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SUNDAY

JANUARY 3, 2016



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Voting begins for tax rollback election

BY LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer

Early voting begins Monday for the Howard College rollback election.

Voters will decide if the college keeps its adopted tax rate of 25 cents per \$100 valuation or if it drops back to 23 cents per \$100 valuation which will be a loss of approximately \$630,000 of projected tax revenue for the college district.

Early voting will be held at the Election Administrator's

office located on the first floor of the Howard County Courthouse from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with weather permitting. Early voting wraps up on Jan. 15. Election Day is Jan. 19 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum located on the Howard College campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

In August college trustees officially adopted the 25 cent per \$100 valuation which is a

Early Voting HC Rollback Election

Where: Howard County Courthouse, first floor

When : Monday, Jan. 4-Jan. 15, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday with weather permitting

seven cent hike from the previous rate. If the current tax rate stands, the college expects to draw in about \$1 million in projected tax revenue, according to figures released by the college

In reality, that figure will only partially mitigate the \$3.4 million dollars in cuts from state funding during the last several funding cycles, loss of tuition and fees from falling enrollment and a drop in taxable values, according

to college officials.

The college budget will actually increase \$567,000 of new monies compared to the previous budget with the rest going to fill in the loss of funding, according to Dr. Cheryl Sparks, Howard College President.

A resident with a home of \$100,000 is expected to pay about \$20 more in taxes than last year.

See, **ROLLBACK**, Page 3A

New Year's 2016 snowfall



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Howard County residents woke up to a small snow flurry early Friday morning. The snow melted away around mid-morning for most areas in the county. The sun was expected to peek out by Saturday afternoon although partly cloudy days are expected at least through Monday with high temperatures ranging from the early 40s to the low 50s. By Tuesday, grey skies are expected to make a complete return with a good chance of rainfall Wednesday morning.

HC sets last two info tax rollback meetings Tuesday

BY LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer

The last two public informational meetings on the upcoming Howard College tax rate rollback election will be held by college officials Tuesday.

In August, college trustees approved a seven cent hike in the tax rate from the previous year which was two cents above the roll back rate. That rate of 25 cents per \$100 valuation is projected to bring in about \$1 million dollars in new tax revenue.

In October, a group of citizens successfully held a petition drive to force the trustees to put the matter in front of the voters.

Dr. Cheryl Sparks, Howard College President will give a powerpoint presentation explaining the college's 7-cent hike over the previous year's tax rate. A PDF of that presentation is also available on the Howard College website. College officials have held a series of public informational meeting to plead its case to the community and also receive feedback and answer questions during the past two months.

The two meetings will both take place at the Hall Center for Arts located on the Howard College campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane, and are scheduled at 12:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. A sign language interpreter will be at the 12:30 p.m. meeting.

Early voting for the rollback election begins on Monday at the Election Administrator's office located in the Howard County Courthouse. Early voting continues from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., weather permitting, through January 15.

Saudi executes 47, including top Shiite cleric Nimr al-Nimr

BY ABDULLAH AL-SHIHRI
 Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Saudi Arabia announced on Saturday it had executed 47 prisoners convicted of terrorism charges,

including al-Qaida detainees and a prominent Shiite cleric who rallied protests against the government.

The execution of Sheikh Nimr al-Nimr is expected to deepen dis-

content among Saudi Arabia's Shiite minority and heighten sectarian tensions across the region.

Meanwhile, the execution of al-Qaida militants convicted over deadly bombings and shootings in Saudi Arabia raised concerns over revenge attacks. The extremist group's branch in Yemen, known as al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, threatened violence against Saudi security forces last month if they carried out executions of members of the global network.

See, **SAUDI**, Page 3A

Swimmers splash into 2016 in NYC Polar Bear plunge

NEW YORK (AP) — New Year's Day was a time to chill out for a throng of adventure-some swimmers who started 2016 with a dip in the Atlantic Ocean off New York City.

An estimated 2,000 people participated in the annual Coney Island Polar Bear plunge on a seasonally chilly Friday. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration measurements show air temperatures in the area were in the low 40s, while the ocean was a bit warmer.

Some people wore wetsuits, but others sported only bikinis.

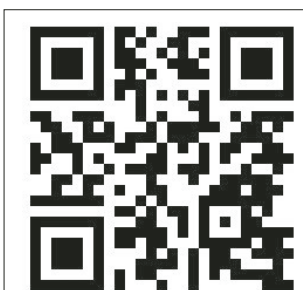
Sixty-two-year-old Peter DeAngelo was garbed as the Jolly Green Giant for his 10th Polar Bear swim. He tells the Daily News of New York that it's "something you can never explain," but it gets adrenaline flowing.

The event raises money for Camp Sunshine, a camp for children with life-threatening illnesses.

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Obituaries

Forrest Adrian Randle



Forrest Adrian Randle, 93, died Friday, Jan. 01, 2016, at Marcy House. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Monday at Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel.

Adrian was born Jan. 5, 1922, in Guthrie, Okla., to Harry and Ida Esther Randle. He graduated from Ponca City High School, Ponca City, Okla. on May 29, 1941. He later received a bachelor of arts in education from Central State College in Oklahoma on May 20, 1948. He was a member of the Academic Organization Kappa Delta Pi and Alpha Phi Sigma.

He entered the army during WWII, served with

the 307th Bombardment Group on a B-24 as an aerial gunner in New Guinea and the Dutch East Indies. He received the Philippine Liberation Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and the Air Medal.

Adrian married Mary Carolyn Emrick on April 16, 1948, in Wellston, Okla. She preceded him in death on Feb. 28, 2001. He retired from Texas Electric after 31 years. He served on the Howard College Board of Trustees for 12 years. Adrian was a strong advocate of education. He loved sporting dogs and cats.

He is survived by distant cousins and a host of friends.

In lieu of flowers, Adrian had requested memorials to your favorite charity.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

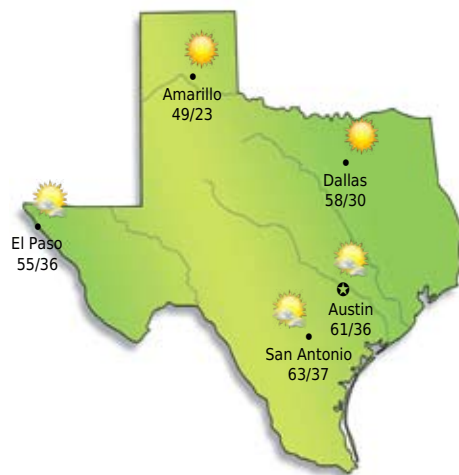
Lyle Moore

Lyle Moore, 44, of Big Spring died Friday, January 1, 2016, in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sun 1/3	Mon 1/4	Tue 1/5	Wed 1/6	Thu 1/7
50/24 Partly cloudy skies. High around 50F. Winds N at 5 to 10 mph.	46/28 Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 40s and lows in the upper 20s.	45/35 Cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s and lows in the mid 30s.	55/38 Chance of showers. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the upper 30s.	61/36 Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:53 PM	Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:54 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:55 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:55 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:56 PM

Texas at a Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	47	31	Cloudy	Kingsville	46	41	Rain
Amarillo	46	23	Sunny	Livingston	50	41	M Cloudy
Austin	47	39	Showers	Longview	51	37	Cloudy
Beaumont	52	43	Cloudy	Lubbock	42	22	Cloudy
Brownsville	48	44	Cloudy	Lufkin	51	39	Cloudy
Brownwood	47	32	Cloudy	Midland	46	29	Cloudy
Corpus Christi	47	41	Rain	Raymondville	46	42	Cloudy
Corsicana	51	38	Cloudy	Rosenberg	49	43	Cloudy
Dallas	51	36	Cloudy	San Antonio	45	41	Rain
Del Rio	46	38	Rain	San Marcos	45	37	Rain
El Paso	50	31	Cloudy	Sulphur Springs	50	35	Cloudy
Fort Stockton	45	31	Cloudy	Sweetwater	47	30	Cloudy
Gainesville	50	31	Cloudy	Tyler	50	38	Cloudy
Greenville	50	33	Cloudy	Weatherford	51	33	Cloudy
Houston	51	43	Cloudy	Wichita Falls	51	30	Cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	49	33	P Cloudy	Miami	82	70	P Cloudy
Boston	37	30	P Cloudy	Minneapolis	29	19	Sunny
Chicago	32	25	Sunny	New York	41	35	M Cloudy
Dallas	51	36	Cloudy	Phoenix	72	47	Sunny
Denver	46	19	Sunny	San Francisco	54	44	Cloudy
Houston	48	25	Sunny	Seattle	43	29	Clear
Los Angeles	68	45	M Sunny	Saint Louis	42	27	Sunny

Moon Phases

First Dec 18	Full Dec 25	Last Jan 2	New Jan 10
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UV Index

Sun 1/3	Mon 1/4	Tue 1/5	Wed 1/6	Thu 1/7
3	3	2	2	3
Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate

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

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Food 2 Kids: Bagging opportunity

Food 2 Kids Big Spring Needs You! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

Sacking dates are as follows (please note the group starts at 5:30 p.m.) Jan. 4 - 5.

Our sacking location has moved to the Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 NW 7th. To get there take Gregg Street north and turn left on Delaney which is the block just past the Salvation Army Store. Delaney turns into 7th Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left.

Currently we are distributing food at Goliad, Marcy and Moss Elementary Schools. If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$9.00 monthly; \$97.20 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **RAMON MAGALLANES JR.**, 23, of 711 E. 16th St. was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **RANDI JO HAIR**, 43, of 511 S. Goliad St. was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **LISA JANELL BURRIS**, 46, of 7805 N. Service Rd. was arrested on a warrant for driving while license invalid.
- **RACHEL RENEA YOUNG**, 23, of 205 E. 5th St. was arrested on warrants for possession of drug paraphernalia and expired registration.
- **PAULA MARIE BALEN RODRIGUEZ**, 21, of 1301 Settles St. was arrested on a charge of manufacture/deliver a controlled substance, more than 4 grams but less than 200 grams.
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 1600 block of Young St.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported at the intersection of 21st St. and Lancaster.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 500 block of Goliad St.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 6300 block of E. Midway Rd.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of Sunset Ave. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 2300 block of Monticello. No transport reported.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 500 block of Lamesa. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **FALSE ALARM** was reported in the 3900 block of Gail. Incident investigated.

Lottery

These Texas lotteries were drawn Friday:

All or Nothing Day
01-02-03-04-07-08-10-13-14-19-22-23
(one, two, three, four, seven, eight, ten, thirteen, fourteen, nineteen, twenty-two, twenty-three)

All or Nothing Evening
01-08-10-12-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-23
(one, eight, ten, twelve, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-three)

All or Nothing Morning
01-02-05-06-07-09-10-13-17-18-19-22
(one, two, five, six, seven, nine, ten, thirteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-two)

All or Nothing Night
01-05-06-07-11-12-13-14-18-20-21-24
(one, five, six, seven, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, eighteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-four)

Cash 5
05-17-34-35-36
(five, seventeen, thirty-four, thirty-five, thirty-six)

Daily 4 Day
6-5-8-5, Sum It Up: 24
(six, five, eight, five; Sum It Up: twenty-four)

Daily 4 Evening
9-8-8-5
(nine, eight, eight, five)

Daily 4 Morning
9-8-7-4
(nine, eight, seven, four)

Daily 4 Night
8-5-1-6, Sum It Up: 20
(eight, five, one, six; Sum It Up: twenty)

Mega Millions
07-18-37-38-39, Mega Ball: 9, Megaplier: 5
(seven, eighteen, thirty-seven, thirty-eight, thirty-nine; Mega Ball: nine; Megaplier: five)
Estimated jackpot: \$130 million

Pick 3 Day
5-7-4, Sum It Up: 16
(five, seven, four; Sum It Up: sixteen)

Pick 3 Evening
4-3-3
(four, three, three)

Pick 3 Morning
5-3-2
(five, three, two)

Pick 3 Night
6-8-7, Sum It Up: 21
(six, eight, seven; Sum It Up: twenty-one)

Triple Chance
10-16-17-20-24-40-41-42-43-55
(ten, sixteen, seventeen, twenty, twenty-four, forty, forty-one, forty-two, forty-three, fifty-five)

SUNDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

MONDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees it, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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

- 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 main entrance of the church.

- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls).
Open meeting at 7 p.m.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month.

This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers.

For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942

- VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy) a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls).
Open meeting at 7 p.m.

- A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

FRIDAY

- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls).
Open meeting at 7 p.m.

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.



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ROLLBACK

Continued from Page 1A

A petition was circulated shortly after the vote by trustees in August. Petition organizers needed to get 7 percent of the registered voters signatures to force the issue to an election. The petition received 1,172 valid signatures, 118 more than needed.

Voters who want the college to reduce the tax rate to 23 cents per \$100 valuation should check the For box and for those who want the tax rate to stay at the current rate should punch the Against box.

If the current tax rate does not hold up at the ballot box, Howard College will face losing \$655,000 in potential tax revenue, election costs and the expense to process tax refunds, according to figures released by the college. The election is expected to cost about \$5,000 and processing the tax refunds to county residents is an estimated \$20,000 in expenses, the college said.

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

When you go

Registered voters in Texas must show an acceptable form of Identification before voting. According to the state of Texas, an acceptable forms of photo ID is:

- Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- Texas concealed handgun license issued by DPS
- United States military identification card containing the person's photograph
- United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph
- United States passport

With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, the identification must be current or have expired no more than 60 days before being presented for voter qualification at the polling place.

SAUDI

Continued from Page 1A

Saudi Arabia's top cleric Grand Mufti Sheikh Abdulaziz Al Sheikh said the executions were carried out in line with Islamic law and the need to safeguard the kingdom's security. He described the executions as a "mercy to the prisoners" because it would save them from committing more evil acts and prevent chaos.

Islamic scholars around the world hold vastly different views on the application of the death penalty in Islamic Shariah law. Saudi judges adhere to one of the strictest interpretations, a Sunni Muslim ideology referred to as Wahhabism.

Influential Shiite figures and groups across the region were swift to condemn al-Nimr's execution, with Saudi Arabia's regional rival Iran describing it as "irresponsible."

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Jaber Ansari was quoted on the state-owned English-language Press TV warning that the Saudi monarchy would pay a heavy price for its policies. A senior Iranian cleric, Hossein Nouri Hamedani, said in a statement broadcast on state television that the region should expect "both Shiite and Sunni Muslims to react."

In Iraq, influential Shiite militia Asaib Ahl Al-Haq called on the government to reconsider allowing Saudi Arabia to keep its newly reopened embassy in Baghdad; the Saudi embassy was reopened Friday for the first time in more than 25 years.

A Saudi lawyer in the eastern region of the kingdom told The Associated Press that in addition to al-Nimr, three other Shiite political detainees were executed Saturday. The lawyer spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal.

In Lebanon, a top Shiite cleric condemned

al-Nimr's execution, describing it as "a grave mistake that could have been avoided with a royal amnesty that would have helped reduce sectarian tensions in the region." Sheikh Abdul-Amir Kabalan, deputy head of the influential Supreme Shiite Islamic Council that is the main religious body for Lebanon's 1.2 million Shiites, said the executions "will have repercussions in the coming days."

The Lebanese Shiite militant group Hezbollah issued a statement calling al-Nimr's execution an "assassination" and a "ugly crime."

The group added that those who carry the "moral and direct responsibility for this crime are the United States and its allies who give direct protection to the Saudi regime and cover its crimes against its (Saudi) people and people of the region."

Anticipating protests in eastern Saudi Arabia, where minority Saudi Shiites are concentrated, Saudi activists there called for peaceful rallies. Small groups of protesters took to the streets in neighboring Bahrain, which has seen low-level violence since 2011 when the tiny island-nation's Shiite majority held mass protests to demand greater rights from the Sunniled monarchy.

Advocacy organization Reprieve, which works against the death penalty worldwide, said two out of the four Shiite activists executed were teenagers when they

were arrested. Reprieve said Ali al-Ribh was 18 years old and Mohammed al-Shuyokh was 19 at the time of arrest in 2012. Both were convicted on charges related to anti-government protests held in eastern Saudi Arabia.

The Interior Ministry announced the names of all 47 people executed in a statement carried by the state-run Saudi Press Agency. Of those executed, 45 were Saudi citizens, one was from Chad and another was from Egypt.

The four Shiites executed had been convicted in connection with a series of violent protests that erupted in the east in 2011 and 2012, in which several protesters and police officers were killed.

The al-Qaida militants executed had been convicted of taking part in a wave of deadly attacks that killed foreigners and Saudis. One of the executed was Faris al-Shuwail, a leading ideologue in al-Qaida's Saudi branch who was arrested in August 2004 during a massive crackdown on the group following the series of deadly attacks.

Saudi Arabia said a royal court order was issued to implement the sentences after all appeals had been exhausted. The executions took place in the capital, Riyadh, and 12 other cities and towns,

the Interior Ministry statement said. Nearly all executions carried out in Saudi Arabia are by beheading with a sword.

In a press conference Saturday, Interior Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Mansour al-Turki said the executions were carried out inside prisons and not in public. He described the executions as an example of Saudi Arabia's tough response to terrorism.

In announcing the verdicts, Saudi state television showed mugshots of those executed. Al-Nimr was No. 46, expressionless with a gray beard, his head covered with the red-and-white scarf traditionally worn by men in the Arab Gulf region.

Al-Nimr, who was in his 50s, had been a vocal critic of Bahrain's monarchy, which forcibly suppressed protests in 2011 with the help of Saudi troops. He was popular among disgruntled Shiite youth in both Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

U.S.-based Human Rights Watch's Middle East director Sarah Leah said "regardless of the crimes allegedly committed, executing prisoners in mass only further stains Saudi Arabia's troubling human rights record." She said al-Nimr was convicted in an "unfair" trial and that his execu-

Take Note

Jury Cancellation

• The Howard County Court is canceling the Jury Panel called for Wednesday, Jan. 6 at 9 a.m.

MLK Walk

A march to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan 18 on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. The march will commence at the corner of Gregg St. and Martin Luther King Boulevard. Youth organization and other groups are welcome. Please bring your favorite lightening devices to light your path.

Meetings

• The Big Spring Art Association meets every third Tuesday, September through May at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Memberships are available. The annual dues are \$20.

• The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

• The Kiwanis Club of Big Spring meets at noon every Thursday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Visitors are welcome.

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

• Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

Volunteer opportunities

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

• Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Kim Plew at 263-4016 or 213-7960.

• Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9-11 a.m. and get two for one, plus a rehab meeting.

later convicted, and his death sentenced upheld, on charges of attacking security forces, taking part in protests, armed robbery and possessing a machine-gun.

After listing the names and images of those executed, Saudi state television showed black-and-white footage of previous terror attacks in the kingdom, one showing bodies in a mosque after an attack. Soft, traditional music played in the background.

Saudi Arabia carried out at least 157 executions in 2015, with beheadings reaching their highest level in the kingdom in two decades, according to several advocacy groups that monitor the death penalty worldwide.

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James McKenzie, 64, died Wednesday. Memorial services were at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Adrian Randle, 93, died Friday. Grave-side services will be at 3 p.m. Monday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Lyle Moore, 44, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Friday 1/1/16 - Sunday 1/3/16

Star Wars: The Force Awakens 2D (PG-13) 12:30 7:00 3D 3:45 10:15	Daddy's Home (PG-13) 11:45 2:20 4:55 7:30 10:05	Concussion (PG-13) 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:15
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Alvin & the Chipmunks: The Road Chip (PG)
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Opinion

Stories from the Glasscock County courthouse

"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 writers and not those of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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I had fun when I was the keynote speaker at the Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission's annual meeting recently. It took place in Garden City, the county seat of Glasscock County.

The county judge, Kim Halfmann introduced me. But before she got to the introduction, she told the crowd, "Tumbleweed has a hat that has pins on it from places where he's made a speech. Glasscock County does not have a line item in the budget for pins, but I made him a special one." She presented me with a clothespin with the words Glasscock County written on it in red ink. It now has a prominent place on my hat.

The county is named for George Washington Glasscock, who was a partner with Abraham Lincoln in the flatboating business in Springfield, Ill. He moved to Texas when he was 24 and became a landowner and state legislator. He donated land for the county seat of Williamson County. The county seat,

Georgetown, is named for him.

Glasscock County is located between the Pecos and Concho rivers and has 1,250 residents. The courthouse, built in 1910, is being restored at county expense.

"A lot of the younger citizens are showing interest in the restoration and asking questions about the history," says Alan Dierschke, county treasurer.

The removal of paneling has revealed some unique stenciling on the walls.

The courthouse used to have eight coal burning fireplaces. "We're going to restore the three that were in the upper floor. There was a big pile of coal in the back of the courthouse. People would go out there with a bucket, fill it with coal and bring it in," Dierschke said.

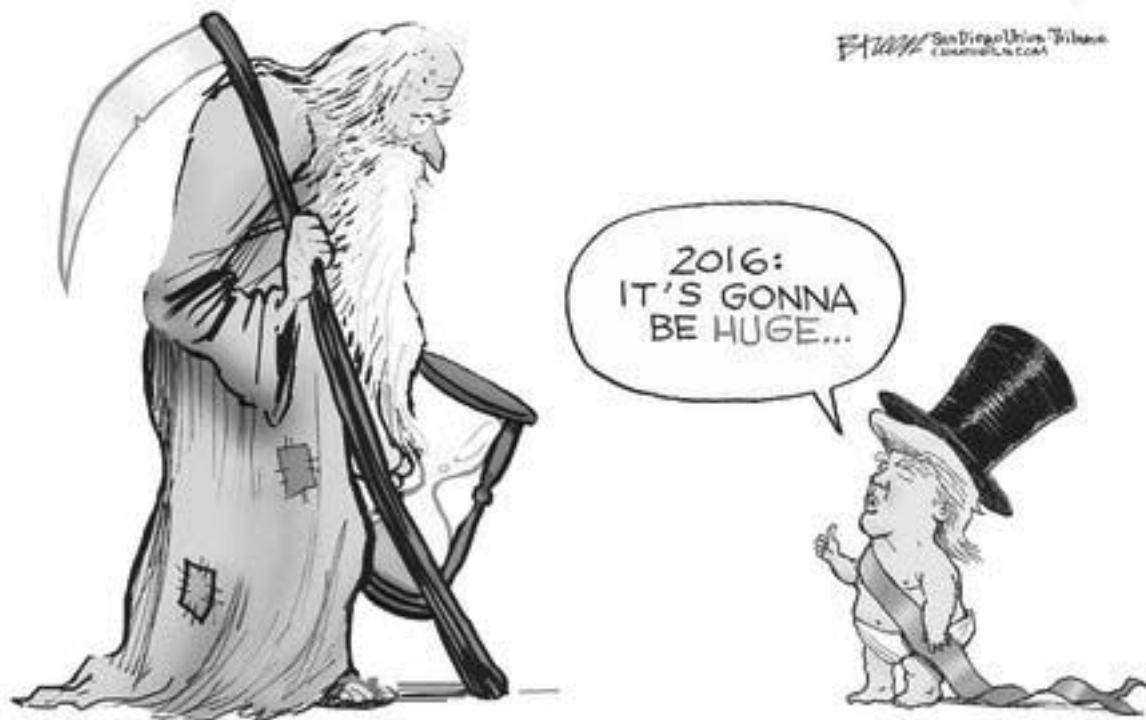
For years the courthouse had no heating or air conditioning. A district judge changed that.

"He was holding court on a hot day," Dierschke said. "The windows were open and the lawn guy was mowing the lawn, making so much noise that the judge couldn't continue court. The next commissioners' court meeting, he ordered the district courtroom to have central heat and air."

This is the second courthouse



TUMBLEWEED SMITH



All stamped out

For the sake of what we'll call "literary hygiene," let us consider the residue that must be confronted by millions of Americans now cleaning up, clearing out, consolidating or deleting leftovers from the old year.

Maybe "stamping out" should be added, since a primary purpose of this piece is to extend warm "fuzzies" likened to balm, analgesic, chiropractic and other therapeutic relief for a tromped-on arm of the Federal government.

I'm referencing postal personnel, fully confident that if they ever were subjected to TV debates, they'd handle the assignment with dignity ignored by presidential candidates of all stripes.

During recent days, said employees have exercised patience, understanding and sometimes even pity, dealing — as they annually do — with patrons who are, uh, running late.

Such vignettes are as predictable as the sunrise. Maybe the postal folks gear up by taking vitamins, undergoing sensitivity sessions or merely adhering to policies deemed important by superiors. Surely the list runs longer.

This day, though, my focus will be sharp. The vignette I observed first hand at the local post office — where I was "running late" — delivering the final volley of Christmas cards my wife decreed HAD TO BE MAILED

that day. The lot of us — aging millennials who'll mail Christmas cards even if stamps cost \$2 each and gravy \$5 a sop — was generally docile in the line snaking out the front door.

Immediately behind me, though, was a woman whose last nerve may have been stepped on earlier during a shopping or parking space battle.

Physicians concur that our nerves are most likely to creak — maybe even snap — during the pressing days leading up to December 25.

Darting up and down the lobby line outside the counter was a postal guy rendering aid — in whatever ways he could — to minimize eventual time at the counter.

When he sought to help the woman behind me, eye-twitching — his, not mine — began. "You certainly can; I need to pick up some more duck stamps."

"Ma'am, we have all manner of Christmas stamps, but we are out of duck stamps."

She grew silent, her hands on hips saying it all. No doubt harboring "what is this world coming to?" thoughts, she exited the post office without further comment. And the other late-comers behind me moved one step closer.

At other times of the year, this woman may be highly organized. She may have bought Christmas cards 11 months earlier, when they were 75 percent off.

Perhaps there were health exigencies, family tragedies or employment issues, but for whatever reason(s), something got in the way of her plans to buy stamps.

More specifically, duck

in Glasscock County. The first one was built in 1894. It had two stories: one for the jail, the other for county offices.

After the move into the present courthouse, the jail went unused for seven consecutive years. Then someone required a trip behind bars.

"The jail hadn't been used in such a long time that a mesquite tree had grown up in front of the door to the jail," Dierschke said. "In order to put the prisoner in there the prisoner had to cut down the mesquite tree before he could go in."

The original name of the town was Gardner City.

"A guy named John Gardner was a prominent citizen here and had the first store," Dierschke said. "When it came to have a post office, Gardner City was proposed but the postal department thought Garden City would be a better fit."

Garden City High School has won the state championship in 6-man football twice in recent years. The mascot is a bearkat.

"We haven't quite figured out what a bearkat is," Dierschke said.

Tumbleweed Smith loves to hear stories. Contact: ts@tumbleweedsmith.com

LETTER POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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DAILY PRAYER

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

Amen

Nine tips for aging well

Although you can't stop time, the right type and amount of physical activity can help stave off many age-related health problems.

More than half (59 percent) of Americans expect to still be living at home independently at the age of 80, according to a recent survey by the American Physical Therapy Association. However, the same study showed that at least half of the same population recognizes they will see a decline in strength and flexibility as they age.

Movement experts such as physical therapists can help aging individuals overcome pain, gain and maintain movement, and preserve independence — often helping to avoid the need for surgery or long-term use of prescription drugs.

These nine tips, provided by the experts at the American Physical Therapy Association, are keys to helping you age well:

1. Chronic pain doesn't have to be the boss of you. Each year 116 million Americans experience chronic pain from arthritis or other conditions. Proper exercise, mobility, and pain management techniques can ease pain, improving your overall quality of life.

2. You can get better and stronger at any age. Research shows that an appropriate exercise program can improve your muscle strength and flexibility as you age. Progressive resistance training, where muscles are exercised against resistance that gets more difficult as strength improves, has been shown to



help prevent frailty.

3. You may not need surgery or drugs for your low back pain. Low back pain is often over-treated with surgery and drugs despite a wealth of scientific evidence demonstrating that physical therapy can be an effective alternative with less risk.

4. You can lower your risk of diabetes with exercise. One in four Americans over the age of 60 has diabetes. Obesity and physical inactivity can put you at risk for this disease, but a regular, appropriate physical activity routine is one of the best ways to prevent and manage type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

5. Exercise can help you avoid falls and keep your independence. More than half of adults over 65 report problems with movement, including walking 1/4 mile, stooping, and standing. Exercise can improve movement and balance and reduce your risk of falls.

6. Your bones want you to exercise. Osteoporosis, or weak bones, affects more than half of Americans over the age of 54. Exercises that keep you on your feet, like walking, jogging or dancing, and

exercises using resistance such as weight lifting, can improve bone strength or reduce bone loss.

7. Your heart wants you to exercise. Heart disease is the No. 1 cause of death in the United States. One of the top ways of preventing it and other cardiovascular diseases is exercise. Research shows that if you already have heart disease, appropriate exercise can improve your health.

8. Your brain wants you to exercise. People who are physically active, even later in life, are less likely to develop memory problems or Alzheimer's disease, a condition which affects more than 40 percent of people over the age of 85.

9. You don't have to live with bladder leakage. More than 13 million women and men in the United States have bladder leakage. A physical therapist can help you avoid spending years relying on pads or rushing to the bathroom.

To learn more about the role of physical activity as you age, or to find a physical therapist near you, visit MoveForwardPT.com.

#AgeWell

AT ANY AGE

In the United States, we are increasingly preoccupied with what it means to get older — or what we perceive it means. Perspectives vary among generations and between genders, but one thing is certain: everyone is thinking about aging. A recent national survey by the American Physical Therapy Association offers new insights on what Americans are feeling, thinking and doing about it.

HOPES FOR AGING

- Staying Healthy**
 - 42% of respondents
 - Almost half of women — significantly higher than men
- Enjoying Life**
 - 30% of respondents
 - 1/3 of men — significantly higher than women
 - Significantly more Millennials than Boomers
- Maintaining Independence**
 - 18% of respondents
 - Significantly more Boomers and Silent Generation than other generations

FEARS OF AGING

- Not Able to Do the Things I Love**
 - Significantly more Millennials than other generations
- Not Living Independently**
 - 60% of Silent Generation
 - 40% of Boomers
- Debilitating Diseases & Chronic Conditions**
 - 42% of respondents: Alzheimer's disease — 3x more than either heart disease or chronic pain

Millennials: Born between early 1980s & early 2000s
Gen X: Born between early 1950s & early 1980s
Baby Boomers: Born between 1946 & 1964
The Silent Generation: Born between mid-1920s & early 1940s

EXPECTATIONS

Will still be able to engage in the same type of physical activities at 65 and older

68%

44% of respondents believe modifications are needed for that to be true

Will lose strength & flexibility with age

51% Strength

49% Flexibility

Millennials & Gen Xers are significantly more optimistic than Boomers

Will be living independently at home at age 80

59%

Boomers are significantly more confident in independence

START THE CLOCK

When do you start to experience the signs of aging?

Survey Respondents Say:

40s 50s

Significantly more respondents under the age of 55 expect to experience aging signs in their 40s or 50s

60s

The majority of respondents expect to experience aging signs in their 60s or older

AGING STARTS EARLIER THAN YOU MAY THINK:

- Take action early
- Protect health through the aging process

PROMOTE HEALTHY AGING

With guidance from a physical therapist, the right type and amount of physical activity can:

- Improve mobility
- Alleviate pain
- Boost overall health

Healthy Routines

- 58% Stay mentally active with crossword puzzles and brain games
- 53% Eat a balanced diet
- 53% Exercise regularly
- 51% Maintain a healthy weight
- 48% Build physical activity into their day
- 39% Participate in preventative screenings
- 34% Build muscle strength

93%

Already practice healthy behaviors

TIPS TO #AGEWELL

Prevent/Manage Diabetes
Affects 1 in 4 Americans over 60

Build Heart Health
No. 1 cause of death in U.S. is heart disease

Strengthen Bones
Affects more than half of Americans over 54

Treat Back Pain
Often over-treated with surgery and drugs

Stimulate Brain
Alzheimer's disease affects more than 40% of people over 85

Avoid Falls
About 1 in 3 Americans over 65 fall each year

Manage Chronic Pain
116 million Americans suffer from chronic pain

As experts in movement, physical therapists will work with you to help you prepare for aging, treat the effects of aging and learn how to #AgeWell. Find a physical therapist in your area at MoveForwardPT.com.

Source: National omnibus survey conducted by ORC International on behalf of the American Physical Therapy Association

American Physical Therapy Association

Physical Therapy Brings Motion to Life

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Dogs take a bite out of Ozona

BY TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor

BIG LAKE — Coahoma went out of 2015 in style. The Coahoma Bulldogs varsity boys team concluded the Mary Tatum Invitational with a thrilling 41-40 victory over Ozona on Thursday.

Mason Moore continued

his excellent play by leading the Bulldogs in almost every statistical category, including a team-high 13 points. He also dominated the boards with 15 rebounds.

"We had a better effort today," head coach

Kim Nichols said. "We played much better team defense and cut down on turnovers."



See **BULLDOGS**, Page 7A



Alabama head coach Nick Saban joins the team in celebration after the Cotton Bowl NCAA college football semifinal playoff game against Michigan State, Thursday, Dec. 31, 2015, in Arlington, Texas. Alabama won 38-0 to advance to the championship game.

Alabama knocks out Michigan State in Cotton

BY RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The loss still stung. It burned Alabama so badly to be beaten in the College Football Playoff semifinals last year that the Crimson Tide was determined to handle its business differently this time around.

The players said they were more focused and promised to be more prepared, more precise in their execution and more relentless in their effort.

Nick Saban said he saw something in his team coming into the Cotton Bowl that he had never seen before. Michigan State claimed it was ready for a 15-round brawl, but the Tide knocked out the Spartans early on Thursday night like a nonconference cupcake.

No. 2 Alabama 38, No. 3 Michigan State 0.

Alabama (13-1) will face No. 1 Clemson (14-0) on Jan. 11 in Arizona looking for its fourth national title in nine seasons under Saban.

"I think last year when we came to this game, we were just happy to take part in the game," Saban

said. "I think this year we wanted to sort of take the game and really thought our guys had a vision of what they wanted and everybody paid the price for what they had to do in preparation."

The Tide took it but not the way it had done for so much of this season — at least offensively. Instead of pounding away at a Michigan State defense that was stacked to stop Heisman Trophy winner Derrick Henry from running wild, Alabama aired it out.

Jake Coker played the game of his career, hooking up with Calvin Ridley for two touchdowns, and going 25 for 30 for a career-best 286 yards. Conventional wisdom on beating Alabama was to take away the run and make Coker, the promising Florida State transfer who sat the bench most of last season, win the game.

Clemson might have to come up with a new plan.

"He's a great quarterback, he's a great leader, and he can make things happen when we need them," receiver ArDarius Stewart said.

The Tide looked like a team with no weaknesses against over-

matched Michigan State (12-2). The freshman Ridley was brilliant, streaking by defenders on deep throws and outfighting them on jump balls. He caught eight passes for 138 yards. Jonathan Allen and the ferocious Tide defensive front sacked Connor Cook four times and allowed the Spartans only one trip into the red zone, which ended with Cyrus Jones intercepting a pass at the goal line.

Jones punted a high-stopping 57-yard punt return touchdown for the Tide, which hardly even had to use the 242-pound Henry. He ran 20 times for 75 yards and scored two touchdowns. The last made it 38-0 halfway through the fourth quarter. The celebration at that point was pretty tame on the Alabama sideline.

The 'Bama fans were having fun, though, breaking out the "S-E-C!" chant and singing along to "Sweet Home Alabama" with that familiar "Roll Tide Roll!" AT&T Stadium in North Texas — where Alabama started its season by blowing out a Big Ten team (Wisconsin) — had turned into Tuscaloosa west. Happy New Year, indeed.

Forsan cruises past Irion County 58-34

BY TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor

MERTZON — The Forsan Buffaloes varsity boys basketball team started district play off great with a 58-34 victory over Irion County to close out 2015 on Wednesday.

The Buffs exploded for 24 points in the third quarter to put the game out of reach.

Josh Evans led the offensive assault with 13 points. Three different Buffs scored double digits, and nine different players scored.

"Our defense and

rebounding stepped up to the challenge," head coach Gary Huckabee said.

The Buffs will travel to Ozona on Tuesday as they continue their district-winning streak.

SCORING LEADERS

- Josh Evans- 13
- Walker Park- 12
- Kobe Richardson- 10
- Garrett Evans- 6
- Bryce Hergert- 5
- Jacob Valdez- 4
- Ian Park- 4
- Ben Mikeska- 2
- Akkey McVae- 2

Lady Steers' slow start leads to defeat from Bearkats



BY TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor

GARDEN CITY —The Big Spring Lady Steers traveled to Garden City on Thursday for a doubleheader against the Lady Bearkats. Varsity lost 55-40, while the junior varsity team lost 50-24.

NEW LOOK LADY STEERS

The junior varsity squads faced off first, playing with a completely revamped roster due to the loss of four players. Several freshmen have

been called up to get a taste of junior varsity action, and just in time to gear up for district play.

The offense was shaky at first, but the Lady Steers went on a 3-0 run to close out the first quarter. Garden City had 6 second chance points in the first quarter alone, grabbing more offensive boards than the Lady Steers.

The Lady Steers played well on the defensive end on half court sets, unfortunately Garden City had a healthy amount of points off turnovers. Big Spring forced several steals in the second quarter as they were quite active defensively, especially in the post.

Garden City led 23-8 going into halftime. Big Spring came out hot in the start of the second half, tearing off six points in less than a minute into the third quarter.

See, **GIRLS**, Page 7A

Steers drop final two games at Sandhills Tournament

BY TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor

MONAHANS —The Big Spring Steers varsity team got a double dose of defeat Thursday, losing 68-46 to Randall and 68-46 to Monahans.

Canyon Randall mauled the Steers throughout the contest, as the Lobos tallied 21 steal and 34 points off turnovers.

Senior guard Kolton Knudson continued his solid play, leading the team in scoring with 19 points. He was aggressive offensively and sunk 5-of-10 from the charity stripe, the most visits to the free

throw line of any Steer by five.

Big Spring's offense was playing well in the first quarter, as they kept pace with Monahan's high-scoring offense. Monahans led 16-14 after the first quarter. Big Spring had four different scorers and moved the ball well in the first quarter.

The Steers once again allowed a run by the opposition in the middle quarters. The Steers allowed an average of 32.25 points over the second and third quarters during the tournament. The Steers are allowing the most points and

scoring at their lowest rate during the middle quarters since the start of the tournament on Tuesday.

Big Spring did respond well in the fourth quarter, out-scoring Monahans 17-14.

SCORING LEADERS

- Kolton Knudson- 19
- Eric Ortega- 8
- Israel O'guin- 5
- Chase Williams- 4
- Jeremiah Rushin- 3
- Lorenzo Jones- 3
- Jacob Scott- 2

Big Spring also lost to the Canyon Randall Raiders 67-36.

See **STEERS**, Page 7A

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BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A True Value



BULLDOGS

Continued from Page 6A

The Bulldogs shot 39 percent from the field and 28 percent from beyond the arc. They limited their turnovers to just 16, the lowest they had in the tournament. They also did a great job of playing tough and aggressive defense without fouling. Coahoma racked up 11 blocks and nine steals. Coahoma improved to 8-8

this season with the victory, and went 1-2 in tournament play this past week. Their game on Saturday at Lubbock Roosevelt High School was canceled. Their next game will be on Tuesday at home against Westbrook High School.

CLOSE GAMES

Coahoma lost their first game 38-37 to Grape Creek High School, allowing Grape Creek to come back from an

11-point deficit in the fourth quarter. Moore had 10 points. The only game that was not close was a 50-29 loss to Reagan County in the consolation semi finals on Wednesday.

“We came out flat and never really recovered,” Nichols said.

The Bulldogs shot 21 percent from the field and 10 percent from beyond the arc.

SCORING LEADERS

Mason Moore- 13

Jon Bermea- 9
Austin Sosa- 6
Tyler Martin- 4
Adam Clark- 2
Britton Heath- 2

REBOUNDING LEADERS

Mason Moore- 15
Jon Bermea- 6
Jonas Turnbough- 3
Adam Clark- 2
Britton Heath- 1

ASSISTS LEADERS

Jon Bermea- 4

Adam Clark- 2
Mason Moore- 2
Britton Heath- 1

BLOCKS LEADERS

Mason Moore- 4
Tyler Martin- 3
Jon Bermea- 3
Jonas Turnbough- 1

STEALS LEADERS

Mason Moore- 4
Adam Clark- 2
Austin Sosa- 1
Tyler Martin- 1

GIRLS

Continued from Page 6A

The Lady Steers made a 10-2 run in the first 2:25 of the third quarter to cut the deficit down to 25-18.

Lexi DeLafuente drained a three pointer on the Lady Steers' first possession. Bailee Baingham quickly followed up with another trey to cut the lead down to 11.

Garden City went responded with a 16-0 run to end the third quarter.

The offense struggled most of the game with Garden City's full court press that forced many turnovers by the Lady Steers.

DeLafuente scored a team-high 11 points, and handled the ball well against the press. Baingham poured in seven points. Kayla Yanez showed a strong presence on the boards all game, and tallied two points.

“I saw a lot of teamwork and support today. Our intensity was better today,” Smalley said.

Tiffani Ruiz had an awesome day with a team-high eight rebounds, and also hustled hard all over the court. Ruiz finished with four points, shooting 2-of-7 from the field.

The Lady Steers were finally able to show off their improved offense once they started overcoming the full court press.

“Came out in the second half with some adjustments and the girls executed well. We were patient and took much better care of the ball,” Smalley said.

Despite matching their first-half scoring in one quarter, Big Spring continued to struggle in the defense rebounding department. Garden City hauled down 28 offensive rebounds and finished with 18 second chance points.

“We struggled with communicating and blocking out on defense,” Smalley said.

Big Spring can take pride in that they continued to get better as the game went on, out-scoring the No. 1 ranked 1A team in Texas 14-8 in the fourth quarter. August Alexander brought a ton of energy to the defensive end, and held their best outside to shooter to just a couple of treys.

Big Spring scored most of their points in the paint. They shot well from the top of the key, but struggled from the corners all game. Defensively the Steers were active in the halfcourt set much like the junior varsity

squad. Big Spring had seven steals.

Both teams continued to fight and try to execute all game, not ever letting the momentum of the game affect their focus and competitiveness.

The Lady Steers next game will be at home Monday night against the Jim Ned Indians (3-6).

TEAM STATS

Field Goal Percentage- 36
3 Point Percentage- 20
Free Throw Percentage- 57
Offensive Rebounds- 14
Defensive Rebounds- 18
Steals- 7
Blocks- 6
Turnovers- 15

SCORING LEADERS

Diamonique Mayes- 9
August Alexander- 8
Myckala Edwards- 6

Kayleigh Penny- 6
Tiffani Ruiz- 4
Alexis Starr- 2

REBOUNDING LEADERS-

Tiffani Ruiz- 8
Diamonique Mayes- 6
August Alexander- 5
Logan Terrazas- 4
Kayleigh Penny- 3
Myckala Edwards- 2
KaSondra Williams- 2

STEALS LEADERS

Diamonique Mayes- 2
August Alexander- 2
Myckala Edwards- 1
KaSondra Williams- 1
Logan Terrazas- 1

BLOCKS LEADERS

Diamonique Mayes- 5
Alexis Starr- 1

BIG SPRING STUMBLES

OUT THE GATE

Just like the junior varsity squad, varsity struggled to navigate through Garden City's 3-2 full court press.

“We tried to force too many passes and rushed the press break,” head coach Stacy Smalley said.

In total the Lady Steers committed 15 turnovers that Garden City turned into 15 points. Garden City did most of their damage in the paint, nearly shooting 50 percent down low. Big Spring also allowed too many second chance points.

Garden City held Big Spring to just 13 first quarter points. Despite trailing by 20 points at the beginning of the second half, Big Spring continued to fight and play as a team.

STEERS

Continued from Page 6A

The Steers got some early offensive output, including two treys by senior guard O'guin. The Steers were held to just two points the following quarter, and were held to single digits the following quarter as well.

The Steers formula for defeat was the same, allowing fastbreak opportunities and points off turnovers. The Steers allowed 26 points off turnovers and 22 transition points. The Raiders tallied 21 steals.

The Steers continued to play together and scored 13 in the final frame. Once again Knudson was the leading scorer with 10 points.

“We learned a lot about each other and we had multiple good quarter in every game to build on,” head coach Nicholas Tyerman said. “I am proud of the character we continue to show in adversity. I am excited to get a great three days of practice in before our next game with Andrews.”

Knudson earned all-tournament honors for his tremendous play throughout

the three-day tournament. His offensive production grew after every game, and he was a playmaker on the defensive side of the ball each day.

The Steers treated the tournament as practice because they had not played in 10 days. The Steers have two more games until they begin district play.

SCORING LEADERS

Kolton Knudson- 10
Eric Ortega- 6
Israel O'guin- 6
Lorenzo Jones- 6
Chase Williams- 4
Jacob Scott- 2

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Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS:

CAUSE NO. 50819
BIG SPRING HARLEY
DAVIDSON
VS.

Legals

WILLIAM NICHOLS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
118TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: William Nichols,
Defendant- GREETING

NOTICE TO 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 am on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you."
You are hereby commanded

Legals

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 February 1, 2015 before the Honorable 118th District Court of Howard County, at the Courthouse in said County in Big Spring, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 30th day of October, 2015 in the above entitled cause.
A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Issue Of Title To Personal Property as is

Legals

more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Big Spring, Texas this 16 day of December, 2015.

Attorney for Plaintiff or Plaintiff:
Robert Walker
P.O. Box 1015
Big Spring, Texas

Clerk of the Court:
Colleen Barton
Howard County, Texas

By Colleen Barton Deputy
#8819 Decemr 20, 27,
January 3, & 10.

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sudoku

ANSWERS

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

www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

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

1/2/16

Newsday Crossword SATURDAY STUMPER by Brad Wilber
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Common dust-ruffle feature
- 9 Pal of Duchamp and Chagall
- 14 Without walls
- 15 Nibble on a toothpick
- 16 Tasmanian icebreaker
- 17 Certain living-room set
- 18 One with a van line
- 19 Frontier town
- 21 Super Tuesday no.
- 22 Off the table
- 24 Frequent quote source
- 25 Santa Maria shipwreck site, today
- 27 Maker of L'Or de Vie lotion
- 28 Taupé cousin
- 30 '30s champion of Ulysses
- 31 People skip its stones
- 33 Subject of a 1968 Tom Wolfe book
- 35 Whence some kits emerge
- 37 Profusion
- 38 Soviet dissidents' self-publishing
- 42 Only city to host consecutive Super Bowls
- 45 Sit by
- 46 Hartford neighbor of Twain
- 48 Cast
- 50 Signal source-changing control
- 52 What an ace keeps low
- 53 Sports accelerator
- 54 Small wrapper, some say
- 55 Ancient power of the Mediterranean

DOWN

- 1 Caught
- 2 Popped kernel, to Redenbacher
- 3 Je ne sais quoi
- 4 Jimmy
- 5 Turkey
- 6 Genesis "man of the field"
- 7 When the Anvil Chorus is heard
- 8 Cutting edge in winter sports
- 9 Sagan's "very small stage in a vast cosmic arena"
- 10 Yeast extract for scientific research
- 11 Pampers, in Liverpool
- 12 The 2016 Aston Martin DB10 is its official car
- 13 Word from the Latin for "witness"
- 15 Wares burned before use
- 20 Different
- 23 Educated
- 26 Cellulose compound in clothing
- 28 Gets well
- 29 It makes Speed Racer go
- 32 Its logo is made from 44 of its products
- 34 Goldfish alternative
- 36 Stuffs
- 38 Object of confidence
- 39 Otter prey
- 40 Semi add-on
- 41 Conservative sentiment
- 43 Err with hands
- 44 Vehement
- 47 Start liking
- 49 Took some of
- 51 Daisylike
- 53 Capital close to Memphis
- 56 TV series airing from what was once the world's largest radio studio
- 57 Mogadishu-born model
- 60 Onetime owner of Abbey Road Studios
- 62 Onetime owner of the first audio trademark

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14								15				
16								17				
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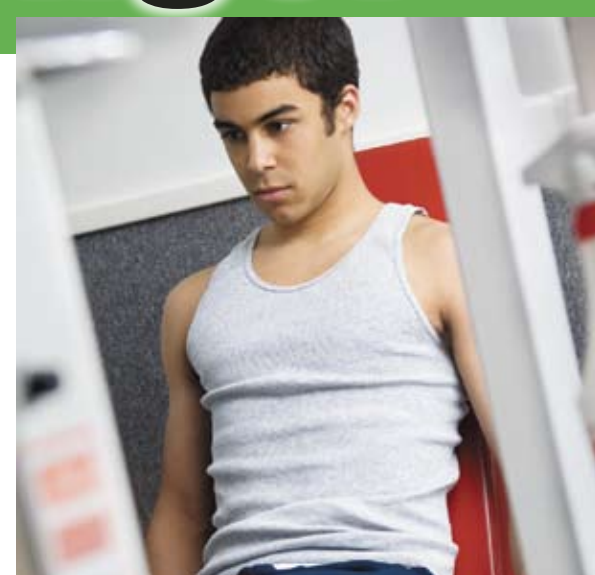
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\$15 per person or \$30 per team.

• Team photos and updates will be published. Here you'll be able to follow along with the progress of each team, and see how your team measures up. These specials will be published January 31st, March 6th, April 3rd.

• We will only provide your team's **total percentage** of weight loss, not individual weight.

• At the end of the 3-month program, the winning team will be determined by the highest percentage of weight lost, and receive the “Grand Prize”.

• Contest prizes determined on number of teams.

• To join the **Best Loser Spring Challenge**, fill out the form below and return to us with your \$30 team fee, CASH ONLY, No later than **January 25, 2016**.



**Sign-Up
Deadline
Monday, January 25th**

**DEADLINE
JANUARY 25, 2016**

(TEAM PHOTO MUST BE TAKEN, ENTRY FEE MUST BE TURNED IN AND YOU MUST WEIGH IN BY THIS DATE TO QUALIFY FOR CHALLENGE)

Sign us up for the Best Loser Challenge!

Team Name (Be Creative) _____

email: _____

Team Member 1: _____ phone: _____

Team Member 2: _____ phone: _____

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Start off the new year by becoming a volunteer

January is the perfect time to start new resolutions and changes. It is also the perfect time to start new hobbies and get involved! Howard County is full of volunteer opportunities, clubs, organizations, and service clubs for those looking for new friendships and opportunities in 2016. Here are just a few opportunities.

The Big Spring Kiwanis is a part of an international service club that was founded back in 1915. One hundred years later, the Kiwanis of Big Spring still stands for service, community, and friendship. "It is something that can get you involved," said club president Joe Johnson. "We have speakers that we bring into meetings that help inform our members about how to get plugged into community events. The company is great, too!"

The Kiwanis participate in various community events, such as the Feast of Sharing, Trunk or Treats, and the Howard County Fair. "We hold an annual Pancake Supper during Spring Break," said Johnson. "We try and associate with programs that deal with kids. We support the West-side Daycare and the Salvation Army/Boys and Girls Club. Last year we gave out three scholarships to graduating seniors for college."

If you are interested in joining Kiwanis, the club meets at noon on Thursdays in Howard College Cactus Room. "We have a lot of fun," said Kiwanis board member Don Green. "Come visit us! We will buy ya lunch and maybe even sing ya a song!"

Have you noticed the nice, manicured medians down Main Street? You can thank Keep Big Spring Beautiful for that. An affiliate of Keep Texas Beautiful, Keep Big Spring Beautiful is a grassroots effort to encourage people to take pride in their city's appearance.

"We have such a good group of doers," said Keep Big Spring Beautiful's president Lisa Brooks. "These are people that really see the potential in Big Spring."

Each year, Keep Big Spring Beautiful picks a project to work on to beautify the city. This year, the group has picked the medians down Main Street in downtown Big Spring.

"Ideas are a dime a dozen," said Brooks. "We are trying to do something by taking action."

Along with a big project, the group stays active in the community by

participating in and even organizing events. Keep Big Spring Beautiful partnered with the City of Big Spring in November to help collect 38,792 pounds of e-waste to be recycled and holds annual events each year such as the Great American Cleanup in April and Love Our Lake which occurs in August.

"We have this big beautiful gem in downtown Big Spring [Hotel Settles] and our sidewalks are second to none in West Texas," Brooks said. "These things won't maintain themselves. We are responsible to keep it going and keep it beautiful."

If you are interested in participating in Keep Big Spring Beautiful, the group meets the first Monday of the month in the Cactus Room at Howard College at noon for a Dutch treat lunch.

"We would encourage people to come join," said Brooks. "We are a fun bunch of trash-y people."

Providing meals for the hungry isn't just something done around the holidays. Mobile Meals, a meal program that delivers balanced meals to physically or mentally disabled homebound provides meals year round.

"It doesn't matter the financial status of the client," Kim Plew, administrator of Mobile Meals said. "If they can't provide or fix their own meals, we want to help."

Volunteers with Mobile Meals run about a 45 minute route starting at Scenic Mountain Medical Center where they pick up the meals and start around 8:30 in the morning.

"It's a true blessing to get to help the community this way," Plew said. When Mobile Meals started in Big Spring in 1975, volunteers were delivering 15 lunches each weekday. Today, according to the Big Spring website, the group delivers 80 lunches per weekday on average. For those wanting to sign up to receive meals, the Dora Roberts Community Center takes clients by calling 263-4016. For those wanting to volunteer to drive routes, call 263-4016.

"They [the clients] get a meal from a friendly face and build a friendship with the volunteer," said Plew. "The volunteer gets the blessing of helping those who can't fix a meal for themselves as well as a friendship they wouldn't have had if they didn't volunteer."

See **Volunteer** page 3B



Herald File Photos

Top: A volunteer with Isaiah 58 checks the shelves before opening the doors. **Above:** Kiwanis board member induction from left to right - outgoing president, Steve Reagan; board members Floyd Green and Melinda Hernandez; vice president, Julie Bass; secretary/treasurer Bill Schaffner; board member Don Green; incoming president, Joe Johnson and board member Wayne Bristow. **Below:** organizations and individuals showed up to lend a hand during the Keep Big Spring Beautiful - Love Our Lakes clean up in August of 2015.



Story by:
Amanda Elston
and Julie Bass

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2306 BRENT

A Critical Ear: a community gift

The "Nutcracker" was back and it was better than ever. On Saturday, Dec. 19, Keith Graumann and the Big Spring Symphony, in conjunction with the Midland Festival Ballet, a cast of amateur dancers (including some kids from Big Spring), along with some beautiful and talented professionals, gave Big Spring a Christmas present.

Once again an opportunity for us to expose our children to a little culture in the desert presented itself at our front door. In a newly remodeled venue some of the most popular melodies in the Romantic repertoire joined with lush costumes and amazing dance. I smiled all the way through it.

I'm not much for "toe dancers," but I recognized the event as a chance,

if not obligation, for a grandparent to stimulate the burgeoning tastes of his grandchildren. My wife and I loaded them up and took a random selection of them (it was free for them, after all) to the newly remodeled coliseum.

They behaved like kids historically do, running wild and hanging over the rail of the balcony. But after a few Tarzan yells from above and double-dog dares to walk the railing, my daughter went upstairs to settle them down. Then the music and dance set in and all was well.

Once again I was proud of my hometown, Courteous reactions to all the talent joined with an overall well-groomed appearance that cried out "we ain't hicks!"

It was a glorious evening and we must continue to double our efforts in support of this glimmering ray of cultural education called the Big Spring Symphony.

After all, "We ain't hicks!" And with a little effort we can try to make sure the kids ain't.



RICK
HAMBY

German court rules against disputed Etihad code-shares

BERLIN (AP) - A German court has ruled that Etihad Airways and Air Berlin can't continue code-sharing on some of their routes beyond mid-January.

Abu Dhabi-based Etihad holds 29.2 percent of Germany's second-biggest airline and their code-sharing provides important income for Air Berlin. However, the German government says some of the routes aren't covered by an aviation agreement with the United Arab Emirates. The problem involves 31 routes, with more than 50 others unaffected.

The airline said in a statement that it was disappointed with the decision, which it says will inconvenience passengers. It plans to file an appeal early next week. Flights already booked will be honored.

German authorities in October approved the disputed code-shares through Jan. 15, saying they were giving the companies time to find a solution.

Etihad sought a ruling from an administrative court in Braunschweig extending that permission to the end of the winter timetable in late March. However, the court said Wednesday it had rejected the application.

A job well done!



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Augustine Rodriguez, 17, finishes off the last touches of his snowman built in the 600 block of Circle. Rodriguez spent several hours perfecting his creation. With an unofficial 7 inches of snow falling in the Crossroads area during Winter Storm Goliath, plenty of snowman cropped up along in the town and county.

Menus

Big Spring ISD

Monday

No School

Tuesday

Breakfast: pancake on a stick, grapes, assorted fruit juice and milk; Lunch: meaty queso, garden salad, baby carrots, milk and strawberries and bananas.

Wednesday

Breakfast: sausage breakfast pizza, mixed fruit cup, assorted fruit juice and milk; Lunch: rib patty sandwich, potato rounds, peas, fruity Jell-O, fresh fruit bowl and milk.

Thursday

Breakfast: blueberry muffin, banana, assorted fruit juice and milk; Lunch: meaty macaroni, green beans, garden salad, grapes, animal crackers and milk.

Friday

Breakfast: PBJ Uncrustable, orange smiles, assorted fruit juice and milk; Lunch: barbecue pork sandwich, sweet

potato tots, tomato and cucumber, pineapple chunks, fresh fruit bowl, lettuce/tomato toppings and milk.

Big Spring Senior Center

Monday

Chicken and dumplings, french style green beans with red peppers, apricots, crackers and milk.

Tuesday

Baked pork chops, brown rice, brussels sprouts/carrots/cauliflower, banana pudding, rolls and milk.

Wednesday

Beef stew with vegetables, chocolate chip cookies, fruit cup with citrus, cornbread and milk.

Thursday

Soft chicken tacos with salad and cheese, spanish rice, cherry pink cloud and milk.

Friday

Fish sticks with catsup, stewed tomatoes, fiesta corn, pear halves and milk.

Fitbit likely a hot seller for Christmas

NEW YORK (AP) - It was a very merry Christmas for fitness-tracking device maker Fitbit.

The company's app was the most downloaded on Apple's app store Christmas Day, a sign that many people couldn't wait to set up their Fitbit trackers after unwrapping them. It also suggests that Fitbit trackers were a hot seller during the holidays, despite increasing competition from Apple's smartwatch and other wearable devices. Investors were pleased, sending shares of the San Francisco company higher Monday.

The Fitbit app topped Apple's app store in the U.S. on Christmas Day and the day after, according to App Annie, which tracks app downloads and rankings. That's far better than last year when the Fitbit app ranked at No. 18 on Christmas Day and No. 15 the day after, according to research from Raymond James & Associates. In a note to clients, Raymond James analyst Tavis McCourt called the numbers "impressive."

Fitbit declined to comment Monday. Apple did not respond to a request for comment.

While app downloads don't necessarily mean a tracker was sold,

McCourt said it's a "good measure of relative sales success."

Retailers confirmed Monday that Fitbit trackers were in high demand during the holiday shopping season.

Macy's Inc. said the Fitbit's products sold "very well" at the department store. Discount retailer Target Corp. said the trackers were one of its top-selling electronics during the holiday season. And Amazon.com Inc. said the Fitbit Charge was one of its most popular items for customers that used its same-day delivery service in Chicago, Dallas, New York and other major cities.

App downloads could also lead to future sales. Users who track their health information on the app are more likely to buy another Fitbit device when they want to upgrade, said Ross Rubin, the senior director of industry analysis at App Annie.

Amanda Hetherington opened a Fitbit Flex on Christmas Eve, a gift from her son, and plans to buy more.

Hetherington, who says she is working on getting back into shape, downloaded the app on Christmas Day. Besides steps, she also plans to track what she eats and how much water she drinks with the app.

She's already making changes: This weekend she parked further away from a restaurant to get in more steps.

"I love it so much," said Hetherington, who lives near Columbia, South Carolina, "I'll probably get one for my husband for Valentine's Day."

Fitbit sells several different devices that track user's steps, calories or sleep patterns. They cost as little as \$60 for a tracker that clips to clothing to about \$250 for a watch. The company has already sold more than 13 million devices so far this year before the holiday shopping season, surpassing the 10.9 million total devices it sold last year.

But like a new gym membership, there is still the question of how long people will remain dedicated to their fitness trackers once the novelty wears off. Research firm Endeavour Partners estimated earlier this year that about a third of trackers get abandoned after six months.

On Monday, shares in Fitbit Inc. jumped 95 cents, or 3.3 percent, to \$29.86. Still, they are down about 42 percent since reaching a high of \$51.90 in August, a couple of months after the company's initial public offering in June.

Life! forms can be found at www.bigspringherald.com

CITY OF BIG SPRING NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Pursuant to the authority granted by the City Council of the City of Big Spring, Texas, the City of Big Spring will receive sealed proposals on the following date/time for the purchase of the items/services listed below:

Date/Time: Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 2:00 p.m., for the following:

1. RFP # 16-012 Crack Seal Project
2. RFP # 16-013 Demolition of Structures

Proposals are to be opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers at 307 East 4th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, with award to be made at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Big Spring City Council. Proposal information and specifications may be obtained from the Office of the Purchasing Agent, 1380 Airpark Drive East, Bldg. #19, Big Spring, Texas 79720. All proposals must be marked with the date of the proposals and a general description of the proposal item(s).

The City of Big Spring reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any or all formalities.

Charles Myers

Attorney At Law

Family Law And
Criminal Law

Ward & Myers, L.L.P.



432-683-3700 • Midland, TX

charles@wardmyers.com

Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

VOLUNTEERS

Continued from page 1B

From helping the Gusman family raise money for a van to sacking lunches with Food2Kids, the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club does it all.

"This is an organization where like-minded people are able to do positive things together," United Way director and Greater Big Spring Rotary Club member Sandy Stewart said.

The Rotary International is an international service organization with the purpose of bringing together business and professional leaders to provide services for the community, and the Greater Big Spring Rotary does just that.

"Each six weeks we do a bike drawing for elementary students that have perfect attendance," club president and Chamber of Commerce executive director Debbie ValVerde said. "We have a boy and a girl winner at each of the elementary schools and for the 5th and 6th graders, we do drawings for passes to the waterpark!"

The club meets every Friday at noon

at the Hotel Settles T&P Room.

"The friendships and contacts I have made from the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club are just great," ValVerde said. "This is a great way to become more community involved and get to know others in the community."

In just three years, Food2Kids has become one of the major volunteer efforts in Howard County. Retired teacher and sacking organizer Muffet Bomar of the Food2Kids nonprofit has seen the program grow from a single elementary school three years ago to now helping around 250 students a week have food for the weekend.

"The First United Methodist Church wanted to help do something for the community," said Bomar. "We started talking about what we could do when we found a contact with West Texas Food Bank. With the help of Bree Anderson, a teacher at Goliad Elementary who participated in a similar program in Pampa, we started our own Food2Kids here in Big Spring."

Each month, volunteers gather for two days for about an hour to sack food for students to take home on the weekend. The sack lunch is enough

for two meals and includes juiceboxes, canned meats, pudding, fruit cups, animal crackers, raisins, and cereal.

"Teachers recommend kids that they think need the program and will send paperwork home with the child for their parents," Bomar said. "The teachers do so much of the initial work and pass them out to the kids each Friday."

Food2Kids takes donations from groups and individuals that go towards purchasing food. If you are interested in volunteering to sack, Food2Kids is meeting Jan. 4 and 5 at 5:30 at the former Lakeview High School Gym. Monetary donations are accepted at the First United Methodist Church office or at 1641 PO Box, Big Spring, TX 79720.

There are many other clubs in Big Spring and Howard County that offer opportunities to get involved:

Coahoma Lions Club. Contact Connie Shaw at 432-816-4547 for more information.

Big Spring Rotary Club. Meets at noon on Tuesdays at the Howard College Cactus Room. Contact Shirley

Lee at 267-5906.

Victim Services is a non-profit that helps victims of all violent crimes. For more information contact Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

CASA of West Texas consists of volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court. Call 877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casatx.org for more information.

Isaiah 58 is a food pantry that helps area families in need. Call 263-4758 for information on how to volunteer. Also, try St. Vincent de Paul, another food pantry in town. For more information, contact Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

The Yellow Rose Animal Rescue, the Happy Days Humane Society and Big Spring Animal Rescue are a great way to help the animals of the community as well. Find all three organizations on Facebook for more information.

Make 2016 the year to be involved in your community!

For more information, see January 2016's issue of the Living Magazine.

Taste test: Next generation of fake meats, eggless mayo

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) – How far have vegan alternatives come to tasting like the real thing? Not far enough, according to a panel that tasted some options for The Associated Press.

"Noxious" and "kind of not natural" were among the reactions to some of the meatless alternatives being pushed by a new generation of vegan food makers that want to revolutionize the way Americans eat.

"If I were to eat this thinking it is a regular hamburger, I might think it's spoiled," said Byron Champlin, a city councilor in Concord, New Hampshire, after taking a bit of a "beefless" burger patty made by Gardein.

Gardein, Beyond Meat and Hampton Creek are among the companies trying to bring energy to a category that has long been defined by brands like Morningstar Foods (founded in 1970), Nasoya (1978) and Quorn (1985). The thinking is that more Americans will embrace plant-based alternatives to beef, chicken and mayonnaise if there are better-tasting options.

The idea is attracting millions of dollars in investments and media fanfare, with the newer companies saying their products also are healthier and gentler on the environment. But the recipes they're cooking up might not be ready for prime time just yet.

A panel of taste testers at The Associated Press test kitchen in Concord, New Hampshire had mixed reactions to the offerings, and in some cases preferred the more established vegetarian options. The three panelists were meat eaters, but said they'd go for vegetarian foods, as long as they taste good.

Dan St. Jean, executive chef for The Common Man restaurants in New Hampshire, thought the Gardein patty had a strange smell.

"It almost tastes like someone tried

to make a meatball into a hamburger, but did something wrong," agreed Sarah Kinney, a community news editor for The Concord Monitor.

The reaction was worse for Beyond Meat's Beast Burger, which was introduced this year. Unlike Gardein, Beyond Meat says it wants to replicate the taste of real meat, rather than just offer vegetarian alternatives. But Champlin spit out the Beast Burger after one bite and called it "noxious" and "non-recognizable."

All three taste testers found the "original griller" made by Morningstar Foods the least offensive. It wasn't exactly a hit either, though; Champlin said he would eat it if there was nothing else around.

The fake chicken didn't fare much better.

"It's just kind of rubbery. It didn't really taste like chicken," said Kinney of Beyond Meat's Southwestern-flavored strips of chicken, which has been on shelves since 2013.

Champlin thought there was a bad aftertaste, but couldn't place what it was.

He also thought the Gardein "chick'n scallopini" was tasteless. But that's why St. Jean liked it – he thought his kids wouldn't notice if he covered it in cheese and marinara sauce.

Champlin and Kinney preferred the chicken breast look-alike made by Quorn, although they agreed with St. Jean that it looked like "a grilled baguette."

The panelists also noted the lack of aromas in the kitchen, where a chef was preparing the products on a stovetop. Meat, by contrast, would have filled the space with mouthwatering smells.

"If your back was to the stove, you couldn't tell what she was cooking," said St. Jean.

NYC may fit more 'micro' apartments into housing picture

NEW YORK (AP) – The apartments in a new Manhattan building boast little balconies, tall ceilings, dishwashers and storage space. All in 360 square feet or less.

It's micro-living in the nation's biggest city, and New Yorkers could be seeing more of it. Planning officials are proposing to end a limit on how small apartments can be, opening the door for more "micro-apartments" that advocates see as affordable adaptations to a growing population of single people. Critics fear a turn back toward the city's tenement past and question whether less space will really mean less expensive.

At Carmel Place, the Manhattan building that marks the city's first experiment in decades with building super-small dwellings, the pitch is that little can be just enough.

"An efficiently designed micro-unit," says developer Tobias Oriwol, "is just a nice apartment."

Due to open early next year, Carmel Place features 55 apartments ranging from 265 to 360 square feet. By comparison, a typical one-car garage can be about 200 square feet.

As an experimental project, Carmel Place got city land and a waiver from New York's 400-square-foot minimum on new apartments, set in 1987. A proposed elimination of that minimum would allow smaller studios in buildings with a mix of apart-

ment sizes, but entire micro-unit buildings would continue to need waivers.

"For us, it was really important to demonstrate how small space could be an enhancement to quality of life," said Christopher Bledsoe of Stage 3 Properties, which designed the interiors and amenities at Carmel Place.

Long, flat walls without columns maximize furniture-arranging options, although some units come furnished with fold-out wizardry, including a desk that expands into a 12-seater table and a retractable bed that pulls down tidily over a love seat. Developer Monadnock Construction and architecture firm nArchitects worked inch-by-inch — sometimes by eighth-inch — to meet such requirements as a wheelchair-accessible bathroom within the small space.

Forty percent of the units have rents set by affordable-housing programs topping out at

around \$1,500 a month, but market-rate ones rent for \$2,650 to \$3,150, roughly on par with many studios in the nearby Murray Hill neighborhood. About 20 people have applied and hundreds requested information for eight market-rate units so far, while over 60,000 have entered a lottery for the affordable ones.

Mayor Bill de Blasio's housing plan says Carmel Place and other projects show "developers can build compact units that are livable, safe, healthy" options for small households.

Of course, tiny apartments in New York are not exactly new. Veteran appraiser Jonathan Miller estimates there are about 3,000 older apartments citywide that measure less than the 400-square-foot minimum. And some real estate agents say New York's young professionals are increasingly seeking small studios, willing to sacrifice space to be near work and away from roommates.

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GWALTNEY BACON \$1.99 LOW SODIUM -16 OZ.

AUSTIN MARKET LUNCHEON LOAF
\$1.49 12 OZ. CAN

GLACIER WATER \$2.99 35 CT - 16.9 OZ
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Smarten your phone purchase

By FAMILY FEATURES

For work or play, cell phones are an integral component of today's culture. Research shows that most people use their personal cell phones for work as well, so there are a wide range of factors to consider when choosing the phone to best fit your needs.

Making the right selection for your business-use phone can not only prevent needless frustration, it can also save you (and your employer) significant time and money.

A single device failure can have a big impact on a company's productivity and bottom line, according to a study by Kyocera Communications.

These losses can be measured in the "Cripple Ripple Effect," which describes how expenses go far beyond replacement costs when a smartphone fails. Time is money, and each single device failure can cost an organization as much as 170 to 200 minutes in lost mobile-worker productivity and internal support.

Consider this advice to help guide your next business phone purchase:

1. Consult with your employer. Before buying a phone that will be used at least part of the time for business use, do some research at the office. Confirm your company's network will allow you to perform the



Getty Images

operations you desire, such as checking email remotely. Also investigate whether there are any corporate discounts to help trim the cost of the phone and even your monthly service charges.

2. Consider physical attributes. The nature of your work may help guide you in choosing the best phone to get the job done. If your job relies on documents and forms, a phone with a sizable screen and excellent resolution is a must. If you work outdoors, you need a sturdy phone that can

withstand some tough conditions, including a rain storm or a drop in a puddle. The introduction of waterproof, drop-proof smartphones, such as Kyocera's Hydro WAVE, is helping many companies reduce the overall total cost of ownership and ensure the productivity of their workforces.

3. Explore other features. Knowing how you will use your phone will help you determine other important features on the job. For example, an extra-loud speaker and one-touch push-to-talk make communicat-

ing easy with the rugged Kyocera DuraForce smartphone - built for even the toughest jobs. If you spend a good portion of the day away from power, a long battery life is also a must.

4. Anticipate memory needs. A salesperson can help you understand how much memory you need to accomplish your everyday tasks. Some smartphones offer a memory card slot that lets you expand the phone's memory and easily transfer data between devices, significantly expanding your phone's data capabilities.

5. Know your environment. Ensure the features of the phone can be protected from harsh work environments to avoid costly replacements due to dropping, water or dust exposure and more. A rugged smartphone also is less likely to sustain damage through everyday wear and tear, so it may be a smart investment even for a milder work environment, especially if you have an active personal life. Another factor worth considering, according to the Kyocera study: when used for work, non-rugged smartphones fail three times more often than rugged devices, which can further hamper productivity.

For more guidance on choosing the right phone for your needs, visit kyoceramobile.com.

BBB's top 10 consumer tips

Better Business Bureau is proud of our mission: to be the leader in advancing marketplace trust. In order to fulfill that mission, every year BBB offers thousands of tips for consumers to help them find a business they can trust.

With more than 30 million businesses operating in the U.S. and Canada, people are overwhelmed with choices, and often unsure about where to find reliable, unbiased information.

BBB helps people find and recommend business, brands and charities they can trust. Better Business Bureau serving Central, Coastal, Southwest Texas and the Permian Basin compiled the top 10 consumer tips to help you fight scammers, prevent identity theft and save money in 2016:

- **Do your research.** Always check a business out with BBB before you buy. As of 2014, more than 12,000 businesses in your BBB's 79-county service area meet BBB's Standards for Trust and are qualified to use the BBB Accredited Business seal on their websites and at business locations. Use checkbbb.org to find a list of Accredited Businesses under several category lists. For any business, visit bbb.org to find BBB Business Reviews for nearly four million businesses across North America to see complaint details, customer reviews and advertising-related issues.

- **Protect your identity.** Always shred paper documents that include sensitive financial data and dispose of computers, cell phones and digital data safely. Safely store all personal documents, such as your Social Security card. Pull your credit report at least once a year and check your credit and debit card statements frequently.

- **Create a budget.** Setting a budget can help you stay afloat in 2016. Know who or what you are shopping for and how much you are willing to spend. While you're shopping, keep track of the cost and avoid impulse purchases to prevent over-spending.

- **Shop on trustworthy websites.** BBB recommends researching busi-

nesses before you shop, especially with online stores. While many online shopping sites are legitimate, there are fraudulent online retailers trying to scam unsuspecting shoppers. These scammers set up fake or fraudulent sites in order to gain access to personal information or steal your money. Before you provide any personal or banking information over the Internet, look for the "s" in <https://> when browsing a website.

- **Keep your computer safe.** If you haven't already done so, install anti-virus software on your computer and check regularly for software and operating system updates and patches. Don't open attachments or click on links in emails unless you can confirm the email came from someone you trust. Always log out of websites you're not using.

- **Give wisely.** Most philanthropists give year-round. To ensure your time, treasure and talents are going to the cause you're looking to support, research all charities at give.org and check their BBB charity review to see how their monetary donations are distributed.

- **Get everything in writing.** Don't just take a company's word for it. Get every verbal agreement in writing to limit miscommunication and misunderstandings between what you expect and what the business delivers.

- **Limit information shared on social media pages.** Scammers use social media sites to gather information on potential victims. Avoid sharing too much personal information and check your privacy settings. Additionally, never announce on social media site that you are going out of town or won't be home for a specified amount of time.

- **Never wire money to someone you don't know.** Many scams require money to be wired back to the scammers. Money sent via a money wiring service is almost impossible to trace once it's wired.

- **Let your BBB help.** BBB is here to promote marketplace trust. If you have an issue with a business or feel you have been scammed, file a complaint with your BBB.

For more consumer information, BBB Business Reviews or to file a complaint, visit your local Better Business Bureau online at bbb.org/central-texas.

Heather Massey is the Regional Director for the Permian Basin office of Better Business Bureau serving Central, Coastal, Southwest Texas and the Permian Basin. Heather is available for media interviews and speaking engagements. You can reach her by phone: (432) 741-2592 or email: hmassey@permianbasin.bbb.org.



HEATHER MASSEY

Permits

Charles Dean Herring Sr., 1501 E. 3rd St. Res elec; Val: \$500 Fee: \$25.
 Carol Kilpatrick, 3306 Cornell Ave. Structure; Val: \$2,900 Fee: \$25.
 Nicholas Puenes, 2801 Navajo Dr. Res add; Val: \$1,500 Fee: \$25.
 Paulino Rocha Rivera, 610 S. Lancaster St. Res Re-roof; Val: \$400 Fee: \$25.
 Felix Lugo, 1314 Park St. Res gas; Val: \$500 Fee: \$32.
 Taco Bell, 2403 S. Gregg St. Structure; Val: \$1,500 Fee: \$25.
 Mike Weaver, 201 E. 6th St. Res Re-roof; Val: \$8,500 Fee: \$55.
 A C Neighbors, 2612 Albrook Dr. Res elec; Val: \$1,000 Fee: \$25.
 Skateland Reloaded, 2910 W. 8th St. Sign; Val: \$500 Fee: \$25.
 Bruce Allen Helsley, 1222 E. 16th St. Res HVAC; Val: \$2,100 Fee: \$35.
 Anna Belle Burks, 3201 Auburn Ave. Res HVAC; Val: \$1,500 Fee: \$35.
 Karla Gomez, 1600 Indian Hills Dr. Res elec; Val: \$500 Fee: \$25.
 Silverleaf Communities, 3314 Fordham. Single family house; Val: \$192,340 Fee: \$877.02. Res elec; Val: \$4,700 Fee: \$93.10. Res plumb; Val: \$9,000 Fee: \$66. Res Sewer water tap; Val: \$265 Fee: \$265. Res water tap; Val: \$600 Fee: \$600.
 MG Peyton Inc., 2206 Cecilia St. Res HVAC; Val: \$1,500 Fee: \$35.
 Gillihan Enterprises, 2101 S. Lancaster St. Com Re-roof; Val: \$2,500 Fee:

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:
 Marcus Joe Anderson, 2621 Chanute Dr., Big Spring
 Steve Antoine, 1425 E. 6th St. #19, Big Sping
 Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
 Josephine (Josie) Balcazar, P.O. Box 1123, Big Spring
 Wayne Richard Buyce, 4042 Morning-side Way, Canyon Lake
 Vanessa Malu Calderon, 2600 Chanute Dr., Big Spring
 Amber Canales, 612 Drake Rd., Big Spring
 Jason Canales, 612 Drake Rd., Big Spring
 Raymond Carroll, 712 E. 17th St., Big Spring
 Pedro Chavarria, 1404 Wood St., Big Spring
 Tonya Renea Cogburn, 1610 Johnson St., 2000 S. Main St., Big Spring
 Jennifer S. Cook, 2911 N. Hwy 80 Apt. 107, Big spring
 Matilda Cortez, 302 N. Saint Teresa, Stanton
 Hannah Deaton, 19634 Atasca Oaks Dr., Humble
 Tina Marie Ellis, 4002 Austin Ave., Snyder
 Selena Bethani Enriquez-King, 100 E. Parker, Midland
 Brittany Vanessa Escanuela, 2521 Chanute Dr., Big Spring
 Jose Enrique Faz, 602 N.W. 7th St., Big Spring
 Juana Fierro, 406 N.W. 5th St., Big Spring
 Michael Dean Fleming, 5216 Tremont Ave Apt 901, Midland
 Leticia Garcia, 1404 Princeton Ave., Big Spring
 William Gene Garner, 704 Rosemont, Big Spring
 Guillermo Gomez, 2107 Morrison, Big Spring
 Kimberly Gonzalez, 1903 Peach, Colorado City
 James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler St. #502, Atlanta
 Eugene Frank Gully, 1201 Floydada, P.O. Box 551, Wellington

Christina Nichole Gutierrez, 2809 25th St., Snyder
 Dylan Hammons, 4401 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
 Matias Hernandez Jr., 620 E. 4th St., San Angelo
 Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N. Texas #198, Odessa
 Stephanie Ford Johnson, P.O. Box 483, Coahoma
 Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham Ave., Odessa
 Ruann R. Martinez, 1005 N.W. 2nd St., Big Spring
 Saprina Lea Martinez, 2521 Chanute Dr., Big Spring
 Felicia Ornelas, 538 Westover No. 236, Big Spring
 John Troy Riddle, 3717 Old Howard Co. Airport Road, Big Spring
 George Anthony Robinson Jr., 1905 Wasson Rd. #14, Big Spring
 Linda Eva Rodriguez, 2519 Gunter Circle, Big Spring
 Juan Romero, 2504 March Circle, Big Spring
 Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Road, Big spring
 Yuri Lozano Rubio, 421 Cedar, P.O. Box 173, Colorado City
 Erlinda Ruiz, P.O. Box 93, Coahoma
 Stacie Lyanne Salas, 5102 Wasson Road, Big Spring
 Brittany Nicole Savell, 425 East Davis Rd., Big Spring
 Kendra D. Tatum, 412 S. Moss Lake Rd., Big Spring
 Ricky Lynn Waltenbaugh, 538 Westover Road Apt. # 133, Big Spring
 Candida Lynn Whitehead, 3706 Connley, Big Spring
 Tamara Ruth Whitt, 3706 Connley, Big Spring
 Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. #28, Big Spring

Judgments
 The State of Texas vs. John Scott Orbison, theft of property. \$500 fine, court costs and 365 days in jail.

Filings
 See RECORDS, Page 5B

How to spend \$5 trillion: An incredible year in deals

NEW YORK (AP) — Companies around the world spent a record \$5.04 trillion on acquisitions in 2015, according to Dealogic, as slow worldwide economic growth and low interest rates pushed companies to combine forces.

Dealogic, a financial data provider, says the value of global deals soared 37 percent in 2015. The highest price tag came in November, when Pfizer and Allergan announced the biggest pharmaceutical deal in history.

Low interest rates since the Great Recession have made it cheaper for companies to borrow money to pay for acquisitions, and because the global economy only grew slowly this year, companies decided it made more sense to buy their competitors instead of trying to boost their sales on their own.

Here are the largest acquisitions announced during the year:

Pfizer and Allergan

Pfizer, the maker of cholesterol fighter Lipitor, impotence treatment Viagra and fibromyalgia drug Lyrica, agreed to buy Allergan in November. The \$148.57 billion deal would be the second-largest corporate merger ever. It would give Pfizer control of Botox and move the company's headquarters to Ireland, cutting its taxes. Pfizer would also become the world's larg-

est drugmaker in terms of sales.

AB InBev and SABMiller

The biggest beer maker in the world wants to get even larger. The company behind Budweiser, Corona and Stella Artois agreed to buy the maker of Miller Genuine Draft and Peroni for \$105.56 billion in October. The move would expand AB InBev's business in Africa, Asia and other key developing markets. As part of the deal, SABMiller agreed to sell the Miller brand to Molson Coors.

Royal Dutch Shell and BG Group

When Royal Dutch Shell agreed to buy BG Group in April, oil prices had taken a steep fall from their 2014 highs. But they were going to get a lot worse. Oil and gas company Shell agreed to buy BG Group for \$69.83 billion to expand its liquid natural gas business. Natural gas prices have tumbled since then

Dell and EMC

In October PC maker Dell agreed to pay \$65.97 billion for EMC, which makes data storage hardware and sells cloud storage and security products. Dell's personal computer sales have been weak for years, but the company has been expanding its software and service businesses. Dell was taken private in 2013.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 4B

Cassie Gibson vs. Christopher Bennett, divorce
Regional Acceptance Corporation vs. Derinda Bogard, Sanley Bogard, contract – consumer/commercial/debt

EDUCAP vs. Raul Rubio, contract – consumer/commercial/debt

Guillermina Lopez, Cinthia Lopez vs. Leah Abuyeka, Ninfa D. Cochran and Irene Hernandez, injury/damage – motor vehicle.

John Avant vs. Rebecca Avant, divorce

Marriage Licenses

Ricky D. Omelas, 53, and Bertha Lopez Guetierrez, 51, both of Big Spring

Roy Dale McNutt, 39, LaDonna Faith Arnold, 36, both of Big Spring

Manuel Ruiz Renteria, 22, and Nora Mancela Gonzalez, 36, both of Big Spring

Leonard Ray Evans, 67, Jo Stafford Woodson, 55, both of Big Spring

Daniel Montez Viera, 28, and Kimberly Nicole Rios, 29, both of Big Spring

Kevin Netaki Clark, 38, Wendy Kane Walker, 32, bot of Big Spring

James Curtis Fuller, 52, and Jodi Lea Shawver, 45, both of Big Spring

Kenneth Dale Kesterson, 48, of Big Spring and Paula Marie Cook, 42, of Lubbock

James Howard Pemper, 33, and Vannesa Rene Guzman, 27, of Big Spring

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Terry Gamble and Galynn Gamble
Grantee: Michael J. Gamble and Jessica Gamble

Property: Lot 514 of Bohannan Subdivision, 25.443 acres in east half of Sec. 52, block 27, T&P, Ry Co. Survey

Date: Dec. 14, 2015

Grantor: Zane Neal Bobbitt, Casey Ann Marshall, Danya Jegede and Sunday Kola Jegede

Grantee: Chuck Rosenbaum

Property: South half of lot 2 and all of lot 3, block 64, original town of Big Spring

Date: Dec. 11, 2015

Grantor: Sonia Lusk

Grantee: Marcellous Weaver
Property: Lot 43, block 3, College Park addition
Date: Dec. 15, 2015

Grantor: Jay D. Holt and Sheila D. Holt
Grantee: Robert K. Fowler

Property: 4 acre tract out of the northeast quarter of Sec. 47, block 31, T-1-N, T&P, RR. Co. and 1.55 acre tract out of the northeast quarter of Sec. 47, block 31, T-1-N, T&P, RR. Co.

Date: Dec. 22, 2015

Grantor: Chavonna Patterson
Grantee: HB Equity, LLC.

Property: Lots 14 and 15, block 6, Settles Heights addition

Date: Dec. 21, 2015

Grantor: William R. Sewell
Grantee: Danny Howard and Nancy Howard

Property: South half of Sec. 30, block 33, T-3-N, T&P, Ry Co. Survey

Date: Dec. 18, 2015

Grantor: Ricky Washburn and Brenda Washburn
Grantee: Steven Nichols

Property: Lot 10, block 2, Sunset Place Annex

Date: Dec. 24, 2015

Warranty Deeds with lien

Grantor: Laura Sickles
Grantee: Irene Marsch

Property: .772 acre tract of land out of the southwest quarter of sec. 43, block 31, T-1-N, T&P, Ry. Co. Survey

Date: Dec. 10, 2015

Grantor: John Paul Asmos and Rebecca S. Amos

Grantee: Jonathan Edward Wentz

Property: Lot 30, block 6, Monticello addition

Date: Dec. 1, 2015

Grantor: Carol Dian Morehead and Jan Falkner
Grantee: Kevin Nichols and Jaime Nichols

Property: Lot 23, block 3, Highland South addition no. 2

Date: Dec. 14, 2015

Grantor: Cindy Coleman
Grantee: Justin D. Smith and Kara R. Smith

Property: Lot 3, block 1, Highland South, no. 1 West

PERMITS

Continued from Page 4B

\$25.

Jose Manuel Mireles, 806 Kent Ave. Res elec;

Val: \$0 Fee: \$25.

Linda Diane Gordon, 2906 Cactus Dr. Res add;

Val: \$30,000 Fee: \$160.

Freddie Olivarez, 3305 W. Hwy 80. Other; Val:

\$3,000 Fee: \$25.

James T. Weaver, 609 W. 15th St. Res Re-roof;

Val: \$3,600 Fee:

Val: \$7,000 Fee: \$45.

Kerr Management, Inc., 2617 Chanute Dr. Res

Re-roof; Val: \$2,500 Fee:

\$30.

Curtis Walter Gaston, 2707 Larry Dr. Res Re-

roof; Val: \$3,600 Fee:

\$30.

John Carl Borchardt, 605 Washington Blvd. Res

gas; Val: \$650 Fee: \$32.

Aaron Rents Inc., 1909 Gregg St. Com gas; Val:

\$2,000 Fee: \$32.

Mesquite Construction,

4010 S. Hwy 87. Com elec; Val: \$0 Fee: \$25.

Karla Gomez, 1600 Indian Hills Dr. Single family

house; Val: \$80,000 Fee:

\$380. Res plumb; Val:

\$6,000 Fee: \$62.

Laura Lea Jones, 1311

Princeton Ave. Res gas;

Val: \$1,000 Fee: \$32.

Mary Linda Ramirez, 104 N.W. 4th St. Res gas;

Val: \$200 Fee: \$32.

Jesus Michael Oliva, 1617 E. 17th St. Res HVAC;

Val: \$3,500 Fee: \$45.



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Howard County Road and Bridge is accepting applications on a Maintenance Tech III or IV, January 4, 2016 thru January 8, 2016. Must have or obtain a CDL License within 6 months of employment, Class A & Tanker are preferred. Must be able to pass Drug Test. Must know Basic Roadway Maintenance and Repair. Must know Light and Heavy Equipment operation. You may pick up applications at Howard County Road and Bridge, 3604 Old Colorado City Hwy, Monday thru Friday, 7:30am til 4:00pm. If you have any questions you may call 432-264-2208.

Help Wanted

Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation is now accepting applications for a RN/LVN MDS Coordinator. Must have experience in long term care. We offer **Competitive Pay, Benefits and a Great Family working environment!** You can apply on line at www.parkviewnursing.net or in person at 3200 Parkway.

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Mental Health Rehab Provider: Employee will perform psychosocial rehabilitation and skills training services to reduce the symptoms of and disabilities of mental illness. Services will be delivered primarily in the community. \$19.79 hr \$1583.08 bi weekly \$41,160 annually.
Some positions require participation in crisis call rotation. These positions must have a Bachelors degree with a major in Social work or a minimum of 24 hours in psychology, sociology or other human service hours. All Employees must live within 70 miles of the duty site. Employees will be required to have a personal vehicle available with WTC reimbursement provided. Travel requirements depend upon the position. Extensive training is provided. Flexible Schedules.
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Position 332: Provider Service Part Time positions. This position provides services to persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Services range from skills training, to assistance with daily living activities. Services are provided in the home, the community and in a vocational setting. Schedules are flexible. Hrly \$12.90.
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sudoku

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

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Battle for Survival

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A K 9 5
♥ 7 5 4
♦ J 10 6
♣ K J 4
WEST
♠ 6 4 3
♥ A Q
♦ K Q 8 4 2
♣ 6 5 2
EAST
♠ J 10 8 2
♥ 6 3 2
♦ 7
♣ Q 10 9 7 3
SOUTH
♠ Q 7
♥ K J 10 9 8
♦ A 9 5 3
♣ A 8
The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
1NT Pass 3NT
Opening lead — four of diamonds.
It's easy enough to see that with a low diamond lead, the declarer has the suit doubly stopped. It is far less obvious, though, that after a low diamond lead the suit is triply stopped with proper play. South failed to recognize this and, as a result, lost the contract.
He covered the diamond four with the six and won East's seven with the nine. After playing a spade to the king, he finessed the jack of hearts, losing to West's queen.
Back came the king of diamonds,

which declarer ducked, followed by the queen. South won but could do no better than lead another heart. West took the ace and cashed the 8-2 of diamonds to set the contract.
South should have made four notrump, however. His only real concern was to establish his hearts before West could establish his diamonds, and he should have concentrated all his efforts on this one goal.
By applying the Rule of Eleven (assuming that West's diamond lead is fourth-best), declarer can tell that East has only one diamond higher than the four. (South deducts four — the card led — from 11, leaving seven cards other than the four in the North, East and South hands. With six of those cards in plain view, East can have only one card higher than the four.)
South should therefore play the ten from dummy on the opening lead. If East's diamond is the seven or eight, the ten wins, and South is certain of a triple stopper. If East's diamond is the queen or king, South wins with the ace and is again sure to have the suit triply stopped.
By playing high from dummy at trick one, South makes certain of winning the race for the establishment of his long suit. He starts out a step ahead and makes sure he stays there the rest of the way.
Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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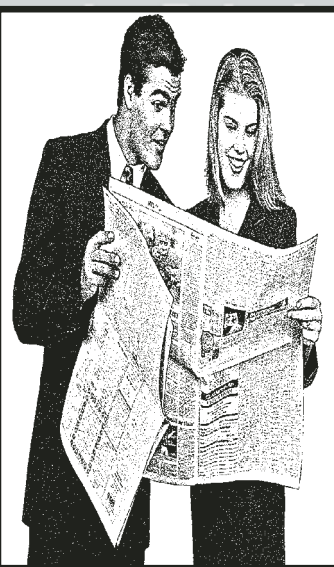
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HERALD

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Scorpio
Lunar
ConjunctionHOLIDAY
MATHIS

The key to staying emotionally buoyant during this connection of the moon and Mars in intense Scorpio is to fully engage in the situation at hand and then disengage when you need to recharge. Make sure the others know that when you disengage, it shouldn't be taken as a personal rejection. It's a matter of self-preservation.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's a little meanness in you. It's necessary. This is your fighting edge, your competitive spirit, your warrior's heart. You appreciate the Capricorn or Cancer who can tame you today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be deciding between interesting options. The squeaky clean choice appeals for obvious and shiny reasons. You're probably better off with the option that has more texture to it, though.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The mysteries of life don't want to be solved; they want to be danced with. Try not to rush to conclusions. There won't be a prize for it today, anyway. It's a time to slow down and try to take more in.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're 100 percent real and you're around when they need you. Because they can count on you, they will. You'll be busy, but you'll also love being in the thick of it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There is no arguing for personal taste, though a few around you may try to do so. The best way is not to get into it, to smile and accept the differences as interesting but not as relevant to the outcome as some seem to think.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Impatience has the potential to work against you. Checking on something takes a lot of time and misplaces your energy. Let the pot boil, so to speak. Set the timer and come back to it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-

Oct. 23). It's back to the process of getting to know who you are, touching the faults and glories, wishes and dreams. This never really ends. It's good that you take the time to keep up the relationship.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The stories you weave in your head are like spells. They have real power and your real-life plot will spiral forth from the conclusions and intentions you come to in these.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's probably the case that your enthusiasm will be far more abundant than your energy. That's where your support system comes in. With people who feed your spirit, you can prevent burnout.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're more courageous in conflict than most people, and yet the smartest way is still to avoid it if you can. Most of it isn't worth fighting over and, besides, tomorrow will bring a change in the landscape.

AQUARIUS (Jan.

20-Feb. 18). Routines can be boring or brilliant. You're building one now and this stage is perfect for putting in a few quirky, special stops to keep it on the "brilliant" side.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're protecting yourself and it's the right thing to do for the moment. Your current exaggerated level of vulnerability may disallow you to share your love in an attractive manner that invites fair exchange. But there's always tomorrow!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 3). You'll be moved by big feelings and great love this year. There's a finesse you apply to relationships that helps you live peacefully and gracefully with your loved ones. It has to do with not having to lead, tucking your ego away and enjoying what the others bring to it. Financially, this month and September are the luckiest. Libra and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 14, 3, 38, 19 and 50.

FORECAST FOR

THE WEEK AHEAD:

The first Mercury retrograde of the year is notable for its exploration of two realms, first Aquarius and then Capricorn. Mercury has a distinctly different tone in each. In Aquarius he's like a World War II gremlin, mucking up the mechanics of everything from motors to digital realms. We'll certainly understand our dependence on easy Internet access and good phone service when glitches and blips in this department interrupt our flow. A little maturity on the matter is called for, and maybe this techno-warp could inspire eyeball-to-eyeball communication that wouldn't have happened otherwise.

On Friday, Mercury backs into Capricorn, where he'll focus his antics on the balance of power, symbols of status and other trappings of success. You may find that your feelings about authority figures will change in the weeks to come. Perhaps you'll rebel against the powers that be, or decide that what

you thought was worth striving for is actually a hollow prize that's not worth the effort. These are opportunities to get clear on what you really want out of life. Material wealth will play a central role in the equation. Just remember that sooner or later the things you own end up owning you.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: J. R. R. Tolkien fans eagerly await the upcoming film "Estel: The Making of a King," which focuses on Middle Earth after the events of "The Hobbit." The British author was born when the sun and Mercury were in ambitious Capricorn and the moon and Venus were in altruistic Aquarius. Tolkien turned his firsthand knowledge of war's evils into the epic mythological battles in "The Lord of the Rings" and other works.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com and click "Write the Author" on her page. COPYRIGHT 2016 CREATORS.COM

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: "Michael" and I have been dating for two years, and I'm pretty sure that he's the one. He's smart, funny and sensitive, and we agree on most things.

One thing that we do not agree on, however, is my 15-year-old Pomeranian, "Clover." Clover has had a number of surgeries lately and for the past eight months, has needed a catheter. Michael believes that I should put Clover down, because she is in a lot of pain and the veterinarian claims that things are not likely to get better. I appreciate Mi-

chael's sympathy. I really do. I just wish that he would put himself in my shoes. I've had Clover since she was a puppy. I consider her to be one of my dearest friends. We have been through so much together that I cannot lose her if I don't have to. How do I explain to Michael that I want to hold onto my friend as long as possible? -- Confused and Torn

Dear Confused: We know you love Clover and want her around forever. But you are hurting her terribly. She is in constant pain. She is not going to get better. In fact, her pain may

become unbearable. A true friend does not insist that her loving companion stay alive for her sake. We realize that you don't intend to be so cruel to Clover simply because you aren't ready to say goodbye. Please talk to the veterinarian. Ask whether there is someone who can help you make the decision that is best for Clover, and perhaps have Michael come with you so he, too, can be a source of support.

Dear Annie: This is for "Mike," who asked why women expect their retired husbands to take on household chores,

but the women won't clean the gutters or mow the lawn.

I have been married for 50 years. For 45 of those, I worked a full-time job, raised two great kids, cooked, washed clothes and cleaned the house. During this time, my husband also worked full time, but did little around the house, so he had time for golf, fishing and getting together with the boys.

My husband retired five years ago and I still work full time. I asked him to help with the housework, since he's home so much. Instead, he hired a cleaning person. I

asked, "Would you mind doing some of the laundry?" So he washes his clothing but not mine, which is OK. He even cooks now and then. And for those gutter cleanings and fix-it projects? He hired a yard guy and a handyman. Life is good. -- A Happy Wife

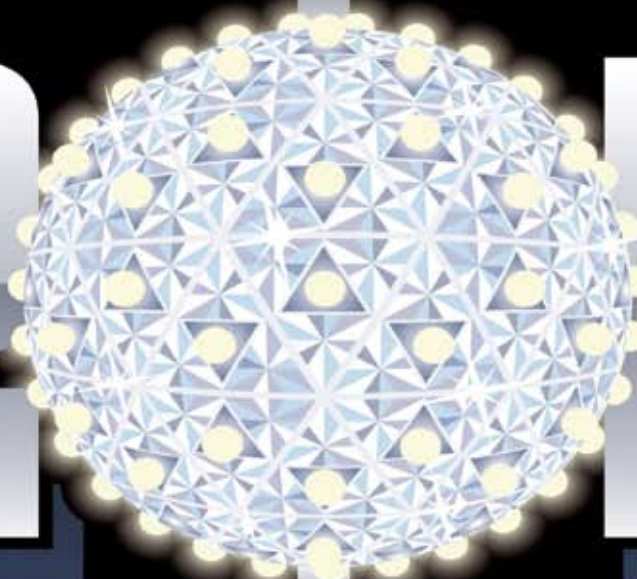
Dear Happy: We say, whatever works. If you can afford to hire the help you need, by all means, do so. It's better than feeling stressed, resentful and overworked. Your husband may not have been willing to take on these chores himself, but he was

considerate enough to hire someone, so neither of you was stuck with all the work.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@creators.com, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. You can also find Annie on Facebook at [Facebook.com/AskAnnie](https://www.facebook.com/AskAnnie). To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2016 CREATORS.COM

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Kiddie tablets 'grow up' as competition grows

NEW YORK (AP) – Kiddie tablets have grown up. Tablets designed just for kids are getting more sophisticated as they face increased competition from regular tablets. The new products also have better screens, speedier chips and fashionably slim bodies. They let older children do more, yet hold their hands until they're ready for unsupervised access.

Although many of the tablets were originally conceived as educational toys for kids as old as middle schoolers, they've been more popular with younger children. Older kids have been apt to reject them in favor of their parents' tablet or smartphone.

That shift has prompted companies to focus more on preschoolers and kindergarteners, as they create super-durable products that can withstand repeated abuse and develop games and apps that teach reading and math.

But now, some of those companies are looking to take back some of the sales to older kids that they've lost over the years, offering premium products — most with price tags of over \$100 — that look and perform less like toys and more like the ones adults use.

LeapFrog, maker of the toy-like LeapPad, released its first Android tablet this year. And Kurio is branching out to Windows 10 and includes a full version of Microsoft Office in a new tablet-laptop combination.

The use of Android and Windows software, in place of the more basic, custom-made systems used in toy tablets, allows for more sophisticated apps and games and a range of content from standard app stores.

Monica Brown, LeapFrog's vice president for product marketing, said the company aimed to "create something that was kind of sleek and more tech forward for kids who were looking for something that felt like their parents' tablet."

But parents still want educational content and safety features that come with a tablet designed purely for kids. LeapFrog's Epic, along with the other new tablets for kids, are attempts to bridge that gap.

The Epic looks like a regular Android tablet, but comes with a removable bright-green bumper. It is much faster than a LeapPad and can run versions of popular Android games such as "Fruit Ninja" and "Doodle Jump." There's access to the Internet, but it's limited to about 10,000 kid-safe websites (though parents can add others). Parents can also limit and track how much time a child spends watching videos, playing games or reading.

Lynn Schofield Clark, a professor of media studies at the University of Denver, said kids tablets are a tough sell these days.

"Kids are always aspirational in their ages, and they're always interested in what older kids are doing," Clark said, pointing to the fascination that many preteens have with smartphones as a prime example.

Meanwhile, most parents won't spend money on kids-only gadgets unless they believe they offer significant educational benefits.

"If they're just looking for something to entertain their kid, then why wouldn't they just hand over their smartphone?" she asked.

Kurio aims to answer that question with the Smart, a device that let kids do things they previously might have needed their parents' laptop for, such as typing up and saving their homework online or playing video on their TV through an HDMI cable. The Smart is a Windows 10 laptop with a detachable screen and comes with a free year of Microsoft Office.

Emerging from shadows, pot industry tries to build brands

DENVER (AP) – Snoop Dogg has his own line of marijuana. So does Willie Nelson. Melissa Etheridge has a marijuana-infused wine.

As the fast-growing marijuana industry emerges from the black market and starts looking like a mainstream industry, there's a scramble to brand and trademark pot products.

The celebrity endorsements are just the latest attempt to add cachet to a line of weed. Snoop Dogg calls his eight strains of weed "Dank From the Dogfather Himself." Nelson's yet-to-be-released line says the pot is "born of the awed memories of musicians who visited Willie's bus after a show."

The pot industry's makeshift branding efforts, from celebrity names on boxes of weed to the many weed-themed T-shirts and stickers common in towns with a legal marijuana market, show the industry taking halting steps toward the mainstream.

Problem is, those weed brands aren't much more substantial than the labels they're printed on. Patents and trademarks are largely regulated by the federal government, which considers marijuana an illegal drug and therefore ineligible for any sort of legal protection.

The result is a Wild West environment of marijuana entrepreneurs trying to stake claims and establish cross-state markets using a patchwork of state laws.

Consumers have no way of

knowing that celebrity-branded pot is any different than what they could get in a plastic baggie from a corner drug dealer.

"You can't go into federal court to get federal benefits if you're a drug dealer," said Sam Kamin, a University of Denver law professor who tracks marijuana law.

That doesn't mean that the pot business isn't trying.

Hundreds of marijuana-related patents have likely been requested from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, according to those who work in the industry. Exact numbers aren't available because pending patent information isn't public.

So far, federal authorities have either ignored or rejected marijuana patent and trademark requests, as in the 2010 case of a California weed-delivery service that applied to trademark its name, "The Canny Bus."

"They haven't issued a single patent yet. But generally speaking, there is broad agreement within the patent law community that they will," said Eric Greenbaum, director of intellectual property for Ligand Pharmaceuticals Inc., which is seeking a patent for a strain of marijuana to treat seizures.

Companies like Ligand are betting that if marijuana becomes legal nationally, they will be first in line to claim legal ownership of whichever type of marijuana they have already developed.

Pot companies also are filing state-level trademarks, thereby avoiding the snag in a federal

trademark application: the requirement that the mark is used in interstate commerce, which remains off-limits for pot companies.

In Colorado, for example, there are nearly 700 trade names and 200 trademarks registered that include the word "marijuana" or a synonym, Kamin said.

Pot producers also are claiming everything they can that doesn't involve actual weed. So a marijuana company could trademark its logo or patent a process for packaging something, without mentioning that the "something" is marijuana.

The marijuana industry certainly has been on the receiving end of legal threats from other companies that do have trademark and patent protection. Cease-and-desist letters aren't uncommon in the mailboxes of marijuana companies, whether it's for making a candy that looks like a non-intoxicating brand or for selling a type of pot that includes a trademarked word or phrase in its name.

The Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., for example, says it has sent dozens of cease-and-desist letters to those selling a popular strain of pot known as Girl Scout Cookies or another called Thin Mints.

"The use of our trademarks in connection with drugs tarnishes the Girl Scouts name," the organization says in the letter it has sent to pot sellers primarily in California, Colorado and Washington.

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After receiving his bachelor's degree from Baylor University, Dr. DeVold earned his medical degree from the Texas Tech University School of Medicine. He completed his family practice residency at Memorial Medical Center in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Dr. DeVold is fluent in Spanish. To schedule an appointment, call (325) 481-2074.

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