

**WEEKEND EDITION**

July 24-25, 2004

**WEATHER**



CLOUDY

SUNDAY 78°-80° SUNDAY NIGHT 64°-66°

**INSIDE**



Duane Bemis, chaplain for Cornell Corrections, has established a prison ministry that is crossing national barriers to touch the lives of families in other countries. **Page 1C**



Cover Story: For 30 years, Mark Corbet, 53, of Redmond, Ore., (pop. 13,481) has assaulted forest fires from the sky. The 5-foot-7, 165-pound Corbet is one of the nation's 400 active smokejumpers, daredevils who parachute into remote locations across the West each summer to snuff out wildfires before they grow into uncontrollable conflagrations. **Insert**

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The U.S. Hang Gliding Association National Championships will be held in Big Spring Aug. 1-7. Competitors are expected to begin arriving several days early for the event, which is making its second straight appearance here.

## 'Bigger and better' glider championships heading for Big Spring

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's a... hang glider?

Big Spring residents may see something other than birds and clouds on the horizon beginning Aug. 1, as the United States Hang Gliding Association's National Championships will make its second straight appearance in the Crossroads area.



GLOVER

**What:** U.S. Hang Gliding Association National Championships.

**Where:** McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

**When:** Aug. 1-7.

"It's going to be similar to last year's competition, but it's going to be a little bigger and better," said competition organizer and director David Glover. "We have more competitors signed up because more people have

See GLIDERS, Page 3A

## District 19 candidates raising funds at rapid pace

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

As November's Election Day grows closer, candidates in the race for the 19th U.S. Congressional District seat are raising campaign funds at a feverish pitch, according to the Federal Election Commission.

U.S. Reps. Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, and Charles Stenholm, D-Abilene, have raised nearly \$3.5 million dollars between them as of June 30, according to statistics provided by the FEC.

Neugebauer, the congressional freshman who took over District 19 in 2003 when long-time Rep. Larry Combest retired, has reported total fund-raising receipts for 2004 of \$2.13 million. Neugebauer also reported \$1.38 mil-

Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock

Total Receipts: \$2,130,199

Transfers From Committees: \$24,828

Individual Contributions: \$1,425,439

PACs or Others: \$607,449

Party Contributions: \$2,054

Total Disbursements: \$1,388,071



Charles Stenholm, D-Abilene

Total Receipts: \$1,333,138

Transfers From Committees: \$44,460

Individual Contributions: \$575,495

PACs or Others: \$708,677

Party Contributions: \$227

Total Disbursements: \$662,728



lion had been spent thus far in the race.

Stenholm, who currently represents District 17 and was forced into the race with Neugebauer due to recent redistricting, trails in fund-raising with \$1.33 million in receipts, and \$662,728 in total disbursements.

Individual contributions coming from area

residents and businesses make up \$1.42 million of the money raised thus far by Neugebauer, with an additional \$607,449 coming from non-party committees. Party affiliated committees have chipped in \$2,054,

See FUNDS, Page 3A

## Emotional time for Guardsman and his family

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

While the news that the Texas National Guard's 56th Brigade, 36th Infantry Division will be heading to Iraq sinks in, one Big Spring guardsman is taking a hard look at his civilian life and family.

A sergeant in the Texas Guard, James Rawls of Big Spring isn't a stranger to overseas duty having spent six months serving as a guard at a military detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Rawls is just one of the 2,500 Texas National Guardsmen that will be making the long trip to Iraq, and seems confident in his unit's ability to serve in the military operation.

"I feel confident that we're capable of handling the mission requirements and are able to deal with that type of threat," said Rawls.

*"It's very difficult — not just physically but mentally. You know the possibility that you can be killed or severely wounded is there..."*

—Sgt. Jamie Rawls



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Sgt. Jamie Rawls, right, spends time with his two-week-old niece, Gabriella Ramsey, and his sisters, 15-year-old Raylynn Rawls and 17-year-old Cheyenne Rawls. Jamie is one of more than 2,500 Texas National Guardsmen who have been given mobilization orders for Iraq to assist in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Unlike many guardsmen that signed up for duty after the Sept. 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center, Rawls joined several months before the tragic date.

"I joined the National Guard in March of

2001," said Rawls. "I was at Fort Benning, Ga., in basic training when the Sept. 11 tragedy occurred. I came home in February

See RAWLS, Page 7A

## TDHS clinic offering free immunizations this week

Herald Staff Report

The Texas Department of Health will be providing free "back-to-school" immunizations, from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday this week.

All students registering for school in the Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan school districts, from Head Start through high school, must have up-to-date immunization records.

**What:** Back-to-school immunizations.

**Where:** Texas Department of Health, College Park Shopping Center.

**When:** 8-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

The Health Department is offering extra hours for immunizations.

See SHOTS, Page 3A

## RCCI slogans entries narrowed; marketing pro to give an opinion

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

The list of 844 slogans to promote Big Spring has been trimmed and will now be forwarded to a professional in the marketing field for an opinion, according to a spokesperson with the Rural Community College Initiative's slogan committee.

"The committee narrowed the list to 17 and those have been sent to a professional marketer

in Texas with ties to Big Spring," explained Susanne Reed, a member of the committee. "We should have that opinion in the next week or two and then the RCCI committee will decide how to proceed."

The marketing professional has agreed to take on the project at no charge.

The 17 slogans, listed in no significant order, are:

"Big Spring, Colorful Past,

See SLOGANS, Page 3A

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JUL 24 2004



### TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

#### Judge: Montemayor to be extradited

HOUSTON (AP) — A federal judge on Friday ruled that the former head of Mexico's state oil company will be extradited to his home country to face charges of embezzlement and wrongful use of power.

Mexican authorities in May 2002 charged Rogelio Montemayor with improperly negotiating a labor contract with the Pemex workers' union and infusing union bank accounts with large amounts of state money. The charges are connected to three transactions involving \$209 million in Pemex funds.

Montemayor came to Houston shortly after he was charged and tried to turn himself in to U.S. authorities before Mexico requested his extradition in October 2002. He said then that he wanted to be extradited to prove his innocence.

In an 11-page ruling, U.S. District Court Judge Lynn Hughes said that "because there is probable cause to believe he committed the crimes, he will be returned to Mexico to answer them." Hughes' decision came after an extradition hearing on Tuesday.

Montemayor argued that his forced return to Mexico would be illegal because the statute governing extradition is unconstitutional. U.S. laws are not similar to those in Mexico related to the charges, and that the charges are too vague.

#### Group accuses judge of conflict of interest

AUSTIN (AP) — A group that champions parental rights has filed a complaint against a San Antonio judge because he serves on the boards of several state-funded child-protection organizations.

The complaint filed with the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct by the Texas Center for Family Rights alleged that District Judge John Specia Jr. has surrendered his impartiality by serving on the boards, the Austin American-Statesman reported Friday.

Specia is chairman of two state boards and two others that receive funding and policy direction from Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. The group says that violates state rules.

The case could have a statewide effect, because it's not uncommon for judges to sit on the boards of child-welfare organizations that are involved in the justice system.

Those same judges sometimes must determine whether children will be taken from their families and placed in state custody, such as foster care.

#### World War I vet celebrates her 107th birthday

DALLAS (AP) — No other veteran dares to sit in Marie Odee Johnson's spot in the VA hospital cafeteria. The bossy little lady has a way of commanding respect from her wheelchair. And on Friday, the former Navy clerk commanded recognition.

The only surviving North Texas woman to serve in World War I celebrated her 107th birthday at the Veterans Affairs North Texas Health Care System with a party, cake, a framed letter from President Bush and a certificate from Gov. Rick Perry.

"Our nation is grateful for your outstanding legacy of compassion, patriotism, hope, and responsibility," Bush's letter read.

A tiara on her head, patriotic balloons tied to her wheelchair and buttons on her dress that read "Kiss me. It's my birthday" and "Aged to perfection," Johnson was surrounded by family, friends and caregivers. She didn't talk much but nodded a few times when asked if she was enjoying herself.

Even Johnson seemed impressed with her feat of longevity, said caregiver Ophelia Strange.

"This morning I said, 'Today's your birthday' and she said 'How old?' I said 107 and she said 'That's old!'" Strange said.

#### Couple charged in daughter's meth death

LUFKIN (AP) — An East Texas couple has been indicted on charges that they killed the woman's teenage daughter by injecting her with an overdose of methamphetamine.

A grand jury indicted Rebecca and Johnny Lee of Lufkin on Thursday on one count of murder each in the May 2003 death of 15-year-old Candice Alexander.

Alexander was found dead under a truck in front of the couple's home. The girl split her time between her mother and father and had been visiting her mother for a few days, family members said at the time.

According to an autopsy report, Alexander had numerous cuts, scrapes and bruises and a single fresh needle mark on her left arm. Her death certificate lists "amphetamine and methamphetamine toxicity" as her cause of death.

Angelina County District Attorney Clyde Herrington told the Lufkin Daily News that he could not comment on whether the couple intended to kill the girl by injecting her with the drug.

Rebecca Lee, 36, also was indicted on Thursday on four counts of delivery of a controlled substance-methamphetamine. Johnny Lee, 51, was indicted in November on two federal weapons charges, one of which was related to a drug-trafficking offense.

If convicted of murder, the Lees could be sentenced to five to 99 years or life in prison.

### FUNDS

Continued from Page 1A

according to the FEC.

Individual contributions for Stenholm seem considerably low in comparison to Neugebauer, with \$575,495 coming from area residents and businesses. Stenholm did manage to best his opponent with the non-party committees, raising \$708,677, but has seen meager returns from party committees totaling \$227.

While Neugebauer shows a commanding lead in total dollars raised, Stenholm definitely has the upper hand when it comes to soliciting funds from the Howard County area with \$5,202 coming from local donors. Neugebauer has raised \$2,153 in the Howard County area.

Stenholm contributors

include Betty Barr (Coahoma), \$300; James Barr (Coahoma), \$800; Mark J. Barr (Big Spring), \$250; Corky Blocker (Stanton), \$200; Joann Cook (Stanton), \$200; Jerline D. Frysak (Garden City), \$500; Jim Harrison (Big Spring), \$500; Lester Jansa (Garden City), \$400; Donnie Reid (Big Spring), \$300; Velma Reid (Coahoma), \$200; Joe Schwartz (Garden City), \$300; Jimmy Stallings (Stanton), \$750; and Binie White (Coahoma), \$502.

Neugebauer donors include Tommy Churchwell (Big Spring), \$250; Bill Crooker (Big Spring), \$1,500; W.B. Jennings (Big Spring), \$203; and Ardis McCasland Jr. (Big Spring), \$200.

Major PAC contributors to the Stenholm campaign include the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees with \$10,000; The American

Hospital Association with \$10,000; Ameripac with \$10,000; Croplife America with \$10,000; Farmers' Rice Cooperative Fund with \$10,000; Pfizer Inc. with \$6,000; and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. for Responsible Government with \$10,000.

Major PAC contributors to the Neugebauer campaign include America's Majority Trust with \$10,000; Back America's Conservatives PAC with \$7,500; Build Political Action Committee of the National Association of Home Builders with \$10,000; Care Political Action Committee with \$10,000; Committee for the Preservation of Capitalism with \$10,000; and Every Republican is Crucial PAC with \$10,000.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

### Open house set for New Hope School

An open house for New Hope Christian School, 118 Cedar Road, is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday.

The community is invited to meet new and returning teachers for the 2004-2005 school year and visit the new toddler classroom for children 18- to 24-month-olds.

New Hope offers early childhood development classes and a self-paced, computer assisted education program for kindergarten through 12th grade.

### GLIDERS

Continued from Page 3A

found out about the sport and this location. We have more international competitors coming and we also have something special planned this year."

This year's competition will include a community welcome dinner for the hang glider pilots at 6 p.m. on July 31, but according to the coordinator for that event, Bobby McDonald, several pilots will arrive in Big Spring early.

"David (Glover) told us he's going to be in Big Spring four or five days prior to the championships," said McDonald. "He said he's bringing several of the pilots and the tandem airplanes (tow planes) to provide rides



MCDONALD

for the public and help enhance the attention given to the event."

McDonald added that the Red Bull Company, makers of Red Bull energy drinks, will be providing sponsorship for the event.

Another addition to the event will be GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) controlled radio devices that will be attached to a number of the competitors' hang gliders, an idea Glover said will give people on the ground a chance to see the full scope of a hang gliding "race."

"We're going to try to do something with the ham radio club here, where we going to try to put some special ham radios that are tied to GPS units in a few of the pilots' sails," explained Glover. "They will actually broadcast their position and people will get to see some of the pilots fly in real-time on the Internet."

"There will only be four or five of these special trackers, but it will be neat for people at home to be able to see them taking off and coming back. Hang gliding contests aren't very watchable, but this makes it able to be seen and understood. The whole world will be able to click on a map that shows Big Spring and be able to see the pilots flying. It's going to be very unique and special."

While Glover and McDonald are in the process of putting together the final arrangements for the event, which will be held at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark Aug. 1-7, they're also looking toward the future of the sport.

"There's some talk that when the World Championships come back to the United States in 2006, they will hold it right here in Big Spring," said McDonald. "It's not football or baseball, but

maybe we're hanging our city on its own little star by being a part of this competition."

"If the world championships came to Big Spring, that would mean around 100 to 150 pilots," said Glover. "It would be great for them because they would get to see what Big Spring and the community is all about and the great flying conditions. It would also be good for Big Spring because having 150 people come for two weeks and eat at the restaurants and hang out at the hotels would be good for the community."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

### SLOGANS

Continued from Page 1A

- Brighter Future
- "Big Spring — Big Vision"
- "Big Spring — Friendly Faces, Open Spaces"
- "Big Sky, Big Hearts, Big Spring"
- "Big Spring — Boundless"
- "Big Spring — A Community Focused on Opportunity"
- "Big Sky — Big Heart — Big Spring"
- "Today's Challenge — Tomorrow's Success"
- "Our Roads Take You Places"
- "Big Spring — Big Heart — Big Opportunity"
- "Big Spring... Proud past, Bright Future"
- "Big Spring — Limitless Horizons"
- "Big Spring: Proud Past, Promising

Future"

"Big Past, Bigger Future, Big Spring"

"Big Spring — Beautiful by Nature, Friendly by Choice"

"Big Spring — City Limitless"

"Big Spring: The Jewel of West Texas"

The author of the winning slogan will receive \$200.

The slogan will be used to help people identify with Big Spring as well as promote community pride. It may be placed on billboards, bumper stickers, stationary, coffee cups, postcards, the Internet and other items.

The slogan contest is just one step in a comprehensive effort through the RCCI to bolster city pride and promote tourism. There are actually four areas the group will be focusing on. Others are education, economic growth and city and county partnership. The RCCI is funded by the Ford Foundation.

### SHOTS

Continued from Page 1A

nizations the week before students must register for school and recommends that parents take advantage of the opportunity in order to avoid the long waits, a crowded waiting room and missed school days that sometimes occur after school starts because a student is not up-to-date on his or her immunizations.

Each student receiving immunizations the week before school registration

will receive a free gift. There will be no charge for immunizations received during that week. The Health Department office is located in the College Park Shopping Center,

501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28B.

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Guadalupe O. Villa, 54, died Friday. Vigil Services will be at 7:30 PM Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 11:00 AM Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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**What next at the dump ground?**  
All local plumbing companies can no longer dump old dishwashers, water heaters or any metal related items from the residents of Big Spring.  
We are now going to have to charge a ten dollar disposal fee. This will hurt people who are on a fixed income.  
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JULY 24 2004



### Father of missing jogger's husband says he denied any link to wife's disappearance

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The father of the man whose wife vanished this week, allegedly as she went out for a jog, said Friday that his son looked him in the eye and denied having anything to do with the disappearance.

An estimated 500 volunteers searched Friday for 27-year-old Lori Hacking, even as questions grew about Mark Hacking's actions before and after his wife was reported missing.

Douglas Hacking said he approached his son — who has been called a person of interest, but not a suspect, in the case — and asked if he was to blame.

"I confronted my son yesterday morning, I looked him in the eye, and I said, 'I need you to tell me if you had anything to do with Lori's disappearance,'" Douglas Hacking said. "I have to tell you that he looked me in the eye, and he said, 'No.'"

"And I know a lot of you will say, 'Well, who can believe that?' But I want you at least to know that much of it."

Family members said Lori Hacking was five weeks pregnant when she vanished Monday, reportedly as she went for a jog near downtown.

Speculation about Mark Hacking's credibility was fueled by news that he was at a furniture store buying a mattress shortly before he alerted police about the disappearance.

"I'm sorry that all the attention directed toward our son Mark has hindered our efforts to find Lori," Douglas Hacking said.

Douglas Hacking confirmed that police found his son running naked early Tuesday morning at a hotel about a half-mile from the couple's apartment. He was hospitalized and given medication.

At some point late Monday or early Tuesday, police got a disturbance call involving Mark Hacking from a hotel. Detective Dwayne Baird said the call became a medical response.

Mark Hacking, 28, has not appeared publicly since the day his wife disappeared.

She disappeared just days before the couple was to move to North Carolina, where Mark Hacking had said he was going to attend medical school.

But he had lied to his wife and family — he never graduated from college, nor was he accepted to any medical school, authorities said.

"I'm aware, and we're all aware of all the rumors and speculation about this case that are flying everywhere," said Lori's mother, Thelma Soares. "I'm removing myself from all that because my baby is out there somewhere, and we need to find her."

Thelma Soares said she visited briefly Friday with Mark Hacking at a medical facility.

"As I walked in, he was standing, and he put his arms out, and unfolded me in his arms. I just whispered into his ear, 'Mark, didn't you know that my love for you was not conditional upon you becoming a doctor?'" she said.

She said he wept, but did not speak in response.

### Commissioners to mull delinquent taxes

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners will meet Monday morning to discuss several items, including a possible increase in penalties for delinquent taxes.

Attorney Drew Mouton is expected to make a presentation to the court regarding a proposed resolution that will increase the penalties the county collects on delinquent tax

payments.

Mouton is also expected to make his annual report on county taxes and discuss the renewal of delinquent taxes.

Also on the commissioners' agenda are personnel considerations to be presented by County Treasurer Teresa Thomas.

County Auditor Jackie Olson will present invoices and purchase requests during the meeting, while County Clerk

Donna Wright is expected to make a presentation concerning a records management request.

Eddy Jameson, road and bridge administrator for the county, is expected to report to the commissioners concerning pipeline crossings and current road maintenance. Phil Furqueron, construction administrator, is also scheduled to report on courthouse and library renovations.

Following the regular meeting, Olson is scheduled to meet with the commissioners in a budget workshop.

The meeting is expected to get under way at 10 a.m. in the commissioners' courtroom, located on the second floor of the county courthouse.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

### Officer burned when patrol car is hit by SUV

ARLINGTON (AP) — A police officer was hospitalized with second-degree burns Friday after his patrol car exploded when it was hit by a sport utility vehicle driven by a suspected drunken driver.

Officer Michael Moses, 30, had just pulled over a vehicle on Interstate 30 when his Ford Crown Victoria patrol car was

struck from behind. He was in fair condition at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas on Friday night.

Ricky Alan Cantrell, the SUV's 21-year-old driver, was arrested on two counts of suspicion of intoxication assault and was released on \$50,000 bond Friday night. He suffered minor injuries.

His 23-year-old wife,

Claire Cantrell, was in serious but stable condition at Parkland.

Several motorists, including two off-duty police officers, helped pull Moses from the burning car.

Since 1983, at least 18 police officers have died after their cars were hit from behind and the gas tanks burst into flames.

All 146 of Arlington's

patrol cars are fitted with gas tank shields, which Ford recommended in response to the string of fiery crashes. Moses' 2003 Crown Victoria was one of 40 in the fleet that had a factory-installed shield.

Ford spokeswoman Kristen Kinley said dozens of Crown Victoria patrol cars are struck from behind each year with no resulting fire.

### McCartt resigns from Health Department post

AUSTIN (AP) — The wife of a lobbyist with close ties to the governor has resigned from her job with the Texas Health Department, saying she feared her continued employment would distract from the efforts of the fitness campaign she was hired to lead.

The Houston Chronicle reported that Martha "Marty" McCartt began directing the Texas Round-up festival, a program touted by Gov. Rick Perry, July 1 with a salary of \$40,000.

The newspaper reported the job was not advertised or posted as normally required for state positions at that level.

Health Department

spokesman Doug McBride said Health and Human Services Executive Commissioner Albert Hawkins waived that requirement.

McCartt said in a resignation letter sent Friday to the Texas Department of Health that she was resigning effective July 1, with no pay.

She said she would con-

tinue to serve as festival director and would work with an organization that will raise private donations to support it.

"I am concerned that my continued employment with the Texas Department of Health would serve as a distraction from the important cause of fighting obesity and promoting healthy

choices and physical activity," she wrote.

The governor's office has said that the recommendation to hire McCartt was based solely on her work to create and coordinate the first Texas Round-up. She said she had left a higher paying job when she was told about the job as director of Texas Round-up.

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# Militant group abducts construction official

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Gunmen kidnapped the head of an Iraqi government-owned construction company, in Baghdad on Saturday, a brazen daylight attack in a new wave of hostage-taking across the country.

The kidnapping occurred a day after a senior Egyptian diplomat was snatched as he came out of a mosque, and suggested insurgents were growing bolder, particularly since kidnapers scored a stunning victory by forcing the Philippines to withdraw troops to save the life of a Filipino truck driver.

In other violence, a U.S. Marine died early Saturday of wounds sustained Friday during clashes in the Al-Anbar province, a volatile area that stretches west from Baghdad to the Syrian border, the military said.

The military did not release the identity of the Marine, the 903rd U.S. military fatality in Iraq since the war began

according to an Associated Press count.

Gunmen in three cars attacked a convoy carrying the chief of police for west Baghdad on Saturday as he passed near the town of Mahmoudiya south of Baghdad. Two bodyguards were killed, but Brig. Sabah Fahad escaped unharmed, said Mahmoudiya hospital director, Dr. Dawoud al-Taie.

A rocket exploded in the downtown Jubairya district in the northern city of Samarra, killing one man and injuring three other civilians early Saturday, police Maj. Sadoun al-Dulaimi said. It was unclear who fired the rocket.

Saboteurs also set off two explosions on an oil pipeline 12 miles south of Samarra late Friday, police Capt. Khaled Abdul-Amir said.

The 125-mile pipeline stretches from al-Doura oil refinery in Baghdad to Beiji, north of Samarra. The extent of the damage was unclear.

Associated Press Television News footage showed bright orange flames and a thick black plume of smoke billowing from the ruptured pipeline.

Insurgents across the country have waged a violent 15-month campaign of sabotage, bombings, kidnappings and other attacks against local officials and coalition forces.

In the latest kidnapping, unidentified men riding in two cars blocked Raad Adnan's vehicle as he was driving through southeastern Baghdad on Saturday and snatched him, said Interior Ministry spokesman Adnan Abdel-Rahman.

Adnan is the general director of Al-Mansour Contracting Co., a government-owned company that carries out construction contracts for Iraqi government ministries. Adnan, a construction engineer, was a member of the Baath party and helped build some of Saddam Hussein's presidential palaces.

On Friday, militants kidnapped Egyptian diplomat Mohammed Mamdouh Helmi Qutb as he left a mosque and demanded his country abandon any plans to send security experts to support Iraq's new government, according to a video broadcast on the Al-Jazeera television station. He was believed to be the first foreign diplomat kidnapped in Iraq.

An Egyptian official told the AP on Saturday that his country's mission to Egypt has not yet been contacted by the militants, a previously unknown group called "The Lions of Allah Brigade."

"Iraqi authorities have contacted the Egyptian mission and offered help, but as yet there have been no negotiations or mediations with the kidnapers," said Badr el-din de-Souki.

The rash of kidnappings, which also included the abduction of seven foreign truck drivers

Wednesday, has threatened Iraq's efforts to rebuild the country and persuade more governments to commit troops to the coalition here.

Iraqi interim Public Works Minister Nasreen Berwari denounced the kidnappings as "inhumane and savage" attacks on Iraq's "stability and well-being."

"This problem can only be solved when the international community as a whole supports Iraq to sustain its security for its people and the people who are coming to help Iraq, and they are very much needed at this stage," she told reporters.

The militant group holding the seven truck drivers announced new demands in a video broadcast Friday, calling on the hostages' Kuwaiti employer to pay compensation for those killed by U.S. forces in the city of Fallujah and demanding the release of all Iraqi detainees in Kuwaiti and U.S. prisons.

# Nuclear weapons research halted until disks are counted

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — While teams at Los Alamos National Laboratory searched for two missing disks, the Energy Department halted classified research at facilities around the country that use disks like those missing from the New Mexico lab.

The mandate came down Friday from Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham, who said it was necessary to get better control over the disks.

Suspension of operations, which officially takes effect Monday, will be lifted once the invento-

ry of the disks is completed and new controls are established. Employees using the disks will also undergo security training.

Classified work was stopped July 15 at Los Alamos after the disks, known as controlled removable electronic media, or CREM, went missing about a week earlier.

That shutdown was broadened to all Los Alamos operations July 16. On Thursday, 19 Los Alamos employees were suspended pending an investigation into securi-

ty and safety lapses.

Abraham described the halt at other facilities as precautionary and said he had no evidence that problems at Los Alamos occurred elsewhere.

"We have a responsibility to take all necessary action to prevent such problems from occurring at all," he said, noting that he wanted to "minimize the risk of human error or malfeasance."

Agency officials declined to list the facilities affected, but said the number would range between 15 and 24. The department runs 59 facili-

ties around the country. Among those affected are in California, Tennessee, Idaho, Missouri, New York, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas and Illinois.

"It's obviously unprecedented and suggests that the situation is even more severe than has been realized," said Steven Aftergood, head of the Project on Government Secrecy for the Federation of American Scientists.

The moratorium could prevent DOE from shifting tasks from Los

Alamos to other labs, as had been threatened, Aftergood said.

"I think it also reflects a change of heart by Secretary Abraham, who said in May that removable media would be phased out over a period of five years," Aftergood said, suggesting that Abraham now apparently feels it has to be done quicker.

Aftergood said scientific work obviously will go slower, delaying goals that national labs set for themselves every year.

"They have milestones to meet," he said, "and this will set them back."

Danielle Brian, executive director of the Project On Government Oversight in Washington, praised Abraham's decision.

The group wants nuclear weapons labs to use "media-less" computers, arguing an insider could download classified information onto removable disks and walk out with them.

"We always believed poor cyber security was a systemwide problem," Brian said.

# Senator: Report on rocket fuel contamination inadequate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon says it found contamination from a toxic chemical, perchlorate, at 14 abandoned or likely to be closed military bases nationwide. But a Democratic senator said Friday more facilities should have been examined.

In the report sent to lawmakers, the Pentagon said it found the chemical in ground water and soil samples at defense sites in 10 states.

The sites are among those that have been closed or are targeted by the Pentagon for closing or realignment for a different use.

Perchlorate, a toxic chemical from rocket fuel and weapons production, has been linked to thyroid damage.

The amounts found ranged from 1.2 parts per billion in ground water at Fort McClellan in Alabama, to as high as 2,890 parts per billion in some samples of ground water at Fort Wingate Depot in New Mexico.

There is debate about what constitutes dangerous levels of perchlorate, but the Environmental Protection Agency's draft proposal for drinking water is one part per billion. Some but not all drinking water supplies draw on ground water.

Perchlorate has been found in drinking water supplies in 29 states and has also been found in vegetables.

The eight-page report, issued in response to a congressional mandate, was more than two months overdue. Sen.

Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., released a letter to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld Friday saying it didn't meet congressional demands.

Feinstein said the report should have addressed 74 potentially contaminated closed bases — a number contained in a General Accounting Office report from 2003.

In a letter along with the test findings, acting Under Secretary of Defense Michael Wynne wrote that the sites selected were a sample of defense properties "where there is a reasonable basis to suspect that a perchlorate release has occurred as a result of DOD activities and there is complete human exposure pathway."

Feinstein also complained that the Pentagon shouldn't wait for the

EPA to issue a final national standard for perchlorate to develop clean-up plans. The final standard isn't expected until 2006 and the report indicates clean-up at most bases will wait until then.

"This report makes clear that the Defense Department intends to continue to drag its feet until a federal standard for perchlorate is adopted, wasting precious time and exposing millions of Americans to the hazardous effects of perchlorate contamination of water supplies," Feinstein wrote. "This is an irresponsible and unacceptable approach to a serious problem."

A Pentagon official defended the report, contending that in some cases remediation wasn't needed because the amounts of perchlorate found weren't significant.

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**RAWLS**

Continued from Page 1A

of 2002 and got mobilization orders for Operation Enduring Freedom to participate in Joint Task Force 160, which eventually became Joint Task Force Guantanamo to guard Taliban and Al Qaeda detainees. So this won't be my first mobilization."

Rawls said the "rumor mills" within the military have been working overtime since Operation Iraqi Freedom began, so when he received word that his unit would be participating in the operation, there was a moment of disbelief.

"The first thing that went through my mind was, 'Whoa! We're really going?'" said Rawls. "We had heard the rumors that we were going to do this or that, but then we got a briefing from the brigade commander and he basically told us we were going — that we had orders and would be going to Iraq. So here we are preparing to go."

While the news sank in with Rawls, it also began to sink in with the young man's family.

"When I found out the first thing I remember feeling was that I didn't want him to go," said Kaye Davidson, Rawls' grandmother. "I mean, I understand he wants to go, but you never want your children in harm's way."

Davidson said the six months that Jamie served in Guantanamo Bay were hard enough on her and her family, but the deployment to Iraq is something very different.

"This is a lot more difficult for us," said Davidson. "When he was in Guantanamo Bay there wasn't any shooting or fighting going on. When he gets to Iraq we all know there's going to be shooting and fighting. It's hard to deal with."

Rawls' younger sister, 15-year-old Raylynn, is also having problems with the idea of her brother heading to a war-zone.

"I was very upset when I found out," she said. "It's hard because you don't know if he will be coming back or not. That's really hard to deal with."

While the concerns of a sister and grandmother weigh in heavily, nothing can come close to the emotional roller-coaster Rawls' mother, Stacy, is going through.

"When he told me he was going to Iraq I told him flat out he couldn't go," said Stacy Rawls. "I told him he simply didn't have my permission to go over there and play with those people."

"There's a lot of fear involved for me and the

rest of the family. In the news you hear about beheadings and bombings, and it's just scary."

Stacy said she talks to her son on a regular basis about what's facing the young man, and the differences between the job he did in Cuba and the situation facing him and the rest of the troops in Iraq.

"When Jamie was in Guantanamo, I got the chance to chat with him over the Internet from time to time, and that really helped," said Stacy. "My understanding of his deployment to Iraq is they won't have Internet access and will only get the chance to call every so often. So this is really tough for me from a mother's stand point. I'm used to seeing him every day and this is my first experience with the military."

While Rawls can't say when he's scheduled to be deployed, he is adamant he and his fellow Guardsmen will be ready long before they find themselves in the line of fire.

"Even though we're not on alert all of the time, we're constantly training for potential missions," said Rawls. "Now we have this order and we're going to train for the mission and whatever is necessary. You get your mobilization orders and you get your dates to report, and when we get to a mobilization station you go through a readiness check. We'll also make sure all of our things such as family benefits are in order."

"At that point we'll begin the actual training phase where we go through training exercises doing our various tasks. We go through some simple field manual training where we do basic medical and how to take care of your buddy if something happens to him. Just our basic, routine things."

Rawls said his part in the deployment hasn't been explained to him yet, and although the "not knowing" makes it tough to prepare and train, he's confident he and his men will be prepared in all aspects.

"It's tough in the fact that you're not sure what to prepare for," said Rawls. "You're not sure if you're going to be with an urban assault team or on some type of patrol duties. Whether you're going to be securing a certain area. That makes it difficult to train specifically for the mission in the initial phases, but we'll find out during our training period."

"It's still a very hot zone and we're still having soldiers shot at and killed over there, and this is a reality we have to face — that we're being deployed into a combat zone. Most

of our soldiers have never been deployed in an actual combat environment. Some of them have seen combat in the Gulf War and other places, so they know what it's like and we look to them for a lot of guidance."

Amid the three-ring circus known as military deployment, Rawls hasn't lost sight of the gravity of the situation he will be headed into, but said he's concentrating on the road ahead and not dwelling on the negative aspects of military service.

"It's very difficult — not just physically but mentally," said Rawls. "You know the possibility that you can be killed or severely wounded is there, or that one of your buddies is going to get killed or wounded. You don't really want to focus on that too much because you don't want to get yourself down. You've got to keep yourself alert and motivated."

"The better you're mentally prepared for this, the more likely you are to survive. Any type of challenge the military has thrown at me has always been a very physical, mental and spiritual, and as long as you have those bases covered, you'll be more likely to succeed and survive than if you don't."

Rawls said it's important to support the U.S. troops that are currently working to stabilize Iraq, but for soldiers in the National Guard, the sacrifices go deeper into the community, something that shouldn't be forgotten.

"We have civilian jobs just like everyone else," said Rawls. "I work for Robinson Drilling, so it puts strain on our employers and our families."

Robinson Drilling office manager Ray Alexander said he hates to see so many young men put in harm's way, but being former military himself, he understands the necessity of the situation.

"Robinson Drilling will always support our troops," said Alexander after receiving the news that Rawls would be deployed to Iraq. "We have a job to take care of in Iraq and I think we need to finish it. I hate to see so many kids going, but that's what has to be done."

The Big Spring detachment will be part of a historic Texas National Guard buildup that hasn't

been matched since World War II.

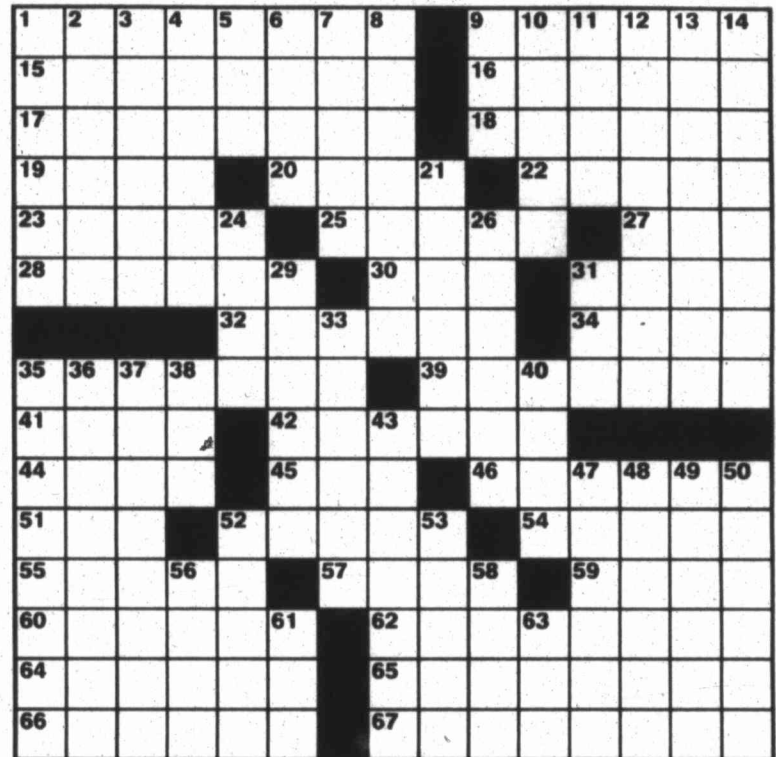
"This is the largest Texas National Guard formation called up for mobilization into a combat zone during the current hostilities," Lt. Gen. Wayne D. Marty,

Adjutant General of Texas, said in a press release shortly after the deployment was announced. "Up until now, smaller units have been called up to fill larger organizations." Marty said the huge

call-up for National Guardsmen in Texas, along with those already on active duty, accounts for approximately one-fourth of the state's force, leaving plenty of forces stateside to deal with domestic threats.

**Newsday Crossword SATURDAY STUMPER by Daniel R. Stark**  
Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS**  
1 Literally, "divine favor"  
9 Proof list  
15 Logical link  
16 Award for cartoonists  
17 Small orbiter  
18 Alabama school  
19 \_\_\_ Thine "That Special Face"  
20 Plod along  
22 Like Water for Chocolate character  
23 Reference-book unit  
25 Memsaibs' nannies  
27 Ring toss, perhaps  
28 Rodeo gear  
30 Festive night  
31 California county  
32 Cassette tape portion  
34 News item  
35 Hid in the weeds  
39 Ron Howard's production company  
41 Fabio's pride  
42 Chili bean  
44 Mishmash  
45 Help-wanted abbr.  
46 Soap, for example  
51 Crass one  
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54 Diploma word  
55 Chooser's option
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1 Embroidery yarn  
2 Western capital  
3 Some radio announcements  
4 Some bicycles  
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6 Letter leadoff  
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**61 Computer key**  
**63 Milk, in**  
prescriptions



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### IN BRIEF

#### Forsan announces week-long clinic

Forsan High School has announced an all-skills tennis clinic will take place Monday through Friday.

The camp is open for anyone in grades six through 12.

A section for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders will take place from 6-7 p.m. and the cost is \$25. The high school section will take place from 7-9 p.m. and will cost \$35.

To register, contact Tonya Vess at 432-268-8798 or 432-559-5822 or Connie Eggleston at 432-267-6913 or 432-517-0749.

#### Crossroads football sign-up dates set

The Crossroads Youth Football Association has announced the sign-up dates for the upcoming season.

Both football and cheerleading sign-ups will take place at the Big Spring Mall. Football players can sign up through Aug. 21 on Fridays (5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.) and Saturdays (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) only. Cheerleaders can sign up at the same time through this Saturday.

The league is for kindergarten through sixth grade.

The flag football league costs \$30, while football division 1 and 2 and cheerleading costs \$55 and \$65, respectively.

For more information, call Stacie or Robert at 432-268-9634.

#### BSISD announces volleyball open gyms

Big Spring will hold volleyball open gyms on all Mondays and Thursdays for the summer from 6-8 p.m. at the junior high.

There will also be lifting and conditioning both Mondays and Thursdays after open gym from 8-9 p.m.

For more information, contact Revis Daggett at 432-816-9560.

#### Herald announces golf tournament

The Big Spring Herald has set its annual City Golf Championships for July 31 and Aug. 1 at Comanche Trail Park.

The tournament is open to all residents — men or women — of Howard County and annual members of Comanche Trail Golf Course and the Big Spring Country Club.

There is a \$35 entry fee, which includes green fee, but not carts. The tournament will be flighted by handicap and trophies will be awarded to flight winners.

For more information, contact Comanche Trail Golf Course at 264-2366.

### ON THE AIR

Event	Time	Station
Sunday		
Event	Time	Station
Monday		
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Event	Time	Station

## Wells to perform at Outback Bowl

### Special to the HERALD

Whitney Wells always knew she was going to do something to do with football. She just didn't expect it would have to do with dancing at half-time of a game in Florida.

Not that she's complaining. The 16-year-old daughter of former *Big Spring Herald* Sports Editor Tommy Wells and his wife Pattie, will be one of an elite group of halftime performers at the 2004 Outback Bowl on New Year's Day when she joins the Devils Lake Dazzlers on the field.

Wells and the Dazzlers, a state-caliber dance team in North Dakota, will be in Tampa as part of the Just For Kix National Performance Championships.

"I'm kind of excited about the trip," said Wells, who attended Big Spring Junior High School. "I don't know of too many people who wouldn't want to go to

Florida in the winter. You can bet I'll be working on my tan while I'm there."

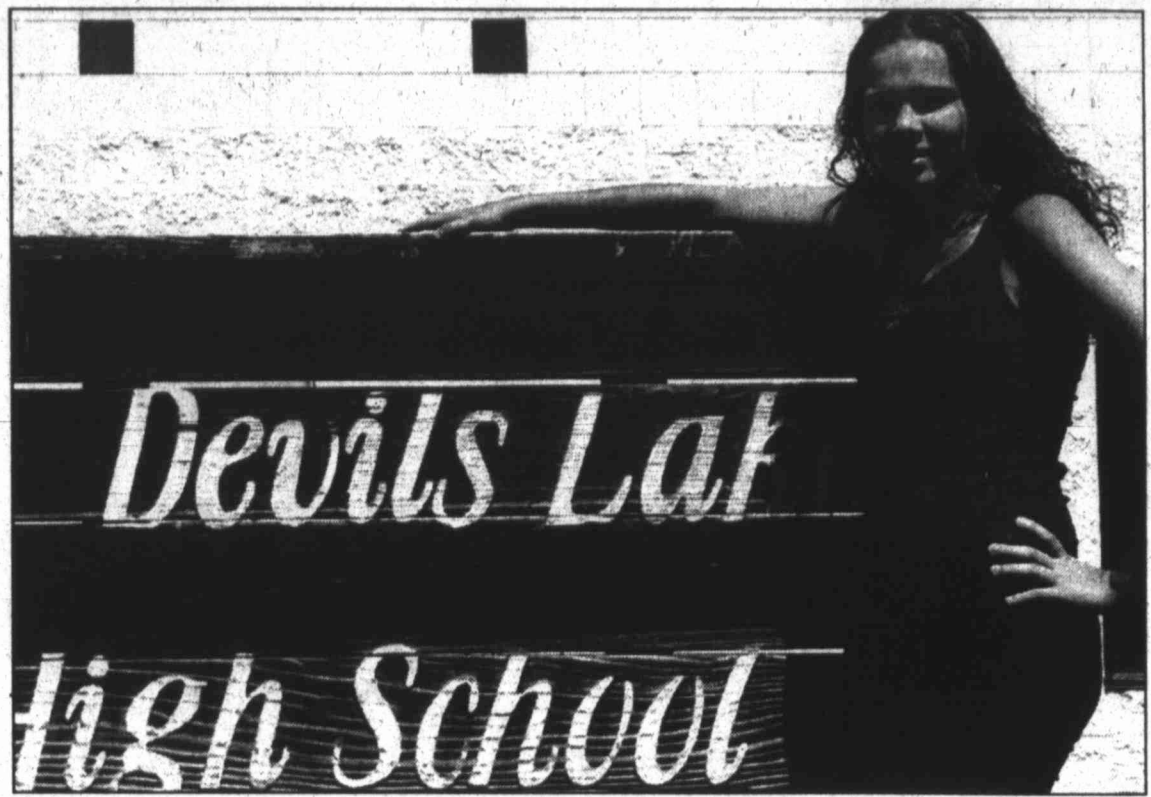
She'll also be hard at work.

The Dazzlers, one of just a handful of North Dakota teams to qualify for the event, are scheduled to travel to Tampa, Fla., Dec. 27 to compete in the Tour — which will be held at Busch Gardens — and prepare for the half-time show of the collegiate football bowl game. The Dazzlers will also join dancers and marching bands from throughout the United States in performing at the nationally-televised game.

Approximately 15 dance teams will perform at the half of the game.

The Dazzlers are scheduled to depart Grand Forks International Airport at 8:20 a.m. Dec. 27. The team will land in Tampa at approximately 5 p.m. and attend the Just For Kix National Championships opening ceremonies.

The team will get its



Sixteen-year-old Whitney Wells, who now lives in North Dakota, will perform at halftime of the Outback Bowl as a member of the Devils Lakes Dazzlers. Wells is the daughter of former *Big Spring Herald* Sports Editor Tommy Wells. Whitney attended Big Spring Junior High School and is the granddaughter of Big Spring's Ray and Mary Christian.

first opportunity to practice at the 65,000-seat Raymond James Stadium Dec. 28.

Following practice, the Dazzlers will spend the afternoon at the Clearwater Beach.

On Dec. 29, the team will begin competition in the Just For Kix National Championships. The fol-

lowing day the squad will visit one of the area's theme parks, such as Walt Disney World.

On New Year's Eve, the Dazzlers will practice at the stadium during the morning before closing out their pre-Outback Bowl schedule by participating in a dinner cruise around the Tampa area.

"I think this is a wonderful opportunity," said Wells, a 5-foot-9 sophomore who intends to play basketball for the Devils Lake Lady Firebirds this fall. "We're going to have a good time."

She is the granddaughter of Ray and Mary Christian of Big Spring.

## George extends career; signs one-year deal Dallas, Parcels

### By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer IRVING — Eddie George agreed to a contract with the Dallas Cowboys Friday, just two days after being released by the Tennessee Titans.

"He's a great fit for us, and he will complement an offense that will be about power running," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said.

George signed a one-year deal that includes an immediate \$1.5 million bonus, which was about what the Titans wanted to pay him for the entire season. Add in his base salary and easily reachable incentives and he could make upward of \$4.5 million, more than he would have made under his previous deal with Tennessee.

George also is motivated to raise his market value when he becomes a free agent again next season.

George was cut Wednesday, at his request, after he rejected Tennessee's final bid. He left the Titans after eight seasons and more than 10,000 yards.

"I see this team coming up on the rise," George said at a news conference introducing him. "There was a lot of places to look at, but I see that Dallas is committed to the run, and I think I can help with that."

George's only free-agent visit was to Dallas. Negotiations moved so quickly because the relationship works well for both sides.

The Cowboys had plenty of room under the salary

cap and, a week before opening training camp, they were still looking for a veteran running back to ease the burden on Julius Jones, a second-round pick from Notre Dame who was expected to be the starter.

Regardless of who starts, both will get plenty of carries. The better George does — and the Cowboys are certainly hoping his competitive nature and desire to prove he's still an elite runner will draw out his best — the slower they can bring along Jones.

Although George has never missed a game in his 128-game career, he's been slowed by injuries typical for someone who's averaged 21.4 carries per game. He turns 31 in September.

The pounding has reduced his effectiveness. After averaging 3.9 yards per carry his first five seasons, he's been at 3.2 over the last three seasons. He was at 3.3 last year, when he gained 1,031 yards and topped the 10,000-yard mark for his career.

George's 2003 numbers are similar to what Troy Hambrick produced last season when he underwhelmingly replaced Emmitt Smith. Hambrick has since been released.

The difference is that the Cowboys believe George can still be valuable if used properly, especially as the lead back in short-yardage and goal-line situations. He scored 12 touchdowns two

seasons ago. George also has averaged 8.3 yards on two receptions per game for his career.

While Cowboys coach Bill Parcells is high on Jones, he also values veterans such as George.

### Kemper to play in all-star game

#### By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor Former-Coahoma standout wide receiver Kelby Kemper, who graduated this past spring, has been selected to play in Texas High School Coaches Association all-star football game at Rice University in Houston Tuesday.

There will be two teams — a north and a south — of approximately 66 of the best football players in the state of Texas showcasing their talents on one field.

"It's a pretty big deal," said Coahoma head football coach Robert Wood. "He's going to be playing with the best of the best in the state."

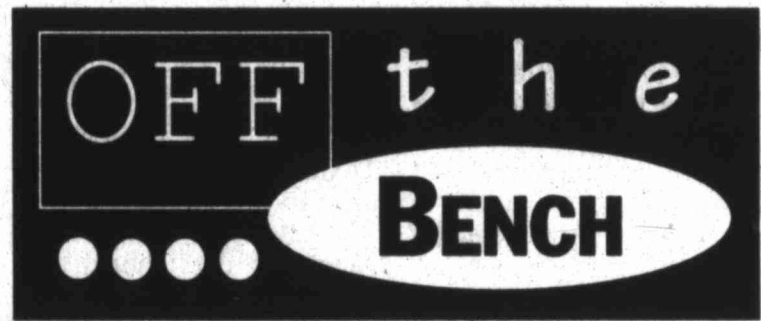
Kemper left for Houston this past Thursday. He and his team has been practicing at the University of Houston all weekend to prepare for the 7:30 kickoff.

Kemper led the Bulldogs in receiving last season and helped Coahoma get into the 2A playoffs.

Kemper was honored by the AP as a second team all-state wide receiver and by sportswriter's as a first team punter and second team receiver and free safety.

He was also voted as a second team all-state shortstop for his efforts during baseball season.

The game will air on Fox Sports Southwest.



Eddie George is a now a Dallas Cowboy.

What does this mean for Cowboy fans? Well, if you want my opinion, nothing really.

I hope no one in Texas thinks George is going to be the answer to Dallas' running back problems. He is definitely an upgrade from what they had last year in Troy Hambrick, but this move still doesn't propel the Cowboys past the Eagles and it might not even push them past the Redskins, who have had a pretty good offseason, as well.

George is on the down slide of his career no matter what he or anyone in Dallas tells you. George was a dominant running back in the league his first five years, but since has been merely average. His best year came in 2000 when he rushed for 1,509 yards and scored 14 touchdowns. But, even his best year only produced a 3.7 yards per carry average. In fact, 3.7 yards per carry is his career average, as well.

His last good year was just two years ago during the 2002 season. He rushed for 1,165 yards and scored 12 times. Not bad, but hardly a typical George like performance. And that came after George's worst year as a pro in 2001 when he tallied only 939 yards on the ground and had only five touches.

It is safe to say that George will not have a double-digit touchdown season ever again and he might not have a 1,000 yard season, as well.

He is a valuable receiver out of the backfield and will be valuable in mentoring Julius Jones, Dallas' 2004 second round draft pick.

But to push Dallas to the next level George will

not. Philadelphia is still the team to beat in the NFC East as far as I am concerned. They have been at the head of the class in the NFC the past three seasons and with the off-season additions of All-Pro wide receiver Terrell Owens and "the freak" Jevon Kearse, anyone who picks against them is just plain wrong.

That doesn't mean they will get the Super Bowl, but they are definitely the clear-cut favorite.

Let's not forget about Washington. They brought back one of the all-time greatest coaches in Joe Gibbs and acquired pro bowl running back Clinton Portis from Denver. They also drafted safety Sean Taylor and picked up Shawn Springs from Seattle to fill the void left by Champ Bailey.

The NFC East will clearly be one of the top divisions in the league. That is why George coming to Dallas might not make that big of a difference.

I have nothing against George — except for his Ohio State ties — but to say he is still a dominant running back is pushing it. He used to be one of the first backs taken in fantasy drafts, but now is lucky to be taken in one of the first 10 rounds.

The one thing George does have is a great hall of fame coach and a team that is dedicated to the running game.

Prediction? Even with the acquisition of George at the tailback position, the Cowboys still have to play a tough schedule this year. Honestly, I don't see them doing any better than second place and if Washington is clicking this year they might take third. That is only because the Redskins' schedule is much easier than Dallas'. If the Cowboys do come in second, it will be a distant second to Philadelphia. But, I don't think the playoffs are out of reach.



GEORGE



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Church Night

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New Dallas Cowboys' running back Eddie George, left, and owner Jerry Jones hold up George's new Cowboys jersey at a press conference Friday. George signed a one-year deal with Dallas after he was released by Tennessee earlier in the week. The release by the Titans was at George's request.

## Jones gets accused of steroid use again

By BOB BAUM

AP Sports Writer

The ex-husband of three-time Olympic champion Marion Jones told federal investigators that she used several banned performance-enhancing drugs during the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, two newspapers reported.

Jones won an unprecedented five track medals at those games, three of them gold.

Her attorney Joseph Burton accused C.J. Hunter of lying out of bitterness over the breakup of the couple's marriage.

Hunter told Internal Revenue Service investigators that he injected his then-wife with banned substances and saw Jones inject herself with the drugs at their home in Australia, the San Francisco Chronicle said.

The San Jose Mercury News also reported Hunter's comments, citing anonymous sources.

Human growth hormone, the steroid THG, insulin and the endurance-boosting drug EPO were among the substances Hunter alleged Jones used.

Angela DeMent, Hunter's lead attorney, told the Mercury News,

"It is totally inappropriate for me or any attorney to publicly comment about the facts of a pending case or pending investigation.

That being said, perjury is a serious crime and those who commit that crime should be punished accordingly."

Hunter, the 1999 world shot put champion, tested positive for steroids four times in 2000 — when he was married to Jones.

At a packed news conference in Sydney where Hunter broke down in tears and tried to explain away his positive tests, Victor Conte sat by his side and commented as his "nutritionist."

Conte founded the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative and is one of four people charged with distributing steroids through the laboratory. Jones and boyfriend Tim Montgomery — world record holder at 100 meters — were among those who testified before the grand jury that indicted the four.

Jones has asked that her grand jury testimony be made public, and has provided a lie detector test results as evidence she told the truth when she adamantly denied

using banned substances. Montgomery, however, is among four track athletes accused by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency of drug violations, even though they have not tested positive.

The accusations are based on evidence gathered by the USADA as a result of the BALCO probe. USADA is seeking to ban all four from the sport for life.

Last month, the Chronicle published what it said was Montgomery's grand jury testimony in which he admitted using steroids.

Jones remains under investigation by BALCO, although she has not been formally accused of any offense.

Travis Tygart, director of legal affairs for the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, would not comment specifically on Jones' case.

But, he said, "USADA is extremely appreciative of those individuals who come forward with relevant information and USADA is following up on every lead it receives."

Jones has qualified only for the long jump at next month's Athens Olympics. Citing investigators'

memos, the Chronicle reported that Hunter gave a 2 1/2-hour interview to IRS investigators June 8 in Raleigh, N.C., and had a follow-up call a week later.

During the interview, Hunter alleged that Jones had used banned substances before, during and after the Sydney Olympics.

### Howard College Hawk Basketball Camp

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Who: Third grade through high school (boys and girls)

Where: Dorothy Garrett Coliseum

Cost: Day camper, \$120

Overnight campers, \$220

Registration: Campers will register at 9 a.m. Monday, July 26, at Dorothy Garrett

Objectives: To teach fundamentals, discipline, sportsmanship, shooting, rebounding, passing, defense, ball handling and more

Food: Lunch is provided for day campers, but overnight campers will be provided breakfast, lunch and dinner

Staff: Howard head coach Mark Adams and assistant coach Jason Sautter

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Unlocking the chains



## The School of Tyrannus

A prison ministry

All art work show on this page is by artist and prison chaplain, Duane Bemis. He uses the black and white drawings to illustrate the curriculum of the School of Tyrannus, and draws inspiration from the Bible for his paintings. The photo of the painting at top left is the inspiration piece for the school.

**D**uane Bemis, chaplain for Cornell Corrections, has established a prison ministry that is crossing national barriers to touch the lives of families in other countries.

"This is a ministry that started 10 years ago. I never knew how this would look, which is the way it happens. God gives us a vision and we must go after it and wait for it to play out," Bemis said.

The School of Tyrannus, based on Matthew 5:6-8, is a three-part curriculum Bemis wrote that is used to acquaint inmates with the Bible.

The first part of the program assists inmates with reading the Bible in a structured path of scripture verse. "The first course provides them with one trip through the Bible completely," Bemis said.

Inmates receive certificates of completion for the first part of the course, after they have read through the Bible twice, as specified in the guidelines of the program.

"This brings the men into daily Bible reading, with a worksheet that keeps a personal record of their daily Bible reading. It's done on the honor system, and we've got the whole Bible in the worksheets," he said.

Bemis earned a master's of education and taught public education for 23 years. He is currently working on his doctorate of Christian psychology.

"I saw a huge need for this," he said.

The second part of the course is designed to get the inmates to think about what they are reading and how it applies to their lives. Inmates are encouraged to select relevant Bible scriptures, memorize them and then recite them to Bemis.

"Most education is just regurgitation or fill in the blank. I want this to make sense to them, and I tell them it is a tailored program between them and God. I tell them to look to the red stuff in the Bible, what Jesus said, and to read the whole chapter to find some meaning for them," he said.

Bemis has books of the Bible selected for the second part of the program, including Philippians, John and Psalms. But specific subjects are also required, such as promises, purity and holiness.

"They, with God, pick the verses that mean something to them," he said.

In the third part of the program inmates begin to delve deeper into the Bible. This is the portion of the program where discipleship begins to take hold, and Bemis said the men enrolled in this program are sharing the curriculum with their families, most of whom are not in the United States.

In California, which is where Bemis first began ministering to inmates, he said the recidivism, or repeat offender rate, was high, as it is in Texas.

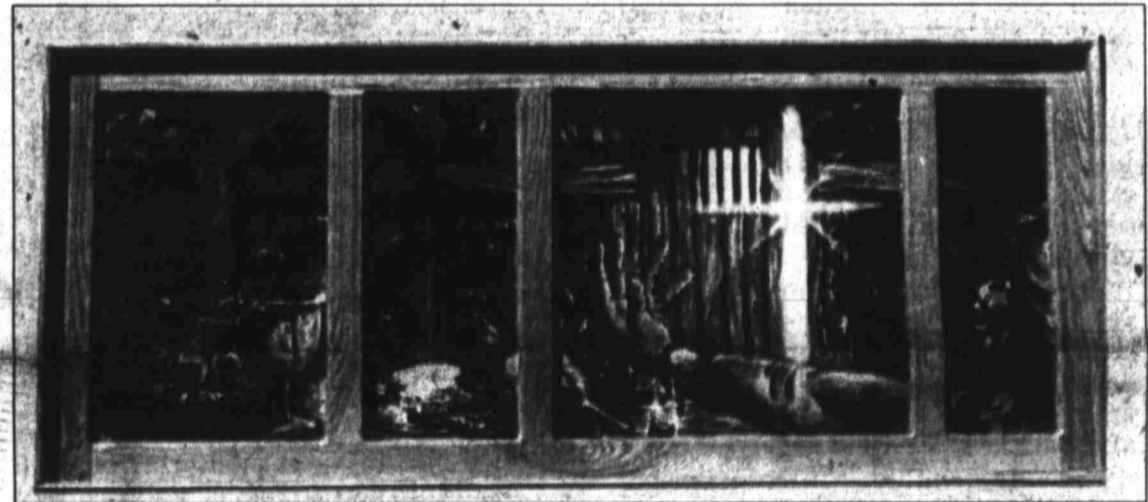
This prompted him to look for something that would create permanent change in the lives of the men to whom he ministered.

"I tell them their best thinking and their best actions and their best words ended them up in here. I use a lot of humor. They need tools to go back to their lives and face their problems and be victorious," he said.

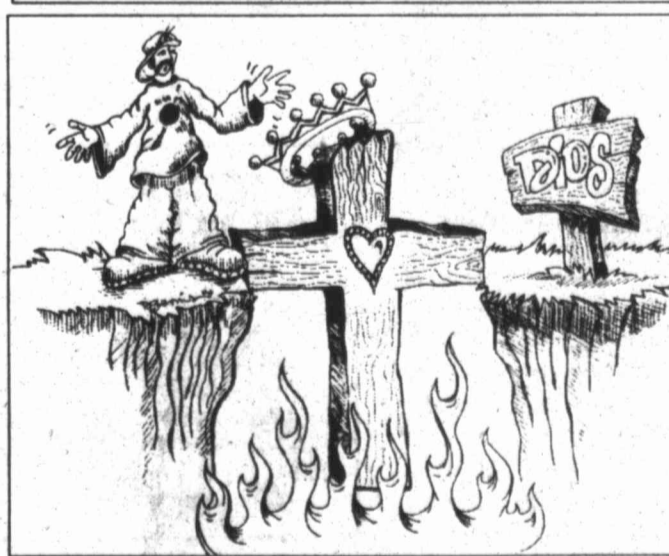
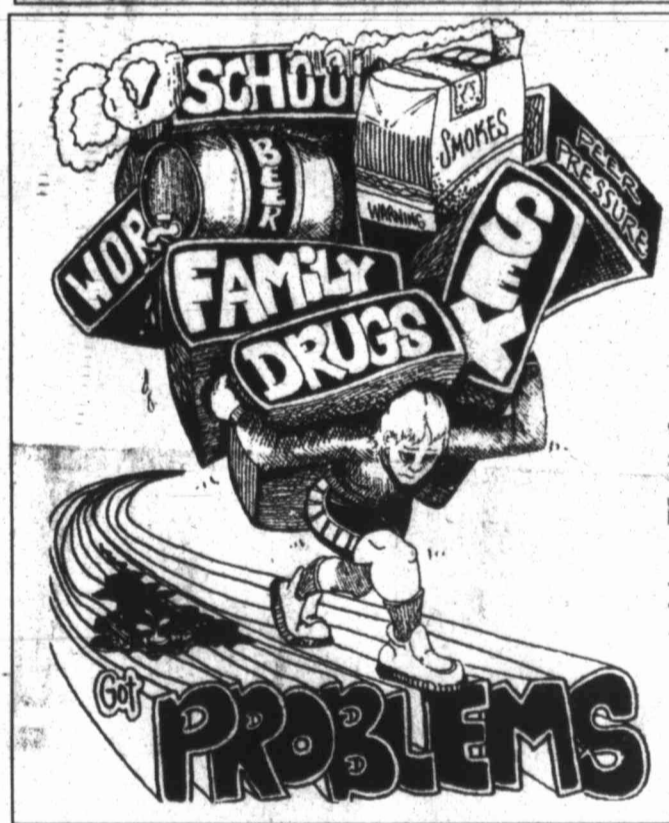
Bemis said problems such as abandonment issues, rejection issues, and drug addictions are just a symptom of the core disease he sees evident in an inmate's life.

"We have to take care of the root of the issues and get a pure heart. The third part is about how to obtain a pure heart, which is the hardest part. The challenge is to go beyond salvation, and this is where the hard work really begins, because these are the big issues," he said.

Based on Matthew 5:8, which says, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God," Bemis said in this part of the program, inmates are taught to delve into their own lives and locate the experiences that have separated them from living a righteous life.



THE REV. DUANE BEMIS



Story and page design by Marsha Sturdivant, Feature's Editor of the Big Spring Herald. E-mail her at life@bigspringherald.com.

Inmates write essays about the lessons they have learned, and Bemis directs them through memories and experiences to finally put the pain and remorse to rest.

Within the curriculum are essays from former inmates who went through the program, became disciples and are now returning to the prison system to work with other inmates.

During "Rebuilding the Temple," the inmates learn to change their perceptions and opinions, based on Biblical truths and not their own experience.

Some of the topics covered in this section, which require either essays or worksheets be completed by the inmates, are "Die to Self," "Wrestling With God," "If Anyone Loves Me," "Biblical Authority" and "Write Your Testimony."

Inmates also cover subjects titled "When You Do Not Understand," "Biblical Man of God," "Biblical Women," "Biblical Husbands Role in the Family," with separate lessons on the father's role, the meaning of true love and a mother's role in the family.

All the lessons are written in both Spanish and English and Bemis is working toward professional publication of the material.

Meanwhile, he carries his message four times each week into the local prisons, where as many as 200 inmates attend.

He has four schools and three churches within the institutions he serves, and 60 students enrolled in the School of Tyrannus. And he quotes Psalms 40:2: "He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the muck and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand."

The School of Tyrannus is based on Matthew 5:6-8: "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God."

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# Wedding

## Copeland and Stallings wed

Landry Lanae Copeland and Jerrod Brent Stallings, both of Houston, were united in marriage Saturday, June 5, 2004.

The wedding ceremony was held on the beach at The Grand Velas Spa and Resort, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Officiating the ceremony was the bride's uncle, the Rev. Ric Allen of Crane.

Following the ceremony, a reception dinner was held in the Grand Velas ballroom. The bride and groom were escorted into the room by an 11-member mariachi band.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Greg Copeland of Equatorial Guinea, West Africa.

She is the granddaughter of June and the late Daryl Davis of Crane, A.C. Copeland of Midland and Faye Grant of Abilene.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Stallings of Stanton.

He is the grandson of Jimmy and Louise Stallings of Stanton and the late Cecil and Virgie Perrin of Shamrock.

The bride was escorted by her father and given in marriage by her parents.

She wore a Michael Angelo formal gown of white satin.

The fitted bodice, accented with pearl beading, featured a basque waistline, and a halter neckline design adorned with pearl beading.

The floor length, slim skirt was trimmed at the hemline with re-embroidered lace, with a subtle kick pleat in both front and back.

The detachable, full cathedral train was beautifully edged with battenburg re-embroidered lace.



Mrs. Jerrod Brent Stallings

The double layered, sheer, fingertip-length veil adorned the bride's updo hairstyle with a white pearl halo. She carried a bouquet of white roses.

Mrs. Holly Fletcher of Odessa served as matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Mrs. Ginger Stallings of Midland, sister-in-law of the groom, and Carrie Jessup of Houston. Tayler Stallings of Midland, niece of the groom, served as flower girl.

Serving as best man was Taylor Looney of Austin. Groomsmen were Jeremy Stallings of Midland, brother of the groom, and Kenneth Kendall of San Marcos.

Timothy Brown of Snyder, cousin of the groom, was the ring bearer. The ushers and scripture readers were the bride's brothers, Heath Copeland of Dallas and Hunter Copeland of College Station.

A second reception for the couple was hosted by the groom's parents at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall in Stanton, June 19.

A memory video was shown, along with a video of the wedding ceremony.

The couple remained in Puerto Vallarta for their honeymoon and are now making their home in Houston.

## Ulibarri and Rogers unite in ceremony

Renee Annette Ulibarri and Gerald Kelly Rogers were united in marriage at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 8, 2004, in La Posada de Santa Fe by the Most Rev. Richard Gundry. The couple had a Christian ceremony, borrowing from Catholic, Baptist, and Spanish traditions. The bride and groom participated in a candle lighting ceremony, accepted gold arras coins from their Padrinos, and received a blessing from the wedding guests.

Acoustic guitarist Mike Chapdelaine provided the music. The maid of honor was Dallas Ulibarri. The best man was Victor Ulibarri. Ron Jaramillo served as usher.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents. She wore an ivory satin gown with an embroidered and beaded bodice and a court train. The bride carried a bouquet of orange mini gerbera daisies, yellow mini calla lilies, orange, yellow and white parrot tulips, and white gardenias accented by rust hypericum and greens. The bride and groom carried vintage handkerchiefs presented to them by the Maid of Honor.

The bride is the daughter of Alfonso and Agnes Ulibarri of Santa Fe, N.M. and the granddaughter of Lucy and the late Ambrosio Romero of Santa Fe, N.M. and Mary and the late Eloy Ulibarri of Santa Fe, N.M.

She is 1984 graduate of St. Michael's High School and graduate of the University of New Mexico, where she obtained a master's of business administration. She is employed by Intel Corporation.

The groom is the son of A.G. and Dorothy Rogers



Mr. and Mrs. Renee and Gerald Rogers

of Big Spring. He is the grandson of Myrlene and the late W.J. Rogers of Big Spring and the late Buck and Edna Baker of Ackerly.

He is 1983 graduate of Big Spring High School and Texas Tech University, where he obtained a master's of business administration degree. He is employed by Sandia National Laboratories.

Brunch followed the ceremony outside in the La Posada courtyard where guests enjoyed a hearty breakfast and acoustic guitar selections. The bride and groom cut the three-tiered cake with alternating layers of chocolate raspberry cake and coconut cake with chocolate ganache.

The finish was a tinted rolled fondant with royal icing and brushed embroidery topped with fresh lilies. Two groom's cakes were served, mocha mouse cake and a white

chocolate espresso cake, both with a dark chocolate wrap filled with fresh berries and gilded chocolate leaves.

Tables were decorated with brilliant orange fresh tulips, lilies and gerbera daisies. Each guest's place at the table was marked with miniature printed velum envelopes containing dark chocolate daisies wrapped in burnt orange foil with a monogram seal.

Wedding pictures of the bride and groom's parents adorned the guestbook table along with a handcrafted box made by the bride's sister, Lisa Ulibarri.

The groom's parents hosted a rehearsal dinner for immediate family at the Rio Chama on the eve of the wedding.

The couple honeymooned in Jamaica, Grand Cayman, and Mexico. They reside in Albuquerque, N.M.

## Howard and Blakeney marry



Mr. and Mrs. Pattie and O'Brian Blakeney

Pattie Howard and O'Brian Blakeney exchanged wedding vows in a double ring ceremony blessed by family and friends May 23, 2004, at First Baptist Church of Sand Springs, with Mark Winn officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Dena Howard of Big Spring and Jack Howard of Estancia, N.M.

She is the granddaughter of Nell and the late Leo Parker and the late Truman and Virginia Howard.

The groom is the son of Leon and Lynn Blakeney of St. Paul, Minn. and

Mickie and Barbara Dollens of Pleasant Hill, Calif.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Jack Howard.

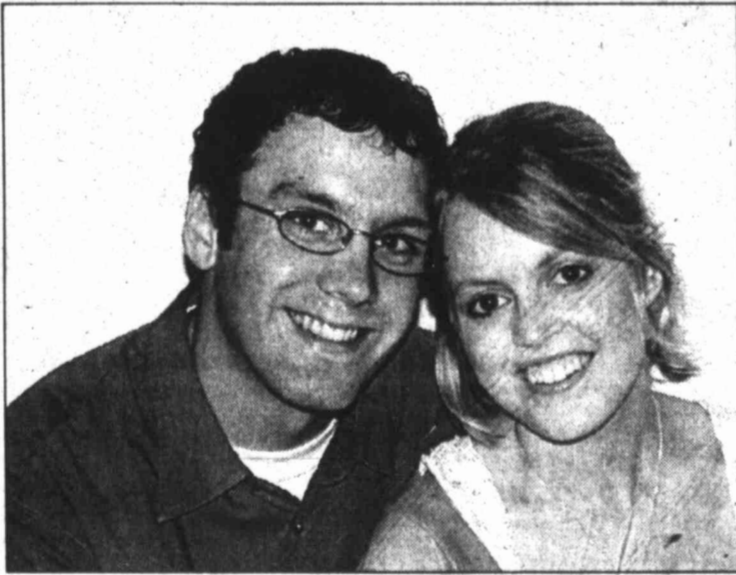
Crystal Lynn Blakeney, daughter of the groom, served as maid of honor. Gary Pritchett served as best man.

The couple will have a reception with family and friends in late August.

The groom is a graduate of Forsan High School and is employed as a deputy for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

The bride is a physical therapist assistant.

## Engagement



Amy Elizabeth Williams and Robert Vernon Fryar III

## Williams and Fryar

Amy Elizabeth Williams of Wills Point and Robert Vernon Fryar III of Early will exchange wedding vows at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 14, 2004, at the Wills Point Church of Christ in Wills Point.

The bride is the daughter of Shawn and Debby Williams of Wills point.

She is at 2001 graduate of Cleburne High School and is attending Lubbock Christian University,

majoring in family services.

The groom is the son of Bobby and Maleah Fryar of Early and the grandson of James and Bo Fryar of Coahoma and Don and Jeanette Parker of Stephenville.

He is a 2002 graduate of Sweetwater High School and is attending Lubbock Christian University, majoring in chemistry.

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BIG SPRING Weekend Edition

Michelle Ni of Lenorah Paul Peugh will exchange vows at 4 p.m. the Circle Tabernacle in

The bride-daughter Lusignan of Robert and K Brownwood. graduate of M School, attending University a an account from Business

Tracy Ann and Stefi Balderach, 1 York City, wedding vows on Saturday, 2004, at the Community Anna Maria

Miss Blom daughter Blomgren of Fla. and Bru Blomgren of Fla. The bride 1992 graduate Raton High received a degree in so with a dual business and tion from I University.

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**Engagement**



**Michelle Nicole Shands  
and Danny Paul Peugh**

**Shands and Peugh**

Michelle Nicole Shands of Lenorah and Danny Paul Peugh of Stanton will exchange wedding vows at 4 p.m. Aug. 8, at the Circle Six Baptist Tabernacle in Stanton. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Robert Lusignan of Houston and Robert and Karren Ogg of Brownwood. She is a 1988 graduate of Midland High School, attended Sul Ross University and received an accounting degree from International Business School in

Midland. She is employed by Shenodoah Petroleum Corp. in Midland. The prospective groom is the son of J.E. and Joann Peugh of Stanton and the grandson of the late Summer and Angeline Shaw and the late John and Addie Peugh. He is a 1980 graduate of Sands High School and received a business degree from Angelo State University. He is a self-employed farmer in rural Martin County.



**Deana Michelle Johnson  
and Michael Ray Jaramillo**

**Johnson and Jaramillo**

Deana Michelle Johnson of Big Spring and Michael Ray Jaramillo of Sterling City will exchange wedding vows Sept. 18, 2004, at the First Presbyterian Church in Sterling City. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hank Johnson of Big Spring and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Walker of Riverside. She is the granddaughter of Trina Beth and the late Dean Johnson of Sterling City, Mr. and Mrs. James Standridge of Vernon and Millie Williams of Carrollton. She is a 1998 graduate of Forsan High School and earned a bachelor of science degree in multidisciplinary studies from Texas Tech University. She is employed by Big Spring Independent School District as an elementary teacher.

The prospective groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Jaramillo of Menard. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Francisco Jaramillo of Devine and the late Mr. and Mrs. John Vargas of Von Ormy. He is a 1996 graduate of Menard High School and earned a bachelor of science in range management from Texas Tech University. He is also a graduate of the 48th class of the Texas Game Warden Academy. He is employed by Texas Parks and Wildlife as the Sterling County Game Warden.



**Heather Dawn Gibbs  
and Jeromy James Vaughan**

**Gibbs and Vaughan**

Heather Dawn Gibbs and Jeromy James Vaughan, both of Andrews, will exchange wedding vows at 4 p.m. Aug. 28, 2004, at Means Memorial Methodist Church in Andrews. The bride is the daughter of Jana Porter and L.C. "Trip" Gibbs III, both of Big Spring. She is the granddaughter of Bennie and Ruelene Porter and L.C. Gibbs, all of Big Spring, and the great granddaughter of Modehn Wyatt of Big

Spring and Lilly Porter of Coleman. She is a 2000 graduate of Big Spring High School, a registered massage therapist and is attending the nursing program at Odessa College. The groom is the son of Maureen Vaughn of Andrews and Sid Vaughan of Caddo, Okla. and the grandson of Lucy Odegaard. He is a 1989 graduate of Andrews High School and is employed by the State of Texas.



**Tracy Anne Blomgren  
and Stefan Shane Balderach**

**Blomgren and Balderach**

Tracy Anne Blomgren and Stefan Shane Balderach, both of New York City, will exchange wedding vows at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 18, 2004, at the Anna Maria Community Chapel on Anna Maria Island, Fla. Miss Blomgren is the daughter of Sandra Blomgren of Bradenton, Fla. and Bruce and Dawn Blomgren of Sarasota, Fla. The bride elect is a 1992 graduate of Boca Raton High School and received a bachelor's degree in sociology along with a double minor in business and communication from Florida State University. She is direc-

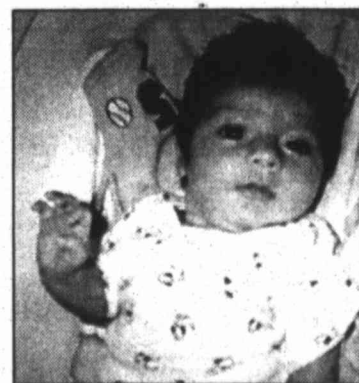
tor of business operations for the Manhattan office of TEKsystems. The groom-to-be is the son of James and Sharon Johnston of Big Spring and Tom and Mary Balderach of Big Spring. He is a 1992 graduate of Big Spring High School and received a bachelor's degree with a double major in finance and economics and a master's of business administration in finance from Texas Tech University. The groom elect oversees product management and strategy for the London-based Royalblue Financial Corporation in their Manhattan office.

**Births**



**Baylee Renee Green**

Baylee Renee Green, a girl, was born June 28, 2004, at 2:14 a.m. weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. Her parents are Randy and Keely Green of Fort Worth. Her grandparents are Tommy and Bridgette Green of Snyder and Sam and Linda Buchanan of Big Spring. Her great grandparents are Bob and Betty Green and Zelma Martin of Cisco, Fay Buchanan of Luther and Marcia Ruggles of Sand Springs.



**Diego Andres Escovedo**

**Births**

Diego Andres Escovedo, a boy, was born March 19, 2004, at 8:06 a.m. weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. His parents are David Escovedo Jr. and Lory

Lopez. His grandparents are Habacue and the late Olga Lopez and Victoria and David Escovedo, all of Big Spring. His big brother is Marcos Anthonie Escovedo.

[life@bigspringherald.com](mailto:life@bigspringherald.com)

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## BUSINESSES COLLIDE



A trio of college students from Munroe, La., found out what a "tight squeeze" is all about Friday, as the Budget Rental truck they were traveling in got caught on the roof of the Trio Fuel Station at Third Street and Birdwell Lane. The students were on their way to Lamesa when they decided to stop in Big Spring. The driver said they decided to turn around and head back to the Interstate when the truck got caught on the side of the structure.

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

## Leonard's growing up and growing out

*New pharmacy will be just blocks from current facility*

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Leonard's Pharmacy is growing up and growing out, as the local business prepares to move its downtown office four blocks to a new home on Scurry Street.

Construction began on the new building, located in the 700 block of Scurry directly across from the *Big Spring Herald*, on July 1, and according to Leonard's Pharmacy President Larry McLellan, should be completed by the end of January 2005.

"The bid contract requires that the building be completed within 180 days of the start date," said McLellan. "We expect it to be ready around the latter part of January. That should put us within that six-month contract."

McLellan said he and his employees are excited about the new building, which will include some

**"We really wanted to try to maintain that downtown identity and feel."**



Larry McLellan

modernizations and maintain a certain level of nostalgia at the same time.

"I think one of the biggest improvements our patients are going to notice right away is the accessibility of the new location," said McLellan. "At our current downtown location, if they're having court next door it's almost impossible to find a place to park. The new location will solve that problem."

"We're going to be doing the store front in a stone, and I think when

See LEONARDS, Page 5C

## EBay aides peddle auction expertise

By Bobby White

KRT Newspapers

FORT WORTH — Dave Davidson knew nothing about dolls. He couldn't discern the difference between Barbie and the antique German doll makers Simon and Halbig. So when his mother, an avid doll collector, died, he was dumbfounded over what to do with the hundreds of dolls crowded into her home.

Overwhelmed, Davidson and the rest of the family rented a storefront and held an estate sale.

There they ran into Brenda Lane. A woman with a quick smile and wispy voice, Lane scours the Dallas-Fort Worth area looking for sales like the Davidsons' and is a trading assistant for eBay, the mega auction Web site. Lane, who lives in Fort Worth, is part of the ever-expanding eBay aide industry.

Rummaging through garages is difficult by itself. Posting findings for sale on eBay is even more cumbersome for many people. Novices lack the technical know how and marketing skills. So consumers are turning to entrepreneurs like Lane to handle the auctioning for them.

When Lane approached Davidson in the storefront, he knew very little about the auc-

tion site, and it hadn't occurred to him to turn to someone else to auction the items for him.

"When she approached us, she said, 'I know dolls and I think I can do a good job of selling them on eBay,'" Davidson said. "This woman knew what she was doing. She definitely helped us out."

More than 105 million people have eBay accounts, and at any given time, 25 million items are for sale on eBay.

eBay started the trading-assistant program in February 2002, intending to create structure in the eBay arena. The result: people like Lane who have turned their hobbies into businesses.

Lane, a collector and SBC Communications retiree, has conducted many sales on behalf of others. She sold an antique silver pitcher for \$4,151.08. A cobalt blue kerosene lamp ignited a bidding war and fetched \$3,000. Then there was the fully furnished train caboose, which sold for \$20,000. Lane had to contact a crane operator to help with transportation, but plans changed when the seller decided he didn't want to part with the caboose. The doctor who won the auction still calls Lane wondering if the seller has changed his mind.

The dolls Lane sold for the Davidsons brought in \$3,420 before her commissions of \$855.

Lane says she has done a lot



Roger Mallison/Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Glen Hill specializes in selling comic books. He has recently started working for Intertech Fluid Power Inc., which also uses eBay for part of its sales.

of "screaming" as she has watched the price go up during auctions. "No one could hear me."

Her routine is like that of many other trading assistants. She does extensive research on whatever she is selling. She will snap digital photos of the item, craft a description for the Web site, monitor the auction, and package and ship the merchandise.

Her percentage of the sale is on a scale, depending on the amount. But because she deals primarily with antiques with a high price potential, her commission is usually 25 percent. She is listed with other Dallas-Fort Worth trading assistants on the Web site.

Because Lane has a high approval rating on eBay, a rating based on consumer satisfaction, clients seek her out. The

approval rating and accompanying customer comments are crucial to a trading assistant, Lane said, because potential clients are dissuaded from enlisting help from people who don't have a high score.

There are more than 100 trading assistants in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, and more than 40,000 worldwide.

Lane is one of the skilled few in Dallas-Fort Worth who can make a living from it. eBay has no official training program. The company created the eBay aide program, which has a loose affiliation with the auction site, to satisfy a burgeoning community. Within the trading assistant guidelines, the company says, "Each trading assistant runs his or her own independent business free from any involvement by eBay."

Glen Hill, a Grapevine-based assistant, said the program is a way of leveraging the expertise acquired over years of using the Web site.

Hill, a mechanical engineer, is employed with Grapevine-based InterTech Fluid Power, but before that, he bought and sold comic books on eBay. He moved back into the working world, reducing eBay to a part-time job, for health reasons.

He was laid off from a job in

See EBAY, Page 5C

## Information you'll need for the county fair

Here is some information many of you with agricultural interests will be needing for the upcoming Howard County Fair.

Superintendent of the show is the Howard County Master Gardeners

All entries in Agriculture Products Show must be entered between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 24. Judging will begin at 9 a.m. on Aug. 25.

All entries must be picked up by 8 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 29 or they will become property of the clean-up committee of the fair.

All products must be grown by the exhibitor



TOMMY YEATER

The following divisions will be offered:

**Watermelons**  
Classes: a) Largest (each entry to be weighed by superintendent at time of entry); b) Best market type.  
Awards: Rosettes to be awarded to

and must be a Howard County resident or in a county adjoining Howard County. No age restrictions on exhibitors. All products will receive quality

grade ribbons (blue, red, white).

Rosettes to be awarded to reserve champion in above classes  
Plaques to be awarded to champion largest and best market watermelons  
Ribbons to all participants.

**Cantaloupes**  
Classes: a) Largest; b) Best market type.  
Awards: Rosettes to be awarded to reserve champion in above classes  
Plaques to be awarded to champion largest and best market cantaloupes  
Ribbons to all participants

**Pumpkins:**  
Classes: a) Largest (each entry to be weighed by superintendent at time of entry); b) Best market type.  
Awards: Rosettes to be awarded to

reserve champion in above classes  
Plaques to be awarded to champion largest and best market pumpkins  
Ribbons to all participants

**Peppers:**  
Classes: a) Hot (6 per entry); b) Sweet (6 per entry); c) Ornamental (6 per entry)  
Awards: Rosettes to be awarded in Champions  
Rosettes to be awarded to Reserve Champions  
Ribbons to all participants

**Tomatoes:**  
Classes: a) Small - Cherry type (6 per entry); b) Large (6 per entry)  
Awards: Rosettes to be awarded in Champions  
Rosettes to be awarded to

See FAIR, Page 5C

## LOCAL BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Local A/C contractor told to stop

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) has issued a cease and desist order for A.J. Finch of Big Spring for operating as an air conditioning and heating contractor without a license.

According to TDLR, all actions against Finch are the result of investigations into illegal activities.

TDLR encourages consumers to report any contact with Finch so the agency can take appropriate action. Consumers may contact TDLR at 800-803-9202 or via e-mail from the agency Web site, located at www.license.state.tx.us.

### Turn row meeting set

A turn row meeting will be held at 8 a.m. Thursday at the Knot Co-op Gin.

Speakers will include Dr. Bill Warrick, agronomist; Dr. Chris Sansome, pest management; and Dr. Charles Allen, boll weevil update.

Three continuing education credits will be given. For more information, contact Tommy Yeater, Howard County CEA-AG, at (431) 264-2236. Please advertise this information for a training program we will be having. Thank you for your help. If you have any questions, please contact me at 264-2236.

people see it the nostalgia of this two drive-thru customers an e prescriptions."

McLellan said location was great although they'd town Big Spring new location is identity.

"We really downtown identity looked around for time and finally we felt like that four blocks from tion."

Another big toms will see which is expected current 1,500 sq

"The new building foot facility," e have the same current building things like impr cial room set as

McLellan said rare art among Leonard's do m

"With compo own capsules a McLellan. "For Phenigran, we put on their w suppository. It have allergies o

In addition Leonard's Pha Pharmacy, loc Clinic, Profess Services.

## EBAY

March 1999, so started selling on eBay. His assistant status for comic books anybody sell ar said he has se 3,500 customer:

"Probably important thing got to know wh getting into," "Be cautious o are selling on are selling to fees you have learn the dos a shipping — t important."

Hill's and I cess is embed eBay ethos, Durzy, ar spokesman.

When the a was created in

## FAIR

Reserve Champ Ribbons to all p

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Classes: a) Okr Awards:  
Rosettes to be i Champions  
Rosettes to be i Reserve Champio Ribbons to all p

Peas and beans  
Classes: a) Blac pods); b) Purple H c) Cream (12 pod); Peas (12 pods); e pods); f) Green (1 Other Beans (12 p

Awards:  
Rosettes to be i Champions  
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Thursday, July 29 - 10:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Ackerly, TX (Martin Co.). Sale Site is located at Ackerly Co-Op Gin Yard. Ackerly is located 20 Miles South of Lamesa or 22 Miles North of Big Spring on US 87.  
**TRACTORS / HARVEST / VEHICLES:** Ford TW-20, '61 JD 4010 (Sharp), '80 JD 484 Stripper, Int. 1400 Stripper, Big 12 Boll Buggy, 2-Caldwell Boll Buggies, CMC Module Builder, Heston Swather #1014, New Holland #315, '84 Chev-S-10 PU w/1993 Body, '81 Ford Econoline Moving Van, '96 Ford Super Cab (Needs Repair).  
**PLUS:** Power Blade, JD #7300 Vacuum Planter, IH Buster Planter, Krause Tandem Disc, White Tandem Disc, JD #4200 Rollover Breaking Plow, Cultivators, Shredders, Blades, Utility Trailer, Tools, Row Ext. for 7445 Stripper, 12 Volt Transport Pump, and more...  
**CONTACT:** Quality Auctioneers (806) 866-4646, John Snell (806) 201-0383, James Fullwood (806) 787-8101, Charles Macha, Auctioneer #6911 (806) 893-7151 or www.qualityauctioneers.com  
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# COMMUNITY GUIDE

A RESOURCE FOR NEWCOMERS TO BIG SPRING AND HOWARD COUNTY



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# Welcome to Big Spring!

## Welcome...

Welcome to the 2004 *Big Spring Herald* Community Guide!

Compiled by the *Herald* staff, this guide is designed to be your companion throughout the year, offering you information on a variety of topics — from A to Z.

We hope you find it a useful and beneficial tool as you live, work, play and shop in Big Spring.

**John A. Moseley**  
Managing editor

## So you're a newcomer?

So you're new to Big Spring? Are you new to Texas?

There are a few rules and regulations you must follow, so here are some guidelines to help you

along.

If you are moving here from elsewhere in Texas, simply take your valid driver's license to the Texas Department of Public Safety office at 5725 W. Interstate 20, on the south service road just west of Big Spring, to update your license.

You also must register your vehicle in Howard County. You can do that by going to the County Tax Assessor's Office in the Courthouse Annex, located on the east side of the downtown square. While you're there, be sure to take the time and register to vote.

If you are new to Texas, let us be the first to say "Howdy!"

But to stay out of trouble with the law enforcement folks, you have 30 days to register your vehicle and change your driver's license.

Here's what you have to do:

First, you must have your vehicle inspected.

Second, take that inspection receipt, your current registration

papers and proof of automobile liability insurance to the County Tax Assessor's Office. There you will get your vehicle properly registered in Texas.

Finally, after you're finished there, go to the driver's license office to get your new Texas license.

You'll need your proof of insurance and your vehicle registration.

If you hold a valid operator's license, you won't have to take a written test, but your vision will be checked and they'll take one of those driver's license photos that none of us likes.

If you have school-age children, you'll want to go by the Big Spring Independent School District's administration building at 708 E. 11th Place to get them registered.

Before you go home, bring your registration papers that show you are a new Howard County resident by the *Herald* offices at 710 Scurry St. As a way of saying "welcome," we'll give you the

first two weeks free on a three-month subscription.

From that point, you'll know all you need to know about Big Spring, Howard County and the Crossroads area — just by reading your *Herald*!

Again, welcome home to Big Spring and Howard County!

## Weather

Located at the edge of the southern plains where the high plains stops and the Edwards Plateau begins, arid days are usual in the West Texas area of the Crossroads.

The average annual temperature is 77 degrees with an average annual relative humidity close to 47 percent.

Summer months are normally warm and dry while the winter months are typically mild and fairly dry.

The Big Spring area receives an annual rain fall 18.5 inches, mostly receiving the precipitation in the spring and autumn.



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# Scenic wonders abound at Big Spring State Park

## Big Spring State Park

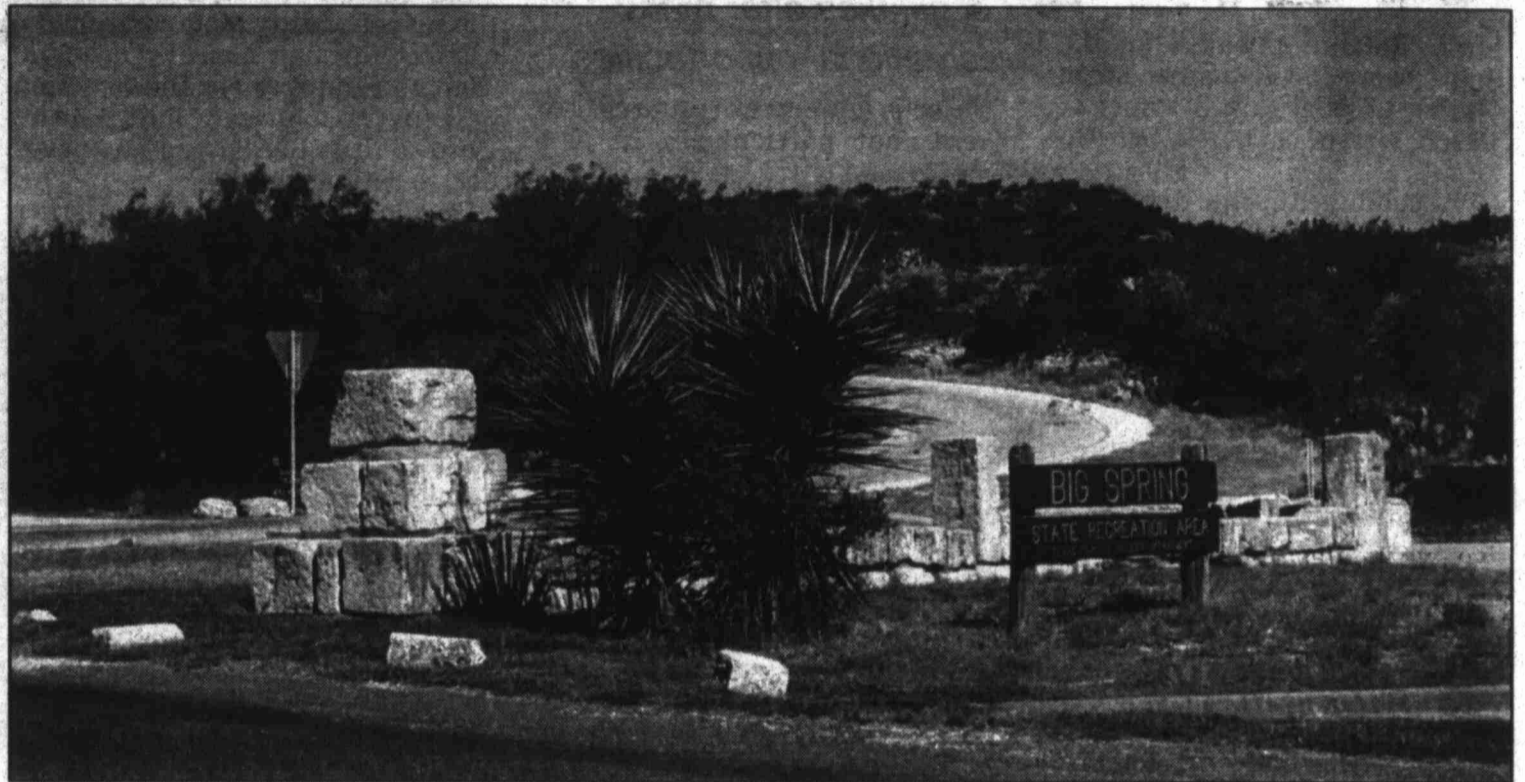
Scenic Drive off FM 700  
(432) 267-4931

Of all the natural resources in the area, the Big Spring State Park remains one of the most splendid examples of nature's glory in the state.

The park is located on the northern limit of the Edwards Plateau on Scenic Mountain, with access to the facility located 200 feet below on FM 700. The park offers camping facilities and sponsors several annual programs.

Ron Alton, park manager, said the annual stargazing party is one of his favorite events all year. Area astronomers set up high-powered telescopes to educate the public. Stargazers are always invited to come out early and watch the sunset from atop the "mountain."

Also on the park's agenda is the annual hay ride, slated for Sept. 27, with guided tours of the park set from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The winding road through the park



also attracts many joggers and is the home of the annual "Master the Mountain" fun run, which is held each spring in conjunction with the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Health Fair.

The park land was deeded to the

state by the city of Big Spring in 1934-35, and officially opened in 1936. Though many improvements have been made over the years, it is the original workmanship that visitors find most interesting.

The park was built by the

Civilian Conservation Corps, including the pavilion, headquarters, residence and drive that loops around Scenic Mountain following the ledge of rimrock capping the

See **STATE PARK**, Page 4D

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## STATE PARK

Continued from Page 4D

bluff. Retaining walls for the drive were built using large blocks of limestone, some of which weigh as much as two tons.

The combined scenic drive and walking route measure 2.4 miles. There is also a two-thirds mile nature trail for those wanting to take a quicker but more rugged route to the mountain's top.

For campers, there are two sites with water and electricity, and eight developed tent sites with water nearby. The sites all have a shaded shelter over a picnic table, barbecue grills and available parking.

Other facilities include restrooms, a lighted group pavilion and a playground.

The 332-acre park is open year round. The gate is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. during Central Standard Time and 8 a.m. through 10 p.m. during Daylight savings Time. Admission is \$2 per person.

For more information, call the Big Spring State Park at 263-4391, or Texas State Parks at 1-800-792-1112.

## CRMWD is West Texas' source for water

### Local lakes offer many recreational opportunities

Water is a precious resource anywhere, but particularly in arid West Texas.

Fortunately, Big Spring has been fortunate to have the solid planning of the Colorado River Municipal Water District on which to rely.

CRMWD was started after a meeting involving representatives of area cities that took place June 20, 1946, at the historic Settles Hotel in Big Spring. From there, cities were invited to join the district, which Big Spring did and has never regretted.

The district's first lake was constructed shortly after and named J.B. Thomas, in honor of the man who called the historic first meeting. E.V. Spence Reservoir was constructed in the early 1950s, named after the first general manager of CRMWD, Col. E.V. Spence. Several decades later, O.H. Ivie Reservoir also became a district "watershed."



JOHN GRANT

For years now, CRMWD has had the responsibility of navigating the district through a heavy drought. That continues under the direction of general manager John Grant. Despite this, Big Spring has never had to ration water.

In addition to the three larger lakes, the district also operates five water wells, which it uses to supplement surface water deliveries during summer months. Member cities are Big Spring, Odessa and Snyder. Customer cities are Abilene, Grandfalls, Midland, Pyote, Robert Lee, San Angelo and Stanton.

Local residents and visitors who like to fish, boat or swim have the opportunity to enjoy the trio of lakes.

Moss Creek Lake, owned and operated by the City of Big Spring, is located just east of the city. It continues to undergo renovations to improve roads and facilities, and maintains a designated swimming area, public restrooms, children's playground and several covered pavilions for public use. There are also paint ball courses and a motocross course has been planned.

### Colorado River Municipal Water District

400 E. 24th St.  
(432) 267-6341

Camping is also available at Moss Creek Lake, including RV hook-ups with electricity and water, and traditional campsites with barbecue grills and shaded picnic tables. For more information, contact facility caretaker Rick Boiles at (432) 393-5246.

Also available locally is Comanche Lake, located on West U.S. Highway 87 at the Comanche Trail Park. No swimming is allowed at the lake, but fishing is quite popular.

Comanche Lake is an excellent place for family picnics and outings, as well as feeding the native ducks that make the body of water their home.

The Dora Roberts Civic Center is located along the lakeside as well, and features a covered pavilion available for weddings and other occasions. For more information on the center, call 263-8235.

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# Boy Scouts is tradition among county's youth

## Boy Scouts

610 S. Scurry  
(432) 263-3407

Scouting is nothing short of a tradition in the Howard County area, with a rich history steeped in strong values and patriotism.

The first Boy Scout Troop was formed in Howard County by C.S. Holmes in 1911.

Locally, the Big Spring area is home to several Cub Scout Packs, serving boys in the first through fifth grades, and Boy Scout Troops Boys, serving boys 11 through 18.

The Boy Scouts aren't just for "boys" either, as both boys and girls ages 14 through 20 can join Venture Crews or Explorer Posts, which deal with career choices and outdoor skills development.

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

One of the most popular features of the

local Boy Scouts is their COPE (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience) course. Filled with physical and mental challenges, the COPE course is designed to teach teamwork, problem solving and leadership.

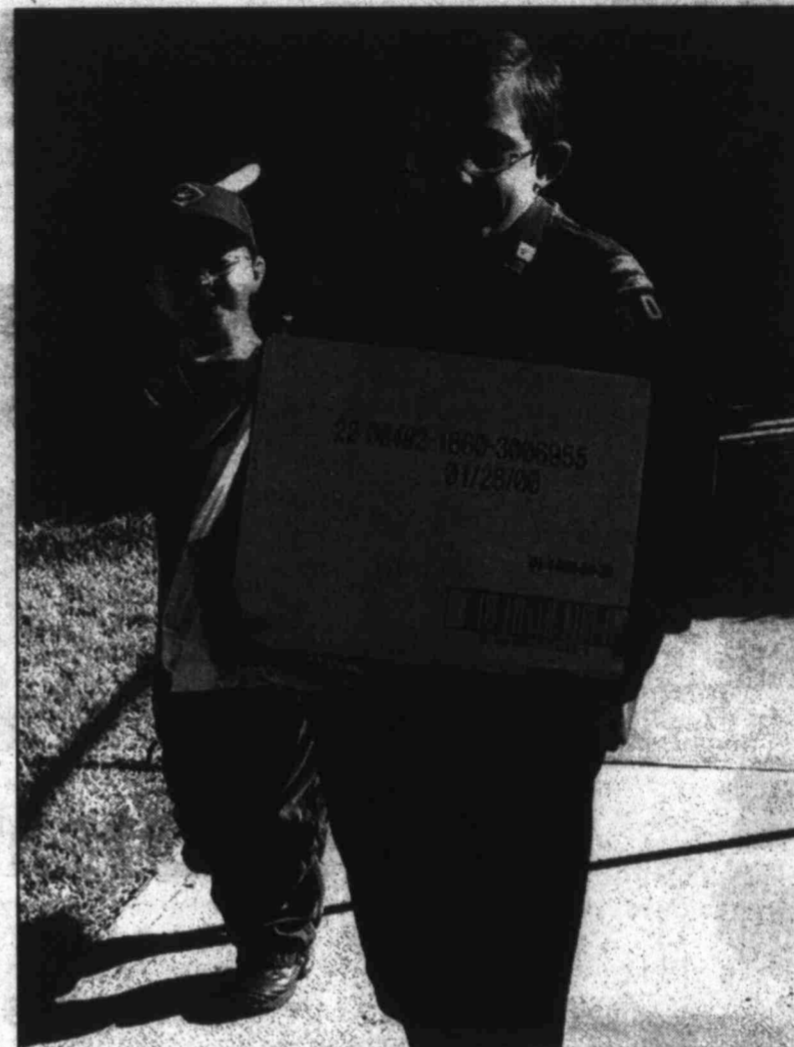
The course is open to corporate, civic, school, church, military, hospital and law enforcement groups as well as Boy Scout groups, Venture Crews and Explorer Posts.

Many Scout units are chartered by various churches and civic groups in the Big Spring area. Names of leaders, meeting times and places are available through the local Scout Service Center located at 610 S. Scurry in Big Spring.

The support of the Dora Roberts Foundation, The United Way and a strong volunteer base of leaders and parents have built and sustained a quality program for area young people to enjoy.

## Girl Scouts

The Girl Scouts organization is planning a membership rally at the beginning of school. Currently there are no contact numbers or address.



Local and area Boy Scouts collect food items from local residents each year through the Scouting for Food program.

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Tues.: 7:00 AM

Wed.: 7:00 AM

Fri.: 7:00 AM

Sat.: 6:30 PM

Sun.: 11:30 AM

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Sun.: 8:00 AM

10:00 AM

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# Boy yea

The Boy's Big Spring part of County sir The club guidance, and educ youth age 17, said B Director Gonzalez.

## Big Spring

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212 Thi

(432) 263

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the program from retire Bert Andr served as di more than Andries sti teers his tin

There are of things to club buildin at 212 Third are sever tables, pi tables and tables, as full court ou ketball cou indoor gym. The has a wood arts and cr

## Boy's Club offers year-round activities

The Boy's Club of Big Spring has been a part of Howard County since 1968. The club provides guidance, recreation and education to youth age 6 through 17, said Boy's Club Director Tony Gonzalez.

### Big Spring Boy's Club

212 Third St.  
(432) 263-1822

The only requirements are they must be in school — home school included — and pay a membership fee of \$3 per year. The fiscal year starts June 1.

When the club opened in 1968 it was only part-time. It didn't become full-time until 1971 and it has been full-time ever since.

The Boy's Club is a non-profit organization. The majority of the money it makes comes from the United Way and several private donors.

Gonzalez took over the program in 2001 from retired director Bert Andries, who served as director for more than 30 years. Andries still volunteers his time.

There are a number of things to do at the club building, located at 212 Third St. There are several pool tables, ping pong tables and foosball tables, as well as a full court outdoor basketball court and an indoor half-court gym. The club also has a wood shop, an arts and crafts room



Sidney Parker shows off his talents during a handball game at the Big Spring Boy's Club.

and a library that consists of computers and board games. The Boy's Club also plays several games on a regular basis, including football, kick ball and basketball, said Gonzalez.

During the summer, the organization also operates a swimming pool located on Second Street in Big Spring. The pool may also be used by girls for \$3 a summer.

"The club is obviously just for boys, but we do allow girls the chance to swim at the pool throughout the summer," said Gonzalez.

The club has currently signed up 121 members since June

1, but the number is expected to grow throughout the year.

"We get anywhere from 40-50 kids daily in the summer and 25-35 kids daily during school," added Gonzalez. "The organization signs up nearly 300 kids per year on average."

The club's summer hours are 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 5:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. The building is closed during lunch hour all summer. During the school year, the club is open right after school until 7:45 p.m. Monday through Friday and then it is open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

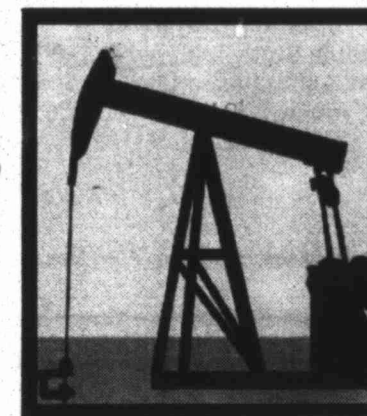


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# Area counts on many service clubs

John Stuart Mill once wrote, "The worth of the state, in the long run, is the worth of the individuals composing it," a theory proved time and again by Big Spring's wealth of volunteers.

More than two dozen local organizations dedicate their time and effort to helping their friends and neighbors improve their lives. Below is a list of service clubs and organizations available for membership in the Big Spring area:

- Big Spring Shrine Club meets every third Saturday at 6:30 pm at Goliad and First St.
- Big Spring Main Street Inc. meets at 1:30 p.m. every third Thursday at 123 Main St.
- Big Spring Howard County Retired Teachers Association meets on the third Monday of the

month during the school year for lunch at 11:30 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.

- Big Spring Chapter and Council RAM meets the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic building at 221 1/2 Main St.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday at 2101 Lancaster.
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon every Tuesday at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Big Spring Downtown Lion's Club meets at noon every Wednesday in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Big Spring Commandery No. 31, Knights Templar, meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Monday at 211 1/2 Main St.
- DAV Chapter 47 meets

at 6:30 p.m. the third Monday of the month at 610 Abrams.

- District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.
- Evening Lion's Club meets at 6:30 p.m. every Monday at La Posada, 206 NW Fourth St.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 3188 Ladies Auxilliary meets second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 3188 meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesday at the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary meets at noon every Friday at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060

meets at 7 a.m. every Thursday in Herman's Restaurant.

- Kiwanis Club of Big Spring meets at noon every Thursday in the Cactus Room at Howard College.
- Big Spring Chapter 67, Order of the Eastern Star, meets the first and third Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic Lodge, 219 Main St.
- Howard County ARC meets the first Monday of the month at the Bingo Hall, 806 E. Third St.
- Optimist Club of Big Spring meets 7 a.m. every Wednesday at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Staked Plains Lodge No. 598 meets at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday at 211 1/2 Main.
- Social Order of the Beauceant meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at

211 1/2 Main.

- Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at the Coahoma Community Center on North Avenue.
- Big Spring Concerned Citizens Council meets at 5:30 p.m. every third Thursday in the Big Spring Water Department.
- The Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. Thursdays at Gale's sweet Shoppe, 1712 FM 700.
- Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. Mondays in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third.
- Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the Birdwell Lane Church of Christ.

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Worship Assembly.....10:20 AM  
Evening.....6:00 PM

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**Colossians 1:28**

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Afternoon Praise Meeting.....12:15 PM Team Program 13-19....Thurs.....5:00 PM  
Home League Ladies Club..Wed.....6:00 PM Bible Study.....7:00 PM

**Captains Russ & Linda Keeney**

## CVB visit

The Big Spring Visitors Bureau has some major goals for the next several years. One of the goals remains the same: to promote the area and its attractions.

The CVB, a division of the Chamber of Commerce, is under the control of the Big Spring area.



BARBARA BRUMLEY

"People don't know what's around here. They don't know what they can see, and especially with the economy of the whole world, people don't have the money to go long distances. That's another reason we can focus on short regional areas where we tell folks to come and stay and see things."

While the main focus of the CVB is to promote the area, Brumley said she has seen venues for conferences in Big Spring that she would like to see.

"We would like to see conferences and events in Big Spring, but we have too many people here," she said. "We have to be fair because the people here are the college students and the Dora Roberts are rather small."

"We're also trying to get people to visit. We feel that offering things to offer the parks and trails is a lot of things that there's so many in Big Spring. We're

## CVB works to attract visitors to Big Spring

The Big Spring Conventions and Visitors Bureau has gone through some major changes over the past several years, but one thing remains the same: The agency's goal.

The CVB, which was formerly a division of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, came under the control of the city of Big Spring approximately a year ago.



BARBARA BRUMLEY

CVB Director Barbara Brumley said tourism remains an "untapped" economic resource in the Big Spring area, something she hopes the CVB can help change.

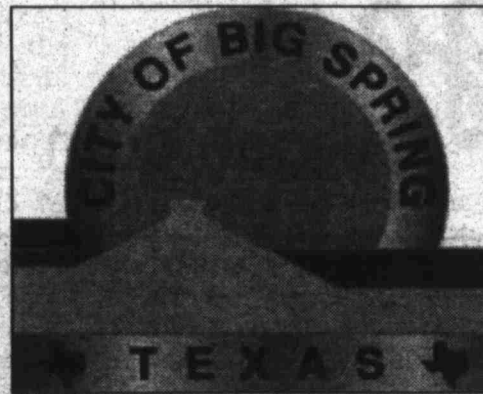
"It's huge for this entire region because we haven't focused on it," said Brumley.

"People don't know what's around here. They don't know what they can come see, and especially with the economics of the whole area people don't really have the money to go long distances. That's another reason we can focus on short regional trips, where we tell these folks to come to Big Spring so you can stay and participate in these things."

While conventions are one of the main focuses of the agency, Brumley said the limited size of venues for conventions and conferences in Big Spring can tend to squelch that portion of her office's efforts.

"We would like to see more conferences and conventions come to Big Spring, but right now we don't have too many places to hold them," she said. "They would have to be fairly small right now because the places we have, like the college meeting rooms and the Dora Roberts Community Center, are rather small."

"We're also working on trying to get people to come to this area to visit. We feel like we have something to offer. We have a lot with the parks and the lakes, and I think a lot of people don't realize there's so much to see in Big Spring. We're also looking at the



historical view point, which the new Plains Trail organization is helping us with historical sites and what they call heritage tourism."

The CVB has added a new on-line feature as well, helping move the agency and its efforts into the new century, having launched the 2004 City of Big Spring online event calendar.

Brumley said the new on-line calendar has helped people in Big Spring, not to mention those planning to travel here, plan for the events they want to attend.

"We're hoping that people that are on the Internet a lot and are thinking about visiting this area will be able to see all of the different things that are going on," said Brumley. "That's why I want to try to get people to send in their events as they are planning them through the entire year. That way we can fill up the calendar, and when people see it they can say 'wow, look at all of these things that are going on in Big Spring.'"

"I think the calendar can really help out, especially when we have a weekend like we did a few weeks ago, where there were four or five things going on at the same time. Maybe we'll get some weekend visitors that will come stay in our motels and go to some of these events."

You can visit the CVB online calendar at [www.bigspring-cvb.com](http://www.bigspring-cvb.com)

For more information on submitting an event for the calendar or on the CVB, contact Brumley at 263-8235 or e-mail her at [bbrumley@bigspring-cvb.com](mailto:bbrumley@bigspring-cvb.com)

### Conventions and Visitors Bureau

310 Nolan St.  
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Having been Big Spring Ar mission state civic, cultural interest of the Information civic groups obtained at th Third.

The chambe bership of app nesses and gr its board of di committees, st ty of life and l Spring area.

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The staff cor executive dire tive assistant receptionist.

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## Chamber works hard to advance civic, cultural business community

Having been in operation since 1919, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's mission statement is "to advance the civic, cultural and social betterment and interest of the people of Howard County."

Information about the city, various civic groups and businesses can be obtained at the office, located at 215 W. Third.

The chamber currently boasts a membership of approximately 400 local businesses and groups, and with the help of its board of directors and many different committees, strives to improve the quality of life and business climate in the Big Spring area.

The board of directors for the chamber is led by President John Weeks with Joe Conciencie serving as president-elect. First vice president is Wes Beauchamp. Mark Morgan is the organization's treasurer. Angela Parks is in charge of business/revitalization and Terry McDaniel is the past president.

The staff consists of Debbye Valverde, executive director; Liz Adamson, executive assistant; and Zuleika Melendez, receptionist.

The chamber of commerce sponsors many different activities and events

### Big Spring Area Chamber

215 W. Third  
(432) 263-7641

throughout the year, including the Business After Hours program, designed to bring local merchants together for socializing and networking at different locations.

Annually, the chamber hosts a banquet designed to recognize chamber members for their hard work throughout the year, and presentation of the Man and Woman of the Year awards.

The chamber also sponsors such events as the annual Pops In The Park, Health Fair and the West Texas Ag Expo and Luncheon.

Leadership Big Spring, Junior Leadership and Senior Leadership are also sponsored and hosted through the chamber of commerce.

The chamber has a Discount Card Club available for chamber members only. Local merchants involved in the club give various discounts to other club members.

For information on any of the chamber's activities or services, call 263-7641.



Bobby McDonald and Linda Conway were named Man and Woman of the year during the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce 2003 wrap up banquet this year.




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## Working for you the United Way

With so many community organizations needing a helping hand in Big Spring, where do they turn for assistance? The United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.

The local United Way provides funding for 14 local agencies — the Northside Community Center, Victim Services, West Side Community Center, West Side Day Care Center, West Texas Girl Scout Council, Salvation Army, Big Spring YMCA, American Red Cross West Texas Chapter, Big Spring Boys Club, Buffalo Trail Council Boy Scouts of America, Council on Aging, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, Humane Society Pet Therapy Department and Isaiah 58.

Together, these commu-

nity service groups provide assistance to thousands of individuals and families throughout the Crossroads area.

### United Way

808 Scurry St.  
(432) 267-5201

Each year the United Way and its volunteers campaign to raise money to fund these agencies, beginning with a luncheon the first week in September. It will continue until November.

"We're looking forward to getting started on the coming campaign," said local United Way Director Cynthia Scott. "We raised more than \$268,000. We

See **UNITED WAY**, Page 13D

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## UNITED WAY

Continued from Page 12D

met our goal of \$265,000 and exceeded that. We did good."

The campaign will feature a number of fund-raising events throughout the campaign year.

President for the current year is Rory Worthan. John Weeks is the campaign chair and first vice president. Second vice president and allocations chair is Franklin Weber. Michelle Worthy is the secretary and Terry Hansen is the treasurer.

Other members of the board are Kevin Armstrong, Jerry Baker, Pam Brewer, Irene Bustamante, Billie Christie, Joe Conciene, Michael Downes, Phil Furqueron, Clay Grizzle, Mary Frances Malone, Chris Moore, Gladys Thompson, Troy Tompkins, Cheryl Truskowski and Ken Tunstall.

The first United Way Campaign in Big Spring was held in 1953-54 and raised \$83,220. Since its formation in 1953, the local United Way has raised more than \$7 million for local assistance groups.

United Way is also the representative agency for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) allocations and the combined Federal Campaign.

Non-profit agencies with 501(C)(3) status are always welcome to apply to become a United Way agency. For information about the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County, call 267-5201.

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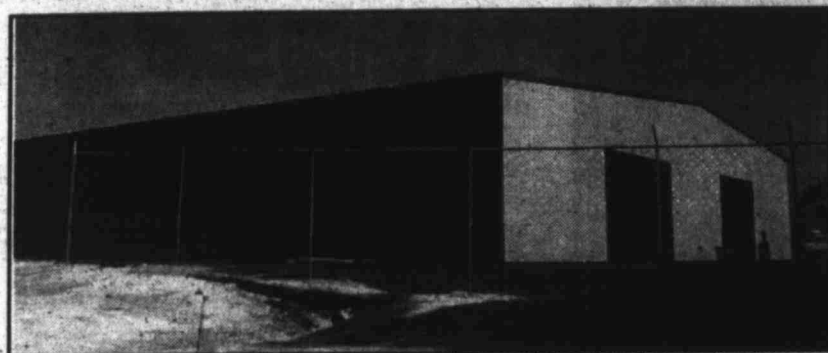
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# Reaching out to help others



## Salvation Army serves as beacon of hope to those in need

The Salvation Army, located at 811 W. Fifth Street, has always represented a beacon of hope for those in need, and the Big Spring division has continued that tradition throughout the years.

The commander of the Big Spring division is Capt. Russ Keeney, along with his wife, Capt. Linda Keeney. Russ Keeney is originally from San Angelo and spent five years in Atlanta.

The Salvation Army is one of Big Spring's largest and longest-operating community and social service organizations. The agency has provided help to the area needy in many forms — including spiritual, emotional and physical — for more than 70 years.

Most people think of the Salvation Army as the transient lodge, which offers overnight stays and meals to the homeless. Or they

### Salvation Army

811 W. Fifth St.  
(432) 267-8239

associate the agency only with the truck that picks up donated clothing and other items for the thrift store.

Those are some of the most well-used programs in the community, but they are far from all that is offered.

Rent and utility assistance are available for those in need, a service that sees peak usage in the hottest and coldest times of the year. To aid families and the elderly, the group also collects fans during the first part of the summer.

See SALLY, Page 17D

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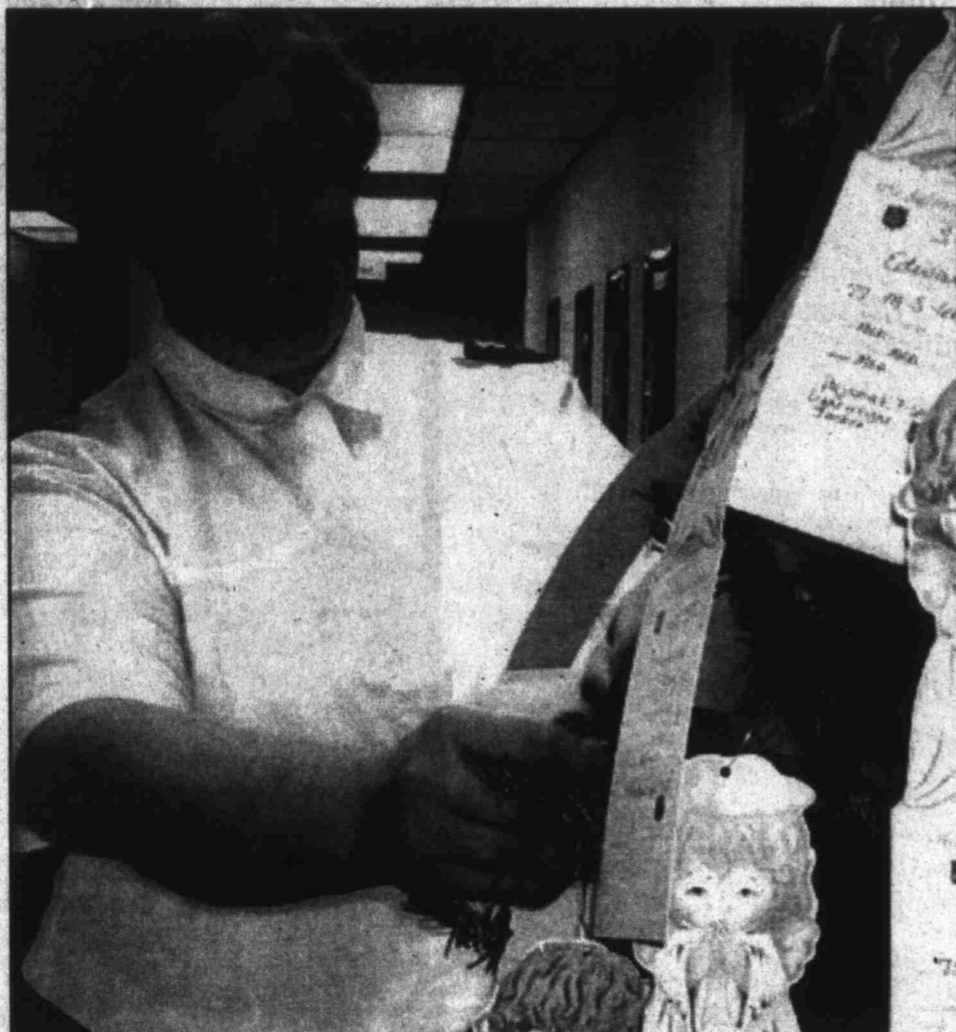
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Salvation Army Capt. Linda Keeney helps set up an Angel Tree during the Christmas season. Those who support the program remove an angel card and purchase gifts for a needy child in Howard County.

## SALLY

Continued from Page 16D

Fire victims are offered various forms of assistance, including clothing, meals and temporary shelter. A crisis center for families is operated at an undisclosed location.

One of the Army's most visible times of the year is the Christmas holiday season, when bell ringers collect donations at the group's kettles. Thanksgiving meals are cooked, served or delivered to thousands each year. Christmas gifts are provided for needy children through the Angel Tree program.

"The Angel Tree is a very special program for us," said Capt. Linda Keeney. "The parents have come in and filled out an application with us to ask for assistance with their children's Christmas. Once we have the application, we put the child's first name on the Angel card, along with their sizes and things they could possibly want for Christmas, and these cards go on a Christmas tree at various locations here in town.

"If a person wants to adopt an angel, they just take the Angel card from the tree and purchase Christmas gifts for that child. It doesn't necessarily have to be

what's listed on the card. Those are just suggestions based on the wants of the child. Once they purchase the items, they will attach the card to the gifts and bring them to our office, or drop them off where they got the card from."

Every year the Salvation Army has a Back to School program that helps the families of school children, grades K-8. Once the back to school effort is completed, Keeney said his staff will turn their attention to turkey.

"We really enjoy the Thanksgiving preparations," said Keeney. "It's great to see so many volunteers working to help others."


Worship is available at several services each week. The Home League provides women's prayer at 6-8 every Wednesday.

The captains hold worship service for the youth at 5:30-7:30 p.m. every Thursday and a men's worship at 6-7 p.m. Wednesdays. Music and camps are available for youth.

Keeney and his wife also direct the services; they both are ordained ministers.


During times of disaster, the group sets up a traveling cart that offers a hot drink or a sack lunch to those coping with the aftermath.

Assistance never depends on race, creed or color; it depends on need.



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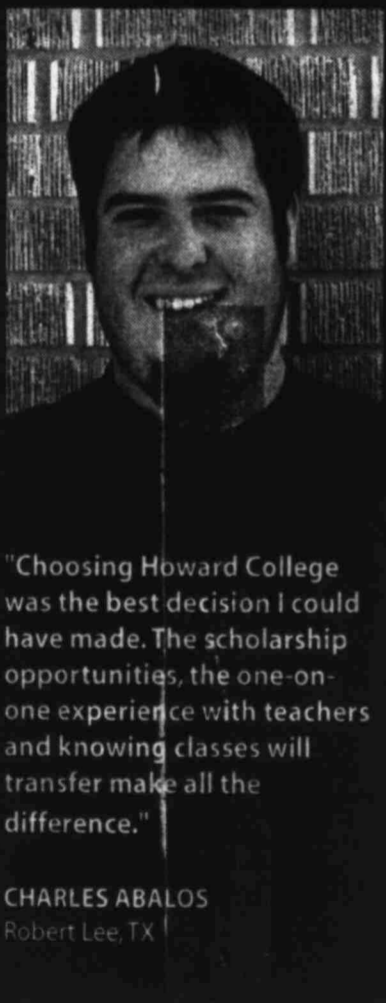
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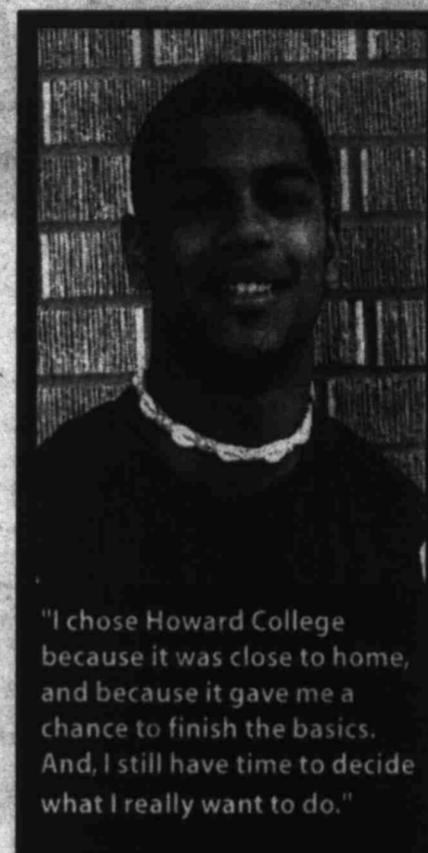
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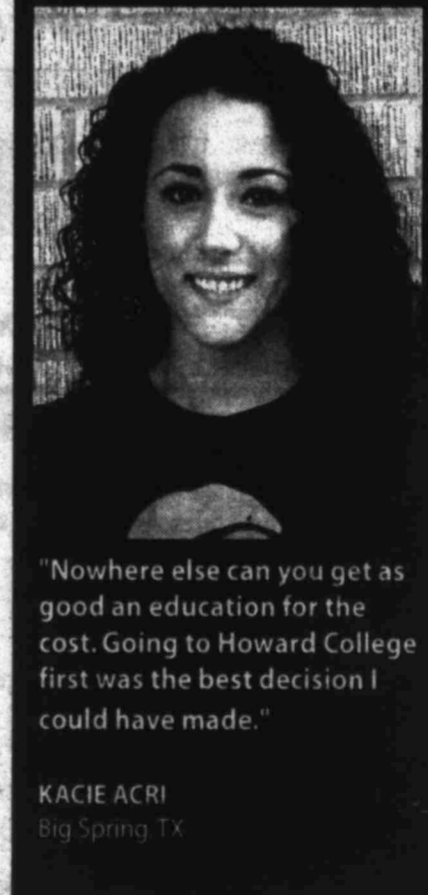
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Faye Horton, Ila Morgan, Doyle and Mildred Vaughn, Ruby Gill, George Glass, Bill Stoval and Jewell Stovall meet at the Spring City Senior Center for lunch and bingo. Ila, Mildred and Faye grew up together, while the others became friends at the center. All admitted one of the draws to the center is not having to cook each day.

## Senior Center offers activities, meals, support for many area citizens

The Spring City Senior Center received a face-lift this year, with volunteers working to renovate the interior of the building.

Some of the remodeling efforts included new paint, a new ceiling and carpet.

And with activities planned daily, the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center is offering the community's seniors entertainment with a helping hand.

Located at 1901 Simler, the center provides local seniors over the age of 60 balanced nutritional meals at no charge. Those under 60 are charged \$5 per meal and donations are certainly welcome.

The center also provides meals to home-bound seniors, not only in Big Spring, but Coahoma and the Sand Springs area.

Van service to and from the center is avail-

See SENIOR CENTER, Page 20D

### Spring City Senior Center

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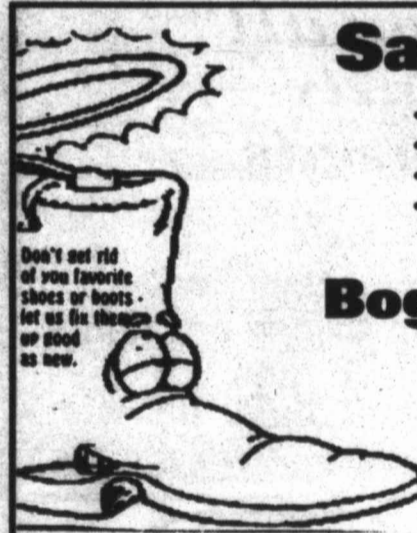
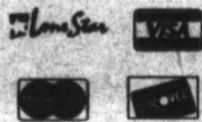
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# Vietnam Memorial stands as tribute to all veterans

The idea for the Vietnam Memorial was born when the Moving Wall, a portable "replica" of the memorial in Washington, D.C., came to Big Spring in 1987.

Acquisition of the Moving Wall was a chamber-related project, and overwhelmingly received by the community. Tens of thousands visited the wall, day and night. Mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers came from hundreds of miles away to read the name of a loved one, to say a prayer, to remember.

## Big Spring Vietnam Memorial

Rackley and Swords

"While the wall was here, we were sitting around talking about how we needed something out here when it's gone," said VMC member Don Boling. "I thought I was going to feel like an idiot, standing out here in the middle of a big empty lot, because I knew I would continue coming out here. Originally, we were

just going to plant a couple of trees, and as you can see, it kind of got away from us," he laughed, waving at the numerous displays at the memorial.

"Without the entire community, the donations and the work that people have done over the years, none of this would ever be here. I've been to memorials all over the country, and while they are moving and beautiful, nothing can touch the Big Spring Memorial. There's a feel-

See MEMORIAL, Page 21D



VMC member Don Boling helps erect the Moving Wall, which came to Big Spring Vietnam Memorial site earlier this year.

## SENIOR CENTER

Continued from Page 19D

able Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Transportation to run errands such as doctors appointments or grocery shopping can also be arranged Tuesday and Thursday. All arrangements must be made the day before.

Bingo is offered Tuesday and Thursday, from 12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. Line dancing is scheduled for Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

The center also sponsors a weekly dance on Friday's from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. featuring live music.

Billiards, dominoes, cards and an art room are also available during normal operating hours. The center also offers defensive driving courses four times a year.

Blood pressure and glucose checks are also provided at the facility three times each month.

Tax preparation services are available at no charge beginning in February each year at the center, continuing through the tax season until

April 15.

The center will also be holding its annual garage sale fund-raiser in April, and is one of the principal sources of income for the facility.

"We didn't hold it last year, but we're definitely going to have it this coming year," said Assistant Director Yolanda Mendoza. "This is a very important fund-raiser for us."

The center is open 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 267-1628.

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Larry Hollar

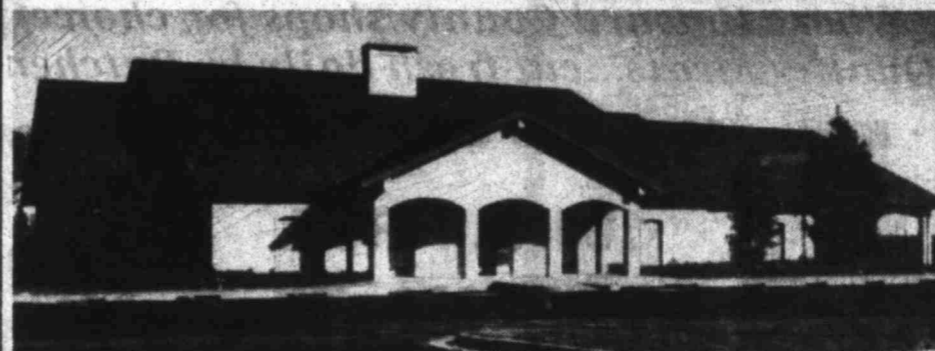
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# MEMORIAL

Continued from Page 20D

ing out here that's really hard to describe. It's a kind of serenity, just a feeling you get out here because of what it represents."

The Vietnam Memorial Committee was formed and incorporated as a non-profit corporation in February of 1988. In August, the committee obtained a lease from the Howard County Junior College District for two-and-a-half acres of land at the edge of the former Webb Air Force Base. It was the same land where the Moving Wall had been on display and it was determined that is where the memorial should rest.

The Vietnam Memorial Committee began a series of fundraisers for the memorial, which was expected to cost more than \$100,000. The first was an air show held on Oct. 22, 1988. Due to its success, a second show was held in October 1989 and a third in 1990.

With profits from the air shows, bake sales, T-shirt sales and donations, construction began in the fall of 1990. The foundation was poured in January of 1991.

On May 27, 1991, the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial was dedicated.

Since that time, there have been many additions and improvements to the site.

In 1996, a "Huey" UH-1 was acquired from the Army. The Huey was restored, and painted to match the Vietnam-era med-evac helicopters. It was dedicated on Memorial Day, 1997. In December of that year, an F-4E Phantom II was acquired from the United States Air Force. It was also restored and dedication services were held on Memorial Day 1998.

Projects continued to come into place and a few months later, on Friday, Oct. 16, an M60-A tank that had been acquired from the Army at Fort Hood was dedicated.

That was followed the dedication of the Gold Star Chapel on June 1, 1999.

"The people of Big Spring and Howard County have always been great supporters, they have been there when we needed them and they get the job done," said Jerry Groves, the committee's publicity chairman.

In 2004, after several years of scheduling and re-scheduling, the Moving Wall once again found its way into the Big Spring area, as the VMC secured the memorial for a week in March.

During opening ceremonies for



the Moving Wall's second visit, Congressman Randy Neugebauer, one of the many speakers during the ceremony, said his time representing the Big Spring area has left him with one very distinct opinion of the Crossroads area.

"The one thing that I have

learned is that Big Spring loves its veterans," said Neugebauer. "The veterans here are organized and they do so much for the community and they support each other. If there was a veterans capitol of the world, it would have to be Big Spring."

Make no mistake about it, however. Boling and his fellow VMC members don't put countless hours into the maintenance and construction of the memorial for themselves. It's about something much bigger than they feel they are. It's about something that can bring a tear to the eye of the coldest person when they hear it spoken aloud. It's about brotherhood.

"None of this is about any of us," he said, sweeping his arms in representation of the memorial. "No matter how much time we spend out here working on it, this memorial is not about any of us that came home. This memorial is about the ones that gave their lives. This memorial is about the ones that still haven't come home and are prisoners of war or missing in action. In a sense it's also about those that still haven't managed to make it home, because there are a lot of vets out there that suffer daily. That's what all of this is about."

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# Hangar 25 captures local aviation history

Hangar 25 Air Museum allows Big Spring to honor its former Air Force association with a one-of-a-kind museum that provides a rich source of World War II history.

Completed in 1999 with the help of volunteers and contributors, the museum continues to flourish and provides a gathering place for veterans and a frequent tourist stop for those traveling to West Texas.

"We've got several things going on at the museum that are growing. We acquired several new items for the museum this past year and we have a new Web site that is really worth checking out," said museum administrator

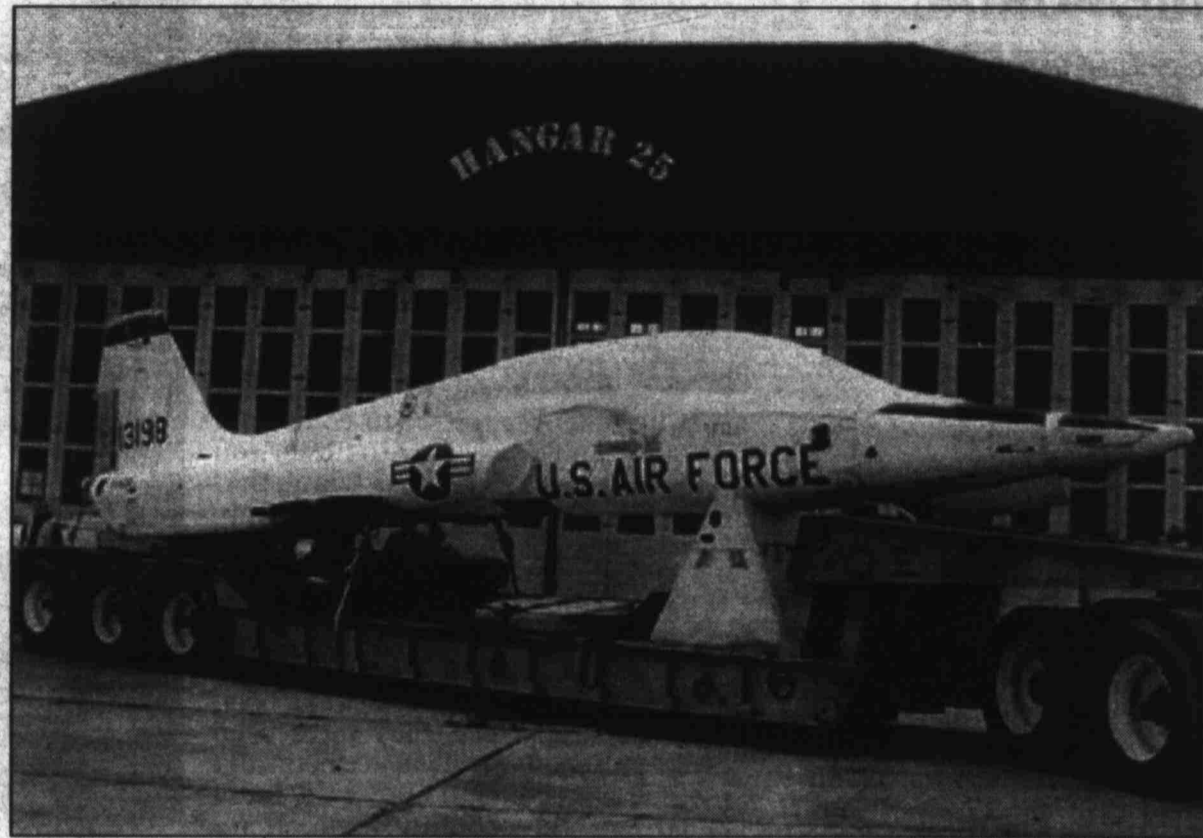
Rhonda Campbell.

The Web site, which provides educational links to all the airplanes on display at the museum, is [www.hangar25airmuseum.com](http://www.hangar25airmuseum.com)

**Hangar 25  
Air Museum**  
McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark  
(432) 264-1999

"There is a virtual tour on the Web site, which allows you to view the museum from several different angles," she said.

New museum exhibits include an AT-11 bombardier trainer, known as the Kansan, and a T-37,



known as the Tweet, she said.

A gift shop is centrally located within the museum and provides patrons an opportunity to purchase baseball caps, t-shirts and other World War II and Big Spring memorabilia.

"In our gift shop, we have etched glass images of Hangar 25 as well as our logo in everything from votive cups to champaign glasses and beer steins," she said.

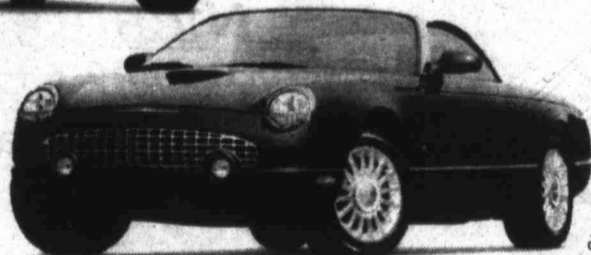
"Our caps have the T-37 on one and we are creating

a new one with the T-38. We also have different caps with the Hangar 25 logo, the bombardier school logo with wings and Webb Air Force Base wings, and also toys specific to World War

See HANGAR 25, Page 23D

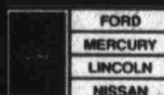
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**SID RICHARDSON CARBON COMPANY**

July 25, 2004

**HANGAR 25**

Continued from Page 23D

II," she said.

Several community projects offered through the museum this year proved so popular that they will be continued this next year, she said.

A coffee hour for veterans is scheduled at 10 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday, and guest speakers are planned this fall. The Young Eagles Flight paired children 8-17 with volunteer pilots, providing free flights. Campbell said 88 children participated in the event in May.

"These planes are two-seaters and four-seaters. It just depends on who we have volunteer their plane and their time, but we will continue this program, because it was so popular," she said.

Another addition to Hangar 25 is a donation of some 140 model airplanes, all hand-crafted by a young child, on display.



Museum exhibits include a Harrier jet, a nose section taken from a B-52 Bomber, an A-10 rescue trainer and several training aircraft that were used during Webb Air Force Base's existence in Big Spring as well as from its preceding Bombardier School.

Other displays include a T-28 and T-33, both of which are in operational condition.

Hangar 25 was first built in 1941, at the beginning of

World War II for the U.S. Army Air Corps at the Big Spring Bombardier School, which opened its doors to trainees in 1942.

The bombardier cadets spent the first three weeks of the three-month course learning fundamentals. On the fourth week, they flew the AT-11, the bases principal training aircraft, and began to drop 100-pound practice bombs.

Bombardier training continued until the end of World War II when the

school was deactivated and used as a municipal airport.

It was re-opened in 1951 under the name of Webb Air Force Base and remained an active base of operations until its closure in 1977.

The hangars at the base deteriorated over the next 18 years until a group of local citizens formed the Hangar 25 Restoration Committee in 1995, in an effort to save the historic building.

The group held numerous fund-raisers for the project, and received grants from the Texas Department of Transportation to help aid in the effort. Plans were drawn up in 1997 and construction and renovations were completed in early 1999.

The first two aircraft exhibits were acquired in February 1999.

New additions to the museum's exhibits include the installation of the steeple that once sat atop the Webb Air Force Base

Chapel. Also the stained glass window from the chapel, reconstructed by an artist, is part of the new exhibits in the museum.

"This window is beautiful. It is really gorgeous," she said.

Hangar officials are currently planning a Silver Wings fund-raiser for the coming year, set for Oct. 16 with a Big Band-era band performing. The fund-raiser will be in the former Webb Air Force Base Officer's Club, which is now currently occupied by the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center.

The center is undergoing renovations as well, with new carpet, painting and other refurbishments, another community effort by volunteers in Big Spring.

The museum is located at 1911 Apron, and is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Sunday from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 264-1999.

## WORKFORCE NETWORK

Permian Basin Workforce Development Board

310 Owens • Big Spring, TX

(432) 263-8373 • Fax 264-7703

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6:00 P.M. .... Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY

7:00 P.M. .... Mid-Week Service  
7:00 P.M. .... Junior Choir Practice  
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A church where you will find solid Bible teaching and warm fellowship for everyone.

# Melding the past with today's world

If history is the key to the past, then its future lies in the capable hands of the Big Spring Heritage Museum.

"If you haven't been to the museum lately, you might find yourself quite surprised," says Museum Curator Tammy Schrecengost. "We've made some renovations over the last year and made some changes with the exhibits."

Schrecengost said the museum is looking forward to a number of well planned exhibits in the coming year, including several that will spotlight local talent.

"We're currently spotlighting our Caboose Watercolor Show, which will be available until Aug. 19. It features a number of pieces painted by local

artists. After that we've got to start getting ready for our Back To The '50s event, which will be in conjunction with many of the local reunions, starting Sept. 6."

Also coming up is the annual Pioneer Day, slated for Sept. 20.

## Heritage Museum

510 Scurry  
(432) 267-8255

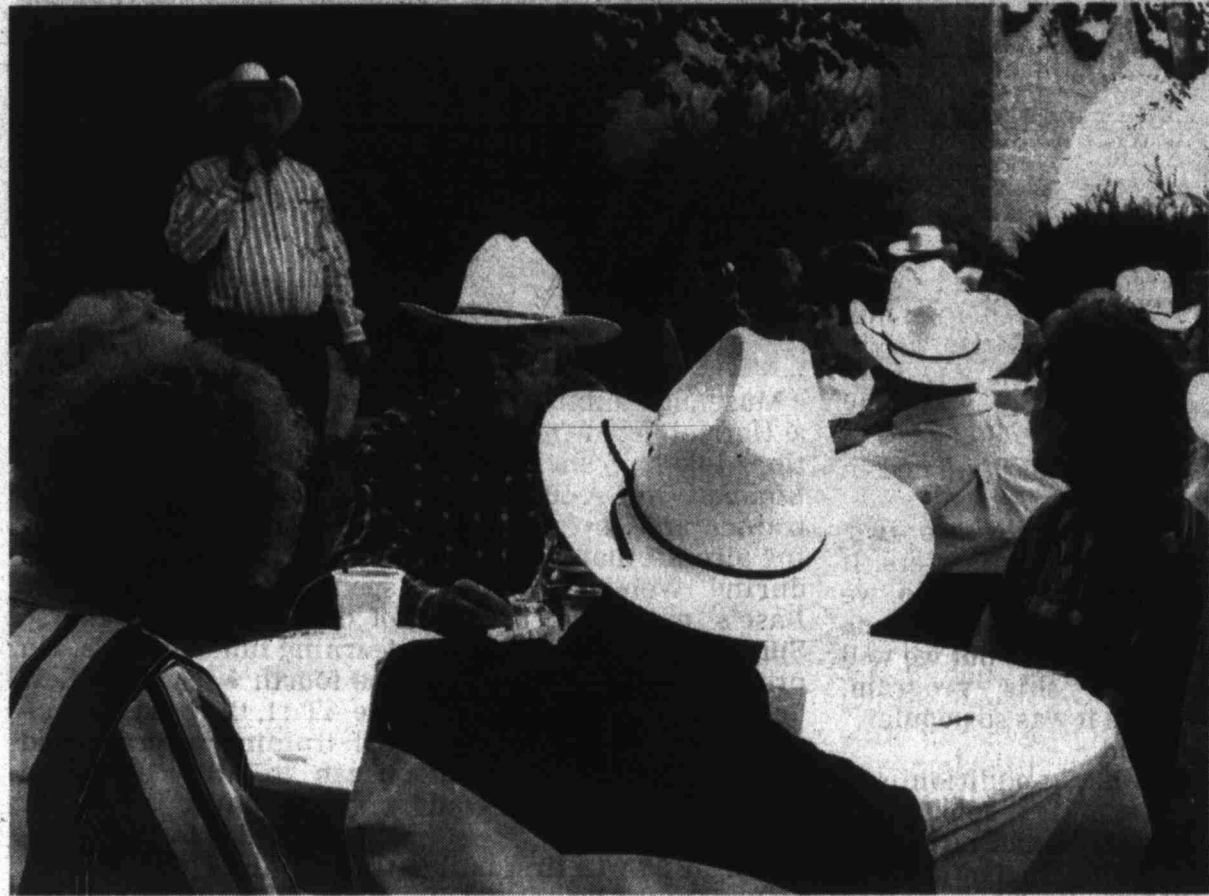
"We're doing Pioneer Day a little different this year," said Schrecengost. "This year it will be based on a timeline

throughout the day here at the museum, featuring different booths highlighting the years from 1920 to 1970."

Also utilized for this event is the Potton House historical site.

"The Potton House will feature a different pioneer activity, for example bread making, in each of its

See **MUSEUM**, Page 25D



This year's Legends and Legacies social event at the Heritage Museum included country cuisine and the unveiling of a special display dedicated to rodeo clowns, "The Cowboys Hero."



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**Who is the Chamber?**  
Members  
Board of Directors  
Officers  
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Committees and Volunteers

**Business Development**  
Seminars  
Business After Hours  
Big Spring At Your Service Campaign

**Membership**  
Referrals and Retention  
Publications  
Website

**Community Development**  
Annual Banquet  
Community Luncheons  
Ag Expo Health Fair  
Leadership Programs  
Education Awareness

**Governmental**  
Political Relations  
Transportation  
Downtown Development

July 25, 2004

**MUSEUM**

Continued from Page 24D

rooms as well," Schrechengost noted.

Also scheduled for late spring will be the museum's annual fund-raiser, "A Taste of West Texas." The event is done in conjunction with the Big Spring Symphony, and will feature many of Big Spring's most talented cooks preparing dishes originating all over the world.

Another community event is the Legends and Legacies Dinner scheduled each year. This year, the event was again joined with the Howard County Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo and offered a opportunity for patrons to sample country cuisine, followed by the unveiling of a special exhibit dedicated to rodeo clowns, "The Cowboy's Hero."

A book signing by rodeo historian and novelist Gail Woerner was combined with a special appearance by the former Miss Rodeo Texas, Lacy Billingsley.

A special tribute to Hispanic

arts and culture is on display beginning July 24 in the Hispanic Heritage in Howard County Fiesta Celebration.

Other exhibits scheduled this year include, Tastes of Ice-cream, from 4 to 6 p.m. Aug. 28. Tickets are \$5. Guests will sample several varieties of ice cream at each booth.

• The Sue Bagwell Art Show opening and reception. Art will be on display from Oct. 2 through Nov. 15.

• Opening of the Christmas Exhibit with wedding and christening gowns titled "Winter's Blessings;" Dec. 4.

• Childrens' Inspirational Art Show from Dec. 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. The show will consist of young artists' impressions of the true meaning of Christmas. Directly after the art show will be the annual parade watch on the museum patio. Christmas cake and punch will be served.

The museum features a gift shop with many new items for purchase, including local history books, cookbooks and photo history books. The museum also publishes a bi-monthly newsletter for its

**Community Guide**

members and visitors.

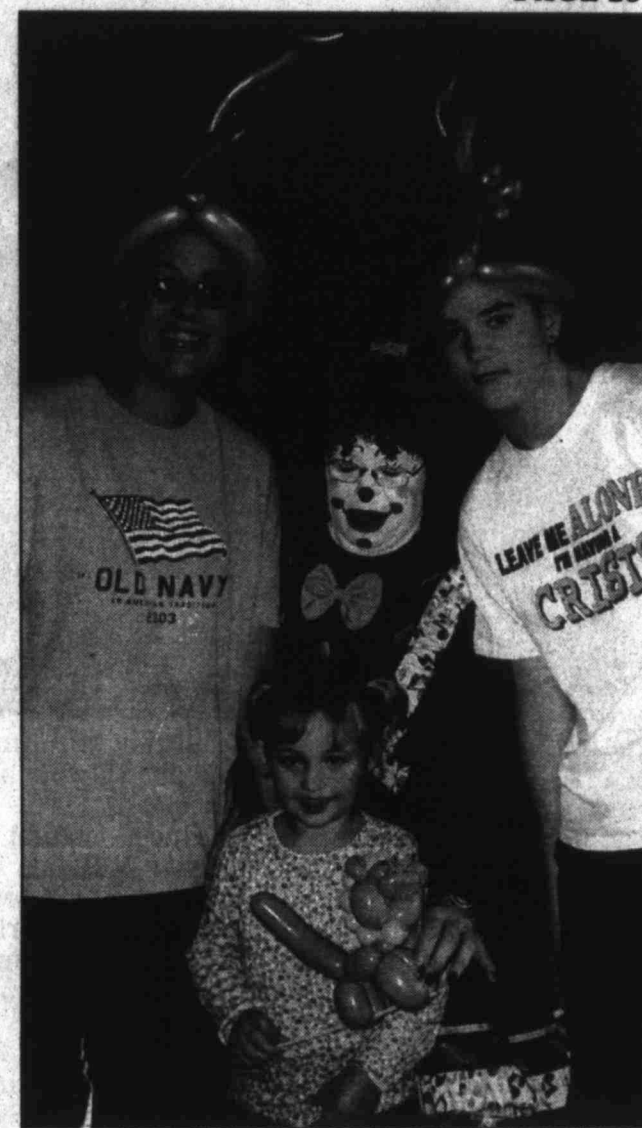
Located at 510 Scurry, the facility boasts a number of rotating displays and exhibits including ranching and Texas longhorns, Victorian phonographs, Howard County refining and oil production and the Texas and Pacific Railway Co.

Art exhibits by local artists and others from throughout the state, special collections and other displays may be presented on loan from other museums or individuals.

Museum staff, which consists of Schrechengost and Museum Director Nancy Raney, perform research requests for both professional and amateur writers, including the use of more than 2,000 historical photos.

The Heritage Museum is open to the public Tuesday through Friday from and Saturday from, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Potton House's hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Potton House is available for tours or can be booked for such events as teas and weddings. For more information, call 267-8255.



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# Symphony fills heart of Big Spring with music

An 11-year-old musical prodigy and a renowned conductor will help the Big Spring Symphony begin its newest season for the 2004-2005 year.

"We have a tremendous season planned with the audience in mind," said symphony artistic director and conductor Dr. Keith Graumann.

Guest conductor John Giordano will return for the first performance of the year at 8 p.m., Oct. 1, at the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. The evening will feature 11-year-old guest pianist Peng Peng.

"It's been many years since (G.F.) Handel's Messiah has been done in the Permian Basin, so our second concert will also be for the audience," Graumann said.

The concert, set for Dec. 18, will feature local talents Joyce Bradley, Carol Boyd, Suzanne Cranford, Susan Dawes, Betty Knot, Terrill



Q. Littlejohn, Jim Wright, Joseph Dawes and Kyle Wheeler.

Guest pianist Cynthia Bauhof Williams is returning by popular demand for the Feb. 26 performance and will perform "Grieg: Piano Concerto in A Minor."

"Of course our final concert for the regular season involves the Symphony

Chorus, the Big Spring High School Meistersingers and the All-City Children's Choir," Graumann said. "Over all I think it's a terrific season and we're looking forward to getting our ticket sales ready."

On July 3, 2005, the symphony returns for a special performance at the annual Pops in the Park Fourth of

July celebration. The two-hour performance also features a fireworks display.

For more than 20 years the Big Spring Symphony has brought professionally-performed classical music to the city.

The symphony, which varies between 50 and 60 players and includes a chorus, depending on the program, offers four or five concerts each year, often featuring guest artists and conductors from around the nation.

Two local groups oversee and support the symphony: The Symphony Board and the Symphony Guild.

The Symphony Board oversees contracting with musicians and conductors, obtaining guest musicians and conductors and setting the seasonal programs.

The board officers include: President Joe Dawes, First Vice President JoBeth Corwin, Second Vice President

## Big Spring Symphony

808 Scurry

(432) 264-7223

Joyce Bradley and Treasurer Heath Hughes.

The Symphony Guild is a fund-raising organization which supports the symphony. The group also participates in activities such as decorating for symphony concerts.

Officers of the Symphony Guild are, President Angie Byerly; Co-Vice-Presidents for Ticket Sales Pam Brewer and Jan Rouille; Second Vice President in Charge of Membership Janice Bond; Secretary Lee Emerson; and Treasurer Suzanne Markwell.

Season and individual performance tickets can be purchased at the symphony office, 808 Scurry, and through a number of community businesses.

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## Howard County Library serves as literacy centerpoint

The Howard County Library serves as a center point for literacy and reading programs as well as state-of-the-art internet access.

The library currently has 11 computers utilizing the Internet through broadband connections, as well as four other PCs set up for word processing, including Power Point and Excel software, a resume builder and typing tutor. There are also four computers available in the children's section, which offer educational software.

The library sponsors a summer reading program, directed by Children's Librarian Karen McIntyre. "We've wrapped up our summer reading program and now we're involved in our weekly story time," said McIntyre. "We meet every Wednesday at 10 a.m. for story time, and periodically we have guest speakers."

Ongoing, the library is offering a special feature, Texas Bluebonnet Books,

### Howard County Library

500 S. Main  
(432) 264-2250

in the juvenile section. Patrons may read at least 10 of the 20 books nominated for awards, and vote for their favorite book.

The most popular book will be announced later this year. Also, local elementary students were given the books to read and wrote reviews on each book. These reviews publish weekly in the Big Spring Herald.

To apply for a library card, bring a picture ID and proof of residence to the facility, which is located at 500 S. Main. The first card issued is free, with a \$2.50 fee for the first replacement and \$5 after

that. Stolen cards will be replaced free one time only.

Books and other available printed materials can be checked out from the library for a three-week period. Video tapes are loaned for seven days, audio books for two weeks, and DVDs for three days.

Late fines range from 5 cents per day on most books and \$1 per day for all video tapes, DVDs and interlibrary loaned books.

Use of the library's three community rooms, located in the basement, is free of charge to non-profit groups, clubs and organizations. Seating is available for 20 to 30 people in each of the two smaller rooms and 50 to 60 in the larger room. A key can be checked out for after-hours use.

The library is also home to the Howard County Literacy Program.

The facility is directed by



Herald file photo

Students attend the summer reading program at the library.

Librarian Hollis McCright and McIntyre.

Financial support for the summer reading program, annual open house, literacy program and other special events is provided by the Friends of the Library, a community based group. The group is currently gathering book donations for its annual book sale.

The library Web site is [www.howard-county.lib.tx.us](http://www.howard-county.lib.tx.us).

The e-mail address is [howardcountylibrary@hotmail.com](mailto:howardcountylibrary@hotmail.com).

Hours of operation for the library are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday during the summer.

The library is also open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday during the school year.

The computer room closes 30 minutes prior to library closing times.

For more information, call 264-2262.

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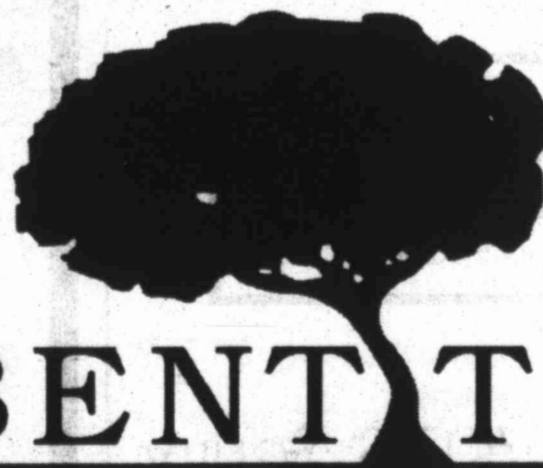
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## RSVP volunteers provide valuable service to community

Committing thousands of volunteer hours each year, members of the city-sponsored Big Spring Retired and Senior Volunteer Program provide an invaluable service to the community.

RSVP is a part of the National Senior Service Corps.

Its primary goals are to involve America's seniors (age 55 and over) in service to the community.

The City of Big Spring is the local sponsor of the Big Spring RSVP.

Project Director Nancy Jones and Project Coordinator Becky Letz oversee the operation of the project.

The Big Spring RSVP project is 25 years old. It began in 1978 with Joy Decker as the first director.

### RSVP

Polly Mays Annex  
501 Runnels St.  
(432) 264-2397

Approximately 350 senior volunteers serve in 45 locations throughout Big Spring and Howard County, including hospitals, schools, libraries, government offices and non-profit organizations.

Volunteer opportunities include tutoring, Mobile Meals delivery, patient services, clerical help, computer data entry and work with the Big Spring Police Department.

Volunteers find an area of interest and RSVP locates opportunities that offer fulfillment for the volunteers and much-needed service in the community.

New volunteer stations this year are available on area school campuses in a special reading program.

RSVP volunteers begin reading to elementary and secondary students in September, donating four hours of their time each week to help students improve their reading skills.

In 2001, 350 RSVP volunteers contributed 80,160 hours of support and service valued at more than \$428,856 to their community. (Estimate based on recorded hours of service calculated at current federal minimum wage rates.)

The RSVP program is funded by grants from the Corporation for National & Community Service, Texas Department on Aging, the City of Big Spring and Howard County.

The program is also enhanced with local support in the form of



Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) hosts a special dinner for volunteers each April.

donations, fund-raising activities and in-kind support.

In another area of raising financial support, Big Spring RSVP teams with Abilene and San Angelo RSVPs to form RSVP Travelers.

Senior Adults from the

three cities and surrounding areas take approximately 23 trips each year to destinations around the country and world.

RSVP receives a portion of monies raised to use for the project's growth in their community.

## Moore

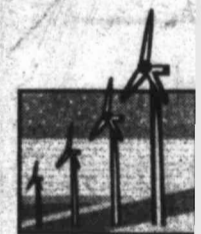
Moore Develop... Big Spring Inc., for-profit 4A development whose goal is to assist with expansion of businesses and new businesses in Big Spring and County.

In May of Big Spring citizens spending through a cent hike to city to promote development at their community.

On Sept. 4 of the Secretary issued the certificate of incorporation for Development Big Spring Inc. C began that Oct an executive di

Overseeing oration is a five board of appointed by F

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Jim Litt  
432-

# WNB

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## Moore Development works to attract business

Moore Development For Big Spring Inc., is a not-for-profit 4A economic development corporation whose goal is to increase job opportunities by assisting with the expansion of local businesses and attracting new businesses to Big Spring and Howard County.

In May of 1990, Big Spring citizens called for spending through a 1/2-cent hike to city sales tax to promote economic development activities in their community.

On Sept. 4 of that year, the Secretary of State issued the certificate of incorporation for Moore Development For Big Spring Inc. Operations began that October with an executive director employed shortly thereafter.

Overseeing the corporation is a five-member board of directors appointed by Big Spring

City Council.

Current board members are President Duane Thomas, Vice President Terry Hansen, Secretary/Treasurer

### Moore Development

215 W. Third St.

(432) 264-6032

Charles Myers, Tommy Churchwell and Ben Bancroft. Kent Sharp is executive director of the corporation, assisted by Pam Welch.

While the board has tried to fund and oversee numerous projects, many of them simultaneously, Thomas said he hopes to see more focused goals for the coming year.

"We want to consolidate some of our goals and be a little bit more focused than we have been in the past," said Board President Duane Thomas.

"Focus on three or four individual goals that we can quantify that we've been successful in for the coming years."

Sharp agreed, saying it's important for Moore Development and the board to be able to look at a project that's been completed and tell the public "that's what your tax dollars accomplished."

"I think the board wants to focus on narrowing the goals down," said Sharp. "Over the last few years we've tried to narrow them from 10 pages, which is really trying to do a lot of things with a staff of two people. I think what they are saying is they want to get fewer goals — seven goals, 10 goals — and be able to measure those and give monthly reports."

"I think there are some inherent benefits to the board being able to tell the community here's what

we're working on. Whether you accomplish that goal or not, if you shoot for 100 percent and get 50 percent, at least there's some measurement of how much money we spent to get this level of a goal achieved. And if you don't achieve the goal then you look at it next year and say here's why we didn't achieve our goal, it's just not feasible."

There are currently three standing committees involved in the workings of the Moore Board: The Business Retention and Expansion Committee; the New Business Attraction and Recruitment Committee; and the Agriculture Committee.

Each committee is chaired by a board member. At present, between 20 and 30 citizens are actively serving on the committees.

### Important Phone Numbers

Emergency: 911

Poison Center: 1-800-764-7661

Non-Emergency

Big Spring Fire Dept.: 263-2303

Big Spring Police: 263-2550

Ambulance: 264-2310

County Sheriff: 264-2244

Volunteer Fire Dept.: 268-1165

Other Numbers

City of Big Spring: 264-2401

County Clerk: 264-2213

County Tax Collector: 264-2232

County Extension: 264-2236

Dept. of Public Safety: 264-7777

Veteran's Commission: 264-4819

Adult Protective Services: 263-9654

Child Protective Service: 263-9669

Human Service: 263-7671

Texas Workforce Commission: 267-7437

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# Big Spring incorporated as city in 1907

Incorporated in 1907, the city of Big Spring currently encompasses 18.89 square miles.

## City of Big Spring

307 E. Fourth  
(432) 264-2401

The 2000 census placed the population of Big Spring at 25,233 an increase of 2,140 since the 1990 tally.

Big Spring has a 2 percent sales tax along with 6.25 percent levied by the state for a total of 8.25 percent.

The city tax rate is 68.63 cents per \$100 valuation, and is expected to climb 3 cents in the coming year.

The city council is made up of Mayor Russ McEwen, Councilwoman Stephanie Horton, District 1; Councilman W.A. "Woody" Jumper, District 2; Councilwoman JoAnn

Staulcup, District 3; Councilwoman Gloria McDonald, District 4; Councilwoman Joann Knox, District 5; and Councilman Greg Biddison, District 6. Horton serves as the city's mayor pro-tem.

Regular meetings of the city council are held each second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers, 307 E. Fourth St.

Gary Fuqua is the city manager and supervises all municipal employees, either directly or through department heads.

Big Spring has five fire stations which employ 46 people, including firefighters and administrative staff. Emergency medical service is also operated by the Big Spring Fire Department and employs approximately 18 people. The police station employs

63 people, including many civilians. The police responded to 26,961 calls and made 1,730 arrests during 2003. Police officers also gave out 5,940 citations during 2003.

In all, the city employs 256 people, including 13 who have acquired bachelor degrees and 25 associates degrees.

In addition to providing its citizens with necessary services such as water and wastewater treatment, street upkeep and a landfill, the city also maintains a number of recreational facilities.

These include Moss Creek Lake east of the city, Comanche Trail Park, which includes Dora Roberts Community Center, a small lake, amphitheater and golf course, as well as other smaller parks in the community and softball and baseball fields.



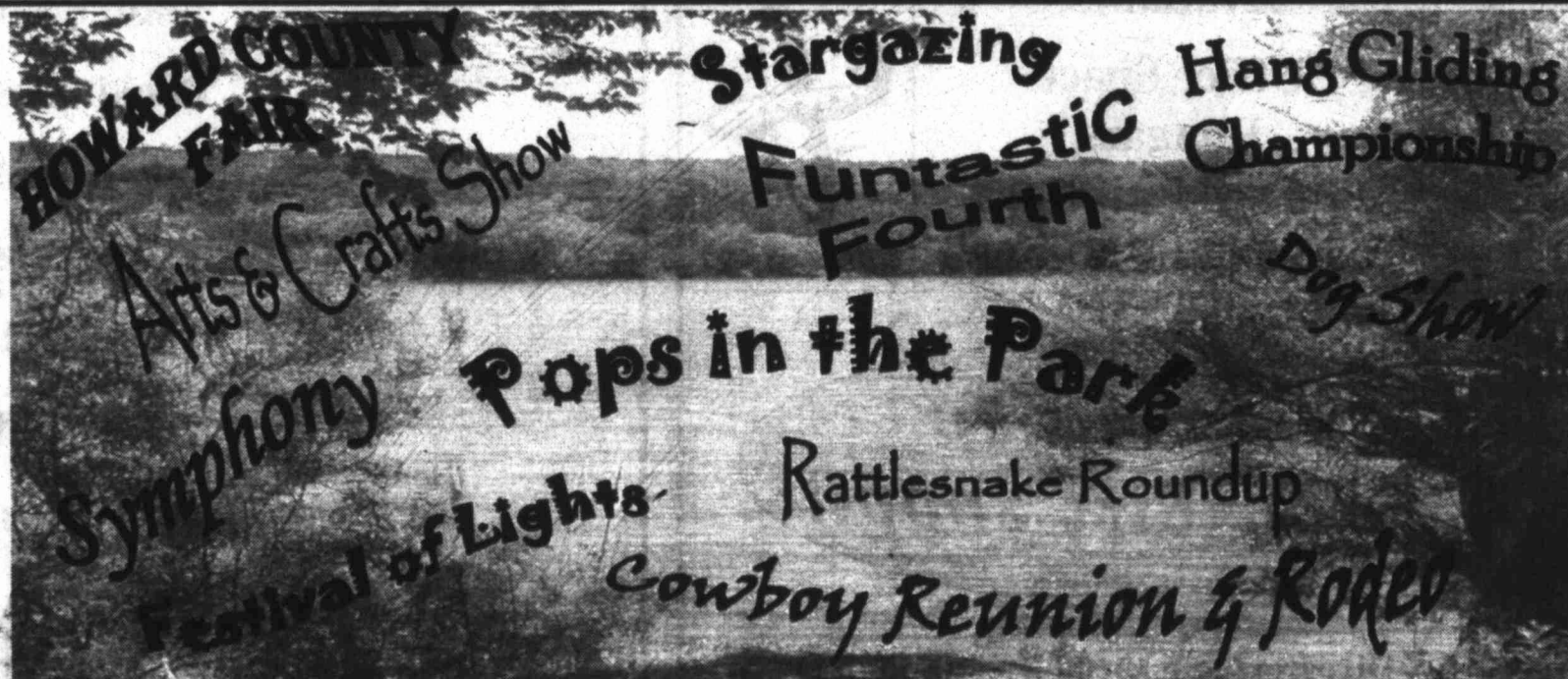
City Secretary Peggy Walker and City Councilman Woody Jumper prepare to enter the Council Chambers.

**City of Big Spring Quick Facts**  
City Employs 258  
25,233 population in 2000  
18.89 square miles



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## Howard County courthouse, sheriff's office located downtown

Howard County Sheriff's Office is located in the courthouse in downtown Big Spring.

The sheriff is Dale Walker with Gary Pritchett serving as his chief deputy. The department has 11 additional deputies, including two sergeants and two detectives.

The office has three full-time dispatchers and two relief dispatchers, two reserve deputies, ten full-time jailers and five part-time jailers.

The county jail is under the auspices of the sheriff's office and Chief Jailer Mike Smith. The jail was built in 1952 and has been approved by the jail commission.

The jail has a capacity of 48 beds and is located on the fourth floor of the Howard County Courthouse. The average daily population of the jail is about 43. The county jail does not house female

inmates, who are currently housed at facilities in Rankin County.

The cost of housing female inmates, as well as male inmates when the population overflows, has caused serious concern

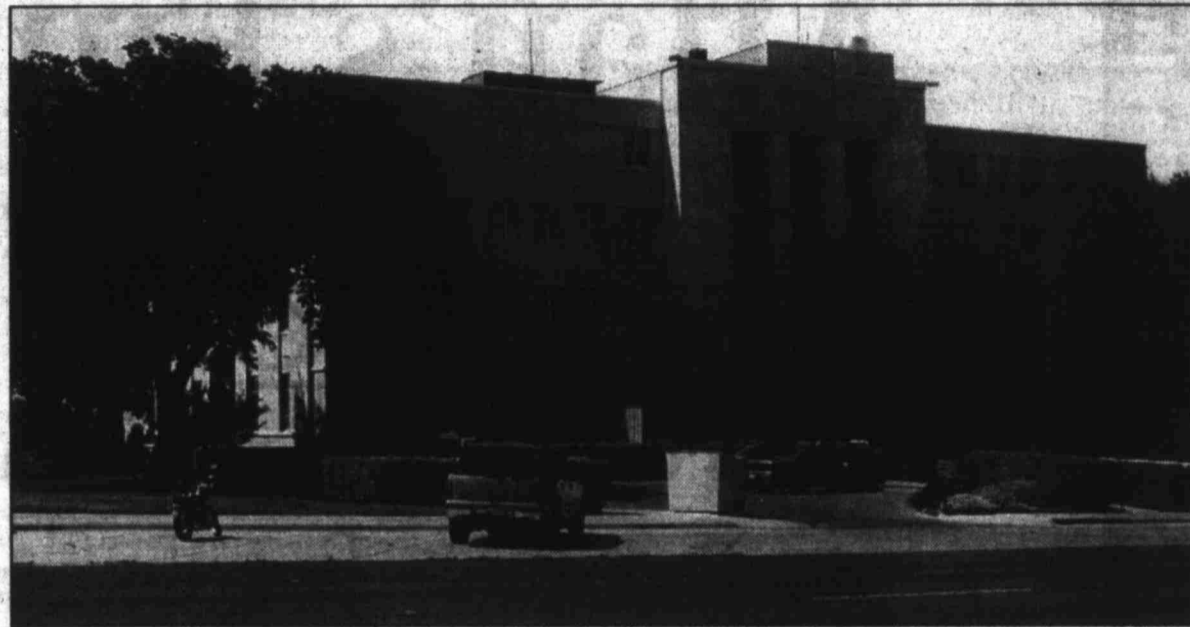
### Howard County Courthouse

Scurry and Third Streets

(432) 264-2244

among the county commissioners, who have begun considering the construction of a new jail facility over the past year.

Expected to cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$6 million, commissioners have heard presentations from several architect companies, in addition to attending a federal "jail-building"



seminar in Colorado. Plans for a new jail have yet to be adopted.

The sheriff's office handles criminal and emergency activity outside of the city limits, including everything from cows on the loose, trash on the highway, fire calls, suspicious vehicles, thefts,

burglaries, assaults, domestic disputes and other activity.

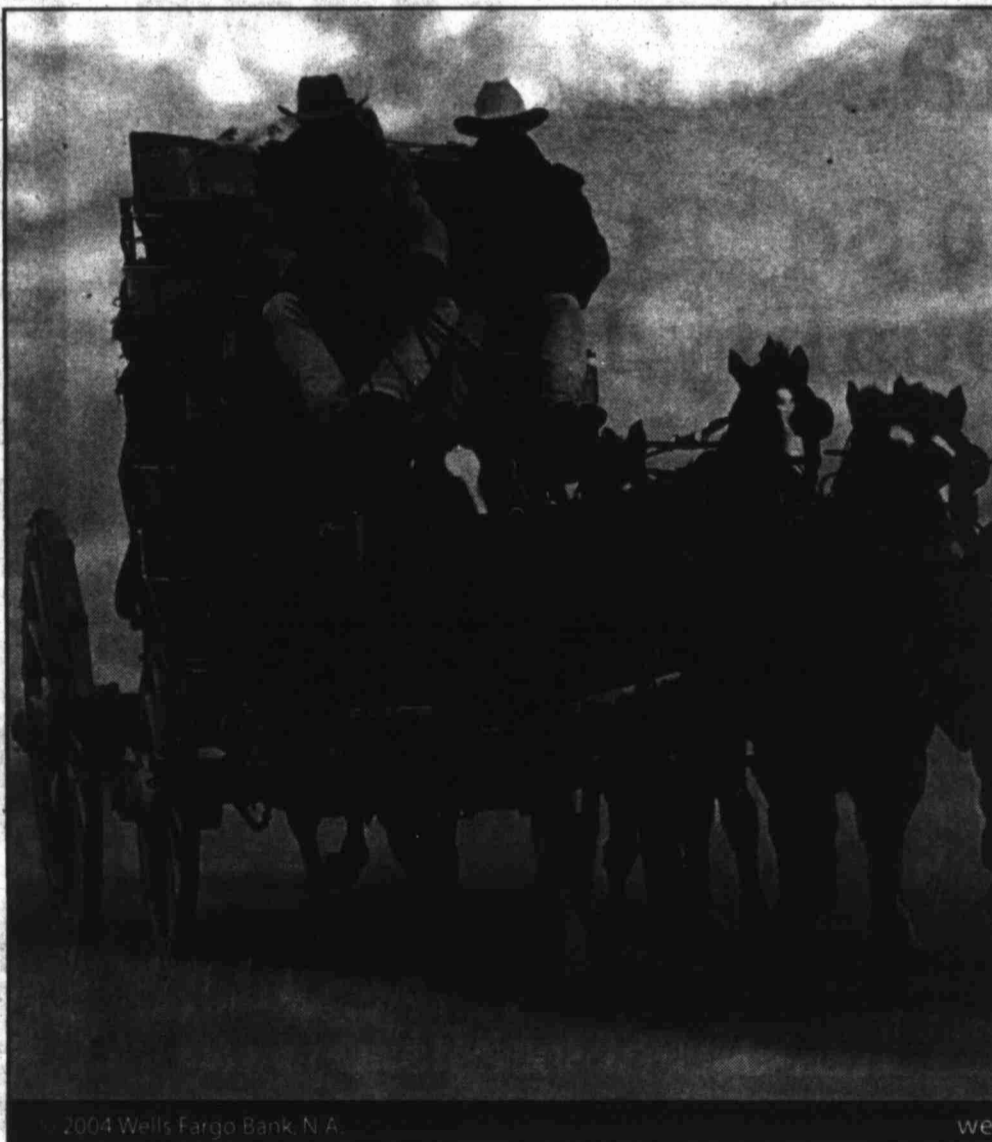
The office also provides bailiffs for the county court and district court.

The office of sheriff is a four-year term elected by registered voters of Howard County.

Walker has been in office

since Jan. 1, 2001. He is the 19th sheriff to serve the county since the office was founded in 1882.

There has only been one woman to serve as sheriff and that was Lucille Myrick (deceased), who served out the unexpired term of her husband after he died while in office.



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## SMM

Scenic Mountain Center continues to be Big Spring's healthcare choice, utilizing the-art technology for the highest quality care.

The hospital's new CEO, Mike March,

Pruitt, of Grand Prairie, has been involved in health care for 15 years. He is a new resident of Texas, he said. He has an "old hat" background in his career in the health care industry and has visited the Midland office.

Brett Kinman, CEO, moved from Arkansas. He said it is new to the area. He said he has been in health care for 20 years. He graduated from A&M University.

Dana Stearns, nursing officer, has been in nursing for 20

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# SMMC strives to be healthcare provider of choice

Scenic Mountain Medical Center continues to strive to be Big Spring's healthcare provider of choice, utilizing state-of-the-art technology and the highest quality staff.

The hospital welcomed a new CEO, Mike Pruitt, in March.

Pruitt, of Granbury, has been involved in health care for 15 years. While he is a new resident in West Texas, he said the area is an "old hat" because prior to his career in health care, he worked in the oil industry and frequently visited the Midland district office.

Brett Kinman, assistant CEO, moved from Newport, Ark. He said that while he is new to the area, he isn't new to the job. Kinman said he has been involved in health care for 10 years. He graduated from Texas A&M University in 1991.

Dana Steffer, chief nursing officer, has been in nursing for 25 years, and

looks at her move from Pennsylvania to Big Spring as returning home. Originally from Floresville, she moved with her family to Pennsylvania before joining Pruitt and Kinman here.

## Scenic Mountain Medical Center

1601 W. 11th Place  
(432) 264-1211

SMMC is anticipating the opening of a newly remodeled OB/GYN area within 30 days. The renovations are part of an effort to create a new Women's Center.

Pruitt compared it to one-stop-shopping, saying it will be more convenient for patients and doctors.

The hospital's newly renovated emergency department includes a trauma area and triage room along with seven

private exam rooms, a new waiting and registration area; the emergency department was expanded from 4,000 to 10,000 square feet.

In addition, SMMC has invested in state-of-the-art tools for diagnosis, including radiology equipment that people might only expect to find in larger cities.

The hospital's cardiac cath lab, CAT scan, nuclear medicine equipment and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) facilities are highly advanced. Big Spring residents can stay close to home and still receive these procedures without the waiting times found in larger cities.

A specialized service offered by the hospital for the last 12 years is Reflections, a mental health program for senior citizens. Reflections offers psychiatric services for adults 55 and over, including group and

individual counseling, music therapy, recreation and medication management.

The whole family is involved in the treatment, and treatment teams include a psychiatrist, primary care physicians, social workers, psychiatric nurses, an activity therapist and a dietitian.

OB/GYN services are provided from prenatal to pediatric, with the hospital's comfortable, fully-equipped labor and delivery unit in between.

The nursing staff is all trained in neonatal resuscitation and advanced fetal monitoring.

Certified childbirth educators are available to provide training for the parents-to-be.

SMMC is a major sponsor in various community activities, including the local Relay For Life, Pops in the Park and the annual Howard County Health Fair.



Scenic Mountain Medical Center provides health care services to the Howard County community, including hearing tests like the one shown here.

The hospital can be reached at 263-1211, and online at [www.smmccares.com](http://www.smmccares.com).

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WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS.....7:00 P.M.

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# Family Medical Center continues to grow

Family Medical Center continues to grow, with a new doctor joining the staff and another expected soon.

Dr. Alfonso Preciado, general surgeon, joined the Family Medical Center team in January. He and his family moved from Panama to the Big Spring area.

Dr. Juan Carlos Gonzalaz will be coming to Big

## Family Medical Center

2301 Gregg  
(432) 267-5531

Spring next month. He specializes in internal medicine.

Also among the facility's staff are Dr. Keith Ledford,

OB/Gyn.; Dr. S. Ijazz, internal medicine, Dr. John Farquhar, family practice; Dr. Eric Byerly, OB/Gyn.; Dr. Susan Roberts, family practice, and Dr. Cynthia Rutledge, family practice.

"We're also expecting several new doctors soon," said Family Medical Center Manager Mitzi Knight. "Scenic Mountain

Medical Center is seeing to it that we continue to grow, and that we're here to stay. Quality of care is very important to us at Family Medical Center."

The facility, which was founded in 1995, continues to play a vital role in the community through its work with Shots Across Texas, Texas Health Step, and the annual Relay for

Life.

Previously owned by Shannon Health Systems, Family Medical Center has operated under the care of the Community Health Care Systems since June of 2000.

For more information on services available or to make an appointment, contact the center at 432-267-5531.

## Nursing homes, assisted living centers offer choices

Big Spring offers a program for almost every need to the elderly and disabled in the community.

The Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veteran Home is a state-funded facility available to veterans, their spouses and Gold Star parents. The center offers a secure Alzheimer's unit. Located

at 1809 North U.S. Highway 87, the veterans home was completed in 2001. For more information, call 268-8387.

Twenty-four hour care for those with chronic or disabling illnesses can be found at two locations in Big Spring.

Comanche Trail Nursing Home Center, 3200

Parkway, can be reached by calling 263-4041; Mountain View Lodge is located at 2009 Virginia and can be reached at 263-1271.

Assisted-living centers offering varying degrees of care include: Carriage Inn, 501 W. 17th Street, 267-1353, and Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road, 268-9041.

Both facilities offer private apartments, regular meals and medical care as needed.

Two retirement centers that serve those on a limited income, without nursing care include St. Mary's Episcopal Retirement Homes, Inc. known locally as Canterbury North, 401 W.

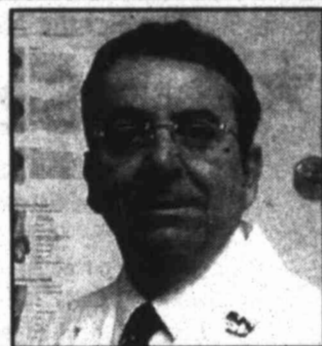
17th Street, 263-1238, and Canterbury South, 1700 Lancaster, 263-1265.

The Canterbury buildings offer residents such services as a store on the premises, dances, games and activities, along with transportation to doctor's appointments and shopping.

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## VA Medical Center provides healthcare for nation's patriots

For more than 50 years the West Texas VA Health Care System has provided quality health care for our nation's patriots.

Located at 300 Veterans Blvd. in Big Spring, the VA Medical Center is a secondary care level facility, offering primary medical care, sub-specialties in medicine, ambulatory surgery, mental health and extended care.

Geographically, the West Texas VA Health Care System encompasses 74,000 square miles in West Texas and southeastern New Mexico. The veteran population for this area is estimated at more than 62,000.

Additionally, WTVAHCS operates six community based outpatient clinics. Clinics located in Abilene, Odessa, San Angelo, and Hobbs, N.M., are VA-staffed clinics while

Stamford and Fort Stockton are VA contract clinics.

The West Texas VA Health Care System is

### VA Medical Center

300 Veterans Blvd.  
(432) 263-7361

affiliated with Texas Tech University, Lubbock; Texas Tech University, Odessa; Howard College, Big Spring; Angelo State University, San Angelo; Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Big Spring; Midland College, Midland; and Amarillo Community College, Amarillo.

These affiliations furnish resident-interns that provide health care while training in a variety of fields, including ophthalmology, physical

therapy, dietetics, nursing, internal medicine, physicians assistant, medical lab technology and radiological technology.

New Big Spring VA Medical Center Director Lou Ann Atkins is expected to join the hospital officially on July 30, replacing long-time Director Cary Brown, who retired in November.

In early August, the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services Commission released a draft restructuring plan to realign medical services for the Department of Veteran's Affairs medical service.

Among the recommendations included in the long-range plan was a feasibility study to consider the possibility of closing the Big Spring VAMC, which prompted a grassroots campaign to save the hospital.



The VA Medical Center provides healthcare services to veterans within a 72,000-mile service area.

The recommendation remained part of the final plan approved by DVA Secretary Anthony Principi in May. As of yet,

a committee to conduct the study has yet to be formed. For more information about the hospital, call 263-7361.

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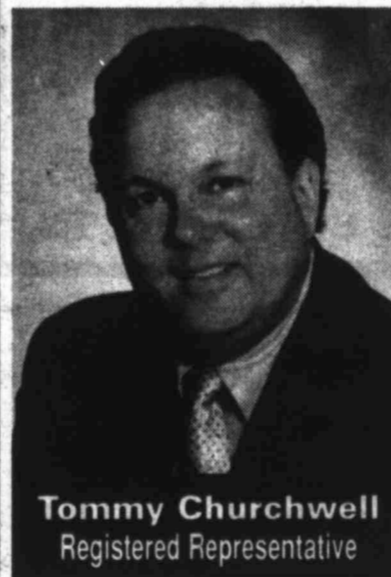
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# Big Spring State Hospital provides quality inpatient psychiatric services for clients within 78 counties

Big Spring State Hospital will continue to provide quality inpatient psychiatric hospitalization for people with mental illness in 78 counties in West Texas and the Texas Panhandle this year, as it has for the past 66 years.

The only obvious outward change will be the hospital's new regulating state agency - the Department of State Health Services.

The Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, which operated Big Spring State Hospital, will cease to exist Sept. 1 - a change mandated by HB 2292. Twelve state agencies, including TDMHMR will be consolidated into four state departments directed by the Health and Human Services Commission.

The newly created

**Big Spring State Hospital**  
1901 N. Highway 87  
(432) 267-8216

Department of State Health Services will be made up of employees from the Texas Department of Health, the Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and the mental health side of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

Big Spring State Hospital will continue its strong presence in the community with continued assistance from leadership in Austin, Big Spring State Hospital CEO Ed Moughon said.

Founded in 1938 and employing more than 500 people, the facility is one of Big Spring's largest employers.

"We are fortunate that we

are able to hire and retain a very caring and very dependable workforce at Big Spring State Hospital," Moughon said.

"Psychiatric health care is very demanding, but at the same time very rewarding. Our staff must be flexible and be able to respond to new patients and their needs by providing the newest therapies and medications. Our teachers educate our patients about how to return to their homes and live with their illness."

Located at 1901 N. Highway 87, care is provided by psychologists, psychiatrists, nurses, direct care workers and nutritionists.

The facility treats patients ages 18 years and older, providing visiting families low-cost lodging at the Marilyn Keaton

Newsom Family Lodge.

The scope of Big Spring State Hospital's care, divided over such a large area of the state, can sometimes be enormous.

"We are a unique psychiatric hospital in that we serve people in 78 counties in West Texas and the Texas Panhandle," said Moughon. "If someone in one of those counties needs intensive psychiatric health care, they are cared for in our facility. We encourage family members to visit loved ones. I am a firm believer that that helps everyone. It helps the family who may not understand the illness, and it certainly helps the patient who may need that emotional support."

The hospital serves both long-term and short-term needs, and provides innovative approaches in

treatment including Activity Therapies and the popular Animal-Assisted Therapy Program.

The hospital also receives a great deal of assistance from more than 100 volunteers each year. The Volunteer Services Council raises money for patients through a chalet re-sale shop and various activities to provide patients with gifts and cakes on their birthdays, Christmas presents and an annual summer fun day.

For more information on the Big Spring State Hospital, call (432) 267-8216.

For information on Volunteer Services, call 268-7536.

Additional information can be found at the hospital's Web site at [www.mhmr.state.tx.us/Hospitals/BigSpringSH/BigSpringSH](http://www.mhmr.state.tx.us/Hospitals/BigSpringSH/BigSpringSH).

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West Texas Mental Health Retardation's it all - "Qu for Quality L

WTCMHMR services to p by mental illr retardation their quality promote integration, Public Inform Cindy Smith.

"We focus our consur skills so they a good independence their commu with the lea structure nec

The board West Texas MHMR was 1995 as part plan to p consolidate tl service divis hospitals and

West Texas MHMR operations fr



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## West Texas Centers for Mental Health and Mental Retardation embrace quality of care

West Texas Centers for Mental Health and Mental Retardation's mission says it all — "Quality Service for Quality Life."

WTCMHMR provides services to people affected by mental illness or mental retardation to increase their quality of life and promote community integration, said WTC Public Information Officer Cindy Smith.

"We focus on increasing our consumer's living skills so they can maintain a good level of independence, and live in their community of choice with the least amount of structure necessary."

The board of trustees for West Texas Centers for MHMR was established in 1995 as part of the state's plan to privatize and consolidate the community service division of all state hospitals and schools.

West Texas Centers for MHMR took over operations from the state

### West Texas Centers for Mental Health and Mental Retardation

409 Runnels  
(432) 263-0007  
Crisis hotline  
1-800-375-4357

March 1, 1997, and serves 23 rural West Texas counties, the largest geographic region of any community MHMR center in Texas. As with most state agencies, lean economic times have taken their toll on West Texas Centers for MHMR.

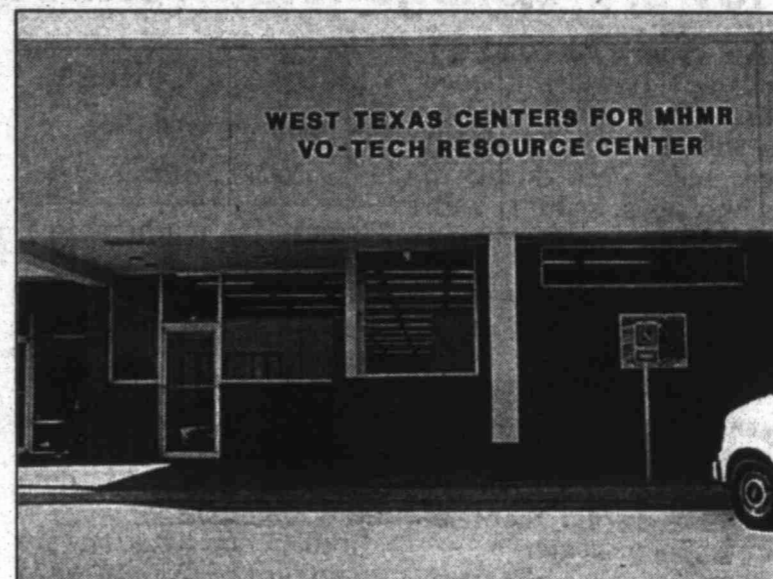
"We've had to reduce our administrative staff due to budget cuts, but we've kept our focus on consumer services and have been fortunate enough to maintain our level of programs," Smith said.

"Our clients haven't seen a difference in the level of service because of the cuts."

WTC operates 15 community mental health centers staffed by board certified psychiatrists, registered nurses, clinical social workers, psychologists, case managers, clerical and secretarial employees. Mental health services also include job training specialists, supported housing specialists and specialized service for children and adolescents.

Two intermediate care facility homes are located in Big Spring and are staffed around the clock. Home and community-based services provide support staff for persons with mental retardation in order for them to live as independently as possible in the community.

WTC operates several vocational training centers under the name Vo-Tech



Resource Centers, and vocational services are emphasized in both mental health and mental retardation.

"Our clients at the Vo-Tech Centers do a lot of contract piece work, which can help them increase their living skills," Smith said.

"We also do contract work for grounds maintenance and

maintenance of the local rest areas."

Supervised work crews, paid through various contracts and supported employment through private businesses, are two methods that promote inclusion for people with mental retardation in their home communities.

For more information on West Texas Centers for MHMR, call 263-0007.



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## Howard College teamwork equals educational foundation for community

A true "community college," Howard College offers traditional courses as well as training for all ages and a wide variety of technologies, teaming with businesses, senior centers, public schools, workforce centers and other entities, to meet the overall needs of citizens in the area.

The college offers a variety of associate degree plans and certified programs, from accounting to child development to nursing and theater.

Some of the offerings include the dental hygiene clinic, ADN nursing program, LVN nursing program, cosmetology, criminal justice and agriculture.

Among the degree programs are biology, business, chemistry, communications, drama/theater, education, intergenerational studies, economics, English, foreign language, general business, government, art,

### Howard College

1001 Birdwell Lane  
(432) 264-5000

history, mathematics, music, office administration, psychology, sociology and speech.

Technological fields include kinesiology, computer information, emergency medical, data entry and more.

Student organizations are important at Howard College. They include the Mexican-American Student Organization, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Howard College Diplomats and Baptist Student Ministries.

Student Government Association officers are elected each March to serve during the upcoming fall and spring semesters. Sponsored by the student activities department, the association serves as a

liaison between students and administration.

In addition to the classroom, students are able to participate in numerous activities, both on and off campus.

Howard College also has campuses in San Angelo and Lamesa. The San Angelo campus, along with Angelo State University and San Angelo Independent School District, have come together in the West Texas Training Center.

Enrollment in the various departments in San Angelo and Lamesa has increased in the past several years, and with the addition of new programs, enrollment growth is expected to continue.

The Howard County Junior College District was created by a county-wide vote on Nov. 17, 1945. Seven representative citizens of Howard County were elected on that same ballot to serve as a board of



trustees.

The college was first housed in the hospital area of the former Big Spring Bombardier School, two miles west of the center of downtown Big Spring. The first session began on Sept. 30, 1946.

On Sept. 12, 1951, the

college was moved to a 120-acre campus located in southeast Big Spring. The physical facilities constructed through the ensuing years include an administration-classroom building,

See HOWARD COLLEGE Page 55

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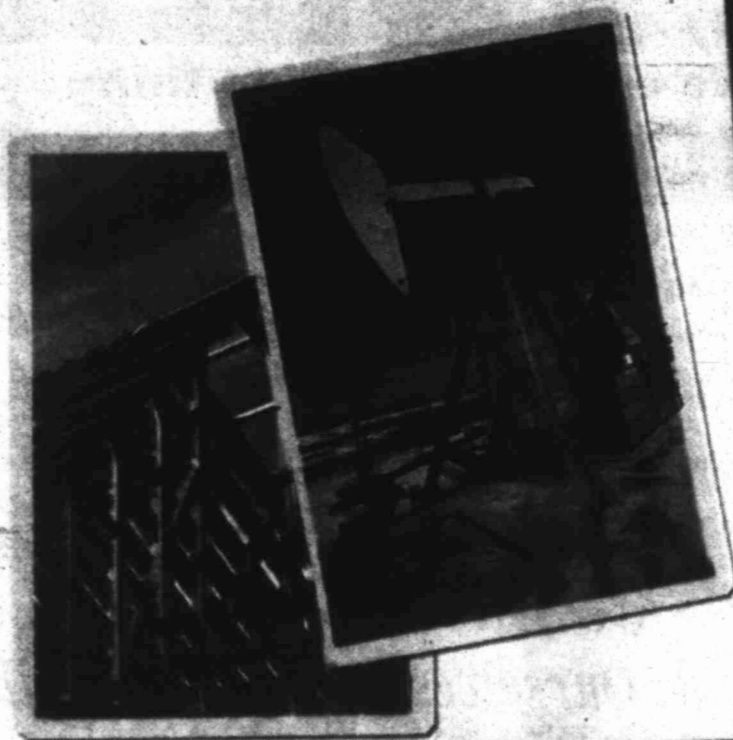
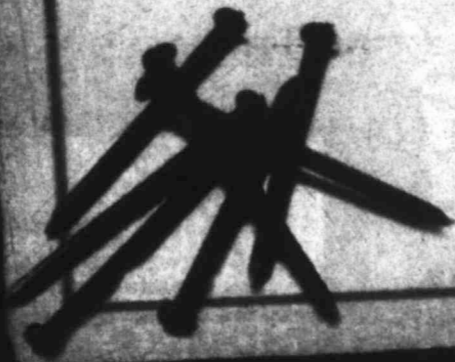
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— Henry Ford

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# Word is out about SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf

The word seems to be out about SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

Enrollment for the only self-contained community college for the deaf in the world is set to break records this fall, if early projections hold true.

According to Provost Ron Brasel, the number of new students requesting housing is in the low 80s. If that trend continues, it will be the highest number ever.

Funded entirely through state appropriations, SWCID was created through a diligent effort on the part of Howard College trustees in 1980.

SWCID provides educational programs that serve the deaf and hard of hearing as well as providing education for paraprofessionals for the deaf and hearing impaired.

The graphic arts technology program began

## SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf

3200 Ave C  
(432) 264-3700

in the fall 2000 semester and has seen increased enrollment, as have the SWCID dental laboratory technology and construction and building technology programs.

The interpreter training program and paraprofessional for the deaf and hard of hearing programs remain popular with those individuals who choose to work within the deaf community.

Recruitment has certainly helped in getting the word out about SWCID, but improvements in the overall campus look has also been an added plus in attracting new students.

Established on land that once was part of the old Webb Air Force Base, most of the old military buildings have been renovated or removed and new buildings built to give the 25-year-old college campus a major face lift.

In fact, in the past several years, construction has included new dormitories, housing for married and special needs students, a multipurpose activity center and a complete remodel of the campus' student union building.

The Burke-Mehan Residence complex can house 92 students in a dormitory setting and 18 students in apartments.

The Diagnostic Center is the first of its kind in the West Texas area. At this facility, a full-time audiologist as well as rehabilitation counselors for deaf and hard of hearing students will pave



the way for securing diagnostic services and educational assistance.

The Maddux Student Center has a beautiful cafeteria, an inviting game room, a spacious auditorium, student mail boxes and meeting rooms for student events and activities.

And more changes are on the way.

Renovations will begin soon to turn the old cafeteria into a resource center and outside work

will develop a picnic type area for student activities.

"I do believe the improvements we've made across campus are also probably more enticing now to new students than they were in the past," Brasel said. "We can now say we're looking better. We're looking pretty good. We even look like a college campus."

SWCID is located at 3200 Avenue C. Howard College trustees oversee the governance of the college.

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# Howard County boasts excellence in public and private schools

Three public school districts within Howard County serve the cities of Big Spring, Forsan and Coahoma.

The Big Spring Independent School District is composed of five elementaries, one fifth- and sixth-grade center, one junior high and one Class 4A high school.

Serving 3,830 students, BSISD is the largest school district in Howard County and is under the leadership of second-year Superintendent James Michael Downes.

His administrative staff includes Assistant Superintendent Rey Villarreal, Business Manager Sandra Waggoner, Assistant Business Manager James McFarland, Director of Curriculum Richard Light, Director of Technology Corey Wood, Director of Transportation and Maintenance Howard

## Big Spring Independent School District

708 E. 11th Place  
(432) 264-3600

Stewart, Special Education Director Bobby Waldrop and Director of Food Service Joann Knox.

Elected members serving on the school board are President Phil Furqueron, Vice President Irene Bustamante, Secretary Tony Kennedy and board members Alan Partee, Maria Padilla, Mike Dawson and Ricky Robertson.

School addresses and phone numbers are:

- Administrative office, 708 11th Place, 264-3600.
- Big Spring High School, 707 E. 11th Place, 264-3641. Principal is Mike Ritchey and assistant principals are Tim Tannehill and

Wenda Christopher. Athletic Director is Dwight Butler.

• Big Spring Junior High School, 624 E. Sixth, 264-4135. Principal is Coby Norman and assistant principal is Tommy Gibson.

• Goliad Intermediate, 2000 S. Goliad, 264-4111. Principal is Wayland Pierce and assistant principal is Don Dulin.

• Bauer Elementary, 108 NW Ninth, 264-4121. Principal is Mark Owen.

• Kentwood Elementary, 2500 Merrily, 264-4130. Principal is Karen Saunders.

• Marcy Elementary, 2101 Wasson, 264-4144. Principal is Carie Dunnam.

• Moss Elementary, 3200 Fordham, 264-4148. Principal is George Martin.

• Washington Elementary, 1201 S. Birdwell Lane, 264-4126. Principal is Steve

Waggoner.

• Alternative Education Program, 229 Airbase Road, 264-4115. Principal is Ben Neel.

Schools begin Aug. 16. The Internet address for Big Spring ISD is [www.bsisd.esc18.net](http://www.bsisd.esc18.net). School resumes Aug. 16.

## Coahoma Independent School District

600 N. Main  
(432) 394-4290

Coahoma Independent School District consists of a Class 2A high school, a junior high and an elementary school and serves 790 students.

The school district is under the leadership of Superintendent Dr. Bill Kingston.

Elected members serving on the school board are

President Dale Coates, Vice President Jody Reid, Secretary Larry Cordes and board members James White, John Wayne Metcalf, Don Barton and Sissy Wells.

School addresses and phone numbers are:

• Administrative office, 600 North Main, 394-4290.

• Coahoma High School, 700 North Main, 394-4535. Secondary principal is Charles Adams and assistant is John Massey.

• Robert "Rob" Ethridge Junior High, 411 High School Drive, 394-4615.

• Coahoma Elementary School, 400 Ramsey Avenue, 394-4323. The principal is Patricia Bennett.

The Internet address for Coahoma ISD is [www.coahoma.esc18.net](http://www.coahoma.esc18.net). School resumes Aug. 16.

See **SCHOOLS** Page 55D



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## Various day care centers provide parents with a variety of choices

Big Spring parents have many different options for care of their children of all ages in a variety of situations.

Several local day care centers will take children from infants up. These include:

- Jack and Jill, 1708 Nolan, 267-8411.
  - Snoopy's Playhouse, 507 E. 14th, 263-7507.
  - The Tot Stop, 901 E. 16th, 263-2881.
  - Westside Day Care, Big Spring Industrial Park, 2300 Simler, 263-7841.
  - Irene's Little Angles, 1200 Runnels, 268-8768.
- Others take somewhat older children, including:
- Hillcrest Child Development Center, 2000 FM-700, 267-8449, which takes children from 18 months to 12 years;
  - Howard Cottage,

Howard College Child Development Center, 1001 Birdwell Lane, 264-5185. During the school term, children from 18 months to five years are accepted for day care. It is open for children from infancy to 13 years in the evenings. Summer daycare is open for children 18 months to 13 years, and there are no night programs. Head start programs are offered.

- Proffitt Day Care, 1600 Wasson Rd., 267-3797, which takes children age 18 months to 13 years.
- Rainbow Christian Preschool, 409 Gol'ad, 267-4515, which takes children age 2 and up.
- The Big Spring Family YMCA, 267-8234, offers after-school, holiday and vacation care for children ages 3-12. YMCA also offers summer day camp for ages

3-12. Summer camp runs from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

• West Side Community Center, 267-6680, offers after school and summer programs for children ages 4-12.

For low-income children ages 3-5, Lakeview Head Start, 267-7452, has an early education program that runs roughly concurrent with the local school year.

For part-time care, check out the "Mother's Day Out" program held at various churches during the school year. For more information, call the First Methodist Church, 267-6394.

For those who prefer an in-home environment for child care, there are registered family homes that are licensed to care for a limited number of children each.

## Area Financial Institutions

Western National Bank  
607 Scurry  
466-0000.

American State Bank  
1411 Gregg St. - 267-555

Big Spring Banking  
Center (State National  
Bank of West Texas)  
1500 Gregg St. — 267-1651

First Bank of West Texas  
Big Spring  
1810 E. FM 700 — 267-1113  
Coahoma: 500 W.  
Broadway - 394-4256

State National Bank  
901 Main St. — 264-2100

Wells Fargo Bank of  
Texas  
400 Main St. — 267-5513

Western National Bank  
607 S. Scurry — 466-0000

Wood Forrest National  
Bank  
201 W. FM 700 (Wal-Mart)

— 466-0100  
Big Spring Education  
Employees Federal Credit  
Union  
1110 Benton — 263-8393

Big Spring State Hospital  
Federal Credit Union  
2124 N. U.S. Highway 87  
— 263-5304

Citizens Federal Credit  
Union  
701 E. FM 700 — 267-6373

Cosden Federal Credit  
Union  
400 E. Marcy Drive —  
264-2600

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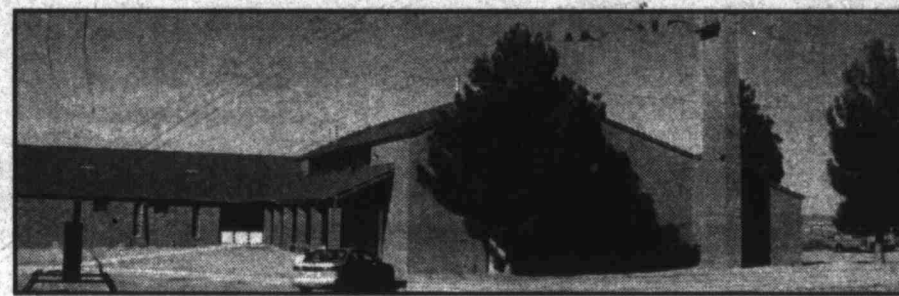
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267-1639



### SUNDAY

BIBLE STUDY.....9:30 AM  
CELEBRATION WORSHIP..... 11:00 AM  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH..... 11:00 AM  
CELEBRATION WORSHIP.....6:30 PM

### WEDNESDAY

WORSHIP CELEBRATION.....6:45 PM  
PRAYER MEETING.....7:00 PM  
YOUTH BIBLE STUDY.....7:00 PM

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DEVELOPMENT  
CENTER**

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267-8449

BRENDA HYATT, DIRECTOR



## West Side Community Center offer safe after school activities for children

West Side Community Center, located at 1311 W. Fourth Street, provides children with safe and fun after-school activities.

Transportation is available from Big Spring schools and Elbow. A van will pick them up and take them to the center.

West Side is open during the school year Monday through Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

### West Side Community Center

1311 W. Fourth St.  
(432) 264-0351

The center is also open for a two-month period during the summer. The summer program includes opportunities to go to the

movies, swim, bowl, play at Kid's Zone and even eat out on occasion.

A newly-instituted program, Cooking with Melinda, lets the children create no-heat concoctions like "worm dirt" from cookies and ice cream. West Side is also part of the Junior Master Gardener program.

West Side Community Center was established by

local church women in the mid 1940s. Its purpose was to give working parents a safe place for their children to go after school.

In 1968, the community center had to close for six months after funds were no longer available to meet rising costs. The center was reopened by forming a board of directors and naming it a non-profit organization.

Many private contributors make up the center's funding. The United Way's funding of about \$410,000 is the program's main source of revenue. That money primarily funds the part-time workers and also helps keep the van running, insured and fueled. The city of Big Spring helps assist with utilities and taxes.

## Northside Community Center reaches out to help others

The Northside Community Center at 108 N.E. Eighth offers various forms of assistance to the area needy.

Some of those include educational programs, rental and utility bill assistance, laundry program, gas assistance, help obtaining prescription medication, birth certificates, identification or driver's licenses, free use of basketball courts,

### Northside Community Center

108 NE Eighth St.  
(432) 263-2673

counseling and free clothing.

Those who seek assistance from the center should bring some proof of their income and need, and

will be served as help is available. While the bulk of the center's clients are adults, children also benefit. Each summer the center seeks donations to provide vouchers to buy new school clothes for children.

Others can get help paying their utility bills or vouchers for gasoline or other needed items. Food and baby needs such as diapers are also available

in varying quantities.

For those who need help obtaining a GED or reaching other educational goals, the center has programs in place.

Max Webb, the director, also helps with individual counseling, time management, marriage counseling, budget assistance and career planning.

Webb's policy for helping those out is "If they need help they need to be in

school and be working."

Donations of new and used items are accepted at the center during regular business hours. Volunteers are also sought to help with the center's programs and sort through donated items to be made available.

The center receives \$2,904.83 every other month to help with the assistance,

See **NORTHSIDE** Page 55D

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## News, entertainment sources include paper, radio, tv translator

Several media sources are located in Big Spring, including a newspaper, several radio stations and a television translator station.

As it prepares to celebrate its 100th anniversary of serving readers in the area, the Big Spring *Herald* is clearly the oldest of the community's media outlets.

Published in the afternoon Monday through Friday and mornings on Sunday except Christmas Day, the *Herald* is owned by Horizon Publications headquartered in Marion, Ill.

The on-line edition can be found at [www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com)

The *Herald* is a member of the Associated Press, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association and Texas Daily Newspaper Association.

Susanne Reed is the *Herald's* publisher, Christy Hernandez is assistant advertising manager, John A. Moseley is managing editor, Dianne Marquez is the business office manager, Angie Worley is circulation manager and Tony Hernandez is production manager.

The *Herald's* offices are located at 710 Scurry St. and are open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The paper's mailing address is P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721-1431. The main switchboard telephone number is 263-7331. Circulation calls may be made to 263-7335. The fax number is 264-7205.

## Big Spring YMCA growing

The Big Spring YMCA has come a long way since 1902.

Back then, the YMCA served as an overnight lodging hotel for railroad workers. Today, the "Y" serves as a multiple use building that focuses on adult fitness, childcare, sports and physical education, said Executive Director Pete Thiry.

"The YMCA

E-mails can be sent to Reed at [publisher@bigspringherald.com](mailto:publisher@bigspringherald.com).

The editorial department's main e-mail address is [editor@bigspringherald.com](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com).

In addition, sports information can be e-mailed to [sports@bigspringherald.com](mailto:sports@bigspringherald.com) and feature story ideas, wedding announcements, anniversaries and the like can be e-mailed to [life@bigspringherald.com](mailto:life@bigspringherald.com).

The advertising department's main e-mail address is [advertising@bigspringherald.com](mailto:advertising@bigspringherald.com).

The circulation department's e-mail address is [circulation@bigspringherald.com](mailto:circulation@bigspringherald.com).

And the classified advertising department's e-mail address is [classifieds@bigspringherald.com](mailto:classifieds@bigspringherald.com).

Big Spring's radio stations include:

KBST-AM 1490, 608 Johnson St., 267-6391; country and nostalgia programming.

KBST-FM 95.7, 608 Johnson St., 263-3095; contemporary country music.

KBTS-FM 94.3, 608 Johnson St., 264-9494; classic rock programming.

KBYG 1400, 2801 Wasson Dr., 263-5294; plays country music.

The television translator is KWAB-TV, channel 4, located at 2500 Kentucky on the Howard College campus. The telephone number is 263-4901.

**Big Spring  
YMCA**  
801 Owens  
(432) 267-8234

physical education area.

The YMCA fields competitive sports teams in gymnastics, swimming and youth basketball. The basketball league has over 700 kids.

The sports teams consist of youth kids primarily, but some older kids also participate, said Thiry.

"We have had coaches for the gymnastics

See **YMCA**, Page 55D



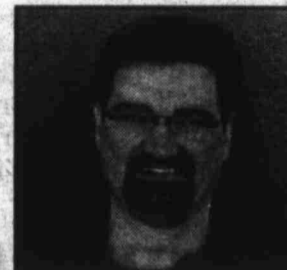
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**Kaki Morton, PT**  
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**Susan Henderson, COTA**  
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- Fit Kids Program

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## Howard County celebrates Christmas all December long

Christmas in West Texas — it just doesn't get any better. That's because it's not snow or cold that makes for memorable holidays. It's the people. And no community celebrates the season like Big Spring and its nearby neighbors.

From the decorating and lighting contests to church pagentry, the *Big Spring Herald* Christmas Parade and the Festival of Lights at Comanche Trail Park,

signs of the season are everywhere.

Typically, several dozen homes and businesses are entered in a lighting contest, which is sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. A map guiding visitors to lighted homes is also produced each year for those who want to take a tour.

The parade, which features many lighted entries and often extends for two dozen or more

blocks, lasts more than an hour and a half and is viewed by thousands lining the streets. Marching bands, antique vehicles and intricately constructed floats join promenading horses, kids on roller skates and bikers on Harley-Davidsons. Floats often bear written messages such as "Peace on Earth" and celebrate causes, advertise businesses, clubs and churches.

The Forsan community also gets

into the act with a parade of its own, the "Christmas in Boomtown Parade," which has a definite homespun, country feel.

The Festival of Lights is a huge lighted display in Comanche Trail Park that can be viewed via a driving or walking tour. Built by volunteers, the display features thousands and thousands of lights hung on trees and over holiday-

See **CHRISTMAS**, Page 55D

## Pops in the Park highlights numerous July 4 activities

Nobody does the Fourth of July like Big Spring ... nobody!

While Independence Day celebrations are held all over the country, spectacles like parades and fireworks displays awaken feelings of pride and patriotism all over Howard County.

That's evident each year when Coahoma stages its annual Fourth of July parade and when residents of the Highland South neighborhood in Big Spring show their Independence Day spirit when they hold a parade

for their youngsters and others in the community.

However, the focal points of local Independence Day celebrations each year are the "Pops in the Park" extravaganza at Comanche Trail Park and the Funtastic Fourth Festival in downtown Big Spring.

Always staged on July 3, "Pops in the Park" features the Big Spring Symphony and Chorus and

a fireworks show at the Comanche Trail Amphitheater.

The celebration is actually the hard work and planning of many local residents who form the Fourth of July Foundation Committee.

The members of the committee begin their work in earnest on each year's show in January. One of the committee's main focuses is raising the almost \$30,000 needed to stage the event.

Each year "Pops" not only includes the symphony and

chorus' performance, but also includes an opening act that has varied from local artists to touring military bands to country music stars.

As the evening progressed this year, the Big Spring Symphony and Chorus, under director Dr. Keith Graumann, began its concert of patriotic music.

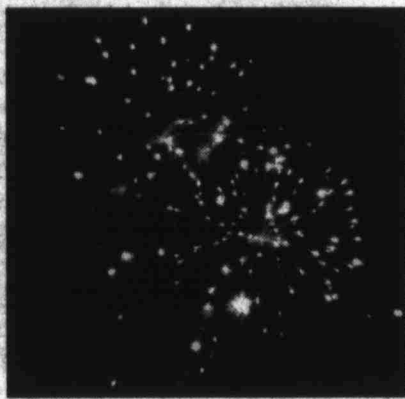
By 10 p.m., the crowd that ranged to as many as 20,000 people

enjoyed the largest "Pops" fireworks display ever. People were also lined up along both sides of U.S. Highway 87 to watch the night sky light up in a dazzling array of colors. As in years past, the fireworks display enchanted both newcomers and old residents alike.

The newest addition to the community's Independence Day festivities, the Funtastic Fourth Festival, sponsored by the Downtown Revitalization

Association, has quickly become a favorite for many local residents.

Staged at Heart of the City Park, "Funtastic Fourth," in its second year, included a battle of the bands with cash prizes awarded in three different musical categories — rock, country and Tejano. In addition, gospel music shows complete the mix. This year, the event was topped off with a laser light show that DRA President Allan Johnson said will return for 2005.





"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have eternal life."  
John 3:16

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# Comanche Trail Park popular in West Texas

Comanche Trail Park is one of the largest and most active parks in West Texas, offering playgrounds, pavilions, sports fields, a golf course, tennis courts, a swimming pool, amphitheater, a community center and a historic spring, among other attractions.

Playgrounds for children at the park include the all volunteer-built Kids Zone, an intricately designed structure made of wood and mostly recycled materials. Panels along the fence at Kids Zone are engraved with the names of donors who helped create the park, which was built in 1996.

For picnics, corporate parties and family gatherings, the park offers pavilions that can be reserved for a few hours or all day. Call 264-2376 for more information.

## Comanche Trail Park

Entrances on  
South U.S. Highway 87  
and  
Wasson Road  
(432) 264-2376

Baseball fields often host local leagues during the spring and summer months, while tennis courts in the park serve as a practice field for local students and amateur enthusiasts alike.

The park's public swimming pool has undergone extensive renovations within the past few years, including the addition of a dual tube slide, umbrella fountain and more.

Comanche Trail Golf Course is used frequently by local golfers as well as visitors from other cities.

The second hole was recently redesigned and improved. The renovation is part of the course's master plan for improvement. The facility also has a pro shop selling much-needed items, and offers special senior and junior rates.

The Dora Roberts Community Center, located on the bank of the Comanche Lake, is available to rent for dinners, parties, weddings and other special events. It regularly hosts community functions, including several fund-raisers and ceremonies throughout the year. Behind the building is a pavilion, popular for weddings. Rental rates vary according to which of several rooms will be used; call 264-9134 for information.

The historic spring, birthplace of the city,



includes an observation deck and walking trails and is visited frequently by both locals and their out-of-town guests.

The amphitheater is the site of the annual Pops in the Park Independence Day celebration. Each year on

July 3, the Big Spring Symphony and Chorale, along with special guests, perform and a fireworks show is held. In addition, the amphitheater is the site for free outdoor movies and other activities throughout the year.



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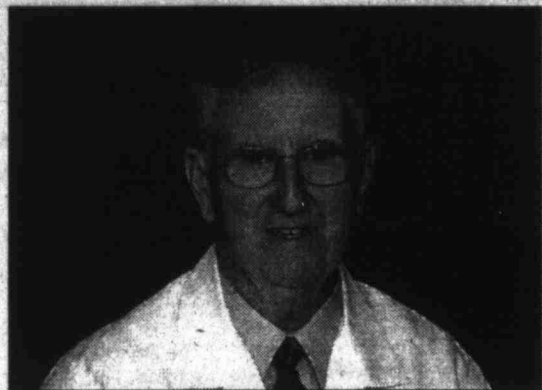
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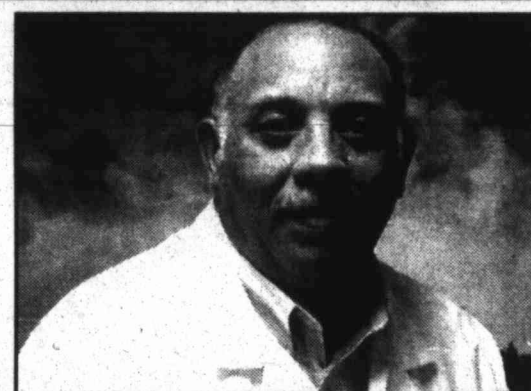
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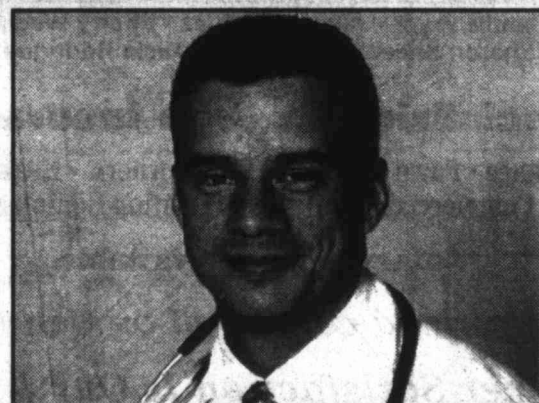
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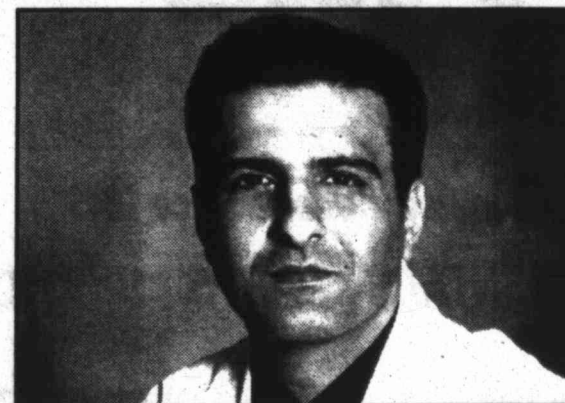


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 † John 3:16

# Crossroads area has solid athletic teams

Crossroads' public schools and college athletic teams compete at the top level every year, and an entire sports program is offered to the younger athletes. There are also many adults involved in recreational sports in the area.

The Howard College Hawks and Lady Hawks compete regularly at the national (NJCAA) level in men's and women's basketball, baseball, softball and collegiate rodeo.

Big Spring High School offers the largest range of athletic sports to its students in the area with the boys competing in football, basketball, baseball, golf, tennis, cross country, track and swimming. In girls' sports, the Lady Steers compete in volleyball, basketball, golf, tennis, softball, cross country, track and swimming.

The Crossroads' Class 2A high school programs include Coahoma and Stanton. Forsan High School now competes at the 1A level. All three schools field boy's teams in football, basketball, golf, tennis, track and cross country. They also

field girl's basketball, golf, tennis, track and cross country teams. Coahoma also competes in baseball and softball.

Garden City High School teams compete in the Class 1A division in basketball, tennis, track, and cross country. The football team competed in Class 1A last year, but has since dropped down to the six-man division.

Grady and Sands high schools compete in the six-man football ranks, and also field competitive Class 1A basketball, track, tennis and cross-country teams.

The Howard College rodeo team competes in one of the toughest regions in the country, the Southwest Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association.

Many high school rodeo athletes continue their competition in the college level after they leave high school.

Howard College hosts the Crossroads' Summer Basketball League program for boys and girls.

The Crossroads Little League Football and youth soccer

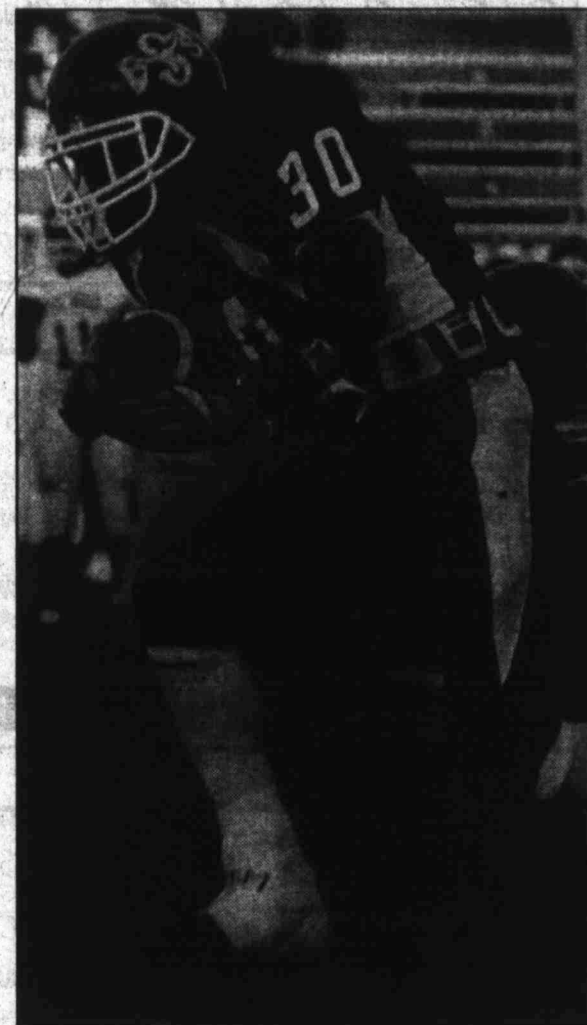
programs are very popular in the fall, while the Big Spring Youth Basketball Association provides competition for young athletes in the winter.

The Big Spring Sidewinders gymnastics team sends competitors annually to state and national championships, held by the YMCA and USA Gymnastics.


The Big Spring Family YMCA provides a year-round swimming competition producing a team ranked one of the best in West Texas. The YMCA also has a gymnastics team, which is led by first-year coach Desiree Best, and two martial arts classes, as well.

Big Spring has two golf courses in town. The Comanche Trail Golf Course is a public course, while the Big Spring Country Club Golf Course is member affiliated. There is also a wide variety of golf tournaments that take place regularly for interested adults at these two locations.

Outdoor recreational activities also exist at several lakes located nearby.



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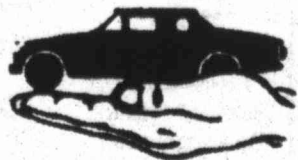
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July 25, 2004

**SCHOOLS**

Continued from Page 45D

Forsan Independent School District is composed of a Class A high school/junior high and an elementary school and serves 676.

**Forsan  
Independent  
School District**

411 W. Sixth in Forsan  
(432) 457-2223, ext 2

The district administration officers includes first-year Superintendent Randy Johnson and Business Manager Dianna Walker.

School board trustees are Board President Allen McDowell, Vice President

Dale Humphreys, Secretary/Treasurer Marty Whetsel, Lewis Boeker, Gary Hise, Tom Kuykendall and Beckie Wash.

School addresses and phone numbers are:

- Administrative office can be reached by dialing 457-2223, ext. 2.

- Forsan High School-Junior High, 411 W. Sixth, 457-2223, ext. 1. The principal is Keith Stone and assistant principal is Madge Patterson.

- Elbow Elementary, Nichols Road, 398-5444. The principal is Steve Osburn.

The Internet address for Forsan ISD is [www.forsan.esc18.net](http://www.forsan.esc18.net). School resumes Aug. 16.

Sitting at the corner of Howard and Martin Counties is Sands

turned away for lack of financial services," said Thiry.

"We have scholarships available for financial assistance."

The YMCA gives out \$40,000 worth of scholarship money each year and it also serves as one of the 14 United Way agencies in Big Spring.

"Several members get scholarship money, but most of the financial assistance that people want here in town are for the childcare services," said Thiry.

The scholarships are based upon income and size of family.

The YMCA currently has four full-time employees and 30 part-time employees. It also has a board of directors — all volunteers. On top of that, the YMCA gets anywhere from 80 to 100 volunteers per year.

The facility is open from 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

It opens Friday at 5:30 a.m. but closes at 7 p.m. The building is also open on weekends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays. The swimming pool hours vary according to the day, as well.

**YMCA**

Continued from Page 48D

and swimming teams, but the basketball league is primarily ran by volunteers," said Thiry.

The YMCA also has noncompetitive activities in the area of sports and physical education. They have swim classes (lessons), gymnastics classes and two martial arts classes, as well, said Thiry.

"The gymnastics classes are our instructional program before the kids join the team," said Thiry.

The two martial arts classes are Tae Kwon Do and Isshinryu.

The "Y" also has a skate park for all bikes, rollerblades and skateboards.

Besides open and lap swimming, the swimming area also has various water exercise classes.

The pool area consists of a hot tub and steam room, as well.

The YMCA is a non-profit organization that has reasonable membership rates. And, a great no turn down policy.

"We try to have a philosophy that no one is

**Community Guide**

**Sands Consolidated  
School District**

100 Mustang Dr., Acklery  
(432) 353-4744  
(432) 353-4314

Consolidated Independent School District, which consists of a Class A high school, junior high and elementary all housed in one building located in the agriculture community of Acklery.

The school serves 220 students and is under the leadership of Superintendent Wayne Blount. Zilda Bilbo is principal of the high school/elementary school, 100 Mustang Drive, 353-4744 for the high school and 353-4314 for the

elementary.

School board trustees are Board President Stan Blagrave, Vice President Martin Nichols, Secretary/Treasurer Michelle Zant and board members Robin Barraza, Steve Blagrave, Steve Parker and Tommy Staggs. School resumes Aug. 16.

Big Spring is also home to two private Christian schools — Maranatha Baptist Academy and New Hope Christian School.

**Maranatha Baptist  
Academy**

903 Johnson  
(432) 263-7696

- Maranatha, at 903 Johnson, 263-7696. The school is headed by Dr.

Page 55

Lillian Bohannon, serving students in kindergarten through 12th grades since 1980. The school provides tutoring services through college and assists with home school programs. Maranatha is an Accelerated Christian Education accredited school.

- New Hope Christian School, 118 Cedar, 263-0203, serving early pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Early Childhood Education Administrator is Vicki Parnell.

School resumes Aug. 16

**New Hope  
Christian School**

118 Cedar  
(432) 263-0203

**HOWARD COLLEGE**

Continued from Page 42D

a 4,000 seat multi-purpose coliseum, a library, a science building and gymnasium.

Others included a student union building, practical arts and occupational buildings, a greenhouse, music facility, an applied sciences center, dormitories for men and women, a baseball field, newly completed softball field and a football stadium with a seating capacity of 10,000.

In 1973, the college acquired a 137-acre site in Martin County to be used as an

agricultural research and demonstration center. An additional 138.9 acres adjacent to the original land was acquired in 1978. Additionally, the college houses a rodeo arena and livestock pens on 20 acres three miles east of Big Spring.

A long-range master landscape and campus beautification was initiated in 1977 and updated in 1992.

In 2004, construction of a new Child Development Center, Howard Cottage, an extension of the Child and Family Development Program, was finished. Coming soon, Howard College administrators hope to break ground on a multi-million dollar performance hall to house the theater and art programs.

**NORTHSIDE**

Continued from Page 47

but needs more money to help stop the consistent

decrease in revenues.

The center is in the process of applying for grants to help assist inmate families.

Northside Community Center gratefully accepts

donations throughout the year to help subsidize its regular funding.

Webb can be reached at 263-2673 between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**CHRISTMAS**

Continued from Page 49D

themed frames. There is no charge to see the lights, which are turned on for several weeks during December, but donations are accepted to help defray the cost of electrical power and supplies.

Local merchants kick off the season early, hosting a city-wide holiday open house in November of each

year. On that afternoon, florists, gift shops and other businesses open their doors, serving hot chocolate and showing off their Christmas specialty items.

Other highlights include the Living Christmas Tree, put on by the First United Methodist Church; a live, drive-through nativity, held by the Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene; community caroling; and frequent musical performances, put

on by a variety of sponsors, including the Downtown Revitalization Association and the Big Spring Symphony. All events are free to the public, though donations are accepted to help with expenses.

In addition, the Big Spring Mall always hosts Santa Claus to visit with children as the big day gets closer. Churches observe this season with special services that often include candlelight and special music.

# You're Invited To Our 75th Anniversary Party & Open House



In a proud statement issued from their company headquarters, Harley Davidson Shop announced that 2004 is the 75th Anniversary of the founding of their business. The company was started back in 1929, the same year the stock market crashed, which signaled the beginning of the Great Depression. The depression could not stop progress so the first transcontinental all-air service began linking New York to Los Angeles in 36 hours, with an over-night stop.

#### What Else Happened In 1929?

The St. Valentine's Day Massacre typified the brutality of organized crime. As shocking as this crime was, it would be overshadowed by unfolding events that would influence people's lives forever. Bell Laboratories announced the development of color television and the discovery of penicillin were a few important inventions this year.

Flight was big this year. The Army aircraft "Question Mark" broke the record for endurance flying by staying aloft for 150 hours and 40 minutes. Flyer Charles Lindbergh married Anne Spencer Morrow.

Yes, when you think about it, things have changed a lot in 75 years. But, after all this time there are some things which have remained the same.

One good thing is that Harley Davidson Shop is still around and thriving after 75 years of hard work and lots of dedication by everyone involved... and most importantly, caring about customers who helped us reach this milestone.



## SATURDAY SEPT. 25

- Free BBQ  
Catered by Big John's BBQ
- Live Music...  
50/50 Tickets
- RV Parking
- First Come, First Served



**We thank our employees, customers, suppliers and friends for their support.**

908 W. 3rd St. Bus. I-20

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Hours: Tues.-Sat. 9-6