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BIG SPRING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2018



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Big Spring Chamber Extravaganza a success

By ROGER CLINE

A Mary Kay Cosmetics Independent Sales Director and "Big Spring community champion," and the owner of Big Spring's Sonic Drive-Ins and KBEST Media have been named Howard County Woman and Man of the

At the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce "Chamber Extravaganza," Dene Sheppard and Mike Abusaab were presented the honors in front of a packed house which filled the Sonic Floor of the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. In addition, SM Energy received

the Russ McEwen Community Honor award for their extensive community work around town, and Big Spring and Howard County Relay for Life Community Manager Manny Negron took over the Chamber of Commerce presidency from the outgoing president, Hotel Settles General Manager Andrea Barr.

"I think it was a great success, and I want to thank everyone who came out and made it a success," said Chamber Director Debbye Valverde. "And thank you to all of our sponsors and all of our members who did come out. Special congratulations to SM Energy, Mike Abusaab, and Dene Sheppard, respectively the Man and Woman of the Year for 2017. So, thanks to everyone who came out. I think it was a success!" ValVerde said Sheppard and Abus-

ab exemplify what a Man and Woman of the Year should be. "I think Man and Woman of the

Year, what they show is how you need to be involved in the community, whether it's in front of

See CHAMBER, Page 3

New initiative against dating violence comes to Big Spring schools

By ERIN STEPHENS

Year for 2017.

Big Spring based Student Outreach and Resiliency program (SOAR), Victim Services of Big Spring, and students at Big Spring Junior High and high school are kicking off a new campaign to prevent violence and raise awareness about dating violence among teenagers. Teens and educators are joining forces at both schools in February for Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month.

SOAR is a program run by Myrna Russell of Blest Counseling Services, and according to Russell, the goal of this program is to inspire, motivate, and educate students and give them the tools they need to lead successful

On February 7 and 8, an event is set to be held at BSJH and BSHS. Victim Services of Big Spring will be working with students from the SOAR class during lunch to help educate boys and girls about how dating violence occurs and inform them on the kind of help available.

2005, Texas laws "In started recognizing dating violence and we were able to make protective orders when we realized this form of violence wasn't coming only from adults but from teenagers too," said Victim Services of Big Spring Executive Director Linda Calvio. "We haven't done much with schools until now because



Calvio

the resources but we do now and plan on making this a yearly event. Domestic violence impacts not just the people involved in it but

we didn't have

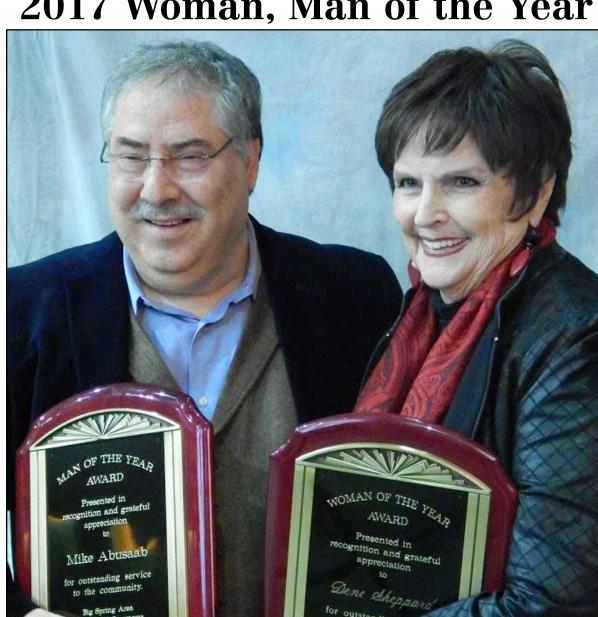
the entire community and everyone within that circle, so we want to create awareness and let people know help is out there."

The first initiative against dating violence was started by the Texas Council of Family Violence program titled Young Hearts Matter. This program brought dating violence into the spotlight and since then, various programs with the same goal have sprung up throughout the state.

'We plan on handing out

See SOAR, Page 3

Sheppard, Abusaab named 2017 Woman, Man of the Year



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Photographed above are Mike Abusaab and Dene Sheppard, who were named Howard County Man and Woman of the Year at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's "Chamber Extravaganza" Tuesday evening at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Big Spring ISD interim superintendent Johnny Tubb settles into new position

By ERIN STEPHENS

Staff Writer

New BSISD interim superintendent Johnny Tubb is beginning to make himself at home here in Big Spring. Tubb took over the district on December 11 of last year, after former superintendent Chris Wigington's term "I'd just finished an interim position at

Dawson ISD in Welch, TX before coming here. Being part of this district is very rewarding and it's nice to be involved with all the great things and great people here. I've been around this district but never as an insider until now," said Tubb. As of the 2016-2017 Find us online at:

www.bigspringherald.com

school year, BSISD had nine schools in their district and 3,917 students. It is the largest school system in the tri-county area.

"There's a preconceived notion among many people that BSISD is not held in the same esteem as neighboring schools in nearby districts. One of the things I've learned since I've been here is that is just totally wrong. I've been visiting with all staff about school climate and the fact we've had many many good things going on in this district; we need to get out in front and let people know what a great district we do have," said No school district is problem-free and

BSISD has had it's fair share of challenges throughout the years. Tubb spoke openly

See TUBB, Page 3

Howard County Commissioners call special meeting for closed session

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Trump's time, Democrats' grumbles, Melania's white pantsuit

Howard County commissioners will hold a special called meeting Thursday at 10 a.m. in the second-floor Conference Room at the Howard County Courthouse. The main item on the agen-

da is a closed executive session to discuss personnel matters.

Also on the agenda are items which allow for discus-

sion and possible action on a

road grant, and citizen input for those registered to make comments.

Those wishing to address the commissioners at the meeting should arrive early to fill out a brief form to register to speak.

For more information, contact Judge Kathryn Wiseman at 432-264-2202.

Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

Contact Staff Writer Roger





By LAURIE KELLMAN **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON

(AP) Scenes from the Capitol on a night of pomp, pageantry and politics for the State of the

Union address: It wasn't the longest State of the Union address. That designation still goes to former

President Bill Clinton.

of President Donald Trump talking Tuesday was plenty long enough for House Democrats. Just before Trump finished, their leader, Rep. Nancy

But an hour and 20 minutes

Pelosi, made eye contact with Rep. Joe Crowley of New York and pointed toward the back of the House chamber. Democrats followed their lead and made an unusually

quick beeline for the exits.

House Democrats not to leave the chamber mid-speech. Trump's first State of the

Earlier, Pelosi had warned

Union address clocked in at about eight minutes shorter than the final such address by Clinton.

They could all agree to support 12-year-old Preston Sharp President Donald Trump used that good deed to scold athletes, ahead of the Super Bowl, who kneel during the national anthem. Members of Congress, the Cabinet, the Supreme Court

it was a different story when

and assorted guests applauded Trump's shout-out to Preston, who noticed that not every

and his project to plant flags

See SOTU, Page 3 on the graves of veterans. But

Nina Mannuzza



Nina Mannuzza, 83, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Jan. 28, 2018, at Big Spring Center for Skilled Care.

Services will be held at a later date in Balch Springs.

She was born May 30, 1934 in Nolan County, Texas to Annie Gilbert Thorn Dennis and Elbert Dennis.

She is survived by one son, Jerry Horton of Balch Springs; one brother, Leonard Brown of Canada; four

sisters, Mary Thompson of Munday, Lola Oden of

Sweetwater, Betty Nelson and Carol Raczka, both of Big Spring; three grandchildren, Michelle Horton, Tracy Wood and Jeffery Horton; four great grandchildren, Austin Wayne Swanson, LeeAnn Michelle Coleman, Michael Wood and Payton Hor-

In additional to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Tommy Mannuzza, a grandson; and three sisters, Maxine Dooley, Wanda Mize McGee and Annie Mae Osburne.

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

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 65 inmates at the time of this re-

• SHELI LYNN BUCK, 42, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant of harassment.

RICARDO DE- ADRIAN **HOYOS**, 25, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of criminal mischief in between \$100 to \$750.

 CHRISTIAN DAVON GOR-**DON,** 29, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant of revoke probation, and on a charge of possession of controlled substance in between one to four grams.

SA, 20, was arrested by BSPD on charges of two counts of evading arrest detention with vehicle, possession of controlled substance of one gram, and possession of controlled substance in between one gram to four grams.

 DAVID GRIJALBA MO-RALES, 22, was arrested by BSPD on charges of possession of controlled of one gram, and possession of controlled substance in between one gram to four grams, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana

less than two ounces, and hindering officers discharging.

 ANTHONY ANDREW RI-**VAS,** 22, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of no driver's license when unlicensed, violate promise to appear, ran stop sign, displayed expired registration, no driver's license, and on fail ure to maintain financial responsibility, and on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

 CARL WILLIAM-TABOR WELLS, 35, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of criminal trespass.

Sheriff

ANGEL ENRIQUE HONJO-

Take Note

• Are you interested in Duplicate Bridge? Big Spring Duplicate will offer lessons to both men and woman. The lesson will be offered at the Big Spring Country Club, and the lessons will start Jan. 31. There will be five lessons at \$25 per person. Bridge is a wonderful, stimulating, and pleasant way to spend an afternoon or

evening. If you have any questions call 267-5615 or 263-2753.

- Cross stitch squares are now ready for the 2018 Howard County Fair quilt. Theme for this year's quilt is "The Love of Dogs." Anyone able to help by stitching a square may pick one up at the Heritage Museum during regular hours Tuesday through Saturday. For questions or for more information, please contact Suzanne Markwell at 214-256-1674.
- The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations. Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from

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God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-

- Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Books for kids in kindergarten through about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade. Cash donations to allow the Lions to purchase additional books are also appreciated. Books or donations can be taken to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., or to the home of Lions member Ken Lawhon at 1707 E. 15th St. For more information, contact Lawhon at 214-998-9716 or Lions member David Stives at 432-270-2251.
- 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

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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.

· Howard County Republicans meet the second Monday of each month. Club members meet in the Cactus Room at Howard College at 11:30 a.m. for Dutch treat lunch and meeting at 12 p.m.

- The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.
- Big Spring Centennial Lion's Club has changed its meeting time. The club now meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday and the fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings are still held at the Big Spring TA Truck Stop. Visitors are welcome.
- The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.
- The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.
- Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact 432-271-2138.

Florida Woodard

Florida Woodard, 83, of Big Spring died, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018, in a local hospital. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

William Langford Wood, Jr. William Langford Wood, Jr., 75, of San Diego,

California, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017. Memorial service will be at 11:00 AM Saturday, February 3, 2018 at Myers & Smith Cha-

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity: ANDREW ANTHONY RIVAS, 22, of 1210 Syca-

- more, was arrested on warrants of no driver's license when unlicensed, violate promise to appear, ran stop sign, displayed expired registration, no driver's license, and on failure to maintain financial responsibility, and on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces.
- SHELI LYNN BUCK, 42, of of 810 E 13th St., was arrested on a warrant of harassment.
- CHRISTIAN DAVON GORDON, 29, of 1014 Stadium Ave., was arrested on a warrant of revoke probation, and on a charge of possession of controlled substance in between one to four grams.
- ACCIDENT MAJOR was reported in the 3600 block of W Hwy 80.
- ACCIDENT MINOR was reported in the 4th
- THEFT was reported in the 2500 block of S CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 700
- DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1400 block of Standford Ave.

Support Groups

block of E 11th Place.

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

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

THURSDAY

- GriefShare is a Biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support). Weekly Feb. 8 through May 10, 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Call Vivian Gordon at 432 466-3583 for more information.
- 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 Disorder 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.



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Dr. Rudy Haddad

Continued from Page 1

everybody, or behind the scenes," she said. "That's what it's all about, and that's what Man and Woman of the Year is all about."

Sheppard, who has made a career as a Mary Kay Cosmetics Sales Director, worked previously at Webb Air Force Base and as volunteer coordinator at the VA Medical Center. She has a long love of the history of Big Spring and Howard County; as a young girl, she spent Saturday mornings dusting displays at the museum, then located in the City Park. After her marriage, she conducted research for and participated in compiling a history book for Howard County. She served on the museum board, and was instrumental in opening the Potton House for viewing, as well

as helping to develop a walking

At the Chamber Extravaganza, last year's Howard County Woman of the Year, Vicki Stewart, introduced Sheppard, and also read a letter from Sheppard's friend who was unable to attend the banquet.

path and viewing area at the Historic Spring.

"You are a Big Spring community champion," the letter reads. "You love your city and have done so much to preserve its history and improve its quality of life. You want for it and its residents the best that tomorrow holds, and you are willing to work for that



SM Energy Senior Vice President Newt Newton pledges continued connection with and support of Big Spring as he accepts the Russ McEwen Community Honor Award at the Chamber Extravaganza Tuesday evening.

cause. Throughout the years you have served your community in many capacities, which has caused those who reside here to have a better life. You have made a matchless difference in Big Spring and you are continuing to make a difference as I write this.'

Abusaab is owner of the Sonic Drive-In franchises in Big Spring and of KBEST Media. He works with the Chamber of Commerce on numerous events, has been on the board of the YMCA, and is involved with Keep Big Spring Beautiful. He is a member of the SWCID Foundation.

SOAR Continued from Page 1

bracelets with the words 'love and respect' on them, along with handing out educational materials on dating violence and showing videos with an opportunity for discussion afterward," said Calvio. "People from both agencies will be available to talk with students and because our services are confidential. Victim information will never be released to anyone unless there is a threat of suicide."

This month, students in Big Spring and across Texas are learning to identify the signs of an unhealthy relationship, to help other students know their dating rights, and to let friends know how to get help. With the support of domestic violence providers Victim Services of Big media with the hashtag, Spring, school districts, and the Texas Council on Family Violence, they are also working to educate peers through a series of exciting events. Domestic

violence is preventable. and it starts with getting teens on board and communities talking about healthy relationships. "The hearts of the

young people in our lives are precious. Teen dating violence is an urgent and silent problem across Texas," said TCFV CEO Gloria Terry. "We are getting our sons and daughters involved in raising awareness at an early age in hopes that they will never experience or perpetuate violence." Various resources exist

to help teens learn about and deal with crisis. The Texas Campaign, Young Hearts Matter, is comprised of posters, activity guides, and other materials that can be used in schools across Texas to help empower students to develop healthy relation-

The campaign can be found through social #OurHearts Matter. Materials are available at the Texas Council on Family Violence at www.tcfv. org.

"Love is everything. Love is respect, acceptance, funny, happy, silly, unconditional, and uplifting. Love shouldn't hurt. Dating violence is unacceptable behavior. Contact us at www.vsob. org for assistance. Help is available. You only need to ask," says Calvio.

What is teen dating

Dating abuse takes place when a person physically, sexually, verbally, or emotionally abuses another person in the context of a dating or romantic relationship, and when one or both of them is a minor. It is an epidemic affecting at least 1 in 5 teenagers and happens in every school across Texas and the United States. Teen dating violence comes in many forms, but can involve: put-downs, extreme demands on time, intimidation, isolation, constant texting, stalking, and physical injury. Teen dating abuse can forced pregnancy, threats of violence, suicide, stalking, and murder.

Statistics in a statewide survey show that 75% of 16 to 24 year old Texans have either personally experienced dating violence or know someone who has experienced it.

The National Dating Abuse Helpline, www. loveisrespect.org, vides phone, text, and chat services 24/7 for students across the country. According to Calvio, victims who aren't comfortable contacting the helpline should reach out to teachers, counselors, or members of a church for help.

Victim Services of Big Spring covers six counties but they're housed in Howard County.

"We have plans to go into other counties in the future so this is just the beginning," she said. "We cover victims of all violent crimes and deal with people aged 1 to 100," Calvio said. "We deal with sexual abuse, dating violence, elder abuse, and we assist victims through the judicial system when also involve forced sex, they've fallen victim to a crime."

> Contact Staff Writer Erin Stephens at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

${f TUBB}$

Continued from Page 1

about issues he's dealt with since his term

"Getting the information out to our community about exactly what was going on with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the Improvement Required (IR) status of two campuses within our district was the biggest challenge so far, because a lot of people didn't trust us and the information that was coming out." he said. "I tried to get out the best info available to our community. If people lose trust in our school, that really puts us behind the eight ball, so to speak." Tubb went on to explain how BSISD is

currently in a pending lawsuit regarding construction and the new elementary campuses. "I felt it important to do my

homework and see where the district stood with that situation, so I'm in the process of doing that. I'm also working on getting up to speed on the Lone Star Governance pro-



Tubb

gram, which was something I was familiar with but I've been consulting outside agencies on this matter," he said. Other challenges Tubb mentioned had to

do with the district actively preparing for

an upcoming TEA PBMAS visit (performance-based monitoring analysis system) that was triggered by test scores in Special Education, ESL, Bilingual, and Career Tech "In a job of this caliber and a district this

size, there are always interruptions and the unexpected so we just deal with these things as they come along," said Tubb.

Tubb will be with BSISD for an indefinite period of time.

"When the time comes to search for a new superintendent, the public will be notified postings will be in appropriate places, and everything will be done in a legal manner. The board isn't quite ready to begin a search at this time, and right now we're just trying to stay the course

and focus on getting our two campuses out of IR," he said. "Clearly, some of the things that we're talking about involves parental input and at the appropriate time, we'll be working closely with parents of our students and seeking their input to provide the best solution and best education for their children."

Contact Staff Writer Erin Stephens at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at citydesk@ bigspringherald.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson

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John Swindell, 87, died Sunday. Burial with Military Honors will be at 1 p.m. today at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Abilene.

Kathrene Ann Chavarria, 46, died Friday. Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Langford William Wood, Jr., 75, of San Diego, California, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017. Memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018, at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Nina Mannuzza, 83, died Sunday. Services will be at a later date in Balch Springs.

Continued from Page 1

grave was decorated with a flag at the California veterans' cemetery where his grandfather was buried. He started collecting donations and, two years later, had decorated 23,000 graves.

Nancy Pelosi, warned Democrats to behave during Trump's address and "let the attention be on his slobbering self." The president didn't slobber.

Still, some Democrats couldn't hold back, laughing and groaning at some of Trump's immigration comments.

With all eyes on her, a poised Melania Trump took her seat in the gallery above the packed House moments before her husband delivered his State of the

Union speech.

Mrs. Trump, sheathed in an allwhite Dior pantsuit, had traveled to the Capitol separately from President Donald Trump after holding White House and Capitol receptions for her guests.

A White House aide said the couple was expected to return together to the White House after the speech.

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Amazon, Buffett, JPMorgan tackle US health care "tapeworm"



This combination of photos from left shows Warren Buffett on Sept. 19, 2017, in New York, Jeff Bezos, CEO of Amazon.com, on Sept. 24, 2013, in Seattle and JP Morgan Chase Chairman and CEO Jamie Dimon on July 12, 2013, in New York.

By TOM MURPHY

AP Health Writer

Amazon, Warren Buffett and JPMorgan are forming a new company to address the health care costs of their employees, sending shares of health care companies down sharply across the entire sector despite the vague nature of the announcement.

On Tuesday Amazon's Jeff Bezos said that he, along with Buffet and JPMorgan, would attempt to make health care better for hundreds of thousands of their employees, and perhaps, eventually, the country.

There were few details and those involved said the project is in the early planning stage. "The ballooning costs of

(health care) act as a hungry tapeworm on the American economy," said Buffett, the head of Berkshire Hathaway,

See **HEALTH**, Page 5

Governor orders criminal probe of Texas gymnastics ranch

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas Gov. Greg Abbott ordered a criminal investigation Tuesday into claims that former doctor Larry Nassar abused some of his victims at the Karolyi Ranch, a Texas facility that was the training ground for U.S. women's gymnastics.

Abbott ordered the Texas Rangers, the state's top criminal investigations unit, to look into ranch, which hosted training camps for more than a decade until earlier this year. The Walker County Sheriff's Office is already investigating. Several gymnasts have said Nas-

sar abused them at the ranch. Nasmedical treatment.

Abbott called the allegations "gutwrenching." He ordered the state investigation because the claims involve multiple jurisdictions and states.

"Those athletes, as well as all Texans, deserve to know that no stone is left unturned to ensure that the allegations are thoroughly vetted and the perpetrators and enablers of any such misconduct are brought to justice. The people of Texas demand, and the victims deserve, nothing less," Abbott said.

The ranch is owned by former national

In this Sept, 12, 2015 photo, a sign points down the road to the Karolyi Ranch near New sar was sentenced to 40 to 175 years Waverly, Texas. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on in prison last week. More than 150 Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018, has ordered a crimiwomen and girls have said he had nal investigation into claims that former molested them under the guise of doctor Larry Nassar abused some of his victims at the Texas ranch that was the training ground for U.S. women's gymnastics

> team coordinators Bela and Martha Karolyi. USA Gymnastics cut ties with the ranch earlier this month, a few days after Olympic champion Simone Biles and said she dreaded the thought of having to return there to train. Other gymnasts have also said they were abused at the ranch.

"It is impossibly difficult to relive these

See PROBE, Page 5

Putin: Russia list is a hostile move driven by Trump foes



Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks to his supporters during a meeting for his campaign in Moscow, Russia, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018. Putin said on Tuesday the Trump administration made a "hostile step" when it published a list of Russian businessmen and politicians as part of a sanctions law against Moscow.

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV and JOSH LEDERMAN

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Mixing irony with scorn, President Vladimir Putin on Thursday described a new list including Russian officials and tycoons under a U.S. sanctions law as a hostile and "stupid" move spearheaded by President Donald Trump's political foes, but he said the Kremlin will refrain from retaliation for now.

Putin's reluctance to criticize Trump shows that he still hopes for normalizing ties with Washington. At the same time, the U.S. move could help the Russian leader in his re-election bid in March.

Some observers warn that the blanket list of 210 names, which reads like a who's who in Russian officialdom and business elite, could further fuel anti-Western feelings in Russia and bolster support for

Putin immediately struck that chord.

Putin.

pointing that those blacklisted by the U.S. control companies employing millions of Russians. He cast the U.S. move as a blow to

See PUTIN, Page 5

Pentagon: Gag order on Afghan data was a mistake

By ROBERT BURNS and LOLITA C. BALDOR

AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON — In an abrupt reversal, the U.S. military on Tuesday said it made a mistake when it ordered an independent federal auditor to stop providing the public with information about U.S. war efforts in Afghanistan that help to measure how the 16-year-old stalemated war is

Just hours after the report was publicly released, the U.S.-led NATO coalition in Afghanistan issued a statement blaming "human error" for the order, and provided a few segments of the data that has been restricted. The newly released information revealed that 44 percent of Afghanistan is contested or under the control of insurgents.

Other previously available information on the size, attrition and performance of the Afghan forces continue to be unavailable.

President Donald Trump has announced a new Afghanistan strategy aimed at breaking a battlefield stalemate by accelerating Afghan-led operations

against the Taliban and other insurgent groups in the country. On Monday, Trump railed against the recent string of attacks in Afghanistan, and ruled out any U.S. discussions with the Taliban as part of the effort to seek peace talks between the Afghan government and the insurgents.

The auditing agency, established by Congress and known as the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, or SIGAR, revealed the new gag order in a three-month assessment of conditions in Afghanistan released overnight.

The restrictions seemed to contradict previous Pentagon assertions that it was striving to be more transparent about the U.S. war campaigns across Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan.

In response to the release of the report, Navy Capt. Tom Gresback, coalition spokesman. said Tuesday that about 56 percent of the country's 407 districts are under Afghan government control, 30 percent are contested and 14 percent are under insurgent control.

See ORDER, Page 5



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PROBE

Continued from Page 4

experiences and it breaks my heart even more to think that as I work towards my dream of competing in Tokyo 2020, I will have to continually return to the same training facility where I was abused," Biles said in a statement.

Nassar's accusers have said he would use his ungloved hands to penetrate them and other inappropriate touching when they were seeking treatment for back, hip, leg, foot and other injuries. Victims blamed Michigan State, USA Gymnastics and the U.S. Olympic Committee for not doing more to stop him earlier.

The Karolyis established the rustic estate in 1983 in Sam Houston National Forest, about an hour north of Houston, and eventually expanded it to 2,000 acres. USA Gymnastics had planned to buy about 40 acres, including training gyms, housing for up to 300 athletes, and medical and recreational facilities, but backed out in 2017.

When Martha Karolyi was elevated to national team coordinator in 2001, she installed a centralized system that required national team members to make regular visits to the ranch for training. Gymnasts have said their parents were not allowed at the ranch.

McKayla Maroney, who won gold in 2012, has said she was molested at the ranch by Nassar, starting when she was 13 years old. Biles' teammates from the 2016 squad, Aly Raisman and Gabby Douglas, also have said they were abused by Nassar

An attorney for the Karolyis did not immediately respond to request for comment.

HEALTH

Continued from Page 4

in a prepared statement. "Our group does not come to this problem with answers. But we also do not accept it as inevitable.'

The new company will be independent and "free from profit-making incentives and constraints." The businesses said the new venture's initial focus would be on technology that provides "simplified, high-quality and transparent'

It was not clear if the ultimate goal is to eventually move beyond Amazon, Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway JPMorgan. However, JPMorgan Chairman CEO Jaimie Dimon said, "our goal is to create solutions that benefit our U.S. employees, their families and, potentially, all Americans."

from three renowned innovators in technology and finance sent a shock wave through the health care sector, erasing billions in market capitalization in seconds. Six of the top ten compa-

The potential disruption

nies with significant share declines on the Standard & Poor's 500 index were health care companies. Almost all companies in the health field were in retreat Tuesday.

The need for a solution to the health care crises in the U.S. is intense. With about 151 million non-elderly people, employer-sponsored coverage is the largest part of the U.S. health insurance market.

Health care costs for companies routinely rise faster than inflation and eat up bigger portions of their budgets.

Americans are mired in a confusing system that creates a mix of prices in the same market for the same procedure or drug and offers no easy path for finding the best deal.

The rising costs of health care have dragged on U.S. companies, big and small, and employees are increasingly feeling that pain. Employers have hiked deductibles and other expenses for employees, meaning less spending power for almost all Americans.

Only 50 percent of companies with three to 49 employees offered coverage last year, according to the nonprofit Kaiser Family Foundation. That's down from 66 percent more than a decade ago. The federal Affordable Care Act requires all companies with 50 or more full-time employees to offer it. Amazon, Berkshire and JP

Morgan say they can bring their scale and "complementary expertise" to what they describe as a long-term campaign.

Amazon's entry into the health market has been perceived as imminent, even though the company had announced nothing publicly.

It has been watched very closely on Wall Street, which has seen Amazon disrupt numerous industries ranging from book stores to clothing

Amazon, which mostly sold books when it was founded more than 20 years ago, has radically altered the way in which people buy diapers, toys or paper towels. Most recently it has upended the grocery sector, spending \$14 billion last year for Whole Foods Market Inc.

ORDER

Continued from Page 4

"It was NOT the intent of Resolute Support to withhold or classify information which was available in prior reports," Gresback said in an email. "A human error in labeling occurred."

Late last year, a Pentagon report said the Afghan government has control or influence over 60 percent of the population, while insurgents had control or influence over approximately 10 percent of the population, with the remainder contested.

In November, Gen. John Nicholson told Pentagon reporters that about 64 percent of the population was controlled by the government, 24 percent live in contested areas, and the Taliban control the remaining 12 percent. Neither the Pentagon nor Nicholson details the number of districts held by each side, so it is difficult to compare

that with the population figures released by Gresback. Over the years, the SIGAR auditing effort has re vealed many dubious practices by the U.S., including instances of contractor fraud. Since January 2016 it had published data on the number of governing districts controlled by Kabul, the number controlled by the Taliban, and the number that are contested.

John F. Sopko, head of the auditing organization, expressed disappointment that the Pentagon initially had forbidden release of the data on relative control of the governing districts.

"The number of districts controlled or influenced by the Afghan government had been one of the last remaining publicly available indicators for members of Congress — many of whose staff do not have access to the classified annexes to SIGAR reports_and for the American public of how the 16-year-long U.S. effort to secure Afghanistan is faring," he added.

Sopko wrote that historically, the number of districts controlled or influenced by the government has been falling since his office began reporting on it, while the number controlled or influenced by the insurgents has been rising — "a fact that should cause even more concern about its disappearance from public disclosure and discussion."

The war effort has sometimes faded from U.S. public attention, even though the U.S. has invested about \$120 billion in reconstructing Afghanistan since 2002.

Sopko said in his report that the Pentagon also classified or otherwise restricted information that his or ganization had previously reported publicly, including such "fundamental metrics" of the Afghan military and police performance as Afghan casualty figures and most measurements of the battlefield capabilities of the Afghans military.

Continued from Page 4

ordinary people.

"All of us, all 146 million, have been put on some kind of list," he said at a meeting with activists of his campaign. "Certainly, this is an unfriendly move, which further exacerbates the already strained Russia-US relations and hurts international relations as a whole."

The list, ordered by Congress in response to alleged Russian meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign, had spooked rich Russians who fear it could make them informally blacklisted in the global financial system. But the Trump administration said it had decided

not to immediately punish anybody under the new sanctions, at least for now, and some U.S. lawmakers accused Trump of giving Russia a free pass, fueling further questions about his willingness to confront Moscow.

Putin, whose approval ratings top 80 percent, is set to easily win another six-year term in the March 18 election that would put him on track to become Russia's longest-serving leader since Josef Stalin. But the Kremlin has been worried about voter apathy that could make his showing less impressive.

Washington's list could help Putin consolidate his support base by burnishing his image of a strong leader who stands up to a hostile U.S., some observers say.

"This is a gift to Putin in the context of the presidential campaign," said Andrei Kolesnikov of the Carnegie Moscow Center.

He added that the Kremlin would likely use the U.S. move to cast the opposition in Russia as Western stooges.

Putin noted sarcastically that his name isn't on the list, saying of the omission: "It hurts." He emphasized that the new list comes even as

Washington expects Moscow to cooperate on dealing with North Korea's nuclear and missile tests and the Iranian nuclear issue. "Look, isn't it stupid: They are putting Russia in

the same league with North Korea and Iran, and at the same time are asking us to take part in solving the North Korean nuclear problem and think what can be done on the Iranian track," Putin said.

But Putin pointedly steered clear of criticizing Trump, describing the list as part of U.S. political infighting. "Those who are doing it are focusing mostly on internal politics. They are assailing the U.S. presi-

dent," he said. "By pointing at alleged Russian in-

terference in the U.S. election, they are completely

ruining Russia-U.S. relations."

had exchanged information about terrorist attacks, noting that such contacts benefit both sides "So do we need it or not?" Putin said. "Shall we

He said that Russian and U.S. special services

work together or not? We can do without it, but I thought it's a common interest." The Russian leader noted that a presidential chil-

dren rights' ombudswoman was put on the list even though the U.S. has pushed for resuming the adoption of Russian children by U.S. parents that Russia banned in 2012. "They need to decide for themselves what they

want: To engage in that or to sanction those who are dealing with it here," Putin snapped. Putin said the Kremlin had pondered possible re-

tallation while waiting for the list to but decided to refrain from action. "We were ready to take retaliatory steps, and,

mind you, serious ones, which would cut our relations to zero," he said. "But we will refrain from taking these steps for now." Russia hawks in Congress had pushed the admin-

istration to include certain names, while Russian businessmen hired lobbyists to keep them off. In the end, the list of 114 Russian officials released

just before a Monday evening deadline included the whole of Putin's administration, as listed by the Kremlin on its website, plus the Russian Cabinet, top law enforcement officials and senior executives at state-owned companies. A companion list of 96 "oligarchs" is a carbon copy

of Forbes magazine's Russian billionaires' rankings, only arranged alphabetically. It makes no distinction between those who owe their fortunes to close ties with the Kremlin and those who don't. Some of the people on the list have long fallen out of favor with the Kremlin. Indeed, the U.S. Treasury Department acknowl-

edged that the unclassified oligarchs list had been drawn from publicly" available sources." Officials said more

names, including those of less-senior politicians businesspeople worth less than \$1 billion, are on a classified version of the list being provided to Congress. Drawing on U.S. intelligence, the Treasury Department also finalized a list of at least partially state-owned companies in Russia, but that list, too, was classified and sent only to Congress.

The idea of the seven-page unclassified document, as envisioned by Congress, was to name and shame those believed to be benefiting from Putin's tenure, as the U.S. works to isolate his government diplomatically and economically.

Putin spokesman Dmitry Peskov — himself on the list — said it amounted to the recognition that the U.S. has a hostile view of the entire Russian government.

"De facto, they have been named enemies of the United States," he said.

Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny, who came to prominence thanks to his investigations into official corruption, tweeted he was "glad that these (people) have been officially recognized on

the international level as crooks and thieves Under the same law that authorized the "Putin list," the government was required to slap sanctions on anyone doing "significant" business with people linked to Russia's defense and intelligence agencies, using a blacklist the U.S. released in October. But the administration decided it didn't need to penalize anyone, even though several countries have had multibillion-dollar arms deals with Russia in the works.

State Department officials said the threat of sanctions had been deterrent enough, and that "sanctions on specific entities or individuals will not need to be imposed."

Companies or foreign governments that had been doing business with blacklisted Russian entities had been given a three-month grace period to extricate themselves from transactions, starting in October when the blacklist was published and ending Monday. But only those engaged in "significant transactions" are to be punished, and the U.S. has never defined that term or given a dollar figure. That ambiguity has made it impossible for the public to know exactly what is and isn't permissible.

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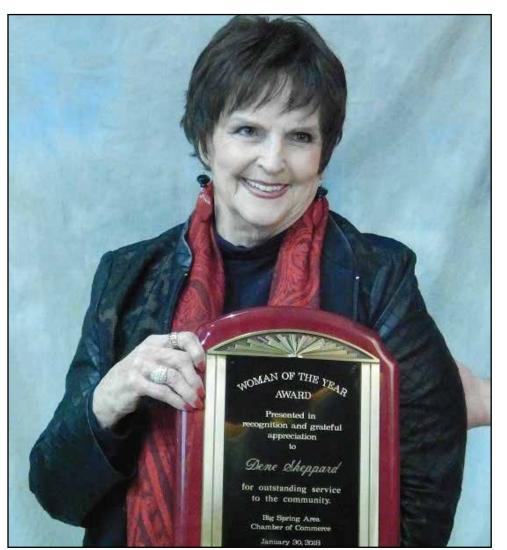
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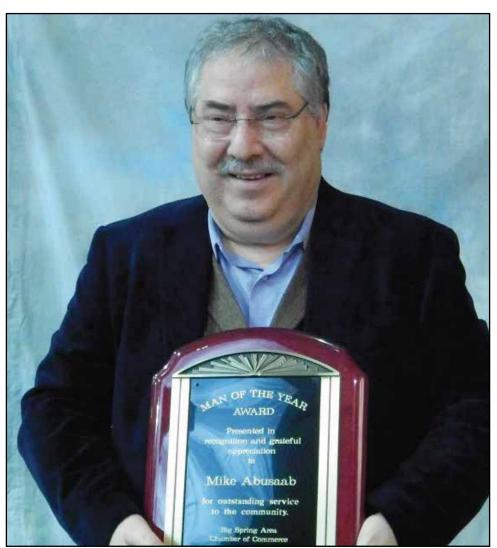
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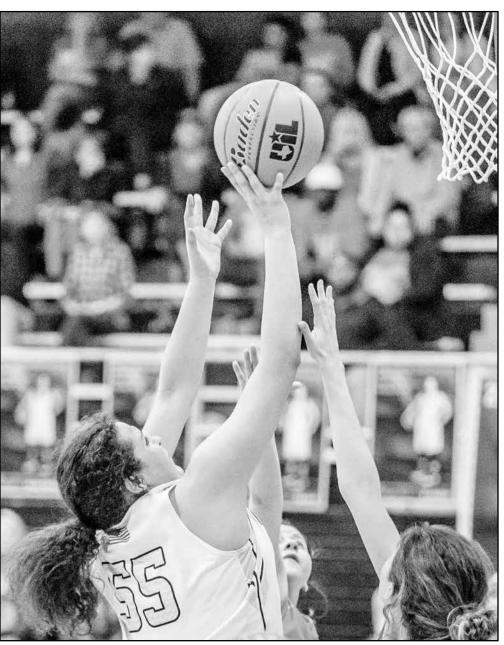
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Congratulations!

Page 7 Wednesday, January 31, 2018

Big Spring Steers split with the 'Stangs



Tony Claxton photo (tonyclaxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Aissa Cervantes puts up a short jump shot during the Lady Steers' 58-54 loss to Sweetwater at home on Tuesday, January 30, 2018.

Playoff dreams dashed for Lady Steers

By STEVE BELVIN

Staff Writer

Ooh so close.

The Big Spring Lady Steers, fighting for their playoff life. let this one get away. In a hotly-contested game, Big Spring let a 14 point lead go down the drain, losing to Sweetwater 58-54 at Steer Gym Tuesday night. Big Spring needed to win this game to have any hope of making the playoffs. Instead the Lady Steers will finish out the season Friday in Brownwood.

For three quarters, Big Spring did the things it needed to do to win: play good defense, take good shots, and rebound. Big Spring led 48-34 going into the fourth quarter. But Sweetwater had other plans for the fourth quarter, holding the Lady Steers to six points, piling on 24 points themselves. They roared back with a vegence, using a pressing defense and the scoring of forwards Shavie Green and Tavis Black. The duo used their quickness to drive by the Steer defense as they

also ruled the boards. Big Spring was hurt when Logan Terrazas fouled out with six minutes left in the game. Her rebounding was missed. She exited with four points and eight boards and three blocked shots.

Green also fouled out with three minutes left. She left with 14 points, 12 coming in the second half. When she fouled out, Black took up the slack for her Sweetwater teammates. She scored a game-high 20 points to go along with six boards.

Sweetwater outscored Big Spring 5-1 in the first two minutes of the fourth quarter, cutting the lead to 49-39. It continually got worse for Big Spring. Constantly turning the ball over Big Spring saw Sweetwater take the lead 49-48 midway through the quarter. The two teams battled back and forth the remainder of the contest; Sweetwater iced the game down the stretch when Jessila Poe scored

See LADY STEERS, Page 13



Tony Claxton photo (tonyclaxtonphotography.com) Big Spring's Nathan Letts lays the ball up for a score during the Steers' 66-58 home win over district rival Sweetwater on Tuesday, January 30, 2018.

Steers grab district win against Mustangs

By STEVE BELVIN

Staff Writer

The Steers finally got that elusive district win and it could not have come at a better time. The Steers put together four quarters of good basketball to down the Sweetwater Mustangs 66-58 Tuesday night.

With the win, a young Steers squad moved their way back into playoff contention, now being one game out of the fourth playoff spot behind Sweetwater, which has a 2-3 record. Big Spring is 1-4 in District 3-4A play with two games remaining. It shows how far the Steers have progressed, avenging a 82-66 loss to Sweetwater

This night Big Spring would not be denied. p on Sweetwater early, leading 15-8 fter the first quarter. They survived a rough second quarter as the Mustangs went on a 11-3 run early in the period, taking a 20-17 led and went on to lead at halftime 29-24. Ky Hoover scored two baskets and Ki-

ante McCoy nailed a three at the end of the quarter, staking Sweetwater to halftime lead.

In the second half however, Big Spring regained control of the game. They did it with a relentless trapping defense spearheaded by point guard .Zephaniah Nelson. The 5-foot-6 dynamo was all over the court, giving Mustang players fits. He also did a good job directing the Steers offense. He finished the game with five steals and five assists to go along with his nine points.

With Sweetwater leading 31-24 early in the third quarter, the Steers went to work. John Ibanez started the ball rolling with his second threepointer of the game. It was followed by two steals which resulted in Jerimiah Cooley baskets. Nelson hit a three, Cooley scored again, Abel Clark and Ibanez made two free throws each and Big Spring led 47-44 the third

See **STEERS**, Page 13

BSJH Lady Steers take on the Snyder Lady Tigers

Special to the Herald

8th Grade A

The 8th grade A Lady Steers beat up on Snyder Monday 34-13. Tristan Smith led the way with 13 points followed by Alex Enriquez and Ryen Terrazas both with 6 points. Mya Blanco chipped in 5 points. Savanna Zarraga and Kalyn Whitehead played well on defense.

8th Grade B

The 8th grade Lady B Steers put up a good fight against the Lady Snyder Tigers. Regardless of their hard fight, they fell short 19-12. Good passes and plays on offense were made by Mallory Paul, Kylee Lynch, G Gonzales, and Kayleigh Muniz. On the defensive side, multiple steals and blocked shots were made by the entire team. However, the defensive players of the game were Angelica Calderon and Kylee Lynch, who lead the team in rebounds and steals.

7th Grade A The 7th grade A team lost

to Snyder in overtime on a free throw. The team struggled in the first half, but came back to take the lead in the 3rd Q. They held the lead till the 4th Q buzzer and fouled, taking the game to the free throw line. Snyder made both free throws and pushed the game into overtime. Overtime went back and forth in a tough 3 minute extra period. The lady Steers lost by a free throw in overtime. Offensive players of the game were Kortney Moore, Elaina Arredondo and Monica Gutierrez. Defensive players of the game were Gisselle Holguin and Loni Mendez.

7th Grade B

awesome last night.

The 7th B Lady Steers got a huge win over the Tigers 30-3. Jalen Sykes led the team with 10 points. Mikiah Gibson followed with 6. Mia Bustamante, Neli Mendez and Maria Villalobos each had 4 pts while Genna Bediinger put up 2 points. Defense was on fire all night. All the lady Steers played

Nassar's final sentencing hearing underway, victims return

By ED WHITE and

DAVID EGGERT

Associated Press CHARLOTTE, Mich. (AP) - The final sentencing hearing began Wednesday for disgraced former sports doctor Larry Nassar, who will again be confronted by scores of victims as he faces another prison sentence for molesting gymnasts at an elite Michigan club run by an Olympic

Judge Janice Cunningham has set aside several days for roughly 60 people who want to confront Nassar or have their statement read in court. The hearing could unfold much the same as a hearing last week in another county where a different judge allowed more than 150 women and girls to confront Nassar about his abuse.

That hearing ended with Nassar getting sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison, with

the judge describing it as Nassar's "death warrant." The practice of allowing accusers to speak even if they

are not tied directly to a case

has raised questions about fairness. But attornevs say the victim statements probably pose little risk on appeal, especially since Nassar pleaded guilty, agreed to allow the statements and is expected to get another long prison sentence as part of his deal with prosecutors.

"If you get what you bargained for, then you really can't argue that you were prejudiced in any way," said Margaret Raben, former leader of a Michigan association of criminal defense attorneys.

It's not uncommon for prosecutors to introduce "aggravating" evidence at sentencing to support their request for a severe punishment. But the parade of victims offering emotional accounts of their abuse to the face of an abuser went well beyond the typical

Raben said there was a "horrible dynamic" last week in Judge Rosemarie Aquilina's courtroom, even if the judge had the option to allow so

many people to speak in a

case that involved just seven

"Her obvious delight was just off the wall," Raben said, referring to Aquilina's "death warrant" remark and others. "I am not defending Larry Nassar at all, but what I saw with her was a real abandonment of judicial demeanor. ... The process doesn't change because everybody hates the defendant. That is the absolute glory, or should be, of the American justice system."

A fellow Ingham County iudge, William Collette, said Aquilina's handling of the hearing was "outrageous." Others, however, have praised her treatment of victims and their parents.

The case on Cunningham's docket Wednesday in Eaton County centers on Nassar's assaults at Twistars, a Lansing-area gymnastics club that was run by 2012 Olympic coach John Geddert. Nassar admits penetrating three girls with his hands when he was supposed to be treating them for injuries. So far, 57 victims want to speak in court or submit statements. Attorney

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Are you fascinated by SPORTS? Are you creative and social media savvy? We want to hear from you!

Responsibilities and Duties: This individual will be

responsible for coverage of sporting events and updating social media accounts. We will also train this person to build a few pages for our daily paper.

Knowledge of InDesign and Photoshop are a plus, but will train the right person. Must have reliable transportation and a valid driver's license. Bring resume to **Big Spring Herald**

Qualifications and Skills:

bigspringherald.com Job Type: Full Time

at 710 Scurry or email

publisher@

We are looking for an outgoing, ambitious individual to fill a role at the Big Spring Herald!

Are you eager to increase

your income? Do you like to socialize and meet new people? We want to hear from you!

Responsibilities and Duties: This individual will be responsible for contacting businesses and selling newspaper advertising.

Qualifications and Skills: Knowledge of Microsoft programs is preferred, but will train the right person. Organization, creativity and strong people skills is a plus. Must have reliable transportation and a valid driver's license.

Bring resume to **Big Spring Herald** at 710 Scurry or email publisher@ bigspringherald.com

Job Type: Full Time

Help Wanted

Invenergy LLC is hiring a Wind Technician for the Stanton Energy Center, a 120 MW wind power generation facility utilizing GE 1.5 SLE turbine technology, located in Lenorah, TX. Qualified applicants are encouraged to visit www.invenergyllc.com and click on "Careers.

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Legals

FOR COMMERCIAL OIL

AND GAS WASTE

DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT

Probity SWD, LLC, P.O.

Box 7307, Midland, TX

is applying to the Railroad

Commission of Texas for a

permit to inject fluid into a

formation, which is non-

productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to

Ellenburger formations.

inject fluid into the Montoya/

Birdie SWD Well Number #1

The proposed disposal well is

located 2.6 miles South East

(Dean Sand) field, in Howard

strata in the subsurface depth

of Ackerly in the Ackerly

Fluid will be injected into

interval from 10800

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

Chapter 27 of the Texas

Title 3 of Texas Natural

Rules of the Oil and Gas

Resources Code, as

Aug. 22). Moods

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submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

Legals

Division of the Railroad

Commission of Texas.

#9682 January 31, 2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL OIL AND GAS WASTE **DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT**

Probity SWD, LLC P.O. Box 7307, Midland, TX 79708

is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation, which is productive of oil and gas.

inject fluid into the Penn/ Cisco/Canyon/Strawn/ Atoka/Mississippian/ Silurian/Devonian/ Fusselman formations.

The applicant proposes to

Birdie SWD Well Number #2. The proposed disposal well is located 2.6 miles South East of Ackerly in the Spraberry (Trend Area) field, in Howard County.

Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 8950

Legals

to 10800 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of Texas Natural Resources Code. as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

#9683 January 31, 2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL OIL AND GAS WASTE **DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT**

Probity SWD, LLC, P.O. Box 7307, Midland, TX

is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation, which is nonproductive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Montoya/ Ellenburger formations.

Emma SWD Well Number

Legals

#1. The proposed disposal well is located 12.2 miles North West of Coahoma in the <u>Luther, S.E. (Silurian-</u> Devonian) field, in Howard County.

Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 9900 to 12500 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas. Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public

hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792)

#9684 January 31, 2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL OIL **AND GAS WASTE DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT**

Box 7307, Midland, TX is applying to the Railroad

to the well of positive

Probity SWD, LLC, P.O.

Legals

Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation, which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Penn/ Cisco/Canyon/Strawn/ Atoka/Mississippian/Silurian/ Devonian/Fusselman formations.

Emma SWD Well Number #2. The proposed disposal well is located 12.2 miles North West of Coahoma in the Luther, S.E. (Silurian-Devonian) field, in Howard County.

Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 8350 to 9900 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

#9685 January 31, 2018

Blue Moon of Kentucky and Other **Places**

Patsy Cline invited the "Blue Moon of Kentucky" to keep on shining on the one who's gone and proved untrue. That Kentucky moon was also blue in Seattle and Sydney and San Juan Capistrano, and it shone equally on the truthful. Tonight the blue moon comes back around, supersize, playful and dispersing generous and joyful love.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Glittering generalities sound impressive to those who desperately want them to be true and the utterly gullible. You'll hear past the hyperbole. see beyond the sparkly stuff and help people understand what's real and reasonable.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have something so special. Many would love to claim it. And the weird part is that you hardly see it anymore. You've had it for so long! Adjust your perspective so you can better love what is already yours.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Today you'll

be rather susceptible to flattery, but so what? You also deserve to be paid attention to. You worked hard to get where you are. So how about you soak it all up? Don't deflect compliments. Just say thank you.

CANCER (June **22-July 22).** The saying goes, "Never let them see you sweat." But if you make it look too easy, they'll heap more work on you. Of course, you don't want to seem like a hectic mess, either. You'll find the middle ground on the matter.

I FO (July 23-

come and go like weather. You're like a region unto yourself. There are typical weather pat-

terns for the region of you, and then sometimes there's unseasonable anomalies. That's what's happening

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Add this to your routine: a generous pat on the back, from you to you. Of course this is best done privately, but rest assured it's not the least bit self-centered to recognize your own talents. If you don't do it, how will others know

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Philosophizing has its time, place and purpose. The big-picture thinking can

to?

 $By\ Holiday\ Mathis \ \ {}^{\text{hang out in this phase}}_{\text{a while longer. Write}}$



seem like an indulgence when there's so much practical work to be done, but go on and indulge, because it will be essential to getting things right.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Since you're still not totally sure about your next move, don't make one. You can afford to down the ideas. Talk

Tomorrow's Horoscope

it out. Ask questions. Research. Brain-

storm. **SAGITTARIUS**

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have your agenda; they have theirs. Honestly, there may not be a compromise that will make you both happy. so don't waste too much time in negotiation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

You may get an unusually large number of requests made of you today, and a few demands will be thrown in there, too. This is what comes with getting suddenly popular.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Go often

energy. You'll find it in quotes, books and songs. You'll find it in the small talk you make with strangers and in the fellowship of friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You might be surprised at what you're willing to do to please a person who happens to be exceptionally charming, attractive and funny. Also, you might be surprised at what people are willing to do for you for the same reasons.

TODAY'S BIRTH-DAY (Jan. 31). This vear you strive for reasonable idealism. You'll serve your values well and you'll also aim for a few impossibilities, because pushing yourself has historical-

ly led to remarkable achievement. This year you're even better under pressure than ever before. Love will be your constant companion. Gemini and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 44, 3, 30 and 15.

Write Holiday Mathis at holidaymathis@gmail.com. COPYRIGHT 2018 CRE-ATORS.COM

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Contract

By Steve Becker Avoiding a finesse

in four hearts and West leads the

NORTH ♠ K. 7 5 2 ▼ 6 3 ♦ J 10 7 4 ♣ 9 5 3 WEST **♦** Q 10 8 4 **♥** 8 5 2 **♦**93 **♥**7 ♦9652 ◆A K J 10 8 4 SOUTH **♠** A J 6 ♥AKQJ1094

West dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

The bidding: North East South Pass Pass Opening lead queen of clubs. The opportunity to finesse is an irresistible lure to many declarers.

But while the finesse is undoubtedly a valuable weapon in many situa-tions, it is also much abused. The fact is that the finesse is a

particular card or cards held by the defense. It should therefore not be used whenever there is an alternative

play that may or may not succeed, depending upon the location of a

Consider this deal where South is

line of play that accomplishes the desired result without risking a

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queen of clubs. East overtakes the queen with the king, cashes the ace and continues with the jack, ruffed by declarer with the nine. South has already lost two tricks and must lose a diamond, so the outcome appears to depend upon the success of a spade Superficially, it might seem that

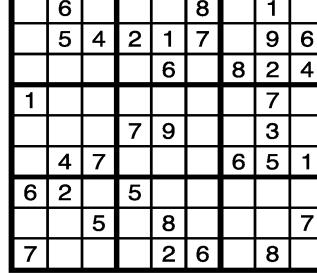
South, after drawing trumps, should lead a low spade to the king and finesse the jack on the return. This play will succeed if East has the queen, but fails if West has it. However, this is not the best line of play. After ruffing the jack of clubs.

declarer should draw three rounds of trump and then play the king of diamonds. When West wins with the ace, which seems very likely from the bidding, the hand is over. It does not matter whether West returns a spade or a diamond, or where the spade and diamond queens are located. A spade return automatically

eliminates the spade loser, while a diamond return — whether or not West has the queen — establishes a diamond trick in dummy.

By leading the king of diamonds

at trick seven, South obviates the risk involved in attempting the spade finesse. In effect, he wins the spade finesse by avoiding it. Tomorrow: A chink in declarer's armor.



Level: Beginner

Fun By The **Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

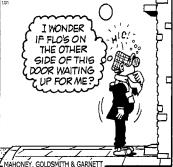
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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:PM	Local 2	P. Luche	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Inspired	Scully	Hawaii	American	Fam. Guy	2, Mary-Lou-	SportsCenter	Around	Boynton	NCIS (DVS)	Storage	Street Out-
5 :30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	CBS	Noticias	News	M. Rantz	Business	Five-0	American	Fam. Guy	ise Parker (DVS)		Pardon	A&M Athl.		Storage	laws
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8 :30	House	madre	<u> </u>				Southwest	(DVS)	Mama's		Big Bang	Vacation (DVS)	Caltina		C'boys		Olorage	laws
:PM	Match Game					Chicago P.D.		'		Page Six	Big Bang	(DVS)		Missouri at Alabama.	World Poker			Fast N' Loud:
9 :30	1	tentación	11012		Acero 4		Southwest			Seinfeld	Full		NBA Basket-					Demo
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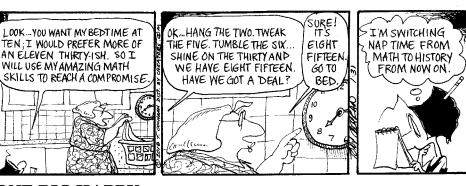
ANDY CAPP







AGNES







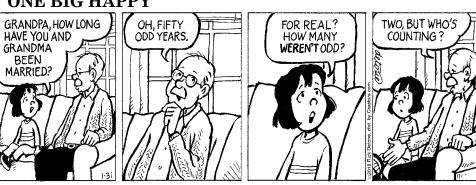
WHY AREN'T MARRIAGE VOWS TAKEN

FROM COMMITTING PERJURY?

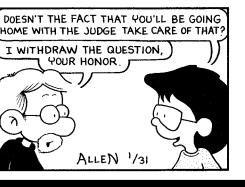
UNDER OATH LIKE COURT TESTIMONY? I MEAN, WHAT'S TO PREVENT SOMEONE







MOMMA





This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 31, the 31st day of 2018. There are 334 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 31, 1958, the United States entered the Space Age with its first successful launch of a satellite, Explorer 1, from Cape Canaveral.

On this date:

In 1606, Englishman Guy Fawkes, convicted of high treason for his part in the "Gunpowder Plot, was set to be hanged, drawn and quartered, but broke his neck after falling or jumping from the scaffold.

In 1797, composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna.

In 1865, the U.S. House of Representatives joined the Senate in passing the 13th Amendment to the **United States Constitution** abolishing slavery, sending it to states for ratification. (The amendment was adopted in December 1865.) Gen. Robert E. Lee was named general-in-chief of the Confederate States Army by President Jefferson Davis. In 1917, during World

War I, Germany served notice that it was beginning a policy of unrestricted submarine warfare.

In 1929, revolutionary Leon Trotsky and his family were expelled from the Soviet Union.

In 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Gold Reserve

Act. Pvt. Eddie 1945,Slovik, 24, became the first U.S. soldier since the Civil War to be executed for desertion as he was shot by an American fir-

ing squad in France. In 1961, NASA launched Ham the Chimp aboard a Mercury-Redstone rocket from Cape Canaveral; Ham was recovered safely from the Atlantic Ocean following his 16 1/2-minute suborbital flight.

In 1971, astronauts Alan Shepard, Edgar Mitchell and Stuart Roosa blasted off aboard Apollo 14 on a mission to the moon.

In 1980, Queen Juliana Netherlands the announced she would abdicate on her birthday the following April, to be succeeded by her daughter, Princess Beatrix. In 1990, McDonald's

Corp. opened its first fastrestaurant Moscow.

In 2000, an Alaska Airlines MD-83 jet crashed into the Pacific Ocean off Port Hueneme (wy-NEE'mee), California, killing all 88 people aboard.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, speaking at the Nevada Policy Research Institute, said he would not jeopardize security gains in Iraq by withdrawing U.S. forces too quickly. Pop star Britney Spears was taken from her home by ambulance to UCLA Medical Center, where she was held for a week for psychiatric evaluation.

Five years ago: Chuck Hagel emerged from his grueling confirmation grueling hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee with solid Democratic support for his nomination to be President Barack Obama's next defense secretary. A gas explosion caused three floors of the headquarters of Mexico's national oil company Pemex to collapse, killing 37 people. Caleb Moore, 25, an innovative freestyle snowmobile rider who'd been hurt in a crash at the Winter X Games in Colorado, died at a hospital in Grand Junction.

One year ago: President Donald Trump nominated Neil Gorsuch, a fast-rising conservative judge, to the Supreme Court. Singer and bassist John Wetton of the rock group Asia died in Bournemouth, Dorset, England at age 67.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Carol Channing is 97. Composer Philip Glass is 81. Former Interior Secretary James Watt is 80. Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands, the former queen regent, is 80. Actor Stuart Margolin is 78. Actress Jessica Walter is 77. Former U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., is 77. singer-musician Charlie Musselwhite is 74.

Answer to previous puzzle

Actor Glynn Turman is 72. Basebåll Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan is 71. Actor Jonathan Banks is 71. Singer-musician Harry Wayne Casey (KC and the Sunshine Band) is 67. Johnny Rock singer Rotten is 62. Actress Kelly Lynch is 59. Actor Anthony LaPaglia is 59. Singer-musician Lloyd Cole is 57. Actress Paulette

Braxton is 53. Rock musician Al Jaworski (Jesus Jones) is 52. Actress Minnie Driver is 48. Actress Portia de Rossi is 45. Actor-comedian Bobby Moynihan is 41. Actress Kerry Washington is 41. Bluegrass singer-musician Becky Buller is 39. Singer Justin Timberlake is 37. Actor Tyler Ritter is 33. Country singer Tyler

Hubbard (Florida Georgia Line) is 31. Folk-rock singer-musician Marcus Mumford (Mumford and Sons) is 31. Actor Joel Courtney is 22.

Thought for Today:

"The third-rate mind is only happy when it is thinking with the majority. The second-rate mind is only happy when it is thinking with the minority. The first-rate mind is only happy when it is thinking. A.A. Milne

British author

date in 1956).

(born in 1882, died this

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Measure of
- chess
- **14** Traveled on
- **15** Cyberauction
- 17 "Beware the
- 19 "I wanna do it!"
- 20 Where two feuders should
- **24** Early afternoon
- 25 Stamped delivery
- 27 Tire holder
- 29 Assistant
- 32 Caravan
- stopovers
- measure
- 38 "To boldly go,"
- for example

- 43 Sizes up
- 44 Probabilities
- 46 Part of TGIF
- **47** Auto's ID
- 48 Worry-free
- **50** Like father,
- 51 Don't just sit
- **54** Interstate, for instance

59 Audition for a

- carbs or protein
- **5** Daybreak 9 Defeated in

- site
- 16 Poet Dickinson
- of March"
- 18 Horse's hair
- be seated at a wedding
- 23 Trike rider
- 26 Rocket launch
- site

- **35** Gold purity
- 37 Could possibly
- 41 Maui memento
- 42 Narrow cuts
- state
- like
- there
- **58** Short skirts

- IN PIECES by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman
- part 60 Corn harvest
- 61 Some choir members
- **62** Leaf-gathering implement
- 63 Golden Fleece
- ship
- **64** Old
- (American flag)
- 65 Winter coaster
- 66 Explorer Ponce de

- around
- event

14

17

64

- 5 Insist on
- **DOWN** 1 Grain to be

- **2** Bull-riding
- 4 Butte relative

- 3 Highly skilled

- 6 Subside 7 Subside
- 8 Russian denial
- 9 Peach (dessert)
- 10 Earhart of aviation
- 11 30 seconds, for Final Jeopardy
- 12 Shade trees
- 13 Add color to 21 Cooks beef
- in an oven
- 22 Jordan's capital 26 Architect I.M.
- 27 Inflatable boats 28 Part of the eye
- 30 Brubeck of jazz 31 Examines closely
- capital

15

18

- 32 Scandinavian 33 Imitated

- www.stanxwords.com **34** Arrive at feetfirst
 - 35 Do needlework 36 Growing weary 39 Fibber's
 - confession 40 Light brown
 - 45 Rescuer 47 Rendered
 - invalid 49 Actress Spacek
 - 50 Tremble 51 In the know
 - 52 Ship's freight 53 Mike of boxing
 - 54 Herb in pickles 55 Makes a mistake
 - 56 Business transaction
 - 57 Make good as new
 - 58 Waiting-room
 - reading, for short 10 11 12 13

16

19 29 30 31 36 37

66

20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 32 33 34 35 38 40 39 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 50 52 53 49 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63

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65

Continued from Page 7

quarter, a lead it would never relinquish again.

Sweetwater got as close as 50-48 early in the fourth quarter but the Steers would answer back as Ibanez made another three, Cooley scored again Mikal Banks made free throws ,all the time Big Spring being patient, working the clock.

Cooley led a balanced Steer attack with 14 points and seven rebounds. Ibanez scored 11 and Clark and Banks each scored Banks and Nathaniel Lentz,

both juniors,came off the bench and sparked the Steers. Lentz jump started Big Spring

in the first quarter as he and

Nelson executed a nice alley-oop dunk.

Guards JL Solis and Tristan Morrow led Sweetwater with 14 and 12 points respectively. Mc-Coy had 11 points and eight rebounds.

BIG SPRING- Zephaniah Nelson 3-2-9; Kyler Seymore 1-0-2; Mikil Banks 2-3-9; John Ibanez 3-2-11; Jerimiah Cooley 6-2-14; Abel Clark 2-5-9; Nathaniel Letz 3-0-6; C.J. Harris 3-0-6; totals 23-14-66. SWEETWATER- Kobe Clark

Solis 3-6-14; Kiante McCoy 3-5-11; Ky Hoover 4-0-8; Tristan Morrow 3-3-12; Logan Weedin 2-2-7; totals 17-16-58. Big Spring - 15-09-26-16 - 66

1-0-2; Tristem Longeria 1-0-3; JL

Sweetwater -08-29-17-12 - 58 Records - Big Spring (5-21, 1-4) (9-13, 2-3).



Tony Claxton photo (tonyclaxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring point guard Zephaniah Nelson dives for a loose ball and a steal during the Steers' 66-58 home win over district rival Sweetwater on Tuesday, January 30, 2018.

LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 7

inside and Black made a free throw. Poe was a force for Sweetwater, scoring 15 points and getting

The loss offset a superb performance by Big Spring sophomore point guard Amber Martinez. Martinez got the Lady Steers on the right track with her passing and timely shooting.

In fact the Lady Steers offense ran well when

Martinez had the ball in her hands; when she didn't handle it, Big Spring had it problems. Martinez finished with 15 points and eight assists

Kayleigh Penny had a monster game for Big Spring also, scoring 18 points and grabbing 12 rebounds.

Post player Aissa Gonzales sparked Big Spring off the bench, going 4-for-8 from the field and 4-for-6 from the foul line, scoring 12 points. Big Spring 16-9 after one and 28-22 at the half.

it outscored Sweetwater 20-12 in the third quarter staking to its 14-point lead heading into the fourth.

BIG SPRING- Amber Martinez 4-5-15; Alexis Starr 2-1-5; Kayleigh Penny 8-3-19; Logan Terrazas 2-0-4; Aissa Cervantes 4-4-12; totals 20-12-54 54.

SWEETWATER - Amber Knox 4-3-12; Jessixa Poe 4-5-15; Shavie Green 6-2-14; Tavis Black 8-4-20; totals 21-13-58.

Big Spring 16-12-29-06 - 54 Sweetwater 09-13-12-24 - 58

Records- Big Spring (8-18, 0-7); Sweetwater (7-14,

JV- Sweetwater 35, Big Spring 34.



Planning a

Wedding Checklist

- Choose a Date
- Venue
- Registrars
- **Bridesmaids**
- Best man
- Wedding dress
- Suite hire
- **Photographer**
- Entertainment
- **Catering**
- **Florist**
- Transport
- Bridesmaid's attire

Hair and Beauty

- Wedding cake
- Decorations and favours
- Guest list

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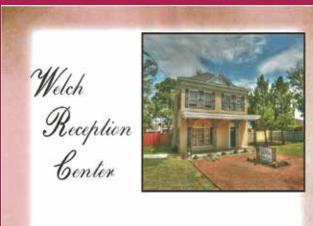
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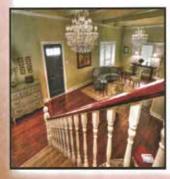


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Trump signs order to keep Guantanamo Bay prison open

By DEB RIECHMANN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has signed an executive order to keep open the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, marking a formal reversal of his predecessor's eight-year effort to shut it down

Trump made it clear during his campaign that he wanted Guantanamo to remain open and to "load it up with some bad dudes," but he has not yet sent a new detainee to the facility.

The order, which Trump signed Tuesday night just before delivering his first State of the Union address, says the U.S. maintains the option to detain additional enemy combatants at the detention center in Cuba when lawful and necessary to protect U.S. national security. It requires the defense secretary to recommend criteria for determining the fate of individuals captured by the United States in armed conflict, including sending them to Guantanamo.

"Terrorists who do things like place bombs in civilian hospitals are evil," Trump said. "When possible, we have no choice but to annihilate them. When necessary, we must be able to detain and question them. But we must be clear: Terrorists are not merely criminals. They are unlawful enemy combatants."

"In the past, we have foolishly released hundreds and hundreds of dangerous terrorists only to meet them again on the battlefield, including the ISIS leader, al-Baghdadi, who we captured, who we had, who we released," he said, referring to Islamic State group leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

The office of the Director of National Intelligence said in its most recent report on the subject that about 17 percent of the 728 detainees who have been released from Guantanamo are "confirmed" and 12 percent are "suspected" of re-engaging in militant activities.

But the vast majority of those re-

But the vast majority of those reengagements occurred with former prisoners who did not go through the security review that was set up under President Barack Obama. Trump's order says this review process would continue to be used to determine whether detainees should be held.

Practically, not much is expected to change with Trump's new order, said

Lee Wolosky, who was Obama's special envoy at the State Department for closing Guantanamo.

"But as a symbolic matter, it changes a great deal because the two presidents before him were trying to close Guantanamo because they recognized that it was a detriment to our national security," he said. "Symbolically, it reaffirms his interest in perpetrating a symbol that has greatly damaged the United States."

European allies, Muslim leaders and other critics have been vehemently opposed to how detainees have been held at Guantanamo for decades without charge.

"I have no doubt terrorist groups like ISIS will applaud Trump's an-

nouncement that it is now the formal policy of the United States to detain Muslims forever without charge in an offshore prison," said attorney J. Wells Dixon of the New York-based Center for Constitutional Rights.

He said militants will continue to use it to re-

cruit new members. "Keeping Guantanamo open is politically expedient but exceedingly stupid no matter how you look at it."

The detention center, which President George W. Bush opened after Sept. 11, 2001, reached a maximum population of about 680 in the summer of 2003. Bush transferred about 500 out before he left office. Obama transferred 197 detainees out, leaving 41, including five cleared for release.

Trump also asked Congress to make sure that in the fight against the Islamic State group and al-Qaida, the United States has necessary power to detain terror suspects "wherever we chase them down, wherever we find them."



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