

BIG SPRING HERALD

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We're Always There

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY

January 7, 2003

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT TOMORROW
36°-38° 74°-75°

BRIEFLY

Flu shots

The Texas Department of Health, 501 Birdwell Lane, will be giving flu shots from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays for those age 9 and older. Cost is \$10.

VITA VOLUNTEERS

There will be a five-day training session for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteers and others who are interested in preparing 2002 income tax returns.

The training will be held at the Senior Citizen's Center, 1901 Simler Drive, from Tuesday, Jan. 21, until Friday, Jan. 24, and on Monday, Jan. 27, at 9 a.m. until noon each day.

Persons must pass a test in order to qualify for assisting taxpayers with their returns. All training materials will be provided.

Free tax assistance will be available in February and March at the Spring City Senior Center.

For more information, call Dorothy Kennemur at (915) 398-5522 or e-mail dkennemur@apex2000.net.

HANGAR 25

Hangar 25 Air Museum is asking for the donation of container-grown Christmas trees.

Elderica pines, firs and small-container grown ornamental trees are being accepted. Norfolk pines cannot be used.

The trees will be used for landscaping at the museum, which is located at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

For more information, contact Susan Lewis, museum coordinator, at 264-1999.

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Vol. 99A, No. 53

Find us online at:
www.bigspringherald.com

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.

Furr's files for Chapter 11 relief

No word yet on impact to local restaurant

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Furr's Family Dining in Big Spring continues to remain open a day after the corporation announced it had filed for Chapter 11 relief in the United States Bankruptcy court.

"We expect it to be a smooth process for our customers," said Jill Laird, Furr's Restaurant

Group Inc. director of marketing, from the corporate office in Richardson. "We're still providing the same food and service we've provided for quite some time."

Laird wouldn't comment on what impact the corporate financial situation will have on the 5-year-old Big Spring business and other company restaurants. Instead, she

said the company is keeping comments "close" on the subject at this time.

According to a press release on the company's Web site, www.furr.net, in August 2002, the company announced a serious decline in same store revenues and operating, the result of several factors.

The company lists a

See FURR'S, Page 3



Herald file photo
Furr's Restaurant Group filed for Chapter 11 relief in the United States Bankruptcy Court on Monday. Company officials say that for now, restaurants will operate normally. Pictured above, the Big Spring restaurant.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Limestone Ridge resident David Sandoval and concrete contractor Joe Natividad examine preparations for pouring the parking lot for the clubhouse at the income-controlled apartment complex. Although only about half the buildings are complete, several of the apartments have already been leased.

Limestone Ridge occupancy grows as units are completed

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

"If you build it, they will come."

The words from the movie "Field of Dreams" apply not only to Kevin Costner's baseball field.

They are also appropriate when talking about low-cost, high-quality housing in Big Spring.

That's the lesson being learned by Juanita Flores, apartment manager of the Limestone Ridge Apartment Complex, the income-restricted apartments under construction on the northwest side of the U.S. 87/Interstate 20

"We have nine buildings that were completed and we're going to have the other 10 buildings completed either by the end of this month or by the end of February."



Juanita Flores, apartment manager

intersection in Big Spring.

Flores said that several tenants have already signed leases and some have even moved into completed units at the complex.

"We've had already, like, nine move-ins."

See RIDGE, Page 3

Payless

No plans to close store, corporate office assures

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Rumors that area Payless ShoeSource stores are under the axe seem to be untrue, according to local and corporate spokespersons.

In January 2002, Payless announced that it would close 104 "underperforming" stores nationwide as part of a restructuring plan.

"That program is pretty much behind us," said Tim Reid of Payless' Kansas-based corporate office. "Looking at this list, there is one store out of our many, many

Rumors that local stores are being closed may be fueled by the stores' current "1/2 Off - Everything's On Sale" promotion in conjunction with the year-old cutback story.

Payless stores in the Houston area, and one store in Stafford. Those are the only stores on the

See PAYLESS, Page 3

Helping Hand

Church group putting together directory of charitable agencies

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

A group of civic minded women are staying busy processing data about Big Spring area charity organizations in hopes to give a "Helping Hand" to the community. The directory is aimed at helping the organizations network services.

For close to a year, the First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma

women's prayer group has collected information to create "Helping Hands," a detailed directory of available area charitable services.

"We're still compiling information," said Nancy Jones, project director for Retired and Volunteer Senior Program, the organization helping to support the project.

Once the information is compiled, the group plans to issue the directory on a CD. That information will then be placed on a Web site, which will be updated.

See DIRECTORY, Page 3

FM 700 project due for completion now by the end of January

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Big Spring motorists may soon be using the newly constructed FM 700 ramp and turnaround on the Gregg Street bridge... well, maybe.

"We were supposed to be done now, but that didn't happen, obviously," said Tom Edwards, Texas Department of Transportation project manager. "We're looking to be done by the end of

January, weather permitting."

The project ran into some unforeseen problems.

"We had some extra work in correcting contaminated soil and we lost the month of October due to rain," Edwards said.

The \$1.66 million construction project will eventually have all traffic on the north frontage road heading west only, and traffic on the south frontage road heading east.

An exception is the section of the south frontage road west of U.S. 87. It will remain two-way

See FM 700, Page 3



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Oscar Vega of Reese Construction works on erecting the new turnaround on the Gregg Street overpass. The \$1.66 million project is expected to be completed by the end of this month. The project includes creating a new exit ramp on FM 700 and the turnaround.

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BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

Obituaries

Elva Sykes Isbell

Elva Sykes Isbell, 85, of Ballinger, a former resident of Big Spring, died Monday, Jan. 6, 2003, at Runnels County Rehab and Nursing Center in Ballinger.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2003, at the First Baptist Church in Ballinger.

In lieu of pallbearers the family would like to recognize Bill and Mary Sykes, Bobbie Underwood, Naoma Darby, Dorcie Green, Gene Condra, Frankie and Mary Berryman, Mavis Newby and the Masters Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority.

Mrs. Isbell was born on Aug. 31, 1917, the only child of Lee O. and Ollie Reed Sykes. She married James T. (Theo) Isbell on Dec. 23, 1939, in Ballinger.

With the exception of 14 years spent in Big Spring, she was a life-long resident of Ballinger. She was a member of the First Baptist Church, a longtime member of Texas A&M Mother's Club and Beta Sigma Phi. She worked as a secretary for the Ballinger Independent School District's superintendent, retiring in 1985.

She is survived by her son, Robert G. Isbell of Phoenix; and three grandsons, Jason Robert Isbell of Mainz, Germany, Tyler Kent Isbell of Phoenix and Bradley James Isbell of Austin.

She was preceded in death by her husband and two sons, Terry Isbell and Kent Isbell.

The family requests memorial contributions be made to the Ballinger Carnegie Library or the Ballinger Cemetery Association.

Arrangements under the direction of Rains-Seile Funeral Home in Ballinger.

James C. Johnson

James C. Johnson, 82, of Big Spring, died Monday, Jan. 6, 2003, in a local hospital.

Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Sarah Johnson

Sarah Johnson, 76, of Big Spring, died Monday night at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Services are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Weather

Tonight — Clear. Lows in the upper 30s. Southwest winds 5 to 10 mph.

Wednesday — Sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. Southwest winds 10 to 15mph.

Wednesday night — Clear. Lows in the lower 40s.

Thursday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s.

Friday — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. Highs in the mid 50s.

Saturday — Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of showers. Lows in the lower 30s. Highs in the lower 50s.

Sunday — Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. Highs in the lower 50s.

Monday — Clear. Lows in the upper 20s. Highs in the lower 50s.

Lottery

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery:
4-9-15-17-24

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday afternoon:
3-7-3

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night:
0-8-3

Take note

□ THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals.

If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, we need you.

About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

□ BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers of the children in the community who have been abused and neglected.

For more information on becoming foster/adoptive families call Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669 or 1-800-233-3405.

□ SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity from 8 a.m. Monday to 8 a.m. today:

• **JOEL SANCHEZ HINOSTROZA**, 24, of Fort Stockton was arrested on a charge of driving with an invalid license.

• **SALVADOR NOE ACEVEDO JR.**, 19, of 1001 S. Birdwell was arrested on a charge of theft less than \$50.

• **ASSAULT BY THREAT** was reported in the 600 block of West Third Street.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1000 block of Sgt. Paredes Street. A microwave oven worth \$150 was reported stolen from the home.

• **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 2200 block of South Scurry Street. Stolen from a white 1998 Chevrolet Suburban were a purse or wallet worth \$55, drugs worth \$50 and other items worth \$49. Some \$250 damage was reportedly done to the vehicle.

• **THEFT** was reported at Wal-Mart. A recording worth \$19.78 was reported stolen.

• **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 400 block of South Johnson Street, the 1200 block of South Gregg Street, the 500 block of South Birdwell Lane and the 700 block of West Interstate 20.

• **FIREWORKS** were reported in the 800 block of Lorilla Street.

• **DISTURBANCE OR FIGHT** was reported in the 2500 block of Central Drive and the 800 block of East Third Street.

• **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 2600 block of Fairchild Drive.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following recent activity:

• **JOHN HENRY ZANT**, 37, of 2504 Gunter Drive was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.

• **CHAD FORREST DUNNAM**, 17, of 2500 E. 23rd St. was arrested on a charge of theft \$50 to \$500.

• **JACLYN LANE HISE**, 17, of 1600 block of Jeffery Road was arrested on a charge of theft \$50 to \$500.

• **DALLAS JORDAN**, 32, of 1106 Marijo Street was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance 1 to 4 grams.

• **REBECCA JO BOLTON**, 23, of 1702 E. 15th St. was arrested on a charge of sale of an alcoholic beverage to an intoxicated person.

Support groups

TUESDAY

□ TOPS Club TX 1756 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 5:30 p.m. weigh-in, 6 p.m. meeting, Birdwell Lane Church of Christ, 11th and Birdwell, Call 263-2786 or 263-1340 for more information.

WEDNESDAY

□ AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 615 Settles. Noon Open 12 and 12 Study meeting, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

□ Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.; Women's meeting: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Non-Smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

□ Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue Support Group meets at noon at the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center.

FRIDAY

□ AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 615 Settles. Noon Open Big Book Study Meeting, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

□ Open Discussion Meeting, 615 Settles noon to 1 p.m. Open Podium/Speakers Meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Open Birthday Night No Smoking meeting last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

□ Narcotics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

□ Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to 1 noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

□ Project Freedom, Christian support group for survivors of physical/emotional/sexual and/or spiritual abuse. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241 for dates and times of upcoming groups.

□ Surviving Pregnancy Loss meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library Committee Room. Call 631-4430 for more information.

□ Alcoholics Anonymous meets from noon to 1 p.m. at 615 Settles. Open meeting on fourth floor at VA Medical Center from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Bulletin board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald Features Desk at 263-7331, ext. 238 or email jmoseley@crcom.net.

TUESDAY

Alzheimer's Association, Greater West Texas Chapter, 2 p.m., Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

VFW Post 2013, VFW Hall, 7 p.m., 500 Driver Road.

Howard County Sheriff's Posse, 7 p.m., Clubhouse on Andrews Highway.

American Red Cross, 7 p.m., Canterbury South, 1600 Lancaster.

Big Spring Chapter 67, Order of the Easter Star, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.

WEDNESDAY

Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard County Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Senior Circle, Stretch or Tone, 9:30 a.m., SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER classroom.

Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard County Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Line dancing, 1 p.m., Spring City Senior Center, Industrial Park, 398-5522 or 267-1628.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring Country Club, Driver Road.

Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

Gideon International, B.S. Camp U42060, 7 a.m., Herman's Restaurant, 1601 Gregg.

Coffee Club, 10 a.m., Gales Sweete Shoppe, 1706 E. FM-700.

Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane, 267-6479.

Friends of the Library, noon, Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

Big Spring Main Street, noon, Doc Hardy Memorial Railroad Museum, Second Street and Main.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring Country Club, Driver Road.

American Legion Auxiliary, 6 p.m., 3203 W. Highway 80, 263-2404.

Masonic Lodge 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

Masonic Lodge 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.

Neighbors and Newcomers Club. New members welcome, 268-9335.

FRIDAY

Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad, 267-1037 or 2677281. Bring a lunch.

AMBUCS, noon, Brandin' Iron Inn, 3101 S. Highway 87.

Greater Big Spring Rotary, noon, Howard County Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Spring City Senior Citizen's County and Wester Dance, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Industrial Park. All Seniors are invited.

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

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Hank Bond	Publisher	Ext. 250
John A. Moseley	Managing Editor	Ext. 230
Edwin Veia	Advertising Sales Manager	Ext. 225
Carlos Gonzales	Circulation Manager	Ext. 240
Tony Hernandez	Production Manager	Ext. 255
Dianne Marquez	Business Office Manager	Ext. 255

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Who makes a difference in Big Spring and Howard County?
We want to know who our readers believe are the "Difference Makers" in our community.
To nominate someone to be featured in a new series debuting in the Herald's Jan. 12 edition, mail them to Managing Editor John A. Moseley, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring 79720.
E-mailed submissions may be sent to editor@bigspringherald.com or to jmoseley@crcom.net

Helen Shive, Church of Co. nizations req. create a dire

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Courtesy Photo

Helen Shive, Marilyn Read and Alleen Bohannon, members of the First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma women's prayer group, prepare letters to send to area charity organizations requesting information. The group is in the process of compiling information to create a directory of area charity organizations.

DIRECTORY

Continued from Page 1

ed annually.

"We've met with a church leader and he is giving us some direction on who to talk with about a Web site," Jones said. "We're looking for donations to help with the CD cost."

Area organizations should have received forms through the mail requesting information

in two categories — an overview of services the organization provides and volunteers it needs.

"What age group do they serve?" Jones said, as an example. "The requirements to receive the service. Do they serve only low income residents? What do they need to take with them when they apply for help?"

"The second part is, do they need volunteers?" she said. "We're asking

for a job description they need so we can help with their volunteer needs."

Jones encourages anyone missed by the group to contact her.

"We would love to have the information from them to put in this directory," she said.

To contact Jones, call 264-2397.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Big Spring's Payless ShoeSource doesn't face closure in the immediate future, according to store manager Yolanda Robles. Rumors of impending area closures may have been fueled by the "1/2 Off — Everything's On Sale" promotion.

PAYLESS

Continued from Page 1

list (slated for closure) with a Texas address."

Reid said most of the stores slated for closure were those operating under the Parade name.

Local Payless Manager Yolanda Robles said she hasn't heard any plans for local closures.

"Not our store, no. Not ours," she said. "We

haven't heard anything, and we just had a meeting not too long ago. As far as I'm concerned, everything's OK. I know they're opening stores in other areas. I'm not sure where, but I know Payless is opening stores."

Rumors that local stores are being closed may be fueled by the stores' current "1/2 Off - Everything's On Sale" promotion in conjunction

with the year-old cutback story.

The Payless ShoeSource chain operated 4,492 stores at the end of fiscal year 1999 in the U.S., Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, Saipan and Canada.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

State briefs

Texas receives two F grades

AUSTIN (AP) — Billions of state dollars designated to stop the spread of smoking and prevent tobacco addiction are not being used effectively, according to a report released Tuesday by the American Lung Association.

In a nationwide grade of tobacco control efforts, Texas received two Fs, one D and one A. The report analyzed each state's tobacco control laws, grading performance in youth access to tobacco, smoke-free air, tobacco program funding, and cigarette excise taxes.

Texas' Fs were scored in tobacco prevention spending and smoke-free air. The A was given in youth access policy.

"It's time for the Texas Legislature and Governor (Rick) Perry to put their constituents' health ahead of tobacco interests," said Edward Carter, president of the American Lung Association of Texas.

Carter recommended the Legislature increase the cigarette excise tax by \$1 and allocate additional state funds from the tobacco settlement for a statewide tobacco prevention and cessation program "that will reduce tobacco use, save lives and cut future health care costs."

Cuomo wants to push differences

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo is pushing the Democratic Party to sharpen its differences with the Republicans on issues such as tax cuts and Iraq.

Cuomo, responding to the Democrats' dismal showing last November, said the party lost the Senate and failed to win the House because it didn't offer an alternative to President Bush and the GOP.

"We virtually ceded the terrorism and Iraq issue, and then we didn't make the case on the tax cut because some Democrats had voted for it," Cuomo said in an interview. "You didn't make a really strong case on the domestic issues. Those domestic issues gave Al Gore more votes than George Bush. We could have done that again but we walked away from the issues."

FURR'S

Continued from Page 1

downward trend in the cafeteria industry along with Furr's failure to attract back customers through advertising and cutting prices as some of the factors.

In April 2002, the company increased advertising, cut prices and reduced expenses and encountered some measure of success, but the

release went on to state that those success were not significant to return the company to a sustainable level of operating profit.

According to third quarter reports, the company lost \$8.2 million on sales of \$39.8 million.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

RIDGE

Continued from Page 1

we're going to have the other 10 buildings completed either by the end of this month or by the end of February."

Scenic Mountain Medical Center
1601 W. 11th Place
263-1211

Flores said she's pleased with the early response.

"Because of the holidays and stuff, that kind of freezes it up a little bit," she said. "But as soon as that is over... When you're in the apartment business, you know when the apartment season starts. Right now I've got quite a few applicants and everything."

The application process is not complicated. Flores said.

"They have to come into the office and it takes about 30 minutes of their time," she said. "They fill out the applications here. I don't let them take the applications with them. Because it's affordable housing, we do make sure that all the paperwork is completed correctly. No white-out can be used or anything."

Applicants need to bring a couple of items with them when they apply.

"Basically what I ask for at the initial part of the application is that they bring a picture ID. Anybody over the age of 18 that's going to be signing the lease has to bring a picture ID," she said. "Also anybody who's going to be living in the apartments as occupants, minor children or adults, I need their Social Security cards. We need to have copies of them on file."

Depending on the applicant's income, rent ranges from \$295 to \$366 for a one-bedroom apartment. Rent for a two bedroom, one bath apartment is \$351; for a two bedroom, two bath apartment is \$437; and for a three bedroom, two bath is between \$390 and \$490.

By the end of February, some of the complex's

other features should be complete.

"They're going to install the pool," Flores said. "They're going to finish my clubhouse pretty soon, too, so that I can office out of there. I really can't wait to get started on the clubhouse. Right now, I'm temporarily officing out of Crossroads Housing. They're very nice to let me use one of the back offices that they have."

The complex will also feature an information center with Web-access terminals and assistance with social services.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

FM 700

Continued from Page 1

even after the project is complete.

Drivers used to accessing Wal-Mart and Dunlaps by the south frontage road can use the available turnaround.

According to Edwards, work left on the project includes adding an additional rail on the bridge, running new wiring for signal conduits, adding a new traffic controller and adding additional base material and paving to the ramp.

"Before we open it up we want to make sure the intersection can handle the traffic," Edwards said. "Once a new traffic controller is installed in the intersection we want to make sure it works properly."

Edwards said TxDot is working on an additional project to coordinate the

timing of all the Gregg Street lights from Sgt. Paradez Street to FM 700 to help with traffic flow.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

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Sarah Johnson, 76, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers and Smith Funeral Home.

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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 EditorHank Bond
PublisherBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Finding those who can make a difference

It could be the neighbor next door. It could be a co-worker. Maybe somebody that attends your church or belongs to the same service organization. Here at the Herald, we have no idea who our readers consider the "difference makers" in our community.

We do, however, believe virtually every one of our readers knows someone they believe makes Big Spring and Howard County the kind of place they enjoy living.

On countless occasions in this space, we have praised this community as a whole for its big heart and willingness to help meet the needs of the less fortunate championing any one of a dozen worthy causes.

In the past 12 months, we've seen Big Spring and Howard County mount a successful United Way fund-raising drive, turn out for a record-breaking Heart Walk, continue to make the Howard-Glasscock Relay for Life one of the nation's most productive, contribute the funds needed to stage the Pops In The Park Independence Day Celebration, make the MS Walk a success and literally astound us with their response to a Christmas toy drive in just hours...

The list is almost endless.

There are countless other individual situations that most of us never hear about where one or another of us has made an impact on another's life, many times maybe not knowing what impact we've had on others' lives and how much our efforts are appreciated.

Beginning Sunday, Jan. 12, we want to change that.

The Herald will begin a new series entitled "Difference Makers," featuring stories spotlighting the people that our readers believe make this a special community.

We're seeking nominations from our readers. We ask that you write us about the people who are special in your lives and tell us who should be labeled a "Difference Maker."

Nominations should be mailed to Managing Editor John A. Moseley, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring 79761-1431. Letters of nomination can also be e-mailed to jmoseley@crcom.net or to editor@bigspringherald.com.

Include a daytime telephone number where you can be reached, as well as how the person being nominated can be contacted.

Remember, only you know why the special people in your life are special.

Please, help us direct a little bit of the limelight on those in this community who are truly deserving.

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 to Publisher Hank Bond at publisher@crcom.net; Managing Editor John Moseley at jmoseley@crcom.net or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@crcom.net.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring TX, 79721

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we lead a quiet and sincere life in your word, Lord, always being self-controlled.

Amen

A surgeon's life in West Virginia

Gregory Saracco likes where he lives, but thinks of moving all the time.

He settled in Wheeling, W. Va., 12 years ago mostly for the usual reasons: low crime rate, good schools, a great place for raising a family. But Saracco is a general and trauma surgeon and was also drawn to Wheeling's lush medical environment.

The city's two teaching hospitals meant a complement of top-flight doctors. Active in every specialty, they provided crucial support to Saracco's work, making it possible for him to do his job, and do it well.

"People were very fortunate here," says Saracco. "They didn't have to leave and go to a big city to get cutting-edge medical care." Note the past tense. Wheeling, like all of West Virginia, has in recent years become a medical hell. "It's all," Saracco says, "falling apart."

He is one of 18 surgeons in Wheeling who

asked for 30-day leaves of absence starting Jan. 1 to protest the state's punishing tort system. Out-of-control jury awards in West Virginia, like in many other states, have pushed medical-malpractice insurance rates so high that doctors are fleeing.

The West Virginia version of the Hippocratic oath is: "First, pay crushing insurance premiums, then -- if you happen to still live here -- do no harm."

The number of general surgeons in Wheeling during past two years has gone from 10 to seven, and the possibilities for recruiting new ones are almost nil.

"Everyone knows we have the worst malpractice environment in the nation," says Saracco.

Worse, during the past three years, Wheeling has lost all three of its neurosurgeons. A trauma surgeon like Saracco is the captain of a trauma patient's care, stabilizing him, then coordinating what he needs from specialists, like neurosurgeons. If, that is, there are any.

"If I get a patient with a head injury," says Saracco, "I can no longer give him definitive care." Head injuries go to Morgantown, W. Va., or Pittsburgh, both 50 to 60

miles away. A patient's crucial first hour can be spent in transit. "We're using up the hour," says Saracco.

Settlements from medical-malpractice claims average \$250,000 nationwide. In tort-friendly West Virginia, settlements average \$500,000, and in Ohio County, home to Wheeling, the average is \$1 million. Trial lawyers can gobble up much of that money in contingency fees and expenses, making them the biggest beneficiaries of a system that is wrecking West Virginia health care.

Not so long ago, there were roughly 30 insurers licensed to provide medical-malpractice coverage in West Virginia. By last year, there were two major ones left, and they too were ready to pull out.

The state started extending insurance to doctors, but with premiums higher than any commercial insurance still on offer. Also, doctors must still buy a private policy, called a "tail," to cover claims from work prior to getting the state insurance.

So, West Virginia has preserved an onerous "tax" on practicing medicine. Saracco bought a "tail" for nearly \$100,000 to be paid over three

years. Last year, he paid \$30,000 for his state insurance and \$33,000 more for his "tail." As the state policy matures, the premium for it alone could grow to \$100,000 a year.

West Virginia could solve its tort problem by adopting the sort of reform -- among other things, limiting noneconomic damages and bonanza payouts to trail lawyers -- adopted years ago in California, and pushed at the national level by congressional Republicans.

In the meantime, Saracco has to consider his options. Virginia beckons, where insurance rates are about a third as high. Or Indiana and California, which have enacted reforms. Or another option: A captain in the U.S. Navy Reserve Medical Corps, Saracco could go on active duty and forget all about trial lawyers.

"All I would have to do is to take care of patients," says Saracco. "That looks pretty nice right about now." It, after all, is why he moved to Wheeling in the first place.

(Rich Lowry can be reached via e-mail: comments.lowry@nationalreview.com)

ADDRESSES

• GEORGE W. BUSH

President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

• RICK PERRY

Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, 78711
Phone: (512) 463-2000

• KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922

• CHARLES STENHOLM

U.S. Representative
1211 Longworth Office Bldg.
Washington, 20515.
Phone: 202-225-6605.

• ROBERT DUNCAN

Senator
Texas 28th District
401 Austin, Suite 101
Big Spring, 79720.
Phone: 268-9909; (800) 322-9538; (512) 463-0128.



End federal income tax, print money

What would happen if Congress repealed the 16th Amendment to the Constitution? That is the amendment that created the income tax, and the question is not what would replace that tax, but what kinds of reactions would ensue if it were repealed?

Because no alternative tax, such as a national sales tax, would be in place, how would the federal government raise revenue? Certainly, there are other taxes. There are federal taxes on gasoline and airline tickets and a variety of other taxable instruments. However, none of them -- with the possible exception of the gasoline tax (see below) -- would be positioned to make up the shortfall created by the loss of income tax revenue.

So what would the government do? When the nation was on the gold standard, our money was backed by gold in Fort Knox. So issuing more money in the absence of more gold was theoretically not possible. But the nation has been effectively off the gold standard since the early part of the 20th century, and President Richard Nixon, simply trying to catch the nation up with the times, officially took the nation off

that antiquated standard in the 1970s.

In the modern world, a nation's worth is established by its gross domestic product (GDP), the total of goods and services produced by its people. It is this fact that has allowed nations to print money without creating hyper-inflation. Conversely, various neighbors to the south, such as Mexico, Brazil and Argentina, have showed what happens when a nation outpaces its economic growth by the overprinting of its currency. Inflation soars, and their currencies are devalued on the world markets.

Just the opposite is true when a prosperous nation like the United States remains responsibly within its economic bounds. This is why the United States can print money and borrow money in seemingly vast amounts while keeping inflation in check.

So what would happen if the income tax were ended? The nation would be forced to print more money. This, in turn, would increase inflation, and that increase would be the real tax. For decades, politicians have said it is so: inflation is the invisible tax. But inflation in the absence of an income tax would be viewed as a benign and passive tax as long as money printing was kept under control.

What restraints would there be on Congress to keep money printing under control? The same constraints that exist today. Political pressure forces our legislators to

keep spending in line, and federal spending drives federal taxing -- or money printing. The world markets would value our currency, and inflation would measure the impact of congressional money printing. As the currency declined and inflation rose, budget cutting would be the order of the day, and as the opposite scenario played out, budget increases would be in order.

This leaves the question of progressiveness. Inflation affects everybody, rich and poor, alike, and absent an income tax, what would prevent more and more wealth from being controlled by fewer and fewer people?

First, the income tax purports to be progressive, but reality says otherwise. Middle-income taxpayers actually end up paying more taxes than many wealthy taxpayers because the system is full of holes, preferences and shelters. A sales tax would be more equitable, and one is already in place: the federal gasoline tax. Naturally, it would have to be raised to about \$4.00 per gallon if it were to replace the income tax. Even so, it would be a better tax.

But the best tax is no tax. The wealth of the nation can sustain the government as long as the government doesn't take too big a slice by printing too much money.

Prediction: Replacing the federal income tax with money printing is a whimsical thought whose time may never come even though the logic for it is there.

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Elsewhere

State and national news at a glance

Arlington man goes on trial

FORT WORTH (AP) — The young women never knew each other, but their names are forever linked as two victims of a serial rape and murder suspect who eluded capture for years.

Their families met for the first time Monday at the start of the accused killer's capital murder trial.

"We all just started tearing up when we met," said Kim Kuo, one of Christine Vu's sisters.

Vu, a 25-year-old third-grade teacher, and Wendie Prescott, 22, were found strangled to death in their bathtubs in September 1996 and December 1996, respectively, in the same Arlington apartment complex.

Dale Devon Scheanette, 29, faces the death penalty if convicted of raping and killing Prescott, a teacher's aide in Mansfield. Testimony was to resume today.

Cursing mayor pro tem quits

SEABROOK (AP) — A city councilwoman who swore at police officers during a traffic stop resigned from her post as mayor pro tem, one day before council members were set to vote on whether to remove her from the job.

Councilwoman Margaret Kidd Duncan cursed at two Seabrook officers and a police dispatcher after she was pulled over Dec. 20 for speeding and running a stop sign.

Duncan, 40, is accused of violating the city charter, which states that council members should deal with city employees through the city manager to keep members from giving directives to employees.

Mayor Robin Riley said council members could censure Duncan or start the process to remove her from office at Tuesday's special meeting.

Monday, Duncan admitted her actions were wrong. And while she quit her job as mayor pro tem, she said she would not resign from the council, a post she was elected to in May.

Airport mechanics sentenced

FORT WORTH (AP) — Two airplane mechanics have been turned over to immigration authorities after a federal judge sentenced them to time served for immigration-related violations.

Rosauro Camacho Banaban and Eliseo Cruz Tolentino, both from the Philippines, were convicted Dec. 13 for using forged Social Security cards and phony green cards on an employment form.

The men worked for Sharp Aviation at Fort Worth's Meacham Field, a small facility used mainly by corporations and for student pilot teaching.

Banaban and Tolentino, who have been jailed about six months, were sen-

tenced Monday by U.S. District Judge Terry Means and could be deported.

"There is no allegation that these individuals were involved in terrorist activities or any other nefarious activity," Means said. "But it's important that immigration laws of this country be enforced."

Banaban and Tolentino faced up to five years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine. Jose Salta Maglalang Jr., a third man who was convicted along with Banaban and Tolentino, will be sentenced later.

Cloning claim can't be verified

NEW YORK (AP) — A self-imposed deadline on a genetic testing decision has passed for a company that claims to have produced the first human clone. Still, there's been no DNA proof, and no baby is forthcoming.

The journalist who said he would oversee DNA testing to verify the company's claim said Monday he has abandoned the effort and could not rule out the possibility of "an elaborate hoax."

Officials with Clonaid, the company that announced the birth of the world's first clone on Dec. 27, first promised DNA testing, then backed off. Clonaid said the parents of the 7-pound baby girl have refused to allow it.

"The team of scientists has had no access to the alleged family and, therefore, cannot verify firsthand the claim that a human baby has been cloned," said Michael Guillen, a former ABC science editor who had offered to arrange the testing.

Experts who had been demanding independent verification said Clonaid has never had credibility with the scientific community.

GOP brings convention to NY

NEW YORK (AP) — Republicans say bringing their 2004 convention to New York will give the party a new advantage in the Democratic stronghold and provide a lift to a city recovering from the 2001 terrorist attacks.

The GOP announced on Monday that New York would host its first Republican national convention in 2004. The party also considered New Orleans and Tampa, Fla.

Republicans say the choice sends a message about the 2004 presidential race.

"I think what they're saying here is that 'We believe George Bush can carry New York State,'" said Republican strategist Jay Severin.

Winds rip Southern California

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Strong wind raked Southern California again, fanning wildfires across Malibu hillsides, overturning trucks, and toppling trees

and power poles.

Two deaths were reported: a woman killed when a eucalyptus tree fell on her in San Diego, and a passenger in a car hit by a flying fiberglass pickup truck cover on a freeway in Riverside east of Los Angeles.

Two California Highway Patrol officers who were operating a roadblock near the blaze were hit by a car and seriously injured Monday night, officials said.

Hundreds of homes in Malibu were threatened by a 1,200-acre wildfire in the Santa Monica Mountains. Wind whipped another blaze in brush near Norco, 45 miles east of Los Angeles. An estimated eight homes had been damaged by the fires — three in Malibu and five near Norco.

Police hunt for go-go dancer

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Police hunted for a go-go dancer Monday after a 7-year-old boy in her care was found dead in a plastic storage bin and his two brothers were discovered, beaten and starving, in a locked basement room.

An arrest warrant was issued for the 41-year-old woman police allege beat and burned the three boys, who had been entrusted to her by their mother — her cousin — months earlier.

The surviving boys, ages 4 and 7, were being treated at a hospital for starvation and dehydration and were reported in fair condition. Newark Mayor Sharpe James said one of them had burns from his neck down.

The dancer, Sherry Murphy, has been charged with three counts of child endangerment and could face more serious charges in the case of 7-year-old Faheem Williams, whose death has been characterized by prosecutors as a homicide.

Focus on jobless benefits

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 108th Congress is commencing with Republicans at the helm on both sides of the Capitol hoping to swiftly pass a 13-week extension of unemployment benefits so they can shift their focus to President Bush's plan for stimulating the economy and overdue budget bills.

With Bill Frist of Tennessee poised for his first day as Senate majority leader, Republicans planned to begin Senate debate on the jobless assistance package on Tuesday and hoped to finish by Thursday. House passage could come Wednesday, reflecting a GOP desire to quickly quiet Democratic criticism that Republicans have ignored victims of the struggling economy.

Democrats complained that the GOP

plan was too skimpy and were preparing alternatives that would last longer and cover more people, raising questions about quick enactment.

N. Korea: Sanctions mean war

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A defiant North Korea warned that sanctions against it would "mean a war," as thousands of people rallied Tuesday in the communist capital to support the country's military.

The threat came as South Korea dispatched another top diplomat to Washington Tuesday to seek a peaceful solution to the nuclear standoff. National security adviser Yim Sung-joon is to meet his U.S. counterpart, Condoleezza Rice, and other White House officials.

Yim's mission coincides with talks already underway in Washington among other senior diplomats from South Korea, Japan and the United States.

A day earlier, the U.N. nuclear watchdog gave North Korea a second chance to abandon its suspected weapons program — delaying the possibility of U.N. sanctions.

"Sanctions mean a war, and the war knows no mercy," said the North's official Korean Central News Agency.

Iraq inspectors take to air

BADHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.N. arms experts took to the air Tuesday in their search for evidence of banned weapons, using helicopters for the first time as they began their seventh week in Iraq.

Western journalists were told they could not cover the take-off of the U.N. helicopters since it was from a military base, but the Arabic satellite TV channel Al-Jazeera showed white U.N. helicopters lifting off from Baghdad's Al-Rashid military air base. It said three U.N. aircraft were tailed by two military choppers carrying the Iraqi liaison officers who work with the inspectors.

The helicopters were said to be making an aerial survey, but U.N. officials have said the choppers also would make it easier to swoop down on potential weapons sites.

Today, Iraq's official newspapers reacted with skepticism to President Bush's latest statement suggesting war was not inevitable. Bush said Monday that Saddam has still "got time" to eliminate all chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and long-range rockets.

The daily Al-Iraq said it was too early to say whether Bush's statement represented "a change or a deception."

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IN BRIEF

'Hawk Talk' will air Jan. 8 on KBST
Hawk Talk, a live radio show dealing with Howard College sports, is scheduled to be broadcast on KBST 1490-AM on Jan. 8. The show, which is slated to begin at 9 a.m., will be hosted by Sam Stephens.

Local chapter needs basketball officials
The local officiating chapter is looking for individuals interested in serving as referees for area basketball games this season. For more information contact Adam Rodriguez after 4 p.m. at 263-8731 or contact Mandy Rodriguez during business hours at 264-4135.

BSYBA seasons will begin Jan. 11
The Big Spring Youth Basketball Association is scheduled to tip-off its 2003 season next weekend with play in the 12 & Under division. Teams from throughout the area, including Ackery, Stanton, Forsan and Coahoma are slated to field teams this year. Coahoma will be competing in its own league.

CYBL sign-ups, draft slated for today
The Coahoma Youth Basketball League will hold its final registration session and league draft today in the Coahoma Junior High School gym. Registration is scheduled to be held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The league, which is open to boys and girls in grades 4-6, will begin drafting teams at 7 p.m. The CYBL's original dates for registration and draft were canceled recently due to a flu outbreak that caused Coahoma school officials to cancel classes for several days. For more information about the league contact Monica White at 264-2245, ext. 204.

Quarterback Club will meet Tuesday
The Big Spring Quarterback Club will meet tonight at 7 p.m. in the ATC meeting room to put the final touches on the annual football banquet, which is set for Jan. 23. All persons interested in helping are encouraged to attend the meeting. Tickets for the banquet are priced at \$10 and are available through the club and at Vision Makers. For more information contact Jim Clements at 267-1069.

ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule

Event	Time	Station
Lady Steers at Levelland	7:15 p.m.	1490
Mavericks vs. Boston	6:30 p.m.	1490
Mavericks vs. Clippers	2 p.m.	1490
Lady Hawks vs. Odessa	5:35 p.m.	1490
Mavericks vs. Clippers	2 p.m.	1490
Lady Hawks vs. Clarendon	5:35 p.m.	1490
Hawks vs. Clarendon	7:35 p.m.	1490

Hawks look to remain unbeaten against MV

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor
The Howard College Hawks will have one goal in mind tomorrow when they take to the court in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum: Perfection. The Hawks, who enter the new year ranked 10th nationally by the National Junior College Athletic Association, will try and keep their season record unblemished Wednesday night when they host Mountain View. The game is set to begin at 7 p.m. With a win, Howard College would extend its history-making start a bit farther, pushing their season record to 16-0 heading into Monday's Western Junior College Athletic Conference opener against Odessa. The 15-0 start is among the best

Panola JC sneaks past Lady Hawks

The Howard College Lady Hawks dropped their non-conference finale Monday night, falling to the Panola Junior College, 93-88. The loss ended the Lady Hawks' recent 3-game road swing with a 1-2 record and dropped the team to 9-9 for the season. During the road swing, Howard College faced two nationally-ranked teams — going 1-1. They defeated No. 13 Tyler Junior College on Saturday. The HC women open WJCAC play Monday against Odessa.

“If the other team can't score you have a pretty good shot at winning,” said Davis, who still attends every home game. Davis guided the HC program from 1947-1959 before serving in the Korean War. He later served as the head men's basketball coach at the University of Texas at El Paso. The Hawks have dominated

their opponents through the first 15 games, outscoring foes by almost 30 points. Barring an upset that would rival that of David's win over Goliath, the 16-0 mark should be attainable tomorrow. The Hawks defeated Mountain View earlier this year by a 104-62 margin. According to Howard College records, the team's second-longest win streak was a 14-0 run in 1998 when the Hawks, under head coach Tommy Collins, sailed through their WJCAC schedule. That team finished the year with a 26-6 record and narrowly missed a berth in the national tournament. The Hawks' season ended with a 6-point overtime loss to Weatherford in the WJCAC regional finals



Big Spring junior Leina Braxton scrambles for a loose ball during the Lady Steers' convincing win over Lake View last week in their District 4-4A opener. The BSHS girls will face state-ranked Levelland tonight beginning at 6 p.m. The Big Spring boys will close out their non-district schedule tonight in Pecos.

Carthon joins Parcels' staff with Cowboys

IRVING (AP) — Cowboys coach Bill Parcels made his first moves with his staff Monday, hiring Maurice Carthon as offensive coordinator and keeping Mike Zimmer as defensive coordinator. Carthon was on Parcels' staffs in New England and with the New York Jets. He also played for Parcels as a running back on the New York Giants' two Super Bowl winners. He replaces Bruce Coslet, who was with the Cowboys for just one season, serving under former coach Dave Campo. Zimmer has been on Dallas' staff for nine seasons, the last three as defensive coordinator. The Cowboys had the NFL's 18th-ranked defense in 2002, a year after ranking fourth. Carthon spent the past two seasons with Detroit, last season as offensive coordinator after a year as running backs coach. Before that, Carthon was on Parcels' staff as assistant head coach and running backs coach for the Jets — 1997-00, the first three under Parcels — and running backs coach with New England. He played eight NFL seasons, ending his career in 1992 with Indianapolis after the first seven years with the Giants. He also played in the now-defunct United States Football League with former Cowboy

Campo to interview for spot with Seattle
Former Dallas Cowboys head coach Dave Campo will begin his search for a new job later this week, according to the media in Dallas. Campo, who guided the Cowboys to a 15-33 record in his three years as head coach, was to interview for the defensive coordinator position with the Seattle Seahawks. The Seahawks fired most of their defensive coaches shortly after the year. Campo was fired by Cowboys' owner Jerry Jones last Thursday after his team finished 5-11 for a third straight year.

Herschel Walker. Under Coslet, the Cowboys had the NFL's lowest-scoring offense, averaging fewer than 14 points a game. The team was unable to make the transition to his West Coast-style offense. Parcels was hired Thursday by the Cowboys, who are coming off three consecutive 5-11 seasons and haven't won a playoff game since 1996. He has coached 15 NFL seasons, having taken the Giants, Patriots and Jets from losing records to the playoffs in two years. He had been out of coaching since ending a three-year stint with the Jets after the 1999 season.

Forsan, Coahoma out to make final preparations for 3-2A race tonight

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor
The Coahoma Bulldogs and Forsan Buffaloes will join the Stanton Buffaloes in trying to make any last-minute adjustments needed tonight when they take to the court for their non-district finales. Coahoma, coming off a 60-57 loss to Plains on Friday, is slated to close its non-district campaign tonight with a matchup against the Reagan Co. Owls. Coahoma head coach

Kim Nichols knows the game will be important for his team. “We didn't play very well against Plains,” he said. “We're going to have to get better before Friday's game.” Friday's game for the Bulldogs will be their District 3-2A opener against cross-county rival Forsan. The Bulldogs will begin their final tune-up against Reagan Co. tonight, beginning at 8 p.m.

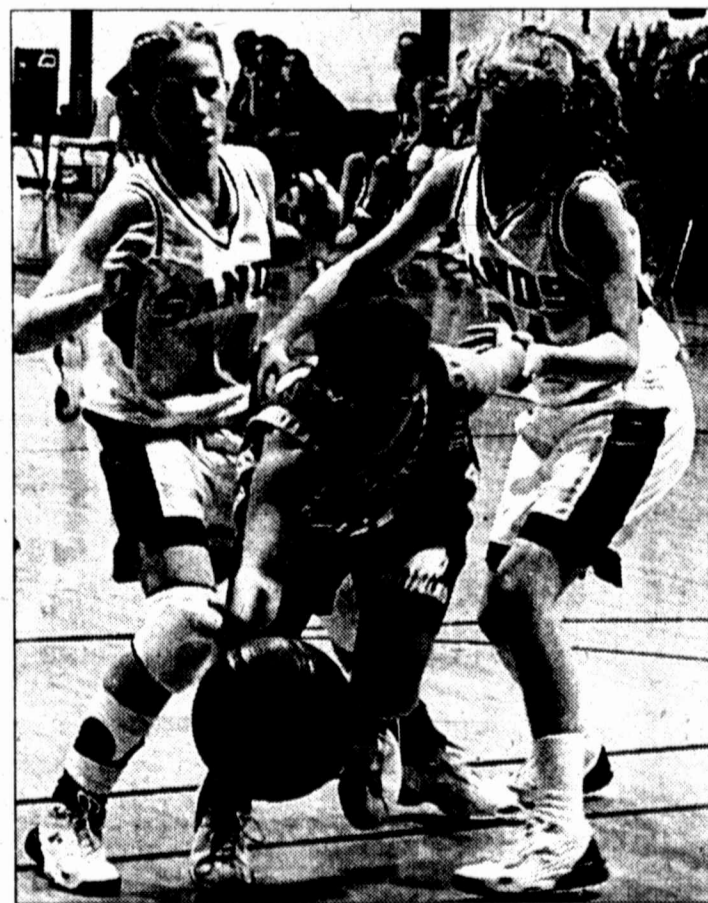
Speaking of the Buffaloes, Forsan is slated to cap its non-district run with a bout against the Grape Creek Eagles. The Stanton Buffaloes will also finish off their pre-district preparations tonight, facing off against Wall. The Coahoma Lady Bulldogettes begin Round 2 of the District 3-2A slate at home tonight against Colorado City. Action begins at 5 p.m. Stanton hosts Forsan tonight at 5 p.m.

Lady Kats open district play against Wink

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor
The Garden City Lady Kats will officially tip off their quest to land a 10th straight district championship tonight against the Wink Lady Wildcats.

The Lady Kats, who enter the game ranked No. 8 in the state's Class A polls, have won district every year since 1992. Garden City is led into the affair by Jessica Hoch and Leslie Jansa. The two

have powered the team to 15 wins this season. The Garden City boys' team will also open District 7-A action against Wink. Games are scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. in the GCHS gym.



Krista Blagrave (left) and T'Auna Reed (right) will lead the Sands Lady Mustangs into a showdown with rival Klondike tonight. Games will tip off at 4 p.m. in Patricia.

Big Spring Herald
Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2002

A Journey
Les

Today, outer depths of the... places. But 20... west of the Mi... Pacific Ocean... by Indians and...

Thon... set... the... alac... way... across...

Jan. 18, 180... in our history... years ago, tha... a letter to Co... to pay for an e... Ocean. Jeffers... Congress said... You will be... Lewis and Cla... celebrate the... from their jou...

Dates to re
January 1... asking for mo... begins.
April 1803... Purchase trea...
May 1804:
September

IRVING (AP) — Cowboys coach Bill Parcels made his first moves with his staff Monday, hiring Maurice Carthon as offensive coordinator and keeping Mike Zimmer as defensive coordinator.

Campo to interview for spot with Seattle
Former Dallas Cowboys head coach Dave Campo will begin his search for a new job later this week, according to the media in Dallas.

Carthon joins Parcels' staff with Cowboys

Quarterback Club will meet Tuesday

ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule

Event	Time	Station
Lady Steers at Levelland	7:15 p.m.	1490
Mavericks vs. Boston	6:30 p.m.	1490
Mavericks vs. Clippers	2 p.m.	1490
Lady Hawks vs. Odessa	5:35 p.m.	1490
Mavericks vs. Clippers	2 p.m.	1490
Lady Hawks vs. Clarendon	5:35 p.m.	1490
Hawks vs. Clarendon	7:35 p.m.	1490

Min
Mini Spy and Sacagaw

Spo



By BETTY DEBNAM

A Journey of Discovery

Lessons From Lewis and Clark

Today, outer space or the deepest depths of the ocean are unexplored places. But 200 years ago, the land west of the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean had been explored only by Indians and fur traders.

Thomas Jefferson wanted to set up peaceful relations with the Native American tribes. He also wanted to find a good way to reach the Pacific Ocean across the continent by water.

Jan. 18, 1803, is an important date in our history. It was on that date, 200 years ago, that Thomas Jefferson sent a letter to Congress asking for money to pay for an expedition to the Pacific Ocean. Jefferson asked for \$2,500. Congress said yes.

You will be hearing a lot about Lewis and Clark this year as we celebrate the many lessons we learned from their journey of discovery.

The Louisiana Purchase of April 1803 almost doubled the size of our country.

Dates to remember

January 1803: Letter to Congress asking for money; planning for journey begins.

April 1803: The Louisiana Purchase treaty is signed.

May 1804: Journey begins.

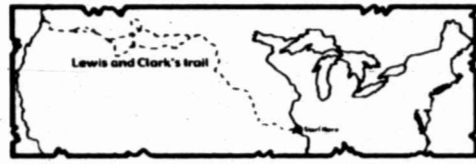
September 1806: Journey ends.

The captains

Meriwether Lewis was from Virginia and had served as Jefferson's private secretary. Lewis studied science, medicine, mapmaking, and about plants and animals before the trip.

William Clark was also from Virginia. He had served in the Army with Lewis. Clark served as co-captain. He was good at mapmaking.

Geography of the West



Starting from a camp near St. Louis, Mo., the explorers traveled up the Missouri River, across the Rocky Mountains and along the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean. They passed through what is now Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, South and North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

The explorers marked key places by longitude and latitude. They talked with Indians and trappers about rivers and other landmarks. Clark used the information to draw maps that for the first time filled out the outlines of what would become the northwestern United States. The expedition took almost 2 1/2 years and covered 8,000 miles.

Journals of the West

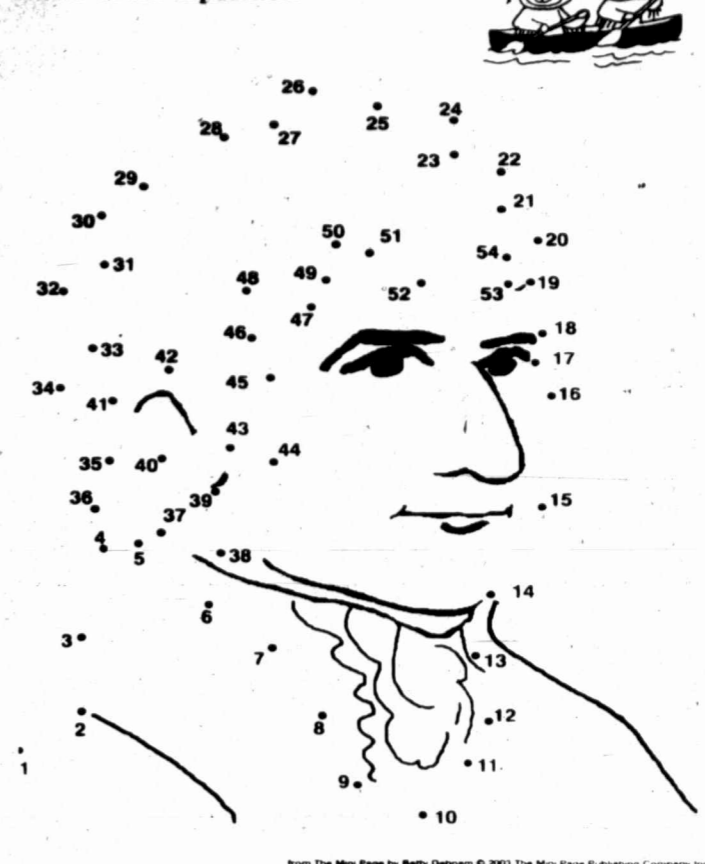


Lewis and Clark used journals to report on their trip. This photo shows a page of the journal from March of 1806, when the explorers were in what is now Oregon. On the page is a drawing of a white salmon trout. Native Americans of the West Coast caught lots of salmon. The fish was an important source of food.

The journals of Lewis and Clark are one of the greatest achievements of the trip. They kept them up-to-date even though they were tired from doing other, backbreaking work.

Clark drew very good maps of where they were. Lewis was a naturalist, or someone who studies nature. He wrote about and drew the animals and plants along the way. For all 28 months of their trip, they wrote and sketched their records of what happened, what they saw and where they were.

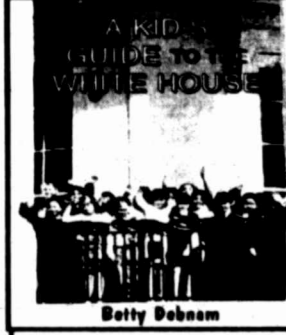
Go dot to dot and color this leader of the expedition.



Rookie Cookie's Recipe Mountain Trail Mix

- You'll need:**
- 1 cup pumpkin seeds
 - 1 cup plain M&M candies
 - 1 cup raisins
 - 1 cup oyster crackers
 - 1 cup salted peanuts
 - 1 cup sunflower seeds
 - 1 cup stick pretzels

- What to do:**
1. Mix all ingredients together.
 2. Put in small plastic bags or one big plastic bag. Enjoy on the trails for a good energy snack.
- Makes 7 one-cup servings.



Kids! You're Invited to the White House

A Kid's Guide to the White House is a terrific behind-the-scenes look at a very special house. Written with the cooperation of the White House Historical Association, the book is full of fun information, photos (some in full color) and puzzles that kids of all ages will enjoy.

To order, send \$4.95 plus \$3.25 for postage and handling for each copy. Send check or money order (U.S. funds only) payable to: **Andrews McMeel Universal, P.O. Box 6614, Leawood, KS 66206**. Please send _____ copies of A Kid's Guide to the White House (Item #2153-2) at \$12.20 each, including postage and handling. (Bulk discount information available upon request.) Toll free number 1-800-591-2097. Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gus Goodsport's Report Supersport: Tony Stewart

Height: 5-9 Birthdate: 5-20-71
Weight: 170 Hometown: Rushville, Ind.
In a sport of speed, Tony Stewart has blazed to stardom. He captured his first stock-car racing championship on the NASCAR circuit this year. In 21 races, Stewart won three events and finished in the top five 15 times. Stewart finished second on the circuit last year. He drives a Pontiac Grand Prix, No. 14, for team owner and former Washington Redskins football coach Joe Gibbs. While devoted to racing, Stewart's hobbies include bowling, boating, fishing, playing pool and listening to music. He also is one of the biggest contributors to Speedway Charities, which gives much of its money to children. Tony has homes in Columbus, Ind., and Cornelius, N.C.

Meet Emma Watson

Emma Watson's first hit movie was also her first time as a professional actress. She was only 11 when she played Hermione Granger in the first Harry Potter movie. Hermione is the brightest student in Harry Potter's class at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Now 12, Emma returns in the role in the second movie, "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets." Emma was born in France. She moved to England when she was 5. She began acting in school plays. She also likes to play sports. Her favorite sports are field hockey; rounders, which is a British game like baseball; netball, a British game like basketball; and sculling.

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

Paulette: How do you catch a monkey?
Pierce: Hang upside down and pretend you're a banana!

Liz: What kind of ice cream do monkeys eat?
Larry: Chocolate chimp!

Gus: How do you record a monkey's voice?
Grace: With an ape recorder!

Lewis and Clark TRY 'N FIND

Words and names that remind us of the Lewis & Clark expedition are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward, both up and down, and diagonally. Some letters are used twice. See if you can find: SHELTER, LEWIS, CLARK, NORTH AMERICA, JOURNAL, WEST, JEFFERSON, TRADE, SUPPLIES, TRIP, LAND, TENT, COMPASS, FISH, INDIAN, EXPEDITION, EXPLORE.

L W E D A R T W O S L A N D
J E F F E R S O N H E A R A S
E S W C L A R K Z E S N O I E
R T R I P N E T N E T L K R B D I
O U F I S H C I W T O U Z N L
L I S S A P M O C E X O A I P
P A V J D Q J H G R E J U Y P
X K A C I R E M A H T R O N U
E E X P E D I T I O N F B R S

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and her friends are pretending to be Lewis and Clark and Sacagawea. See if you can find: fish • canoe • letter E • number 8 • word MINI • letter I • dolphin • letter A • question mark • ruler • letter T • exclamation mark • snake • banana • letter u

Lessons From Lewis and Clark

No waterway to the Pacific

The biggest news Lewis and Clark brought back was bad news. Jefferson had hoped that there was a way to travel by water across the continent. The explorers found that there was no way to do that. The Columbia River flowed into the Pacific. However, to get from the Missouri River to the Columbia, travelers had to cross 340 miles of land, including the high, snow-covered Rocky Mountains.

Finding new animals and plants



The explorers captured a prairie dog like these shown here and shipped it in a wooden cage to President Jefferson.

The explorers had lots of firsts, especially in finding new types of animals and plants. They were the first to report more than 100 animals new to science. They were the first to report prairie dogs. They described how the animals lived in large, underground villages. The list of new animals included the coyote, the white-tailed jackrabbit and the trumpeter swan. They also reported 200 new types of plants and flowers. They sent back samples of these. Today, some trees growing in Philadelphia started from cuttings of an apple tree sent by Lewis and Clark. Indians used wood from these trees to make bows.

Learning about the Indians



One Native American woman, Sacagawea (sah-KAH-guh-WEE-uh) joined the expedition as an interpreter. This statue on the state capitol grounds in Bismarck, N.D., is one of the best known of Sacagawea. It shows her with the baby who traveled on the journey.

Corn raised by the Mandans helped the expedition survive its first winter. The Shoshone and Nez Perce tribes provided the horses needed for overland travel. The tribes greeted the explorers peacefully. Only one fight occurred when some Blackfeet Indians, in what is now Montana, fought with the explorers over horses and guns.

New territory for the U.S.



The explorers built Fort Mandan on the banks of the Missouri River. It has two rows of huts and walls 18 feet high.

At the time of the expedition, the borders of the United States after the Louisiana Purchase ended at the Rocky Mountains. Lewis and Clark were the first explorers to go further west into what was called Oregon country. The expedition allowed the U.S. government to make a claim that the country belonged to the United States. The country, which included the states of Montana, Oregon and Idaho, became part of the United States in 1846.

Go West!

Animals like the beaver, with its valuable fur, encouraged new settlers to move west to seek their fortunes. News of the adventures of Lewis and Clark spread quickly. People read about rivers full of beaver and plains full of buffalo, elk and deer. They heard about rich land good for farming. Even as Lewis and Clark traveled back home, they met canoes of people headed west on the Missouri River.

The Mini Page thanks Larry McClure, chairman of the Education Committee of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, and Jessica Tyree, communications assistant at Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson.

Next week, read all about the state of Delaware from A to Z.

Sites to see: www.monticello.org; www.lewis-clark.org; www.lewisandclark.org.

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BIG SPRING HERALD Tuesday, Jan... BUSINESS FOR SALE... For Sale By Owner... HOUSES FOR SALE... 1209 E. 5th... 1804 HEARN... 2502 Larry... For Sale By Owner... 2BR, 1 bath home... FOR SALE... OWNER 2 bd, 2 t... For Sale By Owner... For Sale By Owner... MOBILE HOME... CASAS MOVIL... ONLY \$500 DOWN... UNFURNISHED APTS... LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX... KENTWOOD APARTMENT... NEE TO E CHI

TUESDAY

JAN. 7

TV schedule table with columns for station (KMID, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, TLC) and time slots (6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30 AM) listing various programs like News, JAG, Frasier, and various movies.

DENNIS THE MENACE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

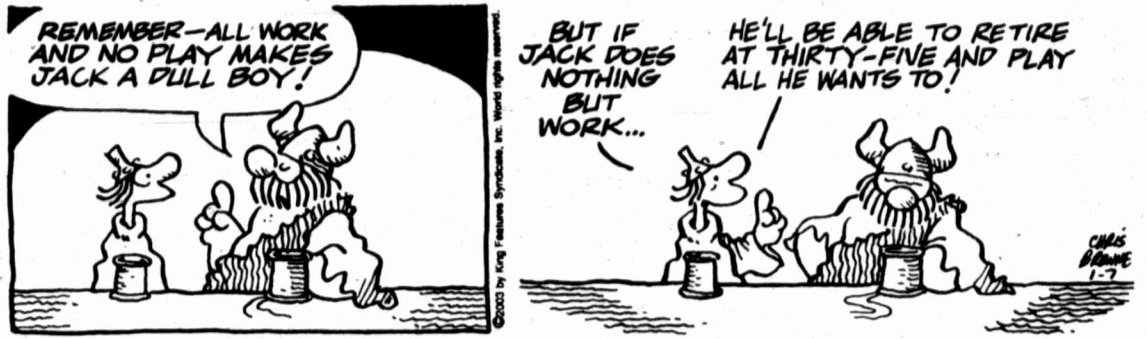
HAGAR



"I GOT MY GOOD LOOKS FROM MY MOM. SHE HAS PLENTY TO SPARE."



In today's "Look at the Comics" Billy expounds on "GARFIELD."



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



GEECH



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



People In the News

The Associated Press.

Everyone wanted seats for "The Eminem Show" in 2002. The rapper's album sold far more than any other... more than 7.4 million copies, according to year-end figures this week from Nielsen SoundScan.

Canadian teen pop singer Avril Lavigne was No. 3 with "Let Go," which sold nearly 3.9 million copies. It includes the hits "Complicated" and "Sk8er Boi."

making sure another woman - who looks an awful lot like Britney Spears - sees it. But he's coy about whether this is a case of art imitating life. He and Spears, 21, broke up this spring after dating for three years.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like IDEAS, BABE, PSST, BULGE, ARIA, UTAH, MAKETRACKS, LATE, LENTO, MET, STIR, COTS, ROMAINO, VERY, ALE, NERO, TRA, STARS, ASNER, ELT, RETRAIN, AXE, DELFT, SONNY, RAP, CHIEF, BREC, GYMS, HARD, NBC, TENSE, ERIE, CARPENTERS, APER, ETAS, ELATE, TOSS, DEMI, TELEX

Newsday Crossword

SWAN SONGS by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS: 1 Former Iranian ruler, 5 Summit, 9 Mideast nation, 14 Mrs. Nick Charles, 15 Continuous change, 16 Not at all with it, 17 In a competent manner, 18 Central points, 19 Video game name, 20 Weavers tune of 1950, 23 Neither's partner, 24 Mach 2 flier, 25 Back part of some books: Abbr., 28 Little devils', 31 Flowering shrub, 36 Soothing substances, 38 Verdi opera, 40 Cow dwelling, 41 Tune popularized by Eddie Cantor, 44 Singer McEntire, 45 Tyne of Judging Amy, 46 Actress Zellweger, 47 Playground ride, 49 Toy on a string, 51 Newspaper execs., 52 Life story, for short, 54 Grasshopper's fable partner, 56 Tune from The Sound of Music, 64 Columbus' home port, 65 Bear's home, 66 Subjective atmosphere, 67 Church platform, 68 Patron saint of sailors, 69 Skillet material, 70 Like Redford's hair, 71 Distort, as data, 72 ___ of the above, 9 Watch-crystal mineral, 10 Poker-pot starter, 11 Compared to, 12 Suffix for million, 13 Troy, New York sch., 21 Raucous Newton, 22 Mathematician, 25 Sci., st. and sgt., 26 Check recipient, 27 West Point freshman, 29 Sunblock ingredient, 30 Asinine, 32 With 63 Down, Xavier Cugat ex, 33 Singer Frankie, 34 Made a mistake, 35 Chile's range, 37 Finance degrees: Abbr., 39 Belafonte song, 42 Astronomer Hubble, 43 Denmark money, 48 On a train, 50 Peter of Peter, Paul and Mary, 53 Stares at, 55 Huck Finn creator, 56 Auction off, 57 Not fooled by, 58 Temporary gift, 59 Columbo portrayer, 60 J'___ (I love: Fr.), 61 It replaced the lira, 62 Author Hubbard, 63 See 32 Down, 64 Chatter

Crossword grid with numbers 1-72 indicating starting positions for clues.