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Arctic cold front coming

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

It's about to get very cold out there — very cold, according to the National Weather Service in Midland.

"The strongest arctic cold front so far this fall will pass through West Texas and Southeast New Mexico (Saturday) tonight," states a Dec. 17 release from the National Weather Service in Midland. "Temperatures will fall quickly into the 20s and teens across a majority of West Texas and southeast New Mexico."

Wind chills would drop into the single digits across the area, according to predictions.

Residents are advised to take precautions with pets and plants and to dress appropriately if out in freezing weather.

The change will a major contrast from early today which is predicted to be windy with gust of 15 to 25 miles per hour coming from the southwest and a high near 69. However by this afternoon, wind gusts were expected to ramp up to

25 to 35 miles per hour by the after-

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noon. The National

Weather Service cautioned wind gusts could get as high as 50 miles per hour.

Tonight's temperature could drop as low as 14, the Weather Service predicts. Sunny weather is predicted for Sunday with highs only reaching the 30s and lows down to 14. Chilly mornings and mild afternoon weather is expected to stick around for the

week.

One last push

United Way not quite at 70 percent of campaign goal

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

It's crunch time for the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.

Although the official 2016 campaign has ended, United Way is only a little less than 70 percent of its \$330,000 goal and officials are trying to make one last big push before the allocation board meets to distribute funds.

"We go to allocations the first part of January," said Sandy Stewart, who is serving part time as executive director to oversee the campaign through the allocation process and to help with the transition of the newly hire full time executive director. "We still have this month in December to try to get money coming."

Monies from the campaign are used to help fund 15 area agencies that provide services throughout the community.

See **CAMPAIGN**, Page 3A

HC trustees to meet Monday

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Howard College officials are in a "wait and see" mode when it comes to implementation of the new changes in the Fair Standards Labor Act.

The new rule was supposed to go into effect Dec. 1 which would require employers to pay overtime to salaried employees who had been exempt in the past.

In November U.S. District Judge Amos L. Mazzant III in Sherman, Texas, issued a preliminary injunction blocking the new mandate in response to a multi-state lawsuit against the Department of Labor..

The Department of Labor has appealed

See, **HC**, Page 3A

Literature coming to life



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Local children's author Sheree Moates signs copies of her newest release "Imagination, Where are You?". A book signing was held at Gale's Bakery Friday night and even the book's main character Sweet Pea, right, showed up for the party. Copies of "Imagination, Where are You?," can be purchased at Amazon and CreateSpace at wwwcreatespace.com/6462351.

PBUWCD to begin annual well water depth measurement

Special to the Herald

Starting Dec. 20, the Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District (PBUWCD) will begin their annual depth-to-water level measurements.

According to PBUWCD, the data collected during the measurements will help to determine the effect of

pumping on groundwater levels in the aquifers within the district's two county service areas during 2016.

The measurements are made within 114 wells, most of which are privately owned.

See **PBUWCD**, Page 3A

H-E-B issues voluntary recall on bakery products

Special to the Herald

In cooperation with Dawn Food Products, Inc., H-E-B announced Friday that it has issued a voluntary recall for certain bakery products made with Valley Milk Products LLC's High Heat Non-fat Dry Milk Powder, according to a news release from the grocery store.

As part of a larger recall affecting several retailers, Valley Milk Products has recalled the affected product, which was supplied to H-E-B for use in bakery products, the release said.

The product is being removed because there is potential it could be contaminated with Salmonella, an organism

Recalled Products	UPC
FRESH STRAWBERRY BOSTON - FRZ	22784100000
FRESH STRAWBERRY BOSTON CAKE	22784000000
BOSTON WITH FRESH FRUIT	22729100000
BOSTON SUNDAE CAKE	22948600000
*BOSTON CHOC/FUDGE ICED 3634	22729000000
BOSTON SUNDAE CAKE CHOCOLATE	22942100000
BOSTON SUNDAE CAKE--FREEZER	22937100000
SCR MADE 8 IN BOSTON W/FR STBR	22635200000
HLDY CHOC FUDGE BOSTON SPIDER	22763400000

which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems.

Healthy persons infected with Salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain.

See **RECALL**, Page 3A

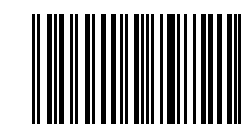
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Obituaries

Ed Elmore



Ed Elmore, 82, died Thursday, Dec. 15, 2016, at his home.

Services will be 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19 at Merkel First Baptist Church with pastors Coleman Philley and Jimmy Griffith officiating. Burial will be 3 p.m. that day in the Breckenridge Cemetery, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home. Visitation will be 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Edwin Earl Elmore was born Feb. 14, 1934, in Hamilton, Texas, to Olan Edwin and Islah Mae (Reamy) Elmore. He started school in Hamilton, then the family moved to Tyler where he attended school. He worked for his Dad learning to drive trucks, change tires, service the trucks; and then worked on a bread truck delivering fresh breads to the surrounding towns. One of his most treasured memories of living in Tyler was going to the wagon yards, where he got to be around horses and cows, and listen to the tales of years gone by from the cowboys. He raised rabbits and pigeons and sold them to local stores.

In 1945 the family moved to Big Spring and Ed graduated from Big Spring High School in 1951, where he played football and basketball, and was in shop class. He built his first horse trailer and bought his first horse after graduation. He graduated from Howard College with an associate's degree in business. He worked as a roughneck and for Tommy Welch House Moving, Casey Meat Packing, and Howard County Feed Lot. He was in the

Texas National Guard for eight years. He married Betty Cain in Big Spring and they had two sons. He moved to Midland to work for the Midland Fire Department. He met Janell Kite there where they worked and Feb. 7, 1961, they married in Carlsbad, N.M. They have one son. Ed and Janell moved back close to Garden City, and both worked at the Big Spring State Hospital. Then they moved to Lingleville, and he worked for Southern Air Ways in Mineral Wells. Then it was a move to Clyde, where he worked for Abilene State School; then on to Merkel. Ed continued to work at the Abilene State School for 30 years.

He was a member of the Merkel First Baptist Church and active in Adult Three Sunday School Class. Ed enjoyed retirement, loved his family (especially the grandkids and great-grandkids), and his church and friends.

Survivors include his wife, Janell Elmore of Merkel; sons, Eddye Elmore and wife Johanna of Kingsland, Everette Elmore and wife Sofi of Odessa, Walter Elmore and wife Isa of Singapore; grandchildren, Chism, Clint, Samuel, and Stephanie Elmore; great-grandchildren, Braedyn, Kenzie, Kandell, Gus, and Alviah Elmore, and Ryan Herriage; sisters, Bobbie Allen of Tyler and Barbara Lary of Medford, Ore.; and special family Betty Lively and Jackie Herriage, both of Odessa.

Memorials may be made to Merkel First Baptist Church, Adult Three Sunday School Class, P.O. Box 399, Merkel; or to the Merkel Area Museum, 1501 N. Seventh, Merkel, Texas, 79536.

You may and view the online guestbook at www.starbuckfuneralhome.com.

Paid obituary

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **FABIAN GARCIA**, 58, of 805 W. Seventh St. was arrested on a warrant for assault/family violence (threat or offensive touch).
- **BENJAMIN RHETT**

WRIGHT, 33, of 1904 Morrison Dr. was arrested on warrants for no driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, and failure to appear.

• **DALTON COLE KAYE**, 22, of 1109 Wood St. was arrested on a

charge of public intoxication.

• **JORGE FRANCO JR.**, 27, of 1109 Wood St. in Morton, Texas, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **LILY RODRIGUEZ OLIVAS**, 34, of 1803 Mittel Ave. was arrested on outstanding warrants.

Take Note

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

Cost is \$8 per person.

Meetings

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

• The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

• The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

• Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 ½ Main St. All Masons are welcome.

• Membership to the Big Spring Native American Association is open to the public. People interested in Native American culture are encouraged to find out more about the organization by calling Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125,

Volunteer opportunities

• The Scenic Mountain Medical Center volunteer program is in need of volunteers. A variety of opportunities are open for members of the community. For more information, call Anita Cline at 268-4721.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in need of volunteers to fill a variety of needs to assist the hospital's patients.

Applications to become a volunteer can be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department, 1901 N. Hwy 87, Monday through Friday

from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers can assist with a variety of functions, including The Chalet Resale Shop, various fund-raisers and patient events. For more information, contact Dee Lindsey, Big Spring State Hospital Director of Community Relations, (432) 268-7535 or danielle.lindsey@dshs.state.tx.us

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to visit patients. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

• Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you would like to donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Maria at 816-6474.

• Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.

• Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to, assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours of day, 365 days a year to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies as needed.

If you can commit to 30-hour training, an interview process and a background check, we need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

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

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

Youth activities

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

Edgar Ray



Edgar Ray, 83, of San Antonio, formerly of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2016, at Methodist Hospital in San Antonio.

A Celebration of Life will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 22, 2016, at Myers and Smith Chapel with Randy Cotton officiating.

He was born March 3, 1933, to Carmen Faye Cornish Ray and James Clyde Ray in Hunt County. Edgar married Margaret Jo Bradshaw on Sept. 2, 1951, in Lamesa. He graduated from Ackery High School, and was a member of First Baptist Church of Big Spring. He worked 40 years at Big Spring ALON Refinery (Cosden Oil and Chemical/Fina) before retiring. He was involved with the County and District Clerk Association for the State of Texas.

Edgar is survived by his wife of 65 years, Margaret Ray; two daughters, Deborah Jo Ray of Celina and Michele Ray Pendley of San Antonio; three grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; two sisters, Pauline Ormsby and husband Pat of Ponca City, Okla., and Shirley Pechatsko and husband Joe of Leonardstown, Md.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, James Clyde Ray Jr. and Charles Ray.

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

Support Groups

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

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

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

TUESDAY

• Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month.

This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers.

For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

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

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

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

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

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

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Don't look to the Electoral College to upend Trump victory

WASHINGTON (AP) — There's more hustle than hope behind an effort to derail Donald Trump's presidency in the Electoral College. Republican electors are being swamped with pleas to buck tradition and cast ballots for someone else at meetings across the country Monday that are on course to ratify Trump as the winner. AP interviews with more than 330 electors from both parties found little appetite for a revolt. Whether they like Trump or not, and some plainly don't, scores of the Republicans chosen to cast votes in the state-capital meetings told AP they feel bound by history, duty, party loyalty or the law to rubber-stamp their state's results and make him president. Appeals numbering in the tens of thousands — drowning inboxes, ringing cellphones, stuffing

home and office mailboxes with actual handwritten letters — have not swayed them. The interviews found widespread Democratic aggravation with the electoral process but little expectation that the rush of anti-Trump maneuvering can stop him. For that to happen, Republican-appointed electors would have to stage an unprecedented defection. Still, people going to the typically ho-hum electoral gatherings have been drawn into the rough and tumble of campaign-season politics. Republicans are being beseeched to revolt in a torrent of lobbying, centered on the arguments that Clinton won the popular vote and that Trump is unsuited to the presidency. Most of it is falling on deaf ears, but it has also led to some acquaintances being made across the

great political divide. "Let me give you the total as of right now: 48,324 emails about my role as an elector," said Brian Westrate, a small-business owner and GOP district chairman in Fall Creek, Wisconsin. "I have a Twitter debate with a former porn star from California asking me to change my vote. It's been fascinating." Similarly deluged, Republican elector Hector Maldonado, a Missouri National Guardsman, has taken the time to console one correspondent, a single mother and Air Force veteran who is beside herself with worry about what a Trump presidency will mean. "Everything's going to be OK," he said he told her. "I know you're scared, but don't worry. Everything's going to be OK. And I know that it will be."

Maldonado, a Mexican immigrant and medical-equipment seller in Sullivan, Missouri, backed Ted Cruz in the primaries but will cast his vote for Trump with conviction. "I took an oath once to become a U.S. citizen," he said, "and on Aug. 14, 1995, that was the first oath that I've taken to support the U.S. Constitution. A year later I took the oath again, to support the duties of being an officer in the U.S. Army. This was the third oath that I've taken to execute what I promised to do." Even a leader of the anti-Trump effort, Bret Chifafalo of Everett, Washington, calls it a "losing bet" — but one he says the republic's founders would want him to make. "I believe that Donald Trump is a unique danger to our country and the Founding Fathers put the Electoral College in place to, among other things, stop that from happening," said Chifafalo, 38, an Xbox network engineer who backed Bernie Sanders in the Democratic primaries. It takes 270 electoral votes to make a president. Despite losing the national popular vote, Trump won enough states to total 306 electoral votes. He would need to see three dozen fall away for him to lose his majority. Only one Republican elector told AP he won't vote for Trump. Over the sweep of history, so-called faithless

electors — those who vote for someone other than their state's popular-vote winner — have been exceptionally rare. Nashville attorney Tom Lawless, who chose Marco Rubio in the primaries, described his vow to cast his electoral vote for Trump in blunt terms. "Hell will freeze and we will be skating on the lava before I change," he said. "He won the state and I've pledged and gave my word that that's what I would do. And I won't break it." Nor will Jim Skaggs, 78, a developer from Bowling Green, Kentucky, despite deep concern about Trump. "His personality worries me," Skaggs said. "He is not open-minded." Skaggs knew Trump's father through the construction business, met the son in his 20s, and "I wasn't impressed." "I hope he is far better than I think he is," Skaggs said. Even so, "I fully intend to vote for Donald Trump," he said. "I think it's a duty." State law and practices vary for electors, but even in states where electors don't take an

oath to vote a certain way or don't face legal ramifications for stepping out of line, the heavy expectation is for them to ratify the results. As much as they don't want Trump in office, some Democrats are as reluctant as Republicans to go rogue. "We lost the election," said John Padilla of Albuquerque, New Mexico, a Democratic ward chairman. "That's how elections are and you shake hands with your opponent and you get on with what you have to do and support your candidate." Yet Democratic electors, stung by losing an election to a Republican who trails Clinton by more than 2.6 million votes nationwide, spoke strongly in the interviews in favor of overhauling or throwing out the electoral system. Republican electors generally supported it, reasoning that it provides a counterweight to political dominance by coastal states with huge, and largely Democratic, populations, like California and New York.

HC

Continued from Page 1A

the case to a higher court, however, it looks unlikely the case will be heard before the newly elected Donald Trump administration takes office. As for now, college President Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks said they have not implemented the new changes to the salary structure and are waiting on a final decision on the matter before acting. Officials had included the salary changes in the college's current budget. The new rule would bump up the salary exemption threshold to \$47,476 a year or for those making \$913 a week. Sparks plans to give an update on the issue during the college trustee

meeting Monday. Trustees will meet at 12:30 p.m. inside the Student Union Building's Tumbleweed Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Also listed on the meeting agenda are:

- Hear the appraisal report for a piece of college district owned property located in Martin County. Trustees have opted to sell the land.
- Hear an update on the Youth Backstop Practice Area.
- Consider bids on services.
- Policy updates
- Personnel and financial matters.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or email citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

CAMPAIGN

Continued from Page 1A

"We appreciate all the donations that have come in and understand that right now in this economy it is really hard for people to give," Stewart said. "If everybody gives just a little bit or for those who have given, to give a little bit more, you are helping our community support services that provide a wide range of services from helping to feed the home bound elderly to after school programs — all the agencies." The local United Way is an organization that spear heads fund-raising efforts for non-profit organizations in the community. Money raised from the campaign is allocated the following United Way board approved agencies: The American Red Cross, Perm-

ian Basin chapter; Big Spring YMCA; Buffalo Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America; CASA of West Texas, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center; Emergency Services Chaplain Corps; Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest; Isaiah 58; Mobile Meals; Northside Community Center; Rape Crisis Services of Big Spring; Spring of Siloam; The Salvation Army; The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club; and the Westside Community Day Care Center. For more information visit the United Way office located inside the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce and Big Spring Economic Development building, 215 West Third St. or call the office at 267-5201.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or email citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

PBUWCD

Continued from Page 1A

"After the measurement is made, a blue vinyl sticker with the observation well number, the depth-to-water level measurement, and the date of the measurement is affixed to the well equipment or other appropriate surface near the well site," said a PBUWCD press release. Measurements are taken of the same wells in the network each year. The numbers and information collected are compared to previous years to determine the annual change in water levels of the district's aquifers. "The data collected is put into a

spreadsheet, which lists observation wells in each county within the district and this year's water levels," said the release. PBUWCD said they are appreciative of the landowners' cooperation during their annual measurements. "The staff of the PBUWCD appreciates the cooperation of the landowners as we continue to provide this service for the residents of Howard and Martin counties," said the release. "Additional information about the observation well and water level measurement programs is available by contacting the Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District at 432-756-2136 or by visiting our website at www.pbuwcd.com.

RECALL

Continued from Page 1A

According to the release, in rare circumstances, infection with Salmonella can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (e.g., infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis. The issue was discovered through FDA routine sampling, the release stated. There have been no reports of illness to date in connection with bak-

ery items purchased from H-E-B stores or items made with product supplied by Dawn Foods, the release stated. All product has been removed from stores. The recall affects product sold in H-E-B and Mi Tienda in-store bakeries in Texas and Mexico. Customers who purchased the affected product can return the product to the store for a full refund. Customers with any questions or concerns may contact H-E-B Customer Service at 1-855-432-4438, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. CST.

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McKittrick Canyon is an easy hike

I hadn't hiked McKittrick Canyon in a while, so when I scheduled some interviews around Dell City I decided to call my friend Drew Stuart and ask him when the leaves were at peak. "In a couple of days," he said. So in a couple of days Susan and I left home for the three and a half hour drive to McKittrick Canyon, which is a part of Guadalupe Mountains National Park. McKittrick is famous for its fall color. Big tooth maples have the same flaming red leaves like you see during a New England autumn. Other trees provide the golds, oranges and yellows that shine in the mid-November sun. There was no wind at all and the temperature was perfect. When we left the park to head to Dell City after the hike, the temperature was 83 degrees.

The parking lot at the entrance to McKittrick had just a few



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

cars, which was surprising. I expected to see more because of the ideal conditions. We did see one man from New York who had just retired and as a gift to himself was traveling to several national parks. "It's my way of celebrating the 100th anniversary of the national parks system," he told us. "I'm having trouble remembering which parks I visited. They all kind of run together."

We left the parking lot just before 10 a.m. with backpacks full of bottled water, snacks and a lunch. We were anxious about what we might encounter. We hadn't gone a hundred yards before we saw a tree with red leaves. The sky was a deep blue against the mountains and made a dramatic backdrop for the colorful trees.

Drew has hiked all over the Guadalupe and has been on obscure trails that only the park rangers know about. While he was editor of the Hudspeth County Herald he published beautiful lyrical prose about his hikes. "Every time I start out on a hike, it's a soul journey," he says. "It's like a spiritual

quest." He has camped overnight on some of his meanderings.

A couple of miles into the canyon you encounter the Pratt cabin, built by the head of Standard Oil a long time ago. He called the location of his cabin the most beautiful spot in Texas. We stopped there for a drink of water and brief rest in rocking chairs. We hiked another couple of miles and stopped for lunch at a place with a cavernous overhang complete with stalagmites and stalactites called the grotto.

There are no steep climbs in McKittrick from the entrance to the grotto. Hikers walk most of the way on level ground. Serious climbers go past the grotto and the trail becomes more difficult.

After lunch we started back. Even though we went back the same way we came in, we were amazed at how the place had changed. The sun was lower and the light was intriguing. A stream reflected golden sunlight. The hike lasted less than six hours and covered about six miles. It's an easy one-day trip from Midland-Odessa.

ADDRESSES	
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	P.O. Box 2910 Austin, 78768 Phone: 512-463-0331
• BARACK OBAMA President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500	• KEL SELIGER State Senator Texas 31st District 401 Austin, Suite 101 Big Spring, 79720 Phone: 432-268-9909
• TED CRUZ U.S. Senator B40B Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-4305 Phone: 202-228-0462	BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL
• JOHN CORNYN U.S. Senator 517 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-4305 Phone: 202-224-2934	• LARRY MCLELLAN , MAYOR — Office: 267-2711. • CARMEN HARBOUR — Work: 264-2401. • RAUL MARQUEZ JR — Cell: 816-1015. • JUSTIN MYERS — Home: 263-3771. • STEVE WAGGONER — Home: 267-8058. • RAUL BENAVIDES — Work: 267-2501. • JIM DEPAUW — 263-0008.
• RANDY NEUGEBAUER U.S. Representative 19th Cong. District 1510 Scurry Big Spring Phone: 432-264-0722	HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
STATE GOVERNMENT	• KATHRYN WISEMAN , COUNTY JUDGE — Office: 264-2202. • OSCAR GARCIA — Home: 264-0026. • CRAIG BAILEY — Home: 264-2202. • JIMMIE LONG — 267-4224. • JOHN CLINE — Home: 263-7158.
• GREG ABBOTT Governor State Capitol, Room 2S.1 P.O. Box 12428 Austin, 78711 Phone: 512-463-2000	
• DREW DARBY State Representative Texas 72nd District	

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

CONTACT US	
The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.	
In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:	
• In person at 710 Scurry St.	
• By telephone at 263-7331	
• By fax at 264-7205	
• By e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.	
• By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721	

DAILY PRAYER	
May we be cheerful givers to others and cheerful takers of Your love, Lord.	
Amen.	

Ordering over the phone

To the Editor:

Because of my very busy schedule, I order merchandise from catalogues. The people with whom I speak on the telephone who work for the catalogue companies are always so helpful and courteously available to provide an order accurately. So it is not they about whom I write.

The nice people with whom I speak cannot be understood as they have a strong foreign accent. Their American employees hire a contract with them in order to take advantage of the opportunity to pay pennies in labor cost to these economically disadvantaged beautiful people to capitalistically try to make a profit at all cost.

Of course, the CEO has convinced the Board of Directors that cutting cost is the singular approach to the magnificent goal of capitalism, profit at all cost. And most likely the collectivism drowns in wealth, politico, and nepotism.

I should like to present a humble possible influence to the institution of capitalism, sales!

Many times I have given up on catalogue purchases because the employee with whom I was speaking and I could not connect on communication.

I have a simple suggestion to the graduate degreed CEO of a catalogue company and more importantly, to the politically only founded Board: Please consider sales in your egocentrism.

Orand Carroll
Big Spring, TX

Thank you, Big Spring

To the Editor:

Thank you Big Spring for being everything and more we were looking for to settle down, plant some roots, and raise our family. Despite the powers of principalities that are trying to rip up the roots of this community, state, and nation, we are proud that Big Spring rises above and beyond the call to arms and duty. The support we have received through our ups and downs have restored our faith and belief in one nation inder God. We had and have so much more to be thankful for to bring to our Thanksgiving table and so much joy that our cup is running over during this holiday season. We pray for an extra portion of favor and blessings upon Big Spring and Howard County, especially the V.A. Medical Center, Isaiah 58, Northside Community Center, Saint Vincent de Paul, and the Salvation Army as well as all the churches and saints and community leaders that work so hard to keep Big Spring strong, safe, beautiful, and thriving and demonstrates walking the walk and not just the talk. May you all have the best Christmas ever. I know we will because of you.

Lucie Vogel and family
Big Spring, TX

Memories at Christmas time

This is the season to reclaim memories. Thanks be to God for treasured recollections, and for His giving us the discernment to call pleasant ones into play from days gone by.

And why not? To dwell on unpleasant ones is gain for no one. The ones we value greatest are as welcome chestnuts roasting on an open fire, or rides across fields in a one-horse open sleigh. (That said, I think I could be equally happy in a sleigh drawn by two horses, or even four.)

Today's memories center on two "Baylor brothers"—Drs. BO and Dick Baker, giants by any measure of ministry. They come to mind at a time in history when the university's name has been smudged by a football program scandal that won't seem to go away. BO was a well-known minister/evangelist/writer. Dick was a music minister/vocalist/composer. They brought much good to the world.

Neither of them ever truly retired. Even in their 80s, they were in demand, responding to requests as long as they were physically able. BO died at age 86 in 2010; Dick died a year later at 84. Their Christian witness continues to wash against the shores of eternity.

BO wrote a heart-warming Christmas story for the Baptist



DR. DON NEWBURY

Standard. His annual piece appeared annually for 34 years. It was as welcome as fresh-cut Christmas trees, or the sounds of reindeer hooves touching rooftops of the world as Santa made his Christmas Eve rounds.

Perhaps no brothers ever worked together more closely in Christian ministry than the Bakers. BO preached worldwide, and Dick was at his side during most of the years. (With more than 300 musical pieces to his credit, Dick published songs for 64 years.)

In the Metroplex, Dick is remembered for introducing grand Christmas pageants at Prestonwood Baptist Church, where he was longtime minister of music. It continues with multiple presentations annually. Almost 70,000 people attended the 13 performances this month.

Shortly before his death, I asked Dick what he most remembered about the pageants, which are known for grand music, unbelievable choreography and live animals, including camels.

I thought he might cite one of his own favorite arrangements, or show-stopping renditions by some talented vocalist. I was wrong. "That's easy," he answered. "There were numerous chilling moments experienced in the dead of night." Turns out, he received many nocturnal phone calls from the Dallas Police Department. "Hey, Dick, your camels got loose again. They were last seen galloping through the intersection of Preston and Arapaho."

Still ringing in my ears are sermonic expressions for which BO was long known. "Draw in a little closer," he liked to say, of

ten multiple times during evangelistic messages. He'd also say something akin to, "I'm so glad to be your revival preacher. But you need to know that my best sermon will be tomorrow night." (Naturally, he'd repeat the claim nightly until the final service.)

Another Christmas memory centers on the late Paul Crume, brilliant front page columnist for the Dallas Morning News. In 1967, he wrote a Christmas Day column entitled "Angels Among Us." So well-received was the piece that it continues to appear annually in the DMN. I look forward to it again this year—for the 50th time.

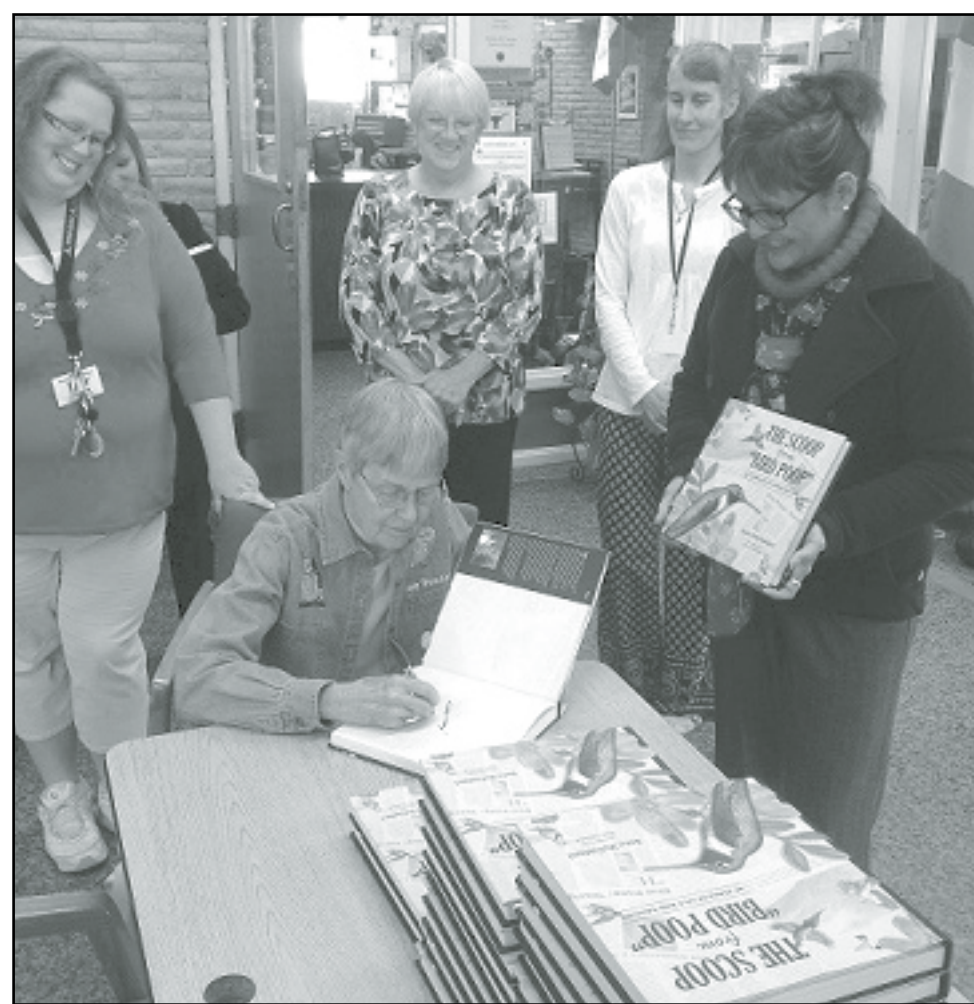
I consider it "must" reading; it's a grand tonic for those of us who believe in angels.

The old year soon to leave us is treasured for birthing a grand Christian book and a movie of the same name—Miracles from Heaven. The "star" is Annabel Beam, the youngster who said an angel told her how to snap on a harness lowered down a rotted tree trunk so she could be lifted to safety. (She had fallen 30 feet down the trunk of a 100-year-old tree on the family home place.)

I believe her.

And I pray that in this blessed season, as you claim your very best memories, you'll sense angels nearby, or hear the rustle of their wings.

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.



Courtesy photo

Pictured from left are Big Spring Intermediate teachers Lauren Collette, Sheryl Gass, Gail Adelsperger, and BSI Principal Patsy Sanchez. Seated is book author Bebe McCasland.

Local author donates books

Special to the Herald

Author and Big Spring resident Bebe McCasland donated 40 copies of her book "The Scoop from Bird Poop", to Big Spring Intermediate School.

The book is a compilation of stories about the local birds of Howard County, their lives, the habitats they live in, the dangers these birds face, and rescues to save them. Each story is one to two pages in length with a beautiful illustration.

With a book in each classroom at BSI, McCasland hopes students will read a story, or several, and learn about the local bird life. She hopes the ripple effect this learning experience could have will include empathy for wildlife and possibly inspire some students to a career dealing with wild life.

McCasland is a retired administrator from St. Mary's Episcopal School. She is also a local licensed bird rescuer.

Keeping local history alive



Courtesy Photo/Bruce Schooler (Red Barn Photography)

Bob Lewis, also know as Tumbleweed Smith, signs copies of the Howard College 70th anniversary commemoration book which was written by Linda Conway and Tammy Schrecengost. Lewis was commissioned by the college to produce a DVD recounting the history of college. That DVD is located at the back of the book. Copies of the book can be purchased at the Heritage Museum for \$20 a piece.



HERALD photos/Amanda Elston

The Big Spring Center for Skilled Care held its first annual chili cook-off last Friday with eleven chillis to choose from. Residents, staff, family, and friends were on hand to taste the chillis and judge them. "This is the first year we have done this," said Christy Brownfield of the Big Spring Center for Skilled Care. "We are going to do it every year. We want to be involved in the community and it gets the residents involved too." Representatives from Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Kindred at Home, the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department, and the Big Spring Center for Skilled Care showed up with chillis for tasting. Prizes were given to the top five chillis.



HERALD photo/Amanda Elston



Marcy Place held a holiday door decorating contest for their residents recently. Families of the residents helped with creating these festive Christmas decorations. *Big Spring Herald* Senior Advertising Representative Angela Lance, right, helped judge the contest.



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Feds give 20 more years to Glen Canyon Dam on Colorado River

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The federal government is committing to at least another 20 years of use of a huge Colorado River dam that officials call crucial to states in the West, but that critics say is unstable and should be removed.

“Politics belong out of this, because water is life,” said U.S. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell at a conference of key water managers in Las Vegas. She signed an agreement that allows the federal Bureau of Reclamation to manage Glen Canyon Dam and the Lake Powell reservoir in Arizona through 2036.

The agreement “provides certainty and predictability to those that use water and power from the dam,” Jewell said, while also providing environmental protection for fish and wildlife in the Grand Canyon, through which the dam sends water to Lake Mead and Hoover Dam near Las Vegas.

Critics call Glen Canyon Dam obsolete and Lake Powell too porous and wasteful to keep operating in a basin.

Glen Canyon Dam, completed in 1964 near Page, Arizona, is the second-tallest concrete-arch dam in the United States, behind Hoover Dam near Las Vegas. But while Hoover Dam is anchored in solid volcano-baked basalt, Glen Canyon Dam spans a gorge lined with Navajo sandstone that critics compare with hardened sand dunes.

“Lake Powell is evaporating and seeping hundreds of thousands of acre-feet per year that are completely lost to the (Colorado River) system,” said Gary Wockner, executive director of the Denver-based group Save the Colorado. He called Jewell’s decision “an extraordinary waste.”

“In order to keep the lake level high enough to keep electric turbines spinning, they’re going to have to buy massive amounts of water from farmers in Colorado and Utah,” Wockner said.

Glen Canyon has eight hydroelectric turbine generators that the Bureau of Reclamation says produce about 5 billion kilowatt-hours of hydroelectric power per year for distribution by the Western Area Power Administration to Nebraska and six of seven Colorado River basin states.

U.S. Rep. Rob Bishop, R-Utah, chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources, accused Jewell of “making long-term decisions before the clock runs out” on President Barack Obama’s administration.

Bishop said the plan shortchanges hydropower in favor of fish, and he predicted communities and states that rely on cheap hydropower will suffer.

Obama environmental legacy at stake as GOP, industry align

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — President Barack Obama’s administration will leave behind a host of disputed recent actions and unfinished business on the environment — from shelved energy leases and blocked mining projects to pollution restrictions and decisions on hundreds of potentially imperiled species.

Republicans and business groups emboldened by Donald Trump’s victory are gearing up to reverse many of the administration’s signature environmental moves, particularly those made since the election.

The outcome could determine whether eight years of Democratic rule in the White House leaves a lasting mark on the environment or quickly fades.

Already environmental groups and their Democratic allies are raising alarms over Trump’s choice of Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt to head the Environmental Protection Agency, Texas Gov. Rick Perry for energy secretary and Thursday’s announcement of Montana Rep. Ryan Zinke for interior secretary. All three are industry proponents who have lined up against Obama on environmental issues and expressed doubts about the science behind climate change.

“Obama may be in danger of losing his entire legacy,” said Rep. Rob Bishop, chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, who pointed to “excessive” administration moves on the environment that attracted a Republican backlash.

“From the top, the president (Trump) on down, there is a commitment to making change, and the stars are aligning to see that change take place,” the Utah Republican said.

Reversing course from the Obama years could happen with the stroke of a pen for a moratorium on new coal sales and recent mining claim withdrawals in Montana, Oregon and Washington. Trump already has said he would knock down the coal mora-

torium.

Other administration actions will be harder to unravel, legal and industry experts said. Those include pollution restrictions for coal-burning power plants, blocked oil leases in the Arctic and limitations on methane emissions to reduce greenhouse gases from the oil and gas industry, which would require congressional action or the reopening of lengthy bureaucratic processes.

The latest eleventh-hour action by the administration came Thursday, when the Agriculture and Interior departments declined to renew mineral leases critical for a \$2.8 billion copper-nickel mine upstream from Minnesota’s Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Bishop’s office said it would not be easy to reverse the move.

Yet with the GOP in firm control of Congress, the White House and likely the Supreme Court, “they are going to have an easier time getting their way” on environmental issues, said Mark Squillace, a professor of natural resource law at the University of Colorado.

“It is easier to break things than it is to create them. ... On some level, Trump wants to come in and break things Obama has created,” he said.

The Obama administration’s scramble to finalize key environmental policies in its last days obscures the fact that many of those actions were in the works for years. Nevertheless, the industry wish list for Trump and the next Congress has grown with each recent announcement.

Senior administration officials reject allegations that they’re ignoring public sentiment in a rush to get disputed and controversial items over the finish line before their power expires.

As evidence, officials pointed to the yearslong process that resulted in the methane rule and the millions of

See **LEGACY**, Page 7A

New Locations: Glasscock County

Laredo Petroleum, Inc.
15 W. 6th Street, Suite 900
Tulsa, OK 741190000
Jayna Hobby, Regulatory Analyst
(432) 685-8067

Hunt Oil Company
1900 N. Akard Street
Dallas, TX 75201-2300
Emily DiCarlo, Regulatory Tech
(214) 978-8197

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4800 Bryant Irvin Court
Fort Worth, TX 76107-0000
Will Cook, Agent
(682) 990-9141

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Will Cook, Agent
(682) 990-9141

Hunt Oil Company
1900 N. Akard Street
Dallas, TX 75201-2300
Emily DiCarlo, Regulatory Tech
(214) 978-8197

RSP Permian, LLC
3141 Hood Street, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75219-5020
Phone #: NA

See **OIL REPORT**, Page 7A

Weekly Oil Report

#3NC G. Schwartz “17-8” (Allocation “C”), drill horizontal Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
9.90 miles southeast of Garden City
A-177, Section 17, Block 33, T-5-S, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 12,000 feet
Latitude 031.440239, Longitude -101.242517
278’ FSL, 1953’ FWL of 1,280-acre lease
278’ FSL, 1953’ FWL of the survey

#206HL Harris-Hutchison “60”, drill horizontal, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-173-37430
16 miles southwest of Garden City
A-1268, Section 20, Block 36, T-4-S, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 8213 feet
X=1566224.93, Y=767013.63
1588’ FSL, 1053’ FWL of 650.06-acre lease
1588’ FSL, 1622’ FEL of the survey

#4101HC Thomas, drill horizontal, El: NA, API #42-173-37471
Garden City, S. (Wolfcamp) Field
10.50 miles northwest of Garden City
A-215, Section 41, Block 34, T-2-S, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
Latitude 031.996436, Longitude -101.568753
440’ FNL, 4710’ FWL of 2,894.83-acre lease
440’ FNL, 580’ FEL of the survey
SWR 36 (H2S)

#4101HD Thomas, drill horizontal, El: NA, API #42-173-37402
Garden City, S. (Wolfcamp) Field
10.50 miles northwest of Garden City
A-215, Section 41, Block 34, T-2-S, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 9500 feet
Latitude 031.996472, Longitude -101.568598a
440’ FNL, 4760’ FWL of 2,894.83-acre lease
440’ FNL, 530’ FEL of the survey
SWR 36 (H2S)

#205HL Harris-Hutchison “50”, drill horizontal, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, API #42-173-37436
16 miles southwest of Garden City
A-1268, Section 20, Block 36, T-4-S, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 8219 feet
X=1566195, Y=767005.79
1588’ FSL, 1652’ FEL of 650.06-acre lease
1588’ FSL, 1652’ FEL of the survey

#9H Calverley “9-4”, drill horizontal, API #42-173-37491
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, El: NA
14.70 miles southwest of Garden City
A-419, Section 9, Block 36, T-4-S, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 12,000 feet
Latitude 031.474718, Longitude -101.431635
230’ FSL, 1770’ FEL of 1,296-acre lease
230’ FSL, 1770’ FEL of the survey

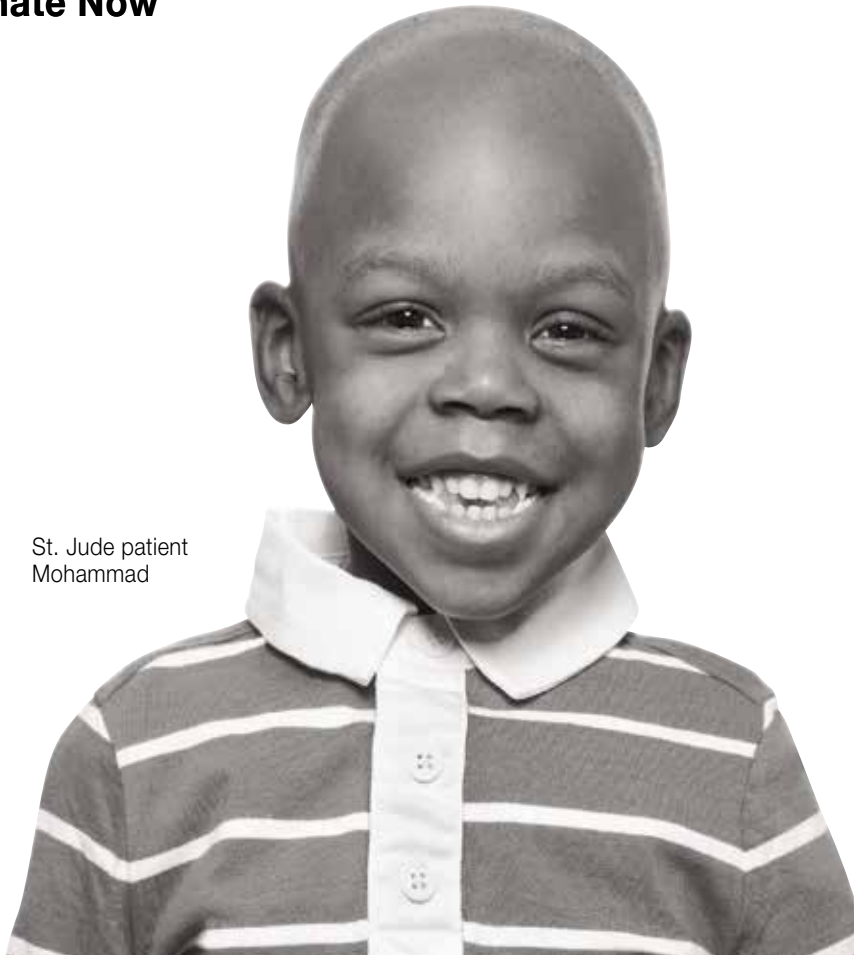




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Continued from Page 6A

Henderson & Erickson, Inc.
410 North Main
Midland, TX 79701-0000
Curt Henderson, Vice President
(432) 682-2473

#1 "846" SWD, drill, El: NA
 Vealmoor, East Field
 12 miles east of Knot
 A-184, Section 15, Block 31, T&P RR Co. survey
 Total Depth: 10,000 feet
 X=1066266, Y=6862349
 212' FWL, 2464' FNL of 320-acre lease
 212' FWL, 2464' FNL of the survey
 SWR 36 (H2S)

Henderson & Erickson, Inc.
410 North Main
Midland, TX 79701-0000
Curt Henderson, Vice President
(432) 682-2473

#2 Knott SWD, drill, El: NA
Vealmoor, East Field
3.10 miles east of Knot
A-328, Section 21, Block 33, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 12,000 feet
X=1012873, Y=6845095
1838' FNL, 2344' FEL of 320-acre lease
1838' FNL, 2344' FEL of the survey

Surge Operating, LLC
7850 N. Sam Houston Pkwy West
Suite 300
Houston, TX 77064-0000
Connie Swan, Agent
(918) 621-6533

#1AH Old Tom "21-28", drill horizontal, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
8.25 miles northeast of Knott
A-273, Section 21, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
Latitude 032.430717, Longitude -101.504488
928' FNL, 447' FWL of 1,295.7-acre lease
928' AFNL, 447' FWL of the survey

DE Operating, LLC
1401 Ballinger Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102-0000
Rocky Riley, Engineer
(817) 928-3260

#2 Morita, drill, El: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
10.80 miles west of Big Spring
A-1521, Section 8, Block 34, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,500 feet
Latitude -032.112113, Longitude -101.384590
467' FNL, 467' FWL of 160-acre lease
467' FNL, 467' FEL of the survey
SWR 36 (H2S)

Surge Operating, LLC
7850 N. Sam Houston Pkwy West
Suite 300
Houston, TX 77064-0000
Connie Swan, Agent
(918) 621-6533

#7AH Clark Unit "B 24-13", drill horizontal, EL: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
6 miles northeast of Knott
A-1105, Section 24, Block 33, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
Latitude 032.410749, Longitude -101.539371
300' FSL, 1250' FEL of 515.68-acre lease
300' FSL, 1250' FEL of the survey

Surge Operating, LLC
7850 N. Sam Houston Pkwy West
Suite 300
Houston, TX 77064-0000
Connie Swan, Agent
(918) 621-6533

#8SH Alfred Unit "B 08-05", drill horizontal, Et: NA
Spraberry (Trend Area) Field
2.25 miles northeast of Knott
A-326, Section 17, Block 33, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. survey
Total Depth: 10,000 feet
Latitude 032.422382, Longitude -101.613151
320' FNL, 567' FEL of 649.6-acre lease
320' FNL, 567' FEL of the survey

Continued from Page 6A

public comments received prior to shelving future energy lease sales in the Arctic.

It would not make sense for that work to “just be put in a drawer” because of the election, Bureau of Land Management Deputy Director Linda Lance argued.

"There are good moderate proposals that have very much taken into account the concerns of the public. We would hope the work that's done will be respected and continue," she said.

Among the most powerful legislative instruments Republicans promise to wield to overturn recent moves by the current administration is the Congressional Review Act. The 1996 law, passed as part of then-Speaker Newt Gingrich's "Contract with America," allows lawmakers to overturn rules recently issued by a previous president with approval from both chambers of Congress and the consent of the new president.

It would apply to rules submitted since May 30, the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service has said. It's been used successfully only once, to kill a 2000 rule on workplace ergonomics from the Clinton administration.

Prominent Republicans including Sen. John Barrasso of Wyoming promised to use the law when the administration last month finalized the methane rule, which would re-

strict companies from burning off excess natural gas, a contributor to climate change. Barasso chairs the Senate Subcommittee on Energy and Natural Resources.

He said the rule would drive oil and natural gas companies off public lands and showed the Obama administration was “unwilling to listen to the message that the American people sent” with Trump’s election.

Meanwhile, conservation groups that frequently prodded the Obama administration to be more aggressive on the environment now find themselves at risk of being marginalized.

In recent years those groups complained that timelines for greenhouse gas reductions were too long. They accused the administration of underfunding agencies that oversee endangered species protections. And they went to court to challenge sales of federally owned coal with no regard for future pollution.

Activists acknowledged they will soon need to shift their focus to the Republicans, who they predict will open more public lands to oil and gas drilling, mining and logging and will attempt to dismantle the Endangered Species Act.

"We have to play defense now, and that's what we're going to do. We're expecting full-on trench warfare," said Jeremy Nichols, climate program director for the nonprofit environmental group WildEarth Guardians.

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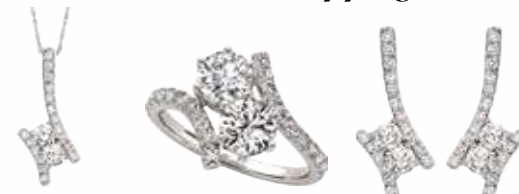
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Steers, Lady Steers come up short



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Dimas Garcia (0) guards a Seminole player during their non-district basketball game in Steer Gym Friday night. Seminole defeated the Steers, 84-58.

Seminole's height advantage keys 84-58 win

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

There was no "Jack and the Beanstalk" happy ending for the Big Spring Steers Friday night.

The Steers, playing the role of Jack, faced off against the Seminole Indians, collectively playing the part of the fairy tale giant, in a

non-district basketball game in Steer Gym, but unlike in the famous children's tale, the giant got the best of Jack this night.

The Steers hadn't faced a team as collectively tall as the Indians, who boasted several players on the north side of six feet in height. And it's a good bet they hadn't faced a player

like Seminole's Reese Moore, who combined a 6-foot-7, 280-pound frame with a deadly shooting touch from close range.

Moore feasted on the smaller Steers, scoring 32 points to lead the Indians to an 84-58 victory Friday.

The Steers (1-12) simply had no answer for Moore and the rest of

the Seminole interior offense. Big Spring tried a variety of defensive looks to try to stop the big man, but nothing worked.

"It's tough to stop someone who's 6-7, 285," BSHS Coach Nick Tyerman said. "But again, we did the best we could, and we did a pretty de-

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Lady 'Dogs defeat BSHS girls, 61-40

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

The Big Spring Lady Steers showed flashes of the team they want to be Friday. Unfortunately, flashes here and there weren't enough to overcome Madison Peterson and the Ira Lady Bulldogs.

Peterson, one of the smallest players on the court, provided Big Spring with its biggest headache, scoring 30 points to lead her team to a 61-40 victory in non-district basketball action at Steer Gym Friday night.

Ira came roaring out of the gate, racing to a 20-3 lead after one quarter. Once the Lady Steers got over their stage fright, however, they rallied to make a game of it in the second.

The rally started innocently enough with a free throw from



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Amber Martinez (2) grabs a loose basketball during Friday's game against Ira.

See **BSHS**, Page 2B

Sweetwater falls short of state title

BY RON HOWELL

Sweetwater Reporter

ARLINGTON — Friday's state championship contest at AT&T Stadium produced some moments that many Sweetwater fans in attendance will never forget — yes, even more memorable than the giant video screen that hangs in "Jerry World."

There was, of course, the epic 96-yard fumble return by Mustang Luke James to give Sweetwater a 6-0 lead after heavily-favored West Orange-Stark had taken the opening kickoff and driven to Sweetwater's 1-yard line.

That set the tone for the team's ferocious defensive effort that held Stark's powerful attack, which came in averaging more than 52 points

a game, to its lowest point total of the season.

Then there was just the sight of seeing the Mustangs play at what is the home of the NFL's Dallas Cowboys, "America's Team," and is one of the most recognizable sports and entertainment venues in the country.

In turn, the players could not help but notice what a massive "Sea of Red" was at the stadium and giving their enthusiastic support from start to finish. The attendance for Friday's game was 17,653 folks, and the majority of them were on Sweetwater's side.

According to one observer, the "home" side was virtually full of

See **SHS**, Page 2B



Courtesy photo/Sweetwater Reporter

An injury to Sweetwater quarterback Chris Thompson (pictured) in the fourth quarter hurt the Mustangs as they suffered a 24-6 loss to West Orange-Stark in the Class 4A, Division II state championship game held Friday at Arlington's AT&T Stadium.

Hood hits pull-up 3 to give Jazz win over Mavs

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Rodney Hood had never hit a game-winning shot — at any level. So when he knocked down a big one Friday night, all he could think to do was give a little

shoulder-shimmy.

Hood pulled up for a 3-pointer in transition with 0.8 seconds left that gave the Utah Jazz a 103-100 win over Dallas after a furious rally by the Maver-

icks in the fourth quarter.

"It's crazy," Hood said. "I didn't know what to do, so I just shook a little bit. It felt good, though.

"Everybody dreams of that feeling, time going

down, 3-2-1, and you hit a shot and the crowd goes crazy. I did it a lot of times in my front yard, but never in a real game."

See **MAVS**, Page 2B

Houston sets 3-pt. record vs. Pelicans

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets didn't seem too impressed with their latest entry in the NBA record book.

The Rockets made an NBA-record 24 3-pointers, led by Eric Gordon's 7-for-12 effort, and beat the New Orleans Pelicans 122-100 Friday night.

"We just played how we play," said Harden, who shot 6 for 12 on 3s and finished with 29 points. "It didn't feel no different. We shot the basketball, open 3s and you know — they went in."

Harden also had 11 rebounds and 13 assists for his sixth triple-double of the season and 15th of his career — passing Hakeem Olajuwon for the most in franchise history.

"The best player in Rockets history — The Dream," Harden said. "For me, it's an unbelievable accomplishment. Credit to my teammates for knocking down their shots. I'm just trying to make an impact on the game that's all."

Ryan Anderson made Houston's 24th 3-pointer of the game with 32 seconds remaining, and the Toyota Center crowd erupted in celebration of the record.

Gordon confidently predicted that the best is yet to come.

"I wouldn't doubt before the season's over that we'll break that record again," Gordon said. "I think it'll happen again, for sure. A lot of teams like to load up and not let us get layups and force us to shoot 3s so why not?"

In picking up their ninth straight win, the Rockets attempting 61 3s — making 39.3 percent — to shatter their own record of 50 set earlier this year.

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Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)
Big Spring's Aissa Cervantes (55) puts up a shot during the Lady Steers' game against Ira in Steer Gym Friday night.

MAVS

Continued from Page 2B

Dallas used a 9-0 run late in the fourth to tie the score at 100 before Hood grabbed the rebound of Deron Williams' miss with several seconds left.

"As a point guard, I know when to run a play," Williams said. "We started the play too early. Couldn't really check the time because of how the play developed. I've just got to do a better job of controlling the game. At the end of the game like that, we've got to get the

shot with as little time as possible."

Jazz coach Quin Snyder passed on calling a timeout, waving his arms at Hood to push the ball up the floor. Hood did exactly that and drained a 26-footer from the left side to send Utah to its 10th victory in 12 games.

Following a timeout, Dallas had one more chance to tie it. But an inbound pass deflected off Harrison Barnes' hands, and time expired.

"All there is, is fight in this team," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said. "These guys were deter-

mined to hang in."

Rudy Gobert posted his sixth straight double-double with 16 points and 10 rebounds, tying Karl-Anthony Towns for the longest active streak in the NBA. Hood finished with 15 points.

Barnes led the Mavericks with 21 points, and Williams added 18 points and seven assists.

The normally stout Utah defense wasn't at its best and allowed Dallas to come back from a 15-point deficit, but the Jazz shot 56.9 percent from the field and held on.

"We were atrocious the first half, defensively," Snyder said. "It was awful. We made so many mental mistakes. ... They can shoot, that's what they do. If you give them open 3s, they're going to make them and then they're going to get even more confident and they're going to hit tough shots."

TIP-INS

Mavericks: Williams was booed lustily even though he hasn't played for Utah since 2011. ... Andrew Bogut missed his sixth consecutive game with a right knee injury.

SHS

Continued from Page 1B

Mustang supporters. Make that Sweetwater Mustang supporters, since West Orange-Stark has the same nickname.

And despite a 24-6 loss to a team that was making its third straight appearance in the championship game and has now won two straight titles, no one could truly call Sweetwater a loser.

Not after it gave West Orange-Stark by far its

biggest scare of the season and showed the kind of heart and desire that few other high school football teams possess in the entire country, much less Texas.

"When we came in at the half (down just 7-6), we felt like we were up by 21, just because we weren't far behind," Mobley said.

"We felt like we were in a good position." Sweetwater still trailed by just four, 10-

6, until West Orange-Stark finally put the game away in the fourth quarter with a couple of late touchdowns.

"We had a game plan and we wanted to see what their speed was like," said Mobley. "We felt like we contained them. But Stark is a great football team. We wanted to go out there today and earn their respect."

Mission accomplished.

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MH-B claims NCAA Div. II championship

SALEM, Va. (AP) — Blake Jackson knew that, more than usual, Mary Hardin-Baylor's fortunes were going to be in his control with the NCAA Division III title at stake.

The dual-threat quarterback embraced it, running for 119 yards and a touchdown and leading the Crusaders to a 10-7 victory over Wisconsin-Oshkosh in the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl on Friday night for their first football national championship.

"I like the pressure. I like the challenge," the senior said. "Thank you to the coaches for believing in me."

Jackson carried 28 times for the Crusaders (15-0), and completed 16 of 27 passes for 171 yards with an interception. The Crusaders virtually ignored running back Markeith Miller, who arrived with nearly 1,500 yards rushing, but gained just 11 on nine carries.

"We had trouble running the ball," coach Pete Fredenburg, who started the Crusaders' program 19 years ago, said. "Blake took up the slack. We felt like he was going to have to be the catalyst for our offense."

Jackson's touchdown came on a 1-yard run with 3:16 left in the second quarter, and was the final score of the game.

"There was a ton of athletes out there tonight on both sides of the ball," Titans coach Pat Cerroni said. "Great athletes, but No. 7 (Jackson) was exceptional."

Dylan Hecker ran 2 yards to give the Titans (13-2) a 7-0 lead after just 6:22, but Oshkosh could never find that rhythm again. The Titans drove to the Crusaders 35 in the final minute, but Matt Cody intercepted Brett Kasper's fourth-and-10 pass from the 35 to clinch the victory.

"Don't drop it," Cody said he thought as the clinching play came spiraling toward him.

Kasper finished 20 for 33 for 185 yards with two interceptions. The Titans were held to 30 rushing yards on 29 attempts.

The Titans were playing in the championship game for the first

time. Mary Hardin-Baylor lost in its only previous appearance in 2004.

THE TAKEAWAY

Mary Hardin-Baylor: Jackson and the offense get the credit for scoring points, but the Crusaders' defense held the Titans scoreless after the offense turned it over three times — at midfield, at the Crusaders 27 and at the Titans 6 while looking for a cushion touchdown. The defense also stopped Oshkosh three times on fourth down — twice inside the Crusaders 30 and then on the game's penultimate play.

Wis.-Oshkosh: The Titans run a modified 3-4 defense, with virtually no pass rush, and it backfired on them in the first quarter when the Crusaders used a 20-play, 66-yard drive to get their first points on a 22-yard field goal by John Mowery. On the drive, Jackson ran around behind the line unchallenged, at times finding receivers downfield and other times running through gaps for yardage.

BIG KICK

John Mowery's 22-yard field goal was the difference, and he seemed like a liability to the Crusaders coming in.

He's made just 8 of 15 field goal tries on the season, with a long of 42, but was true when a 20-play drive stalled at the Titans 5.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Jeremiah Cooley (2) puts up a shot during the Steers' game against Seminole in Steer Gym Friday night.

Video of OU player punching woman released

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A video showing Oklahoma running back Joe Mixon punching a female student was released to The Associated Press on Friday.

The Oklahoma Supreme Court ordered the release last week of a video that the Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters sued to obtain.

The Associated Press acquired videos showing two angles of the incident. One, which shows the altercation, is the video the OAB sued for. The other shows another angle of the incident.

The video shows

Amelia Molitor shove Mixon, and the football player feint at her. She then slapped both sides of his neck before he floored her with a right hand to the face. She remained on the floor for several minutes.

Joe Mixon's attorneys at Crowe & Dunlevy acquired the videos from Molitor's attorneys.

"Mr. Mixon asked us to once again say he is sorry for the way he acted that night," a statement through his attorneys said. "He has publicly apolo-

gized to Ms. Molitor, her friends, his family, teammates, and the University. He hopes that his voluntary release of these recordings will help put this matter to rest."

On the day of the Oklahoma Supreme Court ruling, the school said in a statement the order did not change its stance.

"The university was aware of the content of the video prior to taking action with respect to Joe Mixon," the statement from the

University of Oklahoma said. "Based on that information, the university suspended and removed Mixon from the football team for one year, during which high standards of conduct were expected and maintained. Joe has apologized for his actions and the university hopes that it is an indication that he has learned from his mistakes. We are an educational institution where we hope young people will learn from their mistakes."

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News in brief

Carthage forces 6 TOs, beats Abilene Wylie for 4A-I title

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Keaontay Ingram rushed for 180 yards with two touchdowns and Carthage forced six turnovers in a 31-17 victory over Abilene Wylie in the Class 4A Division I championship game Friday.

Mekhi Colbert's interception late in the third quarter set up Kason Davis' 1-yard plunge for the go-ahead touchdown early in the fourth.

Mason Graham had two interceptions in the fourth quarter — the first leading to Ingram's 14-yard touchdown and the second sealing the fifth state title since 2008 for Carthage (13-2).

Wylie (13-2) led 14-0 just 6 minutes into the game after a pair of touchdown passes from Zach Smith to Gatlin Martin. The scores from 32 and 5 yards were the only two catches for Martin, and Smith finished 9 of 18 for 147 yards with four interceptions and three sacks.

Dewaylon Ingram opened the scoring for Carthage late in the first quarter with a 25-yard catch from Davis, who was 12 of 21 for 134 yards with an interception. Dewaylon Ingram finished with four catches for 67 yards.

Carthage scored again 28 seconds later on the first play of the second quarter on a 2-yard run by Keaontay Ingram after Austin Russell recovered a fumble.

The teams traded field goals in the final 2:08 of the first half.

Abilene Wylie dropped to 1-3 in title games in its first trip to the finals since 2009. The championship came in 2004.

Freshman helps Aledo top

Calallen to win another state title

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Freshman Jase McClellan rushed for 98 yards, including a 59-yard touchdown, and Aledo won its sixth state title in the past eight years, defeating Corpus Christi Calallen 24-16 for the Class 5A Division II championship Friday night.

On the second play after halftime, McClellan broke up the middle and dragged two defenders the last 5 yards to give Aledo (16-0) a 17-3 lead.

Calallen (14-2) pulled within a score with 1:37 remaining on a 3-yard run by Alec Brown, but Grant Gonzalez missed the extra point.

Gonzalez's onside kick was recovered by Preston Jefferis, who had his coaches waving frantically for him to go down when he tried to run and was gang-tackled by Calallen defenders trying to take the ball away.

Aledo won its seventh state title, one shy of the Texas record shared by Katy, Southlake Carroll and Celina.

Calallen held Aledo to eight first downs and 200 yards total offense but couldn't match Aledo's big

plays.

Calallen lost for the second time in two trips to the finals to finish a season that included Phil Danaher becoming the winningest Texas high school coach with 432 career victories. The other loss was in 2004.

Aledo went ahead 24-10 midway through the fourth quarter when Donnie Evans scored on a 2-yard run. Aledo took over at the Calallen 29 following a fumbled punt by Carson Hayes.

Calallen pulled within 17-10 on a 32-yard scoring run by quarterback Gaige Lamb in the third quarter and recovered a fumble on the subsequent kick-off. But Aledo forced a punt after tackles for loss from James Williams and Rhett Harris.

Aledo lost in the semifinals last year after winning five titles in the previous six seasons.

UT Arlington hangs on for 8th straight, 56-51 over Bradley

PEORIA, Ill. (AP) — Kevin Hervey had 15 points and 14 rebounds and his jumper with 14 seconds left iced UT Arlington's 56-51 win over Bradley on Friday night.

Hervey capped the scoring for the Mavericks (9-3). The Braves (5-6) missed two shots in the final seconds and UT Arlington won its eighth straight.

Bradley used a 9-2 run to get within 52-49 on Antoine Pittman's basket with 1:19 left. UT Arlington's Erick Neal and Bradley's Donte Thomas traded a pair of free throws before Hervey's jumper put it out of reach for the Braves.

The Mavericks opened the game on a 12-0 run, but the Braves answered and had their only lead of the game at 16-15. UT Arlington led 31-24 at halftime and kept its lead between 1 and 8 points through the second half.

Neal added 13 points for the Mavericks. Pittman led the Braves with 14.

Texas Rio Grande Valley pulls away early in 2nd, beats Lamar

EDINBURG, Texas (AP) — Antonio Green scored 16 points and grabbed a career-high 11 rebounds to lead Texas Rio Grande Valley over Lamar 95-81 on Friday night.

Green was 5 of 10 from the field and made three 3-pointers. Xavier McDaniel Jr. and Lesley Varner

Jr. had 15 points apiece for the Vaqueros (5-8), who shot 59 percent on 37-of-63 shooting. Nick Dixon had a career-best eight assists and chipped in 12 points.

Zjori Bosha scored 18 points to lead Lamar (5-5). Colton Weisbrod and Joey Frenchwood each finished with 14 points. The Cardinals, who have lost four of their last five games, made just 22 of 36 free throws.

NHL suspends Dallas' Cody Eakin, Ottawa's Mike Hoffman

NEW YORK (AP) — The NHL suspended Dallas Stars forward Cody Eakin and Ottawa Senators forward Mike Hoffman on Friday.

Eakin was suspended for four games without pay for charging New York Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist, and Hoffman was penalized two games for cross-checking San Jose Sharks forward Logan Couture.

Eakin was assessed a major penalty for charging and a game misconduct in the first period of the Stars' 2-0 home loss Thursday night. The suspension will cost him \$85,556.

Hoffman was assessed a major penalty for cross-checking and a game misconduct in the third period of the Senators' 4-3 shootout loss to the visiting Sharks on Wednesday night. The suspension will cost him \$57,639.

NHL suspends Dallas' Cody Eakin, Ottawa's Mike Hoffman

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Local churches band together to provide life-saving equipment for local law enforcement personnel



You guys have made great advancement this year alone, as we have watched the news and followed you guys closely, y'all have brought our protection services to another level. Thank you for that."

Big Spring Police Chief Chad Williams said the kits are a much-needed addition to patrol officers' equipment.

"Ever since I began as chief, it's kind of bothered me that we didn't provide our men and women this type of tool," he said. "Active shooter" is real, it does occur. Unfortunately sometimes, with this type of incidents, it's not 'if, it's 'when.'"

Williams said the donation of 75 kits will outfit all of Big Spring's police officers and all of Howard County's sheriff's deputies.

"What this bag is, it's a tactical trauma bag that our men and women can carry on their vehicles. This clip will be on their duty belts at all times. This bag will be in their vehicles and it will contain all of this medical equipment. If they get dispatched to an active shooter situation, they arrive on scene, they grab this, they clip it on. The clip is already on their duty belts, strap it around their legs, and they can go in," he said. "Should they be shot or injured inside the building, you know, medical is not coming in until that scene is cleared, so it may be some time before they see medical assistance. This equipment will buy them some time. They can use that tourniquet to stop the bleeding, or other equipment in here to compress and stop the bleeding until they receive medical attention."

Segundo said the kits cost about \$4,500 for the specially-designed bags. Each bag will be outfitted with about \$20 worth of medical equipment, including a tourniquet, medical scissors, gauze, tape, and bandages.

"I think it's absolutely awesome," Williams said. "It's a great show of support throughout the community from the faith-based organizations and the individual churches, just showing how we as a community can come together in another community event and help safeguard our men and women in blue."

Howard County Sheriff Stan Parker agreed.

"It's a great thing. We have such tight budgetary constraints that sometimes it's hard to add new things," he said. "This is definitely something that's needed. We're

See DONATION, Page 7C



HERALD photos/Roger Cline

Clockwise from top: Manny Negron of Life Church and the Rev. Sam Segundo carry a case of tactical trauma kits into the Troy M. Hogue Law Enforcement Center Thursday morning; from left, Sheriff Stan Parker, Pastor Mike Willard of Cornerstone Covenant Church, and Pastor Bill Ivins of First United Methodist Church react to comments from Big Spring Police Chief Chad Williams in accepting the donation; each trauma kit will contain (from top) 4"x4" gauze pads, Coban wrap, triangular bandages, medical scissors, petroleum gauze, a tourniquet, and medical tape; Sgt. Chris Mahurin models one of the kits, located on his forward thigh; pastors and other church representatives listen to Williams describe the usefulness of the kits in "active shooter" situations.



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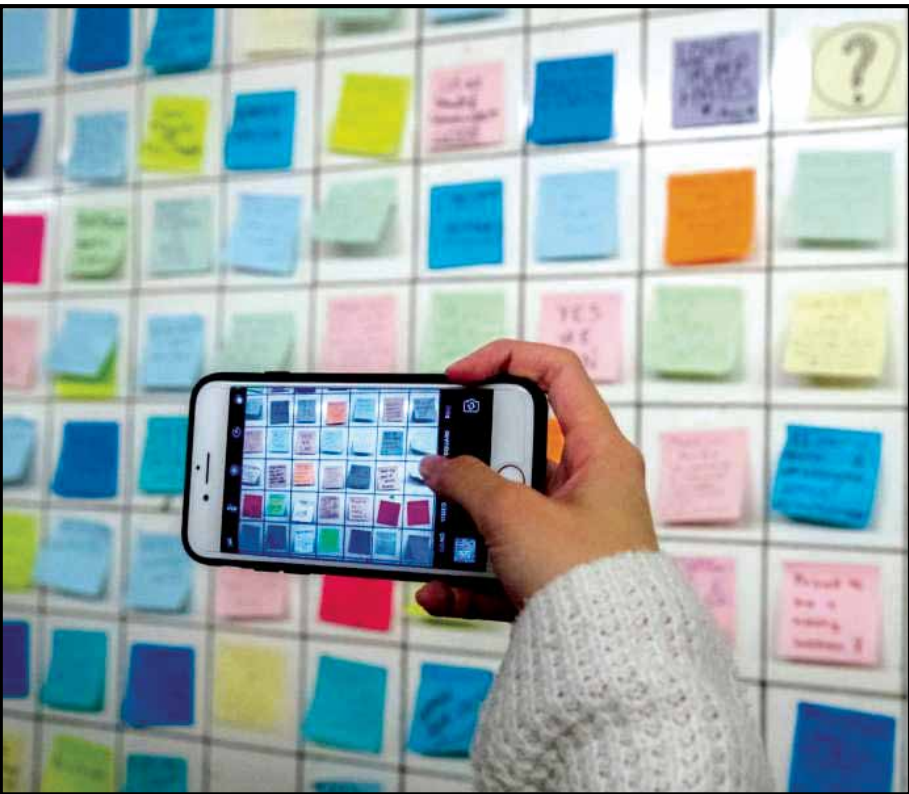


Left: First Church of the Nazarene helped the Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council celebrate the Carol of Lights and the lighting of the Christmas tree last week by leading carols during the annual party kicking off the holiday season. Church members Dan Mock, Jeff Kleeb and Amanda Kleeb led the crowd through traditional songs while patients enjoyed sandwiches, cookies and cupcakes. Not pictured is Brad Hyde on drums. The Volunteer Services Council prepared and purchased sandwiches, treats and presents for the patients. Right: Santa and Mrs. Claus made an appearance during Big Spring State Hospital's Carol of Lights sponsored by the Volunteer Services



Courtesy photos

Historical society, artist preserve 'Subway Therapy' notes



In this Nov. 11, 2016 file photo, a commuter takes a photo of the "Subway Therapy" wall, in New York. Matthew Chavez, who goes by the artist name Levee, started the installation in the passageway that connects two subway lines, where people left their feelings about the presidential election written on sticky notes. Artist Matthew Chavez started carefully removing the notes on Friday, Dec. 16 so they can be archived by the New-York Historical Society for a program called History Responds. (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer, File)

AP photo

'Duck Tales' lands David Tennant as Scrooge McDuck



AP photo

This image released by Disney XD shows a scene from Disney's "DuckTales," an all-new animated comedy series based on the Emmy Award-winning series starring Scrooge McDuck and his grandnephews Huey, Dewey and Louie, and Donald Duck. The series is set to debut in 2017 on Disney XD. (Disney XD via AP)

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Disney's new version of the 1980s animated series "DuckTales" is getting a cast worth quacking about, including a former Doctor Who.

Disney said Friday that David Tennant will be the voice of Scrooge McDuck, the wealthy great-uncle of Huey, Dewey and Louie. Tennant played the title role of the "Doctor Who" series for five years.

The trio of mischievous nephews will be voiced by Danny Pudi, Ben Schwartz and Bobby Moynihan.

Other cast members include Beck Bennett as Launchpad McQuack; Toks Olagundoye as Mrs. Beakley, and Kate Micucci as Webby Vanderquack.

The actors offer their renditions of the original "DuckTales" theme in a video.

The original "DuckTales" aired from 1987-90. The new series will debut next summer on Disney XD channels worldwide.

NEW YORK (AP)

— The subway sticky notes that New Yorkers used to express their thoughts about the future of the nation after last month's election will be preserved in a museum, officials announced Friday.

The installation called "Subway Therapy" will be housed at The New-York Historical Society on Manhattan's upper west side, Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced.

Thousands of people have left messages in subway stations and tunnels since artist Matthew Levee Chavez created the project after the Nov. 8 election.

Chavez said he felt New Yorkers needed a place to vent their emotions after the election of Republican Donald Trump, whom few city residents supported.

The project quickly became a forum for New Yorkers and visitors to express their thoughts and feelings.

One note read: "You will not divide us. Love is everything." Another said, "It doesn't end to-

day."

The museum will preserve a selection of notes as part of its History Responds program.

Beginning Tuesday through Inauguration Day on January 20, 2017, members of the public can continue to participate in the project by placing sticky notes on the glass wall inside the museum's front entrance.

Chavez said he is "thrilled that we have found a way to work together to move the project and preserve it for others to experience in the future."

"I started the project so people could have a channel to express their thoughts, feel less alone, and also become exposed to opinions different than their own," Chavez said.

New-York Historical Society president Louise Mirrer said museum officials are happy to preserve the sticky notes for future generations. She said that ephemeral items "can become vivid historical documents."

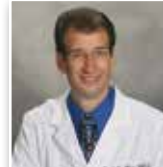
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Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Cereal, cheddar cheese stick, apples, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Spaghetti, green beans, potato rounds, peaches, fruit cup, garden salad, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Pancake on a stick, grapes, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Crispy tacos, ranch beans, Mexicali corn, veggie cups, pineapple chunks, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Sausage breakfast pizza, apples, fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Sack lunch bag, milk.

Christmas vacation starts

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Waffle and sausage or cereal with cinnamon buttered toast, cinnamon apple-sauce, fruit juice, milk, syrup; Lunch: Hamburger or chef's salad with ham, seasoned fries, burger salad, chilled peaches, apples and bananas, ketchup, mustard, mayo.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Sausage biscuit or cereal with buttered toast, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk, jelly; Lunch: Pizza (cheese or pepperoni) or popcorn chicken salad, sweet potato tots, seasoned corn, applesauce, apples and oranges.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Morning sausage roll or cereal with buttered toast, chilled pineapple, fruit juice, milk, jelly; Lunch: Corn dog, baked chips, fruit slush cup, apples and oranges, mustard, ketchup.

Christmas vacation starts

Forsan ISD

Christmas vacation

Sands CISD

Christmas vacation

Big Spring Senior Center

Monday: Sloppy Joe on a bun, hash brown casserole, onion and pickle, mixed fruit, milk.

Tuesday: Beef tips, brown rice, Brussels sprouts, chocolate cake, rolls, milk.

Wednesday: Chicken strips, cream gravy, French fries, carrot raisin salad, peaches, bread, milk.

Thursday: Lasagna with meat sauce, zucchini, tossed green salad, lemon pudding, garlic bread, milk.

Friday: Closed for Christmas.



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Roger's Reviews: Rogue One: A Star Wars Story



By **ROGER CLINE**

Staff Writer

"I have placed information vital to the survival of the Rebellion into the memory systems of this R2 unit," said Princess Leia Organa in a famously grainy hologram in "Star Wars: Episode IV 'A New Hope'"

That information, which turns out to be the schematics of the world-shattering Death Star battle station, is the fulcrum around which turns much of "A New Hope"'s plot. But how did such valuable information come to be in the hands of Leia in the first place?

That's the tale told in "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story," from Lucasfilm; and readers, let me tell you something. They tell it well.

"Rogue One" starts out with the Erso family, dad Galen (Mads Mikkelsen), mom Lyra (Valene Kane), and child daughter Jyn (Beau Gadsdon), eking out a living as farmers on a backwater planet. A shuttle arrives bearing some Imperial baddies, including Orson Krennic (Ben Mendelsohn). Krennic reveals that Galen used to be an Imperial weapons designer, and they want him back to work on a big weapons project Krennic's heading up. Jyn hides, and is retrieved later by family friend Saw Gerrera (Forest Whitaker). Years pass, and we find Jyn next grown up (Felicity Jones) and in Imperial lock-up. She's being transferred when her vehicle is attacked by Rebels, who rescue her and offer her freedom in exchange for introducing Rebel Intelligence Officer Cassian Andor (Diego Luna) and his droid K-2SO (Alan Tudyk, who has been killing it lately) to Gerrera. While looking for him on the planet Jedha, a fight breaks out and the trio are joined by blind Force sensitive Chirrut Imwe (Donnie Yen; think Luke or Obi-Wan were tough? Chirrut is blind and doesn't use a lightsaber; he kicks Stormtrooper butt with a stick! Oh, did I mention he's blind?!?) and his blaster-happy friend Baze Malbus (Wen Jiang). After the fight, the group are captured by Rebels and taken to their base, which happens to house Gerrera. Gerrera shows Jyn a hologram he received from her father, now hard at forced labor putting the finishing touches on the Death Star. He tells her that he secretly built a flaw into the weapon, laying to rest once and for all fan questions about why such an expensive piece of technology would have such a glaring Achilles' heel. When the Rebel council can't agree to send a mission to retrieve the Death Star plans, Jyn and Cassian and K-2SO and Chirrut and Baze gather a few other guys, steal an Imperial shuttle, and head off to do the job themselves. That's all the plot I'll reveal now, go watch it!

Timewise, this movie occurs several years after the prequel films and ends just before the opening scenes of "A New Hope."

Let me get this on the table: "Rogue One" is now my third-favorite Star Wars movie. Where most nerds generally agree that the first two are Episode V ("The Empire Strikes Back") followed by Episode IV ("A New Hope"); I tend to reverse the order. I simply love the way "A New Hope" made me feel when I was 8 years old much more than I did the distinct downer of "Empire." Either way, "Rogue One" is now my choice to follow those two. Why?

First of all, it feels like a Star Wars movie. This movie really goes back to the Star Wars roots in terms of look, pacing, etc. There are weird little aliens popping up and screaming here and there. The spaceships have weight. I don't know for sure whether or not they were physically modeled or computer generated, but however they did it, they felt much more like the ships in the original trilogy. By that I don't mean to imply that they looked like obsolete effects at all. They simply

did not look like the computer graphics fest that the prequel trilogy turned out to be.

Second, narratively, it fits perfectly into the established timeline, while excluding any of the principal characters from the main story line in any major way. There are a few cameos. Darth Vader (played by Daniel Naprous and Spencer Wilding, but voiced by James Earl Jones, who is thankfully still kicking it), Grand Moff Tarkin (Guy Henry), C-3PO (Anthony Daniels!) and R2-D2 (no credit given,

RIP Kenny Baker), and a young Leia (also uncredited, but I suspect Carrie Fisher plus a thick coating of

graphics work) all put in appearances. All the five main characters, Jyn, Cassian, K-2SO, Chirrut, and Baze, are new, fun, and interesting to watch.

"But wait!" I hear you exclaim. "Who's Guy Henry?!? Peter Cushing, who played Tarkin, is dead! Leia isn't young! What gives?" Okay, so there's a little movie magic at work here. This is probably the worst thing I can say about this film: Although it's quite well done, the computer animation used to pull off these detailed character creations doesn't quite overcome the uncanny valley. For me, the more they showed them, the more I was very slightly put off. But oh, they're close.

I went into "Rogue One" not quite knowing what to expect. I liked Episode VII "The Force Awakens", the most recent episode in main Star Wars continuity; but it had some moments of off-putting oddness. Starkiller Base didn't quite feel Star Wars-y to me. I was afraid some of that weirdness would spill over into "Rogue," but my worries are gone. It's a great addition to the Star Wars saga. Nine stars out of 10.

Rogue One: A Star Wars Story

Director: Gareth Edwards

Writer: Chris Weltz and Tony Gilroy; Story by John Knoll and Gary Whitta; based on characters created by George Lucas

Production Company: Lucasfilm Ltd.

PG-13, 134 min., Action/Adventure/Sci-Fi, Dec. 16, 2016

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

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Tardy Bells perform at BSSH



Courtesy photos

The Tardy Bells — a group of handbell players from the Big Spring Area Retired Teacher's Association — performed for the patients at Big Spring State Hospital on Monday in the hospital's Activity Therapies Department building. The group performs every year for the patients and is just one of the many events which the patients enjoy during the holiday season.



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**CALIFORNIA WALNUT PIECES \$1²⁹
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CELERY STALK LARGE 29¢

**COBURNS COTTAGE CHEESE 39¢
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14-OZ. BAG**

**WESTCOTT VEGETABLE OIL \$3⁹⁹
GAL.**

**DIXIE NAPKINS 89¢
180 CT.**

**DELICIOUS COCO WHIP TOPPING 3/\$1⁰⁰
9-OZ.**

277610

BBB offers tips for buying and using gift cards

Giving gift cards are quick, simple holiday gifts. Whether you're running out of time, out of gift ideas or simply don't know what to buy from the recipient's favorite store, a gift card may be right for you.

According to the National Retail Federation's holiday survey, more than 61 percent of consumers want gift cards or gift certificates this holiday season. More than half of all holiday shoppers plan

to purchase an average of three gift cards, and total gift card spending is expected to reach \$27.5 billion. Consumers plan to buy gift cards to restaurants, department stores, and generic gift cards than can be used anywhere, such as those offered by Visa



HEATHER
MASSEY

or MasterCard.

Before you purchase a gift card, Better Business Bureau advises consumers:

- Research before buying. The best place to purchase a gift card is directly from the retailer, whether in-store or online. Consumers can also research businesses at bbb.org to see a company's BBB Business Profile, which includes its history of complaints and customer reviews. BBB recommends avoiding discount and online

auction sites, as gift cards there may be counterfeit or stolen.

- Read the fine print. Fully understand how the card works. Find out if there are any fees associated with buying or using the card and if any fees will be deducted from the card after it is purchased.

- Inspect the card before buying. Verify that protective stickers have not been removed and that the PIN Number on the back of the

card is not exposed. Report any damaged cards to the store selling the cards.

- Provide a gift receipt with the gift card. Give the recipient of the gift card a gift receipt (or original if a gift receipt isn't an option) in case the card is lost, stolen or there is a discrepancy with the balance.

If you receive a gift card this holiday season:

- Know the terms. When

See **BBB**, Page 5C

Ribbon cutting



Courtesy photo

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce representatives were on hand to help HNB Mortgage staff during ribbon-cutting ceremonies at the company recently.

Permits

Green House Photo, 1102 Scurry St., res re-roof, Val: \$12,000, Fee: \$70

Joshua Andrew Hamby, 2607 Lynn Dr., res gas, Val: \$1,500, Fee: \$32

Johnny Jay Hall, 2506 Allendale Rd., res gas, Val: \$500, Fee: \$32

Robert Sanders, 1701 Johnson St., res re-roof, Val: \$8,000, Fee: \$50

Dale Patterson, 1605 Oriole St., res re-roof, Val: \$2,100, Fee: \$25

Dale Patterson, 1607 Oriole St., res re-roof, Val: \$2,100, Fee: \$25

Jeffery David Morris, 2900 Hunters Glen, res elec, Val: \$2,100, Fee: \$25

Bakers Chapel, 405 NW 10th St., com re-roof, Val: \$7,500, Fee: \$50

Anthony J. Martinez, 3808 Calvin St., res addition (siding), Val: \$5,000, Fee: \$35

Librado Hernandez, 1710 Purdue Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$6,300, Fee:

\$45

David Wayne Aslin, 502 Scott Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$8,000, Fee: \$50

Joseph O'Hara Dawes, 2510 Broadway St., res re-roof, Val: \$8,200, Fee: \$55

C.D. Wood, 2806 Clanton St., res re-roof, Val: \$7,400, Fee: \$50

D. Duke, 2902 Clanton St., res re-roof, Val: \$7,200, Fee: \$50

W.J. Brock, 3604 Parkway Rd., res re-roof, Val: \$5,900, Fee: \$40

Laurel Ann Voight, 1016 Baylor Blvd., res re-roof, Val: \$2,000, Fee: \$25

Parks Agency Inc., 900 S. Main St., com re-roof, Val: \$6,251.44, Fee: \$45

Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11th Place, com HVAC, Val: \$4,000, Fee: \$45

Mary Ann Wallace, 4210 Theo St., res re-roof, Val: \$6,845, Fee: \$45

Polly Speaker, 1603 Osage Rd., res re-roof, Val: \$9,145, Fee: \$60

Polly Speaker, 3908 Parkway Rd., res re-roof, Val: \$5,145, Fee: \$40

Richard Cauble III, 2713 Lynn Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$6,125, Fee: \$45

Matt Dahmer, 2806 Stonehaven, res re-roof, Val: \$16,815, Fee: \$95

Ronald Crouch, 4012 Dixon St., res plumb, Val: \$300, Fee: \$32

McDonald's, 2500 S. Highway 87, com elec, Val: \$10,000, Fee: \$25

David L. Ward, 3809 Coronado Ave., res gas, Val: \$350, Fee: \$32

Eddie Levens, 4003 Wasson Rd., res re-roof, Val: \$7,392.50, Fee: \$50

Pauline R. Hilario, 910 E. 13th St., res gas, Val: \$400, Fee: \$32

Lance Eric Smith, 702 Settles St., res re-roof, Val: \$8,700, Fee: \$55

Ted J. Lipham, 2400 Robb Dr., res re-roof, Val: \$13,400, Fee: \$80

Margarita E. Palmer, 4204 Theo St., structure (fence), Val: \$1,600.

Stanley Bogard, 1757 Purdue Ave., res re-roof, Val: \$8,000, Fee: \$50

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Marcus Joe Anderson, 2621 Chanute Dr., Big Spring
Steve Antoine, 1425 E. 6th St. #19, Big Spring
Corina Avila, 1800 Winston St., Big Spring
Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
Wayne Richard Buyce, 4042 Morningside Way, Canyon Lake

Vanessa Malu Calderon, 2600 Chanute Dr., Big Spring
Raymond Carroll, 712 E. 17th St., Big Spring
Gloria Cerna, PO Box 55, Lamesa
Pedro Chavarria, 1408 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
Matilda Cortez, 302 N. St. Teresa, Stanton
Hannah Deaton, 19634 Atasca Oaks Dr., Humble
Tina Marie Ellis, 4002 Austin Ave., Snyder
Selena Bethani Enriquez-King, 100 E. Parker, Midland
Jose Enrique Faz, 509 N. Goliad, Big Spring
Juana Fierro, 406 N.W. 5th St., Big Spring
Michael Dean Fleming, 5216 Tremont Ave Apt 901, Midland

William Gene Garner, 704 Rosemont, Big Spring
Anthony Ray Garza, 117 E. Davis, Big Spring
Guillermo Gomez, 2107 Morrison, Big Spring
James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler St. #502, Atlanta
Christina Nichole Gutierrez, 2809 25th St., Snyder
Dylan Hammons, 4401 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
Adela Juarez Hernandez, 908 NW First St., Big Spring
Matias Hernandez Jr., 620 E. 4th St., San Angelo
Kaleb Hill, 910 Baylor, Big Spring
Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N. Texas #198, Odessa
Stephanie Ford Johnson, P.O. Box 483, Coahoma
Keith James Kochmick, 1003 Stadium, Big Spring
Caleb Browning Lyle, 1603 Vines, Big Spring
Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham Ave., Odessa
Ruann R. Martinez, 1005 N.W. 2nd St., Big Spring
Heriberto Palafox Mora, 1311 Mobile St., Big Spring
Felicia Ornelas, 538 Westover No. 236, Big Spring
Nicole Preston, 1605 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
George Anthony Robinson Jr., 1905 Wasson Rd. #14, Big Spring

Andy Rodriguez, 1904 Runnels Street, Big Spring
Linda Eva Rodriguez, 2519 Gunter Circle, Big Spring
Juan Romero, 2504 March Circle, Big Spring
Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Road, Big Spring
Yuri Lozano Rubio, 421 Cedar, P.O. Box 173, Colorado City

Polly Ann Rusk, 4201 W. Highway 80, Big Spring
Stacie Lyanne Salas, 5102 Wasson Road, Big Spring
Shane Skaggs, 1 Courtney Place 301, Big Spring
Brandy Logsdon Stanislaus, 2507 Carol Dr., Big Spring
Kendra D. Tatum, 412 S. Moss Lake Rd., Big Spring

See **PUBLIC**, Page 5C

Tech stocks dip, dividend payers rise

NEW YORK (AP) — Technology stocks fell Friday, but gains for utilities and other big dividend payers helped U.S. indexes hold close to record levels. Bond yields gave up some of their big gains from the last few days.

KEEPING SCORE: The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 2 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,260 as of 11:40 a.m. Eastern time. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 16 points, or 0.1 percent, to 19,868. The Nasdaq composite fell 9, or 0.2 percent, to 5,448. It earlier rose above its record closing level of 5,463.83.

BOND YIELDS RELAX: The yield on the 10-year Treasury dipped to 2.58 percent from 2.60 percent late Thursday, putting at least a temporary halt to its strong rally since last month's presidential election.

Bond yields had been jumping since Donald Trump's surprise victory on expectations that faster economic growth and inflation may be on the way. The 10-year Treasury yield was at 1.86 percent on election day.

Yields kept rising this week after the Federal Reserve raised interest rates for only the second time in a decade and said that three more increases may be on the way in 2017.



Courtesy photo

Jimmy Newsom-Edward D. Jones is a recent recipient of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's "We Appreciate Your Investment in our Community" banner.

US home construction fell in November

WASHINGTON (AP) — Builders pulled back on constructing homes in November, after ground breakings surged in October to the strongest pace in more than nine years.

Housing starts fell 18.7 percent last month to a seasonally adjusted 1.09 million, the Commerce

Department said Friday. The decline likely reflected a natural regression after home construction soared 27 percent to 1.34 million homes in October, the highest level since July 2007.

Homebuilders appear to be entering 2016 with renewed confidence, de-

spite the potential setback of rising mortgage rates. Ground breakings have risen 4.8 percent so far this year. Most of the gains came from single-family houses, as apartment construction has slipped.

"The data have been unusually volatile but,

through the volatility, trends have generally been up," said Jim O'Sullivan, chief U.S. economist at High Frequency Economics.

November housing starts plunged in the Northeast and West,

See **HOME**, Page 5C

BBB

Continued from Page 4C

you get the card, read the card for any conditions. Check for an expiration date or fees.

- Check the date. If it appears that the value of your card has expired, or that fees have been deducted, contact the company that issued the card. They may still honor the card or reverse the fees.
- Obtain proof of purchase. Ask the person giving you the card for the original purchase receipt, or the card's ID number and keep this information in a safe place.
- Use before you lose. Use your card as soon as you can. It's not unusual to misplace gift cards or forget you have them. Using them early will help you get the full value.
- Treat your card like cash. If your card is lost or stolen, report it to the issuer immediately. You may not recover any of the value that was on the card. Some issuers will not replace cards that are lost or stolen, but other issuers may, for a fee. You may need to show proof of purchase and the ID number on the card. Most issuers have toll-free telephone numbers you can call to report a lost or stolen card.

Heather Massey is the regional director for the Permian Basin office of Better Business Bureau serving Central, Coastal, Southwest Texas and the Permian Basin. Heather is available for media interviews and speaking engagements. You can reach her by phone: (432) 741-2592 or email: hmassey@permianbasin.bbb.org.

PUBLIC

Continued from Page 4C

Joe Anthony Villarreal, 2206 Cecilia, Big Spring
 Ricky Lynn Waltenbaugh, 538 Westover Road Apt. #133, Big Spring
 Linda Cortez White, 6601 E. Robinson Rd., P.O. Box 429, Coahoma
 Tamara Ruth Whitt, 3706 Connley, Big Spring
 Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. #28, Big Spring

Marriage Licenses

Kip Derail Patterson, 48, and Dianna Marie Fish, 45, both of Big Spring.

County Court Judgments

(Note: The State of Texas is listed as prosecutor for all county court judgments)

Defendant: Ben Boadle
 Offense: Prohibited

weapon/knuckles
 Sentence: \$200 fine, \$244 court costs, one-time payment
 Date: Dec. 12, 2016

Defendant: Andrea Land
 Offense: Criminal trespassing
 Sentence: \$100 fine, \$287 court costs, 15 days in jail
 Date: Dec. 12, 2016

District Court Filings

City of Big Spring, Howard County, Big Spring
 City of Coahoma, City of Forsan, Forsan
 District #1, Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District, Howard County Junior College District vs. Linda Shafer, tax cases
 Tyson Murphy vs. Frankalakena Murphy, divorce
 Kenneth Suggs vs. AT&T Services Inc. et al, injury/

damage
 Shannon Lang vs. State of Texas, writ of habeus corpus

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Bruce Babb Chemicals Inc., dba Greenwell Energy Solutions
 Grantee: Blue Energy Services
 Property: A 3.819-acre tract in SE/4 Sec. 29, Blk. 33, T-1-N, T&P Railroad Co. survey
 Date: Dec. 7, 2016

Grantor: Alvaro and Joann Palacios
 Grantee: Jerilyn Bermea
 Property: S/50 feet of SE/4 Blk. 36, College Heights Addition
 Date: Dec. 8, 2016

Grantor: L.E. McCutcheon
 Grantee: Bob Parks
 Property: W/3 feet of Lot 7, and all of Lots 8, 9, 10,

11, and 12, Blk. 1, Original Town of Big Spring.
 Date: Dec. 8, 2016

Grantor: Kenneth E. Jenkins, independent administrator of the estate of Donald Raymond Jenkins, deceased.
 Grantee: Gary Simer and Michael Simer
 Property: Five tracts in N/2 Sec. 45, Blk. 31, T-1-N, T&P Railroad Co. survey
 Date: Dec. 9, 2016

Grantor: Daniel Rodriguez and Crissy Ann Rodriguez
 Grantee: J. Hopper
 Property: Lot 2, Blk. 1, Jordan Park Estates
 Date: Dec. 12, 2016

Grantor: Stan, Carla, Steve, and Tracie Blagrove
 Grantee: Breitburn Operating LP
 Property: Surface estate only of an 80-acre tract

in S/2 Sec. 32, Blk. 33, T-2-N, T&P Railroad Co. survey
 Date: Dec. 12, 2016

Grantor: Jack B. Nixon as heir of James B. Nixon aka James Bryan Nixon, deceased
 Grantee: DRK Investments LLC
 Property: Lots 20, 21, and 22, Blk. 27, Original Town of Forsan
 Date: Dec. 13, 2016

Grantor: Big B Properties LLC
 Grantee: CM Pinkhouse Rentals LLC
 Property: Lot 13, BLK. 4, Muir Heights Addition
 Date: Dec. 14, 2016

Grantor: CM Pinkhouse LLC
 Grantee: Big B Properties LLC
 Property: Lot 22, Blk. 4, Douglass Addition
 Date: Dec. 14, 2016

Grantor: Silver Leaf

Communities LLC
 Grantee: Curtis and Heather Crabtree
 Property: Lot 10, Blk. 2, University Gardens No. 2
 Date: Dec. 14, 2016

Grantor: B&E Roustabouts Inc.
 Grantee: Victor Barrera
 Property: Lot 2, Blk. 1, Harvey's No. 2 addition
 Date: Dec. 14, 2016

Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Liens

Grantor: Silver Leaf Communities LLC
 Grantee: Stephanie Mims
 Property: Lot 13, Blk. 1, University Gardens No. 2 addition

Grantor: Albert Eugene Kelley
 Grantee: Marcelino Luna
 Property: Two tracts in Government Heights to Bauer Addition: Tract 1: Lots 1, 2, and 3, Blk. 46; Tract 2: Lot 11, Blk. 2.

Chinese leaders pledge stable currency

BEIJING (AP) — China's leaders pledged Friday to keep its currency stable and trim bloated heavy industry as they wrapped up an annual planning meeting amid pressure from U.S. President-elect Donald Trump and European leaders over trade.

Responding to concern about possible threats from rapidly rising debt, the official Xinhua News Agency said leaders at the three-day meeting also promised to reduce financial risks.

The reports suggested President Xi Jinping's government plans no significant changes despite calls by reform advocates to move faster on pledges to make the world's second-largest economy more productive by giving market forces a bigger role.

There was no indication of concessions to pressure from Washington and Europe, which complain Beijing blocks access to its markets in violation of its free-trade commitments. Foreign companies complain Chinese regulators are trying to squeeze them out of technology and other promising industries.

Trump, who takes office in January, has vowed to press Beijing for action by imposing 45 percent tariffs on Chinese goods. Few economists expect him to go that far but any sanctions could hurt Chinese export industries that support millions of jobs.

The Economic Work Conference, attended by Xi and other Communist Party leaders, is a throwback to China's era of central planning but still plays a key role in directing development of the state-dominated economy.

The Chinese leadership is trying to shore up economic growth while reducing reliance on debt that economists worry is dangerously high. Growth held steady at 6.7 percent over a year earlier in the quarter ending in September, propped up by a boom in real estate sales and credit growth.

Forecasters expect growth to cool as regulators tighten controls to cool bank lending and housing costs.

Some economists and business groups say they expect no major new initiatives until after a Cabinet reshuffle following a congress of the

ruling party late next year. That gathering might see the retirement of some figures from the party's seven-member Standing Committee, China's ruling inner circle, giving Xi a chance to fortify his already extensive powers by promoting allies.

The leadership promised to ensure the "basic stability" of the yuan, according to Xinhua. The currency has weakened against the dollar, prompting concern it might be allowed to fall further.

Trump has accused Beijing of suppressing the yuan's exchange rate to help its exporters. Economists say while that was true earlier, the Chinese central bank has spent heavily from its reserves in recent months to prop up the yuan's value.

Friday's statement promised to press ahead with "supply-side structural reforms," a reference to shutting down excess capacity in industries including steel and cement in which supply exceeds demand.

European governments face complaints by steelworkers and others that a flood of low-cost Chinese exports

threatens their jobs. U.S. aluminum producers say they are being driven out of business by Chinese imports.

At the same time, European business leaders express frustration that Beijing blocks foreign purchases of most Chinese assets while its own companies are on a global buying spree to acquire technology and brands.

The Chinese leadership also pledged to make a priority of preventing financial risks. Rising debt has fueled concern about possible threats to China's financial system in the event of defaults.

Beijing's reliance on credit to drive growth since the 2008 global crisis has led to a rapid run-up in China's debt to the equivalent of 250 percent of gross domestic product, high for a developing economy. That has prompted warnings of a possible financial crisis or a drag on growth if debt isn't controlled.

The ruling party has emphasized it intends to tighten political control over major companies, which its trading partners say runs counter to pledges to promote competition.

HOME

Continued from Page 4C

while falling at less dramatic rate in the Midwest and South.

Building permits fell 4.7 percent last month to an annual rate of 1.20 million. During the past 11 months, permits have edged up just 1.1 percent as construction firms appear to be moving away from apartment complexes.

A healthy bout of hiring has

increased demand for homes. Through the first 10 months of this year, sales of new homes are 12.7 percent higher than in the same stretch last year. The strong demand has helped lift prices, pushing the median sales price of new U.S. homes to \$304,500 as of October.

Homebuilders have turned increasingly optimistic.

The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo builder sentiment index released on Thursday reached its highest point in 11 years.

The index climbed seven points for December to a reading of 70. Any figure above 50 indicates that builders view sales conditions as positive. The index last reached 70 in July 2005, when the housing boom was still in full-force before a wave of subprime mortgage defaults helped trigger the Great Recession.

Still, purchasing a home has become costlier since the presidential election.

On the expectation of tax cuts, regulatory changes and higher budget deficits un-

der President-elect Donald Trump, the yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note has risen. This has increased borrowing costs for consumers.

In the week ended Thursday, the average rate on the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage rose to 4.16 percent from 4.13 percent the previous week, mortgage company Freddie Mac reported. That compares with 3.57 percent in the week ended Nov. 9, the day Trump clinched the election. A year ago, the benchmark loan rate averaged 3.97 percent.



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Parent's Corner: A show of appreciation is precious

Every year as December approaches I think of my mother and the hardships she had as a young girl. She grew up in a home of 11 children, however, five died during childhood. She was just 12 years old when her mother died. Her father did not remarry until many years later, so he attempted to raise the remaining children as a single dad.

Some of the children were old enough to help a lot but the responsibility of the parent still rested upon his shoulders. Needless to say, in possessions, the family didn't have very much. Those were the days before social security, welfare, or any other governmental organizations that stepped in with assistance; the family had to make it on their own and through all the difficulties, most of them were successful.

In their struggles they learned many important lessons.

One of the lessons they learned was to be appreciative, especially of each other, and the things each other would do and how they would act. My mom always told me that being appreciative, of even the small things, was a blessing in itself. I have always tried to be aware of these things and to show that I was appreciative, even

of things that were expected.

An example would be to show someone with whom I work, that even though they are doing their job, they should be commended and told that they are appreciated. Yes, they are being paid for that action but the appreciation others show for the job they are doing makes them feel good, and usually makes them try to even do a better job.

People who feel appreciated are happier, less-stressed, more creative, more enthusiastic, and usually much more loyal to their friends, family and co-workers than those who feel they are not appreciated. It doesn't matter who they are or what job they do, being appreciated has its rewards.

Think back in your own life and the times you were shown appreciation. How did you respond? How did the simple act of someone saying, and meaning, "you are appreciated" make you feel? It also makes the one dishing out the dose of appreciation feel better. Offering genuine appreciation is stress-relieving and just feels good.

It's good to know that you are helping another person feel acknowledged and helping them to bring out the best of themselves. As Yogi Berra would say, "I learned a lot from my parents, especially my mother and my dad!"

Darrell Ryan is the BSISD Director of School Safety.



DARRELL
RYAN

DONATION

Continued from Page 1C

definitely grateful to all of the churches and people who made this possible."

Churches involved in the donation were Family Faith Center, First United Methodist Church, Cornerstone Covenant Church, Trinity Baptist Church, Life Church, and First Baptist Church.

"We work pretty closely with the churches in our community. We received a call from our friend Pastor Sam Segundo from Family Faith," said Pastor Mike Willard of Cornerstone Covenant. "He told us about the project, and certainly we thought it was a worthy project, a wonderful opportunity for us to come together for something that will be good for our community and certainly for our law enforcement family."

Pastor Scott Kirkland of Trinity Baptist agreed.

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The fight against cancer



Courtesy photo/Big Spring ISD

Washington Cancer Whippers, WCW, waited tables, Monday, Dec. 5, at Pizza Inn as a fundraiser for Relay for Life. Pictured are from left, front row, Kim Bridges, Maina Cisneros, Anne Skaggs, Natalie Bose, Cecilia Barrera, and Kristin Tubb, and from, left, back row, Leah Deckard, Cheyenne Galloway, Candi Whitehead, Kandi Lane, Nichole Negron and Cindy Roberts.



Courtesy Photo/Forsan ISD

Grades 6-12 participated in Christmas sweater day at Forsan Junior/Senior High School.

Volunteers needed for Food 2 Kids

Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends.

Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very re-

warding.

To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

The next sacking session will be at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 2 and 3 at the old Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 N.W. Seventh St.

To get there, take Gregg Street north and

turn left on Delaney, which is the block just past the Salvation Army retail store. Delaney turns into Seventh Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

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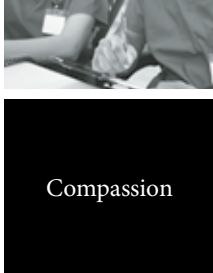
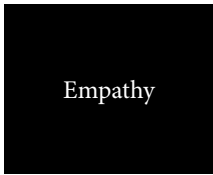
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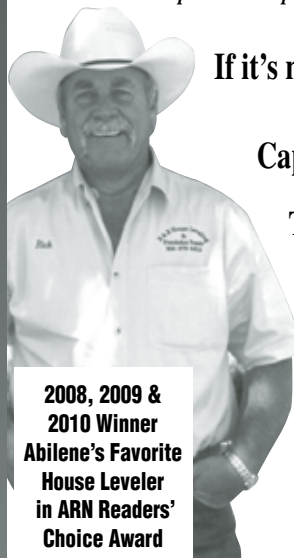

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Mesquite Fire Wood For Sale!!!
Half cords for \$160
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We Deliver!!!
Call John (432)816-9792

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Beardless Wheat Seed in 2200 lb totes \$400 dollars each , also New Hay Grazer Bales \$60 a bale.
Quantity discount & Delivery Available
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Breaking, Showing, Training & Ranch Horse competition.

For more info call
Byron Pope
325-436-2479

Public Notice

Notice of Application for Commercial Fluid Injection Well Permit

Henderson and Erickson, Inc., 410 North Main, Midland, TX 79701, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Cisco, Canyon Reef, and Strawn Formations, 846 SWD Lease, Well Number 2. The proposed injection well is located 15.2 miles northeast of Big Spring, TX in the Vealmoor, East Field, in Howard County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 7600 to 9200 feet.

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

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

#9262 December 18, 2016

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 08
Rule 38 Case
No. 08-0302419
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Nov

Public Notice

29, 2016
Status/Permit
No. 619392
NOTICE OF PROTEST
DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jan 3, 2017

Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email:
SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SM ENERGY COMPANY, [RRC Operator No. 788997] has made application for a density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the DENSITY requirement of the field rules for the AMENDED REENTER permit in Sec. 36, Bk. 32 T2N, T&P RR CO/CLINTON, C A Survey, A-620, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, HOWARD County, being 10 miles NE direction from BIG SPRING, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protest should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jan 3, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICA-

Public Notice

TION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :
STRIPLING 36
Lease/Unit Well No. :
1
Lease/Unit Acres:
40.0
Nearest Lease Line (ft) :
646.0

Lease Lines :
672.0 F S L, 646.0 F W L
Survey Lines :
672.0 F S L, 1990.0 F E L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) :
Special Rules 330/0, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10000 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Leah Moon Becton, at (832)701-1776, x125.

#9251 December 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2016

Real Estate for Rent

1 acre of land for RV/Mobile Home (not in trailer park)
1 trailer for \$500/month
Call 432-213-5631



1 BR/1BA \$599 OPEN HOUSE
10:00 -3:00, December 17, 2016.
Come see what all we have to offer.
3304 W. Hwy. 80
-Call Tamara 432-714-4840

1010 A Nolan. New duplex. 2 bed/2 bath w/kitchen appliances. No bills paid \$975/month, \$500/dep. Call 432-267-7449 or 432-634-8101

107 East 25th St. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer. No smoking/no pets. References required. \$1,000/month, \$1,000/dep. Call 432-213-2319

1409 Mt Vernon- 3 BDR, 1 Bath, CH/CA, Rent 825, deposit 750. Application required. 432.816.1255

1615 E. 16th 2 Bedroom 1 Bath CH/A Excellent Condition, Privacy Fence, \$795/Month \$250/Deposit Studio Appt attached \$295 would be great for Mother in law.

Call 432-816-5279

1732 Purdue- 3 BDR, 2 bath, CH/CA, tile floors. Rent 1075, deposit 900. Application required. 432.816.1255

2402 Marcy Drive
3 bedroom.
Nice house w/garage \$1000/month, \$900/deposit No HUD/No pets/No smoking Rental references required. Call 432-270-3849

2507 Cindy- 3 BDR, 2 bath, CH/CA, New Carpet. Rent 1075, deposit 900. Application required. 432.816.1255

Real Estate for Rent

3202 Auburn- 3 BDR, 1 bath, 1Garage, CH/CA, tile floors. Rent 850, deposit 750. Application required, 432.816.1255

3704 Calvin. 3 bed, 1 bath. Brick, CH/A. \$900/month, \$900/dep. No HUD/no pets/nonsmoker. Rental references required. Call 432-270-3849 for more info.

4104 Muir. 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 living areas, CH/A. Rental References required. \$1,000/month, \$900/dep. Prefer non-smoker/ no HUD/no pets. Call 432-270-3849

605 N. Main. Very clean 2 bed, 2 bath, all appliances. No pets/smoking. \$1,300/month, \$1,300/dep, all bills paid. References required. Call 432-213-2319

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Now renting 2 & 3 bedroom Ponderosa Apartments East 6th Street.
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Owner Finance
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Forsan School District
3 Bed/ 2 bath
2 Car garage
Very Nice with Storage Building on Half Acre
\$10,000 down \$1,078.19 a Month
Call 432-517-2876

Private/secluded. Big, 1 BR. Utilities paid. Washer/dryer, ceiling fans. 1 only non-smoking person/pets \$600 Monthly. #1 choice of apartments. Deposit. Credit report check. 611 Runnels 432-270-0707.

Rockhouse Apartments - 1308 Scurry: 2 bedroom, 2 bath \$750/month & \$350 deposit or \$900 all bills paid except cable. Also a 3 bedroom 2 bath \$1100/month & \$550/deposit or \$1300 bills paid. \$35 Application fee. Credit and background check required. Call 432-714-4001 to see.

Travel Trailers & Spaces for rent. Peaceful Country setting. Call Brandy 432-213-3608 for spaces or trailers.

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Commercial Shop & Yard 4 bay doors 60 by 50 shop with concrete area. To expand or make a wash bay. Fenced in 120 by 150 yard. Shop has office & yard has a RV spot.

Located on the corner of 1st & Austin
Asking 45,000
Call or Text 325-895-5532 or 325-213-2004

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to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 800-876-7060.

Real Estate for Sale



Homes For Sale

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\$98,500

1313 Dixie
\$145,000

2809 Lawrence
\$149,900

3600 Parkway
\$159,900

2708 Cindy
\$159,900

618 Colgate
\$165,00

509 E 13th
\$179,900

Charles Smith - Realtor
432-466-1613 or
Home Realtors 432-263-1284
www.home-realtors.net

Price Reduced



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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The ears have it

East dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ J 10 8 4 3
♥ 10 9 2
♦ Q J 10 6
♣ 7
WEST
♠ 2
♥ A K 5
♦ A K 8 3 2
♣ K J 3 2
EAST
♠ 7
♥ Q J 7 6 4 3
♦ 9 7 5 4
♣ 9 8

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 9 6 5
♥ 8
♦ —
♣ A Q 10 6 5 4
The bidding:
East 3♥
South Dble
West 4♥
North Pass

Opening lead — king of hearts.
The imagination of a bridge player hath no bounds. If you doubt this, think back to some of the things your partners have done to you lately — or vice versa! Take this deal from a team-of-four match some years ago.

At the first table, East concocted a shoestring three-heart bid, which required gall as well as imagination. In a sense, this was a well-timed call, since it posed quite a problem for South. However, South appeared to do well enough when he wound up at

four spades doubled, making six for 1,190 points!

At the second table, the bidding took an entirely different tack:

East 2♣
South 2♠
West 2♠
North 2♦
East 5♥
South 6♣
West Dble
North 6♠
East Pass
South Pass
West Dble

Declarer had no trouble making the slam, losing only a heart trick and scoring 1,660 points. West's A-K, A-K and K-J took just one trick. West's double of six spades was very doubtful. He should have realized that when South bid six clubs rather than five spades, vulnerable against not, he was undertaking a slam he expected to make. South therefore had to have a highly distributional hand.

West thus had little to gain by doubling — at best he could not expect to beat the contract more than one trick. Instead, West should have played safe and bid seven hearts as a sacrifice against a potential slam. This would have cost him 800 points instead of 1,660.

West's error was that he paid too much attention to what his eyes told him (18 high-card points), but not enough attention to what his ears told him (that South thought he could make 12 tricks). In effect, West was tone-deaf.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Tomorrow's Horoscope



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

Cosmic Lull

Though tomorrow brings important changes to the cosmic lineup, today may seem like a lull. Whatever you like to do to relax, this will be the perfect time for it. It's also an ideal moment to take stock, look back at the year, count your blessings, muse over what could have been better and spin new wishes and dreams for 2017.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice. The one who stands too close, interrupts often and talks loudly will need your forgiveness and understanding.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Make your life user-friendly. There are enough inconveniences in daily

living as it is. Anything you can do to set yourself up for an easier experience will be a key element of your success formula.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There are certain people in your life who really seem to bring the fun. Those are the ones to honor now. It's pretty easy; all you have to do is reach out in that complimentary way you always do.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your exemplary behavior will contribute to the formality of a situation, masking your completely irreverent mental process. The ones who know you best will see it in the twinkle of your eye.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Hurt feelings are a big deal now, and they'll take a really long time to mend. So why risk it? There's a good chance that nothing is worth arguing over. When you don't agree with a loved one, get up and take a walk.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When in doubt, always give your friend the best stuff, go the extra mile

for your loved one and put in way more time than you think is needed, and then enjoy the regret-free zone.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Complicated isn't cool. Bigger isn't better. More violent isn't more effective. Moving in the direction of simplicity, humility and modesty takes courage, and it will be richly rewarded in every way that matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The omens suggest that in this day, you will be unconcerned with anything other than getting the job done. Your dedication and singular focus will effect change and inspire those around you while you're at it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Maybe there won't be time to do all of the fabulous fun ideas you're thinking about, but you'll accomplish what must be done and a few extras and count this day as fantastically productive.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're in the mood to go all out for the people you love, and they're in the mood to

take everything you have to give with deep appreciation, so it should all work out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you blow up a person's phone, the person will be very happy. You bring good news, fun, affection. Your communication is 100 percent sweetness.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If it doesn't work out, it's not something to be ashamed of. Take it in stride. Accept life's process. You're learning, and so are they. Keep your attitude upbeat and eventually you'll get the result you're looking for.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 18). You'll love how family makes you proud in 2017. Helping someone hone a talent will ultimately give you the chance to refine your gifts, too. Groups will be a specialty of yours in February. You'll be a leader, but you'll be leading from the middle. The investment you make in March will pay you double in September. Taurus and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 29, 31, 24

and 17.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: On Monday, Mars moves into Pisces, a place where the warrior fights a holy war, goes on a spiritual crusade and, in many ways, embraces the absurdity of his position. The enemy is within, a fact that's further driven home when Mercury goes retrograde one last time in 2016. It's very easy to be hard on yourself with so much internalization happening. Keep in mind that thoughts are not always right. Just because it's in your head doesn't mean that you came up with it, either. Don't believe everything you think.

This time of year can be hard on people for various reasons. There's a certain pressure to finish the calendar off strong. Add in holiday expectations, family gatherings and more of the cold and dark than is humanly comfortable and the result just might be a negative one. That's why it's important to counteract the short days with emotional sunshine

as we near the winter solstice. As the sun leaves the charged-up fire realm of Sagittarius to get some serious hard work done in the practical realm of Capricorn, it's an opportunity to be proactive, think forward, make exciting plans and arm yourself with the tools to make life better when it's not naturally going in that direction.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: From "Star Search" to superstar judge in her own right on "The Voice," Christina Aguilera knows what it takes to get to the top again and again, most recently with her hit "Telepathy," which reached No. 1 on Billboard's chart for dance club songs. Her sun, Mercury, Venus and Neptune are in Sagittarius, which lends megawattage to her star power. The intensity of fire planets is offset by the grounding influence of her Mars and moon's being in earth signs.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis and click "Contact."

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Annie's Mailbox

A Real Couple?

Dear Annie: I am in my early 30s. I've been seeing this guy, "James," for a little

over three months. James and I met online. After having so many dud online dates in the past, I found James to be a pleasant surprise -- cute, funny, a good

listener. We clicked right away, but we also took things slowly; we didn't have our first kiss until our fourth date. I love that he didn't try to rush anything.

We see each other about three times a week now and are very affectionate and coupley. On days we don't see each other, he'll text me silly little things so I know he's thinking of me. I really like him, and I hope this is the start of a serious long-term relationship. Unlike how I was in my 20s, I'm not looking to just date around and waste my time much these days. I don't know whether it's my biological clock exactly. I'm just ready to find someone I can spend my life with.

The problem is this: I still don't know whether James and I are a couple. After all this time, we still haven't had "the talk." I thought he would have brought it up by now. But the uncertainty is starting to make me feel a little anxious. I really want to know where I stand. How can I get him to bring it up? (I don't want to have to be the one to do it. I would feel weak and clingy.) -- Afraid of Scaring Him Off

Dear Afraid: Enough dillydallying. You two need to talk. To quell some

of your fears, let's look at all the possible scenarios: 1) He thinks you're a couple already and doesn't think there's any ambiguity. 2) He considers this casual and will let things between you two fade away once he meets someone else. 3) He wants to be your boyfriend but is as cripplingly shy as you are about the subject and is also writing to an advice columnist for guidance.

Now, which scenario would be made worse by talking? Answer: none of the above. Whatever he's thinking, you're better off knowing. All you need to do is ask. So get to it.

Dear Annie: I have read several letters in your column about older drivers and think it would be a great time to mention the AARP Smart Driver course, which is available across the country.

It includes research-based instructional classes developed to help drivers who are 50 or older improve their skills and be safer drivers. They cover age-relat-

ed physical changes, rules of the road and local driving problems and traffic laws. Research has found areas that present more problems for seniors, such as left turns, and the instructors give advice about them. They also cover evaluating when it is time to give up driving and how to research transportation options when that time comes.

These classes are taught by volunteers like me, people who are willing to donate their time and feel the information in these classes is so worthwhile in keeping the roads safer for everybody in our communities.

There is even a carrot on the end of the stick: Several insurance companies will give discounts to customers who take this course, because they realize the information taught helps to reduce crash potential. You can locate a class in your area at <http://www.aarp.org/driversafety>. Thanks for telling folks about this option. -- An Arizona Volunteer

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

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Newsday Crossword

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

ACROSS

1 Ordered

5 Get ready to rage

9 Élysée Palace bride of 2008

14 ___ y *Ahora* (Univision newsmagazine)

15 Amp jack

17 Would prefer to undo

18 Some punk-rock feminists

19 Succeeded in self-reflection?

21 Obsessive enthusiast

22 Bit of enthusiastic support

23 Take over

24 "... ne pas ___, c'est là la question"

25 First memory-foam user, for its seat cushions

26 Almond-paste pastries

28 Tests of audacity

29 22 of 26 letters, in DC

30 Molten chocolate, per some recipes

31 Highly apprehensive

32 Source of much orange juice

34 *Fitness* mag subject

37 Cranberry descriptor

38 GPS display

41 "If I pursue ___ of light . . .": Einstein

42 Anchored oneself

44 Unwholesome

45 About .002% of dry air

46 Its banks were honored by UNESCO

47 Taunting singer of "Goodnight, Harvard"

48 Fail big-time

49 Explicitly set forth

50 Ice-show pioneer

53 Zinfandel center city

54 Spotlight

55 Title for Muhammad descendants

56 What fills some shells

57 Overcome, in a way

58 Topic in contract law

DOWN

1 Round sums

2 "The All Weather Hairspray"

3 Watchful

31 Unsubstantial

32 Feb. celebration

33 Hader's dad in the ... *Meatballs* movies

34 Shuts in

35 Sushi bar selection

36 Prods, perhaps

38 Super model

39 All ears

40 Acknowledged one's errors

42 Westernmost nation of the Iroquois League

43 One with the goods

45 Offhand passes

48 Philodendron's edible cousin

49 Germ

51 ___ fuel

52 Cause of a blowup

53 Super model

54 Title for Muhammad descendants

56 What fills some shells

57 Overcome, in a way

58 Topic in contract law

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Answer to previous puzzle

STARS	SPY	MAKOS
ARROW	TOO	ELIOT
REUSE	AIR	GINZA
GABARDINE	JACKET	
ETA	VENT	AWE
KEN	GPA	RIP
LOIN	SWEETROLL	
ANTIQUENOTE	TABLE	
FORTUNATE	MESA	
FRY	APT	GAP
SKI	AJAR	ISP
WALKINGDISTANCE		
ASPIE	AIM	INFER
RINDS	REM	STUNK
PSST	BUY	TENTS

12/17/16

Want a hippo for Christmas? The story of a girl who got one

By JOHN ROGERS

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — All a cute, curly haired 10-year-old girl named Gayla Peevey wanted for Christmas in 1953 was a hippopotamus.

And amazingly enough, after "I Want a Hippopotamus For Christmas" became the biggest hit song of that holiday season, she actually got one, a 700-pound baby named Matilda. She promptly donated it to the Oklahoma City Zoo, where it lived to be nearly 50, a ripe old age for hippos.

As for Peevey's song, it may never die.

"That one just really took off, and it's still going strong, stronger than ever. Sixty-three years later! Hard to believe," Peevey, an ebullient woman of 73, says during a recent phone interview from her San Diego-area home.

So much so that it's used as a cellphone ringtone these days, included on holiday ornaments and Christmas cards, available for download on iTunes. It's even featured in a U.S. Postal Service commercial in which the post office boasts it ships more online gifts, hippopotamuses included, than anybody.

Some people will tell you it's an annoying ear worm, a tune with such silly lyrics and a melody so maddeningly memorable that it will play endlessly in your head every holiday season until New Year's Day.

But that's part of its charm, says Tim Moore, iHeart Radio's New Hampshire programming director who over the decades has played it plenty of times.

"It's got the sound of an old-time recording," Moore says. "It sounds dated. It sounds a little corny. But that's the thing about it. Also, not to be discounted is its effect on children."

Yes, definitely don't discount that.

For years, Peevey has been hearing from schoolteachers around the world who tell her their students perform the song and can't get enough of it.

"Over 15 years now we've done it, and I don't think we're stopping," laughs Dana Caro, who directs the second-grade Christmas music program at a suburban Southern California school.

Other songs come and go, says Caro, but "Hippo" stays in the mix every year at Arcadia's Longley Way Elementary School.

"Even in class today, we weren't in rehearsal yet when one kid started singing it, and then they were all singing it," added the teacher, who says it has a bounce and a cheeriness that kids love.

And who knows, singing it may actually get a kid a hippo. Unlikely, perhaps, but it did get one for Peevey.

Her hometown zoo, hippoless at the time, teamed with the local newspaper to encourage people to send in enough money to buy her one after she debuted the song on television's "The Ed Sullivan Show."

Three thousand dollars later, Matilda arrived on Christmas Eve, a fitting gift for someone who would so enthusiastically declare, "No crocodiles, no rhinoceroses. I only like hippopotamuses. And hippopotamuses like me too."

Soon after, however, Peevey left her hippopotamus behind, moving to California.

She had been singing professionally for two years before recording "Hippo," moving up from local watermelon festivals to radio shows and then a spot on television's "Saturday Night Revue" hosted by



AP photo

Gayla Peevey, singer of that enduring Christmas classic, "I Want a Hippopotamus For Christmas," stands next to an image she drew of a hippopotamus in her home Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2016, in La Mesa, Calif. It was 1953, and one of the hottest songs on the radio was "I Want a Hippopotamus For Christmas." Now it's Christmas 2016, and Peevey is still singing. She leaves that to schoolchildren, ringtones, iTunes downloads and TV commercials that, to the 73-year-old singer's amazement, keep the song in everyone's head every Christmas season, whether they want it there or not. (AP Photo/Gregory Bull)

Hoagy Carmichael.

But her hippo fame caught her off guard, and for months afterward she couldn't move around Oklahoma City without being mobbed by fans. Her parents figured she'd blend in as just another "normal kid" in California while recording a few more songs.

None would have the impact of that first one, written by John Rox and personally selected for Peevey by Columbia Records' legendary producer and A&R man Mitch Miller, who backed her with his orchestra.

She did resurface briefly in 1959 with "My Little Marine," an aching teen ballad she'd written about

her first crush. She recorded it under the name Jamie Horton, her manager not wanting people to dismiss it as another hippo song. It peaked at No. 84 on Billboard's Hot 100.

"A hit but not a big hit," she says now. "Certainly not a hit as big as the hippopotamus song."

Soon after, she was off to college, then marriage and motherhood. Eventually she founded her own advertising agency, keeping her hand in music writing commercial jingles.

Retired and married for 53 years now, she still sings regularly in church.

"But not the hippo song," Peevey says, laughing. "It's not really a church song."



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