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SUNDAY

OCTOBER 21, 2012



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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 6

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Just say no — to trash

Garden City residents take to the streets to clean up community

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — There's an unwelcome newcomer to this Glasscock County community, and many residents are doing their best to get rid of the visitor.

One attraction Garden City residents have always taken pride in is the community's appearance. In recent years, however, people have noticed an appreciable uptick in the amount of trash accumulating in the area.

"We'd never had this problem before," said County Judge Kim Halfmann. "So, we set out to do something about it."

Saturday, groups of young and old Garden City residents were scouring roadways and vacant lots for trash in an event organizers called Have Pride in Our Community Day.

This community-wide cleanup effort, the first in recent memory, was jump-started by the town's Youth Board.

"It's a group of teachers, other



Best in Show

HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Robert Miles and Cynthia Miles show off their woodcarving pieces during the annual Mustang Draw Woodcarvers Show and Sale on Saturday. The Miles' artwork tied for best in show, placing their annual bet — the loser does the dishes until next year's show — in quite a quandary.

Early voting begins

Monday first day to cast ballots for Nov. 6 election

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Ready ... set ... vote!

Crossroads residents will get the chance to have their democratic voices heard in a number of local, state and national elections, as early voting gets under way Monday morning in the Howard County Elections Administration Office.

Polls will be located in the elections office — located on the third floor of the county courthouse — and will be open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, until early voting wraps up Friday, Nov. 2.

According to Elections Administrator Sandra Bloom, her office will be ready to help voters cast their ballots first thing

More on the EDC election inside:

- Editorial: Page 4A
- Readers' letters: Pages 4A-6A

See TRASH, Page 3A

See VOTING, Page 3A



Road use pact on county agenda

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners are expected to continue work on a proposed road use agreement — which would allow the county to recover the cost of repairs to county roads caused by increased oilfield traffic — when they meet Monday morning.

During the court's previous meeting, commissioners met with County Attorney Joshua Hamby to discuss the finer points of the proposed agreement, as the county looks for ways to pay for damage to its county roads caused mainly by the recent boom in the oilfield.

According to County Judge Mark Barr, the damage is estimated at \$22 million and rising and with no current end in sight for the petroleum boom, could go much, much higher.

"We have to address this



Barr

"Overall, the damage (to county roads) is estimated at approximately \$22 million right now. This isn't something we're going to be able to fix all at one time, obviously."

Mark Barr
Howard County Judge

problem and, unfortunately, it looks like it will be the taxpayers who have to foot the bill for it," Barr said. "Overall, the damage is estimated at approximately \$22 million right now. This isn't something we're going to be able to fix all at one time, obviously."

The county recent took measures to begin addressing the problem when it inked its 2012-2013 budget, which included between \$400,000 to \$500,000 to be spent annually to address the local roadways.

According to Barr, the road use agreement is based on similar documents from other Texas counties.

"The template we're using for this agreement is based on a very similar agreement being used in other counties," Barr said. "It won't put an end to this problem, however. What it should do, though, is place more of the financial burden on the companies that are causing the majority of the damage, instead of the taxpayers."

The court has been working on the agreement for several months, having invited local oil and energy companies to appear before commissioners to discuss the use of such an

agreement. However, despite several public invitations, Barr said none of the companies have shown an interest in participating in the agreement's development.

Also during Monday's meeting, the court is expected to discuss the possible acquisition of property in the Luther community, designated for the Volunteer Fire Department.

Barr is also expected to present the court with information regarding:

- Dispute Resolution's annual report with Angela Pena, Gene Valentin and Crystal Collins.
- Inmate communications services agreement with Mike Dawson, administrator of the county detention center.
- Approval of the 2013 resolution for the Indigent Defense Grant program.
- Authorization to make optional contribution to the county's TCDRS account.

Also during Monday's meeting, commissioners are expected to discuss the use of such an

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Obituaries

J. W. 'Bill' McClendon



J. W. "Bill" McClendon, 88, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Oct. 18, 2012 at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Oct. 22, 2012, at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Craig Holstedt, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, officiating. Burial with military honors will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Bill was born Feb. 24, 1924, in Albuquerque, N.M. to Elva Abigail (Blackwell) and William Oscar McClendon. He married Maudie Mae Wilson April 25, 1948 in Big Spring, Texas. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving during World War II in the China-Burma India Theater. He was a member of the 424th Squadron Signal Aviation Company in southeast Asia. He was in charge of radio communications. He was awarded the following medals: Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Meritorious Unit Award, Victory Ribbon and four Overseas Service bars.

After the service, he began his flying career. He was the first pipeline pilot for Cosden and operated

a flight school where he taught many people to fly. He was the fixed base operator for the Howard County Airport. He later became the chief pilot for Guthrie Oil & Gas Company for 30 years.

He had been a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a member of East Fourth Street Baptist Church.

Bill is survived by his wife, Maudie McClendon of Big Spring; two daughters, Linda Marino-Holmes and husband Don of Big Spring and Paula Young and husband Ron of Mustang, Okla.; five grandchildren, Cody Young of Mustang, Okla., Royce Young and wife Keri of Oklahoma City, Okla., James Chism Young of Norman, Okla., John William Marino of Odessa, Texas and Lindsey Marino of Austin, Texas; one sister, Jane Miller of Dallas; two nieces, Diane Kornegay and Leslie Phillips; and one nephew, Jim Phillips.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister Jerry Phillips.

Pallbearers will be Royce Young, James Chism Young, John Marino, Ron Young, Gary Blount and Don Holmes. Honorary pallbearer will be Cody Young.

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

Paid obituary

Emilee Ramsey Beckham



Emilee Ramsey Beckham, formerly of Big Spring, died Oct. 17, 2012, at age 95 in Claude, Texas.

She was born March 8, 1917, on a ranch near Westbrook, Texas to I.W. and Sarah Ann Ramsey. Her family owned and operated the I.W. Ramsey Cash Grocery in Westbrook. After starting elementary school one year early and skipping one grade, Mrs. Beckham graduated from Westbrook High School at age 16 and moved to Abilene to join her older sister, Burnice Ramsey, as a student at McMurry College.

Upon graduation from McMurry with a Bachelor of Science degree in music, Mrs. Beckham worked on a Master's degree at Hardin Simmons, then became the public school music teacher at Coahoma, Texas in 1938.

While teaching in Coahoma, she met Fred Beckham who was employed at the D.S. Phillips Grocery. After several months of courtship, the couple was married on Oct. 21, 1939, in Big Spring.

Emilee joined the Coahoma chapter of the Order of Eastern Star (OES) and Fred joined the Coahoma Masonic Lodge in 1940, affiliations they both maintained until their death.

The couple moved to Big Spring in 1942, when Fred took a job at the Cosden Refinery and Emilee became the public school music teacher at East Ward Elementary. She also began teaching private piano lessons in the couple's home on Sycamore Street.

The Beckham's only son, James, was born in 1947, and Mrs. Beckham moved to teaching private piano lessons exclusively so she could be at home with their son. Over the next five decades, Emilee taught piano to hundreds of students.

During her teaching career, she was active in the Big Spring Piano Teacher's Forum, the Music Study Club and was president of each organization. Emilee's many students participated each year in the Piano Teacher's Guild Auditions. Becoming a judge for the American College of Musicians in

1976, Emilee adjudicated piano students in competitions throughout Texas and New Mexico for a period of more than 20 years.

Emilee was instrumental in shaping the musical careers of many people, including her son and her granddaughters. Emilee shared her infectious enthusiasm for life, her love of music and her commitment to her church with her family and her students. She used her musical talents, playing piano for church events, funerals, Eastern Star functions, Sunday school assemblies and singing in the Sanctuary Choir at First Methodist. For many years she also accompanied Big Spring High School band students in UIL Solo and Ensemble Contests.

Emilee was a very active member of the Big Spring First United Methodist Church Quilters Class and was a matron of the Coahoma Chapter of the OES. She mentored many of the piano teachers in Big Spring and was active in a wide range of musical events in Big Spring for five decades. She was listed in the International Who's Who in Music and Notable Americans in 1976, elected to the Who's Who of American Women in 1977 and she received numerous awards from the National Piano Playing Auditions.

Upon her retirement, Mrs. Beckham moved to Amarillo to be near her son and his family. She moved to the Palo Duro Nursing Home in Claude in 2004.

Mrs. Beckham is survived by her son, James Beckham and his wife Pamela of Amarillo and by their daughters, Jamie Blanks of Clayton, N.M. and Sarah Beckham of Amarillo; and one nephew, Ralph Hope of Gaithersburg, Md.

Mrs. Beckham was preceded in death by her husband, Fred Beckham, in 1973; by a sister, Burnice Hope; and by a brother, Ralph Ramsey.

Services will be held at 2 p.m., Monday, Oct. 22, 2012, in Mount Olive Memorial Park Cemetery in Big Spring. Arrangements are by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors, 2800 Paramount Blvd., Amarillo.

The family requests memorials be made to the Music Ministry of the First United Methodist Church of Big Spring, 400 Scurry Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

Paid obituary

Police blotter

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

- GILBERT BUSTAMANTE GONZALES, 23, of 1607 W. Ninth St., was arrested Friday on warrants for expired registration and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- LUIS MIGUEL LOPEZ, 29, of 907 Bell, was arrested Friday on warrants for driving while license invalid, failure to appear and harassment.
- AMBER RODRIGUEZ, 19, of 820 Timothy, was arrested Friday on warrants for no driver's license - when unlicensed and failure to yield the right-of-way at an intersection.
- DONNI KAY ROBERTSON, 27, of 108 Merrick Rd., was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported: In the 1400 block of E. Sixth Street.
- THEFT was reported in the 1100 block of N. Lamesa Highway.

Support Groups

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.

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

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

TUESDAY
• Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

Jeneane Perry

Jeneane Perry, 75, of the Lomax Community, died Friday, Oct. 19, 2012 at her residence. Her services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

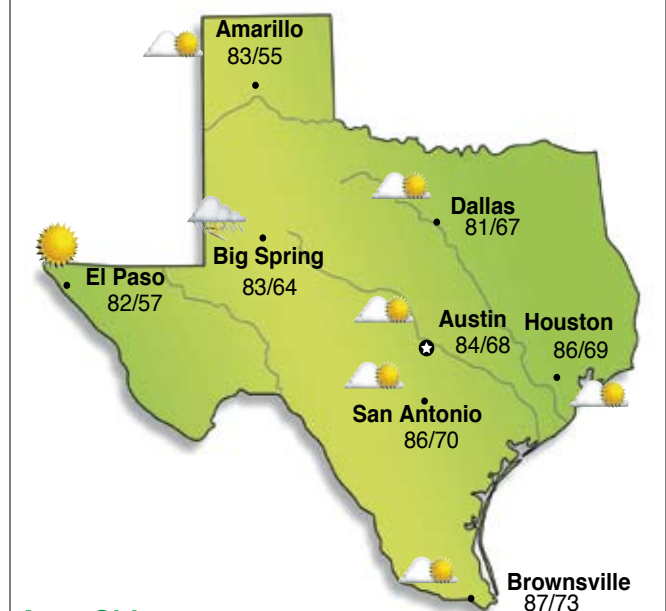
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Mon 10/22	Tue 10/23	Wed 10/24	Thu 10/25	Fri 10/26
83/64 A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	84/63 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	85/58 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	74/50 Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 50s.	71/52 Mostly sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:55 AM Sunset: 7:05 PM	Sunrise: 7:56 AM Sunset: 7:04 PM	Sunrise: 7:57 AM Sunset: 7:03 PM	Sunrise: 7:58 AM Sunset: 7:02 PM	Sunrise: 7:58 AM Sunset: 7:01 PM

American Profile
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Stories for and about hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	82	67	t-storm	Kingsville	87	71	pt sunny
Amarillo	83	55	pt sunny	Livingston	88	63	pt sunny
Austin	84	68	pt sunny	Longview	83	64	cloudy
Beaumont	84	66	pt sunny	Lubbock	83	58	mst sunny
Brownsville	87	73	pt sunny	Lufkin	88	66	pt sunny
Brownwood	86	67	pt sunny	Midland	83	65	t-storm
Corpus Christi	85	73	pt sunny	Raymondville	90	71	pt sunny
Corsicana	82	65	pt sunny	Rosenberg	86	68	pt sunny
Dallas	81	67	pt sunny	San Antonio	86	70	pt sunny
Del Rio	88	72	pt sunny	San Marcos	85	68	pt sunny
El Paso	82	57	sunny	Sulphur Springs	81	66	cloudy
Fort Stockton	86	62	sunny	Sweetwater	81	66	t-storm
Gainesville	79	65	t-storm	Tyler	84	65	cloudy
Greenville	80	64	pt sunny	Weatherford	80	64	t-storm
Houston	86	69	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	80	66	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	76	48	sunny	Minneapolis	58	55	pt sunny
Boston	63	46	sunny	New York	66	52	sunny
Chicago	66	60	t-storm	Phoenix	82	63	sunny
Dallas	81	67	pt sunny	San Francisco	59	53	rain
Denver	70	46	pt sunny	Seattle	49	41	rain
Houston	86	69	pt sunny	St. Louis	78	63	cloudy
Los Angeles	67	55	pt sunny	Washington, DC	71	52	sunny
Miami	83	74	pt sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Mon 10/22	Tue 10/23	Wed 10/24	Thu 10/25	Fri 10/26
6	6	6	6	6
High	High	High	High	High

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241047

TRASH

Continued from Page 1A

adults and a select few youth," Halfmann said. "They were asked what they thought was the number-one problem facing the community, and they said the main problem was trash."

After a few weeks ironing out the details, the group sprang into action Saturday. Young children concentrated on clearing trash from vacant lots, while groups of teenagers and adults picked up trash along roadways. Businesses and government agencies pitched in — Fuddrucker's provided lunch for the volunteers, while the Texas Department of Transportation provided safety vests and trash bags and agreed to cart off the collected garbage.

Aside from the free lunch, volunteers also received T-shirts as a token of thanks for their efforts.

Halfmann said it is unknown if similar events will be held in the future, but stressed that Saturday's effort was important for Garden City's self-esteem.

"We're just trying to show everybody that we take pride in our community," she said.

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

- 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.

- An account has been set up at Citizen's Credit Union for Emma Leos, who was recently diagnosed with colon cancer.

- Jo Anna Bailey, an aide for many years at Washington Elementary School, has been diagnosed with cancer.

A medical donation account has been established for her at the Big Spring Education Credit Union, located at 1110 Benton. Your generosity will enable her to have much-needed tests and treatment.

- The Howard County Humane Society and Sierra Animal Clinic have teamed up for a fundraiser to benefit the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County. October 13, from 8 a.m. until noon, your dog or cat can have a parvo, distemper shot for a donation of \$10 or a rabies shot for a donation of \$5 or both for a

donation of \$15. Dogs must be on leashes and cats in carriers. The benefit will be held at the Humane Society, 5710 IH 20 West.

- Compass Hospice is in need of your help. If you would be interested in offering your love and God's comfort to those who are suffering, or to their families, contact Michelle Coutermarsh at 263-5999 or come by 602 S. Main.

Volunteers are needed in many categories including patient care. You may give as much or as little time as you wish. Any amount of time is greatly appreciated. Training is offered free of charge.

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

- The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council needs assis-

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

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

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

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

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

pected to meet with County Auditor Jackie Olson to discuss Invoices, purchase

requests and proposed budget amendments. Olson will also present commissioners with an approval order authorizing early payment of invoices for convenience.

County Treasurer Teresa Thomas is also expected to

meet with the court to present personnel considerations.

The meeting will get under way at 10 a.m. in the commissioners courtroom, located on the third floor of the county courthouse. For more information, contact

the county judge's office at 432-264-2202.

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

VOTING

Continued from Page 1A

Monday morning.

"All of the work with the ballot and that sort of thing is done, so we're ready to go," Bloom said. "The set up in the elections office will be a little bit different this year, since we're going to have 10 early voting booths set up. However, I feel like we're ready to get things under way."

Voters will have only one local race to decide the fate of, as the Precinct 1 seat on the Howard County Commissioners will be up for grabs with long time Democratic incumbent Emma Brown taking on Republican challenger Oscar Garcia.

Brown defeated Howard County Jailer Larry Torres in the May

primary, while Garcia defeated local resident Edwin Ware for the Republican nomination for the seat.

The only other local issue on the ballot will be aimed at Big Spring balloters, as the municipal government looks to give voters the chance to do away with the existing 4A economic development corporation.

The council approved to send the issue to voters during its Aug. 14 meeting, doing so on a unanimous vote.

The EDC sales tax was adopted by Big Spring voters May 5, 1990, and designated solely for use on Type A projects, which is restricted mainly to attracting employers and businesses to the Crossroads area and retaining jobs with existing employers.

However, a Type B corporation has much looser restrictions placed on its spending, allowing for several other project types, including quality of life improvements such as professional and amateur sports and athletic facilities, related street, water and sewer facilities and affordable housing.

According to Texas law, however, Type A corporations can still approve Type B projects, however, they are required to get the voters approval to do so. With a Type B corporation, no such vote is required.

The move to change the corporation to a 4B comes on the heels of a Type B project to revamp the city's water treatment and wastewater facilities, approved in May.

In addition to the reg-

ularly scheduled poll hours, Bloom said her office will be offering several days with extended hours in hopes of giving everyone in the community a chance to cast their ballot early.

"Early voting polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30 and Thursday, Nov. 1," Bloom said. "We'll also be opening the polls Saturday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. We're hoping these extended hours will give residents who work from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. a chance to vote early and avoid the lines and waiting on Election Day. There are a lot of folks out there who simply can't leave work to vote, or don't have enough time on their lunch breaks."

The deadline to request a ballot by mail is Friday, Oct. 26, accord-

ing to election officials.

Bloom and her election officers are bracing themselves for what is expected to be a large turnout, spurred mostly by the presidential contest, which has been heating up and grabbing headlines leading up to the Nov. 6 election.

"Almost everyone who came in to register to vote said they were doing so because of the presidential contest," Bloom said. "It's definitely driving this election. We've registered 427 new voters Since Aug. 1, which is really an astounding number."

For more information on early voting, contact Bloom at 264-2273.

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

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Paranormal Activity 4 (R) (Digital)
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Argo (R) (Digital)
Sun.: 1:00 4:00 7:00

Hotel Transylvania (PG) (3D) (Digital)
Sun.: 2:20 7:20
Sun.: 1:30 4:30 7:30

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Brian McCormack Sports Editor	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

On flips and flops
and even flip-flops

Writers who have tackled media assignments for any length of time at all realize their literary efforts, however brilliantly composed, rest squarely on readers' decisions to read in detail, scan quickly, or flip over to another section of the newspaper.

In the case of this week's epistle, I realize readers may opt to "flip" — or even "flop" — to other options.

Whatever, I fully acknowledge that combining unrelated news stories with "flipping, flopping and flip-flopping" angles risks comparison with preachers' "Mother Hubbard sermons." You know the ones I mean — like "Mother Hubbard dresses — cover everything but touch nothing."

...
DR. DON NEWBURY

Let us begin. High school football coaches thought we already knew it. At most games, the "coin-toss" — conducted at midfield before alma mater music is rendered — is totally ceremonial. The "real" one typically occurs an hour or so earlier, with coaches making the calls while the coin is still in the air.

They explain that, too often, players are so hyper-excited that they make ill-advised choices concerning whether to kick off, take the wind, choose end of field, etc. Coaches say it's been a decade or more since players routinely made the calls.

And to think that for years, I've joked about pitiful teams whose fans get excited when they win the toss. So much for "flipping."

...
Basketball fans realize that in the NBA, "flopping" is an art form. "Flops" to the floor are "performed" by players whose response to bodily contact might suggest they've been flattened by Mack trucks. They hope, of course, to activate officials' whistles, signifying that they've been dealt with harshly by an opponent.

Starting this season, NBA moguls are taking a harder look at "flops." They'll study them at length following contests, and from many angles. If they feel "flopsters" add too much theater to falls, fines will be assessed.

To carry on a theme already fatigued, I suppose fining "flopsters" whose "flops" flop could result in more legitimate playing and less acting.

...
Now, if you're still reading, the "meat" of this piece is "flip/flopping" — not by political candidates, as you might expect — but by educators. These are, I believe, "cutting edge" teachers who have found a new way to teach that turns old practices upside down.

Growing numbers are assigning schoolwork at home and homework at school.

In effect, they're "flipping" schedules, and the results suggest considerable learning enhancement. The "flipping" is not flopping.

In essence, "flipping" means that students aren't "lectured." Instead, they have pre-recorded materials on their computers or smartphones for what used to be considered "homework." Thus, school time is available for more active learning.

There's far more interaction, and a bonus is that students can "pace" their learning.

In the Allen, Texas school districts, some teachers in grades 5-8 have introduced the "pilot program," utilizing "flipping" for specific lessons in units

"For this program to work effectively, parents must be involved in the process, and we know this is a gradual process," said Lisa Casto, Allen Director of Curriculum and Staff Development.

Since the program is new, longitudinal studies aren't available, but in Detroit—one of the first cities to initiate "flipped" scheduling—measured results are impressive.

Earlier this year, some 400 educators met for a national conference in Chicago. A few months later, Allen offered a similar program for North Texas teachers, attracting about 330 innovative teachers....

There always are "better ways" out there. I salute educators like Mrs. Casto and others who dare to be trailblazers. Kudos likewise are in order for a couple of science teachers who came up with this idea that now is practiced by at least 50 teachers in grades 9-12 in Allen ISD.

Such grassroots movements are impressive,

See FLIPS, Page 6A

THE EDC ELECTION: OUR VIEW

It's a matter of trust

When considering which way to vote on the upcoming Economic Development Corp. election, it is all too easy to get lost in the claims and counter-claims and counter-counter claims. In the end, however, it comes down to one basic question: Who do you trust?

Among the contests to be determined on the Nov. 6 ballot, Big Spring voters will be asked to decide whether to change the EDC from a Type A to Type B entity. Changing the EDC's mandate to Type B would allow it to allocate sales tax money for community improvement projects, instead of having the funds strictly designated for use in economic development.

Needless to say, this is a highly important decision we're being asked to make, which is why the question of trust is so important.

Do we trust the current set-up of the EDC? During its 20-plus years of existence, it has provided money to new and existing businesses, adding hundreds of new jobs and millions of dollars to the local economy. Firms such as Western Container, Desert Tank, GEO and the Settles Hotel Development Co., which is renovating Big Spring's most notable landmark, owe a large debt of thanks for the helping hand they received from our EDC.

Has the EDC had its failures? Yes. Could the corporation have done more to help grow our economy? Perhaps. One thing is clear, however: There would be fewer jobs available in Big Spring and less money on our tax rolls if we didn't have the EDC riding shotgun on economic development in this area.

Or do we trust the 4B proponents, most notably Big Spring Mayor Tommy Duncan and the majority of the city council? Let's consider a few things:

- Earlier this year, Big Spring voters approved a measure to provide funds to improve the city's wastewater infrastructure. One of the major reasons the issue passed was because of an agreement was reached between the city and EDC in which the corporation would provide 40 percent of the financing for the improvements in return for a city promise that it would not seek any further EDC funds while the bond was being paid off.

Yet, scant months later, Mayor Duncan and

his supporters want to negate that agreement and make all the EDC money up for grabs.

- Mayor Duncan has said time and time again that, if EDC changes to a Type B operation, it can still pursue economic development possibilities. In effect, he's saying we can have our cake and eat it, too.

This is a pipe dream. The city faces too many infrastructure needs for the council to ignore the EDC money. And remember, 40 percent of the corporation's budget is already spoken for over the next 20 years — thanks to the conveniently-ignored agreement between EDC and the city on the wastewater improvements project. That leaves a smaller portion of the funds available for future use. Given the choice between voting the remaining money for community improvement projects and having the discipline to keep funds earmarked for economic development, we have little doubt which choice the council will make — it will take advantage of a figurative bird's nest on the ground and economic development efforts would be dealt a crippling blow.

- Under the current EDC set-up, Type 4B projects can be funded, but only by the public's vote in an election.

That option would disappear if the 4B option is selected Nov. 6. The public could still have input at meetings — much as they do at just about any board meeting in town — but projects would be funded by a majority vote of the council, not the public at large.

In short, four or five people would make the decisions on which 4B projects to fund, instead of the electorate.

In conclusion, we are asked to decide between the EDC's proven track record and a group of people who ignore agreements, make dubious claims and want to reduce the public's role in the decision-making process.

With that in mind, we have little choice but to implore voters not to change EDC to a Type B entity.

Early voting begins Monday and we encourage everyone to head to the polls. This issue is too important for a handful of voters to decide.

Nothing less than this community's future is at stake.

THE EDC ELECTION: OUR READERS SPEAK OUT

To the editor:

I have lived in Big Spring all my life and I love this community. We established the Type A Economic Development in 1991 under the only method available at that time. Since then, we have spent about \$20 million of our sales tax dollars in an attempt to help Big Spring grow. The EDC has had some success and I know you and I can all name a number of failures. I think over the years, the batting average has not been very good.

Times have changed since 1991 and, if Big Spring wants to compete with other towns for growth, we must change. You can't keep doing the same thing over and over and expect to have different results every time. Our 22 years of a Type A EDC just hasn't gotten the job done. A Type B EDC will open the door to give us more opportunity to attract different types of business and will give us the option to also improve quality of life issues here for the citizens' benefit. We could also begin to buy and demolish or clean up old buildings, as well as enhance other areas of town like the entrances to Big Spring on old Highway 80 from the east and west.

I hear a lot of people saying they never knew what the EDC is doing with their money. Board members can tell us where they spent money after its gone and then tell us it has created jobs. But we have no say in any of the decisions and have no idea if we would have supported the decision if we knew all the facts. Under a Type B EDC, the board will be required to hold a public hearing 60 days before they or the city council approve obligating our money, whether it's a Type A or Type B project. That means we get to come to an open meeting, hear the good and the bad about a project, discuss it, ask questions and give our thoughts, then have 60 days to research, make a decision and give input to our elected representatives on whether we want to invest in the venture.

I think a Type B EDC will be a good step forward for Big Spring; it just makes common sense that under a Type B, we can do all we have available under a Type A, plus options that are available under Type B. And it lets us know what is going on with our money before it is gone.

I want Big Spring to have all the tools available to us to help this community grow and become a better, cleaner, more attractive home for your family and mine.

Please join me in voting for the Type B EDC.

Cotton Mize
Big Spring

To the editor:

What was the purpose of Economic Development Cooperation and why was it brought to Big Spring? My understanding is, it was developed to assist businesses that wanted to be a part of Big Spring and promote economic growth in our fair city.

These are the businesses I'm aware of that EDC helped get started here. If I remember correctly, Western Container was the first business to receive assistance from EDC, then later FreeCom, Desert Tanks and John Crane Production, and I know there are others. These are companies that employ a great number of people.

Also, don't forget Hotel Settles, a great big eyesore in my opinion, that Brint Ryan possibly would not have restored without EDC's help. They have not only employed a great number of people the past two or three years, but are remaking the eyesores into a beauty spot soon. Everyone is looking forward to the completion of the Settles! What an impact will it have on downtown and how many will it employ when it opens?

How many jobs have the above firms provided, you do the calculation. I've heard over the years about the railroad spur in the Air Park and it was never used, but now I understand it has been

revived and the Fort Worth Pipe Company has already started receiving rail cars at the base. Since there has been no activity on the rail for years, the traffic on the highway is unaware of the danger, so drivers be careful. It is also my understanding, the city will receive revenues from the air park shipments, so Big Spring will directly benefit by EDC.

To me, it seems under Type A, DC has control and under Type B the City may control the funds. Now, just why do we want the City controlling something someone else was hired to manage? I remember John Currie saying he was concerned that someday the city might want to use those for various needs. It looks like we have encountered that — that is not the purpose of EDC.

So come election time, please vote against Type B as we want EDC to have the freedom to make wise decisions on assisting businesses to come to Big Spring and help boost our economy.

Pat Simmons
Big Spring

To the editor:

I hope the Type B proposition passes. At least then, we will have public hearings 60 days prior to the EDC spending any of our tax money on A or B type projects.

That tax money belongs to the citizens of Big Spring and we should know what it is going to be used for in time for us to voice our opinion before the EDC gives it away.

Under the Type A we have now, we don't know where the money is going until it is gone. It is too late then to do anything about it.

At least now, the mayor and city council are giving us a vote. We will get to decide — thank you for that opportunity.

Randy Johnson
Big Spring

To the editor:

Here are some of the things the

See READERS, Page 5A

READERS

Continued from Page 4A

4A EDC has done for Big Spring:
• GEO Flightline — 100 employee. GEO pays the city approximately \$1 million annually.
• Phillips Fabrication — 30 employees.
• A&M Composites — 90 employees.
• Wind Energy Transmission — 50 employees.
• John Crane Production — 65 employees.
• Desert Tanks — 97 employees.
• Western Container — 100 employees.
• Big Dog Rig Movers — 30 employees.

These are employees who rent or buy housing, clothing, food, etc. in Big Spring. These people spend their money here!

Our 4A EDC has given the city 40 percent of its budget for water renovations. This should have been in the city budget the past 5-10 years. Now, the city wants the rest of EDC's money. Are they good stewards of our money? I think not.

The EDC has been doing its job. I will vote against changing our

EDC.

Susan McLellan
Big Spring

To the editor:

On Nov. 6, Big Spring voters will have an important decision to make on the future of our city. This choice will affect our city's growth, jobs and tax rates, not just for our generation, but future generations, also. There will be a vote to change our current Economic Development Corp. to a Type B entity.

EDC money is intended to bring new businesses to our town, such as Weatherford A&M Composites, Western Container, Desert Tank, etc. Once this money is in the hands of our city council, it will be used exclusively for city expenditures. Remember, EDC money, as it is today, can be used for Type B projects such as athletic facilities, entertainment facilities and low-income housing, but only when the voters approve it. A change as proposed by our council will prevent our citizens from voting for those future projects.

Do you trust what this council is telling us? Remember, just over three months ago, our city negotiated in good faith to leave the remaining 60 percent of EDC funds alone if EDC

would support the election to repair our wastewater plant. The council even praised the EDC board for its effort and cooperation to help the city in this time of need. Now, the city is back, this time seeking all the remaining EDC funds.

Please think long and hard — will this change actually benefit Big Spring's future, or will it give the city access to these funds to spend as they please without voter approval?

I urge you to vote against this proposition! Keep your right to vote!

D.H. Currie
Big Spring

To the editor:

This vote should be been so simple. Each side should have gotten their information out to the public. Then, let the power of the vote by the citizens decide the path of the EDC. There seems to be a lack of faith in the voter, or maybe a fear.

The pre-election rhetoric became down and in-the-ditch dirty. The personal assaults on our elected officials were totally uncalled for. This left the city of Big Spring looking bad to people looking to move here as a business or for personal reasons. The assaults have left friends feeling strained if they are on different sides of the is-

sue.

Let the vote decide the future paty of the city and, after the election, let every citizen unite behind Big Spring.

I would suggest to believe everything you are read and told. Go to the city council meeting and the EDC meeting. Then, go vote your conviction for Big Spring.

After studying both sides, I will vote for the 4B option.

Mike Tarpley
Big Spring

To the editor:

When you are considering your vote on the 4B proposal, please consider the following information.

The EDC was founded as a 4A corporation by voters in 1990. It was founded to bring in new businesses to Big Spring. From 2007 to the present, the EDC has brought in 425 jobs and helped retain 136 jobs in Big Spring. These jobs generate a payroll of \$20.75 million. Current and past projects are viewable online at bigspringtx.com. This information is also available in the EDC offices.

The EDC can do 4B proposals without changing the type of corporation it is. At present, any 4B proposal

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Big Spring's Type 4A Economic Development Corporation has brought many jobs to Big Spring and has done a great job. We are the citizens that will vote AGAINST changing to a 4B Corporation. Let EDC continue to work with their money!

VOTE AGAINST 4B ON NOVEMBER 6!!

Handwritten signatures of citizens supporting the 'Vote Against 4B' campaign, including names like Rick Hughes, Leah Hughes, Bobbie McDonald, Bobbie McDonald, Jon Jensen, Franki Franklin, Pat J. Simmons, Pat Simmons, Vickie Purcell, Elaine Talbot, and many others.

Political Advertising paid for by Big Spring Citizens for Jobs and Growth.

Sandra Waggoner, Treasurer

State news in brief

Dead toddler causes

CPS shakeup, airman's charges

ABILENE, Texas (AP) — Texas Child Protective Services placed three employees on leave Friday in the wake of the death of a nearly 2-year-old Abilene girl whose mother claims she was too stressed by her husband's deployment to care for her children. The workers — a regional director, an investigation supervisor and a caseworker — were cited in a search warrant affidavit earlier this week as being suspected of tampering with evidence. But no charges have been filed against them.

Memos released by the agency late Friday show that top CPS officials told the three employees that they were on "emergency leave" pending the results of an Abilene police investigation into the Aug. 28 death of Tamryn Klapheke.

The 22-month-old girl's mother, Tiffany Nicole Klapheke, faces three felony charges of injury to child. The child had been found unresponsive at her home at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene.

After her arrest, Klapheke said her husband's deployment made her too stressed to take care of their three young children. Her husband filed for divorce last week.

Also on Friday, the Air Force released a statement saying military charges of child endangerment, failure to report child abuse and adultery "in relation to the case of Tiffany Klapheke" have been filed against Senior Airman Christopher Perez, who is stationed at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene.

No details were provided in the statement, first given to the Abilene Reporter-News. A base spokeswoman didn't return an email Friday night seeking details.

Cruz, Sadler stay civil in final U.S. Senate debate

DALLAS (AP) — In a stark contrast to their last debate, the rivals for Texas' open U.S. Senate seat stayed calm and civil Friday night, agreeing almost as much as they clashed during their second and final debate ahead of next month's election.

Republican Ted Cruz vowed not to raise taxes under any circumstances but also pledged to slash the national debt by closing tax loopholes and encour-

aging economic growth. Democrat Paul Sadler said "shared sacrifice" was the only way to pay down the debt.

"I don't like the idea of pitting one American against another. I don't think that's good policy," said Sadler, a former state lawmaker. "If you want to raise taxes, I'm not afraid of that."

Cruz, when pressed about federal plans that may increase tax rates on the wealthiest Americans, said answered: "I think if we raise taxes, it will kill jobs." But the former state solicitor general and tea party favorite also maintained that the country could grow its way out of debt by adhering to free-market policies.

"If we can get growth up to historical levels, that's how we raise revenue," he said during the debate at the studios of KERA, the PBS television station in Dallas.

On a subsequent question about health care, Sadler criticized Cruz for repeatedly blaming Democrats during the debate.

"You want to know what's wrong with this country? We spend so much time blaming each other," Sadler said. "We can talk civil to each other and we can find bipartisan solutions if we want to, but you've got to send the right people to Washington."

But that was a rare moment of contention during what was otherwise a low-wattage debate.

Bomb threat prompts 5-hour evacuation at Texas A&M

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M University's campus was shut down for about five hours Friday after an emailed bomb threat prompted an evacuation of more than 50,000 people and a building-by-building search.

A&M Police Lt. Allan Baron said officials were still searching some buildings late Friday afternoon, but no bombs had been found and people were being allowed to come back on campus to retrieve personal belongings and their cars. Evening activities campus, about 100 miles northwest of Houston, were set to go on as planned.

The threat also would not prompt extra security for Saturday's football game between sixth-ranked LSU and No. 20 A&M.

"We're not preparing for a high influx of problems. We're treating it like any other game that is sold out," Baron said.

High-traffic buildings and facilities, including dining and residence halls, had been cleared by police, Baron said, adding that he didn't know how many more buildings still needed to be searched.

Baron said the bomb-threat email was sent around 11 a.m. Friday to the university's computing information services center.

Campus police were notified 15 minutes later and officials made the decision to evacuate by 11:30 a.m.

Fort Hood shooting victims seek added benefits

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Nearly three years after the Fort Hood shooting, a group of soldiers and their families is pressing the Department of Defense to make victims of the rampage eligible for the Purple Heart and other benefits.

About 160 people affected by the Nov. 5, 2009, shooting released a video this week describing the attack on the sprawling Texas Army post.

"The victims are being forgotten and it's frustrating," Kimberly Munley, one of the first two officers who arrived at the shooting scene, told The Associated Press.

Maj. Nidal Hasan, an American-born Muslim who officials believe was inspired by a radical Islamic cleric, faces the death penalty if convicted of 13 counts of premeditated murder and 32 counts of attempted premeditated murder in the attack.

While several government reports have described the rampage as an act of terrorism, soldiers and their relatives say the only way Fort Hood victims and their families will get the same benefits as troops killed or injured in combat is if the defense secretary specifically designates the shooting a "terrorist attack."

Pentagon press secretary George Little said Friday that the Department of Defense "will not, at this time, further characterize" the shooting because it is committed to the integrity of the ongoing court-martial proceedings against Hasan. There are concerns that formally changing the designation could affect the legal proceedings.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 5A

brought by the EDC must be voted on by the citizens of Big Spring (as in the last election). If the EDC is changed to a 4B corporation only the board will have a vote. Yes, you as a

citizen can talk to a board member, but you will not have a vote on the proposal. Only the board members would have a vote.

We all know that we need to work on the infrastructure of Big Spring (water lines, roads, etc.). I applaud the city council for looking at these problems. However, changing to a 4B corporation is looking at the short-term fix and not at the long-term solution.

This past election took 40 percent of EDC funds for 20 years. If it were changed to a 4B corporation, the city could decide to use another 30 percent for roads and another 30 percent for water lines for the next 20 years. This means there would be no money for bringing in new businesses or helping our local businesses to expand for 20 years.

Again, the infrastructure is in need of major improvements and we need to look for long-term solutions with-

out sacrificing the economic development future of Big Spring. More businesses and more jobs will bring in more tax money for the city over hundreds of years instead of the 20-year short-term outlook.

Meetings for the EDC are open to the public and the meetings are televised on our local access channel. While many companies will only negotiate with a signed confidentiality document, all final information must be brought to the council for them to approve or disapprove. All monies must be accounted for and audited. The rumor about the EDC working in secret is not true.

Please consider where you want our city to be in the next 100 years. Do not look at the short term. Vote against the 4B proposal.

Steve Waggoner
Big Spring

FLIPS

Continued from Page 4A

and in some respects, daring. Oh, there still are refinements to be made, such as whether dogs eat students' homework or their schoolwork. I leave such decisions to the educators and the students.

May they always be open-minded. I'll keep my mind in neutral, its

usual gear in these days. Later, I'll put on my flip/flops for a leisurely neighborhood walk. If beautiful fall leaves get between my toes, I'll stop to remove them—the leaves, not the toes — first enjoying their beauty before tossing them aside....

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

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News in brief

Romney and Obama leave campaign trail to prepare for last debate

WASHINGTON (AP) — With one debate left, President Barack Obama and challenger Mitt Romney are retreating from the campaign trail to bone up on foreign policy, leaving the work of courting voters to their running mates.

Monday's debate in Boca Raton, Fla., with its focus on international affairs, is the third and final between the two rivals and comes just 15 days before the election.

Obama left Friday for Camp David, the presidential hideaway in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains. He was to remain there with advisers until Monday morning. Romney was to spend the weekend in Florida with aides preparing the debate.

Romney running mate Paul Ryan planned a campaign stop in Pennsylvania on Saturday. Vice President Joe Biden was headed for St. Augustine, Fla.

Monday's 90-minute debate will be moderated by Bob Schieffer of CBS News. It will be similar to the first debate, with both men standing at lecterns on a stage. Schieffer has listed five subject areas, with more time devoted to the Middle East and terrorism than any other topic.

Angry protesters burn tires, block roads in Lebanon following deadly car bombing

BEIRUT (AP) — Protesters burned tires and set up roadblocks around Lebanon on Saturday in a sign of boiling anger over a massive car bomb that killed a top security official and seven other people a day earlier — a devastating attack that threatened to bring Syria's civil war to Lebanon.

The Lebanese Cabinet held an emergency meeting Saturday as the country's opposition called for Prime Minister Najib Mikati to resign. The state-run National News Agency said security commanders would attend the meeting to discuss how to keep the peace.

The government declared a national day of mourning for the victims, who included Brig. Gen. Wissam al-Hassan, head of the intelligence division of Lebanon's domestic security forces. Dozens were wounded in Friday's blast in Beirut's mainly Christian Achrafieh neighborhood.

Many observers said the attack appeared to have links to the Syrian civil war, which has been raging for 19 months. Al-Hassan, 47, headed an investigation over the summer that led to the arrest of former Information Minister Michel Samaha, one of Syrian President Bashar Assad's most loyal allies in Lebanon.

Samaha, who is in custody, is accused of plotting a campaign of bombings and assassinations to spread sectarian violence in Lebanon at Syria's behest. Also indicted in the August sweep was Syrian Brig. Gen. Ali Mamlouk, one of Assad's highest aides.

Boys, birds & bees: Have that talk sooner, says study that found early puberty hits boys, too

CHICAGO (AP) — When it comes to the birds and the bees, some parents may want to have that talk with their boys a little sooner than they expected.

Researchers have found signs of puberty in American boys up to two years earlier than previously reported — age 9 on average for blacks, 10 for whites and Hispanics. Other studies have suggested that girls, too, are entering puberty younger.

Why is this happening? Theories range from higher levels of obesity and inactivity to chemicals in food and water, all of which might interfere with normal hormone production. But those are just theories, and they remain unproven.

Doctors say earlier puberty is not necessarily cause for concern. And some experts question whether the trend is even real.

Dr. William Adelman, an adolescent medicine specialist in the Baltimore area, says the new research is the first to find early, strong physical evidence that boys are maturing earlier. But he added that the study still isn't proof and said it raises a lot of questions.

Unions shift political muscle to state and local races to limit anti-labor measures

WASHINGTON (AP) — Unions are shifting more of their political resources to state and local races this year as they try to head off passage of laws that could undermine bargaining rights, make it harder to organize or reduce their political muscle.

Labor leaders say their top goal remains re-electing President Barack Obama, but several unions are redirecting their focus from the presidential and congressional campaigns to state and local races in dozens of states where they feel threatened.

In New Hampshire, unions want to keep the governor's seat in Democratic hands to prevent a right-to-work measure. In Maine and Minnesota, labor leaders hope to overturn Republican majorities in state legislatures. And in Michigan, unions are trying to enshrine collective bargaining rights in the state constitution.

The shift comes as organized labor is still reeling from battles in Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana and other states where governors have sought to limit union rights for public workers or otherwise restrict union power.

"This year we've invested in these races more than ever before," said Brian Weeks, political director of the country's largest public workers union, the American Federation of State, County

and Municipal Employees.

Romney blasts Russia on campaign trail, but he may need to seek compromise if elected

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney calls Russia the No. 1 foe of the United States and promises to stand up to Russian President Vladimir Putin. But if he's elected president, he might find that he'll need Moscow's help.

Russia plays a critical role in facilitating the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan. The United States also needs Moscow's cooperation on keeping nuclear materials away from terrorists and American adversaries, and preventing gridlock at the U.N. Security Council, where both countries

have vetoes.

While Romney has criticized President Barack Obama's "reset" — its policy for improving relations with Russia — he has not said what exactly he would do differently beyond taking a tougher approach. Given U.S. interests in a cooperative relationship with Russia, some analysts think Romney may have to tone down his rhetoric if wins the White House.

"He may discover the value of Russia as a partner on some issues," says Andrew Kuchins, the head of the Russia program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

U.S.-Russian relations, like international affairs in general, have not been major issues in a presidential campaign dominated by the economy. But they are an area of sharp disagreement between the candidates.

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Tigers upset Steers 31-21

Big Spring falls to 0-2 in District 4-3A play after 5-0 start

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**
Sports Editor

SNYDER — After scoring a touchdown on its opening possession — 31-yard run from sophomore quarterback Tobyn Tannehill — it appeared Big Spring was eager to redeem last week's District 4-3A opening loss against Abilene Wylie with a convincing victory over the Snyder Tigers on the road.

Instead, costly Steer turnovers and a handful of momentum-changing plays resulted in Big Spring coming away with their second loss of the season and a 0-2 conference record as Snyder outlasted the Steers 31-21.

The upset puts added pressure on BSHS Head Coach Phillip Ritchey, who guided his team to a 5-0 record prior to the start of district action.

"We were definitely expecting to win," Ritchey said. "You can't make that many crucial mistakes — giving them short fields, a pick-six — and get a win against most anybody. When you give them the ball that many times at the 20, it's a dangerous situation. There were too many critical mistakes that were game-changers. It was too much to overcome."

Up 7-0 to begin the second quarter, Tannehill attempted a short pass that was picked off by Snyder's Zach Harris and turned into an 80-yard touchdown run coupled with a valid point after kick to tie the game up.

With the Steers defense on the field deep in their own territory, what looked like a bit of a backwards lateral pass was attempted by Snyder. The pitch was caught and fumbled with a Steer recovery, but the officials called it an incomplete pass, extending the Tigers possession.

D'Vincent Allison then scored on a 5-yard run to put the Tigers up 14-7 after a valid extra point.

On their next offensive drive BSHS running back Michael Oliva began pounding his way down the field after three straight rushes for 16 yards and a first down. With send down and eight yards to go, a pass interference call benefitted the Steers and on first and goal, Oliva scored on a two-yard run and after another good PAT kick from Devin Roberson, Big Spring had evened it up at 14.

"We moved the ball well," Ritchey said. "Our defense played well at times. The kids played hard. It was just one of those nights it seemed everything went against us."

With under a minute left in the half, the Tigers scored on a six-yard run to give them a 21-14 advantage headed into halftime.

The start of the second half didn't bode well for the Steers. The kick return was fumbled with the Tigers recovering the ball on their own 13. A nine-yard run by Harris capped Snyder's drive and increased its lead to 28-14.

A big defensive stop by the Tigers foiled a drive by Tannehill and company despite a pair of completed passes to Tate Kennedy — including one for a first down — and 15-yard personal foul penalty against Snyder. Big Spring turned the ball over on downs after a failed quarterback sneak play.

The Steers' next offensive possession would prove to be more effective. Oliva and Tannehill each gained seven yards in back-to-back rushing

See **UPSET**, Page 10A



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Michael Vanderbilt is shown about to make a kickoff reception on special teams during Friday's 31-21 loss to the Snyder Tigers. The result dropped Big Spring to a 0-2 district record after an undefeated predistrict showing.

Coahoma gets back on track with big win over Sonora



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler

Coahoma QB/RB Tanner Ruiz (1) runs with the football during last week's game against Stanton. The Bulldogs secured their second victory of the season Friday with a 27-21 win over the Sonora Broncos on the road.

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**
Sports Editor

SONORA — It's been a long time coming, but Coahoma Head Coach Trey Gardner and his squad of Bulldogs finally pulled off a win — there first since the second week of the season — and it couldn't have come at a better time.

The banged-up, but hard-fighting Bulldogs traveled to Sonora and came home with a 27-21 victory over the powerful Broncos to even their district record to 1-1 and hopefully boosting the confidence of a team that has been embroiled with injuries since the season began.

"I think it was a huge win," Gardner said. "We knew going in we had to win three of our remaining four games and we have so many things going on with guys playing different positions and the injuries, but this was huge for us and hopefully we can build on the momentum."

Trailing 7-0 after two quarters were in the books, Coahoma's adjustments worked as they started the second half

with a score when Peyton Rodriguez picked up a Sonora fumble and ran it 57-yards to the end zone for a game-tying score.

Tanner Ruiz scored the other three Bulldog touchdowns, two coming by way of ground and one with a reception from Braxten Iden — the sophomore backup quarterback who came in for Ruiz who is still battling a wrist fracture.

"We really had no intention of playing Iden much, with him still dealing with the ACL injury," Gardner said. "He came in when we needed him to and he did a good job on both sides of the ball. He threw the ball well and ran the ball well a couple times. He was more mobile than I expected him to be. We had no intention of using him on defense either, but he came in because a couple guys went down and he came up with a big pick."

The defense bent, but didn't break, as the Bulldogs' secondary held

See **COAHOMA**, Page 10A

Comanche Trail G.C. LGA news

Special to the **HERALD**

The Comanche Trail Ladies Golf Association was unable to hold ladies playday Monday due to a tournament taking place at the course.

Monday's playday this week will also be postponed for the same reason, so President Jo Ann Hillger rescheduled the event for Tuesday at the usual time. A meeting will follow Tuesday's round, weather permitting.

George and Betty Murphy and Jimmy and Deanna Foresyth were the big winners at Thursday's couples play, shooting a 2-under par.

Donnie and Shirley Long and Ray and Sue Russell came in second with

a 1-under par and claiming third place was John and Gus Leonardi and Ron and Daury Booth who exceeded par for the course by one stroke.

Closest to the pin on Hole No. 3 was Jimmy Foresyth.

Shirley Long would have landed closest to the pin on Hole No. 6, had the green been a couple inches longer. The LGA is investigating whether the green was moved illegally prior to Long's shot.

Anyone interested in joining the LGA can call the pro shop for more information at 432-264-2366. Or simply show up any Monday or Thursday an event is planned.

Lady Steers down Snyder

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**
Sports Editor

SNYDER — The Lady Steers volleyball squad rolled past Snyder on Friday to improve their District 4-3A record to 7-2.

Big Spring lost the first set 28-30 before mounting a three-set sweep to get the victory by scores of 25-17, 26-24 and 25-22.

The Lady Steers are now 26-13 on the season with their only district loss coming at the hands of No. 1 ranked Abilene Wylie. Big Spring will close out district action against Monahans on the road Tuesday. Varsity is scheduled to play at 6 p.m., with freshmen and junior varsity set to play at 5 p.m.

Individual statistics:

Setters: Julianna Rodriguez: 25 assists, 1 kill, 1 ace, 3 digs; Morgan Seaton: 20 assists, 10 kills, 2 aces and 7 digs.

Offense: Haley Dimidjian: 12 kills, 2 assists, 1 ace, 3 digs; Erin Pollard: 10 kills, 1 dig, 2 blocks; Clara Benavides: 9 kills, 3 assists, 2 aces, 17 digs.

Defense: Carson Reibe: 24 digs, 1 kill; Ebony Zavala: 10 digs, 8 kills, 1 block.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 8A

Sonora off enough to get the win.

"The defense played very hard," Gardner added. "We had a lot of kids step up and make big plays that kept us in the game."

With nearly every starter out at some point this season, Gardner is hoping the worst is behind the Bulldogs so they can focus on the original plan: securing a playoff berth.

"We have a long way to go," Gardner added. "I told them to just keep going and out there and playing hard. They have been playing their rears through a lot of adversity. If any of them wanted an excuse quit and turn in their pads, they have had that excuse, but there is no quit in them."

Coahoma will have to keep playing hard, as the 5-2 Crane Golden Cranes will travel to Bulldog Stadium on Friday.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

UPSET

Continued from Page 8A

plays before a 23-yard pass completion to Roberson put the Steers in a position to score.

Oliva ran in a two-yard touchdown and Roberson's kick was good, as the Steers made it a one-possession game with a score of 28-21.

A key defensive stop by the Steers began the final period of action, but the Steers offense was non-existent.

"We still had opportunities, even with all the mistakes," Ritchey explained. "We felt like we could win even in the fourth quarter. We didn't take advantage of some situations and it didn't happen, so we move on."

When asked if the loss to Wylie last week — the suads first all season — may have taken the wind out of the Steers' sails, Ritchey said it's possible, but not likely.

"It may have effected them," Ritchey said. "But Whlie is a good team and I thought that first quarter was the best we had played all year."

It's my responsibility to get those guys emotionally ready to play. I feel like we kind of beat ourselves. I don't think we were having a problem moving the ball. We just had to execute better. Snyder's got a good

program. It was a rivalry at one time and it was at their house."

Snyder picked off Tannehill once again, but this time failed to generate any points off the interception.

A 24-yard field goal by Snyder kicker Chance Reneau put the game on ice, as Big Spring was unable to score for the remainder of the game.

Disappointed, but not out of it yet, Ritchey is setting his sights on a three-game win streak against remaining district foes Sweetwater, Greenwood and Monahans.

"We certainly control our own destiny," Ritchey added. "We are going to focus on us and make sure we go out there and take care of business."

The next challenge will come Friday at Memorial Stadium, as the Steers host the 3-4 Sweetwater Mustangs.

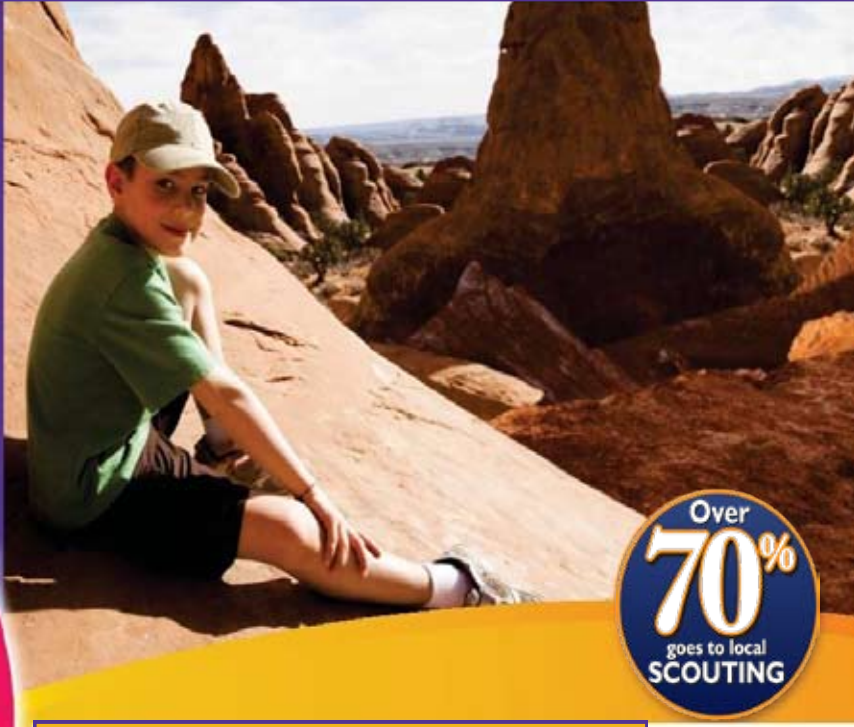
"We got a big one this week," Ritchey said. "We need a lot of support. It's a home game, I encourage everyone to play a part in this and come out to support our guys."

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

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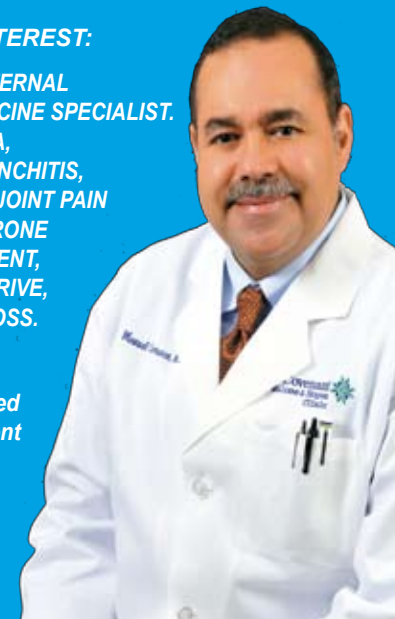
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What you need to know to make the right food choices for your pets

PET FOOD LABELS DECODED

FAMILY FEATURES

Pet owners want the very best for their animals, but it can be hard to choose the right food. With hundreds of pet food products available, how do you decide what's best for your pet? It's smart to start with the label — but labels can be confusing if you don't know what to look for. Here's what you need to know.

Pet Food Names

So what's in a product name? More than you might think. According to the manual produced by The Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO), if a pet food name says:

- **Chicken, beef, seafood, lamb** — it must contain 95 percent of that ingredient.
- **A combination of ingredients** (Chicken and Liver) — the two named ingredients together must make up 95 percent of the total weight. The first ingredient should be the predominant one. This only applies to animal-based ingredients.
- **Dinner, entrée, platter, formula, etc.** (Beef Dinner; Seafood Platter) — it must contain 25 percent of the listed ingredient. If more than one ingredient is included in the name, the combination of ingredients must total 25 percent of the product.
- **With** (Lamb with Rice) — it must contain 3 percent of the primary ingredient.
- **Flavor** (Chicken Flavored) — no minimum requirements, but the pet should be able to detect the taste.

Ingredient List

The primary goal of pet food is to deliver key nutrients to your pet. The higher the ingredient quality is, the easier it is for your pet to absorb and use the nutrients they contain. Here's a closer look at pet food ingredients, the primary nutrients they deliver and the health benefits they offer to pets.

- **Fresh meat, chicken, poultry by-product meal, meat by-products, soybean meal and egg** — High quality protein for muscle tone and development and healthy skin.
- **Animal fat, fish oil and vegetable oil** — Fats and essential fatty acids for energy, improved taste and healthy skin and coat.
- **Corn, rice, barley, sorghum** — Carbohydrates for energy and other nutrients for healthy skin and coat.
- **Cellulose, soybean mill run and beet pulp** — Fiber sources that promote

intestinal tract health; some are helpful in weight control.

Chemical names in the ingredient list are most often vitamins or minerals added for complete nutrition.

What about by-products? A by-product is a secondary food item that is made from a primary ingredient production stream. A by-product like "chicken by-product meal" can contain organ meat that has a high nutritional value. In fact, it's a more concentrated protein source than raw chicken alone and contains high quality, highly digestible protein.

Not all by-products are created equal. For example, a high-quality pet food often recommended by veterinarians, such as Hill's (makers of Science Diet and Prescription Diet), only accept high quality by-product ingredients. However, bargain brands may use inferior ingredients that include feathers or other lower-nutritional parts of the animal.

Guaranteed Analyses

By law, pet food packaging must show the minimum percentages of crude protein and fat, as well as the maximum percentages of crude fiber and moisture in the product. This is not an indication of the actual nutrient content or a guarantee of nutritional quality.

- **The minimum amount guarantee** shows the lowest amount of nutrient in the food. For example, a product may have a minimum fat guarantee of 8 percent, but actually contain 15 percent of fat.
- **The maximum amount guarantee** may be 5 percent fiber, but the product may only have 1 percent fiber.

Remember, if the actual nutritional content is not clear on the packaging, you can always contact the manufacturer directly via their product information toll-free number on the package.

Nutritional Adequacy Statement

The Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) sets the nutritional

guidelines for pet foods sold in the United States. The nutritional adequacy is determined by one of two methods — formulation and feeding trials.

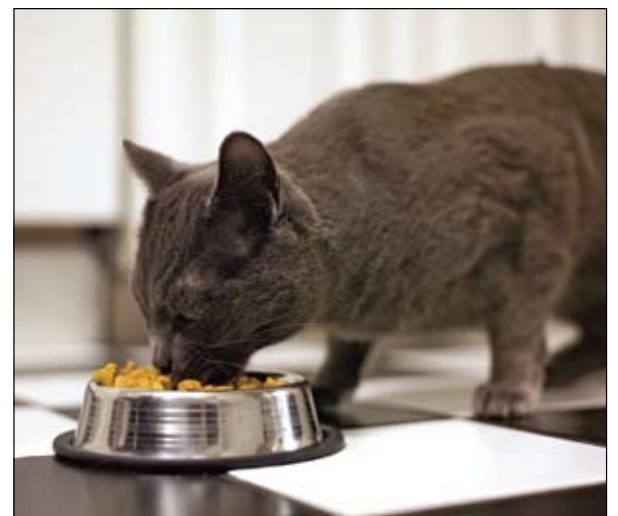
■ **Feeding trial method** — This requires the manufacturer to utilize an AAFCO-protocol feeding trial using the food as the sole source of nutrition. The pets' performance is documented when fed the food. A sample label statement might read, "Animal feeding tests using AAFCO procedures indicate this food provides complete and balanced nutrition for maintenance of adult dogs."

■ **Formulation method** — This requires the manufacturer to formulate the food to meet AAFCO nutrient profiles for dogs and cats. Because it is a calculation of nutrient levels, and AAFCO feeding trials with pets are not required, this is a faster, less-expensive method. A statement on a product using this method might read, "Formulated to meet the nutritional levels established by AAFCO Cat Food Profiles for maintenance of adult cats."

Ages and Stages

The AAFCO guidelines only govern food for three pet life stages: growth and reproduction, maintenance, and all life stages. Foods formulated for all life stages must meet the most nutritionally demanding life stage — growth and reproduction. So while getting an all life stages food to feed several pets of different ages might sound good, in reality, this food is designed for pets under a year old, or for nursing animals — and may not be a good choice for the nutritional needs of pets in other life stages.

More information about pet food labels can be found online at www.fda.gov/animalveterinary under "Resources for You," and you can learn more about pet nutrition and choosing the perfect food for your pet at www.feedingisbelieving.com.



What Does "Natural" Mean?

AAFCO has developed some guidelines for natural claims for pet foods.

- In general, the term "Natural" is applied to products that are free of artificial flavors, artificial colors and artificial preservatives.
- While preservatives are needed to prevent food from going rancid, natural products use natural source preservatives instead of artificial ones.
- "Holistic" has no legal definition and can be used however the manufacturer chooses.
- The word "Organic" refers to how the source plants were grown or animals were raised. Currently, USDA and state regulators allow the usage of "organic" on pet food labels if human guidelines are met.

Organic terminology includes the following:

- 100 percent organic. Everything in the bag or can is organic.
- Organic — at least 95 percent of the content is organic.
- Made with organic — at least 70 percent is organic (however, the USDA "Organic Seal" may not be used on the label).
- Any product with less than 70 percent organic ingredients cannot be called organic, but may list organic ingredients in the product's ingredient list as organic (e.g. organic chicken).

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Vela 55th

Eddie and Erika Vela celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on Oct. 12, 2012. In case you are wondering, that's 20,089 days, or a staggering 1,735,715,520 seconds of love and commitment.

During that time they managed to raise three sons and two grandchildren. Eddie, the eldest son, lives in California and works at a northern California university.

Harry and Edwin still call Big Spring their home. Harry worked for years as an accomplished and valued employee at Big Spring State Hospital and is now retired. Edwin works for Cornell prison in Big Spring.

The two grandchildren they raised, Cody and Sarah Vela, graduated from Big Spring High School and are now leading very successful lives. Of course they are proud of all their grandchildren, including Ryan Vela, who is married and living in Midland, Jason Vela who is currently attending college after serving two years in the Navy, and Zac Vela, a rambunctious 9-year-old boy. Ryan's new baby boy, Owen, is the latest addition to the Vela legacy.

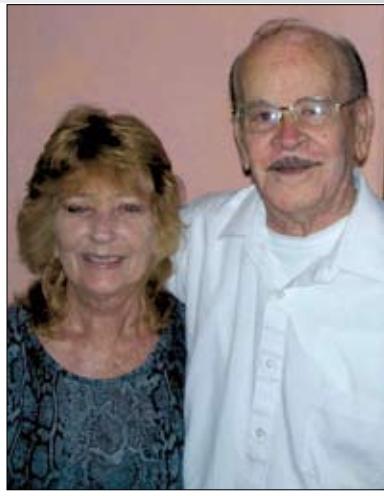
One of 19 children,

Eddie was born in 1932 in Yorktown, Texas. Erika (Hofmockel) was born in 1939 in Heusweiler, a town on the border of France and Germany. She was the eldest of three children. Erika survived the horror of WWII, and it took another war to bring them together.

Eddie was a young Army sergeant sent to Germany in 1955 on his second tour of duty during the Korean conflict. He was stationed in Erlangen, where Erika was working as an executive secretary and model for Gossen Co., which manufactured camera equipment, light meters and typewriters.

Eddie and Erika met during a New Years eve party in 1957. Hindsight being 20/20, things must have gone well, since they married that October. They actually were married twice in order for the marriage to be recognized by both the German and United States governments. Civil ceremonies were held first at the Erlangen courthouse, followed by ceremonies held on the army base.

On March 15, 1958,



Eddie and Erika Vela — then and now

Erika left Germany and flew to Texas to join Eddie, who had already been sent back home after his tour had ended. They first lived in Corpus Christi, then moved to San Antonio, where Eddie attended barber school. To make ends meet, he would pawn his clippers on Friday afternoon, work on the weekend to earn enough to support his young family and then bought back his clippers on Monday morning to continue with his barber training.

Eddie and Erika moved their growing family to Big Spring in September 1961; Eddie worked as a barber at Webb Air Force Base until the based closed in 1977. Shortly after, Eddie began working as the lone barber at "Eddie's

Barber Shop" in Coahoma, where he works to this day. Erika went to beautician school and worked as a beautician from 1971 to 1988. She also volunteered her time as an aide at Washington Elementary for many years.

Both Eddie and Erika have been active in the community, including both holding officer positions in the local chapter of the American GI Forum, Eddie volunteering his time giving free haircuts to veterans every Monday at the Big Spring Veteran Administration Medical Center and Erika caring for wayward animals, both domestic and wild. Their many friends in Big Spring know them to be a giving, loving, and selfless couple.

Experts say fear of flying treatable

NEW YORK (AP) — Earlier this month, NBA rookie Royce White disclosed that he is afraid to fly and said he expects to travel by bus to play in at least some of the basketball games for his team, the Houston Rockets.

But psychologists who treat fear of flying and travelers who've overcome it hope he'll ditch the bus and get help instead.

"The treatments we have for this are so effective for fear of flying that upwards of 80 percent and sometimes even more people who get the treatment can fly," said psychologist Todd Farchione, of Boston University's Center for Anxiety and Related Disorders, echoing statistics offered by other experts.

Farchione says fear of flying treatment consists of a "fairly standard" combination of cognitive and behavioral therapy. That includes identifying the patient's "fear-provoking thoughts" and challenging them, then getting the patient to "gradually confront" the fear, by imagining flying and then doing it. Some programs use flight simulators or virtual reality programs; others put patients on airplanes on the ground and in the air, accompanied by counselors.

Either way, "the core of treatment is exposure" to the sensations of flying, said psychologist John Hart, who treats fear of flying at the Menninger Clinic in Houston, where patients can use a flight simulator that "has noise and shakes your chair."

"It's like the cockpit of a plane, with video screens that look like windows and show the ground and various airports," Hart says. "It vibrates, bounces, takes off and lands and has different kinds of weather."

Lisa Fabrega, a detox and lifestyle coach who lives in North Bergen, N.J., was cured by a

Freedom to Fly workshop at White Plains Hospital's Anxiety & Phobia Treatment Center in White Plains, N.Y. The program included sitting in a plane on the ground at a small airport and meeting a retired American Airlines captain.

"We got to bombard him with our most paranoid questions," Fabrega said.

Before she took the class, she said, "even thinking about getting on a plane would make me break into a sweat." She learned to visualize herself on a plane and deal with her feelings.

The White Plains program also encourages various types of exposure therapy, like riding a Ferris wheel, the Empire State Building's SkyRide attraction or the aerial tramway over the East River from Manhattan to Roosevelt Island.

The final session is a commercial flight to a nearby city and back. The program costs about \$1,500 but is often covered by insurance for outpatient therapy.

Fabrega said half her family is from Panama and she was missing weddings and other events because she was afraid to fly. If she did fly, she said, "I had to be knocked out with Xanax."

Now she routinely flies, drug-free, around the world.

Hart, of the Menninger Clinic, says medicating yourself with Xanax, used to treat anxiety and panic disorders, is a bad idea for phobic fliers because it "can actually interfere with the process" of coping with anxiety. The Menninger program consists of a one-day workshop followed by up to six months of exposure therapy and counseling that includes helping people with coping skills and changing their beliefs about air travel and using statistics and safety information with pilots going over how planes are built and flown.

Experts say many of those who fear flying have underlying fears of heights or claustrophobia. Some sufferers trace their fears to a stormy flight or other bad experience, but many don't know why they're afraid. Some experts say anxiety may run in families.

Restaurant cell-phone distractions still irritate

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — The digital divide is wider than ever between diners who talk, tweet and snap pictures mid-meal and those who wish they'd just shut up, shut down and be present.

Caught at the center of the discord are restaurant owners and chefs, who must walk the careful line of good customer service for both those who dine under the influence of smart phones, and those who won't. But as the devices have

morphed into an unrelenting appendage for texting, photography and games, more restaurateurs are challenged to keep the peace.

Owners who once relied mostly on "no cell phones, please" signs, increasingly are experimenting with everything from penalties for using phones, discounts for not and outright bans on photography.

It's a touchy issue. Consider the crush of news coverage Eva Restaurant in Los Angeles

generated when it began offering patrons a 5 percent discount if they leave their phone at the door. Online comments ranged from cheers of "YES!" to others who said their phones would have to be pried from their cold, dead hands.

The policy is working, though. Eva's Rom Toulon said about 40 percent of our customers will leave their cell phones at the door.

Burlington, Vt., deli took on cyber-folk hero status for posting a sign

informing customers that \$3 will be added to their bill "if you fail to get off your phone while at the counter. It's rude."

These are more creative approaches to the no cell-phone signs now common in restaurants ranging from highbrow to quick-eats. The landmark Boston restaurant Locke-Ober asks diners — in language appropriate for a place with a dress code — to "kindly refrain from using cellular phones." In Albany, N.Y., the Hamilton Street Cafe has a more direct, hand-drawn "No cell phones at the counter" sign.

Something special's happening in the Circle.

Oct./Nov. 2012 Activities

- Oct. 22** – Games, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Hobbs Casino, 9:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 23** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Supper Club, "Casa Blanca", 5:30 p.m.
- Oct. 24** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie 1:00 p.m. "Happy Feet 2"
- Oct. 25** – Mall Walking, 8 a.m.
Just Peachy Café, 10:00 a.m.
- Oct. 29** – Games, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Oct. 30** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Supper Club, "Cowboy's", 5:30 p.m.
- Oct. 31** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
HALLOWEEN POT LUCK & BINGO,
11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- Nov. 1** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy's Cafe, 10:00 a.m.
BUNKO, 5:00 p.m.
- Nov. 2** – Lunch Bunch & Birthdays
"China Dragon", 11:30 a.m.

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Texas unemployment rate drops

Special to the Herald

AUSTIN — Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 6.8 percent in September, down from 7.1 percent in August. The state's unemployment rate is down from 7.9 percent a year ago, and is well below the national unemployment rate in September of 7.8 percent. Texas added 21,000 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs in September for a total of 262,700 jobs added since last year.

"We saw encouraging signs in our state's labor market in September and a decrease in the unemployment rate last month," said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Andres Alcantar. "Texas continues to add jobs and we now have a record number of people employed in our state."

Seven of the 11 major industries in Texas expanded in

September.

The largest gain was in Professional and Business Services, which grew by 13,600 jobs. The industry has grown by 47,200 positions over the past year.

"It is clear that employers are benefitting from the available skilled workers in our state," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. "I'm encouraged to see that 3,800 manufacturing jobs were added last month, which indicates a growing demand for goods made here in Texas."

Jobs in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities grew as employers added 9,100 positions in September for a total of 54,700 positions since last year. Education and Health Services reported 6,600 additional jobs in September, totaling 39,000 jobs added in that industry since

September 2011. Employment in Leisure and Hospitality increased by 3,700 jobs in September for a total of 50,300 jobs added over the year.

"Thanks to low taxes, a sensible regulatory environment, and an entrepreneurial spirit, Texas remains the number one state in America to do business," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Tom Pauken. "Since last year, the Texas economy has added 272,400 private sector jobs. That's a 3.1 percent annual growth rate for Texas compared to the national rate of just 1.7 percent."

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) had the lowest September unemployment rate in the state at 3.3 percent. The Odessa MSA came in second at 3.9 percent, and the Amarillo MSA third at 4.4 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a managing director — investments for the Wachovia Securities Midland office.

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



Another earnings reporting season is upon us and the media is out in force warning that the results are likely to be disappointing; as if this is novel news the market needs to digest. The fact of the matter is most equity strategists have been looking for third quarter earnings to be poor for some time.

Despite reports to the contrary, market participants are generally not "on edge" and "fearful" about what companies will be saying over the next few weeks. The market, in our opinion, is prepared to a large extent for the overall bad earnings comparisons that are about to be reported.

And certainly even more important than the actual earnings results is the outlook for the future. We are not talking about what might or will happen in the current quarter but what the outlook is over the next four or five quarters.

What happens down the road beyond the present is what really matters to investors over time. Worrying about what occurred in the prior quarter and how the stock price might be affected in the short term is not a good way for long-term investors to spend their time, in our opinion.

Even top quality companies worthy of meaningful investment by longer-term investors have a less than stellar quarter every now and then. It is the ability of management to figure out where the problems are and decide what adjustments need to be made to get the business back on track and build shareholder value over time that is important.

Analysts and investors should be more focused on what companies have to say about next year in their forward outlooks. But, do not expect any CEOs to be heroes over the next few weeks. In the current environment, uncertainty reigns.

Few if any CEOs are going to be willing to step out on the ledge and make the bold prediction that "business is going to be great in 2013". The upcoming election, the potential for the U.S. to roll over the "fiscal cliff," Middle East tensions and the European debt crisis all have the potential to generate headlines that hurt business and consumer confidence. Declining confidence usually is not great for bottom lines, especially in cyclical businesses.

Additional unknowns for companies include future tax rates, potential regulatory changes and the cost to hire each additional employee. The future will be decided by many moving parts, most of which are difficult to predict.

It is important that investors keep in mind that earnings are a measurement of what has occurred in the past, not what is going to occur in the future. It is the future that will determine what happens to a company and, eventually, the price of its stock in the marketplace.

Solid companies can adjust to the ebb and flow of their industry and the overall economy. Not all companies can perform well at every point within an economic cycle.

So over the next few weeks, remember that third quarter earnings are a lagging, not a leading indicator. What is important is how the various companies plan to maneuver in this uncertain environment.

Past Performance is no guarantee of future results. This article was produced on Oct. 9, 2012, by Scott Wren, Wells Fargo Advisors Senior Equity Strategist, and provided courtesy of Bhupen Agrawal, Managing Director/Branch Manager of Wells Fargo Advisors' Midland office, at (432) 684-7335. The material has been prepared or is distributed solely for informational purposes and is not a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any security, or instrumental to participate in any trading strategy. Stocks offer long-term growth potential, but may fluctuate more and provide less current income than other investments. An investment in the stock market should be made with an understanding of the risks associated with common stocks, including market fluctuations. Additional information is available upon request at (432) 684-7335.

SMMC Employee of the Month



Courtesy photo

Mammographer Ginger Silva was named September Employee of the Month at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Silva has been employed at SMMC since 2002, but was part of the SMMC school of radiologic technology since 2000. She worked as a staff technologist until 2005 when she moved away for five years and then returned to SMMC in April 2009.

Producers optimistic, still cautious

Special to the Herald

COLLEGE STATION — Livestock producers are certainly more optimistic this fall than last year, but generally they remain extremely cautious when it comes to rebuilding herds and holding onto forage stocks, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service beef expert.

"There is more optimism, but at the same time they're very cautious right now because they're still trying to allow pastures to recover and make sure they have some forage reserves for the next drought," said Dr. Jason Cleere, AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist, College Station.

The 2012 drought was devastating for many of the state's beef producers. Lack of grazing and depleted hay stocks forced them to cull or disperse herds altogether, Cleere said.

Nationwide, beef cattle inventories dropped 3 percent last year, he said. For those not familiar with the beef cattle business, 3 percent may not seem like much.

"But we'd already had a shrunken cowherd because of a number of years of drought and dispersals. As a result, we now have the smallest cowherd that the U.S. has had in the past 60 years," he said.

We hear the 3 percent nationally, but here in Texas it was a whole lot worse," he said. "In some of the counties, it was pretty devastating."

The drought is far from over, but many areas have had considerable relief. According to the Oct. 9 U.S. Drought



Monitor, only about 16 percent of the state was still suffering from extreme drought, compared to 97 percent a year ago.

As a result, hay supplies have been rebuilt and, though not fully recovered, many pastures and rangeland have improved considerably, Cleere said. Now, with the improved forage situation and high market prices because of decreased herd sizes, some livestock producers would like to utilize that improved grazing, and buy back some of the cattle that were sold north last year.

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Sherri Monique Aldridge, 1507 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
Amanda Nicole Bair, 1103 E. 15th St., Big Spring
Jessica Lynn Banks, CR 1200, Lubbock
Nancy Ramirez Banuelos, 1515 A Sycamore, Big Spring
Johnny Barraza, 429 Westover, Big Spring
Tiffany Burke-Mendoza, 1503 Robin, Big Spring
Vanessa Calderon, 1504 Kentucky, Big Spring
Charles Campanella, 2511 Fisher St., Big Spring
Emerlinda Chavarria Cano, 215 N.E. Ninth St., Big Spring
Donald Cervantes, 1211 Lloyd, Big Spring
Trystan Taelor Cevallos, 3912 E. Hwy. 350, Big Spring
Crisleda Chavera, 1601 Grand Ave., Sweetwater
Kimberly Gayle Conaway, 1800 N. Birdwell, Big Spring
Melissa Crawford, 1207 Mulberry, Big Spring
Jennifer R. Crow, 1714 Fort Worth, Brownwood
Stephen Cruz, 12222 Blanco No. 1605, San Antonio
Julie E. Davis, 5202 Bangor Ave. Apt. K301, Lubbock
Stefan Deal, 102 Casie Ln. Apt. 1, Fort Worth
Manuel Delosrios, 707 Lorilla, Big Spring
Teana Demeny-Roberts, 5601 N. Service Rd., Big Spring
Delores Dohnalik, 1500 Stones Throw, Horseshoe Bay
Josepy James Eckert, 1123 Newhaven Trail, Pearland
Maria Luisa Elizondo, 603 S. Second, Meadow
Kristi L. Elliot, 603 E. 12th St., Big Spring
John Randall Evatt, 4301 W.

49th St. Apt. 329, Amarillo
Kristen Falcon, 2606 Fairchild, Big Spring
Sharlamarr Frink, 3723 Monclair, Odessa
Joey Lee Garcia, 3102 Ave. C, Snyder
Joe Nick Garfias Jr., of 1309 Runnels, Big Spring
Rosa M. George, 509 W. Second, Stanton
Allen David Gilbert, 1507 Johnson, Big Spring
Joseph Blake Gist, 3500 Cedar Run, Abilene
Becky Lynn Gonzales, 2201 Runnels, Big Spring
Roxanne Deanda Gonzales, 539 Westover Apt. 211, Big Spring
Eunice Torres Gonzalez, 7311 Westmoor, Odessa
Whitney Marquez Gray, 2934 Old Anson Rd., Abilene
Robert Earl Green II, 2512 Fairchild, Big Spring
Kimberly Hargrove, PO Box 1985, Big Spring
Tracy Lenn Haynie, 503 Kylie Lane, Wylie
Gloria Annette Henry, 100 Ash, Coahoma
Ruby G. Hernandez, 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 48, Big Spring
Ashley Rae Hodge, 3214 Drexel, Big Spring
Danny Holt, of 125 Farney Rd., Lorena
April M. Horton, 1705 Charles, Portsmouth, Ohio
Bradley Ryan Horton, of Linda Lane, Big Spring
Dana Michelle Hudgins, P.O. Box 837, Coahoma
Regina Hunt, 804 Longhorn, Welch
Ashley Nicole Islas, 1104 Wood, Big Spring
Brian Ivanchan, 1208 Mulberry, Big Spring
Justin Lee Jernigan, 2302 Lynn, Big Spring
Irene Castillo Johnson, 2502

Cheyenne, Big Spring
Lonnie Malcolm Johnson, 1211 Ridgeroad, Big Spring
Donald Jones, 3718 Ave. V, Snyder
Nickolas Vance Jones, 304 Circle, Big Spring
Jason Earnest Key, 900 Abrams, Big Spring
Albert Leal, 2522 Albrook, Big Spring
Jesse Campbell Lockett, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 141, Big Spring
Robert Lee Lopez, 503 E. 18th, Big Spring
Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham, Odessa
James Elijah Marlow, 2001 Runnels, Big Spring
Todd Vincent Martin, 409 Woodcrest, Midland
Joe Martinez, 2525 Fairchild, Big Spring
Manuel Martinez Jr., 702 NE Iowa, Lamesa
Fidel M. Martinez, 705 N.W. Eighth St., Big Spring
Ronnie Trevino Martinez, 1109 E. 11th place, Big Spring
Norman James McNeese, 1098 LCR 317, Colorado City
Betty Jane McWilliams, 2511 Hunter, Big Spring
Cory James Michalewicz, 1106 Briscoe Cove, Hutto
Nicholas Craig Mills, 3225 Cornell, Big Spring
Chelsea Kristyne Mills-paugh, 7403 N. Service Road, Big Spring
Robert Paul Newton, 715 Dealy, Big Spring
Melissa Nieto, 615 Tulane, Big Spring
John Randall O'Harrow, 107 S. Main, Big Spring
Abigail Lynn Ortega, 700 E. 17th St., Big Spring
Nancy Ortega, 1111 E. 14th, Big Spring
James Michael Perez, 626 Tulane, Big Spring
Fred Allen Perry, 1425 E. Sixth, Apt. 107, Big Spring
Joshua Plaia, 1401 E. 18th, Big Spring
Jarum Renee Pryor, 802 N. Plaza, Big Lake
Bobbie Ann Ritchie, 803 St. Francis, Stanton
Michael Neal Roberts, 538 Westover, Apt. 103, Big Spring
Olivia Rosa Rodriguez, 1201 Settles, Big Spring
Roberta Garza Rodriguez, 1103 Stanford, Big Spring
Lisa J. Rubio, 1303 Sycamore, Big Spring
Anastasia Clarice Sanders, 1401 Culpepper Ave., Wilson
Brittany Nicole Savell, 425 E. Davis Rd., Big Spring
Kennedra Wynell Shelton, 400 N. Fourth, Corsicana
Amy Leigh Shifflett, 209 N. Main, Coahoma
Angela Gay Smith, 102 N. Ash, Coahoma
Charles Roy Smith, 2911 W. Highway 80, Apt. 155, Big Spring
Tiffany Katherine Stokes, 1407 E. 19th St., Big Spring

Timothy Donald Taylor, 4000 W. Highway 80 No. 18, Big Spring
Trinity Renee Terrazas, 2202 Morrison, Big Spring
Glenn Joe Thompson, 1111 Jeffery, Big Spring
David Wayne Turner, 3204 Irving, Snyder
Abram Unger, 503 NE Fourth, Seminole
Brittania Kay Upchurch, 4303 Princeton, Midland
Alonso Vasquez, 306 W. Seventh St., Iraan
Anthony A. Vasquez, 710 Willia, Big Spring
Timothy Shea Wargo, 624 State, Big Spring
Charles Watson, 804 W. I-20 Apt. 127, Big Spring
Thomas Weeks, P.O. Box 110891, Anchorage, Alaska
Michael Wade Welch, 700 S. Aylesford, Big Spring
Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. 28, Big Spring
Calvin Williams, 1313 Mulberry, Big Spring
Mary Lou Wilson, 610 N.E. Ninth, Big Spring
Frances Elena Yanez, 1610 Cardinal, Big Spring
James Edward Young, 3313 Auburn, Big Spring
Dennis Anthony Zaragoza, 4534 Sinclair, Big Spring
Mary Esther Zubiate, 1103 S. 11th Place, Big Spring

County Court Decisions:

Probated Judgment: Vanesa Martinez Vasquez, theft of property by check - more than \$20 and less than \$500, \$100 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Martin Diaz Jr., failure to identify - giving false information, \$500 fine, \$332 court costs, 120 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Guadalupe Hinojos, criminal mischief - more than \$50 and less than \$500, \$500 fine, \$332 court costs, 60 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Robert Bruce Prather, possession or use inhale/ingest volatile chemical, \$392 court costs, 20 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Martin Diaz Jr., failure to identify - giving false information, \$500 fine, \$332 court costs, 120 days in jail.
Probated Judgment: Rafael Ontiveros Garcia, making a false report to police or law enforcement employee, \$500 fine, \$282 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Martin Diaz Jr., bail jumping - failure to appear, \$500 fine, \$332 court costs, 120 days in

controlled substance, \$500 fine, \$342 court costs, 365 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Derrick Wilbert, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$342 court costs, 5 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Patsy R. Lujan, failure to identify as a fugitive - giving false information, \$100 fine, \$282 court costs, 10 days in jail.
Probated Judgment: Jenna Lynn Ware, driving while intoxicated, \$200 fine, \$457 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Enrique Vasquez, theft of property - more than \$50 and less than \$500, \$250 fine, \$282 court costs, 45 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Olivia Ballin, possession of marijuana - more than two ounces and less than four ounces, \$500 fine, \$342 court costs, 20 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Marcos Luis Fuentes, assault causing bodily injury - family violence, \$500 fine, \$282 court costs, 120 days in jail.
District Court Filings:
In Re Parker Aarin White, family.
In Re Anali Alicia Ortiz, family.
Lori Ann Delgado vs. Felipe Delgado, divorce.
Equable Ascent Fincnail LLC vs. Janet Renfro, civil.
Janet Mountain Medical Center vs Stacey Averette Saucedo, accounts, notes and contracts.
Scenic Mountain Medical Center vs Arturo Vela, accounts, notes and contracts.
Jerad L. Milgrim vs. Diana A. Milgrim, family.
Olga Rivera vs. Daniel Rivera, divorce.
Kara Jean Colegrove vs. Christopher Ryan Colegrove, divorce.
Marriage Licenses:
Bradley C. Downen, 27, and Jimma L. Seidel, 31, both of New Mexico.
Jessie L. Brooks, 37, of Big Spring, and Cookie L. Maxwell, 33, of Lamesa.
William Robert Atkins, 32, and Lindsey James Reed, 29, both of Coahoma.
James Robert Simpson, 28, of Big Spring, and Alexandra Dyana Pantoja, 23, of Sweetwater.
Devante Bernard Lloyd, 19, and Lindsey Kay Mince, 19, both of Big Spring.
Peter Jacob Padron, 23, and J. Gomez, 24, both of Big Spring.
Junior Jones, 26, and Nicole Flores, 25, both of Big Spring.

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

CATTLE

Continued from Page 3B

"Yesterday, I talked to a number of ranchers, and those ranchers are looking to buy some of those cattle and bring them back to Texas," he said.

But replacement prices are high, and those same ranchers remain cautious, he said.

"They can't afford to go through what they went through last year."

More information on the current Texas drought and wildfire alerts can be found on the AgriLife Extension Agricultural Drought Task Force website at <http://agrilife.tamu.edu/drought/>.

Early look at Windows 8 baffles consumers

NEW YORK (AP) — The release of Microsoft's Windows 8 operating system is a week away, and consumers are in for a shock. Windows, used in one form or another for a generation, is getting a completely different look that will force users to learn new ways to get things done.

Microsoft is making a radical break with the past to stay relevant in a world where smartphones and tablets have eroded the three-decade dominance of the personal computer. Windows 8 is supposed to tie together Microsoft's PC, tablet and phone software with one look. But judging by the reactions of some people who have tried the PC version, it's a move that risks confusing and alienating customers.

Tony Roos, an American missionary in Paris, installed a free preview version of Windows 8 on his aging laptop to see if Microsoft's new operating system would make the PC faster and

more responsive. It didn't, he said, and he quickly learned that working with the new software requires tossing out a lot of what he knows about Windows.


"It was very difficult to get used to," he said. "I have an 8-year-old and a 10-year-old, and they never got used to it. They were like, 'We're just going to use Mom's computer.'"

Windows 8 is the biggest revision of Microsoft Corp.'s operating system since it introduced Windows 95 amid great fanfare 17 years ago. Ultimately, Windows grew into a \$14 billion a year business and helped make former Chief Executive Bill Gates the richest man in the world for a time. Now, due to smartphones and tablets, the personal computer industry is slumping. Computer companies are desperate for something that will get sales growing again. PC sales are expected to shrink this year for the first time

since 2001, according to IHS iSuppli, a market research firm.

The question is whether the new version, which can be run on tablets and smartphones, along with the traditional PC, can satisfy the needs of both types of users.

"I am very worried that Microsoft may be about to shoot itself in the foot spectacularly," said Michael Mace, the CEO of Silicon Valley software startup Cera Technology and a former Apple employee.



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Eliminating the Risk Factor

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A Q 10 9 5
♥ 9 8 4 3
♦ 7 6 2
♣ 9

WEST
♠ 6
♥ A K Q 10
♦ K Q 5 3
♣ J 10 7 2

EAST
♠ 7 3
♥ 6 5 2
♦ 9 8 4
♣ K Q 5 4 3

SOUTH
♠ K J 8 4 2
♥ J 7
♦ A J 10
♣ A 8 6

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ Dble 4♠
Opening lead — king of hearts.

Assume you become declarer at four spades on the bidding shown and West leads the K-A-Q of hearts. After you ruff the third heart, it might seem that all you can do is draw trumps, play a diamond from dummy, finesse the ten and later lead another diamond from dummy and finesse the jack. If you do this in the actual case, though, you'll go down one, since West has both the king and

queen of diamonds.
You could lament your bad luck in finding West with both diamond honors, but in truth the outcome would be your own fault because you overlooked a superior line of play.
Since the only danger to the contract is the possibility of losing two diamond tricks, you should arrange your play so that you eliminate the risk factor inherent in taking two fineses.
At trick four, you should cash the ace of clubs, then ruff a club in dummy. Next you ruff dummy's last heart before ruffing your last club.
As a result of these preliminary maneuvers, dummy's hand and your own have no more hearts or clubs. You then cash the K-A of trumps and lead a diamond from dummy, and, after East follows low, you finesse the ten.
West wins with the queen but finds himself in a very poor position. His last three cards are the K-5 of diamonds and jack of clubs. If he returns a diamond into your A-J, he hands you your 10th trick; if he returns the jack of clubs instead, you ruff in dummy and discard the jack of diamonds from your hand to produce the same result.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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Charles Myers

Attorney At Law

Family Law And Criminal Law

Ward & Myers, L.L.P.




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Pets could turn stoves, decor into fire hazards

SUE MANNING

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A beloved pet dressed in a Halloween costume, posed next to a lit jack-o-lantern, sounds like a great photo opportunity — but it's also a fire hazard.

Pets and other animals inadvertently set about 510 house fires every year in this country. From 2006 to 2010, such fires caused an average of \$8.7 million in property damage and injured eight humans a year, said John R. Hall Jr., division director for fire analysis and research for the National Fire Protection Association.

Animals — including wild ones or pests like rats or insects — are capable of starting a fire any time, but the majority involve a heat source, like a stove, light fixture, candle, embers, or a space heater, Hall said. And over colder holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas, there's often more activity around those sources than usual.

On Feb. 4, a Vancouver, Wash., family left a new puppy home alone for the first time — and also food on the stove. The dog turned on the igniter trying to get to it, said fire department Capt. David James. The dog died, and the family's rental house was destroyed.

"It was insured and can be rebuilt, but people and pets can't be replaced," James said.

A dog and a stove nearly set afire Kay Wardlow's home in Norman, Okla., three years ago. Lucy, a Labrador retriever-basset hound mix with a penchant for chocolate, tried to get a cake off the stove while the family was out, Wardlow said.

They were alerted to smoke in the house when their home security company called to say their alarm had gone off. Lucy had hit the knobs on the gas stove, moving the automatic igniter just enough so it kept tripping and trying to light, she said.

"The heat melted the plastic on top of the cake pan and that's what filled the house with smoke," she said. Firefighters told her if the alarm company hadn't notified them, it would have flamed over and set the house on fire.

"You could smell the smoke from the street," with the smoke so thick



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and be mad at her."

Pets especially need monitoring around holidays, when owners may be cooking or baking treats more often or when potentially flammable decorations are out. A dog or cat wearing a homemade Halloween costume, especially one with a cape, might get too close to a jack-o-lantern with an open flame.

"If you dress your own dog, the fabric probably isn't fire-retardant," said Lisa Peterson, a spokeswoman for the American Kennel Club. "So you need to be vigilant."

Christmas trees, in particular, can topple when cats and dogs try to explore or climb them. Some decorations and overloaded electrical outlets can be dangerous.

Wardlow made preventative changes after Lucy's near-catastrophe. The dog now stays outside when the family isn't home and if she has to remain indoors, Wardlow removes the stove knobs.

She said she never imagined that her home security system, which she had set up for protection from burglars, would instead save her house "from a fire my dog nearly started."

Pets can cause fires in other surprising and unforeseen ways. James, who has been a firefighter for 30 years, recalled how a cat once caused a fire when it urinated while perched on a window ledge in a home. The urine ran down the wall into an electrical outlet, he said.

"The cat ran away but the receptacle ignited and scorched the outlet," James said.

In the event of a fire, animals only have a few minutes of advantage over people, James said.

"When a fire first starts — it's true — hot air rises, but then it gets trapped and starts banking down. Heat will follow the smoke and all the objects in the room will reach ignition temperature and then no place is safe," he said.

That's when pet owners should stay put, rather than attempting to enter a burning house to rescue a pet.

"It may have already gotten out and you risk dying in the fire," he said.

How to avoid pet-set fires

SUE MANNING

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Unattended pets that are bored or hungry could unintentionally set a home on fire. Here are ways to pet-proof a home to make these situations less likely:

- Keep the stove clear. Remove knobs or cover them if you leave the house.
- Keep fire extinguishers in rooms where fires are likely to start, like kitchens and garages.
- Place smoke detectors in every room. In kitchens, consider rate-of-rise detectors, which are triggered by rapid rises in temperature rather than smoke or steam.
- Use flameless candles.
- Thoroughly douse cigarettes in ashtrays and fires in fireplaces.
- Don't use glass bowls to feed your pets on wooden surfaces. Sun can filter through glass and ignite wood.
- Keep leashes for pets close to the door so you or firefighters can grab animals and leave quickly.
- Keep a window cling with an updated list of the names of children and pets.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

In the same way that two chemicals can mix together to form a substance with its very own identifying attributes, partnerships have an identity separate from that of the individuals involved. This, the last full day of the Libra sun in 2012, is an excellent moment to take stock of what relationships have taught us in the past four weeks.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Right now you will learn best from your peers. So look for someone who possesses the skill you want to master, knows it well and is in other ways very much like you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You can't always choose the people you surround yourself with, but if you could, they would be the same people who are around you today. Taking in so much love is good for your health.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Too much thinking, and you'll lose a game. Instead of trying to figure out why you know something, just act on what you know. You can trust that there are unseen forces of good guiding you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be happily exposed to the different things that interest you. Also, you'll

discover a simple way to accomplish what you thought would be hard work. You just need to ask the right question of the right person.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Events will reinforce recent life lessons, giving you the feeling that you are truly on track with your evolution. The best part is that you love who you are on the way to who you're becoming.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If you feel uncharacteristically flighty, go with the new mood. It's really acceptable to let your attention float to what is intangible and of seemingly little use. Such reflections are the essence of creativity.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Because it's the last day of the sun in your sign for this year, you'll feel inspired to take your chances. You'll get the sense that it may be a while before opportunities such as these come around again.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The sun headed toward your part of the zodiac will redefine your relationship with time and space. You'll be reminded of your vital need for inner quiet and the time to ponder life's mysteries.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The day brings many gifts, and you'll be in the mood to unwrap them. The effort it takes to get to the heart of a matter is well worth it. Don't be too careful. Dig in.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The

truth is that you enjoy taking care of others. Of course, it's always a little easier when you know your efforts in this regard are appreciated.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll learn by making things. The hands-on experience is unbeatable. Your stellar attitude is part of the reason why everything you touch turns to gold today.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There is nothing to be gained from overscheduling yourself. By trying to maximize the quantity of today's interactions you will only minimize the quality of those connections. Less is more.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 21). You'll act on your ideas, which will set you apart from the crowd. Swift decision-making this month contributes to your success. Family brags about you in November. January highlights your individuality and style. Romantic hopefuls love the way you put your own spin on things. Someone invests in you in May. Aries and Capricorn people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 12, 39, 44 and 13.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: The mood shifts from idealism to realism as the sun leaves Libra for the soul-searching realm of Scorpio. In Scorpio, the sun urges us to strive for honesty in all things. Many will make claims in the early week, and the Scorpio sun helps to

separate the imposters from the real deal. Certain truisms may pop to mind, such as: "Geniuses don't talk about their own genius" and "Anyone who has to speak of his or her superstar qualities isn't a superstar. The very nature of superstardom is that everyone already knows and is abuzz with excitement about the very presence of the superstar." These observations are the Scorpio sun's way of simplifying our lives.

An opposition of Mars and Jupiter doesn't line up perfectly until next week, but it starts to take effect at the start of this week. Some will become highly motivated by the feisty energy of this opposition and will work hard for a just reward. Others may find the energy too heated and could have trouble keeping tempers in check. Fights about money may ensue. For all, the difference between luxury and necessity will be up for debate.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Socialite and reality television star Kim Kardashian was born on the cusp of Libra and Scorpio and has planets in both influences. Her sun, Saturn and Pluto are in Venus-ruled Libra, indicating a highly developed visual style and a natural talent for enchantment. Mercury and Uranus in sensual Scorpio adds a dash of sizzle to the mix.

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

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Martinez-Rivera

Alicia Martinez and Joe Rivera, both of Midland, and pleased to announce their engagement and approaching marriage.

Martinez is the daughter of Elaine Salazar and Ricky Martinez of Big Spring and the granddaughter of Leo and Alicia Salazar of Big Spring and Paula and A.G. Martinez of Big Spring.

Rivera is the son of Abel and Deborah Vega of Midland and the grandson of Joe and Eleanor Rivera of Kermit.

The couple will wed at 1 p.m. Nov. 17, 2012, at Holy Trinity Catholic Parish in Big Spring.



Alicia Martinez and Joe Rivera

Births

Jonah Mateo DeLeon, a boy, was born at 8:15 a.m. Oct. 12, 2012. He weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19 inches in length.



Jonah M. DeLeon

He is the son of Johnny and Misty DeLeon of Big Spring.

His maternal grandparents are Bobbie and Judy Bayes of Knott and Jeff and Mavis Morton of Big Spring. His paternal grandparents are Ray and Janie DeLeon of Big Spring.

Jonah was welcomed home by his siblings: Cody, Brooke, Blake and Daniella.

Menus

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast: grahamwich, cereal, juice, milk. Lunch: hamburger, potato rounds, western beans, diced pears, hamburger garnish, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza, cereal, juice, milk. Lunch: tangarine chicken, brown rice, steamed broccoli, baby carrots, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: pancake and sa-

sage, cereal, juice, milk. Lunch: Tex-Mex stack, Spanish rice, garden salad, refried beans, salsa, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: breakfast burrito, cereal, juice, milk. Lunch: stuffed barbecue potato, baby carrots, fresh fruit bowl, cherry fruit bar, crackers, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: cereal, cinnamon toast, juice, milk. Lunch: chicken parmesan, sa-

vory green beans, garden salad, apple slices,

breadstick, milk.

Sands CISD

Monday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza, juice and milk. Lunch: toasted ham, cheese sandwich, broccoli bites, garden salad, orange and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: donut, juice and milk.

Lunch: tacos, garden salad, charro beans, cinnamon applesauce and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: waffle stick, juice

and milk. Lunch: chicken nuggets, whipped potatoes, carrot coins, strawberry-banana, roll and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: cereal, yogurt, juice and milk. Lunch: spaghetti with meat balls, garden salad, green beans, sliced peaches and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: hot pocket, juice and milk. Lunch: turkey cheese wrap, sweet potato tots, cucumber dippers, fresh fruit and milk.

potato salad, melon cubes, V8 juice/milk.

Tuesday: baked chicken, mashed potatoes, butter beans, Texas toast, chocolate pudding, milk.

Wednesday: baked potatoes/chili, broccoli/cheese sauce, tomato wedges, fruit, cookies, milk.

Thursday: ham salad, macaroni salad, pea salad, spice cake, V8 juice/milk.

Friday: meat loaf, mashed potatoes, greens, salad, mixed fruit, rolls/milk.

Monday: Breakfast — pancakes, apple sauce and milk; lunch — meat-loaf, mashed potatoes, black-eyed peas, rolls and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast — cereal, strawberry, banana, juice and milk; lunch — ravioli, ranch beans, corn, bread and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast — buttered toast, pear and milk; lunch — rib patty sandwich, green beans, salad and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast — biscuits and gravy, orange juice and milk; lunch — chicken Alfredo, peas, orange halves and milk.

Friday: Breakfast — English muffin, apple juice and milk; lunch — fish sticks, cole slaw, corn on the cob, hush puppies and milk.



Katie Singleton
Bride Elect Of
Garrett Fulton

Shower: Nov 10 & Dec. 15

Wedding: January 15

Our Featured Couple of the week has selected from our extensive line of Pottery, China, Crystal, Flatwear, Serving Pieces, Furniture, and Home Decor.

Included Below Are Our Other Registrees:

- ♥ Callie Dartee & Austin Roeder
- ♥ Linzee Yarbar & Dillon Phernetton
- ♥ Andrea Torres & Zac Dhinney
- ♥ Jordan Chesworth & Ricky Crawford
- ♥ Katie Singleton & Garrett Fulton
- ♥ Leslie Elrod & Justin Hobbs
- ♥ Angela Pace & Blake Lance

Elrod's Accents

Inside Elrod's Furniture

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Senior Center

Monday: barbecue sandwich, onion slice,

New Hope Christian School

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ANSWERS

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

Howard County Humane Society Adoptable Pets

CLEMENTINE



Medium • Senior • Female Domestic Short Hair

Clementine is 5 years old. She is spayed.
Adoption Fee: \$40 (Includes shots)

GLORIA



Medium • Adult • Female Mixed

This smiling girl is about 4 years old. Gloria has one blue eye and one brown eye. She is spayed.
Adoption Fee: \$65 (includes shots)

267-7832

W IH 20 Service Road (past the Airport)

October Breast Cancer Awareness Month

To help promote the importance of early detection, Cogdell Memorial Hospital is offering a \$50 special on mammogram screenings for all women 40 years old and older during the month of October.

No insurance filed and no physician order is necessary. Call 325 574-7441 today to schedule an appointment.

MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING REMAINS THE BEST AVAILABLE METHOD TO DETECT BREAST CANCER EARLY.

We combine Selenia full-field digital mammography with a new breast cushion, MammoPad® that dramatically eases the discomfort many women feel when they get a mammogram. MammoPad and digital mammography together provide a more positive experience for women.

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