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SUNDAY
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The path forward

What Big Spring schools are doing to ensure district wide academic success

BY LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer
 Officials with the Big Spring Independent School District have implemented a number of different strategies this

Parent/Community night set Monday
See story, Page 5A

year to help lift the district out of its low-performing academic status with the Texas Education Agency. The path forward will be a lengthy journey, officials

See **BSISD**, Page 5A



HERALD photo/Andreia Medlin

Getting ready to go to the show is Henry the Beagle who reluctantly submits to a bath, given by his handler Brook Ayala of Fort Worth, in preparation for the 44th annual Big Spring Kennel Club Dog Show Saturday. The show continues Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. This is the last year the dog show will be held in Big Spring having been relocated to Midland to be held in conjunction with that city's show.

Turnaround taking off at Alon Refinery

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

All systems are go for the most extensive renovation project in years at Alon's Big Spring Refinery. After a three-month delay, the refinery is set to begin its multimillion dollar turnaround, which will result in just about every major operating system at the facility receiving an upgrade.



Borman

"Turnaround is an industry phrase which describes a pro-

cess where we basically shut down operations, clean everything up, find everything that needs to be fixed, fix it, then go through the process of bringing everything back on line," said Jeff Borman, Alon vice president for refining. Some portions of the refinery have already started the turnaround process, but the major renovation was supposed to begin in February. Borman said at the time that refinery officials "wanted a bit more time for planning and to ensure all the

See **REFINERY**, Page 3A

TxDOT ready to begin work on U.S. 87 project

Herald Staff Report

The Texas Department of Transportation is set to begin work on the U.S. 87 Relief Route Project on Monday. Contractors Delhur Industries Inc. of Andrews, Texas, will begin a project to widen the north frontage road between mile markers 171-174 on I-20 in Big Spring. The north frontage road will be closed during the widening project. When complete,

traffic will be moved to the frontage road and I-20 will be closed in this area to allow work to begin on a 2-span bridge with retaining walls across I-20 as the first phase of the US 87 Relief Route project. This \$18.4 million project will take approximately 18 months to complete. During construction, drivers are urged to use extreme caution and remain alert to workers and construction equipment when driving through the area.

Sentence affirmed for convicted sex offender

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

A Big Spring man serving 35 years in prison for aggravated sexual assault of a child and indecency with a child had those sentences affirmed by the 11th District Court of Appeals. The court, based in Eastland, unanimously denied appeals filed by attorneys for Ernesto Dutchover Garcia, 63, who was convicted in 118th District Court on March 1, 2012. During the trial, the jury

convicted Garcia of two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child, for which he received prison terms of 20 and 15 years, respectively, and indecency with a child/sexual contact, for which he was sentenced to five years in prison. Garcia District Judge Tim Yeats ordered the sentences to be served

See **CONVICT**, Page 3

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Funtastic Fourth promises to be bigger, better

Herald Staff Report

When the 14th Funtastic Fourth breaks out in downtown Big Spring this June 27 and 28, organizers believe it will be the most enjoyable so far. With added musical groups, vendors and children's activities, it would seem they are

probably right. "It's going to be the biggest and best Funtastic Fourth Big Spring has ever had," said Allan Johnson, Downtown Revitalization Association board member. The DRA hosts the annual event, with sponsorship from Alon USA. "This year, a climbing wall, mechanical bull and zip line will be added for the kids,"

Johnson said. The festival, held in the Heart of the City Park at Second and Main, will from from 6 p.m. to midnight on Friday, June 27 and from 10 a.m. to midnight on Saturday, the 28th. Highlights for Friday will include a 7-Eleven Hot Dog Eating Contest followed by A.C. & the Heaters and Reck-

less Kelly, an Austin-based Americana/Texas Country band. After a morning gospel concert featuring the Andersons, Saturday's musical groups will include Brandon Ray, Jody Nix and the Texas

See **FOURTH**, Page 3A

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706 W. 14TH ST.
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 This home features a fabulous great room with vaulted and beamed ceilings. Nice kitchen with tiled countertops and breakfast bar. New interior paint throughout, new flooring in bedrooms and dining areas. New filtration system for pool in 2013. You will not find a more move in ready home unless you build it yourself!!!

Obituaries

Larry Zane Shaw



Larry Zane Shaw, 86, of Knott, Texas passed away peacefully May 2, 2014, in Oklahoma City, Okla., where he had lived for the past year with family. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

He was born in Knott June 19, 1927, to the late Summer and Angeline Shaw. Larry graduated from Garner High School in 1944. He joined the U.S. Marine Corp in 1945 and joked throughout his life that as soon as Japan heard he had joined the U.S. military, they surrendered. He took great pride in his service and that his grandson Chris Lepard also served in the Marine Corp. After the war he returned to Knott and entered the first ever class of students at Howard College in Big Spring. He was proud to participate in Howard College's 50th year commencement with other students from the class of 1946-47.

Larry met Bertie Faye Hinson of Ackerly, Texas, in 1947 and they were married in June of 1948. They were married for 56 years before Bertie died in 2004. On their 50th wedding anniversary dad wrote to her: "...when one sees the beautiful pictures of you Bertie they can see why I was so attracted to you when I met you in 1947. I wasn't interested in anyone else after this, as I wanted you to be my wife and the mother of my children, so we were married in 1948, now after 50 years I still love you." Bertie adored Larry as well and understood him like no other. It was clear to those who knew them best that they were still hopelessly in love with one another their entire lives together.

Larry, with Bertie's support as well as their children, built a significant and often awarded farming business in the Knott Community where they were active in the First Baptist Church, community, school and local politics. Larry was president of the Sands School District school board and instilled an interest in politics with many in his family that remains today. His farming operation, along with his employees were recognized by the Fort Worth Star Telegram as cotton farm of the year in Texas in the height of his career. Larry received farmer of the year numerous times from several organizations and his farms were featured in the national Cotton Farming magazine as well as the prestigious National Geographic

magazine.

Larry's love of politics was passed on to many of his relatives. Politics became a family wide interest under Larry's encouragement. His son, Larry Don Shaw, was elected as a representative and served in the Texas House of Representatives for many years. Working in his son's campaigns and watching his success as a legislator was a great source of pride and one of the highlights of his life. Larry attended the Democratic National Convention in New York with younger brother Delano Shaw. He inspired numerous family members to run for public office including his younger brother Roosevelt Shaw as well as his grandson Shawn Lepard. Larry's message was that it was important to participate in the political process to try and make the world a better place.

Larry is survived by his daughter, Linda Johnson of Oklahoma City. Linda was his buddy and steadfast caretaker throughout his life and especially during the past years when his health declined. She was his rock along with her husband Eric Johnson who always had Larry's back when he was unable to do the things he once handled with ease...all while allowing Larry to keep a sense of pride and control in his life. Larry was most grateful for Linda and Eric's support and knew it gave him years of independence.

Larry is also survived by his son Larry Don Shaw of Austin and numerous loved ones. Grandsons: Shawn Lepard and wife Jennifer; Chris Lepard and wife Sally; granddaughters: Brooke Schuelke and husband Clint; Brittany McGough and husband Chase and Aubrey Meyers and husband Knate. He is survived by six great-grandchildren. He is also survived by sisters: Nelda Tobias and husband Dick; Joann Peugh and brothers: Roosevelt Shaw and wife Patsy; Franklin Shaw and wife Starlee; Ronald Shaw and wife Jennie. He also had numerous nieces and nephews.

Larry was an especially positive and fun loving spirit. From practical jokes, fireworks and wonderful old sayings he was sure to put a smile on someone's face each day of his life. He often quoted the great Will Rogers saying..."I never met a man I didn't like." You couldn't be around Larry for long before being told upon good byes to "watch for snakes" instead of being told to be careful. He was dearly loved and will be missed by many far and wide. The world was a better place when he was around. Until we meet again dear Larry...."Watch for snakes!"

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

Paid obituary

Clara Ranin Szabo

Clara Ranin Szabo, 74, of Big Spring, died Thursday, May 1, 2014, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, May 05, 2014, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Clara was born Sept. 10, 1939, in Carigara, Leyte, Philippines and married Emil Szabo June 21, 1966, in Angles City, Philippines. He preceded her in death, Dec. 9, 2002.

Clara's husband was stationed in the Philippines. They were trans-

ferred to Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock and then to Webb Air Force Base in Big Spring in 1971. She worked for the American Red Cross and then for the Big Spring State Hospital.

She is survived by one daughter, Anna Guzman and husband, Robert of Big Spring; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents, Leoncio and Esperanza Ranin Pacana; one son, Leoncio Pacana Jr.; and one daughter, Maria Szabo.

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

Lynn Porter Calvert

Lynn Porter Calvert of Goliad, was born July 5, 1931, in Big Spring, Texas, to Athal and Bernice Porter.

She died, Thursday, May 1, 2014, in Victoria, Texas.

She earned a BA from Austin College and a ME from Texas Tech. Lynn taught math in Big Spring, Roswell, N.M., Cedar Rapids, Iowa and was high school counselor in Big Spring.

She worked for Shell Oil Co. in Roswell.

Lynn was preceded by her parents and one brother.

She is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Joyce Ashley and Joseph

Villarreal, and one grandson.

Lynn was a lifelong Presbyterian and served 25 years as an elder at Goliad Presbyterian Church.

She retired to a home in Lakewood in Victoria.

Graveside Services will be held at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Big Spring at 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 6, 2014.

A Memorial Service will be held at Goliad Presbyterian Church, 106 N. Market, Goliad, Texas, 77963, phone 361-645-3340.

Arrangements by Goliad Funeral Home, P.O. Box 28, Goliad, Texas 77963.

Hulen McKinney

Hulen McKinney, 86, of Bellevue, Wash., died Thursday, May 1, 2014. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

Leopoldo "Leo" Salazar

Leopoldo "Leo" Salazar, 77, of Big Spring died Friday May 2, 2014, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

• DENNY RAY WANNER, 38, of 617 Caylor, was arrested Friday on warrants for criminal mischief - impair/interrupt/divert public water - two counts.

• MARCUS EMORY STURGILL, 25, of 1216 E. 15th St., was arrested Friday on a charge of assault family/household member and intentionally/recklessly impeding normal breathing or circulation.

• ASHLEY MICHELLE PEARSON, 23, of 621 Caylor, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• RHETT D. DEDMON, 42, of 1006 E. 12th St., was arrested Friday on a warrant for contempt

of court disobedience of court order.

• MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the 1800 block of FM 700.

• THEFT was reported at the 1000 block of S. Gregg and the 1400 block of Tucson.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported at the 2600 block of Langley and at the 800 block of W. 18th St.

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported at the 100 block of E. 17th St. and the 1900 block of Wasson.

• DISTURBANCE was reported at the 1700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20.

Support Groups

MONDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.

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

• Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) TX 0021 meets at First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad, in the dining hall on the east side of the building. Weigh-in starts at 2:50 p.m. and meeting starts at 3 p.m. We have a different program each week. For more information, please call 517-4922 or 935-6306.

• Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group, meets at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship. For further

information, contact Dale at 432-270-8462.

• Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at

Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the back of the church.

• Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Baptist Temple Church Fellowship Hall, 400 E. 11th Place. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

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The Allegro Chorale
Dr. Cory Alexander, Conductor

Monday, May 5
First Presbyterian
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7:30 PM
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TUESDAY

• Noon - The Just For Today Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets in Room 3 at Spring Creek Fellowship, 501 Birdwell Lane.

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EARLY VOTING - APRIL 28TH-MAY 6TH
ELECTION DAY - MAY 10TH

Pol. Adv. Paid For By Raul J. Marquez, Ashley A. Marquez, Treasurer



Owners and handlers lead their entries around the ring at the 44th annual Big Spring Kennel Club Dog Show Saturday. Sunday's show — the club's final show in Big Spring, members say — will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Organizers say interest in the club has dwindled over the years and no one has stepped up to help.

HERALD photo/Andreia Medlin

Activities

Sunday

• Big Spring Kennel Club, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Dogs of all breeds will descend upon the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum for the annual Big Spring Kennel Club Dog Show. In a sad note, this will be the last show in Big Spring after 50 years.

Monday

• Chorale Performance, 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 701 Runnels The Allegro Chorale will perform in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church. The free concert will consist of music for chorus with organ accompaniment and music for the organ alone. Featured music include pieces composed by Handel, Buxtehude, Brahms, Haydn, Mozart and Fauré. The chorale is conducted by Dr. Cory Alexander, director of choral activities at UTPB. The featured organist is Steve Spain, organist at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Midland.

• BSISD Parent/Community Night, 5:30 p.m. high school library. The district will hold a community night to provide information on plans for the district to improve academic performance in the coming year.

Take Note

• Coahoma Scholars' Banquet, May 27, at the Settles Hotel. The banquet will honor Coahoma's top ten academic seniors, top ten academic juniors, scholar alumni award, scholar teacher award and community pride award. For those interested in sponsoring the banquet or for further information, call Amy Jacobs or Judy Dobbs at 432-394-5000, ext. 4.

• On Wednesday, May 7, during the evening service beginning at 7 p.m., Family Faith Center will observe its fifth annual Blessing of Nurses Hands. Parish Nurses and others who

provide health care will receive a blessing upon their hands for another year of service to mankind. Pastors Sam and Christina invite nurses and healers from the community at large to attend the ceremony in the sanctuary of Family Faith Center location; 810 East 11th Place, just south of Big Spring High School.

• A fund has been set up at BBVA Compas Bank to help Melinda Garcia with medical expenses while recovering from surgery. Account number is 673000597.

• A medical fund has been es-

tablished for Kathran O'Brien Grant, who is recovering from a recent accident. The account is set up at Western Bank No. 1012020. Contact Donnie Baker at 432-556-2186 for more information.

• A fund has been set up to help the Renteria family who lost their house from a fire. Donations can be made at State National Bank, Renteria Fire Fund, No. 9012478.

• The Big Spring Senior Center dance is open to all ages. No alcohol or smoking. Our parking lot is now well lit, and we are handicapped accessi-

ble. The cost is \$8 per person. April 4 Mike & Friend; April 11 Prowlers; April 18 Prowlers; April 25 Midnight Express.

• Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime. 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 info, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

REFINERY

Continued from Page 1A

materials we needed would be here on time ... That way, the process will be more efficient." Now, the refinery is ready for the major work to begin.

Broman said the major portion of the turnaround began Thursday,

with some units being shut down, but the work will really hit high gear over the course of the next 40 to 45 days.

At its peak, the process will be an around-the-clock operation involving more than 1,000 contractors on top of the refinery's normal workforce. Aside from unit renovations, the refinery has scheduled several capital projects

aimed at improving plant safety, Broman said.

This turnaround will be the most extensive at the refinery since 2008. Every major unit is expected to receive upgrades before the process is complete. Broman said refinery officials have targeted June 22 as the date for normal operations to resume.

"We'll start bringing

some units back on line the first week of June," he said. "And the rest of the units will be brought back online the following weeks."

While production will be understandably slashed at the refinery during the next several weeks, officials have taken steps to ensure product delivery to customers.

"What's we've done

is that we've built up inventory in our tanks, so we'll continue to be able sell our products," he said. "In addition, we'll be able to get product from racks in Odessa, Lubbock, Aledo and El Paso."

When the turnaround is complete, Alon will have a safer, more efficient refinery on its hands, he added.

"This gives us a

chance to clean everything, inspect it and replace any equipment we need to," he said. "This will improve our operations and make things more efficient."

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

CONVICT

Continued from Page 1A

consecutively, basically turning the jury verdicts into a 35-year sentence. Garcia must

serve at least half of his total sentence before becoming eligible for parole.

Garcia was indicted Nov. 18, 2010, on four counts of indecency with a child (second-

degree felony), three counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child (first-degree felony) and a charge of continuous sexual assault of a child (first-degree felony).

According to court

records, the alleged attacks go as far back as 2003, listing dates of offense as Dec. 31, 2003, Feb. 26, 2004, and the most recent being Aug. 29, 2010.

In his appeals, Garcia raised a total of 11 issues, claiming an "insufficiency of evidence" to support the convictions, but those issues were all overruled by

the appeals court, which announced its decision Wednesday.

Contact Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com

FOURTH

Continued from Page 1A

Cowboys, Mark McKinney and Aniya Simone.

"We will have a bigger stage and a better light show this year," said Christy Broman, DRA president.

Finally, there should be all sorts of food, drinks and crafts.

"Our vendor booths are filling up fast but we still have spaces," Broman remarked.

Food vendor spaces are \$250 plus \$50 for a health permit. Craft vendor spots are \$125 plus \$50 for insurance.

To reserve a space, call Seth at 512-669-3579, Korey at 713-397-8527 or Linda at 432-816-9381. Deadline to reserve booth space is May 14.

Spaces may be acquired after the deadline if room permits.

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The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG-13)
Digital Sun.: 12:15 7:00
Digital Sun.: 3:40 10:30

The Other Woman (PG-13)
Digital Sun.: 12:45 4:45 7:30 10:15

Rio 2 (G)
Digital Sun.: 12:30 6:45

Heaven is for Real (PG)
Digital Sun.: 1:00 4:30 7:15 9:45

Digital Sun.: 4:00 9:30

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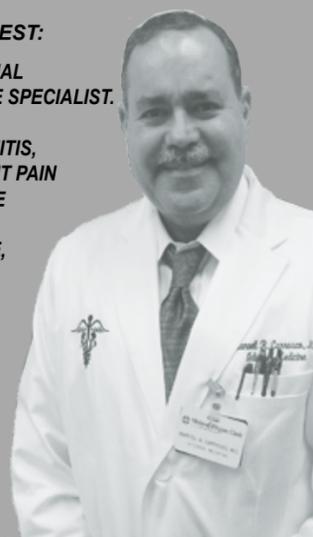
Leopoldo "Leo" Salazar, 77, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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- 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.

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- 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.

Amen

Backstage at audio presentations

I've been making speeches to various groups since 1973 when I made my first chamber of commerce speech in Dumas, Texas.

Of all the things I do to make a living (newspaper column, radio program, producing commercials and documentaries), I guess speaking is the most fun.

It is fantastic to look out at a room full of people and see them smiling and laughing. I love to see lots of teeth as I glance at a happy audience from the podium or stage.

All my speeches are about Texas humor and I've spoken in nearly a dozen states and four foreign countries.

It's not quite correct to call them speeches. They are more like audio presentations. I use the voices of some of the humorous people I've interviewed the past 45 years. In a 35-minute speech I'll use about 15 recorded voices of people telling stories or mentioning first person experiences. I do a 55-minute one-man show that is the same format as speeches, only longer, with more voices. Most of the time the audience doesn't know where the

other voices are coming from.

I'll introduce a segment, then another voice comes over the PA system. After a speech I've actually had people ask me if I do all the voices.

The recorded voices are coming from an Ipod my wife Susan is operating. Usually she sits near me at a speech or near the stage when I do my one-man show. She has just been operating the equipment a few years. I used to do it. I like it this way better.

When I first started speaking I used jokes. When I was asked to speak at a Petroleum Short Course at Texas Tech in the mid 70s, I knew oilmen would be in the audience so I got a bunch of my interviews with funny guys in the oil patch, edited them down and put together a program. It went over big. I went home and created a program of humorous Texans from all over the state. My first audience with this new show was my wife and two sons in our living room. They laughed all the way through it. I was encouraged and have used the voices ever since.

We have had some experiences. Once, the electricity went off at a chamber banquet in Van Horn. Someone brought in a generator. Another time, we made a speech on an outdoor

stage that had a street in front of it. The audience was in pickup tailgates and lawn chairs across the street. Occasionally a vehicle would pass in front of the stage and the driver would wave and shout greetings to his friends.

In Lubbock, I was giving a presentation to a historical group and they had come from a party with free flowing alcohol. I usually love a well-oiled audience, but this one was rowdy. Nobody was listening.

About 20 minutes into my speech, the organizer came up and asked me how much longer I was going to be on stage. I think if she had a hook she would have yanked me off.

My most recent speech was to the Texas Retired Teachers Association's annual convention in Dallas. I discovered the shirt I had chosen to wear for the speech had French cuffs but I had no cuff links with me. Susan whipped out the dental floss, threaded it through the cuff link openings and none of the 1,100 people in the audience knew anything about my customized cufflinks.

Tumbleweed Smith lives in Big Spring with his wife Susan. Contact him at 432 263-3813 or tumbleweedsmith.com



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

ADDRESSES

Reliever route

TO THE EDITOR:

I must echo the words of former county commissioner Bill Crooker in regards to the length of time it took for the Highway 87 reliever route to enter the reality stage. Sadly, there are a number of supporters of this project and boosters of Big Spring and Howard County who have passed on,

but thanks to their efforts and that of those still active, soil has been turned

It's been 13 years since I was at the Herald and we had been reporting on the route and making trips up Highway 87 to Lubbock to Coalition meetings long before then.

Hopefully, the reliever will work as all of the supporters

hoped and prayed and it will help Big Spring continue to grow and take advantage of its location at the "Crossroads of West Texas."

Sincerely,

JOHN H. WALKER
COVINGTON, LA.

Editor's Note: John (Walker is former editor and publisher of the

See **LETTERS**, Page 3

Peanut pushers on the rise

He would be proud indeed to know of expanded use of peanuts resulting from his research in the field almost a century ago. He'd likely shed tears, however, upon learning they're now linked to allergies, obliterated in fields by rampant wild hogs and plagued by nematodes that are up to no good.

I fully believe, though, that the late Dr. George Washington Carver — the only child to reach adulthood of a dozen born to a slave couple — would smile about advertising efforts in New York City's Times Square and by a newspaper guy in Dublin, Texas. Both give legumes their due.

In recent days, previously unknown statistical data about peanuts came along and were understandable. This seems unlikely, since my lifelong understanding of mathematics at all levels has been foggy. Pi squared had me going in circles, and formulaic encounters with statistics during doctoral study were near-death experiences.

Meaningful stats, I suppose, are in the minds of the beholder. Decades ago, when researchers compiled numbers that alcohol sales were up and freight loadings were down, the comparison was evident.

"More people are getting loaded than boxcars," I surmised.

At the recent meeting of members of the North and East Texas Press Association, Mac B. McKinnon, a 50-year-newspaper veteran who's been back in his hometown turning out the weekly Dublin Citizen for a couple of decades, was an attendee. He stands for "all things Dublin," and was handing out miniature PayDay candy bars. He bragged that every peanut in

every PayDay is roasted in Dublin. "I mean 100 percent of 'em," he yammered.

The stat lodged in my brain — "100 percent!" Almost nothing anymore is 100 percent anything.

A few hours after munching one of Mac's candy bars at the Tyler meeting, my wife and I were in New York City.

While I was perusing a small sign in the window of a Times Square watering hole (Patrons Who Are Drinking to Forget, Please Pay in Advance), my wife screamed, "Look!"

When she screams "look" — even in small letters and without an exclamation point — she has my attention. But, when she's pointing toward a huge electronic sign in one of the world's most exciting cities, it is undivided.

At first, I didn't understand. I beheld a simple message, heavy on color, pushing M&M'S.

Then, like sunrise, it dawned on me. In smaller type, it read, "Only one in every 100 peanuts is lucky enough to be an M&M peanut."

This kind of comparison I can understand. McKinnon bubbles about how inclusive Payday people are. In NYC, the message suggests how exclusive the M&M folks are. Or maybe it is a random thing, with every 100th peanut falling into a chocolate vat, destined to adorn a colorful shell, with the other 99 going straightway to peanut butter.

Enough about stats. They cause me to remember a ne'er-do-well who said, "When I work, I work hard. When I sit, I sit loose. And when I think, I fall asleep."

Our visits to NYC are rare. Each, though, offers intrigues, sometimes with historical perspectives.

An example is the Hotel Penn-



sylvania, in continuous operation since 1919 across the street from Madison Square Garden. With Statler Hotel operatives in the early decades, the hotel no doubt was once opulent. (Its rates, like NYC hostelry in general, have escalated since Statler hotels started with offers of "a room and a bath for a dollar and a half." Now they're roughly 150 times higher — and more — in the Big Apple.)

But, I digress. My greatest intrigue concerned the "valet doors," still in use for all 1,700-plus rooms, though not fully. They bulge, seeming to be a better "fit" for Fort Knox. Here's why: Each formerly had a "door within a door." Guests opened the inner door on their side to deposit their laundry. Maids extracted it from the hallway side, returning hours later to hang the washed and ironed garments inside the now-sealed inner door's cavity.

Perhaps this system was most used when the Harlem Globetrotters packed Madison Square Garden. The "Trotters didn't work up a sweat, but the fans did. Alas, the team's notoriety has dimmed on stages of the world. "Wash and wear," however, has not.

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

Big Spring ISD parent/community night scheduled Monday

By **LYNDEL MOODY**

Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District officials will hold a second parent/community night Monday to discuss district plans to improve academics.

"We want the com-

munity and parents to know our plans for improving the academic performance of the students in BSISD," said Superintendent Chris Wighting.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the high school library, 707 E. 11th Place. The high school

choir is expected to give a performance.

Big Spring ISD has been marked as an academically low-performing school district by the Texas Education Agency based on test scores the last few years. A TEA monitor, Fred Liner, has been as-

signed and will be working with the district until August.

In this past year and for next year, district administrators have been basing the district's path to improve academic improvement on seven factors: improve academic performance,

increase leadership effectiveness, increase learning time, improve school climate, increase teacher quality, use of quality data to drive instruction and increase family and community engagement.

District officials will present more details

on how they are implementing these factors to increase academic performance district wide to the public Monday.

Contact Lyndel Moody at citydesk@bigspringherald.com or by 263-7331, ext. 234.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

say, as the district builds a foundation it hopes will create district wide academic success for all its schools and students.

Results from a visit by TEA earlier this year found Big Spring ISD is splintered with numerous broken systems, a description Superintendent Chris Wighting admits is correct.

"We are moving in the right direction," Wighting said. "It is not as fast as I want it to be, not as fast as everyone wants it to be, but we are moving in the right direction."

In March, TEA put the district on accredited-warned status. The district is now engaged in the Texas Accountability Intervention System, a process using ongoing collection and analysis of data at the district and campus level to help target areas for improvement, according to Heidi Wagner, recently hired BSISD director of school improvement.

Wagner sat down with the Herald on Friday to discuss how the district is addressing its academic status.

"The research out there shows there are certain turnaround principles," Wagner said. "We call them CFS, Critical Success Factors. If districts have a plan in place to address these seven topics, they can be successful. That is our framework in the district."

Those factors are:

- Improve academic

performance. "What are we doing to improve academic performance?" Wagner said "We are bringing in the balance literacy approach to reading. We are looking at the new TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, state academic standards) in math."

• Increase leadership effectiveness. "We are being sure to provide our administrators and our campuses with leadership teams," she explained. "We are watching how they work as a team." According to Wagner, an intervention team has been established to oversee all the improvement plans being implemented at both the campus and district level.

• Increase learning time. "What are we doing in the bell to bell instruction time? Are our schedules set in the way it should be? Do we need to do some after school tutorials? Do we need to do some Saturday classes?"

• Improve school climate. The district recently conducted a survey of teachers, administrators and parents to receive feedback on the issues they feel need to be addressed.

• Increase teacher quality. "We want to provide teachers with instructional strategies to meet the needs of the kids they are working with."

• Use of quality data to drive instruction. "We are looking at data and teaching our administrators how to use that data effectively," Wagner said.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

BSISD Director of School Improvement Heidi Wagner goes over seven factors the district is using to implement a plan to improve academic performance.

• Increase family and community engagement. "How are we addressing family and community engagement?" In an attempt to create more community outreach, George Bancroft was hired to serve as the district community relations coordinator. "We had a fall parent night and will have a spring parent night," Wagner said. "We hope to have more parent nights throughout the year at the elementaries to bring parents in."

"We are going to have an early release two times in the year, one in the fall and one in spring where parents

are required to come up to the campus to meet the teacher and get the student's report card," Wagner continued. "This hasn't been done in the past. In the beginning of the year, teachers can meet the parents and have a conversation about how the student is doing."

Wagner also added the district is committed to having high expectations of both students and adults, giving district wide ownership of accountability to campuses with needs, having a clear vision and focus and keeping a sense of urgency throughout the district to under-

stand it is being held accountable by the media, community and the state for its results.

Balanced Literacy Approach

On the issue of improving reading skills, Wagner spent a great amount of time explaining the balanced literacy approach. Reading skills are the cornerstone of education, she emphasized.

"The balanced literacy approach identifies where your students are and where their deficiencies are while learning to read," she explained "Not everyone learns to read at the same pace.

Some students struggle. They maybe able to call words out, identify words, sound them out, but they don't have fluency. Other kids need word-attack strategies. They are not sure how to sound the word out, how to decode the word to get the meaning. Some kids struggle with just vocabulary."

"It's pinpointing by doing reading assessments, where those deficient are and putting students in small groups that need direct instruction on one of those components for teaching reading," she

Continued on Page 6A

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

Herald.

Questions

TO THE EDITOR:

In regard to the political ad in Sunday's paper from Glen Carrigan — I have some questions.

In his No. 5 bullet he said he "voted to reduce property taxes each year in office." That is a true statement but down in No. 9 he stated he "will continue to push for infrastructure upgrades." That sounds like a contradiction to me. If the city's expenses increase each year like everyone else's, including Mr. Carrigan's, how do you

do more on less?

His voting so far has not been on the side of improvement — in fact — improvement that has been done, he has complained about calling it un-necessary.

Number 6 says he "will continue to protect property owners from new taxes and over spending. Again, that sort of takes care of making any push for upgrades impossible.

I love this one — No. 7, "will continue to oppose increase in trash collection rates." If there is no money for landfill, garbage truck drivers, garbage trucks — what is your plan for the tons of garbage picked up every month? I guess we could put it on a barge

and dump it at sea. Oh — we don't live close to an ocean, that won't work, will it. Maybe we could have a contract service — look into the fee for that one — with much smaller containers.

Again, growth means more services. You seem to be for all the growth and not any of the taking care of business. It is very apparent

you have never owned a business and know nothing about how to operate profit and loss.

Number 8, "will push for good quality drinking water." Boy that is a campaign promise you can really keep. You better just pray for water. Number 10 — all you need to know about that one is the word "conservative." There is a time to build.

We are not going to get there with your decisions. Number 13 "proven responsible leadership..." What you have proven to me in the last three years is that you are unwilling to listen, resistant to growth, have nothing to show for your three years as an elected official. Maybe you and your political advisor need to look back and tell the citizens

what growth you have been involved in.

I have known you for most of the 28 years of your service to South-West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf and would love to be proven wrong on any of these statements I have mentioned, private or publicly. If you do so, I will apologize for this letter.

GLORIA McDONALD
BIG SPRING

LORI STAFFORD, D.O.

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Continued from Page 5A

continued.

Wagner described the balanced literary approach to melding a phonics driven curriculum — which was reintroduced to BSISD this year — and a whole language approach.

"It's finding that balance between independent learning — letting them discover and learn on their own when they are ready — and teaching a specific skill so they can become independent readers and working with the kids, so they know where their reading level is. When they are reading independently, they want to read exactly were their reading level is. When your teaching them strategies, you want to work with them at a higher level so it challenges them and moves them up."

This works, Wagner said, by allowing students to have independent reading time and small group breakout sessions strictly to work on reading skills. That also requires the district to make sure teachers have the strategies to manage their classrooms for both types of teaching methods.

Wagner admits the balanced approach has been taught in the district but not consistently at each campus. Training for district teachers on this approach will be held in June.

"It's been talked about, but its hasn't been implemented," she said. "This is the first training we are providing so that we are all on the same page, and we all have the same common understanding of what it takes to teach reading. One of the things TEA recommended is that we look at a more balanced approach, so that we can get kids reading."

Math

Changes are coming down the line from TEA in the math TEKS, Wagner said. The district is currently in the process of adopting new math text books for grades kindergarten through eighth.

"One of the big math issues around the state is the TEKS are shifting," Wagner said. "The math TEKS that have been at one grade level are moving down, not only one, but in some cases two grade levels. That is going to be a huge component for training BSISD teachers who teach math. We will be working closely with Region 18 as well. We are going to have a curriculum instruction support specialist (CISS) who will be working with our teachers."



Wigington

Writing

"We had low writing test scores," Wagner said. "We've implemented a writing program. We are going to continue with that and not make a lot of sweeping changes in the district, but we will expand and add to it. One of the things we are bringing in a year from now is Eric Jensen, who has done work internationally on engaging the brain in poverty students, how to work with that specific group of students and engage them, and the research to support that. That is something we will be getting district wide."

Behavior issues

"We are implementing a district wide approach to how we deal with discipline," Wagner said. "We are training our teachers to focus on the positive behaviors as opposed to focusing on the negative. The approach is the PBIS — positive behavior intervention system. For instance, if they are being loud instead of taking five minutes of their PE time, instead you say 'if you are quiet and sit down like I said I'll give you two extra minutes at recess.' This is catching them being good instead of being bad. We are going to get some training on this during the summer."

Wagner added this is a proven approach to behavior issues and is approved by TEA.

Professional development and communication

One of the issue brought to the forefront by the TEA team visit was BSISD was lacking in a professional development plan.

"They said professional development was scattered," Wigington said. "What we need to do is set up a professional plan saying these are the things you have to have to teach in this district. By having this plan we are all pulling the same direction."

To improve communication between administrators and teachers, administrators are spending more time in the classroom, Wagner said.

"The administrators, when they are instructor leaders, are doing more and more visits to the classroom," Wagner said. "The administrator is in and out of the classroom and then after so many weeks they meet with that teacher. Everybody knows what the expectations are. The teachers know what the administrators expect when they walk into that classroom. We are giving everybody that common framework in the district that you should see modeled throughout. One thing we want is to provide adequate training to our teachers. The magic happens in the classroom, and we have to make sure they have the tools in their tool belt to teach at the level they need to teach at."

Community expectations

The community has its part in helping to create educational excellence for its students, Wagner said.

"This is our future, our future leadership in our community," Wagner said. "One way parents can help is making sure kids do the work they need to do. That they are supporting the work they are doing at school at home. If the kids are suppose to read at night, read with them. Provide a consistent bed time. And get them to school on time. If kids miss school, they miss out. They need to be there everyday to get that instruction, so they don't fall behind. There are too many gaps when they miss school days."

"Our new community relations person is approaching businesses to find some mentors who can go in and work with specific students for 30 minutes a day — becoming partners with us in education. The community is doing a good job by providing incentives for attendance. That type of giving is just appreciated."

The road to results

"We have to remember the district didn't get in this situation overnight and change takes time," she said. "But with well-thought out, intentional planning tied to data and supported by all stakeholders, we should see gains in student academic achievement this year and in the coming years."

Contact Lyndel Moody at citydesk@bigspringherald.com or by 263-7331, ext. 234.

Lawmakers won't abandon death penalty

DALLAS (AP) — A bungled execution in Oklahoma in which the condemned prisoner writhed and moaned as he received a lethal injection outraged death-penalty opponents, invited court challenges and attracted worldwide attention.

But the inmate's agony alone is highly unlikely to change minds about capital punishment in the nation's most active death-penalty states, where lawmakers say there is little political will to move against lethal injections — and a single execution gone wrong won't change that.

Oklahoma Rep. Mike Christian, a Republican lawmaker who pushed to have state Supreme Court justices impeached for briefly halting Tuesday's execution, was unsparing.

"I realize this may sound harsh," Christian said, "but as a father and former lawman, I really don't care if it's by lethal injection, by the electric chair, firing squad, hanging, the guillotine or being fed to the lions."

Attorneys for death-row inmates hope Tuesday's spectacle provides new evidence to argue that the injections are inhumane and illegal. But beyond the courtroom, support for capital punishment is undeterred in the states that perform the greatest number of executions — Texas, Oklahoma, Florida, Missouri, Alabama, Georgia and Ohio. And nowhere in those places are any elected officials of either political party talking seriously about using the incident to seek an end to executions.

Missouri Rep. Paul Fitzwater, a Republican who chairs the state House's corrections committee, called the botched execution "horrible" and "definitely not humane" but said it had not sparked any calls for reform.

Oklahoma prison officials say Tuesday's execution of Clayton Lockett went awry when an intravenous line of deadly drugs became dislodged. He later died from an apparent heart attack. Lockett had been condemned for shooting a 19-year-old girl with a sawed-off shotgun and watching as two accomplices buried her alive.

Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin has stayed an upcoming execution as prison officials investigate, but she too reaffirmed her support for capital punishment.

On Friday, President Barack Obama said the Oklahoma event highlighted problems with the death penalty and he's asking his attorney general for a review.

National surveys by Gallup indicate that support for the death penalty remains strong, though it has declined over the last 20 years, from 80 percent in favor of capital punishment in 1992 to 60

percent two years ago.

There are signs of a shift, primarily in the West and Northeast, after almost four decades in which no state legislatures voted to end executions.

Five states — New Jersey, New Mexico, Illinois, Connecticut and Maryland — have formally abolished the death penalty in the last seven years, according to the Death Penalty Information Center, which opposes capital punishment. New York's death penalty was abolished by a court, and several other states have placed executions on hold. An anti-death penalty bill in New Hampshire fell one vote short of passage.

Lawmakers in those states most often cited factors besides problems with lethal injection. Several governors cited the risk that an innocent person could be executed or the skyrocketing costs of fighting appeals in death-row cases.

"The main factor was the miscarriage of justice," former New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson said Friday in an interview. "I was aware of the serious problems with lethal injections, but it was not at the top."

Richardson signed his state's abolition bill in 2009 and has since campaigned against the death penalty in other states. He described meeting with several exonerated death row inmates — there are more than 140 nationwide — as well as families of victims and law enforcement officials. He predicted that the botched execution would weigh on other governors considering the death penalty.

Texas has executed 515 inmates since reinstating the death penalty in 1982, by far more than any other state. Gov. Rick Perry and both the Republican and Democratic candidates for governor have repeated their support for capital punishment and their confidence in Texas' system.

Richard Dieter, executive director of the Death Penalty Information Center, which opposes capital punishment, predicted the execution's biggest effect would be in the courts, where Oklahoma, Texas and other states are being challenged to name execution drug suppliers. The states argue they must keep the names secret to protect suppliers and ensure they can get the hard-to-obtain drugs.

Juries in Texas are already giving fewer death sentences, suggesting a larger shift, said Kristin Houle, executive director of the Texas Coalition to End the Death Penalty.

"It's not going to be just one thing that pushes the issue over the edge," she said.

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► News Briefs

Family who lost dog during Sandy finds it at pound

EATONTOWN, N.J. (AP) — A New Jersey family whose terrier-pitbull mix escaped from their backyard during Superstorm Sandy went to an animal shelter this week to adopt a new pet and came home with their old dog.

Chuck James tells The Asbury Park Press (<http://on.app.com/1obhJ2n>) that his family searched for their brown-and-white dog named Reckless for months after the October 2012 storm before finally giving up hope.

The family of five went to the Monmouth County SPCA on Thursday to adopt a new animal. James says he and his wife got teary-eyed when they approached the first cage and saw Reckless inside.

SPCA officials say Reckless was picked up as a stray and has now been microchipped.

The family is living in a hotel while their storm-damaged Keansburg home is repaired.

OSCE observers held in eastern Ukraine released

SLOVYANSK, Ukraine (AP) — Pro-Russia insurgents in eastern Ukraine on Saturday released the seven OSCE military observers and five Ukrainian assistants who had been held for more than a week.

The observers were seized on April 25 in the city of Slovyansk, the epicenter of eastern Ukraine's unrest, as they traveled with an Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe observer team. The insurgents said they possessed unspecified suspicious material and alleged they were spying for NATO.

An observer from Sweden was also seized as part of the team, but was released earlier. Unlike the other observers' countries, Sweden is not a member of NATO and the Swede reportedly suffers from a mild form of diabetes.

Shortly before the release, the insurgents' leader in Slovyansk, Vyacheslav Ponomarev, was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying he ordered the release because of increasing insecurity in the city.

Two Ukrainian helicopters were reported shot down outside the city on Friday, killing two crew members and the Ukrainian Defense Ministry said two other soldiers were killed in a clash on the outskirts. Ponomarev said 10 local people were killed in a confrontation with soldiers on Slovyansk's outskirts, but there was no independent confirmation.

Rescuers struggle to help Afghans hit by massive landslide in northeast

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghan rescuers and hundreds of volunteers armed with shovels rushed on Saturday to help villagers hit by a massive landslide in the remote northeast a day earlier, officials said, while fears of a new torrent of mud and earth complicated rescue efforts.

Figures on the number of people killed in the disaster varied as officials try to gather precise information from the village of Hobo Barak.

Abdullah Homayun Dehqan, the director of Badakshan province's National Disaster Department, said he did not have an exact number of how many people were killed. The United Nations on Friday said at least 350 people died, and the provincial governor said as many as 2,000 people were feared missing.

Afghanistan deputy director of the Natural Disaster Management Authority, Mohammad Aslam Seyas, said Saturday that 255 people had died. He said villagers believe the number is higher, but said judging by previous experiences that the 255 figure seems more realistic.

"Search and rescue operations are going on very slowly," Seyas said, adding that fear of new landslides had slowed the operation.

Kerry: U.S. ready to help, but African nations need to take steps to ensure democracy, security

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — America's top diplomat said Saturday the U.S. is ready to help increase its ties with Africa, but nations across the continent need to take stronger

steps to ensure security and democracy for its people.

In an Africa policy address to members of the Addis Ababa diplomatic corps and the Young Africa leader network, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry highlighted crises in Nigeria, South Sudan, Somalia and the Central African Republic and urged Africans to demand stability and financial development.

He called for an expansion of American investment in Africa and noted that U.S. companies IBM, Microsoft and Google already have spent more than \$100 million on projects across the continent.

"So this is clearly a moment of opportunity for all Africans," Kerry told about 100 Ethiopians at an environmentally-friendly auditorium on a mountaintop. "It is also a moment of decision."

California jury says Samsung infringed Apple smartphone patents, awards \$119 million

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — A California jury awarded Apple \$119 million — far less than it demanded — in a patent battle with Samsung over alleged copying of smart phone features, and the jury made the victory even smaller by finding that Apple illegally used one of Samsung's patents.

The verdict was a far cry from the \$2.2 billion Apple sought and the \$930 million it won in a separate 2012 trial making similar patent infringement claims against older Samsung products, most of which are no longer for sale in the United States.

The jury found that Apple had infringed one of Samsung's patents in creating the iPhone 4 and 5. Jurors awarded Samsung \$158,400, trimming that amount from the original \$119.62 million verdict. Samsung had sought \$6 million.

"Though this verdict is large by normal standards, it is hard to view this outcome as much of a victory for Apple," Santa Clara University law professor Brian Love said. "This amount is less than 10 percent of the amount Apple requested and probably doesn't surpass by too much the amount Apple spent litigating this case."

The award may be adjusted slightly in favor of Apple. Jurors were ordered to return to court Monday to continue deliberations on a minor matter that could result in a higher award for Apple. Because the jury was still empaneled, jurors were prevented from talking publicly about the case.

Guide operators hope Everest deaths will prompt long-overdue safety fixes on notorious icefall

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — Guy Cotter was so concerned about the safety of Sherpa guides and porters through Mount Everest's notorious Khumbu Icefall that he and another commercial guide operator hatched a plan: Before this year's climbing season began, they would use helicopters to transport 4 tons of equipment above the icefall.

Nepal-based Simrik Air backed the plan and hired New Zealand pilot Jason Laing, an expert in hauling loads using long cables. But in January, the answer came back from Nepalese authorities: permit denied.

Three months later, Laing put his expertise to use. But not hauling gear. On April 18 came Everest's worst disaster, in which 16 Sherpas were killed in an avalanche at the icefall. Laing made flight after flight that day, using his long cables to rescue four injured Sherpas and haul out 13 bodies. The three others are buried under heavy snow and ice.

"It was tough," Laing said. "I just had to get on with it."

Among those killed were three Sherpas hired by Cotter's company, Adventure Consultants.

Efrem Zimbalist Jr., handsome star of TV series '77 Sunset Strip' and 'The FBI,' dies at 95

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Handsome, debonair and blessed with a distinguished voice that reflected his real-life prep school upbringing, Efrem Zimbalist Jr. seemed born to play the television roles that made him

famous, that of hip Hollywood detective and brilliant G-man.

A prolific actor who also appeared in numerous films and stage productions, Zimbalist became a household name in 1958 as Stu Bailey, the wise-cracking private investigator who was a co-partner in a swinging Hollywood detective agency located at the exclusive address of "77 Sunset Strip."

When the show of the same name ended in 1964, Zimbalist became an even bigger star playing the empathetic, methodical G-man Lewis Erskine in "The F.B.I."

The actor, who in recent years had retired to his ranch in Southern California's bucolic horse country, died there Friday at age 95.

"We are heartbroken to announce the passing into peace of our beloved father, Efrem Zimbalist Jr., today at his Solvang ranch," the actor's daughter Stephanie Zimbalist and son Efrem Zimbalist III said in a statement. "He actively enjoyed his life to the last day, showering love on his extended family, playing golf and visiting with close friends."

White House correspondents to honor black reporter once barred by their predecessors

WASHINGTON (AP) — Harry McAlpin was standing outside the Oval Office, moments away from becoming the first black reporter to attend a presidential press conference, when one of his contemporaries approached with a deal.

Stay out here, the reporter told McAlpin. The other White House cor-

respondents would share their notes, and McAlpin would have a chance to become an official member of the correspondents' association. McAlpin marched into the Oval Office anyway. Afterward, President Franklin Roosevelt shook McAlpin's hand and said, "I'm glad to see you, McAlpin, and very happy to have you here."

McAlpin, who became a fixture at the White House during the Roosevelt and Truman administrations, never got a White House Correspondents' Association membership. But now, in its centennial year, the WHCA is honoring McAlpin with a scholarship bearing his name.

Cops: High driver calls 911 to report hit-and-run

LIVINGSTON, N.Y. (AP) — State police in New York say an Albany man was high on drugs when he called 911 to report that his vehicle had been sideswiped on a highway. Troopers say the other driver was drunk.

Police say 38-year-old Malcolm Sidbury was driving south on the Taconic Parkway in Columbia County on Wednesday when he told dispatchers his car had been hit by another vehicle that didn't stop.

Troopers spotted the vehicles and stopped both. They determined Sidbury was driving while impaired by drugs and that the other driver, 57-year-old Thomas Robbins, of Poughkeepsie, was driving while intoxicated. Police say Robbins' blood-alcohol content was .25 percent, more than three times the legal limit.

Both men were issued tickets.

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Bulldogettes rally past Muleshoe, 4-3

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

LUBBOCK - The Coahoma Bulldogettes are still alive. Coahoma pushed across a run in the bottom of the seventh inning on Friday at the Cooper High School field and raced to a thrilling 4-3 victory over Muleshoe in the area round of the Class 2A state playoffs.

With the victory, Coahoma earned the right to face Bushland in the regional quarterfinal round. The date, time and site for the matchup were un-

available at press time. Muleshoe grabbed the early lead in the top of the third. They tacked on an additional run in the fourth and stretched their margin to 2-0.

The Bulldogettes, now 13-12 overall, roared back in the bottom of the fourth. Coahoma, behind clutch at-bats from Kyla Clanton and Julia Castilaw, scored twice in the frame and knotted the game at 2-2.

Clanton and Castilaw both enjoyed solid outings offen-

See COAHOMA, Page 9A



Herald photo/Tommy Wells
Coahoma's Kyla Clanton struck out 8 batters en route to leading the Bulldogettes to a 4-3 win over Muleshoe.

Lady Buffs grab 14-0 win over VH

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Forsan High School Lady Buffaloes didn't waste any time in taking complete control of their area playoff matchup against the Van Horn Lady Eagles on Friday afternoon in Pecos.

The 10th-ranked Lady Buffaloes pounded out hit after hit en route to streaking to a 14-0 rout of Van Horn in Game 1 of their best-of-three playoff series. Forsan was scheduled to play Game 2 on Saturday afternoon. A third game, if needed,

was also slated for Saturday. With the victory, the Lady Buffs span their season record to a sparkling 25-4 and, more importantly, moved to within one victory of advancing to the regional quarterfinals for the second year in a row.

The winner of the Forsan-Van Horn matchup will face the Haskell Maidens in the third round of the Class A state softball playoffs. Haskell defeated Ozona, 11-0, in a one-game playoff last week to earn its spot in the regional quarterfinals.



Herald photo/Tommy Wells
Big Spring High School senior Tate Kennedy (center) became the third Steer football standout to sign a college scholarship for this fall recently. The 6-foot-4 wide receiver will be playing this season for Angelo State University.

Kennedy signs scholarship to play for Angelo State this fall

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Big Spring High School wide receiver Tate Kennedy made it official recently. The multi-sport standout is going to be catching footballs on Saturday afternoons.

Kennedy became the third member of the Steers' 2013 playoff squad to sign a college scholarship recently when he agreed to play this fall at Angelo State University in San Angelo. Kennedy signed his scholarship during a special ceremony in the BSHS foyer in front of a large group of family, coaches, friends and classmates.

"Tate played extremely well for us and we're thrilled to see him get the chance to play this fall for Angelo State," said BSHS head coach Phillip Ritchey.

A 6-foot-4 standout, Kennedy was a huge part of the Steers' success this past season. He helped power Big Spring to a 9-4 record by leading the team in receptions. During his senior campaign, he hauled in 60 passes, including a team-high 16 that went for touchdowns.

He finished the year with 1,007 yards receiving, and teamed with Devin Roberson to give Big Spring one of

the top 1-2 receiving combinations in the state. Kennedy and Roberson accounted for more than 110 catches and 2,000 yards.

Kennedy has been more than a one-sport star for the Steers as a senior. In addition to helping carry the Steers' to the third-round of the football playoffs, he also was a member of the BSHS area playoff qualifier in basketball, and is a pitcher on the Steers' district runner-up baseball squad.

Kennedy joins BSHS standout Chris Lindem (Cisco College) and Devin Roberson (Tarleton State) as college signees.



Tony Claxton photos
(www.claxtonphotography.com)
Elaine Verdugo catches a pop at second during the Lady Hawks' loss to Midland on Friday.

MC stuns HC in opener

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

LUBBOCK - Howard College softball coach knew going into their first game at the Region V West Softball Tournament on Friday at Texas Tech's Rocky Johnson Field, whichever team that got hot would do well.

Unfortunately for the Lady Hawks, Midland generated more heat in the quarterfinal round.

The Lady Chaparrals scored three runs in the seventh and raced to a stunning 4-0 victory over Howard, which had entered the tournament as the No. 2 seed.

The Lady Hawks struggled to get their offense in gear all day.

Midland College, which had claimed a 9-0 win over Frank Phillips earlier in the day, jumped on top of the Lady Hawks early. The MC women touched HC standout Jessica Elder for a run in the top of the first inning.

With the loss, the Lady Hawks, now 43-12 for the year, fell into the consolation round of the double-elimination event. Howard College was slated to face off with Luna Community College on Saturday afternoon in a loser-out matchup.

Big Spring heads into state meet with 5th-fastest qualifying time

The Big Spring High School Steers should have plenty of optimism as they head into the 2014 UIL Class 3A State Track and Field Championships. The BSHS 4x400-meter squad does, after all, have one of the faster qualifying times.

The Steers' 4x400-meter squad has the fifth-

fastest qualifying time of the nine teams in the event. Big Spring won the Region I-3A title with a mark of 3 minutes and 22.82 seconds.

Huffman Hargraves own the fastest time in the boys' 4x400-meter race with a mark of 3:21.31. Waco Connally (3:22.00), Giddings (3:22.49) and

Taylor (3:22.59) are the only teams to post faster times than the Steers.

Big Spring's 4x400-meter squad is comprised of Ian Gonzales, Lorenzo Jones, Tobyn Tannehill, Ryan Lopez and alternates Devin Roberson and Eric Garza.

The state meet will be held May 9-10 in Austin.

Hawks nab two wins over Wranglers in Odessa

The Howard College Hawks scored a run in the top of the ninth inning on Friday and finished off a sweep of the Odessa College Wranglers with a thrilling 6-5 decision.

With the score knotted at 5-5, Ryan Romo

delivered a pinch-hit single. He scored moments later when Matthew Holcombe drilled a double to right.

The Hawks, who finished off the regular season on Saturday with two games at home against OC, won the first game, 5-2.

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SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL
NBA Daily Playoff Glance
FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlanta 3, Indiana 3
April 19: Atlanta 101, Indiana 93
April 22: Indiana 101, Atlanta 85
April 24: Atlanta 98, Indiana 85
April 26: Indiana 91, Atlanta 88
April 28: Atlanta 107, Indiana 97
x-May 1: Indiana 95, Atlanta 88
x-May 3: Atlanta at Indiana, TBA
Miami 4, Charlotte 0
April 20: Miami 99, Charlotte 88
April 23: Miami 101, Charlotte 97
April 26: Miami 98, Charlotte 85
April 28: Miami 109, Charlotte 98
Toronto 3, Brooklyn 2
April 19: Brooklyn 94, Toronto 87
April 22: Toronto 100, Brooklyn 95
April 25: Brooklyn 102, Toronto 98
April 27: Toronto 87, Brooklyn 79
April 30: Toronto 115, Brooklyn 113
x-May 2: Brooklyn 97, Toronto 83
x-May 4: Brooklyn at Toronto, TBA
Washington 4, Chicago 1
April 20: Washington 102, Chicago 93
April 22: Wash. 101, Chicago 99, OT
April 25: Chicago 100, Washington 97
April 27: Washington 98, Chicago 89
April 29: Washington 75, Chicago 69
WESTERN CONFERENCE
San Antonio 3, Dallas 3
April 20: San Antonio 90, Dallas 85
April 23: Dallas 113, San Antonio 92
April 26: Dallas 109, San Antonio 108
April 28: San Antonio 93, Dallas 89
April 30: San Antonio 109, Dallas 103
x-May 2: Dallas 113, San Antonio 111
x-May 4: Dallas at San Antonio, TBA
Memphis 3, Oklahoma City 3
April 19: OKC 100, Memphis 86
April 21: Memphis 111, OKC, OT
April 24: Memphis 98, OKC 95, OT
April 26: OKC 92, Memphis 89, OT
April 29: Memphis 100, OKC, OT
x-May 1: OKC104, Memphis 84
x-May 3: Memphis at OKC, TBA
L.A. Clippers 3, Golden State 3
April 19: Golden St. 109, Clippers 105
April 21: Clippers 138, Golden St. 98
April 24: Clippers 98, Golden State 96
April 27: Golden St. 118, Clippers 97
April 29: Clippers 113, Golden St. 103
x-May 1: Golden St. 100, L.A. Clippers 99
x-May 3: Golden St. at Clippers, TBA
Portland 4, Houston 2
April 20: Portland 122, Houston 120, OT
April 23: Portland 112, Houston 105
April 25: Houston 121, Portland 116, OT
April 27: Portland 123, Houston 120, OT
April 30: Houston 108, Portland 98
x-May 2: Portland 99, Houston 98

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE
East Division
W L Pct GB
Baltimore 15 12 .556 —
New York 15 13 .536 ½
Boston 14 16 .467 2½
Tampa Bay 14 16 .467 2½
Toronto 13 16 .448 3
Central Division
W L Pct GB
Detroit 15 9 .625 —
Kansas City 14 14 .500 3
Chicago 14 16 .467 4
Minnesota 12 15 .444 4½
Cleveland 12 17 .414 5½
West Division
W L Pct GB
Oakland 18 11 .621 —
Texas 16 13 .552 2
Los Angeles 14 14 .500 3½
Seattle 12 15 .444 5
Houston 10 19 .345 8
Sunday's Games
Chicago White Sox (Rienzo 2-0) at Cleveland (Kluber 2-3), 1:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Bedard 0-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Sabathia 3-3), 1:05 p.m.
Oakland (Gray 4-1) at Boston (Lackey 4-2), 1:35 p.m.
Toronto (McGowan 1-1) at Pittsburgh (Volquez 1-2), 1:35 p.m.
Baltimore (Mi.Gonzalez 1-2) at Minnesota (P.Hughes 2-1), 2:10 p.m.
Detroit (Verlander 3-1) at Kansas City (Vargas 2-0), 2:10 p.m.
Seattle (Maurer 0-0) at Houston (McHugh 2-0), 2:10 p.m.
Texas (Darvish 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Skaggs 2-0), 3:35 p.m.
Monday's Games
Minnesota (Gibson 3-2) at Cleveland (McAllister 3-2), 7:05 p.m.
Toronto (Happ 0-0) at Philadelphia (Undecided), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (Cosart 1-2) at Detroit (Scherzer 3-1), 7:08 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Quintana 1-2) at Chicago Cubs (Samardzija 0-3), 8:05 p.m.
Texas (M.Perez 4-1) at Colorado (Lyles 3-0), 8:40 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Undecided) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 2-2), 10:05 p.m.
Seattle (C.Young 1-0) at Oakland (Kazmir 4-0), 10:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Ventura 2-1) at San Diego (Stults 1-3), 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
East Division
W L Pct GB
Atlanta 17 11 .607 —

Washington 17 12 .586 ½
New York 15 13 .536 2
Miami 15 14 .517 2½
Philadelphia 13 14 .481 3½

Central Division
W L Pct GB
Milwaukee 21 9 .700 —
St. Louis 15 15 .500 6
Cincinnati 13 16 .448 7½
Pittsburgh 11 18 .379 9½
Chicago 10 17 .370 9½
West Division
W L Pct GB
San Francisco 18 11 .621 —
Colorado 18 13 .581 1
Los Angeles 17 13 .567 1½
San Diego 13 17 .433 5½
Arizona 10 22 .313 9½
Sunday's Games
L.A. Dodgers (Undecided) at Miami (Fernandez 4-1), 1:10 p.m.
San Francisco (Bumgarner 2-3) at Atlanta (A.Wood 2-4), 1:35 p.m.
Toronto (McGowan 1-1) at Pittsburgh (Volquez 1-2), 1:35 p.m.
Washington (G.Gonzalez 3-1) at Philadelphia (Hamels 0-2), 3:05 p.m.
Arizona (Miley 2-3) at San Diego (T.Ross 3-3), 4:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Lohse 4-1) at Cincinnati (Simon 4-1), 4:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Gee 2-1) at Colorado (Undecided), 4:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Lynn 4-1) at Chicago Cubs (Hammel 4-1), 8:05 p.m.
Monday's Games
L.A. Dodgers (Greinke 5-0) at Washington (Zimmermann 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
San Francisco (M.Cain 0-3) at Pittsburgh (Undecided), 7:05 p.m.
Toronto (Happ 0-0) at Philadelphia (Undecided), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Niese 2-2) at Miami (Eovaldi 2-1), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (S.Miller 3-2) at Atlanta (Harang 3-2), 7:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Quintana 1-2) at Chicago Cubs (Samardzija 0-3), 8:05 p.m.
Arizona (Bolsinger 1-1) at Milwaukee (Garza 1-3), 8:10 p.m.
Texas (M.Perez 4-1) at Colorado (Lyles 3-0), 8:40 p.m.
Kansas City (Ventura 2-1) at San Diego (Stults 1-3), 10:10 p.m.

TEXAS LEAGUE
North Division
W L Pct GB
Springfield 14 14 .500 —
Tulsa 13 15 .464 1
Arkansas 12 16 .429 2
NW Arkansas 11 17 .393 3
South Division
W L Pct GB
Midland 18 9 .667 —
Frisco 17 11 .607 1½
Corpus Christi 14 14 .500 4½
San Antonio 12 15 .444 6
Sunday's Games
San Ant. at Corpus, 2:10 p.m.
Arkansas at NW Arkansas, 3:05 p.m.
Midland at Frisco, 3:05 p.m.
Tulsa at Springfield, 3:10 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS
BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Optioned RHP Evan Meek to Norfolk (IL).
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Placed 2B Jason Kipnis on the 15-day DL. Recalled INF Jose Ramirez from Columbus (IL).
DETROIT TIGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Joel Hanrahan on a one-year contract.
HOUSTON ASTROS — Agreed to terms with LHP Tony Sipp. Optioned RHP Paul Clemens to Oklahoma City (PCL). Transferred RHP Jesse Crain to the 60-day DL.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Recalled C Erik Kratz from Buffalo (IL). Optioned RHP Chad Jenkins to Buffalo.
National League
ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with 3B Chris Johnson on a three-year contract extension through the 2017 season.
SAN DIEGO PADRES — Signed RHP Odrisamer Despaigne to a minor league contract.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
ORLANDO MAGIC — Exercised team options and extended the contracts of general manager Rob Hennigan and coach Jacque Vaughn through the 2015-16 season.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Exercised the 2015 option on DL Phil Taylor.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Exercised 2015 option on LB Ryan Kerrigan.

MOTORSPORTS
INDYCAR — Fined Andretti Autosport-HVM \$2,000 for

infractions by rookie Carlos Munoz's pit road crew during the April 27 race at Barber Motorsports Park.

COLLEGE
ARMSTRONG ATLANTIC — Named Evans Davis men's basketball coach.
DUKE — Announced freshman men's basketball F Sean Obi is transferring from Rice.
LA SALLE — Promoted Sean Neal to men's assistant basketball coach.
N.C. STATE — Announced the resignation of women's tennis coach Hans Olsen.
SAMDOR — Named Al DelGreco men's golf coach.
UMKC — Named Andre McGee men's assistant basketball coach.

LOCAL EVENTS
Basketball Camp
Howard College women's basketball coach Earl Diddle will be hold his annual girls' and boys' basketball camps in June. The camps will be held June 2-5 in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.
Baseball Camp
The Little Hawk Camp, designed for youngsters in kindergarten through third grade, will be held from 9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. each morning. The Individual Skill Camp for girls in grades 2-5 will run from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The Individual Skill Camp for boys in grades 4-12 will be from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. each day.
The cost for each camp is \$50 per player.
All camps are fundraisers for the Howard College women's basketball program. To register send a check or money order made payable to: Earl Diddle, HC women's Basketball, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, Texas, 79720.
HCATTA Golf Tournament
The Howard County Area Texas Tech Alumni Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on June 28-29 at the Comanche Trail Golf course. A shot gun start will be held at 1 p.m.
The tournament will be a 4-man scramble with a \$100 per person entry fee. Register at the golf course.
All proceeds go to the Texas Tech Alumni scholarship.
Chicano Scholarship Golf Tournament
The 24th Annual Chicano Golf Scholarship Tournament will be held on June 7-8 at the Comanche Trail Park Golf Course. The tournament will be played in a 2-man scramble format.
Entry fee is \$220 per team. A payout of \$1,800 per flight is expected. A \$100 Closest to the Pin will be awarded omn all Par 3 holes, and a Skins sidepot will be available on Saturday. A free meal will be held following Saturday's round.
An Alternate Shot Team Skins will be held on Friday. Participants must be signed up by 5 p.m. (A drawing will determine teams).
For more information call Tommy Billalba at (432) 816-1091, Charlie Garcia (432) 213-2081 or Linda Summersell at (432) 264-2366.



Courtesy photo

Classic winners ...

The 13AA Big Spring Bandits won the Lubbock Midseason Classic last weekend in Lubbock. The Bandits went 4-0 and only allowed 4 runs in the entire tournament. Members of the Bandits are (front row, left to right) Kobe Gutierrez, Jason Miramontes, Cade Wash, Brett Berringer, (back row) Cooper Miller, Jack Everett, Edward Aguilar, Bryson VanVleet, A.J. Gonzales, Deonte Perez and Marquavion Williams. The next action for the Bandits will be May 10 in Abilene.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 10
sively. Both recorded two hits in the victory.
Coahoma and Muleshoe both tallied runs in the fifth and sent the game into the final two innings knotted at 3-3.
Coahoma, which also benefitted from solid

play from Kendra Dyer and Kodi Howard, closed the game out in their final at-bat.
Clanton starred for the Bulldogettes in the pitcher's circle. She struck out eight batters in seven innings of work, while allowing just six hits.
As a team, Coahoma had 11 hits.
The victory made Coahoma the third District 4-2A squad to advance to the regional quarterfinal round. The Colorado Lady Wolves got 14 strikeouts from Cassie Sutton and raced to an 11-0 win over Floydada on Friday evening in Snyder. The Lady Wolves will face district rival Brownfield in their regional quarterfinal game.

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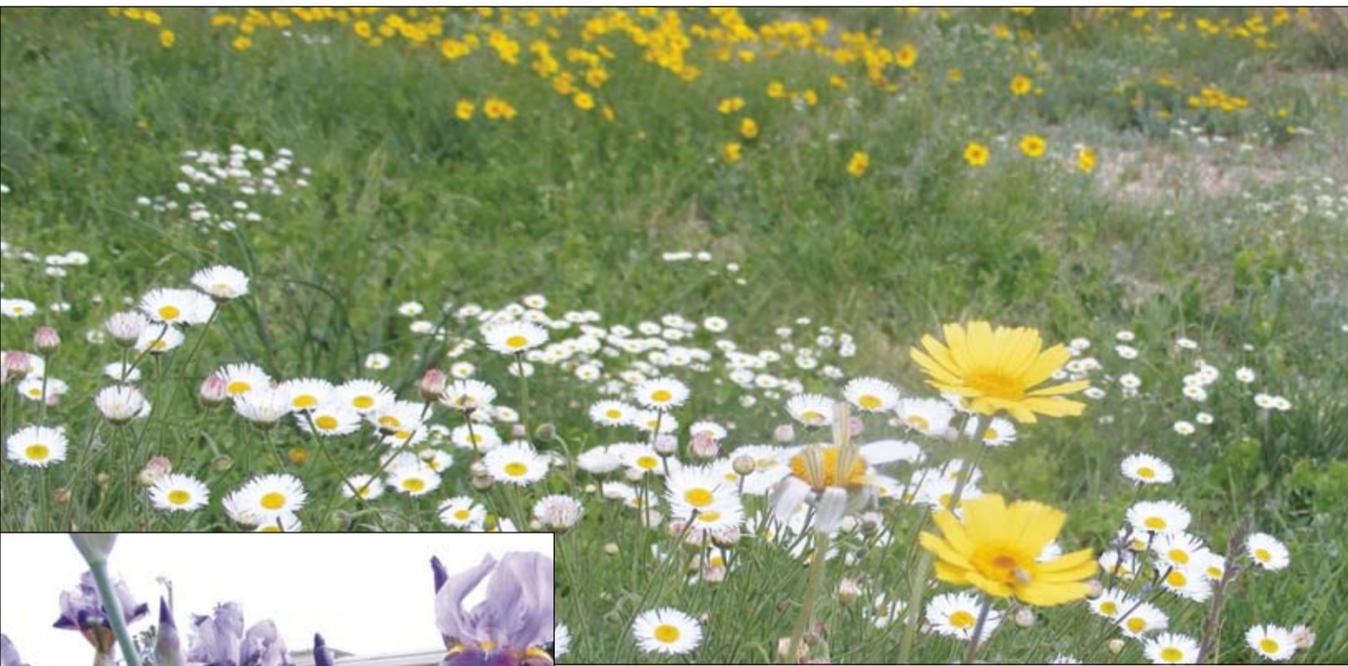
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den, not mentioned on the list are:

Consult with your local nursery or gardening center before the growing season begins to see what will be stocked and if special order options are available when planning for the next year.

Tips and Warnings

The coolest parts of the day, useful for gardening, are also the most mosquito-prone. Remember to use insect repellent or citronella candles.

Check your city website for an event calendar that includes gardening workshops, plant sales, or landscaping seminars.

Stay hydrated and avoid working outdoors in the hottest part of the day, to prevent heat stroke.

Always wear sunscreen.

Double-check information a clerk gives you about the hardiness of plants: go prepared.

A few varieties to consider include:

Black Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia) resemble daisies with brown or black centers, surrounded with bright yellow petals. They thrive in the sun and produce flowers during the hottest part of the summer and through early autumn.

Verbena (Veebena Bonariensis) blooms in a variety of colors and should be used in hanging baskets or as edging plants as they will only reach a height of about 10 inches. They are drought resistant and will bloom all summer if the dead blooms are regularly removed.

Yarrow (Achillea) blooms in many shades of yellow, red, pink or white and needs full sun and dry soil. It can grow to 3 feet and requires little water. Yarrow, a perennial, spreads easily and can be difficult to control, according to information provided by Texas A&M.



Cassia (Senna) is a desert native and thrives in the Texas heat. It can grow to 7 feet and is often used as hedges or barricades. The yellow flowers bloom from late winter through early summer, attracting butterflies and bees.

The **Mexican Petunia** is heat tolerant and an evergreen perennial. It grows in almost any type of well-drained soil in full sun and can be used as ground cover. In the sun, the dark green leaves have a blue metallic color, making the color of the flowers stand out, which attracts a variety of butterflies.

Blackfoot Daisy has a scent reminiscent of honey which attracts bees and butterflies. The creamy white, notched petals surround a center of tiny, star-shaped, yellow flowers. Blackfoot daisies bloom from March to November in a round, bushy, compact mass standing 6 to 12 inches tall and 1 to 2 feet wide. The ideal environment for these flowers is soil that is slightly dry and well drained.

Personal favorites currently residing in my gar-

den, not mentioned on the list are:

Honeysuckle-There are numerous types of honeysuckles. Most are either large shrubs or twining vines that are noted for their colorful, trumpet-shaped flowers, sweet scent and attractiveness to butterflies and hummingbirds.

Honeysuckle flowers are magnets for hummingbirds; flower colors include orange, red, yellow and white, depending on the species and variety. Most shrub honeysuckles grow 6 to 15 feet tall and wide, while vining types grow 10 to 20 feet tall. Honeysuckles bloom in spring to midsummer. Vining forms, such as trumpet honeysuckle (*L. sempervirens*), grow well on fences, trellises, and walls with support. Shrub forms, such as winter honeysuckle (*L. fragrantissima*), make good hedges, screens, and mass plantings. Honeysuckles tolerate shade and are often seen as an understory plant in the forest. Some species, such as tartarian honeysuckle (*L. tatarica*) and Japanese honeysuckle (*L. japonica*), are very aggressive and should be avoided.

Select a site with full sun to shade and moist, well-drained soil. The plants will flower more profusely in full sun.

Plant in spring or fall. Space plants 5 to 15 feet apart, depending on the expected mature size of the plant. Dig a hole only as deep as the root ball and 2 to 3 times as wide. If your soil is in very poor condition, amend the soil you've removed from the hole with a small amount of compost. Otherwise don't amend it at all. Carefully remove the plant from the container and set it in the hole. Fill the hole half full with soil, then water it well to settle the soil and eliminate air pockets. Let the water drain, then fill the remainder of hole with soil and water thoroughly.

Apply a layer of compost around the base of the plant each spring, followed by a 2-inch layer of mulch to retain moisture and control weeds. Water plants during the summer if rainfall is less than 1 inch per week. Prune shrubs and vines after flowering. Aggressive varieties can be pruned back to the ground in late winter to control growth.

Morning Glories are annual climbers with slender stems, heart-shaped leaves, and trumpet-shaped flowers in pink, purple-blue, magenta or white. They have a beautiful shape before they unfold in the sun and romantic tendrils that lend old-fashioned charm. In warmer areas, train the vines over a pergola or arch or use as a dense ground cover. The vine grows quickly and can reach 15 feet in one season. It will bloom from early summer until the first frost. It also will attract butterflies as well as hummingbirds.

Annuals need a lot of sun and should be grown in a sunny, sheltered site free of cold or drying winds. File the seeds just long enough to break the coat and soak them for 24 hours before planting. (They look like little worms). Cover lightly with ¼ inch of soil about 6 inches apart and water thoroughly. Water only during dry periods.

The seeds are considered highly toxic if ingested in large quantities (100 or more) and were used in ancient cultures for their medicinal and hallucinogenic qualities.

There are many other flowering plants that can be considered such as sunflowers, butterfly trees and Indian blankets. Check with a local nursery for what is right for you.

Story and photos by Andreia Medlin

Spring is in the air and despite the scant amount of rain in the area, there are some flowers in bloom. It's hard not to notice the bright yellow flowers that line the roads and driveways around town and if you take the time to look, there are a few other species that have braved the dry conditions.

West Texas is known for its dry, dusty, arid climate. Conditions which often frustrate flower gardeners, but with a little effort, a nice flower garden can be had.

Experts advise planting native flowers because they are already adapted to the area and usually require very little care due to their hardiness. Several families of flowers grow well in West Texas, including sage, primrose and plumbago.

If you have moved from cooler climates to a hot environment like Texas, you can still enjoy the pleasures of gardening by planning a heat-resistant, drought-resistant garden. In addition to preserving your outdoor interests, drought-resistant garden can also be a way to keep your water bill from running too high and to stay green. With a little research, planting a heat-resistant gardens can help introduce you to your new yard and adjust to your climate.

The experts at eHow.com and bhg.com recommend gardeners research heat- and drought-resistant plants including annual and perennial flowers, vines, shrubs, trees, and vegetables. The library is also often a good source of information. Consult with long-time residents to glean local wisdom in gardening practices.

Sketch a general garden plan, incorporating the heat- and drought-resistant plants you've chosen. Take into account existing shade trees, and heat-reflecting garden fences and walls, as well as the location of your outdoor spigot. Remember, heat resistant doesn't always mean drought resistant. Estimate from your sketched garden plan how many plants you will need to purchase.

Plant your choices with reference to seasonal temperatures (warmer climates have longer gardening seasons), and at a cooler part of the day. Water regularly to ensure proper acclimation. If you have added vines to cover fences or walls, continue to train them up twine or trellis.

When the growing season has ended, record what plants flourished most, and in what location, for reference for your future heat-resistant gardening efforts. Keep your original and modified garden plans and records of what worked well in an easily accessible folder, along with seed packets, variety markers and other optional items.



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Laura Michelle Halfmann and Keith John Batla

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Halfmann of Garden City, Texas, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Laura Michelle Halfmann, to Keith John Batla, son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Batla of Garden City.

The couple met in their hometown of Garden City and they both graduated from Texas A&M University.

The future bride now works for Laredo Petroleum and the groom works for Cudd Pumping Services.

A June 2014 wedding is planned and the couple will be making their home in Garden City.

Mrs. Patricia McCormick and Mr. Lee Friend, of San Angelo, Texas, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Cheyenne Friend, to Richard Key, son of Dr. and Mrs. John Key of Big Spring, Texas.

Cheyenne is a 2004 graduate of San Angelo Central High School and received her bachelor of business administration in marketing from Angelo State University in 2008.

She currently works for Market Street as a catering manager and event planner in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Richard is a 2001 graduate of Big Spring High School and a 2003 graduate of New Mexico Military Institute with an associate in criminal justice.

Also, he received his bachelor of arts in criminal justice and real estate in 2008 from Angelo State University.

Richard is currently employed by Texas Parks and Wildlife as a Game Warden for Archer County.

A private wedding ceremony will be held July 31, 2014, in Wichita Falls. The couple will honeymoon in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.



Cheyenne Friend and Richard Key

Birth

Dominic Blake Littel, a boy, was born April 28, 2014, to Jeremy and Brittany Littel, of Winona, Minn. Maternal grandparents are Blake Sr. and Cynthia Stinson of Winona. Paternal grandparents are Charlie Littel and Nancy Trotter of Minneiska, Minn., deceased.

Menus

Senior Center

Monday: Baked steak with onion gravy, scalloped potatoes, broccoli, fruit cocktail, bread and milk.

Tuesday: Hamburger casserole, vegetable blend, carrot and raisin salad, chocolate mint bars, rolls and milk.

Wednesday: Beef and chicken fajitas, tortilla, Spanish rice, lettuce and tomatoes, guacamole salad, strawberries and bananas and milk.

Thursday: Chicken fried steak, cream gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed greens, oranges and grapes, corn-bread and milk.

Friday: Barbecue chicken breast, macaroni salad, oven okra, onion, sweet pepper, fruit salad, rolls and milk.

Sands ISD

Monday: Breakfast, French toast sticks. Lunch, pizza dippers, garden salad, baby carrots, fruit cup and (HS) pudding.

Tuesday: Breakfast, chicken and biscuit. Lunch, deli sandwich with ham and cheese, tomato and lettuce, seasoned corn and snowball salad.

Wednesday: Breakfast, pancake and sausage on a stick and oven roasted potatoes. Lunch, chicken fried steak, savory green beans, potatoes, roll and fruit.

Thursday: Breakfast, sunrise sandwich. Lunch, chicken quesadilla, pinto beans, baby carrots, salsa and orange smiles.

Friday: Breakfast, cereal with Texas toast. Lunch, cheeseburger, lettuce and tomato, fresh veggie cup and mixed fruit.

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast, assorted cereal, animal crackers, grapes, assorted fruit juice and milk. Lunch, crispy tacos, garden salad, refried beans, applesauce, fresh fruit bowl and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast, mini maple pancakes, sausage patty, apples, assorted fruit juice and milk. Lunch, chicken fried steak, roll, mashed potatoes, green beans, strawberries and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast, mini corn dogs, peach cup, assorted fruit juice and milk. Lunch, chicken fajitas, charro beans, corn, orange smiles, fresh fruit bowl and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast, blueberry loaf, strawberry yogurt, banana, assorted fruit juice and milk. Lunch, chicken spaghetti, breadsticks, garden salad, baby carrots, peaches and milk.

Friday: Breakfast, grape PBJ Uncrustable, mixed fruit cup, assorted fruit juice and milk. Lunch, Baja fish sandwich, sweet potato tots, coleslaw, pineapple chunks, fresh fruit bowl and milk.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast, breakfast wrap with egg, sausage and cheese, cereal variety, toast, jelly, chilled peaches and fresh whole fruit. Lunch, chicken spaghetti, chicken fried rice, grab and go salad, popcorn chicken, seasoned sweet potatoes, seasoned green beans, chilled tropical fruit, roll and apricot crisp.

Tuesday: Breakfast, scrambled egg Santa Fe, cereal variety, toast, jelly, chilled pears and fresh whole fruit. Lunch, zesty orange chicken, chicken stir fry, cheeseburger, glazed carrots,

Oriental blend veggies, blushing pears, roll and fortune cookie.

Wednesday: Breakfast, biscuit and gravy, sausage patty, cereal variety, toast, jelly, chilled apricots and fresh whole fruit. Lunch, Big Daddy pizza variety, spaghetti with meat sauce, grab and go salad, chicken caesar, seasoned corn, seasoned green beans, chilled peaches and breadstick.

Thursday: Breakfast, mini blueberry pancakes with syrup, cereal variety, toast, jelly, mixed fruit and fresh whole fruit. Lunch, Irish nachos (potato wedges with beefy nacho cheese), Mexican chalupa, grab and go salad chicken chipotle, Spanish rice, refried beans, southwest broccoli with cheese, lettuce and tomato salad and chilled strawberry cups.

Friday: Breakfast, scrambled eggs with ham, cereal variety, toast, jelly, chilled Mandarin oranges and fresh whole fruit. Lunch, barbecue beef on bun, roasted barbecue chicken (legs, wings, thighs and breasts), basket spicy chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, baked beans with barbecue, chilled mixed fruit and roll.

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Breakfast, breakfast wrap with egg, sausage and cheese, yogurt and fruit parfait with Awesome granola, toast, jelly, cereal, chilled peaches, fresh whole fruit, 100 percent fruit juice and milk. Lunch, chicken spaghetti, Homestyle chicken patty with crème gravy, popcorn chicken salad,

au gratin potatoes, peas, carrot sticks with ranch dressing, Romaine garden salad, chilled pineapples, roll and apple crisp.

Tuesday: Breakfast, breakfast pizza with scrambled egg Santa Fe, toast, cereal, jelly, chilled pears, fresh whole fruit, 100 percent fruit juice and milk. Lunch, zesty orange chicken, chicken stir fry with steamed rice, cheeseburger basket, glazed carrots, Oriental blend vegetables, Romaine garden salad, blushing pears, fortune cookie and roll.

Wednesday: Breakfast, biscuit and gravy, sausage patty, smoked sausage with cheese in flour tortilla, toast, cereal, jelly, chilled apricots, fresh whole fruit, 100 percent fruit juice and milk. Lunch, chicken parmesan, spaghetti with breadstick, chicken caesar salad, corn on the cob, seasoned green beans, Romaine garden salad and chilled peaches.

Thursday: Breakfast, mini blueberry pancakes, French toast sticks, syrup, toast, cereal, jelly, mixed fruit, fresh whole fruit, 100 percent fruit juice and milk. Lunch, beefy nacho grande, Mexican chalupa, beef/chicken taco salad, Spanish brown rice, refried beans, southwest broccoli with cheese, lettuce and tomato salad, seasonal fresh fruit, chilled strawberry cups, salsa/jalapeno/sour cream/shredded cheese.

See **MENUS**, Page 3b

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MENUS

Continued from Page 2b

Friday: Breakfast, Home-Style cinnamon rolls, scrambled eggs with ham, toast, cereal, jelly, chilled Mandarin oranges, fresh whole fruit, 100% fruit juice and milk. Lunch, barbecue beef on a bun, barbecue roast chicken, spicy chicken basket, homemade potato salad, baked beans with barbecue sauce, Romaine garden salad, chilled mixed fruit and roll.

New Hope Christian School

Monday: Breakfast, cereal, pineapple juice and milk. Snack, celery sticks and string cheese. Lunch, ham and cheese sandwich, ranch style beans, peaches and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast, French toast, apricots and milk. Snack, graham crackers and milk. Lunch, Beanie Weenies, mixed veggies, French fries, bread and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast, cereal bars, orange smiles and milk. Snack, Goldfish and peaches. Lunch, sweet and sour chicken, stir fry veggies, black eyed peas and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast, honey bun, orange juice and milk. Snack, Ritz crackers and pineapple. Lunch, pizza pocket, green beans, carrot sticks and milk.

Friday: Breakfast, fruit bar, pears and milk. Snack, cinnamon bread and strawberry juice. Lunch, taco salad, corn, baked beans and milk.

Louvre Abu Dhabi shows off its treasures in Paris

PARIS (AP) The oil-rich United Arab Emirates certainly has the wealth of a first-class nation.

Now it hopes to buy in the culture of a first-class nation to the tune of 400 million euros (\$550 million).

The Louvre Abu Dhabi will open its doors in December 2015 in the Arab federation, and organizers hope it will put the country with flashy hotels, arid deserts and the world's 7th biggest oil reserves on the map instead for its oil paintings.

But the project has been raising eyebrows among Europeans, who say that culture requires more than just a check-book. In Paris, the Louvre unveiled a preview Tuesday of the art that the Abu Dhabi project has acquired since 2009.

French President Francois Hollande inaugurated the exhibition of some 160 works entitled "Birth of a Museum."

It includes a 19th-century Yemeni Torah, a 13th-century Gothic Bible as well as a swath of Renaissance and modern masterpieces by artists such as Yves Klein, Rene Magritte and Pablo Picasso.

The generous spending pot has produced a collection as impressive as it is diverse, unafraid to grapple with themes such as sexuality and different religions. "We want to establish Abu Dhabi as a place for cultural tourism," the Louvre Abu Dhabi's assistant curator, Khalid Abdulkhaliq Abdulla, said at the Paris exhibit.

He said the Abu Dhabi Louvre will be the centerpiece of a planned cultural district that will also include a branch of New York's Guggenheim and a national museum.

However, skeptics in France say the nation known for its nouveau riche society can't simply buy its way into being "cultured."

The museum's renowned architect Jean Nouvel brushed off such critics with a Gallic shrug, suggesting detractors are just annoyed or jealous that Europe now doesn't have the money to embark on such costly cultural projects.

"Do you think we did it any differently in Europe when we used to be more powerful?" Nouvel asked.

"It's normal that an economic power trans-

One man's mission to spread the Word

By **ANDREIA MEDLIN**

Staff Writer

Jesus loves you.

These words, carved into the large wooden crucifix Walter Masters carries over his shoulder, are the message he wishes to convey to the people he meets during his travels.

"I just want to share the love of Christ and tell about all the wonderful things He has done for us," Masters explained.

For the past 15 years, Masters has taken up the cross that he made and carries it from town to town across the U.S. in homage to his Christian faith. Originally from San Angelo, Masters said he has walked approximately 15,000 miles from Washington state and back to Texas.

A unique undertaking he shares with his wife who follows close behind, "Just in case."

The crucifix, created by Masters, is 10 feet by 4 1/2 feet and weighs 50 pounds. And despite the small wheel attached to the end, the weight of the object grows as the day wears on. "And boy by the end of the day I feel it," he said laughing.

Despite the discomfort, Masters said he makes the journey every year because he was



HERALD photo/Andreia Medlin

On a mission. Walter Masters carries a wooden cross through Big Spring Friday.

called to mission. For more information you can email masters at masterscross@juno.com or visit the website www.freegift.

net To contact Andreia Medlin call the Herald at 263-7331.

lates this (power) through the act of acquiring cultural art." The exhibit curator compared the Abu Dhabi of today to the U.S. in the early 20th century, when it was emerging economically and industrially and private collectors started founding museums to showcase their artistic wealth.

"During this period we said the same thing ... but with hindsight what do we see? It's that European and Asian art are present in the U.S. and participated in making the American culture ... in making the country's identity. And I think that's what needs to be remembered," said curator Vincent Pomerade.

One expert noted many European collections were built in less desirable ways.

"Buying in culture is far better than looting it, which is what most nations did for hundreds of years," said Julian Radcliffe of the Art Loss Register. The next hurdle of this ambi-

tious but controversial project will be in convincing the greater Arab world to accept the museum's bold artistic representations of sexuality and religion.

Beyond this, the Arab Louvre project's founders believe Abu Dhabi is an ideal location for a universal museum as the UAE itself is a cultural crossroad.

"This idea of a crossroad, this idea of dialogue between civilizations, the meeting of cultures, the meeting of art, was at the heart of the project from the beginning," added Pomerade.

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Mother's Day tart recipe

Lasagna isn't typically associated with Mother's Day, but it is the dish that inspired us this year as we searched for a fresh way to offer Mom a delicious brunch.

RICOTTA SPINACH TART

Start to finish: 1 hour (20 minutes active)

Servings: 6

1 package prepared pie dough

- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 5-ounce package baby spinach
- 1 egg
- 2 cups ricotta cheese
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh thyme
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup grated Asiago cheese

Heat the oven to 375 F. Coat an 8-inch tart pan with a removable bottom with cooking spray.

Press the pie dough into the tart pan, trimming any excess. In a skillet over medium-high, heat the oil. Add the garlic and cook for 1 minute. Add the spinach and cook until completely soft and most of the liquid has evaporated, 4 to 5 minutes. Transfer the spinach to a fine mesh strainer. Using a spoon or silicone spatu-

la, press the spinach to extract any remaining liquid. In a medium bowl, beat the egg, then add the ricotta, thyme, lemon zest, salt, pepper and spinach. Stir to combine. Spread the mixture in the prepared tart shell and sprinkle with Asiago cheese. Place on a baking sheet and bake for 35 to 40 minutes, or until puffed

and golden brown. Allow to cool slightly. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Nutrition information per serving: 350 calories; 200 calories from fat (57 percent of total calories); 22 g fat (10 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 70 mg cholesterol; 25 g carbohydrate; 1 g fiber; 2 g sugar; 14 g protein; 460 mg sodium.

Charles Myers

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AGRI-LIFE photo/Dr. David Drake

In this picture taken in Runnels County on April 22, the white wheat heads show clear evidence of damage from a hard freeze a week earlier.

Wheat feels the freeze

Robert Burns

Agri-Live extension agent

COLLEGE STATION — Two weeks after the late hard freezes of April 14-15, reports of wheat damage from around the state were “pretty close” to what was expected, with most damage occurring in the Central and West Central regions, said Dr. Clark Neely, AgriLife Extension small grains and oilseed specialist, College Station.

Temperatures in the Panhan-

dle and Rolling Plains stayed mostly in the mid-20s, and based on reports from other AgriLife Extension specialists and county agents, wheat there was not as advanced in growth and, therefore, not as likely to have been damaged as it was in the Central and West Central regions, Neely said.

Though the temperatures in Central and West Central regions were higher, hovering around freezing, wheat there

was flowering, a growth stage when the crop is most susceptible to freeze damage, he said.

“There’s been some spotty reports of freeze damage in parts of the Blacklands between Dallas and Hillsboro,” Neely said. “I looked at a field north of Hillsboro on Thursday last week (April 22). There was a slope on the field, and at the bottom of the hill, about 50 percent of

See **CROPS**, Page 5B

Ranching event scheduled May 6 in Gail

GAIL — The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) will host a ranch gathering Tuesday at the Gail Event Center. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. followed by a complimentary beef dinner. The event is free and open to the public.

Stan Bevers, extension economist with Texas A&M University, will give a cattle industry update.

RSVP to 800-242-7820, ext. 192, or rsvp@tscra.org.

The Gail Event Center is located at 127 Willow Valley Rd. in Gail, Texas.

The gathering is sponsored by Novartis Animal Health, Capital Farm Credit and Livestock Nutrition Center. Anyone who joins TSCRA at the gathering will receive a free metal gate sign courtesy of Bayer Animal Health and New Holland Agriculture.

5 things to know about Google's self-driving automobiles

JUSTIN PRITCHARD

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The director of Google's self-driving car project wrote in a blog post Monday that development of the technology has entered a new stage: trying to master driving on city streets. Many times more complex than freeways, which the cars can now reliably navigate, city streets represent a



huge challenge.

Here are five things to know about the cars, and their future.

Mean streets

Google says its cars have now driven about 700,000 accident-free miles on freeways in “autonomous mode” —

with the car in control, though a safety driver sits behind the wheel. That's the equivalent of about 120 San Francisco-to-Manhattan-to-San Francisco road trips.

With that success, Google has been focusing on city driving for

about the past year. Freeways are relatively simple for the cars — no blind corners, no cyclists and no pedestrians. City streets have all that and more, including intersections and complex

See **CARS**, Page 5B

RIBBON CUTTING



Courtesy photo

A ribbon cutting was held recently for A Joyful Season, owned by Elissa Bancroft and Lindsey Pinkerton. For more information, call 432-816-6785.

ON THE MONEY

When to book an airplane flight

NEW YORK (AP) — Booking a flight is often confusing, annoying and frustrating. Prices fluctuate so frequently that most vacationers can't tell if they are getting a good deal.

We check multiple websites, often several times a day. Then, a few days after we finally do book that non-refundable ticket, there's a sale, confirming that we overpaid.

So when is the best time to book a flight? One travel site dug through the data and has an answer for us: 54 days in advance. Well, except there are plenty of caveats.

We'll get back to that number in a minute, but first a little bit about how the process works.

Airlines use sophisticated computer programs to analyze booking trends and constantly change prices to get the most money out of each flight. That's why two passengers in the same row might have paid vastly different fares, depending on when they booked. Complicating matters is a bevy of fees added to help the airlines offset higher jet fuel prices.

That's why booking at the right time is so much more important today. The average cost of a roundtrip domestic ticket — including baggage and reservation change fees — grew to \$378.62 from \$351.48 in the last five years, when adjusted for inflation.

That brings us to 54 days.

For a study published in February, booking site CheapAir.com looked at millions of trip combinations, searching as far as 320 days in advance to one day prior to departure and every possible day between. That's 1.3 billion airfares. The result: 54 days in advance was the best time, on average, to buy domestic tickets. This is not a hard-and-fast rule, however.

Airfares to popular vacation destinations tend to go up sooner. So flights to Phoenix, San Diego, Orange County, Calif., as well as Ft. Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Pensacola, and Orlando in Florida were actually cheapest 75 days in advance, according to CheapAir's study. For Las Vegas, it was 81 days and for airports in Hawaii it was 87 days.

Confused yet? That's why CheapAir tried to simply things and come up with a more-general rule: The prime booking window is 29 to 104 days before departure.

That fits with a report that the Airlines Reporting Corp, which processes ticket transactions for airlines and more than 9,400 travel agencies, including websites such as Expedia and Orbitz. That 2012 study found that the optimal time to book is about six weeks in advance. Fliers booking then paid about 5.8 percent less than the average domestic fare.

Now, here's some bad news: The formula is completely different for those peak travel periods when everybody wants to fly. So, if you still haven't booked your flights to Europe for this summer, forget about it. The best time to buy those, according to CheapAir, was a whopping 319 days in advance.

But at least you can start thinking now about Thanksgiving and Christmas travel. The cheapest day to book those flight last year was June 4 — roughly five and six months prior to the respective holidays.

Here are some other tips to saving:

— Look for connecting flights. Flying nonstop is ideal, but that convenience isn't free. Adding one stop could save \$100 round-trip. Just leave plenty of time to connect.

— Be flexible with your dates. Use a flexible date search to find the cheapest days in a month to fly.

— Consider the 24-hour rule. U.S. airlines are required to let you cancel most tickets booked directly through their websites. (There are exceptions for those within a week of travel.) After you book, check the next morning and see whether the price fell. If so, call to cancel and rebook.

— After 24 hours, still watch for price declines. Any savings is typically wiped out by fees to change your reservation, ranging from \$75 to \$200. However, Southwest Airlines doesn't impose change fees and Alaska Airlines waives them up to 60 days before a trip. If fares on those carriers drop, you can get a credit for the difference.

— Book intra-Europe flights through overseas websites. The flights are often cheaper on the airline's home country website. Google's Chrome browser will translate it for you. If that doesn't work, try the country specific site of Expedia.

— Pick two different airlines. Most airlines now sell one-way flights at reasonable prices. One airline might be cheaper for the outbound flight and another for the return.

— Search multiple sites. The cheapest flight doesn't always show up on every website. Expedia, Orbitz and Travelocity are the biggest online ticket-sellers. Sometimes better deals can be found on Kayak, Hipmunk, AirfareWatchdog, Yapta, FareCompare, CheapOair, Mobissimo and Fly.com. Some airlines, like Southwest, aren't included on many sites. Look at airport websites to make sure you aren't missing a carrier.

— Fly, then drive. Some airlines have a virtual monopoly at certain airports, allowing them to charge more. Most search sites can check fares at airports 50, 75 or even 100 miles from your destination.

Building Permits

April 13 through April 21, 2014.
Arnold Uribe, 107 NW 9th St., residential electric. Valuation: \$1 Fee: \$25; residential gas. Val: \$3,000 Fee: \$32.
Thomas Hodges, 601 Linda Ln., residential alteration/addition. Val: \$1 Fee: \$25.
Luis H. Flores Jr., 1103 W. 6th St., other nonresidential. Val: \$500 Fee: \$25.
Rudy Hilario, 1801 E. FM 700 E6, commercial electric. Val: \$500 Fee: \$25
Sammy Pena, 2511 Peach, residential electrical safety. Val: \$500 Fee: \$25
Puga's Heating, A/C Sheet Metal, 2805 Crestline, commercial HVAC. Val: \$8,000 Fee: \$45
Shane Faucett, 1801 Alabama, residential gas. Val: \$1,000 Fee: \$32
Teresa Deloris McGuire, 1000 Nolan, residential gas. Val: \$1,000 Fee: \$32
Lesley Lane Clawson, 2309 Brent, residential re-roof. Val: \$9,000 Fee: \$55
ASAP Funding, 1008 Bluebonnet, residential electric. Val: \$500 Fee: \$25
Metcalf Energy, 1801 E. FM 700 F-4, residential electric. Val: 0 Fee: \$25
Mark Alan Heinis, 1703 Owens, construction. Val: \$500 Fee: \$25
Vanessa Malu Calderon, 2518 Warehouse 607 E. Val: 0 Fee: \$25
Henry G. Tubbs, 1109 Johnson, residential roof and re-roof. Val: \$1,000 Fee: \$25
RV Medic, 1507 E. 4th St., sign. Val: \$350 Fee: \$25
Emma Bermea, 712 Andree St., residential electric. Val: \$650 Fee: \$25
Sonia Weaver Lusk, 1007 Johnson, residential gas. Val: \$1,000 Fee: \$32
Vanessa Malu Calderon, 2600 Chanute, construction. Val: \$3,000 Fee: \$553

Building Code Recap

Residential re-roof, 2 projects, 2 segments. Val: \$10,000 Fee: \$80
Residential electric, 4 projects, 4 segments. Val: \$1,651 Fee: \$100
Residential gas, 3 projects, 4 segments. Val: \$6,000 Fee: \$128
Residential curb cut, 1 project, 1 segment. Val: \$500 Fee: \$25
Signs, Type A,B,C,D,E,F, 1 project, 1 segment. Val: \$350 Fee: \$25
Commercial electric, 3 projects, 3 segments. Val: \$500 Fee: \$75
Commercial HVAC, 1 project, 1 segment. Val: \$8,000 Fee: \$45
Other residential buildings, 1 project, 1 segment. Val: \$500 Fee: \$25
Residential additions and alterations, 2 projects, 2 segments. Val: \$3,001 Fee: \$50

CARS

Continued from Page 4B

interactions with other drivers, such as who goes first at a four-way stop sign.

To-do list

Google says that in the past year, the Lexus RX450H SUVs it has retrofitted with lasers, radar and cameras rapidly learned how to handle thousands of urban driving situations. The robot's vision can now "read" stop signs (rather than rely on a map to plot them out) and differentiate between hundreds of objects in real time. It also can negotiate construction zones much more reliably.

But the technology is far from perfect. Improvements are needed in merging and lane changes, turning right on red and handling bad weather.

Coming to a neighborhood near you?

Not in the near future — unless you live in Mountain View, Calif., where Google is located. So far, the tech giant has focused street driving in its hometown, which it has mapped parts of in tremendous detail. The mapping helps the car's computer make sense of its environment and focus on moving parts — other cars, cyclists and pedestrians.

Just four states — California, Nevada, Florida and Michigan — and Washington, D.C., have formally opened public streets to testing of self-driving cars, though testing is probably legal nearly everywhere (because it is not expressly banned).

The future is (not quite) here

In 2012, Google co-founder Sergey Brin predicted that the pub-

lic would be able to get ahold of the technology within five years. Google isn't revising that date. Initially, drivers would be expected to take control if the computer fails. Eventually, the vision goes, there would be no need for a person in the driver's seat — or at least not a driver who has to watch the road.

Google, the carmaker?

While Google has enough money to invest in making cars, that likelihood is remote. More likely options include collaborating with major carmakers or giving away the software, as Google did with its Android operating system.

Meanwhile, traditional automakers are developing driverless cars of their own. Renault-Nissan's CEO said he hopes to deliver a model to the public by 2020.

where it gets cold enough, damage can be very obvious as the seed heads will be bleached completely white, he said. But the signs of a sterile head can be less obvious than whitening. Upon closer examination, it may be found there's no seed at all in the head or the head may be disfigured.

"It's much harder to tell early on," Neely said. "Sometimes, you can tell on how the anthers look. Typically, if they're damaged, they will be shriveled or discolored. But really, the best way to know is just to wait and see if the seed develops or not."

Also, it's not sufficient to tell from just looking at the field from the road, he said.

"In the Hillsboro case, the entire field looked

green and the heads looked fine. But when you went into the field and started peeling back the glumes, you could tell no seed was developing."

There was also damage in the South Plains, parts of which actually got colder than the more northern Panhandle. However, in many dryland fields, freeze damage was secondary to yield losses already inflicted from the drought, Neely noted.

Most of the wheat in Texas is typically planted in the Panhandle, followed closely by the Rolling Plains and the South Plains. The West Central region and Blacklands also contribute substantial acreage, but to a lesser degree, according to Neely.

RIBBON CUTTING



Courtesy photo

A ribbon cutting was held recently by Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce for The Twigs Children's Boutique a 1801 S. Main. Contact the boutique at 806-928-5776. The owner is Tara Wood.

GM begins talks to settle lawsuits

DETROIT (AP) — A mediator for General Motors has begun negotiations about settling more than 300 claims related to a deadly ignition switch problem in some older model small cars.

Kenneth Feinberg confirmed he met with Robert Hilliard, a Corpus Christi, Texas, lawyer who said he represents families of 53 people killed and 273 injured in crashes of defective GM vehicles. Feinberg would not comment specifically on what was discussed.

"I'm evaluating various compensation options for GM to consider," said Feinberg, who plans to present the options to GM in the next few weeks.

Feinberg said he listened to Hilliard and four colleagues explain the "quality and quantity" of their cases. Hilliard said no dollar figures were discussed, adding that he won't settle at a discount to what his clients could get through court mediation.

GM has recalled 2.6 million small cars, mostly Chevrolet Cobalts and Saturn Ions, to replace the faulty switches, which can slip unexpectedly out of the "run" position and cause the engines to shut down. If that happens, power-assisted steering and brakes will fail, making cars difficult to control. Also, the air bags won't inflate in a crash.

GM has admitted knowing about the problem for more

than a decade, but it didn't start recalling the cars until last February. The company counts far fewer victims than Hilliard, saying 13 deaths and 31 crashes are linked to the switches.

Feinberg is an expert in disaster fund management who handled the Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund as well as funds for victims of the Boston Marathon bombing and the BP oil spill.

At the hearing, GM CEO Mary Barra stopped short of saying the company would compensate victims. "We will make the best decisions for our customers, recognizing that we have legal obligations and responsibilities as well as moral obligations," she said.

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- the market or appraised value of your property
- the unequal appraisal of your property
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- any exemptions that may apply to you
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- the taxable status of your property
- the local governments which should be taxing your property
- the ownership of property
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board (ARB) that applies to and adversely affects you.

Informal Review

For an informal review please contact the Glasscock County Appraisal District at 432/354-2580.

Review by the ARB

If you cannot resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the ARB.

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You will receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. The law provides that before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your agent and the CAD shall each provide the other with a copy of any written material intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-

examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property's value by clear and convincing evidence. You should review ARB hearing procedures to learn more about evidence and related matters. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office or from the Comptroller of Public Accounts at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxforms/50-132.pdf.

You should not try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they have not talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court, an Arbitrator or SOAH

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you are not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB's order. In certain cases, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may file, not later than the 45th day after you receive notice of the ARB order, a request for binding arbitration with the county appraisal district. In certain cases, you may appeal to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). An appeal to SOAH is initiated by, not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB's order, filing with the chief appraiser of the county appraisal district a notice of appeal. Appeals to district court, binding arbitration, or SOAH all require payment of certain fees or deposits.

Tax Payment

You must pay either the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

More Information

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at

Glasscock County Appraisal District
PO Box 155, 124 S. Myrl Street
Garden City, TX 79739
Phone: 432/354-2580

You can get an additional information on how to prepare a protest from the Comptroller's publication, *Property Tax Basics*, available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/basics/96-1425.pdf.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

Usual Deadline

On or before May 31 (or 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. Good cause is some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are due the day before the ARB approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

Special Deadlines

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change did not result from a protest you filed), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually Feb. 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

*The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or holiday.

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC War- rants:

Sherrri Monique Aldridge, 1507 E. 6th St., Big Spring
 Marcus Joe Anderson, 3306 Auburn, Big Spring
 Steve Antoine, 1425 E. 6th St. no. 19, Big Spring
 Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
 Jessica Lynn Banks, 6403 CR 1200, Lubbock
 Jennifer Leigh Black, 1405 E. Barton, Temple
 William Riley Bounds, 1819 Corsicana, Dallas
 Bobby Gene Bricker, 1909 Alabama, Big Spring
 Tiffany Burke-Mendoza, 1503 Robin, Big Spring
 Roy Dewayne Carter, 5320 Wasson, Big Spring
 Susan Cheyanne Cearley, 4104 Muir, Big Spring
 Toyna Renea Cogburn, 605 Dealy, Big Spring
 Matilda Cortez, 302 N. St. Teresa, Stanton
 Stefan Deal, 8102 Casie Ln. apt 1131, Fort Worth
 Manuel Delosrios, 707 Lorilla, Big Spring
 Teana L. Demeny-Roberts, 5601 N. SR, Big Spring
 Shiloh Sharee Dennis, 4651 E. CR 490, Stanton
 Michael Angelo Dorado, 2202 William Rd., Big Spring
 Maria Luisa Elizondo, 603 S. 2nd St., Meadow
 John Randall Evatt, 608 S. Louisiana apt. C, Amarillo
 Kristen Falcon, 2606 Fairchild Dr., Big Spring
 Michael Dean Fleming, 5216 Tremont Ave., Midland
 Sharlamarr Frink, 3723 Monclair, Odessa
 Lee Anna Garcia, 1011 Stadium Ave., Big Spring
 Noel Garcia II, 107 Bluebonnet/1011 Stadium Ave., Big Spring
 Pedro Garcia, 806 Johnson, Big Spring
 Joe Nick Garfias Jr., 1309 Runnels, Big Spring
 Rosa M. George, 509 W. 2nd St., Stanton
 Roxanne Deanda Gonzales, 538 Westover apt. 211, Big Spring
 Whitney Marquez Gray, 2934 Old Anson Rd. no. 1224, Abilene
 James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler St. no. 502, Atlanta, Texas
 Christina Nichole Gutierrez, 2809 25th St., Snyder
 Joe Guzman, 1313 Mesquite, Big Spring
 Dylan Hammons, 4401 E. 11th Pl., Big Spring
 Kimberly Dee Hargrove, P.O. Box 1985, Big Spring
 Matias Hernandez Jr., 620 E. 4th St., San Angelo
 April M. Horton, 1705 Charles St., Portsmouth, Ohio
 Brian Ivanchan, 1208 Mulberry, Big Spring
 Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N. Texas no. 198, Odessa
 Christopher Shawn Jones, 1311 Vanham Ave., Wilson
 Albert Leal, 2522

Albrook Dr., Big Spring
 Richard Leos, 509 W. 8th St., Big Spring
 Jesse Paul Lopez, 1011 Scurry, Big Spring
 Robert Lee Lopez, 503 E. 18th St., Big Spring
 Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham Ave., Odessa
 Todd Vincent Martin, 409 Woodcrest, Midland
 Joe Martinez, 2525 Fairchild, Big Spring
 Manuel Martinez Jr., 702 N.E. Iona, Lamesa
 Lee Allen Mathis, 101 Falcon Ln., Hillsboro
 Norman James McNeese, 1098 LCR 317, Colorado City
 Cory James Michalewicz, 1106 Briscoe Cove, Hutto
 Darryl Lee Miller, 1611 E. 5th St., Big Spring
 Jacob Montoya, 1009 S. Kelly, Odessa
 Clinton Aaron Muse Jr., 700 Ohio, Big Spring
 Camilo Martin Nieto, 1 Courney Pl. no. 108, Big Spring
 Melissa Chu-Lai Nieto, 615 Tulane Ave., Big Spring
 Robert Scott Ochoa, 2607 Chanute, Big Spring
 James Michael Perez, 1603 Owens, Big Spring
 Michael Lynn Perkins, 11681 CR 4164 Hermeleigh
 Fred Allen Perry, 509 Reed Rd., Big Spring
 Taylor James Perry, 2105 Sidney Baker no. 2, Kerrville
 Jarum Renee Pryor, 602 N. Plaza, Big Lake
 Martin Sosa Puga, 1614 Settles, Big Spring
 Randy Randolph, 237 W. 21st St., Ft. Stockton
 Shenna Leean Reeves, 615 Gene Lee Rd., Mineral Wells
 Sheila Fay Richardson, 1707 Donley, Big Spring
 John Troy Riddle, 801 Industrial Loop no. 65, Breckenridge
 Liza Leigh Rios, 1002 N. Main no. 30, Big Spring
 Linda Eva Rodriguez, 2519 Gunter Circle, Big Spring
 Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Rd., Big Spring
 Lisa J. Rubio, 1303 Sycamore, Big Spring
 Miguel Andres Sanchez, 64 McCales Rd., Montgomery
 Anastasia Clarice Sanders, 1401 Culpeper Ave., Wilson
 Brittany Nicole Savell, 425 E. Davis Rd., Big Spring
 Rebecca Sanders Scott, P.O. Box 1941 Pearland
 Kennedra Wynell Shelton, 400 N. 40th St. no. A, Corsicana
 Amy Leigh Shifflett, 209N. Main, Coahoma
 Charles Ray Smith, 2911 W. Hwy 80 apt. 155, Big Spring
 Harvey Stegman, 1204 N. 13th St., Lamesa
 Tiffany Katherine Stokes, 1407 E. 19th St., Big Spring
 Timothy Donald Taylor, 4000 W. Hwy 80 no. 19, Big Spring
 Abram Heinrichs Unger, 503 NE 4th St., Seminole
 Ricky Lynn Waltenbaugh, 538 Westover

Rd. apt. 133, Big Spring
 Timothy Shea Wargo, 624 State St., Big Spring
 Thomas Weeks, P.O. Box 110891, Anchorage, Alaska
 Candida Lynn Whitehead, 3706 Connley, Big Spring
 Tamara Ruth Whitt, 1909 Morrison, Big Spring
 Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd. apt. 2, Big Spring
 Byran Paul Williams, 1409 E. Main St., Round Rock
 Frances Elena Yanez, 1610 Cardinal, Big Spring
 James Edward Young, 3313 Auburn Ave., Big Spring

Marriage Licenses

Keith Owen Jensen, 41 and Misty Dawn Teakell, 34, both of Grford
 Christopher Lee Hogg, 38, of Coahoma and Misty Ann Baker, 41, of Big Spring

County Court Filings

State of Texas vs Rianon Henson Melton. Probated judgment. Resist arrest, search/transport. \$500 fine, 180 days in jail and \$287 court cost.

State of Texas vs Larry Dale King. Judgment and sentence. Theft of property \$20 but less than \$500 by check. \$100 fine, \$287 court cost and 30 days in jail.

State of Texas vs Richard Leonard Moya. Probated judgment. Driving while intoxicated with open container. \$750 fine, 180 days in jail and \$457.10 court cost.

State of Texas vs Stephanie Rochelle Williams. Probated judgment. Possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces. \$200 fine, 180 days in jail and \$347 court cost.

State of Texas vs Lance Wayne Land. Judgment and sentence. Possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces. \$100, \$347 court cost and 75 days in jail.

State of Texas vs John Flores Jr. Judgment and sentence. Theft of property \$50 but less than \$500. \$100 fine, \$337 court cost and 75 days in jail.

State of Texas vs Omar Powell. Probated judgment. Possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces. \$750 fine, 180 days in jail and \$347 court cost.

State of Texas vs Lance Wayne Land. Judgment and sentence. Theft of property \$500 but less than \$1,500. \$100 fine, \$337 court cost and 75 days in jail.

State of Texas vs Jorge A Carreon-Deleon. Judgment and sentence. Theft of property \$50 but less than \$500. \$100 fine, \$287 court cost and 45 days in jail.

State of Texas vs John Flores Jr. Judgment and sentence. Theft of property \$50 but less than \$500. \$100 fine, \$287 court cost and 75 days in jail.

State of Texas vs Felicia Dawn Coble. Judgment and sentence. Fail to identify giving false/fictitious information. \$100 fine, \$287 court cost and 30 days in jail.

District Court Filings

Antonio Resendis Sanchez vs Claudia Sanchez Sanchez – Divorce
 Maria Magdalena Enriquez vs Simon Martin Sanchez – Divorce
 Brigette Marie Sandoval vs David John Sandoval – Divorce

Donovan Lee Jaramillo, et al vs Big Spring Lookout LLC, et al – Other injury or damage
 Tobias Molina vs Robin Molina – Divorce
 Peggy Lee vs Earl Ray Lee – Divorce

Cindi L. Herrera vs Andrew K. Bowman – Divorce
 Linda Diana Perez vs Benjamin William Perez – Divorce
 Hailey Sandridge vs Michael Jackman – Divorce

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Charles Wesley Miller Jr. and Bonnie L. Miller
 Grantee: Lloyd A. Wolf Jr. and Pamela M. Wolf
 Property: S/2 of sec 35, blk 33, T-1-S T&P RR Co. Survey, Howard County
 Date: April 21, 2014

Grantor: James Wray Warren, independent

executor of the estate of Loran Harold Warren, deceased.

Grantee: Vernon W. Henley and Brenda Henley
 Property: NE/4 of sec 46, blk 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. Survey, Howard County
 Date: April 22, 2014

Grantor: Sheree Moates and Mike Moates
 Grantee: Keith Herrley and Karen Herrley
 Property: SW/4 of sec 5, blk 32, T-1-S, T&P Ry Co. Survey, Howard County
 Date: April 22, 2014

Grantor: Horace Richie Tubb, independent executor of the estate of Horace E. Tubb, deceased, and Patricia A. Eubanks, trustee of trusts established by the last will and testament of Jewel Forrest Tubb.
 Grantee: Tad Ellis and Rhianna Ellis
 Property: SW/4 of sec 8, blk 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey, Howard County
 Date: April 22, 2014

Grantor: Debra Lusk and Sonia Lusk
 Grantee: Erik Rivas and Martin Rivas
 Property: Lot 17, blk 11 and lot 16, blk 11, Monticello Addition
 Date: April 23, 2014

Grantor: Horace Richie Tubb independent executor of the estate of Horace E. Tubb, deceased, and Patricia A. Eubanks, trustee of trusts established by the last will and testament of Jewel Forrest Tubb.
 Grantee: Osvaldo Contreras Jimenez
 Property: SW/4 of sec 105, blk 29, W and NW RR Co. Survey, Howard County
 Date: April 23, 2014

Grantor: David Canales Sr.
 Grantee: Belarmino Gonzales
 Property: Lot 4, blk 30, Cole and Strayhorn Addition
 Date: April 30 2014

Grantor: David Canales Sr.
 Grantee: Belarmino Gonzales
 Property: Lot 4, blk 30, Cole and Strayhorn Addition
 Date: April 30 2014

Grantor: Roque Salazar Sr. and Jimmie Charlene Salazar
 Grantee: Chris Rushing
 Property: NW/4 of sec 43, blk 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey, Howard County
 Date: April 29, 2014

Grantor: Clifford M. Qualls
 Grantee: Belarmino Gonzales
 Property: Lot 4, blk 30, Cole and Strayhorn Addition
 Date: April 30, 2014

Grantor: Culley Wilson and Charles Wilson
 Grantee: Elizabeth Whiting Jones and Charles Regan Jones
 Property: Lot 12, blk 11, Monticello Addition
 Date: April 30, 2014

Grantor: Horace Richie Tubb independent executor of the estate of Horace E. Tubb, deceased, and Patricia A. Eubanks, trustee of trusts established by the last will and testament of Connie Crow Anderson; and John David Anderson
 Grantee: Crow-Anderson Holdings LLC
 Property: NE/4 of NE/4 of sec 24, blk 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. Survey, Howard County and the N/2 of sec 16, blk 31, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. Survey, Howard County
 Date: April 30, 2014

Sudoku Answer on Page 12B

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Silence Is Golden

West dealer.
 North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ K Q
 ♥ J 8 6
 ♦ K 8 5
 ♣ A K J 10 2

WEST
 ♠ A 10 9 7 5
 ♥ K 10 5 2
 ♦ A Q 4
 ♣ 3

EAST
 ♠ 8 3
 ♥ —
 ♦ J 10 9 6 3 2
 ♣ 8 7 6 5

SOUTH
 ♠ J 6 4 2
 ♥ A Q 9 7 4 3
 ♦ 7
 ♣ Q 4

The bidding:
 West North East South
 1 ♣ 1 NT Pass 4 ♥
 Dble
 Opening lead — three of clubs.

When a defender is reasonably sure he can set an opposing contract, he naturally considers doubling. Before he actually utters the word, however, the defender should consider whether he might be giving away information that will help declarer make a contract that might otherwise fail.

Take this case where West doubled four hearts and led the three of clubs. South had no trouble diagnosing the three as a singleton, since the deuce was in dummy and the bidding

marked West with length in spades and hearts.

Declarer won the club with the queen and, utilizing his knowledge of West's hand to the fullest, cashed the ace of hearts, disdaining a finesse. When East showed out as expected, South led another heart toward the J-8.

West put up the king since declarer would finesse the eight if the heart was ducked. Furthermore, West wanted to lock declarer in dummy and force him to lead a diamond or a club.

Accordingly, after taking the heart king, West played the ace and another spade to dummy's king. Declarer cashed the jack of hearts and then made the key play, leading the diamond king from dummy. This rendered the defense helpless. (If declarer had led a low diamond instead, East could have won the trick and given West a club ruff to defeat the contract.)

West took the king of diamonds with the ace, but when he tried to cash the queen, declarer ruffed and drew West's ten of trumps with the queen. South then claimed, discarding his fourth spade on one of dummy's good clubs.

It's true that South might have made four hearts without the double by West, but the double left declarer with no doubt about how to proceed.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

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Contact the Herald at
 newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

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710 Scurry

263-7331

www.bigspringherald.com

Cemetery Lots

LOTS IN sold out Garden of Galilee at Trinity. One space-\$1,700. Lot (2 spaces) - \$3,200. Text (828)553-4427 or email bizobbbtoo@aim.com.

TWO CEMETERY plots for sale at Garden of Galilee. Plot 261, spaces 1 and 2. In well established part of cemetery, market value is \$1840 each, selling for \$1500 each. Call Lee at 512-497-7757

Garage Sales

1503 N. FM700. Friday, Saturday, Sunday. 8am-? Furniture, kitchen, decor, Tonka, model cars, 10¢ and up items, tons of misc! Call 213-2300

Help Wanted

RESIDENT ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR

LTC facility seeks state licensed RN/LVN as MDS Coordinator. Prior related exper preferred. Requires TEXAS state license. Competitive salary & bnfts for FT employees. For info, call Administrator or DON; 325-573-6332, or apply at:

SNYDER HEALTHCARE CENTER
5311 Big Spring Highway in Snyder

Help Wanted

TOP JOBS

\$2,000 SIGN On Bonus! (Details at interview) NO weekend hours! PAID holidays, vacation and sick! AIRGAS USA, LLC is hiring a local CDL Class A or B Driver (w/Hazmat and Air Brake Endorsements). To apply, go to www.airgas.com. Airgas is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and promotes a drug free work environment.

AAA TUBING TESTING now hiring. Must have valid DL & pass drug test. Full benefit package. Will train. Call Jesse (432)267-7821.

ACCOUNT MANAGER Needed: Requires Good Driving Record, Computer and Phone Skills. Benefits Include: Health, Dental, 401K & Paid Vacation. In Person at Credit World, 1611 S. Gregg.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT- Monday-Thursday from 2-6, Event and meeting planning, make travel arrangements, running errands, setting appointments, monitor expenses. Attach resume with references and salary expectations: d.etra@aol.com

DRIVERS: \$2,500 Sign-On Bonus! Dedicated Runs! Solo & Trainers, Top Pay, Weekly Home-Time! Werner Enterprises: 1-855-515-8445

Help Wanted

BIG DOG RIG MOVERS is looking for a person to become part of our Safety Department. Must have knowledge of OSHA & DOT Standards with 2-5 years experience. Must have valid Drivers License and ability to work well with others. Full time position. Please send resume to RInge@eeronline.com or contact Ron Inge, Safety Director, at 432-262-4319

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LVNs - DAY & EVENING Shifts
Job Posting # 252975
Earn up to \$2720.05 per month (DOE)

Psychiatric Nursing Assistants
Job Posting # 250720
Varied Shifts
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

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CNAs New Wage Scale

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Call our Administrator or DON at 806-872-2141, or apply in person at

SAGE HEALTH CARE CENTER
1201 North 15th St.
Lamesa 253570

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www.richesondq.com

Certified Nurse Aides

We are looking for motivated and confident people to be a part of our health care team. We offer an excellent starting salary and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality care, please apply in person or send current resume to:

Stanton Nursing and Rehabilitation
1100 West Broadway
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2012 COUGAR RV, 28 ft., 2 doors, electric tongue jack, stabilizers, qwning, color TV, DVD player, radio, indoor and outdoor speakers, walk-in shower, table and chairs. Lots of storage. Comes with extras if you want them. \$20,000.00 OBO. Also EZ 750 electric scooters and two kayaks. Call (432) 213-1290.

Pets

LOST CAT - white, male blind cat on Warren Street. Answers to Killer. Please call 432-270-0074!



This link www.petfinder.com connects people to pets up for adoption from the Big Spring Animal Control (432)264-2372.

Real Estate for Rent

Swimming Pool
Carports,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen
Discounts
1 & 2 Bedrooms &
1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5555

1206 S. Monticello 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 4 year old home, extremely nice, \$1500 per month, \$1500 deposit. Call 432-517-2876

1706 OWENS- Totally Remodeled 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. \$900.00 month, \$900.00 deposit. Call 432-816-6992.

2-BED ROOM, 2-bath, large back yard, comes with refrigerator. 1-car carport. Central heat & cooling. Sets in old part of Big Spring. Rent \$1,400.00 per month, deposit \$750.00. Contact Big Spring Realty, Perry or Hank.

3/2 W 2 living areas. Fresh paint and brand new carpet throughout. Stove/refrigerator included and washer/dryer connections. Fenced backyard w 2 storage areas. \$1500 month/\$750 deposit - 1106 Lloyd. Call 432-816-9837

AFFORDABLE COUNTRY Living- OASIS RV Park has Spaces & Travel Trailers for Rent. Call 432-517-0062 or 264-9907.

AVAILABLE NOW! 800 square foot Office Space available with 4 rooms! 1512 Scurry. Call 432-213-1112 for more info!

FOR LEASE 1201 11th. Approximately 1200 sq. ft. First floor, rock building, former beauty salon, or can be office space. High traffic area, 270-4837.

FURNISHED, SPACIOUS apartment, single unit, quiet, private for one non-smoking person. \$700. All utilities paid. Credit check. Broker 432-270-0707.

HOUSE FOR rent or sale- 3 bedroom, 1 bath- \$758 per month. If interested, will sell, please call 432-263-7156

ROCK HOUSE Apartments- 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Includes sun-room with nice view of downtown Big Spring. \$850/month with \$425 deposit for a 1 year lease. 432-714-4001.

RV SPACE for Rent, Not in RV Park, Country Living. Call (432) 816-1107

VERY NICE large 2br/2ba at 406 Marcy available May 5. Limit two people only. Call 432-213-0775.

TRAVEL TRAILERS for rent...I have several 8x32 travel trailers for rent in nice parks..only \$1,000.00 per month. All bills paid 214-704-3450

TWO BEDROOM fully furnished apartment for rent, all bills paid, washer and dryer, \$1400 a month, \$500 deposit. Call 432-816-3224.

TWO TRAILER spaces for rent. Fifty & Thirty amp hookup, water and sewer, all utilities included. Call 432-268-6410

VERY NICE, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, plus bonus room! 2911 Navajo. \$1400.00 plus deposit. Background check. Call 432-816-1815.

Real Estate for Sale

1996 - 27 foot Dutchman fifth wheel for sale in excellent condition. New tires and lots of extras. Call 432-268-6410

3352 SCR 2300, Stanton, TX 79782. Country living at its best, 4 BR, 3 BA, 2007 modular home on 2 acres just north of Stanton off of CR 137. Slab built, fresh paint, 2 living areas, fireplace, lots of storage, water well and septic system, over 2300 sq. ft. (MCAD). Call Shirley Lee, Apex Real Estate Co., (432)967-2565 or call your real estate broker.

BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM home. 101 Cedar Rd. 2600 sq-ft. 3br/3ba, 2 living/2 dining. New appliances. Landscaped. Across from Big Spring State Park/700. \$189,000 Call 432-517-4747.

BUYERS MARKET- Rare New Mexico Country Club home. 2700 sq. ft, 1 acre \$299,000. Barbara 956-802-3682 Angel Fire Homes afrentals.com 888-308-3917 575-377-1113

NEW COMMERCIAL PROPERTY LISTING- 22,500 sq. ft. building on 12 1/2 acres. Perfect oil industry service company property. Call for details. Charles Smith 432-466-1613 or Home Realtors 432-263-1284 ask for MLS # 98731

THREE LOTS for sale for \$5,000 each. 1505-1507-1509 Main St. 432-268-3738

Services Offered

HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES available. Bilingual speaking, professional housekeepers with references! Call today! 432-816-6993 or 912-423-2833

Small Engine Repair 709 Pine St. Push lawn mowers, riding lawn mowers. Come by or call at 432-270-0575. Email pherrera@suddenlink.net.

Vehicles

CASH FOR CARS/TRUCKS: Get A Top Dollar INSTANT Offer! Running or Not. Damaged? Wrecked? OK! We Pay Up To \$20,000! Call Toll Free: 1-800-871-9712

TRUCKS FOR SALE

-2006 Ford F250, Diesel, Runs Great, \$9,500.00
-1992 12 yard Dump Truck \$14,000
-1996 Freightliner, Runs Good \$8,000
-1998 Club Cab 8 yard Dump Truck, Diesel, Runs good \$9,500
-F350 Diesel Club Cab Flat Bed \$6,000
-Caterpillar Maintainer, Perfect for Lease Work, Good condition, Runs Perfect \$22,000
Call 432-267-8169.

Legals

MCR Association, inc., a Domestic Nonprofit Corporation, located at 1601 S. Moss Lake Road, Big Spring, Texas, is applying for a TABC Private Club Permit. Association officers are Bob Price, Director and President, Jessica Price, Director and Secretary, and Robert McFaul, Director. #8275 May 4, 2014

Legals

NOTICE OF SALE ABANDONED VEHICLE

In compliance with article 683.02 Transportation Code. I will proceed to sell at the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office on **Thursday May 8,** at 10:00 a.m. to the highest bidder.

Abandoned Motor Vehicles at the described locations and the times listed below.

- 1997 Ford Pickup with Welder VIN#1FTJW35H3VEA99782 TAG#BB48565
 - 1994 BUICK AVENUE VIN#1G4VCW5217R1613770 TAG#MPP736
 - 1990 CADILLAC DFW VIN#1G6CD53B1M4343557 TAG#DP3T051
 - 1995 FORD MUSTANG VIN#1FALP4441SF205541 TAG#K8M822
 - 1999 MAZDA 6 VIN#1YVGF224X5841875 TAG#AMD944
 - 2000 CHEVY BLAZER VIN#1GNDT13W4Y2377694 TAG#BD4D293
 - 2009 CHEVY TAHOE VIN#1GNEC0303R2961616
- Any questions, please contact the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office. The successful bidder upon payment of the money to The Glasscock County Sheriff's Office, is entitled to take possession of the vehicle and apply for a title free and clear of all liens and claims to ownership. All vehicles are sold as is, without warranty or guarantee of performance.
#8277 APRIL 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, MAY 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING BID ADVERTISEMENT

Sealed proposals addressed to City of Big Spring will be received at Big Spring City hall, 310 Nolan Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 until May 22, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. for 2014 Water System Improvements, TxCDBG No. 713030.

Immediately following the closing time for receipt of bids, proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud at Big Spring City all. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened. Bids will be tabulated and presented to City of Big Spring for action at a later date. Information for bidders, proposal forms, specifications and plans are on file at City of Big Spring and the office of Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Consulting Engineers, 4222 85th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79423.

Bidders must submit a Cashier's of Certified Check issued by a bank satisfactory to the Owner, or a Proposal Bond from a reliable Surety Company, payable without recourse to the order of City of Big Spring in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the bid submitted as a guaranty that the Bidder will enter into a contract and execute bonds in the forms provided within fifteen (5) days after notice of award of contract to him. Bids without the required check or Proposal Bond will not be considered. The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Payment Bond, each in the amount of the contract, written by a responsible Surety Company authorized to do business in the State of Texas, and satisfactory to the Owner, as required by Article 5160, V.A.T.C.S., as amended by H.B. 344, passed by the 56th Legislature, Regular Session 1959. Bidders are expected to inspect the site of the work and to inform themselves regarding all local conditions.

Copies of the plans, specifications and contract documents may be secured at the office of Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Consulting Engineers, 4222 85th Street, Lubbock, Texas, 79423 (Phone 806-473-2200) as follows:
1. Download documents (.pdf file extension format) from PSC's Info Exchange web site after registering as a plan holder with issuing PSC office. **There is no cost or deposit required for this option.**
2. One set of paper copies for a non-refundable deposit of \$50.00
3. A digital copy (.pdf file extension format) upon a non-refundable deposit of \$20.00 per each CD. Deposit shall be Company check or cashiers' check made payable to Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc. No partial sets will be issued.
#8276 April 27 and May 4, 2014

Legals

NOTICE TO SURFACE COMMINGLE (P-17)

Notice is hereby given that ConocoPhillips Company, Operator 172232, has filed with the Texas Railroad Commission the following: P-17 application for the exception to SWR 26 and/or 27 to surface commingle production, allocate production and for off-lease storage, from oil and gas leases in Section 134, Block 29, W. & N. W. RR. Co. Survey, Section 159, Block 29, W. & N. W. RR. Co. Survey, the North 1/2 & the West 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Section 135, Block 29, W. & N. W. RR. Co. Survey, the West 1/2 & the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4, the NE 1/4 & the SW 1/4 of Section 158, Block 29, W. & N. W. RR. Co. Survey, the SW 1/4 of Section 136, Block 29, W. & N. W. RR. Co. Survey, and the NW 1/4 of Section 157, Block 29, W. & N. W. RR. Co. Survey in Howard and Glasscock Counties, Texas under other leases. Any affected mineral interest owners who have not received written notification are advised to contact Ken Andersen of ConocoPhillips Company, in Midland, Texas at 3300 North A Street, Bldg 6-120, Midland, Texas 79705-5190, (432) 688-9020 by May 18, 2014. #8280 April 27 and May 4, 11, & 18, 2014

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Ron Long Estate Auction
Saturday, May 10th 10:00 a.m.
1012 Driver Rd. Big Spring, TX
Preview 8:00 am Sale Day
Directions: From Wal-Mart, South on Hwy 87, turn left on 1st road "Driver Rd" to auction site. Watch for signs.

2014 Harley-Davidson Street glide Motorcycle, 2001 Chevy supercar p/u, 2003 Ford Explorer (Sold with Owner Approval)
12X20 Morgan Storage Building, Like New Mahindra 2216 Tractor-w/22hrs. Big Tex 2 Motorcycle Trailer, Motorcycle Lift, Bush Hog and Swisher Zero turn riding mowers, complete Woodworking Shop - Tools by Craftsman, DeWalt, Delta, Campbell Hausfeld, Jet, Including Grizzly 1 1/2 hp. Dust Collector, Lathes, Air Compressor, Table Saws, Planers, Drill Press, A/C Welder, Rolling Tool Chest, Tool Carts, Several Complete Sets of Craftsman Tools, Cordless Drills, Lots of misc. Yard and Shop Tools, 10 Motorcycle Helmets, Harley-Davidson.
(Jackets, Chaps, Rain Gear, Boots, and Collectables), Scuba Gear, Military Clothing, Cast Iron Wood Stove, Camping Gear, Windberg Prints, Saxophone, Guitar, Table and Chairs, Tread Mill, Weider, Weight Bench, Ps3, Vintage Lanterns, Collector Stamps and a Whole lot more. Bring your lawn chairs.

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Legals

THE STATE OF TEXAS

NOTICE OF DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you."

to: Manuel Villa Jr. & Jessica Villa

Defendant greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation the same being Monday June 2nd, 2014, before the Honorable 118th District Court of Howard county, at 312 Scurry Street in said County in Big Spring, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 04/17/2014 in the entitled cause #49739.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: ALEJANDRA MALDONADO AND ELIAS TOVAR vs. MANUEL VILLA JR. AND JESSICA VILL as is more fully shown by the Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand seal of said court at office this 17th day of April, 2014.

COLLEEN BARTON
District Clerk of Howard County, Texas

By: Jury Padron

#8272 April 27, 2014, May 4, 2014, May 11, 2014, May 18, 2014

Nursing Cancer Moon

Though Cinco de Mayo will come tomorrow, there are a number of people nursing the effects of margaritas this morning, with last night being a popular time for early festivities. In any case, the moon in Cancer maximizes the appeal of sticking close to home, handling domestic duties and readying ourselves for the busy week to come.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Don't be so quick to dismiss situations that look stressful or difficult. The best things will be hard won. Tension and friction are precursors to exciting movement and change.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It may take a while to make up your mind today, but once it's made up, you're highly unlikely to change course. Therefore, you are wise to let every little consideration count.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You admire someone who will later come to admire you. Once this person feels accepted and reassured, he or she will

open up. Later developments start in the spirit of reciprocation.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Just because the clock is ticking and you can't turn it back doesn't mean that time is an enemy. Try to think of the long and short hands as gently nudging you toward new adventures.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be a king or a queen, changing the rules of the land to suit your moral stance or fit your needs. You have every right to control your immediate environment. If you stretch further, boundary issues will come into play.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There is often a very fine line between friends and enemies. An ill-informed friend who means well could persuade you to do something that is not in your best interest. Stay alert and check the facts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are open to a new perspective on the old scenery, but you'd prefer to witness new scenery and then let that experience marinate a while to see where it leads your perspective.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You don't get hunches every day, so when you get one now, you should definitely follow through. By honoring your

instincts, you invite them to chime in more often.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Curiosity kills boredom and leads you to new environments. If you hang out there too long, though, overexposure kills curiosity, and then it's back to square one: boredom. You're happiest when you keep moving.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Why shouldn't humor and amusement be something sacred? Laughter is essential. Finding a reason to laugh is important. Whatever time you spend on the lighter side of life is time well spent.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). At work, you will experiment with new ways of handling problems. You also will change your style of communication and model the behavior you would like to see in others.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Trust yourself to navigate your own love life. You don't need directions to find the way to someone's heart. You'll figuratively put out your arms and feel your way there.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 4). Over the next 10 weeks, you'll use your augmented charisma and considerable powers of diplomacy to create a change that the world

needs. A mentor will help you choose the alliances that will best serve you, and by June, you'll be well on your way to a big bonus. A personal goal will be met in August. Aquarius and Pisces people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 24, 33, 29 and 15.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

Messenger planet Mercury is the main attraction this week as he moves into the realm of Gemini, his favorite part of the sky. From May 7th until May 29th, Mercury will take on the characteristics of the twins. There is excitement and fun in daily events, and this is largely due to the new trends that start to show up and take hold. Mercury in Gemini is bright and curious energy, and there's a certain boldness to it, too. People are not afraid to ask the hard questions, but they do it with a degree of levity that makes everything more acceptable. Striking up a conversation seems easy under this planetary influence, even to a shy person. Being in communication will feel more natural than being out of communication.

Commerce also will be favorably affected by the Gemini transit. Deals go down quickly and are less complicated, as there is much good will and a

reduced need to cover all bases with legalese. Products that serve "business at the speed of now" will do well, as no one has the patience to wait around while Mercury is in Gemini. What doesn't make sense or provide entertainment in the short term will be ignored, while items that are flashy and fun will fly off the proverbial shelves.

CELEBRITY PROFILES:

More than 20 years after her death, the world still mourns iconic movie star Audrey Hepburn. Born when the sun and lucky Jupiter were both in Taurus, Hepburn embodied the Venesian qualities of her sign: beauty, grace, a lovely voice and a patient way. The rest of Hepburn's chart is widely varied, suggesting a well-rounded individual who succeeded in many areas of life.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Anna Stiga
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 It may take you home
 - 9 Confront
 - 15 Partial
 - 16 Unhelpful reply
 - 17 La, in F
 - 18 Sewing-machine accessory of yore
 - 19 Aching
 - 20 Literary sidekick introduced in '54
 - 21 Risked
 - 22 Grammys rival on ABC since '73
 - 24 Line of boxes
 - 26 Changes of pace
 - 27 "It's not a room . . ." sloganeer
 - 30 Exodus 12 fare
 - 31 Stimulus
 - 32 To BE or Not to ___ (Gillespie memoir)
 - 35 Point properly
 - 37 Sort of hoodie
 - 40 With 9 Down, got out of control
 - 41 Opposite of "whenever"
 - 45 Short-distance driver
 - 46 What Stephen King called "Nancy Drew meets Philip Marlowe"
 - 49 Appointments
 - 52 Upper-right of the Summer Triangle
 - 53 Crib component
 - 54 Follow
 - 56 Symbol on Tut's mask
 - 58 Before
 - 59 First singer with a million-selling record
 - 60 Front

- 62 They'll go up
 - 63 Will Rogers, for one
 - 64 They'll go up
 - 65 Iconization settings
- DOWN**
- 1 Strong suit
 - 2 Patton Oswalt's mom on *King of Queens*
 - 3 Portrayer of 20 Across in films
 - 4 Since, on some signs
 - 5 Six before Francis
 - 6 Media-kit stat
 - 7 On a task force
 - 8 Fat remover
 - 9 See 40 Across
 - 10 Earliest-born Grammy recipient

- 11 Scheherazade narratee
- 12 Masters of mortarless masonry
- 13 ___ oil
- 14 Subdues, with "down"
- 21 Extent
- 23 Extent
- 25 System starter
- 28 Get into
- 29 Traces a profile, perhaps
- 32 It's heard in *Doctor Zhivago*
- 33 59 Across fan, quite possibly
- 34 Where to buy posts, gates and fences
- 36 Therapeutic shampoo additive

- 38 Tony-winning musical role for 1980
- 39 Gate crashers
- 42 Upper ___
- 43 Whatever
- 44 Literally, "scissor-fish"
- 46 Measure of space or *Time*
- 47 Undo, essentially
- 48 Social anthropologist's studies
- 49 Common grounds
- 50 Marketing medium
- 51 Staple of fusion cuisine
- 55 A lot
- 57 Haircuts at Google
- 60 Do your part
- 61 Knock off

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	14
15									16					
17									18					
19				20					21					
22			23		24		25			26				
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64								65						

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BIG SPRING HERALD

710 SCURRY
BIG SPRING

Gift Guide: Solid tech options for upgrading mom

By Ron Harris

ATLANTA (AP)— Mom is busy.

She's working and making and doing and raising you, among other things. In return, it's probably time for her to upgrade her aging PC or laptop. Hint, hint.

To that end, I've found and tested three products with all the latest touchscreen creature comforts: one tablet, one laptop and one all-in-one, which is a computer where the crucial components (CPU, optical drive, hard disk drive, RAM) are all built in to the housing of the display.

— Asus VivoTab Note 8 (\$299, Windows 8):

Your mom is probably like a lot of busy moms who use their smartphones for nearly everything to do with staying connected. But occasionally a little more screen size would do nicely. The Asus VivoTab Note 8 is a solid pick for a tablet.

The Note 8 has an 8-inch display, measured diagonally, and can quickly go from easy, breezy light-use mode to professional

environment workhorse.

Popular social media apps such as Facebook and Twitter are just a touch away. But when it's time to get productive, that's where having a full version of the Windows 8 system comes in handy. Strong, office-ready apps, such as Microsoft Office, deliver the utility mom is accustomed to, in a way iPads and Android tablets can't.

The Wacom stylus pen is an attractive bonus. It tucks away in a hole near the base when not in use. But you'll use it on some Windows applications that have less than finger-friendly menus, or to doodle some notes in the margins of documents.

I tested it out with various drawing apps, like Pen Sketch. Its sensitivity and ability to vary the weight and thickness of the strokes was really impressive.

When I took some notes at a city hall meeting using Microsoft's OneNote, it looked exactly like smooth pen on paper. There were no jagged, pixelated edges on my lines,

and the stroke weight of my jotted notes matched the various pressure I applied while scribbling.

The VivoTab Note 8 battery boasts 8 hours of life and comes with Microsoft Office for free.

It also has a MicroSD slot for expanded storage, which can come in handy if your mom shoots a lot of video. The base model has just 32 gigabytes, typical for Windows tablets.

The quad-core Intel Atom processor is strong enough for any tablet tasks. The display is sharp. There's a lot for mom to like here.

— Lenovo Flex 15D (\$499, Windows 8):

Touch screens on laptops are tricky. Touch them too hard with one finger and the laptop rocks back, or tips over. It's not a good experience if the screen is teetering back and forth when you interact with it.

Lenovo Group's Flex

15D solves that.

The laptop's hinge is designed such that the keyboard half of the laptop can face down and act as a stand for the touch display.

What you lose in terms of a physical keyboard in this configuration, you gain by have a sturdy and pleasing angle by which to view and access the display.

It's a sleek-styled laptop, tapered thin near the touchpad below the keys. The straight lines and minimalist bezel design make this very eye-

appealing.

Underneath all that sleek is enough power to get mom through her tasks. The Flex 15D has a quad-core AMD 1.5 GHz processor, four gigabytes of RAM and a 500 gigabyte hard drive.

The touch screen responded well to my pinches and swipes, but I found the resolution a little soft.

— Asus All-in-One PC ET2322 (\$1,099, Windows 8):

All-in-one desktop computers have finally hit their full stride with the advent of touch-screen interaction. This Asus unit is big and bold. It handled

visually oriented tasks on my desktop effortlessly.

The display is a lush 23-inch full high-definition screen that delivers rich colors with crisp sharpness. At that size, it's good to be sharp because there's going to be a lot of video viewing and photo slideshow swiping going on.

The display houses all of the guts of the computer — the hard drive, processor, RAM, optical DVD-RW drive. It all rests on a circular, silver stand that can angle the screen for sight-level comfort. Looks aside, this is a powerful PC with an Intel Core i5 processor.

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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built around you
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- an add'l \$100 instant savings with any
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