

# BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY  
December 8, 1997

Reflecting A Proud Community

50 cents

## Vietnam Memorial group brings F-4 Phantom to begin restoration

Restoration effort to occur inside former Hangar 18

By JOHN H. WALKER  
Managing Editor

At 9:38 a.m. on the 56th anniversary of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, the newest addition to the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial, a McDonnell Douglas F-4E "Phantom" jet, arrived at Hangar 18 in the McMahon/Wrinkle Airpark.

When its restoration is complete, the Phantom will be displayed along with the UH-1 "Huey" helicopter that was dedicated last Memorial Day.

An entourage of 22 vehicles escorted the 19,000-pound jet from Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls to Hangar 18. The jet, transported by an E.D. Walton Construction Co. truck, was ready to leave at 6:30 Friday morning, but complications delayed the effort.

"We were under Murphy's Law until 2 p.m.," explained Vietnam Memorial Association board member Charlie Lewis. "That was when we cleared Wichita Falls."

Lewis said the trip was made considerably easier because of the legwork done by Howard County Sheriff Bill Jennings.

"Sheriff Jennings contacted the law enforcement agencies up and down the route and they were ready to help in any way they could. Without his doing that, it wouldn't have been nearly as easy as it was."

The entourage followed U.S. 277 south and then U.S. 180 west before running out of daylight in Snyder.

Members of the group felt they would have made Big Spring by early afternoon on Saturday had they not run into delays early in the day — among them, having to secure a second permit from the Texas

### YOU CAN HELP

If you would like to assist with the restoration of the Vietnam Memorial Association's F-4E Phantom jet, you can.

The Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Association is a 100 percent volunteer, non-profit organization with tax-exempt status.

If you would like to support the F-4E project, or any work done by the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Association, you may do so by contacting Charlie Lewis, president, Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Association, 263-0276.

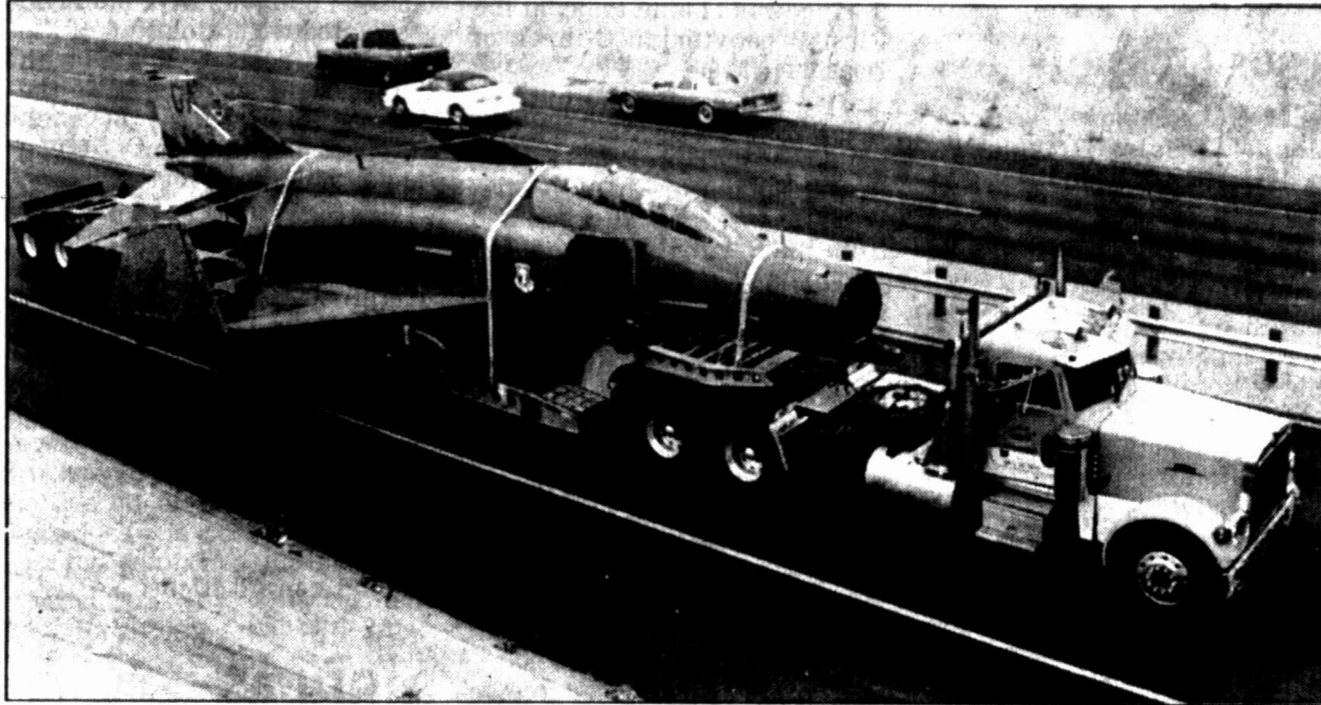
Department of Transportation despite having already done that through the Abilene district office.

"If it hadn't been for the folks at the Texas Welcome Center in Wichita Falls, we'd probably still be sitting there," Lewis said. "They got on the phone with Austin and explained the situation and what we were doing and walked it (the second permit) through."

The F-4 was developed in the mid-1950s for the U.S. Navy and, in 1961, the Air Force adopted it as the F-4C for interception, close air support and bombing.

The Air Force ordered more than 2,600 F-4s and the first of the planes were deployed in Southeast Asia in early 1965. The Air Force's three Vietnam "aces" did so in F-4s.

The plane has a wingspan of 38-feet, 5-inches, or 27-feet, 6-inches folded, which was the manner in which it was transported. It is 63 feet long, 16-feet, 6-inches high and weighed a maximum of 58,000 pounds



HERALD photo/John H. Walker

The newest edition to the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial, former U.S. Air Force F-4E "Phantom" Tail No. 368 is transported along FM 700 at the Gregg Street bridge Sunday morning by a transport owned by E.D. Walton Construction Co. The jet was moved from Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls and will be restored in Hangar 18 prior to its display at the memorial.



HERALD photo/Jonathan Garrett

Former U.S. Air Force F-4E "Phantom" Tail No. 368 stands ready to be moved into Hangar 18 at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark early Sunday afternoon. When restoration is completed early next year, the jet will become part of the static display at the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial.

when fully fueled and armed.

Its armament included various combinations of bombs, rockets, missiles and 20mm cannon and up to 16,000 pounds

of external stores.

Powered by two GE 179 engines, the F-4E produced 17,900 pounds of thrust from each engine with afterburners,

had a maximum speed of 1,450 mph, a cruising speed of 590 mph and a range of 350 miles without extra tanks or aerial refueling.

Vietnam veteran Phantom now faces graceful, honored display

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

More than 30 years after its birth as a fighter-bomber, F-4 Tail No. 368 now faces a graceful retirement.

The local Vietnam Veterans Association committee recently purchased No. 368 from the U.S. Air Force, and will soon be put on display at the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial.

No. 368, which was built in 1966, spent almost a quarter-century in active service before being decommissioned at George AFB in Victorville, Calif. several years ago. Since then, it has been used as a training vehicle for maintenance students at Sheppard AFB in Wichita Falls.

Committee members, with the assistance of several sheriff's offices and the state Department of Transportation, brought the F-4 to Big Spring early Sunday morning.

The 26-foot wingspan on the plane forced Lewis and his cohorts to carefully plan out the route they'd take back to Big Spring.

Even with all the assistance, however, the trip had more thrills than Lewis bargained for.

"It was downright scary," Lewis said, recalling close brushes with wayward motorists and other obstacles. "From now on, when I see some guy waving a flag, I'm going to slow the hell down."

The 12-car convoy reached Snyder on the first leg of its trip Saturday, then completed the trip into Big Spring early Sunday morning.

Although it was the Air

See DISPLAY, Page 2

## City continues to deal with animal control ordinances

By CARLTON JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

The city of Big Spring recently took action to regulate the number and kinds of animals kept within the city limits.

One of the items approved on first reading in early November by the city council was an ordinance amending the city code to establish procedures for obtaining animal permits.

In a memo dated Nov. 11, City Attorney Jim Finley told council members that the Planning and Zoning Commission believed that the Animal Control Committee would be a better avenue for citizens desiring to obtain animal permits.

Finley said the commission's recommendation was based on the fact that the Animal Control Committee has more background and experience dealing with animal issues.

The council was also told that the ordinance in question is the desire of both boards involved. The Animal Control Committee recently voted in favor of reviewing all animal permit requests.

The amended section of the ordinance reads: "Any person desiring to keep or maintain livestock within the city shall file with the city secretary a sworn application furnished by the city."

"The application will go before the Animal Control Committee for comment and review before being brought before the council. Property owners within 200 feet of the applicant will be notified of the application. The permit fee shall be \$25."

On occasion, a resident will request a permit to keep animals such as chickens or roosters, as was the case at the Oct. 7 meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Two permits, one to keep four chickens in the 400 block of Young and another to keep four chickens and two roosters in the 1200 block of Madison, were denied by the commission despite no opposition from neighbors.

Another permit for a cockatiel in the 1300 block of Runnels was approved.

Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman Terry Wegman said the distinction between a cockatiel and chickens and roosters is a matter of weight as stated in the ordinance.

"From a practical standpoint, the commission looks at house pets as one thing and animals like roosters and chickens, which can affect neighbors, as something else," Wegman said.

The current ordinance does place restrictions on pet owners when a nuisance is created, whether the animal is classified as livestock, fowl, swine or something else.

By city law, a nuisance is created when:

- Pet owners allow animals to damage another person's property; animals are maintained in an unsanitary or unclean

environment; and when property is offensive or dangerous to public health, safety or welfare because of the number and type of animals and their location.

A diseased animal is maintained; an animal is not properly secured from public contact; an owner fails to confine a female dog or cat while in season; and when animals are allowed to bark, whine, howl, crow or cackle in a manner that interferes with nearby homes.

Current law states that it is unlawful for anyone to keep any livestock, fowl or swine within the city limit for more than 48 hours, unless that person has an unrevoked permit from the city.

The section reads: "fowl does not include birds weighing less than one ounce that are kept as pets." Only a few birds such as hummingbirds (which can't be kept as pets by law), finches and a few others weigh less than one ounce.

In July, Dorothy Valdez of San Angelo addressed the council crying fowl.

Valdez said she was in the bird business in San Angelo and wanted to sell birds in Big Spring, but there's a hitch in her plan — the clause prohibiting the birds.

Valdez's argument to the council was that the ordinance kept her from being able to open a business here because so few birds weigh less than an ounce.

The ordinance was not changed for Valdez because of the potential trouble birds can cause, according to the Animal Control Committee.

## Street or alley dirty? City law says it's your responsibility to keep clean to middle of road

By CARLTON JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

When the city of Big Spring began its program of trying to clean up the community, the city council passed an ordinance aimed at getting residents to keep their property clear of unsightly weeds, including alleys.

The wording of the ordinance still has several residents confused as to what constitutes a violation and what the subsequent fines and penalties are.

The revised ordinance, passed in February and March, amends portions of the city code concerning the health, safety nuisances, growth or accumulation of weeds and rubbish.

The ordinance states that the control of weeds, trash, rubbish and other unsanitary con-

ditions is important in protecting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Big Spring.

In the ordinance, a resident's property is defined as extending from the center line of the street to the center line of the alley, said Todd Darden, community development director.

The law has created questions among residents as to how far their property lines extend. Also, they wonder how much of what is being required of them may actually be the responsibility of the city, especially where alleys are concerned.

Some of the language in the ordinance is unclear, such as what constitutes "useless articles."

Rubbish and weeds are described as follows in the

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17 shopping days left  
Snoopy's Christmas  
Countdown  
sponsored by  
Barcelona Apartments

### WEATHER

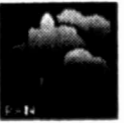
Tonight:



Tue:



Wed:



Thur:



Tonight, mostly clear. Lows 35-40. Tuesday, mostly sunny, windy and cooler. Highs in the 50s. Tuesday night, becoming cloudy and colder. Lows in the 20s. Extended forecast, Wednesday, cloudy with a chance of rain or snow. Highs 35-45. Thursday, cloudy with a chance of snow. Lows in the 20s. Highs in the 30s. Friday, continued cloudy with a chance of snow.

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## Winterfest set Saturday in Coahoma

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN  
Features Editor

There may even be a chance for snow Saturday, and that would be the final ingredient for Winterfest in Coahoma.

The Coahoma Lions Club plans a variety of Christmas activities at the City Park, hoping to bring the holiday season alive for local residents.

"We try to do a lot of things for the community," said Irene LeMarr, "and this is just one way we can say, 'We appreciate you.'"

The fun begins at 3 p.m. with decorating of the first Community Christmas Tree. All residents are invited to bring an ornament for the tree, and Lions will provide the lights.

"We are hoping word will get out and lots of people will bring something for the tree," LeMarr said. "I think something homemade would be really special, but we want a lot of people to share in decorating it."

At 6 p.m., the high school's jazz band will perform a few numbers. This newly-formed group will be making its debut public appearance at Winterfest.

A special ceremony is planned at 6:30 p.m. for the lighting of the community tree.

Then, the whole crowd will be asked to join in Christmas carol singing, led by the Coahoma school chorus — including local elementary singers.

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DEC 08 1997



# NTSB releases thousands of pages of information on TWA Flight 800

BALTIMORE (AP) — Vapors in the nearly empty center fuel tank of TWA Flight 800 were likely ready to explode even before the plane left the ground, according to newly released reports on the TWA Flight 800 explosion.

Investigators also discovered wires with insulation worn away in bundles of wiring leading through the plane's center fuel tank. In some sections of the miles of wiring retrieved from the ocean, investigators found the insulation was corroded or cracked to the core.

The National Transportation Safety Board on Sunday released thousands of pages of information gathered since the July 17, 1996, tragedy killed 230 passengers and crew members off the

coast of Long Island. Beginning today, NTSB Chairman James Hall was to hold a week-long hearing to gather even more information.

The documents and the hearings may help the NTSB pressure the Federal Aviation Administration to adopt potentially costly recommendations to reduce temperatures in fuel tanks so they cannot explode.

The NTSB revealed the results of tests last July in which it used another Boeing 747 to try to duplicate conditions leading eventually to a free-trade zone.

During the simulation, the agency found temperatures in the nearly empty center fuel tank before the plane took off were as high as 145 degrees,

much higher than the 100 degrees at which an explosion can be touched off.

"The temperature of the tank is very important because we're looking at the flammability of the vapors in the tank, at which point they become explosive and can cause an explosion similar to TWA 800," Hall said this morning on NBC's "Today" show.

NTSB spokesman Peter Goelz said his agency was encouraged last week when the FAA agreed to take a closer look at recommendations made by the NTSB a year ago to reduce the volatility of vapors. The FAA has insisted that the problem can be resolved by eliminating any ignition source near the tank.

"Our most important product in the

end is our safety recommendations," Goelz said. "Our job is to make recommendations so that these accidents don't happen again."

One of the theories on which investigators are focusing is that the catastrophic explosion in the plane's center fuel tank may have been sparked by a surge of high voltage electricity, which was transferred through damaged low voltage wiring to the tank's fuel measuring rods.

The measuring rods — which allow the pilot know the amount of fuel in the tank — carry a minuscule amount of electricity, incapable of igniting vapors on their own.

The FBI investigated the possibility that a bomb or a missile brought down

the plane. But two weeks ago, it suspended its probe after finding no evidence to support a criminal theory.

The FBI aggressively investigated the possibility of a missile after 244 witnesses saw streaks in the sky about the time of the explosion.

A CIA study of what happened to the plane concluded that nearly all of the witnesses actually saw the plane breaking up and exploding into a fireball, not a missile.

The cause of the jumbo jet's explosion just minutes after it left Kennedy International Airport for Paris remains just as elusive for the NTSB.

Goelz said the hearing this week will only gather or report factual information.

## Mexico signs pact deal with European Union

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Mexico signed a sweeping agreement today with the European Union on economic and political cooperation — a pact pledging lower tariffs and looking toward creation of a free-trade zone.

Trade between Mexico and the European Union totaled \$11.2 billion in 1996, making the EU Mexico's second-largest trading partner. However, EU-Mexico trade is dwarfed by Mexico's trade with the US, which stood at \$147.8 billion.

"We are opening a new and ambitious relationship," said Mexican Foreign Minister Jose Angel Gurría after signing the accord today. "Europe today is a priority of our foreign policy."

Under the accord, Mexico and the 15-nation EU pledged to work for a "progressive and bilateral" reduction of tariffs leading eventually to a free-trade zone.

Officials from both sides will take part in a special committee to start talks on setting up a free-trade zone. Talks are expected to start next year, but no target date has been set for concluding the negotiations.

The joint committee also will work on improving cooperation in some 30 areas, including fighting the drug trade, protecting the environment and promoting tourism.

The EU and Mexico also agreed their leaders would hold regular summit meetings and

that Mexican ministers would meet frequently with the EU to coordinate policies.

Gurría told reporters the new deal with the EU was an important part of Mexico's efforts to diversify its economic links.

He moved to reassure human rights campaigners who had lobbied the EU to ensure Mexico upholds the pledge to respect human rights written into the agreement.

"We restate our deep and unshakable commitment to peace, democracy and individual rights," he said.

The accord was signed by Gurría, Mexican Trade Minister Herminio Blanco and foreign ministers from the 15 EU nations.

It will take effect after ratification by the legislatures of Mexico, all 15 EU member countries and the European Parliament. However a "fast track" clause allows talks on demolishing trade barriers to start before ratification.

The EU's desire to free up trade with Mexico is fired by growing concern that European companies are losing out to U.S. competitors since Mexico signed the NAFTA pact with the United States and Canada in 1994.

Talks are bound to be painful — some EU nations worry that a free-trade deal would leave their industry and their agriculture overexposed to Mexican competition.

## Lee Brown moves to build on Lanier's work

HOUSTON (AP) — For Lee Brown, victory spoke for itself in the wake of his Houston mayoral triumph.

"When I raise my right hand to take the oath of office, I'll have the good fortune to take the reins of a Houston on the move," said Brown, 60.

For Rob Mosbacher, the 46-year-old businessman candidate defeated in the Saturday runoff election, comfort had to come from belief that the campaign was worthwhile.

"Victory is not with us tonight, but we can be extremely proud of our efforts and our accomplishment and we can hold our heads high because we ran a great campaign and helped define the issues," Mosbacher said after the final results were announced Saturday night.

Brown, who served as Houston's police chief in the 1980s, edged Mosbacher with 53 percent of the vote in Saturday's runoff election.

When incumbent Mayor Bob Lanier vacates City Hall in January, he turns over America's fourth-largest city to its first black mayor with the economy humming, crime down and a reasonably content citizenry.

Brown's victory was not

without considerable help from Lanier, whose political muscle shifted to Brown more than a year ago. Lanier was barred by term limits from seeking fourth term.

Lanier's supporters quickly went to work to raise cash, encourage a strong minority voter turnout and more important, dissuade other potential black candidates from entering the contest. About 25 percent of Houston's 1.8 million residents are black.

About 31 percent of Houston's registered voters cast ballots. Voter turnout patterns found that blacks comprised a third or more of the electorate while whites made up about 55 percent, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Mosbacher also had unsuccessful runs for U.S. Senate in 1984 and lieutenant governor in 1990.

Although early returns from Harris County, where most of Houston is located, showed Brown and Mosbacher splitting the votes evenly, Brown was partially aided by capturing about 6,336 votes, or 94 percent, in outlying Fort Bend County.

On Nov. 4, Brown broke out of an eight-candidate pack with 41 percent of the vote.

## Survivors remember Pearl Harbor attack

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP) — Keith Hill was standing watch on the USS West Virginia when he saw squadrons of Japanese planes swooping down on Pearl Harbor.

"Bombs were falling. I ran to my battle station," Hill recalled Sunday, the 56th anniversary of the attack. "One torpedo after another. You could just feel the ship shudder. Guys were laying all over the deck ... I jumped into the water and made it to a small whale boat that was just pulling away."

Hill, 75, was one of a handful of Pearl Harbor survivors attending a remembrance

Sunday aboard the USS Arizona Memorial. The Dec. 7, 1941, surprise attack left 2,403 people dead and pushed the United States into World War II.

"These men led the way. They were the first (Americans) to die in the war," said Adm. Archie Clemins, commander in chief of the Pacific Fleet.

Richard Fiske, 75, was also on board the West Virginia. Since the attack, he has become close friends with five of the Japanese pilots who bombed Pearl Harbor.

Fiske lays roses every month at the USS Arizona Memorial

on behalf of one of the Japanese fliers, who views the gesture as a personal act of sorrow for his role in the attack.

"Like my friend says, now that the warlords are gone, we can be friends," Fiske said.

In a separate ceremony Sunday, the remains of two Pearl Harbor survivors who died earlier this year were scattered in the water.

Jack Carson and Jack Beardsley both served on the USS Henley, which suffered only a few bullet hits at Pearl Harbor. The two later spent nearly a day in the ocean after the ship sank during a battle in the Coral Sea in 1943.

"This is where he wanted to come because of all his friends," said Frances Carson, who cried as the ashes of her husband disappeared upon contact with the water.

Asked what he wanted people to remember about his brother, Bill Beardsley had a quick answer.

"Jack is one of the reasons that they can do what they want and be what they want to be," he said. "If it hadn't been for him and all of his compatriots ... we would not have the freedoms that we have."



## Make Sure Santa Sees Your Christmas Letter

Write a letter to Santa, care of the Herald, and he can read it when we print our "Letters to Santa", December 23rd.

**DEADLINE FOR LETTERS TO ARRIVE AT THE HERALD FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH.**

Mail or bring your Santa Letter to the Big Spring Herald  
710 Scurry • P.O. Box 1431 Big Spring, Texas 79721

## GLASSCOCK COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1997

Data Control Codes	Governmental Fund Types	100-199 General Fund		200-499 Special Revenue Funds	
<b>REVENUES:</b>					
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 4,220,405	\$ 28,189		
5800	State Program Revenues	229,180	13,829		
5900	Federal Program Revenues	-	156,976		
5020	Total Revenues	\$ 4,449,585	\$ 198,994		
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>					
Current:					
0010	Instruction & Instructional Related Services	\$ 1,811,941	\$ 112,283		
0020	Instructional and School Leadership	175,547	1,715		
0030	Support Services - Student (Pupil)	405,040	149,400		
0040	Administrative Support Services	230,396	-		
0050	Support Services - Nonstudent Based	432,472	-		
0080	Capital Outlay	192,737	-		
0090	Intergovernmental Charges	1,284,513	-		
6030	Total Expenditures	\$ 4,532,646	\$ 263,398		
1100	Excess (Deficiency) Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ (83,061)	\$ (64,404)		
7020	Other Resources	2,585	64,919		
8030	Other (Uses)	(64,919)	(515)		
1200	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Resources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	\$ (145,395)	\$ -		
0100	Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	2,743,639	-		
1300	Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	-	-		
3000	Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 2,598,244	\$ -		









MONDAY

DEC. 8

Table with 33 columns representing different TV channels (KMYD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows listing various programs and their scheduled times.

HAGAR



B.C.



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILY



BLONDIE



FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 8, 1941, the United States entered World War II as Congress declared war against Japan, a day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a 'Saturday's Puzzle solved' section with a grid of words.

Big Spring Herald advertisement with contact information: 915-263-7331 (Fax) 915-264-7205. Lists staff members like Chuck Williams, John H. Walker, and Jim White.