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SUNDAY

AUGUST 25, 2013



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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Interim super to be named Monday?

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

A new school year will bring change for more than just Big Spring Independent School District students, but administrators, as well. When district trustees hold

a special meeting at 5:15 p.m. Monday, they are expected to name an interim superintendent.

The school board interviewed four candidates for the interim position Tuesday, but decided to hold off hiring someone until Monday.

“Due to the difficult nature of this decision and the fact the board needs to give more consideration to the matter, we’ve decided to postpone hiring an interim superintendent until our next meeting,” Board President Irene Rodriguez said.

The new interim chief will replace Dr. Steven Saldivar, who resigned earlier this month. Saldivar, who has headed the local school district since 2008, accepted a similar position at Anthony ISD, located west of El Paso on the New Mexico border.

All of the four candidates for the position are retired superintendents, Rodriguez said.

Whoever is named to the post likely will be here for awhile — Rodriguez said.

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

Love Our Lake volunteers from H-E-B participated in the clean up at Comanche Trail Park Saturday to prepare for the upcoming triathlon. Other sponsors included Taco Villa and Sonic. The event was a cooperative effort of Master Gardeners and Keep Big Spring Beautiful.
 HERALD Photo/Andreia



Hasan guilty in Fort Hood rampage

See related article, Page 9A.

PAUL J. WEBER
and WILL WEISSERT

Associated Press

FORTHOOD, Texas — A military jury on Friday convicted Maj. Nidal Hasan in the deadly 2009 shooting rampage at Fort Hood, making the Army psychiatrist eligible for the death penalty in the shocking assault against American troops by one of their own on home soil.

There was never any doubt that Hasan was the gunman. He acknowledged to the jury that he was the one who pulled the trigger on fellow soldiers as they prepared to deploy overseas to Iraq and Afghanistan. And he barely defended himself during a three-week trial.

The unanimous decision on all 13 counts of premeditated murder made Hasan eligible for execution in the sentencing phase that begins Monday.

“This is where members (of the jury) decide whether you will live or whether you will die,” said Col. Tara Osborn, the trial judge.

Hasan, who said he acted to protect Muslim insurgents abroad from American aggression, did not react to the verdict, looking straight at jurors as they announced their findings. After the hearing, relatives of the dead and wounded fought back tears. Some smiled and warmly patted each other’s shoulders as they left court.

Because Hasan never denied his actions, the court-martial was always less about a conviction than it was about ensuring he received a

See **HASAN**, Page 3A

Budget work continues for commissioners

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners will continue hammering out a budget for the new fiscal year when they meet at 10 a.m. Monday on the third floor of the county courthouse.

More than a month remains before the county’s new budget must be finalized, but commissioners have already given tentative approval to several features, including a pay raise for all county employees.

County Auditor Jackie Olson said all full-time employees, including elected officials and commissioners, will receive a yearly raise of \$2,600. Sheriff’s

deputies will see an even bigger pay increase, as their salaries will be hiked by \$4,472 a year.

Part-time employees will receive a raise based on a sliding scale, Olson added.

She said the pay raises will add approximately \$530,000 to the new budget.

To pay for the budget, commissioners have proposed a tax rate of almost 39 cents per \$100 property valuation. In comparison, the effective tax rate (which would raise the same amount of revenue as the previous fiscal year) is 36 cents per \$100 valuation, Olson said.

The new budget is expected to be approved Sept. 9, while the new tax rate

will be adopted Sept. 23.

In other business Monday, commissioners will consider:

- An interlocal agreement with the city of Big Spring to purchase surplus fire trucks for the county volunteer fire department.
- Authorizing the county judge to sell a half-block of property near the county barn.
- An interlocal agreement with West Texas Centers.
- Approval of an increase in court-appointed attorney fees and archived records fees.
- Personnel matters and other routine items.

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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) 263-7331 before 6 p.m. weekdays.

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HC board expected to adopt budget Tuesday

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

Howard College trustees are expected to formally adopt a budget and tax rate for the coming fiscal year when they meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday in the student union building’s Tumbleweed Room.

College employees would see their annual income increase by at least \$1,200 under the new budget.

Faculty can expect annual salary increases of between \$1,389 and \$1,857, depending on their contracts, while other employees will see significant pay raises, also, College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said.

In addition, three teaching positions which had been left vacant after recent resignations

— history/government, speech and computer sciences — will be restored and staffed during the coming college year.

The salary increases follow two years of belt-tightening by college officials in the wake of drastically reduced state appropriations.

Over that time, the state’s outlay to Howard was reduced by about 20 percent. In response, the college froze salaries and new hires eliminated some positions and, in some cases, combined job duties.

“When state allocations were cut, the first thing we needed to do, in fairness to our taxpayers, was to look at our workforce and see

See **COLLEGE**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Reginald Jerome Vanderbilt



Reginald Jerome Vanderbilt, 30, departed Saturday Aug. 17, 2013. Funeral services were to be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 24 at Myers & Smith Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born on July 21, 1983, in Big Spring Texas to Rosie Vanderbilt-Francis. He attended San Angelo and Big Spring schools. He was a member of New Life Ministries COGIC. His loving, funny, happy personality will be truly missed by all who knew him. He loved children, playing musical instruments, singing and spending time with his family and friends.

He leaves to cherish his memories his children, Jaborien and Jalea Cook Vanderbilt; his parents, Rosie Vanderbilt-Francis, Timothy Weatherspoon of Midland, Elder Jerome and Bethine McNally of Big Spring; his brothers, Bryson Vanderbilt, Quentin Vanderbilt and Hezekiah McNally, all of Big Spring and O'Keith Weatherspoon of San Angelo; his sisters, Natasha Vanderbilt of Big Spring, Rosemary Ballard of Houston, La'Quinta Weatherspoon of Arlington and Tammy Weatherspoon and Narda Weatherspoon of Carrollton, Texas; his grandmothers, Gwendolyn Vanderbilt of Big Spring, Sarah Jones and Dorothy McNally of San Angelo; and several family members.

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

Paid obituary

Marijo Walker



Marijo Walker, 72, of Big Spring died Thursday, Aug. 22, 2013, in a Midland hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Calvary Callender officiating. Entombment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park Mausoleum.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26, 2013, at the funeral home.

Marijo was born June 25, 1941, in Big Spring, Texas, and married Howard Walker on Nov. 25, 1959, in Big Spring. They became the owners of the Big Spring Harley Davidson Shop, which she inherited from her parents who opened it in 1929.

She was a member of First Church of the Nazarene.

Survivors include her husband, Howard Walker of Big Spring; three sons, Cecil Walker and wife Laura of Amarillo, Robert Walker and wife Vickie, and Bruce Walker, all of Big Spring; one brother, Garner Thixton of Big Spring; four sisters, Carijo Thixton of Big Spring, Linda McKnight of Lake Austin, Rose Teeler of Big Spring and Tammy Johnson and husband Junior of Summerville, S.C.; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; and a host of friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Cecil Orville and Ora Francis (McDaniel) Thixton.

The family suggests memorials be made to the American Cancer Society, Hope Lodge, 3511 10th Street, Lubbock, TX 79415.

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

Frankie Rubio Sr.



Frankie Rubio Sr., 54, of Big Spring died Thursday Aug. 22, 2013. Vigil service will be 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be 11 a.m. Monday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born July 6, 1959, to Sofia and Francisco Rubio at Cowper Clinic in Big Spring. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring.

He graduated from Big Spring High School. He attended both Southmost College in Brownsville and Midwestern University in Wichita Falls. He spent a longtime playing baseball in the minor leagues. In 1982 he was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies. He married Lucy Rocha Feb. 14, 2004, in Big Spring. He also worked in construction as a bricklayer for Chico & Sons Concrete. He was a Catholic.

He is survived by his wife, Lucy Rubio of Big Spring; eight children, Morgan Lopez of Big Spring, Vanessa Alonzo of New York, Felicia Rubio Bryant of North Carolina, Frankie Rubio Jr. of Big Spring, Magdalena Rubio, Andriana Orona, Faustino Rubio and Ismael Rubio, all of Odessa; four step-children: Joe Anthony Bustamante, Johnathon Bustamante, Elizabeth Bustamante and Victoria Bustamante, all of Big Spring; 12 grandchildren; his mother, Sofia Rubio of Big Spring; four sisters, Sandy Fierro of Midland, Patsy Rubio of Big Spring, Debra Rubio of Fort Worth and Delma Rubio of Big Spring; two brothers: Ysa Rubio and Fred Rubio, both of Big Spring; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Francisco Rubio in January 2006; his brother, Robert Rubio in November 2010 and one grandson in June 2013.

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

Oleta M. Dower



Oleta M. Dower, 88, of Snyder, formerly of Big Spring died Thursday Aug. 22, 2013, at Snyder Oaks Nursing Center. Funeral service will be 4 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Dr. Doug Shelley officiating.

She was born Nov. 9, 1924, in Petrolia, Texas, to Emma and Ocie Wilson. She married Glenn Allen Dower in 1944 in LaCross, Wisc. She was a longtime resident of Big Spring, moving here in 1966. She moved to Snyder in 2008. She was a homemaker and was a member of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church.

She is survived by one daughter, Pamela Brown and husband Adrian of Snyder; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; nine great-great-grandchildren; one brother, Johnny Wilson of Petrolia; and two sisters, Marie Culver of Midland and Jeanene Lanto of Rantoul, Ill.

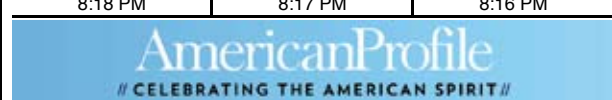
In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Glenn Allen Dower in 2006 and two sons, Wayne Dower in 1995 and Kenneth Dower in 2010.

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

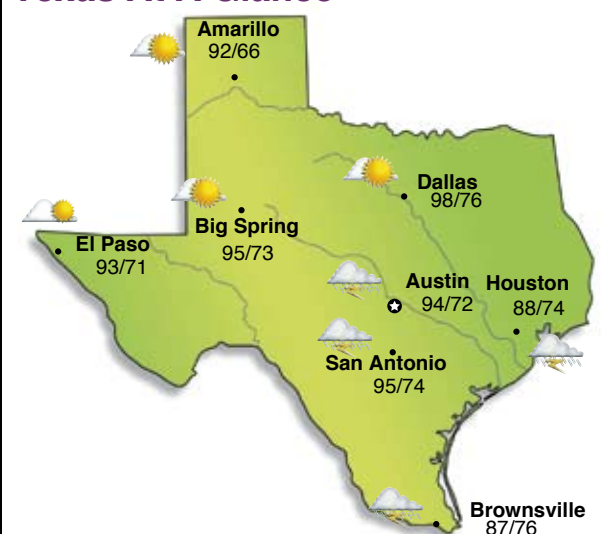
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Sun 8/25	Mon 8/26	Tue 8/27
95/73 Mostly sunny skies. High around 95F. Winds ESE at 10 to 20 mph.	93/72 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 70s.	93/72 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 70s.
Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 8:18 PM	Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:17 PM	Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	94	72	mst sunny	Kingsville	93	75	t-storm
Amarillo	92	66	mst sunny	Livingston	92	71	t-storm
Austin	94	72	t-storm	Longview	95	73	mst sunny
Beaumont	89	73	t-storm	Lubbock	91	68	mst sunny
Brownsville	87	76	t-storm	Lufkin	92	71	pt sunny
Brownwood	97	73	mst sunny	Midland	95	73	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	90	78	t-storm	Raymondville	92	75	t-storm
Corsicana	96	74	mst sunny	Rosenberg	89	73	t-storm
Dallas	98	76	mst sunny	San Antonio	95	74	t-storm
Del Rio	98	78	mst sunny	San Marcos	94	73	t-storm
El Paso	93	71	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	96	73	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	91	69	mst sunny	Sweetwater	93	71	mst sunny
Gainesville	96	73	mst sunny	Tyler	95	74	mst sunny
Greenville	96	72	mst sunny	Weatherford	96	74	mst sunny
Houston	88	74	t-storm	Wichita Falls	96	72	mst sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	82	61	mst sunny	Minneapolis	98	75	windy
Boston	80	60	mst sunny	New York	82	66	mst sunny
Chicago	90	69	mst sunny	Phoenix	98	80	t-storm
Dallas	98	76	mst sunny	San Francisco	64	58	mst sunny
Denver	87	64	pt sunny	Seattle	73	56	pt sunny
Houston	88	74	t-storm	St. Louis	92	73	mst sunny
Los Angeles	85	64	pt sunny	Washington, DC	84	64	sunny
Miami	88	78	t-storm				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Sun 8/25	Mon 8/26	Tue 8/27
11	11	10
Extreme	Extreme	Very High

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

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Contact the Herald at
newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

Police blotter

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

- **DANE WINFIELD STEINHAGEN**, 19, of 1370 Audobon Place, Beaumont, Texas, was arrested Friday on a charge of urinating in a public place.
- **SHEILA D. WATTS**, 41, of 175 Ivy Drive, Liberty Hill, Texas, was arrested Friday on a warrant from another agency.
- **ANTHONY THOMAS MCGRUDER**, 42, of 2515 Community Drive, Dallas, Texas, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **THOMAS ROY WHITE**, 21, of 407 East Sixth Street, was arrested Friday on charges of driving without being secured by a safety belt, driving while license invalid and failure to appear - two counts.
- **JOSHUA RYAN SANCHEZ**, 21, of 3730 Adams Street, was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **GENARO AGUIRRE**, 40, of 309 South Florence Street, Stanton, Texas, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.
- **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported at the 1100 block of South Gregg.
- **THEFT** was reported at the 300 block of East Third Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported at the 4600 block of South Highway 87.
- **ANIMAL PROBLEM** was reported at the 1500 block of Scurry - two incidents.
- **ROBBERY** was reported at the 1700 block of Wasson.
- **ASSAULT** was reported at the 1200 block of East 15th Street.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the 300 block of Goliad.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported at the 1000 block of Runnels.

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Support groups

MONDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.
- PEP — Parent Education Program for CPS participating and non-participating parents, single parent, grandparents, adoptive or fostering parents. Every first and fourth Monday of the month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Northside Community Center. Classes are free. For information, call 263-2673.
- VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.
- Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) TX 0021 meets at First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad, in the dining hall on the east side of the building. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m. and meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. We have a different program each week. For more information, please call 517-4922 or 935-6306.
- Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group, meets at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring

Creek Fellowship. For further information, contact Dale at 432-270-8462.

- Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the back of the church.
- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Baptist Temple Church Fellowship Hall, 400 E. 11th Place. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.
- Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerrirosenbaum9488@msn.com
- VA Alcoholics Anonymous support

group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- "A Journey to a New Normal," a grief support network, meets from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 602 S. Main. For information, call 263-5999.
- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us.

Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.
- Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group, meets at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship. For further information, contact Dale at 432-270-8462.
- Overcomer's: Recovery & Restoration (R&R), a Christ-centered recovery program is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the "Green Room" of the East Wing. For more convenient access to the meeting room, park in the back of the church and enter through the metal door across from the fellowship hall. If you need more information, contact the church secretary at 432-264-0015.
- Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. For more information, call 263-2501.

HASAN

Continued from Page 1A

death sentence. From the beginning, the federal government has sought to execute Hasan, believing that any sentence short of a lethal injection would deprive the military and the families of the dead of the justice they have sought for nearly four years.

Autumn Manning, whose husband, retired Staff Sgt. Shawn Manning, was shot six times during the attack, wept when the verdict was read. She said she had been concerned that some charges might be reduced to manslaughter, which would have taken a death sentence off the table.

"This is so emotional," she said in a telephone interview from Lacey, Wash., where she and her husband live. "I've just been crying since we heard it because it was a relief. ... We just wanted to hear the premeditated."

Hasan, who represented himself after firing his legal team, was also convicted on 32 counts of attempted premeditated murder. He carried out the attack in a

crowded waiting room where unarmed troops were making final preparations to deploy. Thirteen people were killed and more than were 30 wounded.

John Galligan, Hasan's former lead attorney, said Hasan called him to make sure he heard the verdict, and the pair planned to meet later at Fort Hood.

Galligan said the jury did not hear all the facts because the judge refused to allow evidence that helped explain Hasan's actions.

"Right or wrong, strong or weak, the facts are the facts," he said. "The jury we heard from only got half the facts."

The jury of 13 high-ranking officers took about seven hours to reach the verdict. In the next phase, jurors must all agree to give Hasan the death penalty before he can be sent to the military's death row, which has just five other prisoners. If they do not agree, the 42-year-old will spend the rest of his life in prison.

Hasan, a Virginia-born Muslim, said the attack was a jihad against U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He bristled when the judge suggested the shooting rampage could

have been avoided were it not for a spontaneous flash of anger.

"It wasn't done under the heat of sudden passion," Hasan said before jurors began deliberating. "There was adequate provocation — that these were deploying soldiers that were going to engage in an illegal war."

All but one of the dead were soldiers, including a pregnant private who curled on the floor and pleaded for her baby's life.

The attack ended when Hasan was shot in the back by one of the officers responding to the shooting. He is now paralyzed from the waist down and uses a wheelchair.

Hasan planned to continue representing himself in the sentencing phase, which was expected to include more testimony from survivors of the attack inside an Army medical center where soldiers were waiting in long lines to receive immunizations and medical clearance for deployment.

Hasan began the trial by telling jurors he was the gunman, but he said little else, which convinced his court-appointed standby law-

yers that Hasan's only goal was to get a death sentence.

The military called nearly 90 witnesses, but Hasan rested his case without calling a single person to testify in his defense and made no closing argument. Yet he leaked documents during the trial to journalists that revealed him telling military mental health workers that he could "still be a martyr" if executed.

Death sentences are rare in the military and trigger automatic appeals that take decades to play out. Among the final barriers to execution is authorization from the president. No American soldier has been executed since 1961.

Hasan spent weeks planning the Nov. 5, 2009, attack. His preparation included buying the handgun and videotaping a sales clerk showing him how to change the magazine.

He later plunked down \$10 at a gun range outside Austin and asked for pointers on how to reload with speed and precision. An instructor said he told Hasan to practice while watching TV or sitting on his couch with the lights

off.

When the time came, Hasan stuffed paper towels in the pockets of his cargo pants to muffle the rattling of extra ammo and avoid arousing suspicion. Soldiers testified that Hasan's rapid reloading made it all but impossible to stop the shooting. Investigators recovered 146 shell casings inside the medical building and dozens more outside, where Hasan shot at the backs of soldiers fleeing toward the parking lot.

In court, Hasan never played the role of an angry extremist. He didn't get agitated or raise his voice. He addressed Osborn as "ma'am" and occasionally whispered "thank you" when prosecutors, in accordance with the rules of evidence, handed Hasan red pill bottles that rattled with bullet fragments removed from those who were shot.

Prosecutors never charged Hasan as a terrorist — an omission that still galls family members of the slain and survivors, some

of whom have sued the U.S. government over missing the warning signs of Hasan's views before the attack.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288

Reginald Jerome Vanderbilt, 30, died August 17, 2013. Funeral services were at 11 a.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial was at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Janice Wilson, 58, of Big Spring died Tuesday August 20, 2013 at her residence. Memorial Services will be at 5 p.m. today at Baptist Temple Church.

Oleta M. Dower, 88, of Snyder, formerly of Big Spring died Thursday. Funeral service will be 4 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Frankie Rubio, Sr., 54, died Thursday. Vigil Service will be 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be 11 a.m. Monday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

earlier this month that it will

likely be several months before a permanent superintendent is named.

Aside from naming an interim superintendent, trustees also are expected to consider other per-

sonnel matters.

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

ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1A

if we could reduce our size," Sparks said. "We had to re-engineer ourselves the past few years. We had to react to all the changes and at the same time, find a way to move forward."

Now that the college's fiscal outlook has stabilized, however, officials are more than happy to start giving back to their employees

"Our faculty and staff have done a fantastic job during some difficult times," Sparks

said. "I can't say enough about how everyone has pulled together."

The only bad news for employees in this budget, however, is their insurance costs will increase by between \$151 and \$528 a year, depending on their type of coverage.

To pay for the new budget, trustees are expected to approve a tax rate of 20.37 cents per \$100 valuation, an increase of almost 3 cents over the current rate and about a penny above the effective rate (which would raise as much tax revenue as the previous

year).

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331

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Opinion

"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.

Back to school

The start of a new school year is an exciting time! Whether it is the first day of kindergarten or the first day of high school, young minds are filled with the anticipation of new teachers, classmates, books and supplies.

This rite of passage is a special occasion for children, making it important for moms and dads to be there to share the joy and provide support. It's also a good time to remind parents of the importance of making regular child support payments.

It is common knowledge that children depend on their parents for basic needs like food, shelter, health care and back-to-school clothing. But, research shows that it's about more than just money for the necessities. The children of parents who pay their child support have fewer behavior problems, make better grades and stay in school longer than children who do not receive regular support.

Parents who pay child support are much more likely to take an active role in their kids' lives. Children with two involved and caring parents are more self-confident, more likely to exercise self-control and less likely to engage in risky behaviors that can lead to drug use and early pregnancy.

Thankfully, most parents pay their court-ordered child support every month. For parents who need extra encouragement, it is our hope that the new school year brings renewed commitment to do the right thing: pay their child support. All children deserve the security that comes with parents who care enough to make regular child support payments.

Parents who need child support services can contact the Child Support Division of the Attorney General's Office for assistance. The Child Support Division will help:

- Establish paternity;
- Locate a noncustodial parent;
- Establish and enforce child support and medical support orders;
- Review and adjust child support payments; and
- Collect and distribute child support payments.

The Attorney General's Office accepts applications from mothers, fathers and other individuals who need child support services. Customers can apply for services by calling the 24-hour voice response system at (800) 252-8014 or by visiting Child Support Interactive on the main Attorney General website at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov. Parents who receive financial assistance through the Texas Health and Human Services Commission automatically receive child support services.

For the state fiscal year that ended Aug. 31, 2012, the Child Support Division collected more than \$3 billion in child support. The Office of the Attorney General is committed to Texas children and will work with parents to collect the support kids need to lead healthy and productive lives.

The Office of the Attorney General wishes Texas children a safe and fun-filled school year!

- Points to Remember
Child Support
Children Who Receive Child Support
- Have better health and nutrition
 - Have fewer behavior problems
 - Make better grades

- The Attorney General Will Help
- Establish your child's paternity
 - Locate a noncustodial parent
 - Establish and enforce child support and medical support orders

- Review and adjust child support payments
 - Collect and distribute child support payments
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- Calling the 24-hour voice response system at (800) 252-8014

Information on this and other topics is available on the Attorney General's website at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov

Getting high on mangoes

When I taste a mango, I get slightly light-headed. I feel better and have a sense of contentment. My mind relaxes and I am immediately transported into another dimension that is full of beauty, tranquility, peace and comfort. Everything is in harmony and there is a softness to the entire environment.

I think of Brown-ing's words: "God's in His heaven, all's right with the world," but eating a mango for me is close to being an out of the world experience or maybe it just gets me thinking about the best things the world has to offer.

I think of beautiful music, art, food, wine, natural wonders, seashores with gentle breaking waves, sky formations that seem to be the doorway to heaven, stately trees and gardens with flowers of every shape and color ever dreamed of by man or God himself.

The inside of the mango has

the color of sunshine. The outside colors, red and green, remind me of love and happiness in the holiday season.

Once, in Quebec, I ordered a fish dish that had a mango sauce. I seldom have wine with lunch, but once I tasted the meal, a glass of wine seemed almost mandatory. One of the best trips I've ever taken was to India, the world's largest producer of mangoes. In Hinduism, a mango is the symbol of perfection.

We were in India during March and mangoes weren't quite ripe, but I had to taste one anyway. Taking a bite of it made me think of all the sparkling jewelry we had seen throughout the country and the smiling children with wide dark eyes. Maybe taking that bite of mango is why I enjoyed India so much.

Mangoes make me think of unbelievable architecture, impalas gracefully jumping over a fence, waterfalls and forests with colorful birds making pleasing sounds, in tune with frogs singing their nighttime symphony. I think of a perfect hit by a baseball player, a fantastic run by a halfback, a rodeo girl rounding the barrels in record time. I see a spectacular sunset with a daz-

zling palette available only once a day. I think of that miraculous spiral staircase in that church at Santa Fe. In my mind I hear an angelic choir, observe a rainbow in the sky and see ballet dancers make flawless leaps and whirls.

Mango is like a drug that transports me up an over the ordinary experiences of man into a special realm of enjoyment. I think of love and respect and appreciation for all things that taste good. I think of a snow-capped peak at Jackson Hole, a mountain steam in Oregon with wildflowers alongside. I think of good times with family and friends all expressing their own personal joys of life.

I have never just eaten a mango. I enjoy a mango. It is the king of fruits, eaten fresh more than any other fruit. They are used in salads, juices, smoothies and ice cream. Mangoes must be what angels eat.

Tumbleweed Smith lives in Big Spring and is a folklorist, after dinner speaker and producer of The Sound of Texas syndicated radio show. Contact him at tumbleweedsmith.com



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Not closed

TO THE EDITOR:

As a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Big Spring, I would like to paraphrase Mark Twain and say that "the reports of our demise have been greatly exaggerated." In recent days, some of our parishioners have been told by area residents that they were very sorry to hear that St. Mary's has closed. This is simply not true.

Under the leadership of our Vestry and Wardens, we are busy ministering to members of our congregation in need as well as working on multiple community outreach projects. On Sept. 15 we will present a keyboard duet

concert of arrangements of popular gospel hymns and spirituals. Work has begun on our 12th annual St. Andrew's Day Celebration, which will be held on Nov. 10 this year. Both of these events are open to the public at no charge. Services are being held as usual at 10:30 on Sundays with Evening Prayer at 5:30 on Wednesdays. We are blessed to have an experienced supply priest leading our Sunday services as we begin our search for a permanent priest.

St. Mary's has been serving Christ and the community of Big Spring for 127 years. With God's help, we will continue to do so for many years to come.

LINDA HILL
MIDLAND

A hero or not?

TO THE EDITOR:

You know, some people are honest and some are not.

I saw in the paper last week that a man found over a thousand dollars and turned it in.

He's a hero.

The other evening I saw a woman pick up a 20 dollar bill. Three of my friends and I saw her. I asked if she picked up the bill and she said no. No hero here. Shame on you!

One of my friends had just lost a 20 dollar bill. She needed that money because her husband is out of a job now.

See **LETTERS**, Page 5B

For Junction schools, her all ...

There's a delicious irony, really, that two Junction, Texas, historic vignettes bear similarities, despite separation by some six decades. Linked are unprecedented events tying football and Texas A&M University to this hill country community of some 2,500 folks.

That's a mouthful, but there's more. Two people have "Junction connections" — one a deceased collegiate coaching great, the other very much alive. On the notoriety scale, Texas A&M Coach Bear Bryant ultimately earned national legendary status. The latter, Dr. Renee Schulze, achieved similar heights locally soon after becoming superintendent of schools in her hometown seven years ago.

It is refreshing to write about an Aggie whose name isn't Johnny Manziel. Clearly, Dr. Schulze demonstrates multi-faceted love for education as unorthodox as Bryant's coaching. Truth to tell, her work load may well be as arduous as Texas A&M's footballers who endured 10 days of torturous heat and work-outs when Bryant moved opening drills to Junction in 1954. One difference: Dr. Schulze's work load is largely self-imposed. Her philosophy is to go "full throttle," and there's no end in sight.

Residents speak of Dr. Schulze in hushed tones. (Her doctorate in curriculum/instruction/administration was conferred by Texas A&M University in 1977.) They revere her, swearing that she's constantly on the job "from can 'til can't." One says she is the "total superintendent," her proficiencies running the gamut

from school finance to curriculum to providing leadership and support for both students and colleagues.

Another cites her community involvement and the numerous "little things" students and fellow workers have come to expect. They've long felt she's "in the trenches," right alongside.

What other superintendent, pray tell, greets more than 600+ students by name? And visits every classroom and school activity virtually daily? And who seeks out all employees on their birthdays to offer greetings? (Her "Achilles' heel" may be her rendition of "Happy Birthday." She's known more for her sincerity than vocal quality.)

Ever heard of a school leader who extends athletes a challenge normally offered only by coaches, and precious few of them? I'm talking about an old-fashioned head-shaving.

Now don't expect me to write something about football being a religion in Texas, albeit close. (Several years ago, I heard about a fellow describing a new science building; it was "longer than the football field and nearly as important.")

Soon after her arrival back home in '06, Dr. Schulze joined a community lament of a 32-year football drought with arch-rival Sonora. (The Eagles' last win was in '75, just a couple of years after she marched in commencement exercises to cap her 12-year sojourn as a student there. She was, incidentally, both senior class president and valedictorian.)

"Beat Sonora here Friday night, and you can shave my head," she offered, and the head coach joined in, "Me, too!"

You can guess the rest. The Eagles won, breaking a 7-7 tie with a 20-yard TD pass with only 27 seconds remaining.

Jubilation reigned. The band went bonkers, and fans were borderline berserk, too. Bedlam prevailed in the gymnasium, where a joyous superintendent and stunned coach kept their word. Like jubilant basketball players mounting ladders to snipe net souvenirs, the footballers took turns shearing locks, leaving two heads hairless.

The diminutive superintendent maintains a "twern't nothing" remembrance of this unbelievable happening.

Those who know her best were not surprised. She takes immense pride in JISD, pointing proudly to all the senior class photos displayed in the hallway, to old, but unbelievably maintained facilities, and to the community revival of school support ignited by her administration.

And they are jubilant to have an athletic program the band can be proud of.

During the rare hours she's not on the job, she's at home with her mom, recalling Junction memories from "back when."

Her father, who died in 2007, is at the center of recollections. A community pillar, he's remembered for unending support of both schools and his beloved Kimble County.

Dr. Schulze smiles at the remembrance of her 1973 graduation, and her folks' gift of a new '73 Volkswagon. It's in pristine condition, parked out in the barn. It's not for sale, of course, but during parades and other special times in Junction, watch for it.

Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Send speaking inquiries/email to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com. Twitter: @donnewbury.

DAILY PRAYER

Help us to learn and prosper from our mistakes, dear Lord.

Amen

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

Someday that woman is going to have to stand before God and she is going to have some explaining to do.

SHARON OSBURN
BIG SPRING

Thank you!

TO THE EDITOR:
On behalf of the Senior Center dancers, we would like to give a "thank you" to everyone for making the grand reopening on our dance floor a success.

We would like to thank the city of Big Spring and Peggy Walker for all of their support, H-E-B for the donation, Loco Flamingo for the table decorations, the Big Spring Herald and Steve Reagan for the before and after advertising and picture. Thank you, Steve.

A thank you to the citizens of Big Spring, Colorado City, and Midland for their support.

Again, we would like to give everybody a great big "thank you!"

MARY GRESSETT
FORSAN

Stop it before it starts

TO THE EDITOR:
The Washington Post article "Noise from seismic air guns could be skirmish before war over offshore drilling" brings an important, and potentially disastrous, proposal to light.

The Department of Interior is deciding whether to allow oil companies to use seismic airguns to locate oil and gas deposits in the Atlantic Ocean. Not only is this the first step to offshore drilling along the East Coast, but seismic airguns would be devastating for marine wildlife. The Department of Interior itself estimates that 138,500 dolphins and whales could be injured or killed by seismic airguns — a process that emits a thunderous blast of air every 10 seconds, for days to weeks on end.

Fortunately, the DOI has recently decided to hold off on issuing their recommendation until Spring of 2014 in order to include newer scientific evidence. This is good news since there won't be Atlantic seismic testing this year, and they have more time to make the right decision.

We cannot risk another oil spill along the East Coast, and we cannot subject marine mammals to such intolerable noise, especially during a summer where dolphins have been washing up on beaches at an alarming rate.

I urge the Obama administration to reject this dangerous proposal and stop East Coast drilling before it starts!

LEA FAULKS
BIG SPRING

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U.S. Senator
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Phone: 202-228-0462

• **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
517 Hart Office
Building
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20510-4305
Phone: 202-224-2934

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Phone: 512-463-2000

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Drive safely

With classes scheduled to start all over the Crossroads area Monday, it's time for all of us to remember to drive safely in and around school zones.

Many of us have spent the summer driving past area schools not having to concern ourselves with those flashing lights and reduced speed limits imposed during school months.

But all that changes now and that's why school officials and local law enforcement agencies are advising motorists to take extra caution when driving these first few days of the school year.

Of course, we

should all exercise caution whenever we're driving. And regardless of where we are during those

cording to the Texas Department of Transportation, one in four crashes involves driver distraction.

Drivers who use cell phones in their vehicles have a higher risk of collision than drivers who don't, whether holding the phone or using a hands-free device. None of us is so busy, nor is there any emergency

so important that we can afford to put the young people of our communities at risk by driving in an unsafe manner.

The bottom line, of course, is that none of us would want our own children endangered by a careless motorist.

We all need to remember that when we get behind the wheel.



times just before or after school hours, we should remember that many high school students will be driving or walking to school.

Furthermore, we need to remember to obey the law and stop for school buses when they're loading and unloading students. Oh, and don't forget, it's against the law to use your cell phone in a school zone. Ac-



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Texas voter ID law likely enforced next week

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Unless a federal judge intervenes, the South Texas city of Edinburg could be the first to enforce a new voter ID law next week, and lawyers will likely use the special election to gather evidence to strengthen lawsuits to block it in the future.

While the U.S. Justice Department and several civil rights groups have filed federal lawsuits to block the requirement that voters produce a state-issued photo ID, no one as of Friday had asked for a restraining order to stop enforcement of the law. That means it will be in effect when early voting in the city's special election begins Wednesday.

Allowing Texas to enforce the law could be part of a larger legal strategy to defeat it in the long run.

Texas has been the center of the fight over voting laws after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June that Congress must update how it enforces the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Texas is the only state in the last three years where a federal judge has ruled the Legislature intentionally discriminated against minorities.

Federal judges in Corpus Christi are hearing two cases opposing Texas' voter ID law: One filed in June by Democratic U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the NAACP and Dallas County and a new one filed Thursday

by the Justice Department. Both cases will likely be combined by Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos, an Obama administration appointee.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott insists there is nothing wrong with the voter ID law and says enforcing it is critical to preventing fraud in upcoming elections. He also points out that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that states may require a photo ID to vote.

Opponents, though, say that's only if the requirement doesn't make it too difficult for people, particularly minorities, to cast ballots.

Those who brought the lawsuits argue Texas is doing just that by requiring state-issued ID cards. In the past, Texas law has allowed people to vote after showing their voter registration card or state, federal, city and college IDs.

The Justice Department points out that a state-issued ID can only be obtained from the Department of Motor

Vehicles. Many counties don't have a DMV office, or it is only open one or two days a week and never on weekends or after 6 p.m.



ship papers. State data also shows that Hispanic and African-American citizens are more likely not to possess a state-issued ID.

Lastly, the Justice Department lawsuit said, there was the process the Republican-controlled Legislature used to adopt the law.

"The Legislature and governor implemented a series of unusual procedures including designating (the voter ID bill) as emergency legislation, which enabled the Senate to consider the bill on an expedited schedule," court papers say. Lt. Gov David Dewhurst also amended the rules to exempt the bill from needing a

two-thirds majority and Speaker Joe Straus created a special committee to consider the bill.

On Thursday Abbott dismissed the new lawsuit as political gamesmanship intended to help Texas Democrats.

"This voter disenfranchisement argument is nothing but a myth," he said. "Almost every single person either has a valid photo ID ... or it is very easy to get one."

That's where the Edinburg election could help the case against the voter ID law. Jose Garza, an attorney for the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, said the burden is on civil rights groups to gather evidence that the law disproportionately prevents minorities from voting.

"Edinburg does provide one opportunity," he said, adding that he's developing statistical models to determine the impact of the law. If the civil rights groups can gather enough material, they'll try to get an injunction before the next statewide election in November.

Garza advises those who are registered to vote to go to the polls even if they don't have an ID, noting that the law allows for exceptions and provisional ballots.

Abbott has called Garza's recommendation unethical. But many civil rights attorneys have started lawsuits by testing how a new law is applied.

Texas high court denies compensation

JUAN CARLOS LLORCA

Associated Press

The Texas Supreme Court has denied the request for compensation payments to an inmate who was wrongfully convicted for murder but confessed to raping children while in prison.

Michael Blair was

convicted in 1994 for the murder of a 7-year-old girl and sentenced to death. During his trial he staunchly maintained he was innocent, and in 2008, a state Court of Appeals cleared him of the charge based on DNA evidence.

While Blair was awaiting execution in 2003,

he confessed to sexually abusing children and is currently serving four life sentences for those crimes.

Since 2009, Blair has requested more than \$1 million in compensation from the Texas comptroller under the state's Tim Cole Act, under which a person

wrongfully convicted is entitled to compensation. Cole was wrongfully convicted of raping a fellow student in 1985 and died in prison. He was posthumously cleared of the crime.

However, the law says payments must stop if that person is convicted of a felony after the date they become eligible for compensation.

Blair wants compensation for the time he spent in prison between 1993 and 2004, when he was convicted of the child sexual abuse charges.

The court said Friday the act's wording "is convicted" can be reasonably read to refer to the status of the inmate and not only to the moment the person was found guilty by a court.

The law denies compensation to a person "regardless of when the conviction was adjudicated, whether before or after he became eligible for compensation," the opinion said.

Blair's attorney, Roy Greenwood, told the *Associated Press* that he'll file a motion for a rehearing.

"This opinion makes so little sense, I can't wrap my head around it," Greenwood said in a phone interview.

Jeff Blackburn, who helped write the Tim Cole Act and chief counsel of The Innocence Project of Texas, said it would have been "a freakish result" if Blair received compensation.

Blackburn concedes Greenwood technically has a good argument, but said, "I'm happy (the law) is not being used to give money to

help people who don't deserve it."

The intent of the law was to "help innocent people get enough money to make a new life," Blackburn said.

That view was shared by the state's comptroller when denying Blair's claim, since it is almost impossible that he will ever be released.

In a dissenting vote, Justice Debra H. Lehmann says "is convict-

ed" refers to the act of conviction, not the state of being convicted — thus making Blair eligible for payments for the years he spent on death row for a murder he did not commit.

The killing for which Blair was wrongfully convicted prompted legislators to pass tough sexual-predator measures called "Ashley's Laws."

Something special's happening in the Circle.

September 2013 Activities

- Sept. 2** – **Holiday** - Sr. Circle Office Closed.
- Sept. 3** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Coffee @ Parkplace, 10:00 a.m.
Supper Club 5:30 p.m. "Spanish Inn"
- Sept. 4** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie 1:00 p.m. "Flight"
- Sept. 5** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Coffee @ Just Peachy's, 10:00 a.m.
- Sept. 9** – Games, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
- Sept. 10** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Coffee @ Parkplace, 10:00 a.m.
Supper Club, 5:30 p.m. "KC Steakhouse"
- Sept. 11** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie, 1:00 p.m., "Life of Pi"
- Sept. 12** – Mall Walking, 8:00 p.m.
Coffee @ Just Peachy's Cafe, 10:00 a.m.
- Sept. 13** – Lunch Bunch & Birthdays
"Cowboy's," 11:30 a.m.
- Sept. 15** – MCT, 1:00 p.m.
"Three Murders & It's Only Monday"
- Sept. 16** – Games, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Hobbs Casino, 9:00 a.m.
- Sept. 17** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Coffee @ Parkplace, 10:00 a.m.
Supper Club, 5:30 p.m. "Red Mesa"
- Sept. 18** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie, 1:00 p.m. "Argo"
- Sept. 19** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Coffee @ Just Peachy's, 10:00 a.m.
Bunko, 5:00 p.m.
- Sept. 20** – Pot Luck & Bingo, 11:30 p.m.
- Sept. 23** – Games, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
- Sept. 24** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Coffee @ Parkplace, 10:00 a.m.
Supper Club, 5:30 p.m. "Cowboys"
- Sept. 25** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
Movie, 1:00 p.m. "Silver Lining Playbook"
- Sept. 26** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Coffee @ Just Peachy's, 10:00 a.m.
- Sept. 26 & 27** – Volunteer Jewelry Sale.
- Sept. 30** – Games, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
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State briefs

Collier first Democrat for statewide office

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A Houston businessman has become the first Democrat to announce for statewide office. He's running for state comptroller in 2014.

Mike Collier said on his website Friday that his experiences as a businessman and financial professional make him the perfect candidate to take charge of the state's bank accounts.

He promised to bring more transparency to the office currently held by Susan Combs, who is retiring next year.

Collier is the first Democrat to announce they are running for statewide office. A Democrat hasn't won statewide since 1994. Democratic leaders have said more candidates will likely announce once Forth Worth Sen. Wendy Davis decides whether to run for governor. She's promised an announcement after Labor Day.

Three Republicans are competing for their party's nomination in the March 4 primary.

Retiring Texas A&M president Loftin to get \$850K

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Retiring Texas A&M University President R. Bowen Loftin will be paid \$850,000 as he transitions from school leader to tenured faculty member.

The Eagle newspaper on Friday reported details of the payout agreement signed Tuesday. Loftin in June announced plans to retire as president in order to spend more time with students. He earned \$425,000 annually as Aggie president.

The deal indicates the 64-year-old Loftin, who's been president since 2010, will earn \$311,000 annually in his new teaching and administrative position.

Charles Myers

Attorney At Law

Family Law And

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A look at the Fort Hood shooting trial

FORT HOOD, Texas (AP) — Maj. Nidal Hasan was convicted Friday in the 2009 shooting rampage at Fort Hood, an attack that killed 13 people and wounded more than 30 others. Here is a look at some key details from the trial:

WHAT CHARGES DID HASAN FACE?

Hasan was convicted of 13 specifications of premeditated murder and 32 specifications of attempted premeditated murder under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. He is eligible for the death penalty.

WHY DID THE CASE TAKE SO LONG TO GET TO TRIAL?

Judges in the case granted a series of delays for preparation or other issues, often at the request of Hasan or his attorneys. A fight over Hasan's beard, which violates military regulations, led to a reprieve shortly before the trial was expected to begin last year and the eventual replacement of the judge. Legal experts have said authorities are doing their best to avoid mistakes, noting that Hasan would have multiple mandatory appeals if he's found guilty of murder and sentenced to death. Military appeals courts have overturned most death sentences they've seen in the last three decades.

WHAT DID VICTIMS SAY AT TRIAL?

Witnesses built a gory, detailed picture about what happened inside Fort Hood the afternoon of Nov. 5, 2009. They said a gunman shouted "Allahu akbar!" — Arabic for "God is great!" — before opening fire on unarmed soldiers, many of whom were getting ready to deploy to Afghanistan. A nurse working at the center, Ted Coukoulis, recalled people trying to save wounded soldiers who were dead or quickly bleeding to death. "I don't know how much blood I swallowed that day," he told jurors. Many soldiers thought the gunfire was a training exercise, and some didn't realize it was an attack until they were hit by bullets. Others recalled hearing a wounded soldier cry out, "My baby!" One of

U.S. forces move closer to Syria as options weighed

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. naval forces are moving closer to Syria as President Barack Obama considers military options for responding to the alleged use of chemical weapons by the Assad government. The president emphasized that a quick intervention in the Syrian civil war was problematic, given the international considerations that should precede a military strike.

The White House said the president would meet Saturday with his national security team to consider possible next steps by the United States. Officials say once the facts are clear, Obama will make a decision about how to proceed.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel declined to discuss any specific force movements while saying that Obama had asked the Pentagon to prepare military options for Syria. U.S. defense officials told *The Associated Press* that the Navy had sent a fourth warship armed with ballistic missiles into the eastern Mediterranean Sea but without immediate orders for any missile launch into Syria.

U.S. Navy ships are capable of a variety of military action, including launching Tomahawk cruise missiles, as they did against Libya in 2011 as part of an international action that led to the overthrow of the Libyan government.

"The Defense Department has a responsibility to provide the president with options for contingencies, and that requires positioning our forces, positioning our assets, to be able to carry out different options — whatever options the president might choose," Hagel told reporters.

Hagel said the U.S. is coordinating with the international community to determine "what exactly did happen" near Damascus earlier this week. According to reports, a chemical attack in a suburb of the capital killed at least 100 people.

the soldiers who was killed, Pvt. Franceska Velez, was pregnant.

WHAT DID HASAN SAY?

Hasan acted as his own attorney but called no witnesses in his defense and said little during the trial. He wanted to argue that he carried out the shooting in "defense of others" — namely, Taliban insurgents fighting American soldiers in Afghanistan — but the judge denied that strategy before the trial started. Hasan told jurors during a brief opening statement that the evidence would "clearly show" he was the gunman, but that it wouldn't tell the whole story. He cross-examined only three of prosecutors' nearly 90 witnesses, including mumbling through a series of questions while asking his former supervisor about "medical personnel initiating mercy killings." He made few objections but did challenge the government's definition of "jihad," successfully asking the judge that jurors be told that "under Islam, the central doctrine that calls on believers to combat enemies of the religious belief."

WHAT IS HASAN'S PHYSICAL CONDITION?

Hasan was shot in the back by officers responding to the shootings. He is paralyzed from the waist down, confined to a wheelchair, uses a catheter and wears adult diapers. His doctor testified earlier this year that Hasan cannot sit upright for more than 12 hours a day without his concentration being affected. His disabilities haven't appeared to be an issue in the courtroom. Hasan has been transported from jail to Fort Hood each day by military helicopter.

IS HASAN STILL CONSIDERED A SOLDIER?

Yes. He has retained his rank of major and his salary even in jail. He wore a green camouflage uniform in court, with a green knit cap, instead of the dress uniform defendants typically wear in a court-martial. The judge, Col. Tara Osborn, has

said the camouflage uniform was easier for Hasan to wear as a paraplegic.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The case will quickly proceed to a capital sentencing hearing, where prosecutors will try to prove one or more aggravating factors that merit a death sentence. One aggravating factor would be the killing of more than one person in a single event. Jurors must be unanimous to sentence him to death.

The death sentence would need to be affirmed by Fort Hood's convening authority, which would prompt automatic appeals at two military courts for the Army and then the armed forces. If those fail, Hasan could ask the U.S. Supreme Court to review his case and file motions in federal court. The U.S. president must eventually approve a military death sentence. Many death row inmates have had their sentences overturned on appeal, and no active-duty soldier has been executed in the military system since 1961.

Sudoku Answer on Page 11A

sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



By Steve Becker

Diabolical Defense

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 6 5 4
♥ K 9
♦ A 2
♣ Q 10 9 8 6 5
WEST
♠ A 8
♥ 10 8 4 3 2
♦ J 8 7 6 3
♣ A
EAST
♠ K Q J 10 7 3 2
♥ 6 5
♦ 9
♣ 7 4 2
SOUTH
♠ 9
♥ A Q J 7
♦ K Q 10 5 4
♣ K J 3

The bidding:
East 3♠ South 4♣ West 4♣ North 5♣

This deal was played many years ago in a national pair championship. Holding the West hand was Harry Merkle, California expert. He found himself faced with the problem of finding the best opening lead against five clubs, which had been reached on the bidding sequence shown. (South's four-club bid was artificial and was equivalent to a takeout double.)

Probably most players would

automatically have led the ace and another spade and hoped for the best. But Merkle had not earned his reputation as a fine cardplayer by making automatic leads. He was too experienced for that.

Instead, he decided that there was very little hope of scoring two spade tricks, and that his best chance to defeat the contract was to assume that his partner had either a singleton heart or a singleton diamond and would later be able to ruff the second round of one of these suits.

But not knowing which red suit to lead, Merkle came up with a unique solution. With malice aforethought, he led the eight of spades!

Everything worked out exactly as Merkle had planned. East won the spade with the ten and returned his singleton nine of diamonds. Declarer took the diamond with dummy's ace and led a trump to his king.

Merkle won with the ace and, consistent with his plan, returned a diamond. East ruffed to score the defenders' third trick, and the contract was down one, thanks to Merkle's brilliantly conceived defense.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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Steers stomp Matadors in scrimmage



By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

Big Spring Head Football Coach Phillip Ritchey has been wary of heaping too much praise on the Steers because of the way they have handled themselves in their scrimmages against Lubbock High last week and Estacado Friday.

You can't really blame him. Last season, the Steers looked pretty good in their scrimmages and then steamrolled opponents in all five predistrict outings, only to run into the buzzsaw known as District 4-3A, where they went 0-5. That's how a coach has to react to largely meaningless success — by not reacting much at all.

"It was the same as last week," Ritchey said of Friday's scrimmage. "The main thing was to remain healthy. I thought it was a good execution against a good team. Our execution was good. We had some big plays, that's good to see because those are momentum changers. The defense played well against a speedy offense."

As a fan sitting in the rain-soaked stands at Memorial Stadium, however, there was a lot of cheering going on as Big Spring played its first live quarter of the season.

HERALD photo/Tony Claxton/see more at www.claxtonphotography.com

Big Spring players celebrate after a successful scrimmage against Lubbock Estacado Friday. The Steers will open the regular season this coming Friday as they welcome Fort Stockton to Memorial Stadium at 7 p.m.

See **STEERS**, Page 11A

Bufs roughed up in Reagan County

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

BIG LAKE — The Buffaloes may be bigger and stronger on the lines than they've been in a while, but Forsan Head Football Coach Jason Phillips was hoping to pit his squad against an even more physical team in order to provide them with a taste of what's to come in a competitive 1A district.

That's why the Owls were a suitable opponent for the Buffs, and Phillips

got all he asked for and more in the second scrimmage of the season.

"Reagan County was very physical on the offensive and defensive lines," Phillips said. "The controlled scrimmage was pretty good. We didn't score, but they didn't score, either. We did move the ball fairly well. Then at the goal line, we executed two-of-five plays."

The Buffs failed to score in the live quarter of action, but RC

reached the end zone twice.

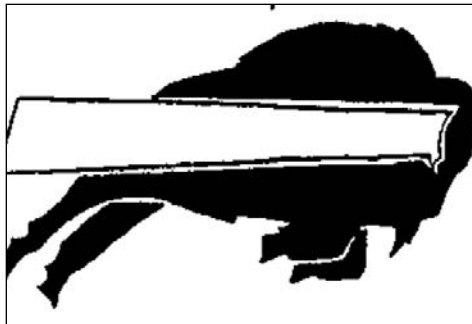
"We're a little banged up up front," said Phillips, who led his team to the playoffs last season. "Some of our guys had limited reps last night and that could have played a small part, but we have to execute no matter who's in there. That's the way it's going to be all year."

Despite not having the best outing, Phillips was glad his team caught a glimpse of what lies ahead.

"We can't replicate that level of physicality during practice," Phillips

added. "They got after us pretty good. We have to be more physical when we play and we have to keep working on our execution."

Forsan will open the regular season with a rematch against Coahoma, whom the Buffs narrowly defeated in last year's opener, 30-27. The game is slated for 4 p.m. at Grande Communication Stadium in Midland on Thursday.



Rangers hit 5 HRs, top ChiSox

CHICAGO (AP) — The Texas Rangers ended their homer drought in a big way.

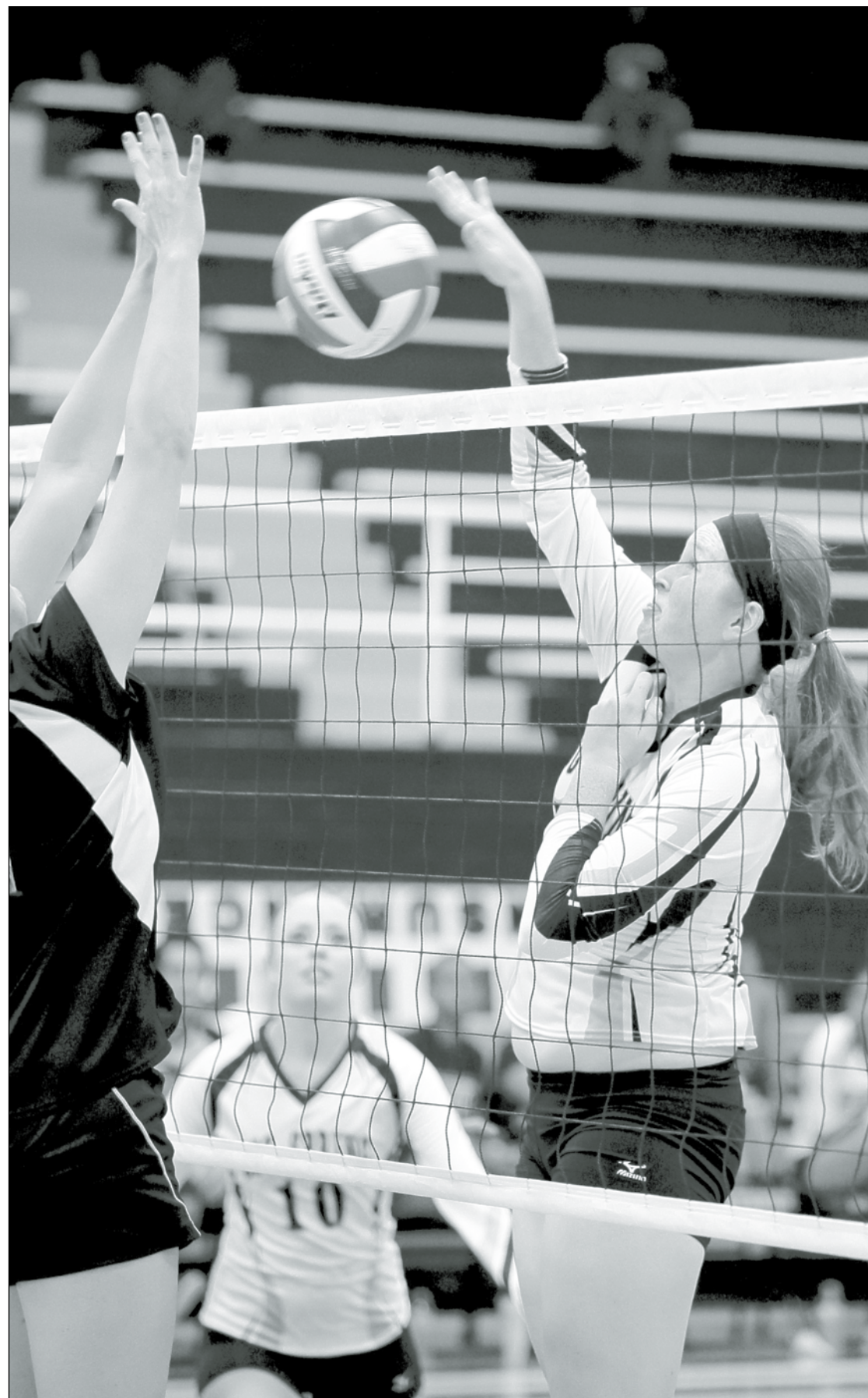
Adam Rosales, Jeff Baker and pinch-hitter Mitch Moreland each had two-run shots to go with solo a drive by Adrian Beltré and a bizarre inside-the-park effort by Ian Kinsler in Friday's 11-5 win over the Chicago White Sox. The AL West-leading Rangers (75-53) won for the 19th time in 23 games to move a season-

high 22 games over .500.

"We've got guys that can hit the ball out of the ballpark, but we just haven't been hitting it out of the ballpark," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "All that tells me is we're able to win baseball games many, many ways, not just with the long ball."

The White Sox were

See **RANGERS**, Page 11A



HERALD file photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring' Kelsie Guinn hits the ball over the net during a game earlier this season. The Lady Steer volleyballers participated in a tournament in Granbury over the weekend, while the Coahoma Bulldogettes made the trek to Crane for a tourney. Results from both teams will be published in Monday's edition of the Herald.

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HERALD photo/
Tony Claxton
A Big Spring junior varsity receiver fights his way into the end zone for a touchdown during Friday's scrimmage against Lubbock Estacado at Memorial Stadium. The J.V. squad will open its regular season against Midland Christian at home Sept. 5 at 7 p.m., while the 9th grade team welcomes Pecos Sept. 5 at 5 p.m.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 10A

unable to overcome a shaky outing by ace Chris Sale, ending a season-high six-game winning streak. Sale (9-12) allowed eight runs and eight hits in seven innings.

"I really have no excuses in my corner, really," Sale said. "My arm felt good, my body felt good, my mind

was right. I even felt like my stuff was good. Sometimes you just get beat."

A.J. Pierzynski and Alex Rios each had a nice night in their return to U.S. Cellular Field for the first time since leaving the White Sox. Pierzynski, who signed with Texas as a free agent in the offseason, went 1 for 4 with a sacrifice fly. Rios, who was traded to the Rangers on Aug. 9, had two hits and scored two runs.

Pierzynski received a standing ovation when he was introduced in the

first inning. Before the game, the team showed highlights of his White Sox career on the center field video board.

"It was hard to keep my emotions in check, especially the first couple innings," Pierzynski said. "It's just weird to go out there, as long as I was on the other side. Just to see the field from a different perspective is just odd. I don't know how to explain it."

The strangest play of the game was Kinsler's inside-the-park homer. His

third inning line drive rolled into a drainage track under the left-field line wall.

By the time Dayan Viciedo was able to find the ball, Kinsler was on his way to the plate for his 11th homer and a 5-3 Rangers lead.

"He did exactly what he was supposed to do, kept running, and it worked in our favor," Washington said. "The ground rules say that if the ball is trapped and visible, you have to go get it. It was visible."

STEERS

Continued from Page 10A

In the early going, Big Spring's offense looked a little shaky. A couple of bad pass attempts by junior quarterback Tobyn Tannehill and a few botched attempts at catching by the receiving corp may have been due to the aftermath of a storm, which left drizzly weather in its wake, causing slick conditions on the field until the rain subsided and a cool breeze dried things up.

"We didn't do a good job catching the ball in the first part of the scrimmage," Ritchey said. "That hurt us, we were losing 15 or 20 yards on plays we should have made. The dropped balls are something we have to work on, along with some protection issues. There's still a lot of room for improvement."

By the end of the practice snaps, things were falling into place.

Tannehill picked up about 25 yards on a keeper, then rushed again for another first down. Devin Roberson

picked up some yardage after a reception, then Ryan Lopez found the end zone on a catch from Tannehill capping the first drive.

Defensively, the Steers forced three turnovers, showing the maturity Ritchey expected from an experienced cadre of players.

"I was a little nervous because of the speed at each position," Ritchey explained. "You have to give (the defense) a lot of credit. They did a great job of bottling them up for the most part."

When the live quarter began, Big Spring's defense looked even stingier, halting Lubbock before the Mats could reach midfield, let alone the goal line.

The Steers started at their own 35, then lost seven yards on a sack. That's when the Steers proved they can execute the big play. Devin Roberson caught a 12-yard pass by Tannehill at the 40-yard line, then promptly ran it back 60 yards for a touchdown before kicking the point after.

Estacado had one solid rush, but was stopped again by the

Steer defense during its second possession of the quarter.

Another TD was tacked on by BSHS when Tannehill rushed for 25 yards, then hit Matthew Yanez in the end zone.

Preston Alexander — the freshman running back Ritchey has high hopes for — looked good from the backfield, charging for about 40 yards in two rush attempts before time expired. Junior Hunter Hill had a solid game at the RB position and showed his versatility by playing a big part in the Steers' staunch defense.

"It was another good scrimmage," Ritchey added. "You're always concerned about execu-

tion, but I loved the way Preston Alexander played last night. There are a lot of guys who are starting to play well that we expect big things from."

The Steers will play their season opener at home against Fort Stockton on Friday at 7 p.m.

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

sudoku
ANSWERS

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

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Sweet Potato Pie with Fig and Pecan Topping

Makes 8 servings

Pie:

- 1 ready-made refrigerated pie crust
- 1 can (15-ounce) sweet potatoes
- 1/3 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 large eggs
- 3/4 cup whipping cream

Topping:

- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/4 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 cup stemmed, chopped Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid Figs
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup
- 1 tablespoon brandy or water
- 1/2 cup chopped, toasted pecans

Preheat oven to 450°F. Let pie crust stand at room temperature 15 minutes; unroll and press against side and bottom of 9-inch pie pan (glass recommended). Fold excess crust under and press together to form thick crust edge; flute.

Drain sweet potatoes; mash or whirl in food processor until smooth (potatoes should measure 1 1/8 cups). In medium bowl whisk together sweet potatoes, brown sugar, spice and salt. Whisk in eggs, one at a time, and cream. Pour filling into crust. Bake pie 15 minutes; reduce heat to 350°F, shield edge of pie with a ring (or strips) of foil to prevent overbrowning, and continue baking for 25 to 30 minutes or until center moves slightly when shaken. Remove pie to wire rack to cool.

For topping, in small saucepan stir butter and brown sugar over medium heat until melted. Stir in figs, maple syrup and brandy. Bring to a simmer and cook, stirring constantly, 2 minutes or until reduced to a thick, glossy syrup. Remove from heat and stir in pecans. Spoon evenly over warm pie. Cool. Chill for up to 8 hours before serving.



Chocolate Ganache Tart With Glazed Figs and Nuts

Makes 8 to 10 servings

- 1 refrigerated pie crust, at room temperature
- 1 cup packed (6 ounces) Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid Figs, stemmed and halved*
- 2/3 cup water
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons almond-, hazelnut- or orange-flavored liqueur
- 1/2 cup whipping cream
- 6 ounces bittersweet chocolate, finely chopped
- 1 cup unsalted or lightly salted mixed hazelnuts, cashews, Brazil nuts, almonds and pecans
- Whipped cream, optional

Preheat oven to 450°F. Unroll pie crust and press into bottom and up side of 10-inch tart pan with removable bottom. Prick all over with fork. Bake until light brown, 9 to 11 minutes. Cool on rack.

In small saucepan, combine figs and water. Bring to boil over high heat, then reduce heat and simmer until liquid is reduced to 1/4 cup, about 2 minutes. Stir in brown sugar and simmer, stirring, 1 minute. Remove from heat. Stir in liqueur. Let steep 10 minutes. Strain figs through fine-meshed sieve, reserving syrup. While figs cool, in small saucepan, bring cream to simmer over medium heat. Remove from heat, add chocolate and stir until smooth. Spread over baked crust. Refrigerate 5 minutes or until chocolate begins to firm up but is not set. Alternate fig slices and nuts in concentric circles on tart, pressing slightly into chocolate to secure. Chill 2 hours or up to 1 day. To serve, brush figs and nuts with reserved syrup. Remove side from tart pan and place tart on platter. Cut into wedges. Top with whipped cream, if desired.

*Cut large figs (greater than 1 1/4-inch diameter at the base) into three lengthwise slices.

Chewy Ginger-Molasses Fig Cookies

Makes about 30 cookies

- 2/3 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1 large egg white
- 3 tablespoons light molasses
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup stemmed, finely chopped Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid Figs
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar

Preheat oven to 350°F. Beat brown sugar and oil in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until blended. Beat in egg white and molasses.

In separate bowl combine flour, ginger, soda, cinnamon and salt. On low speed, slowly beat in flour mixture until combined. With spoon, stir in figs.

Shape 1-tablespoon portions of dough into balls. Roll in granulated sugar. Place 2 1/2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Place sheet in center of oven and bake cookies 7 to 9 minutes, until cracked on top and set around edges. Cool on wire rack.

HOMEMADE HOLIDAYS

Bake Festive Fig Desserts

FAMILY FEATURES

Whether you're hosting a family dinner or making a dessert for a friend's party, bring something special to the holiday table with these amazing dessert recipes. Each delicious bite stars the unique flavor only found in figs.

With their rich honey-like sweetness and delightfully crunchy edible seeds, figs take foods from good to great. Available year-round from Valley Fig Growers, California dried figs are ready to eat right out of the package or can be easily diced, sliced or poached for cooking and baking. For more holiday recipes, visit www.valleyfig.com.

German Chocolate Cake With Broiled Fig and Coconut Topping

Makes 2 single-layer cakes

Cake:

- 1 18 1/4-ounce German Chocolate Cake Mix (Check cake mix for additional ingredients — oil, eggs, water)

Fig-Coconut Topping:

- 1 cup stemmed, chopped Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid Figs
- 1 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup butter
- 6 tablespoons whipping cream
- 1 cup flaked coconut
- 1/2 cup chopped, toasted pecans

Follow package directions and prepare two 8-inch round cakes. Bake and cool as directed.

For topping, in medium saucepan combine figs, sugar, butter and cream.

Stir over medium heat until mixture comes to a simmer. Simmer 1 minute, stirring constantly. Stir in coconut and pecans. Spread warm topping on top of each cake layer, dividing evenly.

Place one cake at a time on baking sheet or heatproof pan. Broil 4 to 5 inches from heat for 15 to 30 seconds, or until topping bubbles, watching constantly. Remove from oven. Repeat with second cake. Cool. Transfer cakes to serving plates to serve.

Chocolate Fig Crinkles

Makes about 30 cookies

- 1 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 2 ounces unsweetened chocolate, melted
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup stemmed, finely chopped Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid Figs
- 1/3 cup confectioners' sugar

Beat brown sugar and butter with electric mixer on medium speed until blended. Beat in melted chocolate. Beat in eggs, one at a time, and vanilla.

In medium bowl, stir together flour, cocoa powder, baking powder and salt. On low speed, slowly beat into chocolate mixture. Stir in figs. Cover bowl and chill 3 hours.

To bake, preheat oven to 350°F. Form 1-tablespoon portions of dough into balls. Roll in confectioners' sugar. Place balls, 2 1/2 inches apart, on greased baking sheet.

Place sheet in center of oven and bake cookies 7 to 9 minutes, until cracked on top and set around edges. Cool on wire rack.



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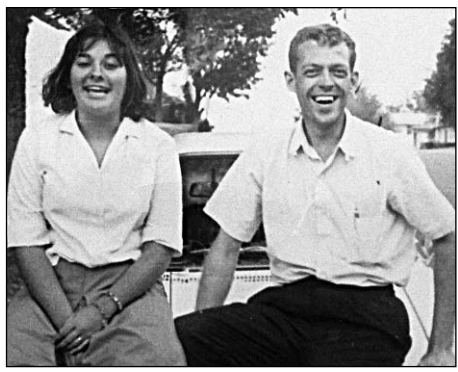


FEATURED PROPERTY 1708 YALE

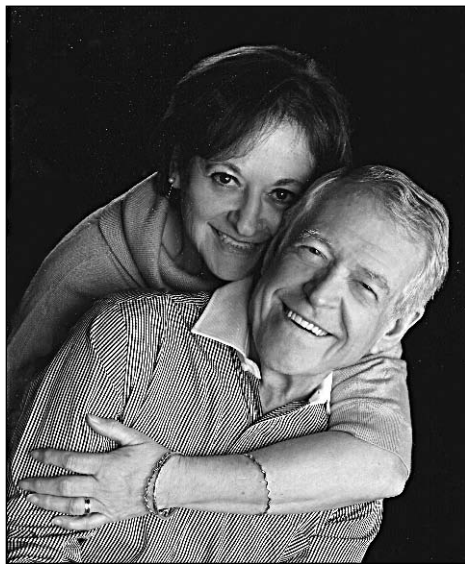
Nice 3 bedroom home with great backyard featuring inground pool and a large workshop.
NEW PAINT AND FLOORING THROUGHOUT!

▶ Golden Anniversary

BOB AND SUSAN LEWIS CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF WEDDED BLISS



Susan Zack and Bob Lewis Then and Now



Susan Zack and Bob Lewis were married Aug. 26, 1963, in El Paso, Texas. They met and have lived in Big Spring most of their married life.

Together they've built a successful business, become vital members of the community, raised a family and their friendship and partnership continue to thrive.

The couple recently celebrated their Golden Anniversary on a cruise with their sons Kevin and BZ and their families.

Susan and Bob have traveled the world over, but have always been happy to call Big Spring home.

Their zest for life and commitment to one another are an inspiration to their entire family.

Happy 50th Anniversary to Susan and Bob Lewis!

▶ Rodriguez Birth



Helena Kimberly Rodriguez

Helena Kimberly Rodriguez, a girl, was born May 10, 2013, at 5:08 a.m. She weighed 7 pounds, 15.7 ounces and was 21 inches long.

She is the daughter of Samantha and David Rodriguez of Big Spring. Maternal grandparents are Becky Salgado and the late Simon Alcantar. Paternal grandparents are the late Mary Rios and Moso Rios; and Thomas and Virginia Rodriguez.

Helena was welcomed home by big brother, Brandon Robert Lee Rodriguez.

▶ Menus

Sands ISD

Monday: Breakfast – Sausage kolache, oven roasted potatoes, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – Beef and cheese chaulupas, garden salad, refried beans, applesauce, milk and water.

Tuesday: Breakfast – Cheddar omelette wrap, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – Country fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, savory green beans, roll, strawberry cup, milk and water.

Wednesday: Breakfast – Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – Chicken fajitas, charro beans, seasoned corn,

orange smiles, milk and water.

Thursday: Breakfast – Waffles, sausage, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – Chicken spaghetti, garden salad, baby carrots, apple slices, bread stick, milk and water.

Friday: Breakfast – Cinnamon roll, bacon, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – Hamburger, sweet potato fries, coleslaw, sliced peaches, milk and water.

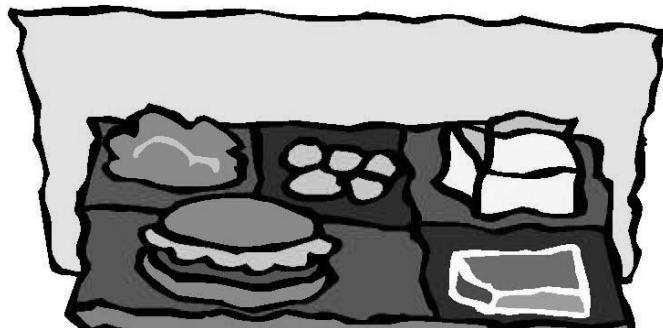
Senior Center

Monday: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli and cauliflower,

apricot halves, biscuit with honey and milk.

Tuesday: Ham, butter beans, spinach with hot sauce, cantaloupe, cornbread and milk.

Wednesday: Lasgna,



capri vegetables, tossed salad, white cake, garlic bread and milk.

Thursday: Chick- en strips with gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, lime gelatin with pineapple, biscuit with honey and milk.

Friday: Fish fillet

green beans, roll, straw- berries and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast – mini corndogs, assort- ed fruit juice and milk. Lunch – chicken fajitas or turkey and cheese wrap, charro beans, corn, orange smiles and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast – banana loaf, strawberry yogurt, assorted fruit juice and milk. Lunch – chicken spaghetti or popcorn chicken, gar- den salad, baby carrots, sliced apples, bread- sticks and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – grape PBJ Uncrustable, assorted fruit juice and milk. Lunch – baja fish sticks or hamburger or cheeseburger, Texas Toast, sweet potato tots, coleslaw, peaches and milk.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast – Cinnamon rolls, cereal, juice and milk. Lunch – Chicken spaghetti, scal- loped potatoes, peas and carrots, romaine garden salad and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast – Scrambled eggs, toast, cereal, juice and milk. Lunch – Zesty orange chicken with steamed

rice and egg roll, glazed carrots, Oriental blend vegetables, romaine garden salad with fat free ranch dressing, blushing pears, sea- sonal fresh fruit, apple, orange or banana and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast – Biscuit and sausage, cereal, juice and milk. Lunch – Big Daddy Homestyle Pizza with cheese and pepperoni, seasoned spinach, yel- low squash, romaine garden salad with fat free ranch dressing, chilled peaches, season- al fresh fruit and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast – Sausage on a stick, cereal, juice and milk. Lunch – Chicken fajita soft tacos, Spanish rice, Mexicali corn, steamed broccoli, lettuce and tomato salad, season- al fresh fruit, chilled strawberry cups, salsa/ jalapeno and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – Cereal, toast, juice and milk. Lunch – Sloppy Joe, oven baked sweet potato fries, romaine garden salad with fat free ranch dressing, Ranch Style Beans, sea- sonal fresh fruit, chilled peach cup, ketchup, mustard and milk.

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Boomer Weddings

ANNE D'INNOGENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK — Sherry- Lynne Heller-Wells al- ways wanted a fairytale wedding.

So when she tied the knot last year, she spared no detail. She walked down the aisle in a flow- ing ivory gown with a long veil and lacey bo-

lero jacket. Ten flower- toting bridesmaids and seven groomsmen were in the wedding party. And after the ceremony, 100 guests dined on beef tenderloin, clams casino and a three-tier vanilla cake.

The cost, including a fireworks show dur- ing the reception, was \$45,000.

Heller-Wells wasn't some blushing new bride, though. When the retired registered nurse, 64, wed her husband, Clyde, a small-business owner who is 65, it was her second time at the altar.

"I met my Prince Charming. He swept me off my feet," says the Clearwater, Fla., widow whose first husband died in 2003. "We're hop- ing this will be the last marriage. Why not cel- ebrate?"

Couples age 55 and older made up just 8 percent of last year's \$53 billion wedding business.

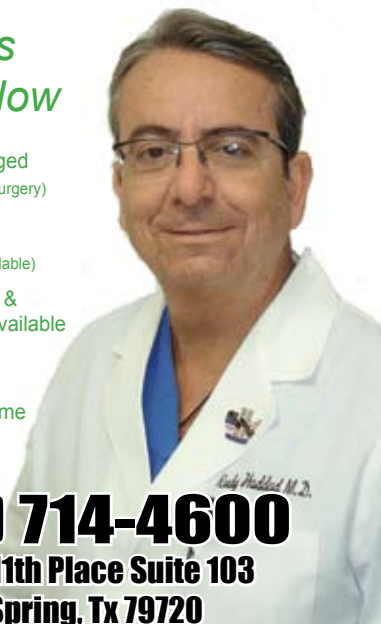
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Porter elected Speaker of the TSHL

Special to the Herald
Pat J. Porter, Silver-Haired Legislator for the Permian Basin area, with 99 other legislators from across Texas convened in Austin July 14-18, 2013 for the initial meeting of the 15th Texas Silver-Haired Legislature (TSHL).

among the 28 Texas Area Agencies on Aging serving the state's seniors. The legal formation of the 15th TSHL was completed within the chambers of the Texas



Pat J. Porter

House of Representatives as all attending members were administered the formal Oath of Office by Texas Secretary of State John Steen.

Texas Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst addressed the group and



welcomed them into new roles as strong and active advocates for Texas seniors. Orientation and training sessions during the week in Austin focused on senior needs identification,

resolution preparation and effective advocacy processes. The TSHL was formed in Texas in 1985 by the 69th Texas Legislature as a non-partisan group of Texas citizens over the age of 60 to educate and advocate to Texas State Legislators on the specific needs of Texas' senior citizens. The newly elected

Speaker of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature is the Honorable Pat J. Porter, TSHL representative from the Permian Basin. For more information, go to the TSHL website at www.txshl.org. For more information contact Pat J. Porter at 432-270-4456 or tshpat-po@gmail.com

Bride tries not to worry

CARLSBAD, N.M. (AP) — Nikki Martin knew what kind of life she was signing up for when she said "yes" to her boyfriend Nick's proposal of marriage during the July 4 fireworks show in 2010.

He had been working in the oilfield since before they met and started dating during her senior year at Carlsbad High School.

Three years, two wedding rings and one kid later, Nick Martin is still doing what he's always known as a pusher for Kodiak Oil and Gas.

He works in the oilfield in Texas and has a two-hour commute each way.

And though she's proud of her husband for doing what he loves and doing it well, Martin said she's acutely aware of the danger he's in every day - especially after hearing or reading about freak accidents in which oilfield workers have lost their limbs and sometimes their lives.

"When he was working for Fusion, he was working side-by-side with a guy whose finger got cut completely off. It easily could've been Nick," Martin said. "I tell him every day to be careful. I try to put it out of my mind, but I think about it a lot. I don't know what I would do if I lost him."

Martin knows what it's like to be raised in a single-parent home, and she doesn't want that for her son.

Nick - who towers over his wife and son with his tall, lanky frame - is an adoring husband and father when he's around, but his long days at work sometimes make Martin feel like she's in her

mother's shoes.

"Hunter is a handful. He's with me all day, and I actually have to discipline," Martin said.

The sometimes-shy-sometimes-not little boy often clings to his mother with a finger or two in his mouth, looking ever so handsome and innocent; but the toddler also decides to test his mother's patience at times by exhibiting traits of the terrible twos.

But by the time his daddy gets home, Hunter is ready to show only his good side while vying for his father's attention before Nick is too tired to stay awake and play any longer after a long day of physical labor in the hot sun.

Nick leaves for work at 6 a.m. during the week and doesn't return until 9 or 10 p.m. sometimes, Martin said. He's also on call 24/7 and has been awakened in the middle of the night for overflow emergencies.

And then there are those evenings when Nick comes home smelling like marijuana or nicotine smoke after being in a work truck all day. It's enough to make Martin turn her head before he gets a chance to change.

As a boss in the oilfield, one of the things Nick deals with is enforcing drug rules, Martin said.

He personally does not allow his crew members to smoke in company trucks, but sharing vehicles sometimes leaves him smelling like the people who used them before him.

"It's gross!" said Martin, who is not accustomed to that type of lifestyle.

There are benefits to being

an oil wife though, she said.

In her case, the money her husband makes is enough to pay the bills and put her through college.

She was able to quit her job in retail and stay home with Hunter when she's not taking classes for her bachelor's degree online through New Mexico State University.

And while living frugally in a single-wide trailer in the Big Sky mobile home park surrounded by their pet dogs and chickens, which are a constant source of entertainment, the couple can save up for the house they want to build, the baby girl they'd like to adopt and the oilfield company Nick hopes to one day start.

Martin said she and her husband often playfully fight about Hunter's future and whether or not he'll work with his dad.

And though Martin said she would prefer that her husband and her son go to college and learn to do something less stressful - largely so she can breathe a little easier - deep down inside she knows her husband will never want to leave.

"Before Nick, I didn't have any respect for them (oilfield workers) at all, but I see how hard he works. It's all he's ever known. He couldn't do anything else," Martin said.

And she's prepared to accept the lot of being an oilfield wife for the rest of her life, currently as a full-time student and mom, and doing all of it while trying not to worry about her best friend.

Vt. VA brain center hopes to get \$3 million

WHITERIVERJUNCTION, Vt. (AP) — U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy says the Vermont's Veterans Administration Medical Center could get \$3 million to help study post-traumatic stress disorder and help rural health care providers deal with the problem.

Leahy says the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder at the White River Junction hospital would help create the nation's first brain tissue repository dedicated to researching the physical

impact of stress and trauma on the brain.

The other half of the funding would go toward initiating a Rural Veterans with PTSD Outreach Program designed to support community health care providers with state of the art information and resources on PTSD diagnosis and treatment.

The funding is included in a military construction and veterans affairs budget bill that awaits passage by both chambers of Congress and the president's signature.

Geeky rides

Dumbo just don't cut it anymore

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. (AP) Boasting obscure characters and detailed story lines, several new attractions opened at theme parks this summer in Central Florida. The new rides and areas are much different from those just a generation ago, when Dumbo the Flying Elephant was considered high tech.

These days, a ride involving a simple, blue elephant just won't cut it.

Take World of Chima at Legoland, for instance. The attraction is based on a Lego building block play set and Cartoon Network show about eight animal tribes, a crocodile king, magical vehicles called Speedorz and a life force called Chi. There are epic battles over the Ancient


Pool of Chi, set in a lushly landscaped tropical world.

Or look at Universal's Transformers ride. It isn't just inspired by the toy and the movie, it's a detailed, 3-D, "interactive battle" between the Autobots and Decepticons that has its own website.

Even the straightforward-sounding Antarctica: Empire of the Penguin ride at SeaWorld Orlando is about a penguin hatchling who grows up, leaves his mom, is chased by a leopard seal through a psychedelic-looking world and then reunited with his tribe of fellow birds.

Real, live penguins appear at the end of the ride.

When did fun become so complicated?



NORTH SIDE MOVEMENT
TARGETING THE PROBLEMS

The North Side Movement is about "moving" forward and bringing much needed attention to North Side. Our goal is to clean, attract new businesses and restore pride to North Side.

Members include residents, various property and business owners. We are also moving forward with the approval from our district city council representatives, Carmen Harbour & Marcus Fernandez.

If you have concerns, questions or suggestions or would like to become a member you can reach us by email at NorthSideMovement@yahoo.com or you can contact us directly with the information stated below.

Our first project is to restore the North Side Park. With the cooperation of the city, the park will be getting new playground equipment. We have many projects in store and we want you to be a part of it!

We invite you to join us on Labor Day, Monday, September 2nd, 2013 for FREE HOT DOGS & DRINKS from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. at the North Side Park. We are also hoping to re-name the North Side Park to Andries Park. Mr. C. B. "Bert" Andries dedicated his life to the Boys Club and to the North Side Community.

More information will be provided on Labor Day. If you want clean streets, pot-holes filled and new businesses, we look forward to seeing you on Labor Day. Our concerns and needs will be met!!!!

Thank you,

Nati Saldivar - 432.264.6111
Norma Garcia - 432.816.2988
Dale Avant - 432.264.0575
Aubrey Weaver - 432.599.2480

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SEPTEMBER 7TH & 8TH, 2013 (COMANCHE TRAIL GOLF COURSE)

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Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Receptionist Vicki Stewart, right, talks with Bruce Schooler and Chamber Executive Director Debbye ValVerde during a retirement reception in her honor at the chamber offices last week.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

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.



Coming into the second quarter earnings season we speculated that investors wouldn't be paying close attention. We were correct. Macro issues continue to dictate the direction of the markets. Sure, individual company results did influence the stock market's direction for a few hours or maybe a full day's trading this past reporting season but the effects didn't last long.

The reason is easy to understand. Consider where we are in the economic cycle. Typically, at this point, earnings comparisons moderate. The economy is no longer climbing out of the recessionary hole when companies and analysts have much more trouble getting a handle on future profits amid uncertainty over the magnitude and strength of the recovery. It is during this time that earnings can rebound 15 percent, 20 percent or more on a year-over-year basis. After that initial surge, and particularly in this recovery's slow-growth environment, the probability of seeing an overall big earning beat or miss is very small. Investors knew this coming into the recent reporting season.

Earning move the stock market or individual equity prices when the results are meaningfully different than expectations. Coming into the second quarter earnings season, we were expecting year-over-year percentage growth in the low-to-mid single digit area. The consensus was looking for something on the lower end of that range. With more than 90 percent of companies in the S&P 500 reporting, earnings are up 5 percent on a purely market capitalization weighted basis. In other words, earnings were pretty much in line with what we and the consensus were expecting.

This scenario is unlikely to change over the next few quarters unless domestic economic growth is vastly different than the modest 2 percent we are projecting for this year. And that is probably not going to happen. Earning seasons will still offer individual company surprises but, overall, would not hold much potential for excitement. In fact, the next few earning reporting seasons might be just plain boring.

But there are many other things going on in the world to distract investors. The short list includes the upcoming deficit ceiling debate about to take place in Congress, concerns over China's economic growth rate and Middle East tensions. And, of course, the biggest item on the minds of most market participants is the timing and magnitude of any change in the pace of the Fed's current quantitative easing (QE) program. All of these issues have a range of potential outcomes that are much less certain than domestic earnings growth.

So it will be tough to generate enthusiasm over the next few earning reporting seasons. But there might just be enough going on outside of company results to keep investors interested. Just be aware that there may be more hype surrounding these reporting periods than is really necessary given the likely outcome. True, the second half of the year may be a bit stronger than the first half but that isn't saying much. The next few earnings reporting seasons are likely to be snoozers.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. This article was produced Aug. 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. Additional information is available upon request. The material is published solely for informational purposes and is not an offer to buy or sell or solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any security or investment product. Opinions and estimates are as of a certain date and subject to change without notice. You should be aware that investments can fluctuate in price, value and/or income, and you may get back less than you invested.

Future events dominate chamber board meeting

By ANDREA MEDLIN
Staff Writer

Love and appreciation were on the prevailing winds as the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce made plans for future events this week.

Well wishes for newly retired Vicki Stewart were expressed as President Jim Clemons said, "She will be a missed part (of the Chamber). We wish her the very best."

According to Treasurer Mark Morgan, the resounding success

of the golf tournament held in July, the carnival in June and membership dues collected for both months are enough to keep the organization in the black through the end of the year.

Incentives to encourage Big Springers to do their holiday shopping locally was discussed in length with something new in the works.

"We decided to do something a little different this year," said Chamber member Manny Ne-

gron, who is in charge of busi-

ness development. "We are going to have 'The 12 Days Before Black Friday,' and then 'The 12 Days Before Christmas,'" he continued.

As plans are being made to make shopping locally a priority, the group was reminded that political leaders will visit Big Spring in the coming weeks. State Sen. Kel Seliger's annual tour of Senate District 31 continues with county town hall meetings

See CHAMBER, Page 5B

Lamb, goat camps earn accolades from association

By CINDY SMITH

Special to the Herald

The Howard College Lamb and Goat Camps were tabbed as the recipient of the Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers' Association's Special Achievement Award during the organization's 98th annual convention held in July. Cash Berry and Daniel Woolley, assistant professors and current camp directors, were on hand to receive the special award.

"We are honored for our camps and ag pro-

gram to be recognized by such an outstanding organization," said Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks, college president. "The camps have been so successful over the years, and it is nice to have the program and individuals recognized for all their hard work."

The nationally known camps were started in 1991 (lamb) and 1994 (goat) and have been working with more than 400 parents and

See CAMPS, Page 5B



Courtesy photo

Howard College agriculture camp directors Daniel Woolley, left, and Cash Berry are shown with the Special Achievement Award presented to the college by the Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Association.

Both sides of fracking debate turn out for Obama

MICHAEL GORMLEY

Associated Press

Hundreds of supporters and opponents of natural gas drilling through hydrofracking got their say Friday along President Barack Obama's bus tour route into the Southern Tier,

where the debate over whether New York should expand fracking is hottest.

Not in attendance on Obama's visit to the state University at Binghamton was Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who will decide whether to allow

fracking in New York. Although a decision on the dicey political issue has been promised for months, Cuomo says he still awaits a public health study by his administration. Cuomo had met Obama in Buffalo on Thursday, but

didn't join him in stops through central New York.

Among the crowd were members of New Yorkers Against Fracking, who aimed to sway Obama's pro-fracking

See FRACKING, Page 5B

Miller appointed as soil and water conservation rep

Special to the Herald

Ed Miller of Big Spring has been appointed to represent subdivision 1 of the Howard County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Miller fills the unexpired term of Nancy Raney, who has served on the board since 2010. The Howard County SWCD's headquarters is located in

Big Spring.

Miller operates a commercial cow/calf ranch. In addition to his agricultural enterprise, Miller is also owner of Premier Sales.

He is a member of The American Angus Association and the American Chianina Association.

"The Howard County SWCD's purpose is to make available to local

landowners and operators technical, financial and educational resources to help them better conserve the soil, water and related resources which they manage or own," said Kevin Hamlin, district chairman.

The Howard SWCD is a political subdivision of state government and is divided into five subdivisions. Subdivision 1's boundaries include

the southwestern corner of Howard County from State Highway 176 to U.S. Highway 87.

"We want to welcome Ed Miller as a member of our board of directors. He will play a significant role in helping our district provide technical assistance to our district cooperators who wish to implement conservation programs on their land," said Hamlin.

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Steve Antoine, 1425 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
 Jose Manuel Avina, 1404 Nolan, Big Spring
 Jennifer Leigh Black, 1405 E. Barton, Temple
 William Riley Bounds, 1818 Corsicana, Dallas
 Joe Ray Brown, 902 Hickory, Abilene
 Cassie Christine Cantu, 1101 E. 12th St., Big Spring
 Susan Cheyanne Cearley, 4104 Muir, Big Spring
 Matilda Cortez, 302 N. Saint Teresa, Stanton
 Steve Allan Crim, 8381 Petunia, San Angelo
 Michael Angelo Dorado, 2202 William Rd., Big Spring
 Brittany Vanessa Escanuela, 302 Circle, Big Spring
 Noel Garcia II, 107 Bluebonnet/11011 Stadium, Big Spring
 Pedro Garcia, 806 Johnson, Big Spring
 Joe Nick Garfias Jr., of 1309 Runnels, Big Spring
 Nicholas Gonzales, 903 Creighton, Big Spring
 Charles E. Griffin, 108 CR 1250, Fairfield
 James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler Apt. 502, Atlanta, Ga.
 Jesseka Fay Gronos, N. Co. Road 1135, Midland.
 Joe Guzman, 1313 Mesquite, Big Spring
 Kimberly Dee Hargrove, PO Box 1985, Big Spring
 Bryan David Hernandez, 1500 Kentucky Way, Big Spring
 Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N. Texas No. 198, Odessa.

Christopher Shawn Jones, 112 McDonald Rd., Big Spring
 Richard Leos, 509 West 8th St., Big Spring
 Jesse Paul Lopez, 1011 Scurry, Big Spring
 Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham, Odessa
 Dustin Tyler McLeod, 108 Landon Dr., Llano
 Eddie Glen Mills, 5142 PDQ Road, Colorado City
 Natasha Michelle Morris, 511 Debra Lane, Big Spring.
 Jose Munoz, 3804 Connally, Big Spring
 Camilo Martin Nieto, 1 Courtney Place Apt. 108, Big Spring
 Michael Lynn Perkins, 11601 CR 4164, Hermleigh
 Taylor James Perry, 2105 Sydney Baker Apt. 228, Kerrville
 Austin Healey Petersen, 1 Haven for Hope, San Antonio
 Martin Sosa Puga, 1614 Settles, Big Spring
 Randy Randolph, 2514 Albrook, Big Spring
 Shenna LEEAN Reeves, 615 Gene Lee Rd., Mineral Wells
 Sheila Fay Richardson, 1707 Donley, Big Spring
 Liza Leigh Rios, 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 30, Big Spring
 Miguel Andres Sanchez, 64 McCaleb Rd., Montgomery
 Warren Victor Schneider, 803 Atlantic, Coahoma
 Amy Leigh Shifflett, 209 N. Main, Coahoma
 Stephanie L. Sterling, 13550 Clark St., Millersport, Ore.
 Ricky Lynn Waltenbaugh, 538 Westober Rd. Apt. 133, Big Spring
 Candida Whitehead, 3706

Connley, Big Spring
 Byran Paul Williams, 1409 E. Main St., Round Rock

County Court Decisions
 State of Texas vs. Jason Ray Payne, Revocation of Probation for evading arrest detention, 90 days in jail, \$750 fine and court costs.
 State of Texas vs. Chad Daniel Deax, Revocation of Probation for driving while intoxicated - second offense. 120 days in jail, \$2,500 fine and court costs.
 State of Texas vs. Julio Diaz Balcazar, Revocation of Probation for Duty on Striking Unattended Vehicle. 90 days in jail, \$750 fine and \$432 court costs.
 State of Texas vs. James Odell Perry, Revocation of Probation for possession of controlled substance less than 28 grams. 30 days in jail, \$500 fine and \$442 court costs.
 State of Texas vs. Manuel Sosa, Revocation of Probation for resist arrest search or transport. 162 days in jail, \$500 fine and \$382 court costs.
 State of Texas vs. David Morales, Probated Judgment for unlawful carrying a weapon. 180 days in jail, probated for 12 months and \$500 fine.
 State of Texas vs. Byron Delorean Shedd, Judgment and sentence evading arrest detention. 75 days in jail, \$500 fine, and \$282 court costs.
 State of Texas vs. James Leslie Ingram, Judgment and sentence criminal mischief

greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500. \$200 fine, \$282 court costs and 30 days in jail.
 State of Texas vs. Robert Paul Newton, Judgment and sentence for theft of property greater than or equal to \$500 but less than \$1,500. 40 days in jail, \$282 court costs.
 State of Texas vs. Manuel Sosa IV Judgment and sentence for assault causes bodily injury. 75 days in jail, \$200 fine and \$282 court costs.
 State of Texas vs. Trevor Neil McCluskey Judgment and sentence for driving while license invalid with previous conviction. \$500 fine, \$282.10 court costs and 45 days in jail.
 State of Texas vs. Christopher W. Burnett Probated judgment for driving while license invalid previous conviction. \$500 fine and 12 month probation.
 State vs. Texas vs. Simon Chavez Probated judgment for cruelty to non-livestock animals: Fail to provide. \$1,500 fine, 365 days in jail and \$332 court costs.
 State of Texas vs. Joseph Martinez Probated judgment deferred adjudication for resisting arrest, search or transport. 12 months probation, \$500 fine and \$282 court costs.

Warranty Deeds:
 Grantor: Steve Girby
 Grantee: Andres Huerta
 Property: Out of the NE/4 of section 45, blk 31, T-1-N, T&P RR survey
 Date: May 10, 2013

Grantor: Adam James Flores
 Grantee: Connie Lou Sherman
 Property: Lots 33 and 34 blk 15 Washington Place
 Date: May 10, 2013

Grantor: Worthy Land and Development, Inc.
 Grantee: Billy Joe Combs
 Property: All of unit Q, Village at the Spring, section 2
 Date: May 13, 2013

Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:
 Grantor: Cesar D. and Maria V. Robles
 Grantee: Barbara Daniel
 Property: Lot 27 Capehart Additoin
 Date: May 9, 2013

Grantor: Yadav Properties, LLC
 Grantee: Spring Town Plaza
 Property: 14 acre tract of land out of section 4 blk 32, T-1-S, T&P RR survey
 Date: May 1, 2013

Grantor: Douglas Parks
 Grantee: Jessica Lewis
 Property: Lot 17 blk 1 East Highland Park Additon
 Date: May 9, 2013

Grantor: Gary Feaster and Amy Bollier
 Grantee: Jesus Medina Jr.
 Property: 0.5 acre tract out of SE 1/4 of section 32 blk 32 T-1-N, T&P RR survey
 Date: May 10, 2013

Grantor: Janet Fuqua-Boyd
 Grantee: Gilbert Hernandez
 Property: Lot 8 blk 10 Kent-

wood Addition
 Date: May 10, 2013

Grantor: Timothy J. and Kemberli A. Walsh
 Grantee: Jared Brown
 Property: Lot 25 blk 16 Kentwood
 Date: May 10, 2013

Grantor: Woody A. and Carol A. Jumper
 Grantee: Hector Loredo
 Property: Portion of lot 3 and lot 4 blk 13 Douglass Addition
 Date: May 10, 2013

Grantor: Vicky Litton
 Grantee: Justin and Tobi Brim
 Property: .75 acre tract out of the SE/4 of section 20, blk 33, T-1-N, T&P RR survey
 Date: May 1, 2013

Marriage Licenses
 Herman Hokes, 49, and Maria Ofemia De la Cruz, 50, both of Big Spring.
 Keith Christopher Jones, 39, and Martena Nicole Haynie, 33, both of Big Spring.
 Delbert Antonio Green, 49, and Louise M. Ramirez, 51, both of Big Spring.
 Jason Scott Dalton, 30, and Amanda Marie Garcia, 25, both of Big Spring.
 Patrick Owen Ratcliffe Jr., 28, and Marie Antoinette Serano, 26, both of Big Spring.

District Court Filings
 Midland Funding LLC vs. Denise Wagner – accounts, notes and contracts.

CHAMBER

Continued from Page 4B

across the Panhandle, South Plains and Permian Basin. The senator will be in Howard County Aug. 27, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Hotel Settles, 200 East Third. Activities of the 83rd Legislature will be among the topics he will discuss.

U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer will be at the Hall Center for the Arts on the Howard College campus Sept. 3.

Former U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm will

make an appearance Oct. 10 at the Ag Appreciation Day to be held at the new G.C. Broughton Ag Complex at Howard College. Meal tickets are free for productive farmers and ranchers and \$15 to all others. Booths at the event can be reserved for \$125.

The Chamber is also promoting a CI Destinations trip to Tuscany, Italy.

"We've had two couples sign up for it already," said ValVerde. "The deadline for the deposit is Sept. 1, and we're leaving in March."

Ken McIntosh, pastor of First Christian

Church and Big Spring ISD board member, presented an idea for a discount program for area teachers which would include Big Spring, Foran and Coahoma school districts.

"School employees have been hit with increased health insurance premiums and the raise they received doesn't even cover it," McIntosh told the group.

The pastor explained he was seeking feedback as to whether local businesses would support such a program.

"My idea is to provide punch cards for all

teachers to be used for a 10 percent discount on purchases at local businesses," said McIntosh.

Details about how the program will be implemented, cost and distribution was tabled for future discussion.

A reception for Howard College retirees Terry Hanson, Shirley Lee and Rosie Torres will be held Aug. 29 at 12:30 p.m. in the Cactus Room.

In keeping with building morale and promoting a holistic approach to women's health, "The Love Chromosome" with Derrick Tenant is set for Thursday, Sept. 5, at 7 p.m. in the Doro-

thy Garrett Coliseum. Tickets for the program are free and available at the Chamber of Commerce and Howard College.

Upcoming events and deadlines include a ribbon cutting for Big Spring Classical Academy on Sept. 3 at 2:30 p.m. The deadline for Leadership Big Spring applications is Sept. 5, at 3 p.m.; a business development meeting is at 10 a.m. Sept. 11. A planning meeting for the 2014 Health Fair will be Sept. 24 at noon.

New Chamber members were also announced and include:

Ashley Automation and Technology Inc., Blissful Boutique, Crossroads Baptist Association, Merrill Lynch, Midway RV Park, Ruby Blooze Boutique, Smith Engineering Comp., Spring Town Plaza Inc., West Texas Friendly RV Park and Whip In RV Park.

For more information, contact the Chamber at 263-8235 or visit their website at visitbig-spring.com

To contact Andrea Medlin call the Herald at 263-7331 ext. 234 or email life@bigspringherald.com

CAMPS

Continued from Page 4B

students from across the country each year since that time. The camp is targeted for students who desire to excel in working with their goat and lamb projects for future competition.

The overnight camp experience for students ages 9 to 18 provides hands-on instruction in areas of selection, health and management, feeding, exercising, washing/shearing and showmanship. Participants in the lamb and goat camps are also eligible to receive scholarship assistance to be-

gin their college education at Howard College.

A recent addition of the G.C. Broughton Jr. Ag Complex provides a state of the art facility for the camps to continue growing.

"With the ag professionals in the area leading our instruction portion, our lamb and goat camps have always

been high quality," said Berry, the ag program director. "But with the addition of the new Broughton Ag Complex, we are able to take it up a notch and offer an even better experience for our campers and their parents."

The complex includes a covered pavilion, including pens, an

enclosed climate controlled show barn/arena and classroom facilities. The complex, completed at the end of April 2013, was funded by the G.C. Broughton Jr. Foundation.

"The Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Association does an excellent job supporting the sheep and goat ranchers in

Texas and we feel privileged to be recognized by these professionals," said Berry.

Howard College contact is Cindy Smith; 432-264-5034 or csmith@howardcollege.edu. For additional information on Howard College, please visit www.howardcollege.edu.

FRACKING

Continued from Page 4B

position and influence Cuomo's decision. The organization feels that the process, which involves injecting huge amounts of water and sand along with chemicals deep underground to unlock gas deposits, is a threat to the environment and public health.

"We hope to show the president that he needs to look at the science and ban fracking across the nation," said group member John Armstrong. "Governor Cuomo is no stranger to anti-fracking protests and we hope he sees momentum building against fracking."

Their signs referenced Obama's famous "yes we can" campaign slogan: "Yes, we can ban fracking."

Neil Vitale, an organic dairy farmer for 45 years with 80 cows in Steuben,

was also among those along Obama's route. His farm is five miles from the Pennsylvania line, a state that allows fracking and has seen it flourish beyond projections, according to a report this month by Bentek, a company that analyzes energy trends.

He said he has two sons who want to continue his business and that drilling would help them buy equipment, which is "almost impossible for a small dairy to do anymore." A drilling well on his farm "will secure a family's finances for a generation, if not more," he said.

Many other pro-fracking residents of the long economically distressed Southern Tier and groups of business leaders were holding a rally and urging Cuomo to take Obama's lead. Obama has pushed the hydrofracking of natural gas trapped in deep shale deposits as a way to boost the economy

and make the country more independent from energy-producing nations. The relatively recent boom in drilling in other states that share the same shale deposit as New York — Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia — has led to jobs and economic gains.

"President Obama's visit to Binghamton today could have been in celebration of the revival of the Southern Tier," said Brad Gill, executive director of the Independent Oil & Gas Association of New York.

"He has often spoken of the importance of natural gas exploration as being critical to our nation's environment and economy," Gill said. "Instead, we must join together again and ask the governor to lift the five-year moratorium here in New York. There is no reason for this abusive delay."

Cuomo met Obama on Thursday in Buffalo

for the beginning of the president's two-day tour but didn't venture to the Southern Tier roiled by the fracking issue.

The strongest supporters of what he calls safe drilling for natural gas include the Southern Tier's powerful senator, Senate Deputy Majority Leader Thomas

Libous, a Republican whose district includes the Binghamton area. He is a close ally of Cuomo, who has spent the summer pushing job-creation measures in upstate New York but has focused mostly on tourism.

Libous, who was invited to the event, said that

if he got a chance to talk to Obama, "I will tell him I'm appreciative of his stance on fracking, although I don't support a lot of initiatives.

"I would hope he has had some conversations with the governor about this. ... He's made a very strong statement."

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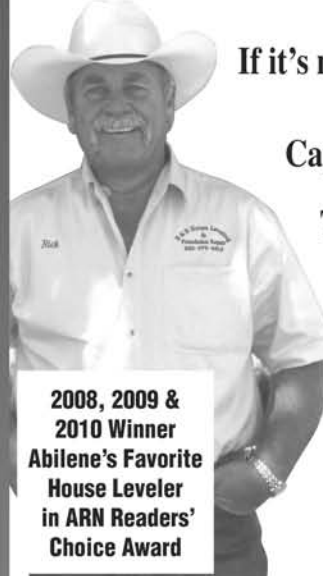
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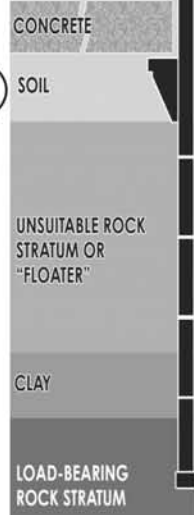
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NAPA Auto Parts
 306 S. Gregg 432-267-6308



Buckle Up When Riding - It's The Law!

Basin 2 Way
 1808 Scurry (Entrance on 19th St.) (432) 264-7034 (800) 258-3757



Cross The Street At Crosswalks Only.

GEO Corrections



Don't Pet Or Annoy Unfamiliar Animals.

New Hope Christian School
 263-0203



Eat A Good Breakfast Every Day

Elrod's Furniture
 2309 Scurry 267-8491



Fire Safety Is Important, At Home And At School.

KC Steakhouse
 2104 IH 20 W. 432-263-1651



Go Over Important Phone Numbers And Safety Instructions With Your After-School Sitter.

Gill's Gold-N-Crisp Fried Chicken
 2100 Gregg 263-4391




Have Your Child's Eyes Checked For Problems, Before Starting School.

True Value Higginbotham Bartlett Co.
 1900 East FM 700 263-7441



Instruct Your Child Not To Open The Door When You're Not At Home.

Inspirations Gifts & Flowers
 1410 Scurry 432-263-8323




Jaywalking Is Dangerous.

Jake Witzel
 223 S. Main St. 432-517-4569



Know The Background Of Your Child Care Provider.

TKP the karat patch
 907 E. FM 700 432-267-1480



Let Your Parents Know If You Go Somewhere After School.

Crop Production Services
 2404 N. Hwy. 87 263-3382



Motorists Should Exercise Extra Caution Around School Areas.

Big Spring Printing
 112 W. 2nd 263-7644



Never Go Anywhere With A Stranger.

Choate Well Service
 432-393-5231



Obey Your School Bus Driver Or Crossing Guards.

C&D Truck Accessories
 2706 . Hwy. 87 Big Spring, TX 79720 432-263-3600



Parents Should Discuss Safety Issues And Emergency Procedures With Their Children.

Gregg's Grill
 (Inside Big Spring Mall)
 1801 E. FM 700 267-7121



Quick Thinking In An Emergency Can Make A Difference - Keep Important Phone Numbers Handy.

Graumanns Inc. Pump & Engine Service
 304 Austin 267-1626




Remain In Your Seat While The School Bus Is In Motion.

Red Mesa
 2401 S. Gregg St. 432-517-4601



Stick To A Populated, Familiar Route When Walking Home From School.

Sun Loan Co.
 220 Main 263-1138




Tell Your Parents Or Teacher If Someone Is Bothering You.

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
 1009 Hearn (432) 714-4930




Use Your Head - Wear Your Helmet While Biking.

African American Research
 432-264-0406



Vacant Lots And Buildings Should Be Avoided.

Rainbow Christian Pre-School
 432-267-4515



Walk To School With Friends, Not Alone.

Wendy's
 2311 Gregg St. 263-6663



X Marks Dangerous Railroad Tracks.

Security Finance
 501 E. 3rd 432-267-4591



Young children should be taught their name, address, and phone number.

Saunders Oil Co.
 432-263-4100



Zzzzzz Getting A Good Night's Sleep Is Important To School Performance.

Big Spring Independent Schools



HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody
Above, workers are moving along with construction of Westover Pharmacy at Westover and FM 700. Below and to the lower left, Reliable Self Storage is in the early stages construction and is located across from Marcy Elementary School.



BEST BITES DINING GUIDE



Just Peachy CAFE
Take Outs & Catering

505 Scurry St. Big Spring, TX 79720 432-263-7000

"The place to get real Home Cooked meals without waiting in line."

We Are Open For Lunch

* Daily Special *
* Amazing Desserts *

We Serve Our Full Menu Every Meal
M-F 11-2

254709

Snack Shack
La Familia Comedor

All You Can Eat Buffet

Open Tuesday-Thursday
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

910 Lamesa Hwy.
432-264-0042

254712

Mon.-Thurs. 11am-8pm
Fri. & Sat. 11am-9pm
2010 Scurry
267-2851

WAGON WHEEL DRIVE IN

Weekly Specials!

254140

Wendy's

QUALITY IS OUR RECIPE®

2311 Gregg St. 432-263-6663

254409

Join Us For Our

All Day Buffet!
11 am - 10 pm

Pizza Inn

1702 South Gregg St.
432-263-1381

Contact
the Herald
at 263-7331