

Vicki Slaton

VOLUME 107, NUMBER 251

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WEDNESDAY

August 8, 2012



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Marcy Elementary fifth grade teacher Tammy Allen shows off her classroom during a public tour of the new campus Tuesday evening.

Schools open to praise

☐ Ribbon cuttings, Page 8

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

It was equal parts grand opening and victory lap.

Big Spring Independent School District officials held ribbon cutting ceremonies Tuesday the four new elementary campuses,



heart that I'm a member of this

community." series of events which turned into a rolling celebration of a

See SCHOOLS, Page 3

Projects enter home stretch; board to convene Thursday

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District trustees will get an update on ongoing construction projects around the district when they hold their monthly meeting at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

The construction, funded by a \$60 million bond approved by voters in May 2010, will result in four new elementary schools and significant renovations at the high school and junior high.

To use a racing analogy, the projects aren't exactly at the finish line yet, but they've definitely reached the home stretch.

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The first project that was checked off the to-do list was renovation of the junior high. Work there involved adding classroom space to house the school district's sixth graders and was completed prior to the start of the 2011-2012 school

After that, the majority of attention shifted to construction of the new elementary campuses, which took the lion's share — \$48 million — of the bond money.

Interior work on three of the four new schools — Washington, Goliad and Marcy — is completed, said Wayland Pierce, who has overseen the construction work for the school district. The fourth campus, Moss Elementary, should be ready for teachers and staff to begin moving in their equipment sometime next week, Pierce added.

Work on the new elementaries took approximately 14

"It's been almost miraculous that the contractors were able to pull all of this off in 14 months," Pierce said of the pace of construction. "And the credit for that goes to (construction manager) Lee Lewis and his people. They've done an outstanding job."

All four campuses will open as scheduled when the new school year begins Aug. 27, although landscaping and other exterior work will continue for some time.

"The drought is delaying a lot of our landscaping plans for at least a year," Pierce said. "Parking lots should be done by the end of the month, but landscaping will be ongoing for awhile. I hope to sit down with the landscaper in the next few days and hash out

See **BSISD**, Page 3

Alleged killer Madison dead

By BILL McCLELLAN

Managing Editor

BIG LAKE — The suspect in the fatal shooting of a Reagan County sheriff's deputy here last week has died of inju-

ries suffered during a 17-hour standoff with law enforce-Authorities said 42-year-old



Madison

Marcus Madison died at Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo about 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. His injuries are believed to have been the result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

His body has been sent to Lubbock for autopsy.

A charge of attempted capital murder had been issued against Madison, who was accused of shooting Josh Mitchell, 26. Wednesday evening. Mitchell had gone to the house on 11th and Main to talk to Madison, said Reagan County Sheriff Jeff Garner.

Garner would not disclose information about the complaint, which he said

See **DEAD**, Page 3

Plains Trail Round-Up begins Thursday

By AMANDA DUFORAT Staff Writer

What's the difference be-

tween being a drive-through and a drive-to destination? The answer will be revealed

at the upcoming Texas Plains Trail Region Tourism Round-Up set for Thursday and Friday at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

"This is the fourth annual round-up and we are encouraging all those who have any dealing with tourism to come out and attend," Debbye ValVerde, Big Spring Area utive director, said.

Chamber of Commerce exec-Debbie Wegman, executive

director of Big Spring Con-

vention and Visitors Bureau, added, "More than anything, we want the members of Big Spring to show support and provide a warm welcome. This is a big deal for us to be able to host this roundup here."

The conference will begin Thursday at 1 p.m. and con-

clude for the day at 5 p.m. The

229916

first day will include three guest speakers, Kim Phillips with Discover Denton, Bernie Sargent from the El Paso Historical Commission and Daphne Adkins with Amarillo Travel Information Cen-

"Each of the speakers bring

See **TRAILS**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Annette Howard

Annette Howard, 75, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, August 7, 2012, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Lacy Edwards



Lacy Edwards, 69, of Big Spring, died Monday, Aug. 6, 2012, at his residence. The family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Rick Cunningham and Patrick Robinson officiating. Burial with military honors will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Oct. 26, 1942, in Sikeston, Mo. to Virginia and Jack Edwards. He has been a resident of Big Spring for 25 years, moving from Snyder. He was a veteran of the United States Navy and the Air Force, serving in Vietnam with both. While in the Navy, he served on the Ticonderoga off the coast of Vietnam. While in the Air Force, he served in Thailand providing support for the B52 missions over Laos and North Vietnam. His medals and awards included: Air Force Gallantry Unit Award, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, The Air Force Longevity Service Medal, The Air Force Good Conduct Medal, The Navy Good Conduct Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Medal and The National Defense Medal.

He graduated from Western Texas College in Snyder. He worked for Texaco in Snyder and worked for CRMWD after he moved to Big Spring. He married Darlene Pirkle on Feb. 9, 1997, in Big Spring. He attended 14th & Main Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife Darlene Pirkle Edwards of Big Spring; three children: Michael Edwards and wife Janet of Sikeston, Mo., Stacey Snelson and husband Jason of Cowetta, Okla., and Paul Edwards and wife Tracy of Troy, Ill.; three step-sons: Jay Pirkle and wife Linn of Albuquerque, Kevin Pirkle and wife Elsa of Donna and Kris Pirkle and wife Andrea of Amarillo; his mother: Sue Yerges of Sikeston, Mo.; two sisters: Sharon Duncan of Sikeston, Mo. and Sue Ann Lawrence and husband Frank of Chicago, Ill.; 12 grandchildren: Braden, Austin, Chase, Haley, Caleb, Tayler, Maggie, Hunter, Addisen, Canen, Troy and Kennedy; and his mother-in-law Georgia Lankford of Big Spring.

He was preceded in death by his father, one sister Bonnie Edwards, his step-father Royce Yerges and brother-in-law Dale Duncan.

Pallbearers will be Patric Robinson, Steve Green. Mac Fitzgerald, Johnny Pilgram, Dale Humphries and Allen Hollandsworth.

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

Paid obituary

Take Note

- Baptist Temple Church has set Vacation Bible School for Aug. 11. Sign ups will be from 8:30 a.m. until 9 a.m. Class will run from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be provided with the closing ceremony from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. Parents and family are invited. Vans will run. Call 267-8287 and leave message with name and number for a call back.
- Northside Community Center will be offering after school program starting Sept. 5 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Free ESL or SSL will be offered from 10 a.m. until noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Free basic computer sessions will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. until noon and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Call 263-
- The Friends of the Library of Howard County request donations of books in good condition for the book sale to be held Sept. 14-16. If you have books to donate take them to the Howard County Library, Monday through Friday during regular library hours. Please no National Geographic magazines, other magazines or condensed books. Friends of the Library is a non-profit organization which provides supplemental support for our public library

and incidental transportation.

Police blotter

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

- THOMAS AGUILAR, 29, of Garden City, was arrested Tuesday on warrants from other agency (x4).
- WHITNEY NICOLE LOVE, 19, of 1410 E. 14th St., was arrested Tuesday on charges of failed to maintain financial responsibility-second offense, speeding and failed to maintain financial responsibility.
- JASON DEAN DANIELS, 35, of 2406 Neil Rd., was arrested Tuesday on warrants for failed to maintain financial responsibility (two counts), driving while license invalid (four counts), expired registration (two counts), expired motor vehicle inspection certificate and safety seat system-child younger than 8 or less than 4'9" tall.
- ANTONIO LIMON IBARRA, 23, of 211 Channing, was arrested Tuesday, on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with previous con-
- GARY DEAN WATKINS, 40, of 1744 Purdue, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than one gram.
- FREDDIE WILLIAMS, 38, of 2539 Gunter, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than one gram.
- KEVIN ALLEN RUTH, 24, of 1506 Chickasaw, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from other agency.
- JASON DEAN DANIELS, 35, of 2406 Neil Rd., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of controlled substance between four grams and 200
- THEFT was reported in the 700 block of Douglas

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 80 inmates at the time of this report.

- WHITNEY NICOLE LOVE, 19, was transferred to the county detention center Tuesday by BSPD on charges of speeding, fail to maintain financial responsibility, operate motor vehicle without financial responsibility.
- THOMAS AGUILAR, 29, was transferred to the county detention center Tuesday by BSPD on charges of no drivers license (two counts) and violate promise to appear (two counts).
- KEVIN ALLEN RUTH, 24, was transferred to the county detention center Tuesday by BSPD on a charge of assault causes bodily injury to family member.
- ANTONIO LIMON IBARRA, 23, was transferred to the county detention center Wednesday by BSPD on a charge of driving with license invalid with previous conviction/suspension without final restitu-
- SHANE LEE NEWSOM, 47, was arrested Wednesday by HCSO on a charge of contempt of court: disobedience of court order.
- FREDDIE LEE WILLIAMS JR., 38, was transferred to the county detention center Wednesday by BSPD on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than one gram.
- GARY DEAN WATKINS, 40, was transferred to the county detention center Wednesday by BSPD on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than one gram.
- MERRILL CAMPBELL, 44, was arrested Wednesday by HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated/open alcohol container.

the present time the Friends is financially supporting the library's summer reading program. Our assistance is not possible without the generosity and cooperation of the wonderful people of this county. Anyone who wishes to join the Friends of the Library, stop by the library for an application. Dues are \$5 a year.

• Registration of students new to Big Spring Independent School District is being held Mondays through Thursdays at the Student Registration and Records office at the old Goliad Intermediate School, 2000 S. Goliad. Parents of students who were not registered as of May 25 must register their children before the start of the new school year Aug. 27. Required records include: Student's Social Security number, birth certificate and shot record,

Today's Weather Local 5-Day Forecast Sat Sun Mon Tue 8/10 8/11 8/12 8/13 8/14 103/75 103/73 103/75 104/76 101/74 Mainly Plenty of Sunshine. More sun Plenty of sunny. Highs than clouds sun. Highs Highs 102 to sun. Highs 101 to 105F 101 to 105F 106F and Highs 101 to 99 to 103F 105F and and lows in lows in the and lows in and lows in the mid 70s. the low 70s. mid 70s. lows in the the mid 70s. mid 70s. Sunrise: Sunrise: 7:09 AM Sunset: Sunset: Sunset: Sunset: Sunset: 8:36 PM 8:35 PM 8:34 PM 8:33 PM 8:32 PM We Celebrate Hometown Life Américan Profile Stories for and about hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this pape Texas At A Glance Amarillo 100/67 Austin Houston 98/73 San Antonio **Brownsville** Area Cities City Hi Lo Cond. Kingsville 101 75 mst sunny 98 76 pt sunny Amarillo 100 67 sunny 96 72 mst sunny Livingston Austin 98 73 pt sunny Longview 94 75 t-storm 100 69 sunny 92 75 mst sunny Beaumont Lubbock 96 75 pt sunnv Brownsville 93 78 pt sunny Lufkin Brownwood 103 74 mst sunny Midland 102 77 mst sunny Corpus Christi Raymondville 95 78 mst sunny 96 76 pt sunny Corsicana 99 76 pt sunny Rosenberg 94 75 mst sunny Dallas 102 79 pt sunny San Antonio 101 75 pt sunny Del Rio 101 80 mst sunny San Marcos 99 73 pt sunny 98 76 sunny 99 77 pt sunny El Paso Sulphur Springs Fort Stockton 98 73 mst sunny Sweetwater 101 74 mst sunny 102 75 pt sunny 95 76 pt sunny Gainesville Tyler Greenville 99 75 pt sunny Weatherford 102 76 pt sunny 106 74 sunny Houston 94 76 mst sunnv Wichita Falls **National Cities** Hi Lo Cond. City Hi Lo Cond. 91 71 pt sunny 73 54 pt sunny 87 76 pt sunny Boston 88 71 pt sunny New York 76 62 t-storm Chicago 107 87 mst sunny Phoenix San Francisco 72 56 pt sunny Dallas 102 79 pt sunny 73 57 pt sunny 94 64 sunny Seattle Houston 94 76 mst sunny St. Louis 94 67 t-storm Los Angeles 90 69 sunny Washington, DC 94 76 mst sunny 89 79 pt sunny **Moon Phases** Full Last New **First** Aug 9 Aug 17 Aug 24 Aug 31 UV Index Sat Sun Tue 8/10 8/11 8/13 8/12 8/14

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Extreme

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

Extreme

 An account has been established at Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union in the name of Glenda Berger, who was recently diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. Donations will be used to help defer medical costs and mounting bills. All donations are greatly appreciated. Call Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union at 800-299-6761.

Extreme

Extreme

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Odds & Ends

Western Pa. man on trial in drunken bicycling case CANONSBURG, Pa. (AP) — A western

Pennsylvania man has been ordered to stand trial on driving under the influence and other charges after police stopped him for wobbly bicycle riding last year. The Observer-Reporter of Washington,

Pa., reports a Peters Township district judge on Monday ordered 44-year-old John Pardini, of Upper St. Clair, to stand trial on charges that also include resisting arrest, public drunkenness and possession of a small amount of marijuana. Peters Officer William Woods testified

he was involved in another traffic stop when he saw Pardini wobbling on his bike nearby and stopped him, too. Woods says Pardini acknowledged hav-

ing a few beers and was carrying a sixpack in a brown bag at the time. Police say Pardini's blood-alcohol con-

tent was 0.097 percent, or slightly above the 0.08 percent limit for drivers.

Men jailed in 'test drive' thefts MONACA, Pa. (AP) — Two western Penn-

sylvania men have been jailed on charges that they twice stole vehicles while taking them on "test drives" from car dealers. The public defenders for 70-year-old Lea-

mond Black and 40-year-old Christopher Mitchell could not immediately be reached for comment on the charges reported Tuesday by the Beaver County Times. Monaca police say the Darlington Town-

ship duo took a 2001 GMC Jimmy sportutility vehicle for a test drive at Monaca Auto Sales on July 25 and never returned. Police found them six days later inside the vehicle in a supermarket parking lot.

The men allegedly did the same thing

at Power's Auto Sales in Rochester Township on July 17, only to have police find the vehicle abandoned in Pittsburgh with a stolen Ohio license plate.

Police: 911 caller seeking ride for beer arrested

COLUMBIA, Tenn. (AP) — When you're out of beer and need a ride to get some, who you gonna' call?

The Columbia Daily Herald reported city police arrested a 67-year-old man after he allegedly called emergency dispatchers at least nine times Saturday. Most of the calls were hang-ups, but a dispatcher said at least once, the caller asked if someone could send him a ride so he could buy Police Officer Seneca Shield said he told

Allen Troy Brooks that if he cooperated, he would just receive a citation. But authorities said Brooks denied making calls and claimed he didn't have a telephone. Brooks was arrested and charged with making 911 calls in a non-emergency situation. He was released on bond.

Man sets fire to home by microwaving socks, undies LONDON (AP) — Note to self: A micro-

wave is for leftovers, not your boxers. British firefighters say they saved an

apartment from destruction after its domestically challenged resident tried to dry his wet socks and underwear in a microwave oven. The Dorset Fire and Rescue Service

says firefighters rescued the man from his home and extinguished the kitchen blaze Monday.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 1

years-long process to make the new schools a reality.

Large crowds greeted officials at each school, and by the time the caravan reached its final stop, Marcy Elementary, the mood had turned quite celebratory. "I can't express enough ...

how much pride I have in my heart that I'm a member of this community," BSISD Superintendent Steven Saldivar said prior to a public tour of Marcy. "The community did this for us. They rallied around us and had the foresight to pass the (\$60 million) bond — and they did it for the kids in this community." Marcy, like her three sister

campuses, is a 75,000 squarefoot building which holds 27 classrooms, a gymnasium, library, combination cafeteria/ auditorium and a veritable boatload of technology. Needless to say, educators

are quite proud of their new schools. "This is awesome — that's

the word that keeps coming to mind," Marcy Principal Rita Faulkner said. "We have a wonderful campus that kids are going to love. And if the kids love coming to school, they're going to learn."

Alvina Arguello, a long-time physical education aide at Marcy, was more than happy to show off the school's gymnasium, which she said is light years ahead of the previous fa-

"I love it," Arguello said. "When I came in (the new gym) for the first time, I just cried — I couldn't help it. I never had an office before. In the past, when the weather was bad, we had to have P.E. In a little corner of the music room, but most of the time, the kids were outside. Now, they'll still be outside some, but there will be a lot of things we can do with

Lee Lewis, head of the construction firm which built the four campuses, credited the partnership forged between his company, Parkhill, Smith and Cooper architects and the school district with allowing the buildings to be constructed within a 14-month time frame.

"This was an extremely compressed schedule," Lewis said. "To build four of these this fast in the same community, while you're fighting the oil field to find qualified workers ... is probably the most difficult job we've ever done.

"We couldn't have done it without the architects and the school district working with us," he added. "It's been a true team effort, one of the best I've

The schools, part of a \$60 million construction project effecting practically every BSISD campus, will officially open when the new school year begins Aug. 27.

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

BSISD

Continued from Page 1

a schedule in the next few days, but I don't want to even hazard a guess as to when work will be complete." The final major con-

struction project is at the high school, which is receiving a new roof and science labs, as well as expansion of the fine arts wing. "We are probably

somewhere in the neighborhood of 80 percent complete on work on the roof," Pierce said, adding that no classroom interruption is expected from that portion of the

seum and Art Center.

"We are expecting this

one will be even big-

ger and better in Big

Spring," said Sue Mc-

Donald, executive d of

the Texas Plains Trail

Council. "There will be

great speakers, a fun

evening event, after-

noon presentations and

more opportunity to net-

work with like-minded

people within the region

The conference is open

to anyone in the com-

and state."

renovation. The science labs, on the other hand, are expected to be checked off today, with teachers moving their equipment in sometime next week. Meanwhile, the fine

arts wing expansion will carry over well into the new school year.

"We hope to have that

completed by the end of February of next year," Pierce said.

After work is completed at the high school, only minor projects, such as additional parking spaces at the junior high and administration building, remain on the to-do list, but Pierce said work there hasn't even reached the planning stages yet. other business

Thursday, trustees will: • Hear reports on bus stops and crosswalks, key communicators, the district's Facebook page and the First Tee National School program. Consider donations,

policy updates, bids,

approval of the student code of conduct, and employee recommenda-

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

DEAD

Continued from Page 1

was of a "personal nature" rather than a criminal complaint. Garner said Madison had a history of being on the wrong side of the law,

Madison's 85-year-old father

was at the residence at the time Mitchell was shot, but left the house soon after, according to authorities. Madison refused to come out of the house and a standoff lasting almost 17 hours began. He was arrested shortly after 11 a.m.

Thursday when a SWAT unit swarmed the residence. Madison was found, alert, in a closet with what authorities said was a self-inflicted gunshot from a rifle to his head. He walked out of the resi-

was flown to Shannon Medical Center, where he was placed in the intensive care unit. Funeral services for Madison

are pending. Mitchell's funeral service

was held this morning at the First Baptist Church in Big Lake with special law enforcement honors. Burial was to follow at Stiles Cemetery. According to media reports,

members of the San Angelo Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, Irion County Sheriff's Office, Texas Border Patrol and other law endence under his own power and forcement agencies joined the Reagan County Sheriff's Office personnel to escort Mitchell from San Angelo to Big Lake on Tuesday afternoon.

Residents of San Angelo showed their support by lining the roads as the procession left their city. Residents of Mertzon and Barnhart also lined their streets along the 70-mile route.

More than 200 Big Lake residents guided the procession to the First Baptist Church. When asked about losing

"one of his own" last Thursday, Garner said he had known Mitchell all his life.

"Josh Mitchell was a fine young man. He was an excellent officer," Garner said. "He would do anything in the world for anyone. He was not the kind you can just replace."

The San Angelo Standard Times and Abilene Reporter News contributed to this re-

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME

& CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288

Sharon Gonzalez, 64, died Thursday in Lubbock, Texas. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Lacy Edwards, 69, died Monday at his residence. The family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. tonight at Mvers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial with Military Honors will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

We sincerely thank

all the kind friends,

neighbors and relatives

for the many

Aristeo Hernandez

Hernandez Family

TRAILS

Continued from Page 1

something great to the table," ValVerde said. "They will each be speaking on how to make your city more of a destination than a drive through. The speakers will be giving different tips on how to attract people to your town.' Friday, day two of the

conference — from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. — will include another four speakers, one of which will be local attorney Rick Hamby. Other speakers will be Emily Lutz, Brazos Trail regional director; Dr. Don Frazier with McMurray University; and Patsy Jackson-Christopher with Carlsbad, N.M. Mu-

munity, but Wegman and ValVerde encourage chamber members,

museum directors, historical committee memtors Bureau, Visit Lub-

AND RESTAURANT \$1.00 Off Adults 50¢ Off Children

COWBOYS STEAKHOUSE

Sunday Only 11-3 Buffet or 1 Coupon Per Person

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bers and civic leaders to attend. Sponsors include Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Convention and Visi-

bock, Texas Historical Commission, West Texas Travelhost magazine and Shamrock Chamber of Commerce.

"Anyone interested in learning more about marketing their community and/or learning about other communities around the Panhandle should attend," Wegman said. Registration fee is \$50

for the conference, \$25 meals and snacks. "This is a great op-

portunity for people all around the state to come to Big Spring to see what we have to offer," Wegman said. "Having the event in Comanche Trail Park will give

for the Thursday mixer and \$25 for a display table. The conference fee includes both days,

those who attend the op-

Are you looking for a way to earn extra income?

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432-393-5934

gion is one of 10 trails under the Texas His-Commission

portunity to see what a

torical Heritage Trail program. The region covers 50,000 square miles and 52 counties. "Our mission is to

promote tourism and increase visitation to our region," McDonald said. "We are hoping people will leave with renewed enthusiasm to take back to their communities.' Registration can be

completed online at www.texasplainstrail. com or at the chamber · Swimming Pool

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great park we have." Third. The Texas Plains Re-Contact Staff Writer

Amanda Duforat at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail life@bigspringher-

office, located at 215 W.

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-5U_{Off Per Child} Up to 10 People (NOT FOR CARRYOUT) EXP. 8/31/12

courtesies, expressions of sympathy and beautiful floral tributes that were given at the passing of

Sewing Tues.-Sat. 10 am - 6 -pm We are now offering classes, please call or come by!

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SAUNDERS

"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."

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor

Brian McCormack Sports Editor

Steve Reagan Staff Writer

Amanda Duforat Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

Our Views

Tourism and travel in good ol' Big Spring

This week Big Springers will have an opportunity to learn how to draw in the tourists and help the community become a drive-to destination instead of a drive-through location.

The Texas Plains Trail Region Annual Tourism Round-up — which is in its fourth year will be in Big Spring Thursday and Friday at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

During the two-day conference, several speakers wil take the stage offering tips and other information regarding how to make communities tourist friendly and attractive. One of those speakers will be local attorney Rick Hamby. Registration fee is \$50 for the conference, \$25

for the Thursday mixer and \$25 for a display table. The conference fee includes both days, meals and snacks.

For those wanting to find out more information or to register to attend, call the chamber office at 263-7641.

More information can also be found online at www.texasplainstrail.com.

Another educational and informational event coming to Big Spring is the presentation by Texas Good Roads/Transportation Association and The Ports-To-Plains Alliance.

State Representative Drew Darby, chairman of the appropriations subcommittee on transportation, will be providing an update on where the Ports-To-Plains project stands. The event is scheduled for Aug. 15 at 3 p.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Reservations to Texas Good Roads can be made by email at michael.reeves@portstoplains.com and need to be received by Aug. 10.

More information on the project can be found online at www.texasgoodroads.org.

How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opin-

- In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:
- In person at 710 Scurry St. By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at
- newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we show our enthusiasm for You, Lord, to everyone we meet.

Amen

Harry Reid and his big mouth

henever a name Republican says something stupid or indefensible or arguably both, for

the next three days folks will open a conversation by asking me (the only Republican they know) what I think about the latest GOP gaffe. That standard

does not apply when Democrats talk out of turn even when they make unsupport-

able accusations deliberately. Last week, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid did just that when he told The Huffington Post that an unnamed Bain Capital investor told him Mitt Romney "didn't pay taxes for 10 years." Romney denies the charge.

PolitiFact rated Reid's unsubstantiated claim as "pants on fire" false and "far-fetched."

Reid seemed to understand how fantastic his charge appeared. He told HuffPo, "Now, do I know that that's true? Well, I'm not certain. But obviously he can't release those tax returns. How would it look?" HuffPo reported that though it

is impossible to verify who the investor is (or whether Reid's invisible friend has any proof or even knowledge of Romney's tax history) — and that Reid didn't even claim he knew what he said was true — "there is limited political downside to the type of open speculation that Reid is making, so long as Romney refuses to budge on the issue of his tax returns."

You see, when Democrats hurl charges they can't back up, it's because they're so politically

There's little penalty, so Reid not only repeated his tale but also embellished it. He said on the Senate floor of Romney: "As we know, he has refused to release his tax returns." That's not true.

Romney released his 2010 return and an estimate for 2011. But when a man has a casual relationship with facts, he can make this sort of claim with impunity.

Reid has critics. The New York Times' Frank Bruni lamented Reid's "spew first" tactics. "The Daily Show's" Jon Stewart ranted: "Here's a rule of thumb: If you have to follow your claim with the words 'I don't know if that's true,' then shut up." Stewart likened Reid to fellow fabulist Donald Trump, railing that Reid "might as well put a dead cocker spaniel on (his) head and start yelling about birth certificates."

No worries. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi supported Reid. She told HuffPo that Reid's statement "is true. Somebody told him. It is a fact." Pelosi and Reid share the same low bar. Though both Democratic lead ers have called on Romney to release years of tax returns, both refused to release their tax returns to McClatchy Newspapers last month.

As for Reid, he has a history of inserting his foot into his mouth Reid once told "Game Change" authors John Heilemann and Mark Halperin that he believed Barack Obama could win the White House, as he was a "lightskinned" African-American "with no Negro dialect, unless he wanted to have one." Reid also called President George W. Bush a "loser" and former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan "one of the biggest political hacks we have in Washington."

Note that Reid didn't call Greenspan the biggest political hack in Washington. That role, after all, is taken.

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

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Not my regular, but I felt it needed to be touched upon

Tith tongue firmly planted in cheek I submit that if you are one of the countless throng of my regular readers you will have by now deduced that I am by vocation a preacher. But I often tell people who try to lure me into a discussion on religious matters that if they want to hear me preach, I'll be in the pulpit every Sunday morning at 10:30 and they are welcome to sit on any pew they choose, front middle, or back. I have also purposed that this column will not be a platform for propagating religious matters or opinions. However, some

of the events of the past week have stirred my emotional soul so intensely that I cannot remain silent about some things that have been so blatantly shoved in my face. We are living in a world that demands tolerance

PRINCE

EDDY

and, generally speaking,

I have no problem with that. I am personally a very open-minded man who has always been outspoken against any level or incident of injustice or mistreatment of anyone.

Watching the Olympics this week has reminded me once again of how much we human beings are really alike in so many ways. Watching the athletes from countries around the world and their families in the stands makes one keenly aware of how difficult it would be to discern their nationality simply from their appearance.

Looking at those young people from Russia, or any other number of countries, one could easily surmise they are the same young men and women we see every day walking the streets of America.

They cry tears of joy and disappointment just like you and me. They hug their moms and dads and high-five their teammates and coaches just like our USA athletes. When you think about that you realize there's something to learn about being accepting and tolerant of other people from across the globe.

Then there was the Chick-fil-

A incident where an American business owner made a statement about his personal beliefs concerning the traditional family and from the news coverage it received and the reaction of certain activist groups one would have thought he had committed high treason against humanity and deserved to be hanged at daybreak. Now, rest assured, my comments are not intended to address the issue of homosexuality or same-sexmarriage, although I have my beliefs and opinions which I am comfortable with and that's enough said about it. I base my personal core beliefs about anything on the Bible and that is non-negotiable regardless of society's influence.

The hatred that was expressed against this legitimate and successful business owner was incredible. I find it hard to believe, and even harder to accept, that people would be so ruthlessly hateful of anyone who simply exercised their constitutionally guaranteed freedom of speech.

As an example of the bizarre hatred expressed against the company and its owner, Roseanne Barr tweeted the following (edited by this author for decency) comment; "anyone who eats s*** Fil-A deserves to get the cancer that is sure to come from eating antibiotic filled tortured chickens 4Christ". Unbelievable and despicable are only two of the adjectives that readily come to mind concerning that kind of putrid statement.

Of course I understand that people have very different ideas and opinions and that's a significant part of what America is all about, but what happened to that old-fashioned concept of respecting one another as fellow human beings and even their right to disagree with me?

There are plenty of things happening in our world that I am adamantly opposed to and I absolutely will not compromise my personal beliefs and convictions in order to pacify some radical group who makes a lot of noise about it.

I have come to the conclusion that the main difference between God and many liberal extremists is that God doesn't think He is a liberal extremist.

If nothing immoral or illegal is at stake I generally admire

and respect people who stand up for their beliefs, whether I happen to agree with them or not. I guess what bothers me the most about so much of this society's attitude is the glaring double standard embraced by so many in things of this nature. I read this comment recently; "You won't eat Chick-fil-A because the CEO believes in traditional marriage.

So, when will you stop buying gas because Saudi Arabia believes homosexuality is punishable by death?" That may sound like an exaggeration of fact but it

The double, or sometimes triple, standard imposed on us is an indictment against our intelligence. We are expected to bow our knee to every loud-mouthed radical movement that rears its head yet we don't dare say anything that might offend someone whose beliefs and actions can be so ridiculous and offensive that

it defies understanding. Personally, I have been offended by many people and their unrelenting imposition of their beliefs on me in sometimes even serious matters yet I didn't shoot them or wish cancer and de-

struction upon them. At the risk of sounding religious I will say that I often pray for people who I perceive to be misguided or who seem to have a destructive agenda to promote.

The truth is that positive change is healthy for everyone and some need it desperately.

I often think about Jesus and his treatment of the woman who was caught in the act of adultery. The law allowed for her to be stoned to death. Jesus told the crowd (paraphrased from scripture) to go ahead and stone her, just make sure the first stone is thrown by someone who is without sin.

That dispersed the crowd then and it would disperse any crowd today too. I just think it's time to redefine love and hate and what actions and attitudes are acceptable in this matter of tolerance.

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

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

News in brief

FBI probe into Wis. temple shooter might yield intelligence, but motives might never be known

MILWAUKEE (AP) — There's no trial to prepare, no jury to persuade, no judge to hand down a

Wade Michael Page is dead, killed by police after fatally shooting six people at a Sikh temple outside Milwaukee. Although detectives are pursuing leads in several states, their findings might never be presented in court.

So will the full story behind the attack ever be known? And how long will investigators keep looking for an elusive motive that might provide answers to devastated Sikh families, as well as valuable information about white supremacists? At the moment, detectives are sifting through

the gunman's life, assembling the biography of a man who apparently had few relatives, a spotty work history and a thin criminal record. They have warned they might never learn for certain what drove him to attack total strangers in a holy place. The Sikh community holds out hope.

"We just want to get to the bottom of what motivated him to do it," said Amardeep Singh, an executive with the New York-based Sikh Coalition. "It's important to acknowledge why they lost

911 caller describing Ohio hospital shooting says sound was thought to come from oxygen tank

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — People responding to the sound of what they thought was a problem with an oxygen tank in a patient's Ohio hospital room discovered a man dressed in black with a gun. Then they realized the noise was a shot, a 911 caller told a dispatcher in a recording.

As authorities continued investigating what may have been a mercy killing, the 911 recording was released on Tuesday.

The suspect, John Wise, 66, appeared before an Akron Municipal Court judge via video from jail on an aggravated attempted murder charge. His bond was set at \$1 million.

He is due back for arraignment Wednesday

The emergency call came from an Akron hospital where police believe Wise calmly walked into the facility and shot his wife in the head. The caller, apparently a nurse, said she had gone to hide in a room down the hall but could hear a commotion in a neurology intensive care unit, with people yelling and running nearby.

"I think I need to go out there. Seriously, I think someone's coding or something," she said before the recording ended. Around the same time, another caller from hospital security confirmed to a dispatcher that a patient had been shot.

Evacuees wait in shelters as Ernesto comes ashore, starts across Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula

CHETUMAL, Mexico(AP) — Ernesto spuninland over Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula earlv Wednesday while hundreds of fishermen who fled low-lying villages for shelters and tourists evacuated from resorts to inland hotels hunkered down for a stormy night.

Ernesto hit the peninsula as a hurricane with sustained winds of 85 mph (140 kph) when it swept over the shore town of Mahuahal shortly before midnight Tuesday and moved into a sparsely populated coastal region, the U.S. National Hurricane

It had weakened to a tropical storm by early Wednesday with winds near 70 mph (110 kph), but was expected to regain hurricane strength when its centered emerged over the Bay of Campeche. The storm was moving west at 15 mph (24 kph).

There were no early reports of damage, but it might be morning before officials could assess whether Ernesto's rain and wind caused problems.

Chetumal, the capital of Quintana Roo state, was the closest city and officials moved more than 1,300 tourists there from resorts in Mahuahal, Balacar and other coastal spots that were expected to see heavier rain and wind.

TransUnion: Late payments on mortgages down 9 percent in first half of 2012

LOS ANGELES (AP) — U.S. homeowners are getting better about keeping up with their mortgage payments, driving the percentage of borrowers who have fallen behind to a three-year low, according to a new report.

Still, the rate of decline remains slow, credit reporting agency TransUnion said Wednesday. The percentage of mortgages going unpaid is unlikely to return anytime soon to where it was before the housing market crashed.

Some 5.49 percent of the nation's mortgage holders were behind on their payments by 60 days or more in the April-to-June period, the agency said. That's the lowest level since the first quarter of

The second-quarter delinquency rate is down from 5.82 percent in the same period last year, and below the 5.78 percent rate for the first three months of 2012.

The positive second-quarter trend coincided with an improving outlook for the U.S. housing market.

Gunman called a 'different person' as he pleads to Arizona rampage that killed 6, injured 13

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Jared Loughner sat looking relaxed and attentive in a packed courtroom as he pleaded guilty to a deadly shooting rampage in an agreement with prosecutors that will send him to prison for life. He even cracked a smile when a court-appointed psychologist talked about the special bond that he formed with a prison guard. His hair closely cropped, Loughner was not

the smiling, bald-headed suspect captured in a mug shot soon after the January 2011 shooting. Six people had died and 13 others were wounded, including his intended target, then-Rep. Gabrielle He was not the man who rocked back and forth

in court in May 2011 before blurting out, "Thank you for the free kill. She died in front of me. Your The changes in Loughner's behavior while

being treated and medicated at a federal prison in Springfield, Mo., led a judge to declare the 23-yearold competent Tuesday. U.S. District Judge Larry Burns gave his blessings to a plea agreement that spares prosecutors and victims a potentially lengthy trial and appeal and allows Loughner to escape the death penalty.

The judge called Loughner "a different person in his appearance and his affect than the first time I laid eyes on him."

While it sits out the war, U.S. struggles to shape how Syria looks the day after Assad

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration's principles for a post-Assad Syria are clear: security, sectarian harmony, no tolerance for

But the U.S. faces a hard sell with Syria's fighters after refusing to back them militarily and watching them squabble for months over how to reshape their country the day after President Bashar Assad's regime crumbles, as expected.

With government defections on the rise and the rebels gaining advantage in Aleppo and Damascus, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton

outlined her vision Tuesday of how Syria should move forward in the event of a sudden regime change.

"We have to make sure that the state institutions stay intact," Clinton told reporters in Pretoria, South Africa. "We have to think about what we can do to support a Syrian-led democratic transition that protects the rights of all Syrians. We have to figure out how to support the return of security and public safety and how to get their economy up and going."

Washington is urging a gradual approach to transition that would keep water, electricity and other public services running — and ensure that women, minorities, independents and government officials without blood on their hands get a say in Syria's future.

Officials investigate Chevron's response to fire at massive refinery in San Francisco Bay area

RICHMOND, Calif. (AP) — Investigators were looking at how a small, seemingly insignificant leak at one of the country's biggest oil refineries quickly unraveled into an intense fire that sent acrid black smoke into the sky and hundreds of people to hospitals with health complaints.

The leak started as a drip at about 4:15 p.m. Monday, officials said. Chevron — which is required to "immediately" notify the public of any gas leak, fire or oil spill, according to state law — did not consider it an immediate danger to residents nearby.

"At that point in time, there really wasn't anything we could advise the community to do," said Mark Ayers, the refinery's fire chief.

"We surely wouldn't advise anybody to shelter in place."

The company's engineers began stripping away insulation on the leaky pipe to investigate the source, which released a vapor of a flammable substance similar to diesel. About two and a half hours later, a conflagration had officials scrambling to warn residents to stay inside.

Chevron officials notified Contra Costa County so it could activate its emergency warning system, said Randy Sawyer, director of the county's health services agency.



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News in brief

Texas executes man despite claims of low IQ

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — A Texas man convicted of killing a police informant two decades ago was executed Tuesday evening after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected arguments that he was too mentally impaired to qualify for the death penalty.

Markin Wilson 54 was prenounced.

Marvin Wilson, 54, was pronounced dead at 6:27 p.m., 14 minutes after his lethal injection began at the state prison in Huntsville. Wilson's attorneys had argued that he should have been ineligible for capital punishment because of his low IQ.

Before the lethal drug was administered, Wilson smiled and raised his head from the death-chamber gurney, nodding to his three sisters and son as they watched through a window a few feet away. He told them several times that he loved them and asked that they give his mother "a big hug."

"Y'all do understand that I came here a sinner and leaving a saint," he said. "Take me home Jesus, take me home Lord, take me home Lord!"

He urged his son not to cry, told his family he would see them again, and then told the warden standing next to him that he was ready. He didn't acknowledge his victim's father, two brothers and an uncle who were watching through an adjacent window. They later declined comment.

As the drug took effect, Wilson quickly went to sleep. He briefly snored before his breathing became noticeably shallow. Then it stopped.

In their appeal to the Supreme Court, Wilson's attorneys had pointed to a psychological test conducted in 2004 that pegged his IQ at 61, below the generally accepted minimum competency standard of 70. But lower courts agreed with state attorneys, who argued that Wilson's claim was based on a single possibly faulty test and that his mental impairment claim wasn't supported by other tests and assessments over the years.

Fort Worth man gets life for deliveryman slaying

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A North Texas man has been sentenced to life in prison without parole for a 2010 crime spree that left a deliveryman dead.

Jose Clemente Ramos Jr. pleaded guilty Tuesday to capital murder in the death of Ruben Martinez outside a Fort Worth convenience store. As part of a plea deal, prosecutors did not

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seek the death penalty.

Ramos still faces a capital murder charge in the robbery and slaying of Nancy Weatherly of Godley.

Earlier this year, Ramos' friend Mark Anthony Soliz was convicted and sentenced to death in Weatherly's murder.

Ramos on Tuesday also pleaded guilty to aggravated robbery, burglary and deadly conduct during the two-county, seven-day crime spree. Ramos received two life prison terms and a 20-year sentence, to be served concurrently.

Girl, 16, wounded by shots fired into Dallas house

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas police say a 16-year-old girl who was in her room has been shot after someone outside her home opened fire on the residence.

Police say five other people suffered minor injuries from flying glass during the incident early Wednesday.

Investigators say no one has been arrested. Police are trying to determine a motive for the attack. Several bullets went into the residence.

Police say the girl was asleep but awoke when she heard several gunshots from outside. The teen was shot in the torso but police say she was in good condition when transported to a Dallas hospital. Her name hasn't been released.

Further details were not immediately available.

Texarkana to dedicate bridge for 2 fallen soldiers

TEXARKANA, Ark. (AP) — The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department has granted Miller County permission to designate a bridge in honor of two soldiers killed in Afghanistan.

Officials hope to designate the North State Line Avenue bridge across Interstate 30 as the Kyle Brandon Stout/Zainah Creamer Memorial Bridge. A sign has already been placed on the Texas side of the bridge.

The Texarkana Gazette reports that the bridge straddling the state line will honor one fallen soldier from Arkansas and one from Texas.

Creamer graduated from Arkansas High School in Texarkana and was killed in January 2011 in Afghanistan, where she worked as a dog handler with the 212th Military Police Detachment. She was 28.

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Texas, and died in July 2010 while serving near Kandahar.

Stout was a native of Wake Village,

Houston police kill man outside wife's workplace

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police have shot and killed a man who allegedly fired into his estranged wife's office then tried to enter the building.

Internal affairs officers are reviewing Tuesday afternoon's shooting. Police say the officer who fatally shot the suspect has been with the force since 1984.

Police say a 911 call from the woman,

who had a restraining order against her husband, summoned officers.

Investigators say the suspect, who briefly ducked into a waiting taxi he apparently took to the building, refused to put down a pistol and threatened to harm his spouse. An officer shot the husband before the suspect could enter the woman's building.

Teen gets 20 years for Austin fatal shooting

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A man who pleaded guilty to a 2010 fatal shooting near a Central Texas bus stop has been sentenced to 20 years in prison.

Authorities say 19-year-old Enrique Barriga of Austin pleaded guilty to murder as part of a plea agreement. Austin police say the slaying of 24-year-old Andre Keith Walker was related to gang activity.

The Austin American-Statesman reports court documents indicate Barriga was sentenced Monday. Prosecutors did not immediately provide further details.

Man guilty of smuggling illegal immigrants

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Authorities say a Texas man has pleaded guilty in Mississippi to transporting illegal immigrants.

A news release from the U. S. attorney's office says Jonathan Garcia-Ramirez was pulled over on Interstate 20 in Rankin County on April 15. There were 10 illegal immigrants from Mexico in the van he was driving.

The trip originated in Houston, Texas, with Ramirez's first passenger to be dropped off in Atlanta. He then planned to head to New York and New Jersey before returning to Texas. Ramirez was to be paid \$1,500 for transporting the illegal immigrants to various cities.

Ramirez will be sentenced by U.S. District Judge Henry T. Wingate in Jackson on Oct. 18. He faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

Austin lawyer considers appeal for 'Bernie' inmate

DALLAS (AP) — An Austin lawyer has taken up the case of an ex-funeral home director convicted in a 1996 killing featured in the movie "Bernie."

The Dallas Morning News reported Tuesday that attorney Jodi Callaway Cole has met with director Richard Linklater of Austin. "Bernie," starring Jack Black as Bernhardt Tiede II, was released this year.

Tiede is serving life in prison for the fatal shooting of 81-year-old Marjorie Nugent of Carthage. The wealthy widow, portrayed by Shirley MacLaine, was found dead in a freezer at her

home.

Cole says she told Linklater that the movie raised issues for a possible appeal. Cole, who's met with Tiede, declined to elaborate or say who hired her.

Tiede on Wednesday was in the Telford Unit. He's not eligible for parole until 2027.

2 indicted in marijuana growing operation BRENHAM, Texas (AP) — Two men

have been indicted on charges in connection with a 3,000-plant marijuanagrowing operation in Southeast Texas.

A federal grand jury in Austin on

Tuesday indicted 38-year-old Jose Evaristo Rivera, a Honduran national, and 27-year-old Evertte Gonzalez, a Mexican national. Each is charged with one count of conspiracy to manufacture over 1,000 marijuana plants and one count of manufacturing marijuana plants.

They face from 10 years to life in

federal prison if convicted.

Court documents say Rivera and

Court documents say Rivera and Gonzalez were on-site caretakers for four marijuana fields near Brenham, about 70 miles northwest of Houston.

Man honored for saving 2 kids from burning home

HOUSTON (AP) — A U.S. Postal Service carrier in Houston is being honored for saving two children from a burning home in June.

Danny Thompson was on his route

when he saw smoke from an air-conditioning unit. He knocked on the door but got no answer. He kept delivering mail but went back and knocked again after noticing there was more smoke. Then he found that two children were in the house alone.

Thompson asked the 13-year-old girl

and 11-year-old boy to find the keys to the gates that were locked from the outside. After he unlocked the gate, the youngsters escaped just moments before the house went up in flames.

Houston city officials proclaimed "Danny Thompson Day" at City Hall Tuesday afternoon. Thompson says he doesn't consider himself a hero.

Texas doctors object to abortion counseling rule

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas medical groups object to a proposed rule for the state Women's Health Program that would ban abortion counseling, calling it a gag order on doctors.

The Dallas Morning News reported Tuesday that the Texas Medical Association and other groups say the rule is so burdensome that doctors won't want to participate in the program.

The Women's Health Program has been embroiled in a debate over Planned Parenthood and its involvement in cancer screening and contraception services.

Conservative state leaders have insisted that Planned Parenthood, which had served 40 percent of the 130,000 low-income women enrolled in the family planning services, should be excluded because it has a separate arm that performs abortions.

The federal government, which pays about 90 percent of the program's costs, is set to cut that funding later this year because Texas moved to exclude Planned Parenthood from participating.

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Life Church held a backpack to school event Monday evening for the youth in the community. About 300 backpacks filled with school supplies were given away. In addition, there was face painting, bouncy houses, popcorn and more. The event was held to provide assistance for those in need as the new school year approaches.

> HERALD photo/ **Amanda Duforat**

Why not check this out? At the Howard County Library

yn-o-mite! How many of you remember that catchphrase from the 1970s television show "Good Times?" Jimmie

Walker, one of the stars of that show, was raised in the South Bronx projects and made his way



McCright

out of them thanks to an ability to make people laugh. A brash young comedian, he was a star of a new generation and in his biography, "DYN-O-

MITE!" (B WAL J), Walker imparts the lessons he has learned along the way about self-reliance, freedom of speech (the n-word and more) and belief in the individual — subjects that he frequently talks about on talk radio and television.

What do these people all have in common: Freddie Mercury, James Brown, Amy Winehouse, Selena, Jimi Hendrix and Loretta Lynn? They are all musicians and all but Loretta Lynn, are dead. Now, match the songs to the singer: "I Could Fall in Love," "We Will Rock You," "Fist City?" "Manic Depression," "Rehab" and "I Feel Good." The library now has biographies on all of the people listed above and golly, have I been reliving some of my musical past!

Chris Perez has held on to his memories of his wife Selena for the past 10 years. Murdered at age 23, Selena was one of the most compelling and adored super-

stars in the Latin music

scene. In "To Selena, With Love" (B SEL P), Chris's powerful story gives a rare glimpse in their life as a young couple falling in love and living as husband and wife for such a very short time. There are certain details that will clarify some details about her life and death, but this is a love story between a young woman and man that was cut short too soon.

Amy Winehouse died July 23, 2011, at the age of 28 due to alcohol poisoning. Her music was a combination of blues, jazz and pop. Mitch Winehouse, Amy's father, has written "Amy, My Daughter" (B WIN A) in an attempt to explain his daughter's life. I have read bits and pieces of it and it is indeed a moving story of how addiction kills.

Another musician that is iconic in nature is James Brown. Author R.J. Smith, contributing columnist for The Village Voice and The New York Times Magazine, has written "The One: The Life and Music of James Brown' (B BRO J), and I must tell you, it is absolutely riveting. Brown was born into object pov erty in South Carolina and was raised in rural Georgia amid violent racial tension. His revolutionary music grew from the soil of his youth, the drumbeat of old slave songs and spirit and sound of gospel. When you add in the chitlin' circuit of the southern states and the Apollo Theater in Harlem, it all adds up to one of the most important musicians of the 20th century. This is a great biography to read during the dog days of

I must confess I did not realize Freddie Mer-

summer.

cury was the founder of the band Queen, nor that the song "We Will Rock You" was one of his hits. As lead vocalist for that iconic band, Mercury has been dead more than 20 years. Now those who were closest to him are beginning to open up about this pivotal figure in rock 'n' roll. "Mercury: An Intimate Biography of Freddie Mercury" (B MER F) by Lesley-Ann Jones, offers an intimate portrait of a complex man who played a starring role the 1980s rock music scene and it is really a fascinating look. A movie of his life is in the works according to Wikipedia.

Jimi Hendrix has been dead twice as long Freddie Mercury (40 years) and he was recently named the greatest guitar player of all time by Rolling Stone Magazine. Many have

8

written about Jimi, but few have the "chops" that this author does, his younger brother, Leon Hendrix. In "Jimi Hendrix: A Brother's Story" (B HEN J), Leon will take you back to the days before his rise to fame, beginning with life in the tough neighborhood in Seattle. Science fiction and UFOs helped them both cope with difficult family home life and Leon reveals Jimi's early fascination with sound. Jimi took apart the family's radio — he explained he "was looking for the music" and purchased his first guitar from a neighbor. Like James Brown, Jimi would travel the Chitlin' Circuit and Leon writes about the biographical roots of Jimi's most well-known songs. Again, drugs and skyrocketing fame will isolate Jimi from

his family and Hen-

8

3

drix's death will once again shatter a family's bonds.

In next week's column, I will match up the songs and singers for you and write about the "live" singer, unless Loretta Lynn dies between now and then.

Library hours are 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday,

with the Internet/Video room closing at 5:30

The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.



By Steve Becker

The Blackwood Convention

South dealer. North East

Pass king of diamonds. Opening lead Blackwood is one of the best conventions ever devised, but it should not be abused or it might defeat its very purpose. There are several delicate nuances connected with Blackwood that must be appreciated for the convention to be fully effective. Consider this case, which shows how

wood can do more harm than good. North quite naturally bid two showing his best suit after South opened one spade, whereupon South went directly to

four spades, indicating a selfsufficient suit. North had the values to bid six spades straightaway, but in order to test the possibility of a potential grand slam, he decided to

After South showed one ace by bidding five diamonds, North bid five notrump, ostensibly asking for agreement, this bid guaranteed that the partnership had all four aces. South then showed two kings, and North signed off in six spades, which South passed. Thus the laydown grand slam was missed.

The fault in not reaching seven can be attributed to South, who should have bid seven spades over five notrump. He should have paid more attention to how many tricks he was apt to make rather than telling partner how many kings he had.

When North bid five notrump, indicating no aces were missing, South could count seven spade winners, at least three clubs and the two red aces for a total of 12 tricks. But because North had bid clubs, there was an excellent chance that the club suit would provide a 13th trick — just A-J-x-x or A-x-x-x was all North needed to have.

Even in the sequence shown, South had a chance to recover. After North bid six spades, South could still have carried on to seven at his

Tomorrow: Rescuing a lost cause. ©2012 King Features Syndicate Inc.

too rigid an application of Black-6 8 7 4 5 9 6 9 4 2 6 1

6

5 7 9 3 5 2

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every

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In Sunday's **Big Spring Herald**



'Littles' & 'Bigs'

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Schools ready for students

Each of the new elementaries was honored with a ribbon cutting Tuesday



Moss Elementary



Washington Elementary



Goliad Elementary



Marcy Elementary

HERALD photos/Amanda Duforat Each of the four new elementaries — Moss, Washington, Goliad and Marcy - will be open and ready for the new school year Aug. 27. Each of the 75,000-square-foot facilities will house 27 classrooms, a gymnasium and combination cafeteria/auditorium. Each school follows the same basic layout, distinguished by appropriate colors. Pictured at right is Principal Fabian Gomez, cutting the ribbon at Goliad Elementary School.

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SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 9 Wednesday, August 8, 2012



The Coahoma Bulldogs began preseason practice this week. Coahoma looks to be tough again with nine starters returning on both sides of the ball.

Bulldog Football 2012

Aug. 30 — Forsan (At Midland), 4 p.m.

Sept. 7 — Coleman (T), 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 14 — Colorado City (H), 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 21 — Denver City (T), 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 28 — Ballinger (H)

Oct. 5 — O P E N

Oct. 12 — *Stanton (H), 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 19 — *Sonora (T), 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 26 — *Crane (H), 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 2 - *Reagan County (T), 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 9 — *Alpine (H), 7:30 p.m.

*Denotes district game

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com

U.S. men ready for Olympic hoop quarterfinal

LONDON (AP) — Three games from gold, the U.S. men's Olympic basketball team believes its best is still to come.

First up is Australia in the quarterfinal round, though Wednesday's game, and each one after that, may as well go by another name to the "Game 7," forward Kevin Durant said. "Every

game is Game 7. Most of the guys here been in those situations.' The Americans have two choices: Win, and

move closer to the title, or lose and go home in

"We're focused on this," coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "We're ready. Let's go."

The U.S. was 5-0 in pool play, perfect in the standings if not quite on the court. The defense hardly seems at a championship level, though that never mattered because the Americans could outgun all of their opponents.

But there are no Nigerias in the single-elimination round, so maybe there will come a night where they can't win with offense alone.

"I think we can outscore teams, but you're going to have a game where your shots aren't falling and you need to get stops," swingman Andre Iguodala said, "and that's the scary part of our team. It's that we can still get better. We want

See **U.S. MEN**, Page 15

Astros lose to Nats again in extra innings

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros were trying to stay upbeat after their latest extra-inning loss dropped them to 0-11 in such games this sea-

The young team hopes the experience of playing in games like this will help them in the future.

Danny Espinosa hit a two-run homer early, and his RBI single in the 12th inning lifted the Washington Nationals to a 3-2 win over the Astros on Tuesday night.

"We have to just build off these games," Houston's Brett Wallace said. "We're not winning them, but there is a lot to learn. ... We just have keeping building off of that, and eventually those

balls will fall." Michael Morse was 0 for 4 when he doubled to start the 12th in-

ning and extend his career-high hitting streak to 16 games. He was replaced by pinchrunner Cesar Izturis, who was making his first appearance for Washington after being claimed off waivers from Milwaukee on Monday.

Roger Bernadina advanced Izturis to third with a sacrifice bunt. Espinosa's sharp grounder off Mickey Storey (0-1) skipped past the pitcher for a hit that brought Izturis home and gave the Nationals their second straight extra-inning win over Houston.

Washington beat the Astros 5-4 in 11 innings on Monday.

For the Astros, owners of baseball's worst record, it was another difficult game in a sea-

son full of them. Houston manager Brad Mills said. "It's been tough."

Dempster rebounds in 6-3 win over Boston

BOSTON (AP) — That's the know he's capable of getting outs, Ryan Dempster the Texas Rangers hoped they got at the trade deadline.

Dempster rebounded from a rough debut with Texas by pitching shutout ball into the seventh inning, Ian Kinsler had a pair of RBI singles and the Rangers snapped a two-game losing streak with a 6-3 win over the Boston Red Sox on Tuesday night.

"Anytime you have a rough one you want to get out there the next day," Dempster said. "Those five days take a long time. I think just knowing the lineup a little bit facing these guys. I was able to use the fastball and had a good split."

Dempster (1-0) allowed three unearned runs, six hits, struck out six and walked one in 62-3 in-

Acquired from the Chicago Cubs minutes before last week's non-waiver trade deadline, he was tagged for eight runs in 4 2-3 innings by the Angels in his first Rangers' start on Thursday.

On Tuesday, he showed why he was the one of the top prizes at the deadline.

"Even though he gave up all those runs against Anaheim, he kept us in that ballgame and we won that ballgame," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "He had a two-point-something ERA, leading the National League in ERA, leading the National League in (batting average) against. We

and he proved that tonight, without a shadow of a doubt. We're very happy to have him. We certainly need his leadership in the front part of our rotation."

Rangers outfielder David Murphy knew how Dempster felt, having been dealt by Boston to the Rangers at the deadline in 2007.

"He's a veteran and he's an easygoing guy to begin with, but I think as a man you want to earn your keep," he said. "Obviously after not having his best stuff his first outing, he wanted to turn that around as quickly as possible. I think he did that tonight."

Josh Hamilton and Nelson Cruz each had two hits and drove in a run for Texas.

Will Middlebrooks had a pinchhit three-run homer for the Red Sox, who have lost five of seven.

The AL West-leading Rangers have lost three straight only three times this season.

Jon Lester (5-10) gave up four runs on six hits in 6 2-3 innings. He's 0-5 in his last six starts.

"It's another heck of a performance. We didn't score the runs and he didn't get the breaks," Red Sox manager Bobby Valentine said. "Couple of curveballs to a couple of left-handers wound up hurting him."

Lester, expected to be one of the club's top starters, hasn't won since June 27.

"I can't keep talking about be-

ing frustrated and all this stuff, he said. "Everybody obviously knows here that we're frustrated and we don't like losing. ... But there's positives for me personally in this game that I'm going to take and go forward to the next one."

Boston's Dustin Pedroia was called out on an attempted check swing by first base umpire Paul Nauert in the eighth and ejected in the top of the ninth. "It looked like he checked his

swing from our vantage point," said Valentine, who came out after his second baseman was Until Middlebrooks belted his

homer, it was very similar to when Dempster faced the Red Sox earlier this season. He mixed a sharp splitter with

a well-spotted fastball to keep Boston's hitters off-balance.

Joe Nathan worked the ninth for his 22nd save.

With Texas leading 4-0 and two outs in the seventh, Kinsler misplayed Ryan Kalish's grounder for an error. Middlebrooks followed by hitting the first pitch over the Green Monster — where a fan reached out to grab the ball near the top of the wall. The call was reviewed and upheld after a lengthy review.

Cruz's RBI single made it 5-3 in the eighth. Hamilton's single

See **DEMPSTER**, Page 15



HERALD photo/Brian McCormack

Tobyn Tannehill prepares to hand the ball off during a practice at Memorial Stadium on Tuesday as the team works on plays. Tannehill will likely be the starter at the QB position.

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Legals

CITY OF FORSAN **TEXAS COMMUNITY** DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT **PROGRAM** CONTRACT NUMBER 71191 PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Forsan will conduct a public hearing on its 2011 Texas Community Development Block Grant Program, on August 14, 2012, at 7:00 P.M. The meeting will be held at the City Hall, 409 Ave D. Forsan, Texas 79733. The topic to be discussed will be the modification of the original performance statement (Exhibit A) within TxCDBG contract due to a slight increase in the number of beneficiaries, associated with the addition of two (2) new water line services.

The City encourages recipients of the project as well as other interested citizens to participate in the hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and comments to Cindie Alldredge, City Secretary. Handicapped individuals that wish to attend this meeting should contact the City Hall to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact the City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If anyone interested in attending the public hearing requires a translator, please contact the City Hall office prior to the public hearing so arrangements may be made All written comments will be addressed in writing within fifteen days after public hearing. #7457 August 8, 2012

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL **DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT**

Texas SWD Co., Inc., P. O. Box 444, Big Lake, TX 76932 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a commercial disposal permit to dispose of oil and gas waste by injection into a formation not productive of of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the San Andres formation, Schwartz well number 1 SWD. The well is located 6 miles NW of Garden City, TX in the Spraberry (Trend Area) field in Glasscock County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2,900 to 5,800 feet. LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27

of the Texas Water Code, As amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code. amended and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P O Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711.

(512-463-6792) #7461 August 8, 2012

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL **DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT**

Texas SWD Co., Inc. P.O. Box 444, Big Lake, TX 76932 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a commercial disposal permit to dispose of oil and gas waste by injection into a formation not productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the San Andres formation, Schwartz well number 2 SWD. The well is located 7 miles SE of Garden City, TX in the Spraberry (Trend Area) field in Glasscock County. Fluid will be injected into strata In the subsurface depth interval from 2,900 to 5,800 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, As amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711.

(512-463-6792). #7462 August 8, 2012

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT

Penergy, c/o P.O. Box 953, Midland, TX 79702 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced formation water/fluid into a formation that is not productive of oil or

The applicant proposes to dispose of fluids into the: San Andres formation, J.H. Nail lease, Well Number 1. The proposed injection wells are located 13 miles in a NW direction from: Stanton, TX, in the Spraberry (Trend Area) field, in Martin County, TX. Fluid will be disposed into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3721 to 3900 feet.

Legal Authority: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil & Gas Division of the Railroad Commis-

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, TX 78711-2967 (Telephone (512-463-6792).

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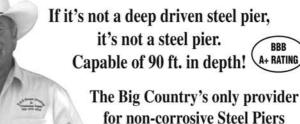
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Zeus

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Fewer communication errors and misunderstandings will occur. Mercury has ceased his retrograde antics and will maintain direct motion through November 6. It wasn't so bad, though, was it? If you had the flexibility of mind to see the humor, you may even find that you miss the entertaining little mis-

haps the Mercury retrograde brought.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll enjoy relating to the cultured. artistic types you run into today, because you are so much alike. Your generosity and attention will be much appreciated, and you'll gain a

TAURUS (April

20-May 20). Fear is like a wild horse. If you're going to ride it, you must first become its master. There is a dominant part of you that can communicate with this wildness inside of you. Show it who's boss.

HOLIDAY

MATHIS

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Material goods, education and relationships are elusive forms of security. A stronger sense of security comes from faith in your beliefs, whether it's faith in a higher power inside of you, the good-

ness of the universe or love itself. CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today's

events unfold much the same as vesterday's, but you'll be happier about them, maybe because your observation is sharper. You'll catch the opportunities you were too busy to see

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). What took you a long time to accomplish could be quickly undone if you involve the wrong people. Be cautious in your dealings. Stick with people who have proved themselves worthy of your VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). While it's

easy to tell when you're progressing at work, social advancement is a trickier equation that depends on your ability to read subtle cues correctly. You'll be brilliant at this now. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Life as

usual doesn't showcase your talents as well as stepping into unknown territory does. Your uniqueness shines through in novel situations. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Success

depends on doing what people care about, talking about what people are interested in and generally thinking of others. You won't lose yourself, as there will be plenty of overlapping

commonalities. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There is no need to divide the world into winners and losers. There are so

many factors involved in your quest

today that polarized thinking such as

this would be counterproductive.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). This is true, yet difficult to believe: There are people in the world who don't like pie. Many will love what you offer, and there's no good reason to take offense if there are a few who don't. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You

can waste time with the best of 'em. But are you really wasting time? Following what interests you and finding reasons to think, giggle or lighten your mood is anything but wasteful. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The

person who encourages you to grow as an individual, to trust your decisions and to see life as an endless series of opportunities is your true friend, if not your true love. TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 8).

You have a knack for finding worthwhile endeavors and valuable items this year and will on several occasions make money with this talent. Love grows through the fall. You'll seek new purpose in October. November brings travel and family fun. You could start a new job or community effort in May. Cancer and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 30, 1, 24 and 19.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "How long is a funk supposed to last?

I'm a Virgo, and I've been in the

worst mood for about a year. I can't

Dear Annie: My wife and I have a 23-year-old son who is a heroin addict. "Rob" has been to rehab twice and has relapsed again. We have been attending Nar-Anon meetings for the past eight weeks and find them helpful. Rob seemingly has not hit rock bottom yet. By

that, I mean he still has some income due to odd jobs and unemployment benefits. The latter are

from a well-paying job that he lost for obvious reasons, and they won't last much longer. He has a prescription for Suboxone that he gets from a doctor who periodically tests him for drugs. He also sees a psychologist once a month as a part of his treatment. Yet he is still using occasionally. From our Nar-Anon meetings, we are learning that others have it much worse. We also are learning that we are textbook enablers. My wife manages

his finances and dispenses his Suboxone, and we allow Rob to live with us, making sure he is fed and Nar-Anon says to cut all ties until he gets clean. But we are afraid that he will go off the deep end, and we would lose him forever. This kind of tough love scares me. As bad as things are, we are afraid to put the hammer down and throw him out. We

also have two younger children, and this isn't

doing them any good. What do you think? — Dad in Wisconsin

Dear Dad: It is heartbreaking and terrifying to watch your child descend into drug addiction. There is a real risk to your son's life, whether or not you enable him. Many parents have to reach the end of their rope before they are able to toss their child out and live with the consequences. You aren't there yet. Please continue with Nar-Anon and encourage Rob to remain in therapy and to keep seeing his doctor, and if possible, get him into a halfway house so he is not under your roof

Dear Annie: I have a question regarding bridal shower etiquette.

My brother recently became engaged to his girlfriend. Would it be appropriate to host a bridal shower for my future sister-in-law? — California

Dear California: While it used to be improper for relatives to host a shower (too self-serving), it is now OK to do so, especially if the bride lives far away. And if you can include some of the bride's friends as hostesses to spread the responsibility around, that would help.

Dear Annie: Your response to "Alone in Minnesota" was right on track: Her husband is a coward and an abuser. Marriage is about respecting each other, and by letting his mother keep her away all these years, he clearly does not respect his wife.

When we married, my husband was 27 and I was 20. I knew my mother-in-law interfered in her daughters' marriages and wondered what she would do to us. It took four months. She insisted that we purchase Christmas gifts for my husband's nieces and nephews when we were struggling to pay bills.

When I told my husband about this conversation, he immediately got into his car and drove to see Mom. I have no idea what he said to her, but she did not make any attempt to interfere in our marriage for 20 years. Then my in-laws wanted me to talk to my husband's sister and convince her to divorce her husband. I refused and again told my husband. He had another "visit" with his parents, and they didn't speak to him for six months.

We now have spent 42 years together, and every day is more wonderful than the last. — Loved and Respected in Michigan

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

> think of one thing I like in my life right now. I'm not depressed. I'm just

> wondering when my life is going to get started."

> Instead of waiting for your Saturn return to be over, or stalling until Venus enters your sign, I'm going to encourage you to take charge of this one, Virgo. In the psychometrics field of study, there is a type of data gathering system called the experience sampling method, in which a person is signaled at various times of the day to stop and write down in a journal where she is, what she is doing, whom she is with, what she is thinking about, her mood, etc. After several days of this, the journal will contain a virtual snapshot of her life for analysis. My suggestion, analytical Virgo, is to conduct an ESM study on yourself. You will find the data eye-opening. You will check your mental story against how things really are. You'll see objectively areas that might easily be adjusted — for instance, with whom you hang out or where you go. Those are pretty easy to change, right?

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TART TO TELL IT!

BET 26

Dallas





"WE PUT ALL OUR GUM IN ONE BIG WAD FOR THAT BUBBLE!"

FENCING

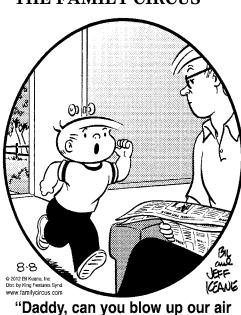
TRYOU

WOW, ROD!

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SUIT!



"Daddy, can you blow up our air mattress? You've got more breath than me.



This Date

In History

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 8,

On Aug. 8, 1942, during World

War II, six Nazi saboteurs who

were captured after landing in

the U.S. were executed in

Washington, D.C.; two others

who'd cooperated with authori-

In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte

set sail for St. Helena to spend

the remainder of his days in

In 1911, President William

Howard Taft signed a measure

raising the number of U.S. rep-

resentatives from 391 to 433,

effective with the next

Congress, with a proviso to add

two more when New Mexico

In 1937, during the Second

Sino-Japanese War, Japan com-

pleted its occupation of

and Arizona became states.

Highlight

the 221st day of 2012. There are

145 days left in the year.

Today's

ties were spared.

On this date:

History:

exile.

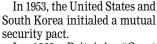
Beijing.

In 1945



Truman signed the U.S. instrument of ratification for the United Nations Charter. The Soviet Union declared war

WELL, DID YOU TRÝ OUT?



against Japan during World

War II.

In 1963, Britain's "Great Train Robbery" took place as thieves made off with 2.6 million pounds in banknotes In 1968, the Republican

national convention in Miami Beach nominated Richard Nixon for president on the first In 1973, Vice President Spiro

T. Agnew branded as "damned

lies" reports he had taken kick-

backs from government contracts in Maryland, and vowed not to resign — which he ended un doing. In 1974, President Richard Nixon announced his resignation, effective the next day, fol-

lowing damaging new revelations in the Watergate scandal. In 1978, the U.S. launched Pioneer Venus 2, which carried scientific probes to study the

atmosphere of Venus. In 1992, AIDS activist Alison Gertz died in Westhampton Beach, Long Island, N.Y., at age

preference

ship a pkg.

committee

29 "The Raven"

22 Smidgen

26 One way to

27 All the rage

28 Kind of

writer

30 Jar closers

capital

33 Engrave

32 Adolescent

35 Study hard

39 Sixth sense,

for short

org.

40 Clean Air Act

34 63 Across x 10

37 Look good on

31 Scandinavian

In 1994, Israel and Jordan opened the first road link between the two once-warring countries.

HECK NO, THE WATER WAS TOO COLD!

Today's Birthdays: Actress Esther Williams is 91. Actor Richard Anderson is 86. Joan Mondale, wife of former Vice President Walter F. Mondale, is 82. Actress Nita Talbot is 82. Singer Mel Tillis is 80. Actor Dustin Hoffman is 75. Actress Connie Stevens is 74. Country singer Phil Balsley (The Statler Brothers) is 73. Actor Larry Wilcox is 65. Actor Keith Carradine is 63. Rhythm-andblues singer Airrion Love (The Stylistics) is 63. Country singer Jamie O'Hara is 62. Movie director Martin Brest is 61.

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BASK POP LUGES

YESES ASS SOFT



AKENIA

JOUSTING

SIR RODNEY

VS

MICK THE

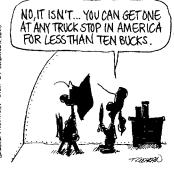
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MY AGENT.

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THIS? YOUR

FAMILY

CREST?



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SNUFFY SMITH











Newsday Crossword

67 Additional

DOWN

1 Great divide

3 Mission-ending

5 Swedish tennis

6 Aid, as in crime

9 Race car driver's

member, maybe

2 Bookstore

section

order

great

4 Respectful

7 Ark builder

8 Humiliate

concern

11 Familiar with

12 Fish features

13 Use wings

14

10 5 Across

68 Healthful retreats

ACROSS 1 Bloke

5 Musical group

9 Jam-pack 14 Vagabond

15 English horn relative

16 Student 17 GI offense

18 500 sheets 19 Black wood

20 Prepare certain

veggies 23 Maxim

24 Provide

assistance to 25 Bewitch

29 Home's land 33 List shortener

36 Sustenance 37 Western capital

38 Navigate a

tricky situation

42 Take it easy 43 Oil ministers'

org.

44 Chip off the

old block 45 Camel feature

46 Radar, for

example

49 Female lobster

50 Some

ex-caterpillars

54 Isolate a crime

scene 60 UPS rival 61 Corn Belt state

62 Musical rendition

63 100 smackers 64 Cheer on,

with "for" 65 Color gradation

66 Removed the center of

HIGH-FIBER by Charles Slack

Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 21 Dieter's 41 After-tax

46 Summer zodiac sign **47** Performing

amount

really well 48 Bakes, in a way

49 Put a

whammy on 51 Scouting group 52 Red dye

53 Wise ones

54 Casino city

55 Aroma

56 Tennis great Sampras

57 Put something over on

58 Duos

59 Can do without

60 Media regulating

10

agcy.

11 12

2 U.S. women's teams to compete for Olympic beach gold

LONDON (AP) — The beach volleyball title is staying in the United States. That's for certain.

The big question now is which team gets the gold.

A few hours after twice-defending champions Kerri Walsh Jennings and Misty May-Treanor beat China, first-time Olympians April Ross and Jennifer Kessy joined them for an all-American final. With a win on Wednesday night, Walsh Jennings and May-Treanor would further cement their status as the most-decorated women's team in the brief history of Olympic beach volleyball.

"We want to seal the deal that we're the best team that's ever happened," Walsh Jennings said Tuesday night

after the two-time gold medalists advanced to their third consecutive Olympic final with a 22-20, 22-20 victory over China. "I want to win tomorrow for us. ... This will be our last match together, so we want to go out

Ross and Kessy are merely trying to be No. 1 in their home country.

"We're always trying to prove ourselves," Ross said after beating topseeded Brazil. "Misty and Kerri have set the bar so high, and it's not just against us. It's against the world.'

Prince Harry is expected to attend the gold-medal game, following Prime Minister David Cameron by one night to the stands at Horse Guards Parade that also have hosted such luminaries

mean, you're out there

as Bill Gates, Prince Albert of Monaco, London Mayor Boris Johnson and a handful of NBA stars from the U.S. men's basketball team.

But, so far, most of the visitors have come to see Walsh Jennings and May-

"With that match," Kessy said, "I don't think we have to prove ourselves any more. If anyone says, 'Who's the other team,' they didn't watch that game."

Ross and Kessy rallied from a firstset loss and a four-point deficit in the second to beat reigning world champions Juliana and Larissa 15-21, 21-19. 15-12. The Brazilians will play in the third-place game against China's Xue Chen and Zhang Xi, who are trying to repeat their bronze-medal finish from Beijing.

Despite a medal shutout by the American men, the United States has clinched multiple beach volleyball medals for the fourth time in five Olympiads since it became a recognized sport in 1996.

"This has been everyone's goal since the beginning: to get the two U.S. teams in the final together," Kessy said. "I can't believe we're going to be on that podium — either gold or silver. It hasn't sunk in for me yet, probably because our job isn't done

Already the most-decorated team

See GOLD, Page 16

U.S. Men

Continued from Page 9

to get better. We want to really dominate. It's really just communicating and continue to gel. Even though there is only a week left, we're trying to gel with one another and put some dominant games together and try to go home with the gold."

Krzyzewski is fed up with people thinking that's supposed to be easy. For more than 13 minutes Tuesday, he fought back against every notion that his squad should never dare find itself in a close game.

Now it's time for his players to answer for themselves.

"We're undefeated, now we're 0-0. Like, our team's done a really good job," Krzyzewski said. "I mean, we have camaraderie, great we're healthy. Again, you all can do whatever you want with the dominance thing, but it ain't happening. It's just not happening and we know that. So if you're looking at a game for us to dominate every minute of the game, it will not happen. They're too good. People are too good and so if you can win minutes, segments, then that adds up to a win, which is what we want to do.'

The U.S. faced only one close game in preliminary-round but showed an alarming lack of commitment to defense in the last two victories for a team that has always insisted that

Or maybe it's no concern at all, not when a team can score the way these Americans can.

defense is its strength.

Kobe Bryant sure isn't worried.

"No, because in literally one minute we can go on like a 10-0 run," he said. "So I'm not concerned right now."

The Americans were locked in a one-point

game with Argentina at halftime Monday after allowing 56 percent shooting. Then they buried the Argentines under a 42-17 avalanche in the third quarter, rolling to a 126-97 victory. That came two nights after the U.S. was shredded for 58 percent in its 99-94 victory over

79.6 points per game, a number that would rank nearer the bottom of the 12-team field if not for all the teams whose average was ruined because they had to play against the Americans and their tournamentbest — by a marathon length — 117.8 points averaged.

"I would like to see our defense play a little bit longer, as close to 40 minutes then to 20, 25, 30," LeBron James said. "But you know we have so many heavy hitters and so many home run hitters that we could break up a two-point game into a 13-, 14-, 15-point game in two or three possessions, you know, two or three minutes. It's great to be a part of something like that.

"It's not dangerous for our team because it's not like we're out there not playing hard. It's not like we're out there not caring, because when we get to the sideline we say 'Hey, we've got to pick it up defensively, we've got to start playing defensively' and then we lock in. So I like the way we've been playing."

So does Krzyzewski, but sometimes he feels as if he's in the minority. He's been around international basketball for much of his coaching life and was an assistant 20 years ago on the Dream Team, so he's watched opponents go from fearful to fearless when they play against the United States.

"How many of them are NBA players? Why be?" wouldn't they Krzyzewski said.

frequent eliminationround opponent for the Americans in recent years and another that won't be in awe. The teams went at it hard in an exhibition game four years ago and the U.S. players who were on that team expect more of the same as the competition moves to the North Greenwich Arena — or the O2 to the NBA players who have already had games there.

"They're definitely another aggressive team, another physical team, a team that likes to scrap," Carmelo Anthony said. "Everybody likes to scrap out there, so it'll be another one of them games."

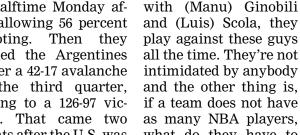
Speedy point guard Patty Mills of the San Antonio Spurs led the Aussies to a 3-2 record in Group B, including an 82-80 victory over top-seeded Russia on Monday. Mills won it on a 3-pointer at the buzzer and is averaging 20.2 points, just off Pau Gastournament-best 20.6 per game. But the Americans will likely swarm him defensively, and there isn't enough firepower around him.

"We understand the level of talent we'll be up against," Australia coach Brett Brown said. "Our focus will be on playing prideful Australian basketball. The players are looking forward to playing them and will use it as a measuring stick to see what level they are on now."

The Americans will be expected to crush them from the start, and perhaps Krzyzewski is right about that being unfair and unrealistic. Nobody remembers during his victory laps if sprinter Usain Bolt was slow out of the blocks.

The only thing that matters is the finish, and the U.S. is on track for the one it wants.

"I think now our focus level is to start the game off extremely aggressive within the game plan and within the way that the game is being called," Anthony said. "I don't think we will come out as far as being lacksadaisical, anything like on the defensive end or waiting to see what they're going to do to make our adjustment. Our adjustment will be from the tip-off."



Lithuania. The U.S. is allowing

intimidated by anybody and the other thing is, if a team does not have as many NBA players, what do they have to lose? So they're playing with free money. In other words, there are different things that you're defending besides an opponent's offense: their egos, their opinion of "That's just the way it is and it's been that

> way — I don't know why people don't understand this it's been that way for a long time. It's been that way for a decade and we understand Australia has been a

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DEMPSTER

Continued from Page 9

made it 6-3 in the ninth.

Dempster worked seven shutout innings against Boston in Chicago's win on June 15. The Rangers broke a scoreless tie with a pair of

runs in the sixth. After taking a close pitch for a ball with a 1-2 count, Murphy had a leadoff double. One out later, Kinsler singled off the top of the leftfield wall, advanced on a groundout and scored on Hamilton's single to right.

In the seventh, Murphy had a sacrifice fly and Kinsler added an RBI single, making it 4-0. Carl Crawford doubled in the first, but was picked

off second. Cody Ross opened the second with a double, but was stranded. Dempster then retired 14 of the next 15 — allow-

ing only Ross' two-out double in the fourth — until he walked Pedroia in the sixth. The Red Sox were coming off an eight-double

game in Monday's win and three of the first four balls they hit into play Tuesday night were off the

Monster, including two doubles.

Wash, Oswalt clear air

BOSTON (AP) - Texas manager Ron Wash-

Oswalt told Washington after throwing 30 pitch-

that he couldn't continue in the Rangers' 7-6,

Washington said Tuesday the two have "cleared

Oswalt had a 6.49 ERA in six starts before he was sent to the bullpen when Texas acquired Ryan

Dempster from the Chicago Cubs on July 31.

U.S.' boxer Claressa Shields

the air." He also said no one in the rotation would

10-inning loss in Kansas City.

Vickers emotional knowing late dad was Dallas fan

OXNARD, Calif. (AP) — Lawrence Vickers grew up watching Dallas Cowboys games with his father, so it was special for both of them when the veteran fullback signed a free-agent deal with the team during the offseason.

But Lawrence Vickers Sr., a lifetime Cowboys fan, never got to see his son play with a star on his helmet. He died of lung cancer in early May.

"It's very emotional because every day I come out, I think about him," Vickers said during training camp. "Everything around me reminds me of it, so every day I wake up and I just tell him, 'Thank you,' like maybe this was his last blessing given to me."

After spending his first five NFL seasons with Cleveland, where he blocked for 1,000-yard rushers Jamal Lewis and Peyton Hillis, Vickers played last season with Houston. Vickers had signed a two-year deal with the Texans, but they cut him in March as free agency began. A couple of days later, he had a two-year deal with the Cowboys (No. 15 in the AP

"Everything happens for a reason. It was crazy that I ended up in Houston," Vickers said.

"Maybe I needed to be in Houston because I was close to my daddy going through the things he was going through, and maybe me coming here was a sign of him going on bye-bye, him getting to see something before he left. Maybe this was God's gift to

"Maybe this was my dad's gift, and I'm going to take it."

The Cowboys are also seemingly a better fit for Vickers as a player, with the team's desire to have a true fullback to lead the way for DeMarco Murray and Felix Jones and provide protection for quarterback Tony Romo.

That is where the 6-foot-5. 250-pound Vickers has excelled in his six NFL seasons. He has had only 34 career rushing attempts for 87 yards, and 45 catches. Cowboys defensive coordinator Rob Rvan and secondary coach Jerome Henderson were on Cleveland's staff two of the years Vickers was with the Browns.

"He's very passionate about football. They say fullbacks are a dying breed. We still use the fullback in our offense. We like the fullback we have," Garrett said. "He's been a well-studied player.

also had a good feel for what he's like as a person, what he brings to the team. If you have a fullback who is tough, has some intensity, that's a really good thing."

who led the Cowboys in rushing last season, despite missing the last three games, describes Vickers as a vocal leader.

knowledge about the game. He's not afraid to speak his mind. That's what we need in the running back room," Murray said. "He's my fullback and he's busting his butt for me every time I get the football. ... I am going to always be behind him."

The Cowboys had only five rushing touchdowns last vear. the fewest in the team's 52-season history.

ington says he talked with Roy Oswalt about the pitcher's decision not to throw a third inning in a game last weekend and the two have cleared up any differences. es in the seventh and eighth innings on Sunday

We knew him as a player but

Murray, the second-year back

"He is someone who has a lot of

advances to gold medal bout LONDON(AP) - U.S.middleweight Claressa Shields dominated Ka-

be pushed back.

zakhstan's Marina Volnova in the semifinals of the first Olympic women's boxing tournament Wednesday, earning a spot in the gold-medal bout against Russia's Nadezda Tor-

Irish world champion lightweight Katie Taylor also advanced with another strong performance, moving into the championship bout Thursday against Russia's Sofya Ochigava.

17-year-old The Shields beat Volnova 29-15. She is the last American boxer left.

GOLD

Continued from Page 15

in the brief history of Olympic beach volleyball, Walsh Jennings and May-Treanor also are guaranteed at least a silver medal. No one – man or woman — had ever won two beach volleyball gold medals before they became repeat champions in Beijing.

And, until now, no woman had won three Olympic medals of any color.

"I had a picture in my head at the beginning of the season of how I wanted us to play, and we're living that picture," Walsh Jennings said. "But it's not over

Earlier Tuesday, Brazil's Emanuel and Ali-

son defeated Latvia to advance to the men's gold-medal game. They will meet the German team of Julius Brink and Jonas Reckermann, who beat Reinder Nummerdor and Rich Schuil of the Netherlands 21-14, 21-16 in the final match of a rain-soaked night.

"They have been the most dominant team on the tour the last $2\frac{1}{2}$ years. I can talk positive about this team for a half-hour," Brink said of the Brazilians. "Emanuel is a legend. and he's still playing at a high level." Walsh Jennings and

May-Treanor won gold medals in Athens and Beijing without ever losing a match — in their first two Olympics, they never even lost a set and they ran their unbeaten streak to 20 in a row with Tuesday's victory. But they gave up the first three points of the semifinal and fell behind 13-7 in the first set. China saved two set

lopova.

points before Xue put one into the net tape to give the first set to the Americans. The Americans held

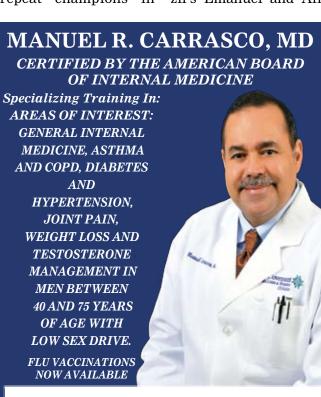
a slim lead most of the second, but China took the lead 17-16 and forced the Americans to take a timeout. Trailing 19-18, May-Treanor ran far behind the end line to retrieve an errant pass and bumped it toward the net — too close forcing Walsh Jennings to slide under the net, delicately bumping the ball over and to an unoccupied area on the Chinese portion of the

May-Treanor, is retiring from international play after the Olympics, said she overshot it.

"They're a great team. They make you do crazy stuff like that," Walsh Jennings said. "That was just funky. Misty ran down the ball and I think I got a little lucky on that one. But you need luck and I think you create your own luck, and that's what you get when you don't give up. But I can't take real credit for that. That's not skill."

In the early men's semifinal, the reigning world champions from Brazil beat Martins Plavins and Janis Smedins 21-15, 22-20 to clinch no worse than silver. It's Emanuel's third straight medal, but a first for Alison.

"I have been dreaming about this since I was a child," Alison said. "Today I can finally say I am an Olympic athlete with a medal. But I am still dreaming about the gold."



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