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HERALD

SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2018

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Amphitheater improvement meeting set for Tuesday



HERALD file photo

Concert promoter Barney Dodd of Big Spring’s BAD Events speaks to the Big Spring City Council March 27 about his plan to improve the Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater. Dodd will hold an informational meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the amphitheater to discuss the plan.

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Concert Promoter Barney Dodd of Big Spring’s BAD Events has brought

some great music to Big Spring. Now he’s got his

what you think about it.



“What it is, it’s an open forum. We want everybody to come give their feedback,” Dodd said. “We’re not trying to be dictators and try to force something. We want to hear what people have to say. If they have concerns or if they want to offer support or whatever.”

Dodd has a public meeting scheduled at the Amphitheater at 6 p.m.

Tuesday.

Dodd outlined his basic plan for the Big Spring’s historic stone outdoor venue, as well as the non-profit organization he’s formed to organize and raise money for the project, at the City Council meeting March 27.

“I feel like the amphitheater is a really underused facility, but with some improvements, I think it could

be very well used,” said Dodd. “I’ve established a 501(c)3 and I have a board in place ready to start soliciting donations. The plan that I have, I want to use all private funds. That way, we don’t have the issues with taxpayer money and that makes it a lot easier.”

He explained further in a recent phone interview.

“I’m a concert promoter, and I’m doing a show out there and I have a lot of extra expenses incurred because there’s no roof on that stage. I have to have a canopy brought in,” he said. “The idea is to make it where it’s a viable venue. It’s one of the largest amphitheaters in Texas, and it’s sitting there and nobody uses it. We need a roof on the stage. That’s the first thing.”

Dodd said he envisions three phases of improvements at the amphitheater.

“It’s not entirely selfless reasons that I’m doing it because it’s my business, but I grew up in Big Spring and I think it’s sad that it’s sitting there

See **AMPHITHEATER**, Page 3A

Tax value dispute meeting draws more than 300 people

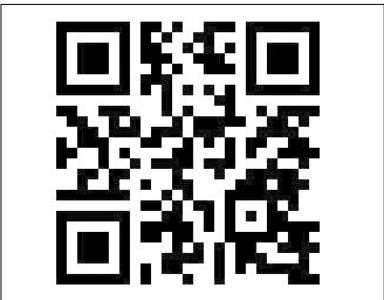


HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Already hard at work before the start of a meeting to explain the property value dispute process to area citizens unhappy with their recently-issued property valuations, attorney Kory Ryan of Brusniak Law Firm in Dallas, brother of Settles Hotel owner and renovator Brint Ryan, speaks with some of the 305 people who attended the meeting.

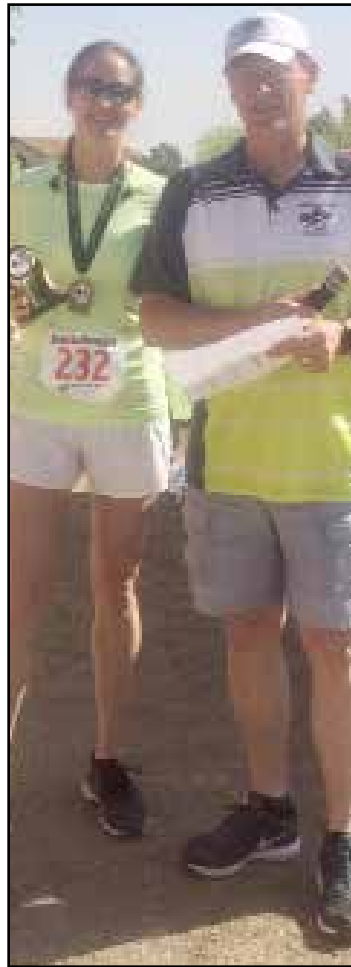
“Mr. Ryan walked everybody through the process of contesting your values,” said meeting organizer Scott Emerson. “There’s four stages to the process. He walked us through and told us exactly what boxes to check on our dispute form, and how to present your case, how to look up properties that are comparative. Then walked through the process if you weren’t happy with how your ARB hearing went, what comes next, which was district court and appeals. Kind of took us through the whole process.”

Emerson said he plans to release a PowerPoint document explaining the same process. For more information, contact Emerson at 432-213-1284.



Mastering the Mountain

Courtesy photos

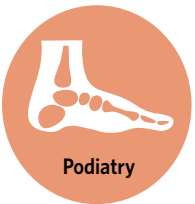


The annual Master the Mountain 5K and 10K race was held at Big Spring State Park April 21. Here are some of the winners: top row, left, overall 5K female winner Becky Cowie with event organizer Craig Felty; right, overall 5K male winner Cooper Miller; below, female 0-13 winner Taelyn. Other winners included female 30-39 winner Fallon Alexander; female 40-49 winner Donna Best; female 50-59 winner Kasi Walker, female 60-69 winner Monika Robinson; male 0-13 winner Emmett Alexander; male 20-29 winner Seve Rodriguez; male 30-39 winner Brian Johnson; male 40-49 winner Peyton Sedberry; male 50-59 winner Doby Walker; male 60-69 winner Dean Cook; and male 70 and over winner Mike Robinson.



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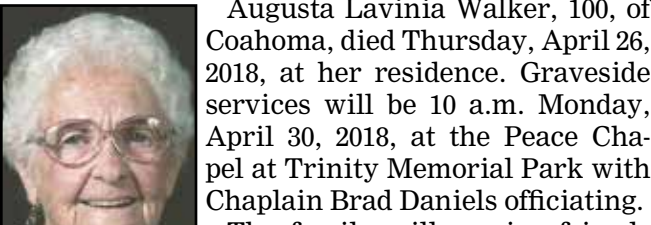
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Obituaries

Augusta Lavinia Walker



Augusta Lavinia Walker, 100, of Coahoma, died Thursday, April 26, 2018, at her residence. Graveside services will be 10 a.m. Monday, April 30, 2018, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Chaplain Brad Daniels officiating. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 29, 2018, at the funeral home. She was born June 1, 1917, in Jack County, Texas. She worked at Big Spring State Hospital for over 20 years, retiring in 1979. Lavinia was a member of Salem Baptist Church and worked in the nursery for 20 years. She read her Bible daily and enjoyed reading, playing dominos and gardening.

Survivors include two sons, Ronnie Walker and wife, Debbie of Sand Springs, and Danny Walker and wife, Gay Nell of Coahoma; three daughters, LaBeth Montgomery and husband, Clyde, and Wanda McMurray and husband, Earl all of Big Spring, and Charlotte Buchanan of Coahoma; 13 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and 15 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Russell and Orella Brooks Lowe; two brothers, Franklin Lowe and Elbert Lowe; and a great-granddaughter, Jessica Jones. The family suggests memorials to the donor's favorite charity. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid Obituary

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **JOVITA RODRIGUEZ**, 38, of 618 State St., was arrested on three warrants with other agencies, on speeding, two counts failure to appear, and failed to control speed.
- **JOE ANTHONY VILLARREAL JR.**, 31, of 2206 Cecilia St., was arrested on a warrant of another agency.

- **JOSE JUAN MARES**, 22, of 1515 Sycamore St., was arrested on a warrant of another agency.
- **CRYSTAL LASHLE COBLE**, 30, of 209 Moore Rd., was arrested on a warrant of no driver's license, and failure to appear.
- **MICHAEL E. BARNETT**, 30, of 209 Moore Rd., was arrested on a charge of assault family violence threat or offensive touch.
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 500 block of Hill-side Dr.

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 200 block of Moore Rd.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1400 block of E 6th St.
- **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported on Wasson and FM 700
- **BURLGARY OF VEHICLE** was reported in the 1800 block of S Benton St.

Take Note

- A Public Forum will held at the Big Spring Comanche Trail Amphitheater May 1, 2018. There will be a discussion of revamping the amphitheater, with hopes that upgrades will be made to the theatre while still maintaining the historical aspect of the theatre. If interested in being a cooperate sponsor to offer feed back be at the amphitheater at 6 p.m. May 1st.

- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is hosting an Indexing Discovery Day open to both members and the community on April 29 at 11:10 a.m. to noon and 3:10 p.m. to 4 p.m. at their Abilene church building, located at 3325 N. 12th St free of charge and open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome. Both novice and expert family history researchers are invited to attend.

- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

- The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending school.

- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop mortgage foreclosure and are in need of help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

- Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, handles legal issues affecting Veterans, Retirees, and their family members. They will have clinics that provides volunteer attorneys that will provide free

legal advice (up to 25 minutes depending on the issue). A pro bono attorney may be assigned to handle some cases that include: bankruptcy, consumer issues/contract, child supper and custody, divorce, employment, foreclosure, housing, landlord/tenant, probate and guardianship, real estate, social security/SSI, Veterans benefits/issues, wills and estate planning. The Clinic dates are on May 24, Aug. 23, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Northside Community Center on 110 N.E 8th St. Applicants must be financially eligible to obtain services. Please bring a copy of your DD215 and/or Veterans ID card. Appointments are required. For more info. or to make an appointment, please contact Pete Fierro at 432-332-1207, ext. 4511.

- The Howard County Democrats meet the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 5:30 p.m. in the Howard College Library.

- The Howard County Fair Board thanks all those who are working on a square for the 2018 quilt. There are still a few squares left to be done; anyone able to help by stitching a square may pick one up at the Heritage Museum during regular hours Tuesday through Saturday. For questions or for more information, please contact Suzanne Markwell at 214-256-1674.

- The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations. Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

- Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Books for kids in kindergarten through about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade. Cash donations to allow the Lions

to purchase additional books are also appreciated. Books or donations can be taken to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., or to the home of Lions member Ken Lawhon at 1707 E. 15th St. For more info. contact Lawhon at 214-998-9716 or Lions member David Stives at 432-270-2251.

- Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more info., call, 432-935-3998. If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

- Each week Kindred offers free health checks from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Corner House Coffee Shop, 1701 Scurry St.

- Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center. Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat. Cost has dropped to \$5 per person thanks to a sponsor Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road.

- Howard County Republicans meet the second Monday of each month. Club members meet in the Cactus Room at Howard College at 11:30 a.m. for Dutch treat lunch and meeting at 12 p.m.

- The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

- Big Spring Centennial Lion's Club has changed its meeting time. The club now meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday and the fourth Thursday of each month. Meetings are still held at the Big Spring TA Truck Stop. Visitors are welcome.

Nancy Nawassa Kershner



Nancy Nawassa Kershner, of Kyle, Texas, passed away on April 14, 2018, at the age of 73 to join her beloved parents in the everlasting light of our Lord. Nancy was born in Elkton, Maryland, on D-Day June 6, 1944, and graduated Fayetteville High School in West Virginia in 1962 where she was a majorette. Nancy attended Charleston General Hospital School of Laboratory Technique in West Virginia and became a medical laboratory technologist. She eventually became the Lab and Radiology Manager at the former Women's and Children's Hospital in Odessa, Texas, then moved to Big Spring, Texas, and served as both the Lab Manager and Safety Officer. She was loved and regarded highly by her coworkers in the hospital. Nancy also made her home in Colorado throughout her life and loved to spend time in the Rocky Mountains.

Nancy valued family above all else. She was immensely proud of her children and grandchildren and devoted her life to their care. Her presence in our lives will be greatly missed. Nancy is survived by her son, Stephen Dale Taylor of Westminster Colorado; daughter, Stephanie Anne Larrison; and her husband, Ross of Kyle, Texas; and two wonderful grandsons, Austin and Zachary; brothers, William Kershner, and Cameron Douglas Kershner of Colorado. She is preceded in death by her parents, Cameron and Amy Kershner.

Paid Obituary

Support Groups

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

- Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

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

TUESDAY

- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons 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 APDA office at 806-785-0942.

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

- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy) a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

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MEMBER 2018

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AMPHITHEATER

Continued from Page 1A

and nobody ever uses it," he said. "Let's use an asset that we have here. It's a beautiful venue. We're going to put a roof on the stage, put a nice dressing room and green room, and put some fencing around it. Those are our three phases right now." Dodd understands that people might have some

concerns about changes to the historic amphitheater, which is 80 years old this year, built by the Public Works Administration and completed in 1938.

"If they have concerns, we want to hear what they have to say," he said. "People are concerned we're not going to keep the historical integrity of it. That's totally not true. We want to make sure that it blends in. We don't want it to be all this limestone with stainless steel sticking out of it. It's going to

blend in with the existing construction."

The amphitheater is best known locally as the site of the annual July 3 "Pops in the Park" patriotic celebration featuring the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra performing in front of a dazzling fireworks display.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

High Kicking Hawks audition



File Photo
Left, the 2017-2018 High Kicking Hawks perform in "A Taste of Broadway," March 11, at the Hall Center for the Art Studio at the Howard College. Dance Team Auditions will be held Saturday May 5th, 2018 from 9 a.m. to noon. Those auditioning should wear dance/workout clothes, make-up and hair pulled back and dance shoes. Bring a dance solo in your best style. Right, High Kicking Hawks Dance Team Coach, Trish Matchen, perform in a solo piece during, "A Taste of Broadway."



By AMBER MANSEFIELD

Staff Writer

Get ready to step and kick for the Howard College High Kicking Hawk/Flight Crew dance team auditions. If you love to dance, are a future or current student at Howard College, and looking for scholarships, come audition Saturday May 5 at the Hall Center for the Art Studio on the Howard College campus from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., for the chance to become apart of the High Kicking Hawks.

"Students that get involved in an organization, like the Howard College dance team learn valuable life skills such as, art appreciation, collaboration, problem solving, and self mastery," said Trish Matchen, High Kicking Hawk, dance team coach. "Dance is not only a beautiful form of self expression, but also a great form of exercise." During the the dance team auditions, participants must wear dance or workout clothes, makeup and hair pulled back with your dance shoes, and those audi-

tioning must come prepared with a one minute solo in you best dance style.

"I encourage anyone that has a passion for dance to audition," said Matchen. "This is a scholarship opportunity, the average scholarship is \$600/semester." High Kicking Hawks was established in 2006 with a goal to inform the community and potential students about the opportunities for dance at Howard College.

"As a dance team member you will learn a variety of styles of dance including: Classical Ballet, Precision Kickline, Jazz, Tap, contemporary, and Hip-hop. My goal as a teacher and coach is to instill in my team a sense of pride, discipline, and integrity," said Matchen. "I have two teams, a precision kickline (the High Kicking Hawks) and a co-ed interdisciplinary (hiphop, contemporary, tap) Team (the flight crew) I have had a variety of dancers with little to no formal training to students that have studied dance for many years. I will teach and

train my students in the different styles of dance in order to perform at Howard sporting events, Fine Arts performances, as well as local public performances, like the Annual Funtastic 4th, Howard County Fair, and more."

Howard College is located at 1001 Birdwell Ln. For additional information or questions about High Kicking Hawks/Flight Crew or about the dance team auditions, contact Cynthia Weeks at 432-264-5161, or email Trish Matchen at tmatchen@howardcollege.edu.

Wayne Dyer an american phycologist once said, "When you dance, your purpose is not to get to a certain place on the floor. It's to enjoy each step along the way."

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Trump says Democrat should quit over VA nomination brouhaha

By JILL COLVIN and ZEKE MILLER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A furious President Donald Trump on Saturday called for the resignation of the Democratic senator who assembled and released what he called "false" allegations that scuttled the nomination of the White House doctor who'd been in line to lead the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Trump stepped up his criticism of Montana's Jon Tester, the top Democrat on the Senate Veterans' Committee, in two tweets days after asserting that Tester "has to have a big price to pay" politically in the GOP friendly state for his leading role in Ronny Jackson's failed VA bid. Tester faces a competitive re-election race this year.

At issue are allegations that Tester has said were brought to his attention by more than 20 military and retired military personnel who've worked with Jackson. Tester said not investigating would have been "a dereliction of duty" and said making them public was important for the sake of transparency.

The charges against Jackson raised questions about his prescribing practices and leadership ability, including accusations of drunkenness on the job. Tester's office collected the allegations, which included a claim that Jackson "got drunk and wrecked a government vehicle" at a Secret Service going-away party.

Trump tweeted Saturday that the allegations "are proving false. The Secret Service is unable to confirm (in fact they deny) any of the phony Democrat charges which have absolutely devastated the wonderful Jackson family. Tester should resign."

Trump said people in Montana, a state he won by 20 percentage points in 2016, "will not stand for this kind of slander." He called Jackson "the kind of man that those in Montana would most respect and admire, and now, for no reason whatsoever, his reputation has been shattered. Not fair, Tester!"

There was no immediate response from Tester's office to telephone messages and emails seeking comments.

A spokeswoman for the committee chairman, Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., declined comment Saturday on Trump's tweets. When Amanda Maddox was asked whether Isakson

was troubled by Tester's release of the allegations, she cited comments the chairman made Thursday: "Everyone has an obligation if they make a charge to release it. And everyone who is charged has a right to have a day in court to be heard."

The White House said Friday, one day after Jackson withdrew his nomination, that internal records raise doubt about some of the most serious accusations.

The White House said its records, including police reports, show Jackson was in three minor incidents in government vehicles during the past five years, but none involved the use of alcohol and he was not found to be at fault. In one case, a side-view mirror was clipped by a passing truck. In another incident an enraged driver in Montgomery County, Maryland, allegedly punched out Jackson's window during a morning drive to Camp David.

The White House medical unit that Jackson ran successfully passed regular controlled substance audits, according to the records for the last three years. The reviews did recommend improvements to the medical unit's handling of controlled substances, but did not find misconduct.

The Associated Press reviewed the documents Friday. They were the result of an internal White House review of allegations raised against Jackson during his brief confirmation process. The White House says the records disprove the allegations.

Tester's office has not specified the time frame during which the alleged misconduct occurred, and a spokeswoman on Friday said the office would not comment until it knew more about the White House records.

Separately, the Secret Service said it has no evidence to support an allegation that its personnel intervened to prevent Jackson from disturbing former President Barack Obama during a foreign trip in 2015.

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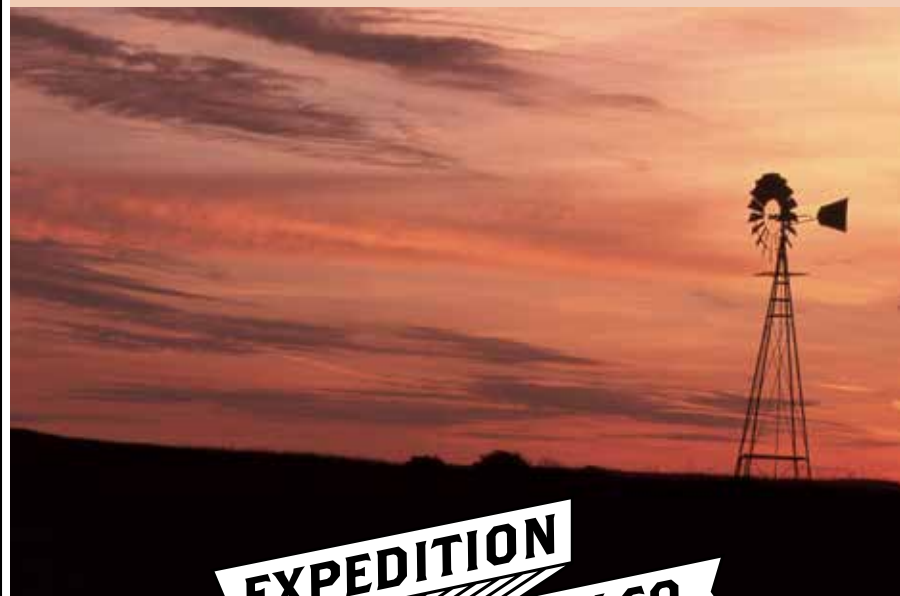
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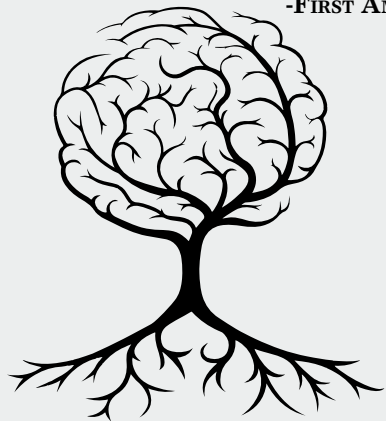
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Opinion

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT



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

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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.

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

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DAILY PRAYER

Dear Lord, strengthen our desire to respond to Jesus' invitation, despite its demands. Amen.

LE Fowler: Wood carving fisherman

When I drove up to LE Fowler's house at White Oak, near Longview, half the driveway was taken up with a huge, well-equipped fishing boat. I could tell I was in the right place. Lots of people had told me about this legendary fisherman. Some call him a fish witch because he can catch fish where nobody else can. Some say he's psychic. Whatever you call him, he knows where and when to catch fish.

He has won some big tournaments and has been a fishing guide. Once on a successful outing, one of his customers asked him how he was catching all those fish. LE's girlfriend, who was along on the fishing expedition, was quick with the answer. She said, "I'll tell you how he's catching all those fish. He thinks like a fish."

Another time LE was with some fishing buddies swapping stories at Uncle Ed's Tackle Shop in Longview.

"They were talking about people being lucky," says LE. "This one guy said, 'I'll tell you who the luckiest man in this country is and that's LE Fowler. He'll catch a ten pound bass out of a bar ditch.' I don't want to sound like I'm bragging but you know, some people are talented to do different things. I've always been able to catch fish. There were 12 of us kids and we ate what we caught or killed."



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

LE makes fishing lures that look like museum quality pieces of art. He carves them with simple tools while sitting in his easy chair watching television.

"Everything is done with my pocket knife, my eye and my imagination."

His calls them baits and has sold them in 25 states under the name WHAT A LURE.

"I sell one of these baits for \$50. It takes me about 8 to 10 hours to make one. People seem to treasure them and won't hardly fish with them because they're afraid they'll lose them. For years I wouldn't let 'em have one that they had paid for until I caught a fish or two with it just to make sure it would catch fish."

His lures are in such demand that he traded a dozen of them with Bass Pro Shop, which outfitted his fishing boat, putting equipment and supplies worth thousands of dollars. Both Bass Pro shop and LE were happy with the trade.

He patented a device called a hypnotizer that attracts fish. He teamed up with some marketing people but that didn't last long.

"They wanted to fly me all over the world and I didn't want to do that. I sold them just out on the water, people were following me around wanting me to sell them one."

LE has cabinets full of his carvings. Some are life size busts of presidents, movie stars, animals and birds. They are carved from California walnut. He has another house and it's full of his carvings.



The Idle American: A rotten day...

"You can't fix stupid." It's comedian Ron White's line, and is tossed about daily with abandon.

In my case--and this is an admission made "frog-throated" and typed with shaky fingers--I plead guilty.

The sting is even greater when our judgment--in certain moments when efforts are squeezed to save a few bucks--is sorely lacking, maybe totally absent. Sequentially, I "flubbed." One would think I'd never traveled before....

The account deserves a "start at the very beginning," as The Sound of Music lyrics suggest.

Anticipating the need for a rental car after a flight to Denver, I scanned computer websites. "Aha," thought I. "We can save a couple of dollars a day with this one (Call it "Henhouse," or some other unlikely name). I reasoned that it would be at an "off-airport" location, but nowadays, aren't they all?

On "take-off day"--in the vernacular of veteran fliers--a telephone call received en route to the airport should have served as a warning. "Henhouse Rental Car is no longer in business at the Denver Airport," a soothing, apologetic voice expressed. "But, your contract will be honored at nearby Fox Car Rentals."...

Making sure I had the rental contract in tow, we proceeded to Dallas. My wife Brenda asked, "Who was that?" I mumbled that it was simply our "rental car confirmation," perhaps a truth stretch, but not an outright lie.

Upon arrival, we hailed down the Fox bus, paying little attention to other than our luggage. It was a sunny morning, and we went straight to the rental counter.

It wasn't on the "main rental car street," where the Budgets and Avises and Hertzies and Enterprises gleamed in the sunlight. Fox, in back, had a "Sanford and Son" appearance, but hey, we all have to start somewhere, right?....

Please keep the word "sunlight" in mind. After a week at Crested Butte, we opted to drive back to

Denver in the afternoon before our flight. I got a great Priceline deal for a hotel just 15 miles from the Denver Airport, and we arose at 2:30 a.m. to make the 6 a.m. flight to Dallas. Checking out at 3:15, all we needed to do was fill the car with gas, then DRIVE TO THE RENTAL CAR RETURN.

Topping off the tank at 3:15 a.m., we had almost two hours to find the rental car return.

Off we went into a sea of darkness, after noting the way well lighted to the Budgets and Avises and Hertzies, but Fox? Hidden in a lair, not to be found.

The smart phone went dumb on us, but we weren't frantic--not yet, anyway. We called the help line, and the guy said if we were driving in front of the "rental car majors," Fox should be across the street. "There's an active runaway across the street," I answered. Turns out, the "help line guy" was in Oklahoma City.....

When we found the return place, it looked like the place where they impound cars. Our flight was "missed by a mile."

The man at the counter "felt for us," saying such happens quite often. "Did you bring the car back full of fuel?" he asked. I whimpered that it was full two hours earlier, but the needle had dipped a bit in our wanderings.

"I'm gonna say it's returned full," he smiled....

We boarded the rickety van, where three others were seated. The driver started the engine, but a guy urged her to stop; he had left his eyeglasses in his rental car. We waited, two more people boarded, and we headed for the terminal, last to get off, of course.

The lady at the Southwest counter could not have been nicer. "I'm gonna get you folks on our 9:30 flight," she promised. Maybe the tears on our luggage, "frog-throatedness" and shaky signature helped!

Whatever, when normal take-offs and landings come out even, does much else matter?...

Dr. Newbury is a former educator who "commits speeches" round about. Comments/inquiries to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com Twitter: @donnewbury. Facebook: don newbury.

Texas prosecutor plans to drop most biker shooting cases

WACO, Texas (AP) — A Texas prosecutor plans to recommend dismissing around 100 of the more than 120 remaining biker cases stemming from a 2015 shooting outside a Waco restaurant.

McLennan County prosecutor Amanda Dillon said during a court appearance Friday that the district attorney's office is continuing to pare down its caseload to focus on those most culpable for the police-involved shooting that left nine bikers dead and 20 injured.

Spokeswoman Rebecca Akins says District Attorney Abel Reyna hasn't decided how many cases to try.

One biker has been tried in the almost three years since the shooting, and it resulted in a mistrial. More than 175 bikers were originally arrested, with 154 eventually indicted.

Reyna had said he was awaiting discovery from a federal racketeering trial in San Antonio.

Central Texas officer, 63, hit while directing traffic, dies

ROUND ROCK, Texas (AP) — A veteran Central Texas police officer who was hit by a vehicle while directing traffic at the scene of a fatality accident has died two months after being seriously injured.

A Round Rock police statement says Officer Charles Whites died Friday. Police spokesman Nick Olivier (oh-LIV'-ee-ay) says funeral services are pending for Whites, who was 63.

Authorities say Whites was struck Feb. 25 while at an accident scene along Interstate 35. The driver whose vehicle hit the officer was detained and later charged with intoxication assault.

Whites served as police officer in Round Rock for 19 years. He's survived by his wife and a stepson.

Round Rock is 10 miles (16 kilometers) north of Austin.

Oklahoma kidnapping suspect killed by Texas authorities

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (AP) — Authorities have fatally shot a man suspected of kidnapping his ex-girlfriend in Oklahoma as he was stabbing her following a high-speed chase in Texas.

The Texas Department of Public Safety said that after the pursuit ended Thursday morning in North Texas the suspect and the woman got of the vehicle and the suspect began stabbing her with a large knife. Troopers then shot the suspect, who died at the scene.

DPS says the woman airlifted to an Oklahoma hospital with serious injuries.

Texas authorities were on the lookout for the suspect's vehicle after police in Norman, Oklahoma, learned he'd reportedly kidnapped his ex-girlfriend.

Police in Burkburnett, Texas, said officers noticed the suspect's vehicle and stopped it but the suspect then fled. A number of law enforcement agencies joined the chase.

Police: Explosive device found at Starbucks in Texas

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) — Police say a "legitimate explosive device" was found outside a Starbucks in Southeast Texas.

Beaumont police say a Starbucks employee found the package outside Thursday morning and took it into the coffee shop. Police say the employee noticed a note while trying to open the package and then notified law enforcement after taking the package back outside.

Police haven't released the contents of the note. Police also haven't said what the package contained.

Several law enforcement agencies responded, including the FBI and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Police say the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force is leading the ongoing investigation.

FBI spokeswoman Christina Garza said the device was dismantled and made safe for law enforcement to process.

Court upholds Texas' law in another big voter ID ruling

By PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas' voter ID law that was twice blocked over findings of discrimination can stay in effect for the 2018 elections, a U.S. appeals court ruled Friday.

It was the second major ruling over voting rights in the U.S. this week after an Arkansas judge on Thursday blocked that state's voter ID measure as unconstitutional.

But in a 2-1 decision by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans, the Texas law that critics have slammed as one of the toughest voter ID measures in the nation was seen as a suitable replacement for the original 2011 law that a federal judge had likened to a "poll tax" on minority voters.

The biggest change to the Texas law — which accepts handgun licenses as sufficient identification to vote, but not college student IDs — is that voters without any acceptable photo ID can still cast a ballot so long as they sign an affidavit. Opponents and a federal judge in Texas balked at the revisions, saying criminal penalties tied to lying on the affidavit could have a chilling effect on voters.

U.S. Circuit Jones Edith Jones said the lower court went too far.

"The district court relied too heavily on evidence of Texas's

state-sponsored discrimination from a bygone era," Jones wrote in her majority opinion.

The revisions to Texas' law were also supported by the U.S. Justice Department — a move that amounted to a complete reversal for the federal government, which under former President Barack Obama had joined minority rights groups in suing over the law. But two months after Donald Trump took office, the Justice Department abandoned the argument that Texas passed voter ID rules with discrimination in mind and said the changes should satisfy the courts.

Opponents bristled at the ruling but didn't immediately indicate their next step.

"We continue to firmly believe that the Texas photo ID law is one of the most discriminatory and restrictive measures of its kind," said Kristen Clarke, president of the Washington-based Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, one of the groups involved in the lawsuit.

Texas first passed the voter ID law in 2011, the same year the GOP-controlled Legislature adopted voting maps that were also struck down as discriminatory. Republican Attorney General Ken Paxton said Friday's ruling "removes any burden on voters who cannot obtain a photo ID."

The law was twice shot down by U.S. District Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos — an appoint-

tee of then-President George W. Bush — who ruled that the strict requirements disadvantaged minorities and effectively dampened the electoral power of Texas' surging Hispanic population. She also disapproved of the modified version, which makes knowingly lying on the affidavit to vote a misdemeanor.

Democrats said that provision could keep people home on Election Day over fears of incorrectly filling out a form. Republicans call those concerns unfounded but have also supported aggressive action against voter fraud, which is rare. Earlier this year, a Texas woman was sentenced to five years in prison for voting in the 2016 presidential election when she was ineligible because she was on probation.

Thirty-four states have laws requiring or requesting that voters show some form of identification at the polls, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Arkansas' newly blocked law would have required officials to provide photo identification to voters free of charge if they didn't have any other photo ID. It also would have let voters without ID to cast provisional ballots by signing affidavits.

Pulaski County Circuit Judge Alice Gray, however, ruled there was no guarantee those provisional ballots would be counted and that they would face greater scrutiny.

Harvey recovery funds may prioritize wealthy, advocates say

By WILL WEISSERT

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Advocacy groups said Friday that Texas is poised to unfairly distribute billions in federal funding provided for housing repairs following Hurricane Harvey's devastation — prioritizing wealthy homeowners over poorer victims in ways that could constitute racial discrimination.

At issue is a draft state rebuilding plan that says homeowners may only be eligible for federal assistance, regardless of income, if they suffered \$8,000 in property damages. The renters' threshold is \$2,000.

Harvey hit Texas in late August, damaging or destroying tens of thousands of homes in Houston, the nation's fourth-largest city, and smaller communities throughout the state's Gulf Coast. In addition to other disaster recovery approved by Congress, the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Agency has allocated a bit more than \$5 billion to rebuild Texas homes.

But a coalition led by the Austin-based non-profit Texas Housers says damage assessments to determine who is eligible to get help are based on data from Federal Emergency Management Agency inspections that calculate property losses rather than the full human toll of major natural disasters — making it more difficult for victims who live in lower income areas to meet damage thresholds.

They say that in-

complete data, coupled with the thresholds, could combine to exclude low- and middle-income households from more than \$1 billion in housing repair aid across Texas.

"Whether you're living in a \$500,000 home or a \$50,000 home, a foot of water inside of it, or your roof blowing off, is going to have the same effect," Charlie Duncan, Texas Housers' research director, said during a news conference at the state Capitol. "It's going to render that home unlivable and you're going to need assistance."

Duncan said Harvey victims who rented and owned homes in 20 largely minority areas in Houston, as well as coastal communities like Port Arthur, are most likely to be excluded.

"It's absolutely a civil rights issue," he said. "A lot of these zip codes that we've identified that stand to be the most underfunded are communities of color."

Brittany Eck, a spokeswoman for Texas' General Land Office, which is overseeing housing recovery and rebuilding efforts, said federal officials — not the state — set damage eligibility thresholds.

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Exxon revenue takes off with oil prices, profit falls short



AP photo

This April 25, 2017, file photo, shows Exxon service station signs in Nashville, Tenn. Exxon Mobil Corp. reports earnings Friday, April 27, 2018.

By DAVID KOENIG

AP Business Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Motorists who are paying 40 cents a gallon more than last spring should have no trouble understanding why Exxon's profit is up.

Higher oil prices drove Exxon's first-quarter profit up by 16 percent to \$4.65 billion, the oil giant's best first quarter in three years, despite falling production.

The results that Exxon Mobil Corp. reported Friday fell slightly short of Wall Street expectations, however, and the shares slid after the opening bell.

Oil prices have been rising on strong demand and an OPEC-led campaign to limit production. U.S. crude is up about \$8 a barrel so far this year, and this month prices for U.S. and international oil struck levels not since seen late 2014.

That has pushed the price of gasoline to a nationwide average of \$2.80 a gallon, up from \$2.40 a year ago, according to auto club AAA.

It is eating into corporate profit at fuel-dependent companies such as airlines, leading the CEO of American Airlines to predict this week that travelers will soon be paying higher fares.

That is all good for Exxon.

The Irving, Texas, company's U.S. oil and gas production turned a profit of \$429 million, compared with an \$18 million loss a year ago, as rigs kept busy in the Permian Basin of Texas and New Mexico and the Bakken shale fields in North Dakota. Exxon, however, still makes most of its money pumping oil and gas elsewhere in the world, and earnings in its international production business jumped by \$800 million, to nearly \$3.1 billion.

The company's per-share earnings of \$1.09 still fell a penny of analysts' forecasts, according to a survey by FactSet, and a nickel short of expectations of analysts polled by Zacks Investment Research.

Revenue rose 16 percent to \$68.21 billion, which easily beat Wall Street projections.

CEO Darren Woods credited higher oil and natural gas prices, operating efficiencies and changes in the company's portfolio. Exxon strengthened its push into offshore Brazil and Guyana and nearly doubled its estimate of gas in a field in Papua New Guinea. At the same time, it sold its stake in an Australian gas field.

The company had \$4.87 billion in capital expenditures, an increase of 17 percent from a year ago. Investors have pushed Exxon and other oil companies to watch capital spending closely after they overspent the last time oil prices rose, only to be caught off guard by a price collapse that began in mid-2014.

Exxon shares fell \$3.16, or 3.9 percent, to \$77.70 in early trading.

AP FACT CHECK: MS-13 gang arrests at border are up this year

By PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas Gov. Greg Abbott is emphasizing the menace of the transnational MS-13 gang in explaining why the National Guard troops requested by President Donald Trump are needed at the border with Mexico.

Trump has justified his call for a border wall and crackdown on illegal immigration in part on the need to stop MS-13, a vicious gang held responsible for murders in cities across the U.S. But sealing the border completely would not eliminate the gang. It was founded in the U.S. in the 1980s by Salvadoran immigrants and has sunk roots in the country. Some of its members are U.S. citizens and not subject to deportation or border

enforcement.

A look at Abbott's statement and the more complex reality behind it.

ABBOTT: "Stunningly, and disturbingly, there's been an increase of more than 200 percent of MS-13 coming across the border," Abbott said during a visit to National Guard troops at Weslaco, Texas on April 12.

THE FACTS: It's true MS-13 apprehensions have risen after several years of decline. Abbott, a Republican, was speaking in the Rio Grande Valley, the busiest sector of the southern border, and his reference to the sharp increase was for that area. For that sector, the increase in MS-13 apprehensions is even greater than Abbott said — nearly 300 percent in the six months through March, according to

Border Patrol data. But the numbers are small at 123 MS-13 arrests of the more than 66,000 apprehensions in that sector during that time. Nationwide, the Border Patrol says 181 of its arrests were MS-13 gang members during the same six-month period.

Until this year, apprehensions of MS-13 had declined gradually from 437 in 2014. If the current rate of MS-13 apprehensions continues another six months, the total number for the year would reverse that trend but wouldn't top 2014.

Tattoos "are the most common" way agents determine whether someone is in MS-13 although interviews and background checks also identify gang members, Border Patrol spokesman Marcelino Medina said.

Weekly Oil Report

New Locations:	Howard County
Surge Operating, LLC 7850 N. Sam Houston Pkwy West Houston, TX 77064-0000 Gayle Foord, Regulatory Analyst (832) 333-2332	#1SH Wolfe-McCann Unit "10-15", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-38974 3.68 miles northeast of Knott A-1710, Section 10, Block 33, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 10,000 feet Latitude 032.440365, Longitude -101.596890. Datum: NAD 27 399' FNL, 890' FWL of 493.08-acre lease 399' FNL, 890' FWL of the survey Rule 37 Exception
Surge Operating, LLC 7850 N. Sam Houston Pkwy West Houston, TX 77064-0000 Gayle Foord, Regulatory Analyst (832) 333-2332	#8SH Hamlin Unit "19-18", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39218 11.81 miles northwest of Big Spring A-272, Section 19, Block 32, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 10,000 feet Latitude 032.419079, Longitude -101.521213. Datum: NAD 27 2309' FSL, 342' FEL of 949.88-acre lease 2309' FSL, 342' FEL of the survey Rule 37 Exception
Sabalo Operating, LLC P.O. Box 2907 Corpus Christi, TX 78403-0000 Shelly Carrigan, Reg. Coordinator (361) 888-7708, Ext. 6015	#4SH Priscilla "23-14", drill horizontal, API #42-227-39576 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA 9.21 miles southeast of Vealmoor A-274, Section 23, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 9000 feet Latitude 032.430561, Longitude -101.453839. Datum: NAD 27 422' FSL, 285' FEL of 626.11-acre lease 422' FSL, 285' FEL of the survey Rule 37 Exception
Sabalo Operating, LLC P.O. Box 2907 Corpus Christi, TX 78403-0000 Shelly Carrigan, Reg. Coordinator (361) 888-7708, Ext. 6015	#4AH Priscilla "23-14", drill horizontal, API #42-227-3930 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA 9.21 miles southeast of Vealmoor A-274, Section 23, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 9000 feet Latitude 032.430575, Longitude -101.453776. Datum: NAD 27 422' FSL, 265' FEL of 626.11-acre lease 422' FSL, 265' FEL of the survey Rule 37 Exception
Surge Operating, LLC 7850 N. Sam Houston Pkwy West Suite 300 Houston, TX 77064-0000 Gayle Foord, Regulatory Analyst (832) 333-2332	#2AH Shroyer-Wilson Unit "A 23-14", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-38954 4.37 miles northeast of Knott A-1106, Section 14, Block 33, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 10,000 feet Latitude 032.430671, Longitude -101.573458. Datum: NAD 27 353' FNL, 1298' FWL of 475.86-acre lease 353' FNL, 1298' FWL of the survey
Energen Resources Corporation 3510 N. "A" St., Bldgs. A and B Midland, TX 79705-0000 Vonda Freeman, Regulatory Analyst (432) 684-3693	#102H Powell "SN 36-25 02", drill horizontal, El: NA Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39577 5.60 miles northwest of Knott A-1410, Section 36, Block 34, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey Total Depth: 9500 feet Latitude 032.476847, Longitude -101.680022. Datum: NAD 27 198' FSL, 896' FWL of 482-acre lease 2445' FNL, 896' FWL of the survey
See, OIL , Page 7A	

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DNA helps Frenchman locate soldier father's family in Texas



AP Photo
In this Tuesday, April 17, 2018 photo, John Wayne Nelson, who is French and authored a book called "How I Found My Dad in Texas: DNA Never Lies," greets American family member Karen Nelson during a gathering on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 in San Antonio, Texas. (Billy Calzada/The San Antonio Express-News via AP)

By **RICHARD A. MARINI**
San Antonio Express-News

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — As a young boy raised by his single mother and grandmother in 1970s France, Nordine Mohamedi always felt a deep connection to the United States.

The San Antonio Express-News reports that's because his father, who he'd been told was killed in the Vietnam War, was an American soldier named John Wayne Nelson.

"When I told my friends that, they laughed at me," he said ruefully. "They said my mom told me a movie story."

For the longest time, about all his Algerian-born mother would tell him about his father was his name and that they met in 1965 while he was stationed at the now-closed Châteauroux-Déols Air Base in central France.

"I always felt her sadness when she talked about my father," he said.

A 28-year search that involved letters to the Army, posts on military blogs and chat rooms and — what eventually struck gold — two DNA tests and help from people he'd never met, led him finally to the father he'll never meet and deep into the heart of Texas.

"Finding the father I'll never know, and finding and meeting all his relatives who are now my relatives, has helped me understand myself better," said the 52-year-old journalist with French public television who, to honor his father, now goes by the name John Wayne Nelson Jr. He was in San Antonio recently with his wife Celine Pauilhac and their two young daughters to meet and host a number of relatives from the area.

"For the first time, I really know who I am now," Nelson said.

It wasn't until he started school as a child that Nelson (still known as Nordine), realized he was different from most of his classmates. They had a mother and a father. He had only a mother. And he lived with his grandmother in a Paris suburb while his mother worked as a waitress 150 miles away.

He says his childhood was happy, that his grandmother and mother (when she could visit), showered him with affection. But with his fair skin and blue-green eyes, he often felt he straddled two worlds, especially when visiting relatives in Algeria.

"Each time, they would speak French to me, as no one could imagine that I could speak Arabic," he wrote in his self-published book about his search, "How I Found My Dad in Texas." "In France my birth country, numerous people were puzzled by my name," he continued.

As he was able to understand more, his mother revealed more details.

"She told me that, when she was three months pregnant, he was transferred to Germany," Nelson said. "He knew he'd eventually be sent to Vietnam so before he left he told her, 'If I survive, I'll return and marry you.'"

Although he took solace in the fact that his mother told him his father's name, Nelson concedes he sometimes wondered if his mother was being completely truthful.

"Who knows?" he said with a shrug. "A lot of American soldiers lied to French girls about their real name, whether they were married. Then you think, 'Could it have been rape?'"

Perhaps that's why he never seriously considered trying to track down his missing father's U.S. origins.

Then, in 1988, his first daughter from his first marriage was born.

"When you become a father you realize what it is to be a father," he said. "When Rachel looked into my eyes, I could see how she loves me, even as a baby, an infant. I thought, I never had that. So I decided to start looking for my father."

Where to begin? His mother refused to answer any more of his questions and did not help with the search. She died in 2000, and Nelson has no idea what else she might have known.

He didn't have a Social Security number for his father. A letter sent to the Army ("a message in a bottle," he calls it) went unanswered. And in those pre-internet days, how would he even find a list of all the John Nelsons there were in the United States?

Later he posted on various military blogs and in chat rooms, looking to connect with anyone who was based at Châteauroux-Déols at the same time as his father. Some promising leads went nowhere. He met a woman online who'd been born in Châteauroux but lived in the U.S. where, he'd hoped, it

would be easier for her to search. But she was unable to uncover anything useful.

By 2011 he'd had enough and decided to stop searching.

Then his second wife Celine and Rachel bought him a genetic test kit as a birthday present.

"We never imagined it would lead to him finding his father," said his wife, who is also a French public television journalist. "We only wanted to give him a global view of his origins. To confirm what his mother had always told him."

Not only did the results show he had relatives on this side of the Atlantic, they also connected him with two people in the U.S., Dan Dotson and Tina Zimmer, who were distantly related but, more important, conversant in the ways of genetic sleuthing.

Zimmer suggested he do another, more specific test with Ancestry.com and, within a few weeks, he got more than 10,000 matches, including 428 close matches, meaning fourth cousin or closer. A week later, Zimmer sent him an Ancestry.com link, not to his father, but to his grandfather, Perry Nelson, complete with a photo.

"For the first time I was able to see a direct relative of mine," he said, pulling up the photo on his mobile phone, his eyes rimmed red with tears at the memory.

From there it was only a matter of time before Zimmer could track down Perry Nelson's four children, including John Wayne Nelson, born in 1946 — Nelson's father.

"I have five children, and every birth was emotional for me," said Nelson. "But finding my father was a different kind of emotion. I was overwhelmed."

Once on the Ancestry.com website, Nelson's connection to the family was available for all to see. And the first more direct cousin to contact him was Amanda Canion, who lives in San Antonio and is his second cousin once removed.

Canion is an experienced genealogy detective and had recently helped her husband's cousin find his biological family. So she connected Nelson with members from both the Nelson and the Brady sides of his family.

To stay in touch with his more than 150 cousins from around the U.S. and Canada, he changed the name on his Facebook profile from Nordine Mohamedi to John Wayne Nelson Jr. in 2016, marking the first time he publicly identified himself that way. He is currently in the middle of legally chang-

ing his name in France.

Last year, during Nelson's first trip to Texas to visit relatives, he visited the small town of London, north of Junction, where his father was raised. He also went to his father's gravesite, where he sprinkled dirt from his mother's gravesite in Colombes, France, that he'd brought with him. He also took some dirt from his father's grave to bring to Colombes.

"I had a mix of sadness and happiness when I was there," he said. "I thought to myself, talking to my father, 'I'm just here, right now, close to you. I just want to tell you how long it took me to get here.'"

As the saying goes, however, be careful what you wish for. As he communicated with his long-sought relatives, Nelson learned more about his father, including that he did not, in fact, die in Vietnam as he'd always been told.

"Yes, my father was wounded in battle and he was taken to Japan and then to North Carolina for treatment," said Nelson. "He wasn't expected to survive."

Nelson Sr., did survive, only to be killed shortly after leaving the hospital while driving his Mustang on the streets of Fayetteville on Labor Day weekend, 1967.

"He was making a left turn and was T-boned," said his cousin Shane Nelson, an Idaho resident who grew up in Texas and who has many fond memories of his uncle, Nelson Sr.

News reports at the time said that Nelson's three passengers, Timothy Beckman, Inge McMillan and Eve Adams, survived. Nelson has tried to find them all, but without success.

More enjoyable were the tales he heard about his dad from those who remembered him even if they were kids at the time.

"He was really nice, especially to my sister. She was his favorite," recalled Shane Nelson of his sister Stacie. "He'd come by and take us for ice cream."

Shane tells an uglier story about a run-in Nelson Sr. had with his own father, Clovis Nelson.

"Uncle John was tough, but my dad was mean," he said. "I remember once my father beat Mom up. Beat her bad. Uncle John put us in his Mustang and told us to stay there. Then he went into the house and beat the (expletive) out of Dad."

The family is already planning another reunion for 2020. Shortly before he and his family returned home to France, Nelson was asked if he would come back for it.

"Absolutely," he replied without hesitation.

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Lady Steers Crush Iowa Park for Bi-District Crown

By JORDAN PARR

Sports Editor



Courtesy photo

Lady Steers #1 Amber Martinez, #5 Abby Luna, #6 Belle Ramirez, #7 Sarah Wood, #9 Kynleigh Joy, #10 Alexis Starr, #11 Ashley Gonzales #13 Cierra Martinez, #15 Maddie Daniels, #17 Leah Davilla, #23 Jocelyn Gonzales and #27 Jocelyn Oliveras defeated the Iowa Park Hawks 20-5 in a Bi-district matchup Friday at the ACU softball complex.

The Lady Steers took the Bi-district title with a dominant performance over the Iowa Park Hawks Friday. Big Spring outhit the Hawks 22 to 8 and ran away with the game early. Alexis Starr was in the zone on Friday, tallying four hits and leading Big Spring to a 20-5 win over Iowa Park. Starr tripled in the third, singled in the third and the fifth, and doubled in the sixth.

The Hawks scored four runs in the third inning, but the Lady Steers still managed to pull out the victory. The big inning for Iowa Park came thanks to two doubles by the Hawks and a sacrifice grounder.

Big Spring got on the board in the first inning. Maddie Daniels drove in one on a double.

The Lady Steers scored nine runs in the third inning. Big Spring's big inning came off singles by Cierra Martinez and Belle Ramirez, a triple by Starr, a home run by Jocelyn Oliveras.

Maddie Daniels got the start for Big Spring. Daniels allowed eight hits and five runs over six innings, and struck out nine in the win.

Iowa Park's pitcher pitched six innings, allowed 20 runs on 22 hits and struck out two.

Th Lady Steers collected 22 hits in the game. Starr, Davilla, C. Martinez, Daniels, Joy, Oliveras, and A. Martinez each racked up multiple hits for Big Spring. Starr went 4-for-5 at the plate to lead the Lady Steers offensively. Starr also led Big Spring with three stolen bases, as they ran wild on the base paths with 11 stolen bases.

Big Spring moves on in the playoffs with an the opponent, time, and place TBD.

Bulldogettes win Bi-District Championship

Special to the Herald

SAN ANGELO - MaKynlee Overton belted an out-of-the-park home run in the sixth inning to salt away a Coahoma 11-1 victory over the Bangs Lady Dragons Friday for the Bi-District Championship.

The Bulldogette offense was on fire at the San Angelo Central High School softball field driving in six runs in the first, 2 in the second and third, and 1 in the sixth. Jaydan Mann started off Coahoma's first-inning onslaught bringing in the first of her 2 RBI for the game with a sacrifice fly to center field. The air time and distance were enough to bring in Caitlyn Corley for the first run of the game. Cassie Grant, Kenzi Canales, and Macee Grant all knocked in runs during the inning.

Overton led at bat for Coahoma. She went 2 for 2 at the plate, had 2 runs, and 2 RBI. C. Grant, Canales, and M. Grant collected 2 RBI a piece. Adding to the run count, Ashley Romero brought in an RBI in the second to help Coahoma win the championship.

Rounding out the top batters for the night, Kamri Kemper, who has been a major assist for the Coahoma team both at bat and in the field all year, knocked out a double in the third. Kemper went 1 for 2 at the plate and had 3 runs for the game.

On base, the girls were fleet-footed stealing multi bases. Corley, Kemper, C. Grant, Lexi Montelongo, Mann, Overton, and Emile Custer were all credited with steals.

Besides lending her muscle at bat for her team, Overton was ice-cold on the mound allowing 1 run over 1 hit and sending 7 batters out to the dugout after striking out.

Bulldogettes Head Coach Alex Orosco gave his team all the credit for the win.

"I think the girls are ready," Orosco said. We are playing good ball. We're ready to go."

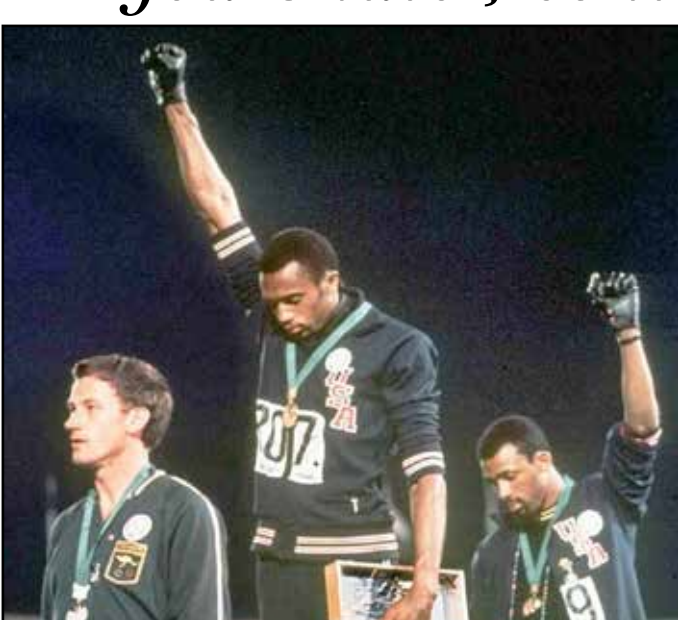
Next: the Coahoma girls will move on to area play and face the winner of the Henrietta-Breckinridge game.



Courtesy photo

The Coahoma Bulldogettes #1 Caitlyn Corley, #2 Kamri Kemper, #5 Cassie Grant, #6 Makayla Overton, #7 Emilee Custer, #8 Ari Valencia, #10 Kinzee Canales, #11 Chloe Starr, #12 Alex Bailey, #13 Lexi Montelongo, #14 Ashley Romero, #16 Illiana Sandoval, #17 Jaydan Mann, #20 Red, #21 Macee Grant, #24 Aubrey Green and #45 Reagan Deel win Bi-District after beating the Bangs Dragons 11-1 in San Angelo Friday, April 27, 2018.

50 years later, controversial Olympian Norman is honored



AP photo

On Oct. 16, 1968 Australian silver medalist Peter Norman, left, stands on the podium as Americans Tommie Smith, center, and John Carlos raise their gloved fists in a human rights protest. Australian Olympic Committee awarded on Saturday, April 28, 2018, a posthumous Order of Merit to Norman. AOC President John Coates said that Norman's achievements as an athlete - his silver-medal winning time of 20.06 seconds at Mexico City remains an Australian record 50 years after he set the mark - were dwarfed by his support for the gold and bronze medalists who raised their gloved fists and bowed their heads during the American national anthem.

By JULIAN LINDEN

Associated Press

SYDNEY — Peter Norman, the Australian sprinter who stood on the podium alongside Tommie Smith and John Carlos when the two Americans gave their Black Power salutes at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics, has been awarded Australia's highest Olympic award, 50 years after the event.

The Australian Olympic Committee said Saturday that it had awarded a posthumous Order of Merit to Norman, who died in 2006, in belated recognition of his role in one sport's most powerful human rights protests.

"This is an overdue award there is no doubt," AOC President John Coates said. "The respect for Peter and his actions is still enormous to this day."

"He believed in human rights throughout his life. We lost Peter in 2006 but we should never lose sight of his brave stand that day and further as a five-time national champion."

Norman won the silver medal in the 200 meters at the Mexico City Games and his time of 20.06 seconds remains an Australian national record. Smith set a then-world record of 19.83 seconds to win the gold medal

while Carlos took the bronze, but it was their civil rights protest at the medal presentation that all three men will forever be linked together.

Smith and Carlos mounted the podium shoeless, representing black poverty in the United States, with each wearing a single, black glove. When the "The Star-Spangled Banner" was played, they bowed their heads and raised their fists in the air.

Norman, a white Australian physical education teacher, wore a human rights badge on his shirt in support of the two Americans. He also suggested the idea that Smith and Carlos each wear one glove because they only had one pair between them.

Smith and Carlos were expelled from the Olympics because of their political protests and were subjected to death threats when they returned home.

Norman was never selected to represent Australia again, and his role in the protest was sometimes overlooked.

In 2005, a statue commemorating the protest was erected at San Jose State University, where Smith and Carlos were students. Norman's place in the statue was left vacant, although the Australian said he fully supported the decision to be left out of the

monument.

When Norman died in 2006, Smith and Carlos both travelled to Australia and were pallbearers at his funeral.

"He was a lone soldier in Australia," Carlos said at the time. "Many people in Australia didn't particularly understand. Why would that young white fella go over and stand with those black individuals?"

"Peter never flinched, he never turned his eye or his head," Carlos said. "When I looked into his eyes, I saw nothing but love."

The AOC has always denied punishing Norman, although the Australian federal government formally apologized to him in 2012 for failing to send him to the 1972 Munich Olympics even though he had qualified.

"I'm absolutely certain from all the history I've read that we didn't do the wrong thing by him," Coates said. "But I absolutely think we've been negligent in not recognizing the role he played back then."

The AOC, during its annual general meeting, also awarded Orders of Merit to four Olympians on Saturday — runners Cathy Freeman and Raelene Boyle and swimmers Shane Gould and Ian Thorpe.

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Cowboys draft Texas T Connor Williams WR Michael Gallup



AP photo

Dallas Cowboys fans cheer during the second round of the NFL football draft Friday, April 27, 2018, in Arlington, Texas.

Associated press

FRISCO, Texas — The Dallas Cowboys didn't do anything about the possible departure of Jason Witten on the second day of the NFL draft. They did add a possible replacement for Dez Bryant.

Dallas took University of Texas offensive lineman Connor Williams in the second round and wide receiver Michael Gallup from Colorado State in the third on Friday night amid questions over how they might fill a hole at tight end if veteran Jason Witten retires after 15 seasons to start a career in broadcasting — perhaps as ESPN's lead analyst on "Monday Night Football."

Team vice president Stephen Jones said he didn't feel a need to draft a tight end. The current roster includes unproven Geoff Swaim, Blake Jarwin and Rico Gathers at the position.

Bryant was released as a cost-cutting move this month after three sub-par seasons since signing a \$70 mil-

lion, five-year contract following his All-Pro season at receiver in 2014.

"We came up with (Gallup) that really could make a difference for us," Jones said. "I don't think that we're going to live in a world right now that we used to live in with Dez, a true No. 1 guy."

The Cowboys took Williams at No. 50, one pick after NFC East rival Philadelphia traded up with Indianapolis to select a South Dakota State tight end named Dallas Goedert.

A consensus first-team All-America tackle as a sophomore, Williams declared for the draft after his junior season with the Longhorns. He started only five games last season because of a left knee injury, and missed the bowl game to prepare for the draft. Williams is the first Texas offensive lineman drafted in 10 years.

When he declared for the draft in December, Williams wrote an essay thanking the bullies who tormented him when he was a child because he was overweight and had a speech im-



AP photo

Texas' Connor Williams celebrates after being selected by the Dallas Cowboys during the second round of the NFL football draft, Friday, April 27, 2018, in Arlington, Texas.

pediment. Overcoming that torment, he said, helped him reach his level of success in football.

"There was so much positive feedback," Williams said, "whether it was kids that actually went through the adversity or if it was parents. If there's people that need help like that and keep reaching out, I'm going to do it all day long to help them."

Dallas and other teams projected the 6-foot-5, 296-pound Williams as a guard, but the Cowboys could keep him at tackle.

"We see him more as an interior guy," coach Jason Garrett said. "His length isn't ideal; it's 33-inch arms. We have scouts and personnel people who are convinced he can play outside as well."

Williams didn't care which position he'd play: "Wherever the coach wants me to play, I'm playing. I have some of the best guards and some of the best tackles to learn from, so whatever position I'm open to."

NFL Draft: Hurst, Crosby, Hines among best left for day 3

Associated Press

With four rounds left in the NFL draft, there are still plenty of gems left to be unearthed.

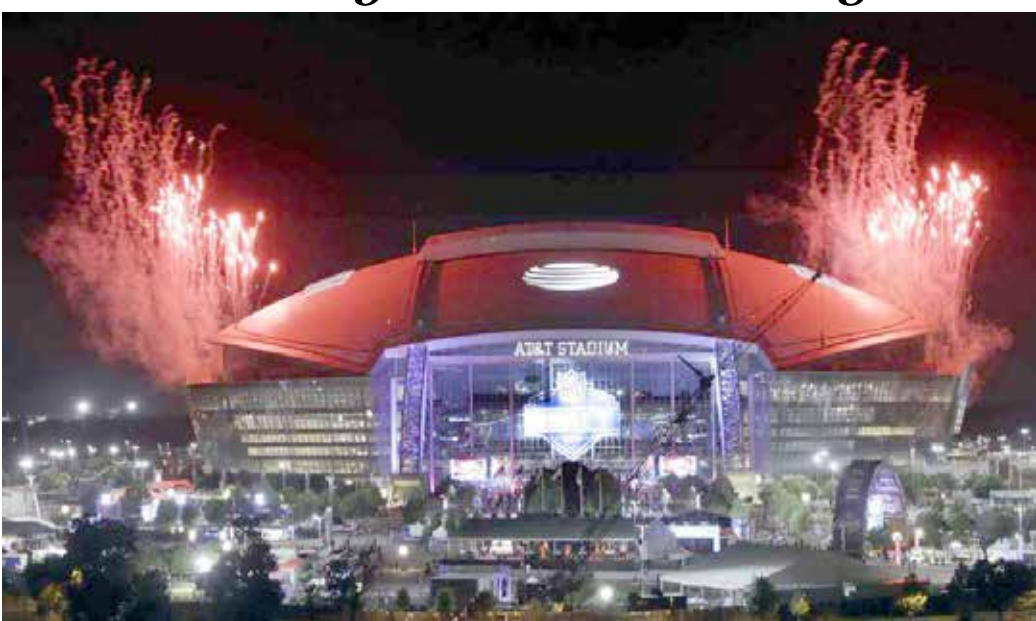
The draft concludes with rounds four through seven Saturday at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas. The most interesting player still left on the board is Central Florida linebacker Shaquem Griffin, who had his left hand amputated when he was a child.

Griffin was a star for the unbeaten Knights last season and then lit up his combine workouts, running a sub-4.4 in the 40-yard dash. He is undersized for a linebacker in the NFL at 6-foot and 227 pounds, but his athleticism and tenacity will likely earn him a spot. Where is to be determined.

Six more intriguing players available heading into Day Three of the NFL draft.

Maurice Hurst, DT, 6-1, 292, Michigan

Hurst was an All-American and one of the most productive defensive players in the country last season. No FBS player received a higher grade from Pro Football Focus, the analytics website that reviews film of every game and grades every play. Hurst had a heart condition discovered during the combine that has apparently scared away teams. He is also undersized for a tackle with short arms — though there were similar complaints about All-Pro Aaron Donald coming out of college. Hurst is not



AP photo

Pyrotechnics are fired off the top of AT&T Stadium at the end of the third round of the NFL football draft Friday, April 27, 2018, in Arlington, Texas.

at that level as a prospect, but if his health is OK, there is little doubt who is the best player still available.

Tyrell Crosby, OT, 6-5, 309, Oregon Crosby is a steady run blocker who might be better off at guard, but he is also a player who many evaluators viewed as not far off many of offensive linemen already taken. The Packers have the first pick of the fourth round and could use help along the offensive line.

Kyle Lauletta, QB, 6-3, 222, Richmond

After five quarterbacks were taken in the first round, only one went in

rounds two and three (Oklahoma State's Mason Rudolph to Pittsburgh in round three). Who is the next quarterback to go? Maybe Lauletta from an FCS school. Physically, Lauletta doesn't jump out. His arm is OK. But he played well against better competition in the postseason and is accurate with good mechanics and decent mobility. Mike White from Western Kentucky and Luke Falk from Washington State are the other quarterbacks most likely to be drafted Saturday.

Antonio Callaway, WR, 5-11, 200, Florida

Callaway has had a litany of off-

field issues and could go undrafted because of them. But he also has first-round talent. Will some team take a chance? There are other good options left at receiver including Clemson's Deon Cain, who also had some off-field problems in college though nothing compared to Callaway, Daesean Hamilton of Penn State, Equanimeous St. Brown of Notre Dame and Keke Coutee of Texas Tech.

Nyheim Hines, RB, 5-8, 198, North Carolina State

There is no shortage of talented running backs left, but Hines might be the most interesting prospect still on the board at that position. He's not an every-down back at that size, but Hines was a dominant do-it-all speedster who led the Atlantic Coast Conference in all-purpose yards last season. He could contribute returning kicks and be an interesting addition to a creative offensive team. More traditional runners such as Tennessee's John Kelly, Alabama's big Bo Scarbrough and Arizona State's Kallen Ballage are just a few of the other running backs likely to go in the fourth and fifth rounds.

Josey Jewell, ILB, 6-1, 235, Iowa

Jewell was a tackling machine and All-American with the Hawkeyes, the type of linebacker that is easy to envision having a 10-year career as a steady two-down player. Micah Kisler from Virginia and Tegray Scales from Indiana also fill that bill. All are likely to be gone by round six.

Question turns to Witten after Cowboys address Bryant void



AP photo

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones says Jason Witten has made no final decisions about his future.

Associated Press

FRISCO, Texas — The Dallas Cowboys drafted a receiver after dumping Dez Bryant. Now the question is whether they will take a tight end with Jason Witten considering retirement after 15 seasons to go into broadcasting.

Dallas goes into the final day of the draft Saturday with seven picks over the four rounds, starting with two fourth-round choices at Nos. 116 and 137 overall. The Cowboys have one pick in the fifth, three in the sixth and one in the seventh.

The Cowboys got receiver Michael Gallup from Colorado State in the third round. They released Bryant, the franchise leader in touchdown catches, in a cost-cutting move this month.

ESPN has reported that Witten plans to retire and become the lead analyst for "Monday Night Football." Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said Witten hasn't made a final decision and asked for the

weekend to consider his future.

Witten is the franchise leader in games, catches and yards receiving. The three tight ends remaining on the roster have nine career catches combined — all by fourth-year player Geoff Swaim.



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Oladipo, Pacers force Cavaliers to Game 7 with 121-87 rout

Associated press

INDIANAPOLIS — Victor Oladipo scored 28 points and posted the first postseason triple-double of his career Friday night, leading the Indiana Pacers to a 121-87 blowout over the Cleveland Cavaliers to even the series at three.

Game 7 will be played Sunday in Cleveland.

The three-time defending Eastern Conference champs again were led by LeBron James with 22 points, seven assists and five rebounds despite sitting out the entire fourth quarter. Nobody else scored more than 13 points as the Cavaliers lost their first closeout game in 14 tries dating to 2009. James had won 11 consecutive closeout games and is 12-0 all-time in the first-round series.

Kevin Love hurt his left wrist on a hard fall midway through the second quarter and wound up scoring just seven points while shooting 3 of 10 from the field.

JAZZ 96, THUNDER 91

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Donovan Mitchell scored 38 points and Utah held off Oklahoma City in Game 6 to advance to the Western Conference semifinals.

Russell Westbrook had 46 points for the Thunder and Steven Adams added 19 points and 16 rebounds. The rookie and the MVP went back and forth in



AP photo

Indiana Pacers' Victor Oladipo, right, heads to the basket as Cleveland Cavaliers' Kyle Korver defends during the second half of Game 6 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series, Friday, April 27, 2018, in Indianapolis.

the second half, with Mitchell and the Jazz moving on to face the top-seeded Houston Rockets in a series that starts Sunday.

Derrick Favors scored 13 points and Rudy Gob-

ert had 12 points and 13 rebounds for the Jazz, who lost starting point guard Ricky Rubio to a left hamstring injury in the first quarter.

RAPTORS 102, WIZARDS 92

WASHINGTON (AP) — Toronto overcame a half-time deficit in a road playoff game for the first time in 24 tries, using 24 points from Kyle Lowry and a tremendous effort from its finally whole second unit to beat Washington in Game 6 and end the Eastern Conference first-round series.

Toronto trailed by as many as 12 points in the first quarter and was down 53-50 at the end of the second. The Raptors' first lead did not come until the third quarter, and they were back down by five points entering the final period.

But with star guards Lowry and DeMar DeRozan, who had a personal series-low 16 points, resting to begin the fourth, reserves led by point guard Fred VanVleet turned around the game. Bothered by a bad right shoulder, VanVleet had played a total of three minutes in the series until Friday, but he was just what Toronto needed in this game, with five points, four assists and four rebounds.

John Wall had 23 points and eight assists in Game 6. Bradley Beal led Washington with 32 points. But the Wizards' run of eight home playoff wins in a row came to a close.

Mitchell scores 38, Jazz beat Thunder 96-91 to win series

By MATTHEW COLES

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Donovan Mitchell arrived at the arena wearing a white hoodie featuring the Mona Lisa. He left the court having authored a playoff masterpiece.

Even when the Jazz trailed in the first half, Utah coach Quin Snyder reminded Mitchell what he was capable of accomplishing.

"We're going to win this game and you're going to go off," Mitchell said his coach told him. "When you got a coach telling you that, your mindset changes and maybe you don't need to be nervous anymore."

Mitchell scored 38 points and the Jazz held off the Oklahoma City Thunder 96-91 in Game 6 on Friday night to advance to the Western Conference semifinals.

Though the game got tight, Mitchell looked like he was having the time of his life.

"I don't know if you've noticed but I smile through everything," said Mitchell, the third rookie over last 35 years to have multiple 30-point games in a playoff series, joining Alonzo Mourning and Michael Jordan.

At one point, Mitchell made 10 straight shots.

"I was in a different mode. It was crazy," Mitchell said.

Russell Westbrook had 46 points for the Thunder and Steven Adams added 19 points and 16 rebounds.

After the game, an agitated Westbrook confronted a fan and took a swipe at his arm before security whisked him to the locker room.

"I don't confront fans. Fans confront me. Here in Utah, a lot of disrespectful, vulgar things are said to the players here," Westbrook said. "It's just a disrespect to the game and needs to be brought up. I'm tired of just going out and playing and then fans say what the hell they want to say."

The rookie and the MVP went back and forth in the second half, with Mitchell and the Jazz moving on to face the top-seeded Houston Rockets in a series that starts Sunday.

"For me, personally, beating a guy I looked up to and I model my game after is special," Mitchell said of Westbrook.

Derrick Favors scored 13 points and Rudy Gobert had 12 points and 13 rebounds for the Jazz, who lost starting point guard Ricky Rubio to a left hamstring injury in the first quarter.

The Jazz took their biggest lead when Gobert hit two free throws to make it 86-73 with 7:04 remaining.

Westbrook's 3-pointer capped an 18-6 run and drew Oklahoma City to 92-91 with 1:28 to play.

"We got stops and Russ made big play after big play," Paul George said.

Favors hit a jumper for the Jazz but then the Thunder corralled five offensive rebounds in a frantic possession where Oklahoma City missed five shots. After a review, George faked Gobert into the air behind the 3-point line and leaned in but didn't get the call and shot an airball.

"I think it could have been called both ways," Gobert acknowledged.



AP photo

Utah Jazz forward Jae Crowder right, fouls Oklahoma City Thunder forward Paul George during the first half of Game 6 in an NBA basketball first-round playoff series Friday, April 27, 2018, in Salt Lake City.

Mitchell scampered down the court as the Thunder yelled at the officials and eventually made two free throws with 6.9 seconds left to clinch the game.

After struggling to score in the first two periods, the Jazz just gave the ball to Mitchell and set screen after screen to allow him to take advantage of Oklahoma City's switching defense.

In the third quarter, Mitchell scored 22 points to boost the Jazz into a double-digit lead. The rookie scored on electrifying drives to the basket, spinning shots in the lane and rainbow 3-pointers.

"He's been a team-first guy and sometimes the team needs a guy to take things on his shoulders. In the third quarter, obviously, he was dynamic," Snyder said.

The arena, awash in gold as the Jazz wore their yellow jerseys and every fan was given a gold T-shirt, roared as Mitchell held his arms aloft and beckoned for more.

Mitchell picked up his fifth foul with 10:01 to play but returned to finish the game midway through the fourth quarter.

Seven minutes into the game, Rubio began limping and left the game.

"This group needed to rally around him. There was just no other way," Snyder said.

Facing a team without a true point guard, the Thunder extended their defense and disrupted Utah's sets. The Jazz were shooting from unfamiliar spots and connected on just 39 percent in the

first half.

Oklahoma City led by as many as nine before the Jazz tied it at 41 at halftime.

TIP-INS

Thunder: Jerami Grant made his first two 3-pointers of the series, the only Thunder player to make one besides Westbrook. ... Other than a technical, the Thunder shot their first free throw with 6:36 left in the half. ... George had a playoff-low five points.

Jazz: Gobert got a technical foul in the second quarter for complaining. ... Favors went 1 for 7 from the free throw line and the Jazz shot 12 of 23 overall. ... Mitchell joined Lew Alcindor as the only rookies to score 20 points in each of their first six career playoff games over the last 50 years. ... Coming into the game, Mitchell and LeBron James shared the lead for most fourth-quarter points in the playoffs so far (44) but James had no points and Mitchell had six on Thursday.

RAPID-FIRE RUSS

Westbrook took 43 field goal attempts, with 19 coming from behind the line. Several ended up being airballs. Like Game 5, when Westbrook helped the Thunder overcome a 25-point deficit, the MVP said he wanted to do whatever he could to win the game. "Every night, I leave it all out on the floor. Sometimes you come up short," he said. "I don't really care what people think (about the number of shots he took)."

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Home Hospice Brunch and Fashion Show

By **AMBER MANSFIELD**
Staff Writer

They are a model if you know what I mean, they do the turn on the cat walk. Ok cheesy song aside, Home Hospice presented to Howard County their first Brunch and Fashion Show April 21 at the First United Methodist Church in the Garrett Hall. The Brunch and Fashion show was a way for Home Hospice to honor cancer survivors of Howard County. For the show, different boutiques and clothing shops lent the survivors merchandise from their store for the survivors models to wear during the fashion show.

"This is our way to show survivors of cancer that we honor and appreciate their bravery and we are blessed they are here with us," said Beverly Grant, of Home Hospice and coordinator of the Brunch and Fashion Show. "You are survivor the moment you get diagnosed with cancer, and we want to show them we are here for them." During the show there was nine different models, who had either had cancer or representing someone who had cancer, and each modeled clothing articles from stores such as Maurice's, Hallmark, Blissful, and Shop N Style.

Also during the event guest was severed a buffet of different finger foods while listening to a few locals cancer stories, to how they found out about their cancer, their journey of treatment, and where they are at now in their lives. One local Laura Liphim spoke on behalf of her three year old daughter Audrey who was diagnosed with cancer when she was 16 months old. She told her story and gave the audience some devastating facts about children with cancer that she has learned since Audrey was diagnosed.

"Audrey cancer journey wasn't a normal one. She

is a miracle child, with how amazing she responded to the treatment and that it was able to get rid of the cancer," said Laura. "Most children aren't so lucky. 36 children everyday get diagnosed with cancer, and everyday three children die from cancer. In the past 20



HERALD photo/ Amber Mansfield

From left to right are the Fashion Models are: Connie Baker, Kaelor Green, Christie Brownfield, Gay Herren, Judy Pumroy, Kay Hulse, Laura Liphim with Audrey Liphim in front, and Hailey Grant.

years there have been 190 new cancer medicine for adults, and only three new ones for children. We need to donate and raise funds for our children and stop thinking of cancer as just something adults get." Most of the funds generated by Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society go back into research for adults and only a small portion goes to funding advances for children's cancer.

"We need to do our part for the children and adults who have cancer," said Grant. "The fight for

cancer is on going and it's up to us to do what we can and support these foundations that help those who can't help themselves." Grant invited the audience to come to Relay for Life May 4 to support the cause even further.

"You will be hooked once you go once and will want to come every year," said Grant. "We thank everyone who supported the brunch, the boutiques who supplied the fashion, to those who helped put together the brunch, and we thank the survivors of cancer for being a mentor and for your bravery."



HERALD photo/ Amber Mansfield

The photo above shows the brunch that was provided for guest during the Brunch and Fashion.



HERALD photo/ Amber Mansfield

Left Kay Hulse and on the right is Gay Herren, both who took part in the Fashion show at the Garrett Hall on April 21 presented by Home Hospice.



HERALD photo/ Amber Mansfield

On the far left are models Kaelor Green and on the left is Hailey Grant. The photos on the far right are models Laura and Audrey Liphim and Christie Brownfield to the right, all of which participated in the fashion show.



Happily Ever After



Breanna Michelle Hilario and Aaron Kyle Gonzales both of Big Spring will exchange wedding vows at 5 p.m. May 5, 2018 at LuKacy’s Event Center in Hermleigh, Texas.

The bride graduated from Coahoma and is the daughter of Michael Hilario and Sarah Lawson of Colorado City, Texas, and Connie Garcia and Michael Ornelas of Big Spring, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Victor and Maria Hilario of Big Spring on her fathers side, and Johnny and Alvida Garcia of Big Spring on her mother's side.

The groom graduated from Coahoma and is the son of Eddie and Lori Gonzales. He is the grandson of Debbie and Stan Gregory of Big Spring, Mike and Jeanette Mundell of Temple, Texas on his mother's side, and Fermin and Eloisa Gonzales of Coahoma, Texas on his father's side.

New 'Avengers' film amasses \$95M so far internationally



This image released by Marvel Studios shows Chris Hemsworth as Thor, with characters Rocket, voiced by Bradley Cooper, seated center, and Groot, voiced by Vin Diesel, in a scene from "Avengers: Infinity War." (Marvel Studios via AP)

By MARK KENNEDY
AP Entertainment Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — The superhero-stuffed "Avengers: Infinity War" is off to a super start, earning \$95 million in 43 countries over the past two days ahead of what could be a record-breaking

HOWARD COUNTY LUNCHES

Big Spring ISD

Kentwood Early Childhood
Monday: Breakfast: Blueberry muffin, fresh oranges, milk. Lunch: Oven roasted drumstick with roll, mixed fruit, mashed potatoes, fresh broccoli, milk.
Tuesday: Breakfast: Sausage kolaches, fresh apple slices, milk. Lunch: Spaghetti, diced peaches, green beans, fresh red pepper strips, milk.
Wednesday: Breakfast: Sausage sandwich, diced pears, milk. Lunch: Chicken nuggets, pineapple tidbits, sliced carrots, fresh zucchini squash, milk.
Thursday: Breakfast: Cinnamon toast crunch cereal, fresh banana, milk. Lunch:
Friday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza, fresh apple slices, milk. Lunch:

Elementary Schools
Monday: Breakfast: Cinnamon toast crunch cereal, string cheese, fresh apple slices, grape juice. Lunch: Cheeseburger, or oven roasted drumstick with roll, fresh grapes, mixed fruit, mashed potatoes, fresh broccoli, garden salad.
Tuesday: Breakfast: Pancake on a stick, fresh oranges, fruit juice. Lunch: Hot dog or diced chicken caesar salad with breadstick, raisins, diced peaches, buttered green beans, fresh red pepper strips, garden salad.
Wednesday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fresh pears, orange juice. Lunch: Chicken nuggets, or broccoli and cheese potato with roll, fresh apples, diced pears, oranges glazed carrots, fresh zucchini squash, garden salad.
Thursday: Breakfast: Sausage kolaches, fresh apple slices, cherry star juice. Lunch: Chicken patty sandwich, or ham turkey salad with roll, fresh oranges, rosy applesauce, baked beans, fresh celery sticks, garden salad.
Friday: Breakfast: Banana muffin, strawberry banana yogurt, fresh banana, apple juice. Lunch: Pepperoni pizza, beef taco salad, fresh steamed spinach, fresh baby carrots, garden salad.

Intermediate School
Monday: Breakfast: Cocoa puffs cereal, graham crackers, fresh apples, grape juice. Lunch: Chicken patty sandwich, or cheeseburger, or oven roasted drumstick with roll, fresh grapes, mixed fruit, mashed potatoes, fresh broccoli, garden salad.
Tuesday: Breakfast: Pancake on a stick, fresh oranges, fruit juice. Lunch: Spicy chicken sandwich, or diced chicken caesar salad with breadstick, chili mac, strawberry crasins, diced peaches, buttered green beans, fresh red pepper strips.
Wednesday: Breakfast: Cherry frudel, fresh pears, orange juice. Lunch: Chicken patty sandwich, or cheeseburger, or ham turkey chef salad with flatbread, fresh apples, diced pears, oranges glazed carrots, fresh zucchini squash, garden salad.
Thursday: Breakfast: Chicken biscuits, fresh bananas, cherry star juice. Lunch: Spicy chicken sandwich, or hot dog, or chicken nuggets with roll, fresh oranges, applesauce, baked beans, fresh celery sticks, garden salad.

debut in North America.

Marvel Studios reported Friday that "Infinity War" has so far earned \$11.4 million in South Korea, \$10 million in Australia and \$9 million in the United Kingdom, as well as scoring the highest movie opening in counties including Brazil, the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong

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Friday: Breakfast: Sausage kolaches, strawberry craisins, apple juice. Lunch: Chicken patty sandwich, or pepperoni pizza, or beef taco salad, pineapple tidbits, fresh cantaloupe, fresh steamed spinach, fresh baby carrots, garden salad.

Junior High School
Monday: Breakfast: Cheerios cereal, string cheese, fresh apples, grape juice. Lunch: Cheeseburger, or oven roasted drumstick, diced buffalo chicken salad with roll, fresh grapes, mixed fruit, mashed potatoes, fresh broccoli, garden salad.
Tuesday: Breakfast: Blueberry muffin, fresh oranges, fruit juice. Lunch: Spicy chicken sandwich, or diced chicken caesar salad with roll, or spaghetti, fresh bananas, diced peaches, buttered green beans, fresh red pepper strips, garden salad.
Wednesday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, fresh pears, oranges juice. Lunch: Cheeseburger, or broccoli and cheese potato or ham turkey chef salad with flatbread, fresh apples, diced pears, orange glazed carrots, fresh zucchini squash, garden salad.
Thursday: Breakfast: Chicken sandwich, fresh bananas, cherry star juice. Lunch: Spicy chicken sandwich, tuna salad platter with roll, or sausage red beans with rice, fresh oranges, applesauce, baked beans, fresh celery sticks, garden salad.
Friday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fresh grapes, apple juice. Lunch: Cheeseburger, or pizza salad, or Cajun chili fries, with roll, fresh cantaloupe, pineapple tidbits, fresh steamed spinach, fresh baby carrots, garden salad.

High School
Monday: Breakfast: French toast sticks, egg and cheese muffin melt, or waffles, warm cinnamon apples, cocoa puffs cereal, string cheese, fresh apples, diced pears.
Tuesday: Breakfast: Muffin, or sausage and cheese muffin melt, or waffles, warm cinnamon apples, animal crackers, fresh oranges, mixed fruit.
Wednesday: Breakfast: Hash brown, toast, egg bacon muffin melt, or waffles, warm cinnamon apples, lucky charms cereal, fresh pears, string cheese, applesauce.
Thursday: Breakfast: Cheese quesadilla, or sausage cheese muffin melt, or waffles, warm cinnamon apples, honey nut cheerios cereal, animal crackers, fresh bananas, raisins.
Friday: Breakfast: Cheese or ham frittata, or egg and sausage muffin melt, or waffles, warm cinnamon apples, frosted mini wheats cereals, string cheese, fresh grapes, diced peaches.
Lunch: Line 1: Made-to-order hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, deli-style sandwiches; Line 2: Pizza; Line 3: Nachos, burritos, tacos.

Coahoma ISD
Monday: Breakfast: Sausage biscuits. Lunch: Chicken salad and croissant, or Texas country basket or hamburger or cheeseburger with fries, steamed mixed veggies, slushie cup.

Here we go again: ABBA records first new songs in 35 years



LONDON (AP) — Mamma Mia! The members of ABBA announced Friday that they have recorded new material for the first time in 35 years.

The Swedish pop supergroup said it had recorded two new songs, including one titled "I Still Have Faith in You."

The news was announced in an Instagram statement from Benny Andersson, Bjorn Ulvaeus, Anni-Frid Lyngstad and Agnetha Faltskog.

ABBA won the 1974 Eurovision Song Contest with "Waterloo" and had a sequin-spangled string of hits including "Dancing Queen" and "Take a Chance on Me" before splitting up in 1982.

The band's statement said the members reunited to plan a virtual tour featuring digital avatars, and decided to go back into the studio.

AP Photo
In this April 6, 1974 file photo, Swedish pop group ABBA celebrate winning the 1974 Eurovision Song Contest on stage at the Brighton Dome in England with their song Waterloo. From left, Benny Andersson, Anni-Frid Lyngstad (Frida), Agnetha Faltskog, and Bjorn Ulvaeus.

ABBA said "it was like time had stood still and that we had only been away on a short holiday. An extremely joyous experience!"

"I Still Have Faith in You" is due to be performed by the group's holograms in a December TV special broadcast by the BBC and NBC. There was no word on when the second track will be released.

Ulvaeus revealed earlier this month that digitally created virtual band members — "Abbatars" — would perform in a television show in 2018, followed by a tour in 2019 or 2020.

The band members have performed together just once since the 1980s, at a private party in 2016, and have long said they will never tour live together again.

Kong, Vietnam and Chile. It opened in 21 counties Wednesday and added 22 on Thursday.

Hollywood is watching to see if it can smash the opening domestic weekend box-office record, currently held by "Star Wars: The Force Awakens." That film opened to \$248 million in sales in its opening weekend in December 2015.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Breakfast burrito and hash browns. Lunch: Sante Fe Salad, or Tex-Mex stack with rice, or chicken fajitas with rice.]
Wednesday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll or muffin, and Pastries with Parents: elementary and academy kindergarten through 2nd grade. Lunch: Caribbean salad, or Chicken alfredow breadstick or Calzone with marinara, garden salad, Tuscon Veggies, peaches, cookie.
Thursday: Breakfast: Stuffed bagels and sausage or mini pancakes and sausage. Lunch: Crispy chicken, or grilled cheese with chips, or country pot pie, broccoli bites, veggie cup, snowball salad.
Friday: Breakfast: Dutch waffles. Lunch: Grilled chicken salad, or chicken bowl, or BBQ sandwich, with chips, savory green beans, apple slices.

Forsan ISD
Monday: Breakfast: Sausage biscuits, fruit, fruit juice, milk. Lunch:
Tuesday: Breakfast: Breakfast sandwich, or cereal bar, or yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk. Lunch:
Wednesday: Breakfast: Chicken in biscuits, or breakfast parfait, fruit, fruit juice, milk. Lunch:
Thursday: Breakfast: Stuffed bagel or cereal bar, and yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk. Lunch:
Friday: Breakfast: Mustang breakfast, French bread pizza, marinara sauce, garden salad, steamed vegetables, fruit cup, pudding, fruit variety, milk. Lunch:

Big Spring Senior Center
Monday: Glazed ham, sweet potatoes, broccoli and cauliflower, cottage cheese and tomatoes, oatmeal cookies, bread, milk.
Tuesday: Chopped beef steak and gravy corn casserole, turnip greens, applesauce, bread, milk.
Wednesday: Beef and Vegetable stew green salad with tomato wedge, FF dressing, fruited gelatin, cornbread, milk.
Thursday: Chicken enchiladas, refried beans, chopped lettuce and tomato, strawberries and bananas, milk.
Friday: Fish sandwich, tater sauce, okra, sweet potato fries, rice krispy treat, milk.

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Roger's Reviews: Avengers: Infinity War



Iron Man. Thor. The Incredible Hulk. Captain America. Black Widow. War Machine. Doctor Strange. Spider-Man. Black Panther. Gamora. Nebula. Loki (he counts as a hero in this movie). Vision. Scarlet Witch. Falcon. The Winter Soldier. Mantis. Drax. Groot. Rocket. Star Lord. And another returning hero seen in a cameo (but that would be telling).



ROGER
CLINE

Yes, all these superheroes appear on screen in Marvel's new offering in the Avengers franchise: "Avengers: Infinity War," released this weekend.

Notice I said that's the superheroes in the movie...that's not even counting the bad guys... Thanos, Cull Obsidian, Ebony Maw, Proxima Midnight, Corvus Glaive...and another returning villain seen in a cameo (but that would be telling).

Then there are other returning side characters: "Thor"'s Heimdall; "Black Panther"'s Okoye, Shuri, M'Baku, and Ayo; "Iron Man"'s Pepper Potts; "Doctor Strange"'s Wong; The Collector from "The Avengers"; Thaddeus Ross from the "Hulk" franchise; and Ned from "Spider-Man: Homecoming."

For those keeping track of actors, that's (respectively) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo, Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson, Don Cheadle, Benedict Cumberbatch, Tom Holland, Chadwick Boseman, Zoe Saldana, Karen Gillan, Tom Hiddleston, Paul Bettany, Elizabeth



Olsen, Anthony Mackie, Sebastian Stan, Pom Klementieff, Dave Bautista, Vin Diesel (voice), Bradley Cooper (voice), Chris Pratt, and Samuel L. Jackson for the heroes; Josh Brolin, Terry Notary, Tom Vaughan-Lawlor, Carrie Coon, Michael James Shaw, and Ross Marquand for the villains; and Idris Elba, Danai Gurira, Letitia Wright, Winston Duke, Florence Kasumba, Gwyneth Paltrow, Benedict Wong, Benicio Del Toro, William Hurt, and Jacob Batalon.

That is one heck of a lot of talent for one movie.

I'm going to do my best not to give you a lot of spoilers for this movie. If you're looking for spoilers, they're definitely out there, but I suggest going into this movie as unspoiled as possible.

The basic idea is, the evil Titan known as Thanos (Brolin) has acquired the Infinity Gauntlet, and is going around trying to round up the six Infinity Stones – incredibly powerful magic gemstones which each control an aspect of the universe, and when brought together, have the power to destroy it. There's the Power Stone, the Space Stone, the Time Stone, the Reality Stone, the Mind Stone, and the Soul Stone.

If you'll remember, Thanos retrieved the empty Infinity Gauntlet during the end credits of the previous "Avengers" installment, "The Age of Ultron." Also, if you'll recall, in

"Guardians of the Galaxy" (the first one), Ronan the Accuser (Lee Pace) had the Power Stone taken from him by Star Lord and the Guardians, who left it with the Nova Corps on the planet Xandar. And at the end of "Thor: Ragnarok," Thor (Hemsworth) comments to Loki (Hiddleston), on the spaceship from destroyed Asgard to Earth, that he thinks "everything is going to be alright," shortly before a giant evil-looking spaceship appears in front of them.

Yep, That giant, evil spaceship belongs to Thanos, who attacks Thor's ship and takes the Space Stone from the Tesseract which Loki had stolen from Asgard, after thrashing Thor, Loki, Heimdall (Elba), and, yes, the Hulk (Ruffalo). As he drops the blue Space Stone into the Infinity Gauntlet, we see that he's already taken the purple Power Stone from Xandar. Heimdall activates the Bifrost and sends the Hulk to Earth to warn everybody.

Hulk lands in the sanctum of Doctor Strange (Cumberbatch), where he warns the Sorcerer Supreme about the impending doom hanging over the Universe's head. If you'll recall, Strange possesses the Time Stone in the form of the Amulet of Agamotto, which he used to defeat the evil god Dormammu in "Doctor Strange."

Yeah, so that's how things get started. I'll stop with the story there. Hopefully that's mainly back-

ground stuff and just a little bit of setup, not any real hardcore spoilers.

So yeah. From time to time "Infinity War" gets a little confusing. You definitely do not want to go into it not having seen the previous installments in the Marvel Cinematic Universe; I've seen them all, and as it was, I had a hard time following some of the twists and turns here. Not too bad though – for as many characters and plotlines as are brought together in this movie, Marvel does an amazing job weaving them into a watchable story. It mixes drama, comedy, heroism, and terrifying evil into a tale that is fun to watch for fans of the series; we see old friends at their most valiant and their most defeated. And not everybody makes it out alive.

Okay, shut up, Roger. That's enough. I'm giving "Avengers: Infinity War" eight and a half stars out of 10.

Avengers: Infinity War

Director: Anthony and Joe Russo

Writer: Screenplay by Christopher

Markus and Stephen McFeely; based

on the comics by Stan Lee and Jack

Kirby; based on characters created

by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby, Joe Simon,

Steve Englehart, Steve Gan, Bill Man-

tlo, Keith Giffen, Jim Starlin, Larry

Lieber, and Don Heck.

Production company: Marvel Studios



AP photo

Gavin Cox, left, who was injured during an illusion by David Copperfield at the MGM, sits with his wife during opening statements of his suit against Copperfield and the MGM Grand on Friday, April 13, 2018

Hotel official: No witness accounts of Copperfield show fall

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A hotel official told a jury he doesn't know why an incident report about a British tourist's fall while taking part in a David Copperfield show illusion at a Las Vegas Strip resort did not include other witness accounts.

MGM Grand Hotel risk manager Mark Habersack testified Friday in the ongoing negligence trial in Las Vegas that the incident report about Gavin Cox's fall only included Cox's statement.

Under questioning by Cox's attorney, Benedict Morelli, Habersack said he did not hold his current position until several months after Cox's fall in November 2013. Cox has yet to testify.

His lawyers say he fell while he and about 10 audience volunteers were hurried by stagehands from the stage to the back of the theater through indoor hallways and an outdoor alleyway.



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Stocks finish mixed as Amazon leads retail rally; Exxon dips



AP photo

Men walk past an electronic stock board showing Japan's Nikkei 225 index at a securities firm in Tokyo Friday, April 27, 2018. Asian stock markets followed Wall Street higher on Friday after reports of strong U.S. earnings, as investors watched the inter-Korean summit.

By MARLEY JAY

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks finished with a split decision Friday after a wobbly day of trading. Amazon led a rally among retailers, but Exxon Mobil dragged energy companies lower to end an uneven week on Wall Street.

So far the first quarter has been a strong one for U.S. companies, but it hasn't thrilled investors. On Friday Amazon, Microsoft and Expedia all climbed after reporting earnings, but Exxon, Charter Communications and Starbucks all slumped. High-dividend companies like utilities rose as bond yields slipped, but defense contractors fell. Asian stocks rose following the landmark summit of the leaders from North and South Korea.

This week investors worried that rising raw materials costs, as well as higher interest rates and wages, could eat into corporate profits. Meanwhile they were pleased with strong results from Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft and others. The S&P 500 index finished the week almost exactly where it started.

Karyn Cavanaugh, senior market strategist for Voya Investment Strategies, said investors haven't regained their confidence since February's market plunge. But in her view, the economy continues to do well and there are few signs that inflation or wages are about to rocket higher, an outcome that could dent corporate profits.

"There's reason to think things are very, very good, but not overheating. That's a great environment for earnings," she said. "The market is getting a little bit spoiled."

The S&P 500 index gained 2.97 points, or 0.1 per-

cent, to 2,669.91. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 11.15 points, or less than 0.1 percent, to 24,311.19. The Nasdaq composite rose 1.12 points to 7,119.80. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks lost 1.66 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,556.24. Most of the stocks on the New York Stock Exchange finished higher.

Amazon said its first-quarter profit more than doubled as consumers shopped more online and revenue from its cloud computing business continued to rise. The results were far stronger than Wall Street expected and the stock jumped 3.6 percent to \$1,572.62, adding to Thursday's 4 percent gain. Amazon also said it will hike the price of an annual Prime membership to \$119 from \$99 in the U.S.

Amazon recovered the last of its losses from late March and early April. It slumped after President Donald Trump repeatedly criticized the company over issues including sales tax collection and its contracts with the U.S. Postal Service.

The U.S. economy grew 2.3 percent in the first quarter, better than experts had forecast. While consumer spending turned in the weakest performance in nearly five years, experts think it will pick up later in the year thanks to continued low unemployment and Republican-backed tax cuts.

Bond prices rose again. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.96 percent from 2.98 percent Thursday. It hit four-year highs recently and peaked at 3.03 percent earlier this week. High-yield stocks like household goods makers and utilities moved up.

Even with help from climbing oil prices Exxon Mobil's results still fell short of estimates and its

See **STOCKS**, Page 5C

US economic growth slowed to 2.3 percent pace in Q1



AP photo

In this Oct. 6, 2017, file photo, workers build an apartment and retail complex in Nashville, Tenn. On Friday, April 27, 2018, the Commerce Department issues its first estimate of how the U.S. economy performed in the January-March quarter.

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy slowed to a moderate 2.3 percent annual growth rate in the first quarter as consumer spending turned in the weakest performance in nearly five years. Still, the January-March increase came in better than expected, supporting hopes for a solid rebound for the rest of the year.

The Commerce Department reported Friday that the gain in the gross domestic product, the economy's total output of goods and services, followed a 2.9 percent rise in the fourth quarter and gains above 3 percent in the previous two quarters.

Many economists had forecast that growth would slip below 2 percent in the first quarter, reflecting a big pullback by consumers after a torrid pace of spending in the fourth quarter. Recent history has shown a pattern of weakness in the first quarter, reflecting in part seasonal data quirks. Analysts expect growth to surpass 3 percent in the current quarter.

Consumer spending, which accounts for 70 percent of economic activity, decelerated sharply from a 4 percent growth rate in the fourth quarter to a 1.1 percent pace in the first quarter. That was offset somewhat by gains in inventory building by businesses and a lower trade deficit.

Analysts viewed the first quarter slowdown as temporary, with consumers expected to boost their spending amid a low unemployment rate and the initial impact of the \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts that Congress approved in December.

Over the past four quarters, GDP growth has averaged 2.9 percent, just below the 3 percent projection the Trump administration used in its budget

See **SLOW**, Page 5C

Building Permits

- Shebrews, 209 W 3rd St., com elec., Val: \$25, Fee: \$25
- Vincent James Coale, 601 Bucknell Ave., fence, Val: \$2,350, Fee: \$25
- Jesus Alvares, 1103 N Gregg St., com re-roof, Val: \$500, Fee: \$25
- Philip Anthony Cerino, 708 Johansen Rd., fence, Val: \$5,000, Fee: \$35
- Jeff Denton, 2506 Allendale Rd., res re-roof, Val: \$7,000, Fee: \$45
- Jimmy Johnson, 102 Young St., com elec., Val: \$200, Fee: \$25
- Jesus Delgadom, 1306 E I 20, fence, Val: \$5,000, Fee: \$35
- Carmen Lynette Properties L, 1507 Sunset Ave., res plumb, Val: \$1,000, Fee: \$32
- Western Office Group, LLC, 711 E 3rd St., com elec., Val: \$25, Fee: \$25
- Celine Lozano, 908 W 6th St., res. add., Val: \$1,000, Fee: \$25
- Southwest Conv. Stores, 401 Birdwell, com. Plumb, Val: \$5,000, Fee: \$32
- Hillside Properties, 2507 Gunter CIR, res. plumb, Val: \$700, Fee: \$32
- Dionne Fletcher, 907 Scurry St., res. re-roof, Val: \$7,500, Fee: \$50
- Joe Owens, 1510 Dayton Rd., res. hvac., Val: \$6,000, Fee: \$45
- Richard Riddell, 2710 Ann Dr., fence, Val: \$5,000, Fee: \$35
- Matricia Ann Martinez, 301 Sargent Paredes, com elec., Val: \$25, Fee: \$25
- Augustine Hernandez, 1606 Sunset Ave., res, re-roof, Val: \$2,000, Fee: \$25
- Jimmy Anderson, 1506 State St., fence, Val: \$2,250, Fee: \$25
- Sonic, 1200 Gregg, com hvac, Val: \$5,000, Fee: \$45
- Ronald Robert McGram, 2803 Cactus Dr., res. plumb, Val: \$2,500, Fee: \$32
- Garrett Scott Morgan, 104 W Marcy, com elec., Val: \$25, Fee: \$25

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
- Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
- Edgar Barreto, 2111 Runnels, Big Spring
- Letitia Baucham, 1202 Stanford, Big Spring
- Linda Beck, 1713 Worley Rd., Banner Elk, N.C.
- Joshua Bell, 1962 Tuscola, Snyder
- Tammy D. Bishop, 1410 Tucson Rd., Big Spring
- 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
- 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
- Joanna Esparza, 501 S.Tackitt Seymour, Texas
- Carol W. Evans, 809 E 33rd, Plainview, Texas
- W. Carol Evans, 809 E. 33rd, Plainview
- 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
- 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
- Rosa M. George, 509 W. Second St., Stanton, Texas
- Perry Gholar, 1510 Nolan, Big Spring
- Elizabeth Gomez, 509 Raleigh St., Plainview
- Eusebio Gonzales, 1204 College Ave., Big Spring
- James E. Gonzalez, 604 Neff St., Sweetwater
- Jeremy Goodman, 3471 Green Meadow #24, San Angelo
- Kay Grant, 4405 N. Garfield #1005, Midland
- Whitney Marquez Gray, 2934 Old Anson Rd. \$1224, Abilene
- Isaiah Green, 4801 State St., Abilene
- James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler St. #502, Atlanta
- 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

See **RECORDS**, Page 5C

STOCKS

Continued from Page 4C

stock dropped 3.8 percent to \$77.79. Cable company Charter Communications tumbled 11.7 percent to \$263.33. Jefferies & Co. analyst Scott Goldman said the company's residential video and high speed data subscriber totals were both weaker than he expected. Technology companies also gave up an early gain. Intel rose 5 percent in the morning but later dipped 0.6 percent to \$52.73. After a big rally in the morning, Microsoft rose 1.7 percent

to \$95.82.

The leaders of North and South Korea vowed Friday to seek a nuclear-free peninsula and work toward a formal end to the Korean War this year, although they offered few specifics about how they would achieve those goals. As part of the summit, Kim Jong Un became the first North Korean leader to visit South Korea since 1953, when the two sides signed an armistice that left them still technically at war. Later Kim and South Korean President Moon Jae-in briefly stepped into North Korea together.

Seoul's Kospi was 0.7 percent high-

er and Tokyo's Nikkei 225 added 0.7 percent. Hong Kong's Hang Seng advanced 0.9 percent.

In Britain, shares got a lift after soft growth data reined in expectations that the Bank of England will raise interest rates again next month. The pound fell sharply, to \$1.3785 from \$1.3924. That was good news for British exporters, as it makes their goods less expensive, and London's FTSE jumped 1.1 percent. The German DAX rose 0.6 percent and France's CAC 40 added 0.5 percent.

Benchmark U.S. crude fell 0.1 percent to \$68.10 a barrel in New York

while Brent crude, used to price international oils, fell 0.1 percent to \$74.64 per barrel in London.

Wholesale gasoline rose 0.6 percent to \$2.13 a gallon. Heating oil lost 0.4 percent to \$2.15 a gallon. Natural gas lost 2.4 percent to \$2.77 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Gold rose 0.4 percent to \$1,323.40 an ounce. Silver fell 0.5 percent to \$16.41 an ounce. Copper dropped 2.2 percent to \$3.05 a pound.

The dollar slipped to 109.02 yen from 109.36 yen. The euro rose to \$1.2121 from \$1.2106.

SLOW

Continued from Page 4C

for next year.

A separate report Friday found that U.S. private sector workers saw their wages go up 1 percent in the first quarter, the biggest quarterly gain in 11 years, a sign that the tight job market is beginning to lift wages.

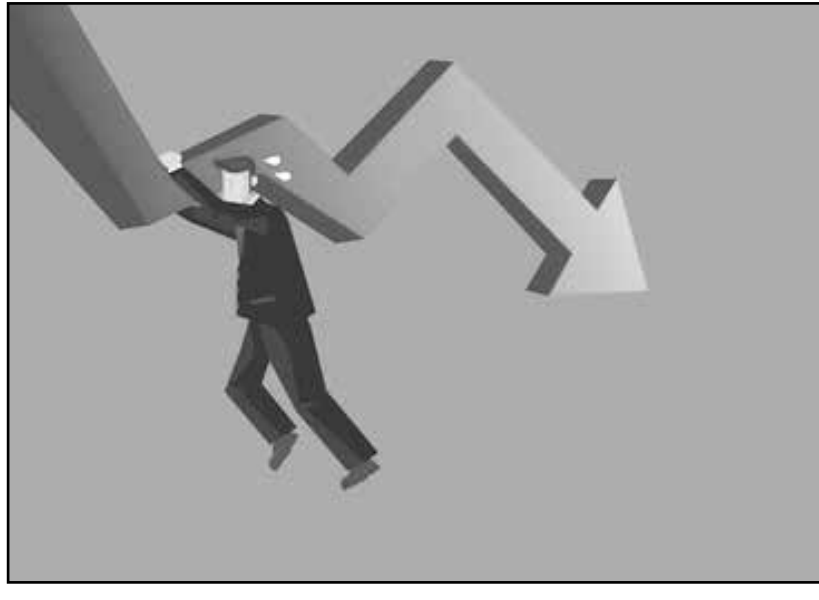
Republicans who supported the administration's successful push to win passage of major tax cuts in December said the reports on wages and GDP growth were indications that the tax cuts and other parts of the Trump economic program were beginning to have an impact.

Rep. Erik Paulson, R-Minnesota and chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, said that Americans are better off today than 16 months ago "thanks to tax reform and pro-growth policies."

President Donald Trump, in a joint news conference Friday with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, emphasized another part of his economic program — lowering U.S. trade deficits with other major countries. Trump said he had discussed with Merkel the trade deficit the United States runs with Germany and other European countries and both leaders had agreed "we want to make it more fair."

While the administration expects the economy to grow at rates of 3 percent for the rest of this decade, private analysts are less optimistic. They say that growth will be bolstered by the tax cuts and

increased government spending for this year and next year. But then they expect growth levels to return to the lackluster rates of around 2 percent



as the boost from fiscal stimulus wears off and the economy starts to feel the adverse effects of rising interest rates.

The Federal Reserve is expected to keep lifting its key interest rate to prevent unwanted inflation, and big federal budget deficits are likely to push up government borrowing costs.

"Growth rates around 3 percent are not sustainable but for the next couple of years all the government stimulus is going to provide a lot of economic juice," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics.

The Trump administration disagrees, believing that its program of corporate and individual tax cuts, regulatory reform and tougher enforcement of trade laws will lift the economy to sustained levels of higher economic growth. Private economists, however, are worried that these efforts will run up against weak growth in the labor force as many baby boomers retire and lackluster gains in productivity.

Since the end of the Great Recession in mid-2009, the economy has turned in modest quarterly growth rates averaging just 2.2 percent, the weakest expansion in the post-World War II period. The slow pace has helped extend the life of the current expansion, now the second longest in U.S. history. If it lasts through June of 2019, it will become the longest expansion in history, surpassing the 10-year recovery of the 1990s.

Friday's report is the government's first of three estimates of first-quarter GDP.

The first quarter slowdown in consumer spending was offset by strength in business investment, which grew at a 6.1 percent rate, reflecting strong gains in oil and gas exploration, and by business inventory rebuilding, which added 0.4 percentage points to growth. A narrowing of the trade deficit added 0.2 percentage points to growth.

Government spending grew at a 1.2 percent rate, down from a gain of 3 percent in the fourth quarter, as spending by state and local governments slowed.

Housing construction, which had surged in the fourth quarter after two quarters of declines, was flat in the first three months of this year.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 4C

Christine Henderson, 420 N. El Paso
Juanita Hernandez, 1502 Bluebird, Big Spring
Matias Hernandez Jr., 620 E. 4th St., San Angelo
Scott Herrera, H.C 76, Box 97B Ash Rd., Big Spring
Billy Dean Hill, 7117 Alissa, Rowlett
Johnny R. Hill, 704 San Antonio, Big Spring
Jim Bob Jennings, 4446 Ridgecrest Amarillo 9001 Indiana Apt D, Lubbock
David Kelley, P.O Bobx 724, Salado
Joni D. Kelly, 3050 Co. Rd 139, Colorado
Renola S. Kelly, 4503 LA Salle Circle, Colorado City
Paige Morgan Kenas, 1003-2 Lake County Rd 175, Colorado City
Cynthia Lee Kent, Moved to Newport News, Virginia
Keith James Kochmick, 1003 Stadium, Big Spring
Cyndi Michelle Lambert, 2600 Crestline, Apt. C7, Big Spring
Kayle R.Lane, P.O Box 83965, Waco
Daniel Jerome Langston, 3307 Cornell Ave., Big Spring
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
Martha McDonald Martin, 600 Driver Rd, Big Spring
James Martinez, P.O. Box 269, Ft. Davis
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
Dana Kay Peach, 1806 N 13th, Lamesa
Nicole Preston, 1605 E 11th place, Big Spring
Jacquelin Dannon Ramey, 1404 E 6th St.,
Gilbert P. Ramirez, 1614 Settles, Big Spring
Byron Roberts, 2206 Alabama St Big Spring
Michael Robinson, 801 Anna St., Big Spring
Elizabeth Salazar,1808 Hearn, Big Spring, Texas
Derrick Dewayne Smith, 703 West 16th, San Angelo, Texas
Joe Anthony Villarreal, 2206 Cecilia, Big Spring
Michael Ray Watson, 1503 Tucson Rd., Big Spring
Marie Minnie Wilson, 307 E 4th, Fortsan, Texas

Marriage Licenses

Bobby Ray Newton, 31, and Nicole Yanez Smith, 36, both of Big Spring.
Jeffrey Ray Pierson, 27, of Big Spring, and Saffron Jean Dowie, 21 of United Kingdom.
William Joe Miller, 27, and Emma Kathleen Matt-King, 28, both of Big Spring.
Aaron Kyle Gonzales, 24, and Breanna Michelle Hilario, 24, both of Big Spring.
George Leslie Garland, 53, and Rena Jo Bishop, 36, both of Big Spring.
Abigail Medrano, and Richard D. Beltran, 32, both of Odessa.

County Court Judgements (The State of Texas is listed as the prosecutor in all county court judgements)

Defendant: Edrion P.Houston
Offense: Possession of marijuana less than two ounces
Sentence: \$100 fine, \$327 court cost, 60 days in jail
Date: April 16, 2018

Defendant: Andrew Garza
Offense: Disorderly conduct
Sentence: \$100 fine, \$327 court cost, 40 days in jail
Date: April 16, 2018

Defendant: Raquel Valencia
Offense: Harassment
Sentence: \$219 court cost
Date: April 10, 2018

Warranty Deeds

Grantor:Bobbie Sue Beall
Grantee: Redwood Exploration Company, LLC
Property: Tract 1, a 32.5 acre tract of land out of the East part of an 80 acre tract in the SW part of section 48, block A
Date: March 28, 2018

Grantor: DRK Investments LLC
Grantee: Chris Browne
Property: Lots three and four, block 28, Original town of Forsan
Date: April 13, 2018

Grantor: Kendra Denton
Grantee: Joellen Canalas
Property: SE/4 of section number 43, block 31, T-1-N Ry. Co. Survey.
Date: April 12, 2018

Warranty Deed with Vendor's Lien

Grantor: Sarah K. Meador
Grantee: Budded D. Hasty and Paula K. Hasty
Property: being all of lot number 30-B in block number five, Raplat of Capeharts
Date: April 18, 2018

Grantor: Donnie Ralph Baker
Grantee: Valarie Hart
Property: All of lot number five, in block three, of the Barnes Subdivision of a part of section number 44, in block number 31.
Date: April 16, 2018

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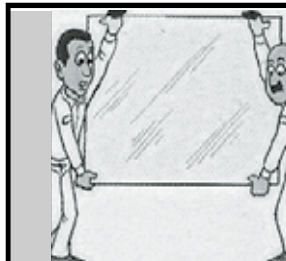
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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

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 purchase of the items/services listed below:

Date/Time: Tuesday, May 22, 2018, at 2:00 p.m., for the following:

1. RFP # 18-016 Parkway / Willard Land Sale

Proposals are to be opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers at 307 East 4th 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, 1380 Airpark Drive East, Bldg. #19, Big Spring, Texas 79720. All proposals must be marked with the date of the proposals 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.

#9781 April 22, 29 & May 6, 2018

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 purchase of the items/services listed below:

Date/Time: Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 2:00 p.m., for the following:

RFP # 18-019 Bank

Public Notice

Depository RFP

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



two ways to be free: to have so much of something that you can't possibly run out of it or to have so little of it that you have nothing to lose.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Though it may seem that influencing others by example is the best way, it may actually be the only way. So be the person you want them to be. There's real power in that.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be cleansed -- not by some stroke of magic but by the desire to simplify and the will to follow through. The first part is always the hardest. Persist past the early stages and

you'll be golden.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

You're in the mood to create something and then give it away. Creation is so invigorating to you that you've a stronger desire to make things than you do to own things.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Some data scientists believe that human behavior is more than 90 percent predictable with a large enough data sample to establish the patterns. Yet you

wouldn't have predicted today's interesting twist.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). These days, you're inclined to be of continual service because it just makes you feel good. Don't worry too much about the "who" part. When you serve your family and friends, you serve your community and your country, too.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You probably don't want to move today, but thinking about the possibilities will make you appreciate your life anew, while an intriguing future starts to take form in your imagination.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If you could move, where would you move to? You probably won't go there any time soon, but there are elements of this place you could bring into your life now, and the emotional benefits would be fortifying.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). People will do strange things to meet love, worth and identity needs. Though you may be puzzled by their actions, you can relate to the need, and that will help you understand each other and get along together.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 29). A bonus in the next 10 weeks is the first sign of a new income stream. You'll be taken care of and given the treatment you deserve. By June, your social circle buzzes with new energy, and you'll find your interests changing, too. September's domestic improvements also help relationships. There's so much love in your scene! Leo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 20, 1, 11 and 38.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: The week starts under

the full moon in Scorpio -- a direct line to our subconscious desires and needs, which may surprise us. After all, things tend to remain in the realm of the subconscious for a reason. Mostly, either they are not significant enough to be a part of our experience or we are not ready for them to happen. But the full Scorpio moon favors a shift in the intricate reasoning system that keeps things down, so be prepared for some soulful illumination.

Most people will focus attention on what's important if they can be sure of which things really are. Such knowledge is not necessarily innate and can sometimes be counterintuitive. For instance, a seemingly small act of domesticity or self-care may not appear to be as important as some big move to improve your life, yet the simple things, such as making a bed every morning, can actually contribute enormously to your happiness. Such is the practical magic of the Taurus sun. And at the end of the week, with the moon also in an earth sign, well-being is tied in to keeping the home clean, the bills paid and the productivity high.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: What makes Taurus comedians so funny? This grounded sign tends to make humor out of things that many people can relate to, turning commonplace situations into extraordinary laughs. On the subject of birthdays, earthy Taurus Jerry Seinfeld says, "You know you're getting old when you get that one candle on the cake. It's like, 'See if you can blow this out.'"

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidMathis@gmail.com.
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SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

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

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Answer to previous puzzle

MARKS	SORE	AFEW
ETAIL	ORAL	LEAK
CHINA	WIIS	LESS
COMEBY	HONESTLY	
ASIS	SAND	COSMO
	CULT	ALI LOU
APRON	PTA	SINS
DROPIN	THEBUCKET	
DOLE	BOD	PREYS
EVE	TAN	VICI
ROMPS	EVER	MASC
LOOKUP	ANANSWER	
PODS	SOLO	OHARE
ONES	DEEM	DARTS
PELE	AMTS	SWEAT

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Newsday Crossword

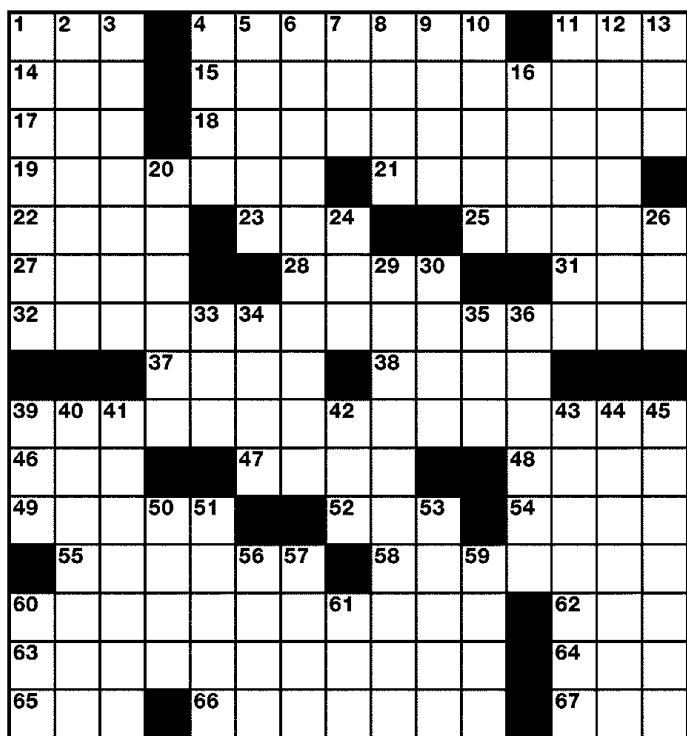
SATURDAY STUMPER by Matthew Sewell
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 *Deutsches Pronomen*
4 He's tested in Genesis 22
11 Furnace capacity measure
14 Nashville HOF creator
15 Filling-out
17 Show favor (for)
18 Fundamental purpose
19 Whom vicars work for
21 Gracious alternative
22 Make a twist from
23 Sound of the shaken
25 Most Cook Islanders
27 Exemplar
28 ___-wearing (how Virgil described his people)
31 Little bit
32 Words from the staggered
37 What macOS is based on
38 Brand served with a spoon straw
39 Go with your gut
46 The Greeks believed its offerings' smoke formed the Milky Way
47 Agcy. regulating exit signs
48 Marks for identification
49 Doctrine referenced in the Declaration
52 Where caps and gowns are worn, for short
54 Petunia, to Harry Potter
55 Is brilliant
58 Bring on the block
60 Transfer, often
62 Typical hedge-fund hire

DOWN

- 1 A water sign
2 Attempt to tarnish
3 Be shown up
4 ___ kit (racing-inspired auto option)
5 Racket
6 Add to one's duties
7 Corporeal stabilizers
8 Gorilla
9 "Soft Flowing Avon" composer (1769)
10 Address shortened by dropping just one letter
11 Customizable message-face app
12 Horsemen painted by Picasso
13 ___ *année* (*douze mois*)
16 A million times mega-
20 Marching order
24 Drops decisively
26 Graph add-on
29 Chance for a stringer to shine?
30 All-too-knowing
33 "It's ___ from me" (*Idol* rejection)
34 Device with a smiling-screen logo
35 Prov. slightly larger than Delaware
36 Storage space, often
39 Harry Potter, to Albus
40 Mint family member
41 "Canvas" for digital art
42 Frat letter
43 Carrey biopic role
44 Without honor
45 What some clogs contain
50 Out and about
51 Sawgrass spot
53 Generations chronicled in the two *Roots* miniseries
56 Name on the Garbo role list
57 Dress down
59 Article's start, in journalese
60 Big ape
61 Org. that makes slide rules



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Wynn Resorts removing Steve Wynn's name from new casino



AP photo

Construction cranes tower over the Wynn Resorts casino site in Everett, Mass., Thursday, April 26, 2018. Massachusetts gambling regulators consider Wynn Resorts' request to remove the name of company founder Steve Wynn, who faces numerous allegations of sexual misconduct, from its state casino license.

By PHILIP MARCELO

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Wynn Resorts has renamed the \$2.5 billion casino it's building outside of Boston to Encore Boston Harbor, as the company continues to take steps to distance itself from founder Steve Wynn after sexual misconduct allegations.

New CEO Matthew Maddox confirmed the long speculated change to state gambling regulators Friday as they considered the company's request to remove Wynn's name from its Massachusetts casino license.

Wynn resigned as chairman and CEO and later

sold his company shares following the allegations, which he denies.

"This company is not about a man. Steve Wynn is not Wynn Resorts," Maddox said. "Wynn Resorts is about the 25,000 employees that grow this company every day."

Maddox said banners around the Everett waterfront site that once heralded the coming of "Wynn Boston Harbor" were being removed Friday and new ones bearing the "Encore" moniker also used at one of the company's Las Vegas casinos were going up in their place.

Commission members didn't comment on the change, which doesn't require state approval.

They're expected to issue a decision next week on whether Steve Wynn should continue to be considered a part of the Massachusetts project for regulatory purposes.

The commission has stressed that even if Wynn's name were removed from the company's casino license, it would not interrupt the broader review of Wynn Resorts.

The five-member panel is investigating what the company's board might have known about the allegations, including a \$7.5 million settlement with one accuser that wasn't disclosed when the state awarded the company a license in 2014.

A lawyer for Steve Wynn has argued that the commission no longer has jurisdiction over him because he's a private citizen divested from "all ownership interests" in his namesake company.

Maddox outlined other ways the company is changing its corporate culture, including appointing three new women to the board of directors, providing paid parental leave, changing its sexual harassment training and creating a new department focused on gender equality, diversity and female leadership.

"Things are moving at lightning speed," he said. "We are moving this company forward. We're taking these issues very seriously."

Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria, who attended Friday's hearing in Boston, said the name change was the right move in light of calls from sexual assault survivors, who joined a chorus of prominent state officials in requesting it, including Republican Gov. Charlie Baker and Democratic state Attorney General Maura Healey.

"There were a lot of serious allegations made," DeMaria said. "If those prove to be true, they're not appropriate and a name change is in the best interests of the project."

Gina Scaramella, head of the nonprofit Boston Area Rape Crisis Center that supports sexual assault survivors, called it a positive step forward.

"It shows that we've reached a tipping point in how our culture responds to sexual harassment and assault," she said.

Wynn has filed a defamation lawsuit against The Associated Press for its reporting on a separate allegation made to police.

Restaurants calm customers, say their romaine is safe

By DEE-ANN DURBIN

AP Business Writer

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Restaurants' advice to their customers? Romaine calm.

The government is still investigating how romaine lettuce from Yuma, Arizona, apparently became contaminated with E. coli bacteria. As of Friday, at least 98 people in 22 states have gotten sick, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Growers in Yuma typically plant romaine lettuce between September and January. During the peak of the harvest season, which runs from mid-November until the beginning of April, the Yuma region supplies most of the romaine sold in the U.S. The outbreak came as the harvest of romaine was already near its end.

At many restaurants around the country, romaine is still on the menu. Both family-run operations and big chains say they've checked with suppliers and are confident their romaine comes from places that aren't affected by E. coli. If they're not sure, they're replacing romaine with iceberg and other lettuce varieties.

"We've got a lot of people asking where we get our lettuce from," said Armando Ayala, the manager of Cavatore, an Italian restaurant in Houston. Cavatore offers three dinner salads — including a Caesar made tableside — with lettuce from California and local farms in Texas.

As it turns out, a lot of romaine comes from California, which grows

74 percent of the nation's lettuce, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Even Salad and Go, a chain with 12 restaurants in Arizona, gets its lettuce from California.

Just Salad, which has 28 locations in New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia and Chicago, says it saw a spike in business this week after a social media blitz to assure customers that its romaine comes from Salinas, California. Supply chain manager Janani Lee said Just Salad already carried five other types of lettuce, but it recently added iceberg for people who were still concerned.

Katie Calabrese and her friend, Amanda Larsen, both threw out romaine at home, but it didn't stop their salad cravings. On Thursday, they were waiting in a long line at a Sweetgreen restaurant in Philadelphia.

"I'm definitely making non-romaine choices," said Calabrese.

"I eat kale," Larsen said.

The CDC first announced a multi-state outbreak of E. coli on April 10. By the end of last week, it was advising customers, grocers and restaurants not to eat whole heads of romaine or salad mixes that might contain romaine unless they knew they weren't grown in Yuma.

The government is still investigating this outbreak. But generally, E. coli is spread through human or animal feces, contaminated water or improper handling.

Salads UP, which has two restaurants in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Madison, Wisconsin, says it didn't

have to get rid of much romaine, since it gets deliveries almost daily. For now, it has replaced romaine with iceberg, says Salads UP co-founder Robert Mayer.

"Customers don't mind the temporary solution, and in general they appreciate that we are taking

See **ROMAINE**, Page 12C



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At hearings, EPA chief seeks to divert blame for ethics woes

By MICHAEL BIESECKER and ELLEN KNICKMEYER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt, yet another Trump administration official with his job on the line over ethical concerns, took heat from lawmakers over his profligate spending and lobbyist ties and tried to divert responsibility to underlings.

The EPA administrator said "twisted" allegations against him were meant to undermine the administration's anti-regulatory agenda, and he denied knowing details of some of the extraordinary spending done on his behalf at the agency.

The public grilling at back-to-back House hearings on Thursday, convened to consider EPA's budget, came as support has appeared to erode for Pruitt among fellow Republicans after revelations about unusual security spending, first-class flights, a sweetheart condo lease and more. Even Republicans who heartily support Pruitt's policy agenda said his apparent lapses had to be scrutinized.

Democrats excoriated him.

"You are unfit to hold public office," said Rep. Frank Pallone of New Jersey.

"You've become the poster child for the abuse of public trust," said Rep. John Sarbanes of Maryland.

Although most of the Republican lawmakers at the hearings rallied around Pruitt, reviews were mixed. Rep. John Shimkus of Illinois, chairman of the first panel that questioned Pruitt, said afterward the EPA chief was "a little vague," adding, "It's never a good idea to blame your staff in public."

Asked whether Pruitt should resign, he said that's not his call and suggested it's up to President Donald Trump.

Thursday's hearings were Pruitt's first major appearance since a Fox News interview in early April that was widely considered to be disastrous within the West Wing.

Before Congress, the administrator demonstrated his background as a lawyer, giving clipped answers and sticking to repeating rehearsed talking points.

He visibly bristled as Democrats pressed about the many financial allegations against him, then relaxed when Republicans on the panel gave him openings to expand on his policy steps at EPA.

Mocking Pruitt's opponents, Republican Rep. Kevin Cramer of North Dakota said that as far as the EPA chief's critics were concerned, "I think the greatest sin you've done is you've actually done what President Trump ran on."

"It's shameful that this day has turned into a personal attack," GOP Rep. Bill Johnson of Ohio said.

Trump has stood by his EPA chief, but behind closed doors, White House officials concede Pruitt's job is in serious jeopardy.

Pruitt has faced a steady trickle of revelations involving pricey trips in first-class seats and unusual security spending, including a \$43,000 soundproof booth for making private phone calls. He also demanded 24-hour-a-day protection from armed officers, resulting in a 20-member security detail that blew through overtime budgets and racked up expenses approaching \$3 million.

The EPA chief acknowledged under sharp questioning that he did, in fact, know something about huge pay raises given to two women on his staff, at least one of them a friend, after insisting weeks ago that he didn't approve the raises and didn't know who did. After his initial denial, documents emerged

showing that EPA chief of staff Ryan Jackson signed off on the raises and indicating he had Pruitt's consent.

Pruitt said Thursday he delegated authority to Jackson to give the raises but didn't know the exact amounts. Senior legal counsel Sarah Greenwalt received a raise of more than \$66,000, bringing her salary to \$164,200, and scheduling director Millian Hupp saw her salary jump from \$48,000 to \$114,590.

Under questioning, Pruitt appeared to acknowledge that Hupp helped him find accommodations in the capital but said her search apparently did not cost taxpayers. "I'm not aware of any government time being used," he said. "She is a friend."

As he has previously, Pruitt sought to deflect questions about any missteps by blaming subordinates.

—On the communications booth: "I was not involved in the approval of the \$43,000, and if I had known about it, Congressman, I would not have approved it."

—On flying first class at taxpayer expense: "Security decisions at the agency are made by law enforcement personnel, and I have heeded their counsel."

—On the pay raises to the two women: "I was not aware of the amount provided or the process that was used in providing that."

At several points, he spoke of decisions made by "career individuals at the agency."

"You're the guy in charge," Democratic Rep. Peter Welch of Vermont countered. "It really seems like there's something on your desk with the motto: 'The buck stops nowhere.'"

Pruitt drew an unusual rebuke from the office of EPA's inspector general, Arthur Elkins, while he was still testifying. A spokesman for Elkins, Kentia Elbaum, said he never signed off on an internal review of security threats that Pruitt cited at the hearing to explain why he needed unusual arrangements for his safety.

Elbaum said the summary was prepared by Patrick Sullivan, an assistant inspector general, and provided to Pruitt's security team but said it was later "leaked without authorization."

Pruitt read aloud from two security threats, one from a man who tweeted that he planned to shoot Pruitt. Investigators determined that the person who wrote the tweet "is currently believed to be living in India."

Democratic Rep. Betty McCollum of Minnesota was unmoved, saying: "We all receive threats on our Facebook page."

The same document Pruitt cited also recounted similar threats against Obama EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, who routinely flew in coach and didn't require full-time protection.

Pruitt's troubles began in earnest last month, when ABC News first reported he had leased a Capitol Hill condo last year for just \$50 a night that was co-owned by the wife of a veteran fossil fuels lobbyist whose firm had sought regulatory rollbacks from EPA.

Both Pruitt and the lobbyist, Steven Hart, denied he had conducted any recent business with EPA. But Hart was forced to admit last week he had met with Pruitt at EPA headquarters last summer after his firm, Williams & Jensen, revealed he had lobbied the agency on a required federal disclosure form.

Asked Thursday whether he had received any other gifts from lobbyists seeking favors from EPA, Pruitt replied, "I'm not aware of any instances."

ROMAINE

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precautionary steps," he said.

Burrito chain Chipotle also temporarily stopped serving romaine last

weekend, but its California-sourced romaine was back on the menu by Monday.

McDonald's, Wendy's and Chick-fil-A say none of the romaine in their U.S. stores comes from Yuma. But Chick-fil-A says it's making some salads with other lettuces or not offering them at all because of a shortage of romaine.

Frog Holler, a produce wholesaler that distributes to restaurants in Michigan, says all of its romaine comes from California. But many customers weren't ordering it because of the scare. Iceberg orders increased slightly. Others would only take romaine with an official statement that it was safe, said Brittany Savella, an office assistant.

Then, for about a week, Frog Holler had to scramble when its own suppliers stopped shipping romaine.

"We just couldn't get our hands on it anymore," she said. But things are now returning to normal.

It could be difficult for farmers to make up for any shortfalls in romaine at this point in the season, since planting schedules have already been set.

On Thursday at the fifth-generation EG Richter Family Farm in Puyallup, Washington, workers were planting the first romaine crop of the season, which will

be harvested around June 1. Tim Richter and his son Timothy grow romaine, red leaf, and green leaf lettuce along with other crops. They sell most of their lettuce to big grocery chains.

They hope the E. coli issue is cleared up soon and that people recognize the problem doesn't affect all

romaine lettuce. The Richters say they use conventional fertilizers — not manure — and irrigate with well water to help keep their crops safe.

"The biggest testament is that we eat it," Timothy Richter said.



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