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H BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017



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Today is last day to vote early in city council races

By ROBERT BARLOW
 Staff Writer

With Election Day drawing near, residents of Howard County will get their last chance today to cast their votes early for the election. Polls today will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Howard County Courthouse. The total votes from early voting have been coming in slowly so far with only 53 by

the end of Monday. "It's not really a highly contested race," said Jodi Duck, election administrator. "We just cannot get the voter turnout that we wanted." Election Day is Saturday,



Duck

May 6 with polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Voting will be held for the Big Spring race at the East Room of the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum located on the Howard College campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Residents voting in the Coahoma City Council race will cast their ballot at the Coahoma Community Center from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday as well.

There is currently only one position on the Big Spring City Council up for grabs. The two candidates for the position are incumbent Raul J. Marquez and Tracy Parker. There will also be two seats for the Coahoma City Council on the ballot with four candidates running; Jay Holt, Brandy Manning, both incumbents, as well as T.J. Rueda, and John Mulkey.

To be eligible to vote, a resident's primary address must be located in District One or Precinct 11 for the Big Spring City Council ballot. Coahoma residents must be located in Precinct 207c to be eligible. Citizens are urged to come out and cast their ballots for their districts. "Be sure to bring your

See **VOTE**, Page 3

Coming home



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Salvation Army Majors Linda and Russ Keeney, former officers of the Big Spring Salvation Army for seven years, returned to town Saturday evening for a homecoming meal. The Keeneys, who now serve as the officers of the Salvation Army in Abilene, developed the idea and raised much of the funding for the start of the Big Spring Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Russ Keeney said the couple were glad to be back, and enjoyed meeting friends and church members from their time in Big Spring.

BSFTA to hold event on Election Day

By ROBERT BARLOW
 Staff Writer

With the election coming up on May 6, local food trucks are planning to set up outside the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum to help encourage residents of Howard County to get out and vote. Linda Burchett, who helped establish the Big Spring Food Truck Association, wanted to do something different this year to help bring residents out to the polls and get people voting. "The turnout has been so low in the past elections that I wanted to get it back to the way it used to be," said Burchett. "Maybe it will get people motivated and get them out to vote." Burchett planned to have several food trucks at the event but due to a conflict with Cinco De Mayo weekend, there might not be as many trucks as planned. Despite this, Burchett plans to have her food truck out there with a little incentive for anyone who plans to vote at the election. "What we're going to do is set up and after people go in to vote we will have hot dogs and snow-cones set up and they can get whatever they want," said

See **BSFTA**, Page 3

Police: Motive unclear for University of Texas stabbings

By JIM VERTUNO
 Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A student with a large hunting knife stabbed at least four people on the University of Texas campus, killing one and seriously wounding the others before surrendering to police, authorities said. There was no immediate word about a motive.

Student Rachel Prichett said she was standing in line at a food truck outside a gym Monday when she saw a man with a knife resembling a machete approach the person standing behind her. "The guy was standing next to me," Prichett said. "He grabbed him by the shoulder and shoved the knife in it. I just started running as fast as I could." Police identified the suspect as 21-year-old Kendrex J. White. University police Chief David Carter described

the weapon as a "Bowie-style" hunting knife. He said the stabbings occurred within a one-block area as the attacker "calmly walked around the plaza." Another student, Ray Arredondo, said he was walking to his car when a mass of students near the gym started running. "They were just screaming, 'Run! Get out of here!'" Arredondo said. One person died at the scene near the gym. The others were taken

See **UT**, Page 3

SMMC honors volunteers



Courtesy photo

Scenic Mountain Medical Center honored the auxiliary group last week with a special luncheon in recognition of National Volunteer Week. Heath White is the new director of volunteer services. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a volunteer, contact 268-4850.

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Obituaries

Gwen Calhoun



Gwen Calhoun, of Austin, passed away on Friday, April 28 at her daughter's home near Big Spring. Gwen is survived by a son Lee B. "Monty" Montgomery III of Forsan, a daughter Misty Gartman and husband Dean of Big Spring and four grandsons Brady Gartman of Colorado Springs, Bryce Gartman, Brant Gartman and Brenner Gartman all of Big Spring.

Gwen was born April 20, 1938 in Big Spring to

Brady Nix and Lettye Lee Barham Nix. At the time, both of her parents were teachers at Forsan. For much of her life, Gwen lived in Westlake and Austin where she was an administrative assistant in the legal field.

Interment of her cremated remains will take place on Wednesday, May 31, at 1:30 p.m. at Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Stephenville, Texas. A memorial service celebrating her life will be held in Mason, Texas on Saturday, June 3, at 2 p.m. at Mason Funeral Home.

Condolences may be sent to the family on-line at masonfuneralhome.net.

Paid obituary

Nell Wilson



Nell Wilson, 91, of Lubbock, formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, April 29, 2017 at The Plaza in Lubbock. Graveside service will be at 3 p.m. Thursday, May 4, 2017 at Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with Rev. Carroll Kohl, officiating.

She was born Feb. 17, 1926 to Lillie Charlotte Pieper Hennig and Henry William Hennig. She married W. L. "Bill" Wilson, Jr. on Oct. 3, 1948 in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on May 23, 1991.

They ranched in Borden County and owned Bill Wilson Oil Company in Big Spring. She was a graduate of Seton School of Nursing in Austin with her bachelor's degree in nursing. She was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

She is survived by five nephews, two nieces, and a cousin.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Pam Wilson Gass; one brother, Henry L. Hennig; two sisters, Jean Lane and Eldora McCall, and one niece.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police reported the following activity:

- **DAVID COKLIN**, 36, transient, was arrested on a charge of criminal mischief, more than or equal to \$750 but less than \$2,500.
- **EDWARD MARTINEZ**, 31, of 1611 S. Owens St., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **TANYA JEAN JENKINS**, 29, of 1409 Virginia Avenue, was arrested on a charge of failure to identify-fugitive giving false information.
- **RICKIE JOSH LINDSEY**, 43, of 3304 W. Highway 80, was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

- **RICHARD LEWIS TUCKER**, 43, of 1209 Mulberry St. was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 500 block of E. Third St. and in the 2600 block of Lynn Drive.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1600 block of Cardinal St.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1600 block of Cardinal St. and in the 100 block of Circle.
- **MAJOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 500 block of E. FM 700.

Support Groups

TUESDAY
• Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's 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 of-fice at 806-785-0942.

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

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

WEDNESDAY
• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dys-

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

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

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

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

• A Post-Traumatic Stress Dis-

order support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

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.

Take Note

• The Big Spring Salvation Army and the Big Spring Center for Skilled Care are holding a fan drive to collect and distribute electric fans to those 55 and older in Howard County. Those wishing to donate can take new or gently used box or pedestal fans to the Salvation Army headquarters at 811 W. Fifth St. Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; or to the Center for Skilled Care at 3701 Wasson Rd. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seniors 55 and older who need a fan should call the Salvation Army at 432-267-8239 or the Center for Skilled Care at 432-606-5012 to register and receive the distribution date.

• The Permian Basin Underground Water District for will host its 2017 Rainwater Harvesting Workshop, at 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 4. The presentation will take place at the PBUWCD office at 708 W. St. Peter Street in Stanton, Texas and is free to the public. This year's guest speaker will be Extension Agent in Horticulture Jeff Floyd with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

• Registration is now begin tak-

en 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.

• The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from current A&M students. Students must be Howard County residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. 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 ad-

equated 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.

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

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

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands.

No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

Cost has dropped to \$5 per person thanks to a sponsor Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road.

Raymond V. Gonzales Jr

Raymond V. Gonzales Jr., 37, of Big Spring, died Thursday, April 27, 2017 in Arizona. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. A fund has been established at Myers & Smith Funeral Home to help the family with funeral expenses.

Lennie Smith

Lennie Smith, 56, of Big Spring, died Monday, May 1, 2017 at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Leslie Reyes

Leslie Reyes, 52, of Lake Thomas, died Saturday, April 29, 2017 at her residence. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire/EMS reported the following:

- **PASSENGER VEHICLE FIRE** was reported in the 1500 block of E. 17th.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported on Chapman Road.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 100 block of Pine.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 700 block of Highland. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 600 block of Baylor.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported was reported in the 2500 block of Joshua St. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the area of Highway 350 and North County Road 53. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block of Runnels.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the area of Birdwell and Vine. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1300 block of Harding. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2400 block of William Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of Hearn and S. Highway 87.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of Algerita. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported at mile marker 169 on Interstate 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 600 block of Bell. No transport.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported was reported in the 3200 block of E. 11th Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block of S. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1500b block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 700 block of S. Gregg. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 5300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Yale Avenue. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of Third St. and Gregg. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1000 block of Stadium. One person was transported to SMMC.

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VOTE

Continued from Page 1

voter ID, and we would love to see people at the polls," said Duck.

In order to vote, you must show one of seven valid forms of ID: a Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS); Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS; Texas personal identification card issued by DPS; Texas license to carry a handgun issued by DPS; United States military identification card containing the person's photograph; United States citizenship certificate

containing the person's photograph; and United States passport.

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

If you do not have the listed forms above and still want to vote, contact the county election's office at 432-264-2273 for more information.

Contact Staff Writer Robert Barlow at (432) 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

UT

Continued from Page 1

to the hospital. There were reports of additional victims with non-life-threatening injuries, according to tweets from Travis County Emergency Medical Services.

The attacker did not resist when officers confronted him at gunpoint, Carter said.

Lindsey Clark said she saw the suspect get tackled by police as he was running toward the entrance of Jester Hall, a complex of dormitories and classrooms. She described him as wearing a bandanna and gray sweatshirt and said he appeared quiet and subdued as police held him on the ground.

"You could see and hear people running and screaming: 'There he is!' before he was

tackled by officers, Clark said. Carter said it would be "premature" to discuss the suspect's motive and "what was going through his mind." Arredondo later saw what looked like CPR being performed on someone outside the front door of the gym. Another student was sitting on a bench being treated for cuts to the head or neck, he said. Authorities cordoned off the scene as a large contingent of state and local police, including officers in helicopters, swarmed the area. The University of Texas is blocks from downtown Austin and the Texas Capitol and is one of the nation's largest universities. White was an active member of the Black Health Professionals Organization student organization on campus, said

BSFTA

Continued from Page 1

Burchett. According to Burchett, after residents have voted and receive their "I voted" sticker, they will be able to go out to the food truck and get a complimentary snow cone or hotdog.

Burchett spoke with Jodi Duck, Howard County election

Melody Adindu, the group's new president. She said White was passionate about his work and was "very interactive and easygoing." Some of White's former classmates at Killeen High School, near the gates of the Fort Hood Army post in Central Texas, had similar recollections of him.

"He was a really smart guy in high school, he was always nice, had plenty of friends, and was in the International Baccalaureate program. I'm definitely surprised he would do this," Kay'Lynn Wilkerson told the Killeen Daily Herald.

Ex-classmate Angela Bonilla called White "the sweetest guy, laughing and having a good time with people".

Adindu and other students complained on social media it took too long for the campus officials to send a text alert of the attack. Texts to students showed a nearly 30-minute lag between the arrest and warning, even though city and county emergency offic-

administrators, about the significance of getting more people out to the polls. The long term plan is to get more residents involved with their community and both women hope to have more events like this centered around elections in the future. Burchett said they are "trying to get people excited for November."

"If you're not registered to vote, please get registered and

take the time to vote," said Burchett. "I think its important to Big Spring."

Election Day will take place on Saturday May 6 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum from 7 p.m. to 7 p.m. with the food trucks located outside.

Contact Staff Writer Robert Barlow at (432) 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.



AP photo

Students wait near the scene after a fatal stabbing attack on the University of Texas campus Monday, May, 1, 2017.

es were tweeting about the incident when they first responded.

Carter said White was confronted and arrested within two minutes of the first call to police and the situation was immediately under control. The campus siren wasn't used because there was no need for a lockdown to keep people in place, he said.

"There was no ongoing threat. We had him in custody as soon as we

arrived," Carter said.

The attack occurred in the central campus, just a short walk from the administration building and the landmark clock tower that was the scene of a mass shooting in 1966.

"This breaks my heart that any of our students are touched by tragedy. They come here to learn, to look to the future," said university President Greg Fenves.

The stabbings came

only a few days after a 19-year-old man armed with a machete wounded two people at a university coffee shop in Lexington, Kentucky.

In the April 28 attack, the assailant at Transylvania University asked about the political affiliations of people at the shop. He was arrested and charged with assault. The victims' wounds were not life-threatening, authorities said.

Dallas paramedic shot, suspect found dead with 2nd body

By CLAUDIA LAUER

Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — A gunman opened fire on emergency responders treating a gunshot victim in a Dallas street, critically injuring a paramedic and prompting police to lock down the area until the suspect — and another person — were found dead in a local home, authorities said.

Police believe the shooting started Monday as a dispute between the suspect and the gunshot victim, who were neighbors in a largely residential area east of downtown.

The gunman fled before holing up in a house where investigators believe he fatally shot another person before killing himself. A police robot found the two bodies after authorities barricaded entrances to the community for several hours to allow officers to scour the neighborhood, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings said during a news conference.

Responding officers found the paramedic and the civilian injured, and "took fire from the suspect as they approached," Interim Police Chief David Pughes said. A sergeant arrived as officers were still maintaining cover — because the shooter was still at large — and rushed in to pull the injured paramedic to safety.

"He went in alone and he pulled the paramedic out, placed him in his squad car and drove him to Baylor hospital," Pughes said. "We believe ... that as a result of those actions, that paramedic's life was saved."

The paramedic underwent surgery Monday and

was in critical but stable condition at Baylor University Medical Center, according to the mayor. Rawlings didn't give details of the paramedic's injuries, but said "he is going to have to undergo extensive medical treatment to get him back up to par."

Police were still interviewing neighbors and witnesses late Monday, but officers on the scene were told "it was just a simple dispute between two neighbors that escalated into a shooting," Pughes said.

The neighbor who was shot also was in intensive care Monday, the mayor said, though other details haven't been released.

No information was released about the second person found dead in the home, including whether the person knew the gunman or if either of them lived in the house.

One of the police officers who responded to the shooting was injured and treated at the scene.

Dozens of police vehicles swarmed the mostly residential area after the shooting was reported near a local Fire Training Academy.

Several people from a nearby neighborhood and some relatives of people who live in the barricaded area gathered at a nearby gas station to await updates from police.

A 33-year-old woman waiting in the shade of a gas station across the street from a police barricade told The Associated Press that her mother lives in the neighborhood and saw SWAT teams arrive Monday.

Brenda Salazar said she was headed to the area to

visit her mother when she heard about the shooting on the radio. She called her mother, who told her she didn't hear any shooting but "saw the SWAT guys and police setting up and going into the neighborhood."

Salazar said her mother was OK and was watching the news, "but this stuff happens here all the time."

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott released a statement saying his prayers were going out to all of those affected.

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Nell Wilson, 91, died Saturday. Graveside service will be at 3:00 PM Thursday at Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel.

Raymond V. Gonzales, Jr., 37, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. A fund has been established at Myers & Smith Funeral Home to help the family with funeral expenses.

Lennie Smith, 56, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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'Fixer Upper' star Chip Gaines speaks out about \$1M lawsuit

WACO, Texas (AP) — HGTV star Chip Gaines is speaking out on Twitter about a lawsuit filed against him by his former business partners.

Gaines is being sued in state court in Texas for \$1 million by his former partners in a real estate company.

They say he bought them out before telling them that HGTV had decided to broadcast his "Fixer Upper" show nationally.

Gaines spoke out on Twitter Saturday, writing that no one called or emailed him about the issue, adding "friends' reach out via lawsuit.. humm." He also added a bible quote, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Gaines' attorney tells KWTX-TV that he's "confident that these claims will be found to be meritless."

Houston gunman fatally shoots girlfriend in front of child

HOUSTON (AP) — Authorities say a man fatally shot his girlfriend in Houston, firing at her repeatedly while at least one of her children watched.

Harris County sheriff's Sgt. Greg Pinkins says the shooting Sunday caused other nearby children to flee, running "out of their shoes."

Pinkins says the 32-year-old woman was arguing with the man in an apartment before she left, taking her three children.

She was in the passenger seat of a car with her 11-year-old child in the back when the 31-year-old man shot her.

Pinkins says another of the woman's children called 911 and that the gunman surrendered. He is being held at the Harris County jail. Authorities have not released his name.

Pinkins says the suspect is the father of one of the children.

Dallas-area teenager killed when officer fires into car

BALCH SPRINGS, Texas (AP) — A 15-year-old boy has died after a Dallas-area police officer fired into a car that authorities say was being driven in an "aggressive manner."

Balch Springs police Chief Jonathan Haber said at a news conference Sunday that officers heard gunshots after responding to a call of drunken teenagers in a neighborhood.

He says officers grew concerned when the car backed down a street, prompting one unidentified officer to fire.

Lee Merritt, an attorney representing the boy's family, said the teen killed was high school freshman Jordan Edwards. He was shot Saturday night and died at a hospital.

Merritt says the car wasn't being driven aggressively and that the teens in the car weren't the ones police had been called about.

He says the family wants the officer arrested and charged.

Crews continue to search homes in wake of Texas tornadoes

CANTON, Texas (AP) — At least a half-dozen people remain hospitalized as rescue workers continue to search homes damaged by a rash of deadly tornadoes that struck rural communities east of Dallas.

Canton Mayor Lou Ann Everett told WFAA-TV on Monday that widespread debris makes access difficult to some residential areas.

Four people were killed and at least 50 others hospitalized when four tornadoes swept through the area Saturday.

Authorities say two people initially reported as missing have been found safe.

National Weather Service meteorologist Patricia Sanchez says one of those tornadoes, with winds of more than 135 mph (217 kph), was on the ground for 51 miles (82 kilometers).

Sanchez says the NWS is confirming whether two other tornadoes also struck the region about 50 miles (80 kilometers) east of Dallas.

2 dead as chartered bus with Texas school athletes crashes

DELL CITY, Texas (AP) — Texas Department of Public Safety authorities say two people are dead after a head-on crash involving a pickup truck and a chartered bus carrying 34 coaches and athletes from seven El Paso high schools returning home from a regional track meet in Lubbock.

El Paso Independent School District officials identified one of the victims as a coach, 48-year-old Arcadio Duran Jr., from Irvin High School. Seventeen others aboard the bus were hospitalized with injuries considered not life threatening.

Troopers said the other person killed was the driver of the pickup truck, 51-year-old Gary Lawson, of Hobbs, New Mexico.

School vouchers, rising in many GOP states, founder in Texas



In this Wednesday, April 19, 2017, photo, Rep. Gary VanDeaver, R-New Boston, works at his desk in the House Chamber at the Texas State Capitol, in Austin, Texas. Texas has led the way on many of the country's top conservative issues, from guns and small government to imposing harsh limits on abortion and strict voter ID rules, but offering taxpayer funding to private schools is one issue Texas is actively opposing. "In my district, public school is the community," said VanDeaver.

By WILL WEISSERT

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Gary VanDeaver describes himself as a conservative less than a minute into many conversations. The Texas state representative blames "unelected federal judges" for imposing gay marriage on America and has been endorsed by anti-abortion groups and the National Rifle Association.

But when it comes to one centerpiece conservative initiative — allowing tax-subsidized vouchers for students to enroll in private schools — VanDeaver says absolutely no way.

"In my district, public school is the community," said VanDeaver, of New Boston, a town about 25 miles from the Arkansas border where the Lions high school football stadium has 3,500 seats, nearly enough for every resident.

"If we do anything to pull those students away, then we're harming those communities," said VanDeaver, 58, after joining an overwhelming majority of the GOP-dominated state House this month to reject school vouchers.

With Republicans controlling two-thirds of state legislatures, as well as the White House and Congress, expectations among conservatives are soaring that the time for a "school choice" revolution has finally arrived — that vouchers will become available widely rather than only in limited experiments. President Donald Trump even included \$1.4 billion

in federal funding for school choice in his proposed budget.

Nationally, 27 states now permit public money to flow to private schools, and expansive proposals are making headway in many statehouses. Arizona recently approved them for all students, which supporters say will force schools to be more competitive and give families more freedom.

But Texas is resisting, not only dragging its feet but actively combatting the movement. The House has defeated voucher plans in the last three sessions and helped derail 50-plus since the 1990s.

Texas is one of just seven states with Republican-controlled Legislatures and governorships that have stonewalled private school choice — and many others are small and rural, such as North Dakota and Wyoming.

Leaders of the school choice movement are stumped by the rebuff since Texas usually leads the nation in driving the conservative agenda. They have

vowed to spend money and recruit primary challengers to defeat anti-school choice legislators.

"Texas is hailed to be this conservative, deep red state but you look across the country where we have school choice programs and it's places like Indiana and Ohio and Wisconsin," said Randan Steinhauser, co-founder of the pro-school choice group Texans for Education Opportunity. "It's really frustrating."

Steinhauser worked in Washington for Betsy DeVos, the outspoken school choice advocate who is now Trump's education secretary. She thought she could advance the cause after returning to her native state four years ago: "I was kind of naive thinking, 'Oh yeah, we'll get it done, no problem,'" Steinhauser said. "I was shocked."

The issue lays bare the ideological split between a high-profile tier of conservative activists and more traditional Republicans seeking to safeguard heartland values.

Republicans from rural districts are worried about the dwindling of many small towns, and fearful of undermining public schools that are top employers and the social and cultural lifeblood of community life. On school choice votes, they join forces with Democrats supporting public teachers unions.

School choice advocates say they understand that vouchers will be a tougher sell in rural states and communities where there are few private school options.

But Texas is less rural than stereotypes suggest, with around 80 percent of the population now living in metropolitan areas. By contrast, much more rural Maine, which has a Republican governor and GOP Senate, offers state funding to private schools.

"We still have a perception of ourselves as more rural than we really are," said Steve Murdock, Texas' former state demographer. "We are proud of a certain rural identity, in a

See TEXAS, Page 5

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Defiant rallies for worker rights mark May Day around world

ISTANBUL (AP) — Workers and activists marked May Day around the world Monday with defiant rallies and marches for better pay and working conditions.

Police detained 70 people in Istanbul as they tried to march. Garment workers in Cambodia defied a government ban to demand higher wages, and businesses in Puerto Rico were boarded up as the U.S. territory braced for a huge strike over austerity measures. In Paris, police fired tear gas and used clubs on rowdy protesters at a march that included calls to defeat far-right presidential candidate Marine Le Pen.

Some May Day events around the world:

FRANCE
A May Day march in Paris turned violent less than a week before the runoff French presidential election as police clashed with a small group of protesters who threw Molotov cocktails at officers.

A few hundred protesters started throwing gasoline bombs and other objects at police at the front end of what started as a peaceful union march in the French capital on Monday.

Police responded with tear gas and truncheons. Riot police clubbed some protesters who were pushed up against a wall on a tree-lined avenue. One police officer was seen spraying a troublemaker in the face.

Four police officers were injured, one seriously burned in the face, Interior Minister Matthias Fekl said, denouncing the "intolerable violence."

His statement said all would be done to identify and arrest those responsible.

The annual march to celebrate workers' rights this year included calls to block far-right presidential candidate Marine Le Pen from winning the presidency during a runoff election on Sunday.

Some of the violent protesters at the May Day event had signs referring to the presidential election and expressing dissatisfaction with both candidates in Sunday's runoff election.

"Not one or the other; instead it's the people's self-defense" read one sign. "Macron=Louis XVI, Le Pen=Le Pen," read another.

Video showed riot police surrounding the protesters disrupting the march after isolating most of them from the rest of the crowd near the Place de la Bastille. However, some continued to lob firebombs that exploded into flames in the street.

The union activists continued to march separately, although police are interrupting to check bags for gasoline bombs.

PUERTO RICO
Businesses in Puerto Rico have been boarded up as the U.S. territory braces for a May Day strike organized by opponents of austerity measures amid a deep economic crisis.

Dozens of people wearing black T-shirts blocked a main road in the capital of San Juan and marched toward the financial center. They banged large wooden placards painted with a black Puerto Rican flag against the

ground.

Thousands of protesters are expected Monday as Puerto Rico teeters on the edge of a possible bankruptcy-like procedure.

A measure that has protected the territory from creditor lawsuits expires at midnight, and the government has struggled to reach a deal with bondholders to restructure part of its \$70 billion debt.

TURKEY

Police in Istanbul have detained 165 people during May Day events around the city, most of them demonstrators trying to march to a symbolic square in defiance of a ban.

A security department statement said that another 18 people suspected of planning illegal demonstrations and possible acts of violence on Monday were detained in separate police operations.

Taksim had declared Taksim Square off-limits to May Day demonstrations for the third year in a row. Police blocked points of entry, allowing only small groups of labor union representatives to lay wreaths at a monument there.

Major trade unions marked the day with rallies at government-designated areas in Istanbul and Ankara. Still, small groups tried to reach the square, leading to scuffles with police.

Taksim holds a symbolic value for Turkey's labor movement. In 1977, 34 people were killed there during a May Day event when shots were fired into the crowd from a nearby building.

CUBA

A protester has briefly disrupted the start of Cuba's largest annual political event, sprinting in front of May Day marchers with a U.S. flag before being tackled and dragged away.

President Raul Castro watched along with other military and civilian leaders and foreign dignitaries as the man broke through security and ran ahead of the tens of thousands in the pro-government march.

Plainclothes officers struggled to control the man but eventually lifted him off the ground and hauled him away in front of foreign and Cuban journalists covering the parade.

Monday's protest was a surprising breach of security at a government-organized event where agents line the route.

RUSSIA

Two May Day marches were held in Moscow, both drawing from nostalgia for Soviet times.

First, a crowd that police estimated at about 130,000 people paraded across the cobblestones of Red Square, the site of Soviet-era May Day celebrations. The tradition was revived in 2014 after Russia's annexation of Crimea and is seen as part of President Vladimir Putin's efforts to stoke patriotic feelings.

Marchers, organized by official trade unions, waved the



AP photo
Youths shield behind a banner as Paris police are firing tear gas, during the May Day demonstration, Monday May 1, 2017, in Paris. Scores of hooded youth have thrown Molotov cocktails at security forces who fired back with tear gas during the May Day workers' march in Paris.

Russian tricolor flag and carried white, blue and red balloons.

The second march was led by the Communists, who over the years have tried to keep the May Day tradition alive. Their march, which skirted Red Square, drew several thousand people.

Many carried red flags with the Soviet hammer and sickle, but there was little honoring of Soviet leaders Vladimir Lenin and Josef Stalin compared to previous years.

The Communist Party still has a faction in the Russian parliament but rarely poses any opposition to the Kremlin.

South African President Jacob Zuma was jeered by labor unionists and his May Day speech was cancelled after scuffles broke out between his supporters and workers chanting for him to step down.

Zuma, who is facing calls to resign after a string of scandals, was expected to call for unity between his ruling party, the African National Congress, and labor unions at the rally in Bloemfontein.

Groups in the crowd booed the president and clashed with his supporters before he could speak.

All speeches scheduled for the event then were cancelled by the Congress of South African Trade Unions, the country's largest body of unions.

The organization has called for the 75-year-old Zuma to resign.

Zuma once a popular figure among South Africa's workers, was eventually ushered away by his bodyguards.

SPAIN

Spain's two major unions called for marches in over 70 cities under the slogan "No More Excuses." UGT and CC.OO unions on Monday demanded that Spain's conservative government roll back its labor reforms that made it cheaper to fire workers and increase wages and pensions.

CC.OO general secretary Ignacio Fernandez Toxo said "Spain has been growing for two years and now it is time for the economy to align itself with the needs of the people."

He spoke at a march of several thousand people in Madrid, which he led alongside UGT leader Josep Maria Alvarez. Thousands more marched in Barcelona, while other rallies were held in Seville, Valencia and other cities.

Under conservative Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, Spain's economy has rebounded and unemployment has dropped from 27 percent in 2013 to 19 percent, but that is still the second-highest unemployment rate in the 28-nation European Union behind

Greece.

Rajoy thanked Spain's workers on Twitter: "I appreciate your contribution to the economic recovery. The government is working to create more and better jobs."

POLAND

Labor union and left-wing activists appealed for unity in order to oppose Poland's current conservative government as they marked May Day with a parade in Warsaw.

The rally and a march Monday was by the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions and by the Democratic Left Alliance, which lost all parliament seats in the 2015 election that brought the conservative populist Law and Justice party to power.

CAMBODIA

Riot police watched carefully as more than 1,000 garment workers defied a government ban on marching to deliver a petition to the National Assembly in Phnom Penh, demanding a higher minimum wage and more freedom of assembly.

The marchers, holding a forest of banners, filled a street a short distance from the parliament complex and advanced noisily until they were stopped by a barricade and lines of police, holding batons, shields and guns capable of firing gas canisters. A standoff of several hours was resolved when a representative from the Assembly came out and accepted the petition.

The workers were from the Coalition of Cambodian Apparel Workers Democratic Union.

Among their demands was increasing the minimum wage from \$153 to \$208 per month. The clothing and footwear industry is Cambodia's biggest export earner.

GREECE

Several thousand protesters gathered outside Greece's parliament, and unions braced for more austerity measures imposed by bailout lenders.

Two large union-organized rallies are planned in Athens on the holiday, with employees at many public services nominally on strike.

As the marches began, government officials prepared for more talks at a central Athens hotel with representatives of bailout creditors as the two sides were near an agreement to maintain draconian spending controls beyond the current rescue program.

The talks had been expected to end Sunday.

TEXAS

Continued from Page 4

sense, even though we shouldn't be."

Even Texas conservatives from urban areas hold an emotional commitment to small town institutions.

"I don't think we need to be taking money away from the public schools no matter where those schools are," said Rep. Charlie Geren, a veteran House Republican from Fort Worth.

Lack of movement on the issue is especially striking given how many Texas heavy hitters support it, saying the state should help parents remove their children from failing public schools. Gov. Greg Abbott and conservative firebrand Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick have called it a modern-day "civil rights issue" and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz wrote to every Texas Republican legislator praising school choice. The House vote squashing the idea came less than a month later. It was an easy vote, said VanDeaver, who added that for his constituents, "I would say it's 50-to-1 anti-voucher. Maybe even higher than that."

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Steer track state bound

By **MARISSA LOFTIN**

Sports Editor

The Big Spring varsity boys track team is heading to the state track meet after competing in the UIL 4A regional track meet held at Lowery Field in Lubbock last weekend, April 28-29.

The top two finishers from each event are headed to Austin, Texas to compete at the state meet held at Mike A. Myers Stadium on Thursday through Saturday, May 11-13.

The state qualifiers from the Big Spring High School men's track team are as follows:

Ian Gonzales (400m run – first place, 800m run – first place), Jeremiah Rushin (300m 36" hurdles – second place), 4x100 relay team of Daniel Luna, CJ Harris, Rene Villa and Leon Mathews – first place, 4x200 relay team of Jaiden Ludington, Jeremiah Rushin, Daniel Luna and Leon Mathews – first place, 4x400 relay team of Aaron Martinez, Jeremiah Rushin, CJ Harris and Ian Gonzales – first place.



Courtesy photo

Pictured above are members of the Big Spring High School boys varsity track team: Gene Rodriguez, Ian Gonzales, Michael Renteria, Leon Mathews, Jeremiah Rushin, Rene Villa, Jaiden Ludington, and Daniel Luna. Not pictured are CJ Harris and Aaron Martinez.

Texas Tech's offense cranking up for final push in Big 12

By **ERIC OLSON**
AP Sports Writer

Texas Tech is making a run at the Big 12 title with an offense that is putting up big numbers. The Red Raiders scored 61 runs in five games last week, finishing with a 21-3 series-clinching win over TCU on Sunday in a matchup of teams that went to the College World Series last year.

"It is always fun to do that against TCU or any Big 12 school," Texas Tech shortstop Orlando Garcia said, looking back at the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. "It is a great feeling when you can't be stopped like that and it just keeps on piling on."

Texas Tech (36-12, 11-7 Big 12), the defending regular-season champion, is one game behind the Horned Frogs (31-11, 12-6) with two conference series remaining.

TCU, which has lost six of its last 10, got uncharacteristically poor pitching performances Sunday. Six pitchers combined to give up 20 hits and six walks, and they hit two batters and threw three wild pitches. The Frogs hadn't given up so many runs since a 22-4 loss to Baylor in 2003, the season before Jim Schlossnagle took over as coach.

Texas Tech started the week with a 27-15 win at New Mexico, the Raiders' most runs in a game since 1999 and most in 118 all-time meetings with the Lobos.

The big week moved the Raiders as high as No. 4 in the major polls and into the top 25 nationally in batting average (.308) and runs per game (7.5). Hunter Hargrove (.346) is the leader among six starters batting .305 or better.

Buffs head to state



Courtesy photo

Pictured above are the medalists for Forsan High School at the regional 1-2A track & field meet last weekend, April 28-29, in Lubbock. From left to right: Bryce Hergert (800 M run – third place), Rhian Cunningham (400 M run – first place) and Tearell McVae (400 M run – second place). Both Hergert and Cunningham will be advancing to the state meet held in Austin on Thursday – Saturday, May 11-13.



AP photo

Texas Tech's Grant Little rounds the bases after hitting a fifth-inning home run during an NCAA college baseball game against TCU, Sunday, April 30, 2017, in Lubbock, Texas.

Tempers flare as Astros beat Rangers 6-2 in series opener

HOUSTON (AP) — If Monday's series opener between the Houston Astros and Texas Rangers was any indication of things to come, the 18 games left of this in-state rivalry should be rather interesting.

Jose Altuve, Carlos Correa and Yuli Gurriel each hit RBI doubles in a five-run seventh inning that lifted the Astros to a 6-2 win over the Rangers in a game that included a benches-clearing tussle.

"You don't want anybody to get hurt, but you want high-emotion baseball," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said. "This is fun for us to play with a little bit of edge. We'll see them (Tuesday). We'll see them 18 more times. Obviously, it should be a fun summer."

Houston trailed by 1 entering the seventh inning before George Springer tied it at 2 with a run-scoring single on a high chopper that



AP photo

Texas Rangers' Mike Napoli talks to Houston Astros catcher Brian McCann after a close pitch thrown by starting pitcher McCullers Jr. during the sixth inning of a game, Monday, May 1, 2017, in Houston.

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5	8	6	2	3	1	9	7	4
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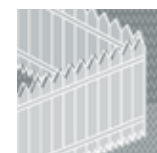
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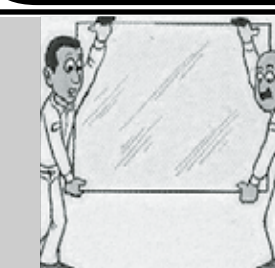
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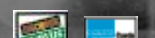
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HOLIDAY
MATHIS

Taurus Solar-Journey
Checkpoint

Regarding today's journey: The anticipation of great happiness upon arriving at the destination will motivate us through the boring parts and bolster us when the going gets tough. If it were a movie, reaching the destination would bring dramatic satisfaction. But it's not a movie, and under the Taurus sun, satisfaction will likely be quietly fortifying.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When the sounds, sights and tastes that speak to your heart and body are the very same as another person's this builds a sense of belonging, comfort and kinship. You can have love without such commonalities, just not as quickly.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You don't need to forgive anyone or be forgiven for anything. This is a day to accept the way it is and build from here without rehashing or giving any focus at all to the way things were before. This is now.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Everyone loves a pretty package. In today's instance, such a promise will intrigue and attract many. You'll be drawn in just like the others. But you won't stay "in" if there's nothing compelling inside.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sometimes the unaccepted and seemingly unacceptable thing is the truer thing. You're willing to look at it without taking offense or being astonished. The majority isn't always (or even often) right.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). This electric energy that buzzes in your body when you engage with an exciting idea or pursuit is evanescent -- but very real. So act on it while the sensation is alive in you! Otherwise you'll miss out.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). While you admire those with the means and taste to cultivate exceptional collections, you will be more moved by those with a knack for beautifully cultivating the ordinary, elevating what is truly unexceptional.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What you face today is not a difficult situation, and perhaps that's the problem. Challenge engages you. Create your own secret goal for the situation. That will help you wholeheartedly step into the game.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have so much love to give, and today it radiates from you in many forms, including the words of encouragement you lend, your friendly smile and your other smile -- the one with all the mischief in it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You must fulfill your duty precisely today. If you do more than your duty, it's interference, and it could upset the balance and undermine others. And of

course you never want to do less than your duty.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The obstacles of the day will not be big dull rocks in the path. They are living decision-makers, and they will yield to influence, persuasion and also stern resolve.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You've a kind, soft heart. However, today it will be very wise for you to avoid getting mixed up with the chronically unlucky types who are perpetual victims and bottomless pits of need.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be so attracted to the person who exhibits opposite qualities from yours -- the "yin" to your "yang" or vice versa. You'll swirl together and help one another roll along.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 2). Your identity will shift this solar return. You no longer relate to certain pursuits; other interests will outshine them. Craving the community of like minds, new involve-

ments will change your schedule and your priorities. Your enthusiasm for a team will be highlighted in June and will lead to a subsequent quest. Aries and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 28, 9, 30, 22 and 18.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "I'm a Cancer. A year and a half ago I lost a close friend whom I had secretly crushed on for four years. Now I'm 25, and I can't seem to get past this loss and find someone new. I've never had an actual boyfriend, but I always thought my special friend and I were soul mates and that we would eventually be together. There are a few guys who have tried to get with me, but I just can't let go of my sad past. What should I do?"

You are a hopeless romantic, Cancer, and this tragic loss at such an early time in your romantic life has set up a story in your mind that is difficult for the average Joe on the street to figure into. But you need an average Joe -- or 10 -- to get you into

the groove of reality. Think of these Joes as nice guys who will enjoy your company, bring you out of that crabby shell and help you understand and embody the social skills that will lead you to relationship normalcy. In short, hold up those crabby pincers of yours and (SET ITAL) snap out of it. (END ITAL) Your friend would have wanted you to love (or crush) again. You can do this.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Dwayne Johnson is a tough Taurus, and he can appear manly even while swapping recipes with Martha Stewart or playing the tooth fairy. Perhaps it's why he's atop Hollywood's A-list these days. Born to the first earth sign of the zodiac, his nickname, "The Rock," is astrologically fitting. Venus, Mars and Saturn in Gemini reveal a witty, spontaneous, flirtatious and communicative nature.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis and click "Contact."
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Help for Families
Dealing With a Dying
Loved One

Dear Annie: Our family is going through the end-of-life challenges of my husband's final illness. We have always been close, and our children, who live nearby, have really stepped up to assist him -- and me -- in these final months of home hospice care. In all the important ways, we are supporting one another emotionally and otherwise. But there are a few rough edges,

and I thought a list composed by someone going through this might help another family with this ordeal.

To the children visiting: Mom is no longer the cook, maid or hotelier. That was fine and freely given for holidays, but this is no holiday. If you come for a visit, make up your own bed, and change and launder your sheets and linens before you leave. And how about offering to throw in some of the towels and sheets for your father, folding them and helping to change our bed?

If I cook, you're in charge of the cleanup -- and reach out to be sure the garbage is emptied, paper towels are in the holder, the refrigerator is occasionally cleaned and the bathrooms you use are left clean. Offer to shop for groceries, run errands, walk the dog and take us out if your father is up to it. And consider cooking a meal for us. Check the car. Is the tire pressure good? Is it gassed up?

Look around you proactively; if something needs fixing, offer to take care of it. Ask whether I need coverage so that I can make my own appointments. I lose sight of these things with the demands of feeding, bathing and dressing your father. The weekly hospice support is

limited and focuses mostly on nursing care.

To my beloved grandchildren: Just be yourselves. No need to tiptoe around. Your grandfather likes the clamor of your play and to hear your stories. Just try to keep the peace among you. Help your parents clean up your toys. Tell your memories and stories of your grandpa to us, and help us make new memories.

My beloved kids and grandchildren have been wonderful in all the important ways -- spending loving quality time with us and sharing activities and memories. But like all people, they fall back into the habits of visiting children, and I hope these suggestions will be of help to

others. -- Sad Nana With So Much to Be Thankful For

Dear Sad: This is a beautiful letter. I hope you've already shared all of these requests with your children. If not, please do. I'm sure that helping you would bring them some solace in this trying time.

Dear Annie: I enjoyed reading about "Fussy Larry," the man who is constantly complaining about the free food his friends cook for him. I have a loved one who, like Fussy Larry, can sometimes be ungraciously and needlessly critical of things I make. When that happens, I give him a big happy smile and say, "Then I have wonderful news: Nobody is going to make you eat it!" It doesn't change his behavior,

but it ramps down my irritation considerably. -- Maggie

Dear Maggie: I totally agree with that tactic. In familiar situations such as this one, a humorously blunt response is sometimes the best mirror to hold up to a person so he might reflect on his rude behavior. Plus, as you mentioned, it can help deflect your feelings of annoyance, and that alone is a win in my book.

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

By Steve Becker

A stitch in time saves nine

East dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A Q 10
♥ 7 4 3
♦ K 10 8 5 2
♣ K 9

WEST
♠ J 9 7 6 3
♥ K 8 2
♦ Q
♣ 10 7 6 4

EAST
♠ 4 2
♥ J 10 9 6 5
♦ A J
♣ 8 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ K 8 5
♥ A Q
♦ 9 7 6 4 3
♣ A Q J

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead six of spades.
There are many deals where declarer tries to shape his play so that a particular defender cannot gain the lead at a critical time. Today's hand provides a typical example.
When the deal occurred, South won West's spade lead with the king and, since he couldn't make nine tricks without developing the diamond suit, next led a diamond toward dummy. West's queen was covered by the king and ace, whereupon East returned the jack of hearts.
Declarer was now a dead duck regardless of what he did. In practice,

he finessed the queen, losing to West's king, and won the heart continuation with the ace. A diamond was then conceded to the jack, and East cashed three more hearts to score a two-trick set.
South's undoing came at trick two, when he covered West's queen of diamonds with the king. After the queen appeared, South should have realized that he could guarantee the contract by playing low instead!
If West had the Q-J doubleton, East would have to win the queen with the ace, establishing dummy's remaining diamonds. If West had the A-Q doubleton, the queen would win, but West could not then effectively attack hearts from his side. This would be equally true if West had the A-Q-J.
Finally, if West had the singleton queen, no harm could come from playing low, but the contract might be lost by playing dummy's king, as evidenced by what happened in the actual deal. Thus, every threat could be defused by withholding the king, rendering the defense helpless.
While it's true that the recommended play would lose a trick if West had the A-Q doubleton, this is of no import. As always, the object is to make the contract, and declarer should take whatever steps are necessary to achieve that goal.

Tomorrow: Partnership rapport.
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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		

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AP photo

Texas Rangers' Mike Napoli hits a home run as Houston Astros catcher Brian McCann reaches for the pitch during the fourth inning of a baseball game, Monday, May 1, 2017, in Houston.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 6

bounced just over the head of Tony Barnette, who had just relieved starter Andrew Cashner (0-3), with no outs.

Altuve's double sent home another run to put Houston on top. Correa followed with his double to center field to score two more, making it 5-2 and chasing Barnette. Gurriel's RBI double landed just out of reach of a diving Delino DeShields with two outs to wrap up Houston's scoring.

Chris Devenski (2-1) struck out two in 1 2/3 scoreless innings for the win. Ken Giles pitched a scoreless ninth for his seventh save.

Mike Napoli broke out of a slump with two hits, including a solo homer that gave Texas a 2-1 lead in the fourth, and was at the heart of the incident that led to the benches clearing in the sixth inning. He had just one hit in his last 20 at-bats before a single in the second inning.

Cashner had already plunked both Altuve and Gurriel when Lance McCullers Jr. threw behind Napoli with two outs in the sixth. He took a couple of steps toward McCullers while yelling at him and McCullers did the same. Astros catcher Brian McCann quickly got in Napoli's face and, after a few seconds, players from both benches began spilling

onto the field. Players from both teams did some pushing and shoving, and Springer held back McCullers as he continued to bark at Napoli. Order was restored after a couple of minutes and both teams received warnings, but no one was ejected before play resumed and McCullers struck out Napoli. McCullers denied intentionally throwing behind Napoli.

"I was just trying to go in, it got away," McCullers said.

Napoli said things differently.

"I've been in the game a long time," Napoli said. "I understand how things work. Two of their guys get hit, but all he has to do is put it in my hip and I run down to first base. No one likes 95 behind their back."

The bad blood between these in-state rivals was evident even before the first pitch Monday when the Rangers printed out a tweet by Houston third baseman Alex Bregman and posted it on a board in their clubhouse. The tweet was mocked not only for its content — saying he wanted to beat the Rangers — but also for the fact that Bregman misspelled the word "operation" by writing "opperation."

"I made a rookie mistake," Bregman said. "I shouldn't have tweeted that out. It was more of just trying to fire up our team and I shouldn't have put it on social me-

dia at all ... poorly worded. Obviously I misspelled a word, another rookie mistake there."

Cashner allowed three hits and three runs — two earned — in six-plus innings to remain winless since Sept. 7, 2016.

McCullers yielded six hits and two runs while tying a season high by fanning 10 to give him 46 strikeouts in six starts this season.

UP NEXT

Rangers: Cole Hamels is scheduled to start for Texas on Tuesday night. Hamels has pitched at least five innings and allowed three runs or less in each of his first five games. He got his second win this season by allowing seven hits and three runs in 6 2/3 innings in his last start against Minnesota.

Astros: Mike Fiers will look for his first win as he starts on Tuesday night. Fiers is 0-1 with a 5.12 ERA in four starts and allowed five hits and two runs in 4 1/3 innings in his last start.

Rockets' 22 3-pointers quiet Spurs, 126-99 in Game 1

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Houston Rockets were willing to take whatever the Spurs gave them in Game 1 of the Western Conference semifinals.

Houston ended up with a record-setting offensive performance, a huge boost in confidence and home-court advantage.

Trevor Ariza scored 23 points, James Harden added 20 points and 14 rebounds, and the Rockets stormed past San Antonio 126-99 on Monday night, the Spurs' worst loss in a series opener under Gregg Popovich.

"Just taking what the defense gives us," Harden said. "Last series (against Oklahoma City) was a more grind-it-out. We weren't really making a lot of 3s.

We had to figure a way to get paint points and in this series so far they gave opportunities to shoot 3s."

The Rockets were 22 for 50 behind the arc, the most 3s attempted and made against the Spurs in their long postseason history.

Houston had six players in double figures, including 20 points and 13 rebounds from Clint Capela.

"They came out ready, they outplayed us tonight," said Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge, who was held to four points. "They made most of their shots. Guys competed, but I thought we made mistakes early. They took advantage of it. Once they had offensive rhythm they were rolling. And we never re-

ally found ours."

Game 2 is Wednesday in San Antonio.

Houston led by as many as 39 points, including a 30-point lead in the first half, in the opener of the first series between the rivals since the Rockets' victory in the 1995 Western Conference finals.

While the hot shooting wasn't completely unexpected from the explosive Rockets, the defense was. Houston was active in rotating to San Antonio's shooters and had both defenders stay on Kawhi Leonard on screens.

Leonard had 21 points, fighting his way to 5-for-14 shooting.

Tony Parker added 11 points and Jonathon Simmons had 10 for the Spurs.



AP photo

Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) drives between San Antonio Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge (12) and guard Manu Ginobili (20) during the first half of Game 1 of a second-round NBA playoff series basketball game, Monday, May 1, 2017, in San Antonio.

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