



BIG SPRING

# HERALD

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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

TUESDAY

July 29, 2003

## WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

TONIGHT TOMORROW  
68°-70° 94°-97°

## INSIDE



### STONE ETCHER

People who make inscriptions in stone are rarely at the center of attention or the focus of autograph-seekers. But Andy Del Gallo's recent assignment is an exception — etching five lines onto the steps of the Lincoln Memorial that mark the exact spot where the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. stood to deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech 40 years ago.

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## BRIEFLY

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES HELP

The Martin County Community Fund is urging parents of elementary students attending schools in Martin and Glasscock counties who need assistance with school supplies to call (432) 756-3254 no later than Thursday.

Orders will be processed in the order they are received.

### BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

Free blood pressure checks and foot assessment will be provided by registered nurses at the Northside Community Center from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday.

The Northside Community Center is located at 108 NE Eighth St. For additional information, call the Center at 432-263-2673.

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# County faces deficit, 5-cent tax hike

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Howard County faces a \$900,000 budget deficit for the next fiscal year even if it increases property taxes nearly 5 cents per \$100 valuation.

If implemented, the hike would raise county ad valorem taxes from 47.36 cents per \$100 valuation to 52.23 cents per \$100 while sacking the county's general fund from about \$2.2 million to \$1.3 million.

The boost, which equates to 8 percent more than the effective tax rate, is the largest increase commissioners can implement with-

"It's not looking real good, but maybe we'll be able to muddle through it, but I think we're going to have to tighten up a little more."

County Judge Ben Lockhart



ty will probably have to pay bills from the general fund until tax revenues start rolling in around January — and \$1.3 million might not be enough.

"Generally people don't pay their taxes until maybe January," Olson said. "So we operate three months on carryover funds, our fund balance. That's the reason why I'm saying we're short."

The county requires about \$733,214 to operate for one month, Olson said.

Howard County Judge Ben Lockhart said

out triggering the possibility of a rollback election.

County Auditor Jackie Olson said the coun-

See COUNTY, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins  
Burke's Outlet Manager Martha Loveless takes inventory of the store's back-to-school selections in preparation for the Texas tax holiday, slated to begin Friday. Burkes is located adjacent to the Big Spring Mall.

## Local merchants stock up for annual sales tax holiday

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

As parents all over the Lone Star state race to prepare their children for the coming school year, state government is doing its part to make the event easier on their

wallets.

The fifth annual statewide tax holiday will begin at 12:01 a.m. on Friday and continue until midnight on Sunday. During this period retail merchants will not be required to charge state or local sales

tax on most clothing and footwear that sell for less than \$100.

This year's tax holiday will be the first locally for Burke's Outlet, located in the Big Spring Mall. According to store

See HOLIDAY, Page 3A

## Certified values tumble for county, college, area ISDs

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

Not unexpectedly, area educational districts and Howard County commissioners are being smacked in the pocket-book when it comes to tax revenues this year.

That's assuming, of course, that trustees overseeing the respective districts don't in turn hit taxpayers with an increase. For two entities, the Coahoma and Forsan school districts, turning to the taxpayers is not an option, however.

Howard County Appraisal District officials released certified property, mineral and industrial values on Monday and the overall news is that values are down. However, in some cases the values are not as low as had been forecast and for at least one entity — the Big Spring Independent School District — values have actually increased from a year ago.



TOOMIRE

### CERTIFIED VALUES

Values certified Monday for 2003, compared to certified values for 2002.

Entity	+/-
Howard Co.	-\$21.8 million
Howard College	-\$21.8 million
City of Big Spring	+\$1.2 million
City of Coahoma	-\$187,700
City of Forsan	-\$270,000
Big Spring ISD	+\$2.5 million
Coahoma ISD	-\$21.2 million
Forsan ISD	-\$17.2

Source: Howard County Appraisal District.

Values for Big Spring ISD this year were set at \$625,482. That's an increase of almost \$2.5 million from a year ago.

"What really saved Big Spring ISD was oil field activity northwest of the city," said Keith Toomire, Howard County Appraisal District chief appraiser. "That saved BSISD about \$23 million to offset some of the loss in mineral values."

Toomire said additions to Scenic Mountain

See VALUES, Page 3A

## State hospital to halt adolescent care services

Special to the Herald

Big Spring State Hospital, citing a continued decrease in dollars from the state, will shut down adolescent care services effective Sept. 1.

The change will affect 44 employees and an estimated eight patients,

according to hospital officials.

"The hospital staff is very committed to serving patients in a cost-effective manner. Their continued efforts will enable us to make this budget work," said CEO Ed Moughon. "Every effort will be made to keep our existing work-



MOUGHON

force in place, but as staff vacancies come open they most likely will not be refilled, at least until we can match our expenses to

the allocation's."

Moughon said the hospital has been holding positions open in anticipation of the state cuts, and will be moving adolescent services workers into those.

The Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation — the state agency which oversees state hospitals and

public community mental health services — designated the El Paso psychiatric hospital and North Texas State Hospital-Wichita Falls campus as the two hospitals which will provide psychiatric services to adolescents from West Texas and the

See HOSPITAL, Page 3A

## Commissioners approve computerized law library

To be paid for with lawsuit filing fees

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Howard County defendants, inmates and attorneys will soon have a new high-tech information resource — a computerized Howard County Law Library.

While the law library has been around a while in printed media, commissioners Monday approved the use of funds designated for the facility to purchase a computer terminal and provide online access to Westlaw, a vast legal database.

"It's a first-class law library that will be avail-

able not only for the local attorneys and local elected officials, but for visiting lawyers, jail inmates and the public," said Howard County Bar Association President Charles Myers. "It will be a computer database, an online system where we will have an exceptional amount of legal materials available for a flat monthly fee (paid by the county)."

Myers said Howard County deputies will watch inmates as they use the computer only to

See LIBRARY, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody  
Former Women's Forum members Helen McDonald, left, Edna Faye Smith, Talley Driver and Evelyn Coker pose with Howard County Library Director Hollis McCright, center, after being honored with a plaque. The plaque will be on permanent display in the library. The Women's Forum, which disbanded in 2001, was a study club and civic organization in Big Spring for more than 50 years.

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## Obituaries

## Antonio B. "Tony" Miranda



Antonio B. "Tony" Miranda, 71, of Big Spring died at his home Sunday morning, July 27, 2003, after a short illness. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers and Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with Rev. Richard Regan, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born July 4, 1932, in San Angelo. He was the son of Juanita Balvarena Miranda and Matilde Miranda. He married Patsy Rocha, March 31, 1951, in Rotan. They came to Howard County in 1960. Mr. Miranda was ranch foreman at the Garrett Ranch. He was later a truck driver for H. W. Smith Transport and Saunders Supply Company. He was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife, Patsy Miranda of Big Spring; three daughters, Lupe Miranda of Dallas, Rosa Miranda of Mesa, Ariz., and Isabel Miranda of Big Spring; four sons, Joe Miranda and his wife Bertha of Big Spring, Ralph Miranda of Dallas, Ramon Miranda and his wife Debbie of Grand Prairie and Tony Miranda and his wife Beverly of Rowlett; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one son, Angel Miranda; and one granddaughter, Gloria Carmona.

Pallbearers will be Fred Holguin, Antonio Hernandez, Joe Miranda, Ramon Miranda, Tony Miranda and Ralph Miranda.

Arrangements are by Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

*Paid obituary*

## LaVerna C. Wilcox

LaVerna C. Wilcox, 90, of Big Spring, died on Sunday, July 27, 2003, in a local nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 30, 2003, at the Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with Rev. Ken McMeans, pastor of College Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born on July 28, 1912, in Piasa, Ill., and married Thomas E. Wilcox on July 4, 1947, in Madison, Ill. He preceded her in death on Jan. 10, 1994.

Mrs. Wilcox and her husband came to Big Spring in 1955. She was a beauty operator for over 60 years. She was a Baptist.

Survivors include numerous cousins.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).

## Take note

□ A TRUST FUND HAS been set up to help defray the medical expenses of KBYG News Director Brian Michaelz that occurred from complications of appendicitis. The trust is set up at Woodforest National Bank located in Wal-Mart.

□ 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, you are needed.

About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring.

If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

□ SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy.

Distribution is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

□ BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING counties are in critical need of foster families.

Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected.

For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

□ ANYONE WHO GRADUATED from Forsan High School in the period of 1980 to 1989 is invited to an all 1980s reunion that will take place Aug. 1-2.

A schedule is still in the planning stages, but tentative activities include individual class get togethers on Friday, Aug. 1, and a golf tournament, tennis tournament and "Black and White Ball" on Aug. 2.

Organizers have taken great pains to reach as many students as possible but are still missing many. Any who graduated from Forsan during that time period or knows someone who did, is encouraged to call Carole Madry at 268-9191 or email Rick Hope at [chalfmhr2@aol.com](mailto:chalfmhr2@aol.com).

## Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows near 70. South winds 5 to 10 mph.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 90s. South winds 5 to 10 mph. Wednesday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows near 70.

Thursday...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s.

Friday...Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 70s. Highs in the mid 90s.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s. Highs in the mid 90s.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s. Highs in the mid 90s.

Monday...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s. Highs in the mid 90s.

## Police blotter

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

• MARTIN MORA, 26, of 1401 S. Nolan was arrested Monday on a charge of failure to identify/fugitive from justice and on 10 local traffic warrants.

• VERA TREADWAY, 23, of 1905 Wasson Road No. 52 was arrested this morning on a charge of theft less than \$50.

• ALICIA GARCIA, 21, of 1905 Wasson Road No. 50 was arrested this morning on a charge of theft less than \$50.

• PRISCILLA OBALLE, 23, of 703 S. Lancaster St. was arrested this morning on a charge of public intoxication.

• MARIA LARA, 21, of 1603 Harding was arrested Monday on two local warrants for minor in consumption of alcohol.

• KENDRA HARRISON, 32, of Big Spring was arrested Monday on two local theft warrants.

• ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 200 block of East 17th Street

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF IMPAIRING OR INTERRUPTING PUBLIC SERVICE was reported in the 400 block of State Street. Less than \$1,500 damage was reported in the incident.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:

- In the 1400 block of North Highway 87. Four 16-inch truck tires reportedly sustained \$400 damage.

- In the 1500 block of East Fourth Street. A padlock reportedly sustained \$19 damage while a pump lever sustained \$181 damage in the incident.

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1900 block of South Main Street. Jewelry worth \$790, home electronic entertainment equipment worth \$160 and other items worth \$381 were reported stolen. The electronics and the other items were reportedly recovered.

• DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1000 block of South Main Street, the 3700 block of Connally Street and the 700 block of Tulane Road.

• FIREWORKS were reported on Perimeter Road.

• MINOR ACCIDENT was reported from Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• ARSON was reported in the 2617 Dow Drive. Household goods reportedly sustained \$25 damage in the incident.

## Sheriff's report

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

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 400 block of South Fifth Street. A male juvenile was taken to the office of Justice of the Peace Quail Dobbs in connection with the incident.

• BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported at the Co-Op Gin on North Highway 87.

## Support groups

## TUESDAY

□ The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Texas RV Park meeting room. For more information, call 263-4948.

□ 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.

□ Compassionate Friends support group for families who have experienced the death of a child, 7:30 p.m., first Tuesday February, April, June, August and October, in the Family Life Center, First Baptist Church, 705 W. Marcy Drive, east entrance, south end. Our December program is held the same time and address, but in the chapel, north entrance, east end. Call 267-2769.

## WEDNESDAY

□ The Crossroads Group of Cocaine Anonymous meets at 7 p.m. in the office building between Third and Fourth streets on the west side of Lancaster Street. For more information, call 466-3254.

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

## THURSDAY

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

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

## Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 11-14-21-24-37.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: \$46,697.

Winning tickets sold in: Cisco.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-6-8

## SUMMER SPECIAL

New residents presenting this ad prior to August 25th, 2003 and who qualify for a minimum six month lease on a ONE BEDROOM apartment (subject to availability) may lease at a monthly rate of ONLY \$319 and enjoy the largest, nicest apartment complex swimming pool in town.

## Coronado Hills Apartments

801 W. Marcy • 267-6500

[www.coronadohillsapts.com](http://www.coronadohillsapts.com)

View These Apartment Homes

On Our Website Or Call For

A Mailed Brochure

"Remember...you deserve the best!"

## 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](mailto:jmoseley@crcom.net).

## TODAY

Intermediate Line Dance class, 9 a.m., Spring City Senior Center, 1901 Simler, 267-1628.

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

VFW Post 2013, 7 p.m. All members please attend. For more information call Charlie Gray at 393-5715.

## WEDNESDAY

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

Senior Circle Stretch & Tone, 10 a.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11th Place.

Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

Line dancing, 1 p.m., Spring City Senior Center, 1901 Simler, 267-6966 or 267-1628.

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

Eagles Lodge Ladies, 7 p.m. Eagles Lodge, 203 W. Third St.

## THURSDAY

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

Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060, 7 a.m., Herman's Restaurant, 1601 Gregg St.

Coffee Club, 10 a.m., Gale's Sweet Shoppe, 1712 E. FM 700.

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

Arts, Crafts & Quilting Club, 6 p.m., Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

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

## FRIDAY

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

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

Country & Western Dance, 7:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m., Spring City Senior Center, 1901 Simler. All area seniors are invited.

## SATURDAY

Howard County Scottish Rite, 7:30 a.m., Masonic Lodge, 21st and Lancaster. Breakfast is served.

Hangar 25 Air Museum, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

Heritage Museum, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 510 Scurry.

Potton House, 1 p.m.-5 p.m., 200 Gregg St., a restored historical home. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

Big Spring Shrine Club, 6:30 p.m. for meal and meeting to follow, corner of Goliad and First streets.

Big Spring Squares, 267-7043 or 263-6305.

## SUNDAY

Hangar 25 Air Museum, 1:30 p.m.-4 p.m., McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

## MONDAY

Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association, 11:30 a.m., Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Sr. Circle Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics, 4 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11th Place. People 50 years old and older are invited to participate, call 268-4721.

Evening, Lion's Club, 6:30 p.m., La Posada, 206 Northwest Fourth. St.

DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47, 6:30 p.m., 610 Abrams.

## VALUES

Continued from Page 1

Medical Center and construction of Limeridge Apartments helped the school district.

That wasn't enough to soften the blow for county, Howard County or Coahoma and Forsan schools.

Coahoma ISD took of \$21.2 million, covering 2003 certified values of \$178,752,705 to 2002 values of \$199,975,399. Forsan saw values drop of \$215,329,500 to \$232,563,401.

Coahoma and Forsan tax rates are at the cap, meaning they cannot raise taxes.

But raising taxes is a topic of discussion at a county commission meeting.

## COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

the county's situation looking grim.

"It's not looking good, but maybe we're able to muddle through but I think we're going to have to tighten up a bit more," Lockhart said. "We're going to increase taxes a bit to even come close to breaking even."

Commissioner Kilgore said the commissioners' fault.

## LIBRARY

Continued from Page 1

prevent vandalism, monitor their research.

"One of the purposes of a law library is to provide research materials to inmates in the county well as to the public."

## HOLIDAY

Continued from Page 1

manager Loveless, employees well prepared for anticipated rush.

"We're expecting a crowd," said Loveless. "We've made arrangements to have all our employees work from open to close three days to handle the rush. We've also set up on the back to change clothes, so we're in a rather big end."

Bealls department is bringing in extra for the holiday and is offering additional savings, according to assistant manager Cofferen.

"All of our green and red-tagged items have already reduced in price an additional 33 percent off," she said.

Bealls will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

## Herald clinic



Clinic will cost \$

Private Lessons

Call or e-mail

or to

Phone

Email

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**VALUES**

Continued from Page 1A

Medical Center and the construction of Limestone Ridge Apartments also helped the school district. That wasn't enough to soften the blow for the county, Howard College or Coahoma and Forsan schools.

Coahoma ISD took a hit of \$21.2 million, comparing 2003 certified values of \$178,752,705 to 2002 values of \$199,975,399. Forsan saw values drop of \$17.2 million, comparing 2003 values of \$215,329,526 to 2002 values of \$232,563,401.

Both Coahoma and Forsan ISD tax rates are at the \$1.50 cap, meaning trustees cannot raise taxes. But raising taxes is the topic of discussion among county commissioners,

Taxable Values	2002	2003
Howard County	\$1,134,369,124	\$1,112,503,814
Howard College	\$1,134,369,124	\$1,112,503,814
City of Big Spring	\$411,290,607	\$412,491,025
City of Coahoma	\$14,033,832	\$14,221,534
City of Forsan	\$3,519,840	\$3,249,812
Big Spring ISD	\$618,239,963	\$625,482,156
Coahoma ISD	\$199,975,399	\$178,752,705
Forsan ISD	\$232,563,401	\$215,329,526
PB UWD	\$611,847,457	\$576,963,560

who are facing a loss in taxable values of more than \$21.8 million. A year ago, taxable values were certified at \$1,134,369,124. This year, values have been established at \$1,112,503,814.

"Howard County and Howard College are down due to industrial values,

primarily," said Toomire, who cited declines in equipment at Western Container and Power Resources, as well as deregulation of electric utilities as the primary reasons.

Indeed, local real estate values are up more than \$15 million for the county

and college, but industrial values are down \$37 million and mineral values are down \$10 million.

While the county is considering a substantial tax increase — up to 5 cents per \$100 — the college is planning to offset much of its loss in revenue through increases in tuition and fees.

Meanwhile, certified values came in at \$412,491,025 for the city of Big Spring — a \$1.2 million increase. But Coahoma and Forsan witnessed losses. Coahoma will lose about \$187,702 in taxable values while Forsan will lose \$270,028 — a serious hit for an entity with a base of just \$3.25 million.

*News Editor Bill McClellan can be contacted by calling 263-7331, ext. 235. He can be e-mailed at newsdesk@crcom.net*

**Moore Development board to convene on Wednesday**

**HERALD Staff Report**

It's budget season among local government entities, and Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. is no exception.

Moore's board of directors will meet at 5:15 p.m. Wednesday to discuss and consider the proposed budget for 2003-2004.

Moore, director Kent Sharp declined to comment on the proposed budget until after the

meeting.

The meeting's agenda also includes:

- An executive session to discuss financial information received from Phillips Fabrication and Freecom Inc and to discuss personnel evaluation.
- Discussion and approval of minutes from prior meetings.
- Consideration of June financials and investment report.
- Time for public and board comment.

**COUNTY**

Continued from Page 1A

the county's situation is looking grim.

"It's not looking real good, but maybe we'll be able to muddle through it, but I think we're going to have to tighten up a little more," Lockhart said. "I think we're going to have to increase taxes a little bit to even come close to breaking even."

Commissioner Jerry Kilgore said the budget woes aren't the commissioners' fault.

"Looking at this, it's not anything that we've overspent, it's just the economy, the low interest rate



**KILGORE**

and the fact that everything's gone up so much," he said. "It hits us just like it does all other governmental agencies. It's a whammy."

Part of that whammy is a \$22 million reduction in taxable property values in Howard County.

Driven by a \$10 million

shortfall in mineral values and a \$37 million decline in industrial values — mitigated somewhat by increases in the local real estate and local personal property values — Howard County faces a decline in taxable property value from \$1.134 billion to \$1.112 billion.

The drop equates to about \$110,000 in lost tax revenue at current rates.

Olson said the county's projected income — including tax revenue and other income sources — at the current tax rate would be about \$7.7 million, while projected

expenditures would be about \$9 million.

The tax increase would raise the county's income for 2003-2004 to about \$8.1 million.

"That figure does not include the increase in health care that the commissioners are faced with and it does not take into account any new vehicles that department heads have requested," Olson said.

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

**LIBRARY**

Continued from Page 1A

prevent vandalism, not to monitor their research.

"One of the primary purposes of a law library is to provide legal research materials to inmates in the county as well as to the public," he



**MYERS**

said. "This is the first time in quite a while that the county has been able to accomplish that. I believe it's going to be a first-class operation."

The library, to be located in the basement of the 118th District Court building at 312 S. Scurry, should be in place by Sept. 1, Myers said.

"Probably before that," he added.

The facility will be paid for out of funds earmarked to fund a law library collected as law-

suit filing fees in the county. Local attorneys that want the ability to connect to the law library by dial-up modem interface will also pay a small fee.

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

**HOLIDAY**

Continued from Page 1A

manager Martha Loveless, employees are well prepared for the anticipated rush.

"We're expecting quite a crowd," said Loveless. "We've made arrangements to have all eight of our employees working from open to close on all three days to handle the rush. We've also stocked up on the back-to-school clothes, so we're expecting a rather big weekend."

Bealls department store is bringing in extra stock for the holiday and will be offering additional savings, according to assistant manager Sharon Cofferen.

"All of our green, yellow and red-tagged items that have already been reduced in price will be an additional 33 percent off," she said.

Bealls will be open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

The local Wal-Mart Supercenter is also gearing up for the holiday, and according to Assistant Manager Laura Averette, has made some changes to make getting in and out easier.

"We're expecting a lot of customers over the weekend," said Averette. "We're stocking up on a lot of the traditional back-to-school clothes and we'll increase the number of associates both on the floor and up front. Customers will also have the chance to put items on layaway and keep that tax-free status even after the holiday."

The Wal-Mart staff will be offering more than just tax savings this weekend, with a special day just for the children.

"Saturday, we'll be holding our kid's appreciation day," said Averette. "We'll have some crafts for the kids to do along with their parents, and activities in front of the store throughout the day."

Wal-Mart will also be accepting tax rebate

checks at the registers for payment with no cashing fee. Customers who would like to cash their rebate checks without making a purchase can do so at the service desk at no charge.

Wards Boot, Saddle and Western Wear is stocking up for the event as well, and plans to go a step further to help during the holiday.

"We'll be including the sales tax in the price of items that are qualified for the tax break, but are \$100 or more," said Shane Ward, manager. "We've also got a great selection of boots under the \$100 limit."

C Bar G Western Wear is also gearing up for the special "holiday."

"We have some extra stock coming in preparation," said manager Angela Brown. "We're also going to be open on Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m."

Tax-free items during the holiday include baby clothes, gym suits and uniforms, sweat suits, as

well most pants, shorts and shirts. Work clothes and uniforms are also exempt, as well most types of shoes and boots.

The laws binding the tax holiday do limit the type of items that can be exempted. Taxes will still be charged on athletic and protective clothing, and footwear designed specifically for athletics (cleats, spiked golf shoes, etc.). Items such as clothing and shoe rentals, accessories, jewelry, handbags, luggage and similar items are also taxable.

According to Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn, the annual event has saved Texans an estimated \$150.2 million in sales tax during the past four years. Savings for the 2003 holiday are expected to be more than \$40 million.

*Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net*

**HOSPITAL**

Continued from Page 1A

Texas Panhandle in the future.

During the past legislative session, lawmakers allocated \$2 billion to the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation for FY '04 — a cut from last year's \$2.4 billion budget.

The agency governs and funds 11 state schools and 10 state hospitals and partially funds, through service contracts, 42 local community mental health and mental retardation centers. All state hospitals and community mental health centers are examining changes in services and savings in operational costs to absorb budget reductions.

Big Spring State Hospital — one of Big Spring's major employers — expects a loss of approximately \$2.5 million in overall funding compared to the previous year's budget. The decision to consolidate the hospital's adolescent services in El Paso and Wichita Falls is an effort to maximize the funds available for hospital services, Moughon said.

The number of adolescent referrals has been dropping each year for the past seven or eight years. Better community treatment systems, improved medications, and alternative private psychiatric hospital resources in the West Texas and Panhandle areas have contributed to the decline in this area of state hospital business, Moughon said.

Three years ago, Big

Spring State Hospital served about 18 adolescents on a daily basis. That number has since dwindled to about eight.

The hospital will integrate existing personnel from adolescent services into adult treatment areas. To address the reduced budget allocation for the next two years, hospital leaders are continuing cost reduction plans put in place this past year.

Moughon said Big Spring State Hospital officials are looking to other adult markets for future hospital operations.

"The relationship between Big Spring State Hospital and the Veterans Administration has been very productive and has grown over the past four years. Also, services for adults, who are referred for inpatient care by the state district courts also is a growing population. This population of patients is expected to grow and is a focus of the hospital's strategic plan," he said.

"Though the '04-'05 budget is a challenge for the hospital, it motivates us to look for expanding markets and even higher levels of efficiency, both good things," Moughon said.

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D. J. "Doug" Cotter, 88, died Sunday. Graveside services were 10:00 AM Tuesday at the Garden City Cemetery. Antonio B. "Tony" Miranda, 71, died Sunday. Vigil services will be at 7:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be at 10:00 AM Wednesday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

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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.

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Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

# Take advantage, Tax Free Holiday begins on Friday

Shopping is seldom a ho-hum experience. We either love it or hate it. But this time of year, when children are getting ready to go back to school, there's little choice. So, shopping we go.

Whether it's an enjoyable experience for you or not, saving some money ought to at least bring a smile to your face. This weekend is the fifth Sales Tax Holiday.

Most clothes and shoes will be tax-free at stores across the state Friday through Sunday. The event is designed to help families purchase clothing for school before children head back to the classroom. However, apparel items for adults and infants are also tax-free.

As with everything, there are some restrictions. Each item must be priced under \$100 and items such as clothing accessories, jewelry, watches, handbags, wallets and briefcases are not tax exempt.

Nor are school supplies or items to make clothing, such as cloth, buttons, sewing needles, scissors and sewing machines. We still scratch our heads over why some items — school supplies in particular — are not included. Sports items — boots, helmets, skates, pads, golf shoes — are taxed, but you can purchase gym suits, caps, bathing suits, jerseys, sweatshirts and tennis shoes. It's not a perfect program, but we'll enjoy any savings that we can get.

What's more, you can take eligible items out of layaway this weekend and get them tax free, or you can place tax-free items in layaway to pick up later at the lower price.

Also, you'll notice that many shops in Big Spring are taking this time to offer sales on various merchandise. You can save big by choosing wisely.

The state calculates that shoppers will save more than \$40 million in state and city sales tax during the Sales Tax Holiday.

No, some of us don't enjoy shopping. But since we have to do it — at least occasionally — it's nice to know we'll be getting a little discount for our discomfort.

## LETTERS POLICY

- 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 [jmoseley@crcom.net](mailto:jmoseley@crcom.net) or [editor@bigspringherald.com](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com)

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Dear Lord, let us be a masterful work of art through our faith. Amen

# Gangs lure "Throw away" kids

One of our fine city police officers came and spoke to our Lions Club a few weeks ago on the subject of gangs and he really opened my eyes. If you know about gangs in America and their activity, what I'm going to say will be old news to you, but in my case I had heard reports about gangs on television but that was about all. In some of the smaller communities across our country gangs may not be a problem but they are so pervasive, the more we know about them the better off we will be. One of the handouts that Officer Haynes shared was titled, "U.S. Gangs: An Analysis of Recent Data", that was written and compiled by George W. Knox, Ph.D.. Dr. Knox is the director of the National Gang Crime Research Center in Chicago, Illinois.



JIM DAVIDSON

The report covered a wide range of topics involving gangs in America and their activity and here are a few of the areas: gang members among the nation's prison population, racial conflicts among confined juveniles, simple questions, complex answers, gang proliferation or gang migration, gangs in high school, a breakdown of the various gangs state by state

and it wrapped up with a summary, conclusion and some very good recommendations.

If you think we don't have a gang problem here in America here is a documented statistic. There are from two to four gang members for every sworn law enforcement officer in the United States. To me, that's scary. From all accounts, with a few rare exceptions, we know that gangs and their activity is bad news. Gang members are involved in illegal drugs, auto theft, and other crimes which either directly or indirectly affects every citizen in our nation. I feel a part of that affect each time I pay an insurance premium.

While statistics are important because they give us perspective, I always like to reduce things down to the personal level because this is where we live. The one thing that Officer Haynes said that stuck in my mind is that in most cases, gang members are Society's Throw Away Kids. Here is what he meant by that. More likely than not, a gang member at one time was a young man who was attending school but did not have the material things like most of his peers.

While this description is by no means exclusive, go back a few years and think of a young man who comes to school in old, worn out tennis shoes, faded blue jeans, no transportation and very little spending money. If this humiliation were not enough, he was

often made fun of, ridiculed and was the butt end of jokes. About this time a gang leader comes along and sizes up the situation and begins to cultivate a new gang member. His approach is to provide this young man with things he was not getting at home. First, genuine acceptance into a group of people who become his friends. Then comes the success trappings of society like a gold chain, new clothes, transportation and spending money. In short, the gang has now become his family.

A gang member and his new family's bond is so strong that it can't be broken, even when he is sent to prison for selling drugs and other illegal activities. It's a sad but all too often true story. Unfortunately, there is much more that space does not permit me to share with you such as gang names, signs, graffiti, and how they wage war to protect their turf. Hopefully what I've shared with you has been of interest because I wanted you to know or be reminded of Society's Throw Away Kids. The way to deal with this problem is to become better informed and to identify potential gang members and help them before it's too late. What we need most in our nation is positive role models for our kids and we can all be that, if we choose to do so.

(Jim Davidson is a motivational speaker and syndicated columnist. You may contact him at 2 Bentley Drive, Conway, AR 72034.)



# Social security: Inaction is no longer an option

Sen. Lindsey Graham, the aggressive freshman Republican from South Carolina, had waited long enough and last week acted on his own, without a green light from a displeased White House. He began circulating among senators and House members of both parties a letter that is intended to radically reduce violence in the bitter Social Security wars. "This is a ceasefire declaration," Graham told me.



ROBERT NOVAK

Addressed to the chairmen of the Republican and Democratic campaign committees in both houses, the letter promises, "We will no longer turn a blind eye to political attack ads that accuse responsible reform advocates of wanting to dismantle Social Security or slash benefits of current retirees." Contending that "it is time for the demagoguery to stop," signers of the Graham letter "pledge to defend" all candidates "who support Social Security modernization."

Circulating the letter with Graham are two moderate congressmen — Democrat Charlie Stenholm of Texas and Republican Jim Kolbe of Arizona — who have sought such non-aggression pacts in the past. The most important signatory so far is Sen. John Breaux of Louisiana, the centrist Democrat who often tips the Senate's balance of power. Even if only Breaux and a few other Democrats accept the ceasefire as expected, that undermines the party's relentless attack on Social Security reformers.

When a copy of the letter arrived

at the White House last week, there was consternation rather than jubilation — mainly because it calls on President Bush to do something well beyond present plans. "It is time for this Congress and this president to solve the problems plaguing Social Security," the letter declares. "Inaction is no longer an option. The longer we wait to take the necessary reforms, the harder the task becomes."

That admonition does not fit George W. Bush's timetable. In re-election plans being delicately tuned by the president's team, politically risky reforms, especially Social Security — are postponed until after the 2004 election. Indeed, circulating the ceasefire declaration without advance notice to the White House or its approval reflects unspoken frustration with Bush's domestic policy by Graham and other conservatives.

The concept of Graham's initiative was embraced on a smaller scale in a 1998 agreement by Stenholm with Kolbe and two other Republican congressmen, Nick Smith of Michigan and Mark Sanford, now the governor of South Carolina. All were supporting private Social Security investment accounts. When Stenholm was accused by Republican Sen. Phil Gramm of raiding the Social Security trust fund in the midst of a tough re-election campaign that year, the Republican congressmen came to his defense. When Smith came under similar Democratic attack, Stenholm defended him.

Stenholm was one of the rare Democrats worried by such an attack, because few members of his party advocate private Social Security accounts. With House Democratic Leader Richard Gephardt designating the 2002 election a "referendum on Social

Security," Republican reformers — including Senate candidate Lindsey Graham — encountered a withering attack. Some Republicans retreated, but Graham did not, was elected and decided to propose a ceasefire.

Additional Democratic prospects to sign the letter include Sen. Thomas Carper of Delaware and Reps. John Tanner of Tennessee, Collin Peterson of Minnesota and Gene Taylor of Mississippi. That surely does not constitute a massive Democratic exodus from Gephardt's reform-bashing, but it shatters the image of implacable determination to inflict pain on any Republican who would touch Social Security.

The Graham letter quotes Bush's 2000 campaign statement that "too many times, Social Security has been demagogued to frighten the elderly for political advantage." Immediately after the 2002 election, a Bush policy aide surprised a meeting of conservatives by giving the impression that Social Security reform was high on the president's agenda. In fact, however, that issue has been postponed until the second term, and Bush's political agents are not pleased by what Graham is doing.

Behind Graham's initiative is unhappiness by conservatives with Bush's political strategy, starting with the education bill and most recently reflected by signals of the president's willingness to sign any prescription drug bill. While Bush advisers are displeased with Graham trying by himself to change the political landscape, his action reflected unwillingness to postpone real reforms until a second term.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

# At Lincoln

By MANNY FERNANDEZ

The Washington Post's Andy Del Gallo down on both kneeling and the word "D" into the hard ground aiming his chisel and dentist's drill over middle letter, when one asked for his graph.

"Are you serious?" Gallo asked the Wednesday afternoon putting down the People who make it tions in stone are at the center of attention or the focus of auto seekers. But Del Gallo's recent assignment exception — etching lines onto the steps of Lincoln Memorial — mark the exact where the Rev. Luther King Jr. should deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech 40 ago.

So Del Gallo, 38, the owners of E Memorials, the Church, Va., con that does work for National Park Service signed his name on ed piece of paper man, Herbert Anderson III of Her wrote the date before Gallo's signature. Anderson said the probably the closest would ever come to in King's presence he wanted something remember it by.

That's how it happened for Del Gallo Tuesday, when he knelt down and carving — moment

## NEWS

### Saddam bodyguards

TIKRIT, Iraq (AP) — Aired and arrested Saddam Hussein's the deposed dictatorship chief in the leader.

The soldiers captured Musslit in Tikrit, rillas, hours after tank mines and U.S. forces.

The two others head of security al-Hassan, a leader said Lt. Col. Steve

### Hundreds flee

WEST GLACIER began leaving the fire threatened to from West Glacier officials said.

The fire, burning Park, made a evening, burning ry route in and

People were lea tourist havens of Service headquarters officials began s fire's advance.

### Banking titans

NEW YORK (AP) Chase and Citigr to settle charges sive fraud, and bankruptcy said a role.

The Securities Morgan Chase a banks in the nat transactions to r while knowing debt.

Under deals ar pay \$135 million \$101 million.



FREE E



# At Lincoln's steps, stone etcher memorializes King's 'Dream'

By MANNY FERNANDEZ

The Washington Post

Andy Del Gallo was down on both knees carving the word "Dream" into the hard granite, aiming his chisel like a dentist's drill over the middle letter, when someone asked for his autograph.

"Are you serious?" Del Gallo asked the man Wednesday afternoon, putting down the chisel. People who make inscriptions in stone are rarely at the center of attention or the focus of autograph-seekers. But Del Gallo's recent assignment is an exception — etching five lines onto the steps of the Lincoln Memorial that mark the exact spot where the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. stood to deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech 40 years ago.

So Del Gallo, 38, one of the owners of Eastern Memorials, the Falls Church, Va., company that does work for the National Park Service, signed his name on a folded piece of paper. The man, Herbert James Anderson III of Houston, wrote the date below Del Gallo's signature. Anderson said that was probably the closest he would ever come to being in King's presence, and he wanted something to remember it by.

That's how it has been for Del Gallo since Tuesday, when he first knelt down and started carving — moments of



Andy Del Gallo, one of the owners of Eastern Memorials, the Falls Church, Va., company that does work for the National Park Service, began the King speech project Tuesday and finished Saturday.

intense concentration, pleasantly interrupted. There have been requests for pictures from emotional visitors and questions from curious children who sit cross-legged next to him, chewing gum. There have been interviews with television news crews and a steady stream of comments from parents hoisting digital video cameras. "Congratulations," one man told him as he climbed the steps, "you're part of history."

Del Gallo's tiny memorial within a memorial is a concise, unadorned inscription, 24 inches wide and 10 inches tall:

I HAVE A DREAM  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
THE MARCH ON  
WASHINGTON  
FOR JOBS AND  
FREEDOM  
AUGUST 28, 1963

The words are centered on a wide granite landing 18 steps from the top of the marble chamber. Park Service project manager Glenn DeMarr spent two weeks researching the spot, matching historical photos and video footage of the speech with the features of the exterior stone to "triangulate" a precise location. "We elected to

preserve the stone where he stood, and just incise that stone," said DeMarr, 50.

DeMarr said the work, the first major commemorative addition to the memorial since a framed stone recognizing the statehood of Alaska and Hawaii was installed farther down the steps in 1984, did not require officials to close the steps, so tourists have been getting a rare chance to see history etched into stone. "It's pretty phenomenal," said Jean Ellis, 53, of Gainesville, Ga. "To know this is actually where he stood." For Ellis and the

Lincoln Memorial's roughly 4 million annual visitors, the \$8,300 project puts an end to a frequent guessing game, as many sought to stand in the very spot where King gave one of the most famous speeches in American history but wondered if they were too low or too high. "I was going to stand on each step and face the direction where he gave his speech, so I knew I wouldn't miss a step," said Anderson, 34.

When Louisville, Ky., lawyer Tom Williams visited the memorial with his wife, Sarah, in October 1997, the couple searched for a marker noting the spot where King had stood but found none. Williams, 38, a history buff, was surprised. "It just seemed like an obvious omission," Williams said.

He wrote to Rep. Anne Northup, R-Ky., requesting that a marker be placed on the steps. Touched by the letter, Northup pushed for legislation in Congress, and the bill, which authorized the Secretary of the Interior to install a plaque in the area of the Lincoln Memorial, passed in October 2000.

Park Service officials had recommended putting the marker near the bottom of the steps so it would not distract visitors as they approached the Lincoln statue. But Northup and King's widow, Coretta Scott

King, were among those who fought to locate the inscription at the spot where the speech was made.

Williams said in a telephone interview that the letter was the first time he had written to his representative. "It's sort of a good civics lesson, that one person can make a difference," he said.

Del Gallo doesn't need much to do the work — just a few chisels that connect to a drill-like hammer powered by an air compressor, a buzz-saw-like sharpener, a red vinyl stencil, a blue canopy over his head for shelter, a yellow blanket beneath his knees for cushioning, a T-shaped wooden support beam to hold him up as he crouches, some Gatorade and "a little bit of guts to make sure you don't choke."

He plans to finish Saturday.

Del Gallo, an Arlington, Va., native, is humbled by the attention. In 15 years in the stone-carving business, he has etched names and dates on more than 2,000 headstones at Arlington National Cemetery. But this is the first job he's worked in which people ask him for autographs. Thursday, he gave one of his carbide-tipped, pencil-shaped chisels to a mother and her daughter. "They were so taken by the whole situation," he said. "I slid them a chisel and said, 'Keep this under your hat.'"

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Saddam bodyguard nabbed in raid

TIKRIT, Iraq (AP) — American soldiers overpowered and arrested a bodyguard who rarely left Saddam Hussein's side early Tuesday. The raid in the deposed dictator's hometown also nabbed a security chief in the former government and a militia leader.

The soldiers captured Adnan Abdullah Abid al-Musslit in Tikrit, a key base for anti-American guerrillas, hours after troops there found enough anti-tank mines and gunpowder for a month of attacks on U.S. forces.

The two others captured were Daher Ziana, the head of security in Tikrit, and Rafa Idham Ibrahim al-Hassan, a leader of the Saddam Fedayeen militia, said Lt. Col. Steve Russell.

### Hundreds flee homes as wildfire nears

WEST GLACIER, Mont. (AP) — Hundreds of people began leaving their homes Monday night as a wildfire threatened to choke off the main escape route from West Glacier and the surrounding area, fire officials said.

The fire, burning in and around Glacier National Park, made a dangerous run during the early evening, burning toward U.S. Highway 2, the primary route in and out of the area.

People were leaving West Glacier and numerous tourist havens outside the park. The National Park Service headquarters also was being evacuated, and officials began setting backfires to try to slow the fire's advance.

### Banking titans settle over Enron reports

NEW YORK (AP) — Banking titans J.P. Morgan Chase and Citigroup are paying nearly \$300 million to settle charges they helped Enron commit its massive fraud, and the examiner in the energy giant's bankruptcy said four other banks may also have had a role.

The Securities and Exchange Commission says J.P. Morgan Chase and Citigroup — two of the largest banks in the nation — helped Enron create complex transactions to make its financial picture seem rosy, while knowing all along that it was riddled with debt.

Under deals announced Monday, J.P. Morgan will pay \$135 million to the SEC and Citigroup will pay \$101 million.

## Democratic senators flee to New Mexico

Protest Gov. Perry's calling for a second session on redistricting

AUSTIN (AP) — In a move reminiscent of a walkout by House Democrats a few months ago, 11 of the 12 Democrats in the state Senate forced the chamber to a standstill by fleeing Texas for Albuquerque, N.M., in a protest over a second special session on congressional redistricting.

Their absence Monday prompted Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst to adjourn the first special legislative session a day early, without a congressional redistricting bill approved. The House adjourned shortly after that, but Gov. Rick Perry immediately called lawmakers back for another session on redistricting. The second session could last up to 30 days.

The Senate Democrats said they didn't take their decision lightly.

"This is not about Democrats. It's about democracy and it's about civil rights," Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, Senate Democratic Caucus chairwoman, said at a news conference Monday night.

Van de Putte, standing in front of a Texas flag, said more than 1.4 million minorities in Texas would lose effective congressional representation if the redistricting occurs as Republicans wish.

The Democrats will have to stay out for as long as lawmakers are in

session for the boycott to be effective. As long as they are gone, business in the chamber stops. It takes two-thirds of the Senate's 31 members to form a quorum and allow the chamber to take up business.

Senate rules also require that two-thirds of the chamber support a bill before it can be taken up for debate. Dewhurst has said he would do away with that rule during the second session so that only a majority would be needed.

"We are prepared to stay here for the duration of this special session," Van de Putte said. "We are going to take it a day at a time."

Van de Putte said the Democrats would return if Perry ends the second special session or Dewhurst reinstates the two-thirds rule.

"When either of these two requests are granted, we will be on the first flight home," Van de Putte said.

Shortly after the lawmakers took off, Dewhurst ordered the 11 who left back to the chamber.

"I'm asking our Senate Democrats to come back and work with us. But I've got to share with you I'm disappointed, very disappointed," Dewhurst said. "By leaving, our Senate Democrats are putting their party affilia-

tion over what they were elected to do."

Dewhurst said he believes that sooner or later, the Senate will pass a fair redistricting plan.

Republicans tried to push redistricting toward a vote in the GOP-controlled House during the regular session in May, but 51 House Democrats fled to Oklahoma to block a quorum, killing the bill.

In May, Republican House Speaker Tom Craddick ordered state troopers to find the representatives and bring them back to Austin. The office of U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay also became involved, calling the Federal Aviation Administration to try to locate the plane of one of the Democrats.

Dewhurst said he would call on the Senate sergeant-at-arms and possibly off-duty police offi-

cers to retrieve the 11 lawmakers, but acknowledged that Texas authorities likely could not cross state lines.

Republicans are pressing for more seats in the state's 32-member delegation to the U.S. House. The Democrats hold a 17-15 advantage, which Republicans say does not reflect the state's increasingly Republican voting patterns.

Most Democrats want to keep the congressional map drawn by a three-judge federal panel in 2001. They say redistricting amounts to a power grab pushed by DeLay.

During the first special session, the Democrats were able to block a redistricting bill that could have given Republicans an additional seven seats in the delegation. Eleven Democrats and one Republican stood firm against the bill.

The Democrats arrived in New Mexico after a Senate Democratic Caucus meeting at the Capitol in which lawmakers plotted their strategy.



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The Mini Page

By BETTY DEBNAM

The Changing Sky

Pretty, Powerful Clouds

Clouds can be beautiful and fun to watch. They can also be exciting and threatening. They play an important part in our environment, affecting temperatures and carrying moisture that will fall to Earth. They can be dangerous when they form storms such as tornadoes.

What is a cloud?

A cloud is a clump of tiny water droplets or ice crystals floating in the atmosphere.

The atmosphere is an envelope of gases (such as oxygen) that surrounds the Earth. Water vapor, which is water in gas form, is also in the atmosphere.

How clouds form

When water vapor rises in the atmosphere, it grows colder, which causes the water vapor to turn into liquid water. Or if it is really cold, the vapor turns into ice crystals.

The drops of water and ice crystals come together to make cloud droplets.

When water is in the form of gas, it is invisible. But when it turns to liquid or ice, we can see it. We see clouds.



Clouds make beautiful skies even more striking. When these altocumulus clouds appear on warm mornings, it can mean a thunderstorm may follow later in the day.

Cloud colors

When we look up, clouds usually look white. But if they are filled with a lot of water, they block out so much sunlight that they look gray.

Because thunderclouds are filled with rain and ice, they look very dark and gray.

If you look up and see clouds with a greenish color, it means there is hail in those clouds. When clouds look green, they are especially dangerous. Strong storms including tornadoes can come out of this type of cloud.

If you see green-colored clouds, go inside at once.

Clouds bring moisture to Earth

After clouds form, what happens next is either:

1. the water droplets evaporate, or turn back into gas.

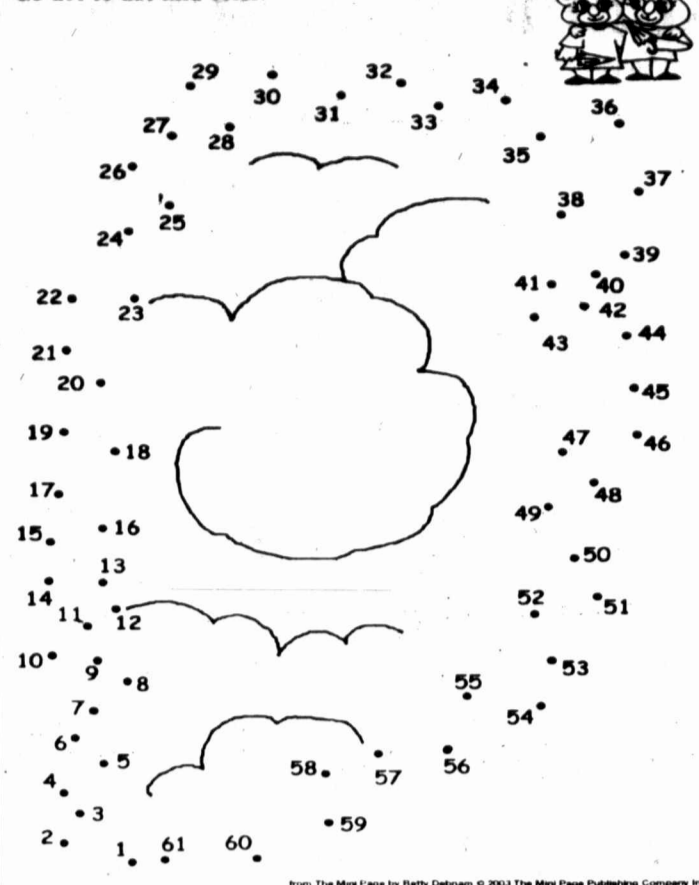
2. or water droplets come together. When enough join together, they form a raindrop or snowflake. When the raindrops or snowflakes grow big enough, they fall to Earth.

Clouds change temperatures

At night during winter, clouds can act as a blanket over the Earth, keeping some of the sun's warmth from escaping back into space. Cloudy winter nights may be as much as 15 degrees warmer than nights that are clear.

But during the day, clouds block some of the sun's rays from reaching Earth. Cloudy days can be cooler days.

Go dot to dot and color.



From The Mini Page by Betty Debnam © 2003 The Mini Page Publishing Company Inc.

Rookie Cookie's Recipe Light as Clouds Meringues

You'll need: 1 cup egg whites from 6 to 8 eggs, pinch of salt, 1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar, 1 1/2 cups sugar. What to do: 1. In a large, clean bowl, whip egg whites and salt until foamy. 2. Add cream of tartar and beat until peaks just begin to form. 3. While beating the egg mixture, add the sugar slowly until stiff peaks form. 4. Place large spoonfuls of the mixture on an ungreased cookie sheet. 5. Bake in a preheated 250-degree oven for 45 minutes until slightly brown and crispy on the outside. 6. Leave in oven overnight to dry completely. Put in an airtight container. Yields about 2 1/2 dozen meringues. Note: Do not make these on a rainy or humid day, because they will become gooey and messy.

From The Mini Page by Betty Debnam © 2003 The Mini Page Publishing Company Inc.

A Kid's Guide 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.

Gus Goodsport's Report Supersport: LeBron James. Height: 6-8, Weight: 240, Birthdate: 12-30-84, Hometown: Akron, Ohio. LeBron James seems to be everywhere — on television screens, magazine covers and in newspaper headlines. Only 18 years old, James is the rage of the basketball world. On June 29, he was the top pick of the Cleveland Cavaliers and the first player selected in the National Basketball Association draft. He also is the youngest player ever selected No. 1 in the draft.

Meet Clay Aiken. Clay Aiken has been singing for as long as he can remember. And it's his singing that made him popular on the Fox television show "American Idol." Growing up in Raleigh, N.C., Clay sang in a boys choir and his church. Now 24, Clay was the runner-up in the TV talent show. But thanks to his popularity, he's just recorded his first record and made a video. His favorite types of music are jazz, slow R&B and country. His favorite artists are Jon Secada, Peter Cetera, Faith Hill and Shania Twain. Clay studied special education at his college, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and plans to work with kids with special needs. His goals in life include finding success, happiness and stability. His idol, he says, is his mom.

Mighty Funny's Mini Jokes. All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category? Ralph: What did the young lady do when the young man asked if he could see her home? Didier: She showed him a photo of it. Vivian: Why did the photographer throw a grenade into his backpack? Winston: Because he wanted to blow up his pictures. Regina: What did Cinderella say when her photographer's did not arrive on time? Ricardo: "Somebody's prints will come."

Types of Clouds. There are about 30 different kinds of clouds. Experts have broken these down into three main types. 1. Cirrus: Cirrus (SEE-rus) are the highest clouds, floating from 16,000 to 45,000 feet up in the air. 2. Stratus: Stratus (STRAT-us) clouds float from about 6,500 to 23,000 feet high. When stratus clouds are overhead, the whole sky looks gray. Steady rain and snowfalls fall from this type of cloud. 3. Cumulus: Cumulus (KYOO-m-you-lus) are the lowest clouds, floating from the surface of the Earth to about 6,500 feet high. They don't always fill the whole sky, which can cause some weird events. For example, have you ever been on one side of the street with a blue sky overhead and no rain falling on you? But right across the street, the sky was dark with cumulus clouds, and rain was pouring down. Thunderheads: Scientists divide the main cloud types into groups. They add different word forms to the beginning or ending of cloud names to tell more about the cloud type. For example, when "nimbus" is added to the end of a cloud name, it means the cloud is forming precipitation. Cumulus + nimbus together form "cumulonimbus," which are thunder clouds. Storm safety: Stay alert to changing weather conditions. When the sky turns very black, dark gray or green, and when the wind picks up, a storm is approaching. Do NOT stay outside. Use a National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio. These radios will sound an alert tone if dangerous weather is coming to your area, even if the radio is not turned on. Any time you hear thunder or see lightning, even in the distance, go inside at once. Do not stay in a sports dugout. Go inside a building or vehicle. If there is a tornado warning, do not stay in your vehicle. The best place to be is in a basement or interior room, such as a closet or bathroom, away from outside walls and windows.

Clouds Try 'n Find. Words and names that remind us of clouds are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: SKY, WHITE, RAIN, WATER, GRAY, SNOW, STORM, GREEN, ATMOSPHERE, HAIL, CIRRUS, VAPOR, DARK, WARMTH, HIGH, STRATUS, BEAUTIFUL, CUMULUS, CUMULONIMBUS, LOW, TORNADO, FOG.

Mini Spy... Mini Spy is giving the weather forecast. Storms are on the way! See if you can find: pencil, peanut, lace, muffin, safety pin, number 3, umbrella, number 8, toothbrush, ruler, ladder, sailboat, olive, word MINI, acorn, lips.

NIE Sponsors: First Bank of West Texas, Power Resources, Howard College, Big Spring Education Federal Credit Union, Rip Griffin, Western Container, Al Valdes, Jr., Edward Jones Representative, Wal-Mart, Cosden Federal Credit Union, Atmos Energy, Jimmy Newsom, Edward D. Jones Representative, Cornell Corrections, Mr. Hayes Stripling, Sid Richardson Carbon Company.

IN BR... City golf champ slated for Saturday. The Big Spring Golf Championship will get under way Saturday at Co... Trail Golf Course. Players throughout the area will compete in this two-day event, which is being sponsored by The Big Spring... For more information contact Birdwell 263-23... ASC's golf packages now available. The American Golf Society's Pass will get more than 100 rounds of golf courses in the area. For more information call 1-800-4... or go online at www.texasgol... Crossroads for sign-ups under... Registration for 2003 Crossroad Football League under way at Spring Mall. Registration ball is being held 5:30 p.m. to 7... every week day. A copy of each birth certificate report card needed at the registration. The fee is \$75 per person. For more information, call 268-96... WTGSC to hold hole golf marathon. The West Texas Scout Council is holding a marathon on August 1 at Sweetwater. Golfers participating in the event will play 100 holes of golf in the one-day event. Participants will play their own way using modified rules. The field will be limited to 40 golfers. For more information or registration contact, Shirley (325) 670-0432. Peloteros to hold HR bash. The Texas Softball Tournament and Home Run Derby will be held August 1. Entry into the event is set at \$115 per person. Class D and E finishing first and third in the team standings will receive trophies. For more information contact, Gonzales Jr. 816-6465 or Carrillo at (817) 8219. ON THE... Sports Broadcast July 29... Event, Time... Astros vs. Atlanta, 6:10 p.m. July 30... Event, Time... Astros vs. Atlanta, 5:40 p.m. July 31... Event, Time... Rangers vs. Boston, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 1... Event, Time... Astros vs. Florida, 6:10 p.m. Aug. 2... Event, Time... Astros vs. Florida, 4:40 p.m. Aug. 3... Event, Time... Astros vs. Florida, 12:10 p.m. Aug. 4... Event, Time... Rangers vs. Yankees, 5:30 p.m. Aug. 5... Event, Time... Astros vs. Mets, 6:40 p.m. Aug. 6... Event, Time... Astros vs. Mets, 6:40 p.m. Aug. 7... Event, Time... Astros vs. Mets, 6:40 p.m. Aug. 8... Event, Time... Rangers vs. Toronto, 5:30 p.m. Aug. 9... Event, Time... Astros vs. Montreal, 5:40 p.m. Aug. 10... Event, Time... Texas vs. Broncos, 7:15 p.m.



### IN BRIEF

#### City golf champions slated for Saturday

The Big Spring City Golf Championships will get under way this Saturday at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

Players from throughout the area will compete in the two-day event, which is being sponsored by *The Big Spring Herald*.

For more information contact Jack Birdwell 263-2366.

#### ASC's golf pass is now available locally

The American Cancer Society's Texas Golf Pass entitles golfers more than 670 rounds of golf at 281 courses in the state.

For more information call 1-800-ACS-2345 or go online at [www.texasgolfpass.com](http://www.texasgolfpass.com).

#### Crossroads football sign-ups under way

Registration for the 2003 Crossroads Little Football League is now under way at the Big Spring Mall.

Registration for football is being held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. every week day.

A copy of each child's birth certificate and report card will be needed at the time of registration. The cost is \$75 per person.

For more information, call 268-9634.

#### WTGSC to hold 100-hole golf marathon

The West Texas Girl Scout Council will be holding a golf marathon on Aug. 4 in Sweetwater.

Golfers participating in the event will play 100 holes of golf during the one-day event. All participants will have their own cart, and play at their own speed using modified rules.

The field will be limited to 40 golfers.

For more information or to register contact, Shirley Olson at (325) 670-0432.

#### Peloteros tourney, HR bash scheduled

The Texas Peloteros Softball Tournament and Home Run Derby will be held Aug. 8-9.

Entry into the event is set at \$115 per team. Class D and E squads finishing first through third in the overall team standings will receive trophies and t-shirts.

For more information contact, Manuel Gonzales Jr. at (432) 816-6465 or Pete Carrillo at (432) 263-8219.

### ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule		
Event	Time	Station
Astros vs. Atlanta	6:10 p.m.	1490
July 30		
Astros vs. Atlanta	5:40 p.m.	1490
July 31		
Rangers vs. Boston	6:30 p.m.	1490
Aug. 1		
Astros vs. Florida	6:10 p.m.	1490
Aug. 2		
Astros vs. Florida	4:40 p.m.	1490
Aug. 3		
Astros vs. Florida	12:10 p.m.	1490
Aug. 5		
Rangers vs. Yankees	6:30 p.m.	1490
Aug. 6		
Astros vs. Mets	6:40 p.m.	1490
Aug. 7		
Astros vs. Mets	6:40 p.m.	1490
Aug. 8		
Rangers vs. Toronto	5:30 p.m.	1490
Aug. 9		
Astros vs. Montreal	6:40 p.m.	1490
Aug. 9		
Texas vs. Broncos	7:15 p.m.	1490

## Texas High School Coaches Association



Big Spring High School quarterback Tye Butler will close out his high school career tonight in the Texas High School Coaches Association All-Star Football game in Fort Worth. Butler shattered almost every BSHS passing record imaginable during his two years as a starter.

# One Last Time

## Butler hoping to cap prep career with solid effort at THSCA game

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

Over the past two seasons, Tye Butler did everything a quarterback could do to help the Big Spring Steers win.

This evening, the record-setting University of New Mexico signee will try and do the same for the North All-Stars as he closes out his high school career by playing in the 2003 Texas High School Coaches Association all-star football game. The game is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at Amon Carter Stadium in Fort Worth.

For Butler, the game is another opportunity to prove he is one of the best quarterbacks to have come out of the prep ranks this past season. The 6-foot-2, 200-pound stand-out joins an impressive array of signal-callers on the North roster, including former Southlake Carroll QB Chase Wasson and former Denton Ryan star James Battle.

Wasson was the 2002 Class 5A Player of the Year. Battle was the recipient of the Class 4A Player of the Year accolades.

Like Wasson and Battle, Butler

### THSCA All-Star Football Game

What: North vs. South  
When: 7:30 p.m.  
Where: Amon Carter Stadium in Fort Worth.  
TV: Fox Sports Southwest.

has plenty of hardware to show for his high school career. In his two seasons as the Steers' starter he racked up 11 wins and threw for more than 4,500 yards and 45 touchdowns — and shattered almost every school passing record imaginable.

In 2001, in an offensive scheme based on the run, Butler blossomed into a legitimate star. He completed 99-of-176 attempts for 1,854 yards and 20 touchdowns despite playing for a squad that struggled to a 3-7 finish.

Butler's performance through the 2001 season sent him into the 2002 season as a hot prospect. He was ranked among the state's top three quarterbacks by Dave Campbell's Texas Football.

He didn't let anyone down.

Last year in a new one-back system, Butler threw for 2,738 yards and 29 touchdowns — and carried Big Spring to a return to the state playoffs. The Steers advanced to the Region 1-4A quarterfinals before falling to Aledo.

For his career as a starter, Butler finished with some awe-inspiring totals. He completed 275-of-486 attempts in 23 game for 4,592 yards and 49 touchdowns. Amazing enough, only 13 of his almost 500 passes were intercepted.

In the off-season, Butler announced he would be attending New Mexico — a NCAA Division I program — this fall to play quarterback. His decision to attend UNM gives Big Spring head coach Dwight Butler the honor of having sent two sons to the collegiate level. His oldest son, former Big Spring all-state linebacker Bowe Butler, plays collegiately at Charleston South. He was recruited by Air Force.

This evening's game, which highlights the 71st annual meeting of the state's coaches, is scheduled to be televised live by Fox Sports Southwest.

## Denton Ryan duo together for one final game

FORT WORTH (AP) — Together again, for one last time, Joey Florence and James Battle will put a close on a relationship that was more successful than anyone could have ever expected.

Florence took over as Denton Ryan's head coach in 2000, a season after its football team finished 1-9 and looked primed for similar seasons in the near future.

But Florence quickly found his quarterback in the precocious Battle, then a sophomore, and Denton Ryan was on its way to two straight Class 4A titles in three championship appearances and a combined record of 42-4 over that span.

This fall will be Florence's first at Denton Ryan without Battle taking the snaps.

"It's more an emotional deal for me," Florence said. "We've gone through a lot together. James has been like a son to me. It's been a neat experience to go through all this together."

Florence gets one more chance to coach Battle, who will be one of 70 high school standouts from across the state selected to play in the Texas High School Coaches Association's all-star game on the TCU campus. The Tuesday night game is the highlight of the 71st annual coaching school.

Even among all-stars, however,

Battle's name still carries a lot of influence.

The 6-foot-1, 200-pounder threw for 2,989 yards and 31 TDs as Denton Ryan went 15-1 and won a second straight title.

With such an impressive resume and a quiet confidence that belies his 18 years, Battle has quickly established himself as a leader on the practice fields over the past few days.

"He's still special. All these kids see the way James carries himself," Florence said. "Kids are going to be drawn to him because of his spirit. He's very mature for his age ... it's almost intoxicating to be around him."

## Huff, North All-Stars roll to 117-105 victory over South

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

Brent Huff found the perfect way to end his high school basketball career: He celebrated a win.

Huff, who helped Forsan celebrate a return to the state polls and playoffs this past year, helped spark the North to a 117-105 win

over the South Monday night.

The North, despite seeing Huff take just one shot in the contest — a missed 3-point try — tortured the South early and never looked back. The North outscored its opposition by a staggering 37-22 clip in the first quarter and never looked back.

The South managed to battle back

a bit in the second. Despite a 10-0 North run to end the half, the South All-Stars reeled off a 23-20 run and trailed at the half by a 57-45 clip.

The North iced the win with a 30-19 romp in the third quarter.

Fort Worth Dunbar's Lance Jackson led all North scorers with 17 points.

## Bryant off to good start with Parcels

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Surgery in the morning, practice in the afternoon. Second-year receiver Antonio Bryant is off to a good start in proving he's tough enough to play for the Dallas Cowboys.

New coach Bill Parcels was so impressed by Bryant's speedy return from an operation to remove bone spurs from his left pinky finger that he praised him in front of the entire team.

"I said, 'Hey, this is a guy that gets operated on at 8 o'clock in the morning and at 2:50 he's playing football like nothing ever happened,'" Parcels said. "I told the team it wasn't open-heart surgery. But it was something. It was a surgical procedure, an invasive procedure. That's pretty good."

Bryant was injured Saturday in the first workout of Camp Parcels. After the second session that afternoon, he returned to Dallas for the procedure early Sunday.

The chips came out and the wound was closed with six stitches, with a splint covering the finger. He flew back to San Antonio, suited up and rejoined his teammates on the field planning only to do some running.

"I didn't think I would go out there and catch. But the way they wrapped it up, I didn't feel anything," said Bryant, who wore a glove with a chunk cut out to make room for the splint, with the finger taped to the next one.

Bryant knew he was sending a strong message to his teammates, as well as Parcels and the rest of his staff.

"I didn't want guys to think I'm milking it while they're out there running," he said.

Quarterback Clint Stoerner tried taking it easy on Bryant by throwing him passes without much zip. Bryant wouldn't stand for it.

"I know you throw harder than that," Bryant told him. When an assistant coach said Stoerner was just trying to be nice, Bryant replied, "I know coach, but I'm out here now. So just go all out."

He burst onto the scene last season as a loud and proud rookie, asking for the No. 88 that's been worn by the two most productive receivers in team history — Michael Irvin and Drew Pearson — then backed it up by catching 44 passes, the most among NFL rookies, for 733 yards and six touchdowns.

### Palmiero's 7 RBI power Rangers

SEATTLE (AP) — Rafael Palmeiro hit a grand slam and a three-run homer for career-high seven RBIs to lead Texas over Seattle 10-1 Monday.

With 514 homers, Palmeiro moved into 15th place on the career list, two ahead of Ernie Banks. Palmeiro hit a three-run homer in the first, then hit his 11th career slam in the seventh. It was Palmeiro's 32nd multihomer game.

Joaquin Benoit struck out seven in seven innings, allowing two hits and two walks.

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<p><b>CLASSIFIEDS SPECIAL</b></p> <p><b>5 LINES 6 DAYS \$20<sup>00</sup>*</b></p> <p>*INCLUDES YOUR AD IN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUYER'S GUIDE AND OUR WEB PAGE RESTRICTIONS APPLY</p>	<p><b>GIBBS Remodeling</b></p> <p>New home Construction Room Additions Carports Dry Wall Hanging &amp; Finishing Painting Interior &amp; Exterior Wallpaper Hanging Ceramic Tile Installation &amp; Repair</p> <p>All remodel needs of any room in your home</p> <p>Call <b>263-8285</b></p>	<p><b>LAWN CARE</b></p> <p><b>MOWING HAULING TREE TRIMMING CLEAN STORAGE SHEDS AND ODD JOBS</b></p> <p>CALL <b>267-5460</b> LEAVE MESSAGE</p>	<p><b>DISCOVER ANOTHER WORLD, READ! You never know what you might find.</b></p>	<p><b>PALACIOS ROOFING &amp; HOME IMPROVEMENT</b></p> <p>Roofs, Room Additions, Ceramic Tile, Fences, Painting Insured &amp; Bonded</p> <p>Home Phone# 915-263-5430 Cell# 432-213-0363</p>	<p><b>WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY BY ADVERTISING YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DIRECTORY!</b></p> <p>Call 263-7331 for more information.</p>	

**HOUSES FOR SALE**

Anda en busca de una casa? No hace como este su credito yo le finacero su casa por favor llame a Annette Sanchez el numero 915-262-5822 0 915-413-0549.

Are you looking for a house, but have bad credit or no credit? If so I can help you get a home. Please call Annette Sanchez at 915-413-0549 or 915-262-5822.

By Owner: 4/2/2.5 Luxury home, open floor plan, 3700 sq. ft., game room, Subzero, Corian, Jen Air. Asko, remodeled. Landscaped 1.5 acres, auto sprinkler. Large detached garage/shop w/office. 900 Mt. Park. \$297,500. By Appt only! Call 263-8782.

Cute 4 bdr/2b, ready to move into! CHA, 1450 st. privacy fence, 3311 Drexel. \$44,900. Call Dana/Coldwell Banker, 466-3726.

Double wide 3/2, fireplace, 16 ft. shed. Good water well, 10 acres. Tubbs addition. \$50,000. 940-873-4595

**For Sale By Owner**

Owner Financing Provided. Low down payment, low monthly payments. 1007 Wood St. Very nice, clean 2 BR, 1 bath with detached garage, fenced backyard and close to school. Call Kelly, 915-425-9994.

**FORECLOSURE!** 3 Bedroom for \$9500. For listing 800-719-3001 Ext. F906

House for sale, 3 bdr, 2 bath, newly renovated. 805 Baylor Ave. \$72,000. Call 263-2428.

House for sale by owner on Lake C-City, 5,000 sq. ft. 3 bedrooms lots. \$95,000. (432)756-2826 or (432)458-3579.

Large 3 BR, 2 bath country home on 3.5 ac. Started "Paint & Powder". Needs finished 264-0173. If no answer, please leave message.

**OWNER FINANCE.** No Credit Check. Newly remodeled 3 BR, 2 bath CHA 3.7 acres, horse pens, small arena, 5 min from Big Spring. \$3500 down \$521.33/mo. 517-0199 or 270-422-9974

Potential Doll house for sale with extra lot. 2 Bdrm 1 bath. FMI Call Mary at 325-944-3791 or 325-450-4741

Recently Remodeled 2/1 home located 2 blocks from Coahom. Schools \$25,000. Call 394-4897 or 466-2050.

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**Barcelona Apartments**

"Call For Move-In Specials"

All Bills Paid

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407 1/2 E. 8th. 1 Bdr Apartment. Recently remodeled. New counter tops. CHA \$275 + deposit. Call 267-2296.

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HOUSES FOR SALE

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By Owner: 4/2/2.5 Luxury home, open floor plan, 3700 sq. ft., game room, Subzero, Cobian, Jan-Air. Ask to remodeled. Landscaped 1.5 acres, auto sprinkler. Large detached garage/shop w/office. 900 Mt. Park. \$297,500. By appt only! Call 263-8782.

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OWNER FINANCE. No Credit Check. Newly remodeled 3 BR, 2 bath CHA, 3.7 acres, horse pens, small arena. 5 min from Big Spring. \$3500 down, \$521.33/mo. 517-0199 or 270-422-3974

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New residents presenting this ad before August 25th, 2003 and who qualify for a minimum six month lease on a ONE BEDROOM apartment (subject to availability) will rent for ONLY \$319 per month. And "Remember... You Deserve The Best"

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UNFUR. HOUSES FOR RENT

1 bdr, 1 bath, utilities included. 800 Nolan. \$400. mo. \$250. deposit. Call 264-9907.

1608 Sunset Recently remodeled 2BR 1 bath, CHA, garage, fenced yard Washer/dryer connections \$390/mo. \$295/dep. NO HUD 263-8005

1746 Purdue 3 BR, 1 Bath, 2 Lvg areas CHA, garage, fenced yard. \$600/mo. \$300/dep. 1 yr. lease required. 263-3689

2002 Johnson 3 bdrm, 1 bath. \$325. mo. \$150. dep. 263-1792 or 816-9984

2510 Carleton. Clean, brick 3 bdr., 2 bath, 2 living areas, double carport, CHA, fenced yard. \$550. mo. \$200. dep. Call 267-1543.

3 bdr 1 1/2 bth. 1313 Oil Mill Rd. w/garage apt., newly remodeled. \$600/mn. + deposit. 267-5759 or 263-7057

3BR, 2 bath, CHA/A, \$475/mo. plus deposit. 2606 Carleton. Call 263-6997

607 Holbert 3BR 1 bath, garage. \$370/mo. \$260/dep. 263-8005

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UNFUR. HOUSES FOR RENT

612 & 614 Linda Ln. 3/1/1, CH/A, storm windows, fenced backyard. \$475/mo. & \$525/mo. workshop \$250/dep. 1 yr lease. Call 268-5956 or 268-9180.

Newly remodeled. Lease 1104 Lloyd 2 Bdrm, 1 bath. \$350/mo. Deposit & References required. Call 267-7721.

Newly Rmdl 2BR, office, CH/A, refrigerator, fenced backyard. Perfect for single couple. References. \$325/mo. \$275/dep. 2004 Scurry. 267-5629

Nice Country Living, 2/2/3 close to Elbow School. Good water. \$650/mo. \$650/dep. w/1 year lease. 398-5208.

Ranch living within the city limits. 2 BR, 1 bath. Stone fireplace. 30 acres with barn & horse corral. Pets & horses OK. \$600/ mo. Reference required. Call 267-1131

Remodeled 3/2 house in excellent condition. Central air/ heat. \$600/mo. + deposit. Call 432-263-0173.

STORAGE CONTAINERS

Storage Container 8x4. Delivered to you. May see containers at Cline Construction. Call 267-6006

STORAGE CONTAINERS 6', 8', 10', 20', 40' STEEL New and Used. Wind and Water Tight. Delivered to You. Call: 1-866-435-2399, Robert

TOO LATES

For Sale- 2 lots, Trinity Memorial Park, Lot 1, Spaces 1 & 2, Olivett Section. Call 263-1263.

Lake House. bargain of the Month! Priced reduced \$50,000. Below cost \$175,000. Seller relocating in 2 weeks and must sell very soon! Lake up 6 feet at C-City. Dock, sprinkler system. Newer house finished with crown molding. 4 bedroom. Great for weekend gatherings or retirement. Will finance part. Call 325-242-0861 to view today.

Owner Finance 1603 Main Very lg 3 or 4 Bdrm, 2 Lvg areas \$1500 down, \$350.94/mo. 263-1792 or 816-9984

Found female Springer Spaniel. Free to good home. Call 349-3949 or 756-2941

1902 Johnson A - 2 BR, 1 bath. All bills paid. \$525/ mo. \$200/ dep. Call 268-9069.

BY JOYCE JILLSON Leo has a way of distorting things, and with so many planets being guided by this big cat, it's non-stop entertainment. Set out to get a little work done, and you'll end up wrapped in an office drama. If you're wondering if it could possibly last with that person you connected with last night, you're in for a passionate and intense relationship.



Joyce Jillson

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The needs of others shouldn't compromise your boundaries. Keep acting on hot business ideas, even if you're the only one who believes they are indeed hot. Walking through a mall or arcade keeps you in step with trends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's a good thing you don't have to believe in miracles to experience them, because today, you're a bit of a skeptic. Regardless of your cynicism, providence moves in mysterious ways. Somebody out there favors you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Share dollars with someone who is doing work in the world you admire. Your financial picture is enriched. A map, recipe or directions given to you by technical support save the day. Someone with an unusual hair color is lucky.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's impossible to get through today's list by yourself, as much as you

hate to admit defeat. Think of it as an opportunity to be a leader, delegating along the way. The advice of older person should be considered.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A rich person is someone who has more than enough. In many ways, that describes you. Today is about teaching others. Have patience with that hot-headed Aries or Virgo perfectionist. Your inner voice yells some powerful messages.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 29). You are seriously driven this year, so make your primary ambition something you'll have fun pursuing. New offers in the next four weeks are worth considering, even if your life will be turned upside down by accepting them. Money comes from new employment and creative projects initiated in September. Plan family get-togethers for December. Your lucky numbers are: 14, 22, 7, 15 and 38.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Reveal something small, insignificant and a little bit interesting about yourself to get the conversation started. You'll eat fabulous food tonight if a loved one is doing the cooking. Overeating is a danger. Count to 20 in between bites.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Sincere interest in people will be your biggest asset in business. Neighborhood politics might come into play. You can do more than you think in the way of lifting up the tone of the group.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Hook into an entrepreneurial spirit. Bonding with other people — like Leos or Sagittarians —

who aren't afraid of the unknown is lucky. Tonight, don't talk with a loved one about what's been bothering you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Information gathering is lucky. Sleuth around to learn all you can about the group of people you're expected to work with. Read body language to find out the dynamics that are relevant to your production level.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Political friends are gathering interest in your big cause; keep talking. It's very romantic to hop on a train that's already moving. Make it sound as if your project will chug on regardless of anyone's involvement.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's a powerful person in your realm who is generous, knowledgeable and totally overbearing! It's time to cut the ties that bind you to a controlling force. You need freedom in order to make your vision a reality.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your plight is about to become a downhill skate instead of an uphill climb. Simple awareness of a

problem is enough to correct it. Set yourself free by finding a way to say what you think in a positive way tonight.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Tom Green is a poster child for the Leo trait of self-expression. He's got his own unique brand of comedy that includes a bizarre twist on what is accepted as mainstream humor. This year, Green could take his show on the road and start his own circus. He has an affinity for animals and would make a fabulous ringmaster. Leo that he is, Green would be especially skillful at taming big cats.

If you would like to write to Joyce Jillson, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Joyce Jillson page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Joyce Jillson and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox; Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I have been married to "Bud" for 17 years, and we have two young children. For the past five years, Bud and I have not had any sexual relationship at all. I stay home with the children, but if I need clothes or incidentals, Bud expects me to earn the money by helping at his office. Meanwhile, he buys himself anything he wants. I have been unhappy for a long time, but decided I should stay with Bud for the children's sake.



ANNIE'S MAILBOX

Two months ago, I found a message for Bud on the answering machine from a woman who had called in the middle of the night, begging him to please phone her. When I asked Bud about it, he claimed he didn't know who the woman was. I did a little investigating and discovered the caller was an old girlfriend whom Bud had been seeing just before he met me.

I have phone records and e-mails showing that Bud has been in touch with this woman for months. I confronted him with my proof, and he admitted that he is in contact with her but insists they are just friends. I suspect a lot more is going on besides friendship. Frankly, I can no longer stand to look at him.

Bud wants us to get counseling, but I don't know if it's worth it. This is a man who has a great deal to lose financially if we divorce. I believe that is the only reason he wants to stay married, since he hasn't touched me or had a decent conversation with me in years. What do you say? — Counseling or Divorce in Indy

Dear Indy: Go for counseling. You need to be sure you are making the right decision. Bud sounds like a lost cause to us, but it is possible the counselor will help him understand the need to be more attentive, verbally and emotionally. It's certainly worth trying, for the children's sake, before you throw in the towel.

Dear Annie: Your reply to "Worried Sister in Texas" was a reflection of your profound ignorance and bias. She said her 17-year-old sister was planning to run away and marry a 38-year-old man. You replied, "No decent 38-year-old man would be involved with a 17-year-old girl."

not a "decent" man. I married my wife when I was 59 and she was 21, and we have been together for 15 years. For me they have been the happiest of my life. Marriage for us is a sacrament of our faith, not a temporary sexual arrangement. — M.J.F.

Dear M.J.F.: We have no problem with a large age difference between two consenting adults. We DO have a problem when one half of the relationship is still in high school. That may have been more acceptable decades ago, when it was not uncommon for teenage girls to marry, and sometimes to older men who were financially stable. However, it is frowned upon these days, and a 38-year-old man should not be taking advantage of a young girl's infatuation. One wonders why he is unable to find a suitable woman closer to his own age. Here's one more:

Dear Annie: You are absolutely correct in saying no decent 38-year-old man would date a 17-year-old girl. I speak from experience. I was 21 when I married my husband, who was then 45 years old, a similar age difference. The relationship turned out to be very unhealthy, and we divorced 10 painful years later.

Any guy who goes after a very young woman has a big problem. My guy was insecure and extremely controlling. — Louisville Lulu

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Fish Farms of Arkansas, Inc.  
Channel Catfish, Bass, Hybrid Bluegill, Red Ear, Copper Nose Bluegill, Fathead Minnows, Koi, Crappie and Triptoid Grass Carp are now available for Pond & Lake Stocking. Permit and one week notice required for Triptoid Grass Carp purchase.

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- Discounts/Special Deliveries on large orders!
- Turtle Traps, Fish Feeders, Fish Traps
- Liquid Pond Fertilizer and Gift Certificates

Delivery will be Friday, August 8, 2003 at the times listed for the following towns and locations.

Stanton-Decker's Farm Supply & Nursery 756-3444 7-8 am  
Big Spring-Ezell-Key Feed & Grain 267-8112 9-10 am  
Colorado City-Colorado City Feed & Seed 728-5071 11-12 pm  
Snyder-Ezell-Key Feed Store 573-6691 12:30-1:30 pm  
Roby-Terry's Gin, Inc. 776-2257 2:30-3:30 pm  
Aspermont-D & D Feed and Seed 776-2257 4-5 pm

To place an order or for more information, call one of our Aquatic Consultants, local dealer, or email sales@dunnfishfarm.com.  
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A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results.

JULY 29 2003



TUESDAY

	KMID (2) Midland	KPEJ (3) Odessa	KERA (3) Dallas	F:AM (4) ABC Family	KOSA (7) Odessa	WFAA (8) Dallas	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	UNI (13) Spanish	NASH (15) Nashville	TMC (16) Premium	SHOW (20) Premium	TLC (21) Learning Ch.	HBO (22) Premium	KMLN (23) Odessa	A&E (23) New York	DISC (23) Discovery	TNT (23) Atlanta	DISN (23) Premium
6 PM	News Wheel	King of the Hill	Cyberchase Zoboombies	7th Heaven (CC)	News Ent. Tonight	News Wheel	News Seinfeld (CC)	Friends (CC)	Las Vias del Amor	Blind Date	15 Movie: Mulholland	Movie: Along Came a	Daring Capers	Real Sports (CC)	Booker John Hages	American Justice	FBI Files	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Sister, Sister
7 PM	8 Simple Rules	American Juniors (CC)	News (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Baby on Board	Big Brother 4 (CC)	8 Simple Rules	Dog Eat Dog (CC) (DVS)	Houston Astros at	Rebecca	Star Trek: Next	Falls (CC)	(CC)	What Were You	Movie: Undeclared	Update/first N. McBride	Biography: Judge Judy	New Detectives	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Eddie's
8 PM	Accordions-Jim	Paradise Hotel	News (CC) (DVS)	(CC)	Guardian (CC)	Accordions-Jim	Last Comic Standing	Atlanta Braves	Nina... Amada	Movie: The Man With the World (CC)	Movie: Ghost	Rotterball	Mostly True: Urban	(CC)	Light of the Southwest	Cold Case Files (CC)	New Detectives	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Cook-Off (CC)
9 PM	NYPD Blue (CC)	7th Show Dharma-Greg	Oldie Hoodling	Whose Line? Whose Line?	Judging Amy (CC)	NYPD Blue (CC)	Law & Order: Special	Sinfeld (CC)	Var Para Crear	Golden Gun	"	Movie News	Monster Hunters (CC)	Bill Maher: Victory	MI-5 (CC)	FBI Files	Charmed (CC)	Sister, Sister	Even Stevens
10 PM	News Nightline	7th Show Raymond	News-Letters	700 Club (CC)	News Late Show	News (CC) Nightline	News Tonight	Movie: The Outlaw Josay	Primer Impacto	"	Movie: Impostor	Dead Like Me	What Were You	Sex and-City Wire (CC)	Hour of Healing	Third Watch (CC)	New Detectives	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Boy World Proud Family
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel	Sudden-Susan	P.O.V. (CC)	Caroline Rives (CC)	Ent. Tonight Late Show	Ent. Tonight Late Show	(CC)	Wales (CC)	En las Mejores	Blind Date	(CC)	Movie: Enemy	Mostly True: Urban	Real Time	Sam Peak Richman	Biography: Judge Judy	New Detectives	X-Files (CC)	Boy World Smart Guy
12 AM	Paid Program Cowboy	Blind Date Beyond	Movie: The Wildcatter	Paid Program	Show (CC) Street Smarts	Live (CC) Oprah	(CC)	Fraser (CC)	Camila	Highlander (CC)	Beyond the City Limits	(CC)	Monster Hunters (CC)	(CC)	Update/first Joseph Good	Cold Case Files (CC)	FBI Files (CC)	X-Files (CC)	Sister, Sister Even Stevens

DENNIS THE MENACE



"EXCEPT FOR ALL THE LADIES WHO AREN'T WEARING ENOUGH CLOTHES, THIS PLACE IS PERFECT."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy! Look! In the City of Brotherly Love!"

HAGAR



"THIS HAPPENS EVERY YEAR WHEN WE GO ON VACATION, HELGA!"



"YOU'VE JUST GOT TO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT YOU'VE GAINED A FEW POUNDS OVER THE WINTER!"

BLONDIE



"WHAT'S UP WITH THE PHONE, BOSS?"



"MY WIFE'S ON THE PHONE AND SHE'S BAWLING ME OUT"

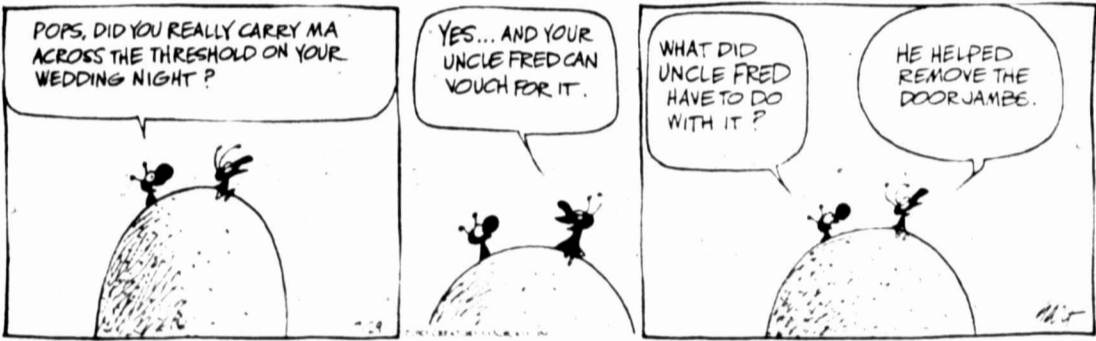


"EVERY FIVE MINUTES I OPEN THE DRAWER AND TELL HER TO CALM DOWN"



"I'M SORRY I ASKED FOR CRYING OUT LOUD, CALM DOWN!"

BC



"POPS, DID YOU REALLY CARRY MA ACROSS THE THRESHOLD ON YOUR WEDDING NIGHT?"

WIZARD OF ID



"THE WIFE AND I WOULD LIKE A ROOM"

AGNES



"MY NEW SOFT DRINK WILL HAVE NO CAFFEINE, NO SWEETENER, AND AN ODD FLAVOR YOU CAN'T SEEM TO PLACE"

HI AND LOIS



"EVER HAVE ONE OF THOSE DAYS WHEN EVERYTHING GOES WRONG?"

MR. HOUSEWIFE



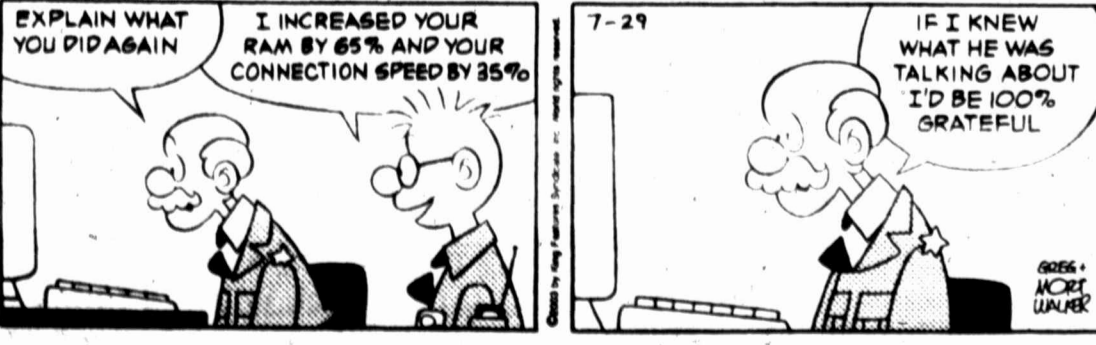
"THEY ARE CONJOINED, BUT I THINK THEY CAN BE SAFELY SEPARATED."

SNUFFY SMITH



"SHERIFF TAIT'S PUTTIN' IN FER A DEPUTY, SNUFFY!"

BETLE BAILEY



"EXPLAIN WHAT YOU DID AGAIN"

This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, July 29, the 210th day of 2003. There are 155 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On July 29, 1981, Britain's Prince Charles married Lady Diana Spencer at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. The couple divorced in 1996.

On this date: In 1030, the patron saint of Norway, King Olaf II, was killed in battle.

In 1588, the English soundly defeated the Spanish Armada in the Battle of Gravelines.

In 1890, artist Vincent van Gogh died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in Auvers, France.

In 1900, Italian King Humbert I was assassinated by an anarchist; he was suc-

ceeded by his son, Victor Emmanuel III.

In 1914, transcontinental telephone service began with the first phone conversation between New York and San Francisco.

In 1948, Britain's King George VI opened the Olympic Games in London.

In 1958, President Eisenhower signed the National Aeronautics and Space Act, which created NASA.

In 1967, fire swept the USS Forrestal in the Gulf of Tonkin, killing 134 servicemen.

In 1975, President Ford became the first U.S. president to visit the site of the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz in Poland as he paid tribute to the victims.

In 1980, a state funeral was held in Cairo, Egypt, for the deposed shah of Iran, who had died two days earlier at age 60.

Ten years ago: The Israeli Supreme Court acquitted retired Ohio autoworker John Demjanjuk of being Nazi death camp guard "Ivan the Terrible" and

threw out his death sentence; Demjanjuk was set free.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Lloyd Bochner is 79. Actor Robert Horton is 79. Former Sen. Nancy Kassebaum-Baker, R-Kan., is 71. Actor Robert Fuller is 69. Sen. Elizabeth H. Dole, R-N.C., is 67. ABC News anchorman Peter Jennings is 65. Actor David Warner is 62. Rock musician Neal Doughty (REO Speedwagon) is 57. Marilyn Tucker Quayle, wife of former Vice President Dan Quayle, is 54. Actor Mike Starr is 53. Actress Alexandra Paul is 40. Country singer Martina McBride is 37.

Answer to previous puzzle

RANT	CABS	OAT
OBOES	OMAHA	UPI
BRANCHWATER	TAP	
SAHARA	HARBORS	
NESS	TEEN	
ESTATE	CHARADE	
AMI	MEDAL	RELIT
CALL	ATE	TINT
HIVES	TONER	MEA
ELEVATE	CLIMBS	
REBA	HAVE	
COLLECT	TARGET	
ARE	ROOTCELLARS	
KAA	SMOKE	SIGMA
ELF	ALOE	NEAR

Newsday Crossword

EASEL DOES IT by Shirley Soloway  
Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS**
- 1 Falls behind
  - 5 Pequod skipper
  - 9 Lasting impression
  - 13 Sri Lankan tea
  - 14 Le Pew of toons
  - 15 Othello's ensign
  - 16 Burger topper
  - 17 Mama's mate
  - 18 Hitch
  - 19 Garden designers
  - 22 Compete
  - 23 Letter starter
  - 24 Unyielding
  - 26 "Waterloo" band
  - 29 Lemon cover
  - 31 German article
  - 32 British conservative
  - 33 Terminus
  - 34 Enjoys enormously
  - 37 Hospital area: Abbr.
  - 38 Most pretentious
  - 40 Before, to a bard
  - 41 Small samples
  - 43 Close attention, for short
  - 44 French cheese
  - 45 On's
  - 46 On an ocean liner
  - 47 Former map letters
  - 48 Springsteen's nickname
  - 51 Tax experts: Abbr.
  - 53 Roll tightly
  - 54 Black and orange butterfly
  - 59 Aware of
  - 61 Roman love god
  - 62 Sign of the scales
  - 63 Soy product
  - 64 Pro (donated)
  - 65 Brother's wife, e.g.
  - 66 Separate, as flour
  - 67 Cinematographer
  - 68 Borscht need
  - 5 Eminently clear
  - 6 Messy pile
  - 7 Legal recourse
  - 8 Vandyke or goatee
  - 9 Bro's sibling
  - 10 They conduct polls
  - 11 Once more
  - 12 Thesaurus creator
  - 13 Patronage distributor
  - 20 Pranks
  - 21 Peace Nobelist from Egypt
  - 25 Place-setting base
  - 26 Keep (don't quit)
  - 27 Raton, FL
  - 28 Rebuffed
  - 30 Prepares copy
  - 34 Get away
  - 35 Exodus author
  - 36 One of equal standing
  - 38 Fables author
  - 39 Molecule part
  - 42 Bar bill
  - 44 Urban transit path
  - 46 Prolific sci-fi writer
  - 48 Teases
  - 49 Capital of Vietnam
  - 50 Swedish autos
  - 52 Do improv
  - 55 Not any
  - 56 Up to the task
  - 57 Mild expletive
  - 58 Deviate from a straight path
  - 60 Macadamia or cashew

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