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SUNDAY



November 25, 2012



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Christmas is coming to Big Spring

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By STEVE REAGAN

VOLUME 108, NUMBER 36

Vicki Slaton

Staff Writer

Grinches, Scrooges and other assorted humbug sorts will be advised to stay away from Big Spring next weekend.

The Christmas season arrives with a purpose this coming weekend, with parades, lighting displays, concerts and several other activities filling the schedule.

VAMC Lighting of the Lights

The first of the holiday events will be Friday evening, when the local VA Medical Center hosts its annual tree lighting ceremony at 6 p.m.

Daniel L. Marsh, medical center director for the West Texas VA Health Care Svs-

tem, assisted by area children, will throw the switch on the VA Medical Center's holiday lights, according to VA officials.

The fun doesn't stop with the lights, which will not only illuminate the Christmas tree located inside the medical center's lobby, but also much of the facility's outside, as well.

Santa Claus will visit with all of the children. Refreshments will be served, as well. The public is welcomed

to attend this free-of-charge

event, officials said. For more information, call 264-4824.

Herald Community Christmas Parade

A near-record number of

entries will highlight the Big Spring Herald's annual Community Christmas Parade Saturday evening.

Parade Coordinator Rick Nunez said more than 40 entries have been registered for the parade, which will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the intersection of Gregg and 24th streets. The

See CHRISTMAS, Page 3A





Courtesy photo

Deanna Foresyth submitted the winning entry in Heritage Museum's Cupcake Wars event. She will serve her cupcakes next Saturday at the museum.

Changes coming to Texas health care

CHRIS TOMLINSON

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Gov. Rick Perry has promised to fight tooth and nail against implementing the Affordable Care Act. But that doesn't mean big changes aren't coming to Texas health care, and it won't save lawmakers from facing tough spending decisions. Perry has refused to expand Medicaid, the health care

program for the poor. And last week he announced Texas

will not set up a federally-mandated health care

exchange, an online sys-**NDEX** tem that allows people to find affordable insur-**Business** 4-5B ance and lets them know if they are eligible for 6-9B discounts or subsidies. 1-3B Texas has about 6 mil-

lion uninsured residents, which comes out to nearly a quarter of its population — higher Medicaid is the fastest growing segment of the Texas budget, and Perry has warned it could bankrupt the state. Texas already faces a \$4.7 billion budget deficit after the Legislature underfunded Medicaid last year.

than any other state. Both Republicans and Democrats agree that's too many, but they disagree on how to get that number down.

In a July letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, Perry said he opposed the Affordable Care Act because it would "make Texas an appendage of the federal government when it comes to

health care." He also vehemently opposes expanding the number of people eligible for Medicaid — to reduce the number of uninsured — because it would eventually require Texas to spend more money on the program.

See **HEALTH**, Page 3A

Prepare for low temps. city warns

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

burst."

With temperatures soon to dip below freezing, Assistant City Manager Todd Darden said local residents can protect their property — and more to the point, their water lines — by tak-

ing precautions. "That means leaving your hot and cold water dripping just enough to keep the pipes from freezing, as well as insulating any exterior pipes or

fixtures," said Darden. "We also suggest that people take old newspaper or towels and stuff it in their meter boxes to help keep them from freezing. The boxes are underground, but they still sit in a void, so they are susceptible to the freezing temperatures and could

Darden said area residents should also remember to insulate any sewer lines that are above ground or not buried at a safe depth, which would be 12 inches to 18 inches.

"If people don't take precautions, I expect we'll be handling quite a few emergency water cut-offs," he said.

Darden said freezing temperatures can also cause numerous breaks in the city's main water lines — deemed "Code Blue" by city officials — something he's hoping to avoid.

"As long as the temperature warms up gradually, we should be OK," said Darden. "However, if the warmer weather comes back quicker than we're expecting, we could certainly see a lot more main breaks in the

Classified Life **Obituaries 2A 4A Opinion Sports** 8-10A

To reach us: Please call 263-7331.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.



County slates routine meeting to present personnel considerations, By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners

are to meet Monday morning to deal with a rather routine agenda. Commissioners are to meet with

County Auditor Jackie Olson to discuss invoices, purchase requests and proposed budget amendments. Olson will present the court with consideration of copier leases. County Treasurer Teresa Thomas is

Jeannie Rutledge, Broker / Owner Leah Hughes - 432-270-2416 Christie Larson - 432-213-4647

Janet Higgins - 432-213-5454 Pat Hardison - 432-270-8277

Kim Pollard - 432-213-2842

while Road and Bridge Administrator Brian Klinksiek will deliver an update on county road maintenance and pipeline crossings. The meeting will convene 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.













11/30

71/44

Highs in the

low 70s and

lows in the

mid 40s.

Partly

cloudy.

lows in the

upper 40s.

Karl Allen Brunson



Karl Allen Brunson, 57, formerly of Big Spring passed away on the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2012, at his residence after a long ill-

He was born Oct. 23, 1955, in Big Spring, Texas, and graduated from Big Spring High School. He lived in Big Spring and spent most of his life working and managing Cactus Paint. He will be remembered most as a scholar, a creative chef, a lover of music, a faithful husband and father and

follower of Yahweh. Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Robbie

Brunson of Austin, Texas; son, Jeremy Brunson of

Austin, Texas; daughter, Alicia Brunson of Forth Worth, Texas; parents, Belton ad Nona Brunson of Big Spring, Texas; one brother, Daryl Brunson of Austin; two sisters, Carol Curry of Odessa, Texas, and Karen Hays of Big Spring, Texas; one sister-inlaw, Karen Brunson of Lubbock, Texas; and numerous nieces, nephews and cherished friends.

Obituaries

He was preceded in death by an infant sister; Denise Brunson; an infant nephew, Donald Hays; a niece, Jennifer Hays; and a brother, Curtis

A memorial service was held for Karl on Friday, Nov. 23, 2012, at 11 a.m. at the All Faiths Funeral Service, located at 8507 N. IH-35, Austin, Texas

Please view his online obituary at allfaithsonline.com

Paid obituary

Willie Williams



Willie Williams, 79, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2012, at his residence. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Baptist Temple with Pastor Rick Wilson officiating.

He was born Feb. 10, 1933, in Beckville. Texas to Dovie and Lester Williams. He served in the U. S. Air Force from 1952 until 1956, stationed at Webb Air Force Base. Willie worked at Cosden for 35

years, retiring in 1991. He was the crossing Guard at Goliad Middle School for many years.

Willie is survived by his wife of 53 years, Sherry Williams of Big Spring: a son, Jeff Williams and his wife Debbie of Big Spring; two daughters, Joan

Edwards and Kendra Rutledge, both of Big Spring; four grandchildren, John Williams, Aric Rutledge, Raven Rutledge and Myckala Edwards; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Willie was preceded in death by four brothers and two sisters.

Honorary pallbearers will be Matthew Gamble, Wayne Bristow, Terry Gamble, Michael Gamble, Windol Lunsford and George Wilson.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to American Red Cross, P. O. Box 4002018, Des Moines, Iowa 50340-2018; American Cancer Society, c/o Carolyn Brooks, P. O. Box 2121, Big Spring, Texas 79721; or your favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

Take Note

• Big Spring State Hospital patients are in need of warm clothing. Clean items should be taken to the Community Relations Office near the south entrance of the hospital, 1901 N. U.S. Highway 87. Clothing that cannot be used by the patients will be taken to the hospital's Chalet Resale Shop for sale to raise money for patient needs. Men's clothing and larger-sized clothing are always in need. For more information, call Melissa Adams, BSSH program coordinator, at 432 268-7730.

- Whiting Oil and Gas Big Spring employees are organizing a fund drive to help families in need throughout the community. The drive will be held through Dec. 20. Food donations (non-perishable) can be dropped off at the Whiting Big Spring Field Office, 5306 South Service Road. For more information, call the local office at 432-264-0004 and ask for Cindy Klaus, Vickie Reynolds or Mark Strickland.
- An account for Bill Griffen has been established at the Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union, 1110 Benton. Griffen, a Big Spring resident, recently passed away and the family is in need of funds for funeral arrangements.
- 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.
- 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 assistance in The Chalet Resale Shoppe, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shoppe is a fast-paced retail shop specializing in gently worn clothing and small household appli-

- ance. 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.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and get two for one plus a rehab meeting.
- Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.
- Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help. We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.
- The Salvation Army is holding its annual fan drive and is in need of heaters. Community members can donate new or used heaters. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- The Salvation Army has funding for Texas Military Personnel now serving or has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The military member or their family member may apply at 811 W. Fifth St. or call 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.
- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home.

We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

CLINIC CLOSING

It is with heartfelt regret that I am announcing that effective December 21st my practice at The Life Clinic, located at 2601 Wasson Rd., Big Spring, Texas will be **closing.** I will always be grateful to the people of this community for their support of me and Nurse Practitioners over the years. I

have sincerely been blessed to be a part of so many lives and pray sincere health and healing over each of you. Appointments will continue to be scheduled until Dec. 21st. Staff will remain at the office and records will be available

for transfer until **Jan. 18th**.

We sincerely wish to provide continuity of care as you transition to other Primary Care Providers.

Sincerely, Kim Shafer, RN, FNP-BC

Boyd Don Batla

upper 30s.

Boyd Don Batla, 28, of San Antonio, formerly of Garden City, died Friday, November 23, 2012 San Antonio. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.



74/38 63/40 71/45 72/49 Sunny. Plenty of More sun Times of sur Highs in the sun. Highs ir than clouds and clouds. mid 70s and the low 60s Highs in the Highs in the and lows in low 70s and low 70s and lows in the

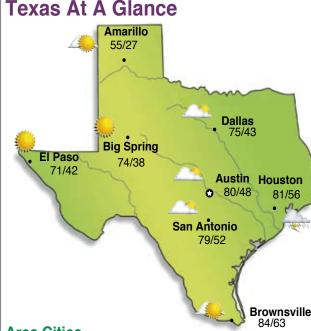
the low 40s.

Sunrise: Sunrise: Sunrise: Sunrise: Sunrise: 7:27 AM 7:28 AM Sunset: Sunset: Sunset: Sunset: Sunset: 5:42 PM 5:41 PM 5:41 PM 5:41 PM 5:41 PM We Celebrate Hometown Life

lows in the

mid 40s.

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



Area Cities Hi Lo Cond City Hi Lo Cond. 38 pt sunny 61 pt sunny Livingston Amarillo 81 50 t-storm 55 27 mst sunny Austin 80 48 cloudy Longview 75 46 t-storm 65 30 sunny Beaumont 79 58 t-storm Lubbock Brownsville 84 63 mst sunnv Lufkin 82 51 t-storm Brownwood 79 42 pt sunny Midland 74 39 pt sunny Raymondville 85 61 mst sunny Corpus Christi 82 62 pt sunny Corsicana 75 43 cloudy Rosenberg 81 56 t-storm Dallas 75 43 cloudy San Antonio 79 52 cloudy Del Rio 79 52 pt sunny San Marcos 81 48 cloudy 44 rain El Paso 71 42 sunny Sulphur Springs 74 Fort Stockton 78 40 pt sunny Sweetwater 70 38 pt sunny Gainesville 69 40 pt sunny Tyler 77 47 t-storm Greenville Weatherford 73 39 pt sunnv 72 40 cloudy Houston 56 t-storm Wichita Falls 62 34 mst sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	66	47	mst sunny	Minneapolis	24	20	pt sunny
Boston	45	30	sunny	New York	47	36	pt sunny
Chicago	35	22	pt sunny	Phoenix	77	50	sunny
Dallas	75	43	cloudy	San Francisco	66	51	sunny
Denver	44	29	pt sunny	Seattle	47	36	pt sunny
Houston	81	56	t-storm	St. Louis	46	28	pt sunny
Los Angeles	69	50	pt sunny	Washington, DC	53	42	sunny
Miami	78	64	pt sunny	•			•

Moon Phases



UV Index Mon 11/28 11/26 11/27 11/29 11/30

Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0

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CHRISTMAS

Continued from Page 1A

parade will proceed north on Gregg to Eighth, east to Scurry, north to Fourth, then east to Main.

Awards will be presented in the following categories: Best of Show (best interpretation of the parade's theme of "A Storybook Christmas"; Publisher's Award (best use of lighting); and Grand Marshal's Award (for best costuming). Also, certificates will be awarded to the best entries in the following categories — individual/family; civic/school; commercial; industrial; and mounted.

"I think this will be one of the best parades we've ever had," Nunez said."It's certainly generating a lot of excitement and we hope everyone can come watch."

For more information, contact the Herald at 263-7331.

The Living **Christmas Tree** This Big Spring holi-

day tradition will hold

its 34th annual rendition at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at First United Methodist Church.

The event is free to the public, but tickets must be obtained at the church office. A dress rehearsal at 2 p.m. Saturday also is open to the public and no ticket is required for that performance.

The Living Christmas Tree, for the uninitiated, is exactly that — a 2,000-pound Christmas tree populated by more than 130 singers dressed as ornaments.

While the event will be familiar to those who have attended before, the program is tweaked every year to provide something new. Aside from long-time classics, newer holiday standards will be performed.

For more information, contact the church office at 267-6394.

Breakfast With Santa

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be stopping at the Heritage Museum Saturday.

This won't just be a normal stop though, the

long called for improve-

Claus' will be having breakfast with the children of Big Spring, helping them decorate gingerbread a house and Christmas naments.

"This went over really well last year and we figured we would bring it back this year and give more kids the opportunity to have breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus," said Nancy Raney, museum director.

The cost is \$3 per child plus canned one good, which will benefit the First Baptist Church

food pantry. There are 30-minute time slots from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. that parents can sign their children up for.

Later that day, the museum will hold its annual Parade Watching Party beginning at 4:30 p.m.



File photo

One of the most anticipated holiday events is the Living Christmas Tree, Dec. 1-2 at the First United Methodist Church.

To make reservations, call the museum at 267-8255 or send an email to heritagemus@gmail.

Still to come Other

upcoming Christmas activities include the First Church of the Nazarene's Drive Through Nativity from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Dec. 10-12 and a Symphonic Christmas, featuring the Big Spring Symphony, the Coahoma Choir Kids and soloists Joyce Bradley and Lawrence Thibeault at 8 p.m. Dec. 15 in the Municipal Auditorium. Also, Comanche Trail Park comes alive with more than 1 million lights each evening from Dec. 16 through Dec. 31.

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

HEALTH

Continued from Page 1A

Medicaid is the fastest growing segment of the Texas budget, and Perry has warned it could bankrupt the state. Texas already faces a

\$4.7 billion budget deficit after the Legislature underfunded Medicaid last year. When they meet again in January, lawmakers will need to pass a supplemental spending bill to cover that shortfall by March, or else the program will run out of money.

Signs of conflict are already showing. For the 2014-205 budget cycle, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission that runs the Medicaid program has asked the Legislature for an additional \$6.7 billion. Republican meanwhile, leaders, have already pledged to increase the entire state budget by only \$7 bil-

If they plan to maintain their spending cap, they will need to pare down spending on health care.

Perry and his allies in the Legislature have

1801 East FM 700 The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG-13) (Digital) Sun.: 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00

ments in how statefunded health care is provided. Perry has asked the federal government to simply give Texas all of the money it receives now without the strings attached and let Texas put together its own program for the poor and disabled. The new Texas com-

missioner for health and human services, Dr. Kyle Janek, said he feels certain Texas could build a better program using the same amount of money. "We could design a

system that would be a Texas solution, and that solution may involve covering people who are currently not covered; though that would be with existing funds," Janek said. He said the state would like to experiment with a tiered co-payment system and varying levels of coverage.

Federal officials and advocates for the poor, though, argue that federal rules are neces-

sary to guarantee that the needy will receive minimum level of assistance that is not subject to the political moods in state capitols. Janek acknowledges that such a block-grant was unlikely anytime soon. But the federal gov-

ernment does want to encourage states to experiment and find better ways to provide care for the needy, so it grants limited waivers. One is for the Women's Health Program, which provides preventive health care and contraception to women who would not normally qualify for Medicaid. The program saved money by expanding health care coverto non-pregnant poor women to prevent unplanned pregnancies that Medicaid would have to pay for if not prevented.

The Legislature passed an omnibus bill last vear that prompted officials to apply for what is called a transformation waiver. The new state law allows doctors,

clinics and hospitals to work together more closely and for state officials to pay hospitals more for providing better, more efficient care. Federal officials granted a waiver allowing the experiment. The state is currently

supervising the creation of Regional Healthcare Partnerships across the state that will allow for coordinated care as well as improving access and quality. These partnerships will also provide greater compensation to hospitals that develop innovative ways that lower costs and improve treatment.

The biggest changes are coming to the Rio Grande Valley, where the state is implementing managed care for Medicaid. That means people in the program must now sign up with private companies who will manage their benefits rather than state officials.

A key part of implementing managed care was overhauling how the state reimburses hospitals for the indigent. The new waiver makes sure that hospitals continue to receive funding for treating indigent, single adults who do not qualify for Medicaid in Texas. Perry's refusal to ex-

pand Medicaid presents an obstacle to achieving the Affordable Care Act's goal of 98 percent of Texans enrolled in some kind of health care program, but the transformation waiver will help provide the indigent with the care they need.

And while Perry has refused a state-run health care exchange for Texans, that deci-

sion will not keep millions of Texans of signing up for insurance. Janek said his commission is still waiting for Washington to publish all the new rules under

certain. "It is the law of the land and we have to deal with it," Janek said.

the Affordable Care Act,

but one thing he says is

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Willie Williams, 79, died Tuesday. Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. at Baptist Monday Temple.



Dragon China Buffet 300 Gregg 268-8888 Off Per Adult UOff Per Child Up to 10 People

EXP. 11/30/12

(NOT FOR CARRYOUT)

We wish to express our sincere gratitude and thanks to all our dear relatives, friends and neighbors for your expressions of sympathy shown to us during the sad hours of our profound sorrow in the loss of our beloved husband, dad and grandpa.

We would like to especially thank Dr. Shroff, SMMC Staff, Crossroads Hospice, Myers & Smith Funeral Home, Deacon Fidel Saldivar & Holy Trinity Church

> The Family of Apolonio "Hoppy" Hernandez



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267-5444

in knowing she is with the Lord Almighty smiling down on us. We extend our gratitude to all those who supported her family during this time of loss. Whether it was in the form of flowers, food, visitation, or prayer it was dearly appreciated. A special thank you to the following:

Lucy Ochoa will be dearly missed. However, we find comfort

South Plains Implement, Nalley Pickle and Welch Funeral Home, Holy Trinity Parish, Rosary: Lonnie Cantu, Josephine Sanchez, Alex & Adela Ochoa, Antonio Rameriz & accompanists, Dawn Pappajohn, Inspiration Flowers, Deacon Arguello, Stephanie Barraza Boen, Big Spring Jr. High Faculty and staff, BSISD, Elbow ISD, Dr. Shroff and SMMC.

> God Bless You All The Family of Lucy Ochoa

Saturday, December 1st 11am-5pm

Sunday, December 2nd 12pm-5pm Towle Memorial Park

National Guard Armory and Barn

Snyder, TX 79549 For more info:

Email SnyderTradeDays@sbcglobal.net or call Michelle Bird 325-207-1388 or look for us on Facebook under "Snyder Trade Days"

handmade, antiques, fashions, and Junk



Charles Myers Attorney At Law

Family Law And Criminal Law

Ward & Myers, L.L.P.



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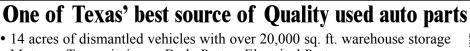
432-683-3700 • Midland, TX charles@wardmyers.com

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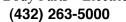








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EDITORIAL

"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 **Glenn Stifflemire** Publisher

Steve Reagan Staff Writer

Brian McCormack

Sports Editor

Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

OTHER VIEWS

ldea of secession amounts to roadkill

Tt's hard to take seriously the thousands of people who have signed a petition urging Texas to amicably divorce the rest of the union. Even in the fiercely independent Lone Star State, this idea is roadkill.

While the signatories are exercising their right to free speech, this idea is just plumb screwy and an odd rejection of basic American principles. Besides, as in any divorce, shouldn't we worry about the children?

The Texas petition says the United States is Bread hotdog buns?" we ask suffering from economic troubles stemming from the federal government's failure to reform spending. You won't get much argument on that, although the same complaint can be made about some cities, counties and states as well.

But the Texas secession petition also complains of alleged rights abuses committed by agencies such as the Transportation Security Administration. An annoying screening system at the airport is reason to collect your toys and quit? Really?

When the going gets tough, the "tough" sign petitions to leave? None of this reflects the pioneering spir-

it that made Texas and this nation great. What about all of us who don't want to secede? Does that mean we'll have to leave our chosen or native homeland and flee north to Oklahoma or Colorado? Heaven forbid.

We just redid the Governor's Mansion, and we'd hate to have to get a passport to go to Austin, if it were to get swept into the movement.

There's something mystifyingly un-American about giving up on America. The nation has survived two world wars, a civil war, a hugely unpopular war in Southeast Asia, political scandals and countless moral battles over the rights of women and African-Americans.

In each instance, the nation put aside its fears and emerged as the United States of America. In other words, we don't bail out when disagreements erupt in the family.

The White House has promised to review the petitions that exceed a certain number of signatures and issue a response. But who could blame White House officials if they said: "All operators are busy right now. Stay on the line, and we'll get back to you in four years."

This separatist angst will likely — and rightly — fade away, as it has numerous times in our nation's collective history. While annoying, the right to be clueless about American history is protected speech.

The United States' power and influence exists because the states are 50 parts that pull as one, a uniqueness found in the words "We the People" in the preamble to the Constitution.

Americans are more alike than we are different, and our system of governance — the great experiment in democracy — is the envy of other nations. That's not because we are 50 countries, but because we are one.

— The Dallas Morning News

How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St. By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at

newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.

By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson Adding You, Lord, to our life is adding the right member to our team.

Inflation trumps deflation

y old mother would have begun the conversation in one of \perp two ways — 1) If that don't beat a hen a'peckin' or 2) Ain't it the "beatenest" thing?

Then, she'd set in on detailing the conundrum faced by Americans across the

land during these "whiz-by" days right on the heels of Thanksgiving with Christmas staring us right in the face. We are deflated at the thought of the hustle and hassle that accompanies the yuletide season, but are inflated by memories of



Don NEWBURY

delectable foodstuff that crowded our table at Thanksgiving — the season that may have introduced the term "second helpings." This was centuries before "more Ovaltine, please." Though grateful for the rich

and wonderful grub that has caused belt extension to the very last hole in our Sunday belt, we now yearn for simpler fare. For a few days, we'll chow down on food most ordinary, like hotdogs. chased down by simple storepurchased snacks.

"Whadda va mean, no Wonder the guv at the grocery store. He kindly explains that they aren't baked anymore.

On the next aisle, we search in vain for Twinkies and Ding Dongs, confections that we claim fall into the same general category as Jell-O. You know — it's the dessert there's always room for. I asked him again, "What gives?"

"Haven't you heard?" he asked. "Hostess couldn't strike a deal with union employees, so the company is 'kaput.' They'll probably sell the brands to others, but likely in small bites. For a while at least, you'll have to buy other buns and seek other snacks." (No doubt he's an English major working on alliteration en route to writing the great American novel.) Maybe I've been under, behind or distracted by a rock, but I hadn't heard about the bakery closing down. Hmmm, Hostess, formerly "with the mostest," now is reduced to "Hostess with the leastest."...

My intent this day is to focus on what should "pump us up," if not fully inflate. Texas A&M fans are swelled to the point of bursting. Surely there are many among us who are glad the Aggies are waving our State of Texas flag in the faces of Southeast Conference football oppo-

Admit it, even if you are an "orange-everything" Texas fan. The Aggies are "doing us proud" as representatives of the Lone Star State. Who would athought they'd conquer Alabama in Tuscaloosa? Or boast a freshman quarterback better known across the nation as "Johnny Football"? Or that this remarkable Johnny Manziel already is being groomed for Heisman recognition? Or that the Aggies would string together two great halves in the same game? Or that they would succeed despite not having their own television sports network?

My 100-year-old Uncle Mort showed up the other day in his maroon t-shirt — his "tribute to the Aggies" — never mind his name has never appeared on any university rolls. I doubt if he's ever set foot on the campus, but he's got an Aggie banner flying from the golf cart he putts around on. He asked me if I knew what the moon and Texas A&M have in common? I didn't. "They both control the tide," he laughed.

Uncle Mort then took a serious turn. "Two pieces of news last week just about blew me down," he winced. (The statement brought back memories; that's how my mother used to express amazement. "Well blow me down," she'd say.)

He went on to lament the adulterous affairs confessed within hours of each other — one by CIA Chief David Patraeus and the other by the incoming CEO of Lockheed Martin, Christopher Kubaskic, who was to ascend to the top post in January. "If crying would help. I'd weep," he said, almost in a whisper. "And to think they both had such key roles in defending our nation."

I couldn't disagree with him, and confessed that I hadn't thought of linking them to the key roles he'd mentioned. I joined him in remorse, feeling "defenseless." Mort offered a final thought, "Let's try to pump ourselves up with thoughts of Christmas' deepest meaning." Then, he puttered away. As usual. I expressed thanksgiving that my uncle is an incurable optimist. His mirthful optimism is a tonic for us all.

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Do you use an 'a' or an 'an

s the holiday season drags on and workplace productivity grinds to a halt, you may find yourself running out of ways to waste time at the office. And once paper-clip sculptures, baiting Donald Trump on Twitter and gossiping

about a certain co-worker's imprudent cupcake consumption have lost their luster, what's a deadweight employee to do?

Try this little time-waster I stumbled upon a few years back. Print the following sentence

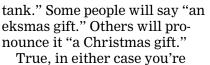
on a piece of paper then walk around to co-workers' desks and ask them to read it aloud: "The resort has an array of standard guest rooms and suites and offers specials any to any traveler with a AAA membership. " If your workplace is anything

JUNE

CASAGRANDE

like mine, you'll notice that, while some people pronounce the last part as "an A-A-A membership," others will utter words that aren't even on the page, reading it aloud as "a triple A membership." A similar dynamic will occur

if you ask enough people to read this sentence: "Before she goes home to start dinner, Joanne has to stop at the bank, buy an Xmas **Amen** gift for Lou, and fill up the gas



influencing the response by choosing either "a" or "an" in the printed version. But a wider experiment using both would likely produce a similar result: People have different ideas about whether certain shorthand terms should be pronounced as shorthand or as the full words they represent.

All this seems to create a serious conundrum for anyone who actually wants to write these terms. Do you write "a AAA member" or "an AAA member"? Do you write "a Xmas gift" or "an Xmas gift"?

What seems like a conundrum is actually license to choose for yourself. Because when it comes to the indefinite articles "a" and "an," the choice is all about pronunciation.

In English, the main indefinite article, so to speak, is "a." A cat. A house. A beautiful day. But that's only when the word it's modifying begins with a consonant sound, like the C in cat or the H in house. When it starts with a vowel sound, we use "an": An apple. An honor. Note that letters like H may take either "a" or "an" depending on whether they represent a consonant sound or are silent, leaving a word to start with a vowel sound, "an honor."

Vowels sometimes indicate a consonant sound, "a university,"

and consonants, especially as letters, can indicate a vowel sound, "an FBI agent." And, of course, some are subject to debate, like "a historic" vs. "an historic." Either of those is correct, by the way, but a lot of experts suggest that, because "historic" begins with a consonant sound, "a" is a

better choice than "an." With terms that could be pronounced any of several ways, like AAA and Xmas, the writer should choose whichever he thinks is best for his reader.

'Should you write 'a Xmas gift' or 'an Xmas gift'?" asks Bryan Garner in Garner's Modern American Usage. "The answer depends on how readers hear the word in the mind's ear. If readers hear 'Christmas,' then 'a' is the correct indefinite article. If readers hear 'Eksmas,' then 'an' would be correct."

Garner adds that, in his view, "Christmas" is probably what more people "hear" when they see "Xmas," so he thinks that "a" might be the better article. I would guess the opposite. To me it seems that "an" is more natural.

As for AAA, I personally, prefer "an" before it. But your co-workers' opinions are just as valid as mine.

June Casagrande is author of "It Was the Best of Sentences, It Was the Worst of Sentences." She can be reached at JuneTCN@aol.

'Dallas' star Hagman succumbs to cancer

The Associated Press

J.R. Ewing was a business cheat, faithless husband and bottomless well of corruption. Yet with his sparkling grin, Larry Hagman masterfully created the charmingly loathsome oil baron — and coaxed forth a Texas-size gusher of ratings — on television's long-running and hugely successful nighttime soap, "Dallas."

Although he first gained fame as nice guy Capt. Tony Nelson on the fluffy 1965-70 NBC comedy "I Dream of Jeannie," Hagman earned his greatest stardom with J.R. The CBS serial drama about the Ewing family and those in their orbit aired from April 1978 to May 1991, and broke viewing records with its "Who shot J.R.?" 1980 cliffhanger that left unclear if Hagman's character

The actor, who returned as J.R. in a new edition of "Dallas" this year, had a long history of health problems and died Friday due to complications from his battle with cancer, his family said.

"Larry was back in his beloved hometown of Dallas, re-enacting the iconic role he loved the most. Larry's family and closest friends had joined him in Dallas for the Thanksgiving holiday," the family said in a statement that was provided to The Associated Press by Warner Bros., producer of the

The 81-year-old actor was surrounded by friends and family before he passed peacefully, "just as he'd wished for," the statement said.

Linda Grav. his onscreen wife and later ex-wife in the original series and the sequel. was among those with Hagman in his final moments in a Dallas hospital, said her publicist, Jeffrey Lane.

"He brought joy to everyone he knew. He was creative, generous, funny, loving and talented, enormously. He was an original and lived life to the fullest," the actress

Years before "Dallas," Hagman had gained TV fame on "I Dream of Jeannie," in which he played an astronaut whose life is disrupted when he finds a comely genie, portrayed by Barbara Eden, and takes her home to live with him.

Eden recalled late Friday shooting the series' pilot "in the frigid cold" on a Malibu beach.

"From that day, for five more years, Larry was the center of so many fun, wild and sometimes crazy times. And in retrospect, memorable moments that will remain in my heart forever." Eden said. Hagman also starred in

two short-lived sitcoms, "The Good Life" (NBC, 1971-72) and "Here We Go Again" (ABC, 1973). His film work included well-regarded performances in "The Group," "Harry and Tonto" and "Primary Colors."



Larry Hagman

But it was Hagman's masterful portrayal of J.R. that brought him the most fame. And the "Who shot J.R.?" story twist fueled international speculation and millions of dollars in betting-parlor wagers. It also helped give the series a place in ratings history.

When the answer was revealed in a November 1980 episode, an average 41 million U.S. viewers tuned in to make "Dallas" one of the mostwatched entertainment shows of all time, trailing only the "MASH" finale in 1983 with 50 million viewers.

It was J.R.'s sisterin-law, Kristin (Mary Crosby) who plugged him — he had made her pregnant, then threatened to frame her as a prostitute unless she left town — but others had equal motivation.

Hagman played Ewing as a bottomless well of corruption with a charming grin: a business cheat and a faithless husband who tried

to get his alcoholic wife, Sue Ellen (Gray), institutionalized.

"I know what I want on J.R.'s tombstone," Hagman said in 1988. "It should say: 'Here lies upright citizen J.R. Ewing. This is the only deal he ever lost."

On Friday night, Victoria Principal, who costarred in the original series, recalled Hagman as "bigger than life, onscreen and off. He is unforgettable, and irreplaceable, to millions of

News in brief

Worst Egypt violence since Morsi took office; president defends new, near-absolute powers CAIRO (AP) — Supporters and op-

ponents of President Mohammed Morsi clashed Friday in the worst violence since he took office, while he defended a decision to give himself near-absolute power to root out what he called "weevils eating away at the nation of Egypt." The edicts by Morsi, which were is-

sued Thursday, have turned months of growing polarization into an open battle between his Muslim Brotherhood and liberals who fear a new dictatorship. Some in the opposition, which has been divided and weakened, were now speaking of a sustained street campaign against the man who nearly five months ago became Egypt's first freely elected

The unrest also underscored the struggle over the direction of Egypt's turbulent passage nearly two years after a popular uprising toppled Hosni Mubarak's authoritarian regime. Liberals and secular Egyptians accuse the Brotherhood of monopolizing power, dominating the writing of a new constitution and failing to tackle the country's chronic economic and security problems.

Christmas shopping: Stores opening on Thanksgiving Day likely to become the new norm

(AP) — This season could mark the end of Black Friday as we know it.

For decades, stores have opened their doors in the wee hours on the day after Thanksgiving. But this

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year, major chains such as Target and Sears ushered in customers on Thanksgiving itself, even before the turkey leftovers had gotten cold, turning the traditional busiest shopping day of the year into a two-day affair.

Despite an outcry from some employees, both stores and shoppers seemed to like it. Some people went shopping with a full belly, going straight from the dinner table to the stores. Others slept off their big meal and went to the mall before daybreak on Black Friday.

"I ate my turkey dinner and came right here," said Rasheed Ali, a college student in New York City who bought a 50-inch TV for \$349 and a sewing machine for \$50 when Target opened at 9 p.m. on Thanksgiving. "Then I'm going home and eating more."

This new approach could become holiday shopping season tradition.

Officials investigate cause of Mass. strip club blast that injured 18, mostly 1st responders

ficials had already evacuated part of the entertainment district in one of New England's biggest cities because of a gas leak and odor report before a natural gas explosion leveled a strip club and heavily damaged a dozen other buildings, including a day care. Eighteen people were injured, many

Investigators were trying to figure out what the caused the Friday evening blast that could be heard for miles and left a large hole in the ground where the multistory brick building housing Scores Gentleman's Club once stood and debris scattered over several blocks.

Teams of inspectors on Saturday were scheduled to assess the level of damage to other buildings in downtown Springfield. Some controlled demolition was expected. Firefighters, police officers and gas

company workers were in the area filled with commercial properties and residences after responding to a gas leak and odor reported about an hour before the explosion.

"It really is a miracle and it's an example of our public safety officials, each and every day, putting themselves in harm's way, taking what could have been considered a very routine call of an odor of gas, but they took the proper precautions," State Fire Marshal Stephen Coan said. "And thanks to God that they did."

Thai anti-government protesters clash with police, call on prime minister to step down

BANGKOK (AP) — Protesters calling for Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra to step down rallied in the heart of Bangkok on Saturday, clashing with police in the first major demonstration against the government since it came to power last year.

Although the rally site itself was peaceful, protesters on a nearby street tried and failed to break through a concrete police barricade, at one point ramming a truck into it. Both

demonstrators and riot police lobbed tear gas canisters at each other.

Police spokesman Maj. Gen. Piya Utayo said five officers were injured in the skirmishes, two of them seriously. He said 130 demonstrators were detained, some of them carrying knives and bullets.

The demonstration underscores the simmering political divisions that have split the country since the army toppled Yingluck's brother Thaksin Shinawatra in a 2006 military coup, a move that triggered years of instabil-

Saturday's rally was organized by a royalist group calling itself "Pitak Siam" - or "Protect Thailand." Led by retired army Gen. Boonlert Kaewprasit, the group accuses Yingluck's administration of corruption, ignoring insults to the revered monarchy and being a puppet of Thaksin.

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SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) — Of-

of them first responders.

Letters

Lou K.

TO THE EDITOR:

Some people we meet are easily forgotten but if I live to be 101 I will

· Sign your letter.

always remember Lou K. because she bought a little sunshine to others with her kind and caring ways. Her beautiful

smile made others want to smile, too. Lou K. loved life. God

was more than just a word to her. Family and friends were her greatest riches in life. Once, when I admired

the little ribbon crosses she had made, she taught me how to make them, too.

And Lou K., I will always remember you.

You were always an Angel but now you've

got wings. Written in memory of

Lou Knight. Lana F. Anguiano

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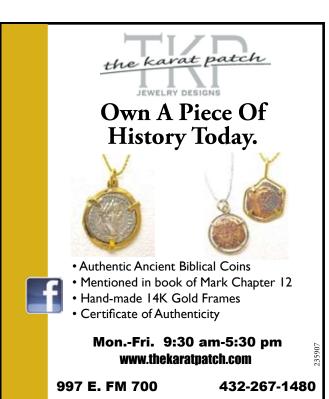
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Do you have an interesting sports item or

Wells Fargo, Howard College presents Hawk Buddies

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

Hawk Basketball is in full swing and for the ninth straight year, Howard College is teaming up with Wells Fargo to present the 2012-2013 Hawk Buddies Basketball Program.

by HC Head Directed Women's Basketball Coach Earl Diddle and Assistant Coach Addies Lees, the Hawk Buddies program has much to offer any budding hoops

Slated for Dec. 8, registration will be held from 8:30-9 a.m., and is followed by the Buddies Clinic. Diddle, Lees and the Lady Hawk squad will be instructing the participants on the fundamentals of

basketball in a 90-minute minicamp. After the clinic is complete, a pizza party will be held.

The \$20 per child entry fee includes a Hawk Basketball and free admission for the child and his or her entire family to every Hawk home game for the duration of the

The Hawk Buddies will be recognized at halftime of the Saturday, Feb. 9th home game against South Plains College. The Lady Hawks will be signing autographs and posing for courtside pictures immediately following the game.

According to Diddle, the camp is a way to get the community and the young Hawk fans closer to the

"I think it's great," Diddle said. "It builds a relationship between our players and



the youth. We couldn't do it without Wells Fargo."

The Lady Hawks also look forward to the event, which has gained popularity and grown in numbers since its inception.

"Our players really love it," Diddle added. "I really enjoy it, too. It's good for the community. We will do some drills and we will talk about academics and goals. And the kids get to meet our players and get to know us better." Diddle — the nine-year

Hawks coach — has taught basketball across the globe. Under his tutelage, the United Arab Emirates Olympic team finished 8th place in the 13th Annual Asian Games in Bangkok, Thailand and placed 3rd in the Asian Pro Tournament in Hong Kong, China. Diddle is the second winningest coach at Eastern New Mexico University, leading his squads to an overall record of 156-124.

Howard College, Diddle has helped create a winning women's basketball tradition. His teams are also noted for their academic achievements. Last year, the Lady Hawks held the highest G.P.A. an average of 3.23 — of any other athletic organization on campus.

For more information about Hawk Buddies, contact Diddle at 254-5043 or Lees at 264-5155. Or write the HC Women's Basketball Office, Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720. A permission slip must be signed by a parent or guardian.

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

Parker, Spurs push past Pacers INDIANAPOLIS (AP) field and made three of

 Tony Parker says he's been working on his shot, and it looks as if it's paying off.

Parker had 33 points and 10 assists, and the San Antonio Spurs erased a 17-point deficit on their way to a 104-97 victory over the Indiana Pacers on Friday night.

Tim Duncan had 22 points for San Antonio (10-3), which closed the game with a 17-2 run. Manu Ginobili scored David West scored 22

for the Pacers (6-8), and Paul George finished with 15. George Hill collected 11 points and Roy Hibbert had 10.

Parker made his first eight shots and scored 16 in the first quarter. He put together a 15for-23 night from the See **SPURS**, Page 10A

his four foul shots.

Parker said coach Gregg Popovich "wanted me to be more aggressive, take more shots, and so I've been working with Chip (assistant coach Engelland), and the last two games, it's been working well for me."

West scored seven points and Lance Stephenson had four as the Pacers went on a 13-1 run to build a 70-53 lead with 6:35 to play in the third. But Ginobili and the Spurs responded with an impressive rally.

The 35-year-old Ginobili was seemingly everywhere, ing the lane, taking shots from beyond the



arc and finding his San Antonio's Manu Ginobli tries to keep the ball from Indiana's Paul George during Friday's game. The Spurs defeated the Pacers 104-97.

Ex-boxer Camacho dies after shooting

DANICA COTO

DAVID SKRETTA

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Hector "Macho" Camacho, a Puerto Rican boxer known for skill and flamboyance in the ring as well as for a messy personal life and run-ins with the police, was declared dead on Saturday, four days after being shot in the face. He was 50.

Shot while sitting in a parked car outside a bar Tuesday with a friend in the city of Bayamon, he was declared dead at the Centro Medico trauma center in San Juan. The friend, 49-year-old Adrian Mojica Moreno, died at the scene of the shooting. Police said Mojica had nine small bags of cocaine in his pocket and a 10th bag was found open in the

Originally from Bayamon, just outside San Juan, Camacho was long regarded as a flashy if volatile talent, a skilled boxer who was perhaps overshadowed by his longtime foil, Mexican superstar Julio Cesar Chavez, who would beat him in a long-awaited showdown in Las Vegas in 1992.

Camacho fought professionally for three decades, from his humble debut against David Brown at New York's Felt Forum in 1980 to an equally forgettable swansong against Sal Duran in Kissimmee, Florida, in 2010.

In between, he fought some of the biggest stars spanning two eras, including Sugar Ray Leonard, Felix Trinidad, Oscar De La Hoya and Roberto Duran.

"This is something I've done

all my life, you know?" Camacho told The Associated Press after a workout in 2010. "A couple years back, when I was doing it, I was still enjoying it. The competition, to see myself perform. I know I'm at the age that some people can't do this no more."

Camacho's family moved to New York when he was young and he grew up in Spanish Harlem, which at the time was rife with crime. Camacho landed in jail as a teenager before turning to boxing, which for many kids in his neighborhood provided an outlet for their aggression.

Former featherweight champion Juan Laporte, a friend since childhood, described Camacho as "like a little brother who was always getting into trouble," but otherwise combined a friendly nature with a powerful jab.

"He's a good human being, a good hearted person," Laporte said as he waited with other friends and members of the boxer's family outside the hospital in San Juan after the shooting. "A lot of people think of him as a cocky person but that was his motto ... inside he was just a kid looking for something." Laporte lamented that Cama-

cho never found a mentor outside the boxing ring.

"The people around him didn't have the guts or strength to lead him in the right direction," Laporte said. "There was no one strong enough to put a hand on his shoulder and tell him how to

do it." Drug, alcohol and other problems trailed Camacho after the prime of his boxing career. He was sentenced in 2007 to seven years in prison for the burglarv of a computer store in Mississippi. While arresting him on the burglary charge in January 2005, police also found the drug

ecstasy. A judge eventually suspended all but one year of the sentence and gave Camacho probation. He wound up serving two weeks in jail, though, after violating that

probation. Camacho's former wife, Amy, obtained a restraining order against him in 1998, alleging he threatened her and one of their children. The couple, who had two children at the time, later divorced.

He divided his time between Puerto Rico and Florida in recent years, appearing on Spanishlanguage television as well as on a reality show called "Es Macho Time!" on YouTube.

Inside the boxing ring, Camacho flourished. He won three Golden Gloves titles as an amateur, and after turning pro, he quickly became a contender with an all-action style reminiscent of other Puerto Rican fighters.

Long promoted by Don King, Camacho won his first world title by beating Rafael Limon in a super-featherweight bout in Puerto Rico on Aug. 7, 1983. He moved up in weight two years later to capture a lightweight title by defeating Jose Luis Ramirez, and successfully defended the belt against fellow countryman Edwin Rosario.

The Rosario fight, in which the

See CAMACHO, Page 9A

NFL to examine replay rule from Lions-Texans game

BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK — The rule that negated using video replay to confirm a Houston Texans touchdown "may be too harsh" and will be re-examined immediately, NFL director of football operations Ray Anderson said Friday.

Anderson, also cochairman of the competition committee that suggests rules changes to the owners, said a change could come this year. The NFL traditionally resists changing rules during a sea-

"We will certainly discuss the rule with the competition committee members, as we do all situations involving unique and unusual circumstances, and determine if we feel a change should be recommended to ownership," Anderson said in a statement.

"Not being able to review a play in this situation may be too harsh, and an unintended consequence of trying to prevent coaches from throwing their challenge flag for strategic purposes in situations that are not subject to a coaches' challenge."

Anderson added the NFL is not bound by past events when a rule is proved to have loopholes, and that a 15-yard penalty for throwing the challenge flag on a play that is automatically reviewed might be enough. For now, throwing the challenge flag also eliminates the use of replay. All scoring plays otherwise are

reviewed. Justin Forsett's thirdquarter 81-yard run in the Texans' 34-31 overtime victory at Detroit on Thursday initially was ruled a touchdown, although replays clearly showed his knee and elbow touched the turf when he was hit by Lions defenders. Detroit coach Jim Schwartz challenged, resulting in a 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty and the negated use of video replay. overreacted," "I

Schwartz acknowledged. "And I cost us." In 2011, instant replay

rules were changed to have the replay official initiate a review of all scoring plays. The rule stated that a team is prevented from challenging a play if that team commits a foul

See **REPLAY**, Page 9A

Texans coach Kubiak concerned as injuries mount

HOUSTON(AP)—The Houston Texans won another thriller, but coach Gary Kubiak has growing concerns about the health of his team.

The Texans (10-1) rallied late to force overtime for the second straight game and beat Detroit 34-31 on Thanksgiving. Kubiak was back at Reliant Stadium early Friday morning, mulling over a sobering list of injuries to key players.

Linebackers Brooks Reed (groin) and Bradie James (hamstring), and starting right tackle Derek Newton (right knee) underwent MRI exams on Friday after getting hurt against the Lions. Tight end Garrett Graham hurt his left shoulder in the game, and Houston was already playing without starting cornerback Johnathan Joseph (hamstring), nose tackle Shaun Cody (back), linebacker Tim Dobbins (left shoulder) and backup running back Ben Tate (hamstring).

"We've got some damage this morning, no doubt about that," Kubiak said Friday, "but it is a huge win."

The Texans next play at Tennessee (4-6) on Dec. 2. Kubiak is giving his players the weekend off after a draining five days in which they played nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ games.

On Sunday, Houston came back from 14 points down to beat Jacksonville 43-37 late in overtime, then rallied from a 10-point deficit in the third quarter to beat the Lions after just two days of light practice. The Texans gritted out a 13-6 win in rainy Chicago the previous week.

"I'm amazed at the players and the way they held up," Kubiak said. "During that short period of time, to play that much football and in that competitive environment and the way we had to win the last week together, and even if you throw Chicago in there, it's been very taxing on the team.

"I just said that I think the biggest thing is, after what we've been through physically, winning was so important."

Kubiak says he'd know more about the latest injuries on Monday.

Newton won the start-

ing job at right tackle in training camp and has started every game. Ryan Harris, signed just before the season began, replaced Newton Thursday.

The linebacking corps, meanwhile, is suddenly the Texans' most depleted unit. Brian Cushing was already gone for the season with a torn left knee ligament. Dobbins stepped into Cushing's spot in the starting lineup, but he hurt his left shoulder in the Chicago game.

Reed, who has $2\frac{1}{2}$ sacks and 15 solo tackles this season, pulled up chasing Joique Bell on Thursday, and James left in the fourth quarter after assisting on a tackle of Mikel Leshoure.

Luckily for Kubiak, Darryl Sharpton is back after missing a year with a torn right quadriceps.

The injuries also create more opportunity for first-round pick Whitney Mercilus, who had four solo tackles and two for loss on Thursday.

Aside from the injuries, Kubiak is starting to have concerns about the defense, which was ranked fourth overall

and seventh against the pass coming into the Lions game.

But Houston has given up 791 yards passing and six touchdown passes in the last two games, and Kubiak says the mounting injuries are becoming a factor.

"We have not played to our standard the last two weeks defensively,' Kubiak said. "Obviously, if we lined up today, we're missing three of our four starting linebackers," Kubiak said. "I mean, that's a concern. Then, when your top corner sits down. There are some things there to say, 'OK, we can be better if we can get healthy here.' But still, we've got to look at it and say, 'That's not

The Texans escaped Detroit with a win when Shayne Graham kicked a 32-yard field goal with 2:21 left in overtime. Graham is 20 for 25 this season, but he missed a 51-yarder that would've given Houston the victory earlier in the extra period. He also badly hooked a 47-yarder at the end of regulation against Jacksonville.

Kubiak is also con-

kickoffs are coming up short

something we've been working on," Kubiak said. "It is a concern because field position is so huge in the game. He has kicked pretty

cerned that Graham's well for us. We expect him to make that kick at the end of the game. "He's just inconsistent I know it's a 50-yarder, hitting the ball and it's but that's our business, that's what he's here to do."

Graham won the job when rookie Randy Bullock tore a groin muscle in training camp.



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REPLAY

Continued from Page 8A

that prevents the next snap, or if a challenge flag is thrown when an automatic review would take place. A 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty is assessed as well as the elimination of the replay review for the play.

Anderson But, as noted, getting the calls right is paramount and that the league may have overlooked the scenario that occurred in Detroit.

Anderson also said the play in which Lions de-

kong Suh kicked Texans quarterback Matt Schaub in the groin will be reviewed. He called

fensive tackle Ndamu-

the play "out of the ordinary."

Suh could face a suspension if he is found to have intentionally kicked Schaub. A year ago on Thanksgiving, Suh was ejected for stomping on the right arm of Green Bay offensive lineman Evan Dietrich-Smith and subsequently was suspended for two games.

Suh has been fined in previous seasons for roughing up quarterbacks Andy Dalton, Jay Cutler and Jake Delhomme.

Similar incidents to the replay flap, but not involving scores happened last season in San Francisco's win, coincidentally at Detroit, and last week when the Falcons beat Arizona.

The rule was adopted in part because of a situation in a Redskins-Giants game in December

Officials on the field ruled a fumble recovered by the Giants, and the ball was made ready for play. But Washington veteran linebacker London Fletcher kicked the ball and was called for delay of game. While the penalty was being

enforced, Washington challenged the ruling of a fumble.

The competition committee felt that a team could benefit from committing a penalty in that situation, giving it more time to challenge

It was decided that the new rule would also apply when a team throws the challenge flag on a play that can't be challenged — including scoring plays, turnovers, when the team is out of challenges or timeouts, and inside the final two minutes of a half or game, or in

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CAMACHO

Continued from Page 8A

victorious Camacho still took a savage beating, persuaded him to scale back his ultraaggressive style in favor of a more cerebral, defensive approach.

The change in style was a big reason that Camacho, at the time 38-0, lost a close split decision to Greg Haugen at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas in 1991.

Camacho won the rematch to set up his signature fight against Chavez, this time at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas. Camacho

was roundly criticized for his lack of action, and the Mexican champion won a lopsided unanimous decision to retain the lightweight

It was at that point that Camacho became the name opponent for other rising contenders, rather than the headliner fighting for his own

He lost a unanimous decision to another young Puerto Rican fighter, Trinidad, and was soundly defeated by De La Hoya. In 1997, Camacho ended Leonard's final comeback with a fifth-round knockout. It was Camacho's last big victory even though he boxed for another de-

"Hector was a fighter who brought a lot of excitement to boxing," said Ed Brophy, executive director of International the Boxing Hall of Fame.

"He was a good champion. Roberto Duran is kind of in a class of his own, but Hector surely was an exciting fighter that gave his all to the sport."

The fighter's last title bout came in 1997 against welterweight champion Oscar De La Hoya, who won by unanimous decision. Camacho's last fight was his defeat by Duran in May 2010. He had a career record of 79-6-3.









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McIlroy, Donald share lead after Round 3 in Dubai

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Rory McIlroy sank a short birdie putt on the 18th hole Saturday to remain tied with Luke Donald as the world's two top-ranked golfers pulled three shots clear of a star-studded field after the third round of the Dubai World Champion-

The top-ranked McIlroy, who has already wrapped up the European and PGA Tour money titles, struggled early when he bogeyed the first hole and missed several makeable birdie putts. But he improved on the back nine, sinking a 30-foot eagle putt on 14 to go with three birdies for a 6-under 66.

Donald also had a 66 and is tied with McIlory with a 17-under total of 199.

"I've done a majority of my scoring this week on the back nine and that's the way it went today," McIlroy said. "Took me a few holes to adjust. But once I got comfortable, I started to hit some good shots and give my-self opportunities for birdies."

Donald had his third consecu-

tive bogey-free round and has now gone 100 holes at the Dubai tournament without one. If he wins Sunday without carding a bogey, he will match the feat of Sweden's Jesper Parnevik, who won the 1995 Scandinavian Masters without dropping a shot.

"I was, again, just trying to play solid golf, minimize mistakes," said Donald, who won in Japan last week to overtake Tiger Woods for the No. 2 spot in the rankings. "I guess it's a testament to how I play the game. I kind of keep the ball in front of me and, when I get in trouble, I've got a good short game to bail myself out."

South Africans Louis Oosthuizen (68) and Charl Schwartzel (67) are three shots back, while compatriot Branden Grace and Joostis Luiten of France are a further two shots behind. Seven others are six shots off the pace, including Scotsman Marc Warren, who started the day tied with McIlroy and Donald but had three bogeys on his first 12 holes to fall out of contention.

The round of the day, howev-

er, went to Jeev Milkha Singh. Still recovering from a hand injury and worried about his mother, who was hospitalized after a fall, the Indian golfer shot a 64 to match the course record and move into a tie for 25th. He strung together three consecutive birdies on the front nine and four straight after the turn in a round that included a total of nine birdies to go with a lone bogey on the 10th.

"I dedicate this round to my

mother," Singh said. "She was in the ICU yesterday. I learned about it just before I teed off."
Though McIlroy and Donald

didn't play together, it seemed the world's top golfers were having a duel of sorts all day.

Donald struck first, sinking two birdie putts on the first three holes, while McIlroy hit his opening drive into a bunker and settled for a bogey.

McIlroy pulled a shot back with a birdie on No. 3 and then sank a 25-foot birdie putt on the sixth hole before Donald sank birdies on 7 and 9 to extend his lead.

SPURS

Continued from Page 8A

teammates for open baskets. He scored seven points and Parker added six as the Spurs closed the period with a 20-7 run.

"No panic," Parker said.
"Obviously, Indiana was making a run the third quarter. They were making great shots and playing great defense, and we just didn't panic. We just keep playing.
"In the third quarter,

we cut it to four, so that was huge for us. And then, in the fourth quarter, we started making stops, and we made the shots that we needed."

Indiana grabbed a 95-90 lead on Hill's jumper from the free-throw line with 5:30 to play. But the Pacers missed their last 11 shots, managing just two free throws by West down the stretch.

"I think we competed our tails off, but give credit to San Antonio," Pacers coach Frank Vogel said. "They executed better than we did down the stretch and got the W.

"Our guys are playing good offensive basketball and executing pretty well. That's the game of basketball for you, though. Sometimes, the ball doesn't go in the basket.

Gary Neal fueled San Antonio's final surge with two free throws and a basket. Parker hit a jumper from the free-throw line and Duncan followed with a jumper from the top of the key and a layup after a scramble for a loose ball. Parker sank two free throws for a 103-95 lead with 1:33 to play.

West made two free throws with 55 seconds left, but Parker hit a foul shot with 25 seconds to go.

"He got us going the whole game," Popovich said of Parker. "He had double-digit assists, 33 points. He was phenomenal. He played great D."

George said Parker is tough to stop when he gets going. "It's hard to be able to get gaps and slow him

"It's hard to be able to get gaps and slow him down, because they've got a lot of shooters spotting up," he said. "It's kind of pick your poison."

"We couldn't put the ball in the basket at the end. It just got real difficult, for some reason. We got great looks. Sometimes, it goes like that."



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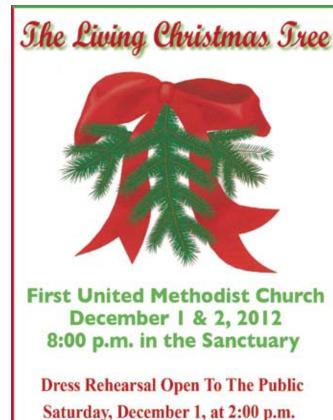


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Page 1B

Sunday, November 25, 2012

The Chalet celebrates 25 years of helping others

The Chalet Resale Shop, which has evolved into nearly a \$200,000 a year operation, had its auspicious beginnings as a garage sale to raise money for volunteers to attend the state convention.

Organizers of that meager first venture probably would be floored to learn volunteers made more than

The Chalet Resale Shop 115 E. Second St. Big Spring, TX 79720 432 263-0528

Hours of operation: Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Donations are accepted at the east entrance during normal working hours. **Donations are tax-deduct**ible.

The Chalet Resale Shop can be found on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and tumblr

\$185,000 last year. And to boot, the store is open for only three hours a day and four on Saturdays.

How it rose to such prominence can only be attributed to the volunteers who have donated hundreds of thousands of hours during the past 25 years, Big Spring State Hospital Superintendent Ed Moughon said.

"It's always been amazing to me the amount of money they can make by selling items for a dollar here and a dollar there." Moughon said. "Those of us who have had garage sales can testify that selling \$1 items does not generate a lot of revenue."

But Moughon points out that the generous donations from the public and the tedious work of volunteers who often mend or work on items at home have squeezed every penny out of each donation despite its condi-

The Chalet Resale Shop's history is sketchy at best. No official recording of its growing prominence into the Big Spring retail market is understandable. Many of the men and women responsible for The Chalet were too busy volunteering to stop and pen its beginnings.

But we do know that about the time Murlene Williams, Bill Wallace and the large contingent from Ackerly

who were early volunteers who washed and set the hair for numerous patients while the men played dominoes, the idea of a garage sale sprung forth. The state convention was fast approaching but money was short on getting the group to the convention site so they rounded up donated items and sold them, Chalet Co-Chairman Ruth

Nanny remembered. Eventually the garage sale turned into a little thrift store on Third Street around Februarv 1986 and was run by volunteers Doris Dav and Betty Miller.

"They outgrew that and moved to the bus station on Runnels street and were there for a long, long time, but the roof was about to fall in and the owners didn't want to fix it, so we moved to 11th over by Big Spring High School," Nanny said.

The space was small and they were lucky if they made \$40 a day, she remembered.

"Nothing was very organized," Nanny said. "When I worked (at the location on Third Street), it was just a little rinky-dink junk store and when we went to 11th

Street there was more room and better lighting but there weren't enough volunteers. It was just there."

"Nothing was sized; nothing was organized, simply because we didn't have the manpower. We moved here (115 E. Second St.) awhile back and I looked at it and thought we would never fill this thing up but then we needed more room and I asked Allan of Allan's Furniture if we could use the adjacent room for a staging and sorting area. At first I had three racks in there and now we can barely move around it's so full" "At our old place (11 $^{ ext{th}}$ Street), if we

did \$40 in a day, I thought 'beautiful, wonderful.' Now we do 600, 700, 800 dollars a day, and I roll my eyes and I can't believe it."

Official records from the Big Spring

See **CHALET**, Page xB







Where does the money go?

Spring State Room Hospital's Volunteer Services Council operates The Chalet and conducts the highly successful Cars, Stars and Handlebars each spring. All money raised Volunteer the by Services Council benefits the patients at Big Spring State Hospital through various projects, including:

- 1. Family Visitation Center
- 2. Tollett All-Faith
- Chapel 3. Don and Marilyn
- Newsom Family Lodge 4. Greenhouse
- 5. Walking Track
- 6. Natatorium 7. Animal Assisted
- Therapy Center
- 8. Patient Trams 9. Recovery
- Courtyards 10. Internet Cafe
- 11. Multi-Sensory

804 DALLAS

- - 12. Patient Gazebo 13. Pillow Pals
 - 14. We Care Bags
 - 15. Operation Reading
 - 16. Fashion Shop
 - 17. Birthday Cakes
 - 18. Operation Cookie
 - 19. Mother's Day Tea 20. Holiday parties
 - 21. Summer Fun Day
 - 22. Bingo
- 23. Kids Visitation Day

Willing to help?

Big Spring State Hospital is always looking for volunteers who can donate their time once a week or once a month at The Chalet Resale Shoppe or for special events, such as Cars, Stars and Handlebars.

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Menus

Big Spring Senior Center

Monday: Taco salad, fiesta corn, tortilla chips, salad, mandarin oranges, milk.

Tuesday: Cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, baked tater tots, peaches and cream, milk.

Wednesday: Chicken tenders black-eyed peas, glazed carrots, fruit, bread, milk.

Thursday: Hamburger steak, brown gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, tossed salad, peach crisp, rolls, milk.

Friday: Smoked sausage, mac and cheese, green beans, coleslaw, fruit, rolls, milk.

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Frosted Flakes, juice, milk; Lunch: Pepperoni pizza, baby carrots, sliced bell peppers, fruit cocktail, Orange Smiles, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Taco Roll, juice, milk; Lunch: Chicken spaghetti, salad, green beans, apricots, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, juice, milk; Lunch: Tex-Mex stack, border beans, mixed vegetables, pineapple chunks, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: PBJ uncrustable, juice, milk; Lunch: Corn dog, applesauce, cucumbers, spicy jicama, banana, milk.

Friday" Breakfast: Cinnamon french toast, juice, milk; Lunch: Beefy macaroni, corn, broccoli, strawberries, milk.

See **MENUS**, Page 3B

How to donate clothing to The Chalet

It's true that one man's trash is another man's treasure, but sometimes one man's trash is simply that — trash. If something has been sitting in the garage for 20 years with the remnants of dead bugs and mouse droppings, it's safe to say it may not be best suited for donation.

But if anyone can sell it, it's the volunteers at The Chalet Resale Shop, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shop is operated by the Volunteer Services Council of Big Spring State Hospital and benefits the hospital's patients.

The Chalet Resale Shop prides itself on accepting anything and everything, excluding refrigerators, stoves and washers and dryers. "We just don't have the room for them," Co-Director Ruth Nanny said.

"Those items that can't be sold or are too badly damaged are sent to a company in Lubbock for the mentally disadvantaged who tries to sell them one more time. When they can't be sold there, they are turned into rags for cleaning and polishing. So everything that comes in the door is given a second chance at The Chalet."

Despite The Chalet's "Accept anything and everything" adage, they do have some suggestions on the best way to donate items and streamline their workload.

- Only send clean items. "I don't like to tell people to dry clean items because it pains me to see a tag on there for dry cleaning for \$4 and then we sell it for \$2, but we would like clothing to be clean. We have limited ability to wash and dry items. We will do that in some cases, such as when a sheet that's in good shape just needs some freshening up. When items have been in a smoking household and are in good condition, the volunteers may wash or freshen them up. We can wash things but we seldom do."
- If items already are on hangars, they can be left hanging. "We do know that hangers can be expensive so we don't need them hanging up," Nanny said. "But if they are already hung up and you don't need the hangars, we sure appreciate them in already hanging condition. But it doesn't matter. Sacks, hangers, boxes — we take them in any form or fashion."
- And Nanny suggests that you search pockets for loose change, valuable papers, and keys before donating.
- Please do not bring the contents of your laundry basket or trash can. "Believe it or not, that has hap-

pened," Nanny said. "We have had things donated right out of the bathroom floor and kitchen trash can which still had the egg shells and coffee grounds mixed in. When that happens, it just goes straight out to the

- If possible, bring items in working order. "If it worked last week, last month, last year, let us know," Nanny said. "If it's not working, let us
- Men's clothing is especially needed. "Men love their clothes," Nanny said. "They just don't like to get rid of them. We are always in need of men's clothing, especially for our patients at the hospital and in larger sizes."
- Any type of furniture is accepted except large appliances, such as washing machines, dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators. "We just don't have the space or manpower to handle large electrical appliances." Used furniture, such as bureaus, couches and chairs are accepted.
- Small housewares, such as plates, mixing bowls and kitchen accessories are desired by many shopping at The Chalet. "You can find anything from a French coffee press to a Pyrex measuring cup," Nanny said. "Kitchen utensils get lots of second

Many of The Chalet shoppers visit the store daily, Co-Direct Jobeth Corwin said. "We have lots of repeat customers, especially after our 'work days'." The Chalet closes one day a month to wipe down displays, clean floors and do any heavy cleaning that volunteers are unable to get to during a normal work week. New items are introduced to the floor every day. If items

are on hangars or are top-of-the line seasonal items they may be placed out within days. Some items may take months depending on when volunteers can get to them, Nanny said. Each volunteer heads up a section of clothing — The

Boutique for more fashionable items — or housewares or Capri pants. When the item has languished for more than a month it is put in the Recycle Room for the trip to Lubbock and a chance at a second life. "It's really hard to say what doesn't sell and what does

sell," Nanny said. "If something is badly stained — like baby clothing, it may not sell. But we do sell more than we Donations are accepted during business hours at the East

end of The Chalet. Store hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and oftentimes donations are accepted long before the store opens and closes. "We have volunteers who stay long after we close," Corwin said.

Tax-deductible donation forms are available upon request, Nanny said.

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

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CHALET

Continued from Page 1

Community Hospital Relations office that provides administrative support for The Chalet shows that in 1998, the Chalet pulled in \$13,406, said Jamey Stegall, Director Community Relations. That pales in comparison to the nearly \$200,000 The Chalet brought in this past year.

Stegall and Nanny said the Chaiets success is three-pronged: the public's generous donations, the dedicated volunteers and the knowledge that all money earned at The Chalet goes to the hospital's patients.

In an effort to give back to The Chalet, patients advocated to work in The Chalet, Big Spring State Hospital Patient Education Coordinator Debby Cook said.

A patient program was implemented in September 2010, where patients under staff supervision worked in The Chalet two days a week sorting clothing and items in the workroom, Cook said. When the program proved successful, it was expanded to four days a week in January 2011.

Volunteering at the Chalet just proved natural, Cook said. "We felt that the patients could ben-

301 E. 24th

efit from giving back to society. The Chalet was the perfect place to start this program, as many of the volunteers are former hospital employees and have a good understanding of the challenges those persons with mental illness face and how to cope with those challenges. Also, we felt that reintegration into the community was an important step in their recovery."

Patients learn new skills, such as working in a retail environment and they also enjoy working off campus and mingling with the volunteers which assists them as they transition from a hospital to their home environment.

In addition, The Chalet benefits, Co-Director Jobeth Corwin said. "The patients have been invaluable."

"The Chalet has a massive amount of work that needs to be done on a daily basis," Cook said. "The patients help the volunteers with sorting, stocking, and cleaning the store. Also, the volunteers really enjoy the interaction with the patients. The volunteers get to personally know the patients they are helping, and they get to find out first-hand how much benefit the patients are receiving from all of their hard work."

When Nanny first started at The Chalet many years ago, it was just a little two-man operation

where she would scramble to put up items, man the money box and sort through donations.

The new space and cadre of volunteers is invaluable to their mission to help out the patients.

"Just being able to have the space to organize and keep it clean and the volunteers we have is what makes us successful," Nanny said. "If we didn't have volunteers to put the books out and sort clothes, you would have chaos. Everyone has their job. One washes the knick-knacks, one washes the dishes another sorts and cleans the shoes. Our volunteers are the backbone."

The Chalet always needs additional volunteers. If you would like more information, call Stegall at 432 268-7535 or stop by The Chalet and ask for Nanny or Cor-

The Chalet continues to evolve recently adding facebook, twitter, tumblr and instagram pages. Most announcements come in the form of special events, such Thursday's ribbon cutting hosted by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and Volunteer Services Council and to post photos of valuable, rare and highly sought-after items. "We are always looking for the best way to bring in more revenue," Nanny said.

By Steve Becker Hot Potato

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable. NORTH 1083 North West East South

Pass

Opening lead king of hearts

3 NT

Occasionally, a player has the opportunity to make a play that is so unusual, it raises the question of how anyone might be smart enough to

think of it when the moment of truth is at hand. But bridge is a game of logic, and in many cases it is possible to arrive at the winning action through a process of logical thought.

Consider this deal where West, defending against three notrump, led the king and another heart to East's

ace. East returned the deuce of hearts

to South's queen, whereupon West

 a player hitherto known to be of sound mind - discarded the ace of clubs! As a result, declarer went down one. The best he could do was to score three spades, a heart, three diamonds and a club.

Had West discarded a spade or a diamond instead of the ace of clubs, South would no doubt have made four notrump by leading a club to dummy's king at trick four (if East had the ace, the contract could not be made). A second round of clubs, collecting East's queen and West's ace, would then have established the suit. West's extraordinary discard

was well-conceived. He read East's return of the deuce of hearts from the 9-8-7-2 (all equals at this point) as a signal suggesting an honor card in This was in accordance with the

suit-preference convention by which a low-card return indicates interest in card return — the nine, say – denote interest in a higher-ranking

Once East had by inference denied interest in spades or diamonds, the ace-of-clubs discard became logical since it would allow East to gain the lead with the queen of clubs to collect his remaining hearts. West simply had to realize that in this deal, the ace of clubs was not an asset but a liability that had to be quickly disposed of.

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Annie's Mailbox ®

KATHY MITCHELL

Marcy Sugar

Dear Annie: I am in a dispute with my kids' middle school. For the past two summers, the school has recommended to our 8th-grade students several reading selections that contain crude language and explicit sexual content. I don't undertogether stand why. The "reading and raise specialist" who helped seyour conlect the titles says, "Kids cerns with need to read things that the adminaren't pretty, because life istration. isn't perfect." I argue that

per without the lewd language and sexual content. I'm also disgusted with the administration and school committee for supporting these recommendations. I'm not looking to ban any books. Parents are free to acquire these titles at bookstores and libraries. I'm only looking for the school to exhibit some level of respect when suggesting titles for

they can read about all of

the imperfect things in

the world in the newspa-

Is this a common situation? Can parents no longer assume that the books our schools are giving to our kids are within expected parameters? — Sickened on the East Coast

their students.

Dear Sickened: We assume you have read these books and so have a fair basis for your complaint. Some books with offensive language or content are valuable selections because problems brought up in a way that provokes a careful and

intelligent discussion **Contact**

the Herald

at 263-7331

of issues that kids need to hear and that parents are often reluctant to bring up. However, if you feel these books do not accomplish anything worthwhile, the best way to alter the school's choices is to get a group of parents

They more likely to listen to multiple parents who reasonable objections.

Dear Annie: My sister and I have been

estranged for many years, in part because I was not a good sister, and also because her husband is a liar who stole more than \$60,000 from our parents, who could not afford the I am getting married

soon, and my parents would like to see us get along. I was happy to invite her to my wedding, but when she RSVP'd, she included her husband. He was not invited.

If I tell her he's not welcome, I fear the reunion my parents want will be canceled and our relationship will never

be repaired. However, it is my wedding day, and I don't want my sister's husband's presence to put a damper on it. Any suggestions? — Want Peace in the Family

Dear Peace: We hate to stick up for a guy who stole mon-

from parents, but it is improper invite one half of a married couple, no matter how much you dislike the They are a packdeal. age Your parents, who his were victims,

seem willing to forgive him. And you admit that you weren't a "good sister." So there appears to be blame to go around and forgiveness from those who were most aggrieved. You don't have to interact with the guy or be more than polite. But try to tolerate his presence for the sake of your parents. This is apparently the price of reconciliation.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "N.Y., N.Y.," 34-year-old who doesn't want to see her ailing grandparents anymore because one has dementia and the other doesn't smell good. I'm having a hard time replying in acceptable language. My dear father-in-law

has dementia and is unable to care for himself. He's visited frequently by all of his extended family, even those who live hundreds of miles away. My mom is in a wheelchair and is incontinent and unable to bathe often. Her grandchildren wish she lived closer so they could visit more often.

I envy adults who have grandparents. "N.Y., N.Y." doesn't indicate that her grandmothers have been abusive or unkind, and she used to visit them frequently. Ultimately, her shocking selfishness will hurt her more than anyone else. - S from R

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

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MENUS

Continued from Page 2B

- Junior high alternative entree, daily: Chicken patty sandwich, hamburger, na-
- High school alternative entree, daily: Chicken patty sandwich, hamburger, pizza, burrito bar.

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Holiday Tuesday: Breakfast: Quesadilla; Lunch:

Corn dog, cheese pizza, baked beans, tomato and cucumber cup, apple-pineapple Breakfast: Wednesday: Cinnamon french toast sticks; Lunch: Nachos

grande, ham/cheese sandwich, refried beans, salad, Orange Smiles, chocolate chip cookie (hs). Thursday: Breakfast: Gravy breakfast burrito; Lunch: Chicken sandwich, hot

dog, oven fries, fresh veggie cup, fruity Friday: Breakfast: Burrito; Lunch: Pep-

peroni pizza, chicken and broccoli penne, salad, baby carrots, grapes, breadstick.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Grahamwich, cereal, juice, milk; Lunch: Corn dog, baked beans, tomato and cucumber salad, applepineapple d'lite, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, cereal, juice, milk; Lunch: Nachos grande, refried beans, salad, Orange Smiles,

Wednesday: Pancakes and sausage, ce-

real, juice, milk; Lunch: Chicken sand-

wich, oven fries, veggie cup, fruity gelatin, pickle slices, milk. Thursday: Breakfast burrito, cereal,

juice, milk; Lunch: Beefy macaroni, salad, baby carrots, grapes, breakstick, milk. Friday: Cereal, cinnamon toast, juice,

milk; Lunch: Pepperoni or cheese pizza, crunchy broccoli salad, corn, fruit, milk. High school students are also offered a

fresh fruit bowl.

sudoku

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Business and Agriculture

SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting item for the Business and Agriculture pages? Call the Herald at 263-7331.

Page 4B Sunday, November 25, 2012

Texas needs to hold roofers accountable

efore a barber can charge \$20 for a haircut, he or she must have taken 1,500 hours of course work during a minimum of nine months training. They will be required to take a final examination and then pay \$60 to obtain their license. To place a \$10,000 roof on someone's home requires no experience, no training and no license. We hope that is about to change.

Roofing contractors have no requirements for any type



Haigood

quired to carry any liability insurance or accountability for their work. They can represent themselves as expert roofers and insurance

specialists.

of work-related

training, nor

are they re-

The state has no record of these workers in the event that they damage or provide poor workmanship or rip the homeowner off of several thousand dollars without doing any work at all.

Legislation calling for licensing roofing contractors will be introduced during the next Texas legislative session and we urge all homeowners to contact their local state representative and state senator to support this measure.

No one is recommending 1,500 hours of training, but having roofing contractors secure a liability insurance policy would protect homeowners from accidental or intentional damage. A nominal fee to obtain a license would also enable the state to pay for having in place a record of each roofing contractor, who they are and how they can be reached.

Instead of costing more money to install or repair a roof, the legislation would have the opposite effect. More responsible roofing contractors would mean less fraud and better workmanship requiring fewer repairs

such as fixing damage to the inside of a home from rain because of an improperly installed roof.

The roofing business is a multi-million dollar industry in Texas. Multiple hailstorms in the Dallas/ Fort Worth area alone this past spring caused nearly \$2 billion in damage to homes, businesses and vehicles. With thousands of roofs to replace, workers wanting to take advantage of this busi-

See ROOFERS, Page 5B



Moss Elementary School PTA held a Veterans Day Coin Drive in which students collected \$685.28 in change that was donated the West Texas VA Health Care System. Megan Best's first grade class collected \$96.01, the most in the school. Best and students Ryleigh Pirraglia, Kaegan Baker and Cierra Turner are pictured, along with West Texas VA Heatlh Care System officials Daniel Marsh, Charles Silveri, Kenneth Allensworth and Dr. Raul Zambrano.

Crowds clog stores early as Black Friday kicks off shopping season

The Associated Press

This year's Black Friday shoppers were split into two distinct groups: those who wanted to fall into a turkey-induced slumber and who'd rather shop.

Stores typically open in the wee hours of the morning on the day after Thanksgiving that's called Black Friday because of retail folklore that it's when merchants turn a profit for the year. But after testing how shoppers would respond to earlier hours last year, stores such as Target and Toys R Us this year opened as early as Thanksgiving evening. That created two separate waves of shoppers.

Sam Chandler, 55, and his wife, Lori Chandler, 54, were a part of the early group. By the time they reached the Wal-Mart in Greenville, S.C. early Friday, they had already hit several stores, including Target and Best Buy. In fact, they had been shopping since midnight.

"We've learned over the years, you have to stand in line early and pray," Sam said.

Stu and April Schatz, residents of Rockland County, N.Y., preferred to get a later start. They went to the Shops at the Garden State Plaza mall in Paramus, N.J., which didn't open until

"We've learned over the years, you have to stand in line early and pray."

Sam Chandler

7 a.m. on Black Friday, because they didn't want to deal with the crowds that show up for openings late night on Thanksgiving or midnight on Black Friday.

"It's so much more civilized going in the morning," said April Schatz, a teacher. "We wanted to enjoy our evening."

The earlier hours are an effort by stores to make shopping as convenient as possible for Americans, who they fear won't spend freely during the two-month holiday season in November and December because of economic uncertainty. Many shoppers are worried about high unemployment and a package of tax increases and spending cuts known as the "fiscal cliff" that will take effect in January unless Congress passes a budget deal by then.

At the same time, Americans have grown more comfortable shopping on websites that offer cheap prices and the convenience of being able to buy something

from smartphones, lap-

tops and tablet comput-

ers from just about anywhere. That puts added pressure on brick-andmortar stores, which can make up to 40 percent of their annual revenue during the holiday shopping season, to give consumers a compelling reason to leave their homes.

That's becoming more difficult: the National Retail Federation, an industry trade group, estimates that overall sales in November and December will rise 4.1 percent this year to \$586.1 billion, below last year's 5.6 percent growth. . But the online part of that is expected to rise 15 percent to \$68.4 billion, according to Forrester

Research. As a result, brickretailers and-mortar have been trying everything they can to lure consumers into stores. Some stores tested the earlier hours last year, but this year more retailers opened doors late on Thanksgiving or at midnight on Black Friday. In addition to expanding their

hours, many also are

offering free layaways

and shipping, matching the cheaper prices of online rivals and updating their mobile shopping apps with more infor-

mation. "Every retailer wants to beat everyone else," said C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group, a research firm based in Charleston, S.C. "Shoppers love it."

Indeed, some holiday shoppers seemed to find stores' earlier hours appealing. Julie Hansen, a spokeswoman at Mall of America in Minneapolis, said 30,000 people showed up for the mall's midnight opening, compared with 20,000 last year. She noted that shoppers are coming in waves, and sales aren't just being shifted around.

"This is additional dollars," Hansen said.

About 11,000 shoppers were in lines wrapped around Macy's flagship store in New York City's Herald Square when it opened at midnight on Black Friday. That's up from an estimated 9,000 to 10,000 shoppers who showed up the store's midnight opening last

Joan Riedewald, private aide for the elderly, and her four children ages six to 18, were among them. By that

See CROWDS, Page 5B

time, she already had

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a managing director — investments for the Wells Fargo Advisors Midland office.

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



et's get this out of the way right at the beginning; We do not believe the United States is going to roll over the "fiscal cliff." Are we going to see increased market volatility based on the gridlock that will at least temporarily rear its ugly head on Capitol Hill as negotiations begin? The answer is almost certainly yes.

After a seven-week hiatus from partisan bickering leading up to and through the election, the makeup of the players, from the president to both houses of Congress, is nearly unchanged. There is really not a reason, at least initially, to believe there will be a giant "kumbaya" moment where legislators on both sides of the aisle come together to forge an agreement that will fully address not only the fiscal cliff but also the huge budget deficits America is racking up every year.

The most likely outcome is that some sort of minor agreement is reached that will prevent the economy from rolling over the cliff. Some combination of spending cuts and tax hikes that affect a relatively small number of people in a minimal way but satisfy the immediate need to get something, anything, done.

This agreement may be mostly hammered out in the lame duck session of Congress that begins today but the finalization is not likely to come until after the first of the year when the new session begins. The stock market should take this development as a positive start to further future negotiations over the bigger fiscal problems we face as a nation and the nearer-term debt ceiling

limit debate. With the threat of major domestic economic upheaval taken off the table for at least the time being, investors will likely get back to focusing on the prospect for the economy and earnings growth in the year ahead. We think those prospects portend a good year for the market in 2013. The Federal Reserve has vowed to keep interest rates low, employment and consumer confidence are slowly improving and companies are profitable and sitting on piles of cash. Additional benefits to the U.S. stock market could come from a better than expected rebound in Chinese growth and a euro-zone economy that is "less bad" in

In our opinion, the recent market pullback should be viewed as an opportunity. So far, the downside for the major averages has not been substantial but we are not looking for a big retracement in the market. Investors are currently nervous about many things. A month or so ago, we cautioned investors not to overanalyze any potential pullback and we stand by that state-

Investors should begin to put a portion of sideline money to work now. As always, our chances of picking the exact market bottom is slim. But right now, given the potential we see for the S&P 500 Index through year-end 2013, we can sum up our thoughts using a simple mathematical equation: uncertainty + pullback = opportunity.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. This article was produced Nov. 13 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.

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Out standing 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

Tiffiny 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, Lubock

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

Joseph 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,

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

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Eunice Torres Gonzalez, 7311 Westmoor, Odesa

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, ig Spring

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Donald Jones, 3718 Ave. V, Snyder
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Spring Ronnie Trevino Martinez, 1109 E. 11th place, Big Spring

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Betty Jane McWilliams, 2511 Hunter, Big Spring Cory James Michalewicz, 1106 Briscoe Cove, Hutto Nicholas Craig Mills, 3225 Cornell, Big Spring

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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 Oliva Rosa Rodriguez. 1201 Settles. Big Spring

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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

Conservation groups debate gas drilling ties

PITTSBURGH (AP) — As a natural gas drilling boom sweeps Pennsylvania and other states, conservation groups are debating whether it makes sense to work with the industry to minimize impacts to the environment — and whether to accept industry donations.

The big question is

The big question is "how to deal with this overwhelming impact," said Phil Wallis, executive director of the Pennsylvania chapter of the Audubon Society, adding that the industry "in general, is interested in resolving these issues."

The drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, has made it possible to tap into deep reserves of oil and gas but has also raised concerns about pollution. Large volumes of water, along with sand and hazardous chemicals, are injected underground to break rock apart and free the oil and gas.

Over the past five years thousands of new wells have been drilled across Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio, and hundreds of miles of pipeline have been laid to transport the gas to market. And that's just a snapshot of a similar boom in Texas, Colorado and other states.

Wallis and the Pennsylvania Audubon chapter discovered that even casual conversations with the drilling industry can generate controversy.

In August, Audubon partnered with the Mar-

cellus Shale Coalition, an industry group, and the Ruffed Grouse Society to hold a series of gatherings for birdwatchers, anglers, hunters and hikers to ask questions about drilling. The meetings didn't attract much notice until it emerged that some had discussed whether the industry might donate \$30 million to set up an endowment to fund research on drilling impacts. The idea of dona-

The idea of donations "came up several times," said Don Williams, a Harleysville, Pa. resident.

"It caught me com-

pletely off guard. I see that as somehow basically latching on and riding the coattails of the industry," Williams said. "The message itself bothered me."

After Williams wrote a

blog post about the meeting, Audubon quickly responded that there had been no decision to seek gas drilling donations. Wallis said the \$30 million was just a hypothetical number about funding a research project on drilling that a number of conservations groups might provide staff for.

Williams said a representative of Chesapeake Energy was at the meeting, acting as more of a general industry representative. Chesapeake spokesman Rory Sweeny declined to comment on whether the company is donating to any environmental groups.

Two more public meetings with outdoor

groups are scheduled for December, said Steve Forde, a spokesman for the Marcellus Shale Coalition.

"The sportsmen and conservation communities are an important part of Pennsylvania's heritage and key partners in responsible shale gas development," Forde wrote in an email. But he added that the coalition hasn't discussed donations with any of the outdoor groups that helped set up the sessions.

It's a sensitive issue. Earlier this year, the Sierra Club acknowledged that from 2007 to 2010 it had secretly accepted more than \$26 million from individuals or subsidies connected to Chesapeake. After deciding it would no longer take such donations, the group launched a campaign that is critical of the gas drilling industry.

Environmental groups and some scientists say there hasn't been enough research on water and air pollution issues that stem from drilling. The industry and many federal and state officials say the practice is safe when done properly, and that many rules on air pollution and disclosure of the chemicals used in fracking are being strengthened.

Sitting down with people in the gas drilling industry makes sense, said Mark Brownstein, the chief counsel for the energy program at the Environmental Defense Fund.

ROOFERS

Continued from Page 4B

ness opportunity poured into Texas from all over the country. For some of these workers the last thing on their mind was building a great roof for a fair price for the good of the homeowner.

After the spring hail-

storms the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) said it received more than 100 reports of roofers gouging both homeowners and insurance companies by inflating damage estimates, performing poor workmanship, using substandard materials and actually causing damage to roofs to get work. The National Insurance Crime Bureau

said many of the victims are senior citizens or people with language barriers.

The average price for a new roof can cost \$10,000 or more. For that kind of money Texas homeowners should expect some responsibility. Having to obtain a license would allow the state to follow the work of roofing contractors and revoke their license if they are providing shoddy work, getting paid for no work at all or committing insurance fraud.

Roofing contractors who claim to be insurance specialists and advise policyholders on matters regarding an insurance contract or claim are violating state insurance law. It has gotten so bad that

TDI Commissioner Eleanor Kitzman issued a bulletin this summer warning homeowners to watch out for roofers who have been advertising or making promises to "work" insurance claims. These promises require a public adjuster's license.

If our homes are damaged in a storm, we want the repairs done right. No one wants to become a victim of a fraudulent roofing contractor, and the requirement of a simple license will go a long way toward raising the standards for the roofing industry in Texas.

Lyndell Haigood writes for the Association of Fire and Casualty Companies in Texas (AFACT).

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CROWDS

Continued from Page 4B

spent about \$100 at Toys R Us, which opened at 8 p.m., and planned to spend another \$500 at Macy's before heading to Old Navy.

"I only shop for sales,"

she said.

But some shoppers decided to stick to traditional Black Friday shopping hours. Joe Russell was hunting for a great deal on a large flat-screen TV and went to the Best Buy store in Watertown, Mass., shortly after midnight

on Friday. But the long

line of shoppers gun-

ning for promotions door-buster

deterred

him from braving the freezing temperatures. So Russell, 47, returned to the store after sunrise and got a different TV for "a decent price." "This is the earliest

I've ever shopped," he said.

Elizabeth Garcia, a representative sales from the Bronx borough of New York City, also decided on a later shopping start at about 3:30 a.m. at Toys R Us in New York's Times Square. As a result Garcia, who has three children ages three, five and seven, believes she dodged some of the lines on Thanksgiving when the store opened at 8 p.m. That's

good news since the

crowds got to her last

year, and she almost got into a fight over a Tinker Bell couch. "This year I wasn't

about to kill people," she said.

Meanwhile, Nicole

Page of Bristol, Conn.,

shopped with her sister at a Wal-Mart in Manchester, Conn., at about 4:45 a.m. on Black Friday out of tradition. Page, who recently finished school and started working as a nurse, bought an electric fireplace for \$200 that she said was originally \$600. Her shopping cart also had candy canes, a nail clipper for her dog and other stocking stuffers.

"We try to make a tradition of it. It's kind of exciting," she said.

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Dear Margo

Over and Out

Dear Margo: My livein boyfriend of five years recently dumped me. This is sad, but survivable.

What I can't get past is

that when he made the breakup speech ("I don't make you happy, I'm not happy, so we should end this"), he said, "I always want

to be

Margo Howard

friends, and there's no one else." Two weeks after that, we were still periodically talking

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because we wanted to stay friends, and once again, he volunteered. "We were just wrong for each other, and there's no one else."

Well, actually, there was someone else, someone he met at work about a month before he broke up with me, and someone he spent the weekend with four days after his second "there's no one else" speech.

Obviously, I'm still reeling from the breakup, and even more so from the fact that he slept with someone else so soon afterward. But the fake "there's no one else" declaration was like salt in the wound. Am I overreacting? I don't get why he would lie. Should I just get over this and realize the real hurt is from getting dumped and the deception part is just a detail? — *Hurting*

Dear Hurt: I can see why his false declarations would, after the fact, seem like salt in the wound, but from what you say, I think he was just trying to cushion the blow. I believe his statements about there being no one else were meant to be considerate of your feelings. Who, after all, wants to hear that things have ended because Bubbles caught his eye? Underlying the fact that

there was someone else must have been his stated feeling that he wasn't happy — ergo, he knew the relationship was not working

Try to interpret his letting you down gently as an attempt at kindness rather than his being duplicitous. And yes, I think your real hurt is about the romance being kaput. And maybe there is no need to "remain friends." — Margo, inevitably

Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via the online form at www.creators.com/dearm argo. Due to a high volume of e-mail, not all letters will be answered. © 2012 MARGO

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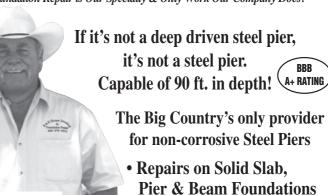
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Don't

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

You know what you require

in order to feel well taken

care of, but you don't

always make the necessary

sacrifice your self-care now.

Feeling good about yourself

first will allow you to give

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

There are a few reasons

why you'll sleep well

tonight. Over the course of

the day, you'll act in clear

conscience, and you'll also

exert a fair amount of

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

It will feel good to lose your

self-consciousness and join

the group mindset for a

moment. You help others do

this, too. You have a way of

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). You have a growing

affection for a certain

person. It's only obvious to

the keenest of observers.

but most people are too

busy with their own scene

to fall into that category

people

them out of

physical energy.

relaxing

drawing

themselves.

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Legals

Public Notice

The Forsan Independent School District Board of Trustees will conduct a public hearing at 7:00 PM on December 10, 2012, to discuss the 2011-2012 Academic Excellence Indicator System Report. The hearing will be held in conjunction with the regular board meeting. Any and all interested persons are invited to

#7584 November 25, 2012

Legals

Forsan Independent School District is soliciting proposals for CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT -AT- RISK (CMAR) Services for the following generally scope of work: described

A. Construction of a new Field House with dressing rooms, training rooms and coaches offices. Building to be load bearing masonry with steel joists, metal deck and TPO roofing. B. A small load bearing masonry building with public toilets and concession.

C. Alterations to existing Field House into a weight room area. The design of the facilities is in progress and design development drawings will be presented at the pre-proposal conference.

Sealed proposals will be received by Mr. Randy Johnson, Superintendent, Forsan Independent School District, in the Boardroom of the Administration Office, 411 West 6th Street, Forsan, Texas 79733, until 4:00 p.m., local time. Thursday. December 4, 2012. They will then be opened and read aloud. Any proposals received after the deadline will be returned to the sender unopened.

Proposal Documents and related documents may be examined and acquired from the Architect beginning Monday, November 19, 2012:

Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc. 1700 W. Wall, Ste 100 Midland, TX 79701 432-267-1447

ence will be held at Forsan ISD Administration Office, 411 West 6th Street, Forsan, Texas 79733 on Tuesday, November 27, 2012, at 4:00 p.m., local time. #7578 November 18 & 25, 2012

at least keep track of your receipts.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Even the trickiest relationships have There compelling reason why you should try to get along with a certain prickly person. You'll be better for the

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You will be paid well for one of your more unusual skills. You'll take it to the next level, mastering the details. You could really make a niche for yourself and dominate

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Taking action is good, taking consistently is the only way to guarantee success. So make it easy on yourself. Move things around so schedule support environment

consistent action. CANCER (June 22-July 22). Those who act tough are really hiding a tender heart. You understand this because you've done the same thing on countless occasions. It takes one to

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're given to

extremes, something you should try to rein in. Treat yourself, but don't overindulge. Keep in mind that the very thing that makes something a treat is that you don't get it

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your kindness is powerful. The best part is that it comes easily to you now. A smile, a compliment or a gift from you could change someone's entire

day. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Self-discipline is a rare gift. You tell yourself what to do, and then you do it. Amazing! It helps that you are also accountable to another person for a very specific result.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Invite others to help you. One good friend could make all of the difference in your level of productivity. Companionship will turn a daunting task into a bit of

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 25). Whatever you used up, you get more of in December, when resources practical and intangible are renewed. January features emotional growth through a special Mars dissipates and more relationship. You'll look at work and possessions differently in February and make changes. Social status rises in March and April. Travel in July. Taurus and Leo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 24, 38 and 17.

FORECAST FOR THE

WEEK AHEAD: If you think the Earth's North Pole is intense, you should consider how Uranians feel about their North Pole (even though Uranians (even don't exist). Because of the axis of Uranus, a person standing at the North Pole (impossible) would experience one day of sunlight (lasting approximately 42 Earth years) followed by one sunless day (also lasting 42 Earth years). As you can imagine, this could produce some rather extreme attitudes. But even before the ancient Greeks knew about the unusual axis of this beauty queen of a planet, Uranus had a reputation for extremes. Luckily, this week those extremes will seem to favor difficult us, as the arrangement of Uranus and

hospitable alignments take shape. The sun forms a harmonious trine with Uranus on Monday, the same day Mercury goes direct and Venus conjoins with Saturn in Scorpio. Passion will be expressed suddenly in sweeping gestures and startling ventures. Some will experience the feeling of being swept up in a rush of euphoria. Others will get proof that they are being divinely guided. The best part is the effortless sharing of stories and insights thanks to Mercury's smooth forward motion.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: The eagerly awaited continuation of Veronica Corningstone's story is now in the works as Christina Applegate, Will Ferrell and many others from the cast of "Anchorman: The Legend Ron Burgundy' reassemble

"Anchorman: The Legend Continues." Applegate was born when five luminaries were in Sagittarius making her a fiery adventurer through and through.

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Legals

LEGAL NOTICE:

These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on January 30, 2013. You have until July 29, 2013, to redeem any tickets for these games: #1416 Double Wild Cherries (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.45, #1420 3X The Cash (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 4.85, #1435 Bonus Ball Bingo (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 3.98, #1442 Loteria® Texas (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 3.99. The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$1,000,000 must be claimed in person at the Headquarters in Commission Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-37LOTTO or visit the Lottery Web site at **txlottery.org** for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission regulations, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of Executive Director. Scratch-Off game may continue to prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. PLAY RESPONSIBLY. The Texas

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DOWN

- tamed with acid
- 15 Stock answer?
- 16 Desires
- offering
- perhaps
- 19 What a purse
- **20** Try
- **23** Full
- 30 Can it
- 31 Sport with horses
- 36 Tops 37 It may be
- 38 Picnic array
- 40 Radical
- **41** "... cover the multitude of sins" source
- 42 Ancient manuscript volume
- 43 Piercing 46 Products
- 48 Brought in
- **54** Too
- **57** Contemptuous
- behavior 58 "Hi-lo" signals 59 Strong shot



1 Parts of roofs

2 Warning sign

announcement

4 Drops the ball

7 "Might as well"

3 Two-note

Thoreau

10 "Don't ask!"

11 Google exec

12 Goes out

Honors

15

17

19

14 Artificial fruit

flavor, often

since 2001

13 Kris and Willie

performed at his

Kennedy Center

8 Rate

- **ACROSS** 1 Something
- 9 Pecking order
- 17 Esthetician
- 18 Camper top,
- might do
- 21 Mixed bag
- 22 Close one
- 26 Taken to heart
- 35 Annual World Series announcement
- melting
- opponent
- of wood carbonization
- 50 Ne'er-do-well
- accessorv 56 Recent arrival

- Newsday Crossword SATURDAY STUMPER by Bruce R. Sutphin Edited by Stanley Newman
 - www.stanxwords.com 23 Naval Dept. unit 39 Stevie Wonder's since 1834
 - 24 Series with a "Secrets of the
 - Sun" episode 25 Tarot suit
 - 5 Author taught by 27 "Some Enchanted
 - 6 Art director's tool Evening" singer 28 Considers
 - 29 Sounds of 9 How some small dashes
 - cars are bought 31 Swank's spouse in Amelia
 - 32 Transistor
 - descendant 33 Most important
 - **34** Olympian gods swore oaths
 - on it 36 Goodyear partner,

1922-40

- Ellington tribute 40 Extra
 - 42 Astronomical term coined by Galileo
 - 43 Passes over lightly
 - 44 One Pillar Pagoda locale 45 Choice words
 - 47 Space seller 49 Additives regulated by
 - the FDA **50** ___ pay
 - 51 Frat letters 52 Direct, in Hollywood
 - slang 53 Conclusion introducer

11 12 13

23 | 24 | 25 26 27 28 29 30 35 38 42 46 43 | 44 | 45 48 52 54 55 56 57

55 Bounty hunter's 58 59

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Photos by family and Nancy Koger.



After 101 years, Pvt. McKee gets a marker

Special to the HERALD

Private Calvin McKee lay in an unmarked grave for 101 years until 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, when the Confederate Monument Dedication at Mt. Olive Cemetery brought 85 people

descendants — together to honor him.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans and Order of the Confederate Rose hosted the event.

"The unique thing about Pvt. McKee's dedication was the large

— including 35 direct number of family members who were in attendance," said Gaylin Harrison of the SCV. "Usually, it is difficult to find a single kin to file the paperwork to get the gravestone from the (Veteran's Administra-

tion). It is a great trib-

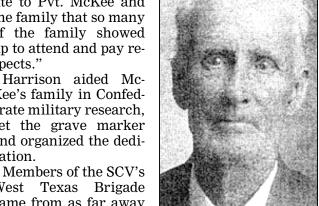
ute to Pvt. McKee and the family that so many of the family showed up to attend and pay respects."

Kee's family in Confederate military research, set the grave marker and organized the dedication. Members of the SCV's

West Texas Brigade came from as far away as Amarillo, Junction and Abilene.

McKee served in Co. E, 1st Arkansas Cavalry during the war and served in the battles of Cane Hill, Prairie Grove and Fayetteville, all in Washington County, Ark. The brigade surgeon discharged McKee in July 1863.

McKee died at age 87 on March 15, 1911. Three days later, his son, Preston McKee, transported his father's body from Denton County, Texas, to Big Spring and buried him in the Mt. Olive Cemetery. No grave



Calvin McKee

marker was erected.

Until this year, descendants believed the grave was lost. Woodie Long, McKee's greatgrandson, and his wife, Alice Long, renewed the search in August. They were aided in their efforts by Big Spring city employee Rebecca Pritchett and Howard County Historical Commission member Sue Ann Damron.

"All the credit goes to Rebecca Pritchett for producing accurate records of earlier burials in the cemetery and Sue Ann Damron for her military research," Woodie Long said.

With the grave located, a military history record was submitted to the Department of Veteran Affairs, which then granted a marker.

The new marker was unveiled during the ceremony. A rose was laid at the grave by Golda Foster, member of the Order of the Confederate Rose San Angelo chapter. Several of McKee's great-granddaughters followed suit. The ceremony concluded with a rifle salute, the playing of Taps and the singing of "Dixie."

"It was touching to see so many people there," said Heather Moxley, one of McKee's greatgranddaughters. "It was wonderful to see that people took the effort to honor him after so many

years."



Inside The Big Spring Mall 267-6335

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10:00am-6:00pm



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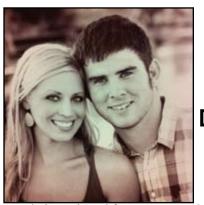
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 - ♥ Heather Hotz & Cody Dixon ♥ Kayla Smith & Bradan Ritchey
- 💙 Jill Johansen & Christopher Turner

Elrod's Accents **Inside Elrod's Furniture 2309 Scurry** 432-267-8491 Page 12 2012 Holiday Song Book November 25, 2012



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What Child Is This



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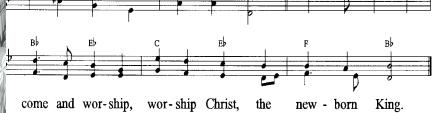




all the earth; ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing; beam a - far; seek the great De - sire of na - tions; hope and fear; sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,



now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant light:
ye have seen his na - tal star:
in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:





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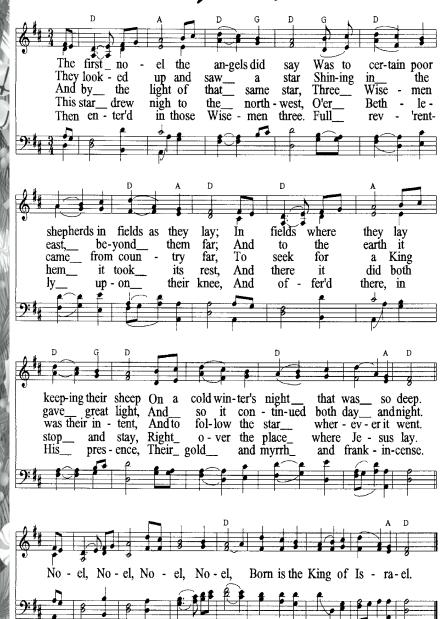
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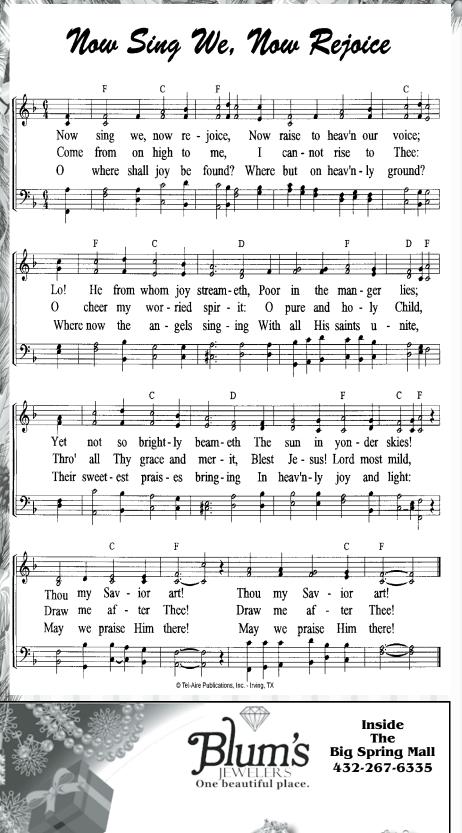
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2012 Holiday Song Book

November 25, 2012











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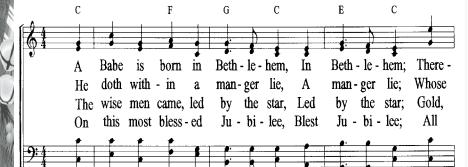
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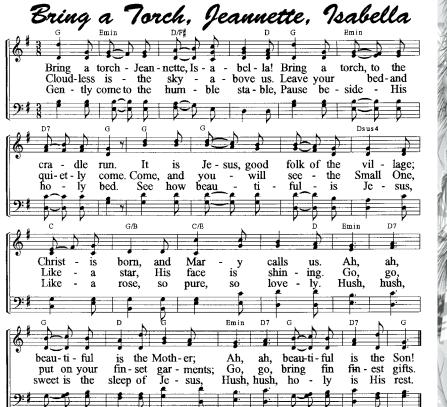
A Babe Is Born In Bethlehem



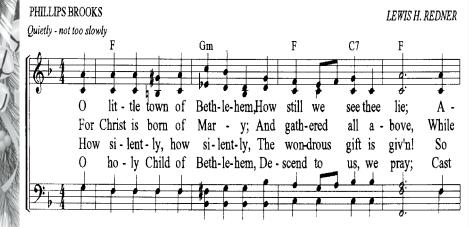




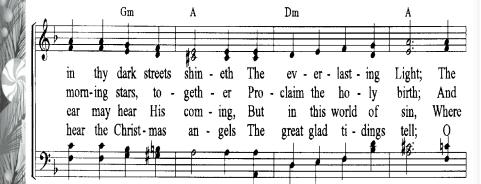




O Little Town Of Bethlehem

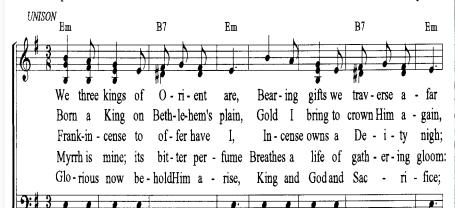


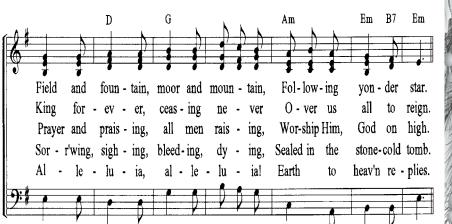


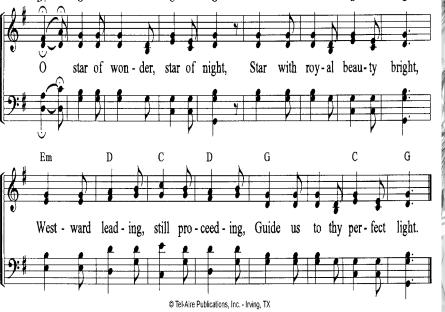




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