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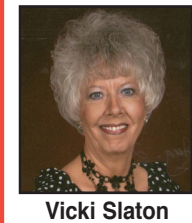
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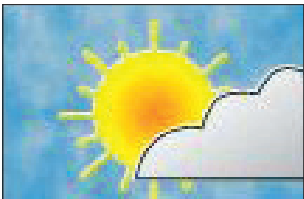
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City receives fiscal accolades

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The city of Big Spring received good news on at least two fiscal fronts Tuesday night, as an audit of the fiscal year ending September 2009

received high praises and the city's bond rating was bumped up three levels by Moody's Investors Services. Financial auditor David Copeland gave the city a clean bill of fiscal health during Tuesday night's meeting of the Big Spring City Council, praising the municipality for it's fiscal planning during the past several years. "This year, as we have in the past, we'll be issuing an

unqualified opinion, which means it is a clean opinion," said Copeland. "The government entity, the city looks really good. It's always good to increase your net assets. You've also increased your fund balance, which is something you always want to see." According to city manager Gary Fuqua, the city has

See **FISCAL**, Page 6A

Museum to host 2 events

Ticket deadline today for 'Pretty in Pink'

By BILL McCLELLAN

News Editor

Heritage Museum will be the site for activities involving heritage and health this week.

The first is a come-and-go reception from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday featuring local artist Adam Hernandez. "Adam is a very talented artist. We asked him to paint a rodeo-themed scene for us as a fundraiser and he did a wonderful job," said Nancy Raney, Heritage Museum director.

The painting, "Rodeo Kings," features local legends Wacey Cathey, Toots Mansfield, Jody Nix, Hoyle Nix and Quail Dobbs and is among four prizes to be given away during the museum's annual Legends & Legacies event June 15.

Tickets for the give-away are \$10 each and may be purchased at the museum during the reception and any time before June 15 at the museum. Other prizes include a print of the painting, a \$250 VISA gift card and a \$100 museum gift shop card.

Pretty in Pink

The second event at Heritage Museum this week is Pretty in Pink, sponsored by Scenic

See **MUSEUM**, Page 3A



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Repairs on Third Street called for narrowing of the thoroughfare to one lane Friday afternoon. Similar repairs are expected to take place on Fourth Street, as officials with the Texas Department of Transportation encourage driver's to be cautious when traveling through the area.

Early voting starts well, clerk relates

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Early voting in this year's municipal and school district elections got off to a quick start Monday, as more than 300 voters cast their ballots in person and by mail. According to Sandra Bloom, director of the Howard County Elections Office, 323 total ballots were counted Monday in five different elections, an auspicious start for voting. Election day is May 8. "We had 275 people vote in person and

See **VOTE**, Page 3A



Officials say altering reservoir source means better water quality on the way

Tests show city back in compliance with standards

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Officials with the city of Big Spring announced Tuesday night the municipality's water woes may very well be over, as the most recent tests have shown it is back into compliance with state standards.



Fuqua

City Manager Gary Fuqua delivered the news to the Big Spring City Council, saying a recent switch in reservoirs from the Colorado River Municipal Water District has the city's water treatment plant putting out a much higher quality product. "As you know, we've been watching the water situation very closely. We've been having problems with turbidity," said Fuqua. "The people from CRMWD have told us they would shift us over to another water source as soon as possible because they have stations down for winter maintenance. Saturday night we started receiving a mixture of water

which is a 50-percent mix from Lake Ivie and Lake Spence, and we saw a noticeable difference right away. "Just as soon as we started getting that water through the plant we were back in compliance with the water we were putting out the past two or three years. We had a suspicion it was the golden algae (that was causing the problems), and I believe this proves that it was. We've been watching that situation very closely and we'll keep all of you informed, but it does look like we're over the hump on that situation."

See **WATER**, Page 3A

BSISD will give tours of facilities Thursday

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District officials will give local residents a chance to view the district's facility needs up close Thursday.

The district will conduct tours of Bauer and Washington elementary campuses Thursday evening. The tour will leave the east parking lot of Big Spring High School at 5:30 p.m., officials said. Buses will provide transportation. Voters will decide on May 8 whether to approve \$60 million in facility renovations

See **TOURS**, Page 3A



FHS's Newsom set for state UIL contest

Herald Staff Report

Forsan High School junior Regan Newsom will head to Austin after qualifying for state competition Friday at the University Interscholastic League Regional Speech and Academic Contest for Class A held Friday on the campus of South Plains College in Levelland.

Newsom placed second in the prose reading competition, earning a berth at the state meet scheduled for May 6-8 on the University of Texas campus. This will be Newsom's second trip to a UIL state meet this year. She qualified for the UIL state CX debate contest held in March.

Other Forsan High School students who

See **FHS**, Page 3A

Howard College invites public to dance concert

Special to the Herald

The Howard College Dance Department will host a dance concert at the Florence T. Hall Studio Theatre in the Hall Center for the Arts titled "Dance in America — Past, Present, Future."

The show is scheduled to run nightly Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee performance on Sunday at 2 p.m.

This year's show will feature early dances like the Castle Walk and Charleston, and will continue through the century with dances like Latin Ballroom, Swing, Country and Western, Jazz, Hip Hop, Lyrical and more.

"We have put together a great show for our

See **DANCE**, Page 3A





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From left, April Turner, Bridgette Tuitt, Desiree Anderson and Chanel Cuvillo will be part of Big Spring High School's contingent at this weekend's Region I-4A track meet in San Angelo.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Quartet of leaders

Foursome the voice of experience for young Lady Steers

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

The "senior citizens" of the Big Spring High School girls' track team certainly aren't getting on in years — and they're not even seniors — but they are being counted on to provide veteran leadership as the squad heads for regional competition this weekend.

Sophomores Bridgett Tuitt and April Turner, along with juniors Desiree Anderson and Chanel Cuvillo, will join six freshmen as the Lady Steers' contingent at the Region I-4A track meet this weekend at Angelo State University in San Angelo.

The quartet will compete in the 400-meter relay, 800-meter relay and various individual events. Their biggest contribution this weekend, however, will be in helping the freshmen prepare for the pressure-cooker atmosphere at regionalals, their coach said.

"It's crucial that you

have that leadership," Nick Roberson said. "Obviously, they're still learning themselves, but they know a lot more than they did a few years ago, and I expect them to be even better in the future."

Anderson has made the biggest splash on the team, and not just at the local level — at a meet this year, she posted a long jump distance of 19 feet, six inches, the best distance posted by a high school girl in the nation this year.

In addition, she will compete in the triple jump and both relays.

"She can do just about any event you ask her to," Roberson said. "But her best event, obviously, is the long jump."

As impressive as her nation-leading jump was, however, Roberson believes Anderson can go even further in the event.

"She's got another big jump in her this year," he said. "She can con-

See **TRACK**, Page 6B

Two HC cowboys make national finals field

By CINDY SMITH

Special to the Herald

TARLETON — The final stop for the Southwest region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) was Tarleton State University in Stephenville this past weekend and Howard College secured sufficient scores to advance two members to the College National Finals Rodeo, to be held June 13-19 in Casper, Wyo.

Jason Schaffer has been in the spotlight all year as the

freshman cowboy works all three timed events. Jason qualifies to the CNFR this year as the No. 2-ranked man in all-around competition. Schaffer will compete in the steer wrestling and the team roping (heading), partnering with heeler Seth Hall of Odesa College.

J.W. Townsend is the second Howard cowboy to qualify to this year's CNFR in the team roping. Townsend ropes with former Hawk Clay Norrel, now with Tarleton State

University.

This will be the second trip to the finals for Townsend, who finished his season in the No. 2 position of the heeling competition for the Southwest region.

While competing in Stephenville, Schaffer collected his second all-around title of the year, accumulating points in tie down roping and steer wrestling.

He posted times of 9.1 (eighth) and 8.6 (second) for third in the average race of

the tie down roping.

In the steer wrestling, he won fourth in the first round with a 7.1 and was unable to stop the clock in the short round.

Steer wrestlers Cullen Teller and Rhett Anderson joined Schaffer in the short round. Teller was 10th in the first round and 25.3 in the short to finish fourth in the average. Anderson was third in the long round with a 6.7 second effort and he also had a no time in the final round.

Payton Norrel and partner Stewart Kinley of NMJC were third in the first round of team roping with a 6.3 second run. They finished fifth in average.

"Just being able to advance out of the region is a huge step," said coach Greg Kernick. "This region is tough and seems to get tougher every year."

For more on the HC Hawk Rodeo Team and updated schedule and results, visit www.hchawk.com

Hawk baseball to host cancer awareness game

By CINDY SMITH

Special to the Herald

The Howard College Hawks baseball team invites you to join them at noon Saturday for the third annual Breast Cancer Awareness game at Jack Barber Field on the campus of Howard College.

This year's event will strive to be even bigger and better as the Hawks join forces with their fans and special sponsors to make the day fun while they work to raise funds for this worthwhile cause.

In addition to Western Junior College Athletic Conference baseball between Howard and Clarendon College, there will be drawings for items such as autographed baseballs, bats and T-shirts. A silent auction will be held during each game for items such as an autographed national championship jersey and more. Fans must be present to win the drawings and the auctions will conclude with the last out of each ballgame.

Special guests will be throw-

ing out first pitches to show support for breast cancer survivors as well as those who are currently fighting breast cancer and honor those who may have lost the battle.

Organizers thanked sponsors such as Back In Motion, D-Bat, Imprint Texas, Bear Claw Knife & Shear, Leonards Pharmacies, Comet Cleaners, Dr. John Myers, D.D.S., Dr. David D. Long, MD, PA, Rick Hamby Law Office, Sidewinders Booster Club, Big Spring Abstract & Title Co. Inc., Rod's Garage and Burns Graphics.

Pink T-shirts donated by Burns Graphics are on sale now at the Howard College Bookstore for \$15 each. The shirts will be on sale throughout the week and at the games on Saturday.

A limited supply is available and all proceeds will be donated to the cause.

For more information on the breast cancer awareness game and Hawk baseball, visit the Hawk Athletic Website at www.hchawk.com.



Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks, left, talks with Anna Smith, who was presented with the HC Hall of Fame Award during Tuesday night's athletic banquet at Garrett Coliseum. Smith coached volleyball and women's basketball for many years at Howard.

HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Obituaries

J.E. Peugh

J.E. Peugh, 76, of Stanton died Monday, April 26, 2010, in a Midland hospital. Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 29, 2010, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Larry Mathis and the Rev. Jeff Scott officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, 2010, at the funeral home. He was born Dec. 17, 1933, in Walters, Okla., and married Joann Shaw on June 29, 1951, in Knott.

J.E. served on the Knott Farmers Coop Gin Board as president for 20 years, was a member of the Martin

County Tax Appraisal Board, a 4-H Leader in Howard County for 20 years and Friends of 4-H in Martin County. He hosted Valentine Luncheon Fish Fry at the First Baptist Church in Knott for seniors citizens for 10 years.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Joann Shaw Peugh; a son and daughter-in-law, Danny and Michelle Peugh; two daughters and sons-in-law, Patty and Kenneth Schuelke, and Tammy and Koy Blocker; a daughter-in-law, Carla Peugh; grandchildren, Tandi Peugh Stockton and husband Richard, John Cody Peugh and wife Shanna, Robert Brady Peugh and wife Ginger, Tarah Schuelke Scott and husband Jeff, Clint Schuelke and wife Brooke, Kandace Schuelke, Julia Schuelke, Lane Shands, Casey Shands, T.J. Shands, Kaitlyn Blocker, Maegan Blocker, Kristen Blocker and Bryce Blocker; great-grandchildren, Ashli Stockton, Ryan Stockton, Major Stockton, Huston Stockton, Scout Stockton, John Colt Stockton, Ashlynn Peugh, Kailynn Peugh, Adalynn Peugh, Cage Easton Peugh and Stratton Jeff Scott; nieces, Judy Burnett of Sundown, Roxie Kennedy of Morton and Ethel Richardson of Morton; long time farm employees, Pat Carstensen, Fausto and Lucia Sanjuan, Robert and Rosa Rodriguez and special friends Bill and Geneva Howell, David and Kay Van Bramer and Jim and Rinda Allison.

J.E. was preceded in death by his son, Johnny Lynn Peugh; his parents, John and Addie Peugh; and his sister, Roxie Shockley.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Johnny Peugh Scholarship Fund, c/o Permian Basin Area Foundation, 200 N. Loraine, Suite 500, Midland 79701.

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

Paid obituary

Brenda McCormick

Brenda McCormick, 30, of Stanton died Saturday, April 24, 2010, in Stanton. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, May 2, 2010, at Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton with the Rev. David Harp, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born April 27, 1979, in Big Spring. Brenda grew up in Big Spring, attending Big Spring schools, moving to Stanton in 2000.

Survivors include two daughters, Kenna and Kate Lynn of Big Spring; her parents, Bobby and Janie McCormick of Big Spring; and one sister, Julie Atkinson and husband Deno of Hobbs, N.M., and their children.

She was preceded in death by her paternal grandmother, Marilyn Carr; and her maternal grandparents, Dorothy and Tuffy Hubbard.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Kenny 'PeeWee' Kesterson

Kenny "PeeWee" Kesterson passed away Sunday, April 25, 2010, in Bedford after a short battle with cancer. His body has been donated to cancer research.

He was born Dec. 29, 1942, in Big Spring and called it home until moving in 2001. He graduated from BSHS in 1963 and retired from Energas after 35 years in 1998.

He is survived by his wife, Aline, daughter Mindi and sister Wendi.

The family requests that donations be made to the American Cancer Society in his memory in lieu of flowers.

Gilbert Reyna

Gilbert Reyna, 77, of Big Spring died Friday, April 23, 2010, at Medical City Hospital in Dallas. Vigil services will be held Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Chapel. Funeral mass will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with the Rev. Ariel Lagunilla officiating. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park with military honors.

He was born May 26, 1932, in San Antonio to Juanita and Martin Reyna. He came to Big Spring in 1949 from Michigan. He married Demetria Marin on June 20, 1957, in Big Spring. He was a veteran of

the United States Army. He had been a member of the G.I. Forum and was a charter member of the Big Spring Chicano Golf Association. He worked at White's Auto Store for 15 years and was employed by the Howard County Road and Bridge Department. He retired in 1995 after 20 years of service. He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his wife Demetria (Donna) Reyna of Big Spring; three daughters, Juanita Fierro and husband John of Dallas, Barbara Tatom and husband Corby of Ponca City, Okla., and Sonya Corral and husband David of Tulsa, Okla.; three sons, Nick Reyna and wife Lisa, Sammy Reyna and wife Anita, all of Big Spring, and Frank Lee Reyna and wife Renee of Fort Worth; grandchildren, Andrea Fierro, Mark Corrales, Nikki Daniel, Billy Tatom, Matthew Reyna, Cory Reyna, Jarrett Reyna, Stephanie Reyna, Gilbert Cruz Reyna, Jonathan DeLeon, Tony DeLeon, Desiree DeLeon, D.J. Munoz, Cristian Reyna, Ashton Corral and Joshua Corral; great-grandchildren, Coytt Corrales; Dalon Corrales, Jeremiah DeLeon, Noah Daniel and Nicholas Munoz; and one brother, Rogelio Reyna of Saragosa, Spain.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Martin and Juanita Reyna; one son, Martin Reyna; three brothers, Edward, David and Mickey; and one sister, Josefina Gonzales.

Pallbearers will be Mark Corrales, Jonathan DeLeon, Tony DeLeon, Matthew Reyna, Billy Tatom, Cory Reyna, D.J. Munoz, Jarrett Reyna, Gilbert Cruz Reyna and Cristian Reyna.

Honorary pallbearers will be Jimmy Marin and members of the Big Spring Chicano Golf Association.

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

Paid obituary

Police blotter

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

- ALAN WAYNE CRAIG, 40, of 1808 Benton, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- NICK ORNELAS, 27, of 610 Linda Lane, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- GILBERT HINOJOS, 17, of 100 N.W. Third St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon.
- FELIPE HERNANDEZ, 56, of 2707 Hernandez, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for driving while license invalid and failure to appear.
- JESSIE CASEY, 24, of 307 San Jacinto, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- JORDAN BALIOS, 19, of 501 Circle, was arrested Tuesday on charges of possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone and possession of marijuana – two ounces or less in a drug free zone.
- TIMOTHY MARK DUFFEY, 36, of 2903 Clanton, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for assault.
- THEFT was reported:
In the 1300 block of Baylor.
In the 1500 block of Stadium.
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James Robert Wigington Sr.

James Robert Wigington Sr., 80, of Big Spring died Tuesday, April 27, 2010, at the VA Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church with the Rev. Jim Mosley and Bob Hailes officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park with military honors.

He was born April 22, 1930, to Amanda Henrietta and Jefferson R. Wigington in Ellisville, Miss. He married Burnell Ainsworth on Nov. 6, 1953, in Bay Springs, Miss. He

graduated from the John A. Gupton College of Mortuary Science in Nashville, Tenn., and was a licensed funeral director and embalmer having worked in Aberdeen, Miss. They came to West Texas in 1954 and to Ackerly in 1968. He was a veteran of the United States Army. In 1971, he started Ackerly Service Company and owned it for 28 years. He enjoyed fishing. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by his wife, Burnell Wigington of Big Spring; five sons, Bobby Wigington and wife Carla of Ackerly, Lynn Wigington and wife Heddy of Big Spring, Bill Wigington and wife Sherri of Big Spring, Shayne Wigington and wife Jennifer of Mineola, and Chris Wigington and wife Kelli of Sweetwater; daughter-in-law, Teresa Wigington of Big Spring; 18 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Perry Wigington; two brothers, Chester and Estus "Shorty" Wigington; and three sisters, Ethel Holt, Myrtle Sholar and Bertha Ellzey.

Pallbearers will be Michael Wigington, Eric Wigington, Christopher Wigington, Austin Hufford, Tyler Wigington, Garrett Wigington, Parker Wigington and Hunter Wigington. Honorary pallbearer will be Clayton Wigington.

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

Paid obituary

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 51 inmates at the time of this report.

- FELIPE HERNANDEZ, 56, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on warrants for driving while license invalid and violation of a promise to appear.
- JESSIE CASEY, 24, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a warrant for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- JOHN WADE MYATT, 35, was arrested Tuesday by DPS on charges of possession of a dangerous drug and tampering with/fabricating physical evidence.
- JORDAN DEAN BALIOS, 19, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less in a drug free zone and possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.
- TIMOTHY MARK DUFFEY, 36, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of assault of a family/household member – impeding breathing or circulation.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

- TRAUMA was reported in the 300 block of Scurry. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 5700 block of Cedar Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1400 block of E. Sixth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Steakely. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Phillips Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.



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Announcements

WE LOVE and miss you Pappi and Miguel. We think of you both everyday and we love and miss you. Happy B-day Miguel. Love Family

Garage Sales

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale. Lots of clothes, mens, women's, children's. Furniture, appliances, home items. 1004 Cameron (Corner of Midway and Cameron). Saturday 8am-2pm.

YARD SALE: 408 North East 11th Street. Saturday 9:30-? Lots of things.

Help Wanted

******ATTENTION DRIVERS******
Duncan Disposal- Now hiring for a driver for Coahoma area. Need at least a Class B CDL. Experience Preferred for a driver's position. Must be able to pass mandatory DOT and corporate drug testing requirements. The job includes 40+ hours weekly Mon.-Fri., with some Sat. mornings. Please come by our Coahoma office or call Arthur at (432)770-3966. An hourly rate with benefits package is available. Equal Opportunity Employer.

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NEEDED: CONSTRUCTION Superintendent for project at Big Spring VA. Must be experienced with good communication and scheduling skills. Please send resume to or e-mail questions to choctaw@wf.net

HELPER WANTED for dog grooming. Will train right person, part time. Mon-Fri.. Apply in person, 215 South Main. No phone calls please.

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Long Term Care Division has an immediate opening for a LVN in the CBA Program in Odessa, Midland & Big Spring areas. Will work with clients and do some skilled visits. Home Health & 1-year Hosp. experience preferred. Interested applicants call Jana Edwards LVN or Roxanna RN at 1-800-458-3257 M-TH 8-5, F 8-12 E.O.E.

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MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1A

Mountain Medical Center and Blissful boutique. Tickets are free, but must be obtained before the close of business today.

Pretty in Pink begins at 11:30 a.m. Saturday and features a luncheon, mother-daughter style show and speaker Carylton Frerich, PA-C, who will remind mothers “children learn as much from our examples as they do our lectures.” The event is part of the Healthy Woman program at SMMC.

The tickets — remember, they must be obtained before the close of business today — are available at Blissful, 406 E. FM 700 or the museum, 510 Scurry St.

The event will also feature a giveaway for a \$350 Blissful shopping spree. Tickets for that opportunity are \$5 each.

Proceeds will benefit the Heritage Museum.

For more information about these events, contact Raney at 267-8255.

VOTE

Continued from Page 1A

received another 48 mail-in ballots Monday,” said Bloom, “so we certainly got off to a good start. Things slowed down slightly Tuesday, however, as we only had about 90 people come in and cast their early ballots by around noon.”

Bloom said the mayor’s race three years ago drew slightly more than 2,000 ballots from city residents, a number that could be eclipsed in this year’s contest.

“If interest in the races is any indication, I think we really have a good chance to either meet or beat the numbers from three years ago,” said Bloom. “There’s been a lot of interest in the mayoral race, as well as the bond issue Big Spring ISD has on the ballot. It’s always hard to say what the turnout will be during these types of elections, but, so far, things are looking good.”

The \$60 million bond issue being

offered by BSISD would call for construction of new elementary campuses at the current sites of Washington, Marcy and Goliad schools, as well as the demolition of the existing buildings along with Bauer Elementary. It would also add a classroom wing and physical education gym to Moss Elementary, renovate Kentwood Elementary and provide several improvements to the high school, including a new roof and fire suppression system.

District 5 on the Big Spring Independent School District features three candidates. They are Jeremy Blount, Chad Wash, and Michelle Hamby.

Also on the ballot, but unopposed, are BSISD board incumbents Jeff Brorman (District 6) and Phil Furqueron (District 7).

Four candidates are vying for the mayor’s seat on the Big Spring City Council. Incumbent Russ McEwen is facing off against challengers Tommy Duncan, Shannon Thomason and Oscar Velasco. The race for the District 5 seat on the city council pits

incumbent Troy Tompkins, who is finishing his first three-year term in the seat, against Craig Olson.

While Coahoma residents aren’t being asked to fill municipal seats this year, they are deciding on a proposition to adopt a new sales tax. The proposition calls for the adoption of a sales and use tax within the city limits at the rate of one-half on one percent to be used and applied to projects authorized by section 4B of the Development Corporation Act of 1979. The tax can also be used for the maintenance and operation costs associated with such projects.

Five candidates are seeking to fill two at-large seats on the Coahoma ISD board of trustees. They are Craig Ferguson, Brandon Atkins, Ashley Niblett, Michael Brooks and Mike Blissard.

Voters can cast their early ballots in these contests from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Howard County Elections Office, located on the third floor of the county courthouse. Early voting continues through Tuesday, May 4.

WATER

Continued from Page 1A

The city found itself out of compliance with standards established by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality near the beginning of 2010, when turbidity levels — the ability to “see” through the water due to particles — rose drastically.

According to city officials, the rise in turbidity has been due to low water levels in Lake Spence, the city’s sole water source while CRMWD performed winter maintenance on its systems.

Now, however, Assistant City Manager Todd Darden said the quality

of the water leaving the treatment plant is the best he’s seen in several years.

“We’ve been putting out some of the best water we’ve put out in the past two years. It’s some of the best quality we’ve seen come from the plant,” said Darden. “The turbidity level is one of the lowest we’ve seen at .09. That’s excellent, especially compared to the standard of 0.3.

“We’re very happy with the water. We know the citizens have been waiting for this to turn around, and we felt confident we could produce good, quality water if we could get some quality water to begin with. And CRMWD is helping us with that

situation and switching us over to that blend is certainly helping us put out good water.

“The chlorides are much lower now. They are in the 700s on the water we’re getting now. The water we were getting from Lake Spence were showing levels as high as 1,100. That should help us reduce that salt-taste from the water, cutting it nearly in half.”

Unfortunately, the improvement in city-delivered water won’t be immediately seen by its customers, according to Darden.

“It’s going to take us a little while to get through the storage tanks and the distribution lines,” said Darden. “The residents that

live the closest to the reservoirs will see the change quicker than anyone else. Our average daily use is about 5 million gallons, and we have about 15 million gallons in storage and that same amount in the distribution (lines). So it shouldn’t take more than two or three weeks before we see this better quality water moving out in the distribution system.”

Described as “the perfect storm” — low lake levels and high concentrations of golden algae — by city officials, the problems that caused the city to fall out of compliance may or may not return, according to Darden, a possibility he and other city representatives will be paying

very close attention to in the future.

“We’re going to be talking with the consultants and coming up with a plan for the future, just in case this situation arises again,” said Darden. “We’re going to look at some other possible methods of treatment. This could happen again, and we need to be prepared. However, there’s a big cost associated with it. Do you put that much money into something to prepare for a situation that may never happen again?”

“This really was the perfect storm of circumstances, with the lake level so low and the golden algae blooming like it did. Could it happen again? Absolutely.

Will it happen again? No one really knows the answer to that question. We’re going to go through an evaluation process and make sure we always put out the best quality water our customers can afford. Our citizens deserve that.”

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

DANCE

Continued from Page 1A

community with a wide variety of dances and music and we are excited about the per-

formance,” said Eulaine McIntosh, adjunct dance instructor and director of the HC Dance Troupe. “The students have put in a tremendous amount of work while preparing for this and I’m certain the audience will have a

great time.”

The event requires a ticket for admission. Tickets are \$5 for the general public and \$3 for HC faculty, staff and students. Ticket sales will be held in the Hall Center for the Arts lobby through Friday from noon to

1:30 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For more information on the event, visit www.howardcollege.edu or contact Cindy Smith at 264-5034 or e-mail her at csmith@howardcollege.edu

FHS

Continued from Page 1A

competed at the regional contest but did not advance were Sydney Holdampf, fifth in

number sense (individual) and number sense team; Amanda Longorio, calculator; Alex Park, poetry; Tommy Dawson, ready writing and spelling team; Tim Davila, headline writing; Brady Gartman, math-

ematics and number sense team; Caden Rosenbaum, L.D. debate; Aric Denton, number sense team; Kyle Stevenson, number sense team; James Wheeler, spelling team; Victoria Dunnam, spelling

team; Laura Spence, spelling team

Sponsors for the academic team are Jim Rhodes, Kristi Couch, Misty Hoelscher, Jan Sims, Suzanne Kirkland and Sheila Jones.

TOURS

Continued from Page 1A

at the school district. Those renovations include:

- \$43 million will be used to construct new elementary campuses at the current sites of Washington, Marcy and Goliad schools, extensively renovate Moss Elementary and update infrastructure at Kentwood Elementary.
- \$2.7 million will be spent to construct new classrooms at Big Spring Junior High to house BSISD sixth-graders, making BSJH a three-year campus.
- \$12 million in improvements are planned at the high school, including installation of a new roof and fire sup-

pression system and upgrading the building’s science labs.

- An additional \$2.5 million is being asked for improvement to campus grounds, parking lots and driveways.

To finance the new bond, BSISD officials es-

timate the district’s tax rate — currently \$1.12 per \$100 valuation — will increase by 35 cents for the life of the 20-year bond. That would raise taxes on a median-priced home in Howard County (\$42,000) by approximately \$70 a year.

Owners of a home valued at \$100,000 would see their taxes rise by about \$240 a year.

For more information on the facilities tour, contact the BSISD central office at 264-3600.

Contact Staff Writer

Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

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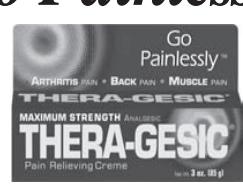


Our sweet bird, Bobby, was reported missing in the Kentwood area April 19th around 6:00pm. Please help us find him!

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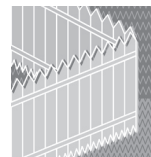
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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Ron Midkiff

Publisher

John A. Moseley

Managing Editor

Bill McClellan

News Editor

OUR VIEW

We'll see you Thursday at 'After Hours'

Business After Hours is a chamber-sponsored program that brings together local merchants several times a year and one of those times arrives Thursday afternoon. We think it is a worthwhile activity that allows the business community to meet, get to know each other and share ideas.

The general public is invited as well, and for them, it's an opportunity to get to know more about a local business. There will be food and door prizes, and organizers encourage everyone to bring a friend.

Thursday's Business After Hours will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Downtown Botique, located at 1710 Gregg St.

As always, this Business After Hours will be an informal, come-and-go event. There are no programs. It is simply a time to get acquainted, so come by and have refreshments with us.

We encourage you to drop by the Downtown Boutique and have refreshments with us. Bring a guest and your business cards.

Sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, it's a good opportunity get to know other merchants and learn more about the businesses themselves.

We'll see you there.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I recently moved home to Big Spring after a five-year absence.

I was excited about attending the latest symphony concert and was surprised and saddened to learn it would not be held in our beautiful municipal auditorium, as the building is now closed.

I was told that there had been a lawsuit filed a few years ago due to the lack of accesablity to handicapped patrons.

Many questions came to mind upon hearing the news, the first one being, why hasn't this city gem been brought up to code?

We have a fantastic symphony and a beautiful auditorium to showcase its talents and host many other events, yet the issue remains ignored and the doors to a local icon sealed.

Who filed this suit and what would it take to fix the problem?

Realizing that I don't know all the details of what is involved in making the necessary repairs does not deminish my disappointment about the situation.

The Big Spring Municipal Auditorium is something we should preserve and keep in good repair for the cultural benefit of this town.

It is a crying shame that this historic place cannot be used and the problem placed on the back burner indefinitely.

Can there be any good excuse why this issue has not been resolved?

LINDA CHOATE
BIG SPRING

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

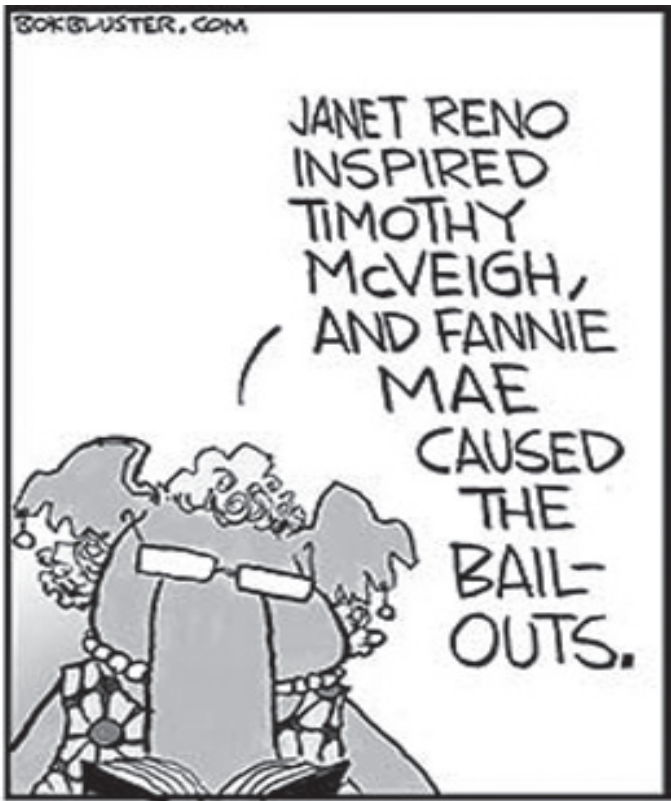
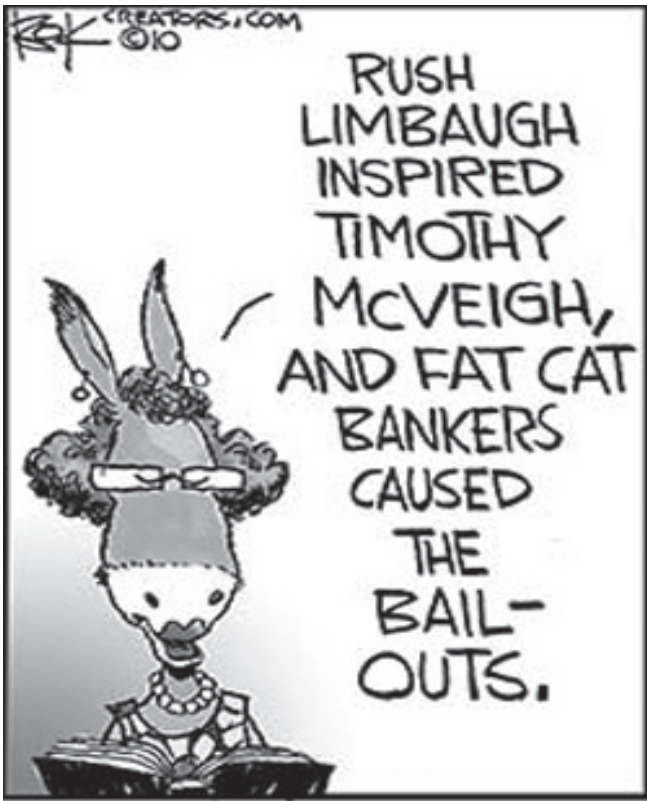
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we remain honest and sincere, Lord, in our love for You.

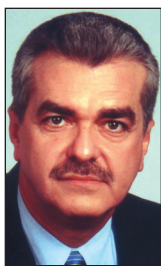
Amen



1 HISTORY 2 TEXTBOOKS

Reactionary Republic of Arizona (Make sure to take your passport)

Just when you think the Democrats are in trouble with Latino voters, when their failure to keep their promises to reform our immigration system have them cornered and against the ropes, out come the self-destructive Republicans with new and even more Draconian anti-immigrant measures as if to save the Democrats from the beating they deserve.



MIGUEL PEREZ

Take the Republican-driven legislation signed by the Republican governor of Arizona last week and supported even by the most recent Republican to run for president. It is the most racist, discriminatory and unconstitutional measure seen in recent history. It has a state usurping the powers of the federal government. It legalizes racial profiling, putting legal immigrants and naturalized citizens in jeopardy of needless harassment by police. It penalizes American citizens even for transporting undocumented immigrants, as if they were ferocious animals.

They say they are going after illegal immigrants, but this measure declares war on legal residents and American citizens. It opens the gate for so many violations of the constitutional rights of many Latinos and other legal immigrants that civil liberties lawyers are lining up to file suits against it, and it is hard to imagine a court that would allow it to become law as scheduled (some time in August).

Yet the damage is done. Republicans have given new life to the Democrats. Once again, although the Democrats have done nothing to reform immigration, they will be able to point to Arizona and tell Latinos to consider the alternative.

“OK, so we don’t keep our promises to help you,” the Democrats now can say. “What are you going to do, vote for a Republican who promises to hate you?”

When towns across the country have tried to implement similar crackdowns, many respected law enforcement officials have argued that those measures destroy the trust between police and their communities, that they drive un-

documented immigrants further underground and make them reluctant to report crimes they may have witnessed, fearing that they, too, will be arrested. Instead of fighting crime, these ordinances encourage crime to go unreported.

Considered the most severe crackdown on undocumented immigrants by a state government and introduced as an alleged reaction to the federal government’s inability to deal with the immigration problem, the Arizona law gives state law enforcement officers the power of federal officers, and it makes it a crime under state law to be in the United States illegally. But it goes further than that. It actually requires local cops to question people about their immigration status if there is reason to suspect they are illegal immigrants.

Of course, no one knows what constitutes “reason to suspect.” What does an undocumented immigrant look like? If it’s up to the discretion of officers, even legal immigrants in Arizona are bound to be the subjects of unnecessary harassment.

If this law were to be allowed to go into effect, naturalized American citizens — including decorated American war heroes — would have to carry a passport or other proof of citizenship to get around in Arizona without being subject to arrest.

President Barack Obama called the law “misguided,” but “shameful” would have been a better word.

He instructed the Justice Department to examine whether it is legal, but he should have sent the feds there a long time ago — to stop the Maricopa County sheriff, who has been violating the civil rights of immigrants for many months.

Who would have thought of it? A black president who is slow to respond to civil rights violations against minorities! Yet considering the Republican alternative, the Democrats can afford to do nada and still get the bulk of the Hispanic vote.

When Republicans pass measures like this one — driven by the right-wing extremists who are burying their party — they show that their vendetta is not just against undocumented immigrants, but all immigrants, even those who are naturalized American citizens. It shows that their agenda is driven by racism

and xenophobia.

So what are Latino Republicans to do, continue supporting a party that promotes laws to discriminate against them? How many Latino Uncle Toms do Republicans expect to find? This may be the straw that sinks the Republican elephant once and for all in the Hispanic community.

Normally, unless politicians really rattle their lives, U.S. Latinos have been apathetic about participating in civic activism and the electoral process. They don’t act; they react! And it takes a good slap in the face — such as the one dispensed by Arizona last week — before they even think of striking back.

Like California’s Proposition 187 — which tried to deny education and other services even to undocumented children and which suffered many defeats in the courts some 16 years ago — this law has the potential to drive Latinos to register to vote in record numbers and to boot a few of the mean-spirited xenophobes out of office, as they did in California.

What seemed like an impossible dream for this year — comprehensive immigration reform — may be possible now because of the backlash Arizona deserves. Now that Arizona has gone after all immigrants (legal and illegal), the protests across the country will be much bigger, and so will the pressure on politicians to stop xenophobic repression.

Some activists already are calling on all Americans who still value our civil liberties and who recognize our proud history as a nation of immigrants to boycott traveling to or doing business with Arizona.

Someday, in the not-too-distant future, some people will look back and regret having been so heartless with other human beings whose only crime was to seek a better life in the U.S. And yet others will have no regrets. In Arizona, some never will be ashamed of being so mean-spirited, but they still will kick themselves — for being stupid enough to have ignited a new civil rights movement and for giving Democrats another free pass to the hearts and minds of Hispanic and other immigrant voters.

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ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- **BARACK OBAMA**
President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

- **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922

- **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
517 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-2934

- **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**

U.S. Representative
19th Cong. District
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722

STATE GOVERNMENT

- **RICK PERRY**
Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, 78711
Phone: (512) 463-2000

- **JOE HEFLIN**
State Representative
Texas 85th District
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, 78768
Phone: (432) 213-2897 or (512) 463-0604

- **KEL SELIGER**

State Senator
Texas 31st District
401 Austin, Suite 101
Big Spring, 79720
Phone: (432) 268-9909

BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

- **Russ McEWEN**, MAYOR
— Home: 263-0907;
Work (Russ McEwen Insurance): 267-1413.
- **TERRY HANSEN** —
Home: 263-26169; Work (Howard Coegee): 264-5000.
- **MANUEL RAMIREZ JR.**
— Home: 268-9692; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-7361.
- **STEPHANIE HORTON** —
Home: 264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-7361.

JoANN STAULCUP —
Home: 263-4980.

GLORIA McDONALD —
Home: 263-4835. Work: 263-7615.

TROY TOMPKINS —
Home: 267-8769. Work: 263-0180.

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MARK BARR, COUNTY JUDGE — Home and Office: (432) 517-0707.

EMMA BROWN — Home: 267-2649.

JERRY KILGORE — 263-0724; Work (Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471.

JIMMIE LONG — Home: 466-0793.

GARY SIMER — Home: 263-0260.

Legals

NOTICE OF UNSAFE BUILDINGS
STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HOWARD
BAA MEETING
May 19, 2010

1- Roscoe Hartfield, 1102 N. Main St., Big Spring, TX 79720, SC 42 BK 32 IN TR 1, of William B. Currie Addition, also known as 1102 N. Main St.
2- Kay Littlejohn, PO Box 202461, Arlington, TX 76006-8461, 6.5 AC SW/4 of SC 42 BK 32 1N, of William B. Currie Addition, also known as 218 N. Johnson St.
3- Palemon Diaz, 215 NE 8th St., Big Spring, TX 79720-1410, SE/4 of SC 42 BK 32 1N TR 22, of William B. Currie Addition, also known as 215 NE. 8th. St.
4- James Jackson, 310 NW 10th St., Big Spring, TX 79720-1218, LT 9 BK 40, of Bauer Addition, also known as 310 NW 10th St.
5- Lester Crawford, (deceased), PT LTS 7-8 & PT LT 9 BK 11, of Brown Addition, also known as 300 Jones St.
6- Leslie H. McMullen, 405 E. 10th St., Big Spring, TX 79720, LT 9 BK 78, of Birdwell Heights Addition according to replat of Block 78, Original Town of Big Spring, also known as 405 E. 10th St.
7- James Spangler, 377 White St., Loveland, OH 45140-8867, LT 6 BK 20, of Cole & Strayhorn Addition, also known as 810 E. 15th St.
8- Joe A. Torres, PO Box 2955, Big Spring, TX 79721-2955, LT 11 BK 18, of Cole & Strayhorn Addition, also known as 603 E. 16th St.
9- Riley Rivera, 702 Bell St, Big Spring, TX 79720, LT 2 BK 3, of Earles Addition, also known as 702 Bell St.
10- Sunshine Unlimited Inc, 1651 County Road 255, Big Spring, TX 79720-0704, of Jones Valley Addition, also known as 906 W. 6th St.

Dear Property owner (s):
Current Tax records of the City of Big Spring indicate that you are the owner of the property at, the above street address. This structure is in violation of section 115.1 of the International Building Code and the following detailed report documents the condition which have rendered the structure unsafe to with: Dilapidate, sub-standard structure, plumbing and electrical do not meet the City Code of Ordinances. Windows missing or broken out. Building has been vandalized and poses a potential Health hazard to the public. Structures cannot be secured to keep out transients or children.
Therefore, by the authority invested in my office by the Big Spring Code, I have declared this structure or portions thereof unsafe, dilapidated substandard or unfit for human habitation, and have determined it or portions thereof poses a hazard to public health, safety, and public welfare.
The International Building Code, Section 115.1 provides that all structures or existing equipment that are or hereafter become unsafe, insanitary or deficient because of inadequate means of egress facilities, inadequate light and ventilation, or which constitute a fire hazard, or are otherwise dangerous to human life or the public welfare, or that involve illegal or improper occupancy or inadequate maintenance, shall be deemed an unsafe condition. Unsafe structures

shall be taken down and removed or made safe, as the building official deems necessary and as provided for in this section. A vacant structure that is not secured against entry shall be deemed unsafe.
“You are hereby notified that a hearing will be held before the MEP + Board of Adjustment and appeals of the City of Big Spring, Texas, at 307 E. 4th on the 19th day of May, 2010 at 5:30pm. The purpose of the hearing is to make a final determination as to whether the structure described is in violation of the Structural Standards Code of the City of Big Spring, Texas. You may be present at the hearing and may be, but need not be, represented by legal counsel. You may present any relevant evidence and will be given full opportunity to cross-examine all witnesses testifying against you. You may request the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, documents or other things by filing an affidavit thereof with the MEP Board of Adjustment and Appeals. At the time of the hearing, you (whether you be the owner, lien holder, or mortgagee) will be required to submit at the hearing proof of the scope of any work that may be required to comply with the Code and the time it will take to reasonably perform the work. In the event you seek to obtain more than thirty (30) days to complete the project, you will be required to reasonably establish that the work cannot be completed within thirty (30) days. In the event you seek to obtain more than ninety (90) days to complete the work, you will be required to submit a detailed plan and time schedule for the work at the hearing and establish that the work cannot be completed within ninety (90) days.
Following the hearing the Board of Adjustment and Appeals may issue an order requiring the vacation, relocation of occupants, securing, repair (with or without vacation), removal, or demolition of the structure if the MEP Board of Adjustments and Appeals finds that any of the following conditions exist:
(1) The structure in question is dilapidated, substandard, or unfit for human habitation; and a hazard to the public health, safety, and welfare;
(2) The structure is unoccupied by its owners, or other invitees and is unsecured from unauthorized entry to the extent that is could be entered or used by vagrants or other uninvited persons as a place of harborage or could be entered or used by children;
(3) If boarded up, fenced or otherwise secured in any manner, the building constitutes a danger even though secured from entry; or the means used to secure the building are inadequate to prevent unauthorized entry or use of building in the manner described in (B) above;
(4) Following entry of the order, any person affected by the order may appeal, the order to the State District Court for relief within thirty (30) days, and upon failure to do so within such period of time, the order shall become final.
Kenny H., Davis
Building Official
#6520 April 28 and May 2, 2010

Love makes the world go around. Sometimes. Usually. Just not under the full Scorpio moon. There's only one thing that keeps the action moving during this moon: desire. The full moon in Scorpio is arguably the most passionate, intense and brooding lunar passage of the year. Focus on your object of desire, and let it pull you in.



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

ARIES
(March 21-April 19). You will be a highly responsible person, especially in matters of finance. You don't like to feel that you are restricted in your spending. However, you are naturally moderate, and your reasonable choices will put you in good standing.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You come across as powerful. Confidence comes from trusting yourself — not trusting yourself to be perfect; of course you'll make a mistake or two. But you can trust yourself to make up for those mistakes.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Just as you try to find a pair of jeans that suits your proportions, look for the appropriate presentation for your work. Put your ideas in a format that makes them both accessible and intriguing.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll make the commitment to handle what can and should be handled today. Just as soon as you get started, someone flies to your side to assist you. You and

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Capricorn make an especially productive team.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Because it takes two to have a relationship, you cannot control how things work out. But you can hold harmonious intentions. Keep thinking about the way you would like things to develop.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Two practical steps will clear the way for exciting developments in your personal life. First, organize the things you have to do, and second, do them to get them out of your way. Once you get through the list, love steps in.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your physical strength is featured, and you can do more without strain and stress. You'll be motivated to achieve vibrant health. You will exercise vigorously and, once finished, feel gloriously alive.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Sure, you'd like to feel important. However, too much attention could make you feel self-conscious. Inwardly affirm that you are worthy of the love and attention you desire.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't need to feel superior to others. Being one of the group would satisfy you just fine. But because you are not driven to prove your importance, people will feel an affinity for you and promote you anyway.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're probably not feeling all that motivated. Get more specific. Instead of making a list of things to do today, make a list of things to do before 1 p.m. The challenge will invigorate you.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-

Feb. 18). Someone will get under your skin. A saint might be able to keep cool, calm and collected in this circumstance, but most regular humans will get testy. On the bright side, you'll learn where to lay down some boundaries.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your opportunities increase — that's a plus. On the down side, more people want to know your business. If something is really private, be sure to mark it “personal and confidential.”
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 28). You take your projects to a new level this year. Over the next seven weeks, your vision expands, and in June, you'll attract talented people who will help you exceed the previous limitations. Follow your curiosities in September — they lead to love. December brings a personal breakthrough in the area of health. Libra and Capricorn people adore you. Lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 20, 33 and 17.
ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: “What is an opposition?”
The second most powerful astrological aspect (after the conjunction) is the opposition. Planets are in opposition when they are 180 mathematical degrees apart from each other in an astrological chart. Think of two children on a seesaw at the park. They're as far apart from each other as they can possibly be, and yet they share a common center. Planets in opposition have contradictory agendas, yet there is still the possibility of finding balance in the middle. We on Earth may experience conflict and confusing push-pull feelings during

oppositions. Opposites do attract, though sometimes one needs to call in a mediator to settle disputes! This summer, for example, Uranus and Saturn are due for a rare opposition. Saturn likes things to be safe and predictable, while Uranus is fond of sudden surprises. Saturn prefers old reliable methods, whereas Uranus likes to be on the cutting edge of innovation. Needless to say, when these two giants duke it out for supremacy, we on Earth can expect a battle of wills. Keep your cool during an argument by finding common ground and being flexible. After all, you may be on opposite sides of the seesaw, but without each other, you'll go nowhere.
CELEBRITY PROFILES: On a recent edition of “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition,” Venus-ruled Taurean actress Jessica Alba helped rebuild a home for a foster family with 15 children and announced her own plans to expand her family through adoption. Alba's moon is in Aquarius, the humanitarian sign, indicating that for her, generous and compassionate acts will always start a cycle of good fortune.
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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#6521 April 28 and May 2, 2010

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We are updating our circulation records to add your current e-mail address. This will enable us to e-mail you when a book comes in, inform you of any overdues that you might have and when it is up and running. I am pretty sure it will provide you with an update when your books are due. We are still learning the ins and outs of the system, so be patient.



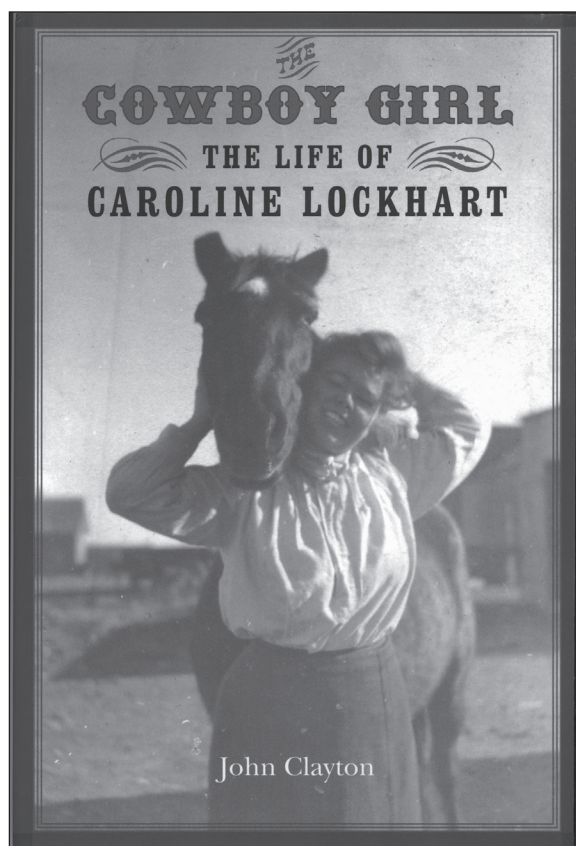
HOLLIS
MCCRIGHT

If you have internet access at home, then check with circulation staff for your login and password.

The new computer program will let you check your record from home and renew books online. The "holds" program is experiencing technical difficulties and at this time you cannot place holds online yet.

Some Dummy books have arrived: "Core Strength for Dummies" (613.71 CHA L) by La-Reine Chabut will show you how to develop and maintain a strong body core, improve your balance and prevent back injuries. Are you tempted to leap into Facebook but a little bit afraid? "Facebook for Dummies" (006.7 PEA L) by Leah Pearlman should get you going on that. Did you receive an iTunes card as a gift but don't know how to use it? Get "iPod and iTunes for Dummies" (006.5 BOV T) by Tony Bove and amaze your grandkids with your with-it-ness!

The near-mythic image of T.E. Lawrence resonates within the history community. Lawrence of Arabia was a feisty British intelligence officer within the Arab Bureau who knew the region



and the tribal intrigues. In "Setting the Desert on Fire" (940.415 BAR J), James Barr shines new light on the crucial period of 1916-1918 that manipulated tribes and religion with consequences that last until present times.

Several home improvement books have arrived. As the population ages, renovations need to be made to existing homes. In "Practical Improvements for Older Homes" (643.7 PET R), Rick Peters shows several ways to improve access. Widening hallways and doors, installing a walk-in bathtub, changing out handles on doors, installing pull-out shelving — all of which improves access to persons who have mobility issues. Better Homes and Gardens has published "Decorating the American Home" (747.097 MAR P) and Paula Marshall will show you how to update your home furnishings and decorations. Sarah Susanka has written "Not So Big Remodeling" (643.7 SUS S). She will show you how to renovate your home for the way that you really live. All of these books have excellent photos and text to help you on your decorating journey.

Not too much fiction on this book cart. "True Colors" (F HAN K) by Kristin Hannah is the age-old story of three daughters with no mother and a distant father. One is trying to please daddy, the second is the peacemaker and the third is the baby. Something goes wrong and this is the story of how it is mended.

Vince Flynn writes thrillers that deal with current day matters. Covert operators Mike Nash and Mitch Rapp take on anything from drug dealers to politicians to Al Qaeda opponents. In "Extreme Measures" and "Pursuit of Honor" that is exactly what road the two men take. We have several more of Flynn's books and they give you a very fast ride.

The magazine Western Horseman has compiled several articles on the contemporary ranches of North America. "Legendary Ranches: The Horses, History and Traditions" (636.010 WES H) is the story of 13 ranches. From Texas, Arizona, Wyoming, South Dakota and on north into Canada, you will read of true ranchers and

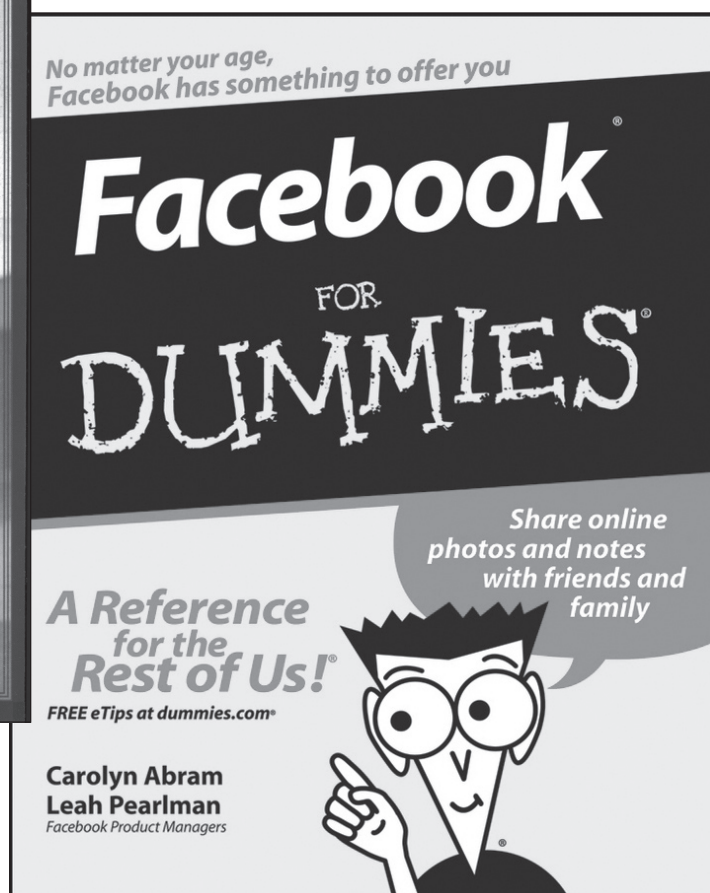
how they have adapted modern techniques to raising beef, horses, or

has written "The Saga of the Pony Express" 383.143 DIC J); John

Caroline Lockhart" (B LOC C); "Life of a Soldier on the Western Frontier" (978.004 AGN J) by Jeremy Agnew and "Hearts West: True Stories of Mail-Order Brides on the Frontier" (306.82 ENS C) by Chris Enss will fulfill your wild-west passion for a little while.

Howard County Library is open from 9 to 6, Monday through Friday and 10-2 Saturday. The Internet/Video room closes one-half hour before closing and on Saturdays it is closed from 12-1. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. Web site is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us; the online catalog should be working; our e-mail address is hol-lise@hotmail.com

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.



a combination of both. Joseph J. DiCerto

Clayton's "The Cowboy Girl: The Life of

THE BIG 1400

INVITES YOU TO JOIN JOIN US AT

JACK BARBER FIELD

FOR HOWARD COLLEGE HAWK BASEBALL

AS

THE HAWKS TAKE ON THE CLARENDON BULLDOGS

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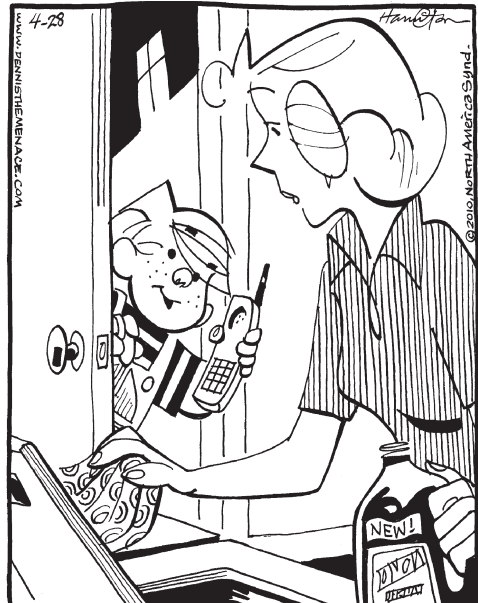
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202647

207610

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	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5:PM	News ABC	News ABC	Vida Notic.	Lopez George	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Friends Office	CCM Sanchez	World Business	Cash Cab	Mission: Impossible, Emmanuelle Béart	The Unit	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Deck	Nation Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM	News Ent	Jeopardy! Wheel	Mi Pecado (SS)	Two Men	News Ent	Caso Cerrado	News Millionaire	Seinfeld	Faye H. Cortes	PBS News-Hour	MythBusters		The Unit	NBA Basketball: First-Round Playoff: Teams TBA.		Wizards Montana	Football NFL Live	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA.
7:PM	Family Middle	Family Middle	Hasta que el Dinero	Lie to Me	Christine Two Men	El Clon	Mercy	Browns	Upd	Great Performances	Weird or What?	Movie: First Blood, Brian Dennehy	UFC Unleashed		Movie: Sprung, Paula Jai Parker	Movie: Good Boy!	Bowling: Women's USBC Queens.	
8:PM	Family Cougar	Family Cougar	Corazón Salvaje	American Idol	Criminal Minds	Perro Amor	Law & Order: SVU	Browns	Light of the Southwest		MythBusters		UFC Unleashed	NBA Basketball: First-Round Playoff: Teams TBA.		Phineas	World Series	Baseball Tonight
9:PM	Family (:01) Happy Town	Family (:01) Happy Town	Don Francisco	Simpsons Friends	CSI: NY	¿Dónde Está Elisa?	Law & Order: SVU	Payne			What a Tool	Movie: Rambo: First Blood Part II	The Ultimate Fighter	Best of PRIDE	Spr. Bling	Montana	Wizards Deck	World Series
10:PM	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Lopez Tonight	Upd Dr. Young	Charlie Rose	Weird or What?		The Ultimate Fighter	Inside the NBA	Wendy Williams	Suite Life So Raven	SportsNation	Baseball
11:PM	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Gancho	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late	Decisiones	Late Night	Sex & Sex & Sex	Upd Israel	T. Smiley (Off Air)	MythBusters	Breaking Bad	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: NY	Movie: Sprung, Paula Jai Parker	Cory	NASCAR Fastbreak	SportsCenter
12:AM	News	News	Extra	King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	News	Lopez	Light of the Southwest		Overhaulin'	Movie: The Terminator, Michael Biehn	Star Trek: Voyager	Dark Blue		Repla	World Series	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	Paid	Mujer... Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Paid	Poker After Dark	Lopez								Emperor		

DENNIS THE MENACE



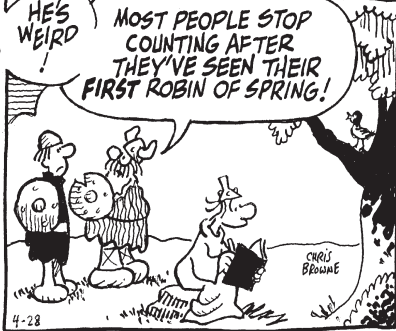
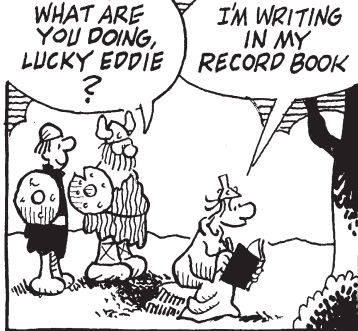
"YOU SAID I WAS THE 'MAN OF THE HOUSE' WHILE DAD'S AWAY, SO I ORDERED A PIZZA!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

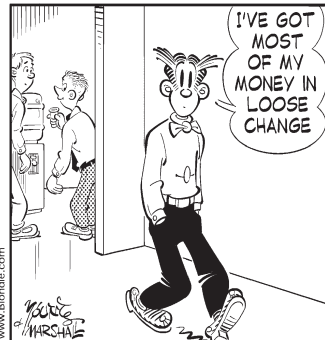
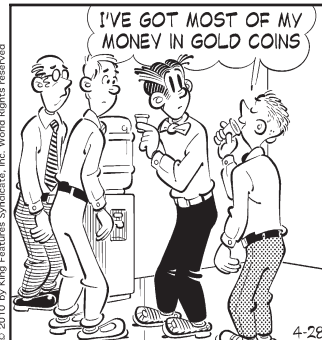
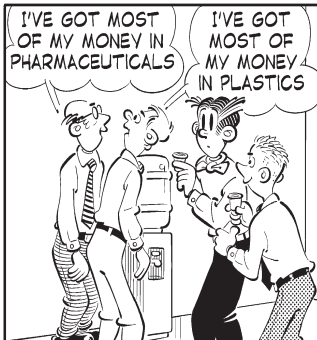


"Guess what, Daddy! We're gonna have our own garden this summer!"

HAGAR



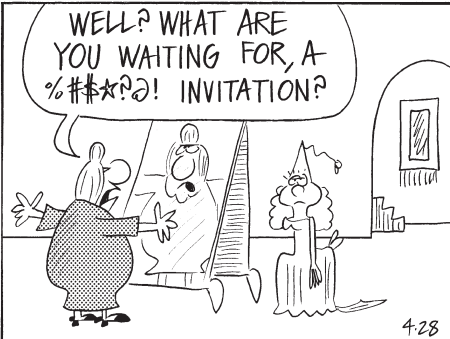
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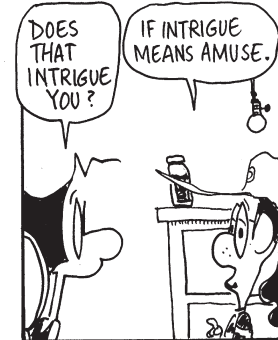
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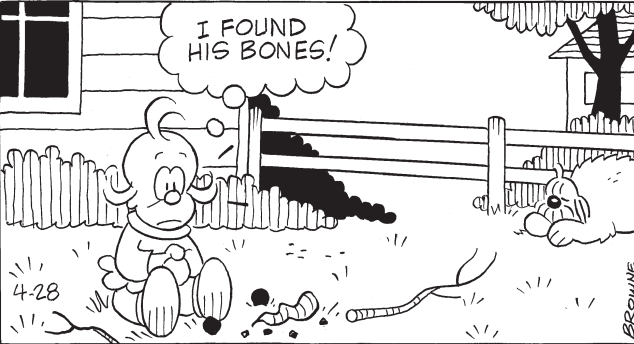
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AGNES



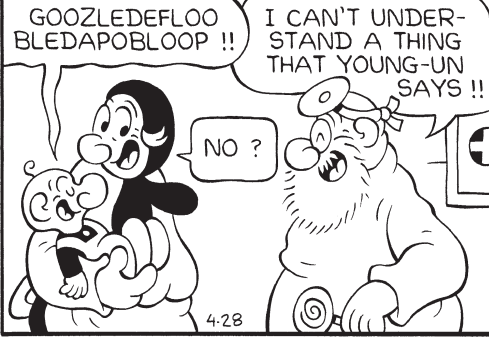
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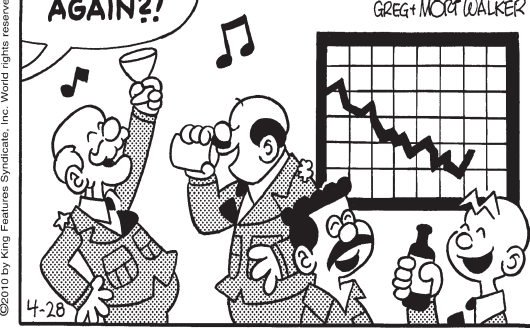
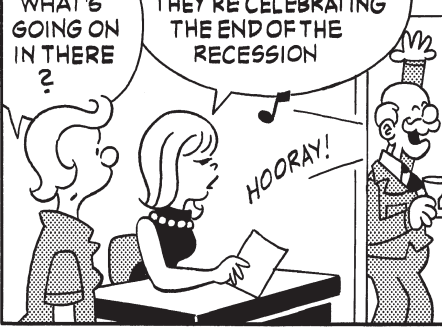
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, April 28, the 118th day of 2010. There are 247 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 28, 1758, the fifth president of the United States, James Monroe, was born in Westmoreland County, Va.

On this date:

In 1788, Maryland became the seventh state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1789, the mutiny on HMS Bounty took place as the crew of the British ship set Capt. William Bligh and 18 sailors adrift in a launch in the South Pacific. (Bligh and most of the men with him managed to reach Timor in 47 days.)

In 1918, Gavrilo Princip, the assassin of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and the archduke's wife, Sophie, died in prison of tuberculosis.

In 1940, Glenn Miller and his Orchestra recorded "Pennsylvania 6-5000" for RCA Victor.

In 1945, Italian dictator Benito Mussolini and his mistress, Clara Petacci, were executed by Italian partisans as they attempted to flee the country.

In 1958, the United States conducted the first of 35 nuclear test explosions in the Pacific Proving Ground as part of Operation Hardtack I. Vice President Richard Nixon and his wife, Pat, began a goodwill tour of Latin America that was marred by hostile mobs in Lima, Peru, and Caracas, Venezuela.

In 1967, heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali refused to be inducted into the Army, the same day General William C. Westmoreland told Congress the U.S. "would prevail in Vietnam."

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter accepted the resignation of Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance, who had opposed the failed rescue mission aimed at freeing American hostages in Iran. (Vance was succeeded by Edmund Muskie.)

In 1988, a flight attendant was killed and more than 60 persons injured when part of the roof of an Aloha Airlines Boeing 737 tore off during a

flight from Hilo (HEE'-loh) to Honolulu.

In 1990, the musical "A Chorus Line" closed after 6,137 performances on Broadway.

Today's Birthdays: Author Harper Lee is 84. Former Secretary of State James A. Baker III is 80. Actress-singer Ann-Margret is 69. Actress Marcia Strassman is 62. Actor Paul Guilfoyle ("CSI") is 61. "Tonight Show" host Jay Leno is 60. Rock musician Chuck Leavell is 58. Actress Mary McDonnell is 57. Rock singer-musician Kim Gordon (Sonic Youth) is 57. Rapper Too Short is 44. Actress Simbi Khali is 39. Actress Bridget Moynahan is 39. Actor Chris Young is 39. Rapper Big Gipp is 37.

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Answer to previous puzzle

CASH	SLIM	WATCH
OREO	AONE	ALOHA
LEAN	DOTS	SEDAN
TALKED	TRASH	ORG
ALSO	PEC	
ASRARE	FIREMAN	
SPENT	ACRE	NOSE
PICKOF	THE	LITTER
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REPENTS	PARODY	
SIC	SHAG	
PBS	CHINESE	JUNK
LEASE	BIDS	ATON
EASEL	EDGE	MAGI
DUSTY	TEES	SHOT

Newsday Crossword

BOOK REVIEW by Norma Steinberg
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS	cookie	12 Start to	unit
1 Julia Child, for one	70 Cape Canaveral org.	wake up	43 Rigoletto composer
5 Quarrel	71 Dash	13 Story	49 Rolls down the tarmac
9 Novel approach	72 Military assignment	21 Do a double-take	52 Prime-time hour
14 Golfer's goal	73 Actor Wilson	22 Concert pianos	54 Alternatively
15 Ambience		26 Chest of drawers	55 Upper limits
16 Gossipy one		27 Valuables	56 Tina's 30 Rock
17 Skeptical remark	DOWN	hiding place	costar
18 Person at a computer	1 Stylish	28 Survey-question choice	57 Matador's adversary
19 Danger	2 Mulligan-stew maker	29 Play for time	59 Money in Milan
20 Nightclub's fee	3 Hgt.	30 Mrs. Gore	60 Prohibited behavior
23 Before, to Byron	4 Wine and dine	32 Slack off	61 Chew at
24 Potato part	5 Impudent	34 Actionable wrongs	62 Ultimatum
25 Jordanian, usually	6 Urges on	35 Portfolio holding	ender
27 __ Rica	7 Vicinity	36 Pays attention to	Seacrest
31 Heroic story	8 Spice-shelf item	38 Mail away	65 Sgt. or cpl.
33 Zion National Park locale	9 Ultra-busy personality	42 Precipitation	
37 Storage areas	10 Minuscule		
39 __ voyage party	11 Memo heading		
40 Got up			
41 All the details			
44 Assistance			
45 DC baseballer			
46 In a chair			
47 Author — Stanley Gardner			
48 Count carbs, perhaps			
50 Corrodes			
51 Harness strap			
53 Be of service			
55 Purring pet			
58 Pointer, formally			
64 In the course of			
66 Destroy			
67 Nothing but			
68 Roost			
69 Sandwich			

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71						72				73		

Annie's Mailbox®



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: For more than 20 years, I had a best friend, “James,” who loved me very much. We did everything together and chatted online frequently.

One day, everything stopped. I didn’t see him online as usual. After three days, I grew worried and contacted some mutual friends. A week later, he sent me an explosive, angry e-mail, blaming me for “destroying his life.” He listed some specific accusations that made little sense. I became so upset that I can-

celed some of our scheduled engagements.

A few months later, James had two “mild” strokes, and I realized the change in his personality was undoubtedly the result of a previous stroke that had gone unrecognized. If anyone had known, he might have been medically helped and his personality saved. Meanwhile, his anger at me has never abated. I made every attempt to resolve our differences, but a few days ago, he sent another weird e-mail saying he never wanted to be my friend again.

I lost my best friend to a stroke and found a bitter and unforgiving stranger attacking me. It hurt so much to block his e-mails that I am getting counseling.

Please make sure your readers realize that if someone’s personality changes suddenly, there could be a serious reason. I never had a chance to say goodbye to my friend. I hope no one else loses what I did. — Victim of a Stroke

Dear Victim: Thank you

for bringing this to our attention. According to the American Stroke Association (strokeassociation.org), these are the symptoms of a stroke:

- Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding.
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

To help identify a stroke in others, there is also the Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale, better known as FAST:

- FACE: Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?
- ARMS: Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?
- SPEECH: Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence. Are the words slurred? Can he or she repeat the sentence correctly?

— TIME: If the person shows any of these symptoms, time is important. Call 911 or get to the hospital fast.

Dear Annie: My husband’s older brother was married last year, and we have since discovered that his wife is a compulsive liar. My brother-in-law is oblivious, but it hurts us to see him being treated this way by a woman he loves. Should we tell him his wife is constantly lying to him, or should we just butt out and mind our own business? — Nebraska

Dear Nebraska: If the lies are specific and damaging to his relationship with the family (e.g., she says your husband stole her purse), you may correct the misimpression. If she is lying about how much money she spent on an outfit, that’s not your business. Pick your battles carefully, or you will lose all of them.

Dear Annie: Perhaps “Life’s a Beach” might con-

sider my surefire way to get rid of unwanted guests. After dinner, I put all the dishes on the floor so the dog can lick them clean. I then pick them up and put them directly into the cupboards. You will never see those guests again. — Lick ‘Em Clean

Dear Lick: We sure hope you pull all those dishes out of the cupboards and wash them as soon as the guests leave. Yuck.

Annie’s Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to an-niesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie’s Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about Annie’s Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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FISCAL

Continued from Page 1A

made “tremendous” strides in its attempts to increase its general fund balance.

“In 1997 the general fund, unreserved and

undesignated, had a fund balance that represented 1.5 percent of the total expenditures,” said Fuqua. “One thing the council has asked us to do and guided us to do is increase that (fund balance). As you can see, the unreserved

fund balance in the general fund, as of this audit, is 55.5 percent (of total expenditures). That’s a tremendous change. I’ve talked to other city managers and they wish they were in this type of situation.”

“Isn’t the benchmark generally 25 percent?” Mayor Russ McEwen asked.

“That’s what we look at, which is three months of operating capital,” Fuqua responded. “And, as you can see, we are well above that.”

McEwen said the city has come a long way since the general fund balance was less than \$400,000 in 1997.

“Our city is in a position where our fund balance is even greater than what is required or what is the standard,” said McEwen. “Approximately 10 years ago we were in a position where we had a fund balance

of about \$393,000. Today we have more than \$8.5 million in our fund balance, and that has taken a lot of responsibility. We don’t spend all of our money. We save money and hold it back, and we are trying our best to conserve our dollars. That way, if there is that rainy day, we’ll be in a position to take care of those tough times. We feel we’ve done a very good job and have been good stewards of the dollar. We have been very fiscally responsible.”

Fuqua also delivered the news of the huge jump in bond ratings during the meeting.

“In February we went for COs (certificates of obligation). At that time Standard & Poors looked at our rating and upgraded us from an A to an A-plus rating, which was great. It allowed us to get better interest rates and it lowered the

cost of the bond insurance,” said Fuqua. “We received word today from First Southwest, which is our financial advisor, that Moodys has done a re-calibration of all state and municipal governments bond rating scales.

“That better stations the state and the governments to go into the global market, as opposed to the municipalities being looked at one way and corporations being looked at a different way. It puts us on an even footing. The really neat thing about the news we received today is our rating went up three steps from a BAA1 rating to an A1 rating.”

McEwen said the change in bond rating from Moody’s Investors Services is a sign the city of Big Spring is on strong fiscal footing.

“As they compare us against a worldwide

standard and look at us, they are giving us an A1 rating instead of a BAA1 rating,” said McEwen. “What that means for the city is we’re three levels higher than we had formerly been rated. So, in the future if we need to borrow money, we’re going to be doing it at a lower interest rate. Our cost of money is going to be less. Compared to the standards that Moody has set, we’re now in an A1 type of category. When A&P did an evaluation of us last fall, they also increased the city’s rating. It says an independent financial review of the city shows we are in a very solid financial position.”

Contact Staff Writer
Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

su | do | ku
© Puzzles by Pappocom

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. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

	6	8		1				7
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State briefs

Armed man holes up in San Antonio restaurant

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — San Antonio SWAT officers have surrounded a restaurant where a man with a gun is holed up.

The owner of Taqueria Vallarta Mexican Restaurant and Seafood told the San Antonio-Express

News that the man entered after 6 a.m. Wednesday and allowed everyone to leave.

Owner Alejandro Galvan said the man walked into the restaurant just after it opened and offered marijuana to employees. Galvan said the man pointed the gun at his own head but never threatened him or his employees.

People were evacuated from the area.

Laura Bush discusses fatal crash in her new book

NEW YORK (AP) — Former U.S. first lady Laura Bush is going public about a car crash in Midland, Texas, that claimed the life of a high school friend when she was 17.

In her new book, “Spoken from the Heart,” she describes being wracked by guilt and losing her faith for many years after she ran a stop sign and slammed into another car in 1963.

The book is scheduled to be released in May. The New York Times says it obtained a copy at a bookstore.

Bush bristles at criticism thrown at her husband, former President George W. Bush. She says his New Orleans flyover after Hurricane Katrina was in the best interest of victims and aid workers.

She criticizes Democrats for calling her husband “an incompetent leader” and a “loser.” She says that was “uncalled for.”

Jury selection begins in Texas child slayings case

EDINBURG (AP) — Jury selection is under way in the retrial of a South Texas man accused of

See BRIEFS, Page 7A

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Diabolical Defense

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q J 7 3
♥ A K 9 5 2
♦ —
♣ 8 7 6 2

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

EAST
♠ 10
♥ J 6 3
♦ 10 8 4
♣ A K Q 10 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A K 8 6 5
♥ 7 4
♦ A K Q 5 2
♣ 9

The bidding:
1♠ West North East
Pass 2♥ Pass
3♦ Pass 4♠ Pass
6♣ Pass

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

part by leading his doubleton jack in the unbid suit, clubs.

It was now East’s turn to take advantage of what he knew and declarer didn’t. Instead of making the normal play of overtaking the jack with the queen and continuing with the king, East won the first trick with the ace and returned the queen! This sequence of plays was designed to create the impression in declarer’s mind that West had led from a club holding headed by the K-J-10.

The payoff came a few tricks later. After ruffing the queen, South trumped a diamond in dummy, then played the queen of spades and a spade to the king. A second diamond was ruffed with the jack of spades, bringing declarer to the critical position.

With no more trumps in dummy, South had to guess how to get back to his hand. The threat, of course, was West’s nine of spades, which could score a fatal overruff.

It was here that East’s earlier deceptive plays came to fruition. Afraid that West might overruff a third round of hearts and certain that West had at least one club remaining, South elected to ruff a club, and the nine of spades came home to roost.

Perhaps another declarer might have made the winning decision, but the actual South is certainly deserving of our sympathies.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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In The Next American Profile...



Moms helping moms

In 1973, eight young mothers gathered together to share and support each other in their roles as moms of preschoolers. Today, MOPS has 100,000 members and has touched the lives of over 1 million moms. Plus, moose fest and skillet ravioli.

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Mavs live to play another day

DALLAS (AP) — Caron Butler saw a path to the basket and didn't care that Tim Duncan was in his way.

Butler drove right at San Antonio's big guy and tried jumping by him for a dunk. Duncan got a piece of the ball — but it caromed off the backboard and into the net anyway.

It was that kind of night for Butler and the Dallas Mavericks.

With Dallas facing elimination, Butler set an aggressive, energetic tone early and kept it up throughout a 103-81 victory over San Antonio on Tuesday night in Game 5 of their first-round series.

“That was fun,” Mavs star Dirk Nowitzki said.

The Spurs still lead the series 3-2, giving the veteran club two more chances to get into the second round. Only eight teams have ever blown a 3-1 lead, and Game 6 is in San Antonio on Thursday night.

But Dallas looked like a different team with Butler and Brendan Haywood finally providing the toughness and athleticism the Mavs were seeking when they traded for them during the All-Star break.

Butler scored a career play-off-best 35 points and had 11 rebounds, while Haywood provided a strong inside presence at both ends in his first start of this postseason. He had eight points,

eight rebounds and four blocks, and was a big reason Duncan scored just 11 points.

Duncan went to the bench for good shortly after that inadvertent tip-in, the Spurs essentially acknowledging this game was out of reach with 6:19 left in the third quarter. Dallas was soon up by 22, then 26.

“Now it's a series,” said Butler, who just two games before was benched for the second half. “We have to go to San Antonio and bring the same energy and play with the same tenacity and disposition as we played with for 48 minutes here. We got to bring it some way, some how.”

The Spurs were outplayed most of the first half, but trailed by only seven at halftime. Any hopes of turning things around with a throttling third quarter, like they did to win Game 4, vanished quickly with the Mavs scoring the first 10 points of the second half.

Despite losing three straight and looking ripe for a knockout, the Mavericks spent the last two days insisting everything was fine, that all they had to do was get to a few more loose balls and keep the Spurs from shooting close to 50 percent, as they had all series.

Sure enough, San Antonio made a series-worst 36 percent of its shots (only 27 percent in the second half), with Dallas grabbing 11 more rebounds and

committing six fewer turnovers. The Spurs had three turnovers during the Mavs' game-breaking stretch early in the third quarter.

“We're upset at the way we approached the game,” said San Antonio's Manu Ginobili, who scored seven points in 19 minutes. “It's something we'll learn from. I hope that's how we take Game 6, because we don't want to come here for a Game 7.”

Tony Parker led San Antonio with 18 points, half coming during an 11-2 run at the end of the second quarter.

Dallas showed a new life from the start, inspired perhaps by Haywood starting instead of Erick Dampier, or just by their now-or-never situation.

San Antonio's only lead was 6-4, and the Mavs followed that with a 12-2 spurt that included opportunistic plays like Jason Kidd slapping a rebound right to Shawn Marion for an easy layup. They ran plays through Haywood, something unheard of when Dampier starts, and Butler was scoring inside, outside and in between.

Butler, Haywood and DeShawn Stevenson were acquired during the All-Star break in a deal that cost Dallas four players and forced owner Mark Cuban to ante up another \$30 million. It looked like a great investment when Dallas won 13 straight in February and March.

TRACK

Continued from Page 1B

sistently out-jump lots of high school girls ... but I'm hoping that she has another really big jump in her this season.”

Anderson thinks she does.

“I had a really good chance to qualify for state at the regional meet last year, but I choked up on my last attempt,” she said. “But that's not going to happen this year. I'm going to be ready.”

Getting into the proper frame of mind is an important lesson she hopes to impart on her younger teammates.

“I've been telling them they they just need to go out and do what they do and not worry about what other people are doing,” Anderson said. “If they do that, I think they'll do pretty well.”

Cuviello has been a valuable contributor in the relays this season, her coach said.

“This has been her first year to stand out,” Roberson said. “She runs a good anchor leg on the 400 relay ... In the 800 relay, her job is to basically hang on and

not let any runners pass her.”

Sophomore Tuitt is a slightly younger version of Anderson, competing in both relays, the long jump and triple jump.

“She and Desiree are a lot alike — they're both great athletes and do well in a lot of events,” Roberson said. “At the last meet, she even beat Desiree in the long jump.”

“She's a three-sport athlete who has a ton of ability,” he added. “She's one of those girls who's only going to get better with time. There's no limit to how good she can be in track if she stays dedicated.”

The biggest surprise of the group, Roberson said, has been Turner, who will compete in both relays.

“Last year, her best split in the 800 relay was 27.8 seconds and she cut two seconds off that time last week,” Roberson said. “She's been in the weight room, she's been working really hard and she's come a long way. She could well be the difference for us at regionals.”

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234.

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BRIEFS

Continued from Page 6A

killing three children.

Twenty-nine-year-old John Allen Rubio is a Brownsville man accused in the 2003 slayings of the children of his common-law wife. Police say the children were smothered, stabbed, decapitated and stuffed into trash bags.

Rubio was convicted in 2003, but an appeals court reversed the conviction in 2007. Jury selection in his retrial began Tuesday and could take weeks.

Angela Camacho, Rubio's common-law wife, was convicted sentenced to life in prison.

Man pleads guilty in Katrina fraud

GULFPORT, Miss. (AP) — A former 25-year-old Gulfport man now living in Texas has pleaded guilty in a Katrina-fraud case and awaits sentencing.

The Sun Herald reports that Joshua

C. Allen of San Antonio faces up to five years in prison for making a false claim to FEMA for disaster benefits.

An indictment named Allen as a coconspirator in a scheme to defraud the government through false claims and statements. Allen and his wife, Amber Allison, claimed they lived in Gulfport when the hurricane struck. U.S. Attorney Donald R. Burkhalter said they did not.

The couple received \$2,000 from FEMA and \$965 from the American Red Cross. Amber Allison has not yet been prosecuted.

His sentencing is set for July 27.

Hodge sentenced to 1 year in Dallas bribery case

DALLAS (AP) — Former state Rep. Terri Hodge has received a one-year prison sentence for participating in a bribery scheme involving Dallas city officials and an apartment developer.

U.S. District Judge Barbara M.G. Lynn sentenced Hodge Tuesday in a federal court in Dallas. She reprimanded the politician for abusing

“the trust of the people of Texas by taking money you shouldn't have taken.”

Hodge pleaded guilty to fraud and making false statements on an income tax return. She must report to prison by June 22.

Hodge apologized, saying her actions have contributed to distrust of the political system.

Prosecutors say the Dallas Democrat received more than \$32,000 in undeclared rental subsidies, utilities and carpeting from a developer who built apartment complexes in her district.

trict.

Priest gets probation for sex with elderly woman

CAMERON (AP) — An 86-year-old priest has been sentenced to five years' probation for forcing an elderly woman to perform a sex act in a central Texas church rectory.

The Rev. Stephen Valenta was sentenced Monday after pleading no contest to a felony charge of injury to the elderly. The plea means he didn't admit guilt but didn't contest the charge.

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