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H BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017



VOLUME 112, NUMBER 141 COPYRIGHT 2017 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Artwalk in downtown Big Spring is Saturday

By ROBERT BARLOW
 Staff Writer

Downtown Big Spring is drawing in the crowds for another Artwalk this upcoming Saturday.

Regional artists, live painting, and local bands are just a few of the things patrons will be able to see at the Artwalk coming up this weekend.

The event is being organized by the group Promoting the Arts in Big Spring and is

the second Artwalk to be held downtown.

"We just wanted to provide an opportunity for the community to engage in the arts," Bianca Mirales, a local school teacher who helped organize the event, said.

Based on the huge response from the community for the Artober Fest that was held last year, the organization has pulled in more resources, more artists, and more vendors to try and top their last

event.

The event has already confirmed 25 vendors including everything from ceramic wheel throwing demonstrations to story-time readings for children.

Mirales, who helped organize the previous event, has been active in encouraging the people of Big Spring and surrounding areas as well as her students to get involved in more activities promoting the arts.

"I'm trying to bring more experiences to my students and others," Mirales said.

In addition to the art vendors and demonstrations, the event will have food trucks and live music, as well as local organizations who have come together to help give the community some experiences they may not get otherwise.

If the event goes well, the organization hopes to make the Artwalk a reoccurring event

that people in Big Spring get to look forward to.

"Based on the community's response, we want this to be a more frequent event," Mirales said.

The Artwalk will be held in downtown Big Spring at the corner of 2nd and Main St. The event is set to start at 4 p.m. Saturday and last until midnight.

Contact Staff Writer Robert Barlow at 263-7331 ext. 234.

Mini short film festival tonight at Desert Flower

By ROBERT BARLOW
 Staff Writer

Local filmmakers are setting up for a mini short film festival at the Desert Flower Art Bar at 9 p.m. tonight.

James Fite of Check Your Brain Productions and Brandon Johnson of Cruiserfilms have curated a list of worthwhile short films from festivals they have attended.

The short films that are set to be shown contain everything from the comedy-western "The GunFighter", to the Canadian film "Grocery Store Action Movie". The short films range anywhere between about five to 25 minutes in length and contain a mix of genres and cinematic

styles.

Fite also mentioned the festival was an attempt to expand the interest in films and filmmaking in Big Spring.

"We are trying to put together a film festival, and this is our way of easing into it," Fite said.

The event starts at 9 p.m. and will last about three hours. The films are broken down into three segments with a fifteen minute break in between where they will introduce each section and talk a bit about the movies.

In addition to tonight's event, there will also be a screening at the Artwalk on

See **FESTIVAL**, Page 3

Miller competes in national ski competition



Courtesy photo

Big Spring attorney Robert Miller, 71, skis in the NASTAR national downhill slalom competition this past weekend at Steamboat Ski Resort in Colorado. This was his first national competition. Miller said the trip was a good experience, and he's happy to have gone.

BSHS academic team earns 2nd place at district meet



Courtesy photo/Big Spring ISD

Pictured left to right, front row are BSHS students Alexess Sosa, Ashlan Armstrong, Seth Hamby, Kendrick Kennemer, Brittany Tan, Samantha Grace, and back row, Daniel Luna, Armando Martinez, Gabriel Williams, Cody Bowen, and Hayley Jenkins. These students will compete at the UIL Area Academic Meet to be held April 7-8, at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

By ALEXESS SOSA
 Special to the Herald

Big Spring High School finished in second overall at the District 5-4A Academic UIL

competition held last week on the campus of Big Spring High School.

"While I am disappointed that the Big Spring Journal-

ism team didn't get first, I still stand by everything we accomplished that day," junior competitor Britney Tan said.

"I can't wait to go to regionals for my third year in a row and I hope I can do good enough to represent my school at state."

Joining Tan in competing in the journalism events at the 4A Regional University Interscholastic League Academic Meet in Lubbock will be Kendrick Kennemer who placed first in headline writing, and Alexess Sosa who placed second in editorial writing and second in feature writing. Tan, Sosa, and Seth Hamby completed a clean sweep in ready writing by placing first through third respectively.

In addition to placing in ready writing, Hamby was the district champion in

See **BSHS**, Page 3

North Carolina's "bathroom bill" repeal: who's satisfied?

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — North Carolina has rolled back a state law that blocked some anti-discrimination protections for LGBT people, but questions persist whether politicians have done enough to coax back the businesses and sports leagues who withdrew lucrative plans from the state.

Initial reactions were largely muted on Thursday's compromise repeal that seems to have pleased no one, and which advocates say still leaves gays, lesbians and transgender people vulnerable to discrimination.

The law passed by the Republican-led legislature and signed quickly by Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper repeals the best-known section of House Bill 2: a requirement that transgender people use the public restrooms that correspond to the sex on their birth certificate.

HB2 supporters argued that the law was needed to preserve people's privacy and protect them from sexual predators. Opponents said that was nonsense and that the danger was imaginary.

At stake is whether the repeal legislation was enough to persuade some businesses, state and city governments and sports organizations including the NCAA to end their de facto boycott of North Carolina. An Associated Press analysis (<http://apne.ws/2ocOSnu>) this week found that the law would cost the state more than \$3.76 billion in lost business over a dozen years.

"House Bill 2 stopped a number of businesses from

See **BILL**, Page 3

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **KIMBERLY KAY MCGEE**, 31, of 1507 Lincoln St. Apt. B was arrested on charges of possession of a controlled substance (less than 28 g) and driving with an invalid or suspended license.
- **MARK HOLLIS RYERSON**, 29, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. #121 was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana (less than 2 oz.), possession of a controlled substance (1 to 4 grams), and possession of a dangerous drug.
- **KAYLA KIRKHAM**, 29, of 304 E. Hoover was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana (less than 2 oz.), possession of a controlled substance (1 to 4 grams), and possession of a dangerous drug.

- **CODY LEE WEBSTER**, 21, of 500 Ray Rd. was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana (less than 2 oz.), possession of a controlled substance (1 to 4 grams), and possession of a dangerous drug.
- **FABIAN GARCIA**, 59, of 805 W. Seventh St. was arrested on warrants for assault/family violence (threat or offensive touch) and failure to appear.
- **HOWARD FOSTER**, 41, of 1002 N. Main St. Apt. #40 was arrested on charges of theft of property (\$100 to \$750) and possession of a controlled substance (less than 1 gram).
- **LISA ANNE LOPEZ**, 38, of 2002 S. Johnson St. was arrested on a warrant for theft of service (\$750 to \$2,500).
- **JIMMY WAYNE HECTOR**, 54, of 5801 N. Service Road was

arrested on a warrant for criminal mischief (\$500 to \$1,500).

- **ROSEMARY VASQUEZ**, 45, of 1000 E. 20th St. was arrested on a charge of criminal trespassing.
- **MELVIN TURNER BRUNSON**, 60, of 300 E. First St. was arrested on charges of no/defective white headlight on a bicycle at night, and failure to appear.
- **CANDIDO MORALES RODRIGUEZ**, 41, of 1131 Cherry Rd. in Houston was arrested on an outstanding warrant.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 4800 block of West Highway 80, and the 100 block of East Third Street.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 500 block of East FM 700.

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activity:

- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 90 inmates at the time of this report.
- **ASHTON LOU-RISSA AKIN**, 23, was booked by HCSO on a warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- **KEVIN JAMES BELCHER**, 32, was booked by HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for tampering with or fabricating physical evidence.
- **BILLY JOE EDMONDSON**, 36, was booked by HCSO on a

warrant for tampering with or fabricating physical evidence.

- **MARTY RAY EVANS**, 27, was booked by BSPD on warrants for failure to stop at a yield intersection, driving with an invalid license, violation of promise to appear, and failure to appear.
- **KLARISSA ZITA FRANCO**, 17, was booked by BSPD on a charge of assault/family violence (threat or offensive touch).
- **JIMMY WAYNE HECTOR**, 54, was booked by HCSO on a warrant for criminal mischief (\$500 to \$1,500); and a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **RANDY WAYNE JOHN-**

SON, 52, was booked by BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

- **SANDY MARTINEZ**, 31, was booked by HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated; and on warrants for failure to drive in a single lane, driving with an invalid license, and driving while intoxicated.
- **MITCHELL WAYNE MCCORMACK**, 34, was booked by BSPD on warrants for parking on a grade/failing to turn wheels, dog at large, and failure to appear.

Take Note

- The 19th annual "Master the Mountain" event will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 22, at Big Spring State Park. Master the Mountain will consist of both a 10K run and a 5K fun run/walk. Master the Mountain will help support the Permian Basin Women's Resource Center (The Life Center of Big Spring) and Big Spring State Park. Those interested in participating in the event can register online at www.permianbasinevents.com, by email at info@permianbasinevents.com or usatcraig@suddenlink.net; or in person at 8 a.m. on race day.

- Each week Kindred offers free health checks from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Corner House Coffee Shop, 1701 Scurry St.

- The Texas Department of State Health Services accredited food handlers program is being offered in Big Spring on April 27 at 10 a.m. and at 3 p.m. at Howard College's GC Broughton Agriculture Complex, 2411 Echols Drive. The class, which is being offered by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, is required for all food service employees to help promote the service of safe food. The class is a basic overview of food safety practices that are necessary to ensure such safe food practices as: good personal hygiene, prevention of cross contamination, and good time and temperature practices. The cost of the program is \$20. To register, call 432-264-2236.

- Registration is now begin taken for cancer survivors/caregivers who will be attending the 2017 Howard/Glasscock County Relay for Life. To register by phone or online call 1-800-227-2345 or www.relayforlife.org/bigspiringtx. For assistance, you may contact Howard Stewart at 432-935-0582 or Beverly Grant at 432-967-0901.

- Forsan Elementary School has scheduled Pre-K and Kindergarten pre-registration for Monday, April 3, through Friday, April 7 in the elementary office located at 500 West Main in Forsan, Texas. The school office will be open for registration between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

- In order to be eligible for Pre-Kindergarten, the student must be four years old on or before Sept. 1, 2017, and meet at least one of the following criteria: Must be unable to speak or comprehend English;

the household fully qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches; the family is homeless; one or more parents are on active-duty military service or have been injured or killed while serving on active duty; or the child is in foster care. If your child meets one of the above criteria, please bring the child's birth certificate, social security card, immunization records, proof of residency (utility bill with name and physical address), proof of income (paycheck stub for ALL household income), and enrolling parent/guardian driver's license.

- The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from high school students who are graduating this May and have been accepted to Texas A&M University for fall 2017. Students must be Howard County residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. Deadline for applications is April 3, 2017. For more information and to find the application, visit <https://westexags.com/>. Deadline for applications for current A&M students is June 1, 2017.

- The Howard County Fair thanks everyone who has picked up a crossstitch square for the annual quilt fundraiser. There are still a few squares left, so if you can do one, please see Cheryl at the Heritage Museum during regular hours, Tuesday through Saturday.

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

The next sacking session will be at 5:30 p.m. April 3 and 4 at the old Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 N.W. Seventh St. To get there, take Gregg Street north and turn left on Delaney, which is the block just past the Salvation Army retail store. Delaney turns into Seventh Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the intersection of Highway 87 and County Road 50. One person was taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the intersection of FM 700 and Birdwell Lane.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of North Birdwell Lane. One person was taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported near mile marker 188 on Interstate 20.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore Street. One person was taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 600 block of Baylor. One person was taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2300 block of Gregg Street. One person was taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of Second and Gregg streets. One person was taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near mile marker 182 on Interstate 20.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of Hunter. One person was taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3300 block of Cornell.
- **SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVATION - NO FIRE** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster.
- **SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVATION - NO FIRE** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Support Groups

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

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.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

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

- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will start Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship located in the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

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

WEDNESDAY

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



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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.
USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$9.00 monthly; \$97.20 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

Civilian casualties in Iraq, Syria undercut US victories

BAGHDAD (AP) — Islamic State group and al-Qaida-linked militants are quickly moving to drum up outrage over a sharp spike in civilian casualties said to have been caused by U.S. airstrikes in Iraq and Syria, posting photos online of a destroyed medical center and homes reduced to rubble. “This is how Trump liberates Mosul, by killing its inhabitants,” the caption reads.

The propaganda points to the risk that rising death tolls and destruction could undermine the American-led campaign against the militants.

During the past two years of fighting to push back the Islamic State group, the U.S.-led coalition has faced little backlash over casualties, in part

because civilian deaths have been seen as relatively low and there have been few cases of single strikes killing large numbers of people. In Iraq — even though sensitivities run deep over past American abuses of civilians — the country’s prime minister and many Iraqis support the U.S. role in fighting the militants.

But for the first time anger over lives lost is becoming a significant issue as Iraqi troops backed by U.S. special forces and coalition airstrikes wade into more densely populated districts of Iraq’s second-largest city, Mosul, and U.S.-backed Syrian fighters battle closer to the Islamic State group’s Syrian stronghold of Raqqa.

That has the potential to undercut victories against the militants and stoke resentments that play into their hands.

Malaysia interviewed, cleared 3 N. Koreans before they left

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysia’s police chief said Friday that investigators interviewed three North Koreans they had sought in the killing of the half brother of North Korea’s leader and cleared them of wrongdoing before allowing them to leave the country.

National police chief Khalid Abu Bakar told reporters that the three were cleared after investigators interviewed them at the North Korean Embassy. “We have obtained whatever we want from them,” he said.

The three men left Kuala Lumpur for Beijing on Thursday on a flight that also carried the body of Kim Jong Nam. The men were seen at the Beijing airport on Friday, apparently on their way to Pyongyang, North Korea’s capital.

Investigators say Kim was poisoned with nerve gas in a Kuala Lumpur airport terminal and quickly died Feb. 13. Two women — one Vietnamese and one Indonesian — are accused of smearing Kim’s face with poison and are in custody.

Four North Koreans who police say put the toxin on the women’s hands left Malaysia the day Kim died. The three other North Koreans police had sought, including a North Korean Embassy official and a North Korean airline worker, were believed to

have been holed up in the embassy for weeks.

Is ‘Obamacare’ repeal dead -- or a legislative zombie?

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump’s plan to kill Obamacare died last week. Or maybe it didn’t.

The repeal effort seems to have assumed zombie status — somewhere between dead and alive.

This is never-say-die Washington, where big legislative proposals that are in the basket one day can show signs of a pulse and start climbing out the next.

It’s a fairly common condition in the capital, where politicians who invest enormous political capital in a proposal are loath to let go.

“One of the keys to understanding Washington is to think a little bit like a coroner,” says consultant Ari Fleischer, former press secretary to President George W. Bush. “You have to know when something’s dead and when something’s still kicking, and sometimes it’s hard to tell the difference.”

Deposed S. Korean president arrested, jailed after long saga

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea’s disgraced former President Park Geun-hye was arrested and jailed Friday over the corruption allegations that already ended her tumultuous four-year rule and prompted an election to find a successor.

A convoy of vehicles, including a black sedan carrying Park, entered a detention facility near Seoul before dawn after the Seoul Central District Court granted a prosecutors’ request to arrest her.

FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1

Saturday of Fite and Johnson’s award winning movie “Project Monét”. Following the screening there will be a trailer for an upcoming movie they are working on and they will be there to answer questions from the audience. “Anyone who wants to talk about it and

maybe get involved we will be there to talk,” said Fite.

The event is open to the public but due to the nature of some of the films, the event will be age restricted.

Contact Staff Writer Robert Barlow at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com

BSHS

Continued from Page 1

informative speaking as well as social studies.

“I hope to advance to state in the three events I’m competing in regionals for,” Hamby said. “I have faith in myself and my school that we can make it out of regionals and place at state.”

Joining Hamby in social studies are team members Armando Martinez and Gabriel Williams. Williams also placed first in current issues and events.

Hamby’s fellow speech team members also shared positive results. Senior Ashlan Arm-

strong qualified in both Lincoln-Douglas debate and persuasive speaking. Twin sister Andi Armstrong will also be attending the regional meet in informative speaking. Hayley Jenkins placed first in poetry interpretation.

Hamby, Sosa, Daniel Luna, and Williams also racked up points for the district team in the cross-examination debate competitions where the two respective teams later advanced to the State Cross-Examination Meet.

Cody Bowen placed second in computer applications while Samantha Grace placed second in literary criticism. The Region 1-4A UIL Academic Meet will be held on the campus of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, April 7-8.

BILL

Continued from Page 1

expanding here or coming here to North Carolina,” Cooper said at a news conference after signing the repeal. “Companies that I have talked to, companies that I have recruited, who were hesitant or refusing to bring businesses to our state before the passage of today’s bill now are telling me: We are coming.”

Consultants who advise companies looking for a good place to build operations and create jobs were divided on whether North Carolina had turned a page.

Companies seeking to avoid business risks and costs generally avoid places embroiled in

turbulent social issues, said Paige Webster, a site selection consultant in Phoenix, Arizona. The repeal could be enough to restore North Carolina’s reputation as a dynamic, progressive state, which took a hammering in the year since HB2 became law, he said.

“I think that stigma will go away,” Webster said. “It’s going to open the doors for corporations to take another look.”

But the angry reaction by gay-rights and other liberal groups over provisions that prevent municipalities from passing their own anti-discrimination ordinances until December 2020 means the issue could remain a red flag for companies, said

Pete Mohan, a site selection consultant in Jacksonville, Florida. The signal is that the angry discussions over LGBT rights and bathroom protections haven’t ended with the repeal law, he said.

“I think it’s far from a panacea. It’s more of a stopgap than anything else,” Mohan said. “The whole situation has sort of soured the broader national desire to locate in North Carolina.”

The compromise plan was worked out under mounting pressure from the NCAA, which threatened to withhold sporting events from the basketball-obsessed state until at least 2023. The NCAA pulled events from the state over the past year in part because six states

had banned non-emergency spending on travel to North Carolina, for example by sports teams from public universities.

The NCAA’s governing board would review North Carolina’s law next week, President Mark Emmert said Thursday.

“Everybody loves being in North Carolina for our games. It’s a state obviously that in many ways is synonymous with college sport,” Emmert said. “Nobody made the decision to leave North Carolina casually. It was a very, very difficult decision for the board to make. And I’m sure the next decision will be very difficult as well.”

The stakes are high

for North Carolina: The Associated Press calculated that the state made \$71.4 million from 28 neutral-site NCAA events in the five academic years ending last spring. A potentially more lucrative slate of events is in jeopardy in this latest round of decisions.

Cities including Raleigh and Greensboro have submitted 133 bids to host NCAA championship events in such sports as golf, swimming and basketball through the 2021-22 academic year, with a potential economic impact of about \$250 mil-

lion, according to the North Carolina Sports Association.

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Beverly Ann (Bishop) Johnson, 83, died Tuesday. Funeral service was held at 10 a.m. this morning at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Frances Capps, 75, died Sunday. Graveside service will be at 2 p.m. today at Coahoma Cemetery.



Happy Easter!

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Contact: 432-263-7641

April 22:
Master the Mountain 5k/10k:
Big Spring State Park. 9AM.
www.permianbasinevents.com

June 15-17:
Big Spring Rodeo:
Rodeo Bowl and Fair Barns.

June 23-24:
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Love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that his love has not been perfected in us.

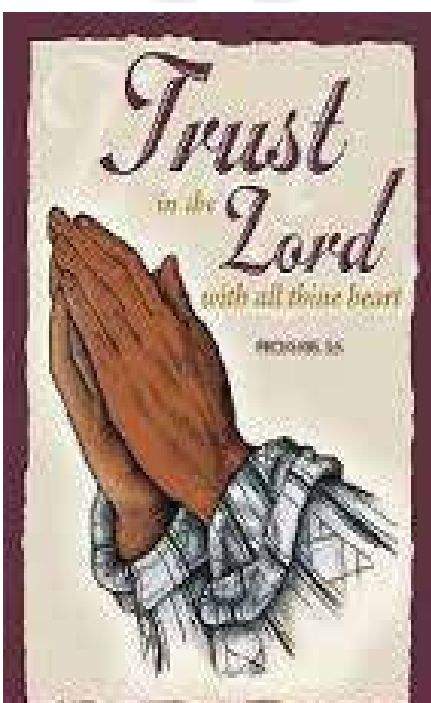
1 John 4:18



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Love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that his love has not been perfected in us.

1 John 4:18

The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. I will satisfy them with a long life and give them my salvation."

Psalm 91: 14-16



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Jesus traveled throughout Galilee teaching in the synagogues, preaching everywhere the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed people who had every kind of sickness and disease.
Matthew 4:23



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Rejoice, you people of Jerusalem! Rejoice in the Lord your God! For the rains he sends are an expression of his grace. Once more the autumn rains will come, as well as the rains of spring.
(Joel 2:23)

God's love supply is never empty. "For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth."
(Psalm 103:11)

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Did you ever wonder? Without a king

When we study the covenant made at Sinai between God and the Hebrew people, it is easy to understand that God was the King and Israel

was the conquered people. If they agreed to be His people, God promised to protect and provide for them. However as a conquered people, the King expected that they honor, obey and serve Him.

We have seen that they found it difficult to believe in a god that they couldn't see. They did not know how to bring their needs to an invisible god.

They knew that Moses talked with God. When Moses asked God for their needs, they knew that God supplied them. But they identified with Moses as their leader.

They could not grasp the idea of God as their King. They were easily swayed to worship images that they could see made of stone or metal.

When Moses and Joshua were gone, the Israelites began to flounder badly. Many times the Bible says, "every man did what seemed right in his own eyes." They easily picked up the idol worship of the

Canaanites whom they were supposed to drive out of Israel.

The next section of the Book of Judges tells why they needed a strong leader. Micah, a wealthy man from Ephraim, had an idol made of silver. He built a 'house of God' in which he set up the idol, and he hired his own priest.

The tribe of Dan was not able to overcome the Amorites and the Philistines who inhabited the portion of the land that was assigned to Dan. They sent men to seek a place for them to occupy.

In the area of Sidon, on the Mediterranean coast of present Lebanon, they found an isolated town named Laish with much land.

It was a very peaceful place without army or protective walls.

The Danites conquered and destroyed Laish, and made this area their inherited portion of the Promised Land. On the present border between Israel and Lebanon, Archeologists have uncovered "Tel Dan," the city rebuilt by the Danites.

A bloody civil war between the Benjamites and the rest of the tribes broke out when some Benjamite men raped and abused the concubine of a Levite until she died. The Levite was so upset that he cut her body into pieces and sent one piece to each of the tribes to testify against these men of

Benjamin.

Benjamite men, women and children were killed so that only 600 fighting men escaped into the desert. The rest of the tribes made an oath to God not to give their daughters to these men as wives. However they realized that unless they could find wives for them, the tribe of Benjamin would disappear.

They sent messengers out seeking anyone who did not go up to take this vow. They found 400 maidens, whom they gave to the Benjamites.

Their custom was that at a national feast (probably the Feast of Tabernacles) the available maidens danced in the vineyards in the evening. The unmarried men watched them dance and selected whom they wanted for a bride.

The leaders of the tribes of Israel planned for the 200 Benjamites to hide among the vines. They were to seize the maidens of their choice and carry them away. In this manner the fathers would not have broken their oaths.

This also assured that the men would not take Canaanite women as their wives.

These are gruesome tales from the last five chapters of Judges. But they vividly depict the need for a strong leader in Israel. Indeed Israel needed a king to monitor and direct them.



EUNICE
FILLER

Church News

Alive in Christ

Lutheran Church LCMS

Alive in Christ will begin a new Wednesday Evening Bible Study soon. More information will be coming.

Bible Study and Sunday School begin at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m. each week. If you are new to the area or haven't been to church before or in a while, you're invited to join them this Sunday.

Dolline Budke will present the scripture readings this week.

The church will have a meal that will be served from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. and Lenten Services will begin at 7 p.m. next Wednesday.

Tune in to KBYG at 106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 and 6:50 every morning for a devotional entitled "Morning Meditation Thoughts," sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Also tune in every Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. to listen to the Lutheran Hour.

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church is located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood neighborhood in Big Spring. If you would like to contact them, call 432-264-7818, or e-mail aliveinchristtx@gmail.com.

Birdwell Lane Church of Christ

Birdwell Lane Church of Christ is located at the southwest corner of 11th Place and Birdwell Lane.

Services this Sunday will start with Bible Study at 9 a.m. The topic will be "How to Study the Bible." Morning Worship will follow at 10 a.m.; the message will be on "Holiness." At 5 p.m. is Evening Worship, which will focus on the passage Titus 3:4-7.

On Wednesday, Ladies Class will be at 9:30 a.m. and Bible Study and Devotional will be at 7 p.m.

First Church of the Nazarene

The First Church of the Nazarene Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 15, at 11 a.m. in Comanche Trail Park. There will be a bounce house, hot dogs, egg hunt, pictures with the Easter Bunny and lots of fun.

This Sunday, as Pastor Cal will continue the series on Lent. Services can be viewed at either campus on Sunday mornings. Visit either the 118 Cedar Road Campus inside the New Hope Christian School cafeteria, or the 1400 Lancaster campus. There are many small groups throughout the week. Visit the church Facebook page or website to see them.

You can also listen each Sunday to KBST 95.7 at 10 a.m. for a live broadcast of the service. For more information contact the church office at 432-267-7015, or visit the website at www.nazfamily.org.

First United Methodist Church

First United Methodist Church is located just off Gregg Street at the corner of Fourth and Scurry streets in downtown Big Spring.

Each Sunday morning, the 9 a.m. Traditions service features the church's pipe organ, the Celebration Choir, and classic hymns of the faith. The Bridge service at 11 a.m. is led by the church's worship band and includes contemporary, upbeat music. Worship at The Bridge is led by Adrian Calvio and many others. The Bridge is broadcast live each Sunday on radio station KXCS-105.5 FM.

This Sunday, Pastor Ivins will continue a Lenten sermon series entitled "The Quest for Paradise." Since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden, humanity has been on a quest to regain paradise. This Sunday continues the journey with a message entitled "The Battle for Paradise Found." The message comes from Romans 8:6-11.

Wednesday Noon Bible Study continues to be on a short hiatus during Lent in order to allow attendees to participate in the Lenten Lunch Series. The final Lenten Lunch is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, April 5, at noon. The April 5 luncheon will take place at the First Baptist Church, 705 West Marcy Drive. Pastor Craig Holstedt of the First Presbyterian Church will be the guest speaker.

First Methodist is on its regular Wednesday night schedule next week. Supper will be served

at 5:30 p.m. with groups for every age starting at 6 p.m. The Bridge Worship Band also rehearses on Wednesday night at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The Celebration Choir will rehearse in the upstairs Music Suite at 7:30 p.m.

Make plans to attend the church's Good Friday Service slated for April 14 at 7:30 p.m. Good Friday commemorates the day Jesus died on the cross.

For more information on any activity, please visit the website at www.fumcbs.com or phone the church office at 267-6394.

Blessed Hands Deaf Church

Pastor Jim Walterhouse, wife Debbie, and the congregation of Blessed Hands Deaf Church invite you to worship with them Sunday at 10:50 a.m. or 2 p.m. Choose the service time that fits your schedule, and praise and celebrate the world's savior, Jesus Christ. Currently, Blessed Hands Deaf Church meets inside First Baptist Church at 705 W FM 700. For detailed information about BHDC, contact Pastor Jim at jwalterhouse@gmail.com.

First Baptist Church

"O Sovereign LORD! You made the heavens and earth by your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for You!" Jeremiah 32:17

The people of First Baptist Church welcome you to worship with them Sunday at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. Pastor Mark Lindsey will begin a three-part sermon series titled "Rediscovering the Resurrection." Drawn from 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, listeners will be encouraged to throw away any doubt, as hundreds of witnesses of the risen Lord establish and affirm the certainty of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Minister Alan Schantz will lead worshipers in foundational hymns of the faith blended with contemporary praise and worship songs. If you are unable to attend, you may join the service through the live stream on the website at fbcbig-spring.org.

All are invited to the annual Children's Camp Dessert Fundraiser immediately following the morning service. Lunch will be provided for all who attend, and after the meal there will be a lively auction of sweet treats to raise funds to help offset the cost of summer camp for the kids.

At 9:30 a.m., Sunday School groups meet throughout the building with youth, college students, and adults gathering in second floor classrooms; while children come together in the Good News Garage on the first floor. Greeters are available to help you find a class. Come early to enjoy a time of fellowship and some coffee.

At 5:30, all area children are invited to participate in Kids Connection. This is a fun time of Bible-based activities under the direction of Children's Minister Justin Green. There is no fee to attend.

Teens will meet at 6 at the home of Youth Pastor Jonathan Raffini and wife Rebekah. A light meal will be served, and the group will encourage each other through sharing, Bible study, and prayer. Contact Jonathan at 270-8332 if transportation is needed.

Evening worship service starts at 6, and Pastor Mark Lindsey will bring the message from Ephesians 4:26, titled "How to be Good and Angry." This verse acknowledges a person's emotion of anger and the high probability of everyone experiencing difficulties dealing with this powerful feeling; however, Scripture warns the believer to not be given over to rage lest it plant an invasive seed of bitterness in their spirit.

You're invited to join the Triple LLL (Living Longer & Loving It) group Tuesday, April 4, at noon in the church dining room for a meal and time of fellowship. Bring a friend and enter through the east kitchen doors.

Wednesday April 5, First Baptist will host the community Lenten Luncheon at noon in the Family Life Center. Everyone's invited to this special time of thoughtful reflection focusing on Jesus' obedient sacrifice on the cross, and His joyful eternal triumph over sin, death, and the grave.

All area ladies are invited to attend the 'Women of Joy' conference in San Antonio Sept. 22-24. Cost per person is \$254, and you can sign up with a \$25

deposit. The remaining balance will be due by Aug. 1. For more information call the church at 267-8223.

FBC Mother's Day Out program is open each Tuesday and Thursday from 9 to 3. Contact Tracy Boeker at 267-8223, for information about available openings for your little ones.

Wednesday evening activities begin at 6, and offer something for all age groups. Go to fbcbig-spring.org for details.

First Baptist Church is located at 705 W. FM 700. There is always a place for you at First Baptist Church.

First Presbyterian Church

The Wednesday Lectionary Bible Study, led by Craig Holstedt, meets at 5 p.m., and the Chancel Choir rehearsal at 6:00 p.m.

The Children's Choir practice is at 5:30 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Also on Sunday, the Youth has the following schedule: dinner, 6 p.m.; handbells, 6:30 p.m.; and Confirmation Class at 7:15 p.m. in the Youth Room.

Please mark calendars for a church clean-up day Saturday, April 8, beginning about 9 a.m. Everyone is urged to come and help.

Once again First Presbyterian will join with other local churches for a series of Lenten Luncheons. The schedule for the final Lenten Luncheon of the year is:

April 5, Host First Baptist, Preacher Craig Holstedt, First Presbyterian

Katie Grimes is in charge of Take Ten for this Sunday. Glen Burch is lector. Ushers for April are Paschal and Lucy Odom, and Jerry and Katie Grimes. Communion servers are Ellen Austin, Cecilia Hallford, Danny Kennemur, Jim Little, and John Yater.

The lectionary for the Fifth Sunday in Lent is Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45. The Chancel Choir will lead the service with the Introit "Stand Up and Bless the Lord" by Charles Lockhart. Rev. Craig Holstedt, minister, will present the sermon and officiate at Communion.

The anthem will be "Lord of All, Most Holy" by Hal Hopson. Communion hymn will be "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" by Robert Kreutz.

Please note that the worship service begins at 10:50 a.m. for announcements and parish concerns before the radio broadcast starts at 11.

If you cannot attend worship, you can listen in on KBST 1490 AM beginning at 11 a.m. If you would like a printed bulletin for Sunday services, call the church office at 263-4211.

You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website www.fpchs.org. On the website, you can find a link to audio of several recent sermons by the Rev. Craig Holstedt.

Spring Creek Fellowship

The Spring Creek nursery needs workers on Sunday mornings. If you have a heart for children and would like to give some of your time caring for the church's smallest members, please contact Donna Wennik.

Spring Creek is starting a Food Pantry Ministry called "Our Daily Bread." If you are interested in participating in this ministry or need more information, please contact Kay Pittman.

The Youth and Family Camp will be heading back to Colorado this summer. Ask a youth member about their current fundraiser raffle. Contact Lloyd Wells for more information.

A "Women's Weekend" is planned for May 19 to 21 at Camp Butman in Merkel, Texas. All women are invited, but space is limited. For more information, contact Adriana Kocak.

Spring Creek has set a goal of 90 percent participation in church ministries, and will be focusing on two ministries each Sunday morning to get the word out about what is available. Stop by the Connections Table in the garden area to get more information. Join the "90 percent Club" by getting involved

Parents who want to keep up and share in their children's Sunday Bible Lessons can go to the

Reflections: Bread of Heaven

Bread has become a delicacy. When my wife sends me to the store for a loaf of bread I stand dumbfounded in front of the shelves. Which bread to buy? There's white bread, whole wheat bread, gluten free 7 grain bread, garlic bread, rye bread, and a dozen others. Then there are bagels: plain bagels, blueberry bagels and everything bagels. And what about donuts? I think donuts are included in the bread family. Okay, I choose donuts.



BILL
TINSLEY

From ancient times "bread" has represented the staple of life. Even today, in all its various forms, bread is still the most widely consumed food in the world. Scholars have found evidence that people started baking bread 30,000 year ago. But the first breads were "flat." They lacked leaven. It is the leaven that makes it rise, light and fluffy and sweet. Historians believe that the Egyptians were the first to

develop leavened bread, somewhere around 1000 years before the great pyramids were built. The most famous "unleavened" bread was the Passover bread, cooked up in a hurry by the Israelites to escape Egypt.

In 1917 Otto Rohwedder invented the first bread-slicing machine. He set the standard for all other inventors who searched for an idea that would be "better than sliced bread." In spite of Rohwedder's invention, there is nothing quite like pulling apart a fresh steaming loaf of bread and adding butter.

Jesus referred to bread to help us understand who He was. "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me will not hunger, and he who believes in me will never thirst." John 6:35). "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word ..." Through Jesus Christ, God nourishes our soul and satisfies our innermost emotional, personal and spiritual needs, a nourishment more important than the nourishment of our bodies.

Jesus taught us to pray, "Give us this day our

daily bread." He reminded us that we need nourishment each and every day. Just as God provides for us daily the nourishment that is necessary for our bodies, He will provide for us each and every day the nourishment that is necessary to replenish our soul.

When Moses led Israel in the wilderness, God provided bread every morning so that "he who gathered much had no excess and he who gathered little had no lack." (Exodus 16:18). They could not store and keep the bread. It had to be eaten when God gave it.

Like the Israelites in the wilderness, our relationship with God is daily and constant. We cannot put our faith in a religious box to be taken out occasionally. Just as our bodies need bread in order to live, our souls need a daily and constant conversation with God, the bread and substance of life.

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective.

CHURCH

Continued from Page 5

website at www.springcreekfellowship.org for the information. Just click on "Kid Connect" for past and current lessons.

"People Caring for People" is a ministry serving local widows with small projects and "honey do" kinds of things. This ministry has no operating budget, so repairs are made with donations. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, either in a "hands on" way or by donation, please contact Bob Abendshan at 432-528-7397.

Wednesday Night Kid's Activities are back in session from 6 to 8 p.m. in the children's areas. A small snack will be served at 7:30. The schedule is set for parents that are participating in Missional Communities or youth. Drop off is at 5:45. The program will include babies through fifth grade. Please let Donna Wennik know if you are interested in bring your kids or helping out.

The Worship Team is fundraising for eight wireless/in-ear monitors. If you would be interested in donating to this fundraiser, please contact Clint Bratcher.

"Let the Morning Bring", a downloadable song as well as a few other songs written and performed by our own Spring Creek Fellowship Worship Team, is now on iTunes. If you would like to get these songs, go to iTunes and look for the download at <https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/let-the-morning-bring-single/id1176877429>.

The "Connect Four" class meets once a month immediately after service on Sundays. This class is for new members and those who want to know more about our church and our beliefs. It is a two-hour session and dates will be announced. Lunch and childcare will be provided for those attending.

Men's Bible Study meets on Thursday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. The title of the study is "Ephesians".

Take a look at the Spring Creek smartphone app. With this app you can make tithes/donations, leave messages, send prayer requests, follow prayer chains and learn about upcoming events. Go to the app store on your smart phone and search for "Spring Creek Fellowship" and download. Be sure to allow notifications when given the option, those messages keep you updated about upcoming events and much more.

Weekly Happenings:

Sunday-8:15 a.m.-Classical Worship Service
9:15-10:15 a.m.-Sunday School/Connection Groups
10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.- "Holy Grounds Café" is open with snacks and fellowship.

10:45 a.m.-12 p.m.-Worship Service

Tuesday-

Noon- Narcotics Anonymous

6:30 p.m.-Pain Management Group

Wednesday-

Community Groups-various times and places

Thursday

7 p.m.-Study of Ephesians Men's Bible Study

Friday-

7-8 p.m.- Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday-

7:30 a.m.-Weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast & Fellowship

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the Spring Town Plaza at 1801 E. FM 700 in Big Spring, Texas. Contact the church office at 432-714-4584 or visit the website at www.springcreekfellowship.org

"Every Member a Minister"-1 Peter 4:10 NKJV

Forsan Baptist Church

The message this week comes from Ephesians 3:14-21, and is called "Deep and Wide."

There will be a luncheon fundraiser for children's ministries at the church this Sunday after morning worship. The lunch will consist of tacos and all the trimmings. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids 12 and under.

Children's activities on Wednesdays include a light snack after school, with age-appropriate classes beginning at 4 p.m. for pre-k through fifth grade. A youth meal will be served at 5:30, with IMPACT youth beginning at 6 p.m. The Bible study geared toward adults on Wednesday evenings at 6 continues throughout the year.

Forsan Baptist Church is located at 201 Main in Forsan. Sunday School begins at 9:50 a.m., with worship services at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday services begin at 6 p.m. Rides for all youth activities are available if arranged ahead of time. Call the church at 432-457-2342, or Pastor Darren Weaver at 432-213-2348.

Cornerstone Covenant Church

The people of Cornerstone Covenant Church would love the opportunity to Connect with you. You're invited to join them this week at one of the following events:

Sunday, April 2, 10:30 a.m.: Join the congregation on a radical journey to be encouraging, which means to empower. When you encourage someone, you are challenging them because you see their potential. Find out how YOUR life is impacted when you become radical in your prayer, radical in your praise, and radical in your generosity.

Monday, April 10: Far Above Rubies Women's Ministry. All ladies are welcome. The group will gather in the youth area at 6 p.m. Expect food, fun, fellowship and lots of laughter. Each lady is asked to bring a favorite dish to share. For more information contact Debbie Rieger 432-935-1257.

Tuesday, April 11: 50 And Over. 50 & Over Small group will be gathering at 7 p.m. for game night and potluck. Bring your favorite dish and game face, and join the group at Steve and Faye Flowers' residence located at 2405 E. 25th Street. For more information contact Faye Flowers @ 432-213-3883.

Sunday April 16th - Resurrection Sunday- Join us at 10:30 a.m. for worship service. Whether it is called Easter or Resurrection Sunday is not as important as the event and purpose of the resurrection. Did you know that the resurrection of our savior is the culmination of all things meaningful, in establishing a relationship with God? Jesus'

crucifixion and resurrection are God's provision for the perfect and final sacrifice for man's sins. God requires no other payment for sins! With this provision, mankind is granted an opportunity for new life by the forgiveness of sin and escape from its bondage. It is ours for the mere acceptance of Jesus Christ.

Additional worship service- Praise the Lord! As CCC has grown we are preparing to add additional Sunday worship services. We are also looking forward to adding more parking space; please continue to pray as we seek to make the west-side of the church a temporary parking lot and possibly the site for our new sanctuary depending on the advice of our architect. Thank you again so much for supporting the vision here at CCC.

Cornerstone Covenant Church (CCC) is a unified, spirit-led, purpose-driven church, which cultivates an atmosphere of faith so that lives can be transformed by Jesus Christ. Please join us every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m. for worship.

CCC is located at 706 East 12th Street. For office hours or other questions please contact our administrative office at 432.264.0015 or email us Info@ccbigspring.org. You can also find us at facebook.com/CCCBigSpring; or visit us at www.cccbigspring.org if you would like more information.

We hope to see you soon,

The CCC family

Midway Baptist Church

Sunday, April 2 through Wednesday, April 5 Charles and Beverly Massegee will be holding a revival for the 21st century at Midway, 6200 S. Service Rd. The schedule will be: Sunday - 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.; Monday - Wednesday - 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

The Midway Baptist Church women's prayer and share group is currently going through the Bible study, "He Chose the Nails" by Max Lucado. The group begins at 9:30 a.m. Refreshments are provided and children are welcome.

For information call 432-263-6274.

To submit your church news, email life@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331, ext 232.

NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC ("Oncor") publishes this notice that on March 17, 2017, Oncor filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") its Petition and Statement of Intent to Change Rates, a copy of which is kept at Oncor's office at 1616 Woodall Rogers Freeway, Dallas, Texas 75202. This notice is being published pursuant to Commission Procedural Rule 22.51(a)(1).

Oncor's rate filing, based on the system-wide financial results for a 12-month test year ending on December 31, 2016, adjusted for known and measureable changes, supports a net increase in transmission and distribution rates of approximately \$317 million over adjusted test-year revenues, or approximately a 7.5% increase over adjusted test-year revenues of \$4,214.2 million. Test-year revenues have been adjusted to normalize billing units, to remove the revenues associated with Oncor's Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Factor, and to increase test-year revenues to reflect Transmission Cost of Service ("TCOS") and Transmission Cost Recovery Factor ("TCRF") adjustments. TCOS revenue was adjusted to include the September 15, 2016 interim update rates at 2016 Option 2 ERCOT 4CP. TCRF revenue was adjusted to equal the March 1, 2017 TCRF revenue requirement reflected on Line 2, Attachment A of Oncor's petition filed and approved in Docket No. 46616. If approved, the increased rates will be charged to Oncor's direct customers, all retail electric providers ("REPs"), in those portions of Oncor's service area under the original jurisdiction of the Commission. Each such REP is potentially affected by the proposed change. Depending on the REPs' actions, the end-use customer classes of such REPs are potentially affected by the proposed change. In addition, the result could be a change in Oncor's transmission cost of service rates, which would impact all load serving entities in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas. Oncor has requested an April 21, 2017 effective date for its proposed rate change.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings, in Docket No. 46957, Application of Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC for Authority to Change Rates, should notify the Commission as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is 45 days after the date the application was filed with the Commission.

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Coahoma track medalists

Special To The Herald

The Coahoma Bulldog and Bulldogette track teams competed in the Lone Wolf Relays in Colorado City on Thursday, March 30. Here are the athletes that medaled.

Varsity Girls

Hana Stanislaus 400M 2nd 1:04.96

Varsity Boys

Joe Manning Triple Jump 3rd 38' 11" 1/2"

Adam Brito 3200M 2nd 13.24.74

Alex Biddison 400M 2nd 52.65

Brice Martin 4x400 Relay 2nd 3.39.15

Joe Manning
Fletcher Mashburn
Alex Biddison

Texas A&M's Victor set college decathlon record

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M's Lindon Victor set a collegiate record in winning the decathlon Thursday in the 90th Texas Relays.

The defending NCAA and Southeastern Conference champion finished with a two-day total of 8,472 points, breaking the previous college record of 8,465 set by Texas' Trey Hardee at the Texas Relays in 2006. Hardee later won two world championships

Victor, a senior from Grenada, got off to a fast start when he won three of the first five events on Wednesday. Rice's Scott Filip finished second in the final standings Thursday.

Victor broke the record when he ran 4 minutes, 48.89 seconds in the 1,500 meters to earn 625 points. Anything slower than 4:50.02 would have missed the record.

Earnhardt says he has felt great all season after concussion

DALLAS (AP) — Dale Earnhardt Jr. says he has felt great all this season after missing the final 18 races a year ago because of the lingering effects of a concussion.

Earnhardt said Thursday that he wouldn't be driving the No. 88 car if he didn't feel like he was 100 percent healthy.

"You can't go out there with any kind of limitations," he said while headlining a media and fan event for Texas Motor Speedway.

Earnhardt has suffered numerous concussions in his career, and was sidelined for the fi-

nal half of last season.

The 42-year-old Earnhardt said he only races hard because it's fun and that he doesn't feel an obligation to stay in NASCAR because of his standing as the sport's most popular driver.

"I just enjoy working with my team and my guys, the camaraderie and the friendships," he said. "That's why I drive. Obviously we've got a big fan base that has a lot of fun when we do well, so you'd like to be out there and run well while you're doing it."

TCU routs Georgia Tech for first NIT title

NEW YORK (AP) — Brandon Parrish sat at the podium, wearing a commemorative t-shirt and a net draped around his neck. To his right was coach Jamie Williams. On his left was Kenrich Williams.

Parrish made sure to savor the moment.

"We have something that's forever," he said. "Nobody can ever take this away from us."

Williams had 25 points and 12 rebounds, and TCU routed Georgia Tech 88-56 in the NIT championship on Thursday night. The junior guard, who missed last season because of a knee injury, went 8 for 14 from the field and was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player.

"We knew he was a good player," Dixon said. "We've found better ways to use him in even better situations where we're even more comfortable and to be honest, he was out of about a year and a half. He's just now getting his legs under him and getting game-like conditions. You're seeing the numbers that he's putting up. His play down the stretch has been unbelievable."

TCU opened with a 20-3 run on its way to the program's first NIT title. Vlad Brodziansky scored 18 points for the Horned Frogs (24-15), and Alex Robinson had 10 points and 11 assists.

Tadric Jackson led Georgia Tech (21-16) with 19 points. Josh Okogie had 12 points and six rebounds.

"We played to the last buzzer," Georgia Tech senior Quinton Stephens said. "We stuck together. We stayed with the way we need to play."

"It was bigger than us. We knew bigger things were coming and this is only the beginning."

It was the first meeting between the programs since Dec. 21, 1967, and No. 3 overall. And it mostly belonged to TCU, which never trailed.

The Horned Frogs led 38-27 at halftime, and it was more of the same in the second half. Williams and Brodziansky threw down thunderous dunks, and Williams knocked down a 3 to help push the advantage to 54-39.

"They punched us first," Stephens said. "We put ourselves in a little bit of a hole."

TCU shot 51 percent (35 for 68) from the field and held Georgia Tech to 35.7 percent (20 for 56) shooting. The Yellow Jackets also committed 17 turnovers, leading to 28 points for TCU, and



AP photo

TCU's Desmond Bane (1) drives to the basket past Georgia Tech's Quinton Stephens, right, during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game in the final of the NIT Thursday, March 30, 2017, in New York.

the Horned Frogs also had 21 second-chance points.

"In a high-level game you can't do that," said Josh Pastner, who took over as Georgia Tech's coach last April. "We had too many turnovers and they gave up too many second chances."

The lead grew to 69-49 on Williams' breakaway jam with 6:44 left. Desmond Bane tacked on a 3 from in front of the TCU bench, helping kick off the celebration for the Horned Frogs.

Dixon emptied his bench in the final minutes, and reserve Josh Parrish had a breakaway windmill jam in the final seconds.

"I've always known my brother was so bouncy," Brandon Parrish said with a laugh. "To be able to see him come off the bench after 39 minutes and be able to jump

up there and do a windmill, it was just phenomenal for us to be able to share this moment."

WORTH NOTING

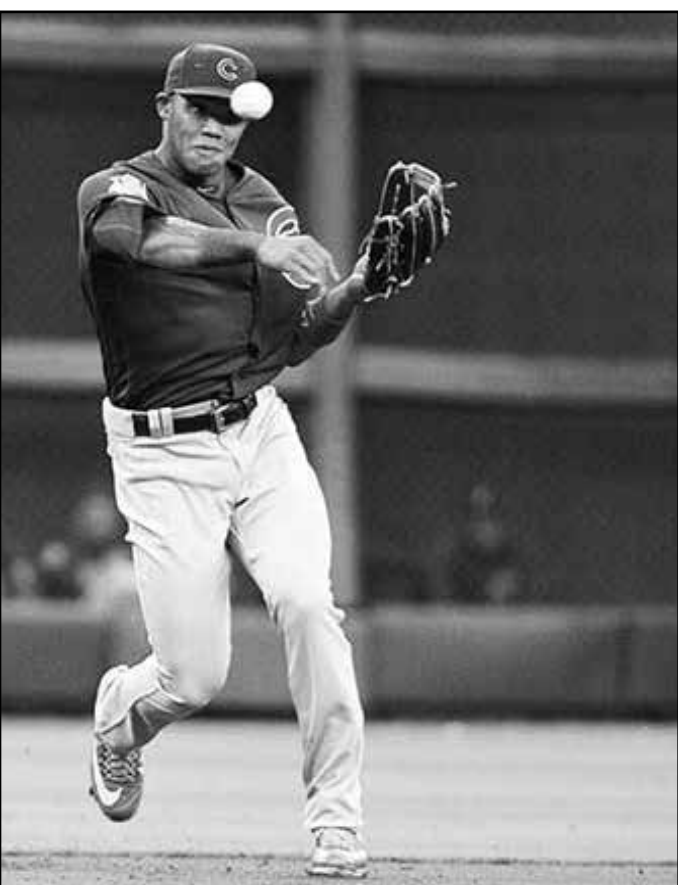
The 32-point win matches the largest margin of victory in NIT championship game history. Bradley set the record in 1964 with an 86-54 rout of New Mexico.

BIG PICTURE

Georgia Tech: Despite the loss, it was a successful season for the Yellow Jackets. A program Pastner referred to as a "major rebuild job" as recently as Tuesday won 21 games and competed in a national postseason tournament. "I promise you," Pastner said after the game. "To be playing in this final game, it's miraculous."

TCU: Dixon improved to 28-15 all-time at Madison Square Garden.

Russell returns as Cubs fall to Astros 8-6



AP photo

Chicago Cubs shortstop Addison Russell throws out Houston Astros' Russell Springer during the first inning of an exhibition baseball game Thursday, March 30, 2017, in Houston.

HOUSTON (AP) — It looks as if Addison Russell is feeling much better.

Russell homered and drove in three runs in the Chicago Cubs' 8-6 exhibition loss to the Houston Astros on Thursday night. The All-Star shortstop had been sidelined by back soreness.

Russell singled in Ben Zobrist in the second and scored on Javier Baez's groundout. Kyle Schwarber added an RBI double, helping the Cubs to a 3-0 lead.

Russell connected with one out in the third, making it 5-2. It was his sixth homer of the spring.

Josh Reddick hit a two-run homer for the Astros, and Jose Altuve belted a solo shot for his first homer of the spring. Right-hander Lance McCullers, who will start Houston's sec-

ond game of the season Tuesday against Seattle, allowed five hits and five runs in four innings in his fifth and longest start this spring.

"First inning was pretty electric ... I think as the game got on he just lost command of almost everything and just couldn't find a consistent breaking ball," manager A.J. Hinch said. "I think his changeup, he was throwing it a little too hard and it kind of spiraled on him a little bit."

Although the numbers weren't what McCullers hoped for on Thursday night, he is happy to be entering the season healthy after starting last year on the disabled list.

"Whether or not I threw my best or not, being able to compete and throw a lot of pitches again and still being able to bounce back is a great sign for me," he

said. "And I feel really good as far as my body and how I've been able to work midweek, so that's a positive moving into the season for sure."

Chicago starter Brett Anderson yielded eight hits and four runs, three earned, in five innings in his longest outing this spring.

"If this had been a regular-season game, it would have given us a chance to win," Anderson said. "So mostly positives going forward knowing my stuff will be better, can be better. And the fact that my body feels good and my arm feels good. I'll be ready for St. Louis and Milwaukee."

Anthony Rizzo hit a solo homer for the reigning World Series champions.

Cubs reliever Hector Rondon had a tough night, allowing four hits and four runs without

getting an out in the sixth inning. Rondon has allowed eight hits and six runs in 3 2/3 innings this spring.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Houston starter Collin McHugh, who will start the season on the 10-day disabled list after dealing with "dead arm" this spring, is scheduled to throw a simulated game on Saturday in Florida.

UP NEXT

Cubs: Right-hander Kyle Hendricks will make his sixth start of the spring when these teams wrap up exhibition play on Friday. Hendricks is 1-0 with a 2.16 ERA over 16 2/3 innings.

Astros: Right-hander Joe Musgrove is scheduled to make his seventh start this spring on Friday. Musgrove, who will begin the season as Houston's fourth starter, is 3-0 with a 2.45 ERA over 22 innings.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Federal Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) issued a public notice
on March 15-17, 2017 for the Environmental Assessment (EA)
prepared for the Criminal Alien Requirement (CAR) 16 initiative.
The Bureau encountered an unforeseen delay in the procurement
process, and needed additional time to determine the effects of
the delays on the CAR 16 initiative before making the EA available
to the public in accordance with the National Environmental Policy
Act. Having resolved the issue, the Bureau hereby gives notice
that the March 2017 EA for the CAR 16 initiative will be available
for review between March 31, 2017 and May 1, 2017.

The EA assesses the potential environmental impacts of
contracting with privately owned and operated correctional
facilities to house up to 3,600 adult, non-US citizen, federal low-
security inmates. Each selected facility under this requirement
would house between 1,200 and 1,800 inmates for a term of up
to 10 years. The seven facilities evaluated in the EA are located in
five different cities in Texas: Big Spring, Groesbeck, Pecos, Post,
and Raymondville.

Based on the EA, the Bureau has determined that implementing
the proposed action at any of the alternatives evaluated in the EA
would not result in significant environmental impacts. The EA and
draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be available for
review between March 31, 2017 and May 1, 2017 at the website
www.bureauofprisonscar16.com or at the following location:

Howard County Library
500 Main Street
Big Spring, TX 79720

Comments regarding the EA can be directed to: Issac Gaston,
Site Selection Specialist, Federal Bureau of Prisons, 320 First
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Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that
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Jess Garcia, Deceased, were
issued on March 21, 2017, in
Cause No. P-14624, pending
in the County Court of
Howard County, Texas, to:
Joyce Essman.

All persons having claims
against this Estate which is
currently being administered
are required to present them
to the undersigned within the
time and in the manner pre-
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c/o: **Geoffrey C. Sansom
Attorney at Law
Geoffrey C. Sansom, P. C.
2905 Sackett Street
Houston, Texas 77098**

DATED the 23rd day of
March, 2017.

/s/ Geoffrey C. Sansom
Geoffrey C. Sansom
State Bar No.: 24033159
2905 Sackett Street
Houston, Texas 77098
Phone: 713-238-7767
Fax: 713-993-0452
e-mail:
gsansom@dmlawfirm.com

#9340 March 31, 2017

Public Notice

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
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DE Operating LLC, 1401
Ballinger Street, Fort Worth,
Texas, 76102, is applying to
the Railroad Commission of
Texas for a permit to dispose
of produced formation
water/fluid into a formation
that is not productive of oil or
gas. The applicant proposes
to dispose of fluids into the
Ellenburger (formation), Wal-
ters 1 SWD Lease in the Sp-
rberry (Trend Area) field in
Howard County, Texas. Fluid
will be disposed into strata in
the subsurface depth interval
from 10500 - 12000 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY:
Chapter 27 of the Texas Wa-
ter Code, as amended, Title 3
of the Texas Natural Re-
sources Code, as amended,
and the STATEWIDE Rules
of the Oil and Gas Division of
the Railroad Commission of
Texas.

Requests for a public hear-
ing from persons who can
show they are adversely af-
fected or requests for further
information concerning any
aspect of the application
should be submitted in writ-
ing, within fifteen days of
publication, to the Environ-
mental Services Section, Oil
and Gas Division, Railroad
Commission of Texas, P.O.
Box 12967, Austin, Texas
78711 (Telephone
512.463.6792).

#9344 March 31, 2017

PUBLIC NOTICE INTENT TO DESTROY SPECIAL EDUCATION PRO- GRAM RECORDS

The Glasscock County Inde-
pendent School District in-
tends to destroy special edu-
cation eligibility folder re-
cords maintained for individ-
ual students who have not re-
ceived special education ser-
vices since May 2011. The
information is no longer
needed to provide education-
al services.
Special education records in-
active since May 2011 or be-
fore will be destroyed by
shredding or burning.

Destruction of these records
conforms to the require-
ments of the following legal
authorities-

Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act. §300.611-
300.625;

Texas State Library and
Archives Commission, Local
Schedule SD (13 TAC
7.125(a) (4) (Special Educa-
tion), Retention Schedule for
Records of Public School
Districts- Section 3-1: Spe-
cial Education Program Re-
cords, and Financial Account-
ability System Resource
Guide, Update 14- January
2010 - 7.4.3.3 Destruction of
Records.

A parent or adult student
wanting to exercise the right
to access those records and
request copies must make
the written request so that it
arrives in the Special Ser-
vices office no later than April
14, 2017.

Glasscock County ISD
Special Services
P.O. Box 9
Garden City, Texas 79739
432/354-2230

#9341 March 28 -April 10,
2017

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

#9340 March 31, 2017

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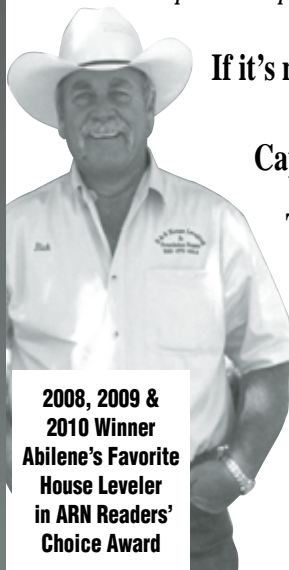


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son shares custody
with the mother of one
of his boys but lives
hundreds of miles
away. He is great with
this 9-year-old, and
the boy is very happy



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Taurus

Social perception
is a scale that weighs
by counterweight. You
perceive others to be
perfect and counter
with yourself as rather
flawed. Perceive the
folly of others and you
feel righteous. Avoid
the faulty scales today.
Their measurements
are fickle, biased and
thereby useless. Mer-
cury in steadfast Tau-
rus suggests we mind
our own business.

**ARIES (March
21-April 19).** When
you're grown, no one
has to sign a permis-
sion slip for you to go
on the field trip, you
just go. Maybe you
forgot this and you're
still waiting for per-
mission to adventure.
Grant it to yourself and
take off.

**TAURUS (April
20-May 20).** Your
desire to make other
people's lives better

Tomorrow's Horoscope

will make yours better,
too. Note that "easier"
is sometimes better,
but not always. Be
careful not to confuse
the two.

**GEMINI (May
21-June 21).** They'll
tell you that balance
is a myth. They may
be right. However,
since each person is
weighted differently
(both psychically and
physically) no one
can define balance for
another person.

**CANCER (June
22-July 22).** People
feel as though you're
confiding in them
when actually what
you're passing off as
secret information
is a carefully crafted
message suitable for
anyone. It's called
political savvy.

**LEO (July 23-
Aug. 22).** Recent
learning has you a lit-
tle more aware of how
the world works than
you were yesterday.
This doesn't make you
feel cynical. On the
contrary, it makes you
feel empowered.

**VIRGO (Aug.
23-Sept. 22).** If your
self-assessment acts
strictly in concert with
external assessments,
you're headed in a
direction that can only
lead to unhappiness,
emptiness and confu-
sion. To be sure this is
not the case, shut out

external assessments.
**LIBRA (Sept. 23-
Oct. 23).** Though you
thrive in neatness and
order, consider that a
messy and authentic
existence might be
better than the monot-
ony that comes with
having it all figured
out.

**SCORPIO (Oct.
24-Nov. 21).** Careful-
ly consider the story
you're presenting to
the world. A minor
reworking in the way
you talk about yourself
and/or your business
will be the difference
between creating at-
traction and neutrality.

**SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21).**
What stymies you in
today's situation is that
you have a motive at
all. Recognize what
you want out of this
and then let it go. De-
cide instead that you
simply want the best
for all involved.

**CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Not
everything is going to
work, but something
should! When one
attempt after another
lands in disarray, it's
time to step back, look
at the broad view and
examine your mo-
tives in relation to this
scene.

**AQUARIUS (Jan.
20-Feb. 18).** You don't
know exactly what to
do next and you don't

have to know. You're
aware that a change
is coming though. The
most productive action
will be clearing space
for something to grow.

**PISCES (Feb.
19-March 20).** As the
sign of the fish, you
sympathize with the
plight of sharks. Life is
movement. You have
to keep going to keep
breathing. Water flow-
ing over the gills gets
oxygen (and in your
case, inspiration) to
that incredible brain.

**TODAY'S BIRTH-
DAY (March 31).**
Over time, the breeze
transforms the moun-
tain, penetrates rocks,
influences the growth
of trees. With power-
ful gentleness you'll
effect great change.
May brings frivolous
events that serious-
ly benefit you. Your
grateful heart attracts
one who will spoil you.
An August contract will
augment your for-
tunes. Capricorn and
Aquarius adore you.
Your lucky numbers
are: 9, 30, 20, 22 and
1.

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Annie's Mailbox

when they are togeth-
er. The boy's 18-year-
old half brother is the
perfect big brother,
and they are very
close.

The boy's moth-
er has difficulties.
Just before I saw
him recently, she had
slapped him hard in
the face. I believe she
has choked the boy.
His voice was pretty
hoarse when I saw
him. Her daughter,
the boy's half sister,
was hospitalized after
a drug overdose that
was apparently a sui-
cide attempt.

My son says the
boy's mother would
make life difficult and

possibly contest cus-
tody if he were to try
to get full custody. His
lawyer only tells him to
document everything.
My son's mother and
sister think the same
way and advise him
against taking action.
Those three people
are not good at listen-
ing to anything that
contradicts their way
of thinking. Sugges-
tions, please. -- Wor-
ried About Grandson

Dear Worried:
Your concerns are
absolutely valid, and
this situation demands
action. Though your
son's lawyer is right
-- he should be sure to
document all evidence

of abuse -- your son
needs to go beyond
that to protect his son
right now. Your grand-
son's mom seems
to have intimidated
everyone into being
afraid. Don't play into
the roles she's written.
The stakes are very
real. Call the police if
and when you suspect
abuse, and call the
Childhelp National
Child Abuse Hotline
at 800-422-4453 for
general guidance
about how you can
support your grandson
and son.

Dear Annie: This
is in reference to
"What's in a Name?"
-- who was frustrated
that a relative had
chosen the name she
wished to use for her
future child.

This woman can
always use the name
she wanted to be for
her future son as his
middle name. It's a
simple solution. Plus,
if she ever does have
a son, his cousin will
feel good about the
child's having part of
his name.

I had friends who
gave their firstborn the
name "Cody." When
the second son came
along, they named him
"Dakota." They could
not nickname Dakota
"Cody," which in this
area is the nickname
for Dakota. So they
nicknamed Dakota

"Dak." Unfortunately,
my friends lost both
sons within less than a
month of each other --
between Thanksgiving
and Christmas -- a few
years ago.

So what really is in
a name?

I hope "What's in a
Name?" gets her wish
to have a son. My
friends were past the
age of having another
son when they lost
both Cody and Dako-
ta. I am now a grand-
mother. My daughter
and son-in-law made
my grandson's middle
name Cody, in mem-
ory of our friends' sons.
-- Proud Grandmother
in PA

Dear Proud:
Thank you for shar-
ing this incredibly
moving story. You've
put things into per-
spective. I've found
that looking at the big
picture has the power
to remove all the tiny
flaws and remind us
what a gift it is to sim-
ply be here beholding
it.

Send your questions for
Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. To find out
more about Annie Lane
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other Creators Syndicate
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♥ K J 4 3
♦ K Q 10 6 3
♣ 7 4

WEST
♠ 10 8 3
♥ A 5
♦ J 8 2
♣ K Q J 10 5

EAST
♠ 7 5
♥ 7 6
♦ A 9 7 5 4
♣ 9 8 6 2

SOUTH
♠ A K Q J 6 4
♥ Q 10 9 8 2
♦ —
♣ A 3

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

Opening lead — king of clubs.

There are contracts that might seem impossible to make, but that can nevertheless be made with the right mixture of luck and skill.

Let's say you're in six hearts and West leads a club. Certainly your prospects are poor, but they're not absolutely hopeless. So you win the club with the ace and cash the A-K of spades as both opponents follow suit.

For deceptive purposes, you now lead the jack of spades, hoping that if West started with only two spades, he will discard a diamond or a club on the assumption that his partner holds the queen of spades. But this hope does not materialize when West follows with the ten of spades.

You can't afford to discard dummy's club on this trick, since East is very likely to ruff with a small trump, so you ruff the jack of spades with the jack of hearts. When East discards on this trick, a very favorable development, you lead dummy's king of diamonds, covered by East with the ace.

There is now the sweet smell of success in the air. You ruff and continue with the queen of spades, and poor West can do nothing to stop the slam. When he discards a club, you ruff the spade with the king of hearts, discard your club loser on the queen of diamonds and lead a trump.

West wins with the ace, but that is the only trick you lose, and the "impossible" slam comes rolling home.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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su | do | ku

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery	
5:PM	Local 2	Hotel	The List	CBS 7	Tele	News	Dr. Young	Euromaxx	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	Castle (DVS)	SportsCenter		World Poker	Mod Fam	The First 48	Gold Rush	
6:PM	ABC	Noticiero	Mod Fam	CBS	Noticias	News	Zion	Business	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	Castle (DVS)	NBA Countdown	Pardon	NHRA	Mod Fam	The First 48	Gold Rush	
7:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cerado	News	Hidden	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Castle (DVS)	NBA Countdown	Final Four	Mavs Pre.	Mod Fam	The First 48	Gold Rush	
8:PM	Wheel	Dale Replay	Rosewood	MacGyver	La Fan (SS)	News	Wash	Wash	Griffith	The Originals	Percy Jackson & the Olympians	Movie: The Help, Bryce Dallas Howard (DVS)	NBA Basketball: Spurs at Thunder	NCAA Women's Tournament	Drag Racing	Mod Fam	The First 48	Gold Rush	
9:PM	Last Man Standing	Vino el Amor	(01) Sleepy Hollow	Hawaii Five-0	La Doña (SS)	Grimm (DVS)	HaYesod	On Story	Griffith	Me Madness	Reign		NBA Basketball: Spurs at Thunder	2017 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament		Mod Fam	Live PD	Gold Rush	
10:PM	Shark Tank	La Piloto	News	Blue Bloods	El Chema (SS)	Light of Southwest	Light of Southwest	Great Performances	Heroes	Seinfeld	ELeague		NBA Basketball: Rockets at Warriors		Polaris	Mod Fam	(01) Gold Rush		
11:PM	Local 2	Impacto	Mod Fam	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Great Performances	C. Burnett	King	Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief	Major Crimes			Mavs	Mod Fam	(01) Gold Rush		
12:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	Two Men	Late Show-C Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Shepherd's Heart	Newsline	Perry Mason	King	Rules				UEFA Eu	Mod Fam	(01) Gold Rush		
1:AM	Contacto	Deporitivo	How I Met James	Corden	El Chema (SS)	Seth Meyers	Dr. Young	T. Smiley	Tw. Zone	Rules	Movie: Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail				UEFA Eu	Colony (DVS)	The First 48	(02) Gold Rush	
2:AM	Extra	La Mujer del	Faith	Insider	Programa	(07) Today	Light of Southwest		Alfred Hitchcock Hr.	Cheaters	Movie: Battle: Los Angeles (DVS)			SportsCenter	30 for 30	World Poker	Law & Order: SVU	Live PD	Gold Rush
3:AM	Paid Prg.	A Que No Me Dejas	Cl	ET	Programa				Mannix	Cheaters				SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Spurs at Thunder	UFC Unleashed	Movie: The Wolfman (DVS)		Gold Rush

DENNIS THE MENACE

3-31

No Dogs Allowed

"GOOD THING RUFF CAN'T READ, OR THAT WOULD REALLY HURT HIS FEELINGS!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

3-31

"I changed my mind about having a BUBBLE bath."

HAGAR

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, LARS!

BEFORE YOU GO...

WOULD YOU MIND TAKING THE JOB JAR, TOO?

BC

3-31/17

YOU SAW NOTHING.

BLONDIE

I'M OFF TO THE STORE, HONEY

SEE IF YOU CAN FIND A COUPLE OF BOXES OF SOOTHING RELAXATION HERBAL TEA

SURE, DEAR...DO YOU HAVE ANY PARTICULAR FLAVORS IN MIND?

DOESN'T MATTER...SURPRISE ME

MARLENE!! WHO LEFT THIS STUFF ON MY DESK?!

WIZARD OF ID

3-31/17

IN FOR WHITE-COLLAR CRIME, I TAKE IT?

AGNES

I AM GOING TO TREAT TODAY AS IF IT WAS THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF MY LIFE. THIS WILL BE MY NEW ATTITUDE

IT IS THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF MY LIFE.

OH...THEN THAT'S NOT A NEW ATTITUDE...IT'S RETROGRADE. I WILL TREAT TODAY LIKE IT'S THE DAY AFTER THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF MY LIFE.

OK

YESTERDAY WAS DISAPPOINTING. THERE'S ALWAYS TOMORROW.

HI AND LOIS

HOW WAS YOUR DAY?

MUMBLE

CAN YOU ELABORATE ON THAT?

GRUMBLE

THE OTHER COAST

I FINISHED MY NOVEL "DIRK THE DACHSHUND DOG DETECTIVE." WANNA READ IT?

I GUESS SO.

"WITH THE DISCOVERY OF A BODY IN THE YARD, DIRK KNEW THIS WOULD BE NO EASY CASE TO CRACK"

WHAT THE...?

YOUR NOVEL ENDS ON PAGE TWO WHEN DIRK JUST WANDERS OFF.

HE HAS A SHORT ATTENTION SPAN.

SNUFFY SMITH

YOU'RE LOOKIN' GOOD, MAW !!

DO YA MEAN THAT, PAW, OR IS IT JEST YOU TRYIN' TO FLATTER ME ?

I AIN'T TRYIN', MAW, I'M SUCCEEDIN' !!

BEEBLE BAILEY

SOMEONE I PLAYED GOLF WITH TODAY GAVE ME A MESSAGE TO GIVE YOU BUT I FORGOT IT

I THINK YOU LEAVE YOUR MIND ON THE GOLF COURSE

MAYBE MY MIND IS IN THE WOODS WITH ALL MY LOST BALLS

This Date In History

Today is Friday, March 31, the 90th day of 2017. There are 275 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On March 31, 1917, the United States took formal possession of the Virgin Islands from Denmark.

On this date:
In 1492, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain issued an edict expelling Jews from Spanish soil, except those willing to convert to Christianity.
In 1889, French engineer Gustave Eiffel unfurled the French tricolor from atop the Eiffel Tower, officially marking its completion.
In 1923, the first U.S. dance marathon, held in New York City, ended with Alma Cummings, who had danced with six consecutive male partners, setting a world record of 27 hours on her feet.
In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Emergency Conservation Work Act, which created the Civilian Conservation Corps.
In 1943, "Oklahoma!" the first musical play by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, opened on Broadway.
In 1957, the original version of Rodgers and Hammerstein's TV musical "Cinderella," starring Julie Andrews, aired live in color on CBS.
In 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson stunned the country by announcing during a televised address that he would not seek re-election.
In 1976, the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that Karen Ann Quinlan, a young woman in a persistent vegetative state, could be disconnected from her respirator. (Quinlan, who remained unconscious, died in 1985.)
In 1986, 167 people died when a Mexicana Airlines Boeing 727 crashed in a remote mountainous region of Mexico.
In 1993, actor Brandon Lee, 28, was accidentally shot to death during the filming of the movie "The Crow" in Wilmington, North Carolina, when he was hit by a bullet fragment that had become lodged inside a prop gun.
In 1995, Mexican-American singer Selena Quintanilla-Perez, 23, was shot to death in Corpus Christi, Texas, by the founder of her fan club, Yolanda Saldívar, who was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison.
In 2005, Terri Schiavo (SHY-voh), 41, died at a hospice in Pinellas Park, Florida, 13 days after her feeding tube was removed in a wrenching right-to-die dispute.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush called for the release of 15 British sailors and marines held by Iran, calling their capture by Tehran "inexcusable behavior." (The 15 were freed four days later.) President Bush again came to the defense of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, under criticism for his role in the firing of federal prosecutors, calling him "honorable and honest." The first "Earth Hour" took place as Sydney, Australia, plunged itself into near-darkness for an hour to promote awareness of climate change. (The event went global the following year.)
Five years ago: Hundreds of world landmarks from Berlin's Brandenburg Gate to the Great Wall of China went dark as part of Earth Hour, a global effort to highlight climate change.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Really come down
 - 5 Green gamish
 - 10 Soldier for hire
 - 14 Engaged in
 - 15 Frase de afecto
 - 16 What a germ might initiate
 - 17 Shepherd's pie ingredients
 - 18 Internist's adjective
 - 19 Approach
 - 20 Site of the first Winter Olympics
 - 23 Half-inch pencil
 - 24 Historic happenings
 - 25 Something diferent
 - 31 Ceremonial garb
 - 32 Eros or Ceres
 - 36 Metal bearer
 - 37 Legal postponements
 - 38 ... Space Odyssey setting
 - 39 Ecclesiastical instruction
 - 42 "No, let me explain. . ."
 - 44 Lighthearted wedding ritual
 - 46 Extend beyond
 - 49 What "paleo-" means
 - 50 Ballpark barrier
 - 56 "Deck the Halls" instrument
 - 57 The Red-Headed League author
 - 58 Leaf collector
 - 60 Deep grooves
 - 61 Go after
- DOWN**
- 1 Baby seal
 - 2 World Oil Outlook publisher
 - 3 45th state
 - 4 Johnny Cash's daughter
 - 5 Photographer's light
 - 6 Spherical striker
 - 7 Sari-clad royal of yore
 - 8 "Think big" film sloganeer
 - 9 FedEx Cup standings
 - 10 Turkish tower
 - 11 Utopian areas
 - 12 Flinch, perhaps
 - 13 Anxieties
 - 21 They're handled in bars
 - 22 Certain pudding base
 - 25 Peter Pan beast
 - 26 Rhyme for "menorah" in Chanukah songs
 - 27 Be an accomplice
 - 28 Eye doctor's lens
 - 29 Chem lab bottle
 - 30 Creditor's demand
 - 33 Warning sign
 - 34 Apple desktop
 - 35 Partake of a feast
 - 37 Safe from harm
 - 40 Sun block of a sort
 - 41 Bend elbows at the gym
 - 42 Frivolous
 - 43 Senseless folly
 - 45 Checking account attraction
 - 46 Autumn hue
 - 47 Rival of Ryder
 - 48 Wonderland dessert
 - 51 Actress Skye
 - 52 Floor trader's workplace: Abbr.
 - 53 Project Runway host
 - 54 Banjo's key changer
 - 55 Unceasingly
 - 59 Feta source

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2017 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/31/17

Texas coach Karen Aston gives her thoughts on Final Four



AP photo

In this March 19, 2017 photo, Texas coach Karen Aston directs her players during a second-round game against North Carolina State in the NCAA women's college basketball tournament in Austin, Texas. Texas played all four teams in the Final Four this season, and Aston takes a look at the semifinals.

DALLAS (AP) — Texas coach Karen Aston faced each of the women's Final Four participants this season. Here, she breaks down the matchups for the NCAA Tournament semifinal games.

STANFORD-SOUTH CAROLINA

This will be a battle of two teams with distinct offensive styles. We played Stanford in our first game and in our last game this season, and it was impressive to see the growth of that basketball team. Erica McCall grew a lot individually throughout the season. She has quite the edge about her right now that seniors tend to get at NCAA Tournament time.

The matchup between McCall and A'ja Wilson will clearly be the marquee one in this game. Everyone knows Wilson's capability to dominate a game on both ends of the court. She's had to do more in the NCAA Tournament with Alaina Coates out, and Dawn Staley has adjusted her style to go smaller and mismatch people. That gives South Carolina a different look than they had with the big lineup that we faced.

Both teams use a pair of point guards and whichever one can establish their pace and tempo will be important. Each point guard has different strengths and weaknesses, and it will come down to who can control the tempo and make the right decision at the right time.

Those point guards will be key to not turning the ball over. It may come down to whoever can steal baskets in transition. Stanford gained so much confidence in its win over Notre Dame when the Cardinal were able to get some easy transition points.

Finally, the X-factors to me will be Stanford's Brittany McPhee and South Carolina's Kaela Davis. Both

were huge for their teams in the regional championship games and they could be the determining factor in who comes away with the victory.

MISSISSIPPI STATE-UCONN

I think everybody's going to think that this is a matchup that pits UConn's offense against Mississippi State's defense. It makes sense because all year long, Mississippi State has hung its hat on defense and UConn has the most efficient and free-flowing offense in the country.

To me, the opposite of that is just as important. How will the Bulldogs score against the Huskies offense? Mississippi State got a special performance from Morgan William against Baylor and someone will have to step up and generate shots and points against a very underrated UConn defense.

The one way teams have been able to stay with the Huskies this year is when UConn has gotten in foul trouble. However, they can overcome that because all five of UConn's players are so versatile defensively that they can switch on defense without losing too much. They also play such solid position defense and that makes them tough to score on.

Geno Auremma has had a chance to try out different defenses in the NCAA Tournament with some zones and traps. I'm guessing that his in-game adjustments will keep Mississippi State off balance.

UConn has also gotten big contributions from nearly everyone on the floor on the offensive end. That makes the Huskies that much more difficult to plan for. You really can't leave anyone open because they will find a way to beat you.

Rangers and 2B Odor reach 6-year deal worth at least \$49.5M

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Rowned Odor can buy a lot of hay, and maybe even a few more horses, with his new contract from the Texas Rangers.

The young second baseman agreed Thursday to a six-year pact that includes a club option for 2023 and guarantees him at least \$49.5 million. The deal was sealed when the AL West champions added two horses.

"I have a passion for horses," Odor said. "I love horses. It's one of my hobbies, being around the horses."

So when general manager Jon Daniels saw no reaction from Odor after presenting the financial numbers, the GM showed a picture of the quarter-

As for the money, Odor got a \$2 million signing bonus and a \$13.5 million club option for 2023 with a \$3 million buyout. His salary will be \$1 million this season, and then it will increase to \$3 million in 2018 and \$7.5 million in 2019. He will make \$9 million in 2020 before \$12 million in each of the last two years of the contract.

"He's 23 years old and already one of the best middle infielders in the game," Daniels said. "The sky's the limit."

The new contract will also allow Odor to move his parents and teenage

sister to Texas from his tumultuous home country of Venezuela.

"I always wanted to bring my family to here. They love Texas, they love being around here," Odor said. "It's a little hard when we play here and our family is in another country."

Odor is already going into his fourth season with the Rangers. He hit .271 with 33 home runs and 88 RBIs last year, when he became known to many for punching Toronto slugger Jose Bautista during a May 15 game, the finale of a contentious series. Odor served a seven-game suspension for his role in the fight.



AP photo

In this March 1, 2017 photo, Texas Rangers' Rougned Odor follows through on a base hit against the Los Angeles Angels during the first inning of a spring training baseball game, in Tempe, Ariz.

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Amazon.com announces 10th fulfillment center in Texas

KATY, Texas (AP) — Amazon.com Inc. has announced plans for a 10th fulfillment center in Texas.

Seattle-based Amazon on Wednesday announced the site in Katy, near Houston, will have about 1 million square feet of space and create 1,000 full-time jobs. Amazon employees will pick, pack and ship larger-sized customer items, such as music equipment, sports gear and electronics.

The company, with operations in Texas since 2013, currently has facilities in Coppell, Haslet, Dallas, Fort Worth, Schertz, and San Marcos. An Amazon statement says previously announced sites in Houston and Coppell are under construction.

2 brothers arrested over 2 fatally shot at Houston complex

HOUSTON (AP) — Investigators say two brothers have been arrested following a weekend argument and gunfire outside a Houston apartment complex that left two people dead and four wounded.

Harris County jail records show 28-year-old Jeremy Jones was being held without bond Thursday on a charge of capital murder of multiple persons. Records show 34-year-old Harvey Jones was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and also denied bond.

Sheriff's officials say two groups of people argued Sunday night, leading to gunfire that left two men dead — Gary Rusher and Christopher Beatty. Two other men and two women were wounded.

A sheriff's statement says investigators believe Jeremy Jones shot the victims.

38 cars of Union Pacific freight train derail in East Texas

MALAKOFF, Texas (AP) — Thirty-eight cars of a Union Pacific freight train, including two locomotives, have derailed in a small East Texas town.

Union Pacific spokesman Jeff DeGraff said the derailment happened about 6 p.m. Wednesday in Malakoff, a town of about 2,300 residents 70 miles southeast of Dallas. DeGraff said the derailment involved box, hopper, tanker and other freight cars.

DeGraff said there were no injuries. He said no cause has been determined for the derailment and there is no estimate yet for how long the rail line will be closed.

Texas Senate OKs 'fetal remains' bill despite court case

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas Senate has given preliminary approval to a bill mandating burial or cremation of fetal remains from abortions and miscarriages, even though a federal judge already blocked an existing state rule requiring the same thing.

Dallas Republican Sen. Don Huffines' bill passed 22-9 on Wednesday. It still needs a final vote to send it to the House. Huffines says Texas now allows putting fetal remains in garbage disposals, though medical providers note that they usually are incinerated and deposited in sanitary landfills.

Opponents argue the bill will discourage abortions by making them more expensive.

Texas' health department previously set rules requiring fetal remains' burial or cremation, but a U.S. district judge suspended them as "purely political." Lawmakers are nonetheless trying to make the mandate part of state law.

Texas Senate approves ending public payroll union deductions

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas Senate has given preliminary approval to ending voluntary payroll deductions of union dues from state and public employee paychecks.

Houston Republican Sen. Joan Huffman says the government shouldn't be in the business of collecting union dues. But her bill still allows payroll deductions for charities and for unions for first-responder groups, like police and firefighters.

Huffman fought off attempts by Democrats to allow public school teachers to have their union's dues automatically collected from their paychecks.

Labor groups oppose the measure as an attack on unions. It passed 20-11 Wednesday along party lines within the Senate's Republican majority.

13 killed, 2 hurt when church bus and truck crash in Texas



This aerial image made from a video provided by KABB/WOAI shows a deadly crash involving a van carrying church members and a pickup truck on U.S. 83 outside Garner State Park in northern Uvalde County, Texas, Wednesday, March 29, 2017. The group of senior adults from First Baptist Church of New Braunfels, Texas, was returning from a retreat when the crash occurred, a church statement said.

UVALDE, Texas (AP) — A small shuttle bus carrying Texas church members home from a retreat collided head-on with a pickup truck, killing 13 people and injuring two others Wednesday on a two-lane highway in southwestern Texas, officials said.

All of the victims who died were senior adults who attended First Baptist Church of New Braunfels, Texas, including the driver. A total of 14 senior adults were on the bus and the driver was the only person in the pickup when the vehicles collided about 12:30 p.m. on U.S. 83 outside Garner State Park in northern Uvalde County, according to Texas Department of Public Safety Sgt. Conrad Hein and a church statement. The area is about 75 miles (120.7 km) west of San Antonio.

Hein said two other bus passengers and the pickup driver were injured and hospitalized. One of those passengers died at a San Antonio hospital late Wednesday, DPS Lt. Johnny

Hernandez said. The lone surviving passenger was hospitalized in critical condition, while the truck driver was hospitalized in stable condition, he said.

It was not immediately clear what caused the collision about 120 miles (193.1 km) from the church, where the members were headed.

The National Transportation Safety Board has sent investigators to the scene, NTSB spokesman Terry Williams said.

Photos and video of the crash's aftermath showed heavy damage to the front drivers' sides of both vehicles where it appeared the two had collided. The back of the bus was up on a guardrail, with glass and debris scattered onto the grass below.

Hein said the small bus was a 2004 Turtle Top, though he did not know the specific model. Turtle Top's website features shuttle buses with capacities ranging from 17 to 51 passengers, which they bill as "a great alternative to the standard 15-passenger

van." Safety concerns have long surrounded the 15-passenger vans, also frequently used by churches and other groups, with advocates saying they can be difficult to control in an emergency.

Church officials said in a statement on the First Baptist website that the members were returning from a three-day retreat at the Alto Frio Baptist Encampment in Leakey, about 9 miles (14.5 km) north of where the crash happened.

The church officials were "ministering to family members to help them deal with this trag-

edy," according to the statement. Counselors also were scheduled to be available Thursday at the church.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott and his wife, Cecilia, offered their condolences in the hours after the crash.

"We are saddened by the loss of life and our hearts go out to all those affected," their statement said. "We thank the first responders working on the scene in the wake of this unimaginable tragedy, and ask that all Texans join us in offering their thoughts and prayers."

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Faces of the Crossroads

2017 Progress Edition

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- Faith & Courage
- Learning & Leisure
- Health & Fitness
- Business & Industry



A publication of the

BIG SPRING HERALD

Friday, March 31, 2017

Backing the blue

Local churches band together to provide equipment for local law enforcement

By **ROGER CLINE**
Staff Writer

Law enforcement officers are often met with fear, distrust, and even hatred from the very people they're pledged to "protect and serve."

A local coalition of churches and pastors aims to counter that sentiment with financial and moral support of Howard County's police department, sheriff's office, and other law enforcement providers. The coalition is organized and led by the Rev. Sam Segundo of Family Faith Center.

"[Big Spring Police] Chief Chad Williams approached me and asked us to pray," Se-

and the donation in mid-December of tactical trauma kits for each police officer and sheriff's deputy in Howard County.

Segundo said the group has plans for the coming year.

"There are a lot of things that are coming up this year," he said. "We have the National Day of Prayer the first Thursday of May, and then we are organizing strategically 12 churches, 12 pastors, that are going to come together, and we're going to work together quarterly to dismantle certain negative things in our community."

Although high-profile

Anybody who protects and provides for you ought to be honored. So that's why we give honor to whom honor is due. 'Honor' is a word that has somewhat gone extinct in this generation, but we're bringing it back."

The support has been well-received from local law enforcement.

"The law enforcement have been very gracious," Segundo said. "They were very thankful and very appreciative, and very blessed and encouraged that the Christian community of Big Spring would undergird and support them. We've seen in the past how in our nation



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Manny Negrón of Life Church and the Rev. Sam Segundo of Family Faith Center carry a case of tactical trauma kits into the Troy M. Hogue Law Enforcement Center.

Segundo said. "To see if the Church of Big Spring, which, in general, there's lots of different churches, what I call 'tents', but there is one church of Jesus Christ, and that's called a 'camp'. So we can have a camp, but in the camp, there's a lot of tents. He came to me and said "Can the camp of Christianity come together, bring the tents together, and can the churches collectively pray and see if they can help and assist in purchasing these units?"

Segundo took up the mission and spread the call to other local pastors.

"Every single one of them ... I only approached six of them. Or five, with us being six. All of them jumped on the idea," he said. "They thought it was a great idea, and they whole-heartedly pursued it."

Segundo said the first six pastors involved in the coalition include himself, were Bill Ivins of First United Methodist Church, Mark Lindsey of First Baptist Church, Scott Kirkland of Trinity Baptist Church, Kevin Knudson of Life Church, and Michael Willard of Cornerstone Covenant Church.

Thus far, the group has organized two big projects, a "City-Wide Police Officer Prayer Ceremony" Aug. 1, 2016;

shootings in Dallas and Baton Rouge have gotten a lot of press, Segundo said even the local community has seen a rise in distrust of police, which was part of the impetus to organize the support group.

"It was, to a certain degree. But like I said, we are organizing a strategic team called the Big Spring Howard County Minister's Fellowship," he said. "Twelve pastors, 12 churches, and together we are going to...the word we are using is 'dismantle' evil, dishonor, and disrespect."

The support of law enforcement has a basis in Christian doctrine, he added.

"From a Christian perspective, we see in the Book of Hebrews, it says 'Give honor to whom honor is due,' he said. "Our police and law enforcement agents, they protect us and they provide for us.

it's gone a little overboard with disrespect and dishonor to our law enforcement agents, but we wanted to do the opposite and let our law enforcement agents know that here in our community of Big Spring, Texas, we support and endorse and honor them, not just in word but in deed."

The Prayer Ceremony Aug. 1 drew about 100 local residents to the Troy M. Hogue Law Enforcement Center. Big Spring Mayor Larry McLellan, Police Chief Williams, Howard County Sheriff Stan Parker, and Howard County Judge Kathryn Wiseman joined local pastors and church representatives to pray for Big Spring and its law enforcement personnel.

"I thank you guys, preachers, for coming out and praying for us," Williams said during the event. You know, See **BLUE**, Page 4

Templo Belen
Assembly of God
2205 Goliad St. - Big Spring, Texas
432-267-2111

Services:
Tuesday: Atoma Youth Ministry
Wednesday: Prayer Meeting @ 6 pm
Girls Ministries & Royal Ranger Meeting

Sunday Services:
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship & Message 10:30 am
Evening Service 5:00 pm

Pastor: **Maria S. & Domingo Rios**
Bilingual Services



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

First Baptist Church Youth Pastor Jonathan Raffini sits behind his desk in his office. Raffini has been FBC's youth pastor for the past six years.

The kids are alright

How South Carolina native Jonathan Raffini leads Howard County teens to the Lord

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Kids are busy these days.

They have to make time for school, make time for their friends, make time for extra-curricular activities, and some even have to make time for jobs.

Jonathan Raffini's job is to make sure they make time for God.

For the past six years, Raffini has been the youth minister at First Baptist Church in Big Spring, overseeing teenagers in grades 7 through 12, and he says one of the biggest challenges he faces is finding ways to ensure the youth in his charge don't neglect the church as they're navigating through their hectic schedules.

"Kids are super, super busy these days ... They're busier than they've ever been," Raffini said. "I knew they were busy when I became a youth minister, but I didn't realize how busy they were. That's been challenging."

The Anderson, S.C. native can be excused if he's kind of busy himself — after all, being a youth minister entails more than just running a Sunday School class. Raffini does that, of

course, but he also conducts Wednesday night youth worship services at First Baptist, he hosts the teens in his youth group at his home every Sunday night, and he oversees numerous activities and projects during the year, as well as making time to attend the teens' outside-of-church activities, such as athletic contests or band concerts.

Needless to say, his days are full — but they're rewarding, as well.

"I first come to know them when they're little 4 1/2-foot-tall seventh graders," he said. "Then, watching them walk across the stage at their high school graduations, I hope I had a small part in that. Some of them even come back later and help (with youth projects). That's very rewarding."

Raffini came to Big Spring via his native South Carolina and seminary school in New Orleans — with a stop in Canada for good measure.

He said he was "active, but not involved" with the church growing up in Anderson, and enrolled in Lander University at Greenwood, S.C., intent

See **KIDS**, Page 3

House Of Hope Community Church

200 W. 17th St. Colorado City, Texas
(325) 728-5900

Multi-Racial Non-Denominational Church
Everyone is welcome.....

Spirit Filled..... Spirit Led



SERVICES:
Sunday

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.

Rev. Floyd Green, Jr., Pastor

**BUT SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD
AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND ALL THESE
THINGS SHALL BE ADDED TO YOU.**

Matthew 6: 33

Edson Way's long walk down the path of ministry

By **LYNDEL MOODY**

Staff Writer

Before taking ordination vows at the age of 61, J. Edson Way, priest-in-charge of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, lived a carrier-minded, successful, and fulfilling life.

So the idea of becoming an Episcopal priest at his age with the 24/7 responsibilities of overseeing the spiritual needs of a congregation and daily administration of a parish seemed a bit crazy to him. And several times he considered walking away during the four year approval process to seek training to become an ordained priest.

"I needed that time to be really, really sure because I had a good life before leaving for seminary. I knew that going to seminary and being ordained, I was going to surrender a great deal of personal autonomy

— the ability to make my own way in life and my own choices," Edson said.

"And there were times I stepped back from the process and thought 'this doesn't make any sense. I'm too old,'" he continued. "'I've got a good life why put yourself through this.' But every time I stepped away, things would start to go wrong, and I would say, 'okay, I'll do it' and then the path would straighten out and become level."

His path to the ministry was a long walk.

"My mother taught my brother and me about God and god's love," he said. "She came from an Anglican tradition which stressed God's love over God's judgment. So I believed in a beneficial, loving, caring God. In spite of the chaos of my childhood, what carried over to me

KIDS

Continued from Page 2

on earning a degree in computer technology.

"I wanted to work with computers ... but I was horrible in that class," he said. "I didn't yet know what I wanted to do, so I started taking business classes."

Over his college summers, however, he started helping out with his church's youth ministry, and a spark was struck.

"It spoke to me, and I decided that's what I wanted to do," he said.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in history from Lander, he attended the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, where he received his master's degree in divinity in 2006. From there, he headed north.

"While I was still at seminary, I spent my summers starting new churches in Canada, which is where I met my wife," Raffini said. "After I graduated, we got married and lived in Okotoks, Alberta (close to Cal-



Courtesy photo

The youth of First Baptist Church pose after a summer food fight.

person."

Raffini says being a youth minister is the same as being pastoring adults — only different.

"I don't want our youth to be considered those crazy teenagers down the hall," he said. "They're part of the entire church. I want them learning the same thing the adults learn on Sunday morning, only relating to them on their level."

While the First Baptist youth certainly participate in a lot of activities, it's not all just fun and games, their pastor said.

"Sometimes in the history of youth ministry ... we tried to entertain them into coming to church, and we just can't do that anymore," he said. "They're not just here to have a good time — they can probably figure out how to do that on their own — but learn how to be biblical Christians."

Ministering to teenagers involves much more than just reciting sermons and overseeing activities, Raffini noted — the biggest part of the job is just being available when they need him.

"Listening to them is huge," he said. "Kids are texting each other all the time ... but having a chance to just talk and listen to someone, they may not have that at home or school. It's abundantly clear to me they need someone to listen to them, so I do that, and I try to create time during our regular activities to do just that."

Although Raffini doesn't know what the future holds in store for him, it's obvious he loves his job.

"I'd love to be here as long as I can. I love the kids — they keep me young," he said. "I don't know what God's plan is for me, but I'd love to be 60 years old, playing dodgeball with these kids."



Courtesy photo

Youth Pastor Jonathan Raffini poses with his family. From left, Elizabeth, Anna, and wife Rebekah.

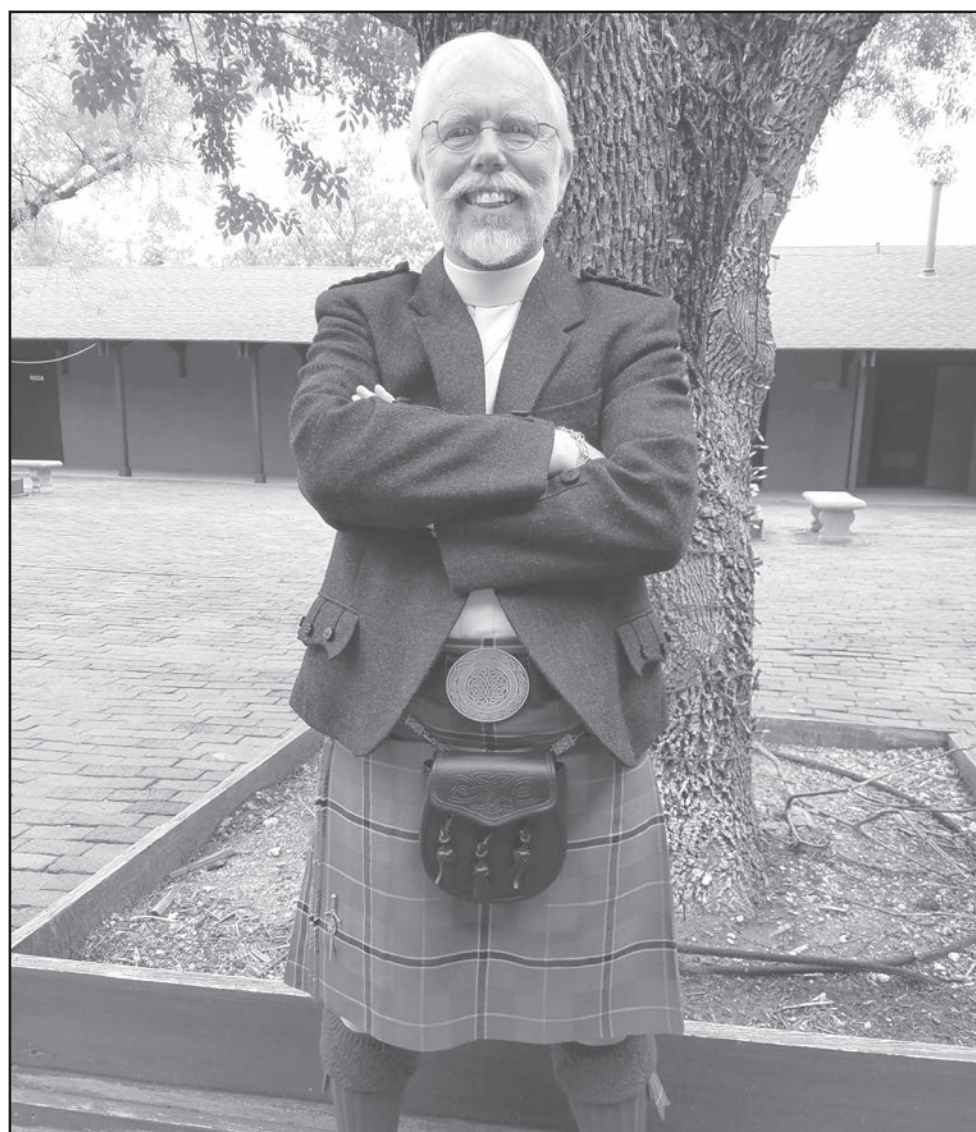
gary), starting a new church there." Finally, in 2011, he headed south to Texas.

"I was thinking about getting another job in youth ministry ... when I was contacted by Pastor Lindsey (Mark Lindsey of First Baptist in Big Spring)," Raffini said. "We talked on the phone ... and I had an interview (via the internet) with the church's search committee. We then came out here in



Courtesy photo

First Baptist Church youth worship during a Wednesday night service.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

The Rev. J. Edson Way of St. Mary's Episcopal Church priest in charge poses in the courtyard in front of the church.

is eventually, everything would be okay because God loved me."

Although God's love was taught to the family, Edson's father didn't go to church, so the family as a whole didn't attend regular services.

"When I was 12 my dad quit drinking. He was an alcoholic," Edson recalled. "That triggered a huge transformation for my family. My dad was never mean or ugly when he was drinking, he was just totally irresponsible. He was the third kid in our family. When he joined AA, he suddenly became responsible, and my brother and I suddenly lost one of our favorite playmates. It was tough. Through the precepts of AA (Alcoholic Anonymous), I learned about a

higher power which I equated in my child's way of being God the father."

In 1968, Edson would earn his undergraduate degree in anthropology at Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin. Also at college, he met Jenny, who would later become his wife. Jenny hails from a historic ranching family in the Colorado City area — or as Edson's pronounces Colo-ray-do City — as many of the long-timers of the West Texas town still does.

Following his undergraduate degree, Edson and Jenny headed to Canada where he earn his master's and PhD in anthropology from the University of Toronto. During this time, Jenny earned her master's

See WAY, Page 4

14TH AND MAIN CHURCH OF CHRIST



The one word Clark Tatum, the preaching minister of the 14th and Main Church of Christ uses to sum up the rich and unique history of the congregation is "excited." The church first began to meet in Big Spring in 1912 and the members continue to share their excitement about the marvelous ways God has worked and is working in the church family today. People, are important to us as they are to God — first, last and always.

The family of God that meets at 14th and Main is rich in relationships and Clark invites you to join with them in **the ultimate adventure of following Jesus**. Growing together he says, "We worship, we laugh, we learn, we serve, and we reach out to encourage everyone with the good news of Jesus. We strive to be known in this community and the surrounding areas as a church that unquestionably loves God and that love is evidenced in our daily interaction with people."

The church at 14th Main is a non-denominational, independent congregation that desires to be known as a church that loves God, His Word, people and strives earnestly to be faithful to their calling as Christians. The church family believes Jesus abiding in the heart of a person can make a positive difference in life at home, work, and in the neighborhood.

The church calendar hosts many enjoyable and enriching activities for children of all ages. The youth are encouraged to do various service projects and outreach ministries as they share their lives by attending retreats, camps, devotionals, and assisting those in need. Mr. Tatum says, "We do not think of our teens and preteens in the family as the church of tomorrow, but as the church of today."

Come and see for yourself and give us the chance to express Christ's love.
Clark Tatum, Preaching Minister

- Sunday Bible Classes.....9:00 AM
- Sunday AM Assembly.....10:00 AM
- Sunday PM Assembly.....5:00 PM
- Tuesday Ladies Class.....10:00 AM
- Wednesday Bible Classes.....6:30 PM

*Loving God...
loving each other!*

where friends are made!

1401 S. MAIN BIG SPRING, TX
263-1303

WAY

Continued from Page 3

degree in museum studies at the Royal Ontario Museum.

The two headed back to Wisconsin and Beloit College where Edson taught anthropology classes and serve as the director of the campus anthropology museum for the next 13 years.

Later Edson would become interim director of the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science located in Albuquerque, N.M., director of the New Mexico Museum of Space History in Alamogordo, N.M., and helped found the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Museum in Las Cruces, N.M., before accepting the appointment as the director of New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs.

But then his non-political position, which had been considered professional exempt from changes in government leadership, suddenly became a plumb assignment to fill of the then incoming new governor, he said. Edson found himself without a job.

“Suddenly I was free,” he said. “Even prior to that transition, this crazy idea had begun that I was suppose to become a priest. I said I can’t do that. I don’t want to do that. I love this job and suddenly I was free to become a parish priest. I think the holy spirit left fingerprints on that transition.”

Even though his wife was raised in the Episcopal Church and the two has spent 20 years in the Quaker faith, it was late in his life before Edson was drawn to the denomination.

“I went to a funeral of a friend at a Episcopal Church in Santa Fe and the burial rights of the Episcopal church is so beautiful and so steeped in scripture and so steeped in the hope of the resurrection and promise of eternal life, I signed up for the confirmation class in that Episcopal Church,” he said. “Then I had this growing revolution that I suppose to go to seminary after a few years.”

After a lengthy, multi-year process, Edson was approved to attend Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest located in Austin, Texas. Although he considers himself a pretty smart guy, Edson said seminary was challenging. “I thought the academic part of it

was going to be easier part for me because I had a PhD from a reputable place. I was use to academic work but seminary is of a different nature,” he said. “It was a huge adjustment for me to move out of head knowledge, mastering facts and that sort of thing, into what I would call heart knowledge to engage in both intellectual but as important emotional level.”

He wrestled intensely his first year with this new way of thinking.

“With what is taught at seminary — the old and new testament, the writings — all of that needs to be incorporated into the body, not just the head the way most academic training goes,” he said. “I’d been at seminary about 30 days and I thought I don’t know if I could do this. For one thing the reading assignments are anywhere from 250 to 500 pages every night. If your not in class you are reading constantly until late at night, getting up in the morning and doing it again. It was so hard. I thought somewhere in the last 30 years I got stupid. I don’t think I can do this.”

“I had a classmate who was a Yale Medical School graduate. She had been a pediatrician with her own practice in Arkansas and after 10 years of practice as a medical doctor she had felt the call to priesthood,” he continued. “I saw her walking down the sidewalk about the same time I had this crises of nerve. I’m just too stupid for this. I saw her slouching, so when she came into the room, I asked ‘are you all right,’ and she said ‘I just feel so stupid.’

“And I said to myself, thank you Jesus, because if she feels stupid then I’m doing okay. Gradually over time, it just get’s better. You learn how not to fight it, to surrounding, and how to incorporate it. Taking it into your body at the heart level.”

Those early struggles helped to transform him to meet the needs of ministry, he admitted.

“In the process in the three years of seminary, you are reformed as a human being to heighten your self awareness – okay this is happening and I am reacting to this. Why am I reacting to this in a this way. Where previously you just would have reacted,” he explained. “You develop this interior voice that says this is going on how do I respond to it.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
At top, Rev. Way blesses a dog during the church’s annual Blessing of the Animals held in October in conjunction with the feast day for St. Francis of Assisi. At bottom, the Rev. J. Edson Way, middle, stands with St. Mary’s two deacons Connie Fowler, left, and John Marshall in front of the church’s altar.

How do I need to respond to it. You negotiate your way through the day. “Basically you are on call 24/7,” he continued. “The phone call comes at 3 o’clock in the morning and you need to get up, put on your collar and go to the hospital. You meet somebody in crisis at 6 o’clock in the morning over donates and coffee

some place. The key to survival of all of this is to remember to pray. To prayer for guidance, to pray for strength. To pray that you know that the holy spirit is with you when you are in God’s service. That might sound hokey to some people, but it is a physical reality.”



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Pastors and other church representatives listen to Big Spring Police Chief Chad Williams describe the usefulness of the kits in “active shooter” situations.

BLUE

Continued from Page 2

we sometimes get bogged down in the day-to-day of law enforcement, and we go to places that aren’t always friendly, so to come out and see the support is great, and really appreciated by our men and women in blue.”

In mid-December, the group again made their way to the Hogue Law Enforcement Center, this time bearing gifts.

The gifts included tactical trauma kits for each police officer and sheriff’s deputy, designed to clip easily to an officer’s uniform and carry emergency medical supplies to provide first aid for injuries, including gunshot wounds.

“If [officers] get dispatched to an active shooter situation, they arrive on scene, they grab this, they clip it on,” Williams said during the presentation. “The clip is already on their duty belts, strap it around their legs,

and they can go in. Should they be shot or injured inside the building, you know, medical is not coming in until that scene is cleared, so it may be some time before they see medical assistance. This equipment will buy them some time. They can use that tourniquet to stop the bleeding, or other equipment in here to compress and stop the bleeding until they receive medical attention.”

“The Bible tells us that we’re to obey the governing authorities because they’ve been appointed over us by God,” said Ivins, who was there to help present the kits. “When we obey the governing authorities, we live at far greater peace in our communities. We want to do whatever we can to support these men and women in blue because we believe that they are appointed by God. It is a calling, and we’re just going to support their calling, because in supporting them and providing for their needs, we help ourselves as a community.”

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
 10th & Goliad • Big Spring
 (432) 267-8201



Founded In 1884

Sunday Holy Eucharist.....10:30 AM
 Wednesday Bible Study.....10:30 AM
 Wednesday Evening Prayer.....5:30 PM

MISSION: Our Mission is to reach out in Christ’s love to our community and all God’s creation through faith, worship and service.
VISION: We see St. Mary’s as a **BEACON** of Christ’s love, **B**elievers, **E**cumenical, **A**ccepting, **C**ommunity, **O**ptimistic and **N**urturing.

The Reverend J. Edson Way
 www.stmarysbst.org



Alive in Christ Lutheran Church - LCMS
 Celebrating & sharing God’s love & grace in our lives!
 Sunday Service 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am
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 Phone: (432) 264 - 7818



Courtesy photos

Above, members of the Cross Roads Young Marines are involved in lots of community events, from parades and ceremonies to team building activities.

MARINES

Continued from Page 5

with financial assistance for youth entering the program.

"Scholarships are available to enter our Young Marine Program if there are parents that can't afford it or think it's too expensive," Rodman said. "There are businesses out here that want to sponsor children, to help them get into this program. All they got to do is just let us know their financial hardship and we work with them. We find any means we can to get their child in the program."

The local Young Marine unit meets every other

Saturday at their Big Spring headquarters.

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The mission of the Big Spring Young Marines is to positively impact America's future by providing quality youth development programs for boys and girls that nurtures and develops its members into responsible citizens who enjoy and promote a healthy, drug free lifestyle.

"It's not a feeder program to the armed services," Rodman said. "It's similar to an ROTC program. Some of these kids enjoy the discipline. They enjoy the military type background. We try to work closely with them and help them."

After joining, new recruits undergo a 26-hour orientation program over several weekly meetings.

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The Young Marines earn ribbons and rank for achievements, similar to the military. Ribbons are awarded in areas such as leadership, community service, sports, academia, first aid, and drug awareness education.

"We have a large awards manual where each young marine are allowed to earn certain personalized awards," Rodman said. "Each ribbon represents something just like in the military, regardless of branch."

The Young Marines stay active in the local community volunteering well over the required fifty hours of volunteer service a year, prioritizing their efforts to aid local veterans and affiliations.

"We give back a lot to our community," Rodman said. "We believe in giving back instead of always taking, especially with our veterans organizations"

The group have also volunteered with past community events.

"We have helped out the Northside Movement in their Easter Egg Hunt," Rodman said. "We worked for Funtastic Fourth. We've also helped out the

Hanger 25 Museum. We help the GEO Group in their veterans 5K run they have every year."

All Young Marine units participate in Veterans Appreciation Week every year in November. It's a chance for the recruits to show their appreciation and help veterans in the community.

"Veterans Week is something else that we earn a ribbon for," Rodman said. "Through November 1st -11th is what we consider Veterans Week. A lot of our Marine units are busy...it's Veterans Day, the Marine Corp Birthday, and all of that. That's when we do a lot of our giving back for our veterans."

In celebration, the local unit hosted their first Marine Corp Ball last year. The ball is held on the Marine Corps Birthday.

"A lot of towns will have their own ball or dance," Rodman said. "Last year we decided to do one ourselves for our Howard County Marines. We sold tickets, we had music available, we had a catered event. It was a black-tie event. The kids really enjoyed it."

The Young Marines are involved with a drug demand reduction initiative that focuses on raising awareness and educating the community about drugs.

"Our Young Marines go through a program that's online called, 'Project Alert' and that helps us to help teach other kids," Rodman said. "Our Young Marines will do research and presentations and study the types of drugs that are out now. We give that out to the public."

Some of the former alumni of the Young Marines come back to volunteer and guide current recruits.

"They'll come back and do the paperwork and come back as registered adult volunteers," Rodman said. "Help out where they left off. They know the program. There's a couple Young Marines that are in the Marine Corp now. Right now they're overseas, but they have helped us a time or two. We enjoy their help."

Upon completion of the Young Marines program, many go on to service in the armed services. Some of them decide to utilize the discipline they learned to further their education and career path instead.

"Some don't go into the Marine Corp," Rodman said. "I know some that who wanted to go into the Army and some just wanted to just go to college and not have a military career. They still use the same leadership and discipline in their work force and in their in their college years. It helps them prepare for adulthood."

"The world out there isn't as fun and gentle as they think it is," Rodman continued. "We've had some kids that have gone to the Marine Corp and have earned a high rank just starting out. They automatically became PSCs or one rank above everybody else when they graduate."

For more information or to join the Crossroads Young Marines contact Rodman at: 432-517-4791.

TONN

Continued from Page 5

Juan baptized 45 men and women at the jail.

"Some of the women were weeping and crying. They were saying they have been so lifted up," said Mona Lue. "They were all so excited and couldn't wait for their turn."

"They came in and before we baptized them we told them what baptism is," continued Mona Lue. "It is not a saving part of salvation. You get saved and then Jesus said to repent and be baptized. So when you are saved and you get baptized, it is like the icing on the cake. I thought that would help make them understand what it was about."

Although the group has only performed one baptism, they expect more baptism events are on the horizon.

Both Mona Lue and Gena look forward to going back each week to share their faith in Christ.

"Just this last week we had 13 girls and 11 guys and every one of them said the sinner's prayer and asked God to save their soul," said Gena back in January. "It's really awesome. When they first come in they are kind of fogged over and to see that fog lift and the life come back in their eyes, that is one of the most inspiring things you could ever witness."

"My favorite part is being able to give back and to see that fog lift and to see that light come back on in their eyes. There's nothing like it. There's nothing like doing what God wants you to do."

Although Spring Tabernacle's doors are closed permanently, the two continue to host and participate in women's Bible study classes throughout the week.

They also emphasized the importance of finding a church home for new and old believers alike.

"It's so very important to find a church that loves and accepts you and to find support groups to find people that are going through the same things," said Gena. "It's really very important that you stay in touch with people that are going through the same things."

Mona, Gena, and Juan plan to continue the prison ministry indefinitely.

While Mona has her preaching and singing and Gena has plans for a rehabilitation center, the mother-daughter team aren't stopping their mission for Jesus anytime soon.

"The most important commandment is love," said Gena. "And that's what we wanna do. I want people to know that they're loved and it'll be okay."

LONG

Continued from Page 5

protective orders, getting her to safety and giving her options to stay away from him. Unfortunately she went back to him, and she called me to let me know they were moving out of town.

"These were the last words she told me before she hung up, 'you know Shann I think I can love him enough that I can change him,'" she continued. "Two weeks later, law enforcement from the county she lived called and advised she attempted to leave him and he killed her. The news devastated me and it was a very dark time for me but it made me stronger, more aware and persistent to help the next client of domestic violence."

Her job called her to deal with victims who faced horrible situations, issues that "that humans should not hear that were done to other folks and having to walk through that with them."

"I've always said I wish that we didn't have to have our agency but thank goodness that we do," she said.

"For all the years, it wasn't just about me providing services to someone but it was also that I learned from them as well, from everyone," she said. "And it didn't matter from what community that we worked with, the only thing we had to do was call them and say we've got a situation can you help us out and everyone was always there and even today 20 years later."

At the party, Parchman was quick to thank the volunteers, board members, co-workers, law enforcement and all the agencies she has worked with over the years that have always supported the agency.

"To the thousands of clients that I have worked with I hope you are in a safer, better place and also know that your experiences are what made me a stronger person," she said. "The agency taught me a lot and the experiences will never be forgotten."



COURAGE

True greatness comes when you're tested



Courtesy photos

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MARINES

Continued from Page 5

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"A lot of towns will have their own ball or dance," Rodman said. "Last year we decided to do one ourselves for our Howard County Marines. We sold tickets, we had music available, we had a catered event. It was a black-tie event. The kids really enjoyed it."

The Young Marines are involved with a drug demand reduction initiative that focuses on raising awareness and educating the community about drugs.

"Our Young Marines go through a program that's online called, 'Project Alert' and that helps us to help teach other kids," Rodman said. "Our Young Marines will do research and presentations and study the types of drugs that are out now. We give that out to the public."

Some of the former alumni of the Young Marines come back to volunteer and guide current recruits.

"They'll come back and do the paperwork and come back as registered adult volunteers," Rodman said. "Help out where they left off. They know the program. There's a couple Young Marines that are in the Marine Corps now. Right now they're overseas, but they have helped us a time or two. We enjoy their help."

Upon completion of the Young Marines program, many go on to serve in the armed forces. Some of them decide to utilize the discipline they learned to further their education and career path instead.

"Some don't go into the Marine Corp," Rodman said. "I know some that who wanted to go into the Army and some just wanted to just go to college and not have a military career. They still use the same leadership and discipline in their work force and in their in their college years. It helps them prepare for adulthood."

"The world out there isn't as fun and gentle as they think it is," Rodman continued. "We've had some kids that have gone to the Marine Corps and have earned a high rank just starting out. They automatically became PFCs or one rank above everybody else when they graduate."

For more information or to join the Cross Roads Young Marines contact Rodman at: 432-517-4791.

TONN

Continued from Page 5

Juan baptized 45 men and women at the jail.

"Some of the women were weeping and crying. They were saying they have been so lifted up," said Mona Lue. "They were all so excited and couldn't wait for their turn."

"They came in and before we baptized them we told them what baptism is," continued Mona Lue. "It is not a saving part of salvation. You get saved and then Jesus said to repent and be baptized. So when you are saved and you get baptized, it is like the icing on the cake. I thought that would help make them understand what it was about."

Although the group has only performed one baptism, they expect more baptism events are on the horizon.

Both Mona Lue and Gena look forward to going back each week to share their faith in Christ.

"Just this last week we had 13 girls and 11 guys and every one of them said the sinner's prayer and asked God to save their soul," said Gena back in January. "It's really awesome. When they first come in they are kind of fogged over and to see that fog lift and the life come back in their eyes, that is one of the most inspiring things you could ever witness."

"My favorite part is being able to give back and to see that fog lift and to see that light come back on in their eyes. There's nothing like it. There's nothing like doing what God wants you to do."

Although Spring Tabernacle's doors are closed permanently, the two continue to host and participate in women's Bible study classes throughout the week.

They also emphasized the importance of finding a church home for new and old believers alike.

"It's so very important to find a church that loves and accepts you and to find support groups to find people that are going through the same things," said Gena. "It's really very important that you stay in touch with people that are going through the same things."

Mona, Gena, and Juan plan to continue the prison ministry indefinitely.

While Mona has her preaching and singing and Gena has plans for a rehabilitation center, the mother-daughter team aren't stopping their mission for Jesus anytime soon.

"The most important commandment is love," said Gena. "And that's what we want to do. I want people to know that they're loved and it'll be okay."

LONG

Continued from Page 5

she told me before she hung up, 'You know Shann, I think I can love him enough that I can change him,'" she continued. "Two weeks later, law enforcement from the county she lived called and advised she attempted to leave him and he killed her. The news devastated me and it was a very dark time for me, but it made me stronger, more aware and persistent to help the next client of domestic violence."

Her job called her to deal with victims who faced horrible situations, issues that "that humans should not hear that were done to other folks and having to walk through that with them".

"I've always said I wish that we didn't have to have our agency but thank goodness that we do," she said.

"For all the years, it wasn't just about me providing ser-

vices to someone but it was also that I learned from them as well, from everyone," she said. "And it didn't matter from what community that we worked with, the only thing we had to do was call them and say 'We've got a situation can you help us out?' and everyone was always there and even today 20 years later."

At the party, Parchman was quick to thank the volunteers, board members, co-workers, law enforcement and all the agencies she has worked with over the years that have always supported Victim Services.

"To the thousands of clients that I have worked with, I hope you are in a safer, better place, and also know that your experiences are what made me a stronger person," she said. "The agency taught me a lot and the experiences will never be forgotten."



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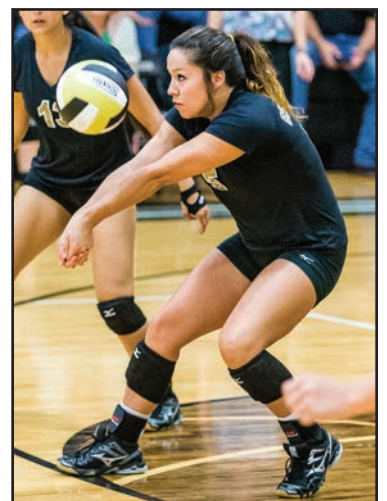
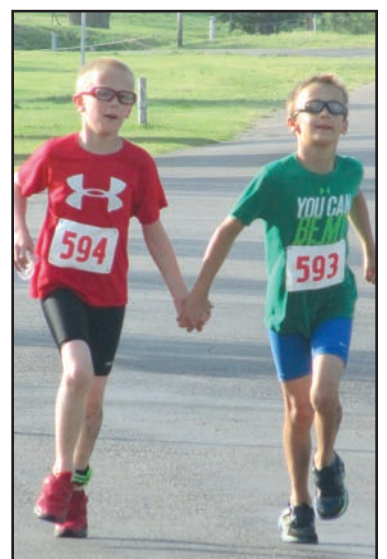
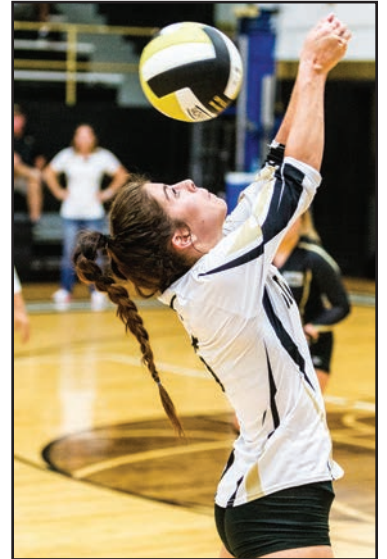
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A publication of the

BIG SPRING HERALD

Friday, March 31, 2017

Seventy is the new twenty

Big Spring attorney Robert Miller skis his way to greatness

By **ROGER CLINE**

Staff Writer

For Big Spring attorney Robert Miller, skiing and fitness go hand in hand. The 71-year-old has been cruising down mountains on skis since his high school days, and this March attended the national NASTAR amateur downhill slalom competition in

Steamboat, Colo.

"I don't train for it," said Miller. "The best training I do is I go work out at Dora Roberts, and just work out all the time. Stay in shape as best you can, limber. Then I just go do it. Some of these guys I may be competing against, they may ski two or three times a month, every month. They

may really be practicing, or they may have an instructor or a trainer. I don't have any of that. I just do it. My one-time race. If I did it every day, or if I did those gates every month I'd get a little better at it."

Miller said he received letters inviting him to the competition in 2012 and 2013, but decided not to go.

"And then I qualified this time, and I said, 'Well, maybe we're a go this time,'" he said. "They take the top five out of each resort, and in my age group, 70 to 74, I was 3 out of 12. This all took place in Park City (Utah). The number of resorts...there's a bunch. They take the top five out of each resort, but that doesn't mean they all go."

Skiers in the competition are assigned handicaps based on age and gender, he said.

"Obviously the older you get, the bigger your handicap, because you're not going to ski the same as a kid who's 22 years old," he said. "You're competing against your own age group, mine's 70 to 74. Your date is calculated on Dec. 31. (Last) year on Dec. 31, I was 70. Two weeks later I turned 71, so I was in the 70 to 74 group. I think my skiing ability is basically the same, so I was looking forward to a higher handicap."

Although he generally takes his whole family with him on his yearly ski excursions, Miller said that, for the competition, it will just be he and his wife.

"I do it kind of for the fun of it. Just the speed, and going down the hill. I don't know how else to put it," he said. "We usually go once a year. It's kind of a family deal. We've been to Keystone and Breckenridge and all these different places, but we go to Park City lately because we found this one condo that's big enough for all of us. There's eight of us, I guess, with my daughters and their husbands."

So far injuries haven't been a pro-



Courtesy photo

Robert Miller, 71, has been skiing since he was in high school. This year, he was invited to compete in the national NASTAR amateur downhill slalom competition in Colorado.

lem, he said, adding that a stretched Achilles tendon is the worst injury he's had related to the sport.

"No, knock on wood. I was skiing two years ago, or a year ago, I just fell forward. Got stuck in the woods, so to speak," he said. "The tendon on the back of your leg...I didn't break it or pop it, but stretched it so that it swelled up really bad. That was the first day of skiing and I didn't get to ski the rest of the trip. I limped around for a good two months for that thing to heal. It hurt."

Miller said he grew up in Houston before attending undergraduate school at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.

"Just a coincidence, I was in the same class as Donald Trump at Wharton," he said. "People ask me, 'Did you know him or see him?' I say, 'No, never knew him, never saw him.' But then my daughter went to Wharton, and she was in the same class as Donald Jr. We did meet him and see him. They ask me, 'What was Donald like?'"

See **SKI**, Page 4



Courtesy photo

From left to right, Robert Miller, daughter Claire Wyatt, daughter Paula Gilhaney, and son-in-law Mike Gilhaney on a family ski trip.

The new face of Steer baseball

Head baseball coach Daniel Carrillo meets the team

By **MARISSA LOFTIN**

Sports Editor

Meet the new head coach of Big Spring's baseball program, Daniel Carrillo.

Daniel attended high school at Midland Lee, in Midland, Texas, where he played catcher for the Bulldogs.

After graduating, he spent a few years at Midland College and later attended the University of Texas of the Permian Basin majoring in kinesiology.

Daniel found his way back to his roots as he took an internship at Midland Lee upon graduating from UTPB. When the varsity assistant baseball coach left, Daniel was offered the position and spent three years there.

Daniel contributed to Midland Lee's success last year as they advanced to the regional finals and were one of the final eight teams left in the playoffs.

Despite the difficult decision he faced to leave such a familiar place, he could not pass up the opportunity to become the head coach for Big Spring High School.

"I am happy with my decision. It's definitely a challenge, but I think its



HERALD photo/Marissa Loftin
Daniel Carrillo heads up the Steers baseball team at Big Spring High School as head coach.

going to be great and I think its something I can handle."

Daniel has a vision for Big Spring

See **COACH**, Page 3

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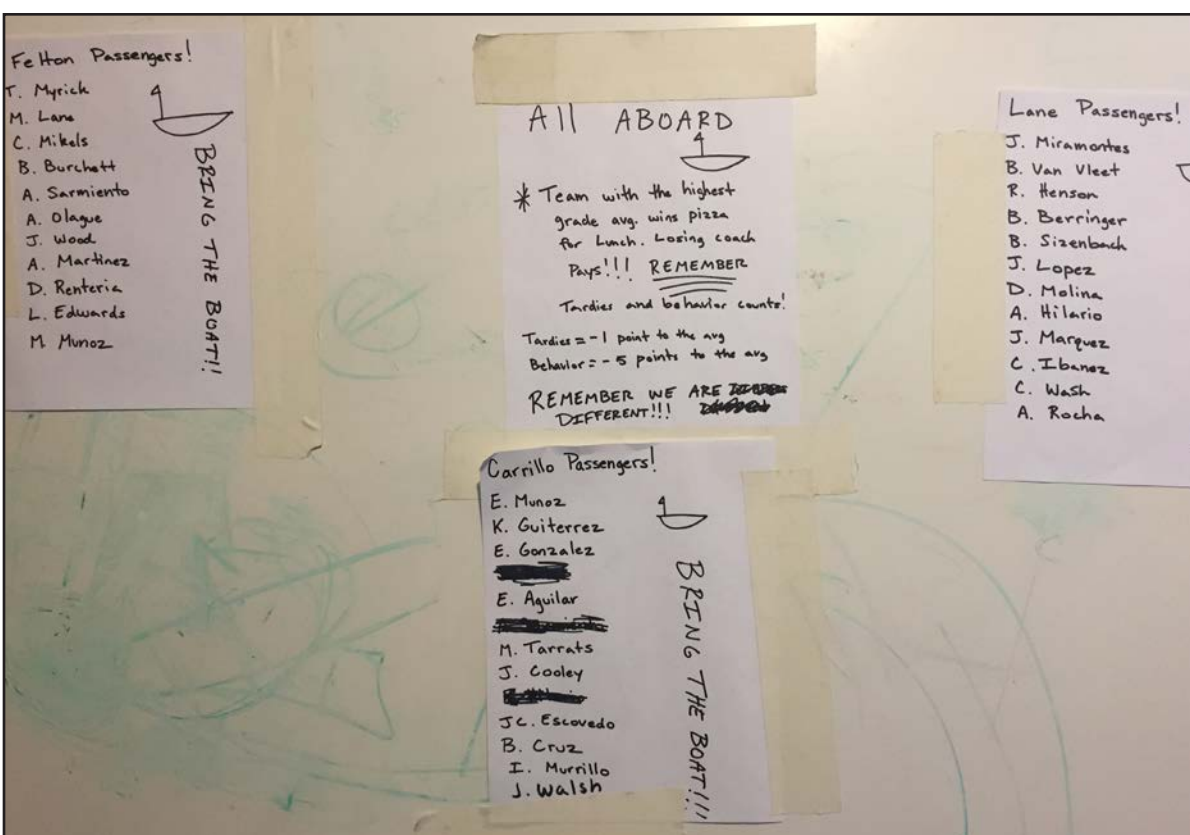
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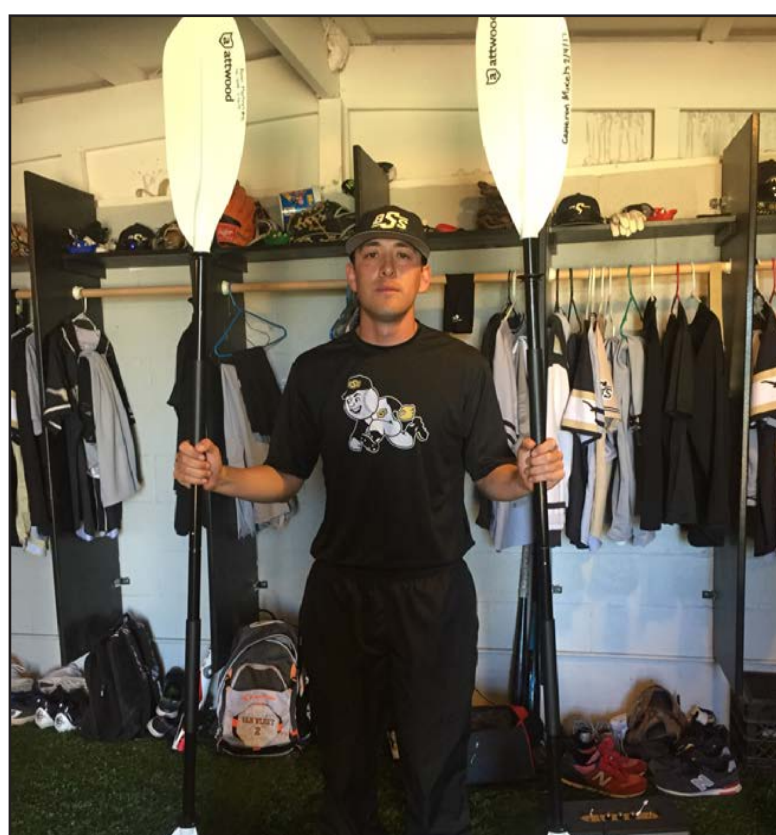
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HERALD photo/Marissa Loftin

Signs hang in the Big Spring High School baseball team's locker room encouraging good behavior, grades, and attendance. The team with the highest number of points wins a pizza party.



HERALD photo/Marissa Loftin

Head baseball coach Daniel Carrillo shows off the oars for encouraging his athletes to "bring the boat". Carrillo uses the phrase to remind his players to keep fighting.

COACH

Continued from Page 2

baseball to be a strong program backed by the community.

"I think this baseball program is a sleeping giant," he said. "I do think that this place could really be a great baseball town. We have already picked up a lot of support in the short amount of time I have been here."

He rallied parents and local businesses with some kind donations and a lot of help, they were able to restore an old storage building into a sweet new locker room for the players.

A goal that Daniel also wants to achieve as a coach is to set the character expectations of his players to a high standard.

The coaching staff has had to make tough cuts when they have students who can play really well but don't show exceptional behavior on and off of the field.

"It shows the kids that we have to do right in life," he said. "It's not about the best man playing, it's about the right man playing."

Daniel uses a system to remind

the boys who they are and who they represent by rewarding one player whose attitude and character stands out each week with the autographed paddle from their "boat".

This roots from their motto this year, "Bring The Boat".

"What I want the kids to understand is that when stuff hits the fan not only in baseball but in life as well, you've got to fight through it. You can't expect it to be a clear road," he explained. "So we say to them, 'Don't tell me how bad the water is, just bring the boat.'"

Another way that Daniel implements good character upon his players is the team points chart.

The freshman, JV and varsity teams compete for each six weeks of the school year measuring every player's conduct with points.

Those points are deducted from the team's total for players who find themselves with low grades, tardies, getting into trouble etc. At the end of the six weeks, the team with the highest score gets a pizza lunch paid for by the losing team.

"Not only does this teach the kids to be accountable for their actions,"

he said. "But it also teaches them the power of teamwork and that everything they do, good or bad, affects a lot more than just themselves."

Daniel's motivation to be a coach and be a part of the students' lives comes from a lot more than just the love of sports and desire to win games. There are many things that drive him to be a coach, but the main source of motivation comes from his parents.

"After all of the sacrifices they made for me and all that they did for me, the least I can do is be the best person I can be and help others," he said.

Daniel learned at an early age he has a unique gift of connecting with people.

Being the first in his family to graduate college, he didn't have the ideal people to go to for guidance. Being that person for the students is something important to him, not only as a baseball coach but as an educator in general.

"I want to help kids learn that it is possible to do anything," he said. "It is going to be hard, there are going to

be highs and lows, but you can't be ashamed to ask the right people for help."

Daniel often asks his players, "What is your why?" Why do you do this, and what keeps you going?

"If at the end of the year, they may not be the greatest baseball player but they feel confident in whatever they are going to pursue because they gained that confidence within themselves, then I know I did my job," said Daniel.

As far as a win-loss goal for this year's baseball season, Daniel does not have a set number in mind.

"I want us to compete and play the game the right way," he said. "When you focus on that, the Ws come on their own."

With the season just kicking off, Daniel is looking forward to what the future holds for the program and the growth and development the team will experience.

"It is fun coaching these guys. They come in and work hard everyday," he said. "The coaching staff has been great and supportive. I can't wait to see where we go from here."

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Double trouble



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Sophomore twin sisters Camille and Ashlyn Hoover both play on the Howard College Lady Hawks' basketball team this year.

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Attend a Howard College women's basketball game this season, and you'll see double.

But rest assured, there's nothing wrong with your eyes.

Camille and Ashlyn Hoover, a pair of sophomore guards from Amarillo, are identical twins, who are differentiated only by hair color — both are brunettes, but Camille's hair is a darker shade of brown — and uniform number — Ashlyn wears No. 14 for the Hawks, while Camille is No. 10 in your program.

Other than that, good luck telling them apart.

"Togetherness is big with Camille and Ashlyn — they've done practically everything together for as long as they can remember — and that extends to playing sports.

"Growing up, we did swimming, and baseball, and soccer, but as we got older, we chose basketball," Camille said. My dad said, 'If you're going to choose a sport, choose a sport,' and we enjoyed basketball."

"We pretty much fell in love with (basketball)," Ashlyn added. "Growing up, we had a little goal at the house, and our mother still has pictures of us playing each other ... We actually do most things together. We've always played on the same team, and we share a room at Howard."

Howard College's Camille and Ashlyn Hoover bring twice the talent to the court

When the sisters are on the court, however, their coach has no difference telling the two apart.

"They're completely different," said Howard women's coach Earl Diddle. "Camille's a little more aggressive than Ashlyn, Ashlyn's a little better shooter than Camille. Camille's a little better ball-handler than Ashlyn. They've got their own strengths and weaknesses, but they're both completely different personalities."

Jeff Williams, who coached the twins at Amarillo High School, said you can spot differences between the two, if you look close enough.

"The girls are very similar in the fact they put the team first

in everything they do and are two of the best teammates that I have ever coached," Williams said in an email interview.

He went on to say, however, that there are slight differences in the sisters' personalities.

"Camille is the type of girl that has everything together all the time. She takes the game, her school, and just in general life a little more seriously than Ashlyn," Williams said. "However, when Camille gets in the mood to let her hair down you might say, she has a wit about her that can light up the entire room.

"Ashlyn is a free spirit who always puts a smile on everyone's face," he continued. "Her ability to have fun, make others laugh, and be such a great friend to everyone on the team enabled her to help keep the spirit light and help everyone relax and just play. Ashlyn's ability to compete in big moments, however, makes her the type of player you want the ball in her hands in crunch time."

It was while the sisters were playing for Williams that they came to Diddle's attention.

"I went up there and saw them, and liked them both," Diddle said. "We then had them come down for a visit, and they liked it here. We

See **HAWKS**, Page 6

SKI

Continued from Page 2

Both Senior and Junior?" Well, they were, believe it or not, real quiet and reserved, not like they are now."

After graduating from Wharton, Miller attended law school at the University of Texas.

"Vietnam was going on, and I got in the Navy OCS. I immediately went to law school after I graduated, and got halfway through law school because I got deferments for OCS," he said. "Got out of law school, went to

the Navy, did my Navy hitch as an officer, got out of the Navy, then went back to law school and got my law degree. That was at University of Texas. I started at UT, went to the Navy, then came back to UT."

Miller said he came to Big Spring in the 70s.

"I didn't want to live in Houston," he said. "My brothers were over there and they wanted me to come back and I said 'No.'" So I was in Waco for six months and that didn't work out, so I literally came to Big Spring and hung out a shingle in '77, '76, somewhere in there. I was with some other

lawyers until 1980, and then in 1980 I went completely solo."

According to its website, NASTAR stands for "NAtional STandard Race," and is the largest public grassroots ski racing program in the world. Developed by SKI Magazine in 1968, the organization now boasts more than 100 thousand races at over 100 resorts around the country. Today, NASTAR is operated by the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA). For more information, visit www.nastar.com.

What would you do with a second chance?

Amy Miramontes gets back to the athletic world



HERALD photo/Amanda Duforat

Amy Miramontes hits the gym after having to take a break from her active lifestyle due to health issues.

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Amy Miramontes lived an athletic, active lifestyle since she was in high school. Fitness always seemed to be a part of her weekly schedule, but one day her world changed and that important factor was affected.

For most people the birth of a baby is a joyous occasion and one that causes excitement and anticipation. However, for Miramontes the feelings were a little bit different. With the upcoming arrival of her second born, her doctors discovered that she had a heart condition.

"I ended up having heart issues that came out of nowhere. This diagnosis led to spending a lot of time in the hospital, 13 surgeries and bed rest," Miramontes said. "I battled these issues for about nine years, which meant not being able to work out or have the active lifestyle I was used to. After I had to get a pacemaker and get used to it, for about four years, the physician gave me the all clear, I've been working out ever since."

Her unexpected heart condition threw a wrench into life's plans, but it didn't stop her. Instead, it spurred her grasp a hold of life and take advantage of the second chance she had been given. When she was faced with the question of what would you do with a second chance, her response was, and

"I'm going to take it. I was given the second chance with my heart. When you are given that second chance you do something with it."

It seemed like her "normal" life was back. She was able to enjoy her career, family and was back to the grind four days a week. That was until history came back to knock her down. In the summer of 2015, an old college injury came back to haunt her, and she tore her ACL.

"I had torn my ACL in college, but in the most unusual way, I ended up tearing it all the way," Miramontes said.

This time, her injury would put her out of her workout routine for 16 months. Over a 10 week period, she

See **CHANCE**, Page 5

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Brittany Anderson brings the art of yoga to Big Spring

By **ROGER CLINE**

Staff Writer

What do you know about yoga? Whatever your level of knowledge about this system of meditation, stretching, and exercise originating in ancient India, you probably believe that Big Spring's not a big yoga hotspot. Well, you used to be right, before Brittany Anderson started teaching classes on the subject out of a studio at the Big Spring Health Food Store, 1305 Scurry St.

"I do teach classes here. I teach personals, and I also teach classes Tuesday through Friday," Anderson said. "Sometimes the schedules change. During the summer it will probably change, right now it's a school schedule for moms."

Anderson laid out her current schedule.

"On Tuesdays and Thursdays I teach Vinyasa Power Yoga Flow, which is just a steady flow of yoga," she said. "I have modifications for beginners. I teach pre-natals, but those are personals. Tuesdays and Thursdays are for anybody who is looking to get introduced into yoga, and also get a workout. So it's not a slow yoga, it's yoga introductory. And then Wednesdays and Fridays, I teach children. Kids' yoga."

Just about anyone can do yoga, she said.

"I pretty much can teach any age. I've taught up to 90 years old, yoga. I do also offer restorative classes, they're just not on the schedule for these months, but once summer comes back up, I'll do the restoratives. I'll have a little bit different variety to choose from," she said. "People can't make it right now with school and their extra-curriculars, it seems to have just wiped out a lot of the clientele for this time. Right now the classes are

pretty small, like, five or maybe four people. It just depends on the day of the week. So the varieties do go from pre-natal to intense yoga. I can teach the most advanced. I can do arm balances, and any of the inversions, and stuff like that. So I can teach an advanced student, and I can also teach elderly, and restorative, and, you know. Kids. Pretty much I can hit all of those spectrums."

Among the benefits of yoga are stress reduction, mobility improvement, and weight loss, Anderson said.

"Yoga in translation just means 'unity.' It's kind of the unification of breath and movement," she said. "So it's very helpful for people with nerves or stress; it's helpful for people who have any kind of injuries that they're trying to recover from. With certain modifications it helps heal the body quicker. It's also very beneficial for weight loss. I lost 100 pounds doing yoga. I was 200 pounds when I started, and I got down to 105."

If you have mobility issues, you can still take yoga, and possibly see some improvement in your mobility, she said.

"I've helped tons of people with the restorative class get more mobility. We use a chair as a prop if you can't sit down on the floor. Sitting down on a chair and doing all of the poses I'm telling the class to do is the same



Courtesy photo

A certified yoga instructor, Brittany Anderson leads a yoga class in Comanche Trail Park during the summer of 2016. Anderson grew up in Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High School. She attended Howard College before moving briefly to Wyoming, and then returning to Big Spring.

thing. I have all of my blocks and my straps, and so with every class you take, your body actually bends a little bit more, a little bit more, a little bit more," she said. "One of my students was never able to touch her toes. She's about 40. Her whole life, she's tall, so she just thought, 'Well, I'm just too tall, that's the way it goes.'

Even though she took athletics, that was part of the athletics thing and she could just never do it in high school or anything. I think it only took her a month, and she was able to forward-fold completely and get her hands on the floor completely. She didn't have

See **YOGA**, Page 6

CHANCE

Continued from Page 4

would undergo three surgeries and was once again faced with bed rest.

"I was going about 120 mph. It was an awesome feeling being cleared from your heart issues, but then having to go to a complete halt, to be bed ridden (again), not able to walk for four months. It put me into depression, caused me to do the whole self-pity, whoa is me." Miramontes said. "It was harder this time around. Given that second chance, going full force and then you get hit again; it slaps you in the face. It was harder to be down this time."

After her surgeries, countless weeks in physical therapy, it seemed that progress was being made. On Dec. 30, 2015 she received the all clear to go back to work. However, her workout lifestyle would have to be put on hold for one more year, but, on Dec. 30, 2016, she was back to the grind. She wasted no time and she made sure to get back into a regular routine.

"My workout has gone from four days a week to about six days a week. I'm playing catch up after being off with my knee. I ended up losing a lot of muscle mass in that down time." Miramontes said. "This time around I'm having to work harder to catch up, but it's fun because now I have a workout partner."

Of course, her athletic lifestyle isn't the only part that has had to adapt to change. Being a career woman, she put a lot of effort and attention into her appearance. With the latest injury to her knee, while she was able to take the workout clothes off the shelf again, she has had to hang up her high heels (for the most part).

"I love shoes. I have had to adjust to not wearing my high heels all the time. I try and wear them every now and then, but I do pay for it after," Miramontes said. "Most of the time it's because I am feeling the workout from the day before, since I focus a lot of my work out on my legs. I have to rebuild the muscle mass that I lost."

Fashion and workout aren't the only after effects she is seeing, the cold weather effects the pain level, her right leg is smaller than the left leg - due

to not being able to work out for 16 months, and arthritis has set in. Her workout routine is also seeing an impact, or receiving less of an impact when it comes to the knees.

"I have to be cautious when I do my squats or any of the exercises that involve my knee. I can't place as much pressure on them as I once did. Most importantly, I have to make sure I wear my knee brace. I try it every now and then without, but I don't push myself as hard when it's not on."

After being knocked down, not once, but twice now, Miramontes is more determined than ever to keep her fitness routine alive.

"In addition to dealing with the depression and feeling sorry for myself, my biggest fear when I found out that I couldn't work out was that I was going to gain weight. So in order to not allow that to happen I focused on eating healthy," she said.

One of the best pieces of advice that she would give to anyone dealing with an injury or health issue that effects their normal routine is to stay positive. She has learned the importance of not only listening, but following doctor's orders.

"Rest! Don't jump into something too soon. It will only set you back more. Don't be afraid to take pain medicine, there is no point in hurting. Make sure you go to physical therapy and follow the exercise plan that they tell you to. That was the biggest help," she said.

In spite of fitness being ingrained from an early age, her motivation for staying active and fit, extends beyond her own health.

"My kids live active lives. They play baseball, soccer, and track. The only way I'm going to stay caught up with those kids is to stay active myself. I can't be that mom on the sidelines that can't move. My goal is to just stay up with them, keep up with them."

She continued, "God gave us a body and it is up to us to take care of the temple while we are on this Earth. I have always felt that was my mission, to take care of it. He has given me a second chance, a third chance and I'm going to take it. When God gives you that second chance, third chance, you take it every time."



Courtesy photo

Miramontes recovers in a hospital bed after ACL surgery. In total, she underwent three surgeries to repair her torn ACL over a ten week period. Miramontes was able to go back to her active lifestyle at the end of 2016.



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Courtesy photo

Anderson said yoga is a great way to improve flexibility and reduce stress. Her classes are \$5 per session, while personal lessons are \$25 per session.



Courtesy photo

Anderson's classes are based out of her studio, which is connected to the Big Spring Health Food Store, 1305 S. Scurry Street.

YOGA

Continued from Page 5

any ailments we had to watch out for in particular, but her grandmother was 80, and her grandmother took my classes. Her grandmother used the chair for a prop, and then was slowly able to work on to not using the chair for a lot of the poses. She moved on to a block. So yes, it does help with mobility. It just takes actually committing to come."

Some aspects of yoga are great at reducing stress and anxiety, she said.

"At the end of every class I end in a Savasana, and everybody has to lay down and be quiet for five minutes and listen to only their breath and themselves," she said. "That's helpful throughout the day for when your stuff's going crazy. We'll leave the door open and you can hear noises, you can hear all this stuff. That's important so you know you need to have chaos and still be able to find yourself in it."

Anderson said that scheduling is fairly flexible, but students get out of the classes what they put into it.

"Most of the students come twice a week. Then once it's summer and I get to add more, they usually will come the whole time, and that's usually three times a week," she said. "I was offering multiple classes during the days, so if that does happen during the summer, they do get more options to come to, so they can come to a restorative class and then come to

the advanced class. Or come to the beginners and then stay for the advanced.

Anderson said she was born in Tucson, Ariz., but moved to Big Spring at an early age.

"I moved here when I was in elementary school still. So I graduated here and then I took some classes at Howard," she said. "I moved to Wyoming and I travelled a little bit, and then I moved back here and I had my daughter, and that's when everything started with yoga. I did get my instructor's license here, but I did it through internet and Skype and things like that. There's not a lot of options in West Texas for yoga. I started teaching last year at this time. I got 100 on my practicals and my written exam, all of them."

Anderson said that yoga classes are \$5 per session, while yoga personal lessons are \$25 apiece.

"I do personals quite frequently," she said. "Most people want a personal before they come into a class. Most people don't know what to expect about yoga around Big Spring, because they've never seen or heard of yoga. Most of my students were personals to begin with. I do offer class personals, if you have a group of friends that want to try it with you. People seem to enjoy that as well. So I do personals especially for people who don't want to come to a class, but also for people who have specific elements that are a big deal that need to be eased into. Sometimes during an hour, even though I show all of the modifications, and even though I ask everybody ahead of time what's wrong, I don't get the time to work on that body. Every body is different, and with a personal, I can work on your body, your specific needs, your modifications the whole time."

Yoga is great for a healthy lifestyle, Anderson said.

"I want to spread yoga here. I would like people to know it and get to do it," she said. "Because a lot of people are very unsure from what they've seen or heard. They think it's going to just be a meditation class or something like that. It's more of a workout, unless I'm doing a specific restorative class or something like that. It's a way to lose weight, to get in shape, to connect with your body. Yoga's a way to kind of hit it all." For more information contact Anderson at 432-517-5690.



Tony Claxton photography (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Camille and Ashlyn hustle down the court during a 2016 basketball game.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 4

offered them scholarships, and they decided to come here and play."

Camille said she and her sister originally planned to attend Texas Tech University before Diddle's scholarship offer convinced them to extend their athletic careers. The fact that the Howard coach offered scholarships to both of them was what really sealed the deal.

"We came and looked at the school and decided we should come here and play," she said. "I think him wanting both of us is what made us come. I don't think either one of us would have decided to play without the other one."

Williams knew Howard College was

getting two very good players.

"Camille has a competitive mindset that gives her the edge in most match-ups," he said. "She is a tremendous teammate and so very easy to coach. Her ability to put the team first but not take a backseat to anyone makes her a very special player and teammate."

"Ashlyn is the type of player who, through time, learned to have a short memory when it came to shooting the ball," Williams added. "She is one of the best shooters that I have had at Amarillo High. Being as good of a shooter as she is and always has been, Ashlyn shares the ball extremely well setting up teammates for easy baskets."

Together, the twins' contribution to the AHS program was invaluable, Williams added.

were made whether it be playing time or which team they were on."

The sisters played sparingly their freshmen seasons at Howard, but have been mainstays this year.

On the court, the sisters fill different roles — Camille is your traditional point guard, bringing the ball upcourt and distributing it to her teammates, although she will attempt an occasional jump shot if the defense backs off from her. Ashlyn, on the other hand, is more of a shooter, always looking to launch a three-pointer or penetrate the lane. And both, Diddle said, are plus defenders.

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miliarity helps the two on the court. "We know how the other plays," Camille said. "When she's open, I'm going to drive and try to get her the ball, just because I've played with her for so long ... It also helped that we always had each other there, we always understood each other. It's nice to have someone there who you can always count on. We're really best friends."

And Ashlyn appreciates what her sister does on the court.

"I couldn't do what she does," she said. "It's a lot of pressure — you have to know what you're supposed to do, and what everyone else is supposed to do. You've got to hold everyone accountable being the point guard."

Neither of the girls know if their basketball careers will continue after they leave Howard. If this season is their last, however, they seem content with what they've accomplished.

"It all depends on the opportunities we have," Ashlyn said. "We'll see when the time comes."

"We've really enjoyed our time here, and I'm glad we got the opportunity to play here," Ashlyn added. "We wouldn't go back in time and change anything, but who knows what the future holds?"

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9:00AM	Pilates	Barre	Pilates	Barre	Pilates
10:00 AM	Water Aerobics w/Laurie Churchwell	Water Aerobics w/Laurie Churchwell		Water Aerobics w/Laurie Churchwell	
11:00 AM	Water Arthritis w/ Patty Schuelke		Water Arthritis w/ Patty Schuelke		Water Arthritis w/ Patty Schuelke
5:15 PM	Water Aerobics w/Annie McKinnon		Water Aerobics w/Annie McKinnon		Water Aerobics w/Annie McKinnon
5:30 PM		Yoga w/ Rett Hutto		Yoga w/Rett Hutto	

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A star in Coahoma

Chandler selected to participate in FCA All-Star softball game



Courtesy photo

Senior Annie Chandler of Coahoma High School pitches at a recent softball game. Chandler has been chosen to participate in this year's Big Country Chevy Dealer's Fellowship of Christian Athletes All-Star Festival.

By **MARISSA LOFTIN**

Sports Editor

Annie Chandler, senior at Coahoma High School, has been chosen to participate in this year's Big Country Chevy Dealer's Fellowship of Christian Athletes All-Star Festival this summer, where she will represent her hometown and compete in the All-Star Softball Game.

The Texas Roundup includes the state's top 24 boys and girls from Class 1A, 2A, and 3A schools. Players are selected from hundreds of nominations that are made statewide, and recruiters all across the state participate as advisors in the selection process.

Chandler was born and raised a Bulldogette and has always been heavily involved in extracurricular activities. Although she participates in multiple sports such as volleyball, basketball, and cheerleading, and was even named this year's Homecoming Queen, it is softball that has always been her passion.

"I have been playing from the time I could

pick up a softball," said Chandler. "It's always been a part of my life."

According to Chandler, her grandmother Roslyn Welch, (a.k.a. Granna), has always been her biggest supporter throughout her life and everything she has taken part in.

"I would have to say that my grandma is my inspiration," said Chandler. "She just keeps me going and always keeps my head up."

For this event, Chandler will be on the north softball squad which will be coached by Liz White, the head softball coach for the Colorado City Lady Wolves.

"I really don't know what to expect from this experience," said Chandler. "I am just excited to get to be a part of it and to meet some awesome athletes, make new friends, and play softball."

Chandler was nominated for the FCA All-Star softball game by her current softball coach, Alex Orosco. She is only the fifth girl

See **STAR**, Page 8

Faith gets a family through

CML diagnosis changes routines, but not values

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**

Oscar Cervantes understands the term "playing the cards you were dealt" and "just the luck of the draw" a little better than most now. On April 16, 2012 – with no family history behind him or any other tell – tell signs – he was dealt the CML (chronic myeloid leukemia) card.

"I admit I was scared. My wife was horrified and honestly, the first thought through my head was that I was going to die," Cervantes said.

Cancer is a scary word for anyone to hear and it wasn't a word that Cervantes and his family was expecting to hear, considering there was no family history and he was only at the doctor to check on a swollen knee.

"I woke up on a Sunday morning with a swollen knee after a weekend at my friend's house. I went to the doctor that Wednesday. In order to find out what was going on, the doctor ordered lab work and within 24 hours the results had come back and he told me I had CML," Cervantes said.

Thankfully for Cervantes, the CML was caught in the

early stages, but treatment still needed to start right away. The next few weeks consisted of doctor visits, more blood work and a bone marrow biopsy.

"When the results came back to confirm that it was really CML, the doctor started me on what he called 'the miracle drug'. He said it was the drug that a lot of his CML patients were on and for the next year, so was I," he said.

After about a year and half of the 'miracle drug' not showing signs of improvement for Cervantes, the doctors decided to try drug number two. Another nine months later, drug number three was introduced.

"After three different drugs, they weren't seeing the kind of results that they were wanting, and we realized it was time to move on, to the next step," Cervantes said.

For Cervantes, the next step was a stem-cell transplant. The next six months consisted of continued treatment, four days of lab work, searching for a match and insurance battles.

"We have learned that everything is a process. It's a process dealing with the See **OSCAR**, Page 8



Courtesy photo

Oscar Cervantes (second from right) poses with his family.



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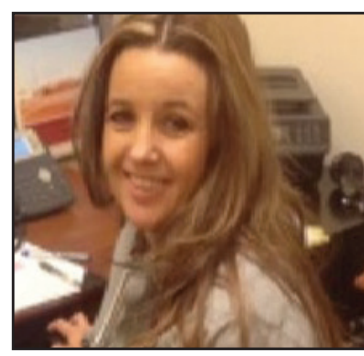
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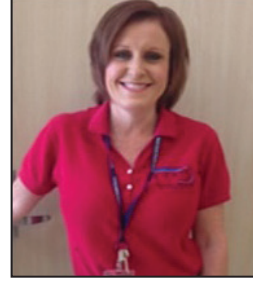
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STAR

Continued from Page 7

to be selected from Coahoma since 2001 to compete in the FCA All-Star games.

"When the coaches received an email from the Big Country chapter of FCA stating they were looking for nominations of standout kids, not only skill-wise but kids of good character and academics, it was definitely a no-brainer," said Orosco. "Annie was the one person that came right to my mind."

According to Orosco, it is more than just her athletic ability that makes her a standout player, but her presence on and off of the field as well.

Earlier in the season,

Chandler went with the school to Austin, Texas to represent the community for Howard County Day. The softball team had games that day, and Chandler had to miss them.

"It just felt like something was missing. No one said anything but it was apparent that all of us could feel it," said Orosco. "Annie returned the next day and we played a lot better. Her presence alone really calms the team down and gives us confidence."

According to those that know her, Chandler possesses traits that you aren't able to teach and are hard to find naturally in athletes. When it comes to softball, she really can do it all. Chandler can play any position, infield or out-

field and is also a force at the plate.

"Annie is like a wild card," said Orosco. "It is really easy knowing that if I need someone to fill in a position, she will be ready. It is so important to have a player on your team like that."

Even though Chandler is unsure of what career she wants to pursue upon graduating high school, she hopes to attend Howard College to complete her basic courses and continue to play softball as a Lady Hawk, with intentions to later transfer to a university.

It is safe to say that there will be plenty of college scouts in attendance at the FCA All-Star Festival, and according to Orosco, this moment for Chandler should not be taken

lightly.

"I think this opportunity is more than she is willing to recognize right now," said Orosco. "I know she mentioned going to Howard, but I really think she can go to any school in the state depending on how far she wants to travel. Once people realize her talent and what she is able to bring to a team, she will be welcomed at any school."

The FCA All-Star Festival kicks off with the All-Star Induction and Awards Banquet at 4 p.m. on May 7 at the Abilene Civic Center.



Courtesy photo

Chandler poses with her grandma Roslyn Welch. Chandler cites Welch as always being her biggest supporter.

On June 7 and 8, the 9 the softball games will players will attend a take place at San Angelo meet and greet and be- State University. gin practices with their team mates, and on June The times are to be an-

OSCAR

Continued from Page 7

insurance for the treatments, for the medications and even for the hospitals," Oscar's wife Erica, said.

The search amongst family members turned up no matches. A match was finally found through the national donor registry. On April 21, 2016 – four years after the initial diagnosis – Cervantes had a stem-cell transplant.

While most think the story would end there and they lived happily ever after, the Cervantes family will disagree. After 87 days in the hospital and continued back-and-forth trips to Dallas, the hits keep coming.

"In all these years, January was the first, true wakeup call that he could die. He had always been so healthy so even with the initial diagnosis, there was fear, but no doubt that he could pull through," Erica said.

As part of the healing process, doctors started to try and wean Cervantes off of the anti-rejection medication and he had an adverse reaction. In the process of coming off the medication, he ended up catching a virus which landed him back in the hospital.

"The hardest part about this entire journey is being away from the kids and not being able to do for my family, like I'm supposed to," Cervantes said.

Before he was diagnosed with CML, Cervantes

was working as a maintenance supervisor for a powder coating company. His wife was working at a local assisted living center. With all the doctor's visits, surgeries and hospital stays, work had to take a backseat, which has led to financial constraints.

"One of the things that we have realized is that there isn't a whole lot of funding opportunities out there for adults dealing with cancer. You hear a lot about support programs, financial programs, etc. for kids, but when you really start looking, not much is out there for adults," Erica said.

Oscar added, "I'm a father with three kids and I'm battling cancer. What could you do for my kids and for me to help me get better and get me back to my kids," Oscar. "We are all equal (when it comes to cancer) adults and kids, but there's not a whole lot out there when it comes to adults."

While the journey isn't even close to over, the Cervantes family is already noticing differences in their lives.

"The biggest thing is that we don't take things for granted anymore and we have learned to appreciate each other. Even though we are yelling at kids, or in the middle of our little spats, we still enjoy the little things a lot more," said Erica.

She continued, "At the same time, we have had to make adjustments to everyday life. He can't be outside if the wind is blowing and dirt is in the air; I can't clean and dust if he is around. With the damage done to his immune system, he is more susceptible to catching something, and we have to be re-

ally careful. We don't want anymore setbacks."

When asked, Cervantes said that one of the things he misses the most – besides being able to provide for his family – is being able to just throw the ball around with his kids.

"This has been a hard battle. It's hard on my body. It's hard to fight. It's hard on the family," he said. "The traveling has taken a toll on all of us. As my wife said, we couldn't have gotten this far without our faith, our oldest son and a special group of friends."

Erica added, "Our faith has gotten a lot stronger. The only way we could have gotten through this is through our faith. There were times we didn't know how we were going to get to Dallas, and we would have someone just pop up and help us out."

With the one-year anniversary of Cervantes's stem cell transplant coming up, he is focused on getting back to a somewhat normal life.

"The usual recovery time is one to two years after the transplant. With the recent setback, we know we won't be back at the normal level for the one year, but we keep looking forward," he said. "We have to keep an eye on the next step, which is getting stronger, gaining weight and rebuilding body strength that has been lost. Who knows, maybe even one day we can take that family vacation."

As a final piece of advice, for anyone having to fight this battle, Oscar said, "Be strong. Don't be hard headed and get things checked out. It's a hard battle, but you have to stay strong and move forward."

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A publication of the

BIG SPRING HERALD

Friday, March 31, 2017

Local art hub infusing creativity & culture into Big Spring

By SANDRENA KONING

Staff Writer

The Desert Flower Art Bar is working to create a place to inspire the community through artwork, live music, film, workshops, southwestern culture, comedy, and public events. These events include things such as Art Walks on the first Saturday of the month, Wine and Canvas, and participation in creating downtown murals to name a few.

"We want this to become a regular part of Big Spring's lifestyle," Bianca Mireles, a local artist, teacher, and instructor of the Desert Flower Wine and Canvas class said. "There's plenty of creative people in this town. We're trying to make people more aware of this outlet."

Artober Fest was the very first time the venue introduced the Art Walk to the area. The beginning of regular downtown Art Walks will start on April 1 and continue every first Saturday each month.

"Our ultimate goal is six a year," said Jeremiah Peters, a local photographer and manager of the Desert Flower.

"The walks are sponsored by the Desert Flower with contributions from IThink219, the Downtown Gar-

tryng to take it step by step," he said. "We can't do it without the involvement of the community."

Featured events at the Art Walks will include performances from the entire Xplosion Athletics studio (directed by Niccolette Agüero, Jessica Rutledge, Valinda Saldivar and Lexie G), live music and painting, hands-on demonstrations, local artisan vendors, artwork on display for sale, and various other interactive activities for all ages.

"Vendor space is free of charge, just like at Artober Fest," Jeannie Thibault, founder and owner of the Desert Flower Art Bar said. "Anyone with any crafts. We definitely encourage anyone that wants to be a part of it to come out to meetings at 5 o'clock every Monday."

A scheduled youth event called Cookies and Canvas will be happening inside the Desert Flower during the Art Walk. Reservations must be made prior to the Saturday Art Walk through the Desert Flower. The first class will be at the April 1 Art Walk and will continue with each one. The cost is \$20 per seat which includes cookies, fruit punch, a canvas, and supplies.

"Call the Flower in advance. Every-



HERALD photo/Sandrena Koning

The Desert Flower Art Bar is a hub for local artists and musicians to create, network, and relax. The art bar hosts many events such as Art Walks and Wine and Canvas nights.



HERALD photo/Sandrena Koning

In addition to hosting events, the Desert Flower Art Bar also doubles as a music venue.

den Project, Confidence, the Big Spring High School Art Club, and the Big Spring Intermediate School Art Club. The Desert Flower is reaching out locally and to the surrounding area for additional sponsorship to encourage growth to the monthly event.

"I think this event can just keep growing," Mireles said. "We're just

thing else is a walk by," Mireles said. "Everything else you can experience just by showing up."

There will also be a "Pre-Art Walk event", the Desert Flower Mini Short Film Festival.

Various film makers from in and around the surrounding area (Texas

and New Mexico) will be submitting their short films for public viewing. It will take place in the parking lot across the street from the Desert Flower.

"To kick off the Art Walk we're having a mini short film festival," Peters said. "It's going to be the night before, presented by Cruiser Films and Check Your Brain Productions. So it will be a 8 p.m. show up and meet and greet, then at 9 p.m. a short film festival begins."

Organizers are also working on getting a variety of food truck vendors from surrounding areas to provide food and beverages. According to Peters, the person in charge of food permits is providing them with a list of various food truck vendors in Howard County.

"We're working on getting some real awesome, amazing food trucks," Peters said. "Diverse cuisines and nice cool stuff. That's what we're working on. It would be cool to get some awesome food trucks out here."

The Desert Flower has also started a wine and canvas class on the last Saturday of each month from 6-8pm and are taught by Mireles. Seats are \$40, which include a complementary drink and finger foods. Supplies are provided: paint (aryclic water based), brushes and canvas. February 25 marked the second wine and canvas event the venue hosted.

"I think we got positive feedback

from the last wine and canvas, everyone enjoyed themselves," Mireles said. "People that haven't painted since maybe childhood were very surprised by their abilities."

"We have a range from very experienced artists who wanted to just come out and paint with other people, they wanted that social experience with everybody," Mireles continued. "We let people have creative liberty. One of my friends, she didn't really follow the prompt, she ended up changing her trees into hands."

The wine and canvas classes are usually a small in size. Some of the men at the event were slow to start, but in end enjoyed themselves as much as the women.

"Because it's a small group, I can have that personal interaction with them," Mireles said. "Everyone had a good painting. It was fascinating to see how different everyone's style was. It's nice to paint as a social experience rather than just isolated, alone in your home."

"There was a lot of couples there who were on group dates," Mireles continued. "We're trying to do something very gender neutral, something very approachable to a wide range of ages and interests."

Mireles also discussed how working with adults differs from her experience of teaching her intermediate

See ART, Page 3

Big Spring Intermediate names library after former teacher

The late Mona Green loved books and her students



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Melissa Miller, left, and Vaughn Green hang a plaque to rename the BSI library as the Mona Green Library.

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Family, friends and co-workers gathered the Big Spring Intermediate School (BSI) library on an early Tuesday afternoon in December to honor the memory of a fellow teacher the best way they knew how, by dedicating a sanctuary of books in her name.

Mona Lea Green, who died on Jan. 11, 2016, loved books and she loved passing that passion on to her students, according to her friends and family. To honor her, the school li-

brary was officially named in her memory.

"Today is a very special day since it is also Mona's birthday. She would have been 51 today," said Patsy Sanchez, BSI principal told the crowd gathered for the dedication. "Mona had a passion for reading. She believed reading was the foundation for everything and that without it, her scholars could not do math, science, social studies, etc."

See GREEN, Page 3

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At top, local art teacher and Wine and Canvas instructor Bianca Mireles sits down with an art project at the Desert Flower. At bottom, the walls of the Desert Flower Art Bar are covered with art done by local artists.

ART

Continued from Page 2

art students. “It helps that I teach 10 year olds. It’s easier to teach adults for sure,” Mireles said. “They’re not running around the room. With adults, they’re more complex, they’re more apprehensive and self-conscious. It’s one of the highlights. Giving people that may otherwise not feel inclined a way to challenge themselves.”

Youth may attend the wine and canvas event with adult supervision. “(Those) under 21 can get a tea, a water, or a Coke,” said Mireles.

The art bar encourages creative types interested in teaching instructional classes to contact the venue to set up similar events. “I’m looking for more artists that want to do something like what she’s doing,” Thibault said. “Let’s say a drawing class or clay. Any type of class to do with art.”

The venue is currently featuring a large majority of different artists such as local artist and University of Texas-Permian Basin graduate Shawna Privitt, along with most of Mireles’ art collection. All of the artwork on display is for sale. Prints of original pieces can be purchased directly as well.

“We’ve got her whole collection on display and for sale right now,” Peters said referring to Privitt. “Come on down and check it out. It’s definitely priced to sell. It’s got some big

pieces and they’re not very expensive at all.” The venue books live music talent and comedy events on a consistent basis. According to Peters, J.R. McNutt was the first artist the Desert Flower booked.

“We get all different types of music, singer-song writers, bands, just people that have originality that really focus on their original music,” said Peters. “That’s who we tend to try and get.”

“We have comedy,” Peters continued. “It’s hosted by Willy Olguin. He was out of Midland, but now he lives in San Antonio. He’s the one that hosts it and finds it and puts it together. Comedy is usually at 10 p.m. It’s usually an hour long.”

Peters encouraged people to purchase tickets in advance for comedy shows, although tickets are also sold at the door the night of the event. They have an open mic policy when there is not an event scheduled.

“We have open jam nights,” Mireles said. Pets are also welcome inside of the gallery. “We are pet friendly as long as people bring a pet that is friendly,” Peters said. “They clean up after them. Legally it has to be on a leash. We have a guy that brings in his parrot. You can usually catch him around 4 or 5 p.m. every other day or so.”

The Desert Flower would like to collaborate with venues, galleries, artist from the extended area.

“I’d like to work with other venues and other people in the area,” Peters said. “We’d really like to reach out to help them and have them help us out too, like Kami-posi in Midland, we definitely consider local. When I tell people this is local art I mean it’s from this region of Texas. Texas is so big, that could span a hundred miles and that could still be local.”

For more information on the Desert Flower Art Bar, stop by 123 S Main Street in Big Spring or call 432-270-0290.

GREEN

Continued from Page 2

Sanchez described Green as a tough but loving teacher to her “scholars.”

“She loved kids, especially those special kids,” Sanchez said. “At the end of year, she would send me an e-mail with a list of kids and suggestions on how to keep working with them. Funny how those kids always ended up in my classroom the following year.”

“She believed in getting to know the ‘whole’ child’. In her classroom the kids were ‘scholars,’ where scholars come to read and learn,” she continued. “So what is more meaningful than to dedicate this library to her.” Much of her employment with Big Spring ISD was at the school known today as BSI. Green and Sanchez were long time co-workers before Sanchez was picked to serve as the BSI principal.

“When she found out fifth grade was moving back over here she said, ‘Sanchez, I’m coming home.’ This is where she and I worked together for several years. Those are the halls she walked. This is the library she brought her scholars in to check out books. If a student who was at a lower reading level brought her a book that was obviously too hard, she would simple say, ‘Sweetheart, this book is not ready for you yet. Let’s find one that is.’”

Melissa Miller, a long-time good friend and co-worker, said Green would be proud of the dedication.

“I think she would be honored,” Miller said. “This was truly her goal, to be able to see kids read in everything and she knew what kind of doors it would lead them to academically and just in life in general. I think she would be very excited and very touched and very humbled.”

Miller described her friend



Mona Green

as someone with a sincere concern for everyone she met. “That’s why she and I became good friends, that openness,” she said. “That and she had that personality where you could tell her anything. I think the kids were very comfortable with her and were able to open up with her and respond to her when they weren’t able to do that with other teachers.”

A plaque was hung by Green’s son, Vaughn, and Miller by in the hallway by the library door to mark the dedication.

Mona Green was 50 when she died. She was born in Synder, Texas and was a 1984 graduate of Synder High School, according to her obituary information. In high school she was active in volleyball and band. She attend Western Texas College in Synder and she also worked for the Scurry County Library.

Mona later earned her bachelor of business administration degree at Angelo State University. She worked and managing the Sherman Williams store for ten years before returning to college to earn her teaching certificate from UTPB. Green was a fifth grade reading teacher who had been employed with the Big Spring ISD for 14 years



HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody Teachers at Big Spring Intermediate School look on during the BSI library naming ceremony honoring Mona Green. Green passed away in 2016.

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236284

War Hawks jam into Big Spring

Howard County's all female roller derby team takes to the track with ferocity



Courtesy photo

The 2017 War Hawks roller derby team is pictured from left to right: Michelle "Ricky Booby" Gonzalez, Kayla "Kar"DASH"ian" Hicks, Lexi "Princess Slaya" Cavanaugh, Ellary "Hellcat" Smith, Amber "Booty & the Beast" Newell, Rachel "Hotmess" Hughes, Stephanie "Fireball" Lynn, Betty "Fifinalya" Carter, and Marcy "Eureeka Havoc" Leal.

By AMANDA ELSTON

Managing Editor

By day, the women who make up Big Spring's first roller derby team are fairly inconspicuous. The team is made up of housewives, a medical biller, and a few prison guards to name a few. They take care of kids, run errands, and have a beer after a long day. But on Wednesday nights, these Howard County women transform into a different breed entirely. Fierce, theatrical, athletic, and surprisingly warm, the War Hawks roller derby team is jamming their way into finding their pro-female niche in the community.

After shoulder-checking each other to the ground and forcing themselves to the front of a crowd on wheels, the War Hawks lift each other up, both literally and figuratively. The women are a tight-knit group, unafraid to tell each other that this particular practice is a Taylor Swift free-zone, instead deciding on tracks such as Bruno Mars to skate to. War Hawks League President Amber Newell, or Booty if you're facing her on the track, leads the group along with captain and coach Rachel Hughes (HotMess). While roller derby requires fierce athleticism, the full-on contact sport is a bit different than most. The sport, revived fairly recently after dying out in the 1970s, mixes athleticism with showmanship. Each player sports their own look complete with a new derby identity; At bouts, what the derby world calls meets or competitions, players sport campy outfits with themed makeup or tee shirts.

"We like to endorse women's athleticism of any shape or size," said Hughes (HotMess) at the beginning of a practice. "We just like to skate. There is no judging here."

The War Hawks, born last January, practices at Skateland Reloaded where their logo is displayed proudly in the front of the rink. While the game looks like a lot of pushing and shoving, Hughes (HotMess) explains the point of the game fairly simply.

"Each team puts up five from each team, ten total," said Hughes (HotMess) "The object is for jammers to get through the packs."

Each shift, or jam in derby world, lasts up to two minutes. The women skate counterclockwise with one jammer per shift who scores each time they lap the opposing skater. The other eight skaters on the track skate in a group, simultaneously trying to get their jammer through while blocking the opposing team's jammer.

"The idea is to get past the pack the fastest," continued Hughes (HotMess). "The blockers are to make a wall and not let the opposite jammer go through."

While the bouts look rough and tumble (they are), there is a method to their madness. During the War Hawks practice Hughes (HotMess) coached the women on how to fall the correct way, how to block jammers using their bodies, and how to skate in what looks like at times a tangled mess.

"It's a full contact sport," laughed Hughes (HotMess). "So you have three different hitting styles. You can shoulder check or you can do a side body from your waist to your shoulder or you face them, like a chest block. No punches, no high elbows."

"Derby is a little different because you're rolling," added Ellary Smith, who goes by Hellcat on the track. "You're susceptible to falling. Even the best skaters fall."

Smith (Hellcat) is fairly new to the derby world, along with most of the team. Hughes (Hotmess) is the expert, giving her advice to the new skaters as they lace their skates up for the first time.

"I hadn't been on skates since junior high," said Smith (Hellcat) So for some of us, its been 12, 15, 20 years since we have skated. It was a process. It was not pretty."

See HAWKS, Page 6



Ch, ch, changes

Big Spring YMCA Director Dathan Jones brings the much-loved facility into 2017

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Big Spring's YMCA has traditionally been a place where the city's youth can go after school or in the summertime, or families can gather in the evenings, for active recreation, fitness training and education, and other leisure activities. Recently, however, the YMCA building began to show its age, and Y Director Dathan Jones said the community has come together to renovate, restore, and upgrade the facility. The changes are also making some exciting program changes possible as well.

"The last two years we've taken a real aggressive approach. It was at the point where everybody was saying 'We need a new facility,' and it just wasn't looking feasible," he said. "And everybody likes us in this location between the Junior High and the High School. So we just took a real aggressive approach to renovating our building from the roof to everything that we have here. We're updating tile; we took tile out last year that's been in the building for 45 years. And you know, you can only strip and wax tile so many times. Just small steps, but from top to bottom, we're hands-on renovating this building with the help of our community."

One of the most notable fixes is the new gray stucco on the building's exterior. The change is more than cosmetic, Jones said.

"Actually it's saving the building," he said. "This building is 57 years old, and it had some real bad damage where water had gotten in the crevices of the brick and was starting to break up the mortar. So as fancy as it looks, it's actually saving the building

and taking away all the leaks and potential areas so our building will stay standing and last for a lifetime."

New central air conditioning and heating will enable some programs that have never been possible before during the hot summer months.

"Gymnastics. This will be the first summer that we'll ever be able to offer gymnastics in the summertime because we are putting in central air and heating," Jones said. "That center that Russ McEwen built, it didn't have central air and heating, and so in the summertime in a tin building, you're baking. In the wintertime, you're freezing. So it was really hard for us to offer gymnastics in the summer because it was just too hot. But with the upgrades we're putting in back there, we're going to be able to offer gymnastics year-round from now on. It's a big deal, because in the summertime, a lot of kids are interested in taking it, but we just haven't had the means to put in proper AC and heating."

The new climate control will extend to another new facility designed to take some pressure off the Y's lone gymnasium.

"We also are going to be putting in a new recreation room here. Because our poor gym...we have one gym, and it takes an absolute beating. Either there's basketball going on, there's volleyball going on, dodgeball, there's always something going on in that gym," he said. "So we were looking, if a family comes in and wants to play volleyball or basketball, there's really no other place to offer them to do it. So we're actually in the process of

See YMCA, Page 5



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

YMCA Director Dathan Jones demonstrates the YMCA gym's new scoreboard.

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Boys and Girls Club of Big Spring provides stability and fun



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Bergen, Emily, Delilah, Natalie, and Destinie play a game of Bingo during the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club after school program. The program offers educational, fitness, and recreational activities in a safe, supervised environment after school.

By **ROGER CLINE**

Staff Writer

Big Spring has some great educational opportunities for elementary and secondary students, but what do kids do after they get out of school around 3:30 p.m. and before their parents get home from work?

"I've said it before and I'll say it again, the most dangerous time for a child is that time after they get out of school and before their parents get home," said Lt. Josh McKain of the Salvation Army. "We provide such a safe place for them. They're far better off coming to a structured place like the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club than just going home and having that gap of time before their parents get home."

The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club, located at 811 W. Fifth Street adjacent to the local Salvation Army Headquarters, provides a safe place to fill that gap.

"Funding a program like this give so many disadvantaged families the opportunity to get their kids into a program that's going to promote positivity, spiritual health, physical health, educational health; and we're able to provide these resources," McKain said. "And it's just not for disadvantaged families. But it's such a great asset for these families who just might not have anywhere else for their kids to go."

The club is headed by Director Duane Shackelford, a veteran of Abilene's Boys and Girls Club who has been with the Salvation Army's local Club

for four years.

"I actually started on the other side, just a Boys and Girls Club. I did that in Abilene for almost 16 years," Shackelford said. "Really, the disconnect is the religious aspect to it. Even though we would have what we called a 'Five Day Club' once a spring, we just couldn't do the spiritual aspect of it on a day-to-day basis. Now with the Salvation Army, praise the Lord, I am able to do a prayer and devotion every day with our kids. Every Thursday we have what we call 'Epic Thursdays' which is a religious based type program through the Salvation Army that we do with our children every Thursday from 5 o'clock to 6 o'clock."

And Shackelford believes that the spiritual aspect provided by the Salvation Army ties together all the other lessons the Boys and Girls Club teaches.

"The other components are basically Boys and Girls Club components. We have our character and development, we have the recreational type activities and those things. But the spiritual aspect is really what drew me to the Salvation Army. To me, it's a total mesh," he said. "I deeply believe our kids need the spiritual aspect more than anything else. I feel like with them having that, being grounded and having that as a basis, that everything that we talk about...the way the talk to them and the respect and what we expect of them seems to fall more and more into place."

Shackelford described what typically goes on during an after-school session at the Club.

"When the bus pulls up outside, the first thing

that I do is I go outside and I open the front door. As the kids are getting off the bus, they're coming into the club, and the first thing that I do is I speak to them and I give them a high five," he said. "That does two things for me. It lets me know if, in fact, a child is having a bad moment, they're not feeling well, that sort of thing; and it also gets me excited and it gets them excited about coming into the club."

Snack time is first, he said, adding that spirituality comes along with the snack.

"Once they come in the club, they have their own little separate cubbies out there that they put their belongings in. We prepare a snack for them every day," he said. "The tables that we have for them here depend on what group they're in. We have four groups here: We have 5 through 8 year old boys group, 5 to 8 year old girls, and then we have 9 and up boys and girls groups. They pretty much sit accordingly, and they interject each other with friendship and everything. While they're eating their snack is when I give them the prayer and devotion each day."

Next, the education continues after school.

"After they finish their snack, we have what we call our core rooms that we have them in each day," said Shackelford. "We'll entertain them with either homework that they have from school, or we'll make sure that they have something educational to do during the first half hour. We might have some math for them, we might have some reading for them, depending on the age group. For the 5 to 8 groups, we may have something they can do like some coloring exercises. 'Number missing,' a little adding and subtracting, that type of thing. As the groups get older, the homework increases to the nature of their grade level."

But it's not all work and no play at the Boys and Girls Club.

"After [the educational activities], one group may do arts and crafts, another group may go to our video arcade room, another one may do movies, the other one may do the gymnasium; and we'll have different activities for them to do every day," said Shackelford. "They'll rotate every half hour."

There are other programs, too, he added.

"We also have what we call a 'Smart Moves' class for kids who are from 10 to 17 years of age. I want to say we have about 8 to 10 kids in that particular curriculum," he said. "That consists of things such as bullying. We'll have a class on bullying, a class on education, we'll have a class on careers. Others may deal with first aid, helping out here at the club, volunteerism."

The Club doesn't stop when school lets out for summer.

"We're open during the summer for at least 10 weeks," Shackelford said. "We open our doors at 7:30 in the morning and we close at 5:30 Monday through Friday. In that day, they'll have activities here in the club: gym activities, art activities, they'll do movies, we'll entertain them outside. We'll also do daily field trips. They may go bowling, they may go skating. This year, we're working on some field trips to take them to Midland, to some

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YMCA

Continued from Page 4

putting in a rec room. It's going to be called the Russ McEwen Family Recreation and Gymnastics Center. It's going to be a half-size gym. But it will have four basketball goals to it, a volleyball net that can be put up or down. It just will give the community another outlet to play even if something is going on in the gym."

The updates aren't going to bypass the swimming pool.

"We're about to replace the liner in our pool," said Jones. "So we're going to go from dirty blue to dark blue. We can't wait for folks to see it. It's really going to bring out our pool area with those new lights in there. They're going to be replacing that liner, probably the second week in August. We're going to go ahead and finish out swim lessons and get everything done in our normal summer activities. Then after the last session of swim lessons, we're going to be replacing that liner."

Jones said the work is being done primarily by local contractors.

"Most of our contract work is local, by The Carpet Store and T&P Construction, are some of the main companies that have been doing the bulk of the work for us here," he said. "We've had hands on, tons of folk from our community. From the Honest Air company, to McNutt Electric, all local companies have been working hands-on on our facility. All Seasons Landscaping has been working. There are tons, and they're all from our community. So not only have we been benefitting from having such quality services right

here in Big Spring, but they've been benefitting as well, because we've been offering tons of work."

Jones also highlighted some new program opportunities at the Y.

"We'll have daycare in the summer like normal, day camp, but we're in the process of all-day care, where we're open from 7 to 7," he said. "I think we're starting with - not infant, but one, I think they have to be one year old to 13. We know that there is a great need in the community for that age of care, and we want to make it available, but there are certain materials that we don't have that we need. We believe one of the local companies is going to pick up that project and sponsor that, so if that happens, we'll be ready for all-day care year-round. Right now we just do after school until spring break, and then we have the camp for spring break, and then summertime, but we want to be able to have it all-day, year-round. We're almost there."

Of course, the good old YMCA favorite, flag football, is still around. In fact, it got an exciting change this past season, Jones said.

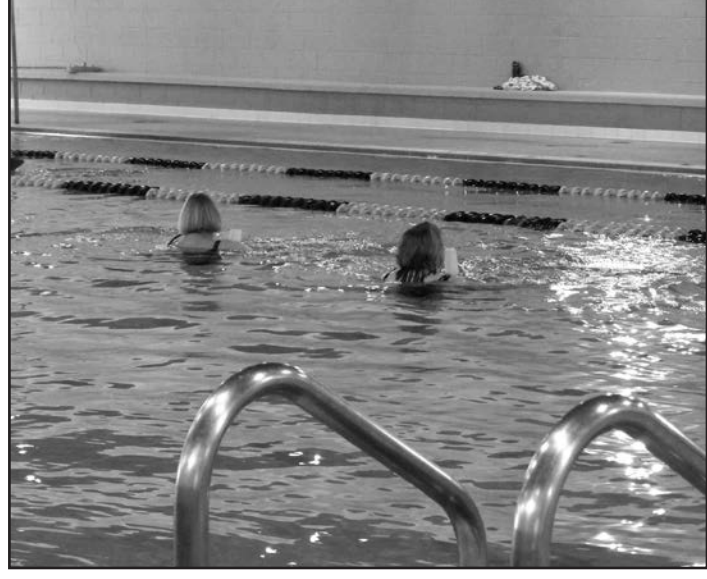
"Last year was our biggest year for our flag football. We're super simple here, we keep it super simple, but we actually partnered with the NFL," Jones said. "It's called 'NFL Flag,' and we're actually a representative of the NFL through flag. I know it sounds weird, Big Spring a representative of the NFL. The uniforms that the kiddoes got last year were actual NFL jerseys, but they were reversible. They came directly from them. We ordered from the NFL. The same people that make the NFL players' jerseys make our kids'

jerseys. They give us a really cool price, where each kid gets their own flag belt with their uniform. They have a belt, they have a reversible jersey. I didn't even know they made reversible jerseys. Normally we had just been doing T-shirts. That was the first year that Y's around the world essentially have become partnered with the NFL. So we're connected like that now, and that's just a really neat deal to be able to offer that."

And there's much more available at the Y as well.

"We just finished youth basketball. Right before that we had volleyball, we had youth volleyball, we had youth flag football," Jones said. "We also will have dodgeball tournaments going on. We just had one not too long ago. Zumba fitness program wise, we have spinning here, we have yoga, the Pilates kickboxing, Powerpump, Zumba of course. We're actually getting an instructor here from Midland who teaches the drumming. The Drum-Ball. Where they actually do drumming on the big Swiss balls, and it's a workout. I've never done it, but I've seen that people are really getting into it. Come to find out, you don't even have to be rhythmically inclined to do it. I was like, 'Me with drumsticks? That's horrible. That would be a terrible idea.' So that's coming. Summertime, of course, we have swim lessons getting ready to come up in the summer."

The Big Spring YMCA is located at 801 Owens Street, between Big Spring Junior High and Big Spring High School. For more information contact the YMCA at 432-267-8234.



HERALD photos/Roger Cline

At top, the YMCA's swimming pool will receive a new liner about the second week of August, after summer swimming lessons are complete for the year. At bottom, YMCA patrons enjoy a game of volleyball in the facility's gymnasium, which now boasts refurbished flooring, new air conditioning, and a new scoreboard. A recreation room, essentially a half-court gymnasium, will be constructed in the near future to provide an alternative location for indoor sporting activities.



HERALD photos/Amanda Elston

At top from left to right, Rachel Hughes (Hotmess) coaches Amber Newell (Booty), Lexi Cavanaugh (Princess Slaya), and Ellary Smith (Hellcat) in different techniques to block jammers from getting through the pack. At bottom, Hughes (left), Newell (center), and Smith skate laps at practice.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 4

"They didn't leave the rails," laughed Hughes (Hotmess) of Smith (Hellcat) and Newell (Booty). "You don't realize you're working out. You're just having fun."

While the sport is competitive, the newly minted War Hawks are looking for skaters of any skill level. Mainly those looking to have a good time.

"Amber and I had been friends for a little bit before and it sounded like it would be good exercise," said Smith (Hellcat). "We aren't gym people. We thought we could bro down, get some girl time, and meet some people."

"We still learn everyday," said Newell (Booty). "One of the minimum skills is 25 laps in five minutes. I just now have gotten mine down. I have started weight training because I wanna be stronger for derby. The cardio is definitely there."

The group's strong dynamic and sisterhood mentality is strengthened by a variety of backgrounds. The women range in age from 22 to 42 and are of varying heights and body types, giving each girl a unique advantage on the track.

"The bigger girls that are a little heavysset are, like, worshipped in derby," explained Newell (Booty). "Hitting us and us hitting you is like hitting a brick wall. It's the first sport I think that we are all accepted for whatever. We all come from different areas. Derby really builds self-confidence. You're around a lot of positive women that want you to do good."

The women encouraged anyone interested in trying out the sport to come out to Skateland Reloaded on Wednesday nights to leave it all on the track.

"At a certain age, you miss that competitiveness, and roller derby gives that to us," said Hughes (Hotmess). "It brings you together with a lot of awesome and strong

women who wanna play. And let's be honest it's nice to knock the crap out of someone. Then we laugh about it and have a beer."

At their weekly practice, the women begin their two-hour night by skating laps around each other, Newell (Booty) controlling the music from her watch. After the group finished their laps, Hughes (Hotmess) coaches the group in both individual and team practice sessions. The women practice skating figure eights forwards and backwards and then practice controlled falling on their knee guards, making sure to get back up in a hurry. According to Newell (Booty), those new to derby can practice things at their own pace.

"We aren't gonna hit you until you're ready to hit us," Newell (Booty) said. "They just stay on the outside, skate basics, we will show them how to do stops. We have the loaner gear so we will pad them up."

"We start with falls," continued Newell (Booty). "We learn how to fall correctly. You learn the fundamentals like every sport just like in basketball."

The War Hawks practice every Wednesday at Skateland Reloaded from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. While the team is currently all female, the women welcome both men and women over 18. There is a \$5 fee to skate. Currently, Lexi "Princess Slaya" Cavanaugh, Shilo "Chaotic Carnage" Rawls, Marcy "Eureka Havoc" Leal, Ellary "Hellcat" Smith, Rachel "Hotmess" Hughes, Amber "Booty & the Beast" Newell, Michelle "Ricky Booby" Gonzalez, Ellen "PI" Vasquez, Edith "Easy E" Esparza, and Veronica "Hita" Gutierrez, For more information, find the group on Facebook at War Hawks Roller Derby or email them at warhawksrollerderby@yahoo.com.

"We are a team," said Smith (Hellcat). "We are a family. It's really bonded us."

"We found our best friends in this," added Newell (Booty) "You have to be friends with people you knock out."



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Left to right, Aiden, Colin, and Dyver complete some homework at the Salvation Army's after school program.

CLUB

Continued from Page 5

museums and that type of thing. We also entertain the idea, and we have in the past, gone to the library and participated in the summer reading program over there. We also utilize the museum, the local museum. We'll take them over there. So we want them to get a well-rounded view of who they need to be. Too many kids, they don't know what they want. But if we expose them to all different types

of things, sooner or later they'll grasp and find a niche. And that's what we want to do for them."

Starting this year, the summer camp will see a drastic price reduction, the director said.

"We saw 90 to 95 kids during the summer this past summer, and they were paying \$40 a week. This summer our fees will be \$50 a month."

For more information about the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club, call the Salvation Army at 267-8239 and press "2" on the electronic menu.

New director, social media unites United Way of Big Spring

Executive Director Meghan Bias breathes new life into organization



HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody

New Executive Director of the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County Meghan Bias took over the position in January 2017. Bias is using all the tools she can to get the word out about the area's 15 non-profit agencies it supports, including social media, specifically Facebook.

By **LYNDEL MOODY**

Staff Writer

If you've noticed activity ramping up on the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County's Facebook page lately, it's not because the organization's annual campaign is nearing.

The agency's new Executive Director Meghan Bias is just using all her proverbial tools to educate the community about the United Way, the 15 non-profit agencies it supports, and to help foster inter-communication and support between the agencies themselves.

"I've started doing live feeds," Bias explained. "I went and saw Isaiah 58, and I did an inter-

Bias said she is planning to make heavy use of social media, because it's free and effective in today's society, to help her not only promote these agencies but also inform the public about their services. Bias is using Facebook to broadcast information, interviews from spokespersons of the different agencies, or updates on events in real time for the public.

"As I do these live feeds, I would like the agencies to tell their stories themselves," she said. "They don't need me talking for them. I just want to provide a platform for them to reach more people."

Fostering inter-agency communication and support is also on the top of her list, Bias said.



view to show everybody what they were doing, what they offered, when they were there, who they could contact, where they are located, what they are all about.

"Because of that live feed, when the (Boy) Scouts, which is another of our agencies, was having a food drive and their (Lone Star) District Executive Zack Mullins called me and said 'The West Texas Food Bank doesn't necessarily need the food that we get, so I can give it to Isaiah,' I was like 'Yes'. I gave him the number. This is living united. This is such a beautiful thing. One of our agencies is doing something to help another one. That helps so many people. I felt this is what should be happening all the time. There is no reason they shouldn't be helping each other."

Bias took over the position in January. The United Way is an organization which holds an annual campaign beginning in September and running until November to raise money for its affiliated agencies. Currently, funds from the campaign are allocated to 15 area non-profit agencies that provide a range of services to the community such as helping victims of violent crimes to youth activities and job training assistance.

"I want to really bring the vision of living united here in Howard County," she said. "I really want United Way to be the cornerstone for all these agencies and for the community. I feel like we can help each other so much and they can help each other."

The United Way of Big Spring and Howard County supports the following agencies: The American Red Cross, Permian Basin chapter; Big Spring YMCA; Buffalo Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America; CASA of West Texas, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center; Emergency Services Chaplain Corps; Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest; Isaiah 58; Mobile Meals; Northside Community Center; Rape Crisis Services of Big Spring; Spring of Siloam; The Salvation Army; The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club; and the Westside Community Day Care Center.

Each March, the United Way opens up applications to become a sponsored agency. For more information or to learn more about the United Way in general, contact Bias at 267-5201 or visit the United Way office located inside the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce and Big Spring Economic Development building, 215 West Third St.

Faces of the Crossroads

2017 Progress Edition

Inside:

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- Learning & Leisure
- Health & Fitness
- Business & Industry



A publication of the

BIG SPRING HERALD

Friday, March 31, 2017

The Carpet Store specializes in more than just carpet

By **ROGER CLINE**

Staff Writer

A local attorney and owner of several companies specializing in construction, roofing, and flooring believes in giving back to the community.

Larry Reese is the owner of The Carpet Store LLC, which operates several subsidiary businesses as well.

"There's two divisions below that, TCS Flooring and TCS Construction, then there's a separate entity, TCS Roofing LLC, but that is a subsidiary, instead of its own legal entity," Reese said. "All of it is under The Carpet Store. Kari's Decorator Center is also a subsidiary, legally, of The Carpet Store, but my sister and my brother-in-law are 1/3 or 1/4 interest owners in that, but that's not through a company, that's them personally."

Reese, an licensed attorney who still carries a few legal cases as well as the construction companies, has Big Spring roots.

"I was born and raised here. Amy (Reese) is my sister, my little sister, the dentist," he said. "My parents taught at the college and stuff. I was born and raised here. My parents still live up in the house up in Kentwood where I was raised. I went off and did a whole bunch of other things. Wound up practicing law in Houston, working for HP and Compaq. Married, my wife had our daughter Julia."

Reese said he and his wife Kari decided to move back to Big Spring to help care for his parents, and to raise their children in a small-town environment.

"My parents were getting older there had been a lot of surgeries, you know, broken hips and stuff like that. It wasn't really fair to Amy, my sister, because I was 500 miles away she had to deal with all of that. So that was on my mind," he said. "Then the boys, who are four now, about to turn five, they were about to be born. So my wife and I started thinking about coming back out here. I think there's a lot to be said for small towns. I mean, there's going to be guns and drugs and violence here, but I don't think its as in-your-face, you know, 24 hours a day like you always hear about and see in Houston. So we started talking about coming back out here."

Reese said he felt the market for attorneys in Big Spring was a bit overcrowded, so he purchased The Carpet

Store from local construction company owner Jacoby Hopper.

"Jacoby Hopper, who owned this place, he wanted to concentrate on building homes exclusively," he said. "So Jacoby and I made a deal and I picked this place up and split it into three companies, kind of divisions. We do roofing, construction, and flooring. Then I picked up The Decorator Center from Roxanne when she was ready to get out of business, and changed that over to Kari's Decorator Center. That was April of last year."

Through his companies, Reese said he can handle anything related to the construction and decorating of buildings.

"Everything," he said. "We can build the house from the ground up. We can do the whole thing if they like, or additions. Right now, what we're looking at, one of the jobs is for the city for the new landfill. An entire building, either one or two stories, they haven't decided yet. We did the Texas State Veteran's Home, that job was like \$150,000. We've done the Y. We did their roofing, we did all the new basketball goals, we did all the new flooring. We did the flooring in the aerobics room. We did all the new mirrors, the new fans. Everywhere that there is we put in all new doors, we put in all new glass. We're going to be putting in more doors plus a digital security system. That, if you total it all up, is probably more than that Texas State Veteran's Home."

Reese said that both his primary company, The Carpet Store, and his new addition, Kari's Decorator Center, specialize in flooring.

"What we kind of try to do in the flooring area between the two is differentiate the market and the products that both carry," he said. "There are a couple of duplications especially with like Shaw or Mohawk, because they're the biggest flooring companies in the United States. So there's some of them there and there's some of them here. But there are other companies that we exclusively handle through the Decorator Center, and there are others we exclusively handle through The Carpet Store."

See **CARPET**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

The Carpet Store owner Larry Reese points out different options customers can choose from. The Carpet Store is just one of several businesses Reese owns in town.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

In addition to The Carpet Store, Reese owns TCS Flooring, TCS Construction, TCS Roofing, as well as co-owns Kari's Decorator Center with his sister and brother-in-law in Big Spring.

Two places, one mission

By **AMANDA DUEFORAT**

Scenic Mountain Medical Center and the Big Spring YMCA are focused on keeping the residents of Big Spring healthy. One is working from a proactive approach and the other a reactive approach. When you combine the two, you get an infallible partnership with a high likelihood of achieving results. If asked, most people wouldn't lump the Big Spring YMCA and the local hospital - Scenic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC) - into the same category or think they serve a similar mission, but if you were to step back and look a little deeper, one would see both entities have been on a very similar path for the last two years.

"Changing the perception has been a big focus for us, but we knew that wasn't going to happen overnight and we knew it wouldn't happen without some real changes being made. Along the way we earned the name and the negative things that were being said about us. We are determined to change that perception and be the hospital that Big Spring deserves," SMMC CEO Emma Krabill said.

While the YMCA may not have been faced with

changing a negative perception, they were faced with an aging facility and dwindling membership. Just like at Scenic Mountain, the CEO and board members were determined to make their facility a place the community could be proud of.

"We want the YMCA to be a place that is around for another 60, 70 years. A place that endures the test of time and serves as a place that leaves an impact," YMCA CEO Dathan Jones said.

Both organizations knew what the task was and both had a team that was willing to not only accept the challenge, but put in the work. Neither road would be easy. Both entities would be faced with hard decisions, financial restraints, and history.

"We know what needs to be done and the way we have looked at every project that we've tackled was if we are going to do it, then we are going to do it right. There would be no cutting corners, no half jobs. The board and I are committed to making improvements that will last 30 years down the road. We weren't just looking for a patch job," Jones said. Scenic Mountain expressed the same sentiment.

"The community deserves a hospital they can be proud of. There is no reason that we should think

Scenic Mountain Medical Center & the Big Spring YMCA work to benefit residents

we don't deserve high quality care. We need to get out of the mentality of 'we are in Big Spring and that's the best we can get.' The community deserves quality and they can get quality," said Krabill.

With the arrival of several new providers, the addition of two new service lines - ENT and Wound Care and Hyperbarics - and continued improvements to processes, transformation is taking place at Scenic Mountain.

With an ever-growing population of diabetes, a high flu season, and being surrounded by high school sports and the oilfield industry, health care access and service availability is top of mind for Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The board and administrative team are focused on recruiting providers that will serve the needs of the community and help eliminate travel.

"We understand that we can't be everything to everyone, but the services that we are able to provide,

See **BENEFIT**, Page 3

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BENEFIT

Continued from Page 2

we are going to provide with the highest quality at a competitive price," Krabill said.

Renovations at SMMC have included several behind the scenes projects, which included piping and structural integrity of the building. The medical/surgical floor has received a new coat of paint and now has a more modern look. The chapel – thanks to the SMMC Auxillary – was able to be put back into service. Currently, space is being made for a new behavioral health wing which is set to open at the end of this year.

For the last two and a half years, it was noticeable renovations were taking place at SMMC and in the West Texas Medical Plaza, where the Wound Healing Center and many of the Family Medical Center providers are housed, meanwhile the same process was taking place across town at the local YMCA.

"It was important for the YMCA and SMMC to do these projects in phases so that business-as-usual could continue," Jones said. "I'm sure the case is the same for Scenic Mountain, but if we would have done all the projects at once, it would have required closing for a couple years and that's just not acceptable. Closing the doors during the project time would mean not being able to help keep the community healthy and that just wasn't acceptable."

YMCA renovation has included everything from the roof down to the floor. A new roof was put on and 40-year-old tiles were removed and replaced throughout the building. Several places around the building that had water damage were addressed and by doing so the structural integrity of the building was reinforced and the life of the building prolonged for another 30, 40 years, according to Jones.

"The YMCA was built 57 years ago and the building was looking 57 years old. Thankfully, we have been able to update the majority of the building at this point, including the high traffic areas such as the gymnasium and pool area," he said. "Both areas have received new LED lighting. The gym has new goals and scoreboard and the pool is heated now, a dry sauna and a hot tub was added. This is going to be a place that the community can be proud of and will want to show off."

The YMCA received new flooring throughout the building, added new equipment with more equipment coming in and has extended to 24/7 hour access to the fitness center. Doors have been changed throughout for a more modern look, but also for added security. The gym, which

receives the majority of the traffic, has received new lighting, a new scoreboard and table.

The childcare area also received some attention, with new flooring and a fresh coat of paint. The pool area is another focus. A new hot tub, dry sauna and LED lighting was added, with a pool liner next on the list. Gymnastics is in the process of receiving AC and heating. A new family recreation room will also be part of the gymnastics upgrade.

"One thing that we tried to do and were able to do, for the most part, was to have all renovations completed by local contractors. We want to be able to give back to our community by supporting local businesses. We have good quality offered through our local businesses and there is no reason we need to go hunting elsewhere," Jones said.

For anyone who has walked through the YMCA or SMMC in the past few months, The transformation is really night and day with more to come. The atmosphere in both facilities has a renewed sense of pride. Neither facility is looking to stop the forward motion that has been started.

"We make great partners because of the shared goal, which is our foundation, and that is to make the community healthy. That's what drives our business," Jones said. "If you aren't feeling well you go to our partner, Scenic Mountain, and once they have helped you get better, you come here and continue the journey," Jones said. "Several of these ailments can be attributed back to lack of proper diet and lack of exercise. Scenic Mountain can help you design that plan and we help you carry it out. The opportunity to work out and get healthy is here, but it's almost as if they want to hear it from a professional. Once they hear it from our partners they come here and get into the routine."

"SMMC has everything that the YMCA doesn't and the YMCA has what Scenic Mountain doesn't," said Jones. "That's what makes us valuable partners. The fact that we are serving the same purpose and sharing tools just makes us more effective to impact our community."



Courtesy photos
At top, a ribbon cutting ceremony is held at SMMC. At bottom, a shiny gym floor is top priority for the YMCA.

CARPET

Continued from Page 2

Where Kari's Decorator Center is generally more high-end, boutique-style flooring, The Carpet Store tends to lean toward more budget-conscious solutions.

"We are more readily set up with all of the things we have in stock here at the Carpet Store to appeal to people who need to do their house on a budget," he said. "Rental proper-

ties, we do work for all the school districts, the city, the county, the state, and the federal government."

Reese said he deals almost exclusively in American-made products, except for products that are only made in other countries.

"You'll find that nearly everything in the store here is made in the United States. I believe that's important," he said. "I believe if we don't have jobs here and actually make things,

you know, not everybody can work at McDonalds or whatever. So I try to push that. If people want something from China or whatever, you know, I can get it. There are some products or whatever where you can't get anything in that segment that's not made in China. One of those is bamboo, but then, of course, we don't grow a whole lot of bamboo in the United States."

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Local restaurant takes on the big league

The Varsity - All American Eats and Treats hopes to become a home away from home for Big Spring residents



Brandy Reed, manager of The Varsity - All American Eats and Treats, stands near the store in Spring Town Plaza. The restaurant opened in August of 2016.

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Tucked into the Spring Town Plaza just opposite Cinemark Theaters is a small restaurant called The Varsity - All American Eats and Treats.

Opened in August, the restaurant is owned by Derrick and Donna Sue Looney but is managed by Brandy Reed, who has more than a decade of experience in the food industry.

The Varsity offers a large menu from hamburgers and chicken cooked on the grill to nacho salad.

For those with a sweet taste, the store sales 22 flavors of Blue Bell hard scoop ice cream.

"We buy all our meat from Hulls Meat Market. It's all hand pattied, so they taste better," Reed said.

"We have a special house blend for our burgers that we put on all of our burgers and all of our chicken. It's a secret recipe that we will never give out.

"I like partnering with local businesses," Reed continued. "I like incorporating that into our local restaurants so that we know where we are getting our products from not just warehouse down the road where we don't know the quality of the work or the food that we are getting. I like knowing where our food comes, knowing that we are getting the quality that we are paying for."

Twice a week, the store receives a

shipment from Big Spring Blue Bell plant and hard scoop ice cream is one of its biggest sellers.

"We also offer banana splits, old-style malts, hand mixed milk shakes and sundaes," Reed said.

Adding a little bit of health to the menu, the Varsity staff cooks their fries, onion rings, tater tots, and even hot dogs in a convection fryer, Reed said.

"They cook with hot air instead of grease," she said. "They are much healthier but it takes a little bit longer."

And the restaurant is planning to expand its menus by offering some unique burger options.

"We are developing a signature line of sandwiches," Reed said. "We have the All-American burger. It's fried cheddar cheese. You fire it on the grill and you wrap the hamburger patty in it. We have the Double Header - that's the fried cheddar cheese and a ring of fried mozzarella around that and then wrapped around the burger. The Mighty Joe will be just the fried mozzarella. And one we haven't named is we chopped onions and jalapeños real fine and mix is into the meat."

Reed admitted The Varsity's signature line maybe a little tad over the daily nutritional limit.

"I think we compensate healthy fries with unhealthy burgers, but



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
A Varsity restaurant employee takes a customer's order. The Varsity is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and offers daily specials. On Friday and Saturday nights, the restaurant boasts open-mic nights where people can sing and play the guitar.

they taste real good," Reed said laughing.

The Varsity is a sports themed restaurant created because owners felt Big Spring needed something for youth teams to come after a game, Reed said.

"Derrick and Donna Sue are huge sports fans," she said. "They thought Big Spring needed that sports friendly environment where people can come and bring their teams and celebrate or get ice cream if they lost. They wanted some place people could watch sports on the TV."

And to help give the restaurant a little more local feel, Reed is asking the community to donate some of their old sports memorabilia to decorate the walls.

"I would love to make this local sports," she said. "We are looking for team photos things like that. If you played sports in Big Spring, you have pictures, you have old gear,

we would love to hang it in here. We want to make it homey, and we want people from Big Spring to feel at home here. We want to serve good food. We want to make it a nice environment where families can come in and have dinner and not worried about being said here, what's being done here. We want to keep it family friendly, and we want to keep it local."

The Varsity is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and offers daily specials.

On Friday and Saturday nights, the restaurant hosts an open mic night.

"People can play and sing," she said. "We keep guitar here handy. I would love to see some talent from Big Spring come in and play and have a good time."

For more information about The Varsity or to inquire about the daily specials, call 432-606-5110 or visit the store's Facebook page at The Varsity - All American Eats and Treats.

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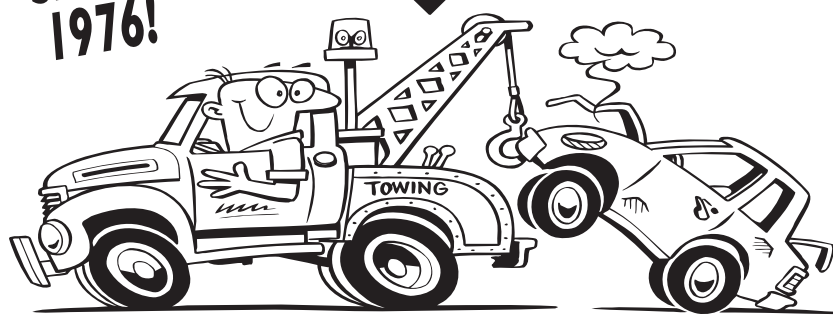
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'Buffalo' offers West Texas flair

Blue-Eyed Buffalo specializes in design

By **ROBERT BARLOW**

Staff Writer

It's hard to drive by the Blue-Eyed Buffalo without noticing the store. The big blue sign stands out at the corner of Main and 3rd street. This unique furniture and décor boutique has been in Big Spring now for two years, offering a "Texas rustic" style of furniture and appliances.

When you first enter the building, you immediately can tell this isn't your typical furniture store. The sofas, chairs, and tables are eye-catching in a way that can only be described as Texan. With a huge showroom, there is plenty of items that fit just about anybody's design preferences and styles. In addition to having furniture you would expect, the store also carries a wide selection of items including pottery, light fixtures, and wall décor.

This includes plenty of artwork for any space, with some hand-signed prints of paintings by certified cowboy artist Bruce Green.

Patricia Bennett, the store manager who has been with the store almost since they opened, sat down to speak a little bit about what the Blue-Eyed Buffalo brings to West Texas.

An active member of the Big Spring community, Bennett is a certified interior designer who offers a friendly smile every time you enter the store.

The owners have three other locations located in two cities before this one, offering similar products and services.

"The original location opened in Stephenville, Texas, and has been there for three years," Bennett said. "It is a home-owned and operated store and the owners decided to move further west."

They opened a second store in Stephenville and a third one in Gainesville, Texas not long after.

The last location came to Big Spring over two

years ago and has been staying busy ever since.

Some of the products the store carries are one of a kind hand-made items including a table made from reclaimed wood as well as some custom sofas and sectionals you couldn't find anywhere else.

Located downtown, the building was chosen because of its antique appearance and it adds another layer to the authentic Texas rustic feel.

In addition to the many unique items, the store also offers some services that set it apart from other businesses.

Some of the services include professionals that can help people customize their own sofas, barstools, and chairs as well as any other many other design needs they may have. Customers can go into the store and talk with someone about customizing a personal sofa or sectional. They are able to pick everything from the type of fabric or leather, to the style of the furniture itself.

If customers can't go into the store, they will also



Blue Eyed Buffalo Manager Patricia Bennett has been with the Blue-Eyed Buffalo almost since the store opened over two years ago. Bennett is a certified interior designer.

HERALD photo/Robert Barlow

go on location to your home or business and personally design a space just for you.

This includes helping customers decide furniture arrangements, paint schemes, types of flooring and all the little things to help your space really stand out.

"If you can dream it you can make it," Bennett said. "We also have an interior design team in house that can come out to your location and help with décor, help with furnishings."

The Blue-Eyed Buffalo also has a growing social media community and encourages anyone who might be interested or who may have any questions to reach out on Facebook.

Or as always, customers can stop in the store themselves and see what all they have to offer.



HERALD photo/Robert Barlow

Blue-Eyed Buffalo has locations in Big Spring, Stephenville, and Gainesville, Texas. Big Spring's location opened two years ago.



HERALD photo/Robert Barlow

Blue-Eyed Buffalo carries a wide array of furniture in addition to wall decor, light fixtures, and artwork for the home.

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Big Spring High alum banks on basin



Courtesy photo

J.D. Smith (center) poses with EnCore Permian employees. Smith is a Big Spring High School alumnus who recently announced his new holdings venture, EnCore Permian.

J.D. Smith announces mineral purchasing venture EnCore Permian

By AMANDA ELSTON

Managing Editor

A Big Spring High School graduate and entrepreneur has recently announced his new holdings venture, EnCore Permian, a mineral purchasing and leasing company. J.D. Smith, along with co-founder Josh Lorenz of Midland, began EnCore Permian as a successor to their previous venture, PetroLima LLC.

"I'm a 3rd generation Big Spring resident and graduated from BSHS in 2000," said Smith. "I went to work in offshore completions in the Gulf of Mexico at the age of 18 and then internationally for seven years. I tell everyone that I was fracing before it was cool."

A motivated self-starter, Smith attributes most of his success to mentors and hard work. In fact, Smith only has a few classes of college education under his belt.

"It was a mildly Good Will Hunting," joked Smith. "...I went to the Howard County Library and sat in the basement and read every book they had on oil and gas and land."

The company, based out of Midland but with an office in Big Spring, boasts up to \$200 million in initial equity agreements and a private equity capital partner that manages funds with more than \$8.9 billion in assets. However, EnCore's strength might be in their software, Mineral Scout, designed by the company's Nicholas Tallant.

"Mineral Scout uses big data and sophisticated queries to provide a competitive edge in a crowded leasing

environment," said Lornez. "It's a different maker in finding and acquiring quality prospects we might not see otherwise."

According to the Smith, the software is one of the examples of how EnCore Permian uses technology in order to scout opportunities.

"EnCore's technology puts us ahead of the competition and makes us the first to know about an opportunity," said Smith. "I wish I'd had this during the first decade of my career. There's no telling how many more acres we would have leased."

While a lot of focus is put on Howard County, said Smith, the company also focuses on acquiring leaseholds and mineral interests in the Midland and Delaware basins in West Texas and Southeast New Mexico.

"The company currently owns operated assets in Martin and Howard counties in the Midland Basin, and in the Delaware Basin in Pecos County," read a press release from EnCore.

In addition to EnCore, CEO Smith also runs a non-profit with his wife, Kara, and another couple.

The John 4:14 Foundation works to provide clean water to those without access.

While EnCore Permian is fairly new, the company is actively acquiring new assets to expand its operated position for future development.

"We've allocated additional capital for drilling and acreage development once we have a blocked-up position for long laterals," said Smith.

For more information on EnCore Permian, go to encorepermian.com.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Tessa and Dr. Jody Reid are the owners of Big Spring Healthcare businesses Back in Motion Chiropractic, West Texas Injury Prevention, and Serenity Spa.

Taking health seriously Jody and Tessa Reid put patients first

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Dr. Jody and Tessa Reid have built a system of healthcare-related businesses in Big Spring that have the goal of putting the patient first.

Jody is a licensed chiropractor with 24 years experience in the business.

"We have Back in Motion which is a chiropractic office. We do traditional and kind of new techniques here in our office," Dr. Reid said, noting that Back in Motion has three chiropractors available; in addition to himself, Dr. Peter Warner and Dr. Kevin Stice work out of the 1113 Scurry Street office. "We have an injury prevention - it's West Texas Injury Prevention. They do anything from pre-employment to drug testing to lab draws for people, triage, TB testing, lots of different services like that. They even do EKGs and audiometers. It's pretty much a one-stop-shop for pre-employment. We do a lot of screenings for different businesses."

The third component to the Re-

id's businesses is Serenity Spa, Tessa said.

"We have a massage therapist that works at Serenity Spa," she said. "It used to be full service but now we just do the massage therapy."

Dr. Reid said many people don't understand what chiropractic treatment is all about.

"The simplest form of chiropractic is, we just try to help the body function better," he said. "Sometimes that's through better nutrition, sometimes that's through what we call adjusting techniques to help the joints move better. Sometimes it's by education or stretching exercises or some rehabilitation."

Chiropractic is very safe, he said, adding that most local doctors respect and work well with him.

"If you compare it to most treatments, it's safer than aspirin," he said. "Scientifically what we know as chiropractic has been around for about 100 years, but traditionally

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REIDS

Continued from Page 6

they have done similar hands-on

treatments all the way back to the middle ages. We work real well with our medical community. Sometimes we work with our physical therapists in the area. We're really for whatever the patient needs to have their best life."

Chiropractic is often able to treat ailments that don't respond well to traditional medicine.

"One of the biggest ones we see in our office is tension headaches, or even migraines," he said. "Chiropractic is, a lot of times, very good with those. Probably number two is lower back pain or sciatica, where the pain is going down the leg. Those are probably two of our biggest ones."

Sports injuries are another issue that Back in Motion is able to treat.

"We have a lot of sports injuries that come in. We have digital x-rays in our office. They're hospital quality. As solo providers, we're able to contain the cost on x-rays, so we see a lot of athletes," he said. "We screen for a lot of schools, the college and other places. We try to get the athletes back to action as soon as possible."

Elderly patients also respond well to chiropractic treatment, he said.

"Sometimes as we get older, things just don't move as well or our balance is a little bit different," said Dr. Reid. "This helps people to have better balance, better mobility, sleep better a lot, travel better in the car. It just mechanically takes a lot of stress off the body so the muscles just aren't as tight, and it helps kind of quiet arthritis. It's very good for people who have arthritic conditions."

In fact, Reid has treated all ages of patients, he said.

"The youngest patient I ever worked on was two hours old.

Our oldest patient lived to be 102," he said. "So it's pretty much safe for all age groups, but the techniques we use, depending on the age group, change."

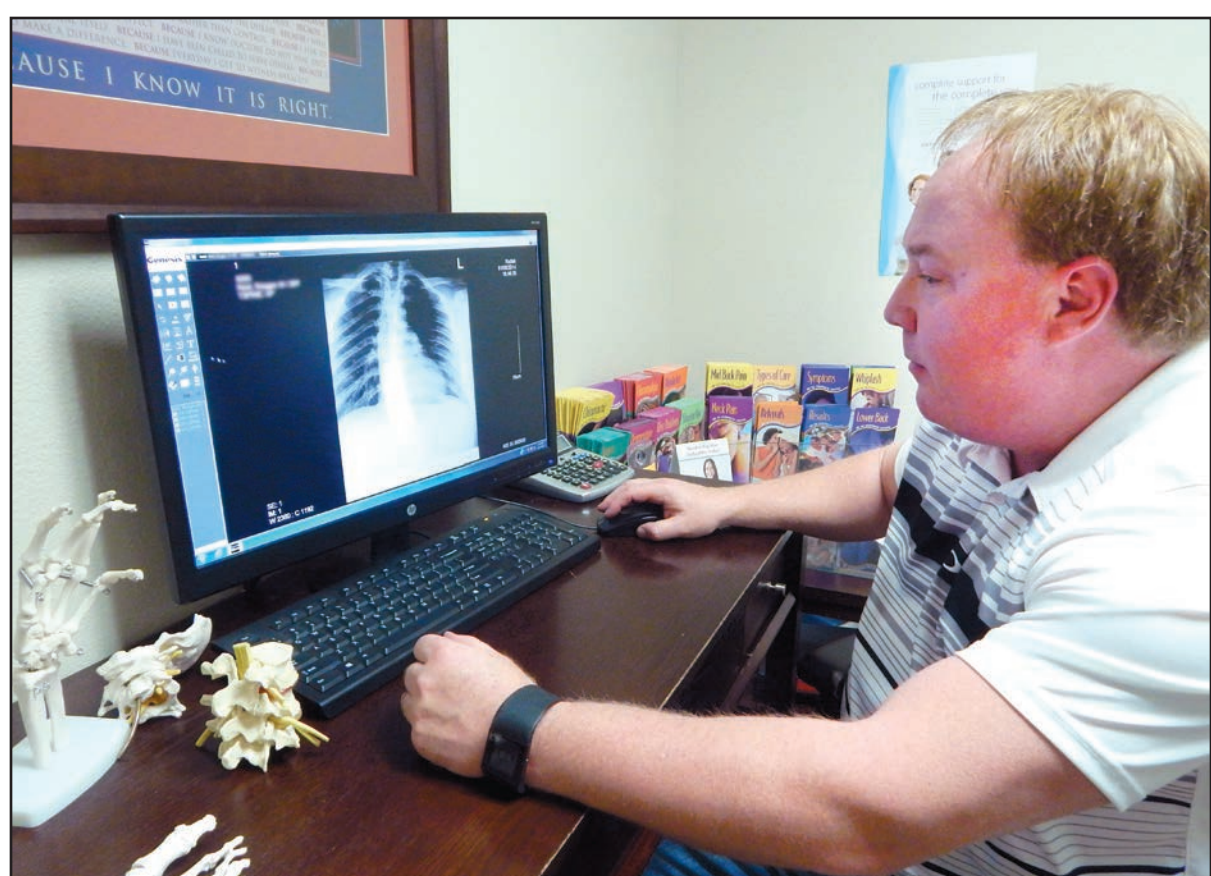
Reid said he enjoys watching patients heal without drugs or invasive surgery.

"There's a time and place for that, but the thing people don't realize about chiropractors, I think they just think about us popping backs, but we do ankles and wrists, and sometimes TMJ (jaw pain)," he said. "Most joints, we can manipulate those. But the other thing is knowing when not to. We catch a lot of kidney stones and gall stones, skin cancer, because we tend to work on working people. Different things that aren't chiropractic problems, and we've built up the reputation here. Sometimes that's why we get people here who come with conditions that aren't really chiropractic. They don't have a doctor because they're never sick, but they know we'll get them to the right place. We direct a lot of care out of here."

West Texas Injury Prevention provides job-related testing and medical services. WTIP is overseen by Dr. Robbie Cooksey, D.O., and provides, as Tessa said, a "one-stop-shop for employers."

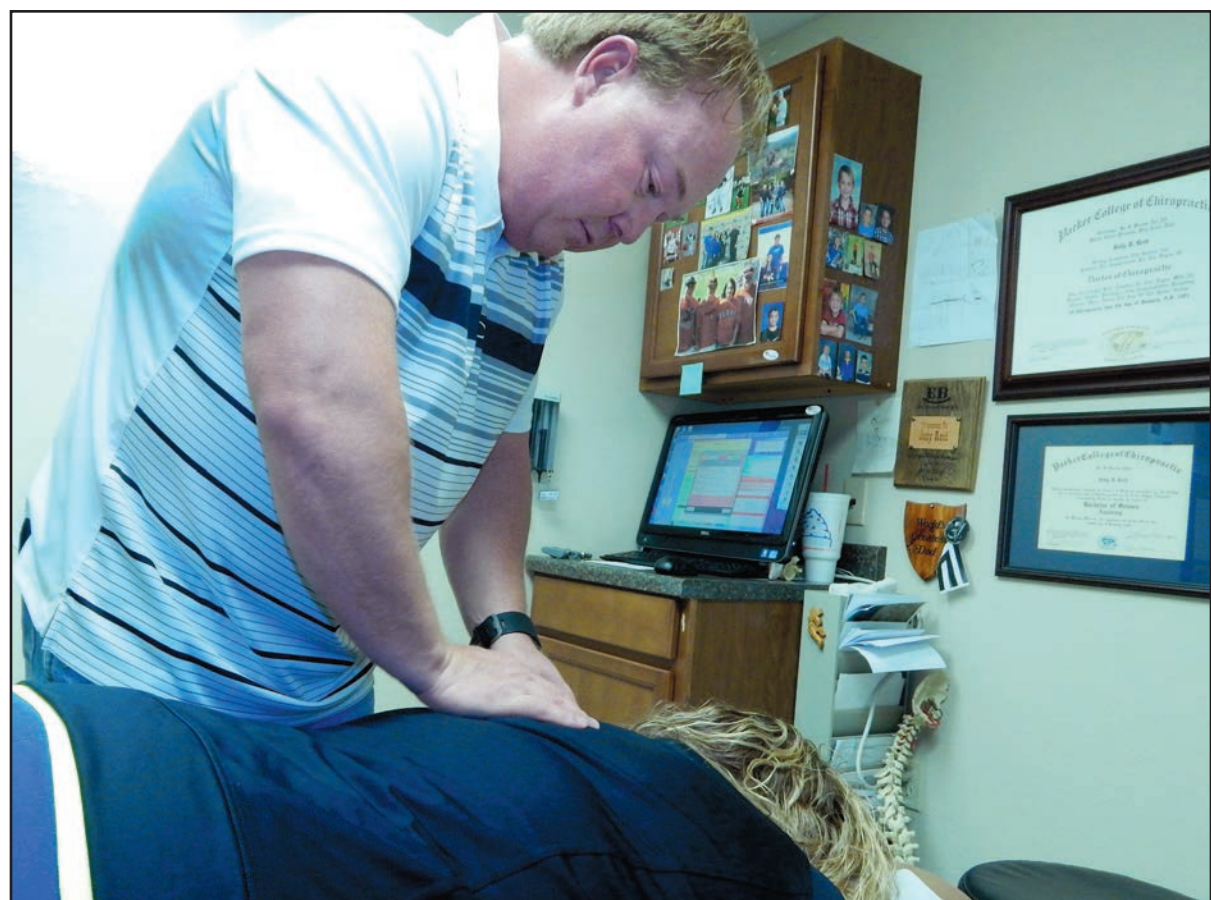
"We do all types of screenings, whether it's pre-employment or if they've been working there for several years and something comes up," she said. "We do drug testing, we do all sorts of physicals: Truck driver physicals, so the DOT type physicals we do those here. There's employment-specific, so if an employer has something, like with our wind energy people. They have to be able to climb to the top of one of those big windmills. Then we need to be able to simulate that here so they can see that that person is physically fit to do that. That may be

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HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Dr. Jody Reid examines a patient's x-ray in his office at Back in Motion Chiropractic. Back in Motion features high-quality digital x-ray services.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Dr. Jody Reid performs an adjustment on a patient at Back in Motion Chiropractic, 1113 Scurry Street.

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A haven for Big Spring's four-legged friends

Happy Day Humane Society constructs new building for Howard County pups



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

A handful of pups wait for their forever home at Big Spring's Happy Day Humane Society. The center recently celebrated a new, 6,200 square foot facility built to take care of dogs as they wait to be adopted.

By **LYNDEL MOODY**

Staff Writer

On a parcel of land set just a little off Interstate 20 is a safe haven for homeless dogs in the community. It's been there for decades and has undergone revivals and name changes through its many years of

existence.

First it was called the Big Spring Humane Society, then the Howard County Humane Society and now, Happy Day Humane Society. Yet the mission has stayed the same – to help castoff pets find love again.

In mid-March this year, the staff

and board members of Happy Day held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate a newly constructed 6,200 square facility built specifically to house, rehabilitate, and take care of dogs as they await new homes.

One of the jewels in this modern facility is the spay and neuter clinic.

Happy Day Board Member Kristen Partee sees the clinic as a real chance to tackle the main source of homeless pet population.

"We have three vets in town. They are all wonderful, but they are all

See **HAPPY**, Page 9



Courtesy photo

The staff of Back in Motion Chiropractic pose with the practice's three chiropractors, Dr. Jody Reid, Dr. Peter Warner, and Dr. Kevin Stice.

REIDS

Continued from Page 7

from climbing up and down stairs several times, to doing an EKG, making sure there's good balance, stuff like that."

WTIP is a certified location for Labcorp bloodwork services, allowing patients who require bloodwork tests to have their blood drawn at WTIP for testing at Labcorp.

"We do hearing tests, so audiometry for these employers," Tessa said. "Somebody that maybe works out at the refinery or something, that's constantly around noise, those employers have a responsibility to make sure that's not damaging their hearing, so they'll have those annual tests."

Chest films, tuberculosis testing, lung capacity tests, and "fit tests" for safety masks are also on WTIP's agenda.

"We do fingerprinting," added Dr. Reid. "Like say, if you work for a school district, they require

fingerprinting. They require their bus drivers to be drug tested and have a DoT exam. They can come in and get all of that done in one spot and be done in less than an hour."

School districts typically require all employees to have fingerprints taken for criminal background checks, Tessa said.

"There's a lot of different places that require that now," she said. "The schools were having a very hard time getting substitute teachers. It was taking two to three weeks, because there were very few places that did the fingerprinting. They were driving all over the place. So we set up a station here so we can also do fingerprinting for anyone who needs them. We have people that drive from as far as San Antonio, because we're open five days a week doing those, and a lot of locations don't."

In addition, Dr. Cooksey offers the popular "Opti-fast" diet plan, Dr. Reid said.

"It's a medically supervised diet that's been around for over 60 years," Reid said. "We actually had our first client here awhile back that was our first 100-pound loser. So that was pretty exciting."

Tessa outlined some of the services offered by Serenity Spa.

"So the spa is run by...her name is Sally Murry. She's absolutely fabulous," she said. "We do massage therapy, reflexology...she does hot stone massages anywhere from 30 minutes to 2 hours."

Dr. Reid said he was impressed by Murry's skill as a massage therapist.

"Of all the massage therapists I've ever known, she's very knowledgeable," he said. "She can do the very gentle – or even like the pregnancy or circulation type massages – all the way down to the deep tissue. And she truly does deep tissue."

Murry is also skilled in what Dr. Reid termed "sports massage."

"Basically she does range of motion while she's doing the massage, and stretching. There's a good bit of stretching involved in that," he said. "So if you're trying to free up a shoulder, or something like that."

For more information, contact Back in Motion Chiropractic at 267-2225; West Texas Injury Prevention at 264-1920; or Serenity Spa at 264-1725.

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Richardson new operations manager for KBEST media

By **ROGER CLINE**

Staff Writer

The new operations manager at Big Spring's KBEST media wears several hats. Hired to the job Dec. 5, Mark Richardson comes to the position from the world of Boy Scouting, where he was a professional employee with the local Buffalo Trail Council. Now in addition to his new job in the world of radio, Richardson is continuing on as a volunteer with the Scouts; he's the longtime assistant troop master for Big Spring's Troop 5, and earlier this year was named District Chairman for Buffalo Trail's Lone Star district.

Richardson said his experience with the Scouts has a few tie-ins with his new job.

"My primary responsibility is to manage the three radio stations," Richardson said. "Make sure that we have the staff, that we're on the air, that we're financially sound, and that we're able to be the very best at bringing current information, news, as well as music, to this whole area. And to do it with a passion unmatched by anybody else, and to do it with a level of integrity that the people who own this station not only want but deserve. I think the lessons I've learned in management translate very well, because the last, oh, 9 to 12 years, I've been in management with the Boy Scouts. It actually helps that sometimes that management has been summer camp, because there were times I was managing over 100 people at a time. So you know, I think that does help. I think what also helps is, you can't work and survive in the Boy Scouts if you don't have a level of integrity as well as an ability to follow up and be passionate about what you do. Because if you're not passionate about working with the Boy Scouts, there's a whole lot of other places you could go and do something maybe



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Mark Richardson, the new operations manager at Big Spring's KBEST Media, has recently been named District Chairman for the Lone Star District of the Buffalo Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

where you make more money. But it is my passion, here. I hope that's what appealed to folks here." and I think that's kind of what appealed to folks See **KBEST**, Page 10

HAPPY

Continued from Page 8

pricey," Partee said. "They are the standard for this area, and the average person on a low income is not going to pay for it, so we end up getting those litters."

During their research on how to bring a low-cost spay and neuter

outdoor pens, which have been bulldozed now, were located down the hill from the main building and several smaller kennels can be found adjacent to the aging structure.

Partee and Mims were part of the team in April of 2015 that took over management of the Humane Society and soon adoptions at the facility began to skyrocket.

Mims has been involved with dog

filled with unwanted animals, but instead a happy place.

"I want people to come out and give us a chance," she said. "You don't have to feel like you have to adopt an animal. All of these dogs are loved. You can be part of the process. You can help with animals until they find a family."

There are a variety of jobs available for volunteers depending on their interest, Mims said. To volunteer, visit the facility during business hours. Children are also welcomed.

"We have kids come out and read to the dogs," Partee said. "It's really

good for the kids to build their self confidence. The dogs enjoy the attention, and they are not going to judge if a kid goofs up on a word."

Happy Day Humane Society is located at 5710 West Interstate 20, off the north service road. Hours are from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., seven days a week, and beginning in April operating hours will be 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call the Humane Society at 432-267-7832 or visit its Facebook page at

"It's all about them (dogs)," Mims said. "Any rescue dog just needs a home."



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

The recently constructed building for the Happy Day Humane Society held an open house Saturday, March 18, 2017. The building was constructed in 2016 and includes a spay/neuter clinic, a patio area for prospective adoptors to visit with dogs and inside/outside kennels..

program to the community, Partee and shelter director Angie Mims ran across the website SpayFirst.

"I looked for a mobile spay and neuter unit first," Partee said. "In the process of looking at that mobile unit, I ran across spayfirst.org."

Founded by Ruth Steinberger, the organization's mission is to educate the community about the impact of pet overpopulation on both the animals and the community and promote spay and neuter programs, especially in poor communities.

Partee said the organization was a wealth of information and helped the duo work out a plan for the spay and neuter clinic. Although not yet open to the public, the clinic is laid out to work "as a well oiled machine," Partee said, to efficiently provide as many as 25 spays and/or neuters in a day.

Other amenities to the facility include a grooming room which can double as an exam room, indoor heated/cooled kennels areas for small dogs, a patio area where potential adoptors can visit with the animals, and a large outside and covered kennels for large dogs near the main building.

The older building, which used to be the projection house for an old outdoor movie theater, will continue to be used as an intake facility for Happy Day, Partee said. That building served for decades as the main facility for the county's Humane Society holding both cats and dogs. Large

rescue for the past 10 years.

"It's a passion," Mims said. "This is what God meant for me to do. I feel like I am living a dream when I come to work. I feel like I am probably the most blessed person in the world."

Partee added the same goes for the staff and volunteers at Happy Day.

"The team of people she has out here have the same heart," Partee said.

The Humane Society can house about 120 dogs. Happy Day currently does not have the facilities to house cats at this time, Partee said, but will consider again housing homeless cats in the future as the humane society's resources grow.

According to Mims, 120 dogs is limit the shelter can handle. Although Happy Day could take in more dogs, Mims said the staff would be limited to only giving the animals basic care — food, shelter, cleaning. Instead, the staff of Happy Days focuses as much time as possible on quality of care of their charges including providing time for socialization.

"All these dogs are walked, all these dogs are loved," Partee said. "They are all important."

Partee and the staff work to make the shelter not a sad environment



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Angie Mims, director of the Happy Day Humane Society gives treats to some of the dogs housed at the facilities outdoor pens March 18, 2017.

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Carrying on a tradition



HERALD photo/Amanda Elston

Michelle Wiggins-Worthy poses at her clinic, Wiggins-Worthy Wellness, 607 S Main.

Big Spring native opens Wellness/Chiropractic Clinic

By AMANDA ELSTON

Managing Editor

Although stemming from a long-line of Big Spring health professionals, Michelle Wiggins-Worthy is making her own name for herself, and making sure it's one that Howard County citizens remember. With what started out as a chiropractic office out of Snyder has turned into a full-fledged practice here in Big Spring, with Michelle boasting many impressive titles behind her name. Michelle Wiggins-Worthy, MSN, NP-C, BSN, RN, BS, DC, has recently opened Wiggins-Worthy Wellness/Wiggins Chiropractic, and is looking forward to continuing the family legacy of professional healthcare services in Big Spring with her own personal touch.

On both sides of her family, Michelle has West Texas roots that run deep. Michelle herself is a Big Spring native and 1988 BSHS alumni. Her father, Stanley Bogart, was the Big Spring Police Chief and her mother Emma worked with the city of Big Spring for 28 years, eventually making her way up the totem pole to assistant city manager. However, it is on her husband Roy's side of the family that the tradition of medicine has been passed from generation to generation. Michelle's late mother-in-law, Louise Ann Bennett, is a household name in

Big Spring as a pediatrician that, according to Michelle, cared for most of the babies in the area.

"She got to help deliver Jeb (Michelle's son)," said Michelle. "She took care of most other babies in this county in fact. She was a local legend. She loved everyone and everyone loved her."

Another generation back finds Louise's father, Dr. M.H. Bennett, another local legend of Hall-Bennett Hospital. M.H. Bennett came to Big Spring in 1911. After serving in the Army during WWI, graduating from the University of Texas and Tulane University School of Medicine, and practicing medicine in different parts of the country, M.H. Bennett decided to settle back in his boyhood home of Big Spring. He then teamed up with G.T. Hall and practiced for many years together before Bennett moved his office into the Big Spring Hospital. When Louise was born, she showed the same promise of a bright medical future as her father had before her.

"She worked for 50 years," said Michelle of Louise. "She was truly a wonderful woman. She has a story about everyone in the community and she knew everyone."

"She was so lovely," Michelle continued. "She encouraged me to go get my RN while she was still alive."

And get her RN she did, along with a mouthful of other certifications and degrees, including a Masters degree in nursing from Herzing University. Originally a chiropractor with a practice in Snyder, Michelle decided to move back to Big Spring when her son Jeb was born. Michelle spoke highly of her work in the chiropractic field but four years ago, decided to start on a journey toward becoming a nurse practitioner in addition to being a chiropractor. Recently, however, she decided to crack down and get everything finished.

"I decided last September that I needed to get this thing finished and I didn't look back," said Michelle.

Michelle has been taking new and former patients alike at the new clinic. Housed on Main Street, the clinic occupies what used to be Robinson Drilling. The building has a different atmosphere than that of most doctors' offices. In the middle of the office, there is an atrium with benches and tall windows, sidestepping the normally stuffy aura of a waiting room. Outside is a palm tree from Jerusalem that has been watered by the Jordan River. Overall,

See CLINIC, Page 11

KBEST

Continued from Page 9

Richardson said he feels his new job at KBEST will leave him with plenty of time for volunteering in scouting.

"I've just taken the position of District Chairman for the Lone Star District of the Boy Scouts here," he said. "Part of my consideration taking this job was, would I still have the time to work with the Boy Scouts at a volunteer level like I have been doing? I'm the assistant Scoutmaster and have been for years, for Troop 5 here. This allows me to give them a little more time and take on a little more responsibility for that troop. And then to take on the role of District Chairman."

As district chairman, Richardson plans to focus on membership, he said.

"A lot of times people hear you've got membership goals, and what they hear is, 'Oh it's all about business and get more, more, more.' Well, I've seen it from both sides, and I realize that every number used in the business side of Boy Scouts represents a kid. Every dollar not raised is one less dollar you can spend on Scouts, whether it's camp or scholarships for kids that are less fortunate, or equipment, or staff, or whatever. And every kid you don't recruit that's one kid that doesn't get the opportunities that I got, or that my son's getting, or that more than 300 other Scouts are getting right here in Big Spring. So it's

fortunate for me that I understand both sides of it, because there is a business component to it as well as the volunteer side, and I think as District Chairman I'll be able to tie those two sides together.

In his day job, Richardson said will strive to make KBEST a premiere media outlet.

"I want to make sure that we are at the forefront of community relations. I want everyone to know that they can turn on any one of the three KBST stations and get the most up current, up-to-date, news and information, as well as the best music, in this whole part of the country, not just in this part of the state," he said. "I really have visions to make this a marquee set of stations, and make it not just KBST, but KBEST Media and put ourselves on the map. I think we've done that by bringing in some amazing talent. We have as many staff as we've had in years right now. We have some very, very talented people, and I just want to make sure that we utilize every ounce of that talent that we have. Also, when we go out in public, I just want people to go, 'KBST, those are some really great guys.' Ultimately, down the road, maybe more than just three stations right here in Big Spring. I tend to dream big, and I'm not going to stop doing that."

KBEST radio can be heard on 95.7 KBST-FM, 94.3 KTBS-FM "The Fuse", and 1490 KBST-AM. For more information about the local Boy Scouts, visit www.buffalotrailbsa.org.

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CLINIC

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Michelle said, the experience has been positive.

"It went much better than expected," said Michelle of her first week open. "It was a great first week. I have seen a lot of patients from before and it just really exciting for me to see people in chiropractic that I used to see before."

Armed with a background in some would say opposite ends of the medical spectrum, she looks forward to that being an advantage to her health care.

"I have such an interesting background," said Michelle. "It helps me to see a patient differently. I have a natural background and a medical background so I can help patients for a lot of different things. It is exciting to have two different views."

While Michelle claims that family practitioner is her specialty, she can also do testing for things such as the flu or strep, cholesterol checks, bioidentical hormone testing, and of course chiropractic.

"True healthcare must encompass all aspects of our lives," said Michelle's website. "I do not agree with treating a disease process. I want to treat the whole person. I believe being able to focus on the whole body, spirit, and mind creates better outcomes."

With so many skills, certificates, and degrees, Michelle credits all her success to hard work and support from her family.

"There were 147 people in class on the first day, and 12 of them were women," said Michelle of chiropractic school.

"By the time I graduated, I was the only girl in the group. 39 people were left. I pushed myself to do that because male professors said I was too little and I couldn't do it."

"I've really looked up to my mom my entire life," Michelle continued.

"She was a single mom until I was 12. She worked two jobs and went to school and she expected me to work hard too. Because of her, I know how to work hard."

Michelle's mother, Emma, is a major part of the behind the scenes work at the practice.

"She does everything," said Michelle.

"She takes all the phone calls, she greets all the patients. We have a good time together. I'm really lucky."

And while Michelle's clinic is still brand new to the Big Spring community, the next generation is already nipping at her heels.

Michelle's son, Jeb, a student in Sands CISD, also has his sights set on the medical field.

At 13, Jeb isn't quite sure exactly what he wants to do, but with straight As in science and an interest in social studies, he is keeping his options open.

"I used to go to work with my mom when I was little," said Jeb. "Ever since I was born."

Michelle's practice,



HERALD photo/Amanda Elston
Michelle and her mother Emma Bogard at Wiggins-Worthy Wellness/Wiggins Chiropractic. Emma works alongside her daughter at the clinic doing various clerical work.



HERALD photo/Amanda Elston
From left, pictured are Roy Worthy, Michelle Wiggins-Worthy, Jeb Worthy, and Jerry Worthy. The family has strong ties to the Big Spring area and boast generations of health care professionals.

Wiggins-Worthy Wellness/Wiggins Chiropractic, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Michelle is welcoming all new patients and is looking forward to giving quality care to Big Spring.

"I love working in Big Spring," said Michelle. "I want to be in this community. We love it here. It means a lot to me. I want to this community to succeed."

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Harris Lumber celebrates the big 5-0

Big Spring business recognizes their golden anniversary in 2016



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Harris Lumber and Hardware Inc. turned 50 in 2016. Pictured are owners Gay and Steve Herren.

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

A local business celebrated its golden anniversary in 2016.

Steven Herrin, co-owner of Harris Lumber and Hardware Inc. with his wife, Gay, described the history of the company.

"It was Bert Harris, who is Gay's daddy, and two other gentlemen," Herrin said. "The three gentlemen together started the company Nov. 17th, 1965. The first day open was Jan. 1, 1966, and they hired two people locally to work for them. The years passed, and it continued to grow. Big Spring was kind of... a lot of vacant houses and low construction at that time. It's hard to believe that there were seven lumber yards in town at that time. They kept losing them one by one."

The entrepreneuring Harris and

his partners started Harris Lumber and Hardware at 1609 E. Fourth St., Herrin said.

"June 1, 1972, Bert Harris bought out the other two stockholders and became the sole proprietor of the business," he said. "In 1988 we acquired this location on FM 700. We ran the two of them separately for just a little bit, and then in January 1989, we moved all the inventory and everything over here. This was built from the ground up."

Herrin started work at the company in 1976 - marking his 40th year this year - but Gay grew up with the store.

"Gay had always worked in the business, even when she was a young kid she had to do inventory and stuff like that growing up," Herrin said.

"Since I was 12 years old," Gay added. "I was never allowed to miss a day, no matter what."

Gay took some time off to raise the couple's children, but returned full-time in 1991 to start a new component of the business: Gaze Crystal Kitchen. The name is a play on Gay's own first name.

"She kind of played on the word, like 'Gaze upon something,'" Herrin said. "Gaze Crystal Kitchen has all the stuff, you know, bridal registry stuff, gift items; and then recently we added a flower shop also, so we have fresh flowers too."

Gay said the idea for the store came from local people asking her about it.

"We did have local people asking me," she said. "The Accent Shop, which was here for years, had closed, and they kept telling me 'Why don't you open a business?' because I've always loved that kind of thing. So I did. And it's always been my passion. We deliver to showers for the Crystal

Kitchen, and set up, and we offer free gift wrapping. And then Q.T. Coates is our floral designer. We have free delivery in the city limits for our flowers. He does silk arrangements, and then he does any type of floral arrangement with fresh flowers."

Herrin said a local store has some advantages over big hardware chains.

"Main thing is we try to hire and maintain employees that are knowledgeable about the product," he said. "That's the main thing, when somebody comes in here, they want to know how to do it, and we need to have the people that's knowledgeable to help them walk through and take care of their business."

Over their 50-year tenure, Harris Lumber has given back to the Big Spring community, he said.

"Us being local, we give back to the town," Herrin said. "No telling how many times we get offers to sponsor something or donate something, and we try to give back all we can."

Excellent customer services is a watchword at Harris, Gay said.

"We try to offer customer service," she said. "Also, if we don't have something, we will order it. We try to help in every way we can."

Over the years, that help has extended to several after-hours emergencies, the couple added.

"When the base was here, on Saturdays, the store would be packed," Gay said. "I remember one day we had a hailstorm, and the glass department was at the back of the store, and people were lined up out of the store waiting to get glass. We've opened up at night before when we had bad storms."

"That '96 storm when it came through and the college was having graduation there, we came back and opened up at night just to keep everyone out of trouble," Steve concurred.

"We do that. If something happens, we'll come down and open the store," Gay said. "Or if people need something in emergencies, we'll offer our services."

Harris Lumber and Hardware is located at 1515 East FM 700 in Big Spring.



Harris Lumber and Hardware has been a family owned company since 1965. Bert Harris started the business and was a long time supporter of Big Spring. Then in March 2002, Steve and Gay Herren bought out the remaining stock of Harris Lumber and Hardware.

Our new warehouse is completed and will allow us serve the customer better. We look forward to the future to serve our past, present and future customer. We are proud to be a part of this great town.

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