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Monday

August 13, 2012



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Council to consider election call

Vote could change how EDC money is distributed

By THOMAS JENKINS

VOLUME 107, NUMBER 256

Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council is set Tuesday evening to consider final approval of an ordinance calling for a special election in November to consider nixing the existing Type A economic development sales tax and to replace it with a Type B corporation.

The council approved first reading of the ordinance during its July 24 meeting on a unanimous vote — with District 1 Councilman Marcus Fernandez and District 5 Councilman Craig Olson absent due to health issues despite a strong public outcry from local officials and citizens to allow the existing EDC to continue operating as a Type A cor-

The sales tax was adopted by Big Spring voters May 5, 1990, and designated solely for use on Type A projects,

which include:

- · Manufacturing and industrial facilities, recycling facilities, distribution centers, and small warehouse facilities.
- · Research and development facilities, regional or national corporate headquarters facilities, primary job training facilities operated by higher education institutions, job training classes, telephone call centers and career centers not located within a junior college taxing district.
- Certain infrastructure improvements that promote or develop new or expanded business enterprises.
 - Aviation facilities.
- Commuter rail, light rail or commuter bus opera-
- Port-related facilities, railports, rail switching facilities, marine ports and and public parks. inland ports.



The Big Spring City Council will consider second reading of a resolution calling for a special election on a proposed reorganization of the Economic Development Corporation when it meets Tuesday.

ing costs associated with proj-

According to the comptroller's office, the Type B sales tax may be used for any project eligible under Type A rules and several other project types, including quality of life improvements. Type B corporations may pay for land, buildings, equipment, facilities, targeted infrastructure and improvements for:

- Professional and amateur sports and athletic facilities, tourism and entertainment facilities, convention facilities
- Related store, restaurant, Maintenance and operat- concession, parking and trans-

portation facilities.

 Related street, water and sewer facilities and affordable housing.

According to Texas Comptroller Susan Combs, with voter approval, Type A EDCs may fund projects eligible under Type B without voting to abolish the Type A tax and impose the Type B tax. The city recently went through this process when it held a special election to fund a multi-million overhaul of the municipality's water and wastewater facilities.

As part of the agreement between the council and the Big Spring Economic Development board of directors, the EDC

will provide \$750,000 a year for the first two years, and then 40 percent of its sales tax revenue — with a floor of \$500,000 and a ceiling of \$750,000 for the following 18 years — with the city of Big Spring picking up

the remainder of the tab. The overhaul — which was ultimately approved by the voters in the form of a Type B (or 4B) funded project — was agreed upon by both the city and EDC to the tune of 40 percent of the corporation's annual budget, but not before the city included a provision guaranteeing it would not seek fur-

See CITY, Page 3

INDEX

Connics	9
Classified	6-8
Wire	4
Obituaries	2
Sports	5,10

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Ryan's Medicare plan returns to the forefront

Ryan

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republican Paul

Ryan's blueprint for Medicare could prove as polarizing in the campaign as President Barack Obama's health care overhaul has been. Even Mitt Romney may not want to go there.

Romney's new running mate has built a strong reputation on Capitol Hill for bold ideas to restrain

health care costs and federal spending overall. His centerpiece idea is to steer future retirees into private insurance plans, with a fixed payment from the government that may or may not cover as much of a retiree's costs as does the current program. Ryan, a conservative Wisconsin con-

gressman and chairman of the House Budget Committee, calls his idea "premium support." Democrats call it a voucher plan. In theory, Ryan's plan could work, economists say. But the yet to be ironed out. Ryan would also turn Medicaid over to the states, and sharply limit

devil's in the details. Lots of them, and

the growth of future spending on that safety net program. Between them,

Medicare and Medicaid cover about

100 million people, touching nearly

every American family in some way. While expressing support broadly, Romney has yet to spell out where he stands on specifics of his running mate's proposals. And that could get

Mindful of the risks, Romney put gentle but unmistakable distance between his agenda and Ryan's hot-potato budget proposals on Sunday, a day after announcing his running mate's selection. The presidential candidate singled out Ryan's work "to make sure we can save Medicare." But Romney never said whether he embraced that plan himself. During the Republican primary, Romney had called Ryan's budget a "bold and exciting effort" that was "very much needed.' Democrats wouldn't let them off the

hook, criticizing the "Ryan-Romney" Medicare plan at every turn. "From the standpoint of public un-

derstanding, the Romney-Ryan ticket has a hill to climb," said health

See RYAN, Page 3

Leadership application deadline approaching

By AMANDA DUFORAT Staff Writer

Learning more about the inner workings of a community doesn't have to be hard or impossi-

For those wanting to learn a little bit more, an opportunity is fast approaching — the next session of Leadership Big Spring is set to begin Sept. 13 and is open to 25 participants. "Taking part in Leadership



Big Spring is one way for members of the community to find out what's going on right in their own backyard," said Debbye ValVerde, executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Participants will have the opportunity

to explore different areas of the community, from the prison systems to the education and medical fields to a police ride See **DEADLINE**, Page 3





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Obituaries

Dr. James Warren Tipton



Dr. James Warren Tipton "Tony", 79, passed away at his home Saturday morning, Aug. 11, 2012. He was born April 4, 1933, in Jackson, Tenn. to James and Hilda Patrick Tipton.

He was raised in Milan, Tenn. and graduated from high school at Columbia Military Academy in Columbia, Tenn. in 1951. He received his pre-med education from the University of Tennessee

in Knoxville, where he was a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Tony attended medical school at the University of Tennessee-Memphis and graduated in 1956. He interned at Richland County Hospital in Columbia, S.C. and did his residency in otolaryngology at Kennedy Veterans Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

Tony married Sara Jane Malone of Clarksville, Tenn. Jan. 29, 1955 while in medical school. He and his family moved to Big Spring, Texas in January 1961, where he began his practice as an ear, nose, and throat doctor for Malone-Hogan Hospital and remained for the next 26 years. In 1987 he was hired as a physician at the Big Spring State Hospital where he later retired in 1996.

Tony had an infinite knowledge of history and a precise memory for anything he read. He did not plunge into social gatherings readily, but he was always enthusiastic about sharing an engaging story, an interesting historical fact or a small token of wisdom with whoever would lend an ear.

He had an abiding love for his wife of 57 years and his family. He passed away with a book in his

He is survived by his wife, Sara Tipton of Big Spring, Texas; a daughter, Diane Veirs of Santa Fe, N.M.; one brother, Dr. King Tipton of Fort Myers, Fla.; one sister, Barbara Baker of Milan, Tenn.; five grandchildren, Crystal Veirs of Santa Fe, N.M., Ty Tipton of Midland, Texas, Jessica Williams of Big Spring, Texas, Trey Tipton of Big Spring, Texas, and John Veirs of Santa Fe, N.M.; and two great grandchildren, Ana Marie Williams of Big Spring, Texas and Zoey Tipton of Big Spring, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Hilda Tipton of Milan, Tenn.; and two sons, James Warren Tipton, Jr. "Jimmy" and Steven M. Tipton, both of Big Spring, Texas.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2012 at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Tom Koger

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 13, 2012, at the funeral home.

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

Paid obituary

Pedro Garcia



Pedro Garcia, 55, of Big Spring, Texas, passed away Aug. 11, 2012, in a Midland hospital. A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2012, in the chapel of Kiker-Seale Funeral report. Home, officiated by the Rev. Michael Udegbunam. Burial will follow at Mitchell County Cemetery with Kiker-Seale Funeral Home er registration. directing services.

until 8 p.m., with rosary at 7 p.m. at Kiker-Seale Funeral Home Chapel.

He was born Oct. 7, 1956 to Cecilio Garcia and Andrea De La Paz Garcia and worked as an opera-

tor in the oil fields. Pedro is survived by his wife, Angel Garcia; daughter, Priscilla Garcia and husband Joey Cerda; sons, Cecil Garcia and wife, Sonia, and Pete Garcia Jr. and wife, Belinda, all of Big Spring, and Andrew Garcia and wife, Vanessa of Snyder; 14 grandchil-

dren; one great-grandchild; sisters, Teresa Pena and husband, Adolio of Rungee, Pauline Pena of Abilene, Anna Guzman of Lubbock, Elena Pena of Florida, Felipa Salas and Carmen Cates of Waxahatchie; and brother, Cecilio Garcia of

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.kikerseale.com.

Connie Farrington



Connie Farrington, 100, of Stanton, died Friday, Aut. 10, 2012, in a Midland hospital. Graveside services will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2012, at the Evergreen Cemetery Chapel in Stanton.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2012, at the funeral home.

Connie was born May 1, 1912, in Eastland, Texas and married Mary Alice Martin Dec. 22, 1940, in Stanton.

Connie loved to read the newspaper and farm and

gin cotton. He may be best known for his love of playing dominoes. Survivors include his wife, Mary Farrington of

Stanton; three sons, Connie Ray Farrington and wife, Lucille, of Big Spring, Nolan Farrington and wife, Darla of Brownwood, and Roger Farrington and wife, Brenda of Midland; one sister, Fay Mathiews of Orient, Iowa; five grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Manley

and Letha Ann (Shirley) Farrington; one son, Eddie Farrington; one sister, May Rectenbaugh; and an infant brother.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Darlene Jean Hildebrand



Darlene Jean Hildebrand, 60, of Big Spring, died Friday, Aug. 10, 2012, in a Midland hospital. Private family services will be held at a later date.

She was born March 16, 1952, in New Eagle, Penn. and married Tommy G. Hildebrand Sr. March 26, 1970, in Lamesa, Texas. He preceded her in death July 22, 2011. Darlene was a longtime resident

of Big Spring and worked as a registered nurse for 23 years at the Big Spring State

Hospital, retiring in 2009. Survivors include two sons, Tommy G. Hilbebrand

Jr. and Ned Randal Hildebrand, both of Big Spring; two daughters, Barbara Ann Averette of Big Spring and Pamela Jean Hildebrand of Lavon; one sister. Debra Cialone of Big Spring; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She was also preceded in death by her parents;

and one brother, Lance Hludzik. The family suggests memorials be made to

Christian Broadcasting Network, 977 Centerville Turnpike, Virginia Beach, Va. 23463 or to Doctors Without Borders USA, P. O. Box 5030 Hagerstown, Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-

Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.

Martin R. Cerna

Martin R. Cerna, 62, of Big Spring, died Saturday, Aug. 11, 2012, at Covenant Medical Center. His services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- DAVID ADAM MARTINEZ, 28, of 608 Caylor, was arrested Sunday on a warrant from another
- BILLY ALVARADO, 39, of 807 E. 14th St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of disorderly conduct
 - THEFT was reported:
 - In the 1800 block of S. Gregg Street.
 - In the 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20.
 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
 - In the 1800 block of Young. In the 100 block of W. 11th Place.
- In the 3100 block of S. Highway 87.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 2200 block of
- Main Street.

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

• STACY LYNN PENDLETON, 36, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the

BSPD on a charge of failure to comply – sex offend-PHELIPE HERNANDEZ, 59, was booked into the

- Visitation will be held Tuesday county detention center Friday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for driving while license invalid and failure to appear. • JUSTIN TODD DARDEN, 24, was booked into
 - the county detention center Friday by the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office on warrants for possession of a controlled substance, theft by check and speed-• FABIO BARRAGAN JR., 24, was arrested Friday
 - by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance.
 - BROOKE RIOS, 23, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on displaying an expired registration.
 - KIMBERLY MARIE RUIZ, 28, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a charge of no driver's license.
 - RONNIE RENE RIVERA, 32, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license suspended with a previous conviction and a Dawson County warrant for driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.
 - ARMANDO CERVANTES, 19, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.

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rant for no license and a charge of failure to identify as a fugitive – giving false information. SYLVIA HERNANDEZ MARTINEZ, 46, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

GABRIEL LEE MARTINEZ, 23, was arrested

• ENRIQUE ERNESTO SILVAS, 28, was arrested

Saturday by the HCSO on a municipal capias war-

Saturday by the HCSO on municipal warrants for no driver's license and failure to appear (three

counts).

 GERALD CASTILLO, 56, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second ADAM ANTHONY STARR, 27, was booked into

the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on charges of disorderly conduct - language and resisting arrest, search or transportation. GLORIA K. LUNA LOZANO, 44, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated - sec-

a previous conviction or suspension. ABEL JAVIER PADILLA, 47, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on motions to revoke probation for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and forgery of a financial instrument.

ond offense and driving while license invalid with

 HENRY TREVINO FRANCO JR., 21, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on charges of criminal trespass and criminal ROBERT RUBIN SANCHEZ, 48, was booked into

the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication. TIMOTHY JAY CRAWFORD, 31, was booked

into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication. DAVID ADAM MARTINEZ, 28, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on

a charge of administrative release violation - TDCJ warrant. KENNY STEVEN SMITH, 42, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxica-

 BILLY BOB ALVARADO, 39, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of disorderly conduct – language.

 ERBEY LOPEZ, 47, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office on a charge of criminal mischief. MARTINA ENCINIA VARGAS, 54, was arrested

Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxica- BRANDON MENDOZA, 28, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office on Glasscock County warrants for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less, driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and a municipal warrant

for driving while license invalid. GABRIEL LEE BARRAZA, 26, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.

• JOEL RAMOS, 27, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a Potter County warrant for theft of property.

 JOSIE RODRIGUEZ, 28, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Support Groups

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

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

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

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

TUESDAY

• Big Spring Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for those with Parkinson's Disease, Young Onset Parkinson's, caregivers, and those interested in learning more about the illness. There is time for socializing and information. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jody at 432-699-6640 or midlandparkinsons@yahoo.com or Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-2732.

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RYAN

Continued from Page 1

economist Joe Antos of the business-oriented American Enterprise Institute. "I think they can do it, but it's going to require some explaining. I think there are a lot of independents who going to be nervous.' Seniors vote at higher

rates than younger voters, and Medicare matters to them. Concern about Medicare cuts in Obama's health care law helped drive older voters into the Republican camp in the 2010 congressional elections, delivering control of the House to the GOP.

"This puts Medicare in play as a central issue in the campaign," said John Rother, president of the National Coalition on Health Care, a nonpartisan group representing a broad swath of players in the health care system.

The political sensitivities are clear. Polls find that Americans lean heavily on Medicare to help keep them secure after retirement and are suspicious of proposed alternatives, such as Ryan's plan. Surveys also give Democrats an edge over Republicans when people are asked which party people most trust to handle Medicare. Democrats held a 48 percent-39 percent advantage on that issue in a June 2011 AP-GfK poll. In an interview Sunday

on CBS' "60 Minutes," Romney and Ryan both offered words meant to reassure the elderly. America is about more

choices, Romney said, and "that's how we make Medicare work down the road." He said the program won't change for seniors currently counting on the program. Ryan pitched in that his mother is a "Medicare senior in Florida.'

For the most part, Ryan's plan would not directly affect people now in Medicare. One exception: In repealing Obama's health care law, Ryan would reopen the Medicare prescription coverage gap called the doughnut hole. Under his plan, people

now 54 and younger would go into a very different sort of Medicare. Upon becoming eligible, they would receive a government payment that they could use to pick a private insurance plan or a government-run program like traditional Medicare. The payment would be indexed to account for inflation, and that could be a problem if health care costs race ahead of the inflation rate. The private plans would

be regulated by the government, and low-income people, as well as those with severe health problems, would get additional assistance. People who pick plans with relatively generous benefits would pay more out of their own pockets.

transformation The would mirror the shift in workplace pension plans taking place over the last 20 years. Medicare would start looking more like a 401(k) plan than a plan that provides open-ended coverage for a set of benefits. Ryan would also gradual-

ly raise the Medicare eligibility age from the current 65 to 67. In more general terms, Romney has also spoken of providing "generous" but undetermined subsidies to help future retirees buy private insurance, or let them have the option of traditional Medicare. He's also endorsed a gradually increasing age to qualify for benefits.

Some prominent Democrats have supported Ryan's general approach, even teaming up with him on different versions of his proposal. The GOP-led House has passed budgets written by Ryan two years

Backers say the result of his Medicare plan would be a more affordable and sustainable program, both for taxpayers and beneficiaries. Currently, Medicare's giant trust fund for inpatient care is projected to run out of money in

But critics see a massive cost shift to beneficiaries. "The only way to drive

real savings is to set a lid on the growth in the voucher," said Democratic economist Judy Feder. "That most likely means shifting costs to beneficiaries, not controlling costs." Antos, however, called

the latest version of Ryan's proposal a "reasonable plan" that "provides a decent benefit for people." In an analysis earlier this year, the nonpartisan

Congressional Budget Office said some of the effects of Ryan's plan "would of necessity be a great deal stronger" than current law, which includes Medicare cuts in Obama's health care law yet to take place. Under the most likely current budget scenario,

Medicare spending for the typical 66-year-old would rise to \$9,600 in 2030, or about 75 percent more than now, the CBO projected. But under Ryan's plan, spending would rise more

percent more than current That difference would result in a cost shift of thousands of dollars to individ-

slowly to \$7,400, or about 35

ual retirees, critics say. Under the previous version of Ryan's plan, a typical 65-year-old retiree would have been responsible for about two-thirds of his or her health care costs in 2030.

Ryan's proposal for turning Medicaid into a block grant program for the states would also have farreaching consequences. It sharply reduces the future size of the program relative to the overall economy, the CBO said.

Even if states can run Medicaid more efficiently, they'd still face the difficult choice between cutting the program or pouring more of their own money into it, the CBO said.

Take note

• A ceremony renaming the Howard County Detention Center in honor of fallen Department of Public Safety Trooper Troy Hogue will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday in front of the detention center on West Highway 80.

• The Class of 2014 will be raising money for prom Saturday, Sept. 15 outside Walmart from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. There will be Krispy Kreme donuts, roasted corn and brisket burritos. For more information, contact Julie Alvarez at 432-816-1278.

· 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 263-2673.

• The Compassionate Friends is a grief support group for those who have lost a child. The local chapter will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church. Please use the doors on the southeast corner of the family life center.

• 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 outside the budget furnished by Howard County. At 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 vear Aug. 27. Required records include: Student's Social Security number, birth certificate and shot record, as well as parent's driver's license and proof of residency. Call 264-3622 for more information.

· 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-

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

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

DEADLINE

Continued from Page 1

and sitting through city council meetings and touring different city facilities.

Registration is \$400 Chamber members and \$600 for nonmembers. The program runs from September through May, with each monthly meeting being

conducted from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m the second Thursday of the month. Meals are included in the registration fee and are planned in advance, ValVerde said. "There are certain re-

quirements that must be met before graduation from this course," ValVerde said. "We want people to be fully committed to the course in order for them to get the most out of it."

Those involved in the class will be required to submit reports after attending four different community meetings. Two meetings will need to be attended by December and the other two can be completed by April. The meetings can be that of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Howard County Commissioners, Howard College Board, Big Spring City Council,

Big Spring Economic Development Corporation or any of the local school boards.

"We want our participants to attend these meetings so that they are able to see what the different entities are talking about, which in turn gives them insight into what is going on in our community," ValVerde said.

In addition to reports being turned in and at-

tendance at meetings, participation in a group project is also required. "By taking part in

the community project they are not only learning to work with a wide variety of people, which instills teamwork, but they are also making an impact and leaving a lasting mark on the community," she said.

All graduation requirements must be completed in the al-

Contact Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins at 263-

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lotted time in order to receive a certificate of graduation, ValVerde confirmed.

Thursday is the final day to submit an application. For more information,

contact the chamber office at 263-7641. Contact Staff Writer

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

CITY

Continued from Page 1

ther 4B funding from the EDC while the 20 year note was in effect, offering protection to the remaining 60 percent of the agency's budget. Members of the Big

Spring EDC Board of Directors say the move to a Type B EDC corporation — which is being championed by Mayor Tommy Duncan will allow the council unlimited access to the agency's remaining budget and goes directly against the spirit of the agreement reached as a

result of the water and wastewater project earlier this year. "I had several people tell me then, once we started down this road they (the city council) would get it all, and that's the feel this has for us," Big Spring **EDC Board of Directors** President Justin Myers said. "And that's where we feel like we are. We asked to have the 60 percent for 4A, and now you want to make us a 4B. Whether it's the intent or not, from the board's perspective that absolutely broke the spirit of that agreement. Whether this goes to a vote or not, I think from here on out we're going to have a watered down 4A (economic development). I think that's just a travesty for our future." Dr. Keith Ledford,

who serves as the EDC board's vice president, also didn't take kindly to what he called a "backdoor" attempt to break the agreement between the city and the EDC.

"As far as the agreement is concerned, I definitely feel this is a backdoor way to break the agreement," Ledford said. "I'm highly offended as a member of council is expected to

the EDC and as a citizen of Big Spring that there has been this attempt to backdoor and not agree, to not stand up for an agreement that you, the city council made with the EDC." Also part of July 24

meeting, the agenda called for discussion and consideration of removing and replacing board members currently seated on the Big Spring EDC, a move which also drew the ire of several citizens who spoke during the meeting. However, Duncan said

the item was placed on the agenda prematurely and he would not be asking that any of the existing board members be removed. He did, however, give the remaining council members the chance to make any

suggestions regarding dismissals, to which there were none. Also during Tuesday night's meeting, the

hold a public hearing regarding its proposed ad valorem tax rate to support its 2012-2013 budget. The proposed tax rate for the coming fiscal year is 89.5 cents per \$100 property valuation, a 5-cent decrease from the current fiscal package. Tuesday's meeting is

expected to get under way at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street. For more information call 264-2401. Also, a complete copy of the meeting agenda can be found online at www. mybigspring.com

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National, world news in brief

Ryan, Obama in Iowa seeking votes; Romney's on the bus in Florida

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Newly tapped Republican vice presidential contender Paul Ryan is facing off against President Barack Obama as the front lines in the battle for the White House shift to Iowa.

While Mitt Romney continues a Florida bus tour, Ryan will meet voters at the Iowa State Fair, campaigning alone for the first time in the same state where Obama launches a bus tour of his own. Monday's events may help determine whether conservative excitement for the Wisconsin congressman - and his controversial budget plans - will overshadow Romney's own economic message.

Democrats are banking on it.

Since Romney formally named Ryan his running mate on Saturday, the Obama campaign has been attacking the Republican budget architect's plans to transform Medicare into a voucher system and re-shape the nation's tax system. That effort will continue as Obama kicks off a three-day bus tour across Iowa, making his longest visit to a single state yet as he seeks to fire up supporters who put him on the path to the presidency in 2008.

Ryan figures to play prominently in Obama's message.

GOP's Paul Ryan has bold plans for Medicare and Medicaid costs, but they've proved divisive

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican Paul Ryan's blueprint for Medicare could prove as polarizing in the campaign as President Barack Obama's health care overhaul has been. Even Mitt Romney may not want to go there.

Romney's new running mate has built a strong reputation on Capitol Hill for bold ideas to restrain health care costs and federal spending overall. His centerpiece idea is to steer future retirees into private insurance plans, with a fixed payment from the government that may or may not cover as much of a retiree's costs as does the current program.

Ryan, a conservative Wisconsin congressman

sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH **EAST** ♥ K 10 9 5 The bidding: East North 1 🏚 Pass 6 💠

Opening lead — two of hearts. This deal occurred many years ago in a European Championship match between Norway and England. It fea-

tures an error of omission that might

Pass

easily go unnoticed in a casual game. The Norwegian pair quickly reached six clubs as shown. Had West led anything but a heart, declarer would have made the slam easily. After drawing trumps and conceding a spade, he would have discarded his losing heart on

But West did lead a heart, posing an immediate threat to the contract. Declarer saw no option but to finesse dummy's queen, which lost to the king. He later lost a spade trick and went down one. No one will ever know whether

declarer would have made the slam had he adopted a different approach, but there is no question that he did not give himself the best chance. He could have improved his chances significantly had he played the eight of hearts from dummy at trick one rather than the queen!

To appreciate the effect of this play, put yourself in East's position and assume the eight is played from dummy at trick one. What would you do? Remember, you can see only your own hand and dummy. Might you not assume that declarer has the jack, and that if you didn't take your ing, you might lose it?

If you take the king, declarer makes the contract, eventually discarding his losing spade on a high heart. Of course, if you play the nine,

the slam goes down, just as before.

Declarer has nothing to lose by playing the eight at trick one. If West has the king, the finesse will work later, and the slam will still be made. But the play of the eight gives East an opportunity to err and is therefore the correct play.

dummy's fourth spade. Tomorrow: All's fair in love and war. ©2012 King Features Syndicate Inc

and chairman of the House Budget Committee. calls his idea "premium support." Democrats call it a voucher plan. In theory, Ryan's plan could work, economists say. But the devil's in the details. Lots of them, and yet to be ironed out.

Ryan would also turn Medicaid over to the states, and sharply limit the growth of future spending on that safety net program. Between them, Medicare and Medicaid cover about 100 million people, touching nearly every American family in some way.

While expressing support broadly, Romney has yet to spell out where he stands on specifics of his running mate's proposals. And that could get

Strict school junk food laws may help curb kids' obesity, but study results aren't a slam-dunk CHICAGO (AP) — Laws strictly curbing school

sales of junk food and sweetened drinks may play a role in slowing childhood obesity, according to a study that seems to offer the first evidence such efforts could pay off. The results come from the first large national

look at the effectiveness of the state laws over time. They are not a slam-dunk, and even obesity experts who praised the study acknowledge the measures are a political hot potato, smacking of a "nanny state" and opposed by industry and cash-strapped schools relying on food processors' money. But if the laws have even a tiny effect, "what are

the downsides of improving the food environment for children today?" asked Dr. David Ludwig, an obesity specialist at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital. "You can't get much worse than it already is.'

Children in the study gained less weight from fifth through eighth grades if they lived in states with strong, consistent laws versus no laws governing snacks available in schools. For example, kids who were 5 feet tall and 100 pounds gained on average 2.2 fewer pounds if they lived in states with strong laws in the three years studied.

Also, children who were overweight or obese in fifth grade were more likely to reach a healthy weight by eighth grade if they lived in states with the strongest laws.

Mud, sweat and tears: Grueling obstacle courses draw millions, from chiseled to chubby

LONG POND, Pa. (AP) — More than 10,000 people trekked to northeastern Pennsylvania to scale walls, leap fire and crawl commando-style through a mud pit topped with barbed wire.

Willingly. For kicks. And they paid money to do

That's obstacle course racing for you: grueling, mud-spattered and, to its legions of fans, addictive

In only a few years, obstacle courses have become a favorite diversion of thrill-seekers and weekend warriors, with hundreds of events around the country that require participants to go up, over, under and through to the finish line.

Three of the top series — Tough Mudder, Warrior Dash and Spartan Race — expect to host nearly 2 million runners in 2012, from fitness buffs bored with straight-line running to pasty 9-to-5ers blowing off steam with friends, from adrenaline junkies pushing the limits of their own physical and mental endurance to couch potatoes for whom working the remote more typically qualifies as exercise.

Bo Xilai's case much more tricky for China's communist leaders than his wife's murder trial BEIJING (AP) — Trying disgraced politician Bo

Xilai's wife for murder was the easy part in cleaning up the political mess the couple has created for China's communist party leaders. Now comes the tough part: punishing Bo for abuse of power without further tarnishing the party's reputation. Disciplining him quietly will save the party the embarrassment of washing its dirty linen in public

but reinforce public perception that it goes soft on one of its own. Analysts say the leadership is therefore more likely to bite the bullet and try Bo in public in a nod to rule of law. The first indication of this came when four Chongqing police officers were tried Friday for allegedly trying to help Bo's wife Gu Kailai cover

up the murder of a British business associate, Neil

Heywood, said Cheng Li, a China politics expert at

the Brookings Institution in Washington D.C.. Chinese politics has a history of attacking subordinates to get at their superiors, and as part of the chain of command, the four can be directly linked to Bo, once the supreme communist party boss of Chongqing, a mega-city in China's east.

Li said the trial of the officers was a firm indication Bo would definitely face a judge, possibly in relation to the killing. "That's a statement that Bo Xilai will be charged," Li said.

Rep: Jennifer Aniston is engaged to Justin Theroux

NEW YORK (AP) — After years of breathless anticipation — at least on the part of the tabloids -Jennifer Aniston is finally ready to wed again.

Her representative, Stephen Huvane, confirmed Sunday night that the actress is engaged to her boyfriend of more than a year, Justin Theroux.

'Justin Theroux had an amazing birthday on Friday, receiving an extraordinary gift when his girlfriend, Jennifer Aniston, accepted his proposal of marriage," said Theroux's rep in a statement to People, which first reported the engagement.

Theroux, 41, and Aniston, 43, have known each other for years, but started dating more than a year ago after working on the comedy "Wanderlust." Though that film disappeared quickly from movie theaters after its release earlier this year, the relationship clearly proved to have more staying power. The two moved in together and tabloids soon began predicting everything from marriage to babies for the new couple.

Texas' prison population down from previous year

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas' incarceration rate has slipped to its lowest since 2008 and fallen to fourth overall among the 50 states. That's down two spots from second in the nation as recently as two years ago.

Exactly what has caused the decline is unclear — but some experts say the state's increasing reliance on rehabilitation programs has been the key.

The Austin American Statesman reported Sunday that last month, Texas' prison system posted its lowest head count since 2008, even as the state's overall population booms. About 154,000 prisoners are behind bars in 111 state prisons this year, down about 2,500 from 2011.

While experts say that a decrease in crime rates, changes in demographics and an aging state population have combined to mean fewer prisoners, Texas judges also are increasingly sentencing offenders to alternative treatment and rehabilitation programs that have proven more effective while also being cheaper, the newspaper reported.

The changes are part of reforms that began in 2007 and have been largely championed by conservative Republicans as a way of reducing government spending. They include establishing "specialty" courts in Austin, Dallas, Houston and elsewhere which custom-tailor treatment programs for drug offenders, drunk drivers, veterans and prostitutes, often without prison.

Also, according to the Statesman, parole officers now keep better track of their charges using advanced electronic monitoring technology, and in-prison treatment programs have been expanded enough in the last five years to ensure a fifth of the inmates statewide participate. Finally, community-based probation programs have helped reduce recidivism rates among non-violent offenders.

Meanwhile, Texas has closed half of its state-run lockups in its juvenile justice system and instead relies more heavily on community-based corrections programs and keeping youths closer to home for rehabilitation

and treatment, the newspaper re-

ported. Marc Levin, director at the Center for Effective Justice in Austin, told the newspaper that, "For most nonviolent offenders, community-based initiatives are much cheaper and have much

When the state Legislature reconvenes in January, more reforms could be coming — including proposals to change drug sentencing to provide more treatment rather than prison time, and an effort to fund a law approved in 2011 that allows counties across the state to reduce their spending on felons they send to state prisons in exchange for increased state support for local corrections programs, according to the Statesman.

In Texas, the cost of incarcer-

But the gains of late may not last. The newspaper cites a June report by the Legislative Budget Board which predicts that the state's prison population will trend downward until 2014.

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Page 5 Monday, August 13, 2012

Do you have an interesting sports item or

Hamilton, Darvish power Rangers past Detroit 8-3

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — With Josh Hamilton and Yu Darvish regaining their form from the first half of the season, the Texas Rangers are beginning to pull away in the American League West.

Hamilton hit his 32nd homer and drove in three runs, Darvish struck out eight and the Texas Rangers beat the Detroit Tigers 8-3 Sun-

The Rangers are 10-3 since having their division lead cut down to three games on July 31. After Oakland lost Sunday, the Rangers now top the AL West by $6\frac{1}{2}$ games.

"I just hope we can maintain what we have been doing," Hamilton

Hamilton is a big reason for Texas' surge. He was mired in a lengthy slump when manager Ron Washington gave him a mental day off on July 28. The slugger was then briefly dropped to the fifth spot in the lineup for the first time in two years.

The 2010 AL MVP has responded since then, hitting three home runs with 15 RBIs in 11 games. The Rangers have gone 8-3 in that span.

Hamilton had a tworun drive in the first inning, taking the major league lead and matching his career high. He added an RBI single to give him 99 RBIs, which is also tops in baseball.

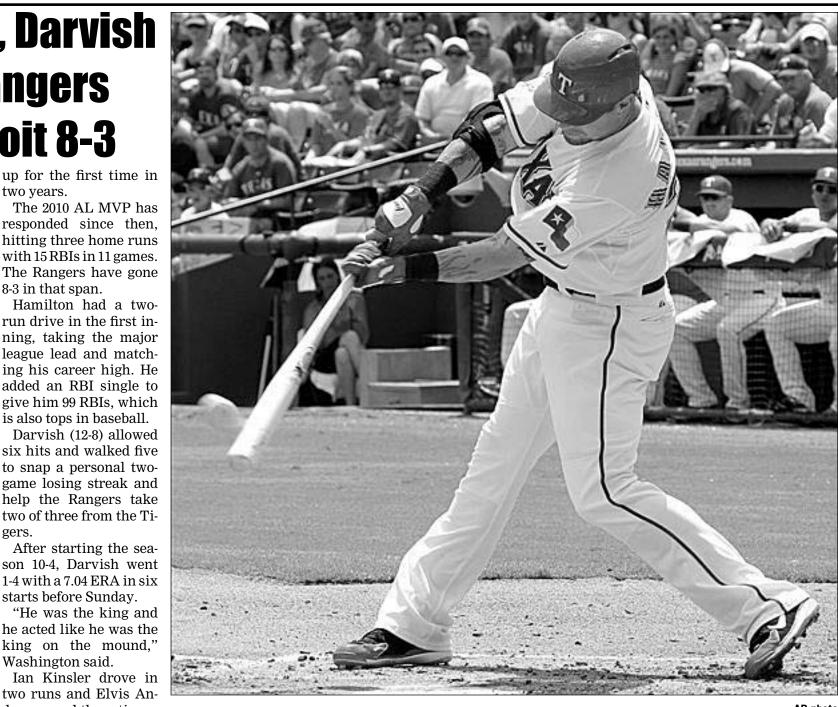
Darvish (12-8) allowed six hits and walked five to snap a personal twogame losing streak and help the Rangers take two of three from the Ti-

After starting the season 10-4, Darvish went 1-4 with a 7.04 ERA in six starts before Sunday. "He was the king and

king on the mound,' Washington said. Ian Kinsler drove in

two runs and Elvis Andrus scored three times. The Rangers,

See RANGERS, Page 10



Texas slugger Josh Hamilton connects for a two-run homer during Sunday's 8-3 victory over the Detroit Tigers. Pitcher Yu Darvish snapped a two-game losing streak.

Ladies Golf Association News

The Comanche Trail Ladies Golf Association held its weekly playday last

Jo Ann Hillger shot low gross, Annie Ward took low net and Trish Gabbard had the fewest putts.

The team of Jimmy and Deanna Foresyth and Ray and Sue Russell took first place at Thursday's couples play outing after shooting a 4-under

Coming in second were Donnie and Shirley Long and Annie Ward and Jerry Roach with a 2-under par. Third place went to John and Gus Leonardi and Billand Bobbie Holden with a 2-over par.

Comanche Trail's Trish Gabbard also won first gross in the third flight of a recent Permian Basin Ladies Golf Association playday at Hogan Country Club with a score of 98.

Astros help Milwaukee snap road losing streak with 5-3 flub

HOUSTON (AP) The Milwaukee Brewers don't have a defined closer in a bullpen that's already blown 22 save chances this season.

Now each reliever has to be ready in case the task of holding a ninthinning lead falls to him.

On Sunday it was Kameron Loe's turn and, after a couple of hiccups, he shut down Houston to preserve a 5-3 win and end Milwaukee's 11-game road losing streak.

"It keeps us on our toes right now," he said. "I think there's been a learning process this year for a number of guys, myself included, and you've just got to accept the challenges that come along and take it with a smile."

Yovani Gallardo handled Houston once again and Corey Hart homered for the Brewers.

Milwaukee won on the road for the first time since July 8 at Houston in its last game before the All-Star break. The Brewers had been swept at the Reds, Phillies and Cardinals since then to extend their losing streak to the second-longest in franchise history, and the longest since they lost 17 straight in

Gallardo (11-8) won his 10th straight start against Houston. He's the first pitcher to win 10 or more consecutive starts against one opponent since Roy Halladay did it against Montreal/ Washington from 2004-11, according to information provided to the Brewers by the Elias Sports Bureau.

The right-hander allowed three runs and struck out eight in 7 2-3 innings.

Things got a bit dicey for Loe and Milwaukee's beleaguered bullpen in the ninth inning after a hit and an error left the tying on second base. But he retired Marwin Gonzalez to get his first save in six tries.

U.S. wins medal count with 104, 46 of them gold

LONDON (AP) - Red, third-most of any nawhite and blue was everywhere in London.

For the Americans and for the British, too.

The most medals, and the most gold medals. That's what the U.S. Olympic Team the home team? Riding the wave of home-field advantage, the British put together their best Olympic showing in over a century.

The competition is over. The U.S. was best, but the success stories from London truly spanned the globe.

"I think these games were absolutely fabulous," International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge said.

The final numbers: 104 medals for the United States, 46 of them gold, their highest total at a "road" Olympics. China won 87 medals, 38 of them gold, down from what they did as the home team in 2008. Britain won 29 golds, tion, and 65 overall fourth in that category behind Russia, a winner of 82 medals, 24 gold.

Grenada had its first gold medalist, and six other nations sent athwanted, and it's what letes to the Olympic pothey delivered. As for dium for the first time. Meanwhile, Australia took another step back in its Olympic freefall after a scintillating show in Sydney 12 years ago.

> In all, 85 nations won something in London, from the U.S. to Tajikistan and dozens of points in between.

> "We are immensely proud of the success that our athletes had in London," U.S. Olympic Committee CEO Scott Blackmun said Sun-

So were the hosts, who delivered on a promise of greatness in 2012.

"What I've witnessed in the last couple of weeks has been both uplifting and energizing," London Games chief Sebastian

said. "I don't think any country that has staged the games or any city that staged the games is ever the same after-

wards." Neither are the athletes who win them. A boxer from Thailand protested losing a gold-medal fight to a Chinese opponent, and shed tears of disbelief when the decision was announced. He cried again 10 minutes later, holding his silver medal for the first time.

"I'm happy. I'm still really happy that I've got this silver medal," said the Thai fighter, Kaeo Pongprayoon. "I'm really proud. It might not be gold, but it's a medal I can bring back to the Thai peo-

ple." The U.S. brought a whole slew of hardware back to the American people. The 46 golds in London were one more than the gold haul from Paris in 1924 and Mexico City in 1968.

See **MEDALS**, Page 10

London puts out Olympic flame; next stop Rio de Janeiro in 2016

LONDON (AP) - And now,

London brought the curtain down on a hugely entertaining Olympics with a sensational rock 'n roll nostalgia tour of a closing ceremony that thrilled the London night with top-of-the-chart classics, supermodels and psychedelic mayhem.

After a glorious two weeks of never-to-be-forgotten moments that left Britain exexhilarated and hausted, organizers deeply proud, handed the baton to 2016 host Brazil, which must now take up the Herculean task of matching them.

Judging by the swaying samba of Marisa Monte and

the sexy baritone of Seu Jorge in Brazil's eight-minute musical and visual postcard for the 2016 games, they look to be off to a foot-stomping start.

But Sunday was all about Britain.

The three-hour extravaganza offered a sensory blast including rock 'n' roll rickshaws, dustbin percussionists, an exploding yellow car and a marching band in red tunics and bearskin hats. The Spice Girls staged a

show-stopping reunion, and Monty Python's Eric Idle sauntered through "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life" — accompanied by Roman centurions, Scottish bagpipers and a human cannonball.

It all made for a madcap mashup that had 80,000 fans at Olympic Stadium stomping, cheering and singing along. Organizers estimated 300 million or more were watching around the world.

What a way to end a games far more successful than many Londoners expected. Early security glitches were conquered with the help of the military, road traffic was manageable and the wettest early summer on record gave way to mostly sunny skies. More importantly, British

athletes overachieved. It all came with a price tag of \$14 billion — three times the original estimate. But no-

body wanted to spoil the fun with such mundane concerns, at least not on this night.

"We lit the flame, and we lit up the world," said London organizing committee chief Sebastian Coe. "When our time came, Britain, we did it right."

International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge declared the Olympics over with praise for the ath-

"Through your commitment to fair play, your respect for opponents, and your grace in defeat as well as in

victory, you have earned the

right to be called Olympians,"

he said, adding: "These were

happy and glorious games."

But the night was about splash more than speeches.

Festive and fast-moving, the ceremony opened with pop bands Madness, Pet Shop Boys and One Direction, a shout-out to Winston Churchill and a tribute to the Union Jack — the Olympic Stadium floor arranged to resemble the British flag. Monochrome recreations of

London landmarks were covered in newsprint, from Big Ben's clock tower and Tower Bridge to the London Eye ferris wheel and the chubby high-rise known as the Gher-

Street percussion group

See FLAME, Page 10

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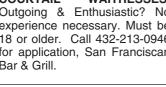
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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION **WELL PERMIT**

ConocoPhillips Company, North A Street, Building 6, Midland, Texas 79705 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Wichita Albany formation, Chalk, Owen No. 42W. The proposed injection well is located 14 miles Southeast of Big Spring, Texas Howard-Glasscock (Wolfcamp 7400) Field in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into the subsurface depth interval of

4200 feet to 6000 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 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 Environ-mental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin. 78711. (Telephone Texas (512)463-6792). #7473 August 13, 2012

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Do you sense vour connection to things outside yourself such as time or other people's thoughts? There is something magical about these way the connections pop up now, and it all springs from the peaceful, easy earlymorning feeling of the trine Neptune.

intuitive Cancer encourages us to trust the flow.

ARIES

From there,

(March 21-April 19). You've been enjoying of plenty

it's time to

time.

HOLIDAY MATHIS unscheduled Now

get back into a routine and get busy with various projects so you can have some of that unscheduled time again in the future.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Unintentionally hurting someone close to sometimes unavoidable. But you can mitigate the wound with a swift and sincere apology. Don't wait and allow that wound to fester.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You usually roll with the financial dips and dollops, accepting that reasonable fluctuations are a natural part of life. Today you'll experience such fluctuations and impress others with your unflappable courage.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Actors joke that "dying is easy; comedy is hard." Some troubles are hard to laugh off, but now you'll find that you can smile at memories that brought once frowns.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Keep in mind that everyone is dealing with life on his or her own scale. It might be vastly different from the system of measurement you are using, but that doesn't make it better or worse. A storm in a teacup could be disastrous for a gnat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A friendship that you gave up on long ago is going to surprise you. It's OK to be cautious, but remember to give this person the benefit of your doubt, which you would want someone to give to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A recent injustice will be righted, thanks to diligence your concern. But don't gloat your victory. Remember to exercise magnanimity toward foes and head off future bad

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows, but you might want to know if it's going rain. Careful preparation and knowledge will save the day.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's true that time is money, but don't forget that money is time. Stop spending, and start saving — and not just for rainy days, but for unexpected adventures and the fun on your horizon.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's important to daydream and scheme about your goals. But remember to build your castle with the bricks of practical, everyday steps toward vour goals, and not with beach sand.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A work suddenly relationship blooms in unexpected, delightful ways, praise for a job well done will come your way just when you think your hard work is going unappreciated.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A wise man once said. "You have to be willing to be lucky." Even when it feels like you're surrounded by closed doors, look closer.

Opportunity is often a door opened just a crack. Don't be afraid to push.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 13). You'll open the door to a new world that someday you will rule. You'll be given new resources in September. What you build in October lasts you a lifetime. The feature of September is a solid education and social connections to help you Family along. relationships make you proud in December. Aquarius and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 2,

49, 18 and 19. **CELEBRITY**

PROFILES: It hardly seems fair that Alfred Hitchcock won a Best Picture Academy Award for his very first American film. Then again, some people (Leos) are just born with an inordinately strong sense of drama. The legendary director who created more than 50 films had Venus in Leo, too, as well mysterious, as a suspenseful Scorpio moon.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a © 2012 CREATORS.COM

"Classic" Ann Landers®: Best advice, Ann says, trust your instincts

Editor's Note: Hundreds of Ann Landers' loyal readers have requested that newspapers continue to publish her columns. These letters originally appeared in 1999.

Dear Ann Landers: I am a 15vear-old sophomore girl. I make decent grades and am a normal teenager in every way. At. the beginning of school



year, I hit it off with a girl who had just moved to our town over the summer.

"Lottie" and I have the same taste in music and movies, and we like to hang out at the mall after school. We've become

great friends in just a few months, and last weekend, Lottie invited me to sleep over at her house.

Everything was great until it came time for bed. Lottie's bedroom has a double bed, which we were supposed to share. That would have been OK, except she stripped completely naked before she got into bed.

Ann, I have objection to sleeping in the nude, but this was in the winter, and it was plenty cold outside. I asked Lottie if she wouldn't be warmer in pajamas. She replied that she was more comfortable sleeping nude and her electric blanket would keep her toasty warm.

I reluctantly got into bed but kept wondering if Lottie was trying to seduce me. Her electric blanket was turned on so

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high that I was tempted to take off my flannel nightshirt. I decided not to, thinking maybe that was what she wanted me to do. Lottie made no other moves on me, but I barely slept all night.

What should I do? I don't want to accuse her of being a lesbian, but I can't stop wondering if she is interested in me sexually. Lottie is the best friend I ever had, and I would hate to lose her over this. Please tell me what to do. Befuddled in Northern California

Dear Befuddled: Trust your instincts. Lottie may be perfectly straight, but I wouldn't bet the rent. If you want to continue the friendship, OK, but do not accept any more invitations to sleep at her place, and don't let her finagle an invitation to

stay at yours.

Gem of the Day: The real test of class is how you treat people who cannot possibly do you any good.

Do you have questions about sex but no one to talk to? Ann Landers' booklet "Sex and the Teenager" is frank and to the point. Send a selfaddressed, long, businesssized envelope and a check or money order for \$3.75 (this includes postage and handling) to: Teens, c/o Ann Landers, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street. Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page

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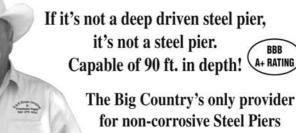
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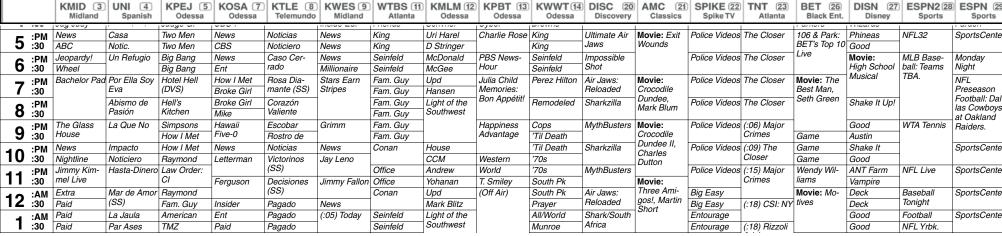
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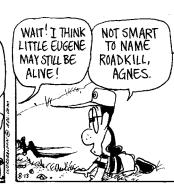
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This Date In History

Today is Monday, Aug. 13, the 226th day of 2012. There are 140 days left in the year. Today's Highlight

History:

On Aug. 13, 1942, Walt Disney's animated feature "Bambi" had its U.S. premiere at Radio City Music Hall in New York, five days after its world premiere in London.

On this date: In 1521, Spanish conqueror

Hernando Cortez captured Tenochtitlan (teh-natch-teet-LAHN'), present-day Mexico City, from the Aztecs. In 1624, King Louis XIII of

Richelieu (ree-shuh-LYOO') his first minister. In 1704, the Battle of Blenheim was fought during the War of the Spanish Succession, resulting in a victory for English-led

France appointed Cardinal

forces over French and Bavarian soldiers. In 1792. French revolutionaries imprisoned the royal fami-

In 1846, the American flag was raised for the first time in Los Angeles. In 1910, Florence Nightingale,

the founder of modern nursing, died in London at age 90. In 1932, Adolf Hitler rejected

the post of vice chancellor of Germany, saying he was prepared to hold out "for all or nothing.' In 1934, the satirical comic

strip "Li'l Abner," created by Al Capp, made its debut. In 1960, the first two-way telephone conversation by satellite

took place with the help of Echo

1. The Central African Republic

became totally independent of French rule. In 1961, East Germany sealed off the border between Berlin's eastern and western sectors and began building a wall that would stand for the next 28

In 1981, in a ceremony at his California ranch, President Ronald Reagan signed a historic package of tax and budget reductions.

In 1989, searchers in Ethiopia found the wreckage of a plane which had disappeared almost a week earlier while carrying Rep. Mickey Leland, D-Texas,

and 14 other people — there

were no survivors.

Todav's Birthdays: Former Cuban President Fidel Castro is 86. Actor Pat Harrington is 83. Former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders is 79. Actor Kevin Tighe is 68. Actress Gretchen Corbett is 65. Opera singer Kathleen Battle is 64. High wire aerialist Philippe Petit is 63. Hockey Hall of Famer Bobby Clarke is 63. Golf Hall of Famer Betsy King is 57. Movie director Paul Greengrass is 57. Actor Danny Bonaduce is 53. TV host/weatherman Sam Champion (TV: "Good Morning America") is 51. Actress Dawnn (correct) Lewis is 51. Actor John Slattery is 50. Actress Debi Mazar is 48. Actress Quinn Cummings is 45.

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PACESHIPS

EDGYNINETEENTH

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40 Take off the

somehow

transcript abbr.

shelf

45 College

46 Says

47 Show

44 Get by

Answer to previous puzzle

ABBA

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Okra stew 6 Chimps, for example
- 10 Price paid 14 Get 100 on a
- test
- 15 Popular thing,
- slangily
- 17 Angle
- zoo beasts
- rhymes
- 24 Fashionable 26 Small bill
- 32 Border on
- 33 Gain
- knowledge

- 41 Hurricane

- 45 Visitors
- borrowed
- (improving)

vears.

- 16 Start the poker pot
- 18 Lumber source
- 19 Crusty desserts 20 Black-and-white
- 22 Writer of
- 23 Armed conflict
- 30 Kilt cloth

- 42 Tot watcher
- 44 Like very old

- 51 Something
- pets
- 61 D sharp

- charge: Abbr.
- 67 Teakettle output
 - surprise

 - capital
 - 6 Later on

- 34 Follower: Suff. 37 Striped blackand-white
- center

- 50 Likely
- 52 Black-and-white
- Major (Big Dipper's locale
- equivalent

- **BLACK AND WHITE** by Billie Truitt Edited by Stanley Newman 11 French _
- 66 Canoeing spot

- 5 Canadian

- 9 Be reeling
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- 2 W. Coast school 4 Tie securely
- 7 Prefix for chute

- animals
- 43 Scissors sound
- bread
- 47 Yellow fruit
- **60** Moving

- 62 Male deer 63 At no extra
- 64 Pay increase
- 65 and hearty

- **DOWN** 1 Sound of
- **3** Unkind
- 8 At any time
- 10 Imposed a
- 27 Do as told 28 Auto maintenance job
 - 29 Env. contents **30** 26 Across fraction 31 Gent's wife

33 Acreage

soup

21 Tavern

12 War horse

13 Easily angered

25 Skater's venue

26 Dumbfound

34 Bed-andbreakfasts 35 Variety show

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- 36 Recipe amts. 38 Auth. unknown
- **39** Dressing
- ingredient

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embarrassment 48 Major blood vessel 49 Of the nose 50 More than sufficient

53 __ Karenina

54 Good fortune

you don't succeed . . . 56 "I cannot tell

55 "___ first

org 58 Flower stalk

57 Space shuttle

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8/13/12

Miami Dolphins to Chad Johnson: 'You're fired'

DAVIE, Fla. (AP) — As the Miami Dolphins took the field for practice Sunday, Chad Johnson was getting out of

Hours later, he was out of work.

The Dolphins terminated the six-time Pro Bowl receiver's contract about 24 hours after he was arrested in a domestic battery case involving his wife.

Johnson was released from jail on \$2,500 bond earlier Sunday after his wife accused him of head-butting her during an argument in front of their home. Johnson was charged with simple domestic battery, a misdemeanor.

confrontation came barely a month after Johnson married Evelyn Lozada, who is on the reality TV show Wives." "Basketball The 34-year-old Johnson had been battling for a spot on the team after a disappointing season with the New England Patriots in 2011.

Following Sunday's practice, coach Joe Philbin said he would meet soon with John-

"We're going to deal with this," Philbin said before Johnson was released.

"We're not going to waste time. ... We're all in this thing together. Everybody that sets foot in this building, we're all held to a high stan-

Only five days earlier, Philbin said Johnson's roster spot could be in jeopardy if he didn't temper his freewheeling behavior. Johnson annoyed the coach by frequently using profanity during a session with reporters.

Johnson's defense attorney, Adam Swickle, said an order has been issued that prevents Johnson from contacting Lozada. Swickle declined to comment further.

Johnson — who recently changed his name from Chad Ochocinco was arrested Saturday after Lozada confronted him about a receipt she police. A responding found for a box of condoms, police said. According to an arrest affidavit, Lozada said she was taking groceries into their home when she found the receipt in the car trunk.

When the two were seated back in the car, they began talking about the receipt and their marriage. That's when Johnson got upset and head-butted his wife, the report said.

Lozada ran to a neighbor's house and called

officer said Lozada had a 3-inch cut on her forehead, according to the affidavit, while Johnson did not have any visible marks or bruises. When questioned by police, he confirmed there was an argument over the receipt, but said his wife

had head-butted him. Even before his arrest, Johnson was battling to salvage his career. He was released by the Patriots after totaling only 15 receptions last sea-

FLAME

Continued from Page 5

Stomp built the noise into a frenzy, and dancers brandished brooms, in a nod to the spontaneous popular movement to clean up London after riots shook neighborhoods not far from Olympic Stadium just a year ago.

Liam Gallagher performed "Wonderwall," a 1990s hit by his former band, Oasis, Muse rocked the house with the hard-edged Olympic anthem "Survival," and Queen guitarist Brian May was joined by singer Jessie J for a crowd-pleasing "We Will Rock You."

The headline performers were each paid a pound, a little more than \$1.50.

The night ended with the extinguishing of the multipetaled Olympic cauldron and a supercharged rendition of "My Generation" and other classics by The Who that had the crowd dancing in the aisles. Confetti rained down, and fireworks lit up the sky.

Prince William's Kate, and Prince Harry took seats next to Rogge. They sang along to "God Save the Queen." There was no sign of the queen herself, who made a memorable mock parachute entrance at the July 27 opening ceremony.

Following Olympic tradition, the 10,800 athletes of the London Games marched in as one rather than with their nations, symbolizing the harmony and friendship inspired by the games.

As the crowd cheered their heroes and flashbulbs rippled through the stadium, the Olympians cheered back, some carrying national flags, others snapping photographs with smartphones and cam-

They held hands, embraced and carried each other on

their shoulders, finally forming a human mosh pit on the field.

The ceremony had something for everyone, from tween girls to 1960s hippies. The face of John Lennon appeared on the stadium floor. assembled by 101 fragments of sculpture, and just as quickly gave way to George Michael, Fatboy Slim and Annie Len-

Britons, who had fretted for weeks that the games would become a fiasco, were buoyed by their biggest medal haul since 1908 — 29 golds and 65 medals in all.

The United States edged China in both the gold medal and total medal standings, eclipsing its best performance at an Olympics on foreign soil after the Dream Team narrowly held off Spain in basketball for the country's 46th gold.

While the games may have lacked some of the grandeur of the Beijing Olympics in

2008, there were more than a few unforgettable moments.

Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt became an Olympic legend by repeating as champion in both the 100-meter and 200-meter sprints. Michael Phelps ended his long career as the most decorated Olympian in history.

British distance runner Mo Farah became a national treasure by sweeping the 5,000and 10,000-meter races, and favorite daughter Jessica Ennis became a global phenomenon with her victory in the heptathlon.

Female athletes took center stage in a way they never had before. American gymnast Gabby Douglas soared to gold and the U.S. soccer team made a dramatic march to the championship. Packed houses turned out to watch the new event of women's boxing. And women competed for Saudi Arabia, Qatar and

Brunei for the first time. And then there was Oscar Pistorius, the double-amputee from South Africa running on carbon-fiber blades, who didn't win a medal but nonetheless left a champion. And sprinter Manteo Mitchell, who completed his leg of the 4x400 relay semifinal on a broken leg, allowing his team to qualify and win silver.

Britons seemed exhausted and exhilarated after two glorious weeks in the world's spotlight, just months after the country celebrated the queen's 60th year on the throne with a magnificent pageant and street parties.

Some at Olympic Park acknowledged happy surprise that not much had gone wrong, and so much had gone "I was a bit worried we

it," said Phil Akrill of Chichester. "But walking around here it's just unbelievable." Even non-Brits were proud

wouldn't be able to live up to

of their adopted homeland. 'It's just been a really nice thing to see," said Anja Ekelof, a Swede who now lives in

Scotland.

MEDALS

Continued from Page 5

LeBron James recognized that winning gold means more than, well, winning gold. He and the U.S. men's basketball team won the Americans' final Olympic title in London on Sunday after-"It means more than myself, it

means more than my name on my back," James said. "It means everything to the name on the tront.

The final numbers for the Americans in London won't go down as record-setting for all Olympics.

They won 83 golds (174 overall) at the 1984 Los Angeles Games, boycotted by most of the Soviet bloc countries; and 78 golds (a whopping 239 overall) at the 1904 St. Louis Games, when U.S. athletes won roughly seven out of every eight medals.

Different eras, different dynamics. By any measure, 2012 will be considered a success for the U.S. Many thought the Chinese would go home with more medals than the Americans, and that didn't come close to happen-

"We're Americans and we're human," said Teresa Edwards, the five-time Olympian for U.S.

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basketball. "When I was competing, when I went up against another country, I felt they wanted the same thing I wanted. But we were given an opportunity to prove it at that moment, and that's what these games give

Michael Phelps ended his Olympic career in London with a record 22 medals, the last six of them won here, the most of any athlete in London, as his amazing run ended with — what else? — a splash. Four other athletes in London won five medals, three of them American swimmers, including 17-year-old Missy Franklin.

Swimming and track combined to deliver 60 medals for the U.S., and to the athletes, the medal count most definitely mattered.

"I do feel it's important for us to be the No. 1 team because we've held that title and to lose that title would be somewhat disappointing," said Dee Dee Trotter, who won gold on the U.S. 4x400meter relay team. "We just want to maintain the level of talent and the level of medals we always bring home, and if we fall short, that would mean we're not bringing our 'A' game."

Australia's medal total, seven, was just half of the number from Beijing — and the Aussies won no individual gold medals in the

swimming pool for the first time since 1976, something that would have seemed unthinkable a few years ago when the likes of Ian Thorpe were among the world's very best.

The Summer Olympics next hit Brazil, site of the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Games. And the Brazilians are already focusing on making sure their athletes win plenty of hardware when the games are on home turf.

They have some work to do over the next four years, in addition to all the construction that comes with getting ready for sport's largest spectacle. The Brazilians won three golds in London, those coming in women's volleyball, judo and gymnastics, and their overall medal haul of 17 was its best at an Olympics.

Still, that's not exactly what fans of the home team at an Olympics have come to expect.

The Brazilians already have plans in place for an Olympic Training Center to be built in Rio, and funding for athletes and teams will likely be unprecedented for the South American nation.

"We need gold medals up front," Rogge said. "That is so important for the mood of the public, of the general atmosphere of the games."

RANGERS

Continued from Page 5

knocked off the Tigers in last season's AL championship series, won the season series

Miguel Cabrera had a two-run double as the Tigers slipped two games behind the Chicago White Sox in the AL Central.

Rick Porcello (9-7) gave up nine hits and six runs. The right-hander is 2-3 lifetime against the Rangers with a 7.83 ERA in five starts.

The Tigers committed three errors and threw three wild pitches. Detroit's offense was held to 11 hits in losing the last two games.

"It was ugly, really ugly," Detroit manager Jim Leyland said. Darvish improved to 3-0 against the Tigers this season as he avoided his first three-game losing streak.

Darvish walked Andy Dirks and Cabrera with two outs in the seventh. Robbie Ross relieved and got Prince Fielder to pop out. With temperatures

over 100 degrees, Darvish threw 120 pitch-"I felt like I was stron-

ger in the end," Darvish said through an interpreter. "So the heat didn't affect me."

The Rangers next travel to New York for a four-game set against the Yankees in a matchup of the two top teams in the AL.

"We always enjoy playing in New York," Hamilton said. "But it's just another series."

Hamilton's 419-foot long ball — his third homer in four games easily cleared the fence in center and gave Texas a 2-0 lead. He equaled his career high in home runs, a mark he estab-

lished in 2008 and 2010. Texas scored three runs in the third with the help of two Detroit

Kinsler's RBI double made it 3-0, and he came home when Porcello made an errant throw toward third after fielding a hopper.

Hamilton capped the inning with an RBI single to right that Brennan Boesch booted, allowing Hamilton to advance to third.

Texas increased its advantage to 6-0 on Kinsler's sacrifice fly in the fourth before the Tigers touched up Darvish.

"I wanted to get back to my old form," Darvish said. "This was a big step." Omar Infante's RBI

double in the fifth snapped a 12-inning scoreless slump, and Cabrera's two-run double off Darvish gave him 98 RBIs and brought the Tigers to 6-3. The Rangers scored

twice in the seventh thanks to three wild pitches and an error.

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