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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018

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VA building small houses for CLC patients



HERALD photos/Roger Cline

Left, the VA's Associate Director of Patient Care Services Rebekah Friday, center, poses with her Executive Assistant, Molly Weber, left; and Public Affairs Officer Sheila Austin. Above, Friday shows off a patient room under construction in the Phase 1 small house being built to provide CLC patients with a more home-like environment at the VA.

By ROGER CLINE
 Staff Writer
 Big Spring's West Texas VA Health Care Center provides medical support for thousands of veterans annually throughout Texas and the United States. Now, they're doing some construction to make some of their resident patients feel a little more at home.
 The VA is building four "small houses" and a community center to

take the place of the current 40-bed Community Living Center (CLC) on the hospital's fifth floor.
 "We're in Phase 1, which is one small house, and the shell of the Community Center," said the WTVAHC Associate Director of Patient Care Services Rebekah Friday. "Once this is finished, we'll be starting Phase 2, which is two additional small houses. The idea is, once we've finished this first small house, we're going to bring

10 patients down from our present CLC to live in the small house."
 Friday said the small houses will provide a more homelike environment for patients.
 "It's just like living in your own house," she said. "Everybody has their own bedroom, their own bathroom. There is a communal living area, a living room. A kitchen area for our veterans, and then there are three porches that they can go out on

and enjoy. But it will be their home, just like their house. The staff will assist them with meal planning, preparing the meals, just like you would in your own home. They'll have a choice of their entertainment, that kind of thing. The staff will be doing light housekeeping, and for anything major, our usual housekeeping staff will assist with that, but the usual
 See VA, Page 3

Coffee time!

Special to the Herald.
 Friday is approaching, 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.
 With school back in session, there is increased pedestrian traffic flow in school zones. While there has been a heavy focus of getting students ready for another



Amie Taft

year, Kindred at Home, Scenic Mountain Medical Center and the Big Spring Police Department are teaming up to ensure community members are ready for another school year.
 "A new school year is upon us and we thought this would be a good time to remind the community that school zones are active again and address the importance of avoiding distracted driving while in those areas," Christian Fair, Kindred Marketing Director, said. "Distracted driving can have negative consequences on those driving through school zones and the kids walking through them."
 Sergeant Amie Taft, with the Big Spring Police Department, will be the featured speaker at this Friday's Kindred Coffee Hour. She will be speaking about the importance of child safety in these areas,

See COFFEE, Page 3

Grillin' at the Wal-Mart



HERALD photo/Amber Mansfield

World Barbecue Champ Kelly Wertz, right, grills up tangy treats in the Wal-Mart parking lot. Wertz teaches classes in barbecuing techniques.

By AMBERMANSFIELD
 Staff Writer
 A Kansan showing Texans how to make barbecue? Well, only if they're a world champion in the culinary art of the grill.
 Wednesday in Wal-Mart's parking lot, World Barbecue Champion Kelly Wertz, here all the way from Kansas, gave the public of Howard County some tips on barbecuing on a pellet smoker; and showed off some of the new pellet smokers available today, as well as different foods, snacks, and desserts that can be prepared with a pellet smoker. Wertz gave out
 See BBQ, Page 3

Funding for fashion

Special to the Herald
 Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary's annual jewelry sale is set for September 20 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sept. 21 from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m., in the West Texas Medical Plaza lobby. Monies raised from the sale benefit the SMMC



Miramontes

Auxiliary.
 "This is one of the biggest fundraisers that they have each year. It is a great opportunity to start working on your Christmas list for the year," Amy Miramontes, SMMC Auxiliary Coordinator, said. "This allows for an opportunity to purchase some unique items and

support a good cause at the same time."
 Throughout the year, the volunteers hold fundraisers and take in donations, which are then distributed back into the hospital and the community. In addition to the jewelry sale, they have a bake sale, operate the gift shop and sale popcorn Monday through Friday.
 "While the majority of the
 See FASHION, Page 3

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 Big Spring natives Christopher Haddad, MD, and Rudy Haddad, MD, see patients each Monday at Shannon Clinic Big Spring.
 For appointments and info call (325) 481-2281.

Obituaries

Troy Wrye



Troy Wrye, 51, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Aug. 26, 2018, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. A Memorial service will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 1, 2018, at the American Legion Post #504 located at 3203 Old State Highway 80.

Troy was born Oct. 14, 1966, in Prescott, Arizona to Vonda LaRue

Yarbro Wrye and Victor Bruce Wrye.

He is survived by one son, James Wrye and wife Brittany of Big Spring; his mother Vonda Wrye of Big Spring; two brothers, Flint Wrye and Pete Gillette and wife Barbara, all of Big Spring and numerous grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father Victor Wrye.

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

Police, Sheriff reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **GUADALUPE OCHOVA SOLIZ**, 59, of 310 Alamo, Sweetwater, was arrested on an outstanding warrant.

- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 800 block of W I 20.

- **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported on 17th and Gregg.

- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1300 block of Stadium Ave.

- **FOUND PROPERTY** was reported in the 3600 block of W Hwy 80.

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having

74 inmates at the time of this report.

- **LYNETTE MASHALL**, 53, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of forgery financial instrument.

- **GUADALUPE OCHOVA SOLIZ**, 59, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of driving while intoxicated.

Take Note

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 at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

- 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.

- The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in need of volunteers to fill a variety of needs to assist the hospital's patients. Applications to become a volunteer can be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department, 1901 N. Hwy 87, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers can assist with a variety of functions, including The Chalet Resale Shop, various fund-raisers and patient events. For more information, contact Dee Lindsey, Big Spring State Hospital Director of Community Relations, (432) 268-7535 or danielle.lindsey@dshs.state.tx.us

- Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to visit patients. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

- Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you would like to donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Maria at 816-6474.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of N HWY 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1000 block of Scurry. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of NE Broadway. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 4800 block of W Hwy 80. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of W 6th St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1100 block of Lloyd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 7700 block of S Service Rd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Purdue. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of Simler Dr. One person 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 Sept. 13 Dec. 20, 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.

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Leslie Zant
Agency Owner

MEMBER 2018

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VA

Continued from Page 1

tidying your area, keeping things clean and dusted, that kind of thing, it'll be their home."

Friday said the new living arrangements won't affect the level of service the patients will receive.

"I think the logistics will change, having to transport people back and forth," she said. "But all of the services that we provide at our present CLC will be provided out there. There's going to be a few exceptions to that of course - if they need an X-ray, we're going to have to bring them over here to get an X-ray. We can't take the X-ray machine over there. But if they need blood draws or physical therapy, everything will be done in the

small house."

Friday said each small house will provide private living areas for 10 patients.

"When Phase 2 comes in, we'll move 20 more of the 40 beds down to the small houses," she said. "When those two small houses are complete, the third stage will be the final house, and completing the Community Center. Then, our CLC will be out in the small houses, and we'll repurpose our CLC upstairs."

Each of the four houses will have its own decorative theme, and a name given by the patients.

"The first house is going to be decorated in a seascape, kind of an ocean, relaxing theme," Friday said. "We are in the process of allowing our veterans on the CLC to name the house. We're going to name each house.

They're going to be naming it soon enough so that when we open it, we'll already have a name for it."

Friday said patients moved over to the first small house will most likely be Hospice patients.

"We're looking at, for this first house, to bring our Hospice patients down, because they do require a certain amount of extra care, but we want to give them a space to be comfortable, and for their families to be comfortable as well, because we do invite the families to stay with our veterans if they want to. This will give that particular special population a home-like environment for them and their families, to deal with the situation."

Friday said the VA will be looking to hire some new staff through the federal government job board USA-

jobs.gov.

"The positions that we'll be posting are, we'll have four RN positions, four LVN positions, eight nurse's aides, two phlebotomists, a food service worker," she said. "We'll have a physical therapist, an occupational therapist. We'll need to fill those positions in order to staff and provide services."

Phase 1 began mid-2017 and should be complete in January or February of 2019, depending on construction factors. Phase 2 should take about a year to complete after Phase 1 is in operation.

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

West Texas has voices on Farm Bill

Special to the Herald

Editor's note: The Big Spring Herald received the following letter this morning from Congressman Jodey Arrington (R-Texas) of the local 19th Congressional District

Now that the House and Senate have passed their respective versions of the Farm Bill, a bipartisan "conference committee" made up of both House and Senate members has been established to work out the differences between the two and send a final version to the president's desk.

I am honored to have been appointed by the Speaker to serve on the Committee and thrilled to work alongside my friend and fellow West Texan, Chairman Mike Conaway. Our mission is straightforward and clear: to establish policies that support a vibrant agriculture economy, strengthen rural communities, maintain food security in America and tighten up work requirements for food stamp recipients.

West Texas will get two voices for the price of one with Mike and me at the table. That is only appropriate since our region is one of the largest agriculture production centers in the world. The Farm Bill represents more than just economic development for rural communities or even the 20 mil-



Arrington

lion agriculture-related jobs in the United States. Getting U.S. agriculture policy right is about maintaining our ability to feed and clothe our own citizens independent of foreign sources of food and fiber - a national security issue for all Americans. When you combine food security with energy independence, there is not a more important region in the country than West Texas - the food, fuel and fiber capital of the world!

This Farm Bill comes at one of the most challenging economic times for the agriculture industry in our nation's history. Since the last Farm Bill in 2014, net farm income has dropped more than 50 percent - the steepest decline since the Great Depression - and farm bankruptcies are up nearly 40 percent over the past two years.

The biggest brunt of this downturn was borne by our cotton producers who were completely exposed to the commodity market's nosedive after being the only row crop removed from Title I of the Farm Bill's safety net in 2014. Fortunately, we were able to restore cotton's safety net status, and furthermore, improve it by covering the value of cotton as a seed as well as a lint. That is the most significant feature of this new Farm Bill for folks living in the largest cotton patch in the world, but we must also estab-

lish the right agriculture policies for all commodities in order to deal with the new market realities of 2018 and beyond.

Farm Bills come once every five years and not only set our nation's agriculture policy, but also include funding for one of the largest welfare programs - the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), also known as food stamps. SNAP accounts for more than 80 percent of the Farm Bill's funding and costs taxpayers more than \$70 billion a year. Keep this in mind: the total cost of U.S. agriculture policies (apart from the food stamp program) is less than half of one percent of the entire federal budget. That's a small cost to taxpayers for the enormous benefit of a stable and affordable food supply.

With our economy growing at historic rates, unemployment at historic lows and nearly 7 million surplus jobs, I believe it would be a travesty not to reform the food stamp program so we end policies trapping people in a perpetual cycle of dependence on the government. Sadly, millions of able-bodied adults are using the welfare system in this country as a lifestyle with no intention of getting a job. Any responsible welfare program - whether it has to do with food, health care, or housing - must encourage work-capable people to maximize their God-given talents and seize workforce training and employment opportunities that will not only benefit them and their families, but

our entire economy and future prosperity.

The House Farm Bill will be my benchmark going into these negotiations. However, given the 60-vote rule in the Senate, we will need the support of at least ten Democrats in order to pass it. Whatever compromise is reached, we must ensure our final legislation achieves three key objectives: first, a viable and responsible safety net for all commodities; second, an investment in broadband technology, water conservation, and other critical infrastructure for sustaining rural communities; and third, long-overdue reforms to the food stamp program to encourage able-bodied adults to work.

If we get this Farm Bill right, we will not only ensure a strong, viable ag sector for West Texas and rural America, but we can ensure our economy continues to grow and that all Americans have the opportunity for a better quality of life.

Congressman Jodey Arrington is a member of the U.S. House of Representatives serving the Nineteenth Congressional District of Texas. He serves as a member of the Farm Bill Conference Committee, House Agriculture Committee, House Budget Committee, Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform, and Chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

Victim's family calls ex-cop's 15-year sentence too short

DALLAS (AP) - A Texas jury gave a white former police officer too lenient of a punishment when sentencing him to 15 years for the shooting death of an unarmed black teenager who was in a car leaving a house party, the victim's family members said.

Roy Oliver fired into the car filled with teens the night of the April 2017 party in suburban Dallas, killing 15-year-old Jordan Edwards.

"He can actually see life again after 15 years and that's not enough because Jordan can't see life again," Edwards' stepmother, Charmaine Edwards, said of Oliver after he was sentenced Wednesday night.

She praised the work of prosecutors as well as the jury's decision to convict Oliver of murder on Tuesday. But she wanted that same jury to send Oliver to prison for a longer period.

Daryl Washington, an attorney for Edwards' father, said the sentence could have been longer but still sends a message.

"We know that there are parents all over this country who would love to see the person who took the life of their kid spend the next 15 years in prison," Washington said.

Prosecutors had asked for a minimum of 60 years in prison.

The murder conviction was extremely rare for a shooting involving an on-duty officer. Oliver's defense team said it had already begun the process of appealing. His attorneys said he would be eligible for parole after 7 1/2 years, but they also said they were concerned about his safety in prison and that authorities will take extra precautions to protect him.

Oliver was a police officer in the community of Balch Springs when he and his partner responded to reports of underage drinking at the party. Oliver fired into a car carrying Edwards and his friends, later saying he feared the vehicle was moving toward and endangering his partner. Edwards,

who was in the front passenger seat, was shot.

The jury deliberated late into the night before settling on a prison sentence, which also included a \$10,000 fine. Earlier, they heard from Oliver's mother, Linda, who said he was

a good man and a devoted father and asked jurors for a five-year sentence, saying her young grandson needs his father's support.

"He needs his father's love. He needs his father's income. He needs his father's guidance," she said.

BBQ

Continued from Page 1

samples of his champion winning ribs, desserts, and even some seasoned popcorn.

"Since 2009 I have taught thousands of people how to develop their own barbecue and grilling talents," said Wertz. "Either for their own back-

yard use for their family and friends, or how to win professional barbecue contests."

Shown in the photo are some Walmart employees who couldn't resist the smells coming from the pits and had to come and sample some of the "BBQ" popcorn that was topped with bacon cheddar burger seasoning.

COFFEE

Continued from Page 1

speed limit and appropriate etiquette for school zones.

"When going through school zones it's important to be alert, put down all distractions and adhere to the speed limit," Fair said. "School zones can get hectic as parents are dropping off and picking up their children, sometimes quick reactions are needed and if you are the least bit distracted, it can result in an accident. We want to make sure the youth are safe, to and from school, but that all those go-

ing through those areas stay safe, as well."

In addition to hearing safety tips from Sgt. Taft, there will be an opportunity to have blood pressure checked, enjoy a cup of coffee and a pastry. Kindred Coffee Hour takes place inside the Yellow Rose Café, every Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Upcoming presentations include: Proper Medication Disposal and West Texas Center's new Veterans Outpost facility.

For more information or to find out how to be a scheduled presenter, call Amanda Duforat at 432-268-4699.

FASHION

Continued from Page 1

funds have been used to support different areas of the hospital, the outreach doesn't stop there. The ladies love to get involved and lend a helping hand, wherever there is a need," Miramontes said. "You will often see these ladies helping volunteer at different hospital events and throughout the community."

Over the years, funds have been used to purchase new chairs, redo the gift shop, and purchase new furniture for the lobby. The group has also provided scholarships for those who decide to go back to school to further their certifications and those who are entering the nursing program.

"We hope that the community will come out and see what they can find. There really is something for everyone included in the sale. We call it a jewelry sale, but there are clothes, children's items, purses and even some gift items for men," Miramontes said. "This is also a great time for anyone interested in volunteering to come out and speak to one of our volunteers and see some of the things that we do."

The West Texas Medical Plaza is located at 1601 W. Eleventh Place, next to Scenic Mountain Medical Center. For more information, or to find out how to donate to the SMMC Auxiliary, call Miramontes at 432-268-4809.

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Almus "Amos" Henry Hill, Sr., 75, died Friday. A Memorial Service will be held at 4 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Jimmie Hill Jr., 82, died Feb. 5, 2018. A Memorial Service will be held at 4PM today at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Troy Wrye, 51, died Sunday. A Memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at the American Legion Post #504 located at 3203 Old State Highway 80.

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ITEM OF THE WEEK
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Severe Drought Returns to West Texas

Special to the Herald

STANTON, Texas (August 30, 2018) – Despite the recent rains, the majority of Texas is still in drought according to the Palmer Drought Severity Index for the month of July. The Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District's area of Howard and Martin counties is showing to be in a Severe Drought. The District would like to provide the following tips on how people can use water wisely around their home. Not only helping to conserve water, but it can also save some money in your pocket books.

Tip 1 – Use 2-4 inches of mulch around your plants and trees to maintain moisture and prevent evaporation.

Tip 2 – Evaporative coolers require a seasonal maintenance checkup. For more efficient cooling and unnecessary water loss, check your evaporative cooler annually.

Tip 3 – Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours, when temperatures are cooler and winds are lighter.

For more ways to conserve water in your home, visit the Permian Basin UWCD's website at www.pbuwcd.com or stop by our office at 708 W. St. Peter in Stanton.

Immigration agents arrest 160 people in Texas workplace raid

SUMNER, Texas (AP) — Federal immigration agents have arrested 160 workers following a raid at a Texas company that manufactures trailers.

The raid Tuesday targeted Load Trail Trailers in Sumner, about 90 miles (145 kilometers) northeast of Dallas. It was at least the second immigration raid targeting the business, the last coming in 2014.

A U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

statement says its investigation began after a tip that Load Trail was knowingly hiring workers who were in the United States illegally.

ICE says all detainees will be interviewed to determine who remains in custody and who get humanitarian release.

In a statement, Load Trail called the raid "disappointing" and surprising, but pledged to cooperate with investigators.

Texas nurse fired after posting about boy with measles

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas Children's Hospital officials say they've fired a nurse after she posted information on social media about a boy who's suspected to have measles.

The nurse working at the Houston hospital posted about the child's condition on an anti-vaccination group's Facebook page. Screenshots of the post show that the nurse said the sickness was worse than she expected, but the experience doesn't change her stance against vaccinations.

Hospital officials learned

about the posts on Friday. The hospital has discharged the nurse for posting protected health information after conducting an internal investigation.

The Houston Health Department is investigating the "suspected" case of measles and waiting for verification from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Houston's last confirmed measles case was in 2013.

Health officials say the vaccine is the best way to prevent the illness.

Sen. John McCain lies in state at Arizona Capitol

By MELISSA DANIELS and NICHOLAS RICCARDI
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Cindy McCain pressed her face against the flag-draped casket of her husband, U.S. Sen. John McCain, on Wednesday and several of his children sobbed during the first of two services for the long-serving statesman and former prisoner of war before he is taken for the last time from the state he has represented since the 1980s.

The service at the Arizona Capitol marked the first appearance of McCain's family members since the senator died Saturday of brain cancer.

During a brief private service inside the Capitol rotunda, Gov. Doug Ducey remembered McCain as a senator and internationally known figure as well as



AP photo

Military personal carry the casket of Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., into the Capitol rotunda for a memorial service, Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2018, at the Capitol in Phoenix.

a key figure in the history of the Arizona.

While Barry Goldwater was an Arizona native, McCain was "Arizona's favorite adopted son," the governor said on would have been McCain's 82nd birthday.

McCain was born in the Panama Canal zone while his father served in the military.

"Imagining an Arizona without John McCain is like picturing Arizona without the Grand Canyon," Ducey said.

Former Arizona Sen. Jon Kyl said he has been with McCain all around the world and that he had better instincts on when to assert U.S. power than anyone else he knew.

Kyl said he would miss McCain and that his greatest contribution was

See **McCain**, Page 5

Texan says he's selling 3D-printed gun plans after ruling

By JIM VERTUNO and MARTHA BELLISLE
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — The owner of a Texas company that makes untraceable 3D-printed guns said Tuesday that he has begun selling the blueprints through his website to anyone who wants to make one, after a federal court order barred him from posting the plans online.

Cody Wilson said at a news conference that he started selling the plans Tuesday morning and that he had already received nearly 400 orders. He said he'll sell the plans for as little as a penny to anyone in the U.S. who wants them.

"Anyone who wants to get these files is going to get them," Wilson said, noting he can only sell to U.S. customers. "They can name their own price."

Wilson said that blueprints purchased through his company's website could be downloaded on a thumb drive and shipped to buyers by standard mail, sent by email or sent by some other secure download transfer. Some of his first sales included purchases made with cryptocurrency, he said.

Nineteen states and the District of Columbia had sought an injunction to stop a settlement that the State Department reached with Wilson's Austin-based company, Defense Distributed, after the agency removed the 3D gun-

making plans from a list of weapons or technical data that are not allowed to be exported. The states argued that online access to the undetectable plastic guns would pose a security risk and could be acquired by felons or terrorists.

On Monday, U.S. District Judge Robert Lasnik in Seattle blocked Defense Distributed from posting the blueprints online, saying, "It is the untraceable and undetectable nature of these small firearms that poses a unique danger."

But Wilson said the ruling still allows him to sell the blueprints even if he can't post them online for free, widespread distribution.

"Regulation under the (law) means that the files cannot be uploaded to the internet, but they can be emailed, mailed, securely transmitted, or otherwise published within the United States," the ruling said on its final page.

"I'm following yesterday's orders that direct me to sell the files," Wilson said. "The judge was very gracious to put that in black lettering."

Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson, whose office oversaw the federal lawsuit, said Tuesday that he believes the judge's ruling makes Wilson's latest actions illegal.

"Because of our lawsuit, it is once again illegal to post downloadable gun files to the internet. I trust the federal government will hold Cody Wilson, a self-described 'crypto-anarchist,' accountable to that law," Ferguson said. "If they don't, President Trump will be responsible for anyone who is hurt or killed as a result of these weapons."

Andy Reuss, a U.S. Department of Justice spokesman, declined to comment.

Wilson said he anticipates that states may try to sue to stop him from selling the plans, but that he is raising money for his legal defense. He also said he will continue to challenge the Monday court order.

Wilson said he believes he could have previously sold the blueprints but didn't because he wanted to be able to post them online for widespread, free distribution.

"For many years I chose not to sell these files. I was an open source advocate," Wilson said. "I don't expect to make money on it."

Houston gets \$1.8M to become more resilient post-Harvey

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston announced it's received a \$1.8 million grant to support its efforts to become more resilient to events like natural disasters but also to ongoing socio-economic issues like aging infrastructure and unemployment.

Wednesday's announcement comes as the city continues recovering from Hurricane Harvey's devastating flooding last year.

The grant, provided by oil giant Shell, will pay for the city's participation in the New

York-based Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities program.

The program offers financial and logistical support to member cities to help them develop proactive plans to deal with shocks and stresses from both natural disasters and negative socio-economic trends.

Mayor Sylvester Turner says participation in the program will help Houston make the most of the billions of federal dollars that have been allocated for rebuilding after Harvey.

Armed election judges OK at polls in government venues

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton says presiding election judges licensed to carry handguns may do so while working at polls in government buildings.

However, in a formal opinion issued Tuesday, Paxton also said a presiding election judge may not openly carry a handgun at polls set up on any college or university campus, nor may they carry a concealed handgun on any campus where the institution prohibits them by rule.

Presiding election judges also may not carry a handgun to a polling venue on private property if proper notice was given of a ban.

Republican state Rep. James White of Woodville had asked for the opinion. In his request, he noted that "due to the latest events, the public has a heightened awareness of the security posture in public places."

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McCain

Continued from Page 4

national security. Sen. Jeff Flake offered the benediction at the service.

Later in the afternoon, the Capitol will be open to members of the public who want to pay their respects.

Arizona National Guard members carried the casket into the Arizona State Capitol Museum rotunda, where McCain will lie in state.

Black curtains hung in the rotunda at the museum that hosts tourists and history buffs on a typical day as well state capitol workers bustling from one office to another. Arizona and U.S. flags encircled the room.

Before the ceremony started, veterans and active military members had staked out spots on the sidewalk to wait for the hearse that brought McCain's body from a funeral home to the Capitol.

Other military members in uniform congregated on the Capitol plaza.

Veteran Judith Hatch handed out flags to those assembled, saying Arizona lost a champion for the military.

"We definitely have lost a strong advocate, so we'll need someone who is going to step up to the plate," Hatch said.

The viewing later in the day will go on as long as people are waiting in line, said Rick Davis, McCain's former presidential campaign manager.

For some Arizona residents, McCain has been a political fixture in the state for their entire lives. He took office in the state in the early 1980s, first as a congressman and then as a senator in the seat once held by Sen. Barry Goldwater.

McCain is the third person to lie in state in the rotunda in the past 40 years; others were Arizona state Sen. Marilyn Jarrett in 2006 and Olympic gold medalist Jesse Owens, a Tucson resident, in 1980.

Thursday morning will feature a procession through Phoenix on the way to a memorial service at North Phoenix Baptist Church, with the public invited to line the route along Interstate 17.

The memorial service will include multiple tributes, readings and musical performances, including a tribute from former Vice President Joe Biden. Musical choices include a performance of "Amazing Grace" by the Brophy Student Ensemble and a recession to "My Way" by Frank Sinatra.

From there, McCain will depart Arizona from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

Another viewing will be at the U.S. Capitol on Friday, with a final memorial service at the Washington National Cathedral.

A website laying out details for the services says to send any flowers to a local Veterans Administration hospital.

Trump: White House counsel Don McGahn to depart in the fall

By KEN THOMAS and ZEKE MILLER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — White House counsel Don McGahn, who has maintained a front row seat in Trump administration controversies and accomplishments, will be leaving in the fall after the expected Senate confirmation vote for Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, President Donald Trump announced Wednesday.

The departure of Trump's top lawyer in the West Wing will create a vacancy in an office that has been closely involved in the conflict over special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation. McGahn's exit also continues the churn of staffers as the administration sets records for turnover and the White House struggles to fill key vacancies.

Unlike some less-amiable administration separations, Trump praised McGahn on Twitter, saying that he had "worked with Don for a long time and truly appreciate his service!" McGahn's departure had been expected as the White House enters the fall elections and looks to win confirmation for Kavanaugh, the president's second opportunity to place his imprint on the Supreme Court.

But McGahn's time has also been marked by tumult as he has been the main point of contact inside the White House for the Russia investigation led by Mueller. McGahn, who has met with investigators on at least three occasions for many hours at a time, threatened to resign last year if Trump continued to press for Mueller's removal.

McGahn, a top election lawyer who served as general counsel on Trump's campaign, has played a pivotal role in the president's re-making of the federal judiciary with young, conservative judges. He also helped guide Trump's selection of Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch and the president's nomination of Kavanaugh and helped oversee a dramatic rollback of Obama era regulations.

The White House counsel is among the most critical — and yet least visible — positions within the West Wing, with input on a range of issues from policy to personnel to national security.

Trump's announcement came more than a week after a New York Times report that McGahn had been cooperating extensively with Mueller's investigation into Russian election meddling and possible collusion with Trump's Republican campaign.



AP photo

In this Aug. 16, 2018, file photo White House counsel Don McGahn, left, listens as President Donald Trump speaks during a cabinet meeting in the Cabinet Room of the White House in Washington. Trump insisted Sunday, Aug. 19, that McGahn isn't "a John Dean type 'RAT,'" making reference to the Watergate-era White House attorney who turned on Richard Nixon. Trump, in a series of angry tweets, blasted a New York Times story reporting that McGahn has been cooperating extensively with the special counsel team investigating Russian election meddling and potential collusion with Trump's Republican campaign.

sion with Trump's Republican campaign.

Trump insisted at the time that his general counsel wasn't a "RAT" and accused Mueller's team of "looking for trouble." He contrasted McGahn with John Dean, the White House counsel for President Richard Nixon during the Watergate scandal. Dean ultimately cooperated with prosecutors and helped bring down the Nixon presidency in 1974, though he served a prison term for obstruction of justice.

McGahn's impending departure quickly raised concerns within Congress. Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, tweeted after the president's announcement: "I hope it's not true McGahn is leaving White House Counsel. U can't let that happen."

Emmet Flood, who joined Trump's White House in May as in-house counsel for the Mueller probe, has been considered a leading candidate to replace McGahn.

Asked about Flood, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said, "People like him. He's super well-respected around the building. But there's not a plan locked in place at this point."

McGahn, 50, has navigated many of the storms of the first 19 months of the Trump White House, figuring in the drama surrounding the firing of national security adviser Michael Flynn and Attorney General Jeff Sessions' decision to recuse himself from the Russia case.

When Trump announced McGahn's appointment to become White House counsel in November 2016, he cited the attorney's "brilliant legal mind, excellent character and a deep understanding of constitutional law."

But McGahn quickly clashed with the president over the Russia investigation. McGahn, an avowed defender of executive powers, broke with some members of Trump's legal team as he encouraged a less-cooperative stance toward Mueller's investigation, believing it could constrain future presidents.

Tweet of O'Rourke's mugshot triggers social media sparring

By WILL WEISSERT

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A Texas Republican Party tweet recalling Democratic Senate hopeful Beto O'Rourke's past arrests has triggered a partisan mugshot melee online.

The state GOP was chiding O'Rourke for failing to yet settle on dates for a series of debates with Republican incumbent Sen. Ted Cruz when it tweeted an O'Rourke photo on Tuesday night that appeared to be a mugshot from a previous arrest.

Some users responded by posting mugshots of Republican former Texas Gov. Rick Perry, who was indicted in 2014 on abuse of power charges that were subsequently dismissed by the state Supreme Court.

Others offered the mugshot of Republican Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, who is awaiting trial on securities fraud charges even amid what's expected to be an easy re-election campaign.

O'Rourke was arrested in his native El Paso in 1995, but misdemeanor burglary charges were later dropped. In 1998, he was arrested there again, this time for driving while intoxicated. That case was dismissed when O'Rourke attended driver classes.

Word of the arrests isn't new. O'Rourke was a little-known longshot in 2012 when he upset longtime U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes in the 2012 Democratic primary — despite the incumbent producing an ad publicizing O'Rourke's criminal record.

O'Rourke has talked about both incidents while campaigning for the Senate over the last nearly 18 months. He described being arrested for trying to jump a fence at the University of Texas at El Paso, but said there's no excuse for drunken driving, which led to his arrest 20 years ago.

Chris Evans, O'Rourke's spokesman, said the photo in the Republican Party of Texas tweet came from the Reyes ad. He added via email: "Beto talks about his arrests openly and often" and "has since his first campaign ever." O'Rourke served on the El Paso City Council before winning his current seat in Congress in 2012.

Cruz has never been arrested, but was once ticketed for underage alcohol possession when he was 17 and police stopped him and found unopened beer in his car.

O'Rourke has attracted national attention in his bid to upset Cruz and become the first Texas Democrat elected to statewide office since 1994. Both candidates have said they would like to debate at least five times before November — though their campaigns are still negotiating and have yet to finalize any dates.

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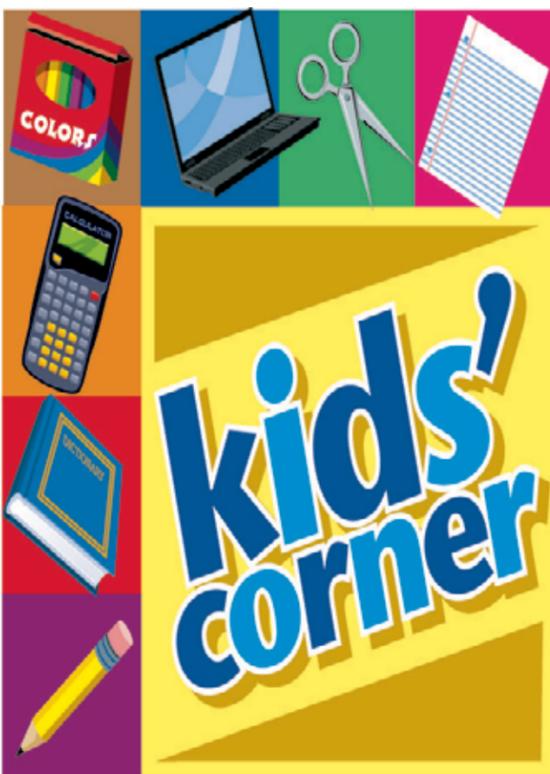
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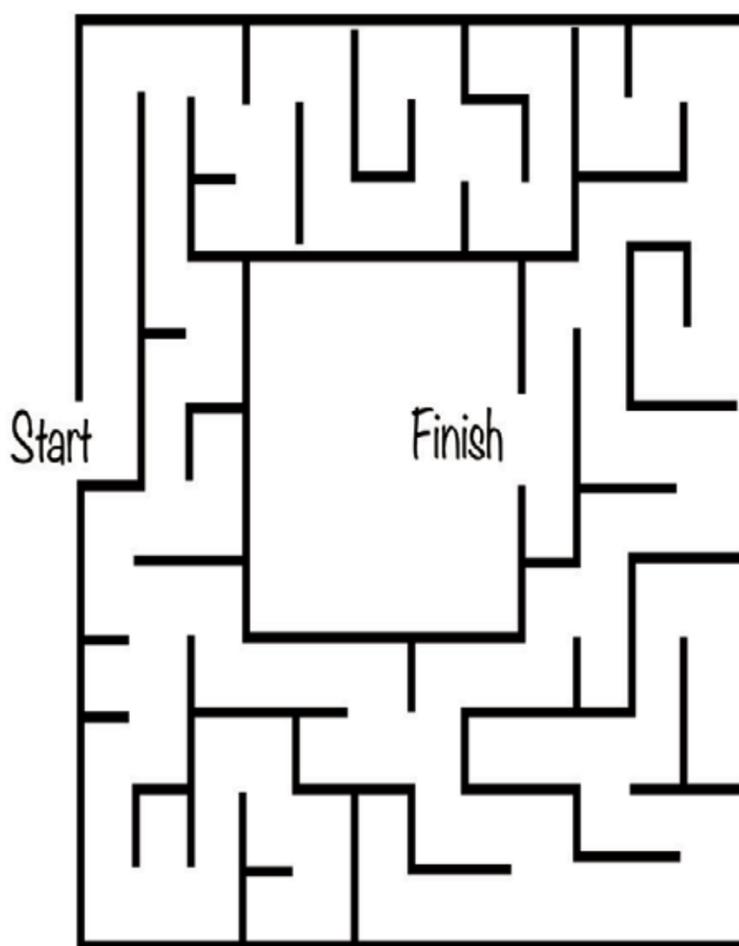
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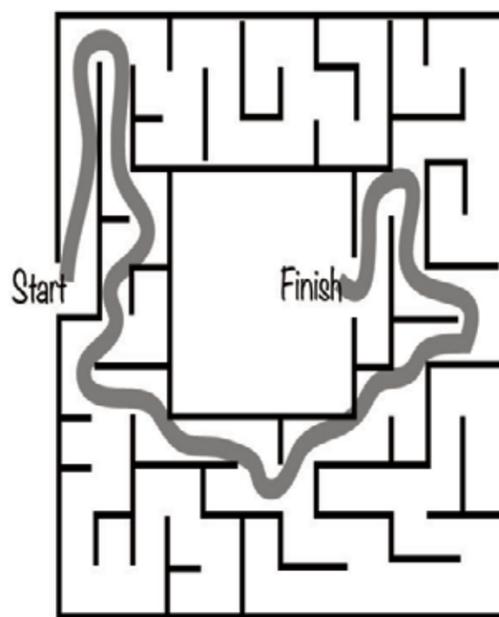
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Thursday's Time Schedule

All Times EDT

BASEBALL

Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 12:35 p.m.
Minnesota at Cleveland, 1:10 p.m.
Detroit at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 7:15 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m.
Boston at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
L.A. at Oakland, 8:10 p.m.
Seattle at Oakland, 10:05 p.m.
Arizona at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.
Colorado at San Diego, 10:10 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Top 25
No. 21 UCF at UConn, 7 p.m.

NFL PRESEASON

New England at N.Y. Giants, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Indianapolis at Cincinnati, 7 p.m.
Miami at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Jacksonville at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Baltimore, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Houston, 8 p.m.
L.A. Rams at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Buffalo at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Tennessee, 8 p.m.
Green Bay at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Arizona, 10 p.m.
Oakland at Seattle, 10 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at San Francisco, 10 p.m.

Prescott, Elliott lead revamped Cowboys in playoff pursuit

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Pro Football Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas — Dak Prescott dealt with the uncertainty of running back Ezekiel Elliott's looming six-game suspension last year when the Dallas Cowboys slid from an NFC-best 13 wins to out of the playoffs.

Now the star quarterback faces the unknown of a revamped and largely unproven group of receivers after the departures of Jason Witten and Dez Bryant.

Elliott, Prescott's fellow rookie standout from two years ago, is the supposed sure thing for a team looking up in the NFC East at defending Super Bowl champ Philadelphia.

Cole Beasley is the leader of the pass-catchers simply by having the longest Dallas tenure. The Cowboys have high hopes for newcomer Allen Hurns and rookie Michael Gallup, the first receiver drafted by the club (third



AP photo
In this Aug. 18, 2018, file photo, Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott (4) scrambles during the first half of a preseason NFL football game against the Cincinnati Bengals, in Arlington, Texas.

round) after dumping franchise touchdown catch leader Bryant in a cost-cutting move.

"They're hungry guys," Prescott said. "They're guys that you may not necessarily know their names, but that's what they want. They want to get out there and make those plays, let people know that they can play and they can play at a high level."

Elliott ended up serving the suspension over domestic violence allegations halfway through last season, triggering a three-game losing streak that was too much to overcome in the tight NFC playoff race.

Throw in the retirement of Tony Romo last year spurred by the sudden emergence of Prescott, and the team's three most important offensive players for a decade have been replaced by Elliott, the 2016 rushing champion, and his backfield mate, that year's NFL

See **BOYS**, Page 13

White's 9th inning shot powers Houston Astros over Oakland A's 5-4



AP photo
Houston Astros' Tyler White (13) is swarmed by teammates at the plate after his game-winning home run against the Oakland Athletics during the ninth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2018, in Houston.

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — After the Houston Astros wrapped up their season series with the Oakland Athletics on Wednesday, manager A.J. Hinch likened the last three games to a heavyweight title fight.

His Astros won two of three to take the belt for now, but he knows that they'll have to play well down the stretch to fend off the Athletics for the AL West title.

"We have a lot of games to play, a lot of games to win," Hinch said. "This one feels like a big one obvi-

ously to send them out of town a little beat up from the losses. But, also their bullpen is a little beat up, ours is, too. It felt like kind of a heavyweight battle."

The Astros gave the Athletics just their second series defeat in their last 21 series when Tyler White homered with one out in the ninth inning to give Houston a 5-4 victory.

"It was a spirited series, really closely fought," A's manager Bob Melvin said. "It was pretty evenly matched, both teams are playing really hard this time of the year, which you'd expect. If I'm a fan

watching these games, I'd be pretty entertained."

White, who also homered Monday, sent a pitch from Jeurys Familia (4-1) to the seats in left field. The victory moves Houston 2 1/2 games ahead of Oakland atop the AL West.

"You want to get a win against those guys in any way possible," White said. "It's a good team but we come out here and we battle every day and we give ourselves a chance to win and I was just lucky enough to be the guy today."

White's shot was

See **ASTROS**, Page 13

Texans have high hopes for 2018 with Watson and Watt healthy



AP photo
This Aug. 18, 2018, file photo shows Houston Texans quarterback Deshaun Watson (4) throwing a pass against the San Francisco 49ers during the first half of a preseason NFL football game, in Houston.

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Deshaun Watson's performance in just a few games as a rookie last year has everyone looking forward to what the Houston Texans quarterback can do in a full season.

Perhaps no one is more excited about Watson's potential than DeAndre Hopkins, Houston's top receiver who has suffered through a revolving door at the position since he was drafted in 2013.

"The possibilities, what we can do is limitless," Hopkins said.

Watson threw for 1,699 yards and 19 touchdowns and ran for 269 yards and two more scores in seven games, with six starts, before tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in right knee in practice last season. He's healthy now

and determined to help the Texans bounce back from last year's injury-plagued 4-12 season, their first losing record since 2013.

"I'm very excited for the new season and the potential that we have," Watson said. "Now we've just got to go out there and perform and do it on the field."

After he was injured last season Watson remained a fixture at the facility. He spent countless hours studying film, picking the brains of coaches and teammates and doing everything he could to continue his development while his knee healed. Coach Bill O'Brien loves that work ethic and believes the time Watson put in to improve mentally will pay dividends when he's back on the field

See **TEXANS**, Page 13

Dodgers win 5th in a row with 3 solo HRs in 3-1 win at Texas



AP photo
Texas Rangers catcher Isiah Kiner-Falefa (9) tags out Los Angeles Dodgers' Yasiel Puig, who tried to steal home during the seventh inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2018, in Arlington, Texas.

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas — The Los Angeles Dodgers did what they have to do in a playoff race when taking on last-place teams in consecutive series. They won every game.

Alex Wood pitched seven scoreless innings and the Dodgers hit three solo homers in a 3-1 victory over the Texas Rangers on Wednesday, matching a season-best with their fifth straight victory a night before the opener of a four-game NL West showdown at home against division-leading Arizona.

"It's really nice for us to string five together like we have," Wood said. "Those five games came at the right time."

Cody Bellinger and Manny Mach-

ado hit first-pitch homers off Mike Minor (10-7). Yasmani Grandal also went deep for the defending National League champion Dodgers.

"I think we're cooking as a whole team right now," Bellinger said. "It's just a matter of producing on the field. It's just a matter of time until the talent takes over."

Los Angeles (72-61) remained within a game of the Diamondbacks (73-60), who won 3-1 at San Francisco on Wednesday night. The Dodgers were only a half-game behind idle Colorado (72-60).

Wood (8-6) limited the Rangers to four singles, throwing 67 of 98 pitches for strikes with five strikeouts and two walks. The lefty had faced the Rangers only once before, pitching at

See **RANGERS**, Page 13

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#9865 August 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 2018

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

Partner bids One Diamond, and the next player passes, both sides vulnerable. What would you bid with each of the following five hands?

- ♠ KJ84 ♥ Q963 ♦ 72 ♣ 985
- ♠ 63 ♥ 82 ♦ Q654 ♣ AQ974
- ♠ 85 ♥ KJ75 ♦ AQ642 ♣ 83
- ♠ KQ98 ♥ AQ74 ♦ — ♣ KQ632
- ♠ 98752 ♥ AJ6 ♦ Q5 ♣ AK8

1. One heart. With six or more high-card points, you must respond to partner's opening bid, so the only question is what to say at this point. The usual practice is to respond in the lower-ranking of two four-card suits when at the one-level, and there isn't any reason not to do that here.

The one-heart response leaves room for partner to bid one spade next, thus allowing the partnership to find a fit in either major suit at the one-level. A response of one spade would prevent the partnership from locating a heart fit at less than the two-level, and might easily result in not finding the heart fit at all.

A response of one notrump would be wrong in that it would violate a cardinal principle of bidding, namely, that the first aim is to seek a major-suit fit.

2. Two diamonds. This shows six to 10 points and at least four-card trump support. It is more important to identify the diamond fit and the

point-count range than it is to bid two clubs, which would neither reveal the diamond fit nor accurately describe the number of points you hold.

3. One heart. This hand is too strong for two diamonds and not good enough for three diamonds (forcing). The heart bid not only investigates the possibility of a fit in that suit, but also has the advantage of putting the response in the no-upper-limit six or more points range. You hope that this temporary ambiguity can be clarified later after partner rebids over one heart.

4. Two clubs. The search for a trump fit is begun by bidding your longest suit first. You intend to bid hearts and spades at your next two turns if feasible, and thus identify your 4-4-0-5 pattern. Mentioning clubs before bidding the other two suits tells partner that the clubs are greater in length. If the suits were each four cards in length, they would be bid in the regular order — cheapest suit first, as in the first problem.

5. One spade. While this hand lends itself to notrump play and might therefore suggest a response of two notrump, it is better to investigate the possibility of game in spades first. Notrump can always be bid next time if partner doesn't support your suit.

Tomorrow: Choosing the right line of play.

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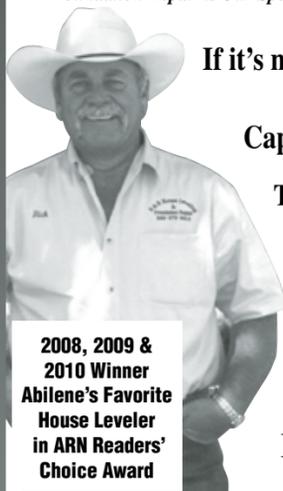
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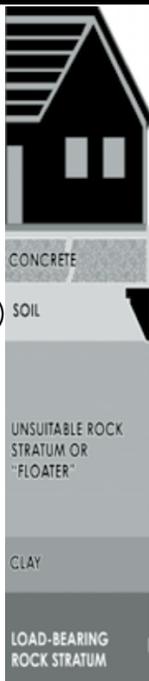
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mars Full Tilt

By HOLIDAY MATHIS



The direct motion of Mars is in full swing, and for most of the day the warrior moon in Aries will rally behind the assertive (or perhaps aggressive) energy of the red planet. People who don't know their own strength usually find out when what they thought was a casual gesture has unexpectedly large repercussions.

ARIES

(March 21-April 19). Someone who has come to your emotional rescue in the past is now in need of a little attention. This won't be a "rescue" per se; rather, it will be the sort of nice acknowledgement that keeps a rescue situation at bay.

TAURUS

(April 20-May 20). You can't exactly control everything you think. Your mind is like a great dragon, far more powerful than you, but you can

ride on its back and steer it. It's likely to go where you tell it to.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

You'll be attracted to the people who can do little things right, correctly assuming that this is a sign that they might do their best to get the big things right, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

You'll be in the support position today, and the role will come as a nice break to you. "We can't all be heroes, because somebody has to sit on the curb and clap when they go by." -- Will Rogers

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Look at the facts, references and all the evidence you can find, but

don't base your decision solely on these things. Let your gut feeling weigh in. Evidence can be falsified. Your gut is less likely to be fooled than your mind.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You hear yourself differently depending on whom you talk to. That's why it's important to talk to many different types of people. People with different status levels, skills and cultures will help you understand.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

A core of self-appreciation will help you improve quickly. When you know, at a very basic level, that you're OK, you won't be defensive in the face of feedback. You'll take every note and build from it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Brilliant interactions are often less interactive. More contact means more tangles. Believe in people's abilities to solve their own problems, and let them know you're there to back them up if needed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

All results will be the results of action.

The one who takes action gets to change the landscape, define the story -- indeed, to be the star of it. Even passivity can be active, with the right level of awareness.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Small things matter, but petty things don't. It's not the size that makes things trivial; it's the significance. Pay attention and you will understand the difference and avoid mixing into anything that would reduce you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You're inclined toward the big questions today, although this will be displayed in a very down-to-earth way. The big questions can be answered with simple acts of cleanliness, organization and kindness.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

You may make an innocuous and breezy comment, but others won't hear it that way. Some consider you the official word from above. Your position gives your words weight.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 30)

There is something inside you that's

as luminous as anything on the planet has ever been. Clear away anything that shades this secret. Go where people see you, and use your talents. The respect you've shown the authority figures in your life will pave the way for many lucrative opportunities in 2019. Pisces and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 33, 38, 4 and 18.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:

"I noticed that you don't pair Aries and Libras together. Is there a reason? I have been dating a Libra for almost three years. Things are great, but what do you see long term? I appreciate your insight."

There's not a reason in the world that Libra and Aries can't make a fabulous match, both in the long term and in the short term. Both are what's called "cardinal" signs. This means that they are the initiators of the zodiac, not afraid to start projects or relationships and ready to build where no person has built before. You are a very independent person, and your Libra is more of a team

player, so you avoid the power struggles that many couples endure. Usually your Libra defers to you, and you feel so relaxed in the relationship that you don't mind giving up the reins whenever Libra wants to lead. I can see your partnership extending into the realm of business as well, especially businesses that involve a quick profit turnaround, such as flipping properties, construction, day trading, etc. Best of luck!

CELEBRITY PROFILES:

Whatever the movie role for Cameron Diaz, it often has included dancing. Perhaps it's because directors know that the Virgo superstar (with Mercury in show-stopping Leo) possesses an infectious joy and audiences want to dance with her. Virgos are known for an ever-young quality and a commitment to health. Diaz is in fact an author on the topic with her best-selling "The Longevity Book."

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

ANSWER:

BOYS

Continued from Page 7

Offensive Rookie of the Year.

"It just shows how fast time goes and how quick things can change, but I think we're both ready to embrace this leadership role," said Elliott, who still led the NFL in yards rushing per game last season. "We're excited for this year to come."

Some story lines with the Cowboys seeking a third straight winning season for the first time since the last of five straight in 2009:

DEFENSE FIRST?

The Cowboys have been offense-first just about every year since coach Jason Garrett joined the staff as offensive coordinator in 2007. If the preseason is any indication, Dallas might feed off its defense for once.

DeMarcus Lawrence, who tied for second in the NFL with 14½ sacks last season, leads a pass rush that's gaining momentum. Linebacker Sean Lee is ready to be a face for the franchise with Witten gone. Starting cornerbacks Byron Jones and Chidobe Awuzie head a batch of young potential playmakers in the secondary.

"I don't like to get ahead of ourselves — we have to put the stats down and the wins and the turnovers," Lee said.

"Until we do that, we can't say anything. When it comes to the right group of guys, guys who love to work and are talented, it's as good a group as I've worked with."

UNCERTAINTY AT CENTER

Four-time Pro Bowl center Travis Frederick is out indefinitely after getting diagnosed with Guillain-Barre syndrome, a disorder that attacks the nervous system. His absence raises a big question with the other part of the Elliott formula: a vaunted offensive line.

Right guard Zack Martin injured a knee in the preseason, but expects to be ready for the opener Sept. 9 at Carolina.

Left tackle Tyron Smith has battled back issues the past few seasons. Joe Looney is set to step in for Frederick, and the Cowboys have a rookie at left guard in second-round pick Connor Williams.

LEE'S CO-STARS

While Lee anchors the linebackers, Jaylon Smith has the Cowboys encouraged about his continuing recovery from a devastating knee injury in his final college game. He missed his rookie year while rehabbing and struggled with consistency last season.

Smith is playing without a brace this year and believes he has regained the form that made him a potential top-10 pick coming out of Notre Dame. First-round pick Leighton Vander Esch missed the latter part of training camp with a groin injury, but is expected to contribute as a rookie.

THICK AND THIN

Depth will be a strength with pass rushing if Randy Gregory and David Irving can overcome substance-abuse suspensions and contribute a few sacks apiece. Gregory was suspended all of last season, but has looked promising at camp. Irving is opening the season with a four-game suspension for the second year in a row.

The Cowboys are dangerously thin at safety. Jeff Heath is the only healthy player with significant experience. Xavier Woods (hamstring) and Kavon Frazier (shoulder) were injured in consecutive weeks in the preseason. Woods might miss the opener, while Frazier says he will play.

TEXANS

Continued from Page 7

this year.

"I really can't say enough about the guy. He's a great guy," O'Brien said. "He's worked very hard to understand the system going into his second year. He's the type of guy that's always going to show up to work. He loves football. He's got great questions. He's been great since the day he walked in the door here."

Some things to know about the 2018 Texans.

WATT'S RETURN: While Watson returns on offense, the Texans should also get a boost from the return of J.J. Watt to lead the defense. The three-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year is healthy heading into the 2018 season after playing just eight games over the last two years because of a back injury in 2016 and a broken leg last season.

He made his preseason debut in Houston's third game against the Rams and has said he'll be ready to go for Houston's opener against the Patriots on Sept. 9.

The defensive end said he's feeling great, and was asked if he thinks he'll be the same player he was before the injuries, when he piled up 38 sacks and 116 tackles combined in 2014-15.

"Any way I answer that question, I'm screwed," he said. "You want me to say: 'Yeah, it's going to be incredible,' then you're setting insane expectations. I say: 'No, I think I'm going to suck,' that doesn't bode too well for myself either. There's really no good way to answer that question so I'm literally focused (on) what I can control."

"Through all my injuries, that's probably the biggest thing I've learned, is control what you can control," he said. "All I can control is today; workouts, practice, meetings, and then tomorrow I'll be able to control that."

HONEY BADGER IN HOUSTON: Houston's biggest offseason acquisition was free agent safety Tyrann Mathieu, the Honey Badger.

Mathieu joined the Texans after spending his first five seasons in Arizona, where he played 66 games with 57 starts. The Texans hope, Mathieu, who has 11 career interceptions, will improve a secondary that allowed 215 yards passing a game last season. Though he's new to the team, Mathieu has tried to step in and help mentor some of his younger teammates.

"I just want to bring some energy," he said. "I want to make as many plays as possible ... I just want to be the ultimate leader for those guys and just show those guys that I'm going to show up every day."

Hopkins is a big fan of Mathieu and has enjoyed sparring with him in training camp this year.

"He's the quietest and (most chill) guy outside of the football field, but once he's on the field he's the Honey Badger," Hopkins said.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 7

the 81st walk-off homer in the majors this season, breaking the record set in 2004, according to Major League Baseball.

George Springer and Alex Bregman added two hits apiece and both drove in a run to help the Astros to their seventh win in eight games. Roberto Osuna (2-2) allowed one hit in a scoreless ninth for the win.

The Astros lost the lead in the seventh when Brad Peacock took over for starter Dallas Keuchel and struggled with location. Peacock walked Matt Chapman, Jed Lowrie and Khris Davis to load the bases before plunking Stephen Piscotty on the arm to tie it at 4.

Keuchel allowed eight hits and three runs with five strikeouts in six innings.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Astros: Houston placed RHP Charlie Morton on the 10-day disabled list with discomfort in his right shoulder and activated reliever Chris Devenski from the DL

before Wednesday's game.

THEY SAID IT

Melvin on the nifty running over-the-shoulder catch Laureano made on the warning track on a ball hit by Tony Kemp for the second out of the second inning: "When it was hit, I didn't think he had a chance on that one. Catching it over his shoulder like that, being from the Bay Area, that's the one I thought about. I'm not comparing him to Willie Mays, I'm just saying, that's the one I thought about."

UP NEXT

Athletics: Frankie Montas (5-3, 3.75 ERA) will be recalled from Triple-A Nashville to start for Oakland in the opener of a four-game series against Seattle on Thursday night. Montas allowed eight hits and three runs in 4 1/3 innings of a 3-2 loss to Colorado in his last major league start on July 29.

Astros: Justin Verlander (13-8, 2.72) is scheduled to start for Houston on Thursday night when the Astros open a four-game series against the Angels. Verlander, who ranks second in the AL with 229 strikeouts, has won his last two starts.

RANGERS

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Texas for Atlanta four years ago when he struck out nine and allowed a run on four hits.

Kenta Maeda, a 20-game starter for the Dodgers this season, worked the ninth to get his first save since June 2017. He did give up an RBI double to active career hits leader Adrian Beltre, whose 3,142nd hit broke a tie with Tony Gwynn and matched Robin Yount for 17th on the all-time list.

After sweeping a three-game series against San Diego last weekend, the Dodgers won both games at Texas in their final inter-league series of the season.

The solo homers by Bellinger and Machado were the only hits and runs off Minor in his six innings. The lefty, a teammate of Wood's in Atlanta in 2013-14, struck out seven and walked three.

Bellinger's 21st homer of the season put the Dodgers ahead to stay in the third inning. Machado hit the first pitch of the fourth into almost the same spot on the hill in straightway center field. That was Machado's 32nd homer this season, his eighth in 37 games for Los

Angeles since being traded last month from the Baltimore Orioles.

"The home runs didn't really bother me as much, solo shots, but the three walks bothered me," Minor said. "They were bad pitches. They put good swings on it, and that's what happens."

STILL THE CLOSER

When the Dodgers took a 3-0 lead into the ninth inning, closer Kenley Jansen was sitting in the dugout instead of coming out of the bullpen. Manager Dave Roberts said after the game that Jansen is still the closer despite allowing runs in all four appearances since coming off the disabled list Aug. 20 following a hospital stay due to heart issues. That included Tuesday night in Texas. Roberts said there was no plan to use Jansen on Wednesday night before the Arizona series.

RARE COMBO

The Dodgers finished the game with four hits, the three homers and a triple. According to baseballreference.com, they are the first team since at least 1908 to have that combination when having only four hits in a game.

OUT AT HOME

Dodgers RF Yasiel Puig, in the lineup while awaiting a ruling on his appeal

of a two-game suspension from a bench-clearing incident Aug. 16 against San Francisco, had the triple in the seventh, when his face slammed into the ground on an awkward slide into the bag. The inning ended when he was thrown out trying to steal home even after getting a good jump off third base against reliever Alex Claudio.

THE OTHER LEAGUE

The Dodgers wrapped up their interleague schedule with a 12-8 record. They won all four games against the Rangers, including two at Dodger Stadium in June. Texas is 7-10 against NL teams, and has to sweep its three-game series at San Diego from Sept. 14-16 to avoid its first losing record in interleague play in 12 seasons.

UP NEXT

Dodgers: After their only two road games in a 15-game stretch, the Dodgers head home for the big series against Arizona. Rich Hill is 0-5 in seven starts against the Diamondbacks since getting traded to Los Angeles two years ago.

Rangers: Texas has its second scheduled day off in four days Thursday before a three-game weekend series at home against Minnesota.

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