

The threat at Comerica Park was the third bomb threat to a Detroit landmark in less than a week. On Monday, someone claimed to have placed a bomb on the Ambassador Bridge linking Detroit with Windsor, Ontario, in Canada.

And on July 12, a similar threat forced the closing of the Detroit Windsor international tunnel beneath the river.

In each case, emergency procedures went off without a hitch, and no bombs were found.

But Miller wasn't satisfied, saying fans "had a right to know what happened."

He said the park or the Tigers "could have in a very safe calm manner informed the crowd, if it was indeed a serious threat."

After the other threats, the tunnel and bridge were cleared of traffic while police and bomb-sniffing dogs searched for explosives.

In Detroit, police followed the stadium's security protocols, and a decision was made not to evacuate, said Donald Johnson, an inspector in the police department's Homeland Security unit.

"We don't make a decision to evacuate unless an actual device is found," Johnson said. "We don't panic. We go step by step. The thought was to find out what we actually had."

In a statement, the Tigers insisted the safety of fans, employees and players was the primary concern.

The team "worked closely and collaboratively with law enforcement officials."

LIN

Continued from Page 6

have, we like to run up and down the court in transition. We like to do pick and rolls," Patterson said before the Rockets' summer league game Wednesday night in Las Vegas. "And that's what he thrives well in: pick and rolls, getting to the basket, getting layups, creating opportunities for each player on the team on the floor."

Rockets assistant coach Kelvin Sampson said that the team hopes Lin brings stability to the point guard position for many seasons in Houston.

"We expect Jeremy to come in and be our point guard," Samp-

son said. "We're not looking for anything other than that. He's a high-character kid, plays hard, really good off pick and rolls. I think he's good in transition. I think he's going to be what we really need."

The next major priority for Houston is finding a big man. Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard is still available in a potential trade, but that might be long shot.

The Rockets expect to sign Bulls center Omer Asik to a three-year, \$25 million offer sheet that is similar to Lin's deal.

Beyond that, Morey must replenish a roster that has been gutted over the past two weeks. The Rockets traded Chase Budinger and Samuel Dalembert and

stockpiled draft picks for a package aimed at enticing Orlando to send them Howard, a six-time All-Star.

The Rockets lost unrestricted free agent Dragic to Phoenix, began their pursuit of Lin, and traded Lowry to Toronto.

They withdrew their qualifying offer to guard Courtney Lee, completed a sign-and-trade that sent center Marcus Camby to New York, and used the amnesty clause to waive forward Luis Scola.

On Wednesday, the Rockets waived forward Jon Leuer and center Jerome Jordan. Leuer came to Houston in the Dalember trade with Milwaukee, and Jordan was acquired in the Camby deal.

TEXAS

Continued from Page 6

"It's exciting to get that big hit in that situation," Hicks said. "That's awesome. I've been waiting a little while."

Reddick hit a tying two-run double with two outs in the seventh to help the A's salvage a two-game split with the AL West-leading Rangers.

Evan Scribner and Sean Doolittle each pitched a perfect inning, and All-Star Ryan Cook (3-2) worked the ninth for the win. Cook hasn't allowed a run in his last

nine outings.

Then Hicks drove a 1-1 pitch high over the center-field wall and rounded the bases to a home-plate celebration that's becoming commonplace at the Coliseum.

"What a homer!" pitcher Jarrod Parker hollered through the clubhouse.

Michael Young hit a go-ahead RBI single in the sixth but the Rangers couldn't hold it.

Craig Gentry hit an RBI double and Nelson Cruz added a run-scoring single for Texas, which now heads into a key weekend road series against the second-place Angels.

The A's, meanwhile, host the New York Yankees in a four-game series having won 10 of 12 — with a remarkable four walkoff wins in their last seven home games after getting three total all of last year.

"The way we're playing, if we'd lost both of these games it would have been demoralizing," manager Bob Melvin said.

Josh Hamilton went 1 for 4 and kept his average right at .300 for the second straight day. He hasn't fallen below that mark this year.

Starter Colby Lewis lasted five innings in his comeback from the disabled list, allowing three hits and one run on 75 pitches. He struck out three and walked two.

After Gentry's double put Texas ahead in the top of the fifth, Brandon Inge homered leading off the bottom half to tie it.

In the sixth, Inge stumbled after fielding Adrian Beltre's grounder and missed a chance for an out. Young singled moments later as Texas took the lead.

Texas is headed into a stretch with seven of its next 13 games with the Angels.

The Rangers open a three-game series at Anaheim on Friday following an off day Thursday.

"Yes, it's a significant series, significant in that they can either catch up or we can move ahead," manager Ron Washington said.

Lewis came off the DL to pitch for the first time since allowing

season highs of 12 hits and eight runs June 23 against Colorado. It marked his first DL stint since rejoining the Rangers in 2010, and the right-hander had been out since June 24 with tendinitis in his right forearm.

The A's loaded the bases against Lewis in the fourth and pitching coach Mike Maddux made a mound visit following a two-out walk to Brandon Moss. Then Lewis escaped the jam when he got Norris on an infield popup.

Yoenis Cespedes, back in left field after nursing a sprained left thumb, singled but missed a shot at a fifth straight multihit game.

Coco Crisp returned to Oakland's lineup, playing center field after missing three games with a sore left shoulder he aggravated on Friday night at Minnesota. He beat out an infield single to start the bottom of the first, then drew a walk and stole second and third in the fifth for his 17th and 18th steals. It was his fourth multi-steal game this season and 28th of his career.

A's starter Travis Blackley gave up three runs on six hits in 5 1-3 innings and pitched well considering his long layoff.

He worked out of the bullpen July 7 against Seattle before the All-Star break, but this was his first start since beating the Rangers on July 1 at Texas with seven strong innings.

And he was thrilled with how things turned out.

"Everyone calls us scrappy," Blackley said. "Don't sleep on us. All 27 outs, we're going to keep coming."

Inge was 0 for his last 11 and mired in an 8-for-63 funk spanning 17 games before connecting for his eighth home run to snap a 27-game homerless streak.

"You have to give them credit for constantly fighting and then pulling it off," Washington said.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Musical Chairs

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10
♥ K J 10
♦ 9 7 6 4
♣ A Q 10 9 3

WEST
♠ J 9 7 6 3
♥ 8 4
♦ A 8 5
♣ 8 7 2

EAST
♠ A 5 4 2
♥ 7 6 5 2
♦ 3 2
♣ 6 5 4

SOUTH
♠ K Q 8
♥ A Q 9 3
♦ K Q J 10
♣ K J

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 4 NT Pass

Opening lead — six of spades.

There are times when a player might wish that a hole would open beneath him and swallow him up, chair and all. The best one can do in such situations is to try to transfer this feeling, along with the hole, to somebody else at the table.

Today's deal recounts just such a happening. Due to an overabundance of optimism on North's part, South found himself in six notrump off two aces. West started the proceedings by leading a spade to East's ace. Fortunately, East returned a spade to declarer's king, giving South a moment's respite.

Declarer quickly added his tricks, but several desperate counts revealed that only 11 were available. The 12th could come only from the diamond suit, and South didn't think the opposition would duck the setting trick.

However, declarer was not the type to give up without a fight. It was clear that West had the ace of diamonds, since East surely would have cashed it at trick two if he had it. Perhaps, South thought, West could be talked out of his ace by a bit of chicanery.

So, after taking the king of spades, declarer ran dummy's clubs, discarding the J-Q-K of diamonds! He then cashed his heart tricks.

When the fourth heart was played, West, down to the ace of diamonds and J-9 of spades, had to make a discard. He thought long and hard, but South's earlier diamond discards had left an indelible impression. Eventually, afraid that declarer had the Q-x of spades remaining, he let go of the ace of diamonds, and South scored the last two tricks with the spade queen and diamond ten.

If West had paid more attention to his partner's plays — East had returned the deuce of spades at trick two, indicating four cards in the suit, and had later discarded his two remaining spades — he would not have had a problem. Nor would he have felt that sudden urge to have a hole swallow him up, chair and all.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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sudoku

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

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

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sudoku

ANSWERS


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

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