

VOLUME 109, NUMBER 47

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WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 11, 2013



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court

enforce-

general,"

Bishop,

Spring Tabernacle will hold its annual gift giveaway at 9 a.m. Friday. For details, see Thursday's edition of the Herald.



The Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade will be held this weekend, as will Heritage Museum activities and Christmas on Main Street.

Weather-related holiday events set for weekend

By ANDREIA MEDLIN

Christmas in Big Spring will go on as planned.

The Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade, postponed last Saturday because of adverse weather, has been rescheduled for 5:30 p.m. this Saturday.

"We are excited that we

See EVENTS, Page 3

takes place.

Contested races crowd county March primaries

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Filing to run for a Howard County elected position ended Monday and the results ensure several races will be settled in the March primaries instead of the 2014 general election.

The Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 race has drawn five candidates: Linda Halfmann. James Reid, Janice Bishop, Connie Shaw and Sally Grant, all filing as Republicans.

"I feel very qualified for the position considering 30-plus



Bishop

who has been employed by The GEO Group Inc. at the Big Spring Correctional Center for the past 24 years.

said

In the Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 2, race, Dale

Waker, former Howard County sheriff, filed in the Republican primary while Carlos A. Leal, a retired probation officer, filed his intent to run on the Democratic ballot.

"I wanted to do something for our community again, said Walker. "I've been retired. I just was not satisfied with that, and I wanted to get back to doing something with the public. With all my background and experience, I thought it would be a good

See FILING, Page 3

City to take a closer look at trash problem

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

The city of Big Spring is getting serious about trash.

During their Tuesday meeting, City Council members approved a \$90,000 study to analyze the city's sanitation collection services and how to "deliver the best service at the best cost," officials said.

The study, overseen by SAIC Energy, Environment & Infrastructure LLC, will begin immediately and last for approximately 115 days, Big Spring City Manager Todd Darden said.

SAIC will study all aspects of sanitation collection serincluding routes, costs and landfill operations, Darden said.

SAIC representatives told the council the study is designed to help the city "finetune" its sanitation collection services, or, as Darden put it, to help the city get the "best bang for its buck."

City Councilman Glen Carrigan questioned some of the costs associated with the study and the council later voted to whittle down the cost of the study from its original estimate of slightly more than

Darden said the study should be a benefit to the

"We're trying to get a true cost of what it takes to provide sanitation and landfill services to our citizens," Darden said. "This is something that was talked about during the city's budget workshop this summer and the council agreed we needed to look at our costs and see if we are charging the right rates and

See CITY, Page 3

How about a Chili Challenge?

Herald Staff Report

The weather's right for it,

for sure. If you hadn't heard, Marcy House will be holding a

"Chili Challenge" on Thurs-

day and is encouraging the

public to participate. The challenge will consist of three categories. The first will consist of Marcy House residents, family members or staff. The second will consist of various organizations

and businesses. And the

third will consist of commu-

nity members.

Contestants should drop off a crock pot of chili between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Judging will begin at 2:30 and winners will be announced at 4 p.m. Contestants do not have to be present when the judging

"It's a fun event for both residents and members of the community," said Emily Birdwell, Marcy House residence sales manager. "And with the weather we've had lately, homemade chili is the best comfort food to warm up with."

Marcy House is a senior

living community operated by Assisted Living Concepts, LLC. The facility promotes independence and individuality, while offering seniors an opportunity to receive extra assistance in their daily routine by a caring staff or working with home health agencies. Marcy House is located at 2301 Wasson Road in Big Spring.

For more information about the event at Marcy House, or to schedule a tour, contact Sellers at 432-268-9041 or e-mail at esellers@alcco. com.

Wiggington focus for Thursday board meeting

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer Chris Wignington may be able to take one step closer to

striking off interim on his official title Thursday.

Trustees for the Big Spring Independent School District are expected to name a lone finalist for the district superintendent at their next meeting set for 5:15 p.m. in the high school board room, 707 11th Place.

Although the school board agenda does not list Wigington as the lone finalist, trustees have not as yet publicly initiated a district superintendent search or set a time table to fill the

See BSISD, Page 3

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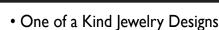
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Obituaries

Hayes Franklin Stripling Jr.

Hayes Franklin Stripling Jr. passed from this life to life eternal Dec. 8, 2013. Hayes was born Sept. 22, 1926, in Big Spring, Texas. He loved Big Spring and



West Texas claiming, "West Texans are the best people on God's green earth." Hayes was surrounded by his family and friends in his last days. He maintained his incredible spirit, entertained his caregivers and told stories until the Lord took him home.

Hayes graduated from Big Spring High School at the age of 15. With a few dollars in his pocket and a last word of encour-

agement from his parents, he boarded the train for College Station, Texas, to attend Texas A&M University. During his time there, Hayes earned a degree in economics, was elected class president, became head Yell Leader and graduated a member of the Fighting Texas Aggie Class of 1946.

He was a Permanently Endowed Member and active participant in the Texas A&M Association of Former Students. Hayes' time at Texas A&M was interrupted while he answered the call to serve in the United States Navy during World War II.

Hayes loved his wife Dorothy. They were married in 1955 and raised their family in Big Spring. Hayes and Dorothy remained happily married for 56 years until her passing in 2011. The two traveled the world together, visiting destinations reaching from the Amazon jungle to the cities of Europe to the Australian outback. It is difficult to name a place that Hayes and Dorothy did not visit together.

Hayes loved his family. He spent countless hours with his sons, Hayes III and Kyle reviewing homework, coaching baseball, quail hunting and raising them to be "good citizens." Hayes loved his daughter-in-laws, Tammy and Kay. Most of all, Hayes loved his grandchildren, Hayes IV and his wife, Jenny, Ross, Will, Mike, Sarah, Ben and his youngest Andrew. Hayes told anyone and everyone about these kids and their accomplishments, but, more than anything, he cherished the unique and loving relationship that he shared with each one of them.

Hayes loved people and especially loved children. This love manifested itself in active service. Hayes was awarded the Silver Beaver Award from the

Boy Scouts of America for his service to the Buffalo Trail Council. He served for many years on the Big Spring High School Bible Class Board. Hayes served as President of the Rotary Club of Big Spring He was also a strong supporter of the Big Spring Northside Community Center. Hayes was recognized by the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce for his collective service within the community and was named Citizen of the Year. Hayes was a long time member and supporter of every aspect of the ministries of the First United Methodist Church of Hayes loved business. He had a great entrepre-

neurial spirit. One of his first enterprises came dur ing his Navy days when he sold over 1,000 hot dogs per night at the Great Lakes Naval Station. This activity raised some suspicion from Navy higher ups, but Hayes' Navy officer, a fellow Texan, let him off with a smile. This would not be the last of Hayes' famed "close scrapes." Upon returning to Big Spring after college, Hayes went to work with his father starting a wholesale grocery service the Stripling Supply Company. He remained busy until his passing with various business interests in farming, ranching, real estate and investing. More than anything, Hayes was a loyal friend,

a dedicated husband, father and grandfather, and a hard worker. His quick wit and zest for life brought great joy to everyone around him. Hayes was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy, and his parents, Hayes Stripling Sr. and Irene. Hayes is survived by his sister, Jane Jones of Big Spring, and his two sons and their families.

His funeral service will take place on Thursday Dec. 12, 2013, at 1 p.m. in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church of Big Spring. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2013, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

The family requests that memorials in Hayes honor be made to the Buffalo Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America or the First United Methodist Church of Big Spring.

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

Support Groups

• "A Journey to a New Normal," a grief support

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

network, meets from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 602 S. Main.

For information, call 263-5999.

more information.

Mildred Vaughn

Mildred Vaughn, 96, of Mansfield, formerly of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2013 in a Mansfield nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

John P. Hill

John P. Hill, 57, of Big Spring died Monday, Dec. 9, 2013, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Take Note

Canaan, A Texas Town in the Jazz Age," has been canceled for today due to flooding in the Heritage Museum from a burst pipe, museum officials said. The book signing will be rescheduled for sometime

- Big Spring RSVP will celebrate the 2014 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service starting Dec. 5 through Jan. 20 by coordinating a local book drive benefitting the children of West, Texas. RSVP volunteers will collect new or gently used children's books at the Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler Avenue from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- The Coahoma Choir Kids and the Second Grade class will present a concert of Christmas songs on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The concert is free and the public is invited to attend. The program will be repeated on Friday at 8:20 a.m. for the elementary school.
- Encompass Cares, a charity arm of Encompass

Wednesday, Dec. 18th 10 am

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Home Health, is collecting medical supplies and blankets for victims of the typhoon in the Philippines. Drop off your donations at the Encompass Home Health Offce at 1900 Gregg in Big Spring through Friday. For more information, contact Arminae Ward at 432-634-5488 or call the local Encompass Home Health at 432-264-0044.

- Big Spring Professional Firefighters Honor Guard is giving away a Yeti Tundra 45-quart cooler, valued at \$330. For more information, call Lt. Jay Holt at 432-264-2315 or FF. Albert Cavazos at 806-559-6722. The cooler will be given away at 1 p.m. Dec. 20 at Fire Station 1, located at 1401 Apron Drive.
- A fund has been set up at Western Bank, 607 South Scurry, for the Ean Cook family, who lost their house and belongings in a fire. The account is in name of Charlene Cook, Ean's mother. Donations of clothing, food and living supplies will be greatly appreciated.

To donate supplies call 816-5013 or 816-7810.

View College & Pro Football Power Ranking & Top 25 Polls Plus Al **Updates of Football News**

VISIT

www.bigspringherald.com

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Tuesday and 7

- JUAN JOSE OLIVAREZ, 30, of 1302 Wright, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for driving while license suspended and failure to appear. • NORMAN LEE MIZELL JR., 51, of 106 Delaware,
- Colorado City, Texas, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication. • ERMELINDA CHAVARRIA CANO, 48, of 2508 West 16th St., was arrested Tuesday on charges of
- criminal trespass, assault of a public servant and hindering officers discharging official duties. JOSSIE DANYEL VILLAREAL, 19, of 408 Abrams, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of crim-
- ARISSIA MARIE ROJAS, 19, of 1113 North Scurry, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of criminal mischief \$50 but less than \$500. • THEFT was reported at the 3200 block of East

inal mischief \$50 but less than \$500.

- FM 700, the 1600 block of South Gregg, the 500 block of Young and the 200 block of West FM 700.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported at the 2600 block of South Gregg.
- ASSAULT was reported at at the 1400 block of BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported
- at the 2100 block of Alabama. MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the 4800

block of West Highway 80. The Howard County Sheriff's office reported the following activity:

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 70 inmates at the time of this report.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity: Saturday:

- TRAUMA call reported at the 1900 block of Wasson. One patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- MEDICAL call reported at the 200 block of East Third Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL call reported at the 1300 block of East Eleventh Place. One patient transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA call reported at the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One patient transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL call reported at the 200 block of Circle. One patient transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL call reported at the 100 block of Northeast 9th Street. One patient transported to MEDICAL call reported at the 3200 block of
- Parkway. One patient transported to SMMC. TRAUMA call reported at the 1300 block of
- Colby. One patient transported to SMMC. TRAUMA call reported at the 1900 block of
- Wasson. One patient transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL call reported at the 200 block of East
- Third Street. Service refused. • MEDICAL call reported at the 1300 block of East
- Eleventh Place. One patient transported to SMMC. TRAUMA call reported at the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One patient transported to
- SMMC. MEDICAL call reported at the 200 block of Circle. One patient transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL call reported at the 100 block of Northeast 9th Street. One patient transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL call reported at the 3200 block of Parkway. One patient transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA call reported at the 1300 block of Colby. One patient transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL call reported at the 1200 block of Sycamore. One patient transported to SMMC. MEDICAL call reported at the 2500 block of
- Coregg. One patient transported to SMMC. MEDICAL call reported at the 200 block of
- Circle. One patient transported to SMMC.
- TRASH FIRE/PUBLIC SERVICE call reported at 4800 block of West Highway 80. Extinguished.

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12/13

47/37

Cloudy. Highs in the

upper 40s and lows in

7:38 AM

5:42 PM

CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

12/14

66/35

Mostly sunny. Highs in

7:38 AM

5:42 PM

Austin Houston

57/38

59 44 cloudy 53 32 pt sunny

50 30 pt sunny

21 sunny

54 32 pt sunny

38 27 pt sunny

47 rain

57 38 pt sunny 58 35 pt sunny 55 33 pt sunny

25 cloudy

Hi Lo Cond.

32 22 mst sunny

40 sunny

9 mst sunny

67 46 sunny

40 35 cloudy

30 pt sunny

pt sunny

mst sunny

18 mst sunny

28

51

42 24

26

55/32

San Antonio

Kingsville

Livingston

Longview

Lubbock

Lufkin

Midland

Raymondville

Rosenberg

San Antonio San Marcos

Sweetwater

Weatherford

Wichita Falls

New York

Phoenix

Seattle

St. Louis

Washington, DC

Tyler

Sulphur Springs

Sunset:

the mid 60s and lows

Today's Weather Local 3-Day Forecast

12/12

36/27

Sunshine and clouds

mixed. Cold. Temps

nearly steady in the

mid 30s. Winds NNE

7:37 AM

Texas At A Glance

Amarillo

Big Spring

38 24 pt sunny 37 20 sunny

55 32 pt sunny

46 28 pt sunny

46 28 pt sunny

45 28 pt sunny 55 38 cloudy

40 24 pt sunny

57 38 pt sunny

Hi Lo Cond.

17

sunny

32 16 mst sunny

-1 snow

45 28 pt sunny

57 38 pt sunny 70 44 sunny

35 22 sunny

56 33 sunny 50 29 cloudy

25

43 rain

53 37 cloudy

64 51 rain

58

37/20

at 15 to 25 mph.

opportunity to try and do this position. I have 25 years of county law experience so I thought it would be good qualifications to fulfill that duty."

A Dawson County native, Leal, who is a U.S. veteran, has strong ties to West Texas. "I think we need somebody who has a more objective

point of view," Leal said. "I was a probation officer for many years. I served in Ector County. I served in Brewster County. Later, I was an institutional parole officer with the Texas Youth Commission. I have a pretty good background with the courts and the criminal justice system in general." Both men join Republicans Robert Fitzgibbons, a longtime Big Spring Police Department officer, and Linda

Calvio, a social worker for the Victim Services office, who announced earlier for the office. The winner will fill the post which was vacated by Wiseman when she filed for the county judge's seat. She will be facing Mark Barr, current county judge, in the Republican primary. Prior to her current employment, Bishop's work history included serving as a police dispatcher and 911 operator at the San Angelo and Big Spring police departments. She was also employed as a legal secretary for more than

earned her bachelors of arts in psychology from UTPB in Odessa. "I have always been interested in this line of work, and I am excited about the resurgence occurring in the Permian Basin and opportunities for Howard County and its citizens," Bishop said.

five years. Bishop earned her associates degree at How-

ard College where she minored in criminal justice and

She is active in community-based projects and has served on a number of community boards including the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Rural Community College Initiative, United Way, Keep Big Spring Beautiful, Veterans Memorial Committee, Powwow Committee, and she is currently in the process of becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer.

In other races:

· County Commissioner, Precinct 2, former Republican Party chairman for Howard County Craig Bailey will run against incumbent Republican Donnie Baker.

A list of uncontested races — all those seeking election filed as Republicans — are as follows:

- County Commissioner, Precinct 4, Incumbent John
- District Judge Incumbent Tim Yeats.
- County Clerk Incumbent Donna Wright .
- $\bullet \ \, \text{District Clerk} \text{Incumbent Colleen Barton}. \\$
- County Treasurer Incumbent Teresa Thomas.
- County Surveyor Incumbent Mike McBrayer.

or by 263-7331, ext. 234.

Contact Lyndel Moody at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

EVENTS

Continued from Page 1

can provide the parade for the people of Big Spring as we had originally planned," said Herald General Manager Rick

An early weather forecast from the National Weather Service calls for temperatures in the low 50s Saturday, making it a much better climate for the festivities. Heritage Museum's Breakfast with San-

ta will be held Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and is \$3 per child. The museum is asking that anyone who made reservations to call and verify. Following the parade, Christmas on

Main Street will also go on as previously planned. The Pocket Park which is located next to the Sparenberg Building, will be lit up and for \$5 children can have their picture taken with Santa — s a fundraiser for the Downtown Revitalization Associa-Train rides, hot cocoa and kettle corn

will also be available for a small fee and the event will begin right after the end of the Herald lighted Christmas parade. City officials will close off part of Main between Third and Fourth Streets for the event. The parade route is different than in

years past. In an effort to improve the increased flow of traffic on Gregg, the route will be moved a block east to Scurry. There are a few other alterations spectators and parade participants need to be aware of, as

Unlike the many parking areas available on Gregg, spectators are being asked not to park on the street along Scurry, so that the parade may flow smoothly. Also, in cooperation with the city and

other entities, there will be a designated drop-off area at the end of the parade. The parade will begin at Scurry and 24th

and travel north on Scurry to Fourth Street. At Fourth, the parade will turn right, then turn right again on Main in front of Wells Fargo. The drop-off area — the area to allow children and adults an opportunity to safely disembark from floats and other vehicles — will be along Main from Fourth to Seventh streets on either side of the median. That area will be blocked off. "Everybody come out and enjoy, even

if its a little cold, in the spirit of the holidays," Nunez said.

Area Cities

City Abilene

Amarillo

Beaumont

Brownsville

Brownwood

Corsicana

Dallas

Del Rio

El Paso

Corpus Christi

Fort Stockton

National Cities

Gainesville

Houston

City

Boston

Chicago

Denver

Houston

Austin

Continued from Page 1

providing the necessary services in this area.

"The information we're asking for from this study is very detailed," he added. "It will give us a working doccosts for our services." In other business, the council ap-

ument ... which will help us in setting

proved: • Going out for bids for an airport/

airpark master plan, construction and opening of the east cell of the landfill, lease purchase financing for various equipment, concrete services, janitorial services and sanitation containers.

- An interlocal Agreement with the South Plains Association of Governments for assistance with a Texas Community Development Grant from the Texas Department of Agriculture for water improvement projects.
- Donation of a brush truck from the Texas A&M Forestry Service to the Big Spring Fire Department.

provements on Young, State and 14th Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan

An agreement with Parkhill,

Smith and Cooper for design and

construction assistance for water im-

at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

Continued from Page 1

position. Wigington has been serving as the interim superintendent since the end of August, filling the vacancy left by Steven Saldivar.

trustees met for nearly and hour-and-half in closed session — much of that with Wignington himself to evaluate his performance. "The board of the Big

At the end of October,

Independent Spring School District has a plan and the plan is to continue with Mr. Wigington as our interim superintendent," board president Irene Rodriguez read from a prepared statement at the close of that meeting. "He is doing clearly an outstanding job. He will have the full authority and support to run the district from the board. The board will re-evaluate around the first part of the year. "Big Spring Indepen-

dent School District team of eight would like to tell everybody in the community that we will continue to put our students first and do what is best for the school district.'

In other business, trustees will

- Consider action to assign oil and gas lease with Athlon FE Operating, LLC to Athlon Holdings LP.
- Hear a number of report items.
- · Consider audit report for the year ending Aug. 31, 2013.
- Consider a donation to the Big Spring High School choir and theater departments.

roll. · Review legal and lo-

Consider the tax

cal policies.

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EXP. 12/31/13

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Tim Ballard, 52, died Friday. Memorial Services will be at 3 p.m. today at First Baptist Church. John P. Hill, 57, died

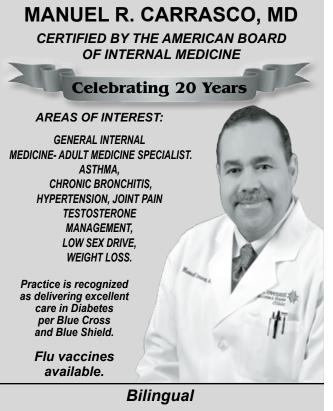
Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.











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256610

Opinion FOOTDFIII Vesterday, I had the honor of sharing memorial to the honor of sharing memorial

"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."

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

ADDRESSES

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Phone: 202-228-0462

· JOHN CORNYN U.S. Senator

517 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-

Phone: 202-224-2934

RANDY **NEUGEBAUER**

U.S. Representative 19th Cong. District 1510 Scurry Big Spring Phone: 432-264-0722

STATE

GOVERNMENT

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Austin, 78768 Phone: 512-463-0331

·KEL SELIGER

State Senator Texas 31st District 401 Austin, Suite 101 Big Spring, 79720 Phone: 432-268-9909

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- · MARVIN BOYD 263-8800
- CARMEN HARBOUR - Work: 264-2401.
- MARCUS

FERNANDEZ - Mobile: 816-3923 · GLEN CARRIGAN —

- Home: 263-3207. BOBBY MCDONALD
- Home: 263-4835.
- Work: 263-1234.

• RAUL BENAVIDES -Work: 267-2501.

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

· MARK BARR, COUNTY JUDGE - Home and Office: 264-2202

· OSCAR GARCIA — Home: 264-0026

- DONNIE BAKER —
- Home: 267-5325.
- JIMMIE LONG —
- Home: 466-0793
- · JOHN CLINE Home: 263-7158.

How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

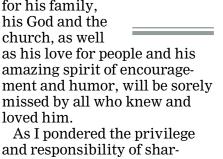
Daily Prayer

May we remain diligent about reading Your word, Lord, for our life.

Footprints for others to follow

honor of sharing my heart in a memorial service for a fellow minister, the Rev. George Washington Ivy, who was also a dear friend and a loyal

faithful member of the church I pastor here in Big Spring. He left this earth after spending 94 years as a warrior and a valiant soldier in the Army of the Lord. The passion he displayed for his family, his God and the church, as well



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and responsibility of sharing words at his service I was reminded of how brief our time to sojourn on this planet really is. You see, in respect to eternity, 94 years is but a mere grain of sand on an endless beach that stretches past every horizon. I remember preaching a sermon years ago that I titled "The Dash", which had a double application in the message. As you may have deduced from the title, I talked about life being a race and how important it is to run it well However, the main focus of my message was concerning that little "dash" that is carved into our tombstone between the date we were born and the date of our passing. That dash is of immeasurable importance because it represents the legacy we leave when our time comes to draw our final earthly breath and begin our eternal

George Ivy was one of a generation of ministers who left footprints in the sand for those younger ministers like me to follow. My dad and mom are a part of that group also, as they continue to effectively minister today at the ages of 87 and 86 respectively. I know there are people in every walk of life who represent their vocation with dignity and who command our respect, and I can't help but wonder what makes these men and women of a fading generation so different, so

special? What characteristics did they possess, what kind of existence did they commit to live, and what exactly did they do that sets them so distinctively apart from much of today's generation? I have a theory about it that I believe is Generally speaking, based

upon their experiences with World War II and the Great Depression, most of the prebaby boomer generation, often referred to as the Greatest Generation, knew how to work hard and not complain about it. They were men and women who appreciated what they had and didn't feel deprived if they didn't possess more than their neighbors. And they didn't expect someone else to pay their way through life. Contrasted with American society today, that's hard to imagine. So many people today seem to be consumed by materialism, and doing whatever it takes to have things dominates our very existence. Too many in today's world want something for nothing and that mindset is morally and fiscally bankrupting America. This generation sports so many spoiled brats that it's a wonder our economy and social structure hasn't already collapsed.

Our elders, parents, teachers and the community, taught us to love and honor God, be patriots, to respect authority, believe in one another, and believe in ourselves. It was the pre-boomer who taught the boomers, but some place along the line they didn't latch on to the American values the way they should have. The "me generation" became the symbol of status and the generation of "more."

This pleased the marketers of goods and services, and as the boomers came of age there was a huge group of consumers eager to buy what others were

In 1962, we were laying down the foundations of prosperity. About 32 cents of every federal dollar, excluding interest payments, was spent on investments, only 14 percent on entitlements. In the mid-70s the lines crossed. Today we spend less than 15 cents on investment and 46 cents on entitlements.

And it gets worse. By 2030,

when the last of us boomers have surged onto the Social Security rolls, entitlements will consume 61 cents of every federal dollar, starving our already neglected investment and leaving us, in the words of a recent study by economist Don Potter, with "a less-skilled work force, lower rates of job creation, and an infrastructure unfit for a 21st-centuray

economy." It amazes me how many people today, unlike the generation past, expect someone else to support them without any responsibility or obligation whatsoever. Don't think for a moment I'm condemning the good programs that benefit the worthy such as Social Security (which is money American workers actually earned and deserve), Medicare, Medicaid, and a few other valid programs that genuinely assist people in need. But just as I cannot imagine my parents, George Ivy, or millions of others, trying to manipulate a free ticket to paradise, I also cannot imagine

that almost Three-Fourths of federal spending, in contravention of the U.S. Constitution, can be described as Congress taking the earnings or property of one American to give to another, to whom it does not belong. If any American did privately what Congress does publicly, he'd be condemned as an ordinary thief. Taking what belongs to one American to give to another is theft, and the receiver is a recipient of stolen property.

If and when my tombstone is carved, the first date will be 1950 and what matters to me the most is that the dash prior to the yet unknown other number represents a life that uncompromisingly honored the principles of God's Word, fairness and integrity in all of my dealings, and respect for my fellow man's rights and what belongs to him. That's a little bit of what the quickly disappearing Great Generation has taught me.

You may not agree with anything I've said, but I column as I see 'em.

Eddy Prince is senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church of God in Big Spring. He can be reached by email at pastorprince@msn.

Fair share of less care

ately, I've been hearing from readers who are among the million Californians who had private health care plans, received cancellation notices and now have to buy new coverage. Some figured that

if they signed up with their old providers — Blue Shield or Anthem — they'd have access to the same doctors and hospitals. Not quite. In Marin, San Francisco and Alameda counties, new plans in Covered Cali-



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fornia exchanges don't include doctors and hospitals in other counties. Remember the initials EPO; they stand for exclusive pro-

vider organization. PPO (preferred provider organization) plans contain costs by charging lesser rates for doctors and hospitals inside their networks. EPOs, however, pay nothing outside their exclusive networks unless there is an emergency or special approval.

A Marin woman told me she believed that President Barack Obama lied when he told voters that if they liked their plan and doctors, they could keep them. Amen But after talking to Blue Shield

representatives who wrongly told her she could see her old doctors, she said: "I would put Blue Shield right up there with Obama.'

I should note that consumers in all 19 California health pricing regions have an option to buy into a PPO, but that doesn't necessarily give them the choices they had before. A Santa Cruz breast cancer survivor tells me she thinks she can see her cancer doctors through a Blue Shield EPO, but a specialist who is treating her for treatment-related bone loss is outside the network. That means she has to pay the full doctor bill.

Again, she had to do her homework to learn the dirty details.

When she looked on the Covered California website, a pop-up window described the EPO as if it were a PPO

I remember going to an event in 2009 at which then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi argued in favor of the Affordable Care Act because it would close gaps in coverage that left a breast cancer survivor \$100,000 in debt because her bare-bones plan didn't cover the drugs she needed.

Alas, the Obamacare cure might help Pelosi's patient, but it leaves other women with pre-existing conditions out in

the cold.

Doctors aren't happy, either. Dr. Richard Thorp is a Northern California internist, a primary care physician and the president of the California Medical Association. The CMA wants every Californian to have health care, yet he initially opted out of Covered California because the exchange demanded too deep a discount. Later, when exchange providers couldn't enroll sufficient doctors in his region, they upped their reimbursement rates so that Thorp now is with the plan. But doctors who were not so lucky have to make "a difficult business decision and a difficult patient-care decision," he said. Those doctors who can afford to see more patients for less money may have to opt for shorter visits. Blue Shield is restricting access to half its doctors.

When Obama and congressional Democrats set out to expand health care, they promised that the 85 percent of Americans who already had coverage wouldn't get shortchanged. They lied. Now everyone can get his fair share of less care.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com.

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News in brief

World leaders bow and pray before Mandela's flag-draped casket as he lies in state

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — World leaders bowed and prayed Wednesday before the flagdraped casket containing the body of Nelson Mandela, having a final look at the anti-apartheid icon in the amphitheater where he was sworn in 19 years earlier as South Africa's first black president.

Some made the sign of the cross, others simply spent a few moments gazing at Mandela's face through a glass plane atop the coffin at the Union Buildings in South Africa's capital, Pretoria. Leaders like Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, South African President Jacob Zuma and others passed by the casket in two lines. Four junior naval officers in white uniforms kept watch. Celebrities like singer Bono of the band U2 also paid their respects. So did F.W. de Klerk, the last president of white rule who shared a Nobel Peace Prize with Mandela for ending the apartheid era.

Mandela 's widow Graca Machel, his former wife Winnie Madikizela-Mandela and other family members also viewed his body.

Some appeared lost for a moment looking down at Mandela. South Sudan's Salva Kiir Mayardit stood for a moment, transfixed, before removing his trademark black cowboy hat and crossing himself.

"I just hope I won't cry," said Paul Letageng, 47, an employee there. "It's amazing to think that 19 vears ago he was inaugurated there, and now he's lying there. If he was not here we would not have had peace in South Africa."

GOP, Obama line up behind modest budget plan, aiming for more bipartisan dealing

WASHINGTON (AP) — Top Republicans and President Barack Obama are lining up behind a modest but hard-won bipartisan budget agreement that seeks to replace a portion of tough spending cuts facing the Pentagon and domestic agencies.

The deal to ease those cuts for two years is aimed less at chipping away at the nation's \$17 trillion national debt than it is at trying to help a dysfunctional Capitol stop lurching from crisis to crisis. It would set the stage for action in January on a \$1 trillion-plus spending bill for the budget year that began in October.

The measure unveiled by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and his Senate counterpart, Patty Murray, D-Wash., blends \$85 billion in spending cuts and revenue from new and extended fees — but no taxes or cuts to Medicare beneficiaries — to replace \$63 billion in cuts to agency budgets over the coming two years.

The package would raise the Transportation Security Administration fee on a typical nonstop, round-trip airline ticket from \$5 to \$10; require newly hired federal workers to contribute 1.3 percentage points more of their salaries toward their pensions; and trim cost-of-living adjustments to the pensions of military retirees under the age of 62. Hospitals and other health care providers would have to absorb two additional years of a 2-percentage-point cut in their Medicare reimbursements.

Tributes aside, U.S. had deeply mixed and conflicted record on Mandela, South Africa

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Nelson Mandela eulogized to the world by President Barack Obama as "a giant of history" and the "last great liberator of the 20th century" seemed a different person from the one the United States held at arm's length, to put it diplomatically, for much of his life and ca-

> IN SUNDAY'S BIG SPRING HERALD



All in the Family

Sharing family Christmas customs and traditions that are near and dear to the hearts of our readers.

AmericanProfile

Even as presidents from John F. Kennedy to Bill Clinton denounced apartheid as a racist, untenable system, successive American administrations from the 1960s had friendly ties with South African governments and viewed Mandela with suspicion, if not outright hostility, through the prism of the

And Mandela remained on a U.S. terrorism watchlist from the 1970s until the late 2000s. That period covers the living presidents of that period -Jimmy Carter, Clinton and George W. Bush — all of whom joined Obama at Mandela's memorial service in Johannesburg's Soweto township on Tuesday, as well as Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. Even after his 1990 release from prison, his elec-

tion as South Africa's first black president and the dismantling of apartheid, the U.S. relationship with Mandela was an uneasy one, notably because of his harsh criticism of Israel, the Iraq war and the U.S. embargo on Cuba. Still, if the U.S. presidents present at Tuesday's ceremony harbored anything other than good will toward Mandela, it was not apparent and has been absent since his death last week at the age of 95. Comparing him to Mohandas Gandhi, Martin

Luther King Jr., Abraham Lincoln and America's founding fathers, Obama lauded Mandela for his leadership of a resistance movement, giving voice to the oppressed, holding a splintering nation together in a time of great peril and creating a constitutional order to preserve the freedoms he struggled to realize.

Ukraine police stand down after clashes with protesters in capital

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Police in Ukraine on Wednesday pulled back as protesters claimed victory after an overnight face-off in which authorities removed some barricades and tents and scuffled with demonstrators occupying Kiev's main

Squadrons of police in helmets and bearing metal shields converged at about 1 a.m. on Independence Square, but thousands of protesters put up fierce resistance for hours, shoving back at police lines to

keep them away from key sites.

The Ukrainian chief of police issued a statement saying that there would be no attempt to break up the demonstrations. Protesters have been gathering around the clock to demand the resignation of the government in a crisis that threatens the leadership of President Viktor Yanukovych. "I want to calm everyone down — there will be no

dispersal," Interior Minister Vitaly Zakharchenko said on the ministry's website. "No one is encroaching on the rights of citizens to peaceful protest." Three police buses that had been parked outside

the building all night drove away to the protesters' shouts of "Shame!" Another group of police that had been stationed

outside the Kiev city hall building, which has been occupied by protesters for weeks, departed from the scene.

AP-GfK poll: Discontent with Congress, Obama high; most want their House member ousted WASHINGTON (AP) — Heading into a congres-

sional election year, Americans hold Congress in strikingly low regard, and nearly two-thirds say they would like to see their House member replaced, a new poll finds. Even though Americans are feeling somewhat better about the economy — and their personal fi-

nances — elected officials in Washington aren't benefiting from the improved mood, the Associated Press-GfK poll found. President Barack Obama's approval rating was negative: 58 percent disapprove of the job he's do-

ing as president, while 42 percent approve. Obama isn't running for office again, however, whereas all 435 House seats and one-third of the Senate's seats are on the ballot next November. And nearly 9 in 10 adults disapprove of the way lawmakers are handling their jobs.

The low opinions of Congress don't necessarily signal major power shifts next year in the Republican-controlled House and Democratic-controlled Senate. House Democrats need to gain at least 17 net seats to claim the majority. But many House districts are so solidly liberal or conservative that incumbents can withstand notable drops in popularity and keep their seats.





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Control the clutter with drop zones



(Family Features) — After returning home from a long day at work, a weekend soccer tournament or an all-day shopping excursion, it's natural to want to drop everything and relax.

However, literally dropping everything can cause a tremendous amount of clutter in the home, leading to stress, misplaced items and wasted time.

To eliminate the clutter that busy lifestyles create, try establishing designated drop zones throughout your house to regain a sense of order.

Don't worry, you can still drop everything and relax when you come home — just drop everything in the right spot.

Entryway

As the first and last access point of your home, a lot of

activity occurs here. Coats, scarves, hats and bags are dropped everywhere, while dirty shoes are kicked off and left behind. Basically, the entrance to your home can become a minefield.

To control unruly entryway clutter, try creating a drop zone near the door. The addition of a coat rack or hooks make it easy to hang up outerwear, while a storage bench, like ClosetMaid's 3-Cube Bench, is a convenient place to take off shoes and neatly stow them away.

Kitchen

Since the kitchen is the heart of the home, many family members congregate here. Establish a corner of the kitchen counter to drop lunch boxes, bottles and coffee mugs used throughout the day.

To prevent a pile-up of papers and misplaced items, set up a command center with enough space to file mail and bills and store your keys and other small essentials.

Living Room

Don't let relaxation be delayed because of disorganization. Depending on the size of your living room and how

Town's eBay sale of Palin mayoral SUV causes stir

WASILLA CITY HAL

you use the space, you may need to establish several drop zones.

For example, a coffee table tray or basket is ideal for storing remotes and chargers. Add storage cubes with bins as a convenient place to store and hide laptop cords, tablets, gaming equipment and children's toys.

Consider labeling a bin for each family member to "drop" or stow their stuff.

To clear clothing clutter,

Bedroom

use a valet rod to hang up tomorrow's outfit or clothes that need to be taken to the tailor or dry cleaner. Additionally, try designating a dresser drawer as a drop zone for jewelry, watches, your wallet or other valuables.

Make it a habit to use your strategically placed drop zones and your house will be organized and clutter free in no time.

For further information on how to organize your home, visit www.ClosetMaid.com, www.StorganizationBlog. com or call 800-874-0008.

It Pays To Read Big Spring Herald Classifieds"

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ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — An Alaska community's sale on eBay of a vehicle used by former Mayor Sarah Palin has caused a stir in

Anchorage, auctioned off the 1999

Expedition used by Palin during her second term as mayor on the website. A Fairbanks woman bought it for \$10,300, about \$8,000 over its

The city will use the money to

replenish its vehicle replacement fund. But Deputy Mayor Colleen

That proposal died Monday when Mayor Verne Rupright declined to

Sullivan-Leonard says it's unfortunate Rupright is capitalizing on

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By MARK THIESSEN

Associated Press

small-town politics.

The city of Wasilla, just north of

Sullivan-Leonard proposed using the funds to restock the local food pan-

break a 3-3 council tie.

Palins' name to fatten city coffers.

Rupright says it's just good business when you can get more money than expected for surplus equip-



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News in brief

Texas woman admits

to sending ricin to Obama

DALLAS (AP) — A Texas woman and former ac-

tress pleaded guilty Tuesday to sending ricin-laced letters to President Barack Obama and New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, under a deal that her attorney has said would cap prison time at 18 years.

Shannon Guess Richardson entered her plea

Shannon Guess Richardson entered her plea in federal court in Texarkana, Texas, to a federal charge of possessing and producing a biological toxin.

Richardson was arrested in June after authorities

said she tried to implicate her estranged husband, Nathan Richardson, after he had filed for divorce. Prosecutors say Shannon Richardson mailed three letters from New Boston, outside Texarkana, then went to police and claimed that her husband had done it.

Richardson, 35, has had minor roles in the television series "The Walking Dead" and the movie "The Blind Side." She also is the mother of six children — including one child born prematurely while she was in custody this year.

Prosecutors say investigators noted inconsistencies in Richardson's statements and later learned that she had purchased materials online to produce ricin, a toxin that can cause respiratory failure if inhaled.

She acknowledged in a signed plea agreement document filed Tuesday that she ordered castor beans online and learned how to process them into a substance used to make ricin. She obtained an email address, a PayPal shopping account and a post office box in her husband's name without his knowledge, according to the document.

Ex-TABC agent gets 6 months for improper recording FORT WORTH Toyas (AP) A fired T

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A fired Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission agent has been sentenced to six months in jail for improper recording

Sudoku Answer on Page 15

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



By Steve Becker

Structural Visualization

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH

10 8 4

V A K 6 2

K 7 5

10 7 2

WEST

K Q J 6 5 2

J 5

J 9

J 9

J 9

A 9 8 6

SOUTH

A 9 7

Q 8 7 4

A 8 6

K Q 4

The bidding:

South West North East

The bidding:

South West North East

1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Pass
2 ♥ Pass 4 ♥

Opening lead — king of spades.

You run into good, bad and aver-

age bridge players wherever you go. Some bid well and play their cards badly; others bid badly and play their cards well; some bid and play well; others bid and play badly.

The South in this deal was obvi-

ously from the class that plays their cards well. We wouldn't know how to classify his bidding from just this one hand — all he did was to open one notrump — but he certainly displayed a fair amount of skill in the play after a Stayman sequence

landed him in four hearts

landed him in four hearts.

South took West's king-of-spades lead with the ace, played a heart to the king and a low club back. East followed low, and South won with the king. After cashing the Q-A of hearts, declarer led another club from dummy, East taking the ace and returning a club to South's queen.

Declarer still had three tricks to lose — two spades and a diamond — but by this time he was certain he could avoid the loss of one of them and so make the contract.

He knew East had no more

spades; otherwise, East would have returned a spade rather than a club after taking the ace. West's hand therefore became an open book. He had started with six spades and had already shown up with two hearts and three clubs. Hence, he could not have been dealt more than two diamonds.

So South cashed the A-K of diamonds.

So South cashed the A-K of diamonds and led a spade. West took his two spade tricks but then had to yield a ruff-and-discard, handing South the contract.

Note that South could have placed East in a similar position by leading a third diamond rather than a spade at the critical moment. It would then have been East rather than West who would have been forced to yield the fatal ruff-and-discard.

Tomorrow: Once, maybe — twice, never.

of a female relative at a Fort Worth home.

A judge in Fort Worth sentenced 51-year-old Martin Herrmann, who was fired by the TABC in November 2012 amid the investigation.

Hermann in August pleaded guilty to three charg-

es of improper photography and visual recording. Investigators say recording devices were found in a bathroom and the 24-year-old woman's bedroom.

Herrmann on Dec. 5 was also fined \$500 and ordered to undergo sex offender counseling.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reports Herrmann formerly worked in the Midland-Odessa area. He was a TABC enforcement agent in Arlington at the time of his arrest. He joined the agency in 2005.

An attorney for Herrmann declined comment.

1966 Ford Mustang yields nearly 80 pounds of pot

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A 1966 Ford Mustang has been seized and the driver arrested after border officers in West Texas found nearly 80 pounds of marijuana hidden under the front fenders.

Customs and Border Protection officials in El

Paso say the pot was discovered in the iconic vehicle during an inspection at the Paso Del Norte border crossing.

Port Director Hector Mancha on Tuesday said it's a bit unusual to see drugs in a collectable or high-

a bit unusual to see drugs in a collectable or highvalue car. He says the drugs and the vehicle were confiscated and the driver from El Paso arrested during Saturday's incident. CBP says the Ford Mustang was dismantled and

compartments were discovered under the front fenders, yielding dozens of plastic-wrapped bundles of marijuana.

Ex-Texas parole officer convicted in bribery case

HOUSTON (AP) — A parole officer in the Texas prison system has been convicted of three bribery-related counts and faces up to 60 years behind bars.

A federal jury in Houston on Tuesday convicted 53-year-old Crystal M. Washington, also known as Crystal Bureau. Washington was a parole officer at a Texas Department of Criminal Justice office in Houston before being arrested and fired.

Prosecutors say Washington accepted bribes from a suspected heroin dealer from 2009 to 2012 and warned the parolee of a Houston police investigation.

She was convicted of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute heroin, plus conspiracy to commit extortion. Prosecutors say Washington in May 2012 also accepted money from a parolee cooperating in the investigation.

Washington remains free on bond pending sentencing but must wear an electronic monitor.

16 arrested in East Texas drug ring investigation

TYLER, Texas (AP) — Federal prosecutors say 16 people have been arrested in the investigation of an East Texas drug trafficking ring with ties to Mexico.

The arrests that began Tuesday involve defendants from Tyler, Longview, Houston, Dallas and Irving. An indictment returned last month charges the suspects with conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine, cocaine and marijuana.

Officers from several law-enforcement agencies have seized drugs, weapons, vehicles, property and more than \$158,000 since the investigation began in 2012.

The defendants face up to life in prison if convicted

Judge gives teen probation for deadly DWI wreck

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A North Texas juvenile court judge has sentenced a 16-year-old boy to probation for a drunken-driving crash that killed four people near Fort Worth last summer.

State District Judge Jean Boyd sentenced the teen

Tuesday in Fort Worth. Prosecutors had sought the maximum 20 years behind bars for the Keller teen.

Authorities said the teen and friends were seen

Authorities said the teen and friends were seen on surveillance video stealing two cases of beer

from a store before the June 15 crash in southern Tarrant County. The teen's pickup truck on a rural road near Burleson slammed into four pedestrians, killing them. Dead were 43-year-old youth pastor Brian Jennings, 24-year-old Breanna Mitchell, 21-year-old Shelby Boyles and her 52-year-old mother, Hollie Boyles.

Defense attorneys said the teen needed treatment, not incarceration.

Travis County DA takes stand in her civil trial AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A Central Texas district

Unit testified Tuesday that her behavior toward sheriff's deputies and corrections officers during her April arrest for drunken driving was "totally inappropriate."

Travis County DA Rosemary Lehmberg testified on the second day of a civil trial that will culminate

attorney who oversees the state Public Integrity

on the second day of a civil trial that will culminate with a visiting judge determining whether she is fit to remain in office.

A contrite Lehmberg repeatedly admitted on the

stand Tuesday that her behavior on the night of April 12 was unacceptable, according to the Austin American-Statesman. She testified that she was receiving treatment to teacher her coping skills and the value of a good support system.

Witnesses a day earlier had testified that the

Witnesses a day earlier had testified that the 64-year-old Lehmberg was shouting and threatening officers soon after being taken into custody.

She testified before Judge David Peeples that she drank vodka and sparkling water at home before leaving for a restaurant where she had two glasses of wine. After leaving, she stopped at one place to purchase a bottle of vodka and another for soda. She drank in her parked car while checking emails on her phone.

Lehmberg said she began driving home but had trouble controlling her car and decided to find a place to stop and call someone for a ride, the American-Statesman reported. A sheriff's deputy then pulled up and saw the vodka bottle in the front seat.

South Texas man convicted of weapons possession

LAREDO, Texas (AP) — A South Texas man has pleaded guilty in Laredo to a weapons charge for intending to smuggle to a Mexican gang.

A Tuesday statement from the U.S. attorney's office in Laredo said 40-year-old Richard John Medina admitted to planning to smuggle five guns and five grenades to the Zetas drug cartel. Medina was caught in a sting by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and arrested Oct. 9 after taking delivery of weapons from a confidential ATF informant.

Medina had previously been convicted of marijuana possession in Williamson County, near Austin.

Organized crime groups in Mexico regularly obtain weaponry bought in the United States and smuggled across the border.

He could receive to up to 10 years in prison at sentencing. No sentencing date has been set.

Man wanted for murder caught in East Texas

HOUSTON (AP) — Investigators say they've apprehended a Houston-area man wanted for murder after his girlfriend turned up missing and traces of blood were found at her home.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office announced Tuesday that 29-year-old Colt Morgan was taken into custody in Leon County, in East Texas.

He's accused in the Nov. 3 death of 44-year-old Wende Marshall of Cypress. Investigators have said they believe Marshall was stabbed during an argument and her body was burned at her residence, which showed signs of a cleanup. Fresh paint was on the walls. Her body has not been found.

The Houston Chronicle reports Morgan had been camping out in a storage building in the Leon County town of Buffalo, about 150 miles north of Houston

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This entry form must be received by Monday, December 16 at 5 p.m. Drop off your form at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry St. The winner will be the one who correctly matches the most Santas to his business/workshop. There will be 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners. Gift certificates will be given away to use at the participating businesses. Winners will be announced in the Friday, December 20th Edition of the Big Spring Herald!

All decisions are final at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald

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Sports

SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 9
Wednesday, December 11, 2013



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Tyler Bryan shoots a layup during Tuesday's 65-59 loss to Lubbock Monterey at Steer Gym. The Steers will be back in action this weekend at a tournement in Andrews.

Steers edged by Monterey

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

BIGSPRING—After a hard-fought matchup, Big Spring fell to Lubbock Monterey 65-59 Tuesday at Steer Gym.

Though it was a loss, BSHS Head Coach Ian Ritchey thought his squad turned in a strong performance.

"I thought we played much better against a very good team from a bigger school," he said. "It was only our second game with our whole team and we're starting to gel and show many signs of good things to come."

Leading the Steers were Matt Yanez with 13 points, Tavaris Walker with 12 and Tyler Wigington with 11.

Next up for Big Spring will be a tournament in Andrews.

COAHOMA — Braxton Iden registered a game-high 20 points and the Bulldogs (3-2) outscored visiting Post 17-4 in the second period to earn a 54-47 victory Tuesday. Next up for CHS will be the winner of

the Colorado City-Garden City game at a tournament in Crane. Tip off is set for Friday Individual stats: Braxton Iden, 20; Shanen

Warneke, 8; Kyler Franks, 7; Namen McCullough, 7; Cam Crabtree, 3; Hayden Adamson, 3; Ben Chapa, 2; Caige Miller, 2; Devin Ruiz, 2.

FORSAN — The Buffaloes may have had the larger school advantage over Class A, D-II Garden City, but the No. 4 ranked Bearkats are no pushovers. Despite Corbin Davis and Sam Miller's combined 36 points, Forsan remained undefeated, beating Garden City 63-52 Tuesday.

"It was a high-speed game with several lead changes," said FHS Head Coach Gary Huckabee. "Garden City has an excellent team and it took real effort to hold them off."

The Buffs were led by Matthew Mims

See HOOPS, Page 15

Forsan's Self honored by Ford



HERALD photo/ **Shaun McVicars** Forsan senior **Kolby Self** (second from left) pictured with his parents, Mike and Christie, receives the "Built Ford **Tough Player** of the Week" award Tuesday at Forsan High School. Also pictured is Athletic **Director Jason** Phillips and **Gary Howell** of Big Spring Ford, which presented the award.

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

FORSAN — Senior running back Kolby Self was honored Tuesday at Forsan High School with the statewide award "Built Ford Tough Texas Player of the Week" at the 1A level.

Self earned the award for a particularly stellar performance in the final nine games of the year and racked

week of the regular season to propel FHS into the playoffs.

He rushed a season-high 35 times for 313 yards and four TDs, including the quarter, in a 38-35 win over Winters.

game-winning score late in the fourth Self, at 5-10, 150 pounds rushed for 1,038 yards on 151 attempts in his first up 12 TDs. The versatile athlete also had 10 receptions for 162 yards and two scores. The Buffaloes (4-7) fell to Windthorst in a hard-fought bi-dirtict playoff game. Self, as usual, made contributions on both sides of the ball.

Self hopes college recruiters will take notice of his efforts on the field.

In track and field, Self qualified for the

last spring's regional meet in the 100, 200 and sprint relay and starts in the backcourt for the basketball squad.

"Kolby is a role model for his teammates, especially the younger ones," said Head Football Coach Jason Phillips. "He's a great kid whose main attribute is his outstanding work ethic."

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432-264-5100

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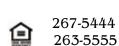
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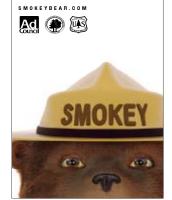
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Aries Moon Calls for

Directness The difference between human

communication and animal communication is that the animals generally embody their message, and humans often embody the opposite of their message. As the moon moves through the headstrong sign of the ram, take life by the horns by

HOLIDAY **MATHIS** experimenting with a direct and animalistic style of communication. ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are lively by nature, and so when

you feel like you don't have the energy for a certain person, project or activity, there is a good reason. Listen to the message of your energy levels. TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

When your burden is heavy, the wise choice is either to put it down or ask for help. To stress and strain yourself over it would be turning yourself into a victim, and that's not who you are.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you don't have the money for the highdollar item you want, consider that this might be a blessing. You also don't have to take on the risks involved with this purchase.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). General statements are convenient. They fill the space and are a vessel for your pleasant attitude. But if you really want to impress someone, specific facts are the way

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your current circus act includes plate spinning and juggling. You can forgo the fire eating, though, by refusing to indulge in incendiary words that you might be required to eat later.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People who move massive boulders know that there are many other factors

Tomorrow's Horoscope

involved besides how much the rock weighs. Study the shape and positioning of an obstacle before you determine that it's really too heavy to move.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Submitting to another person's will is a killjoy. But there is a way for the other person to get his or her needs satisfied that does not include your compliance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Usually, the one with the most courage isn't going on and on about how brave he's being. Courage often looks like quietly showing up and doing what has to be done.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The adventure is a solo mission, and you don't require an audience to bounce your experience and ideas off of along the way. Later, when you tell the story, you may realize that you are your own best witness.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your productivity will be astounding when you do what you can do and don't even think about what you can't do. "Can't do" is for people who don't want to move on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Argumentative and combative types need to prove something. Don't let them do this at your expense. Defer to them instead. Speak to their need for recognition.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). An area of doubt is like a shadowy land where darkness is a shape shifter and your fear has a way of filling in the blanks. Just remember that where there are shadows there is light. Find it and focus there.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 11). You get to the point this year, cutting out the unnecessary baggage that bogs you down. The career breakthrough simmering over the next seven weeks comes from focusing on what works well for you. February is a new chapter for a love relationship. You'll add to your family and possibly move in March. Virgo and Scorpio

people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 28, 11, 19 and 44. HOLIDAY STRESS

RELIEVERS: It's that hectic time when everyone rushes to fulfill their holiday and end-of-year expectations. Mix in the complications of increased financial activity, family dynamics, travel and extreme weather conditions, and it is not difficult to figure out why so many people wind up feeling spent and blue in December. So what can you do to counteract holiday stress?

GEMINI: Traveling lightly through life is the air-sign way, and Mercury-ruled Gemini is used to showing up at all the right places for the right amount of time and having a ball. But with the holidays adding more obligations and engagements to the schedule, the Gemini levity of spirit is harder to achieve. For the sign of the twins, stress-free is commitment-free. Mastering key noncommittal phrases will allow Gemini the flexibility and freedom necessary to remain buoyant. For instance, instead of saying, "I'll be there," try something like, "That sounds like fun! I have a few things on the schedule that day, but it's possible I could drop by for a while if that's OK?" Giving yourself an out is easier when you anticipate that you have several things you'll be saying "yes" to each day from now until the end of

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Calling out her ex-boyfriends via the pop charts is the norm for Sagittarius pop star Taylor Swift, who defines beauty as "sincerity." Four luminaries in emotional water signs indicates emotional depth beyond her years, but the truly remarkable aspect of Swift's natal chart is the abundance of Capricorn planets, which are its strongest influence and the hallmark of a natural-born business mogul.

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the year.

Annie's Mailbox ®

KATHY MITCHELL

MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: I was married to a verbally abusive narcissist for 10 years. Two separations and three counselors later, I decided to leave him. That was in June.

I recently met someone who makes me believe there are good

people out there. But my soon-to-be ex and my brother have been screaming from the rooftops that I am a cheater, and that my husband's behavior was perfect. This hurts me so deeply I cannot describe

I bent over backward for this man for years, but he always has to "win." Due to my brother's badmouthing me and my unwillingness to fight, my parents barely speak to me. My ex is irresponsible about money, so I paid off his truck and am making half of his house payment so my kids have a place to stay when they see him. I have 10 pages of documentation from all the horribleness I have lived

through. I hope my parents someday will warm

up to the new man who treats me so well.

I have given up on my brother. Meanwhile, my ex keeps telling me how he is doing "the right thing" by letting my children see me, because all of his friends tell him not to. Of course, he never was involved with the kids. He's using them for leverage.

I pay for all of the children's expenses and their health insurance, and I see a counselor regularly. But every week, my ex or my brother contacts me and tries to make me feel like a terrible person

for leaving. Will it ever stop? — Exhausted in WisconsinDear Wisconsin: We hope so, but you have to be strong. Until the divorce is final, your husband (and brother) will try to wear you down so you will return. As long as the children can be used to

pressure you, your ex will do so. We know you are tired, but you

need to fight back a little harder. Let your parents know exactly what is going on, and let them see the documentation. Make sure you have a good attorney who will see that the kids are protected and have access to both of their parents. Don't push your new relationship. It's too soon for your parents to accept. And keep seeing your counselor. It will help.

Dear Annie: I have battled cancer since 1995. I will be on chemotherapy or some drug until I wish no further medical intervention. I am always bald, so I wear a beautiful assortment of headscarves. This usually elicits a caring smile, the start of a conversation or a comment meant to give hope. And while I am grateful for the smiles and caring statements, there is one comment I would like to eliminate.

A number of people say, "Well, we're all dying." I understand these folks mean well, but it is a condescending and insensitive thing to say. Instead of giving hope or comfort, it says that my terminal diagnosis isn't that big of a deal and I should just get over it. Please tell people to think carefully before making such a comment to one who is terminally ill. — Counting My Blessings in Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Counting: We could write a book about all of the inappropriate comments that people make when confronted with awkward or difficult situations. Thanks for alerting them to put this particular phrase in a locked drawer and throw away the key.

Dear Annie: "Not Lonely in Virginia" said she has trouble making friends. When she added, "I suspect it may have to do with reading body language. I can't interpret the signals," it sounded like Asperger's.

I was in a relationship with a man with Asperger's, and I didn't have a clue about this syndrome. It was devastating. I read everything I could and now understand it. Please direct her to www.aspergers.com, where she will be welcomed and understood. — Sioux Falls

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Dear Margo ®

Margo

Howard

When You Feel Like a Heifer at an Auction

Dear Margo: I am 36 and attending college for the first time. It has been a wonderful experience, and because of my high GPA, I received many scholarships. One scholarship comes with an invitation to a

fundraising dinner with all the local elite who contribute to the college. I was there last year to receive an award and hated it. The fundraising and the requests for money made me uncomfortable, and the people at my table were snobby and condescending.

The foundation puts the winning students at tables with the donors so they can "see what their money buys." There are games where the speaker searches the room with a spotlight asking for donations, and all the rich people at my table were waving their checkbooks and clamoring for one of the plaques being given away. I felt like a heifer at auction.

I swore I would never go back. This year I was awarded the BIG scholarship given to the school by the estate of a man who passed away years ago. I decided I would not attend. My friends at work think I am being silly and that I should be grateful to be able to dine with such "nice" people. They say I "owe" it to the foundation to go.

Am I being unreasonable, or are these fundraising events always this awful to endure? Should I go? — *Ungrateful or Just Uncomfortable?* Dear Un: Yes, it's true that fundraisers can sometimes be the

castor oil of social events, and, yes, you should go. It is the only way you have of thanking the people who've made your education

These kinds of events can be uncomfortable because of the display of wealth, but the ends really do justify the means. I have been to affairs where the beneficiaries are present — and sometimes speak — and the effect is one of creating solidarity between the supporters



and the organization.

Such evenings aren't so much about letting people "see what their money buys" as about letting them see where their money goes. -Margo, understandingly

THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE OF BIGOTRY

Dear Margo: I am the mother of a 28-year-old woman who is the mother of my only grandchild. The child is 6 years old. I am also bisexual and in a committed relationship with another woman.

My daughter was exposed to my lifestyle at a young age, when I had another longtime partner. I remained single for about 17 years before my current relationship.

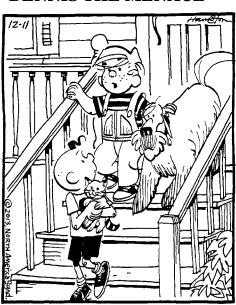
The problem is that my daughter has become engaged to a young man who is quite homophobic and who's pushing for my only child to break ties with me and keep my grandchild away from me. He also doesn't want me present at their wedding, even though I have volunteered to attend alone. Needless to say, my heart is broken, because my daughter, granddaughter and I have always had strong ties with one another.

How do I get past this? I don't want to lose my daughter and granddaughter, and it just kills me to imagine that they could be taken from me. — *Brokenhearted Mom*

Dear Broke: What I can't figure out is how a daughter, with whom you say you've been close, could allow her fiance to remove you from her life, as well as take a little girl's grandmother away. Ditto for attending the wedding. That she would choose such an intolerant man, coming from

where she's coming from, is astounding. If her loyalty and love for you are so shallow that she would permit this, then there is nothing for you to do. And for whatever it's worth, her priorities are as lamentable as

his views. — Margo, regrettably © 2013 MARGO HOWARD



A'CAT' PERSON. I'M NOT SURE HE'S EVEN A'PEOPLE' PERSON."



"Why does he always ignore Rudolph?"



I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED HELGA TO COME ON THIS RAID OF ENGLAND...



HER SHOPPING

SPREE HAS

EATEN UP

ALL MY PROFITS!



"MR. WILSON IS NOT A'DOG' PERSON, OR

BC





WIZARD OF ID





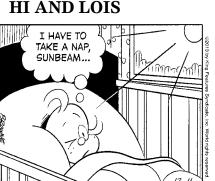


AGNES













THE OTHER COAST















This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Dec.

11, the 345th day of 2013. There are 20 days left in the vear. Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 11, 1972, Apollo 17's lunar module landed on the moon with astronauts Eugene Cernan and Harrison Schmitt aboard; during three extravehicular activities (EVAs), they became the last two men to date to step onto the lunar surface.

On this date:

In 1792, France's King Louis XVI went before the Convention to face charges of treason. (Louis was convicted, and executed the following month.) In 1816, Indiana became

the 19th state. In 1912, movie producer

Carlo Ponti was born in Magenta, Italy.

In 1928, police

Aires announced they had thwarted an attempt on the life of President-elect Herbert Hoover. In 1936, Britain's King

Edward VIII abdicated the

throne so he could marry

American divorcee Wallis

Warfield Simpson; his brother, Prince Albert, became King George VI. In 1937, Italy announced it was withdrawing from the

League of Nations. In 1941, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States; the U.S. responded in kind.

In 1946, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) was established. In 1961, a U.S. aircraft car-

rier carrying Army helicopters arrived in Saigon ,Aî the first direct American military support for South Vietnam's battle against Communist guerrillas. In 1981, the El Mozote

massacre in El Salvador claimed the lives of hundreds of civilians at the hands of army troops. The U.N. Security Council chose Javier Perez de Cuellar

(hah-vee-EHR' PEHR'-ehs day KWAY'-yahr) of Peru to be the fifth secretary-general. Muhammad Ali, 39, fought his final fight, losing by unanimous decision to Trevor Berbick in Nassau, Bahamas. In 1997, more than 150

warming conference in Kyoto, Japan, to control the Earth's greenhouse gases. In 2008, Bernie Madoff was arrested, accused of running a multibillion-dol-

lar Ponzi scheme. (Madoff is

serving a 150-year federal

countries agreed at a global

prison sentence.) © 2013, The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Answer to previous puzzle

OPAL ERROR GUNK ASIDE ASKS NOSED ELMS

Edited by Stanley Newman

shop

41 Mistaken

46 Paris tower

designer

48 Clenched

hands

50 Physical

condition

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55 Like some

fake fruit

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57 In need of

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51 Job offerer

54 October

56 Rigging

47 Take care of

49 Group of eight

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 BLT spread **5** Give off,
- as light **9** Pound sounds
- 14 Molecule portion
- 15 Hayworth
- 16 Sports pro's
- rep
- 17 Took a bus
- 18 Ripened
- 19 Juliet's love
- 20 What pirates called the
- 23 Under the
- weather
- 27 Carnival-wheel
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- 44 Awaken

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- 45 Harvests
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- 63 Breezed

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- 6 Physical
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- 53 Luxuriant hair

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- 67 Girder metal

- **DOWN**
- 3 Skywalker's

- twosome
- **7** Tabloids

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28 29

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- 33
- 48 Paleontologist's
- 60 Personnel 62 Cowpoke's pal

- **GREETINGS FROM MAINE** by Fred Piscop
- 9 Fred Flintstone's 40 Where surfers pal **10** Give it
 - 11 Pay by mail 12 Bell sound 13 Swiped

_ (try)

are signed 22 Emcee's opening 26 Mild quake

21 How contracts

28 Resound 29 Jockey's strap 30 Kitchen

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- 34 Break cleanly 36 Olympus ruler 37 Heed the alarm
- 38 Hobby-farm bugs

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- 58 Kind of tide **59** Outer limit
 - 61 Service charge
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 - 12/11/13

Texas AD: 'No decisions' made yet about Mack Brown

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas Athletic Director Steve Patterson says no decision has been made about the future of Longhorns coach Mack

Texas released a statement by Patterson several hours after Orangebloods. com reported, citing two unidentified sources, that Brown will announce he is stepping down by week's end.

"We continue to discuss the future of Texas Football," Patterson said. "Mack Brown has not resigned. And,

no decisions have been made."

Joe Jamail, Brown's longtime friend and attorney, told The Associated Press on Tuesday: "Mack Brown has not resigned." He says Brown's future with Texas is still up to the coach.

Horns247.com, a Texas recruiting website, reported that Brown denied the report in a text from Florida, where he was recruiting. Brown wrote to Horns247: "I have

not decided to step down."

Texas just completed another regu-

lar season that didn't meet expectations. The Longhorns went 8-4, recovering from a 1-2 start and beating Oklahoma, but still finishing with lopsided late-season losses to Oklahoma State and Baylor. There has been speculation about

Brown's future in Austin since even before the season started, and it became rampant after blowout losses to BYU and Mississippi in September.

Brown fired defensive coordinator Manny Diaz after the BYU loss and replaced him with Greg Robinson. The move seemed to help. The Longhorns played better, and the season peaked with a 36-20 victory against rival Oklahoma in October.

Texas is set to play Oregon in the

Alamo Bowl on Dec. 30.

Longtime Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds announced that he would be stepping down earlier this season, and former Arizona State AD Steve Patterson has already been hired to replace him.

HOOPS

Continued from Page 9

who had scored a game-

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high 28 points. Also adding buckets for FHS were Kade Fannin (10),

Zane Sanders Clayton Galloway (8), Tyler Evans (7) and Kolby Self (1).

Forsan's next opponent will be Lubbock Roosevelt on Thursday at a tournament in Abernathy.

Girls

COAHOMA — The Bulldogettes (4-4) overcame a 14-5 first quarter deficit to Post's lead to three at the half, but the slow start ended up hurting Coahoma, which lost 50-43 Tuesday,

Kyla Clanton led the

Bulldogettes offensively with 13 points. A tourney in Crane

will offer CHS a chance to bounce back from the loss, with its first opponent, Midland Classical, slated for 9 a.m. Thurs-Individual stats: Kyla

Clanton, 13; McClayne Holgerson, 8; Savannah Neff, 7; Julia Castilaw, 6; Alexis Jackson, 5; Lauren Simer, 2; Kaeli Yager, 2.

FORSAN — The Lady Buffaloes (4-2) were ranked No. 25 entering Tuesday's meeting

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with 2A Lamesa, but a well-executed outing by the Lady Tornadoes stymied FHS. Lamesa seized on lackluster second period by the Lady Buffs — who only scored two points — to win 41-37.

"We started off slow and got behind in the first half," said FHS Head Coacdh Lindsey Schmidt of the loss. "We missed a lot of easy baskets. We missed a lot of outside shots and some layups."

Forsan's scoring was spread out across the court, but Brittney Hergert chipped in 12 and Mary-Ashley McDaniel added 10.

"Brittney had a good game," Schmidt added. "I'm real proud of all of the girls. They battled back. They could have given up after the first half, but they were fighting in the fourth quar-

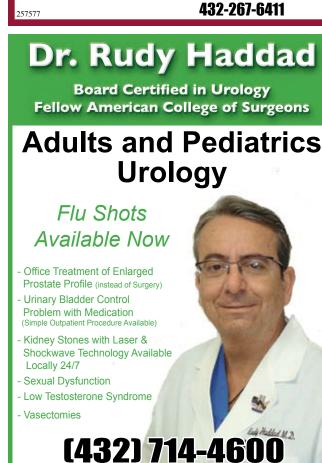
A game with Floydada is set for Thursday at 3 p.m. in Abernathy.

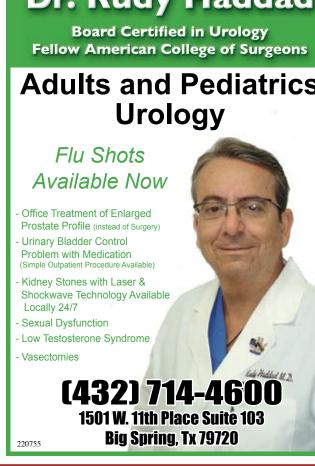
Individual stats: Brittney Hergert, 12; Mary-Ashley McDaniel, 10; Raegan Haggard, 6; Maria Ortiz, 4; Madi Roman, 3; Rachel Haggard, 2.

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

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