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9am (On-site)  
& 11am (Live & On-site)

# 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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# BIG SPRING HERALD

WEEKEND EDITION, OCTOBER 17-18, 2020



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## Big Spring Restaurateur sentenced to 15 Months for illegally employing undocumented workers

*Editor's Note: The following press release was issued from the Department of Justice in regards to a recent investigation in Big Spring involving illegal immigrants and their employment at a local restaurant. The press release reads as follows:*

**Special to the Herald**  
Department of Justice

A Big Spring restaurateur who illegally employed undocumented immigrants was sentenced today to 15 months in federal prison and ordered to pay a \$100,000 fine, announced U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas Erin Nealy Cox.

In March, Voum Chhuon, 45, owner of the Texas Cajun in Big Spring, Texas, pleaded guilty to harboring illegal aliens and unlawful employment of illegal aliens, both felonies. He was sentenced

today before U.S. District Judge James Wesley Hendrix.

According to court documents, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) received a tip from the Howard County Sheriff's Office that Mr. Chhuon was illegally employing undocumented workers at the Texas Cajun restaurant. Agents obtained search warrants for Mr. Chhuon's residence and the restaurant, where two illegal aliens were present.

During an interview conducted by law enforcement, Mr. Chhuon admitted that all his kitchen staff were undocumented workers, and that he had been unlawfully employing illegal aliens since he purchased the restaurant. To disguise the employment of unauthorized workers, Mr. Chhuon paid the kitchen staff in cash and others by paycheck.

In furtherance of the scheme, once Mr. Chhuon

unlawfully hired the illegal aliens, he would then provide them with room and board at a Big Spring residence. Mr. Chhuon would also arrange transportation to and from the Texas Cajun restaurant for the illegal aliens living at the residence.

From March 2015 until his arrest, Mr. Chhuon's restaurant made a total revenue of \$2,985,631 with a monthly average of approximately \$82,000 by operating with illegal labor. HSI forensic accountants determined Mr. Chhuon transferred approximately \$140,000 from his business account to pay for personal expenses including to pay off a mortgage.

This investigation was conducted by HSI with assistance provided by the Big Spring Police Department and the Howard County Sheriff's Office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Rancourt prosecuted this case.

*October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month*



Courtesy photo

One of the silhouettes this year is placed in Martin County at the Courthouse.

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## PolitiTaco Tuesdays continue at Howard College



HERALD photo/Amanda Duforat

The next event in the PolitiTaco Tuesday will take place at the Howard College Library this coming Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. The community is invited to attend.

**By AMANDA DUFORAT**  
Managing Editor

PolitiTaco Tuesdays – hosted by Big Spring High School, Howard County Library and Howard College Anthony Hunt Library - are continuing next week, with the fourth session, at Howard College Library. The voter education forum this week is set to take place from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and the community is invited. The focus will be a Question and Answer Ses-

sion with the candidates.

"We wanted to do everything we can to prepare our students and community members for the upcoming elections," said Jill DeFore, Librarian. "So many of them are unsure of the process and it is our responsibility to educate them about their right to vote and what they can expect on election day."

See **HC**, Page 3A

## Forsan ISD Board to appoint School Health Advisory Council

**By AMANDA DUFORAT**  
Managing Editor

The Forsan ISD Board of Directors will meet in a regular meeting on Monday in the Library on the Junior High/High School campus, located at 411 W. 6th Street, at 6 p.m.

The board will hear a routine agenda overall. As usual the meeting will open to a public comment section, after a call to order has taken place and a quorum has been established. The meeting will begin with the invocation and Pledge, along with recognition of visitors.

As part of the Administrator's Report, the JH/HS Principal and Elementary Principal will deliver their reports, before the Superintendent delivers the district report. An enrollment update will be provided along with information on Board Training: BoardBook. Future agenda items will be up for discussion before the conversation on solar panels begins.

As the pandemic situation continues, Superintendent Randy Johnson will provide a Covid-19 update followed by discussion. The Forsan Board, in a

See **FISD**, Page 3A

## Large/Bulk Item pickup District 4 set for Wednesday

Call and schedule a pickup by 5 p.m. Monday to take part in this month's collection

**By AMANDA DUFORAT**  
Managing Editor

The second cycle of the Large/Bulk Item pickup has kicked off and is heading into District 4 with pickup scheduled for Oct. 21. During the second round of large item pickup in District 2, the City implemented a scheduling process which seemed to have improved the flow of the pickup program. To have items picked up, call and schedule a pickup no later than Monday.

"Since the City of Big Spring has reinstated the large item pickup, more and more citizens are beginning to participate in the program. With the increase of residents taking part in the program, it has become more difficult for city staff to complete the project in just a single day," Shane Bowles, Interim City Manager, said. "The change to begin scheduling for the large item pick up gives the city a better way to prepare for the event and assure no citizen is missed."

This month, on Wednesday, those living in District 4 will be able to have their large items picked up for the second time this year. As mentioned by Bowles, in order to ensure

all residents in District 4 are able to take part in the program, those needing to have items picked up are asked to call and schedule a pick up no later than 5 p.m. on Oct. 19.

"Calling and scheduling your pick up will allow the city to better inform the public if they have any questions and assuring that the resident are putting out items that are permitted by the program. This will save the city time and resources as well as give the citizens a more effective program," Bowles said.

The large/bulk item program was restarted at the beginning of this year as a way to help residents dispose of large items from their homes like couches, mattresses, appliances, and any other large, bulky items without the expense and hassle of hauling it off.

"City staff will only pick up items that are placed on the curb upon arrival to your location and staff will not be permitted to bring items to the curb from inside your home or from any other area of the residence, including the backyard

See **PICKUP**, Page 3

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You may have met Expedition Royalty Co. for the first time when we sponsored the Big Spring Rodeo or the Howard County Fair this fall. Our commitment to Howard County runs deep. We have made deals for thousands of acres here, and our people have decades of experience serving Permian Basin mineral rights owners. We're proud to be part of the community, sponsoring and participating in big events year-round. But we're even prouder to be your mineral advisor in the Permian every day. Get in touch today for a free evaluation of your property and its mineral rights.

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OUR DOWNTOWN BIG SPRING OFFICE WILL BE OPEN SOON!

Obituaries

James Ray Daniel

James Ray Daniel Sr. 86 passed from this life on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2020, at UMC in Lubbock Texas following a long battle with Alzheimer's.
James Ray was born in San Saba, Texas on Jan. 10, 1934, to Calvin and Arlene (Robbins) Daniel Sr.
James Ray preferred being called Ray by family and friends.
Ray's education took place entirely in San Saba graduating in 1952. Following graduation Ray enlisted in the United States Army and was honorably discharged in 1954.

Ray married Lena Mae Jones on July 10, 1954, in San Saba. Following their wedding Ray and Lena mae spent a short time in the oil fields of New Mexico and then moved to Austin, Texas around 1955 with Ray working in the special division of the Austin police department while both he and his wife attended the university of Texas.

From 1956 to 1967 Ray and Lena lived in Odessa, Lubbock and Austin working with National Linen Corp as a route supervisor. They found themselves in Big Spring, Texas with ray working as a reserve police officer for BSPD from 1967 to 1972 and with Sanitary Linen from 1967 to 1976 also as a route supervisor.

The years of 1976 to 1979 found the Daniel family

Joe Don Zant Sr.

Joe Don Zant, Sr., 87, of Vealmoor, passed away Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020, at his residence. Graveside services will be 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2020, at the Vealmoor Cemetery.

He was born Oct. 7, 1933, in Vealmoor and married Dena Bell Hale Oct. 21, 1950, in Ackerly. Joe Don was a lifetime resident of Vealmoor and was a farmer and rancher. He enjoyed fishing.

Survivors include his wife, Dena Zant; two daughters, Diane Zant of Big Spring and Shelia Armstrong and husband, David of Vealmoor; two sons, Joe Don Zant Jr. and wife, Kelly and Ty Zant and wife, Mindy all of Vealmoor; six grandchildren; and

Tommy Joe Newsom

Tommy was born on April 24, 1948, in Big Spring, Texas to R.L. and Evelyn Newsom. Tommy grew up in Big Spring in the home of Tate and Pauline Russell and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1967. He attended Howard County Junior College from

1967 to 1969. On Dec. 20, 1969, he married Sherry Lynn Arbuckle. They welcomed a daughter, Natalie, in 1977 and continued to live in Big Spring, where they were members of the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ.

Tommy worked for Union Pacific for 23 years, retiring as a Conductor in 1996. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and gold mining, but most of all he enjoyed being a Daddy. Natalie learned to hunt and fish from Tommy, and those times together were among the most cherished memories. The annual Easter trips to Lake Amistad were always a highlight to gather family and friends around the lake. Tommy's dry wit and sense of humor amused all. He will be missed.

Tommy was preceded in death by his daughter, Tommie Ann, his biological parents as well as the Russells and his brothers Jim, Bob, Kenneth Newsom; a sister Juanita Adams. Additionally, broth-

of five living in Big Spring with Ray working as a meter reader for the city of Big Spring.

From 1979 to 1992, Ray worked for the water treatment plant with the city of Lubbock and retired from there in 1992.

Ray and Lena were members of the Smithlawn Church of Christ in Lubbock. Ray was a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Shriners.

Ray enjoyed deer hunting, rock hounding, and cactus hunting and loved being outdoors. He also enjoyed reading and jigsaw puzzles.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents; one brother and three sisters; two sons infant Michael Ray Daniel and James Ray Daniel Jr. and his wife of 44 years Lena Mae Daniel.

Ray is survived by his wife Mary, daughter Diana Boyer and husband Joe; son Clayton; eight grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

Graveside services will take place Monday, Oct. 19, 2020 at 2 p.m. in Big Spring, Texas with Ralph Anderson of Birdwell Church of Christ officiating. Internment will take place at the Trinity Memorial Park. No other services will take place.

In lieu of flowers please donate to your favorite charity.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid Obituary

twelve great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, H. N. and Zona Zant; one son, Guy Zant; and a granddaughter, Bobbie Burkhalter.

The family suggests memorials to the Ackerly Church of Christ, P. O. Box 248, Ackerly, Texas 79713, the Lone Survivor Foundation at www.lone-survivorfoundation.org or to the Wounded Warrior Project, www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

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

Paid Obituary

ers-in- law Charles Hal Arbuckle, Bill Adams and R.V.Cobb. He is survived by his wife Sherry, of the home, daughter Natalie and her husband Mike Arcediano of League City, Texas, one brother Donald and his wife Kay Newsom of Amarillo and three sisters, Nancy and her husband Gus Phernetton of Big Spring, Pennie and her husband Clay Lamire of North Highland, CA and Marilyn and her husband Walter Grigg of Houston. Other survivors include a sister-in-law, Carol Kinsley of Austin and brother in-law, David S Arbuckle and his wife Shanyn of Granbury. Tommy also had a host of nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 23,2020, at Trinity Memorial Park Chapel.

The family would like to especially thank Grady and Candy Wilbanks and Rick and Susan Watkins, and many, many others, for being steadfast in their support and unwavering friends of the first degree, through Tommy's bout with Alzheimer's. Also, the Honorable Judges, the Howard County Bar Association and the District and County Court officers and staff for their awesome display of comradery and benevolence when it was needed the most.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Paid Obituary

Steven Fleckenstein

Steven Fleckenstein, 60, died Wednesday, October 14, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

JAMES LEWIS BABB, 42, of 3504 FM 2212, Ackerly, Texas, was arrested on a charge of warrant - other agency.

GABRIEL JESSIE HERNANDEZ, 34, of 2202 Williams Road, was arrested on charges of possession of controlled substance penalty group three (less than 28 grams), warrant - other agency (x3), theft property (\$100 to \$750 shoplifting), and criminal trespass - property/building/aircraft/vehicle.

JOHN GREGORY FRYE, 34, of 391 County Road, Tuscola, Texas, was arrested on a charge of unauthorized use of motor vehicle.

MARK ANDREW HANSON, 51, of 6811 NCR 25, was arrested on a charge of warrant - other agency.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 100 block of S. Main Street.

BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported in the 1800 block of Mittel Avenue.

THEFT was reported in the 1200 block of Cypress Street.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported in the 400 block of NW Broadway, Coahoma, Texas.

FORGERY was reported in the 400 block S. Rannels Street.

STOLEN VEHICLE was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.

STOLEN VEHICLE was reported in the 400 block of College Street, Coahoma, Texas.

UNWANTED SUBJECT was reported in the 1100 block if Llyod Avenue, Coahoma, Texas.

DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1000 block of Bluebonnet Avenue.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 78 inmates at the time of this report.

JAMES LEWIS BABB, 42, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of failure to appear/assault family/house member impede breath/circulation.

JOHN GREGORY FRYE, 34, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of unauthorized use of vehicle.

CHRISTINA PAUL GARZA, 37, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of tamper/fabricate physical evidence with intent to impair.

MARK ANDREW HANSON, 51, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of parole violation.

GABRIEL JESSIE HERNANDEZ, 34, was arrested by BSPD on charges of theft property (\$100 to \$750), criminal trespass, possession of controlled substance penalty group three (less than 28 grams), and bail jumping/failure to appear (x3).

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.

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

MONDAY

Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees It, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

SUNDAY

Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson's Disease patients,

spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock A P D A office at 806-785-0942.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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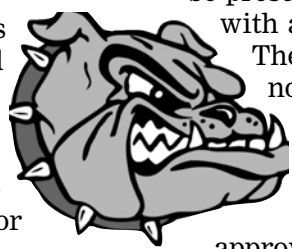
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MEMBER 2020
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

# Coahoma ISD Board of Trustees meet Tuesday

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

The Coahoma ISD Board of Trustees will convene in the Elementary Board Room on Tuesday at 6 p.m. for a regular meeting. The board will open up the meeting with roll call, establishment of a quorum and the opening ceremony. There will be an open forum for those wishing to address the Board.



The 2020-2021 Campus Improvement Plans will be presented for consideration to the Board, along with a request for approval of district vehicles. The Board will also be looking to approve a nomination to the Howard County Appraisal District. A resolution identifying hazardous conditions for student transportation eligibility will also be considered and possibly approved. The Superintendent's Report will include an up-

date on Covid-19 and virtual learning at CISD.

As part of the informational items on the agenda, the Board will hear the enrollment/ADA/WADA reports as well as the financial reports. The list of board meeting dates will also be discussed before the group enters into Executive Session to discuss personnel.

At the end of Executive Session the meeting will adjourn.

The meeting is open to the public and is held at 400 Ramsey Street in Coahoma.



HERALD photos/Amanda Duforat

PolitiTaco Tuesday was held this past week covering "Who/What is on the ballot" with three of the candidates on the ballot attending the event. This coming Tuesday will be a Q&A Session with the candidates on the ballot. All of the candidates have been invited to attend these weekly events.

## HC

Continued from Page 1A

Last week, the forum focused on "Who/What's on the Ballot?" and a few of the candidates were on hand to meet with attendees. The conversation was

is invited to attend.

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

## Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 100 block of Jonesboro. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of MM 173 I-20. No transport was required.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3 block of Coachman's Circle. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 600 block of Steakly. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of E. 9th Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of Runnels. No transport was required.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800

block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of S. Runnels. No transport was required.
- **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 1700 block of Apron Drive. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 6600 block of Craig Road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

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### MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Tommy Newsom, 72, died Monday. Services will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Tyler Nalley, 23, died Sunday. Funeral Services will be at 1:00 PM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

James R. Daniel Sr., 86, died Wednesday. Graveside service will be at 2:00 PM Monday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Steven Fleckenstein, 60, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## FISD

Continued from Page 1A

special meeting this past week, decided to suspend virtual learning for students, unless a medical condition is present or exposure or diagnosis of Covid occurs.

As part of the consent agenda, the board will look to approve minutes from the September meeting, monthly financials - Rev&Exp Report, Investment Report, Activity Report and list of bills.

The Board will be looking to appoint a School Health Advisory Council during Monday's meeting. Approval will be given for the 2020-2021 Calendar Change, followed by consideration of a policy update for Incentive for Early Notification of resignation/retirement. A resolution will also be heard regarding wage payments.

The Forsan Board will also look at a nomination for the Howard County Appraisal Board before holding discussion on personnel - additional staff.

## PICKUP

Continued from Page 1

and garage," an information flyer from the City of Big Spring stated.

The program is designed to support residential customers only and is not open to businesses. Once the resident has called to set up a pickup for the pickup day, items are to be placed on the curb no later than 7 a.m. on the day of pickup. Items should not be bagged, boxed or placed in any other type of container.

A reminder of eligible pick up items are: doors, carpet, furniture, appliances, cardboard boxes, scrap metal, and mattresses. Items that are not eligible for pick up include: tree brush or limbs, household trash, garbage, or any material in plastic bags, hazardous materials (chemicals and petroleum products), automotive parts, batteries, or tires, construction, remodeling, or demolition debris such as shingles, wallboard and lumber, tires, dirt, rocks, concrete or ceramic tile.

To schedule a pickup or for more information, call Public Works at 432-264-2501 or by e-mail at nhernandez@mybigspring.com. The next District pickup will take place in District 5, on the third Wednesday of November.

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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COTTON CASH - Paid June 2020	\$ 2,343,654.20
GRAIN CASH Rebate-Dividend Paid June 2020 =	\$ 182,004.72 (\$.31 per bushel)
EQUITIES Issued June 2020 =	\$ 1,513,221.68
<u>WAREHOUSE CASH Paid June 2020 = 2018-2019</u>	<u>\$ 290,198.00</u>

-Total Cash

- Rebates-Dividends-Equities 2019-2020 Crop = \$ 4,329,078.60 or \$50.92 per bale.

-TOTAL RETURNS TO GLASSCOCK CO-OP CUSTOMERS FOR THE 2019-2020 CROP YEAR-

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**-2020 COTTONSEED GINNING-**

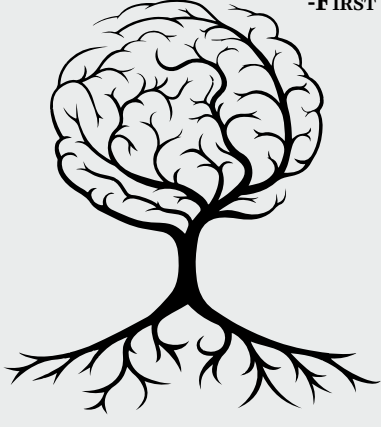
**-CREDIT & PRICE-**

**-\$210.00 PER TON-**

# 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:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By e-mail at editor@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

## ADDRESSES

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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**JOHN CORNYN**  
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### BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

## DAILY PRAYER

*When we trust in You, Lord, we let go of all our pressures and anxieties.*

*Amen*

# The Mayor builds fire trucks

**D**avid Abernathy is the mayor of Pittsburg, Texas. His father held the same position for 52 years.

"I made a campaign promise I wouldn't stay here 52 years," says David.

He started serving his city at an early age.

"I was working at the fire station by myself when I was 16. You could get a driver license back then at 14."

He became a Justice of the Peace when he was in college.

"I became the youngest JP in the state at the time. I was still going to college and coming in and holding court. After that I was starving to death so I got into the newspaper business for about a year."

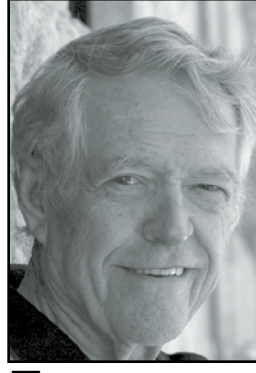
Then he joined the Forest Service.

"I was with the Texas Forest Service 34 years. Whether it's a hurricane or wildfire we had that under our bailiwick and then also I did training and supervised providing assistance to all the fire departments in East Texas. A lot of people don't realize it but Texas has as large a forested area as any other southern state that's entirely forested. We've got roughly 52 million acres of forested land in Texas. It's a great agricultural commodity that comes out of East Texas in timber value."

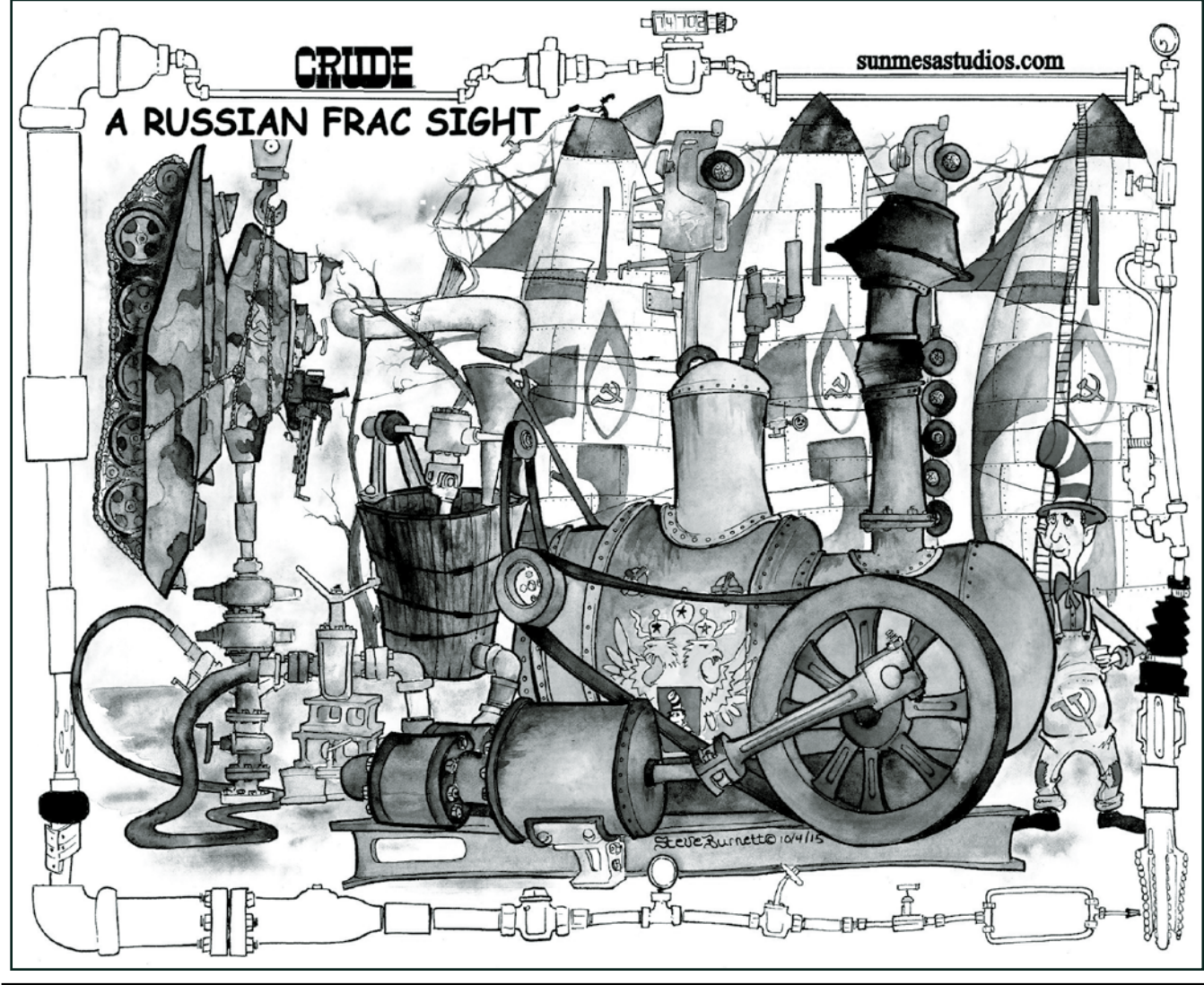
David and his dad built fire trucks.

"We built 8 fire trucks together and gave them to the community. We literally built them from the frame up. These are fully functional fire trucks. He built 2 others besides the 8 others that he and I built "

His father was a mechanical engineer.



**TUMBLEWEED SMITH**



## Airing dirty laundry

**T**he words "wash and wear" exploded in the 1950s, thanks to the introduction of treated cotton and synthetics that meant clothing could be worn straight from the washing machine. Ironing board sales plummeted, and housewives singing "Wash Day Blues" gave way to "Happy Days are Here Again."

Never in our dreams-up to and including wildest-did it occur that "wash and wear" would be used around the world today, or near thereto.

We hear it endlessly: "Wash your hands. Wear your masks." (And when allergies activate runny noses under the masks, the suggestion is to "drip dry.")

I have long been disappointed by insensitive folks trying to "score" with jokes about serious illnesses.

A prominent minister several years ago mentioned-from the pulpit-that several of the church's deacons had aids. He added quickly, "hearing aids."

That's what he's remembered for-forfeiting much of his "admiration capital" by telling an unkind joke.

Sometimes, poor hearing and lousy judgment team up to embarrass.

During a recent telephone visit between two men whose average age is 83, one thought the other said, "I have COVID-19."

What he had stated was, "I have Caller ID."

The following "foul-up" happened recently to an older couple who pretty much use the computer only to ask questions of "that lady in the iPhone" and occa-

sionally for exchanging emails.

Oh, they dabble in a few other technological features, but their "hit or miss" computer adventures usually take them to the "tall weeds."

On a recent occasion, they missed badly in a face-blushing manner.

Their kinship with a relative getting married wasn't close enough to warrant an invitation, but they were given careful written instructions if they wished to access the ceremony live on the internet.

They thought they could handle the technological challenge, even discussing how they might have the better end of it. They wouldn't even have to think twice about "dressing up," and they'd be able to snack and gab as they saw fit during the knot-tying.

Somehow, though, things went wrong, terribly wrong.

When half of their computer screen showed the wedding scene, they didn't realize that for others down the line, their computer camera was showing them to online "guests" on the screen's other half. They were "on camera" throughout the wedding, making what they thought were frank comments intended to be heard only by each other. "What a mess of a hair-do," one said. "Reckon she got her hair done at the quick-fix auto shop?"

The other spouse contributed, "The dress is anything but flattering. She shore has porked up a bit," and "You'd think he would have gotten a fresh haircut!"...

"My father was such a perfectionist. When I was a senior in high school we built a fire truck together. Every screw slot on that truck is straight up and down. There's not a screw that's turned perpendicular. They're all straight up and down. It serves no purpose. It's just because we could. That fire truck that he and I built when I was in high school is in service today."

David says Pittsburg has a lot going for it.

Downtown is healthy. The area produces poultry and hay and has some beautiful mansions built in the late 1890's. Carroll Shelby, the Ford Mustang man, grew up in Pittsburg. The city is the hotlinks capital of the state and it has the Ezekiel Airship.

"It crashed on the way to the St. Louis World's Fair but the state recognizes it as flying one year before the Wright Brothers flew their plane at Kitty Hawk. They just had all the documentation and this one didn't."

David is in his 53rd year of serving as a volunteer fireman.



**DON NEWBURY**

phone started ringing.

The couple trotted out numerous excuses, all feeble comments of the "if-we-had-only-known" variety.

Making the "goof" even worse was that several people recorded the ceremony, realizing that it would be viewed repeatedly up the way, not for the "ceremonial half," but mostly for the comments made by a couple of old duffers on the other half of the screen. I'll not address the matter further, since I fear that words like "blackmail" and "stupidity" might somehow sneak into the commentary.

While on the subject of "wishful undoing," brain trusts of the former Washington Redskins no doubt think forebears could have chosen an acceptable mascot for now and forever. They've ditched the "Redskin" moniker, and now are the "Washington Football Team" until a new mascot is selected.

Political correctness will be served at the cost of millions of dollars in changing logos, letterheads and so forth. (Doesn't PC suggest the Kansas City Chiefs should be squirming?)

If important for the name to reflect something indigenous to Washington, how about the Washington Deficits? Wannabees? Filibusters? Wampum-Wasters? The Washington Wash-Outs might work well, since the team has been "hung out to dry," 0-5 out of the gate.

*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: @don-newbury. Facebook: don newbury*

# Check this out, at the library this week...

Don't miss the Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale this week Friday, Oct. 23 and Saturday, Oct. 24 both days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please make sure to follow social distancing guidelines and wear a mask for your safety and ours. Have questions about the upcoming election? Stay informed by attending Polititaco Tuesday, this Tuesday, October 20 at the Howard College Library from 5:30 p.m. to



**Sandra Verdin**

6:30 p.m.. Community members are welcome to attend and every time you sign in at an event, your name will be added to a raffle to win one of three prizes, winners will be announced after Oct. 27.

It's summer in the city and passions are soaring along with the temperature, for everyone but Mitchell Fisher, who hates all things romance in "The Secrets of Love Story Bridge" (LP F PAT P) by Patrick, Phaedra. He relishes his job cutting off the padlocks that couples fasten to the famous "love story" bridge. Only his young daughter, Poppy, knows that behind his prickly veneer, Mitchell still grieves the loss of her mother. Then one hot day, everything changes when Mitchell courageously rescues a woman who falls from the bridge into the river. He's surprised to feel an unexpected connection to her, but she disappears before he can ask her name. Desperate to find out her identity, Mitchell is shocked to learn she's been missing for almost a year. He teams up with her spirited sister, Liza, on a quest to find her again. However, she's left only one clue behind a

message on the padlock she hung on the bridge. Billy Harney was born to be a cop in "The Black Book" (M PAT J) by James Patterson & David Ellis. As the son of Chicago's chief of detectives with a twin sister on the force, Billy plays it by the book. Teaming up with his adrenaline-junkie partner, Detective Kate Fenton, there's nothing he wouldn't sacrifice for his job. Enter Amy Lentini, a hard-charging assistant attorney hell-bent on making a name for herself who suspects Billy isn't the cop he claims to be.

After being rejected from the Navy SEALs, Mitchum becomes his small town's unofficial private eye in "The River Murders" (M PAT J) by James Patterson. But his investigation skills are put to the test when he must find his missing teenage cousin, and uncovers a government conspiracy in the process. Mitchum brother's been charged with murder. Nathaniel swears he didn't kill anyone, but word on the street is that he was involved with the victim's wife. Now, Navy SEAL dropout Mitchum will break every rule to expose the truth, even if it destroys the people he loves. Mitchum has never been more desperate. One by one his loved ones have become victims of carefully staged attacks. There's only one way to stop the ruthless mastermind intent on destroying everyone around him, to go on the most dangerous hunt of his life.

Four years ago, Daniel was a Los Angeles financial analyst who was too handsome for his own good in "Tranquility Falls" (LP F BUN D) by Bunn, Davis. Too smart for his anchor job on the nightly news. And too enamored with the heady addictions of the high life. That man died in a tragic accident with his fiancée. With grief and guilt battling for

control, Daniel moved to the quiet California seaside town of Miramar Bay with his best friend, a rescue Labradoodle who still sees him through rough times. Daniel's a different man now. Daniel's self-centered sister has dissolved several longtime relationships, theirs included. The latest? Her restless teenage daughter, Nicole, whom she's dropped off in Miramar Bay without a backward glance. For Nicole, who's never felt at home in the world, it only confirms the disconnect she's always had with her mother. Now, left with an uncle she barely knows, Nicole is more adrift than ever. Yet to Daniel's surprise playing surrogate father is forging a bond that he needs too. More difficult for Daniel is the possibility of romance with lovely and fragile Stella Dalley. Struggling with a trauma of her own the single mother is as cautious about love as Daniel is, no matter how healing it could be. But for Daniel, Stella, and Nicole there's still hope for a tomorrow they can call their own. All they have to do is to learn to trust in each other, and in themselves.

"Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers." - Charles William Elliot

Howard County Library is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, for Grab & Go access to the library. Customers have 30 minutes to browse the shelves, checkout items, make copies and send a fax, an appointment is still required to use a computer. Please visit our website at <http://howard-county.ploud.net> and our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/HowardCoLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/HowardCoLibrary) for more information. You may reach us at 432-264-2260 and our fax number is 432-264-2263.

## Couple takes Welding Technology classes together at TSTC

Special to the Herald  
TSTC

Taylor and Jason Bigbie are spending a lot of time together. The Bigbies are enrolled in Texas State Technical College's Welding Technology program in Brownwood. For Jason Bigbie, he wants to use his education to open a business, while Taylor Bigbie wants to help him when she is not working as a paramedic.

"I wanted to do this as a hobby to help him," said Taylor Bigbie, who graduated from TSTC's emergency medical technician and paramedic programs in 2017 and 2019, respectively, and is pursuing a certificate in welding. "I wanted to be able to help him on my days off."

Justin Bigbie, who is pursuing an associate degree, hopes to start a business that constructs metal buildings in the Brownwood area.

"My wife inspired me to take advantage of my military benefits and go to school," the U.S. Army veteran said. "I would be able to learn something that I can do to provide for my family."

He said his wife is taking the same courses that he is so that she can help him when he is on a job.

"I know that I can trust her if I can't find someone to help me on the job," he said. "I know that it is going to be a hobby for her."

The couple said there will not be a competition during class. They will help each other when they are in need of it.

Neither of them had any previous experience with welding. But completing assignments is teaching them the proper way to work.

Over the next few weeks, Justin Bigbie will be helping a friend construct a metal building at the couple's church. He said that will be a good way to put what he learns to use.

Taylor Bigbie said the hands-on approach at TSTC is the best way for her to learn the trade.

"It is teaching me what I am doing right and what I am doing wrong," she said.

She added that the welding program is "much easier" for her than completing the paramedic program.

"That was really intense because not only did we have the class and lab work, we had clinicals to complete," she said of the paramedic program.

While taking classes and working has taken its toll on the Bigbie family, neither said they regret the decision to take the course together.

"I think more spouses should do things like this together," Taylor Bigbie



Courtesy photo/Taylor Bigbie

Jason and Taylor Bigbie are taking Welding Technology classes together at TSTC. Jason Bigbie plans to open a business after graduation, and Taylor Bigbie wants to help him when she is not working as a paramedic.

said. "It does put some strain on us, but knowing we are doing it together makes us feel good."

Justin Bigbie said his wife's involvement in his future business will provide security for the family.

"I know she is giving back to our community as a paramedic. Now she wants to give back to our family by helping and supporting me," he said.

For more information about TSTC, visit [tstc.edu](http://tstc.edu).

## Club News

### Keep Big Spring Beautiful

The October 2020 Keep Big Spring Beautiful meeting was called to order by President Peggy Skiles. Peggy also led the group in the invocation.

Liz Hafley made a motion to accept the June 2020 minutes. It was seconded by Gloria McDonald and all approved.

Jim DePauw then gave the treasurer's report.

Our "Love Our Lake" Project was a great success. We had 26 participants. We collected 65 bags with a weight of about 975 pounds. We received a big shout out from Keep America Beautiful for our efforts. Thanks to everyone for taking part in cleaning up our town.

Our Fall Sweep will be October 27, 2020. We will begin at 6:00. We are going to concentrate on the downtown area.

Because our tree planting this year was so successful we will be planting more trees. We plan to plant more at Howard College and the golf course.

Peggy Skiles made the motion to adjourn.

Our next meeting will be November 2, 2020. We meet at Howard College at noon.

Visitors are always welcome.

### Masonic Lodge

It's a Kid-Friendly Candy Maze this Halloween and all costumed children are invited. That is, as long as they are accompanied by an adult and are under the age of 12.

The entire downtown area around South Main will be a cornucopia of costumed fun, candy, and aMazing things all afternoon and into the evening.

The Masonic Lodge will be hosting a Candy Maze in partnership with other area businesses and organizations.

Starting around 4 PM on Halloween, costumed children will be invited to ascent the 120-year-old creaky staircase beside the Blue-Eyed Buffalo, go through the creaky door at the top of the stairs, and get candy at many different stations as they and their adult guides meander from booth to kiosk. Then they will head down the creepy 70-year-old staircase only to find themselves on 3rd street and right back in the middle of the action.

It's like Trunk-or-Treating, only better!

If you or your organization would like to stake-out a booth, we will be glad to provide the space and the candy. All that you need to do is dress up, consider decorating your area, pass out candy for as long as you want, and then enjoy the streetmosphere on South Main.

Enjoy the Boo in Big Spring this Halloween.

For more information, contact Colonel.Allen.M.Morris@Gmail.com



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## DRAWING TO BE HELD OCTOBER 20



# Community for a Cure

Medical experts agree that early detection is a woman's best defense in overcoming breast cancer. In fact, the National Breast Cancer Foundation reports that when breast cancer is detected in the early, localized stage, the five-year survival rate is 98 percent. The organization encourages every woman to develop an early detection plan consisting of breast self-exams, clinical breast exams and mammograms based on age and health history.

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**MCHD MARTIN COUNTY HOSPITAL**

# Steers comeback attempt falls short, Andrews comes away with 56-35 win

By SHAWN MORAN  
Herald Sports Writer

It may not have been the result they wanted, but Head Football Coach Cannon McWilliams was thrilled with the way his team bounced back on Friday night after falling into a 36-7 halftime deficit. There was some rust to knock off after three weeks off from games, but the Steers showed a lot of fight and heart in Friday night's loss.

"I'm proud of our kids," McWilliams said. "At points there in the third and fourth quarter, we were within 7 points after being down 35-7 to the No. 21 team in the state. We were supposed to be huge underdogs and it really ended up being a 14-point game. We played well and played hard."

Andrews has the ability to score and score fast. They put that on display at Memorial Stadium where they defeated the hometown Big Spring Steers 56-35 on Friday night. Andrews quarterback EJ Lopez found the end zone four times for the Mustangs on a night where the deep ball was open early and often.

Big Spring did make some halftime adjustments where McWilliams challenged his guys to see what they were made of. They followed that up by scoring 21 unanswered points and making a real game out Friday night's district opener.

"We just wanted to test our guys on what kind of young men they are and how they were going to respond to being down big and when things aren't going good. Football is such a great game and life teacher because it's all about how you get knocked down and get back up," McWilliams said.

The Steers had been blown out by this team in year's past and the game appeared destined for a similar finish on Friday after 24 minutes of action. Big Spring's Gabriel Baeza and the rest of the offense decided they were going to show off their talented offense in the second half and had a chance to tie it up early in the fourth quarter. Defensive coordinator Brad Harman's defense also began to force some turnovers and stops that put the pressure on the Mustangs.

With two games left on the calendar against Fort Stockton and Lake View, McWilliams knows his squad will need to play like they did in the second half on Friday night for a chance at a second-place finish in the district.

"If we can continue to bring that kind of effort to Fort Stockton and Lake View, then great things are going to happen," McWilliams said.

The Steers (3-2) will take the field next Friday night when they travel to Fort Stockton to take on the Panthers (2-5).



HERALD Photo/Shawn Moran  
Gabriel Baeza lines up in the shotgun and awaits the snap as the Steers start a drive against Andrews.

yards that took the Steers all the way to the Mustangs' 3-yard line. After a few bad decisions, the Steers were facing a fourth down from the 10. Then, there was a pass interference call in the end zone on Andrews that gave the Steers new life.

Three plays later, Baeza found Cantu running wide open across the back of the end zone for the Steers' first score of the night. The extra point attempt kick was a success and the game was tied up at 7 early in the second quarter.

Lopez connected with Lawrence for a gain of 36 yards to start the next Andrews drive and kept going to the talented receiver. After Rash threw down a ball-carrier for a loss of five yards, Lopez found Lawrence again for a gain of 11 yards. Facing a 4th-&9 from the 37-yard line, Lopez looked to the other side of the field and found Luke Armendariz streaking down the right sideline and ended their second straight drive in the end zone.

The Mustangs now held a 14-7 lead with just under 10 minutes remaining in the first half.

The Mustangs were not done yet finding the end zone. Both teams had trouble moving the ball on their next offensive drives and a bad Big Spring snap that sailed over Eli Cobos' head on an attempted punt led to a bad Big Spring snap that sailed over the Mustangs' 10-yard line. Cervantes ran it in on the first play of the drive from 10 yards out and the Mustangs had quickly increased their lead to 21-7 with just under five minutes to play in the half.

Another Big Spring three-and-out on the next drive did not help and the Steers punted it away to the Mustangs once again. This time, it took two straight pass plays for Andrews to find the end zone. The first was a 15-yard completion to AJ Britten and the second was a connection with Armendariz down the right sideline for a 45-yard score that put the Mustangs ahead 28-7 with three-and-a-half minutes left in the second quarter.

Big Spring's next drive started off well with a 12-yard completion to Dehoyos but quickly went south. A sack by Andrews' Andrew Vasquez pushed the Steers back and on fourth down, Baeza attempted to find an open receiver but was picked off by Brock Tijerina of Andrews. The Mustangs then completed a 32-yard pass to Manuel Rojo, Tijerina ran it 15 yards to set his team up inside the five and then scored from three yards out on the next play. This gave the Mustangs a commanding 35-7 lead going into the halftime break.

Now, it was the Steers turn to make some noise. The Steers outscored the Mustangs 21-0 in the third quarter and made a great game out of a contest that seemed to be heading towards blowout territory. Andrews received the opening kickoff of the second half but Lopez was intercepted by Cobos on a throw across the middle. Then, Baeza found Dehoyos for a gain of 27 yards that moved the Steers into Andrews territory. The offensive line created a huge hole on the next play and Baeza sold the run fake perfectly on his way to the end zone for a 28-yard score. This made the score 35-14 with just over a minute played in the second half.

The Steers' next drive also took only three plays to find the end zone. After a pair of runs from Baeza and running back Orlando Sanchez, Baeza found wide receiver Quetavian Lewis for a 69-yard touchdown completion. The successful extra point attempt made the score 35-21 with 8:00 remaining in the third quarter.

Lopez was picked off once again on the next drive when Mitchell jumped in front of the intended receiver. It did not matter much, though, because Baeza was intercepted a few plays later by Jose Bustamante.

The turnover barrage was not done yet. Andrews then fumbled on a run by Cervantes two plays later that was recovered by Big Spring's Jonathan Miller. This time, the Steers capitalized when Baeza rushed for another score from 44 yards out. The extra point made it 35-28 and the Steers trailed by just seven points heading into the fourth quarter.

Cobos was able to grab another interception early in the fourth quarter and gave his team the ball back with a chance to tie it up. However, on a pass deep down the middle, there was a holding on the defense that went uncalled and the Mustangs' Bustamante was able to intercept the ball once again.

"Those calls will bounce our way eventually," McWilliams said.

Andrews then began to put the game away following that last interception by scoring on their next three offensive drives with one Baeza-to-Dehoyos 53-yard touchdown connection squeezed in-between.

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

### GAME RECAP

Big Spring received the opening kickoff on Friday night and put their offense led by junior quarterback Gabriel Baeza straight to work. Following a false start to open the game, the Steers had a screen pass that went nowhere on first down. Then, Andrews defensive lineman Jaxon Lawdermilk came up with a sack on second down, and a pass to Jose Cantu gained only one yard on third down which forced the Steers to punt it away.

Andrews could not get much going on their first drive of the night either. They shot themselves in the foot with two false start penalties before Elijah Darrow and Kaegen Mitchell came up with two huge hits on back-to-back plays. Then, defensive end Caydon Rash chased down Lopez for a sack that knocked the Mustangs back and forced them to punt.

The Steers' next drive was more productive and included a steady dose of Baeza-to-Mitchell connections through the air. With the ball at Andrews' 32-yard line, the Steers' drive was stopped in its tracks when Baeza threw four straight incompletions and Big Spring turned the ball over on downs.

Andrews made their first move towards the end zone on their second drive of the night. The play that kept the drive alive was a 27-yard connection from Lopez to Markeese Lawrence on a 3rd-&-12 from the Steers' 47-yard line. Two plays later, Luis Cervantes ran the option for 15 yards and set his team up inside the 5.

Big Spring then jumped offside two plays in-a-row and Lopez was able to take the read-option run one yard into the end zone for the first Mustang score of the night. The point-after kick was good and Andrews had a 7-0 lead with 2:29 remaining in the first quarter.

Big Spring was ready to answer right back.

Their next drive began at their own 49-yard line after an unsuccessful onside kick attempt from Andrews and the Steers were set up in great starting field position. The first play of the drive was a screen pass to Maverick Yanez for 47

## Coahoma defeats Stanton 20-16



Courtesy Photo/Coahoma ISD  
Brysen Kerby runs the ball against Anson on Friday night.  
By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sports Writer

The Coahoma Bulldogs escaped with a tremendous 20-16 team win

over the Stanton Bulldogs on Friday night. It was the Bulldogs' first district win of the season and they came from behind for the win at home on Friday.

"We played extremely hard and we knew we were in for a battle. The difference in the game was the halftime adjustments that we made. Our defense made a huge halftime adjustment and they only got one first down in the second half," Head Coach Chris Joslin said.

Running back Brysen Kerby scored all three touchdowns for the Bulldogs and kept up his impressive season on the ground.

Coahoma will travel to take on the Reagan County Owls next Friday night for their third district game.

## Forsan falls to Anson 27-23



Courtesy Photo/Charlie Huff  
Nate Hernandez runs the ball on Friday night.  
By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sports Writer

The Anson Tigers came into Forsan on Friday night and defeated the

Forsan Bulldogs 27-23 after scoring the winning touchdown in the fourth quarter.

"They have a good football team," Head Coach Jason Phillips said. "They have speed and they're physical. We had our chance but we made some mistakes and they capitalized on those mistakes."

Phillips is still happy with where his team is at at this point in the season and knows that it will be tough for anyone to go undefeated in their district.

Nate Hernandez rushed the ball 29 times for 113 yards and a touchdown and Major Stockton accounted for 111 total yards, but the Tigers were able to make just a few more plays than the Bulldogs.

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# SUNDAY COMICS

BIG SPRING HERALD

Weekend Edition October 17 & 18, 2020

**Archie**

I THINK DADDY FRETS ABOUT GETTING OLD!  
AW, HE SHOULDN'T!

WHY WORRY ABOUT SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED SO LONG AGO?

DADDY'S FEELING DOWN ABOUT TURNING ANOTHER YEAR OLDER!  
I'LL CHEER HIM UP!

SO...  
SEE? I ORDERED AN ICE CREAM CAKE FOR MR. LODGE!  
THAT'S A BEAUTY!

YEAH, HE'LL LOVE THIS! I HAVE A TALENT FOR DOING THE RIGHT--  
ARCH, QUIT YAKKING! THAT THING CAN MELT!

ARCHIE BROUGHT YOU A BIRTHDAY PRESENT, DADDY!  
WELL! THAT'S VERY NICE OF YOU, ARCHIE!

DOESN'T IT LOOK JUST LIKE YOU?

WHEN SLEEPING COME BOOM!  
BOY! SOME PEOPLE SURE GET CRANKY ABOUT THEIR BIRTHDAYS!

Visit: www.archiecomics.com © 2020 Archie Publ., Inc.

## MOMMA

BY MELL LAZARUS

SHHHHH... DON'T WAKE MOMMA UP. WE OWE HER A LOVELY DAY OF PEACE!

MOMMA DESERVES TO SLEEP!

SHE DOES ALL THE WORK IN THIS HOUSE!

LET'S GIVE HER A WELL-EARNED DAY OF REST!

WHO IS THE LUCKY MOMMA OF WHOM THEY SPEAK?

CAN THEY MEAN ME???

10-18 MELL LAZARUS.

**Agnes**  
by TONY COCHRAN

ON TODAY'S WOODLAND EXPEDITION, A TRULY EXCITING THING WOULD BE TO FIND A WILD BOAR.

NO... IT WOULD NOT.

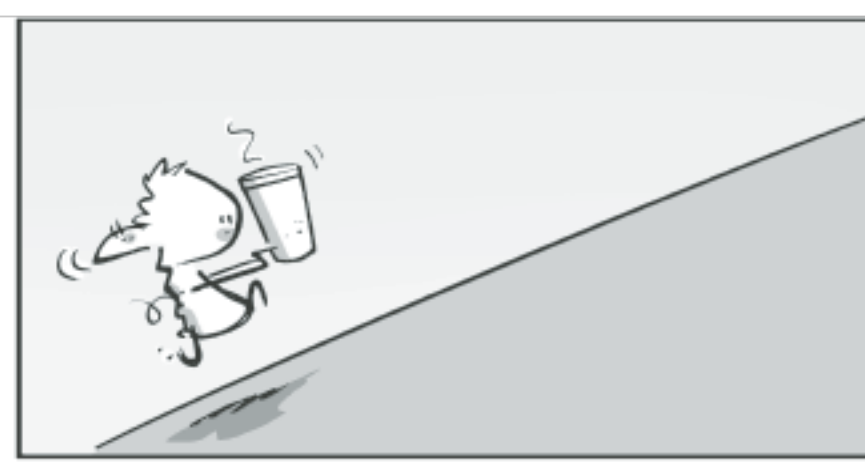
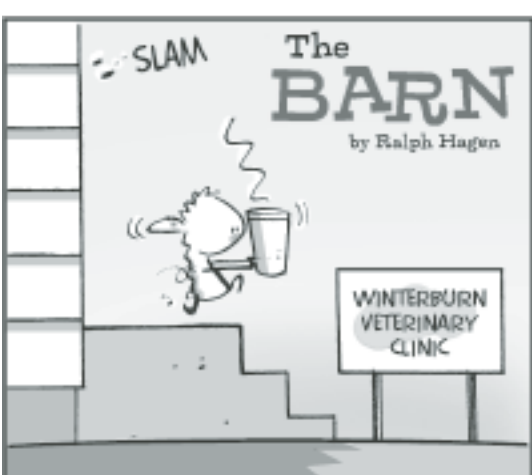
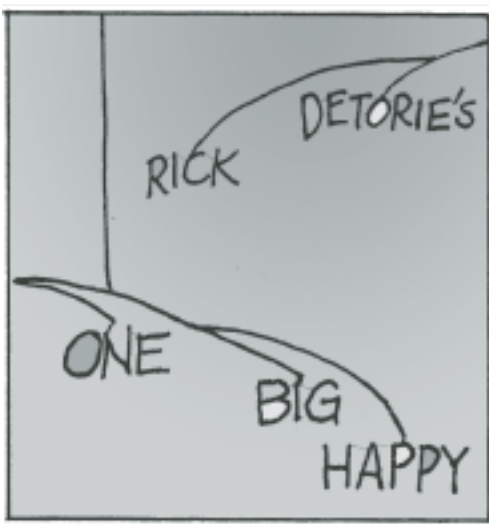
YES, IT WOULD. WE WOULD TAME HIM AND TRAIN HIM TO DO TRICKS AND GIVE HIM A BOAR-SPECIFIC NAME, SUCH AS PORKY OR HAMBONE.

HE WOULD KILL US AND EAT US AND SMEAR OUR BLOOD LIKE FREE PAINT.

WOW... I THINK THIS IS WHY I'M CONSIDERED THE OPTIMIST HERE.

...OR THE IDIOT.





ANDY CAPP

by Smythe



# Big Spring 7th/8th Grade Volleyball highlights

## Special to the Herald

This past week the 7th and 8th Grade volleyball teams took to the court. A few highlights from their games are below:

### 7th Grade A Team:

The 7th Grade A Team won in three sets, 25-14, 15-25, and 25-17. Laneigh Rushing, Milly Owens, and Caitlyn Morales contributed a combined 26 aces serves. Izabella Hilario, Caliana Moreno, and Chelsea Robertson played consistent defense. Bre Woodruff transitioned well and added several digs and assists.

### 7th Grade B Team:

The 7th Grade B Team took care of business in two sets, 25-13 and 25-22. Abby Hilario, Reagan Thompson, and Zoe Cigarroa shined on defense while Bella Rios, Abigail Diaz, and Lynzi Arrieta led the Team on offense. Jaylee Gonzales made 14 aces serves this game. Great Job Lady Steers Coach Smith and Barbee are proud of the work you have been putting in.

### 8th Grade A Team:

The 8th Grade A Team lost in two sets. They battled in the first set but came up short 25-27, and lost the second set 5-25. Standout players of the game are Jaycee Smith with aces serves; Niomi Wines with Kills at the net; Addi Arguello and Chloe DeAnda with a kill at the net.

### 8th Grade B Team:

The 8th Grade B Team battled but lost to Snyder in three sets, with a 25-20 win in the first set. However, we fell in the last two sets 11-25 and 19-25. The Lady Steers really fought hard this game. Players of the game are Zaida Ybarra with 15 aces serves and Nevaeh Morris, Karisma Cepeda, and Alyssa Doll with great back row defense. The girls will continue to work hard and improve.

The Lady Steers will host Levelland in their last home last home game of the season on Thursday, Oct. 22.

## Beffa Comes From Behind To Win B.A.S.S. Nation Regional On Toledo Bend

MANY, La. — It took three full days, but Jay Beffa finally found the big bass Toledo Bend Reservoir is famous for, and the discovery propelled him to victory on the final day of the TNT Fireworks B.A.S.S. Nation Central Regional.

Beffa, a resident of Festus, Mo., caught a five-bass limit that weighed 19 pounds, 4 ounces Friday, which was the heaviest bag of the day by almost 7 pounds and more than 5 pounds heavier than any other caught in the tournament.

That gave him a 35-12 total over three days, which was plenty to clinch the title on this sprawling 181,000-acre reservoir straddling the northern part of the Louisiana/Texas border.

Albert Collins of Nacogdoches, Texas, led the first two days, but slipped to second with 32-8. Blake Sylvester of Plaquemine, La., finished third with 32-1.

A total of 160 anglers from eight states started the event — 80 in both the boater and nonboater divisions. Each field was cut to the Top 22 anglers for Friday's competition, and Beffa was in 16th place among boaters. He began Friday trailing Collins by more than 6 pounds.

But Beffa's Friday was magical, despite the fact his outboard motor quit working on the way back to Cypress Bend Park for the weigh-in. He was able to catch a ride with another angler and had time to spare before weighing the winning bag.

"This is an incredible feeling," he said after collecting the winner's trophy and the \$5,000 check that went to the top angler in the boater division. "We've got our state tournament next week, so I'm anxious to get back at it."

Beffa also can look forward to competing in the B.A.S.S. Nation Championship on Alabama's Pickwick Lake.

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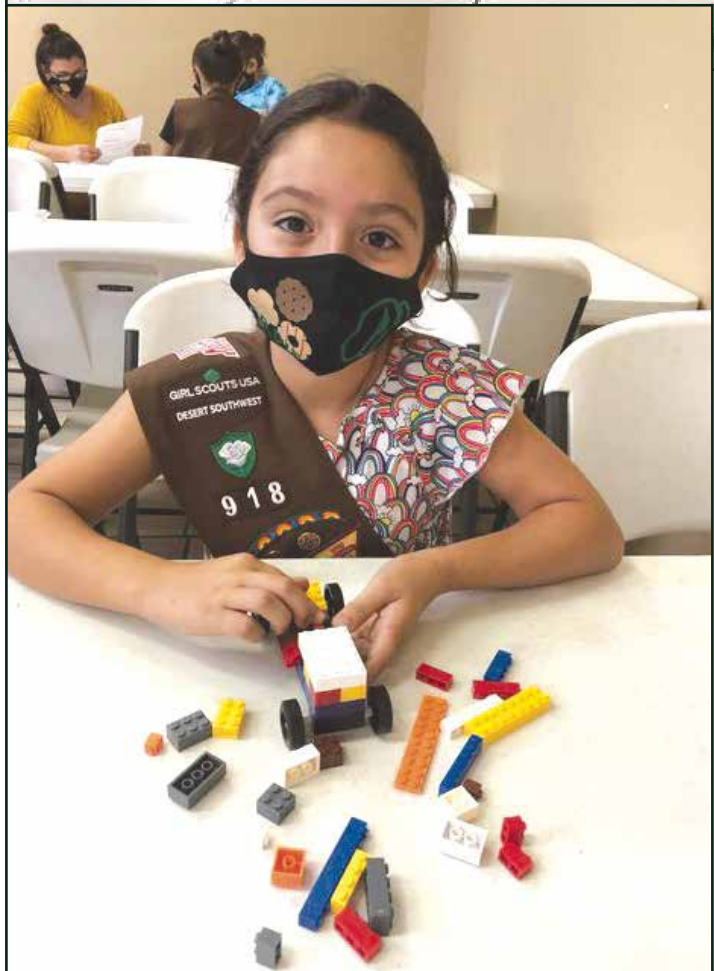
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## Derby Time - Lego style *Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest*



*Courtesy photos*  
Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest have been preparing for the upcoming derby. Pictured above, Left to Right: Obrie, Ady, Lovey, Bailee, Jaelyn, Cori, Mia, Arianna. Pictured around the page, Girl Scouts take a moment to pose for the camera while building their LEGO carts in a recent gathering.

**By AMANDA DUEORAT**

Managing Editor

The Girl Scoutings of the Desert Southwest have been preparing for the upcoming derby. They have been working to build their LEGO carts which will be competing in the annual competition.

In addition to LEGO building, the Girl Scouts are hosting an online robot building for all girls, completely free of charge. This event is focused on letting those who may have been wanting to join Girl Scouts have an opportunity to interact with those involved already while learning about all that the group has to offer.

While the Girl Scouts are often associated with their famous Girl Scout Cookie sales, there is so much more to offer for those girls wanting to be involved.

While the nation deals with the current pandemic, Girl Scouts have been altering their meetings and their outreach in the community, but the fun and skill set learning is still ever present.

For those wanting to find out more about Girl Scouts or how to get involved visit [www.gsdws.org](http://www.gsdws.org) or contact the local office.



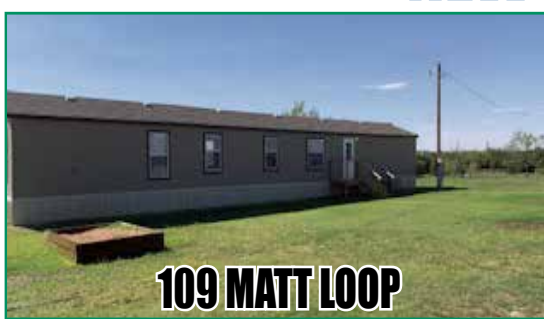
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# Howard County Lunch Menus

## Big Spring ISD Anderson Accelerated

Monday: Breakfast: Maple waffle bites, cereal and string cheese, assorted fruits, assorted milk. Lunch: Chicken nugget and cheddar wrap, egg chef salad with flatbread, assorted vegetables juice, assorted fruits, assorted milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Mini cinnamon roll bites, cereal and string cheese, assorted fruits and assorted milk. Lunch: BBQ pork sandwich, popcorn chicken salad with flatbread, assorted vegetables, juice, assorted fruits, assorted milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Cinnamon sugar donut, cereal with string cheese, assorted fruits, assorted milk. Lunch: Meat lovers pizza, taco salad, assorted vegetables, juice, assorted fruits, assorted milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Strawberry pancake bites, yogurt and string cheese, assorted fruits, assorted milk. Lunch: Chicken fried steak with roll, chef salad with flatbread, assorted vegetables, juice, assorted fruits, assorted milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, cereal and string cheese, assorted fruits, assorted milk. Lunch: Cheese pizza, yogurt, cheese and fruit salad, assorted vegetables, juice, assorted fruits, assorted milk.

### Elementary:

Monday: Breakfast: Maple madness waffles, assorted fruit, 100% juice box, assorted milk. Lunch: Hot dog with chips, sunbutter and jelly sandwich, fruit and vegetables, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll bites, assorted fruit, 100% juice box, assorted milk. Lunch: Chicken nugget wrap, yogurt, cheese and crackers, fruit and vegetables, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Yogurt with crackers, assorted fruit, 100% juice box, assorted milk. Lunch: Hamburger, American sub sandwich, fruit and vegetable, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Strawberry Splash pancakes, assorted fruit, 100% juice box, assorted milk. Lunch: Chicken patty sandwich, ham and cheese sandwich, fruit and vegetable, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon French toast bites, assorted fruit, 100% juice box, assorted milk. Lunch: Tony's cheese pizza wedge, yogurt, cheese and crackers, fruit and vegetable, milk.

### High School

Monday: Breakfast: Blueberry Muffin waffle bites with fruit, egg/sausage/cheese burrito, refried beans, apple jacks cereal pouch, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk. Lunch: Daily special, hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken sandwich or nuggets, cheese/pepperoni pizza, assorted vegetables, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Sugar Cinnamon Donut, pancake bites with fruit, egg/sausage/cheese burrito, refried beans, Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk. Lunch: Daily special, hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken sandwich or nuggets, cheese/pepperoni pizza, assorted vegetables, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Apple Bosco, waffle bites with fruit, egg/sausage/cheese burrito, refried beans, Trix cereal bowl, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk. Lunch: Daily special, hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken sandwich or nuggets, cheese/pepperoni pizza, assorted vegetables, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Vanilla glazed donut, pancake bites with fruit, egg/sausage/cheese burrito, refried beans, cinnamon toast crunch cereal, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk. Lunch: Daily special, hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken sandwich or nuggets, cheese/pepperoni pizza, assorted vegetables, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Chocolate chip muffin, waffle bites with fruit, egg/sausage/cheese burrito, refried beans, Coco Puffs Cereal bowl, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk. Lunch: Daily special, hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken sandwich or nuggets, cheese/pepperoni pizza, assorted vegetables, assorted fruits and juice, assorted milk.

### Intermediate

Monday: Breakfast: Maple Waffle Bites, yogurt and elf, graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Mini cinnamon rolls, yogurt and elf graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Coco puff pastry, yogurt

and elf graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Cinnamon Toast Crunch Pastry, yogurt and elf graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon sugar donut, yogurt and elf graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

### Junior High Breakfast Menu

Monday: Breakfast: Maple waffle bites, yogurt and elf graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Mini cinnamon rolls, yogurt and elf graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Coco puff pastry, yogurt and elf graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Cinnamon Toast Crunch Pastry, yogurt and elf graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon sugar donut, yogurt and elf graham. Lunch: Hamburger/cheeseburger, chicken/spicy chicken, pizza, assorted juice and milk.

### Kentwood Pre-K

Monday: Maple waffle bites, fruit, 1% white milk. Lunch: Fish sticks with smile fries, fruit, 1% milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Cinnamon pop-tart, fruit, 1% milk. Lunch: Chicken patty sandwich, fruit, 1% milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Chocolate chip muffin, fruit, 1% white milk. Lunch: Beef fingers, fruit and vegetable, 1% milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Pancake wrap, fruit, 1% milk. Lunch: Beef nachos with cheese sauce, fruit and vegetable, 1% milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Breakfast sausage, pizza, fruit, 1% milk. Lunch: Tony's cheese pizza, fruit and vegetable, 1% milk.

## Coahoama ISD

### Breakfast (K-12th grade)

Monday: Waffles with bacon, 100% fruit juice, fruit, milk.

Tuesday: Sausage, egg, cheese biscuit or breakfast taquito, 100% fruit juice, fruit, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast pizza, 100% fruit juice, fruit, milk.

Thursday: Cinnamon roll with sausage or cheesy toast with sausage, 100% fruit juice, fruit, milk.

Friday: Bulldog breakfast, biscuit, gravy, eggs, 100% fruit juice, fruit, milk.

### K-8th Lunch:

Monday: Country fried steak with gravy or Bulldog meatloaf or chef salad, mash potatoes, okra, roll, strawberries, milk.

Tuesday: Meat and cheese chalupas or enchiladas or taco salad salsa, zesty cucumbers, beans, rosy applesauce, milk.

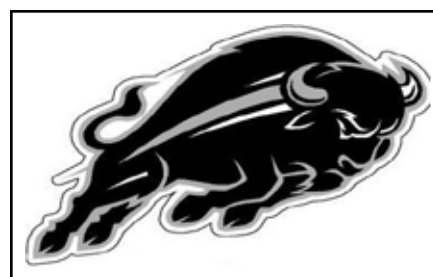
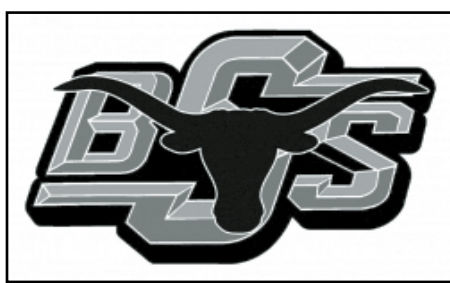
Wednesday: Chicken tenders with biscuit, gravy or hamburger or tuna salad, broccoli, sweet potatoes, mixed fruit, dessert, milk.

Thursday: Chicken spaghetti with breadstick pizza or crispy chicken salad, garden salad, carrots, fresh apple slices, milk.

Friday: Fish with mac n cheese or BBQ on a bun, potato salad, green beans, orange smiles, dessert, milk.

### 9th-12th Grade Lunch:

Monday: Country fried steak with gravy or Bull-



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dog meatloaf or chef salad, mash potatoes, okra, roll, strawberries, milk.

Tuesday: Meat and cheese chalupas or enchiladas or taco salad, rice, salsa, zesty cucumbers, beans, rosy applesauce, milk.

Wednesday: Chicken tenders with biscuit, gravy or hamburger or tuna salad, broccoli, sweet potatoes, mixed fruit, dessert, milk.

Thursday: Chicken spaghetti with breadstick or pizza or crispy chicken salad garden salad, carrots, fresh apple slices, milk.

Friday: Fish with mac n cheese or BBQ on a bun, chips, potato salad, green beans, orange smiles, dessert, milk.

## Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast: French toast sticks, fresh fruit, fruit juice and milk (elementary); French toast sticks with sausage or cereal, strawberry cup, fruit juice and milk (JH/HS). Lunch: Wild Mike's Cheese bites or chicken nuggets with mac and cheese (elementary); Boneless chicken wings with mac and cheese (JH/HS) or PB&J sandwich, steamed broccoli with cheese sauce, baby carrots, applesauce cup, fresh fruit and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Cereal bars, fresh fruit, fruit juice and milk (elementary); Sausage kolache with cheese stick or cereal, apple slices, fruit juice and milk (JH/HS). Lunch: Chicken sandwich or popcorn chicken with roll (elementary), buffalo popcorn chicken bowl with roll (JH/HS) or turkey and cheese sub, fries, savory green beans, strawberries and bananas, fresh fruit and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Honey bun, fresh fruit, fruit juice and milk (elementary); Chicken and waffles or cereal, mandarin oranges, fruit juice and milk (JH/HS). Lunch: Pizza or crispy chicken salad or PB&J sandwich, fresh veggie cup, garden salad, strawberry cup, fresh fruit and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fresh fruit, fruit juice and milk (elementary); Breakfast pizza or cereal, strawberry cup, fruit juice and milk (JH/HS). Lunch: Steak fingers or mini corn dogs (elementary); General Tso's Asian Bowl (JH/HS) or turkey and cheese sub, mashed potatoes, baby carrots, fruit gelatin, fresh fruit, and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Mini powdered donuts, fresh fruit, fruit juice and milk (elementary); Mini powdered donuts with bacon or cereal, applesauce cup, fruit juice and milk (JH/HS). Lunch: Nachos with ground beef or Garlic French Bread pizza or PB&J sandwich, corn, ranch style beans, applesauce cup, fresh fruit and milk.

## Senior Center

Monday: Chicken tenders with gravy, macaroni and cheese, green beans, pineapple tidbits, bread, milk

Tuesday: Stuffed peppers, Au Gratin potatoes, steamed broccoli, mixed fruit, cornbread, milk.

Wednesday: Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup, fried okra, carrot raisin salad, cookies, milk.

Thursday: Lasagna, California blend vegetables, lettuce and tomato, FF ranch, cake, garlic bread, milk.

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### Chamber of Commerce happenings ...



Courtesy photo/Bruce Schooler

Chamber Ambassadors along with the Chamber of Commerce joined together to show appreciation, during the weekly Thank You Presentation. This week recognition went to Allen Harris Building. The Chamber extends their gratitude for the investment into the Big Spring community.



Courtesy photo/Bruce Schooler

The Big Spring Chamber of Commerce joined with Mitchell's Furniture - previously Elrod's Furniture - to celebrate their one year anniversary with a Ribbon Cutting ceremony. In addition to the ribbon cutting celebration, Double L BBQ was on hand to feed those who were in attendance of the celebration.

## Highlighting Howard Co. Business Selah Tubing Testing - Serving Howard County and surrounding areas

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**  
Managing Editor

Experience is a foundation used to build dreams upon, just ask local Big Spring resident Jody Bennett, owner of Selah Tubing Testers.

After working 20 years in the oilfield, testing pipe, Bennett felt the desire to step out and start his own business. In January 2018, Bennett officially launched his new business venture.

"I have been testing pipe in the oilfield for approximately 19-20 years and decided it was time to go on my own," Bennett said. "I bring experience from all those years in the industry; I am hands on and run the truck myself."

Even though Bennett stepped into a new business venture, on his own, he continues in the oil field industry. He provides services to area oil companies and continues to grow his business.

"In addition to wanting my business to be sustainable and profit producing, we place a heavy focus on the ability to give back to our community," he said. "Sowing back into those who have helped shape who I am is important. If I want to be successful then it's important to support where I live and work."

While the pandemic has thrown a twist into the launch of the business, through local support of customers, community support and God's guidance, Bennett has been able to not only continue his business, but grow.

"I am truly blessed. I appreciate all my customers who have supported me along the way," he said. "This business couldn't continue without the customers and the trust they have in my ability to get the job done."

While this is a venture that took faith and years of experience, it is an experience that Bennett encourages others to step into if they are on the fence of starting their own business. Despite the struggles that will come with opening a new company - even when a pandemic is not sweeping across the nation - it is a venture that is worth it.

"I encourage those who are considering opening a business to look at their options, do their research and know that going in there will be struggles, but if it's truly a dream and something you feel you are being led to do, then go for it," he said. "Never give up no matter the circumstances. Keep pushing forward."

To find out more information about services provided, call 432-270-7161. You can also reach Jody Bennett by e-mail at [jbennett432@gmail.com](mailto:jbennett432@gmail.com).

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail [editor@big-springherald.com](mailto:editor@big-springherald.com) or call 432-263-7331.



Courtesy photo

One local Big Spring resident has taken his 20 years of oilfield experience and stepped into his own venture. A new tubing testing company has been serving the area since 2018.

### 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
- Scott Herrera, 4608 Ash St, Big Spring
- Billy Dean Hill, 7117 Alissa, Rowlett, Texas
- Johnny R. Hill, 704 San Antonio, Big Spring
- Kaleb Hill, 910 Baylor, Big Spring
- Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N Texas #198 Odessa
- 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 Milburn 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

# Crop Report: Peanut acres up, yields likely down

## Special to the Herald

Texas A&M AgriLife

Texas peanut harvest is underway, and producers are expecting lower per-acre yields than last season, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

Emi Kimura, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension agronomist and state peanut specialist, Vernon, said peanut acres were up, but that she expected yields to be down due to drought conditions.

Crop surveys by the U.S. Department of Agriculture show Texas producers planted 165,000 acres in 2019 and estimate that 190,000 acres were planted in 2020, up 25,000 acres.

Texas producers dig several different peanut types including Spanish, Valencia and Virginia varieties, she said. Most Texas acres are planted as runners, the most widely consumed type.

A few producers might have started digging their fields, Kimura said, and some will begin next week in the Rolling Plains and West Texas. Digging will ramp up over the next few weeks, and producers will be busy through mid-October.

The season began with planting in the northern Rolling Plains and West Texas in the first week of May and in West Texas and a little later for Central and South Texas, she said.

Cold snaps in April slowed germination in the Rolling Plains, but followed with plenty of heat units, Kimura said. But there was not enough rain to keep up with plants' water demands despite irrigation.

Peanuts in Central, South and especially West Texas faced worse conditions early, but rains helped Central and South Texas fields. West Texas was worst off due to drought.

"It was so dry in West Texas in July and August that irrigation couldn't keep up with plants' de-

mand," Kimura said. "Conditions in Central and South Texas and the Rolling Plains were not as dry as the west, and the overall effects of drought are difficult to estimate at this point."

Kimura said temperatures were cooler than normal during September, which also likely slowed the crop's progress some, and that frost in the windrows before late October could be trouble.

**Peanut yields down**

Last year, the average yield in Texas was 3,100 pounds per acre. The September forecast estimated yields to be 2,900 pounds per acre.

Kimura said drought was the factor that contributed to the yield reduction most because there was below average pest and disease pressure this year.

There were reports of crown rot and leaf spot, but damages were not significant, likely due to proactive spraying. There were also reports of pod rot, but the extent of damage won't be known until peanuts are harvested.

Kimura said peanut producers will need to time their harvest well to maximize pound-per-acre yields. Producers are advised to check peanut maturity by digging samples in several locations around their field to determine when to harvest.

"They need to target the right timing to have the pods intact and attached to the vine and minimize immature pods," she said. "It's one of the hardest decisions to make as a producer."

AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries:

### SOUTH PLAINS

Subsoil and topsoil moisture levels remained poor due to the lack of moisture and moderate temperatures. Crops were in the last stretch of growth. Producers continued to monitor watering conditions. Cattle were in good condition.

### FAR WEST

Temperatures were above 100 degrees with nighttime lows in the low 50s. No rainfall was reported. Cotton harvest was about to begin. Quite a few fields were defoliated already with many more ready to be sprayed as soon as the weather cooperates. Cotton yields were not expected to be great. A little more wheat was planted, but the majority was expected to be planted after cotton harvest. Alfalfa farmers were making the last cutting, but some may get a clipping in October. Pecans were finishing up, but yields were not expected to be great. Pastures were still very dry with no forages, and producers continued to feed livestock.

### WEST CENTRAL

Conditions were warm and dry, which allowed for excellent growth in wheat and oat fields. Armyworms and grasshoppers continued to emerge, and producers were actively scouting and spraying fields as needed. An abundance of cool-season annual weeds and forages emerged due to the abundant soil moisture levels. Stock tanks were full and in good shape. Pastures greened up. Livestock were in mostly good condition due to the rapid growth occurring over the last month.

### SOUTH

No rainfall was reported, but weather was mild to cool with short to surplus soil moisture levels. Temperatures cooled in most areas. Jim Hogg reported temperature highs in the 80s and 90s and a low of 53 degrees. Producers were busy on a range of fieldwork where soil moisture levels would allow. Cotton harvest continued and was almost complete in some areas. Peanut harvest should

See **CROP**, Page 9B

## RECORDS

Continued from Page 3B

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:

Jefferson Lawrence Glass, 49, of Keller, Texas and Priscilla Abreo Ginnetti, 41, of Big Spring.

Jonathan David Walker, 39, and Alicia Lenae Wegner, 33, both of Big Spring.

George William Cleveland III, 33, and Stephanie Kay Motley, both of Big Spring.

Daniel Walter McClinnis, 34, and Lila Jean Williams, 44, both of Big Spring.

Robin Jay Nelson, 43, and Estella Sanchez Robles, 51, both of Lamesa, Texas.

Abel Danny Morelion, 55, and Luanna Trevino Fravico, 57, both of Big Spring.

Isreal Alvarez, 34, and Tiffany Nicole Ramirez, 42, both of Big Spring.

### County Court Rulings

(Note: The State of Texas is listed as the prosecutor in all County Court Rulings.)

Defendant: Yesica Yadira Mendez  
Offense: Racing on highway  
Sentence: \$300 fine, \$270 court costs, \$10 reimbursement fee; one time payment.

### District Court Filings

Plaintiff: Cecili Gutierrez  
Defendant: Raymondo Gutierrez Jr.  
Type of Case: Divorce – No Children  
Date: October 8, 2020

Plaintiff: In the Interest of A Child(ren)  
Type of Case: All Other Family Law Matters  
Date: October 8, 2020

Plaintiff: Pramukkhari Big Spring, LLC  
Defendant: Howard County Appraisal District  
Type of Case: Civil Case - Other  
Date: October 9, 2020

Plaintiff: DelHur Industries, Inc.  
Defendant: Zurich American Insurance Company  
Type of Case: Contract – Consumer/Commercial/Debt  
Date: October 12, 2020

Plaintiff: Detria McIntosh  
Defendant: Jerry Miers  
Type of Case: Protective Order – No Divorce  
Date: October 12, 2020

Plaintiff: Velocity Investments, LLC Assignee of One-Main Financial Group, LLC  
Defendant: Fidencio Rodriguez  
Type of Case: Contract – Consumer/Commercial/Debt  
Date: October 12, 2020

Plaintiff: Galaxy International Purchasing, LLC  
Defendant: Philip Dennis

Type of Case: Contract – Consumer/Commercial/Debt  
Date: October 12, 2020

Plaintiff: Bobby Posey  
Defendant: Jennifer Posey  
Type of Case: Divorce - Children  
Date: October 12, 2020

Plaintiff: Acoma Energy, LLC  
Defendant: Wrangler Energy Holdings II, LLC, Cordeiro Energy Resources, LLC  
Type of Case: Civil Case - Other  
Date: October 13, 2020

Plaintiff: Sylvia Vela  
Defendant: Dale Vela  
Type of Case: Divorce – No Children  
Date: October 13, 2020

### Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Nick Bailey  
Grantee: Cecil Bynum and Teresa Bynum  
Property: Lot 4, block 5, Hillcrest Terrace, a subdivision of the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas according to the plat or map thereof as filed in Envelope 55/B in the Plat Records of Howard County, Texas  
Date: October 6, 2020

Grantor: Stephanie Delaney  
Grantee: Sonia Lusk  
Property: Being Lot No 2, Park Hill Addition  
Date: October 6, 2020

Grantor: Robert Don Miller and Lanette Miller, a married couple  
Grantee: Jeffrey Simmons and Ashton Simmons  
Property: Being the E/40' of Lot No. 12 and the W/18' of Lot No. 13, in block No. 1, La Loma Addition, an addition to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas according to the map or plat of record in Envelope 64/B, Plat Records of Howard County, Texas  
Date: October 6, 2020

Grantor: Jimmie Hawkins and Evelyn Hawkins  
Grantee: Misty Middleton and Eddie Middleton  
Property: Lot 3, block 1, Banks Addition  
Date: October 5, 2020

Grantor: Betty T. Friday  
Grantee: KS Beginnings, Inc.

Property: Lot 7, block 105, original town to the City of Big Spring  
Date: October 2, 2020

Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien

Grantor: Texas Optimum Investments, LLC  
Grantee: Alvin Crawford  
Property: All of lot 18, block 6, Douglas Addition to the City of Big Spring  
Date: October 5, 2020

Grantor: Eugene M. Bryant  
Grantee: Jose Luis Martinez  
Property: Part SE/4 of SC 29 BK 32 in 052 block/Tract 32 in .524 acres being also known as parcel #R000045795 of the Howard County Appraisal District. Subject property being located at the unincorporated intersection of Avenue X and Avenue Y.  
Date: October 1, 2020

Grantor: Alan Murphy  
Grantee: Rosendo Franco and wife, Angelita Franco  
Property: A 12.09 acre tract out of the NW/4 of Sec. 40, block 32, T-1-S, T&P Ry. Co Survey, Howard County, Texas the SW corner of a 6.0 acre tract and the NW corner of this tract; from whence a 5/8 I.R. And rock mound the common corner of Section 32, 33, 40 and 41 ...  
Date: October 5, 2020

Grantor: Earl Thomas Diddle, a single man  
Grantee: Kelsea Wood  
Property: Lot 20, block 26, Monticello Addition #7  
Date: October 6, 2020

Grantor: Helen Richardson  
Grantee: Raisia Hernandez and Ramiro Blanco Munoz  
Property: Being Lot 20B, block 3, Capehart Addition, an addition to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, according to the proper map or plat of record in Envelope 117/A, plat records of Howard County, Texas  
Date: October 5, 2020

Grantor: Christie Wendland Larson  
Grantee: Nolan D. Roberts and Chelsea L. Roberts  
Property: Being a .50 acre tract out of the NE/4 of Section 1, block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey, Howard County, Texas  
Date: October 9, 2020

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Hiring Full-time Office Clerk. Must be dependable and organized. Must have basic computer knowledge and be willing to learn and acquire new skills. To Apply please EMAIL resume to [publisher@bigspringherald.com](mailto:publisher@bigspringherald.com).

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In design 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](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com).

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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 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**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 029-2020 WHICH ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2020 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 BY INCREASING THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE SPECIALTY BUILT INFECTIOUS DISEASE AMBULANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

#10694

**Notice of Application for Fluid Injection Well Permit**

**Bayswater Operating Company LLC / 730 17th Street Suite 500, Denver, CO 80202** is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the San Andres, Glorieta, and Clearfork, Cathey 6 Lease, Well Number 2. The proposed injection well is located 10.2 miles Northeast of Coahoma, in the Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, in Howard County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2,060 to 4,590 feet.

**LEGAL AUTHORITY:** Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

#10697

**Legals**

**CITATION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: MATTHEW WARREN BONK

**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 14 day of November, 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**

BRADEN M CLAYTON

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 53976**

IN THE INTEREST OF

BRADEN M CLAYTON

A CHILD

IN THE 118TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

OF

HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

Other parties to the action:  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
MATTHEW WARREN BONK  
CHERYL LYNN CLAYTON

#10690

**Legals**

**CITY OF BIG SPRING NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Pursuant to the authority granted by the City Council of the City of Big Spring, Texas, the City of Big Spring is requesting SOQs (Statements of Qualifications), from qualified engineering firms to assist the City in the preparing of the following plans:

**Risk Resilience Assessment (RRA) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP)**

Proposals are to be opened and review by City Staff with an award to be made at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Big Spring City Council. Please submit your SOQ by 3 p.m., Tuesday, November 3, 2020 to the Shane Bowles, Interim City Manager, 310 Nolan St. Big Spring, TX 79720. Any requests received after this date will be returned and not addressed.

The City of Big Spring reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any or all formalities.

#10695

**CITY OF BIG SPRING NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Pursuant to the authority granted by the City Council of the City of Big Spring, Texas, the City of Big Spring will receive sealed proposals on the following date/time for the services of the below listed:

1. Date/Time: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at 3:00 p.m., for the following

**1. Yard Waste Mulching (RFP No. 20-013)**

Proposals are to be opened and read aloud in the Big Spring City Council Chambers, at 310 Nolan Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, with award to be made at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Big Spring City Council. Proposal information and specifications may be obtained from the Office of the Purchasing Agent, 204 S. Johnson St, Big Spring, Texas 79720. All submissions must be marked with the date of the bid and a general description of the proposal item(s).

The City of Big Spring reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any or all formalities.

#10696

**Annie's Mailbox**

**Nothing Wrong With Morning Routine**

**Dear Annie:** I am a woman in my 80s, and I like to sit and enjoy my morning daily cup of tea looking out of the upstairs window of my home. The window faces the street and has Venetian blinds that I can adjust horizontally.

One day, a male neighbour in his 40s was walking to his car that was parked on the street near the front of my house. He looked up at me and shouted at me to leave my window.

I was surprised that he even noticed me and that I was yelled at. I have been nervous to look out my window ever since.

Is window watching OK? -- Window Watching

**Dear Window Watching:** Don't let some overly paranoid and rude man ruin your morning ritual. Assuming you don't have a pair of binoculars and are not disturbing anyone, keep looking out your window and enjoying your tea. No one has the right to take that away from

you. In fact, one could ask what that man was doing looking up at your window.

All that said, in the interest of getting along, you could also introduce yourself and show him this column.

**Dear Annie:** After four years of a long-distance relationship, my fiance just moved from his home state to mine. He retired, and although he is financially stable, we still have to stay on a budget to be able to afford our living expenses, future travel and entertainment. We budget how often we can go out to dinner each week. We even budget our drinks.

Because I have lots of single girlfriends who love him and are excited for me, every time we go out to meet them for a drink or meal, they don't budge on getting their wallets out when the bill comes, and my fiance feels obligated to get the whole bill so as not to look cheap. However, we are now in a position of having to go out less frequently or lower the quality of restaurants we go to.

Do I need to stop seeing my girlfriends or

just meet them alone, where we can split the bill like we used to before he moved here? I just don't know how to not sound cheap but make sure he isn't always stuck with the bill. -- Frustrated at the Single Gals

**Dear Frustrated:** Congrats on this new chapter of your love. If your friends love him that much, why are they treating him like a sugar daddy? I understand if he wants to be generous and pick up the bill a few times, but it is sort of rude of your friends to not even budge on getting out their wallets. Regardless of gender, no one likes to give when they feel the party they are giving to expects it and doesn't appreciate it.

Perhaps you should just stick to girls' night out and go back to splitting the bill. If you want your friends to get to know your boyfriend more, maybe have them over to the house, or wait until they find their own boyfriends and double date.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com).

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**Contract Bridge**  
By Steve Becker

**Make haste slowly**

South dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ Q J 6 4  
♥ 10 8 6 3  
♦ K 3  
♣ A Q 8

**WEST**      **EAST**  
♠ 9 8 7 5 2      ♠ —  
♥ K 9            ♥ A Q J 5  
♦ J 10 9 2      ♦ 8 7 6 4  
♣ J 7             ♣ 10 9 6 4 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K 10 3  
♥ 7 4 2  
♦ A Q 5  
♣ K 5 3

The bidding:  
South      West      North      East  
1 NT      Pass      2 ♣      Pass  
2 ♠      Pass      4 ♠

Opening lead — seven of spades.

South therefore postponed drawing trump and played the K-Q-A of diamonds, discarding a heart from dummy before trying to cash the A-K-Q of clubs. Unfortunately, West ruffed the third club and played the king and another heart to put a quick end to the proceedings.

However, declarer would have succeeded had he adopted what is surely the best method of play. He should have cashed only two top tricks in both minors and then led the queen of diamonds. When West follows suit, South can assure the contract by simply discarding the queen of clubs from dummy!

Declarer next plays the five of clubs and ruffs it with dummy's jack to finish with 10 tricks consisting of the A-K of clubs, A-K-Q of diamonds and five trump tricks.

Observe that this line of play would have been equally successful had West held two diamonds and two clubs. Only if West had a singleton diamond or a singleton club would the contract have failed, but in that case, all other approaches would have suffered the same fate.

In bridge, there are many hands where something unexpected occurs, such as the 5-0 trump break in this deal. The secret of trying to over-come such misfortunes is to keep your cool while seeking an effective counterstroke. There is quite often an answer if you search hard enough.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

**Guess Who?**

I am an actor born in California on October 18, 1987. I am known as a teen heartthrob for my breakout role in popular "high school" films. I act and sing, and have begun to branch out into some challenging roles.

Answer: Zac Efron

**SUDOKU**

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

Level: Advanced

**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!

**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!

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

ANSWER:

**RECYCLING IS CREATING**

When you recycle, you create something new.

BeRecycled.org

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Saturn Warns Against the Blindness of Familiarity

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** As for the smart, generous, insightful people at the core of your inner circle, some you know, some you haven't met yet. Dedicate more time to following your interests and you'll find them.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** So it goes, in art and in life, that some boundaries are drawn in ink and others are drawn in emptiness. Without space, there is no form. Without silence, there is no sound. No answer is an answer.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** It has taken a while, but you're starting to see that what you choose to do, and the way you do it, is not easily duplicated and actually sort of amazing. Self-props are called for.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** People who bore and annoy you needn't be avoided today and should be

studied instead. What are they doing that repels you so? Do you perhaps, to some small degree, share any of their unfortunate peculiarities?

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** The habit to lose now isn't a terribly big one; it's a small, weird, repetitive action that just isn't adding anything to your life. Nix that one to make room for the zephyrs of good fortune to blow through.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You feel a great deal of enthusiasm for a subject and yet will be reticent to show it if you see there's a chance of overwhelming others or making yourself stand out too much. Temperance is social grace.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** The natural remedy will call to you. This isn't about an essential oil or flower essence; it's about responding to a problem-solving sense that heralds from a deep and primal place inside you.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Much will depend on focusing on the right conversational topic or theme interactions or projects. You might not find it right away. Be like a prospector, digging here and there until you strike gold.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Shoes in the house or no? Like so many of life's choices, neither is more correct, though one may be more preferred. For the sake of social ease, follow the customs of ones you are with.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** As the truly beautiful dancers know, it's not about looking good; it's about

By HOLIDAY MATHIS feeling good.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You don't take things on because you know how to do them. You take things on because you (SET ITAL)don't(END ITAL) know how to do them, and the way to find out is to take things on.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Why the exuberance? It seems to come for no reason, but indeed, part of you understands that these small acts are the seeds of greatness. Share your joy, and it will compound and have lasting effects.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 18).** While it doesn't appeal to you celebrate your birthday in pomp and splendor, this solar return does bring unexpected attention and luxuries your way. Don't turn them down! Your excellent stewardship of these cosmic gifts leads to sweet and loving ties, satisfying intellectual challenge, and meaningful work. Taurus and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 22, 4, 48, 17 and 39.

**FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:** A square of Mars (action) and Jupiter (abundance) recalls an observation called the "Four Burners Theory," which likens a person to a stove with four burners, each representing an aspect of life: health, family, work and friends. According to the theory, to be exceptionally successful in any one area, you must turn off one of the other burners. And if you want to be world-class, you'll have to turn off two. The concept, while extreme,

does illustrate the role of sacrifice in any remarkable endeavor. It's not that balance isn't achievable; it is! It's just that balance and exceptional success are not achievable at once. For balance, everything has to be turned down to a medium temperature. For the higher realms of excellence, focus and sacrifice are the price of admission.

Are you afraid that if you serve the needs of others too well, that they will use you up? It's not an unwarranted fear. There are people who have no sensor to tell them when they've crossed a line, are being greedy and are taking to the detriment of all. If given the chance, they will just keep going until they take all. Many personal boundaries are unknown to us until they get crossed. After the sun crosses the boundary of Libra into Scorpio's deep truth, there will be new clarity as to where those lines lie.

Write Holiday Mathis at [HolidayMathis.com](http://HolidayMathis.com).

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Hearty chili for autumn days

People choose to adhere to a vegetarian or vegan diet for various reasons. Some people avoid animal products because of ethics, while others want to control their weight with low-calorie foods. Still others may have food allergies or intolerances that make a vegetable-based diet their best option.

Cooking vegetarian or vegan can introduce a person to a wide variety of new foods and flavors. That's why even people who eat meat like to periodically experiment with vegetarian or vegan foods. When the weather starts to cool, soups and stews become staples of many people's diets. With this recipe for "Four Bean Chili" from "Vegan Cooking for Beginners" (Publications International, Ltd.) by the PIL editors, home cooks can experiment with a meatless chili that doesn't skimp on flavor even if it isn't brimming with beef, pork or lamb.

Four Bean Chili  
Makes 8 to 10 servings

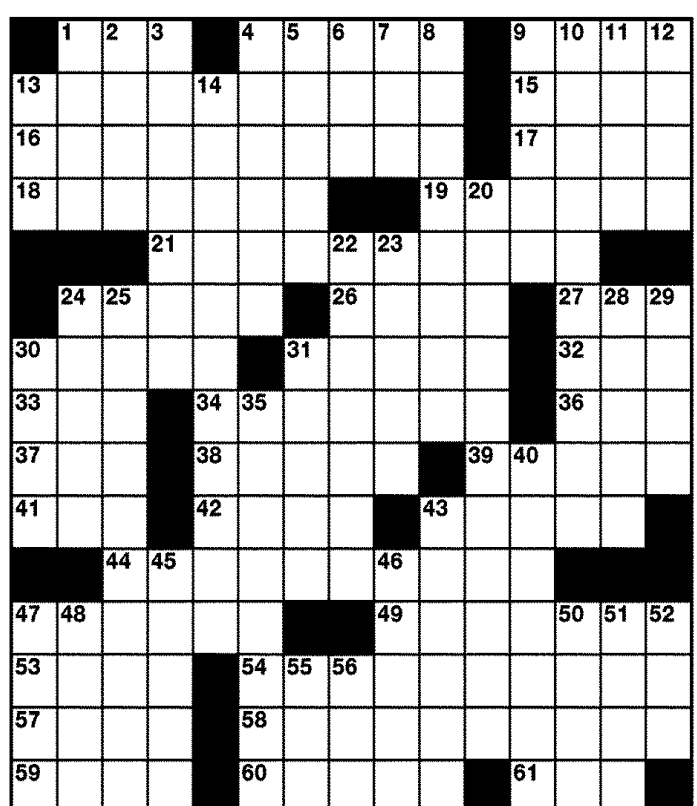
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 medium carrots, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 2 tablespoons packed dark brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons chili powder
- 2 tablespoons ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 can (28 ounces) diced tomatoes
- 1 can (15 ounces) small white beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (15 ounces) light kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (15 ounces) dark kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (15 ounces) pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 cup vegetable broth
- 1 can (4 ounces) diced mild green chiles
- 1 ounce unsweetened baking chocolate, chopped
- 1 tablespoon cider vinegar.

- occasionally. Stir in vinegar.
- Chili is even better served with cornbread. Make batter while the vegetables are cooking in step one and bake it while the chili is simmering.
- Cornbread  
Makes 12 servings
- 3 tablespoons boiling water
- 1 tablespoon ground flaxseed
- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup yellow cornmeal
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/4 cups plain unsweetened almond or soymilk
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- Preheat oven to 400 F. Spray 8-inch square baking dish or pan with nonstick cooking spray. Combine boiling water and flaxseed in small bowl; let stand until cool.
- Combine flour, cornmeal, sugar, baking powder, and salt in large bowl; mix well. Whisk almond milk and oil in medium bowl until well blended. Add to flour mixture with flaxseed mixture; stir just until dry ingredients are moistened. Pour batter into prepared baking dish.
- Bake 25 minutes or until top is browned and toothpick inserted into center comes out clean.

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Matthew Sewell  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
[www.stanxwords.com](http://www.stanxwords.com)

- ACROSS**
- 1 Color close to silver
- 4 Weight-bearing bone
- 9 Latter-day cheaters
- 13 Underwater defense
- 15 Real creep
- 16 Inspiration
- 17 Garth Brooks, by birth
- 18 Sore
- 19 Traditional Alaskan basket material
- 21 Sci-fi staple
- 24 Prevent from crashing
- 26 "Inventin' jokes \_\_\_ easy"; Rocky Balboa
- 27 "Cool" that's made a comeback
- 30 Whom Ebert called "that twinkly professional Irishman"
- 31 Consigns
- 32 Bar display
- 33 \_\_\_ style (esteemed Chinese calligraphy)
- 34 "Truly?"
- 36 Open divider
- 37 End that's often clipped
- 38 Flyspecks
- 39 Seasonal occasions for pool diving?
- 41 Ancient New Testament character
- 42 Blackwood product seen on stages
- 43 Rome's \_\_\_-Shelley Memorial House
- 44 Sobersided
- 47 Top Grammy-winning female artist (27, 1991-2012)
- 49 Not buying it
- 53 "Alpine" abodes
- 54 Angry Birds and Bonsai Barber, categorically
- 57 Snow the heat, maybe
- 58 Misting
- 59 British river named for where it starts
- 60 "Meatballs" on a circuit diagram
- 61 Common rack range
- DOWN**
- 1 Tender feeling
- 2 Many a ratio
- 3 Thrown-together attention-getter
- 4 Get to stream, say
- 5 In reserve
- 6 Cost curb
- 7 Patisserie article
- 8 Kingston trios, often
- 9 Impressively muscular, from a "puffed-up" word
- 10 Twits
- 11 Toronto-to-Columbus midpoint
- 12 Marvel debut of '63
- 13 Reign over
- 14 They take the edge off
- 20 Puts away childish things
- 22 Does a hip-hop dance
- 23 Where curlers work
- 24 Sanskrit word for "seat"
- 25 Medieval military governments
- 28 Fortes
- 29 They get stabbed with toothpicks
- 30 Scratch
- 31 Hold
- 35 Two shovels for "work available," for example
- 40 Where a bundle is won in *Rain Man*
- 43 Submits for approval, perhaps
- 45 Dislodges
- 46 Top of the heap
- 47 Horde head
- 48 Green type
- 50 Term akin to "rabbi"
- 51 Name shared by an eminent astrophysicist and another "astro-" notable
- 52 Former airt of 20Q and *Bingo America*
- 55 Pagan leader
- 56 Pastime inspired by JRR Tolkien



Answer to previous puzzle  
MAJA PHAT PUMP  
GATOR RACE OPEL  
EGRET ALTA EUNA  
ONESIZEFITSMOST  
RUT EON TIC ICE  
GMAT OOH WYETHS  
EPICS MABELL  
MILEAGEWILLVARY  
LIONEL AIMEE  
ITLLDO DLV SEES  
CRO SDS BIC RFD  
YOUWONTALSOLIKE  
HIDE ELSA HANNA  
OKED SEAS ANDOR  
TARS SOPS NEST



# The Pet Connection's Pet Talk: Where People & Pet's Connect

## LOLA

By MELANIE GAMBRELL

Pet Care Specialist

For those of you that know me, know how passionate I am about animals, you know my heart and the love that I have for them. The opinions are all mine, the feelings are all mine and are not the view of anyone else's. I have fought long and hard for the rights of animals and believe that if you are going to have them, then they deserve all that you can give. I understand falling on hard times and in this day and time you have so many places to reach out too that there is no excuses. We have available low cost spay and neuter clinics, low cost vaccination clinics, rescues offering to help with food and training. Everywhere you turn there are agencies close by that are willing to help if you would reach out.

Social media can be a curse and it can be a lifesaver. The curse for me is seeing all the owner surrendered pets at all the animal shelters across Texas! There absolutely should be no reason why a pet that has an owner should ever be surrendered to a shelter, no reason at all! Our shelters are overwhelmed with stray dogs and cats who's owners have turned their backs and their responsibilities of their pets and walked away. Our rescues are full and struggle



Lola, an owner surrender, who found a special place in Gambrell's heart.

thing? I could never imagine having any animal for that long and then just walking away. One of the reasons given was her age? What, her age? She's dependent on you, then you chose to walk away! Animals are a huge responsibility and huge expense too. But for some reason, in this day and time, we are seeing more and more people dumping off their pets across the country. We've become a nation that has lost respect for it's elderly, lost respect for those in authority, and have become a nation that turns our backs on our responsibilities with no repercussion.

Seeing Lola there at the shelter broke my heart and I knew that I must act. So many people were posting on social media, 'Aw, poor girl. Someone go get her. I'd get her, but I already have dogs. Oh, she doesn't like cats. That leaves me out.' So many post, so many excuses. I called that morning to the Midland shelter, told them when I'd be off work and that if she hadn't been adopted, I was coming for her. They gladly took my number and arrangements were made. Friday afternoon I made the trip to Midland to

my emotions at the fact that someone could do this to such a precious soul.

Lola, Ebony, and Richard (my three dogs), made the trip home. During that trip, Ebony and Richard could sense the loss in Lola. Richard and Ebony kept their distance and let me give Lola my full attention as we made the trip to Big Spring. Once home, Lola settled onto the dog bed and slept.

Between Friday and Monday, Lola slept, was still depressed and completely lost. You can only imagine being pulled from a home, from surroundings that you know, stripped away from familiar smells and people to be tossed into an unknown situation. My concern now for Lola was to get her to the vet to have a complete evaluation and healthy workup to see what we were up against. Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought

that I would be saying goodbye to Lola.

Lola's vet appointment was scheduled and as I carried her in I had no idea that I'd be saying goodbye. During Lola's blood draw, it showed that she could possibly be anemic and I thought that was going to be my biggest concern.

Lola's temperature was 104 when a normal dog's temperature should be 101 to 102.5 and everyone knows that if your pets temperature rises about 104 or falls below 99, to seek medical attention immediately. When the doctor came in and he did her physical exam, an enlarged spleen was detected. With that, more extensive testing was needed, an x-ray of her spleen was taken. Lola had refused food from me, but continued to drink water and now I know why. Her enlarged spleen was pushing into her other internal organs making it hard to breath and eat. Now, keep in mind, this enlarged spleen (tumor) didn't just show up from Friday to Monday, Lola had been suffering from kidney failure, along with several other elevated labs. Lola had been in bad health for sometime prior to being dumped at the shelter by her previous owners.

Once the results of her completed lab work came back and her x-ray was looked at, it was determined at Lola had cardiomyopathy/splenic neoplasia and that she was bleeding out internally. I so wanted and had made up my mind that Lola would come back home with me. I needed more time to make up for the wrong that had been done to her by her owners. I wanted her to know that she was loved, I wanted to hold and love her. But, it wasn't in the cards for Lola. The doctor said that Lola could pass at anytime, that her bleeding internally, her enlarged spleen, the cancerous tumor, was only a

See PET, Page 10B



Courtesy photo

Pictured are two owner surrenders enjoying the sun and warm temperatures.

to find enough fosters to help what pets we can to make it out of the shelter. Many abandoned pets will make it out of the shelter, but many do not. For those that don't make it out of the shelter, there are those that are quick to blame the animal shelters, labeling them as "killers" saying that the workers don't have a heart and enjoy killing innocent pets. I'm here to tell you, it is not the shelter workers that you should hold accountable, it's you, your family and neighbors who should be held accountable if you are contributing to the stray population in your community. You say, 'Melanie, that's pretty harsh,' I say that because each of us has a voice, we can change our behaviors and educate those around us, to make a difference in our neighborhoods and communities.

I want to share a story of an owner surrender that I just recently was involved with. Her name was Lola, a 15 year old Boxer mix that was owner surrendered (her owners dumped her off) at the Midland Animal Control Shelter. A rescue posted her on social media telling her story. Lola was pictured laying on a cold concrete floor next to her blanket and that face, that look of bewilderment, the look of confusion, broke my heart. This old gal was 15 years old, her owners for whatever their reasons were, chose to turn her over to Animal Control, to dump their family pet at an already overly full, kill shelter and walk away. How do you do such a

get Miss Lola.

After filling out paperwork, they brought Lola down the long hallway. She moved at a slow pace as her hind quarters moved side to side. The sight of her, so frail, so lost, was more than I could bear. We walked outside, she and I as my eyes welded up. I made a promise to her that she'd never be alone again. That'd she never lay on cold concrete and want for anything. That I would love and care for her until the end. Sadly, I had no idea how short out time would be.

I picked her up and placed her in my front seat, in the bed that I had made for her. As I sat in my vehicle, the tears flowed like a running river, I couldn't contain

## CROP

Continued from Page 4B

begin soon. Most strawberry producers will start planting soon. Forage producers were working between rain showers. Wheat and cool-season forage plantings started. Bermuda grass and Sudan hay fields and silage sorghum were being cut and baled. Pasture and rangeland conditions continued to improve in areas that received recent rainfall. Good grazing reduced supplemental feeding in some areas. Heavy morning dew helped maintain soil moisture levels. Stock tanks were mostly full. Most watermelon and cantaloupe harvesting were complete, and farmers were preparing for next season. Pecan orchards were in good condition and were expected to be harvested soon. Preparations for fall vegetable plantings continued. Most harvested spring croplands were cleared of plant debris.

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### Statement of Big Spring Professional Firefighters Association Regarding Political Ads

Regarding the recent political ads airing on KBST and print ad in The Big Spring Herald our association would like the chance to respond and give clarity as to the purpose of our Big Spring Professional Firefighters PAC which is a Political Action Committee.

Our number one priority is the safety and well being of every Firefighter in our ranks. With that in mind we simply want to state that if the public sees our endorsement for a particular candidate it is because they have committed to hold public safety in the highest regard. With that information we hope the voters can make an educated choice on who they want to represent them.

Our Association also strongly urges the adoption of national fire service safety standards that protect both us and the public. We are committed to helping keep our firefighters and the community we serve safe.

The Big Spring Professional Firefighters are grateful for the support of our community. No matter what, we strive to deliver excellent service, be good stewards of city resources, and give back to the community.

\*Political ad paid for by the Big Spring Professional Firefighters PAC (Political Action Committee).

# See The Forest and The Trees

By **Judy Tereletsky**

Howard SWCD District Clerk  
There is an old saying, "You can't see the forest from the trees." The saying really has nothing to do with trees but trees are an essential part of life here on Earth. Not just large forests, which we don't see in west Texas, but urban forests too. Urban forests make up a significant amount of America's tree canopy. In fact, over 130 million acres of America's forests are located in cities and towns, and these trees provide essential benefits for humans and improved habitats for urban wildlife.

Urban forestry is defined as the planting, maintenance, care and protection of tree populations in urban or city settings. The role of trees is an essential function of city planning and urban infrastructure. Planned connections of green spaces encompass not only parks and gardens, but also landscaped boulevards like our Main Street in Big Spring, river and coastal promenades, greenways and even simple street-side tree boxes. All of this requires strategic planning and a skilled workforce. However, one of the most important parts of urban forestry are the trees planted by the individuals who live in the city but don't work for the city government, namely you!

Trees are a vital part of our ecological system. Movements to save the rain forests are an important worthwhile cause to save the planet but the trees and bushes in our own backyard and city spaces are also important. Trees provide sanctuary for

many creatures large and small. They are part of nature's cleansing of the air providing oxygen while transferring carbon dioxide into nutrients for the plant and soil. In the city they provide shade and increase good mental health for residents. Agricultural land-

owners, as well as city dwellers, plant a line of trees called windbreak trees to help prevent soil erosion, provide shade from the sun and help prevent water run-off. Windbreak trees come in a variety of species from evergreen trees such as Afghanistan, Austrian, Italian Stone and Pinyon Pine trees along with the Oriental Arborvitae tree to hardwood trees such as Pecan, Catalpa, Texas Redbud, Bur Oak, Chinkapin Oak and Shumard Oak. Howard Soil and Water Conservation District (Howard SWCD) provides the opportunity for local landowners to purchase seedlings each fall and win-



Courtesy image

**The theme for this year's poster contest is Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities. The contest is open to those 12 years of age and younger.**

ter to be planted in March. These seedlings are adapted for this area of the state being drought tolerant and beneficial to local wildlife. Sold in sets of twenty-five seedlings the important thing is to give the young plants a chance in life. Plant and provide sufficient water and protection from wildlife such as deer. Some owners have planted the seedling in five-gallon buckets for the first year to give the roots a chance to thrive in our soil. If twenty-five seedlings are too many, you might make a deal with a friend or two to share the number. More information on the Howard SWCD Windbreak Tree program can be obtained by calling our office at 432-267-1871 Ext. 3.

As noted earlier, all trees are important not just a line of windbreak trees. Each individual tree makes its own contribution to society. Creatures live in trees and mankind use trees to create homes and other items such as furniture from their wood. Shade from trees help to cool and

wood is burned for heat. Fruit and nuts provide food and insects such as bees nest in trees providing us honey and pollinating other plants. Trees provide oxygen while using carbon dioxide, increase soil fertility, help clean water by cutting down nutrient and soil runoff, and reduce needs for toxic chemicals. Each year the Howard SWCD sponsors a poster contest dealing with conservation programs. This year's theme is "Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities". The Poster Contest is open to all students ages 12 and under who are UIL eligible. Any media may be used to create a flat hand drawn poster that does not smear, crack or chip. Crayons or colored pencils or markers are preferred media. All works must be original and created by an individual student not a group. It is encouraged that the student completes the poster by her/himself as entries completed in their own handwriting and coloring usually score better. The words "Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities" must be on the poster. It is best if these are the only words or limit words beyond this title. No stick on or glued letters are to be used. A completed entry form should be filled, signed and attached to the back of the poster and please do not sign the front of the poster (print name on back). Poster size must be 22" by 14" (1/2 size of standard poster board). If supplies are needed for the classroom, please contact the HSWCD office at 432-267-1871 ext. 3 and we will see what we can do to help. We look forward to some exciting student entries.

## GasBuddy: Weekly state report of gas prices

Special to the Herald

Texas gas prices have fallen 1.3 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$1.85/g today, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 stations. Gas prices in Texas are 4.4 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 47.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas is priced at \$1.19/g today while the most expensive is \$2.69/g, a difference of \$1.50/g. The lowest price in the state today is \$1.19/g while the highest is \$2.69/g, a difference of \$1.50/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 0.7 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.17/g today. The national average is down 4.3 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 49.0 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

Historical gasoline prices in Texas and the national average going back ten years:

- October 5, 2019: \$2.33/g (U.S. Average: \$2.66/g)
- October 5, 2018: \$2.67/g (U.S. Average: \$2.91/g)
- October 5, 2017: \$2.38/g (U.S. Average: \$2.50/g)
- October 5, 2016: \$1.99/g (U.S. Average: \$2.25/g)
- October 5, 2015: \$2.04/g (U.S. Average: \$2.29/g)
- October 5, 2014: \$3.12/g (U.S. Average: \$3.29/g)
- October 5, 2013: \$3.11/g (U.S. Average: \$3.34/g)
- October 5, 2012: \$3.52/g (U.S. Average: \$3.79/g)
- October 5, 2011: \$3.21/g (U.S. Average: \$3.39/g)

October 5, 2010: \$2.59/g (U.S. Average: \$2.72/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

- Midland Odessa- \$2.00/g, up 10.7 cents per gallon from last week's \$1.89/g.
- San Antonio- \$1.73/g, down 2.3 cents per gallon from last week's \$1.76/g.
- Austin- \$1.80/g, down 2.8 cents per gallon from last week's \$1.83/g.

"It's been a fairly quiet week for gas prices yet again, but with oil tanking last week, there's a possibility motorists may see a renewed downward direction in average prices in the days or weeks ahead," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "However, according to Pay with GasBuddy data, gasoline demand inexplicably rose last week to the highest level since August, breaking with conventional wisdom that fall demand is typically weak. While we have no direct reasoning for the rebound, five of seven days last week saw much above the prior week's gasoline demand, in fact, Friday saw the highest gasoline demand since Labor Day. If demand continues to somehow defy such conventional trends, we may see an end to the possibility of future declines."

*GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. Unlike AAA's once daily survey covering credit card transactions at 100,000 stations and the Lundberg Survey, updated once every two weeks based on 7,000 gas stations, GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data is accessible at <http://FuelInsights.GasBuddy.com>.*

## PET

Continued from Page 9B

matter of time before she would be gone. Knowing in my heart that I couldn't bring on anymore suffering to Lola I gave my permission to let her go.

Why is it that I feel like I failed Lola? I know that I did what any pet parent should do. Then why did her owners chose to surrender her to a shelter? This isn't the first pet that I've had to make this tough decision and it surely won't be the last, some are just harder on your heart than others. It's never easy to put one down or to even make that decision. You've got to remember it's your job to do, they (the animals) are dependent on you for everything. For food/water, shelter, medical and especially for LOVE. Do you know what the definition of an animal is? "A living organism that feeds on organic matter, typically having specialized sense organs and nervous system and able to respond rapidly to stimuli." "A living thing that is not a human being or plant." "Animal includes every living nonhuman creature."

Lola's passing wasn't quick because of her poor circulation and health issues it took a bit more time. As I cried and told her how much she was loved, watching her pass was a relief and a curse. Thankfully, I wasn't alone with her passing. Lola wasn't alone and we were surrounded by loving voices leading her to the Rainbow Bridge. To finish up Lola's life, I drove her to Andrews to have her cremated.

Why am I sharing this with you? I want anyone who's thinking about owner surrendering their pets to think again. Lola may have made it out of the shelter, but that's not always the case. Do you know that generally an owner surrender dog if not pulled by a rescue or adopted are usually some of the first to be euthanized in an already full shelter. Why do you ask? Because you as the owner have signed a contract or release to the shelter, giving up all rights to the pet/animal. When a stray is brought in, the shelter holds that animal hoping that an owner will come in to reclaim the pet/animal. Sadly, you won't be contacted if your pet doesn't make it out of the shelter and you can go on thinking that you did the best thing.

If you have fallen on hard times and need to place

your animals, please give consideration to the animals needs as well. Look to friends and family to help out prior to dumping your pet at a shelter. Look to social media and ask for help, be it food, training, or advice. Contact rescue organizations and give them information on your situation and then give them time to make connections.

So many times I'll see posts, 'Got to get rid of my pet ASAP' or 'I've moved and can't take or keep my dog.' I'm speaking from experience, we are all full with unwanted pets and are seeking fosters and donations to continue to help those in need. Can you help? Can you foster a pet in need? Can you keep your pet until arrangements can be made? Donations, no matter how small or large, can make a huge difference in our pet populations.

Not just here locally, but all around the country. If you can't care for an animal, it's simple - don't

get one. It's as easy as that. Don't bring your litters of puppies/kittens to the shelter and walk away. Please do your part to help control the countless numbers of unwanted animals in our communities, be a responsible pet owner. Offer to help someone who is struggling with litters of dogs/cats by paying the expenses to fix their dog/cat. Puppies and kittens are cute, but they do and will grow into adult dogs and cats. Don't be that person that continues to dump off and then turns around and gets another pet!

Let us all work together to stop the breeding of unwanted pets across our community and join together to eliminate the burden to our local animal shelters across Texas.

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**3** Gutter Care & Fencing Shopping Tips



**4** How To Build Your Home Bar.



**5** Exterior Renovations that Improve Curb Appeal



**6** The Key To Keeping Cool

**7** Types Of Firepits For Your Backyard Oasis

# Types of firepits

for your backyard oasis



Outdoor entertaining areas are popular among homeowners, and firepits are one of the most sought-after additions to such spaces. In fact, a 2016 survey from the American Society of Landscape Architects found that fireplaces and firepits were the most popular outdoor design element in 2016. Various styles are available to homeowners who want to add firepits to their backyards, and choosing the right type may come down to budget, the amount of yard space available or even personal preference.

risk that flames from gas firepits will grow too large and become difficult to control.

- Gas fire tables: Gas fire tables might be ideal for those homeowners whose sense of decor favors more modern looks. Gas fire tables come in a variety of shapes and sizes and, like gas firepits, there's no need to struggle with lighting a fire or carrying firewood.
- Tabletop firepits: Homeowners, condominium or apartment dwellers with limited backyard space may want to consider the convenience of tabletop firepits. Restaurants may use tabletop firepits in their outdoor seating areas because they provide warmth and ambiance without taking up much space. Tabletop firepits fueled by gas will not need to be connected to a gas source, which may appeal to consumers who want something that's simple as well as small.
- Fire urns: While they might not technically qualify as firepits, fire urns provide a similar effect as firepits. Fire urns are typically gas-powered and may be an ideal choice for homeowners who are looking for a unique, awe-inspiring feature for their outdoor entertaining areas.
- Wood firepit: As their name suggests, wood firepits burn wood, which may appeal to homeowners who already have wood-burning fireplaces inside their homes. Because they don't require homeowners to tap into gas lines, wood firepits are generally easy to set up and install, and many homeowners prefer the aesthetic appeal of crackling wood and flames that's synonymous with wood firepits.
- Gas firepit: Gas firepits are touted for their convenience, as they don't require homeowners to carry wood and build fires. Upon being connected to a gas source, gas firepits provide fire at the click of a switch. Gas firepits are also appreciated for their safety, as there is little or no

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## Did you know?

Carpet can add warmth and texture to a room and also provide a little bit of soundproofing. Underfoot, carpeting can be more comfortable than other types of flooring, even though it may require more upkeep. Carpet comes in various forms, but here are the main material components.

- **Nylon:** This is one of the most durable and stain-resistant carpet fibers available and a popular choice among many homeowners.
- **Polyester:** Carpeting can be made from polyester, which is fashioned to feel and look luxurious.
- **Olefin:** Olefin is made from polypropylene or polyethylene. It is prized for its strength, resistance to staining and colorfastness. It is often suited well to loop pile or high, dense cut piles.
- **Wool:** Wool is durable, albeit less resistant to soiling than some other materials. However, because it is an all-natural material, it is prized by people who want natural beauty.

Carpet can add warmth and texture to a room and also provide a little bit of soundproofing.

## Key to keeping cool is AC maintenance

Few things beat summer heat better than walking into a comfortably chilled air conditioned home. Air conditioning is often taken for granted, but sorely missed when it is not working. The key to keeping cool all summer long is to ensure that air conditioning systems are functioning properly.

Maintaining an AC unit can save money and protect homeowners' investments. Without regular attention, an AC unit will lose its efficiency, needlessly wasting both energy and money as a result. Poor maintenance also can lead to system failure just when it is needed most. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, the average lifespan of an air conditioning unit is about 15 to 20 years. Home Advisor says homeowners can pay between \$500 and \$4,000 for central air conditioning, with the final cost depending on the unit, additional installation items, such as ductwork, and installation charges. With regular maintenance, homeowners can keep their units humming properly and avoid premature replacement costs.

So what can homeowners expect as it pertains to air conditioner maintenance? The following are some oft-needed checks and fixes.

- **Keep it clean.** Vacuum the fins and coils of the AC unit on the external compressor/condenser fan with a soft-bristled brush, advise the experts at Family Handyman. This may require unscrewing the metal box surrounding the unit to access the fins. Remove any accumulated debris that may be impeding air flow. Afterward, go inside and change the filter that is installed with the evaporator that's located in a central duct near the furnace. Inspect the filter periodically to see if it is soiled and needs replacement. Timing can vary depending various factors, such as the time of year, the accumulation of dust and whether or not pets live in the home.

- **Straighten coil fins.** The fins on the condenser are easily bent and that can affect the flow of air through the coils. If you cannot easily straighten them, then consult with an HVAC professional to do so.

- **Check the thermostat.** Ensure that the thermostat is still working properly. You also may want to upgrade an old thermostat to a programmable or smart thermostat that enables you to remotely set and adjust the temperature.

- **Consider an in-line duct booster.** HVAC professionals can guide you through the advantages of an in-line duct booster for forced-air cooling. This can increase the flow of cool air into a room that always seems hotter than the rest. Another option is a vent or register booster fan that sits on top or replaces a traditional floor or wall register.

- **Deal with condensation.** Condensation from air conditioning coils can puddle around the furnace if the condensate drain tube is clogged. Clearing it out will help prevent puddling and the formation of bacteria-laden water in the system.

Periodic maintenance is necessary to ensure uninterrupted service on a home AC unit.



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## Signs your gutters are in need of repair

Fall is a great time to tackle projects around the house. The weather each fall allows homeowners to make improvements to their homes' exteriors without worrying about extreme heat or cold, while interior projects like painting are made easier because homeowners can open the windows to allow for proper ventilation.

Fall also marks a great time to prepare for upcoming projects that can make winter work that much easier. For example, fall is a great time to take stock of your gutters so you can address any issues before leaves begin to fall or the first snowstorm touches down. Compromised gutters can contribute to water issues in basements and adversely affect a home's foundation if not addressed immediately, so it behooves homeowners to learn the signs that gutters are in need of repair or replacement.

- **Gutters hanging off the home:** Gutters were once installed predominantly with spikes. However, many industry professionals now install gutters with hanger brackets. Why the change? Spikes loosen over time, leading to the gutters hanging off the home. That can contribute to serious issues if left untreated. Gutters hanging off the home need not necessarily be replaced, but rather secured to the home, ideally with hanger brackets instead of spikes. Brackets hook into the front of the gutter and are then screwed into the fascia of a home. A professional who specializes in gutter repair can perform this task relatively quickly, and it's an inexpensive yet highly effective solution.

- **Gutter separation:** Gutters that are no longer fastened together can leak and contribute to issues that affect the home's foundation, siding and appearance. Clogs and the accumulation of debris can cause gutters to separate because they are not designed to hold too much weight. Replacement of separated gutters may or may not be necessary depending on how big the problem is and the condition of the existing gutters. If replacement is not necessary, separated gutters may be remedied by securing the joints, another relatively simple and inexpensive fix.

- **Peeling exterior paint:** Paint that appears to be peeling off of your home may indicate that water is seeping over the edge of the gutter closest to your home. When that happens, water is coming down the side of the house, causing the paint to peel. In such instances, replacing the gutters is often necessary.

- **Basement flooding:** Not all signs of deteriorating gutters are outside a home. Many a homeowner has been flummoxed by flooding in their basements, and such flooding can be caused by aging, ineffective gutters. That's because deteriorating gutters sometimes allow water to leak near the foundation of a home, contributing to basement flooding.



## Suggestions when shopping for fencing

Fences can improve functionality of a yard and provide extra security and privacy. Some fences are decorative while others are functional. Families with children and/or companion animals also may find fencing is a necessity to keep everyone safe and corralled.

With a vast array of fencing materials available, homeowners may find it challenging to decide which material is right for their properties. The following breakdown can help homeowners learn more about fencing and potentially point them in the right direction regarding which material to choose for their properties.

#### Budget

Budget is one of the first considerations many homeowners have when installing fencing. Pricing will affect whether one can afford a chain link fence (one of the most budget-friendly options), wrought iron or ornate wood (more expensive). Pricing out several different types of fences will give homeowners an idea of which material fits into their budgets.

#### Purpose

Homeowners install fencing for various reasons. If a fence is an ornamental way to delineate property lines, a picket fence or a post-and-rail fence are simple options that can lend a homey feel to a property. These types of fences also can enhance and frame landscaping elements, such as gardens.

In many area, laws require homeowners to install fencing around swimming pools. In such instances, chain link fencing that does not obstruct views of the pool might be the best choice. If security or privacy is the main desire, tall fences that make it difficult for neighbors to see into the **yard may make an ideal choice.**

#### Restrictions

It is important to understand local regulations before installing fencing. Communities governed by homeowners' associations may have rules in place that dictate the type of fences that can be installed. Townships and other municipalities may have their own rules concerning fence type, property borders, fence height, and other factors that will have to be adhered to so that fencing will meet code. If such rules are not following fines may be imposed and the fence may have to be removed. Homeowners also may need permits to install fencing, whether they are hiring a contractor or doing the work themselves.

#### Maintenance

Consumer resource Angie's List advises homeowners to consider maintenance before choosing a fencing material. Wooden fencing requires the most maintenance due to painting and staining. Aluminum or vinyl fencing requires less maintenance, but it can be harder to repair isolated damage or replace pickets, if necessary. In some instances, the entire fence may have to be replaced.

Homeowners install fencing for many different reasons. Considering price, budget, purpose, and maintenance before making a decision regarding fencing can help homeowners make the best decision possible.



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average person ate 38 meals at other people's homes. Knowing how to cook, set the mood and entertain is increasingly important for many homeowners. Installing and outfitting a home bar can provide guests with the features of a night out, only without the crowds or bar tabs that come at the end of the night. A home bar is a place where hosts and their guests can gather and enjoy great conversation. Such a spot also can serve as a neighborhood hangout — a smart choice for those who want

## HOW TO *build your home bar*

Many people enjoy opening their homes to friends or family. In fact, according to the National Eating Trends survey and custom research by the NPD group, in 2016 the

to indulge safely and not have to drive home afterward. Creating a home bar need not be a difficult project. By investing in basic equipment, stocking up on preferred liquors and gaining some mixology expertise, hosts

can impress and entertain their guests.

Establish a bar setup Home bars can range from rolling carts to built-in wet bars to a single tray of items. Space in a home will dictate the kind of bar homeowners can have. Rolling bar carts are popular and versatile, and they can be kept stationary or rolled in and out of a room as needed. If a bar cart is open, organization is key, as you don't want it to look unkempt. A full-blown wet bar will require more construction, including plumbing and electricity if you need outlets for plugging in appliances. Wet bars are ideal in dens, renovated garages and finished basements.

Stock up on equipment A new home bar requires barware and glassware. Various drinks are best served in requisite glassware and prepared with the right equipment. A home bar will benefit from a muddler, jigger, cocktail shaker, strainer, ice cube trays, and bar spoon. Glassware can include short glasses, tall glasses and wine glasses with stems. Martini glasses provide a chic look and are practical for those who prefer cosmopolitans and martinis.

Fill it with spirits No bar is complete without alcohol and mixers. Homeowners can buy the types of spirits they love and complete their bars with the basics for mixing. When stocking a bar, keep in mind that everything does not have to be top-shelf. Vodka, gin, tequila, rum, and whiskey are some of the more popular spirits. Simple syrup, fresh fruit, club soda, cola, and bitters are examples of versatile mixers.

Entertaining guru Martha Stewart says to have enough supplies on hand for guests. Expect each person to have three drinks (requiring three glasses), use a pound of ice, and three cocktail napkins per two-hour party. Don't forget to also have nonalcoholic items on hand for those who don't imbibe.



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## Exterior *renovations that improve curb appeal*

Neglecting a home's exterior can be a disservice to homeowners, particularly those looking to increase the value of their homes. Curb appeal is important, as a home's appearance can greatly affect prospective buyers' perceptions.

Knowing which projects can offer the most bang for their remodeling buck can help homeowners make the right choices when improving the exterior of their homes. The following are some areas where homeowners can direct their focus if their end goal is a great-looking home with added value, as

determined by the 2019 "Cost vs. Value Report" from Remodeling magazine. This report compares the average cost of 22 remodeling projects with the value those projects retain at resale across 136 markets.

- Garage door replacement: Homeowners can recoup 97.5 percent of their investment on a new garage door. This remodel tops the list for good looks and value. The average cost of \$3,611 is for replacing an existing two-car garage.
- Manufactured stone veneer: Replacing a portion of vinyl

siding with stone veneer can greatly improve curb appeal, adding style that can set a home apart. Homeowners can expect to recoup a 94.9 percent return on their investment.

- Wood deck addition: A wooden deck on the rear or side of a home enhances homeowners' ability to enjoy the outdoors year-round. A wood deck addition recoups 75.6 of the cost of homeowners' initial investment.
- Siding replacement: Not only does old or weathered siding look unsightly, it can impact

the energy efficiency of a home. Even though a siding replacement project is costly — at roughly \$16,000 — it offers a 75 percent return and peace of mind that the home is being well-protected from the elements.

- New entry door: Replacing an existing door with a 20-gauge steel door complete with clear dual-pane half-glass panel, jambs and an aluminum threshold with composite stop gets homeowners 75 percent of their initial investment back at resale. Improving the door isn't all about good looks, either. A door that isn't well-insulated or secure can be problematic.

In addition to these improvements, homeowners would be wise to focus on some upgraded landscaping, an upgraded roof, new windows, and improved exterior lighting as surefire ways to add curb appeal and potential value to their homes.

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