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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 154 COPYRIGHT 2013

Candidate forum set for Thursday

Herald Staff Report
 The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will host a Meet the Candidate Forum at 6 p.m. Thursday in the Hall Center for the Arts. The forum gives candidates an opportunity to introduce themselves prior to the May 11 city and school board elections.

"We're encouraging everyone to come out and meet each of the candidates," said Debbye ValVerde, Chamber executive director. ValVerde said each candidate will be allowed to speak for five minutes. "This will not be a question and answer forum," said ValVerde, noting that "The audience will be able to meet

one on one with the candidates after the forum." The Chamber has mailed letters to each individual in Howard County who is running for office. Those who have not responded or have not received a letter are encouraged to contact ValVerde by Tuesday at 432-263-7641. "The Chamber encour-

ages everyone to get out and vote," said ValVerde. "The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce does not endorse candidates, but we do support our members and hope the candidates look at what issues our local businesses, education, agriculture and other entities are faced with at this time and what will they see in the future."

Early voting will begin April 29. Hall Center for the Arts is on the campus of Howard College, located at 1001 Birdwell Lane. The forum is being sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Herald, Howard College, KBST Radio Group and KBYG/KXCS Radio.

Twice as nice BSHS choir nets 2 sweepstakes awards at UIL regional contest

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer
 What could be better than a sweepstakes award? Why, two, of course. The Big Spring High School Choir program doubled its award-winning pleasure when the Meistersingers and Women's Varsity choirs both brought home sweepstakes honors at University Interscholastic League competition earlier this week in Midland. The choirs earned sweepstakes recognition by claiming Division I ratings (the highest possible) in both concert and sight-reading at the contest, held at Midland Lee High School. This marks the second time in three years that BSHS has earned

sweepstakes honors in choir. "I'm just very proud of the kids," said BSHS Choir Director Anna Castaneda Gann. "I'm especially proud of my seniors. They're my babies — they were freshmen when I first got here." Gann said judging was extremely tough at the UIL contest — Big Spring was one of only three programs — and the only one from a Class 3A school district — to earn sweepstakes ratings during the first day of the competition. "The judges were very complimentary of our performances," she said. "One said we looked and performed like a Class 5A choir." Senior choir member Melinda Gonzalez said the honor was



Big Spring High School Choir President Andrea Cervantez, foreground, is joined by fellow choir members (from left) Chellsie Clay, Julia Wilson, Chelsea Ramirez, Marissa Franklin, Jasmine Martinez and Melinda Gonzalez as they show off the two sweepstakes award won by the program at University Interscholastic League competition earlier in the week.

How low can you go in a blaze?

Trailer offers fire safety tips during annual health fair

By ANDREIA MEDLIN
 Staff Writer
 Get low and get out. That is the most important idea fire officials want to instill in children if they are ever trapped in a house that's on fire, according to Fire Marshal Carl Condray. The fire safety trailer was only one of many exhibits available at the Chamber of Commerce's Annual Health Fair Saturday. The Fire Safety Trailer is a 41-foot mobile structure filled with special effects and technology to teach lessons in safe and controlled conditions. Among the stations visitors can walk through include the



The fire safety trailer provided by the Big Spring Fire Department was one of many attractions available at the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce Annual Health Fair held Saturday at Garrett Colliseum. From left, Melvin Berry and his wife Carla enjoy a demonstration of theatre smoke provided by BSFD arson investigator Dan Hendrickson.

Howard County commissioners: Housing concerns top agenda

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 As interest in the expected Cline Shale oil boom continues to grow, Howard County commissioners will begin taking steps to prepare for the phenomenon during a special meeting Monday morning. The court is expected to meet in an executive session with the Austin law firm Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Rudolph John (R.J.) Knocke

Rudolph John Knocke (R.J.) was born March 23, 1926 in Hermleigh, Texas to Erna and Rudolph Knocke.

He lived his childhood in Colorado City until 17 years of age. He was active in all sports and was very popular among all of his peers. When he was 17, he moved with his family to Beeville, Texas.

In 1944, he enlisted in the Navy and served during World War II in Germany and England. He later served in the Marines Reserve.

He married Doris Hunter in October 1946 in Colorado City, Texas. She preceded him in death Dec. 18, 1999.

R.J. went to work for Shell Pipeline in 1950 in Fortson. He later moved to Big Spring and worked in Kermit, Cortez, Colo. and on offshore drilling rigs making inspections.

He was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church for many years and later worshiped at Alive In Christ Lutheran Church. He spent his last years at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home. He loved everyone and especially the gospel music concerts.

R.J. loved the Lord and his family, especially his grandsons, better known as "Konkey" to them. He was blessed with two great-grandsons, Davis and Connor, during his last years.

He is survived by one son, Richard and wife Jeanie of Big Spring; grandson, Craig and wife Sunny and their children Davis and Conner Knocke, all of Dallas; and one brother, Larry and wife Billye of Coppel, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; one son, Barry; and one sister.

Memorials may be sent to Alive In Christ Lutheran Church at 2805 Lynn Street, Big Spring, TX 79720 or Home Hospice, 111 E. 7th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

The family wants to thank Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home and employees and Home Hospice, who gave their Dad such wonderful care, love and compassion in his last days.

Private family services will be held at a later date in Mitchell County. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

Jessie Cardoso



Jessie Cardoso, 59, of Big Spring, died Thursday, April 11, 2013, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Vigil services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, April 15, 2013, at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Aug. 24, 1953 in Big Spring, Texas to Juanita and Juan T. Parra. She lived most of

her life in Big Spring, except for 20 years living in Dallas. She was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church and was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Miguel (Mike) Cardoso of Big Spring; four sisters, Rosa P. Ramirez and Ophelia P. Garcia, both of Big Spring, Estella P. Recio of Dallas and Sally P. Yanez of Big Spring; one brother, Joel Marin; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister and two brothers.

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

Ruth Graham



Ruth Graham, 70, of Big Spring, died Friday, April 12, 2013, at her residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, April 15, 2013, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Dr. Randy Cotton officiating.

The family will receive friends from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 14, 2013, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She was born Feb. 6, 1943, in Big Spring, Texas and married Bud Graham October 6, 1982, in Big Spring.

Ruth worked for the Big Spring State Hospital for more than 30 years, retiring as the purchasing manager.

Survivors include her husband, Bud Graham of Big Spring; two step-daughters, Teresa Price and husband, Bill of Mason and Sherril New of Coahoma; her mother, Neoma Clanton of Big Spring; three brothers, Billy Swafford and wife, Regina of Big Spring, Raymond Swafford of Midland and Larry Swafford and wife, Jennan of Big Spring; an uncle and four grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Barney and Nancy Echols.

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

Lillie Elizabeth Craven

Lillie Elizabeth Craven, 86, died April 12, 2013. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at the Trinity Baptist Church with Dr. Randy Cotton officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, April 15, 2012, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She is survived by one brother, Lawrence Ray Beck, of Hollis, Okla.; three daughters, Jeanetta Claudene Christopher of Lubbock, Carolyn Marlene Schalk of Grand Forks, N.D. and Patricia Jean

Hasting, of Elkmont, Ala.; two sons, Dana Lee Craven of Oxford, Ala. and Richard Dwaine Craven of Lubbock; 14 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Claude N. Craven; a son-in-law, Leonard Moody; two granddaughters, Jennifer Craven Dominguez and Cathy Craven Hickox; a great-granddaughter, Katie Beth Cope; both of her parents; and eight of her siblings.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. 04/12/2013 and 7 a.m. today:

- VIRGINIA MARTINEZ GRANADOS, 47, of 109 Pettus Road, Big Spring, was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- LAURAN ELIZABETH PARDUE, 21, of 607 Pecan, Sweetwater, was arrested Friday on a charge of disorderly conduct, noise.
- JUAN LARA, 18, OF 1302 Sycamore, Big Spring, was arrested Friday on a charge of no drivers license when unlicensed and fail to appear.
- THEODORE ESCAVADO RIOS JR., 21, of 306 NE 6th St., Big Spring, on a warrant other agency.
- MICHAEL LEE MARBEITER of 2626 Hunter Dr., Big Spring, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid previous conviction.
- KEVIN JAMES MENGES, 40, of 4209 W HWY 80, Big Spring, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while intoxicated 3rd or more and disregarding red light.
- PAUL WILLIAM TEMPLE, 30, OF 2617 Albrook Dr., Big Spring, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JASON WAYNE ENGLISH, 35, a transient of Big Spring, was arrested Friday on a charge of criminal trespass.

• SUSIE LOPEZ MAGALLANES, 30, of 1204 E 15th St., Big Spring was arrested Saturday on a warrant other agency.

• JOSE ALFREDO GOMEZ, 30, of 1404 E 15th, Big Spring was arrested Saturday on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid, no insurance.

• LAURENCE ALDEN MCDOWELL, 55, a transient of Big Spring was arrested Saturday on charges of public intoxication and theft greater than \$1500.00 but no less than \$20,000.00.

• KATYANA ALEXANDRIA CAMPBELL, 17, of 300 Tulane, Big Spring, was arrested Friday on a charge of consumption of alcohol by a minor.

• LONNIE JOHNSON, 37, of 300 Tulane, Big Spring, was arrested Friday on a charge of purchase/furnish alcohol for a minor.

• JOHN RICHARD IVERS III, 34, OF 710 N. 3rd St., Cranfills Gap, Texas, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• THEFT was reported at the 1300 block of Elm St.

• BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported at the 800 block of West FM 700.

• ASSAULT was reported at the 600 block of Bucknell Ave.

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported on the 1700 block of Purdue.

• STOLEN VEHICLE, 700 block of San Antonio.

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Sun 4/14	Mon 4/15	Tue 4/16
93/55 Sunny and windy. Hot. High 93F. Winds SW at 20 to 30 mph.	94/60 Sunshine. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the low 60s.	95/63 Sunshine. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the low 60s.
Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM



Texas At A Glance



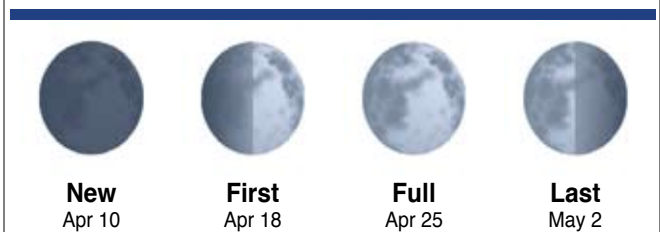
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	91	62	sunny	Kingsville	91	69	pt sunny
Amarillo	87	43	pt sunny	Livingston	83	62	pt sunny
Austin	88	64	pt sunny	Longview	81	64	pt sunny
Beaumont	80	66	pt sunny	Lubbock	89	54	sunny
Brownsville	89	70	mst sunny	Lufkin	84	64	pt sunny
Brownwood	92	62	pt sunny	Midland	92	59	sunny
Corpus Christi	86	69	pt sunny	Raymondville	91	69	mst sunny
Corsicana	82	64	pt sunny	Rosenberg	83	65	pt sunny
Dallas	84	67	pt sunny	San Antonio	89	65	pt sunny
Del Rio	95	65	pt sunny	San Marcos	89	65	pt sunny
El Paso	84	60	windy	Sulphur Springs	81	65	sunny
Fort Stockton	91	56	sunny	Sweetwater	92	60	sunny
Gainesville	81	63	sunny	Tyler	83	65	pt sunny
Greenville	80	64	pt sunny	Weatherford	84	63	pt sunny
Houston	83	66	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	86	54	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	72	57	rain	Minneapolis	47	34	mixed
Boston	54	37	pt sunny	New York	58	45	mst sunny
Chicago	70	51	rain	Phoenix	84	60	windy
Dallas	84	67	pt sunny	San Francisco	62	50	sunny
Denver	57	33	pt sunny	Seattle	52	38	pt sunny
Houston	83	66	pt sunny	St. Louis	79	57	windy
Los Angeles	65	55	mst sunny	Washington, DC	71	55	mst sunny
Miami	85	74	mst sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Sun 4/14	Mon 4/15	Tue 4/16
9	9	10
Very High	Very High	Very High

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

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GreenHouse Photography is selling our customer files!!

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- Photo Magic Studio (1984 to 1995)
- GreenHouse Photography (1995 to 2012)

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Take note

- A benefit fund for the April Martinez family, who recently lost everything in a fire, has been set up at Prosperity Bank. Donations can be made to account number 3013914734. Ms. Martinez has four children ages 5 to 12.
- Crossroads Hospice is in need of volunteers. Volunteers are the backbone of the hospice team, by bringing light and love into people's lives. For more information on joining, contact Eva Robison at 432-263-5300 or come by 421 S. Main.
- Big Spring residents, past and present, are invited to a reunion picnic on the third weekend in April. On April 19, early arrivals will meet at 11:30 a.m. at the Comanche Trail Park Old Settler's Pa-

vilion for a brown bag lunch and visiting. Around 6 p.m., participants will meet at the Wagon Wheel for burgers and more visitation. Saturday, the 20th, the reunion will move to the Eagles Lodge from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.. Entry fee to the Eagles Lodge event will be a single (more if you wish) non-perishable canned good. Proceeds to be donated to a local food bank and/or folks needing assistance. A silent auction will be going on at the lodge with donated items, proceeds to fund the group's events and assistance fund. There will be some snacks available at the lodge. However, those attending are responsible for their own meals. Bring it or come and go. It is after all a picnic.

- Howard County Master Gardeners Club busi-

ness meetings take place at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of every month at 1604 W. Fourth St., between Brown and Jones streets. The meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the county extension office at 432-264-2236.

- The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council needs assistance in The Chalet Resale Shoppe, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shoppe is a fast-paced retail shop specializing in gently worn clothing and small household appliance. Volunteers are needed to sort, price, check out and stock donated items. Volunteer hours are flexible. The Chalet is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. 432 268-7535.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

LLP of Austin, which commissioners retained in early March. According to County Judge Mark Barr, they will be looking at ways to deal with the continued growth of RV and trailer parks within the county.

"We have to find a way to regulate the housing out in the county to prepare for the challenges the Cline Shale oil boom is going to present for Howard County," Barr said. "We're not trying to inhibit anyone's ability to make money through these types of projects, but if we don't look at the regulations and what we will and won't allow, we could end up in over our heads later down the road."

Barr said the county is already seeing a staggering growth in these types of housing projects, which include RV and trailer parks.

"Just during our last regularly scheduled meeting, we had six requests for septic permits for these types of properties," Barr said. "It's not a matter of 'if they come' at this point. The oil business is coming and there are plenty of people out in the county who are looking to capitalize on it."

As the supply for housing in the oil field continues to grow, so does the demand, according to Barr.

"They fill them up just as soon as they get them open," he said. "It's certainly not slowing down. If anything, it's picking up speed. Right now, it's anyone's guess what the

total demand is going to look like once this boom gets into full swing. We'll just have to wait and see."

Barr said the agenda for Monday's meeting is worded to allow for discussion and possible action on the issues, however, he doesn't expect the commissioners court to begin voting just yet.

"We put that on the agenda just in case we found something that absolutely had to be acted on now," Barr said. "Honestly, I don't anticipate anything like that at this time. We're very much in the infancy of this issue, so we have a lot of work to do before we have anything to vote on."

The court's decision to take up the matter of housing growth due to the Cline Shale oil boom

comes a little more than a week after local officials and residents met with officials from the Eagle Ford Shale Consortium, a South Texas group which is approximately two years ahead of the local shale oil boom.

Jeff Labenz-Hough, who works for HDR Inc., a Nebraska-based architecture, engineering, consulting and construction company, said during the recent Cline Shale meeting one of the most important aspects of preparing for the oil boom in Howard County will be cooperation between the city and county regarding housing in the oil field.

"Your county and city officials have to work together to decide where these facilities will be allowed and what design standards they will

have to follow," he said. "They also have to establish the rules for the men who are going to inhabit them."

"All of this has to be planned out so the city or county can get the most out of the investments in the infrastructure. It's also very important city and county officials make sure those standards are the same for both areas, otherwise you'll just have companies building camps right outside the city limits. And we all know where those guys are going to go when they have some time off ... straight to the city."

Early estimates for the Cline Shale formation — based on Oklahoma City-based Devon Energy's exploration in the area — put the estimated recoverable reserves at 30 billion barrels of

oil. By comparison, the U.S. Geological Survey estimates the Eagle Ford holds up to 7 billion to 10 billion in recoverable reserves, while the Bakken Shale could hold as much as 4.3 billion barrels of recoverable oil.

Monday's meeting is set to begin at 9 a.m. Monday old commissioners courtroom, located on the second floor of the county courthouse. For more information, contact the county judge's office at 432-264-2244.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232.

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Reginald "Reggie" Dawson, 48, died Tuesday. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Petra Molina Leos, 87, died Wednesday. Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Jessie Cardoso, 59, died Thursday. Vigil Services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

R. J. Knocke, Jr., 87, died Monday. Private family services will be held at a later date in Mitchell County.

FAIR

Continued from Page 1A

are provided during walkthroughs of the trailer including; kitchen safety, turning pot handles in so that they don't stick out; fireplace and heater safety, keeping flammables away from heat sources; and carbon dioxide and smoke detectors.

Special effects reinforce the vital information including theater smoke which can fill the entire trailer.

"We can fill one room

of the trailer or the entire thing," explained arson investigator Dan Henderson, who was on hand to provide demonstrations. "We use it to teach kids to get low, to actually crawl on the floor to get out of a smoke-filled area."

Henderson went on to explain that the students are also taught about planning at least two safe routes to escape a burning building.

"When we demonstrate with the smoke we tell the students to meet at a safe area such as the mail box," Henderson explained.

If the second route is a window, the students are taught to break it if necessary. "We get that question a lot and most windows are not built to be opened," Henderson said. "So, we tell them that if they have a baseball or a basketball or something like that to go ahead and break the window to get out safely."

If you missed the fire safety trailer at the fair, there will be other opportunities, Condray said. "We will be trying to get to larger events as well," he noted

Other highlights at the fair were a bicycle obstacle course, The Dance Gallery dance demonstration and introductions to Zumba and Spin classes provided by the YMCA.

The goal of the fair is to gather all that information in one place and make it easily accessible to the community.

Other activities included Healthy Woman hosting its monthly event in the Howard College Cactus Room. The presentation was pro-

vided Dr. Robert Hayes, orthopedic surgeon.

Walker Nutrition provided ideas for families cooking healthy from scratch, as well as school nutrition.

Contact Staff Writer Andrea Medlin at 432-263-7331 or email life@bigspringherald.com

CHOIR

Continued from Page 1A

especially sweet considering it came during her final year in high school.

"We won sweepstakes my sophomore year ... but it really didn't mean a lot to me then," she said. "But for us to get it this year meant a lot more. This is definitely one of the highlights of my senior year."

The accomplishment also was special to senior Andrea Cervantez, who's serving as choir president this year.

"We were nervous — we were afraid we weren't go-

ing to get it this year," she said. "I think this showed that everybody cared a lot about winning sweepstakes this year."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor
Glenn Stifflemire Publisher
Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Brian McCormack Sports Editor
Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

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Enoch Sylvester Bourbon from Texas

Tony Moore has the Rocking M Ranch about 25 miles southwest of Henrietta. He built a distillery on his ranch and is now making bourbon that will be on the shelves soon. "It'll be called Enoch Sylvester," says Tony. "That was my granddaddy's name."

Tony has been in the construction business a long time and when that slowed down, he started exploring other sources of income.

"We were looking for something that is not affected by the economy and that we can enjoy doing. We wanted to have a product we could sell anywhere in the world but stay right here at home and make it. If you make a good product, they'll come out of the woodwork to get it. We are going to have a good product."

Tony, who is still in the construction business, has built his own equipment, including the building it's in.

"Both my cooker and my still are 500 gallons. We're planning to do a 500-gallon batch a day.

Once we get up and running we might double that. It takes about six or eight hours to run off a

batch."

He went to school in Arkansas and Oregon to learn how to make bourbon.

"The easiest thing about the whiskey business is making whiskey. The hardest thing is the government, the taxes and paperwork you've got to put up with. It's unreal what you have to go through to get started. Our application is probably 300 pages long."

He plans to have two products.

"We're going to make a white whiskey, which is un-aged bourbon. It's a pretty popular drink right now. Some of the big distilleries are making white whiskey.

"It'll be the same bourbon, it just won't be aged. It'll be a clear product. Instead of going into barrels, it'll go into bottles.

"Our other product is the aged bourbon. You have to put it in a barrel, put it in a barn and let it set there for two years. If it tastes good then we'll sell it and if it doesn't, we'll wait three years to sell it. We hope to have our white whiskey in stores within six months. It'll be at least two more years before our colored bourbon will be out."

The recipe for making bourbon depends on the maker.

"Bourbon is the only alcohol product that is unique to the United States. It has to be made

here. And since bourbon is only made in the United States the government sets out rules and laws you have to follow. It has to be a minimum of 51 percent corn.

"The other 49 percent can be anything you want. Ours is made with red wheat and barley. It has to be aged for a minimum of two years in new American white oak barrels. These barrels you see around here can be used only one time."

I asked Tony what he did with all those used barrels and he quickly replied, "If your profile is good and they like the flavor, Scotland will buy them. All Scotch is aged in used American bourbon barrels."

Tony calls his place the Rocking M Ranch Distillery. He can't sell his product on the premises.

"We have to sell it to a distributor, who then sells it to a liquor store or bar to offer it to the public. We're building a new visitor's center here. When you come out for a tasting, I can give you two half-ounce tastes and if you like it you'll have to go get it at a liquor store. I can't sell it to you here."

Tumbleweed Smith lives in Big Spring and produces "The Sound Of Texas" syndicated radio show. Contact him at ts@tumbleweed-smith.com.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

TO THE EDITOR

Thanks!

TO THE EDITOR:

Our "Don't Mess with Texas" trash off was a huge success, we had people working through-out the community. It was a good day, beautiful and warm.

We had 233 volunteers that we know of picking up 5.95 tons or 11,900 pounds of your trash. What a wonderful turnout, and Keep Big Spring Beautiful says "Thank you" to each and every-one participating.

We had volunteers from the Sonic, Big Spring High School, Lisa Brooks, Marvin Boyd, John Bryans, Rick and Patty Adams, Adrian Cavo, Cornerstone Church, Todd Darden, Jim and Tammy DePauw and Al Williams, Disc Golf members, Ramon Holguin, East Side Baptist, Lee and Fran Emerson, Fire Chief Ferguson, First Baptist Chapel Class, Elbow Elementary School teachers. Mikel Friedland,

GEO, Mary Grummit of Coahoma, Terry and Jan Hansen, Lorenda Harrison, Howard College, Jane Jones, Jonna Morgan, Mr. and Mrs Roffers, Kelly and Ray Seales and Airport team along with Col. Jim and Judy Little, Scout Troop 29, Janet Somer and crew, Sharon Westhoff, Lance and Terri Telchik, Heather and Ryan Williams, Tara Workman and Manual Rameriz.

We also had three

from Adopt a Highway. Our newest one, Buffalo Trail Boy Scouts, have W. Third and Fourth street from Jones street to the end. U. S. Flight Academy did their area as did the Phillip Guzman Family. Adult Probation does their area faithfully during the week.

Thanks is not quite adequate to all volunteers; it takes teamwork to make a project like this

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

Uncle Mort's 80-year marriage

Kinfolks and neighbors threw an 80th anniversary reception for my Uncle Mort and Aunt Maude the other day. It was a sunny afternoon of fretful breath-holding that violent springtime weather predicted would take a different route. And it did.

No doubt Mort had a hand in preparing invitations. They stated "no gifts expected, unless from charitable hearts without any reservation." (Yep, he arranged for these words to be in bold face type.)

Gifts and gift cards covered the kitchen table, and guests leaned back in cane-bottom chairs to hear "way back when" stories from the pair whose combined age is 200. Figuring there'd be much ado about their 80th anniversary this month, Maude kept a low profile for her 100th birthday in March. Mort, on the other hand, has several walls adorned with calendars. They are turned ahead to July, with big circles around the fourth, when he'll be 101.

Someone asked what attracted her to Mort back in 1933. Slow to answer, Maude said three occurrences prior to their marriage set the stage — a "carnival game, a tornado and Mort's freak injury."

Early in their courtship, a carnival came to town. Mort and Maude took it in. On the midway, one tent was bulging with stuffed animals of all sizes. But the big ones were gigantic — reserved for winners who knocked

down all six milk bottles.

And true baseball pitching marksmen could take a big prize home for a mere nickel — though no coins were "mere" in those days

In 20 minutes, he had emptied his pockets of all nickels, as well as several other coins exchanged for nickels. Alas, a bottle or two shook a few times, but none toppled.

Red-faced, Mort was speechless one of the few times in his life.

He was stunned and, well, uh, "mortified."

"You'd better get me home soon," Maude suggested. "It's coming up a cloud."

Her suggestion — like her life so far — was understated. Maude and Mort were safe in their respective homes moments before a storm hit with a vengeance — including a tornado that ravaged the carnival.

At daybreak, Mort was on the scene where laughter and gaiety had reigned the night before. Now, though, the carnival was unrecognizable — the Ferris wheel flattened, hobby horses untethered and Tilt-a-Whirls unhinged. The scene was a war zone. Game tents were shredded with stuffed animals ripped and scattered asunder. One of the biggest teddy bears — somehow undamaged — was snared in a low-slung mesquite tree.

Mort gingerly removed it, his mind whirling with anticipation of thankful shrieks from his true love when gifted with a giant panda. Then he glanced toward the spot where his three-dozen baseballs failed to fell a single milk bottle. There they stood, one on top of two and the two on top of three

Madder'n hops that he'd been hornswoggled by the slick-

talking pitcher, Mort gave the bottles a mighty kick. Still, they stood. Sadly, though, he injured his foot and wound up at the doctor's office. He had a fracture, but felt better when Maude arrived just before the doctor fashioned a cast.

When she spotted the teddy bear Mort salvaged from the storm, she cradled it. It was the very one she had hoped he'd win.

The doctor left the room, and Mort began his spiel about the "fixed" midway game. Maude, with her right index finger, zipped it across his lips in the same manner she has repeated many hundreds of times across the past eight decades. The "zipper" works; it shushes him. Then she gave him a big kiss — the one he had hoped for at the carnival

Mort, thankful there are worse fates than milking sympathy, invited her to join him for a Cherry Coke down at the drug store. He "crutched" slowly, the woman who would be his wife a few months later alongside to provide help if needed.

A Coke with two straws ordered, he fished in his pocket for coins. There were none, but Maude pulled a nickel from her purse to rescue him. Gathering her courage, she asked, "Mort, where did you learn to kiss like that?"

"Beats me," he answered, "Unless it was siphoning gasoline out of the tractor."...

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



DR. DON NEWBURY

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 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.

- 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 e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

DAILY PRAYER

Let us rejoice in Your Holy name, our Father.
Forever and ever.

Amen

Source: Immigration bill could exclude many

WASHINGTON (AP) — A promised path to citizenship for the 11 million immigrants in the U.S. illegally may leave out hundreds of thousands of them.

Bipartisan Senate legislation would make legalization and ultimately citizenship available only to those who arrived in the U.S. before Dec. 31, 2011, according to a Senate aide with knowledge of the proposals. Anyone who came after that date would be subject to deportation.

The bill, expected to be introduced next week, also would require applicants to document that they were in the country before the cutoff date, have a clean criminal record and show enough employment or financial stability that they're likely to stay off welfare, said the aide, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the proposals had not been made public.

Although illegal immigration to the U.S. has been dropping, tens of thousands of people still arrive annually, so the cutoff date alone could exclude a large number of people. The aide said hundreds of thousands could be excluded overall. That came as a disappointment to immigrant rights groups that had been hoping that anyone here as of the date of enactment of the bill could be able to become eligible for citizenship. "The goal is to deal with the

The legislation would put millions here illegally on a 13-year path to citizenship, while also toughening border security requirements, mandating that all employers check the legal status of workers, and allowing tens of thousands of new high- and low-skilled workers into the country with new visa programs. The legislation is expected to include a new emphasis on merit-based immigration over family ties.

11 million folks who are here without status, and the wider road that we can create for them to get on that path that they can ultimately get residency and citizenship, the better," Angela Kelley, vice president for immigration policy at the liberal Center for American Progress, said Friday. "A cutoff date that lops off all of 2012 and whatever part of 2013, that's going to be at least a couple hundred thousand people. It's not ideal."

But Republicans in the eight-member immigration negotiating group have sought strict criteria on legal enforcement and border security as the price for their support for a path to citizenship, which is still opposed by some as amnesty. The aide said that Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., who's working to sell the plan to the right, pushed Democrats in the group for an even earlier cutoff date, while the Democrats proposed Jan. 1, 2013. The date negotiators

settled on was a compromise but also an outcome Rubio can tout to conservatives.

Indeed Rubio's chief of staff, Cesar Conda, took to Twitter this week to describe the bill as tough on illegal immigration.

"Freezes illegal population. No special pathway. No amnesty," Conda wrote. "Registration for provisional status will not be open-ended and there will be a physical presence requirement barring recent arrivals."

Rubio is to appear on all five network and cable talk shows this Sunday — as well as Univision and Telemundo — to discuss the legislation. Negotiators are aiming to introduce the bill on Tuesday. Details on the criminal record requirement were still being finalized, but anyone with a felony conviction was likely to be ineligible, the aide said.

It's impossible to know exactly how many immigrants have arrived illegally in the U.S. since Dec. 31, 2011, be-

cause such statistics aren't collected and the numbers that have been developed aren't that recent, according to Jeffrey Passel, a senior demographer at the Pew Hispanic Center. One study found that some 384,000 immigrants entered illegally in 2009.

Despite their concerns over the cutoff date, immigration advocates emphasized they intend to evaluate the bill in totality and still expect to find much to like. Kelley and others also pointed out that the last time the U.S. enacted a major legalization program — with legislation signed by President Ronald Reagan in 1986 that legalized close to 3 million people — it included a cutoff date of four years prior to enactment.

So by comparison, the proposal in the expected new bill looks good.

Advocates also will be looking to see how much will be charged to immigrants here illegally in fees and fines be-

fore they can become citizens and what other requirements are imposed, such as English proficiency.

The legislation would put millions here illegally on a 13-year path to citizenship, while also toughening border security requirements, mandating that all employers check the legal status of workers, and allowing tens of thousands of new high- and low-skilled workers into the country with new visa programs. The legislation is expected to include a new emphasis on merit-based immigration over family ties.

Also Friday agriculture growers and the United Farm Workers gave their formal approval to a hard-fought deal finalizing one of the new visa programs, for agriculture workers. Tom Nassif, president of the Western Growers Association, said the deal would allow up to 337,000 workers into the country through 2021 to labor in the nation's fields and farms. After 2021, the agriculture secretary would set numbers of visas.

The deal also establishes minimum wage rates across different agriculture occupations and allows farm workers already in the country illegally to obtain permanent resident green cards in as little as three years, as long as they work 150 days a year in agriculture, Nassif said.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

a success. There were those doing the registering and passing out trash bags. Guss Leonardi and Sheila Abusaab did a great job. Then there were those made arrangements for the hot dog feed — Bobby McDonald and Walter Ward were at the helm and everything ran smoothly. They used a real spiffy party trailer, which made the operation easier. Walter was there with the chef's hat on roasting the frankfurters and keeping the chili stirred along with Guss Leonardi assisting in serving. Great job!

Those donating food included Wal-Mart, Alon, H-E-B, Bargain Mart and Sonic.

Gloria McDonald was out taking pictures, which is a vital part of our report to Keep Texas Beautiful. There are those behind the scenes who help making a difference, Teresa Darden, Debbie Wegman and Jan Hansen were all over the place. This is your KBSB board in action.

I have to share with you a funny and it shows our police department is doing its job. Seems like our new chairman, Jim DePauw, was out throwing out bottles marked for prizes and was stopped by the police and he had some explaining to do about trashing our city! Thanks to our police department, so be aware as you think about throwing something from your car. I hope they are just around the corner to catch you.

Bobby McDonald made sure everyone registered for the drawing for prizes offered from the bottles brought in along with a trash bag full. Only four of those were found so they made sure the rest of the prizes were given out that day. Those sponsors of the prizes were the city of Big Spring, passes to the McEwen Water Park, I-Tune cards from Wal-Mart and Sonic gave tickets for cherry lime drinks. I think everyone attending received some type of gift.

Tuesday evening I think our efforts

were impacted somewhat, or perhaps just a rearrangement. About 6:15 p.m. Mother Nature came in with full force wind and sand blowing everything everywhere, our neighbors across the street's trash barrel landed in our front yard.

For those who didn't participate, just think of the fun time you missed! Maybe next time you will consider joining us. With everyone's help we can turn our city around.

How does your property look? Would it get the beauty award, or the ugly award?

Until later!

PAT SIMMONS
BIG SPRING

This is trash!

TO THE EDITOR:

We have lived here for a year now. We have a roll out trash can. At first, the trash pick up days were Mondays and Thursdays. For the first three months, they came as scheduled. After that, their pick ups were sporadic at best, and at one point we went better than 10 days without trash pickup.

The trash was blowing everywhere, not to mention the smell. Also, there is a pasture right behind me and we hear coyotes quite often.

I was informed this morning by the trash department that people with roll out trash cans will now be getting a pick up only once a week. While this may work for some, it will not work for most families. There are four of us in the household, with one being an 18-month-old still in diapers.

To have a trash can that is running over not only smells, but it attracts undesirable wildlife, not to mention stray dogs and cats. It is also not pleasant to look at.

I haven't noticed our garbage pick up fee dropping by half, yet our trash is only going to get picked up half as often.

I would like to know what is going to be done to remedy this situation.

RHONDA KATES
BIG SPRING

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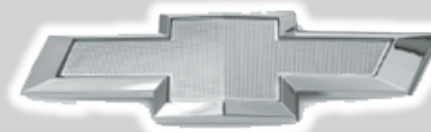


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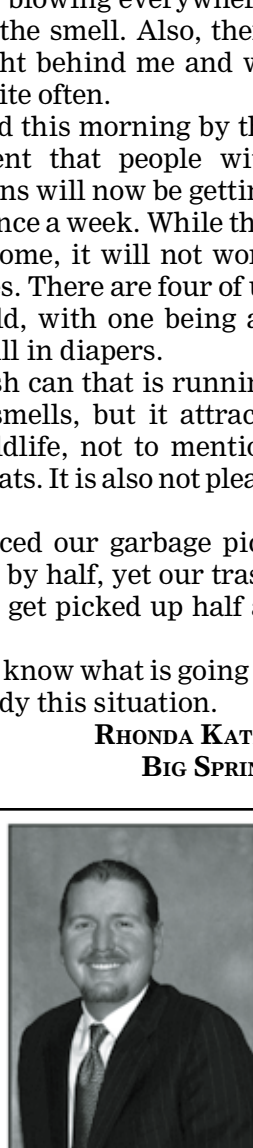
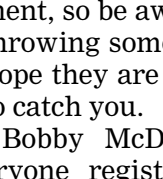
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News in brief

Moderate Senate Democrats facing re-election in 2014 under intense scrutiny in gun debate

WASHINGTON(AP)—President Barack Obama's push for tougher gun measures and expanded background checks has placed several moderate Senate Democrats facing re-election next year in a bind, forcing them to take sides on a deeply personal issue for rural voters.

The choice: Either they stick with Obama and gun control advocates — and give an opening to campaign challengers and the National Rifle Association to assail them — or they stand with conservative and moderate gun owners back home worried about a possible infringement on their rights.

Five Senate Democrats — Mark Begich of Alaska, Mark Pryor of Arkansas, Mary Landrieu of Louisiana, Max Baucus of Montana and Kay Hagan of North Carolina — are seeking another term in states carried by Republican Mitt Romney last fall. For the next few weeks, at least, the spotlight will be on how they maneuver as the Senate debates gun-control legislation pushed by Democrats in re-

sponse to the deadly Newtown, Conn., elementary school shooting.

Two other GOP-leaning states with large numbers of gun owners — West Virginia and South Dakota — will have open seats following Democratic retirements. Republicans have placed many of these states at the top of their priority lists as they try to gain six seats to win back the Senate majority.

Debate begins next week on Senate legislation that would require nearly all gun buyers to submit to background checks, toughen federal laws banning illicit firearms sales and provide more money for school safety measures. The background checks are viewed by gun control advocates as the best step to prevent criminals and the mentally ill from accessing weapons. The NRA has opposed the expansion of background checks, saying it could lead to federal registries of gun owners. It has sought better enforcement of existing laws, which it contends is too easy for criminals to circumvent.

How much more would upper-income seniors pay for premiums under Obama's budget?

WASHINGTON(AP)—President Barack Obama's plan to raise Medicare premiums for upper-income seniors would create five new income brackets to squeeze more revenue for the government from the top tiers of retirees, the administration revealed Friday.

First details of the plan emerged after Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius testified to Congress on the president's budget. As released two days earlier, the budget included only a vague description of a controversial proposal that has grown more ambitious since Obama last floated it.

"Means testing" has been part of Medicare since the George W. Bush administration, but ramping it up is bound to stir controversy. Republicans are intrigued, but most Democrats don't like the idea.

The plan itself is complicated. The bottom line is not: more money for the government.

Obama's new budget calls for raising \$50 billion over 10 years by increasing monthly "income-related" premiums for outpatient and prescription drug coverage. The comparable number last year was

\$28 billion over the decade.

US looks for China to deliver on North Korea, a strategy with uneven record

BEIJING (AP) — As North Korea prepares a potential missile test and issues threats almost daily, the Obama administration on Saturday looked again for China to force its unruly neighbor to stand down.

It's a strategy that has produced uneven results over decades of American diplomacy, during which Pyongyang has developed and tested nuclear weapons and repeatedly imperiled peace on the Korean peninsula.

But with only the counterthreat of overwhelming force to offer the North Koreans, the U.S. has little choice but to rely on Beijing to de-escalate tensions in a peaceful manner.

The question of how Washington can persuade Beijing to exert real pressure on Korean leader Kim Jong Un's unpredictable regime is front and center as U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry conducts a series of meetings with Chinese leaders in Beijing.

Kerry told Chinese President Xi Jinping that he looked forward to discussing the situation on the Korean peninsula with him.

Family lawyer: Calif. girl who killed herself was friends with boys who allegedly abused her

SARATOGA, Calif. (AP) — The parents of a 15-year-old California girl who took her own life after she was sexually abused and an explicit photo of the assault circulated among her classmates want the three boys who have been arrested in the case prosecuted as adults, a lawyer for the family says.

Authorities arrested the three 16-year-olds on suspicion of sexual battery against Audrie Pott, a Saratoga High School sophomore who hanged herself in September. The arrests this week shocked many in this prosperous Silicon Valley suburb of 30,000 as new details of the case emerged.

"We're talking about, other than murdering someone, the highest degree of a crime you could possibly do, which is to violate them in the worst of ways...and then to effectively rub her face in it afterwards," Robert Allard, the attorney representing the teenager's mother, father and step-mother, said Friday.

But lawyers for the three boys, whose names have not been released because they are minors, released a statement Friday asking the public to withhold judgment until their clients can give their side of the story, the San Jose Mercury News reported.

"Much of what has been reported over the last several days is inaccurate. Most disturbing is the attempt to link (Audrie's) suicide to the specific actions of these three boys," the statement from San Jose attorneys Eric Geffon, Alan Lagod and Benjamin Williams reads.

Pope faces tough decisions as Vatican reforms loom; style and record suggest he'll go it alone

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis has spent much of his first month as pope charming ordinary Catholics with his ordinary yet extraordinary papal ways and making clear he is very much the boss when it comes to decisions as small as the shoes he wears to where he rests his head at night.

In the coming months, he'll face decisions of far greater import as he responds to demands from cardinals in far-flung dioceses and Vatican officials at home for an overhaul of the Holy See bureaucracy, the dysfunctional family business he inherited one month ago Saturday.

Given Francis' governing style and track record, it's likely he'll make these choices with an eye to efficiency, and very much alone.

Prelates are demanding term limits on Vatican jobs to prevent priests from becoming career bureaucrats. They want consolidated financial reports to remove the cloak of secrecy from the Vatican's murky finances. And they want regular Cabinet meetings where department heads actually talk to one another to make the Vatican a help to the church's evangelizing mission, not a hindrance.

Sudoku Answer Page 11A

sudoku

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

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Anti-Percentage Play

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ Q 6 3
♥ Q 9 8 3
♦ A J 7
♣ K 6 4

WEST
♠ 9 8 7 2
♥ 4
♦ 9 8 5 3
♣ Q 8 7 5

EAST
♠ A K J 5
♥ 7 6 2
♦ K 6 2
♣ 10 3 2

SOUTH
♠ 10 4
♥ A K J 10 5
♦ Q 10 4
♣ A J 9

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1♥ Pass 3♥
Pass 4♥

Opening lead — nine of spades.

There are times when a player must abandon the so-called percentage play because his common sense tells him that the play favored by the percentages cannot succeed.

For example, take this deal where South gets to four hearts on the bidding shown and West leads the nine of spades. East wins with the jack and plays the A-K of spades. Declarer ruffs with the ten and draws trumps, ending in his hand.

South next leads the ten of diamonds, losing the finesse to East's king. Back comes a diamond, declarer taking the ace and then the queen.

South is now at the crucial stage of the play. He has lost three tricks, so he cannot afford to lose a club trick. If he follows the standard approach of leading the nine of clubs to the king and then finesses the jack, he winds up down one.

But if South is alive to the situation, as he should be, he rejects this line of play. He remembers that East passed originally and has already shown up with the A-K-J of spades and the king of diamonds. East therefore cannot have the queen of clubs, since he surely would have opened the bidding had he held that card as well.

So declarer credits West with the club queen and adjusts his play accordingly. He leads the jack of clubs at trick ten, planning to let the jack ride if West follows low. If West covers the jack with the queen, declarer wins with dummy's king, returns a club, finesses the nine and so makes the contract. True, South has to be lucky to find East with the ten of clubs, but this is manufactured rather than random good luck.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

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Too much testing?

Texas rethinking standardized exams, curriculum standards

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The federal No Child Left Behind law was born in Texas, and billionaire Ross Perot first rallied big business to support tougher standardized testing and high school graduation standards here nearly three decades ago.

But the state now appears ready to step back from the strenuous accountability policies it has long been a national leader in championing, amid fears that youngsters are being forced to take too many high-stakes tests and that too many might drop out because of higher expectations.

A number of other states are also considering pulling back.

The Texas House has approved 145-2 an education overhaul that cuts the number of high school standardized tests in core subjects from 15 to five. It also creates a base high school diploma that doesn't require Algebra II or high-level math and science courses. A similar bill is pending in the Senate.

"Parents, students, business groups, professional education administrators, school boards, everybody's onboard with this," said the House measure's sponsor, Republican Jimmie Don Aycock, chairman of the chamber's Public Education Committee.

In particular, algebra II should no longer be treated as the "holy grail" of education, said Republican Sen. Dan Patrick, chairman of the Senate Education Committee.

How to measure schools' effectiveness and hold students accountable has become an almost unresolvable question in some states, coming up again and again for reconsideration.

After rounds of raising standards and requiring tests, some legislatures

are now swinging back in the other direction.

"Texas may be rolling backward too fast," said Chester Finn, president of the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, a conservative education think tank in Washington. He fears many school districts will only offer enough courses to meet the new minimum degree standards, thus dropping high-level science and math.

"I am not worried about the kids in the fancy suburbs," Finn said. "It's kids in little, rural districts and the lesser schools in tough neighborhoods in big cities who are going to find that the school doesn't offer the courses because they don't really count."

The qualms are being felt in both conservative states and progressive ones.

But exacerbating matters are the Common Core standards, national benchmarks in reading and math promoted by the Obama administration and designed to enhance critical thinking. They have been adopted by 45 states.

Washington state's superintendent of schools, Randy Dorn, has publicly worried that the testing has gone too far, with the class of 2015 now required to pass five high school exit exams. In North Carolina, legislators have scaled back the number of tests and the number of days students spend taking them.

Oklahoma's Legislature was roiled when it was discovered that hundreds of students wouldn't graduate because of their scores on the state's new high school exit exam.

Efforts to overturn the requirements failed after an emotional debate. Alabama is also fighting over its Common Core standards, with Gov. Robert Bentley and other top Republicans

pushing for repeal while a key business lobby fights to keep them.

Michael Cohen, president of the Washington-based nonprofit Achieve, said that in Texas, though, "it appears to me that there is a more substantial retreat."

Texas first introduced a school accountability system in 1993, but the movement dates to 1984 when future presidential hopeful Perot headed a state Select Committee on Education that campaigned for tougher graduation standards. George W. Bush, as governor, made student performance on statewide tests a centerpiece of No Child Left Behind, which was passed into federal law in 2002 during his presidency.

But when the Obama administration began championing the Common Core standards, Texas lawmakers complained that their state requirements were already strenuous enough, especially after the high school testing regimen was increased to 15 tests in 2009.

In the past school year, 47 percent of ninth graders failed at least one test, prompting a backlash.

Fernando Godinez, a sophomore from Waelder near Texas' Gulf Coast, said he wants to be the first in his family to graduate from high school, but that the battery of tests is intimidating.

As he tried to get ready for each, "It was just a matter of time before I stared down at my desk, frustrated and confused," Godinez said. Even though his grades are good, he said he's worried the tests could keep him from going to college.

Susan Kellner, a mom and former school board president from Houston, said it's time to "properly align testing with reality."

News in brief

Perry guarded about GOP's \$6B Rainy Day Fund plan

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry kept guarded Friday about a new Senate GOP proposal to spend half of the state's \$12 billion Rainy Day Fund on water and highway projects, but remained unequivocal that the money should not be used to restore spending cuts to public schools.

"We've got a substantial surplus in our state budget before you get into the Rainy Day Fund," Perry said. "The dollars for education are there in our regular general revenue."

That stance is not surprising from Perry, who has long refused to tap the stockpile of emergency cash reserves for recurring expenses. But it drew a fresh line in the sand a day after Democrats seized on a sudden willingness by Senate Republicans to crack open a fund long-protected by state GOP leaders as fiscally — and politically — sacred.

The Senate plan would take \$2.5 billion from the Rainy Day Fund to shore up the state's water supply. It also throws \$3.5 billion at a crumbling and congested Texas highway system, which is increasingly buckling under the strain of roughly 1,000 new residents a day.

Yet that \$6 billion price tag far exceeds what Perry had in mind in January, when he called for taking \$3.7 billion from the fund and divvying that for both water and roads.

Following an appearance at a transportation summit in Austin, Perry said Friday he was "open to their ideas" when asked if he was now comfortable with cutting the Rainy Day Fund balance in half.

North Texas man charged with 'terroristic threat'

KAUFMAN, Texas (AP) — The former justice of the peace in Kaufman County was charged with making a "terroristic threat," authorities said Saturday.

Eric Williams was admitted to the Kaufman County Jail early Saturday morning, jail records show. He is scheduled to go in front of a judge Saturday morning, a Kaufman County Jail spokesperson said.

Federal and local authorities had searched Williams' home on Friday as part of an investigation into the deaths of District Attorney Mike McLelland and his wife, Cynthia, whose bodies were found March 30 in their home. In late January, assistant DA Mark Hasse was fatally shot as he was leaving work in Kaufman, about 30 miles southeast of Dallas.

Williams, 46, hasn't been named a suspect in any of the deaths.

The district attorney's office prosecuted and convicted Williams last year for theft. He lost his justice of the peace position as a result.

Spokesmen for the FBI and the Kaufman County Sheriff's Office confirmed Friday they were executing a search warrant but declined to provide details. The warrant's underlying affidavit has been ordered sealed by a judge, said sheriff's Lt. Justin Lewis.

Driver in Texas bus wreck also drove in '98 crash

DALLAS (AP) — The driver of a bus that swerved off a North Texas highway, leaving two passengers dead and dozens injured, was at the wheel in another fatal accident 15 years ago, but an official Friday downplayed the importance of the earlier accident to the pending investigation.

The Texas Department of Public Safety confirmed that Loyd Rieve, 65, was driving the tour bus Thursday that veered across the highway in Irving and into the center median with 46 passengers aboard.

The bus was operated by a Mansfield company, Cardinal Coach Line Inc. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the cause of the crash, which occurred as the group of seniors was heading to an Oklahoma casino.

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 Center located at 1300 S. Gregg St.
 Open House to follow until noon.

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Cattlegirl left a legacy of helping children

By MIKE BAIRD

Corpus Christi Caller-Times
CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — Cattlegirl and philanthropist Clara Driscoll never had children.

Yet in her twilight, she yearned to help South Texas children afflicted with polio and stricken with tuberculosis — those being turned away from hospitals with few treatment options.

Driscoll traveled the world, helped to preserve the Alamo, wrote plays performed in New York and mingled in national political circles.

But her lasting legacy is measured in fulfilling a vision that has served hundreds of thousands of children too frail or stricken to otherwise survive.

Several thousand people gathered in front of a two-story 25-bed Driscoll Foundation Children's Hospital for its dedication on the rainy afternoon of Feb. 23, 1953. The sun peeked through several times during the ceremony, but not enough to relieve the chill of steadfast attendees, according to Caller-Times archives. Foundation trustee Dr.

McIver Furman introduced the first medical director, Dr. Fred Howard, who likened the site to a newborn.

"The prenatal period was good," Howard said to a shivering audience, "the natal period excellent, and we expect this child to be a center of public interest as it grows ..."

Tours through hospital corridors continued into the evening, and Howard's prediction proved accurate.

The independent hospital has been a beacon for indigent South Texas children for 60 years, and has grown to an eight-story twin glass-front tower structure featuring 189 beds. Many firsts have been marked, including organ transplantation and cochlear implants, while high-tech imaging equipment has become a standard.

The name was honed to Driscoll Children's Hospital in 1991.

The hospital is now a tertiary care regional referral center with 1,800 employees serving 31 South Texas counties, with clinics from Victoria to Brownsville and multiple aircraft to transport children in

critical condition. More than 70,000 of them are treated annually, about half needing emergency services. Hospital officials announced last week a \$12 million expansion of its emergency department and front lobby to more efficiently serve growing response needs.

In her later years, Furman, Driscoll's personal physician, encouraged her provision for children's specialty care, said Anita Eisenhauer, a member of the Clara Driscoll Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and president of the Nueces County Historical Commission.

When Driscoll died in 1945, her will provided a charitable trust named in honor of her parents and brother — the Robert and Julia Driscoll and Robert Driscoll Jr. Foundation. Her will directed that the foundation use her \$5 million estate: "... for the construction, equipment, and operation of a free clinic and hospital for crippled, maimed or diseased children, with all necessary and desirable appurtenances, supplies, and professional medical atten-

tion as may be practicable under the circumstances ..."

Building the hospital required the bulk of Driscoll's estate, said Nueces County Judge Loyd Neal, longtime trustee and hospital board chairman since 2005.

Within the first three months, more than 4,000 children were seen, and by the end of the first year a physical therapy department opened for those with polio and other physical disabilities.

By 1955 a \$37,300 grant from the Ford Foundation helped add a cardiac catheterization lab, contributing to the hospital's first full accreditation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. The first heart catheterization occurred in 1960.

Within a decade, an American Medical Association-approved pediatric residency program was active and a third floor had been built. Following completion of a pediatric intensive care unit, the first open-heart surgery was performed in 1967 — thanks to the help of local veterinarians.

Members of the Coastal

Bend Veterinary Medical Association worked with surgeons to anesthetize dogs to achieve perfection before attempting the procedure on children, according to a 1967 Caller-Times article.

Among dozens of gifts from community and regional medical organizations, the American Heart Association provided \$6,000 for a Pemco Heart Pump to help keep children alive during surgeries.

That year nine youngsters with congenital heart defects — five girls and four boys ages 7 to 15 — faced brighter futures after successful repairs. About 140 children were considered for surgeries by year's end.

Growth continued with kidney specialties established in the early 1970s, and cancer treatments a decade later. In 1987 the hospital opened a seven-story patient care tower and became the first in South Texas to exclusively provide emergency services for children. A decade later an eighth floor was added and the foundation began leasing space for clinics in Harlingen, Laredo and Victoria.

Crossword Answer on Page 11A

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Brad Wilber
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Drinks favored by Hemingway
 - 8 Music icon knighted in 2003
 - 14 Explanatory tool
 - 15 Literally, "little grapes"
 - 16 Ends, often
 - 18 Comeback
 - 19 Bar designation: Abbr.
 - 20 Rough housing
 - 22 Pinch hitter's hope
 - 23 Mug
 - 25 Something worn on a hood
 - 28 Fudge alternative
 - 29 Defeat overwhelmingly
 - 30 Jordan's only seaport
 - 31 Romeo or Juliet
 - 33 *Rugrats* dad
 - 34 Purchase before going to court
 - 35 Dictionary directive
 - 39 Attendance bk. notation
 - 40 '97 film with the tagline "Coming soon. Honest."
 - 41 Tribe in the *Little House* ... books
 - 44 Jazz duo in Vancouver
 - 45 Woody Guthrie, notably
 - 46 Blackballed
 - 48 Belgian *chanson* master
 - 49 Caper film narrator, often
 - 50 *Sesame Street* shopkeeper
 - 52 Obedience school no-no
 - 54 Carthaginian, e.g.
 - 57 Warning heading

- 59 Chain on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge
 - 60 Begins to dig
 - 61 Certain farmer
 - 62 Part of a Mountie uniform
- DOWN**
- 1 Game-ending word
 - 2 Racking up charges
 - 3 Intricate fabric pattern
 - 4 Character
 - 5 Exactions
 - 6 ___ delta (Concorde wing shape)
 - 7 Tom Cruise's birthplace
 - 8 One taking up charges
 - 9 Ancient salutation
 - 10 Word before check or course
 - 11 Mass movement
 - 12 Thing secured with a post
 - 13 Only externally visible part of the central nervous system
 - 17 Sound betraying boredom
 - 21 Cause headaches for
 - 24 Boxer's destination
 - 26 Any of 26 in 1959-60 prime time
 - 27 Wretchedness
 - 28 Nielsen Ratings data category
 - 29 Nancy Drew sidekick
 - 32 Honor for four presidents
 - 33 High ___
 - 35 Some poker accumulations
 - 36 Good representation
 - 37 Dress down
 - 38 Silicon Forest loc.
 - 40 Dud
 - 41 Showed more patience than
 - 42 Hiding place revealer, maybe
 - 43 Wheeler's refrain
 - 44 Chaotic scene
 - 47 ___ cold
 - 48 Bumper sticker verb
 - 51 ___ *second* (trance, in France)
 - 53 Menial
 - 55 "Traditional" plan
 - 56 Rorschach card complement
 - 58 Impetus for Foggy's journey

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Science prodigy mentors youngsters

By JESSAMY BROWN
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH, Texas — When Dominic J. Yurk was in kindergarten, his classmates were learning the alphabet but he could already read 100-page books and multiply numbers.

He went on to skip first and fifth grade, entering Paschal High School at age 12, and racking up titles and awards in science competitions across Texas. Now a 16-year-old senior, Dominic plans to attend the California Institute of Technology in the fall to study computer science and physics. He is ranked sixth in his graduating class.

And in addition to his own academic achievement, Dominic enjoys mentoring other students in the hope of sparking the same love of learning, he said.

"Throughout high school, I have pursued my passion to better my schools in return for the opportunities they have given me," he told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "My goal is not only to mentor and excite younger students, but to create a culture of mentorship such that those students will support others in the future."

When Dominic ar-

rived at Paschal High, the science club had a handful of members, who didn't always make it to meetings.

The club's teacher sponsor, Andrew Brinker, credits Dominic with introducing the club to several high-level competitions to challenge members.

Now the club's president, Dominic teaches his peers in physics, chemistry and biology. Last week, he stood at a classroom Promethean board, writing out symbols, numbers and equations to help prepare the team for the upcoming Physics Bowl competition.

A Paschal team led by Dominic is headed to Washington, D.C., this month after winning the right to compete in the U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl.

Teens answer questions about math and science in a style similar to the TV game show Jeopardy!

In individual competition in February, Dominic took first place in the physics and astronomy division at the Fort Worth Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

His project, called "Problem Solving with Chaos," included research on how to improve a machine called a tokamak.

In March, he was named second place, grand champion, at the Exxon Mobil Texas State Science and Engineering Fair in San Antonio for the chaos theory project. He advances to an international competition in Phoenix in May.

Last month, he had the highest score in Texas at a University Interscholastic League district science competition and was one question away from a perfect score, Brinker said.

And for the third straight year, he is the state champion in physics in the Texas Math and Science Coaches Association's state science competition.

People who know Dominic say he is equally comfortable working alongside scholars, interacting with older classmates and tutoring students who are struggling with basic math and science.

As a freshman, Dominic launched a mentoring program at McLean Middle School, teaching students about science and engineering in the Future City program, in which students design and build a model city and present it to judges. As a McLean student, his team took fifth place in the 2009 national finals in Washington, D.C.

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Hawks earn split with El Paso



By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**
Sports Editor

El Paso Community College is in town for a four-game stint against Howard College, which began Friday with a split. The Tejanos edged the Hawks for a 9-8 victory in the first game, but HC roared back to pound EPCC 9-1 in the nightcap.

Game One was tied at four when in the top of the fourth inning, a single and an error charged to HC relief pitcher Hunter Wood, a bunt and a bearded batter led to a bases loaded situation for the Tejanos. A two-run double, a two-run single and a wild pitch translated into a five-run inning by El Paso which left the Hawks in a hole.

A lead-off triple by Josh Ake, followed by a sacrifice fly by Cameron Neal made it a 9-5 game, but that would be all the Hawks could produce until the fifth inning.

Levi Scott singled to start the bottom of the fifth, then Michael Resnick smashed a two-run homer, cutting the Tejanos' lead to two. Omar Garcia struck out, Jose Favela was hit by a pitch, but a flyout by Ake ended the Hawks' rally.

Wood — who has been pretty solid in HC Head Coach Britt Smith in his first year on the mound for the Hawks — was pulled after his shaky outing in the top of the fourth. He

HERALD photo/Tony Claxton/visit www.claxtonphotography.com

Howard College's Michael Resnick smacks a home run during Game One of Friday's doubleheader against El Paso Community College at Jack Barber Field. The Hawks lost the first outing 9-8, but took the nightcap by a score of 9-1.

See **HAWKS**, Page 10A

Steers, Lady Steers defeated by Sweetwater squads

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**
Sports Editor

SWEETWATER — In order to win a district championship or at least claim the No. 2 seed in the playoffs, Big Spring Head Baseball Coach Bert Otto knew avenging a run-rule loss Sweetwater laid on the Steers earlier in the season would help pave the way for that goal.

For a while, it looked like the Steers (4-3) had the Mustangs where they wanted them, but an erroneous inning and multiple runners left on base proved to be too much, as Big Spring lost 8-4 Friday at Sportsmen's Park.

"It was just one of those innings nothing would go right for us," Otto

said. "And Sweetwater is an extremely good team this year. They're legit. It's a tough district, but if you get to the playoffs, you never know what can happen."

Jarred DoPorto hit a two-out double in the top of the second inning, then Brett Broman singled him home to tie the game at one. Hunter Hill connected for a base hit, but the inning ended with two BSHS base runners stranded.

In the top of the third, the Steers took a 3-1 lead when Karsten Knudson and Haegan Rodriguez recorded back-to-back singles then pulled off a double steal of second and third bases during Gunnar Kennedy's at-bat. Kennedy would walk to load the bases, setting up cleanup hitter Max Pappajohn for

a sacrifice fly. DoPorto picked up a base hit to score Rodriguez.

In the bottom of the fourth, the Mustangs took advantage of BSHS errors. An infield hit, two doubles, a hit batsmen a passed ball and a wild pitch led to a five-run inning for Sweetwater.

The Steers were retired in order for the second consecutive time in the top of the fifth, but held the Mustangs scoreless in the bottom half of the inning.

It looked like Big Spring might stage a rally in top of the sixth when Joseph Morelion got a base hit, sparking the offense for the Steers. DoPorto reached on a pitcher's choice, then Broman was issued a walk, but the next two batters — Hill and Matthew Yanez —

recorded the final outs, leaving two runners on the bags.

Two sacrifice flies accounted for two more runs by Sweetwater in the bottom of the sixth, extending its lead to 8-3.

In the Steers' last at-bats, Knudson connected for a single, but was thrown out at second base when he tried to stretch it into a double. Rodriguez got a base hit, then Kennedy legged out an infield single, but Pappajohn — who leads the district with seven home runs — was fanned for the second out. Rodriguez was caught in a rundown between second and third during a steal attempt and the Mustang second basemen

See **ROUNDUP**, Page 10A

HC Rodeo winds down

HERALD photo/Tony Claxton
Howard College team roper Levi Moleworth (right), shows off his skill during the HC rodeo Friday. The yearly event wrapped up at the Rodeo Bowl Saturday evening.



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HERALD photo/Andreia Medlin

San Angelo native Steve Orphin tees off during Saturday's West Texas Champions disc golf tournament at Comanche Trail Park. At least 120 participants made the trek from as far as Colorado to compete in the yearly, Profession Disc Golf Association sanctioned tourney.

Yanks turn rare triple play to beat Orioles

NEW YORK (AP) — They've heard the "Who's on first jokes?" They've barely played together as a group. Still, there they were, the Yankees infield high-fiving and smiling after having turned a most improbable triple play.

"That was awesome," injured first baseman Mark Teixeira said Friday night after the Yankees' 5-2 victory over the Baltimore Orioles. "That's one of the toughest triple plays you'll ever see."

And how. For those scoring at home, mark it as a 4-6-5-6-5-3-4 in

your books.

Put names to the numbers and it won't be Derek Jeter at shortstop, Alex Rodriguez at third base or Teixeira at first. Jayson Nix, filling in for the fill-in shortstop, Kevin Youkilis at third base and Lyle Overbay on first completed the Yankees' first triple play in the Bronx in 45 years.

Baltimore started with singles by Alexi Casilla and Nick Markakis off CC Sabathia. Manny Machado then hit a sharp low liner that Robinson Cano caught

on a short hop near second base. Cano threw to Nix, who entered in the third for Eduardo Nunez, at second for the forceout.

Casilla, thinking the ball was going to be caught by Cano, got trapped in a rundown between second and third base.

Youkilis tagged Casilla and made a quick throw to Overbay when Machado ranged too far off the bag. Overbay then made an awkward throw to Cano, who tagged Machado, setting off a celebration.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 9A

had relieved Tommy Burns (5-1) who received his first loss of the season. From the bullpen, Smith tapped Diego Rodriguez, who didn't allow a run for the remainder of the affair.

The rest of the Hawks' woes came from a lack of offense, as HC couldn't plate a run in the sixth inning.

In their final at-bats, Resnick reached first on an error to put a base runner on with no outs. Nick Bullington reached first on a fielder's choice, then Favela reached in the

same fashion, allowing Dane Steinhagen — who was pinch running for Resnick — to score, making it a one run game.

Down to its final out, Howard College couldn't get the tying run home.

The second game went better for the Hawks (13-9, 23-16), as they shelled the Tejanos (11-29) to earn a much-needed win.

The four-game series wrapped up Saturday. Results will be in Monday's edition of the Herald.

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

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 9A

threw the ball into the dugout, allowing Rodriguez to score another run for Big Spring.

A chopper hit to the pitcher led to Morelion being thrown out at first to end the game.

The loss will certainly

ly have playoff implications, but to what extent is not known. Otto believes a win over Greenwood on Tuesday should be enough to guarantee the Steers at least a third seed placing in the postseason.

"We're still in good shape," said Otto. "Realistically, it's almost impossible to win district and it's going to be real hard to win the two

seed, but if we can take care of business against Greenwood, we should be in good shape. We will approach it like we did last time — we beat them 10-0 — (Kennedy) is going to pitch a good game for us and we will try to go out and win and see how far we can go."

SWEETWATER — The Lady Steers (4-4)

also had a rough night for the second time this season against Sweetwater, this time BSHS fell in a tight, 6-5 affair Friday at the Jerry Collins Softball Complex.

A negated home run marked a strange game Down by four in the top of the fifth inning, Big Spring had only recorded one hit in the outing when Mackenzie Roberts drilled a single

off the wall in left field. Lizzie Fleeson got an infield single, then Valerie Goodblanket laid down a bunt to load the bases just in time for the Lady Steers' ace Logan Yarbar to smack a RBI single, sending Roberts home. Haley Dimidjian had a towering pop up in the infield, and it was caught, but Fleeson was able to tag up and score, cutting the Lady Mustang lead to two, but the tying run was left on base as two BSHS runners were stranded.

Ayanna Gomez recorded a base hit in the top of the sixth inning and the Lady Steers — who have

not seen a home run of their own since the district schedule began — watched as designated player Roberts belted one over the fence in what would have been a game-tying, two-run dinger.

Between Roberts' sprint from third base to home plate, she was touched by at least one teammate off the bench waiting to for the celebration. The umpire claimed she was assisted in crossing home and by rule, was called out as a result of interfering with a runner.

See **ROUNDUP**, Page 11A



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Local briefs

Chubby Abrego Scholarship Fund tournament planned

The Comanche Trail Golf Course will host the Chubby Abrego Scholarship Fund golf tournament April 27.

The proceeds benefit Coahoma High School student-athletes.

It will be a four-person scramble format with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$70 per person. Mulligan packages (4) are available for \$20.

A meal is included and prizes will be awarded.

For more information contact Delloyd Hooser at 816-9051, Gene Piercefield at 816-1134 or Rocky McCullough at 213-4868.

Big Spring Country Club to host 2013 Cancer Scramble

A tournament benefiting the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life will be held at the Big Spring Country Club beginning Saturday, April 27 and continuing through Sunday, April 28.

It will be a four-person scramble format. Form your own team or be assigned.

Field is flighted by

first round scores. Prizes will be awarded for longest drive and closest to the pin. First through third place will receive BSCC Golf Shop gift certificates.

Entry fee is \$80 per person plus a \$26 cart fee. Private carts are welcome.

For more information, contact BSCC at 267-5354.

Sponsors for this year's tournament include: Partee Drilling, Jeannie Rutledge Realty, Byron Harris, HEB and Stellar Automation.

Guys & Girls Scramble slated for May

The Big Spring Country Club will host a Guys & Girls Scramble from Saturday, May 4 through Sunday, May 5.

There will be a shotgun start at 1 p.m. both days.

Lunch will be served Saturday and appetizers will be served at the conclusion of the event Sunday.

Field will be flighted according to first round scores, while the number of flights will be determined by entry.

Entry fee is \$150 per team plus cart fees.

For more information, contact the Pro Shop at 267-5354.



Courtesy photo

The Forsan 800 meter relay team took first place at the district meet Thursday at Seagraves. Several Lady Buffs earned their way to the area meet in Sundown on Thursday. The Forsan boys took the district title as a team.

Forsan boys win district, Lady Buffs qualify medalists

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor
SEAGRAVES — Forsan's track and field squads returned home from the district meet Thursday with another successful year in the books.

The boys captured the District 6-1A title, defeating second place Sundown by a whopping 58 points. The Lady Buffs placed third, but qualified several athletes for the area meet in Sundown on Thursday. Brittney Hergert was the champion of the 400-meter dash for the third straight year.

- Boys**
- **Team:** 1st place, 154 points total.
 - **Individual Results:**
 - 3,200: Cole Long, Tyler Evans.
 - 1,600: 1st place, Trevor Burchett, Kolby Self, P.J. Horton and Brendan Roman.
 - 100: 1st place, Trevor Burchett; 2nd place, Brendan Roman.
 - 200: 1st place, Brendan Roman; 2nd place, Trevor Burchett.
 - 1,600: 2nd place, P.J. Horton.
 - 1,600: 3rd place, Tyler Evans, Dillon Bagnall, Garrett Kligora, Marcus Cervantes.
 - Pole Vault: 1st place, Ross Freeman.
 - Discus: 2nd place, Kade Fannin.
 - Shot Put: 2nd place, Copeland Ridell.
 - High Jump: 1st place, Garrett Kligora; 2nd place, Kade Fannin.
 - Long Jump: 4th place, Brendan Roman.

- Girls**
- **Team:** 3rd place, 101 points total. (1st place, 140 points, Sundown; 2nd place, Seagraves, 102 points.)
 - **Individual Results:**
 - 3,200: 1st place, Carlee Daniel, Madi Roman, Brittney Hergert and Raegan Haggard; 51.45.
 - 800: 1st place, Carlee Daniel, Madi Roman, Ann Marie Lugo; 1:50.45.
 - 100: 1st place, Carlee Daniel, 13.14; 4th place, Ann Marie Lugo, 13.56.
 - 400: 1st place, Brittney Hergert, 1:03.49; 3rd place, Madi Roman, 1:04.67.
 - High Jump: 6th place, Brittney Hergert, 4-6.
 - 100 Hurdles: 3rd place, Yanci Yeater.

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

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 10A

The out resulted in one run being called back and Roberts' homer was recorded as a RBI triple.

"The girls faced a lot of adversity," BSHS Head Softball Coach John Sparks said. "They battled and continued to battle throughout the game. I'm proud of them for hanging in there."

The Lady Steers had a double and a walk after

the fateful call, but left two runners stranded as their half of the inning came to a close.

Big Spring caught another bad break in the bottom of the sixth. A single, a hit batsmen and a bunt loaded the bases, but only after a call that eliminated the runner headed to third was overturned by an umpire. An infield single by Sweetwater added another run to their lead, despite two strikeouts by Yarbar.

In the top of the seventh, Dimidjian got a base hit and was driven home on a

single by Gabi Torres. A double by Mercedes Ruiz scored Torres to tie it a 5-5, but that was the end of Big Spring's rally.

A sacrifice fly by the Lady Mustangs tacked on the game-ending run.

"The plan is still to make the playoffs and rock it in the playoff," Sparks added. "We've got Greenwood next and they're down right now. They lost their pitcher. We need to win that game. If we win out, we're at 6-4 and we should be OK. I'm real proud of the girls. (Roberts) had two great hits for us, she really stepped it up."

FORSAN — The Lady Buffaloes steamrolled Rotan on Friday, shelling the Lady Yellowhammers 20-5 before the game was called via run-rule in the fourth inning.

Forsan scored its 20 runs

on 16 hits.

Rosie Munoz picked up three RBI, while Maria Ortiz and Lindsey Boeker had two RBI apiece. Ali Knight and Maddie Munsell split pitching duties.

Knight, Monoz, Ortiz, Kayla Tilley, Shelby Roemer and Gabby Womack each recorded a double during the rout.

"We had a bunch of hits," said FHS Head Softball Coach Shanna Taylor. "We did a great job defensively, and we hit all the way down the lineup."

The Lady Buffs will play a practice game against Midland Christian next week and possibly one more before beginning their postseason run.

Sitting in second place, Taylor expects to face Clyde-Eula in the first round of the playoffs, but more details will be released next week.

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TUNISIA	ILOVEIT	
ABCS	SMALL	ISPY
NIL	IRAS	TEAS
GOO	BANKROBBERS	
LUG	MEDIA	ALLOT
ESS	SLANT	YESES

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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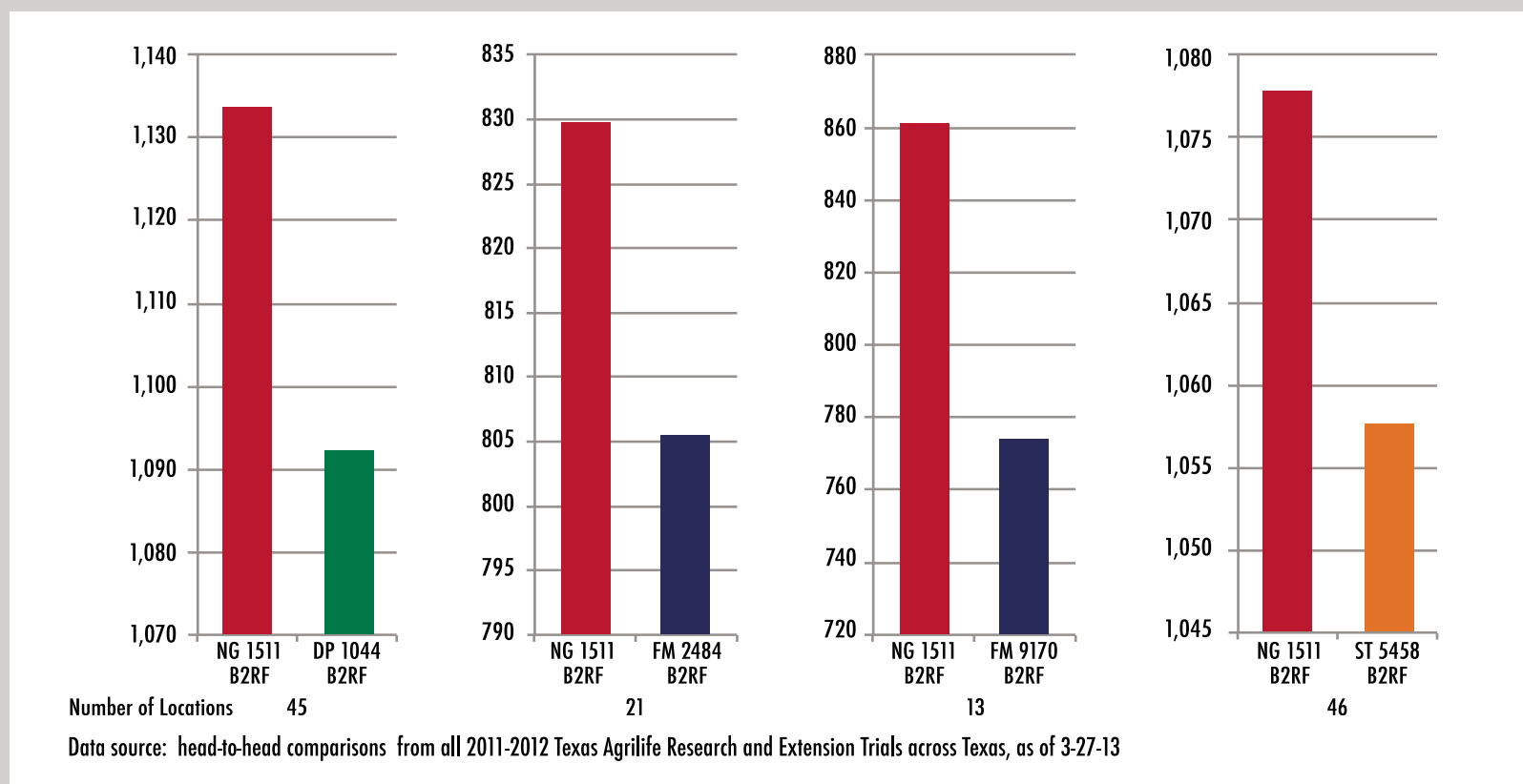


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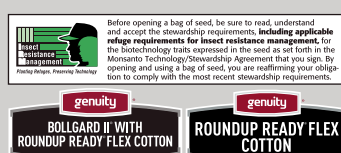
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BANISH BORING SANDWICHES

Boost your kitchen creativity with unexpectedly craveable sandwiches

FAMILY FEATURES

It's time to break out of your ordinary lunch routine and make boring turkey sandwiches a thing of the past. With a few innovative tricks, you can turn any regular sandwich into a delicious and satisfying meal.

Versatile and delicious, a sandwich is perfect for any occasion, whether you're sitting down with the family or packing for a lunch on the go. And you don't have to be a professional chef to take a classic sandwich and turn it into a tasty meal. Try these simple tips and recipes to help boost your creativity in the kitchen:

- **There are things better than sliced bread:** Give your sandwich a makeover by piling your favorite fixings on a better bread option, such as focaccia or whole wheat pita. The sky's the limit — try waffles for a sweet and savory treat.
- **Embrace open-face:** Load the toppings on each slice of bread, then pop the two sides into the toaster oven to toast the bread and melt the cheese.
- **Smart substitutions:** Lose the calories, but keep the taste of your favorite BLT by using new Hidden Valley Bacon Ranch sandwich spread instead of mayo — you'll get all the same flavor with a third of the calories.
- **Repurpose your leftovers:** Make extra meat and vegetables for dinner, and use them for tomorrow's lunch by placing leftovers between two pieces of your favorite bread.
- **Turkey sandwiches don't have to be boring:** Add walnuts, avocado or apple slices to jazz up a childhood favorite.
- **Go veggie:** For the perfect Meatless Monday, try a sandwich on whole wheat bread with slices of avocado and tomato, topped with your favorite cheese — an instant vegetarian masterpiece.

For more ways to turn a sandwich into something unexpectedly craveable, visit www.HiddenValley.com.



Turkey Panini

Makes: 1 sandwich
Prep time: 10 minutes

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 2 slices sourdough sandwich bread
- 1 tablespoon Hidden Valley Country Herb Ranch Sandwich Spread & Dip
- 2 slices (2 ounces) oven-roasted turkey breast
- 1 slice (1 ounce) cheddar cheese (Havarti cheese as alternative)
- 2 tablespoons (about 1/4 pepper) roasted red bell pepper, cut into strips
- Arugula or lettuce leaves, optional

For best performance in panini maker, brush outside of each slice of bread with olive oil. Spread other side of bread with sandwich spread. Top with turkey, cheese and pepper strips. Close sandwich and cook for 4 to 5 minutes in panini maker or on griddle, until cheese is melted. If desired, pull open and add lettuce before serving.



Spicy Pork Sandwiches

Makes: 4 servings
Prep time: 30 minutes

- Vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced yellow onion
- 1/2 cup diced green bell pepper
- 1 pound lean pork strips, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup Hidden Valley Spicy Chipotle Pepper Sandwich Spread & Dip
- 4 sandwich buns

In large nonstick skillet, stir-fry onion and pepper in oil for 5 minutes. Add pork and cook for 5 more minutes, or until cooked through. Remove from heat and stir in sandwich spread. Serve spicy pork mixture on buns.

Italian Wraps

Makes: 1 serving
Prep time: 15 minutes

- 1/2 cup shredded rotisserie chicken
- 1/2 cup finely sliced spinach leaves
- 1/4 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped sun-dried tomatoes
- 1/2 teaspoon chopped fresh basil
- 2 tablespoons Hidden Valley Oven Roasted Garlic Parmesan Sandwich Spread & Dip, or more to taste
- 1 10-inch sun-dried tomato basil wrap

Stir together chicken, spinach, cheese, tomatoes, basil and sandwich spread. Spoon onto wrap and spread to edges; roll up. For entertaining, slice into 1-inch pinwheels.



Salmon Pita

Makes: 2 servings
Prep time: 15 minutes

- 6 ounces fresh salmon fillet, cooked and chilled (about 1 cup flaked) or 1 pouch (5 ounces) ready-to-eat premium wild caught pink salmon, skinless and boneless
- 2 tablespoons minced shallot or red onion
- 2 tablespoons minced celery
- 1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 cup Hidden Valley Oven-Roasted Garlic Parmesan Sandwich Spread & Dip
- 2 pita pockets
- 1 slice iceberg lettuce, optional

Flake salmon; stir in shallots, celery and lemon juice. Add sandwich spread and gently stir to combine. Fill pockets with salmon mixture and lettuce slice.

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Gloria Hernandez and Ben Mancha

Hernandez-Mancha

Gloria Hernandez of Plainview, Texas, is to be married to Ben Mancha of Big Spring, Texas.

Ms. Hernandez is the daughter of Mr. Robert Hernandez Sr. and the late Tanila Hernandez of Plainview, Texas.

Mr. Mancha is the son of Virginia Mancha and the late Mr. Louis Mancha of Big Spring, Texas. A July wedding is planned.

Host families needed for exchange students

By **ANDREIA MEDLIN**
Staff Writer

"Open your doors, Open your hearts," is the motto of the International Cultural Exchange Services. ICES is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting a more peaceful world by increasing international awareness and understanding among peoples of the world through experiences in cultural sharing.

Local representative Karen Ivey explained that by opening the lines of communication, both the culture of the student as well as that of the host family benefits by increased understanding and awareness of worlds that may be foreign to them.

"The kids are ambassadors to their country. They come here with a lot of preconceived notions of what life in the United States is like," Ivey said. "A lot of them think that all Americans wear cowboy hats and own oil wells from what they've seen in the media."

By becoming a cul-

tural exchange student or a host family, a line of communication is opened to another culture. The host family will learn about the student's home country through his or her perspective.

"By bringing a student into your home from the program, you are bringing cultural diversity not only to your life, but to the community as well," Ivey said. Conversely, the student learns about American culture by experiencing the typical life of an American teen. "They go to high school, go to the proms, dances and attend other activities with their American peers," Ivey said and explained further that the students experience the same emotional growth as their American counterparts.

Because the student lives in the home with the host family, they indeed become a part of that family. "The host family gains a daughter or son, brother or sister, grandchild, cousin, niece or nephew," said Ivey. These relationships often result in a close bond that lasts, "... long after the student has returned to their natural families," said Ivey.

There are few restrictions in becoming a host family, but both families are screened to ensure a safe, wholesome and loving environment for all concerned.

According to ICES information each student, ages 15 to 18, are thoroughly screened for emotional and intellectual maturity, English ability and academic achievement. Those students who demonstrate exemplary character, flexibility and curiosity are accepted for the program.

Prior to leaving their home country, ICES students are given a pre-departure orientation in which the goals and rules of the program are discussed. While living in the United States, the student has the same responsibilities as American teenagers. They must help with family chores and observe all family rules.

The students come to the U.S. From European, Asian, South American and Mediterranean countries such as China, South Korea, Japan, Brazil, Mexico, Italy, Spain, Venezuela, German, Austria and Australia. The student is provided a working visa and can do as much as the average American teen except drive due to state department regulations. "They can travel with the family if the family takes a vacation, participate in extra-curricular activities and volunteer in the community, which is encouraged," Ivey said.

According to information provided by Ivey, ICES students are fully covered by medical in-

surance and provide their own funding for clothing, entertainment and spending money.

Each host family is screened through a thorough background check, including a screening by Child Protective Services, and doesn't have to be a group family. A host family can be a single person over the age of 26.

The host family is not remunerated and must be able to provide meals and transportation. If the student will be sharing a room, they must be the same gender and no more than 5 years older or younger than the prospective roommate.

To ensure the compatibility of students and families ICES conducts surveys and interviews to determine if the hobbies and interests are relatable.

Ivey is no stranger to the benefits of hosting a cultural exchange student as she and her family have hosted seven in the years that she has been involved in the program. "Its wonderful," she said. "Usually, they are very shy and withdrawn when they first get here, but over time you get to see them flower."

A student typically stays anywhere from one semester to 10 months and can return if they so choose. Also, if the host family sends a student to the outbound country, both families will receive a discount, according to Ivey.

"ICES also places outbound American students," Ivey said and continues by saying that host families are needed for the upcoming school year. "They have to be placed by Aug. 15 and they have to have the high school's permission," Ivey explained.

Currently, there are openings in Coahoma, Forsan, Sands and Midland and Odessa.

To become a host family or for more information on ICES, go to icesusa.org, contact Karen Ivey at 432-816-5512, or call the national office at 1-800-344-3566.

Contact Andreia Medlin staff writer at 432-263-7331 ext. 234 or email life@bigspringherald.com



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Price surge for tomatoes has Brazilians up in arms

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The tomato has long been a near-obligatory garnishing for just about any Brazilian dish, yet it's becoming the country's apple of discord.

A longer-than-usual rainy season, high fuel prices and superheated demand have combined to send prices for the beloved food soaring, and consumers are seeing red.

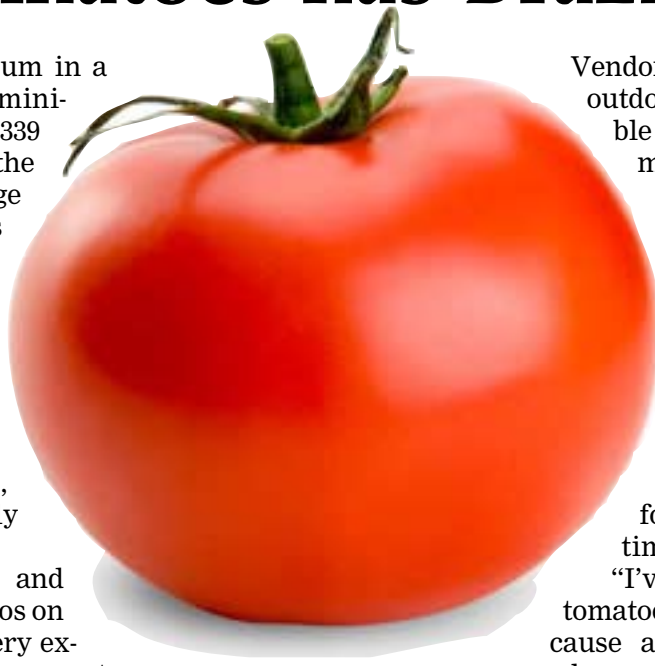
Facebook pages have popped up for Brazilians to vent their anger, and some restaurants have even dropped tomato-based dishes from their menus. Opposition lawmakers pushed grocery carts laden with tomatoes and other pricey fruits and vegetables into the House of Representatives to complain about inflation, while people living near Brazil's southern border are crossing into Argentina and Paraguay to smuggle in tomatoes in defiance of customs laws.

The price of tomatoes has more than doubled over the past year, according to Brazil's IBGE statistics agency. A kilogram (2.2 pounds) now fetches as much as \$6.50 at some Rio de Janeiro super-

markets — a hefty sum in a country where the minimum wage is just \$339 a month. While the price of a whole range of basic vegetables from carrots to cabbage to potatoes has risen steeply over the past year, only manioc flour, which saw a 140 percent price spike over the past 12 months, has risen more steeply than the tomato.

Clever cartoons and tongue-in-cheek photos on the "Tomatoes are very expensive" Facebook page cast them as a luxury, Brazil's newest status symbol. "Five star meal," reads the caption above a photo of a workaday lunch of breaded meat, rice and salad, crowned by two skimpy tomato slices. "Want to conquer her love? Give her this," says a cartoon featuring a shining gold band topped off with a pyramid of juicy red tomatoes.

According to a report in the newspaper O Globo, the online backlash started when an Italian restaurant in Sao



Paulo announced that it was holding off on buying fresh tomatoes and suggested clients opt for spaghetti with shrimp sauce instead.

A segment on the Globo television network showed Brazilians stocking up on tomatoes at supermarkets across the border in Argentina. The piece ended with a stern admonishment from a Brazilian customs agent warning that crossing back into Brazil with such "contraband" could lead to its confiscation.

Vendors and buyers at an outdoor fruit and vegetable market in Rio's Flamengo neighborhood this week had tomatoes on the brain.

Chauffeur Otacilio Cavalcante sorted through a bin of mostly small and yellowish tomatoes, searching for the juiciest and reddest specimens for a special lunch-time treat.

"I've pretty much cut tomatoes out of my diet because at prices like these, who can afford them?" Cavalcante said with a shrug as he picked out four tomatoes destined for a salad. "I used to eat them all the time, but now they're a just for special occasions. It's crazy."

At \$5 a kilogram, the small bin of tomatoes at vendor Adelina Dias stand garnered precious little attention.

"No one's buying, which is why I only stock half as much as I used to. What's the use if I'm just going to have to cart it away at the end of the day anyway," she said. "No one's

buying tomatoes but they're all complaining about the prices. They're all crying like a bunch of babies."

While Brazil's economy grew just 0.9 percent last year, inflation has been steadily creeping up. In March, it hit a cumulated 6.6 percent over the past 12 months, the IBGE statistics agency reported Wednesday. The government had set 6.5 percent as its ceiling for inflation in 2013.

Food is where many Brazilian consumers are feeling inflation the most. The price of the "cesta basica," the government-established basket of basic food products, went up in March in nearly all Brazilian state capitals.

In a media stunt aimed at scoring points with constituents up in arms over the rising cost of food, three opposition lawmakers wheeled shopping carts full of fruits and vegetables into the House of Representatives on Wednesday.

"Did you ever see such an expensive tomato," one of the lawmakers asked the television cameras as he plucked a plump red tomato from the cart.

Billionaire wins wine fight; jury awards him \$380K

NEW YORK (AP) — A Florida billionaire said he planned to drink a glass of wine to celebrate a federal jury's conclusion Thursday that he was defrauded by a California businessman who sold him two dozen bottles of fake vintage wine at a 2005 auction.

"It's a home run!" a smiling William Koch told a supporter immediately after the jury in U.S. District Court in Manhattan awarded him \$380,000 in compensatory damages for the counterfeit bottles of Bordeaux labeled as if they were created from 1864 to 1950. Koch paid \$29,500 for the most expensive bottle, a 1921 magnum bottle of Chateau Petrus.

The jury returns Friday to decide if

punitive damages are warranted.

Koch, a yachtsman who won the America's Cup in 1992, had accused Eric Greenberg of fraudulent misrepresentation, fraudulent concealment, deceptive business practices and false advertising.

The jury's six men and two women sided with Koch on each civil charge.

Outside the courthouse, he said he was going to a trendy French restaurant on Manhattan's Upper East Side to celebrate.

"I'm thirsty," he said with a smile. "I want a glass of wine."

A dejected Greenberg only shook his head when asked to comment. One of his lawyers said he did not

want to comment until the jury had completed its work.

For Koch, though, the jury verdict was part of a crusade against counterfeit wine sellers that he promised would continue.

"To me, the whole industry is being corrupted," he said, recounting how his investigators had helped put one wine seller in jail and forced a judgment against another. "I absolutely can't stand being cheated."

▶ Menus

Senior Citizen's Center

Monday: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, carrot and celery sticks, oranges, rolls, milk.

Tuesday: Hamburger steak, rice pilaf, spinach, lemon pudding, rolls, milk/V8 juice.

Wednesday: Beef stew, cornbread, cottage cheese salad, angel cake, milk.

Thursday: Sliced ham, pinto beans, greens, onion, tomatoes, tapioca, cornbread, milk.

Friday: Hot dogs with chili, onions, cheese, baked beans, potato chips, cherry crisp, milk.

Coahoma ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Wrap, yogurt and fruit parfait, cereal, fruit; Lunch: Cheesy chicken and rice, Salisbury steak, potatoes, green beans, salad, fruit.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Pizza, omelet colby skillet, oatmeal or grits, cereal, fruit; Lunch: General TSO Chicken with rice, glazed carrots, oriental blend vegetables, salad, fruit.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Sausage patty, biscuit, gravy, smoked sausage, cereal, fruit; Lunch: Home style Big Daddy's Pizza, green peas, orange, sweet potatoes, salad, fruit.

Thursday: Breakfast: Mini blueberry pancakes, sausage bagel, cereal, fruit; Lunch: Enchilada casserole.

rice, pinto beans, salad, fruit.

Friday: Breakfast: Sausage roll, scrambled eggs and ham, cereal, fruit; Lunch: Chicken alfredo, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit.

Note: Lunch options are available.

Forsan ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Yogurt and fruit parfait, cereal, fruit; Lunch: Cheesy chicken and rice, Salisbury steak, potatoes, green beans, salad, fruit.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Pizza, omelet colby skillet, oatmeal or grits, cereal, fruit; Lunch: General TSO Chicken with rice, glazed carrots, oriental blend vegetables, salad, fruit.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Sausage patty, biscuit, gravy, smoked sausage, cereal, fruit; Lunch: Home style Big Daddy's Pizza, green peas, orange, sweet potatoes, salad, fruit.

Thursday: Breakfast: Mini blueberry pancakes, sausage bagel, cereal, fruit; Lunch: Enchilada casserole, rice, pinto beans, salad, fruit.

Friday: Breakfast: Sausage roll, scrambled eggs and ham, cereal, fruit; Lunch: Chicken alfredo, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit.

Note: Lunch options are available.

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Breakfast: Frosted Flakes, juice, milk; Lunch: Turkey

and cheese sandwich, carrots, peaches, green beans, Orange Smiles, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Taco roll, juice, milk; Lunch: Teriyaki chicken, rice pilaf, broccoli, pineapple, roll, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Pizza, juice, milk; Lunch: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green peas, bread, apples, cornbread, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: PJB uncrustable, juice, milk; Lunch: Chicken fajitas, tortillas, beans, corn, strawberries, grapes, lettuce/tomato, milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon french toast, juice, milk; Lunch: Crispy tacos, sweet potato sticks, lettuce/tomato, pears, milk.

Note: Lunch options are available.



2013 Howard/Glasscock County Relay For Life Luminaria Order Form

This form may be reproduced for additional orders

1. Complete form.
2. Make checks payable to the American Cancer Society RFL
3. Mail order form and donation check to: **Deven Bowerman**
P.O. Box 2891
Big Spring, TX 79721

PLEASE MAIL ORDERS IN BY APRIL 16, 2013!

Please indicate if the luminaria is to be in **IN HONOR OF** or **IN MEMORY OF:** This is very important.

Name to appear on luminaria _____
 In Honor of In Memory of
 Message as you want to appear on the luminary.

Name to appear on luminaria _____
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 Message as you want to appear on the luminary.

Name to appear on luminaria _____
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 Message as you want to appear on the luminary.

Luminaria Donated by _____
 Address _____

Nazarene Christian Academy

Now Registering For Kindergarten And First Grade 2013-2014 School Year

New Hope Christian School

Now Registering For 2013 Summer Classes 2013-2014 School Year Ages New Born thru Age 5 State Licensed Accepts CCMS Clients

118 Cedar Rd. 263-0203 After School Childcare Available Transportation from Elbow Elementary

THANKS FOR YOUR LOYAL SERVICE



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Mayor Tommy Duncan, center, shakes hands with MaryJo Toomire, Senior Center and RSVP program manager, during the Mayor's Day of Recognition for National Service, a day to honor national service workers, whether supporting food banks and homeless shelters, restoring city parks, building homes, providing health services, or tutoring and mentoring students. Locally, this would include the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, which has approximately 225 active volunteers. Many of these volunteers serve at the Chalet, a resale shop which benefits Big Spring State Hospital.

Alon USA Energy comments on EPA's proposed Tier III standards

Special to the Herald

DALLAS — Alon USA Energy Inc. is providing its current assessment of the Environmental Protection Agency's recently proposed pollution standards for fuels,

referred to as the Tier III fuel standards. On March 29, the EPA published its proposed Tier III fuel standards which require, among other things, a reduction in the sulfur content of gasoline to a level of no more than 10 parts per

million ("ppm") on an annual average basis. Alon believes that its Krotz Springs, La., refinery and the Big Spring, Texas, refinery, which is owned and operated by Alon USA Partners, LP, will be required to comply with the pro-

posed Tier III fuel standards no later than 2020. Alon estimates that the capital investment associated with upgrades necessary to meet the proposed sulfur levels, on a consolidated basis

See ALON, Page 5B

Veterinary science workshop set in Tom Green County 4-H Center

Special to the Herald

Applications are now being accepted for the West Texas Youth Veterinary Science Workshop, slated for June 2-6 at the Tom Green County 4-H Center in San Angelo.

The camp-style workshop is open to all Texas youth, but because enrollment is limited to 30 students, early registration is advised, said organizers. The workshop is conducted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service offices in Sutton, Tom Green, Coke, Navarro and Potter counties.

"This is our 11th year to conduct this camp and it just seems to get better and more popular each time," said Pascual Hernandez, AgriLife Extension agent in Sutton County. "Veterinary science is one of those fields where interest remains strong, though the demographics seem to be

changing. About 70 percent of our participants are now girls, and that mirrors what is happening in veterinary school enrollment across the country."

Hernandez said the program is meant to introduce high school students to careers in veterinary science and related fields.

"We really want them to get a taste of the veterinary science field, but our goal is not to persuade anyone toward veterinary medicine, but rather to clarify career interests and their chosen field of study after attending our workshop. Related careers might include zoology, animal nutrition, biologics or one of the pharmaceutical professions."

Instructors will include veterinarians, university and Texas A&M AgriLife Research and AgriLife Extension faculty, and other professionals, according to Hernandez.

Course topics will include zoology, toxicology, parasitology,

anatomy, nutrition, anatomy, first aid, livestock health management, large and small animal practice, and horse science. The workshop will include classroom study, lab work and field trips.

Hernandez said participants must be of high school age, have an interest in veterinary science and be willing to work in teams. He said adult project leaders also may apply, but must pass a background check before participating.

Applications and instructions are available from any AgriLife Extension office or by visiting <http://sutton.agrilife.org>. Send applications to the AgriLife Extension office in Sutton County by May 10. Participants will be informed of their acceptance into the program by May 17.

Individual registration is \$360 due by May 22.

For more information, call the AgriLife Extension office in Sutton County at 325-387-3101.

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a managing director — investments for the Wells Fargo Advisors Midland office.



Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior registered client associate and the senior associate to the branch manager.

Turn on any financial television or radio station and the topic of the day, all day, is the Dow Jones Industrial Average hitting record highs. The old peak occurred in October 2007, just before the financial crisis gripped the globe. Officially, in media-land, the celebration is on.

But sadly, many investors are not quite ready to break out their party hats just yet. They have too much cash alternatives on the sidelines and have missed a good portion of the 130 percent rally off the March 2009 equity market lows. The values of their portfolios have not yet climbed back to pre-crisis levels. They are dramatically under-invested in stocks and many are, in our view, over-invested in bonds. While we do not look for interest rates to move substantially higher in the near term, in the coming years we believe stocks have the potential to outperform bonds by a meaningful amount. And cash alternatives? Well, cash alternatives are expensive assets to hold when deposit rates are virtually non-existent and inflation is near 2 percent. Cash and cash alternative-heavy investors are losing buying power to inflation with each passing day.

The oldest Baby Boomers are retiring and are fearful they will outlive their money. They are also fearful of the stock market after suffering through two brutal bear markets since the turn of the century. In each of these episodes, the S&P 500 Index lost more than half its value before hitting a final bottom. The prospects of enduring another bear market of a similar magnitude when you are in or near retirement is not a pleasant thought for most of these older Boomers. Long gone are the days of 5 percent yields on CDs.

The Federal Reserve, in an effort to revive the economy and pump up the value of residential real estate as well as the stock market, has pushed interest rates to near 0 percent while injecting trillions of dollars of liquidity into the financial system. One desired result is called the "wealth effect." Consumers who see the values of their homes and stock portfolios rise feel wealthier and are more willing to open their wallets and do a little discretionary spending. We are not talking about buying items they need for everyday living like toothpaste and laundry detergent, but going out and purchasing items they desire like new furniture, vacations, and cars. After all, the American economy is built on the concept of consumption.

So far, the Fed's strategy seems to be working. Housing prices are recovering and the stock market is in rally mode. The Fed is unlikely to change this strategy any time soon. The economy is slowly improving, as is the labor market. Consumer confidence is on the rise. Consumer spending and business capital investment is moving ahead at a reasonable pace. As we look out over a three-year horizon, we continue to see modest economic growth, no recession, and a rising stock market. We see opportunity in the stock market over this time frame. Current valuations are not stretched. While we do not think the stock market is going to move straight up from here, investors putting at least some sideline cash and cash alternatives to work now will likely have a reason to celebrate in coming years.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. This article was produced on March 6 by Scott Wren, Wells Fargo Advisors senior equity strategist, and provided courtesy of Bhupen Agrawal, managing director — branch manager of Wells Fargo Advisors' Midland office, at 432-684-7335. Additional information is available upon request. The material contained herein has been prepared from sources and data we believe to be reliable, but we make no guarantee as to its accuracy or completeness. The material is published solely for informational purposes and is not an offer to buy or sell or solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any security or investment product.

Backyard Basics program to focus on home-grown, homemade food

ELMENDORF — The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will present a Backyard Basics program on home-grown and homemade foods from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. May 3 at Sandy Oaks Olive Orchard, 25195 Mathis Road in Elmendorf.

Presentations for the "Preserving and Serving the Harvest" program include hands-on demonstrations related to homemade and homegrown foods, said Lisa Linebarer, AgriLife Extension family and consumer sciences agent

for Wilson County and an event coordinator.

"With more and more people concerned about the food they serve their family and interested in having a more personal role in providing that food, this program will provide them with a unique opportunity to get in-depth instruction on how to prepare and preserve some of their own food," Linebarer said.

More information on Backyard Basics programs may be found at <http://backyardbasics.tamu.edu>

Cost is \$55 per person, and online registration is available through the Texas A&M AgriLife Conference Service website, <http://agriliferegister.tamu.edu>. Enter "backyard basics" in the keyword field to register on the site or call 979-845-2604.

The program agenda begins with registration and light refreshments from 8:30-9 a.m., followed by a presentation from 9-11:30 a.m. by Sandy Winokur, owner and operator of Sandy Oaks Orchards. Winokur's presentation will

include a site tour and olive oil tasting.

Lunch, which is included in the registration cost, will be from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and feature "Sandy Burgers" with olive tapenade, plus olive oil ice cream. Mary Dunford and Marilyn Magaro, members of the Herb Market Association will provide a lunchtime presentation on the use of herbs.

Three concurrent demonstrations will be offered from 12:45-1:45 p.m., with attendees choosing which to attend. One session will be on soaps and beauty

products made with olive oil, the second will be on cheese-making with olive oil and the third will be on picture-perfect pickles.

A special post-program demonstration will be offered from 2:10-3 p.m. at no extra charge for attendees who would like to learn how to make an olive tapenade.

Elmendorf is located 17 miles southeast of downtown San Antonio at the juncture of Farm Road 327 and the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

Sherri Monique Aldridge, 1507 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
Jordan Debrett Austin, 318 County Road 321, Abilene
Jose Manuel Avina, 1404 Nolan, Big Spring
Jessica Lynn Banks, CR 1200, Lubbock
Johnny Barraza, 429 Westover, Big Spring
Jennifer Leigh Black, 1405 E. Barton, Temple
William Riley Bounds, 1818 Corsicana, Dallas
Bobby Gene Bricker, 1909 Alabama, Big Spring
Joe Ray Brown, 902 Hickory, Abilene
Cassie Christine Cantu, 1101 E. 12th St., Big Spring
Susan Cheyanne Cearley, 4104 Muir, Big Spring
Donald Cervantes, 1211 Lloyd, Big Spring
Trystan Taelor Cevallos, 3912 E. Hwy. 350, Big Spring
Kimberly Gaston Coghurn, 6697 Loop 106, San Antonio
Matilda Cortez, 302 N. St. Teresa, Stanton
Steve Allan Crim, 8381 Petunia, San Angelo
Jennifer R. Crow, 1714 Fort Worth, Brownwood
Julie E. Davis, 5202 Bangor Ave. Apt. K301, Lubbock
Stefan Deal, 102 Casie Ln. Apt. 1, Fort Worth
Manuel Delosrios, 707 Lorilla, Big Spring
Teana Demeny-Roberts, 5601 N. Service Rd., Big Spring
Michael Angelo Dorado, 2202 William Rd., Big Spring
Josepy James Eckert, 1123 Newhaven Trail, Pearland
Maria Luisa Elizondo, 603 S. Second, Meadow
Kristi L. Elliot, 603 E. 12th St., Big Spring
Brittany Vanessa Escanuela, 302 Circle, Big Spring
John Randall Evatt, 4301 W. 49th St. Apt. 329, Amarillo
Kristen Falcon, 2606 Fairchild, Big Spring
Kolby Walter Fields, PO Box 548, Coahoma
Sharlamarr Frink, 3723 Monclair, Odessa
Joey Lee Garcia, 3102 Ave. C, Snyder
Noel Garcia II, 1604 Robin, Big Spring
Pedro Garcia, 806 Johnson, Big Spring
Joe Nick Garfias Jr., of 1309 Runnels, Big Spring
Rosa M. George, 509 W. Second, Stanton
Joseph Blake Gist, 3500 Cedar Run, Abilene
Nicholas Gonzales, 903 Creighton, Big Spring
Roxanne Deanda Gonzales, 539 Westover Apt. 211, Big Spring
Eunice Torres Gonzalez, 7311 Westmoor, Odessa
Whitney Marquez Gray, 2934 Old Anson Rd., Abilene
Robert Earl Green II, 2512 Fairchild, Big Spring
James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler Apt. 502, Atlanta, Ga.
Bryan David Hernandez, 1500 Kentucky Way, Big Spring

Ashley Rae Hodge, 3214 Drexel, Big Spring
Danny Holt, 125 Farney Rd., Lorena
April M. Horton, 1705 Charles, Portsmouth, Ohio
Bradley Ryan Horton, 601 Linda Lane, Big Spring
Dana Michelle Hudgins, P.O. Box 837, Coahoma
Brian Ivanchan, 1208 Mulberry, Big Spring
Christopher Shawn Jones, 112 McDonald Rd., Big Spring
Nicholas Vance Jones, 600 Johnson, Big Spring
Albert Leal, 2522 Albrook, Big Spring
Jacob Leos, 507 Edwards Blvd., Big Spring
Jesse Paul Lopez, 1011 Scurry, Big Spring
Robert Lee Lopez, 503 E. 18th, Big Spring
Joe Anthony Loya, 432 Westover Rd., Big Spring
Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham, Odessa
Todd Vincent Martin, 409 Woodcrest, Midland
Joe Martinez, 2525 Fairchild, Big Spring
Manuel Martinez Jr., 702 NE Iowa, Lamesa
Dustin Tyler McLeod, 108 Landon Dr., Llano
Norman James McNeese, 1098 LCR 317, Colorado City
Betty Jane McWilliams, 2511 Hunter, Big Spring
Cory James Michalewicz, 1106 Briscoe Cove, Hutto
Darryl Lee Miller, 600 W. I-20 Apt. 119, Big Spring
Joshua Nathaniel Miller, 2210 Cecilia, Big Spring
Eddie Glen Mills, 5142 PDQ Rd., Colorado City
Chelsea Kristyne Millspaugh, 7403 N. Service Road, Big Spring
Jose Munoz, 3804 Connally, Big Spring
Melissa Nieto, 615 Tulane, Big Spring
Camilo Martin Nieto, 1 Courtney Place Apt. 108, Big Spring
John Randall O'Harrow, 107 S. Main, Big Spring
Elisa Sanchez Ortiz, 1609 Bluebird, Big Spring
James Michael Perez, 626 Tulane, Big Spring
Michael Lynn Perkins, 11601 CR 4164, Hermleigh
Fred Allen Perry, 1425 E. Sixth Apt. 107, Big Spring
Taylor James Perry, 2105 Sydney Baker Apt. 228, Kerrville
Austin Healey Petersen, 1 Haven for Hope, San Antonio
Joshua Plaia, 1401 E. 18th, Big Spring
Jarum Renee Pryor, 802 N. Plaza, Big Lake
Martin Sosa Puga, 1614 Settles, Big Spring
Randy Randolph, 2514 Albrook, Big Spring
Shenna Llean Reeves, 615 Gene Lee Rd., Mineral Wells
Sheila Fay Richardson, 1707 Donley, Big Spring
Liza Leigh Rios, 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 30, Big Spring
Lisa J. Rubio, 1303 Sycamore, Big Spring
Melissa Rodriguez Ruiz, 303 N.E. 11th, Big Spring
Miguel Andres Sanchez, 64 McCaleb Rd., Montgomery
Anastasia Clarice Sanders, 1401 Culpepper Ave., Wilson
Brittany Nicole Savell,

425 E. Davis Rd., Big Spring
Warren Victor Schneider, 803 Atlantic, Coahoma
Kennedra Wynell Shelton, 400 N. Fourth, Corsicana
Angela Gay Smith, 102 N. Ash, Coahoma
Charles Ray Smith, 2911 W. Highway 80, Apt. 155, Big Spring
John Ralph Smith, 404 W. Second St., Stanton
Stephanie L. Sterling, 13550 Clark St., Millersport, Ore.
Tiffany Katherine Stokes, 1407 E. 19th St., Big Spring
Timothy Donald Taylor, 4000 W. Highway 80 No. 18, Big Spring
Keristine Marie Thompson, 1408 Keith St., Midland
David Wayne Turner, 3204 Irving, Snyder
Abram Unger, 503 NE Fourth, Seminole
Brittania Kay Upchurch, 4303 Princeton, Midland
Anthony A. Vasquez, 106 N.E. Eighth, Big Spring
Ricky Lynn Waltenbaugh, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 133, Big Spring
Timothy Shea Wargo, 624 State, Big Spring
Charles Watson, 804 W. I-20 Apt. 127, Big Spring
Thomas Weeks, P.O. Box 110891, Anchorage, Alaska
Michael Wade Welch, 700 S. Aylesford, Big Spring
Candida Whitehead, 3706 Connley, Big Spring
Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. 28, Big Spring
Byran Paul Williams, 1409 E. Main St., Round Rock
Calvin Williams, 1313 Mulberry, Big Spring
Frances Elena Yanez, 1610 Cardinal, Big Spring
James Edward Young, 3313 Auburn, Big Spring
Dennis Anthony Zaragoza, 4534 Sinclair, Big Spring

County Court Decisions:

Probated Judgment: Erin Cleo Stansbury, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$500 fine, \$342 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Polly Ann Rusk, theft of property - more than \$50 and less than \$500, \$500 fine, \$282 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Robert Castaneda, theft of property - more than \$50 and less than \$500, \$200 fine, \$282 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Michael Edward Baker, criminal mischief, \$100 fine, \$332 court costs, 90 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Isaac Nathan Rios, resisting arrest, search or transportation, \$200 fine, \$282 court costs, 30 days in jail.
Judgment and Sentence: Isaac Nathan Rios, evading arrest or detention, \$200 fine, \$282 court costs, 30

days in jail.

District Court Filings:

Emily Leann Knight vs. Deric Lane Knight, divorce.
Carolyn Hanke vs. Dakota Murphee, protective order.
In Re Eli Anthony Bustamante, family.
Jesus Tijerina vs. Joe Roach, injuries or damage involving a motor vehicle.
Horace E. Tubb vs. Steven M. Lockhart, civil.
Dianne L. Jones vs. Jerry D. Jones, divorce.
Maleah Arguello vs. Andres Arguello, protective order.
Citibank NA vs. Dora Cevallos, accounts, notes and contracts.
Kimberly Long vs. Jimmie Wayne Long, divorce.

Marriage Licenses:

Antonio Gonzales Jr., 25, of Coahoma, and Sabrina Rodriguez, 18, of Big Spring.
Luis E. Vasquez-Gonzales, 43, and Maria E. Mendes Flores, 47, both of Big Spring.
Raymond G. Smith, 53, and Angela D. Adams, 43, both of Big Spring.
James Steve Nail, 47, of Coahoma, and Bettina M. Perkins, 43, of New Mexico.
Austin Hinojosa, 21, and April Dalee Choate, 21, both of Coahoma.

Warranty Deeds:

Grantor: Juan Flores
Grantee: Javier Verela
Property: Lot 12, Block 8, Jones Valley Addition
Date: Feb. 14, 2013
Grantor: Cindy Coleman
Grantee: John R. Burt
Property: A 3.96-tract out of Section 44, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Feb. 14, 2013
Grantor: Laura Jean Warren
Grantee: John Swedlund and Janiece Swedlund
Property: A 0.69-acre tract out of Section 32, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Feb. 14, 2013
Grantor: Ingrid Dianne Kelly Marquez
Grantee: Henry Granados
Property: A tract out of Section 33, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Feb. 14, 2013
Grantor: Brian Averette and Barbara Averette
Grantee: Collin McMillan and Kassi McMillan
Property: A 10-acre tract out of Section 105, Block 29, W&NW RR Co. Survey
Date: Feb. 15, 2013
Grantor: Louis J. Thomp-

son

Grantee: Michael S. Davidson and Sonya Davidson
Property: A 7.8-acre tract out of Section 19, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Feb. 19, 2013
Grantor: Louis J. Thompson
Grantee: Michael S. Davidson and Sonya Davidson
Property: A 2.16-acre tract out of Section 19, Block 32, T-1-S T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: Feb. 19, 2013
Grantor: Virginia Sosa
Grantee: Diana S. Lopez and Jesus S. Lopez
Property: Lot 13, Block 2, Denton Addition
Date: Feb. 19, 2013

Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:

Grantor: Horace E. Tubb
Grantee: Kal Oppegar
Vickie Oppegar
Property: A tract out of Section 105, Block 29, W&NW RR Co. Survey
Date: Jan. 10, 2013
Grantor: Tera McConnell and Reginald McConnell
Grantee: Christopher Jones
Property: Lots 9-10, Block 6, Park Hill Addition
Date: Feb. 8, 2013
Grantor: Maria Irene Resendez
Grantee: Brenda Rodriguez
Property: Lot 8, Block 1, Avion Village
Date: Feb. 15, 2013

Ribbon cuttings

April 16 – 10 a.m.
Howard County Community Health Center
1300 S. Gregg
April 19 – 10:30 a.m.
Elbow Creek Hay & Feed
5101 W FM 818
Past Elbow Elementary
April 26 – 10 a.m.
The Carpet Store – 2810 E FM 700
May 1 – 1:30 p.m.
Howard College G. C. Broughton Jr. Ag Complex
East of Memorial Stadium, just West of HC Foundation Field
May 1 – 4:30 p.m.
Familia Dental – 1915 S. Gregg

ALON

Continued from Page 4B
with Alon Partners, will be less than \$30 million.
Increased operating costs associated with the incremental desulfurization processes are not expected to be material to Alon's performance. Alon's California refineries are currently capable of producing fuels that satisfy the 10 ppm sulfur standard proposed by the EPA.
Alon USA Energy Inc., headquartered in Dallas, Texas, is an independent refiner and marketer of petroleum products, operating primarily in the South Central, Southwestern and Western regions of the United States. The Company directly owns crude oil refineries in California, Louisiana and Oregon, with an aggregate crude oil throughput capacity of approximately 180,000 barrels per day. Alon also owns 100 percent of the general partner and approximately 82 percent of the limited partner interests in Alon USA Partners, LP (NYSE: ALDW), which owns a crude oil refinery in Texas with an aggregate crude oil throughput capacity of approximately 70,000 barrels per day. Alon is a leading producer of asphalt, which it markets through its asphalt terminals predominately in the Western United States.
Alon is the largest 7-Eleven licensee in the United States and operates approximately 300 convenience stores in Texas and New Mexico.

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Announcements

WOODEN PALLETS ONLY in back of Big Spring Herald Building (710 Scurry) FREE to anyone willing to take them.

Cemetery Lots

FOUR TRINITY Memorial Park Cemetery Lots, Garden of Meditation, Lots 378 & 379, Spaces 1 & 2. Value \$2070 each. Asking \$1825 each. Call 409-781-6240.

Help Wanted

DAY'S INN needs Front Desk and Housekeeping person. Apply at Front Office @ 2701 South Gregg Street.

HIRING EXPERIENCED Housekeepers- \$8.50/hr. Need good references and clean background check. Please call Priya at 432-599-1778 or apply in person, Super 8, Big Spring, TX.

Help Wanted

The City of Big Spring is hiring for the Summer!

Aquatic Center

- Manager
- Assistant Manager
- Senior PT Attendant
- PT Attendants
- Parks, Golf Course, and Sports Complex
- Seasonal Maintenance Workers

Applications can be found at www.mybigspring.com or picked up at City Hall - 310 Nolan Street

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Help Wanted

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LOCATIONS HIRING NOW!

Apply online richesondq.com with our 40 year successful & established company.

TEAM MEMBERS earn over minimum wage and work a flexible schedule.

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234725

HIRING FULL-TIME Optician. Starting pay \$8.80 per hour. Apply online at www.walmart.com/apply

Help Wanted

DRIVERS - Class A & B CDL



BLACK HORSE CARRIERS we are expanding into the Big Spring area: Looking for Class A and B CDL drivers. Mon thru Fri work week. Dedicated routes, Home daily, \$1000 plus a week. These full time positions come with full Benefits, 401K and paid vacation. If you have 3 yrs. Exp., Hazmat Endorsement or willing to obtain and a clean MVR. Call (972)304-2082 or email to tobin.williams@blackhorsecarriers.com EOE. Drug Testing is a condition of employment

AAA TUBING TESTING now hiring. Good Benefits. Prefer CDL & need Operator. Will train. Call Jesse (432)267-7821.

Help Wanted

The City of Big Spring is hiring for the following positions:

- CVB Administrative Assistant
- Utility Service Worker
- Parks Superintendent
- Animal Control Officer
- Identification Technician
- Police Officer
- Sanitation Truck Driver
- PT General Worker
- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator
- Water Treatment Plant Operator
- Seasonal Water Treatment Plant Operator
- Seasonal Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator
- Maintenance Workers (Facilities-1, Golf Course-1, Sports Complex-1)

- Paid Health Insurance
- Paid Life/Disability Insurance
- Retirement Plans
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Wellness Program
- 12 Paid Holidays
- Vacation & Sick Leave

Applications can be found at www.mybigspring.com or picked up at City Hall - 310 Nolan Street

Equal Opportunity Employer

Assistant Manager/Collector Security Finance is now taking applications. We offer benefits, competitive pay, and advancement opportunities. Apply in person at 501 E. 3rd.

Help Wanted

We're Growing! RN'S

with homehealth experience helpful but not needed to join our dynamic team of health-care professionals. We are a locally owned company who cares about our clients and our employees!

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- * Vacation & Sick Time
- * PAID Health Insurance
- * Great Work Environment
- * Paid Mileage

Please come by or send resume to: Attn: Maxine Roberts

InHome Care, Inc.
1104 Scurry
Big Spring, TX 79720
Fax: (432) 263-0773

APPLY NOW Child Caregiver & Housekeeping positions available. Apply at Jack & Jill Child Care, 1708 Nolan and call (325)733-4099.

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Looking For A Rewarding Career? Look No Further. If this sounds like the opportunity for you the responsibilities would include working with a highly trained team to provide daily living skills training and supports to clients. West Texas Centers has part-time openings up to 32 hours weekly starting at \$9.30 an hour. Full time positions are also available with salary \$9.93 per hour plus benefits. Full time positions offer a full benefit package to include health insurance, dental, generous paid personal time off and a great retirement program. Applications available at 409 Runnels or www.wtcmhm.org or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769.EOE

TEXAS DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
JOB TITLE: General Transp Tech II (3)
SALARY: \$2,094.33-\$3,246.25 per Month
LOCATION: Howard County Maintenance
1301 N. Hwy. 360
Big Spring, Texas 79720
Job Requisition Number: 19674
Closing Date: Until Filled
Applications and a copy of the Job Requisition can be picked up at the TxDOT Office at the above address or any other TxDOT office. You can also access at the TxDOT website: www.txdot.gov. Completed applications may be mailed to TxDOT, 4250 North Clack Abilene, Texas 79601, returned to any TxDOT office, or submitted online through the above website.
"An applicant needing an accommodation in order to apply for this job may call the phone number of the Human Resources Office (325) 676-6842.
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Home Hospice
Part-time Medical Records Clerk Needed
If interested please email dcevallos@homehospicewtx.com or fax your resume to (432) 264-7597
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Health Care Professionals

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If you are a person committed to providing quality care, please apply in person or email resume to:
Stanton Nursing & Rehabilitation, L.P.
1100 West Broadway, Stanton, TX 79782
Phone: 432-756-2841 Fax: 432-756-2190
ADM.Stanton@daybreakventure.com
For other job opportunities please visit: www.daybreakventure.com EOE

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Call 263-7331 Today!

West Texas Centers
Case Manager for Mental Health: Assists individuals in gaining access to medical, social, vocational and educational services. Requires Bachelors degree in Social Work field or Bachelor's degree with a minimum of 24 hours in psychology, sociology or other human service hours. Base salary \$14.71-\$15.72 per hour (\$30,588.00-\$32,700.00 annually) DOE, plus excellent benefit package. Four day work week is possible. Flexible schedule offered. Crisis on-call rotation required. Applicants must live within 70-mile radius of duty.
Applications available at 409 Runnels or www.wtcmhm.org or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769.EOE

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Last Day for Venus in Aries

This is your last chance to take advantage of the fiery energy of Venus in Aries, the sign of initiation, newness and beginner's luck. If there's someone you want to know better, ask now while the energy is impulsive, passionate and assertive. Tomorrow, a new cycle in the realm of romance begins: cooler, measured and grounded.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's an important interaction happening — at least it's important to you. You have ideas about what may come of this. You'd be wise to narrow your focus ahead of time by choosing one goal for your conversation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be inspired by those who carry large burdens and still choose to reach beyond themselves and focus on a bigger picture. What you might not see is that their strength comes from getting involved with people like you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You've seen this dynamic before. The powers that be are dead wrong, and the village idiot is actually the wisest person in town. Today, there's something deeply satisfying about the turnaround.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You unfold daily in new and surprising ways. It's a fact. The one who sees it this way is living in the truth and is your love. The one who doesn't is, in short, not for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Whatever your age, the other ages you have been are still inside of you. That's what gives you compassion and patience for those who are irritatingly younger than you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). This is the right time for a navigational check. Can you find your current position on the map of your life? Knowing where you are in relation to your goals will renew



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your sense of purpose.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The rule of the cool is: Never hurry. This sometimes goes against the primal fight-or-flight instinct, which you may notice today. Stay super-cool. Resist the immediate urge to run.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The principles other generations used to get through life remain relevant, and yet you will find today that you need a completely different set of tools in order to tackle modern problems.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Is the world ready for your brand-new solution? Or do they even notice the problems like you do? There is only one good way to predict what happens next: Make it happen.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The gifts of the day satisfy your curiosity and bring unexpected amusements. In the evening, you'll be inspired to pay it forward, delighting others with all you've learned.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are up to something. There are many variables that will play into this, so it is wise to take small steps and pause to evaluate after each one along the way. You'll slowly build on what you learn.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Certain things will seem harder or take longer to accomplish than you would like now. This is exactly the kind of thing you need in order to develop patience and a generally easy-going attitude.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 14). Challenging things look easy to you because you are filled with boldness. And while you accomplish big feats in the next six weeks, you must be careful not to take on so much at once that life becomes joyless. June's support, friendship and fun will keep you motivated. Financial backing comes in August. Pisces

and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 22, 12, 4 and 23.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: The Aries rule comes to a close this week, as the sun's rays extend to Taurus on Friday. Ladies first, though. Venus slips into Taurus on Monday, making certain that the bullish accommodations are fit for the solar king.

After traveling in Aries these past few weeks, Venus was used to being bold, impulsive and sometimes too feisty for her own good. If you had trouble getting along with loved ones while Venus was in Aries, the sign of the warrior, this week's change should be a welcome shift that adds reasonableness and a sensual and grounded energy to the love scene.

Taurus also introduces a factor into the cosmic conversation that Venus in Aries liked to gloss over, and that is the financial balance of relationships. Efforts that you might not have thought of in financial terms seem to come with obvious price tags. Everything has a cost, and Venus in Taurus wants to know upfront: How much?

The sun in Taurus on Friday whets our appetites for quality and luxury. It also toys with our sense of necessity. Only the truly wise understand how little is really necessary.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: "Little Miss Sunshine" star Abigail Breslin is bridging into adulthood with a full schedule of movie projects in the upcoming year, including the star-studded John Wells film "August: Osage County." The fiery Aries will hold her own among megastars like Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts. Breslin's natal sun, Mars and Saturn in Aries spells fearless.

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Judge denies \$20M severance deal for AMR CEO

DALLAS (AP) — A federal bankruptcy judge has denied a proposed \$20 million severance payment for the CEO of American Airlines as part of the company's merger with US Airways.

The judge ruled that the proposed payment to CEO Tom Horton exceeded limits that Congress set for bankruptcy cases in 2005.

The U.S. trustee's office, part of the Department of Justice, had objected to Horton's compensation. Judge Sean Lane declined to approve the payment during a hearing on March 28, but he didn't issue a ruling until

Thursday. Spokespeople for AMR did not immediately return a request for comment.

At that hearing last month, however, Lane approved the plan for American Airlines parent AMR Corp. to merge with US Airways Group Inc. in a deal that would create the world's largest airline. The merger is being reviewed by U.S. antitrust regulators.

Under the merger deal, the new company will be called American Airlines but run by US Airways CEO Doug Parker. Horton would serve as chairman for a few months and then

leave with a severance of \$19.875 million equally divided between cash and stock.

The trustee's office argued that severance payments to insiders such as CEOs can't be more than 10 times the average severance pay for non-management employees.

AMR argued that the limit didn't apply because the payment would be made by the new company formed after AMR emerges from bankruptcy protection.



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► **Business briefs**

Banks rethink the branch, but will it work?

NEW YORK (AP) — In an age when checks can be deposited by smartphone and almost everyone retrieves

cash from ATMs, the corner bank can seem a relic, with its paper deposit slips, marble countertops and human tellers behind glass partitions.

But some banking executives say the brick-and-mortar branch is still

the best way to serve existing customers and snag new ones. They're trying to rebuild the nation's neighborhood banks into hip, airy spaces where customers sign up for loans without touching a piece of paper, sign in to ATMs with a tap of their smartphones and talk to off-site tellers by video.

Flashiness is only part of the reason for the makeovers. Mounting costs from legal fees and new regulations — vestiges of the financial crisis — have given the banks good reason to become more efficient. The new branches will help them replace expensive human workers with cheaper machines, a development that could eventually make the bank teller an endangered species.

Obama budget: Spending cuts, smokers' taxes up

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mixing modest curbs on spending with tax increases reviled by Republicans, President Barack Obama proposed a \$3.8 trillion budget that would raise taxes on smokers and wealthy Americans and trim Social Security benefits for millions.

Obama's 2014 blueprint combines a \$242 billion infusion of new spending for road and rail projects, early education and jobs initiatives — all favored by Democrats — with longer-

term savings from programs including Medicare and the military. It promises at least a start in cutting huge annual federal deficits.

The president pitched his plan as a good-faith offer to his GOP rivals since it incorporates a proposal he made to Republicans in December that wasn't radically different from a GOP plan drafted by House Speaker John Boehner. But it follows January's bitterly fought 10-year, \$600 billion-plus tax increase that has stiffened GOP resolve against further tax hikes.

PC sales plunge as Windows 8 flops

NEW YORK (AP) — Microsoft's Windows 8 software appears to be driving buyers away from PCs and toward smartphones and tablets, research firm IDC said Wednesday. That's leading to the fastest drop in PC sales the firm has ever seen.

Global shipments of PCs fell 14 percent in the first three months this year, IDC said. That's the sharpest plunge since the firm started tracking the industry in 1994.

The report comes after a year of bad news for the PC. Consumers, especially in wealthy countries like the U.S., are steering their dollars toward tablets and smartphones rather than upgrading their home PCs.



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