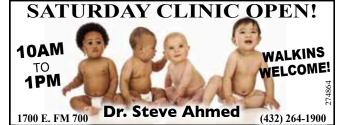


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SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2017

BIG SPRING



VOLUME 112, NUMBER 390

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Early win for GOP toward Tip off action scuttling 'Obamacare'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans have won a gateway victory in Congress in their sevenyear trek toward scuttling President Barack Obama's health care law. Now with Donald Trump a week from taking the presidential oath, achieving that goal is possible, but the pressure is on for them to deliver a final product.

With a near party-line 227-198 House vote, Congress gave final approval Friday to a budget that will ease passage of a still-unwritten bill replacing Obama's overhaul with a GOP



edition. The budget — the Senate approved it Thursday — bars Democratic senators from blocking that future legislation with a filibuster. The budget's approval, with just

nine Republicans in the House and one in the Senate voting no, signaled that the party is ready to charge into a defining battle that will be risky. While GOP candidates — including Trump — have run for years pledging to dismantle Obama's 2010 statute, internal divisions abound over how to do it and many Republicans are leery of

See REPEAL, Page 3A



HERALD filed photo

Pictured are some of the attendees of a past Silver Wings Ball held at the Hotel Settles. Only a few tickets for the 2017 Silver Wings Ball are left. The event will be held again at the historic Hotel Settles Saturday, Jan. 21.

Few tickets left for Silver Wings Ball

By AMANDA ELSTON

Managing Editor

Once they're gone, they're gone. Tickets for one of Big Spring's most popular social events are quickly selling out, according to Hanger 25 Museum Administrator Amber Stokes. In one short week, the 19th annual

Silver Wings Ball, the largest fundraiser for the local museum, will be held at the historic Hotel Settles, and time is running out to purchase tickets.

"We are at a limited supply right now," said Stokes. "We have a couple tickets still left, however. People still have the rest of the

"We are having the South Plains hit last year," said Stokes. "It's an eight-piece band. It was a touch of elegance last year to have a live jazz band."

> and, while she said all items are and throat issues. exciting, she thinks a few items in particular will have the crowd bidding.

See BALL, Page 3A



Courtesy photo/Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotogray.com)

Big Spring's Kayleigh Penny reaches for the ball against a Sweetwater player during Friday night's game in Steer Gym. For related stories and photos for the Steers boys and girls teams, see Page 1B

CMTA signups begins Tuesday

By LYNDEL MOODY

Sign ups for the spring session of the Children's Miracle Theater for the Arts (CMTA) begins Tuesday.

The not-for-profit organization's mission is to develop a love of the arts early on in childhood while also teaching self confidence, teamwork, concentration, self discipline, cooperation, memory and social skills. The program is open to children ages 6-12 years old.

See CMTA, Page 3A



Our Healthy Circle kicks off first session of the new year Thursday

Jazz Band play. They were a real **Special to the Herald**

Scenic Mountain Medical Center's chapter of Our Healthy Circle is kicking off its 2017 event schedule Thursday with "Healthy You from Head In the weeks leading up the to Toe," a one-hour question-and-answer session event, Stokes has been gathering featuring hospital experts discussing the imporitems for both auction events tance of healthy feet and the spectrum of ear, nose

Featured speakers include Board Certified Podiatrist Carlos Dimidjian, DPM; and Board Certified ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat) Paul Howard, M.D.

See **HEALTHY**, Page 3A





week to buy the tickets."

South Plains Jazz Band.

Tickets for the formal/Texas

formal event are \$50 and include

a cocktail hour, a three-course

dinner, both a silent and a live

auction, and the sounds of the



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Obituaries

Greg Bodin



Greg Bodin, 43, of Sand Springs passed away Wednesday, Jan. 11,

Memorial services will be at a

Greg was born on Feb. 3, 1973, in Big Spring to Shirley Ann Cross Bodin and William Paul Bodin. He was a lifetime resident of Howard County. He graduated from Coahoma High School in 1991. He married Toni Treadway Reese on June

15, 2009, in Stanton. Greg was active in Boy Scouts – Troop 5 and was an Eagle Scout. He worked for Impact Chemical in Midland, Texas. He was secretary for Texas COC, Texas Secretary for TMRA 2, and was a delegate to Austin for Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF). Greg also worked closely with Texas Legislature and helped co-author many of the Texas Motorcycle Laws applied in Texas today and he was a Texas Delegate. He was active in the Republican Party and was a delegate to Austin for seven consecutive years. Greg served on Borden Museum Board and Historical Society. Greg also was a professional photographer and writer in which he was a columnist for Crossroads Living magazine. He was dedicated to preserving Texas history, art, and remaining antiquities. He was an amazing father, grandfather, and loving husband.

Greg is survived by his wife of the home, Toni Treadway Bodin of Big Spring; two daughters, Eva Marie Sorrells and husband Cory of Midland, and Amanda Leigh Fite and husband James of Big Spring; his parents, Shirley and Bill Bodin of Coahoma, and father-in-law Clinton Treadway of Sand Springs; four sisters, Janet Nelson and husband Jeff of Elk City, Okla., Karen Martin and husband Johnny of Big Spring, Terri Boyett Croft of San Angelo, and Brooke Bodin of Big Spring; one brother, Robert Bodin and wife Stephanie of Amarillo, Texas; five grandchildren; and several nieces

He was preceded in death by one brother, Edward

A Memorial Fund has been set up for Greg Bodin, Account #15383 at The Electric Utilities Credit Union, 2002 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, Texas,

Arrangements are by Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Paid obituary

Guy Allen White Sr.



Guy Allen White Sr. was born to Ballard and Lyndall White, on Dec. 29, 1929, in Gustine, Texas. The family later moved to Wink, Texas, where he graduated high school. While serving in the U.S. Air Force, he met June Marie Dugosh while he was stationed in San Antonio. They were married on Sept. 1, 1950. He worked for El Paso Natural Gas Company in Jal, N.M., and Midkiff, Texas. At age 33, he

moved the family to Fort Worth, Texas, where he attended Southwestern Theological Seminary. He faithfully pastored at Bethel Baptist Church (De Leon), Union Baptist Church (Snyder), First Baptist Church (Coahoma), First Baptist Church (Phillips). East 4th Street Baptist (Big Spring), Scottsdale Baptist Church (El Paso, Texas), Quail Valley Baptist Church (San Angelo, Texas), and several

He is preceded in death by his parents; his wife

June; and his brother, Jimmy White.

He is survived by his two sons, Guy Jr. (Arlene) of Coahoma, and Danny (Susan) of Robert Lee; two brothers, Ross White (Katherine) of Norman, Okla., and Jackie White of El Paso; two grandsons, Matthew White (Lauren) of Grapevine, and David White of Abilene, Texas; two granddaughters, Linde Reed of Amarillo, Texas, and Kara Lea Deardorff (Jason) of Flower Mound, Texas; five great-grandsons, Grant Reed, Madok Reed, Jackson Deardorff, Linden Reed, and Samuel White; two great-granddaughters, Kinsley Deardorff and Charlotte White; and, a number of nieces and neph-

The family wishes to thank all of the dedicated Mulberry Ave. was arrested on an outstanding warcare-givers at Shannon Hospital for their valiant and wonderful care.

Funeral services were held on Monday, Jan. 9, 2017, at Immanuel Baptist Church. Interment followed in Johnson's Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens. Family and friends may sign an online guestbook at www.johnsons-funeralhome.com.

Paid obituary

Fernando Morales Arriaga



Fernando Morales Arriaga, 62, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017, at Midland Memorial Hospi-Service with Military Honors

will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at Myers and Smith Chapel. He will be in state at Myers and Smith Funeral Home from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Sun-

He was born June 3, 1954, in Big Spring to Eva Morales Arriaga and

Nieves Arriaga. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a Catholic. He was a veteran serving in Korea as a paratrooper in 101stt Division "Screaming Eagles." He was a barber.

He is survived by two sons, Fernando Arriaga Jr. of Big Spring, and Manuel Arriaga of Big Spring; two daughters, Heidi Arriaga of Big Spring, and Tanya Marquez and her husband Jacob of Big Spring; 14 grandchildren; four brothers, Joe Lara, Raymond Arriaga, Thomas Rojas, and Adam Morales; four sisters, Nora Gutierrez, Linda Lara, Juanita Vega, and Maria Juarez; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Eva Morales; his grandparents, Cruz and Anastacio Morales; and one brother, Ernest Morales.

Arrangements are by Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Lance Taylor



Lance Taylor, 47, of Midland died Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017, in a Stanton hospital. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2017, at the Solid Rock Fellowship Out West in Midland with Derrick Looney officiating. Burial will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 16, 2017, at Gilbreath Funeral Home.

Lance was born Sept. 24, 1969, in Midland, Texas. He attended Midland High School and had worked for various companies in the oil field. He was a Bap-

Judv Dorman Judy Dorman, 57, of Big Spring died Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017, at her home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

William J. "Bill" Pollard William J. "Bill" Pollard, 90, of Big Spring died

Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017, at a Lubbock hospital. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

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www.bigspringherald.com

tist. Survivors include one son, Josh Taylor of Austin; two daughters, Katie Palarez of Austin, and DeNae Kuhlman of Midland; a grandson; his father, Larry Taylor of Cisco; his mother, Lorna Smith of Midland; two brothers, Jody Taylor and Jason Taylor, both Midland; a niece and two nephews.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Chester Taylor, Queenie Brown, and Ray and Ruth

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society, 2304 W. Wadley Ave., Midland, Texas, 79705.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

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Sue Ann (Hodges) Villalpando



Sue Ann (Hodges) Villalpando, 63, of Big Spring died Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017, in a Midland Hospi-

Celebration of Life services will be held at 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 16, 2017, at the Nalley-Pickle and Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring with the Rev. Steve Goude officiating. Sue will lie in state at the funer-

al home on Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017,

from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sue was born Oct. 23, 1953, in Coffeeville, Kan. She

earned her Certified Nurses Aide license more than 30 years ago. She most recently was employed at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home. She was proud of her Cherokee heritage and was a member of the Grace Fellowship Church of God. Sue is survived by one son, Roman Hines and wife

Jennifer; three daughters, Lisa Campa and husband Roger Peets, Tammy Silen, and Kaci Carson, all of Big Spring; 14 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; one brother, T.L. Hodges and wife Frances of Stanton; three sisters, Terrie Lynn Lewis and husband Allen, and Mary Joann Bolton and husband Jimmy, all of Vinita, Okla., and Alice Lewis of Big Spring; and numerous nieces and nephews. Sue was preceded in death by her parents, F.L.

and Gloria (Shamblin) Hodges. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-

Pickle and Welch Funeral Home and Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences may be made at: www.npwelch.com

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• MELINDA MACHADO GAMBOA, 40, of 1112

- MICHELLE LAVON DEAN, 26, of 208 S. Austin was arrested on warrants for expired registration,
- failure to maintain financial responsibility, and no driver's license; and on another outstanding war-• LINDSEY KAY LEE, 31, of 627 Ridgelea Dr. was

arrested on an outstanding warrant. CLINTON DEAN HENDERSON, 39, of 5905 Fawn Meadow Trail in Arlington was arrested on a

charge of public intoxication. • GABRIEL SOTO, 51, of 307 E. 19th St. was ar-

rested on an outstanding warrant. CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the

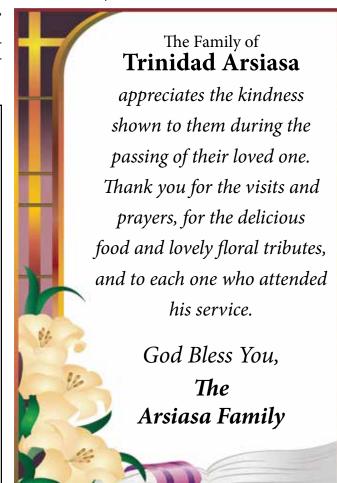
1500 block of South Nolan Street. BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 3000 block of North Highway 87.

Weather

Sunday: Not as cool. Showers and thunderstorms. Some thunderstorms may be severe with damaging winds and large hail. Highs in the mid 50s. Southeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

Sunday night: Decreasing clouds. A 50 percent chance of showers. Lows in the upper 30s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Sunny. Highs around 60. West winds 10 to 15 mph.





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Permian Basin UWCD 2017 scholarship contest

Special to the Herald

STANTON - The Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District (PBUWCD) is sponsoring a scholarship essay contest for graduating seniors who are planning to attend college.

To be eligible to apply for the scholarship, students must attend one of the four schools in the PBU-WCD's District; this includes: Forsan, Grady, Sands, and Stanton high schools.

There will be a scholarship offered to each of the four schools in the district, and the winners of the contest will receive a \$2,000 scholarship to the college of their choice.

that everyone would know.'

Continued from Page 1A

"We have some pretty awesome items that are going to be in the live auction," said Stokes. "We have some Dallas Cowboys autographs from past Super Bowls. I can't say who from, but it's pretty awesome. It's a name

A one-night stay in the Sunrise Suite at the Hotel Settles is up for grabs for some lucky guest. "Last year was the first time we have

ever done a room at the hotel, and we got a great response," said Stokes. "We love the Settles. They help us out so much with the ball and with the room. The suite is just awesome."

The Silver Wings Ball is the museum's largest fundraiser of the year. Located at the Big Spring Airpark, the museum holds tremendous amount of the county's

"It's easy to overlook the impor-

tance of healthy feet, and many

people struggle with sinus issues or

earaches," Amanda Duforat, mar-

keting manager, said. "The podiatry

and ENT services are two specialty

services Big Spring should be proud

to have, and that Scenic Mountain

Medical Center can offer. Our focus

this year with these events is to make

the community aware of the services

we offer and let them know there is no

cus is on ailments related to the ankle

and the foot. He treats ingrown nails,

deformities of the foot, gout, and foot

sprains and other sports injuries.

Continued from Page 1A

The essays are due no later than April 4, 2017. They may be submitted to the student's school counselor or the Permian Basin UWCD office at 708 W Saint Peter St., Stanton, Texas. This year the topic for the essay

will be: "Write a 1,000 word essay about the water cycle and discuss the importance of runoff and why it is crucial to our aquifers and for our very existence." For further criteria and informa-

tion, please contact your high school counselor or the PBUWCD office at 432-756-2136 or email pbuwcd.edu@ gmail.com. More information can be found on the PBUWCD's website: www.pbuwcd.com. history and hosts a multitude of

events throughout the year. "Not only are we preserving our

mission and our history, donations help out with the veterans' programs that we like to do," said Stokes. "We do things on Veterans Day, and we do a veteran of the month and this really helps out with that. Veterans are able to come in and get appreciated. And this also really helps to maintain the museum and be there for other veteran associations like the VA. This helps us so we can help veterans." Tickets are currently available for

the Silver Wings Ball, held on Jan. 21 at the Hotel Settles at 6 p.m. Dress is formal/Texas formal. To purchase tickets, call the museum at 432-264-1999 or e-mail hanger25@crcom.net. "This is such a big part of our town's

history and we need to continue to preserve it for our future," said Stokes.

Dr. Howard recently joined the Family Medical Center group, bringing ENT services to Howard County residents. For more than 30 years all issues requiring ENT services had to be referred out of town. Now, tonsillectomies, ear tube placement, hearing issues, and more can be taken care of close to home. "We are excited to be able to let the

community know about our specialty service lines and the expansion of family practice providers," Duforat said. "Our community deserves access to a variety of healthcare options and we are striving to provide that."

information about the providers, the presentation, or to make a reservation, call Anita Cline, Our Healthy Circle Director, at 432-268-4721.

the tools we need for a step-by-step approach to fix these problems and put Americans back in control of their health care," House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., said after the vote.

Friday's roll call sets

Continued from Page 1A

stripping coverage from

the 20 million Ameri-

cans who gained it un-

The budget "gives us

der that law.

the stage for what likely will be weeks or months at least — of GOP efforts to write legislation and push it through Congress. While that will be challenging, the alternative seems potentially devastating — gaining control of the White House and Congress but failing to deliver on a promise to repeal and replace Obama's law, which GOP voters despise.

"I think the leaders will keep a very close watch on where the members stand before they roll the dice" on a vote on later legislation erasing that law, said Rep. Lou Barletta, R-Pa. Much of Friday's de-

bate underscored the sharp-elbowed politics of the issue. "People in Michigan,

Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ohio, screwed," said Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., citing places where he said voters would suffer from the health law's repeal — which also were normally reliably Democratic states that Trump won on Election Day. Continuing the theme of highlighting Trump voters, Jeffries

added, "People in Appalachia and rural America, screwed."

Democrats praised the law for extending coverage to tens of millions of Americans and helping many millions more afford policies and buy prescriptions.

Rep. John Yarmuth, D-Ky., said rather than "repeal and replace," Republicans should name their effort "repeal and repent" because of the harm they were about to cause to voters.

No. 3 House GOP leader Steve Scalise of Louisiana aimed his rhetoric at Democrats defending one of Obama's proudest legislative achievements, a law that Republicans say missed its goals of cutting consumers' medical costs and increasing access to doctors. "This should not be

about preserving somebody's legacy," Scalise said. "It should be about fulfilling those promises to the American people that were broken." Approval of the bud-

get means Senate Democrats won't be allowed to filibuster the future repeal-and-replace bill — a pivotal advantage for Republicans. They control the Sen-

ate 52-48, but it takes 60 votes to end filibusters, which are endless procedural delays that can scuttle legislation. Congressional Republicans have made an-

nulling Obama's law and replacing it a top goal for the past seven years. GOP rifts and an Obama veto prevented them from achieving anything other than holding scores of votes that served as political

messaging.

Trump also made targeting Obama's statute a primary target during his campaign.

At his news conference Wednesday, Trump who's supplied few details of what he wants said his emerging plan will be "far less expensive and far better" than the statute.

Despite their conceptual unity, plenty of Republicans have shown skittishness about the political repercussions of plunging into a battle that, with Trump in the White House, puts enacting new laws within reach.

Many congressional Republicans expressed opposition to leaders' initial emphasis on first passing a repeal bill and then focusing on a replacement — a process that could produce a gap of months or longer. Trump has also pushed Congress to act fast.

Republicans Many have insisted on learning how their party will re-craft the nation's \$3 health trillion-a-year care system before voting to void existing programs.

There are internal GOP chasms over Republican leaders' plans to use their bill to halt payments to Planned Parenthood and pare Medicaid cov-

There are also disagreements over how to pay for the GOP replacement, with many Republicans leery of Ryan's proposal to tax part of the value of some health insurance provided by employers.

reason to travel out of town." The presentation is open to every-Students will learn Dr. Dimdjian has been practicing in one. Lunch will be provided. For more a number of aspects of Big Spring for almost 30 years. His fo-

theater from acting to backstage work, set design, and more. Enrollment is limited.

Continued from Page 1A

Volunteer Services Council is in need of

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will meet from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. each Tuesday night through April. The program will wrap up with a one-act play performed on April 29-For more information

The cost is \$80. Students

or to register or to vol-

unteer for a program, contact program director Sharon Rich at 432-517-0723.

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Josephine De Leon, 77, died Tuesday. Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Fernando Arriaga, 62, died Tuesday. Services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Greg Bodin, 43, died Wednesday. Memorial services will be at a later date.

Take Note

• 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. The next sacking session will be at 5:30

p.m. Jan. 16 and 17 at the old Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 N.W. Seventh St. To get there, take Gregg Street north and turn left on Delaney, which is the block just past the Salvation Army retail store. Delaney turns into Seventh Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left. If you want additional information

about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school. Seniors and mature adults are invited

to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center. Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with

live bands. No alcohol or smoking per-

mitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat. Cost is \$8 per person.

Meetings

 TheBigSpringArtAssociationmeetsthe third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

• The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tues-

day of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

The Big Spring Symphony Board of Di-

- rectors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry • 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ Main St. All Masons are welcome. • Membership to the Big Spring Native

American Association is open to the public. People interested in Native American culture are encouraged to find out more about the organization by calling Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125,

Volunteer opportunities The Scenic Mountain Medical

Center volunteer program is in need of volunteers. A variety of opportunities are open for members of the community. For more information, call Anita Cline at 268-4721.

The Big Spring State Hospital

through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department, 1901 N. Hwy 87, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers can assist with a variety of functions, including The Chalet Resale Shop, various fund-raisers and patient events. _ _ _ _ _ _ For more in- I COWBOYS STEAKHOUSE ! formation, con-AND RESTAURANT tact Dee Lindsey, Big Spring \$1.00 Off Adults State Hospital

volunteers to fill a variety of needs to as-

sist the hospital's patients. Applications

to become a volunteer can be picked up

at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday

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Opinion We decided to drive to our son BZ's house for the holidays. He lives with his fam-

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writers and not those of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

ADDRESSES

<u>FEDERAL</u> <u>GOVERNMENT</u>

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President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

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U.S. Senator B40B Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-4305

Phone: 202-228-0462

· JOHN CORNYN

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State Capitol, Room 2S.1 P.O. Box 12428 Austin, 78711 Phone: 512-463-2000

DREW DARBY

State Representative Texas 72nd District P.O. Box 2910 Austin, 78768 Phone: 512-463-0331

·KEL SELIGER

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

BIG SPRING **CITY COUNCIL**

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- · CARMEN HARBOUR
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- · RAUL MARQUEZ JR Cell: 816-1015.
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· OSCAR GARCIA — Home: 264-0026.

- · CRAIG BAILEY —
- Home: 264-2202. · JIMMIE LONG —
- 267-4224.
- · JOHN CLINE -Home: 263-7158.

California holiday

lives with his fam-

ily in Oakland, California. We left Big Spring at 7:15 AM and stayed on interstates until we got to Tucson, Arizona at 3:30 PM. Easy oneday drive. Sunshine all the way. Hardly any traffic. We hit it just right. As soon as we



TUMBLEWEED **S**MITH

unloaded the car at the hotel it started raining. Big time rain. Snow on the mountains the next morning. We filled up with gas at \$1.99 a gallon in Arizona. The instant we crossed into California the price went up a dollar or more. Did I tell ya California is expensive?

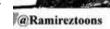
On the second day of our trip we made up for the lack of traffic the previous day. Although we abided by the posted speed limit of 65, cars zoomed past us like we were parked. Crazy drivers, weaving in an out of traffic. In my rear view mirror cars came toward us like self-guided missiles, then turned just in time and scooted around us. We saw only a couple of highway patrolmen. After 9 hours of driving. we spent the second night in Bakersfield, California. Our route had changed from our original plan when we saw signs saying chains were necessary for travel over the Sierras. So we chose the lower, drier route.

We arrived in Oakland in time for lunch with the family. The holidays were so much fun visiting with our son BZ, his wife Margaret and their two sons, 13-vear-old Max and 11-vear-old Aiden. They live in the suburb of Montclair, a charming little village surrounded by steep hills and dark forests of eucalyptus and redwood trees. Every time I go there I walk the 2 miles into town along a picturesque paved trail that features a canopy of shade trees.

BZ has a recording studio and I got to watch him create a musical background for a singer. The singer happened to be his son Max who writes songs and sings them. "My dad is good at what he does," says Max. "He makes me sound good." I also got to hear Aiden play his violin. He was practicing for an upcoming concert.

Max is a Golden State Warrior fan. We surprised him with a ticket to the Warriors-Mavericks game on December 30. He could hardly believe it. He was thrilled. All six of us went to the game. Susan had given me a present of a parking pass so we were able to park just a few yards from the arena. Margaret was on crutches after undergoing a knee procedure. The day before the game she called the arena to see if she could sit in a seat without climbing stairs. She was given a number to call when she arrived at the arena. She called and within seconds a golf cart that holds six people pulled up by our vehicle. Walking from the golf cart to the arena entrance she discovered one of her crutches was broken. A girl from the arena staff took over at that point, had the crutch repaired and accompanied Margaret to a handicapped section that offered great seats. Max sat with his mother. The rest of us went to our regular seats. After the game, a cart was waiting to take us to our vehicle. The girl who had been such a big help went by to check on Margaret during the game. The Oracle Arena staff was amazing. The Warriors won, which made Max very happy.







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Daily Prayer

May we be cheerful givers to others and cheerful takers of Your love, Lord.

The beat of a different drum

e frequently took jabs at pomp, sparred with circumstance and flatout deflated folks too full of themselves, determined never to join the group. In all of this and more, he smiled, confidently moored to

Christian linchthat kept him focused on the "main thing being the main thing."

Dr. Paul Powell was felled by a stroke last month. He was 83. Pews were packed in chapel of Green Acres Bap-



Don Newbury

tist Church in Tyler. (It was formerly the sanctuary where he preached more than a thousand sermons and conducted hundreds of funerals and weddings during his 17-year tenure.) Family members, friends and

associates weren't sure whether the service would be remembered more for proper "funeralizing" or gentle roasting. It may have been--you'll pardon the expression--a dead heat, and why wouldn't it? Officiants at the "service" say he planned it all in advance, including participants, hymns, scriptures and obituary photograph. While perusing photograph albums, he even selected the photo he thought best to use with wife Cathy's obituary up the way

They say he was "retired," and they were wrong. This mountain of a man served with distinction **Amen.** in so many different ways, he didn't know how to "cold turkey"

his way out. Instead, he plugged along, preaching when invited, sharing the Gospel and lending mature observations gleaned from a long life of rich experiences as a former pastor of five churches, denominational executive, seminary dean and allaround "Mr. Texas Baptist."

Somewhere in this piece, his literary efforts should be lauded. He was author of more than 50 books; God Works in Mischievous Ways was published in 2016. The title "nutshells" how Paul "did life." He smiled his way through sit-

uations of all kinds--serious and humorous. They said he asked longtime friend Russell Dilday, "Have you read my last book?" Paul said Dr. Dilday responded, "Oh, I hope so." His keen humor usually was

laced with self-deprecation. He claimed he journeyed from "the backwoods of East Texas, to the back alleys of Port Arthur, to the back of the class in school." Ken Camp, who wrote a detailed obituary, called Dr. Powell "the always quotable."

Powell's wife of 62 years-and throngs of others across the years--wondered what he would say next, particularly at banquets. One evening, a banquet host expressed regret that Mrs. Powell was unable to attend. "Oh, she's here," Paul assured. "Cathy is still in the car, applying lipstick...preparing her body

for viewing." Tributes poured in from the greats, near greats and "ordinaries" throughout the nation.

(He would have included him-

self among the latter.) Dr. Bill

Pinson's tribute summed it up: "He was unapologetically Baptist in his beliefs and at the same time an unashamed member of the larger Christian family of faith....a Baptist statesman who remained a down-to-earth, ap-

proachable servant leader." Noted for his courage kept close at hand, Dr. Powell is remembered for his response to critics of investment policies when he was President and CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention's Annuity Board. In his 1994 annual report, he stated: "Since we are in the home of Disney World, I need to tell you that the Annuity Board is not a 'Mickey Mouse' operation, and it is not being run by Goofy and his friends."

He mentored hundreds of young ministers. They, and their elders, will long share Paul Powell stories, both hither and yon. When they gather, they'd best be prepared to "sit a spell." Dr. Powell was one-of-a-kind, and a description the late colorful sportswriter Blackie Sherrod once wrote of a long-ago friend likewise "fits" Paul Powell: "Before God made him, He broke the mold."

The hem-of-the-garment service spanned some 50 minutes. Smiling, Paul might have concluded, "As per instructions, they kept it under an hour."

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

Obama's EPA moves to preserve gas mileage requirements

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Environmental Protection Agency moved Friday to cement strict fuel economy requirements that force the auto industry to make new cars and trucks significantly more efficient, a decision that will be difficult for the incoming Trump administration to undo.

The EPA said in late November that it had completed a required midterm review of Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards put in place in 2012 and decided they should not be relaxed as requested by the auto industry. The move in the waning days of the Obama administration brought protests from congressional Republicans and automakers, which accused the agency of playing politics with a rushed determination. Friday's action keeps in place pollution reduc-

tion targets for the years 2022-2025. That means the fleet of new cars will have to average 51.4 miles per gallon by 2025, up more than 18 mpg from the 33.2 mpg requirement in 2015, the most recent year available.

Acting EPA Assistant Administrator Janet Mc-Cabe said the agency determined the technology is available to meet the standards. The requirements are flexible and will automatically be reduced if consumers keep buying trucks and SUVs, she said. For example, when the standards were conceived in 2012, the fleet-wide mileage target for 2025 was 54.5 mpg. But because more trucks and SUVs are now being sold, that number was reduced to 51.4, the EPA said.

In 2012, gasoline was \$3.60 per gallon, compared with around \$2.35 currently. During several months last year, the SUVs and trucks captured a record share of the market. At year's end nearly six of every 10 new vehicles sold were trucks or

"You have to accommodate consumer choice," McCabe said. "The automakers need to have the standards represent what people are buying.'

But the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, an industry lobbying group, said the standards rise quickly during the next eight years and will be difficult for companies to meet as America's shift toward trucks and SUVs continues. "We have the technology, but if sales aren't there, we can't meet the standards," said Gloria Bergquist, spokeswoman for the alliance. "That's a regulatory-marketplace collision."

The industry has appealed to Trump for help. His transition team didn't respond to questions about the EPA's decision.

The public comment period on the standards ended Dec. 30. A decision 14 days later is unusually swift for a government agency. Normally it takes months or years for regulatory decisions to be made, and an EPA decision wasn't required until April of 2018.

Bergquist said the alliance believes the decilegacy Reserves Operating, L.P. sion was moved forward after Trump was elected. The group hopes to work out a compromise with Trump, who has railed against regulations that he calls unnecessary.

Republicans in Congress also weighed in, accusing EPA of short-circuiting the evaluation process and making new vehicles more expensive. In a joint statement, the leaders of three key House committees suggested lawmakers would take action to reverse the EPA's ruling.

"For the sake of vehicle affordability and safety, as well as the health of the automotive sector, we need to make sure that the standards have been set at achievable levels, but EPA's rushed analysis falls far short," said Environment Subcommittee Chairman John Shimkus, R-Ill., Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Subcommittee Chairman Bob Latta, R-Ohio and Energy Subcommittee Chairman Fred Upton, R-Mich.

"If the EPA won't do its job and take a careful look at these regulations, then Congress will," they added.

Weekly Oil Report

New Locations:

XTO Energy, Inc. 500 W. Illinois, Suite 100 Midland, TX 79701-0000 Kendall Chance, Drilling Tech (432) 620-6749

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See OIL REPORT, Page 6A

Glasscock County

#4812AH Blalock "4812", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field 16.70 miles northwest of Garden City A-1095, Section 36, Block 36, G.B. Chambers survey

Total Depth: 8500 feet X=1565826.49, Y=842734.02. Datum: NAD 27 1060' FWL, 600' FSL of 653.7-acre lease 1060' FWL, 600' FSL of the survey

#1 Smith & Wesson "33", drill, El: NA Sale Ranch (Fusselman) Field 6.10 miles southeast of Spraberry A-407, Section 33, Block 36, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 12,000 feet

Latitude 031.514920, Longitude -101.445427. Datum: NAD 83 658' FWL, 475' FNL of 40.2-acre lease 1980' FWL, 475' FNL of the survey SWR 36 (H2S)

Howard County

#5SH Fuller "E", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field 8.50 miles north of Big Spring A-282, Section 39, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 7300 feet X=775339.88, Y=283370.66. Datum: NAD 27 979' FEL, 209' FSL of 640-acre lease 1650' FWL, 209' FSL of the survey

#5AH Fuller "E", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field 8.50 miles north of Big Spring A-282, Section 39, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 7800 feet X=775369.22, Y=283376.92. Datum: NAD 27 949' FEL, 209' FSL of 640-acre lease 1680' FWL, 209' FSL of the survey

#6SH Fuller "F", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field 8.50 miles north of Big Spring A-282, Section 39, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 7300 feet X=775398.52, Y=283383.26. Datum: NAD 27 919' FEL, 209' FSL of 640-acre lease 1710' FWL, 209' FSL of the survey #6AH Fuller "F", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field 8.50 miles north of Big Spring A-282, Section 39, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 7800 feet X=775427.86, Y=283389.67. Datum: NAD 27 889' FEL, 209' FSL of 640-acre lease 1740' FWL, 209' FSL of the survey

#9BH Fuller "I", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field 8.50 miles north of Big Spring A-282, Section 39, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 8000 feet X=775398.49, Y=283454.49. Datum: NAD 27 904' FEL, 279' FSL of 640-acre lease 1725' FWL, 279' FSL of the survey

#10BH Fuller "I", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field 8.50 miles north of Big Spring A-282, Section 39, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 8000 feet X=775427.79, Y=283461.24. Datum: NAD 27 874' FEL, 279' FSL of 640-acre lease 1755' FWL, 279' FSL of the survey

#2HA Giant Sacaton "1612", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field 8.48 miles northwest of Big Spring A-391, Section 21, Block 34, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 10,000 feet Latitude 032.151483, Longitude -101.370623. Datum: NAD 83 1957' FEL, 970' FNL of 160-acre lease

#3 Thompson "48", drill, El: NA Rose Petal (Lower Mississippian) Field 5.70 miles northwest of Forsan

1957' FEL, 970' FNL of the survey

US rig count down 6 this week to 659

HOUSTON (AP) — The number of rigs exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. declined by six this week to 659.

A year ago, 650 rigs were active. Depressed energy prices have curtailed exploration, although the rig count has been rebounding in recent months. Houston oilfield services company Baker Hughes

Inc. said Friday that 522 rigs sought oil and 136 explored for natural gas this week. One was listed as miscellaneous.

Wyoming increased by two rigs and Louisiana by

Oklahoma and Texas each declined by two rigs. Colorado, North Dakota, Ohio and Pennsylvania fell by one each.

Alaska, Arkansas, California, Kansas, New Mexico, Utah and West Virginia were all unchanged.

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The U.S. rig count peaked at 4,530 in 1981. It bottomed out in May at 404.



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Filings: Pipeline opponents allegedly threatened officials

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Police allege in court filings that opponents of the Dakota Access oil pipeline made threats against officers and public officials in North Dakota last year, prompting additional security for the state's governor.

The filings are part of a lawsuit filed in November by pipeline protesters who accuse police of excessive force in a Nov. 20 clash over a blockaded bridge. Opponents of the \$3.8 billion pipeline to move North Dakota oil to a shipping point in Illinois have long maintained they've been mistreated by law enforcement, and allege in the lawsuit that more than 200 protesters were injured in the bridge

That number previously had been disputed by officials, who used tear gas, rubber bullets and water hoses on protesters who they say assaulted officers with rocks and burning logs.

Defendants haven't yet filed a response, but Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier, County Commissioner Cody Schulz and state Bureau of Criminal Investigation Criminal Intelligence Analyst Cody Larson filed affidavits in the past week to support a request to have law officers' names redacted from public court documents for safety.

Larson details numerous threats on social media, including one against ex-Gov. Jack Dalrymple that said "You next in the box!" and another that advocates killing law officers, pipeline supporters and the governor. Larson also includes a report of a Dec. 12 call to Dalrymple's office from a West Fargo man who allegedly demanded the governor resign "or he won't make it until Wednesday."

Lt. Tom Iverson with the Highway Patrol. which handles Capitol security, said the threats against Dalrymple — who office this month were taken seriously and investigated. Patrol officers "kept a closer eye" on Dalrymple, according to Chief of Staff Ron Rauschenberger.

normally didn't have Highway Patrol with him a lot of the time. They were more the vicinity after the threats," Rauschenberger said.

said his office is

considering charges against the 41-year-old man who allegedly made the call; the man's position on



AP Photo/James MacPherson, File

In this Monday, Nov. 21, 2016, file photo, protesters against the Dakota Access oil pipeline stand on a burned-out truck near Cannon Ball, N.D., ty State's Attor. that they removed from a long-closed bridge a day earlier on a state

ney Richard Riha highway near their camp.

OIL REPORT

Continued from Page 5A

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14,784

New Oil Completions:

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Santa Rosa 950' Rustler 1346' Yates 1918' San Andres 2146' Clear Fork 4343 Spraberry 6372' Dean 7919' Wolfcamp 8084' Canyon 8779' Pennsylvanian 8915' Strawn 9563' Mississippian 10,085' Fusselman 10,429'

PPC Operating Company, LLC 10355 Centrepark Drive, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77043-0000 (325) 267-6046

Contractor not listed

Santa Rosa 722' Rustler 1466' Yates 1986' San Andres 3300' Clear Fork 4437' Leonard Lime 6106' Spraberry 6478'

Glasscock County

Arkland Producing Co., Inc. 400 N. Marienfeld St., Suite 100 Midland, TX 79701-0000 (432) 682-2128

Contractor not listed

Santa Rosa 900' Yates 1300' Queen 1700' Glorieta 2300' Grayburg 3986'

A-1460, Section 48, Block 33, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 12,000 feet Latitude 032.081087, Longitude -101.272978. Datum: NAD 83 483' FSL, 1915' FEL of 323.4-acre lease 165' FNL, 1915' FEL of the survey

Mitchell County

#342 Spade "16", drill, El: NA, API #42-335-35935 High Plains (Ellenburger) Field 15.70 miles southeast of Westbrook A-933, Section 34, Block 16, SP RR Co. survey Total Depth: 9700 feet X=190649, Y=944018. Datum: NAD 2710,234' FNWL,

FSWL of 32,724-acre lease 1309' FNEL, 797' FSEL of the survey

Borden County

#1 Good "4", API #42-033-32373 Ackerly, North (Dean Sand) Field, new well, El: 2721' GR 27 miles northwest of Coahoma A-1140, Section 4, Block 33, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey 2265' FSL, 2570' FWL of the survey Latitude 032.5573312, Longitude -101.6454885 Total Depth: 10,900 feet, PBTD: NA. Logs: none Daily Potential: 19 Bbls 39.6 gravity oil w/ 16 BWPD Pumping. GOR: 1315 Spud: 8-22-16. Completed: 9-30-16. Pay: NA 9-5/8" @ 6033 feet w/ 1,375 sx. 5-1/2" @ 10,900 feet w/ 900 sx.; 2-7/8" @ 8087 feet Perfs: 7982-8040

Jo-Mill (Spraberry) Field, new well, El: 2676' GR 15 miles southwest of Gail A-1460, Section 34, Block 33, T-5-N, T&P RR Co. survey 2322' FSL, 2767' FWL of the survey Latitude 032.7154440, Longitude -101.6802835 Total Depth: 7575 feet. PBTD: 7472 feet. Logs: Resistivity Daily Potential: 23 Bbls 42.0 gravity oil w/ 398 BWPD Pumping. GOR: 1434 Spud: 10-02-16. Completed: 12-16-16. Pay: NA 8-5/8"@ 3428 feet w/ 710 sx.; 5-1/2" @ 7574 feet w/ 225 sx. MS tool @ 5540 feet w/ 290 sx.; 2-7/8" @ 7398 feet Perfs: 7174-7306

#5005 Canon Ranch Unit, API #42-033-32398

7174-7306: Acidize w/ 2,250g 15% NEFE

#2 Butler Grayburg, API #42-173-32083 W.Z.B. (Grayburg) Field, plug back, El: 2572' GR 16.50 miles northwest of Garden City A-925, Section 16, Block 36, T-3-S, T&P RR Co. survey 1940' FNL, 660' FWL of the survey Latitude 031.9010072, Longitude -101.7646333 Total Depth: 10,310 feet. PBTD: 3986 feet. Logs: Neutron Daily Potential 6 Bbls 29.0 gravity oil w/ 40 BWPD Pumping. GOR: tstm Spud: 10-30-15. Completed: 12-23-15. Pay: NA 8-5/8" @ 4006 feet w/ 1,700 sx. 5-1/2" @ 10,075 feet w/ 650 sx.; 2-7/8" @ 3810 feet Perfs: 3810-3876 3810-3876: Acidize w/ 250g 15% NEFE

the pipeline isn't clear. Assistant State's Attorney Marina Spahr declined to discuss the case in detail since it's ongoing, and the man did not respond to a request for comment left with a woman who answered the telephone at his home.

Kirchmeier said in documents that he and his family had been threatened through social media, telephone, email and letters, and that personal information such as his home address "have been published on the internet with invitations to commit violence against me or to kill me."

The sheriff and his wife were given personal security while the threats were investigated, and officers are still doing extra patrols and residence checks for the couple, Schulz and another commissioner, sheriff's spokeswoman Maxine Herr said. That comes even after the large protest encampment has dwindled to a few hundred and protest actions are being encouraged across the country instead of in North Dakota.

The Standing Rock Sioux and its supporters maintain the pipeline threatens drinking water and Native American cultural sites, which Dallasbased project developer Energy Transfer Partners disputes. Opponents have long described their protest as peaceful and have attributed violent actions to rogue antagonists.

The Red Warrior Society, a protest group that advocated more aggressive tactics than the prayer and meditation called for by Standing Rock elders, did not respond to requests for comment.

Dallas Fed: Texas to add 242,000 *jobs in 2017*

Texas job growth should increase slightly this year according to projections by the Federal Re-

serve Bank of Dallas. The state should see job growth increase from 1.6 percent in 2016 to about 2 percent in 2017, said Keith Phillips, assistant vice president and senior economist for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

earlier this week in San Antonio. "Job growth picked up in the second half of 2016 due to a stabilization of the energy sector," Phillips said in a news release. "With that positive momentum, the Texas economy enters 2017 poised to shift into 'second gear."

The forecast of 2 percent job growth means Texas should add about 242,000 new jobs in 2017, the release states. The Dallas Fed's current estimate for job growth in 2016 is 1.6 percent, or about 193,000 new jobs, pending the release of December state employment data.

Over the past two years, the state's economy weakened sharply but continued to grow, according to Phillips. Continued growth in the service sector has helped offset the impact of the fall in oil prices on the Texas economy.

"In 2015 and 2016, low oil prices and a strong dollar reduced job growth, but Texas still fared better than the other energy states," Phillips said. "The service sector and the I-35 corridor have not been impacted much by the energy downturn."

Despite the positive momentum heading into 2017, there are still risks to the employment forecast, Phillips notes. A sharp decline in oil prices or exports could result in slower growth.

The Dallas Fed releases its Texas Employment Forecast on a monthly basis in conjunction with the release of monthly Texas employment data. The forecast projects job growth for the calendar vear and is estimated as the 12-month change in payroll employment from December to December.





Adrian Calvio

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Testing wearable sensors as 'check engine' light for health

WASHINGTON (AP) — A next step for smart watches and fitness trackers? Wearable gadgets gave a Stanford University professor an early warning that he was getting sick before he ever felt any symptoms of Lyme disease.

Geneticist Michael Snyder never had Lyme's characteristic bulls-eye rash. But a smart watch and other sensors charted changes in Snyder's heart rate and oxygen levels during a family vacation. Eventually a fever struck that led to his diagnosis.

Say "wearables," and step-counting fitness trackers spring to mind. It's not clear if they really make a difference in users' health. Now Snyder's team at Stanford is starting to find out, tracking the everyday lives of several dozen volunteers wearing devices that monitor more than mere activity.

He envisions one day having wearables that act as a sort of "check engine" light indicating it's time to see the doctor.

"One way to look at this is, these are the equivalent of oral thermometers but you're measuring yourself all the time," said Snyder, senior author of a report released Thursday on the project.

Among the earliest hints: Changes in people's day-to-day physiology may flag when certain ailments are brewing, from colds to Lyme to Type 2 diabetes, researchers reported in the journal PLOS Biology.

Interest in wearable sensors is growing along with efforts to personalize medicine, as scientists learn how to tailor treatments and preventive care to people's genes, environment and lifestyle. The sensors are expected to be a part of the National

Institutes of Health's huge "precision medicine" study, planned to begin later this year.

But a first step is learning what's normal for different people under different conditions.

The Stanford team is collecting reams of data — as many as 250,000 daily measurements — from volunteers who wear up to eight activity monitors or other sensors of varying sizes that measure heart rate, blood oxygen, skin temperature, sleep, calories expended, exercise and even exposure to radiation. That's paired with occasional laboratory tests to measure blood chemistry and some genetic information.

An initial finding: Blood oxygen levels decrease with rising altitudes during plane flights, in turn triggering fatigue. But toward the end of long flights, oxygen begins rising again, possibly as bodies adapt, the researchers reported.

It was that phenomenon that alerted Snyder, the longest-tested participant, "that something wasn't quite right" on one of his frequent long flights.

Landing in Norway for a family vacation, Snyder noticed his oxygen levels didn't return to normal like they always had before. Plus his heart rate was much higher than normal, which sometimes signals infection.

Sure enough, soon a low-grade fever left him dragging. He feared Lyme because two weeks before going abroad, Snyder had helped his brother build a fence in a tick-infested rural area in Massachusetts. He persuaded a Norwegian doctor to prescribe the appropriate antibiotic, and post-vacation testing back home confirmed the di-



Steve Fisch via AP

In this photo provided by Steve Fisch, Michael Snyder, professor and chair of genetics at the Stanford University School of Medicine sports wearable gadgets. Wearable gadgets gave a Snyder an early warning that he was getting sick before he ever felt any symptoms of Lyme disease.

agnosis.

Also during the study's first two years, Snyder and several other volunteers had minor cold-like illnesses that began with higher-than-normal readings for heart rate and skin temperature — and correlated with blood tests showing inflammation was on the rise before any sniffling.

In addition, the Stanford team detected variations in heart rate patterns that could tell the difference between study participants with what's called insulin resistance — a risk factor for Type 2 diabetes — and healthy people

No, don't try to self-diagnose with

your fitness tracker any time soon. The findings in Thursday's report are intriguing but the study is highly experimental, cautioned medical technology specialist Dr. Atul Butte of the University of California, San Francisco, who wasn't involved with the research.

"This kind of approach is going to help science more than the general public" until there's better data about what's normal or not, Butte said. "Remember, the baseline is always in motion. We're always getting older. We're always exposed to things. Just because there's a deviation doesn't mean it's abnormal."

Guitarist who avoided Buddy Holly plane crash dies at 85

HOUSTON (AP) — Tommy Allsup, a guitarist best known for losing a coin toss that kept him off a plane that later crashed and killed rock 'n' roll stars Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. "Big Bopper" Richardson, has died. He was 85.

Allsup, died Wednesday at a hospital in Springfield, Missouri, due to complications from a hernia operation, said his son Austin Allsup, a singer and musician, on Thursday. He had been hospitalized since early this month.

Tommy Allsup was part of Holly's band when the Lubbock, Texas, singer died in the Feb. 3, 1959, plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa.

Allsup flipped a coin to see who between him and Valens

would get a seat on the plane and who would have to take the bus to the next stop on the tour.

Holly, Valens and Richardson died with 21-year-old pilot Roger Peterson when the plane crashed in the Iowa countryside in snowy conditions. The three rockers' deaths were immortalized in Don McLean's 1971 song

"American Pie," and became known as "the day the music died."

Austin Allsup, of Fort Worth, said that his father took losing the coin toss as "a blessing" and that he was humbled to be connected to "such a monumental moment in music history."

"I know my dad has talked about that many times and knew that he was very lucky to be here. It could have been the other way around," Austin Allsup, 32, told The Associated Press in a phone interview Thursday.

In a 1987 interview with the AP, Tommy Allsup, who was born in Owasso, Oklahoma, recalled flipping the coin backstage after playing a concert

See **ALLSUP**, Page 8A



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BIG SPRING HERALD

Sunday, January 15, 2017

Quail management symposium set for Feb. 9 at National Ranching Heritage Center

Program will emphasize practical steps to lessen quail population decline in drought years

Special to the Herald

To assist land managers in sustaining and expanding quail populations, the First Annual Quail Management Symposium will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9 at the National Ranching Heritage Center (NRHC) at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

"We want to emphasize practical things people can do to maintain their core quail population and prevent steep drops," said Dr. Brad Dabbert, one of the symposium organizers and **Burnett Foundation Endowed Profes**sor of Quail Ecology at Texas Tech

"Rainfall influences the reproduction status of quail," Dabbert said. "During the drought in 2011, only about 18 percent of quail tried to make even one nest. Since then we have had years of good rainfall, and this year we have a boom in the quail population."

Dabbert believes Texas land managers tend "to stop management efforts when it doesn't rain." Since each day is a day closer to the next drought, Dabbert wants the symposium to help people learn practical techniques that will help maintain the core quail population, lessen the decline and hasten the increase.

The symposium is jointly sponsored by the NRHC and Quail-Tech Alliance, a research and demonstration project coordinated between the Texas Tech Department of Natural Resources Management and Quail First, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organiza-

Dabbert, who has published more than 50 research articles and been awarded more than \$4 million in research grants, will be one of three symposium speakers. His presentation will emphasize practical steps that have been taken for bobwhite management in the Rolling Plains and how these techniques can be applied to other areas of Texas.

Dr. William Palmer, president of Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy in Tallahassee, Fla., will be the keynote speaker. He will discuss a legacy of bobwhite research from the Red Hills region of Florida and Georgia. Palmer has developed one of the largest game bird research programs in the nation and has extensive experience in protecting game bird populations through science, conservation and planning.

"The Tall Timbers Research Station is the origin of quail research in this nation," Dabbert said. "They have a history and a legacy of game bird research. Some of their techniques will work really well here and we'll be able to use them."

The symposium will open with a discussion of the general biology of quail by Byron Buckley, a field biologist for Quail-Tech Alliance and a Texas Tech Ph.D. student in natural resources management. The program also includes two 30-minute demonstrations of quail research fieldcraft (e.g., trapping, handling and tracking) and technology in quail research (e.g., drones, GPS radios, thermal cameras).

The cost of registration is \$10, which includes a chuck wagon dinner prior to the keynote speech. Participation is limited to 100 individuals and the



Three years of good rains have resulted in record levels of bobwhite quail populations after suffering a severe decline in the recent drought. To help land managers understand techniques that can lessen quail population declines in a drought and hasten increases, the First Annual Quail Management Symposium will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 9 at the National Ranching Heritage Center in Lubbock.

registration deadline is Feb. 2. For more information or to register for the symposium, visit ranchingheritage.org/quail/ or call Helen DeVitt Jones Director of Education Julie Hodges at 806.834.0083.

The National Ranching Heritage

Center is a 27-acre museum and historical park dedicated to preserving and interpreting the history of ranch ing and addressing contemporary ranching issues. The center is located at 3121 Fourth St. on the Texas Tech campus.

Continued from Page 7A "A couple of people were standing there," he said. "I flipped it. (Valens) called 'heads.' He got his stuff off the

Another entertainer who was left off the plane was country music star Waylon Jennings, who was also playing with Holly's band at the time. Jennings died in 2002.

Austin Allsup, who last year

competed in the singing competition television program "The Voice," said Valens' sister reached out to him after his father's death to offer her condolences.

"I told her in my message back, now my dad and Ritchie can finally finish the tour they started 58 years ago," he said.

After Holly's death, Tommy Allsup worked both as a guitarist and a record producer. He produced records for Willie Nelson and Asleep at the Wheel.

He was also inducted into the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame.

Austin Allsup said his father still continued to perform as a musician and toured Europe last year.

"I know he was extremely proud of his family. ... I think he knew he was very blessed to live the life that he lived," Austin Allsup said.

Funeral services for Tommy Allsup will be held next Wednesday in Owasso, Oklahoma, his son said.

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Page 1B Sunday, January 15, 2017

Steers open district play with 48-44 win over Sweetwater

By STEVE REAGAN

Despite winning only three non-district games, Big Spring High School boys' basketball coach Nicholas Tyerman insisted the start of league play reset the team's record to 0-0.

Using that measurement, the Steers are still undefeated.

The Steers started District 5-4A play in the best way possible, rallying from an early deficit — then holding off a late Sweetwater comeback — to grab a 48-44 win in Steer Gym Friday night.

Big Spring trailed, 8-4, after one quarter, but caught fire in the second eight minutes — and guard John Ibanez lit the match.

Ibanez had been battling a shooting slump entering Friday's game, but for a three-minute stretch in the second quarter, he was unstoppable, hitting three three-pointers in succession to completely change the complexion of the game.

His first trey, with 6:30 to go in the second, brought the Steers to within a point of a lead. Ninety seconds later, he hit another three from the right wing to put his team ahead. And his third three-pointer, which he made while being fouled, energized the large home crowd and gave the Steers control of the game.

"I love that kid to death. He's put in more work than anybody, and it's paying



Tony Claxton photo

(www.claxtonphotography.com)Big Spring's Javone Ford (1) gets off a shot against Sweetwater.

off for him," Tyerman said of Ibanez. "He hasn't shot that well the past few games, but I told him that no matter what, he had

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Mistakes plague Lady Steers in loss

Big Spring's Jeremiah Rushin (12) attempts a shot during

the Steers' 48-44 win over Sweetwater in Steer Gym Friday

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

night.

The problem with having a team full of freshmen and sophomores is that, sometimes, their youth and inexperience is all too

Such was the case with the Big Spring Lady Steers Friday night.

The Lady Steers started strong, but a strong press defense forced a barrage of turnovers and other mistakes, leading to a 44-29 victory by the Sweetwater Lady Mustangs in Steer Gym Friday

The loss dropped Big Spring to 1-2 in District 5-4A play, while Sweetwater improved to 1-1 in league action.

The Lady Steers were initially buoyed by the return to form of leading scorer Kayleigh Penny, who has been hampered for several weeks with a broken elbow. Friday, Penny was virtually unstoppable in the first quarter, scoring all of ther team's points in the frame, which ended with Big Spring holding a 10-5 lead.

Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Unfortunately for Big Spring, Penny and fellow interior player Logan Terrazas each picked up two quick fouls, forcing both to the bench for large stretches of the first half.

Minus two of their top scorers, the Lady Steers understandably struggled to find points, and Sweetwater added to their misery by clamping down with its full-court press, which produced

See **BSHS**, Page 2B



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Amber Martinez (2) guards a Sweetwater ball handler during their game in Steer Gym Friday.

Big Spring Little League will hold signups for the 2017 season on Saturday, Jan. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Spring Town Mall. Signups will also be held on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Monday through Friday, Jan. 23-27 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. with the final day being Saturday, Jan. 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ages 4 to 16 can play. The cost is \$90 a child and a birth certificate is required. For more information, contact Robert Smith at 432-8161 or Corey Wood at 432-213-0427.

Area roundup: Buffs down Pecos By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

FORSAN — The Forsan Buffaloes stepped up in class Friday, taking down Class 3A Pecos, 63-53, in a non-district basketball clash.

The difference in the game came early, as the Buffaloes jumped out to an 18-9 lead after the first quarter, then battled the Eagles on even terms for the rest of the game.

Tearell McVea led all scorers with 19 points, while Kobe Richardson and Garrett Evans added 16 and 9 points, respectively, for the Buffaloes.

The Buffaloes shot well from the field all night, canning 51 percent of their two-point tries and 37 percent of their three-point attempts.

Forsan returns to action Tues-



day at Christoval. Game time is 8

Lady Bearkats 73 Blackwell 24

GARDEN CITY — The Garden City Lady Bearkats had little trouble with Blackwell Friday, running their way to an easy win to

stay unbeaten in District 14-1A. The Lady Bearkats, ranked No. 5 in the state 1A poll, were led by Kortney Halfmann, who scored 28 points, and Madison and Payton Hastings, who added 14 and 11

points, respectively. Garden City returns to action Tuesday at Water Valley. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

Other scores

Jim Ned 69, Coahoma boys 29 Jim Ned 81, Coahoma girls 15

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Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Lexie DeLafuente (24) goes for a steal during the Lady Steers' game with Sweetwater in Steer Gym Friday night.

BSHS

Continued from Page 1B

a bushel-full of turnovers in the decisive second quarter.

Sweetwater scored 21 points in the second quarter — many off Big Spring turnovers — and limited the Lady Steers to three points in the same time frame to grab a 26-13 lead at halftime.

This was the second time in as many games that a disastrous second quarter had put Big Spring at a severe disadvantage, and most of the blame for that can be explained by the team's

coach Lacy Parker said.

"We knew they were going to press us, that wasn't a surprise. It was something we talked about and drilled on," Parker said. "We just didn't execute well. We started out in the first quarter fine, but down the stretch, in the heat of the moment, we kind of crumbled under pressure and went back to our old habits, which I haven't seen in awhile.

"Foul trouble also hurt us today," Parker added. "We had to take Logan and Kayleigh out, and they're a lot of our offense and our defense. They're big-

youth and inexperience, head time players for us, and we need them on the floor as much as possible. When they got those two quick fouls and we had to sit them, that's when things got stagnant and it went downhill from there."

Penny led Big Spring with 12 points, while Baylie Lindsey's 15 points paced Sweetwater.

The Lady Steers return to action Tuesday at Brownwood. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 432-263-7331, ext. 235, or reporter@bigspringherald.com

ence with that ... but I thought we handled it really well for the most part, in terms of being able to bounce back from our mistakes and

pile on and get down on ourselves ... It's something we'll learn from and get better as we go

Ibanez led all scorers with 15 points.

Thomas sets 36-hole mark

Justin Thomas finished with another eagle and put himself in the PGA Tour record book again Friday in the Sony Open.

One day after his 59 made him only the seventh player in PGA Tour history break 60, Thomas made an 8-foot eagle putt on the 18th hole at Waialae for a 6-under 64 to set the 36-hole scoring record on the PGA Tour.

Thomas was at 17-under 123 and had a fiveshot lead over Gary Woodland.

The previous mark was 124, last matched at the 2015 BMW Championship by Jason Day at Conway Farm.

"It's cool," Thomas said. "Just like yesterday, anytime you can get your name in the record book, it's awesome. I had no idea until I finished."

Thomas started slowly, not picking up his first birdie until the fifth hole. Irritation from a three-putt bogey on the eighth hole got him going, and Thomas ran off four straight birdies around the turn.

From there, no one got closer than four shots on another ideal day for scoring off the shore just up the road from Waikiki Beach. Woodland made a 10-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole for his second straight

Woodland and Thomas as part of the final group could be a real power show — Woodland is regarded as one of the premier power players

been far more reserved off the tee, despite being tempted to hit driver.

"I did that my first couple times here and that didn't work out for me," he said. "I'm verv comfortable with where my game is. Driver feels great, I just don't get many opportunities out there. I'm not complaining about being in the fairway, either."

Thomas wasn't bashful. He smashed a 355vard drive down the 12th fairway that set up a flip wedge to 12 feet for his fourth straight birdie. He also took an unusual line on the 14th, hammering a high drive over the trees and bunker down the left side and back into the fairway, leaving him 70 yards to the green on the 430-vard hole. He pitched that up to just under 5 feet and missed the putt, one of the few he failed to convert.

Zach Johnson had a 61 and Olympic gold medalist Justin Rose shot 64. They were in the group seven shots behind along with Hudson Swafford, who opened with a 62 but could only manage a 68.

Jordan Spieth felt empty after rounds of 65-67, partially because he was nine shots behind and primarily because he had as many chances as Thomas over the last two days. Only one of them has been converting putt after putt.

"Just has a really cold putter this week," Spieth said. "I think it added to the frustration."

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

to have that shooter's mentality ... and believe every shot he took was going to go in. And he did that tonight. He bought into the process, even though he was in a slump, and you would have never known that he was struggling before tonight.'

The Steers led by six points at halftime and built that advantage to 13 points midway through the fourth quarter before Sweetwater rallied, forcing turnovers on eight of nine consecutive Big Spring possessions to

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five points with 26 seconds remaining.

Big Spring beat the press on its next possession, and Ibanez hit both ends of a one-andone with eight seconds left to ice the game.

Tyerman blamed the late rally in part on the Steers' not being used

to playing from ahead. "It's a whole other thing when you're asking your kids not only to handle the pressure, but to handle the pressure of a lead," he said. "A drawback to playing a tough non-district schedule is that you don't have a lot of practice playing with a lead like that, and that was our first real experi-

trim the Steers' lead to not letting our mistakes









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NFl playoffs

SPORTS

Divisional round has familiar feel this time

NEW YORK (AP) — The divisional round of the NFL playoffs has a familiar feel.

All four of the matchups this weekend are rematches of regularseason games from this season. And Saturday's games feature coaches going against their former teams.

Atlanta coach Dan Quinn spent four seasons with Seattle, including the 2013 and '14 seasons as the team's defensive coordinator.

The Seahawks advanced to the Super Bowl in both seasons, including winning it to cap the 2013 season. Quinn got the better of Pete Carroll and the Seahawks with a 26-24 win at CenturyLink Field in Week 6.

And, Houston's Bill O'Brien was on Bill Belichick's staff in Foxborough from 2007-11. O'Brien is looking for a better result on Saturday night after his Texans were dominated 27-0 in September.

The Steelers and Packers both enter Sunday's games as two of the hottest teams in the NFL. Pittsburgh will enter its matchup at Kansas City on an eight-game winning streak. The Steelers routed the Chiefs 43-14 in Week 4.

And Green Bay will travel to Dallas on a seven-game surge as it tries to knock off the top-seeded Cowboys and get even for a 30-16 loss at Lambeau Field in Week 6.

Seattle (11-5-1) at Atlanta (11-5), Saturday at 3:35 p.m. (Fox)

This will be the second postseason meeting between the teams. Both were in the divisional Georgia Dome.

Four years ago, Seattle fell behind 20-0 before Russell Wilson led his team on three fourth-quarter touchdown drives to take a 28-27 lead with 31 seconds

However, the Falcons completed two long pass plays and Matt Bryant kicked a 49-yard field goal in a 30-28 win.

"It's one of those games," Carroll said Tuesday of the loss in January 2013. "It's one of those games you store away, but it doesn't have anything to do with what's going on

now."

That game was a rare postseason loss for Wilson, who is 8-3 in his career in the playoffs.

Atlanta has lost five of its past six playoff games. An Atlanta loss would end the Falcons' 25-year stay in the Georgia Dome. Mercedes-Benz Stadium is scheduled to open next season.

New England (14-2),

than a two-touchdown favorite. And with good reason.

four-game suspension.

history. Brady is also the NFL postseason leader in completions (738), attempts (1,183), and touchdown passes (56).

And Belichick has 23 postseason wins, most all time.

for defensive end Jadeveon Clowney to get consistent pressure on Brady.

The No. 1 pick in the 2014 draft was a big reason why the Texans dominated the Raiders in the wild-card round. He had an acrobatic interception to set up a touchdown in the 27-14

"That kind of boosts playoffs, and both at the us up a little (like), OK we gonna show them," Clowney said earlier this week of being a big

> "One of the mentalities this week going into this game is we're the underdogs, always son — let's go out there and prove to them why we're here in this second round now."

Dallas (13-3), Sunday at 3:40 p.m. (Fox)

Houston (10-7) at

Saturday at 7:15 p.m. (CBS) The Patriots are more

New England has won seven of the eight meetings overall. The Patriots are 4-0 at Foxborough against Houston, outscoring the Texans a combined 150-49. And that includes a 27-0 rout in Week 3 with Jacoby Brissett was at quarterback because Tom Brady was serving his

Brady has 22 playoff wins, the most in NFL passing yards (7,957)

Houston's best hope is

underdog.

been underdogs all sea-

Green Bay (11-6) at

This is the eighth postseason meeting between the teams, which includes such memorable matchups as the "Ice



Ezekiel Elliott (21) and the Dallas Cowboys host the Green Bay Packers in a NFC divisional playoff game Sunday.

Bowl" in 1967.

And the Packers and Cowboys are tied with the Giants for the most playoff appearances at

Packers coach Mike McCarthy has nine playoff wins, tied with Vince Lombardi and Mike Holmgren for the most in club history.

The Cowboys, who have four straight losses in the divisional round, are looking for their first NFC championship game appearance since the 1995 season.

Dak Prescott will be the first rookie QB to start a playoff game for Cowboys.

Since winning the Super Bowl after the 2010 season, Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers has not won back-toback playoff games.

Packers receiver Jordy Nelson, who had an NFL-high 14 touchdown catches in the regular season, will miss the game because of in-

jured ribs. "We're a different offense, though," Rodgers said earlier in the week about his team's offen-

sive options. "We're doing a lot of different things than we were last year, a lot of things better. I think our offensive line is playing better. Our scheme has advanced, and we're getting more contributions from the tight end at this point.

"Davante (Adams) is

league, and obviously Randall Cobb, who is established as well," he

a legit receiver in this

Pittsburgh (12-5) at Kansas City (12-4), Sunday at 7:20 p.m. (NBC)

The game was moved from 1:05 to prime time because of a potential ice storm due to hit the Kansas City area this weekend.

The Steelers beat the Dolphins 30-12 in the wild-card round for their NFL-record 35th postseason win.

Roethlisberger Ben

had five touchdown passes in Pittsburgh's meeting previous against the Chiefs.

"They are a very aggressive defense," Roethlisberger said. "We were able to utilize some of that the first time we played them. But like I said, we throw that out the window. They may be more conservative. They may just play their game."

The previous time the Chiefs hosted a playoff game was in January 2011. Their coach for that game was Todd Haley, now the Steelers' offensive coordinator.

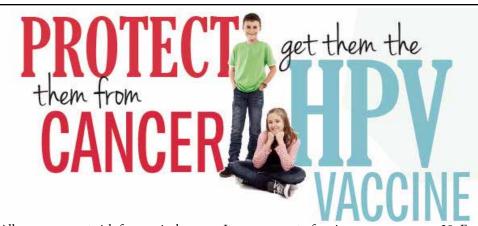
The Chiefs have lost four straight home playoff games, three in the divisional round.

The Chiefs beat the Steelers 27-24 in the wild-card round on Jan. 8, 1994. Joe Montana was the quarterback for the Chiefs, who have not won a home playoff game since.

In fact, the Chiefs have only won two playoff games at home in their history, even though they were a founding member of the old AFL. The other came against the then-Los Angeles Raiders in 1991, also in the wild-card round.







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Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's CJ Harris goes up for a shot during the Steers' 48-44 win over Sweetwater in Steer Gym Friday night.

Grizzlies down Rockets behind 22 from Allen

The Memphis Grizzlies have developed a knack for beating the best in the West.

They did it again on Friday night, rallying from a 15-point, thirdquarter deficit for a 110-105 victory over the Houston Rockets.

Tony Allen scored a season-high 22 points and Mike Conley added 17 as the Grizzlies, who are sixth in the West, improved to 4-0 combined against the Houston Rockets and Golden State Warriors this season.

"We've just got to start treating everybody like they're those teams," Conley said.

"I think we get up for the good teams somehow and seem to lay eggs when we feel like we should win games. We've just got to come with a better mindset for games that we feel like we should win. We know we can play with anybody, we've proven that. But for us to get to that next level we've got to be consistent no matter who we're playing."

Memphis led by two late in the fourth quarter before scoring the next five points, capped by a 3-pointer by Troy Daniels, to make it 110A dunk by James Harden came next, but Houston missed two shots after that to allow the Grizzlies to hold on for their third win in four games.

Harden had 27 points and nine assists for the Rockets, who have lost consecutive games for the first time this sea-

"We just missed shots. That's all," Harden said. "We make those shots we go up nine or it's a different ballgame. But obviously that's a scrappy team."

Memphis was up by one in the fourth when Conley tossed a ball from about halfcourt as he fell into the front row of seats to Allen for a

"I didn't know who it was going to go to," Conley said. "I kind of iust threw it up. I knew there were two people back there and luckilv it landed in (Allen's) hands." Conley hit a 3-pointer

a few seconds later to push the lead to 101-95 with about 5 minutes The Grizzlies scored

the first nine points of the fourth quarter, with five from Zach Randolph, to go on top

103 with 26 seconds left. for the first time in the second half, 92-85. Houston got going after that, scoring the next seven points to tie it with about 8 minutes left.

The Rockets led by 15 after an alley-oop dunk by Montrezl Harrell with about 9 minutes left third quarter. The Grizzlies then used a 9-1 run to cut the lead to 71-64 with about three minutes later.

Houston hadn't scored a basket in almost four minutes when Harrell made a jumper with about 5 minutes left. Consecutive 3-pointers by Eric Gordon helped leave Houston ahead 79-

It didn't take long for Memphis to start another run as Gasol hit a 3-pointer after that to start a 15-5 spurt that got the Grizzlies within 84-83 with about a minute left in the third. Daniels had two 3s in that stretch and Randolph added one.

TIP-INS

Grizzlies: Allen fouled out with 3:35 remaining. ... Randolph finished with 16 points and 12 rebounds. ... Daniels scored 13 points.

Rockets: Gordon returned after missing two games with a toe injury and had 13 points.

In brief

AP source: Rangers agree to \$6M deal with RHP Tyson Ross

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) - Right-hander Tyson Ross and the Texas Rangers have agreed on a \$6 million, one-year contract, a person with knowledge of the deal said Friday night.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal was pending

Ross, who started opening day for San Diego last season but didn't pitch again because of shoulder problems, becomes a candidate for a rotation led by aces Cole Hamels and Yu Darvish and including Martin Perez.

Another possible starter is another right-hander coming from the Padres: Texas native Andrew Cashner, who agreed to a deal in November.

The 29-year-old Ross is 32-53 with a 3.64 ERA in 153 big league appearances, including 102 starts. He made 64 starts for the Padres over two seasons in 2014-15, earning 23 of his wins.

Ross will compete in spring training with several potential starters, including right-handers A.J. Griffin, Nick Martinez and Chi Chi Gonzalez.

Griffin, who agreed to a \$2 million, one-year contract Friday to avoid salary arbitration, had the most starts among Texas right-handers last season with 23. He was 7-4 with 5.07 ERA. Martinez made five starts and Gonzalez three.

Arrieta, Harper, Machado, Britton get big-money deals

NEW YORK (AP) — Chicago Cubs ace Jake Arrieta, Washington star Bryce Harper and Baltimore standouts Manny Machado and Zach Britton got big-money deals Friday as more than 100 major leaguers reached agreements for 2017 and left just

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After helping lead the Cubs to their first World Series title since 1908, Arrieta agreed to a one-year deal for \$15,637,500. He can become a free agent after this season.

"The timeline is kind of coming to an end, as far as, you know, leading up to free agency," Arrieta said. "As of now, we got one more season as a Cub, and I'm really happy about that."

Harper, who slumped after winning the 2015 NL MVP award, agreed at \$13,625,000, leaving himself with one more year of arbitration eligibility before he can go on the open market.

Machado, the Orioles' slugging third baseman and Gold Glove winner, got \$11.5 million, while Britton, who led the AL in saves, accepted \$11.4 million. Like Harper, both can become free agents after two more seasons.

Colorado Gold Glove third baseman Nolan Arenado agreed to a \$29.5 million, two-year contract, one of just two multiyear deals among the 119 players who settled Friday. Third baseman Yangervis Solarte agreed to a \$7.5 million, two-year contract with San Diego, which hopes to finalize a longterm agreement with first baseman Wil Myers next week.

Only a handful of players are likely to go before three-person arbitration panels next month. Players won three of four hearings last year, their first winning record since 2011. Management has a 302-224 advantage since arbitration started in 1974.

Other notable deals Friday were reached by 2015 AL Cy Young Award winner Dallas Keuchel of Houston (\$9.15 million), Kansas City first baseman Eric Hosmer (\$12.25 million), Chicago White Sox third baseman Todd Frazier (\$12 million), New York Mets starters Matt Harvey (\$5,125,000) and Jacob deGrom (\$4.05 million).

Clemson football fans turn out to honor national champions

CLEMSON, S.C. (AP) — Around 70,000 smiling, cheering football fans turned out for the biggest party Clemson coach Dabo Swinney has thrown yet at Death Valley to celebrate the school's first national championship in 35 years.

Last year, more than 30,000 people showed up for Swinney's pizza party when Clemson was picked for its first College Football Playoff berth after the 2015 season. This gathering topped that, with all but the highest rows filled at Memorial Stadium.

Swinney closed the 90-minute ceremony, thanking all who supported and believed in him since his rise from interim coach to national champion. His team won the title with a 35-31 victory over defending national champ Alabama last Monday night when Deshaun Watson connected with Hunter

Renfrow on a 2-yard TD pass with one second left. Swinney recalled telling his players before heading to Tampa, Florida, that Clemson's only other national title team in 1981 "has been awful lonely up on that stadium for a long time."



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BIG HERALD

Page 1C **Sunday, January 15, 2017**



By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

hare your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless." Isaiah

Big Spring has a lot of options for those in need to acquire food, clothes, and other necessities. The community just got another one: A simple box in front of an insurance agency.

"A Blessing Box is very simple," said Farmer's Insurance agent Eric Escamilla. "It's a box where anybody can come and donate whatever it is they wish to donate. Food and nonperisnables. And where people who are in need can come in and retrieve those items if they need something. There's no check. There's nobody checking anybody there at the door. It's just kind of on the honor system. It's a way for people to bless people, and for people to get blessed.'

Escamilla's Blessing Box is set up on the sidewalk outside his office at 205 W. 15th St. The simplicity of the concept offers a few qualities which food pantries – though they might have more food and a larger selection

"The original idea actually came from somebody who understood that some people cannot go to a food pantry in the hours that it's open," he said. "They need another place, and they might need a little help. This is the single mother that works two or three jobs, or whatever the case might be. It's easy to access and easy to do."

Escamilla said he has contemplated putting up a Blessing Box for a while now, but never seemed to find the right time. He put the box up Friday,

"That's when it went live," he said. "The idea has been around for years. I've just been postponing this for a long time and haven't had a chance to do it. Now I'm actually doing it. I'm in this state now where it's no more ideas about how you can help people, how can you reach people. It's about doing the things. Actually getting it done. No more ideas, just get it done."

Response to the idea has been quite

good, he said.

"The response has been overwhelmingly positive. I've had a lot of people comment and 'like' on Facebook, I've had obviously interviews with different media sources and so on," he said. "Overall it's been good. Like anything else, some people have concerns with it being misused. We're not going to focus on the 1 percent, we're going to focus on the 99 percent that do need the food."

The box has already seen a lot of action in just the first week since it became active, both giving and taking, Escamilla said.

"There was some food left over from the original call to help. I didn't

> HERALD photos/Roger Clockwise from top: Eric Escamilla stands by his Blessing Box, located at 205 W. 15th St.; Escamilla keeps the box filled with canned and other non-perishable food. Those in need are welcome to help themselves anytime day or night; The box is located outside Escamilla's insurance agency.

didn't fit, to begin with, then I actually had some people come and donate even more," he said. "As it empties out, I'm just going to keep on filling it with that. That way it has a revolving door so there's always something in there. Immediately after I placed it out, the next morning...you can imagine. Saturday was about 16 degrees in the morning and there were actually some families that came out there. We just want people to come here, not feel judged, not feel anything like that. Just take what you need. I know last night, my apartment is right on top of my office, and at 1 o'clock in the morning there were people pulling up to retrieve food."

Despite some concerns about misuse or vandalism of the box, Escamilla said he hasn't had any problems so far.

"No we haven't. That's where a lot of people tend to focus their attention, 'What about that person? What about that vandal?' What I've found out through my experience helping others is, if you give people an ability to honor you in something, they typically do," he said. "You're going to have that one person that doesn't, and we're not going to focus on that. I'm just not going to focus on that one person. If they clear it out, we'll have some extra food and I can fill it right back in. We're not going to be keeping count or keeping tabs about who comes in or how often they do it. It's there so people can receive help. There's just no judgement. Just come and take what you need."

Just as the Blessing Box is easy to access for people needing help, it's also easy for people to leave donations, Escamilla said.

"If you want to help the Blessing Box, it's available for you to come and help at any time," he said. "Just put it in the box. If the box is full, put it on the box. And if it's during business hours and I'm open, you can bring it

Escamilla hopes the idea spreads across the city.

"If you want to contact me directly, you can contact me either through Facebook or on my cell phone. Just give me a call and I'll do anything I can to help you," he said. "My plan is to have 10 Blessing Boxes here in Big Spring just to help the community. I encourage anybody that wants to do it to go ahead and do it. You don't have to do it on your own, you can reach out to me for help, whatever you need. We can just work together to make this city a better place. That's

ultimately the goal." For more information, contact Es-





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salad, fresh fruit, milk

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Tuesday: Breakfast: Maple pancakes, grapes, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Meaty queso, peas, garden salad, veggie cups, pineapple chunks, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Sausage roll, apples, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Sriracha beef pocket, roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, fruity Jell-O, fruit cup, garden salad, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Baked cheese stick, banana, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Meaty macaroni, breadstick, green beans, veggie cups, garden salad, strawberries, animal crackers, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: French toast, orange smiles, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Cheese ravioli, Italian bread, sweet fries, twisted applesauce, fruit cup, garden salad, milk.

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Martin Luther King

Tuesday: Breakfast: Fruit parfait or cereal with buttered toast, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk; Lunch: Cheesy chicken Philly sandwich basket with seasoned fries or chef's salad with turkey and ham or spaghetti with meat sauce or creamy chicken Alfredo, glazed carrots, Romaine spinach garden salad, fruit slush cup, bananas and oranges, wholegrain garlic breadstick.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Pancakes or oatmeal with cinnamon buttered toast, mixed fruit, fruit juice, milk, syrup; Lunch: Chicken ranch wrap basket with Sun Chips or strawberry grilled chicken salad or homestyle pizza (cheese/pepperoni/hamburger) or loaded baked potato with diced ham and roll, seasoned green beans, cucumber chips with ranch, Romaine spinach garden salad, mandarin oranges,

oranges and apples, sour cream, cheese, green onions, apple

Thursday: Breakfast: Sausage biscuit or cereal with buttered toast, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk, jelly; Lunch: Burrito basket with chips and salsa or Fritos taco salad or beefy nachos or Fritos caliente chicken, Spanish rice, refried beans, lettuce and tomato salad, fruit slush cup, bananas and oranges, jalapenos, salsa, sour cream.

Friday: Breakfast: Chocolate muffin or cereal with cinnamon buttered toast, mandarin orange, fruit juice, milk, jelly; Lunch: Cheeseburger basket with seasoned fries or chicken salad or sloppy Joe or grilled chicken sandwich, beef and vegetable soup, seasoned fries, Romaine garden salad, apples and oranges, pineapple tidbits, crackers.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Tuesday: Breakfast: Blueberry mini pancakes or cereal with toast, fruit juice, applesauce, fresh fruit, milk: Lunch: Hot dog or mini corndogs, savory green beans, garden salad, cookie, fresh fruit, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: French toast or cereal with toast, fruit juice, mandarin oranges, fresh fruit, milk; Lunch: Pizza or chef's salad, Italian vegetables, fresh veggie cup, garden salad, fresh fruit, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast pocket or cereal with toast, fruit juice, pears, fresh fruit, milk; Lunch: Barbecue pork sandwich or sloppy Joe sandwich, pinto beans, garden salad, fresh fruit, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: waffle or cereal with toast, fruit juice, mandarin oranges, fresh fruit, milk; Lunch: Hamburger or fish sticks with roll, waffle fries, California blend, garden

Monday: Breakfast: Pancake wrap, yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk: Lunch: Lasagna with meat sauce, roll, garden salad, Tuscan vegetables, seasonal fruit, milk,

Tuesday: Breakfast: Chickenn-biscuit, fruit, fruit juice, milk; fruit.

Wednesday: Breakfast: French toast, sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Tex-Mex stack, Spanish rice, lettuce and tomato garnish, refried beans, salsa, tiny tomato cup, hot cinnamon apples, milk, fruit.

Friday: Breakfast: Dutch waffle, bacon, fruit, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Chicken parmesan, garden salad, breadstick, savory green beans, apple slices, milk,

Big Spring Senior Center

Monday: Ham and cheese sandwich, lettuce and tomato, tomato soup, baked chips, fruit cup, milk.

bun, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickle, sweet potato fries, cole slaw, oranges, milk.

en, lime cilantro rice, calabacita, oatmeal cookies, tortilla, milk.

Thursday: Catfish with tartar sauce, corn on the cob, okra, hushpuppies, lemon pudding, milk.

Friday: Steak fingers with gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli, tropical fruit, bread, milk.

Megan Magallanes accepted into **ADMA**

The Dance Gallery is so excited for our student Megan Magallanes as she has recently been accepted to AMDA which is the American Musical and Dramatic Academy college conservatory for the performing arts located in Los Angeles, California.

She graduated a semester early from BSHS this past December. Megan, 17, began her studies at The Dance Gallery with Stevi

McKinnon at the age of 8. She has studied various styles of dance such as ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, lyrical, and pointe. She was also a vital member of the traveling competitive dance team.

She continues to study dance with The Dance Gallery and has also recently been selected to be part of a competitive hip hop team from Odessa. The faculty, parents, and students of The Dance Gallery applaud her accomplishments.

JON 💙 HART DESIGN

- **♥** Carly Propps & Jackson Watkins
- ♥ Caitlin Everett & Colter Morgan

Browse Their Selections Today!

was not exposed to art other than what her first grade teacher, Mrs. Benson did. Mrs.

Big Spring Art

Association

The Big Spring Art

Association had its an-

nual Christmas Party.

Bruce and Belle School-

er hosted at their Red

Barn Studio. There

were about 18 to 20

people in attendance.

The food was "deli-

cious"; the exchange

of gifts added to the ex-

citement as one person

could claim another's

gift if he or she liked it

better than what they

received! What a blast!

Leatrice Brown, lo-

cal artist, will share

things she has learned

that has improved her

artistic talent. Mrs.

Brown grew up in Mc-

Camey, Texas. She

Benson taught first and

second all in the same

room. Mrs. Benson had

majored in home eco-

do! One year they made

an apron by hand. The

next year they made

a throw pillow. Mrs.

Brown still remembers

how to make that pil-

low! Later her brother-

Brown says that was nomics so she found the best thing that happrojects for her class to pened to her! She took classes from other artist also.

> Spring Art Association of which she is currently involved. Tuesday, January 17th is our next meeting. We meet at 7:00

p.m. at the Howard County Library. If you are interested in any kind of art, we would be happy for you to join

Sands CISD

Lunch: Asian bowl, egg roll, baby carrots, steamed broccoli, pineapple, sugar cookie, milk,

Thursday: Breakfast: Break-

fast pizza, fruit, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Hamburger, hamburger garnish, fries, fresh veggie cup, orange smiles, milk, fruit.

Tuesday: Hamburger on a

Wednesday: Mexican chick-

KeepBigSpringBeautiful



Keep Big Spring Beautiful met January 9, 2017 at Howard College. President Willia Ledford called the meeting to order. After the pledge, Janell Davis led the invocation.

President Willia Ledford introduced officers for the 2017 year. They are 1st Vice President-Peggy Skiles, 2nd Vice President-Liz Hafley, Secretary -Tammy DePauw and Treasurer-Jim DePauw.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful will be sponsoring a table at the Chamber Banquet. It will be held February 7, 2017. Eric Escamilla was presented the 2016 " Doing

Your Part Award". He also discussed the Blessing Outgoing President Lisa Brooks was honored for

The tree planting ceremony will be held January 12. We are partnering with Alon/Strive and the city to plant trees at the city golf course/park.

her service.

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one gave her local artist Virginia Whitten's name. She contacted her. Mrs. Whitten said "Drawing is the hardest medium to learn". "Why not try oil painting?" Mrs. Brown did! She only did it for a short time. She also studied with other artist for a short time. Finally Howard College offered a drawing course during the summer. Mrs Brown enrolled! She said, she was scared to death because it was for a grade! Becky Smiley was the teacher. Mrs.

a Fat Albert Coloring

Book. As she was look-

ing at the pictures, she

said to herself, "I think

I can draw these". She

drew some of them!

Mrs. Brown began to

look for someone who

taught drawing. No

one did! Finally some-

She later became a member of the Big

in-law to be, drew a picture of her sisterin-law to be: the picture looked exactly like the sister-in-law. Mrs. Brown had no idea that he could draw! Anyway, Mrs. Brown's appetite for art grew when



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Roger's Reviews **Double Feature**



Underworld: Blood Wars By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

At first blush, "Underworld: First Blood" seems like a movie I would love. It's got vampires, werewolves, and a lot of superpowered fighting action. Unfortunately, it just fell flat for me.



The movie, the fifth in the series, centers around its preeminent heroine Selene (Kate Beckinsale), who has given birth to Eve, a half-vampire, half-"Lycan" (read "werewolf") hybrid. Selene and her friend David (Theo Thomas) are also hybrids, able to withstand sunlight; but apparently they're not as hybrid-y hybrids as Eve. The Lycans are rising up to destroy their former masters, the vampires, but they need Eve's blood to empower their troops to get the job done. Selene is on the outs with both vampires and werewolves; the former, because she killed some high-ranking vamps in the previous installment, and the latter, because they want her to lead them to Eve. Semira (Lara Pulver), a vampire on the bloodsucking high council, wants Selene pardoned so that she can train some newly recruited "Death Dealers" (read "vampire warriors"). Vampire Thomas (Charles Dance) pleads Selene's case before the council, and they agree to the clemencyfor-training plan. Unfortunately, Semira's lover Varga (Bradley James) has other plans, and things go awry at the first training session. I won't "spoil" any more than that.

Other characters include Marius (Tobias Menzies), leader of the Lycans; Alexia (Daisy Head), a vampire sent to kill Selene and David, Vidar (Pe-

vampires of the Nordic Coven.

a lot of beautiful people, and a lot of great action. I really enjoyed one battle scene between werewolves and vampires where the Lycans were using big guns to shoot holes in the walls of the vampire castle, sending blazing beams of sunlight blasting through the dim interior, cooking acres of vampire flesh. The fighting action is really the best part of

Now for the negatives. First of all, I don't like "Underworld"'s color palette. As you might expect for a vampire/werewolf movie, everything is very dark and muted. Colors are dark blue, gray, and shadowy snow white. Even during indoor, artificially lit scenes, the colors are muted and unsaturated. Outdoors, it's sometimes hard to tell what's happening because of the lack of light and contrast. This is obviously an artistic choice; but it's one that, in my opinion, makes the movie a chore to watch.

Second, it's not really a stand-alone movie. I understand that "Blood Wars" is part of a series, but the story is a bit complex and makes it hard for casual viewers to immerse themselves in the narrative. We don't know things like, "Why is Eve's blood more special than Selene's already-hybrid blood?" "Where did Marius come from? Was he in the last movie?" "Why is Varga so opposed to Selene?" etc.

And third, why all the anachronisms? Apparently this is a modern-day movie. There are automatic weapons, modern cars, special UV-light bullets, etc. Yet when the vampires travel to the north, they use horses. Why horses? These are wealthy, elite vampires. Why not take some snowmobiles? Or helicopters? What advantage do horses offer, other audience?

I was really bored in much of "Underworld: Blood Wars." The final battle between werewolves and vampires was entertaining, but it wasn't enough to support a whole movie. Four stars out of 10.

Underworld: Blood Wars Director: Anna Foerster

Writers: Screenplay by Cory Goodman, Story by

Kyle Ward and Cory Goodman, based on characters created by Kevin Grevioux, Len Wiseman, and Danny McBride. Production Companies: Lakeshore Entertainment,

Sketch Films

Cinemark Cinema 4, located in the Spring Town

Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. For more information, visit

www.cinemark.com and enter the ZIP code 79720.

R, 1 hr. 31 min., Action/Horror, Jan. 6, 2017

Patriots Day

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

In April of 2013, the historic Boston Marathon was devastated when two bombs fashioned from pressure cookers exploded near the race's finish line, killing three and injuring about 264 more. "Patri-



ots Day", the latest in a series of movies based on real events starring Mark Wahlberg, explores the events surrounding the bombing.

Wahlberg takes the role of Boston Police investigator Tommy Saunders, currently "in the doghouse" at work for some undisclosed unprofessional behavior. Saunders is assigned to work the annual Boston Marathon, despite an injured knee, as the last installment of his penance. Kissing his wife Carol (Michelle Monoghan) goodbye, Saunders heads down to the marathon route, and stations himself near the finish line. Meanwhile we see vignettes of various other people going about their daily routines: Patrick (Christopher O'Shea) and Jessica (Rachel Brosnahan), a young couple; MIT officer Sean Collier (Jake Picking) and some MIT grad students. And Dzhokhar (Alex Wolff) and Tamerlan (Themo Melikidze) Tsarnaev, a pair of relatives who seem to be building bombs. After the bombs go off, there is a lot of chaos with Saunders running around trying to help. And then the investigation kicks into gear. A lot of the star power in this movie is on the side of law and order. Police Commissioner Ed Davis is played by John Goodman; Watertown police sergeant Jeffrey Pugliese by J.K. Simmons; and FBI Special Agent Richard ter Andersson) and Lena (Clementine Nicholson), DesLauriers by Kevin Bacon. Jimmy O. Yang plays Dun Meng, a young Chinese national carjacked by "Underworld" has some nice visuals. There are the bombers; and Melissa Benoist plays Tamerlan's wife Katherine Russell.

After I saw "Patriots Day," I wondered (as I do with all real-life movies I see) just how accurate it is to the events it purports to portray. The results on "Patriots Day" are a little disappointing. Apparently Wahlberg's character is fictional. One site I ran across in my research describes him as "an invented character, a composite of police officers who were at the finish line when the two bombs went off and later aided in the manhunt" (www.bostonglobe. com). The same site suggests that the firefight between the Tsarnaevs and police may have been a bit Hollywood-ized for the movie. The author of the article, one Mark Shanahan, wrote "I don't recall reading about a half-dozen pipe bombs being thrown," but acknowledges that Pugliese, who was at the scene, said "I think it's pretty accurate." It seems to me that the explosions shown in the movie would have been front page news had they occurred in reality, so where does that leave us? Maybe? Perhaps director Pete Berg took a few liberties with reality? It's hard to tell four years after the fact.

One thing that Berg and Wahlberg are great at is taking a real-life situation and milking it for drama and emotion. One memorable scene involves the body of an 8-year-old child. Investigators required that the body be left on the street where he fell until the next day. A lone Boston police officer was assigned to guard and stand vigil over the body, and the image of him saluting as the young corpse was taken away the next morning is heartrending.

The film adroitly humanizes the victims and shows the malfunctions of the bombers. We see Colthan offering a meaningless visual element to the lier flirting with MIT grad students and planning for a date at a country music concert before his encounter with the bombers. We see Tamerlan alternately expressing love for, and browbeating and haranguing Dzokhar. The bomber's relationship starts strong and devolves throughout the movie to the point where they're openly fighting.

I enjoyed "Patriots Day." Whether it was 100 percent accurate or not, I feel certain I know more about the events surrounding the Boston Marathon bombing than I did before seeing it. Seven stars out

Patriots Day Director: Peter Berg

Writers: Screenplay by Peter Berg, Matt Cook, and Joshua Zetumer; Story by Peter Berg, Matt Cook, Roger saw both these movies at Big Spring's own Paul Tamasy, and Eric Johnson.

Production companies: Closest to the Hole Productions, Bluegrass Films. R. 133 min., Drama/History/Thriller, Jan. 13, 2017

Who's who in Howard County:

Joshua McKain



Where do you work? The Salvation Army Where were you born? Holland, Michigan What city do you live in? Big Spring, Texas Who are your family members? Rachel McKain, wife; Tucker, 3, son; Marlie, 2, daughter; and Landyn, 1, daughter

What hobbies, organizations, or clubs are you *involved in?* Remote control airplanes, jets, drones, cars, guitar, jogging, socializing, and Rotary.

What is your favorite book? The Bible What is your favorite TV show? Gold Rush,

Scorpion, MacGyver

Where would you visit if you could go anywhere? Bungalow over the water

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Business and Agriculture

HERALD SPRING

Do you have an interesting item for the Business and Agriculture pages? Call the Herald at 263-7331.

Page 4C Sunday, January 15, 2017

Tips and resources for filing your taxes

tarting soon, W-2 forms will be sent out for employees to file their taxes before the spring deadline. While it can be tempting to rush out and get your taxes done so you can get your refund sooner, your Better Business Bureau encourages taxpayers to take time and use caution when selecting a tax preparer you



can trust. It's important to avoid mistakes that could result in additional fees or even tax identity theft.

Unfortunately, identity theft is not the only thing to watch out for when enlisting the help of a tax preparer or tax software to file your taxes. HEATHER BBB receives thousands of Massey complaints from consumers against tax preparers every

In 2016, BBB received nearly 3,000 complaints against tax preparation businesses nationwide. Common complaints state that the tax preparer made errors in their return which resulted in fines and fees. Other complaints allege customer service, billing and contract issues.

BBB offers the following advice when searching for a tax preparer:

- Look for credentials. Ideally, your tax preparer should either be a certified public accountant, a tax attorney or an enrolled agent. All three can represent you before the IRS in all matters, including an audit.
- Don't fall for the promise of a big refund. Be wary of any tax preparation service promising larger refunds than the competition. Avoid any tax preparer who bases their fee on a percentage of the refund.
- Think about accessibility. Many tax preparation services only set up shop for the months leading up to the April 15 deadline. In case the IRS finds errors, or in case of an audit, make sure you are able to contact you tax preparer at any time of the
- Read the contract carefully. Read tax preparation service contracts closely to ensure vou understand issues such as how much it is going to cost for the service, how the cost will be affected if preparation is more complicated and time consuming than expected and whether the tax preparer will represent you in the case of an audit.
- Ask around. Ask family, friends or coworkers for recommendations on filing your taxes, whether it's through a CPA, tax preparation business or online tax service that allows you to file your own taxes. To find a BBB Accredited tax preparation business near you, go to bbb.org.

Tax season is also a busy time for identity thieves. Tax identity theft occurs when someone uses your Social Security number to get a tax refund, or even a job.

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), tax identity thieves get your personal information in a number of ways, including: going through your trash or mailbox; through emails asking for information, which appear to come from the IRS; First St., Big Spring employees at hospitals, nursing homes, banks and other businesses stealing data; and phony or dishonest tax preparers misusing confidential information or passing it along to identity thieves.

To lessen the chances of becoming a victim of tax identity theft, the FTC has the following advice, whether you choose to file your return yourself or use a tax preparer:

- File your tax return early. And do it before identity thieves have a chance to steal your information. Also, make sure your address is up-to-date so your W-2 doesn't get lost in the mail or end up in the wrong
- Use a secure Internet connection. If you file your return electronically, don't use unsecure, publicly available Wi-Fi hotspots.
- Shred documents. This includes copies of your tax return, drafts or calculation sheets you no longer need. The IRS recommends that most people keep three years' worth of tax returns in case of an audit. Keep hard copies and electronic files in a secure location.
- Check your credit report. To ensure your identity hasn't been stolen or compromised, go to annualcreditreport.com to get your free credit report.

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: 432-563-1880 or email: hmassey@permianbasin.bbb.org.

Thank you banner



Home Realtors was a recent recipient of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's "We Appreciate Your Investment in our Community" banner.

Public Records

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Big Spring Wayne Richard Buyce, 4042 Morningside Way, Canyon Lake

Ester Hilario Calderon, 1111 W. Fifth St. Big Spring

Vanessa Malu Calderon, 2600 Chanute Dr., Big Spring Raymond Carroll, 712 E. 17th St.,

Big Spring Gloria Cerna, PO Box 55, Lamesa Pedro Chavarria, 1408 E. Sixth St.,

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Big Spring Adela Juarez Hernandez, 908 NW

Matias Hernandez Jr., 620 E. 4th St., San Angelo

Kaleb Hill, 910 Baylor, Big Spring Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N. Texas #198, Odessa

Stephanie Ford Johnson, P.O. Box 483, Coahoma

Keith James Kochmick, 1003 Stadium, Big Spring

Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham Ave., Odessa Ruann R. Martinez, 1005 N.W. 2nd

St., Big Spring Heriberto Palafox Mora, 1311 Mobile

St., Big Spring Felicia Ornelas, 538 Westover No.

236, Big Spring Nicole Preston, 1605 E. 11th Place, Big Spring

George Anthony Robinson Jr., 1905 Wasson Rd. #14, Big Spring

Andy Rodriguez, 1904 Runnels Street, 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

Polly Ann Rusk, 4201 W. Highway 80, Big Spring

Stacie Lyanne Salas, 5102 Wasson Road, Big Spring

Shane Skaggs, 1 Courtney Place 301, Big Spring

Kendra D. Tatum, 412 S. Moss Lake Rd,, Big Spring

Joe Anthony Villarreal, 2206 Cecilia, Big Spring

Ricky Lynn Waltenbaugh, 538 Westover Road Apt. # 133, Big Spring Linda Cortez White, 6601 E. Robinson Rd., P.O. Box 429, Coahoma

Tamara Ruth Whitt, 3706 Connlev. Big Spring

Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. #28, Big Spring

Marriage Licenses

Gary Don Thigpen, 37, and Sefanie Minette Burns, 36, both of Stanton.

Ethan Wayne Pearson, 22, and Victoria Marie Bustamante, 22, both of

David Rylee Horton, 24, and Macy Elizabeth Murdick, 22, both of Big

Andrew Miguel Sorenson, 21, and Brittney Rose Cline, 19, both of Big

County Court Judgments

as prosecutor for all county court judgments)

(Note: The State of Texas is listed

Defendant: Tracy Patterson Offense: Criminal trespassing Sentence: \$100 fine, \$292 court costs, 20 days in jail. Date: Dec. 19, 2017

Defendant: Christopher Hinojos Offense: Possession of a controlled substance 3 to 28 grams Sentence: \$100 fine, \$352 court costs, 30 days in jail

Date: Dec. 19, 2017

Defendant: Danta Chavarria

Offense: Unlawfully carrying a weap-Sentence: \$100 fine, \$292 court costs, 20 days in jail.

Date: Dec. 19, 2016 Defendant: Jorge Melesio

Offense: Driving while intoxicated Sentence: \$750 fine, 180 days in jail. Probated 12 months. Date: Dec. 1, 2016

Defendant: Preston K. Alexander Offense: Assault causing bodily in-

Sentence: \$750 fine, 180 days in jail. Probated 24 month. Date: Dec. 20, 2016

Defendant: Joseph Martinez Offense: Resisting arrest, search, or

Sentence: Revocation of probation: \$500 fine, \$382 court costs, 17 days

Date: Jan. 5, 2017

Defendant:Stephen Randle Jones Offense: Driving with license invalid with previous conviction or suspension without financial responsibility

See PUBLIC, Page 5C

Permits

Jimmy W. Norman, 2510 Rebecca Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$8,934, Fee: \$55

Clovie Shannon, 506 Dallas St., structure (fence), Val: \$1,200, Fee: \$25 Joe Cavazos Jr., 3615

Connally St., res re-roof, Val: \$5,600, Fee: \$40 Jack Martin, 2107 Main,

res re-roof, Val: \$2,800, Fee: \$25 Frank Garza, 3211 Drexel Ave., res elec, Val: 0, Fee:

Rebecca Rawls, 2503 Central Dr., res plumb, Val: \$150, Fee: \$32

S.W. Pest Control, 2008 Birdwell Lane, res gas, Val: \$2,200, Fee: \$32 Mary Rawls, 510 Nolan

St., res re-roof, Val: \$10,000, Fee: \$60 Robert Brewer, 3301

Cornell Ave., res gas, Val:

\$1,200, Fee: \$32

Kelli Dawn Wigington, 2704 Crestline Rd., res reroof, Val: \$15,000, Fee: \$85 Gene Rutherford, 1218

Lloyd Ave., res HVAC, Val: \$2,500, Fee: \$45 Danny Eagle, 612 N.E.

Ninth St., res re-roof, Val: \$1,500, Fee: \$25 Craig Edward Frank, 1408 Runnels St., res elec, Val:

\$2,000, Fee: \$25 Leslie Kay Elrod, 1203 E. 18th St., res re-roof, Val:

\$4,600, Fee: 0 BDA Companies, 601 E.

Third St., com elec, Val: \$1,000, Fee: \$25 St. John Garcia, 1011 Stadium Ave., res re-roof, Val:

\$2,500, Fee: \$25 Margarita E. Palmer, 4204 Theo St., res re-roof, Val:

\$10,390, Fee: \$65 Jesse Cantu, 1616 Hard-

ing St., res re-roof, Val: \$13,290. Fee: \$80

Barraza, Laurie Merrily Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$7,300, Fee: \$55

Lisa Hoelscher Wright,

2000 Merrily Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$13,000, Fee: \$75 City of Big Spring, 113 E. Third St., sign, Val: \$1, Fee:

Isaac Martinez, 1009 E. 15th St., res re-roof, Val:

\$3,750, Fee: \$30 Olivia Gonzales, 1105 E. 11th Pl., com elec, Val: 0,

Joe G. Pickett, 807 E. 13th St., res re-roof, Val: \$5,000,

Fee: \$35 Marcelina R. Huante, 1301 Tucson Rd., res re-roof, Val:

\$6,500, Fee: \$45 W.D. Broughton, 1601 E. Sixth St., res re-roof, Val:

\$4,500, Fee: \$35 Chix Construction Inc., 500 Martin Luther King, res

Andrea Howard, Morrison Dr., structure (fence), Val: \$1,600, Fee: Beverly Sundy, 3603 Ham-

ilton St., structure (fence), Val: \$1,100, Fee: \$25 Buck B. Chappell Jr., 1200

Madison St., shed, Val: \$2,000, Fee: \$25 George Quintero, 4219

Dixon St., res elec, Val: \$1,000, Fee: \$25 Junior Barber, 1205 Goliad St., res gas, Val: \$2,800,

Fee: \$32 Beverly Shannon Brooks, 708 W. 16th St., res re-roof, Val: \$15,000, Fee: \$85

Hunan Restaurant, 1201 Gregg St., com re-roof, Val: \$10,000, Fee: \$60 Wand Robinson Roman,

2708 Coronado Ave., res reroof, Val: \$11,000, Fee: \$65

elec. Val: \$1,000. Fee: \$25 See **PERMITS**. Page 5C

EPA moves to ensure gas mileage standards

WASHINGTON (AP) The Environmental Protection Agency moved Friday to cement strict fuel economy requirements that force the auto industry to make new cars and trucks significantly more efficient, a decision that will be difficult for the incoming Trump administration to undo. The EPA said in late

November that it had completed a required midterm review of Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards put in place in 2012 and decided they should not be relaxed as requested by the auto industry. The move in the waning days of the Obama administration brought protests from congressional Republicans and automakers, which accused the agency of playing politics with a rushed determination.

Friday's action keeps in place pollution reduction targets for the years 2022-2025. That means the fleet of new cars will have to average 51.4 miles per gallon by 2025, up more than 18 mpg from the 33.2 mpg requirement in 2015, the most recent year avail-

Acting EPA Assistant Administrator Janet McCabe said the agency determined the technology is available to meet the standards. The re-



quirements are flexible and will automatically be reduced if consumers keep buying trucks and SUVs, she said. For example, when the standards were conceived in 2012, the fleet-wide mileage target for 2025 was 54.5 mpg. But because more trucks and SUVs are now being sold, that number was reduced to 51.4, the EPA said.

In 2012, gasoline was \$3.60 per gallon, compared with around \$2.35 currently. During several months last year, the SUVs and trucks captured a record share

of the market. At year's end nearly six of every 10 new vehicles sold were trucks or SUVs.

"You have to accommodate consumer choice," McCabe said. "The automakers need to have the standards represent what people are buying."

But the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, an industry lobbying group, said the standards rise quickly during the next eight years and will be difficult for companies to meet as America's shift toward trucks and SUVs

continues. "We have the technology, but if sales aren't there, we can't meet the standards," said Gloria Bergquist, spokeswoman for the alliance.

The industry has appealed to Trump for help. His transition team didn't respond to questions about the EPA's decision.

The public comment period on the standards ended Dec. 30. A decision 14 days later is unusually swift for government agency. Normally it takes months or years for regulatory decisions to be made, and an EPA decision wasn't required until April of 2018.

Bergquist said the alliance believes the decision was moved forward after Trump was elected. The group hopes to work out a compromise with Trump, who has railed against regulations that he calls unnecessary.

Republicans in Congress also weighed in, accusing EPA of shortcircuiting the evaluation process and making new vehicles more expensive. In a joint statement, the leaders of three key House committees suggested lawmakers would take action to reverse the EPA's ruling.

"For the sake of vehicle affordability and safety, as well as the health of the automotive sector, we need to make sure that the standards have been set at achievable levels, but EPA's rushed analysis falls far short," said Environment Subcommittee Chairman John Shimkus, R-Ill., Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Subcommittee Chairman Bob Latta, R-Ohio and Energy Subcommittee Chairman Fred Upton, R-Mich.

"If the EPA won't do its job and take a careful look at these regulations, then Congress will," they added.

McCabe denied that the requirements were rushed and said the standards give the auto industry certainty so it can make product plans. The EPA, she said, based its decision on robust data that shows the industry has many affordable ways to comply including direct-injection gas engines, hybrids and electric vehicles. The EPA estimates that the standards will reduce emissions by 6 billion tons by 2025.

PERMITS

Continued from Page 4C

Cross Fit Big Spring, 1011 E. 11th Pl., com elec, Val: \$1, Fee:

L.D. Spradling, 1709 State St.,

res HVAC, Val: \$3,500, Fee: \$45 Jeff Morris, 2900 Hunters Glen, res HVAC, Val: \$6,000, Fee: \$45

Jeffery David Morris, 1701 State St., res HVAC, Val: \$4,900,

Jeffery David Morris, 1313 E.

Sixth St., res HVAC, Val: \$6,100, Fee: \$45

Maria Galaviz, 2109 Main, structure (fence), Val: \$500, Fee: \$25

Metro PCS, 1009 Gregg, sign, Val: \$5,200, Fee: \$40 Brittany Nicole Pool, 3224 Drexel Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$10,117.32, Fee: \$65

Salvador F. Diaz, 3612 Dixon St., res re-roof, Val: \$3,485, Fee: \$30

Vaquero Ventures, 801 W. Interstate 20, com ZBA variance, Val: \$50, Fee: \$50

Pramukhhari Big Spring LLC, 306 N.E. 12th St., com ZBA variance, Val: \$50, Fee: \$50

William Luis Kincade, 1703 Kentucky Way, res addition, Val: \$85,000, Fee: \$400, res plumb, Val: \$2,500, Fee: \$43, res HVAC, Val: \$6.500, Fee: \$45

PUBLIC

Continued from Page 4C

Sentence: \$250 fine, 180 days in jail. Probated 12 month.

Date: Dec. 6, 2016

Defendant: Rodolfo Hernandez III

Offense: Evading arrest or detention

Sentence: Revocation of probation: \$500 fine, \$292 court costs, 43 days in jail. Date: Dec. 19, 2016

Defendant: Selena Bustamante

Offense: Possession of marijuana less than 2 oz. Sentence: \$250 fine, \$352 court costs, months probation. Deferred adjudication.

Date: Dec. 20, 2016

Defendant: Alejandro Vallego Offense: Criminal mis-

chief \$100 to \$750 Sentence: \$500 fine, 180 days in jail. Probated 12 month. Date: Dec. 2, 2016

Defendant: Luis G. Con-

Offense: Driving with a suspended license with previous conviction or suspension without financial responsibility

Sentence: \$500 fine, \$244 court costs, onetime payment.

Date: Dec. 29, 2016

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Forrest Seth Madry and Michael S. Madry aka Michael Schell Madry, life estate

Grantee: Ellis Ray Smith Property: A tract in NW/4, Sec. 34, Blk. 32, T-1-N, T&P Railroad Co. Survey

Date: Jan. 5, 2017

Grantor: Mary Webb fka Mary Cahoon

Grantee: Dustin Clark Property: Tract 1: The west 2-acre tract in S/2 Sec. 27, Blk. 32, T-1-N, T&P Railroad Co. Survey;

Tract 2: A 4-acre tract in S/2 Sec. 27, Blk. 32, T-1-N, T&P Railroad Co. Survey

Date: Jan. 6, 2017

Grantor: Randy Ramirez and Jo Ann Ledesma Grantee: Steve Girby

Property: Lots 10, 11, 12, Blk. 2, Wrights Airport Annex

Date: Jan. 6, 2017

Grantor: Connie W. Key and Frankie Key Hazelwood, independent coexecutors of the estate of Dorothy E. Key, deceased Grantee: Frankie Key

Property: W/40 feet Lot 2, and E/40 feet Lot 3, Blk. 4, Washington Place Addi-

Date: Jan. 9, 2017

301 E. 24th

Hazelwood

Grantor: Darrell Aberegg, individually and as independent executor of the estate of Harold Abregg aka Harold L. Aberegg

Grantee: Norma Ortiz-Diriam

Property: Lot 10, Country Livin' Subdivision in NE/4 Sec. 44, Blk. 31, T-1-N, T&P Railroad Co. Survey

Date: Jan. 10, 2017

Grantor: Danny Harland dba Danny Harland Homes Inc.

Grantee: J. Hopper Homes Inc.

Property: Surface estate only of Lot 5, Blk. 2, Jordan Park Estates #1

Date: Jan. 11, 2017

Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Liens

Grantor: Big Spring Hospitality LLC

Grantee: Vaquero Big Spring Partners LP

Property: A 0.714-acre tract in Lot 2, Blk. 1, Payal Hotel Enterprises Inc. Subdivsion

Date: Jan. 5, 2017

Grantor: Chuck Rosenbaum

Grantee: Jason Daniels Property: Lot 13, Blk. 8, North Belvue Addition Date: Jan. 6, 2017

Grantor: J. Hopper Homes

Grantee: Gabriel and Nadia Eleda

Property: A 0.468-acre tract in NW/4 Sec. 1, Blk. 32, T-1-S, T&P Railroad Co. Survey

Date: Jan. 9, 2017

Grantor: Timothy Lynn Blackshear and Terri Lyn Blackshear

Grantee: Rangeland Properties LLC

Property: A 5-acre tract in Sec. 13, Blk. 33, T-1-S,

T&P Railroad Co. Survey Date: Jan. 9, 2017

Grantor: Stacy Averette aka Stacey Irene Averette aka Stacey Irene Saucedo and Albert Saucedo

Grantee: Chuck Rosen-

Property: Lot 33, Blk. 6, Monticello Addition Date: Jan. 10, 2017

Grantor: Nola Jones individually and as administrator of the estate of Martha Anderson Peugh, deceased

Grantee: Fred Lopez Property: Lots 1 and 2, Blk. 85, Original Town of Big Spring

Date: Jan. 10, 2017

Grantor: Mark Barber Grantee: Brookelynn P.

Property: Lot 2, Blk. 26, College Park Estates Date: Jan. 10, 2017

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News in brief

Report: FAA not prepared for major air traffic outages

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Aviation Administration still isn't prepared to handle major air traffic control outages despite promises to update plans, a government watchdog said Friday.

The FAA has been working on new contingency plans since a fire at control facility in the Chicago area in 2014 led to widespread flight cancellations and delays for more than two weeks, according to a report by the Department of Transportation's inspector general.

Progress has been made on new contingency plans for transferring responsibility for high-altitude air traffic from one facility to another in the event of a disruption. But the work isn't complete in part because of a lack of controller training for handling such emergency events, the report said. For example, controllers told investigators they hadn't received refresher training on procedures to be used when radar isn't available.

The FAA has yet to develop new plans for loweraltitude flights and planes in the immediate vicinity of airports.

Besides the Chicago fire, the FAA experienced major computer outages at control centers near Los Angeles and Washington that handle high altitude air traffic. The outages caused cancellations and delays, and forced some pilots to take alternative routes far out of the way. In October 2015, record rainfall and widespread flooding forced the shutdown of a regional control center located at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport in Texas and affected operations for more than two weeks.

"These disruptions continue to highlight the limited flexibility and the lack of redundancy and resiliency of FAA's current air traffic control infrastructure," wrote Matthew Hampton, assistant inspector general for aviation audits.

The inspector general's report revealed extensive problems encountered during the outages. For example, although FAA policy requires that batterypowered transceivers be tested weekly to ensure that they are in a state of readiness, the "powerfail" phone at the Austin facility didn't work. Also, two portable emergency transceivers interfered with each other and could not be used to transmit simultaneously. The transceivers also didn't have headset capability, making communication difficult due to loud background noise. There were no working flashlights.

Takata pleads guilty, to pay \$1B for hiding air bag defect

DETROIT (AP) — Takata Corp. has agreed to plead guilty to a single criminal charge and will pay \$1 billion in fines and restitution for concealing a deadly defect in its air bag inflators.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Detroit announced the plea deal on Friday.

Takata will pay a \$25 million criminal fine, \$125 million to individuals who were injured by the air bags and \$850 million to automakers that purchased the inflators. The U.S. district court in Detroit has appointed attorney Kenneth Feinberg to distribute restitution payments.

Payments to individuals must be made soon Money due to automakers must be paid within five days of Takata's anticipated sale or merger. Takata is expected to be sold to another auto supplier or investor sometime this year.

US stock indexes mixed in afternoon trading; oil slides

(AP) — U.S. stock indexes were mostly higher in afternoon trading Friday, giving up some of their gains from earlier in the day. Banks and other financial companies were up the most as investors sized up earnings reports from several big lenders. Utilities were the biggest laggard. Energy stocks were down as crude oil prices headed lower.

KEEPING SCORE: The Dow Jones industrial average slipped into the red after a strong start. It edged down 3 points to 19,887 as of 1:22 p.m. Eastern Time. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 5 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,275. The Nasdaq composite index added 33 points, or 0.6 percent, to 5,580. Small-company stocks rose more than the rest of the market. The Russell 2000 index jumped 13

points, or 1 percent, to \$1,374.

BANKING ON EARNINGS: Three major U.S. banks reported quarterly results early Friday that beat Wall Street's forecasts. JPMorgan Chase added 36 cents, or 0.4 percent, to \$86.60, while Bank of America gained 6 cents to \$22.99. Wells Fargo rose 61 cents, or 1.1 percent, to \$55.11. A jump in bond yields and interest rates also helped give lenders a lift. Regions Financial gained 26 cents, or 1.8 percent, to \$14.69.

SLASH & GAIN: Pandora Media climbed 7.4 percent after the streaming music company issued a strong revenue forecast. The company also said it will cut about 7 percent of its jobs to reduce costs. The stock added 89 cents to \$12.89.

THANKS, UNCLE SAM: DexCom vaulted 29.8 percent after the medical device maker said Medicare has decided to cover a continuous blood glucose monitoring system it makes for diabetes patients. The stock picked up \$20.13 to \$87.74.

Italy under pressure over regulation of Fiat Chrysler

BERLIN (AP) — Italy has come under pressure over how it regulates Fiat Chrysler, which Germany and the U.S. accuse of using software that can allow some diesel engines to emit more pollution than legally permitted.

The European Union's executive branch said Friday it is following up on German complaints against Italy.

German Transport Ministry spokeswoman Svenja Friedrich noted that Fiat Chrysler had refused to meet German authorities over the issue, and Italy had canceled a "mediation" meeting with the European Commission scheduled for the end of the month.

"We urge the EU Commission to insist on a new appointment in the near future," Friedrich said. The Commission said Friday that it has repeatedly asked the Italian authorities to come up with convincing explanations on the emissions of the model and is continuing its efforts.

The Commission has a limited role in emissions regulation and is seeking to act as a go-between for

In the EU, each nation's regulators have the responsibility of enforcing the rules on companies, but they may be more or less stringent.

Carmakers can choose the EU country where they want their cars tested for emissions controls. Because the emissions criteria are set for the bloc as a whole, approval in one country means that type of vehicle can be registered in any of the other 27 member states as well.

The comments come a day after the U.S. government accused Fiat Chrysler of failing to disclose software in some 104,000 vehicles of its pickups and SUVs with diesel engines that allows them to emit more pollution than allowed under the Clean Air

The use of such software has come under extra scrutiny since German automaker Volkswagen admitted to using them to cheat on diesel emissions tests in the U.S.

Fiat Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne has denied wrongdoing in response to the U.S. Probe.

Vilsack leaving USDA early, no Trump replacement named

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary Tom Vilsack left the Agriculture Department a week before his tenure ends and before President-elect Donald Trump has chosen his replacement.

Vilsack, who has led USDA for eight years and was President Barack Obama's longest-serving Cabinet secretary, told employees in an email that Friday is his final day. The email did not say why he was leaving early. He has said he wants to remain involved with agriculture after leaving government, but has not detailed those plans.

As Vilsack leaves the department — aides said Friday morning that the former Iowa governor had left the building and was boarding a flight to his home state — some in farm country are worried that agriculture may be a low priority for the new administration. It is the only Cabinet position Trump has not moved to fill, yet rural voters were key to delivering him the presidency.

"When that individual is named, he or she will be

at a tremendous disadvantage, in terms of getting up to speed on all this department does," Vilsack said in a statement, noting he was confirmed on Obama's first day in office.

Farm-state lawmakers in Congress say they are eagerly awaiting the decision.

"We brought him home," Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts, the Republican chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, said Thursday of delivering on Trump's win. "Farmers, ranchers and small town America brought him home. So obviously they'd like to see a secretary of Agriculture that would be their champion. That hasn't occurred yet. So we hope it will."

According to exit polls conducted for AP and television networks by Edison Research, about 17 percent of voters in this year's election were from small cities or rural areas, and 62 percent of them said they voted for Trump. But Trump has little agricultural history, and spoke rarely about farm issues on the campaign trail.

Holiday sales report shows boost in 2016

NEW YORK (AP) — A stronger economy helped boost holiday sales both in stores and online this season, but department stores continued to struggle as habits shift. Sales rose 4 percent to about \$658.3 billion, ac-

cording to The National Retail Federation. That beat a forecast for a 3.6 percent boost. Online sales alone rose 12.6 percent to \$122.9 billion, topping a forecast for growth of up to 10 percent. "Retail mirrors the economy," said National Retail Federation President and CEO Matthew Shay.

"And while there might have been some bumps in the road for individual companies, the retail industry overall had a solid holiday season and retailers will work to sustain this in the year ahead." The report is partly backed by a Commerce Department report also showing sales increases in

December, notably in auto buying and online shopping. The National Retail Federation bases its report on data from the Commerce Department. The holiday season is a crucial period of retailers because it accounts for as much as 40 percent of a

retailer's annual sales. Sales of health and personal care items rose 6.7 percent, while furniture sales rose 4.8 percent, and clothing sales rose 2.5 percent. Electronics sales de-

clined 2.3 percent. The biggest downturn came from department stores, with a 7 percent decline. Many department stores are still grappling with increased competition from online shopping sites, such as Amazon.com. Last week, Macy's said it would shutter 68 stores after a disappointing shopping season

where sales fell 2.1 percent at established stores in November and December. It also cut its full-year profit forecast.

Millennials are falling behind their boomer parents

SOUTH MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin (AP) — Baby Boomers: your millennial children are worse off

With a median household income of \$40,581, millennials earn 20 percent less than boomers did at the same stage of life, despite being better educated, according to a new analysis of Federal Reserve data by the advocacy group Young Invincibles.

The analysis being released Friday gives concrete details about a troubling generational divide that helps to explain much of the anxiety that defined the 2016 election.

Millennials have half the net worth of boomers. Their home ownership rate is lower, while their student debt is drastically higher.

The generational gap is a central dilemma for the incoming presidency of Donald Trump, who essentially pledged a return to the prosperity of post-World War II America.

The analysis also hints at the issues of culture and identity that divided many voters, showing that white millennials — who still earn much more than their blacks and Latino peers — have seen their incomes plummet the most relative to boom-

Andrea Ledesma, 28, says her parents owned a house and were raising kids by her age.



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volunteer-driven Chalet Resale Shop in downtown historic Big Spring. Experience working with volunteers and retail is a must. 40-hour work week. Resumes may be submitted and applications may be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. 2nd St., between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. No phone calls. The Chalet Resale Shop is a non-profit thrift store benefiting the patients of Big Spring State Hospital and is owned and operated by the Volunteer Services Council.

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La Quinta Inn @ 1102 W. I-20 is hiring for housekeeping. Apply in person. NO phone calls.

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Jill, 1708 Nolan.

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Management Position: Wild West Wingz is currently looking for experienced management personal. Strong kitchen skills with retail and management experience preferred. Updated Resumes can be sent to: 1506 East 4th Street, Big Spring, Tx. 79720 or apply in person from 2pm-4pm daily. No phone calls ac-

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Help Wanted

torch, and other hand tools. Employees must be able to perform repairs on all farm equipment including farm autos. Pay \$11.15 per hr. plus room, tools/equipment provided. Transportation and subsistence expenses to work site provided at completion of 50% of work plus return transportation at completion of contract, 3/4 work period guaranteed. Applicants contact State Workforce Agency, 501 S. Main St., #235, Big Spring, Tx 79720 Phone 432-263-8373 Job order #'s: TX3452619

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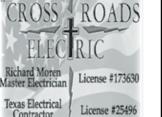
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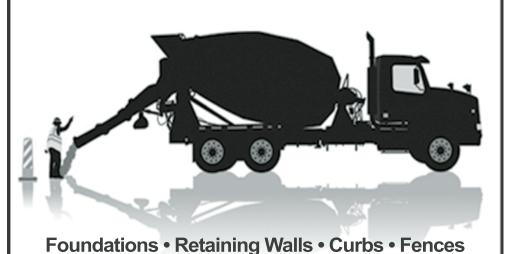
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CITATION BY **PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS:

TO ALL PERSONS INTER-ESTED IN THE ESTATE OF RONALD JESS GARCIA, Deceased CAUSE NO. P-14624

COUNTY COURT, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

The alleged heir(s) at the law in the above-numbered and entitled estate filed an Application to Determine Heirship in this estate on January <u>5</u>, 2017, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs of Ronald Jess Garcia, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application may be heard and acted on by said Court at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 A.M. on the first Monday following the expiration of ten days from the date of publication of this Courthouse, 300 Main Street, Big Spring, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above-mentioned time and place by filing a written contest or answer to the application should they desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention or response in writing with the County Clerk of Howard County, Texas, on or before the above-noted day and time.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

ISSUE UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT at the office of the Howard County Clerk in Big Spring, Texas this 6th day of January, 2017

DONNA WRIGHT COUNTY CLERK, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

ANGIE WORLEY DEPUTY CLERK

#9276 January 15, 2017

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR EXCEPTION TO SWR 26/27 SURFACE COMMINGLING PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that Diamondback E&P LLC (RRC P-5 # 217012) is filing with the Texas Railroad Commission the following P-17 Application for the exception to SWR 26 and/or 27 to surface commingle oil and casinghead gas production from leases: Riley G 1807 8WA (DP #817762), Riley H 1807 8WB (DP #817761), Riley F 1807 8LS (DP #817760), Riley D 1819 4WB (DP

#814866), Riley E 1819 5WB (DP #814868), Riley B 1807 1WB (Lease ID #47522), and Riley C 1807 1WB (Lease ID #47498). All wells are in the Spraberry (Trend Area) Field

Public Notice

in Glasscock County, Texas. This application is for common separation, common storage and casinghead gas metering by allocation by well test. Production will be allocated by W-10 Tests. Any royalty or working interest owners or offset operators who have not received written notification, please consider this your Notice of Application. If you have objections to the issuance of this permit, you may submit a letter to P-17 Department, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711. Unless the Railroad Commission receives a protest to this application, the Commission may issue a permit within 21 days following the date of last publication.

#9268 January 8, 15, 22, & 29, 2017

P-14629 **CITATION BY PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To all persons interested in the Estate of Kenneth Patrick Harrison, Deceased, No. P-14629, in the County Court of Howard County, Texas.

Mercedes Harrison, Applicant in the above numbered and entitled estate filed on the 11th day of January, 2017, an Applicant for Dependent Administration and Determine of Heirship in the said estate and request that the Court determine who are the heirs of said Kenneth Patrick Harrison, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said Application may be heard and acted on by said Court after 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of 10 days from the date of publication of this citation, the same being the 23rd day of January, 2017, at the County Courthouse in Howard County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Howard County, Texas.

DONNA WRIGHT, COUNTY CLERK OF HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

By: Angie Worley Deputy

#9278 January 15, 2017

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By Steve Becker

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North dealer.

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↑AJ8 ♥KQ65

The bidding:

West South Opening lead — five of diamonds.

In many deals, a favorable result can be achieved simply by going through the motions. Thankfully, for those who appreciate the challenges the game offers, there are many other deals where going through the motions will not be good enough.

Consider this case from a regional team event. Both Souths wound up in three notrump after East had pre-empted in spades, and both Wests led a diamond. Both Easts won with the king and returned a diamond to South's queen.

A low club was then led toward dummy, both Wests rising with the ace and returning a third diamond to establish their suit. It was here that

At the first table, declarer was certain that West had the king of clubs, since it would have made no sense for him to take the ace on the first club lead rather than allow East the chance to win and return a third diamond. Afraid — correctly as it turned out — that West could win the next club lead and cash two diamonds to defeat the contract, South saw no choice but to play the A-K-Q of hearts and hope for a 3-3 split.

After the suit failed to divide evenly, South led a spade to the king, took a spade finesse, cashed the spade ace and finished down one, losing the last three tricks — a club, a diamond and a heart — to West.

At the second table, South also concluded from West's ace-of-clubs play that leading another club would be fatal. But he saw no advantage to test the hearts at this point. Instead, he took his three spade tricks first.

Superficially, this might seem to

make no difference, but in fact it made all the difference in the world. West had to find three diseards on the spades, and after letting go two low clubs, he was without recourse when the third spade was cashed. In practice, he pitched a heart, handing declarer four heart tricks and the contract. But had he decided to discard a diamond instead, South could then safely have conceded a club without trying the hearts, and the contract would still have been made.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

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Big Spring Little League will hold signups for 2017 season on Saturday. January 14th from 10AM - 3 PM at the Springtown Malll. Signups will also be held on Saturday, January 21st from 10 - 3 and Monday - Friday January 23 - 27 from 5:30 PM - 7PM with the final day being Saturday, January 28th from 10-3. Ages 4-16 can play. Cost is \$90 a child and a birth certificate is required. For more information contact Robert Smith at

(432) 816-8161 or Corey Wood at (432) 213-0427.



Tomorrow's Horoscope



HOLIDAY **M**ATHIS

Moon of Moving On

Maybe you already forgave. Forgetting, on the other hand, is a process that usually takes longer than speaking a pardon. The productive Virgo moon urges us to keep moving forward and creating new experiences -- because that situation that went bad in the past isn't worth depleting your serotonin over in the present.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's a new year, and that's only one of many good reasons to move the furniture, change the lighting, interrupt your routine and take on a new activity. Different will be better.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Emotional involvement is the enemy of objectivity. What does the stranger think? Ask and get a view of your situation from the outside. This is the best vantage for coming up with a solution.

GEMINI (May **21-June 21).** In artist Yoko Ono's famous White Chess Set. both players' pieces are white, making the opponent's arsenal indistinguishable. You'll create such a dynamic today and bring peace

to your group.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The world you desired can still be. Don't give up. Go back to square one and make sure that and all subsequent steps are checked off. Chances are you missed something simple that can be easily remedied.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've formed a kind of magic circle with a few others -- a space in which you've agreed to uphold the world of a game, which is very different from the world outside the game. Go out of your way to keep the sacredness of this today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The money you earn doing your favorite kind of work

is somehow sweeter. It seems as if it has a greater value than other money, and you'll spend it in a special way because of this,

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If the gift has strings attached, it's not a gift; it's a deal. Do you agree with the terms? More importantly, do you really know what they are? Implications are confusing. Don't let them stay implied. Get them stated.

SCORPIO (Oct. **24-Nov. 21).** Don't let that hypnotizing influence tempt you away from what needs doing. The work may be tedious, but it's also necessary. Get it out of the way. Once you commit yourself, it won't be so bad.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Because of your affectionate feelings, this person's face is your favorite art, and your soul dances to the music of his or her voice. It's an unrealistic experience, and that's precisely what's so good about it. **CAPRICORN**

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Success is a vague aim in and of itself.

It can mean many different things to many different people. Narrow it down. Better to have one task with "finishability" on your list than a collection of open loops.

AQUARIUS (Jan. **20-Feb. 18).** Consider that maybe the only thing standing between you and your joy is allowing yourself to feel it. The person who gave you the impression that happiness is a luxury had it all wrong.

PISCES (Feb. **19-March 20)**. Keep an open heart and mind to trivial matters. The fun, sad, seemingly inconsequential chatter you hear today will prove to be of more significance than you might have auessed. **TODAY'S BIRTH-**

DAY (Jan. 15). Whether or not you believe that there is an all-powerful and pervasive force that constantly creates the universe, you'll be mightily impressed by what's formed and forming in your part of it this year. Get vacation time in February; it will be unforgettable. Love has you changing something in June. Capricorn and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 9, 31, 2 and 29. **FORECAST FOR**

THE WEEK AHEAD:

The region of the sky referred to by the ancients as "The Sea" is home to constellations named for aquatic creatures, such as Cetus the whale, Hydra the water serpent and Delphinus the dolphin. Among the oldest recognized constellations in The Sea is Aquarius, named not for a creature from the water but for one whose job it is to bring the water via a cup or a similar vessel to those who need it and sometimes to those who don't want it at all. Aquarius is associated with ending draught but also with flooding, as in the annual flooding of the Nile. It is not surprising that nearly every star tradition (including Babylonian, Greek, Chinese and Hindu traditions) embraces a mythology around the Water Bearer, as our very livelihood as a species relies on

To align cosmi-

our access to -- and

from -- H2O.

sometimes our refuge

cally with the sun's passage into Aquarius this week, one might consider one's own relationship to water. Do you need to drink more of it? Is there something you can do to help others have clean water, too? And what are you drinking out of (let's hope not a plastic water bottle that will take anywhere from 400 to 1,000 years to decompose)? Fortune will favor the hydrationally

responsible! **CELEBRITY PRO-**FILES: Rapper Pitbull fashioned his stage name after a breed of dog with a bite that locks on and won't shake loose, and the Capricorn superstar (with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame to declare it) proves as tenacious and as controversial as his namesake. The Grammy winner was born when both the sun and Venus were in Capricorn; his business sense is innate.

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Annie's Mailbox ®

Bitter Ex

Dear Annie: My wife and I were married 17 years ago, and although we did divorce, we still remained on friendly terms.

she made the mistake of accidentally letting me know she had called her ex-husband (whom she married before me) for advice on something. Then she admitted that through all these

Recently, however,

years, she has remained in contact with her ex-husband -calling him and, when visiting her daughter's home, meeting up with him. She said she maintains this for the sake of her kids (the youngest is

in his early 30s) and she doesn't see the big deal of it or why it should bother me. If I don't like it, too bad.

again this Christmas, and once again, I got to spend it alone. It bothers me that she betrayed me, keeping their relationship a total secret all these years and then telling me it was none of my business, even when we were married. She has always done what she wants and gotten whatever she wants, and I have had to accept it because I loved

Am I wrong to feel the way I do? Should I just ignore the pain I feel inside and go on as if nothing happened? I'm ready to wash my hands of her entirely. Please, I need some type of answer. -- Betrayal

There's no use crying over spilled milk, especially if it's milk that's long been sour. Why torture yourself thinking about things your ex-wife may have done? Yes, there should be no secrets between spouses, and she should have disclosed her contact with her previous Answer to previous puzzle

1/14/17

husband to you back then. I'll grant you that. But she is your

ex-wife now, and clinging to anger at her is about as useful as shooting yourself in the foot. You're holding yourself hostage to bitterness and pain. Set yourself free. And when you're ready to start dating again, find a partner who is happy to spend the holidays with you.

Dear Annie: You were right to urge "Krissy Kringle" to go to her new boyfriend's office party even though his lawyer colleagues are "serious, rude and unpleasant." You might have suggested that she think about some topics of conversation in advance. Her boyfriend could have given her some basic information about the people who were going to be there. Nothing creepily private -- she doesn't want to come across as a stalker -- just some basics. By cheerfully saying some simple things, she could have mildly flattered them and opened avenues of conversation. For example, "Oh, you

founders? What was it like in the beginning?" "Oh, you and your wife are from Minnesota? My father's family is

from there." You also might have suggested that she keep her appearance and voice lowkey and her comments brief. In situations such as this, it's wise to open a conversation and then listen. Lawyers love to tell stories and are usually highly entertaining. And finally, people in similar situations should remember that they and everyone else there are human beings, with pasts and stories, with needs and hopes. I'm sure she was a welcome addition to the party, as her boyfriend knew in advance; that's why he invited her, which is a good sign. -- Friendly Lawyer in Idaho

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@ creators.com. To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators. com. COPYRIGHT 2017 CRE-ATORS.COM

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might find.

ACROSS 1 News crawl

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- **19** Key to some fast exits
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Newsday Crossword SATURDAY STUMPER by Lars G. Doubleday

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5 Easy-on outfit

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 - separator 14 Literary villain
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She saw him

her so.

Dear Betrayal:

Don Draper and 'Mad Men' archive land at University of Texas

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The last America saw of Don Draper, he was meditating on a Pacific hillside, imagining one of the most iconic ads in television history.

What's left of the flawed protagonist of "Mad Men" has now gone to Texas.

Show creator Matthew Weiner and production company Lionsgate have donated the "Mad Men" archive — including scripts, drafts, notes, props, costumes, digital video and reams of research materials that went into creating the show's richly detailed presentation of the American 1960s - to the University of Texas' Harry Ransom Center humanities library.

Weiner, who also wrote and directed many episodes, said he donated the archive to the Ransom Center because he couldn't stand the thought of the material being dispersed at auction or lost forever.

"There is a record here of mid-century America that digs so deep," Weiner said. "It would have been sad to let that go."

The donation was scheduled to be announced Thursday.

Weiner chose the Ransom Center as the resting place for a show about Madison Avenue advertising professionals almost by chance. He was in Austin to attend a film festival when a visit to the Ransom Center's "Gone With the Wind" exhibit inspired him to donate the "Mad Men" archive for preservation and research.

The "Mad Men" collection from its 2007-2015 run starring Jon Hamm and Elisabeth Moss includes a selection of costumes and props. They include Draper's terms of re-employment letter (meticulously typed in a size of font typical of the time), Betty Draper's medical file, advertising poster boards, rolodexes full of phone numbers, and even a fictitious "Star Trek" episode that one of the show's characters had hoped to get produced.

Boxes of research materials show how deeply show writers dug to preserve an authentic feel, even before the first episode was aired. "Look books" of period fashion and style were laid out for each character, home and office design, with details from the average kitchen toaster to re-creating a checkbook or men's suits. Magazines of the times were scoured to research the news and lan-



In this Monday, Jan. 9, 2017 photo, Steve Wilson, Curator of Film at the University of Texas' Harry Ransom Center, arranges artifacts and props from the television show "Mad Men" on the Texas campus, in Austin, Texas. Included in the donation are boxes of scripts, drafts and notes, props, costumes, digital video and reams of research materials that went into creating the show's richly-detailed presentation of the American 1960s.

guage of the era, such as when the word "groovy" would first be used

"We would take things from the Sears catalog, not just the cover of Vogue," Weiner said.

Kevin Beggs, Lionsgate television group chairman, said "Mad Men" is more than a great show. "It is part of American television history, a groundbreaking classic worthy of the scholarly research the Ransom Center supports."

If the collection holds any secrets about the characters or stories, Weiner said they reside in the rough drafts, rewrites, screen tests and Weiner's own notes that show how episodes or seasons evolved before they aired.

"It often didn't start the way it came out. You will get to see the origin of everything, from what a character was supposed to be like, to how a story was originally supposed to work. It's all there," Weiner said.

Weiner's personal notes also reveal production

battles, such as his yearslong efforts to be allowed to use Beatles music in the show, or archive news footage of CBS news anchor Walter Cronkite covering the 1969 moon landing.

"My argument was, my show is fake until I get a Beatles song in there," Weiner said.

Steve Wilson, the Ransom Center's film curator, said it will take about a year to catalog the entire collection. Some pieces will be put on display and the collection will be available to researchers and the university's radio, television and film students.

Weiner wants the students and researchers to see all the work behind the show, including the burps and missteps that went into crafting the final prod-

"Artists have traditionally hidden the long road of mistakes," Weiner said. "When you see a finished work, it can be intimidating. Showing all the brush strokes hopefully is very encouraging to people."

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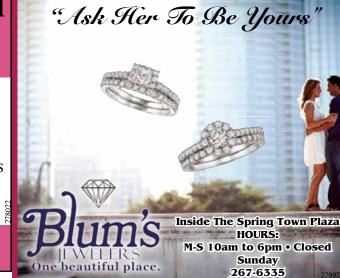
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