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U.S. strikes Syria

Trump bravado gives way to solemn speech on Syria airstrikes



The Damascus sky lights up with surface-to-air missile fire as a U.S.-led attack targeted different parts of the Syrian capital early Saturday, April 14, 2018.

By **JILL COLVIN** and **ZEKE MILLER**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump strode directly, with

purpose, to the podium.

"My fellow Americans," he

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began, "a short time ago, I ordered the United States

Armed Forces to launch precision strikes on targets associated with the chemical weapons capabilities of Syrian dictator Bashar al-Assad."

Sending American troops into

harm's way is by definition the most "presidential" act a commander in chief can take. Still, the solemn announcement, delivered in one of the nation's most distinguished settings, was a notable moment of conformity for a president who has scoffed at the conventional.

The operation had been widely expected, the whole world seemingly anticipating action since the president's Wednesday morning tweet that missiles "will be coming, nice and new and 'smart!'"

But on Friday afternoon, nearly a week after the president had first promised a decision within 24 to 48 hours, the White House maintained that Trump hadn't yet settled on a course of action.

That didn't quell the anticipation that had been building for days. The likely window for an operation was well-known: nighttime in Syria, or the evening in Washington, seven hours behind.

The first inkling that something was up on came when the White House sent word to the cadre of reporters who continuously follow the president that they might be staying late Friday night. The early buzz: that Trump would be making a foray to his nearby hotel for dinner.

White House aides put on a determined show of normalcy. Some White House staffers were seen drinking and socializing on the balcony of the nearby Eisenhower Executive Office Building. Other aides were seen grabbing their bags and leaving, ostensibly for the weekend.

But as the sun set, it grew increasingly clear that something more than an off-campus dinner was afoot. Usually chatty aides were hushed, offices empty, doors closed.

Keith Kellogg, chief of staff to the

See **STRIKES**, Page 3A

3 wildfires rage across Howard County



Wreathed in smoke, a fire engine battles the wildfire on Ratliff Road Friday afternoon. The fire, one of three that struck Howard County Friday, consumed more than 400 acres, including a home and a barn.

By **ROGER CLINE**

Staff Writer

Three wildfires flared up in Howard County Friday; one in the Craig/Jeffrey/Ratliff roads area south of Big Spring, which burned more than 400 acres, including a home, a barn, and several outbuildings; the second, a grass fire in the Neill/Oasis roads area north of Big Spring, consumed about 250 acres, but destroyed no buildings; and the third, in the Sherrod Road area along Highway 350, sparked from a power pole in the area and was quickly contained.

The first fire, dubbed the "Craig Road Fire" by local authorities, began near Craig and Jeffrey roads around 1 p.m. Friday. By 8:30 p.m., Howard County Volunteer firefighters

reported the fire as "Fully contained and mopping up, hitting hot spots," in a statement to KBYG Radio.

"It looks like it started from the roadway, from South 87," said Howard County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tommy Sullivan. "It started in the bar ditch with the wind blowing from the southwest to the northeast. Then about an hour into the fire, the wind shifted out of the northeast blowing back. So we were chasing the fire in one direction, and it got a big head on it. Then the wind shift turned it around, which made it so big so quick."

Sullivan said that one home and a barn along Ratliff Road were destroyed by the blaze, as well as several outbuildings and some water wells.

"Early on in it, we evacuated those who were in imminent danger, which was

See **FIRES**, Page 3A

Checkmate!



Courtesy Photo

Above, Leila Franco, left, and Gabriella Carter display a chess piece as they explain the different pieces and their moves. The two 12-year-olds started a Chess Club at Big Spring Intermediate School. Below, Franco and Carter teach an eager club member the strategy of the game during their Chess Club meeting.



By **AMBER MANSFIELD**

Staff Writer

Starting a new club or organization requires dedication, action, and a passion for what

your club represents. That's exactly what two 12 year old girls Leila Franco and Gabriella Cater did, though, when

See **CHESS**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Robert E. "Bob" Wheeler



Robert E. "Bob" Wheeler, 86, of Big Spring died Wednesday, April 11, 2018, in Midland. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Monday, April 16, 2018, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring with Rev. Mark Lindsey, pastor of First Baptist Church officiating.

The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

He was born Aug. 8, 1931, in Tarzan, Texas, and married Dorothy Allen July 1, 1955, in Midland, Texas. She preceded him in death Nov. 15, 2017.

Bob was a lifelong resident of Howard County and was a member of Big Spring High School Class of 1949. He served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War as an aircraft mechanic at Kadena Air Force Base on the island of Okinawa. Following his service in the Air Force, Bob taught ballroom dancing before opening Big 3 Auto Salvage in 1960. He retired in 2008. Bob served on the board of the Ballroom Dance Society of Midland.

He was a member of First Baptist Church in Big Spring.

Survivors include three children, Carrie Claunch and husband, Chris, of San Antonio, Kyle Wheeler and wife, Terry, of Midland, and Beverly Warren and husband, Jay, of Santa Clarita, California; seven grandchildren, Chad Wheeler of Plymouth, Vermont, Elizabeth Dell'aquila and husband, Dominic, of Raleigh, North Carolina, Garrett Wheeler of Nacogdoches, Catherine Claunch of San Marcos, Caroline Claunch of Dallas, Jay Jay Warren and John John Warren both of Santa Clarita California; one brother, Alton D. Wheeler and wife, Willie, of Pasadena; one sister, Dorothy Downey and husband, Vonnice, of Baytown; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, Joe and Eva Cramer Wheeler; one sister, Ovita Wheeler; two brothers and two sisters-in-law, Joe Max Wheeler and wife, Norma, and Low Allen Wheeler and wife, Juanita; and two grandchildren, Joshua Wheeler and Grace Ann Warren.

The family suggests memorials to First Baptist Church, 705 W. Marcy Dr., Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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

Paid Obituary

Blain Rex Callison

It is with great sadness that the family of Blain Rex Callison announce his passing after a battle with Leukemia, on April 3, 2018, at the age of 56 years.

Blain will forever be remembered by son Matthew (Kay) Callison, Father Howard "Gene" Callison, both of Big Spring. Brother Randy (Elizabeth) Callison of Decatur, Illinois and by Sister-in-law Jan Hoover-Callison of Anna, Texas. Blain was predeceased by his brother Dirk Callison. Blain will also be remembered by his nephews and nieces, John (Alysia) Callison, Russ Callison, Elizabeth Leigh Callison, Katie Callison-Sensat (Zack) Sensat and numerous Aunts, cousins, and special friends.

Blain was born June 24, 1961, in San Bernardino, California, son of Howard "Gene" Callison and

Shirley Dee Preston-Callison.

Blain attended Big Spring High School and was employed at Wal-Mart for 23 years in various positions.

The family would like to thank all the people who helped Blain during his illness and when he was hospitalized in Phoenix. (You know who you are).

He was preceded in death by his mother Shirley; brother, Dirk; grandparents; several uncles and aunts.

There will be no Celebration of Life at this time, but the family ask that friends remember Blain in their own special way.

If you would like to make a donation in Blain's name, please make one to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society or donor's choice.

Paid Obituary

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **BRANDY ANN MARTINEZ**, 22, of 1907 S Main St., was arrested on warrants of theft of property less than \$100 shoplifting, and bail jumping/failure to appear.

• **DESIREE DOMINIQUE RUIZ**, 20, of 1710 S Austin St., was arrested on warrants of expired registration, failed to maintain financial responsibility, no driver's license, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 1700 block of S Aylesford St.

• **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the 3500 E I 20.

• **BURGLARY OF VEHICLE** was reported in the 600 W 17th St.

Take Note

• A Public Forum will held at the Big Spring Comanche Trail Amphitheater May 1, 2018. There will be a discussion of revamping the amphitheater, with hopes that upgrades will be made to the theatre while still maintaining the historical aspect of the theatre. If interested in being a cooperate sponsor to offer feed back be at the amphitheater at 6 p.m. May 1st.

• The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is hosting an Indexing Discovery Day open to both members and the community on April 29 at 11:10 a.m. to noon and 3:10 p.m. to 4 p.m. at their Abilene church building, located at 3325 N. 12th St free of charge and open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome. Both novice and expert family history researchers are invited to attend.

• Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, handles legal issues affecting Veterans, Retirees, and their family members. They will have clinics that provides volunteer attorneys that will provide free legal advice (up to 25 minutes depending on the issue). A pro bono attorney may be assigned to handle some cases that include: bankruptcy, consumer issues/contract, child support and custody, divorce, employment, foreclosure, housing, landlord/tenant, probate and guardianship, real estate, social security/SSI, Veterans benefits/issues, wills and estate planning. The Clinic dates are on May 24, Aug. 23, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at

the Northside Community Center on 110 N.E 8th St. Applicants must be financially eligible to obtain services. Please bring a copy of your DD215 and/or Veterans ID card. Appointments are required. For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Pete Fierro at 432-332-1207, ext. 4511.

• The Howard County Democrats meet the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 5:30 p.m. in the Howard College Library.

• The Howard County Fair Board thanks all those who are working on a square for the 2018 quilt. There are still a few squares left to be done; 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.

• Scholarship packets for Coahoma High School seniors are now available at the counselor's office. Thousands of dollars worth scholarships opportunities are available to Coahoma High School students. The deadline to turn in applications for some of the scholarships is fast approaching.

If students or parents have any questions or need help filling out any forms, please contact Chandra Brooks at 395-5000 or come by the high school office. Extra scholarship packets are avail-

able at front office. Please see Brooks at the high school office for a packet.

• 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 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 432-213-1221.

• 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.

Monroe Faubion,

Monroe Faubion, 76, of Big Spring died Friday, April 13, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Curtis Dale Becker,



Curtis Dale Becker, 56, of Stanton, died Monday, April 9, 2018, at his residence. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 14, 2018, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday, April 16, 2018, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Doug Shelley, pastor of East Side Baptist Church officiating. Burial with military

honors will be at 2 p.m. Monday at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Abilene.

Curtis was born March 17, 1962, in Big Spring, Texas, to Blanche McCluskey Becker and Jack E. Becker, Sr. Curtis grew up in Big Spring but had also lived in Martin and Midland counties as well. He served 33 years in the Army Reserve and was deployed to Afghanistan. He served 25 years in Law Enforcement starting in 1981 with the Stanton Police Department and then for the Big Spring Police Department. In 1984, he joined Texas Department of Public Safety and was Sergeant over Andrews, Big Spring and Ozona. In 1994, Curtis became a Texas Ranger, serving in Midland and Ozona. In recent years, he was a deputy for Midland County. Curtis was a Baptist.

Curtis is survived by one sister, Sharon Clark of Big Spring; seven nieces and nephews, Christi Becker, Courtney Dugan, Hillary Garza, Kimberly Nielsen, Stormy Burdell, James Clark and Randy Clark; 18 great nieces and nephews; two great great nieces and nephews and one brother-in-law: Steve Mathies.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Jack (Buddy) Becker, Jr. and Curtis's twin, Chris Becker; a sister, Carol Mathies and one brother-in-law: Nicky Clark.

Pallbearers will be James Wheeler, Mike Pearson, Stan Parker, Gilbert Barraza, Fred Schroyer and Dusty Choate.

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

Paid Obituary

Support Groups

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

• Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

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

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STRIKES

Continued from Page 1A

National Security Council, was spotted by a throng of reporters and hurried away, insisting he knew nothing.

Reporters were told to be prepared to move at 8:30 p.m. — destination unknown.

On another continent, Vice President Mike Pence unexpectedly departed from the kickoff of an international summit in Lima, Peru, his motorcade whisking him off to his hotel.

Pence had been tasked with informing congressional leaders about the airstrikes, according to Jarrod Agen, his

deputy chief of staff.

Pence spoke to House Speaker Paul Ryan, Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell and House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi before Trump's speech. Pence was unable to reach Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer before the speech but spoke with him later in the evening.

At about the same time, White House press secretary Sarah Sanders, who had made a show of leaving the building earlier in the day, reappeared. She led a small group of reporters into a hallway, where she announced, in hushed tones, that the president would be delivering an address to the nation, at 9:01:30 p.m. She urged re-

porters to keep the announcement quiet until the president began speaking, insisting the safety of American troops was at stake.

Reporters were then led into the muraled Diplomatic Reception Room on the ground floor of the Executive Mansion, where the presidential podium and teleprompter were ready.

Trump laid out a joint operation with the forces of France and the U.K. that was meant as retribution for an attack that he said killed dozens, putting the blame squarely on Syrian President Bashar Assad.

"The evil and the despicable attack left mothers and fathers, infants and children,

thrashing in pain and gasping for air," said the president, who had watched images of the horror play out on cable television. "These are not the actions of a man, they are crimes of a monster."

While Trump's decision drew criticism from some corners, his public address stood in stark contrast to the often haphazard, misspelled tweets and off-the-cuff statements that are so common in his presidency. And his stern warning to Russia set aside — at least temporarily — Trump's unwillingness to call out Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"Russia," Trump said, "must decide if it will continue down this dark path, or if it

will join with civilized nations as a force for stability and peace."

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Gene Henderson, 85, of Big Spring, died Friday, April 6, 2018, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday, April 12, 2018, at Holder-Wells Funeral Home in Moss Point, Mississippi. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday, April 13, 2018, at Holder-Wells Chapel. Burial will be in Jackson County Memorial Park.

Josefina "Pina" Hernandez, 75, died Sunday, April 8, 2018, in Plainview. Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Robert James (Jim) Sanders, 72, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Dora Cantu Bermea, 74, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

FIRES

Continued from Page 1A

probably about 25 different households," Sullivan added. "They were allowed to come back in about 8 o'clock to get to their houses."

Sullivan said the U.S. Forest Service helped out, sending five fire engines to assist with battling the fire, as well as the Big Spring Fire Department.

The Forest Service also sent three bulldozers; which, combined with two additional bulldozers contributed locally, were used to battle the Neill Road fire, which flared up around 3 p.m.

"It was out probably, I'd say, 6, 6:30, something like that," Sullivan said, adding that the Neill Road fire didn't claim any buildings.

The Sherrod Road fire also started about 3 p.m., and was out by about 5:30 p.m., said Sullivan.

"That one took two Howard County units," Sullivan said. "No injuries there. It was an electric pole that caused that one."

Firefighters were finally able to head home shortly before midnight Friday, Sullivan said.

"At Craig Road, all the units were released about 11:30," he said, adding that between 8 and 11:30 p.m., firefighters were busy mopping up hot spots associated

with the fire to prevent re-ignition.

The Fire Chief issued a warning to homeowners.

"I want to get out to them to be sure that they scalp all the grass around their house," he said, adding that the house that was lost was surrounded by flammable vegetation. "The fire just ran right up to the house, up the side of the house, and into the attic. You don't see that fire into the house until it's completely engulfed."

Howard County remains under a county-wide burn ban until at least July 4.

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

CHESS

Continued from Page 1A

They both decided they wanted to share their love of chess with others students at Big Spring Intermediate School by starting the Intermediate's first Chess Club.

Leila and Gabriella have been playing chess for years when they thought that others might enjoy the game as much as they did, but may not know how to play chess. In the modern day era where technology is at the hands of almost every child today, board games have taken a backseat in the entertainment department.

"I've always thought that chess was really fun, and Leila and I wanted to create this club to teach the others students that chess can be fun too," said Gabriella. "We now have nine people including Leila and myself in the chess club."

The two girls took action and the necessary steps to create this club and make it something fun and new way to bond with friends. The club has weekly meetings where the two young ladies teach the club members the dynamics of the game.

"Both girls just take charge running the club, teaching and helping the other members," said Mr. Davis the choir teacher and sponsor of the chess club. "I don't have to do anything, they are really inspired to run and do this club. It takes a certain kind of person to inspire others, to be patient, and want to spread a positive love with others."

"It is an amazing thing what Leila and Gabriella are doing. It shows others that they can do anything they set their mind to, and they are leading a great path for others to follow," said Rebecca Carter, Gabriella's mom. "This gives students a chance to participate in

something new and challenging, yet fun at the same time, and a great way for the kids to work together."

The other chess club members are Gabriella's brother, Docker Carter; Jaxon Zaccardo; Ana Villagrana; Olivia Davidson; Jacob Smith; Hailey Harrington; and Samuel Deleon.

"This chess club means a lot to me because I meet new people," said Gabriella. "And now I get to teach people something I enjoy."

Mahatma Gandhi, was an Indian activist once said, "Action expresses priorities." Leila and Gabriella's actions show they have

great priorities.

"I am very proud of all the kids and know that this will teach them good teamwork and leadership that will pave the way to their future. It makes me happy that my kids are interested in participating in new things together. This is new for Docker, and many others and these two girls have taken them all under their wings. You never know until you try. So proud of them all."

High fashion



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Members of Big Spring High School's Advanced Fashion Design class showed off their projects at the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club's Friday meeting. Shown here, starting at top, left to right, are Ariana Gonzales, Alexis Gruis, and Travis Johnson; second row, Esther Galvan; third row, Wanda Groebel, Julia Smith, and Aryssa Garcia; fourth row, Alanna Salinas, fashion design teacher Mrs. Vonnie Anderson, and Fe Perez; fifth row, Payton Beauchamp and Jordan Wommack; sixth row, Bobbie Rivera and Jasmine Leos.

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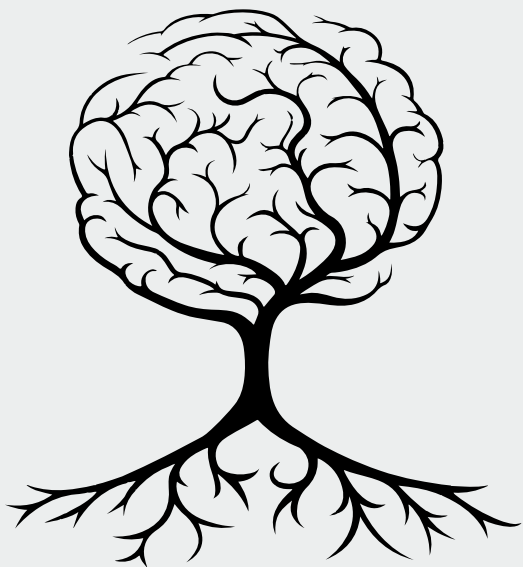
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Opinion

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT



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

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- Form letters, letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

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The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
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DAILY PRAYER

Dear Lord, strengthen our faith,
remove distracting thoughts, fill our
hearts with Your joy and love. Amen.

San Jacinto Battle Re-Enacted

On April 21st, 1836, Sam Houston's army defeated Santa Anna's army at the battle of San Jacinto, giving Texas its independence from Mexico.

"Santa Anna and his men were mostly sleeping," says Boyd Harris, lead interpreter at the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site near Houston. "They had spent the entire night before building fortifications to protect their camp and had worked through the next day. Around 3 o'clock in the afternoon Santa Anna ordered his men to stand down, so they were all lying down taking a siesta. Unfortunately for them that's also the time Sam Houston decided he wanted to attack."

More than 600 Mexican soldiers were killed. Many more were wounded. Only nine Texans perished. The Texans were anxious to avenge the massacres that occurred at the Alamo and Goliad.

The battleground is 20 miles east of downtown Houston near the town of La Porte. It is on 1,200 acres and is the original site of the Texas encampment during

the battle. The park is a National Historic Landmark. Every April 21st it's the site of a re-enactment of the famous battle. Usually about 15,000 people attend.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

"April 21st is on Saturday this year, so we'll have a festival and a re-enactment that day from 10 AM until 5 PM. The main battle re-enactment will happen at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and we invite everybody to come out and see it. If you want to come out for the festival I recommend getting there early because parking fills up fast."

Along with the re-enactment, historians tell of events leading up to the battle.

"Nine hundred and thirty Texan soldiers were in the Texas Army. The Mexican Army had about 1,200 soldiers. It's one of the shortest battles in history, lasting only about 18 minutes. Our re-enactment has roughly about a hundred plus re-enactors."

There is a lot of history at the site.



Give Smiles a Try

Songs are often slathered in over-simplification. We've generally gone along with the musical proclamation that our smiles trigger the rest of the world to smile with us.

Wait a minute. The world ignores, remaining ambivalent, whether we're smiling or not.

This is not to say there is not value in smiles; they are worthwhile if they do nothing more than brighten a few lives in our own little world. Even slight grins help, and they buy a few seconds while we're trying to think what to say next.

Such instruction is helpful to grandparents. A current example is provided by Dr. Lanny Hall, Chancellor of Hardin-Simmons University. A while back, he told his 12-year-old granddaughter a joke that would result in her aisle-rolling.

The chiseled-in-stone expression on Ada McCutchen's face didn't change, however. Dr. Hall asked if she thought it was funny. Bad idea! Her blank face "spoke" boldly, clearly indicating a "zero" response on her applause meter. He should have known it was an in-your-face response, better than pie-in-the-face, but just barely.

"You know what I think is funny, Poppy? That you think you're funny..."

Surely there are throngs of grandparents who've "been there, done that."

I cringed a couple of years ago when my then nine-year-old granddaughter asked my age.

"78," I answered.

"Did you start at one?" she wanted to know.

Ordinary people often reach pinnacles of success by clinging always to optimism, even when dealt bad hands.

I never knew a more consistent optimist and effective pastor than the late Rev. Miller Robinson, a beloved West Texas pastor who "forged on" despite the constant pain of rheumatoid arthritis during most of his adult life.

Doctors at Temple's Scott and White Hospital diagnosed the terrible disease when he was in his late 20s. "I'm afraid you've got the 'honky-tonk' disease," one doctor said. "You'll wake up every morning with pain in a different joint."

Who knows? Robinson may have "reconstructed" the wording slightly. Whatever, he enjoyed telling the story in sermons and at banquet lecterns. He was blessed with both "wit and wisdom." His subtle smile always added to his upbeat nature.

He was never visibly preoccupied with his own health issues. Instead, Robinson was all about "thee and thine," and never "me and mine."

The pastor had a clever response when grateful folks at Snyder's Colonial Hill Baptist Church gave him and wife Sandra the parsonage during his 32-year ministry there. He lamented that he had little time to properly thank them. "I have to hurry on down to the courthouse to make sure the home isn't valued too

"We do programs on history, sure. But there are all kinds of things to do here. We have walking tours, riding tours; we have fishing and birding programs. The Battleship Texas is nearby in its own state park. We work with those folks over there and they give tours of the battleship as well as other programs."

The impressive San Jacinto monument is near the battlefield.

"The San Jacinto museum of history operates inside the monument. Visitors can watch a 35-minute film. There's an elevator that takes you to the top of the monument. Construction on it began in 1936 to celebrate the Texas Centennial. It was completed in 1939. The Works Progress Administration provided workers. This was during the depression years, but money poured in. The Texas Centennial was a big celebration all across the state. The monument is over 570 feet, 12 feet taller than the Washington Monument. It is the tallest standing column in the world. It was built to honor the soldiers who defeated Santa Anna."

high on the tax rolls," he said.

Part of the appeal of southern gospel quartets is their apparent happiness, despite their inescapable challenge of travelling long distances between concerts. They, too, are augmented by laughter, smiles and funny stories between songs.

They had a twin-bill of quartets a while back in Cleburne. On stage were The Blackwood Brothers, now "at it" for 84 years, and The Inspirational, a family that started back in the 1950s.

"In the early going, we were travelling in vans while the 'higher rollers' were in fancy big rigs," said Bob Wills, long identified with The Inspirational.

They learned that a bus would be offered at an auction.

It was a "junkie," but better than their old vans. The Inspirational made a modest bid. It was the only one, so the auctioneer took it off the block, moving on to other items. Wills, noticing the bus's diesel engine was left running, feared this could cause great damage. So, he turned off the diesel switch.

As the group was leaving, the auctioneer invited the men to return. "The old engine has stopped and it won't start. If you guys want the old bus, you can have it for free." They did, and it served them for several years.

Dr. Newbury is a former educator who still "commits" speeches round about. Comments/inquiries to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com. Twitter: @donnewbury; Facebook, don newbury.

Stevie Ray Vaughan's 1951 Fender for sale at Dallas auction

DALLAS (AP) — The electric guitar that blues legend Stevie Ray Vaughan used in his first studio recording and early performances is expected to sell for about \$400,000 at auction in his hometown of Dallas.

Heritage Auctions will offer the 1951 Fender guitar Sunday. Vaughan biographer Craig Hopkins says the guitar has "considerable historical significance," noting Vaughan "pretty much learned his craft on" the guitar.

Hopkins said Friday that the instrument was Vaughan's first professional-grade guitar. It was a gift from his brother Jimmie Vaughan in the late 1960s. "Jimbo" is carved on the back.

Hopkins says Stevie Ray Vaughan, who traded the guitar away in 1971, mentioned in a 1989 interview how much he'd like to have it back.

Vaughan died in a 1990 helicopter crash. He was 35.

AP photo

This undated photo (right) provided by Heritage Auctions shows an electric guitar Stevie Ray Vaughan was given as a youth by his brother.



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Texas OKs Mexican-American studies course

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas Board of Education has approved creating statewide academic standards for a Mexican-American studies high school course, but Republicans insisted on calling it "ethnic studies" over the tearful objections of a Democratic member.

Friday's vote creates an elective called "Ethnic Studies: An Overview of Americans of Mexican Descent" in a state that was once part of Mexico and where the majority of public school students are Hispanic.

Students, teachers and academics argue that statewide standards will promote more teaching of Mexican-American studies. Board members agreed, but some said using the phrase "Mexican-American studies" excludes other ethnicities.

San Antonio Democrat Marisa Perez-Diaz fought tears as she argued unsuccessfully for the Mexican-American studies name.

The board's 10 Republicans and five Democrats previously refused to create a Mexican-American Studies course. Some school districts devised their own.

Texas may see tornadoes to the East, more wildfires in West

DALLAS (AP) — The National Weather Service is warning of tornadoes, large hail and damaging winds for eastern portions of Texas as emergency crews in the western part of the state battle wildfires amid forecasts of extreme fire danger.

The NWS predicts severe weather beginning Friday afternoon for an area extending from eastern Texas up through the Midwest and into Michigan.

The storm system will drive down temperatures for the start of the weekend.

Meanwhile, the Texas A&M Forest Service says an extreme fire danger exists Friday for much of West Texas. The agency says several wildfires have been reported in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

High winds are kicking up clouds of dust and hampering firefighting efforts.

An evacuation had been ordered at one point Thursday in Hutchinson County in the Texas Panhandle.

Texas church questioned over donations after shooting

S U T H E R L A N D SPRINGS, Texas (AP) — Donors, survivors and victims' families are questioning how a South Texas church is spending millions of dollars of donations made since a gunman killed more than two dozen worshippers in November.

mation grew after the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, near San Antonio, announced plans for a new \$3 million sanctuary last month.

Church leaders have said they're working to distribute the thousands of donations from around the world. They insist they aren't using victim's relief

funds to pay for the new church.

"This has gotten way out of hand — way out of hand," said Lisa McNulty, 54, whose daughter was among those killed by gunman Devin P. Kelley on Nov. 5, 2017. McNulty said she hasn't received

See **CHURCH**, Page 6A

SNAPSHOTS

By: Dan Holt's Daughter



Bookworm

Being a curious child, she was hungry for answers to her endless whys? And hows? She viewed school as an infinite resource. She liked all of her teachers. One teacher, in particular, Mrs. Gladys Archer, made the greatest impact on her young life. Mrs. Archer was very innovative in her teaching techniques using art and film to stimulate the young minds who were placed in her care. She made learning a very enriching experience, in a word FUN.

This young student did not know there were books other than school books. That all changed when Mrs. Archer announced that starting the following Monday, and every day after lunch, she would read one chapter of Old Yeller to the class.

From page one, the fourth grader was completely engaged. She was captivated by the story of that mangy yeller dog and the pioneer family who lived in the Texas Hill Country. That story took her to the heights of joy and to the depths of sorrow bringing her to tears. It was all just too wonderful.

More importantly, this experience opened up a whole new world to be explored. From that time on each time she opened a book, a window opened wide. Instantly she would be transported in a crystal like sphere that floated on waves of light beams to places previously unexplored, providing fuel for her imagination.

Reading not only brought her pleasure and escape; it also brought her information about worlds outside her reality. Most happy, the little girl who lived next door, Mimi Stearns, received books as gifts on special occasions which she generously shared.

From then on, summers were no longer lonely or boring. Hours were spent in the make shift tent that she set up under her tree in the front yard. A stack of pillows and a large mason jar of fresh lemonade set the mood.

The first book she borrowed from Mimi was the family saga of the Gilbreth family entitled Cheaper By The Dozen, written by two of the 'dozen' children Frank and Ernestine Gilbreth Carey. How delightful it was to ride along in 'Fearless Carriage' as the family took road trips thru the country side on Sunday afternoons. She traveled vicariously through them as the family vacationed on Nantucket Island. (She made a promise to herself that one day she too would walk the beaches of the 'Faraway Island.') She could hardly wait for, joy of joys, a sequel: Bells On Their Toes. She dreaded turning to the last page that said: THE END.

Reading carried her to distant parts of the world where she experienced fascinating cultures that exposed her to new ideas. She was partial to stories that took place in times past. She was particularly drawn to 'real people', such as the life story of Lou Gehrig: Pride Of The Yankees.

His humility and courage made a strong impression on her. She recognized those same qualities in the men in her life whom she so loved and greatly admired; Daddy, Papa and Uncle Carl. In fact; it was Uncle Carl who gave her the very first book she ever owned; a 1940 edition of A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens. "It was the best of times; It was the worst of times.....It was the spring of hope; It was the winter of despair."

The second book she ever owned was a Bible with her name printed on the front in gold letters. It was given to her when she attended Vacation Bible School at the little country church located near the Camp. It was neighbors who invited her to go with them. There was crafts and cookies and Kool-Aid. They sang songs. She learned how to pray. She learned three Bible verses by heart: John 3:16, the 23rd Psalm and the Lord's Prayer. This helped to form the foundation of her love of God. (Both of these books sit in places of honor on her book shelves to this very day.)

Thank you Mrs. Archer!

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Texas gains 3 rigs as US rig count rises to 1,008

HOUSTON (AP) — The number of rigs exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. increased by five this week to 1,008.

At this time a year ago there were 847 active rigs.

Houston oilfield services company Baker Hughes reported Friday that 815 rigs drilled for oil this week and 192 for gas. One was listed as miscellaneous.

Among major oil-

and gas-producing states, Texas added three rigs, Oklahoma gained two while Colorado, Louisiana and Ohio each added one.

Kansas, New Mexico and West Virginia each lost one rig.

Alaska, Arkansas, California, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Utah and Wyoming were unchanged.

The U.S. rig count peaked at 4,530 in 1981. It bottomed out in May of 2016 at 404.

CHURCH

Continued from Page 5A

donations made to the church for her family.

"There's some greed going on, and it's wrong," she said.

First Baptist is paying for certain victims' expenses with proof of need. But some victims have said that they wish the process for applying for the funds was easier to navigate.

Teacher Kati Wall lost her parents in the shooting. She said First Baptist temporarily covered the salary she lost when she took a leave from work, but it took months to contact the church. She also had to prove she couldn't get the money elsewhere, she said.

"The process is the thing that really bothers me," Wall said. "What if you need help right now?"

Mike Ritch raised nearly \$100,000 for victims, but has since cut ties with the church. He's asking for more transparency about where the money is going.

"I won't be doing anything to help this church in the future," said Ritch. "Not after the way I've seen their leadership treat others from the community."

It's unclear how much First Baptist has received in the six months since the massacre, but a Dallas Morning News analysis confirmed more than \$3 million from online funds and individual and corporate donors. The total doesn't include the church's victims fund, money raised by supermarket chain H-E-B and possibly dozens of private relief accounts.

The church declined to report fundraising totals because its restoration committee hasn't counted it all yet, according to Pat Dziuk, head of the committee.

First Baptist also won't have to disclose details of the funds to the IRS, according to tax experts.

"There are going to be some people who are not going to be satisfied no matter what," said Dziuk. "God bless them. I know they're hurting and I'm sorry, but we're not going to make everyone happy."

Weekly Oil Report

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Endeavor Energy Resources, L.P.
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Midland, TX 79701-0000
Jacob Holloman, Agent
(432) 683-4391

West Texas Gas, Inc.
211 N. Colorado St.
Midland, TX 79701-0000
Phone #: NA

CrownQuest Operating, LLC
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Midland, TX 79710-0000
Ann Ritchie, Agent
(432) 684-6381

Surge Operating, LLC
7850 N. Sam Houston Pkwy West
Suite 300
Houston, TX 77064-0000
Gayle Foord, Regulatory Analyst
(832) 333-2332

See OIL, Page 7A

#4LS Lilly "49" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39557
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
14.40 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-593, Section 49, Block A, Bauer & Cockrell survey
Total Depth: 8865 feet
Latitude 032.224478, Longitude -101.402720. Datum: NAD 27
1079' FWL, 270' FNL of 640.04-acre lease
1565' FEL, 270' FNL of the survey

#4WA Lilly "49" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39558
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
14.40 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-593, Section 49, Block A, Bauer & Cockrell survey
Total Depth: 9175 feet
Latitude 032.224486, Longitude -101.402686. Datum: NAD 27
1109' FWL, 270' FNL of 640.04-acre lease
1535' FEL, 270' FNL of the survey

#3LS Lilly "49" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39559
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
14.40 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-593, Section 49, Block A, Bauer & Cockrell survey
Total Depth: 8865 feet
Latitude 032.224494, Longitude -101.402652. Datum: NAD 27
1139' FWL, 270' FNL of 640.04-acre lease
1505' FEL, 270' FNL of the survey

#3WA Lilly "49" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39560
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
14.40 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-593, Section 49, Block A, Bauer & Cockrell survey
Total Depth: 9175 feet
Latitude 032.224502, Longitude -101.402619. Datum: NAD 27
1169' FWL, 270' FNL of 640.04-acre lease
1475' FEL, 270' FNL of the survey
Rule 38 Exception

#1 Quinn "1", re-completion, El: NA, API #42-227-34364
Moore (Strawn 9500') Field
9 miles southwest of Big Spring
A-413, Section 21, Block 34, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,170 feet
Latitude 032.093953, Longitude -101.375350, Datum: NAD 83
994' FNL, 1501' FWL of 600-acre lease
994' FNL, 1501' FWL of the survey
Rule 37 Exception

#01 Highway 821, drill, El: NA, API #42-227-39565
Wildcat Field (cathodic protection well)
6.43 miles southwest of Coahoma
A-260, Section 27, Block 30, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 400 feet
Latitude 032.240333, Longitude -101.218472. Datum: WGS 84
15' FNWL, 130' FSWL of 1-acre lease
15' FNWL, 130' FSWL of the survey
SWR 36 (H2S)

#3AA Muhly "B 1612", drill horizontal, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-38910
8.32 miles northwest of Big Spring
A-391, Section 21, Block 34, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9000 feet
Latitude 032.151713, Longitude -101.365555. Datum: NAD 83
970' FNL, 1011' FEL of 320-acre lease
970' FNL, 1011' FEL of the survey
Rule 37 Exception

#5AH Old Tom Unit "B 21-28", drill horizontal, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39561
12.54 miles northwest of Big Spring
A-273, Section 21, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
Latitude 032.432400, Longitude -101.496544. Datum: NAD 27
418' FNL, 279' FWL of 613.33-acre lease
941' FNL, 2379' FEL of the survey

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Trump vows to back law to protect marijuana industry



AP photo

In this Jan. 22, 2018 file photo, Sen. Cory Gardner, R-Colo., left, speaks to the media after attending a meeting with a bipartisan group of senators on day three of the government shutdown on Capitol Hill in Washington. Gardner announced Friday, April 13, 2018, that President Trump has promised to support legislation protecting the marijuana industry in states that have legalized the drug, removing a threat placed by the president's own attorney general just three months ago.

DENVER (AP) — President Donald Trump has promised to support legislation protecting the marijuana industry in states that have legalized the drug, a move that could lift a threat to the industry made by the U.S. attorney general just three months ago.

Republican Sen. Cory Gardner of Colorado said Friday that Trump made the pledge to him in a Wednesday night conversation.

It marked the latest flip by the president who pledged while he was campaigning to respect states that legalized marijuana but also

criticized legalization and implied it should be stopped.

Gardner has been pushing to reverse a decision made by Attorney General Jeff Sessions in January that removed prohibitions that kept federal prosecutors from pursuing cases against people who were following pot laws in states such as Colorado that have legalized the drug.

Marijuana has been fully legalized in eight states, and 24 states allow some form of marijuana use.

"President Trump has

See **LAW**, Page 8A

OIL

Continued from 6A

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See **OIL**, Page 8A

#1LS Tree Frog "47" East Unit, drill horizontal, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39563
17.90 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-511, Section 47, Block 34, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9035 feet
Latitude 032.264359, Longitude -101.405100. Datum: NAD 27
2394' FEL, 2429' FSL of 325.5-acre lease
2394' FEL, 2429' FSL of the survey

#1WA Tree Frog "47" East Unit, drill horizontal, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39564
17.90 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-511, Section 47, Block 34, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9340 feet
Latitude 032.264366, Longitude -101.405067. Datum: NAD 27
2364' FEL, 2429' FSL of 325.5-acre lease
2364' FEL, 2429' FSL of the survey

#1D Tubb SWD, drill, El: NA, API #42-227-39562
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
2.49 miles southeast of Elbow
A-376, Section 37, Block 33, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 11,600 feet
Latitude 032.085531, Longitude -101.281855. Datum: NAD 83
475' FWL, 3231' FSL of 3,720-acre lease
475' FWL, 2050' FNL of the survey

#7LS Bullfrog "47" North "A" Unit, drill horizontal, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39566
17.90 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-511, Section 47, Block 34, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9035 feet
Latitude 032.264374, Longitude -101.405033. Datum: NAD 27
2334' FEL, 2429' FSL of 245.17-acre lease
2334' FEL, 2429' FSL of the survey

#7WA Bullfrog "47" North "A" Unit, drill horizontal, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39567
17.90 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-511, Section 47, Block 34, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9340 feet
Latitude 032.264382, Longitude -101.404999. Datum: NAD 27
2304' FEL, 2429' FSL of 245.17-acre lease
2304' FEL, 2429' FSL of the survey
Rule 38 Exception

#1 Shaw Farms Unit, re-completion, API #42-227-36236
Hill Ranch (Mississippian) Field, El: NA
2.50 miles northwest of Knott
A-1376, Section 10, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth 10,495 feet
Latitude 032.413850, Longitude -101.681659. Datum: NAD 27
1980' FSL, 467' FEL of 480-acre lease
1980' FSL, 467' FEL of the survey

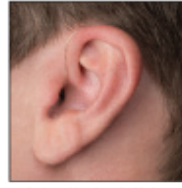
#2 Shaw Farms Unit, re-completion, API #42-227-36261
Hill Ranch (Mississippian) Field, El: NA
2.50 miles northwest of Knott
A-1376, Section 10, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth 10,510 feet
Latitude 032.409950, Longitude -101.680784. Datum: NAD 83
467' FSL, 467' FEL of 480-acre lease
467' FSL, 467' FEL of the survey

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New law used to keep shooting plot suspect from getting gun

RUTLAND, Vt. (AP) — A day after Vermont's governor signed a package of gun control measures, one of the new laws was used to keep a school shooting plot suspect from possessing dangerous weapons.

A superior court judge signed an extreme risk protection order Thursday saying Jack Sawyer, 18, poses an extreme risk of physical harm to himself and others.

Republican Gov. Phil Scott said he changed his stance on gun restrictions after reading the police affidavit in the Sawyer case. He signed bills Wednesday that raise the age to buy firearms, ban high-capacity magazines and make it easier to take guns from people who pose a threat.

Prosecutors say Sawyer, who kept a diary called "Journal of an Active Shooter," made detailed plans for a shooting at Fair Haven Union High School in which his goal was to kill more people than in any other school shooting. Republican Gov. Phil Scott said he changed his stance on gun restrictions after reading the affidavit in the Sawyer case.

Now some residents are on edge and a school is boosting security after the state Supreme Court ruled that Sawyer should be granted bail.

The court ruled Wednesday that Sawyer did not act on his plan and prosecutors did not have enough evidence to justify holding him without bail. He has pleaded not guilty to attempted aggravated murder and other charges and is being held without bail. No bail hearing has been scheduled.

LAW

Continued from Page 7A

assured me that he will support a federalism-based legislative solution to fix this states' rights issue once and for all," Gardner said in a statement.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Gardner's account was accurate and the president supported states' rights in the matter.

Gardner hopes to introduce bipartisan legislation keeping the federal government from interfering in state marijuana markets.

Marijuana legalization advocates were ebullient.

"We may now be seeing the light at the end of the tunnel," said Mason Tvert, who spearheaded the 2012 ballot measure legalizing recreational marijuana in Colorado. "This is one more step toward ending the irrational policy of marijuana prohibition, not only in Colorado but throughout the country."

Other proponents of legalization were wary given the president's record of reversing positions and pledges of legislative support.

"This cannot be another episode of @realDonaldTrump telling somebody whatever they want to hear, only to change directions later on," U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon wrote on Twitter.

During his campaign, Trump said states should be able to chart their own course on marijuana.

"I'm a states person, it should be up to the states, absolutely," he told one television interviewer in Colorado in 2016.

However, at the Conservative Political Action Conference in 2015, Trump said he supported medical marijuana but called recreational "bad."

He singled out Colorado, the first state in the nation to allow recreational marijuana sales. "They've got a lot of problems going on right now in Colorado - some big problems," Trump told the crowd.

When he selected Sessions, a former federal prosecutor and U.S. senator from Alabama, as his attorney general, marijuana supporters girded themselves for a crackdown. But Gardner said Sessions had promised him he'd do nothing to interfere with Colorado's robust marijuana market.

Gardner said he was blindsided when Sessions made his announcement in January regarding pot prosecutions.

In retaliation, Gardner used his power as a senator to prevent consideration of any nominees for the Department of Justice — an extraordinary step for a senator to use against an administration run by another member of his party.

Some of Gardner's fellow GOP senators groused at the impact of the hold, and Gardner allowed some nominees to proceed in a "good-faith" gesture last month. On Friday, he said he was fully releasing his holds on Department of Justice nominations.

The action came amid widespread speculation that Trump will remove Justice officials overseeing the Russia investigation. Replacements of any of those officials would require new nominations.

Gardner and the Department of Justice have been in discussions for months to get the holds lifted. Gardner has met with Sessions and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, the official overseeing the Russia probe who has been the target of Trump's ire.

Legislation to protect states where marijuana is legal is still being drafted.

It may be modeled on a 2014 budget amendment that prevented the Department of Justice from spending money to enforce federal laws against marijuana in states that legalized the drug and were following all applicable state laws.

Gardner's office is hopeful of getting enough bipartisan support for the bill to pass the GOP-controlled Congress — something the president's backing would aid.

OIL

Continued from 7A

Endeavor Energy Resources, L.P. #4 Shaw Farms Unit, re-completion, API #42-227-36390
110 N. Marienfeld St., Suite 200 Hill Ranch (Mississippian) Field, El: NA
Midland, TX 79701-0000 2.60 miles northwest of Knott
Jacob Holloman, Agent A-1376, Section 10, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
(432) 683-4391 Total Depth 10,500 feet
Latitude 032.408866, Longitude -101.685517. Datum: NAD 83
467' FSL, 1980' FEL of 480-acre lease
467' FSL, 1980' FEL of the survey

Surge Operating, LLC #1SH Sledge Unit "06-07", drill horizontal, API #42-227-39095
227-39095 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
117850 N. Sam Houston Pkwy West 14.90 miles northwest of Big Spring
Suite 300 A-1067, Section 6, Block 32, T&P RR Co. survey
Houston, TX 77064-0000 Total Depth: 9000 feet
Colleen Red, Regulatory Manager Latitude 032.458613, Longitude -101.548579. Datum:
(832) 333-2388 2558' FNL, 365' FWL of 742.92-acre lease
NAD 27 2558' FNL, 365' FWL of the survey

Sabalo Operating, LLC #1AH TCB "39-34", drill horizontal, API #42-227-39503
P.O. Box 2907 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
Corpus Christi, TX 78403-0000 4.28 miles southeast of Vealmoor
Shelly Carrigan, Reg. Coordinator A-1357, Section 46, Block 32, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
(361) 888-7708, Ext. 6015 Total Depth: 9000 feet
Latitude 032.490594, Longitude -101.505378. Datum: NAD 27
337' FNL, 388' FWL of 475.73-acre lease
337' FNL, 388' FWL of the survey
Rule 37 Exception

Scurry County

Occidental Permian, Ltd. #607A Cogdell Canyon Reef Unit, drill directional, El: NA
P.O. Box 4294 Cogdell (Area) Field, API #42-415-35393
Houston, TX 77210-0000 14.60 miles north of Snyder
Nipal Holland, Analyst A-685, Section 651, Block 97, H&TC RR Co. survey
(713) 497-2052 Total Depth: 7100 feet
Latitude 032.570436, Longitude -100.530848. Datum: NAD 27
10,073' FNL, 7805' FWL of 15,171.6-acre lease
2226' FNL, 195' FWL of the survey
SWR 36 (H2S)

Occidental Permian, Ltd. #6100A Cogdell Canyon Reef Unit, drill directional, El: NA
P.O. Box 4294 Cogdell (Area) Field, API #42-415-35392
Houston, TX 77210-0000 13 miles north of Snyder
Nipal Holland, Analyst A-2054, Section 563, Block 97, H&TC RR Co. survey
(713) 497-2052 Total Depth: 7450 feet
Latitude 032.554011, Longitude -100.540434. Datum: NAD 27
7012' FEL, 13,052' FSL of 15,171.6-acre lease
953' FWL, 240' FNL of the survey
SWR 36 (H2S)

Kinder Morgan Production Co., LLC #155-11 SACROC Unit, re-completion, API #42-415-33922
6 Desta Drive, Suite 6000 Kelly-Snyder Field, El: NA
Midland, TX 79705-0000 5.65 miles northwest of Snyder
Lauren Flowers, Agent A-2511, Section 292, Block 97, H&TC RR Co. survey
(432) 688-2338 Total Depth: 7500 feet
X=923725, Y=415006. Datum: NAD 27
16,258' FNL, 14,287' FWL of 49,860-acre lease
898' FSL, 1810' FEL of the survey
SWR 36 (H2S)

Kinder Morgan Production Co., LLC #321-3A SACROC Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-415-35383
6 Desta Drive, Suite 6000 Kelly-Snyder Field, El: NA
Midland, TX 79705-0000 8.61 miles southwest of Snyder
Lauren Flowers, Regulator Analyst A-2205, Section 195, Block 97, H&TC RR Co. survey
(432) 688-2338 Total Depth: 7800 feet
X=904491, Y=391335. Datum: NAD 27
1793' FWL, 7443' FSL of 49,860-acre lease
1793' FWL, 2115' FSL of the survey
SWR 36 (H2S)

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Bulldogs' extend win streak to three



for the Bulldogs. Coahoma notched two more runs from a single by Clark in the sixth and Z. Schneider's home run in the seventh to close out the match.

Holmes led the Bulldogs at the plate. He went 3-for-3 with 2 runs 1 RBI and 1 walk. Brooks went 3-for-5 and brought in 1 RBI. Pearson and Franklin collected 2 RBI each for the game.

Pearson was credited with the win for the Bulldogs. Franklin took over at the mound as relief in the fifth. He allowed 1 run over 0 hits, walked 1 and struck out 4. Holmes closed out the game for the Bulldogs in the seventh.

With the victory, Coahoma is now 5-2 in 5 3A district play.

Next, the Bulldogs will be at home when they take on the Stanton Buffaloes Tuesday. The JV game begins at 4:30 p.m. and the varsity starts at 7 p.m.

Braden Pearson, (4.0), Logan Franklin (2.0), Zach Holmes (1.0), Gaige Hill; C.J.Ugalde (3.0), J. Foss (3.0), O.J. Cano (1.0), Zach Owens, Pearson - W, Ugalde - L; 2B, Coahoma - Pearson, Bracy Bacon; 3B, Merkel - Zach Owens, J. Foss; HR, Coahoma - Zack Schneider.

Special to the Herald

The Coahoma varsity baseball team earned its third straight win Friday with an 11-3 blowout against the Merkel Badgers thanks to the heavy hitting by the Bulldog offense.

Zack Schneider blasted an inside the park home run on a fly ball to right field in the seventh inning to cap off a very profitable day for the Bulldog offense at the plate.

The Bulldog onslaught began in the first inning when Braden Pearson doubled to right field which allowed Zach Holmes to score the first run.

After the second inning, the Bulldogs led 5-1 thanks to the heavy hitting of Gaige Hill,

Seth Brooks, and Logan Franklin while Braden Pearson shut down the Badger offense at the plate. The Coahoma standout only allowed 1 run from 4 hits, walked 1 and struck out 3 over four innings to stifle the Badgers.

The games slowed down offensively for both sides during two scoreless innings thanks to the performance of the pitchers on the mound then the Bulldogs cemented the win with big 4-run fifth inning. Bracy Bacon led off for Coahoma belting a double on a line drive to left field allowing time for Hill to score. Heavy hitting by Jonathan Schneider, Zach Holmes, and Pearson led to the fruitful inning

Bulldogettes grab district win number seven



Special to the Herald

Kamri Kemper went 2-for-4 at the plate with 1 RBI to help lead the Bulldogettes to their seventh victory in Class 5 3A softball district play Friday night in Merkel. Coahoma won the game 3-1 against the Lady Badgers.

Pitchers from both sides controlled the game keeping hits down to 5 each for both teams. MaKynlee Overton went 7 innings on the mound for the Bulldogs allowing only 1 run from 5 hits, walking 1 and striking out 1. Brookelynn Casper was just as tough for the Lady Badgers. She allowed 3 runs from 5 hits, walked 3 and struck out 5 batters.

Merkel jumped out into a slight lead early in the game earning a run

in the first inning. Both teams remained scoreless through the next four innings then Coahoma came up with strong 2-run inning in the fifth. The Bulldogettes added one more to the scoreboard with a run in the seventh and then end the game with a three quick outs when it came to their turn on the field.

Coahoma is now 7-1 in district play and 15-2 for the season.

Next, the Bulldogettes will host the Stanton Lady Buffaloes for their last home game of district play on Tuesday. The varsity game begins at 5 p.m. and the JV game is set to start at 6:30 p.m.

2B, Coahoma - Kamri Kemper, Kenzi Canales, SB, Coahoma - Kamri Kemper, Jaydan Mann



Big Spring Titans take home the gold



Courtesy photo

With 10 teams in their age bracket, and only one winner, the Titans from Big Spring brought home the Gold. Teams from Clovis NM, Hobbs NM, Lubbock TX, Seminole TX, Denver City TX, Pecos TX, Crane TX, Canyon TX, and Fort Stockton TX. These young men went 4-1 and their bats were hot. The Titans scored 57 runs, the most in their age division. Front Row: McCray Jacobs, Kevin Kligora, Bryce Davis, Marcus Paredez, Devin Mier. Middle Row: Ian Galan, Billy Bailey, Eric Aguilar, Reece Harris, Isaiah Diaz, Christian Martinez. Back row Coaches: Robert Galan, Paul Diaz, Jason Martinez.

West Texas Oilers compete in Regional Qualifier



Courtesy photo

This past weekend, the 7th and 8th of October, our local 13U West Texas Oilers volleyball team competed in the Lubbock Regional Qualifier Tournament. These girls have worked very hard this spring, and truly came together in this (their last tournament of the season). Teams from all over West Texas visited Lubbock to enter this qualifier. The girls were seeded into the Bronze bracket after pool play on Saturday. They opened Sunday morning with a loss, but battled back to win the next 3 matches to win 1st place in the consolation bracket. Pictured left to right are: Madisyn Renteria, Heartley Best, Lora Otto, Coach Sandy Brooks, Kenna Best, Kendall Brooks, and Brooklyn Hyatt.

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Cowboys release Dez Bryant, look to catch salary-cap relief

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Pro Football Writer
FRISCO, Texas — Dez Bryant never lived up to the big contract he signed with the Dallas Cowboys when he was among the best receivers in the NFL.

If the franchise leader in touchdown catches is going to find his 2014 All-Pro form again, it will be with another team.

The Cowboys released Bryant on Friday, deciding salary-cap relief and declining production from one of their biggest stars outweighed the risk of him proving them wrong by becoming a Pro Bowl player again somewhere else.

And Bryant used Twitter to make it clear that he will be trying.

"If I didn't have my edge, I've got it now," he wrote among a flurry of tweets over two days, starting the day before a meeting where owner and general manager Jerry Jones told him he was being released. "It's very personal."

The 29-year-old Bryant signed a \$70 million, five-year deal after leading the NFL with 16 touchdowns in 2014. But he didn't have a 1,000-yard season in three years under the big contract, and just played all 16 games without a 100-yard day for the first

time in his eight-year career.

Bryant was owed \$12.5 million on each of the last two years of his deal, with a \$16.5 million salary cap hit both times. The release clears about \$8.5 million in cap space.

"This was not an easy decision," Jones said. "It was made based upon doing what we believe is in the best interest of the Dallas Cowboys. We arrived at this crossroad collectively with input from several voices within the organization."

Jones' statement was more fodder for Bryant, who tweeted, "Key words in this statement.. Several input.. something I already knew."

Bryant and Jones had a unique relationship because of the trouble that surrounded the receiver early in his career. Off-field concerns were the reason the Cowboys got him; he slid to near the bottom of the first round of the 2010 draft. Dallas traded up three spots to get him.

Before the three most prolific seasons of his career, when Bryant averaged 1,312 yards and nearly 14 touchdowns per year, he got tangled in lawsuits over unpaid jewelry bills and had a baggy pants incident with police at an up-



In this Dec. 31, 2017, file photo, Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Dez Bryant (88) carries the ball against the Philadelphia Eagles during an NFL game at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia. The Dallas Cowboys have released Dez Bryant, deciding salary cap relief with the star receiver's declining production outweighs the risk of him returning to All-Pro form with another team.

scale Dallas mall. The most serious problem was a domestic incident involving his mother in 2012, with Bryant pleading guilty and eventually having the charge dismissed when he stayed out of trouble for a year.

Bryant also was a distraction throughout his career with sideline rants, even admitting

late last season that he let frustrations affect him during perhaps his most difficult year in the league. He said some of the frustration was rooted in the offensive scheme.

"He will always be a valued member of our family," Jones said in his statement. "Dez and I share a personal and professional relation-

ship that is very strong, and he is one of just a handful of players with whom I have become that close to over the past 30 years."

With 73 touchdown catches, Bryant tops a Dallas list that includes Hall of Fame receivers Bob Hayes (71) and Michael Irvin (65). Tight end Jason Witten, who is getting ready for his 16th season, has 68 career TD catches.

A dramatic dip in production started when Bryant broke his foot in the opener in 2015, a year after he helped the Cowboys win the NFC East and just their second playoff game since the last of the franchise's five Super Bowls following the 1995 season.

Bryant battled injuries each of the past two years as well, but when healthy he wasn't the same receiver who had the famous catch that wasn't against Green Bay in a loss that kept the Cowboys out of the NFC championship game three years ago. He was second in the NFL with 11 drops last season, according to sportradar.

After getting 56 of his touchdowns in his first five seasons, Bryant had 17 his last three with the Cowboys.

Bryant never found the same on-field rapport with Dak Prescott

that he had with Tony Romo, who lost his job during Prescott's remarkable rookie season after Romo injured his back in the preseason in 2016. Romo was released last offseason and retired.

"Cowboy nation I need you to know this wasn't my decision.. I will always love y'all.. forever Dallas in my heart," Bryant wrote in one post, which came only minutes after he tweeted, "let's start the process" in a reference to free agency.

The Cowboys left little doubt they were in the market for receivers in free agency, adding Allen Hurns after the four-year pro was released by Jacksonville. Six-year journeyman Deonte Thompson was another addition.

While Hurns is the most likely candidate to be the No. 1 receiver, the Cowboys could take a wideout in the first round for the first time since getting Bryant.

"No one will understand the love and the passion you have for the game," DeMarcus Lawrence wrote as one of several now-former teammates to reach out to Bryant on Twitter. "Wish you nothing but the best! I know you'll be throwing up the X soon enough!"

NFL draft: Big D is about something other than Dallas



By BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

Big D is about to stand for something other than Dallas. The NFL is bringing its Big D — the draft — to Jerry Jones' palace. This draft, the first in a stadium, will pay homage in so many ways to the cliché that everything is bigger in Texas.

Ever since the league decided to put the draft up for bids and move it around the country, the focus has been to make it grow even larger than the cottage industry it has become.

From an historic theater setting in Chicago, with Grant Park as the backdrop, to the front yard of the iconic Philadelphia Art Museum with the Rocky statue atop its steps, the picks have become an accompaniment to the surroundings as much as a process in team building.

Now, the draft enters a building that can hold 100,000 people, though capacity has been set at 20,000 inside for the April 26-28 proceedings.

Peter O'Reilly, the NFL's senior vice president for events and the man who oversees planning for the draft, Super Bowl and opening weekend of the season, projects another 90,000 fans daily will be outside AT&T Stadium at the NFL Draft Experience. All tickets are free, with fans having signed up via a ticket lottery for the chance to get into the Cowboys' home.

"In some ways, this is easier than building a

massive structure," O'Reilly said.

The league did exactly that last spring in Philly.

"The question is how to turn a stadium into a winning draft environment. In Philadelphia, there was such a great energy and that is something we want to recreate," he said. "The draft is always special. It's the time of year, the return to spring and hope. No one wins or loses that day, there's positive vibes."

To that end, this draft will include specific cheering (and, yes, some will become booing) sections for all 32 teams. Modeled somewhat on how political convention floors look, each "Inner Circle" will have 50 fans of that club, with team signage and colors. Cheeseheads and Terrible Towels aren't likely to be optional for the Packers and Steelers fans, of course.

This special area features team rivalry zones, plus opportunities to celebrate the picks with NFL players current and past, including some Hall of Famers.

See **DRAFT**, on Page 3B

THANK YOU

I've been church...
I've read the book...
I know he's here...
But I don't look near as often as I should...
His fingerprints are everywhere...
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-George Strait-

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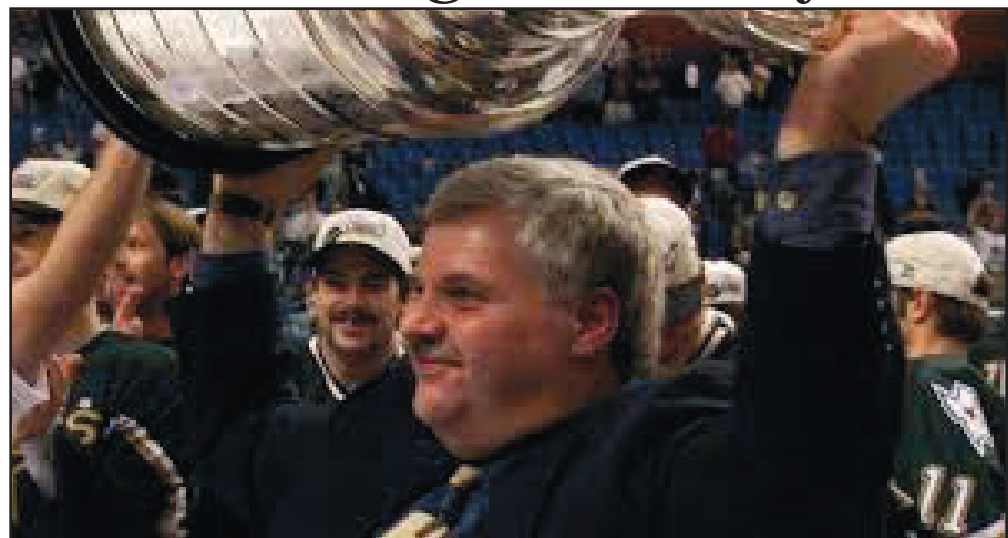
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Ken Hitchcock, 3rd in NHL wins, retiring after 22 years



In this Feb. 11, 2018, file photo, Dallas Stars head coach Ken Hitchcock talks to the media prior to an NHL hockey game against the Vancouver Canucks, in Dallas. Stars coach Ken Hitchcock is retiring, ending a 22-year career as the third-winningest coach in NHL history. Hitchcock will become a consultant for the team he led to its only Stanley Cup championship in 1999.

AP photo



AP photo

In this June 20, 1999, file photo, Dallas Stars coach Ken Hitchcock hoists the Stanley Cup after the Stars defeated the Buffalo Sabres 2-1 in triple overtime in Game 6 of the Stanley Cup finals in Buffalo, N.Y. Stars coach Ken Hitchcock is retiring, ending a 22-year career as the third-winningest coach in NHL history. Hitchcock will become a consultant for the team he led to its only Stanley Cup championship in 1999.



AP photo

In this June 20, 2012, file photo, St. Louis Blues coach Ken Hitchcock poses with the Jack Adams trophy after winning the award for coach of the year during the NHL Awards in Las Vegas. Dallas Stars coach Ken Hitchcock is retiring, ending a 22-year career as the third-winningest coach in NHL history. Hitchcock will become a consultant for the team he led to its only Stanley Cup championship in 1999.

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer
FRISCO, Texas — Ken Hitchcock wasn't sure how long he would coach the Dallas Stars the second time around after 15 years away. Turned out to be one season.

The coach who led Dallas to its only Stanley Cup championship retired Friday, ending a 22-year career as the third-winningest coach in NHL his-

tory. The 823 wins are behind only Scotty Bowman (1,244) and Joel Quenneville (884). He's fourth in total games with 1,536.

The 66-year-old Hitchcock will become a consultant for the Stars.

"I have contemplated this since our last game and I came to the conclusion that now is the right time to step away and let the younger generation of coaches take over,"

said Hitchcock, who last year signed a multiyear contract that included the stipulation of becoming a consultant when he was finished coaching.

Hitchcock returned to Dallas after 14 seasons elsewhere, including stops in Philadelphia, Columbus and St. Louis. General manager Jim Nill hoped Hitchcock could get the Stars back to the playoffs, but a late-season slump kept them out for the second straight year and the eighth time in 10 seasons.

"We were honored to have Ken as our head coach and it was fitting that he finished his coaching here," Stars owner Tom Gaglardi said. "He is a certain Hockey Hall of Fame coach and he left a lasting legacy wherever he went."

The Stars went to the Stanley Cup Final in consecutive seasons, beating Buffalo for the title in 1999 before losing to New Jersey in six games. Those are the only times Hitchcock or the Stars have made it to the final.

Dallas also won five straight division titles under Hitchcock, who was fired from his first head-coaching job with the team sliding in January 2002. He coached the Flyers from 2002-06, followed by the Blue Jackets (2006-10) and the Blues (2011-17).

St. Louis made the playoffs in each of Hitchcock's five full seasons, reaching the Western Conference finals in 2016 after beating top seed Dallas in seven games in the second round. The Blues abruptly fired Hitchcock in February last year, cutting short what was already going to be his last season with the Blues after their fifth loss in six games.

"To each and every player that I coached, I wish I could do it all over again," said Hitchcock, a Canadian whose record is 823-506 with 88 ties and 119 losses in overtime or a shootout. "You guys were the main reason for the all the wins, and I enjoyed coaching each and every one of you."

Nill turned to Hitchcock when the Stars had 79 points, their second-fewest in a full season since moving Dallas in 1993-94, in the last of four seasons under Lindy Ruff.

Led by high-scoring forwards Jamie Benn and Tyler Seguin and one of the top-scoring defensemen in John Klingberg, the Stars were solidly positioned for the playoffs in March before an eight-game losing streak that started with six losses on the road.

Still, Dallas improved significantly in a year, finishing with 92 points, just three out of the playoffs. And Nill said Hitchcock went out on his terms.

"To have him instill what

he put into our organization, to help build this foundation, it's going to pay dividends for us down the road," Nill said. "He made a lot of these players a lot better."

Nill essentially described a wide-open coaching search that could take time depending on whether potential candidates are on teams still alive in the playoffs, including teams in the minor leagues.

The sixth-year general manager has chosen veteran NHL head coaches both times with the Stars.

"I want to be pretty open-minded about this," Nill said. "You're seeing some successful young coaches come in. And there's some successful coaches out there that have great resumes. I think there's a big variable there."

Hitchcock's playoff record is 86-82, and he also has an extensive background with Team Canada, which is where he forged a relationship with Nill. In Detroit, Nill was still an assistant GM when Hitchcock was a guest coach on Mike Babcock's staff during training camp in 2010.

"He poured his whole life into better understanding in-game concepts and strategy, inspiring players and enhancing teams," Nill said. "He leaves an indelible mark on the game, and his influence will be felt across the sport for years to come."

DRAFT

Continued from Page 2B

O'Reilly notes that if a prospect chosen by that team is on hand, he will directly "connect with his new fan base."

Teams are using various means for choosing fans who get to sit in their exclusive club section. Buffalo, for example, has an extensive "Bills Backers" presence in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. One of the co-presidents of the fan club in that area, Ezra Castro, is a frequent visitor to New Era Field for Bills home games, despite the distance. Castro, known as "Pancho Billa" for his game-day costume that includes a sombrero and facemask, is battling cancer.

"We thought giving him the opportunity to bring 50 fans ... would show how much we appreciate him

and empathize with his situation," says Shaena Kershner, the Bills' head of marketing.

Kershner adds the team will send a "hype person to get that group rowdy, which is not very hard for our fans" when Buffalo's turns come, as well as providing merchandise and memorabilia.

The Packers also went that route, offering Inner Circle spots through a lottery to season ticket holders in the North Texas area, and then using the "Packers Everywhere" app to entice other Green Bay fans near the Cowboys' stadium to attend. It wasn't difficult rounding up 50.

"We were hitting people who were interested and could commit to (the first two days of the draft)," says Kandi Goltz, the Packers' game and fan development manager. "We have really avid fans who will be there and there will be a lot of enthusiasm."

Each Packers fan will have a cheesehead that the team is shipping to Dallas, although that might be

superfluous because nearly every follower of the franchise owns one.

"It should look awesome on TV," Goltz says.

The Falcons are sending members of their independent supporters group "The Cast." Cast members are responsible for their own travel and expenses; the team blocked hotel rooms for them. At their Inner Circle will be Fatheads and drums.

Atlanta is sending cheerleaders, too.

The five finalists to host the 2019 or 2020 draft are Kansas City, Nashville, Las Vegas, Canton/Cleveland and Denver. Those two drafts will awarded at the league meetings in May.

"We see it as an opportunity," O'Reilly says "This model is never cookie-cutter, it is unique to what each town and club offers. It's not the same canvas in each place, but finding a way to bring it to life in that community."

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Children in the Sunlight

By: **AMBER MANSFIELD**

Staff Writer
"Childhood should be carefree, playing in the sun; not living a nightmare in the darkness of the soul," said Dave Pelzer, author of a A Child Called "It" a true book about the abuse he had to endure as a child by the hands of his mother.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC) also believes that every child should be able to live in the sunlight, instead of merely dreaming of it. That's why SMMC hosted their 5th annual Child Abuse Awareness Prevention event called Stand Up Howard County, on Thursday April 12 at SMMC for the public and children to attend. Scenic Mountain Medical Center and other local agencies joined together in hopes of raising awareness to an often ignored issue.

During the prevention event there were informational booths set up by the supporting agencies. There was also a variety of different activities

set up for the kids, which included a karaoke station and face painting, sponsored by the Howard County Child Welfare Board. Local dance teams performed and the balloon release ceremony took place the front lawn of Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

The Big Spring Fire Department was also there, as well the Big Spring Police Department, who provided fingerprinting for the children. Also in attendance was Big Spring Mayor, Larry McLellan, who gave a speech on the issue of child abuse and thanked those who are trying to make a difference.

"Child abuse is an issue that isn't talked about all that often, but that doesn't make it any less of an issue," said Kathy Harmon, CASA Marketing Specialist and Volunteer Recruitment. "The amount of families and number of children affected by child abuse in our county is rather high." The event was co-sponsored by CASA of West Texas, High Sky Children's

Ranch, Child Protective Services, Howard County Child Welfare Board, Department of Family Services and SMMC. These organization came together in an effort to bring awareness in the community.

"This has been an event that has continued to evolve over the years, which is a great thing because it shows more people are becoming aware of the issue," said Amanda Duforat, SMMC Marketing Manager.

"Child abuse is a topic that people tend to steer away from, but we are hoping to not only bring awareness to how real this issue is in our community, but we want to do so in a way that the whole family can get involved," said Duforat. "It's important



Courtesy Photo

Here shows little guest, Ava Galvan, posing with the Safe Pup at Thursday's Child Abuse Prevention event.

that anyone – no matter how young or old – can feel abused and sexual assault. The most important thing to remember is, no child should live in fear and no victim should have to remain silent. We can speak up and put an end to this issue."



Courtesy Photo

The photo above shows a young boy who is trying his hand at karaoke, which was provided for anyone brave enough to step up to the mic. The photo below shows the Local Youth Marines presenting the flags before the balloon release.



Courtesy Photos

The photo above shows the some of the booths and the crowd at SMMC. In the photo below, Paula Cox (left), Educational Program Director, and Kelli Crouse (right), Programs Director



Courtesy Photo

Photographed above is the traditional release of blue balloons at SMMC.



Courtesy Photo

In the photo above, Mayor McLellan speaks to the crowd that was gathered at SMMC about the importance of our children.

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Random Acts of Kindness

Several years ago, when I was living in Chicago, I read in the newspaper about a little boy who had leukemia. Every time he was feeling discouraged or particular sick, a package would arrive for him containing some little toy or book to cheer him up with a note saying the present was from the Magic Dragon. No one knew who it was.

Eventually the boy died and his parents thought the Magic Dragon finally would come forth and reveal him or herself. But that never happened. After hearing the story, I resolved to become a Magic Dragon whenever I could and have on many occasions.

"My religion is very simple. My religion is Kindness." -The Dalai Lama



Courtesy Photo
Here shows a framed photo with a poem titled "Wings," written by local Fannie Price. The Price Family is dedicating and giving the framed poem to local, Melinda McCann. "She has the heart of an angel and we are blessed to have her in our lives," said Jerry Price. "Melinda has been carrying for my wife, and we are very appreciative of her giving heart. Fannie Price wrote "Wings" especially for Melinda for all that she has done for her.

Big Spring Art Associations

The March Art Association Meeting was a bit different because our speaker was ill. Our meeting consisted of planning for the upcoming area wide art show.

Linda Rupard, our previous speaker, will demonstrate acrylic techniques. I won't reiterate her bio, but I will say that Mrs. Rupard is an excellent artist! We're looking forward to her demonstration!

The Big Spring Show Art Association Area Wide Show will be held at the Heritage Museum during the month of May. Entries will be accepted on Saturday April 28th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Tuesday, May 1st from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Big Art Associations reserves the right to refuse any entries. The entry

fees for BSAA members are \$10.00 per entry; non members are \$15.00 per entry.

Our annual membership dues are \$20.00 per adult and \$15.00 per student. Judging will be held on May 3rd. The reception will follow that evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. More information including categories, awards and rules can be found on the Big Spring Art Association Facebook page.

The Big Spring Art Association would like to express our gratitude by recognizing our Sponsors!

We recently began a sponsorship program for anyone who wants to support our organization by making a donation to the Big Art Association. There are several levels of sponsorship

available.

For additional information or to become a sponsor, please contact Michelle Worthan at 325-227-3911.

Our Gold sponsor is Stone Cousins Entertainment, LLC. Our silver sponsor is Ingram DRS, Inc. Our Bronze sponsor is Nancy Koger.

Our friends of BSSA level sponsors are The Desert Flower Art Bar and the Mayo Sauce Family Diner.

Please visit our sponsors and tell them THANK YOU for supporting the art in Big Spring.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 17th at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library. If you are interested in art of any kind, please come see what we are all about! We look forward to seeing you!

Howard County Lunches

Big Spring ISD

Kentwood Early Childhood

Monday: Holiday

Tuesday: Breakfast: Rice krispies cereal, fresh apple slices, milk. Lunch: Hamburger, diced peaches, green beans, fresh red peppers, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Sausage muffin, diced pears, milk. Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, fresh cucumber slice, diced pears, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Graham crackers, strawberry/banana yogurt, fresh banana, milk. Lunch: Soft taco, corn, fresh celery sticks, fresh cantaloupe, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fresh apple slices, milk. Lunch: Pepperoni pizza, mandarin oranges, cucumber/tomato salad, fresh baby carrots, milk.

Elementary Schools

Monday: Holiday

Tuesday: Breakfast: Blueberry muffin, strawberry/banana yogurt, fresh oranges, fruit juice. Lunch: Fish sticks with mac and cheese, salad with breadstick, dinner roll, raisins, diced peaches, green beans, fresh red pepper strips.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fresh pears, orange juice. Lunch: Corn dog, or drumstick with corn bread, fresh apple, diced pears, fresh zucchini squash, corn, garden salad.

Thursday: Breakfast: Pancake on a stick, fresh apple slices, cherry star juice. Lunch: Cheeseburger, or drumsticks with corn bread,

Friday: Breakfast: Cherry frudel, fresh banana, apple juice. Lunch: Pepperoni pizza, sloppy joe sandwich, fresh cantaloupe, pineapple tidbits, steamed spinach, cucumber/tomato salad, garden salad.

Intermediate School

Monday: Holiday

Tuesday: Breakfast: Apple frudel, fresh oranges, fruit juice. Lunch: Cheeseburger, fish sticks and mac and cheese, or turkey chef salad with roll, strawberry craisins, diced peaches, green beans, fresh red pepper strips, garden salad.

Wednesday: Breakfast: French toast, fresh pears, orange juice. Lunch: Hot dog, or breaded drumstick, or corn bread muffin, or taco salad, fresh apples, diced pears, sweet potato fries, fresh zucchini squash.

Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fresh bananas, cherry star juice. Lunch: Spicy chicken sandwich, or cheeseburger, or popcorn chicken with flatbread, fresh oranges, applesauce, BBQ black beans, fresh celery sticks, garden salad.

Friday: Breakfast: Sausage sandwich, fresh grapes, apple juice. Lunch: Chicken sub melt, or pepperoni pizza, or tuna salad platter with roll, fresh cantaloupe, pineapple tidbits, collard greens, cucumber/tomato salad, garden salad.

Junior High School

Monday: Holiday

Tuesday: Breakfast: Chicken biscuits, fresh oranges, fruit juice. Lunch: Spicy chicken sandwich, or turkey chef salad with roll, or fish sticks, mac and cheese, fresh banana, diced peaches, green beans, fresh red pepper strips.

Wednesday: Breakfast: French toast, fresh pears, orange juice. Lunch: Cheeseburger, or beef nachos, or drumstick with cornbread, fresh apples, diced pears, sweet potato fries, fresh zucchini, garden salad.

Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fresh bananas, cherry star juice. Lunch: Spicy chicken sandwich, or popcorn chicken salad with flatbread, or chili dog, fresh oranges, applesauce, campfire pinto beans, fresh celery sticks, garden salad.

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Friday: Breakfast: Cherry frudel, fresh grapes, apple juice. Lunch: Cheeseburger, or tuna salad with pretzel roll, or fish sticks, fresh cantaloupe, pineapple tidbits, collard greens, cucumber/tomato salad, garden salad.

High School

Monday: Breakfast: Holiday

Tuesday: Breakfast: Donut, egg bacon muffin melt, or waffles, fresh blueberries, cinnamon toast, crunch cereal, sting cheese, fresh oranges, mixed fruit.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Ham and cheese burrito, or egg bagel sandwich, or waffles, lucky charms cereal, animal crackers, fresh pears, applesauce.

Thursday: Breakfast: Bagel, or egg and sausage muffin, or waffles, fresh blueberries, honey nut cheerios cereal, string cheese, fresh bananas, raisins.

Friday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, or biscuits and gravy, or waffles, fresh blueberries, frosted mini wheats cereal, animal crackers, fresh grapes, diced peaches.

Lunch: Line 1: Made-to-order hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, deli-style sandwiches; Line 2: Pizza; Line 3: Nachos, burritos, tacos.

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Holiday

Tuesday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, and sausage, or cheesy toast and sausage. Lunch: Crispy chicken salad, or meat and cheese chalupa with rice, or enchiladas with rice, refried beans, zesty cucumbers salsa, assorted apple slices.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, and sausage. Lunch: Asian salad, or chicken tenders, or hamburger cheeseburger, broccoli, sweet potato fries, rice krispy treat, apricots.

Thursday: Breakfast: Sausage egg and cheese sandwich. Lunch: Chef ham salad, or chicken spaghetti with breadstick, or pizza, garden salad, carrots, apple slices.

Friday: Breakfast: Biscuits and gravy with scrambled eggs and sausage. Lunch: Fiesta salad, or chicken nuggets with mac and cheese, or BBQ on a bun, baked beans, coleslaw, mandarin oranges.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Cinnamon pull a part, cheese sticks, fruit, fruit juice, milk. Lunch: Taquito, queso, Spanish rice, Charro beans, seasoned corn, salsa, fresh fruit, fruit variety, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Breakfast muffin or cereal, bar and yogurt, fruit juice, fruit, milk. Lunch: Chili cheese combo, fresh veggie cup, mixed fruit, fruit variety, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Pancake wrap, or breakfast parfait, fruit, fruit juice, milk. Lunch: Chicken nuggets, mac and cheese, savory green beans, garden salad, apple slices, fruit variety, milk.

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More Than a Day to Take Care of Mother Earth

By Judy Tereletsky

HSWCD District Clerk

Each year on April 22, millions of people across the globe celebrate Earth Day (officially named "International Mother Earth Day" by the United Nations in 2009). The 2018 Earth Day is focusing on the reduction of single use plastic products. However most people do not know how Earth Day came to be.

Like most movements it was a result of a catastrophes which occurred in our nation. This disaster was the massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. On January 28, 1969, a blow-out occurred on the Union Oil Platform A located in the Santa Barbara shipping channel off the coast of California. It took 11 days to cap the well however the oil and gas continued to seep out through a series of undersea faults until almost a year later in December. An estimated 3 million gallons of crude oil was lost resulting in an oil slick over 35 mile long. Along with the impact on the California coastline, there was devastating loss of fish, sea mammals and a loss of over 3,700 birds. (1) The Santa Barbara Oil Spill was the worst oil spill in our nation's history until the Exxon Valdez (10.8 million gallons) disaster in 1989 and the Deepwater Horizon tragedy (210 gallons) in 2010.

At this time in our nation's history there was only court based control on factories and power plants. In other words only law suits affected any negative effects from the operations of these industries. Democratic Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin was alarmed by the Santa Barbara oil spill and was inspired to act. Tapping into the energy of the anti-war rallies, he decided to awaken the public consciousness. He joined forces with Republican Senator Pete McCloskey of California and Denis Hayes of Harvard University to arrange a series of rallies to bring awareness to the air and water pollution occurring in the nation. It was decided to hold the first set of rallies between spring break and final exams. On April 22, 1970, more than 20 million Americans took to the streets in massive coast to coast rallies. Thus Earth Day was born.

The first Earth Day high-

lighted the loss of wilderness, the extinction of wildlife, and the pollution from factories, power plants, raw sewage and oil spills. In December of 1970, less than eight months later, The Environmental Protection Agency was created by the government along with passage of the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act. November 15, 1990 marked a milestone in Clean Air Act history with the signing of the 1990 Amendments. These amendments set the stage for protecting the ozone layer, reducing acid rain and toxic pollutants, and improving air quality and visibility. The Clean Water Act established the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters. (2) The Endangered Species Act provides for the conservation of species that are endangered or threatened throughout all or a significant portion of their range, and the conservation of the ecosystems on which they depend. (3) In Howard County there are more than twenty five birds, mammals, reptiles and plants listed on the protected or endangered list including the Texas horned lizard, Black-tailed prairie dog, and Western Burrowing Owl. (4)

Earth Day is still a "national teach-in" time to focus on educating the public about the environment. In schools and communities across the nation, in fact across the globe, people work to clean up their communities, plant trees, release butterflies and many other activities. Local churches such as Alive In Christ Lutheran Church arrange Sunday School lessons to highlight Earth Day with songs about the earth and "sowing of seeds". Schools often visit agricultural facilities to see conservation efforts in progress. You do not have to be a student or a member of an organization to participate in Earth Day. By taking time to beautify your yard, plant a tree or pollinating friendly plants, recycle or volunteer you are helping to make a difference. Happy Earth Day.

(1) www.noaa.gov (2) www.epa.gov (3) www.fws.gov (4) www.twpd.texas.gov.



AP Photo

Students discuss soil properties during an Earth Day tour of the Big Spring USDA facilities.

Roger's Reviews: A Quiet Place



The new movie "A Quiet Place" – directed by John Krasinski (Jim, from "The Office") – is the first film of 2018 that made me perk up and say, "Hmmm...here's something different."

The movie opens up on a deserted, dilapidated village. We pan through empty streets, abandoned stores, etc. We focus in on one store where a group of people – a couple of adults and three kids – are looting. It looks like your typical post-apocalyptic story, perhaps nuclear, perhaps zombie – but slowly we begin noticing some small differences.

For one, one woman seems particularly interested in medicine, which she finds and uses to treat one of her children. Ok, so that's not too unusual. But we also notice that...no one is talking. Instead, they're using sign language.

So a family of deaf people caught in some post-apocalyptic setting? We do notice that one girl is wearing a hearing aid. Maybe... that could be interesting.

That's not quite it, though. We learn later that the girl, Regan (Millicent Simmonds), is indeed deaf, but she's the only hearing-impaired member of the group. Instead, we learn that the world has somehow been infested by large, blind, deadly monsters who hunt by sound, which they are able to track with pinpoint accuracy. Make a noise, and chances are you'll be dead within moments.

The family that is the focus of "A Quiet Place" consists of pregnant mom Evelyn (Emily Blunt), dad Lee (Krasinski), and kids Regan, Marcus (Noah Jupe), and Beau (Cade Woodward).

The story unfolds as the family – the Abbots – try to survive and build a home in this quiet new world. Think about some of the implications to that situation...deaf Regan can't hear if she accidentally makes a noise. Mom Evelyn is about to have to try to give birth – without making a noise. And when the baby comes, how will they muffle its cries to keep the creatures from homing in on it?

Dad Lee is a bit of an electronics guru, and he has wired up the family's farm residence with closed-circuit television and lights of different colors to indicate alarm to all family members, and spends his evenings tinkering with scavenged hearing aids to try to give Regan some hearing to help her survive.

Marcus, affected by events from the past, is perpetually frightened of everything (which, in such a world, might not be that unreasonable...but is still crippling).

Really, to say any more would spoil the movie for you.



ROGER CLINE

I'm going to go ahead and say that "A Quiet Place" is my favorite movie of 2018 so far. It's not flawless – there are some inconsistencies that are puzzling – but it's innovative enough that it really made me stop and consider "What would I do in that situation?"

What are the inconsistencies? Well, it's mainly about how much noise actually triggers the creatures...and the movie does answer this to some degree. It just seems to me that these monsters would be constantly attacking inedible things – wind in the trees, creaking buildings, falling rocks, etc. – not to mention each other (the creatures themselves are NOT quiet, which sets up that thing I enjoy in movies so much – contrast).

But those are really more questions, not true gripes. All in all, "A Quiet Place" is a great movie. The constant silence creates a stunning tension throughout the whole film, with very little relief. There is some, but it's always tainted by anxiety about things happening simultaneously in the story.

One thing of note – there is a nail in this movie that caused me as much anxiety as did anything in Hitchcock's "Psycho." Watch out for the nail (shiver).

I'm giving "A Quiet Place" nine and a half stars out of 10. This is a really good movie. Go see it.

A Quiet Place

Director: John Krasinski

Writers: Screenplay by Bryan Woods, Scott Beck, and John Krasinski; Story by Bryan Woods and Scott Beck.

Production companies: Platinum Dunes, Sunday Night

PG-13; 1 hr. 30 min.; Drama/Horror/Thriller; April 6, 2018

Roger saw this movie at Big Spring's own Cinemark Cinema 4, located inside the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. For more information, visit www.cinemark.com and enter the ZIP code 79720.

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Chamber says 'Thank you' to Forsan ISD



Courtesy photo

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce representatives thank Forsan Independent School District for its investment in the local community.

Home Realtors, YMCA, receive Chamber ribbon cuttings

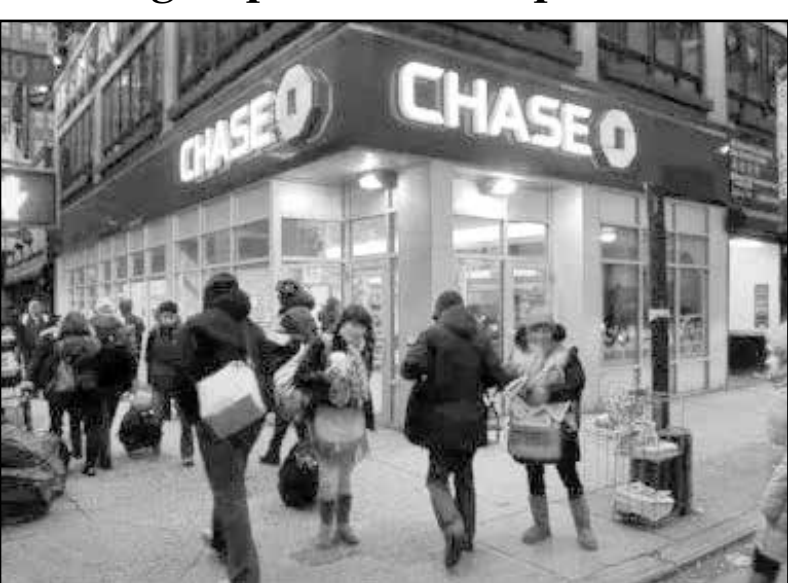


Courtesy photos

Above, Chamber of Commerce representatives and Home Realtors staff cut the ribbon at Home Realtors' new office at 2011 S. Gregg St. Below, Chamber representatives help YMCA staff celebrate their newly remodeled fitness room with a ribbon cutting.



JPMorgan posts record profit as banks benefit from tax law



AP photo

In this Jan. 14, 2015, file photo, people walk past a branch of Chase bank, in New York. JPMorgan

By KEN SWEET and MATT OTT

AP Business Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street giant JPMorgan reported its biggest quarterly profit ever Friday, and Citigroup and Wells Fargo also notched higher earnings, with all three getting a huge assist from the tax law passed late last year.

Banks are expected to be major beneficiaries of the tax overhaul, which sharply lowered corporate

tax rates. Comparing each of the effective tax rates from last year to this year, the three Wall Street banks that reported earnings Friday appeared to have saved roughly \$1.6 billion altogether.

The first-quarter earnings season will give investors and the public their first good look into how President Trump's tax law is impacting Corporate America. Publicly traded banks are the first major industry to report their results each quarter.

The results of JPMorgan Chase, the nation's largest bank by assets and deposits, were primarily driven by two factors: higher interest rates, which have allowed banks such as JPMorgan to charge more for customers to borrow, and the lower corporate tax rate. However, JPMorgan had to set aside more money to cover bad loans in its consumer bank, where delinquencies have been steadily edging higher.

While JPMorgan's pretax income rose by \$2 billion in the quarter, the company said it effectively paid \$240 million less in taxes compared to a year earlier. The bank paid an effective tax rate of 18.3 percent in the quarter, compared with a rate of 22.7 percent a year earlier. Before the changes to tax

See **BANKS**, Page 5C

Building Permits

- Joe Jennings, 1004 E 19th St., res. water tap, Val: \$128, Fee: \$128
- Health Encompass, 111 E 7th St., signs, Val: \$2,500, Fee: \$25
- Peggy S Sanderson, 3302 Cornell Ave., fence, Val: \$5,000, Fee: \$35
- Ronald Robert McGraw, 2803 Cactus Dr., res. sewer tap, Val: \$346, Fee: \$346
- Chelsea Richardson, 1200 E 15th St., res plumb, Val: \$500, Fee: \$32
- Eddie Cole, 1309 S Gregg St., com plumb, Val: \$3,000, Fee: \$32
- Bentura T Correa, 107 N Nolan St., res re-roof, Val: \$3,800, Fee: \$30
- Group Morrison, 507 E 14th St., res elec., Val: \$1,500, Fee: \$25
- Karina Elizabet Izaguirre, 1301 Park St., fence, Val: \$1,000, Fee: \$25
- Jose Sandoval, 603 Caylor Dr., res elec., Val: \$2,500, Fee: \$25
- Gus Ramirez, 310 NW 3rd St., res elec., Val: \$25, Fee: \$25
- Bobby Posey, 738 Baylor Blvd., construction, Val: \$1,500, Fee: \$25
- John Watt, 1301 Runnels St., res HVAC, Val: \$8,900, Fee: \$45
- Boosie Weaver, 432 Hillside Dt., res HVAC, Val: \$4,950, Fee: \$45
- Phoebe Burns Tramell, 2400 Carelton, fence, Val: \$3,000, Fee: \$25
- Hillside Properties, 2513 Gunter Cir., res elec., Val: \$3,000, Fee: \$25
- Joe Franklin Dudley, 2601 Apache Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$8,500, Fee: \$55
- Janie Yates, 202 Circle Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$3,500, Fee: \$30
- Victor P Torres, 1203 Lamar Ave, Val: \$1,800, Fee: \$25
- City of Big Spring, 3604 Bethel, com re-roof, Val: \$5,300, Fee: \$0
- Matthew Grant Burrow, 2201 Alabama St., fence, Val: \$900, Fee: \$25
- Tony Castillo, 1009 E 21st St., res elec., Val: \$150, Fee: \$25
- Bauer Head Start Academy, 108 NW 9th St., com plumb, nonres., Val: \$109,600, Fee: \$513
- Eric Wiginton, 1211 E 18th St., construction, Val: \$1,618, Fee: \$25
- Brittney Griffin, 109 Runnels St., construction, Val: \$12,000, Fee: \$70
- Jack Taylor, 3207 Duke Ave., Res. alt/add., Val: \$4,500, Fee: \$35
- Coby Levi Landis, 2712 Cindy Ln., res HVAC, Val: \$5,600, Fee: \$45
- Bo Bokelman, 3228 Drexel Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$4,650, Fee: \$35
- R Michael Robinson, 1300 Douglas St., res elec., Val: \$3,900, Fee: \$25

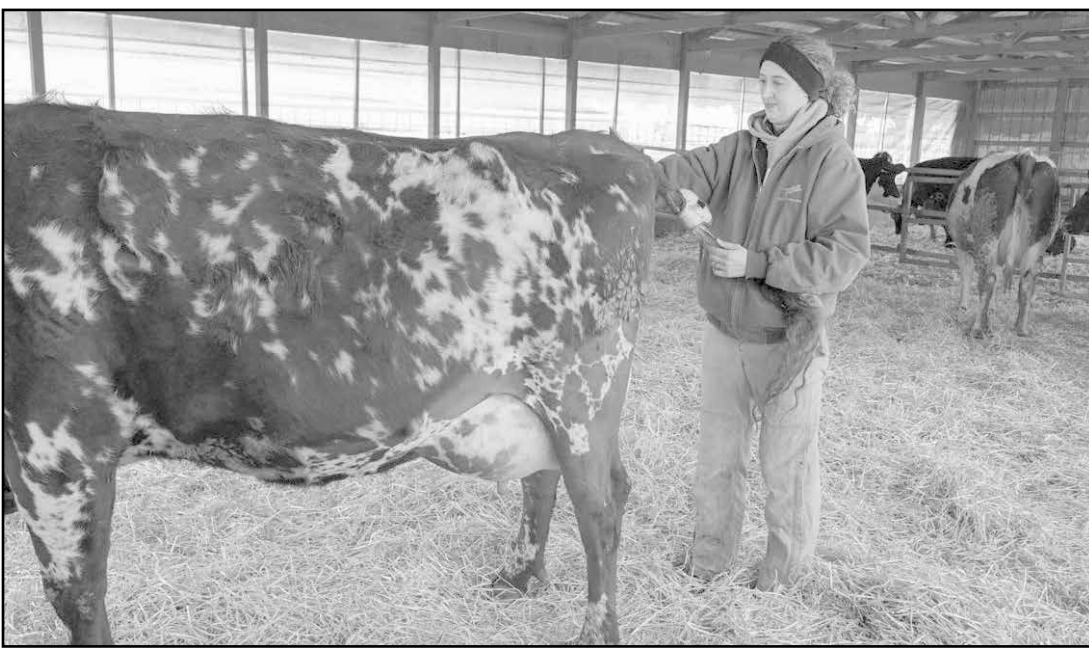
Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

- Jasmine Ahrnkeil, 1301 Princeton, Big Spring
- Sherri Monique Aldridge, 1507 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
- Anthony Anderson, 3401 Camellia Dr. #707, Temple
- Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
- Edgar Barreto, 2111 Runnels, Big Spring
- Letitia Baucham, 1202 Stanford, Big Spring
- Linda Beck, 1713 Worley Rd., Banner Elk, N.C.
- Joshua Bell, 1962 Tuscola, Snyder
- Tammy D. Bishop, 1410 Tucson Rd., Big Spring
- John Bochnicka, 538 Westover Rd. #260
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- Roy E. DeBlanc, 1066 Cutrer Rd., Osyka, Miss.
- Laura W. Dennis, 1511 Scurry, Big Spring
- Humberto Diaz Jr., 3417 N. Midland Dr, Midland
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- Krista A. Dickson, 6917 Todd, Sachse
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- Clayton W Durbin, 6508 Centerpoint, Big Spring
- Joanna Esparza, 501 S.Tackitt Seymour, Texas
- Carol W. Evans, 809 E 33rd, Plainview, Texas
- W. Carol Evans, 809 E. 33rd, Plainview
- Chris M. Fagan, 3508 W. Eighth St., Amarillo
- Kristen Falcon, 2606 Fairchild Dr., Big Spring
- Leza Faulkner, 1102 South Water, Burnet
- Mumduh Felemban, 9338 Perrin Beitel Apt. 701, San Antonio
- Alexander Fernandez, 404 Cypress, Colorado City
- Tracy D. Flores, 2401 Russell Ave., Abilene
- Ellen French, P.O. Box 942, Poteau, Okla.
- Sharlamarr Frink, 3723 Monclair, Odessa
- Johnnie Fuller, 3801 23rd St., Snyder
- Juan E. Garcia, 3355 River Road North Keizer, Ok
- Mary Jo Garner, 11802 Silver Barring Cove, San Antonio
- Rosa M. George, 509 W. Second St., Stanton, Texas
- Perry Gholar, 1510 Nolan, Big Spring
- Elizabeth Gomez, 509 Raleigh St., Plainview
- Eusebio Gonzales, 1204 College Ave., Big Spring
- James E. Gonzalez, 604 Neff St., Sweetwater
- Jeremy Goodman, 3471 Green Meadow #24, San Angelo
- Kay Grant, 4405 N. Garfield #1005, Midland

See **RECORDS**, Page 5C

Bovines online: Farmers are using AI to help monitor cows



AP photo

In this April 2, 2018 photo fifth-generation dairy farmer Mary Mackinson Faber fits a Moocall device on the tail of a pregnant dairy cow at her farm in Pontiac, Ill. The device monitors the cow's movements and will trigger a text message to announce that the cow is about to give birth.

By **RYAN NAKASHIMA**

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Is the world ready for cows armed with artificial intelligence?

No time to ruminate on that because the moment has arrived, thanks to a Dutch company that has married two technologies — motion sensors and AI — with the aim of bringing the barnyard into the 21st century.

The company, Connecterra, has brought its IDA system, or "The Intelligent Dairy Farmer's Assistant," to the United States after having piloted it in Europe for several years.

IDA uses a motion-sensing device attached to a cow's neck to transmit its movements to a program driven by AI. The sensor data, when aligned repeatedly with real-world behavior, eventually allows IDA to tell from data alone when a cow is chewing cud,

lying down, walking, drinking or eating.

Those indicators can predict whether a particular cow is ill, has become less productive, or is ready to breed — alerting the farmer to changes in behavior that might otherwise be easily missed.

"It would just be impossible for us to keep up with every animal on an individual basis," says Richard Watson, one of the first four U.S. farmers to use IDA since it launched commercially in December.

Watson, who owns the Seven Oaks Dairy in Waynesboro, Georgia, says having a computer identify which cows in his 2,000-head herd need attention could help improve farm productivity as much as 10 percent, which would mean hundreds of thousands of dollars

See **CATTLE**, Page 11C

BANKS

Continued from Page 4C

law, JPMorgan's effective tax rate averaged in the high 20-percent range.

JPMorgan Chief Executive Officer Jamie Dimon has been a big promoter of the tax overhaul, saying it would be good for businesses as well as average Americans. Soon after President Donald Trump signed the law into place, the bank announced higher salaries for most of its retail bank employees, and said it would open branches in a handful of new markets. It also announced an expansion of small business lending.

"The global economy continues to do well, and we remain optimistic about the positive impact of tax reform in the U.S. as business sentiment remains upbeat, and consumers benefit from job and wage growth," Dimon in a statement.

Other bank executives were just as optimistic when speaking about the tax law's impact. Citigroup Chief Financial Officer John Gerspach told reporters Friday that businesses had only begun taking advantage of the changes.

"I think the best is yet to come," he said.

Rising interest rates helped JPMorgan Chase and Citigroup, but not Wells Fargo, which continues to struggle under the weight of several scandals and investigations. Wells disclosed as part of its earnings that they may have to pay as much as \$1 billion to federal regulators to settle investigations being conducted by financial regulatory agencies.

The Federal Reserve has been steadily raising interest rates for more than two years. Net interest income at JPMorgan was \$13.3 billion, up 10 percent from a year earlier. At Citigroup, net interest revenues were \$16.33 billion, up 12 percent from a year earlier. Wells Fargo reported a slight decline in interest income.

JPMorgan's investment bank also had a solid quarter, helped by much more volatile and active markets last quarter. Net income in the investment bank was \$3.97 billion, up from \$3.24 billion a year earlier.

There were some concerns about JPMorgan's credit quality, however. The bank had to set aside more money to cover potentially bad loans, and the bank's total charge-off rate — the percentage of loans it expects are not likely to be repaid — climbed to 1.20 percent of all loans. That compares

to 1.07 percent of loans in the second quarter of 2017.

Citi also had to add to its loan-loss reserves, and reported an 8 percent increase in its total credit losses in the quarter.

In total, JPMorgan had a profit of \$8.71 billion in the first quarter, a jump of 35 percent from a profit of \$6.45 billion in the same period a year earlier. On a per-share basis, JPMorgan earned \$2.37 a share, up from \$1.65 per share, beating analysts' forecasts.

JPMorgan's quarterly revenue was \$28.52 billion, up from \$25.85 billion.

Citigroup reported a profit of \$4.62 billion, or \$1.68 a share, compared with a profit of \$4.09 billion, or \$1.35 per share, in the same period a year earlier.

The results beat analysts' forecasts for earnings of \$1.61 a share, according to FactSet. It was the largest quarterly profit that Citi has reported since 2015.

Wells reported first-quarter earnings of \$5.9 billion, or \$1.12 per share, topping Wall Street's per-share expectations by 6 cents, according to a FactSet survey. That profit exceeds last year's \$5.46 billion, or \$1.03 per share, in profit.

Wells paid \$1.37 billion in taxes in the first quarter, about 36 percent less than the \$2.13 billion it paid last year.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 4C

Whitney Marquez Gray, 2934 Old Anson Rd. \$1224, Abilene

Isaiah Green, 4801 State St., Abilene
James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler St. #502, Atlanta

John Grima, 914 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
Thomas E. Gross, 4100 S. Highway 87 #37, Big Spring

Lynn Guerrero, 203 W. Ave #3, Clayton, N.M.

Melissa Gutierrez, 3310 SF Austin, No. 58, Brownwood

Sandra Ann Gutierrez, 1501 N. Fourth Place, 1312 S. Ave. L, Lamesa

Mike Haddix, 401 Humble St. Apt. E, Midland

Dylan Hammons, 4401 E. 11th Place, Big Spring

William J. Harman, HC 76, Box 147K-1, Big Spring

Nicholas D. Hasenbalg, 207 W. Williams St. #9, Breckenridge

Ann Hashem, 120 Airbase Rd. 15-5, Big Spring

Christine Henderson, 420 N. El Paso

Juanita Hernandez, 1502 Bluebird, Big Spring

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

Scott Herrera, H.C 76, Box 97B Ash Rd., Big Spring

Billy Dean Hill, 7117 Alissa, Rowlett

Johnny R. Hill, 704 San Antonio, Big Spring

Spring

Jim Bob Jennings, 4446 Ridgecrest Amarillo 9001 Indiana Apt D, Lubbock
David Kelley, P.O Bobx 724, Salado
Joni D. Kelly, 3050 Co. Rd 139, Colorado

Renola S. Kelly, 4503 LA Salle Circle, Colorado City

Paige Morgan Kenas, 1003-2 Lake County Rd 175, Colorado City

Cynthia Lee Kent, Moved to Newport News, Virginia

Keith James Kochmick, 1003 Stadium, Big Spring

Cyndi Michelle Lambert, 2600 Crestline, Apt. C7, Big Spring

Kayle R.Lane, P.O Box 83965, Waco

Daniel Jerome Langston, 3307 Cornell Ave., Big Spring

Rafael Lemus, 1804 Mittel, Big Spring

Jesse Paul Lopez, 101 Scurry St., Big Spring

Ruben Lopez jr., 107 Milburn St., Snyder, Texas

Clifford G. Lowe, 501 Circle, Big Spring

Patricia D. Lyons, 7502 Interstate 27 number A, Lubbock

Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham Ave., Odessa

Bruce Edward Mallard, P.O Box 3265 504 Westover, Big Spring

Barbara A. Marshall, P.O. Box 1065, Deming, New Mexico

Martha McDonald Martin, 600 Driver Rd, Big Spring

James Martinez, P.O. Box 269, Ft. Davis

Ruann R. Martinez, 1005 N.W. 2nd St., Big Spring

Victoria Josephine Martinez, 323 S. Main St., Loraine

Karen McCalister, 5925 Raton Ln. number 154, Ft. Worth

O'Neal McClain, 911 17th St., Snyder

Diana McCool, 504 Donley, Big Spring

Dana Kay Peach, 1806 N 13th, Lamesa

Nicole Preston, 1605 E 11th place, Big Spring

Jacquelin Dannon Ramey, 1404 E 6th St.,

Gilbert P. Ramirez, 1614 Settles, Big Spring

Byron Roberts, 2206 Alabama St Big Spring

Michael Robinson, 801 Anna St., Big Spring

Elizabeth Salazar, 1808 Hearn, Big Spring, Texas

Derrick Dewayne Smith, 703 West 16th, San Angelo, Texas

Joe Anthony Villarreal, 2206 Cecilia, Big Spring

Michael Ray Watson, 1503 Tucson Rd., Big Spring

Marie Minnie Wilson, 307 E 4th, Fortsan, Texas

Marriage Licenses

Guadalupe Ybarra Jr, 51, and Christina Estella Hilario, 49, both of Big Spring.

Johnathon Wayne Torrence, 29, and Kimberly Ann Westphal, 27, both of Big Spring.

Adrian Rodriguez, 33, Cassandra N-

nette Garcia 26, both of Coahoma.

Dennis Dwain Durmont, 35, and Stephanie Bae Anchondo, 28, both of Big Spring.

District Court Filings

Plaintiff: Frances Hautz
Respondent: Greyhound Lines Inc., Marvin Wells

Type of Case: Injury or other
Date: April 11, 2018

Plaintiff: Scarlet Land Services, LLC
Respondent: Gary Rawls, Laura Rawls

Type of Case: Real property
Date: April 6, 2018

Plaintiff: Linda Earls
Respondent: Stetson Earls

Type of Case: divorce
Date: April 6, 2018

Plaintiff: Maria Mendez-Flores
Respondent: Luis Vasquez-Gonzalez

Type of Case: divorce
Date: April 6, 2018

Plaintiff: Platform II, LLC
Respondent: Roxo Energy, LLC Energy Company

Type of Case: real property
Date: April 6, 2018

See **RECORDS**, Page 11C

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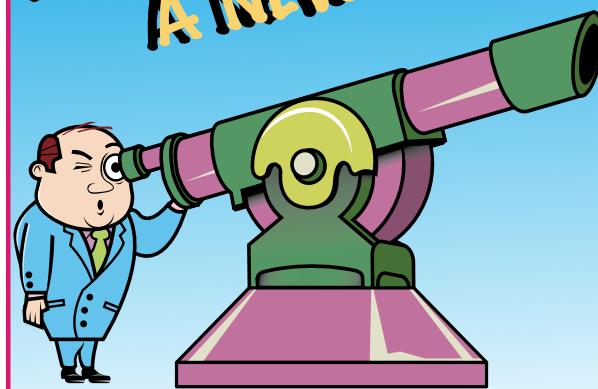
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Coahoma, TX 79511
Or Fax (432) 399-4290
Or Email
carcher@wtggas.com

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Help Wanted

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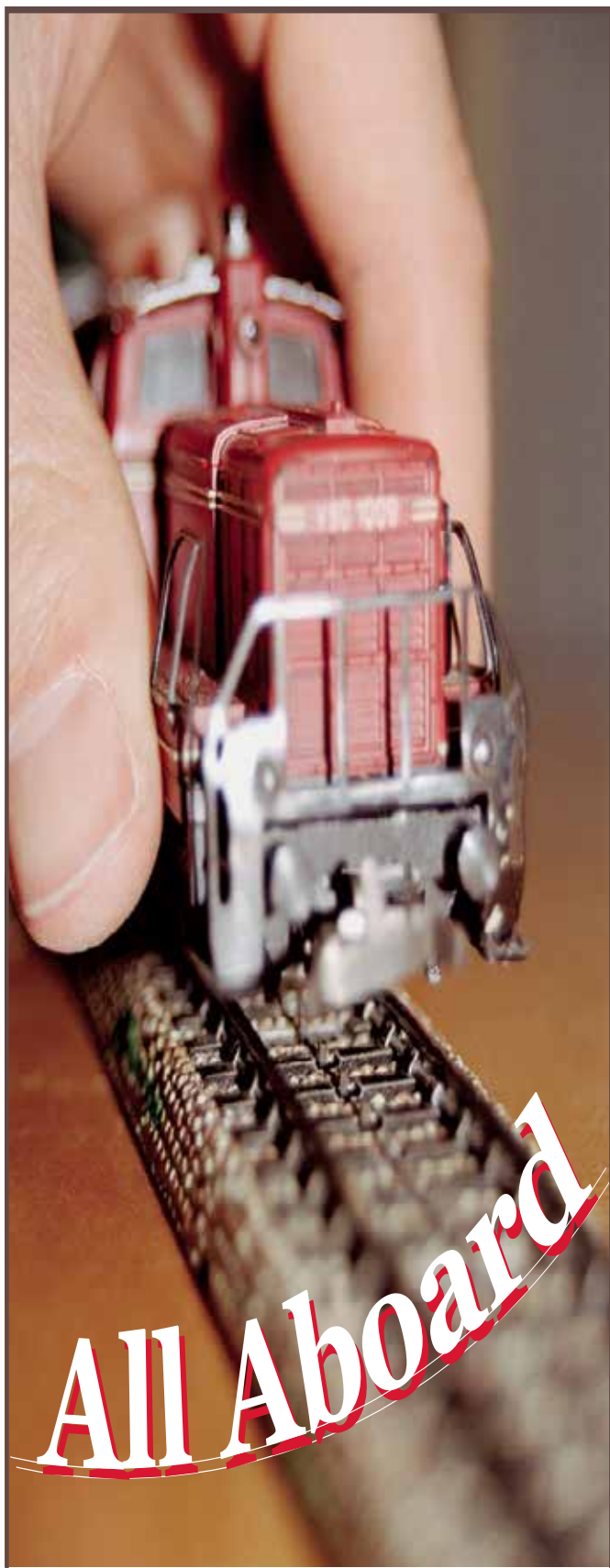
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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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Level: Advanced

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!

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

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- * Basic insurance and Dental experience preferred but not required.

Please submit resumes by April 20 to Jennifer y@wardfamilydental.com or drop it off at 1500 Scurry Big Spring

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

West dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A Q 9 6 4
♥ 9 7 2
♦ 10 4
♣ K 7 4

WEST

♠ —
♥ J 4 3
♦ K J 6 3 2
♣ A 10 6 3 2

EAST

♠ J 8 3
♥ Q 8 5
♦ A Q 7 5
♣ J 9 5

SOUTH

♠ K 10 7 5 2
♥ A K 10 6
♦ 9 8
♣ Q 8

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass Pass 1 ♠
1 NT 3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠

Opening lead — three of hearts.

5 Easy Ways To Place Your Ad In The Big Spring Herald Classifieds!

1 By Phone... 263-7331	2 By Fax... 264-7205	3 In Person... 710 Scurry	4 By e-mail... classifieds@ BigSpringHerald.com	5 By Mail... P.O. Box 1431
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HERALD

Tomorrow's Horoscope

By HOLIDAY MATHIS



New Moon, New Eyes

both parties should agree on what the boundaries are. This is best done organically, though, because people may agree in theory to things that they do not agree with in practice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's a latent potential in you that you will know only when you get in the environment that makes you find it and use it. That will not be a comfortable process. Greatness and comfort rarely go together.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today feels a bit like a trivia game in which you know the answers but can hardly believe your own recollection of them. Producing small bits of hidden information from the way-back brings a unique kind of satisfaction.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Instead of thinking you can accomplish a task with sheer grit and will, you will humbly (and brilliantly) recognize your reliance on the right tools and a conducive environment to accomplish your goals.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Intelligence is not fixed. No matter

how smart a person is, they can learn more -- or they can go the other direction. At times today, you may feel that you're out of your element, but your choice to push yourself will pay off later.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Life in society is role-playing. Don't be afraid to switch roles. Also, you don't have to worry too much about being qualified for a role. The role will be your teacher and qualifier.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Theory and experience are never the same. No matter how much you read, prepare and train with a simulator, you're not doing it for real until you're doing it for real. There is always a leap from theory to practice. Take it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Is your environment at odds with who you are or who you want to be? Maybe you can move things around to make them fit better. But also consider whether that's going to be enough. Perhaps it's time for a bigger sort of change.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You

might thrill to taking your generosity in a sneaky direction -- giving anonymously, setting people up for a win, helping behind the scenes. You might pull it off, but you could just as easily get found out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The breakthrough probably won't happen when you're at work on the project. Instead, it will come after the much-needed rest you have after a period of intense exertion.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Once, you sought the path of least resistance, and it didn't work out that way at all. You are better off for it. A life of ease would make you stuck and confused. You're too big to swim in shallow water.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 15). You'll be strongly encouraged to share what's yours -- not exactly a gift but an occurrence that makes you better and richer in many ways. Your past catches up to you in a very rewarding way in May. Karmic payback can be reinvested to do more good in the world. The love sector

gets sweeter with travel in August. Pisces and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 20, 3, 35 and 42.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: The girl was on one side of the river; her cat was on the other. When she called her cat, the cat crossed without getting wet or using a bridge or a boat. How?

If you think of the river in one state -- the state of flowing water -- such a thing seems impossible. But if you think of the river in the middle of winter -- completely frozen over -- now you've got half the thing solved. But the bigger part of this may still seem impossible. Everyone knows that cats don't come when they're called.

Such is the kind of problem we get when Venus and Jupiter are in opposition. We may be able to use logic and science to solve the riddles of our lives, but the thing we can't seem to control is the unpredictable (and often stubborn) animal within. Our instincts and tendencies seem to operate on their own accord, regardless of

the state of the river or the commands issued to cross it. It bears mentioning that Saturn goes retrograde on the same day as the Venus-Jupiter opposition, as though to hit home the point.

On the bright side, Mercury goes direct -- an invitation to focus on the things that are more easily controlled, such as your environment, your schedule and other logistics.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Seth Rogen was a teen stand-up comedian who dropped out of high school to make his Hollywood dreams come true. Born when the sun, Mercury and Jupiter were all in daring Aries, the director, writer and movie star now enjoys A-list perks and responsibilities. Rogen is currently filming the live-action version of "The Lion King" and will be the voice of Pumbaa, the carefree wart hog.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com.

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The lucky happenings of the day include a moon that's as new as it gets, in Aries, the first sign of the zodiac, the sign of freshness and newborn clarity. Seeing things as they are (instead of how we fear they are, how we prefer they are or how we conclude they are based on past experience) can absolutely give us the insight that sets us free.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Rest is an important component to keeping your energy high. The quality of your sleep really matters, too. It's something to plan for -- how you're going to ward off possible distractions; that's how much it matters now.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). For a relationship to work well,

Staying Socially Connected While Immobile

Dear Annie: My mom recently had a health scare. Although she is OK for now, it has limited her mobility, and she's not nearly so active as she used to be. She always has been really active in the community and has had a heart for seniors. Unfortunately, that also means that most of her friends are in similar straits -- mostly housebound and without stimulating activities and stories. Her husband still works full time, and I live about 10 hours away, which means that I can't stop in daily or weekly. Even visiting her monthly is a stretch. I call her each day, but I can tell that the forced isolation is hard on her mentally and emotionally -- not that she'd admit it.

What sort of groups are out there that could help provide interaction? I know

she'd love to be useful. Is there any sort of pen pal group or something similar that homebound seniors can participate in? -- Wanting a Stage for Every Age

Dear Wanting a Stage for Every Age: What a great question. Social connectedness and a sense of purpose are so important to mental health and, in turn, overall well-being. Pen Pals for Seniors (<https://www.penspalsforseniors.org>) connects seniors with people looking for pen pals. That would put some pep in your mom's step as she goes to check the mail. She could also organize a book club centered on weekly calls with her friends. Though the calls would happen only periodically, throughout the week she'd be reading the book and thinking of what she'd like to share about it with her friends.

Lastly, seeing as you mentioned that

she'd like to feel useful, she might consider volunteering for a crisis hotline, such as a domestic violence hotline, The Trevor Project, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline or the National Sexual Assault Hotline. She doesn't have to leave home to make a difference in the world.

Dear Annie: I work in a nursing home and enjoy chatting with the residents. They are so proud to say that there has been a new member of their family added through marriage or birth. However, more and more, they have no photo of this joyful event to show. We are so often using only our electronic devices to send photos, and our elderly population can be left out.

Please remember to send a real photo to a family member who does not have electronic devices -- or even if the person does. It's a wonderful thing to have pictures

of loved ones to look at. Don't forget to label each photo with a name and date. -- Memory-Maker

Dear Memory-Maker: You've inspired me to have some photos printed and sent to family this week, and I hope many others are inspired in the same

way. Thank you so much for raising this issue, as I'm sure it's one that many of us have overlooked.

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

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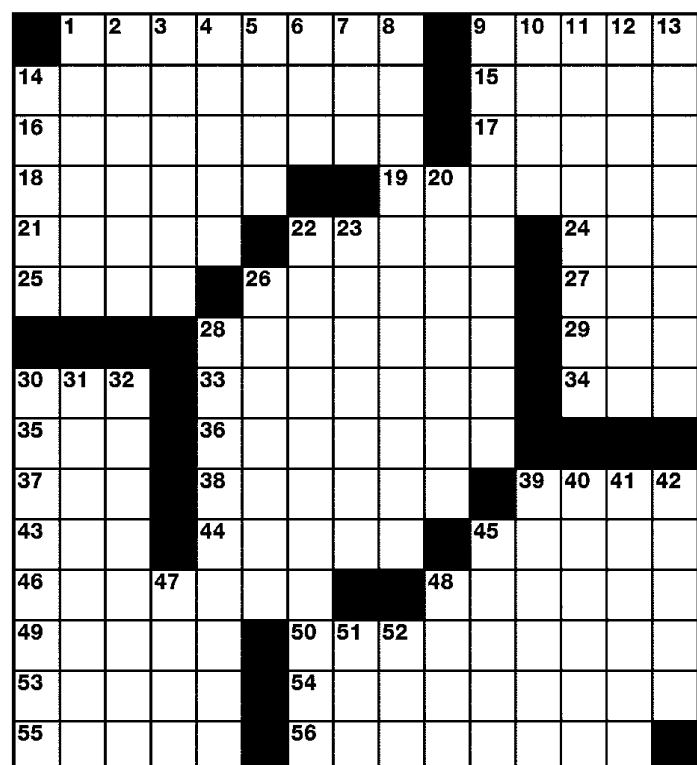
Answer to previous puzzle
EBAN MESA JULEP
LOLA AVON USOFA
DRIBBLING NERFS
ODE MOLIERE EIS
RENOWN CRIBBAGE
ARALSEA SURLY
DOTE BODEGA
ONE RIBBONS MOD
SHARIF DIVE
SCRUM FILMSET
SCRIBBLE RIVERA
ERA ASATEAM RPI
NEVER CARIBBEAN
DWEB EINS BRIE
SYNCS SLOE CEDE
4/14/18

Annie's Mailbox

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Anna Stiga
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Redundancy, from the Greek
 - 9 Mideast equivalent of 7 Down
 - 14 Early Internet radio format
 - 15 Name on the cover of *The Seagull*
 - 16 Initial encouragement
 - 17 Without a stop
 - 18 Social network of a sort
 - 19 Only male-lead Emmy actor for comedy and drama
 - 21 Bays, for example
 - 22 Misbelief
 - 24 Miss descriptor
 - 25 Got to know
 - 26 Third word followed in a Williams play
 - 27 Ate, with "away"
 - 28 Bar
 - 29 Nontraditional, for short
 - 30 Eloquent gift
 - 33 Source of a nasal congestion remedy
 - 34 Rap-sheet letters
 - 35 Syfy sister channel
 - 36 Persistent borrowers
 - 37 Tasty center
 - 38 Under canvas
 - 39 Certain extremities
 - 43 Dry ___
 - 44 Be very persistent
 - 45 Music class
 - 46 Chandleresque
- DOWN**
- 1 Explosive in a maritime metaphor
 - 2 "A Boy's Best Friend" of kid lit
 - 3 Opposite of "blue"
 - 4 Sites for springs
 - 5 Contemptuous comment
 - 6 Source of oral-exam assistance
 - 7 Headmaster address
 - 8 Postwar building-boom beneficiaries
 - 9 Virtual reality images
 - 10 Not just yet
 - 11 Flip-top product
 - 12 Nimitz Highway locale
 - 13 Three-generation motorsports surname
 - 14 "Bottle with the doves" perfume brand
 - 20 Not impartial
 - 22 AFI's #15 movie quote (1982)
 - 23 Extends occupancy, perhaps
 - 26 Combat-zone engineers
 - 28 John Glenn, circa 1957
 - 30 Large symbol of Basque nationalism
 - 31 Not until
 - 32 Durable protectors
 - 39 It's placed beside the gutter
 - 40 Making no sense
 - 41 Already ready
 - 42 European equivalent of 7 Down
 - 45 Running-water creation
 - 47 Take a trip
 - 48 Pendant
 - 51 Quick flight
 - 52 Quick plunge



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Global stocks mostly up as trade, Syria uncertainties ease

By **YOUKYUNG LEE**

AP Business Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Global stock markets were mostly higher Friday after the U.S. said it was exploring the possibility of returning to trade talks with 11 Pacific countries. Sentiment also improved as the U.S. said it is consulting allies before making a final decision on possible military strikes against Syria.

KEEPING SCORE: France's CAC 40 rose 0.3 percent to 5,327 and Germany's DAX gained 0.6 percent to 12,490. Britain's FTSE 100 was down 0.1 percent at 7,252. Futures augured a tepid start on Wall Street with S&P and Dow futures both up 0.2 percent.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "U.S.-centric

politics once again played the key role in shifting the alternating market sentiment with President Donald Trump toning down on the attacks upon Syria," Jingyi Pan, a market strategist at IG in Singapore, said in a daily commentary. "Early movers in the Asian region have certainly caught on this improved sentiment, with the icing on the cake being President Donald Trump's directive to consider the re-joining of the Trans-Pacific Partnership."

TRADE: Trade has been a big issue that swayed global stock markets since the onset of the trade dispute between the United States and China. Those concerns took a back seat as Trump asked advisers to explore the

possibility of the U.S. returning to trade talks with 11 Pacific nations to rejoin the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

SYRIA: Trump put off a final decision on possible military strikes against Syria after tweeting earlier that they could happen "very soon or not so soon at all." The White House said on Thursday the United States will continue to consult its partners and allies. The statement eased worries about escalation of tensions. Trump's earlier tweet suggested that he wanted to retaliate against Russia after the recent suspected chemical attack in Syria.

ASIA'S DAY: Asian markets finished higher. Nikkei 225 rose 0.6 percent to 21,778.74. South Korea's Kos-

pi advanced 0.5 percent to 2,455.07. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index edged down 0.1 percent to finish at 30,808.38. China's Shanghai Composite Index lost 0.7 percent to 3,159.05. Australia's S&P/ASX200 rose 0.2 percent to 5,829.10. Stocks in Taiwan, Singapore were higher but in the Philippines and Indonesia they were lower.

CHINA DATA: China's global trade balance swung to a rare deficit in March as exports dropped, but its surplus with the United States stood at \$15.4 billion. Exports contracted 2.7 percent from a year earlier to \$174.1 billion, down from the 24.4 percent growth for the first two months of

See **STOCKS**, Page 12C

CATTLE

Continued from Page 5C

to his family.

"If we can prove out that these advantages exist from using this technology ... I think adoption of IDA across a broad range of farming systems, particularly large farming systems, would be a no-brainer," Watson says.

Dairy farming is just one industry benefiting from AI, which is being applied in fields as diverse as journalism, manufacturing and self-driving cars. In agriculture, AI is being developed to estimate crop health using drone footage and parse out weed killer between rows of cotton.

Yasir Khokhar, the former Microsoft employee who is the founder and CEO of Connecterra, said the inspiration for the idea came after living on a dairy farm south of Amsterdam.

"It turns out the technology farmers use is really outdated in many respects," he says. "What does exist is very cumbersome to use, yet agriculture is one of those areas that desperately needs technology."

Underlying IDA is Google's open-source TensorFlow programming framework, which has helped spread AI to many disciplines. It's a language built on top of the commonly used Python code that helps connect data from text, images, audio or sensors to neural networks — the algorithms that help computers learn. The language has been downloaded millions of times and has about 1,400 people contributing code, only 400 of whom work at Google, according to product manager Sandeep Gupta.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 5C

Plaintiff: Felix Chaves and Sons Construction
Respondent: Price Energy Division
Type of Case: contract/consumer/debt
Date: April 6, 2018

Plaintiff: Kassie Abrego
Respondent: Adrain Abrego
Type of Case: Divorce
Date: April 10, 2018

Plaintiff: Mary Rodriguez
Respondent: Samuel Rodriguez
Type of Case: divorce
Date: April 10, 2018

Plaintiff: Bianca Rivera
Respondent: Justin Rivera
Type of Case: divorce
Date: April 11, 2018

(Note: The State of Texas is listed as prosecutor for all listed county court judgments)

Defendant: Nicholas Kirn
Offense: Fleeing Police Officer
Sentence: \$100 Fine, \$267 Court Cost
Date: March 29

Defendant: Daniel Vierra
Offense: Criminal Trespass
Sentence: \$100 fine, \$267 Court cost, 30 days in jail
Date: March 29, 2018

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Jimmye Ruth
Grantee: Rangeland Properties
Property: Being a 3.0 acre of trac land out of the NE/4 of section 13, block 13, T-1-S T and P Railroad Survey Co.
Date: April 5, 2018

Warranty Deed with Vendor's Lien

Grantor: Chipper Lee Smith
Grantee: Mark Segraves
Property: Being a 0.4355 acra tract of land, more or less, out of SW/4 of section four, in block 32, T-1-S T and P Railroad Co.
Date: April 4, 2018

Grantor: Thomas O Tafuro
Grantee: Jeannien Thibault
Property: The surface estate only of the rear 71 feet of lot 18, block four
Date: April 5, 2018

Grantor: Silver Leaf Coomunitas
Grantee: Andrew Lasater and Natashe Lasater
Property: Being all of lot number 12, in block one.
Date: March 5, 2018

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AP sources: US, Emirates near deal to solve air subsidy spat



AP photo
In this May 4, 2014 file photo, an Etihad Airways plane prepares to land at the Abu Dhabi airport in the United Arab Emirates. The United States and the United Arab Emirates are nearing a deal to resolve a years-old spat over alleged government subsidies to Emirati airlines that the major U.S. airlines claim have tilted the competition against them.

By **JOSH LEDERMAN**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and the United Arab Emirates are nearing a deal to resolve a years-old spat over alleged government subsidies to Emirati airlines that the major U.S. airlines claim have tilted the competition against them, four individuals familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

Under the budding deal, Dubai-based Emirates and Abu Dhabi-based Etihad Airways would agree to voluntarily open up their accounting books, long accused by the U.S. airlines of obscuring billions in subsidies. The airlines will also assert to the United States that they currently have no plans to add additional flights to the United States from Europe or other destinations outside of the United Arab Emirates.

The deal will closely mirror one reached in January between the U.S. and Qatar, the individuals said. Despite years of rancorous debate, that deal was broadly embraced both by the Qataris and by the big U.S. airlines, making it an attractive model to replicate. The individuals weren't authorized to discuss the deal ahead of its completion and requested anonymity.

Although the deal has yet to be finalized and formally adopted, both sides have agreed to the broad outlines of the deal, the individuals said. It was unclear exactly when it would be completed. The State Department official overseeing the issue, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs Manisha Singh, is in Peru this week as part of Vice President Mike Pence's delegation to the Summit of the Americas.

The State Department said "discussions are ongoing" but declined to confirm the details of the emerging deal, adding that there was "nothing to report at this time." The White House did not respond to a request for comment, and the Emirati Embassy in Washington had no comment.

The three major U.S. carriers — Delta Air Lines, American Airlines and United Airlines — have spent huge sums over the last three years pressing the Obama administration and Trump administration for tough action, and have been eager to show a win on the issue. The airlines have hoped that if they have more visibility into the finances of the state-owned Emirati airlines, the Emiratis will no longer be able to get away with unfair subsidies.

Both of the Emirati airlines have long denied receiving unfair government subsidies, as has Doha-based Qatar Airways. But the U.S. airlines claim that the Gulf airlines have managed to mask payments to their airlines through creative accounting, such as catering contracts arranged at far below market rates.

It was unclear precisely what transparency measures the Emiratis will agree to in the deal. But in the Qatari arrangement, Qatar agreed within one year to releasing audited financial statements for Qatar Airways "in accordance with internationally-recognized accounting standards." Within two years, Qatar Airways is to disclose any transactions with other state-owned entities, such as caterers or other companies that support airline operations.

The other major concern of the U.S. airlines regards start so-called "Fifth Freedoms" flights — routes that go from third countries, such as those in Europe, directly to the United States. Emirates Airline currently offers "Fifth Freedom" flights in which passengers can fly from New York-area airports to Milan, Italy or Athens without ever setting foot in the UAE.

The U.S. carriers claim those flights offered by flag carriers of the UAE undercut the flights they offer on the same routes. But the Gulf airlines have pointed out that some of the U.S. carriers also offer flights that never set foot in their home country, such as Delta's direct flight from Manila, Philippines, to Tokyo.
Under the scenario U.S. airlines fear, Emirates

or Etihad could expand their offerings by adding flights from Abu Dhabi or Dubai to, say, Paris or London, stop to pick up more passengers, then fly on to New York.

The U.S. airlines had sought a "freeze" — a binding commitment that they wouldn't offer any more Fifth Freedom flights — from the Gulf airlines, but appear to have fallen short. Instead, they are likely to receive a side-letter or similar document that states that as of now, there are no plans to offer any more such flights, at least partially addressing the U.S. concerns. The side document is still being drafted, several individuals briefed on the discussions said.

For the UAE, the agreement averts the more serious step U.S. airlines wanted: re-opening the so-called open-skies treaties that could ultimately lead to less favorable conditions for Persian Gulf airlines.

Though on the same side of the airline dispute, Qatar and the UAE oppose each other in a bitter, unrelated standoff. Last year, the UAE, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations blockaded Qatar after accusing it

of supporting extremism and fomenting dissent throughout the region.

Qatar has worked to change that perception, and its ruling emir was praised by President Donald Trump this week in an Oval Office meaning for significant progress on that front. The Qatari deal in January on the airline dispute increased the pressure on rival UAE to reach a similar agreement quickly.

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STOCKS

Continued from Page 11C

2018, customs data showed Friday. Imports rose 14.4 percent to \$179.1 billion, though that was down from 21.7 percent growth in January and February.

OIL: Benchmark U.S. crude rose 31 cents to \$67.38 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 0.4 percent on Thursday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gained 24 cents to \$72.26 per barrel in London. It shed 0.1 percent the day before.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 107.63 yen from 107.32 yen. The euro strengthened to \$1.2336 from \$1.2328.

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BALLOT

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name of child - Newborn – 2 years: _____

Name of child – 3 – 5 years: _____

Name of child – 6 – 10 years: _____

**You must vote for ONE child in EACH category.
Incomplete ballots will be disqualified.**

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Fill out ballot fully. Must be original newspaper.
No photo copies will be accepted.

LIMIT 1 BALLOT PER PERSON, PER DAY!
You must vote in each age category!

Employees of the Big Spring Herald are not eligible to vote.

Winners will be announced in MAY!
Ballot due before noon on Monday, April 23rd.

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CUTEST KIDS CONTEST

NEWBORN - 2 YEARS OLD



Adelyn Julianna Doporto



Alianna Garcia



Alona Rodriguez



Angelina Lyndsey Moore



Audrianna Arena Blevins



Avanleigh LeAnn Salinas



Azrielle Nykole Juarez



Blaine Gorman



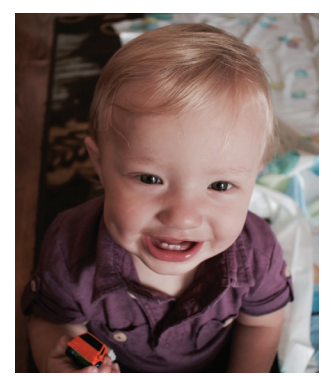
Blayklee Rae Galloway



Bronx Daniel Osborne



Brynlee Renee Coates



Carter James Gross



Catti-brie LeAnn Wheeler



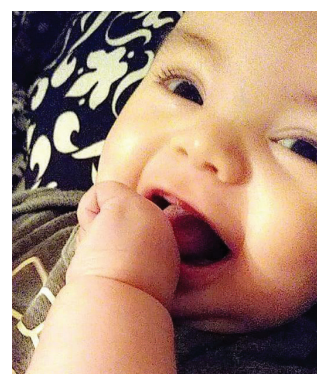
Claudio Azul Hernandez



Colt Ryan Gilbert



Colton James Garcia



Damian Wayne Farr



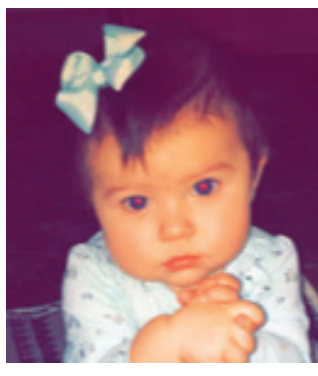
Drayce Michael Rios



Dylan Thomas Brown



Elijah Henry Rios



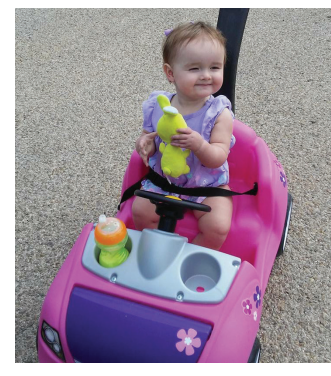
Evelyn Marie Ruth Rodriguez



Fayjhen Franks



Florentino Urso Hernandez



Freyja Mari Hale



Gabriela Moon Rodriguez



Gabriella Sanders



Grant Wylie Larson



Hannah Rose Miller



Harper Chayce Harding



Heavenly Faith Erickson



Ian Daniel Kiley



Isabella Grace Ross



Isabelle Julia Huitt



Isley Kennedy



Jaliyah Gonzales



Jaxson Cryrus Hancock



Jaxtyn Gonzales



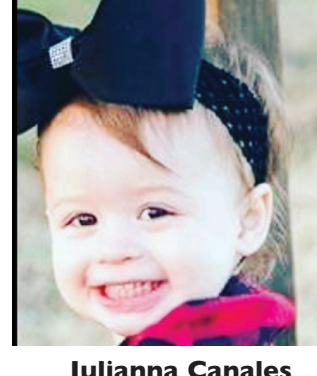
Jayson Cisneros



Jazlyn Villa



Jazmyne Ellianna Carrillo



Julianna Canales



Kameron Layne Martinez



Kanyon Daniel Osborne



Kayden Cobain Cate



Kaylin Thomas



Kenley Uranga



Killian Webb



Kollen A Anderson



Kyle Edward Heckler



Kynzlee Moore



Laena Sky Escovedo



Layni Jourdan



Leiza Brecklee Jan Atkinson



Lennox & Legend Doporto

CUTEST KIDS CONTEST

NEWBORN - 2 YEARS OLD



Leo M. Juarez



Lyndon James Wheeler



Maddelyn Arista



Maleah and Maddox Paredes



Michael Wayne Childress



Miguel Angel Garcia



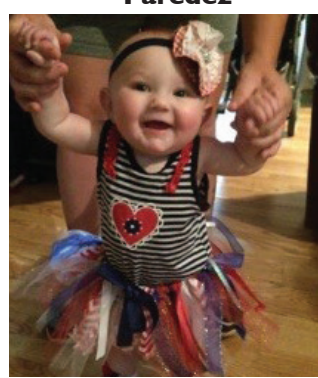
ND Mason



Nova Rain Walker



Oakley Paige



Paityn Henderson



Peyton "PJ" Johnson



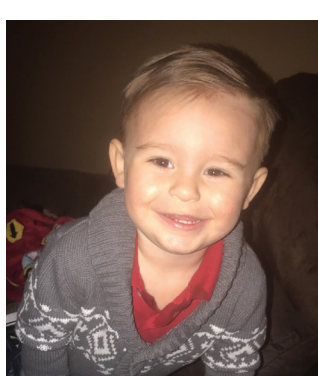
Piper Moore



Reveille Ramey



Richard Lopez



Salvador Aiden Garcia, IV



Sawyer Faye Dunn



Sayler Grace Childress



Scarlett Adale Phillips



Scarlett Grace Sawyer



Scarlett Rain Robles



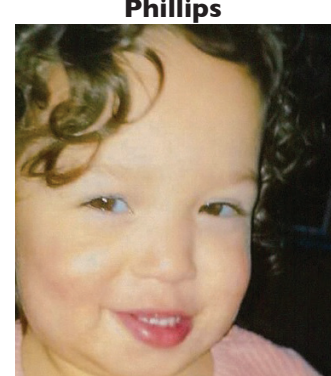
Sofia Rios



Sophia Lynn Murray



Talena Autumn Rodriuez



Veda Rodriguez



Vigo Raul Gutierrez



Walter Nash Phillips



Wyatt James Hopper



Ysabel Contreras



Zatiah Henry Rivera



Zayden Solis

LIMIT 1 BALLOT PER
PERSON, PER DAY!
BALLOTS DUE
BEFORE NOON ON
MONDAY, APRIL 23RD.

**WINNERS WILL BE
ANNOUNCED IN MAY!**

CUTEST KIDS CONTEST

3-5 YEAR OLDS



Aleyana Faith Rios



Amiya Love Rios



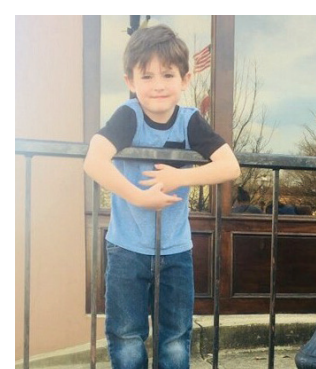
Aria Moore



Azariah Patton



Blandon Moore



Bo Ray Gross



Easton Scott



Emerson Jane McCall



Ethan Robert Miller



Gizelle Phillips



Haylie Rae Murray



Jaxon Mendoza



Kyea Fontanez



Kynlee Burgins



Kynzlee Crawley



Marlie Eleanor McKain



Melania Elizabeth Sorola



Nyla Fontanez



Paxton Royce Sipler



Preston Wilbert



Randi Leigh Paige



Reagan Wilkerson



Ryan Young



Ryker Kye Ver Steeg



Salvador Toro Hernandez



Wyatt Sullivan

CUTEST KIDS CONTEST

6-10 YEAR OLDS



Aaliyah Martinez



Amariah Patton



Blakely Rodgers



Brianna Partlow



Creidence Sanders



Gage Jourdan



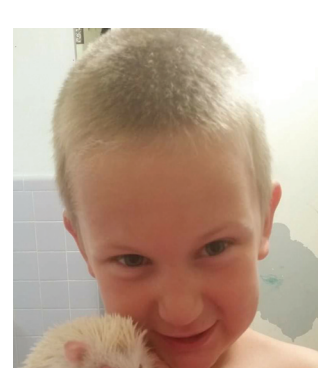
Ilianna Phillips



Kasey Madison Ramirez



Lars Josiah Hawk Stephens



Logan Norwood



Marcos Cristoval White



Raymond Porter, Jr.



Rebecca Boudloche



Taya Gill



Tyler Mendoza

BALLOTS DUE BEFORE NOON ON MONDAY, APRIL 23RD