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Mitchell County Judge Mayo

INDEX

News1 & 3
 Obituaries2
 Sports5 & 10
 Classifieds6-8
 Comics9



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Inmate Death at FCI Big Spring

Special to the Herald

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- On Friday, September 18, 2020, inmate Robert Pierce tested positive for COVID-19 at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Big Spring in Big Spring, Texas, and was immediately placed in medical isolation.

On Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020, Mr. Pierce was evaluated by institution medical staff for shortness of breath. He was transported to a local hospital for further treatment and evaluation.

On Wednesday, September 30, 2020, his condition worsened and he was placed on a ventilator. On Friday, October 9, 2020, Mr. Pierce, who had long-term, pre-existing medical conditions, which the CDC lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced deceased by hospital staff.

Mr. Pierce was a 52-year-old male who was sentenced in the Western District of Washington to a 180-month sentence for Obscene Matter Transport and Receipt of Visual Depictions Of Minors

Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct. He had been in custody at FCI Big Spring since April 23, 2019.

FCI Big Spring is a Low security facility that currently houses 945 male offenders.

The Bureau will continue to provide daily updates and information on actions related to COVID-19 at www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp.

Additional information about the Federal Bureau of Prisons can be found at www.bop.gov.

World Polio Day proclamation read during Tuesday evenings City Council meeting

By IRIS RANGEL
 Herald Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council convened for a regular meeting Tuesday afternoon in City Council Chambers to discuss various topics concerning aesthetics throughout the community.

A proclamation declaring Oct. 24, 2020 as World Polio Day was made by Mayor Shannon Thomason. According to Thomason, Council member Gloria McDonald once had the disease and was then asked by Thomason to sign under the Mayor's name in honor.

After the declaration of the proclamation, a presentation video from Neon Cloud was given to the Council. Neon Cloud is a Dallas-based company specializing in economic development videos. The video presented was meant to highlight 10 locations in Big Spring and encourage visitors to visit and tour Big Spring.

"I think this does a fantastic job as a marketing tool for Big Spring," Haley Her-

erra said.

A Big Sandy Draw Landfill video was also meant to be shown to the Council however, according to Interim City Manager Shane Bowles, the video is not currently ready and would be presented at the next meeting. Bowles then moved into the City Manager's Report, where discussion over the next Large Item Pickup was held. The next Large Item Pickup will target District 4 on Wednesday, Oct. 21. Citizens are encouraged to call ahead of time in order to ensure that their items are picked up.

Bowles also provided a sewer line replacement update stating the two block sewer line project near Columbia and I-20 was complete. Also mentioned were further sewer line projects to begin near Douglas Street, Goliad, and locations near the airpark.

An AWOS (automated weather observing system) update was also given by Bowles discussing the failure of the AWOS system due to groundwater in the area causing connection failure.

The AWOS system has been down for several months, but is now repaired and operational, according to Bowles. It was also noted that future projects were being made in order to ensure the line connection does not fail again due to groundwater issues.

Also in the City Manager's Report, Bowles provided a Census update stating that the last day to respond to the 2020 Census is Saturday, Oct. 31. As of right now, Howard County's response rate is 52.3%, according to Bowles. Census information has a significant impact on the community and can determine how extensive federal funding can be utilized in the Big Spring community over the next decade. To respond to the Census, citizens can visit 2020census.gov or call 844-330-2020.

Bowles also mentioned the recent scam phone calls Big Spring citizens were receiving asking for residents' social security numbers. According to Bowles, Census workers do call residents, however, the calls are simply to ensure that you have completed your Census, not to ask for any personal information.

Before the conclusion of the Interim City Manager's Report, Mayor Thomason received a notification stating the deadline to complete the Census would be ending two weeks earlier.

The Council then moved into the Consent Items portion of the meeting where approval over the following items were held:

- Approval of City Council Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Sept. 22, 2020
- Final Reading of a resolution authorizing the City Manager and City Attorney to jointly negotiate with and retain outside legal counsel for the purposes of representing the City in an eminent domain proceeding relating to 1505 E. 2nd Street; declaring that this action is necessary as the property will be used for a valid public purpose; and providing an effective date

See **CITY**, Page 2

Life Center of Big Spring expansion project moving along, completion expected by December

By AMANDA DUFORAT
 Managing Editor

Expansion is in progress at the Life Center of Big Spring. Through the support donations of generous supporters, the Big Spring location is expanding by almost 600 square feet, which will allow for added services.

"Since the pandemic started, compared to last year at this same time, we are up 28% when it comes to new clients," Tracy Watson, Life Center Director, said. "There are more people needing help and support, whether it be first time parents or parents of young children."

The new addition is expected to be completed by Christmas of this year. Once the construction is complete, the center will be able to offer sonograms for clients. A nurse will also be conducting visits at the center one day a week, which will open the door to more education and health care services locally.

"We will be providing sonograms in our office now for moms as early as eight weeks along and be able to offer nurse visits," she said. "This is going



HERALD photo/Amanda Duforat

The Life Center office is expanding in Big Spring and will soon be offering new services and have more space for their boutique.

to be a big help because it will allow our clients to have access to these services earlier on in their pregnancy. While we send our clients to Midland for sonograms currently, this will allow them to have this service locally, in our office, without having to drive out of town."

When it comes to Life Center services, according to Watson, education is the main foundation of services offered through the office. With the addition of the nurse on site, there will CPR

See **LIFE CENTER**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Mavis Ruth Cramer

Mavis Ruth Cramer, 88, passed peacefully on Oct. 6, 2020. She was born Dec. 5, 1931, to Gilbert Wayne and Bertha Carter in Ovala, Texas. She grew up in Lawn and loved to go into Abilene to roller skate her free weekends. She met her future husband, James E. Phillips, Sr., in Buffalo Gap and was married upon his return from WWII in 1949. She raised five children in Big Spring and served as a volunteer for the Dept of Veterans Affairs and the American Legion Post 506 for many years. She worked as a waitress and hostess for many businesses in Big Spring. She retired to Midland and worked at Sam's Club for many years as a demo lady and met so many people



she called friends. She was a regular at bingo and loved everyone there. She remembered you all and thanks you for being her friends.

She is survived by a son, James E. Phillips, Jr., a daughter, Donna K. Lehenbauer, both of Midland, several nieces and nephews, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

A private service is pending. The family thanks all of you for your prayers and thoughts and asks that in lieu of flowers to post your memories and thoughts at the funeral home site.

Arrangements were made with Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to: pipkin@nts-online.net or you can visit our website at www.lewallengarcia-pipkinfh.com

Paid Obituary

Donald Wayne Shortes

Donald Wayne Shortes of Ackerly died peacefully at his home on Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020. He was born Dec. 14, 1939, in Graham, Texas to Vernon and Gladys Lovern Shortes.

The family moved to the Ackerly Community when Don was two years old where he lived there for 78 years. Don grew up farming with his father and brother and graduated from Ackerly High School in 1957. He graduated Howard College in Big Spring with an Associate in Business and then transitioned to Texas Tech in Lubbock and graduated in 1962 with a Bachelor in

Business Administration, Banking and Real Estate. After graduation, he worked as an accountant for R. H. Hollingsworth, CPA in Big Spring and later worked as Business Manager for Sands ISD in Ackerly for 13 years. Don then started to work for the U. S. Postal Service in Ackerly as a rural carrier (13 years as a substitute carrier, 16 years as a regular rural carrier). He developed a strong bond with his customers and the dogs along his mail route. He retired from a rural carrier and dedicated his time to full-time farming. He managed his farming operation together with his brother until his death.

Don was known to be a perfectionist in every-



thing that he attempted especially with accounting, farming and family. He had a strong love for animals (especially dogs), family, home, the land and farming. Don is survived by his wife Glenda of Ackerly and one son Kelley of Lubbock; brother Dan Shortes and wife Lilly, nephew Russ Shortes of Round Rock, and niece Danae Shortes of Lubbock. Don is also survived by his wife's children; a daughter Gayla Hogg of Lamesa and a son Michael Simonton of Denver, grandchildren Stephen Smith of Whitney, Texas, Sasha Smith and Shayla Hogg of Lubbock and 7 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and an older sister, Barbara who died at 12 months due to illness.

Honorary pallbearers are Kelley Shortes, Michael Simonton, Stephen Smith and Brent Airhart. The family suggests memorials to a charity of your choice or the American Cancer Society.

The family wishes to recognize all the staff from Home Hospice of Big Spring, TX for their outstanding care and compassion provided to Don during this time.

Private family graveside service will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2020 at the Dawson County Cemetery; face masks are required. Arrangements are under the direction of Branon Funeral Home. To send condolences online, please visit www.branonfuneralhome.com.

Paid Obituary

Marlin Lynn Johnke

Marlin Johnke, 58, of Lubbock passed away on Saturday, Oct. 10, 2020. He was born in Big Spring, Texas on Feb. 3, 1962, to Marvin and Marie Lillian (Majors) Johnke.

Marlin was a man who lived his life for his family and expressed that love every day. He enjoyed working as a retail and commercial plumbing representative for several years.

Marlin was a "jack of all trades" and enjoyed several hobbies to include managing a bounce house business and his healthy obsession with collecting antiques. He was very involved in



his daughters' lives as he volunteered/managed his daughters while in orchestra and coached/mentored the girls in soccer for several years. Marlin was a joker at heart, always making others around him laugh. It was contagious.

Those left to cherish his memory are his daughters, Kelsee Lynn Johnke and Cecelia Adel Johnke; sister, Barbra Ballard and ex-wife and forever friend, Maria E. Johnke.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Marvin Johnke and Marie Lillian Majors and his daughter, Adrianna Elizabeth Johnke.

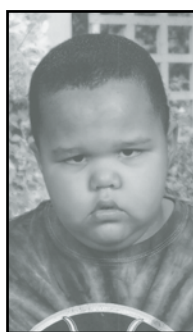
Family and friends plan a private gathering on Oct. 17, 2020, to pay tribute to Marlin and celebrate his life.

Paid Obituary

Elijah Alekzander Carson

Elijah Alekzander Carson, 9, of Big Spring, Texas passed away on Oct. 12, 2020. He will lie in state Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Elijah was born July 21, 2011, in Big Spring, Texas. He attended school in Big



Spring.

Elijah is survived by his loving mother, Misty Carson Pollard; Edward Oliver, who was like a father to him; his brothers Ayden Barnes, Braden Barnes, Michael Dillion Barnes and Brandon Christensen and a host of friends.

Services are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

- Final reading of an ordinance amending ordinance number 029-2020 which adopted the annual budget for the City of Big Spring, Texas for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 2020 and ending Sept. 30, 2021 by increasing the General Fund Budget to purchase additional equipment for the specialty built infectious disease ambulance

- Final reading of a resolution amending the Big Spring Personnel Policies and Procedures Chapter VII entitled "Compensation," Section 2 "Administration of Range/Step Salary Schedules," Subsection C to remove employee merit raises; and amending Chapter XII entitled "Non-disciplinary Separation," by repealing Section 4 "Retirement" in its entirety in order to remove mandatory retirement of employees at age 70

- Final reading of a resolution amending Chapter IX of the Big Spring Personnel Policies and Procedures entitled "Conduct," Subsection 7 "Relations with Mayor/Council" to limit the definition of the term "information"

- Vouchers for 09/24/2020 in the amount of \$739,576.58, 10/01/2020 in the amount of \$156,666.37, and 10/08/2020 in the amounts of \$783,360.40.

- Award the bid to Zoll Medical Corporation for EMS equipment

Council members then moved into discussion regarding Main Street businesses seeking donations for upgrades to Main Street. Lori Henry and Michelle Hamlin spoke on asking the Council for per-

mission to ask for donations in regards to repairing landscaping issues in downtown Big Spring. The two were seeking to make improvements across all areas of downtown as a continuation of the recent completion of beautifying Main Street and 1st Street. According to Henry, upon the completion of the beautifying of downtown, there are hopes of introducing new signage, flags, and banners in order to bring more attention to businesses downtown.

The two hope to complete the beautification of downtown, upon approval of the Council, before the holiday season in order to host events throughout the downtown area. Mayor Thomason motioned to approve the seeking of donations and was seconded by Council member Terry McDaniel. The motion passed unanimously.

Regarding the consideration and possible action regarding recruiting firms for the city manager position, Interim City Manager Bowles noted that the city had received three proposals so far from recruiting firms to fulfill the City Manager position.

Discussion was held on possibly allowing each recruitment firm to present at the next meeting and create a scoring system for each firm. The council would then vote on which firm would be chosen.

The Council then moved into agenda item consideration and possible action regarding Citizens Advisory Board and other board appointments. During discussion for this agenda item, Mayor Thomason made a suggestion for each council member to be allowed a single

See CITY2, Page 3

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activity:

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 80 inmates at the time of this report.

- **MICHAEL JADE JEWETT**, 38, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of burglary of habitation-assault.

- **JASON JERMAINE SMITH**, 44, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of manufacture delivery of controlled substance penalty group one (greater than or equal to one gram less than four grams).

- **ALFONSO FLORES VERA**, 67, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **GERALD WAYNE WHITE**, 63, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of NE 12th Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 600 block of Ridgelea Drive. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of E. 24th Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3 block of Coachman Circle. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3700 block of Wasson Road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1000 block of E. 14th Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the B block of Coachman's Circle. No transport was required.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 800 block of W. I-20. No transport was required.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3700 block of Caroline Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of S. Runnels. No transport was required.

Take Note

- A drive-thru flu shot clinic will be hosted by Shannon Clinic in Big Spring on Friday, Oct. 30 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. For more information, call 432-606-5178.

- Howard County Republican Club meets the second Monday of each month at 421 Main Street. Everyone is welcome. The meeting takes place at Noon. For more information call 432-213-7628.

- The West Texas VA Health System will be providing drive-thru flu clinics. The dates for the surrounding area include: Clinic date from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Wilson & Young Medal of Honor CBOC - Monday, Oct. 19, 2020.

- The Life Center in Big Spring is helping moms and dads with a Diaper Day Giveaway! Call for a five minute phone appointment and a pickup time for free diapers, wipes and formula. 432-606-5041.

- The Senior Supper Club has come out of hibernation to resume its normal Tuesday evening dinners.

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CITY2

Continued from Page 2

appointment to the seven member board. However, according to City Attorney Andrew Hagen, the board is only made up of five individuals. Confusion was presented between Council member Raul Marquez with the Interim City Manager and City Attorney as Marquez was under the impression there were already members appointed to the board. The Citizens Advisory Board serves as a liaison between entities like the police department and citizens and are only needed on a case by case basis.

Discussion was held on the first reading of a resolution designating the following as a nominee to fill a vacancy on the Howard County Joint Tax Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2020-21 Term. The Howard County Joint Tax Appraisal District Board of Directors are the only entity allowed to choose who will replace the position, however, the Council can recommend a nominee. Mayor Thomason recommended Sandy Smith during the meeting.

Discussion then began regarding the first reading of an ordinance amending Structural Standards Ordinance of the City of Big Spring in its entirety. According to Council member Strande, the city has been working over the last few months to remedy certain substandard structures to maintain up to date Big Spring city codes and further the unified goals of cleaning up Big Spring. Discussion was held on concerns with city inspectors and code enforcers overstepping certain private property rights for structures and homes. City Attorney Hagen then assured any concerns from the public by stating the private property rights of citizens of Texas and Big Spring would protect them from any misuse of government bodies. Interim City Manager Bowles also mentioned code enforcers and inspectors would not be allowed on property unless they were called upon by either renovation permit requests or at the hands of another citizen's complaint. In order to comply with civil enforcement, a notice of violation would have to be given which could be appealed in a hearing by an elected judge from the District Court, before any action can be taken on the property.

"The Texas Constitution protects private property rights to a greater extent than even the U.S. Constitution," Hagen said.

The Council then took a recess and reconvened with Hagen mentioning that a balance would need to be found between the rights of private property owners and city enforcement and codes.

"At the end of the day, we have to clean our city. I think all of us get up here and say we care about Big Spring, we care about having all these houses that look ugly and that are half burnt, but we don't want to take their property away...we don't want to tear down their house because we're taking somebody's house away that they left there for 20 years. So, if we really care about the city of Big Spring, we have to do things that some people aren't going to like...but we still have to clean up the city," Council member Marquez said.

A motion was made by Council member Jim De-

Pauw to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Council member Strande. The motion passed 5 to 2, with Mayor Thomason and Council member Hartman opposed.

Regarding the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Big Spring City Code entitled "Nuisances," by Renaming Article I to "Property Maintenance Code" and adding New Sections 36-11 entitled "Timely Repair of Broken Windows," and 36-12 entitled "Graffiti Removal" to establish property maintenance standards for repair of broken windows in the downtown area and removal of graffiti within city limits, Council member Camila Strande noted this ordinance would be a continuation of the previous ordinances that are meant to improve the aesthetics of downtown Big Spring. According to Strande, this ordinance would not take effect until Jan. 5, 2021. The motion passed 6-1, with Council member Doug Hartman opposed.

New business items agenda approved during the meeting included:

- Approval of the Convention and Visitors Bureau Committee Minutes for the Meetings of March 4, 2020 and July 27, 2020

- First reading of an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 004-2020 declaring the City of Big Spring a Sanctuary City for the Unborn by amending the title of the ordinance to "Safe Haven for the Unborn"; Amending Section B "Declarations". Council member McDonald moved to approve the amendment of the ordinance and was seconded by Council member Camila Strande. The motion passed 6 to 0 with Council member Raul Marquez abstaining.

- First reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 34 of the Big Spring Code entitled "Municipal Court" by adding a new section 35-5 entitled "Attorneys Representing the State in Criminal Prosecution" authorizing the City Council to appoint a Deputy Prosecutor and the Municipal Judge to appoint an Attorney Pro Tem in cases in which the City Attorney has a conflict. Mayor Thomason moved to table the item, but did not have a second, so the table failed. The original motion was passed 5-2, with Council member Hartman and Mayor Thomason opposed.

- First reading of an ordinance amending various sections of Chapter 12 of the Big Spring City Code entitled "Buildings and Building Regulations," Article II "Building Codes," to correct the title of the various codes, declaring it unlawful to violate the provision regarding "Signs and Billboards," and adding a new section 12-49 entitled "Enforcement" authorizing the Building Official or His/Her Designee to enforce the codes; repealing Article III "Violations" in its entirety in order to reinstate the ICC Penalties; and amending Chapter 24 of the Big Spring City Code entitled "Fire Prevention and Protection," Article I "General," Section 24-1 "Fire Code Adopted" to correct the title of the code.

- First reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 12 of the Big Spring City Code entitled "Buildings and Building Regulations," Section 12-2 "Grease Traps" to clarify enforcement personnel, to require retention of maintenance schedules for five years, and provide for appeals of these regulations through the structural standards ordinance.

- First reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Big Spring City Code entitled "Nuisances," Article III "Rodent Control," by adding a New Section 36-35 entitled "Enforcement" in order to provide for abatement of rodent control ordinance violations and resolving the conflict with various ICC Codes

- First reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 44 of the Big Spring City Code entitled "Solid Waste" by adding a New Article III "Illegal Dumping and Litter Control," in order to adopt regulations for illegal dumping and litter control within city limits of Big Spring and its extraterritorial jurisdiction; providing for severability; First reading of an ordinance amending Ordinance number 029-2020 which adopted the Annual Budget for the City of Big Spring, Texas for the Fiscal Year beginning Oct. 1, 2020 and ending Sept. 30, 2021 by increasing the Landfill Budget to be used for wood chipping services

- A Change Order with J&H Services, Inc. as recommended by Jacob and Martin for the water line improvements

- Interlocal agreement with Howard County Tax Assessor Collector for the collection of property taxes and authorizing the Mayor or His Designee to execute any necessary documents

- An agreement with Wes-Tex Telecommunications, Ltd. For the installation of a fiber optic cable and authorizing the Mayor or His Designee to execute any necessary documents

- An interlocal agreement with South Plains Association of Governments for administrative services for Big Spring's 2020 CDBG and authorizing the Mayor to execute any necessary documents

During the meeting, a warranty gift deed for the Polly Mayes Annex Building was given to West Texas Community Mediation Center. A representative from WTCMC also spoke on her concerns with the roof at the Polly Mayes Annex Building stating that both the first and second roofs needed repair or replacement. Mrs. Watson also mentioned the possibility of the Council assisting the roof concerns with a donation or providing a warranty previously given by the contractors JKS to the Council at one time. According to Hagen, there is a warranty present and it could possibly be given to WTCMC in order to replace or repair the roofs at no fee.

"We are going to be providing much needed services to this community through our school systems, our probation and parole officers. So, we don't want to just be a self-interest group.

We're going to be here in the city for a long period of time, so we're hoping we can count on your support long term to continue making an impact with our families and our community," Principal of WTCMC Watson said.

LIFE CENTER

Continued from Page 1

training, Labor and Delivery, along with already offered courses such as parenting classes and pregnancy education. One of the key features that has been beneficial through the pandemic process is the BrightCourse that allows clients to view videos before their appointments.

"Since the pandemic swept in we are doing what is safest and best for our clients, which means some of our appointments are happening over the phone and some are in the office," she said. "With the added support that was needed in our community due to the impact of the pandemic, we were even able to do a diaper drive where we interviewed those needing support over the phone and then had them pick up the diapers to help us limit contact."

In addition to the education, nursing services and soon to be added sonogram services, parents have the ability to earn baby bucks to be utilized at the center for purchasing baby items. If both parents attend the classes offered in the nine-week period, they can earn a minimum of \$300 together and earn bonuses as well. The baby boutique - which will have a dedicated room once the expansion is completed.

"Our baby boutique offers new items to the parents that can help them get started, but in addition, we offer pre packed gift bags to help with clothes, formula, diapers, wipes and other

needed items," Watson said. "Our goal is to begin offering gift bags at each appointment and the gift bags will be in alignment with what they are receiving education on; for example, if they are taking one of our classes on breastfeeding they will receive a bag with breast pads, a nursing cover, and things like that."

She continued, "We fully believe that education goes a long way. We can't expect people to do better if they don't know better. The more we can educate our parents - first time parents or not - the more we can help alleviate the stress, reduce the fear they may have and just let them know they have support. Knowing you have someone to turn to and to walk this journey with helps a lot and goes a long way."

Donations of clothing, baby items and monetary donations are accepted year round. A few of the items in high demand include diapers, wipes, lotions, soaps and other care items. Donations can be dropped off at the Life Center - items or monetary - or sent

through Amazon as some donors have done. For more information, contact the Life Center at 432-606-5041. The Life Center is located at 1801 S. Main.

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
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Tommy Newsom, 72, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Tyler Nalley, 23, died Sunday. Viewing will be from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 1:00 PM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

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PIGSKIN PICKS

Football Contest

Brought to you by
Big Spring Herald



Enter To Win \$50 At These Participating Merchants!



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2. Coahoma
3. Anson
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6. Los Angeles Chargers
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6. Los Angeles Chargers
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10. Cleveland Browns



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2. Coahoma
3. Forsan
4. Sands
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7. Houston Texans
8. Miami Dolphins
9. Green Bay Packers
10. Pittsburgh Steelers



Porter's

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8. Miami Dolphins
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3. Forsan
4. Sands
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6. Los Angeles Chargers
7. Tennessee Titans
8. Miami Dolphins
9. Green Bay Packers
10. Cleveland Browns



Wild West Wingz

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Anson
4. Sands
5. Borden County
6. Los Angeles Chargers
7. Tennessee Titans
8. Miami Dolphins
9. Green Bay Packers
10. Pittsburgh Steelers

Official Game Rules:
Find this week's games between the merchant's ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win, and fill in the official entry form on this page with your team choices. Clip the entry form out of the page and drop it in the Pigskin box at one of the listed merchants.
Do not drop your entry form at the Big Spring Herald office.
*The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50!
You must be 18 to enter. *No photo copies accepted.*
*In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. For the tie breaker, the entry with the correct team will win. If both entries have guessed the same team, the second tie breaker will be the one closest to the total points.
*Decisions of the judges are final.
*Employees and family of the Big Spring Herald are ineligible.
*All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1pm Friday of the week played.
*Winners will be announced on the next week's Pigskin Contest Page.

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

TIE BREAKER-
Circle the winner and note total points scored

ATLANTA FALCONS vs MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Total Score: _____ + _____ = _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____

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BIG SPRING, TX
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8. MIAMI DOLPHINS VS DENVER BRONCOS
10. CLEVELAND BROWNS VS PITTSBURGH STEELERS

\$50 ★ **Bob Brasel** ★ **\$50**
WEEK #7 WINNER
PRIZE MAY BE PICKED UP FRIDAY AFTER 12 PM

Big Spring wins district battle against Lake View, now 4-3 in district play

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sports Writer

SAN ANGELO — In a hard-fought game between two district rivals, the Big Spring Lady Steers (12-12, 4-3) prevailed over the Lake View Maidens (5-10, 1-5) in four sets on Tuesday night in San Angelo.

The Lady Steers had gone up 2-0 after the first two sets but the Maidens were not ready to go away that quickly. Lake View began to step their game up in the third set and were able to extend the game just short of being pushed to a decisive fifth set. Big Spring was able to come from behind to win the fourth set to win the game and complete their two-game season sweep of Lake View.

"If we would just learn to take care of that third set, we would be able to finish it early," Lady Steers Head Coach Kaitlyn Braswell said.

The first set began with Lake View scoring first and Big Spring junior Ryen

Terrazas quickly answering back with a kill of her own to tie the game up and getting the scoring of the Lady Steers. Senior Jocelyn Gonzales hit three straight ace serves during the first set to extend Big Spring's lead to four points. In total, the Lady Steers scored five straight points to go up 7-2.

The Lady Steers were showing off a strong ability to win the long, back-and-forth battles for a point. Some of those battles seemed to last minutes but usually always ended with a Lady Steers killing the ball on the Lake View court. There were kills made by Tristan Smith, Kortney Moore, and Kalyn Whitehead also sprinkled into the set and the Lady Steers were clicking on all cylinders. Mya Blanco made a play where her quick reflexes allowed her to dodge a serve that was heading out of bounds. Overall, the Lady Steers always seemed to be in the right position and were able to finish off the first set with a 25-19 win.

"I think our team chemistry is a big part of where we are. When we're down, it's because our chemistry's not up and we're not talking to each other. When we're on, you can tell it's because we're playing for each other and not just for ourselves," Braswell said.

The second set was extremely competitive and Lake View jumped out to a 2-0 lead early. Jacqueline Belew then got the scoring on the Lady Steers and Big Spring was able to take a 3-2 lead just moments later. Lake View then went on a short streak of their own and had a 7-5 lead before Moore put an end to their possession. A few plays later, Moore hit an ace serve of her own that gave the Lady Steers back the lead.

However, the Maidens were playing hard and went on a four-point scoring streak before Braswell was forced to call a timeout trailing 13-10. Big Spring was able to put together a string of nice plays and took the lead shortly thereafter. The Lady Steers then began to put some separation between themselves and the Maidens on their way to another set win. Whitehead performed a nice misdirection touch over the net that fell to the ground and gave the Lady Steers a 25-18 second set win.

The third set was even more competitive than the first two of the night. Lake View had jumped out to a 6-4 lead before the Lady Steers put together a series of strong plays by scoring seven straight points to take an 11-6 lead. That forced the Maidens to take a timeout and they came out of the break looking like a rejuvenated bunch.

With the game tied up at 15, the Maidens really began to put together some nice plays and forced Braswell to take both of her timeouts in a matter of minutes. Lake View then had a 24-19 lead and just needed one more score to extend the game to another set. Big Spring's Gonzales then hit an ace serve and the Lady Steers were trying to put together a valiant comeback effort. However, a ball that appeared to be overshot that the Lady Steers avoided, ended up making it in the box and the Maidens won the third set 25-21.

Lake View dominated the beginning of the fourth set and jumped out to an 8-2 lead. The Lady Steers were having none of it and put together a strong set of their own to tie the game up at 14. The Lady Steers then took the lead and never looked back. Big Spring was up 24-19 and just needed one more point to end the game for good. Lake View then scored four straight points to force a Braswell timeout. The Lady Steers had finally decided they had enough and a strong kill ended the set (25-23), and the game.



HERALD Photo/Shawn Moran

Head Coach Kaitlyn Braswell coaches up her team during a pivotal moment in the third set on Tuesday night.

The Lady Steers have now swept district opponents Estacado and Lake View. They will now face-off against the three district teams that defeated them in their first meeting, with Saturday's trip to Snyder to take on the Lady Tigers looming.

What does Braswell think her team has learned to be able to take those district rivals down this time?

"Always respect your opponent. We see the potential that we have in glimpses. If we can play three sets against any other team in our district the way that we played the first two sets tonight, we'll fine," Braswell said.

UP NEXT: The Lady Steers travel to first-place Snyder on Saturday to take on the Lady Tigers at 12:00 p.m.

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

Hilburn Goes Wire to Wire for First Individual Golf Win in UTPB Program History

Special to the Herald

Colton Hilburn faced tough conditions early, and a late challenger, but in the end became the first men's golfer in UT Permian Basin history to claim any tournament's individual title. Hilburn finished the Ted & Jodi Hogan Invitational at 2-under par, winning after a two-hole playoff a tiebreaker procedure.

"It's an awesome feeling. I'm glad I was able to get out early in the year and do it for my team," said Hilburn, a sophomore transfer from Texas State.

Early on conditions were windy causing higher scores on the course. After one round Hilburn was tied for the lead and one of only two players under par.

"The first seven holes it had to have been blowing 30 to 35 miles per hour," said Hilburn. "I was 3-under and knew the rest of the field probably was having a tough time. Just hit it well early on."

Hilburn stayed steady in round two, shooting a second consecutive 71. Jose Diblibox of Odessa College put behind a tough opening round to shoot 65 and finish tied atop the leaderboard. Both players birdied the two playoff holes to force a tiebreaker, which went to Hilburn. On the second playoff, Hilburn sank a seven to eight foot putt to birdie and force the tiebreaker.

"It's been since I was in high school since I had to go to a playoff," said Hilburn. "I was nervous but it was fun to capitalize on it."

The Falcons played well as a team at Ratliff Ranch Golf Course in Odessa. Connor Benjamin and Nolan Otto tied for fifth at 2-over par, while Parker Beaty and Brinson Vitello tied for eighth at 4-over par.

"I'm so happy for Colton," said Head Coach Kevan Schott. "He played really well all day and deserved the win. Our team played great and hope this is a sign for things to come."

The women only played one round, but the Falcons posted some low scores as well. Hailey Cernoch finished second with a 79, with teammate Emily Serrano right behind her with an 80.

The men and women split next week. The men head north to Lawton, Oklahoma for the Hrnrciar Invitational hosted by Cameron, while the women head west to El Paso for the RJGA Women's Shootout and the final contest of their fall schedule.



Altuve's throwing yips hurt Astros again in Game 3 of ALCS

SAN DIEGO (AP) — José Altuve was the AL MVP in 2017 when his Houston Astros sometimes knew exactly what pitches were coming.

Now, he doesn't even know where his own throws are going.

Altuve committed his fourth throwing error this postseason and third of the AL Championship Series on Tuesday night in the sixth inning of the Tampa Bay Rays' 5-2 victory over Houston in Game 3.

The normally reliable second baseman has an undeniable case of the yips, and it has bitten the Astros badly. The defending AL champions have slipped into an 0-3 series deficit, and the fran-

chise is on the brink of getting swept for the first time since the 2005 World Series.

Altuve also made two throwing errors in Game 2 of the ALCS, contributing significantly to the Astros' 4-2 loss. His three errors in the last two games led to five runs while prolonging rallies that would have been largely shut down by solid defensive play.

"We're giving him all the support that we can," Houston manager Dusty Baker said. "Nobody feels worse than José, because he takes it very serious and takes it to heart. He's one of ours, and we've all been through this."

See **ASTROS**, Page 10

NFL Standings (Through Week Five)

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (AFC)										
	W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF	PF	PA
EAST										
Buffalo Bills	4	1	0	.800	2-0	2-1	2-0	3-1	139	142
New England Patriots	2	2	0	.500	2-0	0-2	1-0	2-1	97	92
Miami Dolphins	2	3	0	.400	0-2	2-1	0-2	1-2	136	161
New York Jets	0	5	0	.000	0-3	0-2	0-1	0-3	75	113
NORTH										
Pittsburgh Steelers	4	0	0	1.000	3-0	1-0	0-0	2-0	118	87
Baltimore Ravens	4	1	0	.800	2-1	2-0	2-0	3-1	149	76
Cleveland Browns	4	1	0	.800	3-0	1-1	1-1	2-1	156	149
Cincinnati Bengals	1	3	1	.300	1-1	0-2-1	0-2	1-3	102	126
SOUTH										
Tennessee Titans	4	0	0	1.000	2-0	2-0	1-0	3-0	122	90
Indianapolis Colts	3	2	0	.600	2-0	1-2	0-1	1-2	126	88
Houston Texans	1	4	0	.200	1-2	0-2	1-0	1-3	110	140
Jacksonville Jaguars	1	4	0	.200	1-1	0-3	1-2	1-4	109	147
WEST										
Kansas City Chiefs	4	1	0	.800	2-1	2-0	1-1	4-1	149	110
Las Vegas Raiders	3	2	0	.600	1-1	2-1	1-0	1-2	151	152
Denver Broncos	1	3	0	.250	0-2	1-1	0-0	1-2	82	98
Los Angeles Chargers	1	4	0	.200	0-2	1-2	0-1	1-1	110	125
NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (NFC)										
	W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF	PF	PA
EAST										
Dallas Cowboys	2	3	0	.400	2-1	0-2	1-0	2-2	163	180
Philadelphia Eagles	1	3	1	.300	0-1-1	1-2	0-1	1-2	113	145
Washington Football	1	4	0	.200	1-2	0-2	1-0	1-2	89	142
New York Giants	0	5	0	.000	0-2	0-3	0-1	0-4	81	133
NORTH										
Green Bay Packers	4	0	0	1.000	2-0	2-0	2-0	4-0	152	101
Chicago Bears	4	1	0	.800	2-1	2-0	1-0	4-0	105	100
Detroit Lions	1	3	0	.250	0-2	1-1	0-2	1-3	99	127
Minnesota Vikings	1	4	0	.200	0-2	1-2	0-1	0-2	132	152
SOUTH										
New Orleans Saints	3	2	0	.600	2-1	1-1	1-0	2-1	153	150
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	3	2	0	.600	2-0	1-2	1-1	1-2	139	112
Carolina Panthers	3	2	0	.600	1-1	2-1	1-1	2-1	122	118
Atlanta Falcons	0	5	0	.000	0-3	0-2	0-1	0-5	122	161
WEST										
Seattle Seahawks	5	0	0	1.000	3-0	2-0	0-0	3-0	169	135
Los Angeles Rams	4	1	0	.800	2-0	2-1	0-0	4-0	136	90
Arizona Cardinals	3	2	0	.600	1-1	2-1	1-0	2-2	128	102
San Francisco 49ers	2	3	0	.400	0-3	2-0	0-1	1-2	124	114

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Announcements

Cemetery Lots

1 Plot Trinity Memorial Park Olivet Lot 455 Space 4. 432-263-2742

For sale: 2 spaces Trinity Memorial Park, prime site in Bethany Section Lot 99 spaces 3&4 Please call 918 261 5610

Help Wanted

All positions for Kitchen Exhaust Cleaning Crew Leaders, Techs, and Shop/Warehouse Personnel. Pay DOE, but will train. Bonus Plans, Vacation and Holiday Pay. Must be able to pass Drug Screen. Apply @ Blast Masters 1711 E Hwy 350.

Tarzan Co-op Gin is Hiring!!!

Tarzan Coop Gin is actively seeking individuals to work in the gin for the 2020 cotton season. Various positions need to be filled. Our season will begin around mid October. Please contact the gin at 432-459-2451.

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!

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

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 for questions or to submit your resume at editor@bigspringherald.com.

Help Wanted

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Board for Howard County 911 Communications District is requesting competitive sealed proposals for a New 911 Center at 3611 West Highway 80, Big Spring, Texas. The Center is approximately 2968 square feet, with structural steel frame, concrete tilt-up and concrete masonry exterior

Public Notice

walls, and concrete roof. A fire sprinkler system shall be required. The proposals shall be accompanied by a 5% Bid Bond or Cashiers Check. The Bidder shall be required to furnish Payment and Performance Bonds if proposal is accepted. Proposals must be received by mail or in person by 4:00 pm, local time, on **November 10, 2020**. Mail proposals to Howard County 911 Communications District at P.O. Box 2398, Big Spring, Texas 79721 or delivered in person to Howard County 911 offices at 3611 West Highway 80, Big Spring, Texas. For information and Documents call (432) 267-1900.

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Legals

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THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF HOWARD

By virtue of Tax Warrant issued out of the 118th District Court of Howard County, Texas in Cause # 6910; Cause # T-6714; and Cause # 6669 on the 29th day of September, by the Clerk thereof, and to me as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell at 10:00 a.m. on the 3rd day of November 2020 at the North Entrance of the Howard County Courthouse lawn, in Big Spring, Texas, the properties described below:

CAUSE NO 6910

STYLING City of Big Spring, et al vs. Owners of Various Properties Located Within the City Limits of Big Spring, Texas

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caster)
Tract 2: Lot Ten (10), in Block Two (2), Boydston Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R00000910) (205 Benton)
Tract 3: The Middle Fifty Feet (50') of the South East Quarter (SE/4), of Block Twenty-eight (28), College Heights Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000002879) (2008 Runnels)
Tract 4: Lot Twenty-three (23), in Block Thirteen (13), Douglas #2 Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000004051) (3700 Connally)
Tract 5: Lot Twelve (12), in Block Eleven (11), Earle's Read Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000004254) (707 W 7th)
Tract 6: Part of Lot Four (Pt/4), in Block Nine (9), Earle's Read Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000004221) (506 Douglas Per CAD)
Tract 7: Part of Lot Four (Pt/4), in Block Nine (9), Earle's Read Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000004222) (506 Douglas Per CAD)
Tract 8: South Fifty-four Feet (S/54) of Lots Eleven (11) and Twelve (12), in Block Eleven (11), Jones Valley Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000005612) (611 San Jacinto)
Tract 9: The North Thirty-four Feet (N/34) of the South Ninety Feet (S/90) of Lots One (1) and Two (2), in Block Six (6), Jones Valley, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000005561) (203 Galveston)
Tract 10: Lot Twelve (12), in Block One Hundred and Two (102), of the Original Town of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000008712) (401 Sargent Paredéz)
Tract 11: Lot Four (4), in Block One Hundred and Twelve (112), of the Original Town of Big Springs, Howard County, Texas (R000008772) (105 NE 3rd)
Tract 12: Lots Six (6) and Seven (7), in Block Four (4), Lincoln Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000006310) (2507 Old HWY 80)
Tract 13: A Tract of Land out of the South East Quarter (SE/4) of Section Forty-two (42), in Block Thirty-two (32), T-1-N, TR 22, William B. Currie Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R0000046791) (203 NE 8th)
Tract 14: Lot One (1), in Block One Hundred and Seven (107), of the Original Town of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000008738) (200 NW 2nd)
Tract 15: Lot Eight (8), in Block One Hundred and Five (105), of the Original Town of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000008725) (309

Legals

Sargent Paredéz)
Tract 16: The South Fifty Feet (S/50) of Lot Thirteen (13), in Block Two (2), Wrights Second Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000010905) (1303 Mesquite)

CAUSE NO T-6714

STYLING
Howard County, et al vs. Carol Jean Kirkpatrick

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Tract 1: All of Lots One (1), Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), and Five (5), in Block Seven (7), Banks Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000000266) (802 Wyoming)
Tract 2: Lot Nine (9), in Block Ten (10), Wrights Airport Addition, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000011112) (1317 Wright)
Tract 3: Lot Five (5), in Block One (1), Wrights Airport Addition No. 1, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000011119) (1308 Kindle)
Tract 4: Lot Six (6), in Block One (1), Wrights Airport Addition No. 1, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000011120) (1310 Kindle)
Tract 5: Lot Seven (7), in Block One (1), Wrights Airport Addition No. 1, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000011121) (1312 Kindle)
Tract 6: Lot Eight (8), in Block One (1), Wrights Airport Addition No. 1, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000011122) (1314 Kindle)
Tract 7: Lot Nine (9), in Block One (1), Wrights Airport Addition No. 1, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000011123) (1316 Kindle)
Tract 8: Lot Ten (10), in Block One (1), Wrights Airport Addition No. 1, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000011124) (1318 Kindle)
Tract 9: Lot Eleven (11), in Block One (1), Wrights Airport Addition No. 1, to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas (R000011125) (1320 Kindle)

CAUSE NO 6669

STYLING
Coahoma ISD, et al vs. Industrias Costa Mesa, S.A. DE C.V., a Mexican Corporation

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Tract 1: A 5 acre tract of land, more or less, out of the North Half (N/2) of Section Thirty-Six (36), Block Thirty-One (31), Township 1- North, T & P RY Co. Survey, Howard County, Texas; being more particularly described in a

Legals

Warranty Deed recorded in Volume 1384 Page 223 of the Official Public Records of Howard County, Texas, such description being incorporated herein by reference. (R000043856) (301 Dickson)
Tract 2: A 5 acre tract of land, more or less, out of the North Half (N/2) of Section Thirty-Six (36), Block Thirty-One (31), Township 1- North, T & P RY Co. Survey, Howard County, Texas; being more particularly described in a Warranty Deed recorded in Volume 1384 Page 223 of the Official Public Records of Howard County Texas, such description being incorporated herein by reference. (R000043857)

ALL BIDDERS MUST NOW DISPLAY PROOF OF COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 34.015 OF THE TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE.

LEVIED ON the 29 day of September, 2020, as the property of those persons listed above to satisfy taxes, penalties, and interest and all costs of seizure and sale against those persons listed in said Warrant and any other unknown owners in favor of the Taxing Units listed in said Tax Warrants.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS THE 29 DAY OF September, 2020.

/s/ Stan Parker
Sheriff, Howard County, Texas

Deputy

#10688

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals addressed to Audra Hoback, Business Services of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 400 East 24th Street, PO Box 869, Big Spring, Texas 79721, on Thursday, **November 5, 2020 at 3:00 PM** for the furnishing of the following items:

Request for Proposals for Lawn Services for
400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas and
401 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas and
406 East 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas

At this time and place, the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

Specifications are on file and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79721, on Thursday, **November 5, 2020 at 3:00 PM** for the furnishing of the following items:

Request for Proposals for Janitorial Services for
400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas and
401 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas and
406 East 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas

At this time and place, the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

Specifications are on file and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal

Legals

Water District, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, telephone 432.267.6341. Specifications may also be procured from the District at the above address without charge or on-line at www.crmwd.org under Contracting Opportunities.

In case of ambiguity in stating proposal prices, the Colorado River Municipal Water District reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous bid thereof, to reject any or all bids, and to waive formalities.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

John W. Grant, General Manager

#10680

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COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

John W. Grant, General Manager

#10679

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A diabolical scheme

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 9 7 4 3
♥ 7 3
♦ 8 5 3 2
♣ 6 4

WEST
♠ A 10 8
♥ Q J 10 9 4
♦ 9 6
♣ 9 7 3

EAST
♠ Q 6
♥ 8 6 5 2
♦ A 7 4
♣ J 10 8 5

SOUTH
♠ K 5 2
♥ A K
♦ K Q J 10
♣ A K Q 2

The bidding:
South West North East
3 NT Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead — queen of hearts.

Let's say you hold the South hand and open three notrump, passed all around. West leads the queen of hearts. How would you play the hand?
When the deal occurred, South won the heart with the king and quickly realized that if he played the king of diamonds at trick two, he would almost surely go down one

after a second heart lead, which would leave him with only eight tricks.
So South began to think about how he might possibly steal a ninth trick, and after a few moments, he came up with a scheme that actually had a reasonable chance of success. At trick two, he led the king of spades!
Now just imagine you're West, and the only cards you can see are the dummy's and your own. It would certainly seem logical to assume that declarer has the K-Q-x of spades and is trying to get you to take the ace.
If that were the case, you would probably duck the king of spades at trick two — which is exactly what happened when the deal was played. South then led the king of diamonds at trick three, and at the end of play West discovered he'd been had.
If you were the actual West, you might feel embarrassed about having fallen victim to such a ruse — even though you'd probably have lots of company with other Wests. Instead of chastising yourself, however, you'd be better advised to credit declarer with making a very fine play and let it go at that.

Tomorrow: Two of a kind.
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SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

		1		4		5		
					9			
		2	5		1			7
9								
	3	7		1				
		4			5			2
6	3							
			6			2		
1			8	9	7			

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

9	7	8	7	6	8	9	7	1
8	1	2	8	9	8	6	7	4
6	7	5	2	1	4	8	8	9
2	6	7	9	9	8	4	1	8
5	8	9	6	1	4	7	8	2
4	8	1	8	7	2	9	6	8
7	9	4	1	8	9	2	6	8
4	3	4	1	8	7	2	9	6
7	9	4	1	8	9	2	6	8
2	1	2	1	6	9	8	7	8
8	3	8	8	2	4	8	5	3

ANSWER:

First Full Day of Mercury Retrograde

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People try to show one another the best parts of themselves. Just remember that others, no matter how polished they may seem, have ridiculous, embarrassing and insecure sides that they hide, just like you do.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). At the heart of innovation is a desire to understand what others need and align with what they want. For problem-solvers, seeing a problem in action is an opportunity and a gift.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There you go again, striving to exceed any expectations that others may have of you. Stop and consider what's being asked. Also, what's the least you could do to fulfill this? Less is more today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It is impossible to be kind without

knowing what the other person needs in the moment. Sometimes, kindness is hands-on help; other times, it's looking away, giving others a chance to save face.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). No one is good at everything. You, like the others, win in certain areas and lose in other areas. Value the ways in which you are winning, especially if they do not fall into a highly visible category that is celebrated by the world.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). For many, articulating an argument is easier than trying to understand the other side's point of view. But without some degree of willingness to understand, formulating arguments is pointless.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Relationship building is about trust and creating an environment that tolerates failure. There's more fun and innovation happening where people feel safe enough to relax. be

Tomorrow's Horoscope

creative and offer out-there ideas.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Perhaps this fear of commitment you're experiencing is wisdom. You don't want to chain yourself to a schedule or goal without first considering what you really need to flourish.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll find it hard to like things that lack glamour. You're conscious of a need to either find a glamorous light in order to view the scene or to create glamour where there was none.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Before you agree to plans, self-questioning to dis-

cover what's in it for you might keep you from wasting your efforts on endeavors that are not worthwhile and will not tie into what fuels or fulfills you.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 14). You have a relentless drive, best applied to your own projects as most teams and people would be hard-pressed to match your intensity. So you'll be gentle with the others while you turn this focus to milestones you'll reach in January and April. Blossoming relationships will seem to add breadth to your soul. Gemini and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 13, 20, 21 and 4.

HOW TO WORK THE MERCURY RETROGRADE (INSTEAD OF LETTING IT WORK YOU): As the planet of communication backs it up, we get to review our recent history in a new light. To make the most of this introspective and retrospective time.


here are Mercury's top suggestions. (Part One) **ARIES:** Pare down your needs of others. You are fiercely independent by nature, but lately, you may have sensed that you have grown to rely on certain individuals to a greater degree. Mercury's retrograde helps you see where that help might have come at too steep a cost for you, or perhaps it led you into a false sense of security or an unnecessary state of co-dependency. **TAURUS:** Listen 10% more. Though you already feel like you listen very well, try to do it better anyway because listening well will lead to an abundance of benefits, including but not limited to: a more comprehensive understanding, tolerance that comes easy, natural affinity, better relationships and material and financial benefit.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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By HOLIDAY MATHIS RICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People may not share your vision, or may not share it with the same amount of passion that is coming so readily to you. It's not something to get hung up about. They'll catch up later.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People you love don't have to do anything in particular to inspire you. You've been known to make beautiful things for loved ones for no reason at all. The creative mood will strike.



Fall Bonanza Could Await Bassmaster Elite Anglers At Chickamauga Lake

Special to the Herald

DAYTON, Tenn. — Buddy Gross is hoping everything's cool at the Guaranteed Rate Bassmaster Elite at Chickamauga Lake; but not for any concern over camaraderie or sportsmanship. Rather, the Elite Series rookie from Chickamauga, Ga., is eager for a healthy dose of the seasonal chill.

Competition days will be Oct. 16-19 with daily takeoffs from Dayton Boat Dock at 7:30 a.m. ET and weigh-ins each day at Point Park at 3:30 p.m.

As Gross explained, this Tennessee River reservoir could be on the verge of breaking loose, or it could play coy. It all depends on the weather.

"The fish go through that transition when they don't want to bite until the water cools," Gross said. "Then they go on a feeding frenzy until the water turns cold. I think we're going to be in that window where we're just a little early for a great bite; we're probably going to have a good bite."

It is possible that a recent cooling trend in the eastern U.S. might favorably influence Chickamauga's bass. The key factor will be sustained periods of cooler weather, particularly the overnight lows that leave mornings brisk and the fish active.

"I'm hoping we get a piece of that while we're there," Gross said. "Chickamauga's a great place to fish when it cools down. We're going to have some 40-degree nights so we should get some water temperatures in the 60s, so it should be good."

The lake stretches 58.9 miles from Watts Bar Dam to its namesake dam, completed in 1940. Covering 36,240 surface acres with a maximum depth of 72 feet, Chickamauga is feeling the effects of the fall drawdown — but not as drastically as usual.

"By Oct. 15, the water level is supposed to be down (to winter pool), but I don't think we'll quite be there this year," Gross said. "I'm figuring we're

only going to be a foot and a half low."

Gross, who placed third at last year's Basspro.com Bassmaster Eastern Open at Chickamauga Lake, said the drawdown positively impacts the fishing scene by pulling fish into tighter groups. The downside is the navigational challenge.

"A lot of the backwater becomes harder to access; you have to actually know how to get in," Gross said. "Instead of just running across a bar, you're going to have to figure out how to get in there on the deeper side."

That's a key point, as Gross said he expects a primarily shallow-water event — 15 feet or less. This will bring a range of fall standards like spinnerbaits, bladed jigs, lipless crankbaits and topwater lures to the forefront.

Gross also believes that Chickamauga will offer flipping, punching and frogging opportunities wherever grass avails. As he explains, despite significant water management fluctuation, the lake's shallower upper end sees longer periods during which sunlight reaches the bottom. Therefore, it typically holds significantly more grass than the deeper lower end.

"Shellbeds are also good this time of year," he said. "Also, anything contour-related that has something going back like ditch mouths can be good. A lot of those (smaller) creeks don't have much water in them, so when the water draws down, it puts them out there in mouths."

While a large percentage of the field will likely focus on the shallow game, Gross said there will still be some fish out deep. Anglers throwing swimbaits, jerkbaits and drop shots around brush, rockpiles and underwater islands in about 20 feet could find themselves weighing competitive bags, but this option probably won't offer the consistency of

the shallow zone.

"The entire lake will be in play, dam to dam and even some of the tributary rivers and creeks," Gross said. "There's really not a bad place to fish on Chickamauga right now."

It's good to have options, but fall usually finds bass on the move, chasing bait. That means the notion of camping on one spot for multiple days rarely works, especially not during a year that has seen atypically high fishing pressure.

"I think it will take at least three or four places, more than likely," Gross said. "I don't think one spot is going to last that long. Every time I've done well in the fall, I've had multiple places."

"COVID-19 has changed fishing because more people have fished all year and the fish have seen so many baits. You're really going to have to fish this time around. There won't be any gimmies."

Gross estimated it will take 15 to 16 pounds a day to make the final cut, while 18 a day could earn the blue trophy and the \$100,000 first-place prize. But factoring in the big Florida-strain largemouth bass stocked in Chickamauga, he wouldn't be surprised to see a four-day winning weight of 90 pounds.

"The key will be to find the food source; and not just shad, it could also be a bream deal," Gross said. "They're going to start eating in the next couple of weeks for sure."

"It could turn on. It's really a matter of the weather."

ASTROS

Continued from Page 5

Not in this spotlight like this. It hurts us all to see him hurting."

Baker also said Altuve will play second base when the Astros attempt to avoid elimination on Wednesday night in Game 4: "Without a doubt. That doesn't help us (to make a change), and it would certainly kill him."

Altuve didn't speak to reporters for the second straight night, but the six-time All-Star's teammates and manager remained united behind him.

"Altuve is a great player, man," said shortstop Carlos Correa, Altuve's counterpart in the Astros' double-play combo since 2015. "He's going to be a Hall of Famer when his career is said and done. These games are tough, but he's going to bounce back from it, like he has before when things are tough. I think he'll be fine."

Altuve homered in the first inning of Game 3, but his sixth-inning error cleared the way for a five-run rally by the Rays, who scored all five of their runs immediately afterward.

With Randy Arozarena on first, Altuve fielded Brandon Lowe's grounder and botched a routine toss to second base on an attempted forceout. Altuve bounced his throw past Correa into left field with a noticeably unnatural throwing motion, ruining a strong chance

at a double play.

With Altuve crouched at second in the same disbelieving posture he had after his second error in Game 2, the Astros removed starter José Urquidy, who had been pitching well before Altuve's mistake.

During the pitching change, Altuve stood by himself at second with his hat off while the other three Houston infielders went to the mound. Afterward, they went over to Altuve, giving him encouragement and support.

"I said, 'Keep your head up,'" Correa said. "We've still got a lot of game left. We're going to win this game. I blame myself for that error as well. I feel like I make that pick nine times out of 10, and I wasn't able to pick my teammate up on that one. When I look at the replay, I wish I could have made that play. I know the error is on him, but I blame myself."

The Rays promptly capitalized against reliever Enoli Paredes with back-to-back singles to take the lead. Joey Wendle's two-run single with the bases loaded put Tampa Bay up 2-1, and pinch-hitter

Hunter Renfroe's two-run double made it 5-1 before the inning finally ended with 11 Rays coming to the plate.

Altuve's errors contrast sharply with the near-flawless defense being played by the Rays, who have made a handful of sparkling defensive plays in each game of the ALCS.

Altuve's problems also loomed large over Game 2, in which he bounced two throws to first from shallow right field while playing in a defensive shift. After the second error, Correa took Altuve's normal spot in the Astros' shift, and he retained the spot in Game 3.

Altuve also made a throwing error in Game 2 of the first-round series against Minnesota. He committed only four errors during the regular season for Houston, which led the majors with a .991 fielding percentage.

When asked if Altuve has the yips, Baker hesitated before saying: "I really don't know."

"It's tough to see this happen to such a great player and such a great guy," Baker added. "I don't know what it's called. You can go in a

defensive slump same as you go in an offensive slump, and then physical turns mental. We've certainly got to get past this."

Altuve committed just two errors in his first 47 career postseason games before this year. The 5-foot-6 Venezuelan dynamo is generally considered a solid fielder at second, winning a Gold Glove in 2015.

Altuve won the AL batting title in 2017 when Houston beat the Los Angeles Dodgers in the World Series for its first championship.

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