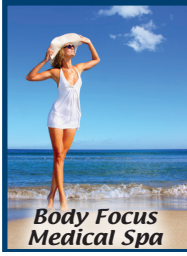




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Rail development on track at Airpark



interview about the subject.

"Over the last four or five years, we've invested a lot of money out there," Wegman said. "We've kind of done it in phases, to accommodate not only new business that wants to locate out there, but it's almost like 'build it and they will come.' It's proven itself. The more track we build, the more businesses backfill that. It feels like as we're expending those dollars to help develop the airpark, it creates jobs, it creates tax base, and it creates opportunities for companies to come to Big Spring."

Wegman said that when the city can provide more highly developed infrastructure to potential tenants of the airpark, it can save on providing future inducements and incentives.

Wegman said the airpark is in the final stages of Phase Four of the airpark development project.

"It's about a \$2.4 million rail development," he said. "It includes a lot of additional storage capacity, which affects a lot of the existing customers already. The rail volume is getting to the point where we didn't have the capacity to take care of our customers out there. We had over 3,000 rail movements into the airpark last year, and 3,000 out. We're expecting probably 4,000 this year. It's nothing to have 60 to 100 cars a week. The volume is increasing. This particular project, we're building a little over 8,000 track-feet."

Additional track extends further south into the airpark than previous rail has, Wegman said.

"It not only provides the storage I mentioned, but the track goes farther south and it opens up the south part of the airpark, as well as some private land to the south of the airpark that's adjacent to the reliever route. We think that development is going to occur in that south quadrant of the airpark. We're probably 60 percent complete. We'll probably wrap it up in early September."

Wegman listed some of the existing airpark tenants that will benefit from the increased rail service.

"Probably our oldest customer is Co-Ex Pipe. They bring in their plastic that they make plastic pipe out of," he said. "A company by the name of 'Hi-Crush' is the frac sand company."

An ongoing rail development project at Big Spring's McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark is increasing the volume of train traffic that can be served by tenant companies at the facility. The most recent phase of the project is nearing completion and should be finished in September.

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

Courtesy photo

traffic or the spread of materials being shipped into or out of the area by rail.

Big Spring Economic Development Corporation Director Terry Wegman presented a video about the expansion of rail service at the Airpark at a recent Big Spring City Council meeting, and Friday he sat down for an

Business is booming at Big Spring's McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark. Visitors to the airport, Hangar 25 Air Museum or another of the Airpark's facilities may have noticed an increase in rail

interview about the subject.

"The idea is creating an environment that breaks down the barriers for businesses to locate here," he said. "If we give them the infrastructure, it makes it much easier to make the decision to make a decision to locate and hire."

See **RAIL**, Page 3A

Volunteer graduation at SMMC



The Scenic Mountain Medical Center teen volunteers attended their graduation celebration on Thursday. The program involved students rotating through each department of the hospital and learning the different facets of its operation for four weeks.

Lions fundraiser

HERALD photo/Tyler Schellie

The Big Spring Centennial Lions Club held a fundraiser in downtown Big Spring Friday to help provide eye screenings and glasses for local needy school children.



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Big Spring alumn and well-known heart surgeon dies

By **TOMMY WITHERSPOON**
 The Waco Tribune-Herald

Dr. Robert T. Angel, a Big Spring born pioneering surgeon who performed the first open-heart surgeries in Waco and Southeast Asia, died Thursday in Waco.

Angel, who suffered from congestive heart failure, was 82. Known for his wit, his sense of humor and compassion for others, Angel performed Waco's first open-heart surgery in 1973 with his colleague, Dr. Robert Crosthwait, at what was then Providence Hospital.

He also performed the first lung volume reduction surgery in Waco to help emphysema sufferers breathe better. Family members say Angel knew at an early age he wanted to be a doctor because of his desire to help others.

He attended Big Spring High School, where he met his future wife, Sue. Angel graduated as the salutatorian in 1954 and quarterbacked the Steer football team to the 1953 state championship game.

Angel went on to accomplish some amazing feats in his lifetime. He went to Baylor University and was accepted as a junior to the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, an unusual feat for an underclassman. He studied under the legendary surgeons Dr. Michael DeBakey and Dr. Denton Cooley, who pioneered the field of heart transplantation. Angel served as part of the team at Baylor College of Medicine under the direction of Cooley, who would become known for performing the first heart transplant

See **ANGEL**, Page 3A

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RAIL

Continued from Page 1A

They bring in frac sand to distribute in this region. By the way, they're one of the largest sales tax payers in Big Spring. There's a company called 'Prime Eco' which manufactures and distributes chemicals in Big Spring. They have not utilized rail a lot, but that's one of their goals. We do have two or three smaller companies. One of them in particular is Razor Chemical. They bring in chlorides. Sodium chloride and some others that are used in the oil and gas industry. Musket Corporation, which is a division of Love's Truck Stops, brings in a lot of raw materials. They make DEF,

which is a product that is used in Diesel engines to reduce emissions. All trucks are required to have that now, even small pickup trucks. If you use Diesel, you use DEF. That's manufactured and distributed here in this region."

Diesel fuel and oil could be big commodities for the airpark in the future. "Several companies are bringing in Diesel," he said. "There's a shortage of Diesel. And we're currently talking to numerous companies - we're trying to figure out how, because all the pipelines are full, there's a lot of oil trapped here in the Permian Basin that can't get to market. So what is commonly called 'Crude by Rail' is where we fill up rail cars here and ship it to destinations like Houston

and Corpus and Louisiana. There's a huge market for that and we're trying to get the logistics worked out."

Other commodities include lumber and wind turbine components, he said.

Future plans involve continuation of rail development, as well as road work and expansion at the airpark to support the rail, moving commodities into and out of the airpark by road. Creating connections from the airpark to the U.S. Highway 87 reliever route and other roadways has been a challenge facing the Big Spring City Council, because funds generated from oil production at the airpark can't be used for development outside the airpark by FAA ruling - even to create airpark entrances. Wegman

said the Big Spring EDC can help fill that gap.

"We certainly can," he said. "We feel it's very important to continue to develop the airpark, and to do that, we've got to get those roads built. Our goal is to get the roads from the reliever route to the airpark on the south and west sides; and then, part of that is, the airpark will do its part internally utilizing their funds that they can use to develop some of the infrastructure inside the airpark. So it's a partnership."

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

ANGEL

Continued from Page 1A

in 1968.

"He was the most witty person," said Sue Angel, his wife of 34 years and high school sweetheart. "He had a joke about any subject that came up. He had a brilliant mind. I have known a lot of smart people, but we was the most brilliant person I know. He was very entertaining, and people loved to be around him because he was very funny. He was also a very optimistic person, very upbeat. He saw the best in everybody."

After completing his residency in 1967, Angel joined the Air Force and served as a combat surgeon. He was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service in a combat zone. He was in Vietnam during the Tet offensive, one of the war's largest and deadliest military campaigns, named after the Vietnamese New Year. At one point, Angel worked five straight days with little sleep and no time to change his clothes or boots because of constant shipments of wounded soldiers being flown in on planes, Sue Angel said. While in Vietnam, Angel performed open-heart surgery on a small South Vietnamese girl, the first surgery of its kind in Southeast Asia, she said. President Lyndon B.

Johnson, who was touring the country, heard about the surgery and asked to meet Angel and the girl, said Angel's son, Bob Angel, a Waco attorney. Robert T. Angel, who rose to the rank of major, spent a year in Vietnam and moved his family to Waco in 1969. He and Crosthwait started Waco's first heart surgery program at Providence Hospital and performed the first open-heart surgery in Waco in 1973.

For the first 12 years of the heart program, either Angel or Crosthwait would spend the night at the hospital following an open-heart procedure, showing their dedication to their patients and their willingness to be nearby after what was then trailblazing technology.

"He certainly taught me about hard work," Bob Angel said of his father. "Once I asked if he wanted me to go to medical school and practice alongside him. He said he would love that but only if I could not imagine doing anything else. What he did was absolutely the cutting-edge thing at the time. They are big shoes to fill."

Kent Keahey, president and chief executive officer at Providence Hospital from 1984 to 2013, said Angel and Crosthwait served as the hospital's primary heart surgeons for many years.

"Dr. Angel was a wonderful individual," he said. "I thought a lot of him. He had a good sense of hu-

mor and he was just a very kind individual. I valued my relationship with him."

Angel also had privileges at Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center after Hillcrest started performing heart surgeries.

Angel was forced to retire from surgery after he had a freak accident while pulling into his driveway on Westover Road in 2003. The brakes failed on his pickup truck as he was trying to turn into the garage. The truck struck a curb, which launched it into the bottom of a ravine behind his house. The truck hit a tree at the bottom of the ravine and the impact left Angel with a broken neck. With his ever-present sense of humor still intact, Angel found his cellphone, called one of his stepsons and said, "If you are not busy, I am at the bottom of the ravine at the house," Sue Angel recalls.

After a lengthy recovery, Angel retired but immediately found another calling, teaching pathophysiology, medical terminology and pharmacology at McLennan Community College.

In keeping with his lifetime of service to others, Angel donated his body to the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. A mass to celebrate his life took place at noon Friday at St. Louis Catholic Church in Waco.

Uncontained wildfire destroys 500 structures in California

By JONATHAN J. COOPER and LORIN ELENI GILL

Associated Press

REDDING, Calif. (AP) — Only a handful of homes still stand in Keswick, a small northern California community consumed by wildfire.

The air chokes with the smell of smoke and chemicals. The smoldering remains are still too hot to sift through. The so-called Carr Fire, still mostly uncontained, so thoroughly devoured homes as it roared through Shasta County that it's hard to say how many were there just days before.

Somewhere in the ash was the home of Shyla and Jason Campbell.

Jason, a firefighter, was six hours away from his home and family, battling a wildfire near Yosemite Valley, when the Carr Fire moved in.

Shyla, 32, said it was nearly 2 a.m. Thursday when she got an official alert to evacuate.

"It's huge flames, it's coming up the hill, and everyone's out and we're watching it, then it goes down, and everyone's like, 'Oh it's going out,' " she said. "And I'm like, 'No, it's going down the mountain and it's going to come back up the next ridge.' " She was right.

"Ash was way falling, there was so much wind, and it was hot, so I was like, 'We need to go now,'" said Campbell, who gathered the two kids they had at home, along with their dog, cat and hamster, and spent the night at a hotel.

When Jason Campbell returned on Friday, he found their home of five years was gone, along with an RV and a boat.

Officials say at least 500 structures were destroyed by the Carr Fire, which also swept through the historic Gold Rush town of Shasta and hit homes in Redding, a city of 92,000 about 100 miles south of the Oregon border.

"It's tough," Shyla Campbell said. "I just have to figure out where we're going to stay. We're just trying to stay away from the fire."

About 37,000 people remained under evacuation orders as the wreckage smoldered. Nearly 5,000 more homes were being threatened by the 75-square-mile (194-square-kilometer) blaze, which was just 5 percent contained.

Thousands of people scrambled to escape amid flying embers before walls of flames descended from forested hills onto their neighborhoods Thursday. At least two flaming tornados toppled trees, shook firefighting equipment and busted truck windows, taking "down everything in its path," said Scott McLean, a spokesman for Cal Fire, the state agency responsible for fighting wildfires.

The flames moved so fast that firefighters working in oven-like temperatures and bone-dry conditions had to drop efforts to battle the blaze at one point to help people escape. Two firefighters were killed: Redding fire inspector Jeremy Stoke and a bulldozer operator whose name wasn't immediate-

ly released. He was the second bulldozer operator to die in a California blaze in less than two weeks.

Elsewhere in California, large fires continued to burn outside Yosemite National Park and in the San Jacinto Mountains east of Los Angeles near Palm Springs. Nationally, 89 active large fires have consumed nearly 930,000 acres (376,000 hectares) in 14 states, according to the National Interagency Fire Center. So far this year, nearly 37,000 wildfires have burned more than 4.25 million acres (1.72 million hectares).

Residents who gathered belongings in haste described a chaotic and congested get-away as sparks flew and fire leaped across the wide Sacramento River, torching subdivisions in Redding.

Redding police chief Roger Moore was among those who lost their homes, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Greg and Terri Hill evacuated their Redding home of 18 years Thursday night with little more than their medications, photo albums, clothes and firearms, assuming they'd be back home in a few days.

When they returned Friday, virtually nothing was left but fine particles of ash. It was so hot, they couldn't walk through it to see if anything survived.

"It's pretty emotional," Terri Hill said. "I know it's just stuff. A lot of memories. But we'll make new memories and get new stuff. Everybody's safe."

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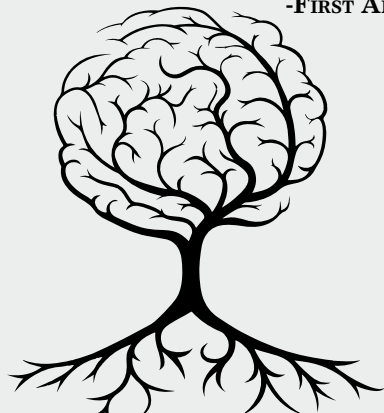
Correction

In Friday's story about the Cross Roads Young Marines Drug Demand Reduction Dash 5K run, the date of the event was incorrectly reported as Oct. 23. The correct date is Saturday, Oct. 27.

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



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The lavender fields of Provence

Years ago I saw a photo of rows of lavender in bloom in France. It was a striking photograph that touched me in some way and I put it at the top of my list of places I wanted to visit. When a river cruise offered a chance to see the lavender fields I convinced my wife we should go.

We flew to Marseilles where the grounds around the airport were filled with lavender in full bloom, providing an unmistakable fragrance. It is an intoxicating scent. No wonder lavender is the basis for most perfumes. It is also used for medicines, makeup, cookies, ice cream, candy and soaps of course; the name of the plant comes from the French word laver, which means to wash. Sachets made of lavender plants can be placed in closets where bedding is stored. Massage oils and teas are popular items. With lavender syrup you can make a lavender martini.

We took a bus to Avignon, where the cruise started. We arrived on a Sunday and the trip to the lavender fields was scheduled

for Monday. We couldn't sign up for the tour until after we boarded because the cruise people were not sure the lavender would be in bloom. But it was. At peak. Much better than the year before.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

The lavender crop covers a large part of Provence. The center of the region is the small town of Sault.

It was a breath taking sight. Fields and fields of deep purple stretching to the horizon. Some of the plants were lavandin, an offshoot of lavender that is lighter in color. The rows were neatly maintained and contained healthy plants ready for harvest, which was near. In some fields the harvest had already started.

There is something extremely satisfying about looking at what Mother Nature can provide. It gives a sense of peace and contentment. When I see beautiful flowers in bloom, the earth is in perfect orbit, God is in his heaven and all is right with the world. I'm a sucker for gardens. I've been to Butchart Gardens in Canada, Keukenhof Gardens in Holland, the flower fields in

Carlsbad, California and major gardens in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas. One of the best photos I've taken was of a large white rose in Butchart Gardens with droplets of water on it from a recent shower.

My trip to see the lavender fields in Provence ranks right up there with getting to see the Taj Mahal, the Great Wall of China and the Sydney Opera House.

We visited a lavender farm and distillery that had been in the same family for six generations. The flower is grown and distilled on the premises. As members of our tour walked through the fields there was a hush, as people seemed to think they were in a spiritual place. The only sound was from cameras capturing the beauty. It was surreal. Provence is the gastronomic capital of France so it is a huge agricultural area. It is beautiful with its medieval cities, narrow cobblestone streets, castles with pointed tops, fields of grapes, scenic rivers and plazas made shady from sycamore trees. I can see why France is the number one tourist destination in the world.



Whistle-Blowers Fading Away

“He ‘takes after’ his dad,” old-timers used to say about young boys in their formative years. I didn't hear the expression often, because much of whom the late T. J. Newbury was, I wasn't.

Limited to an 11-year public school education, he was a common laborer, spending most of his adult life in helping folks “stay connected” to natural gas in their rural Brown County homes. He fixed pipelines, and kept things civil even during rare service disruptions, when customers sometimes threatened to forego natural gas.

He knew they wouldn't, because most of them remembered the labor involved in chopping wood for the fireplace and cookstove.

Athletic in a “sandlot, make-shift and country” sort of way, he played baseball and basketball.

At least, that's what I overheard as he joked about bygone days with friends.

He never bragged or yelled, claiming early on the importance of civility and respect.

I have attempted to “take after” him, though, remembering how he handled situations that sometimes got sticky.

My pre-school memories of him in the early 1940s--when his day job paid \$1 daily--center on his “moonlighting” as a basketball official for small area high schools.

I remember his striped shirt. It had no patches that suggested he had membership in any league of officials. Fact is, I'm not sure he had any “official” standing,

except in the Methodist Church and the Masonic Lodge.

In those days, he was the single official who “called” basketball games for both boys' and girls' teams, even for eight-school tournaments held on Thursdays through Saturdays. My memory of those tournaments is foggy,

but I know he was proud of making \$15 for just three days of work.

Recalled are between-game conversations with coaches and fans. “I probably missed that one,” he'd laugh about some call that could have gone either way.

They knew, as he did, that he was the final authority, and that he'd officiate as fairly as he could.

Civility would be a high priority, and when potentially volatile calls were made, he'd soften his response to coaches with these words: “It looked to me like...”

Those five words seemed to ease tensions. They meant that he was working as hard as he could to “get things right,” and that sometimes, he'd be wrong. More important than the “rightness or wrongness” of his decisions was that civility and respect WOULD be maintained.

The old striped shirt hung in his closet for years after his officiating. When I got to college, I, too, officiated some high school games, like dad did, blowing the same whistle he handed down to me.

In the late 1950s, there were the same two officials for the boys' and girls' games, and we usually were paid \$10 each nightly,

with a mileage reimbursement of three cents paid for one car. We were expected to travel together.

Things were still pretty calm, and I thought maybe I “took after” my dad as a game official. Sometimes I even used the “It-looked-to-me-like” line.

One fan in Sidney provided encouragement and validation. A few games into our friendship, however, I learned he was blind.

After a few years, I realized that basketball is a game--as one fan noted--“improbable to coach and impossible to officiate.” The “it-looked-to-me-like” line takes one just so far.

Without question, sports officiating--like about everything else--has gotten out of hand. Some high school football coaches are campaigning to add two more game officials.

But, the cupboard is bare. Throughout the country, numbers are dwindling. In Texas, more officials are over 60 than under 30, and most are 50 or over. Games are being scheduled on Thursdays and Saturdays, in addition to usual Fridays. About half of new officials hang up whistles after one season.

A survey revealed 80% leave because of abuse. When civility and respect disappear, much will have been lost.

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

DAILY PRAYER

Dear Lord, may we be content with
all You have blessed us with.
Amen.

SNAPSHOTS

By: Dan Holt's Daughter



PAPA

Walter Carl Russell was born in 1902 to John Wesley Russell and Minerva McDonald-Russell. He was the middle child with four brothers and one sister older than he and four brothers and one sister younger than he. He was a kind man with a big heart. It was his hands that the loved the most; large hands, gentle hands, safe hands. He was known for his sense of humor which he inherited from his Scottish mother.

California or Bust

Great-Grandmother Russell took her eleven children all the way to California from Oklahoma and back on a train around 1910 by herself. When the traveling Russells returned she was asked how the trip went. She replied: "It was

just Pee! Hockey! Drink! all the way there and all the way back. That became a family saying repeated often by members of the family.

Trips to the Farm

Papa drove a big Lincoln more for comfort than for prestige. (He was 6'4") His visits were always welcome. He never left without her. She would stand behind his right shoulder as they drove the 90 miles to the Farm to visit Mama. She was a little chatterbox entertaining him the whole way.

Driving on the two lane highway he would say: "Lindy, I smell Big Red soda pop and Peanut Patty candy."

Amazingly! Sure 'nough, the country store/gas station would just pop up out of nowhere. As soon as the car stopped Papa would open the car door and lift her out. She would head straight for the white box that held iced down bottles of cold drinks. She would then make a dash for the candy rack. In her experience nothing tasted better than a Big Red soda pop and a Peanut Patty. (Many years later while driving down that same highway she noticed a slight rise in the road just high enough to hide the country store/ gas station from view. She smiled. The mystery was solved. However; she preferred to stick with the belief that Papa had special powers."

Papa and the Pudding

Papa was known for his good nature and patience which was often put to the test. One day while rummaging thru the kitchen cabinets she spotted two boxes of instant strawberry pudding. She read the instructions: add milk and stir. That sounded easy enough. So she whipped it all up in a bowl and stuck it in the ice box.

When Papa got home, she said: "Papa, I made some pudding. Would you like some?"

"Well, sure." He said.

She served him up a big 'ol bowl full.

About half way thru, he said: "Aren't you gonna have some?"

"Oh no Papa. That stuff tastes awful!"

Papa Didn't Hold with Cussin'

Papa was a Bible readin' Christian man. He did not hold with cussin'. The closest he came to using profanity would take place during the middle of the night. Being the thoughtful man that he was, he did not want to disturb anyone by turning on the light when he needed to get up.

"DING DONG! I stumped my toe. DING DONG! I think I broke it. DING DONG! I'm gonna whip those kids if they don't stop moving the furniture around!"

Trips to Furr's

Papa's insight into the mind and feelings of a child was apparent when he and Mama took her to Furr's Cafeteria. Mama would insist that she get the Child's Plate. She was highly offended by that.

Papa would say: "Now, Opal. Let her get what she wants."

Mama would go first in line. She would go next making her selections. (Of course her eyes were always bigger than her stomach.) Papa brought up the rear taking note of her choices. He would select two sometimes three items. At the meal's end she was full and satisfied as was he.

Valuable Life Lessons

One day while visiting with Papa, he took out a five dollar bill and gave it to her. Five Dollars! That was a fortune to a little girl used to getting a quarter. Papa seized that moment to teach her a most valuable life lesson: "Lindy, having a lot of money is not a good way to measure success in life. The only success that really matters is being a successful human being. That means: We're only as good as we treat other people."

Papa treated people real good!

Papa was the heartbeat of our family. We dearly loved and respected him. She happened to have been first in the birth order of his six grandchildren. Each one had a special relationship with him. Whenever any of the cousins get together sharing personal stories about Papa are always a big part of the conversation.)

"Oh! Our Papa"

Originally sung by Eddie Fisher

(This is Russell family version.)

"Oh, our Papa, to us he was so wonderful.

Oh, our Papa to us he was so good.

No one could be, so gentle and so lovable.

Oh, our Papa, he always understood."

Lynholt1969@icloud.com

Legislative Summit to focus on energy industry



Courtesy photo

The photo above shows a panel from the 2017 West Texas Legislative Summit discusses agriculture and the 2018 Farm Bill.

Special to the Herald

SAN ANGELO — The 15th Annual West Texas Legislative Summit will take place on Aug. 2 on the Angelo State University campus. This year's theme is "Energy: Landscape of Opportunity."

Keynote speakers will be Shawn Bennett, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oil and Natural Gas with the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy, and J. Christopher Giancarlo, Chairman with the United States Commodity Trading Commission.

More than 30 Texas legislators have committed to participate in the summit, along with experts and pioneers in the energy industry.

U.S. Congressman Mike Conaway, Texas State Senator Charles Perry, Texas State Representative Drew Darby and the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce are hosts of the summit.

Registration for the event is available at sanangelo.org.

representative Drew Darby and the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce are hosts of the summit.

"With energy as a topic, plus access to important elected officials, the West Texas Legislative Summit stands out as one of the premier public policy events in Texas," said Bruce R. Partain, Chamber CEO.

This summit will likely draw up to 400 energy experts, lawmakers and other attendees.

Registration for the event is available at sanangelo.org.



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Personal Statement

from Dr. Nandlal Patel, M.D.

as of July 2, 2018:

It is with mixed emotions that I am going to specialize in Nephrology for 2 years in California.

It has been a great pleasure providing for your healthcare needs over the last 27 years.

As of July 10, 2018, Dr. Joyce Alase will be covering my practice. She will be located at my office to take care of your healthcare needs. I am proud that you have the opportunity to have her as your physician.

If you choose to seek medical care from another doctor, I recommend doing so as quickly as possible. Scenic Mountain Medical Group will provide you with a list of doctors.

Your medical records will be available at this doctor's office. Your records are confidential and a copy can be transferred to another doctor only with your permission.

Best wishes for your future health. I really appreciate the opportunity to serve you through the years.

Sincerely,

Nandlal Patel, M.D.

(432) 264-1222

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Trump and Putin's RSVP's: Yes, for sure, if, if if.



AP photo

In this photo taken on Monday, July 16, 2018, Russian President Vladimir Putin gestures while speaking during the joint news conference with U.S. President Donald Trump after their meeting at the Presidential Palace in Helsinki, Finland. Putin said Friday he's ready to invite President Donald Trump to Moscow and is ready to visit Washington himself if conditions are right.

By **MATTHEW LEE**

AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON — Rarely has an RSVP been so complicated.

President Donald Trump is open to visiting Moscow — if he gets a formal invitation from Vladimir Putin, the White House said Friday. Russian President Putin said he's game for a trip to Washington — but his answer came only after Trump retracted his invitation for a fall sit-down.

The awkward back and forth is the latest round of summit drama flowing from the two leaders' controversial first meeting in Helsinki this month. It underscores Trump's eagerness to forge a warmer relationship with Putin, though the Russian does not appear to share the urgency and Trump's allies in Washington are watching with frustration.

Trump's tentative yes to a Moscow trip comes even as lawmakers are still pushing for details about what he and Putin discussed in Helsinki. The president has been widely criticized for failing to publicly denounce Russia's interference in the 2016 U.S. election and appearing to accept Putin's denials of such activity.

Trump's response to the criticism — an abruptly announced invitation for a second meeting in Washington in the fall — got an ice-cold reception from Republicans in Congress facing tough elections in November. Moscow was lukewarm and did not immediately accept.

Then National Security Adviser John Bolton said Wednesday that plans for a fall visit would be delayed until 2019. He cited special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian election meddling as the reason, using Trump's favorite term for the probe: "witch hunt."

But the possibility of a Trump trip to Moscow emerged Friday after Putin said he was ready to invite Trump — or to visit Washington if conditions are right.

"I understand very well what President Trump said: He has the wish to conduct further meetings," Putin said while traveling in Johannesburg. "I am ready for this. We are ready to invite President Trump to Moscow. By the way, he has such an invitation, I told him of this. I am prepared to go to Washington, but, I repeat, if the appropriate conditions for work are created."

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders responded that Trump "looks forward to having President Putin to Washington after the first of the year, and he is open to visiting Moscow upon receiving a reciprocal formal invitation."

But it's just talk at this point.

It's part of "a power game between Putin and Trump," said Dr. Alina Polyakova of the Brookings Institution. She said the Kremlin basically drove the entire process in Helsinki, and "we're seeing that again now."

Trump is hardly in a strong position because "the Helsinki summit was such a fiasco," said James Goldgeier of the Council on Foreign Relations.

A Putin visit to Washington between now and January "could have a lot of poor optics," he said, and "it's really hard to see the upside" of a Trump trip to Moscow.

The spectacle of Trump

in the Russian capital — the site of unproven salacious allegations in an anti-Trump dossier compiled by a former British spy — was likely to raise eyebrows and alarm on Capitol Hill.

Just two days earlier, lawmakers from both political parties unsuccessfully demanded details of the Helsinki meeting from Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, who stonewalled nearly all those inquiries at a contentious hearing by maintaining that the president has a right to private conversations.

Since Helsinki, Trump has tried to walk back at least some of his comments. And Pompeo told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that despite Trump's public statements that allegations of Russian interference are "a hoax" he accepts that Russia did meddle in the 2016 election.

Trump was meeting Friday with his national security team to discuss threats to the 2018 congressional midterm elections, the first such session he has convened, amid warnings from intelligence officials that Russia is again intent on interfering in the U.S. democratic process.

Republican lawmakers have made it clear they are not eager to see Putin, who intelligence officials say was aware of the 2016 interference, just weeks before Election Day 2018.

Putin "will not be welcome" at the Capitol, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell told reporters.

House Speaker Paul Ryan said such invitations are reserved "for allies."

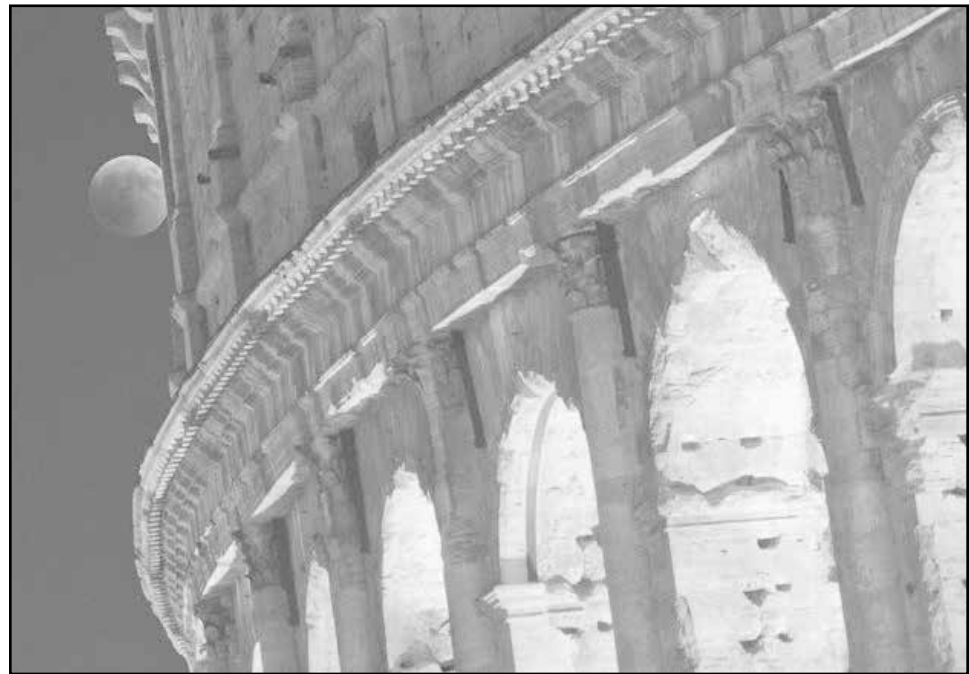
The Republican leaders appear to be increasingly relying on public signals, rather than private phone calls or Oval Office chats, to catch the White House's attention and communicate with Trump — especially when they are at odds with the president's approach or policies.

Ryan has said he did not speak to the president in the days after the Helsinki summit.

Moscow has portrayed its tensions with Washington as a result of Trump being hobbled by domestic political disputes and a widespread "Russophobia" perpetrated by holdovers from the Obama years — echoing Trump's penchant to blame his predecessor for many problems.

By saying that he's willing to go to Washington if conditions are "appropriate," Putin underlines that stance and effectively puts pressure on Trump to try to stamp out opposition. His invitation for Trump to come to Moscow — whether the invitation has been formally tendered or is only in spirit — also appears to pressure Trump to show whether he is bold and disruptive enough to buck intense criticism at home.

Complete lunar eclipse begins, the longest of this century



AP photo

The moon is framed by the Colosseum during a complete lunar eclipse, in Rome, Friday, July 27, 2018. The so-called "blood moon" Friday, when it turns a deep red, will be visible at different times in Australia, Africa, Asia, Europe and South America when the sun, Earth and moon line up perfectly, casting Earth's shadow on the moon.

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Skywatchers around much of the world have begun watching a complete lunar eclipse that is the longest of this century.

The so-called "blood moon," when it turns a deep red, is visible at different times in Australia, Africa, Asia, Europe and South America when the sun, Earth and moon line up perfectly, casting Earth's shadow on the moon.

The total eclipse lasts 1 hour and 43 minutes, with the entire event lasting closer to four hours.

Across Africa, people turned to the sky, watching the reddish shadow slide up the moon's surface. In Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, hundreds of people hurried to mosques for special prayers often observed during lunar eclipses while clerics on loudspeakers urged them along.

In Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, people at an open-air restaurant admired a rare clear view during the rainy season, comparing a live NASA webcast to what they saw

above. Then clouds rolled in.

"Dem yelebesech chereka," some murmured — Amharic for "blood moon."

"The reason that the moon turns red is because atmospheric scattering causes red light to pass through the atmosphere and the composition of the atmosphere can change if volcanic eruptions or forest fires occur," said Tom Keress, an astronomer with the Royal Observatory Greenwich.

"And the density of dust increasing in the atmosphere can cause the moon to appear a particularly deep red, and indeed it has the same effect on our sunsets and sunrises."

In a special treat, Mars is also at its closest approach to Earth this week since 2003, making it appear bigger and brighter.

Excited skywatchers on social media shared photos of the bright planet just to the right of the moon.

North America missed out on Friday's lunar eclipse but can look forward to the next one on Jan. 21, 2019, according to NASA.

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California wildfire claims 2nd life; thousands more evacuate

By JONATHAN J. COOPER and
AMANDA LEE MYERS

Associated Press

REDDING, Calif. — An explosive wildfire that roared with little warning into a Northern California city claimed a second life and thousands more people abandoned their homes, some of them slipping out just ahead of the walls of flame, authorities said Friday.

In all, an estimated 37,000 people have fled from the so-called Carr Fire, which began Monday and tripled in size overnight Thursday amid scorching temperatures, low humidity and high winds. Fire officials warned that the blaze would probably burn deeper into urban areas before there was any hope of containing it.

A day earlier, the flames turned the sky orange while sweeping through the historic Gold Rush town of Shasta and nearby Keswick, then jumping the Sacramento River into Redding, a city of about 92,000 people and the largest in the region.

Steve Hobson was one of the last to leave Lake Redding Drive. A former urban and wild land firefighter three decades ago, he planned to stay behind to save his house. But the heat burned his skin, and the smoke made it hard to breathe. He could feel the fire sucking the air from around him, whipping up swirling embers in a "fire tornado," he said.

Police pounded on doors telling everyone to leave.

The flames on the distant hillside looked like solar flares on the sun, he said. When it came time to flee, he had to punch through walls of burning embers on both sides of the street. A tree fell right in front of him.

"I didn't know if I'd make it so I just got in the middle of the street, went down the middle of the street through the embers and the smoke and made it past," Hobson said.

His perimeter fence burned along with a backyard shed and everything inside it — Christmas ornaments, china and old televisions. But his house made it through the harrowing night.

At least 65 structures have been destroyed, and 5,000 other buildings were threatened, fire officials said.

The fire is "taking down everything in its path," said Scott McLean, a CalFire spokesman for the crews battling the blaze.

A firefighter with the Redding Fire Department was killed in Shasta County. Another fire-

fighter hired to try to contain the flames with a bulldozer was killed Thursday, authorities said.

Some Redding residents who had not been under evacuation orders were caught off guard and had to flee with little notice.

"When it hit, people were really scrambling," McLean said. "There was not much of a warning."

The blaze, which was apparently sparked by a mechanical issue involving a vehicle, was so fearsome that fire crews in Redding for a time abandoned any hope of containing the flames and instead focused on saving lives.

"We're not fighting a fire. We're trying to move people out of the path of it because it is now deadly, and it is now moving at speeds and in ways we have not seen before in this area," said Jonathan Cox, battalion chief with Cal Fire.

Late Thursday, crews found the body of the bulldozer operator who had been hired privately to clear vegetation in the blaze's path. He was the second bulldozer operator killed in a California blaze in less than two weeks.

"It's just chaotic. It's wild," McLean said. "There's a lot of fire, a lot of structures burning."

Firefighters tried in vain to build containment around the blaze Thursday, but flames kept jumping their lines, he said.

Brett Gouvea, incident commander of the crews battling the fire, urged residents to pay close attention to the blaze, which he said was "moving with no regard for what's in its path."

With fire burning in the distance Liz Williams, 33, packed her car Thursday morning, just in case, even though her neighbors said it would never reach them.

When she got home from work, the flames were closing in. By evening, an orange glow appeared on the nearby hillside and ferocious winds picked up. It was time to go.

"I've never experienced something so terrifying in my life. Nothing could prepare you for something like this," Williams said.

She loaded up her 11-year-old daughter and her boyfriend's 9-year-old, but she didn't get far. She was promptly stuck in traffic as all her neighbors crowded the main road out. Cars honked and backed up. Drivers and police yelled at each other.

As flames came down the adjacent hillside, she got aggressive.

"Finally I just went to the left and jumped up on the sidewalk and drove," Williams said.

She estimated that it took an hour to go a little over a mile. She wanted to get as far away as possible, but ultimately stayed with her boyfriend's family in a safer part of town.

"I didn't know if the fire was just going to jump out behind a bush and grab me and suck me in," Williams said. "I wanted out of here."

Trump applauds Cowboys owner for anthem stance

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump congratulated Jerry Jones, the owner of the Dallas Cowboys football team, for saying his players will be required to stand for the playing of the national anthem.

Trump tweeted Friday: "Way to go Jerry. This is what the league should do!"

Jones was the first owner to publicly say that his players would not be allowed to stay off the field during the anthem. Jones said the team's policy is "you stand at the anthem, toe on the line."

However, Jones also said he understood the point of view of players who say they aren't protesting the flag or the military. He also described Trump's continuing involvement in the anthem issues as "problematic" for the league and "unprecedented." He said, "yes, everybody would like for it to go away."

Trump has repeatedly tried to bring attention to the player protests, which he opposes, and believes the culture war issue helps energize his base.

Bad week in social media gets worse; Twitter hammered

By BARBARA
ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK — Cracking down on hate, abuse and online trolls is also hurting Twitter's standing with investors.

The company's stock plunged Friday after it reported a decline in its monthly users and warned that the number could fall further in the coming months. The 20.5 percent plunge comes one day after Facebook lost 19 percent of its value in a single day.

Twitter says it's putting the long-term stability of its platform above user growth. That leaves investors seemingly unable to value what the biggest companies in the sector, which rely on their potential user reach, are worth.

Twitter had 335 million monthly users in the quarter, below the 339 million Wall Street was expecting, and down slightly from 336 million in the first quarter. That overshadowed a strong monthly user growth of 3 percent compared with the previous year.

The company said its monthly user number

could continue to fall in the "mid-single-digit millions" in the third quarter.

While Friday was Twitter's second-worst loss since it went public in November 2013, the stock has still doubled in value over the last 12 months.

Long criticized for allowing bad behavior to run rampant on its platform, Twitter has begun to crack down, banning accounts that violate its terms and making others less visible.

Twitter is now attempting to rein in the worst offenders after years as one of the Wild West corners of the internet.

At the same time, it must convince people it's the go-to platform in social media, even though it is dwarfed right now by Facebook.

Facebook has more than 2.23 billion users while its apps WhatsApp, Instagram and Messenger each have over 1 billion.

Twitter on Friday reiterated its efforts to "to invest in improving the health of the public conversation" on its platform, making the "long-term health" of its service a priority over short-term metrics such as user numbers.

Notice of Public Hearing on Howard County Appraisal District Budget

The Howard County Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2019 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on August 8, 2018 at 5:15 PM in the offices of the Howard County Appraisal District, 315 S. Main, Big Spring, Texas.

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget.	\$ 1,116,281.09
The total amount of increase over the current year's	\$ 71,278.83
The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget.	9
The number of employees compensated under the current year's budget.	9

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the Appraisal District Board of Directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and towns served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the appraisal district office.

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New Locations: Borden County

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

#5AH Golem Unit "B 23-14", drill horizontal, EI: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-033-32480
12.80 miles east of Ackerly
A-292, Section 23, Block 32, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
Latitude 032.541046, Longitude -101.493127. Datum: NAD 27
377' FSL, 706' FWL of 640.14-acre lease
377' FSL, 1931' FWL of the survey
Rule 37 Exception

(432) 221-7409

Diamondback E&P, LLC
500 W. Texas Ave., Suite 1200
Midland, TX 79701-4203
Kathy Thomasson, Reg. Specialist
(432) 221-7409

Total Depth: 9175 feet
Latitude 032.240325, Longitude -101.384179. Datum: NAD 27
1339' FEL, 243' FNL of 474-acre lease
1339' FEL, 243' FNL of the survey

#2LS Asro "13" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39515
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, EI: NA
0.12 miles northwest of Knott
A-399, Section 19, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 8900 feet
Latitude 032.240332, Longitude -101.384145. Datum: NAD 27
1309' FEL, 243' FNL of 474-acre lease
1309' FEL, 243' FNL of the survey

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

#2AH Dragon Unit "A 20-29", drill horizontal, EI: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-033-32481
1.66 miles northeast of Vealmoor
A-1052, Section 20, Block 32, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
Latitude 032.539597, Longitude -101.552930. Datum: NAD 27
318' FNL, 1273' FWL of 640.10-acre lease
318' FNL, 1273' FWL of the survey

Citation Oil & Gas Corp.

P.O. Box 690688
Houston, TX 77269-0688
Cynthia Villacorta, Reg. Analyst
(281) 891-1569

#81 Dora Roberts, drill directional, API #42-227-39682

Howard Glasscock (Consolidated) Field, EI: NA
1.30 miles southwest of Forsan
A-1318, Section 136, Block 29, W&NW RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 3000 feet
Latitude 030.092298, Longitude -101.360069. Datum: NAD 27
2312' FNL, 695' FWL of 320-acre lease
339' FSL, 695' FWL of the survey

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

#5AH Cassidy Unit "26-23", drill horizontal, EI: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-033-32482
10.80 miles northeast of Vealmoor
A-232, Section 35, Block 31, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
Latitude 032.541579, Longitude -101.386492. Datum: NAD 27
2462' FSL, 1980' FEL of 742.14-acre lease
2462' FSL, 1980' FEL of the survey

SM Energy Company
6301 Holiday Hill Road
Midland, TX 79707-0000
Lisa Hunt, Regulatory Tech
(432) 848-4833

#1341WA Ray Kinsella, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39684
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, EI: NA
13.80 miles northeast of Big Spring
A-187, Section 23, Block 31, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
X=802493, Y=302870. Datum: NAD 27
320' FSL, 636' FWL of 637.62-acre lease
2321' FNL, 636' FWL of the survey

New Locations: Howard County

Hannathon Petroleum, LLC
223 W. Wall Street, Suite 800
Midland, TX 79701-0000
Austin Koble, Consultant
(512) 478-3456

#2H Arlington "33-40 A" Unit, drill horizontal, EI: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39688
2.41 miles northwest of Sand Springs
A-1019, Section 28, Block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9000 feet
Latitude 032.315927, Longitude -101.361912. Datum: NAD 27
600' FSL, 960' FWL of 642.5-acre lease
600' FSL, 960' FWL of the survey

Parsley Energy Operations, LLC
303 Colorado, Suite 3000
Austin, TX 78701-0000
Johnnethan Washington, Reg. Tech
(512) 600-8855

#4205H Wilkinson Ranch "34 1-C", drill horizontal, EI: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39629
7.50 miles west of Big Spring
A-392, Section 23, Block 34, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 8338 feet
Latitude 032.232585, Longitude -101.600803. Datum: NAD 27
657' FSL, 1161' FWL of 641.32-acre lease
657' FSL, 1161' FWL of the survey

Birch Operations, Inc.
2 Houston Center, Suite 1350
909 Fannin Street
Houston, TX 77010-0000
Leah Moon Becton, Operations Tech
(832) 701-1776, Ext. 125

#1 Hulkster SWD, drill, EI: NA, API #42-227-39689
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
0.95 miles northeast of Knott
A-1674, Section 18, Block 33, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 12,500 feet
X=722029, Y=297892. Datum: NAD 27
919' FSL, 2316' FWL of 160-acre lease
919' FSL, 312' FNL of the survey

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

#1AH Garrett-Snell Unit "A 25-36", drill horizontal, EI: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39685
11.60 miles northwest of Big Spring
A-330, Section 25, Block 33, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
Latitude 032.406528, Longitude -101.550527. Datum: NAD 27
290' FNL, 462' FWL of 642.44-acre lease
90' FNL, 462' FWL of the survey

CrownQuest Operating, LLC
P.O. Box 53310
Midland, TX 79710-0000
Ann Ritchie, Agent
(432) 684-6381

#2D Free Burger, drill, EI: NA, API #2-227-3690
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
4.10 miles southwest of Knott
A-589, Section 40, Block A, Bauer & Cockrell survey
Total Depth: 13,000 feet
Latitude 032.204474, Longitude -101.402925. Datum: NAD 83
475' FSL, 1450' FNL of 319.3-acre lease
475' FSL, 1450' FNL of the survey

Diamondback E&P, LLC

500 W. Texas Ave., Suite 1200
Midland, TX 79701-4203
Kathy Thomasson, Reg. Specialist
(432) 221-7409

#4WA Reed "1F", drill horizontal, API #42-227-39686

Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, EI: NA
17.09 miles northwest of Big Spring
A-396, Section 1, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9255 feet
Latitude 032.263029, Longitude -101.394876. Datum: NAD 27
347' FSL, 250' FNL of 641.49-acre lease
2295' FSL, 250' FNL of the survey
Rule 37 Exception

Oxy USA, Inc.
5 Greenway Plaza, Suite 110
Houston, TX 77046-0000
Melissa Flack, Regulatory Specialist
(713) 552-8778

#3116LS Shields Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39691
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, EI: NA
10.50 miles north of Big Spring
A-278, Section 31, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9000 feet
X=760791.14, Y=289771.30. Datum: NAD 27
245' FNL, 660' FEL of 635.72-acre lease
245' FNL, 660' FEL of the survey

Diamondback E&P, LLC

500 W. Texas Ave., Suite 1200
Midland, TX 79701-4203
Kathy Thomasson, Reg. Specialist
(432) 221-7409

#4LS Reed "1G", drill horizontal, API #42-227-39687

Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, EI: NA
17.09 miles northwest of Big Spring
A-396, Section 1, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 8950 feet
Latitude 032.263037, Longitude -101.394842. Datum: NAD 27
318' FEL, 250' FNL of 641.49-acre lease
2325' FSL, 250' FNL of the survey
Rule 37 Exception

Diamondback E&P, LLC
500 W. Texas Ave., Suite 1200
Midland, TX 79701-4203
Kathy Thomasson, Reg. Specialist

#2WA Asro "13" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39514
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, EI: NA
0.12 miles northwest of Knott
A-399, Section 19, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey




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Dak Prescott already using voice as new face of Cowboys

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Pro Football Writer

OXNARD, Calif. — Dak Prescott's best test yet as the new face of the Cowboys came two days after owner Jerry Jones once again declared that all Dallas players will stand for the national anthem and even said they wouldn't be afforded the alternative of staying in the locker room.

The star quarterback didn't pause or stammer. He didn't stop himself to consider what his peers might think. He made it clear he will stand, and doesn't think it's right to do otherwise.

"Whether I was wearing the star or not, whether I was playing for Jerry Jones, Stephen Jones or any other owner, I believe in what I believe in and that's that," Prescott said Friday in his first session with reporters at training camp.

Jerry Jones held his usual camp-opening news conference Wednesday, and said his usual things about the anthem, and then some. Son Ste-

phen Jones, executive vice president of personnel, suggested a day later that the Cowboys would cut any player who stayed in the locker room.

The option of staying off the field was part of a policy owners approved in May, but was put on hold not long after The Associated Press revealed that the Miami Dolphins would consider suspending players up to four games for kneeling or otherwise protesting during the anthem.

Just as he did when he showed up two years ago as the overshadowed third quarterback on Tony Romo's team, Prescott offered his opinion plainly and simply, and in so many words. There are countless more people listening now.

"He knows how important that is to be one of the faces of the team and he always does exactly what you'd expect, to a script," offensive coordinator Scott Linehan said. "It's not forced. It's just part of him."

See DAK, Page 3B



AP photo

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott takes questions from the media after the morning walk through practice during NFL training camp, Friday, July 27, 2018, in Oxnard, Calif.

Cowboys LB Sean Lee fires back on Dez Bryant's 'snake' tweet



AP photo

Dallas Cowboys linebacker Sean Lee (50) fist bumps teammate linebacker Jaylon Smith, right, during NFL training camp, Friday, July 27, 2018, in Oxnard, Calif.

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Pro Football Writer

OXNARD, Calif. — Dallas Cowboys linebacker Sean Lee fired back at free agent receiver Dez Bryant on Friday after his former teammate called him a "snake" on Twitter while suggesting Lee to release its career leader in touchdown catches.

The exchange was prompted by a radio station's tweet from an interview with executive vice president of personnel Stephen Jones. He suggested that quarterback Dak Prescott felt pressure to get the ball to Bryant.

"First thing, to say that I can get anybody off the team and have any input on a roster is absurd," Lee said. "The second thing, I love Dez and I want the best for him."

"You know, to be honest, we did butt heads, because I wanted Dez to be more accountable to this team and his teammates. To be honest with

you, a lot of the team felt that way. I think he needs to look at himself and hold himself accountable."

In an expletive-laden response to the radio station's tweet, Bryant criticized the team's play-calling. A second tweet suggested "my brother snake Lee I mean Sean Lee" and center Travis Frederick had a hand in the decision to release Bryant.

Frederick said it wasn't reasonable to find a fifth player, which he is, could wield influence on roster decisions.

"It's certainly disappointing," Frederick said. "It's disappointing when you hear guys turn against each other, but I think in the end Dez was a great teammate of mine and I'd still consider him a friend."

The radio station's original tweet didn't include all of Jones' quote, leaving out a portion that made a reference to tight end Jason Witten.

See LEE, Page 3B

Chirinos hits 2-run homer as Rangers beat Astros 11-2

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — The Texas Rangers capped a difficult day with a big win over their in-state rival on Friday night.

Robinson Chirinos hit a two-run homer and Isiah Kiner-Falefa and Jurickson Profar added solo shots as the Rangers romped to a lopsided 11-2 win over the Houston Astros on a day Texas dealt veteran left-hander Cole Hamels to the Cubs in what could be just the first of several moves to come.

The victory snapped a franchise-long eight-game losing streak to the Astros and ended a four-game skid overall.

"Our core group of guys, they continue to play, those offensive guys continue to battle every night ... they understand it was a challenging day losing one of their leaders, just a great pitcher for us and a great human being and teammate," manager Jeff Banister said. "However, they understand the business of the game of baseball and I was proud they went out and had great energy and played."

The Rangers led by a run in the fifth inning with two out and one on when

Chirinos sent a fastball from Dallas Keuchel (8-9) onto the train tracks atop left field to make it 3-0. It was the first homer Keuchel had allowed since giving up three to the Mariners on June 5.

Shin-Soo Cho hit an RBI triple in the sixth and the Rangers made it 5-0 when he scored on a sacrifice fly by Profar.

Evan Gattis hit his 20th homer in the seventh inning for Houston's first run on a night the team played without reigning American League MVP Jose Altuve, who sat out after leaving Wednesday's game with a sore right knee. The Astros managed just six hits and were 0 for 7 with runners in scoring position.

"That was not a great night for us on both sides," manager A.J. Hinch said. "On the offensive side, as the game went on, I thought we had little bit better at bats and broke through a little bit. Clearly not enough."

Kiner-Falefa's shot to the seats in left field came in the eighth inning to make it 6-1.

Texas starter Yovani Gallardo (5-1) allowed two hits while walking four in 5 1-3 scoreless innings for his sec-



AP photo

Texas Rangers' Robinson Chirinos hits a two-run home run against the Houston Astros during the fifth inning of a baseball game Friday, July 27, 2018, in Houston.

ond straight win. "I think we caught them on a night when their offense was a little stale-mated I think due to what Yovani was able to do," Banister said. "I thought just a masterful job by Yo."

Keuchel gave up six hits and three runs in five innings to end a season-

long five-game winning streak. The left-hander had bounced back from a tough start to the season and had pitched well lately, allowing just four runs combined in his previous four starts.

See RANGERS, Page 3B

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Olympic champ Biles focused on future, not legacy in return

By WILL GRAVES

AP Sports Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Simone Biles wasn't bragging. That's never really been her thing. Her tone was confident but not cocky. Sincere without the swagger.

Yes, the defending Olympic champion — who returns to competition for the first time since the 2016 Games when she competes in the U.S. Classic on Saturday night — really does believe she's better now than she was when she stepped off the podium in Rio de Janeiro two years ago with a record-tying fourth gold medal around her neck.

Asked on Friday how her gymnastics in 2018 stack up against the form she showed in Brazil — when Biles cemented her status as one of her sport's all-time greats with 10 days of breathtaking performances that left her peers grasping for superlatives — Biles didn't hesitate. She giggled a bit. But she didn't hesitate. "I would probably beat her, yeah," Biles said.

And it only took eight months.

Biles took a lengthy post-Olympic breather to enjoy the perks of her newfound fame. She did "Dancing With The Stars." She cut commercials. Made the talk show rounds. She moved into her own apartment. She found time for romance.

Then last fall she headed back into the gym her family owns in suburban Houston with no firm plans and no timetable other than to see what she and new coaches Laurent and Cecile Landi could cook up. At 21, she's taken more ownership of her routines. The weight of expectations she carried during the buildup to Rio de Janeiro is gone. No matter what happens during the rest of her career, she will always have those five Olympic — oh, and 14 world championship — medals.

They aren't going anywhere. Neither is she. Let her get one thing out



AP photo

United States' Simone Biles performs on the floor during the artistic gymnastics women's individual all-around final at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Biles is ready to take aim at the 2020 Olympics. The gymnastics star and 2016 Olympic champion returns to competition for the first time in two years on Saturday at the US Classic in Columbus, Ohio.

of the way: She didn't have to come back. She wanted to. The difference isn't semantic. It's one of the reasons she believes her best gymnastics is still to come.

"I feel like I have a stronger mindset and I'm not as nervous," Biles said. "Not for this particular competition. I still have a lot of nerves I need to get out in the trainings that we have to come, but I feel like I'm in a better place. I trust my body more. I trust my gymnastics more. So overall I'm in a better place."

Even if the organization she is returning to following her hiatus is not.

While Biles returned to the United States to newfound stardom, USA Gymnastics returned to questions about how it handled complaints of sexual misconduct by member coach-

es raised by an Indianapolis Star investigation. The story mushroomed in the fall of 2016, eventually leading to accusations that former Olympic team trainer Larry Nassar sexually abused gymnasts.

Nassar, a longtime sports doctor at Michigan State who also volunteered as the team physician for USA Gymnastics, is serving decades in prison for child pornography and other crimes after hundreds of women said he sexually abused them under the guise of medical care. Biles revealed she was one of Nassar's victims in January.

She has declined to get into specifics, preferring to move forward instead of looking back. Yet she also understands how having the Olympic champion on the competition floor

can turn the spotlight — at least briefly — back to the sport itself and not the scandal.

"I hope so because gymnastics has been a big part of my life, the coaches' lives, the gymnasts' lives, everyone's lives out here," she said. "So I hope looking from the outside in they'll want to put their kids in gymnastics and find the love and joy that we have for it."

A joy that Biles insists remains. The proof can be found in the way she's embraced the chance not to reclaim what she once had but instead turned her focus into pushing herself — and gymnastics — further. She's upped her difficulty on both bars and floor. She's likely going to ditch the Amanar as her primary vault for the Cheng, which offers the promise of a higher score if done correctly.

"That's amazing because usually, they're holding on to what they had and she's eclipsed that and doing far more," said Tom Forster, named the new high-performance coordinator for the national team earlier this month. "I've never seen that. I've never seen that before, so that's exciting. She's amazing."

Biles has an opponent none of the other women in the field have to face: her legacy. She hasn't lost a meet in five years. Yet as great as she's felt in practice, even she's a little curious about how she'll respond when the lights come on and the scores count.

Maybe it'll be the same as it ever was. Or maybe the nerves that got to her at the 2013 U.S. Classic, when she was removed from the all-around just before the vault after an iffy warm-up, will return, even if only for a minute.

"This competition is for her to test herself," Laurent Landi said. "I don't care about the score. I don't care about the result. I want her to have that feeling, the adrenaline to compete, how to deal with pressure, the holding for the TV on the bars and stuff like that. I want that again."

WNBA All-Stars, gathered in Minnesota, proud of bigger brand

By DAVE CAMPBELL

AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Maya Moore, arms outstretched and her right hand gripping a basketball, has been on billboards this summer in Los Angeles, Minneapolis and New York. She's in the same "wings" pose as the classic photo of Michael Jordan, whose Nike shoe line includes Moore, the Minnesota Lynx forward, as an endorser.

WNBA games are attracting more viewers. The star power around the league has rarely, if ever, been this deep or this strong. There's a long way to go to capture more attention in the crowded mainstream of American sports, but these women have been busy building a bigger brand.

"You travel around, you see people interested, you hear the buzz," Phoenix Mercury guard Diana Taurasi said. "We have a lot of work still to do, probably, but it is trending in the right way, and we'll take that as a positive."

The All-Star Game this weekend in Minnesota is the perfect time for the players to pause and take some pride in just how far they've come, even if their quest for higher salaries has only just begun. For Lynx guard Seimone Augustus, one of four players from the home team taking part in this year's showcase, the evidence of this growth has come around town at the grocery store and the movie theater.

"I know little girls know who we are. I'm talking about young boys and men who get geeked up about seeing us," Augustus said.

According to ESPN, the per-game viewership average of 247,000 for telecasts this season is up 38 percent from last year's ratings before the All-Star break. The game on Saturday afternoon will be broadcast on ABC for a ninth time, with an all-time high of 13 cameras in use. Video game maker EA Sports announced on Friday that NBA Live 19 will allow users to create female players for the first time.

"That's awesome. This is the year of the woman," Atlanta Dream forward Angel McCoughtry said, adding: "I think stuff is about to take off. I can feel it. We're going to be in more stuff. People are going to want our brands."

The Lynx are the sixth of the current 12 teams to host the midsummer game, joining Connecticut (four), New York (three), Washington (two), Phoenix (two) and Seattle (one). Teams in Orlando, which relocated to Connecticut, and San Antonio, which moved to Las Vegas, have also hosted.

"For as much as I hate the Lynx, they have such wonderful fans," Taurasi said, smiling. "They're so loyal. They come to the games and they come to compete, too, and you can appreciate that as a



AP photo

Minnesota Lynx's Maya Moore, left, drives around Los Angeles Sparks' Odyssey Sims in the first half during Game 5 of the WNBA Finals in Minneapolis. The WNBA's best players still lack the compensation and exposure of their male counterparts, but they have made strides toward carving out a bigger place in the spotlight of mainstream sports. There's no better way to build their brand than at the All-Star Game, this time with teams divided by captain pick instead of conference affiliation.

player."

The format changed this year, with captains Elena Delle Donne and Candace Parker picking the 11-player teams last week rather than the squads being based on conference affiliations. Team Delle Donne has nine players from the Western Conference and two from the Eastern Conference, with five guards and six forwards. Team Parker has seven players from the West and three from the East, with four guards and seven forwards.

The starters were revealed on Friday night. Delle Donne, the Washington Mystics forward, has Taurasi, Lynx center Sylvia Fowles and guard Sue Bird and forward Breanna Stewart of the Seattle Storm in her lineup. Parker, the Los Angeles Sparks forward, has teammate and guard Chelsea Gray in hers with Moore, McCoughtry and Dallas Wings center Liz Cambage.

Moore, the All-Star Game Most Valuable Player award winner in 2015 and 2017, was the leading vote-getter ahead of Delle Donne and Parker, but she declined the opportunity to serve as captain due to other obligations.

"For whatever reason this year, I feel more celebratory and excited to be here," Moore said. "I want to celebrate and enjoy this."

Especially if she has the chance to bump or taunt Augustus or fellow teammate Sylvia Fowles during the game.

"I'll definitely develop a float game if I see Syl coming down the lane on one of my drives," Moore said. "Seimone has been saying she's got something for me. We've been waiting a long time for this. Seimone, I think, is the one who suggested the format just so she could set this moment up."

Lynx forward Rebekkah Brunson, who replaced Los Angeles Sparks forward Nneka Ogumike on Team Parker due to an illness, wasn't eager to guard Fowles.

"Because I've seen what she does to people, and I don't want to get on that train," Brunson said.

A'ja Wilson, the Las Vegas Aces forward and the only rookie selected, compared the selection process to "picking dodgeball teams" in childhood. There's still a competitive edge to the event, though, despite the fun-and-games environment.

"Don't let none of this fool you: Everyone's trying to win," said Wings guard Skylar Diggins-Smith. "There's still bragging rights."

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IT AIN'T EASY BEING WHEEZY

Amanda Duforat

Marketing Manager at SMMC
Chest tightening, shallow breathing and a sense of fear washing over you, are just a few of the indicators of an asthma attack. For the third year in a row, Scenic Mountain Medical Center provided education on how to live with asthma, through the 2018 Asthma Camp.

"Asthma is something that can be controlled. It doesn't have to be a hindrance," Lisa Parks, Respiratory Therapy interim supervisor, said. "By being able to recognize personal triggers, understand control methods and overcome the fear of asthma, they can run and jump like all the other kids."

While the camp took on a different look and was shorted to one afternoon, students were still able to learn a little bit about what asthma is, how to recognize the onset of an attack and gained tips on

four-hour class, but will they retain that information? Maybe, but if we show them through a fun activity then they are more likely to remember it because it then have more of an impact on them. They will remember that slim they made when they feel the mucus building up in their chest and maybe that will trigger them to think, hey I need to stay hydrated and possibly prevent that mucus from buildup."

Even though there is education that can be provided and a healthy understanding of asthma can be a big preventer when it is implemented, there are those instances where an asthma attack is going to occur. In addition of teaching the kids symptoms to look for, we also want to help ease their fears, in case they do end up visiting the hospital.

"Coming to the hospital can be scary for anyone, but it can be even worse for a child who is having trouble breathing. In order to help ease that fear, we walked the kids through the emergency room and discussed the process in case they ever end up in that situation," Parks said. "They were also able to visit the radiology department and learned about the many uses of x-rays."

Hand washing can be a good preventative measure for anyone, especially during peak flu season and as kids get back into a new school year. Those attending the asthma camp this year, had an opportunity to learn the proper hand washing technique.

"Most people think if you use soap, run a little bit of water over your hands to rinse it off then you are good to go and all the germs are gone, but that isn't exactly correct. The recommendation is to wash

effects germs can have that we aren't able to see.

"Even with the revamp of the camp this year, we had a good turnout and the kids walked away having had a little bit of fun and gained some knowledge that will hopefully help them in the school



Courtesy photo/Amanda Duforat

The students in attendance took a tour of the hospital emergency department and learned about the process, should they ever have to go through the ER. As part of understanding how mucus forms in the lungs and restricts air flow, which could lead to an asthma attack, attendees made "mucus". This activity also helped emphasize the importance of staying hydrated. Asthma Camp participants also made their own set of lungs out of a paper bag. With those, they restricted what happens when the lungs inflate correctly without restriction and what happens when an asthma attack is occurring.

how to utilize that information should an attack occur.

"The main point we are trying to drive home is just because a child has asthma doesn't mean they are giving up their childhood. It's not a diagnosis that should stop them from playing sports; it's not a broken bone that is going to keep them out of the game for six weeks. Instead it's play a bit, rest and then get back in the game."

During camp, students learned what their triggers were. While most can deal with weather changes, pets, dust and different fragrances in the air, an asthma child could be pushed into an asthma attack. Lessons also included the importance of talking about feelings and not holding them in, and included a short tour of the hospital.

"The structure of the camp allows for us to have fun, while teaching valuable tips and delivering information that could help them in the future. For example, we focused on belly breathing and while it may look silly, it could be something they remember later on that helps them calm down and prevent an asthma attack," Parks said.

She continued, "We could sit them down for a

your hands for at least 25 seconds, use warm water and grab a paper towel before turning off the faucet," Parks said.

One of the phlebotomists took a few moments to go over the proper technique, and demonstrated how many germs could be left behind when we don't wash correctly. Through the use of a little bit of powder and a black light, students were able to see the lasting

year ahead. We are looking forward to building the camp back up again next year and helping more students understand there is nothing wrong with getting out and playing."

No child should miss out on an active childhood, even those with asthma. There are ways for all kids to be active and hopefully those who attended asthma camp will be able to put that information into play this coming school year and sports season.



Courtesy photo/Amanda Duforat

Here are the students receiving their completion certificate for asthma camp July 25. Top shows, Jillian Pollack, and left to right shows Lucas Chavez, Timothy Gonzales, and Rowdy Pollock

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Clarence and Wonda Hawkins of Big Spring, TX celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on June 8th, 2018. They were united in marriage June 8th, 1958 in Post, TX. Together, they have 4 children, 11 grandchildren, and 16 great grandchildren. They are members of First Church of the Nazarene in Big Spring and have gone on 26 mission trips since 1996. Wonda is a beautician in Big Spring, and Clarence is a retired teacher of 35 years.

WHAT IS A CHAPLAIN, AND WHAT DO THEY DO?



HERALD file photo

Senior Chaplain, Joel Miller, shows off his 'In God I Trust' decals.

Joel Miller

Senior Chaplain
I am Senior Chaplain Joel Miller, Emergency Services Chaplain Corps, working with the Big Spring Police, Howard County Sheriff's office, Big Spring Fire Dept., and Howard County Volunteer Fire Dept. We also work with the hospital, courts and all other county and city entities. We have been doing this for the past 15 years. I am surprised at the number of people who ask "What is a Chaplain?" or "I didn't know we had Chaplains here". Here is a brief summary of our duties and our mission.

Before a Chaplain is placed on the call-out roster, they must have approximately 32 hours of instruction on diversity, humility, service to the bereaved, proper approach to each type of situation, and most of all, a call by God to fulfill the position. Currently there are certified Chaplains covering these duties.

First, we are dedicated to take care of the religious and emotional concerns of Law Enforcement and Fire Dept. We respond to calls regarding suicide, murder, accidents and death nonfictions, taking care of the survivors, thus freeing the officers to attend to their regular duties. If an officer is involved in a shooting or mishap, his superior may request he talk with the Chaplain, or see a professional. Next, after a trying situation, an experienced Chaplain will go to the stressed officer and ask if all is O.K. Quite often, if there is a child involved, and the officer has small children of their own, it may cause emotional problems. We suggest talking it out and/or going to more experienced peers, who may have been through this before.

Next we offer our services to the hospital, E.R. and I.C.U., the court systems, and any city or county resident that may face a problem in daily life. We offer our services to the court to be dispatched to any needy person or family. We offer them food, gasoline, prayer, or a nights stay in a motel. This includes any one passing through the city or county.

We respond to the hospital for anyone needing prayer or counseling. Through the E.R., we may help with food, motel, or a ride to another facility. We perform marriage ceremonies and conduct funerals.

Our biggest number of calls come from those who are homeless and just need a place to stay and a good meal. They may be trying to reach a far destination and have run out of money, and need food, gas, and a nights lodging. We are very fortunate to have funding to be able to help anyone in need. Most funding comes from the United Way and other donors. We work very closely with the Salvation Army, the V.A., local churches and, of course the Law and Fire community.

When there is a fire and all is lost, we offer a place to stay, clothing, if possible, and a contact to the Red Cross in Midland. We have what we call our "Health Kits" consisting of toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, comb, etc. We have these kits for adults, children and infants, each kit having what is needed. We will take care of the family until the Red Cross can come. We offer phone contact service to family members and their preferred ministers. We also counsel people on jobs and other available help.

Our biggest concern is people's attachment to God. We offer encouragement through prayer, giving of Bibles, and comfort to those in distress. With the help of God, we will continue to offer our services to all.

We will offer monetary help as long as God provides a way. We are on call 24/7 through the Law Enforcement Dispatch. Our only requirement is they not have an outstanding warrant.

We are governed by a Board of Directors, consisting of law and fire personnel and city/county people willing to serve. They set out goals and responsibilities. We are required to follow these goals and report to them once every three months.

What is a Chaplain? We are partners with God helping those who are in need, regardless of race, creed, nationality, or financial circumstance. That is a Chaplain.

Beautiful baby girl

Shaylee Franks and Joshua Gutierrez are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Oaklyn Leigh Gutierrez. Oaklyn was born at 6:47 p.m., June 30, 2018, at Big Spring Mountain Medical Center. At birth Oaklyn weighed 7lbs. and 6 ounces., and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Oaklyn was happily welcomed by older sister Lelanee Gutierrez.

Proud grandparents are from the mother's side are: Angela Griffin, and from the father's side: Laura and Rudy Gutierrez. Oaklyn lives happily in Big Spring, Texas with her new family.



Jane Fonda looks ahead to '9 to 5' sequel, back to Vietnam

By LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer
BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Jane Fonda said she's still confronted by Vietnam War veterans over her 1970s anti-war activism and welcomes the encounters.

Such moments provide an opportunity to talk, she said, which needs to be done with what Fonda called "an open mind and a soft heart."

The actress drew bitter criticism after being photographed atop an anti-aircraft gun during a controversial 1972 visit to North Vietnam. Meeting with TV critics Wednesday to discuss a new HBO documentary on her life, she expressed regret for that moment.

She said it was thoughtless to perch on the gun and called it "horrible" to think about the message her action sent to soldiers and their families, she said.

It was an earlier meeting with U.S. soldiers in Paris that sparked her activism, Fonda said. Her belief that

America always fought on "the side of the angels" was shaken by what she heard and later read.

Her late father, the famed actor Henry Fonda, was a World War II veteran and Jane Fonda had served as "Miss Army Recruiter" in 1954.

She felt betrayed and lied to by America's leadership over the war and decided she would do everything possible to help stop it as part

of a movement, Fonda said.

At age 80, Fonda looks back at her life in HBO's "Jane Fonda in Five Acts," from director-producer Susan Lacy and debuting this fall. Fonda continues to work, starring opposite Lily Tomlin on the Netflix series "Grace and Frankie" and working



AP photo

Jane Fonda speaks during the "Jane Fonda in Five Acts" panel during the HBO Television Critics Association Summer Press Tour at The Beverly Hilton hotel on Wednesday, July 25, 2018, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

with Tomlin and Dolly Parton on a sequel to their hit 1980 movie "9 to 5."

The new take on women's mistreatment in the workplace will have to address how the situation is worse today in some regards, including treatment of contract workers, or she won't be in it, Fonda said.

On the bright side, Fonda said she expects to see sexual harassment decline "because guys are scared."



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ROGER'S REVIEWS: Mission: Impossible-Fallout

Interesting trivia factoid: The rhythm of the "Mission: Impossible" theme song was inspired by Morse code. In Morse, the letter "M" is represented by two "dah"s, while the letter "I" is represented by two "dit"s. Those two letters are repeated four times at the beginning of the theme. Isn't that cool?

The latest movie installment in the "Mission: Impossible" franchise, subtitled "Fallout," makes use of an updated version of the original theme song - Morse "M.I."s intact - and it's a pretty decent movie.

The movie starts with Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise) in Belfast, where he receives his customary taped mission from his shadowy bosses. Apparently three weaponized plutonium cores have been stolen, and a terrorist organization called "The Apostles" led by the mysterious John Lark, are trying to get them to build some nuclear bombs. Meeting up with his trusty Impossible Mission Force agents, disguise artist and techie Benji (Simon Pegg) and strongman/driver Luther (Ving Rhames), the three arrange a meeting to acquire the cores, but things go awry when the Apostles show up and steal the cores.

A scientist named Nils Debruuk (Kristoffer Joner) is the designer of the bombs, and the IMF snag him. He wakes in the hospital watching Wolf Blitzer (as himself) give a news report about massive nuclear explosions in the Vatican, Jerusalem, and Mecca. Happy about that turn of events, Debruuk says he'll unlock his phone for the agents if they get Blitzer to read Lark's manifesto on the air. Hunt makes a phone call, and Wolf is handed a document and begins to read. Lark's screed is all about how a

big suffering is needed to create a big peace - "The greater the suffering, the greater the peace," he says. Debruuk unlocks his phone, chortling that it's too late anyway now that the bombs have already gone off.

In true "Mission: Impossible" style, the hospital room, the news report, and Wolf Blitzer himself are actually fake. The walls fall to reveal a sound stage. Wolf Blitzer walks up, rips off a mask, and it's actually Benji. The attack hasn't happened yet - Debruuk has only been sedated in the room a few hours.

Hunt and his team head off to the airport to intercept a meeting between Lark and the mysterious "White Widow," (Vanessa Kirby) apparently an envoy between the group of Apostles that have the cores and Lark's faction.

Unfortunately, CIA honcho Erica Sloan (Angela Bassett) shows up to stick her nose into the IMF's business. It's a CIA plane Hunt's planning to commandeer to get to Paris for the meeting, and Sloan wants to add her own agent, one August Walker (Henry Cavill) to the mix. After a bit of bad blood, Hunt and IMF director Alan Hunley (Alec Baldwin) agree, and we're off to skydive into Paris. Of course skydive, because how else does one get to Paris in a "Mission: Impossible" movie?

I'll go ahead and stop the narrative there, although there are quite a few more twists and turns before this epic



is done. Other performances to watch for include Rebecca Ferguson as Ilsa Faust, Hunt's love interest from previous films, who's on a mission for MI-6; Sean Harris as old foe Solomon Lane; and Michelle Monaghan as Hunt's ex-wife Julia.

It's not high art, but "Fallout" is fun to watch, primarily for the twists. I enjoy how, in the early part of the movie, they gloss over some scenes that would be major set pieces in other action films, because "of course they did, they're the IMF."

One thing that started to get old, but a little bit later became kind of a fun thing to watch for, and would probably make a good drinking game if you're into that sort of thing: Watching how often cars and motorcycles with Ethan Hunt or other IMF members in/on them zip blindly through intersections barely evading a massive collision with cross traffic, often throwing off pursuit to boot. It hap-

pens a crazy number of times. As is almost to be expected from the franchise, I thought the primary twist was quite easy to spot, but it was still revealed in a fun way.

"Mission: Impossible - Fallout" isn't going to be my Number 1 movie for 2018, but it was definitely a fun watch. Seven and a half stars out of 10.

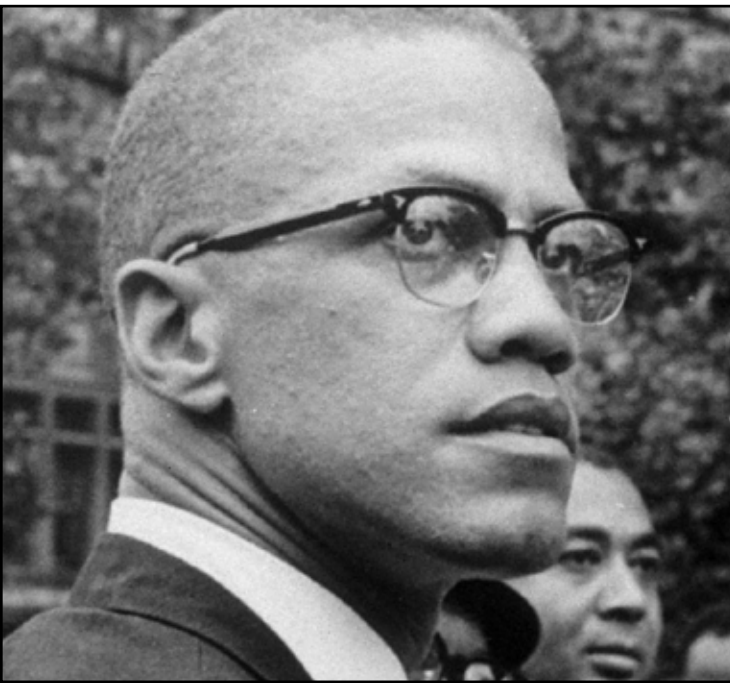
Mission: Impossible - Fallout
Director: Christopher McQuarrie
Writer: Screenplay by Christopher McQuarrie; based on "Mission: Impossible" by Bruce Geller

Production companies: Bad Robot Productions, Skydance Media, Alibab Pictures

PG-13; 2 hrs. 27 min.; Action/Adventure/Thriller; July 27, 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.

Unpublished parts of Malcolm X's autobiography auctioned off



In this 1963 file photo, Black Nationalist leader Malcolm X attends a rally at Lennox Avenue and 115th Street in the Harlem neighborhood of New York.

By VERENA DOBNIK

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — For decades, scholars have wanted to get a closer look at unpublished sections of a towering 20th century book, "The Autobiography of Malcolm X," including cut chapters that may have contained some of the most explosive thoughts of the African-American firebrand assassinated in 1965.

They may get their chance after an auction on Thursday, when a manuscript of an unpublished chapter, titled "The Negro," was sold by Guernsey's auction house for \$7,000.

"We are like the Western deserts; tumbleweed, rolling and tumbling whichever way the white

wind blows," reads part of the chapter. "And the white man is like the cactus, deeply rooted, with spines to keep us off."

The buyer was The New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, based in Harlem. The Schomburg Center also acquired a 241-page early draft of Malcolm X's autobiography at the auction for an undisclosed sum.

The existence of unpublished chapters of the book has been known since 1992, when an entertainment attorney, Gregory Reed, bought them at an estate auction following the death of the autobiography's co-author, Alex Haley.

Some pages have been exhibited in a Detroit museum. An unpublished introduction was read aloud at an event in 2010. But mostly the sections of the draft that were cut before publication have been locked away from public view.

Schomburg Center director Kevin Young said after the auction that the draft of the entire book is of immense value, beyond the historic, for the handwritten revisions and comments by Malcolm X and Haley.

Their dialogue, in writing, reflects the human rights activism of the Muslim minister, who indicted white America for what he saw as criminal behavior against blacks.

Opponents including the U.S. government accused Malcolm X of inciting racism and violence. He was assassinated in Harlem by three members of the Nation of Islam, a radical religious movement, shortly after he had broken away from the group.

The scribbled notes in the manuscript "are a very

direct narrative that he's crafting," said Young, citing the image of racist cross-burning that Malcolm X's mother described to him as a child. "And that's what brings him into the world."

Loose fragments of Malcolm X's writing-in-the-works suggest a question: Is it possible there are other chapters that were written but cut?

"I examined them, and I don't know what those are," Young said. "It's too early to tell. They look like they were probably stapled at one time or cut and pasted. Some are half of a page or just slips of paper. The best way to describe them is that they're literal fragments and literary fragments."

It may take years before the story of the fragments is pieced together.

"You see in these pages the history of black people in America," Young concluded. "And we're bringing the sons and daughters of Harlem home."

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Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce happenings



Courtesy photos

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce representatives present "Thank you" banners to, above top, employees at Anytime Fitness, 2602 S. Gregg St.; and, directly above, City of Coahoma Employees at Coahoma City Hall, 122 S. First St. in Coahoma; for their investments in the local community. Below, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce representatives preside over a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Bilbrey Tours, 3262 S. 27th St. in Abilene.



Technology companies weighing again on U.S. stocks; oil falls



AP photo

Opera Limited Chairman & CEO Yahui Zhou, third left, with secretary to the board An Da, left, and Shu Guan Wang, from China International Capital Corp., watch price quotes before Opera's IPO begins trading, at the Nasdaq MarketSite, in New York's

By ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer
Technology companies led a broad slide in U.S. stocks Friday, adding to the market's losses from a day earlier.

Twitter led the technology sector sell-off after the social media network said its monthly users declined in the second quarter. Smaller-company stocks fell

more than the rest of the market. The losses outweighed gains in banks and phone companies. Investors remained focused on the latest string of company

earnings reports, which have been mostly positive.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index fell 20 points, or 0.7 percent, to 2,816 as of 3:05 p.m. Eastern Time. The Dow Jones Industrial Average slid 80 points, or 0.3 percent, to 25,446. The Nasdaq composite index, which is heavily weighted with technology companies, lost 121 points, or 1.6 percent, to 7,730. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks gave up 31 points, or 1.9 percent, to 1,663.

Despite the sell-off, the S&P 500, the market's benchmark index, is still on track for its fourth weekly gain in a row.

THE QUOTE: "There were clearly high expectations coming into second-quarter earnings and we've seen where companies have

See **STOCKS**, Page 5C

Building Permits

R Haddad, 902 Mountain Park Dr., Val: \$7,300, Fee: \$45
 Velmer Cooper, 506 NW 11th St., res re-roof, Val: \$800, Fee: \$25
 Lynn Baize Gannaway, 1906 Goliad St., res plumb, Val: \$2,000, Fee: \$32
 Joann Palacios, 2408 Runnels St., res-additional, res plumb, Val: \$25,300, Fee: \$160
 Manuel O Iturralde, 806 N Runnels St., fence, Val: \$1,128, Fee: \$25
 Marisol Yvonne Gavin, 509 N Lamesa Hwy., fence, Val: \$2,800, Fee: \$25
 Leticia Gutierrez, 406 Circle Dr., fence, roof and re-roof, Val: \$1,500, Fee: \$50
 Silverleaf Communities, 715 Bucknell, sprinkler system, Val: \$1,200, Fee: \$18.75
 Chon Gonzales, 1214 W 6th St., roof and reroof, Val: \$9,340, Fee: \$60
 Cheryl Carter Click, 500 Highland Dr., res hvac, Val: \$7,000, Fee: \$45
 Connie Coates, 1103 College Ave., Val: \$1,800, Fee: \$25
 Life Church, 102 E 10th St., nonres., com. Hvac, Val: \$105,000, Fee: \$325
 Big Spring Cowboy Reunion, 2507 Old W Hwy 80, Val: \$1,200, Fee: \$25
 Texas Optimum Investments, 3306 Fordham Ave., single family housing, res. elec., Val: \$154,945 Fee: \$946
 Rebecca Rawls, 2503 Central Dr., res add., Val: \$200, Fee: \$25
 Keith Allen Smith, 1603 Stadium Ave., Val: \$8,900, Fee: \$32
 Pete G Hernandez, 1202 Dixie Ave., res. hvac, Val: \$7,200, Fee: \$45
 Kasey Leeann Ramirez, 2100 Johnson St., res hvac, Val: \$4,800, Fee: \$45
 Amy French, 4103 Parkway Rd., res re-roof, Val: \$2,300, Fee: \$25
 Dawn Blashill, 904 E 3rd St., com re-roof, Val: \$4,000, Fee: \$30
 Annabell Barker, 602 W 15th ST., fence, Val: \$2,100, Fee: \$25
 City of Big Spring, 206 S Main St., 1/2, com. Elec., Val: \$1,000, Fee: \$25
 Ronald Gene Letcher, 1005 Stadium Ave., res. elec., Val: \$1,000, Fee: \$25
 Larry Marshall, 209 NE 7th St., res. plumb, Val: \$2,500, Fee: \$32
 Kristen Marie Pierce, 4204 Bilger St., res re-roof, Val: \$5,000, Fee: \$35
 Silverleaf, 710 Bucknell, single family houses, Val: \$301,000, Fee: \$1,203
 Jessica Rodriguez, 610 Steakley St., res elec., Val: \$25, Fee: \$25
 Donald Gene Koerber, 500 McEwen St., pool, Val: \$1,500, 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
 Steve Antione, 1425 E. 6th St., Big Spring
 Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
 Letitia Baucham, 1202 Stanford, Big Spring
 Linda Beck, 1713 Worley Rd., Banner Elk, N.C.
 Joshua Bell, 1962 Tuscola, Snyder
 John Bochnicka, 538 Westover Rd. #260
 Chad Wayne Brown, 3901 Ave. O, P.O. Box 391, Snyder
 Douglas "Doug" Lee Brown, 205 W. 14th St. P.O. Box 275, Monahans
 James Bullard, 202 Fourth St., Palestine
 Melinda Burns, 2218 Carlton Way, San Angelo
 Wayne Richard Buyce, 4042 Morningside Way, Canyon Lake
 Raymond Carroll, 712 E 17th St., Big Spring
 Gloria Cerna, P.O. Box 55, Lamesa
 Matilda Cortez, 302 N St. Teresa
 Hannah Deaton, 19634 Atasca Oaks Dr., Humble
 Roy E. DeBlanc, 1066 Cutrer Rd., Osyka, Miss.
 Laura W. Dennis, 1511 Scurry, Big Spring
 Humberto Diaz Jr., 3417 N. Midland Dr, Midland
 Nelba DeLosRios Diaz, 10600 McMillian Dr., Austin
 Krista A. Dickson, 6917 Todd, Sachse
 Jimmy Dodson, 405 31st St., Snyder
 Ben Doherty, 5019 McKinney St. No. 105, Dallas
 Angela Doty, 1401 E. Rundberg, Austin
 Clayton W Durbin, 6508 Centerpoint, Big Spring
 Tine Marie Ellis, 4002 Austin Ave., Snyder
 Selena Bethani Enriquez-King, 100 E Parker, Midland
 Joanna Esparza, 501 S.Tackitt Seymour, Texas
 Carol W. Evans, 809 E 33rd, Plainview, Texas
 Chris M. Fagan, 3508 W. Eighth St., Amarillo
 Kristen Falcon, 2606 Fairchild Dr., Big Spring
 Leza Faulkner, 1102 South Water, Burnet
 Jose Enrique Faz, 509 N. Goliad, Big Spring
 Mumduh Felemban, 9338 Perrin Beitel Apt. 701, San Antonio
 Alexander Fernandez, 404 Cypress, Colorado City
 Juana Ferro, 406 N. W. 5th St., Big Spring
 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
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 William Gene Garner, 704 Rosemont, Big Spring
 Rosa M. George, 509 W. Second St., Stanton, Texas

See **RECORDS**, Page 5C

Can big-spending US consumers and businesses sustain growth?



By **CHRISTOPHER RUGABER**

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans spent with abandon this spring. Businesses invested in more buildings and equipment. And exports jumped. Combined, those factors drove economic growth in the April-June quarter to a 4.1 percent annual rate, the fastest pace in nearly four years.

A key question facing the economy is: Can its growth continue at such a pace?

Probably not. Some of the drivers of growth last quarter appeared to be one-time factors. Soybean exports jumped as farmers sought to beat impending tariffs overseas. And business spending was boosted by soaring investment in oil and gas drilling equipment, which might not last.

Other challenges also loom. Borrowing costs for homes, autos and credit cards are rising, lifted by the Federal Reserve's interest rate hikes. And rising prices have left average hourly pay, once adjusted for inflation, flat over the past 12 months.

But other trends do look sustainable and could help boost growth above the roughly 2 percent annual pace that's prevailed since the Great Recession ended. Revisions to government data show that consumers have been saving more than previously thought, giving them more room to spend. And with business and consumer demand strong, companies may rebuild their stockpiles of goods in warehouses and store shelves, adding to growth in the coming quarters.

That optimistic picture, though, hinges in part on whether the trade conflicts the Trump administration has pursued with major trading partners end up weakening the economy.

Here's a deeper look at economic trends and where they may be heading:

HEY, BIG SPENDERS

Americans spent more on cars, furniture and health care, among other items, lifting consumer spending at a 4 percent annual rate in the April-June quarter, the strongest quarterly pace in 3½ years.

The Trump administration's tax cuts and higher consumer optimism, fueled by steady hiring, likely helped drive the gain. The tax cuts provided a one-time lift to incomes, and so their impact on spending will probably prove temporary.

But the government also sharply revised up its estimate of the U.S. savings rate. In the first three months of the year, government data now shows that Americans saved 7.2 percent of their income, much higher than the previous estimate of just 3.3 percent. That means consumers are in better financial shape than previously thought and suggests that healthy spending could continue.

SOYBEAN SHIPMENTS SOAR

U.S. exports jumped in the second quarter, while imports barely increased. That narrowed the trade gap and meant that international trade contributed about one-quarter of the second quarter's growth.

President Donald Trump hailed the increase in remarks Friday at the White House and credited his trade policies. His policies did help, but in a way that's unlikely to be repeated: Farmers sped up their exports of soybeans to China, ahead

See **GROWTH**, Page 6C

STOCKS

Continued from Page 4C

performed well relative to those expectations, they've typically been rewarded, and where they have fallen short of those expectations, either in current quarter or future guidance, is where you're seeing (selling) occur," said Bill Northey, senior vice president at U.S. Bank Wealth Management.

SOCIAL MEDIA WOES: For the second straight day a social media company led a steep decline in technology companies, cutting into some of the market's gains. Twitter plummeted 18.6 percent to \$34.94 after the company reported disappointing user totals and its forecast disappointed investors. Snap, the company behind the Snapchat messaging app, slid 4.6 percent to \$12.76. Facebook shares gave up 1.5 percent to \$173.61 a day after the social media giant led a slide in technology stocks that snapped the

S&P 500's three-day winning streak. Facebook's steep drop, which erased nearly \$120 billion of the company's market value, was brought on by its warning to investors that it sees slower revenue growth ahead. With Friday's losses, Facebook shares are now on track to finish in a bear market, which is defined as a drop of 20 percent from a recent peak.

NOT SO CHIPPER: Intel skidded 8.7 percent to \$47.62 after the chipmaker's latest quarterly report left analysts concerned about the company's profit margins and key businesses.

CTRL+ALT+DEL: Computer hard drive companies contributed to the technology sector losses. Western Digital lost 7.7 percent to \$71.16, while Seagate Technology slid 4.3 percent to \$55.07.

PAIN AT THE PUMP: Exxon Mobil slid 3.2 percent to \$81.55 after the oil company's quarterly profit fell far short of Wall Street estimates.

GOOD TRIP: Expedia Group surged 8.4 percent to \$136.33 after the online

travel portal's quarterly earnings topped analysts' forecasts.

TASTY RESULTS: Chipotle Mexican Grill climbed 5.6 percent to \$471.98 after the restaurant chain said sales online and at established stores improved in its latest quarter.

DELIVERING THE GOODS: Amazon.com rose 0.5 percent to \$1,816.80 after the online retailer reported its biggest profit ever as its advertising and cloud computing businesses kept growing.

BANK ON IT: Investors bid up bank shares, adding to the financial sector's gains this year. Jefferies Financial climbed 6 percent to \$24.46.

OIL: Benchmark U.S. crude lost 92 cents, or 1.3 percent, to settle at \$68.69 per barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, fell 25 cents to close at \$74.29.

BOND YIELDS: Bond prices rose, sending yields lower. The yield on the 10-year Treasury fell to 2.96 percent from 2.97 percent late Thursday.

CURRENCIES: The dollar slipped to

110.99 yen from 111.23 yen on Thursday. The euro strengthened to \$1.1658 from \$1.1645.

METALS: Gold lost \$2.70 to \$1,223 an ounce. Silver was little changed at \$15.49 an ounce. Copper fell 2 cents to \$2.80 a pound.

STRONGER GROWTH: The U.S. economy surged in the April-June quarter to an annual growth rate of 4.1 percent. That's the fastest pace since 2014, driven by consumers who began spending their tax cuts and exporters who rushed to get their products delivered ahead of retaliatory tariffs.

MARKETS OVERSEAS: Major indexes in Europe rose. Germany's DAX added 0.4 percent and the CAC 40 in France gained 0.6 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 picked up 0.5 percent. In Asia, Japan's Nikkei 225 index rose 0.6 percent. The Kospi in South Korea picked up 0.3 percent. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index edged 0.1 percent lower.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 4C

Perry Gholar, 1510 Nolan, Big Spring
Elizabeth Gomez, 509 Raleigh St., Plainview
Guillermo Gomez, 2107 Morrison, Big Spring
Jennifer Gonzales, 2616 Hunter Dr., Big Spring
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
Whitney Marquez Gray, 2934 Old Anson Rd. \$1224, Abilene
Isaiah Green, 4801 State St., Abilene
James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler St. #502, Atlanta, Texas
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
Kaleb Hill, 910 Baylor, Big Spring
Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N Texas #198 Odessa
Jim Bob Jennings, 4446 Ridgecrest Amarillo 9001 Indiana Apt D, Lubbock
Stephanie Ford Johnson, P.O. Box 483, Coahoma
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
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 Millburn St., Synder, Texas
Clifford G. Lowe, 501 Circle, Big Spring
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rene Ridge, Big Spring, Texas
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
Ethel Laverne McVae, 4202 Parkway Rd., Big Spring, Texas
Heriberto Palafox Mora, 1311 Mobile St., Big Spring
Felicia Ornelas, 538 Westover Rd.
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
Juan Romero, 2504 March CR, Big Spring
Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Rd., Big Spring
Yuri Lozano Rubio, 421 Cedar, P.O. Box 173, Colorado City
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Juan Romero, 2504 March CR, Big

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Exxon profit surges, just not enough



In this April 23, 2018, file photo, the logo for ExxonMobil appears above a trading post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Profit at Exxon Mobil Corp. surged on rising prices, but not enough for investors who are selling off shares in early trading. The Irving, Texas-based company on Friday, July 27, 2018 reported second-quarter profit of \$3.95 billion, or 92 cents per share.

By DAVID KOENIG

AP Business Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Rising oil prices pushed second-quarter profit at Exxon Mobil Corp. up 18 percent to \$3.95 billion, but the results Friday fell short of Wall Street expectations, and the shares fell in

morning trading.

The price of benchmark international crude is up more than 50 percent from a year ago. But Exxon's production of oil and natural gas slid 7 percent, so it didn't fully take advantage of the higher prices.

AP photo

Rival Chevron Corp., by contrast, boosted production 2 percent and more than doubled its second-quarter profit from a year ago.

"The second quarter results were well below market expectations," Neil Hansen, Exxon's vice president of investor relations, acknowledged at the start of a call with analysts. He said the company was making progress with key investments that

will pay off in the long term.

Exxon boosted its capital spending sharply — a reversal from the cutting that Exxon and other major oil companies did after the price collapse that started in 2014. It has major projects under-

way off the coast of South America, in Africa and Papua New Guinea.

Neil Chapman, a senior vice president who oversees Exxon's exploration and production business, said the second quarter was the low point and production will increase over the rest of the year.

Exxon, however, now expects to fall short of a forecast Chapman made in March — that 2018 production would match last year. Exxon predicted Friday that it will produce the equivalent of 3.8 million barrels a day including natural gas, down from 4 million barrels a day in 2017.

Among the reasons Chapman gave for the miss were an earthquake that interrupted operations in Papua New Guinea and the company's retreat on natural gas in the U.S. because of relatively low prices. He said the company would focus on the most profitable production.

Exxon's oil production has fallen three straight quarters and six of the last eight quarters, compared with results from a year earlier. Until mid-2016, the company regularly boosted output.

Exxon's second-quarter profit worked out to 92 cents per share. Analysts were

looking for \$1.26 per share, according to a survey by Zacks Investment Research. Exxon does not adjust results based on one-time events such as asset sales, which totaled \$307 million in the quarter.

Revenue jumped 27 percent to \$73.50 billion, despite the decline in oil and gas output. The bright spots in Exxon's portfolio included the Permian Basin of Texas and the Bakken field in North Dakota, where production rose 30 percent.

Capital spending climbed 69 percent to \$6.63 billion, with exploration and drilling rising notably in Brazil, the Permian Basin and Indonesia.

The Irving, Texas-based company spent most of its profit on shareholder dividends — \$3.5 billion. The value of Exxon shares, however, has gained only a few dollars since a low point in September 2015 even though crude has risen more than 50 percent since then.

In late-morning trading, Exxon shares were down \$2.94, or 3.5 percent, to \$81.30. That put the shares in negative territory so far this year — they began the day up less than 1 percent in 2018.

GROWTH

Continued from Page 5C

of that country's imposition of tariffs that it imposed in retaliation for U.S. tariffs imposed by Trump.

As a result, soybean exports jumped 90 percent in May. Sharply higher agricultural exports made up nearly half the overall increase in overseas sales in the second quarter.

That's unlikely to be repeated. Most economists forecast that trade will drag on growth in the second half of

this year.

BUSINESSES LOOSEN PURSE STRINGS

Companies spent more on computers, software, and oil and gas drilling equipment, accelerating overall investment at a 7.3 percent annual rate.

The Trump administration's tax-cut package cut the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent. It also allowed companies to write off the entire cost of an investment from their taxes, which might have helped boost business spending last quarter.

But most of the increase in investment reflected a jump in spending on oil and gas drilling rigs and related equipment. Oil companies have expanded their exploration as oil prices have jumped roughly 50 percent in the past year. It's considered unlikely that oil and gas drillers will keep expanding at the same pace.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING AGAIN

The federal government increased its spending at a 3.5 percent annual rate in the second quarter, the second-

best showing in nearly four years.

For much of the nine-year economic expansion, federal, state and local governments haven't contributed much to the economy. Lawmakers have limited spending in the face of high deficits or dwindling tax revenue.

But that's likely to change. Congress approved a big spending package earlier this year, adding \$300 billion to defense and other government spending this year and next. The resulting stimulus could help growth later this year and in 2019.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 6C

Spring

Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Rd., Big Spring

Yuri Lozano Rubio, 421 Cedar, P.O. Box 173, Colorado City

Polly Ann Rusk, 4201 W Hwy 80, Big Spring

Elizabeth Salazar, 1808 Hearn, Big Spring, Texas

Shane Skaggs, 1 Courtney Place, Apt. 301, Big Spring

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

Leon Torres, 1500 Lincoln, Big Spring

Michael Ray Watson, 1503 Tucson Rd., Big Spring

Samantha Kay White, P.O. Box 175, Coahoma

Tamara Ruth Whitt, 1909 Morrison, 2526 Fairchild, Big Spring

Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd., Apt. #28, Big Spring

Marie Minnie Wilson, 307 E 4th, Fort San, Texas

Plaintiff: Vanessa Pemper

Respondent: James Pemper

Type of Case: Divorce

Date: July 23, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Jackdaniel Paredez

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 23, 2018

Plaintiff: Citibank NA

Respondent: Paul E Bailey

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 24, 2018

Plaintiff: Abel Saenz

Respondent: Leticia Saenz

Type of Case: Divorce

Date: July 24, 2018

Plaintiff: Chelsea Castaneda

Respondent: Martin Ramirez

Type of Case: Protective order

Date: July 24, 2018

Plaintiff: EECU

Respondent: Joe. P McMurtrey

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 24, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Jodeen Brown

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Edward Romero

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Sherry Brock

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Francisa D Balcazai

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Jeff Thigpen

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Howard County, Et Al

Respondent: Colleen Brock

Type of Case: Tax cases

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Howard County, Et Al

Respondent: David Butler

Type of Case: Tax cases

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Howard County, Et Al

Respondent: Ca Electrical and Construction

Type of Case: Tax cases

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Howard County, Et Al

Respondent: Irene Hinjosa

Type of Case: Tax cases

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Howard County, Et Al

Respondent: Don Cunningham

Type of Case: Tax cases

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Howard County, Et Al

Respondent: Esther Hughes

Type of Case: Tax cases

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Amy Miller

Respondent: William Martin, Thomas Heiskell, Leslie Sheets

Type of Case: Civil case

Date: July 20, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Jackdaniel Paredez

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 23, 2018

Plaintiff: Citibank NA

Respondent: Paul E Bailey

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 24, 2018

Plaintiff: Abel Saenz

Respondent: Leticia Saenz

Type of Case: Divorce

Date: July 24, 2018

Plaintiff: Chelsea Castaneda

Respondent: Martin Ramirez

Type of Case: Protective order

Date: July 24, 2018

Plaintiff: EECU

Respondent: Joe. P McMurtrey

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 24, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Jodeen Brown

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Edward Romero

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Sherry Brock

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Francisa D Balcazai

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC

Respondent: Jeff Thigpen

Type of Case: Contract-consumer

Date: July 25, 2018

County Court Judgements

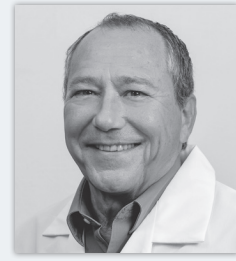
(The State of Texas is listed as the prosecutor in all county court judgements)

See RECORDS, Page 12C

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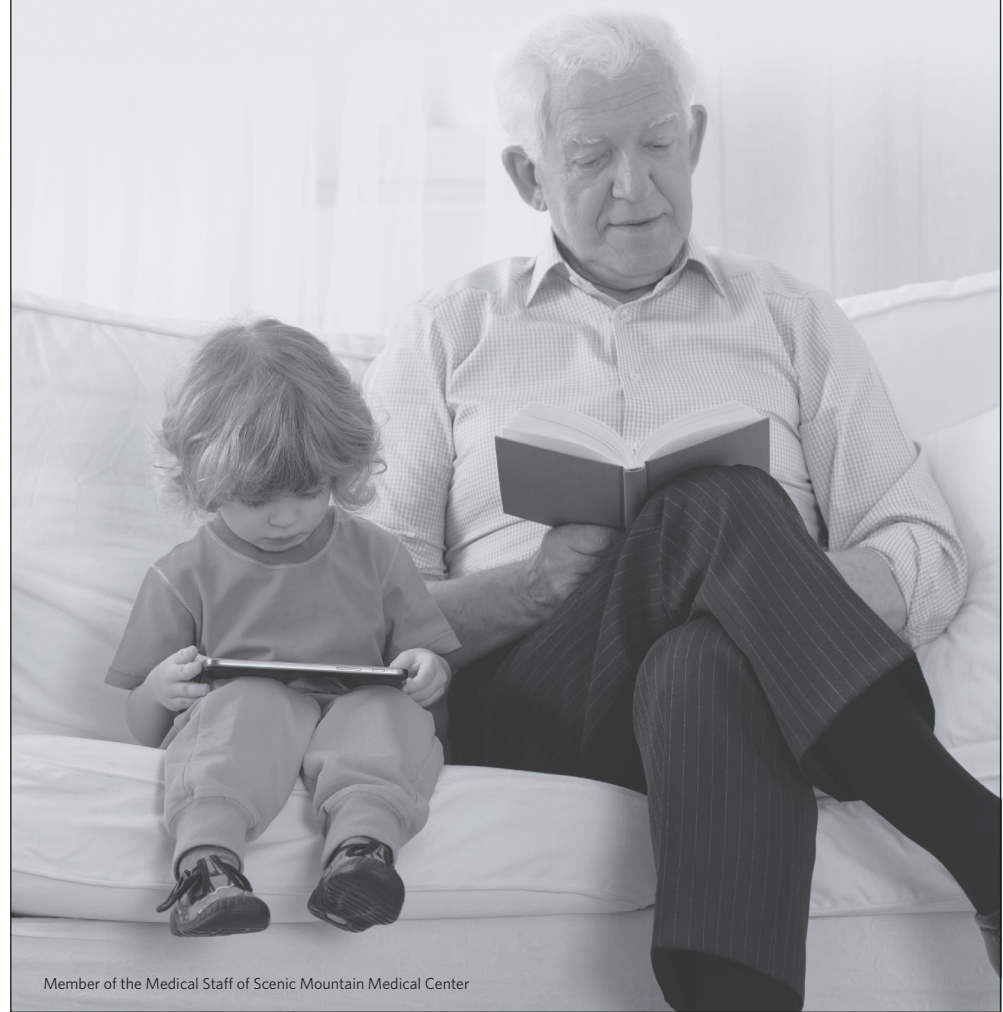
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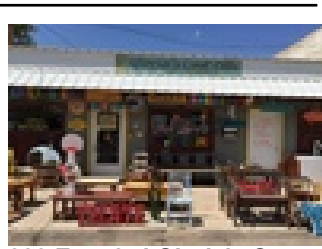
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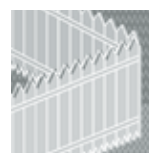
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- Big Brother found an awesome set of free weights...
- Cousin Bill found a great apartment ...
- Big Sister found a great new job...
- Aunt Sue found a dining room table...

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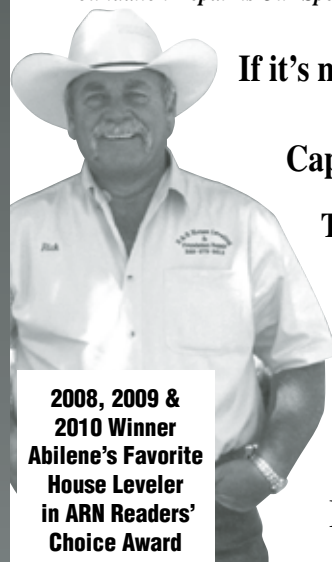


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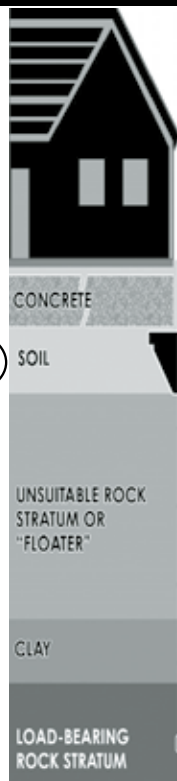
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Public Notice

CITY OF BIG SPRING
310 Nolan Street
Big Spring, Tx 79720-2657
432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS AMENDING CHAPTER 18 OF THE BIG SPRING CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "TRAFFIC," ARTICLE 3 ENTITLED "OPERATION OF VEHICLES GENERALLY," SECTION 18-80 ENTITLED "PRIMARY TRUCK ROUTES ESTABLISHED" TO PROHIBIT TRUCKS WHERE DESIGNATED FOR NO THROUGH TRUCKS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECT-

Public Notice

IVE DATE.
JULY 27, 2018
JULY 29, 2018
Tami L. Davis
Assistant City Secretary

#9818 July 27 & 29

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT Birch Operations, LLC (071331) located at 909 Fannin Street, Suite 1350, Houston, TX 77010, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation that is not productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Ellenburger formation, Hulkster SWD lease, well number 1. The proposed injection well is located 0.95 miles Northeast of Knott, Texas in the Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 11,000'-12,000'. LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of The Railroad Com-

Public Notice

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

#9813 July 29, 2018

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Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF RAUL GUERRA, DECEASED:

Notice is hereby given that on July 23, 2018 Letters Testamentary were issued to Rudy Guerra as Independent Executor in proceedings in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, in

Legals

Probate, styled "In the Matter of the Estate of Raul Guerra, Deceased," being No. P14804 in that Court, and which proceedings are still pending. All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same to Rudy Guerra, 5647 Beacon, El Paso, TX 79905, within the time prescribed by law.

DATED: July 26, 2018.

Rudy Guerra,
Independent Executor of the Estate of Raul Guerra, Deceased

#9820 July 29

Answer to previous puzzle

C	H	I	P	S	A	N	D	R	O	S	A		
L	E	N	O	A	L	O	E	E	A	T	I	N	
A	L	C	H	E	M	I	S	T	I	T	A	L	O
R	E	A	L	M	S	H	E	I	G	H	T	E	N
E	N	S	P	A	N	C	N	N	E	R	E		
T	A	H	O	E	O	A	T	S	O	B	O	E	
C	R	Y	E	R	I	S	L	A	N	D			
S	C	H	O	O	L	M	A	S	T	E	R	S	
S	C	U	R	R	Y	E	X	T	R	A			
P	A	T	E	O	L	D	E	A	N	G	S	T	
E	L	I	A	M	A	D	R	Y	O	H	H		
E	L	E	P	H	A	N	T	A	E	R	A	T	E
D	O	P	E	Y	C	H	E	V	R	O	L	E	T
O	P	I	N	E	R	I	E	P	I	T	A		
S	E	T	S	S	U	N	S	E	E	L	S		

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Anna Stiga

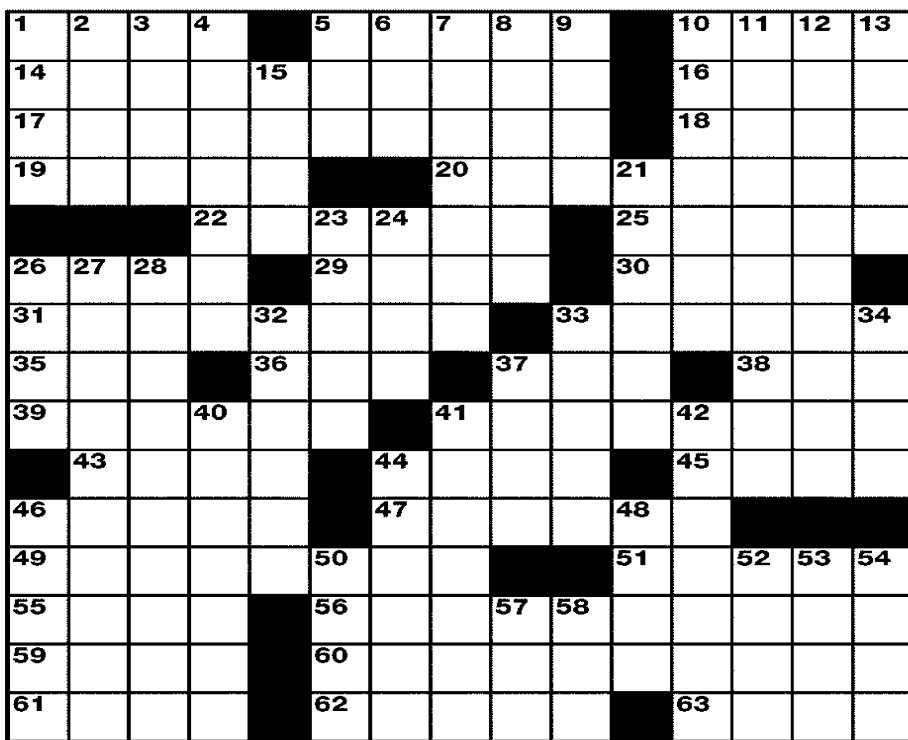
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
1 Common crossword notation
5 Square figures
10 Different
14 Common interview question
16 Long-running HBO comedy
17 Common pub fare
18 Start to lock
19 One on a drive
20 Intended for instruction
22 Instructional file
25 Much to see in Greece
26 Supporting people
29 Appointment at an institute
30 Comes together
31 Paid
33 Patrons, politely
35 Evacuation order
36 Get to
37 Center for sportsmen
38 Exclamation of excitement
39 Left
41 Wind-formed topography
43 Name on a 2012 ticket
44 Lefties can't play it
45 It's not news
46 Unloads
47 "(A Little More) Mascara" show, for short
49 Book including Adam, Moses and John the Baptist
51 Consumption of energy
55 Causes to roar

- 56 Water south of Myanmar
59 Dining ___
60 Lightning lab devices
61 Name on the *Peanuts* character list
62 Hard to be moved
63 Sugar magnate who endowed a gallery
- DOWN**
1 Doesn't dawdle
2 *Blazing Saddles* sheriff
3 Big wheel at some parties
4 Othello's other name
5 Short-lived FDR agency
6 ___ timer
7 Planning metaphor

- 8 Patron saint of Hawaii
9 Running back's leg-power builder
10 One gone
11 Mediterranean course
12 Well fixed
13 Big pictures
15 Mayo is held here
21 Had a battle, perhaps
23 Put in
24 *Petit nombre*
26 Opposite of "aggregated"
27 What's seen beside some red arrows
28 Most basic
32 Opposite-view introducer
33 Venerable shipbuilding center
34 Let fall naturally

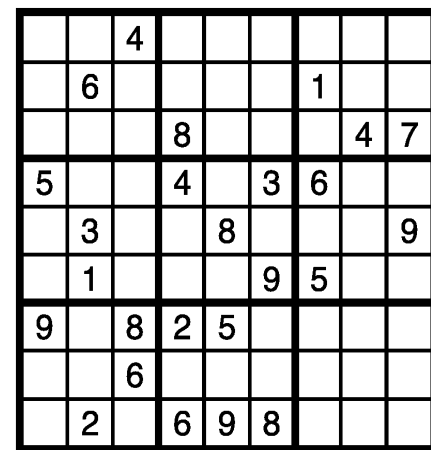
- 37 Mineral with magnesium
40 Addresses without exchanges
41 Skunk
42 Refrains
44 Word from the Greek for "wanderer"
46 Sling, essentially
48 Green stuff, for short
50 Exclamation of frustration
52 Birthplace of the largest religions
53 Bucks
54 Great facility
57 Real-life Superman opponent in a '78 comic book
58 "I can't remember this guy" epithet



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MAKE TIME FOR FAMILY READING

SUDOKU

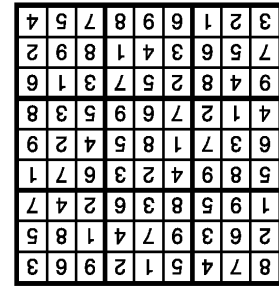


Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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



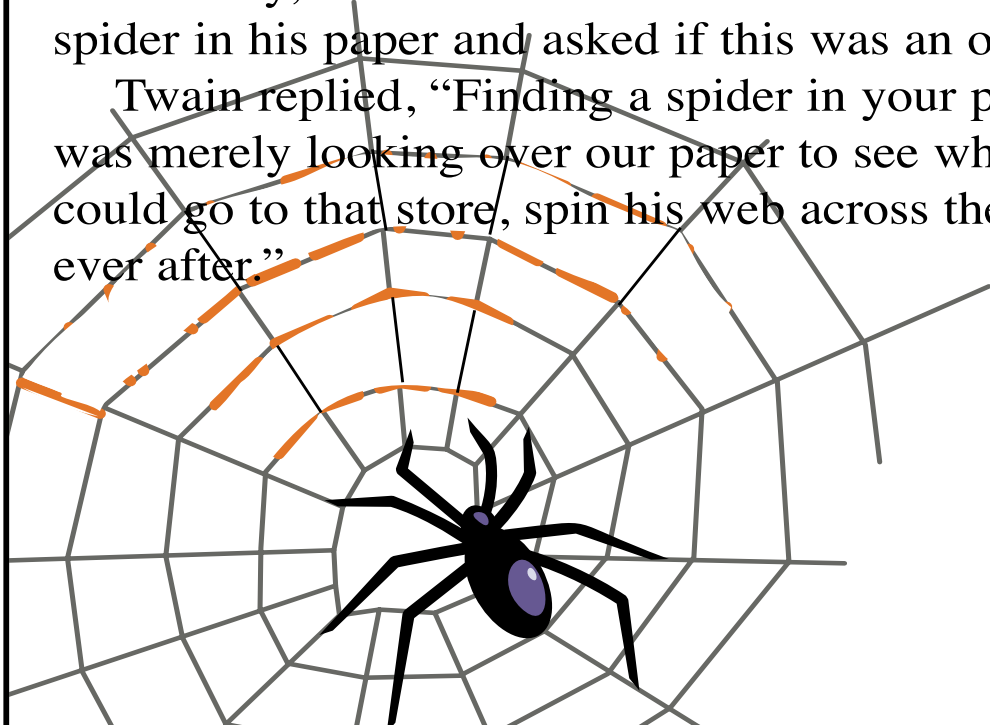
ANSWER:

The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."



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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Moon of No Undoing

By HOLIDAY MATHIS



Once you think, it's hard to unthink. The same applies to seeing, doing, comparing, loving, fearing and more. That's why the lunar change to Pisces is an opportunity not to be missed. It's essentially the chance to choose carefully and intuitively and be completely content with the choice so that there will be nothing to add "un" to later.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Is it easier to see with your eyes closed? Maybe. Try it. Moments of quiet, still and very awake shut-eye could yield life-changing results. Of course, there are many ways to meditate that involve open eyes, too.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Forceful improvement? That's not really a thing. Improvements are made through tinkering, reinvention, starting over from scratch, refinement and many other ways. Force isn't one of them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Things will settle themselves. When you deeply believe this, you can relax and stop trying to game the situation. There's no way to play this, so stop analyzing and just let it be.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Like that of a jazz art-

ist or comedian, some of your best work will be what happens when you're riffing. You have a talent for turning the most random mix of materials into a beautiful, if abstract, sort of order.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Chances are you will not end up with your intended result regarding production. But at the end of the day, it will be about how much you love, not about how much you do.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). For those who, for whatever reason, cannot bring themselves to forgive, reconciliation may still be possible. There are other ways to find balance, peace and harmony. One can accept what is without forgiving what was.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your perception of the outside world is a reflection of your inside world, and the reverse is just as true. So even though you can set a tone or bring a mood with you, you're never

completely responsible for the way things turn out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Treating yourself better isn't about a skin cream or a massage. Those things are nice, but they won't stop the pain that's caused by speaking unkindly to yourself with your inside voice.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It will feel as though life is trying to make an important point, but don't let anyone else tell you what point that is, because it's what's important to you -- and what you think it is -- that really matters.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your giving heart will not feel fully satisfied until you know that you have made a difference. But there's a catch. To really help out, you must be wise enough to know when your help won't help.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Once you place your trust, why not keep it there awhile and see what happens? Relationships get deeper and more meaningful with time. Give everyone a chance to settle in and get comfortable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Someone longs to be listened to and taken seriously, and you'll provide that -- not because you're doing anyone a service but because you are gen-

uinely curious about people and value what they have to say.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 29). The solar return starts with an experience that will help to cleanse your spirit and give you a fresh and powerful new belief in yourself and your effectiveness. Get involved in a mission to help. You find love and friendship while providing service to those around you. November and February are the best financial months. Leo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 12, 5, 28 and 40.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: The current retrograde planets include Mercury, Mars, Saturn, Neptune and Pluto. Mars will be the first to break out of the pattern, but we still have about two weeks of backward energy from the warrior before that happens, so stay vigilant to potentially undermining forces.

Our own vices top the list. That's good news because, at least theoretically, they are more within our control than a lot of other things. Be compassionate, but not complacent. Seek help in breaking your bad habits, and don't be afraid to experiment with solutions; if you knew which one could work, you wouldn't be stuck. So try new things, even silly things.

In the second position: falsehood in general. Check facts. Communicate with as much clarity and thoroughness as possible.

The third undermining force to counteract is selfishness. It causes small-mindedness and narrow perspective. Trying to find one small portion of the whole will lead to your missing the entire point. Ward against selfishness by resolving to expand your vision in every area of life. For instance, instead of looking for that special someone to love, resolve to love people. This is the way you'll meet more people who are lovable and thus increase your chances

of finding a particular person you'll very much enjoy.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Leo is the sign of children. When Leo performers become mothers, their art becomes even deeper and more powerful. For country music superstar Martina McBride, this is clearly illustrated in songs such as "In My Daughter's Eyes" -- a tear-jerker for mothers and daughters alike. McBride, who has three daughters with husband John McBride, has her Venus, Mars and Jupiter in Cancer, the sign of mothers.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com.
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The avoidance principle

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH		
♠	K Q 9 7 4	
♥	Q 5	
♦	A 10 6 2	
♣	K 5	
WEST		
♠	10 3	
♥	A 10 9 6 4	
♦	Q 8 5	
♣	9 7 4	
EAST		
♠	J 6 5 2	
♥	J 7 2	
♦	K 3	
♣	J 10 8 3	
SOUTH		
♠	A 8	
♥	K 8 3	
♦	J 9 7 4	
♣	A Q 6 2	

The bidding:
North East South West
1♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 NT
Opening lead — six of hearts.

In many hands, declarer cannot afford to have a particular defender gain the lead and therefore does everything possible not to lose a trick to him.

Take this case where South was in three notrump, got a heart lead and correctly played the queen from dummy. The purpose of the queen play was twofold: If West had the ace, the queen would win, and the K-8 would constitute a stopper if West later gained the lead; if East had

the ace, he would win the trick, but then South could duck the heart return, holding up the king until the third round. This would serve to neutralize West's remaining hearts if he started with five of them.

When the queen held, South cashed the A-K-Q of spades, hoping the opposing spades were divided 3-3 or that West had four of them. In either case, South would then be sure of the contract. But East showed up with four spades, and declarer went down one after East won the fourth spade and returned the heart jack through South's king.

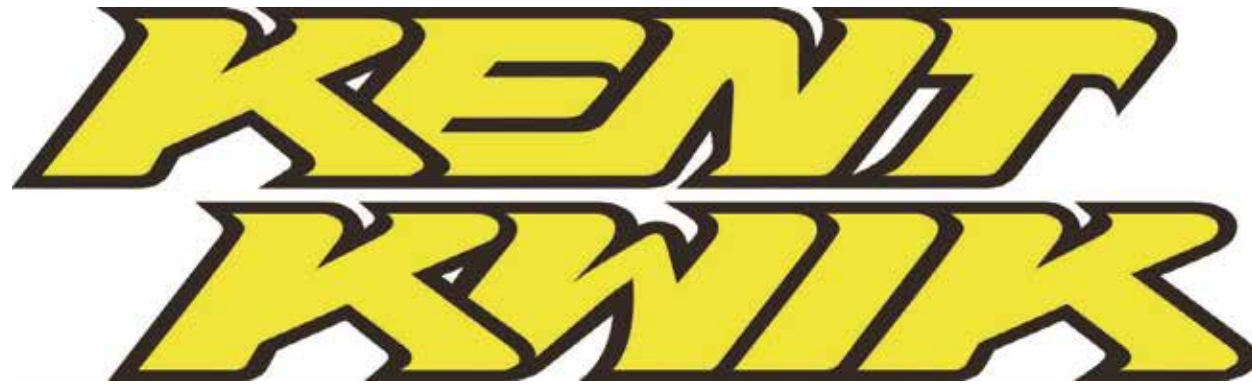
Actually, the problem of avoiding the dangerous opponent, East, could have been solved in an entirely different way. After winning the first heart with the queen, all South had to do was to lead a low spade from dummy and finesse the eight.

This would have lost to the ten, but West would then have been stymied. Nothing he could do would stop declarer from scoring nine tricks consisting of four spades, a heart, a diamond and three clubs.

Finessing the spade eight after East played low was sure to bring the contract home if the spades were divided 3-3 or 4-2, and therefore offered a much greater chance of succeeding than simply cashing the A-K-Q in hopes of a 3-3 split.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

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Merck beats views on sales jumps for cancer drugs, vaccines



This May 1, 2018 file photo shows Merck corporate headquarters in Kenilworth, N.J. Merck & Co. on Friday, July 27 reported second-quarter profit of \$1.71 billion. The Kenilworth, New Jersey-based company said it had profit of 63 cents per share. Earnings, adjusted for costs related to mergers and acquisitions and restructuring costs, were \$1.06 per share.

By LINDA A. JOHNSON

AP Medical Writer

Soaring sales of cancer drugs, vaccines and veterinary medicines drove Merck & Co.'s 5 percent jump in second-quarter revenue and the company lifted its outlook for the year.

Long known for primary care with

its allergy, cholesterol, diabetes, heart and osteoporosis medications and shots to prevent common children's ailments, Merck now focuses more on so-called specialty drugs, which are generating most growth. Those include advanced cancer treatments such as blockbuster Keytruda,

medicines used in hospitals like anesthesia-reversal drug Bridion and its Gardasil shot to prevent the sexually transmitted, cancer-causing HPV virus, plus its popular Bravecto flea-and-tick killer.

The country's second-biggest drugmaker on Friday posted net income of \$1.71 billion, or 63 cents per share. That was down 12 percent from a year earlier, due to \$1.15 billion in charges for research investments and other one-time items. Excluding those, earnings came to \$1.06 per share, 3 cents better than expected.

The maker of diabetes pill Januvia and Keytruda, which fights cancer by boosting the immune system, reported revenue of \$10.47 billion, or 63 cents per share, topping expectations for \$10.32 billion.

Prescription drug sales increased 6 percent to \$9.28 billion, led by Keytruda, Januvia and Gardasil. U.S. drug sales dipped 3 percent, partly due to insurer pressure for lower prices, while foreign sales jumped 13 percent.

The Kenilworth, New Jersey-based drugmaker is enduring increased brand or generic competition cutting sales of several products, particularly shingles vaccine Zostavax and hepatitis C drug Zepatier. Both saw sales plunge more than 70 percent in the quarter as rivals' newer or better drugs make Merck's minor players. Sales of Type 2 diabetes pills

Januvia and Janumet totaled \$1.5 billion but are flattening out.

However, Keytruda sales have been growing rapidly as the injected biologic drug keeps winning approvals for treating additional types of cancer, most recently in the U.S. for advanced cervical cancer and a type of lymphoma. It's now approved here for eight cancer types, is in testing for many others, and was just approved Thursday in China, a huge market, for treating melanoma. Merck recently began getting revenue from partnerships selling two new oncology drugs, Lynparza for ovarian cancer and Lenvima for thyroid cancer. And the company acquired Viralytics Ltd., an Australian biotech company developing cancer cell-killing viruses.

"Merck's execution in immuno-oncology has been more successful than competitors, particularly in lung cancer," Edward Jones analyst Ashtyn Evans wrote to investors. "We now expect sales of Keytruda to approach \$13 billion by 2022, which would represent roughly 25 percent of total company sales."

Sales of veterinary medicines for pets and livestock jumped 14 percent, to \$1.08 billion.

Merck said it now expects full-year earnings of \$4.22 to \$4.30 per share, up from its May forecast for \$4.16 to \$4.28 per share. Merck said it now expects 2018 revenue of \$42 billion to \$42.8 billion, versus its May forecast for \$41.8 billion to \$43 billion.

In morning trading, shares fell 97 cents, or 1.5 percent, to \$63.04.

World shares mostly higher, defying Facebook-led tech slump



A man uses a smartphone in front of an electronic board showing Hong Kong share index outside a bank in Hong Kong, Friday, July 27, 2018. Asian shares were mostly higher early Friday as investors shrugged off Facebook's nearly \$120 billion overnight plunge in market value, the biggest-ever one-day loss in dollar value for a U.S. company.

By ELAINE

KURTENBACH

AP Business Writer

BANGKOK (AP) — World stock markets mostly rose

Friday as investors shrugged off Facebook's nearly \$120 billion overnight plunge in market value, the biggest-ever one-day loss in dollar value

for a U.S. company.

KEEPING SCORE: Germany's DAX added 0.5 percent to 12,874 and the CAC 40 in France was up 0.4 percent

at 5,501. Britain's FTSE 100 picked up 0.5 percent to 7,701. Futures pointed to small gains on the open on Wall Street, with the contract for the Dow up 0.1 percent and S&P futures up less than 0.1 percent.

ASIA'S DAY: Japan's Nikkei 225 index added 0.6 percent to 22,712.75 and the KOSPI in South Korea picked up 0.3 percent to 2,294.99. The Shanghai Composite index lost 0.3 percent to 2,873.59 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index edged 0.1 percent lower to 28,757.20. Australia's S&P ASX 200 jumped 0.9 percent to 6,300.20. Shares gained in Taiwan and Indonesia but were lower in Singapore.

TECHNOLOGY: Facebook's tumble, brought on by its warning to investors that it sees slower revenue growth ahead, led a decline in technology shares that snapped a three-day winning streak for the S&P 500 index. The focus is likely to remain on the technology sector as shares in Twitter plunged 15 percent after it said the number of monthly users dropped in the second quarter.

EARNINGS: Other corporate earnings report were in

focus. They were upbeat for drugs maker Merck and Italian energy producer Eni. Investors are also keeping an eye on results from Exxon Mobil.

TRADE: The agreement between President Donald Trump and a European delegation to work on a pact to dismantle trade barrier inspired fresh optimism among investors that trade tensions between the U.S. and European Union may be on the mend. But it's worrying for Asian trading partners, especially China, which could lose leverage with Washington in its own disputes, especially over its imports of soybeans.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude lost 18 cents to \$69.43 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It picked up 31 cents to settle at \$69.61 per barrel on Thursday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, dropped 9 cents to \$74.45.

CURRENCIES: The dollar slipped to 111.19 yen from 111.23 yen on Thursday. The euro fell to \$1.1626 from \$1.1645.

EPA reverses order allowing polluting diesel truck engines

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Environmental Protection Agency acting chief Andrew Wheeler has withdrawn a break that the agency gave makers of higher-pollution diesel trucks on Scott Pruitt's last day as agency administrator.

The EPA released a Wheeler directive Thursday night reversing one that Pruitt issued on July 6. Pruitt left office that day in the face of unrelent-

ing allegations he misused his office for luxury perks and other personal and political gain.

Wheeler wrote in a memo that Pruitt appeared to have overstepped his authority in the July 6 order, which barred the agency from enforcing a cap imposed during the Obama administration on the annual production of higher-polluting tractor-trailers, known as glider trucks.

The EPA earlier had estimated that unchecked production of the glid-

ers — new truck bodies retrofitted with older, dirtier-burning diesel engines — would cause 1,600 premature deaths annually from air pollution.

The reversal was one of Wheeler's first breaks with the policies of his predecessor, who initiated changes that would redo the agency's enforcement of key clean-water and clean-air laws and give industries and financial arguments

more weight in regulatory decision-making overall. Wheeler, like Pruitt, says he supports President Donald Trump's calls to trim regulations that he regards as unnecessarily burdening businesses.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 6C

Defendant: Miguel Zuniga-Pineda
Offense: Harassment
Sentence: \$250 fine, \$317 court cost
Date: June 28, 2018

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Gary Hernandez and Jeannie Hernandez
Grantee: Bridette M. Campos and Alfonso Salazar
Property: Being a 9.98 acre tract of land, tract 22, out of the Billingsly Subdivision, an unrecorded subdivision out of the SE/4 of section 30, block 31, T-1-N, T and P. Railroad Co. Survey.
Date: July 9, 2018

Grantor: Willie Eugene Forman

Grantee: Kassey Jollette Forman
Property: lot four, block one, Muir Heights, a subdivision of Big Spring
Date: July 13, 2018

Grantor: Adriel E. Saldivar
Grantee: Jaye Roper
Property: Being the East 65' of Lot number 11, and 12 in block number 15, Saunders Addition
Date: July 13, 2018

Grantor: George W. Williams and Susan Williams
Grantee: Nicole Marie Jones
Property: being a 2.62 acre tract of land, more or less, out of the NW/4 of section 34, block 32, T-1-N and T and P RR> Co. Survey.
Date: July 13, 2018

Warranty Deed with Vendor's Lien

Grantor: Donald R. Ceasar

Grantee: Kelsi Ruth Hicks
Property: Lot 23, block 2, Kentwood, an Addition to City of Big Spring.
Date: June, 29, 2018

Grantor: William Kevin Goforth
Grantee: Raul Robles III
Property: Lot 12, block 3, Awion Village, a subdivision of Big Spring
Date: July 10, 2018

Grantor: Bridette M. Salazar and Alfonso Salazar
Grantee: Tyler J Newton and Olivia Newton
Property: Being a 9.98 acre tract of land, tract 22, out of the Billingsly Subdivision, an unrecorded subdivision out of the SE/4 of section 31, block 31, T-1-N, T and P. Railroad Co. Survey.
Date: July 9, 2018

Dr. Rudy Haddad

Board Certified in Urology
Fellow American College of Surgeons

Adults and Pediatrics Urology

Flu Shots
Available Now

- Office Treatment of Enlarged Prostate Profile (instead of Surgery)
- Urinary Bladder Control Problem with Medication (Simple Outpatient Procedure Available)
- Kidney Stones with Laser & Shockwave Technology Available Locally 24/7
- Sexual Dysfunction
- Low Testosterone Syndrome
- Vasectomies



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