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Council approves tax rate, 6-1

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 The city of Big Spring adopted its 2012-2013 budget on a unanimous vote Tuesday night, however, final reading of its proposed ad valorem tax rate — which has been hotly debated during the past several weeks — didn't go quite as smoothly.
 The council approved first reading of the rate — 86.5043 cents per \$100 property valuation — during its Sept. 11

meeting on a 6-1 vote, with District 4 Councilman Bobby McDonald the lone dissenter.
 Tuesday night's vote would prove to be a carbon copy of the Sept. 11 ballot, with McDonald once again going toe-to-toe with Mayor Tommy Duncan over the validity of the rate, which was called into question more than a month ago.
 According to City Finance Director Peggy Walker, a mistake was made by the Howard County Appraisal District in



McDonald Duncan
 accounting for the values of protested property appraisals.
 The \$15,570,750 difference in protested values drove the effective rate to 88.8275 cents

per \$100 property valuation, according to Walker. Howard County Chief Appraiser Ronnie Babcock acknowledged the mistake during the council's Aug. 28 meeting and affirmed the published tax rate was not correct. The mistake is expected to cost the city of Big Spring an estimated \$130,000 in tax revenue.
 McDonald indicated during the Sept. 11 meeting he voted against the 86.5043-cent tax rate because it was, essentially, a mistake, a sentiment he

continued to voice Tuesday.
 "My district informed me to vote this way by majority opinion. My question is, if we all agree on 88 (cents), I don't understand why we voted on 86 (cents)," McDonald said. "I know there was an error where it originated, but what if the error had been at 50 (cents)?"
 Duncan was quick to fire back, however, pointing out the council never set
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Air museum will honor local veteran

By AMANDA DUFORAT
 Staff Writer
 Another veteran will receive a special honor this month.
 Christopher R. Poole — a United States Marine veteran who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom — is the September veteran of the month.
 "Veteran of the month is such an important program," Hangar 25 Air Museum Administrator Genevieve Stockburger said. "Part of our mission statement is to honor veterans past and present. Veteran of the Month is how we accomplish this."
 Poole served both tours between Dec. 10, 2001 and Nov. 12, 2011. His service will be honored during a reception in the Briefing Room at the Hangar at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.
 "Our veterans serve an important role in history and in our community. We at Hangar 25 Air Museum want our community to know how much we value our veterans and their service to our country and the sacrifices they have made," Stockburger said.
 The reception is open to the public.
 Hangar 25 is located at 1911 Apron Drive in the Industrial Park.



Courtesy photo
Stanton High School's 2012 homecoming queen nominees are, from left, Jacee Luxton, McKenzie Allred, Shelby Gordon and Rachel Billett. The queen will be crowned at halftime of Stanton's football game vs. Seagraves Friday night.

Buffaloes ready for homecoming

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer
 STANTON — A community pep rally Tuesday kick started homecoming week festivities for Stanton High School.
 The pep rally, held Tuesday evening in the high school gym, was the biggest event in advance of Friday's main ceremonies, which will be highlighted with the crowning of the homecoming queen during halftime of Stanton's football game vs. Seagraves.
 School officials said themed dress-up days will be staged each day this week, culminating in a student pep rally at the school Friday afternoon.
 This year's senior homecoming queen candidates are:
 • McKenzie Allred, the daughter of Sparky and Kelly Allred. She has been a cheerleader for four years and is active in student council, National Honor Society, University Interscholastic League academics, cross country and

Future Farmers of America.
 • Rachel Grace Billett, the daughter of Bill and Ruthie Billett. She has been active in band, serving as drum major this year, and is involved with NHS, Spanish Club, UIL academics and one act play.
 • Shelby Gordon, the daughter of Dough and Melissa Gordon. She is a NHS and student council member, as well as being active in Fellowship of Christian Athletes, basketball, cross country and track, tennis and cheerleading.
 • Jacee Brooke Luxton, the daughter of Tony and Karen Luxton. She has been a student council member and is involved in FFA, basketball, track, golf and cheerleading.
 For more information on Stanton homecoming, contact the school at 432-756-3326.
 Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com



Deaf artist to present talk, show

By AMANDA DUFORAT
 Staff Writer
 International Deaf Artist Iris Nelia Aranda will be making her way to Big Spring for three days.
 Aranda will be featured at an opening reception and lecture at 6:30 p.m. Monday at Hall Center for the Arts auditorium on the Howard College campus.
 "By bringing Aranda here we are trying to not only build relationships and promoting both colleges (SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf and Howard College), but we are also helping kick off Deaf Awareness Week," said Stacy J. Slaten, assistant professor of art.
 Aranda comes to Howard College through a grant submitted by Slaten and Lisa Westlund, graphic art technology at SWCID. Her program will consist of an hour lecture about her artwork and how she got started.
 "She will be telling her story and how it is tied to her being deaf," Slaten said. "She will explain how she makes her works, why and how she does what she does."
 All of Aranda's artwork is influenced by her deafness. According to Slaten, her artwork is more than just visual, but is also its own language.
 "One of the reasons I truly enjoy her artwork is because not only does it say something visually, but it says something in a language. She uses sign language and symbols in her pieces," Slaten said.
 Beginning Monday, Aranda's artwork — 15 pieces — will be on display at the Hall Center for the Arts. The collection will be accessible to
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Take Note

• An account has been set up at Western Bank for Kristen Lasater and family, who lost their home to a house fire Monday afternoon. The account number, for those wanting to make a donation, is 1004597.

• Big Spring High School cheerleaders will be selling Breast Cancer Awareness Shirts through Friday at the high school. Bring your money to the high school office. Also, the group will be having the third annual "Pink" pep rally in honor of breast cancer awareness month on Friday, Oct. 12 at 10:30 a.m. in the Steer Gym. They would like to invite all breast cancer survivors, or those still battling this disease, to the pep rally. There will be a special section for them to sit in. All proceeds will be sent to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

• Big Spring Health Department will be administering flu shots from 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 9-10 at 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28-B. Five dollar donations are welcomed, however, no one will be turned away for inability to play. Medicare patients, Medicare pays for flu shots and their administration so remember to bring your card. For information, call 432-263-9775.

• To honor the ideas of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Mary's the Virgin Episcopal Church parishioners are sponsoring a dog and cat food drive for the Howard County Humane Society through Oct. 5. Donations can be taken to the Humane Society at West I H-20 off the service road, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., or dropped off by the Herald, 710 Scurry St., weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

At 10:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 5, the Rev. Barbara Kirk-Norris, rector of St. Mary's, will hold a Blessing of the Animal service at the Humane Society shelter. Sunday Oct. 7, the church will hold a second community-wide Blessing of the Animals at 3 p.m. in the Parish's Bennett Garden, 1001 S. Goliad. Food donations for the Humane Society will be taken at this time.

WEDNESDAY
• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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

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

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

• Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a

Support Groups

Christ-centered Recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship, for further information, contact Dale at 432-270-8462.

• Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. For more information, call 263-2501.

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

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

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

SATURDAY
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until

9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) TX 0021 meets at First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad, in the dining hall on the east side of the building. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m. and meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. We have a different program each week. For more information, please call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

its sights on adopting the 88-cent tax rate, but instead on adopting the effective rate.

"Well, we did not agree on 88 (cents), we agreed on the effective tax rate. The effective tax rate is legally 86 cents," Duncan said.

"I understand. Didn't you put in the paper and didn't we all agree 88 (cents) was what the city needed?" McDonald fired back. "Isn't that what I heard from the city administration, that 88 (cents) was what we needed and all but one of us voted on 86 (cents)?"

According to Duncan, the city administration's assurance it could operate at the deficit wasn't the only reason he and the other council members decided to back the lower tax rate. "We gave the adminis-

tration time to go back and look and they researched and came back and presented further data," Duncan said. "In addition to the administration saying we could in fact operate on an 86.5-cent budget, (City Attorney Linda) Sjogren indicated that legally we are bound to go with the 86.5-cent (tax rate)."

Sjogren backed up Duncan's rendition of the matter, saying there simply wasn't enough time for the city to back-track and re-publish the necessary numbers. "The problem we would have had with going with the 88-cent rate would be we had advertised we were going with the effective tax rate," Sjogren said. "Because it was advertised, there wasn't enough time to come back and re-advertise and still adopt the tax rate by Sept. 30, which is required by law. So, we were in a bind, a catch-22 where we didn't really have

time to advertise it correctly and we would just make it subject to challenge."

McDonald said the lower tax rate may look good to taxpayers this year, however, he fears it could spell trouble for years to come.

"I guess what bothers me — and should bother the television audience and the people at home — is what about next year?" McDonald said, referring to this year's mistake with the effective tax rate's ability to affect future tax rates.

Duncan was quick to point out the virtues of the lower tax rate, however, comparing the city's tax levy to other taxing entities in Howard County, which he pointed out are all well above the effective rate.

"We've made the comment we would look at this next year and be open to the idea of possibly having to go above the effective tax rate in order to not have a

domino effect with this loss of revenue," Duncan said. "However, this year I'm assured by staff — and I am confident and they are confident — that we can manage this budget at 86.5 cents, which will mean the city of Big Spring is reducing its tax burden on the citizens of Big Spring rather than leaving it the same. I think that's a good thing because the other taxing entities are increasing the tax burdens on the citizens."

"So, what I believe I'm hearing out of this ear is next year we'll have to raise taxes," McDonald said.

"No, I'm not saying we'll have to. I'm saying we need to keep an open mind," Duncan said quickly.

The council also approved its 2012-2013 budget during the meeting, which also passed on a unanimous vote during the Sept. 11 meeting.

Among the highlights

of the budget are:

• Pay raises — The council approved a 3 percent pay raise for all employees (excepting senior staff) and held the door open for even more pay increases. Faced with an annual turnover rate of about 30 percent, City Manager Gary Fuqua said the city has to do something in order to retain its employees.

• Water line replacement — Having replaced water lines on Third and Fourth streets and Birdwell Lane during the current fiscal year, the city will take aim at other areas in the coming 12 months. Assistant City Manager Todd Darden said officials are eyeing the west end of town and the area surrounding the water treatment plant as possible sites for future water line replacement.

• Landfill purchases — Fuqua said the city landfill will be full in about four years, and since

the permitting process for opening a new landfill also takes about four years, he said the city is reaching a critical stage in deciding the future of the facility.

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

The Big Spring Herald

is currently accepting applications for a

Sports Editor/Reporter Position

Email resume and clippings to editor@bigspringherald.com

ARANDA

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the public through Feb. 1.

"This is a great way to bring diversity to our community," Slaten said.

While here, Aranda will also participate in several workshops, demonstrations and talks with the students at Howard College and SWCID. She will even offer critiques for the student's works.

Admission to the re-

ception and lecture is free and open to the community.

For more information, call Slaten at 432-935-1018 or 432-264-5115. Email can also be sent

to sslaten@howardcollege.edu.

Contact Amanda Duforat at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@big-springherald.com

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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'Obama's Promise' is just one big political football

Candidate Barack Obama made this promise to Univision anchorman Jorge Ramos in May 2008:

"What I can guarantee is that we will have in the first year an immigration bill that I strongly support and that I'm promoting. And I want to move that forward as quickly as possible."

Didn't happen. When Ramos interviewed Obama on Thursday, he brought up "the Obama promise." "At the beginning of your (presidency)," Ramos said, "you had control of both chambers of Congress, and yet you did not introduce immigration reform. And before I continue, I want for you to acknowledge that you did not keep your promise."

Obama laid the blame on the economy. He then aw-shucked, "I'm happy to take responsibility for being naive here." As is his habit, the president then blamed Republicans, including Sen. John McCain, for playing politics on immigration. It was a low-road swipe at a senator whose support of an ill-fated 2007 bill nearly cost him the 2008 GOP presidential nomination.

An outraged McCain went to the Senate floor Friday to lambaste Obama for not offering

"one piece of legislation" on immigration.

The fact is that George W. Bush worked harder to pass a comprehensive immigration package than Obama ever has. Bush pushed for a bill even though the effort hurt his standing with the GOP base. Obama faced no such obstacle. Yet during the two years when Democrats controlled Congress, he couldn't be bothered to introduce a path-to-citizenship measure or a DREAM Act to provide legal status to young illegal immigrants who came to the United States as children.

Under Obama, Congress didn't vote on the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act until after the 2010 midterm elections, which would bring in a Republican majority to the House.

The lame-duck House passed the bill 216-198. But then, as Obama pointed out, a Senate bill failed to meet the 60-vote threshold to overcome a GOP filibuster. Obama neglected to mention that the Senate bill would have hit the magic number if five Democrats had voted for it instead of against it.

McCain never has forgiven Obama for supporting a poison pill that toppled the fragile coalition behind the immigration bill. McCain was willing to risk his far-from-modest ambitions to pass a compromise measure that was 11 years in the making.

For his part, Obama opted for

purity — and kept alive a bill whose promise has kept the Latino community snugly inside the Democrats' pockets.

"For Obama, it's a political issue to be managed," observed Mark Krikorian of the anti-amnesty Center for Immigration Studies.

Obama risked no political capital on immigration reform early on. Instead, he waited until 2012 and issued an executive order allowing DREAM Act wannabes to apply for "deferred action" that stops deportations and delivers work papers.

Obama overrode the will of Congress, so is it legal? Maybe voters will find out after the election.

Unashamed, the president told Ramos that the Latino community "can send a message that this is not something to use as a political football," by — wait for it — voting.

For Obama, of course. He never would use immigration as a political football.

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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Inspiration: Unconditional love

One of the most priceless phrases one can ever choose to embrace is "unconditional love".

Those two amazing words united inspire and give peace that very few verbal expressions can.

It creates incomparable spiritual and mental images that speak directly to the heart and soul of a person who desperately needs to feel love, acceptance and forgiveness, especially when they may not be deserving of it.

It says that mistakes and failures don't have to be fatal. In fact, an understanding of truly unconditional love can be a foundation for success like no other.

To Christians it establishes a connection to the One who gave His everything to reveal a level of unconditional love never before, or since, revealed to humanity.

We who are believers in Jesus Christ have also chosen to believe the Bible is true and that God became man and lived on Earth, died and rose again so we could individually and personally experience Divine unconditional love.

With that incomparable revelation of unconditional love as the backdrop by which all other displays of love must be measured, I want to talk about the only other level of love that is closely akin to God's manifestation, the love of a family.

Today's column is being penned, as it were, from the great room of a beautiful log cabin deep in the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee and so much has happened the last few days to remind me of that truth.

It has been mine and Leah's privilege this week to be vacationing here in this fabulous mountain home with all four of our wonderful children and the four most amazing grandchildren anywhere.

It's tough shedding, but I suppose somebody has to rent these

places to keep the Tennessee economy flowing so we're doing our part.

We have been blessed to enjoy everything a family should experience when they are together. We have shared great times of games and laughter, fabulous food, singing, reminiscing stories from our family history, enjoying a trek through Cade's Cove and downtown Gatlinburg, watching movies on the giant screen in the theater room, my three sons and I making up the best looking foursome ever to play golf together, and much, much more.

I realize every family is different.

Separate and diverse personalities and temperaments, combined with environmental influences and life experiences, mold and shape each of us as individuals and then collectively define us as family.

I hope for your sake you have a great biological family as I do, but even if you don't there is a community of people who can adopt you as a true friend and provide love and acceptance to fill the void.

Everybody needs inclusion in a family and as Trenton Lee Stewart said, "You must remember, family is often born of blood, but it doesn't depend on blood. Nor is it exclusive of friendship. Family members can be your best friends, you know. And best friends, whether or not they are related to you, can be your family."

Family, like all valuable entities, requires several irreplaceable components to be healthy and successful and, also like many other valuable entities, it is under attack from evil outside influences and must be defended.

The core values of family have been eroded by television and movies and by society in general. In fact, there seems to be an acceptance, or even a promotion, of dysfunction and weirdness when anything that resembles family is portrayed on the screen and the traditional family is often presented in mockery as radical or extreme.

In spite of these attempts, the unit God ordained and destined

to be family is still intact, and always will be, because there are still millions just like me who are going to tenaciously fight for it.

The reason I will always fiercely defend the family is because it's a cause worth fighting for. People will expend their time, energy and resources fighting for a spotted owl's habitat or a whale and then support the murder of the much more important child that is of immeasurable worth by supporting abortion. That's indefensible.

One will never realize the infinite worth of family until they are committed to the value of life, realizing the priceless uniqueness of each member of the family individually and supporting one another in every way possible and feasible. Richard Schiff said "Families are like puzzles. They fit together in a certain way, and if one piece is missing, it throws everything off." Again quoting Trenton Lee Stewart, "Is this what family is like: the feeling that everyone's connected, that with one piece missing, the whole thing's broken?"

Families simply need one another.

After spending an amazing wonderful week with our four children and their children I am more committed than ever before to make family a priority in my life second only to God.

I want to feel like Abraham Lincoln must have felt when he said, "I don't know who my grandfather was; I am much more concerned to know what his grandson will be."

Why don't you take the time today to invest in a family member's life in a way only you can? Go ahead, you have their number. Do it while you still can.

Family is family forever, and that's just the way it is. Embrace that awesome fact and do your part to make your family special.

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 Church in Big Spring. He can be reached by email at pastorprince@msn.com.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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- 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 aim high, Lord, for Your heavenly love.

Amen

Check this out! At the library

You only have just a couple more weeks of the Friends of the Library Book sale to find some bargains. It has been consolidated in the children's room in the basement of library. There are some tables set up in the lobby just as you come into the library, too.



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

The Friends will also be out at the County Fairgrounds hawking the books.

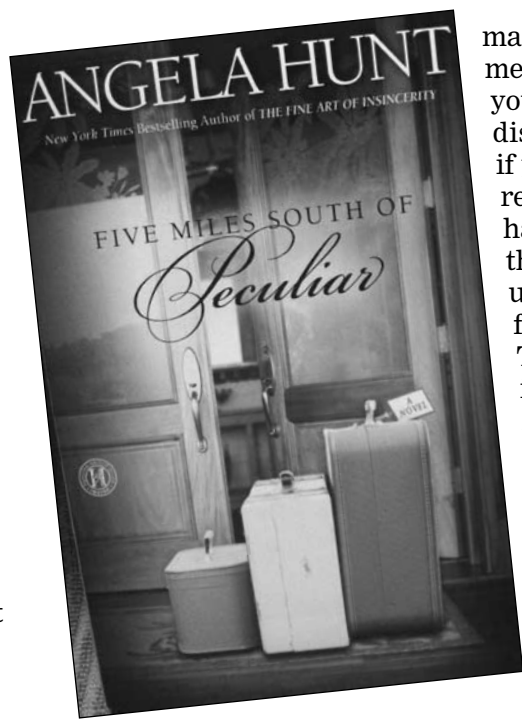
Karin Slaughter in "Criminal" (M SLA K) has Will Trent, an investigator with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and Amanda Wagner, the deputy director, inexplicably butting heads over a difficult case she refuses to assign to him. Demons from the past will collide that bring together some long-buried secrets about Will's birth and parentage and Amanda's first foray into the "good old boy" club of Georgia police politics of 40 years ago. From an Amazon.com review: "The Language of Flowers" (F DIF V), by Vanessa Diffenbaugh, beautifully weaves past and present and creates a vivid portrait of an unforgettable woman whose

gift for flowers helps her change the lives of others even as she struggles to overcome her own troubled past.

The Victorian language of flowers was used to convey romantic expressions: honeysuckle for devotion, asters for patience and red roses for love. But for Victoria Jones, it's been more useful in communicating grief, mistrust and solitude. After a childhood spent in the foster-care system, she is unable to get close to anybody, and her only connection to the world is through flowers and their meanings.

Now 18 and emancipated from the system, Victoria has nowhere to go and sleeps in a public park, where she plants a small garden of her own. Soon, a local florist discovers her talents, and Victoria realizes she has a gift for helping others through the flowers she chooses for them. But a mysterious vendor at the flower market has her questioning what's been missing in her life, and when she's forced to confront a painful secret from her past, she must decide whether it's worth risking everything for a second chance at happiness. This is a Ladies Home Journal Book Club Book and has been very well publicized.

The final Maximum Ride adventure from



James Patterson is "Never More" (F PAT J) and reviews are mixed. One last chance — for Max, Fang and Dylan — before it all ends. Are you ready for the final chapter? Are you ready for the ultimate flight? Because this is it! One last incredible, explosive adventure with an astonishing ending no one could have seen coming. "Disappointing," "What happened?" and other expressions are just a few from loyal readers on their online comments on the final book in this series. I have not read them, so I do not feel qualified to

Hunt, is the story of three sisters: twins Darlene and Carlen Caldwell and little sister Magnolia. Can these sisters discover who they are meant to be when life takes an unforeseen detour? In a season of destiny, three unique women reunite and take unexpected journeys of the heart.

Catherine Coulter returns with her FBI agents Lacey Sherlock and Dillon Savich in "Backfire" (LP F COU C). San Francisco Judge Ramsey Hunt is a longtime friend of the two agents, and has begun the murder trial of Clive and Cindy Cahill

when Judge Hunt is shot in the back. Prosecutor Mickey O'Rourke has become distant and distracted in prosecuting the case. The two agents rush to see what is going on, but more questions are raised than being answered.

Another great thriller writer is Brad Thor. In "Black List" (LP F THO B) Scott Horvath has been placed on a closely guarded list. Only the president and a secret team of advisors see this list. Counterterrorism expert Scott Horvath has been placed on it and doesn't know why. He is determined to know why he is on the list, who put him on the list, and will evade the kill team until he

finds out the reason why. This is a very exciting book to read. We have quite a few more large print books available to check out. Please check the New Book Binder at the front desk for a complete list.

The library is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m., with the Internet room closing about 5:30 in the evening. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the Internet/video room closing at 1:30 p.m. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

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Lord's Acre slated Oct. 13 at FUMC

By AMANDA DUFORAT
Staff Writer

The Lord's Acre will continue for the eighth year Oct. 13 at First United Methodist Church.

The event began as a way of raising funds to support the missions and outreach programs associated with the church.

"This is a great way to bring the church together for family fun and Christian fellowship," Chairman Molly Smith said.

The all-day event will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a bake sale, silent auction and Kid's Korner in the Partee building. A steak dinner will be served at noon. Tickets for the meal can be

purchased for \$10 from Hayes Stripling or in the church office. A live auction will begin at 1 p.m.

"We are going to open the live auction up to those in the public who want to come out and attend," Smith said.

Children's activities will also be taking place during the live auction in the Partee building. All money raised will continue to benefit missions and outreach.

To find out more information, contact Smith at 432-213-0643.

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

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News in brief

Man gets 26 years for

Texas online prostitution

MIDLAND, Texas (AP) — A West Texas man who had a 14-year-old girl bused from Houston for prostitution has been sentenced to 26 years in prison.

Prosecutors in Midland say Brian Phea of Amarillo was sentenced Tuesday. A jury convicted Phea of sex trafficking of children and promotion of a business involving prostitution.

Co-defendant Trevin Rounds was convicted of possession of child pornography and coercion of a minor. He faces up to 10 years in prison.

Investigators say Phea in March bought a bus ticket for the girl to visit him in Amarillo. He then drove her to Odessa, used the Internet to advertise sex for sale and forced her to have intercourse with an unknown man.

Rounds and the girl were found during a traffic stop in Eden while driving back to Houston.

Texas executes ex-Army recruiter after 3 reprieves

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — A former Army recruiter failed to win a fourth reprieve from the U.S. Supreme Court and was executed Tuesday evening

in Texas for participating in the shooting death of a woman he and a buddy met 10 years ago at a bar.

Cleve Foster was pronounced dead at 6:43 p.m. CDT, 25 minutes after his lethal injection began and two hours after the high court refused to postpone his punishment. Three times last year the justices stopped his scheduled punishment, once when he was moments from being led to the death chamber.

His attorneys argued he was innocent of the 2002 slaying of Nyaneur Pal, a 30-year-old immigrant from Sudan. They also said he had deficient legal help at his trial and in early stages of his appeals and argued his case deserved a closer look.

Foster, 48, also was charged but never tried for the rape-slaying a few months earlier of another woman in Fort Worth, Rachel Urnosky.

In the seconds before the single lethal dose of pentobarbital began, Foster expressed love to his family and to God.

"When I close my eyes, I'll be with the father," he said. "God is everything. He's my life. Tonight I'll be with him."

He did not proclaim innocence or admit guilt. He did turn to relatives of his two victims, saying, "I don't know what you're going to be feeling tonight. I pray we'll all meet in heaven."

As the drugs began taking effect and while he was repeatedly saying he loved his family, he began snoring, then he stopped breathing.

Officials: Fort Hood suspect out of hospital

FORT HOOD, Texas (AP) — An Army psychiatrist charged in the deadly 2009 Fort Hood shooting rampage has been released after a four-day stay in a hospital.

Fort Hood officials say in a news release that Maj. Nidal Hasan was discharged Wednesday from the Texas Army post's hospital and returned to the Bell County Jail in nearby Belton.

Authorities have not said why Hasan was hospitalized but he was listed in good condition after being admitted Saturday.

The 42-year-old Hasan faces the death penalty or life in prison without parole if convicted in the November 2009 attack that killed 13 people and wounded more than two dozen.

2 indicted in killing during Fort Worth robbery

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Two North Texas men have been indicted in the fatal shooting of a teenager who police say was the mastermind of a robbery gone bad.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Tuesday that a grand jury has indicted 21-year-olds Terrance Crumley and Curtis Fortenberry on capital murder charges. Prosecutors have not said whether they'll seek the death penalty against the Fort Worth men.

The case involves the June 28 fatal shooting of Claudia Hidic of Fort Worth. A resident called 911 after finding Hidic's body outside his home. Police initially were not sure of the circumstances of the death.

Investigators later determined Hidic apparently was caught in the crossfire in the attempted home robbery. A man at the residence told police he exchanged gunfire with a male suspect.

Woman's body found under Channelview mobile home

CHANNELVIEW, Texas (AP) — Searchers have located a female body under the Houston-area mobile home of a woman reported missing last week.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office says autopsy results are pending on the body found Tuesday afternoon in Channelview by Texas EquuSearch volunteers. A searcher noticed the skirting around the bottom of the home appeared to be pulled back.

Investigators say the body had no immediate signs of foul play.

Authorities say 52-year-old Rosemarie Hutcheson was last seen Friday in Channelview.

Sam Hutcheson says his wife told him she was going for a walk in a wooded area. He reported her missing Friday night.

4 suspected human smugglers charged in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — Four men from Mexico have been charged in a smuggling investigation that led to 82 suspected illegal immigrants rescued from a house in Houston.

Prosecutors say Luis Trejo-Onofre, Jose Santos-Solorzano, Jose Victor Perez-Olivas and Gumecindo Jaime-Martinez are charged with harboring, transporting and conspiracy to harbor and transport illegal immigrants. All remained in custody Wednesday pending initial court appearances in Houston.

The mother of a 16-year-old Nicaraguan girl flagged down a Houston police officer last week to report smugglers were holding the teen. The woman said she paid to have the girl transported but the smugglers demanded more cash.

A tip led to a Sept. 19 raid of a house and 82 immigrants from six countries. The girl was among those rescued. All were detained pending decisions on their immigrant status.

El Paso ISD leaders choose another superintendent

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A West Texas school district still dealing with a public corruption scandal has hired another temporary leader.

El Paso Independent School District trustees early Wednesday voted to hire Vernon Butler as interim superintendent. Butler worked more than 35 years in El Paso-area school districts.

Butler is the third person to lead the EPISD since then-superintendent Lorenzo Garcia was arrested last summer and resigned in November. Garcia in June pleaded guilty to mail fraud in an inflated tests scores scheme. He faces sentencing next month.

Butler replaces Ken George, who on Sept. 11 was named interim superintendent for a minimum two weeks. George took over for Terri Jordan, who returned to her job as district chief of staff.

Trial of reputed ex-Gulf cartel leader continues

BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP) — A federal jury in South Texas is to hear the sixth day of testimony in the drug conspiracy trial of a reputed former local official of Mexico's Gulf cartel.

Testimony continues in Brownsville in the trial of Juan Roberto Rincon-Rincon, whom witnesses say was a bodyguard and plaza boss in the Gulf cartel.

U.S. Border Patrol agents have testified about seizures totaling more than a ton of marijuana in Texas near the border in September and October 2011. That was when, according to trial testimony, Rincon-Rincon was allegedly plaza boss for the cartel's Rio Bravo territory.

Rincon-Rincon's attorney insists the defendant wasn't present when the drugs were seized in Texas. However, prosecutors argued the drugs wouldn't have passed through his territory without his approval and some form of payment.

sudoku

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

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

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Have You Herd?

Reduced to fewer than 100,000 animals by 1900, majestic elk herds are today making a comeback across the nation, thanks to wildlife conservationists, sportsmen and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

AmericanProfile

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Hidden Asset

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A K 9 6 5 2
♥ 10 4
♦ 9 7
♣ 8 7 6

WEST EAST
♠ Q 7 4 ♠ J 10 8 3
♥ K Q J 3 ♥ 9 8 7 6 2
♦ 6 4 ♦ 10 3
♣ J 9 3 2 ♣ Q 10

SOUTH
♠ —
♥ A 5
♦ A K Q J 8 5 2
♣ A K 5 4

The bidding:
South West North East
2♣* Pass 2♠ Pass
3♦ Pass 3♠ Pass
4♦ Pass 4♠ Pass
5♦

* strong, artificial
Opening lead — king of hearts.

This deal appeared in the 1959 National Intercollegiate Bridge Tournament. This once-popular competition, which at its height attracted entries from about 150 colleges annually, featured deals on which a par result was pre-established. Contestants then had to achieve the par in the bidding, play or defense to receive full credit.

In today's deal, the spotlight was on declarer play. South was directed to play in five diamonds against the

lead of the heart king.

Some declarers won the heart, drew trumps and then played the A-K and another club, hoping for a 3-3 club split. When West showed up with four clubs, these declarers went down one.

Other declarers, reluctant to place their faith entirely on an even club break, found a way to add significantly to their chances. They won the heart lead, cashed the A-K of clubs and played a third club. If the opposing clubs were divided 3-3, they would be home free; if the clubs divided 4-2, there was still the possibility of ruffing their fourth club in dummy, provided the opponent with the doubleton club did not have the ten of diamonds.

Unfortunately, West won the third club, cashed a high heart and returned the jack of clubs. East over-ruffed dummy's nine of diamonds with the ten, and again the contract went down one.

A number of Souths, however, found the winning — and by far the best — line of play. After taking the first heart, they led a low trump to dummy's seven! East won with the ten, but there was no way to stop declarer from eventually crossing to dummy's nine of diamonds and discarding two clubs on the A-K of spades. These declarers lost only two tricks — a diamond and a heart — to achieve a well-earned par.

Tomorrow: The case of the telltale deuce.

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News in brief

Iran's Ahmadinejad pushes new world order, end to American 'bullying'

NEW YORK (AP) — After an hour of fielding questions about Syria, sanctions and nuclear weapons, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad had enough. Now, he said, it was his turn to choose the topic — his “new order” which will inevitably replace the current era of what he called U.S. bullying.

Continuing his hectic pace of media appearances and diplomatic meetings, Ahmadinejad presented an air of boredom when it came to the hot topic on everyone's mind — Iran's nuclear program and the possibility of impending war. Whether it was feigned or sincere, he said he would much rather be talking about his vision of what the next world order might be.

Conveniently, it would be an order in which the U.S. and the traditional powers play a smaller role and every country has equal standing (though the state of Israel, he often predicts, will soon become a historical footnote).

“God willing, a new order will come and will do away with ... everything that distances us,” Ahmadinejad told The Associated Press in an exclusive interview Tuesday, speaking through a translator. “All of the animosity, all of the lack of sincerity will come to an end. It will institute fairness and justice.”

He said the world was losing patience with the current state of affairs.

Egypt's new President Morsi debuts at UN, world watches for democratic intentions

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Egypt's new President Mohammed Morsi debuts at the United Nations on Wednesday with a speech that will be closely watched by world leaders for clues about his democratic intentions and plans for lifting his country out of crippling poverty.

Morsi, an Islamist and key figure in the once-banned Muslim Brotherhood, is the first democratically elected leader of the ancient land at the heart of the Arab world, and was sworn in June 30.

He is one of a pair of Arab leaders who will be making their first appearances at the U.N. General Assembly's annual ministerial meeting after being swept into power in the Arab Spring revolutions. Also taking the podium will be Yemen's President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who took office in February after more than a year of political turmoil and is now trying to steer the country's transition to democracy.

The Egyptian leader previewed his General Assembly remarks in a speech delivered Tuesday at former President Bill Clinton's Global Initiative. Addressing the violence that raged across the Muslim world in response to a video produced in the U.S. that denigrated Islam's Prophet Muhammad, Morsi said freedom of expression must come with “responsibility.”

New voter laws could delay outcome of close election as states scrutinize provisional ballots

WASHINGTON (AP) — The presidential election is Nov. 6, but it could take days to figure out the winner if the vote is close. New voting laws are likely to increase the number of people who have to cast provisional ballots in key states.

Tight races for Congress, governor and local offices also could be stuck in limbo while election officials scrutinize ballots, a scenario that would surely attract legions of campaign lawyers from both parties.

“It's a possibility of a complete meltdown for the election,” said Daniel Smith, a political scientist at the University of Florida.

Voters cast provisional ballots for a variety of reasons: They don't bring proper ID to the polls; they fail to update their voter registration after moving; they try to vote at the wrong precinct; or their right to vote is challenged by someone.

These voters may have their votes counted, but only if election officials can verify that they were eligible to vote, a process that can take days or weeks. Adding to the potential for chaos: Many states won't even know how many provisional ballots have been cast until sometime after Election Day.

Probation case against anti-Muslim filmmaker moves slowly and privately as protests continue

CERRITOS, Calif. (AP) — The federal probation violation investigation targeting the man behind the anti-Muslim video inflaming the Middle East is proceeding slowly and privately, reflecting the explosiveness of the case.

Federal officials have said nothing publicly about the case, and neither has Nakoula Basseley Nakoula's attorney. Nakoula has put his home up for sale and gone into hiding since violence erupted over the 14-minute YouTube trailer for “Innocence of Muslims,” a crudely made film that portrays the Muhammad as a religious fraud, womanizer and pedophile.

Enraged Muslims have demanded punishment for Nakoula, and dozens have died in violent protests linked to the movie. A Pakistani cabinet minister on Monday offered a \$100,000 bounty to anyone who kills Nakoula.

Meantime, First Amendment advocates have defended Nakoula's right to make the film even while condemning its content. President Barack Obama echoed those sentiments Tuesday in a speech at the United Nations.

In a Midwest cornfield, the drought slowly — and scorchingly — brought crops to a crisp

BENNINGTON, Neb. (AP) — Duane Braesch's cornfields are prime evidence of how unforgiving the elements have been for him and so many others across the Midwest this summer. To demonstrate the hardship, the 79-year-old Nebraska farmer let The Associated Press show the world what he's weathered during the worst U.S. drought in decades.

Using a camera powered by solar panels and mounted on a pole on a mound overlooking Braesch's cornfield near Omaha, AP photographer Nati Harnik chronicled the wilting effects of extreme heat over August and much of September that turned Braesch's crop from a vibrant emerald to a sickly yellow.

Snapping a picture every 10 minutes, the camera was shrouded in plastic to shield it from rainfall. But significant rain came just twice in 59 days, helping explain why Braesch and his son ultimately reaped just half of what they would typically expect in a harvest.

Yet during a summer in which many other farmers simply declared their crops a complete bust and simply knocked them down for feed to livestock, Braesch figures “we're just pretty lucky we got what we got.”

Poll: Most say Obama's health care law will be implemented; but 7 in 10 expect changes

WASHINGTON (AP) — They may not like it, but they don't see it going away. About 7 in 10 Americans think President Barack Obama's health care law will go fully into effect with some changes, ranging from minor to major alterations, an Associated Press-GfK poll finds.

Just 12 percent say they expect the Affordable Care Act — “Obamacare” to dismissive opponents — to be repealed completely.

The law — covering 30 million uninsured, requiring virtually every legal U.S. resident to carry health insurance and forbidding insurers from turning away the sick — remains as divisive as the day it passed more than two years ago. After surviving a Supreme Court challenge in June, its fate will probably be settled by the November election, with Republican Mitt Romney vowing to begin repealing it on Day One and Obama pledging to diligently carry it out.

That's what the candidates say. But the poll found Americans are converging on the idea that the overhaul will be part of their lives in some form, although probably not down to its last clause.

Family: 2 decades after getting off death row, man accused of killing wife had money problems

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Joyce Robbins wanted to know why her aunt wasn't coming to a big family barbecue.

Mamie Brown and her husband, Joseph Green Brown, who was on Florida's death row for 13 years before his convictions on rape and murder were overturned in 1986, had been fixtures at family functions since they'd moved to Charlotte in 2007.

But lately, the Browns weren't showing up at birthdays, anniversaries or other gatherings. So Robbins called her, and Mamie confided that the couple was facing serious financial problems. Since his release from a Florida prison, Joseph had been making a living talking against the death penalty, based on his personal experience of coming within hours of being executed for a crime he didn't commit. But he hadn't been paying taxes on his speak



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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



Iris Nelia Aranda

Courtesy photo
International Deaf Artist Iris Nelia Aranda will be featured during a reception and lecture at 6:30 p.m. Monday at Hall Center for the Arts auditorium on the Howard College campus. Her program will consist of an hour lecture about her artwork and how she got started. Aranda will also participate in several workshops, demonstrations and talks with the students at Howard College and SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf. Admission to the reception and lecture is free and open to the community. Her artwork will be on display through Feb. 1. See story, Page 1A.

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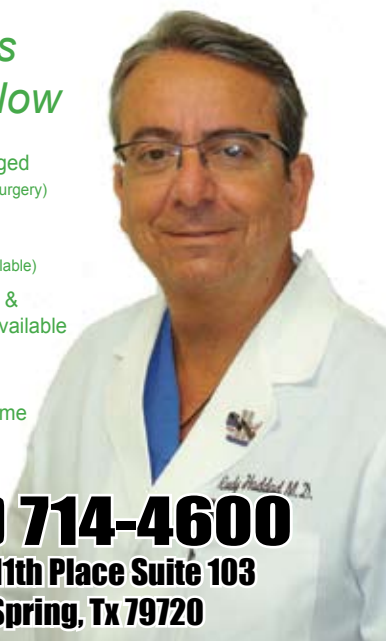
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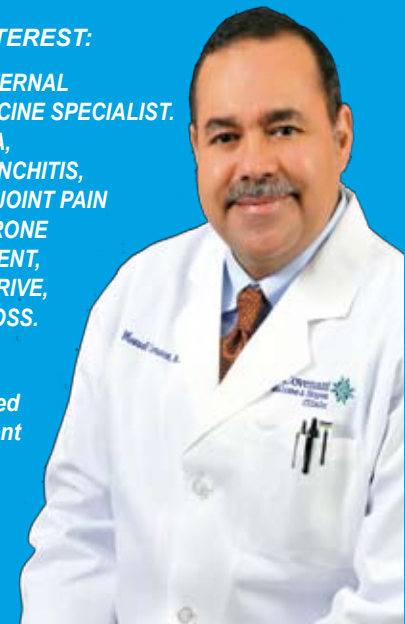
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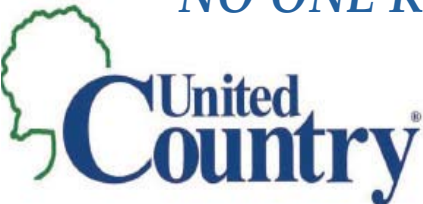
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Sports Calendar

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- Football**
- Seminole at Big Spring, 7:30 p.m.
 - Forsan at Crane, 7:30 p.m.
 - Ballinger at Coahoma (Homecoming), 7:30 p.m.
 - Seagraves at Stanton (Homecoming), 7:30 p.m.
 - Grady at New Home, 7:30 p.m.
 - O'Donnell at Sands, 7:30 p.m.
 - Garden City at Ropes, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Volleyball**
- Big Spring at Sweetwater, (F, noon; JV, 1 p.m.; V, 2 p.m.)

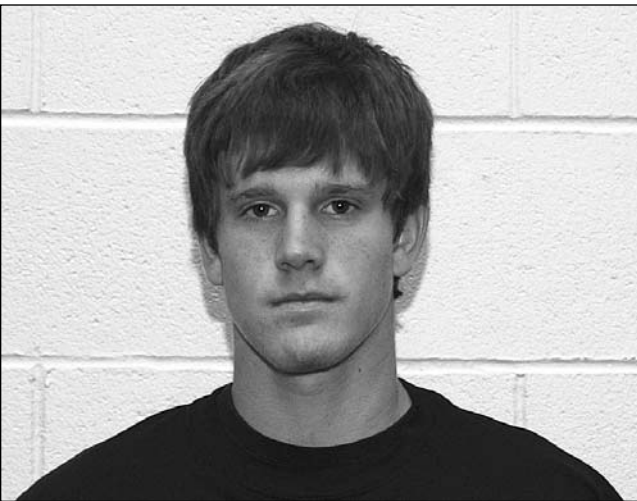
To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

The No. 17 state-ranked Lady Steers traveled to Abilene Wylie last night to take on the Class 3A No. 1 ranked Lady Bulldogs. Despite gaining an early lead, Big Spring was swept 25-17, 25-15 and 25-18 to fall to 1-1 in district play. The Lady Steers will face the Lady Mustangs of Sweetwater on the road Saturday. Varsity action is slated for 2 p.m.

Howard County Players of the Week



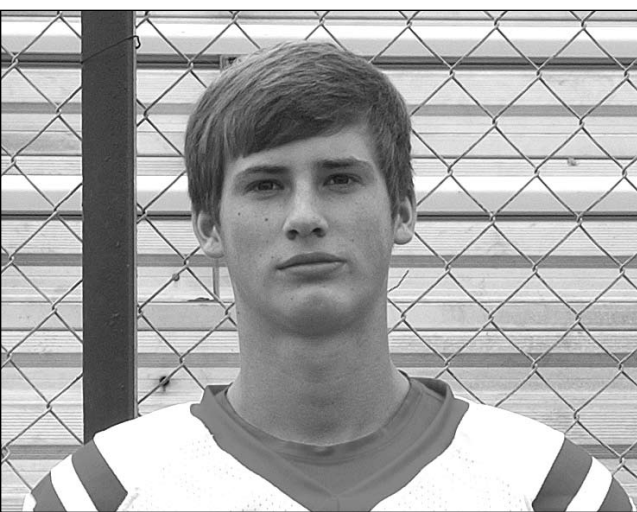
Tobyn Tannehill

BSHS's Tobyn Tannehill

The Big Spring Steers have stunned everyone. The 0-10 season is a fading memory as a strong defense and versatile offense have led Head Coach Phillip Ritchey's squad to 4-0 after last week's homecoming beat down of the Andrews Mustangs. Sophomore quarterback Tobyn Tannehill was chosen as Player of the Week by Ritchey after strong showing on the ground and through the air that resulted in Tannehill passing for three touchdowns and rushing for three as well.

"(Tannehill) just had an outstanding game," Ritchey said. "He threw the ball well, ran the ball well and executed the offense for us. He made some big plays for us and we got a big win. He certainly had a great game."

The Steers welcome the Seminole Indians to Memorial Stadium on Friday. Game time is set for 7:30 p.m.



Braxton Iden

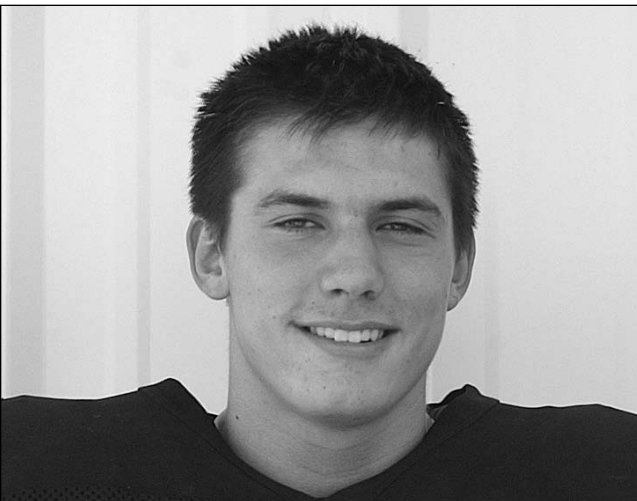
Coahoma's Braxton Iden

Coahoma Head Coach Trey Gardner's Bulldogs have suffered some serious setbacks due to injuries.

Most recently, quarterback Tanner Ruiz — who is one of the Bulldogs' explosive runners — was sidelined due to a wrist fracture. Then, center Dustin Fontana went down and looks to be done for the season. With his depth dwindling, Gardner put sophomore quarterback Braxton Iden in last week's game when Ruiz had to be pulled. The Bulldogs lost to Denver City, but Gardner cited Iden's effort as a morale booster for the team.

"He came in and played hurt," Gardner said of Iden, who is recovering from a knee injury. "He finished the ballgame out for us. Under the circumstances, it was a great effort on his part."

The Bulldogs host Ballinger on Friday at 7:30 p.m.



Kade Fannin

Forsan's Kade Fannin

Buffalo tight end Kade Fannin was an easy Player of the Week selection for Forsan Head Coach Jason Phillips after a thrilling victory over the Jim Ned Indians last week. Fannin helped his squad climb out of a 21 point deficit against Jim Ned, as the Buffs mounted a 25 point rally to move to 4-0.

"There are a couple things he did that were huge for us," Phillips said of Fannin's effort. "He had a huge catch on third and eight which gave us a first down on our last scoring drive, he had an interception that sealed the game for us, we switched his jersey so he could play on the offensive line because we had so many guys hurt — all that and he was our leading tackler."

The Buffs head to Crane on Friday. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Packers controversial loss ripples all the way to White House

CHRIS JENKINS

AP Sports Writer

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Entire stadiums have booed them. The Patriots' Bill Belichick grabbed one by the arm and the Redskins' Kyle Shanahan was so hopping mad he followed one into the tunnel after the game.

But it took the team that Vince Lombardi built, playing in a "Monday Night Football" headliner, to put the NFL's latest labor headache — locked-out officials and their struggling, under-fire replacements — front and center for the nation. Even President Barack Obama, a Bears fan slogging through a re-election campaign, weighed in Tuesday, saying, "We've got to get our refs back."

Is this where the See **LOSS**, Page 3B

NFL's lockout of its regular refs comes to an end? On a call that many believe cost the Packers and their Cheesehead-wearing followers a win at Seattle?

The NFL stood fast, giving no sign Tuesday that it was close to reaching a new labor pact with the referees' union. But the outrage grew beyond NFL players (risking fines for speaking out) like Falcons tight end Anthony Gonzalez, who tweeted: "How do you miss that? Pop Warner refs would have gotten that right."

LeBron James tweeted he was "sick" about it and Dirk Nowitzki said he was "not gonna watch another NFL game until real refs" return.

Lowe gives up homer, in 10th, Rangers lose to A's

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — A night after getting the key hits against Oakland, the Texas Rangers gave one up.

George Kottaras hit a leadoff homer against Mark Lowe in the 10th inning and the Athletics moved within four games of the AL West lead by beating the first-place Rangers 3-2 on Tuesday night.

In the opener of the four-game series, Texas rallied from a two-run deficit to beat the A's 5-4 on Adrian Beltre's game-ending single.

This time, it was Oakland that came up with the clutch hit late.

The A's and Rangers play each other five more times over the final eight games of the season.

"We're playing a lot of tight games," Texas' Michael Young said. "That's what makes this so much fun."

Texas' magic number remained at five for clinching its third straight division crown.

The A's remained two games ahead of the Los Angeles Angels for the second AL wild-card spot. The Angels beat Seattle 5-4.

"Each and every win has a little bit more magnitude to it, especially against a team that's above you," Oakland manager Bob Melvin said. "This team's responded like this many, many times this year. It doesn't surprise me."

See **RANGERS**, Page 3B

Harrell falters as Cardinals blank Astros 4-0

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston rookie Lucas Harrell was hoping to get back on track and get his first win since Aug. 14 on Tuesday night.

Instead he was gone after five innings in a 4-0 loss to the St. Louis Cardinals.

Jaime Garcia pitched seven sharp innings and Jon Jay drove in two runs to help the Cardinals improve their playoff chances.

Harrell (10-11) yielded seven hits and two runs with a career-high six walks, but wouldn't blame

his struggles on the walks he allowed.

"No, it was everything," he said. "I was terrible. I felt like the first two innings I was just trying to get a feel for the game. I felt like I never picked up a baseball before; it was embarrassing. It was bad."

Houston interim manager Tony DeFrancesco said before the game that Tuesday could be Harrell's last start of the season because he entered the game having pitched more than 182 innings. But he said after the game that they'll let

him pitch five innings on Houston's upcoming road trip.

"Maybe he can finish strong," DeFrancesco said. "They have a pretty good team over there, and he got into some trouble. But he battled through it. To only give up two runs against that team, that is a pretty good job. He has really showed us that he is a major league pitcher. He's doing everything he can."

The Cardinals won their fourth

See **ASTROS**, Page 3B

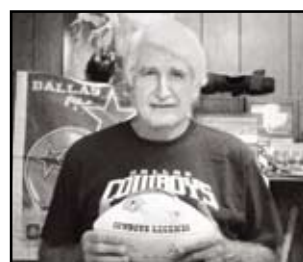
Pigskin Picks Football Contest

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1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Forsan
4. Stanton
5. Grady
6. Arizona
7. Texas A&M
8. Texas Tech
9. NY Giants
10. New Orleans



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1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Forsan
4. Stanton
5. Grady
6. Arizona
7. Texas A&M
8. Texas Tech
9. NY Giants
10. Green Bay



Walmart

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Forsan
4. Stanton
5. Grady
6. Arizona
7. Texas A&M
8. Texas Tech
9. NY Giants
10. Green Bay



Avis Lube

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Forsan
4. Stanton
5. Grady
6. Arizona
7. Texas A&M
8. Texas Tech
9. Philadelphia
10. New Orleans



Sonic Drive In

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Forsan
4. Stanton
5. Grady
6. Arizona
7. Texas A&M
8. Texas Tech
9. NY Giants
10. Green Bay

Enter To Win \$50 At These Participating Merchants

Rules: Find this week's games between the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry blank on this page with your team choices. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50. You must be 18 to enter. *No Photo Copies Accepted.* In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. For the tie breaker, the entry with the correct team will win. If both entries have guessed the same team, the second tie breaker will be the one closest to the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees and family of *The Big Spring Herald* are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the *Big Spring Herald* the Wednesday following the games.

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ 10. _____ 	Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone Number: _____ Tie Breaker - Circle the winner and note total points scored 49ers vs. NY Jets Score: _____ + _____ = _____
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McDowell carries on Irish tradition at Ryder

MEDINAH, Ill. (AP) — Graeme McDowell knew it was a mistake as soon as he glanced up at the scoreboard.

That comfortable lead Europe had taken into the singles matches two years ago was gone, erased in a flurry of American birdies. Instead of coasting into the victory party as he'd expected as the 12th man out, the Ryder Cup — to say nothing of Europe's pride and honor — was in McDowell's hands.

"Those last seven holes, I've never been so nervous in my life," McDowell recalled Tuesday. "Coming down the stretch that day was some of the toughest golf I had ever played in my life, and some of the most nerve-racking golf. Myself and Hunter Mahan, someone was going to be the hero and someone was going to be the villain that day."

"Thankfully I was able to get the job done."

Of course he did. When the Ryder Cup is on the line, the Irish usually do.

McDowell delivered the winning point at Celtic Manor with a 15-foot birdie on the 16th hole, joining Darren Clarke, Paul McGinley, Philip Walton and Christy O'Connor Jr. as Irish heroes on one of the biggest stages in golf.

Don't be surprised if that Irish luck holds this week, too. Though

European captain Jose Maria Olazabal refused to give any hints about his lineup, it's almost certain McDowell will be playing with world No. 1 Rory McIlroy, his good friend and fellow Northern Irishman, when the Ryder Cup begins Friday at Medinah Country Club.

Paired together two years ago, the two were 1-1 in team matches.

"He's one of our main men," Olazabal said of McDowell. "He loves this competition, and I think it brings out the best in him. He's a very gutsy player. It doesn't matter if he's not striking the ball well, he will fight until the very end. He will fight for every shot, for every inch. And we saw that in the past."

Not just from McDowell, either.

Back in 2006, it was Clarke who carried the Europeans. Playing just six weeks after his wife, Heather, died of breast cancer, Clarke gave the Europeans an emotional charge the Americans never came close to answering. He won all three of his matches, and the Europeans routed the U.S. 18 ½-9 ½ for their third straight victory.

Four years before that, McGinley made a spectacular save on 18 to snatch a halve from Furyk and take the cup from the Americans.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 1B

straight and extended their winning streak over the last-place Astros to a franchise-best 10 games. They also moved 4½ games ahead of Milwaukee in the race for the second NL wild card. The Brewers lost in Cincinnati 4-2.

The Dodgers, who played later in San Diego, began the day 3½ back.

With seven games remaining, St. Louis is closing in on the NL's final available postseason spot. Atlanta clinched at least a wild-card berth by beating Miami 4-3 earlier Tuesday night.

Garcia (6-7) allowed six hits and struck out five to beat the Astros for the second time in a week after going 0-5 in his first seven starts against Houston. Mitchell Boggs and Joe Kelly completed the seven-hitter.

Jay drove in a run with a single in the second and sent another run home on a forceout in a two-run eighth.

Harrell got into trouble early as Jay led off with a single. Matt Holliday drew a one-out walk before Allen Craig's single loaded the bases. A sacrifice fly by Yadier Molina gave St. Louis a 1-0 lead.

Harrell limited the damage when he struck out Carlos Beltran to end the inning.

Houston has gone to a six-man rotation in the latter part of the season, something Harrell has had trouble adjusting to.

"I think it's the six days off between starts. To me that is a little too much time," he said. "I am a touch and feel kind of guy; I need to be out

there a lot. It's something that I didn't think it would be a problem. I don't know if it's just in my head or what, but I have just struggled. If you just look at my last five starts, I have been pretty bad."

Garcia hit a two-out double to the left-field corner in the second and scored on a single by Jay, which rolled just out of the reach of a diving Jed Lowrie at shortstop and into center field to make it 2-0.

The Astros turned a double play to end the third inning and used another one for the first two outs of the fifth. The Cardinals had the bases loaded when Beltran hit a grounder that Matt Downs grabbed near first. He threw home for the first out before catcher Chris Snyder relayed back to first for the second one.

Harrell intentionally walked Daniel Descalso before Pete Kozma grounded out to end the threat.

Kozma continued his solid play in place of injured All-Star shortstop Rafael Furcal and had an RBI double in the eighth.

The Astros couldn't string together any hits through the first six innings. Justin Maxwell singled in the seventh before a single by Brandon Laird with one out sent Maxwell to third. The Astros came away empty after a double play by St. Louis.

"He really had his sinker going, and he was really coming after us," Maxwell said of Garcia. "We were down just two, and we got two runners on — we had our opportunities — but he made some really good pitches, and he got that double play."

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

Scheduled starter Yu Darvish was scratched by the Rangers about 2½ hours before the first pitch because of a stiff neck. Scott Feldman took his place.

Feldman was removed after allowing a leadoff single to Kottaras in the fifth. The right-hander allowed two runs and four hits in four-plus innings before being relieved by Michael Kirkman.

Kirkman, Koji Uehara and Alexi Ogando combined for five shutout innings. The trio allowed one hit and struck out nine before the Rangers turned it over to Lowe in the 10th.

Lowe hadn't pitched

in a week and has allowed six runs over has past 11-3 innings. Rangers manager Ron Washington elected not use setup man Mike Adams or closer Joe Nathan, who both pitched the past two days.

"It's hard to sit out there and not pitch and be on top of your game," Lowe said. "It's not an excuse, but it makes it harder to be consistent."

Kottaras hit a 3-2 fastball from Lowe (0-2) into the first row of the upper deck in right field. The catcher has six home runs for the A's since he was acquired July 29 from Milwaukee.

Evan Scribner (1-0) earned his first career victory with a perfect 10th, and Grant Balfour

got three outs for his 21st save in 23 chances.

Oakland has played five consecutive one-run games, winning two. The A's are 3-5 on a 10-game road trip against Detroit, the New York Yankees and the Rangers.

"It's an exciting feeling to be in this position," Kottaras said. "All we can do is control how we play. We've had a bunch of tough losses, but we keep pushing."

A's starter Tommy Milone gave up three straight singles to start the game before retiring 15 of his next 16 batters. The young lefty yielded two unearned runs and six hits over six innings.

Ian Kinsler and Elvis Andrus opened the first with consecutive

singles. Josh Hamilton lined a single to right that went under Brandon Moss' glove, allowing Kinsler and Andrus to score on the error.

Hamilton, however, was stranded at third as the next three hitters failed to drive him home.

"Give Milone credit, he pitched out of it," Washington said.

Moss, who played his 21st game in the outfield this season, started in right for a slumping Josh Reddick — mired in an 0-for-28 slump.

Reddick came in as a pinch-hitter and lined out to end the eighth.

Moss made up for his misplay with a running catch of Andrus' deep fly on the warning track with the bases loaded to end the seventh.

LOSS

Continued from Page 1B

while fans pretty much everywhere except Seattle concluded that Green Bay was robbed. Some threatened to boycott until order is restored and others tried to pull the plug on their NFL satellite television packages, only to be told that they can't cancel in the middle of the season.

"I don't really want to give them money if they're going to be greedy about things," said Packers fan Chris Kroening, who lives in Milwaukee. "It's just not that fun to watch any more. I can find better things to do on a Sunday afternoon than watch refs make bad calls."

For all their outrage, Kroening and Michael Mantuano, a Packers fan in Pine Bluff, Ark., both acknowledged that they would probably be watching on Sunday when Green Bay hosts the Saints.

"Yeah, I'm going to watch the game because I still love the Packers," Mantuano said. "But it's a bitter pill to swallow on Tuesday morning when it just clearly wasn't the right call."

It all started when Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson's last-gasp pass into the end zone appeared to be hauled down by Packers defensive back M.D. Jennings while Seahawks receiver Golden Tate also got his hands on the ball.

Two replacement officials made contrasting signals — one indicated a touchdown, the other an interception — and they eventually ruled on the field that Tate had simultaneous possession with Jennings, which counts as a reception by the offensive player.

Touchdown, Seattle. Game over, Packers.

The NFL acknowledged Tuesday that Tate should have been flagged for offensive pass interference earlier on the play, which would have ended the game with a Packers victory. But league officials said the referee was correct that no indis-

putable visual evidence existed on a replay review to overturn the touchdown call.

The result of the game, 14-12 Seattle, was final.

That's certainly not how the Packers saw it, insisting that Jennings clearly had intercepted the pass.

Quarterback Aaron Rodgers called it "awful" in his postgame interview and he didn't let up Tuesday. He called the league's conclusion "garbage" and said the officials were responsible for a "phantom" pass interference call earlier against the Packers before having "zero communication" after the final play.

"I've got to do something that the NFL is not going to do: I have to apologize to the fans," Rodgers said on his weekly radio show on ESPN 540-AM in Milwaukee. "Our sport is generated — the multibillion-dollar machine — is generated by people who pay good money to watch us play. And the product that's on the field is not being complemented by an appropriate set of officials."

"The games are getting out of control, and like I said in the first week, I said this, I'm OK with the replacement refs as long as they don't have a direct impact on the game," Rodgers said. "Obviously, last night, there was a direct impact on the game."

He added: "The game is being tarnished by an NFL who obviously cares more about saving some money than having the integrity of the game diminished."

Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones told KRLD-FM in Dallas that he didn't catch the end of the game. "I cut it off about halftime," he said. "I just read a little note in the paper that the Seahawks pulled it out."

Packers guard T.J. Lang posted a message on his Twitter account criticizing the call, then challenged the NFL to "Fine me and use the money to pay the regular refs." On Tuesday, Lang apologized for using profanity in his posts — but said that was the only thing he regretted.

Fellow Packers offensive line-

man Josh Sitton used his Twitter account to call on the NFL to come to Green Bay and apologize to the Packers.

"The NFL needs to get the refs back (before) we strike and they make no money!" Sitton posted after the game.

Rodgers, a players' union representative during the lockout, expressed skepticism about that happening and said, "Let's remember who we're dealing with."

"We're dealing with an NFL who locked out the players and said we're going to stand firm on our position," he said on the radio show. "... This is an NFL who gambled on some low-level referees, including the guy who makes the most important call last night, who's never had any professional experience."

After the so-called "Inaccurate Reception," a small Facebook group advocated an "Occupy Lambeau" protest movement before Sunday's game against New Orleans. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker used his Twitter account to call for the return of the regular officials — a public show of support for locked-out unionized workers, an odd juxtaposition given his national reputation for going after public employee unions last year.

For all the bluster, few expect many empty seats or unwatched television sets on NFL Sundays.

"I mean, it's not the Packers' fault," Kroening said. "I pretty much live and die by watching them."

Mantuano, the other fan, said he was concerned that a team will miss the playoffs or a star player will get hurt because of a replacement official's mistake. He wondered aloud about the health of Rodgers, Tom Brady and Tony Romo.

Odds makers said millions of dollars changed hands on that now-famous play.

"Due to one call by the replacement refs, the bettors lost \$150 million, and the bookie won \$150 million for a total swing of \$300 million on one debatably bad call," said RJ Bell of Las Vegas-based Pregame.com.

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Seeking Experienced; **Sitters/CNA's** to work for private duty clients. Hourly rate. Call 432-522-5080. All Shifts Avail. 1-800-201-5904 E.O.E.

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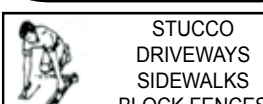
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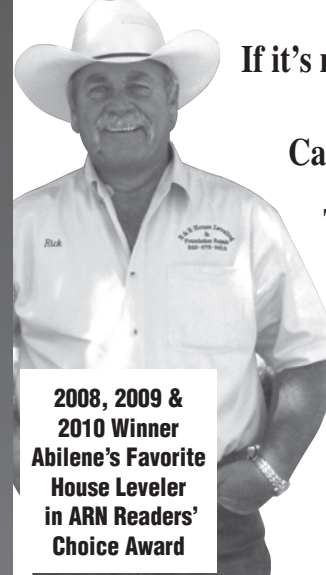
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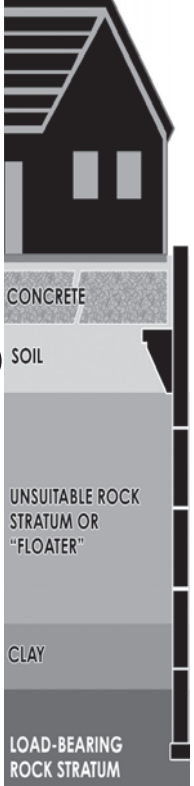
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Legals

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LONDON AIR (GREY/WHITE)
LIC#797BDI
VIN#13W7BNH54W0013
#7518 September 26, 2012

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

The following persons may have unclaimed property with the City of Big Spring that is presumed abandoned and subject to Chapter 76 of the Texas Property Code. Any person possessing a legal or beneficial interest in the reported property may obtain information concerning the amount of the property by going to City of Big Spring Finance Dept., located at 310 Nolan Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720. Hours of operation are 8AM and 12PM and 1PM to 5PM, Monday through Friday, or a claim form can be printed from the website (www.mybigspring.com) and mailed with proof of claim. The owner may present proof of the claim and establish the owner's right to receive the property.
ADVANCE PLUMBING
AMERICAN LIMESTONE
ARGUELLO, ANTONIO
ARNOLD, CARRIE E
BRONAUGH, ROBERT CRAIG
BURROW, SHELLY ANN
CAMPOS, HILDA
CHILDERS, BRENDA
COCCOZZA, KIRSTA
CROSSROADS FNRA
CUSTOM MASONRY
DAY, LEEROY F
DELEON, ERICA ANTOINET
DICKERSON JR, MELVIN R
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ESPINOZA, JUAN
FLORES, JESUS PAREDEZ
FRANCO, NELDA SALDIVAR
GOMEZ, CECELIA MARIE
GONZALES, JOSE LUIS
GOODMAN, DUSTIN RAY
GUERRA, GUADALUPE S
HILARIO, RUDY JR
HOKES, HERMAN
HURREN, AMELIA CEVALLO
JACKSON, KODY
JACKSON, MATTHEW EDWARD
JOHNSON, RICHARD ALLEN
JUAREZ, KORIANA GRECIA
KAESLER, LINDSEY ERIN
KISSED BY THE SUN
KNECHT JR, DENNIS RAYMOND
KOTHMANN, PENNI LYNETTE
LOPEZ, ALYSSA CRISELDA
LOZANO, ANNA MARIE
MANGELS, ELISABETH BROOK
MARTIN, WILLIE
MARTINEZ, FRANK
MARTINEZ, MICHELLE B
MARTINEZ, PAULA F
MAYO, JASON
MCKINNEN, STIVI
MITCHEL, WESTON
MOREHEAD, J
NEIGHBORS, ANTHONY
NEWTON, JAMES THOMAS
NIETO, SIRILO EFIN
OVERTON, JAMES ROY
PANTOJA, JOHN PAUL
PHILLIPS, TYLER
PHILLIPS, VERLINDA M
PRIDE OF TEXAS SHOWS
PRUTEANU, ANA
PURSER, RICHARD ALAN
RANEY, NANCY PETTY
SANCHEZ, REYNALDO A
SHIVERS, HOWARD LAFAYETT
SIMPSON, ANN
SULLIVAN, BRANDI NICOL
TRICARE FINANCE
VOIGHT, LAUREL
WARD, ALAN E
WELDON, FRANK
WOOLF, KACI DIANE
#7519 September 26, 2012

Legals

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

Maverick disposal, LLC, c/o P.O. Box 6040, Midland, TX 79704 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced water/fluid into a formation that is non productive of oil and gas and will be utilized for commercial disposal. The applicant proposes to dispose of fluids into the San Andres formations, Sherrod SWD lease, Well Number 1. The proposed injection/disposal well is located 3.6 miles in a West direction from Garden City, in the Garden City, W. (Wolfcamp 7880) field, in Glasscock County. Originally fluid was going to be disposed into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3,610' to 4,746' feet but has now changed to 3,540 to 4,746. 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 Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, TX 78714-2967 (Telephone #512)463-6815). #7520 September 26, 2012

**"It Pays To Read
Big Spring Herald
Classifieds"**

Puppy love can quickly turn to heartbreak

In light of new Texas law, BBB reminds consumers to research breeders thoroughly

As of Sept. 1, certain dog and cat breeders in Texas are required to submit to state inspections and obtain a license, thanks to a new state law. In light of the new regulations, is advising consumers to thoroughly research dog breeders and brokers before purchasing a puppy.

Since Jan. 1, BBB received almost 300 complaints against dog breeders nationally. Complaints ranged from health issues to problems with paperwork regarding pure bred puppies.

These types of complaints led the Texas State Legislature to pass the , signed by Gov. Rick Perry in June 2011. The act requires breeders who maintain 11 or more female breeding animals and sell 20 or more animals per year to obtain a license from the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and to submit to state inspections once every 18 months.

The state representatives who proposed the bill said the new regulations are meant to curb abusive practices among animal breeders and eliminate puppy mills. However, BBB still recommends consumers personally inspect the breeding and living areas of any puppy they purchase, ask the breeder questions and meet the puppy's parents before taking a puppy home. This advice applies to puppies found online and through other sources.

Austin resident Sheila Johnson only had her puppy a few weeks when she first noticed the dog's head jerking to the side. Coco had been in and out of the vet's office since Johnson brought her home, needing treatment for intestinal parasites and pneumonia. The new symptoms were caused by seizures and the vet said Coco would need to see a neurologist.

"So I go in with Coco there (the neurologist's office), and the vet takes the X-rays and everything. And when she walks in, I could tell from the look on her face that it was not good,"

Johnson said, her voice cracking with tears as she recounted the story. "She said, 'Your dog has distemper. You can either take her to your vet or we can put her down now.'"

Johnson chose what she considered to be the more humane option and had Coco euthanized immediately. Then, she contacted the breeder she had bought Coco from. She had paid for a one-year health guarantee, but really, she wanted to warn the breeder that some of his other puppies might be sick as well.

"And he wouldn't return my calls. I bet I left at least 10 messages on his voicemail, at least," she said. "Every time something new would come up, I would call to let him know because I thought he was an honest person and had no idea this was going on."

Looking back, Johnson said she should have noticed the red flags. When she first visited the breeder, she was told Coco's parents belonged to a family member and were not on the premises. She never saw where Coco was born and raised.

BBB reminds consumers to be especially wary of purchasing puppies online. In May, the United States Department of Agriculture proposed a new rule to regulate breeders who sell puppies online. However, that rule has yet to go into effect. Until it does, those breeders are not required to obtain a license or submit to USDA inspections.

Animal rights groups say this loophole allows unscrupulous breeders to flourish by selling animals directly to consumers on the Internet.

San Antonio resident Tina Barta became an animal rights advocate after she purchased a sick puppy from a puppy broker who advertised online.

She said the man she dealt with purchased puppies from possible puppy mills and then displayed them for customers in a more palatable environment.

"It looked like these dogs were taken

care of, very well taken care of," Barta said of her experience. "He had pictures of cute dogs with bows in their hair, playing around."

"I went to his house, and he goes by appointments only," she continued. "He actually had them in fences in his backyard. — It looked like he had a nice house. I wasn't able to see where they lived, how they lived."

She said the man told her that he had a community of breeders and he simply helped them sell their puppies. She said he provided a puppy warranty that would reimburse vet bills should the puppy get sick, but only if the new owner took the puppy to a licensed vet within 72 hours of purchase.

When her Maltese puppy came down with kennel cough, a yeast infection and ear mites, she said she discovered that the contract only covered up to \$1,000 of care, and that owners had to prove the puppy contracted the disease before it was purchased.

The experience pushed her to do more research on the broker. She found that he had a reputation of selling sick puppies and then moving and changing his business name when complaints started to pile up.

"He's making a killing," she said. "The more I dig, the deeper this well gets."

She echoed BBB's advice that people should research those they are buying puppies from.

"Consumers really need to do the research on these puppy brokers," she said. "I want to shut this kind of animal cruelty down. — It's just crazy how this has gone under the radar for so long."

For those looking to add a furry friend to their family, BBB offers the following advice:

Consider adoption. Local animal shelters have hundreds of dogs and cats in need of a loving home. If you're set on getting a pure bred, look for animal rescue groups in your area that specialize in that breed.

Check with BBB. If you choose to go through a breeder, check his or her BBB Business Review.

Ask to see the parents. Before bringing a puppy home, ask to see his or her parents and the living area where he or she was born and raised. Honest breeders will be happy to show you around. If the seller refuses or makes excuses, walk away.

Ask for references. Ask the breeder for contact information of people who have bought puppies in the past. Try to talk to people who have had their dog a while in order to check for issues that may not be immediately apparent, like genetic problems.

Avoid buying online. Unless you can visit the breeding facility before the purchase and bring your puppy home personally, do not purchase a puppy from a website. When you have a puppy shipped from another area, you don't know how that puppy has been treated, how healthy or young it is, or whether or not the puppy exists at all.

Read contracts thoroughly. If the seller offers a health guarantee, make sure it is in writing and read it carefully for limits and proof requirements. Guarantees should cover more than a few weeks or days, since it can take weeks for symptoms to appear in illnesses like parvo and distemper. Genetic issues might not become apparent for years.

Ask for medical records. Get a written account of all medical care your puppy has received, including vaccinations and antibiotics. Take this record to your vet during the first examination.

See a veterinarian immediately. Within a few days of bringing your puppy home, schedule a complete physical with your vet to make sure it is in good health.

Keep your puppy quarantined. If you already have pets, keep them separated from your new puppy until it is given a clean bill of health.

About Better Business Bureau:
BBB's mission is to be the leader in advancing marketplace trust. BBB accomplishes this mission by creating a community of trustworthy businesses, setting standards for marketplace trust, encouraging and supporting best practices, celebrating marketplace role models and denouncing substandard marketplace behavior.

Businesses that earn BBB Accreditation contractually agree and adhere to the organization's high standards of ethical business behavior. BBB is the preeminent resource to turn to for objective, unbiased information on businesses and charities.

Contact BBB serving Central, Coastal, Southwest Texas and the Permian Basin at (512) 445-4748.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The moon goes void of course for a few hours, casting the strange light of doubt onto our interactions. What do people want from one another? Are they acting out of kindness or self-interest? The Pisces moon allays suspicions with an empathetic vibration. What's most likely is that everyone wants just about the same thing.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You will be most attracted to scenes filled with emotion and human interest. Your comfort level in such situations makes you the perfect social director. You'll lead others toward peaceable interaction.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've transitioned into a new schedule, and it's now taking less effort to go through the motions. Your extra reserves of energy can be applied to doing some research on your next project.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You accept responsibilities willingly, but only if you're first convinced that you should really be the rightful owner. You are right to be skeptical. Someone will try to pass off a job that you needn't take on.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Whatever your belief or creed, you will feel it tug at your conscience now. You'll want to illustrate your beliefs in some tangible way to make sure that your life and heart are congruent.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Venus is still smiling on you. Your confidence is smooth and tucked away, yet unmistakable. This is your chance to get the support you need to launch a project.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are downright telepathic, sensing the needs and feelings of others. But you may find it difficult to accurately name your own emotions and requirements. A gentle Pisces will help in this regard.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The sun continues to offer a fluff and fold to your ego. Enjoy the fresh energy that comes from feeling that everything is going your way — or could go your way at any moment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). Though it's wonderful to anticipate future events, today the intense magic and opportunity will be enclosed in commonplace occurrences such as the laughter of a loved one or a casual, friendly exchange.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You may have set out to find fame and fortune, but your journey is no longer about such superficial gains. You'll be reminded that there are more important reasons why you must succeed in your quest.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Willpower is like a muscle you can flex and use — but not indefinitely. Fatigue is a real concern. So let up on yourself. Alternate between being very disciplined and very relaxed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The one who used to listen to you and act on your advice is now someone to whom you should be listening. Sooner or later the student always becomes the teacher.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March

20). Interactions will be laced with nuance as you receive quiet attention from someone who finds you attractive. The least obvious expressions of love can be the most memorable.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 26). Born in the early degrees of Libra, your soul lights up when exposed to surprising art and rare beauty. Your year will be filled with such encounters as you place yourself in environments both artistic and natural. October changes your living arrangement. November brings additions to your team and also to your family. Cancer and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 23, 14, 9 and 40.

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

Howard County Humane Society

Adoptable Pets

BART



Small • Senior • Male
Domestic Medium Hair

This handsome fellow is about four years old and is neutered.

**Adoption Fee: \$40
(Includes shots)**

Ty



Small • Young • Male
Mixed

Ty is about nine months old. He is neutered.

**Adoption Fee: \$65
(includes shots)**

267-7832

W IH 20 Service Road (past the Airport)

TV schedule table with columns for station, time, and program name.

DENNIS THE MENACE comic strip showing a man in a suit talking to a woman in bed.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS comic strip showing a child with a speech bubble: 'I think my guardian angel took the day off.'

HAGAR comic strip showing a character saying 'YOU'RE WORKING TOO HARD, HAGAR!' and another saying 'IT'S TIME TO RELAX AND HAVE A LITTLE FUN!'

HAGAR comic strip showing a character asking 'WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE TAVERN, DR. ZOOK?' and another replying 'I JUST REALIZED I'M NOT HAVING ANY FUN!'

BLONDIE comic strip showing a character saying 'OUR PROBLEM IS NO COMMUNICATION!' and another replying 'BOSS, I RESPECTFULLY DISAGREE...'

BLONDIE comic strip showing a character saying 'MY CREW COMMUNICATES FLAWLESSLY, DOTTING EVERY T AND CROSSING EVERY T' and another replying 'THEN WHY DIDN'T OUR PROMOTION DEPARTMENT KNOW ABOUT THE DOOGLEMAVER REPORT?!'

BLONDIE comic strip showing a character saying 'WE HAVE A PROMOTION DEPARTMENT?!' and another replying 'WHAP!'

BLONDIE comic strip showing a character saying 'WHAP!' and another replying 'WHAP!'

WIZARD OF ID comic strip showing a character saying 'SORRY, MA'AM... THAT HAIR WILL GROW BACK' and another replying 'THE MIDNIGHT CAMPAIGNER STRIKES!'

WIZARD OF ID comic strip showing a character saying 'DON'T LET HENRY 'GREET' LIKE THE OTHER DOGS' and another replying 'I THINK HE NICKED BONE.'

AGNES comic strip showing a character saying 'OH, HELLOOO, MAYVELLA! HAVE YOU SEEN MY NEW SUPER-THIN-SKINNY-LAPTOP-TYPE-OF-COMPUTER-PAD-TABLET-POD?' and another replying '... IT'S AMAZING!'

AGNES comic strip showing a character saying 'IT WAS WAY OVER SEVERAL DOLLARS, BUT SOOCO WORTH THE DINERO! IT HAS GIGS AND MANY PIXELS AND ENOUGH APPS TO WASTE A LIFETIME!' and another replying 'THAT'S JUST TWO CRAPPY PIECES OF CARDBOARD TAPED TOGETHER.'

HI AND LOIS comic strip showing a character saying 'DO YOU EVER PLAY WITH THESE?' and another replying 'NO, THEY'RE MORE VALUABLE MINT-IN-THE-BOX.'

HI AND LOIS comic strip showing a character saying 'LET'S GO TO YOUR HOUSE.' and another replying 'YEAH, MY TOYS ARE FUN-ON-THE-FLOOR.'

THE OTHER COAST comic strip showing a character saying 'IS THAT POLAR BEAR HAPPY IN THIS ZOO?' and another replying 'OF COURSE HE IS. WE'VE FAITHFULLY RE-CREATED HIS ARCTIC HABITAT...'

THE OTHER COAST comic strip showing a character saying 'WE MELTED ALL THE ICE IN HIS CAGE, AND WE'RE DRILLING FOR OIL UNDER HIS BED.'

SNUFFY SMITH comic strip showing a character saying 'LIKE TH' HAIR EXTENSIONS, GALS?' and another replying 'UM... YA LOOK TH' SAME, MADDY !!'

SNUFFY SMITH comic strip showing a character saying 'NOT ME--M'HORSE !!'

BEEBLE BAILEY comic strip showing a character saying 'I'VE DECIDED THAT BEEBLE AND I WOULD DO WELL AS A MARRIED COUPLE' and another replying 'WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE THAT?'

BEEBLE BAILEY comic strip showing a character saying 'I NEED THE SLEEP' and another replying 'I NEED THE SLEEP'.

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 26, the 270th day of 2012. There are 96 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 26, 1789, Thomas Jefferson was confirmed by the Senate to be the first United States secretary of state...

Newsday Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Answer to previous puzzle: OTTER MAMA TAMS WHALE OVAL RUIN LUCID TONI IDEA GOOD THING GOING TEA DIANE CCS NFL STRAPS ALLS FADE GENIE BEE IN YOUR BONNET LAPSE SORE DUCT ENTIRE SAO LEO VETO CBS FINGER IN THE PIE ODOR INTO YARDS GONE EGOS ERODS SLOW REPS DENSE