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SUNDAY
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Murder trial to convene

Defendant charged in 2013 shooting death of local man

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Jury selection will be held Monday in the murder trial of Sean Thomas Smith, accused in the 2013 shooting death of 26-year-old Carlos Guerrero. Testimony in the trial, which will be heard before Judge Timothy Yeats in 118th District Court, is expected to begin Tuesday. Smith, of Stanton, is accused of killing Guerrero in the early morning hours of Oct. 14, 2013. Official reports state Guerrero suffered a single gunshot wound to the chest during an altercation in the 1000 block of Stadium. He was later pronounced dead at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Witness statements identi-

fied Smith as the shooter, said Sgt. Tony Everett, Big Spring Police Department public information officer. "(Witnesses) advised he had left the scene driving an older model blue Ford pickup," Everett said. "While additional officers were responding, the suspect vehicle was observed in the 600 block of W. Fourth Street. Officers conducted a traffic stop and arrested Smith." A .17 caliber rifle, believed to be the murder weapon, was recovered from the vehicle, Everett said. 118th District Attorney Hardy L. Wilkerson will prosecute the case, while Lubbock attorney Dan Hurley will represent Smith. The trial is expected to last two or three days.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

According to officials at the scene, a westbound truck carrying two FedEx ground trailers left Interstate 20, rolled down the embankment near the overpass bridge in Coahoma and crashed into a nearby building on the north service road.

Tractor-trailer rig slams into Coahoma building; one injured

BY **LYNDEL MOODY**
 Staff Writer

The driver of a freightliner truck towing two FedEx ground trailers was injured after veering off Interstate 20 and crashing into a building in Coahoma Friday afternoon. Luke Earle Swingle, 30, of Vista, Calif., was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center with non-incapacitating injuries, ac-

ording to DPS officials. His passenger, Scott Earle Swingle, also of Vista, was not injured in the accident. The building was unoccupied at the time of the accident. At 2:06 p.m. Friday, emergency personnel received a call of a truck that left the highway. See **CRASH**, Page 3A

Skywarn training set for March 12

The National Weather Service is offering a Skywarn Weather class to be held in Big Spring on March 12, at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth St. The Class will cover the following topics:

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- Information to report
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety

This training is free of charge. For more information, contact Big Spring Police Lt. Brian Gordon at (432) 264-2561.

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Feds: State wrongly took teenaged mother's child

By **PHILIP MARCELO**
 Associated Press

BOSTON — She was 19, a brand-new mother with a developmental disability. Two days after giving birth to her daughter, the state took the infant away and placed her in foster care. Massachusetts child welfare officials contend the young woman couldn't properly care for a newborn and insist they acted in the child's best interests. But the federal government disagrees: It says the state violated her civil rights by discriminating against her because of her disability. In a new report, the Justice Department and the U.S. Department

of Health and Human Services say the state Department of Children and Families — which has moved to terminate the mother's parental rights — needs to compensate her and give her a chance to prove she can care for her daughter, or it could face a federal lawsuit. The National Council on Disability, an independent federal agency advising the White House and Congress, says the case points up a growing problem: states needlessly taking custody of the children of disabled parents. "Parents with disabilities are suffering significant discrimination," said Robyn Powell, an attorney

See **FEDS**, Page 3A

Master plan on county agenda

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Long-range planning will be on the minds of Howard County commissioners when they meet at 10 a.m. Monday in the county courthouse. Commissioners will begin discussion on adopting a new five-year master plan for the county, County Judge Kathryn Wiseman said. "Five years ago, the county developed a master plan, basically goals we wanted to achieve," Wiseman said. "I think that was a very good approach. Comparatively few counties do this; mostly they deal with things as they happen." With the old master plan expiring, commissioners will turn their attention to developing a new document. Various department heads have been requested to develop a list of goals for presentation.

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Elida (Lolly) Juarez



Elida (Lolly) Juarez, 65, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, 2015, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born April 13, 1949, in Big Spring, Texas to Juana and Amador Flores. She has been a lifetime resident of Big Spring. She was a homemaker most of her life but at a young age she worked at the Settles Hotel. She enjoyed gardening

and taking care of her grandchildren. She was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

She is survived by her husband Joe Juarez of Big Spring; five sons, Joe Juarez Jr. and wife Diana, David Juarez and wife Dahlia, Johnny Juarez, Donny Juarez and wife Katrina and Michael Juarez and wife Eugina, all of Big Spring; her mother, Juana Flores; one sister, Lorina Chavarria and husband Joe of Odessa; four brothers, Jesse Flores and wife Rosa of Big Spring, Esquiel Flores of Big Spring, Raul Flores of Dallas and Antonio Flores and wife Amanda of Big Spring; 18 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her father Amador Flores and a sister Elena Mier.

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

Harland Bryan Birdwell

The Rev. Harland Bryan "Steve" Birdwell, 86, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015, at his residence. Memorial services will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15, 2015, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Big Spring.

He was born Nov. 1, 1928, in Ira, Texas and married Charlene Smith in 1949. She preceded him in death Jan. 20, 2011.

He was a retired Episcopal priest who served

churches in Colorado City, Texas, Sweetwater, Texas, Big Spring, Texas, Roswell, N.M., Albuquerque, N.M., Albany, Texas and Abilene, Texas,

He is survived by his daughter, Cynthia Marshall and husband, John of Big Spring; his son, Scott Birdwell and wife, Alison of Houston; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

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

Police blotter

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

• PHILLIP WAYNE BEBEE, 42, of 1513 East 17th St. was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana, less than or equal to 2 ounces; disregard stop sign, expired registration (two counts), failure to appear (five counts); and failed to maintain financial responsibility.

• ANDREA DELGADO, 31, of 800 E. 13th was arrested on warrants for expired registration, failed to maintain financial responsibility and no driver's license-when unlicensed.

• LAUREN RACINE SMITH, 27, of 1801 Settles St was arrested on a charge of theft, less than \$50—shoplifting.

• ALFREDO FLORES JR., 45, of 1513 Kentucky Way was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

• ASELMO VINCENT RANGEL, 18, of 1709 W. Third St., was arrested on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

• CHANCE FELKER COOKE, 30, transient, was arrested on a charge of theft, more than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.

• MELVIN WILLIAM BIDDLE, 52, of 1004 E. 14th St. was arrested on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

• ROCKY SANCHEZ, 27, of 202 Rocco Road was arrested on a charge criminal mischief, more than \$500 but less than \$1,500.

• RODOLFO HER-

NANDEZ III, 20, of 1507 E. 17th Street was arrested on a charge of evading arrest/detention.

• ELISA SANCHEZ ORTEZ, 31, of 1002 N. Main St. 46 was cited for interference with duties of a public servant and arrested on a warrant for another agency.

• MIKEAL LADARREAN CHAVERA, 48, of 1809 S. Johnson St was arrested on charges of resisting arrest, search or transport and interference with duties of a public servant.

• BRANDON LYNN WHITE, 26, of 4824 Wasson Road was arrested on a warrant for possession of marijuana, less than or equal to 2 ounces.

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1500 block of Chickasaw St. and in

the 1600 block of Johnson St.

• MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 2300 block of S. Gregg St.

• DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1500 block of Kentucky Way and in the 1000 block of E. 13th.

• HIT AND RUN was reported in the 3000 block of W. Highway 80.

• THEFT was reported in the 400 block of S. Gregg St., the 2600 block of Gregg St., and the 200 block of W. FM 700.

• BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported at old Spring City Auction.

• HARRASMENT was reported in the 300 block of NE 8th St.

• ASSAULT was reported in the 1500 block of Hilltop Road.

Take Note

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

• Big Spring High School cheerleaders are offering a night of babysitting Feb. 13, from 6-10 p.m. in Steer Gym.

Children in grades kindergarten through fifth are eligible. Cost is \$40 for the first child and \$25 per additional child. Cost includes pizza, water, snacks and entertainment. For more information, contact the high school at 264-3641.

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

• A hungry child cannot learn. Food2Kids - Big Spring was created to provide nutrition for hundreds of children who do not get a substantial meal on the weekends. F2K began last November and this volunteer program now serves more than 300 children weekly. Once the need has been identified, F2K fills a sack of food to send home each Friday during the school year. You can help. Volunteers are needed and donations can be sent to Food2Kids - Big Spring, P.O. Box 1641, Big Spring 79721. Find us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/Food2Kids

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Thursday 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. Call 270-7263.

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

• The Big Spring Senior Center dance is open to all ages. No alcohol or smoking. Our parking lot is now well lit, and we are handicapped-accessible. Cost is \$8 per person.

Willis Rutledge Winters

Willis Rutledge Winters, 89, of Plainview, formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015, in a Plainview nursing home. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Support Groups

MONDAY
• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• 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.

• Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, across from the movie box office, next to Sears). Open meeting at 7 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.

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion 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 Symptomatic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new 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. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

• 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.

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Jerry and Debbie Read, Owners

News in brief

Germany's Merkel says it's still uncertain whether Ukraine peace talks will succeed.

MUNICH (AP) — German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Saturday it's uncertain whether a flurry of diplomacy aimed at resolving the crisis in Ukraine will succeed, and warned that there are no guarantees that any deal would stick.

Merkel, speaking after two days of hastily arranged meetings in Kiev and Moscow, also bluntly underlined her opposition to the idea of supplying lethal weapons to the Ukrainian government.

Merkel offered no details of the proposals that have been thrashed out over recent days, which she plans to discuss in a phone call Sunday with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and French President Francois Hollande.

The urgent diplomacy comes as Western anxiety over the conflict grows and sanctions bite ever harder on Russia's economy. More than 5,300 people have been killed since fighting began in April, according to a U.N. tally, and the bloodshed has markedly increased over the past two weeks.

The resurgent fighting has prompted the U.S. to consider giving lethal weapons to Ukraine.

GOP bid for Netanyahu to address Congress angers Democrats, but many hope tempers will subside

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Israeli prime minister's upcoming speech to Congress without President Barack Obama's blessing has angered Democratic lawmakers, but they see little remedy except to hope for minimal damage to their party and to U.S.-Israel relations.

Democrats simmered in frustration last week as they faced a thankless choice between defending their president and defending the Jewish state they consider a crucial ally.

Some gleeful Republicans predicted Democrats' complaints about Benjamin Netanyahu's March 3 speech will drive Jewish voters to the GOP. Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., a member of the House Armed Services Committee, said Democrats are making a "catastrophic mistake" by protesting Netanyahu's plans.

"Traditionally, supporters of Israel have been re-

ally even-handed in supporting candidates of both parties," Wilson said, but now "Democrats are slapping the friends of Israel in the face."

Family of Islamic State hostage from Arizona hopeful she's alive, despite group's claims

PRESCOTT, Arizona (AP) — The parents of a 26-year-old woman who Islamic State extremists say has been killed in an airstrike in northern Syria have said in a statement addressed to group leaders that the claim of their daughter's death concerned them but they were still hopeful she was alive.

The Islamic State group said on Friday that Kayla Jean Mueller of Prescott, Arizona, died in a Jordanian airstrike, but the government of Jordan dismissed the statement as "criminal propaganda" and the U.S. said it had not seen any evidence to corroborate the report.

Mueller is the only known remaining U.S. hostage held by the Islamic State group.

If the death is confirmed, she would be the fourth American to die while being held by Islamic State militants.

FEDS

Continued from Page 1A

for the council. "What happened to this mother is very common ... States are moving these children for the sole reason of their parents having a disability."

Now 21, and identified in the federal report only by the pseudonym "Sara Gordon," the young woman's ordeal began as she was still recovering from childbirth in November 2012.

Federal authorities describe her as having a "mild intellectual disability" that makes it difficult for her to read and follow verbal instructions. They say she requires "repetition, hands-on instruction

and frequency" to learn new things such as how to feed a baby and change diapers.

"DCF staff assumed that Ms. Gordon was unable to learn how to safely care for her daughter because of her disability, and, therefore, denied her the opportunity to receive meaningful assistance," said the two federal agencies, which conducted a joint civil rights investigation.

Their 26-page report, dated Jan. 29, says Massachusetts should provide the mother with services and support so she can have a shot at regaining custody of her daughter; pay damages to the family; and withdraw a petition to terminate the mother's parental rights that's currently in state court.

They also called for broader changes, saying the case highlights "systemic failures by DCF to ensure social workers follow appropriate policies and procedures and have necessary training to perform their duties without discriminating on the basis of disability."

The National Council on Disability has documented similar cases across the country, including a Kansas City, Missouri, couple who had their daughter taken into state custody because they were both blind, and a quadriplegic mother in Chicago who waged a lengthy legal battle to keep custody of her son.

In the past, state child welfare officials have defended placing such

children in foster care out of grave concerns for their adequate care and well-being.

Cayenne Isaksen, a DCF spokeswoman, said the agency will be responding to the federal government's report.

"DCF believes it acted in the best interest of the child," she said, without elaborating.

Through their lawyers, the young mother and her family declined requests by The Associated Press to be interviewed. Their lawyers said community service providers support the family's plan to care for the little girl, who is now 2. The grandparents want to be designated as the child's legal guardians and have promised to continue helping their daughter, who

lives with them, learn to care for the toddler.

"This mother has good supports. There are no issues of substance abuse or domestic violence," said Mark Watkins, a lawyer for the mother. "I have complete confidence in the ability of this family to parent this child safely."

Watkins said the mother, who is working to finish her high school

degree, hasn't given up on her daughter — visiting her regularly and taking courses to improve her parenting skills.

"She has been resilient. She's been disappointed at nearly every turn by the court and the department," Watkins said. "But she has never stopped trying. She never quit. A lesser person would have given up by now."

CRASH

Continued from Page 1A

way and had crashed into the back of a building on Broadway Street in Coahoma. The incident occurred near Mile Marker 189 and the north I-20 service road.

According to the news release, a 2009 Freightliner Truck Tractor towing

two FedEx ground trailers was heading westbound on Interstate 20. As the truck approached the overpass, the driver lost control of the vehicle and began to drive off the right side of the road.

"The truck then struck the guardrail system on the north side of the road, damaging approximately 300 feet of guard-

rail," said Shawn Baxter, DPS spokesperson. "The vehicle continued down an embankment before driving over a concrete culvert."

The DPS report stated the truck continued through a parking lot of a cafe, driving over a residential fence before it struck the east wall of a tire shop that was unoccupied at the time.

"The cab of the vehicle penetrated the wall, leaving the remainder of the vehicle exposed outside the building," Baxter said.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation.

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

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

tion during the discussion, which will be held in the second-floor conference room.

"This will basically be a brain-storming session," Wiseman said. "No decisions will be made at this time."

After discussion on the master plan, commissioners will reconvene in the third floor courtroom. Agenda items they will consider include:

- Continuing educa-

tion hours for the county and district clerk.

- Invoices, purchase requests and financial reports.
- Personnel matters.

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

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Paul M. Garrett, 89, died Tuesday. Graveside service was held at 10:30 a.m. this morning at Mount Olive Memorial Park Chapel.

James Warden, 69, died Tuesday. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Abilene.

Elida (Lolly) Juarez, 65, died Thursday. Vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (never known to fail)
O most Beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother.

O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in the necessity. There are none that can withstand your power.

O show me you are my Mother, O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you. (3 times)

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (3 times)

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Opinion

A book about down-home cooking

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Walking the Red Road: Along journey

Most of the human race is like a plague. Like rust, when it gets started it cannot be stopped. It will devour and destroy anything it comes in contact with.

When the Europeans first came to America it was like rust getting started on a piece of metal. They began to devour anything they came in contact with. The people, the land and the animals, all were to be devoured.

They set out to take the land from the Native American people and then to change it to suit their needs. Cutting down woodlands to build towns and plow fields. The Native Americans did not consider themselves to own the land, it was only given to them to use by the Creator. The Europeans wanted to own and

change the land. The Native Americans were content with the land just the way the Creator made it. In the name of expansion Native American tribes were concurred or almost completely wiped out. To expedite this the Native American food source in the plains, the buffalo, was hunted almost to extinction. If you remove the food supply the people will either starve or submit.

Ranchers today are trying to breed cattle with leaner meat. It took decades to breed cattle that could withstand extreme weather in all climates. The buffalo already had these traits, but instead of being utilized they were slaughtered, so the New Americans could start over.

One thing I will credit to the Europeans is the introduction of the horse to North America. This greatly improved the lives of American Indians, however this was short lived.

For a period of time the Native Americans in the plains and the west prospered. The tribes in New England and along the east coast were being adversely affected. They were losing their numbers and lands at an alarming rate.

Many thousands of Native Americans died from the diseases brought by the Europeans. Many others were killed outright because they were Indians. When the New Americans saw land they wanted - they took it by any means possible.

Eventually the remaining Native Americans were placed on reservations. These reservations, at the time, were more or less glorified concentration camps.

You might as well expect the rivers to run backwards as that any man who was born a free man should be contented to live penned up and denied liberty to go where he pleases. These words were spoken by Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce.

Ten Bears, Comanche Chief had these words to say. I was born upon the prairie, where the wind blew free, and there was nothing to break the light of the sun. I was born where there were no enclosures, and where everything drew a free breath.

It is not difficult to understand how the Native Americans felt about being forced to live on reservations.

People that had been hunters were forced to become farmers. They were promised meat that they did not get. When they did get meat many times it was not fit to eat. The Bureau of Indian Affairs was extremely corrupt.

Children were taken from their parents to be taught to be New Americans. Their hair was cut, they were given white names and white mans clothes. They were forced to give up their traditional faith and become Christians. They were forbidden to speak their own language.

The U.S. Government did all it could do to destroy the Native American culture. However, it failed. The Native American culture suffered a great defeat in losing their lands and their way of life. However the culture remained.

This was a very ugly time in United States history. Some Native Americans still feel the resentment of this while others have accepted it.

No matter what the U.S. Government was able to take from the American Indian it could not take away their heritage, their culture or their pride.

The Native American culture has grown stronger in the last few decades. We have never forgotten who we were or who we are.

It has been a long journey and a hard path. But the Native American culture has endured and will continue to do so.

Randy A McKinney is a member of the Sunrise Wind clan of Two Bear Claws and vice president of the Powwow Committee of Big Spring

I have a good friend who makes wonderful chocolate chip cookies. She says she got the recipe from her grandmother. She keeps that recipe in a secret place in her kitchen.

One day, she was reading the recipe for chocolate cookies on a package of chocolate chips. It was exactly the same as her grandmother's recipe. I have since learned that happens a lot on everything from cakes to ice cream. A treasured recipe turns out to be one that anyone can have.

Mary Bonham of Sulphur Springs makes fabulous peanut brittle. I get a bunch of it every year. This year it was better than ever and I found it difficult to share. It was delicious.

"I've been making peanut brittle for about 55 years," says Mary. "The recipe never changes. What works, you stay with it."

Mary is not sure where she got the recipe, but it probably came from her mother. The recipe is in a cookbook she wrote last year titled "Ms Mary's Down-

Home Cookin'."

Mrs. Bonham, age 86, is a busy lady who says, "Sittin' at home is for the birds." She helped her husband in their company, J-B Weld, and has been involved in numerous civic endeavors.

She raised horses for a while and now she's into another type of livestock.

"We buy and sell tiger-stripe cattle," she says. "They're a cross between a Hereford and a Brahma bull and have stripes that look kind of like a tiger. Some of them have more stripes than others and they're very hard to find."

A few years ago she started growing pecans and shelling them.

"I've had the orchard for a number of years and it has about 400 trees now," she says.

A couple of years ago she was wondering how she was going to get her pecans cracked. "I looked around and decided to buy some crackers and now I crack my own and crack for the public, also."

Mary is a good cook.

"Mother taught me to cook on a wood stove when I was a little bitty girl. I would stand on an old apple box and she'd say, 'Now Mary, you watch me and remember what I'm putting in this recipe' as she put the ingre-

dients together," she said.

"Later on I was amazed that I remembered so much of what she told me."

After Mary started a family she enjoyed cooking some of her mother's recipes. When she carried a food item to a church social or other function, people always asked her for recipes.

So she decided to write a cookbook.

"I started asking my brother and sister for some of their recipes and I used some that my mother had. I think there's 335 recipes in the book," she says.

It is divided into sections: appetizers and beverages; soups and salads; vegetables and side dishes; main dishes; breads and rolls; desserts; and cookies and candy.

It's available at 2777 I-30 N.E.S.R. in Sulphur Springs 75482.

A portion of the proceeds of the book goes to Bright Star, a non-profit organization that supports and benefits children ages 5 to 18 with physical limitations.

That peanut brittle recipe is designed for the microwave.

Tumbleweed Smith is a folklorist, humorist and oral historian who lives in Big Spring with his wife, Susan. Contact him at ts@tumbleweedsmith.com



TUMBLEWEED SMITH



RANDY MCKINNEY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thoughts on the senior center

To the editor:

It has been announced the Senior Center is moving. The following are some concerns about that move.

After hearing about the move, an informal survey has been taken. About 70 letters are being delivered to the Mayor. Most who signed are opposed to moving. The Dora Roberts Center is a fine facility. However, it is away from the area where many of the current customers live. A few can now walk to the current location. Others can drive more easily, and safely, than if the current center is relocated. Many seniors can park close to the doors. Those inclined, can park in the back lot, where pavement is pretty flat. Flat and level is good when there are walking concerns. A small incline and "pot holes" are more difficult for us now.

Several citizens are in favor of moving. Those for moving, cited a nicer view and facility, the great

feeling when driving the winding road, it is closer to where they live, and a better place to hold dances. Both for and against, serious thought was given the topic. One day some were for it, the next against, and vice versa. However, all are for having a good place to meet, eat, receive available services, and remain somewhat independent. It helps if it is easy to get to, and avoid, where possible, busier streets and roads.

There is significant concern about parking. Seniors felt that other activities, currently at Dora Roberts, would take the parking spaces closest to the building. And, since the Dora Roberts is such a great place for community events, it might be difficult to count on having it for senior meals and other activities.

There is word that the center is behind \$36,000 and has been in the negative for some time. It is recognized that, although the building isn't falling

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

Uncle Mort, stuck in reverse

I guess it's a good thing that OSHA introduced horn-blowing safety signals for vehicles in "back-up" mode earlier. Otherwise, my 102-year-old Uncle Mort might not yet be reduced to driving his gas-saving golf cart.

Had he been in the work force a half-century earlier, he'd have hired out to drive trucks if only to stay in reverse gear. He would have delighted in counting the number of people, pets and other creatures scurrying to get out of the way.

Clearly, he's an "other side of the news" kind of guy, drawn to items most Americans classify as minutia. For them, they'd be at the bottom of radar screens--if shown at all--or in fine print the size used mostly by guarantors that put the chill on "come-on" ad headlines. Or akin to the "muffled mentions" whispered by scalawags peddling fraudulent telephone offers to senior citizens. Whatever. Taking multiple salt grains is warranted before considering Mort's dissection of Super Bowl XLIX. As usual, he has more questions than answers.

"How long will Disney cling to the 'we're-going-to-Disneyland' campaigns?" Mort asks. He says the ad has become tiring after two decades of such advertising.

He thinks the Disney brass were "laying low" this year, figuring if nurses had been sent to administer measles inoculations in the end zone, it might have been a dead giveaway that

the California measles outbreak started at Disneyland.

Mort plans to send a sympathy card to ESPN, which scrapped its Knicks/Lakers NBA game from national broadcast opposite the Super Bowl. He claims ESPN waved a white flag of surrender in the TV rating wars.

"Can you believe ESPN chose to run a celebrity bowling tournament that occurred nearly a month ago against SB XLIX?" he asked. He thinks a blank screen might have attracted as many viewers. Further, he chided ESPN for crediting the winning bowler for his "astounding ability to knock down multiple pins at once." Huh, or maybe huh?

With the mundane "how-does-it-feel" questions fielded by the winning New England Patriots, ESPN may be on to something. Overwhelmed by so many stories about deflated footballs, many viewers were "winded" long before the kick-off.

"If bowling tournaments catch on, the NBA may be the league most damaged," Mort believes. "Up the way, ESPN may be 'basketballing' for dollars instead of bowling for 'em."

Reference to "winded" brings to mind light moments and heavy "brunching" that precede the "get serious" part of our weekly Sunday school lesson. Members are allowed to "say their piece," even when such verbosity invites — as Uncle Mort would say — "bona fide heckling." (It's true that Wayne West is "steady and studied" in teaching the lesson, and cousin Ray West coaxes the musical best from a class with few members who'd ever enter singing competitions.) Until discussion of hospital lists and prayer concerns, our gathering's early

going often is a bit "Lions Clubesque." One wag joked that our class is "about as far as one can get from the cradle roll and still have a pulse."

Member A. L. Teaff risked one of those "sock-it-to-me" moments when he recounted a recent visit to the doctor's office. "Took a new test," he said. "Doctor called me in to discuss results, indicating 'normal-normal-normal' on items all the way down the list." Then he claimed the doctor's signature on the report means he is "certifiably normal."

Uh oh. His last shot meant "open season." Hecklers lined up, the first one saying, "You need to get a second opinion." And wife Earlene — whose subtle wit matches anyone's in the class—countered that "even doctors make mistakes."

Several decades ago, my ever-frugal uncle hoped his doctor had made a mistake. Holding up X-rays to prove the accuracy of his diagnosis, the physician said Mort needed surgery.

Mort's response, of course, was to determine the estimated cost. The doc figured it would be "roughly" \$2,000. Rather than ask what the charge would be "smoothly," my uncle wanted to know the charge for "re-touching X-rays."

That Mort! Now he's wondering if his queasiness following the Super Bowl was the result of ingesting too many sausage balls — whatever their "inflation" — mere hours before Groundhog Day.

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.



DR. DON NEWBURY

Big costs loom in storing body camera footage

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — The rush to outfit police officers with body cameras after last summer's unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, threatens to saddle local governments with steep costs for managing the volumes of footage they must keep for months or even years, according to contracts, invoices and company data reviewed by The Associated Press.

The storage expenses — running into the millions of dollars in some cities — often go overlooked in the debates over using cameras as a way to hold officers accountable and to improve community relations.

Yet those costs can have a significant effect on city and county budgets, and in some cases may force police chiefs to choose between paying officers on the street or paying yearly video storage fees.

Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake already has sounded the alarm over the long-term costs of police body cameras.

In December, she vetoed a proposal that would have required officers to wear cameras because she didn't believe the costs and other details were adequately considered. City offi-

cial estimates costs up to \$2.6 million a year for storage and the extra staff needed to manage the video data.

"Knowing how we didn't have a lot of wiggle room with the budget constraints we face, we couldn't afford to get it wrong," said Rawlings-Blake, who intends to present another plan this spring. "Any time you do something on this scale, if you don't take the time up front, you are setting yourself up for failure and disappointment from the community."

In some cities, the AP found that the small cameras worn by beat cops on their uniforms or glasses were obtained at deep discounts when departments inked data-management deals that are far more lucrative over the long run for device manufacturers. Those plans run between \$20 and \$100 per officer per month, depending on the volume generated.

Demand for the devices is booming after the controversy in Ferguson and would accelerate further if Congress adopts President Barack Obama's request for \$75 million to help communities buy 50,000 more body cameras.

Already, cities are wrestling with whether

they can afford to equip all their officers and how often the cameras should be turned off to reduce the video recorded.

With an average officer uploading several videos per shift, it doesn't take long for data — and the associated expense — to add up.

"It's enormous," said Police Chief Gordon Ramsay of Duluth, Minnesota, where the city's 110 officer-worn cameras are generating 8,000 to 10,000 videos per month that are kept for at least 30 days and in many cases longer. "The more you capture, the more you have to store, which means higher costs."

Duluth initially received 84 cameras and charging bays for less than \$5,000 from camera maker Taser International, but its three-year contract and licensing agreement for data storage cost about \$78,000.

Other cities are just beginning to struggle with how to pay for body cameras:

— In Wichita, Kansas, the police department has proposed selling a helicopter used to search for suspects in order to fund its body-camera program for hundreds of officers. The cost is estimated at \$6.4 million over a decade and includes two employees

to manage the program. — In Berkeley, California, the city manager warned in a memo in January of likely costs of at least \$45,000 a year for storing data from 150 cameras and assigning one or two employees. In addition, officers might spend 30 minutes per shift handling the video — the equivalent annual time of five full-time officers, the memo said. The City Council is scheduled to debate the issue next week.

"In our community, that alone would be about \$1 million," City Council member Laurie Capitelli told AP, referring to the officers'

time. "I want to look at the costs and consider the trade-offs."

Digital Ally, which is among several companies trying to get a foothold in the industry, donated cameras and a server to store the data to the police department in Ferguson, where officers began wearing them shortly after the August shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown by white officer Darren Wilson. Industry giants Taser and VieVu also saw interest in their cameras spike.

Taser's trials in major U.S. cities tripled after the shooting, and its stock price has more

than doubled since. The company's Evidence.com unit, which offers the data-management platform, is expanding.

"This is obviously great for business, but I think ultimately this is a great technology to increase transparency between communities," said Taser chief marketing officer Luke Larson.

Supporters of the body cameras say they help prosecutors close cases faster, reduce use-of-force incidents and make allegations of misconduct against officers easier to probe. Both sides in a videotaped encounter behave better, they say.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

down, it is in need of costly repairs — that it isn't "cost effective" to remodel. One person, who has professional catering experience, noted that the Dora Roberts kitchen would need a lot of work to be able to routinely serve seniors/customers.

To reduce the deficit, perhaps the center could be operated more like a business. Concurrently, perhaps grants and donations could be pursued. The seniors could help raise funds. We will be glad to do what we can.

We just need someone to organize us. The Area Agency on Aging says they are responsible to fund for food, the city is responsible for the facility and management.

It was particularly good news that a new senior center is being considered. A new center could be designed specifically for the requirements of elders/handicapped. It could be located near a majority of citizens who use it. Near the old national guard armory might be a possible site. It is just off FM 700, a major artery through town. It is near the hospital; we spend a lot of time, to and from, there. A new facility would reduce costly maintenance for years to come. Another potential site could be the old "Ellis Homes" property. It is just north of Anderson Elementary. An advantage there would be nearness to good, safe, less traveled roads; Airbase Road, Business 20, and West 16th. It's not far from FM 700 and the hospital. Of course, Yellow Rose cafeteria, at SMMC, is a fine place to eat too. Some seniors suggested possible sites on the north side. They could be surveyed.

We know budgeting is

always a challenge. We may not pay as much in taxes as we once did. We are less inclined to be vocal and active. However, our heirs should make up some of that shortfall as they begin to be more involved in managing our affairs. Services for seniors makes it possible for us to be "independent" longer. Thus, reducing the demand on local nursing homes. Thirty-six thousand dollars, and behind for some time, is a lot of money. We/seniors/customers do not want to be a burden on the community.

Thomas Welch
Big Spring

A younger chamber takes charge

To the editor:
It was a thrill to speak at this year's chamber banquet. It's one of the youngest chamber crowds I've seen and that is such a good thing. Amy Jacobs, new chamber president, is a professional who has selected a group of young entrepreneurs and business people to serve on the chamber board. They agreed to do so because they feel they can contribute something to the city. I'm so glad to see responsible young people in places of leadership.

Tumbleweed Smith
Big Spring

Thanks to inmate workforce

To the editor:
The YMCA would like to offer a big "thank you" to John Spence and the Howard County inmate workforce. Because of their hard work, we were able to paint and do some repairs to our natatorium. This was not an easy task because of the sheer size of the building. We could not have done this without

their help. Our pool is such an important part of our community and now it looks amazing.

A special thanks also to Sheriff Stan Parker, Mike Averette and all the county commissioners who help make this program a big success.

Tammy DePauw
Big Spring

Celebrate our local volunteers

To the editor:
I would like to give a great big "thank you" to a lot of wonderful people in Big Spring. These very special people are referred to as "volunteers." They give untold numbers of hours to boost Big Spring, and there is no way to count the hours they give just to make people happy.

During the holidays, their efforts become more visible — just look around. But no way does it end there — it continues all year long.

Thank you, volunteers. You are appreciated.

Margie Myers
Big Spring

Too Busy to Cook?

Too busy to cook? Cooking with Friends takes the guess work out of your daily dinner dilemma. This program is designed to help and provide you with ready to cook freezer main dishes that you prepare in advance so that all you have to do is heat it up! All students will participate in the hands on cooking workshop to create easy multiple packaged meals.

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Even with more jobs available, unemployed feel frustration

WASHINGTON (AP) — The job market remains a frustrating place for America's 9 million unemployed — perhaps more so as hiring has accelerated along with job postings.

The pace of job growth over the past three months was the fastest in 17 years. The gains spanned nearly every industry, and some employers have finally had to dangle higher pay to attract or retain top talent.

And yet millions of job seekers still can't find work. Some businesses remain slow to fill their openings, awaiting the ideal candidate. Many job seekers lack the skills employers require.

The plight of the unemployed also reflects an economic reality: Even in the best times, the number of job seekers is typically twice the number of job openings.

The January jobs report that the government issued Friday pointed

to another factor, too: As hiring strengthens, more people typically start looking for jobs. As the number of job seekers grows, so does competition for work.

The number of openings has reached nearly 5 million, the most since 2001. Yet that's barely more than half the number of people the government counts as unemployed.

"There's always going to be a set of job vacancies, and there are always going to be a set of people transitioning from unemployment to work," said Tara Sinclair, an economics professor at George Washington University. "The transition isn't instantaneous."

For many, the transition can be maddeningly slow. Complaints abound about online job sites that seem to function more as black holes than as gateways to employment. Applicants can't get past online portals to explain

gaps in their resumes. Multiple interviews and other steps — even for low-paying jobs — can prolong the process.

Carlie Kozlowich, 23, had three interviews last year with a marketing company for a job she was told would involve "travel" and "events." Only after accepting the job did she learn it involved selling goods at a booth in a Costco. Having amassed roughly \$50,000 in debt to earn a college degree, she felt she had to turn it down.

"Three interviews just to say, 'Would you like to try a pierogi today?'" she said.

Steven Davis, an economist at the University of Chicago, calculates that it took employers an average of 25.6 working days to fill a job in November, the latest period for which data are available. That nearly matched July's figure of 26, the longest in the 14 years that the government has gathered the

data Davis uses.

An extended hiring period can in some ways be a positive sign: It suggests that companies are having a harder time finding workers because the economy has strengthened. The number of unemployed peaked at 15.4 million in October 2009, just after the recession ended.

Still, the fact that it takes companies so long to fill vacancies, even with 9 million people unemployed, suggests that more discouraging factors may be at play.

Some companies that are seeking high-skilled workers in fields like information technology and advanced manufacturing complain about a shortage of qualified candidates. Some recruiters and online job sites describe "skills mismatches."

Paul D'Arcy, senior vice president at the job listings website Indeed.com, says lower-skilled jobs generally receive a flood of resumes, while

higher-skilled positions attract far fewer.

Jobs in management, computers and math and architecture and engineering far outnumber job seekers in those fields, according to Indeed's data.

That doesn't sit well with Bill Gahan, 51, who has sought work for nearly a year after moving to Salt Lake City. Gahan worked in manufacturing and logistics for 29 years, including as a vice president for logistics at a manufacturer of hardware and software for visually impaired people.

Told that some experts think many of the unemployed lack the right skills, Gahan says, "I want to have a conversation with whoever is saying that."

Increasingly, many economists agree with Gahan. Though skill shortages exist in some highly technical positions, if shortages of qualified workers were pervasive, employers would likely be offering higher pay. Despite a sharp gain in January, average pay still hasn't risen much.

Many employers also remain highly selective, perhaps assuming there are still legions of unemployed to choose from. They may be right: There are 6.8 million part-time workers who would prefer full-time jobs — 50 percent more than in 2007, before the recession began.

The recession also left some companies reluctant to make permanent hires. They have turned instead to temporary and contract workers.

All that has left job seekers like Stephen

Jones in a bind. A lawyer, Jones hasn't found work since moving to Windermere, Florida, more than a year ago. Besides applying for positions as a lawyer, Jones has lowered his sights and sought legal assistant and paralegal jobs. Having sent out 200-300 resumes, he's heard back once or twice.

"What do I do?" asked Jones, 32. "I'm overqualified for some jobs, and I'm underqualified for the jobs that I want to have."

Many companies that want to hire don't see the hurry.

Explorys, a health care data provider in Cleveland, plans to add 80 people to its 142-person staff this year, mostly in data analysis. The company uses a database to help hospitals manage and anticipate patients' needs.

Cleveland is home to several major health care employers and research universities, so Explorys typically has "lots of good candidates" for jobs, says CEO Steve McHale, and tries to identify those who fit its culture and values.

Geography can pose a hurdle for some companies that want to hire.

Digi-Key, an online seller of electrical components, added 521 jobs last year as sales grew, raising its workforce to 3,300.

Yet it's located in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, a town of 8,500 an hour from the Canadian border.

It has offered relocation bonuses and arranged bus service to nearby cities to find applicants.

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Trial comes for Marine accused of killing 'American Sniper'

STEPHENVILLE, Texas (AP) — Eddie Ray Routh had been talking crazy for a while. So when he showed up on his sister's doorstep one afternoon two Februarys ago and claimed to have shot two men, she didn't know what to think.

But when Laura Blevins saw the big black custom pickup truck in the driveway, not Eddie's Volkswagen Beetle, her stomach tightened. He asked if she was with him "in hell," then drove off into the fading light.

"I'm terrified for my life," she breathlessly told a 911 dispatcher. "I don't know if he's being honest with me."

It wasn't long before she got her answer.

Routh, a 27-year-old Iraq War veteran, is scheduled to stand trial Wednesday, charged with capital murder in the slayings of Chad Littlefield and former Navy SEAL Chris Kyle, whose memoir "American Sniper" is now an Academy Award-nominated movie. The two men had taken the ex-Marine to a shooting range in an attempt to help him battle post-traumatic stress disorder and other personal demons besetting him.

Routh's attorneys are planning to argue that

he was insane. Many expect PTSD from his Iraq tour and a relief mission to earthquake-stricken Haiti to be another narrative thread in that defense.

But with Kyle's personal story the subject of a blockbuster currently packing them in at cinemas near and far, Routh's defenders wonder whether he can get a fair trial.

...

Although it appears that Kyle and Routh hadn't met before that fatal day in February 2013, they had a lot in common.

Both had attended high school southwest of Dallas in the town of Midlothian, the self-proclaimed "Cement Capital of Texas." Each had played football for the Midlothian Panthers and been involved with the Future Farmers of America, though 14 years apart.

And, most importantly, both ended up in the military and went to war.

After a brief stint in college and a flirtation with rodeo bronc riding, the 6-foot-2, 230-pound Kyle joined the Navy and qualified for its elite special forces unit. As a sniper with SEAL Team 3, he would rack up, by his own count, more than 300 kills and earn

two Silver Stars, the military's third-highest honor for valor.

The father of two left the Navy in 2009, following four tours in Iraq. Three years later, he published his best-selling memoir, "American Sniper."

Routh's path would be paved with far less glory.

By most accounts, he was a middling student and a bit of a troublemaker. Kc Bernard, a former security guard at Midlothian High, remembers Routh as a decent defensive lineman, but easy to anger.

"He had a chip on his shoulder," says Bernard, who recalls a heart-to-heart with Routh outside the school gym after the teen had had a falling out with his parents.

"I know for a fact that his home life wasn't great," says Bernard, who now teaches social studies in Dallas. "They did not get along."

But by senior year, Routh knew what he wanted to do with his life. Although a photo in the 2006 Midlothian High yearbook shows a buzz-cut Routh chatting with an Army recruiter, he had his heart set on the Marines.

"I want to be one of the few and the proud," he told the photographer.



Courtesy photo

The trial of Eddie Routh, accused of murdering "American Sniper" Chris Kyle, begins Wednesday in Stephenville.

Not long after graduation, Routh — also 6-2, but about 50 pounds lighter than Kyle — was off to boot camp in California. By September 2007, he was in the Middle East.

In a conversation with his parents shortly before deploying, he reportedly expressed concerns about having to use his weapon.

"He said, 'Dad, how are you going to feel about me if I have to kill some-

body?'" his mother, Jodi Routh, told a writer from Men's Health magazine before a judge imposed a gag order in the case. "Our response was, of course, 'Eddie, this is a war. You kill them before they can kill you.'"

A few months later, his parents told the magazine, he called home and suggested that something bad had happened while he was out on patrol.

"How would you feel if

I shot a kid?" they said he asked.

But family and friends say Routh was more disturbed by what he saw during a later deployment — in earthquake-ravaged Haiti.

In January 2010, Routh was attached to the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit as part of Operation Unified Response, sent to the island nation. They found a coun-

See SNIPER, Page 8A

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Big Spring TEXAS CITY BULLETIN

The next meeting of the Big Spring City Council is scheduled for Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 5:30 PM at City Council Chambers.

City Council Meetings are open to the public and are held at the Big Spring City Council Chambers located at 307 East 4th Street. If you need special assistance in order to participate in a City Council meeting, please contact Lesa Gamble, at 432-264-2401, in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.

Reminder: All city offices will be closed on February 16 in observance of Presidents' Day.

Big Spring Fire Department

The Big Spring Fire Department recently had seven employees complete the Paramedic program at Howard College. They all have successfully passed the national registry test and are a great addition to the fire departments response. The employees are:

- Lieutenant Tye Newman
- Apparatus Engineer Michael Adams
- Apparatus Engineer Jimmy Bond
- Apparatus Engineer Jordan Barron
- Firefighter Ben Attkisson
- Firefighter Bryant Kleman
- Firefighter Michael Miller
- Firefighter Clinton Roberts

The Big Spring Police Department and the Big Spring Animal Control would like to remind everyone of a few things before adopting or purchasing animals and how to prevent injuries from an animal. Please teach your kids some of the following steps:

- Do not touch or go near an animal if it does not belong to you. It may look tame and cute but leave it alone. Never assume an animal is gentle or tame.
- Never leave a child unattended with a dog even a mild tempered dog can turn aggressive.
- Do not ever try to feed an animal that does not belong to you. Even tame animals could accidentally bite your fingers.
- Be a responsible pet owner and never leave your animal in a vehicle. If you have to take your pet with you when you go to the store take someone else with you so that they can stay with the pet. You might even want to take along a bowl of water for the pet to drink.
- Remember dogs should not ride in the bed of pickup trucks. Dogs can easily jump out at traffic lights or stop signs and get hurt. If the driver has an accident, the dog could seriously be injured.
- If you see a dog that is being walked on a leash that has a yellow ribbon tied to their collar or leash the dog owner is stating "To stay back" that the dog wants to be left alone and will bite.
- Remember all animals seem cute and cuddly when they are babies but they will grow up and not be so cute and cuddly.

So before adopting or purchasing an animal try to ask yourself these simple questions:

- Am I ready to own a pet?
- Is a dog or cat right for me?
- How much will this pet cost me in vaccinations and food?
- Do I have time in my life for a pet?
- Do I have enough room for a pet to run and play?

Animals have feelings and do not ask to be mistreated or abandoned. Please be a responsible pet owner.

www.mybigspring.com

SNIPER

Continued from Page 7A

try in ruins, with about a quarter million dead — many of them stacked in rotting piles along the muddy roads.

Routh talked of being forbidden by an officer to give his rations to a starving boy — and of things much worse.

“He wasn’t prepared for what he was doing out there,” his father told *London’s Daily Mail* for an article published last month. “Fishing hundreds of bodies — men, women, children — out of the ocean, piling them up and throwing them into mass graves.”

Routh left the Marines as a corporal that summer and floated around — a brief stint with a military contractor, doing odd jobs for a real estate agent, cabinet-making, building storage units.

He was diagnosed with PTSD the following summer, according to medical records viewed by Men’s Health.

His drinking, which had begun in his teens, got worse.

In September 2012, Routh was transported to Green Oaks Hospital for psychiatric care after his mother told police he’d threatened to kill himself and family. Police had found him wandering — barefoot, shirtless and reeking of alcohol.

“Eddie stated he was hurting and that his family does not understand what he has been through,” the police report said.

His parents and sister have told reporters that Eddie claimed to be a

vampire or werewolf, and complained that a tapeworm was eating out his insides.

Routh would go back to Green Oaks at least one more time. On Jan. 30, 2013, his mother took him to the Veteran’s Administration hospital.

Despite her pleas that he be admitted, doctors sent him home.

...

To the Iraqi insurgents who’d placed a bounty on his head, Chris Kyle was “al-Shaitan Ramadi” — the “devil of Ramadi.” But to Jodi Routh, he was an angel.

In search of another mission after leaving the SEALs, Kyle helped create a program to help rehabilitate wounded and troubled veterans through exercise. Jodi Routh worked as an aide at the Kyle kids’ school, and she asked if he would take her son on.

Kyle and Littlefield — a neighbor and hunting buddy who also volunteered his time with veterans — decided to take Routh shooting. It was Feb. 2, 2013.

In Kyle’s black pickup, they drove to Rough Creek Lodge and Resort, which sits on 11,000 acres of rolling hills scattered with scraggy trees and prairie grasses. In addition to luxury accommodations, it has hunting areas and a 1,000-yard shooting range.

Around 5 p.m., a resort employee discovered the bodies. Kyle and Littlefield lay on the ground amid scattered weapons; each had been shot several times.

About 45 minutes later, Routh pulled up at his sister’s Midlothian home in Kyle’s truck.

Laura Blevins told

police that Eddie “was out of his mind saying people were sucking his soul and that he could smell the pigs.” He told her he’d “traded his soul” for the pickup.

He’d killed Kyle and Littlefield, Routh allegedly admitted to his sister and her husband, and later to Texas Rangers.

Echoing the advice his parents had given him before he left for Iraq, Gaines Blevins says his brother-in-law told him he’d “killed them before they could kill him.”

After leading police on a brief chase, Routh was arrested on Interstate 35 near Lancaster. In an interview with the Texas Rangers, Routh said he understood what he’d done and wanted to apologize to the men’s families.

“It wasn’t a want to,” he said in a recording played in court.

“It was a need to, to get out of that situation out there today or I was going to be the one out there to get my head shot off.”

“You know what you did today is wrong, right?” the ranger asked.

“Yes, sir,” Routh replied.

...

That evening, police blocked off the street and told Routh’s neighbor Danny Elizondo to stay in his house.

The Eddie he knew was a normal guy who came to neighborhood barbecues and asked if Elizondo, who painted cars, would redo his VW “bug” in camouflage. Routh had complained of flashbacks, but Elizondo had never known him to be violent or delusional.

“Eddie would come

to my house and sit out there and talk to me and tell me stuff,” he says. “The bombing and stuff, the bodies on the side ... kids, out when they were going through patrols. Kids out there kind of hungry and stuff.”

He figures something out at Rough Creek made him snap.

“I just have a feeling that Eddie went to that rifle range ... and he heard the shelling

again, and something triggered him off,” Elizondo says.

Many former Marines aren’t buying it, some expressing their doubts in angry, profane online posts. And records obtained by The Associated Press suggest they’re right to be skeptical.

Routh was a small-arms technician, also known as an armorer. Veterans say a support person like that would

not have been out on patrol.

Raymond Routh was quoted as saying his son claimed to have helped guard prisoners at Balad Air Base. A 2013 New Yorker article said Routh had “witnessed several mortar attacks on the base; once, while he was on the phone with Raymond, sirens began blaring, and he said that he had to take cover.”



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Fewer drivers drinking, but more use drugs

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of drivers on the road with alcohol in their systems has declined by nearly one-third since 2007, but there has been a large increase in drivers using marijuana and other illegal drugs, a government report released Friday found.

The report by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said the share of drivers who test positive for alcohol has declined by more than three-quarters since the agency first began conducting roadside surveys in 1973.

But the latest survey, conducted in 2013 and 2014, also found that 22 percent of drivers tested positive for at least one drug that could affect safety. That includes illegal drugs as well as prescription and over-the-counter medications.

The anonymous surveys have been conducted five times over the last 40 years.

“The rising prevalence of marijuana and other drugs is a challenge to everyone who is dedicated to saving lives and reducing crashes.”

Mark Rosekind
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

They gather data in dozens of locations across the country from drivers who agree to participate.

Mark Rosekind, head of the safety administration, credited anti-drunk driving efforts for the decline in drivers who test positive for alcohol, but said “there is no victory as long as a single American dies in an alcohol-related crash.”

About 8 percent of drivers during weekend nighttime hours were found to have some alcohol in their system, and 1.5 percent were found with .08 percent or higher breath alcohol con-

centration — the legal limit in every state. Drivers with any alcohol in their systems and drivers testing greater than .08 were both down by about 30 percent from the previous survey in 2007. Both groups are also down by more than three-quarters since the first survey in 1973.

At the same time, more than 15 percent of drivers tested positive for at least one illegal drug, up from 12 percent in 2007. The number of drivers with marijuana in their systems grew by nearly 50 percent over the same period of time, 8.6 percent in 2007 to 12.6 percent in 2014.

“The rising prevalence of marijuana and other drugs is a challenge to everyone who is dedicated to saving lives and reducing crashes,” Rosekind warned.

A second survey, the largest of its kind, assessed the comparative risk of drunk and drugged driving. The study was conducted in Virginia Beach, Virginia, over a 20-month period and involved the collection of data from more than 3,000 drivers involved in a crash, and more than 6,000 crash-free drivers for comparison.

That survey found that marijuana users are more

likely to be involved in accidents, but that the increased risk may be due in part because marijuana users are more likely to be part of demographic groups at higher risk of crashes generally. In particular, marijuana users are more likely to be young men — a group already at high risk.

“Drivers should never get behind the wheel impaired, and we know that marijuana impairs judgment, reaction times and awareness,” said Jeff Michael, the agency’s associate administrator.

One complication to assessing crash risk by drivers who have used marijuana is that it can be detected in the human body for hours and sometimes days after the high from smoking has dissipated. Other studies have shown that a marijuana high typically peaks within 30 minutes and is gone within about three hours after ingestion.

Warm weather gives ugly fish brief reprieve

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — Warm weather has helped grant a reprieve this year to a homely, eel-like and especially slimy invasive fish pursued by anglers as they compete for big money in two ice-fishing tournaments on the Wyoming-Utah line.

The goal of both annual events is to remove burbot (pronounced BUR’-but) from Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

Burbot are known for being best caught in frigid weather using smelly bait, for wrapping their slippery bodies around fishermen’s arms — and for being delicious. Some call them the “poor man’s lobster.”

But wind and highs in the 50s have kept the reservoir mostly ice-free lately. Much of the remaining ice near shore is getting dicey to walk on.

“It’s still about 6 inches thick, but we don’t recommend going out on it now,” said Les Tanner, owner of the Buckboard Marina and host of the Burbot Classic tournament.

Lack of ice cancelled the Jan. 23-25 Burbot Bash tournament. This weekend’s Burbot Classic is still on, but has been opened to fishing by boat and from shore.

Both events were coordinated with the Wyoming and Utah state game and fish agencies.

In each tournament, anglers can win up to \$10,000 for catching one of 50 burbot previously netted and released with electronic tags. Other cash prizes reward the biggest and the most burbot caught.

The problem is that burbot — which are native in Wyoming east of the Continental Divide and parts north — somehow got introduced to the Green River drainage west of the divide in the 1990s.

In Flaming Gorge, the voracious and prolific predators are eating the eggs and spawn of kokanee salmon and other game species that make the reservoir a renowned angling destination.

In Canada, burbot can top 25 pounds and 3 feet long. They don’t get quite so big in Flaming Gorge but pose a risk to endangered species such as the Colorado pikeminnow if they continue to spread down the Colorado River system.

A couple burbot have been caught in the Green River below the Flaming Gorge dam.

“That’s an endangered species core habitat,” said Joe Skorupski, a Wyoming Game and Fish Department fisheries biologist. “It’s just another nonnative they don’t need in that system. It’s a definite, major threat.”

Many fishermen out West would much rather flip dainty flies into the babbling lairs of trout than sit around in the cold and dark with a bloody hunk of bait on their line. But that’s how you go for burbot: Ice fishing is best, hands-down.

Burbot can be found from a few feet to more than 70 feet deep and typically are most active around dusk. Cut-up sucker fish hooked on glow-in-the-dark jigs make good bait.

Once caught, the bigger ones are known to wrap their slender bodies around the arm of whoever’s removing the hook. Yuck. What fish is worth that?

“They’re definitely really good to eat. They’re a white, fleshy meat,” said Skorupski, adding they can be fried or even boiled up as “poor man’s lobster.”

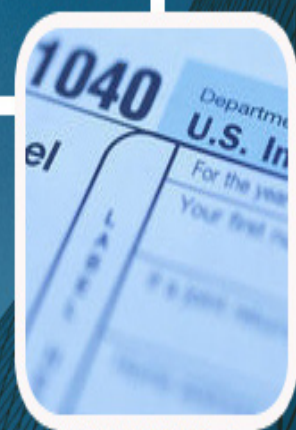
Fishermen not only can keep as many burbot as they can catch from Flaming Gorge, they must. All burbot caught from the reservoir must be killed under state regulations.

Biologists credit the Burbot Bash, started in 2009, and the Burbot Classic, begun last year, for having a big effect. Studies show burbot numbers in Flaming Gorge are down substantially in the past couple years.

“The fish are susceptible to angling,” Skorupski said.

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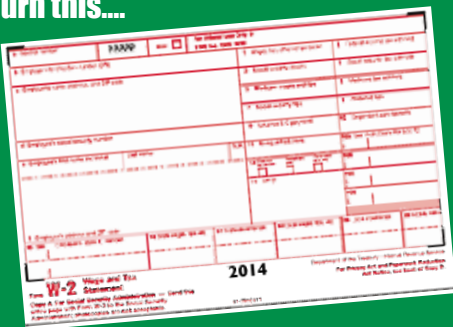
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Buzzing the lake



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Perhaps looking for a bite to eat, birds fly low over Comanche Trail Park Wednesday afternoon.

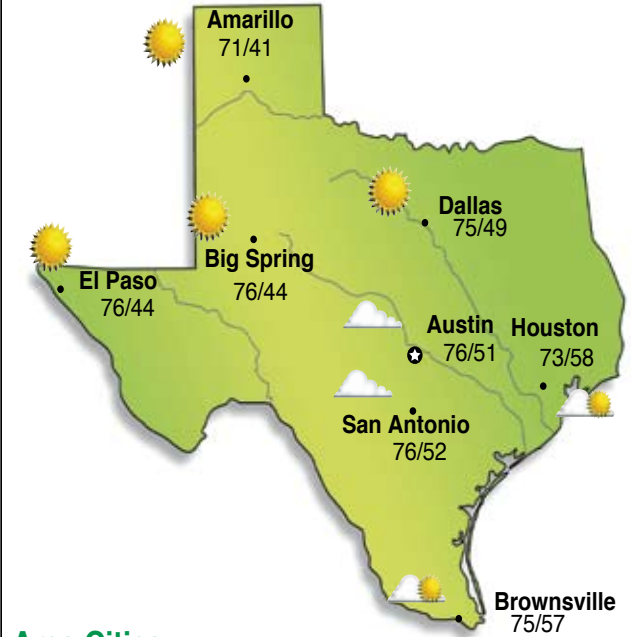
Local 5-Day Forecast

Sun 2/8	Mon 2/9	Tue 2/10	Wed 2/11	Thu 2/12
76/44	75/46	78/48	68/39	54/36
Mainly sunny. High 76F. Winds N at 10 to 20 mph.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 40s.	Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:35 AM Sunset: 6:25 PM	Sunrise: 7:34 AM Sunset: 6:26 PM	Sunrise: 7:33 AM Sunset: 6:27 PM	Sunrise: 7:32 AM Sunset: 6:28 PM	Sunrise: 7:31 AM Sunset: 6:29 PM

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	75	44	sunny	Kingsville	80	56	pt sunny
Amarillo	71	41	sunny	Livingston	69	53	cloudy
Austin	76	51	foggy	Longview	67	46	cloudy
Beaumont	72	55	cloudy	Lubbock	74	42	sunny
Brownsville	75	57	pt sunny	Lufkin	71	51	cloudy
Brownwood	76	42	sunny	Midland	75	45	sunny
Corpus Christi	73	56	mst sunny	Raymondville	79	57	pt sunny

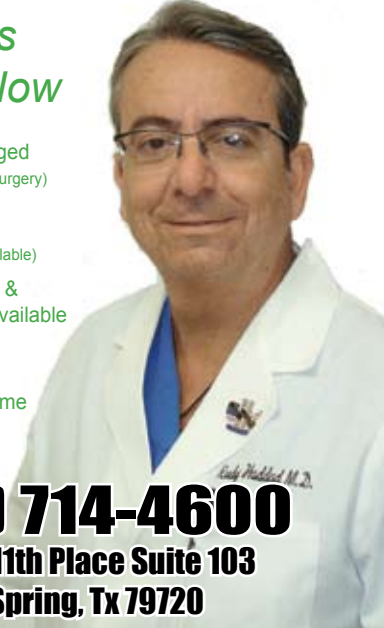
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Hello, playoffs!!

BSHS nets playoff berth with 50-46 win

By **TOMMY WELLS**
Sports Editor

For much of the first three quarters, Julianna Rodriguez struggled to find her range from behind the three-point line. But when it mattered most, she delivered.

The Big Spring High School senior pumped in a pair of three-point shots in the final 3:38 of regulation on Friday night and helped power the Lady Steers to a thrilling 50-46 come-from-behind victory over the Snyder Lady Tigers in District 2-4A play.

And into the Class 4A state playoffs.

"Julianna was huge for us tonight," said BSHS head coach Stacy Smalley. "She hit big shots for us when we needed them."

Big Spring definitely needed Rodriguez's shots on Friday. With the win, Big Spring set up a wild, wild finish to the District 2-4A race by creating a three-way tie for second. Big Spring, Lubbock Estacado and Lamesa all head into their regular season finales on Tuesday tied at 5-4 in the district standings. All three will advance to the postseason – although a one-game district playoff looms for two of the three.

With a win over Sweetwater on Tuesday, the Lady Steers would end the regular season tied with either Estacado and Lamesa – who play each other on Tuesday – meaning a district playoff.

See **GIRLS**, Page 1B



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)
Senior Julianna Rodriguez throws up a shot in the paint during the Lady Steers' 50-46 victory over the Snyder Lady Tigers on Friday in the Steer Gym. Rodriguez scored 26 points in the game and helped BSHS clinch a postseason playoff berth.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)
Big Spring senior Tobyn Tannehill drives into for an easy basket during the first quarter of the Steers' 67-34 rout of Snyder on 'Senior Night.' Tannehill finished the contest with eight points.

Steers make easy work of Tigers in 67-34 rout

By **TOMMY WELLS**
Sports Editor

Dee Parker made the most of Senior Night in front of a large crowd in the Steer Gym on Friday night. He waved to the fans, smiled and did what the 6-foot-2 senior does best – have fun.

Parker came off the bench and pumped in 10 points and dished out a pair of assists en route to helping the Big Spring Steers pound out a convincing 67-34 rout of the Snyder Tigers in District 2-4A action.

"He (Dee) is just fun," said BSHS head coach Ian Ritchey, who praised the Steer defense in the win. "He likes to talk and get the guys fired up. He did a great job for us."

With the win, Big Spring snapped a two-game losing streak and moved into a tie with Levelland for third in

the District 2-4A standings. Both teams have three games remaining in the regular season.

Big Spring, now 17-9 for the season, all but put Snyder away with a dominating effort in the first eight minutes. The Steers, backed by eight first-quarter points from Ty Sealy and five more from Tyler Bryan, opened the game with a 10-3 run and cruised to a stunning 21-5 lead.

Snyder managed just one shot from the field against the BSHS defense. After tying the game at 2-2 with just over 7 minutes left in the opening stanza, the Tigers did not manage to sink another shot from the floor until the 5:32 mark of the second quarter.

"We executed (the team's defensive game plan) to borderline perfection," said See **GIRLS**, Page 1B

Quick start spurs Grady past Loop, 79-39

By **TOMMY WELLS**
Sports Editor

LOOP – The No. 4-ranked Grady High School Wildcats moved one step closer to claiming the district basketball championship – again – on Friday night. The Wildcats raced to a 20-point lead in the first eight minutes of play and rolled to an easy 79-39 romp over the Loop Longhorns.

With the victory, Grady moved to 8-0 in District 11-A action. They hold a one-game lead over rival Sands.

The Wildcats, who knocked down eight three-pointers in the contest, blew the game wide open early. Backed by a solid shooting effort from Kyle Garza and Beau Lucas, Grady pounded out a 27-7 lead in the first eight minutes of the contest.

The game didn't get any easier for the Longhorns in the second. Loop, which fell to 0-8 in district play, managed just nine points in the frame and went into the half trailing by a 55-16 margin.

Garza, who finished the game with 21 points, including 12 via four three-pointers, helped the Wildcats expand their lead even more in the third. He played well in the third and spearheaded an 18-12 run that sent Grady into the fourth holding a 73-28 lead.

In all, Grady had three players score into double digits against Loop. In addition to Garza, the team also picked up 11 from Cole Polson and 10 from Lucas.

As a team, the Wildcats decimated Loop from the free throw line. Grady connected on 12 of their 19 attempts from the charity stripe. Loop went to the line just 10 times in the contest, making only four.

Grady, now 24-2, can clinch the district championship on Tuesday when they host Sands in Lenorah.

Bulldogs deals Buffs 51-47 loss

The Miles High School Bulldogs dealt the Forsan Buffaloes' playoff aspirations a tough blow on Friday night by claiming a 51-47 victory.

With the loss, Forsan slipped to 10-13 for the season and, more importantly, moved to 6-5 in District 8-3A action.

Despite the loss, Forsan picked up strong outings from Jacob Valdez and Walker Park. Valdez finished the game with a team-high 11 points. Park added 10.

The Bulldogs did most of their damage in the first eight minutes of the second half. They posted a 20-12 run in the third and built a 51-36 cushion.

Miles opened the game with a 13-4 run.

The Buffaloes also garnered a strong outing from Ian Park, who pitched in nine points.

Forsan will return to play on Tuesday at home against Christoval.

Little League sign-ups to resume Feb. 14

Big Spring Little League sign-ups will continue on Feb. 14 at the Springtown Plaza from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The league is open to players ranging in ages from 4-16. Parents should bring their children's birth certificate.

Registration is \$90 per child and the league provides the entire uniform.

Sign-ups will also be held Feb. 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and also on Feb. 9-13 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Individuals interested in coaching please sign up early.

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Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Will Green blocks a Snyder shot during the fourth quarter of the Steers' 67-34 rout of the Tigers on Friday. Big Spring improved to 17-9 for the year with the victory.

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B Ritchey. "We wanted to try and put some pressure on the basketball and make them uncomfortable. You saw the result of that. Our seniors did a great job of getting us ready."

After racing to a 21-5 lead in the first, Big Spring opened the second with baskets from Tobyn Tannehill, Kei-Shawn Broussard and Sealy and reeled off an 8-0 run that pushed its lead to 29-5.

Snyder's Dralon Jackson gave the Tigers a lift midway through the second. He scored nine unanswered points - Snyder's entire offensive output in the quarter - and pulled the Tigers to within 31-14 with 1:58 left in the half.

District 2-4A BOYS		
Team	Season	Conf.
y-Estacado	7-0	21-7
y-Lamesa	5-2	17-8
Levelland	4-3	17-10
Big Spring	4-3	17-9
Sweetwater	1-6	8-12
Snyder	0-7	7-19
y- Clinched playoff berth		
Tuesday's Games - Levelland at Snyder; Big Spring at Sweetwater; Lubbock Estacado at Lamesa.		

continued to terrorize Snyder in the third. Sealy pushed in nine points in the third quarter and helped the Steers infatue their lead to 21, at 49-28. Sealy finished the game with a double-double, netting a game-high 23 points and 14 rebounds.

Parker helped the Steers close out the win in the fourth. He pumped in six points - and two assists with passes that led to buckets for Ivan Castillo and Kolton Knudson - and spearheaded an 18-6 run.

Tannehill, who also heard chants of "Tobyn! Tobyn!" from the student body also played well. He finished the game with eight points.

The Steers will return to action on Tuesday with a trip to Sweetwater.

Spurs beat Heat in first meeting since NBA Finals

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - Facing Miami had the San Antonio Spurs playing like champions again. It left the Heat feeling awestruck once more.

Kawhi Leonard had 24 points and San Antonio beat Miami 98-85 on Friday night in their first meeting since the Spurs' dominating performance in the NBA Finals.

San Antonio, which has battled injuries all season, showed some of the crisp ball movement and consistency that dumbfounded Miami in June.

"It was a lot more consistent than we have been for more of the 48 minutes, in both competitiveness and execution," said Spurs coach Gregg Popovich, who is one win shy of 1,000 for his career.

San Antonio had 31 as-

ists and was 11 for 29 on 3-pointers in running Miami off the floor in a rematch of the past two Finals.

"That's elite-level ball-handling, ball movement, passing and IQ and shooting," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "And great coaching. It's the full package."

Tony Parker added 21 points and Tim Duncan had 10 and 12 rebounds for his 24th double-double of the season.

The Spurs played with their entire roster active for only the second time this season.

"This year has just been hard for this year for all those reasons, for all the injuries, but every team has got injuries so we're not trying to find excuses," Parker said.

Minus the injuries, the Spurs roster is mostly intact since its five-

game victory over the Heat in the Finals, while Miami's has been drastically altered. They lost LeBron James to Cleveland and were without an injured Dwyane Wade once again Friday.

Taylor Johnson, who is on his second 10-day contract, had a team-high 18 points for Miami. Luol Deng had 17 and Chris Bosh added 14 points for the Heat, who trailed by as many as 20 points in a game that wasn't as close as the score.

"I mean they're making the right play like every single, well like 90 percent of the time," Bosh said. "They're getting wide open jump shots, they're being aggressive and you just don't know what they're going to do."

The Spurs also had Leonard, the Finals MVP.

BSCC to hold scramble on Feb. 21-22

The Big Spring Country Club will be holding a 4-person scramble on Feb. 21-22.

The entry fee for the event is \$120 per player, plus the cost of a cart rental. Private carts are welcome on Saturday

and Sunday.

The scramble is scheduled to get under way at p.m. on both days with a shotgun start.

Entry includes a muligan each day as well as barbecue on Saturday. Practice rounds are

available on Friday.

The field will be flighted by first round scores. The number of flights will be determined by the number of entries.

For more information call 432-267-5354.

BSGSA to start '15 sign-ups on Feb. 14

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will be holding sign-ups for the 2015 season on Saturdays, beginning on Feb.

14 until March 7. Registration will be held from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the Springtown Plaza.

The league is open to players ranging in ages from 4-14 (age as of Jan. 1, 2015). The cost is \$90, with discounts available for fam-

ilies with additional siblings in the same family.

For more information contact Ron Shafer at 432-213-3747.

JV girls suffer 34-30 loss to Snyder

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Big Spring High School junior varsity Lady Steers dropped a heart-rending 34-30 decision to the Snyder Lady Tigers on Friday in front of a small crowd in the Steer Gym.

The Lady Steers didn't make Snyder's win easy at all.

The Lady Tigers opened the game with an early run, building a 10-6 advantage before Kiowa Lesser got the BSHS offense going. She pushed home a three-point shot from the wing with 2:58

to pull Big Spring to within 10-9.

After Snyder had scored to up its lead to three, Kiana Ramsey sank a short jumper from the blocks at the buzzer to send Big Spring into the second trailing by 13-12.

Snyder opened the second with a 4-0 run and grabbed an 18-12 cushion before Ramsey got the BSHS offense going. She scored four straight points midway through the frame and helped Big Spring fight its way to 20-16 at the half.

Ramsey and Lesser con-

tinued to spearhead the Big Spring offense in the third. Both knocked down baskets in the frame and led the lady Steers into the final frame down by a 28-22 clip.

The Lady Steers made a valiant comeback in the fourth. They outscored Snyder by an 8-6 clip in the frame and had an opportunity to steal the win late in the period.

The Lady Steers, who also garnered solid play from Janisha Smith and Emilie Smith, will close out their 2015 season on Tuesday with a trip to Sweetwater.

Miles pulls into tie for 3rd with win over Forsan

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Miles High School Lady Bulldogs threw the District 8-2A basketball race into a flux on Friday night by defeating the Forsan Lady Buffaloes, 49-38.

With the victory, Miles managed to pull into a tie with Forsan for third in the district standings heading into Tuesday's regular season finale. Both teams

are now 8-5 in district competition.

Forsan, which had entered Friday's game tied with Irion County for second, picked up a solid outing from Mary-Ashley McDaniel in the loss. The pumped in team-high 10 points for FHS.

Forsan will close out the regular season at home on Tuesday against Christoval. Action will start at 4 p.m. with JV matchups.

GIRLS

Continued from Page 1B off would be needed to determine the No. 2 and No. 3 seeds.

The Lady Steers' focus was on anything but the postseason when they tipped off play against Snyder in front of a small crowd in the Steer Gym. To be sure, they were in survival mode, especially after a four turnovers in the first 3 minutes left them looking up at a 6-0 deficit.

"We came out messy and sloppy," said Smalley. "We turned the ball over too many times there at the start and dug ourselves a hole."

Rodriguez helped the Lady Steers dig themselves out of the hole. She registered Big Spring's first basket of the night at the 4:29 mark of opening frame by draining a three-pointer from the top of the key. She came back minutes later to knock

District 2-4A GIRLS		
Team	Season	Conf.
x-Levelland	9-0	28-2
y-Lamesa	5-4	11-13
y-Big Spring	5-4	15-15
y-Estacado	5-4	8-22
Snyder	3-6	7-20
Sweetwater	0-9	3-19
x - Clinched district title		
y - Clinched playoff berth		
Tuesday's Games - Big Spring at Sweetwater, Estacado at Lamesa, Levelland at Snyder.		

down the second of her game-high five treys - enabled the Lady Steers to pull to within one, at 9-8, heading into the second quarter.

Snyder continued to hold the upper hand in the second. The Lady Tigers outscored Big Spring by a 6-2 clip over the first 4 minutes of the second and pushed its lead to 15-10 before Mercedes Ruiz came off the bench and gave the Lady Steers a spark. The BSHS post pushed back an offensive rebound from the blocks and pulled Big Spring to

within 15-12. Less than 30 seconds later, Rodriguez powered home a layup to send the game into the half with the Lady Steers down by one, at 15-14.

Tiffani Ruiz made sure the fans didn't have to wait long to see Big Spring get its first lead. She pushed home a 14-foot jumper from the left side just 48 seconds into the second half to stake BSHS to a 16-15 cushion. Jackie Castillo followed moments later with a layup that extended the Lady Steer lead to 18-15.

Snyder answered back. The Lady Tigers dropped in a three-point shot from the top of the key at the 6:19 mark to knot the score at 18-18.

Rodriguez and Ruiz shot down the Lady Tigers' hopes from there. Rodriguez gave Big Spring the lead back with just under 6 minutes to play by taking an inbounds pass from August Alexander and dropping in a three-



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Tiffani Ruiz throws up a shot during the second half of the Lady Steers' 50-46 victory over the Snyder Lady Tigers. With the win, Big Spring clinches a berth in the Class 4A playoffs.

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Decoding Your Taxes, Health Care Law



Taxpayers get help with IRS Free File

FAMILY FEATURES

You don't need to be an expert on taxes or the new health care law to get it right. The Internal Revenue Service, in partnership with industry-leading companies, is offering free tax software that will do the hard work for you. It's called Free File, and it's available only at IRS.gov/freefile. Learn more at freefile.irs.gov.
If you earned \$60,000 or less — and 70 percent of us do — you are eligible for Free File's brand-name software. If you made more than \$60,000, you still have a free option in Free File Fillable Forms. This is the electronic version of IRS paper forms. It's pretty basic, so this program is best for people comfortable doing their own taxes.

Free File's software programs will help you find the tax benefits you are due, help pick the right tax forms, and do the math for you. This year, Free File also helps you complete information on your return that is related to the Affordable Care Act. When it comes to the health care law, almost everyone will need to do something new when filing a tax return this year. For each month in 2014, you and everyone on your return will need to do one of the following:

- Report healthcare coverage
- Claim an exemption from coverage
- Make a shared responsibility payment with your tax return

Most people will simply have to check a box to indicate they maintained health care coverage for the entire year.

Free File software will ask all the right questions; you supply the answers. More than 43 million people have used Free File since it started in 2003. They have saved \$1.3 billion in tax preparation fees — simply by doing it themselves. Getting started is easy:

Gather your tax-related documents

Collect the tax materials needed to do your taxes. Here's what you'll need:

- A copy of last year's tax return
- Valid Social Security numbers for yourself, spouse and children
- All income statements, i.e. W-2 forms, from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements, i.e. 1099 forms
- Form 1099-G showing any state refunds
- Unemployment compensation amount
- Form 1095-A, Health Insurance Marketplace Statement, if you purchased coverage from a Health Insurance Marketplace
- Records of your own and your family members' health care insurance coverage, including employer provided, government, Marketplace or private coverage

Choose a brand-name software product

Once you've gathered your materials, go to IRS.gov/freefile to review the 14 company offerings. Each company sets its own criteria, usually based on age, income or state residency. You can either use a "help me" tool that will match software with your situation or you can review each of the company offerings. Most companies also offer state returns, some for free.

Again, if your income was higher and you are comfortable preparing your own taxes, Free File Fillable Forms may be right for you.

Find tax credits

Then, let Free File do the hard work for you. Free File software can guide you through finding tax breaks, and help you receive a more accurate refund. Some people may not even be aware that they qualify for a tax credit.

For example, the IRS estimates that one out of every five taxpayers eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit, a refundable credit for taxpayers with moderate income, fail to claim it.

If you or anyone on your return purchased health care coverage from the Health Insurance Marketplace, you may qualify for the premium tax credit. If you chose to have advance payments of the premium tax credit sent to your insurance provider in 2014, you must file a tax return. You must reconcile, or compare, the advance credit payments with the actual premium tax credit you are allowed to claim on your return. Learn more at IRS.gov/aca.

Get your refund faster

Once you've completed your return, you can also print a copy and e-file your federal taxes, absolutely free. With electronic filing, you will receive a confirmation within minutes that the IRS has accepted your return. Or, if it's not accepted, you can easily find out why. E-file helps make your tax return even more accurate, which means a quicker refund. To get your refund even faster, combine e-file with direct deposit.

The Free File software — designed to provide a fast, safe and free filing option — is available online 24/7, giving you the freedom to choose when and how you do your taxes.

Health Care Law

Everyone needs to understand how the health care law affects tax returns. You will need to complete one of the following steps, and using Free File, brand-name software makes it easier for you.

Reporting health care coverage

If you and everyone on your tax return had health care coverage for all of 2014, simply check the "full year coverage" box when completing your return in the Free File software. For most people, that's it!

Claiming a Coverage Exemption

If you did not have health care coverage for all or part of 2014, you may qualify for a coverage exemption. Free File will help you complete Form 8965 and file it with your tax return.

Making a shared responsibility payment

If you or your dependents had neither health care coverage nor an exemption, you may need to make a payment with your tax return. Free File will help you calculate your payment and report it on your tax return.

About the Premium Tax Credit

If you or anyone on your return purchased insurance coverage from the Marketplace, you may be eligible for the premium tax credit. If you chose to have advance payments of the premium tax credit sent to your insurer in 2014, you must reconcile or compare the advance credit payments with the actual premium tax credit you are allowed to claim on your return.

THE HEALTH CARE LAW AND YOUR TAXES
WHAT THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT (ACA) MEANS FOR YOUR 2014 FEDERAL TAX RETURN

Almost everyone will need to do something new when filing a tax return this year. For each month in 2014, everyone must:

A

Report Health Care Coverage

OR

B

Claim An Exemption From Coverage

OR

C

Make A Shared Responsibility Payment With Your Tax Return

TIP

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Perkins-McCullough engaged



Kelsee Michelle Perkins and William Chase McCullough will exchange wedding vows on May 1, 2015, in Odessa, Texas.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Jayden and Sandra Perkins of Midland and Cheree Watts of San Angelo, Texas. She is a 2011 graduate of Forsan High School and a 2014 graduate of Midland College. Kelsee is a nurse.

The future groom is the son of David and Aleasha McCullough of Odessa Texas. He is a 2010 graduate of Permian High School and a 2013 graduate of the University of Texas — Permian Basin. He is a petroleum engineer.

Births

Aidyn Michael Nunez
Jan. 29, 2014

Christopher Nunez and Kayla Aaron proudly announce the birth of their son, Aidyn Michael Nunez, born on Jan. 29, 2015, at Shannon Medical Center Hospital in San Angelo. He weighed 7 pounds and 1 ounce and was 19 1/2 inches long.

His maternal grandparents are Robert and Shawnda Aaron of Big Spring. His paternal grandparents are Rick and Pat Nunez of Big Spring.



Anniversary

Hesters celebrate 60 years of marriage



Roy J. and Joy Hester

Roy J. and Joy Hester celebrated 60 years of marriage on Feb. 5, 2015.

The couple and family celebrated their long-time love Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015 with family enjoying a meal at the Spanish inn followed by a gathering at the couple's residence.

The two were married by the Rev. Clyde Nichols at First Christian Church on Feb. 5, 1955.

Their children are Brenda and her husband, Bobby, Bradshaw of Midland; and Kathy and her late husband, Dr. Cleve Kirkland, of

San Angelo. Their grandchildren are Nathan Bradshaw of Big Spring; Garrett and Kristen Bradshaw of Midland, Emily Bradshaw Cuyler and her husband, Evan, of Lubbock, Kendra Kirkland Lovelady and husband, Jordon, of Garland, Kyle Kirkland and wife, Rachel, of Fort Worth, and Claire Kirkland of Waco.

From 1962 to 1992, Roy owned and operated Hester's Mechanical Contractors. In 1978, He began building a 45-apartment complex with partner, D.D. Johnston assuming full own-

ership in 2004 which the Hesters still own and manage.

After concentrating on her primary focus of rearing their two daughters, Joy taught in the business department at Howard College for 15 years.

The couple have been members of the East Fourth St. Baptist Church since 1958 where Roy was ordained a deacon and Joy taught various Bible classes.

They have enjoyed traveling to many foreign countries as well as within the United States.

Smith named new pastor at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church



The Rev. Michael D. Smith, pastor at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church

Michael D. Smith joined the Mt. Bethel Baptist Church as its new

pastor.

Pastor Smith is a Christian education proponent, a nationally certified instructor and certified dean. However, he said his greatest accomplishment was convincing Rita Smith to become his wife 20 plus years ago.

The Rev. Smith has served as a minister of the gospel for more than two decades and as a senior pastor for nearly a decade in both Texas and New Mexico. He continues to serve the elderly and disabled population as an in-home investigator for more than 12 years with the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services.

The Rev. Smith's vision and goals are simple: to preach, teach and lead God's people into balance Christian living including worship to god, growth in Christ and evangelism to our world.

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Menus

Big Spring Senior Citizen's Center

Monday
Spaghetti with meat sauce, broccoli, tossed salad, rosy pears, garlic toast, milk

Tuesday
Chicken & dumplings, green beans, tossed salad, chocolate pudding, cornbread, milk.

Wednesday
Taco salad, Mexican corn, sour cream cake, milk.

Thursday
Meat loaf, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, peanut butter cookies, rolls, milk.

Friday
Fish fillet on a bun, sweet potato fries, coleslaw, applesauce, milk.

Sands CISD

Monday
Breakfast: oatmeal round, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk; Lunch: Texas combo basket, charo beans, garden salad, hot cinnamon, apples.

Tuesday
Breakfast: waffles, sausage, fruit, juice, milk; Lunch: Philly cheese steak sandwich, tater tots, Fresh veggie cups, fresh fruit cups, (high school) cookies.

Wednesday
Breakfast: breakfast sliders, fruit, juice, milk; Lunch: pizza, garden salad, baby carrots, fruit cup.

Thursday
Breakfast: sausage biscuit, fruit, juice, milk; Lunch: chicken nuggets, mac & cheese, garden salad, savory green beans, apple slices, cookies.

Friday
Breakfast: cinnamon rolls, fruit, juice, milk; Lunch, hamburgers, seasoned corn, baby carrots, sliced peaches.

Big Spring ISD

Monday
Breakfast: baked cheese sticks, grapes, assorted fruit juice, milk; Lunch: cheese enchilada or Texas combo basket, charro beans, garden salad, hot cinnamon apples, Spanish rice, milk.

Tuesday
Breakfast: blueberry waffles, sausage patty, apples, assorted fruit juice, milk; Lunch: Texas chili with cornbread or ham & cheese calzone, French fries, fresh veggie cup, fresh fruit cup, orange smiles, milk.

Wednesday
Breakfast: animal crackers, string cheese, peach cup, assorted fruit juice, milk; Lunch: cheese or pepperoni pizza or turkey & cheese sub, baby carrots, fruit cocktail, garden salad, milk.

Thursday
Breakfast, bacon scramble pizza, banana, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch: chicken nuggets or meatball sandwich, mac & cheese, garden salad, green beans, apples, chocolate graham crackers, milk.

Friday
Breakfast: cinnamon mini rolls, mixed fruit cup, assorted fruit juice, milk; Lunch: hamburger or cheeseburger or chicken fajitas, corn on the cob, baby carrots, peaches and milk.

New Hope Christian School

Monday
Breakfast: cereal, orange juice, milk, (honey buns and milk, snack); Lunch: chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread, milk.

Tuesday
Breakfast: biscuits/gravy, apple slices, (string cheese and crackers, snack); Lunch: mac & cheese, weenies, carrots, orange smiles, milk.

Wednesday
Breakfast: granola bars, peaches, milk, (vanilla wafers, banana pudding, snack); Lunch: grilled cheese sandwich, tater tots, tomato soup, milk.

Thursday
Breakfast: cinnamon toast, apple juice, milk, (butter crackers & deli meat, snack); Lunch: spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, salad mix, garlic bread, milk.

Friday
Breakfast: French toast sticks, pears, milk, (Rice Crispy Treat & meal, snack); Lunch: beanie weenies, corn, mixed fruit, bread, milk.

Club news

Keep Big Spring Beautiful

Keep Big Spring Beautiful meet Monday, Feb. 2, in the Cactus Room at Howard College.

President Lisa Brooks led us in the pledge to the flag and gave the invocation. After minutes and financials were approved, Lisa gave a thank-you to Emily McCann for being in charge of our table decorations for the Chamber banquet. Lots of folks went home clutching one of our useful trash grabbers.

Peggy Hopper was also thanked for putting together our state entry for the year 2014—already in the mail to Austin. Jan Hansen continues to oversee our experimental garden at the Dora Roberts Civic Center.

We thanked Geogie Newsome and Sandra-Rhodes Bartlett for seeing to January needs in the garden. February will be handled by Lisa and Greg Brooks. Becky Woodall is doing follow-up work on our "Clean it up Big Spring" signage program and is also enhancing our Facebook page.

Discussion was held



on our methods to promote less usage of plastic bags. We encouraged the public to use reusable bags consistently and to recycle cans, too. Volunteers are needed to attack weeds in the Main Street median. Lots of projects are coming. Come join us to help beautify our town.

Our next meeting is Monday, March 2.

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Life Policies

The Big Spring Herald has instituted a 600 word limit for all wedding submissions. All wedding articles will be edited to fit the above listed policy.

All submissions for Sunday's life section must be turned in by noon Wednesday to be published in Sunday's edition.

Submitting articles by the deadline does not guarantee publication in the Sunday Life Section.

The Herald attempts to publish articles in a timely manner but because of space limitations submissions may be held until the following week.

For more information, call 263-7331



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10:00am - 6:00pm



Courtesy photo

Spring Town Plaza is the latest recipient of the Chamber of Commerce's "Thank You for Your Investment" recognition. Chamber officials made the presentation Tuesday.

Hackers see rewarding targets within the health care industry

By TOM MURPHY

AP Business Writer

Health care is a treasure trove for criminals looking to steal reams of personal information, as the hacking of a database maintained by the second-largest U.S. health insurer proves.

The latest breach at health insurer Anthem Inc. follows a year in which more than 10 million people were affected by health care data breaches — including hacking or accidents that exposed personal

information, such as lost laptops — according to a government database that tracks incidents affecting at least 500 people. The numbers, compiled by the Department of Health and Human Services, show that last year was the worst for health care hacking since 2011, when more than 11 million people were affected.

Health care hacking is becoming more of a focus as retailers and other businesses have clamped down on security after massive breach-

es at companies like Target and Home Depot. That has made it more difficult in some cases for cyber thieves to infiltrate their systems. As a result, they've turned their attention toward health care.

Experts say health care companies can provide many entry points into their systems for crooks to steal data. And once criminals get that information, they can pull off far more extensive and lucrative schemes.

"If someone steals your

credit card and home address, they might be able to buy something, but you can usually get that locked down quickly," said Tony Anscombe, a security expert with the cybersecurity firm AVG Technologies. "With medical records and a social security number, it's not so simple."

Anthem said late Wednesday that hackers broke into a database storing information on 80 million people in an attack the company dis-

See **HACKERS**, Page 5C

The keys to finding a trustworthy locksmith

It happens to all of us at some point in time — being locked out of your home or vehicle. And it always seems to happen at the wrong time, too.

An untrustworthy locksmith can make matters even worse. Better Business Bureau (BBB) wants to remind consumers to be cautious when choosing a locksmith.

Nationally, BBB received more than 1,500 complaints for locksmith services in 2014. Many consumers alleged the company charged more than quoted, there was damage left behind to their home or vehicle and issues with the time it took for services to be rendered.

To avoid getting locked in to the wrong situation, your BBB offers this advice:

- Find a company before you need it. The worst time to try to research a locksmith is when you're locked out of your house or car.

- Get recommendations from friends, check the company's license and visit the company's BBB Business Review. Once you've found one you trust, save the number in your phone in case of emergency.

- Know where to turn. If you find yourself locked out of your car or home and don't have a trusted locksmith's

phone number, you can get a quick list of accredited businesses by using the BBB iPhone App. If you are locked out of a car with your child inside, call the police.

- Check the license. Locksmiths are required to carry a copy of their license, issued by the DPS, anytime they are on the job.

Even if you have researched the company beforehand, ask to see the individual's license before they begin assisting you.

- Know the price before agreeing to the work. Though locksmiths may not always know the extent of the job before they start, they should be able to provide a fairly accurate range based on the details you provide.

- Read the fine print. Be sure to read any contract thoroughly before signing. Check for additional fees and understand the terms of any guarantees.

To find trustworthy businesses, visit bbb.org.



TYLER PATTON

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Steve Antoine, 1425 E. 6th St. no. 19, Big Spring
Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
Wayne Richard Boyce, 4042 Morningside, Canyon Raymond Carroll, 712 E. 17th St., Big Spring
Roy DeWayne Carter, 5320 Wasson, Big Spring
Susan Cheyanne Cearley, 4104 Muir, Big Spring
Pedro Chavarria, 1404 Wood, Big Spring
Tonya Renea Cogburn, 1610 Johnson, Big Spring
Okytra Larae Cole, 1903 Runnels, Big Spring
Matilda Cortez, 302 N. St. Teresa, Stanton
Hannah Deaton, 19634 Atasca Oaks Dr., Humble
Tina Marie Ellis, 4002 Austin Ave., Snyder
Brittany Vanessa Escanuela, 2521 Chanute, Big Spring
Jose Enrique Faz, 602 N.W. Seventh, Big Spring
Michael Dean Fleming, 5216 Tremont Ave., Midland
Andy Lee Flores, 1302 Kendall, Big Spring
Noel Garcia II, 1011 Stadium, Big Spring
James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler St. no. 502, Atlanta
Eugene Frank Gulley, 1201 Floydada, Wellington, Texas
Christina Nichole Gutierrez, 2809 25th St., Snyder
Dylan Hammons, 4404 E. 11th Pl., Big Spring
Matias Hernandez Jr., 620 E. 4th St., Big Spring
James Beauford Hodnett, 111 Merrick Road, Big Spring
Shatiya Lasha Jenkins,

4590 N. Texas no. 198, Odessa
Stephanie Ford Johnson, P.O. Box 483, Coahoma
Richard Leos, 509 W. 8th St., Big Spring
Jenny Marie Hamilton Lyon, 2609 Fairchild, Big Spring
Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham Ave., Odessa
Michael Shane Martinez, P.O. Box 613, Coahoma
Lee Allen Mathis, 101 Falcon Ln., Hillsboro
Jonathan L. Michelsen, 2798 Simmons, Abilene
Willie Ray Myles Jr., 1220 Ross Ave., Waco, Texas
Camilo Martin Nieto, 1 Courtney Pl. no. 108, Big Spring
Dehalie Marie Nunez, P.O. Box 93, Eden
John Daniel Renteria, 4221 CR A 3500, Knott
John Troy Riddle, 801 Industrial Loop no. 65, Breckenridge
Liza Leigh Rios, 1002 Main no. 30, Big Spring
Linda Eva Rodriguez, 2519 Gunter, Big Spring
Juan Romero, 2504 March Circle, Big Spring
Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Rd., Big Spring
Yuri Lozano Rubio, 421 Cedar, Colorado City
Brittany Nicole Savell, 425 E. Davis Rd., Big Spring
Ricky Lynn Waltenbaugh, 538 Westover Rd., apt. 133, Big Spring
Candida Lynn Whitehead, 3706 Connolly St., Big Spring
Tamara Ruth Whitt, 1909 Morrison, Big Spring
Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Washton Rd. apt. 28, Big Spring
Cody K. Witt, 310 E. 21st, Big Spring

Marriage Licenses
Erik Alejandro Flores, 19, and Eugenia Alexandra Cantu, 21, both of Big Spring
Carlie Ortiz, 42, and Kimberly Anne Johnson, 26, both of Colorado City
Albert Blake Chavarria, 22, Big Spring, and Ashley Flores Valencia, 20, of Oklahoma.
Patrick Lemont Wilbert, 43, and Melissa Renee Kreher, 20, both of Big Spring
Christopher Joseph Bennett, 33, and Cassie Dena Gibson, 32, both of Big Spring
Susano Alvarez, 52, and Maria Norma DeHoyos, 48, both of Big Spring
Vergil Garcia Jr., 22, and Cassandra Kathleen Villa, 25, both of Big Spring
District Court Filings
Bobby C. Winter vs. Jackey Winter, divorce
Al Olmstead vs. Drew Mouton, Mouton & Mouton LLC, civil
Gabrielle Rey Acosta vs. Jacob Rene Acosta, divorce
Wendi K. Jenkins vs. Richard P. Jenkins, divorce
Robert C. Wash vs. Clint Tuma, accounts, notes and contracts
Irma Estela Vincent vs. Farris William Schlieff, divorce
Archie Kinard, et. al. vs. Big Star Oil & Gas LLC, accounts, notes and contracts
Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Cynthia Olivas, accounts, notes and contracts
Diane Marie Kilgora vs. John Yater, civil
John Middleton vs. Jensco Construction Inc., accounts,

notes and contracts
Warranty Deeds
Grantor: Detricia Newman Shobe et. al.
Grantee: Jacquelyn Newman
Property: Strip of land out of section 45, block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR survey
Date: Jan. 8, 2015
Grantor: G.B. Harding and Helen Spiller
Grantee: Manuel and Lori Martinez
Property: Lot 10, tract 4, Foster subdivision
Date: Jan. 21, 2015
Grantor: Scott Emerson
Grantee: Chuck Rosenbaum
Property: Lot 5, block 1, Buckner Place addition
Date: Feb. 2, 2015
Grantor: Syble Pope
Grantee: Jessica Pope
Property: Tract out of northeast quarter of section 45, block 31, T-1-N, T&P RR survey
Date: Jan. 29, 2015
Grantor: Vernon and Branda Henley
Grantee: Larry and Bobbie Nix
Property: Tract out of northeast quarter of section 45, block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR survey
Date: Jan. 30, 2015
Grantor: Sherry Ann Goodman
Grantee: Rheadell Hodgson
Property: Tract out of section 11, block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR survey
Date: Jan. 29, 2015

Grantor: Antonio Cervantes
Grantee: HGTS LLC
Property: Tract out of southwest quarter of section 32, block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR survey
Date: Jan. 27, 2015
Grantor: Howard County
Grantee: Big Spring TPS Development, LP
Property: Tract out of southeast quarter of section 26, block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR survey
Date: Jan. 30, 2015
Grantor: Lazy J. Ltd.
Grantee: Wade and Mackenzie Dunbar
Property: Tract out of northwest quarter, section 10, block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR survey
Date: Jan. 29, 2015
Grantor: Mark Lynn Barber
Grantee: Mighty Wash Properties
Property: Lots 1 and 4, block 88, original township
Date: Jan. 26, 2015
Grantor: Charles E. Hamm Jr., et. al.
Grantee: Lawanda C. Hamm
Property: Tract out of northwest quarter, section 26, block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR survey
Date: Jan. 26, 2015
Warranty Deed With Vendor's Lien
Grantor: Chuck Rosenbaum
Grantee: Charles Brown
Property: Lot 2, block 1, Coronado Gardens

Parkview Nursing honored

Special to the Herald

Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation in Big Spring was the latest recipient of the 2015 annual Extraordinary Award. Jennifer Brown, area manager for Central Area 5 for Hallmark Rehabilitation Services, submitted the nomination.

Hallmark provides team members to over 200 facilities in the United States.

Team members honored are: Occupational Therapist; Marilou Mahurin (director) Physical Therapy Assistant; Adam Hyatt, Physical Therapist Assistant; Pattie Blakeney; Occupation Therapy Assistant; Susan Henderson & Physical Therapist Merry Sedger.

The team members have a combined 42 years of experience in Big Spring.

According to Brown, Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation has recently remodeled and expanded its gym. Ms. Mahurin's leadership allows the team to work together seamlessly to

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HACKERS

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covered last week. The Blue Cross Blue Shield insurer said the hackers gained access to names, birthdates, email address, employment details, Social Security numbers, incomes and street addresses of people who are currently covered or have had coverage in the past.

The insurer, which covers more than 37 million people, said credit card information wasn't compromised, and it has yet to find any evidence that medical information was targeted. Anthem Inc. doesn't know how many people were affected by the attack, but a spokeswoman said that number was probably in the "tens of millions."

The attackers used custom malware that was designed to avoid detection by anti-virus programs, said David Damato, managing director of FireEye, a Silicon Valley cybersecurity firm and corporate parent of Mandiant, an emergency response group hired by Anthem to investigate the breach.

Damato said groups with that ability are typically either sophisticated financial crime rings or hackers backed by "nation states," such as a foreign government. When asked if the investigation is pointing in either direction, Damato said he couldn't answer.

"We're very early on in the investigation," he said.

It appears the attack was aimed specifically at a database that contained financial and personal identifying information, but not records of medical treatment, said Damato. "It's fairly evident the attacker was focused on this one source of data," he said, adding that the hackers may have performed "some sort of reconnaissance" to find that database. While he did not elaborate,

he said the attackers managed to evade "multiple layers of security" within Anthem's computer systems.

The impact could be far-reaching. The hackers may have simply been probing Anthem's defenses with plans to plant malware that steals information or to come back with a much larger attack, said Eran Barak, CEO of another cybersecurity firm, Hexadite.

Other experts caution that the hackers may have indeed made off with medical information, and that has not been discovered yet.

Criminals who obtain stolen Social Security or health insurance account numbers have shown more sophistication than the average credit-card fraudster, according to Pam Dixon, executive director of the World Privacy Forum, a consumer advocacy group.

Rather than use the information right away, she said some crooks will sit on Social Security or health insurance files for a year or more before using them to create new identities and apply for benefits.

"What they like to do is season the data for a time, to allow the credit monitoring subscription to expire, and wait until people get sloppy or complacent" about monitoring their own accounts for fraud, she said.

Health records also command a much higher price than credit card accounts on the online black markets where hackers buy and sell stolen information, said Al Pascual, director of fraud and security at Javelin Strategy & Research, a financial industry research firm.

He estimated in an interview last fall that an individual's medical records might fetch as much as \$50, while credit card account information may only be worth \$5.

"A health record has ev-

erything - financial account information, Social Security number, health information," he said. "That makes all the records stored at your health provider and insurer incredibly valuable."

Medical records can be used to extort people, with the hacker demanding money to prevent the sensitive release of information. They also can be sold to criminals who could construct billing and insurance scams involving fake medical centers or target patients for phone scams.

"That's the kind of sophistication we have in cybercrime," said Mark Bower, a vice president with the cybersecurity firm Voltage Security. "We have networks of criminals who can use this data whenever its available based on their skill set."

Hackers can also find, in some health care companies, security practices that are not as mature as they are in other industries, Bower said. Clinics, labs, doctors' offices, insurers and hospitals all offer different entry points for hackers to attack. That mix of systems can come with great variation in security quality.

For its part, Anthem said hackers executed a "very sophisticated" attack on its system, and it contacted the FBI and made "every effort" to close the security vulnerability once it discovered it.

Company spokeswoman Kristin Binns said the data accessed was not encrypted, but that would not have thwarted this attack because the hacker also had a system administrator's ID and password. She said the company normally encrypts data that it exports.

The federal government also is investigating whether the personal information of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries was stolen. Those government programs are a major business for Anthem.

Cheaper gas gives small businesses big savings

NEW YORK (AP) — For small business owners who deliver goods and services via car, truck or SUV, lower gas prices have brought more customers within reach and put more money in their pockets.

As gas prices fell below \$3 a gallon, Kristen Harris went back to delivering her desserts to Chicago-area neighborhoods she had abandoned. Harris was able to cut her delivery charge from 70 cents a mile to 60 cents, and win back customers who had balked at the higher fee.

Her revenue during the holidays rebounded 30 percent, and she's thinking about a further expansion.

At a national average of \$2.04 a gallon, regular gas is down 45 percent from its 2014 peak of \$3.70, saving companies hundreds or thousands of dollars each month. Cheaper gas also puts more money in consumers' pockets and contributes to a stronger economy.

Between 2011 and 2013, gas averaged around \$3.50 a gallon nationally — more in the Chicago area, where gas taxes are high.

Harris, who uses a Lexus for deliveries, shrank her territory from a 35-mile radius around her company down to 10 miles by last summer, and no longer included Chicago itself.

Harris, who also sells online, used FedEx for local orders be-

yond her delivery area. Some customers chose instead to make the trip and pick up their orders.

Now, revenue is strong enough that Harris may hire two to three workers and buy another vehicle. But she's keeping her delivery charge at 60 cents because she can't be sure gas will remain cheap.

CQC Home has seen a double benefit from the gas price plunge. The amount the Durham, North Carolina, home remodeler reimburses its employees for fuel has dropped to \$40,000 a year from \$70,000. Meanwhile, business has picked up as homeowners have spent less on gas, seen the economy growing and decided to expand or update their homes, CEO Ken Combs says. Revenue was \$1.6 million in 2014, and Combs is projecting \$3 million for 2015 and \$4.5 million for 2016.

"We're talking about expanding and growing our market to other areas, a little bit farther away," he says.

Customers are also spending more on renovations.

The top price of a project has risen to \$150,000 from about \$70,000.

That has enabled the company to hire eight more workers, bringing its staff to 22, and is interviewing for three more openings.

HONOR

Continued from Page 4C

make sure everyone at Parkview gets the best care possible. "

Jennifer Brown stated in her nomination that: "The team at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation, through Ms. Mahurin's leadership as Director of Rehabilitation, has had an im-

pact even beyond their single building.

"The culture and passion infect everyone who walks through the doors of Parkview and you can't help but take some of the enthusiasm, happiness and passion back out into the world with you. They inspire me and other teams through their everyday extraordinary actions to be not just better therapists but better people as well."

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We offer a competitive salary and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality patient care, please contact or email a current resume to:

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ADM.Stanton@daybreakventure.com

For other job opportunities please visit:
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Successful candidate will possess good communication skills, customer service attitude, be dependable, honest and reliable. Get experience working with city and county commissioners, school board, community groups and a wide range of social events and local festivals. Requirements include proficient computer skills, typing, photography and writing. Ability to multi-task is a must. Employee must have a valid driver's license and dependable vehicle. Employee will work about 40 hours per week and will include some evenings and/or weekends. Pay will vary depending on experience. Knowledge in InDesign is a plus.
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Complete an application online at <https://jobshportal.cpa.texas.gov/ENGCareportal/> Once you have completed your application

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Help Wanted

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- Part Time General Worker
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- Plant Supervisor

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THE COLORADO River Municipal Water District is accepting applications for the following position: Information Technology System Administrator- Responsible for overall planning, organization, and execution of Information Technology functions for the District, including maintaining computer hardware, software, and networks. For additional information visit www.crmwd.org

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We look forward to hearing from you!

CRMWD
Colorado River Municipal Water District

The Colorado River Municipal Water District is accepting applications for following position:

Administrative Assistant – Responsible for the day-to-day administration of the istrict's general administrative functions. Successful candidate must be a self starter, a team player, and possess the ability to multi-task.

For additional information visit www.crmwd.org

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Primary Responsibilities:

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- Read control schematics in order to trouble shoot sequencing equipment, product identification and measurement devices, tank gauging transmitters, PLC programs, valve operators, and similar equipment.
- May be required to participate in all aspects of emergency response.

Minimum Requirements:

- Associate's degree in electrical/electronics from an accredited college, university or vocational school
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- Knowledge of and the ability to utilize National Electric Code, local codes, O.S.H.A., D.O.T., and regulations of other federal and state agencies as required by geographical locations.
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West Texas Centers

Position 322: Provider Service Part Time positions. This position provides services to persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Services range from skills training, to assistance with daily living activities. Services are provided in the home, the community in a vocational setting. Schedules are flexible. Hrlly \$12.90.

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Applications available at 409 Runnels or www.wtcmhmr.org or by calling **JOBLINE 800-687-2769.EOE**

West Texas Centers

HR Coordinator: Assists management team and staff employees in administering a human resource service program. Ensures compliance with State and Federal laws and regulations. Duties include but are not limited to: all data entry excluding insurance and terminations, Unemployment insurance benefits hearings, position reports, HR training as requested, budget monitoring, reviewing hiring packets, New Employee Orientation etc. Serves as back-up for benefits, terminations, and other HR duties as necessary to ensure continued workflow in the HR Department.

Requirements: Bachelor degree from an accredited college or university. Minimum of three years in an administrative role pertinent to the HR Coordinator position. Testing will be required to demonstrate efficiency in Word and Excel. Salary \$19.79-\$21.15 hr \$1583.08 - \$1692.00 bi weekly \$41,160-\$43,992 annually.

Applications available at 409 Runnels or www.wtcmhmr.org or by calling **JOBLINE 800-687-2769.EOE**

West Texas Centers

Mental Health Team Coordinators; Employee will assists individuals in gaining access to medical, social, vocational and educational services. Some positions require participation in crisis call rotation.

Mental Health Part Time Crisis Worker: Employee will be responsible for responding to mental health crisis calls after hours and on weekends, and also participating with an on-call team.

These positions must have a Bachelors degree with a major in Social work or a minimum of 24 hours in psychology, sociology or other human service hours. All Employees must live within 70 miles of the duty site. Employees will be required to have a personal vehicle available with WTC reimbursement provided. Travel requirements depend upon the position. Extensive training is provided. Flexible Schedules. \$19.79 hr \$1583.08 bi weekly \$41,160 annually.

MH Admin Assistant: Position will perform advanced secretarial work under the supervision of the director of MH Services. Work involves latitude for decision making in carrying out administrative phases of the work, such as prioritizing work to be done, answering correspondence on request, keeping various data collection systems up-to-date, and assisting with general clerical work of the administrative secretarial pool as time permits. Worker is expected to exercise vigilance in maintaining files of confidential materials and avoiding reference of confidential information, tact in receiving visitors and judgment in assembling and organizing information. Must be proficient in reading and writing High School diploma or GED. Must have some computer knowledge. \$9.93 hr \$794.32 bi weekly \$20,652 annually.

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Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING PUBLIC NOTICE
THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:30 P.M., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015 IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 307 EAST 4TH, BIG SPRING, TEXAS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:
A Specific Use Permit in a Single-Family (SF-2) Dwelling District to construct an accessory structure on an approximately 68.77'x114.26' lot without a primary structure, located at the northwest intersection of Oxford Drive and Glenwood. More specifically, this property occupies the Replat of Wasson Place subdivision, Block 6, Lot 13 in southwest Big Spring. #8614 February 8, 2015

ATTENTION THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS
Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

Legals

ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNERS
Property owners have certain rights that may reduce their property tax burden.
HOMEOWNERS
Persons who own their residence on January 1, 2015, may claim their home as a residential homestead. The filing of this document is only necessary if the homeowner has changed homesteads since January 1, 2014, or has become eligible for additional exemptions since last year. Homeowners may also defer the portion of the tax on their residence homestead if the value of the home was raised more than 5% above the previous year. Although the tax collection is deferred, interest continues to run on the unpaid portion of tax at a rate of 8% per annum and the deferred tax remains a lien on the property. To apply for the deferral, the owner should contact the appraisal district which appraised the property in question and complete an application.
DISABLED PERSONS
Persons who are disabled under Social Security law are entitled to additional exemptions on their residential homestead. Disabled applicants must apply with the appraisal district and furnish a determination letter from Social Security. Disabled persons now receive all benefits on their home that are available to over 65 persons (see below)
PERSONS WHO ARE OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE
Persons who are over 65 years of age or disabled persons may file for additional exemptions and a ceiling on school taxes for their residential homestead if they become 65 during 2014. Over-65 persons should apply for this exemption at the appraisal district office in their area. Over-65 persons are also eligible to defer paying the tax on their residential homestead if they wish. The taxes continue to accrue during the deferral along with an interest rate of 8% annually, but no attempt will be made to force payment during the deferral. Details and an application may be obtained from any appraisal district or the State Comptroller.
DISABLED VETERANS
Persons who have been declared by the Veteran's Administrations are eligible for additional exemptions on property they own. The declaration letter from VA is mailed annually, but the appraisal district only needs a copy in the first year of eligibility or if the percentage of disability changes.
FARM AND RANCH OWNERS
Farmers and ranchers may be entitled to receive an alternate method of appraisal determined by the farm income to the property. This method is available to farms and ranches commercially raising crops or livestock or which are used as a wildlife habitat under State guidelines. An application for agricultural use value and additional information is available from your appraisal district. Re-filing is only necessary if requested to do so by the Chief Appraiser.
EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS
Exemption applications for all property tax exemptions including total exemptions for charitable, religious, and other total exemptions may be obtained from an appraisal district nearest you or through the State Comptroller's Office at 1/800-252-9121.
BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNERS
State law now requires the filing of a rendition declaring what types of business personal property that a person or company owns. Failure to file the rendition will result in a 10% penalty. If a fraudulent rendition is filed, a 50% penalty is mandated. A rendition can be obtained from the appraisal district office where the property is located. A 30 day filing extension is available by written request. This is a public service announcement by Howard County Appraisal District, 315 South Main, PO Box 1151, Big Spring, TX 79720 #8588 January 22, 2015

PERSONS WHO ARE OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE
Persons who are over 65 years of age or disabled persons may file for additional exemptions and a ceiling on school taxes for their residential homestead if they become 65 during 2014. Over-65 persons should apply for this exemption at the appraisal district office in their area. Over-65 persons are also eligible to defer paying the tax on their residential homestead if they wish. The taxes continue to accrue during the deferral along with an interest rate of 8% annually, but no attempt will be made to force payment during the deferral. Details and an application may be obtained from any appraisal district or the State Comptroller.

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Exemption applications for all property tax exemptions including total exemptions for charitable, religious, and other total exemptions may be obtained from an appraisal district nearest you or through the State Comptroller's Office at 1/800-252-9121.
BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNERS
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HERALD

Contract Bridge
By Steve Becker
A 20-Point Investment

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ Q 10 6 3
♥ A J 5 2
♦ 10 3
♣ Q J 9
WEST
♠ K 8 5 4 2
♥ Q 10 7 4
♦ 5
♣ 8 7 6
EAST
♠ J 9 7
♥ K 9 6 3
♦ Q J 9 8
♣ A 2
SOUTH
♠ A
♥ 8
♦ A K 7 6 4 2
♣ A K 10 5 3
The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass
4 ♠ Pass 6 ♣
Opening lead — eight of clubs.
The natural instinct for self-preservation has its equivalent at the bridge table. Consider this deal where South is in six clubs and West leads a trump. Declarer sees that his only potential losers are in the diamond suit, and that all he has to do to make the slam is to ruff one or two diamonds in dummy.
But if South gets careless, he goes

down. Suppose he wins the club and attempts to cash the A-K of diamonds. West ruffs the second diamond and returns a trump, and the slam goes down the drain. Declarer can ruff one diamond in dummy, but not two, and must concede a diamond trick to East to hold himself to down one.
If declarer exercises his natural instinct to survive, however, he leads a diamond to the ace at trick two and the deuce of diamonds at trick three! The defense is helpless against this play. East can win dummy's ten with the jack and return a trump, but declarer is now in full control. He ruffs a low diamond with dummy's last trump, establishing the suit, and scores the rest of the tricks.
It's true that declarer will lose a trick by adopting this line of play if the opposing diamonds are divided 3-2. North might even rebuke his partner for so blithely tossing away a trick.
But the fact remains that South collects 1,370 points by deliberately giving away a 20-point trick, and at the same time nullifies the possibility of losing 100. The trick he gives away is simply a matter of self-preservation.

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Sudoku Answer On Page 10C

sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

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Legals

Colleen Barton 312 Scurry Big Spring, Texas 79720
Sara E. Dysart 112 E. Pecan Street, Sui San Antonio, Texas 78205
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Legals

Mandatory Language for Monitoring and Reporting Violation SURFACE WATER MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR
The CITY OF BIG SPRING water system PWS ID TX1140001 has violated the monitoring and reporting requirements set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Chapter 30, Section 290, Subchapter F. Public water systems that treat surface water and/or ground water under the direct influence of surface water are required to submit monthly operating reports with operational data of the water provided to their customers.
We failed to monitor and/or report the following constituents submit monthly surface water monitoring report.
This/These violation(s) occurred in the monitoring period(s) August 2014.
Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water is safe. We did not complete all monitoring and/or reporting for surface water constituents, and therefore TCEQ cannot be sure of the safety of your drinking water during that time.
We are taking the following actions to address this issue:
The August 2014 report was submitted on January 21, 2015
Please share this information with all people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.
If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact Johnny Womack at (432)264-2501. #8611 February 8, 2015

Mercury Flies Straight

On Wednesday, Mercury goes straight -- wonderful! This retrograde has been hard on a few, but the direct movement of Mercury will set things right. Valentine's Day is coming up, and if you are planning on sending anything, put it together now for a Monday send-off. Mystical Mercury will stop with the pranks and blunders and get back to helping.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Maybe you didn't do it all correctly. You made concessions where you had to and cut corners where it made sense to do so. And yet the result is something entirely beautiful. Congratulations.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Doing the job you know you can do is entry level to success. Get yourself into the jobs you have no idea whether you can do, and that's where the real adventure starts.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your intuition will not lie to you today, but your logic will be a trickster. It will tempt you with the promise of dollars, attention and power. Ask yourself, "Which direction would I go if I knew there was absolutely nothing to gain?"

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Styles change. It's fine to change with them. You don't have to, but it makes your way easier if you do. As for principles, you won't be sorry you stood solid when it comes to them.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The thing you reluctantly agreed to will turn out as expected, and your expectations were pretty low. Sometimes you have to say "yes" to things just to remember why you should say "no" to them in the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If you have a gap between knowing what to do and not knowing what to do, exercise. That's the perfect time to let your body release some energy and your mind explore the options.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It is terrible not to

live the life you want to live. That's why you make such an effort now to overcome what's been holding you back. You have to grow even stronger to succeed, but succeed you will.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Just as marriages of convenience often only last for as long as they remain convenient, an agreement you made because it was logical at the time may now seem too difficult to uphold. Speak up and make a new agreement.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The ultimate answer is humor. If you can laugh at the situation, you have risen above it, if only for the moment of your laughter. Getting to laughter isn't an effort; it's a process of letting go.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Today features a worthy opponent. You'll edge toward a mutual agreement, but neither of you is in any hurry to get there. And why should you be? The arguing is fun!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It takes creativity to wish and imagine, and you definitely have that. However, you prefer to deal with reality the way it is even though you are more than capable of imagining a more you-specific fantasy world.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're there for others, no problem. But being there for yourself is what puts you on the success track. Your real friends will understand and support you, even if that means you can't hang out with them quite as often.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 8). Friends flock to you, attracted to your healthy approach to work and relationships. You wisely try to make things easy on yourself, and yet there's nothing lazy about your dedication to the things that matter most. April brings a bonus check. You'll ink a deal in June. Your talents will be showcased in September. Leo and Capricorn people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 16, 11, 19 and 40.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: This Mercury retrograde

began on January 21 and ends on Wednesday, February 11. Mercury's Aquarian journey focuses on technology, so technical difficulties have been an issue lately, but that's about to clear up nicely. The important thing to remember is that machines are inherently neutral tools. When they don't cooperate, it's nothing personal -- they're just doing what they were designed to do. With a calm demeanor, the problems can be solved and better designs can be created.

The other side of Mercury in Aquarius has to do with human eccentricities and learning to accept and tolerate one another's quirks. It's not so difficult once you realize that you're probably just as quirky as the next person. If each individual tried to be only 1 percent more compassionate with their fellow man, the planet would resonate at a higher frequency. Just by doing your part you influence others to be better, too. The Libra lunar influence at the start of the week helps promote harmony.

Valentine's Day happens under a sophisticated Sagittarius moon, and then in the p.m. the more traditional Capricorn moon takes over. Old-fashioned notions will go over the best. Stick with the classics and you can't go wrong.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Iconic Aquarius James Dean is still capturing the public imagination posthumously. Dean was born when the sun was in Aquarius, the sign of the people, and the moon was in Scorpio. Aquarius is ruled by Uranus, the planet of revolution, secret power and rebellion. Though his life and career were cut short, this "Rebel Without a Cause" rejected the mores of earlier generations to find a purpose of his own.

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

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Answer to previous puzzle
CACTI CHIP VWS
APRON NAPE JEAN
TEAMPHOTOS ISTO
EDGEOUT STUMPER
WEED SPARE
ABBEY RAJAH
FLOUR MAMA EGOS
ATOM BACON LAVA
ROMP ONUS UPPED
HAZEL UNSER
WIPER AAHS
AQUATIC SUNSIGN
FUND PUMPHANDLE
TINS OBOE PILOT
STY DAWN SPEWS

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

Newsday Crossword

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

- ACROSS
1 Mob film written by Oliver Stone
9 Camry's cousin
15 Lower the net, maybe
16 Booting command
17 Some street scenes
18 Site of Schindler's factory
19 You might expect it to have an acting president
21 Common brass decoration
22 Gulf War ally: Abbr.
23 "___ the Voice of the Lobster" (poem recited by Alice)
24 Shopping restriction of a sort
26 Many a Barcelona babysitter
27 Most-watched scripted US series since 2010
28 Agency whose seal has scales
29 Motorized, in product names
32 Not too distantly
33 "Every woman is a princess" speaker
34 Factor in returns
37 Vegan's gelatin substitute
38 Post preceder
39 Backs up when one shouldn't
40 Rushes home
41 What the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in
42 Blog-updating format, for short

- 43 Post-punk descendant
45 Cell user
46 Cell cousin
49 Birds named from the Greek for "ground"
50 Source of nicks
53 Alta California land grant
55 Ones with Pinterest strategies
56 Didn't root quietly, maybe
57 Passing remark
58 Aquarium fish that sleeps in sand
59 Regards with revulsion
DOWN
1 Scatters about
2 Bear
3 Emperor name in many Indian restaurants

- 4 Chew (out)
5 Hounds
6 Thorny ornamental
7 Wood shavings
8 Censure first delivered in 1599
9 Part of a simple expression
10 It often separates good from evil
11 Geode rock, often
12 It's not on the cloud
13 Something like
14 MarketWatch services
20 Home of Sherlock
25 Stuff caught on screen?
26 Spot on a totem pole
27 Numbers written on an important delivery?

- 29 Cover subject of People's first issue
30 It's sold near bow ties
31 Product still sold by RCA
32 Some emoticons
33 Small spots
35 Nickname of a 2013 NBA retiree
36 Annual cutting consideration
41 Needles
42 Detail
44 They're lifted before breaks
45 Staff with a beat
46 Counts, say
47 Cosmetics-brand prefix
48 Stealth in hunting, e.g.
51 ___ doubles
52 Crisantemo o camelia
54 Kipling wrote one about dogs

15x15 crossword grid with numbers 1-59 indicating starting points for clues.

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710 SCURRY BIG SPRING

Pigeon pageant for beautiful birds dispels 'rats with wings'



(AP Photo/Nick Ut)

In this Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015 photo, Richard Brooks, 94, holds a pigeon at the National Pigeon Association's 93rd annual Grand National Pigeon Show in Ontario, Calif. Showing pigeons is one of the oldest and largest hobbies in the world. It thrives at a time when pets are becoming a more important part of people's lives and animals kept as companions range from the traditional to the unique, such as rats and tarantulas.

BY SUE MANNING

Associated Press

ONTARIO, Calif. (AP) — Dogs aren't the only animals that vie for best in show. Hundreds of breeds of pigeons compete in their own version of the Westminster show, strutting on long, thick legs or fluttering curly, lacy feathers in their bid to be best bird.

These pigeons aren't the nuisance flocks that swarm food scraps at outdoor restaurants. They are genetically rich birds, including variations bred to look like turkeys or sound like trum-

pets, that drew thousands of enthusiasts — including ex-boxer and pigeon lover Mike Tyson — to the National Pigeon Association's 93rd annual Grand National Pigeon Show.

Showing pigeons is one of the oldest and largest hobbies in the world. It thrives at a time when pets are becoming a more important part of people's lives and animals kept as companions range from the traditional to the unique, such as rats and tarantulas.

More than 7,800 birds packed the Ontario Convention Center

in Southern California last weekend, cooing and strutting in their cages, which sent feathers and feed flying. But the well-behaved show birds wouldn't let one drop of waste fall on a judge's shoe as they were examined for build, color and weight.

There were birds in blacks, whites and browns with feathers on their feet, circular crests framing their faces and 8-inch necks. Some looked like street pigeons but bigger and stronger, with massive shoulders and thick necks.

See, **BIRDS**, Page 12C

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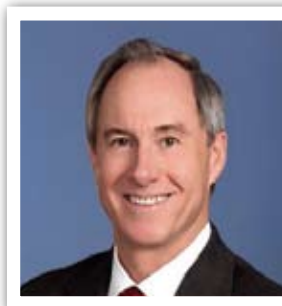
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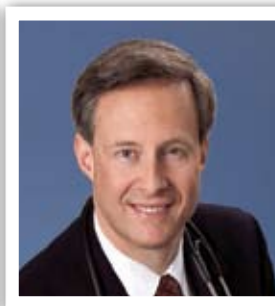
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Grittier Wilder memoir is blockbuster for South Dakota press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The autobiography of prairie author Laura Ingalls Wilder, which gives a grittier view of frontier living than her popular “Little House” series for children, is proving to be a blockbuster for the South Dakota Historical Society Press.

“Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography,” edited by Pamela Smith Hill, was released in November by the small state-owned publishing house. The memoir, written for an adult audience, was the No. 1 best-seller on Amazon.com in late January and was still in the Top 10 on Friday, at No. 6.

“This is a definite blockbuster,” publishing house director Nancy Tystad Koupal told the Rapid City Journal. “I’m surprised, delighted and excited that Laura Ingalls Wilder’s work still has such resonance with readers.”

Wilder wrote her autobiography in the early 1930s. By then, she had been settled on her Missouri

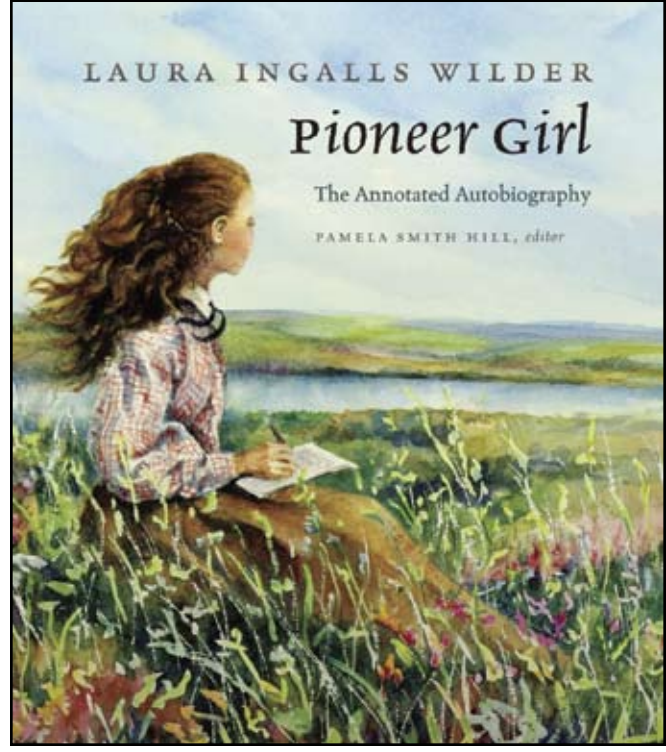
farm for decades, but her early life took the Ingalls family on a journey that includes what today is Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas and South Dakota.

The initial print run of the book was 15,000 copies. A second run of 15,000 copies was made, and a third run of 45,000 copies is on the press. A fourth run is now being considered, according to Tystad Koupal.

“We have no cause for complaint, but just keeping up with the pace of it can be hard,” she said. “We have no more staff than we had before, so it means everybody is working double time.”

Sioux Falls native Katie Franke received “Pioneer Girl” as a gift from a co-worker and is displaying it on the coffee table in her Burnsville, Minnesota, home, while she reads it.

“Growing up in South Dakota, Laura Ingalls is kind of a topic you can’t escape,” Franke told the Argus Leader.



(AP Photo/Nick Ut)

In this Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015 photo, German Reversewing Pouters are displayed at the National Pigeon Association’s 93rd annual Grand National Pigeon Show in Ontario, Calif.

BIRDS

Continued from Page 11C

Tyson, the four-time heavyweight world champion, kicked off the three-day event by releasing 100 white pigeons. He agreed with the mostly older male owners about the need to infuse young blood in the aging hobby.

“Take this opportunity at a young age to enhance your responsibility and enjoy it,” he told youngsters who asked for photos and autographs.

Tyson, 48, who had pigeons as a kid, keeps 1,800 birds. He said he was 10 when he won his first fight because a bully killed one of his birds in front of him.

“They teach you a lot about yourself,” Tyson said of pigeons.

Nearly a thousand different breeds of pigeons exist. Not only can these birds become pampered pets, they can be raised for racing and stunt performances. Racing pigeons can fly for hundreds of miles a day and flap as fast as 80 mph, and performers will unleash death-defying stunts midair.

“Racing pigeons are the Ben Johnsons of the world and fancy pigeons are the Naomi Campbells of the world,” said Fadiel Hendricks, president of the National Fancy Pigeon Association of South Africa.

The performers are dubbed rollers and tumblers because of their motion during flight. The popular Birmingham roller dives into a series of backward somersaults, stops the roll before hitting the ground, then heads back up and performs the feat again.

Hendricks, who traveled 36 hours from Cape Town, South Africa, said age is a problem in his country, too. In his group, 90 percent of the members are over 50.

“We are up against computers and computer games,” he said.

Bob Nolan of Dana Point, a historian and 60-year member of the Los Angeles Pigeon Club, which hosted the show, said new variations are rare because “kids aren’t much interested in breeding anymore.”

“All these pigeons are man-made. None of them occur in nature like this,” said Nolan, who raises English trumpeters, known for their acoustic sound of distant trumpets. “All of these breeds have evolved from man’s creative genius.”

Samantha Wendell of North Hollywood and her fantail Francis, which looks like a turkey, are inseparable.

“Pigeons are just like dogs, they love you like a dog if you spend time with them and love them back,” she said. “He is all hugs and snuggles.”

Tyson says he will watch his birds for hours. The fighter who bit off part of Evander Holyfield’s ear explained his softer, pigeon-loving side by saying: “What I am just wasn’t what I did for a living.”

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