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TUESDAY

DECEMBER 24, 2013



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Grand jury no bills Sand Springs shooter

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer
 A 118th District grand jury declined to indict a Howard County man for his role in a September shooting death. The Howard County grand jury no-billed L.C. Gibbs in the Sept. 21 shooting death of Bobby Reed in Sand Springs, District Attorney Hardy L.

Wilkerson said. According to reports, Howard County sheriff's deputies responded to 8705 Gillem Road in Sand Springs in reference to an assault. Upon arriving at the scene, they found Reed dead from a gunshot wound. The particulars of the shooting were never released to the public, although Sheriff Stan

Parker said at one point that "there had been a domestic/family altercation that led to the shooting." Discussion of the case took up much of the grand jury's time during its session, said Wilkerson, who declined to comment on the no-bill. Persons indicted during the grand jury session included:

- Londa Copeland Aldridge, 41, 1208 Dixie, driving while intoxicated/third or more offense (enhanced to first degree felony).
- Jennifer DeAnn Cate, 31, 304 W. Third, Forsan, possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver (second degree felony).
- Joseph Justin Larocque,

35, 1406 Runnels, two counts of possession of a controlled substance (third degree felony and state jail felony, respectively) and attempted burglary of a habitation (third degree felony).
 • Comanecki Olyn Loper, 32, 2912 Cherokee, possession of a controlled substance. See **JURY**, Page 3

Pair arrested, jailed on drug, weapons charges

By **BILL McCLELLAN**

Managing Editor
 A man acting suspiciously, a foot chase and questioning of a suspect culminated in two people being arrested on drug and weapons charges Sunday, according to information released Monday afternoon by the Big Spring Police Department. In custody are Michael Roy Roberson, 31, and Comanecki "CoCo" Loper Thacker, 32. Police said the episode began at approximately 12:30 p.m. Sunday when BSPD Officer Kevin Pitts spied a driver acting suspiciously in the 900 block of E. Third. Pitts also noted the vehicle had no front license plate. "The vehicle failed to stop for Officer Pitts and a short pursuit occurred," said Sgt. Tony Everett, BSPD public information officer. "The vehicle finally came to a stop



Roberson Thacker

in the 1200 block of E. Second, at which time the driver identified as Michael Roy Roberson, a white male, exited the vehicle and fled on foot. After a short pursuit, Roberson was taken into custody." Police reports indicate Roberson's arrest led officers to the Scottish Inn at 1203 E. Third. There, officers discovered an "associate" of Robertson's, Comanecki Loper Thacker, a white female.

"After an investigation, it was found Roberson and Thacker were in possession of two stolen firearms, 390 grams of methamphetamine, less than two ounces of marijuana and a quantity of hydrocodone," said Everett.

Roberson was also wanted by FBI Abilene on a previous investigation with the Big Spring Police Department's Narcotics Unit for conspiracy to deliver a quantity of methamphetamine.

Thacker was booked into the Howard County Jail for delivery of a controlled substance, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon and possession of a controlled substance.

Roberson was transported to Abilene to be arraigned before a federal magistrate.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

From left, Hometown Christmas volunteers Katie Lara, Kristin Tubb, Muffet Bomar and Beverly Johnson prepare to deliver gifts to needy families in the area Monday afternoon. The organization delivered gifts to more than 70 families this year, officials said.

A bit of history concerning Christmas

I was putting up my Christmas tree the day after Thanksgiving and got to wondering when Americans first began putting trees up and decorating them.

As I did a bit of research, I found that many early settlers did not put up Christmas trees. In fact, Christmas was not declared a Federal holiday until June 26, 1870. Some Christian groups banned the celebration altogether, others have kept the holiday as a purely religious celebration, and still others incorporat-



DARRELL RYAN

ed traditions from pagan practices.

Many viewed birthday celebrations as heathen so the earliest Christians paid little attention to Jesus' birth. It is not known exactly when the church began to celebrate Christmas but the first reference is dated 336 when the Roman Church began to celebrate a Feast of the Nativity on December 25. By observing Jesus' birthday on that day, pagan traditions associated with the winter solstice, the wassail bowls and the use of evergreen decorations came to be incorporated in the celebration.

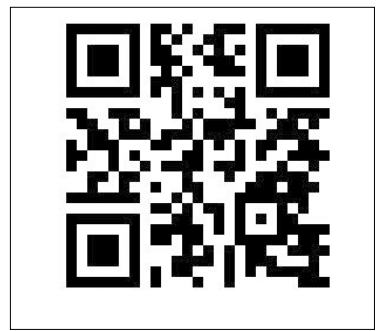
The Christmas custom spread to England by the end of the sixth

See **CHRISTMAS**, Page 3

60 AHEAD... OPEN ONE ON CHRISTMAS EVE!

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Obituaries

Cecil "CJ" Jeptha Shockley

Cecil "CJ" Jeptha Shockley, died at home on Dec. 22, 2013. CJ was born in Knott, Texas, on Aug. 10, 1938, to Cecil and Zada (Roberts) Shockley.



He worked in the department of corrections for more than 21 years, retiring as a lieutenant. He travelled extensively through his lifetime. He served in the United States Army at Fort Carson, Colo. and Germany.

He was preceded in death by his first wife Wilma Jean, and his brothers; Mike, Richard and Bruce.

CJ is survived by his wife of five years, Mary Jo (Bayless) Shockley, step-sons, Troy Stephens, Michael Stephens; and foster daughter Rhonda Tickle.

Visitation will be held on Friday, Dec. 27, 2013, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Funeral Services will be held at the Church of Christ at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 28, 2013. Burial will follow at Heritage Valley Memorial Park.

Juanita Gilbert Campbell

HALTOM CITY — Juanita Gilbert Campbell, 89, died Friday, Dec. 20, 2013, in Stephenville, Texas.



Funeral service is at 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Chapel. Visitation is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at Bluebonnet Hills Funeral Home.

Juanita moved from Big Spring to Fort Worth, Texas, in 1966. She was a Christian. Juanita was a longtime member of Life Fellowship Church in Hurst.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Maddox Campbell, and granddaughter, Ashley Dyan Lewis.

Juanita is survived by his children, Charlene Smith and husband, Don, Barbara Lewis and husband, Van, Diana Dupree, Ricky Campbell, and Tracey Springer and husband, Mark; nine grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and two siblings.

James D. "J.D." Felts Sr.

James D. "J.D." Felts Sr., 82, of Big Spring, Texas, died Saturday, Dec. 21, 2013, at his residence. No services are planned.



He was born Dec. 15, 1931, in Colorado City, Texas, to Effie and Elmo Felts. He was a Veteran of the U. S. Army. He was a driller for Duncan and Turner oil companies. He lived most of his life in Big Spring and was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

He is survived by one daughter, Connie Fletcher of Austin; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sons, James David Felts Jr., and Russell Dean Felts. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

Charles W. "Mo" Utley

Charles W. "Mo" Utley, 94, of Big Spring, Texas, died Monday, Dec. 23, 2013, in a local nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27, 2013, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Raul Garcia, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Coahoma, Texas, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 26, 2013, at the funeral home.

He was born April 10, 1919, in Oran, Mo., and married Jessie Thomas Sept. 15, 1945, in Brownwood, Texas.

Survivors include a daughter, Carolyn Sue Keller and husband, John of Big Spring; a son, John L. Utley and wife, Fredye of Paducah, Texas; four grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers; and two sisters.

The family suggests memorials to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 50, Coahoma, Texas 79511.

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

Police blotter

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

• **ROBERT RUBEN SANCHEZ**, 49, of 1023 Stadium, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **RICHARD DAVID MCCUTCHAN**, 45, of 417 Westover, was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid previous conviction.

• **ASHLEY ANNA BURT**, 26, of 1604 Benton, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.

• **KENNETH WAYNE PHILLIPS JR.**, 21, of 906 Rennels, was arrested Monday on a charge of being parked facing traffic.

• **MICHAEL DEAN NALL**, 35, of 1016 East 21st St., was arrested Monday on a charge of failure to identify giving false/fictitious information.

• **STEVEN ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ**, 41, of 408 West 5th St., was arrested Monday on a charge of burglary of habitation.

• **SARAHNICOLE DUNLAP**, 29, of 315 Northeast Broadway, Coahoma, Texas, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.

• **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported at the 1000 block of Lancaster.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported at the 1500 block of Sycamore, the 3600 block of Hamilton and 500 State.

• **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported at the 1400 block of Park.

• **THEFT** was reported at the 2100 block of Scurry.

• **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported at the 1500 block of Settles.

Take Note

• Big Spring RSVP is celebrating the 2014 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service 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.

• Encompass Cares, a charity arm of Encompass 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 Office 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.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum's annual fundraiser is coming up in January. The Silver Wings Ball will be Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014, at the Hotel Settles. Evening events begin at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour. Join us for a night of fine dining and dancing. Contact Hangar 25 Air Museum to purchase tickets for underwriting and sponsor opportunities. Underwriting opportunities range from \$250 to \$5,000. All underwriters will receive two tickets to the event and advertisement opportunities. Tickets for the event are \$50. Tickets for a chance to win a nights stay at the Hotel Settles are \$10 or six for \$50.

• The Big Spring Pow Wow Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main. Whether you are a Native American or interested in Native American culture and would like to be a part of the 10th anniversary of the Big Spring Pow Wow, you are invited. For more information, call Richard Lesser at 432-935-0125 or Randy McKinney at 432-267-4843.

• Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to violent crimes of assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies as needed. If you can commit to 30-hour training, an interview process background check and attend training. We need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations office is accepting donations of magazines. They should be brought to the Community Relations office on campus. For more information, call Jamey Stegall at 268-7535 or james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us

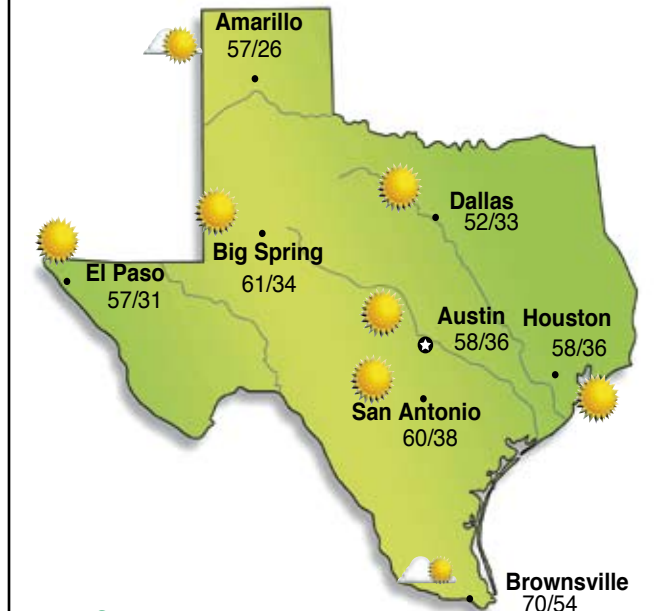
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 12/24	Wed 12/25	Thu 12/26
 61/34 Mainly sunny. High 61F. Winds S at 15 to 25 mph.	 57/29 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	 55/32 Sunny. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.
Sunrise: 7:45 AM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM
Sunset: 5:47 PM	Sunset: 5:48 PM	Sunset: 5:48 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	61	35	sunny	Kingsville	65	48	mst sunny
Amarillo	57	26	mst sunny	Livingston	56	29	sunny
Austin	58	36	sunny	Longview	51	31	sunny
Beaumont	56	32	sunny	Lubbock	60	30	sunny
Brownsville	70	54	pt sunny	Lufkin	56	29	sunny
Brownwood	60	35	sunny	Midland	61	33	sunny
Corpus Christi	62	49	mst sunny	Raymondville	68	50	pt sunny
Corsicana	51	32	sunny	Rosenberg	58	37	sunny
Dallas	52	33	sunny	San Antonio	60	38	sunny
Del Rio	61	39	sunny	San Marcos	59	36	sunny
El Paso	57	31	sunny	Sulphur Springs	49	34	sunny
Fort Stockton	65	37	sunny	Sweetwater	60	34	sunny
Gainesville	50	31	sunny	Tyler	52	33	sunny
Greenville	48	30	sunny	Weatherford	53	31	sunny
Houston	58	36	sunny	Wichita Falls	55	30	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	43	25	sunny	Minneapolis	13	11	snow
Boston	33	15	pt sunny	New York	39	23	pt sunny
Chicago	16	12	mst sunny	Phoenix	68	43	sunny
Dallas	52	33	sunny	San Francisco	65	46	sunny
Denver	50	24	pt sunny	Seattle	50	39	rain
Houston	58	36	sunny	St. Louis	24	20	mst sunny
Los Angeles	74	50	sunny	Washington, DC	44	28	pt sunny
Miami	81	66	rain				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Tue 12/24	Wed 12/25	Thu 12/26
3	3	3
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

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

Support Groups

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.

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News briefs

Last-minute health insurance shoppers are given 1-day extension in case of technical problems

CHICAGO (AP) — Anticipating heavy traffic on the government's health care website, the Obama administration extended Monday's deadline for signing up for insurance by a day, giving Americans in 36 states more time to select a plan.

It was the latest in a series of pushed-back deadlines and delays that have marked the rollout of the health care law.

But federal officials urged buyers not to procrastinate.

"You should not wait until tomorrow. If you are aiming to get coverage Jan. 1, you should try to sign up today," said Julie Bataille, a spokeswoman for the federal agency in charge of the overhaul.

Bataille said the grace period — which runs through Tuesday — was being offered to accommodate people from different time zones and to allow for any technical problems that might result from a last-minute rush of applicants.

Obama enrolls for health coverage, but didn't sign up for it himself and won't use it

HONOLULU (AP) — He won't use it, and he didn't actually sign up for it himself, but President Barack Obama has enrolled for health coverage through the new insurance exchanges.

Announcing his enrollment Monday, the White House called it a symbolic show of Obama's support for the fledgling exchanges where millions of Americans must buy insurance or face a penalty. Ironically, it also served as a reminder of just how complex and sometimes daunting the process can be.

Obama, like so many other Americans, couldn't use the website.

"The complicated nature of the president's case required an in-person sign-up," the White House said.

Powerful bomb hits police station in north Egypt, killing 12

MANSOURA, Egypt (AP) — A powerful explosion believed to be caused by a car bomb ripped through a police headquarters in a Nile Delta city north of Cairo early on Tuesday, killing 12 people and wounding more than 100, leaving scores buried under the rubble.

The country's interim government accused the Muslim Brotherhood of orchestrating the attack, branding it a "terrorist organization." But the Islamist group condemned the bombing, describing it in a statement as a "direct attack on the unity of the Egyptian people" and demanding that the perpetrators be found and brought to justice.

It was the first major bombing in the Nile Delta, spreading the carnage that has marked Egypt's turmoil over the past months to a new area and bringing it closer to Cairo. Previous deadly violence has mostly taken place in the volatile Sinai Peninsula and in Suez Canal-area cities east of the Egyptian capital.

The 1:10 a.m. blast struck at the security headquarters in the city of Mansoura, 110 kilometers (70 miles) north of Cairo in the Nile Delta province of Daqahliya, collapsing an entire section and side wall of the five-floor building, incinerating dozens of cars outside and damaging several nearby buildings.

The state news agency MENA said 12 people were killed, including eight police officers, and that 134 were wounded, among them the city's security chief and his assistant. Most of the victims were policemen, many of whom were buried beneath the debris.

After storm, cold stays put, hindering some travel and challenging utilities

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Roads remained slick and utility crews were busy trying to turn the lights back on from the Midwest to the Northeast on one of the busiest travel days of the year after a messy storm rolled across the country.

At least 11 people have been killed in the storm that started Saturday and lingered into late Monday, ice building up on tree branches and power lines and causing travel headaches in several states.

While the rain, freezing rain and ice was expected to subside, forecasters said cold temperatures would stick around for most of the week in areas socked by the wild weekend storm. There will be snow moving into the Northern High Plains and Central Rockies on Tuesday then sliding into the Great Lakes and Midwest by Wednesday morning.

States kept emergency shelters open for people who would be without power, some through Christmas.

Rain and melting snow led to swelling creeks and streams, closed roads and flooded underpasses

in Indiana, Ohio and other Great Lakes states. Some creeks were 4 to 9 feet above flood stage and expected to subside by Tuesday.

Veterans return to streets to make inroads with homeless vets

CONCORD, Mass. (AP) — Not far from where the Boston Massacre helped sow the seeds for the Revolutionary War, David Dyer points toward the underpass where he'd score crack cocaine by day and the train depot where he'd sleep some nights.

Now, he has a family, a home and a job — helping homeless veterans get off the streets, like he did.

Dyer is part of a team of veterans, some formerly homeless themselves, that the state of Massachusetts has hired to get veterans off the streets in the Boston area. Typically, they spend one day a week roaming the city's storefronts, alleys and shelters, which is what he was doing one recent morning outside Boston's South Station. "I guess you could call this my home for about a month," he reminisced.

The rest of the week is spent making sure those who have found housing are staying the course. The Veterans Affairs Department, which funds the effort, is considering doubling the size of the team in the coming year.

President Barack Obama's administration has pledged to eliminate homelessness among veterans by the end of 2015. And while the rate has been dropping, time is running short.

Utah turns to appeals court in bid to stop gay marriage as hundreds of couples wed

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Utah state lawyers have again turned to a Denver-based federal appeals court in their bid to put a stop to gay couples getting married, saying the state should not be required to abide by one judge's narrow view of a "new and fundamentally different definition of marriage."

About 700 gay couples have obtained wedding licenses since U.S. District Judge Robert J. Shelby on Friday declared Utah's gay marriage ban unconstitutional, but lawyers for the state are trying every legal avenue to halt the practice. Shelby on Monday denied their bid to temporarily stop gay marriage while the appeals process plays out, and they quickly went to the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

JURY

Continued from Page 1

of a controlled substance with intent to deliver (first degree felony).

• Walter Morris Lozano, 28, 2501 Car-

leton, theft of a firearm (third degree felony) and possession of a controlled substance (third degree felony).

• Erlinda Evette Rios, 25, 2501 Carleton, theft of a firearm and possession of a controlled substance (both third degree felonies).

• Ronald Elias Morales, 49, Howard County Detention Center, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon (enhanced to first degree felony).

• Jesus Elias Morales, 43, Odessa, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

• Daniel Russell Qualls, 34, 2602 Dow, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).

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

CHRISTMAS

Continued from Page 1

century and later reached Scandinavia where it became fused with the pagan Norse mid-winter feast season known as Yule. In the 9th century, during the reign of King Alfred, the Christmas celebration was extended by 12 days, ending on Epiphany, January 6.

In colonial times, Americans of different sects and different national origins kept the holiday in ways they carried over from the Old World. Puritans, for instance, attempted to ignore Christmas because the Bible was fairly silent on the topic. Virginia planters took the occasion to feast, dance, gamble, hunt and visit, perpetuating what they believed to be the old

Christmas customs in English manors. Even as late as the early 1800s, many Americans hardly took notice of the holiday at all.

Prior to the Civil War, those in the North mostly believed celebrating Christmas as a sin. It wouldn't be until after the Civil War that national celebration began to take place. The familiar mix of carols, cards, presents, trees, multiplicities of Santa and holiday items that have come to define December 25 in the United States is little more than a hundred years old. State governments recognized the growing importance of Christmas by dealing with it as they knew best: by passing a law. The first state to make Christmas a legal holiday was Alabama in 1836. Between 1850 and 1861,

15 other states followed suit and a result of this legislation the states' recognition of December 25 as Christmas Day came about.

Following the Civil War, changing customs began to create needs for common celebrations. Immigration and the increase of population vastly widened the ethnic and religious pluralism that had been a part of the American settlement. The pace of life accelerated and the swirl of change caused many to become nostalgic and wish for an earlier time, in which they imagined that old and good values held sway in cohesive and peaceful communities

and families gathering at the hearth.

Therefore, Christmases celebrated across the land began to resolve into a more singular and widely celebrated home holiday. Americans varied old themes and created new symbols to develop something definitively their own.

So, in the early 1800s, the celebrating of Christmas took on a new appearance and began its trek to resemble the holiday season of the present day. Personally I'm glad because I love the traditions and the family images we have created and the true meaning of the season. Long live

Christmas!

Darrell Ryan is the director of school safety for the Big Spring Independent School District.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Jerry Foresyth, 76, died Saturday. Funeral services were today at 10 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Margaret Hudson, 90, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

James D. "J. D." Felts, Sr, 82, died Saturday. No services are planned.

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Bird Poop: Our fine, de-feathered friend

Spattered with the colors of the land over which he drove, the sides of his truck were a palette reflecting the caliche and red clay terrain. Pump jacks and tank farms dotted either side of the roads he traveled daily.

Although his hours were long, he wouldn't have wanted it any other way. To be a pumper was to be outdoors and unfettered.

With the ever-changing scenery, he was often rewarded with occasional sightings of wildlife. Whether in the sky, or scurrying to the safety of scrubs, feathered and furry critters were welcome in his routine.

Over the years, as he serviced numerous sites, he had found injured or weakened birds.

From raptors to water birds, he had spotted them with his

keen eyes. Although his height and stature appeared visually to overwhelm whatever he held in his weathered hands, his compassion had always led him to our front porch.

After ringing the doorbell that December morning, he presented another stranded hawk. "It's missing a lot of feathers on that wing," he noted.

As I extended the wing in question, obvious to both of us was the absence of primary feathers. Without those, the red-tailed hawk was grounded.

Until it could replace them, the raptor would be limited in finding prey. Compared to the other wing, and whether caused by an impact or predator, the loss of the flight feathers was significant.

Even though the hawk appeared to be healthy, my concern was also for the possibility of any hidden damage. From the violence represented in the area, the bird's upper muscles and joints could have also been affected.

For the next two days, the red-tail enjoyed a

menu of its favorite foods.

When our weather promised to behave for a short period of time, we delivered the hawk to the wildlife center in Lubbock.

To learn that the raptor was a good prospect for release later in the new year was gratifying. A thorough examination and X-rays had revealed no further damage.

The forced months of R&R would assure its feathering would be complete. When it was finally moved to the flight facility, the red-tail would be expected to master the highest perches and fly effortlessly from one end to the other. This would then assure it was ready for the rigors of sustained flight and eventual freedom.

After relaying this information to R.C. Reed, I thanked him for his efforts regarding wildlife. His intervention in the life of the hawk had been notable.

Previously, through him, we had been introduced to new species because of his being in and with nature. Having the privilege of



Courtesy photo

Brown upper parts, creamy under parts, streaked belly, and rufous tail readily identify a mature, red-tailed hawk. Weighing two and a half to three pounds, the raptor frequents open country, mountains, rangeland, and desert terrain.

traversing the private preserves of families who treasured their inheritances, R.C. had briefly transported us to those same areas

by his descriptions. His appearance on our doorstep with the red-tailed hawk had offered yet another learning experience.

Bebe McCasland is author of The Scoop from Bird Poop. She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

Odds and ends

VINTON, Va. (AP) — Officials in a Virginia town are looking for ways to get migrating buzzards to buzz off.

This year, nearly 100 vultures landed in the Gladetown area of Vinton. Vinton police officers fired booming guns

into the air to drive the birds away, and most left.

Town manager Chris Lawrence tells The Roanoke Times that more efficient methods are being considered for the vultures' return next year.

The town could apply for a federal permit to kill one vulture. The remains would be hung near the other vultures. Lawrence says the vultures would disperse because they don't like

to be around their own dead.

He says vultures are loud and dirty and tear up trees. But he says the town tries to co-exist with nature.

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — It's almost like in J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Fellowship of The Ring:" Gandalf stands in the way of Balrog and tells him to "go back to the shadow" to buy time for fleeing Frodo Baggins and his companions.

But the scene is Warsaw, not the Mines of Moria. A Polish prankster dressed as Gandalf stops a city tram, which represents Balrog, and recreates the scene with several others dressed as Middle-earth characters.

Tolkien's Gandalf almost died in the confrontation, but the Warsaw practical joker, called SA Wardega, just irritated the tram driver.

A YouTube video of the prank posted last week has gone viral with nearly 3 million views by Saturday, just days before Poland's premiere of the "The

Hobbit" film sequel.

HATFIELD, Mass. (AP) — Massachusetts state police say they've stopped a car carrying 1,250 packets of heroin stamped "Obamacare" and "Kurt Cobain" and arrested the four people inside it.

Police say a trooper was making a traffic stop in Northampton when another car passed and he noticed several violations. He stopped the car a short time later in nearby Hatfield and found the driver wasn't licensed to drive it. A state police dog found the bags of heroin.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Even When You Lose, You Win

South dealer.
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NORTH
♠ K J 10 9
♥ A J 9
♦ 5 3 2
♣ K Q J

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

SOUTH
♠ A 8
♥ Q 10 8 3
♦ K J 7
♣ A 10 9 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — six of diamonds.

In many hands, the contract is in danger if declarer allows one defender to gain the lead rather than the other. In such cases, declarer should do everything he possibly can to prevent that opponent from taking the lead.

Consider this deal where West leads a diamond against three notrump. Declarer takes East's eight with the jack, and the question is what to do next.

If South leads the queen of hearts, planning to finesse, he is looking for trouble. He might lose the finesse to East's king and go down after East returns a diamond through the K-7.

Similarly, if South leads the ace and another spade, planning to finesse, he is also looking for trouble. East might win with the queen and return a diamond to sink the contract.

But if South is the type who does not relish living dangerously, he finds the way to assure his game. At trick two, he leads a club to dummy's jack and returns the jack of spades.

After East plays low, South plays low. Win or lose, South is certain to make the contract. If the jack holds, he has nine sure tricks — three spades, a heart, a diamond and four clubs. And if the jack loses, South again has nine sure tricks, whatever West returns.

The hand demonstrates once again that at the start of play a sound declarer scrupulously determines what is good for him and what is bad for him. In the given case, South recognizes that he cannot be harmed if West gains the lead, and that he can therefore safely establish his ninth trick by taking a spade finesse that can lose only to West. Attempting a finesse that might lose to East is thus a risk that need not be taken.

Tomorrow: The Grand Slam Force.
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TACL003559E

Sudoku Answer on Page 12

sudoku

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

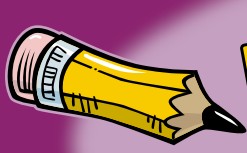
	3		4	6	7		9	
6	8	9	7		3	4		
5	7		2	9		3	1	6
9	4		3	5	1	6	2	
3	5	8	6	2	4		9	7
1					7		4	3
		6	4	3	9	2		
4	2		8	7	5			
		5			2	8		4

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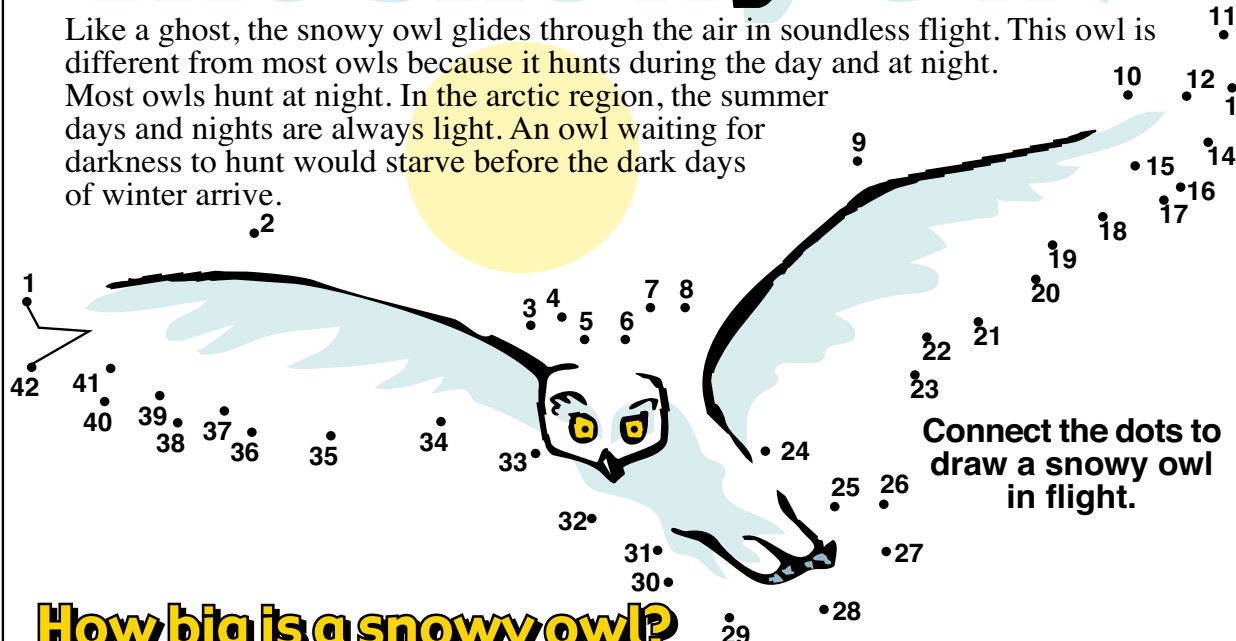
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Kid Scoop
FIT & FUN

Try these exercises to have fun and exercise the owl way!

The Snowy Owl

Like a ghost, the snowy owl glides through the air in soundless flight. This owl is different from most owls because it hunts during the day and at night. Most owls hunt at night. In the arctic region, the summer days and nights are always light. An owl waiting for darkness to hunt would starve before the dark days of winter arrive.



Connect the dots to draw a snowy owl in flight.

How big is a snowy owl?

The snowy owl is one of the largest owls, with a height of about 27 inches (69 cm) and a wingspan of up to 60 inches (152 cm). Wingspan is the measurement from wing tip to wing tip, when the wings are fully stretched.

Microwave oven	25 inches (63.5 cm)
Teacher's desk	40 inches (102 cm)
House cat	25 inches (63.5 cm)
Baseball bat	33 inches (84 cm)
Tennis Racket	27 inches (69 cm)
Small car (width)	67 inches (170 cm)

How many of the things in this chart could fit into a snowy owl's wingspan?

Measure 60 inches (152 cm) on the floor. Now lie down with your arms outstretched along the line. Measure your outstretched arms. How do you compare?

Standards Link: Measurement; students compare the length of objects by using direct comparison of standard units.

Why White?

Many animals can blend into their environment. This is called camouflage. There are few trees on the tundra, so the snowy owl's white plumage blends with the snowy world of the northern arctic.

In the spring, when the snowy owl makes a nest, the snow has started to melt and the brown earth shows through patches of white snow. The female snowy owl's soft white feathers are streaked with brown so she cannot be seen as she nests on the ground.

Here are three other animals that blend into their habitats, or homes. Can you unscramble their names?

POLEDAR
REDE
EGIRT

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have external features that help them thrive in the different environments they inhabit.



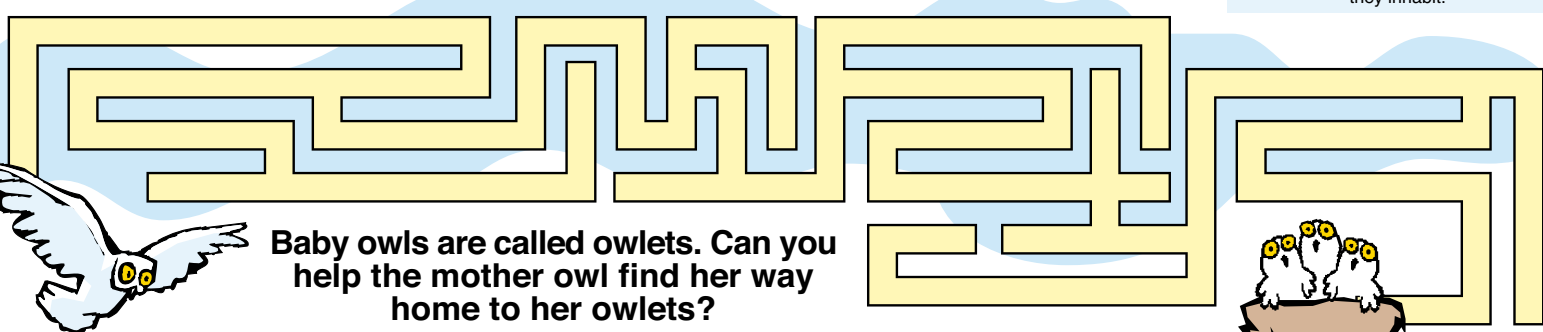
Fly like an owl.

Stretch your arms wide apart and swoop around outdoors.



Perch like an owl.

Squat down like you are sitting on a tree branch watching for mice on the ground. Fold your arms into wings with your thumbs in your armpits. How long can you stay in this position?



Baby owls are called owlets. Can you help the mother owl find her way home to her owlets?

Owl Eyes

All owls have excellent sight so that they can spot creatures like mice that run fast along the ground. Owls' eyes are not the same as human eyes.

We move our eyes in their sockets to see from side to side. The owl must turn his head to see in different directions. Owls also have a third eyelid, which protects the eye. It is a milky white eyelid that comes up from the bottom of the eye. Its purpose is to clean and refresh the owl's eyes. This third eyelid is called a *nictitating membrane*.

Standards Link: Life Science: Adaptations in physical structures improve an animal's chance for survival.



The Eyes Have It

The snowy owl has round, yellow eyes. Can you find the pairs of eyes that match?

Standard Links: Visual Discrimination; students compare and sort common objects.

Extra! Extra!

Count the Eyes

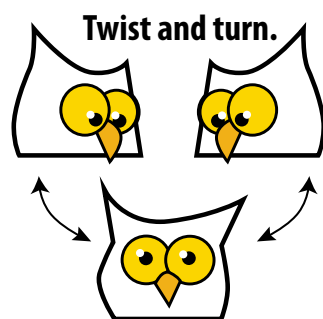
Look through the newspaper and count the number of eyes that you find. How many are human eyes? How many are the eyes of other animals?

Standards Link: Number Sense; count and name a number of objects.



Hop like an owl.

Start in the perch position. Then hop to the right, hop to the left, hop forward, hop backward.



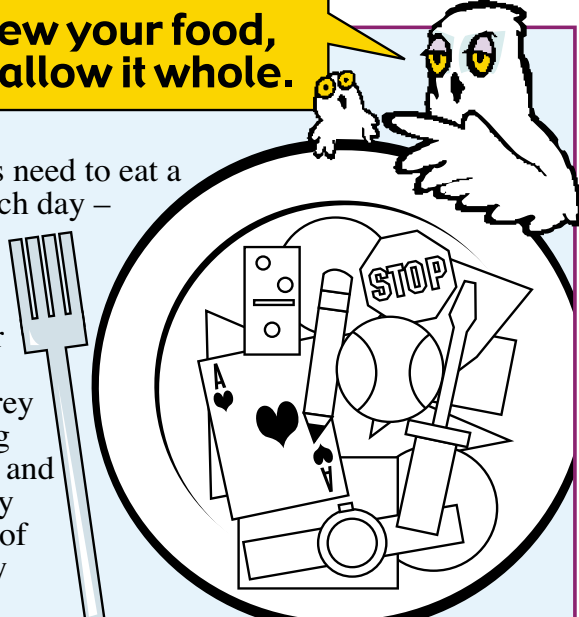
Twist and turn.

While sitting in the perched position, turn your head as far to the right as you can. Then turn your head as far left as possible.

Standards Link: Physical Education: Understand the health benefits of physical activity and exercise.

Don't chew your food, dear. Swallow it whole.

The snowy owls need to eat a huge amount each day – enough to equal their own body weight. They don't chew their food – they just swallow their prey whole, including fur, claws, teeth and bones. Then they spit out a pellet of all the parts they can't digest.



What silly things can you find on this owl's dinner plate?

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals need food for survival and have physical structures to help them survive.

Double Double Word Search

SNOWY
OWL
WINGSPAN
MEMBRANE
DIGEST
BONES
COUNT
TUNDRA
SPOT
SIGHT
CHEW
PREY
BLEND
GHOST
PLUMAGE

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

Y L O W G P S A B P
M E M T O W R O D M
E T H G I S N E L E
G T O B L E N D Y M
A N A P S G N I W B
M U P O S B L G O R
U O C H E W R E N A
L C T S O H G S S N
P C A R D N U T W E

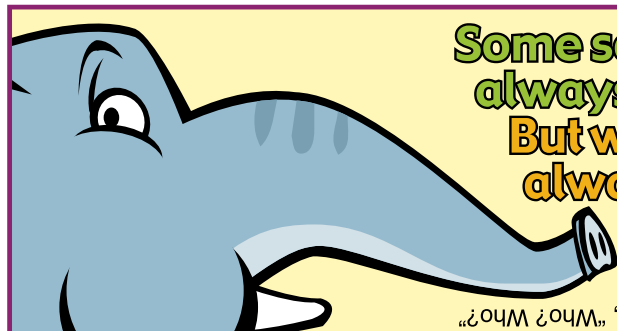
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

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Create Camouflage

Choose a picture in the newspaper. Cut out a circle of white paper that fits over one-third of the picture. Color the white circle to match the picture underneath. This is camouflage.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple multiple-step directions.



Some say an elephant always remembers. But which animal always forgets?

ANSWER: The owl. It keeps saying, "Who? Who?"

Write On!

Bird Report

Write a paragraph reporting on your favorite bird. Include at least three facts about this bird.

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Romo not ruled out

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Tony Romo lined up to play against Washington, he barely made it to the spot where he had to hand off.

The obvious limp was gone by the time the Dallas quarterback moved forward in the pocket and threw a fourth-down touchdown pass to DeMarco Murray that gave Dallas a season-saving 24-23 win over the Redskins.

The severity of his back injury is likely to last all week as the Cowboys prepare for their third straight season finale for the NFC East title and a playoff berth, this time against Philadelphia on Sunday night.

Responding to reports that Romo wouldn't play against the Eagles, coach Jason Garrett said "not made that determination at all at this point."

Garrett wouldn't reveal the results of an MRI for the 33-year-old Romo, who had back surgery to remove a cyst in April and missed offseason workouts.

"Obviously he was able to play through it and played very well at the end of that ballgame," Garrett said. "He's getting treatment. The MRI was part of the evaluation and there's going to be a series of different things that we do for his treatment over the next few days and see how he responds to it."

Romo came up limping after tripping over his foot while escaping pressure during the possession before the winning drive. He doubled over in apparent pain but didn't leave the game, eventually throwing for 140 of his 226 yards passing in the fourth quarter.

"I saw him limping around after that first couple of plays after, but I didn't realize he was that injured," said tight end Jason

Witten, who played in the 2012 season opener 23 days after rupturing his spleen in a preseason game. "Obviously it's a testament to how he plays and what kind of competitor he is."

Garrett said the Cowboys were working to add a third quarter-

losing the past two winner-take-all finales, against the New York Giants two years ago and the Redskins in 2012.

He lost to Philadelphia in the same scenario five years ago.

Beyond the incentive to end Dallas' three-year playoff drought, Romo has a history of playing through injuries. He didn't miss a game in 2011 after breaking his ribs early in the season against San Francisco.

"Obviously Tony is a big part of everything we try to do as a football team and obviously as an offense," Witten said. "He's been pretty resilient and I know he'll do everything he can to get back, but just like any position, that one is probably a little bit tougher."

If Romo can't play, the Cowboys might be without their offensive and defensive leaders.

Sean Lee was hopeful last week he would return against the Eagles after missing two games with a sprained neck, but Garrett said Monday the linebacker's outlook hadn't changed.

Cornerback Morris Claiborne might be available.

The top 10 pick from 2012 has missed six of the past seven games with hamstring issues, and his recovery was set back when he had to leave the team after the death of his father and the birth of his child.

"We just had a sense of urgency about ourselves," defensive tackle Jason Hatcher said of beating Washington. "We just played with a lot of new guys back there and we knew what was at stake. We had to win this one, and we scratched and clawed."

Now the Cowboys might have to win without the biggest name of all.



Tony Romo

back behind backup Kyle Orton, who hasn't started a game since 2011, the year he was replaced by Tim Tebow in Denver.

Orton, who wasn't in the Cowboys' locker room when it was open to reporters Monday, started the last three games for Kansas City that season after the Chiefs picked him up on waivers. He's been with Dallas the past two years.

"We have Kyle Orton here for a reason," Garrett said. "Kyle knows what he has to do to be ready. Kyle prepares like he's the starting quarterback each and every week."

Romo figures to do everything he can to take the first snap against the Eagles because he'd like to change the ending after

Nowitzki leads Mavs over Rockets

HOUSTON (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki scoffed at the notion that he's playing as well now as he did when he led the Dallas Mavericks to a title in 2011.

He will, however, concede that at age 35 he's having a pretty good season.

Nowitzki scored 31 points, including 10 in the fourth quarter, to lead the Mavericks to a 111-104 win over the Houston Rockets on Monday night.

He joked that his big night was simply luck before getting serious and discussing the work he puts in off the court.

"Hopefully I can light it up a couple of more years and then slowly fade away," he said, breaking into a huge smile.

Dallas coach Rick Carlisle isn't surprised at what Nowitzki, who is averaging 21.5 points a game, is doing for his team this season.

"He's the great Dirk Nowitzki," Carlisle said. "He's one of the great players in the history of the game."

Nowitzki missed the first 27 games of last season after knee surgery and the Mavericks missed the playoffs for

the first time since the 1999-2000 season. He feels like his game is good now and his injury is behind him, but he wants to do more.

Houston cut the lead to six after a 3-pointer by Aaron Brooks with about 3 1/2 minutes left, but Nowitzki knocked down consecutive bas-

ket shots to push the Mavericks lead to 107-97.

Dwight Howard had 29 points and 15 rebounds for the Rockets, who were playing their second straight game without leading scorer James Harden, who was out with a sprained left ankle.

Dallas started the final period by using a 9-4 run powered by three 3-pointers, including two from former Howard Hawk Jae Crowder, to push the lead to 95-82.

Jeremy Lin, who has been out since Dec. 13 because of back spasms,

"The driving the ball is what's missing a little now," he said. "I do a lot of one or two dribble and then up, but I want to get back to driving some more to the basket and get to the foul line. I don't think I'm in '11 shape, but compared to the last two years I feel a lot better. The right knee is great and I feel better."

Nowitzki's performance on Monday night gave him 25,629 career points, which moved him past Alex English for 13th place in scoring in NBA history.

Nowitzki's performance on Monday night gave him 25,629 career points, which moved him past Alex English for 13th place in scoring in NBA history.

Nowitzki's performance on Monday night gave him 25,629 career points, which moved him past Alex English for 13th place in scoring in NBA history.



Texans have one more chance to end skid at Titans

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans have one last chance to end their skid and avoid tying the worst record in franchise history when they travel to Tennessee for the season finale Sunday.

Houston's fans might be hoping for a season-ending 14-game slide, since another loss would clinch the No. 1 overall pick in April's draft.

"It's something you don't want to have happen, but who knows," Andre Johnson said of the possibility of losing again. "We'll see what happens Sunday. We're going to go out there and try to win, and hopefully we don't have to go into the offseason with a losing streak."

The already banged-up Texans will be in even worse shape against the Titans because of several new injuries.

Top cornerback Johnathan Joseph is out with a torn ligament in his right leg and last week's starting running back Dennis Johnson is questionable with a hip injury. Deji Karim, his backup in the last game, is also out after breaking his collarbone Sunday.

That means the Texans are likely to have to start Jonathan Grimes, whom they signed off the street on Wednesday, at running back against Tennessee.

Grimes will be the fifth different running back Houston has started this season.

The Texans lost star Arian Foster for the season after back surgery in November and backup Ben Tate was placed on the injured reserve with a rib injury last week.

Interim coach Wade Phillips said they would also sign at least one running back this week because of the injuries.

There's also uncertainty at quarterback with Phillips saying Monday that he isn't sure if Case Keenum will return this week after sitting out against the Broncos with a thumb injury.

"We will practice tomorrow and we will see where Case is," Phillips said. "He's been rehabbing and been in a splint for a whole week, so we'll see how he is."

Matt Schaub, who was benched in favor of Keenum after six games, started against the Broncos and threw two interceptions and one touchdown. Phillips wouldn't commit to Schaub starting again this week if Keenum isn't healthy. Houston's other quarterback is T.J. Yates.

"We're going to look at all of that and see what the situation is for sure as far as injuries are concerned," Phillips said when asked if Schaub would start.

Schaub, who has started for Houston since 2007, hopes to get another shot against the Titans after his tough game against Denver.

"We still have work to do," Schaub said. "We want to finish this thing off right. As a group, we have got to find a way to get this negative taste out of our mouths, that we have been a part of for the past few months. We have to find a way to work through that as a team."

The 37-13 loss to Denver was the second game with Phillips in charge since Gary Kubiak was fired. Phillips also coached one game in place of Kubiak earlier this season after he had a mini-stroke.

Houston trailed by just three points entering the fourth quarter on Sunday before Peyton Manning threw three touchdown passes to lead Denver to the win.

Parker's 26 helps Spurs past Raptors

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Unable to comfortably separate from the young Toronto Raptors, the San Antonio Spurs turned to a proven finishing formula - Tony Parker driving for layups when he wasn't kicking the ball to open teammates on the perimeter.

Parker had 26 points and eight assists and San Antonio beat Toronto 112-99 Monday night.

"We won that game because of Tony Parker's aggressiveness," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "His juice; his aggression all night long. And we made some 3s in the fourth quarter. Those are the two reasons we won the game."

Parker had eight points and three assists in the final quarter, committing just one turnover in 9 minutes.

"A win is a win," Parker said. "They've been playing well, the Raptors. They had a big win in (Oklahoma City) and they made it hard on us."

Coming off a 104-98 victory over the Thunder on Sunday, the Raptors got within three or less on numerous occasions in the second half, but couldn't complete the rallies against the Spurs.

"It was a superior team, I think, first of all," Toronto coach Dwane Casey said. "You talk about one of the top teams in the West. Talking to the Oklahoma City coach, they feel the same way about how tough San Antonio is."

Toronto trailed 57-56 after DeMar DeRozan's 3 with 9:22 left in the third quarter, but Parker and Tim Duncan combined for eight points to rebuilding San Antonio's lead to 67-59.

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INGRAM CONCRETE, a growing concrete manufacturing company, is currently seeking **CDL MIXER DRIVERS** for our Big Spring Concrete Plant. These are full-time and permanent positions. New pay rates and compensation based on driving experience. Paid weekly. Home daily and week-ends. Guaranteed hours. No waiting period on medical insurance. Full benefits. Please apply at 605 North Benton in Big Spring or call 432-264-0125 for more information. EOE M/F/D/V

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EMPLOYER PAID INSURANCE RETIREMENT PLAN PAY FLEX OPTIONS COME WORK AT BSSH TODAY!!! RNs - All Shifts
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Earn up to \$4838.99 per month (DOE)

LVNs - DAY & EVENING
Shifts
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Starting salary \$1877.42 per month

Contact our Job Center for Job Descriptions or to Arrange a Campus Tour
432-268-7341 or 432-268-7298
Or
Complete an application online at https://jobshportal.cpa.texas.gov/ENG/careerportal/ Contact Paula Shelburne at 432-268-7464

Once you have completed your application
Big Spring State Hospital
1901 North Highway 87
Big Spring, TX 79720

GARTMAN AC & PLUMBING
Needs- Plumbing Experience Hand, Licensed Journey Plumber and AC Duct Installer. Apply in person, 3206 E. FM 700 or call 432-263-1902.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE:
Must have a desire to work in a team environment and the ability to follow directions. Must have at least 1 yr maintenance experience. Abilities to include: painting experience; general plumbing, general sheetrock repair and texture and HVAC skills. Must have own tools, ability to take afterhours and weekend calls; valid TX drivers license and liability insurance. Apply in person at Bent Tree Apartments, 1 Courtney Place. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE...

HIRING EXPERIENCED gang pushers. Must have valid Texas driver's license. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX.

Help Wanted

Great Horn Carriers, Inc.
Tanker Driver Needed
REQUIRES:
Class A CDL with Haz-Mat
2 years Tanker/ Fuel Preferred
Local Hauling, No Nights.
Good Pay with Benefits
\$500.00 Sign-On Bonus.
FMI:
(432)683-2868, (432)288-3761

HIRING EXPERIENCED dozer operators for oilfield dirt work/construction. 2 yrs. experienced preferred. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX, or call 432-394-4604 for more information.

HIRING EXPERIENCED oilfield laborers in Big Spring area. Pay based on experience. Guaranteed hours M-F. Serious inquires only. Call 806-544-4165.

HIRING LOCAL CDL drivers. 1-2 yrs. experience preferred, with clean driving record. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX, or call 432-394-4604 for more information.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for Laundry attendant. Work 14 days- 7 days off. Must have own car. Good people skills a must. Apply 1208 Gregg Street.

J. Williams Management, Inc. is busy! Move up the ladder & join the highest esteemed janitorial mgmt/residential cleaning team in WTexas.*No experience needed *\$12/hr starting pay *Guaranteed annual advancement. JWM Team Leaders are punctual, trustworthy, & work hard to enjoy rapid advancement w/flexible hours. Seize the day. 432-699-2090.

JOB OPENING Part-time position for Wellness Trainer. Work schedule Mon/Tues/Thurs: 5 am - 8 am. Wed & Fri: 10 am - 1 pm. Successful applicants will be fit to attend a 30-day training program at Dor Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. 3rd Street, Big Spring, TX or email resume to pphillips@dorarobertsrehab.com or fax resume to 432-267-3809.

LAQUINTA INN & SUITES--
Now Hiring for all Positions. Must be able to work week-ends. Apply at 1102 West I-20. No phone calls please.

LOOKING FOR Experienced Vacuum Truck Driver. Must pass drug test. Must be able to travel to Tarzan. For further details please call 432-556-5806.

Need **CASHIER** plus **STOCKER**. Top Pay. Apply at Fast Stop, 1500 E. 4th St.

NEED TRANSPORT/BOBTAIL
Driver for fuel deliveries. Starting Salary \$22.00 per hr., all full medical benefits paid, retirement plan, vacation and sick leave. Must have CDL, hazmat & good driving record. Come by 1st & Johnson, Park Fuels/ Chevron, Big Spring. (432)263-0033.

Help Wanted

NEEDING LODGE Monitor part-time, Lodge Manager full-time, Thrift store manager, Thrift store clerk, Thrift store truck driver and Boys & Girls front desk clerk part-time, program aide part-time and program coordinator part-time. Must be 18 yrs. old. For further information contact Salvation Army at 811 West 5th or call 432-267-8239.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE
Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.



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*Great part-time & full-time shifts
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*Got experience delivering?
CSRs:
*Great part-time & full-time shifts
*Starting wage of \$8.25 an hour
*Bright & Friendly people only!

Shift Leaders:
*Great part-time & full-time shifts
*Starting wage of \$10.00 an hour
*Flexible Schedules
Apply at Domino's Pizza
2111 S. Gregg St.
or send resume:
dominos@clearwire.net
Senior citizens & veterans encouraged to apply. EOE

ON SITE Manager needed for Cabins and RV Facility in Big Spring. Must have Management & Own RV and some computer skills. Send resume and references to curtis@curtissells.com

PARKPLACE RETIREMENT
Living is seeking an organized person for the position of Cook/Chef in a family friendly environment. Must be able to follow recipes and cook home style meals with a smile. This position is shift work and week ends required. Competitive Pay based on experience. Apply in person at 501 W. 17th Street.

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehabilitation is now hiring for the following positions:
*Nurse Aides, both certified and non-certified.
*Laundry/Housekeeping
We are seeking individuals that want a rewarding career, where you actually make a difference. You may apply on line at www.parkviewnursing.net or in person at 3200 Parkway.

PART-TIME CUSTODIAN
needed for busy Christian Preschool. 20 hours weekly. Apply at 118 Cedar Rd.

PIZZA INN
NOW HIRING DELIVERY DRIVERS. MUST HAVE CLEAN DRIVING RECORD AND INSURANCE. MUST BE ABLE TO PASS DRUG TEST. MAKE UP TO \$12.00 PER HOUR. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

Help Wanted

PART-TIME MAINT TECH
needed for
Property in Big Spring.
Applicant must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. Ability to work independently with minimal supervision. Hourly, Flex Schedule.
Apply at Knollwood Heights
1900 Martin Luther King Blvd.

PIZZA INN
NOW HIRING COOKS. MUST BE AVAILABLE DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

PIZZA INN
NOW HIRING WAIT STAFF. MUST HAVE SUPER STAR PERSONALITY AND GREAT WORK ETHICS. MUST BE AVAILABLE TO WORK DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service In Stanton has immediate openings for Mechanic, CDL Driver, Roustabout Pushers and Helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W 120 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

SEEKING EXPERIENCED
CNA's/Home Health Aide's to work for private duty clients. Must Pass Drug Test and Background Check. Please call 1-800-201-5904 Mon-Thu 8-5 and Fri 8-12.

THE CITY of Coahoma seeks a qualified individual to help with utility billing, customer service, sales and records keeping for cemetery. Computer skills including word and quickbooks preferred. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or GED. Salary is commensurate with experience. Please send resume to cityofcoahoma@suddenlinkmail.com or pick up application at 122 N. 1st in Coahoma. Contact Coahoma City Hall @ 432-394-4287 if you have any questions.

TOP NOTCH Landscaping is Hiring for all positions. Experience preferred. Call (432)741-2330, Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

WAREHOUSE MANAGER
Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for a Warehouse Manager in our Big Spring office. This position requires a high school diploma, two years warehouse experience helpful but not necessary, supervisory and agricultural experience preferred. Responsibilities include warehouse operational procedures, inspecting physical condition of warehouse, equipment, and vehicles, maintenance of inventory and ensure all drivers conform to D.O.T. regulations. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For Consideration, please apply in person at Helena Chemical Company 100 S. St. Peter Stanton, Tx 79782 Pre-employment drug screen and motor vehicle check required. EOE/M/F/V/H

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY
Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are background check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 19 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

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WELL SERVICING in Big Springs, Tx- Now hiring for Standard Energy Services.
* Well Service Manager- experience required * Rig Crews- Operators, Derricks and Floor hands- experience required. Call Wesley at 432-209-5904 or the Andrews office at 432-523-2110 for more information. EEO

WESTERN BANK is seeking a self-motivated individual to join our team as a **Full Time Customer Service Representative** in our Big Spring Branch. Interested individuals should be proficient in Word and Excel, customer service driven as well as detail oriented. Prior experience is preferred, but not required. Benefits include health insurance, matching 401K, and Life and Disability. Please email resume to HR@thebank.net or pick up an application 607 S. Scurry in Big Spring. Western Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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1104 LLOYD- 2 Bdrm, 2 bath. Stove. No Pets. Non-smoker. No Hud. 1Year lease, Reference required. \$700./month, \$700./deposit. Call 432-816-4485.

1303 STANFORD, 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, CH/A, no pets. \$750.00 month, \$750.00 deposit. Call (432)816-5570 for application.

1700 SCURRY Commercial/ Residential- 3 bdrm, 2 bath, great parking, very clean. \$2000 month, \$2000 deposit. Call (432)213-2319.

2 HOUSES- Both are 2bdrm/1b, Fully furnishes, appliances, washer & dryer included. \$1000 month, \$1000 deposit. Serious inquires only pick-up application 1300 E. 4th or call (432)268-8733.

2200 SOUTH MONTICELLO, 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, CH/A, no pets \$650. month, \$650. deposit. Call (432)816-5570 for application.

4104 MUIR. 2 bdr./ 2 bath, two living area's, CH/A. References required. \$1000 mo./ \$900 dep. Prefer Non-Smoker. No HUD. No Pets. Call 432-270-3849.

4111 DIXON- Newly remodeled- 3 bdrm, 2 bath, garage, CH/A, fenced yard. No pets in living area. \$1050.00 monthly plus deposit. One year lease required. Owner/Broker (432)263-6514.

706 GOLIAD- 2 bdr, 1 bath, CH/A. Fenced yard. Very Nice. Remodeled. \$750 month, \$400 deposit. Call (432)270-5543 or 270-3543.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury Enters Capricorn
Mercury will slip into Capricorn under the watchful eye of the Virgo moon. Under these stars, perfection is not impossible — it happens — but it's fleeting and not worth chasing down once the moment is gone. Go for "beautiful" instead. "Beautiful" has flaws, even glaring ones, all to be adored and embraced as essential elements of beauty.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When you think of an event as large and important, you show up looking as



HOLIDAY MATHIS

you want to be seen. It's the non-events that show you exactly as you are, and that's the way they love you most.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). As the sign of the bull, you know that those who take life by the horns put themselves in a dangerous position. You respond best to those who lead with enticements instead of trying to use force.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're certain, confident and unlikely to make mistakes. What you do, you do with purpose. Your first order of business is to make someone very, very happy.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Anyone who is as good of a listener as you are is bound to get mixed messages from time to time. You'll unify information into one crystal-clear intention that's best for all involved.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Don't worry about coming up with some positive thoughts and ideas to guide you into an enhanced experience. Getting the old ideas out is the real challenge. Once you do that, new ideas come rushing in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The day may feel like a train ride — it's going 50 mph, and when it stops, you'll be at your destination. As for the ride itself, it feels very similar to the experience of sitting still.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Avoid over-thinking

the many details involved now, as this only will serve to diminish your enjoyment. To stay merry, focus on the bigger picture, continuing to think in terms of what you've done and can do for others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll see your opportunity and know at a deep and basic level that you have to go for it. You have a healthy respect for the dangers involved, but that won't keep you from taking a risk.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The person you think of as a friend or relation thinks of you as competition. You can still have a healthy relationship, but first you may have to make it clear that you're not interested in the game.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Before you declare something damaged beyond repair, try again to make it right. Start by assuming it's not broken to begin with and that it just needs to be put together the right way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Loved ones need your wisdom. Tell them that being aware of a problem is the first step toward making it better, but not if they're just going to complain about it. Urge them to work together.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It may seem that your goals are slipping away, but this is just a matter of perspective. Have faith that all is on track and inching slowly forward. You'll notice the progress days from now.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 24). Your stellar work ethic allows you to enjoy comforts you've long wanted to experience. A special person makes you see things differently and could inspire you to move, redecorate or shift your professional focus. Accomplishments of your family will reflect favorably on you. March and August are best for travel. Cancer and Aries people adore you. Your

lucky numbers are: 11, 28, 30, 4 and 13.

HOLIDAY STRESS RELIEVERS: So many feel spent and blue in December. What can you do to counteract holiday stress?

PISCES: Pisces is the sign of the healing touch. This evolved spirit has ways of making people feel better, though the actual methods are mysterious even to the Pisces delivering health, comfort and relief. The intuitive knowledge that Pisces possesses doesn't have a logical language. Pisces can speak the language of love. Under favorable circumstances, Pisces naturally exudes this healing energy. But when Pisces is feeling stressed, who relieves the fish's tension?

The answer is never too distant or difficult. Pisces will easily find the right relief once this sign recognizes a need for it. Focused on the feelings and moods of others, Pisces has a difficult time tuning in to his or her own requirements. The first step in de-stressing is to decide that it's important. The second step is to reach out and touch someone. Touch in the form of a hug, handholding, cuddling, massage therapy and more will relieve anxiety, reduce irritability and promote a feeling of calm well-being.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Radio star, television personality and producer extraordinaire Ryan Seacrest is arguably the busiest man in Hollywood. This hardworking Capricorn was born when the sun, Mercury and Venus were all in Capricorn, the sign of public standing and business savvy. A tenacious Taurus moon ruled the day on which he was born. His Jupiter in Pisces indicates great empathy and compassion.

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