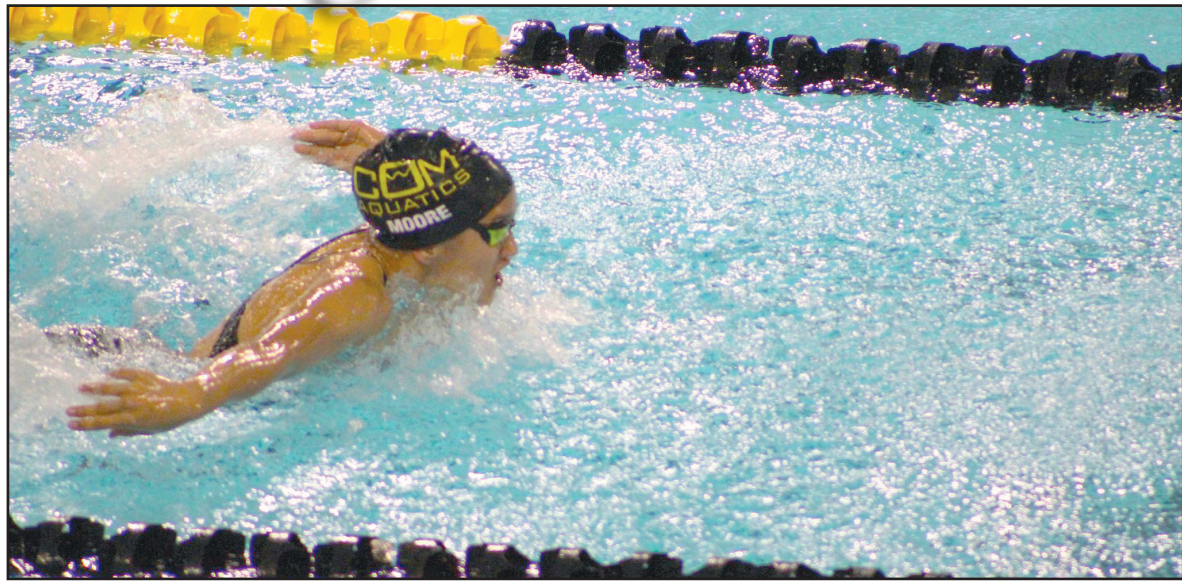


Though she be but little, she is fierce



Courtesy Photo

Here shows Ashlee Moore swimming in the West Texas Championship Swim Meet. She won the 10 and under division two years ago and this weekend won the 11-12 year old division. She also made a qualifying time for the State Meet next weekend, which was the first time she has done this in an individual event.

By: AMBER MANSFIELD
Staff Writer

Passionate, determined, bright, charismatic are usually the words one would hear describing a distinguished adult, someone who has many redeeming qualities about their person, work ethic and success. Here in Howard County though there lives a 12 year old girl who is smart and kind but also an all-rounder at sports. Meet Ashlee Moore. Ashlee is a 7th grader from Forsan and has a knack for all that is sports and not only enjoys partaking in various athletic events, she wins them. Ashlee has already done and accomplished more than most kids older than her have, even some adults. She has played in several different sports, has been in triathlons, plays instruments, gets straight A's, all the while always helping out others, and being kind to others. And all at the age of 12 and she is just getting started.

Since Ashlee was just a little girl she has always been competing in some sort of physical endeavor. While most little girls at the age of five are playing with their toys and playing princess, Ashlee was learning to play piano, taking dance lesson, and competing in organized bicycle races on a dirt track, otherwise known as BMX races and was National ranked in the top 10 for two straight years, all before the age of ten!

"Ashlee did BMX races until she was about 9 years old before we decided to get her out. The older you get the more dangerous the sport becomes, you go faster and hit harder," said Donald Moore, Ashlee's dad. "But it gave her the opportunity to expand her horizon and explore different sports." Along with the already long list of achievements Ashlee has also played in the Upward basketball program, flag football, cross county, and participated

and won about 8 triathlons. A triathlon is an athletic competition that features three athletic events, typically swimming, cycling, and long distance running. Yes, Ashlee also has talent for swimming. She swam for five years at the YMCA under Coach Randall Shaw, who is also the Big Spring ISD swimming coach, and spent the last 2 years swimming with COM Aquatics in Midland. Two years ago she won the West Texas Championship Swim Meet in the 10 and under and then she won the title again this year at age 12. She also made a qualifying time for the State Meet which was the first time she has done this in an individual event.

"We noticed that while Ashlee is a really strong swimmer she has also stopped growing as much. All the while her competition is getting taller which seems to be big advantage in swimming," said Mr. Moore. "The state meet maybe her last USA Swimming meet for a while as she turns her attention to track and field and Forsan school sports." Ashlee and her parents knew she was fast and so they decided to sign her up for a summer track program in Midland.

"She was racing up against girls that had been doing track for a lot longer than her and winning," said Mr. Moore. "The Midland track coach said he was very impressed with her natural talent and that she has a lot of potential."

Now Ashlee is now doing track at Forsan in several different events like long jump, sprints, relays, and natural doing what the little prodigy does and wins. The Forsan track and field coach said that she should try her hand at pole vaulting, and with Ashlee's track record for being so diverse and good at a variety of things, if she decided to pick up pole vaulting I'm sure she would exceed ev-

eryone's expectations.

"She is a natural athlete and we are very proud of her and all of her accomplishments," said Mr. Moore. "She is also a straight A student and someone that others enjoy being around. She just found out what a valedictorian is and now has her mind on taking on that challenge." After the track season is over Ashlee doesn't want to stop there and says Tennis is next on her list. Some of Ashlee's long term goals include becoming valedictorian, getting a partial scholarship in track, wants to attend college, and be a doctor when she grows up. That's quite a hefty to do list for someone so young, but at the age of 12 the possibilities are endless, especially someone who is as dedicated and determined as Ashlee. Even though she does so many things Ashlee still has time to be a kid, playing with friends and enjoying life.

"We are so proud of her and all she has done already," said Evelyn Moore, Ashlee's mom. "She puts her heart fully into what she does and is naturally motivated and we know she will go far in life." Ashlee recently did a school project involving quotes and the student's favorite quotes. Ashlee picked a quote that couldn't better describe her better if she had written it herself. The quote that was her favorites was said by Steve Prefontaine, who was an American middle and long distance runner in the 70's, and he said, "To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift." Fitting, wouldn't you say?



Courtesy Photo

Here shows Ashlee proudly showing off her medals after her track meet last summer for the West Texas Track Club in Midland. Ashlee took home the gold for winning both the 200 and 400 dash.



Courtesy Photo

The right pictures shows Ashlee as she prepares to jump in the long jump event. In the left photo shows Ashlee on top of the first place medal podium.

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Obituaries

Donnie Elaine Rupp



Donnie Elaine Rupp was born Aug. 23, 1940, to Benjamin Franklin and Mary Pearl Mabe in Pecos, Texas. She and her parents and sister, Dorothy, moved to Big Spring, Texas, in 1941 and brother, Garland joined them in 1945.

Donnie graduated from Big Spring High School in 1958 and soon after went to work as a clerk/stenographer at Webb AFB beginning her civil service career as a

GS3.

Upon Webb AFB's closing in 1977, Donnie and her daughters moved to Universal City where she began working at Randolph AFB. During her career she received numerous promotions and was given the Exceptional Civilian Service Award and the AETC Outstanding MAJCOM Action Officer Award. She married Ronald Evan Rupp in March, 1984. Donnie retired as a GS13 Personnel Systems Manager in 1997 after 39 years of service.

Essig Arnold



Essig Arnold, 88, of Centerville, formerly of Sand Springs, died Wednesday, March 7, 2018.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Monday, March 12, 2018, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Coahoma Cemetery.

He was born Aug. 28, 1929, in Lamesa, Texas, to Mary Seely Arnold and Essig Arnold, Sr. Essig

married JoAnn Farris on June 15, 1952, in Blackwell, Oklahoma.

She is preceded in death by her parents and nephew. She will be greatly missed by her husband, Ron, of nearly 34 years; sister and brother-in-law, Dorothy and Sam Arrington; brother and sister-in-law, Garland and Jean Mabe; daughters and sons-in-law, Loretta and Bill Barrett, and Laura and Brian Chambers; 16 grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins; and too many wonderful friends to list.

A special thanks to the amazing staff at Texas Oncology, Northeast Baptist Hospital Cancer Care Center, and Embrace Hospice.

Visitation with the family will be from noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday, with services following at Colonial Funeral Home 625 Kitty Hawk Road, Universal City, Texas. Interment at Fort Sam Houston Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials are made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society 1218 Arion Parkway, Suite 102 San Antonio, TX 78216. Condolences may be made viewed on line at www.colonialuniversal.com.

Essig is survived by one son, Jim Arnold of Ker-ville; three daughters, Jan Coates of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Lori Haddox of Moore, Oklahoma, and Kelly Arnold of Franklin, Texas; one sister, Ruth Weber of Tucson, Arizona; nine grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Essig was preceded in death by his wife Georgia Ann "Joann" Arnold on April 16, 2003.

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

Linda Pitts Mitchell

Linda Pitts Mitchell, 81, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 8, 2018, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, 2018, at Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Betty Lou Green



Betty Lou Green, 88, of Big Spring, died Thursday, March 8, 2018, in a local nursing home. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Monday, March 12, 2018, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Mt. Oliv Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

She was born July 24, 1929, in Big Spring to Thomas Benton McGinnis and Bertha Green McGinnis. She married Don Green Aug. 10, 1957, in Ballinger, Texas.

Betty Lou was a lifelong resident of Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1946 and was elected Miss Big Spring in 1948. She then graduated from Texas Christian University in 1949. She taught shorthand and typing at BSHS for 35 years, retiring in 1984. For many years, Betty Lou was the sponsor of the Student Council and until recently she never missed a BSHS homecoming. After retiring she enjoyed traveling and gardening.

Survivors include her husband of 60 years, Don Green; one son, Donny Green and wife, Debbie; one granddaughter, Alix Green; four grandchildren, Bari Green, Maci Green, Levi Green and Blair Reynolds; one sister, Beth Stasey; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and one grandson, Cody Green.

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:

• **BRYSON ONEIL VANDERBILT**, 33, of 2506 Auburn, was arrested on a warrant with another agency.

• **ASHLI MARIE SEALS**, 29, of 803 E 20th St., was arrested on a warrant of theft of property in between \$100 to \$750.

• **KENNETH WAYNE MIEARS JR.**, 41, of 1611 Hubbard St., Sweetwater, Texas, was

arrested on a warrant of wrong, altered, obscured registration insignia.

• **IRA LYNN DEAN**, 57, of 2529 Harvest Ln., Fort Worth, Texas, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with previous convictions.

• **SHAWN CARR II**, 36, of 3006 Cherokee, was arrested on a warrant with another agency.

• **RONNIE RENE RIVERA**, 38, of 1302 N Ave K, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the 800 block of E I 20, and on Donley and 20th.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 2000 block of S Gregg St., in the 2400 block S Gregg, in the 500 block, in the 1500 E Hwy 350, in the 800 block of S Owens St., and in the 1100 block of Lamesa Hwy.

• **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1700 block of Young St, in the 2200 block of Alabama St., and in the 1600 block of E 17th.

Take Note

• Legal Aid of North-West 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 pron 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 March 22, 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 information 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 Fait 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.

• Scholarship packets for Coahoma High School seniors are now available at the counselor's office. Thousands of dollars worth scholarships opportunities are available to Coahoma High School students. The deadline to turn in applications for some of the scholarships is fast approaching.

If students or parents have any questions or need help filling out any forms, please contact Chandra Brooks at 395-5000 or come by the high school office.

Extra scholarship packets are available at front office. Please see Brooks at the high school office for a packet.

• 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 information, 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 information, 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 Tuesday of each month.

Meetings are still held at the Big Spring TA Truck Stop. Visitors are welcome.

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.

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2018**

All District Basketball Selections, District 7AA *Forsan Lady Buffs finish season 25-6, District Champs Regional Quarter finalists*



Courtesy photo

Pictured above are members of the Forsan High girls basketball team that received all-district honors. Front row from left to right: Honorable Mention Haley Patterson (So.), Mikayla Arzate (Jr.). Second row from left to right: First Team all-district: Macey Evans (Jr.), Emily Garcia (Jr.). Second Team all-district: Jenna Evans (Sr.), Rylee Evans (Jr.). Back row from left to right: District MVP (unanimous) Chasidy Grantham (Sr.), "6th Man of the Year" Mikahaela Willard (Jr.).

No. 21 Houston routs UCF in AAC Tournament quarterfinal



Displayed in the photo to the left is, Houston forward Devin Davis (15) drives to the basket in front of Central Florida forward A.J. Davis (3) during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game in the quarterfinals of the American Athletic Conference tournament, Friday, March 9, 2018, in Orlando, Fla.

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Houston was determined not to repeat its recent failures in the American Athletic Conference Tournament.

The Cougars used a dominant performance against UCF to erase the sting of two consecutive first-round losses.

Galen Robinson scored 18 points, Rob Gray had 17 points, six assists and five rebounds, and No. 21 Houston beat UCF 84-56 on Friday night.

"We went 0-2 in this game the last two years, and we wanted to make sure that didn't happen again," Gray said. "We wanted to come out and hit them in the mouth first, and not let up for 40 minutes. That's what we tried to do, and now we're on to the next round."

The third-seeded Cougars (25-6) will play 11th-ranked and second-seeded Wichita State (25-6) in Saturday's semifinal round.

Devin Davis had 16 points and seven rebounds for the Cougars, who held a 37-28 edge in rebounds and scored 20 points off the Knights' 11 turnovers. Armoni Brooks and Corey Davis Jr. each scored 10 points.

"We remember what happened last year, and the year before," Davis said. "So it was all about preparation coming in. We had intense practices, making sure everyone was locked in for 40 minutes. It made a difference."

B.J. Taylor scored 20 points for UCF, and Ceasar DeJesus had 10.

The Cougars led almost the entire game, smothering the Knights defensively and outthrusting them at the other end. The Knights (19-13) never got closer than eight points in the second half.

The Cougars had a 37-28 rebounding advantage and held a 20-6 edge in points off turnovers.

Houston's 84 points were the most scored against UCF this season.

"Houston's a very good team, and they have so many guys capable of making shots, and they did," UCF coach Johnny Dawkins said. "You have to tip your hat to what they were able to do. It's a credit to them for keeping their foot on the gas for 40 minutes."

Davis scored 10 points in the first six minutes and had 14 points on 6-for-6 shooting by halftime as Houston went ahead 40-27. Armoni Brooks had eight points, including a pair of 3-pointers, in the first 20 minutes.

BIG PICTURE

Houston: The Cougars have won nine of their last 10 games. Houston has held a rebounding edge in all but five games this season and should have an advantage on the boards against smaller Wichita State.

UCF: The Knights are hoping for an NIT bid. They already are looking forward to next season, when guard Chance McSpadden and Aubrey Dawkins, son of coach Johnny Dawkins, are expected to return. Both missed this season with injuries. Also returning will be 7-foot-6 center Tacko Fall, who missed half of this season with a shoulder injury.

UP NEXT:

Houston: Faces Wichita State. The Cougars and the Shockers split their regular-season meetings.

UCF: Awaits word on a possible NIT berth.



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New Baby Isabella Grace



Valerie Nicole and Faye Ross are proud to announce the birth of their new baby girl, Isabella Grace Ross. Isabella was born March 5, 2018. At birth little Isabella weighed 6 pounds and 12 ounces., and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Isabella was happily welcomed by her new Uncles, Chris, Nick, Dylan.

Also excited about little Isabella's arrival are new proud grandparents, Velia Ross and Edward Ross. Isabella lives happily in Big Spring, Texas with her new family.

Kristen Wiig cast as Wonder Woman villain Cheetah

Courtesy Photo

In this Dec. 18, 2017 file photo, Kristen Wiig, a cast member in "Downsizing," poses at a special screening of the film in Los Angeles. Wiig will play a villain in the next "Wonder Woman" film. Director Patty Jenkins announced on Twitter Friday that Wiig will star as Wonder Woman rival Cheetah in the superhero sequel.



LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kristen Wiig will play a villain in the next "Wonder Woman" film.

Director Patty Jenkins announced on Twitter Friday that Wiig will star as Wonder Woman rival Cheetah in the superhero sequel.

Jenkins said in her post that she "can't wait to finally work with one of my favorites" and is very excited by what they have planned.

Star Gal Gadot welcomed Wiig to the cast in a follow-up post and added, "This is going to be WONDERful."

Jenkins reportedly became the highest-paid female filmmaker in history when she signed on to direct the sequel to the 2017 blockbuster "Wonder Woman."

No title has been announced for the film, which is scheduled to hit theaters in December next year.

Rattlesnake Roundup Time is My View of March Madness

By Judy Tereletsky

Howard SWCD District Clerk

Few sounds will make a West Texan freeze or take flight faster than a "rattle". In my youth, I went to the Big Spring Rattlesnake Roundup held by the AMBUCS but you won't find me attending any now. Sweetwater is known for holding the largest Rattlesnake Roundup in Texas every March and though I would not discourage a first timer from going I won't volunteer as their chaperon. Not because I abdicate anti-hunting due to animal/reptile cruelty but because in my advanced age I feel if I see a rattlesnake near me it wishes to be killed. To those who know my love for God's creatures I'm sure this surprised some that I would be an "only good snake is a dead snake" type and that is not true. However I wouldn't hesitate to say "the only good rattlesnake is a dead rattlesnake". I recognize the important part that the snake plays in our ecosystem however it is one of those creatures (like spiders) that I don't go finding it so it shouldn't find me type situations. I will go out of my way to not to harm a bull snake or grass snake but if it rattles all bets are off!

Rattlesnakes are found in the southern parts of the United States from the mountains to the plains. It's far more likely that any snake you encounter in Texas will not be one of the venomous species. Most snakes are harmless; all are essential parts of our ecosystem keeping populations of mice and other rodents in check. Only 15 species of snakes found in Texas are venomous, and some of these are in remote areas where contact with humans is rare. There are four groups of dangerously venomous snakes in North America, and Texas (of course we are the best at everything!) has all four: rattlesnakes, copperheads, cottonmouths, and coral snakes. (1)

The most famous feature of the rattlesnake is of course its rattle. The rattle is found at the tip of the tail and the snake uses the rattle to warn potential aggressors to back off or to distract its prey. The famous noise comes from the sound created when hollow and bony segments bang together. Baby rattlesnakes are born alive with a pre-button and each time the snake sheds its skin a new button appears. Until a rattlesnake has two or more buttons it does not make a sound. Spring is breeding season for rattlers. Adult female rattlesnakes are ovoviviparous, meaning the egg sacs are incubated within the mother so the young emerge fully developed. Babies are born venomous and often are more aggressive than the adults and have no buttons to warn off a target. As the rattlesnake

ages it learns to control the amount of venom it releases and this is another reason baby rattlesnake bites can be more dangerous. As a rattlesnake ages it adds the buttons however the buttons can also break off so the old wives tale of counting the buttons to tell the age may not hold true. Rattlesnakes are cold-blooded so you will often see them "sunning themselves" on pavements or rocks to get warm. In hot climates like West Texas they move at night because even in total darkness prey animals are visible to the snake because the heat-sensitive pits on each side of the snake's head detects the prey's heat.

As populations grow and people continue to move into less developed areas, encounters with snakes are going to occur around the home. Snakes in general, occur around a home for the specific purposes of seeking food and shelter. Keeping this in mind provides guidelines to help prevent snakebites around the home. Since venomous snakes are common in the rural areas of Texas, it is important for farmers, ranchers, hunters, rural residents, outdoor enthusiasts, oil field workers, etc. to exercise caution. Keep wood piles, brush piles, trash dumps and livestock pens as far as possible from the residence and as neat as possible. When working in these areas, exercise caution. Never put an arm or leg into something if you cannot see the bottom - don't reach or step until you can see the bottom. Treat tools and materials stored on the floor as possible snake shelters. Treat overturned boats, tarps and similar objects as potential shelter for transient snakes moving through the area. Remember snakes are adept at finding their way through small openings so keep this in mind when entering crawl spaces, basements, garages and similar areas. On hikes always carry a cell phone, hike with a friend, or make sure family and friends know where you are hiking and how long you plan to be gone. Look before you sit and avoid tall grass and underbrush. Keep pets on a leash. Be careful collecting firewood and pay

attention to camp sites before setting up. Check your tent and sleeping bags before use. Never step over a log without first seeing what is on the other side. If you must move a log - use a long stick or garden tool first, to ensure snakes are neither under, on or around these favored habitats. Be careful around water because rattlesnakes can swim - anything resembling a long stick in the water could be a rattlesnake. Use a flashlight when moving about, even in your home yard, at night. Wear protective clothing if working in areas where you suspect snakes nearby. Heavy footwear, snake proof trousers and/or leggings will help reduce your risk.

If you come across a rattlesnake back up so you are out of the snake's strike range (at least five feet or more). A rattlesnake's strike range can be up to one third to one half of its total length. Avoid picking up a snake as even a dead snake can "bite" because of a reflex action that closes the mouth and injects venom.

Now if the rattlesnake does find you first, the Texas Wildlife and Parks website says to do the following:

What to Do If Bitten by a Rattlesnake

- Remain calm.
- Seek immediate medical attention by dialing 911 or your local poison center — 1-800-222-1222.

- Keep the bitten arm, leg, or body part at or slightly below heart level.

- Note the time the bite happened. Avoid trying to capture or kill the snake, but try to remember its color and shape so you can describe it. This can help with medical treatment. If you can do so safely and without delay, take a photo.

- Remove all tight clothing or jewelry.

- Do not cut the bite or try to suck the venom out.

- Leave the bite site alone. Do not use any first aid measures such as applying heat, cold, electricity or any substance to the bite.

- Avoid allowing the victim to drink caffeine or alcohol or take any drugs.

- Transport the victim to a hospital as quickly as possible, but use care and do not convert the snake bite emergency into a traffic accident. It's best to go by ambulance. (2)

(1)(2) www.twpd.texas.gov



Courtesy Photo

The Texas Diamondback rattlesnake can be found in rocky areas or overgrown brush. Special care should be taken when working in areas with limited visibility of the ground.

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CHADI RICHEH, MD

ENDOCRINOLOGY

Dr. Richeh received his medical degree from the University of Damascus in Syria and completed his residency in internal medicine and his clinical fellowship in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism at the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. He provides inpatient and outpatient diagnosis, consultation, evaluation and treatment for a wide range of endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism disorders.

He treats patients ages 8 and above and specializes in conditions including:

- Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes
- Gestational Diabetes during pregnancy
- Thyroid Disorders including: thyroid cancers, thyroid nodules and Hyper and Hypothyroidism
- Parathyroid Gland Disorders
- Diabetes Insipidus
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GAUNTLET

Continued from Page 1A

Daniel Okunola, 39; Brandon Moore, 31; Aaron Mata, 26; Raymundo Gonzalez, 43; Luis Casas Jr, 25; Timothy Hicks, 45; Kurtis Shaw, 18; and Stanley Daniel, 21.

Arrested for prostitution – soliciting a person under the age of 18, a second-degree felony, were Alfredo Garcia, 25; Eric Gesch, 43; Christian Love, 21; Alex Brito, 27; and Peyton Coffman, 24

Phase Three of the operation targeted prostitution and human trafficking from Feb. 28 through March 3, according to the press release.

“During the four-day Operation, undercover chatters posted ads on popular online classified websites and conducted undercover texting and phone calls posing as a 16-year-

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

on campus.

“I think this is something we need to look into as well,” said Tubb.

Board President Tony Kennedy brought up the first major U.S. school shooting that took place in 1999 at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado.

“The Columbine shooting took five and a half hours,” he said. “The police department here can respond quickly and are supposed to be here in four minutes. The average school shooting typically lasts under four minutes. I realized how unprepared we are as a school district and we have to protect our kids. It’s my opinion that we need to push forward and arm staff at our school district.”

Members of the board discussed how employees would be required to go through continuous training throughout the year in order to carry and use a firearm on campus.

“I’m definitely in favor of it, based on the appropriate training,” said Big Spring High School Principal Mike Ritchey. “I just don’t think we can leave any stones unturned even when comes to friendly fire. I think the deterrent of it would a long way but more importantly, I think it would be a great thing for kids and speaking as a parent, I’d certainly want a school to consider that.”

In other business, the board accepted a donation of \$1,000 from United Specialty Advertising LLC during the meeting.

Contact Staff Writer Erin Stephens at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

FOOD

Continued from Page 1A

getting healthy food into the hands of those who need it most. State administrators, he said, would be responsible for figuring out how to package and distribute the boxes themselves.

But SNAP administrators say the proposal is riddled with holes.

Bhanot had a broad list of questions, ranging from delivery of the boxes, especially during hurricanes, to ensuring that recipients were getting the right type of nutrition. “We’d have to ramp up staff. Where will the money come from?” he asked.

In Minnesota, Chuck Johnson, acting commissioner of the Department of Human Services, called the proposal “a significant step backward in our nation’s effort to ensure all Americans have access to nutritious food.” He said it would be a major burden on states, which would have to figure out how to deliver the food boxes.

Tom Hedderman, director of food and nutrition policy at the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, said there are about 1.25 million SNAP recipients in his state who get more than \$90 in benefits each month – the threshold that would trigger a food box. He criticized the proposal for its lack of detail and direction.

“It’s clear in the proposal that they would dump the problem of logistics and cost back on to the states,” he said.

Babs Roberts, who directs the community services division of the Washington Department of Social and Health Services, said a uniform system for distributing boxes simply wouldn’t work in her state, where there are roughly 900,000 SNAP recipients. The cities are too dense for a delivery system to work, she said, while residents living in rural communities

old) female child,” LeSueur said in the press release. “Undercover Officers also posted as Human Trafficking victims on the street, attempting to be solicited for sexual conduct in exchange for money. Undercover officers and Special Agents also posed as buyer “johns” of Human Trafficking, in an effort to recover and rescue Human Trafficking victims. Special Agents and Officers also conducted a search warrant at a massage parlor (Lucky Spa; after an undercover officer was solicited for sexual conduct. Undercover chatters responded to 1,034 incoming messages from 275 unique phones, resulting in 15 arrests for Prostitution, Class B Misdemeanor; one arrest for Prostitution – Enhanced (one previous conviction), Class A Misdemeanor; one arrest for Prostitution – Enhanced (more than three convictions), State Jail Felony; one arrest for Prostitution Solicit Per-

son under 18, 2nd Degree Felony; and one arrest for Aggravated Promotion of Prostitution, 2nd Degree Felony.”

Arrested on a charge of prostitution, a class B misdemeanor,

Patricia Chapman, 46; Ashley Hernandez, 24; Kami Martinez, 19; Alexis Phillips, 22; Kalleigh Tyler, 25; Dwight Thomas, 28; Keith Davidson, 48; Hamza Kechah, 38; Ahlieya Caudillo, 19; Adrianna Alcorta, 22; Jasmine Miles, 18; Tashonda Caraway, 22; Tilara Runels, 24; Desirey Carrizales, 22; and Young Yu, 49.

Rachel Tate, 31, was arrested on a charge of class A misdemeanor prostitution; while Ding Bing, 52, was arrested on a charge of prostitution (enhanced state jail felony).

Arrested on a charge of prostitution – soliciting a person under the age of 18, a second-degree felony, was Lloyd David, 28; while Lee Hunsun, 67, was arrested on a charge of aggravated

promotion of prostitution, a second-degree felony.

Agencies participating in Operation Gauntlet included Texas Department of Public Safety, the Odessa Police Department, the Midland County Sheriff’s Office, the Midland Fire Department, the Andrews Police Department, the Abilene Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Marshal Service, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and Child Protective Services, Texas Rescue Against Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking of the Permian Basin, and the Midland County District Attorney’s Office.

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

California gunman in veteran center killings was ex-patient

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER and JANIE HAR

Associated Press

YOUNTVILLE, Calif. (AP) — Three women who devoted their lives to helping traumatized veterans were killed by a patient who had been kicked out of their Northern California treatment program, authorities and a relative of a victim said.

A daylong siege at The Pathway Home ended Friday evening with the discovery of four bodies, including the gunman. He was identified as Albert Wong, 36, a former Army rifleman who served a year in Afghanistan in 2011-2012.

Investigators were still trying to determine when and why Wong killed two executives and a psychologist at The Pathway Home, a nonprofit post-traumatic stress disorder program at the Veterans Home of California-Yountville in the Napa Valley wine country region.

It was “far too early to say if they were chosen at random” because investigators had not yet determined a motive, California Highway Patrol Assistant Chief Chris Childs said.

Gov. Jerry Brown ordered flags flown at half-staff at the capitol in memory of the victims. They were identified as The Pathway Home Executive Director Christine Loeber, 48; Clinical Director Jennifer Golick, 42; and Jennifer Gonzales, 29, a clinical psychologist with the San Francisco Department of Veterans Affairs Healthcare System.

“These brave women were accomplished professionals who dedicated their careers to serving our nation’s veterans, working closely with those in the greatest need of attention after deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan,” The Pathway Home said in a statement.

Golick’s father-in-law, Bob Golick, said in an interview she had recently expelled Wong from the program.

The Pathway Home is located on the sprawling campus of the veter-

ans center, which cares for about 1,000 elderly and disabled vets.

It is the largest veterans home in the nation, according to the state Department of Veterans Affairs.

Wong went to the campus about 53 miles (85 kilometers) north of San Francisco on Friday morning, slipping into a going-away party for some employees of The Pathway Home.

Larry Kamer told The Associated Press that his wife, Devereaux Smith, called him to say that the gunman had entered the room quietly, letting some people leave while taking others hostage.

Golick called her husband, Mark, to say that she had been taken hostage by the former soldier, her father-in-law said.

Mark Golick didn’t hear from her again.

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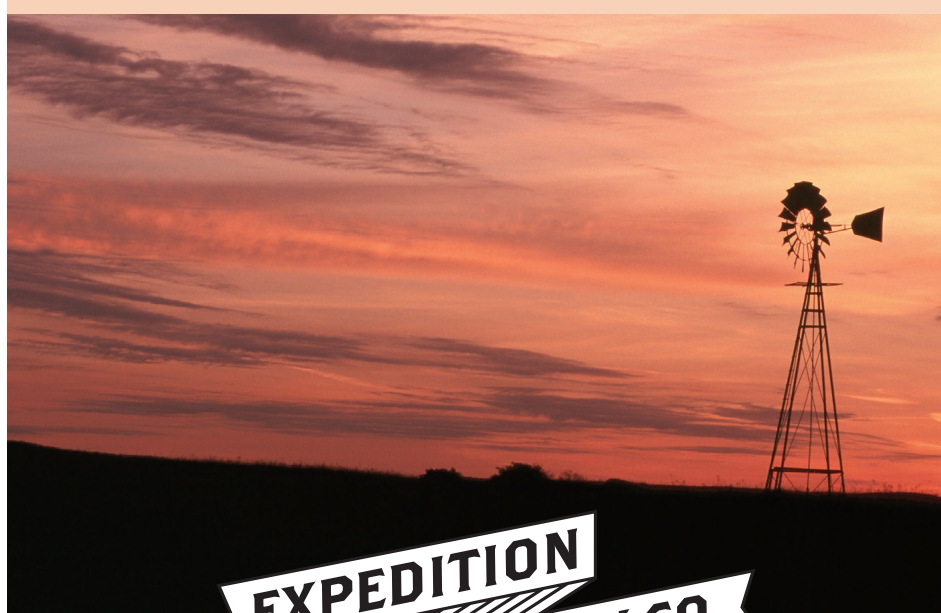
Essig Arnold, 88, of Centerville, formerly of Sand Springs, died Wednesday, March 7, 2018. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Grave-side services will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Coahoma Cemetery.

Linda Pitts Mitchell, 81, died Thursday. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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TECH

Continued from Page 1B

"It was a tough loss for us. We have more field goals, we outrebound them, we have low turnover totals on a one-day prep but we don't win the game," Bears said. "Letting their two best guards get loose for that many 3-ponit shots, there has to be some defensive mistakes that we have to own, but in a lot of ways we ran out of time. We didn't get beat."

WHAT TO CHANGE

The Mountaineers were swept by Kansas in the regular season, losing 71-66 in Morgantown and 77-69 in Lawrence. Asked what needs to change, coach Bob Huggins replied: "Score more points than them. I don't know. We played pretty well, they played pretty well. Two pretty well-played games. So I don't know. Make another shot, maybe. Get a free throw."

BIG PICTURE

West Virginia was beaten on the boards, committed 21 fouls and struggled for long stretches. But the Mountaineers were careful with the ball, showed some of Huggins' trademark toughness and managed to make the plays that mattered.

Texas Tech had plenty of chances to regain the lead in the final minutes, but four missed free throws and poor execution in crunch time spoiled a solid defensive performance.

UP NEXT

West Virginia prepares for the Big 12 title game against Kansas.

Texas Tech heads back to Lubbock to await Selection Sunday.

DUCKS

Continued from Page 1B

opponents' man advantages in the previous nine games. Dallas had been successful on only four of 36 power plays (11 percent) over 13 games.

The Stars were successful without special-teams standout Mattias Janmark, who was out with the flu. But their four leading scorers — Seguin, Benn, Klingberg and Alexander Radulov — along with Shore were on the ice for both goals.

"We've relied all year on our big boys to come through at the right time," Dallas coach Ken Hitchcock said, "and that's exactly what they did today."

Getzlaf scored at 17:16 of the first period. Rickard Rakell started the play by passing out to Corey Perry at the Ducks' blue line. Going 2-on-1 against Dallas defenseman Greg Pateryn, Perry dropped the puck to Getzlaf entering the Stars' zone. Pateryn went to the ice to block a shot, but Getzlaf lifted a wrist shot over Pateryn and Lehtonen's right shoulder into the upper-left corner of the net.

Anaheim outshot Dallas 10-9 in the first period, but the Stars came out firing in the second. They peppered Miller with 17 shots on goal to just five for the Ducks. Miller stopped all of them.

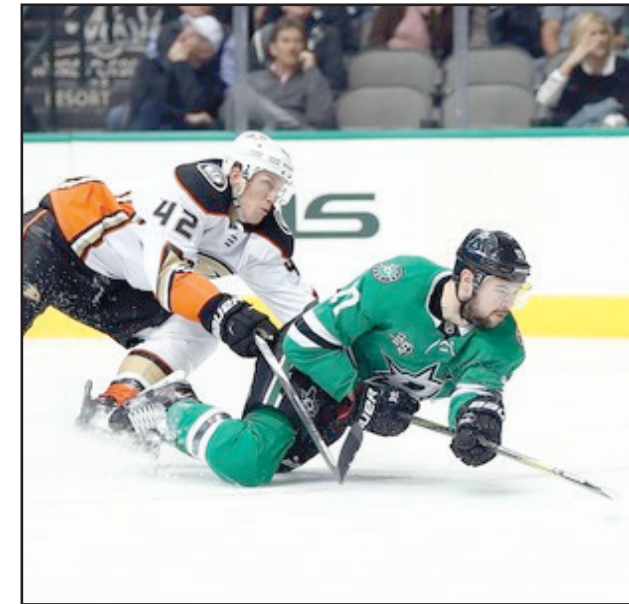
"I thought as the game went on we showed a lot more offensive determination, tenacity," Hitchcock said. "We drew some penalties because of it. I just thought we looked relentless."

NOTES: The Stars had no healthy scratches. The players sidelined were Janmark, D Marc Methot (lower-body injury) and G Ben Bishop (knee). Bishop will make Dallas' longest trip of the season and may be able to play before the team returns home on March 23. Dallas C Martin Hanzal will undergo season-ending spinal fusion. ... Getzlaf has two goals and 10 assists in his last five games. ... Rakell played in his 300th NHL game. He celebrated with an assist on Getzlaf's goal, giving him eight goals and 11 assists in a six-game point streak. ... Dallas' penalty killers were 19 for 20 in the previous five games, and 3 for 3 on Friday. ... Seguin assisted on both goals. Ducks D Josh Manson left in the third period after he fell on to the back of Stars LW Remi Elie's skate, but Manson returned to the game.

UP NEXT

Ducks: Begin a four-game homestand on Monday against St. Louis.

Stars: Begin a six-game trip on Sunday at Pittsburgh.



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STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

to take lead before the Steers responded with a big three run inning in the bottom of the fourth. Cade Wash crushed an RBI double, Brett Berringer added an RBI single and Kobe Guiterrez had an RBI sacrifice fly in the inning to retake the lead 4-3.

Pecos' pitcher Jacob Zuniga really pitched well, especially in the fifth and sixth innings where he struck out four and retired six batters in a row. This gave the Eagles a chance to tie the game in the seventh. A challenge Zuniga took into his own hands with a double in the final inning leading

to the tying score.

In the Steers next at bat, tied 4-4, Kobe Guiterrez smoked a lead off triple. Two pitches later Guiterrez scored, stealing home and sliding under the tag on a wild pitch to win the game in exciting fashion. Renteria got the start for the Steers. He pitched six and two thirds innings, gave up four runs on seven hits and struck out three. Edward Aguilar led Big Spring with two hits in two at bats.

Zuniga pitched well for the Eagles. He gave up five runs on seven hits and struck out a whopping twelve batters over six innings. He also hit three for four at the plate to lead Pecos. Big Spring coach Daniel Carrillo said after the game "that the biggest thing to take away from today was the

playoff atmosphere. To be able to get that in early March makes you better in April and May when it truly counts". He also gave credit to his players, saying "he thought the team handled themselves incredibly well. That they stayed even keel and never got too emotional. That although there are some things to clean up, they kept playing the game and trusted it". Coach Carrillo also gave credit to his pitchers saying " they threw strikes and the pounded the zone, I'll take that all day". "I'm really proud of them, we've got a chance tomorrow to do something special and go 5-0 in a tournament, which is really tough to do".

The Steers will try to do just that tomorrow 1:30 p.m. at Christensen Stadium in Midland.

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Roger's Reviews: A Wrinkle In Time



Growing up, "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle was one of my favorite books. Its themes of children braving unknown, dark mysteries of the universe and discovering their inner confidence and strength really touched a cord with me.



ROGER CLINE

Needless to say the announcement of the new movie from Walt Disney Pictures piqued my interest. The result is a mixed bag: A lot of great acting and obvious love for the subject matter; but the inevitable Hollywood changes, including inexplicable and unnecessary amounts of glitz and huge swaths of missing story kind of ruined it for me. The film starts showing a bit of explication, with the married Drs. Murry (Dr. Kate Murry portrayed by Gugu Mbatha-Raw and Dr. Alex Murry portrayed by Chris Pine) adopting their son, Charles Wallace (Deric McCabe). And then Dr. Alex disappears.

Four years later, the Murry's natural daughter Meg (Storm Reid), Charles Wallace's older sister, is a troubled middle-school student, picked on by mean girls at her school, especially Veronica (Rowan Blanchard). Charles Wallace is a precocious kid, using language and possessing understanding beyond his years.

After getting in trouble for hitting Veronica in the face with a basketball, Meg meets and befriends the handsome but also troubled Calvin O'Keefe (Levi Miller). That night, a young woman drops by, apparently at Charles Wallace's invitation, garbed in sheets cadged from the neighbor's clothesline, and identifies herself as Mrs. Whatsit (Reese Witherspoon). Naturally alarmed, Meg's mom asks the "Mrs." to leave so the children can sleep, but before she goes, Mrs. Whatsit drops the bomb that Dr. Alex Murry is still alive, and that "tesseract" are real.

This bit of info – and the in-

roduction of two more "Mrs."es: Mrs. Who (Mindy Kaling), who speaks exclusively in literary and historical quotations, meticulously attributed; and Mrs. Which (Oprah Winfrey), which has a hard time confining herself to human dimensions – leads to a jaunt across the universe to rescue Dr. Murry, with stops at a couple of planets along the way.

Of course, they don't travel by spaceship, but by "tesseract"; the process of mentally folding space, eliminating the travel distance and making the journey much shorter.

I'll stop the summary there. Look for performances by Andre Holland as Meg's principal, Principal Jenkins; Zach Galifianakis as The Happy Medium; and Michael Peña as the suspiciously friendly "Red" – a native of Camazotz.

First of all, the good. The acting is really pretty good, for what it is. Storm Reid as Meg is great. The three "Mrs."es do a respectable job (we're talking about acting here – I'll have more to say about that in a second), but all three bring way too much of their own baggage to the role. I half expected Mrs. Which to start passing out cars at the end of the movie.

Unfortunately, the bad is pretty bad. The movie just leaves out huge chunks of story – and not just trivial, meaningless stuff. In the book, after being rescued from It on Camazotz by Dr. Murry's emergency tesseract, Meg almost dies from the sudden jump. She's nursed back to health by a furry, blind creature she nicknames "Aunt Beast." In the movie, we see some strange-looking creatures walking through the mist for a second during Meg's vision with the Happy Medium, and he says the words "Aunt Beast." They never appear again in the story. The whole "nursing back to health" part is cut out.

As is an even more important part: In the book, after her recovery, Meg actually has to face her terror and return to the soul-sucking Camazotz to rescue Charles Wallace. Don't look for that act of courage in the movie. There's not even a whiff of it. Or

of the mental math and history facts she uses to try to defeat It (I guess they renamed "It" "The It" to avoid confusion or legal issues with another recent movie). They're just gone, and she jumps right to the correct answer.

Camazotz in the movie is a contradictory and confusing place: the chaos of giant tornadoes and crowds of humanity on an endless beach juxtaposed against a scene pulled straight from the book – suburban kids bouncing balls in a creepily synchronized way; and the laboratory sterile CENTRAL Central Intelligence building, the home of It (or The It). In my memory of the book, Camazotz was all the creepy lockstep order with none of the disorder and chaos evidenced by the tornado and the color riot on the beach.

Then there are a couple of times when Meg is praised for her knowledge and skill with science for doing things that make absolutely no sense. For example, she sees that tornado rip up some scenery and throw it over a wall. From this, she intuits that, if she and Calvin climb inside a hollow log, the tornado will throw them over the wall, because "physics." I don't think I, personally, would have trusted one data point from a freaking tornado to make it over the wall. "Physics" requires a bit more evidence than that.

Anyway, there's some good, some bad. I recommend the book highly. The movie, I give six and a half stars out of 10.

A Wrinkle In Time
Director: Ava DuVernay
Writers: Screenplay by Jennifer Lee; based on "A Wrinkle In Time" By Madeleine L'Engle
Production Company: Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures
PG; 1 hr. 49 min.; Adventure/Family/Fantasy; March 9, 2018

Roger saw this movie at Big Spring's own Cinemark Cinema 4, located inside the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. For more information visit www.cinemark.com and enter the ZIP Code 79720.

Howard County Lunches Big Spring ISD

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Thursday: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, oranges, biscuits, milk.

Friday: Fish sticks, tater sauce, macaroni and cheese, French fries, apple sauce, milk.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful Club News

Keep Big Spring Beautiful held their monthly meeting March 5, 2018. President Eric Escamilla called the meeting to order. After the pledge, Judge Katherine Wiseman gave the invocation.

Janell Davis made a motion to accept the February 2018 minutes. It was seconded by Teresa Darden and all approved.

Jim DePauw gave the treasurer's report. We had several businesses and individuals join our organization in January and February. Special thanks to Desert Flower on hosting a wine and canvas fundraiser for our organization.

Most of the meeting was spent on discussing the "Don't Mess With Texas" "Trash Off" that will be held April 7th. It was voted by the organization to move the venue from the Heart Of The City Park to Howard College. This will be in conjunction with the Chamber Of Commerce Health Fair. Trash Bags will be available for pick up at the Chamber on April 6th. Times for picking up the trash bags will be from 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-3:00. We invite everyone to participate in the Trash Off.

Toasty Tuesday Twilight Trash Offs will begin March 13. The times will be from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Emails will be sent to everyone on the location.

Pastor Sam Segundo gave the group an inspirational talk on leadership.

The next meeting will be held at noon on April 2nd. We meet in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Visitors are always welcome.

Parkview Nursing Employee of Month Gloria Baldomino

Gloria Baldomino
Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation would like to Congratulate Gloria Baldomino for earning Employee of Month,

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Opinion

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

ADDRESSES

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• DONALD TRUMP

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Brady's man of the world

A friend at radio station KNEL in Brady told me I should interview Harold Byler. I asked who is he, what has he done, etc. He told me he was a storyteller and writer, then leafed through a stack of newspapers and pulled out a column Mr. Byler had written. It was all about Truman and the end of World War. It had solid historical facts. I called Mr. Byler and he said, "Sounds like fun. Come on over after lunch."

As I stepped on the porch of Mr. Byler's home, I noticed a sign by the front door proclaiming the house was a historic home known as the Hill House. I found out later John Hill was Harold's grandfather who had a chain of general stores and the Ford dealership in Brady in the early 1900's. "It was about the time Model T's came out," says Mr. Byler, "and my grandfather traded cars for cows and land and put together a ranch near the San Saba River. He became very successful."

Harold Byler is in his mid 80's.

"I never set out to make a lot of money," he says. "I just wanted to enjoy life." Well, he has certainly done that.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

During his high school years he was a projectionist at the three theaters in Brady. He went to A & M and paid for his degree in electrical engineering by working summers on pipelines in five states. During the Korean War he was an intelligence officer with the Second Infantry Division. He taught physics at Syracuse University five years, retired from a management position at GE after 20 years, was a stock broker in New York for a while, then spent 15 years as a professional gambler. He designed race cars, taught tennis, traveled the world in small sailboats he built and spent 6 years lecturing on cruise ships with his wife. "I would have a whole 45 minute seminar on bluffing," says Harold, "then I'd have one on cheating." His gambling career was spent in homes and clubs, cash games as he calls them. "I didn't do it for fun. I was making a living. I read 250

books on poker before I started."

Harold and his wife Janice (from Vermont) have been married 63 years. They retired to Brady in 1995. Since then he has written 26 books. He writes a weekly column for the Brady newspaper.

When I told a friend in Brady I was going to interview Harold, my friend said, "be sure and get him to show you his stove and refrigerator. They're real antiques that he fixed up to use."

Sure enough, the first thing I did after entering the house was tell Mr. Byler I had to see his kitchen. "O, sure," he said and showed me an antique icebox with half a dozen doors on the front of it. "We put electricity to it and used it as our refrigerator for years. The old wood-burning cook store we converted to gas. We use it today."

Mr. Byler was a jitterbug king in high school and cleared the dance floor at the Brady Country Club. He loves to party. He expanded his front porch so he could have dances and a bar on it. The porch is equipped with large speakers that provide plenty of sound.

Letters to the Editor

Thank you BSFD and BSPD

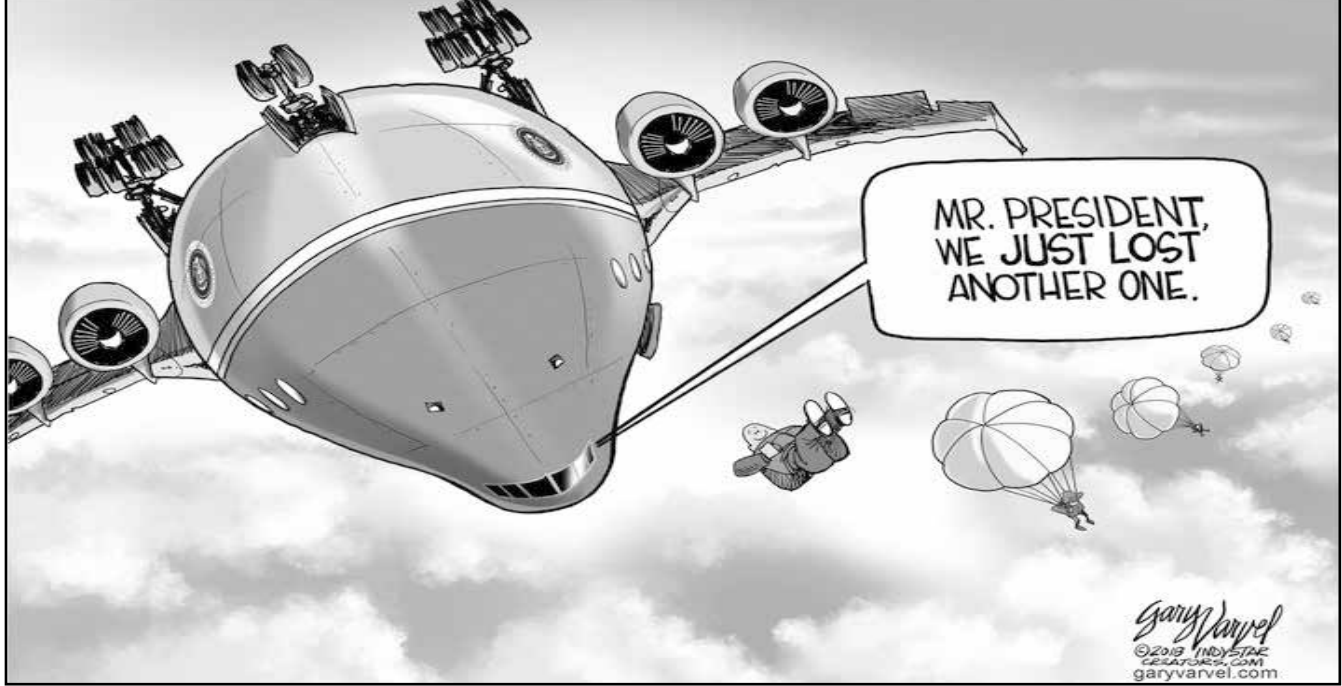
Dear Editor,
I would like to thank our park volunteer Charles Yates and the Big Spring Police Department Dispatch for

notifying me about a fire that had started at the State park on Sunday, March 4, 2018. I would also like to thank the Big Spring Fire Department and the Big Spring Police Department for their quick re-

sponse to this incident. The fire was started by high winds blowing sparks out of a barbecue grill. The fire did jump the outer loop scenic road and could have potentially caused MUCH more harm than it did.

This fire burned about a 40 yard by 10 yard patch of trees, brush and grass.

Ron Alton
Big Spring State Park



As the World Darkens....

When the word "culture" is heard these days, one does well to think of buttermilk, whether or not it "does a body good."

Even though our understanding of buttermilk is exceedingly vague, it seems degree-worthy when compared to our comprehension of current world culture that is cratering all around us.

Throw life like a bloated paintball against the canvas--be it global or otherwise--and the resulting image seems void of discernment. Warm "fuzzies" are not to be gleaned from sky images. There's no resemblance to childhood memories of spotting of bunnies in the clouds. More likely, we imagine rough-edged question marks. Or, maybe lumbering vehicles--veering off course with wheels falling off--as dark clouds loom.

Values guiding civilizations for centuries are kicked to the side. The world hurries aimlessly, and what is hoped to be better turns out to be worse. Dorothy and her buddies found it easier to find Emerald City on Oz's yellow brick road than do we who encounter dead ends and detours on life's highway. Frustrations loom.

We are quick to expect perfection from others with little effort to improve ourselves.

Truth seems hard to find, and we are torn--if truth is pursued at all--between accounts in mass media and the fast tracks of social media. We've heard many

references to "double-edged swords." Cuts today are at least in triplicate.

To sharpen focus, I'll choose one topic this day--the growing use of technology in officiating professional and collegiate sports. Oh, unquestionably it often can be counted on to "get it right," but at a great cost.

We expect too much from officials. Coaches and players make multiple mistakes, but we cut no slack for the refs. They can't win, and their striped shirts are "hung out to dry," left flapping in the wind.

TV controls too much, and comments that challenge amount to whistling in the wind. Suffice it to say that games are too long, emotional juices flowing in surging teams are interrupted and outcomes of plays--and even games--too often are in doubt for minutes. Much is sacrificed at the altar of instant replay....

Two cases in point--Dez Bryant's "non-catch" in a 2015 NFL divisional play-off game, and a less-noted traveling call at a recent Dallas Mavericks' NBA game.

The game official "on the play" when Bryant landed on the Green Bay one-yard line signaled "catch." The call was overturned. Now, the NFL's competition committee has decided that it was, indeed, a catch.

At the Mavericks' game, a referee whistled "traveling," but the lead official called a huddle of the three arbiters. About a minute passed before the arena an-

nouncer blared something about it being a "no call, due to an inadvertent whistle."

Huh? A few thousand of us in the arena saw the same play, and it appeared that the player was "guilty as charged" by the referee nearest the play.

No matter what the other two officials thought they saw on the replay--be they right or wrong--one thing for sure is that the other official did NOT inadvertently blow the whistle. He meant to blow the blamed thing, as he should have.

Someone said "the trouble with times like these is that there have always been times like these." I disagree. Times are worsening.

We could start first with ourselves to "get life right." Preoccupation with too much else causes aimless scurrying on roads leading nowhere. The Bible warns us about such.

The world yawns, as if assuming that "political correctness" will magically make everything right. Mac Engel, Fort Worth Star-Telegram writer, wrote volumes with one sentence in a recent column: "Mistakes are not to be rectified but crucified over and over again."

This is not the first time crucifixion has been the choice of the masses. Let the guy devoid of sin hurl the first rock.

Dr. Newbury is a former educator who speaks throughout Texas and the Southwest. Comments/inquiries to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com. Twitter: @donnewbury; Facebook, donnewbury.

LETTERS POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

DAILY PRAYER

May we live with You, Lord, in our hearts and minds. Amen.

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BAD Events' Chamber ribbon-cutting



Courtesy photo

Members of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce welcomed BAD Events Inc. to its new office in the Sparenberg Building, 309 S. Main St., with a ribbon cutting event this past week.

Building Permits

- CDR Properties, 3300 Duke Ave., residential electric, res elec. Val: \$200, Fee: \$25
- Owen K. Johnson, 1804 Grafa St., res elec., res hvac, Val: \$ 20,000, Fee: \$97.30
- Silverleaf, 701 Bucknell, res elec., res hvac, Val: \$9,250, Fee: \$118.74
- 7-11, 902 Willia St., signs type a, b, c, d, Val: \$10,000, Fee: \$60
- 7-11 #502 1701 FM 700, signs type a, b, c, d, Val: \$10,000, Fee: \$60
- 7-11 store #21212, 1209 E 11th Place, signs type a, b, c, d, Val: \$10,000, Fee: \$60
- 7-11 store #23388, 401 Birdwell Ln., signs type a, b, c, d, Val: \$10,000, Fee: \$60
- Owl Bake For You, 904 E 3rd St., com hvac, Val: \$8,500, Fee: \$50
- Linda Brown, 1302 E 18th St., res plumb, Val: \$3,000, Fee: \$32
- Manuel Carrasco, 806 E 13th St., res plumb, Val: \$800, Fee: \$32
- City of Big Spring, 1601 Virginia, com hvac, Val: \$1,300, Fee: \$0
- Denise Freeman, 516 Dallas St., other nonres., Val: \$3,400, Fee: \$30
- John B Roberts, 2208 Alabama St., res gas, Val: \$400, Fee: \$32
- Howard County Fair, 2900 Old West Hwy 80, Val: \$50,000, Fee: \$0
- Mike Downing, 301 Washington Blvd., Val: \$3,800, Fee: \$30
- Silverleaf, 715 Bucknell, single family houses res plumb., Val: \$280,813, Fee: \$1,027
- Ricauter Cantu Deleon, 2306 Runnels St., Val: \$1,500, Fee: \$32
- Hunter-Kesley of Texas LLC, 618 Tulane Ave., Res elec., Val: \$1,000, Fee: \$25
- Christopher Hale, 1812 S Benton St., fence, Val: \$2,000, Fee: \$25
- Keith and Rebec Crane, 1605 Lincoln Ave., res plumb, Val: \$2,000, Fee: \$32
- Rene Vasquez, 2535 Gunter Cir, res elec., Val: \$25, Fee: \$25
- Antonio Marquez, 910 Lamesa Hwy, com elec., Val: \$25, Fee: \$25
- T-Mobile USA, 1114 Main St., construction, Val: \$74,859, Fee: \$410
- Ronald Lee Howell, 1907 Monticello St., res re-roof, Val: \$2,800, Fee: \$25
- Bob Parks, 301 E 2nd St., com re-roof, Val: \$16,500, Fee: \$95
- Michael Paul Leuschner, 707 Craigmont Dr., fence, Val: \$100, Fee: \$25
- TXDOT, 1301 N Hwy 350, com elec., Val: \$10,000, Fee: \$27.50
- TXDOT, 1201 S Benton, com elec. Val: \$10,000, Fee: \$27.50
- Stan Parker, 409 Westover Rd., res hvac, Val: \$3,800, Fee: \$45

US stocks climb on strong jobs report; inflation fears ease

By MARLEY JAY

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks are rising sharply Friday following strong jobs figures, while investor concerns about inflation eased as wage growth slowed down slightly. Technology companies are setting more records as the Nasdaq composite regains the last of its losses from one month ago. Banks are rising in tandem with interest rates and industrial and health care companies are also climbing.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index climbed 40 points, or 1.5 percent, to 2,778 as of 2:45 p.m. Eastern time. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 369 points, or 1.5 percent, to 25,265. The Nasdaq composite jumped 110 points, or 1.5 percent, to 7,538. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks picked up 23 points, or 1.5 percent, to 1,595.

JOBS: U.S. employers added 313,000 jobs in February. Perhaps more importantly for Wall Street, wages didn't rise as much as investors had feared. Hourly wages grew 2.6 percent compared to a year ago, less than the 2.9 percent the government reported a month ago. Investors worried that that was a sign inflation was going to start rising at a faster pace. If so, the Federal Reserve would likely raise interest rates more rapidly in response,

which could slow down economic growth.

January's wage figure was also reduced slightly on Friday.

Katie Nixon, chief investment officer for Northern Trust Wealth Management, said the combination of strong job gains and a slightly slower increase in pay was exactly what Wall Street wanted.

"I think the fears of wages getting out of control in this point in the cycle ... were squashed," she said.

MARKET REACTION: Facebook rose \$2.62, or 1.4 percent, to \$184.96 and Google's parent company Alphabet added \$24.11, or 2.1 percent, to \$1,153.49. Technology companies have led the market's rally over the past year.

The S&P 500 is still about 3 percent below its highest close, which came on Jan. 26, and none of the other major sectors have recovered all of their early February losses.

BONDS: Bond prices dropped. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 2.89 percent from 2.85 percent. That helps banks, because it allows them to charge higher interest rates on mortgages and other kinds of loans. High-dividend stocks like utilities and phone companies fell. Those stocks are often compared to bonds and they tend to fall when yields move higher, as higher yields make them

less appealing to investors seeking income.

BAD NEWS, GEOFREY: Toymakers fell after Reuters reported that Toys R Us is getting ready to liquidate its U.S. operations. Reuters said the chain, which filed for bankruptcy protection, has been unable to find a buyer or restructure its debt. Despite its struggles, it's still a major retailer of toys. Hasbro dropped \$1.71, or 1.8 percent, to \$91.67 while Mattel sank \$1.16, or 6.3 percent, to \$14.81.

TARIFF IMPACT: Stocks slumped this month after Trump said he would place tariffs on imported steel and aluminum, but they've recovered some of their losses after he granted exemptions to Canada, Mexico, and potentially other countries.

Nixon said the administration appears to be setting itself up to take a harder line in China. While China isn't a major exporter of steel to the U.S., trade disputes between the two countries aren't uncommon and the government is currently investigating China's treatment of intellectual property held by U.S. companies.

"Clearly the target here is China and how that unfolds will be important for markets," Nixon said. "The collateral damage could be relatively wide unless it's done carefully, and so far the process has not been very careful."

BARACK BOOST: Netflix rose \$11.55, or 3.6 percent, to \$328.55 after the New York Times reported that the streaming service is negotiating with Barack Obama to have the former president and his wife Michelle produce shows. The two sides haven't confirmed that they are in talks. GBH

See **STOCKS**, Page 5C

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

- Jasmine Ahrnkeil, 1301 Princeton, Big Spring
- Sherri Monique Aldridge, 1507 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
- Anthony Anderson, 3401 Camellia Dr. #707, Temple
- Steve Antoine, 1425 E. Sixth St. #19, Big Spring
- Corina Avila, 1800 Winston St., Big Spring
- Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
- Letitia Baucham, 1202 Stanford, Big Spring
- Linda Beck, 1713 Worley Rd., Banner Elk, N.C.
- Joshua Bell, 1962 Tuscola, Snyder
- Elda Melina Bernal, 1311 Mobile, Big Spring
- 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
- Wayne Richard Buyce, 4042 Morning-side Way, Canyon Lake
- Jason Canales, 612 Drake Road Big

- Spring
- Raymond Carroll, 712 E. 17th St., Big Spring
- Gloria Cerna, PO Box 55, Lamesa
- Pedro Chavarria, 1408 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
- Matilda Cortez, 302 N. St. Teresa, Stanton
- Hannah Deaton, 19634 Atasca Oaks Dr., Humble
- 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 McMilian Dr., Austin
- Krista A. Dickson, 6917 Todd, Sachse
- Jimmy Dodson, 405 31st St., Snyder
- Ben Doherty, 5019 McKinney St. No. 105, Dallas
- Angela Doty, 1401 E. Rundberg, Austin
- Clayton W Durbin, 6508 Centerpoint, Big Spring
- Tina Marie Ellis, 4002 Austin Ave., Snyder
- Selena Bethani Enriquez-King, 100 E. Parker, Midland
- Brittany Vanessa Escanuela, 1221 E. 17th St., Big Spring
- Joanna Esparza, 501 S. Tackitt, Seymour
- W. Carol Evans, 809 E. 33rd, Plainview
- Chris M. Fagan, 3508 W. Eighth St., Amarillo
- Kristen Falcon, 2606 Fairchild Dr., Big

- Spring
- Lez Faulkner, 1102 South Water, Burnet
- Jose Enrique Faz, 509 N. Goliad, Big Spring
- Mumduh Felemban, 9338 Perrin Beitel Apt. 701, San Antonio
- Alexander Fernandez, 404 Cypress, Colorado City
- Juana Fierro, 406 N.W. 5th St., Big Spring
- Tracy D. Flores, 2401 Russell Ave., Abilene
- Ellen French, P.O. Box 942, Poteau, Okla.
- Sharlamarr Frink, 3723 Monclair, Odessa
- Johnnie Fuller, 3801 23rd St., Snyder
- Molly Mier Galan, 1201 Mulberry Ave., Big Spring
- Juan E. Garcia, 3355 River Road North Keizer, Ok
- Mary Jo Garner, 11802 Silver Barring Cove, San Antonio
- William Gene Garner, 704 Rosemont, Big Spring
- Rosa M. George, 509 W. Second St., Stanton, Texas
- Perry Gholar, 1510 Nolan, Big Spring
- Elizabeth Gomez, 509 Raleigh St., Plainview
- Guillermo Gomez, 2107 Morrison, Big Spring
- 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.
- Christina Nichole Gutierrez, 2809 25th St., Snyder
- 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
- Alfred Hamilton Jr., 1110 1/2 Aylesford, Big Spring
- Dylan Hammons, 4401 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
- William J. Harman, HC 76, Box 147K-1, Big Spring
- Nicholas D. Hasenbalg, 207 W. Williams St. #9, Breckenridge
- Ann Hashem, 120 Airbase Rd. 15-5, Big Spring
- Christine Henderson, 420 N. El Paso
- Juanita Hernandez, 1502 Bluebird, Big Spring
- Matias Hernandez Jr., 620 E. 4th St., San Angelo

See **RECORDS**, Page 5C

Galveston prepares for spring break after Hurricane Harvey

By JOHN WAYNE FERGUSON

The Galveston County Daily News

GALVESTON, Texas — New coats of paint are going on the pavilion at Galveston's popular East Beach.

The Galveston County Daily News reports new bollards are being planted in the sand to define the parking lots.

New lifeguards have begun training, and the sun, the glorious sun, is making more frequent appearances in the sky.

These are the signs that Galveston's winter season, which was unusually long and cold this year, is coming to an end, and the tourist season, upon which so much depends, is about to begin.

Spring break is coming, and local tourism officials say the two-week period is generally treated as an indicator of how the tourism season to come will treat the island.

How the island's tourism industry performs during the 14 or so days when most Texas public school and college students are out of class and free to travel is an essen-



AP photo Mike True, the park manager at Appfel Park on East Beach in Galveston, Texas, paints the shower stalls outside the pavilion on Wednesday, March 7, 2018, as he and his staff prepare for Spring Break.

tial indicator for businesses and people whose financial fortunes are made or broken over the summer.

"Spring break kicks off the summer season so it's vitally important," said Kelly de Schaun, executive director of the Galveston Park Board of Trustees, which manages some aspects of the island's tourism in-

dustry.

A good spring break can create the anticipation that builds for the rest of the tourism season, she said.

Galveston's beach parks will officially open Saturday, meaning people wanting

See **PREPARE**, Page 6A

Texas adds 7 rigs as US rig count increases to 984

HOUSTON (AP) — The number of rigs exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. increased by three this week to 984.

That exceeds the 768 rigs that were active this time a year ago.

Houston oilfield services company Baker Hughes reported Friday that 796 rigs drilled for oil this week and 188 for gas.

Among major oil- and gas-producing states, Texas increased by seven rigs, North Dakota gained three and Colorado and Pennsylvania each increased by one.

Oklahoma decreased by four rigs, Alaska lost two rigs and Louisiana, New Mexico and Utah each decreased by one.

Arkansas, California, Ohio, West Virginia and Wyoming were unchanged.

The U.S. rig count peaked at 4,530 in 1981. It bottomed out in May of 2016 at 404.

Texas Public Safety to start tracking troopers' weight

DALLAS (AP) — The Texas Department of Public Safety will begin recording the height, weight and waistlines of its more than 4,000 troopers during their routine physical readiness tests.

The Dallas Morning News reports that the measurement recording starting this month is part of the department's new obesity data collection program. Department official Skylor Hearn wrote to officers last week that obesity "significantly detracts from an officer's command presence and negatively impacts their overall effectiveness."

Texas requires law enforcement officers to pass a physical test, but individual agencies can set their own standards.

Some officers are concerned the data collection is an attempt to push out older troopers by adding fitness requirements.

But department spokesman Tom Vinger says the measurements don't change the fitness requirements, which are tiered based on gender and age.

Texas unemployment for January up slightly at 4 percent

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas unemployment rate rose slightly in January to start the year at 4 percent, the Texas Workforce Commission on Friday reported.

The December statewide jobless rate was 3.9 percent.

Nationwide unemployment held steady in February at 4.1 percent. Texas jobless figures for February will be released on March 23, according to the Texas Workforce Commission.

The Midland area had the lowest unemployment in Texas during January at 2.4 percent. The McAllen-Edinburg-Mission area had the state's highest unemployment during January at 7.6 percent, agency officials said.

The Texas economy has added 240,500 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs over

the year, including 16,000 jobs added in January. Annual employment growth for Texas was 2 percent in January, marking 93 consecutive months of annual growth, state figures show.

"Texas' private-sector employers contributed to another successful month of growth by adding 12,400 jobs in January," said Commissioner Ruth R. Hughs. "This growth reflects our state's strong ability to continuously attract more employers and workers."

The education and health services industry added 2,800 jobs during January in Texas.

Manufacturing added 2,400 positions, according to the TWC. Mining and logging added 3,300 jobs during the first month of 2018, according to the TWC.

SNAPSHOTS

By Dan Holt



Western State Hospital in Staunton, Virginia is a psychiatric forensic facility housing young men who have been judged 'not guilty by reason of insanity', many of them with drug addictions.

In 2004 I was moved from the Deaf Program where I was employed as an American Sign Language interpreter to Rehab Services where I was trained to teach classes in the new 'Recovery' program.

I was challenged to find a way to help my students find ways to manage their depression without self-medicating. The idea that recalling a good memory would trigger a pleasant feeling appealed to me. I began recalling my own good memories and recording them by means of a style of writing called Single Scene Prose, which became like snapshots of my past, as a way of encouraging them. This exercise was quite successful.

My memories became a word picture album of my formative years growing up in West Texas among the honest and hardworking people who provided a safe and nurturing environment for the one hundred or so children in that community.

I have organized these memories of my childhood into somewhat of a chronological order. Because these stories are seen thru the eyes of a child some of the facts may be a bit skewed. I invite you Readers to join me on this excursion back to the 1950's to rural Northeast Howard County.

"The Holts"

Alberta Hubbs Holt died in a car accident in Coleman County, Texas in 1936. She left behind a bereaved husband and eight children. The two youngest, Louise age 16 and Dan age 12, were the only children still living at home. The oldest sibling Alva Holt Neely and husband George (Pop) Neely warmly welcomed Louise and Dan into their home in Forsan, Texas to be raised with their two sons Elton and R.L.

Louise got married. Dan graduated from Forsan High School, married Marion Russell and entered the U.S. Airforce in May/June of 1943. He received an honorable discharge in 1945. A daughter was born in 1946. A little brother came along 2 years later.

In December of 1952 the family moved from Colorado City to the company housing provided by Reef Fields Company, a gas processing plant, known as "The Camp" located between Vincent and Luther. The family lived there until the fall of 1958.

"The Real Wealth of Texas"

When people think of Texas, pictures of oil wells and cattle often come to mind. That would be accurate. However, the real wealth of West Texas is the people who are very much like the enduring Mesquite trees that cover the landscape of that high desert. They survive years of droughts; HOT! HOT! HOT! summers, bone chilling winters and blinding sand storms. (When Texas brisket is cooked over a Mesquite fire the best BBQ in the world emerges.) That's the honest truth!

What is the driving force that enables these folks to survive this harsh and inhospitable land?

Driving down a country road on a dark starless night, her Daddy pulls over and stops.

"Daddy, what's wrong?"

"Sis, looks like we gotta flat tire."

"Whada we do?"

Smiling, he pats the small girl's hand, and says "Don't worry honey, somebody'll come along and help us out."

Sure'nough before long, car lights can be seen in the distance. The driver passes by, slows down, and turns around. Pulling up along side the old pickup, he rolls down his window and says with a big smile:

Hey neighbor, need some help?



PRESENTS

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*Some Restrictions May Apply. See Store For Details.

STOCKS

Continued from Page 4C

Insights analyst Daniel Ives said a deal with the Obamas would be "another major win for Netflix" as it tries to launch more and more original shows.

ENERGY: Energy companies climbed as benchmark U.S. crude

added \$1.92 or 3 percent, to \$62.04 a barrel in New York, while Brent crude, used to price international oils, rose \$1.88, or 3 percent, to \$65.49 a barrel in London.

Elsewhere, wholesale gasoline added 4 cents to \$1.90 a gallon. Heating oil rose 3 cents to \$1.89 a gallon. Natural gas lost 4 cents to \$2.73 per 1,000 cubic feet.

OVERSEAS: U.S. and South Korean

officials said Trump might meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un by May to negotiate a potential end to Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program. The news helped send South Korea's Kospi up 1.1 percent. Other Asian indexes also rose. Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 gained 0.5 percent and Hong Kong's Hang Seng also rose 1.1 percent.

In Europe, France's CAC 40 rose 0.4

percent while Germany's DAX fell 0.1 percent. The FTSE 100 in Britain rose 0.3 percent.

METALS: Gold rose \$2.30 to \$1,324 an ounce. Silver added 11 cents to \$16.61 an ounce. Copper jumped 6 cents, or 1.9 percent, to \$3.14 a pound.

CURRENCY: The dollar rose to 106.80 yen from 106.24 yen. The euro rose to \$1.2317 from \$1.2306.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 4C

- 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
- Kaleb Hill, 910 Baylor, Big Spring
- Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N. Texas #198, Odessa
- Jim Bob Jennings, 4446 Ridgecrest Amarillo 9001 Indiana Apt D, Lubbock
- Stephanie Ford Johnson, P.O. Box 483, Coahoma
- David Kelley, P.O. Box 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 Crestleline, 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
- 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
- Ruann R. Martinez, 1005 N.W. 2nd St., Big Spring
- 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
- Felicia Ornelas, 538 Westover No. 236, Big Spring
- Heriberto Palafox Mora, 1311 Mobile St., Big Spring
- Ethel Laverne McVae, 4202 Parkway Rd. Big Spring
- Heriberto Palafox Mora, 1311 Mobile St., Big Spring
- Felicia Ornelas, 538 Westover number 236, Big Spring
- Callie Nicole Partlow, 2905 Navajo Dr., 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
- George Anthony Robinson Jr., 1905 Wasson Rd. #14, Big Spring
- Juan Romero, 2504 March Circle, Big Spring
- Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Road, Big Spring
- Yuri Lozano Rubio, 421 Cedar, P.O. Box 173, Colorado City
- Polly Ann Rusk, 4201 W. Highway 80, Big Spring
- Lillie Shoup, 1301 Colby Big Spring
- Shane Skaggs, 1 Courtney Place 301, Big Spring
- Derrick Dewayne Smith, 1207 Mulberry Big Spring
- Michael Ray Watson, 1503 Tucson Rd. Big Spring
- Tamara Ruth Whitt, 3706 Connley, Big Spring
- Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. #28, Big Spring

Marriage Licenses

- John David Balderas, 26, and Christina Marie Vasquez, 27, both of Big Spring.
- Aaron Andrew Armstrong, 35, and Jodanna Dena Chamblee, 32, both of Big Spring.
- Brayden Eugene Thompson, 20, and Averde Danyele Haby, 19, both of Big Spring.
- Edwin Allen Mendez, 34, and Odaliz Annette Mendoza, 21, both of Big Spring.

District Court Filings

See **RECORDS**, Page 11C

'Pharma Bro' gets 7 years of prison in securities fraud case

By **COLLEEN LONG** and **TOM HAYS**

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The smirk wiped off his face, a crying Martin Shkreli was sentenced to seven years in prison for securities fraud Friday in a hard fall for the pharmaceutical-industry bad boy vilified for jacking up the price of a lifesaving drug.

Shkreli, the boyish-looking, 34-year-old entrepreneur dubbed the "Pharma Bro" for his loud behavior, was handed his punishment after a hearing in which he and his attorney struggled with limited success to make him a sympathetic figure. His own lawyer confessed to wanting to punch him in the face sometimes.

The defendant hung his head and choked up as he admitted to many mistakes and apologized to the investors he was convicted of defrauding. At one point, a clerk handed him a box of tissues.

"I want the people who came here today to support me to understand one thing: The only person to blame for me being here today is me," he said. "There is no conspiracy to take down Martin Shkreli. I took down Martin Shkreli."

In the end, U.S. District Judge Kiyo Matsumoto gave him a sentence that fell well short of the 15 years prosecutors wanted but was a lot longer than the 18 months his lawyer asked for. He was also fined \$75,000.

Shkreli was found guilty in August of lying to investors in two failed hedged funds and cheating them out of millions. The case was unrelated to the 2015 furor in which he was accused of price-gouging, but his arrest was seen as rough justice by the many enemies he made with his smug and abrasive behavior online and off.

The judge insisted that the punishment was not about Shkreli's online antics or his raising the cost of the drug. "This case is not about Mr. Shkreli's self-cultivated public persona ... nor his controversial statements about politics or culture," Matsumoto said.

But she did say his conduct after the verdict made her doubt the sincerity of his remorse. She cited his bragging after the verdict that he would be sentenced to time served. And she quoted one piece of correspondence in which he wrote: "F--- the feds."



Ap photo

In this Aug. 15, 2017 photo, Martin Shkreli is interviewed on the Fox Business Network in New York. Shkreli cried in court Friday, March 9, 2018, as he apologized for defrauding investors while being sentenced by a federal judge. Prosecutors want him sentenced to 15 years in prison, while his defense attorney argued he only deserves 18 months because his investors in two failed hedge funds got their money back.

The judge ruled earlier that Shkreli would have to forfeit more than \$7.3 million in a brokerage account and personal assets, including a one-of-a-kind Wu-Tang Clan album that he boasted of buying for \$2 million.

Defense attorney Benjamin Brafman described Shkreli as a misunderstood eccentric who used unconventional means to make his defrauded investors even wealthier. He told the court that he sometimes wants to hug Shkreli and sometimes wants to punch him, but that his outspokenness shouldn't be held against him.

"It's like the kids today who hit send before they really understand what they texted," Brafman said.

Prosecutors rejected that notion.

"Mr. Shkreli is not a child," federal prosecutor Jacquelyn Kasulis said. "He's not a teenager who just needs some mentoring. He is a man who needs to take responsibility for his actions."

Shkreli became the face of pharmaceutical industry evil in 2015 when he increased by 5,000 percent the price of Daraprim, a previously cheap drug used to treat toxoplasmosis, a parasitic infection that can be fatal to people with the AIDS virus or other immune system disorders.

Shkreli seemed to treat the case like a big joke. After his arrest in December 2015, he taunted prosecutors, got kicked off of Twitter for harassing a female journalist, heckled Hillary Clinton from the

sidewalk outside her daughter's home, gave speeches with the conservative provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos and spent countless hours livestreaming himself from his apartment.

He also infuriated members of Congress at a Capitol Hill hearing on drug prices when he repeatedly cited his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination. Afterward, he tweeted that the lawmakers were "imbeciles."

Last fall, the judge revoked his bail and threw him in jail after he jokingly offered his online followers a \$5,000 bounty to anyone who could get a lock of Clinton's hair.

Before sentencing him, the judge said that it was up to Congress to fix the issue of the drug price hike. And she noted that Shkreli's family and friends "state, almost universally, that he is kind and misunderstood" and willing to help others in need. She said it was clear he is a "tremendously gifted individual who has the capacity for kindness."

Some of the letters sent to the court on his behalf were as quirky as the defendant himself. One woman described how she became an avid follower of Shkreli's social media commentary, which she described as being "on par with some form of performance art."

Another supporter said Shkreli's soft side was demonstrated when he adopted a cat from a shelter — named Trashy — that became a fixture on his livestreams.



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US hiring surge last month pulls in flood of new workers

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. employers went on a hiring binge in February, adding 313,000 jobs, amid rising business confidence lifted by the Trump administration's tax cuts and a resilient global economy.

The surprisingly robust hiring, reported by the Labor Department on Friday, was the strongest in 1½ years.

It was accompanied by the biggest surge in 15 years in the number of people either working or looking for work. That kept the nation's unemployment rate unchanged for a fifth straight month at 4.1 percent.

At the same time, average wage growth slowed to 2.6 percent in February from a year earlier. That was down from January's revised pace of 2.8 percent, which had spooked investors because it raised fears of inflation.

The hiring boom caught many economists off guard, because they expected a smaller — though still healthy — increase. Job gains typically slow as the unemployment rate falls, because companies run out of workers to hire.

The economy has expanded for 104 straight months, or nearly nine years, the third-largest expansion on record, and hiring often declines as recessions fade further into the past.

Yet job growth has accelerated in recent months. Companies have added an average of 242,000 jobs a month over the past three months, above 2017's pace of 182,000.

"The February employment report was unambiguously strong, confirming that the U.S. labor market is on fire," said Michelle Girard, chief U.S. economist at NatWest Markets. "The pace of job growth is gaining momentum — a very impressive development at this stage of the economic cycle."

The Trump administration's tax cuts appear to have lifted optimism among consumers and businesses. U.S. employers have also benefited from a

See **SURGE**, Page 7A

PREP

Continued from Page 5A

to park near the beach will have to pay to enter parking lots at East Beach, Stewart Beach and other beach parks managed by the park board.

The hope this year is that this winter's mostly dreary weather will motivate people to go to the beach early, de Schaun said. A slow February in particular hurt the local tourism economy, after rain dampened most of the two-weekend Mardi Gras celebration.

Local hotels are on pace to beat bookings during last year's spring break, de Schaun said.

Steve Cunningham, president of the Galveston Hotel & Lodging Association, said the local hotel industry hasn't been hurt too badly by the aftereffects of Hurricane Harvey, which in late August inundated much of the Houston metroplex, the island's primary tourism market.

The next two weeks are the first real test of how some of Galveston's

key tourism markets are feeling about traveling this year, however, he said.

"There's an unknown about how many Houstonians there are right now that would travel," Cunningham said. "Other than spring break, we haven't really been in a travel pattern that would tell us that."

Cunningham credited the park board for spending extra money to positively market Galveston after Harvey in a way that emphasized the island was open for business and mostly undamaged by the historic storm.

The park board has shifted its marketing efforts from mostly people in the Houston area, which accounts for about 6 million visitors to the island yearly, to areas farther away, de Schaun said.

The idea is that if people are motivated to travel to the island from greater distances, they are more likely to stay in Galveston for the night, and spend more money here, she said.

The number of tourists visiting Galveston has increased for seven straight years, but tour-

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Weekly Oil Report

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(432) 848-4855

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Harmonia Petroleum
Operations, LLC
1 Sugar Creek Center Blvd., Suite 1010

See **OIL**, Page 7A

#3WA Asro "13" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39512
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
0.12 miles northwest of Knott

A-399, Section 19, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9175 feet
Latitude 032.240309, Longitude -101.384247. Datum: NAD 27
1399' FEL, 244' FNL of 474-acre lease
1399' FEL, 244' FNL of the survey

#3LS Asro "13" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39513
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
0.12 miles northwest of Knott

A-399, Section 19, Block 34, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 8900 feet
Latitude 032.240317, Longitude -101.384213. Datum: NAD 27
1369' FEL, 244' FNL of 474-acre lease
1369' FEL, 244' FNL of the survey

#2WA Asro "13" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39514
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
0.12 miles northwest of Knott

A-399, Section 19, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9175 feet
Latitude 032.240325, Longitude -101.384179. Datum: NAD 27
1339' FEL, 243' FNL of 474-acre lease
1339' FEL, 243' FNL of the survey

#2LS Asro "13" Unit, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39515
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
0.12 miles northwest of Knott

A-399, Section 19, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 8900 feet
Latitude 032.240332, Longitude -101.384145 Datum: NAD 27
1309' FEL, 243' FNL of 474-acre lease
1309' FEL, 243' FNL of the survey

#3241WA Zissou, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39469
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
2.10 miles northeast of Big Spring
A-992, Section 32, Block 32, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 8800 feet
X=772238.7, Y=24626.4. Datum: NAD 27
557' FNL, 1302' FEL of 491.25-acre lease
2089' FSL, 1313' FWL of the survey

#3242WA Zissou, drill horizontal, API #42-227-39470
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
2.10 miles northeast of Big Spring
A-992, Section 32, Block 32, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 8800 feet
X=772268.1, Y=246433.1. Datum: NAD 27
557' FNL, 1272' FEL of 491.25-acre lease
2089' FSL, 1343' FWL of the survey
Rule 37 Exception

#1H Griffin South "21", drill horizontal, API #42-227-39511
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA

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Job Type: Full Time

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MH Family Partner: Experienced parent of a child or children with serious emotional disturbance who provides peer mentoring and support to the parents or primary caregiver of children in services at WTC who are receiving a special service package. High School Diploma or GED The Family Partner must have had a child in services with any MHMR or private psychiatrist treating for a children's DX. \$10.59 hr \$847.38 bi weekly and \$22,032 annually.

MH Registered Nurse performs responsible nursing duties in the assigned outpatient centers. Responsible for the care and treatment of individuals in accordance with the accepted nursing standards of West Texas Centers. Must be licensed in the State of Texas to practice as a Registered Nurse. \$26.44 hr Monday-Friday 8-5.

Mental Health Part Time Crisis Worker: Duties include responding to mental health crisis calls after hours and weekends, participating on a rotating on-call team. Bachelor degree with a major in social, behavioral, or human service, or 24 hrs in related field required. Plus one year experience in a related field. Applicants must live in 70 mile radius of duty site. Call or check website for salary and additional information.

MH Peer Provider: Peer Provider uses their life experience in mental health recovery to assist other adults in their mental health recovery. Performs direct services that engage clients in activities designed to reduce symptoms of disabilities that result from their diagnosed mental illness and to increase the ability of the individual to live and work within their community. Requires flexible hours, involves completing paperwork. Travel and the use of personal vehicle are required. Must have a valid Texas driver's license \$10.59 hr \$847.38 bi weekly \$22,032 annually. Must have High School Diploma or GED.

Applications available at 409 Runnels or www.wtcmhmr.org

SURGE

Continued from Page 6A

strengthened global economy. And consumers are more confident than they have been since 2000.

Investors celebrated the news, sending the Dow Jones industrial average up 390 points in early afternoon trading. The bull market reached its ninth anniversary Friday, with market indexes nearly quadrupling since March 2009.

The muted wage growth is a relief to Wall Street, because faster raises could spur higher inflation and additional interest rate increases from the Federal Reserve.

The picture drawn by Friday's jobs report is a mixed one for the Fed, which seeks to raise short-term interest rates at just the right pace: enough to forestall inflation but not so fast as to slow economic growth.

The Fed is considered certain to raise rates when it next meets in two weeks. The question is whether it will do so a total of three times this year — or, in light of the job market's strength and the prospect of a pickup in inflation, four times.

The economy has now gained jobs for 89 straight months, the longest streak on record. That has helped address many of the nation's long-term problems dating to the Great Recession.

For example, more Americans are coming off the sidelines and looking for work, reversing a trend from the first few years after the downturn when many of the unemployed gave up on the job hunt and stopped looking.

The proportion of adults working or looking for work jumped to 63 percent from 62.7 percent, still far below its pre-recession levels in 2007. But it has stabilized in the past three years, even as millions of baby boomers have retired. That suggests that enough younger people are stepping in to offset those retirements.

In fact, the proportion of adults in their prime working years — defined as ages 25 to 54 — with jobs rose sharply to 79.3 percent, just a few tenths of a point below its pre-recession level.

Economists have found that figure is closely related to wage growth: The higher it rises, the more employers have to offer higher pay to find the workers they need. That suggests that wage growth may accelerate soon.

Higher-paying, blue-collar industries reported some of the biggest increases. Construction firms added 61,000 jobs, a figure that may have been inflated by relatively warm weather last month. Still, that is the biggest gain for construction since 2007.

Manufacturing companies added a solid 31,000 jobs. Retailers added 50,000, the most in two years, though that figure was probably inflated by the fact that stores laid off fewer temporary workers after the holidays because they hired fewer than in previous years. Financial services gained 28,000, the biggest increase since 2005.

OIL

Continued from 5A

Sugar Land, TX 77478-0000
Taiyang Lin, Regulatory Analyst
(573) 612-8088

10.91 miles north of Coahoma
 A-24, Section 21, Block 25, H&TC RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 6500 feet
 X=824782, Y=307990. Datum: NAD 27
 200' FSL, 400' FWL of 1,280-acre lease
 200' FSL, 400' FWL of the survey

Callon Petroleum Operating Co.
P.O. Box 1287
Natchez, MS 39121-0000
Ryan Emery Regulatory Specialist
(281) 589-5200

#8AH Gibson Unit "A-A1 28-21", drill horizontal, El: NA
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39475
 19.10 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-1237, Section 28, Block 33, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 8500 feet
 Latitude 032.295102, Longitude -101.371589. Datum: NAD 83
 228' FSL, 173' FWL of 350.65-acre lease
 476' FSL, 1473' FEL of the survey
 Rule 37 Exception

Callon Petroleum Operating Co.
P.O. Box 1287
Natchez, MS 39121-0000
Ryan Emery Regulatory Specialist
(281) 589-5200

#7AH Gibson Unit "A-A2 28-21", drill horizontal, El: NA
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-227-39508
 19.10 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-1237, Section 28, Block 33, T-3-N, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 8500 feet
 Latitude 032.295074, Longitude -101.371579. Datum: NAD 83
 198' FSL, 173' FWL of 350.65-acre lease
 446' FSL, 1473' FEL of the survey

SM Energy Company
6301 Holiday Hill Road
Midland, TX 79707-0000
Jill Hamilton, Regulatory Tech
(432) 848-4855

#2624LS Merlin "F", drill horizontal, API #42-227-39509
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
 10.80 miles northwest of Big Spring

A-1213, Section 24, Block 34, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 10,500 feet
 X=724720, Y=272207. Datum: NAD 27
 394' FSEL, 2195' FNEL of 1,140.8-acre lease
 394' FSEL, 2195' FNEL of the survey

Houston Pipe Line Company, L.P.
1300 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002-0000
Mary Ives, The Loftis Company
(432) 682-8343

SI-3.3 CP Unit, drill, El: NA
 Wildcat Field (cathodic protection well)
 7.69 miles northeast of Coahoma
 A-815, Section 42, Block 29, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 550 feet
 Latitude 032.327879, Longitude -101.179568. Datum: NAD 27
 1187' FSEL, 1500' FNEL of 1-acre lease
 1187' FSEL, 1500' FNEL of the survey
 SWR 36 (H2S)

SM Energy Company
6301 Holiday Hill Road
Midland, TX 79707-0000
Jill Hamilton, Regulatory Tech
(432) 848-4855

#2447WA Fezzik "B", drill horizontal, API #42-227-39413
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
 13 miles northeast of Big Spring
 A-1632, Section 24, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 10,000 feet
 X=784537.132, Y=306370.527. Datum: NAD 27
 314' FNL, 340' FEL of 640-acre lease
 314' FNL, 340' FEL of the survey
 Rule 37 Exception

SM Energy Company
6301 Holiday Hill Road
Midland, TX 79707-0000
Jill Hamilton, Regulatory Tech
(432) 848-4855

#2646WA Merlin "G", drill horizontal, API #42-227-39510
 Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
 10.80 miles northwest of Big Spring
 A-1213, Section 24, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 10,500 feet
 X=724890, Y=272200. Datum: NAD 27
 394' FSEL, 2225' FNEL of 1,140.8-acre lease
 394' FSEL, 2225' FNEL of the survey
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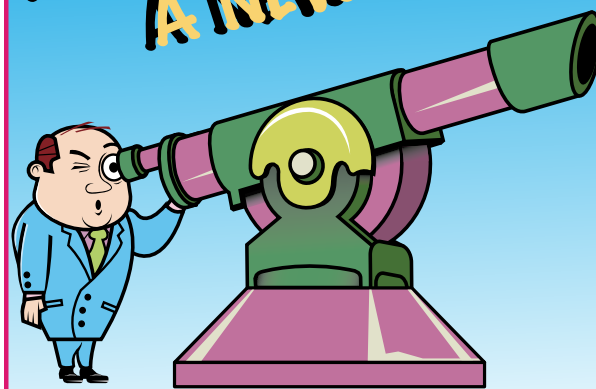


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City Hall, 310 Nolan Street, Big Spring, Texas, 79720 and Jacob & Martin, LLC, Consulting Engineers 3465 Curry Lane, Abilene, Texas 79606

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities and to reject any or all bids. Bids may be held by the Owner for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders prior to awarding of the contract.

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS must be ordered online at www.jacobmartin.com. Orders for CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may include hard copies for pick up, mail out or digital download via www.jacobmartin.com. Upon verification of online payment, hard copies may be picked up at Jacob & Martin, LLC., located at 3465 Curry Lane, Abilene, TX 79606. Cost for hard copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Public Notice

will be \$50.00. Cost for digital download of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be \$20.00. Contractors must purchase a set of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS to be considered a registered plan holder eligible to bid the project.

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CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS

By: Larry McLellan, Mayor
Date: March 04, 2018

#9722 March 4 & 11, 2018

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The Howard County Junior College District is accepting sealed Requests for Proposals for Fire Pumps.

Documents may be obtained from Steven A. Smith, Chief Business Officer, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane,

Public Notice

Big Spring, TX 79720. Responses will be accepted through 10:00 a.m., Monday, March 26, 2018, in Old Main South Annex, Room A2, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be read into record.

All questions should be directed to Steven A. Smith, Chief Business Officer, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432) 264-5019. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all responses.

#9726 March 4 & 11, 2018

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#9727 March 11, 2018

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary of Administration for the Estate of Glen Clarence Naquin, Deceased, were issued on February 27, 2018, in Cause No. P-14754,

Legals

pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Damian Naquin.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Estate of Glen Clarence Naquin c/o Damian Naquin P.O. Box 870248 Wasilla, Alaska 99687

DATED the 5th day of March 2018

R. Shane Seaton
R. Shane Seaton
Attorney for Damian Naquin
State Bar No.: 24060918
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SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:



All Aboard

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

An anti-percentage play

East dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A 10 4
♥ K 5
♦ Q J 8 6 2
♣ 6 5 2

WEST
♠ J 8 6 3
♥ J 9 6 4 2
♦ 5
♣ 10 7 3

EAST
♠ K Q 9 5 2
♥ A Q 7 3
♦ 4
♣ K Q 4

SOUTH
♠ 7
♥ 10 8
♦ A K 10 9 7 3
♣ A J 9 8

The bidding:
East 1♠ South 2♦ West Pass North 4♦
Pass 5♦
Opening lead — three of spades.

Assume that in a given case you have three low clubs in dummy and A-J-9-8 in your hand, and that your aim is to lose only one trick in the suit. When you lead a club from dummy and the next player follows low, is it better in the long run to play the eight or the jack?

The answer is very clear. The eight is a far better play than the jack because your right-hand opponent

will be dealt Q-10-x or K-10-x twice as often as K-Q-x.

However, in a particular case — such as the present one — it may be better to play the jack than the eight. All rules have exceptions, and today's hand provides an illustration.

West leads a spade against five diamonds, and South can tell from the bidding that East is highly likely to have the ace of hearts. Consequently, after taking the spade with the ace, drawing a round of trumps and leading a club from dummy, on which East follows low, South should play the jack.

As it happens, the jack wins the trick, and when declarer then plays the ace and another club, he winds up making the contract because he can later discard one of dummy's hearts on his fourth club. All he loses is a club and a heart.

The reason declarer abandons the usual percentage play is that he cannot afford to lose a club trick to West, which would then subject him to a killing heart return through the king.

Given the circumstances, South's best chance to avoid two heart losers is to assume that East has the K-Q of clubs, and he shapes his play to cater to that assumption.

Annie's Mailbox®

Passionate Kiss
With an Old Friend

Dear Annie:
My wife, "Andrea," bumped into an old friend, "Gary," at our tennis club's New Year's Eve party. They were friends in high school, but he moved out of the area for college and didn't move back until recently. (His parents have both fallen ill, and he and his wife are taking care of them.) At the New Year's Eve party, Gary and my wife exchanged a passionate kiss on the dance floor at midnight. Our other friends in attendance looked at me to see what my reaction would be, seeing as Andrea

and I have been married for 20 years. Needless to say, I was shocked and embarrassed and could only look on in astonishment. The rest of the evening was ruined. On the way home, I asked Andrea what that kiss was all about. She told me that she and Gary were just good friends. I told her that regardless of whether they were old friends or not, that kind of behavior was very hurtful to me and very inappropriate. She insisted it was nothing, just a friendly kiss between old friends.

Gary will be hosting a party and invited my wife and some of their oth-

er old friends. For obvious reasons, I'm uncomfortable with her going.

Annie, I don't know what I've done wrong. I've always tried to make Andrea feel special. I've remembered every important holiday. We have a nice home and go on trips.

Anyway, I guess my immediate question is: Should I attend the party at Gary's if asked? Should I insist that I attend? Should I talk over expected behavior? -- Crisis in California

Dear Crisis: I think you should go to Gary's dinner party with your wife and talk over expected behavior beforehand,

if she insists on going. But her past behavior is as hurtful as it is bewildering. It's impossible to tell exactly what she's thinking from your letter. She may be having a midlife crisis and trying to relive her high school days; she may be acting deliberately cruel; she may be telling the truth when she says the kiss meant nothing to her. But the point is it meant something to you, and that's reason enough to take it seriously. What I can say for sure is that marriage counseling would help get to the root of these issues. Implore her to give it a try, and if she refuses, seek counseling

on your own.
Dear Annie: I am a few years older than "Sad Grandpa," who wrote to you about being bullied, and I wish you would tell him something. When I was a child, I participated in bullying, and at this time in my life, I cannot relate at all to the mean little girl who did that. Please tell him that I suffer every day of my life for what I did. There are no words to say how sorry I am for that. -- Ex-Bully
Dear Ex-Bully: I'm glad you wrote. The idea that bullies could one day look back on their actions with shame and remorse might give a young person reading this some

comfort. At the very least, it shows how life is long and rife with opportunities for learning, growing and starting over.
Please do not torment yourself over things you did as a child. Where you're going matters far more than where you've been. If you're interested in volunteering to help victims of bullying today, visit <https://www.stopbullying.gov>.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mars, Uranus and Revolution

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The oppressed were silent because they knew that if they spoke, they would be punished or ignored -- but no longer. They are now raising their voices to a new culture that wants to know and wants to help. The trine of Mars and Uranus bodes well for the fight, the revolution that leads to freedom, the lofty target struck right in the bull's-eye.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The feeling behind things matters more than a little. You have nourished and helped others toward a healthier body, and now you'll speak to the realm of emotional and spiritual fitness.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Though it may be true that the most powerful way to speak is with brevity, it would be wrong to assume that it's always in a person's best interest to take the obvious power position.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). One supermodel asks another, "What's the point of being beautiful if you don't feel beautiful?" You'll do the things that make your heart sing, and you'll radiate so much



more than a particular arrangement of features ever could.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your energy and focus go into a fascinating task -- work that seduces you into such a state of flow that you're unlikely to be aware of anything outside of it. The reactions of others, if you notice them at all, will mean nothing to you.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're in the loop. You understand dynamics at play that others don't. It would take you a long time to explain all you've figured out by being involved and paying attention along the way. You've earned this. Enjoy your status.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll find yourself among people who are competitive and noncollaborative. Relax and become extremely aware of your surroundings and you'll still be able to find out everything you need to know.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Even the most spiritually attuned earthling must function in the material and social world, which adheres to practical rules. You've a bird's-eye perspective today, though you'll be tending to

things on the ground.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'd love to know what's coming up. Your best way to do this is to choose something and then make sure it happens. Instead of staring into an ethereal mist to see the future, you get busy creating a destiny worthy of you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Capturing the attention of others is rather easy for you, but leading it well is the real challenge. Put some thought into what you would like people to do, how you would prefer them to act and what your agenda is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's all happening now. This is true even when it feels as if the day is moving at a snail's pace and nothing is getting accomplished. Ten minutes makes the difference. Press on through this 10 minutes and then the next.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's said that every artist paints himself into his work, though this is true for more than painters. We can't help but execute the tasks of life by the dictates of our own personality, as demonstrated by your work today.

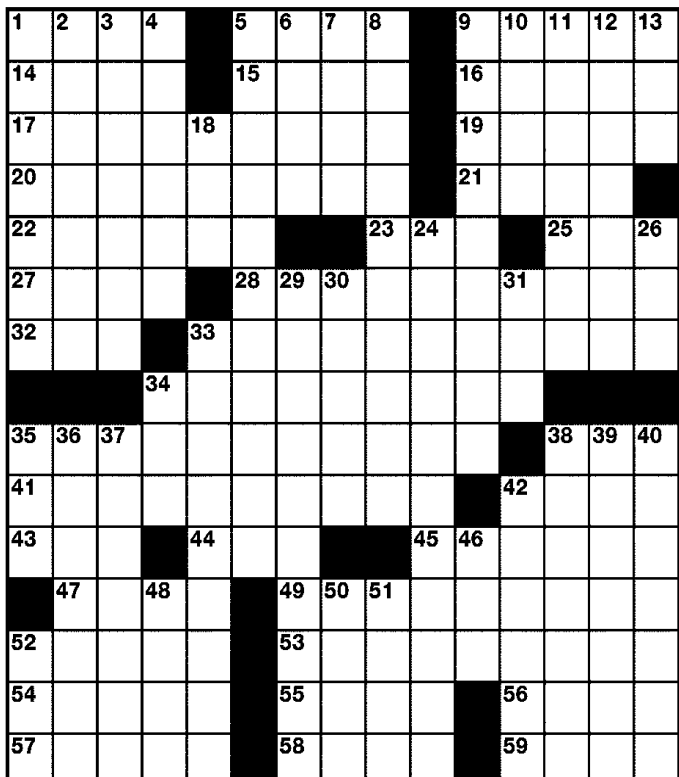
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It wasn't long ago that you hoped against hope to be the person you are today and have the things you have now. Remembering this will make you both happy and hopeful.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com.
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Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Frank Longo
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
1 Music and such
5 Gum, to some
9 Sour option
14 "Don't ___!"
15 Activity in Elvis' *Blue Hawaii*
16 Right
17 Forgo fairness
19 Blasts from above
20 Sleeping bag accessory
21 Supermarket chain to avoid?
22 Forward
23 Stratofortress home, for short
25 Stratovolcano stratum
27 Walks far away, briefly
28 Small jumpsuit
32 Book end
33 1981 film with Napoleon and Robin Hood
34 Court weapons
35 Cuts in wax
38 It increases after a deal
41 Two-legged predators
42 Brand competing with Opti-Free
43 Enjoy a kiss, say
44 Foal, perhaps
45 More likely to bore, maybe
47 Diplomatic desire
49 Phrase on some British passport covers
52 Plastic
53 Data field
54 It's seen in Seurat's *Sunday Afternoon* ...
- DOWN**
1 Cords and such
2 Antonym of "aggravate"
3 Opens aggressively
4 Calls and sees, in a way
5 Due processes?
6 Project
7 Recorder range
8 Nowhere near recently
9 They don't stay
10 It's across a gulf from Pakistan
11 Alpha ___ (first U.S. sorority)
12 Literally, "assembly"
13 They may be targeted
14 "... un- accustomed to the ___ of arms": Washington
24 Minimalist at the National Gallery
26 Yelp info: Abbr.
29 Beneficiaries of a 1982 U.S. immigration act
30 Talk Show Host Emmy winner of 2009
31 Mayo and the like
33 Fictional painter watcher
34 Convivial
35 Cream ___
36 Abominable
37 What some beads are made of
38 Some running wheel users
39 A lawn might cover it
40 Unearth
42 Split
46 Half a '90s Vegas duo
48 Name on the cover of *Vittorio the Vampire*
50 It's no trouble
51 Congregational
52 Inflation stat.



Answer to previous puzzle
MEET NASAL KNIT
OBEY ETAIL AONE
TARP PAULI PAGE
ENTHRAIL HYPHEN
YOU'LL RHEA
SALON FETA RST
CRINGE LAIR ETE
AIMS LLAMA IDEA
LEA COAT FENDER
ELF OPTS ITALY
ACHE MOREL
CARROT LAVENDER
AVER RHINE DRAY
TODO ORSON TOWRE
SNOW NEARIS OWNS

RECORDS

Continued from Page 5C

Plaintiff: TD Bank USA, N.A
 Respondent: Carman Wommack
 Type of Case: Contract/commercial/debt
 Date: March 1, 2018
 Plaintiff: TD Bank USA, N.A
 Respondent: Daphne Coates
 Type of Case: Contract/commercial/debt
 Date: March 1, 2018
 Plaintiff: Christy Bennett
 Respondent: Justin Bennett
 Type of Case: divorce
 Date: March 5, 2018
 Plaintiff: Sylvia Martinez
 Respondent: Arthur Martinez Jr.
 Type of Case: divorce
 Date: March 5, 2018
 Plaintiff: Capital One Bank
 Respondent: Cary White
 Type of Case: Contract/commercial/debt
 Date: March 5, 2018
 Plaintiff: Richard White
 Respondent: Samantha White
 Type of Case: divorce
 Date: March 6, 2018
 Plaintiff: Capital One Bank
 Respondent: Corey Wood
 Type of Case: Contract/commercial/debt
 Date: March 6, 2018
 Plaintiff: Consocio Ford
 Respondent: Priscilla Ford
 Type of Case: divorce
 Date: March, 6, 2018

County Court Judgments

(Note: The State of Texas is listed as prosecutor for all listed county court judgments)
 Defendant: Ovidio V. Perez
 Offense: Driving while intoxicated open container
 Sentence: 12 months probation
 Date: Feb. 22, 2018
 Defendant: Daniel A. Alvarez
 Offense: Burglary of a vehicle
 Sentence: \$100 fine, \$317 in court cost, 30 days in jail
 Date: Feb. 21, 2018
 Defendant: Margarita Muniz
 Offense: Driving while intoxicated
 Sentence: 12 months probation
 Date: Feb. 22, 2018
 Defendant: John Wilkinson
 Offense: Criminal trespass
 Sentence: \$100 fine, \$317 in court cost, 30 days in jail
 Date: Feb. 8, 2018
 Defendant: Steven Vasquez
 Offense: Theft of property in between

\$100 to \$750
 Sentence: 6 months probation,
 \$250 in court cost, \$267 fine
 Date: Feb. 21, 2018
 Defendant: Dewayne Creg Culpeper
 Offense: Driving while license suspended
 Sentence: 12 months probation
 Date: Feb. 21, 2018
 Defendant: Martin A. Ramirez
 Offense: Evading arrest/detention
 Sentence: \$500 fine, \$332 in court cost, 43 days in jail
 Date: Feb. 9, 2018

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Ronnie W. Ward and Cathy L. Ward
 Grantee: Gerald King
 Property: 5.93 acres out of the NW/4 of section 31, block 30, T-1-N, T and P Railroad Co. Survey
 Date: March 7, 2018

Grantor: Ricky Washburn and Brenda Washburn
 Grantee: Taylor Parks
 Property: Being a 16.741 acre tract of land, more or less out of the SE/4 of section 41, block 32, T-1-S, T and P Railroad Co. Survey
 Date:

Grantor: Shana Privett
 Grantee: Thomas James Privett
 Property: a 1.0 acre tract, designed as lot L, out of the SE/4 section 48 block number 32, Tsp. 1 N, T and P Ry. Co. Survey
 Date: March 7, 2018

Grantor: Michelle Brooks, being one and the same person as Michelle Simer and Beverly Brooks
 Grantee: National Nominee Services Inc., a Delaware Corporation
 Property: Lots one and two, block 19, North Parkhill addition, according to the plat therof of record in Envelope 80/A plat records of Howard County
 Date: March 8, 2018

Warranty Deed with Vendor's Lien

Grantor: Foxwest Properties, LTD
 Grantee: Jerney Daniel Sparks
 Property: Being all of lot number 24, in block number six, Douglas Addition
 Date: March 8, 2018

AP finds the NRA gave \$7 million to hundreds of schools

By **COLLIN BINKLEY and MEGHAN HOYER**
 Associated Press

The National Rifle Association has dramatically increased its funding to schools in recent years amid a national debate over guns and school violence, an Associated Press analysis of tax records has found. But few say they plan to give up the money in the aftermath of the latest mass shooting.

The AP analysis of the NRA Foundation's public tax records finds that about 500 schools received more than \$7.3 million from 2010 through 2016, mostly through competitive grants meant to promote shooting sports. The grants have gone to an array of school programs, including the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, rifle teams, hunting safety courses and agriculture clubs.

In some ways, the grant distribution reflects the nation's deep political divide over guns. Nearly three-quarters of the schools that received grants are in counties that voted for President Donald Trump in the 2016 election, while a quarter are in counties that voted for Democrat Hillary Clinton, according to the AP analysis. Most are in medium-sized counties or rural areas, with few near major cities.

California received the most in school grants, more than \$1 million, while Florida was a close second.

Florida's Broward County school district is believed to be the first to stop accepting NRA money after a gunman killed 17 people at one of its schools Feb. 14. The teen charged in the shooting had been on a school rifle team that received NRA funding. School officials announced the change Tuesday but declined to comment further.

Denver Public Schools followed on Thursday, saying it won't pursue NRA grants in the future and will turn

down several that were to be awarded this year. But officials in many other districts say they have no plans to back away.

"Whatever I think of the NRA, they're providing legitimate educational services," said Billy Townsend, a school board member in Florida's Polk County district, whose JROTC programs received \$33,000, primarily to buy air rifles. "If the NRA wanted to provide air rifles for our ROTC folks in the future, I wouldn't have a problem with that."

The grants awarded to schools are just a small share of the \$61 million the NRA Foundation has given to a variety of local groups since 2010. But it has grown rapidly, increasing nearly four-fold from 2010 to 2014 in what some opponents say is a thinly veiled attempt to recruit the next generation of NRA members.

The NRA Foundation did not return calls seeking comment.

Annual reports from the pro-gun group say its grant program was started in 1992 and raises money through local Friends of NRA chapters. It says half the proceeds from local fundraisers go to local grants and half goes to the national organization. Tax records show roughly \$19 million in grants going to the group's Virginia headquarters in 2015 and in 2016.

Besides schools, other typical recipients include 4-H groups, which have received \$12.2 million since 2010, Boy Scout troops and councils, which received \$4 million, and private gun clubs. Overall, about half the grants go to programs directed at youth.

Grant funding to schools rose sharply in the years after the 2012 shooting at Connecticut's Sandy Hook Elementary School, fueled in part by a new grant program the NRA unrolled to help schools make safety improvements.

California bullet train costs soar to \$77B; opening delayed

By **KATHLEEN RONAYNE and JONATHAN J. COOPER**
 Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The projected cost of California's bullet train between San Francisco and Los Angeles has jumped to \$77 billion and the opening date has been pushed back four years to 2033, according to a business plan released Friday.

The two-year plan presented by the California High-Speed Rail Authority presents the latest setbacks for a project that's been beleaguered by delays and cost overruns since voters first gave it the green-light in 2008.

Among the challenges in the latest plan: A lack of money and the difficulty of weaving through mountain passes between Silicon Valley and the inland Central Valley.

"It's going to be bumpy," the agency's new chief executive, Brian Kelly, told The Associated Press in an interview in advance of the plan's release.

The plan brought fresh fire from critics who doubt the project will ever be completed. The last plan, presented in 2016, estimated the project would cost \$64 billion and be

open by 2029. "Let's cut our losses and use the billions not yet wasted on (high-speed rail) to instead improve freeways, highways and roads and perhaps improve existing rail systems throughout California," Republican state Sen. Andy Vidak said.

If completed, it would be the nation's fastest train, carrying people between the two major cities in less than three hours. Kelly has promised to be more transparent about the project's challenges, including by assigning costs to every potential risk, such as trouble acquiring land or securing environmental clearance.

While \$77 billion is the baseline cost estimate, the plan estimates total costs could be as low as \$63.2 billion or as high as \$98.1 billion.

The ultimate goal is to connect San Francisco and Los

Angeles — and eventually Sacramento and San Diego — but the immediate focus is opening track between San Francisco and the Central Valley, an agriculturally dominant, less-populated portion of inland California.

Rail proponents say linking the two areas would be an economic boon, as housing costs are exploding in the San Francisco Bay Area and the Central Valley is in need of jobs.

That portion of track is now set to be finished by 2029, also

marking a four-year delay, and significant challenges remain.

One is how to cross a section of mountains — a critical segment to link Silicon Valley to the Central Valley.

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