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# H BIG SPRING HERALD

**WEDNESDAY**

DECEMBER 3, 2014



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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## Howard College will offer festive holiday activities

### Santa Claus to visit Thursday evening

BY LYNDEL MOODY  
Staff Writer

Howard College will get a jump on a festive weekend with music, dance, a visit with Santa and alight the Big Spring campus with hundreds of luminaries Thursday night.

"This is our gift to the community," said Cindy Smith, HC public information director. "We want the community to come out and enjoy the night with us as we celebrate

the Christmas season." The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with music and dance performances by HC students and children in the Hall Center for the Arts building, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Then at 7 p.m., the man in red will make a special appearance in the Student Union building to visit and take photos with children. Cookies and hot cocoa will be served

See HC, Page 3

## Christmas concert planned by BSHS

BY LYNDEL MOODY  
Staff Writer

An afternoon of holiday music is on slate when the Big Spring High School band performs its annual Christmas concert this weekend. The concert is set for 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the high school auditorium, 707 E. 11th Place. Three well-known pieces are on the program as well as music from the band's 2014 award winning marching show. The program will begin with "Carol of the

Bells" by Mykola Leontoych followed by "Slavonic Folk Suite" by Alfred Reed and end with "Christmas Fantasia," which is a medley of several well-known Christmas carols. The highlight of the afternoon will be a performance of music from the band's 2014 award-winning marching show — "Echano," "Perfidia," and "Sun Cat" — which earned a place in this year's state contest.

"We will do that in surround sound. We will go out into the audience and play. That has really gone over well in the past," said Band Director Rocky Harris.

Admission to the program is a canned good item which will be donated to the Salvation Army food pantry.

Also, more Christmas music is on tap for the Big Spring ISD band program on Thursday, Dec. 11, when Big Spring Junior High School band students perform. The program will be divide into performances by three bands and begins at 6 p.m. in the school gym, 624 E. Sixth St. Band directors are Harris, Samuel Hale, Emily Andrews and Olivia Caldwell.



tonyclaxtionphotography.com  
**Big Spring Lady Steers' Jackie Castillo takes a shot at the basket during Big Spring 52-27 win over Pecos Tuesday night in the Steer Gym.**

## Martin County sheriff resigns

The Odessa American

STANTON (AP) — Martin County Sheriff John Woodward officially resigned Tuesday, according to Precinct 1 Commissioner Kenny Stewart.

"It is confirmed that he resigned and it will be effective as of Dec. 3," Stewart said.

Woodward was under fire for allegedly supplying an inmate with alcohol in March of 2013 while having the inmate give him a tattoo.

"We got a call from a dispatcher saying (Sheriff Woodward) is up in his office hammered drunk and he's got an inmate with him," a former



See SHERIFF, Page 3

## Howard County holiday happenings

Herald Staff Report

The Christmas season arrives in the Crossroads area as early as Thursday, when Howard College presents its holiday gift to the community.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 4**  
**Howard College**  
Music, dance, lighting of luminaries and a visit from Santa highlight activities on the Howard College campus Thursday evening, beginning at 6 p.m. The event begins in Hall Center for the Arts and moves to the Student Union Building at 7 for a visit from Santa. There is no charge, but canned goods will be collected from folks who want to help the Salvation Army.

lighting ceremony at 6 p.m. Officials said the fun doesn't stop with the lights, which will not only illuminate the Christmas tree located inside the medical center's lobby, but also much of the facility's outside, as well.

Santa Claus will be there to visit with children. Refreshments will be served, as well.

For more information, call 264-4824.



**FRIDAY, DEC. 5**  
**VAMC Lighting of the Lights**  
The first of these events will be Friday evening, when the local VA Medical Center hosts its annual tree

**SATURDAY, DEC. 6**  
**Breakfast With Santa**  
Santa and Mrs. Claus will be stopping at the Heritage Museum Saturday.

This won't just be a normal stop though, the Claus' will be having breakfast with the children of Big Spring, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Later that day, the museum will hold a gingerbread house decorating lesson at 2 p.m. and its annual Parade Watching Party beginning at 4:30 p.m.

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

**Springtown Santa**  
Santa will be at Springtown Plaza from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. to have cookies and cocoa with good little boys and girls.

**Forsan 'Boomtown' Parade**  
The Forsan parade — the first in a number of years but an event organizers plan to hold on an annual basis — will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday in the Forsan High School cafeteria parking lot.

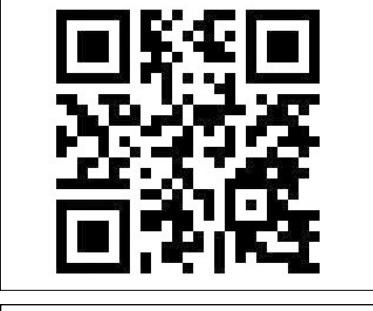
The route will be south on Avenue H, left on First Street, left on Rex and left on Main, stopping at the Baptist Church.

Entries will be accepted until the parade begins. Participants are encouraged to arrive by 9:30.

For questions, call Jenny Sayles at 816-6168.

**Bazaar**  
The Knights of Columbus bazaar will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 109 Hearne. All types of unique gifts will

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HC

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SHERIFF

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Martin County Sheriff's Deputy said on the evening of March 27, 2013.

A year and a half later, one deputy was fired, another was forced out, and no charges have been filed against the sheriff who could be charged with a third-degree felony.

The district attorney and county judge said they expect the resignation and the district attorney even said it was needed, but those same public officials were responsible for not pursuing an investigation into Woodward for the potential crimes.

Commissioner Stewart said the sheriff should have been held accountable for his actions.

"There should have been an investigation and not just a good ol' boy, 'Well we're just going to let this one slide,' type of deal," Stewart said.

The former deputy said he arrived at the office and heard the tattoo gun and the drunken voices, at which point he called his superiors - another deputy and Chief Deputy Ernest Wakefield.

Wakefield entered the office, the former deputy said, to find 29-year-old

during the event.

And for those community-minded folks, several HC groups are holding a canned food drive to

help restock the shelves of the depleting Salvation Army food pantry. According to SA officials, requests for food

assistance increase this time of the year. During this past Thanksgiving, Salvation Army volunteers served around 500

people dinner, said SA Capt. Missy Romack.

Smith said large barrels will be positioned around the campus for

people to donate canned goods.

The luminaries will be lighted nightly through the holiday season.

inmate John Michael Vasquez giving Woodward a tattoo of Santa Muerte and both men were "extremely intoxicated."

So the sheriff's deputies took his keys, gun and truck and put the sheriff in a hotel for the night, the former deputy said. But the sheriff didn't stop there.

"The next day I guess he got his truck. He shows back up at the sheriff's office, picks the inmate up, and goes to Odessa to finish the tattoo," the former deputy said.

Shortly after, Woodward admitted himself into a rehab facility.

Vasquez has a long rap sheet in Martin County. Based on court documents, he's been convicted of felony charges of evading arrest and two counts of burglary of a habitation. He also has a misdemeanor A assault charge against him and a criminal trespass charge against him.

The former deputy said Woodward had been known to disappear for a week at a time, but he had never done anything criminal until March 27, 2013.

"All of a sudden he just showed back up one day, said I'm the sheriff, I did it, deal with it," the former deputy said. "Basically, his attitude was I'm the sheriff, I can do

whatever I want, and no one can do anything to me."

The former deputy said he's not surprised the case was never investigated and that a video of the incident and audio from an interview between Wakefield and Vasquez had disappeared.

"What he did was wrong and he should have been gone a long time ago. He actually should be in prison," the former deputy said. "The deal with the inmate should have been documented. I wish the DA's office would have taken it for what it was."

The question still remains why Woodward was never charged or prosecuted.

District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson said he was notified by Wakefield about the incident after Woodward had already gone to a rehabilitation facility, and that Wilkerson, County Attorney James Napper and County Judge Charles Blocker discussed what to do next.

Wilkerson said their first concern in 2013 was whether they should initiate proceedings to remove Woodward from office. He said it was decided that because he was checked into rehab at the time, they would wait to see how he acted when he returned.

"On the periphery, there might have been (discussions about criminal charges)," Wilkerson said, but those discussions never turned into an investigation or a request to law enforcement officials for further investigation.

According to the Texas Penal Code 38.11(a) (1), "A person commits an offense if the person provides an alcoholic beverage, controlled substance, or dangerous drug to an inmate of a correctional facility or to a person in the custody of a secure correctional facility."

Wilkerson stood by the decision to not charge Woodward or request further investigation from law enforcement, stating that Napper and Blocker thought rehab was enough.

"Certainly it's concerning whenever you have someone in your care and it appears they're giving you a service. That could be considered questionable conduct," Wilkerson said. "I think your primary concern was the sheriff under the influence while he was at the sheriff's office. I think first and foremost it was a concern for the health of the sheriff."

Wakefield called Texas Ranger Philip Breeding, but the Rangers were never officially brought on to investigate. Wilk-

erson said he could have asked that they investigate but did not.

Though he never brought the case before a grand jury, Wilkerson said he did mention Woodward's drinking problems to a grand jury when Woodward was the main witness in a case.

Wilkerson said he had to explain why the sheriff wasn't there, and he said the sentiment from the grand jurors was that it was important for him to get himself straightened out. Wilkerson also said that he did not explain the sheriff might have provided alcohol to the inmate.

Stewart said the commissioners were notified weeks later that something had happened and even then were encouraged by Blocker and Napper to leave it alone.

Blocker said he doesn't remember saying that, but that the district attorney has the power to order an investigation and charge someone, not him.

Blocker said he was part of the consensus agreement with Napper and Wilkerson that the sheriff shouldn't be charged, but said he wouldn't say why and then refused to comment further.

"If a law was really broken, then there should have been some conse-

quences suffered there," Stewart said. "Commissioners weren't aware of any type of investigation. The only thing that we knew of was the judge just told us - and not told us in court, told us on a one-on-one basis - that if the sheriff decided to go to rehab, he would avoid prosecution."

Wilkerson said there was no such deal set up between the district attorney's office and Woodward.

Stewart also said he was told by Blocker and Napper that they should "just kind of let sleeping dogs lie" instead of continue to pursue what happened at the sheriff's office.

Wilkerson said the door is not shut on bringing Woodward's case before a grand jury as the statute of limitations on the case is three years.

Jon Vanderlaan, writer for the Odessa American, was the primary author of this article.

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Katherine McKenzie, 68, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Kirk McKnight, 58, died Wednesday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Craig Sparks, 72, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jo Hazel Dawson, 80, died Friday. A wake will be from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Carla Collinsworth, 69, died Sunday. Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Betty Daratt, 90, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

2016 Norman Rockwell Calendars are in!!!

HOLIDAYS

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be for sale.

Herald Community Christmas Parade

Everybody loves a parade. Everyone loves Christmas. The Herald has both bases covered Saturday.

Herald Publisher Rick Nunez said entries are still being accepted for the parade, which will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the intersection of Scurry and 24th streets. The parade will proceed north to Fourth, east to Main, then north before breaking up between Fourth and Seventh.

Awards will be presented in the following categories: Best of Show (best interpretation of the parade's theme of "Yeehaw! A Texas Christmas!"); best use of lighting; and best costuming.

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

The Living Christmas Tree

This Big Spring holiday tradition will hold its 36th rendition at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at First United Methodist Church.

The event is free to the public, but tickets must be obtained at the church office. Unlike previous years, there will be no dress rehearsal.

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

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

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

SUNDAY, DEC. 7  
High school concert

Big Spring High School band will perform its annual Christmas Concert at 2:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Admission is a canned good, which will be donated to the Salvation Army.

THURSDAY, DEC. 11  
Junior high concert

Big Spring Junior High School band students perform Christmas music. The program will be divided into performances by three bands and begins at 6 p.m. in the school gym, 624 E. Sixth St.

SATURDAY, Dec.

13  
Symphony concert

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra will present its annual Christmas program at 7:30 p.m. in the Trinity Baptist Church sanctuary. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors. All students are admitted free.

UPCOMING  
Drive-Through Nativity

For the 28th year, First Church of the Nazarene, 1400 Lancaster, will put on its living nativity. This year, the evening will be held Dec. 12-14, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. each evening. There are live animals and a cast of more than 100 people. A professionally produced cassette tape or

compact disk, played in your car stereo, tells the story of each scene that takes you back over 2,000 years ago. There is no fee but donations are accepted.

For further information, call 432-267-7015.

Festival of Lights

A million lights strong, the Festival of Lights will be on display Dec. 15-31 each evening from dark-30 until 10 at Comanche Trail Park. For more information on this year's festival, contact the Convention and Visitors Bureau at 264-2516 or 263-8235.

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

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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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## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

## DAILY PRAYER

Let us leave the judging up to You, oh Savior.

Amen

# Time for racism to be eliminated

Chaos seems to be reigning in our land. The riots in Ferguson, Missouri and the resulting unrest across the nation are tragic as more lives are being lost and property destroyed by the unrestrained behavior of thousands of protesters. While we were in the St. Louis area for Thanksgiving last week there were demonstrations and rioting all over the area. Protesters closed down malls and highways. It's sad that more people are being forced to suffer after what has already been a heart-wrenching few months of hatred and pain for so many innocent people.

I can't help but believe these kind of disastrous situations create an arena for learning and social progress unlike any other. We must all, regardless of race, religious beliefs, or nationality learn to look deeply into our own souls and seek for any truth and societal growth that can come from horrendous situations like the ones our nation is enduring.

This week I was reading an excerpt from a book written by Dr. Albert I. Slomovitz, assistant professor of history at Kennesaw State University that put some things in perspective. Slomovitz is a Jewish educator who holds multiple advanced degrees including a Ph.D. in American and Ethnic History from Loyola University of Chicago. He also served as a chaplain in the United States Navy for 20 years. After his military service, he joined the faculty of Kennesaw State University, where he teaches American History.

In his book, "America's Other Clan: The United States Supreme Court," he said, "In the first half of the 1900s, violence against blacks occurred as a fairly routine phenomenon. Lynching and even the killing of returning World War II veterans, some still in uniform, represented the depths of violence that existed.

"Finally, after the Second World War, race-relations turned in a better direction. President Truman made significant decisions that altered our racial beliefs. His desegregation

of the armed forces is one example of this new approach. Later High Court decisions, such as the well-known Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas which stated that 'separate but equal' has no place in the education of our children and ultimately in our country, began to change the attitudes of people. A whole generation of Civil Rights leaders led by Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King, John Lewis, and countless others, helped us realize the devastating effects of prejudice.

"And yet, it's 2014 and we are not where we need to be as a nation. It is well past the time that the issue of racism should still dominate our society. It is time to be finished with racism. I offer this conclusion based on three perspectives. First, as a retired military chaplain. My last tour was as senior chaplain in Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida. Our department was ultimately responsible for the religious services, education and counseling for thousands of service people and their families. The chaplains and enlisted personnel represented a variety of faiths, ethnic backgrounds, genders, etc. We worked well together as one unit. Our individual differences strengthened our unit cohesion.

"My second perspective in calling for the end of racism is historical. Next April (2015) will mark the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War. 2015 is also the 150th anniversary of the 13th Amendment, followed by the anniversaries of the 14th and 15th Amendments in 2018 and 2020. I would suggest that the President designate next April and every succeeding one as 'Equality Month.' Let's devote one event, prayer service or get-together to the ideal of equality. Prejudice will end when enough people believe it to be the case.

"Finally, we are all aware of the brutality that extreme groups such as ISIS are advocating. It will be our task to defend our country against individuals and groups who wish our extinction.

"The more we trust each other and believe in each other, the easier a task this will be. It is time to turn a new page, travel as a country in a new direction. Let's say the Pledge of Allegiance and focus on the final few words, 'one nation under God, Indivisible, With Liberty and Justice for All.'"



EDDY PRINCE

Even as all level-headed and honest Americans try to wrap their minds around the craziness that is what I am now calling "the Ferguson effect," one of America's most beloved comedians, Bill Cosby, has lost his credibility and his career has been deeply damaged by a scandal that has caused him to be denounced pretty much everywhere because of allegations made by numerous women that he sexually assaulted them. At least 15 have accused him of abuse, with the first incident in the late 1960s and the last in 2004.

Already he has lost TV deals with NBC and Netflix. His reputation is in shambles. And while Cosby has escaped criminal prosecution, it's clear that in the court of public opinion, many have found Cosby guilty.

At this point, no one seems to know what action, if any, Cosby will take to attempt to quell the storm and salvage any reputation he may have had before this publicity tornado. But the upside to this incident, if one can be found, is that the allegations have raised awareness about sexual assault.

It appears that the courageous women who have come forward with these allegations against Cosby have inspired other women to report sexual assaults that they have endured. And maybe, just maybe, the media attention concerning the allegations against Cosby will even save some women from suffering the same fate in the future. In fact, the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, an organization that combats sexual assault, said last Monday that the national publicity over the Cosby scandal has caused a 50 percent increase in phone calls to the National Sexual Assault Hotline.

Nobody likes problems but the bottom line of every tragic matter should be an opportunity to mine gold out of its depths and help us reach a higher level of grace and understanding of life and its challenges. Maybe the Ferguson and Cosby episodes will somehow leave a positive imprint on America's history.

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

*Eddy Prince is senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church of God in Big Spring. He can be reached by email at [pastorprince@msn.com](mailto:pastorprince@msn.com).*

# Congress no drive-through window

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell won't become majority leader until next month, and already he is cracking the whip. He's making senators work on Fridays — or at least they're supposed to work on Fridays, as the Senate will be in session.

Roll Call first billed the Fridays-included-week as part of an "aggressive schedule." A five-day workweek may not seem all that rigorous, but The Washington Times reports that the Senate hasn't worked a full week yet this year.

In their defense, I feel compelled to note that elected officials work all the time. When they're home on weekends, they're hitting events and talking to local officials. It's a lot of work to win an election, so when you succeed, you want your constituents to know that you are not a creature of Washington. And the longer your commute is the less time you want to spend in Washington.

Elected officials are supposed to spend time outside Washington. That's why senators get a week off in February, two in April, one in May, one in June —

all before the August recess.

So why change? "We have to learn how to put in a decent week's work on the floor again, because another thing we've lost around here is an appreciation for the power of the clock to force consensus," McConnell argued on the Senate floor in January. When the Senate adjourns on Thursday afternoons, there are no Thursday late-night sessions to hammer out deals. It's easier to be a do-nothing Congress.

Monday votes usually don't happen until the afternoon. "Congress has devolved to a three-day workweek — Tuesday to Thursday — with constant travel between home and Washington," former Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, wrote in her book, "Fighting for Common Ground." Members spend so little time in D.C. that they don't form working relationships that facilitate "consensus building."

No congressional aide would respond to my queries on the record. You can figure what they said. Just because the schedule says five days doesn't mean senators will spend five days in D.C. All that talk about lawmakers bonding over bourbon — well, it's mostly just talk. You can stick members in the same town for a week, but that doesn't mean they'll listen to one another. Maybe Capitol Hill was different when Congress was a

boys club and it took days to get from Topeka to Foggy Bottom. Now a longer week just gives senators more time to spend with their noses buried in their smartphones.

Methinks there's a temptation to use technology to get free of the Beltway. Rep. Eric Swalwell, D-Calif., sponsored a bill to allow members to vote remotely on procedural issues and participate in committee hearings via videoconference. It sounds like reconfiguring Congress to work like a drive-thru window, not a democracy. Wrong, Swalwell told me: His bill would allow members to vote from home, for example, to open Capitol grounds to the Boy Scouts and "spend more time here debating substantive stuff." He supports Friday sessions.

Those who scoff, McConnell spokesman Don Stewart readily noted, don't remember what the Senate was like "before it was known as a graveyard for House bills." If you want to get things done, then you've got to stay in the room till it hurts.

*Email Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfnchronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfnchronicle.com). To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*



DEBRA SAUNDERS

# Check this out ... at the library

We will be closed for the Christmas holidays, Thursday, Dec. 24 through Sunday, Dec. 28. We will re-open on Monday, Dec. 29 at our regular time of 9 a.m. We will also be closed on New Year's Day, Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015. We will be open on Friday the 2nd and Saturday the 3rd.



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

This column is the last one until probably the middle of February, when our new books begin to roll in, and it is a skimpy one.

William MacLeod Raine has written "Courage Stout" (LP W STU W), a typical story of good versus evil in the days of big cattlemen and the little fellow who sometimes put their brand on the wrong beef. Neal MacGowan is the owner of K-B Ranch and he is a feller who can see both sides of the situation. He won't join the Cattleman's Association, because it won't convict their friends. Hostilities rise, tempers flare and finally it becomes a man of stout courage (like MacGowan) if a bloodbath is to be avoided.

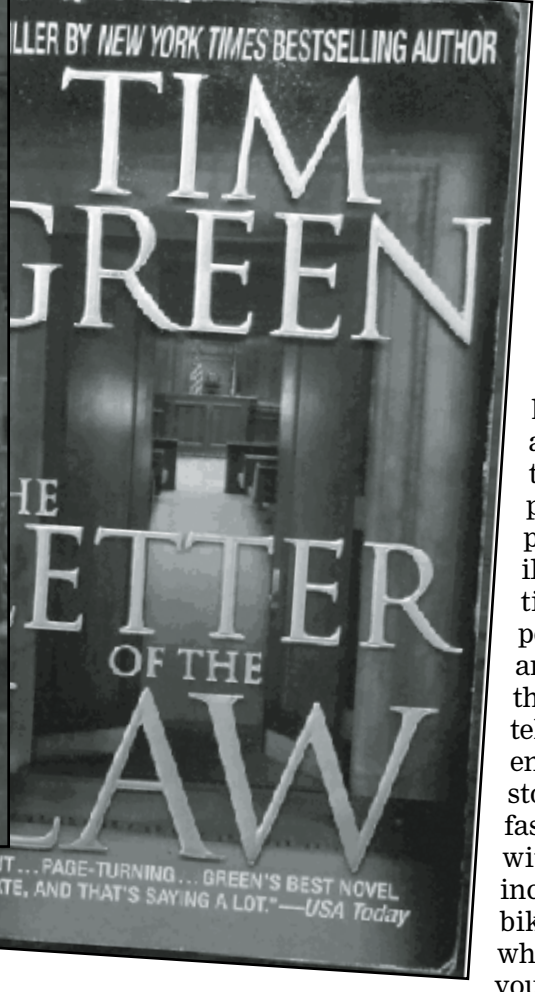
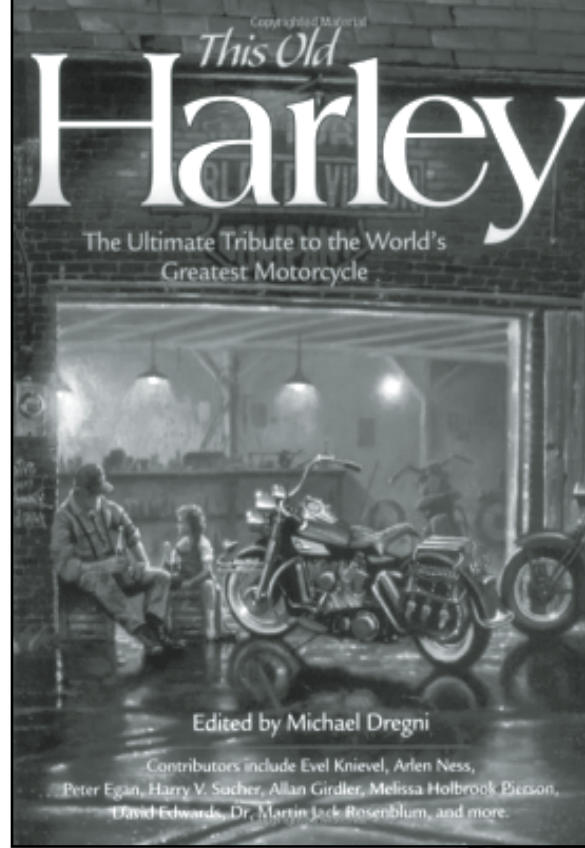
From former secretary of defense William S. Cohen comes "Blink of an Eye" (F COH W). It is America's worst nightmare: a nuclear bomb destroys Savannah, Ga., and the entire Washington intelligence community is on high alert. Sean Falcone, national security advisor, is tasked with identifying and tracking down the attackers. It sounds like a real page turner. Hey, if Bill

Clinton likes it, then so will you!  
Tim Green is one of my favorite authors and this one has Casey Jordan from "The Letter of the Law," where she defended her law professor for the grisly murder of a student only to discover he was guilty.

Afterwards, Casey left her high-powered practice and wealthy husband and opened a legal aid clinic. Anyway, "Above the Law" (F GRE T) is a tad bit different. It is political in nature and Texas politics in particular. When an illegal Mexican immigrant is shot on a ranch outside Dallas, it makes the news, not because of the immigrant, but because of the shooter, Senator Tucker Dean. It looks like a hunting accident, and the well-loved young Senator spins the disaster artfully with his tearful press conference.

However, (there is always something) it is not until the sister-in-law of the victim steps forward with another tale that things heat up. The senator's wife was regularly visiting the victim, so Casey theorizes he was shot by the husband for revenge. When INS takes the victim's daughter away and tries to deport his wife, it looks like a cover-up of epic proportions. Casey approaches the DA's office with information, only to discover that no prosecutor will take on this case. The senator is powerful and on track for a presidential nomination in a few years, so no one wants to tangle with him.

Are there any crochet fanatics out there? We have fallen heir to some donated



crochet books; some are easy to do, while others will demand a more skilled worker. The first is "Family Circle Easy Crochet" (746.434 FAM C) which contains 50 home and fashion projects. There are shawls, caps, lace, sweaters and much more to work on. "The New Crochet" (746.434 TAY T) by Terry Taylor has much the same items, but shows them in exotic threads like copper, metallic looking yarn, eyelash yarn, some chunky yarns and one fashion I saw over the weekend in Fredericksburg. It consists of attaching a crocheted trim to the bottom of your jean capri pants or perhaps cutting off some jeans to do so.

Other books are "Hooked on Crochet" (746.434 JEN C) by Candi Jensen; "Cool Crochet" (746.434 LEA M) by Melissa Leapman; "Embellished Crochet" (746.434 CLE C) by Cari Clement; "Contempo-

rary Crochet" (746.434 FRE S) by Sys Fredens and "Everyday Crochet" (746.434 CHA D) by Doris Chan.

My last book to write about is "This Old Harley: The Ultimate Guide to the World's Greatest Motorcycle" (629.227 DRE M), edited by Michael Dregni. Editor Michael Dregni compiles the stories, tall tales, essays and reminiscences of some of the biking world's most respected characters.

Featured here are the words of the late daredevil Evel Knievel, custom bike-builder extraordinaire Arlen Ness, renowned motorcycle journalists Peter Egan and Allan Girdler, and many others — including Harley-Davidson historian Martin Jack Rosenblum and several ordinary folks with a love for

Harleys and a good yarn to tell.

Fully illustrated with special artwork (including historic and contemporary photos, posters, illustrations, old postcards and more), the book tells the entire story of our fascination with these incredible bikes. So whether you're still in awe of the first Harley-Davidson you ever saw, still riding and wrenching on Harleys as a diehard fan, or only just dreaming of Harleys for the first time, "This Old Harley" offers a tribute to the bike that stands alone in American motorcycling history, told exclusively by those with Harley in their hearts.

We are open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 until 2; the internet/video room closes at 5:30. You may reach us at 264-2260; fax number is 264-2263. Our website is <http://wtls.tsl.state.tx.us/howard-county>. I'll see you in the paper next year!

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

# 'Midnight in Siberia' looks at Russia today

KEVIN BEGOS  
Associated Press  
"Midnight in Siberia: A Train Journey into the Heart of Russia" (W.W. Norton), by David Greene

As the West nervously watches a newly aggressive Russia, many commentators are trying to figure out what Vladimir Putin is thinking. But "Midnight in Siberia" reminds us of another important question: What are the Russian people thinking?  
David Greene took a 6,000-mile train journey from Moscow to Vladivostok to find out, and the result is a mesmerizing, confounding, comforting and

thought-provoking book. Greene, NPR's former Moscow bureau chief, takes readers inside the homes and lives of everyday Russians, and he finds humor, despair, idealism and perseverance in abundance.

Greene visits the Buranovo Babushkas, a singing group of elderly women from a tiny village who represented Russia in the Eurovision music contest.

He meets parents who lost a son when the plane carrying a beloved hockey team crashed, and one fan notes that surviving tragedy is "the way the soul of a Russian person is built." That's a

common refrain throughout the book, and a reminder that it's unrealistic to expect a quick and calm transition to Western democracy in a country that's been through Lenin, Stalin, Hitler and the collapse of the Soviet Union in just the last 100 years.

But the other constant is Russian hospitality. Despite cultural differences and the lingering effects of the Cold War, Russians from all walks of life go out of their way to make Greene feel at home — literally. They invite him to their own kitchen tables and share homemade sausage, shots of vodka, trips to the sauna and meditations

on their own country and the world. And Greene, like many visitors to Russia, is touched by their kindness even as he ponders the hard edges of life there.

Toward the end of the book Greene sums up what he has seen: "People are frustrated, angry and not satisfied with life. But that isn't driving all that many people into the streets with protest banners. For many the reaction is to turn inward, and protect the people around them — family."

Despite all of Russia's problems, Greene writes that the young people he met "love their country, love

Russian traditions, and don't seem rushed to sort out the future." Many are frustrated with bureaucracy and corruption, but they are not clamoring for democracy even if they admire some things

about Europe and America. That may not be the message some hope to hear, but Greene has written a valuable, timely book as the West searches for ways to co-exist with Russia.

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# TCU jumps Florida St. in playoff rankings

The top four in the College Football Playoff rankings going into the final weekend of the regular season is as follows: Alabama, Oregon, TCU and Florida State.

The question is: Short of a loss by one of those teams, is there anything a team on the outside can do to get in on Sunday when the final rankings are announced and the field for the first playoff is set?

“We’re at the point, we’re waiting for results now,” selection committee chairman and Arkansas athletic director Jeff Long said Tuesday night. “We’re waiting for teams to complete their body of work. Again, we don’t project out. We’ve all seen games that have different outcomes than we expect.”

“We focus on what has been accomplished to this point, and with that regard, the top four teams to this point are

ranked where the committee believes they should be.”

TCU (10-1) moved up to No. 3, becoming the latest team with a loss to jump past undefeated Florida State and further distancing itself from Big 12 rival Baylor (10-1). The Bears, who beat TCU 61-58 in Waco, Texas, in October, are sixth and Ohio State sits in between them and the Horned Frogs at fifth.

TCU finishes its regular season at home Saturday against

Iowa State, which is winless in the Big 12. Baylor hosts Kansas State, which is ninth in the latest rankings.

Baylor is currently working with a public relations firm to provide “additional support in telling the Bears’ story over the last few weeks of the football season,” said Nick Joos, executive athletic director for external affairs.

The PR firm is sending notes and statistics about Baylor to

media members, not committee members.

The Bears and Horned Frogs will end the season having played 10 common opponents. The Bears finished the season by playing Minnesota and Baylor played Buffalo. That combined with Baylor’s loss to West Virginia (7-5) is working in the Horned Frogs’ favor and keeping the head-to-head matchup from being the deciding factor.

# Turnovers doom Steers

## Turnovers help Chiefs grab 60-50 road win

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

The Lake View High School Chiefs are certainly happy it is the giving season. The Big Spring steers ... probably not so much.

Aided by more than a dozen Big Spring turnovers, Lake View rallied from an early deficit to claim a wild 60-50 come-from-behind decision over Big Spring in a non-district matchup in the Steer Gym on Tuesday evening.

Lake View did most of its damage late in the second quarter and early in the third. The Chiefs broke open a close game during that span by grinding out an 11-0 run that enabled them to build a 14-point cushion, at 35-19.

Big Spring, playing its first game with several key members of the football team joining the squad, held the hot hand early in the contest. The Steers opened the game with back-to-back baskets from Will Green and Ty Sealy in the first minute of the game and streaked to a 4-0 cushion.

Lake View rallied back, however. The Chiefs reeled off a 12-5 run in the final 7 minutes of the frame and took a 12-9 lead into the second quarter.

Big Spring fought its way back in the second. Keyed by shots from Dee Parker and Matt Yanez, the Steers pulled to within 20-18 before reeled off a 11-1 run to end the period.

Lake View held a 31-19 edge at the half.

Big Spring didn’t go down quietly. After pulling to within 11, at 41-30, at the start of the fourth, the Steers used baskets by Kei’Shawn Broussard, Sealy and Parker to scratch to within five, at 55-50, with less than a minute to play.

Lake View hit five of their final six free throws in the final 36 seconds to seal the win.



Tony Claxton Photos (www.claxtonphotography.com)  
Big Spring senior Tobyn Tannehill drives past a Lake View defender for a shot during the second half of the Steers’ 60-50 loss on Tuesday in the Steer Gym.



Tony Claxton Photos (www.claxtonphotography.com)  
Big Spring Diamonique Mayes shoots over a Pecos defender during the Lady Steers’ 52-27 victory on Tuesday.

# Big Spring rallies for 52-27 win over Pecos

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

The Big Spring High School Lady Steers used a staggering 26-6 run in the final eight minutes of play on Tuesday to power themselves to an impressive 52-27 rout of the Pecos Lady Eagles.

Big Spring, playing in front of a small crowd in the Steer Gym, improved to 5-2 with the non-district victory.

Pecos had plenty to be happy about early in the contest, however. The Lady Eagles buried a couple of key shots early and fought them way to an 11-8 first-quarter advantage.

Diamonique Mayes and the Lady Steers came roaring back in the second. The BSHS girls put together a 10-3 run in the stanza and carried an 18-14 advantage in to the half.

Mayes and Jackie Castillo both knocked down shots early in the third and helped the Lady Steers push their lead to

## Start time for BS-Grady game changed

The start time for the Big Spring Lady Steers’ game with Grady on Dec. 9 has been changed. The contest will now begin at 5 p.m.

eight, at 22-14.

After Pecos had managed to cut the BSHS lead to five, Mayes pushed in a shot from the blocks with 1:29 left in the third to send Big Spring into the final frame with a 26-21 cushion.

Big Spring blew the game open from there. After using a 24-6 run in the initial 7 minutes of the fourth to all but ice the game, Julianna Rodriguez and Mariah Walsh pushed in late shots to close out the victory.

# No. 4-ranked Wildcats race past Coahoma

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

You have to give Coahoma High School head coach Kim Nichols and his team plenty of credit as they attempt to reload the Bulldogs’ basketball program. They certainly didn’t schedule weak sisters.

Instead, they chose to get better by playing better teams.

On Tuesday, Coahoma turned in a gutsy effort against the state-ranked Grady Wildcats in Lenorah. The end result was another tough loss for a young CHS squad.

Grady, ranked No. 4 in the latest Texas Association of Basketball Coaches poll, used a 31-18 run in the first half to sail to a 67-43 decision in the non-district matchup.

Overall, Grady had five different players score into double figures in the game. Braeden Jones led Grady with 13 points, while Dillon Polson added 12. Kyle Garza, E.J. Rodriguez and Cole Avery all chipped in 10.

The Wildcats, now 2-0, opened the matchup with a 12-5 run in the first quarter. They followed that with a 19-13 spree in the second and took a 31-18 lead into the half.

Coahoma, which picked up a solid effort from Kyler Franks and Kody Barber, got its offense going in the second half. The Bulldogs scored 12 points in the third and 13 more in the fourth.

Franks finished the game as Coahoma’s leading scorer with 12 points. Barber added eight.

The Grady Lady Wildcats completed a sweep of games earlier in the day by grinding out a 40-32 win over the Bulldogs.

# Classical slips by Forsan, 60-48

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

Midland Classical reeled off an 18-8 run in the second quarter on Tuesday evening and then held on to claim a stunning 60-48 victory over the Forsan Buffaloes in non-district basketball action in Midland.

Forsan, which went to the free throw line just eight times in the game, held the early advantage. The Buffs out-scored MC by a 15-12 clip in the first quarter.

The wheels came off the FHS wagon from there, however. Midland Classical’s second-quarter barrage sent the Buffaloes into the half down by seven, at 30-23.

Classical finished off the affair with a 30-25 run in the second half.

Offensively, Jacob Valdez paced Forsan. He finished the game with 18 points. Ian Park added eight, while Walter Park contributed five.

# JV Steers fall to Lake View, 53-52

The Big Spring High School Steers’ junior varsity basketball team suffered a tough 53-52 setback to Lake View on Tuesday in the Steer Gym.

With the loss, Big Spring fell to 0-3 for the season.

Chase Williams and A.J. Hodnett both played well offensively for the Steers. Williams finished with 20 points, while Hodnett 11.

Jesus Archuletta was Big Spring’s top rebounder.

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OWNER

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For Sale By Owner Jeffrey Rd. 3 Bedroom/2 Bath Custom Home on Completely Fenced 5 Acres, 2 Fireplaces, Large Backyard w/Pool, and 1 Bath Guesthouse, Large 3 Stalls 40x40 Medal Barn, Storm Cellar Call for Appt. 432-213-2496

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**Legals**

**LEGAL NOTICE:**  
This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on December 5, 2014. You have until June 3, 2015 to redeem any ticket for this game: #1592 Fun 5's (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.77. This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on December 12, 2014. You have until June 10, 2015 to redeem any ticket for this game: #1451 Bonus Word Crossword (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 3.44. This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on January 1, 2015. You have until June 30, 2015 to redeem any ticket for this game: #1546 Bingo Multi-Prize (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.54. These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on January 2, 2015. You have until July 1, 2015 to redeem any tickets for these games: #1527 \$100,000 Cashword-O-Rama (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.58 and #1531 20X Ca\$h (\$20) overall odds are 1 in 3.05. These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on January 21, 2015. You have until July 20, 2015 to redeem any tickets for these games: #1581 Two Can Doubler (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.56, #1552 Platinum Payout (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.20, #1567 Ultimate Crossword (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.04, #1354 \$500 Million Frenzy (\$20) overall odds are 1 in 2.77. The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail, with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$2,500,000 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-37LOTTO or visit the Lottery Web site at tlottery.org for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A Scratch-Off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. **PLAY RESPONSIBLY.** The Texas Lottery supports Texas education. © 2014 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved. #8536 December 3, 2014

**Legals**

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**  
EXAMPLE A  
**NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT**  
PROPOSED AIR QUALITY PERMIT NUMBER 124667

**APPLICATION** Weatherford International, LLC has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for issuance of Air Quality Permit Number 124667, which would authorize modifications to the Wound Fiberglass Products Facility located at 1409 East Highway 350, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas 79720. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=32.286111&lng=-101.4725&zoom=13&type=r>. The facility will emit the following contaminants: organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, hazardous air pollutants and particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on October 31, 2014. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Midland regional office, and the Howard County Library, 500 Main Street, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Midland regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING** You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. **The deadline to submit public comments is 30 days after newspaper notice is published.**

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the application. A public meeting about the application will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

If only comments are received on the application, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application. The executive director will complete the technical review, issue a preliminary decision on the application, and a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments. If a hearing request is timely filed in Response to this Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Air Permit, the time period for requesting a contested case hearing will be extended to thirty days after the mailing of the executive director's response to comments.

**After the final deadline for public comments following the Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or is on a mailing list for this application.**

**OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING** You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. **Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 30 days from this notice, the executive director may approve the application.** A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decisions on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues raised by you or others during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

**A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following:** (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing"; (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility. If the request is made by a group or an association, the one or more members who have standing to request a hearing and the interests which the group or association seeks to protect, must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the executive director will forward the application and any requests for contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns raised during the comment period.** Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

**MAILING LIST** In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific application mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION** Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html), or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. If you communicate with the TCEQ electronically, please be aware that your email address, like your physical mailing address, will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-7400. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. Further information may also be obtained from Weatherford International LLC, 1409 East Highway 350, Big Spring, Texas 79720-0477 or by calling Mr. Joe Dandy, Sr. Environmental Manager-Global Supply Chain at (281) 260-1937. Notice Issuance Date: November 7, 2014 #8543 December 3, 2014

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♦K54  
♣AK

**EAST**  
♠J1043  
♥J954  
♦1082  
♣J2

**WEST**  
♠7  
♥10  
♦A973  
♣Q1076543

**SOUTH**  
♠96  
♥AKQ872  
♦QJ6  
♣98

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass  
3♥ Pass 3♣ Pass  
4♥ Pass 6♥

Opening lead — ace of diamonds.  
There are all kinds of subtle touches a declarer can employ to try to attain his goal. Take this case where West led the ace and another diamond against six hearts, South winning the second diamond with the queen.  
South's only problem was to avoid a trump loser. If the missing hearts were divided 3-2, he would be home free by simply cashing the A-K-Q of the suit.  
But when declarer cashed the ace

and West's ten appeared, he decided to give himself an extra chance by crossing to dummy with a spade in order to lead a second round of trumps toward his hand. He fully intended to play the king if East followed low, but he thought he might tempt East into an indiscretion if the trumps were actually divided 4-1.  
Sure enough, when East saw South taking pains to lead the second round of trumps from dummy, he became convinced that declarer would finesse the eight. So East put up the nine in an effort to assure himself of an eventual trump trick — a slip for which declarer proceeded to make him pay dearly.  
After West showed out on the king, South crossed to dummy with a spade, ruffed a spade, led a club to the king and ruffed another spade. These two ruffs reduced South's trump holding to the Q-8, while East had the J-5.  
Declarer then returned to dummy with a club and led his spade winners. Whether East ruffed or not, South was sure to finish with 12 tricks.  
East should not have gotten himself into this predicament, but he did. All of which goes to show that if you give an opponent even the tiniest bit of rope, he might still find a way to hang himself.

**Tomorrow:** Even when you lose, you win.  
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**Grounding Moon**

Under the current expansive Sagittarian influences, relationships can be a bit all over the place, having the potential to scatter energy to the wind. The Taurus moon has a public service announcement: Stay grounded. Valuable information will be revealed tonight, which centered people will be able to process and quickly act upon.



HOLIDAY MATHS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Beware of the desire to meddle and fix people. As pure as your intentions may be, it's too easy to act outside of your rights. The best way is to respect the choices of others as long as they are not hurting anyone.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You may not have the patience to explain yourself, and when you execute your work privately, you won't have to. This may simply be a matter of taking it home.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). There's a fickle feeling in you now. Diversity is what you need -- in the company you keep and the places

you go. If you can't make it happen today, at least make plans for an adventure in the near future.  
**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Your relationship with yourself may be too overbearing at this point to be considered healthy. As you reduce the amount of chatter in your head, you start to see the way clearly.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You don't want everyone to notice you today, just those who think and feel as you do. And if that one certain person were to give you a nod, it would feel better than the attention of the whole world.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Over the years, your kindly gestures have paved the way for excellent business rapport, built friendships and bonded loved ones to you. You'll now be reminded of this with hard evidence.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Much will be accomplished with minimal socializing. Moving among a stellar mix of people may bring career gains, give you inside information, help your love life or motivate you to higher achievements.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll work harder on yourself than you will on any project or job. Personal development pays off in unforeseen ways. For starters, you'll have something to talk about with those on a similar path of self-improvement.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The efforts you make now will help you put on a fantastic performance later. Stock up on inspiration, and don't deprive yourself of any opportunity to witness those who help

you see what's possible.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The loving thing to do isn't always the easiest thing to do. Once again, taking the high road will be a challenge. It will help to think about all that the other person has gone through lately. You're up to this.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's easy to get so wrapped up in celebrity culture that you begin comparing yourself to the mighty players. Today this isn't about Hollywood; it's about the superstars of your community or industry.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). As psychic as you are, you find your own future difficult to predict. It's better that way -- you'll delight in the surprises to come. Here's a hint, though: Travel is in the works. Are you happy with your luggage set?  
**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Dec. 3). You're a lover, not a fighter -- until you need to fight for what you love. Your social conscience will be activated this year. Instead of avoiding confrontation, you actively seek it as an advocate for those who have been unjustly treated. This month and May bring windfalls. The most romantic times are March and July. Pisces and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 13, 44, 38, 22 and 17.  
**HOLIDAY HACKS 2014:** Yesterday I explored the term "hack" and suggested an Aries holiday hack (see archives). TAURUS has a different set of stress triggers for this hectic time of year, many of which center around areas of finance. Financial matters are not only about bottom-line numbers. Taurus

understands all too well that money is often about power, and this is well represented in our closest relationships. Discord around money is one of the top reasons that couples argue over the holidays. How much to spend on gifts and festivities can be an issue that goes far deeper than the dollars and cents, as emotions and personal values weigh on the decision. With so much baggage and complexity around money, the holiday hack for Taurus is cut and dried: Decide on a budget and stick to it. This will be made easier by the belief that creativity trumps dollars every time. By refusing to dwell on the complexities (and in fact ignoring them altogether) and resolving to stick to the agreed-upon financial number no matter what, new avenues will open up to bridge the gap between how much there is to spend and the cost of the desired items.  
**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** In the summer of 2015, Amanda Seyfried will return to the world of comedy with a starring role in Seth MacFarlane's zany sequel "Ted 2." The versatile Sagittarius was born when the moon was in Leo, the sign of entertainment. An impressive five fiery Sagittarius luminaries indicates endless curiosity and an unquenchable appetite for adventure.

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**Sudoku Answer On Page 3**

**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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



