

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

MONDAY

January 3, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT TUESDAY
18°-22° 52°-55°

Tax assistance volunteers sought

Volunteers are needed for the income tax assistance program. A training class by the Internal Revenue Service will take place at the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center, 1901 Simler Drive, Monday, Jan. 10 through Friday, Jan. 14 from 9 a.m.-noon each day.

Volunteers who attend the training and pass a test given by the IRS will provide free tax assistance on a volunteer basis during February and March to senior citizens and needy persons.

Call Dorothy Kennemur, 398-5522 or the senior center, 267-1628, for more information.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

□ Texas Tech Extension Association Big Spring Chapter, 6 p.m., Sparenberg Building, 309 S. Main.

□ Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 E. Third.

□ Gospel Singing, 7 p.m., Kentwood Center, 2805 Lynn.

TUESDAY

□ Intermediate line dance classes, 9 a.m. Senior Citizens Center.

□ Coahoma senior citizens luncheon, 11 a.m., Coahoma Community Center.

□ Big Spring Rotary Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room

□ Quarterback Club, 7 p.m., Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

□ VFW Post No. 2013, VFW Hall, 7 p.m.

□ Big Spring Chapter No. 67, Order of the Eastern Star, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.

WEDNESDAY

□ Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Senior Circle Big Spring Mall walkers meet 9:15 a.m. in front of movie theater box office.

□ Big Spring Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Local law enforcement officials report few weekend incidents

LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Local law enforcement agencies had a relatively quiet New Year's weekend as local residents apparently stayed home.

"We did not have any fatalities this weekend for Howard, Martin, Glasscock, and Reagan counties," Department of Public Safety Sgt. Lawrence Meadors said.

Sgt. Roger Sweatt, public information officer for the Big Spring Police Department,



SWEATT FRITZ

reported that police arrested seven people for driving while intoxicated.

"We had three accidents over the three-day weekend," Sweatt

said. "None of the accidents had incapacitating injuries."

According to Howard County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Kerry Fritz, a few arrests for driving while intoxicated were made, but the weekend activity was not as busy as they expected.

"This weekend was a normal weekend for us," Fritz said. "We were down in activity than from last year at this time."

"We had a lot less traffic on Friday than on a normal holiday," Meadors said. "The traffic

was real thin on Friday, but on Saturday, the traffic was back to normal."

Extra law enforcement personnel were on duty over the weekend to handle any problems arising from the celebrations and Y2K.

"We had two extra personal on duty from our normal shift last Friday," Fritz said. "They were not needed."

According to Meadors, the Department of Public Safety had all their personal on scheduled shifts over the weekend,

but this is normal for the DPS every New Year's weekend.

The Big Spring Police department had extra officers on duty this weekend and had off-duty personnel on call.

The Texas Department of Public Safety had not released its formal count of fatalities from the New Year's holiday period, which ended at 2 p.m. Sunday, but officials were expecting it to be surprising low. DPS said fewer motorists on the roads is probably the reason.



Courtney Raye Christian, daughter of Audrae and Claud Christian of Big Spring, is Howard County's first baby of 2000, born at 12:11 p.m. on New Year's Day at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

First baby of new year arrives

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Howard County's first baby of the new year has arrived. Courtney Raye Christian was born at 12:11 p.m. Saturday at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

"It's kinda' cool. A lot of people have stopped in just to see the first baby of 2000," said her mom, Audrae Christian, who was admitted at 7 a.m. Saturday and was to go home today.

"It's wonderful. We're so proud," said Courtney's dad,

Claud Christian, who is employed by Southwest Tool.

The Christians reside in Big Spring.

"Everyone has been so wonderful. I can't believe all the gifts from all the businesses. This is great," said Audrae, speaking of the numerous gifts and gift certificates supplied by Howard County merchants.

"It is so generous. You don't know how much we appreciate all of this," she said.

Delivery by Dr. John Forks was smooth, with Audrae in labor less than six hours, she said.

Courtney weighed 7 pounds, 13

ounces and was 21 inches in length.

Courtney has two sisters, Destiny, 4 and Meagan, 5, and a brother, Brandon, 4.

Grandparents are Raymond and Mary Christian and Lane and Pam McMillan of Big Spring, and Jamie McMillan of Arlington.

"This has been great, to have the first baby of the new year, and of 2000," said Audrae. "It's been exciting."

"It was nice to celebrate the birth of a new year's baby," said Maria Cole, RN. "We wish Courtney and the Christians all the best."

City residents responsive to additional trash bins

LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Community residents were responsive to the extra dumpsters the city of Big Spring set

out to collect the extra holiday trash, and the city is continuing programs to help extend the life of the city's landfill.

"The response from the public was wonderful," said Howard Shivers, the city's solid waste superintendent. "The extra trash cans were filled to the top and it really helped us out. We will do this again next year."

The city placed one container at Coronado Plaza and another at Big Spring Mall for local residents to dispose of their extra holiday trash.

As of today, the city will not be accepting any more trash in these containers.

"We will be emptying these containers this week," Shivers said. "We will clean them out and place them back in the same areas to be used for recycling only."

According to Shivers, the bins at Coronado Plaza and the mall

will be used for paper recycling only — newspaper, magazines and cardboard. The Big Spring Herald recycling bins are used for paper and aluminum cans.

Shivers encourages the public to take some time to recycle.

"Recycling will save space and help extend the life of our landfill," Shivers said. "We have approximately 30 years left in this site, and by recycling, we will not have to look for a new site sooner."

"Recycling helps the environment by putting back the used items into products," Shivers continued. "Why waste another tree when we can recycle?"

Due to dry weather conditions, Howard County is currently under a burn ban that prohibits the burning of any combustible material outside an enclosure. The ban is designed to contain all flames or sparks and includes campfires.

Christmas tress can be disposed for free at the landfill, located at 4100 East FM 700, or the compost facility located at the airport on Perimeter Road. Shivers asks that all ornaments be removed from trees before disposal.

The city recycles the Christmas trees by grinding them into mulch and selling it for compost.

"The Christmas trees brought



SHIVERS

Census

Preparations under way to hire count takers and set up assistance centers

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Now that Y2K seems under control, focus changes to Census 2000, and count takers are needed for Howard County.

"Recruitment is going very slow," said Charlene Romero Wurtz, Census 2000 community partnership specialist. "So we're really trying to get that worked up. For Howard County, we're looking at recruiting 356 people to help take the census."

Salary will range from \$9.25 to \$9.75 an hour for census takers, and up to \$11.25 for crew leaders, depending on their duties. Hiring and training will be taking place this month, with special group quarters counts — hospitals, nursing homes, correctional institutions and college dorms — taking place in February.

"Right now, we are in the process of establishing questionnaire assistance centers. These will be places where people can go to get help filling out forms," said Wurtz. "We're considering locations right now and finding volunteers."

Assistance centers are expected to be located at Howard College, Big Spring Area

Chamber of Commerce and one of the local churches.

"We feel that three locations will be enough for it," Wurtz said.

Next up will be the local kickoff for Census 2000.

"Each complete count committee will be doing a kickoff for each county. Right now we are in the process of getting the dates set. We are thinking about coinciding the Howard County kickoff with the Rattlesnake Roundup," said Wurtz.

Grand opening of the "local" Census 2000 office in Lubbock is set for Jan. 12. The regional office is in Dallas.

There is no exact start or end date to Census 2000, said Wurtz.

"About March 7 will start mailing out the actual questionnaires, and hope to get them back April 15-16. Then we will start sending count takers out to homes that have not returned their questionnaires. After that is a 'Be Counted' phase which targets those who have still not received a form. It all goes on pretty much until August," Wurtz said.

Those interested in being hired as a census taker may call Gene Quigley at 263-7013 or 806-785-6782. They will be told when and where to take a 30-minute skills test. The application form also takes about 30 minutes to fill out, according to Wurtz. Veterans who score well on the skills test are given preference.



WURTZ



Christmas may be gone but not long forgotten by Alexandra Galindo as she took a stroll in Comanche Trail Park with her aunt on Saturday afternoon.

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See TRASH, Page 2

MONDAY

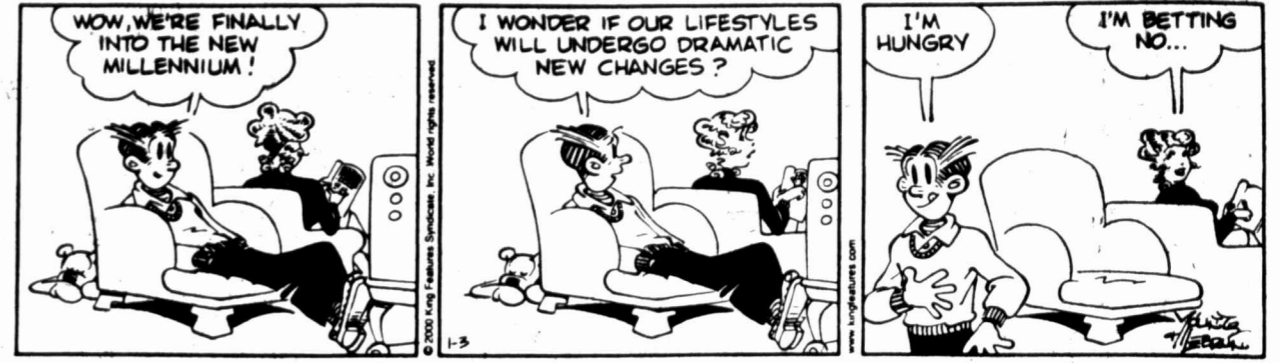
JAN. 3

Table with 20 columns (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, USA, SCIFI, LIFE, TLC) and 7 rows of program listings.

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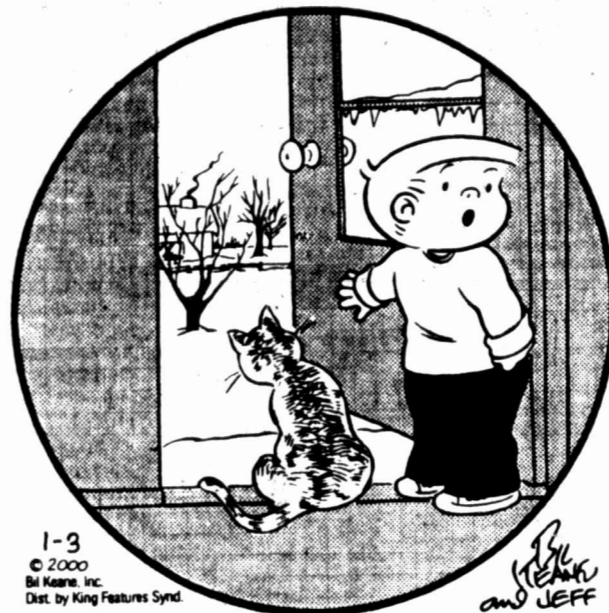
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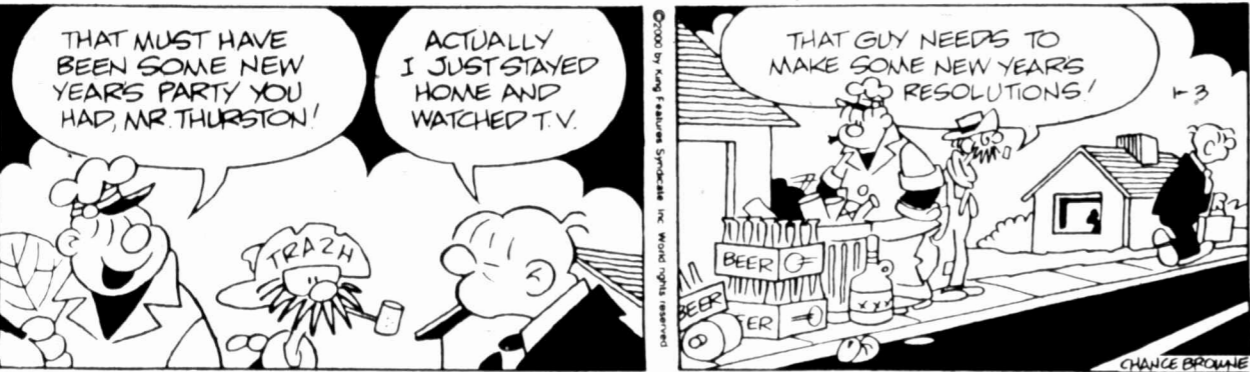
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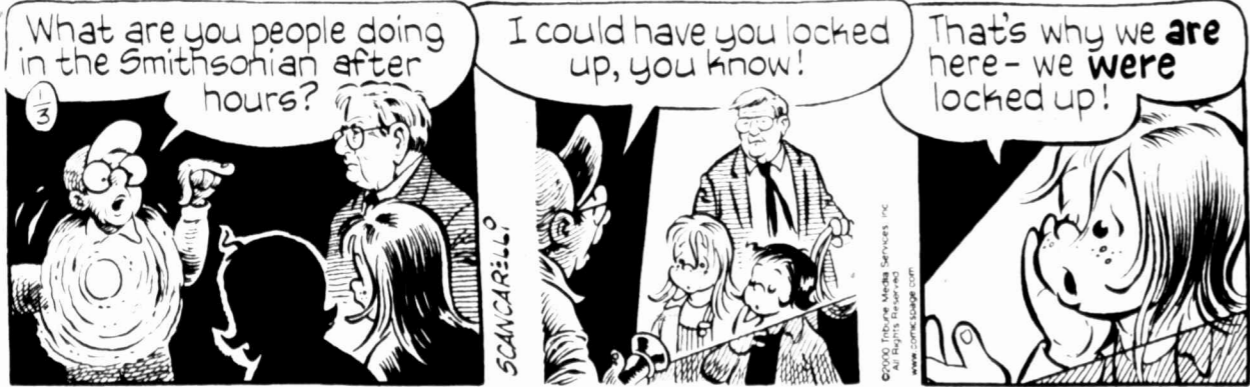
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HI AND LOIS



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BETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Monday, Jan. 3, the third day of 2000. There are 363 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 3, 1959, President Eisenhower signed a proclamation admitting Alaska to the Union as the 49th state. On this date: In 1521, Martin Luther was excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church.

In 1777, Gen. George Washington's army routed the British in the Battle of Princeton, N.J. In 1868, the Meiji Restoration re-established the authority of Japan's emperor and heralded the fall of the military rulers known as "shoguns." In 1892, J.R.R. Tolkien, author of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, was born in Bloemfontein, South Africa. In 1938, the March of Dimes campaign to fight polio was organized. In 1947, congressional proceedings were televised for the first time as viewers in Washington, Philadelphia and New York witnessed some of the opening ceremonies of the 80th Congress. In 1961, the United States severed diplomatic relations with Cuba. In 1967, Jack Ruby, the man who shot accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, died in a Dallas hospital. In 1980, conservationist Joy Adamson, author of "Born Free," was killed by a servant in northern Kenya. In 1993, President Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed a historic nuclear missile-reduction treaty in Moscow.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: ACROSS 1 Diet guru, Jenny; 6 Out of danger; 10 Sketched; 14 Actress Berry; 15 Came to earth; 16 Helper; 17 That'll be the day!; 20 Grande; 21 12/24 and 12/31; 22 Use up; 23 Motorized; 25 No charge; 26 Armed conflict; 27 whiz!; 28 Seldom seen; 32 Timer button; 35 Rice dish; 37 Adriatic or Caspian, e.g.; 38 Unlikelihoods; 41 Whopper; 42 Pricey watch; 43 Poised for action; 44 Engrave; 46 Danson of 'Cheers'; 47 Movie critic; 48 Woe is me!; 49 Shoved; 54 Ariel of Israel; 57 Pop; 58 Baba of 'The Thousand and One Nights'; 59 Not a chance!; 62 Smallest bills; 63 Witnessed; 64 Singing chipmunk; 65 One of the Trumans; 66 First-rate; 67 Leavening agent; 7 Beer choices; 8 Evergreen; 9 Airy; 10 Natty; 11 Harvestable; 12 Barbara of 'I Dream of Jeannie'; 13 one's way (proceed); 18 At all times; 19 Chopping tool; 24 Wide-mouth pitcher; 25 Cartoon feline; 27 Scooped; 28 East of the Urals; 30 Marsh growth; 31 Piece of cake; 32 Vex; 33 Send forth; 34 On ___ (without guarantee); 35 Blanches; 36 Questions rapidly; 39 Plant scientist; 40 Schoolbook; 45 Pester; 47 Took a cab; 49 Myrna of 'The Thin Man'; 50 Glenn and Lennox; 51 Insect stage; 52 ___ Island, NY; 53 Why ___ I think of that?; 54 Snooty individual; 55 Sharpen; 56 Fills with reverence; 57 Dance movement; 60 Modern; 61 Grand ___ Opry.

Saturday's Puzzle Solved grid with words: KWANZAA, STUDENT, CHEEZIT, AMNESIA, JEREZDE, FIANGES, ORO, OWE, ALT, NEBS, BUENA, APSE, ETIQUETTES, LEER, SOCUTE, SIEMENS, OAFS, SARA, USSOHIO, GIANTS, LEES, LAFRONTERA, TECH, YPRES, AWAY, ISO, SIM, PIS, MONDIEU, ALIMONY, AUDITED, DESTREE, STONERS, ESTATES.

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