

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

MONDAY

May 13, 2002

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT TOMORROW
60°-63° 90°-93°

Farm loan manager sets visits

Farm Loan Manager Wallace Foy will be in the Howard County Farm Service Agency Office on the first and third Fridays of each month from 9 a.m. until noon beginning this week.

Foy will be available to discuss farm loan programs with perspective and existing borrowers. He will receive loan payments, discuss farm and home plans, as well as assistance with various borrower needs.

The Howard County office is located at 302 W. Interstate 20, just east of the Rip Griffin Truck Stop.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

□ Senior Circle, 4 p.m., SMMC. Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. People 50 and over invited to participate.

□ Big Spring Commandery 31 meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 221 1/2 Main. 6:30 p.m. dinner.
□ Big Spring Assembly 211, Social Order of the Beauceant meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 221 1/2 Main. 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

□ Intermediate Line Dance classes, 9 a.m., Senior Citizens Center.
□ Evening Lion's Club meets at noon every Tuesday at the Senior Center in the Whipkey Room.

□ Big Spring Rotary meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

WEDNESDAY

□ Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. at the Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Senior Circle Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics meets at the SMMC cafeteria at 10 a.m.

□ Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. at the Big Spring Country Club.

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4-Hers meeting needs of infants from needy families

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Newborn infants need a soft, protected environment to thrive, but many are born to families that don't have the resources to provide even a basic blanket or clothes for them.



WALKER

A group of local 4-H students is taking part in a state program designed to provide blankets and "sacques," or small shirts, for more than 2,000 newborns this year.

"We had a workshop March 4," said Howard County's Cooperative Extension Agent for 4-H, Katie Walker. "That's when we showed them how. They actually did them at home."

Walker said all the students had a good time with the project.

"They learned to

sew. It's just a community project to where they can actually learn to sew," she said.

Walker said Howard County's 4-H group made 20 sacques.

"It's a little shirt," she said. "They're for indigent care babies. Here in Howard County they're going to use them in the ward there at the hospital."

The project started at the John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth. Tara and Phyllis Price have been hand-sewing items for indi-

gent babies born at that hospital for more than 18 years.

"We are thrilled beyond belief that the concept will be expanded beyond our efforts," Tara Price said. "Many of the babies enter the world with nothing. We are told some are taken home in newspapers. The situation is heartbreaking. One drop of rain can a flood make. How grateful we are that young people such as yourself with the guidance of parents, recognize the destitute and are committed to lending a heart and a

hand."

Howard County 4-Hers participating in the project include, from Big Spring, Robin Anderson, 15; DeAnna Carlisle, 12; Rachael Wheeler, 11; Caitlin Carlisle, 10; Kori Yanez, 11; and Natasha Yanez, 12. From Coahoma, Meagan Kothmann, 14; Tara Sellers, 14; Teryn Bibb, 12; Steve Stiller, 12; Erika Stiller, 10; Ashley Martin, 10; Hannah Weber, 9; and Megan Conley, 11. And from Forsan, 11-year-old Gabby Perez.

Creating your own books

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

COAHOMA — Coahoma Elementary School was all in a commotion Friday, swarming with big, burley oil field workers, parents and grandparents, city officials and even the news media.

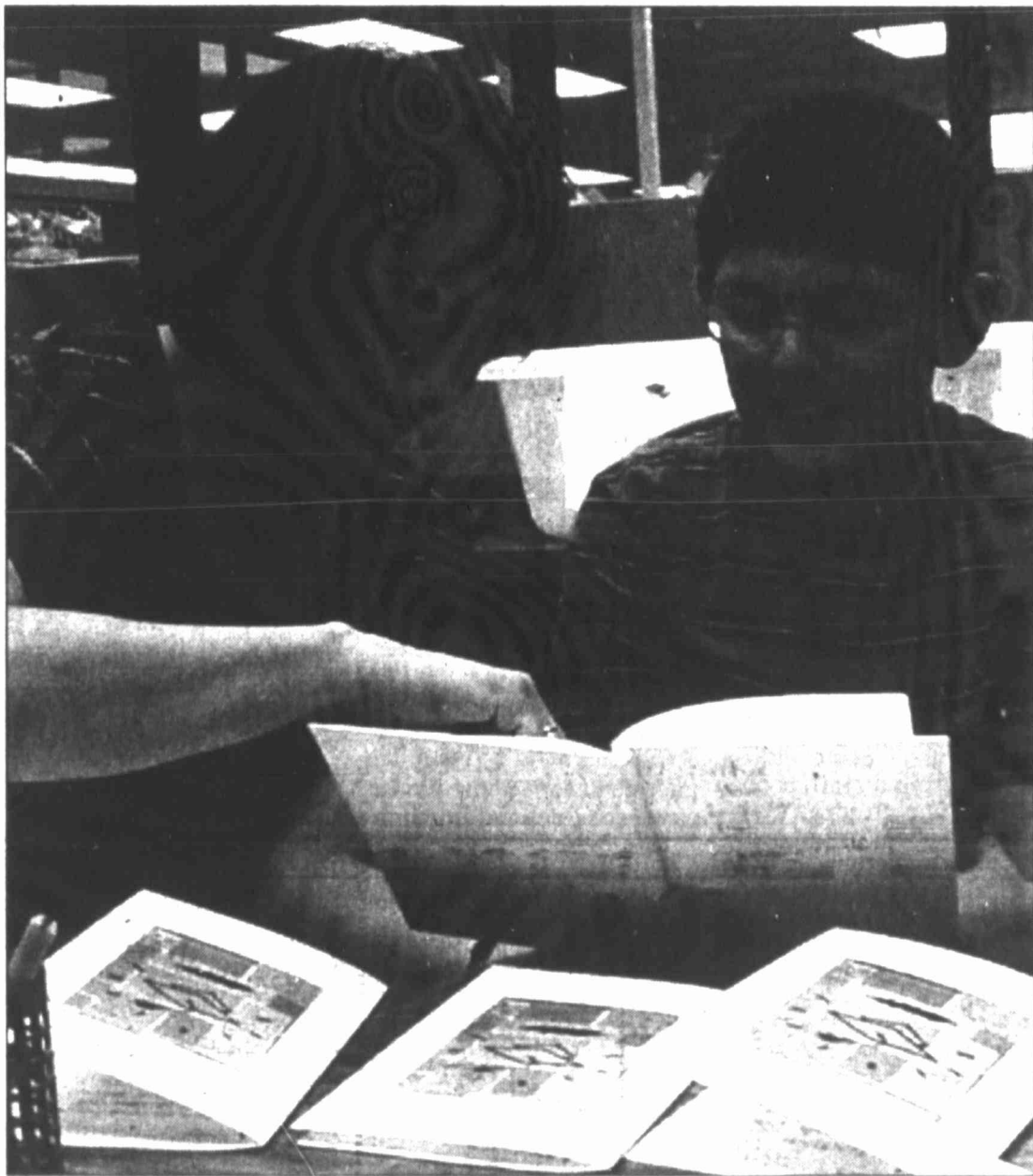
Everyone was there to read with a child or two or three or more. They listened while the youngster show off his or her creation — the child's very own book.

"They come in droves," Debra Barton, the elementary's administrative assistant said. "We get on the phones and send letters out to the parents. When parents come we asked that they read with their child and two others. We call city council members, the sheriff's department, local businesses."

"Grandparents, every teacher, teacher's aides listen," she said. "We beat the bushes and get people to come out."

And they come. Boy, do they come.

"These big burley men came in here last year and they were a little intimidated at first because they didn't know what to do," Barton said. "We just told them to sit down and read to one child. They stayed and stayed; they didn't want to leave."



Coahoma Elementary fourth-grader Geraldito Herrera reads his story to Debra Barton, administrative assistant, Friday during author's day. The approximately 450 students at the school spent the school year creating their own books from an original story, to illustrations, the book title and the dedication page.

See BOOKS, Page 2

Murphy selected for state advisory board

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

A local educator has been selected by his peers to sit on a state committee that will advise State Education Commissioner Felipe Alanis on educational issues.

Murray Murphy, superintendent of the Big Spring Independent School District, was



MURPHY

elected by superintendents from the 35 districts in Region 18 to represent the area on the commissioners' advisory board.

"I feel very honored to be selected to represent Region 18 on the commissioners' committee," Murphy said.

The election was held in April and the official announcement was made Wednesday at the Texas Association of School Administrators meeting for Region 18, Murphy said.

Only 20 superintendents across the state sit on the committee, explained Estella Agurrie, Big Spring ISD assistant superintendent.

"It shows a lot for Mr. Murphy and shows what the other superintendents in this area think of him," Agurrie said.

The board will meet once a month in Austin beginning in August and advise the commissioner on issues from curriculum, to policy and accountability.

"We give input on any educational issues that comes before the state," Murphy said.

"Part of my responsibilities will be to bring any concern from superintendents and Region 18 representatives to the board."

Plans still expanding for 'Funtastic Fourth'

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

It's going to be a Funtastic Fourth!

The Downtown Revitalization Association, a group of merchants based in the downtown area and along Third and Fourth streets, have planned a July 4 festival set in a three-block area downtown.

The "Funtastic Fourth Festival" is centered around Heart of the City Park, and will extend out from there, said Association President Allan Johnson.

The event will include vendor's booths, food booths, entertainment and a battle of the bands.

"It's going to be not just the Heart of the City Park. It will incorporate two or three streets, actually several blocks downtown," Johnson said. "At this point

we have approximately 10 bands with a potential of 15 to 20. We have 10 confirmed right now. We have a fun booth, we have a train, we have a slide, we have a jumping house."

Prizes for the battle of the bands are \$1,000 for first place, \$750 for second and \$250 for third, he said. The winners will also perform for a street dance the night of the Fourth.

"That's going to be on from approximately 8 to 10 that evening," Johnson said.

"We're also going to have a separate gospel event," Johnson continued. "It's going to be going on between when the other bands are setting up and tearing down. The gospel's going to be playing on the other pavilion."

Work on the event is com-

See PLANS, Page 2

Seminar

RSVP to host identity theft presentation

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) will hold a presentation Tuesday on one of the fastest growing crimes in America — identity theft.

"Nancy Gresham of the state Office of Attorney General will give a program she presents all over the state that is especially targeted to seniors," said Nancy Jones of RSVP. "Identity theft is the fastest growing crime. It's scary."

Your identity can be taken from your bank account, social security card or even from your garbage — anything that has a social security number, credit card numbers, or a driver's license number — and it can be months before you discover the program, Jones said.

"With the Internet and technology today, if they have the numbers, they can clear out your bank account and max out your credit cards," Jones said.

Don't throw away junk mail without opening it, Jones warns. Such things may contain pre-approved credit cards, open checks to take advantage of special offers and more.

Not destroying the mail first could cost grief and financial suffering down the line.

"Don't throw any junk mail away unopened," she said. "There are professional trash pickers who will go through your trash. She (Gresham) really stresses destroying everything, shred everything, invest in a shredder," Jones said. "Tear that stuff up."

Another result of losing your identity is being stuck with the actions of the thief, Jones added.

See SEMINAR, Page 2



Letha Duke, left, receives the Torch Bearer of the Year Award from Katie Lara, chief of nursing service at the VA Medical Center. Duke, who has practiced nursing since 1948, received the award during a special Nurses Week Celebration at the hospital that also recognized graduating nurses. Her name will be engraved on the plaque Lara holds.

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Bush signs farm legislation over Republican objections

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush signed a six-year farm bill Monday that expands subsidies to growers, turning aside criticism from fellow Republicans who called the measure a budget-busting step backward in agriculture planning.

"It's not a perfect bill, I know that. But you know, no bill ever is," Bush said with a chuckle. "There's no such thing as a perfect bill. Or otherwise, I'd get to write every one of them."

The bill rains federal largess on farm-oriented states that will be campaign battlegrounds this fall, potentially helping Bush in his quest to win back control of the Senate for the GOP — and giving him a chance to rack up IOUs for his own 2004 re-election effort.

It increases spending by nearly 80 percent over the cost of existing programs at a time when government and private analysts are projecting a budget deficit this year of \$100 billion or more. The president has been calling on lawmakers to show fiscal restraint. The legislation is estimated to cost \$190 billion over the next 10 years, although the programs must be renewed after six.

Bush signed the bill at an unusually early hour — a nod, he said, to farmers who get up early every day to produce America's food. He was flanked by farm-state lawmakers from both parties who hope to benefit politically from the measure.

Bush senior political adviser Karl Rove had told GOP senators recently that Bush would not stage a high-profile signing ceremony to avoid antagonizing conservatives upset with the bill's price tag, a person

familiar with that meeting said.

Word of Bush's signature came minutes before he announced a nuclear arms reduction accord with Russia, further diminishing the attention the farm bill's enactment will receive.

The president had complained that more subsidies would cause overproduction, worsening the plight of farmers. Some Republicans implored him to veto it even after the signing ceremony was scheduled.

"I would love to see him veto it. It is a budget buster," Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., said on "Fox News Sunday."

The bill gives farmers incentive to overproduce, Nickles said, predicting it will eventually force farm prices down. "I don't think that helps farmers in the long run," he said.

Bush signed the bill in the office building adjacent to the White House, before heading to Chicago for GOP fund-raiser.

"This bill is generous and will provide a safety net for farmers, and will do so without encouraging overproduction and depressing prices," the president said.

Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, who attended the ceremony, said the bill "is the economic plan for rural America."

With control of Congress at stake this fall, and Bush eager to maintain his support in the Farm Belt, politics loomed large over the bill.

"You've got a lot of fairly close races in rural America where this farm bill is the most important thing that comes along every five, six, seven years," Mary Kay Thatcher, a lobbyist for the American Farm Bureau Federation, said after the

Senate passed the bill and sent it to the White House last week.

After he signed the bill, Bush had a plum opportunity to tout it in Illinois, a farm state and electoral battleground Bush was visiting to raise money for Republican gubernatorial candidate Jim Ryan.

The farm bill raises subsidy rates for grain and cotton growers and revives a target-price system abolished in 1996 to provide supplemental income. The bill also brings back subsidies for wool and honey producers and provides new payments for milk, peanuts, lentils and dry peas.

There is an 80 percent increase in spending on land-conservation programs that will benefit livestock farms and fruit and vegetable growers who historically get little federal cash.

Support for the 1996 Freedom to Farm Act waned after commodity prices plummeted in 1998 and Congress responded with a series of annual bailouts of the farm economy.

The new bill, which essentially continues those bailouts, initially was expected to cost about \$170 billion over the next 10 years. Weaker-than-expected commodity prices are now expected to cause crop subsidies to rise and push the cost to \$190 billion.

Senate Republicans derided the bill as a multibillion-dollar return to Depression-era policies that were scrapped in the 1996 law.

"We're stepping backward for farmers in this country," said Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas, one of 28 Senate Republicans who joined seven Democrats in voting against the bill.

He does not face re-election until 2004.

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, May 14:

You have an unusual opportunity to get past a constant limitation that could involve a partner or an associate. Think in terms of success and new directions this year. Use your innate talents, and you gain as a result. Creativity peaks this year as you go in a new direction. Harness your talents and let others realize how much you offer. You need to handle your own finances, for better or worse. If single, this year someone new will drop into your life whom you deem as appropriate, if not perfect. Let the sparks of passion heat up your life. If attached, extend yourself more often to your loved one. New beginnings become possible as a result. Do something very special for this person this year, which you know he or she wants. GEMINI 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) ***** Much changes quickly with love and romance. You seem to say the right words at the right moment. Take a strong action toward another, especially if you feel the need to change what lies between you. Be open to more positive exchanges. Tonight: At home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) *** You might have a difficult time allowing another to see a situation as he or she wants. Loosen up and have a direct discussion. Another has an odd way of expressing his or her feelings. Express your caring so that this person hears you. Tonight: Do something special for yourself and someone else.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** Emphasize your

strengths, not your negatives. Your softer side emerges, drawing many toward you. Use your charisma to make it easier for another to say "yes" to your plans. You assume a leadership position. Others hear you loud and clear. Tonight: Happy as a clam.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ** Much occurs behind the scenes. You also must keep another's confidence, if you know what is good for you. Reveal your feelings in such a manner that another might be able to hear you, especially if it involves anger or frustration. Tonight: Do something for yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Your impact might be felt way past your immediate circle. Others will listen and perhaps challenge your ideas. Nevertheless, you will win over others in the long run. In fact, you could present a whole different point of view. Tonight: Where the gang is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *** Pressure gets your attention, though you cannot seem to get everything in balance. Bosses make demands. Your home life takes up your time as well. Key in to the positives and what you can do. Tonight: Work as late as need be.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Touch base with loved ones. You might be taking off before you know it. Try another way. Open up and, at the same time, refuse to take comments personally. Do something very differently. You will find that another comes through for you. Tonight: Hop on the computer.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Don't put off what you can do today, even if you feel as if there is no solution. Don't get into a financial power play. A partner comes through for you. Think twice about what is being offered.

You're unusually strong-willed. Tonight: Go along with another's request.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) *** You easily could start the day askew. Take a deep breath. Consider taking a walk or, if that doesn't work, eating a chocolate bar! Be more generous with those in your life. Give 100 percent. All that ends well is well. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** You could be overly tired. What might be important is to recognize your fatigue and stop pushing yourself. Take the day off, if possible, and dote on yourself. Schedule a massage for later in the afternoon if you can't split. Just know that you're coming to the end of your energy. Tonight: Make it easy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** A friend disappoints you. However, in some way, the door opens to a new beginning if you flow with opportunity. Work with the unexpected, especially if it surrounds a child or loved one. A new romance could be budding if you are single. Tonight: Play away.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *** A boss or someone in charge certainly is contrary. You aren't going to be able to get anywhere by challenging this person. Rather, stay in control and stay in touch with your feelings. You'll turn this situation around. Tonight: Happy at home.

BORN TODAY

Actor Tim Roth (1961), filmmaker George Lucas (1944), singer Bobby Darin (1936)


Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

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- 1,000 Rebate = 27,744 +titl
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1/2 ton GMC Sierra, Extended Cab, Z71's.....	3	IN STOCK
1/2 ton GMC Sierra, Crew Cabs.....	2	ON ORDER
3/4 ton GMC Sierra, Crew Cabs.....	3	IN STOCK
Yukons.....	5	IN STOCK
Yukon XL's.....	3	IN STOCK
Cadillac Escalades.....	2	IN STOCK
Cadillac Escalade EXT's.....	2	IN STOCK

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Buick LeSabres.....	3	IN STOCK
Buick Park Avenue's.....	1	IN STOCK
Buick Rendezvous.....	3	IN STOCK
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Chevy Cavalier



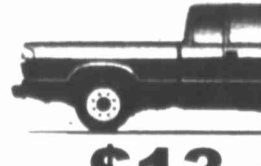
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2002 Olds Silhouette Van



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Chevy S-10



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01 CHEVY S-10	\$9,990
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99 CHEVY 1500 EXT CAB	\$13,950
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00 FORD RANGER XLT	\$16,990
99 CHEVY 1500 EXT CAB Z71	\$16,990
98 CHEVY EXT CAB STEPSIDE 4X4	\$17,950
99 CHEVY 1500 EXT CAB	\$17,980
01 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER	\$17,990
01 FORD ESCAPE YELLOW 26K	\$18,450
01 PONTIAC AZTEK	\$19,450

USED CARS

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97 CHEVY MONTE CARLO	\$7,965
99 MAZDA 626 4DR NICE	\$8,450
99 PONTIAC SUNFIRE 2DR	\$8,655
01 CHEVY METRO LSI	\$8,990
99 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE	\$10,975
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99 MERCURY COUGAR 3JK	\$10,980
01 CHEVY PRISM LSI	\$10,980
99 FORD TAURUS NICE	\$10,980
01 PONTIAC SUNFIRE 4DR	\$10,990
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01 OLDS ALERO 2DR RED	\$12,990
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01 SATURN L200 4DR	\$13,688
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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Ken Dulaney
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Everyone gets kudos for big Relay success

Nothing is impossible. The Howard-Glasscock chapter of the American Cancer Society and hundreds of walkers proved that Friday night and Saturday morning as they combined to make the 2002 Relay For Life the biggest ever in Big Spring.

The Relay's \$130,000 goal was surpassed by more than \$40,000.

In a closing ceremony charged with emotion, Relay for Life Board chairwoman Joanne Forrest told the gathered walkers that this year's event outstripped former Relays in almost every way.

Even better is the fact that operating costs for the Relay shouldn't be any higher than they were a year ago — somewhere between \$10,000 and \$14,000, according to Forrest.

The money raised by the Relay For Life goes directly to the American Cancer Society.

"It comes back to Howard and Glasscock counties in the form of services, education, treatment, all those kind of things," Forrest said. "It goes out first, but it comes back. I can't give you an exact figure, but last year when we raised a whole lot of money, the value of the services that we got back were more."

Relay for Life events will continue throughout the month, and on May 28, the committee will have its total wrap up in Garrett Hall at First United Methodist Church.

Where does Relay for Life go from here? How do you top such success?

"Last year I would have said we couldn't make any more. But the sky's the limit," Forrest said. "This community has embraced Relay for Life like it has no other fundraiser."

So, go ahead Howard and Glasscock counties, take a bow. You've all earned it.

How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail at johnmoseley@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters from our circulation area will be given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to johnmoseley@bigspringherald.com.

Saving is a difficult habit to learn

Former President Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, "Any government, like any family, can for a year spend a little more than it earns. But you and I know the continuance of that habit means the poorhouse."



JIM DAVIDSON

How many people do you know in today's society who spend more than they earn? Our nation's collective massive credit card debt, amassed by individuals, should give you a hint.

From my observation, I think one of the hardest lessons for many people to learn in today's times is how to do without. It's not easy to do without, especially when we see so many people around us who seem to get everything they want. However, this uniquely American pen-

chant, which is often referred to as "keeping up with the Joneses" has pushed many people so far into debt that bankruptcy and financial collapse is a real possibility. The real problem with trying to keep up with the Joneses is about the time we think we get there, they refinance!

I'm fairly conservative. I don't believe in people over-extending themselves, buying things they cannot afford and putting themselves and their family at risk for the future. On the other hand, if people have the means or the wherewith-all, as we say, to have all the things they want and do all things they want to do, I think it's wonderful, because that's the American dream. So long as the incomes are derived from legal means, I wish them continued success.

But we see thousands of people, perhaps millions, who want to live this kind of lifestyle, but they simply cannot afford it because they don't have any money. As a result, many of these people suffer from tension,

stress, high blood pressure and finally, a stroke or heart attack or some other calamity. I'm not talking about the person who takes a calculated risk when it comes to getting ahead financially, because that's what financial success is all about. I'm simply talking about those people who have formed the habit of spending more than they earn month after month, and there's a big difference.

There are many reasons why we see people in our society who want to live "high on the hog" without having the income to support it. It really comes down to the fact that they have never learned the habit of doing without. If you or someone you love happens to fit in this category, here are a few thoughts that may help:

Fret not at small beginnings; the oak began as an acorn; the beautiful rainbow had its beginning in a drop of rain and a ray of light; the muscular athlete had trouble crawling; the university graduate started in first grade; the massive international oil industry

began with a small shallow well.

In our country, it's still possible for most of us to have the things we want, but it may require a change in our thinking and our attitudes. Instead of buy now, pay later, we must save and invest now and then buy later. Most people who have gotten ahead financially don't ever have to touch the principal of their assets, because they meet their monthly obligations from the income derived from investments.

What this kind of thinking and the resulting actions really does is move our possessions from one side of the ledger to the other. It moves them from the things we can't afford to the things we can afford. Doing without is a difficult lesson to learn, but when we do, our financial future will be much brighter. P.S. Is the money you have burning a hole in your pocket?

You may contact Jim Davidson at 2 Bentley Drive, Conway, AR 72034.

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U.S. Representative
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Is Bush administration up to the task?

We seem to be having a hail of news that fails to amaze.

Israel has been attacked by another suicide bomber.

Ariel Sharon, so memorably described by President Bush as "a man of peace," had to rush home to continue his policy of tit-for-tat, which he has so brilliantly demonstrated doesn't work.



MOLLY IVINS

Of course, Sharon is also demanding that Yasser Arafat 'Do Something' about the terrorists. This adds an even more surreal element of black comedy to the tragedy. Assuming Arafat is not himself the head terrorist, as Sharon claims, with what, exactly, is he supposed to do about anything? Sharon has been destroying Arafat's Palestinian Authority for months now and has just finished the last elements. Even assuming he had the will, Arafat has no way. Sharon has put Hamas and Hezbollah in charge. Anyone who is surprised by the result probably thinks Sharon is a man of peace.

Also less than staggering is the news Enron executives were "gaming the system"

during the California "energy crisis" last summer. I like the con they named "Death Star," where they started by deliberately overscheduling the state's power grid, threatening to overload it, so they could charge the state for delivering the "excess capacity" out of state, where the Californians couldn't keep track of it. They got so good at this they finally never even bought the "excess energy" they were charging California NOT to deliver. Isn't that a great scam?

P.J. O'Rourke recently reported in The Atlantic Monthly: "Christopher Buckley and I were having a drink at the Warren Harding Club not long ago, and discussing the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002. It's wonderful, we agreed, that campaign finance is being reformed. The previous system of raising campaign funds was a shocking disgrace. From 1989 to 2001, Enron contributed almost \$6 million to candidates of both parties, and got what for its money? Lawsuits, subpoenas, Justice Department investigations, congressional hearings, and a parade of elected officials vilifying the company name. 'I trust,' said Christopher, 'that the new legislation — whatever it is — will put an end to that kind of thing.'"

Ha, ha, ha. Aren't those conservatives a hoot? What a swell time they must have at these right-wing raves. Yep, the notion that we might need campaign finance reform in this country is certainly a knee-slapper, given poor, over-regulated Enron's hard times. Of course, one could argue that what Enron got for its \$6 million in campaign contributions was:

— the 1992 decision to deregulate energy futures markets;

— the Phil Gramm legislation that exempted key parts of Enron from government oversight;

— the Bush administration's energy policy;

— the Bush administration's decision to drop the effort to go after off-shore money laundering;

— Enron executive Thomas White as secretary of the Army, where he promptly moved to privatize the Army's energy needs;

— a weakened and underfunded Securities and Exchange Commission;

California Gov. Gray Davis said, "About \$30 billion was extorted from this state. Those who claimed that there was no price manipulation here were just plain wrong." But then, he has no sense of humor.

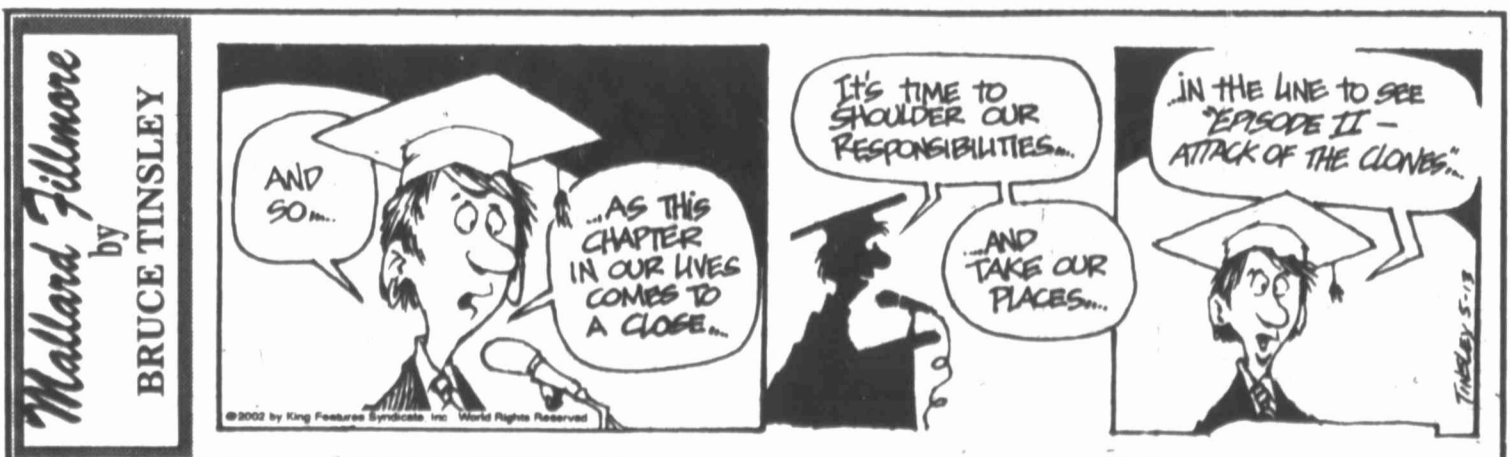
And in yet another development that will not leave you gasping, the Bush administration has pulled us out of the International Criminal Court Treaty, signed by President Clinton but never ratified by the

Senate. Our U.N. ambassador for war crimes issues, Pierre-Richard Prosper, wrote Kofi Annan that the treaty is a "flawed document." You might think we would stand fearlessly and foursquare against war crimes, and in favor of international justice and accountability. But you would be thinking of cases like Slobodan Milosevic. The administration is afraid Henry Kissinger can still be indicted.

This is the kind of thing that gets us a reputation for not giving a flying fig what the rest of the world thinks about anything. "Axis of Incompetence" is how the American Prospect magazine describes Bush's foreign policy.

Harold Meyerson writes, "If the administration's foreign policy apparatus (minus the increasingly isolated Colin Powell) were placed under one roof — Rice, Rumsfeld and Reich; Perle, Wolfowitz, Cheney and Bush — what watchword would be inscribed over the door? No, not 'Abandon hope all hope, ye who enter' ... but an inscription from another immortal, Casey Stengel ... 'Can't anybody here play this game?'"

The Middle East is a terribly difficult situation, which nobody can deny, but there is a creeping sense that the Bush administration is just not up to this problem.



S

IN B

Lady Steers to be held

The Big Steers Boost hold its annual banquet at the Big Spring High School. Tickets, which can be purchased at Athletic Superintendent's Office and Cook in Athletic office.

Coahoma set for tonight

The Coahoma School Athletic Association has been scheduled for tonight in the school cafeteria. Serving beginning with the program at 7.

For more information or to purchase the banquet, contact Diana Collier, Herrera, Bar, Laura Kempe, Wegner.

Forsan All-Star Banquet is

Forsan High School hold its annual Banquet at Thursday in cafeteria.

The banquet, which all high school students who participate in the 2001-2002 season, tickets, which each, can be purchased at the high school reserved by 2223.

Lady Steers camp scheduled

Big Spring Independent District head basketball Jimmy Avery duct the La Fundamental Camp from 8:11:30 a.m. Jur the Big Spring High School gym.

The camp is current first-eight-graders. The camp will girls with an opportunity to develop individual basketball skills one-on-one drills in a positive, national environment.

Avery and his provide camp. Camper divided into age groups. The camp fees will cover including camp T-shirt, photograph and cate.

Send application fees to Avery, Big Spring High School, 707 11th Pl., Spring, 79720.

For more information call Avery at 264-0403.

Big Spring IS physicals

The Big Spring Independent District Department will opportunity for the sixth through grades to receive physicals.

The physicals required for students wish to participate in athletics entering eighth, ninth grades, or those not already had.

The requirement current sophomores undergo physicals new one, according to BSHS Athletic Director Andy Rankin, noted a new requirement must be used physicals. Forms will be available from physicals, trainers, and physicals. Physicals will on Saturday in auditorium. Tickets \$15.

MONDAY

MAY 13

Table with 24 columns representing different TV channels and their programming for Monday, May 13. Columns include Midland, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISH, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, and TLC.

DENNIS THE MENACE



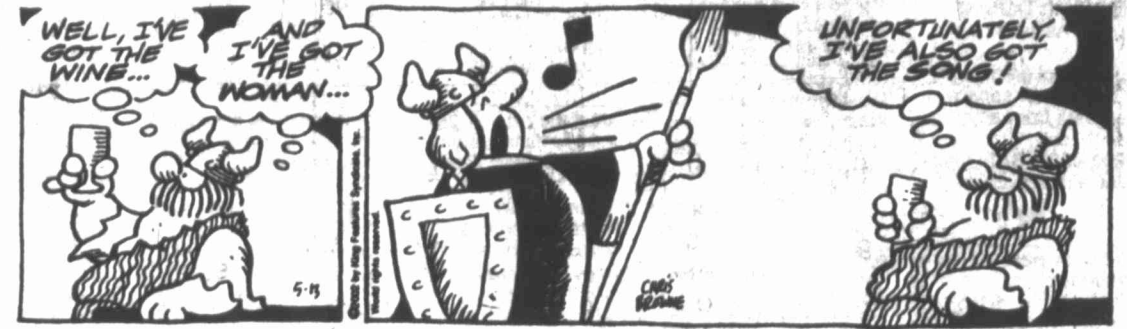
"EVEN IF CARROTS ARE GOOD FOR MY EYES, I THINK I'D RATHER JUST WEAR GLASSES."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"I WIN! I'm the first one ready to go!"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



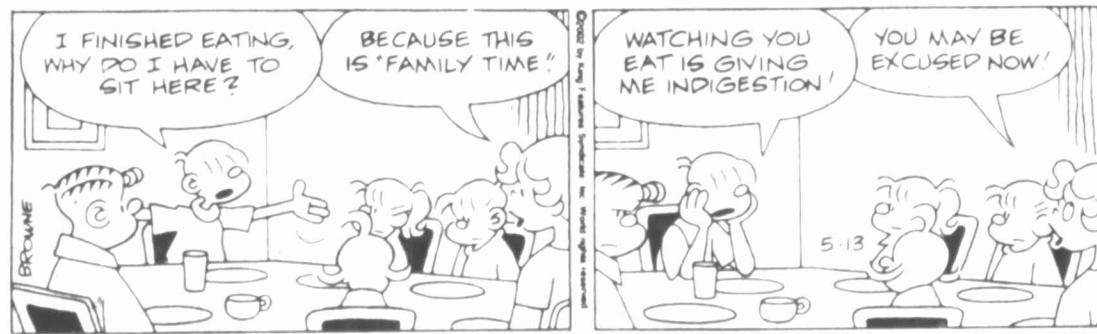
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HI AND LOIS



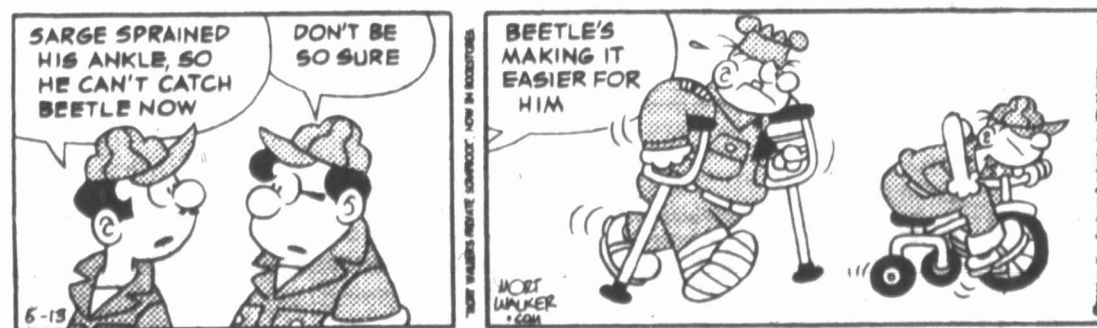
GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Monday, May 13, the 133th day of 2002. There are 232 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 13, 1981, Pope John Paul II was shot and seriously wounded in St. Peter's Square by Turkish assailant Mehmet Ali Agca.

In 1607, the English colony at Jamestown, Va., was settled.

In 1842, composer Sir Arthur Sullivan, who collaborated with Sir William Gilbert in writing 14 comic operas, was born in London.

In 1846, the United States declared that a state of war already existed against Mexico.

In 1917, three peasant children near Fatima, Portugal, reported seeing a vision of the Virgin Mary.

In 1918, the first U.S. air-

mail stamps, featuring a picture of an airplane, were introduced. (On some of the stamps, the airplane was printed upside-down, making them collector's items.)

In 1940, in his first speech as prime minister of Britain, Winston Churchill told the House of Commons, "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat."

In 1954, President Eisenhower signed into law the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Act.

In 1954, the musical play "The Pajama Game" opened on Broadway.

In 1958, Vice President Nixon's limousine was battered by rocks thrown by anti-U.S. demonstrators in Caracas, Venezuela.

In 1985, a confrontation between Philadelphia authorities and the radical group MOVE ended as police dropped an explosive onto the group's headquarters; 11 people died in the resulting fire.

Ten years ago: A trio of astronauts from the space shuttle Endeavour captured a wayward Intelsat-6 com-

munications satellite during the first-ever three-person spacewalk. President Bush announced a \$600 million loan package to help rebuild riot-scarred Los Angeles.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Beatrice Arthur is 76. Critic Clive Barnes is 75. Actor Harvey Keitel is 63. Actor Franklin Ajaye is 53. Singer Stevie Wonder is 52. Basketball player Dennis Rodman is 41. Country singer Lari White is 37. Singer Darius Rucker (Hootie and the Blowfish) is 36. Actress Susan Floyd is 34. Actress Samantha Morton is 25.

Answer to previous puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with answers filled in.

Newsday Crossword

GEOGRAPHICALLY CORRECT by M. Berg

Edited by Stanley Newman

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.