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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEEKEND EDITION, MARCH 21-22, 2020



VOLUME 115, NUMBER 150 COPYRIGHT 2020 75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND EDITION



Cancellations/Postponed events:

Big Spring Film Festival Postponed until later date

National Pharmaceutical Take Back Initiative for April 25

No School for Forsan ISD, Coahoma ISD, Big Spring ISD through March 27

Pints for Polio for March 21

No dates have been set, but will be released as soon as possible.

Big Spring Symphony Fashion Show Fundraiser 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Health Fair for April 4 has been postponed until August 8.

Murder suspect in custody

Big Spring Police Dept. make arrest in recent murder investigation

Editor's Note: The Big Spring Police Department issued the following press release regarding a recent murder investigation. While the investigation is still ongoing, an arrest has been made.

Special to the Herald

On March 5, 2020, at approximately 1:37 a.m., an officer with the Big Spring Police Department observed a silver in color, 2004, Chrysler PT Cruiser, parked on the south side of Kent Kwik located in the 300 block of South Gregg Street.

The officer checked out the vehicle and observed a male subject, later identified as Ramiro De La Rosa, a Hispanic male, 64 years of age, of Odessa, Texas, sitting in the front passenger seat, slumped over, and suffering from an apparent assault. Big Spring Fire Department Medics responded to the scene for medical treatment.



Ramiro De La Rosa was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center and then flown to University Medical Center located in Lubbock Texas due to facial fractures. Ramiro De La Rosa ultimately succumbed to his injuries and passed away at University Medical Center.



Raul Mendez

Big Spring Police Department Criminal Investigation Division Detectives along with the Texas Rangers conducted a murder investigation.

During the course of the investigation, Investigators developed a suspect identified as Raul Mendez, a Hispanic male, 40 years of age. Investigators had obtained the security video from Kent Kwik which clearly showed Ramiro De La Rosa's vehicle on the south side of the build-

ing. Investigators also observed a black passenger vehicle later identified as a black in color, 2015, Toyota Camry, pull into the Kent Kwik parking lot. Investigators then observed Mr. Mendez exit the Toyota Camry and approach Ramiro De La Rosa while Ramiro was sitting in the driver's seat of the PT Cruiser. Shortly later, Raul Mendez was observed removing an item from his left rear pocket which was later identified as brass knuckles. The video shows that Raul Mendez punched Ramiro De La Rosa in the head and face area several times with the brass knuckles.

On March 18, 2020, at approximately 12:15 p.m. Investigators placed Raul Mendez under arrest for unrelated charges. Investigators had developed probable cause to believe Mr. Mendez

See **BSPD**, Page 3A

West Texas VA responding well to COVID-19

Community partnerships, Tele-health, Video-conference among many avenues being utilized during this time

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

Healthcare workers are on the front lines of the newest battle – COVID-19 – and in order to not overwhelm the available resources, healthcare facilities across the nation are stepping up processes and setting up screening points. The West Texas VA in Big Spring is not only adhering to state and federal recommendations, but is also working closely with local hospitals and emergency preparedness teams.



Courtesy photo

VA nationwide – along with other local and area hospitals - has moved to 100 percent screening at all the entrances. Entrances are being restricted to one entrance at facilities; locally it is the Main Outpatient Lobby entrance in Big Spring. Staff will be interacting and ask a few simple screening questions as veterans arrive at each site.

"These are not very intrusive, not detailed oriented medical history, or an involved medical exam, it's asking a couple of questions if you are having flu like symptoms, travel to certain areas," Jason Cave, Interim West Texas VA Director, said. "The point there is if there's a suspected case of

Human Resources Specialist Felix Holguin screens a visitor to the West Texas VA Health Care System as part of VHA's efforts to ensure the health and wellbeing of our Veterans, staff and visitors. As part of this process, everyone who enters the campus will be pre-screened, and visitors must be 18 years of age or older. This may lengthen entry times, so patients are advised to allow for that when arriving for their appointments.

COVID-19 we want to know as soon as possible before they have walked to different clinical areas."

In the long term community living center, enhanced precautions have been implemented for the past few weeks, limited traffic has been one of the biggest focuses. While the floor is home to hospice patients, there are cases that

See **VA**, Page 3A

Howard County Commissioners to meet; public encouraged to attend via live stream

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

The Howard County Commissioners will conduct business as usual during a regular meeting on Monday, March 23. The meeting will take place at 3:30 p.m. and the community is encouraged to attend via live-stream at <https://facebook.com/Howard-County-Info-Tech-110733893888746/>.

Howard County Judge Kathryn Wiseman will open up the meeting with discussion and possible action by welcoming Mavour Braswell, Howard County Librarian, before Braswell presents information pertaining to the Family Place Grant. Braswell will also be asking the Commissioners for approval regarding a Memorandum of Understanding be-

tween the Howard County Library and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, along with an MOU with Big Spring ISD and the Howard County Library.

As part of the County Auditor's report, the court will be looking to approve invoices, purchase requests and any presented budget amendments.



The County Treasurer will be presenting the Monthly Payroll report and Treasurer's Monthly Report both from February along with any personnel considerations.

Before concluding the meeting, Brian Klinksiek, Road Engineer, will be providing a roadway maintenance update and Commissioner Jimmie Long will introduce a presentation

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OUR DOWNTOWN BIG SPRING OFFICE WILL BE OPEN SOON!

VA
Continued from Page 1A

visitation is allowed. In addition to limited traffic in facilities, visitors are being limited to those 18 years of age and older. VHA has set the bar high out of an abundance of caution to protect the most vulnerable of our population. Many Veterans have a significant occurrence of co-morbidity health care concerns. This bar is set to protect our Veterans, staff and visitors.

“By and large -VA wide - no traffic is allowed on long term care units,” Cave said. “As everyone has seen that is the vulnerable population, more likely to have complications or get severely sick if there is an outbreak here.”

While the implementation of new policies, processes and procedures have been taking place, according to Cave the majority of the community who has accessed the local VA has not been too inconvenienced or at least hasn't stated large amounts of frustration. As Cave was conducting a shift for visitors screening, he received positive feedback from veterans and their families.

“I had a few express their gratitude for us doing this. They express they are glad we are doing this and glad that we are taking it seriously,” he said. “Occasionally someone may ask why we are doing this if there is a little bit of a wait, which thankfully we haven't had too much of a halt with this process.”

Also in an effort to support social distancing and in order to do their part in slowing the spread of COVID-19, the meeting rooms located at the West Texas VA and in other locations, have restricted use from outside organizations at this time. For meetings that are still taking place within VA - tabletops, town halls, etc. - Skype and other teleconferencing capabilities are being implemented.

Tele-health and virtual care modalities have been on the forefront of VA healthcare for the past few years now and with the COVID-19 pandemic these measures add a leg up in VA and healthcare access options.

“This is really one of the major opportunities here. A good portion of that infrastructure was in place and a lot of veterans who prefer face to face

and hadn't given it a try are asking,” Cave said. “We have actually had veterans calling and asking to convert their appointment to virtual. The flip side is that we are able to reach out and offer veterans to switch to a telephone visit or VA virtual visit.”

He continued, “The fact that we don't have to start from scratch. We have VA Video Connect which is a secure video app that we can connect and use to see your provider. That infrastructure was set up before this crisis.”

As the emphasis on social distancing is increasing, the West Texas VA has been reaching out to clients to offer up the different tele-health and VA Connect opportunities that are available regarding upcoming appointments. A call from Cave went out to veterans who have been served through the West Texas VA to inform them of the measures that are being put into place regarding COVID-19.

Partnerships within the community have been forming for many years between VA and other healthcare providers. There are avenues that have not been provided in the local VA that have been sourced out to local hospitals and other facilities; the partnerships that have formed from these years of collaborations and partnerships offers a strong framework for the ability to deal collectively with COVID-19, within the community.

“I have to give kuddos to Mrs. Krabill at Scenic Mountain. Very early, weeks ago, we had reached out to each other to discuss and form a collaboration and took part in some tabletop exercises,” Cave said. “They were so receptive, so helpful and a shared sense of we will get through this together as a community.”

He continued, “Many will remember that spirit of service where everyone comes together that emerged around 9/11, that mentality that now is the time to come together and try to save lives. A little bit of that spirit has been shining through not just with hospitals, but Municipalities, Fire & Rescue, and EMS.”

During this ever evolving time with COVID-19, the West Texas VA stands strong in its commitment to support veterans and their families. Cave and the VA staff ask for patience as processes are implemented for the safety of every veteran who is passing through VA facilities.

“We know these precautions may be frustrating at times, but our first thing is bear with us. We are doing this out of an abundance of caution as we try to make sure we protect our veterans and people who are vulnerable to this,” Cave said.

Mental health is an area of health that Cave highly encouraged people to pay attention to. With all the information flooding through daily about COVID-19 it is easy to get distracted and overwhelmed.

“Take it easy and focus on yourself and your family,” he said. “There are a lot more stressors with the schools and a lot of other things we are seeing. We encourage all veterans and their families to give themselves time and space to protect their mental health and lesson anxiety.”

For years it has been discussed, around the world, the next big battle we face won't look like those we have fought in the past. While nobody has truly known what to expect; whether it be cyber attack or what not, it seems that the battle we are fighting right now is the new battle.

“While nobody thought the battle would be hand hygiene, that seems to be really what it is,” Cave said.

He continued, “Be cognizant about social distancing. Even if you don't feel sick remember this is hitting people differently. While you may not think you are an at risk group, you can still spread germs to those who are. Even if it's not COVID, another virus even ... hand hygiene. We can't say enough about it.”

For those who may not have sanitizer, hand washing with warm water and soap is as effective if not more so when it comes to the coronavirus.

Those who are experiencing flu-like symptoms - worsening cough, fever over 101.4 or shortness of breath - are encouraged to call before arriving at a facility. The 24-hour nurse triage line is 866-862-7863. The West Texas VA is utilizing social media avenues, word of mouth, local media and internal communications. More specific information regarding COVID-19 can also be found on the CDC, Texas Department of Public Health, and World Health Organization websites.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Weather



Saturday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Cloudy, with a high near 51. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46. East wind around 5 mph becoming south after midnight.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 77. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 52. Southwest wind around 5 mph becoming southeast after midnight.

Monday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 79.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 56.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 78.

(Weather courtesy National Weather Service via forecast.weather.gov)

BSPD

Continued from Page 1A

murdered Ramiro De La Rosa at which time an arrest warrant affidavit was presented to a magistrate and an arrest warrant was issued for Raul Mendez for the offense of Murder. Mr. Mendez was then also charged with the murder of Mr. De La Rosa. Raul Mendez has been booked into the Howard County Jail and bond has been set at \$750,000.

This continues to be an ongoing investigation and no further information is available at this time.

City of Big Spring suspends use of city park playground structures, pavillions

Special to the Herald

The City of Big Spring will be following CDC guidelines and the executive order by Governor Abbott concerning COVID-19 and will be closing all city

park playground structures and park pavilions including: Kidz Zone, Cotton

Mize softball field, playground structures at ABC Park, Bert Andries Park, Dr., Morgan Park, and any other city owned playground structure or pavilion until at least April 20th. The date of closure has the possibility to extend. We also ask that you refrain from gathering in groups of 10 or more during this time so we can help stop the spread of COVID-19.

For any questions or concerns please contact the City Managers Office at 432-264-2401.



COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

by Russell Callahan with the Texas Comptroller's Office: County Assistance District.

A budget workshop will take place before the regular meeting, at 3 p.m. in the conference room.

Anyone wishing to ask a question during Commissioners Court will have a chance to do so by sending their question through the “Write a Comment” box at the bottom of the live stream.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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Arthur Jackson, 54, died Friday, March 6, 2020. Graveside services will be at 11:00 AM Saturday at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Carol Marie Turner, 64, died Thursday, March 19, 2020. Private family services will be at a later date.

Gayla Williams, 65, died Thursday. The family will receive friends between 2 and 3:30 on Sunday, March 22. There will be a private celebration of Gayla's life on Monday, March 23, at 11 a.m.

Juanita “Pete” Smith, 96, died Monday. Private family services will be at a later date.

Subscribe at 263-7331

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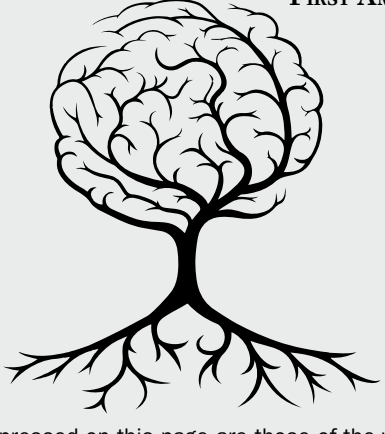
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Opinion

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT



Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writers and not those of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

LETTERS POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Form letters, letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

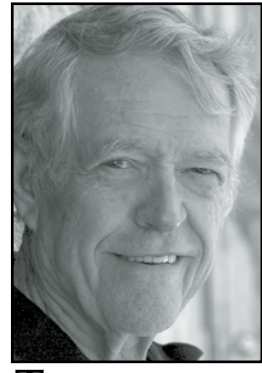
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LISA REYNA - Chief Appraiser
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Phone: No phone number
- Scott Emerson**
Phone: No phone number
- MARK BARR**
Phone: No phone number
- Brandon Iden**
Phone: No phone number
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Phone: 432-264-2232

Mush, you huskies!

A man in Muleshoe ran the Iditarod dog sled race in Alaska. He did it a couple of times. Dog sled racing is a popular activity in Alaska. “They have a lot of sprint racing,” says Mac McLeod. “It’s a family activity with the women and kids joining in. It’s mostly on weekends and they have 3, 5 and 10-mile races. They’ve got any type of mushing you want, either sprint or distance. Sprint mushers usually start with 16 or 18 dogs. You can still win a race starting with 16 dogs and dropping to 12 the second day and down to 8 on the third day. A small team doesn’t mean that it doesn’t have the speed. When you’re on distance racing the smaller teams out on the ice along the coast have an advantage over the larger teams because they don’t get blown around by the wind out on the ice.”



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Mac spent 30 years in Alaska. He went there to work on offshore oil rigs, then got into salmon fishing and built a successful business with that. He says Pacific salmon is better than Atlantic

and the best salmon is sockeye, also known as red. He participated in the Iditarod in 1988 and came in 22nd out of 84 mushers. He spent a lot of time training his dogs. “I learned how to build strength and speed. Once the snow came I would load my sled with 300 pounds of sand bags and go into the mountains and make my dogs really work for a 20 or 30 mile run. The next day I would take them out with an empty sled where they can just run.

You build strength one day and speed the following day. Before going to the mountains I would start on the beach in the sand. I tied the sled to the bumper of a big pickup and had the team pull it. The pickup was just idling along in the sand.”

The Iditarod is from Anchorage to Nome, a distance of 1,120 miles, and starts the first Saturday in March.

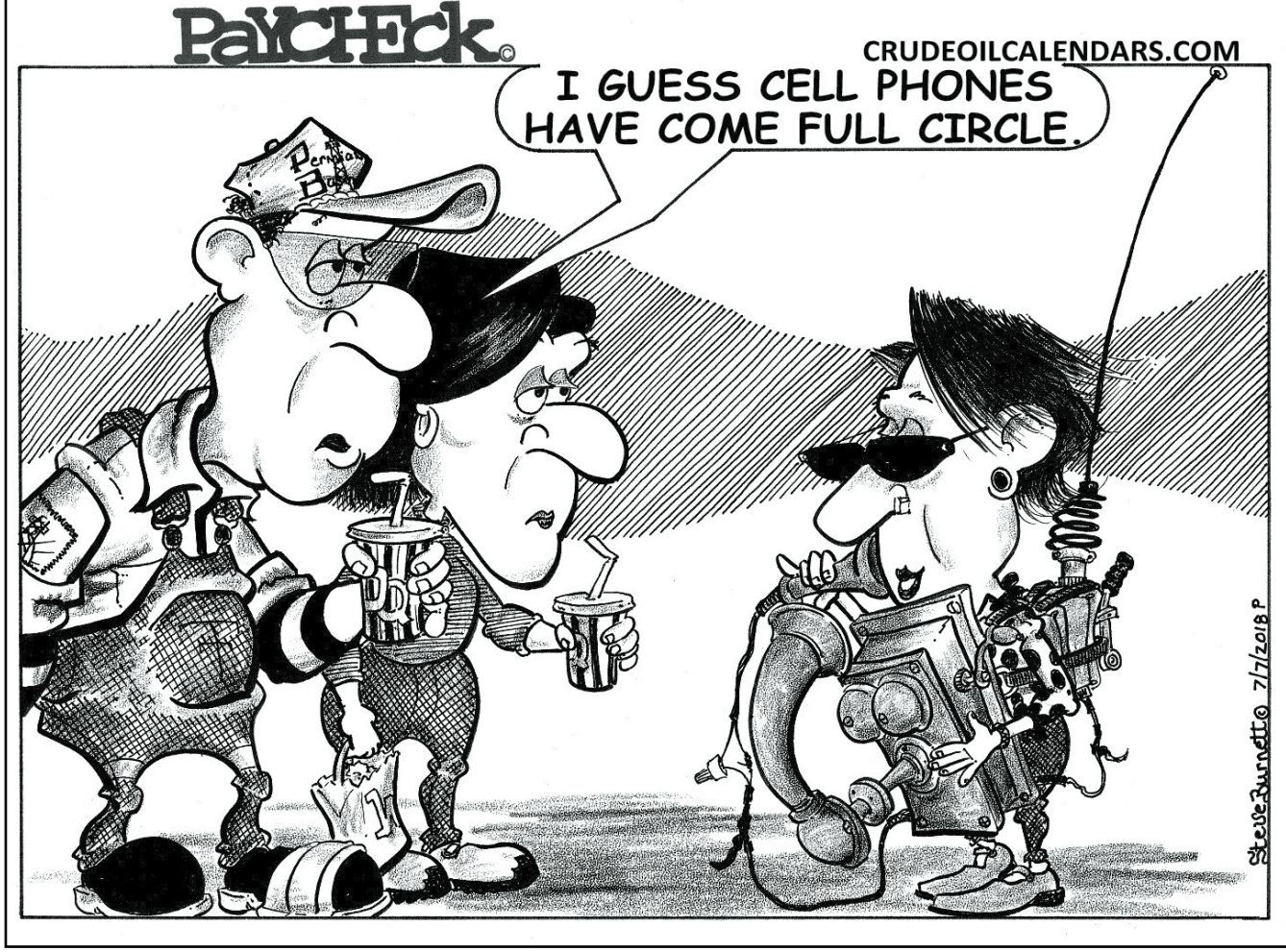
It takes about 10 days to run the race, with the mushers traveling more than 100 miles a day over the ice and snow. “Most mushers run 4 hours on and 4 hours

off. But if you have a strong team you can run 5 hours on and 3 hours off. It’s competitive but you’ve got 26 check points on the Iditarod where you’ve got food drops waiting for you, you’ve got food for yourself, booties for your dog, you’ve got flashlight batteries for your headlamps, extra cold weather gear, whatever you need. That stuff is flown in ahead of time. You have mandatory layovers, 8 at the first part of the race then a 12-hour layover in the middle of the race. 80 miles from the end of the race at White Mountain you have to take another 8-hour mandatory layover.”

There is another long race called the Yukon Quest from Whitehorse to Fairbanks.

“That’s the toughest race. It’s a thousand mile race and when I ran it you could only start with 12 dogs and you had to finish with 8. On the Iditarod you could start with as many as you thought you could run. I started with 16 on the Iditarod.”

Mac is proud of his dog sledging achievements. “Well it was a joy and a pleasure to be able to do it. I’m a competitive person and that’s a pretty good test to show what you’ve got. It was really something to add to my life.”



A most unusual day

My Uncle Mort, who lives so far out in the country that nobody passes his house going to town, called the other day.

“I’m going to shock you, nephew,” he said. “Cause I’m planning a ‘give-away’ that folks won’t be able to refuse.”

He had my attention. I felt flushness in the face-sure that my breathing had shortened. And what about the palpitations in a heart worked over with four bypasses and a valve job more than two decades ago? Were these multiple signals that I might be next in line for the feared coronavirus?

This was a “new tune” from my 106-year-old uncle who is best known for “get-rich-quick” schemes that have always turned to “clabber.” Could Mort’s proposed “giveaway” represent a sudden 180-degree turn toward “get-poor-slowly?”

I’m sure I missed several details, stunned with hearing such from one who seems to have grown charitable, no longer interested in riches.

Formerly, his “riches” were always right over the next hill. He dreamed of opulence, including a change in names for his home-place from “Billy Goat Hill” to “Angora Knoll.”

in another shed, a barrel of small hinges, the very size needed to connect two yardsticks to make a simple six-foot measure. How handy is this for help with social distancing?

The gist of Mort’s plan makes sense. “We’re at a place in history where we’ve never been before,” Mort opined, mumbling about “uncharted waters,” and the need for well-intentioned inhabitants on this planet to “come together” while staying six-feet apart.

“I’m gonna run ads about my ‘giveaway’ of doubled yardsticks. There may not be a big run on ‘em, but I can make ‘em as needed.”

“While folks are here-staying six feet apart, mind you-we’ll talk to each other. I’m gonna hand out Bibles, hymnals and other Christian materials. If any ‘back-biting’ breaks out, I can make a really long “poker” since I’ve got plenty of wood and lots of hinges. We’ll nudge ‘naysayers’ toward the back so the rest of us can talk, pray and sing.”

Who knows? Uncle Mort may even come up with a poem about coming together while staying apart. Clearly, there’s evidence of the need to put much else aside as world leaders come together to determine what’s best for a planet quickly coming unhinged.

There may be much more to fear than fear itself, with respect to late President Franklin Roosevelt’s well-known quote.

As we grind to stops where we used to speed on, we are forced to think about the world and our place in it.

Mort spoke of his preacher’s current sermon series entitled, “Broken Before Breakthrough.” Perhaps it “fits” both his congregation, and the world at large.

Mort recalled the words of a childhood poem that might be helpful for the living of these days.

The author is unknown. It’s about a couple of frogs:

Two frogs fell into a deep cream bowl. One was an optimistic soul. “I will drown,” he cried, “and so will you.” So with a despairing cry, he closed his eyes and said, “Good-bye.”

But the other frog, with a merry grin, said, “I can’t get out, but I won’t give in! I’ll swim around till my strength is spent. For having tried, I’ll die content.”

Bravely he swam until it would seem, his struggles began to stir the cream. On the top of the butter at last he stopped, and out of the bowl he happily hopped.

What is the moral? It’s easily found. If you can’t get out, keep swimming around!”

I thanked my uncle, assuring him that I’ll visit the thicket soon, eager to pick up my yardsticks.

Dr. Newbury is a former educator who writes weekly and is a longtime public speaker. Comments/speaking inquiries to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com Twitter: @donnewbury. Facebook: don newbury.

DAILY PRAYER

You, Lord, have walked with us and blessed us from the moment of birth. Thank You.
Amen



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Texas Veterans Commission continues assistance to veterans via virtual meetings

Special to the Herald

AUSTIN, TX – The Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) values the health and safety of Texas veterans, their families, and spouses. To reduce exposure to the COVID-19 virus, starting March 19, 2020 services provided by the TVC will be conducted virtually.

A listing of services is provided by city at <https://www.tvc.texas.gov/about/office-locations/>.

Veterans may contact their local TVC representative by phone for Claims, Healthcare and Employment assistance.

TVC Claims Advisors help veterans in filing disability compensation claims with the VA.

TVC Health Care Advocates provide assistance to veterans in resolving VA medical care issues including appointments, medication and treatment. Both TVC Claims and Healthcare staff assist veterans through the VA process, filing paperwork and advocate on behalf of the veteran resolving issues with the VA.

TVC Employment Services offer veterans assistance with resumes, applications, and job interview skills. Additionally, Employment Services works with employers to connect them with veteran job seekers.

Other TVC services and programs available to veterans and providers of veterans services

include Education, Entrepreneur, Grants, Mental Health and Women Veterans.

Helping veterans starts here. The Texas Veterans Commission advocates for and provides superior service to veterans that will significantly improve the quality of life for all Texas veterans, their families and survivors.

The TVC assists veterans with receiving their benefits, providing funding to agencies which provide direct services to veterans and administration of the Hazlewood Act education benefits. Learn more at www.tvc.texas.gov.

Unsecured Guns Discovered by Children and Teens Lead to Unintentional Shootings

Special to the Herald

On January 25, 2020, a [three-year-old](#) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana who discovered a loaded and unlocked gun shot and killed himself. Less than 24 hours earlier, a five-year-old across town had shot himself in the hand.

As demonstrated by the tragedies in Baton Rouge, children as young as three are strong enough to fire some types of handguns. In one study, [73% of children](#) under age 10 living in homes with guns reported knowing the location of their parents' firearms, and 36% admitted they had handled the weapons. Many of these children handled guns without their parents' knowledge. Nearly a quarter of parents did not know that their children had handled a gun in their house.

When children and teens have unsupervised access to firearms, tragedies are all but inevitable. According to the CDC, [888 children under the age of 18 died from unintentional gunshot wounds between 2009 and 2018 in the United States](#). Among these victims were 598 children ages 14 and under. Children ages five to 14 are more than [20 times](#) more likely to be killed in unintentional shootings in the US than in other high-income countries.

The exact number may be even higher: an [investigation](#) by the New York Times in 2013 found that unintentional shootings "occurred roughly twice as often as the records indicate, because of idiosyncrasies in how such deaths are classified by the authorities."

Unsecured Guns in the Home Make Suicides More Likely

Many people, young and old, may be experiencing increased anxiety and depression during this time due to fear of infection, financial strain, social isolation, and other stressors related to social distancing and the uncertainty of this pandemic. Data shows that during a crisis, easy access to guns [significantly increases the risk of death by suicide](#).

Studies have demonstrated that the risk of suicide among minors is significantly higher in homes where a firearm is kept loaded and/or unlocked. And tragically, youth firearm suicide has been on the rise in recent years. A [2017 study](#) by CDC researchers found that youth firearm suicide rose dramatically between 2007 and 2014, with gun suicides among minors 10 years old and older spiking 60 percent in that period. The most current CDC data available also indicates that this alarming trend continued from 2014 to 2018, with firearm suicide among minors 10 years and older increasing by 36%.

With the temporary closures of colleges and universities, young adults around the country are returning to their homes or the homes of family and friends, where unsecured guns will put them at par-

ticular risk. Young adults [ages 18 to 25](#) experience the highest rates of serious mental illness of all Americans. Suicide attempts that result in death or treatment in a hospital peak between ages [16 and 21](#). It is well-documented that the biological processes that take place during late adolescence and young adulthood predispose these individuals to [riskier and less controlled behavior](#).

While suicide attempts with a firearm are fatal [84% of the time](#), people who attempt suicide by other means are much more likely to survive in both the short and long term—[90% of survivors](#) do not go on to die by suicide. [Now more than ever, it is imperative that guns do not fall into the hands of minors and young adults in crisis.](#)

Safe Gun Storage Saves Lives

Fortunately, research has shown that keeping guns stored unloaded and locked can prevent unintentional shootings, suicides, and [other types of gun violence](#).

A 2019 [study](#) by Harvard researchers suggests that modest increases in the number of American homes safely storing firearms could prevent almost a third of youth gun deaths due to suicide and unintentional firearm injury. Twenty-seven states and the District of Columbia have enacted a wide range of [child access prevention](#) (CAP) laws that impose liability on gun owners who allow minors access to firearms. Numerous studies over the past 20 years have found that CAP laws can reduce suicide and unintentional gun deaths and injuries among children and teens [by up to 54%](#), with the greatest reductions occurring in states with stronger laws.

Safe storage practices have been proven effective at reducing gun suicide among adult gun owners as well as minors. A 2004 [study](#) indicated that people who stored their firearms safely were less likely to die by firearm suicide than people who stored their firearms unlocked and/or loaded.

A Call to Gun Owners: The Time for Safe Storage is Now

During this worldwide pandemic, all Americans are being called on to change our behavior for the safety and well-being of vulnerable populations and society as a whole. Let this serve as a renewed call to gun owners to do the same with regards to their firearms. Safely storing firearms will protect vulnerable populations during the pandemic, and in the foreseeable future, long after COVID-19 is contained.

Experts Available for Comment

Giffords experts are available to talk about safe storage and other aspects of how gun violence will be impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak. Please don't hesitate to reach out to media@giffords.org to speak with any of our experts.

Confirmed case of COVID-19, UTPB employee amongst first in West Texas

The University of Texas Permian Basin was made aware, on Thursday afternoon, that one of our employees who works at the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at the CEED Building tested positive for COVID-19. The employee has confirmed he is from Crane.

UT Permian Basin can also confirm that the employee has not been at work since March 13 and to our knowledge he was only on the CEED campus not on any of the other University campuses. There are less than 10 employees who work in the CEED building. State health officials are contacting people who need to take precautionary steps.

Per the Governor's order, starting tomorrow (Friday, March 20) all UTPB employees will begin telecommuting. The University will still be serving students, faculty, staff, and the community.

Waiting Week and Search Requirements Waived for Unemployment Insurance

AUSTIN – Today, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott instructed the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to waive the waiting week, for Unemployment Benefits. In addition to waiving the waiting week, TWC is exercising its authority under the Governor's declaration of a Statewide Disaster to waive Unemployment Insurance work search requirements effective immediately. These measures support the State's efforts to address the impact the COVID-19 virus is having on the state's economy and its workforce.

The waiting week is the first payable week of an individual's claim for Unemployment Benefits. Under normal circumstances, TWC cannot pay for the first week of a claim until an individual receives 2 times their weekly benefit amount and returns to full-time work or has exhausted their benefits. However, by waiving the waiting week, Abbott has provided the opportunity for TWC to provide relief to Texans who need it.

Previously to be eligible for unemployment benefits, applicants were required to register for work search on WorkinTexas.com and meet minimum number of work search activities per week. TWC is temporarily waiving these requirements to ensure all Texans can have access to resources when in need.

Those seeking to apply for Unemployment Benefits will need to submit an application. In order to apply you will need:

- Last employer's business name and address
- First and last dates (month, day and year) you worked for your last employer
- Number of hours worked and pay rate if you worked this week (including Sunday)
- Information related to your normal wage
- Alien Registration Number (if not a U.S. citizen or national)

Once you have an unemployment benefits claim, you can sign up for Electronic Correspondence for online access to your unemployment benefits correspondence. Electronic Correspondence allows you to receive most, but not all, of your unemployment notices and forms electronically in a secure, online mailbox. You are responsible for regularly checking your online inbox, regardless of whether you receive an email notifying you of new mail. All Electronic Correspondence documents are also available as accessible versions for visually impaired customers.

Job seekers can visit local Workforce Solutions offices for access to job-search resources, job postings and training programs, as well as assistance with exploring career options, résumé and application preparation, career development and more. Customers also may connect with potential employers through TWC's online job-search engine, by visiting WorkinTexas.com.

RRC Chairman Wayne Christian Comments on Oil Markets, Proration, and Filling SPR

Special to the Herald

AUSTIN - As Saudi Arabia and Russia flood the international energy market with a glut of crude oil, prices have dropped to unsustainable levels that threaten the future of the Texas oil and gas industry, its associated benefits to the state economy, and American energy dominance.

The United States recently became the largest producer of oil and natural gas in the world, producing a record 12.4 million barrels in August 2019. Texas is responsible for about 40% of this production. The industry directly employs more than 361,271 Texans and exceeded \$116 billion in taxes and royalty payments over the last decade, including a record \$16.3 billion in 2019.

None of this is temporary, as the U.S. Geologic Survey assessed a recent oil discovery in the West Texas to be 46 billion barrels of oil. RS Energy Group estimates this find could actually be as large as 230 billion barrels. This is the largest oil find in the history of the world. To put this in perspective, proven reserves in the U.S. from Alaska to Brownsville were estimated to be 36.4 billion barrels in 2014.

In order to stabilize markets, a few oil and gas producers have suggested that the Railroad Commission of Texas resume prorating the production of oil.

"I am very concerned about the impact the inter-

national oil market instability has on the Texas economy, state budget, and the hundreds of thousands of Texans who rely on the oil and gas industry for a paycheck," said RRC Chairman Wayne Christian. "A couple of operators have suggested pro-rationing oil as a solution. While I am open to any and all ideas to protect the Texas Miracle, as a free-market conservative I have a number of reservations about this approach."

"First, Texas does not operate in a vacuum. If we prorate our oil, there is no guarantee other nations, or even states will follow suit," continued Christian. "From a practical standpoint, the Railroad Commission has not prorated oil in over forty years; we do not have staff at the agency with experience in this process and our IT capabilities to handle this process are limited at best."

Earlier this morning, Chairman Christian had a conference call with the Department of Energy (DOE) to discuss what the United States can do to stabilize the oil market. On the call, the DOE asked Christian to notify Texas operators that they have initiated an initial solicitation for 30 million barrels to begin filling the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR).

Christian instructed staff to put out a notice to operators to ensure the Texas industry is aware of this opportunity. You can read the notice to operators on the RRC website at https://rrc.texas.gov/media/56836/nto_chairmanchristian_og.pdf.

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UIL suspends competition until early May

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) has decided to extend the spring athletic competition suspension until at least May 4 due to the COVID-19 outbreak in Texas.

There was an initial ruling to postpone all athletic competition until March 29 that came down a week ago but after careful consideration, the UIL has decided to extend the postponement of spring sports.

"We are working diligently on contingency plans to conduct state championships in each of the activities that have been suspended," UIL Executive Director Dr. Charles Breithaupt said. "While the immediate future is unclear, we are committed to providing these much-desired activities to all Texas students and will prepare for all possible outcomes, including extended school closures."

Following the decision on Thursday, there was disappointment as well as hope that the local athletic teams would still be able to finish out their season's in May.

Coahoma's baseball and softball teams were off to tremendous starts to the season and were looking to go deep in the postseason. Now, they are in wait-and-see mode to find out if they will be able to finish out the year.

"From a Coahoma standpoint we feel as though it's a bad deal, as does everyone else," Bulldogs athletic director Chris Joslin said. "We were in the midst of having a really, really good season across



the board and to see that some of this has been taken away from these kids who have put in a lot of hard work over the past year-and-a-half. It was starting to come to fruition and a lot of the seniors that we have that are out competing in every sport and now it's been taken away from them here at the end of their career."

Forsan is also understanding of the situation but are disappointed as well that the seniors who participate in spring sports may not be able to finish out their high school athletic careers how they would have wanted to.

The small 2A school is concerned with keeping everybody healthy and getting back to competition when it is safe to do so.

"We hate it for our coaches and we hate it for our kids, especially for our seniors," Forsan athletic director Jason Phillips said. "We hope that we get to

come back but right now I would say that's still up in the air. Hopefully we can get this thing whooped and start playing again."

There is also powerlifting championships still to be held and golf season was in mid-swing. We also can not forget about the highly-athletic students who take part in track and field.

All of these sports have been postponed until further notice and there is a collective anxiousness to see if these student-athletes will be able to get back into competition this school year.

Prior to Monday, May 4th, "the UIL will allow its member schools a reasonable acclimatization period for rehearsals and practices to occur. All decisions remain flexible and will be consistent with the advice of local, state and federal officials."

So while games will not be held until that time, it is still possible that these athletic teams will be back at practice prior to May.

There have been countless cancellations and season cancellations of the professional leagues all the way down to the prep and little league levels. With UIL's decision to suspend the season further, there will be even more concern and uneasiness about whether these spring sports will be able to continue.

"We need everyone to get out and stay active," Joslin said.

Shawn Moran is the sportswriter at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Steelers reach agreements with TE Ebron, OG Wisniewski

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Ben Roethlisberger is getting a little help. The defensive line is getting a little depth.

The offensive line a little veteran experience, all in the name of helping the Pittsburgh Steelers make some headway in the new-look AFC North.

The Steelers have agreed to terms with tight end Eric Ebron on a two-year deal, providing Roethlisberger with another experienced red zone target.

The team also agreed to terms with guard Stefen Wisniewski, bringing the Pittsburgh native home on a two-year deal just a month after Wisniewski won a Super Bowl with the Kansas City Chiefs.

The Steelers even executed a rare in-division trade, acquiring backup defensive tackle Chris Wormley and a seventh-round pick from Baltimore for a fifth-round pick in this year's draft.

Ebron, 27, is nearly two years removed from a breakout 2018 in which he caught 13 touchdown passes in Indianapolis, reaching the Pro Bowl for the first time in the process.

His stats took a serious dip in 2019 while dealing with a lingering ankle injury that ended his season in late November. Ebron finished with just 31 receptions for 375 yards, his lowest totals in each category since his rookie year in Detroit in 2014.

The Steelers reached out in hopes of giving Roethlisberger another proven option, particularly around the goal line. Pittsburgh has struggled to find a consistent playmaker at tight end since Heath Miller retired in February 2016.

Vance McDonald has shown flashes since arriving in a trade with San Francisco in August 2017, but he averaged just 7.3 yards per catch last season as the Steelers' offense sputtered without Roethlisberger, who was lost for the year in Week 2 with an elbow injury.

Pittsburgh acquired Nick Vannett from Seattle last September looking for a jolt, but Vannett caught only 13 passes in 13 games and will now likely walk as a free agent.

Wisniewski grew up in Pittsburgh and played at Penn State before embarking on a nomadic pro career that's seen stops in Oakland, Jacksonville, Philadelphia and Kansas City. His arrival gives the Steelers a dose of experience on the offensive line after longtime guard Ramon Foster retired and versatile backup B.J. Finney signed with Seattle in free agency. Wisniewski, who turns 31 on Sunday, will be in the mix for the starting job at left guard.

"Guess what Steelers fans ... I'm coming home!!!! And I'm coming to win!!!!" Wisniewski tweeted late Thursday night while sharing a picture of him pointing to the Steelers' cap he was wearing.

The Ravens used a third-round pick on the 6-foot-5, 300-pound Wormley in 2017 but he's spent the majority of his young career as a backup. Wormley has 2 1/2 sacks and 54 tackles in 39 games, including 15 starts. Pittsburgh, however, is in need of a big body to put in the mix after nose tackle Javon Hargrave signed with Philadelphia.

The moves capped a busy week for the Steelers. Pittsburgh placed the franchise tag on outside linebacker Bud Dupree on Monday and began the new league year by agreeing to terms with fullback Derek Watt and tendering contracts to restricted free agents Matt Feiler and Mike Hilton.

While bringing in Ebron and Wisniewski address the team's most glaring needs, they likely are still searching for some proven talent at linebacker after cutting Anthony Chickillo and Mark Barron and letting Tyler Matakevich sign with Buffalo. The depth behind the four starters — Dupree and T.J. Watt at the outside with Devin Bush and Vince Williams inside — is thin.

Cowboys free agency update

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

Joe Thomas inks one-year deal to return

The seventh year linebacker out of South Carolina State signed a one-year deal to return to the Cowboys for the 2020 season.

Thomas is a versatile linebacker who could line up at all three spots on the second level of the Dallas defense. He also contributes on special teams and will have a role in that phase as well.

He spent the first four seasons of his career with the Green Bay Packers after going undrafted in 2014. Thomas has played 67 games in his career and has racked up 157 combined tackles, nine tackles for loss, 1.5 sacks, two forced fumbles, and one interception.

Cowboys add to secondary with signing of HaHa Clinton-Dix

The Fort-Worth Star Telegram has reported that Clinton-Dix has signed a one-year, \$4 million deal with \$2.5 million guaranteed.

Clinton-Dix is 27 years old and has made his way around the NFC by playing for the Green Bay Packers, Washington Redskins, and Chicago Bears. He was the 21st overall pick in the 2014 Draft by the Packers and has put together a solid career so far. The Alabama product was drafted by new Cowboys head coach Mike McCarthy and will add a veteran presence to the Dallas secondary.

The new Cowboys safety has totaled 522 combined tackles, 5.5 sacks, four forced fumbles, and 16 interceptions during his six-year career.

Dallas brings back Looney for offensive line depth

The Cowboys front office decided to also sign center/guard Joe Looney to a one-year deal on Thursday.

Looney has started 20 games over the past two seasons and adds depth to a stacked Dallas offensive line room. He has shown his versatility by playing multiple spots across the line and will serve as one of the top interior backups.

The fourth round pick (117th overall) of the San Francisco 49ers in 2012, Looney has played eight seasons in the NFL after coming out of Wake Forest. Looney has played 91 games (30 starts) for the 49ers, Tennessee Titans, and Cowboys.

Cowboys make pair of depth signings

Dallas has also added cornerback Maurice Canady and linebacker Justin March-Lillard on one-year deals.

Canady split last season between the New York Jets and Baltimore Ravens and came up with one interception and five pass deflections. He will add depth to the secondary as well as be a contributor on special teams.

The four-year veteran has 80 combined tackles, an interception, one forced fumble, and one fumble recovery in 32 career games played. He played his college ball at Virginia and was a sixth round pick (209th overall) of the Ravens in 2016.

March-Lillard is a special teams playmaker who will be returning for his fourth season in Dallas. He was signed by the Kansas City Chiefs as an undrafted rookie out of Akron in 2015 and has developed into a solid special teams presence.

He has played for the Chiefs, Miami Dolphins, Seattle Seahawks, and the Cowboys during his career. March-Lillard has collected 41 combined tackles, three pass deflections, and one tackle for loss in his 47 career games.

Shawn Moran is the sportswriter at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, email sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Houston Texans free agency round-up

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

Houston has made a priority out of re-signing their own free agents so far at the start of the new league year.

They have also traded away a franchise cornerstone, and one of the best wide receivers in the NFL, in return for a high-earning running back that has not produced a great season since 2017.

Bill O'Brien is in his first full season as general manager and has decided to make some risky, unexpected, moves to start out his tenure. While many Texans fans may be upset about the loss of DeAndre Hopkins, we will take a look here at the players that O'Brien has added or re-signed for the 2020 season and beyond:

Kicker Ka'imi Fairbairn

Houston started off their spending by re-signing Fairbairn to a four-year deal worth up

See HOUSTON, Page 10A

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SUNDAY COMICS

Sunday Edition March 22, 2020

Archie

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3-22

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BY MELL LAZARUS

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MELL LAZARUS.

3-22

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Agnes
by TONY COCHRAN

LOOK! IT'S MY OLD LUCKY WALKING STICK!

IS THAT THE ONE YOU WERE CARRYING WHEN YOU TRIPPED ON THAT ROCK LAST YEAR?

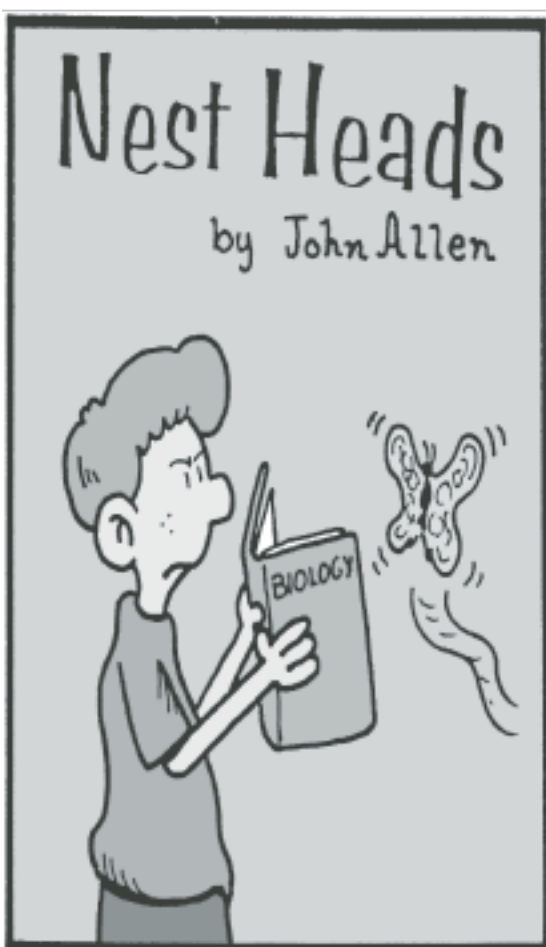
YEP! SEE? IT STILL HAS SOME BLOOD ON IT FROM WHEN IT HIT MY NOSE!

AND THERE'S WHERE IT CRACKED AND MADE YOU LOSE YOUR BALANCE!

AND HERE IS WHERE THE BARK WORE OFF AND MADE IT TOO SLICK TO HOLD ONTO!

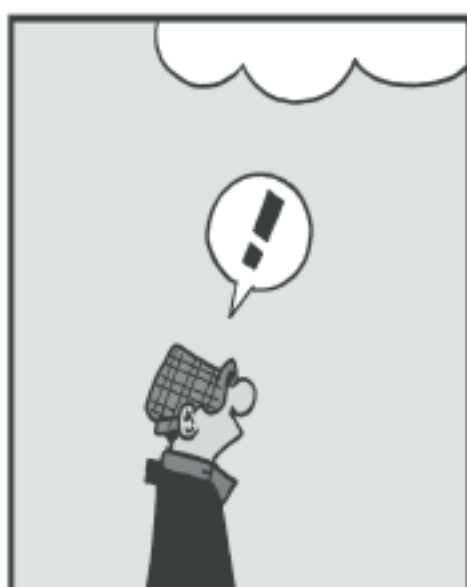
IT MUST STILL BE PLENTY LUCKY! YOU FOUND IT AGAIN!

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ANDY CAPP

by Smythe



HOUSTON

Continued from Page 7A

to \$17.65 million. The deal includes \$9 million fully guaranteed and \$10.45 million over the first two years of the deal.

Fairbairn will be entering his fourth season as the Houston kicker after going undrafted out of UCLA in 2017. The former Bruin has converted 77-of-92 career field goal attempts (83.7%) and 111-of-121 extra point attempts (91.7%). He is also the kickoff specialist and has 248 career kickoffs with 149 touchbacks (60.1%).

Tight End Darren Fells

The big target re-signed with the Texans on a two-year, \$7 million deal with \$4 million included in the first year of the contract.

Fells will be 34 years old at the start of next season and makes most of his impact as an in-line blocker. He has played for the Arizona Cardinals, Detroit Lions, Cleveland Browns, and the Texans during his six-year career.

The UC Irvine product who went undrafted in 2013 has played in 86 career games and started 62 of them. He has racked up career totals of 102 receptions, 1,171 yards, and 17 touchdowns. His most productive season was last year for Houston when he caught 34 passes for 341 yards and seven touchdowns.

Wide Receiver DeAndre Carter

The return man signed a one-year contract extension with the Texans that will keep him in Houston through next season.

Carter is a third-year undrafted player out of Sacramento State who makes his major contributions on special teams. He has played for both the Texans and Philadelphia Eagles over the past two seasons.

The 5-foot-9 speedster has played in 30 career games and totaled 33 receptions for 378 yards. As a returner, Carter has 48 punt returns for 463 yards (9.6 average) and 33 kick returns for 733 yards (22.2 average).

Cornerback Phillip Gaines

The Texans added more depth to their secondary with the signing of Gaines to a one-year prove-it deal worth \$1.05 million.

Gaines is a six-year veteran who spent last year with the Texans and has also played for three other NFL teams: Kansas City Chiefs, Buffalo Bills, and Cleveland Browns.

He was a third round pick (87th overall) of the Chiefs in the 2014 NFL Draft out of Rice University. Gaines has underwhelmed so far in his pro career and has played in 58 games with 24 starts. The Rice product has 152 combined tackles, 18 passes defended, and one interception in his career.

Cornerback Bradley Roby

A big re-signing for the Texans was getting Roby to come back to Houston on a three-year, \$36 million deal.

Roby spent the 2019 season with the Texans and started 10 games. The six-year veteran has developed into a high-performing cornerback and the Texans got him back at a reasonable price.

The Denver Broncos first round pick in 2014 (31st overall), Roby has started 39 career games for Denver and Houston. He has recorded 274 combined tackles, 68 passes defended, and nine interceptions.

Safety Eric Murray

Murray received a three-year, \$20.5 million contract from the Texans after spending the first four seasons of his career with the Kansas City Chiefs and

Cleveland Browns.

The safety has played in 54 career games with only 15 starts. He has totaled 124 combined tackles, eight passes defended, and one interception. Murray was a fourth round pick by the Chiefs (106th overall) in 2016 and was hardly able to get on the field.

This is a risky signing by the Texans but could pay off big if Murray can reach his potential.

Quarterback A.J. McCarron

The Texans brought back their backup quarterback on a one-year, \$4 million deal with \$3.75 million guaranteed.

The Alabama product was a fifth round pick by the Cincinnati Bengals (164th overall) back in 2014 and has started four career games. McCarron has played for the Bengals, Oakland Raiders, and Texans.

In his 15 career games, McCarron has completed 108-of-173 passes (62.4%) for 1,153 yards, six touchdowns, and three interceptions.

Wide Receiver Randall Cobb

The Texans signed Cobb away from the in-state rival Dallas Cowboys on a three-year, \$27 million deal.

The experienced veteran who was drafted by the Green Bay Packers in the second round (64th overall) of the 2011 NFL Draft will be entering his 10th season in 2020.

After eight seasons in Green Bay and one in Dallas, Cobb has put together a great stat-line for his career. With 120 career games and 79 starts, the Kentucky product has compiled 525 receptions for 6,352 yards and 44 touchdowns.

Cornerback Vernon Hargreaves

A little over a month after being cut, the Texans brought back Hargreaves on a cheaper one-year prove-it type deal.

Hargreaves will be entering his fifth NFL season after being a first round pick by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (11th overall) out of Florida in the 2016 NFL Draft.

In 41 career games and 35 starts, the former Gator has 186 combined tackles, 21 passes defended, and two interceptions. The small corner will be looking to prove himself on his one-year contract so that he can hit free agency again next spring with a chance to cash-in.

Offensive Tackle Roderick Johnson

The third year veteran swing tackle out of Florida State has agreed to a one-year, \$1.75 million deal with Houston.

Johnson was a fifth round pick by the Cleveland Browns (160th overall) in the 2017 NFL Draft. He has appeared in 17 career games with three starts. He will add depth to the Houston offensive line and will be competing for a roster spot in training camp.

Running Back David Johnson

In return for DeAndre Hopkins, the Houston offense added a versatile running back that could change the way the Texans play.

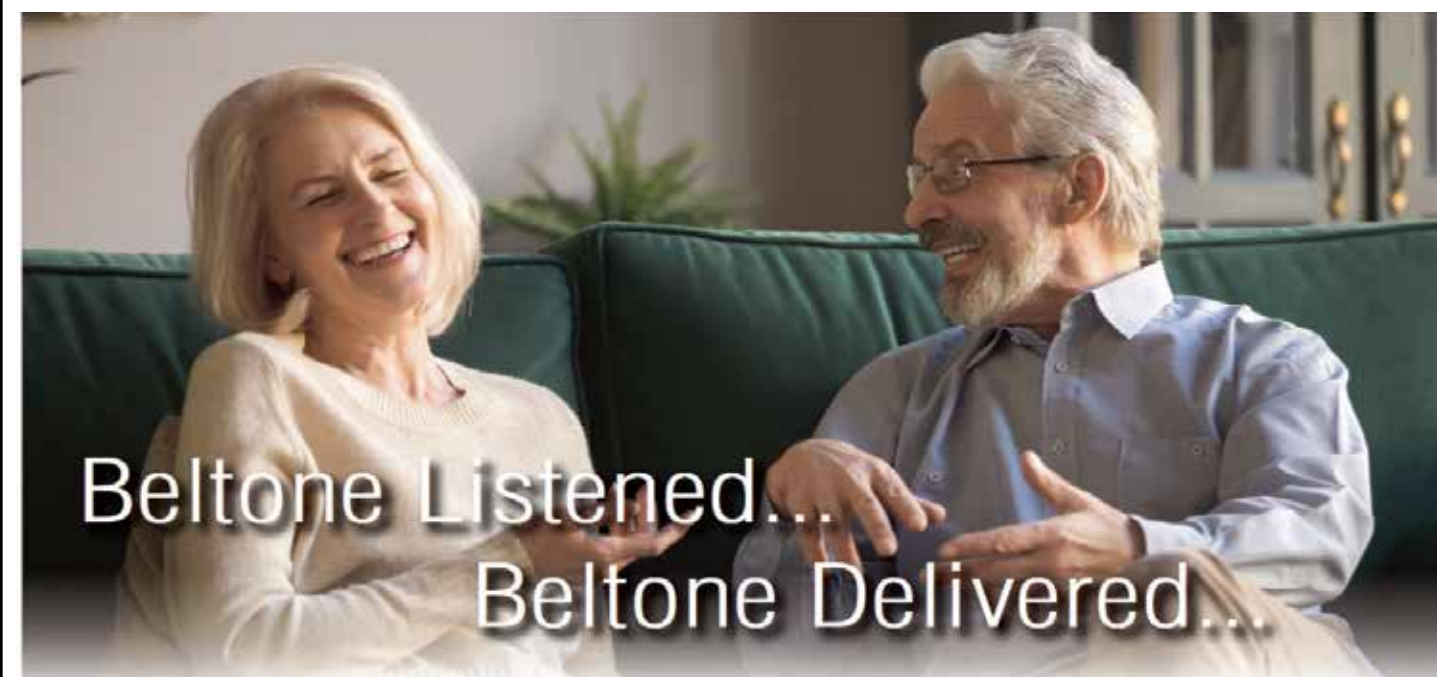
Johnson is an electrifying running back who was phased out of Arizona's offense as they made the switch to Kyler Murray at quarterback. Before a wrist injury in 2017, Johnson was one of the NFL's up-and-coming premier talents.

The five year veteran out of Northern Iowa was a third round pick by Arizona (86th overall) in the 2015 NFL Draft. Johnson has played in 62 career games with 47 starts and has accumulated 781 rushing attempts for 3,128 yards (4.0 average) and 33 touchdowns.

Johnson is also a threat through the air and has racked up 208 career receptions for 2,219 yards and an additional 15 touchdowns.

Shawn Moran is the sportswriter at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, email sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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- Free Lifetime Care
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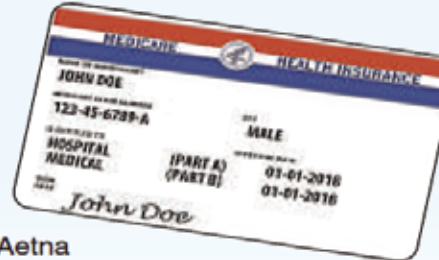
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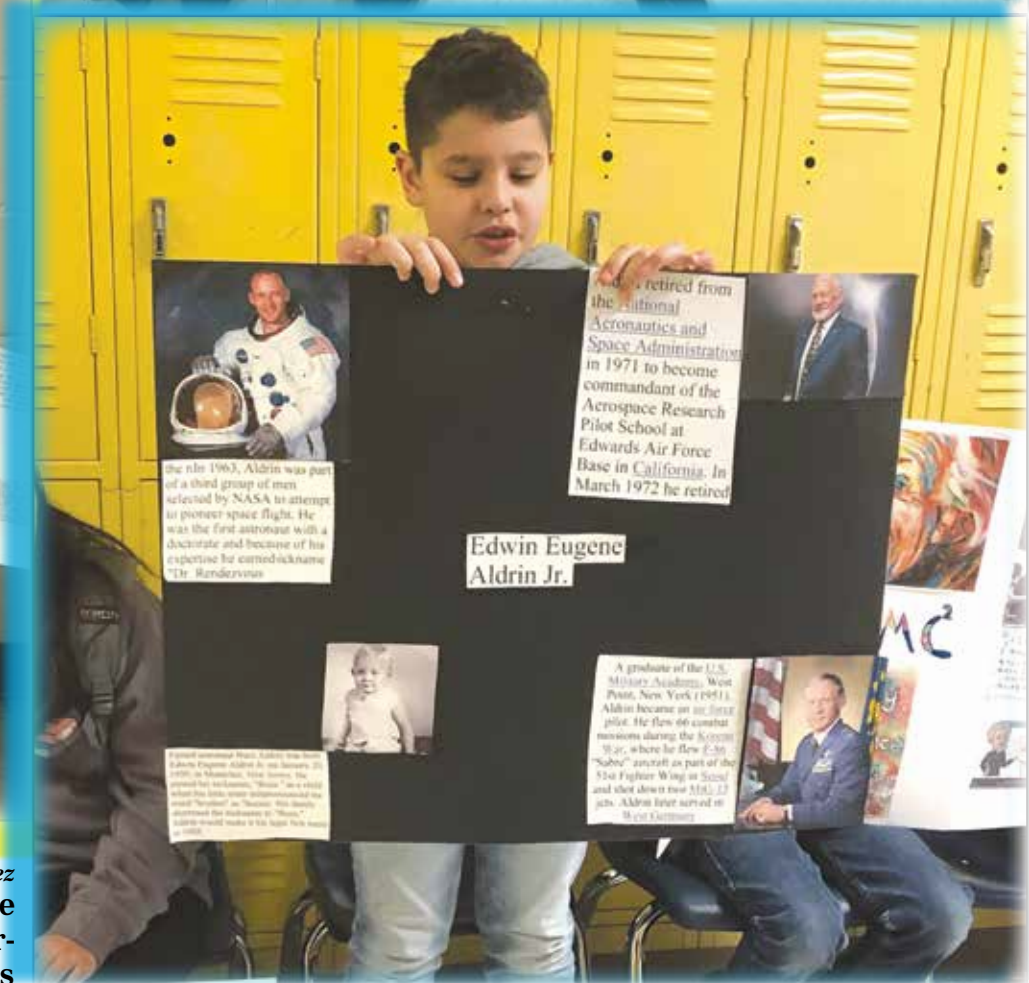
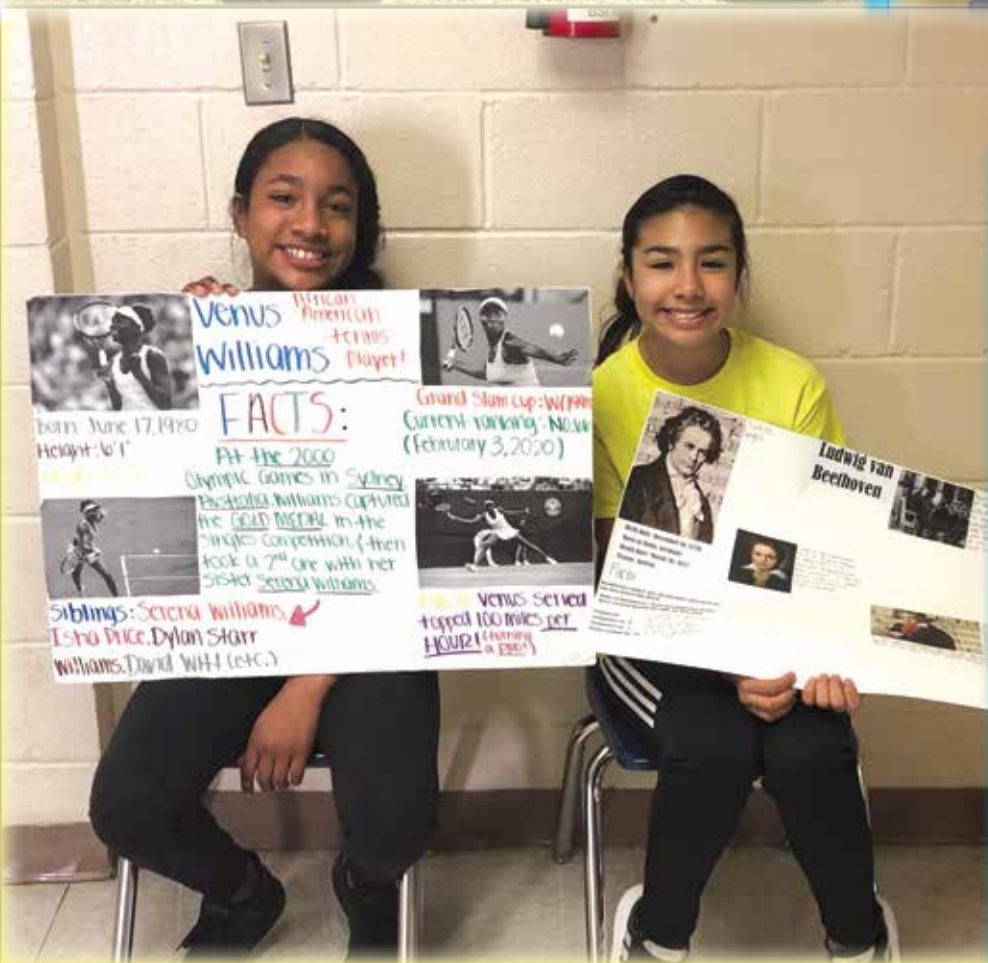
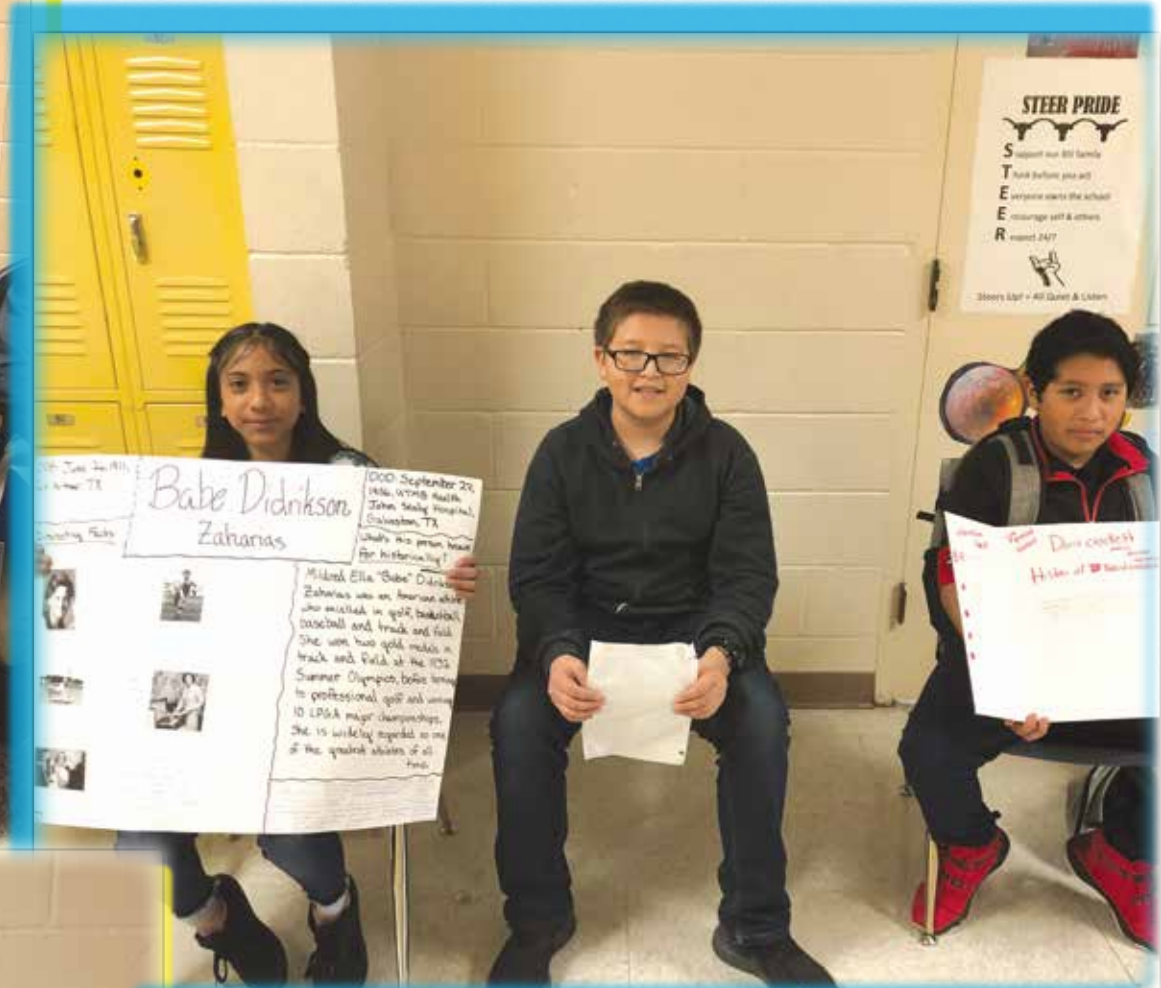
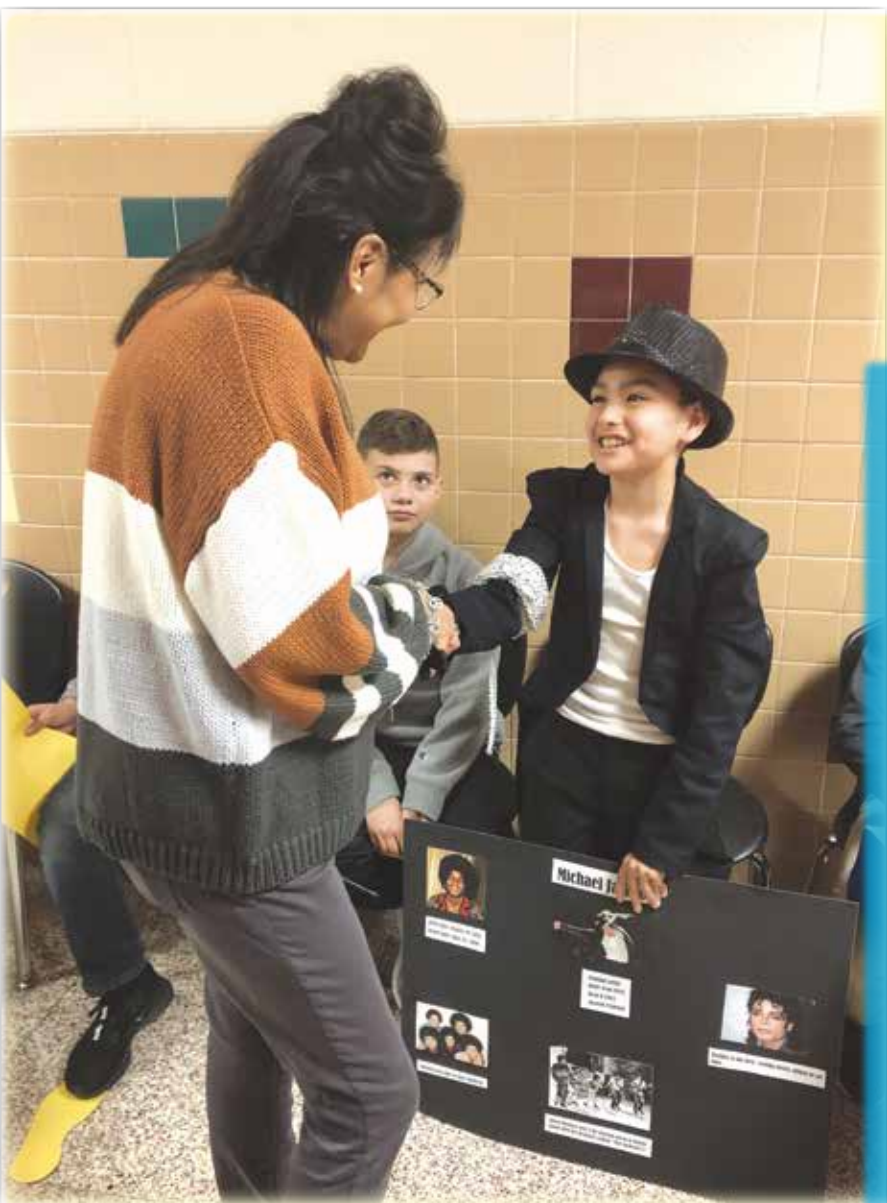
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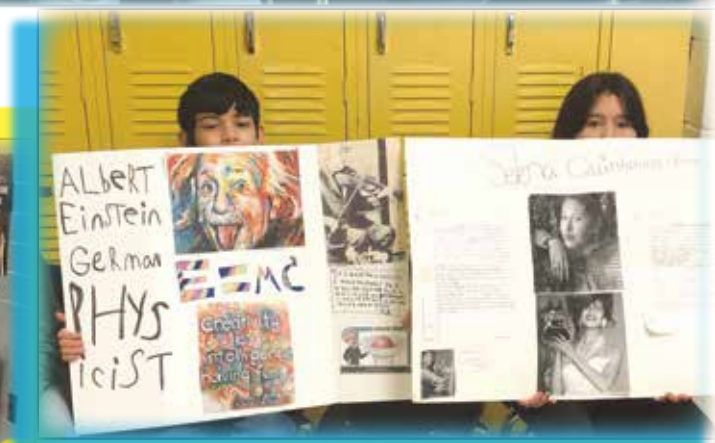
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Living Museum - Bringing history to life

BSI students tell the history of musicians, scientists, famous athletes and more ...



HERALD photos/Anna Gutierrez
BSI students were able to bring research projects to life before Spring Break. After researching facts about their chosen person, they became part of a living museum for teachers, parents and other students to venture through. Albert Einstein, Venus Williams, Selena, Michael Jackson and many others graced the hall for one day at BSI, as their stories were shared by students.



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Lunch Menus

Big Spring ISD

Big Spring ISD will be providing sacked meals for students while the campuses are closed. Meals will be available at three schools from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. Meals can be picked up at any of the three campuses where they are being handed out, which will be Moss, Marcy and Big Spring Junior High School. At both March and Moss, pick up will be in the bus lane behind the campus. At BSJH, pick up can be made at Door #5 on the east side of campus.



Children in Big Spring ISD can also pick up meals at the following times and locations:

From 9 a.m. to 9:55 a.m., you can pick up at:

Bus 13-Navajo and Choctaw
Bus 14-Bauer
Bus 15: Larry and McDonald
Bus 27: 5th and Abrams
Bus 28: 3rd and Lockhart
Bus 77: Parkway and Hearn
Bus 85: Goliad Elementary
Bus 86: 6th and Circle
Bus 90: Southridge RV Park
Bus 96: Albrook and Randolph

From 10 a.m. to 10:55 a.m., you can pick up at:

Bus 13-Barcelona Apartments
Bus 14-Lakeview
Bus 15: Colby and Drew
Bus 27: 8th and Lorilla
Bus 28: Roy Anderson Complex
Bus 77: Airport and Mobile
Bus 85: Scott and Macausian
Bus 86: Washington Elementary
Bus 90: Oasis and Neill
Bus 96: Anderson School

Lunch is also available at North Side Movement for all children in the area. Meals can be picked up at Ryan Hall, located behind the church, at 605 N. Main St. To comply with Governor Abbott's mandate, all meals will be set-up drive-through style. No meals will be served inside the hall. Deliveries will depend on number of volunteers available. You can follow the North Side Movement Facebook page for additional information.

Coahoma ISD



Coahoma ISD will provide take-home lunches to all students while the campuses are closed. Students can pick up a lunch at the back door of the cafeteria, Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Forsan ISD



Forsan ISD will be providing sacked meals for students while the campuses are closed. Meals are available at the following three locations: Forsan Elementary at the south entrance of the building, Special Education 87-20 Coop, or "The Pad". Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., and lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Big Spring Senior Center

At this time, meals are only being delivered and picked-up. Please call ahead to make arrangements for a meal, 432-267-1628.

Monday: Spaghetti with meatballs, green beans, applesauce, garlic bread, milk
Tuesday: Cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickle, French fries, cookies, milk
Wednesday: Breaded pork chop, candied yams, mixed vegetables, pineapple tidbits, bread, milk
Thursday: Tamales with chili, Spanish rice, lettuce and tomato salad, fat free dressing, mixed fruit, milk
Friday: Corn dog, mustard, baked beans, onion rings, strawberry parfait, milk

Local restaurants adjust to new dine-in declarations

By NICK IRENE

nick.irene@thefacts.com

Restaurant management and staff are looking forward after new executive orders from Gov. Greg Abbott's office will close dine-in service statewide for two weeks.

"We are all very stressed and worried right now," Wayside Pub General Manager Brandon Hansen said. "I just had to lay off almost half of my staff."

Starting Friday at 11:59 p.m., all restaurants and bars in Texas are restricted from hosting dine-in service until midnight April 3.

For the same time period, the governor's four executive orders restrict any social gatherings of 10 or more people and eating in bars, food courts or restaurants, but "highly encouraged" using drive-thru, pickup or delivery options.

Orders restricted visiting gyms and massage parlors and visiting nursing homes, retirement centers or long-term care facilities unless providing critical assistance.

Banks, grocery stores, gas stations and other critical infrastructure remain open.

The order required all schools to temporarily close, though most campuses in Brazoria County already announced this week their campuses will remain shuttered until at least April 10.

DJ's Bar-B-Q in Clute owners Rory and Tami Neal are doing their best to adjust to the new rules.

"We are doing the same precautions as everyone else," Rory Neal said. "As long as we are allowed to be open, we will be open."

Business was still good Thursday and they are providing daily sandwiches specials to help drum up extra business, Tami Neal said.

With workers losing their jobs left and right, the Neals are planning to ensure all of their staff will remain intact for now.

"We will try our best to keep everyone," Rory said. "If business continues, we can keep the check coming."

The Wayside was unusually quiet Thursday as employees attempt to keep the restaurant afloat.

The pub is currently taking in 10 guests at a time, not including employees.

Hansen hopes the contagion is contained sooner than later, for his workers and their business, he said.

In order to keep up good business, the pub will offer liter and gallon-sized mixed drinks along with beer and wine exclusively through their website, Hansen said.

Delivery services like Waitr and Doordash will not deliver alcohol, according to company policies. Curbside delivery also restricts the sale of alcohol.

The remaining workers are receiving new hourly wages, along with tips, he said.

"Our laid off employees will be

able to return to their position if they choose once the virus is a non-issue," Hansen said.

One of those remaining workers is bartender Steven Gomez. Although not too concerned for himself, he feels for his former coworkers.

"It's a bummer since most of us live day-to-day," Gomez said. "I do have mixed feelings about this because of free will, but I do worry if people come out and they are sick."

Gomez doesn't just miss the loss of his income from tips, but the connections he had with customers, he said.

"It's not just about the tips," Gomez said. "I miss the guests that used to come in. We were all one big family and it's temporarily gone. Once we open back up we can all party away again."

In the meantime, Gomez urges residents to support local restaurants.

"Use their delivery services, eat their food, drink their alcohol, we will get through this," Gomez said.

Small businesses like Runway Cafe in Angleton know that hard times will be coming, staff says. Unlike some restaurants, the cafe doesn't sell alcohol.

Waitress Kristine Hensley was the only employee working in the restaurant Thursday afternoon.

"I know that our owner has expressed a lot of concern since we are by the airport and no one is traveling," Hensley said. "We have had two tables since I've been here at 11 a.m."

The Angleton High School senior was not personally too worried about her financial security, but knows her coworkers fear the unknown.

"I still live at home so I'm not too worried about losing my job," the waitress said. "I do know coworkers who do have to pay their bills and I'm sure are worried."

The to-go orders have been few and thin as of late and received a minimum of tips, which makes up the majority of her income, she said.

The restaurant will play the situation by ear as they begin to-go only service this weekend, Hensley said.

Brittan Musick-Eller, a waitress at Angleton Seafood, says the restaurant has been able to keep up with the ever-changing regulations and recommendations.

"We still have our regulars supporting us by placing to-go and delivery orders and have even gained a couple of new ones," Musick-Eller said. "We have really supportive owners here that are committed to leaving their doors open."

The waitress has since adapted to a delivery driver as of Tuesday, which she called a smooth transition.

Angleton Seafood will deliver within a 5-mile radius.

Businesses hiring Dollar General Domino's Pizza Amazon UTMB Health



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The Pet Connection's Pet Talk:

Rattlesnake vaccines, rattlesnake season

By MELANIE GAMBRELL

Pet Care Specialist

Spring has sprung.

Well it's finally here, Spring! A time when Bluebonnets begin to blossom, our winds begin to blow, love is in the air and rattlesnakes are on the move. If you're not familiar with rattlesnakes or not from this area, here's some information to help protect your four legged pet, your dog.

Several years ago when the rattlesnake vaccine was first heard about, it was only approved for use in California and I knwo speaking for myself I couldn't wait before it was approved for Texas. Of course, like all things, it would take time, but it was well worth the wait.

Living out in the country like I do, it isn't uncommon to wake up to a dog barking and find a rattlesnake on your front porch or in the dog pen or just stretched out across the sidewalk sunnin. I even had one up in a tree. On only one rare occassion did I ever have a tiny baby rattler in the house. Speaking from experience, that one time was enough to last me a lifetime. It took me almost an hour to try and catch it with snake catchers, trying not to lose it under my refrigerator.

By the time I caught him, I was worn out and beyond scared thinking about the consequences of losing a baby rattlesnake in the house. Not only the immediate danger to myself, but the danger to all my indoor pets.

It wasn't uncommon for a dog to get rattlesnake bit and depending on the area of the bite, depending on their survival rate. Not only did I have to worry about my domestic pets over the years, but I've had a horse bit in the nose and my pet steer Spot was also bit. Cats, dogs, livestock are not immune to being bit, it's being at the right place at the wrong time. It's bieng noticed by those of us that are around rattlesnakes that as a protection to the snake they are not rattling. I've come across more than not that will coil up but aren't making any sounds. I've been told that they are not rattling due to the feral hogs attacking them. So always be looking where you step and walk and always look before you reach down to pick something up or before reaching under a bush.

So for me to tell you about this miracle vaccination, it's like discovering sliced bread. Now I'm not going to say that getting the rattlesnake vaccine will save all dogs, but from experience it's well worth getting and does make a difference. Given the rattlesnake vaccine your pet will create their own antibodies to the snake venom where if given the antivenom, your dog is only tretaed for the bite itself. If you weight the cost of getting the vaccine, about \$20 to the cost of hospitalization of an estimage of \$2,000; the vaccine wins everytime. Antivenom if available, pain meds, IV's, hospital stay, etc. is what's required if your dog has been bitten along with a prayer for their recovery. Cro-talus Atrox Toxid (Rattlesnake Vaccine) for dogs is usually recommended to get a series and that will depend on your dog's weight, whether they get two or three injections prior to snake season, but you can get it at anytime. Always visit with your pet's veterinarian on what he/she recommends for your pet. You will get your first vaccine followed up with a booster four weeks later and then if you live in a high traffic area for snakes, it's suggested to get a



booster Spring and Fall. I highly recommend making it a part of your dogs yearly vaccinations. Your veterinarian will discuss with you any side effects of the vaccine.

Having now protected your dog with the vaccine it's always best to take other life saving measures. Removing debris from around your dogs living area, such as tree limbs, old tires or high weeds will make it less likely that a rattlesnake will find a safe place to hide or den up. Keeping high traffic areas, such as sidewalks, patios and driveways well lighted will also help keep you, your family and your pets safe by being able to see these dangerous critters.

Knowing the different barks that your dog has can also save his life. I've been woke up many a night to an alarm bark, to find a rattlesnake in my dogs pen and in their dog houses. Once you know

your dog will alert, always listen to him or her! Last season I had several dogs run out the front door to go potty, but one of the rescue dogs that had previously been rattlesnake bit as a small puppy, refused to go out the door. Ted my roommate walked out on the porch to find a huge rattlesnake hanging off the front porch step right behind his leg. Thankfully no one was harmed or bit, but we sure did have a big scare. So always trust your dog, they have a much better sense of smell and will let you know.

Training your dog to alert to rattlesnakes or any snake at all may not only save them, but could possibly save your children or yourself. When I'm training I never let my dog's get comfortable with having a snake around, I want them to alert, to bark and stay away from the snake. I never let my dog come up to a dead snake or any snake where I'm not saying Bad Snake, stomping my feet and scaring my dog to stay away. Over the years I've been involved in de-snaking clinics where we've strained hunting dogs to alert on any type of snake, using a live bull snake and a shock collar and we've saved many a dog. No snakes or dogs were ever hamed in a clinic.

Rattlesnakes like any snake has a purpose and unlike most people's thoughts, a good snake is a dead snake, I don't believe that. No doubt protect your family and pets, but killing one just to kill it makes no sense at all. If your dog is bittenw th or without the rattlesnake vaccine contact your veterinary hospital ASAP.

Let the veterinary hospital advise you on what steps need to be taken. Be safe, be aware, look, listen; it may save your life and the life of your dog.

Pet Talk:

The Biting truth of snake envenomation

Special to the Herald

COLLEGE STATION, March 18, 2020 – One of the joys of owning a pet is being able to observe their curious nature. However, when they stick their noses where they don't belong, a dangerous situation can arise, especially in a state like Texas, which is home to more than 75 different species of snakes.

Dr. Dalton Hindmarsh, a veterinary resident at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, advises pet owners on what to do if their furry friend falls victim to a snake bite.

"First, you should keep your pet calm and seek veterinary care," he said. "Contrary to what you may read on the internet, I would not recommend giving any medications at home, including things like Benadryl, without first consulting your veterinarian. I would also not recommend a tourniquet or trying to suck the venom out."

Hindmarsh also said that prophylactic antibiotics are typically not prescribed, since the risk of infection from a snake bite is less than 1 percent. Steroid medications or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID) pain medications are also not usually involved in treatment of a snake bite, as they have a high risk of side effects and no documented treatment benefit.

Hindmarsh adds that snake bites are very common in dogs and less frequently seen in cats. It's also important to remember that if a snake is able to harm your pet, they are likely a danger to you as well, so Hindmarsh recommends that owners exercise caution after the bite.

"If the snake is already dead, you can take a picture of it to show veterinary staff," he said. "Please do not bring the snake with you! If the snake is alive, do not put yourself in danger and leave the

area with your pet."

Once a bitten pet has reached a veterinary care facility, there are a variety of treatment options available.

"The recommended treatment ultimately depends on the severity of the bite, but most cases are treated with IV fluids to address shock, pain medications, and monitoring," Hindmarsh said. "Antivenom is readily available but is not always indicated for every snake bite." Owners should be mindful about preventing their pets from interacting with snakes, especially when in regions where these slithering creatures are more common. In the areas near Texas A&M, copperheads are the most common venomous snake.

"Owners may consider avoidance training (teaching dogs to leave snakes alone) for outdoor and working dogs," Hindmarsh said. "Keeping pets on a leash may also reduce the chance they encounter a snake."

If pet owners have concerns about their animal encountering snakes, they should contact their veterinarian to discuss how they can best protect their pet. Owners who suspect that their pet has been bitten should contact their veterinarian immediately.

If you end up seeing a snake the next time you and your pet are enjoying the outdoors, Hindmarsh advises that you "leave the snake alone, back away, and leave the area."

By Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences Staff

Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Stories can be found on the Pet Talk website. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to editor@cvm.tamu.edu.

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Chamber of Commerce happenings



Courtesy photo

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors gathered together for a Thank You presentation to Eve Nieto Insurance, this past week. Thank you for your investment to the community. At this time, Thank You presentations have been suspended until further notice.

Chamber of Commerce suspends activities

By AMANDA DUFORAT
Managing Editor

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, like many other businesses and organizations have adhered to the orders handed down by the President of the United States and the Governor of Texas, and cancelled or postponed events that were scheduled through at least the middle of April.

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce has cancelled all of the Thank You Presentations, normally scheduled for Tuesday mornings; Ambassador meetings and the March Alive After 5. Notice will be provided as events are able to be added back to the calendar.

The annual Health Fair which was scheduled for April 8 has also been postponed. The projected date at this time is Aug. 8, with set up taking place on



Aug. 7. The event is still set to take place at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. For those who were signed up to be a part of the health fair, contact should be made with you from the Chamber to inform you of changes and provide new information.

As more news is released regarding dates, times, etc. the Chamber will issue it through media releases, e-mail blasts and phone calls.

At this time, with all the restrictions and limitations that have been placed, the Chamber of Commerce encourages to continue to support local when possible. Many of the local businesses are looking at ways to continue to provide services through pick up or online ordering.

Texas A&M School of Law becomes a national contender

School sees significant leap in both rankings & number of top applicants

FORT WORTH, Texas — Texas A&M University School of Law in Fort Worth leaped a dramatic 23 positions in the national ranking of law schools released this week by U.S. News & World Report.

Texas A&M University School of Law was unranked when the Board of Regents and Chancellor John Sharp led the effort in 2013 for The Texas A&M University System to acquire the school from Texas Wesleyan University.

Since the acquisition, the School of Law consistently moved up in the national rankings, most recently jumping from No. 83 last year to No. 60 in the 2021 rankings. The increase represents the largest jump among the country's top 100 law schools for the year.

See a new video about the law school at: https://www.youtube.com/user/tamusystem?sub_confirmation=1

Chancellor Sharp said the improved ranking on the influential list reflects the System's investment in the law school, its faculty and the quality of education. He highlighted particularly Texas

A&M's School of Law's exceptional programming in intellectual property, technology and innovation (ranked No. 8 nationally), dispute resolution (ranked No. 6 nationally), legal writing (ranked No. 29 nationally), and energy and environmental law (ranked No. 37 nationally).

"Our law school is so successful because we are not just training lawyers to hang up a shingle and sue somebody," Chancellor Sharp said. "We are training the lawyers that businesses need."

Robert B. Ahdieh, dean of the law school, said the new rankings represent a major leap forward for the school.

"We're now in contention with a new tier of law schools — both in Texas and across the nation," Dean Ahdieh said.

Chancellor Sharp noted that the new ranking demonstrates how well Texas A&M University School of Law is preparing young lawyers, compared with other law schools.

See **LAW**, Page 5B

Texas Crop Report

Special to the Herald

Wheat acres up slightly amid good growing conditions

Texas wheat acres were up and facing little to no threat from pests or disease in grazing and grain fields, according to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service specialists.

Jourdan Bell, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension agronomist, Amarillo, said planted acres in the Texas High Plains are slightly up from last year, with approximately 2.2 million acres planted.

For much of the region, there was good soil moisture at planting as a result of late-September and early October rains, Bell said. However, some areas did not receive rainfall and wheat was sowed into dry ground.

For the northern High Plains, or Panhandle region, there has been below-average snowfall resulting in dry conditions, she said. Fortunately, recent rains brought much-needed moisture to the whole region.

Even with below-average winter moisture, wheat-for-grain conditions have been fair to good, she said. Wheat-for-forage conditions have declined in recent weeks due to a lack of moisture for spring growth.

"Some producers were already running pivots to irrigate wheat pastures," she said. "Conditions were warming resulting in fast wheat development. Recent rains will help tilling and forage production and ultimately improve conditions for producers who will graze out those pastures."

Producers pull-off/cutoff dates for grazing are determined by crop insurance, she said. But March 15 was the last day to pull cattle off wheat that is insured as a dual-purpose crop.

Pests and disease

Army cutworms are active across the region, Bell said, but aphid and mite pressure is low. Disease pressure was also low.

Ken Obasa, Ph.D., AgriLife

Extension plant pathologist, Amarillo, said information from AgriLife Extension county agents and crop consultants indicated few cases of disease.

"Overall, there were no instances of leaf or stripe rust that has come through the lab," he said. "However, tan spot and one instance of spot blotch, caused by *Bipolaris sorokiniana*, have come through the lab."

Obasa said there had also been cases of *Alternaria* and that warm, humid conditions were favorable for the disease. The weather is also favorable for tan spot, leaf rust and other seedling wheat diseases.

"Stripe rust prefers cooler temperatures, so as temperatures continue to warm, the chances for stripe rust will decline," he said. "Overall, growers should look for foliar diseases other than rust that can spread."

AgriLife Extension district

See **CROP**, Page 5B

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Jasmine Ahrnkeil, 1301 Princeton, Big Spring
Sherri Monique Aldridge, 1507 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
Anthony Anderson, 3401 Camellia Dr. #707, Temple
Steve Antoine, 1425 E. 6th St., Big Spring
Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
Letitia Baucham, 1202 Stanford, Big Spring
Linda Beck, 1713 Worley Rd., Banner Elk, N.C.
Joshua Bell, 1962 Tuscola, Snyder
John Bochnicka, 538 Westover Rd. #260
Chad Wayne Brown, 3901 Ave. O, P.O. Box 391, Snyder
Douglas "Doug" Lee Brown, 205 W. 14th St. P.O. Box 275, Monahans
James Bullard, 202 Fourth St., Palestine
Melinda Burns, 2218 Carlton Way, San Angelo
Wayne Richard Buyce, 4042 Morningside Way, Canyon Lake
Gloria Cerna, P.O. Box 55, Lamesa
Matilda Cortez, 302 N. St. Teresa
Roy E. DeBlanc, 1066 Cutrer Rd., Osyka, Miss.
Laura W. Dennis, 1511 Scurry, Big Spring
Humberto Diaz Jr., 3417 N. Midland Dr, Midland
Nelba DeLosRios Diaz, 10600 McMillian Dr., Austin
Krista A. Dickson, 6917 Todd, Sachse
Jimmy Dodson, 405 31st St., Snyder
Ben Doherty, 5019 McKinney St. No. 105, Dallas
Angela Doty, 1401 E. Rundberg, Austin
Clayton W. Durbin, 6508 Centerpoint, Big Spring
Tina Marie Ellis, 4002 Austin Ave., Snyder
Selena Bethani Enriquez-King, 100 E Parker, Midland
Joanna Esparza, 501 S. Tackitt Seymour, Texas
Carol W. Evans, 809 E 33rd, Plainview, Texas
Chris M. Fagan, 3508 W. Eighth St., Amarillo
Kristen Falcon, 2606 Fairchild Dr., Big Spring
Leza Faulkner, 1102 South Water, Burnet
Mumduh Felemban, 9338 Perrin Beitel Apt. 701, San Antonio
Alexander Fernandez, 404 Cypress, Colorado City
Juana Fierro, 406 N. W. 5th St., Big Spring
Tracy D. Flores, 2401 Russell Ave., Abilene
Ellen French, P.O. Box 942, Poteau, Okla.
Sharlamarr Frink, 3723 Monclair, Odessa
Johnnie Fuller, 3801 23rd St., Snyder
Juan E. Garcia, 3355 River Road North Keizer, Ok
Mary Jo Garner, 11802 Silver Barring Cove, San Antonio
William Gene Garner, 704 Rosemont, Big Spring
Rosa M. George, 509 W. Second St., Stanton, Texas
Perry Gholar, 1510 Nolan, Big Spring
Elizabeth Gomez, 509 Raleigh St., Plainview
Guillermo Gomez, 2107 Morrison, Big Spring
Jennifer Gonzales, 2616 Hunter Dr., Big Spring
James E. Gonzalez, 604 Neff St., Sweetwater
Jeremy Goodman, 3471 Green Meadow #24, San Angelo
Kay Grant, 4405 N. Garfield #1005, Midland
Isaiah Green, 4801 State St., Abilene
John Grima, 914 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
Thomas E. Gross, 4100 S. Highway 87 #37, Big Spring
Lynn Guerrero, 203 W. Ave #3, Clayton, N.M.
Melissa Gutierrez, 3310 SF Austin, No. 58, Brownwood
Sandra Ann Gutierrez, 1501 N. Fourth Place, 1312 S. Ave. L, Lamesa
Mike Haddix, 401 Humble St. Apt. E, Midland
Dylan Hammons, 4401 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
William J. Harman, HC 76, Box 147K-1, Big Spring
Nicholas D. Hasenbalg, 207 W. Williams St. #9, Breckenridge
Ann Hashem, 120 Airbase Rd. 15-5, Big Spring
Christine Henderson, 420 N. El Paso
Juanita Hernandez, 1502 Bluebird, Big Spring
Matias Hernandez Jr., 620 E 4th St., San Angelo
Billy Dean Hill, 7117 Alissa, Rowlett
Johnny R. Hill, 704 San Antonio, Big Spring
Kaleb Hill, 910 Baylor, Big Spring
Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N Texas #198 Odessa
Jim Bob Jennings, 4446 Ridgecrest Amarillo 9001 Indiana Apt D, Lubbock
David Kelley, P.O. Box 724, Salado
Joni D. Kelly, 3050 Co. Rd 139, Colorado
Renola S. Kelly, 4503 LA Salle Circle, Colorado City
Kimberly Jo Kennemur, 120 Hooser Rd., Big Spring
Cynthia Lee Kent, Moved to Newport News, Virginia
Kayle R. Lane, P.O. Box 83965, Waco
Rafael Lemus, 1804 Mittel, Big Spring
Jesse Paul Lopez, 101 Scurry St., Big Spring
Ruben Lopez Jr., 107 Millburn St., Snyder, Texas
Clifford G. Lowe, 501 Circle, Big Spring
Patricia D. Lyons, 7502 Interstate 27 number A, Lubbock
Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham Ave., Odessa
Bruce Edward Mallard, P.O. Box 3265 504 Westover, Big Spring
Barbara A. Marshall, P.O. Box 1065, Deming, New Mexico
James Martinez, P.O. Box 269, Ft. Davis
Rene N. Martinez, 8618 Serene Ridge, Big Spring, Texas
Victoria Josephine Martinez, 323 S. Main St., Loraine
Karen McCalister, 5925 Raton Ln. number 154, Ft. Worth
O'Neal McClain, 911 17th St., Snyder
Diana McCool, 504 Donley, Big Spring
Ethel Laverne McVae, 4202 Parkway Rd., Big Spring, Texas
Heriberto Palafox Mora, 1311 Mobile St., Big Spring
Felicia Ornelas, 538 Westover Rd.
Dana Kay Peach, 1806 N 13th, Lamesa
Nicole Preston, 1605 E 11th place, Big Spring
Jacquelin Dannon Ramey, 1404 E 6th St. Big Spring
Gilbert P. Ramirez, 1614 Settles, Big Spring
Byron Roberts, 2206 Alabama St Big Spring

See **RECORDS** continued on page 5B

RECORDS

Continued from Page 4B

Michael Robinson, 801 Anne St., Big Spring
Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Rd., Big Spring
Yuri Lozano Rubio, 421 Cedar, P.O. Box 173, Colorado City
Polly Ann Rusk, 4201 W Hwy 80, Big Spring
Elizabeth Salazar, 1808 Hearn, Big Spring, Texas
Shane Skaggs, 1 Courtney Place, Apt. 301, Big Spring
Derrick Dewayne Smith, 703 West 16th, San Angelo, Texas
Leon Torres, 1500 Lincoln, Big Spring
Michael Ray Watson, 1503 Tucson Rd., Big Spring
Tamara Ruth Whitt, 1909 Morrison, 2526 Fairchild, Big Spring
Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd., Apt. #28, Big Spring

Marriage Licenses

Randell Glenn Owensby, 61, and Alicia Carmen Morin, 43, both of Big Spring
Christopher Clarence McKiernan, 19, of Big Spring, and Alida Selena Morales-Saenz, 24, of San Antonio Huista, Guatemala
Michael Dean Nall, 41, Amanda Brook Nass, 32, both of Big Spring
Julian Rodriguez Jr, 26, Christen Shavon Crosby, 20, both of Big Spring
Barry Dewayne Jones, 46, Rebecca Jo Morris, 40, both of Abilene, Texas

District Court Filings

Plaintiff: Steve Henry
Defendant: Jon Mulkey, dba J.M. Construction
Type of Case: Contract-consumer/commercial/debt
Date: March 12, 2020

Plaintiff: Steven Carlin
Defendant: Staci Carlin
Type of Case: Divorce-no children
Date: March 13, 2020

Plaintiff: John Orr
Defendant: Christine Orr
Type of Case: Divorce-no children
Date: March 13, 2020

Plaintiff: Credit Corp Solutions
Defendant: Kenneth Douglas
Type of Case: Contract-consumer/commercial/debt
Date: March 13, 2020

Plaintiff: Judy Perez
Defendant: Ruben Perez
Type of Case: Divorce-children
Date: March 13, 2020

Plaintiff: Sonya Morin
Defendant: Troy Smith
Type of Case: Protective order-no divorce
Date: March 18, 2020

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC
Defendant: Jessica C. Ramirez
Type of Case: Contract-consumer/commercial/debt
Date: March 16, 2020

Plaintiff: United Healthcare Insurance Company
Defendant: Motion Energy LLC
Type of Case: Contract-consumer/commercial/debt
Date: March 17, 2020

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associated LLC
Defendant: Taylor Heckler
Type of Case: Contract-consumer/commercial/debt
Date: March 17, 2020

Plaintiff: Janie Vicker
Defendant: Douglas Vicker
Type of Case: Divorce-no children
Date: March 17, 2020

Plaintiff: Second Round Sub LLC, Assignee of Comenity Capital Bank (overstock.com Inc.)
Defendant: Manuel C. Cervantes
Type of Case: Contract-consumer/commercial/debt
Date: March 18, 2020

Plaintiff: Denton and Bradley Metal Solutions Inc.
Defendant: Alamo Pressure Pumping, Alamo RP Holdings, LLC
Type of Case: Contract-consumer/commercial/debt
Date: March 18, 2020

County Court Rulings

(Note: The State of Texas is listed as the prosecutor in all County Court Rulings.)
Defendant: Terence Cross Jr.
Offense: Duty on striking fixture of landscape (less than \$200)
Sentence: \$250 fine, \$270 court costs, 24 hours community service, 180 days in jail, probated 6 months
Date: March 6, 2020

Defendant: Devynn Smith
Offense: Resisting arrest, search or transport
Sentence: \$500 fine, \$270 court costs, 180 days in jail, probated 12 months
Date: Feb. 25, 2020

Defendant: James Webb
Offense: Theft of property (\$100 to \$750)
Sentence: \$100 fine, \$270 court costs, \$105 reimbursement fee, time served
Date: March 11, 2020

Defendant: Oscar Aguirre
Offense: Prostitution/other payor
Sentence: \$250 fine, \$270 court costs, 6 months probation
Date: March 12, 2020

Defendant: James Webb
Offense: Theft of driver's license/personal ID
Sentence: \$100 fine, \$270 court costs, time served
Date: March 11, 2020

Defendant: Brandon Savoy Truitt
Offense: Driving while intoxicated
Sentence: \$780 fine, \$270 court costs, 180 days in jail, 90 days license suspension, probation 6 months
Date: March 12, 2020

Defendant: Casey Torrence
Offense: Evading arrest or detention
Sentence: \$100 fine, \$270 court costs, time served
Date: Feb. 24, 2020

Defendant: Uriel Talamantes
Offense: Driving while intoxicated
Sentence: \$750 fine, \$270 court costs, 180 days in jail, 90 day license suspension, probated 12 months
Date: March 6, 2020

Defendant: Samuel David Pittman
Offense: Theft of service (\$750 to \$2,500)
Sentence: \$200 fine, \$270 court costs, 180 days in jail, probated 12 months, 24 hours community service
Date: Feb. 27, 2020

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Roy Hester and Joy Hester
Grantee: Nathan Bradshaw and Tara Bradshaw
Property: Lot 27, Blk. 6, Highland South Addition
Date: March 12, 2020

Grantor: Keith Lee Newton
Grantee: KN Land, LLC, a Texas Limited Liability Company
Property: Tract 1: SE/4 of Section 40, Blk. 33, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. Survey; Tract 2: 3.67 acre tract our of E/2 of Section 20, Blk. 33, T-1-N T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: March 16, 2020

Grantor: Lance Gross and Victoria Gross
Grantee: Brian D. East and Barbara J. East
Property: Lot 7, Blk. A, Section 1, Stone Creed Subdivision to the City of Coahoma
Date: March 16, 2020

Grantor: Norma Crockett
Grantee: Kenneth Greathouse and Caren Lynn Greathouse
Property: Lot 8, Blk. 1, University Gardens Addition
Date: March 17, 2020

Grantor: Rita Molina Franco
Grantee: Beatrice Franco
Property: SE/4 of Section 42, Blk. 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: March 17, 2020

Grantor: EV Cole Properties, LLC
Grantee: Matthew Wanner and Alyssa Wanner
Property: Lots 2 through 8, Blk. 8, Highland South Addition
Date: March 17, 2020

Grantor: Samuel J. Willberg and Betty L. Willberg
Grantee: Tom Henry and Mary Beth Henry
Property: Lot 9, Blk. 20, Washington Place Addition
Date: March 16, 2020

Grantor: Erma Dean Baker
Grantee: James Hicks and Robert Hicks
Property: N/2 of 0.37 acre tract in SE/4 of Sectin 48, Blk. 31, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: March 10, 2020

Grantor: J. Hooper Homes, LLC
Grantee: Rodney D. Jones and Sheila K. Jones
Property: Lot 7, Hill Country Estates
Date: March 13, 2020

Warranty Deeds with Vendors' Liens

Grantor: Heath Webb and Brandi Webb
Grantee: Randy Brown
Property: Lot 24, Blk. 6, Highland South Addition
Date: March 16, 2020

Grantor: Lanita Karibian, Administrator of the Estate of Ann L. Mackey, fka Ann T. Cooper, deceased
Grantee: Pedro Covarrubias and Gina Covarrubias
Property: Lots 5 and 6, Blk. 2, Douglass Addition
Date: March 16, 2020

Grantor: Kenneth Greathouse and Caren Lynn Greathouse
Grantee: Alberto Borunda-Salinas and Irma Rutiaga
Property: Lots 6, 7 and 8, Blk. 1, Washington Place Addition
Date: March 17, 2020

Grantor: Brandon Mendoza
Grantee: Quinton Shafer and Brittanna Shafer
Property: Lot 16, Blk. 6, Replat of N/2 of Monticello Addition
Date: March 12, 2020

Grantor: Maria Irene Resendez
Grantee: Michael Anthony Juarez Sr. and Michael Anthony Juarez Jr.
Property: Lot 6, Blk. 5, Avion Village Addition
Date: March 11, 2020

Grantor: Gary Feaster
Grantee: Justin Daniels and Katherine Daniels
Property: Lot 3, Blk. 3, Saunders Addition to the City of Coahoma
Date: March 12, 2020

Grantor: Irene Resendez, aka Maria Irene Resendez
Grantee: Elsa Mier and Elsa Hilario
Property: Lot 6, Blk. 1, Avion Village
Date: March 12, 2020

CROP

Continued from Page 4B

reporters compiled the following summaries:

CENTRAL

The district reported a significant improvement in soil moisture conditions compared to six weeks ago. Large amounts of rain led to saturated fields and some standing water. A cooler and wetter

weather pattern was developing. Corn and sorghum fields were being planted. Most producers planted the bulk of their corn before rains started. Early planted corn was emerging. Some planting was halted by 2-plus inches of rain. Weeds were beginning to develop in improved grasses. Livestock were in good condition with grass growing well following rains and warmer temperatures. Wheat crops were in good condition and progressed well into the jointing stage. Little to no significant disease pressure in the wheat crop was reported.

SOUTH PLAINS

Subsoil and topsoil moisture levels were good. More moisture was in the forecast. Winter wheat and oats were starting to green up and grow. Producers were applying fertilizer to winter wheat. Growers were busy preparing for planting season. Cattle looked good, and some growers were waiting for fields to dry out enough for preparations, including herbicide applications.

LAW

Continued from Page 4B

But he added that another measure is just as important.

While law school applications across the nation — and in Texas — are down for the year, Texas A&M School of Law has seen a massive jump in the number of highly qualified people applying to be Aggie lawyers.

Dean Ahdieh said the School of Law has seen a jump of 25 percent in the number of applications this year. By comparison, applications nationally are off about 3 percent, compared with last year; in Texas, they are down between 2 percent or 3 percent.

Dean Ahdieh said: "I don't think there were a lot of people — other than Chancellor Sharp — who had the vision to see how far we could go and all that we could accomplish."

About The Texas A&M University System
The Texas A&M University System is one of the largest systems of higher education in the nation with a budget of \$6.3 billion. The System is a statewide network of 11 universities; a comprehensive health science center; eight state agencies, including the Texas Division of Emergency Management; and the RELIS Campus. The Texas A&M System educates more than 151,000 students and makes more than 22 million additional educational contacts through service and outreach programs each year. System-wide, research and development expenditures exceeded \$1 billion in FY 2019 and helped drive the state's economy.

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BIG SPRING HERALD

710 Scurry

263-7331

www.bigspringherald.com

Announcements

Fish Day!! Wed. March 25th 8-9a.m. Howard, Co. Feed & Supply \$49/100 4-6" catfish, \$69/100 6-8" catfish \$199/100 8-11" catfish we also carry: Bass, Crappie, Bluegill, Hybrid Bluegill, Redear Bream, Koi, & Minnows for more info www.stockmypond.com or call 501-676-3768

Cemetery Lots

1 Plot at Trinity Memorial Lot 17 in Meditation \$2070.00 Call 432-557-6882 or Email surob@icloud.com



2 cemetery plots at Trinity Memorial Park. \$2000 OBO

Spaces 1 & 2 in Lot # 706 (Meditation Garden)

For more detail contact: Terry Phillips at Trinity Memorial Park Phone: (432) 267-8243 or Email: terryphillips@npwstaff.com to verify details of exact location and for my contact information or email me directly at: eric.halecker@gmail.com

Help Wanted

Dump Truck Operators with CDL, Full time or Part Time. Pay DOE. Call 432-268-3738

BIG SPRING STATE HOSPITAL

Are you ready to be professionally challenged? Are you looking to be part of a dynamic team of engaged and committed professionals? Then the State Hospital System (SHS) may be just the place for you! Whether in a direct-care or support role, your contribution will make a difference in the life of a Texan.

ANNOUNCING INCREASED SALARIES
LVN's up to \$4072.01 per month DOE
RN's up to \$5755 per month DOE
PNA's starting at \$2312.85 per month

PART TIME POSITIONS NOW AVAILABLE

For more information on jobs and salaries: CALL Paula at (432) 268-7464 or Submit a resume to jennifer.patton@hpsc.state.tx.us for initial screening; application process will be initiated at a later time.

or visit us at: Big Spring State Hospital 1901 N. Hwy 87 Big Spring, TX 79720

Help Wanted

The City of Big Spring is now accepting on-line applications.

Please apply at www.mybigspring.com

Job Title

- Non-Certified/Certified Police Officer
- Certified/Non-Certified Firefighter/EMT
- Utility Service Worker
- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Maintenance Worker
- Animal Control Officer
- Building Official
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator
- Identification Technician/Evidence Clerk
- Streets Superintendent
- Light Equipment Operator
- Deputy Clerk
- Planning Administrative Secretary

For more information call **Human Resources** at **(432) 264-2347**

TOUCHSTONE COMMUNITIES

Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home is Now hiring for the following positions:

CMA *Sign on Bonus*
CNA *Sign on Bonus*
Comfort Aide (CNA class March 23rd)
LVN *Sign on Bonus*
RN House Supervisor

We offer outstanding benefits!

- Competitive compensation
- Bonus Plan
- Paid Vacation
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Matching 401(k)
- Health & Dental Available
- Life & Supplemental Issuance
- Team Member Chaplain Services

Apply online at www.Touchstone-communities.com or call (432) 268-8387



Landscaping Help Needed
Please call 432-213-0031

Help Wanted



First Baptist Church of Seminole exists as a church to gracefully help the people of Seminole and Gaines county, in the midst of a busy and distracted world, to embrace their role in God's story. This includes the lives of the youth of our community.

We are looking for a high energy dynamic individual to fill the role of Youth Minister for our growing congregation. Does this spark your interest? If so, we would love to explore with you whether God may be calling you to serve, love, and shepherd our young people.

Interested applicants may submit their cover letter and resume via e-mail to firstbaptistseminole@gmail.com for consideration.

Help wanted:
Full time housekeeper with benefits. Call for an appointment 432-354-2569.

TOUCHSTONE COMMUNITIES

Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home is Now hiring for the following positions:

Maintenance Director

We offer outstanding benefits!

- Competitive compensation
- Bonus Plan
- Paid Vacation
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Matching 401(k)
- Health & Dental Available
- Life & Supplemental Issuance
- Team Member Chaplain Services

Apply online at www.Touchstone-communities.com or call (432) 268-8387

MSH Roustabout Job Opening! Pay based on experience. Contact 432-556-1709 between 8-5

Tarzan Co-op Gin is Hiring!!!
Current available positions are: one permanent full time ginner and a few seasonal helpers.

The full time position will be eligible for the 401K Program and Health Insurance with competitive wages. The part time helpers will need no experience, training is provided. All positions will work Monday thru Friday, 7:00am to 5:00pm. There will be a 2 week probationary period for anyone hired. For inquiries please call 432-459-2451

Help Wanted

Parkview Skilled Care and Rehabilitation is accepting applications for a Charge Nurse who is motivated, caring and that loves the elderly.

. Great Family Working environment

. Competitive Pay

. Health, Vision, and Dental

. 401K

. Life and Supplemental Insurance

. Paid Vacation time

You can apply on-line at www.parkviewnursing.net or in person at 3200 Parkway Road.

Parkview Skilled Care and Rehab is currently accepting applications for Housekeepers. Must be motivated, caring and that love the elderly. We offer Competitive Pay, Insurance, other benefits and a Great Family working environment! You can apply online at www.parkviewnursing.com or in person at 3200 Parkway.

Pizza Inn is hiring for Phone Pros. Apply in Person at 700 E. FM 700. Pay: \$9/hr. Must be available to work day, night and weekend shifts.

The Colorado River Municipal Water District is accepting applications for the following position:

Administrative Assistant – Primary responsibilities include the day-to-day general office support with a variety of administrative activities and related tasks. General office support consist of: answering incoming calls and routing calls to appropriate person/department, greet visitors and announce to appropriate person, maintain office equipment. Assist with maintaining and developing The District's Record Management System. Communication will include District staff, member and customer city staff, general public and local, state and federal agencies.

For additional information visit www.crmwd.org



Sleep Inn & Mainstay Suites 306 NE 12th Street Full-time Housekeepers needed Please call 432-599-1778 to schedule an interview

Help Wanted

We are looking for an ambitious, creative, self-starter, to fill a staff writer role at the Big Spring Herald. Do you have a heart to share others stories and the desire to be involved in your community? We want to hear from you!

Responsibilities and Duties: This individual would provide news coverage, build pages, and update social media accounts/website.

Qualifications and Skills: Indesign and Photoshop are a plus, but will train the right person. We are looking for a creative, outgoing individual familiar with social media. Must be a self-starter, and be able to meet deadlines.

Individual will be responsible for several areas of coverage, from feature stories to hard news. Must have a flexible schedule.

Contact Amanda Duforat 432-263-7331 Ext. 230 or email editor@bigspringherald.com for questions or to submit your resume.

Job Type: Full Time

Items for Sale

Yellow Band Tubing 2 3/8" and 2 7/8" \$2.25 a foot Call 432-268-3738

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Request for Qualifications

The Forsan Independent School District is now accepting proposals for the following:

RFQ # 20-002 – External Audit Services

Documents may be obtained from Jason Mims, Business Manager, Forsan ISD, 411 W 6th St., Forsan, TX 79733, (432) 457-2223 x 223. Qualification packets will be accepted through 2:00 PM CST on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 in the Superintendent's Office, Forsan JH/HS, 411 W 6th St., Forsan, TX 79733, at which time they will be read into record. Submitters are instructed that a formal opening will not occur. The District will negotiate with qualified firms concerning documents submitted. The final determination of award will be made at a future board meeting.

All questions should be directed to Jason Mims, Business Manager, Forsan ISD, 411 W

Public Notice

6th St., Forsan, TX 79733, (432) 457-2223 x 223., e-mail jmims@forsan.esc18.net Forsan Independent School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Real Estate for Rent

32' RV for rent \$450 a week or \$1,600 a month utilities included. Must have debit or credit card, no cash, no checks, No pets allowed. Satellite TV included. Call 432-257-7666

Affordable Country Living-OASIS RV Park has Spaces & Travel Trailers for Rent. Call 432-517-0062 or 264-9907.

Vehicles

2017 Nissan Frontier Desert Runner. Extended cab, 20,000 Miles, V6, 4 Liter Engine. Towing package included. Excellent, inside and out! NADA Asking \$18,500. (432)556-0385

Legals

CITATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: CHRISTINA MARIE ROJAS

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. A petition was filed on the 7 day of July, 2019, in the indicated court of HOWARD County, Texas. You are directed to file a written answer to the petition on or before 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served with this citation and petition. The suit is an action to establish paternity of and to enter appropriate orders for the conservatorship and support of the following child subject of the suit:

Name
JAVEN FELIX ZEPEDA

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest, which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. No property is involved in the suit.
The suit is entitled:

CAUSE NUMBER 47448

IN THE INTEREST OF
JAVEN FELIX ZEPEDA
A CHILD

IN THE 118TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

OF
HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

Other parties to the action:
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CHRISTINA MARIE ROJAS
ABEL FELIX ZEPEDA

#10503 MARCH 22, 2020
RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 08 Rule 37
Case No. 0326058
DATE OF ISSUANCE:
Mar 19, 2020
Status/Permit No. 862667
NOTICE OF PROTEST
DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Apr 9, 2020

A BIG COMMITMENT TO BIG SPRING.

Expedition Royalty Co. is excited to expand our presence in Howard County by opening an office in Big Spring this Fall!

Expedition will continue to invest in the community and to deliver big benefits to our clients by acquiring oil and gas minerals and leases in the area.

We are available 24/7, so call at your convenience for a free evaluation of your assets or to discuss current activity and area-specific value ranges.

You'll see we're not your typical Permian mineral company. We are forming strong partnerships and making prudent deals, because we are here to stay - just ask a neighbor!

EXPEDITION ROYALTY CO.

CONTACT US TODAY BY PHONE OR EMAIL:

Matt Scott
432-755-7065
matt.scott@expeditionroyalty.com

Rayne Austin
432-755-7065
rayne.austin@expeditionroyalty.com

BIG SPRING STATE HOSPITAL

Are you ready to be professionally challenged? Are you looking to be part of a dynamic team of engaged and committed professionals? Then the State Hospital System (SHS) may be just the place for you! Whether in a direct-care or support role, your contribution will make a difference in the life of a Texan.

ANNOUNCING INCREASED SALARIES
LVN up to \$4072.01 per month DOE
RN's up to \$5755 per month DOE
PNA's starting at \$2312.85 per month

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mars and Pluto Point Out the Trouble

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The range of potential outcomes is wide, so there's plenty to be uncertain about -- unnerving to some, not to you, not today. You are inspired by the wide-open future.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Though you don't need the admiration of others to feel good about yourself, you'll notice today that accepting a compliment or two also doesn't hurt.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're a bright, colorful sail today -- not a motor but the cloth of potential. You need the heavenly currents to fill and move you forward. A gust would be nice, though a zephyr will do today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). An idea has already come to you in passive forms, in pokes and suggestions and nudges. Now it comes as an intruder,

a neon sign, an entity that refuses forgetfulness and will wait no longer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Beware the smile that spreads the mouth and never reaches the eyes. It isn't born from a smiling feeling. The best smiles start in the eyes and spread to the mouth.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Is the past ever quite over with? Everything you do today will build on it. Even the parts that have long been forgotten or shunned or rewritten are part of this ground.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're making the Herculean effort. You've got an amazing network to tap into. Everyone you know could be a co-conspirator if you wanted them to be. If you want help, then let people know.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you see people doing what you think you should be doing, it stirs up an

emotional brew that would be toxic to stew in. Move quickly on to how you can make these things happen for yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Being interested and curious puts you in the optimal state to forge connections. Being extremely attracted puts you in a suboptimal state, as it amps up the nervous system and skews judgment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Impulsivity will figure into your learning curve today. Sometimes even you don't understand why you do a thing, but there is a reason. If you want to change, you

By HOLIDAY MATHIS can find reasons for different behaviors, too.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If the critics show up, that will make a difference, not because they like your work or not, but because they legitimize and publicize it, making a stir. A stir is just what's needed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Consider whether you're on the team that's best for you or if this is even the right game. To win by any rules other than the ones that fit your own values can be only a hollow victory.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 22). Everyone sees how hard you work and how honest you are. You'll earn respect, support and an excellent ranking in the hierarchy of a group that complements you on many levels. This thriving period is also good for your domestic relationships and environment. There's a sense of security that prevails this year. Cancer and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 33, 18 and 40.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: The statues in the museum have fixed gazes that see the world only as it comes to them. For hundreds or even thousands of years, their stone eyes have witnessed the changes of light, the people passing and pausing, the centuries dying and dawning, all from one cold swath of vision. It is as though each statue is the fixed point from which the world revolves.

You, on the other hand, an ever-develop-

ing and evolving creature who can swivel and travel into different lights and mix into other environments, must constantly adjust for context. How does a free-floating creature maintain their bearing through an ever-changing environment? What is the ballast that allows for equilibrium and understanding? If you are moving and the world is moving, what is the constant?

Some find the constant in family and ancestry. Some stabilize in a sense of culture or a value or moral system they carry with them wherever they go. Those with a spiritual ballast may find that they are able to know where and who they are in any environment or dimension.

This new Aries moon week echoes a cosmic cry of "I am" through space. It will be as though the entire week is constructed to teach you just what "I am" means to you.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by S.N. Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Squealing stoppers 8 Top-of-a-line Apple 15 Global portmanteau 16 Woebegone 17 Coming out with 18 Cruise's career choice, in a 2003 film 19 Insensitive, informally 21 Small scrap 22 Take the wrong way 23 Underwater river valley 26 Particular grouse 27 Vocal buoyancy 28 Honor for Peter, Paul and Mary 32 Skating supporter 33 Offers things you can do without 34 East side 35 Letter carrier 36 "Just like that..." 39 Tabloid fodder 40 Breakfast fare 41 Hopper 42 Major at LSU and UCLA 43 With no center 44 High overhead 47 Puts not very much away 50 About whom Capote said, "That's not writing, it's typing" 53 Cocktail gamish 54 Part of the erstwhile Microsoft Student suite

- DOWN 1 Holistic notion 2 Brief life 3 Fragment of a geological scale 4 Not quite what's next 5 Step ___ 6 Bouquet holder 7 Extended relation 8 Unpredictable elements 9 "___ than expected" (Auckland Museum blog post on bone cleaning) 10 Estuaries, for instance 11 Your current reading 12 Literary dueler 13 Rather blue, perhaps 14 40 Across tidbit 20 Nietzsche, e.g. 24 Ready for a change 25 Highest levels 28 Plants with legs 29 "The covers of this book ___ far apart": Bierce 30 Constrained cuss 31 A 33 A matter of course 34 \$2000 appliance, circa 1983 35 Tierra al sureste de Barcelona 36 Jazz band nickname 37 Super Glue remover 38 Electrical best-sellers of the Twenties 39 Omitting of mention, in contract-ese 40 Grenada neighbor 41 Festive seafood functions 43 Word from the Latin for "is lacking" 45 Ranch arrival 46 Man named Mehmet, more than likely 48 Took after 49 ___ price 51 Downloaded apps? 52 Boulder from Piccadilly, in more ways than one

Crossword grid with numbers 1-56 and creator info: CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2020 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/21/20

Annie's Mailbox

Giving a Voice to the Mentally Ill

Dear Annie: I am new to your column, so I'm not sure what all you've shared with the public about mental illness. I'm hoping you will publish this letter because I feel that most people need to know more. It's often said that the more understanding one gains, the more compassion he/she can extend to others.

I have bipolar disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder. I've had these mental conditions for many years. And in that space of time, I've encountered many people who know very little about mental illness in general. Not long ago, a friend of my mother was talking to her about different people, here in our community, and she referred to some of them as "weirdos," "flakey," "nuts," etc. I was offended and hurt that she would talk that way around me. She knows I'm mentally ill. Some people can be so insensitive. If more folks knew how dreadfully painful mental illness can be, they might have more compassion for one another.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, 1 in 5 people has a mental

illness. You'd think that since it's so common people would feel more at ease talking about it.

Television and movies do very little to educate the public on this topic. The mentally ill are often portrayed as dangerous criminals. However, studies have shown that only a very small percentage of the mentally ill are dangerous. It's more likely that a mentally ill person will be the victim, and not the perpetrator, as they are so often taken advantage of and treated cruelly.

There are those who believe that mentally ill people are lazy, irresponsible, manipulative and without love. In my lifetime, I have encountered many people with mental conditions who are very loving, responsible and hard-working citizens.

Psychiatric facilities and private practices can be a beacon of light for individuals who are in the dark about how to help themselves. Psychiatrists, therapists and community support workers offer hope, but a lot of folks are too ashamed or embarrassed to seek it out. I believe that if more people would take a stand for the mentally ill, the number of people who seek help would increase considerably, and more people could

find hope, happiness and fulfillment in their lives. Thank you for reading this. -- Anonymous

Dear Anonymous: And thank you for writing this. You are spot on. It's unfortunate that mental illness seems to only be a topic of conversation in the wake of tragedies. I encourage readers to visit https://www.nami.org/find-support or call the NAMI helpline (800-950-NAMI) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern, Monday through Friday.

Dear Annie: I laughed from recognition when I read about the 64-year-old lady, "L.C.," wanting to find a date in her small town. Your suggestion was that she focus on her own growth, and, by doing so, she might meet a special man. I met my husband at Sunday school when we were 79 and 83. Where better to focus on growth? -- Sunday School

Dear Sunday School: Thanks for reminding us that it's never too late to find true love.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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Answer to previous puzzle: CHEM BAILS SKIM ROMP ERNIE NEMO ABEAUTIFULDAYIN ZARAGOZA FIRSTS ERG GNOME GETAT STEP NYPD DOTE USDA AOL NOR MISTER ROGERS IBM WAD SAGE SEAS GOBI OWLS MERCH CUZCO HUH ANTEUP SARATOGA THE NEIGHBORHOOD CASE PEELS APSE HDTV SELES ISIS 3/21/20

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Howard County Library news this week:

Special to the Herald

Howard County Library is closed until further notice. Please visit our website at <http://howard-county.ploud.net> and our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HowardCoLibrary for further updates. You may also reach us at (432) 264-2260.



Sandra Verdin

While the library is closed, we thank you for your patience and understanding. As we continue to monitor the ongoing COVID-19 situation, Howard County Library will take this opportunity to close down the library for updates and upgrades to our Computer Lab.

Also, in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 and in accordance with recommendations from the CDC, the City of Big Spring, and Howard County offices, Howard County Library has made the following changes to programs and services.

All programs and meeting room reservations are suspended until further notice.

Please do not return your library materials. All due dates and fines are suspended until May 1.

Library staff will be working. Reference service is available by phone and email. Staff will be available by phone to answer any questions you may have regarding our online content.

While reviews are not posted on this week's column, we do want to highlight that patrons can still access online content such as eBooks and audiobooks through our webpage. Instructions for set-

ting up an account are on the Digital Collections section of our webpage. In the following days we will be adding more content on our Digital Collections page about SimplyE, another reading application to access eBooks and audiobooks.

Additionally, we will be adding more resources throughout our webpage. On our Facebook page we will be posting information and online resources for parents and families to access. We will also be posting links and online resources for those who may not have a library card at the moment. These resources and updates will be highlighted on our Facebook page, please check regularly.

"You have power over your mind- not outside events. Realize this, and you will find strength."
- Marcus Aurelius

Big Spring Intermediate Living Museum



HERALD photos/Anna Gutierrez

In place of doing oral presentations in front of a class, Big Spring Intermediate students had an opportunity to research people who have left a lasting mark on history. Students presented pieces of history and represented their legacy to other students, teachers and staff.

H-E-B encourages Texas helping Texans to fight coronavirus threat, launches senior delivery option

Special to the Herald

H-E-B has launched Texans Helping Texans, a community-outreach initiative that's guided by digital innovation, compassionate philanthropy and the generous spirit and strength that brings together all Texans during uncertain times.

We heard loud and clear that our Texas seniors need help — and H-E-B and Favor are taking help to them.

H-E-B, in partnership with Favor Delivery, launched a simple, low-cost solution that gives seniors access to their very own personal shopper by phone, allowing them to get essential food and supplies delivered to them, while remaining in the comfort and safety of their home. Beginning on Friday,

March 20, seniors across Texas, age 60 and older, will be able to place orders with Favor using a curated list of products available from H-E-B.

Please see our article on H-E-B Newsroom for more details about this service, H-E-B's recently launched in-store donation campaign, and the many other efforts the company is doing to support our most vulnerable communities.

For more: <https://newsroom.heb.com/h-e-b-launches-community-care-efforts-across-the-state-to-assist-our-most-vulnerable-neighbors/>

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Include Full Name and Age Of Each Child.

Deadline to submit photos **Friday, April 10th**

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