

MONDAY

September 25, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

TONIGHT: TUESDAY
44°-46° 76°-80°

United Way luncheon set for Tuesday

A few tickets are still available for the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County kickoff luncheon featuring entertainer Janie Fricke.

The luncheon is set for Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church's Garrett Hall. Al's & Son Barbecue will cater the meal. Serving begins at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased before the event by calling 267-5201.

Entities join to observe special week

West Texas Centers for MHMR and Big Spring State Hospital are teaming up to observe Mental Illness Awareness Week Oct. 1-7.

The agencies, which both provide services to mentally ill members of the local community, will host activities to educate the Crossroads Area on the signs and treatment options for the disease.

West Texas Centers serves people in 23 counties with mental illness and mental retardation. Big Spring State Hospital cares for more than 200 patients who need hospitalization throughout 78 counties from the Panhandle to far West Texas.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY
□ Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 East Third, call Janis Dean 267-3068.

TUESDAY
□ Intermediate line dance classes, 9 a.m. Senior Citizens Center.
□ Big Spring Rotary Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.
□ Big Spring Home School group meets 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the Family Life Center of First Baptist Church.

WEDNESDAY
□ Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus Room.
□ Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Center.

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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.

Time to start thinking about Salvation Army doll festival

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

Despite a cool snap the past few days, Christmas seems far away. But for organizers of the Salvation Army's doll festival, the holidays are right around



ALEXANDER

the corner. "It's still too hot for most people to start thinking about Christmas. But we are hoping they will get those creative juices flowing soon. It's important for people to pick up their dolls soon because we need them back the first week of December," said Maj. Jo Alexander, in charge of the doll program this year. The Salvation Army has more than 100 dolls available for the event.

Volunteers pick up the dolls and dress them in costumes of their choice. Some dolls will be saved for an auction and the rest will be given to children in the Salvation Army's Christmas program. Previous doll auctions have generated more than \$1,000, which the Salvation Army uses to help pay for the next year's Christmas programs. In past years, some volunteers have fashioned

unique, creative and elaborate costumes. Some dolls have been returned as Indian princesses, angels with lace wings and cheerleaders holding tiny pom-poms. Themes cover a wide range, including party wear, bridal and even pajamas. Volunteers can create their own costumes or purchase them from a retail store. "We have plenty of dolls available, black and white.

Of course there are six or seven categories they can enter them in. A slip will identify their doll and they will be given instructions on when to bring it back when they pick the doll up," Alexander said. Letters are being sent out to church groups and schools in particular, but anyone can participate. "We're really excited about it. It's going to be a lot

See **DOLLS**, Page 2

For Staulcup, reading opens worlds

Editor's Note: The following article is one in a series on volunteerism in the Crossroads Area.

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Reading is a passion for JoAnn Staulcup, president of the literacy council board of directors, and she wants to help anyone who desires to learn to read. "The last statistics I saw said that 44 percent of Howard County residents were illiterate," Staulcup said. "I love to read. I don't think there is anything worse than not being able to read."

Reading has always been a passion for Staulcup. Even as a young child she remembered reading at the same time she was learning to talk. "The library has always been a favorite place for me to be," she said. As a teenager she first worked in a library and at one time she volunteered at the Veteran's Hospital library, filling in as a librarian until one was found. "Those were the days when everything was on a manual system," she said. Now Staulcup is responsible for coordinating the tutors and students. She



JoAnn Staulcup, left, reviews educational materials to teach adults to read with prospective tutor Shirlie Carille. Staulcup coordinates both the tutors and students for the literacy program.

follows up on new students' progress and the working relationships with their tutors. She keeps account of the statistics of number of hours students are tutored and periodically calls the students to find out their progress. Staulcup also personally interviews the new students, evaluates them and places them with a touter. She admits that some adults are embarrassed about begin illiterate.

"Illiteracy is just a condition. It can be changed," she said. "I can't fly a plane. Being illiterate is not a disgrace, it is just holding them back." Many of the students are functionally illiterate. They have the ability to read to some degree but not enough to understand how to fill out forms or read the want ads, she said. Staulcup and the volunteer tutors attempt to help

students become functional readers. She said they follow the Lawback program that takes students step by step up to a fifth grade reading level. "It is harder for adults to read than children because they have other responsibilities," she said. "It is more of a challenge and sacrifice for adults but also more of a benefit." "We are very proud of

See **VOLUNTEER**, Page 2

City

Public hearing on skate park, swimming pool slated Tuesday

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

Recreational facilities — a skate board park and a community swimming pool — will be the subject of a public hearing when Big Spring City Council convenes at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The hearing will precede the council's regular business, which will include second reading of the budget, tax rate and increased water and wastewater rates. The purpose of Tuesday's hearing is to get public input. Council members are already aware that youth and a number of parents are interested in having a skate board park in Big Spring. More than 50 youth turned out for a council meeting last month to show their support for such a facility.

YMCA director Pete Thiry has indicated his organization would be willing to help with some of the costs of building a skate park. In considering locations, one suggestion has been the swimming pool at Comanche Trail Park. That pool was shut down this

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More than 150 to attend hearing impaired workshop

By **VALERIE AVERY**
Herald Correspondent

More than 150 people from Big Spring and the surrounding area are expected to participate in a Deaf Sensitivity Workshop Tuesday, Oct. 3, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Big Spring State Hospital Allred Building Auditorium. Big Spring State Hospital is sponsoring the workshop, which will be conducted by Advocacy Inc., consultant Dr. Mike Collier. Advocacy

Inc., is a non-profit corporation, which is funded by Congress to protect and advocate the legal rights of people with disabilities in Texas. Dr. Collier has worked on behalf of deaf and disadvantaged individuals in Texas in a number of different capacities during the past 20 years. He became hearing-impaired when he was a teen-ager but converses well with his audience, according to Big Spring State Hospital Director of Social

Work Services Kathy Salazar. An interpreter will be available for audience members who want to ask questions, she said. Big Spring State Hospital — one of eight state-funded psychiatric hospitals in Texas — periodically cares for people, who are deaf or hearing-impaired, Salazar said. "This workshop will help our staff to become more comfortable when they are working with people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing," she said. "We want to make

communication easier between our staff and patients." And Salazar points out that "shouting is not the way to work with the hearing-impaired. When communicating with the deaf or hearing-impaired it is important to face them so they can see your facial expressions and lips." When people with mental illness can't hear, the world can become an even more confusing place, Salazar said. Symptoms such as auditory hallucinations,

more commonly known as "hearing voices" can be much more frightening to the patients when they are deaf. Big Spring State Hospital is sensitive to this special population's needs and the Oct. 3 workshop is part of the hospital's ongoing training, she said. "The hospital contracts with Highland Council for the Deaf for sign language interpreters, and we can use writing to communicate with people who do not use

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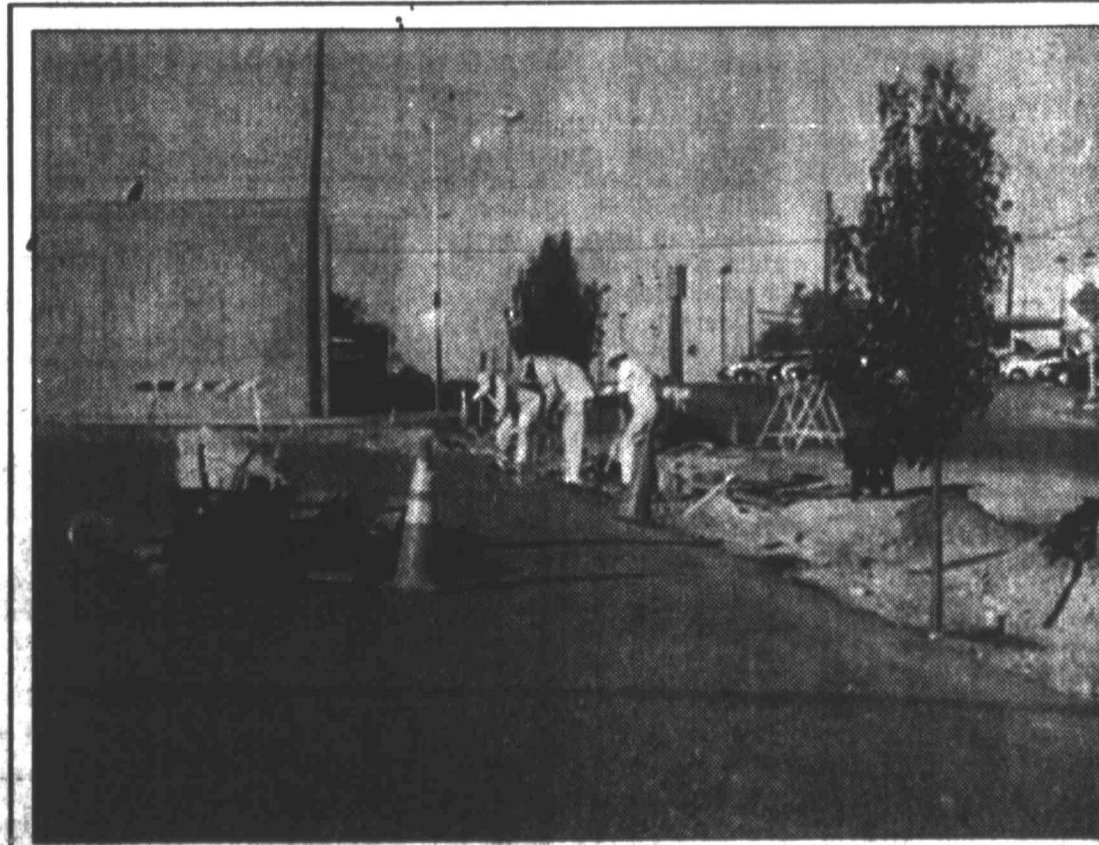
Mitchell County Reunion a day-long homecoming

By **CARL GRAHAM**
Staff Writer

COLORADO CITY — The annual Mitchell County Reunion will be held Saturday at the Civic Center here. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee, juice, cookies and visitation. At noon, a catered meal by David Stubblefield and his crew will take place. The featured guest speaker this year will be Hollis Gainey, who has recently moved back to Colorado City after his retirement with the Lubbock Independent School District where he has been a coach. Gainey was named "Player of the '50s" by the Texas High School Hall of Fame in Waco in 1999. A musical group of Sarah Gohery, Gus Armstrong,

Charles Dunn and Ben Sparks will perform before the noon meal. Mistress of Ceremonies will be Louise Hart Crenshaw of Fort Worth. Preceding the registration, the Colorado City Chamber of Commerce will serve a cowboy breakfast between 7 and 9 a.m. for a cost of \$4 per person. The meal is to be prepared over an open campfire at Kiwanis Park. The Mitchell County Reunion began in the early 1900s when ranch families met at the old Barcroft Hotel. It grew and was known as "Old Settlers Reunion" as well as "Old Timer's" reunion until its name was updated in 1989 to Mitchell County Reunion. People have attended from Florida, California, Arizona

See **REUNION**, Page 2



Inmates from the Wilderness Camp plant trees at the Heart of the City Park. Use of the Wilderness Camp inmates has saved the city thousands of dollars from what the projects would cost to contract out to others.

Couple thinks in-laws visit is about money

DEAR ABBY: My in-laws have invited themselves to stay at our house over a long weekend. They told us the time and day they are arriving — and that their airplane tickets are non-refundable.

My husband and I think they are coming on the pretense of spending our son's birthday with him. They have never come to any of our son's birthday parties before, nor have they called him (or us) on birthdays or any other holidays.

We suspect that we are being used as a hotel, and I am concerned their coldness and indifference will hurt our son's feelings.

Abby, there has been tension between my husband and his family and me ever since we got married. My mother-in-law does not respect anyone's privacy. She has been known to walk into rooms and go through cupboards and drawers she has no business going in.

Do we have to let them stay in our house? — TIREDBEINGUSED

DEAR TIREDBEINGUSED: Bear in mind that your in-laws could be coming to try to mend fences. However, you are under no obligation to have anyone under your roof who isn't welcome.

If you're concerned that the tension could be upsetting for your son, suggest that your in-laws stay at a nearby motel. Offer to make the reservations for them. At that point, you'll find out if their plane tickets are truly non-refundable.

DEAR ABBY: I am six months pregnant and will soon create a registry for baby gifts. I am not planning a baby shower, but would like to have the registry available to those who wish to buy gifts.

How do I let friends and family know I have a gift registry without also inviting them to a shower?

Without seeming rude, how can I let people know they can buy me gifts? It seems the only acceptable way to ask for baby gifts is to throw a party and send your registry card along with the invitations. — MOM-TO-BE

DEAR MOM-TO-BE: To include a gift registry card with an invitation is considered a blatant request for a gift, and any blatant bid for gifts is a breach of etiquette.

Please remember that people don't "owe" you a gift simply because you are about to become a mother. Your friends and family are aware that they may buy you gifts without your having to mention it. Unless you want to appear greedy, say nothing about gifts unless someone asks you what you need for the baby.

DEAR ABBY: When my daughter lived here with her father and me, we always had a hard time getting her to stay home — even for dinner. Now that she has moved out, she's over here every day, even at mealtimes! Without making her mad or hurting her feelings, how can we tell her she doesn't have to visit every single day? — HER PARENTS IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR PARENTS: Your predicament illustrates one of life's ironies: As children grow older, they can't wait

to assert their independence and leave home. However, adult children who have left home for the first time often go into "economic shock" when they start paying for their own food, utilities, etc.

Speak up and begin putting some limits on your daughter's visits back to the nest. Set up one specific time during the week for dinner or a visit. If you don't begin to draw the line, it may be years before you can enjoy your privacy.

DEAR ABBY: My stepson is 18 and living with my husband and me. He is a high school dropout who has been arrested for criminal mischief and theft. He is now out on bail, running up extremely high phone bills calling girls he meets on the Internet.

After several attempts to get my husband to demonstrate tough love, and being met with deaf ears, I finally took it upon myself to cut off our long-distance service to the house. I provided my husband with a 200-minute phone card so he can still call his daughter in Arizona. He is furious with me for doing this "without consulting him," and says I am a control freak. I simply wanted to send a message to his son. Was I wrong in doing this? — HAD IT IN TEXAS

DEAR HAD IT: If you are the sole support of the household, then you were within your rights. However, if you both work and share the bills or he brings home the paycheck, you should have discussed your plan with him first.

Perhaps your husband feels guilty for the way his son has turned out, and that's the reason he has failed to take a firm stand with him. This young man is putting your marriage in danger. You and your husband would be doing your-

selves a big favor to get marriage counseling — and family counseling — until his "boy" is either straightened out or is off to the pokey.

DEAR ABBY: I just finished reading the letter from "Must I Share Everything?" whose husband likes to hang out with her and her girlfriends. May I comment?

I am a 34-year-old woman who is thrilled to have a husband who feels comfortable with my friends. In fact, a couple of weeks ago I had a Pampered Chef party with 25 ladies — and my husband was the hit of the evening! He had a great time and was even nicknamed "Oven Boy" because he was in charge of putting the food in the oven for the demonstrator. I didn't even mind when my friends wanted to go into the kitchen to check out "Oven Boy's buns."

That lady should count her blessings. I know I do every day. After all, doesn't it make sense that your "best friend" should get along with your other friends? — LUCKIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD, MIDLOTHIAN, ILL.

DEAR LUCKIEST GIRL: I agree completely. I'd rather have my friends checking out my Oven Boy's buns than trying to find my Turkey who couldn't relate to any of them.

Abby shares her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "Abby's More Favorite Recipes." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 per booklet (\$4.50 each in Canada) to: Dear Abby Booklets, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

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ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Sept. 26:

Tune in to your visions and let them inspire you. When you look at reality in contrast with what you want, you could often be disillusioned. Know that you can create more if you want it. If you are single, you will often be left dew-eyed by a romantic friend. Just make sure that this person is emotionally available. If you are attached, a child could delight you. Be careful not to let your eye wander too far! VIRGO reads you cold.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** If you stay focused, you can make a long-term desire real. Partners plug into your enthusiasm and want to be part of what is happening. Listen to others, even if they have different opinions than you. Suggestions can strengthen a concept. Emphasize the details as well. Tonight: Celebrate success and living.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** Your mind spins at work. Sit down with an associate or boss, and ideas will flourish. Your ability to solve problems marks your work and life. You gain another's admiration as well as his caring. Use care with a child or loved one. Feelings run high. Know what you want. Tonight: Be your naughty-and-nice self.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** Once you relax, you come up with formidable answers and ideas. Check out an idea on the Internet. It also would not hurt to seek out experts or someone who knows more than you do. Return calls. Accept an invitation. Sign up for a class or workshop. Stay

young through mental growth. Tonight: Happy at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** Keep communication going. You might not be sure how you feel about a loved one. This person might be too good to be true. Be willing to take a risk. You might not agree with another, but you don't need to. Keep asking questions. Let another inspire you. Tonight: Do something special for a friend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Another inspires you, but to do what? Recognize your strength, but look at your reactions when you are with this person. Emphasize making money rather than spending it. Let someone else spend the money! Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** Your sense of humor comes out with a co-worker or someone who plays a significant role in your day-to-day life. Don't underestimate another's influence. What you thought was an excellent idea proves to be just that. Tonight: Just ask.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Realize that you might not be seeing a situation as clearly as you would like. A child or loved one runs circles around you, even if you like to think otherwise. Be realistic about your expectations. You could be stunned by another's revelation. Sit back and think, rather than reacting. Tonight: Be lazy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Aim for what you have been wanting. You might not always express what is on your mind. Use an opportunity to share with another. Bring others together. You find that the more people who gather around you, the happier you are. Tonight: Go for what you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-

Dec. 21) **** Others look to you. You sense what you need to do. You are inspired. Brainstorm with others. Ultimately, you make the right decision. Think through your ideas carefully before acting. Your smile makes a big difference in how another responds. Tonight: Work as late as you need to.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**** Others deal with change in a positive and creative way. Verify the balance of your checking account. Make sure all your facts are correct before you make a money decision. Inquire and seek out other opinions. The more open you are, the more successful you will be. Tonight: Go for different.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** You know how to inspire others. Create more of what you want. You succeed, especially if you talk to someone one-on-one. Think through decisions carefully with a partner. Notice how well you work as a team. Tonight: Be especially loving.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

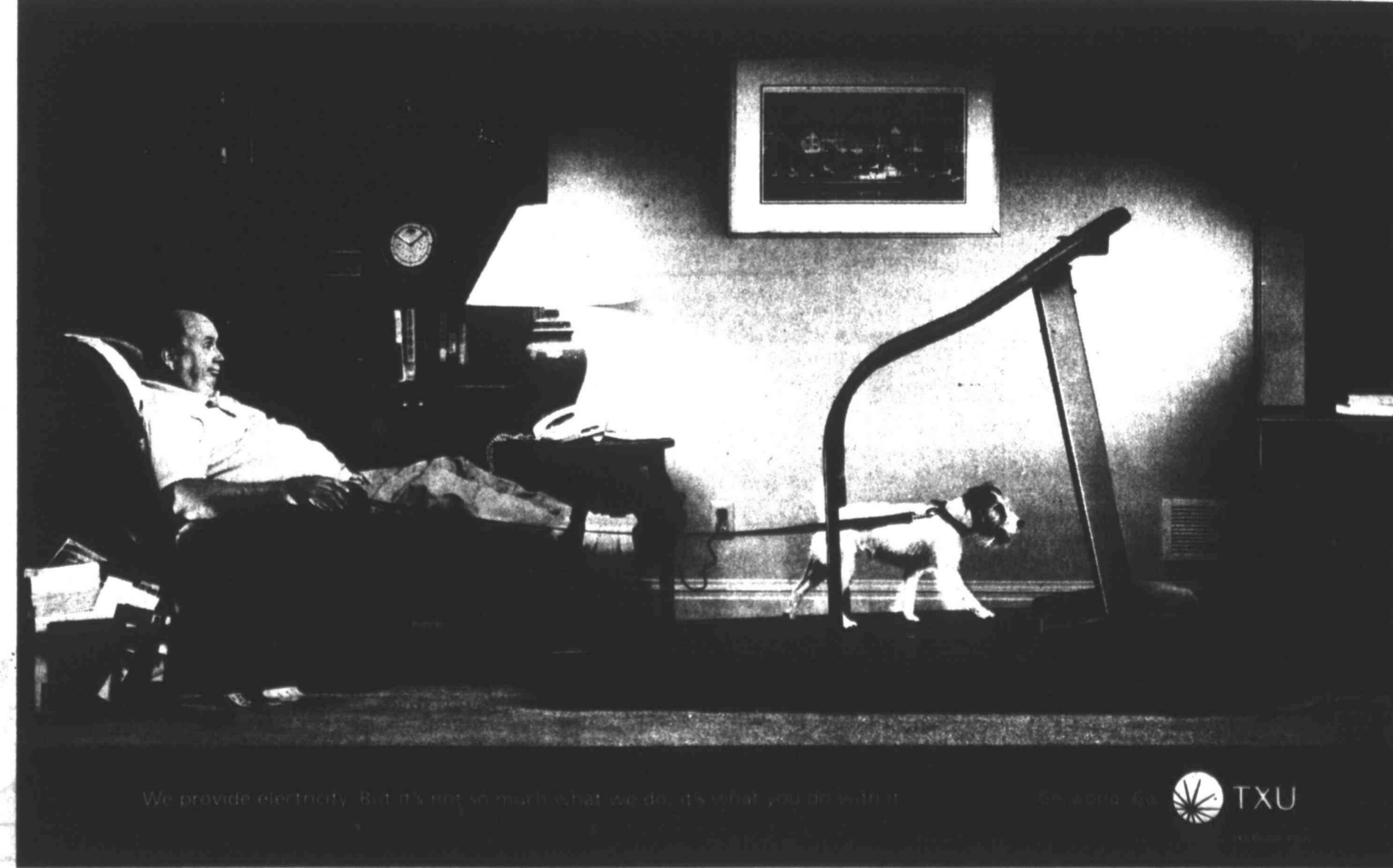
**** Your intuition helps you if you listen to it. A partner might not be able to say what he is thinking. Question others' ideas, but let friends express their opinions. Co-workers clearly want to pitch in; accept their suggestions. Tonight: Accept a dinner invitation.

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Tarot and The Runes, which answer your yes-or-no questions. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

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The Permian Basin Area Agency on Aging
Presents
"A Medicare and You Seminar"
Featuring
JANELL HUGHSTON
A Medicare Beneficiary Specialist with HCFA's Trailblazer Health Enterprises
Date: Thursday, September 28
Time: 9:00 - 12:00
Place: Howard College's Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, East Room
A "free" seminar designed to educate the public on the basics of Medicare; Parts A and B; changes in regulations/coverage for 2001 and eligibility/enrollment. Questions will be taken from the audience. Seating is limited. Resource packets will be distributed.
For more information, call Cindy Oglesby Permian Basin Area Agency on Aging: 563-1061 or 1-800-491-4636 (toll free)
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