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H BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2018



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HCAD board approves budget 3-1

By ROGER CLINE
 Staff Writer

The Howard County Appraisal District Board approved the district's Fiscal Year 2019 budget at a meeting Wednesday evening by a vote of 3-1, but the budget must still be approved by a majority of the 12 local governmental entities that fund the HCAD before it takes effect.

Only board member Craig Wyrick voted against the budget. Board member Alex Calvio was not present at the meeting.

Earlier in the meeting, Wyrick suggested amending the proposed budget by de-

leting a line granting up to 5 percent merit-based pay increases for HCAD employees.

"My motion is to delete the 5-percent merit increase line item off the budget, and then accept the budget as is," he said. "Remove that line item, that 5-percent increase."

Wyrick presented figures he had gathered from local government officials showing that their employees don't receive raises as generous as those offered by the HCAD.

"Our taxing entities, our taxpayers, our county and our city and other employees, this is what they're saying



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
 Howard County resident Scott Emerson (background, right of center) speaks against the proposed Howard County Appraisal District budget at the HCAD Board meeting Wednesday evening, citing merit raises for HCAD employees that he says are higher than pay increases given to employees of other local governmental entities. The HCAD Board passed the budget 3-1, but it must still be approved by a majority of the 12 local entities that fund the HCAD.

Commissioners table several Road and Bridge issues

By ROGER CLINE
 Staff Writer

Howard County Commissioners tabled several items brought for discussion by county Road and Bridge Administrator Brian Klinksiek at their meeting Wednesday afternoon.

Klinksiek presented the commissioners with a proposed site for a 4-H shooting range on the premises of the old Howard County Airport, located off Old Colorado City Highway near the intersection with Highway 350.

"It's approximately 169 acres, and deals with a multi-discipline shooting facility that was proposed and discussed at the last meeting," Klinksiek said.

Commissioners tabled the item, asking Klinksiek and 4-H leader Dustin Gaskins, who was present at the meeting, to bring back a more detailed plan of the setup of the shooting range to the next Commissioners Court meeting.

Klinksiek also presented the commissioners with a list of equipment that is not being used by the county, asking them for approval to donate the equipment to the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department.

"What I have is a list of things, some of them are out there at the refinery and need to be removed, some of them are at locations undisclosed because I'm just not aware of where they are," Klinksiek said. "I also can't determine whether county funds were used to pay for them or not. These are things we have files on. Most, but not all, we have titles on. Some things were titled to us for insurance purposes that were paid for by the Volunteer Fire Department. There is nothing on this list that is being utilized today."

After some discussion, commissioners tabled the item, saying they needed to get legal advice

See **ISSUES**, Page 3

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Runnels Academy Registration



HERALD photo/Amber Mansfield
 The photo above shows the new classic christian school in Big Spring, Runnels Academy. The former Runnels Junior High is now opening its doors for the 2018 Fall Semester for children in pre-k through 8th grade. Children can be registered into Runnels Academy by going to their website for the application, www.runnelsacademy.org.

a small group of Big Spring residents as the site for a new private Christian academy. The new school will be called "Runnels Academy," and the goal is to deliver a classical Christian education to students.

"Classical Christian schools have a philosophy all their own, and that form of education is steeped in history; it's how our forefathers were educated," said Head of Runnels Academy, Jenny Bryans. "We'll be teaching languages like Latin and Greek, and our schools will be split into three parts: the grammar, logic, and rhetoric stages."

The Runnels Junior High building currently belongs to Life Church, located next door to the school building.

"We'll be using the second floor of this building for our school, but we aren't affiliated with the Life Church Ministry, and will merely be a tenant in their building," said Bryans. "We're different from public schools here, in that we will not be using what is referred to as a 'common core'

By AMBER MANSFIELD
 Staff Writer

The school formerly known as Runnels Junior High School has seen its better days since it had children walking through the halls, but it has been brought back to life and is ready to be put to use. The building that once housed the junior high school has been chosen by

second floor of this building for our school, but we aren't affiliated with the Life Church Ministry, and will merely be a tenant in their building," said Bryans. "We're different from public schools here, in that we will not be using what is referred to as a 'common core'

See **RUNNELS**, Page 3

But first, coffee

By TYLER SCHELLIE
 Staff Writer

Friday is approaching fast, which means it is almost time for Kindred Coffee Hour. If you haven't yet attended this free, public event put on by Kindred at Home and SMMC, here is a little information about it.

Kindred Coffee Hour is a weekly event that takes place every Friday, and is always free

to the public. Previously held at Cornerhouse Coffee, the coffee hour now takes place at the Yellow Rose Cafe inside Scenic Mountain Medical Center located at 1601 W. 11th place here in Big Spring.

The Kindred staff provides blood pressure checks as well as oxygen and heart rate checks, and of course, coffee! Most of

See **COFFEE**, Page 3



Courtesy photo
 Comedian, Adrienne Green, stands next to a replica of the Robot from the 1998 film Lost in Space during the art expo held earlier this year at the VA Medical Center.

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Police, Sheriff reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **AUDREY LYNN FREITAG**, 32, of 801 W FM 700, was arrested on a charges on two outstanding warrant.
- **MELINDA CAROLINE WELTERS**, 41, of 12517 Sw 13th St., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 68 inmates at the time of this report.

- **AUDREY LYNN FREITAG**, 32, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of driving without a license, and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- **ZACHARY EVAN MCFARLAND**, 32, was arrested by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **MELINDA CAROLINE WELTERS**, 41, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Take Note

- Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018, at 7 p.m., Social time @ 6:30 p.m. – Midland Quilters Guild meeting. PROGRAM: 2019 MQG QUILT SHOW PREVIEW -Come join us and discover the hopes and dreams for MQG's 40th Annual Quilt Show to be held in the Midland Convention Center. We will take a 3-D walk through the new convention center scheduled to open in September 2019. Alamo Heights Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1305 N Midland Dr, Midland. FREE. For more info, call 432-425-3476 or visit <http://www.midlandquiltersguild.com>

- Maranatha Baptist Academy at 903 Johnson is now taking applications for ongoing enrolment for our Fall Session, August 1. Call 432-213-1046 for an appointment. Dr. Lillian Bohannon, Administrator. Please have shot records and birth certificate available at the time of registration. We use Accelerated Christian Education curriculum for grades Kindergarten through twelfth grade graduation. We provide information so you can home school or use our facilities for full time in our school. We also provided tutoring for all grades. If interested in a quality Christian Education at a price you can afford, please come by or give us a call.

- Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary is looking for new members. If you have a heart for serving people, have at least four hours a week to spare, SMMC Auxiliary might be the fit for you.

Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to inpatients, hospitality services, popcorn and more.

To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Miramontes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

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

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

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

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

- Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, handles legal issues affecting Veterans, Retirees, and their family members. They will have clinics that provides volunteer attorneys that will provide free legal advice (up to 25 minutes depending on the issue). A pro bono attorney may be assigned to handle some cases that include: bankruptcy, consumer issues/contract, child supper and custody, divorce, employment, foreclosure, housing, landlord/tenant, probate and guardianship, real estate, social security/SSI, Veterans benefits/issues, wills and estate planning. The Clinic dates are on Aug. 23 and Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Northside Community Center on 110 N.E 8th St. Applicants must be financially eligible to obtain services. Please bring a copy of your DD215 and/or Veterans ID card. Appointments are required. For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Pete Fierro at 432-332-1207, ext. 4511.

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

- The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations. Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling



from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

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

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

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

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

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

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

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

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

- The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

- Big Spring Centennial Lion's Club has changed its meeting time. The club now meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday and the fourth Thursday of each month. Meetings are still held at the Big Spring TA Truck Stop. Visitors are welcome.

- The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

- The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

- Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact 432-271-2138.

- Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

- Membership to the Big Spring Native American Association is open to the public. People interested in Native American culture are encouraged to find out more about the organization by calling Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125,

- Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary Group is looking to expand. Positions are available for the Auxiliary group and the Teen Volunteer program. Must be 15 years of age to take part in the teen volunteer program. If you would like to volunteer please contact Heath White at 268-4850.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1000 block Buena Vista. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2400 block of Morrison. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of N Hwy 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported on CR 42 and CR 45. No one was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 800 block of E 16th St. No one was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

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

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

- Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. t 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

- GriefShare is a Biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support). Meetings are weekly May 24 through Aug. 24, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for more information.

FRIDAY

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

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

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

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14,000 fight California fires, some from prisons or overseas

By JONATHAN J. COOPER and PAUL ELIAS

Associated Press

UKIAH, Calif. — Firefighters said for the first time Wednesday that they have made good progress battling the state's largest-ever wildfire but didn't expect to have it fully under control until September.

The blaze north of San Francisco has grown to the size of Los Angeles since it started two weeks ago, fueled by dry vegetation, high winds and rugged terrain that made it too dangerous for firefighters to directly attack the flames now spanning 470 square miles (1,217 square kilometers).

Crews, including inmates and firefighters from overseas, have managed to cut lines around half the fire to contain the flames, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection said. The blaze about 100 miles (160 kilometers) north of San Francisco around the resort region of Clear Lake has destroyed 116 homes and injured two firefighters.

Those lines have kept the southern edge of the fire from spreading into residential areas on the east side of the lake. But Cal Fire said the flames are out of control to the north, roaring into remote and unpopulated areas of thick forests and deep ravines as firefighters contend with record-setting temperatures.

California is seeing earlier, longer and more destructive wildfire seasons because of drought,

warmer weather attributed to climate change and home construction deeper into the forests.

Cal Fire Battalion Chief Jonathan Cox said the area has few natural barriers to slow flames and terrain that firefighters can't get to. So firefighters fall back to the nearest road, ridge or river, where they bulldoze a wide line and wait for the flames to come to them.

The Mendocino Complex, which will take months to put out, is one of 18 burning throughout the state Wednesday. Because of such extreme conditions early on, officials and experts warn that California could be facing its toughest wildfire season yet, with the historically worst months still to come.

Here's a look at the firefighters who are battling California's blazes:

14,000 FIREFIGHTERS
They are deployed statewide and led by Cal Fire. The state's firefighting agency employs 5,300 full-time firefighters and hires an additional 1,700 each fire season. Trained prisoners and firefighters from 17 states and around the world fill out the ranks.

They are battling blazes on the Nevada border and along the coast. Cal Fire crews are helping federal firefighters put out flames in national forests and one that has reached Yosemite National Park, prompting its closure at the height of tourist season.

Those on the ground get help from more than 1,000 fire en-

gines, 59 bulldozers, 22 air tankers, 17 airplanes, 12 helicopters and 11 mobile kitchens.

Firefighters under Cal Fire's command have helped Oregon authorities fight a fire near the California border and responded to a blaze that broke out this week in Orange County and burned a dozen cabins.

4,088 AT MENDOCINO COMPLEX FIRE

The state's largest wildfire in history has drawn a contingent to battle what is actually two fires burning so closely together that they're being attacked as one.

Though it's exploded in size, more firefighters are fighting a fire near Redding that has killed six people and destroyed more than 1,000 homes and businesses. It threatens a much larger urban area, so Cal Fire has devoted more resources to it.

Both blazes are considered nearly half contained.

1,916 INMATES

California prisoners also are fighting fires. Cal Fire trains minimum-security inmates and pays them \$1 an hour in the field and \$2 a day when they're not on duty. Inmate firefighters also typically have their sentences reduced for every day spent fighting fires.

They do similar work to any firefighter, working long hours and sleeping in camps with other inmates. Most are on the front lines, using chain saws and hand tools to reduce tinder-dry brush and trees to stop the flames.

10 Things to Know for Today

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

1. TAX CUTS TAKE BACKSEAT TO FEAR IN GOP POLITICS

In primary season, Republican candidates are embracing the general-election strategy of using anxiety as a tool to motivate voters.

2. HOW MOSCOW REACTED TO NEW US SANCTIONS

A senior Russian lawmaker denounces Washington's response to the poisoning of an ex-Russian spy in Britain as "lynch law."

3. ARGENTINE LAWMAKERS REJECT LEGALIZING ELECTIVE ABORTION

The vote is a defeat for a grassroots movement that came closer than ever to achieving the decriminalization of the procedure in the homeland of Pope Francis.

4. STRONG AFTERSHOCKS, DEATH TOLL RISING ON INDONESIAN ISLAND

Lombok is shaken by a third big earthquake in little more than a week as the death toll from an earlier temblor tops 300.

5. NEW YORK REPUBLICAN ARRESTED FOR INSIDER TRADING

Authorities believe U.S. Rep. Christopher Collins fed inside information he gleaned from sitting on the board of a biotech firm to his son to evade future stock losses.

6. MILITARY SUSPENDS DISCHARGES OF IMMIGRANT RECRUITS

The U.S. Army has stopped discharging immigrant recruits who enlisted seeking a path to citizenship — at least temporarily, AP learns.

7. DISTANT FIRES OBSCURE CALIFORNIA CAPITAL'S SKYLINE

Haze and the smell of smoke from far-away blazes blankets the Sacramento area, forcing campers inside, sports teams to cancel practice and leaving ash on cars.

8. COMPOUND SUSPECTS BUILT IN OFF-THE-GRID COMMUNITY

The newcomers who arrived in December appeared to adapt to life in a tiny New Mexico town before becoming the target of investigations and surveillance.

9. HISTORY SHARED, UNRECONCILED IN ALABAMA CITY

A statue honoring white Confederate soldiers has stood for more than a century in Tuskegee, a black-majority city with deep ties to African-American history and culture.

10. DAVID SCHWIMMER GETS NEW SIT-COM GIG

The former "Friends" star will appear on "Will & Grace" as a new love interest for Debra Messing's character.

Correction: In Monday's article regarding Wednesday night's Howard County Appraisal District budget public hearing, HCAD Chief Appraiser Lisa Reyna's proposed salary was incorrectly given as \$75,500. Her position's actual salary listed in the proposed budget is \$73,500.

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1

is an excessive raise versus what they're getting," he said.

The meeting started with a public hearing, at which local citizen Scott Emerson spoke out against the budget.

"The Appraisal District employees have had a 20 percent raise in the past four years," he said. "There's not a single taxing entity that y'all represent that have given their employees that kind of a raise. Y'all also do a 16-percent contribution to employees' retirement. I believe a 12 percent to 401(k) and another 4 percent to the 457. Only the county, one taxing entity, does that for their

employees. Vehicles driven home and car allowances, it adds a huge liability to the Appraisal District. I guess that's in case they need to do an emergency appraisal?"

Board President Don Baker explained that employees had been allowed to drive vehicles home as a measure to prevent vandalism and protect them from weather conditions.

HCAD Chief Appraiser Lisa Reyna explained that not all employees receive the merit raises, which are given as she feels employees earn them, while her own raises are governed by the Appraisal District Board. In 2018, seven of the nine HCAD employees received raises.

The appraisal district sets property valuations upon which local

property taxes for 12 governmental entities are based. Those entities include the Howard County; the cities of Big Spring, Coahoma, and Forsan; Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan, Borden, Sands, and Stanton school districts; the Howard County Junior College District; and the Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District.

The total HCAD budget approved at the meeting is \$1,112,481.09. For more information, contact the HCAD at 432-263-8301, or visit www.howardcad.org.

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

COFFEE

Continued from Page 1

Kindred's coffee hours feature a guest speaker to help educate the community about their health, whether it be medically related or not. It's different every week!

This week's special guest is local stand up comedian, news director at KBEST Media, and KBEST Morning Show co-host Adrienne Green.

"I'm just going to be sharing some of my stand-up material that I've been working on for my show at the Midland County Fair on August 25th, and for the West Texas Talent Search that I'll be competing in as a Semi-Finalist on September 1st. For a preview of the material on Friday, anyone can check out my YouTube page for "The Green Bean Comic", Green said.

The goal for this program is to develop relationships in the community while also educating them on their health, and the Kindred Coffee Hour has found many ways to make it more enter-

taining as well as informative.

"Being healthy is more than just physical health. A healthy lifestyle focuses on the physical body, but also the mental and emotional health. Life can be stressful and laughter can be good medicine. This Friday at Coffee Hour we are bringing an opportunity for a little bit of comic relief to kick off the weekend. It will allow people to just relax and laugh for a little bit and then go out and finish up the week," Marketing Manager of Scenic Mountain Medical Center Amanda Duforat said.

If you would like to know more about the topics each week, the guest speakers or what all this coffee hour can offer you, please contact Christian Fair at 432-816-3573.

RUNNELS

Continued from Page 1

curriculum, a set of math and English Language Arts standards for K-12 students to reach by the end of each grade level."

If this is something you think that could benefit your child or children, Runnels Academy is now taking applications for registration for the 2018-2019 school year.

"We are looking for liking minded families who want to teach them education in His name," said Bryans. "Our application can be found on our website, www.runnelsacademy.org, and after we receive the students application, we set up a meet and discussion with the parents. That way we can discuss what their goals are for the children and it gives us a chance to explain to the parents on what we believe and our mission is at Runnels Academy."

Bryans went to say that the Runnels mission is to inspire and equip students through a classical education and a biblical world view to find their individual, God-given purpose in order to better their community, and the world, for the glory of God.

Bryans stated, "We believe that effective teaching is more than just imparting knowledge. Our primary directive is to cultivate a love of learning in our students."

For an application or more about Runnels Academy go online to www.runnelsacademy.org, or contact Jenny Bryans at 432-816-6307.

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403 Runnels

ISSUES

Continued from Page 1

about whether they were allowed by law to simply donate the items to the HCVFD.

A third item ultimately tabled by the commissioners was a permit form for people or companies wishing to place items along, over, under, or across Howard County roadways. According to Klinksiek, this issue has become more prominent as oil companies seek to run pipelines and electrical services to their work sites.

The 12-page document presented by Klinksiek was apparently quite detailed, and commissioners tabled approval of the form to allow them time to study it.

In other business, commissioners:

- Held a budget workshop at which they agreed upon the budget

proposal, which will be formally voted on for approval at their next regular meeting;

- Approved the Fiscal Year 2019 Statewide Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) Maintenance Grant Contract;
- Approved going out for bids for an oil and gas lease on county land;
- Approved Sheriff's Department civil fees for Fiscal Year 2019;
- Approved going out for bids on fuel for Fiscal Year 2019;
- Approved permission for the Road and Bridge Department to go out for bids on asphalt and aggregate for work on County Roads 36 and 9;
- Approved purchase of a load of emulsion for road maintenance operations.

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

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Check it out at the Howard County Library

This week I'm going to start with fiction books.

In **"The Bishop's Pawn"** by Steve Berry (F BER S), former operative Cotton Malone must reckon with the truth of what really happened in Memphis on April 4, 1968 fifty years after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

When Stephanie Nelle, a high-level Justice Department lawyer, seeks his help to investigate a delicate situation involving a stolen rare coin and a rogue FBI faction, he jumps at the opportunity. He soon discovers that two opposing forces are at war over a cadre of secret files containing explosive revelations about what really happened on that fateful April day.

The information could ruin innocent lives and even threaten the legacy of the civil rights movement's greatest martyr. Malone ultimately discovers a truth more shocking than anyone could have imagined.

"The Woman Left Behind" by Linda Howard (F HOW L) finds Jina Modell working in Communications for a paramilitary organization. When

Jina displays a high aptitude for spatial awareness and action, she's re-assigned to work as an on-site drone operator in the field with one of the GO-Teams, an elite paramilitary unit.

The only problem is that she isn't particularly athletic and in order to be fit for the field, she has to learn how to run and swim for miles, jump out of a plane, and shoot a gun or else she will be out of a job.

The team leader Levi doesn't have much confidence in Jina making it through the rigors of training, but no one is more surprised than he when she begins to thrive in her new environment, displaying a grit and courage that wins her the admiration of her hardened, battle-worn teammates. What's even more surprising is that the usually disciplined GO-Team leader can't stop thinking about the building chemistry and tension between them. Meanwhile, a powerful congresswoman is working behind the scenes to destroy the GO-Teams, and a trap is set to ambush Levi's squad.

While the rest of the operatives set

off on their mission, Jina remains at the base to control the surveillance drone. The base is suddenly attacked with explosives, but Jina escapes to the desert where she has to figure out how to stay undetected by the enemy and make it to her crew before they're exfiltrated from the country. Levi never leaves a soldier behind so he's bringing back the brave woman he's fallen for dead or alive.

In **"Wyoming Winter"** by Diana Palmer (F PAL D), the only thing J. C. Calhoun wanted after discovering his fiancée was pregnant by another man is cultivating his ranch. All J. C. holds dear becomes compromised when a lost little girl leads him to Colie Jackson, the woman who destroyed his life.

Colie stops at nothing to protect the people she loves. Years ago she left J. C. for his own good, but now, she must depend on a hard-hearted man who won't forgive her for the sake of her daughter. As a band of ruthless criminals tracks their every move, Colie and J. C. will be forced to confront the lies that separated them and the truth that will bind them forever.

In **"Masterpiece"** by Francine Rivers (F RIV F), successful artist Roman Velasco appears to have everything he could possibly want, but Grace Moore, his reluctant newly hired

personal assistant, knows how little he truly has. The demons of his past seem to echo through the hall of his empty mansion, but Grace doesn't know how her boss secretly wrestles with those demons by tagging buildings as the Bird, a notorious graffiti artist.

Grace is wrestling with ghosts and secrets of her own. After a disastrous marriage, she vowed never to let love steal her dreams again, but as she gets to know the enigmatic man, it's as if the jagged pieces of both of their pasts slowly begin to fit together. Then something unexpected happens that changes the course of their relationship and both their lives forever.

That's going to do it for now so until next week I leave you with a quote from Robert Orben:

"A vacation is having nothing to do and all day to do it in."

The Howard County Library's hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 am to 6 pm; the internet/video room closes at 5:30. Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 7 pm; the internet/video room closes at 6:30. You may reach us at (432) 264-2260 and our fax number is (432)264-2263. Our website is <http://howard-county.ploud.net>. Visit our facebook page at www.facebook.com/HowardCoLibrary.



Monica Martinez

Local work group



Courtesy photo

The 2018 Local Work Group discusses the concerns of local producers and landowners.

Special to the Herald

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Howard County and the Howard Soil and Water Conservation District (HSWCD) cordially invite the public to attend their Fiscal Year 2019 Local Working Group (LWG) meeting August 13, 2018, from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the Big Spring USDA Service Center at 302 West IH20, Suite 101 in Big Spring, Texas.

You are important to the Local Work Group! Each year the Howard SWCD and the NRCS meet with local producers to hear their concerns and express their views on what conservation programs are needed in our area.

The LWG meeting brings together conservation stakeholders to discuss conservation topics and issues, and to set local conservation priorities to help farmers, ranchers and private landowners conserve and manage the natural resources.

The meeting also updates attendees on recent conservation efforts and allows for an opportunity to collect public input to help guide future conservation activities. Through regular identification of conservation oppor-

tunities, effective Farm Bill investments can continue to benefit Howard County. Farmers, ranchers, conservationists, and others interested in obtaining Federal technical and financial assistance to improve private lands are invited to participate.

The FY18 meeting determined the top three resource concerns for Cropland as Soil Erosion, Soil Quality Degradation and Air Quality. Degraded Plant Condition, Livestock Production Limitation and Air Quality were the top three concerns for Rangeland. In addition, the LWG set the County Funding Percentage by landuse at 72% for Rangeland and 28% for Cropland.

A presentation on the role of the State Technical Advisory Committee along with a review of qualifications needed to be a Beginning Farmer/Rancher, Socially Disadvantaged Farmer/Rancher and Veteran Farmer/Rancher will be discussed at the meeting. Information on the five different conservation programs with descriptive guidelines and focused projects will be provided.

Please make plans to be a part of this vital meeting on August 13th.

Rite Aid, Albertsons call off merger deal ahead of vote

Rite Aid and the grocer Albertsons called off an agreement to become a single company with the deal facing shaky prospects in a shareholder vote.

The owner of Safeway and other grocery brands had announced in February plans to buy Rite Aid's more than 2,500 stores with the goal of becoming "a leader in food, health and wellness." But a major shareholder and two proxy advisory firms came out against the deal.

Rite Aid Chairman and CEO John Standley said in a prepared statement late Wednesday that after hearing the views of shareholders, the drugstore chain is "committed to moving forward and executing our strategic plan as a (stand-alone) company."

Rite Aid also said its board will consider governance changes, although it did not elaborate.

The company cancelled a shareholder meeting to vote on the deal that had been scheduled for Thursday. Both businesses said neither party will be responsible for any payments due to the deal's termination.

Privately held Albertsons Companies, based in Boise, Idaho, was offering either a share of its stock and \$1.83 in cash or slightly more than one Albertsons share for every 10 Rite Aid shares.

One of Rite Aid's biggest shareholders, Highfields Capital Management, said that deal was "in the best interests of Albertsons and Rite Aid management, but not Rite Aid shareholders." The investment firm said in June that it would vote its roughly 47 million shares against the deal.

Two prominent shareholder advi-

sory firms — Glass Lewis & Co. and Institutional Shareholder Services — also recommended no votes. Glass Lewis said the deal was "not critical to Rite Aid's viability" and provided no meaningful premium to investors.

Wall Street also has shown little confidence in the deal. The price of Rite Aid stock has mostly slipped since the acquisition was announced in February.

Rite Aid, based in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, will face significant challenges continuing as a stand-alone company. The drugstore chain has struggled with high debt levels and tough competition from larger rivals, as narrowing drugstore networks have pushed customers away from its stores.

Earlier this week, Rite Aid said it was chopping its fiscal 2019 forecast because generic drug pricing wasn't shaping up how it expected in April, when it first laid out expectations.

The nation's largest drugstore chain, Walgreens, tried unsuccessfully to buy all of Rite Aid last year but scuttled that deal after encountering regulatory resistance. Last September, Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc. announced a slimmer agreement to buy nearly 2,000 Rite Aid locations and some distribution centers for about \$4.38 billion.

Rite Aid had told shareholders last month that the Albertsons deal would help build scale and diversify as the company deals with challenges like increased competition and pressure on drug reimbursement rates.

Shares of Rite Aid slipped 19 cents to \$1.55 in premarket trading Thursday.



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Expedition Royalty Co. is excited to expand our presence in Howard County by opening an office in Big Spring this Summer!

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

We are available 24/7, so call at your convenience for a free evaluation of your assets or to discuss current activity and area-specific value ranges.

You'll see we're not your typical Permian mineral company. We are forming strong partnerships and making prudent deals, because we are here to stay - just ask a neighbor!

**EXPEDITION
ROYALTY CO.**

CONTACT US TODAY BY PHONE OR EMAIL:

Matt Scott
432-755-7058

Rayne Austin
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matt.scott@expeditionroyalty.com

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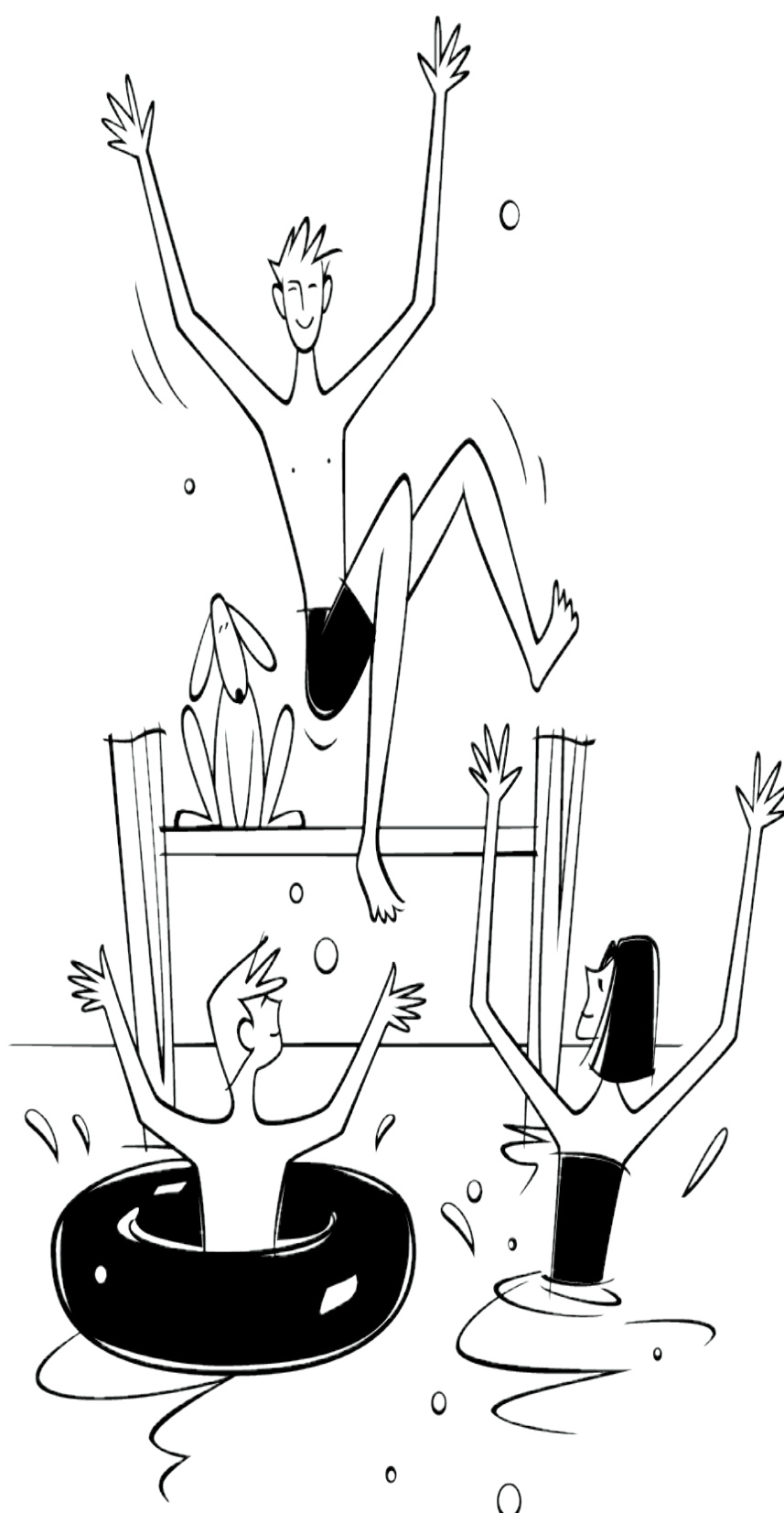
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HISTORY

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- **1876:** THOMAS EDISON RECEIVES A PATENT FOR HIS MIMEOGRAPH.
- **1991:** THE WARSAW RADIO MAST, ONCE THE TALLEST CONSTRUCTION EVER BUILT, COLLAPSES.

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How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Dangerous

SPANISH: Peligroso

ITALIAN: Pericoloso

FRENCH: Dangereux

GERMAN: Riskant

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CAN ENSURE THEY DO NOT CONTAMINATE WATER SOURCES.

GET THE PICTURE?



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ANSWER: FAUCET

Gallo, Gallardo stay hot, Rangers beat Mariners 11-7

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Yovani Gallardo and Joey Gallo both remain on a roll for the Texas Rangers.

Gallo homered twice and drove in four runs, Gallardo won his fourth straight start and the Rangers held off the Seattle Mariners 11-7 on Wednesday.

Gallardo (7-1) leads the majors with seven wins since June 23. He allowed three hits, two runs and three walks while striking out two in six innings.

Through being released by Cincinnati in April, and then pitching at Triple-A Round Rock for more than two months, Gallardo said, "I'm the same guy, same person I've been throughout my career."

Rangers manager Jeff Banister agreed with Gallardo's comments.

"That's who he is. He's very similar to what we saw when he was here previously. He knows how to pitch in winning situations."

In 2015, Gallardo's only other season with Texas, he was 13-11.

Gallo also has been on a roll, with 10 of his 31 homers in his past 19 games. He went 3 for 5 to raise his batting average above .200 for the first time since June 16.

Gallo's homers against Seattle starter Marco Gonzales gave him 12 against left-handers this season, the most by a Texas left-handed batter since Rafael Palmeiro hit 15 in 2003.

"I've don't hit left-handers pretty good. I don't really mind the lefties. My dad was lefty throwing to me when I was younger, so maybe that helped me."

Banister saw something else.

"I think he's calmer in the batter's box."

Gonzales (12-7) gave up career highs of 12 hits and seven runs in five innings. He has lost two games in a row

after a career-best five-game winning streak.

"They were on him," Mariners manager Scott Servais said. "You have to give them credit, they've been swinging the bat very well."

Seattle used five singles to score four runs in the seventh to pull within 7-6, but the Rangers answered with four runs to pull away.

Mike Zunino hit two homers for the Mariners.

The Rangers have supported Gallardo's starts with 10.48 runs per inning. Their season-high 19 hits included 11 extra-base hits. Those were the most Texas extra-base hits and doubles (eight) in a game since 2011.

Seattle led only in the first inning. With one out, Jean Segura walked, went to second base on Gallardo's wild pitch and scored on Mitch Haniger's single to center field.

"That first inning went a little bit longer than I expected to," Gallardo said. "The second inning I was able to get some early contact. Just getting weak contact."

The Rangers came back for a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the first.



AP photo
Texas Rangers Joey Gallo hits a solo home run against the Seattle Mariners during the third inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018, in Arlington, Texas.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Mariners: 1B Ryon Healy (heat-related illness) and RHP Sam Tuivailala (strained right Achilles tendon) left the game. Manager Scott Servais said Tuivailala is likely to go on the disabled list. RHP Erasmo Ramirez (strained shoulder muscle) is scheduled for a fifth injury rehab start, with Triple-A Tacoma. Ramirez has

been on the disabled list since May 1. ... RHPs Dan Altavilla (sprained elbow) and LHP Roenis Elias (strained triceps) will go on rehab assignments "real soon," Servais said.

Rangers: RF Nomar Mazara (sprained right thumb) will begin his rehab assignment with Triple-A

See **RANGERS**, Page 12

Austin stadium vote could trigger Crew move to Texas



AP photo
In this Oct. 31, 2017, file photo, Columbus Crew fans show their support for the team before the start of their MLS Eastern Conference semifinal soccer match against New York City FC in Columbus, Ohio. The owner of the Crew has been pushing for months to move his team to Austin. But picking up and relocating from Ohio hasn't been easy. It hasn't been a slam-dunk deal in Austin and the state of Ohio is suing to block the move. A Thursday, Aug. 9, 2018, vote on
By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas' thriving capital city may finally become a major league sports town. It will just take moving a bedrock franchise of Major League Soccer out of its home turf to do it.

Anthony Precourt, owner of the Columbus Crew, has been pushing for months to move his team to Austin, the largest city in the country without a major professional sports franchise.

While the league front office has supported Precourt's desire to look around for a new city, picking up and relocating from Ohio to uber-hip Austin hasn't been easy. It hasn't been a slam-dunk deal in Austin and the state of Ohio is suing to block the move. Fan groups in Columbus have rallied to try to save their team, the 2008 MLS champion which was one of league's founding clubs when it started in 1996.

The Austin City Council will vote Thursday on whether to make land available and authorize negotiations for a new \$200 million, 20,000-seat privately financed stadium for the Crew. Precourt's

original hopes for a picturesque riverfront location downtown were quickly scuttled, but plans have shifted to build near a fast-growing business, shopping and housing development.

Other Austin developers are also interested in the site. Several City Council members have questioned whether the stadium is the best use of the land and the vote on the stadium plan is expected to be close.

If the stadium plan is approved, the Crew will likely chart a course to become the third MLS franchise in Texas by 2019, joining Houston and Dallas. Where the Crew would play until the stadium is built is yet to be determined.

Precourt has been eyeing Austin since he bought the team in 2013. His purchase agreement included a promise to keep the Crew in Columbus for at least 10 years, but it also had a clause that would let him move to Austin. And before Precourt announced his intention to move, MLS had trademarked Austin FC and Austin Athletic as possible names for a franchise even though the city had not applied for expansion.

Major League Soccer did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Precourt noted Austin's "growing presence as an international city, combined with its strong multicultural foundation" when he first announced plans to explore a move in October 2017. "MLS in Austin could be an ideal fit."

The Austin metropolitan area is just over 2 million. The sports scene is dominated by the University of Texas Longhorns, but the city also hosts Formula One and MotoGP racing every year. Its economy centers on state government, the university and the city's surging role as a major technology hub featuring companies like Dell, Samsung and Apple. Facebook and Google also have offices here and there's a chance Amazon's coveted HQ2 could be coming as well.

Mayor Steve Adler has said soccer would be a "huge success" and a perfect fit for his city, which ranked among the top television markets nationally for watching the World Cup.

"Soccer would be important for our community because it would bring our city together," Adler said. "It is also a sport that doesn't require a stadium with 70,000 people."

If the council approves the stadium plan, "the soccer team will come," Adler said.

Precourt has complained that Columbus has a lack of corporate sponsors and said the Crew's current stadium, which opened in 1999 as the first soccer-specific stadium in the U.S., is showing age and needs to be replaced.

MLS Commissioner Don Garber has said the league is reluctant to see one of the original franchises move, but has also backed Precourt's desire to look for a new home. Deputy MLS Commissioner Mark Abbott has visited with a partnership in Columbus that is interested in buying the team to keep it there.

Columbus isn't giving up the team without a fight. The state lawsuit to block the move cites an Ohio law that owners of teams that use tax-supported facilities and accept state financial assistance must give at least six months' notice and allow local investors the chance to buy the team. The law was enacted after the NFL's Cleveland Browns moved to Baltimore in 1996.

A group of passionate Crew fans don't want to lose their club. Save the Crew has been collecting pledges from fans to attend games next season, has appealed for a new ownership group to step in and even offered its own renderings for a new stadium in Columbus.

"The Crew is tremendously important" to Columbus, said David Miller, Save the Crew communications director. "We're the original team in MLS. This team is a representation of history."

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Local accounting firm seeking to fill a clerical/data entry position. Excel experience a plus. Please apply online with resume to receptionist@boothevassar.com

LOCAL DERRICK MAN
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Seeking an administrative assistant. Must be proficient in MS Office and have good communication and people skills. Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. Apply by mailing resume to P.O. Box 550, Big Spring, TX 79721-0550.

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Tire Time needing a tire technician. Self motivated, service oriented and drug free only need apply. 40+ hours a week. Pay ranges from \$12 - \$18 per hour depending upon experience. Come by 507 E 3rd St. to apply.

Pest control technician needed. We will train. Apply in person at Southwestern A-1 Pest Control. 2008 Birdwell Lane. No phone calls!

Help Wanted



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Apply online at gvtycareers.com or in person at 5605 N HWY 87 in Big Spring.

For more information contact: Anthony Vasquez (Branch Manager) at 325-575-0115



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Now Hiring Vacuum Truck Drivers with 1-2 year experience. Starting Pay Rate is \$20.00 an hour. Quarterly bonuses are offered. Health insurance is available after 90 days & 1 week paid vacation after a year. For more information call 432-631-1994

Perfect for stay at home mom or retired person wanting to earn a little supplemental income. The Big Spring Herald is looking for you to throw routes in the Big Spring area. If you are energetic, have a reliable vehicle and automobile insurance, we would like to talk to you. Fill out an application at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry. No phone calls please.

Seeking a retail clerk/secretary
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Communication: Office clerks might receive incoming calls or other information that needs to get to the right people. They work closely with many people in the office/phone and must speak clearly and have good people skills
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Assist in maintaining store appearance including general house keeping tasks, such as dusting and cleaning of merchandise, shelves, pos equipment or restrooms.
Willingness to learn a large variety of inventory
Bring resume or stop by and pick up an application at 1200 Est 4th ST.

TJ's Steakhouse is currently looking for the following positions, no phone calls please.
*Part time host/front helper
*Line Cook
*Server
2104 West I20 NSR
Big Spring TX 79720

Public Notice

Public Notice

The Howard County Auditor will receive two sealed bids until 10:00 a.m., Friday, August 17, 2018 for prescription medicine and services. These will be two separate bids.

- 1) County Indigent Health Care Program, County Welfare and Howard County Juvenile Probation Office
- 2) Howard County Detention Center

Specifications may be obtained at the County Indigent Health Care Office, located at the Howard County Courthouse, 300 Main Street, Room 310, Big Spring, TX, 79720.

Mark sealed envelope "Indigent/Welfare prescription bid" or "Detention Center prescription bid" and return to the Howard County Auditor's Office, 300 Main St., Room 202, Big Spring, TX, 79721-1949.

Bids will be presented to the Commissioner's Court for their consideration on Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.

The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Jackie Olson, County Auditor

www.co.howard.tx.us
#9792 August 2nd & 9th

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#9834 August 9

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Jackie Olson, County Auditor

#9821 August 2 & 9

The purpose of this advertisement is to notify a group of qualified contractors that the **Colorado River Municipal Water District (the "District" or "CRMWD")** is requesting competitive sealed proposals for the construction of the following project:

Martin County and McWhorter Welded Steel Ground Storage Tanks

This project consists of the construction of two 0.5 MG welded steel ground storage tanks including demolition of two existing 0.42 MG bolted steel ground storage tanks. Project will also include rehabilitation of an existing 0.42 MG bolted steel ground storage tank.

The sealed proposals must be delivered to the attention of **Mr. John Grant, General Manager, CRMWD** and will be received and accepted at the District's office located at 400 East 24th Street, P.O. Box 869, Big Spring, Texas 79720 until the deadline for submission which is 3 p.m., September 6th, 2018. The proposals once received will be publicly opened and shall be read aloud at the time and place indicated for acceptance of the proposals. Only the name of each proposer and the monetary amount of their proposal and any alternates shall be read aloud. All proposals received after the deadline for submission of sealed proposals shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

Contract Documents, the Geotechnical Report, and any other documents relevant to the scope of work may be examined at the offices of the Engineer, Freese and Nichols, INC. or at the offices of the District. The address for the Engineer is:

Freese and Nichols, Inc.
4055 International Plaza,
Suite 200 Fort Worth, TX
76109
Charlie Erwin, P.E.

Beginning on August 9, 2018 all potential proposers may obtain a copy of the Contract documents from <http://construction.freese.com>. Contract documents for submitting a proposal for this project may also be obtained at the following website: <http://www.bidsync.com>. Any changes to the Contract documents shall be issued by formal addenda and the addenda shall be published at <http://construction.freese.com> prior to the deadline for submission of the proposals.

All proposers are responsible for insuring that they have a complete set of Contract documents prior to the deadline for submission of sealed proposals. Any questions concerning this advertisement, any addenda or related to the Contract documents should be addressed to

Charlie Erwin
(817) 735 - 7212
Charlie.Erwin@freese.com

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Fuel Transport Driver \$90K - \$110K Penta Petro has immediate openings for FUEL transport drivers in Big Spring. Sign on bonus, benefits and a great schedule. Must be 23 years of age, possess CDL/Hazmat/Tanker and must have liquid hauling experience. If qualified please contact Michael at 432.312.7710 and complete online application at: www.pentapetro.com

Gunsight Energy Center - Big Spring, TX Invenery LLC

Invenery LLC is hiring a Wind Technician for the Gunsight Energy Center, a 120 MW wind power generation facility utilizing GE 1.79 turbine technology, located in Big Spring, TX. Qualified applicants are encouraged to visit www.inveneryllc.com and click on "Careers." Invenery LLC is a global developer, owner, and operator of renewable and clean energy generation facilities. Invenery is a highly-experienced leader in innovative clean energy solutions.



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Expedition Royalty Co. is excited to expand our presence in Howard County by opening an office in Big Spring this Summer!

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

We are available 24/7, so call at your convenience for a free evaluation of your assets or to discuss current activity and area-specific value ranges.

You'll see we're not your typical Permian mineral company. We are forming strong partnerships and making prudent deals, because we are here to stay - just ask a neighbor!

EXPEDITION ROYALTY CO.

CONTACT US TODAY BY PHONE OR EMAIL:

Matt Scott 432-755-7058 matt.scott@expeditionroyalty.com	Rayne Austin 432-755-7058 rayne.austin@expeditionroyalty.com
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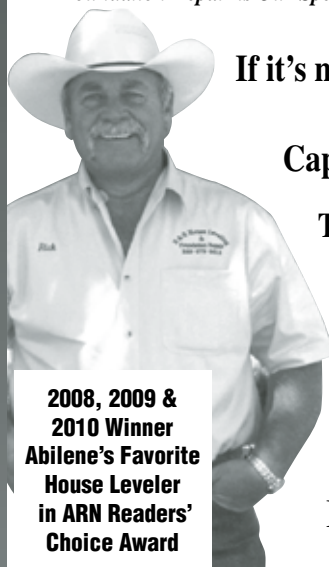
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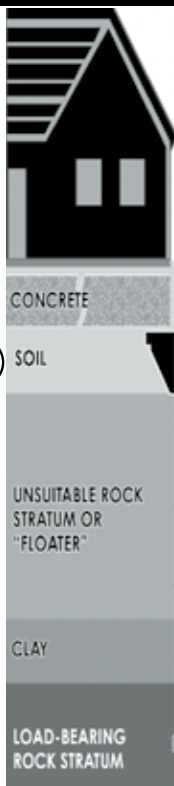
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Public Notice

A pre-proposal conference will be held on 9 a.m., August 23, 2018 at 400 East 24th Street Big Spring, Texas 79720. The pre-proposal conference is non-mandatory. A project site visit will take place immediately after the pre-proposal conference.

Each proposer must provide, with its proposal, security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions set forth in the Instructions to Proposers. The Security amount shall be five (5) percent of the total amount of the proposal.

No Proposer shall withdraw a proposal within ninety (90) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Within forty-five (45) days after the opening of the proposals, the District shall evaluate and rank each proposal submitted in relation to the selection criteria set forth below and shall determine which proposal offers the best value to the District. Price alone shall not be determinative. The Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria and weighting:

Public Notice

Criteria	Weight
Proposer's Experience	25%
Proposer's Qualifications	25%
Proposer's Financials	25%
Proposer's Cost	25%
Total	100%

Once the District has selected the proposal that presents the best value to the District, the District will attempt to negotiate a contract with the proposer of that selected proposal. The District or its engineer may discuss with the selected proposer options for a scope or time modification and any price change(s) associated with the modification. If the District is unable to negotiate a contract with the first successful proposer, then the District shall withdraw from negotiations in writing and shall seek to go to the next proposal and offer that is in the best value of the District.

The successful contractor selected for this project shall be required to pay no less than the Prevailing Wage Rates set forth in the Contract documents as required by the laws of the State of Texas, to include, but not limited to Chapter 2258 of the TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, or the laws of the

Public Notice

United States as may be applicable.

Performance and payment bonds will be required from the successful proposer as required by Chapter 2253 of the TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE.

All portions of the project are scheduled to be substantially complete by 7/26/2019. The estimated budget for this project is \$2,200,000. The District, as Owner, reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all proposals for any reason.

Colorado River Municipal Water District

John Grant
General Manager

#9830 August 9, 16 & 23

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The art of slam bidding

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ K Q J 6 2
♥ A Q 9 3
♦ A J
♣ 6 2
WEST
♠ 8 7 3
♥ J 10 6 4
♦ 9 6 4
♣ Q J 10
EAST
♠ A 10 9 5
♥ —
♦ 8 5 3 2
♣ 8 7 5 4 3
SOUTH
♠ 4
♥ K 8 7 5 2
♦ K Q 10 7
♣ A K 9

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

What is it that puts a player on notice that there may be a slam? The answer to this question is certainly of much more than ordinary importance.

If a slam is made but not bid, the slam bonus — 500 or 750 points for a small slam — is lost. If a slam is bid but not made, a game is lost in addition to the undertrick penalty.

Point count can be very reliable if both hands are balanced, in which case 33 high-card points are usually needed. But when distribution enters

the picture, the slam can often be made with fewer points — provided there are adequate side-suit controls in the form of aces, voids or singletons together with a strong trump holding. In general, a slam should be bid when there is at least an even chance of making it.

Another good guide to the possibility of a slam stems from the all-important rule that an opening bid facing an opening bid normally yields a game. Extending this principle to slam bidding, "an opening bid plus" facing an "opening bid plus" is likely to produce a slam. A "plus" is usually an extra king or ace above an opening bid. Distributional values may also be considered as pluses.

Observe how South appraises today's hand after North opens the bidding with one spade and then jumps to four hearts. With a full opening bid of his own, increased greatly in value by the strong trump fit implied by North's jump-raise, South has the requisite "opening bid plus." Four notrump is merely a precautionary measure to make sure the opponents don't hold two aces.

The slam is made by playing the trumps correctly. The only threat to the contract is if one defender has all four trumps. If East has them, not even a doctor can help declarer, but if West has them, his trumps can be overcome by cashing the king first.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Specters of Venus Squared Saturn

Accept your thoughts; it's as silly to fight them as it would be to fight a ghost with your fists. The way to win with a ghost and a thought is about the same. Acknowledge the thing, and then ignore it. Neglect renders the unwelcome specter -- or cogitation, as it were -- powerless. This message comes courtesy of Venus squared Saturn.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Wanting certain aspects of life to be different will come with the territory today, as does ambitious striving. Temper the intensity of this with contentment about something -- anything. You have much to choose from.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Life is complex and layered. To find peace and poise within this will require you to tolerate some mixed emotions. Take courage, and move through the feelings.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Self-doubt comes disguised in the costume of responsibility, "urgent" needs that really aren't and other distractions. Call it what it is -- resistance to growth -- then ignore it and do what your soul knows you must.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It may seem that forces beyond your control are attacking your biography. But what if they are not infringements on your plotline, and are instead the very elements that make it a good



story? What then? **LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Willpower and self-discipline won't be enough to accomplish the goal. That's good news because it means you'll have to add the architecture that will make getting there a whole lot easier.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Maybe the human mind has no mechanism for comprehending the vastness of the universe, and yet you still look up and let your piece of sky absorb you into as much infinity as you can bear. A meditation most divine!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Fear of failure or fear of success is not a good enough reason for inaction. So jump. Leap to the imperfect action. There won't be a better time. You'll never be ready. You'll only be doing it or not doing it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You've friends who animate the day with big emotions, living a life of excitement and urgency. You'll enjoy connecting with them for a time; then you'll seek a more peaceful, measured tone for the remainder of the day.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Once you fantasized that someone

with secret knowledge and super abilities would swoop in and save the day. Now you will save your own day. After all, you're the expert on being you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The day provides a steady stream of necessary assessments. Will this activity be worth my time? Will this person do as promised? Will this job net me the next one? By day's end you'll have made dozens of terminations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). What seems to be an arduous task will also make the hours pass in what will later seem to be a blink. It's as though you were built for this type of work. What you do is sorely needed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Because you are so honest with yourself, you are able to see the frailties of others. You see them hiding behind a facade; you witness their struggles for acceptance. Your tender heart will be a gift to the world.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 9). You'll be publicly praised for what you do this solar return, but it's your personal definition of success that will matter most. In the next five weeks you'll earn favor from those who are difficult to impress. November brings luck for finance. Priorities will shift in 2019. A personal mission will inspire travel and connections. Aries and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 1, 10, 20 and 18.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "I

have my dream job at a new company. Innovation is the buzzword around here, and now I'm in a position to choose four people for my team on a project that everyone will be paying attention to. I need to make my mark and prove I'm worth my salary. I'm not going to use astrology to assemble my team, but I do wonder if you have any advice for a Leo who needs to kill it in the next three months."

Choose teammates with diverse talents, and encourage their candor. Choose people who listen well and people you respect enough to listen to regardless of whether you

agree with what they have to say. It's (SET ITAL)not(END ITAL) about finding the people you like and get along with. Results come from a group you can bounce ideas off of. Bouncing is a form of collision in which the things get back the energy they imparted to the surface of the hit. To bounce ideas off of another person, the other person has to meet you with some degree of resistance. It is impossible to bounce ideas off a "yes" person. It is silly to bounce ideas off of someone who will get all the benefit from validating them. You're not using astrology, I know, but the practical intelligence of

a Virgo or Capricorn would serve you well.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Antonio Banderas radiates the regal energy of his Leo sun, and the sun also happens to be the ruler of Leo. Ancient cultures worshipped gods of the sun, such as Ra, Apollo and Helios, for their admirable qualities of nobility, integrity and leadership. This year Banderas will channel his kingly swagger into the role of God in the comedy "The Devil May Care." Boxing champion Mike Tyson will play the role of Lucifer.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com. COPYRIGHT 2018 CREATORS.COM

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

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

ANSWER:

	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	KWWT (14)	KWES2 (15)	WTBS (33)	TNT (34)	ESPN (35)	ESPN2 (36)	FSN (38)	USA (55)	A&E (58)	DISC (60)
	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Midland	Atlanta	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Sports	New York	New York	Discovery
5:30	Local 2 ABC	P. Luche	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Lasting	Mind	Mama's	American	Fam. Guy				Outdoors Pregame	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Naked and Afraid
6:30	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatión (SS)	News	Way of	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Little League Baseball	Rolling W/ Tide	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers at New York Yankees.	Law & Order: SVU	Live PD	Naked and Afraid	
7:30	The Gong Show	El rico y Lázaro	MasterChef (DVS)	Big Bang Sheldon		America's/ Talent	Truth	News	Travels	Griffith	Supernatural	Movie: Unknown, January Jones (DVS)	Championship Drive	Law & Order: SVU	Live PD	Naked and Afraid		
8:30	Match Game	La bella		Big Brother	Sin Senos Si	Trial	Light of Southwest	The Greeks	G. Pyle WKRP	Black Lightning	Big Bang	Little League Baseball	30 for 30	Queen of the South	Live PD	Naked and Afraid		
9:30	NFL Preseason Football: Cowboys at 49ers	La piloto	News	S.W.A.T.	Fútbol Americano de la NFL: Cowboys en 49ers	Law & Order: SVU	Light of Southwest	National Parks	Heroes	Page Six	Seinfeld	Movie: A Walk Among the Tombstones (DVS)	CFL Football: Edmonton Eskimos at BC Lions.	Postgame Texans	(:01) Shooter	Recall	Ninja	
10:30	Impacto	Mod Fam	Late Show- Colbert	PGA	Seth Meyers	Israel	Amanpour	C. Burnett	Seinfeld	Conan	Rules	SportsCenter	Riders Ins	(:02) The Sinner	Live PD	Naked and Afraid		
11:30	Local 2	Cachito de Cielo	Two Men How I Met	James Corden	El Señor de los	Daly	Behind	Hitchcock	King/Hill	Castle (DVS)	SportsCenter	Nación ESPN	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers at New York	(12:02) Shooter	Live PD	Naked and Afraid		
12:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	El vuelo	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Mannix	Top 30	Jokers (DVS)	SportsCenter	First Take	Law & Order: SVU	PD Cam	Naked and Afraid			
1:30	Nightline	(:37) CBS	Simpsons	Overnight	Programa	(:37) The Doctors	Light of Southwest	Paid Pro	Jokers	Castle	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	(:41) Data.	Recall	Taking Five			

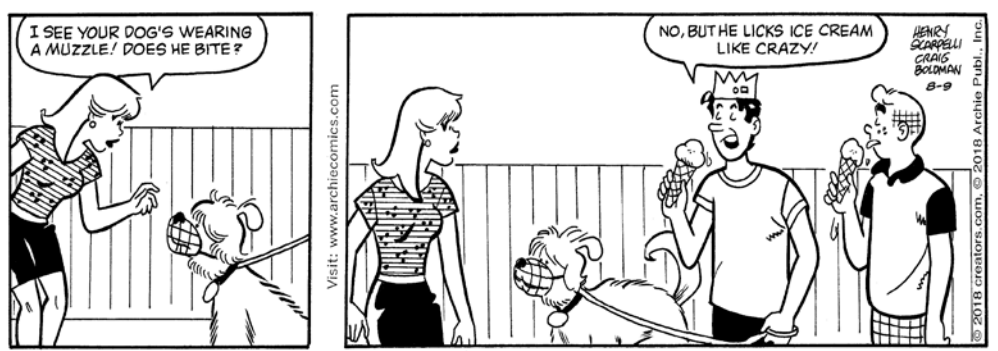
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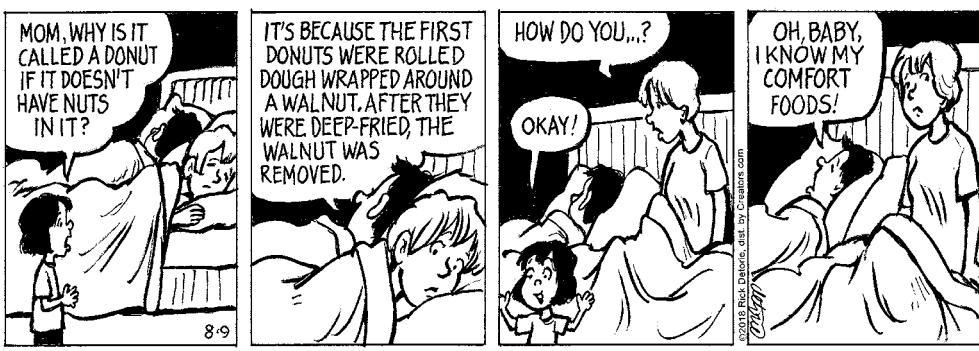
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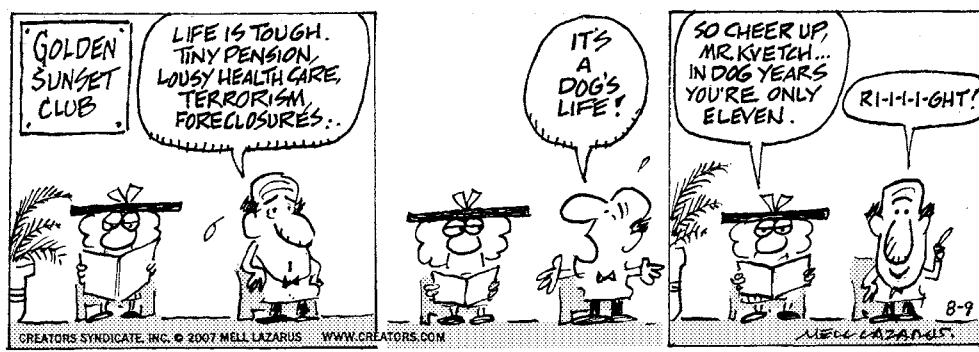
ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Aug. 9, the 221st day of 2018. There are 144 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On August 9, 1974, Vice President Gerald R. Ford became the nation's 38th chief executive as President Richard Nixon's resignation took effect.

On this date: In 1854, Henry David Thoreau's "Walden," which described Thoreau's experiences while living near Walden Pond in Massachusetts, was first published.

In 1902, Edward VII was crowned king of Britain following the death of his mother, Queen Victoria.

In 1936, Jesse Owens won his fourth gold medal at the Berlin Olympics as the United States took first place in the 400-meter relay.

In 1944, 258 African-American sailors based at Port Chicago, California, refused to load a munitions ship following a cargo vessel explosion that killed 320 men, many of them black. (Fifty of the sailors were convicted of mutiny, fined and imprisoned.)

In 1945, three days after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, a U.S. B-29 Superfortress code-named Bockscar dropped a nuclear device ("Fat Man") over Nagasaki, killing an estimated 74,000 people.

In 1969, actress Sharon Tate and four other people were found brutally slain at Tate's Los Angeles home; cult leader Charles Manson and a group of his followers were later convicted of the crime.

In 1982, a federal judge in Washington ordered John W. Hinckley Jr., who'd been acquitted of shooting President Ronald Reagan and three others by reason of insanity, committed to a mental hospital.

In 1992, closing ceremonies were held for the Barcelona Summer Olympics, with the Unified Team of former Soviet republics winning 112 medals, the United States 108.

In 1995, Jerry Garcia, lead singer of the Grateful Dead, died in Forest Knolls, California, of a heart attack at age 53.

In 1997, Haitian immigrant Abner Louima was brutalized in a Brooklyn, New York, stationhouse by Officer Justin Volpe, who raped him with a broken broomstick. (Volpe was later sentenced to 30 years in prison.) An Amtrak train with more than 300 people aboard derailed on a bridge near Kingman, Arizona; 183 people were injured.

In 2004, Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols, addressing a court for the first time, asked victims of the blast for forgiveness as a judge sentenced him to 161 consecutive life sentences.

In 2014, Michael Brown Jr., an unarmed 18-year-old black man, was shot to death by a police officer following an altercation in Ferguson, Missouri; Brown's death led to sometimes-violent protests in Ferguson and other U.S. cities.

Ten years ago: Todd Bachman, the father of 2004 volleyball Olympian Elisabeth "Wiz" Bachman, was stabbed to death by a Chinese man in Beijing in an apparently random attack just hours after the start of the Olympic Games. (The assailant took his own life.) Mariel Zagunis led a U.S. sweep of the women's saber fencing for the first American medals of the Games. Comedian Bernie Mac died in Chicago at age 50.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama promised to work with Congress on "appropriate reforms" for the domestic surveillance programs that stirred criticism at home and abroad. President Obama signed into law a measure restoring lower interest rates for student loans. Infamous drug lord Rafael Caro Quintero walked free after 28 years in prison when a Mexican court overturned his 40-year sentence for the 1985 kidnap and killing of U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency agent Enrique Camarena.

One year ago: North Korea's army said it was studying a plan to create an "enveloping fire" in areas around the U.S. territory of Guam with medium- to long-range ballistic missiles. Prosecutors in Florida said golfer Tiger Woods had agreed to plead guilty to reckless driving and would enter a diversion program that would allow him to have his record wiped clean; he'd been charged with DUI in May when he was found asleep in his car, apparently under the influence of a prescription painkiller and sleeping medication.

Today's Birthdays: Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Cousy is 90. Actress Cynthia Harris is 84. Tennis Hall of

Famer Rod Laver is 80. Jazz musician Jack DeJohnette is 76. Comedian-director David Steinberg is 76. Actor Sam Elliott is 74. Singer Barbara Mason is 71. Former MLB All-Star pitcher Bill Campbell is 70. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player John Cappelletti is 66. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Doug Williams is 63. Actress Melanie Griffith

is 61. Actress Amanda Bearse is 60. Rapper Kurtis Blow is 59. Hockey Hall of Famer Brett Hull is 54. TV host Hoda Kotb (HOH-duh KAHT'-bee) is 54. Actor Pat Petersen is 52. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Deion Sanders is 51. Actress Gillian Anderson is 50. Actor Eric Bana is 50. Producer-director McG (aka Joseph McGinty Nichol) is 50. NHL player-turned-assistant coach

Rod Brind'Amour is 48. TV anchor Chris Cuomo is 48. Actor Thomas Lennon is 48. Rock musician Arion Salazar is 48. Rapper Mack 10 is 47. Actress Nikki Schieler Ziering is 47. Latin rock singer Juanes is 46. Actress Liz Vassey is 46. Actor Kevin McKidd is 45. Actress Rhona Mitra (ROH'-nuh MEE'-truh) is 43. Actor Texas Battle is 42. Actress Jessica Capshaw is 42.

Thought for Today:

"The truth is lived, not taught."

Hermann Hesse
German-born Swiss poet and author
(born 1877, died this date in 1962).

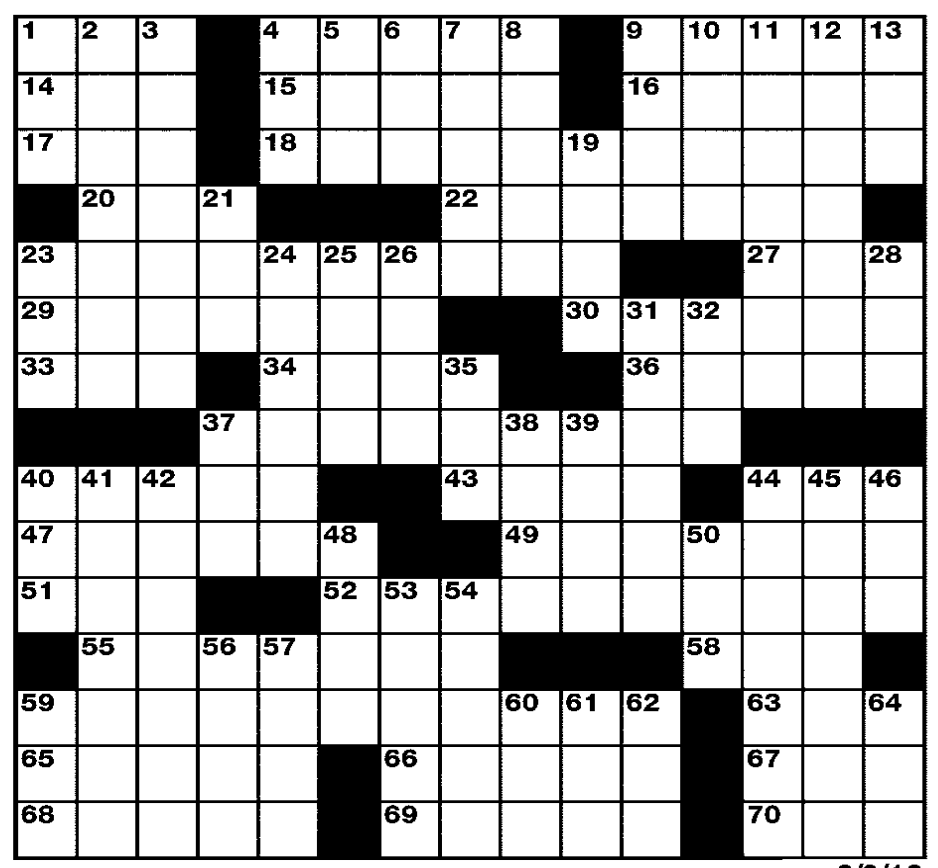
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Newsday Crossword

SHORT VOWEL PLAY by Mark McClain Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Med. center area
- 4 Flits around
- 9 Faded away
- 14 Family nickname
- 15 Turn loose from the corral
- 16 All-__ printer
- 17 Very small worker
- 18 Oklahoma! lyricist
- 20 El __ (Spanish hero)
- 22 Hatchery sound
- 23 Half of a globe
- 27 "Don't need to know that!"
- 29 Casual shoe style
- 30 Most October babies
- 33 NBA or NHL stats
- 34 Dynamic opening
- 36 Authorization, informally
- 37 "Roof of the World"
- 40 Peer Gynt dramatist
- 43 Viennese trio
- 44 Skyfall studio
- 47 Go back into beta
- 49 Windows expert
- 51 Earth-friendly, to begin with
- 52 Certain soundalikes
- 55 Cheyenne allies
- 58 Symbol of sturdiness
- 59 Flier that can hover
- 63 Fabric flaw
- 65 Starf of a fitness maxim
- 66 Kind of duck

- 67 Model of slipperiness
- 68 Abe's South Dakota neighbor
- 69 Get hitched in haste
- 70 Do one's best
- DOWN
- 1 Brewpub designation
- 2 Structured thought
- 3 Data center stats
- 4 Head slapper's remark
- 5 Santa __ winds
- 6 Dashboard letters
- 7 Scottsdale neighbor
- 8 Unpleasant expression
- 9 Faint trace
- 10 Contra- cousin
- 11 Red traffic sign
- 12 Inscrutable ones
- 13 Cub Scout group
- 19 Be stunned
- 21 Racket
- 23 Move like a crow
- 24 Marks to remove
- 25 Lyric, essentially
- 26 Goddess invoked by Wonder Woman
- 28 Meteorological prefix
- 31 Major prophet
- 32 English majors' degs.
- 35 From way, way back
- 37 Half a giggle
- 38 Mythical vessel
- 39 Crowd-sourced review site
- 40 Red state
- 41 Lame answer to "Why?"
- 42 Ranted and raved
- 44 Mosque tower
- 45 Not as socially smooth
- 46 What some moms are called
- 48 Compared to
- 50 Metaphor for disorganization
- 53 "My, my!"
- 54 Exxon merger partner
- 56 Mixed in with
- 57 "That's a shame"
- 59 Simple shelter
- 60 Terse affirmation
- 61 Street cred
- 62 Self-styled Dr. of rap
- 64 Work at



Answer to previous puzzle
UMPS AABS BASIL
NEROS SLUGS ERASL
FLP OCHART BAILLES
ETGC HOSK BASTES
DYER HIVE
DUDE AWAKENING
CRATE ALES VEE
AONE TENOR SOILS
LAG SWAN GYRIS
FRESH SADASY
HINT ALA CAT
ACTING AMEN JOAT
SLUNG SMART CARD
PANINE WEST CASTO
SPARE ASKS PTAS

RANGERS

Continued from Page 6

Round Rock on Thursday.

BY THE NUMBERS

Rangers shortstop Elvis Andrus doubled in the first inning to extend his hitting streak to 19 games, tying

Cleveland's Michael Brantley for the major league season high.

MORE COLON

On Tuesday, on his sixth try, Texas RHP Bartolo Colon reached a goal of 246 wins to become the winningest MLB pitcher born in Latin America. According to manager Jeff Banister, Colon will not be taking it easy.

"We're still in the same rotation as before (Tuesday's) game. Colon is tied for 50th among all pitchers, with five of those ahead of him foreign-born. Hall of Fame pitcher Bert Blyleven, born in the Netherlands, holds the record for wins by a non-American-born pitcher with 287.

UP NEXT

Mariners: Head to Houston on Thursday night, with LHP James Paxton (9-5, 3.51 ERA) opposing Astros RHP Justin Verlander (11-6, 2.19).
Rangers: Travel to New York with rookie RHP Ariel Jurado (2-1, 4.02) against Yankees LHP J.A. Happ (11-6, 4.05).

Bellerive eager to produce memorable PGA Championship



Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, hits out of bunker on the 10th hole during the first round of the PGA Championship golf tournament at Bellerive Country Club, Thursday, Aug. 9, 2018, in St. Louis.

By DAVE SKRETTA

AP Sports Writer

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Bellerive Country Club is considered one of the "Big Four" of traditional, exclusive St. Louis-area clubs, a picturesque parkland course designed by Robert Trent Jones serving as its centerpiece.

For a while, big events bolstered its reputation.

Gary Player won a thrilling Monday playoff to capture the U.S. Open and complete the career Grand Slam, at the time the third player to accomplish the feat. Years later, his fellow South African, Nick Price, stormed to the PGA Championship at Bellerive for the first of his three majors.

Yet recent history hasn't been so kind.

The World Golf Championship event in 2001 was cancelled after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the first PGA Tour event to be cancelled in its entirety in more than 50 years. Heavy rains have washed out tournament play other years, unheralded winners have left galleries less than enthused, and some of the biggest names in the game — Tiger Woods, for example — have missed Bellerive because of injuries.

"I guess you could say we're a little snake bit," said longtime member Jay Williamson, who played 16 seasons on the PGA Tour and now works in wealth management. "It's just part of the deal."

Or, as one local walking the course Monday pointed out, "We're owed one this week."

As if on cue, a white picket fence near the 18th green broke under the weight of fans pressing for autographs, sending several sprawling to the ground — nobody was seriously hurt. Then, a line of wicked storms rolled through Tuesday, soaking the course and wiping out many practice rounds.

Tiger Woods managed five holes, which is par for the course when it comes to him and Bellerive.

Circumstances have conspired against him playing it for years.

He had come to town early in 2001 to conduct a clinic for American Express, the sponsors of the WGC event, and he was in the locker room at Bellerive when the planes hit the World Trade Center. He watched the TVs with mouth agape until he couldn't stomach it anymore, finally heading to the course. He played nine holes of a practice round with Mark Calcavecchia while Woods's head of security, Joe Corless, provided them with a constant stream of updates.

"That was a very surreal time, at least for me anyway," Woods recalled. "They made the right move in cancelling the event. That was on the 11th, and I drove home on the 13th, 17 hours to get back to my home in Florida. It was a very surreal time for myself on that drive, a lot of reflecting."

Davis Love III never even made it to St. Louis.

"My flight got grounded," he said this week. "I did a lot of work for American Express, and the vice chairman and I were good friends — still good friends — and I immediately called to check on him and his employee friends that I knew in the city, and he said, 'We will not be playing golf.'"

"I lot of guys came on out here," Love said, "but I knew that there was bigger things than golf."

Many fans that bought tickets that week waited patiently for another chance to see Woods, and they thought it would happen at the BMW Championship in 2008. But two days after beating Rocco Mediate in a playoff at the U.S. Open, Woods announced he would be having season-ending knee surgery.

What did show up that week? Remnants of Hurricane Gustav, which churned up the Mississippi River and delivered heavy rains. The first round was postponed and parking areas washed out, and only thanks to an

army of groundskeepers and volunteers was the course playable that weekend.

Lousy weather also accompanied the U.S. Senior Open in 2004, turning parking lots into mud puddles and dousing part of the second round. Rain fell again in 2013 for the Senior PGA Championship, when the hugely popular Fred Couples withdrew early in the week and Kohki Idoki beat Kenny Perry and local hero Jay Haas to provide Bellerive with a relatively unknown winner.

Given all that misfortune, it wouldn't have been surprising if PGA Championship chairman Mike DeCola had heart palpitations when dark clouds swept in Tuesday morning. The sound of sirens on the course were more plentiful than the sound of drivers hitting balls, and massive crowds that braved withering heat for Monday's practice rounds were replaced by soggy fans seeking shelter.

When the rain stopped late in the morning, temperatures had dropped but the humidity had soared.

"To have a great major you need a little bit of luck, whether that's weather or traffic," Pete Bevacqua, the PGA of America's chief executive, acknowledged on the eve of the championship. "You need to have everything come together perfectly."

There are signs that might happen this week.

The forecast calls for dry weather, though temps are expected in the 90s again. The PGA's chief championships officer, Kerry Haigh, thinks the course is in remarkable shape given the summer heat, and that changes made by architect Rees Jones will produce a more interesting challenge.

Woods is in the field. So is Love, who will be playing in his 100th major championship. In fact, 98 of the top 100 players in the world rankings are at Bellerive this week. Justin Thomas is back to defend his title, Jordan Spieth is trying to complete his career Grand Slam, and fan favorites such as Phil Mickelson, Dustin Johnson and Rory McIlroy should provide plenty of roars around the course.

Perhaps all those bits of adversity and disappointment will have been worth the wait by Sunday.

Ruck wins 200 at Pan Pacific, Ledecy gets 3rd



By STEPHEN WADE

AP Sports Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Taylor Ruck almost psyched herself out before the race even started.

Knowing she was swimming against five-time Olympic champion Katie Ledecy in the 200-meter freestyle on Thursday at the Pan Pacific Championships, the Canadian had to calm herself down as she readied to dive into the pool.

"It's the name, I guess, because she is the fastest woman on the planet in a lot of races," Ruck said of the American great. "My coach kind of saw that, so he told me to focus on my lane and my race."

And there's another factor. Almost everyone is already thinking about the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo and using this event as a trial run.

Ruck won the 200 in 1 minute, 54.44 seconds, just ahead of Japanese rival Rikako Ikee. Ledecy was third in 1:55.15. Ledecy won this event two years ago at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics — and the 400 and 800, too — though it probably is her weakest race. She was second in the 200 a year ago at the world championships in Budapest.

It wasn't a lost day. Ledecy took the 800 in 8:09.13 — the fifth fastest on record — and will be the favorite in the 400 during the four-day event in Tokyo, the biggest meet of the year for most swimmers around the Pacific Rim.

"I knew it was going to be tough," Ledecy said. "It's a tough double. I've done it a number of times, but it's always a difficult thing. I really put a lot of work into not having that happen again. But I still have two more years to go until the big show here in Tokyo."

American teammate Lilly King did her thing. The Olympic champion in Rio again won the 100 breaststroke, this time in 1:05.44. Not her best time, but she'll take it.

"I'm just trying to take it year by year, but I do feel it's a little bit of a rehearsal for the Olympics since we're in the same city," King said. "I'm just trying to get used to the culture and things like that. But the Olympics are always in the back of my mind."

King hasn't lost this race since 2015.

"It's definitely my baby," she said. "I don't know how I would take losing, so I'm just trying to keep winning."

Host nation Japan won twice. Yasuhiro Koseki took the men's 100 breaststroke, and Yui Ohashi won the women's 400 individual medley.

Australia's sole victory was in the mixed medley relay. China has sent fewer swimmers and is focusing instead on the Asian Games later this month in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Other American winners included Jordan Wilimovsky in the 1,500, Townley Hass in the 200 freestyle, and Chase Kalisz in the men's 400 individual medley. He beat out Olympic champion Kosuke Hagino and Rio bronze medalist Daiya Seto. Kalisz took silver in Rio.

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