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BIG SPRING HERALD

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2017

VOLUME 112, NUMBER 407 COPYRIGHT 2017 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

United Way allocates agency funding

By SANDRENA KONING
Staff Writer

Hard work paid off on Thursday night for over a dozen local non-profit organizations. Allocations of the 2016 United Way Campaign were distributed to the 15 area agencies during the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County's annual meeting held at the Hotel Settles.

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year," said Andrea Barr, 1st Vice President of the United Way board in her annual report. "One of my primary duties has been overseeing the Allocations Committee. This committee's main purpose is the listen to the needs and goals of our partner agencies and then make recommendations to the board for the specific allocation amount."

Campaigning efforts began on Sept. 26 and ran through the middle of November. Although the local United Way didn't raise the \$330,000 they were aiming for, the

"It has been an exciting and fast-moving

See **UNITED**, Page 3A

Senior night



Tony Claxton/www.claxtonphotography.com

It was Senior Night at the Big Spring vs Snyder basketball game Friday. The Big Spring Steers varsity team has four seniors — two players and two managers/trainers. Pictured from left are: Jeremiah Rushin, Kaitlyn Mathews, Stacey Hernandez, and Rene Villa. To read more on the Steers' game, see Page 6A.

Ready, set, go!



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

A crowd gathers for the annual Run 2 Love 2 Run which was held Saturday morning at top of the State Park. Put on by Permian Basin Events, funds from Saturday's event will be donated to CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) of West Texas

Commissioner to discuss resolution in opposition of Texas Senate Bill 2 Monday

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Howard County Commissioners will consider signing a resolution in opposition to Texas Senate Bill 2 and revenue caps when they meet Monday.

Under the proposed bill filed by state Senator Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston, city and county governments could not raise taxes above 4 percent before triggering a rollback election. Currently the rate is at 8 percent.

According to Kathryn Wiseman, the bill will increase pressure on the already stretched budgets of local governments.

Wiseman said the real issue is unfunded mandates. With each legislative session, the state continues to place more rules and regulations on local entities without any funding to help implement those requirements. These unfunded

mandates are forcing a larger burden on the local tax payer to pay for them, Wiseman said.

As an example, Wiseman said the state requires the county to have an indigent defense fund. In 2016, the county spent \$228,000 providing for legal representation for indigent residents. This year, the state has issued only \$29,000 to assist with the program.

"We want to remind our legislatures that as they continue to make laws and regulations while not providing funding, the citizens are the ones that pay for their decisions," Wiseman said.

In September, Howard County Commissioner approved a slight tax break — one of the few taxing entities that didn't raise taxes.

Commissioners will meet at 2 p.m. and should head into closed session to discuss personnel considerations.

See **COUNTY**, Page 3

Commissioner Bailey to speak at next Republican Club meeting Monday

Howard County Commissioner Craig Bailey will speak at the Howard County Republican Club Monday.

Bailey will present an update on important issues facing Howard County. The meeting begins at

noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Members will meet at 11:30 for lunch.

Anyone interested in local government is invited to attend. For more information call: Bo Fryar 432-270-8513

To reach us:
Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Find us online at:
www.bigspringherald.com



A look back at the Big Spring Symphony

HERALD photo /Roger Cline

Cellists Madeline Garcia and Marissa Merritt play during the Big Spring Symphony's "Winter Wonderland" concert Feb. 4 at the Municipal Auditorium.

For the whole story and more pictures, see the "Life" page, 1B.



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Obituaries

Flora Salazar



Flora Salazar, 82, of Big Spring, went to be with her heavenly Father Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2017.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017, at the Nalley-Pickle and Welch Rosewood Chapel with a vigil service starting at 7 p.m.

Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, 2017, at the Holy Trinity Catholic Parish with Father Sam Matthiesen and Father Frank Chavez officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Flora was a Certified Nurse's Aide starting at Malone and Hogan Hospital and retiring with Scenic Mountain Medical Center after 40 years. Upon retiring, she enjoyed volunteering with RSVP and most recently at Canterbury Retirement Center and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. She was very much involved with her family who will miss her tremendously.

Survivors include her sister, Mary Salazar; brother, Joe Salazar and wife Cruz; and sister-in-law, Gina Salazar, all of Big Spring; seven nieces and nephews who were like her children, Debbye Val Verde and husband Larry, David Salazar and

wife Sheila, Tony Salazar and wife Michelle, Denise Salazar and husband Marty Deanda, all of Big Spring, Brenda Nack and husband Peter of Baltimore, Md., Lisa Williams and husband Mark of Midland, and John Salazar; several great-nieces and great-nephews; and honorary family member Liz Baquera.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father, Isabel and Catarino Salazar; sisters, Juanita and Inez Salazar; brothers, Tim and Frank Salazar; and sister-in-law, Ruth Salazar.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to the Howard/Glasscock Counties Relay for Life, www.relayforlife.org; or the Oblate Madonna Residence (retirement home for Oblate priests), 5722 Blanco Road, San Antonio, Texas, 78216.

Pallbearers will be Marty Deanda, Peter Nack, Michael Salazar, Tony Salazar, Jordan Williams, and Mark Williams.

Honorary Pallbearers are Sophie Deanda, Aaron Patterson, Beth Salazar, Elyse Salazar, Gavin Salazar, William Salazar, Alana Wegner, and Laura Williams.

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.

Paid obituary

Robert W. "Bob" Brock



Robert W. "Bob" Brock, 83, of Big Spring died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2017, at his home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017, at the First Baptist Church with the Rev. Dudley Mullins and the Rev. Mark Lindsey, officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, 2017, at Nalley-Pickle and Welch

Funeral Home.

He was born March 17, 1933, in Haskell, Texas, to Robert L. and Lamiza Brock and married Joan Grand Jan. 2, 1953, in Portales, N.M.

Bob served in the United States Army with the 25th Armored Division from 1953 to 1955, serving in Korea. He moved to Big Spring in July of 1955 and worked for Tarbox and Gossett Ford Motor Company for 11 years before purchasing the dealership in 1966. He operated Bob Brock Ford Motor Company, adding the Lincoln Mercury franchise in 1967 and

the Nissan franchise in 1987, until selling the dealership in July 2012. Bob had been a member of East Fourth Street Baptist Church for 62 years.

Survivors include his wife, Joan Brock; one son, Rondel Brock and wife Sherry; and one daughter, Kim Weeks, all of Big Spring; six grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; one sister, June Bowen of Lubbock; and one brother, Jimmy Don Brock and wife Barbara of Amarillo.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert L. and Lamiza Brock; three brothers, Lonnie Brock, Ben Brock, and Mabry Brock; one sister, Lela Pettit; two nephews; and one niece.

The family suggests memorials to the Alzheimer's Association, Greater West Texas Chapter, 4400 N. Big Spring St., Suite C-32, Midland, Texas, 79705; the American Heart Association, 10900 B Stonelake Blvd., Suite 320, Austin, Texas, 78759; or to the Wounded Warrior Project, P. O. Box 758541, Topeka, Kansas, 66675.

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

Golden Plains, and Home Health. She married Rick Purser on May 23, 1992, in Big Spring. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and she was a Baptist.

She is survived by her husband, Rick Purser of Big Spring; two sons, Jace Purser of Big Spring and Christopher Gammons of Amarillo; one daughter, Angela Watkins of San Angelo; one granddaughter, Ashly Danielle White of San Angelo; and one grandson.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Geneva Cottongame Morton and Austin Morton.

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

Debra Purser



Debra Purser, 64, of Big Spring died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2017, at her home.

Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Hillcrest Baptist Church with Elwin Collom officiating.

She was born Oct. 14, 1952, in Big Spring. She graduated from Howard College School of Nursing. She worked at the Veterans Administration Medical Center for 12

years. She also worked at Parkview Nursing Home,

Take Note

• A free beginner's genealogy class will be offered Sunday, Feb. 26, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Borden County Event Center in Gail. Those attending should bring materials for taking notes and a laptop; wifi will be available for research. Also, bring information about births, deaths, and wedding dates of your parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, if known. Contact Lisa Mahler at bordencohistory@gmail.com to reserve a seat or to ask a question.

• Parkplace Retirement Living, will hold a Valentine's Dance Friday, Feb. 17, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Big Spring Senior Center, 100 Whipkey Dr. There is no charge to attend and the dance is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

• The Howard County Fair needs volunteers to cross stitch squares for the annual quilt fundraiser.

The theme for this year's quilt is "It's a Jungle Out There." You can pick up a square from Cheryl Joy at the Heritage Museum during regular hours Tuesday through Saturday.

Call Suzanne Markwell at 214-

256-1674 for more information.

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center will be recognizing Heart Health month with the Healthy Heart, Healthy You event at Hotel Settles.

The event is February 16 and tickets are \$20 per person or \$250 for a reserved table of 10. There will be a free health fair from 4

p.m. to 6 p.m.

To purchase tickets stop by Scenic Mountain Medical Center or call Amanda Duforat at 432-268-4699.

• 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 permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

Cost is \$8 per person.

Meetings

• The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

BIG SPRING HERALD
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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **AUGUSTINE RIVERA**, 27, of 1111 Sycamore St. was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• **COURTNEY RAE DUGAN**, 32, of 315 Morgan St. was arrested on a warrant for bail jumping/failure to appear.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 500 block of South Aylesford Street, the 700 block of East 15th Street, the 1400 block of Lincoln Avenue, and the 1500 block of Tucson.

• **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of Fourth and Gregg streets, in the 900 block of South Main Street, and in the 800 block of West Interstate 20.

Weather

Today: Sunny. Highs in the lower 90s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds around 10 mph shifting to the west 15 to 20 mph after midnight.

Sunday: Windy. Much cooler. Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s. Northeast winds 20 to 30 mph with gusts to around 45 mph.

Sunday night: Colder. Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of rain. Lows in the mid 30s. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph.

Monday: Colder, Rain. Near steady temperature in the upper 30s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 80 percent.

Monday night: Rain. Near steady temperature in the mid 30s. Chance of rain 80 percent.

Tuesday: Cloudy with rain likely. Highs in the upper 30s. Chance of rain 70 percent.

Tuesday night: Decreasing clouds. A 40 percent chance of showers. Lows in the mid 30s.

Wednesday: Not as cool. Sunny. Highs in the mid 50s.

Wednesday night: Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s.

Thursday: Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.

Thursday night: Clear. Lows around 40.

Friday: Sunny. Highs in the lower 70s.

AP/National Weather Service reports for Borden, Scurry, Martin, Howard, and Mitchell counties, including the cities of Gail, Snyder, Stanton, Big Spring, and Colorado City.

Support Groups

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

• Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

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

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UNITED

Continued from Page 1

organization did raise \$170,000 for their 2016 campaign. The money was distributed to the following agencies; American Red Cross of West Texas, Buffalo Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America CWJC, Spring of Siloam, CASA of West Texas, Council on Aging/Meals on Wheels, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, Emergency Services, Chaplains Corps, Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest, Isaiah 58, Northside Community Center, The Salvation Army Corps, The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club, Victim Services, West Side Community Day Care, and the YMCA of Big Spring.

"We were under goal, the economic slump really took its toll on the community and what people are able to donate," said Meghan Bias, executive director of the local United Way.

The United Way's target goal has been \$330,000 for the past five years. Bias said the board plans to use this year as an opportunity to rally and do something different that reaches a larger audience in the community.

"I have so many ideas to grow constituency and spread the word about all of the amazing things we all do," Bias said. "Through the use of social

media, good marketing, and some new fundraisers, I hope to see more of our community become involved in our cause.

"I believe that we must help one another, we should all be stewards of our community and all the people that live here," Bias continued. "You never know when it might be you who needs help."

Other official business during the annual meeting included swearing in the new executive board: Gale Pitman - President, Andrea Barr - 1st VP, Kenda Jones - 2nd VP, Linda Adams - Treasurer, and Donna Wright - Secretary. Board member responsibilities officially took effect at the beginning of the year.

Additional information is available



At left, officers for the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County are sworn in for upcoming year. At right, pictured are Raul Benvides, last year's United Way board president, and Gale Pittman, current board president.



Courtesy photos

at the United Way office located inside the Big Spring Economic Development building (Big Spring Chamber of Commerce), 215 West Third St.

or call the office at 267-5201.

Contact Staff Writer Sandrena Konig at 432-263-7331, ext. 234.

Church shootings leave holes in the fabric of Charleston

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — The bullet holes in the fellowship hall at Emanuel AME church have been patched, but the holes in the fabric of life in Charleston remain.

Sharonda Coleman-Singleton is absent from Goose Creek High School, her exhortations still ringing in the ears of girls who ran track for her. At the library, there's no one to give just the right guidance, to find the right book, as Cynthia Hurd did. The strong voice of

Emanuel's pastor-legislator, Clementa Pinckney, does not resound, here or at the capitol in Columbia.

Dylann Roof, killer of these worshippers and six others at one of the South's first African-American churches, is headed to death row after an agonizing and therapeutic trial. But if justice has been served, the community has not moved on; the shots that rang out on June 17, 2015, still resonate.

They are amplified by the unfinished case of a

white North Charleston police officer charged with murder in the death of a black driver. Efforts go on to build a museum to tell the stories of more than three centuries of African-American struggles, and to place this community's recent suffering in context.

And at Emanuel, churchgoers still assemble for Bible study on most Wednesdays, vowing that love and faith will prevail.

The girls who ran

track for Singleton called her Mom.

Sometimes, she wore sweatpants under her skirt to make it easier to get from her job as a speech therapist at the school to the track. She sat her chair in the middle of the track so she could keep an eye on everything. And she worried as much about grades and character as she did sprint times and long jump distances.

"She would take you in like you were her daughter, then she would teach you how to be a lady," said senior Alexis Simmons.

Singleton's death stung the close-knit team. "There were so many days at the end of practice I'm wiping away tears and holding girls on my shoulder because they think they have to do this for her and they forget they have to find themselves too," said Doris Simmons, who was hired as an assistant coach after Singleton's death (she is not related to Alexis Simmons).

The team had its best season ever just before Singleton was killed. They had even more athletes make the state meet the year after her death. And Goose Creek High has managed to make one of Singleton's

dreams come true — the school will host a track tournament next month in Singleton's honor.

"She loved on them, and it is good to see it pour back out," Doris Simmons said. "We all know this could have went the opposite way. You would have a couple of girls rebelling because of the pain, and you just see these girls just wrap their arms around them."

After 27 years working with the library system in her home county, leaders promoted self-professed book nerd Cynthia Hurd to one of their most important branches, the cozy building now named the Cynthia Graham Hurd/St. Andrew's Regional Library.

Graham's brother Malcolm said she may have become a librarian for her love of books, but over time, her love for people blossomed too.

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Charlie Rene McCalister, 64, died Saturday. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park. Connie Barnett, 66, died Wednesday. Funeral service will be at 3 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

David Mack "Cheese" Garcia, 2, died Wednesday. Vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Debra Purser, 64, died Thursday. Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Hillcrest Baptist Church.

Jose Hilario, 48, died December 3, 2016. Funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. today at Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

Cold front expected to roll in Sunday but snow unlikely

By **ROGER CLINE**, Staff Writer

For the past few days, the "Weather" listings on Page 2 of the Big Spring Herald have contained the intriguing tidbit, "...chance of rain or snow..." in the vicinity of Monday night.

Abbi Duval, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Midland, said those reports — which are National Weather Service products — might paint the wrong picture.

"We're not looking at a chance for snow,"

Duval said. "If we're looking at a chance for snow, we're looking more at the northwestern Permian Basin along with southeast New Mexico, but not necessarily around here."

Duval said the presence of snow in the reports is due to the NWS meteorologists trying to include every possibility.

"We're really just accounting for the chance that you may see just a little bit of snow, but we're really not expecting it around here," she

said. "That would be more north."

The NWS is reporting a cold front Sunday, with high temperatures dipping into the mid 40s Sunday to near 40 Monday and Tuesday. Low temperatures are expected to be in the mid 30s Sunday and Monday nights, dropping to the lower 30s Tuesday night.

The mercury will start rising again Wednesday, when highs in the mid 50s are expected.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

The court is expected to resume in open session at 3:30 p.m. Howard County Commissioners will meet in the courtroom on the third floor of the courthouse.

Also listed in the agenda, commissioners will

- Consider accepting and oil and gas lease proposal.
- Consider financial and personnel matters.
- Consider a revised grant plan and permission to bid additional work.
- Hear a presentation by Howard County Sheriff Stan Parker on the department's annual profiling status report.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 235.

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Opinion

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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263-0008.

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

• KATHRYN WISEMAN,

COUNTY JUDGE — Office:

From Viet Nam with love

Dr. Paul Bennett of Sulphur Springs was an Army dentist in Viet Nam. Occasionally

he worked on civilians. Just a few weeks before leaving Viet Nam, he had a Vietnamese civilian as a patient. Her name was Thuan.

“I met him in 1972,” says Thuan. “It was at a hospital in Saigon. He worked on my teeth.”

Both found each other fascinating and they had a couple of meals together. They became friends. Paul left Viet Nam in 1972, but brought memories of Thuan home with him.

“I really couldn’t get my mind off this lovely young lady I met just before I left Viet Nam,” says Paul, who established a dental practice in Sulphur Springs after leaving the Army. “I dated, but couldn’t get serious about anybody because I was thinking of Thuan.”

Thuan had worked for some

American companies in Viet Nam and came to the US in 1975. “When I stepped on American soil for the first time, that was the happiest day of my life,” she says. She got a job with a bank in California.

“I couldn’t get this man off my mind,” says Thuan. “I thought about him all the time for years. I decided to try to find him and one



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

They were married three months later and last year celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary.

of my friends told me that I could look him up through the American Dental Association. So that’s what I did.”

Paul said he had a call one day his office. “My receptionist told me there was a call from someone named Thuan. I never even knew that she got out alive. I talked to her and she said she would be

flying to Phoenix. I told her that if she would go on and fly to Dallas I would take her out to dinner and we could get caught up on each other. So when she walked off the airplane I said ‘I lost you one time I’m not going to lose you again.’”

They were married three months later and last year celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary.

“We had a connection,” says Thuan. “I knew I was in love with him. He didn’t know it because I didn’t tell him. And he was in love with me and never told me. Then six years later we met and the feelings were still there. He could never forget about me and I could never forget about him.”

Thuan thinks she’s very fortunate. “When I moved here, the people were very kind to me. They immediately accepted me. I got my realtor’s license and went to work selling real estate and helping Paul in his office. I got to know many people. When we retired, I got invited to join all sorts of clubs and organizations.”

“We think we’re very blessed,” says Paul.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Joint library concerns

To the Editor:

My Fellow Citizens,

I am writing to express my concern over the possible closure, downsizing, or joint Howard College venture with our library. I recognize funding the library can be costly and there are concerns with regards to the building, but libraries are historically one of the most important buildings in any community. All libraries are public spaces dedicated to protecting access to information, promoting life-long learning, and upholding the democratic values of an informed populace—and these are just a few among many of the core components through which the American Library Association explain such institutions’ value.

For the Howard County Library in particular, an estimated 1,400 people a week pass through our library doors, and, in particular, the genealogy and microfiche areas are very popular. One of the most important parts of the library are the computer labs, which serve around 10,000 members of the community each year. Often, you can find a book club, art club, or a scouts meeting in the evening, as libraries take their shape from the community to which they belong.

My personal favorite is the Summer Reading Program, which encourages a life-long love of reading in the children of the county. I don’t know anyone who hasn’t benefited from this program, though some may see its personal contributions only indirectly.

One of my biggest concerns is that our library doesn’t have a full-time director, and, as a result, the library is going to lose its accreditation. This means that the library would be put on probation for three years, and if the library fails to meet any other standard, we will lose accreditation. This will result in the loss of state services such as the interlibrary loans, state grants, summer reading program, and TexShare, which is a research database provided to patrons free of charge. What does a shared director or joint library do to address these issues?

I am urging everyone to contact their county commissioners to voice your opinions.

The library is the heart and soul of our community, so please help me prevent such a valuable community resource from fading away. Together we can work to find solutions, but we must speak up before it’s too late.

Tammy DePauw
Big Spring, TX

LETTERS POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Form letters, letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@big-springherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers’ opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

DAILY PRAYER

Your love, Lord, brings peace and serenity to our hearts and minds.

Amen.

Granddads and hurrahs

Most grandfathers—with little or no provocation—are happy to expound with inflated views of their grandchildren.

One boast of a long-ago granddad caused guffaws as it blew believability to shreds. Proud of quadruplet grandsons—vaunted players on a championship football team—he went overboard with praise.

“These boys are tough,” he’d begin. His friends could complete the unchanging litany. “Each one is so tough he can whip the other three.”

This said, to be Jerry Jones the Grandfather these days would call for considerable tightrope-walking. And, to be his grandson, John Stephen Jones, wouldn’t be the easiest challenge, either.

Think of it from the standpoint of this 17-year-old. Within a period of 50 days, this Highland Park High School junior has been quarterback of a state championship football team, scored both touchdowns en route to a 17-6 win over Temple and named player of the game on offense. Whew! What can he do for an encore as a senior?

And consider these occurrences, all within a matter of weeks: First of all, he and his fellow Scots won the state football crown at AT&T Stadium, the world-renowned facility that fulfilled the dream of his grandfather. Then came Jerry’s induction into the

National Football League’s Hall of Fame. Finally, John Stephen’s coach, Randy Allen, received the NFL’s Don Shula Award, presented annually to the nation’s top high school coach.

I’ve never met the owner of the Dallas Cowboys, his son Stephen or his grandson. However, I’ll sign up with the millions of fans who recognize the Cowboys’ owner for his vision, business acumen and flair for keeping the pro game in the limelight. (That the Dallas NFL franchise is worth approximately 30 times what Jones paid for it says much.)

I have had the pleasure, however, of knowing Coach Allen since 1986—the same year he succeeded legendary Coach Gordon Wood at Brownwood High School and I became president of Howard Payne University a few blocks away.

What he does, says and believes reveal clearly who he is. I have never known a finer coach or a stronger Christian gentleman who redefines humility daily. He influences young men in far more important ways than winning football games.

As notable as his winning the Shula Award from the NFL this year was his winning the 2014 Grant Teaff Award from the National High School Coaches’ Association.

It acknowledges Christian character. Only two Texas coaches have ever won the Teaff Award. The other was the late Gordon Wood in 2000.

To achieve true greatness in life, the young Jones—already known for leadership skills immersed in humility—must glean the best lessons both from his family and from his coaches.

So doing, he can go far, NOT as the ultimate player, or even the ultimate citizen.

We’ve heard the term “greatest” used with abandon with all the folderol associated with Super Bowl LI. At Super Bowl VI when Duane Thomas played in the Cowboys’ 24-3 victory in New Orleans—he heard the word “ultimate” too many times. He doubted Super Bowl VI being the ultimate game. “If it is the ‘ultimate game,’ why are they going to play it again next year?.”

I’ll not describe anyone or anything as “ultimate.” What do I know?

Three men in hats come close, however. All are associated with “Big D.” Coach Allen wears a snappy Fedora, as did the legendary Tom Landry.

The other was late surgeon, Dr. Marvin Knight—every inch the tall Texan pacing the sidelines in his trademark Stetson. One of West Texas’ first orthopedic surgeons, he was still performing surgeries on players in his late 70s.

He spent “retirement years” on his sprawling spread near Muenster. Then, players came to him for surgeries at Muenster General Hospital.

That’s a whole ‘nuther story, worthy of detailing later. He, like late Dallas sportswriter Blackie Sherrod who wrote often about him, was an alumnus of Howard Payne University.

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



DR. DON NEWBURY

Oil Report

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Howard County

#2 Modern Flanagan, drill, El: NA
 Petey (Fusselman) Field
 5.80 miles southwest of Sand Springs
 A-1276, Section 24, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 10,000 feet
 Latitude 032.217265, Longitude -101.386260. Datum: NAD 27
 530' FWL, 467' FNL of 320-acre lease
 530' FWL, 467' FNL of the survey

#1AH Garrett-Reed Unit "37-48", drill horizontal, El: NA
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
 9.47 miles northwest of Big Spring
 A-336, Section 37, Block 33, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 10,000 feet
 Latitude 032.225360, Longitude -101.314522. Datum: NAD 83
 454' FNL, 787' FEL of 475.15-acre lease
 454' FNL, 787' FEL of the survey

#10SH Garrett-Reed Unit "37-48", drill horizontal, El: NA
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
 9.47 miles northwest of Big Spring
 A-336, Section 37, Block 33, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 10,000 feet
 Latitude 032.225354, Longitude -101.314557. Datum: NAD 83
 452' FNL, 817' FEL of 475.15-acre lease
 452' FNL, 817' FEL of the survey

#2HK Miller "41A", drill horizontal, El: NA
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
 8.70 miles north of Big Spring
 A-283, Section 41, Block 32, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 7650 feet
 Latitude 032.222835, Longitude -101.301363. Datum: NAD 27
 330' FSL, 800' FWL of 945.42-acre lease
 330' FSL, 800' FWL of the survey

#1HF Miller "41A", drill horizontal, El: NA
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
 8.70 miles north of Big Spring
 A-283, Section 41, Block 32, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 7200 feet
 Latitude 032.222822, Longitude -101.301420. Datum: NAD 27
 330' FSL, 750' FWL of 945.42-acre lease
 330' FSL, 750' FWL of the survey

#3HF Miller "41B", drill horizontal, El: NA
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
 8.70 miles north of Big Spring
 A-283, Section 41, Block 32, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 7220 feet
 Latitude 032.222847, Longitude -101.301307. Datum: NAD 27
 330' FSL, 850' FWL of 945.42-acre lease
 330' FSL, 850' FWL of the survey

#4HK Miller "41B", drill horizontal, El: NA
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
 8.70 miles north of Big Spring
 A-283, Section 41, Block 32, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 7660 feet
 Latitude 032.222929, Longitude -101.300934. Datum: NAD 27
 330' FSL, 1180' FWL of 945.42-acre lease
 330' FSL, 1180' FWL of the survey

#5HK Miller "41C", drill horizontal, El: NA
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
 8.70 miles north of Big Spring
 A-283, Section 41, Block 32, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 7660 feet
 Latitude 032.222941, Longitude -101.300878. Datum: NAD 27
 330' FSL, 1230' FWL of 945.42-acre lease
 330' FSL, 1230' FWL of the survey

KBSB completes Governor's Award project

Special to the Herald

Keep Big Spring Beautiful met Feb. 2, 2017. President Willia Ledford called the meeting to order. After the pledge, Judge Katherine Wiseman led the invocation. After reviewing the minutes, Jim DePauw gave the treasurer's report.

The Governor's Community Achievement Award project has been completed and mailed. The project is based on community leadership, public awareness, education, beautification, litter prevention, solid waste prevention and litter laws. Getting recognized by the GCAA earns a community state wide recognition. Thanks to the following members for their hard work: Teresa Darden, Debbie Wegman, Dottie Long, Liz Hafley, Peggy Skiles, Willia Ledford, and Lisa Brooks.

The Main Street Project is nearly completed. We will be planting Crepe Myrtles in a few weeks.

Jim DePauw gave a membership drive update. Memberships are really strong this year. Businesses and individuals are urged to join. Together we can do great things.

Eric Escamilla volunteered to help get students involved in Keep Big Spring Beautiful.

Our next meeting will be at noon on March 6, 2016. We are in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Visitors are always welcome.

Young Marines offering free smoke detectors for area military veterans

The Crossroads Young Marines are installing free smoke detectors for all Howard County veterans.

If you are a Howard County veteran and are in need of a smoke dectaoor, call 432-517-4791 with your name and address. The group also offers smoke detectors for the hearing impaired.

The project is sponsored by the Cross Roads Young Marines and the Northside Movement of Big Spring.

SMMC Healthy You is set for Thursday

Scenic Mountain Medical Center will be recognizing Heart Health month with the Healthy Heart, Healthy You event at Hotel Settles.

The event is Thursday and tickets are \$20 per person or \$250 for a reserved table of 10.

There will be a free health fair from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. To purchase tickets stop by Scenic Mountain Medical Center or call Amanda Duforat at 432-268-4699.

AARP Tax assistance 2nd session is Monday

Volunteers with the AARP tax assistance program will at Dora Robert Civic Center Monday from 8 a.m. to noon to assist residents with their federal income tax forms.

To receive help, please bring a photo ID, your Social Security Card and all tax information such as W-2s, 1099 forms, a 1095 form that shows you have health care insurance, and any other forms needed to determine income. Bringing a copy of last year's filing and paperwork is strongly recommended.

The service is free to the community. Volunteers are not trained to assist with more complex tax issues such as rental property, debt forgiveness, and foreclosures.

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Playoff bound

Steers clinch 3rd seed with win

By **MARISSA LOFTIN**
Sports Editor

The Big Spring Steers showed off their defensive skills Friday night and fought until the end to ensure their spot in the playoffs, beating the Snyder Tigers 51-33.

The first quarter was a slow offensive start for the Tigers, having only made 2 out of the 9 attempted field goals. Snyder struggled on defense as well, allowing the Steers to drain 3 three point shots within the quarter, bringing the score to 11-6 at the end of the first.

"We had to come out with the pressure on defense," said Nick Tyerman, Big Spring Steer head basketball coach. "Defense is going

to dictate everything and I think that led to a lot of our points tonight."

The second quarter was a different story for the Tigers, who outscored the Steers 12-4 during the period, including two back-to-back three point shots by sophomore Alonzo Wesley. Big Spring still held on, keeping the Tiger's lead over the Steers to only 3 points at the half.

The Steers came back into the third quarter with high energy, turning it up on defense. The Tigers had trouble setting up offensive plays and Big Spring was able to hold Snyder to only 6 points for the quarter, while the Steers scored 14.

"This is the rhythm and

See **STEERS**, Page 7A



Photo by Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring Steer John Ibanez, No. 14, rebounds during Friday night's game in the Big Spring Steer Gym. The Steers won 51-33 against the Snyder Tigers, clinching a playoff berth.



Courtesy photo by Jodi Mims

Forsan's Garrett Evans battles it out against a Christoval player Friday night. The Buffaloes won the game 67-45.

Buffaloes tie for 1st in district play

Herald Staff report

The Forsan High School varsity basketball team tied for first place in district conference with their defeat against Christoval Friday night with one game left to play in the regular season.

The Buffaloes walked away from the game against the Cougars with a 67-45 win in their pocket.

Bryce Hergert, who scored a total of 18 points for the game, had 10 points in the second quarter to push the Buffaloes to a 33-14 lead at the half.

Garrett Evans scored a total of 20 points for the night, with 12 of those points being in the 4th quarter.

The Buffaloes hit the court Tuesday against Winter Tuesday night in Winters. If both the Buffs and Cougars win their last game, the two will face each other Friday night to settle the tie.

Area Scores

Stanton, 48, Colorado City 44
Stanton (19-8, 6-3) — Tristan Graves 18, Reed Thomas 1, Austin Luna 2, Colby Gordon 8, Blake Snellgrove 9, Austin Fryar 4, Wes Ulmer 2, Sebastian Escamilla, 4.

Garden City, 63, Water Valley, 48

See **SCORES**, Page 7A

Astros determined to start fast after last year's fiasco

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros are still thinking about their terrible start to last season and are determined to start things off much better this year.

As the Astros prepare for the start of spring training, that 7-17 mark is still firmly in their minds. The Astros got it together after that awful month, but it put them in too big of a hole to dig out of and they just missed reaching the playoffs for the second straight season.

"We weren't expecting that bad start," general manager Jeff Luhnow said. "Nobody was, and once it happened people were a little but paralyzed (like): 'What do we do?'"

The Astros added Carlos Beltran, Josh Reddick and Brian Mc-

Cann this offseason and Luhnow thinks the trio of proven veterans will help Houston's young and talented core better deal with the ups and downs of a 162-game season.

"I think we have a better chance of surviving a downturn, because we know the downturns are coming," Luhnow said.

Luhnow was confident in his team last season, but believes the offseason additions make the Astros a much more complete team and he expects them to compete for the AL-West crown. The added depth will also give manager A.J. Hinch options if his starters struggle.

"A.J. is going to have more weapons," Luhnow said. "Last year Carlos (Correa) got off to a slow start, Colby (Ras-

mus) got off to a slow start, but those were regular players and there really wasn't anybody to take their spot. This year if someone gets off to a slow start, there's another player there and you can give him a shot."

Some things to know about the Astros as they open spring training:

NEW LOOK

Longtime catcher Jason Castro signed as a free agent with the Minnesota Twins and the Astros got McCann to waive his no-trade clause to be dealt to Houston. Beltran returns for his second stint with the Astros for what will be his 20th major league season. He is expected to get some time at designated hitter, but Hinch has said

See **ASTROS**, Page 7A

Texas Rangers head to spring after 'incomplete mission'



AP Photo/LM Otero, File

In this July 27, 2016, file photo, Texas Rangers starting pitcher Yu Darvish throws during the third inning of a baseball game against the Oakland Athletics in Arlington, Texas.

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers have been AL West champions in each of manager Jeff Banister's first two seasons, and their 95 wins last year were the most in the American League.

That is a lot to celebrate. But not nearly enough after another AL Division Series loss to Toronto and again coming up short of that elusive World Series title.

"I think that burns deeper than just the prospects of being good. You've got to have talent, but desire overrides a lot of that," Banister said. "Still burns deep. Incomplete mission."

Texas heads to spring training in Arizona five seasons removed from their only World Series appearances in 2010 and 2011.

Adrian Beltre goes into his 20th major league season only 58 hits shy of 3,000 in his career, and after winning his fifth Gold Glove last year. But the third baseman, who will turn 38 days after the opener, is still looking for his first World Series ring.

"We do have a team that can compete, obviously," Beltre said. "Find a way how to get it done. Not only get to

See **RANGERS**, Page 7A

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Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring Steer Dimas Garcia goes for the net during Friday's game.

STEERS

Continued from Page 6A

flow that we want to be in," said Tyerman. "That's what we have been looking for all year."

With Big Spring leading 29-24, both teams headed into the fourth quarter. The intensity was through the roof as the Steers tried to keep the game out of reach for the Tigers. The Steers out-

ASTROS

Continued from Page 6A

that Beltran still enjoys playing in the outfield and will get plenty of time there, too.

Along with Beltran, the Astros beefed up their outfield by adding Reddick and Norichika Aoki and parted ways with Rasmus, who hit just .206 in an injury-filled 2016.

"I think there's just a general buzz and a general excitement because we've added some names, we've add-

scored the Tigers a whopping 22-9. This brought the final score for the game to a 51-33 Steer victory. Junior John Ibanez had the hot hand late in the game, scoring 3 three-point shots in the fourth quarter alone.

"John really just kind of shut the refrigerator door on the game right there with all of those threes in the fourth quarter," Tyerman said.

Although this win confirms the Steers as third seed in their district, the team will still face off against the undefeated Wylie Bulldogs on Tuesday before their playoff match up with Burkburnett. Winning or losing the game at Wylie does not alter their place in the district standings.

Now, the Big Spring Steers will focus on next week and practice for the two tough games they have coming up.

"It's going to be about crisping things up and getting ready for the playoffs, and getting some reps in for those younger guys against a pressure team," Tyerman said. "Because that is what we are going to see against Burkburnett."

ed some credibility on the position player side to fill in some of the gaps on the guys that we have lost," Hinch said.

ROOKIES TO WATCH

Houston doesn't have any rookies expected to play big roles this season, but they do have some youngsters that they are hoping will take another step this season to help the team. The most important among them is third baseman Alex Bregman, the second overall pick in the 2015 draft who made his major league debut last season.

SCORES

Continued from Page 6A

Garden City (15-17, 11-0) — Ethan Goodwin 28, Seth Miller 12, Michael Wulff 11, Riley Eggemeyer 5, Jose Gallegos 3, Hagan Halfman 2, Cesar

Chavez 2.

Lamesa 86, Brownfield, 84, OT Lamesa (24-6, 5-4) — Dre Smiley 14, Buddy Williams 10, Jordan Derington 2, Jalel Edwards 22, TyQuail Maxwell 20, KeShawn Hunter 9, Nathan Cunningham 9.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 6A

the playoffs, but go all the way."

Even though Gold Glove-winning first baseman Mitch Moreland, All-Star center fielder Ian Desmond and Carlos Beltran all left in free agency, Texas may be in better shape heading into this spring than a year ago.

Cole Hamels and Yu Darvish, their two aces, are set to start a season in the rotation together for the first time. Sam Dyson had 38 saves after taking over as the closer in mid-May, while Tony Barnette and Matt Bush excelled in their MLB debuts as 30-something relievers.

Catcher Jonathan Lucroy is set for a full season in Texas after being acquired in an Aug. 1 trade. Carlos Gomez, who came even later than that after his release from Houston, hit eight homers in 33 games and now moves to center field, where he won a

Gold Glove in 2013 for Milwaukee.

"A lot of reasons that we have to believe that we are better, but that's all on paper," general manager Jon Daniels said. "It's got to play out on the field."

NEW LOOK

The Rangers expect to fill out their rotation with former Padres right-handers Andrew Cashner and Tyson Ross. Cashner, a Texas native, finished last season in Miami, while Ross was on the disabled list the rest of the year after starting the Padres' opener. Ross is still rehabbing from thoracic outlet syndrome surgery in October. Texas didn't re-sign veteran starters Colby Lewis or Derek Holland.

ROOKIE TO WATCH

Left-hander Yohander Mendez was the organization's top minor league pitcher last year and will likely be at Triple-A Round Rock, but made his big league debut last September.

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Opponents of Trump's travel ban look to score another win

WASHINGTON (AP) — Opponents of President Donald Trump's travel ban sought Friday to rack up another legal victory against the measure, believing they have the administration on the defensive after a federal appeals court refused to reinstate the order.

As government attorneys debated their next move, they faced unsympathetic judges on both coasts.

The San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sided Thursday with the states of Washington and Minnesota in refusing to reinstate the ban, opening the possibility that the case could advance to the U.S. Supreme Court. On Friday, a federal judge in Virginia also seemed inclined to rule against the administration in a different challenge.

For his part, Trump said Friday that he is considering signing a "brand new order" while the ban is held up in court.

Speaking to reporters on Air Force One as he flew to Florida for the weekend, the president said he expected his administration to win the legal battle over his original directive. But he said the White House was also weighing other alternatives, including making changes to the order, which suspended the nation's refugee program and barred all entries from seven Muslim-majority countries.

Trump says he might give travel ban a tweak or a makeover

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump says he might give his refugee and immigration travel ban a second try, either as a revision or as a new order, as he contends with an appeals court ruling that prevents the ban from being enforced.

Trump said he expected to win the legal battle over his original directive even though options were being considered by the White House.

Advisers were debating the next step in response to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling that upheld a restraining order on the travel ban. The White House directive had suspended the nation's refugee program and barred all entries from seven Muslim-majority countries.

A White House official initially suggested the administration would not ask the Supreme Court to overturn

that order. But chief of staff Reince Priebus scrambled to clarify to reporters that "every single court option is on the table," including a high court appeal or "fighting out this case on the merits" in a lower court.

Trump's executive order was hastily unveiled at the end of his first week in office. While the White House boasted that Trump was fulfilling a campaign promise to toughen vetting procedures for people coming from countries with terror ties, the order caused chaos at airports in the U.S. and sparked protests across the country.

Poland's PM suffered "nothing serious" in car crash

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Poland's Prime Minister Beata Szydlo is in stable condition and can carry out her government duties as "nothing serious happened to her" when her limousine was involved in a car crash, her spokesman said Saturday.

However, Rafal Bochenek said Szydlo, 53, was undergoing tests, including X-rays, and will remain "for some time" in a government hospital in Warsaw, where she was brought on her own request. He could not immediately confirm whether she will attend the weekly government meeting on Tuesday.

Dr. Andrzej Jakubowski, who first examined Szydlo after the crash Friday night, said she suffered some slight injuries and was in some pain, but that the prognosis was good. TVP INFO, a state TV program, said she suffered bruises to her chest from her seat belt.

The accident occurred shortly before 7 p.m. Friday in the southern town of Oswiecim, Szydlo's hometown, where she was arriving for the weekend.

Her car was in the middle of a three-car convoy going at some 50 kilometers (30 miles) per hour on the town's main road when a small Fiat car they were overtaking suddenly turned left and into her limousine, causing it to hit a tree, according to local police spokesman Sebastian Glen.

Trump hugs ally Japan after easing US-China tensions

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump, fresh off patching up ties with China, reassured Ja-

pan's leader Friday that the U.S. will defend its close ally. Together, the pronouncements illustrated a shift toward a more mainstream Trump stance on U.S. policy toward Asia.

Welcoming Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the White House with a hug, Trump said he wants to bring the post-World War II alliance with Japan "even closer." While such calls are ritual after these types of meetings, from Trump they're sure to calm anxieties that he has stoked by demanding that America's partners pay more for their own defense.

Abe, a nationalist adept at forging relationships with self-styled strongmen overseas, was the only world leader to meet the Republican before his inauguration. He is now the second to do so since Trump took office. Flattering the billionaire businessman, Abe said he would welcome the United States becoming "even greater."

He also invited Trump to visit Japan this year. Trump accepted, according to a joint statement.

Other leaders of America's closest neighbors and allies, such as Mexico, Britain and Australia, have been singled by their encounters or conversations with Trump.

Powerful quake kills at least 6 in southern Philippines

SURIGAO, Philippines (AP) — A powerful nighttime earthquake in the southern Philippines killed at least six people and injured more than 120, with officials combing through cracked buildings and nearby towns Saturday to check on the damage and other possible casualties.

The magnitude 6.7 quake roused residents from their sleep late Friday in Surigao del Norte province, forcing hundreds of people to flee their homes. The quake was centered about 16 kilometers (8 miles) northwest of the provincial capital of Surigao at a relatively shallow depth of 10 kilometers (6 miles), said Renato Solidum of the Philippine Institute of Seismology and Volcanology.

Nearly 100 aftershocks have been felt, officials said. Evacuation centers accommodated wary residents overnight, but many returned home Saturday, Welfare Secretary Judy Taguiwalo said, adding that officials were continuing to assess the damage

in Surigao and outlying towns.

Provincial information officer Mary Jul Escalante was being interviewed by ABS-CBN TV network when another aftershock struck. "Oh sir, there's an aftershock," she said. "I'm shaking, we have a phobia now."

At least six people were killed, mostly after being struck by falling debris and concrete walls, provincial disaster-response official Gilbert Gonzales said. At least 126 others were injured in Surigao, where the quake knocked out power and forced the closure of the domestic airport due to deep cracks in its runway, officials said.

Mexico gets Trump's trade ire. Japan and Germany, a pass

WASHINGTON (AP) — When President Donald Trump rages about unfair trading practices, he usually directs his ire at China and Mexico.

By comparison, Japan and Germany get off easy.

The focus on China is understandable: The U.S. trade deficit in goods with China (\$347 billion last year) is five times bigger than any other.

The U.S. trade gap with Mexico (\$63.2 billion), though, is smaller than the ones with Japan (\$68.9 billion) and Germany (\$64.9 billion).


Still, when it comes to Trump's rhetoric, "the volume on Mexico is three times as high," says Gary Hufbauer, senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

More whales strand in New Zealand, bringing total to 650

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — A new pod of 240 whales swam aground at a remote New Zealand beach on Saturday just hours after weary volunteers managed to refloat a different group of whales following an earlier mass stranding.

In total, more than 650 pilot whales have beached themselves along a 5 kilometer (3 mile) stretch of coastline over two days on Farewell Spit at the tip of the South Island. About 335 of the whales are dead, 220 remain stranded, and 100 are back at sea.

Department of Conservation Golden Bay Operations Manager Andrew Lamason said they are sure they're dealing with a new pod because they had tagged all the refloated whales from the first group and none of the new group had tags.



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PLAY ON!
A guest conductor, a teenaged pianist, and Big Spring's own orchestra team up for a night of beautiful music



By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

"If music be the food of love, play on!"
— William Shakespeare

All things considered, Big Spring is a fairly small town. But our mini-metropolis has its own symphony orchestra and last Saturday night, that noble band of musicians did us proud. Led by guest conductor Maestro John Giordano of Corpus Christi, and joined by teen piano prodigy Steven Dong of Houston, the orchestra drew the approval of the audience, which responded with two standing ovations.

"I feel amazing! The symphony sounded great. I think I really blended in with them. Overall it was just a great performance. I really enjoyed it," said Dong. "This is definitely my favorite piece of all time. I've worked a long time on this piece. I've already

been playing it for almost two years now, and every time I play it, it just makes my heart sigh in relief. It's a really great piece."

Dong said he's been practicing the piano for most of his life so far. "This is right now my 10th year going on 11," he said. "It's been a long workload, I guess, to get to this point, but it's really paid off. Most of the time I compete around Texas. I've been to places like Dallas, Austin...I'm here in Big Spring right now, this is my first time here. And I also compete around the Houston area. So it's kind of busy traveling around, but I really enjoy it, witnessing all the different hospitalities, the kindness. Here in Big Spring it's a really nice place. I really enjoy meeting new people and enjoying the company of people."

Dong said learning to make music is definitely worth all the hard work. "As of right now, I'm really serious about pursuing a music degree and hopefully becoming a concert pianist in the future because I really enjoy playing the piano. It's the world to me. It's my greatest passion, and I hope to continue that well into the future," he said. "I think at first the practice might not seem to help improve people, but over time, people become a lot better. It really pays off, all the practice that you put in each and every day. The hard work, it really does pay off over time. I'd en-

courage kids to practice hard, keep your head up, and you'll get through it."

Giordano said that he sees the orchestra as a labor of love, one that Big Spring is lucky to have. "I think, right, now...I don't even think, I know. With all of the turmoil that is going on around the world and the divisiveness that is going on in our country, it is time to turn away from that and turn to love. And there's absolutely no controversy about great music," he said. "It's food for the soul, it gives you peace and tranquility, you know, it lets people get lost in something that's very beautiful."

Music brings people together, he added. "If you notice, the musicians don't care. They don't know of anybody's politics, or race, or creed, whatever. They don't care. Nobody cares 'We're in it together to love great music and recreate great music,'" he said. "It's very important in our society and we need to do something to get the word out. Anyway, that's why I applaud this community for supporting and having an orchestra, especially of this quality. That's extraordinary."

In addition to the Rachmaninoff piece, the orchestra performed Brahms' "Academic Overture," Wagner's Overture from "Die Meistersinger," and Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet Overture-Fantasy."

At the end of the show, a standing ovation prompted an encore. "The audience really enjoyed it, and they also enjoyed our little quick encore," said the orchestra's music director and primary conductor, Keith Graumann. "It was 'Bugler's Holiday' by Lee Roy Anderson."

The Big Spring Sym-

phony Orchestra will next take the stage April 1, when they will be joined by Tejano musicians Little Joe y La Familia, John Ontiveros, and Gracie Acosta.

HERALD photos/Roger Cline
Clockwise from top: Guest Conductor John Giordano, center, takes a bow following the Big Spring Symphony's "Winter Wonderland" performance Feb. 4.; 16-year-old piano soloist Steven Dong of Houston speaks with audience members before the show; Dong plays Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini." The young pianist said the Rhapsody is his favorite piece to play; principal bassist Bill Delevan warms up before the concert; principal flutist Antonio Herbert, center, plays during the concert, surrounded by fellow orchestra members.



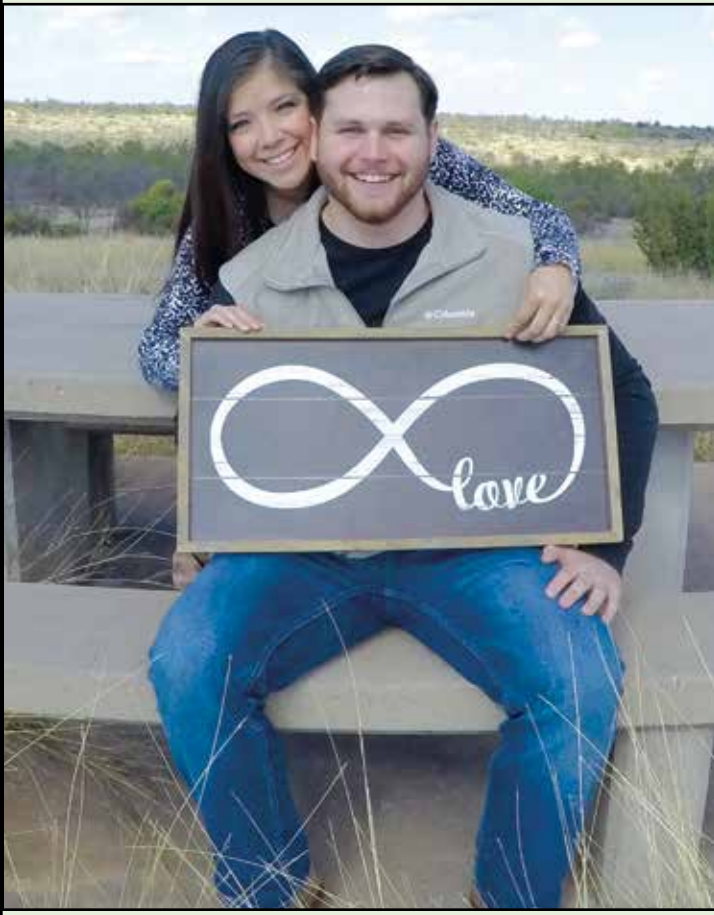
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Gomez and Hall announce engagement



Special to the Herald

Teresa Gomez of Post, Texas, and Ervey Gomez of Midland, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Yesenia Gomez, to Lanny Ray Hall, son of Mary Lou and Raymond Hall, both of Big Spring.

Yesenia is the granddaughter of M.P. and Janie Gomez of Post, and the late Victor and Maria Gomez of Chihuahua, Mexico.

Lanny is the grandson of Tommy and Faye Marvin of Big Spring, and Jesse and Ruby Hall of Graham, all deceased.

Yesenia graduated from Post High School in 2010 and from Howard College – San Angelo in May of 2015.

She is currently pursuing her RN license and plans to graduate in Fall 2017.

Lanny graduated from Big Spring High School in 2009 and from Angelo State University in December of 2014.

He is currently employed with TimeClock Plus in San Angelo.

Lanny surprised Yesenia by "popping the question" while the couple were on a cruise to the Keys and Bahamas in the summer of 2015. They plan to marry July 22, 2017, in Post.

Pape and Herrin exchange vows



Special to the Herald

Sarah Ann Pape of San Antonio and Zane William Herrin of Hebronville exchanged wedding vows on Oct. 29, 2016, at Rio Cibolo Ranch in Marion, Texas. The ceremony was officiated by Tom Bowerman of Sinton, Texas. A reception dinner and dance followed.

The bride is the daughter of Denise and Douglas Pape of San Antonio. She is the granddaughter of Elgin Pape and the late Shirley Pape of Harper, and Mary Jane Ahrens and the late Charles Ahrens of Buffalo, Texas.

The groom is the son of Nancy D. Herrin of Big Spring and Scot Herrin of Big Spring. He is the grandson of the late Patricia and Dan St. Clair from Mertzson, and Lynn and Bob Herrin of Austin, and the late Carolyn Cox Herrin.

Escorted by her father, the bride wore a lace-sleeved off-the-shoulder white wedding gown. The matron of honor was the bride's sister, Katie Connolly, of San Antonio. Bridesmaids were Crystal Wetz of Harper, Morgan Kunz of Fredericksburg, Kaitlyn Mandry of San Antonio, Megan Densmore of Wichita Falls, Raven Crawford of San Antonio, and Kenzie Krause of Comanche. The flower girl was Sarah's niece, Skylar Pape of Albuquerque, N.M.

The best man was Cody Jackson of Westbrook. Groomsmen were the groom's brother, Zach Herrin of Big Spring, Dillon Dixon of Weatherford, Foster Burchett of Hebronville, Brandon Rayzor of Weatherford, and Kody Willis of Lubbock. The ring bearer was Nate Urias of Midland.


The bride is a 2011 graduate of MacArthur High School in San Antonio. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Tarleton State University in 2014, majoring in Wildlife Management-Biology.

The groom is a 2011 graduate of Forsan High School. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Tarleton State University in 2014, earning his Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Wildlife Management-Production. He is employed as the assistant livestock manager for the East Foundation Ranch in Hebronville.


The couple enjoyed a trip to Riveria Maya in Mexico, and are making their home in Hebronville.

Howard County breakfast and lunch menus

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Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Cereal, cheddar cheese stick, apples, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Spaghetti, Italian bread, green beans, potato rounds, peaches, fruit cup, garden salad, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Pancake on a stick, grapes, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Crispy tacos, ranch beans, Mexicali corn, veggie cups, pineapple chunks, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Sausage breakfast pizza, apples, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, Tuscan vegetables, roll, fruity Jell-O, fruit cup, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Blueberry muffin, banana, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Barbecue chicken leg, roll, brown rice, carrots, garden salad, veggie cups, strawberries, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: PBJ Uncrustable, orange smiles, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Southwest chicken macaroni, breadstick, sweet fries, garden salad, twisted applesauce, fruit cup, milk.

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Pancake on a stick or cereal with buttered toast, chilled pineapple, fruit juice, milk, jelly; Lunch: Chicken bites basket with seasoned fries or Italian pasta salad with chicken or Salisbury steak or country chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, broccoli Normandy, Romaine spinach garden salad, chilled peaches, apples and oranges, brown gravy, wholegrain rolls.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Fruit parfait or cereal with buttered toast, fruit juice, seasonal fresh fruit, milk; Lunch: Toasted ham and cheese sandwich basket with Sun Chips or crispy chicken tenders salad or chili cheese fries or homestyle chili with crackers, mixed vegetables, Romaine spinach garden salad, fruit slush cup, bananas and oranges, wholegrain rolls.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Pancakes or oatmeal with cinnamon buttered toast, chilled mixed fruit, fruit juice, milk, syrup; Lunch: Meatball marinara sub basket with seasoned fries or grilled chicken Caesar salad or homestyle pizza (cheese/pepperoni/supreme) or loaded chicken fajita baked potato with roll, cheesy broccoli, Romaine spinach garden salad, blushing pears, oranges and apples, sour cream, cheese, green onions, chocolate chip cookie.

Thursday: Breakfast: Sausage biscuit or cereal with buttered toast, fruit juice, seasonal fresh fruit, milk, jelly; Lunch: Mini corn dogs basket with seasoned fries or loco Dorito chicken taco salad or beef taco pie or crisps with beans, chips and salsa, Spanish rice, Mexicali corn, lettuce and tomato salad, fruit slush cup, bananas and oranges, jalapeno, salsa, sour cream.

Friday: Breakfast: Chocolate muffin or cereal with cinnamon buttered toast, chilled mandarin oranges, Lunch: Mac Rib sandwich basket with French fries or chicken bites salad or hamburger or corn dog, seasoned fries, baked beans, carrot sticks with ranch, rosy applesauce, chilled peaches, apples and oranges.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Pancake wrap with yogurt or cereal with toast, fruit juice, mandarin oranges, fresh fruit, milk; Lunch: Chicken sandwich or grilled cheese sandwich with tomato soup, seasoned corn, garden salad, fresh fruit, milk.

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

Wednesday: Breakfast: Breakfast pocket, or cereal with toast, fruit juice, pears, 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: Dutch waffle or cereal with toast, fruit juice, mandarin oranges, fresh fruit, milk; Lunch: Hamburger or fish sticks with roll, waffle fries, California blend, garden salad, fresh fruit, milk.

Sands CISD

Monday: Breakfast: Cinnamon pull-a-parts, cheese stick, fruit, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Pizza, garden salad, vegetable medley, orange smiles, milk, fruit.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Breakfast muffin, yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, savory green beans, roll, strawberry cup, milk, fruit.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Pancake wrap, fruit, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Meat and cheese tostadas, Spanish rice, salsa, zesty cucumbers, refried beans, lettuce and tomato garnish, rosy applesauce, milk, fruit.

Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Frito pie, baby carrots, seasoned corn, salsa, lettuce and tomato garnish, peaches, cookie, milk, fruit.

Friday: Breakfast: Waffle, cheese stick, fruit, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Hamburger, hamburger garnish, coleslaw, sweet potato fries, apple slices, milk, fruit.

Big Spring Senior Center

Monday: Marinated chicken breast, broccoli rice casserole, carrots, diced pears, bread, milk.

Tuesday: Pork roast and gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, fresh oranges, rolls, milk.

Wednesday: Tamales with chili, Mexican beans and rice, chips and salsa, Jell-O with fruit, milk.

Thursday: Chicken strips and gravy, French fries, carrot raisin salad, peaches, bread, milk.

Friday: Chopped barbecue on a bun, pinto beans, potato salad, onion slice, cherry pepper, vanilla pudding, milk.

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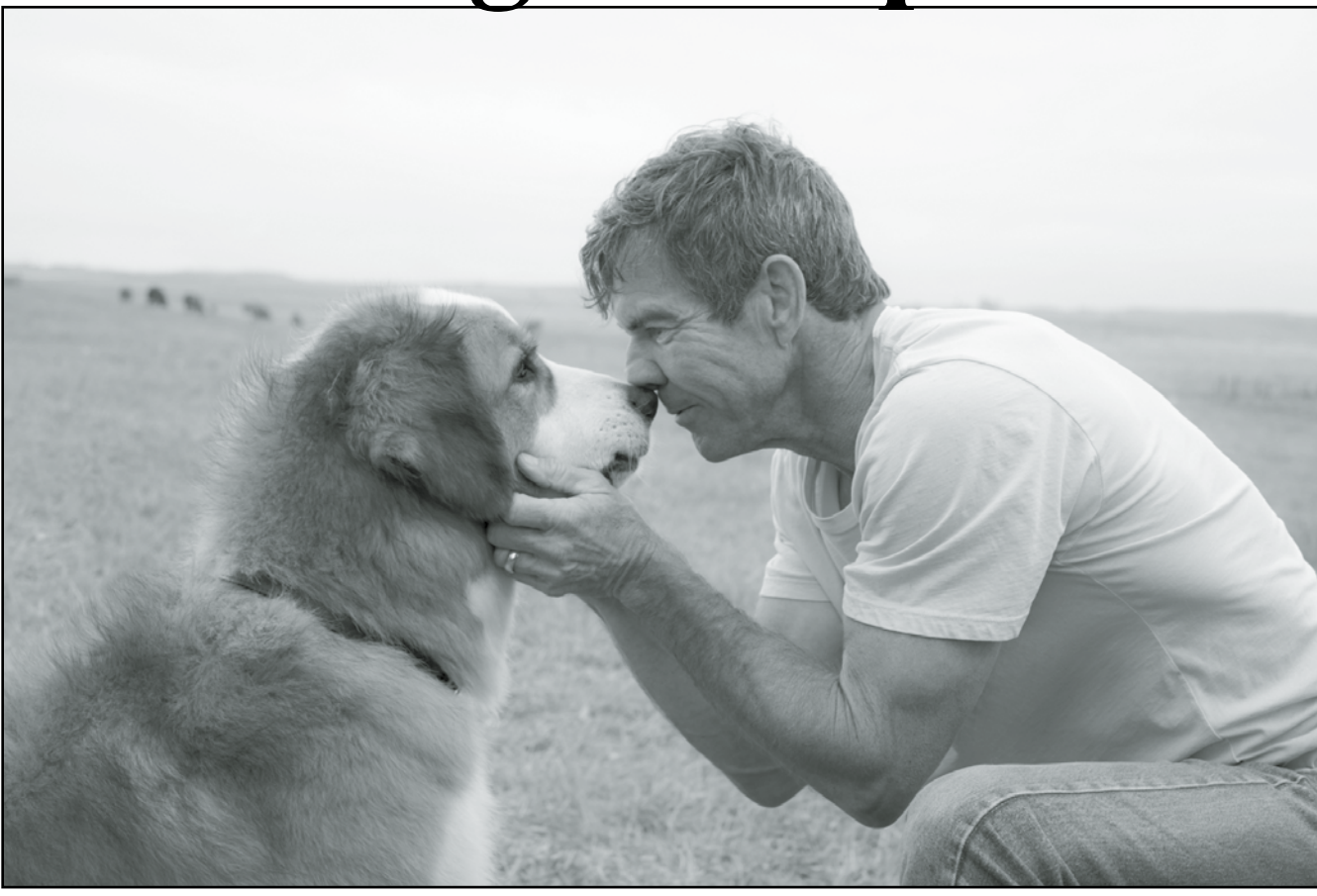
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Roger's Reviews: A Dog's Purpose



What does it mean to be a dog? Sure, there's the boring physical stuff: four legs, fur, sloppy tongue, wet nose. But going deeper, what is a dog for? What is its purpose?

Funny I should ask, because Roger's Review this week is about the new movie starring Dennis Quaid, Peggy Lipton, and Josh Gad: "A Dog's Purpose."

The film starts out with a newborn puppy (voiced by Gad) in the 1950s whose owner leaves him in a hot car. He's rescued by 8-year-old Ethan (Bryce Gheisar) and his mom (Juliet Rylance), who take him home and name him Bailey. Everything is seen through Bailey's eyes, so little details like "What are the ramifications of breaking a stranger's window to help a dog in the 1950s?" and "How did they get to keep Bailey? Did they just steal him?" aren't delved into. Ethan's dad (Luke Kirby) is a traveling salesman with a bit of an alcohol problem. As Ethan ages, he's also played by K.J. Apa as a teenager and Quaid as an adult. His girlfriend Hannah (who also develops a friendly relationship with Bailey) is portrayed by Britt Robertson as a teenager and by Lipton as an



ROGER CLINE

adult.

This is going to be a little different from my normal review, because the delight of watching "A Dog's Purpose" isn't its stellar plot or its overarching narrative; but it's main conceit - more on that in a minute - and the little minutiae of Bailey's perspective on everything he experiences. The latter is much better seen in person. Also, there have been some allegations of film makers mishandling dogs during filming. I believe those have been largely debunked as of this writing, and I won't delve into them (any more than this mention) in this review.

The former - the movie's main conceit - is this: Bailey lives out his dog's life, gradually weakens and dies, and then is reincarnated into other puppy bodies. In each life, he (or she!) tries his best to connect with, assist, and just love his human companions.

His second life, for example is as a female German shepherd named Ellie (Gad voices all of Bailey's reincarnations), who becomes a police canine officer, partnered by Officer Carlos (John Ortiz) of the Chicago PD. Carlos is a bit strict and standoffish, and Ellie can sense that he's lonely, but doesn't



know why. The audience sees a picture of Carlos with a woman who is now distinctly absent in his life. Ellie is insistent in her presence, and is rewarded with a place on the foot of Carlos' bed as he sleeps. Other stuff happens, and Ellie dies.

There are other reincarnations. Bailey (by other names) also lives with a young depressed black female college student named Maya (Kirby Howell-Baptiste) and Wendi (Nicole LaPlaca) an impoverished, abused young woman, before reconnecting with some old friends.

Other characters in the movie include Ethan's grandparents (Gabrielle Rose and Michael Bofshever), Maya's boyfriend/husband Al (Pooch Hall), Wendi's boyfriend Victor (Primo Allon), and Ethan's friend Todd (Logan Miller).

As I mentioned, a large part of the fun in "A Dog's Purpose" is seeing the ideas the writers have about how the world would look from a dog's perspective; of course the cat wishes it could be a dog, so Bailey feels obligated to give it "dog lessons," which basically devolve into Bailey chasing the cat around a lot. He's in heaven when the hot dog vendor's cart is overturned sending delicious meat everywhere, but is in agony later: "I think I ate too many meat sticks!"

Of course, it's not all fun and games. Bailey is a contemplative dog, and wonders about, as the title suggests, his purpose in life. There are sad times, and lonely times, and (for Bailey) boring times along with the good.

On the downside, this is a bit too sweet for my taste. It pulls all the heartstrings, has an uplifting message, etc. etc., but all that stuff is a little too much for me. I guess you could say I enjoyed the movie despite all the treacle rather than because of it.

"A Dog's Purpose" is a good family movie. There might be a little much sadness and darkness for very young kids (with the deaths of the dogs, and scenes of abuse, and a gun battle in the police segment), but it relied a bit too much on the emotional manipulation for me to give it a perfect score. Eight stars out of 10.

A Dog's Purpose

Director: Lasse Hallstrom

Writers: Screenplay by W. Bruce Cameron, Kathryn Michon, Audrey Wells, Maya Forbes, and Wally Wolodarski; based on the novel by W. Bruce Cameron.

Production company: Amblin Entertainment, Reliance Entertainment, Walden Media, Pariah Entertainment Group

PG, 1 hr. 40 min., Adventure|Comedy|Drama, Jan. 27, 2017

Roger saw this movie at Big Spring's own 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.

Who's who in Howard County

Sandrena Koning



By SANDRENA KONING

Staff Writer

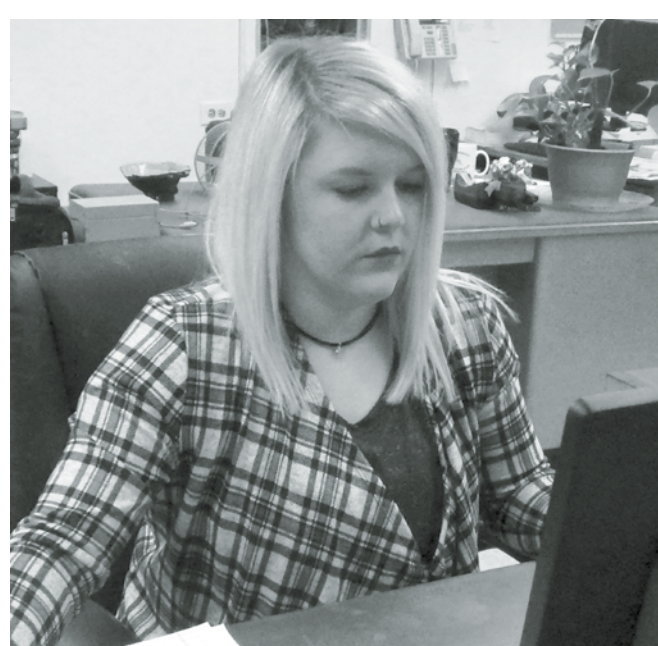
Let me introduce myself, my name is Sandrena Koning. I'm the current news reporter at *The Big Spring Herald*.

My husband and I moved to Big Spring a little more than a year ago from Denver, Colorado to be near family and a sense of community. Funny story, my family and I lived in Big Spring briefly during the 90s, where I attended "the old" Marcy Elementary School for first grade, before moving to Las Vegas, Nevada. Returning back to the Detroit area the following year. Although I was born in Anchorage, Alaska on Elmendorf AFB, I've spent the majority of my childhood living in the suburbs just outside of Detroit, Michigan. Coming from a military family, it has allowed me to be a seasoned traveler.

During elementary through middle school I participated in basketball and cross country teams. I simultaneously played the clarinet and flute starting my fifth grade year and continued through eighth grade. In high school I was an honor student that took AP classes in several subjects. With a natural skill and interest in chemistry/biology/physics, design/art, and social sciences. During that time I had a brief career in modeling that lead to an offer to join a modeling agency in California. Parental consent was needed, and they wanted me to focus on my studies, so I did not pursue it. My fascination with fashion and high-end design led me to an education in cosmetology, and I still keep my state

See KONING page 12B

Marissa Loftin



By MARISSA LOFTIN

Sports Editor

Hello! My name is Marissa Loftin. I was born in 1990, and grew up in the small town of Borger, Texas. I am one of three children, having two older sisters who I absolutely adore. They are my best friends and I wouldn't be the person I am today without them.

After graduating from Borger High School in 2009, I attended Amarillo College studying graphic design. I met my husband, Stephen, on our first day of college, and miraculously we had every class together! It must have been a sign. We got married

See LOFTIN page 12B

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BBB offers tips for spring break travelers

With spring break just around the corner, people are finalizing their vacation plans. Whether you're planning a relaxing week on the beach or hitting ski slopes, Better Business Bureau serving Central, Coastal, Southwest Texas, and the Permian Basin advises you do your research before booking your next vacation.

If you are looking for an alternative to staying in a hotel, renting someone's home, condo or apartment may be appealing. Vacation rental websites make it easy to connect directly with property owners who advertise their rentals online. However, BBB warns consumers to watch out for fake rental listings that aren't actually available or don't exist at all.

Last year, BBB received nearly 1,200 complaints against vacation rentals nationwide. According to data reported to BBB Scam Tracker, Texans reported losing \$28,800 last year to rental, travel and vacation-related scams. Scammers contacted victims by phone or through online classifieds, and most victims used a wire transfer service or credit card to make a payment.

BBB offers the following tips to ensure you're planning your vacation with a trustworthy business:

- Research last-minute travel deals. Bargains on airfare or a hotel may be tempting, but be cautious when booking on an unknown travel website or through an online advertisement. Common travel-related complaints to BBB reported trouble with reservations, online advertisements and incorrect charges. Before booking any reservation, make sure to read the company's cancellation and refund policy.

- Consider travel insurance. Travel insurance is designed to cover such things as trip cancellations or medical emergencies. The U.S. Travel Insurance Association maintains a list of licensed travel insurance companies. Certain travel companies have different policies and levels of coverage based on whether you purchase the car rental, flight or hotel. Ask questions, and always read the fine print to see what's covered.

- Pay with a credit card. Paying with a credit card—rather than by cash or check—gives you additional protection if something were to go wrong with the travel reservation.

- Verify reservations. Whether you're staying in a hotel, rental or at a resort, call to confirm all arrangements. Don't only rely on a receipt or confirmation email. Get all details of your vacation in writing, including contact information, travel itineraries and booking confirmations.

- Ask about mandatory "resort fees." Hotels often come with resort fees, usually for services like Internet, fitness facilities and access to the pool. But the extra fees can add to the per night cost of your stay, and are mandatory, regardless of whether or not you use the services. Before you book a hotel reservation online, call the hotel and ask if a resort fee is included in the total cost.

- Be alert for travel scams. Unsolicited mail, email and websites offering deeply discounted travel packages could leave you out of a vacation and money if you're not careful. Watch out for scams saying that you have "won a trip." If you've really won a free vacation, a legitimate business won't ask you to pay any upfront or processing fees.

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.

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US stock indexes extend climb into record heights



A man looks at an electronic stock board showing Japan's Nikkei 225 index at a securities firm in Tokyo on Friday. *AP photo*

By ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

U.S. stock indexes extended their climb into record territory Friday morning, powered by rising energy prices. Oil and gas companies led the gainers as the price of crude oil headed higher. Investors kept their focus on strong fourth quarter earnings and corporate deal news.

KEEPING SCORE: The Dow Jones industrial average rose 73 points, or 0.4 percent, to 20,245 as of

11:22 a.m. Eastern Time. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 6 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,313. The Nasdaq composite index added 14 points, or 0.3 percent, to 5,729. The three indexes were pushing further into record territory after closing at new highs on Thursday.

TRUMP & EARNINGS: Investors have focused on companies quarterly results lately as they size up corporate America's growth prospects. Earnings were running about 6.7 percent higher

as of Wednesday, with about 60 percent of S&P 500 companies having reported their quarterly results. That would mark the second-consecutive quarter of earnings growth after a losing streak of five straight quarters. Beyond earnings, investors are also eyeing Washington D.C. for signs the Trump administration will deliver on the promised business-friendly policy proposals that helped drive

See **STOCK**, Page 5B

Permits

- Troy Headrick, 206 E. 16th St., res gas, Val: \$700, Fee: \$32
- Ricky White, 811 W. 16th St., res re-roof, Val: \$10,300, Fee: \$65
- Lori Ann Graham, 3213 Duke Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$4,600, Fee: \$35
- Beverly Knous, 3229 Drexel Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$4,800, Fee: \$35
- J.V. Fulesday, 3600 Boulder Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$7,100, Fee: \$50
- Headlee Bailey, 901 Highland Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$11,500, Fee: \$70
- Rebecca Cisneros Garcia, 4023 Vicky St., res re-roof, Val: \$14,500, Fee: \$85
- Daniel Oviedo, 1604 Owens Dr., res HVAC, Val: \$6,700, Fee: \$45
- Dorothy Jean Garza, 1410 E. 11th Place, res elec, Val: \$1,500, Fee: \$25
- Donna Lou Jones, 1301 Nolan St., res plumb, Val: \$2,000, Fee: \$85
- Star Stop Food Mart #12, 400 S. Gregg St., com re-roof, Val: 15,000, Fee: \$185
- Park View Nursing Rehabilitation, 3200 Parkway Rd., com re-roof, Val: \$35,000, Fee: \$70
- James Franklin Little, 907 Mountain Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$12,000, Fee: \$25
- Matthew Aaron Wanner, 2803 Macauslan St., accessory building, Val: \$3,000, Fee: \$25

- The Big Lock Escape Rooms, 501 Birdwell Lane Ste. 17, commercial addition, Val: \$150, Fee: \$25
- Thomas Welch, 1500 Harding St., res re-roof, Val: \$11,975, Fee: \$70
- Chuck Bagwell, 2617 Ann Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$15,000, Fee: \$85
- Robert L. Wanner, 2004 S. Monticello St., res re-roof, Val: \$4,089.76, Fee: \$35
- Todd Darden, 3305 Duke Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$8,183.55, Fee: \$55
- Karen Ann Martin, 700 Tulane Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$13,000, Fee: \$75
- John Wesley Martin, 102 E. Third St., com re-roof, Val: \$39,200, Fee: \$210
- Nicholas DeWaters III, 3307 Duke Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$5,600, Fee: \$40
- Debra Woods, 719 Baylor Blvd., res re-roof, Val: \$8,000, Fee: \$50
- Diana M. Dodd, 700 Colgate Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$4,800, Fee: \$35
- Sovereign Land and Properties, 2401 Carleton Drive., res re-roof, Val: \$3,600, Fee: \$30
- Billie Ann Dominguez, 3610 Calvin St., res re-roof, Val: \$3,000, Fee: \$25
- Cancer Crushers, 1901 Simler, com elec, Val: 0, Fee: \$25

See **PERMITS**, Page 5B

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

- Marcus Joe Anderson, 2621 Chanutte Dr., Big Spring
- Steve Antoine, 1425 E. 6th St. #19, Big Spring
- Corina Avila, 1800 Winston St., Big Spring
- Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
- Tammy D. Bishop, 1410 Tucson Rd., Big Spring
- Wayne Richard Buyce, 4042 Morningside Way, Canyon Lake
- Ester Hilario Calderon, 1111 W. Fifth St, Big Spring
- Vanessa Malu Calderon, 2600 Chanutte Dr., Big Spring
- Raymond Carroll, 712 E. 17th St., Big Spring
- Gloria Cerna, PO Box 55, Lamesa
- Pedro Chavarria, 1408 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
- Matilda Cortez, 302 N. St. Teresa, Stanton
- Hannah Deaton, 19634 Atasca Oaks Dr., Humble
- Trisha Dodson, 601 Culp St., Coahoma
- Tina Marie Ellis, 4002 Austin Ave., Snyder
- Selena Bethani Enriquez-King, 100 E. Parker, Midland
- Brittany Vanessa Escanuela, 1221

- E. 17th St., Big Spring
- Jose Enrique Faz, 509 N. Goliad, Big Spring
- Juana Fierro, 406 N.W. 5th St., Big Spring
- William Gene Garner, 704 Rosemont, Big Spring
- Anthony Ray Garza, 117 E. Davis, Big Spring
- Guillermo Gomez, 2107 Morrison, Big Spring
- James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler St. #502, Atlanta
- Christina Nichole Gutierrez, 2809 25th St., Snyder
- Dylan Hammons, 4401 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
- Adela Juarez Hernandez, 908 NW First St., Big Spring
- 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
- Gilbert P. Ramirez, 1614 Settles, Big Spring
- John Roberts, 2208 Alabama, Big Spring
- George Anthony Robinson Jr., 1905 Wasson Rd. #14, Big Spring
- Andy Rodriguez, 1904 Rannels 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
- William Malcolm Statham, 1009 Sycamore, 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

See **RECORD**, Page 5B

RECORD

Continued from Page 4B

Linda Cortez White, 6601 E. Robinson Rd., P.O. Box 429, Coahoma
Tamara Ruth Whitt, 3706 Connley, Big Spring
Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. #28, Big Spring

Marriage Licenses

Crystal G. Fierro, 21, and Tiffany J. Yanez, 31, both of Big Spring.
Jonathan Luiga Stiles, 26, and Stassney Evonne Davis, 26, bot of Big Spring.
Ty Zacharia Nelles, 39, and Esbeida Diosdado, 34, both of Big Spring.

District Court Filings

Trystan Cevallos vs. State of Texas, writ of Habeus Corpus
Kathleen Wright vs. Winslow Wright, divorce
William Cross vs. Abbygale Cross, divorce
Sandra Cockerham vs. Kathy Dean, civil case
Synchrony Bank vs. Susan Garza, contract – consumer/commercial debt
Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Felicia Fleet, contract – consumer/commercial debt
Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Jose Franco, contract – consumer/commercial debt
In the Matter of the Estate of Aubry Newton Standard Jr., deceased, civil case

**County Court Judgements
(The State of Texas is listed as the**

prosecutor in all county court judgments)

Defendant: Michael S. Martinez
Offense: Criminal mischief \$750 to \$2,500
Sentence: \$100 fine, \$292 court costs, 20 days in jail.
Date: Jan. 12, 2017

Defendant: Paul L. Torres
Offense: Driving while intoxicated
Sentence: \$750 fine, 180 days in jail. Probated 12 months.
Date: Jan. 17, 2017

Defendant: Cesar Lopez
Offense: Driving while intoxicated
Sentence: \$750 fine, 180 days in jail. Probated 12 months.
Date: Jan. 26, 2017

Defendant: Jericho J. Thomas
Offense: Obstruction highway passageway
Sentence: \$500 fine, 180 days in jail. Probated 12 months.
Date: Jan. 25, 2017

Defendant: Gilbert S. Montanez
Offense: Theft of property \$50 to \$500
Sentence: Six months probation. Deferred adjudication.
Date: Jan. 24, 2017

Defendant: Lyndon T. Fraley
Offense: Possession of a controlled substance less than 28 grams
Sentence: \$200 fine, 180 days in jail. Probated 12 months.
Date: Jan. 31, 2017.

Defendant: Chavanda Mickin
Offense: Theft of property \$100 to \$750
Sentence: Six months probation. De-

ferred adjudication.
Date: Jan. 13, 2017

Defendant: Samantha Munoz
Offense: Failure to ID fugitive giving false info
Sentence: \$100 fine, \$292 court costs, 20 days in jail.
Date: Jan. 12, 2017

Defendant: Marissa Phillips
Offense: Theft of property \$750 to \$2,500
Sentence: Twelve months probation. Deferred adjudication.
Date: Jan. 12, 2017

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Robert Glenn Smith and Denise Pearl Smith
Grantee: Israel Barrios and Maria Angelica Verastegul
Property: A 0.161-acre tract in Sec. 26, Blk. 33, T-1-N, T&P Railroad Co. Survey.
Date: Feb. 2, 2017

Grantor: Thomas Jesse Stewart
Grantee: Victor Martinez and Secilly Arocha
Property: Lots 3, and 5 through 12, in Blk. 110, Original Town of Big Spring
Date: Feb. 2, 2017

Grantor: Robert T. Keeley
Grantee: Keeley Properties LLC
Property: A 12-acre tract in Sec. 96, Blk. 29, W&NW Railroad Co. Survey
Date: Feb. 3, 2017

Grantor: Belarmino Gonzalez
Grantee: Alfredo Gonzalez Martinez
Property: Lot 4, Blk. 30, Cole and Strayhorn Addition.
Date: Feb. 7, 2017

Date: Feb. 7, 2017

Grantor: Vital Enterprises Inc.
Grantee: J.L.'s Heating and Air Conditioning LLC
Property: Lot 2, Blk. 23, Boydston Addition
Date: Feb. 7, 2017

Grantor: Crossroads Baptist Association, by and through its duly authorized trustees
Grantee: Farmer's Co-op Gin of Knott Property: A tract in Sec. 18, Blk. 34, T-2-N, T&P Railroad Co. Survey
Date: Feb. 7, 2017

Grantor: Jose Martinez
Grantee: Mario Arredondo
Property: 46 1/2 feet of Lot 1, Blk. F, Moore Height Addition
Date: Feb. 8, 2017

Grantor: Jerrod P. Beall
Grantee: J. Hopper Homes
Property: Lot 1, Blk. C. Stone Creek Subdivision, Coahoma
Date: Feb. 8, 2017

Warranty Deeds With Vendors' Liens

Grantor: Laura Holloway aka Laura Ann Holloway
Grantee: Brandi Downey
Property: S/84 feet Lot 15, Blk. 8, Coronado Hills Addition
Date: Feb. 7, 2017

Grantor: Margarita Morales, independent executrix of the estate of Emilio H. Garza aka Emilio Garza, deceased
Grantee: Seth A. and Sarah J. Smith
Property: Lot 14, and S/25 feet of Lot 13, Blk. 9, Saunders Addition
Date: Feb. 8, 2017

PERMITS

Continued from Page 4B

Taylor's Barber and Beauty Supply, 324 Runnels St., com re-roof, Val: \$600, Fee: \$25
Fred Hendrickson, 4107 Parkway Rd., res re-roof, Val: \$3,800, Fee: \$30
Sylvia Martinez, 1306 Mobile St., mobile home permit, Val: \$63,129.96, Fee: \$316, res plumb, Val: \$1, Fee: \$39, total, Val: \$63,130.96, Fee: \$355
Dorothy Conn Key, 202 Jefferson St., res re-roof, Val: \$6,000, Fee: \$40
William Luis Kincade, 1703 Kentucky Way, res elec, Val: \$8,500, Fee: \$63.06
Jeff Morris, 2900 Hunters Glen, res gas, Val: \$4,000, Fee: \$32
William Rayford Teague, 2600 Apache Dr., structure (replace existing fence), Val: \$3,000, Fee: \$25
Robert De Leon, 313 N.E. Seventh St., res re-roof, Val: \$8,000, Fee: \$50

Brenda Lea Zuniga, 3230 Fenn St., res re-roof, Val: \$11,584.19, Fee: \$70
HBK Properties, 1603 Nolan, res re-roof, Val: \$9,000, Fee: \$55
HBK Properties, 400 E. 16th St., res re-roof, Val: \$12,500, Fee: \$75
HBK Properties, 410 E. 16th St., res re-roof, Val: \$12,000, Fee: \$70
HBK Properties, 1501 Nolan, res re-roof, Val: \$12,300, Fee: \$75
HBK Properties, 1502 Goliad St., res re-roof, Val: \$11,000, Fee: \$65
HBK Properties, 400 E. 15th St., res re-roof, Val: \$11,500, Fee: \$70
HBK Properties, 501 E. 16th St., res re-roof, Val: \$12,900, Fee: \$75
HBK Properties, 509 E. 16th St., res re-roof, Val: \$12,500, Fee: \$75
Frank Acosta Jr., 1505 Runnels St., res re-roof, Val: \$6,500, Fee: \$45
Dan and Katherine Lusk, 84 W. 18th Street, res re-roof, Val: \$4,362, Fee: \$35
T. Daily, 2525 Chanute Dr., res plumb, Val: \$2,000, Fee: \$32

STOCK

Continued from Page 4B

Sea market rally last fall, including slashing government regulations and taxes.
Sears leaped 28 percent after the troubled department store chain said it will slash at least \$1 billion a year in costs by selling stores, cutting jobs or selling some of its well-known brands. The stock gained \$1.56 to \$7.10.
GOOD FIT: Skechers surged 21.4 percent after the shoe retailer reported surprisingly strong fourth-quarter revenue thanks partly to sales in China. The stock gained \$4.98 to \$28.26.
STRONG QUARTER: Activision Blizzard vaulted 17.3 percent after the video game maker's fourth-quarter earnings beat expectations. The mak-

er of "Call of Duty," "Candy Crush" and other games was the biggest gainer in the S&P 500, climbing \$6.86 to \$46.59.
BETTER RESULTS: Shares in CBRE Group gained 9.7 percent after the real estate investment company delivered earnings that exceeded Wall Street forecasts and issued a strong profit outlook for this year. CBRE added \$3.07 to \$34.64.
SOLD: Mead Johnson Nutrition Co. rose 5 percent after the baby formula maker agreed to be bought by British household products company Reckitt Benckiser for \$90 a share, or \$16.6 billion. Mead Johnson shares climbed \$4.14 to \$87.19.
THUMBS DOWN: Yelp skidded 13.2 percent after the online reviews company's revenue forecasts disappointed Wall Street. The stock shed \$5.48 to \$36.01.

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AUCTION
Sat., Feb. 18
200 E. Coliseum Dr., Snyder
10:00 am Preview 9:00am
Washer, dryer, furniture,
vintage buffet, Kimball
piano, Craftsman tools,
hand tools, vintage toy,
home decor, much more.
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AUCTION
Sat., Feb. 18
200 E. Coliseum Dr., Snyder
10:00 am Preview 9:00am
Washer, dryer, furniture,
vintage buffet, Kimball
piano, Craftsman tools,
hand tools, vintage toy,
home decor, much more.
Pictures can be viewed
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sal information and specifica-
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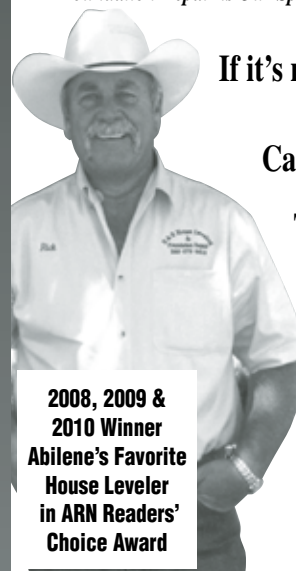


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Annie's Mailbox

Bad Way to Break the News

Dear Annie: I am in the process of getting a divorce after 38 years of marriage.

I'm wondering whether you could help me understand the way in which my husband "announced" he is having an affair. We went to a small-town festival, and he introduced me to a woman. I could tell there was something going on. Later that day, he said that yes, he finds her very attractive. (I should mention that she's just two years older than our daughter.)

to understand why he would do this to me and why this girl would want to meet me. She's also married, and supposedly her husband doesn't know about their affair.

I am just having a difficult time understanding how two people could be so cruel and mean to me. -- Slapped in the Face

Dear Slapped: I will never fully understand why people are deliberately cruel. But I do know that the happier a person is the more he or she wants others to be happy, and the reverse is also true. Just think how mis-

erable your husband and his new girlfriend must be to act like such bullies. Pitiful.

Instead of getting mad, or even, get happy -- happy that this louse is out of your life, for one. Spend time with friends and your daughter. Focus on living well (which really is the best revenge anyway). Good riddance to the rest.

Dear Annie: I am in my 50s and was taught by my family members that when someone brings or sends a gift, you should send a thank-you note. That was before email, texting

or other digital messaging methods. There is always the good old telephone. I was also taught that it is not about the gift's value but about the thought, even if it's a tin of cookies or something homemade. Luckily, we have been able to be very generous.

In the past year, we attended two weddings, two funerals and a graduation and had two babies born to friends (millennial to middle age). That doesn't include the gifts we gave for birthdays or the holidays. A "thank you" of some type would have been nice. We did not

receive any acknowledgment for anything and finally asked the recipients whether they had received the gifts (knowing that in most cases, they had, because they were hand-delivered), to which most responded, "Oh, yeah. Thanks." Please tell your readers that if someone takes the time to send a gift, a quick "thank you" by some means is proper etiquette and very appreciated. Or the next time, they won't get anything. -- Beachside Suzi

Dear Beachside: You are not the first -- and you won't be the last -- to write me about this trend. Two

recent solutions I've heard from readers: 1) Donate to a charity in the person's name instead of continuing to give material gifts for which he or she shows no gratitude. 2) Give each offending person a set of nice thank-you notes and a book of "forever" stamps.

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 CREATORS.COM

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

Answer to previous puzzle

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

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Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Frank Longo
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
1 React to a riot
5 Group with the "Our Wild America" campaign
15 Cutting-a-rug figure
16 A newspaper might open one to the public
17 Mountains or heaps
18 Advantageous jumps
19 They have to be docked
21 Restraining order
22 Brand extensions?
23 Jacks, for example
24 Groom at a 2009 Kardashian wedding
27 Extended period, hyperbolically
29 Competitor of St. Pauli N.A.
31 Pouty pose
36 All-time top-selling trio
38 Veggie-burger alternative
39 Total heat of a thermodynamic system
41 Bodies, in biology
42 Turned about
44 Popular college course?
45 Term often applied to Hemingway
49 Perform perfunctorily
51 Some Softsoap stuff
52 Treat with orange pieces
56 Original Soft Spread purveyor

- DOWN**
1 Suitcase part
2 It has a Candy Corn limited edition for Halloween
3 Clothing store suffix
4 Skeptic-stunning success
5 Arabic word for "friend"
6 Beverage bought in Britain
7 Moved items on a page
8 Bears
9 Ella Fitzgerald Award recipient of 2014
10 __ farm
11 Fumbles (for)
12 Northern Cyprus money
13 Get out of bonds
14 Trumps
20 Compact contract
23 Make a bed that you'll soon lie in
24 Botanical extension
25 Governorate across the gulf from Somalia
26 Dom Pérignon's winery
28 USAF superintendents
30 Dispose of
32 Alternatives to handlebars
33 Primordial blame-shifter
34 Word on the African nation list
35 A Visit From the Goon Squad Pulitzer winner
37 Sparkling white
40 Panted
43 Pressing to the max
45 Drum heard in Shankar recordings
46 '80s Portfolio designer
47 Sports laughter
48 One-on-one request
50 Match game
52 Go for
53 New Age reading material?
54 Cooper creations
55 They take things in
57 Samurai hairstyle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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Music community honors Randy Travis in song

By KRISTIN M. HALL

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A near fatal stroke couldn't take away the signature baritone of country star Randy Travis, and dozens of his friends, from Garth Brooks to Kenny Rogers, used their voices and his songs to honor the legend.

Travis watched from the side of the stage Wednesday in Nashville, Tennessee, as country stars from multiple eras sang his classics, from "Forever and Ever, Amen" to "Three Wooden Crosses." Performers included Wynonna, Alabama, Chris Young, Travis Tritt and Jeff Foxworthy.

By the end, he had joined in the celebration by singing "Amazing Grace" and leading others in singing "Will the Circle Be Unbroken."

Travis, whose multiplatinum debut album "Storms of Life" in 1986 made him a star, suffered a stroke in 2013 that initially took away his ability to speak or read.

But he's been steadily recovering his voice through rehabilitation, said his wife Mary Travis.

"We sing a lot in the car," said Mary Travis, backstage beside her husband. "We sing a lot at home. Music is his soul. Music is just what he is made of."

She said that it's clear that her husband still remembers how to sing and play the guitar, but the stroke caused a condition called aphasia that makes it difficult for him to communicate.

"He knows all the words and he can chord every single song with his left hand," Mary Travis said.

Travis, who wore a yellow jacket embroidered with flowers, was all

smiles as he watched the performers, who each ended their performances with a hug or a handshake for the singer.

The concert was held to raise proceeds for a new foundation set up in his name to help stroke victims.

Travis suffered from a viral infection of the heart and was in a coma when the stroke occurred. He spent over five months in the hospital and underwent two brain surgeries, but battled back through years of rehabilitation.

During his recovery, many of his fellow singers including the Oak Ridge Boys, Alabama, Josh Turner and Jamey Johnson, would come for visits to sing for him and pray for him, said Mary Travis.

Tanya Tucker said every time she visited Travis, she saw how far he had come in his progress.

"Someone told me that I am the only one that really made him laugh, so I would go in there and tell him every dirty joke I could think of," said Tucker, who performed "I Told You So."

Many artists talked about how Travis opened the door for a neo-traditionalist wave in country music in the late '80s with his unmistakable voice.

"The bottom end of his voice is so



Country singer Randy Travis, center, walks into a hearing room with his wife, Mary, before a meeting of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee on Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2017, in Nashville, Tenn. Randy Travis, who suffered a stroke in 2013, attended the hearing for Stroke Awareness Day at the legislature. Dozens of country stars, from Garth Brooks to Kenny Rogers, are scheduled to perform at a tribute show Wednesday night in Nashville to honor Travis. At left is Sen. Bill Ketrone, R-Murfreesboro.

AP photo

wonderful," said Rogers, who sang his classic "The Gambler," for Travis. "Most people sing well in the middle of their range, but he got down in the bottom of his range and would just hold it. I never heard anything like that."

"There isn't anybody in country music today that doesn't owe their career

to Randy Travis," said Brooks from the stage. "I am one of those guys, man."

At the end of a rousing version of "Forever and Ever, Amen," Brooks ran over to Travis to hold the microphone so Travis could sing a soft, but still deep "Amen."

NBC's Bob Costas being replaced by Mike Tirico at Olympics

By DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Tirico is taking over from Bob Costas as the prime-time host of NBC's Olympics coverage starting next winter in South Korea.

Costas, who has been the on-air concierge to NBC's Olympics 11 times starting in 1992, said he decided on his own a year ago that the time was right for a change.

"This is entirely on my terms

and I like it that way," Costas said Thursday. He said he wants to do some commentary on special events — maybe even the Olympics — and long-form programming, likening his new role to what former news anchor Tom Brokaw does at NBC. He also wants to broadcast more baseball to get his fastball back, saying he listened to old tapes and realized he wasn't doing that as well as he used to.

"I'm not retiring, I'm just transitioning," he said.

The 50-year-old Tirico had been considered an heir apparent since joining NBC Sports from ESPN last year. He helped with the network's coverage of the Rio Olympics last summer.

The Olympics role requires the host to set the stage for the night's telecast, guide viewers

See TIRICO, Page 12B

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AP photo

Pictured above is Mike Tirico. Bob Costas is stepping down as NBC's prime-time host for the Olympics, to be replaced by Tirico next winter in South Korea, the network said Thursday, Feb. 9, 2017.

TIRICO

Continued from Page 11B

on switches to different venues, handle news if it breaks and conduct on-air interviews. It was a job popularized by ABC's Jim McKay in the 1970s. Costas and Tirico both paid tribute to McKay Thursday, with Tirico recalling a time he sat next to him on a plane and pumped the veteran for stories about the Olympic experience. Costas' decision denies him a victory lap in Pyeongchang in 2018, although he may not miss the Winter Olympics. In Sochi, Russia, in 2014, Costas was sidelined for six days because of an eye infection. "I hope I enhanced people's enjoyment and understanding

of the events," he said, "and I hope that I presented a sense of the drama, the theater, the excitement and, when appropriate, acknowledged all of the issues involved."

He said his favorite Olympics memory was in Atlanta in 1996, when Muhammad Ali, despite his Parkinson's disease, was a surprise torchbearer who lit the flame at the stadium.

"Somehow even in that condition he was just as charismatic and magnetic as he's always been," Costas said.

Costas and Tirico, 50, have a tie that goes way back. They both graduated from Syracuse University, where Tirico was the first recipient of a scholarship in Costas' name.

KONING

Continued from Page 3B

license current.

Seeing endless possibilities in forgotten and discarded, an interest in design led me into working with textiles and custom furniture restoration and re-fabricating vintage pieces. Inspiration for me, comes from everyday ordinary objects and I immensely enjoy recreating a new purpose for them. Individuals have commissioned me to revitalize vintage artwork and furnishings. At last year's Howard County Fair, a sketch of mine was awarded Reserved Grand Champion, other pieces placed First.

My hobbies include writing, photography, and painting, really anything artistic and musical, with a serious love of science. In my free time I enjoy spending time in nature, capturing the beauty of West Texas. Some of my other interests include yoga, meditation and creative writing, a great way to relax and unwind.

Being involved in community projects is important to me. I'm very passionate about volunteering, it gives me the opportunity to give back and get know the area and the people that live there. I have great deal of respect for non-profit organizations.

My experiences here at *The Big Spring Herald* this first week have been both rewarding and exciting. It has allowed me to bring together my various skills and interests. I am looking forward to becoming another voice in the community. I hope that you, the reader, will enjoy my work as much as I will enjoy reporting the news in this new chapter of my life.

Contact Staff Writer Sandrena Koning at 432-263-7331, ext. 234, or email reporter@bigspringherald.com

LOFTIN

Continued from Page 3B

in August of 2013. In the spring of 2015 we decided to pack up and move to Big Spring, Texas!

Those who know me, know that I am a very artistic person and I love to create! I spend most of my free time either watching any games that are on, or designing prints for my Esty shop, Prickly Prints. (www.Etsy.com/PricklyPrintsStudio) Often, I do both at the same time! Designing is a favorite hobby of mine, and will always be a part of my life.

As a kid, I tried and liked every sport, but my love for volleyball took over. Once I was old enough, I played on year-round club teams traveling to different places for tournaments and meeting a lot of new people. It was the highlight of my youth. I learned so much.

I also had a passion for cheerleading, which I participated in my entire high school career. I was probably the only one on the squad who actually paid attention to all of the games and knew exactly what was going on. It was it super fun to spread school spirit and cheer on your team, organizing pep rallies and being a part of every sporting event. Cheerleading just made my high school experience so worthwhile.

Sports have always been a large part of my life. I love watching football of any kind, whether it be tackle, arena or flag... I love it all. I am in fantasy football leagues every year. I would say football and basketball are my two favorite sports to watch. I am a big Drew Brees fan. I am also a Dallas Cowboys fan, a Texas Rangers fan, and I absolutely love the Golden State Warriors.

I am very excited for this opportunity to be the *Big Spring Herald's* new sports editor. This begins a new chapter in my life and I cant wait to see what the future holds.

Contact Sports Editor Marissa Loftin at 432-263-7331, ext. 237, or email sports@bigspringherald.com

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