

# 'Constant vigilance'

In wake of indictments, publicity, Patterson calls for scrutiny at vet homes

#### Herald Staff Report

On the heels of criminal indictments filed against two former Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home employees, Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson on Tuesday called for greater scrutiny of the quality of care for elderly citizens.

Patterson's comments also follow front-page coverage in the Dallas Morning News of the alleged abuses, which occurred in 2007, as well as reported abuse in a state veterans home in Amarillo.

"For 12 years, our state veterans homes have been providing the best care anywhere," Patterson said Tuesday. "But providing top-quality care requires constant vigilance by our staff and contractors, veterans organizations, regulatory agencies, advocacy groups and the media. The attention brought to this issue by the Dallas Morning News shines a vital spotlight on the need to clarify and strengthen the oversight of all long-term care facilities in Texas.

"I want any allegation of abuse prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," said Patterson, a Vietnam veteran. "Bureaucracy should never get in the way of caring for our veterans."

Thursday, March 25, a Howard County grand jury handed down indictments against two former Big Spring state veterans home employees alleging second-degree felony charges

<image>

Courtesy photo

Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson on Tuesday called for greater scrunity of the quality of care for the elderly, particularly veterans. His plea follows the indictments of two former Big Spring state veterans home employees.

of injury to an elderly individual.

Bryson O'Neil Vanderbilt, 25, of 1411 Bluebird, and Connie Mae Johnson, 52, of 2165 S.E. 2800 St. in Andrews, were both indicted on a charge of injury to an elderly individual. The indictments were the result of several investigations into alleged abuse against patients at the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home,

See VETERANS, Page 3A

### Teacher contract only agenda item for BSISD board

# Safety Day to focus on life skills for Garden City youth

### By STEVE REAGAN

#### Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District trustees will consider not renewing the contract of a

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high school teacher when they hold a special meeting at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

The only item on the meeting's agenda will be consideration and action on an administration recommendation to not renew the contract of Jennifer Lance, a special education instructor at the high school, for the 2010-2011 school year. Her contract currently runs through the end of this school year.

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

### By BILL McCLELLAN

News Editor

GARDEN CITY — Safety is just as important in a farming community as in the big city and with that in mind, a couple of organizations have combined resources to host the second bi-annual Progressive Agriculture Safety Day here Thursday.

"Part of the purpose of the Glasscock County Youth Board and Glasscock County ISD School Health Advisory Council is to sponsor activities that promote healthy lifestyles," said Charlene Belew, County Extension Agent for the Texas Agrilife Extension Service in Glasscock County. "The groups discuss what they feel are important issues, ones they want our youth to be aware of. For instance, you hear a lot about how texting while driving is unsafe. So we've included that in this Safety Day."

Belew said the daylong event will begin at 8:40 a.m. at the Glasscock County Community Center and end on the public school campus. Several hundred youth and faculty members will be involved.

"Garden City Head Start students and the whole school will be involved, from kindergarten through 12th grade," said Belew.

A welcome and group photo will open Safety Day, followed by the Glasscock 4-H Cancer Warriors Relay For Life Kiss the Pig fund-raiser. Two "lucky" GCISD staff voted on by students will have to kiss a pig in front of the group.

Rodeo trick rider Brice Chapman will perform next, then speak about rodeo

See **SAFETY**, Page 3A

### Austin man sentenced in child porn case

Authorities allege he had relationship with 15-year-old Big Spring girl, infant

#### Media-Newswire.com

LUBBOCK — An Austin man was sentenced Friday to 327 months in federal prison, following his guilty plea in December 2009 to one count each of producing and transporting child pornography.

U.S. Immigration and Cus-

toms Enforcement (ICE) conducted the investigation with other local agencies.

James Vallejo Salazar, 25, was also sentenced by U.S. District Judge Sam R. Cummings to serve a lifetime of supervised release following his incarceration. Salazar has been in custody since his arrest in September 2009 at his home in Austin. According to plea documents, Salazar admitted that about May 2009 he met a 15-year-old girl (Jane Doe) from Big Spring on MySpace. com, an Internet social networking Web site. Salazar and Jane Doe continued to communicate with each other, primarily by telephone chat (SMS, or short messaging service). When they first

met, Jane Doe told Salazar she was 15 years old.

A few months later, about July 2009, communications between Salazar and 15-yearold Jane Doe became sexual in nature, according to filed documents. Salazar and Jane Doe began discussing plans to have her move to

See PORN, Page 3A



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# Sports

### BIG HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Joe Zigtema at 263-7331, Ext. 237. E-mail results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B Wednesday, April 6, 2010

### Late home runs lead Forsan to road win over Miles

#### Herald Staff Report

MILES — With each tough game Forsan plays, the Buffs seem to get better and better.

The No. 1-ranked Buffaloes iced another win over defending state champion Miles Tuesday as they scored five runs in the seventh to run away with a 14-9 decision in district 7-A action.

Forsan (16-0, 8-0) was up 9-7 going into the final frame before Ryan Flores and Patrick Robles each hit out home runs in the inning. Flores hit a three-run shot to score Evan Burton and Foster Burchett, and two batters later Robles went deep to score Zack Dykes.

Catcher Zane Herrin went 2-for-4 at the plate with a double and 3 RBI.

Payton Parker got his seventh win of the season in the game, tossing 5 2/3 innings and allowing seven runs, four of which were earned, on nine hits. He struck out seven.

Evan Burton didn't allow a hit in 1 2/3 innings of relief, giving up two runs and fanning two. Burton has pitched mostly in relief lately as Forsan's deep pitching staff has allowed the Buffs to save him for crucial times at the end of games.

"I think we've found a good role for him, at least until playoffs at the end of the season," Forsan coach Jason Phillips said.

Phillips said his team's depth on the mound has been a key component to Forsan's best start in

See FORSAN, Page 2B



**HERALD PHOTO/Joe Zigtema** 

Shown pitching March 26, Evan Burton has been a reliable relief pitcher for the 16-0 Buffaloes.



Michael Felton fields a ground ball in left field against Abilene Cooper on Tuesday at Steer Park. Felton broke up Cooper pitcher Jacob Martinez's bid for a perfect game with a single in the sixth inning.

### Steers fall to near-perfect Cooper ace

### BY JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

Cooper pitcher Jacob Martinez was virtually unhittable for the first six innings Tuesday night at Steer Park.

the 22 Steers he faced in allowing just one run the game.

After a scoreless first and one unearned in the second, the Cougars used a seven-run third inning to chase Steer starter Gunnar

the rest of the way.

But Martinez was the story of the game, mixing in a breaking ball the Steers had trouble with all night. He struck out 11 of the 22

Jace Cobb knocked in two on a double in the third to lead the Cougars.

The Steers dropped their six straight as they fell to 0-4 in district play. They will be in action again Thursday at Steer Park against Frenship starting at 7 p.m. "The kids will be up for Frenship," Otto said. "We're going to come out with good attitudes and be ready to play and do our best."

### Three Steers to play for third-place spots

#### Herald Staff Report

The Abilene Cooper Cougars all but ran away with the district 4-4A title in the first day of tennis action at the Figure 7 Tennis Center.

The Cougars and Lady Coogs have teams playing each other for every first-place spot except boys singles, where Cooper's Khyree Davis took on Lake View's Nick Diaz this morning.

Diaz defeated Big Spring's Mikael Gonzalez 6-3 and 7-5 to advance to the championship match. Gonzalez played Lake View's

Dustin Haire for third place today.

Jeremy Langford and Jonathan Ray advanced to the semifinal of the boys doubles bracket 6-3 and 6-2 over Frenship's James McCormick and Jacob Bass, where the duo fell to Coletun Espinoza and Cruz Orona from Cooper 6-1 and 6-4. Langford and Ray will play Davis Odorizzi and Micheal Sisson of Frenship for third.

Play continued this morning with placing matches followed by playback matches.

Check Wednesday's Herald for results.

### **Gutierrez, Bulldogs** beat Grape Creek

#### Herald Staff Report

The Coahoma Bulldogs have been missing Rey Gutierrez's pitching arm.

The Coahoma pitcher, making his first start since returning from a hand injury, allowed just one hit as the Bulldogs beat Grape Creek 12-2 at Coahoma High School on Tuesday.

the fifth and sixth to pull away.

Adrian Amaro ended the run-rule game with a 2-run home run in the bottom of the sixth.

Dakota Griffith went

The Cougar junior faced the minimum through 5 1/3 innings as he completed a onehit, 9-0 shutout of the Steers in district 4-4A action.

retired Martinez 16 straight Steers to start the game before Michael Felton singled on a base hit to center field. He fanned 11 of

Kennedy after 2 1/3innings.

"Being a young kid, they started putting the ball in play and hitting him around a little bit, and I think sometimes you get flustered," Steers coach Bert Otto said.

Alex Hensley pitched effectively in relief, striking out seven and

hitters he faced.

"He changed his speeds, he was around the plate early, he worked ahead in the count, he did a great job and he's been doing that for two years for us," Cooper coach David Cedillo said.

Martinez also notched two base hits in the game. Second baseman

Cooper 9, Big Spring 0

AC 017 001 0 -- 9 11 0 BS 000 000 0 -- 0 1 3 W- Martinez. L- Kennedy

Gutierrez struck out 11 Eagles in the game, though he walked eight.

Coahoma scored four in the third inning to take a 6-1 lead and six in 2-for-3 with 4 RBI in the Lane Douglass win. went 3-for-4 as well.

The Bulldogs improved to 12-7 and 4-1 in district 7-2A play. They will get Jim Ned at home Friday.

First pitch is at 6:30 p.m.

Coahoma 12, Grape Creek 2 GC 100 100 -- 2 1 1 CHS 024 033 -- 12 8 1 W- Gutierrez.

### Softball roundup: Bulldogettes win at home; Lady Steers fall

#### Herald Staff Report

PLAINVIEW — The Lady Steers' second go-round of district play didn't start as planned Tuesday night.

The Lady Steers were riding a threegame district winning streak going into the game, but Plainview snapped it with a 12-5 decision on its home field in district 4-4A action.

Big Spring (18-7, 3-2) scored three runs in top of the first inning but gave up six in its half of the opening frame, four of which were unearned.

"We did not play well," coach John Sparks said. "Our focus was not there, and it showed. I still think this group of young ladies has an opportunity to

do really well, but we have to come together and focus on the future."

Eight Lady Steer errors contributed to Big Spring's troubles. Plainview tacked on runs in the second, third, fifth and sixth innings as the Lady Bulldogs built their lead. The Lady Steers came back with two in the top of the seventh to round out the scoring

Big Spring plays at Frenship in a critical 4-4A matchup Friday. The Lady Tigers downed the Lady Steers in the first district game of the season, and Big Spring will be looking for revenge against the district leaders. Play starts with junior varsity at 4:30 p.m. followed by varsity at 6:30.

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#### Dunn, bats power Coahoma

COAHOMA — The Coahoma Bulldogettes got exactly what they needed from No. 2 pitcher Katie Dunn on Tuesday night at home.

The Bulldogette senior struck out nine Lady Eagles as she held Grape Creek to four hits and one run in an 11-1 run-rule victory at Coahoma High School.

Coahoma (19-7, 4-1) scored seven runs in the first frame to build a commanding lead, then built on it with one run in each of the next four.

Lana Ruiz went 1-for-2 at the plate

for Coahoma with three RBI on a bases-clearing triple and two runs scored. Joanna Gonzales, Kylie Gee and Brandi Smith each notched two RBI on the night.

Allyson Walter was chased after 1 1/3 innings for Grape Creek as it drops to 1-4 in district play. The Bulldogettes got eight runs off her, all earned, before Taylor Robbins came in and allowed three more on five hits. Coahoma tallied 11 hits on the night, two of which were for extra bases.

The Bulldogettes continue their homestand Friday against Jim Ned. First pitch is at 6:30 p.m. in Coahoma.

### Sports in brief

### Forsan baseball, softball showcase set for Friday

The Forsan Buffaloes and Lady Buffs will be in action one last time together Friday at Forsan High School. The Forsan Booster Club is giving away free hot dogs and drinks and baked goods will be available for \$1.

The baseball team will play Loraine and the softball team will play Eldorado. The games get under way at 5 p.m.

### Rotary Club to sponsor golf tournament

The Big Spring Rotary Club is sponsoring a fourperson scramble golf tournament April 10 at the Big Spring Country Club.

The cost is \$60 per person, which includes green fees, a cart, a meal and prize money.

Mulligans are \$5 dollars and not included in fees. The tournament will get under way at 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

### Tawanna's Troopers to host dodgeball tournament

A Relay for Life dodgeball tournament sponsored by Tawanna's Troopers is scheduled for Saturday at the junior high gym.

The tournament is \$5 per person to play. Teams are made up of four boys and four girls. Registration starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, followed by the start of games at 11 a.m. Bring extra money for concessions. Contact Jennifer at 213-1288 for more info.

### LOCAL

### **Obituaries**

### James R. 'Pete' Shannon

James R. "Pete" Shannon, 78, of Big Spring died Monday, April 5, 2010, at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, April 9, 2010, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Joel Miller officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Aug. 9, 1931, in Turkey and married Jill Stein on Nov. 12, 1955, in Big Spring.

Pete came to Big Spring with his family in 1946 and graduated from Big Spring High School. He was a Methodist, a member of Big Spring Masonic Lodge #1340 AF and AM, and a member of Suez Shrine. He served in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict.

Survivors include his wife, Jill Shannon of Big Spring; one daughter, Lori Shannon of Austin; two sons, Kirk Shannon and wife Shronda of Abilene, and Kent Shannon of Many Farms, Ariz.; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be made to the American Diabetes Association, 3001 N. Big Spring, Midland 79705; or to Shriner's Hospital, 815 Market St., Galveston 77550-9969.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley- 1900 block of N. Highway 87. Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www. npwelch.com

### Lilly Grace Davenport Katelyn Rose Davenport

Lilly Grace Davenport and Katelyn Rose Davenport, infant daughters of Jenny and Steve Davenport, died at birth Monday, March 29, 2010. Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Elwin Collom, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, officiat-

The identical twin girls were born March 29, 2010, in Big Spring.

They are survived by their parents, Jenny and Steve Davenport of Big Spring; three sisters, Claire Hendrickson of Big Spring, and Amber and Ashton Davenport, both of Amarillo; three brothers, Logan Hendrickson of Big Spring, and Corey and Caleb Davenport, both of Amarillo; grandparents, Ella and Melvin Williamson of Big Spring; great grandfather, Gordon Van Williamson of Big Spring; and several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

They were preceded in death by one brother, Thomas James Davenport; a grandfather, Russell Davenport; great-grandparents, Juanita and William Raymond Faulks; and great-grandmother, Myrtle Louise Williamson.

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

### **Fire/EMS**

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

• TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of N. First Street in Coahoma. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.

**Police blotter** 

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

• ROBERTO GARZA JR., 26, of 538 Westover Rd., was arrested Tuesday on charges of no driver's license (when unlicensed), operating a motor vehicle with an expired license plate and expired or no inspection certificate.

• MARIA RAMIREZ, 53, of 310 N.W. Third St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• LONNIE JACKSON, 19, of 3709 Hamilton, was arrested Tuesday on eight local warrants.

 VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER was reported:

In the 300 block of Sixth Street.

In the 900 block of Gregg Street.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 200 block of FM 700.

• ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1700 block of Purdue.

• ASSAULT BY THREATS was reported in the 200 block of FM 700.

ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the

### Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 67 inmates at the time of this report.

• LUIS UBEDA, 26, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of forgery of a financial instrument.

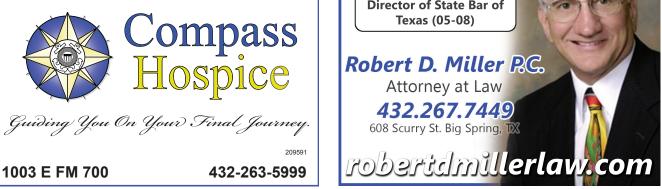
• ZACHARY SCOTT LYON, 34, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of open alcohol container, violation of a promise to appear and a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated with a child passenger under 15 years of age

• MARK HOLLIS RYERSON, 22, was arrested Tuesday on a motion to revoke probation for purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.

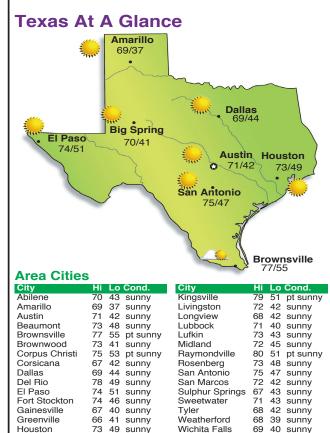
• ROBERTO GARZA, 26, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of no driver's license, expired inspection and expired registration.

• MARIA MARTINEZ RAMIREZ, 53, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• LELONNIE STEPHON JACKSON, 19, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of no driver's license, violation of a promise to appear (three counts), expired motor vehicle inspection certificate, open alcohol container in vehicle, failure to appear and running a stop sign.



Today	Today's Weather												
Local	Local 5-Day Forecast												
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<b>70/41</b> Mainly sunny. High around 70F. Winds light and variable.	<b>79/48</b> Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	82/55 Mostly sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	<b>85/60</b> Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	<b>79/58</b> Windy with a possible thunder- storm.									
Sunrise: 7:25 AM Sunset: 8:11 PM	Sunrise: 7:24 AM Sunset: 8:11 PM	Sunrise: 7:23 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM	Sunrise: 7:22 AM Sunset: 8:13 PM	Sunrise: 7:21 AM Sunset: 8:13 PM									





2A

TRAUMA was reported near the intersecti FM 700 and Birdwell Lane. Service refused.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 200 block of S. Sixth Street in Coahoma. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of S. Benton. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of S. Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.



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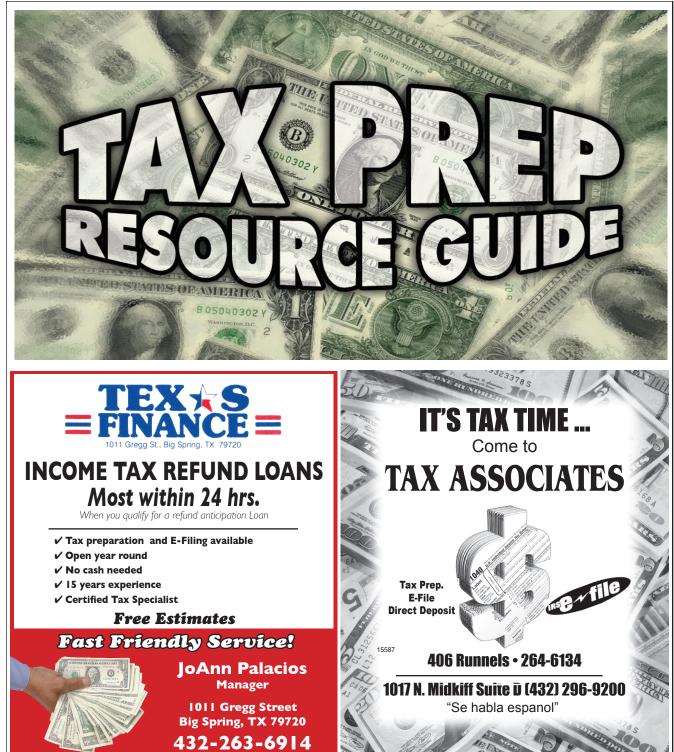
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### **S**PORTS IN BRIEF

### ESPN analyst says 'no one bigger than Masters'

BRISTOL, Conn. (AP) – ESPN host Mike Tirico says "no one's bigger than the Masters" as the network prepares to cover Tiger Woods' comeback.

ESPN airs the first two days of the tournament, though its broadcast window will include only part of Woods' round Thursday and none Friday. The network will show highlights and live cut-ins during "SportsCenter" earlier in the day.

ESPN executive vice president John Wildhack said on a conference call Tuesday that the Masters is "THE story line, and we're here to cover the Masters tournament." He says Woods is the biggest story line among players, but not the only one.

### MLB players threaten to file grievance against owners

NEW YORK (AP) -Baseball players are threatening to file a collusion grievance charging owners with conspiring against free agents last winter.

New players' association head Michael told Weiner The Associated Press that the union has concerns.

Owners deny any wrongdoing.

The Major League Baseball Players Association still hasn't decided whether to go ahead with a grievance against owners alleging misconduct after the 2008 season. The sides reached a standstill agreement last year giving the union additional time to decide whether to proceed.

The union filed collusion grievances following the 1985, 1986 and 1987 seasons. After arbitrators ruled in the union's favor, management agreed to a \$280 million settlement.

### S. African to run when gender tests come back

JOHANNESBURG (AP) - Caster Semenyasaid she will return to competitive running on June 24 at a meet in Zaragoza, Spain.

The 800-meter world champion said in a statement Tuesday that she had agreed to the request by Athletics South Africa to wait for the results of her gender verification tests, expected in June.

Semenya said she decided to wait for the IAAF "to complete its process." Semenya was prevented from running at a meet in Stellenbosch by ASA and threatened legal action.

She said she would seek confirmation from the IAAF that it would complete the process by the beginning of June and still believed the decision to stop her competing was "unlawful and wrongful."

### Horse arrives to welcome in Ark.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark. (AP) — Zenyatta arrived at Oaklawn Park after getting a hero's welcome at the airport and a twocar police escort to the track where she'll try to run her record to 16-0.

The mare who created a sensation by beating the boys in last year's Breeders' Cup Classic arrived Tuesday in Hot Springs by chartered plane from Southern California.

Zenyatta is set to run against a small field Friday in the Apple Blossom. Her rival, Horse of the Year Rachel Alexandra, declined an invitation after losing her season debut last month.

Zenyatta will try to equal the record of 16 consecutive victories shared by Cigar and Citation.

### Armstrong bikes in France, gets 'random' test

VARADES, France (AP) Seven-time Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong competed in mainland France for the first time this year and was called in for a random doping test after the first stage of the four-day Circuit de la Sarthe.

The 38-year-old Texan rode for Team RadioShack and placed 24th, trailing in the main pack just a split second behind winner Luis Leon Sanchez of Spain.

Shortly after the race and with fans trailing behind. Armstrong wheeled over to the doping-control trailer and roughly parked his bike and went inside. He happened to be one of two riders chosen at random among the 89 riders for testing.

The tests results won't be known for days.

### **Favre becomes** first NFL

### arandfather

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings may have finally found their quarterback of the future: Brett Favre is now a grandfather.

His 21-year-old daughter, Brittany, has given birth to a boy — Parker Brett. The little gunslinger weighs in at 7 pounds, 7 ounces.

Grandpa Brett says on his Web site that he and wife Deanna are "very proud" to welcome their first grandchild.

Favre has yet to announce whether he will return to the Vikings and play a 20th season in the NFL. Last year the 40-year-old enjoyed one of his best years and helped lead the Vikings to the NFC title game.

The NFL says it knows of no other grandfathers among current players.

### This date in baseball- April 7

1964 — Shea Stadium in New York opened for its first regular-season game. The Mets lost to the Pittsburgh Pirates, 4-3.

1969 — The Yankees spoiled the managerial debut of Ted Williams by defeating

the Senators 8-4 in the opener at Washington's **RFK Stadium. President** Nixon and a crowd of 45.000 attended.

1969 — Dodgers relief pitcher Bill Singer was credited with the first official save. Los Angeles beat Cincinnati, 3-2. The game started with Cincinnati's Pete Rose hitting Don Drvsdale's first pitch for a home run. Drysdale threw his next pitch to Bobby Tolan and Tolan hit it for a home run. After the first two pitches, Drysdale settled down and threw a shutout.

1970 — Three weeks after moving from Seattle to Milwaukee, the former Pilots played their first game as the Brewers and lost 12-0 to the visiting California Angels.

1973 — Cleveland set an attendance record for day games and openingday games by attracting 74,420 fans. The Indians beat the Detroit Tigers, 2-1.

1977 — The expansion Toronto Blue Jays began their major league odvssev with a 9-5 victory over the Chicago White Sox at Toronto's Exhibition Stadium. Al Woods, pinch hitting for Steve Bowling in the fifth inning, became the 11th pinch hitter with a home run in his first at-bat.

### UConn shakes off first half to win NCAA title

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — His team whipped like never before, Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma walked off the court at halftime so slowly that there was no one else around him.

his hip, his eyes were straight down. His mind was thoughts of how to snap his club out of its funk.

over Stanford Tuesdav

stretching 78th straight, capped the greatest twoyear run in women's college basketball history and earned Auriemma a much better way off the court - on the shoulders of his players.

"I've never been prouder of a group of young people," Auriemma

The Huskies missed 18 straight shots, from layups to 3-pointers; a pair of missed free throws clanged away, too. Connecticut went 10 minutes, 37 seconds between points, a drought so long that Auriemma looked at his assistant coaches, shook his head and thought, "We may never score again." Of all the teams ons. Headed to the White in all the halves of all the women's Final Four House, as AP player of the year Tina Charles games, no team had ever scored this few points. reminded So instead of letting during the trophy cere-Stanford turn that slump mony, she asked to send into the foundation for a message to President an upset, Connecticut Obama, then hollered, "We're baaaack!" managed to remain within a few baskets.

That's why Auriemma didn't have to say much at halftime.

"We knew what we had to do," said Moore, the tournament's most outstanding player. "We knew we weren't going to finish the game the way we started."

They wound up finishing this season the way they did last season: 39-0. National champi-

everyone;

night. The win, their record-

His left hand was on churning with

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computer program at www.sudoku.com

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Leave it to Maya Moore to take care of that.

Moore scored 11 points during a 17-2 run to start the second half of the national championship game, a burst that put the Huskies back in control and on their way to a 53-47 victory

said. "How they fought back today. It was easy for them to pack it in. People wondered, 'What are you going to do the first time we're in a close game?' We reacted how champions react."

UConn trailed 20-12 at halftime. Yes, 20-12.

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

#### school history.

"There have been times where we've played three games in five days," Phillips said. "You have to have good pitching to do that and win." Forsan returns home

Friday to face Loraine at 5 p.m. in the Buffalo Showcase. Hot dogs will be given away and baked goods and drinks will be available for \$1, sponsored by the Forsan Booster Club.

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Big Spring Colli "Quality Is A Wa	



Contrac

### By Steve Becker First Things First

East dealer. East-West vulnerable NORTH 🕈 K 10 9 2 ♦ A J 7 5 🖡 J 10 6 WEST EAST ♥10.4 ♦ K 8 3 **\***8543 SOUTH ♥O96 ♦ Ô 10 9 4 ♣A Q 9 2 The bidding: North East South West ¥ Pass 1 ♦ 1 🏚 3 NT 1 NT Pass Pass Opening lead - five of hearts.

South is in three notrump, and West leads a heart. Declarer wins East's ten with the queen and must immediately make a crucial decision.

The natural tendency is to play the queen of diamonds at this point and finesse. After it loses to East's king and a heart is returned, South must sooner or later try a club finesse. When this finesse also loses, West runs his hearts to defeat the contract.

Declarer may think he is downright unlucky to lose a contract where if either finesse had succeeded, he would have gotten home safely, and in that sense he would be right. More to the point, though, is the question of whether South played the hand correctly.

The fact of the matter is that declarer has only himself to blame for the outcome if he plays the hand in the manner described. After winning the opening trick with the heart queen, he should next lead a spade to the king and take a club finesse. The reason for trying the club finesse first is that it will - if it loses - dislodge West's potential club entry before his hearts are established.

If declarer attempts the club finesse first, he makes the contract even though both finesses fail. West can still establish his hearts, but with his entry card gone and his partner out of hearts, they will wither on the vine

Declarer's view from the start should be that if either minor-suit king is favorably placed, nine tricks are assured. All his efforts should therefore be directed toward the possibility that both kings are unfavorably located.

When this is the actual case, taking the diamond finesse first cannot possibly gain, while finessing the club first will succeed whenever West started with a six-card heart suit.

Tomorrow: Thoughtful defense.

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### Showing our European roots

Ever since France's gift of the Statue of Liberty began greeting millions of immigrants entering New York Harbor beginning in 1886, small towns across America have found ways to honor their European roots. Plus, king of the road and perfect popovers.

AmericanProfile

### News briefs

### Financial crisis panel may have surprises up its sleeve for

### Greenspan, Citi execs

WASHINGTON (AP) - Former executives of Citigroup Inc. could be in for some surprises when they appear before a panel investigating the roots of the financial crisis.

Commissioners and staffers for the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission are readying pointed questions for eight former and current Citigroup executives due to testify at hearings that begin Wednesday. Some questions are based on a review of about 2 million pages of documents the commission has obtained, including 1 million pages from Citigroup.

That means witnesses including the bank's former CEO Chuck Prince and former chairman Robert Rubin may be confronted with their own words, as preserved in e-mails and memos provided to the commission.

The three days of hearings will feature testimony focused on high-risk mortgage lending and the way trillions of dollars in risky mortgage debt was spread through the financial system. The hearing is designed to provide a firsthand accounting of decisions that inflated a mortgage bubble and triggered the financial crisis.

The panel is using Citigroup as a case study because the bank was heavily involved in every stage of that process. The megabank was a major subprime lender through its subsidiary

CitiFinancial. Other divisions of Citigroup pooled those loans and loans purchased from other mortgage companies and sold the income streams to investors.

### More rain falls in Rio as officials fear death toll could rise after heaviest deluge on record

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Rains began pelting Rio again early Wednesday, hours after the heaviest deluge on record sent killer mudslides cascading down hillsides and turned streets into raging torrents in Brazil's second-biggest city.

Authorities feared the added water could dislodge more saturated ground and raise the death toll from 95 in Rio and the neighboring city of Niteroi. Most of the deaths came when landslides smashed over shacks in slums built precariously on steep slopes.

Huge red-brown paths of destruction slashed through shantytowns. Concrete and wooden homes were crushed and hurtled downhill, only to bury other structures.

Rio, which will host the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympics, ground to a near halt as Mayor Eduardo Paes urged workers to stay home and ordered all schools closed.

Most businesses were shuttered.

Streets across the city were quiet as flooded roadways made travel nearly impossible even before rain started falling again before dawn.

### N. Korea sentences U.S. man to 8 years' hard labor for illegally entering country and hostile acts

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - North Korea said Wednesday it has convicted and sentenced an American man to eight years in a labor prison and a fine equivalent to \$700,000 for entering the country illegally and unspecified hostile acts.

Aijalon Mahli Gomes acknowledged his wrongdoing during a trial at the Central Court Tuesday, the North's official Korean Central News Agency said in a brief dispatch.

The North said last month that it arrested Gomes, 30, of Boston on Jan. 25 for trespassing after he crossed into the country from China. He was the fourth American to be detained in communist North Korea on charges of illegal entry in little over a vear.

Gomes, a graduate of Bowdoin College in Maine, had been teaching English in South Korea and no details have emerged about why he went to the North. However, a Seoul-based activist — Jo Sungrae — said Gomes may have been inspired by his acquaintance with an American missionary who made a similar trip to the North in December to protest the country's human rights record.

The KCNA report said the court sentenced Gomes to eight years of "hard labor" and a fine of 70 million won.

North Korea's official exchange rate is 100 won to the dollar.

month.

### VETERANS

Continued from Page 1A

reported on or around Nov. 8, 2007, according to District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson.

"There were a lot of allegations made, and the matter was investigated byseveraldifferentagencies. That's why it took so long for this to come before the grand jury," Wilkerson told the Her-

### **BSISD**

### Continued from Page 1A

Contract renewals for teachers and other professional staff are usually considered in

ald. "Allegations were made, which spurred an internal investigation by the corporation that runs the facility. After that, an investigation was performed by the Department on Aging, and then another one by the Big Spring Police Department. Finally, it was investigated by the Texas Attorney General's Office."

On Monday, the Dal-Morning News las quoted long-term care

was not considered at that

time, BSISD Superintendent

"Her name was not on the

list at contract renewal time,"

Saldivar said. "The principal

(Mike Ritchey) has recom-

Steven Saldivar said.

advocates calling for greater cooperation and increased training for law enforcement investigating allegations of elderly abuse.

"If everyone works together, we can ensure better care. Veterans deserve nothing less," Patterson said.

According to Patterson's office, the Texas Veterans Land Board and its contractor in Big Spring, Senior Dimensions, announced there

March, but Lance's contract mended that her contract not

would be an open house at the Big Spring home, tentatively scheduled for April 29. The public is invited to visit the home for tours and refreshments. Details are pending.

On Monday, Mike Barber, state commander of the Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars, sent Patterson a letter of support for his continued commitment to the Texas State Veterans Home system.

be renewed and the board will

act on that recommendation

Saldivar would not comment

on the reasons behind the non-

renewal recommendation, oth-

er than to say Lance was the

Thursday evening."

"Our 85,000 members Big Spring, Bonham, appreciate the contin- El Paso, Floresville, ued efforts of you and McAllen and Temple. your staff in operating the nursing homes and your aggressive stance to create new homes," Barber wrote. "These veterans homes have been so instrumental in affording Texas veterans a safe, secure and well-maintained facil-

Currently, there are Texas State Veterans Homes in Amarillo,

only one of 260 district teachers who was not recommended for contract renewal.

ity."

Contact Staff Writer Steve

Davenport, died at birth Monday, March 29, 2010. Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Dragon China Buffet 1300 Greaa 268-8888

and Katelyn

Construction on a home

in Tyler begins this

Patterson, a Repub-

lican, is facing a chal-

lenge from Democratic

nominee Hector Uribe

in November. Also on

the ballot will be Liber-

**MYERS & SMITH** 

FUNERAL HOME

& CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288

Lilly Grace Davenport

Rose

tarian James Holder.

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1A

safety. He will be followed by Jeannie Brown, a mother who recently lost her high school-age daughter in an automobile accident

was texting while driving to school.

"There will be handsschool students on texting and driving, driving under the influence and ATV safety," said Belew.

that occurred as the girl will rotate through eight sessions which include: ATV safety, tractor safety, tobacco safety, on learning for high oil field safety, chemical safety, gun safety, electrical safety and

zoonosis safety. The ses-

sions will be led by pro-

fessionals in each par-

ticular field, said Belew.

Students are encouraged to ask questions throughout the day.

"The whole purpose of this is to help youth in Glasscock County be sale on the farm, ranch and at home by teaching necessary life-skills, Belew explained.

tor, a nationwide ICE

initiative to protect chil-

dren from sexual preda-

tors. Since Operation

Predator was launched

in July 2003, ICE agents

have arrested more than

ICE encourages the

public to report suspect-

ed child predators and

any suspicious activ-

ity through its toll-free

hotline at 1-866-DHS-

2ICE. This hotline is

staffed around the clock

by investigators.

12,000 individuals.

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

clude at 2:30 p.m. at



GCISD.

### PORN

Continued from Page 1A

Austin to live with Salazar. Jane Doe would also bring her infant daughter, Jane Doe 2, who was less than a year old, to live with her and Salazar.

From late August throughearly September 2009, Salazar requested, via text messaging from his cell phone, that Jane Doe produce sexually explicit photographs of Jane Doe 2. Jane Doe received the messages at her residence in Big Spring.

In addition, regard-

The rest of the students

ing the transportation conviction, Salazar also transported child pornography by telephone to Jane Doe in Big Spring. On Sept. 4, 2009, between 11:02 p.m., and 11:05 p.m., Salazar sent Jane Doe a computer image depicting a female child under the age of 18 engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

On Sept. 11, 2009, a search warrant was executed at Salazar's residence in Austin. He was cooperative with law enforcement agents. When questioned by ICE agents, Salazar said that he had received the sexually explicit image of the infant girl ( Jane

Doe 2 ), as he had requested, but he deleted the image after receiving it.

The case was investigated by ICE San Angelo and Austin, the Big Spring Police Department and Texas Child Protective Services. Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven M. Sucsy, Northern District of Texas Lubbock Office, prosecuted the case.

The investigation was part of Operation PredaSafety Day will con-





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### **O**PINION

BIG SPRING HERALD Wednesday, April 7, 2010

# Editorial

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

-First Amendment

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

Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor Bill McClellan News Editor

### OUR VIEW

### State park set for weekend's run/walk event

rying to get more fit? Maybe you're one of the many people taking part in the Biggest Loser Contest. Or maybe you're just one of those people that truly likes to test your physical skills.

Well then, Big Spring State Park officials have just the thing for you — the 12th annual Master the Mountain Fun Run and Walk set for Saturday morning.

Ron Alton, the state park's manager, not to mention an avid runner, says this year's event will differ slightly from years past, concentrating strictly on 5K walks and runs.

And anyone thinking that the state park is s strange place to stage a 5K run or a 5K walk should think again. As a matter of fact, many of the region's running enthusiasts look forward to Master the Mountain simply because it offers a challenge few other runs — particularly those here in West Texas — can offer.

"You can run around a flat track all day long and not get anywhere near the effect you get from running the hills and slopes of Scenic Mountain," Alton noted. "You really can't find the kind of hills that we offer with this run anywhere else. I've heard runners refer to one of the hills on the run as Terminator Hill. The steep grades really offer a challenge to runners."

Entry fees for the run, which will under way at 9 a.m. Saturday, are \$18 per entrant, and include a commemorative T-shirt.

Although the 5K race seems to draw the serious competitors, Alton said the beauty of the mountain draws just as many people for the walking division

### Now, who really won this thing?

he majority of the time, I try really hard to keep the focus of my columns on something positive. The Lord knows we have more then enough negative stories and ideas choking the airwaves and Internet.

However, from time to time I find it a bit tough to look on the sunny side of things, and, given enough time and pressure, those feelings turn into ideas and those ideas turn into rants.



JENKINS

Brace yourself, Big Spring, while I calmly climb to the = top of my soapbox.

First and foremost, let's talk about the recent legal battle between the city of Big Spring and the Concerned Citizens Council. The CCC alleged the municipality held an emergency meeting of the city council that violated the requirements of the Texas Open Meetings Act, and since, during that meeting, the council invalidated the CCC's petition to force a rollback tax election, the matter should go to the voters in a special election.

And, on it's face value, the meeting clearly violated the act, a fact 118th District Judge Robert H. Moore III was quick to point out to city officials. The law on the matter was quite clear, and by law, the petition, which contained only one signature, should be found valid. Again, these facts seem fairly elementary.

However, that's where the clear waters of the law end and the murky, shark-infested waters begin. The remedy, it would seem, would be to allow the voters to choose between the tax rate already in place (\$1.013 per \$100 valuation) or the rollback rate of \$1.014 per \$100 valuation.

Needless to say, the idea of having the voters cast their ballot on a self-imposed tax increase got at least a grin from Moore, as well as a few chuckles from the court audience.

In the end, the two groups

Addresses

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT • BARACK OBAMA President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500 settled on an agreement that would have the city pay \$7,000 for the plaintiff's (CCC) attorney bills, \$328 in court costs and a \$5,000 donation for the Freedom of Information Foundation. Also, the city agreed not to increase the 2009-2010 tax rate from its current level, something city officials have maintained since the the issue came to light.

Now, bear in mind, this agreement — which was arrived at during a pre-trial hearing, not an actual trial — still hinges on an upcoming vote from the membership of the CCC, so there's still a chance this matter could go to trial. And, if the unpredictable nature of the CCC in the past is any indication, the idea isn't exactly a long shot.

So, what do we really have here when you boil things down to their essences? Well, the CCC can now claim a legal victory over the city of Big Spring, although they failed to garner the remedy — forcing a rollback tax election on the people of Big Spring — they were fiercely after. They can also say they have stood up for the citizens of Big Spring and protected their rights to a transparent and open municipal government.

Congratulations, men and women of the CCC.

Unfortunately, they also own the right to a few other accomplishments through this melodrama the taxpayers of Big Spring might be a bit perturbed over.

First, and foremost, that \$5,000 donation — which, if you're not fluent in legalese, is just a fancy way of describing a fine in this situation — comes out of the taxpayers' pockets. As do the \$7,000 in attorney fees. Couple that with the recent losses in tax funds due to errors in the certified taxable values presented to the city, and you're already looking at a \$171,000 loss to the city's 2009-2010 budget.

Secondly, the rollback tax petition that was submitted to the city of Big Spring contained just one name, that of CCC Chairman Shannon Thomason. Therefore, no determination could be made just how close — or how far —

703 Hart Office Building1510 ScurryWashington, D.C. 20510Big SpringPhone: 202-224-5922Phone: (432) 264-0722

• JOHN CORNYN U.S. Senator 517 Hart Office Building

<u>STATE</u> <u>GOVERNMENT</u> the local group was from reaching the 1,200 signatures needed to force the election. The CCC's attorney argued a petition may not be found invalid on its face in this situation, but common sense — not the law — dictates that it is.

I'm sure the CCC would like Big Spring residents to forget they called the petition they submitted a "token," and Thomason was even quoted as saying, "instead of putting the city through the process of having to try to verify the signatures we had, we decided to submit a token petition."

So, they were trying to do the city a favor? Were they trying to conserve city resources in an effort to save you, John Q. Taxpayer, a few bucks? That hardly seems the case, considering the overall outcome of this situation

I think local resident Tony M. Marquez said it best most recently in a letter to the editor, published in these very pages.

"It has become clear that the only agenda the CCC has is to continuously disrupt and hold our city council and the majority of its citizens hostage to their demands, needs or wants, however misguided they may be... I am sick and tired of this irate minority attempting to impose its will on the majority of the citizens of Big Spring.," he wrote.

Well said, Mr. Marquez. In the end, if the CCC accepts this agreement and the legal dust settles to the courtroom floor, who really wins?

Well, I'd say the attorney for the CCC has made a pretty tidy sum in his \$7,000 and the Freedom of Information Foundation gets a check for \$5,000, which I imagine it will appreciate.

As for the taxpayers — who funded both sides of this political circus — what have they gained?

Well, I bet if you can multiply zero with zero, you can figure that one out on your own.

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

> • JOE HEFLIN State Representative Texas 85th District P.O. Box 2910 Austin, 78768 Phone: (432) 213-2897

.....

SIOII.

"You don't have to run to be a part of the fun," he explained. "We get a lot of people that participate in the walk just because of the beauty of the park, and the view from the 200-foot bluff is just unbelievable. Whether you're running hard or just walking along, it's hard to ignore the beauty from there."

Additional information on Master the Mountain can be had by contacting Alton at 263-4931. Entrants can also reach Alton by fax at 263-3935 or by e-mail at bigsprsp@sbcglobal.net

He says he's definitely looking forward to Saturday. "We feel really good going into this event," he said. "It's a lot of fun each year."

### How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205

 By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.

• By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

### LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.

Sign your letter.

• Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.

• We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.

• We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.

• Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.

• Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

### A SMALL PRAYER

### by K. Rae Anderson

We can be proactive and feel more productive, Lord, with You.

• KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON U.S. Senator Washington, D.C. 20510 Phone: 202-224-2934

• RANDY NEUGEBAUER U.S. Representative 19th Cong. District • RICK PERRY Governor State Capitol, Room 2S.1 P.O. Box 12428 Austin, 78711 Phone: (512) 463-2000 •KEL SELIGER State Senator Texas 31st District 401 Austin, Suite 101 Big Spring, 79720 Phone: (432) 268-9909

### Tobacco execs should go to prison?

id you ever notice how it works? Sell your cousin a joint for some harmless fun and you both end up in jail. But manufacture cigarettes that kill tens of thousands of people and not

only do you earn billions of dollars, you avoid all risk of hard time. Lawsuits may cost you something but your personal freedom is never at stake. And presumably if you had a conscience you wouldn't have gone into the business to begin with. Indeed, con-



WILLIAM A. Collins

science is apparently a rather low bar for entry into the trade. There's no shortage of workers to keep the tobacco business going, from farmers to ad men to lawyers. All believe that they are merely filling a demand generated by people's personal choice.

No harm in that, right?

Cigarette companies generously assist tobacco addicts by coming up with more new products to circumvent laws designed to impede self-destruction.

And this is no paltry market there are still 46 million smokers, or 20 percent of America's adult population. Of course it doesn't look as though that many are puffing anymore because they've been driven underground. They're furtive.

Amen Smoking is out of vogue just spotted doing it. That's not only because they're perceived to be stupidly ruining their own health, but also because they're perceived as stupidly wasting large amounts of their own money.

Addiction doesn't respect social values and neither do tobacco companies. They'll cheerfully produce whatever the market will accept.

Just now that huckstering suicidal behavior has turned to chewing and sucking tobacco, yet another rather untidy habit aimed at producing shorter lives and bigger profits.

The marketing is intense, the availability of product is growing, and there's no smoke to annoy non-participants. There is of course, spit, the public display of which blessedly still seems confined to professional baseball players.

Another looming tobacco battlefield is cigars. While they're not exactly a hot ticket at the moment, they're also not covered under many serious cigarette laws, especially tax rates. Nor are they well defined.

Just suppose that all at once they were to begin looking very much like cigarettes. Which laws would apply? Well, you get the drift. It shapes up to be another lawyer-deploying battle coming along.

Not that the bar doesn't still have plenty to do on existing cases. There remain lots of individual lawsuits from aggrieved (sick) smokers and their estates.

Class action may have dwindled lately, but there are oodles of big bucks on the table individually and big precedents at stake. Many technical wrinkles in state and federal laws remain to be worked out in the companies' favor as well.

Unfortunately these lawyers never have to worry about their clients being jailed. This isn't China.

State governments remain particularly conflicted over smoking. They're torn between wanting to alleviate the social cost and simultaneously protecting tax revenues.

The bigger the tax, the less people smoke. Thus even with a higher rate, total revenue may go down.

What a choice.

Still another unpleasantness is that many states fudge on the percentage of their juicy class action awards that they invest back into cessation programs. They cheat by plowing almost all of that money into the general budget.

But Massachusetts has come up with a startling related discovery. By paying the costs of cessation for poor people they have dramatically lowered the poverty smoking rate.

That's saving the state a bundle on Medicaid. This news may be the next big smoking breakthrough, but of course senators from tobacco states hope to keep such a program from ever going national.

The best system, though, would be a law to put the poisoners in jail, just like drug pushers.

Minuteman Media columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.

### **C**LASSIFIED





### LOCAL

### Why not check this out? At the library

re you an embroiderer? The "Complete Book of Embroidery" (746.44 COS M0) by Melinda Coss is wonderful. It

shows in excellent detail how each stitch is made. Color photos and diagrams make this book easy to use.

You'll

come back



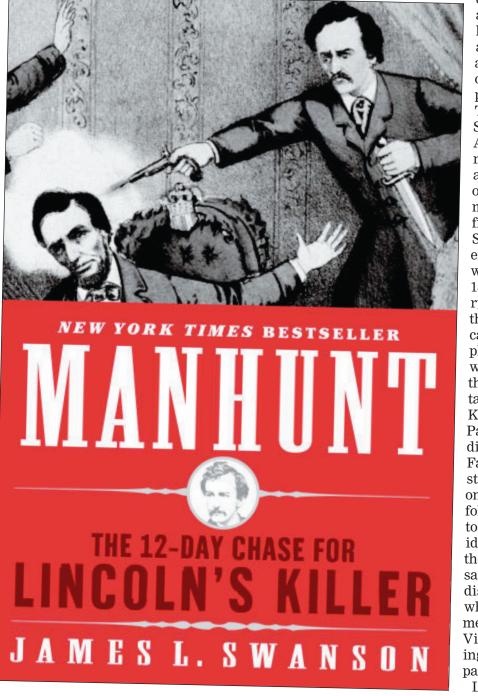
to it over and over again. Wonderfully laid out and categorized. A must for any needle crafter's library. Although this book is a wonderful reference for stitches, it is not a good pattern book. The patterns given in this book are more for examples of how to use many of

the stitches. Noted Lincoln historian James L. Swanson pens a historical novel in the genre of Jeff Shaara. In "Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer" (364.152 SWA J), Swanson not only takes you there, he places you in the mind and soul of John Wilkes Booth, those who hid him, and those who tracked him. Though surely a page turner, this is no quick read, weighing in at well over 400 pages. However, if you love history, mystery and detective stories, then Swanson has woven them all into "Manhunt." Even readers with a love for the Civil War will find the account of these 12 days filled with never learned or frequently forgotten details. "Manhunt" is well worth reading, both for its historical depth and its psychological awareness.

obituaries. This is not a morbid pastime, but a discovery of lives that have been lived to their fullest. Marilyn Johnson's "The Dead Beat" (070.449 JOH M) is a funny and touching book that has expanded my knowledge of an unsung yet immensely popular literary form. This book

isn't about the paid obituaries by friends and relatives of the deceased. It's about the life (and death) stories written by newspaper staff writers. They are tributes to celebrities, ordinary folks, and those who had a peripheral role in a historic or social context of their day. Besides presenting the story of a life, they are history as it is happening. Cheryl Strayed's first novel is "Torch" (F STR

C). Teresa Rae Wood is famous in her small town of Midden, Minn., for hosting Modern Pioneers, a local radio program that gives tips on living off the land. At the age of 38, she is diagnosed with a virulent form of cancer and dies within months. Her common law husband, Bruce, and her children, 20-year-old Claire and 18-year-old Josh, are left reeling. Bruce abruptly marries his next-door neighbor, Josh becomes heavily involved in dealing speed and Claire single-mindedly devotes herself to keeping her mother's memory alive. What they learn about grief over the succeeding months gives each of them the strength to both ask for help and respect each other's vastly different coping



methods.

Daniel Silva has composed a complex character in Gabriel Allon. Allon is an art restorer who is also deeply enmeshed as an agent for the Israeli security department, Mossad. The library has just received two of his books — "The Confessor" and "A Death in Vienna." Look for them in the fiction area. If you are a

#### "series"

person, then you should read "The Confessor" first. They are good, and a complex storyline links three of the books together. The "Kill Artist" is first in the series, and we do have it.

"The Last Supper" (B SIE J) is Javier Sierra's first book that has been translated into English. It revolves around a papal inquisitor's investigation into Leonardo



da Vinci's alleged heresies and offers a new way of interpreting The Last Supper. After receiving a series of cryptic messages from "the Soothsayer," who warns the 15th century church that "art can be employed as a weapon,' the Secretariat of Keys of the **Papal States** dispatches Father Agostino Leyre on a twofold mission to Milan: identify the Soothsayer and discover what, if any, messages da Vinci is hiding in the painting. Leyre, who narrates,

views the in-progress Last Supper at the Santa Maria delle Grazie and becomes fascinated. He makes a series of sometimes muddled discoveries about the painting, leading up to his interpretation of the painting's true meaning (not revealed until the last line of the last page). Those not well versed in Catholic history may have trouble following the many subplots involving factionalism and dissent within the church. The combination of code breaking, secrecy, chicanery within the Catholic Church and a certain artist is by now a familiar one, but Sierra's book, already a bestseller in Europe, is a fresh contribution to the da Vinci industry. This review is from Booklist.

**5**A

Be sure and check with circulation staff for your login and password. The new computer program will let you check your record from home, renew books online and to place holds on materials. When looking at the catalog online, be sure to click on Howard County Library on the left side of the screen (if you need to). When you look up a specific book, it checks all of the libraries in the West Texas Library System. You need to be sure and check to if the library has it.

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

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.



When visiting my mother, she always grabs the section of the paper that contains the obituaries. When I visit my sister in San Antonio, I always read the

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that on February 22, 2010, Sharyland Utilities, L.P. (Sharyland), a regulated electric utility company, Sharyland Distribution & Transmission Services, L.L.C. (SDTS), Hunt Transmission Services, L.LC., Cap Rock Energy Corporation (Cap Rock), and NewCorp Resources Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NewCorp) (collectively, Applicants), filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) for regulatory approvals pursuant to PURA §§ 14.101, 37.154, 39.262, and 39.915. The docket number and style of this application are Docket No. 37990, Joint Report and Application of Sharyland Utilities, L.P., Sharyland Distribution & Transmission Services, L.L.C., Hunt Transmission Services, L.L.C., Cap Rock Energy Corporation, and NewCorp Resources *Electric Cooperative, Inc. for Regulatory Approvals Pursuant to PURA §§ 14.101, 37.154, 39.262, and 39.915.* In their application, Applicants are seeking regulatory approval from the Commission to transfer ownership of the assets of Cap Rock and NewCorp to SDTS, transfer Cap Rock and NewCorp's CCNs to Sharyland, and lease the Cap Rock and NewCorp assets from SDTS to Sharyland, which will operate those assets. The proposed transactions will result in Cap Rock being owned by SDTS and operated by Sharyland. No modification to Sharyland's or Cap Rock's rates or services is being sought as a result of the proposed transactions. A copy of the application is kept at Sharyland's office at 4403 West Military Hwy., Suite 700, McAllen, Texas 78503, at Cap Rock's office at 511 West Ohio, Suite 600, Midland, Texas 79701, and at the office of Sharyland's legal representative, Vinson & Elkins LLP, at 2001 Ross Ave., Suite 3700, Dallas, Texas 75201, (214) 220-7736 (Telephone), (214) 999-7736 (Facsimile).

Any persons wishing to intervene in this proceeding or comment upon the action sought, should mail their requests to intervene or their comments (along with 10 copies of your letter) to: Public Utility Commission of Texas, Central Records, Attn: Filing Clerk, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. The deadline for intervention in this proceeding is April 12, 2010, and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the Commission by that date. To obtain additional information about this case, contact the Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136.

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Legals NOTICE OF UNSAFE BUILDINGS STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF HOWARD BAA MEETING Vide

April 21, 2010 1- Roscoe Hartfield, 1102 N. Main St., Big Spring, TX 79720, SC 42 BK 32 IN TR 1, of William B. Currie Addition, also known as 1102 N. Main St.

2- Kay Littlejohn, PO Box 202461, Arlington, TX 76006-8461, 6.5 AC SW/4 of SC 42 BK 32 1N, of William B. Currie Addition, also known as 218 N. Johnson St.

3- Palemon Diaz, 215 NE 8th St., Big Spring, TX 79720-1410, SE/4 of SC 42 BK 32 1N TR 22, of William B. Currie Addition, also known as 215 NE. 8th. St.

4- James Jackson, 310 NW 10th St., Big Spring, TX 79720-1218, LT 9 BK 40, of Bauer Addition, also known as 310 NW 10th St.

5- Lester Crawford, (deceased), PT LTS 7-8 & PT LT 9 BK 11, of Brown Addition, also known as 300 Jones St.

6- Leslie H. Mcmullen, 405 E. 10th St., Big Spring, TX 79720, LT 9 BK 78, of Birdwell Heights Addition according to replat of Block 78, Original Town of Big Spring, also known as 405 E. 10th St.

7- James Spangler, 377 White St, Loveland, OH 45140-8867, LT 6 BK 20, of Cole & Strayhorn Addition, also known as 810 E. 15th St. 8- Joe A. Torres, PO Box 2955, Big Spring, TX 79721-2955, LT 11 BK 18, of Cole & Strayhorn Addition, also known as 603 E. 16th St. 9- Riley Rivera, 702 Bell St, Big

Spring, TX 79720, LT 2 BK 3, of Earles Addition, also known as 702 Bell St.

10- Sunshine Unlimited Inc, 1651 County Road 255, Big Spring, TX 79720-0704, of Jones Valley Addition, also known as 906 W. 6th St.

Dear Property owner (s): Current Tax records of the City of Big Spring indicate that you are the owner of the property at, the above street address. This structure is in violation of section 115.1 of the International Building Code and the following detailed report documents the condition which have rendered the structure unsafe to with: Dilapisub-standard date. structure. plumbing and electrical do not meet the City Code of Ordinances. Windows missing or broken out. Building has been vandalized and

poses a potential Health hazard to

the public. Structures cannot be se-

cured to keep out transients or children. Therefore, by the authority invested in my office by the Big Spring Code, I have declared this structure or portions thereof unsafe, dilapidated substandard or unfit for human habitation, and have determined it or portions thereof poses a hazard to public health, safety, and public welfare. The International Building Code Section 115.01 provides that all structures or existing equipment that are or hereafter become unsafe, insanitary or deficient because of inadequate means of egress facilities, inadequate light and ventilation, or which constitute a fire hazard, or are otherwise dangerous to human life or the public welfare, or that involve illegal or improper occupancy or inadequate maintenance, shall be deemed an unsafe condition. Unsafe structures Do you have a service to offer? Place your ad in the Herald Classified **Professional Service Directory** Call 263-7331 Today!

shall be taken down and removed or made safe, as the building official deems necessary and as provided for in this section. A vacant structure that is not secured against entry shall be deemed unsafe.

"You are hereby notified that a hearing will be held before the MEP + Board of Adjustment and appeals of the City of Big Spring, Texas, at 307 E. 4th on the 21st day of April, 2010 at 5:30pm. The purpose of the hearing is to make a final determination as to whether the structure described is in violation of the Structural Standards Code of the City of Big Spring, Texas. You may be present at the hearing and may be, but need not be, represented by legal counsel. You may present any relevant evidence and will be given full opportunity to cross-examine all witnesses testifying against you. You may request the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, documents or other things by filing an affidavit thereof with the MEP Board of Adjustment and Appeals. At the time of the hearing, you (whether you be the owner, lien holder, or mortgagee) will be required to submit at the hearing proof of the scope of any work that may be required to comply with the Code and the time it will take to reasonably perform the work. In the event you seek to obtain more than thirty (30) days to complete the project, you will be required to reasonably establish that the work cannot be completed within thirty (30) days. In the event you seek to obtain more than ninety (90) days to complete the work, you will be required to submit a detailed plan and time schedule for the work at the hearing and establish that the work cannot be completed within ninety (90) days.

Following the hearing the Board of Adjustment and Appeals may issue an order requiring the vacation, relocation of occupants, securing, repair (with or without vacation), removal, or demolition of the structure if the MEP Board of Adjustments and Appeals finds that any of the following conditions exist:

(1) The structure in question is dilapidated, substandard, or unfit for human habitation; and a hazard to the public health, safety, and welfare;

 (2) The structure is unoccupied by its owners, or other invitees and is unsecured from unauthorized entry to the extent that is could be entered or used by vagrants or other uninvited persons as a place of harborage or could be entered or used by children;

(3) If boarded up, fenced or other-

### **Tomorrow's Horoscope**

The ringed planet Saturn is named for the Roman god of agriculture and harvest. The god is often depicted holding a harvesting sickle, which is the idea behind its planetary symbol. And today, as Saturn slips into Virgo, the earth sign noted for its green thumb, the fruits of our labor will hasten to ripen. Be vigilant. Don't let up.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You will be going strong from morning to

night. You'll make а million tiny decisions and follow through on every one. This day is like а canvas that HOLIDAY you are using

using to MATHIS create your masterpiece.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). What is making you feel less than free? Leaning too heavily on others will only hold you back. And so will allowing them to lean too heavily on you. You may have to cut ties in order to foster your own growth.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Today marks an important turning point. You can no longer go along without speaking your mind. You will say what needs to be said most, and you will do so with eloquence and grace. **CANCER** (June 22-July

22). A principled individual has laid the foundation for you to excel. Maybe you have no idea how much this person has given in order to allow you to do the things you do. It's a fine time to ask questions and find out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You want to do something you've never done before. Consider taking a risk that's more emotional than physical. For instance, you'll learn more by asking а powerful person to mentor you than you would parachuting out of a plane. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Resolve a lingering personal issue. This can be accomplished in a 10minute phone call. The effort will free up your mental energy, and you'll accomplish all you need to do quickly and easily. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct.

23). You'll probably be doing more of the morale boosting and solution finding than the others around you. It's generous of you, but it's also selfserving. When you support others, you are supporting yourself. support others, you are supporting yourself. support others, you are support other

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The work situation has been suspenseful enough. You want to know what will happen. You'll get an early glimpse into the outcome, and if you don't like what you see, there's still a chance to turn it around.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll weed through the Johnnycome-lately types. You'll recognize who your trueblue core friends are. You now have the freedom and knowledge to assemble the best support system ever.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're in good communication with those in the know. Expand your research to a few others, too. Diversify. Friends who are very different from you will enrich you in ways you can't expect.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your curiosity and directness will serve you well. Just ask and you'll learn timesaving tricks. For instance: how to go straight to a live operator without having to answer to a robot for five minutes first.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). There's something to work out with a loved one. You don't have to go into great detail or have a long, drawn-out conversation. You'll speak a few words from your heart, and you'll be taken into the heart of your listener.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (March 14). You are liked wherever you go, and a special friendships few make this year will memorable. Through the next 10 weeks, you benefit from the synergy created by working with people of diverse talents. You'll be asked to commit in June. Investments of time and energy pay financial dividends in July. Love signs are Leo and Cancer. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 15, 3, 20 and 18. ASTROLOGICAL **QUESTIONS:** "What does Uranus symbolize in a person's birth chart?"

spending seven vears in each zodiac sign. It is therefore considered endowing each generation with some common characteristics that are unique to their age group. For example, anyone born in 1969 X) (Generation has Uranus in Libra, the sign of balance and equality. Not so coincidentally, was the this first generation to come of age after the civil rights movement and the feminist movement. Libra also happens to be represented by the scales, the only nonliving zodiac sign. It's a thing, not an animal or person. Is it

any wonder then that Gen-X was also the MTV generation? Everything microwaves from to personal computers to VCRs came into existence during this generation's childhood. Uranus is the planet of innovation. These days, Uranus is in Pisces, so expect to see more advances in the arts and spirituality, such as an increased openness to other realms of being and the adoption of religious beliefs that are more inclusive than in the past. In the arts, this spiritual exploration is well represented in works such as the visually groundbreaking movie "Avatar."

#### CELEBRITY

**PROFILES:** Academy Award-winner Russell Crowe is respected as one of the finest actors in contemporary cinema. Though this passionate Aries is known for his fiery temper, Crowe's natal chart is remarkably diverse and balanced in the elements of fire, water, earth and air. His breadth of personal interests is wide, as well, ranging from horses to rock bands to crosscountry motorcycle trips.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please  $g_0$ 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 Holidav Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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wise secured in any manner, the building constitutes a danger even though secured from entry; or the means used to secure the building are inadequate to prevent unauthorized entry or use of building in the manner described in (B) above; (4) Following entry of the order, any person affected by the order may appeal, the order to the State District Court for relief within thirty (30) days, and upon failure to do so within such period of time, the order shall become final. Kenny H., Davis **Building Official** #6494 April 7 & 11, 2010

Uranus, being one of the outer planets, takes 84 years to travel around the 2010

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### News in brief

### Budget cuts could hit prison DWI programs

**6**A

AUSTIN (AP) – Senate Criminal Justice Committee chairman John Whitmire has reviewed the case of John Patrick Barton after learning of a wreck that left two people dead.

The Houston legislator says he was dismayed that Barton "skated" while in prison, incarcerated twice and not receiving treatment for alcohol addiction.

Whitmire raised concerns Tuesday that prison treatment programs could be cut as Texas faces a projected budget shortfall as high as \$15 billion.

Barton was on parole after his third drunken-driving conviction when, authorities say, his vehicle hit a car Sunday in Lewisville. The crash killed Kandace Hull and her 13-yearold daughter, Autumn Caudle.

Barton, who initially was arrested for intoxication manslaughter, faces two murder counts and was in the Lewisville city jail Wednesday.

Gov. Rick Perry had ordered state agencies to identify possible 5 percent budget cuts. The prison system is seeking an exemption for treatment programs.

### 2 Mexican inmates flee Texas prison

HOUSTON (AP) — Two Texas prison escapees from Mexico are still on

#### the run.

Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokeswoman Michelle Lyons says the search continued Wednesday for the escaped inmates.

Jose Bustos-Diaz and Octavio Ramos Lopez turned up missing Tuesday during a routine count at the Briscoe Unit, in Frio County about 75 miles southwest of San Antonio. The pair apparently cut through a perimeter fence.

Bustos-Diaz was serving 35 years for murder in Harris County. Lopez, who was convicted in Hidalgo County, was serving 20 years for two counts of aggravated kidnapping and 12 years for possession of cocaine and possession with intent to deliver cocaine.

### Lotto Texas on verge of record no-big winner

AUSTIN (AP) - Lotto Texas is on the verge of a record losing streak for players.

The estimated jackpot Wednesday night was \$72 million.

The San Antonio Express-News reports if no one wins the jackpot it would be a record 48 straight drawings without anyone getting the big prize.

The last record was set with the previous Lotto Texas jackpot win on Oct. 21, which hit on the 48th drawing after a 47-draw dry spell.

Lottery Commission spokesman Bobby Heith says overall sales from Texas lottery games were \$2.6 billion in 2000 and \$3.7 billion last year.

Lotto Texas drawings are Wednesday and Saturday nights.

### Man convicted in 2008 killing of Houston officer

HOUSTON (AP) - A jury in Houston has convicted a man in the 2008 shooting death of a police officer following a traffic stop.

The life-or-death penalty phase was set for Wednesday for 29-year-old Mabry Joseph Landor III.

Jurors on Tuesday convicted Landor of capital murder in the killing of 43-year-old Officer Timothy Abernethy.

Police say Abernethy had pulled over a vehicle for a minor traffic violation when the driver ran away. Abernethy was chasing Landor through an apartment complex when the lawman was shot.

Landor was on parole at the time of his arrest. His record included convictions for burglary, DWI, drug possession and distribution and assault with bodily injury of a family member.

Landor, whose videotaped partial confession was played in court, took the stand Monday to deny being the person who shot Abernethy.

### Man gets life for killing animal control officer

WACO (AP) — A central Texas jury has sentenced a man to life imprisonment for the 2007 murder of an animal control officer.

A McLennan County jury in Waco deliberated for a half-hour Monday before returning the maximum punishment for 33-year-old Jerry Mack Newland of Elm Mott. The jury had deliberated about two hours earlier in the day before finding Newland guilty in the June 2007 shooting of 47-year-old Bellmead animal control officer Bobby Dean Evans.

A prosecution witness had been jailed with Newland after the shooting. The Waco Tribune-Herald reports he testified that Newland had bragged of shooting Evans multiple times, then rolling him over and shooting him in the chest "just to watch him die."

According to trial testimony, Newland was a member of the white supremacist prison gang Aryan Brotherhood of Texas.

worker Vernon Hunter begins the small, single-engine plane's takeoff from Georgetown Municipal Airport at 9:44 a.m.

The NTSB says air traffic control communications and radar data show the plane flew south, climbing to 4,800 feet. The last radio contact came when a controller approved a radio frequency change, which Stack acknowledged by saying, "Thanks for your help. Have a great day."

At 9:54 a.m., radar tracked the aircraft descending from 4,800 feet and turning west. At 9:57 a.m., the last radar contact showed the plane flying southwest at 1,000 feet before disappearing.

The aircraft was destroyed on impact into the office building.

### Dallas police: Man killed by fellow Darfur refugee

DALLAS (AP) - A 28-year-old Amarillo man is jailed on a murder charge in the stabbing death of a fellow Darfur refugee in Dallas.

Abdelbakheit (ahb-dehl-bahk-HYTE') Khamis (KAH'-mihs) remains in a Dallas County jail Tuesday with bond set at \$500,000 in the death of 32-year-old Ahmed Mohammed. Police say Mohammed was stabbed fatally as he slept Monday in his northeast Dallas apartment.

Police Sgt. Ray Beaudreault (boo-DROH') tells The Dallas Morning News that Khamis mistakenly believed Mohammed was having an affair with Khamis' brother's wife and was responsible for her pregnancy.

Ismail Adam (ah-DAHM') tells the newspaper that he also was sleeping in the apartment at the time of the stabbing and awoke to see Khamis thrust a knife into Mohammed.

### **DA:** Father endangered daughters with porn

LUBBOCK (AP) - A father accused of forcing his two daughters to watch online pornography has been charged with child endangerment, a prosecutor said Tuesday.

Randall County District Attorney James Farren said last year that he wanted to charge Jack A. Buckner II using the state's indecency law but believed he couldn't because the law allows parents to show "harmful material" to their children.

Farren charged Buckner with two counts of child endangerment on Monday after Texas' attorney general advised Farren that he could prosecute the Amarillo father using a different statute. Jack Buckner's wife, Jennifer Buckner, said Tuesday that he had no comment. She said he does not have an attorney. Buckner is accused of placing his 8and 9-year-old girls in danger of imminent mental impairment by showing them pornography while they were visiting him.

### APRIL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

Governor Rick Perry designated April 2010 as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) in Texas. Victim Services joins rape crisis centers across the state in commemorating Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month to promote awareness and encourage support of this issue.

According to a 2003 study conducted by the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault and the University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work, approximately 1.9 million Texans have been sexually victimized.

- 1. 1 in 5 women and 1 in 20 men are victims of Sexual Assault.
- 2. Most victims are sexual assaulted by someone they know.
- Less the 20% of sexual assaults are ever reported to the police. 3.
- Sexual assault is never the victims fault.

Last year our agency served a total of 68 Victims of Sexual Assault: 50 were child victims 39 Primary and 11 Secondary

18 were adult victims 14 Primary and 4 Secondary

Sexual violence is a persistent and pervasive problem in our society, one that requires attention year-round. In order to foster healthy communities, all citizens of Big Spring, must support the effort to end sexual violence every month of the year.

LAST YEAR VICTIMS SERVICES SERVED:

Child Victim Of Physical Abuse	4
Child Victim Of Sexual Abuse	
Victim of DUI/DWI	0
Victim of Domestic Violence	
Adult Victim of Sexual Assault	
Elder Abuse	0
Adult Molested as a Child	
Survivors of Homicide Victim	
Robbery	9
Aggravated Assault	16
TOTAL	

"The U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victim of Crime states in their Crime Clock:"

- 2 People are murder every hour. 1.
- An average of 24 people are raped each hour. 2.
- 3. 510 people are assaulted each hour.
- 1,622 thefts are committed each hour 4.
- 5. 67 women are victimized by an intimate partner every hour
- 6. 391 homes are burglarized every hour
- 103 children are abused every hour 7.
- 8 There are 2 alcohol-related deaths every hour
- 9. 1062 people are victims of identity fraud every hour.
- 10. 157 people are stalked every hour





### **Victim Services** 263-3312

206115

### NTSB issues report on Austin suicide plane crash

AUSTIN (AP) — A preliminary federal report shows nothing remarkable in the moments before a pilot's Feb. 18 suicide dive into an Austin Internal Revenue Service office.

The National Transportation Safety Board report Monday on the crash that killed pilot Joseph Stack and IRS

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### **6B**

### Comics

#### **BIG SPRING HERALD** Wednesday, April 7, 2010

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#### **DENNIS THE MENACE**



"MOM SAYS I'M GETTING TO BE LIKE YOU ... CLUTTERIN' THE HOUSE WITH JUNK.'

#### BC

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Yep, me too! Egg salad again!"





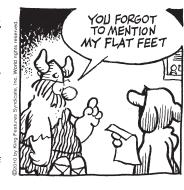




### HAGAR

YOU DRINK TOO NUCH, YOU EAT TOO MUCH, YOU'RE SHORT OF BREATH, YOU DON'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP, YOU DON'T EXERCISE, YOU HAVE BAD KNEES AND A BAD BACK, YOU NEED GLASSES, YOUR TEETH ARE BAD, YOUR HEARING ISN'T VERY GOOD, YOU HAVE A SINUS CONDITION, YOUR HAIR IS PIRTY AND OILY, AND YOU HAVE DANIDRUSE HAVE DANDRUFF

OF





### This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, April 7, the 97th day of 2010. There are 268 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight History:

On April 7, 1862, Union forces led by General Ulysses S. Grant defeated the Confederates at the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee.

On this date:

In 1199, King Richard I of England (also known as The Lion-Heart) died in the Limousin region of France at age 41 after being mortally wounded by an arrow.

In 1860, Will Keith Kellogg, founder of cereal maker Kellogg Co., was born in Battle Creek, Mich.

In 1927, the image and voice of Commerce Secretary Herbert Hoover were transmitted live from Washington to New York in the first successful long-distance demonstration of television.

In 1939, Italy invaded Albania which was annexed

less than a week later. In 1949, the Rodgers and

FLORIST

NO, NO

CHRIS BROWI A-T

Hammerstein musical ``South Pacific" opened on Broadway. In 1953, the U.N. General Assembly elected Dag

Hammarskjold (dahg HAWM'-ahr-shoold) of

Sweden to be secretary-general.

In 1969, the Supreme Court, in Stanley v. Georgia, unanimously struck down laws prohibiting private possession of obscene material.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter announced he was deferring development of the neutron bomb, a high-radiation weapon.

In 1983, space shuttle astronauts Story Musgrave and Don Peterson took the first U.S. space walk in almost a decade as they worked in the open cargo bay of Challenger for nearly four hours.

In 1990, a display of Robert Mapplethorpe photographs opened at Cincinnati's Contemporary Arts Center, the same day the center and its director were indicted on obscenity charges (both were acquitted). An arson fire aboard a ferry en route from Nor

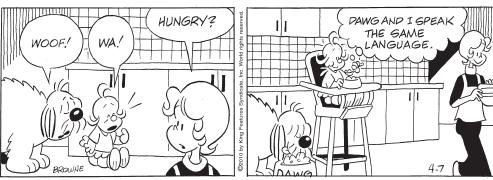
to Denmark killed 158 people.

Today's Birthdays: Actor R.G. Armstrong is 93. Sitar player Ravi Shankar is 90. Actor James Garner is 82. Country singer Cal Smith is 78. Actor Wayne Rogers is 77. Media commentator Hodding Carter III is 75. Country singer Bobby Bare is 75. Rhythm-andblues singer Charlie Thomas (The Drifters) is 73. California Attorney General Jerry Brown is 72. Movie director Francis Ford Coppola is 71. TV personality David Frost is 71. Singer Patricia Bennett (The Chiffons) is 63. Singer John Oates is 61. Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels is 61. Singer Janis Ian is 59. Country musician John Dittrich is 59.

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### **HI AND LOIS**



### THE OTHER COAST



### **SNUFFY SMITH**



#### **BEETLE BAILEY** I CAN'T TALK NOW! I DON'T JUST KEEP IT'S YOUR WIFE, SIR SEE WHAT SHE WANTS! KNOW WHAT ISTENING AND FROM TIME TO TO SAY TO TIME SAY HER! YOU'RE RIGHT" GREG 1 MORT

### Newsday Crossword

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59 Corporate VIP 60 Caterer's job 19 Charge of 24 Scone 27 Unwrap 30 Legal job 31 Hoo-ha 32 Biblical

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Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 12 Commando **37** Tie up weapon 38 Harry Potter's 13 All ready best friend 18 Allow to ripen 41 Biker gear 42 Abrasive 23 Feeling out material 43 Comes up 44 Floor-cleaning spread 25 Perfect for Jack Sprat 28 Tie the knot

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### I R E S T S E P T L E N T

FAUNA BUSINESS by Norma Steinberg

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### NATION/WORLD

### News in brief

### Mine where blast killed at least 25 not safe for rescuers

MONTCOAL, W.Va. (AP) — Crews were drilling early Wednesday to ventilate toxic gas from a West Virginia coal mine shattered by a deadly explosion, trying to make a section of it safe enough for rescuers to search for four missing miners as hope for their survival grew dim.

Two days after the blast killed 25 and left two hospitalized, the buildup of methane gas and carbon monoxide was too dangerous for anyone to enter and look for the last of the missing or to recover the bodies of 18 known dead. Seven bodies were brought out after Monday afternoon's blast rocked the Upper Big Branch Mine, site of the worst underground disaster in the U.S. in more than a quarter-century.

Once the mine is ventilated, teams would need four or five hours to reach the area where officials believe the miners are about 1,000 feet beneath the surface, said Chris Adkins, chief operating officer for Massey Energy Co., which owns the mine. The long section is about 20 feet wide with barely enough room to stand, a safety official said.

Searchers would have to navigate in the darkness around debris from structures shattered by the explosion and around sections of track that were "wrapped like a pretzel," said Kevin Stricklin, an administrator from the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration.

### Toyota warned European distributors about pedal problems well before telling U.S. government

WASHINGTON (AP) — Long before Toyota told U.S. regulators about sticking accelerator pedals,

the Japanese automaker warned its distributors throughout Europe about similar problems, documents obtained by The Associated Press show.

Concerns about sticking gas pedals and complaints from Toyota owners in the U.S. were rising at the end of 2009. The documents show that weeks earlier, on Sept. 29, its European division issued technical information "identifying a production improvement and repair procedure to address complaints by customers in those countries of sticking accelerator pedals, sudden rpm increase and/or sudden vehicle acceleration."

Distributors throughout Europe and in Russia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Turkey and Israel received the technical information.

In assessing a record \$16.4 million fine on Toyota for failing to alert the U.S. government to the safety problems quickly enough, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood cited the warnings to the other countries.

LaHood said Tuesday that Toyota made a "huge mistake" by not disclosing the safety problems sooner.

### Police shoot 4 dead in Kyrgyzstan as protesters challenge police crackdown, storm buildings

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan (AP) — Police in Kyrgyzstan opened fire Wednesday on thousands of angry protesters who tried to seize the Central Asian nation's main government building after beating up dozens of police officers. At least four protesters were shot dead.

Police in the capital of Bishkek at first used rubber bullets, tear gas, water cannons and concussion grenades to try to control crowds of young men clad in black who were disarming officers and seizing their trucks.

Then the anti-government protesters tried to use one of the personnel carriers to ram the gates of the government headquarters, known as the White House. About a half dozen young protesters shot Kalashnikovs into the air from the square in front of the building.

Some 200 elite police forces tried to push back the crowd but were forced back toward the White House.

The protesters appeared to be leaderless, and some even drunk. At least 10 opposition leaders were arrested overnight, according to an opposition lawmaker.

### Obama sets new approach toward Muslim world, nixing 'Islamic radicalism'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's advisers plan to remove terms such as "Islamic radicalism" from a document outlining national security strategy and will use the new version to emphasize that the U.S. does not view Muslim nations through the lens of terrorism, counterterrorism officials say.

The change would be a significant shift in the National Security Strategy, a document that previously outlined the Bush Doctrine of preventive war. It currently states, "The struggle against militant Islamic radicalism is the great ideological conflict of the early years of the 21st century."

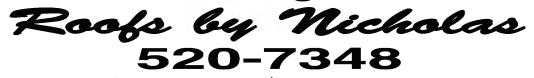
The officials described the changes on condition of anonymity because the document is still being written and is unlikely to be released for weeks, and the White House would not discuss it.



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### Dental spat may foreshadow health plan effects

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Alone in a meeting room, trustees of the Alabama Dental Association complained about Sarrell Dental Center, a nonprofit corporation that treats thousands of needy children on Medicaid.

In a rambling exchange, leaders of the 1,800-member professional organization said they were concerned about Sarrell's quality of care, and they lamented that for-profit dentists face tough business demands. Something needed to be done, they agreed.

The comments — made public after Sarrell Dental obtained a transcript of the session helped blow the lid off a simmering dispute between the nonprofit chain of clinics and Alabama's traditional dentists. Sarrell Dental has since filed a slander lawsuit against one of the board members, and the state's only dental school this week pulled its students out of two

Sarrell clinics where they saw patients.

The acrimony is similar to turf battles in other states as companies, rather than private dentists, step in to care for young people covered by Medicaid. The private offices typically take Medicaid patients, but advocates say there simply aren't enough dentists to treat the needy across the country.

The conflicts, which have been brewing over a decade, could become more common with the passage of President Barack Obama's health care bill, which includes mandatory dental coverage for kids, said Meg Booth of the Washington-based advocacy group Children's Dental Health Project.

"The safety net is not large enough to absorb the number of children who are not able to get into private dental care," Booth said. "This is very much because of the lack of access to dental care."

Nationally, some 26 million children lack dental insurance coverage. But only 37 percent of the children eligible for Medicaid-funded dental care visit a dentist at least once a year, according to a report released last year by the federal Department of Health and Human Services.

The interim executive director of the Alabama Dental Association, Dr. Zack Studstill, doesn't deny there's a problem with needy children getting adequate dental treatment in the state. But the idea of a corporation or nonprofit organization owning dental clinics is new in Alabama, and established dentists aren't sure what it will mean in the long-term, he said.

Sarrell Dental counters that Alabama's dental establishment is endangering care for thousands of poor children by trying to limit the growth of corporate and nonprofit chains. To illustrate what it called attack by the state dental association, Sarrell Dental released a transcript of the Jan. 31 trustees meeting to the public. Comments from the meeting are part of the lawsuit filed by Sarrell in March against one of the participants, Dr. Steve Mitchell, who teaches at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

This week, UAB said its dental students no longer would work at Sarrell clinics, where they have treated patients under a \$400,000 contract. Sarrell's chief marketing officer, Brandi Mangum Parris, said the school acted under pressure from alumni and private dentists.

University spokeswoman Dale Turnbough did not return messages seeking comment.

During the trustees meeting, participants spoke of the lack of a level playing field between the nonprofits and private dentists, who typically buy or lease their own offices and face business pressures aside from fixing teeth.

There was discussion of legislation to control nonprofits.

Mitchell noted that local leaders are happy someone is treating the poor, who can receive services from cleanings to fillings at Sarrell clinics.

"And you need to be very careful you don't give the impression that we're just trying to protect our turf if we try to do something about this," added Mitchell, who is in charge of undergraduate pediatric dentistry at UAB.

Studstill, in an interview and statement. said the trustees debated how Sarrell clinics operated because dental students were working there outside the auspices of their school. The nonprofit has treated 130,000 patients since its founding in 2005 and has eight clinics statewide. A huge lack of access to dental care for the needy has fueled its growth. and the state's dental establishment is simply intimidated, said Parris. "I think it is that growth that scares them," she said. "They don't understand it." Mitchell worked at a Sarrell Dental clinic until recently, according to the suit, and he helped line up students to help treat kids. But Mitchell's tone changed, the suit claims, and he has gone down a road of "malicious conduct" by accusing the company of providing substandard care and of letting students treat patients without the supervision that is required by law. Parris said Sarrell has 23 staff dentists who help supervise students. Mitchell didn't return messages seeking comment. The friction isn't confined to Alabama. Dentists complained when three private companies opened clinics to treat Medicaid patients in Massachusetts five or six years ago, said Mary E. Foley, who was in charge of the state's Medicaid dental program at the time.





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