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BIG SPRING HERALD

VOLUME 109, NUMBER 4

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 22, 2013



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County backs down on road fees

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Howard County officials have decided that maybe road access permits aren't such a good idea, after all.

Faced with the threat of litigation from oil businesses and other commercial entities, commissioners voted unanimously Monday to rescind a recently approved road access permit program.

Earlier this year, commissioners approved a \$4,500 fee for commercial interests wishing to build drive-ways and other access points onto county roads. After several business concerns complained that the fee was excessive, commissioners later reduced the fee to \$2,500.

Apparently, that did not mollify business representatives, who threatened litigation over the fee program.

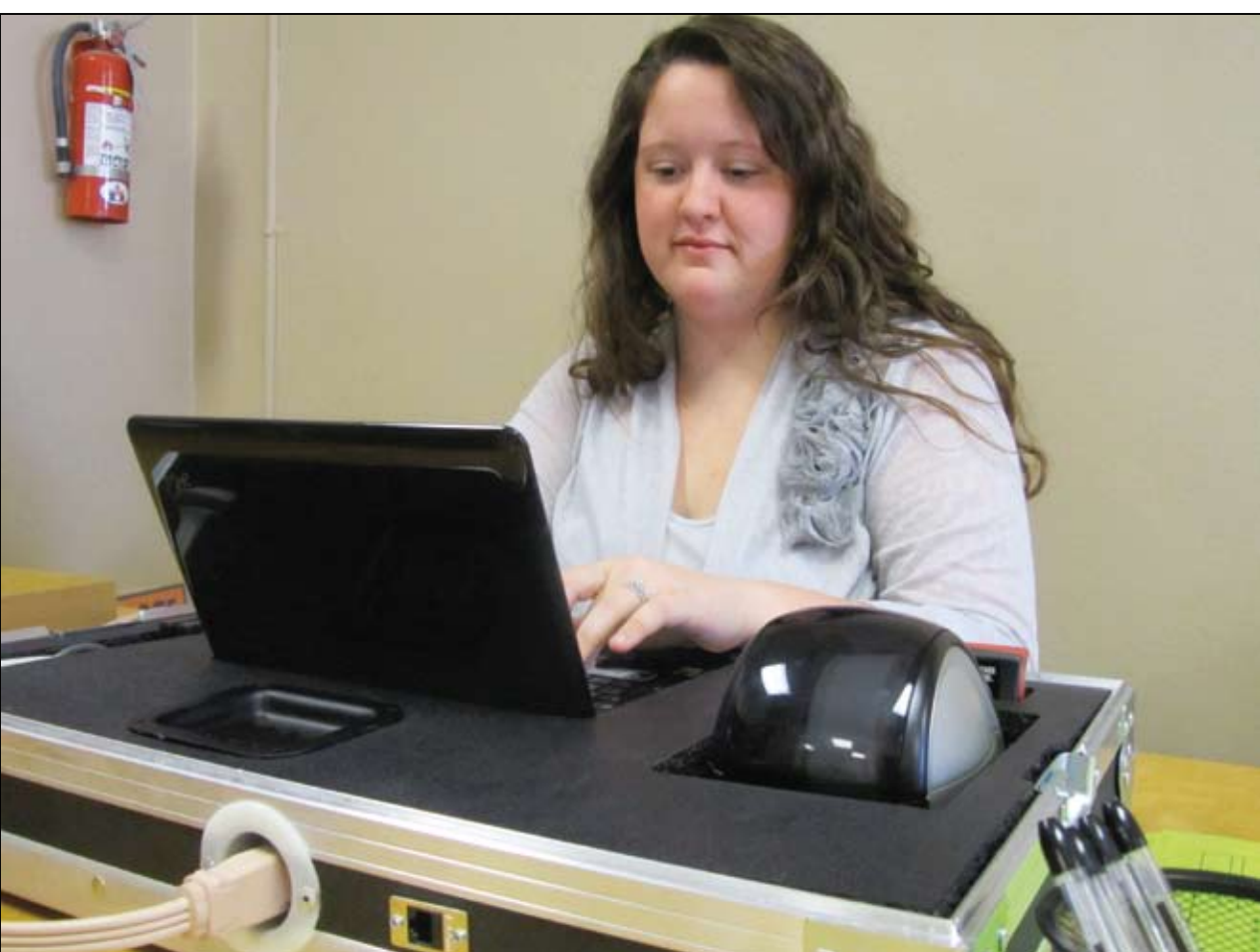
After a lengthy teleconference with legal representatives in closed session, commissioners quickly rescinded the permit fee by a 4-0 vote (Commissioner Jimmie Long was absent).

While County Judge Mark Barr would not elaborate on the specific reasons why commissioners reversed course on the access permit issue, he conceded the threat of litigation played a part.

"Of course it did," he said bluntly.

Barr was noncommittal when asked whether commissioners would revisit the issue.

"We're going to have to back off and do a little more study on the issue," he said. "I don't know how we're going to proceed and I don't know if we will proceed on it, to tell you the truth."



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Jennifer Crave, Howard County election clerk, reviews some paperwork at the voting registration desk. Early voting for nine state constitutional amendments continues through Nov. 1 at the Howard County Courthouse election office. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Early voting begins

By LYNDEL MOODY

Herald Staff Reporter

A light turnout Monday marked the first day of early voting in Howard County for the Nov. 5 constitutional

amendments election.

"We've had eight so far," said Howard County Election Administrator Saundra Bloom, commenting on the first four hours of voting Monday. "This

is strictly for the constitutional amendments."

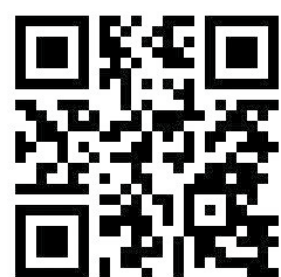
So far, 13 people have cast early ballots for the state-wide

See **VOTING**, Page 3

Explanatory statements for Nov. 5 constitutional amendment election

Proposition Number 1 (HJR 62)

HJR 62 proposes a constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide by statute for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a member of the United States armed services who is killed in action, as long as the surviving spouse has not remarried. An eligible spouse who later qualifies a different property as the surviving spouse's residence homestead could be authorized by statute to receive an exemption from ad valorem taxation in the same amount received for the first qualifying homestead during the last year in which the surviving spouse received the exemption.



Proposition Number 2 (HJR 79)

HJR 79 proposes a constitutional amendment to repeal the constitutional provision

requiring the creation of a State Medical Education Board and a State Medical Education Fund, neither of which is in operation. No new loans have been made from the fund by the board in more than 25 years, and the board currently has no appointees and receives no program funding.

Proposition Number 3 (HJR 133)

HJR 133 would authorize local political subdivisions to extend the length of time that aircraft parts could remain temporarily in this state before being subject to ad valorem taxation. Under current law, merchandise, wares, and goods (including aircraft parts) may remain in this state temporarily for up to 175 days before being subject to ad valorem taxation; the proposed amendment would permit taxing entities to extend the exemption up to 730 days after the date that a person acquired or imported aircraft parts in the state.

Proposition Number 4 (HJR 24)

HJR 24 proposes a constitutional amendment that would allow the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of a part of the market value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of a partially disabled veteran if the residence homestead was donated to the disabled veteran at no cost to the veteran by a charitable organization.

Proposition Number 5 (SJR 18)

SJR 18 would amend the definition of "reverse mortgage" to authorize the making of reverse mortgage loans for the purchase of homestead property in addition to the cur-

rent legal uses of those loans, and would give lenders recourse against borrowers who fail to timely occupy the homestead properties purchased with such loans. SJR 18 would also add to the definition of "reverse mortgage" an extension of credit that is not closed before the 12th day after the lender provides to the prospective borrower a written notice summarizing risks and conditions of a reverse mortgage. The language of the required notice is prescribed in the resolution.

Proposition Number 6 (SJR 1)

SJR 1 would create the State Water Implementation Fund as a special fund inside the state treasury and outside the General Revenue Fund. Money in the fund would be administered by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and would be used to implement the state water plan, as adopted by general law, by TWDB.

Proposition Number 7 (HJR 87)

HJR 87 proposes a constitutional amendment to allow home-rule municipalities to adopt charter provisions authorizing the filling of vacancies in the governing body by appointment, but only when the remainder of the vacant term is less than 12 months. Under current law, municipal voters may adopt terms of office for municipal officers longer than two years, but upon approving longer terms of office, any resulting vacancies in office must be filled by special election. The proposed amendment would provide an option for home-rule municipalities to fill short-term vacancies through appointment.

See **ELECTION**, Page 3

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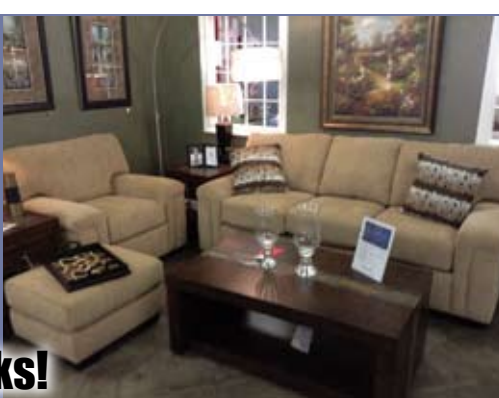


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Obituaries

Mary Helen Axtens Smith



Mary Helen Axtens Smith, 95, of Stamford, formerly of Lubbock and Big Spring, passed away Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013 in Stamford. Graveside services were held today, Oct. 22, at Mount Olive Cemetery in Big Spring with the Rev. Paul Wright officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Kinney-Underwood Funeral Home in Stamford.

She was born Aug. 19, 1918, in Tennessee, the daughter of Arthur Lee and Delie (Melton) Axtens. After graduating from Big Spring High School, Helen met and married Luke Felton Smith Jr. in 1938 in Big Spring, Texas. He

preceded her in death in 1979. Helen worked as the office manager for their refrigeration company in Lubbock. She attended Trinity Church in Lubbock before moving to Stamford in 2008.

Preceding Helen in death were her parents; her husband; a daughter, Linda Mires; daughter-in-law, Helen Iris Smith; grandson, Roger Sparks; her stepmother, Alma Axtens; sisters, Nellie Annen and Lyda Mae Sanborn; and three brothers, Lee Axtens, George Axtens and Olie Axtens.

Family left to cherish Helen's memory are two sons, Luke Felton Smith, III of Denison and Robert Lewis Smith and wife Melinda of Stamford; a brother, Jack Axtens of Royce City; 17 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Sign and view the guestbook at www.kinneyunderwoodfuneralhome.com

Police/Sheriff

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Monday and 7 a.m. today:

- **TERELL HOUSTON**, 21, OF 2609 Hunter, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.
- **CASSIE LYNN HARRIS**, 50, of 3000 West Illinois 18, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **AVEL ABREO RAMIREZ**, 66, of 1511 Princeton, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **TONY PIKE**, 48, of 4203 Oak, was arrested Monday on charges of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **JOHN CHRISTOPHER JONES**, 39, of 138 North Linton Ridge Circle, The Woodlands, was arrested Monday on charges of public intoxication and resisting arrest, search or transport.
- **ABEL LOZANO TORRES**, 25, of 1611 Donley, was arrested Monday on warrants for no driver license when unlicensed, failure to yield right of way at yield intersection and two counts of fail to appear.
- **GLORIA SOSA**, 44, of 1320 Stadium, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **BRANDI ANN HUTCHESON**, 29, of 105 Eckert, was arrested Monday on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon causing serious bodily injury to family member.
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported at the 1600 block of Runnels.
- **THEFT** was reported at the 1100 block of West Sixth Street.
- **ASSAULT** was reported at the 3600 block of West Highway 80.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported at the 1000 block of Rosemont and the 1900 block of North Highway 87.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the 700 block of North Lamesa Highway.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported at the 1600 block of Cardinal.
- **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported at the 100 block of West Eleventh Place.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported at the 100 block of Eckert and the 800 block of West Fourth Street.

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 74 inmates at the time of this report.

- **TEREL DEVON HOUSTON** was booked by BSPD to begin sentence for fail to report.
- **CASSIE LYNN HARRIS** was booked by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **BRANDI ANN HUTCHESON** was booked by HCSO on a charge of aggravated assault.
- **ABEL LOZANO TORRES** was booked by BSPD on charges of no driver license when unlicensed, fail to appear – two counts and failed to yield right of way.
- **AVEL ABREO RAMIREZ** was booked by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **TONY ALAN PIKE** was booked by BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **JOHN CHRISTOPHER JONES** was booked by BSPD on charges of public intoxication and resisting arrest, search or transport.

Take Note

• Settles Grill, 200 E. Third, is the United Way Dine-Out Day participating restaurant this week. A portion of the restaurant's proceeds will go to the United Way campaign. As a Dine Out Day sponsor, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County. To be a Dine Out Day sponsor or find out how to contribute to the campaign, call Sandy Stewart at 267-5201.

• Big Spring Junior High School's annual Scholastic Book Fair continues through Oct. 23 at the junior high library. Times are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. For more information, contact Robin Ritchey at 264-4135, ext. 1527.

• Keep Big Spring Beautiful will collect unwanted tires Saturday, Oct. 26, as part of Keep America Beautiful's "Make a Difference Day." Up to eight tires per trip will be accepted at the city landfill during the event, which will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. No commercial tire dealers will be accepted. For more information, contact Jan Hansen at 432-263-2616 or Johnny Womack at 432-264-2500.

• Howard County resident Tracey Menges is seeking donations to help pay for surgery after breaking her ankle in two places during a home accident. The 35-year-old single mother has sought help from a number of sources, but is unable to get the help she needs. She is employed (but not long enough to qualify for insurance) and renting a home, though with her current expenses she is having trouble paying the rent. If you'd like to help Tracey, an account has been established at Cosden Federal Credit Union under Tracey Menges No. 761663 - savings B.

• Holy Trinity Catholic Parish will host its annual Fall Festival on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 25-26. Plates of asado, carne guisada and gorditas will be available beginning at 11 a.m. both days. Cost per

plate is \$7. Dine in at the church hall at 1009 Hearn or carry out. Call 432-271-2928 for food orders. Festival games, including jumpers, Bingo, duck and fish ponds, hole-in-one golf, and more will begin at 6 p.m. Oct. 26 on the church parking lot. Hamburgers will be cooked by the Knights of Columbus during the carnival games. Everyone is invited to enjoy delicious food, lots of fun and great live music! All proceeds from the festival benefit Holy Trinity Catholic Parish.

• New affordable health insurance options are available. Scenic Mountain Medical Centers wants to help you understand the new marketplace. Come to one of our presentations in the Senior Circle Room at SMMC: Oct. 24 for Sr. Circle & Healthy Woman members; or our community presentation Oct. 28, 5:30 p.m. at SMMC. For more info or to RSVP, call 268-4699 or 268-4721.

• The Permian Historical Society will hold its fall meeting at the historic Hotel Settles on Oct. 26. Five programs on the history of Big Spring and Howard County will be presented: Government Incompetence Engraved in Stone; Why the Wrong Service is on Pvt, James B. Gordon's Tombstone; Dr. J.W. Barnett, Pioneer Big Spring Physician; Early Howard County Schools; Pro Football Players from Big Spring High School; and The Fascinating Saga of Settles Hotel. If you like, dress as a 1930s hotel guest and win a prize. The meeting begins at 9 a.m. with a continental breakfast, book sales and visiting. The programs begin at 10, followed by lunch at the Hotel Settles. Those planning to attend must register and send \$14 for lunch to Peggy Kelton, P.O. Box 901, McCamey, TX 79752 by Oct. 11. Register by phone at 432-652-8738 or email at peggy.kelton@gmail.com

• Cancer Crushers Relay For Life team is hosting a Halloween Carnival in the Malone and Hogan Clinic parking lot. The carnival will take place Oct.

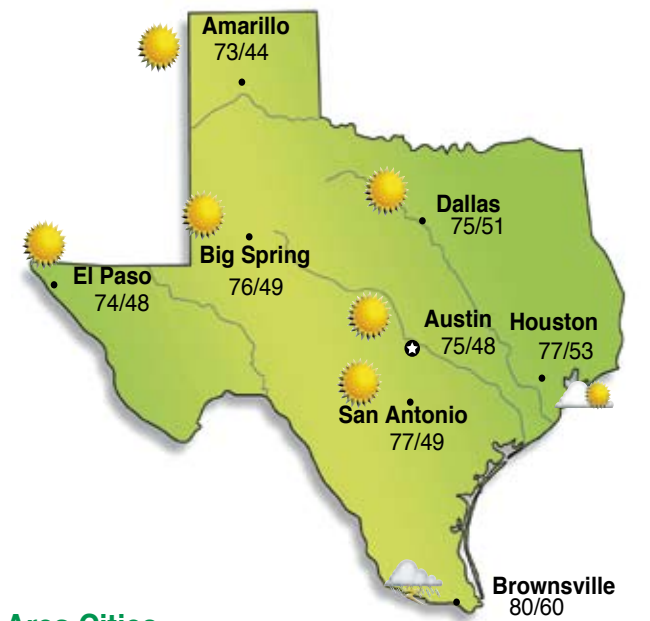
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Wed 10/23	Thu 10/24	Fri 10/25
 76/49 A mainly sunny sky. High 76F. Winds SW at 5 to 10 mph.	 80/48 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 40s.	 74/47 Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 40s.
Sunrise: 7:55 AM Sunset: 7:05 PM	Sunrise: 7:56 AM Sunset: 7:04 PM	Sunrise: 7:57 AM Sunset: 7:03 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	75	52	sunny	Kingsville	81	53	pt sunny
Amarillo	73	44	sunny	Livingston	75	48	pt sunny
Austin	75	48	sunny	Longview	72	49	sunny
Beaumont	75	52	pt sunny	Lubbock	76	47	sunny
Brownsville	80	60	t-storm	Lufkin	74	49	pt sunny
Brownwood	76	51	sunny	Midland	75	50	sunny
Corpus Christi	79	56	pt sunny	Raymondville	81	55	pt sunny
Corsicana	73	49	sunny	Rosenberg	77	51	pt sunny
Dallas	75	51	sunny	San Antonio	77	49	sunny
Del Rio	77	53	sunny	San Marcos	76	48	sunny
El Paso	74	48	sunny	Sulphur Springs	74	49	sunny
Fort Stockton	75	49	sunny	Sweetwater	75	51	sunny
Gainesville	75	47	sunny	Tyler	72	49	sunny
Greenville	73	47	sunny	Weatherford	75	48	sunny
Houston	77	53	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	77	48	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	72	49	pt sunny	Minneapolis	44	28	mst sunny
Boston	68	39	pt sunny	New York	65	47	mst sunny
Chicago	42	30	mixed	Phoenix	88	61	sunny
Dallas	75	51	sunny	San Francisco	75	53	sunny
Denver	63	40	sunny	Seattle	63	49	sunny
Houston	77	53	pt sunny	St. Louis	60	34	rain
Los Angeles	79	57	sunny	Washington, DC	67	50	pt sunny
Miami	88	74	t-storm				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Wed 10/23	Thu 10/24	Fri 10/25
6	6	6
High	High	High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

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31 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The event will include the following booths: fishing, football throw, cake walk, bean bag toss, ring toss, train rides, a concession stand and a ticket booth.

• Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to violent crimes of assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811

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No. 0000

Constitutional Amendment Election (Elección Sobre Enmiendas A La Constitución)

(Condado De) Sample County, Texas

November 5, 2013 (5 De Noviembre De 2013)

Sample Ballot (Boleta De Muestra)

Instruction Note: (Nota De Instrucción)

Place an "X" in the square beside the statement indicating the way you wish to vote. (Marque con una "X" el cuadro al lado de la frase que indica la manera en que quiere usted votar.)

No. 1	☐ For (A Favor) ☐ Against (En Contra)	"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services of the United States who is killed in action." "La enmienda constitucional que autoriza a la legislatura para proporcionar una exención de impuestos ad valorem de todo o parte del valor de mercado de la vivienda residencial del cónyuge superviviente de un miembro de las fuerzas armadas de Estados Unidos que haya muerto en servicio."
No. 2	☐ For (A Favor) ☐ Against (En Contra)	"The constitutional amendment eliminating an obsolete requirement for a State Medical Education Board and a State Medical Education Fund, neither of which is operational." "La enmienda constitucional que elimina el requisito obsoleto de una Junta Estatal de Educación Médica y un Fondo Estatal de Educación Médica, ninguno de los cuales está en funcionamiento."
No. 3	☐ For (A Favor) ☐ Against (En Contra)	"The constitutional amendment to authorize a political subdivision of this state to extend the number of days that aircraft parts that are exempt from ad valorem taxation due to their location in this state for a temporary period may be located in this state for purposes of qualifying for the tax exemption." "La enmienda constitucional para autorizar a una subdivisión política de este estado a extender la cantidad de días que las partes de aviones que están exentas de impuestos ad valorem debido a su ubicación en este estado por un período temporal podrán ubicarse en este estado para el propósito de calificar para la exención de impuestos."
No. 4	☐ For (A Favor) ☐ Against (En Contra)	"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of part of the market value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of a partially disabled veteran if the residence homestead was donated to the disabled veteran by a charitable organization." "La enmienda constitucional que autoriza a la legislatura a establecer una exención de impuestos ad valorem de una parte del valor de mercado de la vivienda residencial de un veterano parcialmente discapacitado o del cónyuge superviviente de un veterano parcialmente discapacitado si la vivienda residencial hubiese sido donada al veterano discapacitado por una organización de beneficencia."
No. 5	☐ For (A Favor) ☐ Against (En Contra)	"The constitutional amendment to authorize the making of a reverse mortgage loan for the purchase of homestead property and to amend lender disclosures and other requirements in connection with a reverse mortgage loan." "La enmienda constitucional para autorizar préstamos de hipoteca inversa con el objeto de comprar propiedades para vivienda, y para enmendar las divulgaciones del prestamista y otros requisitos relacionados con un préstamo de hipoteca inversa."
No. 6	☐ For (A Favor) ☐ Against (En Contra)	"The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas and the State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas to assist in the financing of priority projects in the state water plan to ensure the availability of adequate water resources." "La enmienda constitucional que establece la creación del Fondo Estatal de Implementación del Agua para Texas y del Fondo Estatal de Ingresos de Implementación del Agua para Texas (SWIRF – por sus siglas en inglés) para asistir en el financiamiento de proyectos prioritarios en el plan estatal de agua para asegurar la disponibilidad de recursos de agua adecuados."
No. 7	☐ For (A Favor) ☐ Against (En Contra)	"The constitutional amendment authorizing a home-rule municipality to provide in its charter the procedure to fill a vacancy on its governing body for which the unexpired term is 12 months or less." "La enmienda constitucional que autoriza a las municipalidades autónomas a establecer en sus estatutos el procedimiento para cubrir una vacante en su organismo gubernamental cuyo término no completado sea de 12 meses o menor."
No. 8	☐ For (A Favor) ☐ Against (En Contra)	"The constitutional amendment repealing Section 7, Article IX, Texas Constitution, which relates to the creation of a hospital district in Hidalgo County." "La enmienda constitucional que deroga la sección 7 del artículo IX de la Constitución de Texas, que se relaciona con la creación de un distrito de hospital en el Condado de Hidalgo."
No. 9	☐ For (A Favor) ☐ Against (En Contra)	"The constitutional amendment relating to expanding the types of sanctions that may be assessed against a judge or justice following a formal proceeding instituted by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct." "La enmienda constitucional relacionada con la ampliación de los tipos de sanciones que podrán imponerse a un juez o magistrado después de un procedimiento formal instaurado por la Comisión Estatal de Conducta Judicial."

ELECTION

Continued from Page 1

Proposition Number 8 (HJR 147 and SJR 54)

HJR 147 would repeal the Texas Constitution's maximum tax rate for a Hidalgo County hospital district; the maximum rate is currently set at 10 ¢cents per \$100 valuation. This rate is lower than the maximum tax rate allowable for hospital districts in all other counties in the State (75 cents per \$100 valuation). The repeal of the constitutional cap would authorize hospital district tax rates in Hidalgo County equal to the hospital district tax rate laws applicable to all other Texas counties.

Proposition Number 9 (SJR 42)

SJR 42 would expand the potential sanctions that the State Commission on Judicial Conduct can issue following a formal proceeding. This constitutional amendment would allow the Commission to issue an order of public admonition, warning, reprimand, or a requirement to obtain additional training or education in addition to the Commission's current authority to issue a public censure or recommend removal or retirement of a judge.

Information provided by the Texas Secretary of State website.

VOTING

Continued from Page 1

election which will decided nine constitutional amendments. Early voting continues through Nov 1. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at the election office in the Howard County Courthouse.

This is the first election voters are required to show photo identification in order to participate.

"It really hasn't been a problem so far and I don't anticipate it to be," Bloom said. "I'd say 50 or 60 percent of people who have voted in the last several years have given their driver's license or their identification to vote. Those forms of are easier to carry in their

wallet than their voter certificate. I think most everyone will have an ID, so I'm not anticipating a difference so far."

Although voters need not produce their voting certificate to participate in the election, Bloom suggests them to have it in hand in case some issues arise.

"The voting certificate is more or less now becoming more of an information statement," Bloom said. "It tells them what precinct, what school district, what city council district they are in. We like for them to bring their card in case we have any kind of issue arise such as their address has changed."

"Sometimes we run into the situation where we can't find their name in the computer," she continued. "If they have

their card, we can look them up in case their names don't match. We will be trying to update all of our records so a voter's name does match their diver's license exactly."

To be eligible, voters must have registered 30 days prior to election. Voters who have changed their address and have not informed the election office of their current move can still vote in this election as long their current address is still in the county, Bloom said.

Acceptable forms of photo ID are:

Texas driver's license.

Texas Election Identification Certificate (issued by Department of Public Safety).

Texas personal identification card (issued by DPS).

Texas concealed handgun license.

U.S. military ID card containing the person's photograph.

U.S. citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph.

U.S. Passport.

Voters who do not have the above identification can apply at the Department of Public Safety office for an Election Identification Certificate. Last week, officials with the Secretary of State, in conjunction with the Department of Public Safety, set up two mobile stations to help people obtain an EIC. Bloom said two cards were issued from

the effort.

"They will have to show some form of identification to get the EIC," she said. "They will have to go to the DPS office, but if they want, they can come by the election office and we will help them start the process."

For more information, contact Bloom's office at 264-2273,

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Safe stops for trick or treating

The Big Spring Herald will be publishing a list of "safe stop" locatiions for Oct. 31.

These include businesses, nursing homes, non-profit organizations and events such as trunk or treat, fall festivals, haunted houses, dances, fundraisers and

the like.

If your group is hosting a "safe stop" activity, email the Herald at editor@bigspringherald.com with the particulars: who, what, when and where.

Please include a phone number so we can reach you if we have ques-

tions.

Happy treating!

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If you were a scientist
and could invent
something extraordinary,
what would it be?

Bird Poop: A break in the routine

The drive to Garden City was nothing new. Going back and forth from Big Spring had become routine.

Familiar with every tree and fence post along the way, the woman loved the freedom of open spaces. Since it was cool enough to forget air-conditioning and ride with the windows partially lowered, she embraced the late October day.

In the distance was a rise in the road that continued on into the rangeland to form a gentle mesa. As her glance returned to the pavement ahead, she noticed a dark gray shape standing in the middle of the road.

"What in the devil is that," she wondered as she started braking to avoid hitting whatever it was? Fortunately, when she pulled over on to the shoulder, not another vehicle could be seen in either direction.

Letting her truck roll to a stop placed her just across the pavement from what she considered to be a water bird. Long legged, it stretched its long neck forward as it stared back at her.

Realizing something must be wrong, or it wouldn't be standing in the middle of the highway, she decided to "check it out." As soon as the bird heard the click of the door handle and creak of a dry hinge, it walked away from her and on to the opposite shoulder.

Her foot touching loose gravel caused the large, blue-gray bird to try and take flight.

Half walking, running, and jumping, it flapped its vast wingspan as if preparing to leave.

"This isn't going to be easy," she thought as she crossed the pavement in pursuit. Although it kept trying to initiate flight, the bird could not gain the lift it needed

A four strand, barbed-wire fence on either side of the road impeded its escape into the fields beyond. The woman realized she just might catch it.

Back and forth the bird paced the barrier, and ran in short spurts. Desperate, it finally tried to go through the fence.

The slight delay in its back-and-forth movements gave the woman the few seconds she needed. Aware of the damage that could be done to its neck and head if it scraped the barbs, the woman pushed its neck down-

ward with one hand while placing her other around and under its body.

Freed from the fence, its flailing legs struck at her legs as its dagger-like bill tried to inflict a blow. Struggle as it might, the bird was no match for the determined woman.

When the older model truck pulled up in the driveway, we had no idea what was inside. An old coat and towel had been fashioned into a "straightjacket" for a bird. Its creator was pleased with the accomplishment.

As she introduced herself and told us of the capture, we were amused and grateful for the persistence of this woman. Her name was familiar to us and among town folk, farmers, and ranchers alike.

Unwrapping her delivery revealed a great blue heron. Bluish gray upper parts were

a pleasant contrast to its whitish head and yellowish bill. Its long neck appeared to be a combination of light gray and pale cinnamon. Underneath, its black breast and belly were adorned with white steaks. Grayish-olive legs led to long toes that allowed it to walk gracefully over the muddiest of marshes.

As we extended its six to seven foot wingspan, we noticed an abraded elbow and damage to feathers. Otherwise, it appeared to be healthy.

Delivered the next day to Eos Wildlife Sanctuary in Midland, the heron was scheduled for x-rays for any fractures. Midge Erskine said bruising and tendon damage also had to be considered.

When Midge called later the next day, the sound of her voice was encouraging. With time, her veterinarian felt the bird would recover. Meanwhile, it would spend its days foraging for insects in her back yard, as well as dining on minnows

in a small pond. Mice would also be made available.

An expert at fishing, this great blue heron had often stood many times in the shallow waters of a lake, pond, river, or creek. Absolutely still, head poised and ready, it would have waited for a fish to swim into the shadows cast by its body. At the right moment, it would have grabbed its aquatic meal, tossed it in the air, and swallowed it headfirst. Now we, and the Erskines would be able to watch such a display.

Appreciation of the land, and all that occupy it, had enabled an innovative and feisty woman to intervene in what would have otherwise ended in tragedy for the great blue heron. Her determined effort had thwarted one of nature's many obstacles to a prolonged life.

Bebe McCasland is author of *The Scoop from Bird Poop*. She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

How to stand out on the job

Recently I was asked the question of how one can determine

if their boss views them as successful. Now, I realize that the observation of success may differ in some jobs but on the whole the determination is very close to the same on all jobs.

Whether you are starting a new job or you have been in the same job for a while, you can be described as successful if you are able to do the job well, have a feeling of accomplishment and you are being noticed and respected by your boss. Along with this, it means being one of the last employees your company would want to lay off.

As in many other areas of life, success at work is not an easy thing to attain, but this actually works to our advantage.

If being successful at a job was easy, then everyone would be doing it and that wouldn't leave much room for us to stand out.

Doing the things needed to be successful in our job is hard work and since many people shy away from hard work, the opportunity to stand out is ours for the taking!

Employers are quick to acknowledge it is difficult to find conscientious, hard-working, loyal, dependable employees who are willing to work and take their jobs seriously. So what are the attributes that an employee must demonstrate to be deemed successful?

It is extremely important to show a good attitude. Never be disrespectful and if you have complaints, make them in a respectful fashion and according to proper protocol.

It is also very important not to brag about our accomplishments.

We should wait for them to be noticed and allow others to do the bragging about us.

We should never pretend to know things we don't; we should be honest and when we do know something, show it by doing it.

It is also important that we do not express false humility. When someone pays us a compliment, just smile and say a sincere "thank you." They feel good about it, you feel good about it, everyone wins.

One of the first things we will see in people who just don't seem to get anywhere in their lives is laziness; people try to avoid work, they extend their breaks, extend their lunches, come in late and leave early. They may think they are getting away with it, but usually the boss knows who these people are.

We need to be the one who comes in a little early and occasionally leaves a little late.

We need to be the one who comes back from break and lunch on time and works consistently throughout the day. This is unusual in many places of employment and will, sooner or later, be noticed.

We should not just do our work, but really strive to do our work well instead of wanting to do the least amount of work possible.

We should take pride in our work and make our work count and not to be afraid to go a little above and beyond the call of duty; be the employee who is willing to do a little extra work when needed.

Don't ever forget that while you are on the job, your time is not your own. Your employer bought that time from you and it belongs to them; that's why you get paid.

Paying attention to these details will make you important to your employer and one of the last people your

employer would want to lay off. Yogi Berra would have said it this way: If you don't know where you're going, you might end up some place else.

Darrell Ryan is director of school security for Big Spring Independent School District.

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Sudoku Answer on Page 9

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Pressure Point

South dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K 7 6 2

♥ A Q 8

♦ 7 2

♣ K J 4 3

WEST

♠ J 9 4

♥ 10 7 6 5 3

♦ Q 9 6

♣ 9 6

EAST

♠ Q 10 8 3

♥ 4 2

♦ J 10 5 4

♣ 10 8 7

SOUTH

♠ A 5

♥ K J 9

♦ A K 8 3

♣ A Q 5 2

The bidding:

South

West

North

East

2 NT

Pass

3 ♣

Pass

3 ♦

Pass

6 NT

Opening lead — five of hearts.

This deal from a club duplicate game caused a great deal of consternation among half the players in the field. Moreover, it would probably have caused the same reaction almost anywhere else.

The deal was played eight times, and at six of the tables, the final contract was six notrump. At three of those tables, declarer made the slam, while at the other three, the result was down one. At the remaining two tables, the contract was three notrump, making 12 tricks at one table and 11 at the other.

After the game, two of the pairs

who had failed to make 12 tricks asked the game's director, an expert player, how a 12th trick could possibly be made when there were only 11 apparent winners and no suit that could be established. They felt that the defenders must have made some kind of mistake, but they couldn't imagine what it might be.

After examining the East-West hands, the director announced that six notrump was indeed ice-cold, and that there was nothing the defenders could do to stop it. What the director had looked for immediately was for one defender to hold at least four spades and at least four diamonds. If that were the case, the slam could not be defeated.

Observe what happens to East after West leads a heart and declarer cashes four clubs. On the fourth club, East can discard his remaining heart, but when declarer next cashes a second heart, East is forced to discard from one of his four-card suits. South then plays the A-K and a third round of the suit East has discarded, and the fourth card of that suit becomes declarer's 12th trick.

It is not known whether all the Souths who made the extra trick played in this fashion, but some variation of this approach must have been used. All declarer needed to do was to keep an eye on East's discards, and the 12th trick would materialize out of thin air.

Tomorrow: The safety factor.

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Sports Calendar

TODAY

Volleyball
• Big Spring at Monahans, JV, 5 p.m.; varsity, 6 p.m.
• Coahoma at Brownfield, JV, 5 p.m.; varsity 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Cross Country
• Forsan at district meet, Mae Simmons Park, Lubbock, TBA.

FRIDAY

Football
• Big Spring at Sweetwater, 7:30 p.m.
• Coahoma at Crane, 7:30 p.m.
• Forsan at Stamford, 7:30 p.m.
• Stanton at Alpine, 7:30 p.m.
• Marfa at Garden City, 7:30 p.m.
• O'Donnell at Grady, 7:30 p.m.
• Loop at Sands, 7:30 p.m.

Swimming

• Big Spring at Monahans Invitational (through Saturday), 11 a.m.

Volleyball

• Big Spring at Sweetwater, varsity 4:30 p.m.; JV & 9th, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY

Volleyball
• Colorado City at Coahoma, JV, 11 a.m.; varsity, noon.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com



HERALD photos/Brian McCormack

Top: Big Spring's Valerie Goodblanket finishes the course for the Lady Steer runners at the District 4-3A meet, which was held Monday at Comanche Trail Park. Bottom: Ian Gonzales wraps up the race on the boy's side. Both the girls and boys claimed first place and will advance to the regional meet in Lubbock on Nov. 2. A full article and final results from Monday's meet will be published in Wednesday's edition of the *Herald*.



Yager earns top spot for girls, Coahoma boys finish third, advance to regional meet as team

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — The Coahoma boys cross country squad ran well enough for a third place finish and trip to the upcoming regional meet after turning in a solid performance Monday at Mae Simmons Park. Devin Ruiz and Josh Dean led the way with sixth and eighth place finishes, respectively.

On the girl's side, Kaeli Yager nabbed first place overall with a time of 13:48. Yager moves on to the regional meet,

which is slated for Nov. 2, also in Lubbock.

"The girls had a pretty good year and competed well for most of the season," said CHS CC Coach Paul Hartman. Kaeli ran very well and has had an outstanding year to this point. Congratulation to her for winning district. The boys did a very good job and competed well all year also. They improved throughout the year and should be very excited about their accomplishments."

Coahoma's junior high girls team

placed third, with Allie Ellenberger taking earning an 11th place finish with a time of 15:39. Ethan Lopez (16:18, 28) and Bryson Cline (18:15, 35) were the two runner representing the junior high boys.

Individual results

Girls: Kaeli Yager, 1, 13:48; Erin Lowery, 16, 14:53; Klarissa Martinez, 19, 15:27; Heather Goodger, 23, 16:02; Hannah Hobdy, 24, 16:10; Sarinity Klug, 26, 16:20; Meagan Hurst, 28, 16:32.

Boys: Devin Ruiz, 6, 19:16; Josh Dean, 8, 19:53; Landyn Young, 17, 21:58;

Omar Sukhtankar, 25, 23:14; Garrett Richardson, 28, 23:38.

JH Girls: Allie Ellenberger, 11, 15:39; Hana Stanaslaus, 15, 15:50; Brookie Martin, 23, 16:35; Illiana Sandoval, 34, 17:30; Micah Worley, 35, 17:38.

JH Boys: Ethan Lopez, 28, 16:18; Bryson Cline, 35, 18:15.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

Giants finally win, beat punchless Vikings 23-7

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — For the first time this season, the New York Giants are going to be able to watch the videotapes of a game and have something to smile about.

Winning has its benefits, even after six straight losses to open a season.

Eli Manning threw a go-ahead touchdown to Rueben Randle in a rare mistake-free performance and the Giants shut down Adrian Peterson and forced three crucial second-half turnovers in posting a 23-7 victory over struggling Minnesota Vikings (1-5) on Monday night.

The win ended the Giants' worst start since a franchise-record 0-9 beginning in 1976, and it gave Tom Coughlin's team a chance to breathe a sigh of relief.

"We needed to get one on the board," defensive end Justin Tuck said. "I told (general manager)

Jerry Reese that I think we have a shovel to start digging our way out of this hole. Hopefully, tonight is something we can build off. It's still a long way to climb out of this hole. But this was something that we could get the ball rolling."

While the game wasn't perfect, the Giants did enough to win and avoided most of the mistakes that led to their disastrous start.

"This is what it is about," said safety Antrel Rolle, who made a big third-quarter interception after Minnesota recovered a fumble by Randle on a punt return at the Giants 31. "It's about getting back to having fun. Obviously, things have been a little tense around here with the 0-6 start but we never gave up on one another. We kept pushing each other and rooting each other on."

The defense was the key for New York. After giving up a league-high 209 points, it pitched a shutout.

Minnesota was limited to 206 total yards, Peterson got 28 rushing on 13 carries and new quarterback Josh Freeman was under constant pressure, finishing 20 of 53 for 190 yards.

The Vikings' touchdown came on an 86-yard punt return by Marcus Sherels late in the first quarter, giving Minnesota a 7-3 lead.

"The defense was outstanding," Manning said. "They were dominating the line of scrimmage and dominating the game. It does help the offense build a bit of a lead. We can be patient and not give their offense a short field by forcing anything."

Manning, who has thrown a league-high 15 interceptions, didn't have one. He finished 23 of 39 for 200 yards, throwing a go-ahead 24-yard touchdown to Randle in the second quarter.

New running back Peyton Hillis added a 1-yard TD run in the third quarter.

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Announcements

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RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service in Stanton has immediate openings for Mechanic, CDL Driver, Roustabout Pushers and Helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

STANTON ISD is accepting applications for a full time skilled maintenance position. Any questions regarding job description and employment can be directed to the Stanton ISD Administration office at 200 N. College, Stanton, TX 79782, or by phone at (432)756-2244.

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THE COAHOMA

Independent School District is now accepting applications for Food Service Workers. All applications are available at the CISD Administration Offices located at 600 N. Main, Coahoma, TX 79511. Additional information is available by contacting Andy Reddock, CISD Assistant Superintendent at 432-394-5000 ext. 4.

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2	1	9	7	3	4	6	8	5
4	3	7	5	8	6	9	1	2
8	5	6	1	2	9	3	4	7
5	2	4	8	6	3	7	9	1
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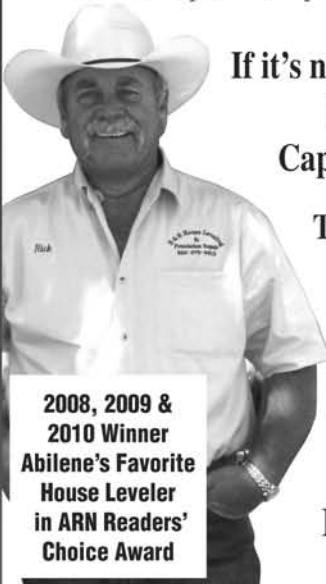
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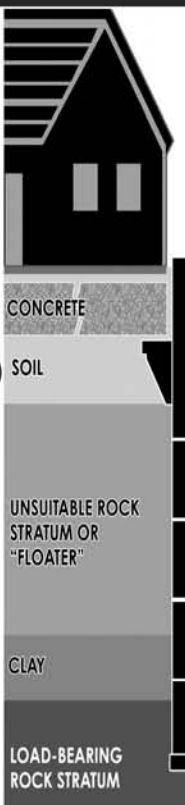
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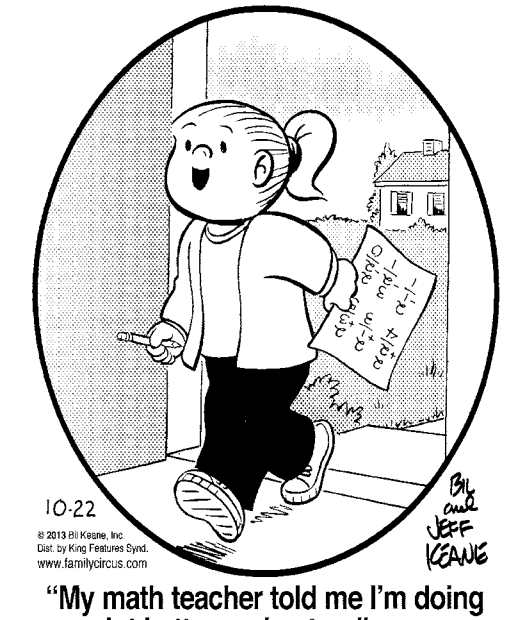
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5 :PM	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Justice Called	Charlie Rose	King/Hill Cleveland	Tickle Tickle	Scream, Courtney Cox	Cops Cops	Castle (DVS) Castle (DVS)	Top 10	Good Jessie	Around Pardon	Sports
6 :PM	Jeopardy! Wheel	Corazón Indomable	Big Bang Big Bang	News CBS	Caso Cer-rado	News News	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Door-Wis-dom	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Rules	Porter Porter		Cops Cops	Castle (DVS) Castle (DVS)	Movie: Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too?	Austin Liv-Mad.	Baseball Football	E:60
7 :PM	S.H.I.E.L.D.	Porque el Am.	Dads Brooklyn	NCIS (DVS)	Avenida Brasil (SS)	The Biggest Loser	Big Bang Big Bang	Upd Zola Lev.	African Americans	The Originals	To Be An-nounced	Movie: Hal-loween III: Season of the Witch	Criss Angel BeLiEve	Castle (DVS) Castle (DVS)		Wolfblood Movie: Twitches Too	College Football: Louisiana-Lafayette at Arkansas State.	30 for
8 :PM	Gold Trophy	La Tempe-stad (SS)	Mindy	NCIS: Los Angeles	Marido en Alquiler	The Voice	Big Bang Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	Held Hos-tage	Supernatural	Tickle Porter		Criss Angel BeLiEve	Castle (DVS) Castle (DVS)	Husbands-Ho.			
9 :PM	Scandal	Mentir Para Vivir	Mod Fam Mod Fam	Person of Interest	Santa Diabla (SS)	(:01) Chi-cago Fire	Big Bang Trust Me		Frontline	Rules Seinfeld	Tickle Porter	Halloween 4: Michael Myers	Criss Angel BeLiEve	Cold Justice	Husbands Husbands	Austin ANT Farm		2013 Serie Poker
10 :PM	News Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Impacto Noticiero	Arsenio Hall	News Letterman	Noticias Titulares	News Jay Leno	Conan	Shepherd's Heart	Charlie Rose	Commun Tickle	Porter		Criss Angel BeLiEve	The Mental-ist	Game Game	Dog Jessie	Olbermann	Sports
11 :PM	Nightline	Familia-Suerte	How I Met How I Met	Ferguson	Marido en Alquiler		Trust Me Conan	Ministerios Vida	World T. Smiley	'70s Tickle	Porter	Movie: Hal-loween III: Season of the Witch	Criss Angel BeLiEve	Cold Justice	Wendy Wil-liams	Good Good	Olbermann	Sports
12 :AM	Extra Paid	Ni Contigo, Ni sin Ti	Raymond TMZ		Muñecas Pagado	News	Office Chevalme	Upd	(Off Air)	'Til Death Browns	To Be An-nounced		Criss Angel BeLiEve	The Mental-ist	Movie: Crossover, Wayne Brady	Shake It ANT Farm	Baseball 30 for 30	Sports
1 :AM	Paid Paid	Conducta Casa	Law & Order: SVU	Ent Paid	Pagado De'siões	(:06) Today	Movie: Light of the Southwest			Browns Tickle	Porter	Movie: Fri-day the 13th, Tattoo	Tattoo Tattoo	The Mental-ist	Deck Deck			Sports

DENNIS THE MENACE



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



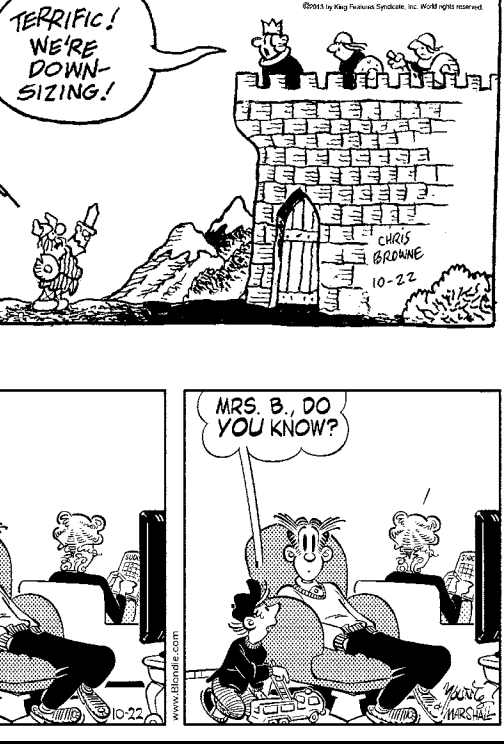
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THE OTHER COAST



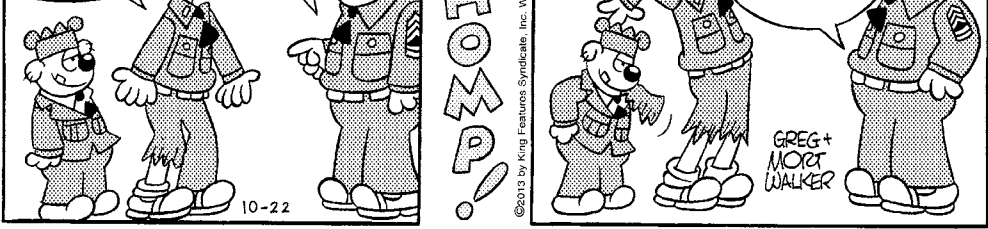
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BEETLE BAILEY



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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 22, the 295th day of 2013. There are 70 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 22, 1962, President John F. Kennedy delivered a nationally broadcast address in which he publicly revealed the presence of Soviet-built missile bases under construction in Cuba and announced a quarantine of all offensive military equipment being shipped to the Communist island nation.

On this date:

In 1746, Princeton University was first chartered as the College of New Jersey.

In 1797, French balloonist Andre-Jacques Garnerin (gahr-nayr-AN') made the first parachute descent, landing safely from a height of about 3,000 feet over Paris.

In 1811, composer and piano virtuoso Franz Liszt was born in the Hungarian town of Raiding (RY'-ding) in present-day Austria.

In 1836, Sam Houston was inaugurated as the first constitutionally elected president of the Republic of Texas.

In 1862, the hit comedy album "The First Family," starring comedian-impressionist Vaughn Meader as President John F. Kennedy, was recorded before a studio audience in New York City.

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In 1968, Apollo 7 returned safely from Earth orbit, splashing down in the Atlantic Ocean.

In 1979, the U.S. government allowed the deposed Shah of Iran to travel to New York for medical treatment. A decision that precipitated the Iran hostage crisis. French conductor and music teacher Nadia Boulanger died in Paris.

In 1981, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization was decertified by the federal government for its strike the previous August.

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan signed into law sweeping tax-overhaul legislation.

UP TO YOUR NECK by Billie Truitt

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Play the leading role
- 5 Cities that host ships
- 10 Castaway's home
- 14 Creme-filled cookie
- 15 On __ (counting calories)
- 16 Gloom and __ (pessimistic outlook)
- 17 Optimistic
- 18 "When pigs fly!"
- 19 Lean slightly
- 20 NECK-and-NECK
- 23 Seem
- 24 Pack the groceries again
- 25 Ballplayer's stick
- 27 DVR button
- 28 Fruity bread spread
- 31 Perched on
- 35 Prefix meaning "halfway"
- 37 Pageant crown
- 39 NECK of the woods
- 43 Privileged few
- 44 Genetic initials
- 45 And
- 46 Ready to go
- 47 Dad's partner
- 50 Gun owner's org.
- 52 Prehistoric creatures, for short
- 54 All thumbs
- 59 Stick one's NECK out
- 62 Short comic play
- 63 Oahu greeting
- 64 Admired one
- 65 Stack
- 66 Is concerned
- 67 Waterproof canvas
- 68 Aardvark's diet
- 69 Unifying idea
- 70 Tax form IDs
- DOWN**
- 1 Somewhat, slangily
- 2 Group of Girl Scouts
- 3 Source of ancient fables
- 4 Auto partner of Rolls
- 5 Wide-angle view
- 6 Poetic tributes
- 7 Inland waterway
- 8 Wobble
- 9 Dance-floor light
- 10 Dog collar attachment
- 11 Gardener's dirt
- 12 Laze
- 13 CPR pro
- 21 Room with test tubes
- 22 Arizona plants
- 26 Up to, informally
- 28 Sheriff's workplace
- 29 __ and crafts
- 30 Tuna salad ingredient
- 31 Years and years
- 32 The "T" in TV
- 33 "Don't bet __!"
- 34 Hamster or parakeet
- 36 Movie rental, for short

38 Once __ blue moon

40 Pay by mail

41 Quaint hotel

42 Common action-film scene

48 Staged without a break

49 Dinero

51 __ Baba

52 Goes out with

53 Sleeper's sound

55 Military groups

56 Mythical golden-touch king

57 Treat with disdain

58 Kennel cries

59 Onion covering

60 Bagpiper's skirt

61 Those people

62 Relaxing resort

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HERALD photo/Brian McCormack

The Big Spring boys cross country runners begin the district championship course at Comanche Trail Park Monday. Both the Big Spring boys and girls placed first at the event as teams. Faith Roberson placed second for the girls, with teammate Karina Alvarado right behind her in third place. The boys had five runners place in the top 10, with Diego Rodriguez placing second, Jose Vargas claiming third and Izzak Zamora taking fifth. More extensive coverage can be found in Wednesday's edition of the *Herald*.

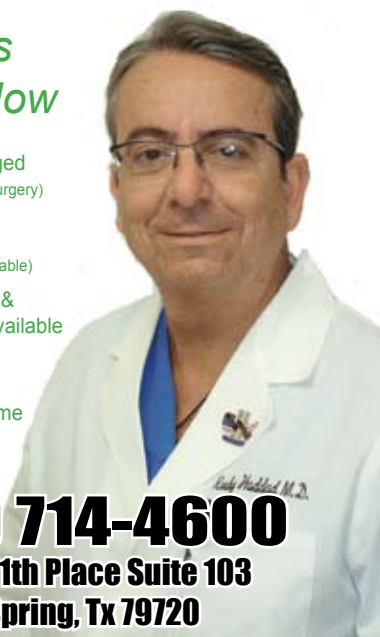
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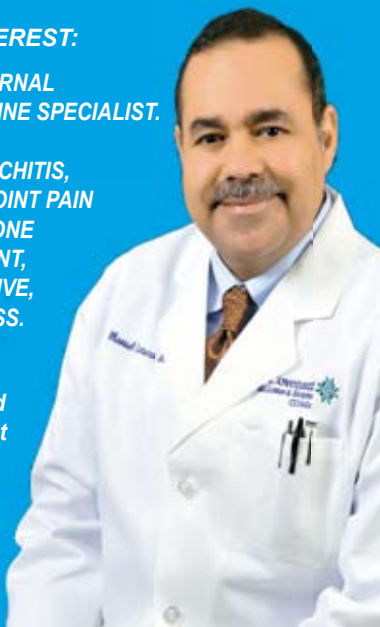
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28th Annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade

5:30 pm, Saturday, December 7th

Parade Theme

"Christmas Through The Ages!"

**ENTRY DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, NOV. 15TH**

2013 CHRISTMAS PARADE ENTRY FORM

Name Of Organization _____

Contact Person _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____

- ☐ Individual/Family ☐ Civic/School ☐ Commercial
- ☐ Individual ☐ Mounted

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(Best Use Of Lighting)

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(Best Costuming)

Special Awards presented to:

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Commercial • Industrial • Mounted Entry

1. The parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald.
2. Floats not to exceed 52' in length, 8' in width, 14' in heights.
3. Parade entries not in line by start of parade will be ineligible for awards.
4. Do not throw candy from float, you may walk beside your float if you wish to throw candy.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Libra Sun's Last Day
On the last day of Libra's 2013 solar journey, consider this: Like a small mouse claiming a wee hole in your home as his own, even though you're not technically using that space, you're going to be affected by the mere presence of this being in your realm. Handle what needs handling immediately, and keep the sanctity of your environment.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's important to you that you meet other people's expectations or, better yet, surpass them. That's why you're not afraid to ask directly what people want from you. Don't forget this crucial step today!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). They'll say you are ahead of your time, but really you feel that the ones who should be leading the group into the future are slacking off on the job. In your estimation, things should be farther along.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're not trying to compete with anyone but your own best self. And yet, others may accuse you of being competitive, as they see you exceed the competence of your peers or even those in charge of you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Each person has a burden to carry. You will allow for a bit of silliness, refusing to point out the error in it, because you suspect that this silliness helps to lighten the burden.



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have an instinct to be playful even in work-oriented situations. Not everyone will understand how this makes things better. That's why your process is best kept private. Let them see the results and wonder how you got them.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You like a place that regularly fills with the kind of people you can relate to. You will avoid showing up in places where you don't relate to the other customers and clients.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You do what must be done at the time it ought to be done. This is the essence of self-discipline. By completing one such task in this spirit, you prove that you can do almost anything.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Power is not an illusion as some suggest. You will witness a person getting things done because she has built the necessary relationships or because he knows how to ask. Watch and learn the ropes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You like the way something looks, and it feels right, too. But in order for you to plunk down your money, attention or time, you have to also know that it works. Wait for the proof.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You want to know how things work, but you don't feel compelled to figure out how people work — at least not today. Your relationships are important, but social interaction just isn't a very strong need of yours currently.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're looking for fun now, and you'll find it bound up inside a knotty problem. When you're in good company, the kind that makes you laugh by simply telling the truth, time flies.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your bold moves are favored. They won't all work, but it's better to make a big mistake than a small one, because you can recognize and correct the big ones.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 22). You're a good friend to your family members, and the time you spend with loved ones brings delight to your world. You'll be lucky in love through the holidays. In January, you'll connect with work you hadn't considered until then. There's a windfall in February. The mission you start in April is a spiritual quest of sorts. Taurus and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 24, 2, 14 and 11.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Physician and guru Deepak Chopra is among the biggest celebrities and most renowned authors of the New Age movement. Whether he's debating with the world's top scientists, discussing the afterlife with spiritual leaders or hanging out with Lady Gaga, this light-hearted Libra (born under a Libra moon, too) brings intelligence and levity to even the most serious endeavors.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.
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