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HERALD

BIG SPRING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2018



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Council ponders golf course issues

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

Issues at the Big Spring Municipal Golf Course at Comanche Trail Park were the main topic of discussion at Tuesday evening's Big Spring City Council meeting. Council members heard and unanimously approved remedies

for two maintenance issues at the golf course before launching into a 30-minute discussion of further issues at the course related to both infrastructure and discipline. The two issues approved by the council included a budget amendment to replace a well pump at

See **ISSUES**, Page 3

HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Big Spring Mayor Larry McLellan presents a certificate to Big Spring Tourism Director Hayley Herrera recognizing her graduation from a three-year course with the Texas Travel Industry Association, naming her a Certified Travel Executive. Herrera organized and produced the new Big Spring Travel Guide as her culminating project for the course. Big Spring Community Services Director Debbie Wegman, left, introduced Herrera and spoke about her accomplishment.



Two locals graduate from Young Marines, Cross Road Unit



HERALD photo/Jordan Parr

Shown above are the first ever Young Marine graduates of the Cross Roads Unit, Young Marine Sergeants Raven Holguin and Ty Clark.

By **JORDAN PARR**
 Sports Editor

Since the Young Marines' humble beginnings in 1958 with one unit and a handful of boys, the organization has grown respectively with units throughout the country and overseas.

The Young Marines strengthens the lives of America's youth by teaching the importance of self-confidence, academic achievement, honoring our veterans, good citizenship, community service and living a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

The Young Marines promotes the mental, moral and physical development of its members. The program focuses on character building and leadership, and promotes a lifestyle that is conducive to being productive members of society. The Young Marines is the offi-

cially recognized youth organization of the United States Marine Corps to the Defense Department's Drug Demand Reduction effort, and is open to all youth ages eight through completion of high school. The only membership requirement is that the youth MUST be in good standing at school.

The mission of the Young Marines is to positively impact America's future by providing quality youth development programs for boys and girls that nurtures and develops its members into responsible citizens.

Upon joining a local Young Marines unit, recruits undergo a 26-hour orientation program, generally spread out over several weekly meetings. They learn general subjects such as history, customs and courtesies, close order drill, physical fitness and military rank structure.

After graduating from Young Marines Recruit Training, Young Marines have the opportunity to learn even more

new skills, earn rank, wear the Young Marine uniform and work toward ribbon awards. Young Marines earn ribbons for achievement in areas such as leadership, community service, swimming, academic excellence, first aid and drug resistance education.

The Cross Roads Unit of Young Marines here in Big Spring, run by Mr. and Mrs. Rodman, is a two time Unit of the year award winner and graduated their first two Young Marines on Monday night. Young Marine Sergeants, Raven Holguin and Ty Clark, became the first two Young Marines to graduate from the Cross Roads Unit.

Young Marine Sgt Ty Clark has been a member of the Cross Roads Unit for four years. Ty will use the skills and knowledge gained during his time with young marines as he continues his education at Howard College next year, where he will be pursuing an AAS degree in criminal justice. Ty will work part time at the Howard County Jail while continuing his

See **MARINES**, Page 3

Griffith honored by Hangar 25



HERALD photo/Jordan Parr

Guy Griffith, left, was recognized by Hangar 25 as the Veteran of the Month. Above, he receives his remembrance ribbon on Tuesday from Bruce Schooler, right, who is a member of the board of directors for Hangar 25.

By **JORDAN PARR**
 Sports Editor

On Tuesday, Hangar 25 honored Guy Griffith who served our Nation for twenty years as a pilot for the US Air Force.

Griffith was born in Vicksburg Mississippi in 1930, and after graduating high school he attended OI' Miss and the University of Nebraska where he earned his bachelors degree. Griffith joined the Air Force in 1951, and while serving, he earned his masters degree from Chapman College in Orange, California.

Griffith got orders for his flight training and was assigned to Bartow Air Base in Bartow, Florida, where he completed his initial flight training on the T-6 aircraft. After completing his initial flight training, he was assigned to Bryan Air Force Base in Bryan, Texas, where he flew the T-28, a prop aircraft designed to fly like a jet for training of early jet pilots.

Griffith then moved on to train on the T-33 while stationed at Bryan to complete his training and earn his wings as one of the first Air Force jet pilots.

After Graduating from Bryan, Griffith's first assignment was at Laughlin Air Force Base in Del Rio, Texas, where he flew his first real fighter, the F-80 Shooting Star, which was the first operational fighter jet in the US military, and where he did his first aircraft weapons training. It was the first aircraft that flew over 500 mph at level flight.

After completing his gunnery training in Del Rio, Griffith was assigned to Luke Air Force Base, flying the

See **GRIFFITH**, Page 3

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Big Spring Herald
Readers' Choice
AWARDS



Nominate Your Favorite Starting Monday, May 28th!

Obituaries

Faye "Mama Faye" Stallings



Faye "Mama Faye" Stallings, 88, of Big Spring, died Monday, May 21, 2018. Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday, May 24, 2018, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

She was born Jan. 24, 1930, in Big Spring to Lester and Zelma Anderson Newton. Faye married Raymond Stallings in 1948 in Big Spring.

Faye was a lifelong resident of Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High School. She worked in the Registrar's Office at Howard College for a number of years. Her passion was cooking

and sharing what she cooked with others.

Survivors include her husband, Raymond Stallings; one son, Gary Stallings and wife, Cynthia of Fredericksburg; one grandson, Kneel Stallings and wife, Linda Kaye of Big Spring; two great-grandchildren, Saige Stallings and Sawyer Stallings; and one great-great-grandchild, Bentley Stallings.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and one son, Jim Stallings.

The family suggests memorials to Prairie View Baptist Church, 1004 W. FM 2230, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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

Paid Obituary

Anne Sigmon

Anne Sigmon, 84, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, May 22, 2018, at Stonewall Memorial Hospital in Aspermont, Texas. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Thursday, May 24, 2018 at Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Aurelia Paredes

Aurelia Paredes, 93, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, May 22, 2018, at her residence. Vigil services will be 7 p.m. Thursday, May 24, 2018, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Friday, May 25, 2018, at Holy Trinity Catholic Parish. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Survivors include three daughters, Emilia Hernandez and husband, Ray, Irma Olivas and husband, Robert, and Julieta Martinez and husband, Joe all of Big Spring; three sons, Mario Paredes of Big Spring, Freddie Paredes and wife, Irma of El Paso, and Armando Paredes and wife, Amber of Big Spring; 11 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, one daughter; and four brothers.

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

Paid Obituary

Police, Sheriff Reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **GARY LYNN EAGLE**, 22, of 819 W 6th St., was arrested on warrants of possession of marijuana less than two ounces, and on possession of controlled substance in between 3 to 28 grams.

- **JOEL NATHANIEL ROBERTS**, 38, of 172 Register Rd., was arrested on a warrant with another agency.

- **SETH DAVID MITCHELL**, 34, of 1607 E 3rd St., was arrested on a warrant of burglary of habitation.

- **DONNIE RODRIQUEZ**, 44, of 1605 Harding St., was arrested on charges tamper with identification number, unauthorized use of vehicle, and theft of property in between \$2,500 and \$30,000.

- **SKY LYNN FERREL**, 19, of 2909 East University Blvd., was arrested on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana less than two ounces

- **JESUS SOLIZ**, 26, of 1309 Lamar, was arrested on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana

less than two ounces.

- **ANASTASIA LEAONICIA LOZANO**, 31, of 507 W 6th St., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

- **ARTURO JUAN VELA**, 35, of 1803 Choctaw, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported on MM 178 West Bound, and in the 700 block of Abrams St.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 1600 block if S Gregg St., and in the 700 block of Abrams St., and on 3600 block of W Hwy 80.

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson Rd.

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 81 inmates at the time of this report.

- **GARY LYNN EAGLE**, 22, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of possession of controlled substance in between 3 to 28, and possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

- **SKY LYNN FERREL**, 19, was arrested by BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana less than two ounces

- **ANASTASIA LEAONICIA LOZANO**, 31, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **SETH DAVID MITCHELL**, 34, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant of burglary of habitation.

- **JOEL NATHANIEL ROBERTS**, 38, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant of rape juvenile.

- **DONNIE RODRIQUEZ**, 44, was arrested by BSPD on charges tamper with identification number, unauthorized use of vehicle, and theft of property in between \$2,500 and \$30,000.

- **JESUS SOLIZ**, 26, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

- **ARTURO VELA**, 35, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Take Note

- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

- The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending school.

- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop mortgage foreclosure and are in need of help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

- 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 supper 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 finan-

cially 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 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.

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

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

Alcohol

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Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported on NE 8th and Main St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 5200 block of Ratliff. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 100 block of NW 9th St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2100 block of Maryland Dr. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of E 3rd St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of Joshua Dr. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **FIRE STRUCTURE** was reported in the 200 block of Edwards Blvd.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

- **Bring Everyone Into the Zone, or BEITZ Support Group**, is a Veteran based peer group. The purpose of this group is to provide peer to peer support to Service Members, Veterans, and families (SMVF), especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), Military Sexual Trauma (MTS), and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ Meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane. For more questions and information email, francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org or call 432-268-3003.

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MEMBER 2018

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

10 Things to Know for Today

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

- 1. 'WE'RE DRIVING ON'**
Secretary of State Mike Pompeo says preparations are still underway for Trump's historic summit with Kim Jong Un next month even after the U.S. president expressed pessimism it will take place as scheduled.
- 2. HISTORY COULD BE MADE IN GEORGIA ELECTION**
Democrats give Atlanta lawyer Stacey Abrams a chance to become the first black female governor in U.S. history.
- 3. SIN CITY FACING MAJOR LABOR ACTION**
Las Vegas casinos could watch tens of thousands of employees walk off the job for the first time in more than three decades after union workers vote to authorize a strike.
- 4. HOW SOME STATES ARE DEALING WITH OPIOID CRI-**

SIS
An Associated Press check of data in some key states finds that the use of involuntary commitment for drug addiction is rising.

5. WHAT INDUSTRY IS EMERGING IN VENEZUELA
Dozens of remittances operations have opened to let migrants transfer earnings abroad to relatives, an amount totaling about a \$1 billion each year.

6. FAMED PRIZE-WINNING AUTHOR DIES
Philip Roth, the novelist and fearless narrator of sex, death, assimilation and fate, from the comic madness of

"Portnoy's Complaint" to the elegiac lyricism of "American Pastoral," was 85.

7. TEXAS GOVERNOR HOLDING ROUND TABLE EVENT

The thorny issue of gun control is on the agenda as Republican Greg Abbott, a staunch supporter of gun rights, continues meetings on school violence and safety.

8. TRUMP BOOSTS PRES-

SURE ON JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

The president declines to say whether he has confidence in Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein after the White House negotiated access to classified documents for Trump's congressional allies.

9. MACRON MEETING WITH TECH TITANS

The French president will try to persuade them to use

their global influence to protect worker rights and privacy, and invest in tech literacy for the masses.

10. ROCKETS END WARRIORS' HOME COURT DOMINANCE

Chris Paul and James Harden lead Houston to a 95-92 win over Golden State, ending its NBA-record postseason winning streak at Oracle Arena at 16 games.

ISSUES

Continued from Page 1

the course for \$12,713; and maintenance of two golf cart paths in the amount of \$29,725, which will be part of the fiscal year 2018-2019 budget.

During the discussion of further issues, City Manager Todd Darden presented the council with a list of further infrastructure issues at the course.

"I've outlined in a memo to you some of the things that have been discussed out in the field, with some of the council members by phone, that also need to be addressed. These are concerns that have come through some of our members that are going out to the course," Darden said. "I'm not going to make any excuses for anything, but I think we need to plan a course of action and come up with a list of things that, prioritized, need to be done out there. In this memo there are a list of items that we think are important, but we also feel like that maybe we need to go outside of our expertise and get assistance in those areas."

Council member Howard Stewart works at the Big Spring Country Club golf course and spoke about some of the issues that golf courses in West Texas face.

"It's expensive, y'all. That's where we kind of need to see how much money we want to put into this," Stewart said. "My Number 7 and my number 8 might need a different treatment because of the soil, the sand, the way it even faces the south wind could make a difference on how much water you need. There's people out there, and what's good in Big Spring is not necessarily what's good in Midland. We just need to sit down. In West Texas, if you have tee boxes and greens, you can have a golf course. Fairways are a bonus. As dry as we've been right now, mine are starting to green up, but if I don't have the water to keep it green, that's an issue."

Councilman Jim DePauw said the golf course could be a great selling point for Big Spring.

"I think if we had two primo golf courses in town, people would come on the weekend and play both of them," DePauw said. "I don't think that they're really in competition. Maybe for the local people. We've got the terrain. We've got the topography that the rest of West Texas doesn't have. I remember when the city course attracted lots of people from out of town, but right now it's in disrepair."

Councilman Raul Benavides addressed a more human issue regarding the golf course.

"I played golf out there about a month ago, and I just about had a heart attack," Benavides said. "I have never seen so much entitlement in my life. People parking as close to that green as they could. On Number 15 there were two carts close to the green, a guy with no shoes. Par 3s, they're supposed to stay on the cart path. No golf etiquette whatsoever. To me, it is unreal. I think we have lost control of our golf course. People think they can go out there and do whatever the heck they want to do and not be held accountable. We can spend all the money we want to and it ain't gonna

GRIFFITH

Continued from Page 1

F-84 B&C.

"The F-84 was a great aircraft, but it was hard to get off the ground and required every bit of runway to take off," Griffith said.

After training on the F-84 for a while, he was stationed at Komaki airbase in Nagoya, Japan. Griffith's primary mission while in the Air Force was the delivery of nuclear weapons. While in Japan, he did extensive training on nuclear weapons delivery on target and in air refueling.

Griffith continued training on multiple platforms in the delivery of nuclear payloads, as well as air to air and air to ground combat training. He flew every class of fighter jet up to the F-104 Phantom, which he flew in combat in the Vietnam War out of Saigon.

After his service in Vietnam, Griffith was then given the charge of training other pilots in the flying of the F-104 Phantom as a combat flight instructor. He continued to train younger pilots until he retired from the Air Force in 1971.

Griffith is the living embodiment of the history of jet flight in the United States. His service and story are a testament to the ingenuity and fast paced development of jet flight and its military application. He flew 12 different aircraft in his career in the Air Force due to the rapid advance in jet aircraft technology in the early years of the field.

"We were changing aircraft every few years because the pace at which the technology was developing was just that fast," he said.

Griffith is a living nation treasure, and his experience, knowledge and history are invaluable to our understanding of this pivotal part of our nations history. We thank him for his service and his story, and we say "welcome home" Griffith, it's an honor to have you as a member of our community.

MARINES

Continued from Page 1

education, and prepares himself to become a Texas State Trooper. Congratulations Ty, and good luck in your future endeavors.

Young Marine Sgt Raven Holguin has been a member of the Cross Roads Unit since they first started. Raven is the only Young Marine to be in the

Unit since its beginning five years ago. Raven will be shipping off to San Diego at the end of the summer to pursue his dream of becoming a United States Marine. Raven wants to be an infantryman with the Marines, following the tradition of the Corps as riflemen first. Congratulations Raven, and good luck as you embark on your journey to earn your Eagle, Globe, and Anchor.



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change one darn thing until we change the attitude. I told our superintendent. But we have to come up with a plan to give him some ammunition so when he wants to kick somebody off, he can do it."

In other business, the council presented Big Spring Tourism Director Hayley Herrera with a certificate from the Texas Travel Industry Association naming her a "Certified Tourism Executive" following a three-year course of study. Herrera completed production of the "Official Visitors' Guide: Big Spring, Texas" as her project for the course.

The council also accepted the retirement of Big Spring Community Services Director Debbie Wegman. Wegman was instrumental in organizing and fundraising for the Historic Spring Renovation Project, which completed Phase 1 in November of 2017; Phase 2 is currently under construction. Wegman was successful enough with the implementation of Phase 1 that Phase 2 is completely funded by private funding.

The council also:

- Awarded a bid for city bank depository to BBVA Compass Bank of Big Spring.
- Awarded a bid for a street sweeper in the amount of \$230,800 to Heil of Texas.
- Approved two zoning changes, one from Single-Family Dwelling to Neighborhood Service for the construction and implementation of a medical office building, as requested by Ricardo Arguello; and the second from Neighborhood Service to Single-Family Dwelling in order to place a manufactured home, as requested by Larry Walker.
- Approved addition of a new chapter regarding travel policy to the city's Personnel Policies and Procedures. The policy change implements a per diem rate instead of requiring employees to collect receipts for travel expenses in most circumstances.
- Approved purchase of a time clock and management system for the Fire Department.
- Reaffirmed incumbents

Jim DePauw and Howard Stewart to the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

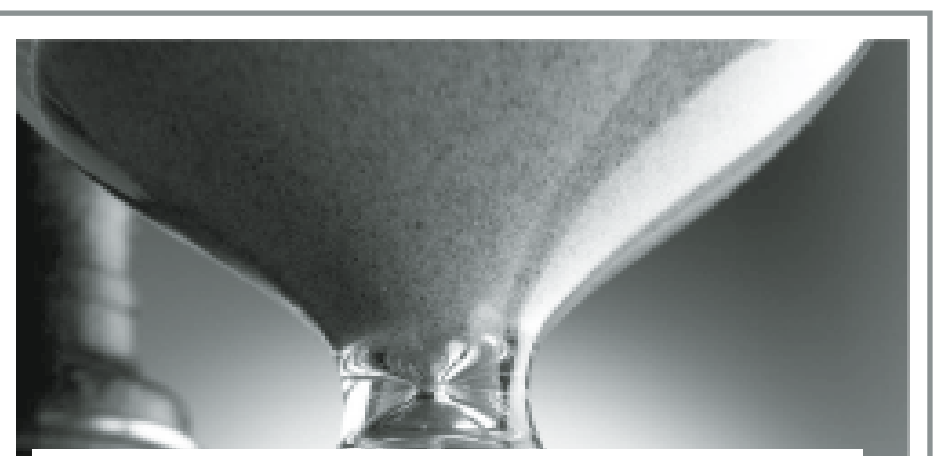
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Anne Sigmon, 84, died Tuesday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Thursday at Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.



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TXDMV warns buyers to beware of flood-damaged vehicles

Special to the Herald

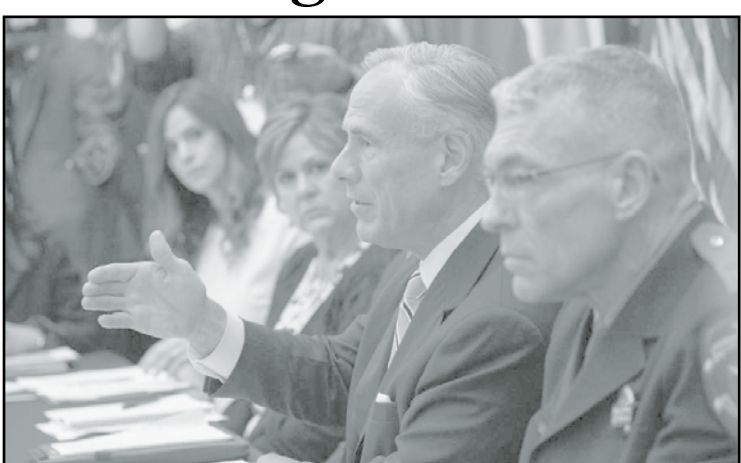
Giving someone a new or used car as a graduation gift may earn you an "A" for effort, but failing to do your homework before buying could be a dangerous and costly mistake. More than eight months after Hurricane Harvey damaged an estimated 500,000 cars and trucks, Texans are still at risk of unknowingly purchasing flood-damaged vehicles.

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) is urging Texans to do their research before buying a new or used car.

"Too many Texans already get taken advantage of by people selling flooded, salvaged, and rebuilt vehicles as though they are in perfect condition," said TxDMV Executive Director Whitney Brewster.

TxDmv uses a national title database under the United States Department of Justice to help stop title fraud and urges consumers to learn how to protect themselves when buying a vehicle. Brewster cautioned, "Don't find a problem after you bought the vehicle. Protect yourself before you buy."

Texas governor's school safety talks to tackle gun control



Gov. Gregg Abbott hosts a roundtable discussion about safety in Texas schools after the recent school shooting in Sante Fe at the Texas state Capitol on May 22, 2018, in Austin, Texas. Abbott convened the first in a series of discussions on school safety Tuesday.

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's meetings on school violence and safety promised to wade into the thorny issue of gun control with the next round, even though the Republican has been a staunch supporter of gun rights and worked to expand them in the state in recent years.

Abbott called for a series of high-level policy meetings after a high school near Houston became the latest to have a mass shooting. Eight students and two teachers were killed last week at Santa Fe High School and more than a dozen wounded.

Wednesday's meeting will include representatives of gun control group

Body of Pakistani killed at Texas school arrives in Karachi



Family members and others carry the casket of Sabika Sheikh, Pakistani exchange student killed in a mass shooting at a high school in Texas, upon arrival at her home in Karachi, Pakistan, Wednesday, May 23, 2018. Her body has arrived in the port city of Karachi, where her family lives.

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — The body of a 17-year-old Pakistani exchange student killed in a mass shooting at a high school in Texas arrived before dawn Wednesday in the port city of Karachi, where her family lived and where she was being buried.

Sabika Sheikh was among 10 students and staff slain Friday at Santa Fe High School. The alleged shooter is 17-year-old Dimitrios Pagourtzis, who is being held on capital murder charges.

Sabika had planned to return home in a few weeks for Eid

al-Fitr, the three-day holiday marking the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

She was her family's oldest child and began classes at Santa Fe High School last August. She had hoped to one day join Pakistan's foreign service.

Her tearful father was there to receive the body at Karachi airport. Abdul Aziz Sheikh has said he hopes her death leads to stricter gun control in the United States.

Later, thousands of mourners, including the provincial governor, attended her funeral at city's mosque.

"Before her death, she was just my daughter, but now she is the daughter of Pakistan, and it is only because of the love of people, who mourned her killing," her father said.

The shooting reignited the debate over gun control in the United States. Pakistan requires gun owners to be licensed, but the rules are poorly enforced, particularly in the tribal regions along the border with Afghanistan. Heavily armed militant groups have carried out scores of attacks in recent years.

AP photo

Texas Gun Sense and the Texas State Rifle Association, which is affiliated with the National Rifle Association. A Texas Gun Sense official has said the group will press for tougher background checks for gun sales, and "red flag" laws that keep guns away from people deemed a danger to themselves or others.

But the gun-related groups are just two of the two dozen invited to attend. Like Tuesday's meeting, Wednesday looks to have a heavy discussion on tracking student mental health.

Abbott says he wants to keep guns away from people "who would try to murder our children." But critics say Texas isn't serious about changing its gun-loving culture.

The governor has long championed expanding gun rights in Texas, signing bills in recent years that reduced

the cost and training to get a handgun license, and allowing the state's 1.2 million license holders to openly carry their weapons in public. Texas also allows rifles to be openly carried in public. Those bills were strongly supported by the NRA affiliate attending Wednesday's meeting.

Police have said the 17-year-old suspect in the Santa Fe High School shooting used his father's shotgun

and .38-caliber handgun.

The reaction in Texas to the shooting stands in sharp contrast to the response after the Feb. 14 rampage at a high school in Parkland, Florida, that killed 17 people. Three weeks after that mass shooting, Florida politicians defied the NRA and passed a gun-control package after a lobbying campaign led by student survivors of the attack.

Establishment Democrats relieved after Texas House runoff

By PAUL J.

WEBER and WILL WEISSERT

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — National Democrats breathed a sigh of relief after a liberal outsider lost her runoff in a high stakes U.S. House race for one of three Republican-held seats they hope to flip this November in the deep red state.

The most-watched race of Tuesday's Texas primary runoffs saw liberal activist Laura Moser defeated by Lizzie Pannill Fletcher, a former Planned Parenthood board member. The result was cheered by the party establishment,

who saw Moser as an unelectable drag on their chances of retaking the House.

Democrats also nominated a candidate for governor who breaks barriers but is expected to struggle to gain traction against Republican Gov. Greg Abbott in November. Lupe Valdez is the first openly gay and first Latina gubernatorial candidate in Texas. But she's faltered on the campaign trail with basic policy issues while failing to win the endorsement of some Hispanic activists because of her past cooperation with federal immigration agents while serving as Dallas County sheriff.

Both outcomes soothed party nerves in a slate of runoffs Tuesday night that otherwise unfolded with little fanfare in Texas, which remained shaken by a high school shooting that killed 10 people just as early voting ended last week.



AP photo

Lizzie Pannill Fletcher, a Democrat candidate for the 7th Congressional District, and her husband, Scott Fletcher, leave after voting in the primary runoff at St. Anne's Church, Tuesday, May 22, 2018, in Houston



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Trump seethes over Russia probe, calls for end to 'SPYGATE'

By ANNE FLAHERTY,
DESMOND BUTLER and
CHAD DAY

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump escalated his efforts to discredit the Russia investigation Wednesday, saying the FBI has been caught in a "MAJOR spy scandal" over their use of a secret informant to determine whether some of Trump's campaign aides were working with Russia ahead of the 2016 election.

"SPYGATE could be one of the biggest political scandals in history!" Trump said in an early morning Twitter tirade.

Trump and his GOP supporters in Congress are now demanding information on the outside informant, claiming it is proof that the Obama administration was trying to spy on his campaign for political reasons. The White House has negotiated rare access to classified documents

for Trump's congressional allies in a briefing expected Thursday.

"Look how things have turned around on the Criminal Deep State," Trump tweeted Wednesday. "They go after Phony Collusion with Russia, a made up Scam, and end up getting caught in a major SPY scandal the likes of which this country may never have seen before! What goes around, comes around!"

The president's comments came a day after he increased pressure on the Justice Department, declining to say whether he has confidence in Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein. Over the weekend, Trump demanded that the Justice Department investigate the FBI and Justice Department's handling of the Russia probe.

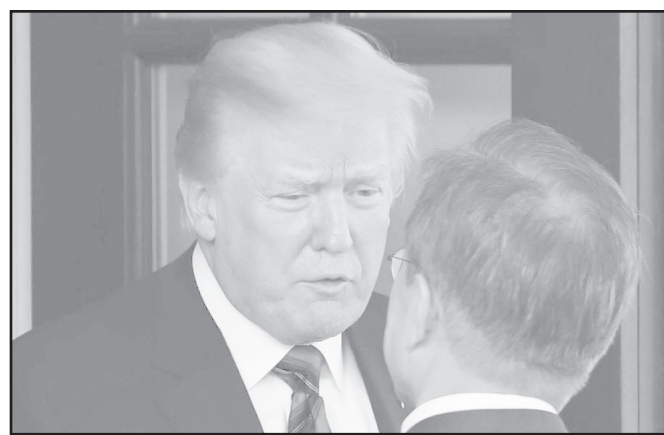
The Justice Department agreed by expanding an open, internal investigation to determine whether there was any politically motivated surveillance. And the White House said that Trump chief of staff John Kelly would

organize the meeting with House lawmakers to review the documents, although he and other White House staffers would not be present.

FBI Director Christopher Wray, National Intelligence Director Dan Coats and Justice Department official Edward O'Callaghan will meet with House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes and House Oversight and Government Reform Chairman Trey Gowdy.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said no Democrats were invited because they had not requested the information, despite calls from lawmakers for the briefing to be bipartisan.

The top Democrat on the House



AP photo
President Donald Trump talks to visiting South Korean President Moon Jae-in as he departs the White House in Washington, Tuesday, May 22, 2018.

intelligence panel, California Rep. Adam Schiff, said the briefing should have been done through the bipartisan "Gang of 8," which includes Republican and Democratic leaders and the top Republicans and Democrats on the House and Senate intelligence panels. That group regularly receives classified briefings.

Tens of thousands of Las Vegas casino workers OK strike

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Las Vegas casinos could watch tens of thousands of employees walk off the job for the first time in more than three decades after union members voted to authorize a strike at any time starting June 1, a move that could cripple the city's world-famous resorts.

About 25,000 members of the Culinary Union who work at 34 different casino-resorts across the tourist destination cast ballots in two sessions Tuesday, showing the collective power of the largest labor organization in Nevada. The move hands union negotiators a huge bargaining chip as they work to solidify new five-year contracts.

The union last voted for a strike in 2002 but reached a deal before employees walked out. The last strike, in 1984, spanned 67 days and cost the city and workers tens of millions of dollars.

The latest strike would mean losing workers with roles critical to making a casino-hotel run: bartenders, housekeepers, cocktail and food servers, porters, bellmen, cooks and other kitchen workers. It would affect properties including Caesars Palace, Planet Hollywood, Bellagio, MGM Grand, Stratosphere, The D and El Cortez.

It also could cause problems for fans heading to the city to watch the Vegas Golden Knights hockey team play in the Stanley Cup Final in early June, a rare feat for a team in its first year.

"I'm here to show the younger generations that this is the way we fight to maintain our jobs, job security, health benefits and to gain a pay raise," Lewis Thomas, a utility porter at the Tropicana casino-hotel, said. "This will be a wake-up call to let (the companies) know we are together, we are united, we are not separated."

The contracts of 50,000 unionized workers are set to expire at midnight May

31, and negotiations with individual casino-operating companies have not led to agreements for new terms.

Union officials have said they want to increase wages, protect job security against the increasing use of technology at hotel-casinos, and strengthen language against sexual harassment.

"We've been in negotiations with the companies, and they are not giving the workers what they deserve according to the economy right now," Geoconda Arguello-Kline, union secretary-treasurer, said after the first voting session. "They are very successful. They have a lot of money."

MGM Resorts International and Caesars Entertainment Corp. operate more than half the properties that would be affected by a strike. MGM said it will keep meeting with the union.

"A vote such as this is an expected part of the process," the company said in a statement after results were released. "We are confident that we can resolve the outstanding contract issues and will come to an agreement that works for all sides."

Caesars released a statement late Tuesday saying it expects to reach an agreement with the union "on or about June 1."

Shares of both casinos slid around 2 percent before the opening bell Wednesday and other gaming-affiliated companies were under pressure as well.

Union members enthusiastically gathered Tuesday at the Thomas and Mack Center at the University of Nevada, Las

Vegas. They high-fived, took selfies and carried signs urging people to vote.

Banners outside said, "Show up or give up, security strike vote" amid pro-union chants in English and Spanish. Some workers chanted, "Hey, Caesars, look around, Vegas is a union town" and "No contract, no peace."

Some employees stopped by in their casino-resort uniforms on their way to or from work, while others donned shirts emblazoned with "Vegas Strong" and the union logo.

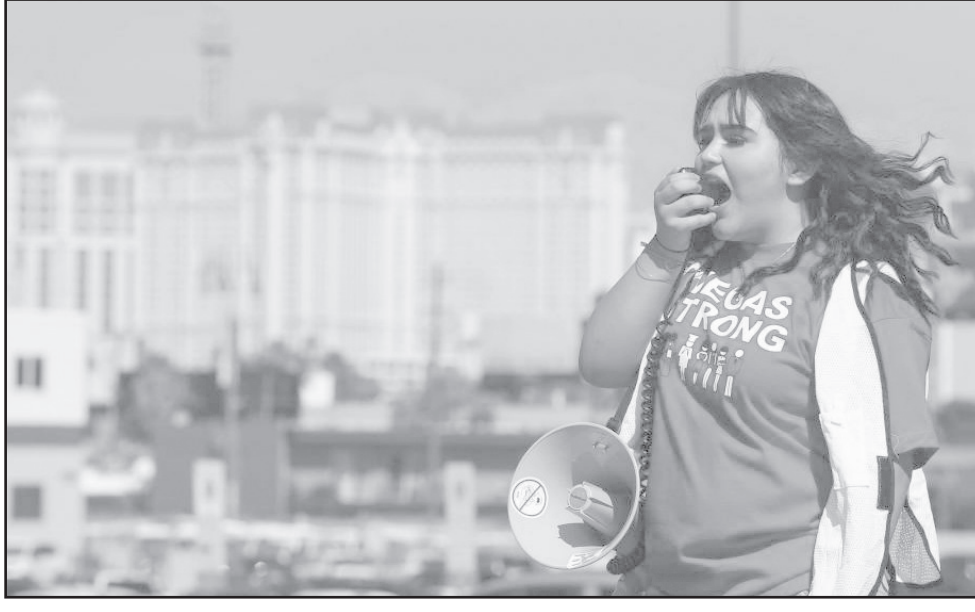
Inside, union organizers verified people were eligible to vote, and workers dropped their paper ballots in numbered boxes.

When casino workers across Las Vegas went on a strike in 1984, union members lost an estimated \$75 million in wages and benefits and the city lost a similar amount in tourism revenue. Millions more were lost in gambling income.

Don Leadbeter, a bellman at the MGM Grand, has worked at Las Vegas casino-hotels for more than four decades and participated in previous strike votes. He said workers this time want to protect their job security and ensure that employers provide training as they adopt more workplace technology.

He said bartenders are already using automated systems that could potentially eliminate their jobs, and guests are now able to check in and out of resorts without interacting with front-desk personnel, putting those jobs at risk, too.

"I want the companies to open up their eyes and think what's going to happen if we go on a strike," Leadbeter said. "That's a lot of business that's going to go down."



RUNOFF

Continued from Page 4

While Democrats have few illusions of ousting Abbott in November, Valdez's win spared the party from putting at the top of their ticket Houston businessman Andrew White, a moderate who personally opposes abortion.

"Tonight is a victory for all of us who are fighting for a stronger and fairer Texas. A tolerant and diverse Texas. A Texas where the everyday person has a voice and a fair shot — just as I had," said Valdez, who once picked green beans as a migrant farmworker.

In Congress, Fletcher's win was one of three Texas primary runoffs that are key to whether Democrats can flip the minimum 24 GOP-held seats they'll need to seize a House majority in November.

Not willing to take any chance,

the fundraising arm for congressional Democrats worked to undercut Moser in a district that Republican John Culberson has held since 2001 — but has shifted to a more Hispanic, better educated battleground that Hillary Clinton narrowly won in 2016.

Moser made the runoff despite the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee criticizing her for writing jokingly in 2014 that she'd rather have teeth pulled than live in small-town Texas.

Susan Wright, a voter in Houston, said she thought "Democrats in Washington really screwed up" by attacking Moser.

"It was too bad they decided to make it sound like someone has done a big investigative report on her. I never saw it," Wright said.

Guns did not appear to be a major issue in the runoff days after the shooting at Santa Fe High School outside Houston.

Hours before polls closed Tuesday, Abbott hosted the first of three round table discussions this week with policymakers to discuss better fortifying schools.

But Abbott hasn't mentioned gun control and Democrats say Texas Republicans — who have a dominating majority in the state Legislature — won't dare cross the National Rifle Association by considering tighter firearm limits. Democratic candidates generally agree on gun control and there hasn't been much debate so far in the runoff races.

Two other Texas districts Democrats hope to flip are Dallas U.S. Rep. Pete Sessions', which supported Clinton instead of Trump, as did Rep. Will Hurd's, encompassing 800 miles of Texas-Mexico border from San Antonio to El Paso. Former NFL linebacker Colin Allred advanced to face Sessions and Air Force veteran Gina Ortiz Jones won to take on Hurd.

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Lady Buffs make strong showing at State Tournament

By JORDAN PARR

Sports Editor

Lady Buff golfers Jillian Jones, Razyl Yanez, Alexis Stercks, Sara Tarbet competed in the 2A State Golf Tournament on Monday and Tuesday at Roy Kizer Golf Course in Austin. While the team withdrew from the competition after shooting a first round combined score of 384, the Lady Buffs took the fight to the competition in the individual rounds.

Jillian Jones shot a first round 76 putting her just two strokes off the lead headed into the second day. Jones followed that up with a second round 75 showing her consistency and cool to put her in a tie for first with Christoval's Taylor Tomlinson. Tomlinson shot a first round 74 but left the door open for Jillian with a second round 77. Jones and Tomlinson competed in a playoff and after one hole were still in a deadlock. On the second hole of the playoff Tomlinson finally bested Jones it what was a fantastic end to a fantastic competition. Although gold was her objective, Jillian brought home the silver medal from the State Tournament for the second straight year. Congratulations Jillian on another great year.

Razyl Yanez came to compete as well. Yanez shot a first round 82 but then put herself right back in the competition with a second round of 80. Razyl finished the tournament in a highly respectable fifth place and just like Jillian showed consistency and calm during a luller second round. Congratulations Razyl on an impressive top five finish



Courtesy photo/Dave Park

Shown above Lady Buff golfers Jillian Jones, Razyl Yanez, Alexis Stercks, Sara Tarbet competed in the 2A State Golf Tournament on Monday and Tuesday at Roy Kizer Golf Course in Austin.

against such stiff competition.

Sara Tarbet showed the team trend as her teammates after shooting a first round 119 she rebounded and dropped her score by ten strokes in the second round posting a 109. Alexis Stercks shot a competitive first round of 107 as well before with-

drawing from the competition.

Congratulation to the Forsan Lady Buffs' Golf Team for another outstanding showing at the highest level of UIL golf. Coach Dave Park and his Ladies have much to celebrate and be proud of as they end their year on a high note.



Courtesy photo/Dave Park

Jillian Jones (left) and Christoval's Taylor Tomlinson (right) meet with tournament official after coming to a draw after two rounds to discuss the rules of a playoff Tuesday at Roy Kizer Golf Course.



Courtesy photo/Dave Park

Jillian Jones posing with her second straight UIL State Tournament silver medal after an amazing round to give her a shot in a playoff for the state championship Tuesday at Roy Kizer Golf Course.

Local business donates to BSHS athletics



Courtesy photo

Lady Steer athletes show off their new gear courtesy of Big Spring Ford and Hondo. Big Spring Steers Athletic Director, Mitch McLemore and Lady Steers Athletic Coordinator, Katie Voss along with the Lady Steer athletes "want to extend our extreme gratefulness to Big Spring Ford and Hondo for their generous donation to our Athletic Program. Their donation provided the Lady Steers with brand new workout gear for this year and years to come. We appreciate their continued support to all Big Spring Athletic programs!"

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One Of A Kind
Condition.\$10,500!Call 713
588 3271

Public Notice

Between the dates of April 19
to April 20th of this year,
Sharp Image Energy, Inc.
had approx. 11,000' of tubing
stolen from two of its well
locations located appx. 1 mile
northeast of Vealmoor in the
NE/4 of Section 19 in Borden
County, TX. On land owned
by Kyle Schmidt.

Sharp Image Energy, Inc is
offering a \$3,500 reward for
information leading to the
recovery of the tubing and
arrest and conviction of the

Public Notice

perpetrators. If you are a
forklift operator who was paid
to load the tubing, please call
us to collect the reward. If
you have any information
regarding this stolen tubing
that belongs to Sharp Image
Energy, Inc. please call us at
432-267-3126 in Big Spring.

#9809 May 20 - June 1, 2018

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Legals

RAILROAD COMMISSION
OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS
DIVISION

DISTRICT 08 Rule 37
Case No. 0310807
DATE OF ISSUANCE:
May 1, 2018
Status/Permit No. 837886
NOTICE OF PROTEST
DEADLINE:
5:00 PM, Jun 5, 2018
Address: Railroad Commis-
sion of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967

Legals

Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email:
SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF
APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the SM ENERGY COM-
PANY, [RRC Operator No.
788997] has made applica-
tion for a spacing exception
permit under the provisions of
Railroad Commission
Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex.
Admin. Code section 3.37).
Applicant seeks exception to
the lease line distance re-
quirement because the Ap-
plicant is less than the re-
quired Rule 37 lease line dis-
tance to an unleased or non-
pooled interest within the
subject unit for the
AMENDED NEW DRILL per-
mit in Sec. 25, Bk. 33 T1S,
T&P RR CO Survey, A-370,
SPRABERRY (TREND
AREA) Field, HOWARD
County, being 4.72 miles SW
direction from BIG SPRING,
Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE
TERMS of Railroad Commis-
sion rules and regulations,
this application may be gran-
ted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if
no protest to the application
is received within the dead-
line. An affected person is
entitled to protest this applica-
tion. Affected persons in-
clude owners of record and
the operator or lessees of re-
cord of adjacent tracts and
tracts nearer to the proposed
well than the minimum lease
line spacing distance. If a
hearing is called, the applic-
ant has the burden to prove
the need for an exception. A
Protestant should be pre-
pared to establish standing
as an affected person, and to
appear at the hearing either
in person or by qualified rep-
resentative and protest the
application with cross-exam-
ination or presentation of a
direct case. The rules of evi-
dence are applicable in the
hearing. If you have any
questions regarding the hear-
ing procedure, please con-
tact the Commission's Dock-
et Services Department at
(512) 463-6848. If you have
questions which are specific
to the Application or the in-
formation set forth in this No-
tice, please contact the Com-
mission's Drilling Permit Unit
at rule 37 (512) 463-6751.

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THIS APPLICATION, AN IN-
TENT TO APPEAR IN
PROTEST MUST BE RE-
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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- Cousin Bill found a great apartment ...
- Big Sister found a great new job...
- Aunt Sue found a dining room table...

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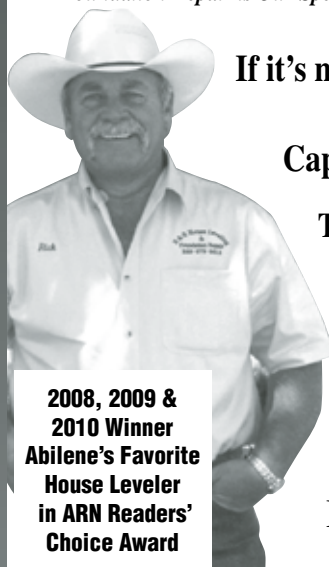
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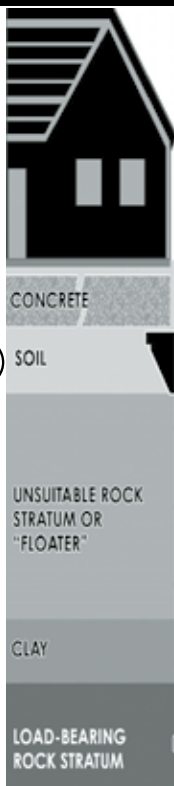
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Legals

OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jun 5, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name : FLETCH B
Lease/Unit Well No. : 1343WA
Lease/Unit Acres : 635.13
Nearest Lease Line (ft) : 1.0

Lease Lines: 414.0 F N (offlease) L,
2123.0 F W (offlease) L
Survey Lines: 414.0 F N (offlease) L, 2123.0 F W (offlease) L

Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location

Legals

Lease Lines: 500.0 F N (OFFLEASE) L
1667.0 F W (OFFLEASE) L
Terminus Location BH
County: HOWARD
Section: 13 Block: 33 T1S
Abstract: 364 Survey: T&P RR CO
Lease Lines: 50.0 F N L
1655.0 F W L
Survey Lines: 50.0 F N L
1655.0 F W L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 330/0, 80.0 acres. This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10300 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Jill Hamilton, at (432) 848-4855.

#9789 May 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2018

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 08
DATE OF ISSUANCE: May 4, 2018
NOTICE OF PROTEST

Legals

DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jun 8, 2018
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

Rule 37 Case No. 0311137
Status/Permit No. 837556

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SM ENERGY COMPANY, [RRC Operator No. 788997] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit for the AMENDED NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 21, Bk. 32 T1S, T&P RR CO Survey, A-162, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, HOWARD County, being

Legals

4.83 miles SE direction from BIG SPRING, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protester should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512) 463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the in-

Legals

formation set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512) 463-6751.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jun 8, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name : TAGGERT B
Lease/Unit Well No. : 0927LS
Lease/Unit Acres : 920.0

Legals

Nearest Lease Line (ft) : 1.0
Lease Lines: 638.0 F S L, 374.0 F W L
Survey Lines: 638.0 F S L, 2376.0 F E L
Wellbore Profiles (s): Horizontal
Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines: 100.0 F S L, 330.0 F W L
Terminus Location BH
County: HOWARD
Section: 9 Block: 32 T1S Abstract: 156 Survey: T&P RR CO
Lease Lines: 100.0 F N L, 330.0 F W L
Survey Lines: 100.0 F N L, 2440.0 F E L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 330/0, 80.0 acres. This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9400 feet. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Jill Hamilton, at (432) 848-4855.

#9800 May 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2018

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



Mercury-Jupiter Opposition

The conventional wisdom is to leave well enough alone and place full energy behind serving a dire need. No obvious need? Weaker minds will focus on petty concerns in the safety of a bubble of selfhood. Those of strong character will venture out with the full support of Mercury, Jupiter and a helpful Virgo moon to serve where the need is real.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Humans are territorial animals. Turf becomes increasingly important to those who don't have enough of their own to feel comfortable. A territorial struggle will end happily with reapportionment, rezoning or a move.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). What's very important to one person is extremely petty to the next. The differences usually have to do with the scale of one's worldview. Be proud of your remarkable ability to zoom in or out as appropriate.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Good people get in bad positions; bad people get in good positions. Randomness prevails over justice. It's a good reason to focus on making the current situation work instead of on who is right or wrong.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're a rebel today, pushing boundaries just for fun. Actually, this is the kind of fun that can lead to a key development. Things fly up and then settle and

land in a more just arrangement.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Many cultures believe in animal spirits that guide and protect them through this lifetime. Your own connection with animals will be stronger now, and you seem to be able to communicate beyond human realm.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your circle enlarges in a trend that serves this part of your life very well. Every week you meet new people, but that's not the remarkable part of it. You actually stay in touch with them, too!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Though beauty may be in the eye of the beholder, when many beholders agree on a particular set of rules, those matters of taste can be accepted as fact and grow to the influence of gospel. But does that really make it so?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The cosmic omens agree with philosophers of the ages: Conquering the self is more difficult than conquering the world, and a mighty fine place to start at that.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When they try to make you compete for their attention, the only way to win is to bow out of the contest, making them doubt the value of the prize they dangle. You're too good for this.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Some work must be tweaked, torn down, rebuilt, destroyed and started up again, fresh, from scratch. It's those terrible projects that will teach you the most and ultimately make you a master.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Because you answer to life in a direct and assertive (but not aggressive) tone, you will get your way today, and rather quickly. You're an asset to the team.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A question will tell you much more about a person's intelligence, interests and motivation than anything you could possibly learn in an answer. Today, assess people based on their curiosity, not their knowledge.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 23). Your loved ones are irreplaceable, and they'll cement their status in your life with kindness, generosity and fun. This won't keep you from attracting a tribe of people with whom you have rather quirky things in common and enjoying every minute of your connection. Lucky business goes down in August and November. Libra and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 2, 25 and 44.

Write Holiday Mathis at holidaymathis@gmail.com.
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Expedition Royalty Co. is excited to expand our presence in Howard County by opening an office in Big Spring this Summer!

Expedition will continue to invest in the community and to deliver big benefits to our clients by acquiring oil and gas minerals and leases in the area.

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CONTACT US TODAY BY PHONE OR EMAIL:

Matt Scott
432-755-7058
matt.scott@expeditionroyalty.com

Rayne Austin
432-755-7058
rayne.austin@expeditionroyalty.com

The Big Spring Herald

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						7		

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

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!

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

ANSWER:

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Triumph of mind over matter

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K
♥ A K J 3
♦ K 9 7 4
♣ 9 7 5 4

WEST
♠ A Q 10 7 3
♥ 9 8 7
♦ 8 5 2
♣ J 10

EAST
♠ —
♥ 10 6 4 2
♦ Q J 6 3
♣ K 8 6 3 2

SOUTH
♠ J 9 8 6 5 4 2
♥ Q 5
♦ A 10
♣ A Q

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

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

Declarer sometimes runs into a totally unexpected distribution of the missing cards, but if he keeps his cool, he can occasionally demonstrate that bad luck is not always fatal.

Consider this deal where South got to four spades and West led the club jack. Declarer won with the queen, and the only question seemed to be whether he'd make four spades or five.

But when he led a trump to dummy's king at trick two, West took the ace, and East surprisingly showed out. It now seemed that West would score four natural trump tricks to defeat the contract, but South thought the matter over carefully and found a way to salvage his game.

He took West's ten-of-clubs return at trick three with the ace, cashed the Q-J of hearts, then played dummy's ace of hearts and trumped it! Next, pursuing his aim to reduce his trump length to equal West's, declarer cashed the A-K of diamonds and ruffed a diamond.

By this time nine tricks had been played, and declarer was down to the J-9-8-6 of trumps while West had the Q-10-7-3. South had already won eight tricks — two hearts, two diamonds, two clubs and two ruffs — and West had taken only one.

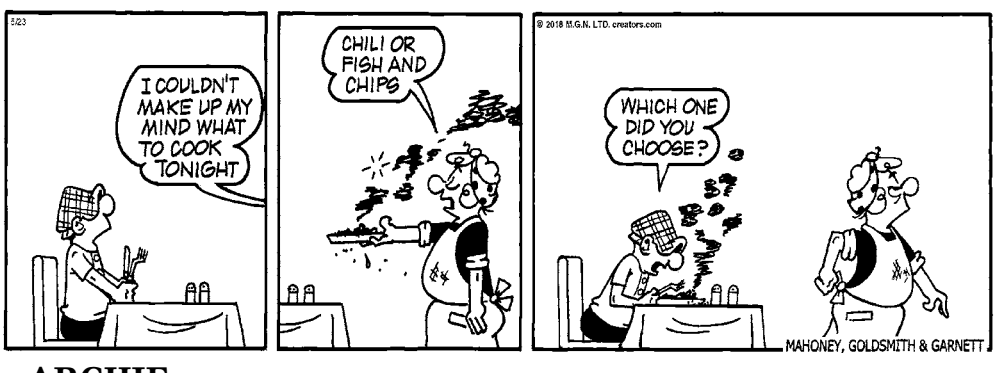
Declarer now led the spade nine, and whether West won with the ten or not, there was no way he could prevent South from scoring two trump tricks to make the contract. The two ruffs declarer had carefully maneuvered in order to reduce himself to the same number of trumps as West turned out to be the ideal medicine to overcome the 5-0 trump division.

Never give up!

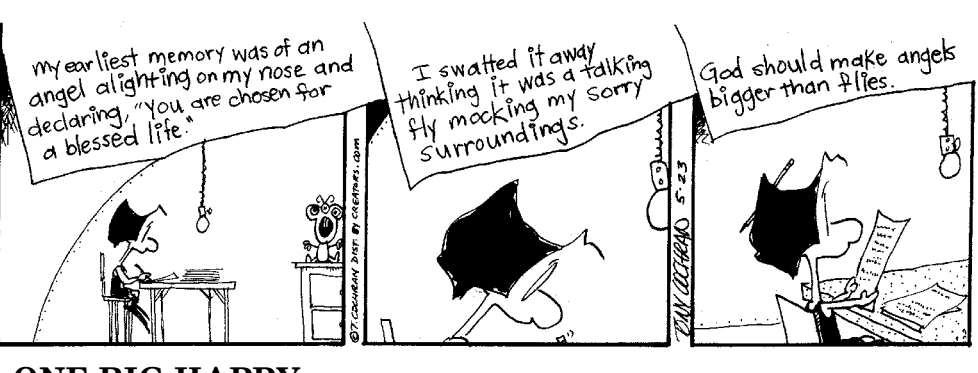
Tomorrow: The slam-dubbing convention.

	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWTT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Local 2	P. Luche	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Inspired	Scully	Hawaii	American	Fam. Guy	NCIS: New	SportsCenter	Around	OSU	NCIS (DVS)	Storage	Misfit Garage
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	CBS 7	Noticias	News	M. Rantz	Business	American	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	NCIS: New	Pardon	Pregame		Storage		
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cer-	News	Shepherd's	PBS News-	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	NCIS: New	NFL Live	Polaris	NCIS (DVS)	Storage	Misfit Garage	
6:30	Wheel	Guadalupe	Big Bang	ET	News	News	Heart	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Orleans	NBA Count-	Golf Life		Storage		
7:PM	Movie: Toy	El rico y	Empire	Survivor	Mi familia	Law & Order:	News	Nature	Griffith	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Movie:	World/Poker	NHRA Drag	NCIS (DVS)	Storage	Misfit Ga-	
7:30	Story 3, Joan	Lázaro	(DVS)		perfecta	SVU	Creation		Griffith	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Killers, Tom		Racing:	Storage	rage: Fired		
8:PM	Movie: Toy	Papá a toda	Star (DVS)		Al otro lado	Law & Order:	Light of	NOVA	G. Pyle	The Originals	Big Bang	Selleck	World/Poker	Southern	NCIS (DVS)	Storage	Misfit Garage	
8:30	(01) 20/20	madre				Special	Southwest	Wonders	WKRP		Big Bang	(DVS)		Nationals.	Storage			
9:PM		Por amar	News	Survivor	El Señor	Victims Unit	Light of	NOVA	Heroes	Page Six	Big Bang	Movie:	World/Poker	Postgame	Colony	(01) Flip	(01) Sticker	
9:30	Local 2	sin ley	TMZ		de los		Southwest	(DVS)	Heroes	Seinfeld	Full	Catch Me		Power of	Wars	Shock		
10:PM	Local 2	Impacto	Mom	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Amanpour	C. Burnett	Seinfeld	Conan	If You Can,	SportsCenter	NBA at the	Bundes-	Mod Fam	Storage	(01) Misfit
10:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mod Fam	Late Show-	Titulares	Tonight	Dr. C. Stanley	Beyond	Perry Mason	Rules		Christopher	NBA at the	Mic	liga Soccer:	Mod Fam	Storage	Garage
11:PM	Jimmy Kim-	Contacto	Mod Fam	Colbert	Al otro lado	Set Meyers	The	Poetry	Twi. Zone	King	Conan	Walken	SportsCenter	Around	Teams TBA.	Mod Fam	Storage	(01) Sticker
11:30	mel Live	Deportivo	How I Met	James					King	Conan		(DVS)	Pardon		Mod Fam	Storage	Shock	
12:AM	Extra	Fuerza-	Two Men	Corden	El Señor	News	(Off Air)	Hitchcock	King/Hill			Hawaii	SportsCenter	First Take	UFC Un-	(12:01)	Storage	(12:01) Misfit
12:30	Paid Prg.	Destino	How I Met	Access	de los	Daly	Shofar	Hitchcock	Cops	Guest		Five-0	First Take	leashed	Colony	Storage		
1:AM	Paid Prg.	Simplemente	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of	Mannix	Top 30	Guest	Hawaii	Five-0	UFC Main	Event	(01) Date-	(04) Flip	(01) Misfit	
1:30	Paid Prg.	María	Simpsons	(:37) CBS	Programa	(:37) The	Southwest		Guest				Event	line	Wars	(01) Misfit	Garage	

ANDY CAPP



AGNES



ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, May 23, the 143rd day of 2018. There are 222 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 23, 1618, the Defenestration of Prague took place as Bohemian Protestants angry over what they saw as a threat to their religious freedom threw two Catholic imperial regents and their secretary out an upper-story palace window; the men survived the incident, which helped trigger the Thirty Years' War.

On this date: In 1430, Joan of Arc was captured by the Burgundians, who sold her to the English. In 1533, the marriage of England's King Henry VIII to Catherine of Aragon was declared null and void by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer. In 1788, South Carolina became the eighth state to ratify the United States Constitution. In 1814, a third version of Beethoven's only opera, "Fidelio," had its world premiere in Vienna. In 1915, Italy declared war on Austria-Hungary during World War I. In 1934, bank robbers Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker were shot to death in a police ambush in Bienville Parish, Louisiana. In 1939, the Navy submarine USS Squalus sank during a test dive off the New England coast. Thirty-two crew members and one civilian were rescued, but 26 others died; the sub was salvaged and re-commissioned the USS Sailfish. In 1945, Nazi official Heinrich Himmler committed suicide by biting into a cyanide capsule while in British custody in Luneburg, Germany. In 1967, Egypt closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping, an action which helped precipitate war between Israel and its Arab neighbors the following month. In 1977, Moluccan extremists seized a train and a primary school in the Netherlands; the hostage drama ended June 11 as Dutch marines stormed the train, resulting in the deaths of six out of nine hijackers and two hostages, while the school siege ended peacefully. In 1984, Surgeon General C. Everett Koop issued a report saying there was "very solid" evidence linking cigarette smoke to lung disease in non-smokers. In 1993, a jury in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, acquitted Rodney Peairs of manslaughter

in the shooting death of Yoshi Hattori, a Japanese exchange student he'd mistaken for an intruder. (Peairs was later found liable in a civil suit brought by Hattori's parents.) Ten years ago: Hillary Rodham Clinton quickly apologized after citing the 1968 assassination of Robert F. Kennedy as a reason to remain in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination despite increasingly long odds. Televangelist John Hagee (HAY-gee) parted ways with John McCain following a storm over his endorsement of the Republican presidential candidate. (McCain rejected Hagee's endorsement a day earlier after an audio recording from the late 1990s surfaced in which the preacher suggested that God had sent Adolf Hitler to help Jews reach the Promised Land.) Five years ago: President Barack Obama, in a speech to the National Defense University, defended America's controversial drone attacks as legal, effective and a necessary linchpin in an evolving U.S. counterterrorism policy, but acknowledged the targeted strikes were no "cure-all" and said he was haunted by the civilians who were unintentionally killed. The Boy Scouts of America threw open its ranks to gay Scouts but not to gay Scout leaders. LeBron James was a unanimous pick for the All-NBA team and Kobe Bryant earned his record-tying 11th first-team selection. One year ago: President Donald Trump made a personal appeal for peace between Israel and the Palestinians as he closed a four-day swing through the Middle East. Roger Moore, the suavely insouciant star of seven James Bond films, died in Switzerland at age 89. NFL owners meeting in Chicago cut the overtime period from 15 to 10 minutes during the regular season, but also gave players plenty of leeway to celebrate after a touchdown. Today's Birthdays: Bluegrass singer Mac Wiseman is 93. Actress Barbara Barrie is 87. Actress Joan Collins is 85. Actor Charles Kimbrough is 82. International Tennis Hall of Famer John Newcombe is 74. Actress Lauren Chapin is 73.

Country singer Misty Morgan is 73. Country singer Judy Rodman is 67. Chess grandmaster Anatoly Karpov is 67. Boxing Hall of Famer Marvelous Marvin Hagler is 64. Singer Luka Bloom is 63. Baseball manager Buck Showalter is 62. Actor-comedian-game show host Drew Carey is 60. Actress Lea DeLaria is 60. Country singer Shelly West is 60. Author Mitch Albom ("Tuesdays with Morrie") is 60. Actor Linden Ashby is 58. Actress-model Karen Duffy is 57. Actress Melissa McBride is 53. Rock musician Phil Selway (Radiohead) is 51. Actress Laurel Holloman is 50. Rock musician Matt Flynn (Maroon 5) is 48. Singer Lorenzo is 46. Country singer Brian McComas is 46. Actor John Pollono is 46. Singer Maxwell is 45. Singer Jewel is 44. Game show contestant Ken Jennings is 44. Actor LaMonica Garrett is 43. Actor D.J. Cotrona is 38. Actor Lane Garrison is 38. Actor-comedian Tim Robinson is 37. Actor Adam Wylie is 34. Movie writer-director Ryan Coogler is 32. Golfer Morgan Pressel is 30. Actor Alberto Frezza (TV: "Station 19") is 29. Folk/pop singer/songwriter Sarah Jarosz (juh-ROHZ) is 27.

Thought for Today: "We do not usually look for allies when we love. Indeed, we often look on those who love with us as rivals and trespassers. But we always look for allies when we hate." Eric Hoffer American author and philosopher (1902-1983). © 2018 The Associated Press.

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Flat-topped hill
- 5 Uses a phone
- 10 High-school support grps.
- 14 Muslim leader
- 15 Underway, to Sherlock
- 16 It's east of Indiana
- 17 Lavish affection (on)
- 18 ___ Arabia (Mideast nation)
- 19 Night-table light
- 20 Formal version of the American language
- 23 Muscle-bone connector
- 24 Glide on snow
- 25 Range of view
- 28 Green Eggs and Ham character
- 33 Clean air org.
- 36 Annoy
- 37 Of high morals
- 38 Frequent patron
- 43 Fragrance
- 44 PC "get out" key
- 45 Reading opposite NNW
- 46 Fructose and lactose
- 48 Gain knowledge
- 51 Sticky stuff
- 53 Dorm sharer
- 57 1/2 and 3/4
- 63 Operatic solo
- 64 Blazing
- 65 Rolls out the lawn
- 66 On its way

DOWN

- 1 Central spot
- 2 Ham it up
- 3 Evil personified
- 4 Makes ___ (atones)
- 5 Legendary lover
- 6 Miles away
- 7 Thunderous
- 8 Ore deposits
- 9 Performs poorly, so to speak
- 10 Opinion survey
- 11 Laotian's neighbor
- 12 Objectives
- 13 Last year's frosh
- 21 Physician, informally
- 22 Beanstalk menace
- 26 According to
- 27 Perform very well
- 29 Bovine comment
- 30 Some early PCs
- 31 Pub servings
- 32 "A ___ formality!"
- 33 Timeline segments
- 34 Lima's country
- 35 Wide-eyed
- 39 Actress Thurman
- 40 Key __, FL
- 41 Take advantage of
- 42 Least abundant
- 47 Piano piece
- 49 Become inedible
- 50 Annoying sounds
- 52 Proposal
- 54 Roger who was 007
- 55 Non-studio film, for short
- 56 Double-curve letters
- 57 Throw out a fishing line
- 58 Creme-filled treat
- 59 Toothpaste flavor
- 60 Yoga surfaces
- 61 Stand up
- 62 Part of BA

THE USUAL by Carolyn Stewart
 Edited by Stanley Newman
 www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20				21					22					
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			25			26	27		28		29	30	31	32
33	34	35			36				37					
38			39	40				41	42					
43							44					45		
46					47		48			49	50			
				51		52		53			54	55	56	
57	58	59	60				61	62						
63						64						65		
66						67						68		
69						70						71		

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Answer to previous puzzle
 OWLS ALPS CATTY
 RAIL NILE HORSE
 ALMA TOUR TNAPT
 CLINGING VINES
 LETGO ERA HIM
 ETS ASPIRE TIRE
 ALIEN AREAS
 HOLDING PATTERNS
 HERODE UNITE
 LENS SETITE LAD
 DOG FIX SPIRES
 GRIPPING TALES
 CHOIR ODOR NINE
 DONTS SISI DEAR
 SWEET EDEN ASST

Harden scores 30, Rockets even series at 2 games apiece

By JANIE McCAULEY

AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. — Chris Paul pounded the ball down demonstratively on Stephen Curry's home court in sheer delight.

And maybe he sent a little message: These Rockets are for real and very much remain in the championship chase.

Houston handled the defending champions in their hostile, imposing home arena and sustained the latest second-half flurry by Curry, getting 30 points from James Harden and another 27 from Paul to even the Western Conference finals at two games apiece with a 95-92 victory Tuesday night.

Curry scored 28 points and Kevin Durant added 27 points and 12 rebounds but the Warriors missed their final five shots from the floor and their NBA-record postseason winning streak at home ended at 16 games.

The Rockets shook off a 41-point embarrassment in Game 3, a 12-0 deficit to start Tuesday and another big run by the Warriors in the third, then won it with defense down the stretch.

"We're a team. We're really good as a team," Harden said.

Paul rebounded Klay Thompson's miss just before the final buzzer sounded for the first time and celebrated in front of a stunned, yellow-clad home crowd. A replay review ensued and it was determined Shaun Livingston fouled Paul before the game ended, so Paul made a free throw with 0.5 seconds left.

And he did it all playing on a tender foot.

"A whole lot of treatment," Paul said. "It's as good as it's going to be right now."

Curry couldn't get off a final attempt before the buzzer.

Game 5 is Thursday night at Houston. Golden State, which went a record 16-1 on the way to last year's title, will play its longest playoff round after closing out its first two series in five games.

"Now we've got to fight and really understand that this is a true play-off-type experience," Curry said.

Golden State got the ball with 1:27 to play down 94-91 and Thompson and Curry each missed contested 3-pointers.

The Warriors got another chance with 42.5 seconds left following Houston's shot-clock violation. Curry missed a driving layup and Draymond Green pulled down the offensive rebound and was fouled by Paul, but Green converted only one free throw.

"I thought this is the highest level we've ever played defensively, without a doubt," Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni said, "because we're talking about the best offensive team ever."

The Rockets went ahead 85-84 with 6:03 remaining on Trevor Ariza's 3-pointer from the baseline after a beautiful bounce pass from the opposite corner by Paul.

Golden State trailed 91-86 with 3:30 left following a pair of free throws by Eric Gordon, then Curry converted a three-point play moments later.

Green wound up with 11 points, 13 rebounds and eight assists while going at it with Paul all night in Game 4 — the first nail-biter so far in a series that had featured only lopsided results of 13 points or more.

"I'm sure we'll look at the film and kick ourselves," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "Look, this is a great team we're playing. They won 65 games for a reason."

Curry knocked down three straight 3-pointers during a key third-quarter sequence in which he scored 11 consecutive points before Thompson's 3.

Down 53-46 at halftime two days after a franchise playoff-record 41-point victory in Sunday's 126-85 win, Curry shined in the second half once more. He scored 17 in all during the third-quarter spurt.

Curry came out and hit a 3 from the top and seemed on his way to another spectacular finish until the late misses on a night both Western Conference

powers shot just 39 percent.

His 3-pointer from 29 feet out at the 5:43 mark of the third got Golden State back within 62-60 then he knocked down another moments later on the Warriors' next possession for the lead. Then, another from the baseline before a driving layup to the left.

Much-improved Warriors big man Kevon Looney, who shed 30 pounds last offseason, earned his first career postseason start in place of injured Andre Iguodala and had four points and six rebounds.

Iguodala, who banged his left knee during the fourth quarter of Sunday's win, was upgraded from doubtful to questionable after an MRI exam earlier Tuesday on the knee revealed no structural damage.

The Warriors got another scare when Thompson briefly went to the locker room in the second quarter with a left knee strain then returned and hit baseline 3-pointers from both sides and wound up with 10 points on 4-for-13 shooting.

The Rockets missed their first eight field-goal tries and committed two turnovers before Harden's layup with 6:42 left in the first. D'Antoni called timeout at the 7:06 mark of the first with his team trailing 12-0.

"We just kept playing," Paul said.

TIP-INS

Rockets: The Rockets were outrebounded 49-41. ... Houston scored just 19 first-quarter points, its fifth straight period failing to score more than 24 before scoring 34 in the second. ... After saying the pressure was on the Warriors, D'Antoni cracked pregame, "That really worked out well, didn't it?"

Warriors: Curry picked up his third foul at the 5:06 mark of the second quarter and took a seat and Golden State was limited to 18 points in the period. He pumped his right arm so hard after a basket in the first he nearly hit official Mike Callahan. ... Curry made his signature pregame tunnel shot on the fourth try. ... Golden State dropped to 32-7 in the postseason since 2015 when holding opponents to fewer than 100 points. ... Looney started for just the ninth time in his three-year NBA career.

IGUODALA OUT

Without 2015 NBA Finals MVP Iguodala, the Warriors were down one of their top defenders and playmakers.

Iguodala's status for Game 5 was still unclear. Since 2014-15, Golden State is 14-4 in postseason games started by Iguodala.

"If it was close, he would play," Kerr said. "He's injured so he's not playing. So we'll see what happens in the next couple of days."



AP photo

Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) passes behind Golden State Warriors forward Kevin Durant during the first half of Game 4 of the NBA basketball Western Conference Finals in Oakland, Calif., Tuesday, May 22, 2018.

TECHNICAL STANDS

The Warriors spoke to the NBA about Green's double-technical in Game 3 with Trevor Ariza issued at the 6:49 mark of the fourth quarter when Ariza shoved Green as they traded words.

"They're not rescinding it," Kerr said. "Those conversations are always private, so we respect their decision and move on."

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- Multiple ballots submitted in the same handwriting will be disqualified.
- You are required to vote in a minimum of 5 categories - unsigned or incomplete ballots will not be considered.
- No photo copies, faxes or emails of the ballot will be accepted.
- Ballots must be received by 5 pm, June 13th.

As retirement approaches, is Danica Patrick a Hall of Famer?

By **NOAH TRISTER**

AP Sports Writer
DETROIT (AP) — As Danica Patrick prepares for her farewell at this weekend's Indianapolis 500, another big event on the auto racing calendar looms earlier in the week: The vote for the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

Jeff Gordon is the big name among the nominees for Wednesday's vote, but as Patrick's retirement approaches, her own candidacy for an honor like that has become an interesting topic.

Ed Carpenter, this year's Indy 500 pole winner and Patrick's team owner for Sunday's race, was asked if she should receive Hall of Fame consideration.

"I think so, yeah," he said at an event in Michigan. "She definitely broke down barriers. She's done a ton of good for the sport of racing, both in IndyCar and in NASCAR. She's a fierce competitor. I've raced against her for a long time, and she's earned her place just like the rest of us. She's had her success, she's taken her lumps, just like the rest of us. But she's definitely left a very good legacy and has done far more good for racing than a lot of drivers have."

Carpenter wasn't asked about any specific Hall of Fame honor for Patrick, whose career has spanned both open-wheel and stock-car racing. She is the only woman to lead laps in both the Indianapolis 500 and the Daytona 500. She won the pole for the Daytona 500 in 2013 and won an IndyCar race in 2008.

But that was her lone IndyCar win. She never had a top-five finish in NASCAR.

Patrick seemed caught by surprise when asked about possible Hall of Fame honors Tuesday in New York.

"I don't know, I think that anything I have accomplished as a statistic or something to be honored for, whatever, they are things that if they happen, they are great, but they were not my goal," she said. "Any record I have I didn't really know until after; those things either happen or they don't, all those kinds of things I don't plan on. I am not really thinking about that, anything like that, though it is quite the honor."

Patrick finished third in the Indy 500 in 2009, and she led 19 laps in the race as a rookie in 2005. She qualified seventh for this weekend's race.

"I think she's the best female there ever was, right? You've got to give her credit for what she's done," 2016 IndyCar champion Simon Pagenaud said. "Quite frankly, this month, she's done tremendous. She's calm, collected, she hasn't made a mistake with the car. She's done her job so far. She was the only woman in NASCAR. She's the only woman to win an IndyCar race. You've got to respect that."

Patrick notched another first late Tuesday: She will be the first woman to host ESPN's annual awards show when the ESPYs are held July 18 in Los Angeles.



AP photo
Race driver Danica Patrick, left, pose with a life-size Lego statue creation of herself, Tuesday, May 22, 2018, in New York. Lego master builder Chris Steininger says it took him 200 hours to build, using under 15,000 pieces and 13 different colors.

"Sunday Night Football" sets TV ratings record

By **BARRY WILNER**

AP Pro Football Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — America has spoken: NFL over "American Idol."

For the seventh consecutive year, NBC's "Sunday Night Football" has topped the season's television ratings, as measured by Nielsen. That edges the six straight years for Fox's "American Idol" (2005-06 through 2010-11).

The football games averaged 18.2 million TV viewers in 2017, a 29 percent margin over the runner-up, "Thursday Night Football" on CBS.

Fred Gaudelli, who produces the broadcasts, credits the scheduling of headline games each Sunday night — NBC did not flex any contests from daytime to night time last season — as well as the NFL's hold on sporting America.

"One of the things that has allowed 'Sunday Night Football' to achieve this record is that when the NFL decided to take its marquee prime-time game off Monday and put it on Sunday, they would do all in their power to make sure Sunday nights would become successful," Gaudelli says. "The flex schedule, the marquee matchups, week in and week out."

"This is now the 13th season for 'Sunday Night Football,' and the NFL has maintained that commitment, and that is a major reason why people are not tired of tuning into the prime-time game after a full day of football on Sunday.

"It's usually an outstanding attraction and there are big stars in the game ... combined with all the people who work on the show, people want to make sure they are not skipping watching the game."

They aren't. While all sports ratings are declining, NBC's remain at the top for its Sunday prime-time programming.

The network also tracks what it calls Total Audience Delivery, including digital viewers. That number, which measures average minute viewing across broadcast and digital, was 18.4 million.

Of course, as Gaudelli notes, Americans are in a

transition period in their viewing habits, watching how and when they want to watch.

"A lot of viewing has gone to the computer to the tablet and to the phone, and still not any exact measurement of how many people truly are watching," he says. "Our ratings may have declined, but not nearly at the rate of the rest of prime-time TV has declined."

That being said, sports in general and the NFL in particular have a huge edge over other programming. In this day of instantaneous social media information and feedback, if you aren't watching the action live, you're behind the game.

"In the era we are now living in, live is so much of a bigger deal than it has ever been before," Gaudelli says.

"Everyone is tuned into it at the same time, and the national conversation probably is a little great-

er because live is kind of its own animal right now.

"And there's the tremendous drama that comes with the NFL."

When NBC got back into the NFL business, it wisely went with a news-oriented studio show. The advantage of televising a Sunday night game is obvious. The network could respond to the stories of the day, something the jockfest daytime shows don't attempt.

That approach not only has brought critical praise, but eyeballs and ears for "Football Night in America" and "Sunday Night Football." The pregame show is the highest rated of any network's.

"We try to tell compelling stories and use an innovative approach," Gaudelli says. "But we're also trying to satisfy the hunger of the football fan. I know they appreciate that."



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