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# BIG SPRING HERALD

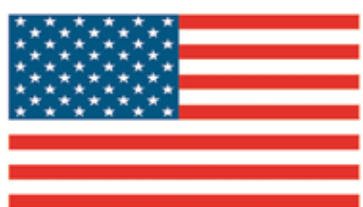
MONDAY EDITION,  
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VOLUME 115, NUMBER 103

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## Big Spring High School hosted Howard County Sheriff Forum

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**

Managing Editor

*Editor's Note: This article contains an overview of the first part of the questions and answers from the Sheriff Forum. This article only contains part of the community questions asked. The questions proposed by the candidates to each other will appear in the Tuesday edition of the Big Spring Herald, along with the rest of the questions. For the forum in it's entirety, visit the Big Spring High School website or YouTube channel.*



HERALD photo/Amanda Duforat

**The Howard County Sheriff Forum took place at the Big Spring High School Library on Saturday morning. Community members had an opportunity to hear from both candidates and speak with them one-on-one after.**

Community members gathered at the Big Spring High School Library on Saturday morning, to hear from the two candidates running for Howard County Sheriff. The forum was hosted by Big Spring High School students. Each candidate was presented with a set of questions before the forum and had 90 seconds to respond. Candidates took part in a coin toss with Stan Parker winning the coin toss allowing him to present his opening statement first.

There were nine questions submitted by the community for the candidates to answer, along with three questions for each candidates from the other candidate. At the beginning of the forum, each candidate was allotted three minutes for an opening statement.

In Stan Parker's opening statement he

offered the following:

"I hope by being here today you can gather a little bit of knowledge about our experience, and what we do as the job of the Sheriff of Howard County," Stan Parker, Sheriff incumbent, said. "The Sheriff's Office today plays a very active role in the community. We are very active in school safety and ingrained with mental health..."

He continued, "The Sheriff plays an

active role in the community, community relations, and listens to the needs of the community. A sheriff's office to me is more than just an office that goes out and writes tickets..."

Stan Parker, according to the information provided in his opening, was raised in Knott and graduated from Sands High School in 1982. He began his law enforcement career with Big Spring

See **FORUM**, Page 3

### Upcoming Event

Today

Quilt of Valor presentation  
 Honoring first responders  
 Dora Roberts - 6 p.m.

Tuesday

City Council Meeting  
 5:30 p.m.  
 Council Chambers

Feb. 1

Naz Academy  
 Chili Cookoff  
 5 p.m.

Entries still being accepted

Feb. 7

Chamber Extravaganza  
 Howard Co. Fairgrounds  
 Tickets on sale, call  
 Big Spring Chamber of  
 Commerce  
 Nominations for 5 under  
 55 being accepted now

Feb. 8

Big Spring Symphony  
 presents:  
 Beethoven is 250  
 Municipal Auditorium

March 7-8

Cowboys and Heels  
 Dorothy Garrett Coliseum

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Find us online at:  
 www.bigspringherald.com

## Final reading of Sanctuary City for the Unborn ordinance and amendment on City Council agenda

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**

Managing Editor

The ordinance declaring Big Spring a Sanctuary City for the Unborn will go through the final reading during the regular session of City Council set for Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. This meeting will once again be held in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. 4th Street.

In addition to the final reading there will be possible amended to: Ordinance Outlawing Abortion to read as:

Final Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13 Entitled "Health and Safety" by adding a new article 15 entitled "Protection of the Unborn" in Order to Protect the Lives of Unborn Children by Outlawing Abortion Within the City Limits of Big

Spring, Texas; Declaring the City of Big Spring, Texas a Safe Haven for the Unborn; Making Various Provisions and Findings Related Thereto; Providing for a Penalty Upon the Overturning of Row v. Wade by the Supreme Court of the United States; Providing for Severability; Providing for Publication; and Providing an Effective Date.

A presentation regarding the upcoming 2020 United States Census will be presented to the council members, after a donation from North Side Movement and the Big Spring Professional Firefighter Association of Equipment for the wellness program at each fire station.

As part of new business, the City Council will have the first reading of an ordinance

calling for a General Election to be held on May 2, 2020 for the purpose of electing a City Council member for District 1 and City Council member for District 3; providing for the conduct of the election; authorizing the Mayor to execute notice and have the notice posted for the purpose of notifying the public fo said election; and providing for severability.

There will also be a first reading of a resolution authorizing and appointing the City Manager to submit an application to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division for a grant to secure funding for Negotiators Crisis Response Throw Phone and providing an effective date.

Other agenda items to be discussed include:

- Approval of the City Council Minutes of the Special Meeting of Jan. 13, 2020 and Regular Meeting of Jan. 14, 2020.

- Final reading of an ordinance amending number 035-2019 which adopted the annual budget for fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 2019 and ending Sept. 30, 2020 by increasing the general fund budget by accepting a donation to be used for additional equipment for the Fire Department; providing severability; providing for publication; and providing an effective date.

- Final reading of an ordinance amending ordinance number 035-2019 which adopted the annual budget for year beginning Oct. 1, 2019,

See **FINAL**, Page 3

## The Wisdom of History: Lecture 3: Hitler's Rise

By **ANNA GUTIERREZ**

Staff Writer



HERALD file photo

**The lectures are held every Tuesday in the Howard County Library classrooms.**

When World War I ended, Hitler was a young man of 29 and was recuperating from a poison gas attack. Knowing Germany had been defeated, Hitler felt his world had collapsed and that is was his duty to regain the honor of Germany.

Hitler was born in Austria, part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Even though he wasn't born in Germany, he was German through and through. He was a good student but rebelled against authority. He dropped out of school to

study art in Vienna, wandered through Europe and finally moved to Munich to escape to avoid required enlistment into the Austrian army.

Hitler studied history while living in homeless shelters in Germany. Darwinism as he saw it, survival of not only the fittest person but the fittest nation, is what drove Hitler and his memoirs Mein Kampf, translated to My Struggle. Racism was very popular.

When WWI started, Hitler joined the German army, where he excelled.

See **LECTURE**, Page 3

**Why it is Important to See a Hearing Care Professional**

- Hearing loss may be just earwax or possibly other medical conditions, heart disease, diabetes, sleep apnea and more.
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 Visit us online at: AllAboutHearing4U.com

**Dr. Sally, AuD, CCG-A, Audiologist**



## Obituaries

### Margie Myers



Margie Myers of Big Spring passed into the arms of Jesus on Friday, Jan. 24, 2020. A celebration of life will be held Thursday, Jan. 30, at 2 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home in Big Spring with Mark Lindsey of First Baptist Church, Big Spring officiating.

Family visitation will be at the Funeral Home Wednesday, Jan. 29, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Margie was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Sam, on April 24, 2017, and one son, Alan, on September 6, 2012.

She is survived by seven children and spouses: Karin Petty of Georgetown, Carol and Richard Northrip of Southlake; Bob and Sandra Petty of Southlake; David and Peggy Petty of Foley, Alabama, Jim and Melissa Petty of Snyder; Mike and Sherri Petty of Runaway Bay; and Karen Galvan of Houston; 5 stepsons: Charles Myers of Appaloosa, LA, David Myers of Katy, Phillip Myers of Big Spring, Bruce Myers of Kerrville, and Thomas Myers of Houston; two brothers: Bobby & Barbara Welch of Ace, and Jerry Welch of Big Spring; 16 grandchildren, and 29 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **AMADOR RIOS JR.**, 38, of 1611 Lark St., was arrested on charges of evading arrest or detention with previous conviction, and criminal mischief (\$100 to \$750).

- **JIMMY JOE SANCHEZ**, 42, of 1005 E. 15th St., was arrested on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, and fraudulent use or possession of identifying information (over 50 items).

- **REBECCA GOMEZ**, 30, of 1511 S. Johnson, was arrested on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, and fraudulent use or possession of identifying information (over 50 items).

- **DAMIAN ISMALE LUJAN**, 35, of 1014 Nolan St., was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass.

- **MARION THOMAS DISON**, 50, of 1115 N. Jefferson, Hobbs, New Mexico, was arrested on two outstanding warrants from other agencies.

- **CHRISTOPHER DESHUN MINTER**, 47, of 117 Davis Rd., was arrested on two outstanding warrants from other agencies.

- **CHRISTOPHER MATTHEW LOPEZ**, 21, of 1604 Lincoln Ave., was arrested on an outstanding warrant from another agency.

- **MICHELLE RENEE SIMMONS**, 52, of 5706 RR 33, was arrested on a charge of assault causing bodily injury to a family member.

- **ERMELINDA CHARVARRIA CANO**, 34, of 1217 W. 3rd St., was arrested on two outstanding warrants from other agencies.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 100 block of Jefferson St., and in the 2600 block of Chanute Dr.

- **BURGLARY IN PROGRESS** was reported in the 1600 block of State St.

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 5700 block of Ranch Rd. 33

- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 3500 block of E. I-20.

- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1000 block of N. Runnels Sr.

## Take Note

- The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra will present an evening of Beethoven February 8 in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. The evening will be a celebration of the composer's 250th birthday.

Guest conductor John Giordano is returning to Big Spring to conduct the orchestra for this significant event. Soprano Nicole Keeling will be the featured soloist. She's a native of the South Plains of Texas and earned advanced music degrees from the University of Oklahoma. She has appeared in several operas and is a recent district winner in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. Doors open at 6:30 and the performance begins at 7:30 February 8. Ticket outlets include HEB, the Karat Patch, Heritage Museum and Chamber of Commerce.

- Support Kayln Whitehead get to Europe, as part of Team Texas, for an opportunity to play volleyball. On Jan. 25 - until food runs out - Kalyn and her family will be outside Walmart offering brisket burritos, as a fundraiser. There will also be more information on other fundraising opportunities and how to donate to the upcoming trip.

- The Big Spring Amateur Radio Club will be hosting a Ham Radio Training Course for Technician Class Certification. The class will meet Monday and Thursday nights from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The dates are: Monday, Jan. 20, Thursday, Jan. 23, Monday, Jan. 27, and Thursday, Jan. 30. Upon completion of the classes, a testing date will be scheduled to accommodate those in the class. For more information, email Henry Hunter at [hhunter@poka.com](mailto:hhunter@poka.com), or Pepper Sullivan at [wpsull911@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wpsull911@sbcglobal.net).

- VFW Post 2013 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. New members are being sought. The Post is located at 500 Driver Rd. Qualified veterans, those who have served in a foreign war, who are interested in joining the VFW are encouraged to attend a meeting to find out more information.

- DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible?

There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for informa-

tion. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

- Food2Kids will again be providing sack lunches to children in the Big Spring area who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It takes just a couple of hours of your time, and the work is very rewarding. The next sacking event of this 2019-2020 school year will be Monday, Feb. 3 and Tuesday Feb. 4, and they will continue throughout the year on the first Monday and Tuesday of the month. To volunteer, just show up at Lakeview High School located at 1107 N.W. 7th St., at 5:30 p.m. You can follow their Facebook page for additional information <https://www.facebook.com/food2kids/>.

- O'Neal-Kunkle, Chapter #47 of the Disabled American Vets (D.A.V.), meets the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at 2204 Runnels Street. For more information, please contact Norman Witcher at 432-413-6663.

- Senior and/or mature adults are invited to come to a dance every first and third Friday each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center, located at 100 Whipkey Drive. Come two-step the evening away, or just mingle with old friends and make new friends. Dances are from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live entertainment. No alcohol or smoking permitted. Cost is \$5 per person.

- Home Hospice is looking for volunteers (18+) and junior volunteers (9-16 years old). Applications can be picked up at the Home Hospice office, located at 111 E. Seventh Street, Suite A between 8 a.m and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Adult volunteers will need to complete a training and must be able to pass a background check. Volunteer duties will include home visits; junior volunteers will be helping with office work, community events and holiday activities. More information can be obtained by calling 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

Law Offices of  
**RICK W. HAMBY**  
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Telephone (432) 264-9600  
Telecopier (432) 264-9696  
e-mail: [rickhambylaw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rickhambylaw@sbcglobal.net)

January 10, 2020  
An Open Letter to my clients:

After more than 45 years of practicing law I have determined that it is time to begin the process of closing my law office. It will take awhile to finish up, but to those of you who have pending cases with me I will continue on it until it is completed. We need to get together to determine exactly where we are on your case, therefore, it will be necessary for you to contact me so that we can discuss your case and its status.

My office hours will be cut back to 2 mornings a week Tuesday and Wednesday from (9:00 AM to noon) or by special appointment. Appointment can be made by calling:

my office - (432) 264-9600  
my home - (432) 263-0493

Also, you can leave a message at the physical mailbox at my office. I will check it regularly and return an answer to your written message.

I have been the luckiest man in the world to have found so much patronage and loyalty in this community and my family and I will be eternally grateful.

Thanks  
Rick Hamby  
Attorney at Law

## Support Groups

### MONDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees It, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### TUESDAY

- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson's Disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

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

- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

- Caregivers Support Group, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The meetings are held at the Senior Citizens Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. These meetings are open for any caregiver, whether medical professional or family member. For more information, please call Becky Letz at 267-1628.

- Al-anon family group meets at 8 p.m. at 615 Settles.

- DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible?

There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. The next session begins Sept. 3, 2019. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

### WEDNESDAY

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

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**TPA** MEMBER 2020  
**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**



**FINAL**

Continued from Page 1

and ending Sept. 30, 2020 by increasing the general fund budget by accepting a safer grant to be used for additional expenses for 10 new firefighters; providing for severability; providing for publication; and providing an effective date.

- Reminder that City Council Chambers will be closed for remodel Feb. 10-24.
- Applications needed for an engineer for architect board member for adjustments and appeals and an alternate for zoning board of adjustments.
- Approval of Big Spring Economic

Development Corporation Board of Director's minutes for the regular meeting of Dec. 17, 2019; for Traffic Commission Minutes for the regular meeting of Dec. 12, 2019; for Parks and Recreation Board minutes for the regular meeting of Nov. 20, 2019; and for Convention and Visitors Bureau Committee minutes for the regular meeting of Dec. 4, 2019.

- Vouchers for 01/16/2020 and 01/23/2020
- Consideration and possible action of a Security Awareness Policy to comply with HB No. 3834.
- Consideration and possible action of a site plan for Caprock and an agreement and authorize the Mayor

to execute any necessary documents.

- Consider and possible action of an Amendment No. 1 to the Freese and Nichols Professional Services Agreement and authorizing the Mayor to execute any necessary documents.
- Consideration and Possible action of an agreement and Professional Services Relation to Site/Design for entry roads at the McMahan Wrinkle Industrial Park with TGB Group and authorizing the Mayor to execute any necessary documents.
- Consideration and possible action of a donation of a surplus generator to Howard College
- Appointment to the Traffic Commission for an unexpired term 9-2020

- listing - application Diane Yanez.

The council members will retire into Executive Session to consult with the City Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation and quarterly report; discuss personnel matters: City Attorney and City Manager. After Executive Session the council will reconvene in open session and take any necessary action on items discussed during Executive Session and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documents.

*Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, email editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.*

**FORUM**

Continued from Page 1

Police Department. He graduated from Howard College in 1988 and 2000 graduate of the Law Enforcement Institute of Texas, with over 30 years of law enforcement experience with 19 of that in upper administration of law enforcement.

As part of Tad Ellis's opening statement he offered the following:

Regarding his background, in 2008, Ellis retired from being a full-time police officer. He moved to Howard County about seven years ago to be closer to his family. He also mentioned his background regarding SRO programs; one of which he administered, wrote the grant for, and reported the program is still in place.

"Since relocating I have been hearing about how frustrated people are with law enforcement. Last year I began toying with the idea of running for Sheriff," Tad Ellis said. "As I began to talk to people I began to garner more and more support. The platform I want to convey is that I am a good alternative to the status quo."

Below are a few of the questions, along with answers from both candidates, that were addressed in the forum:

**What role do you feel that law enforcement, the sheriff's office, should play in school safety, in Howard County?**

**Tad Ellis:** "I believe law enforcement should play a big role. If it were up to me I would like to see a school resource officer, assigned to every campus in the county. Not just for enforcement purposes. I think we need officers in the school especially in this day and time to help develop relationships with today's youth ... if we can be in the school we can develop those relationships and show them that we are on their side. I think it's also important to have SRO's on campus for obvious reasons, security, active shooters, and things like that ... if law enforcement leaders and school leaders could

come together we could budget getting officers in each campus."

**Stan Parker:** The Law Enforcement and Sheriff's Office should play a major role in school security and safety. In 2013, we got with Coahoma and Foran, who did not have a resource officer program, both schools came to an agreement and we started a School Officer Resource program in both schools ... the SRO I am very passionate about because I was one at BSISD for five years. We are deeply involved with each school in teaching the Guardian Program. The Police Department, Sheriff's Office and DPS are all training with the schools ..."

**What do you believe is the most important issue facing the position in which you are running, and what do you intend to do about it?**

**Tad Ellis:** "... The narcotics trade. I can link every crime that is committed in Howard County and the City of Big Spring back to narcotics, be it theft, criminal mischief, ... something has to be done about the narcotic trade in Big Spring. There are too many people getting away with it. It's not like people don't know what's going on, they see it and nothing's being done. There is no dedicated unit or group of people in the Sheriff's office that enforce narcotic laws; bottom line, we can prove it statistically, all the crime goes back to those drug dealers and drug users. If elected I plan to have dedicated, knowledgeable people to enforce narcotic drug laws in the county."

**Stan Parker:** "The amount of population we have from the oil boom. It not only stresses the infrastructure of the communities, water systems and roads, but it stresses the infrastructure of law enforcement. When I started in 2009, we had 12 deputies; we are up to 24 now, we added two this year and trying to meet the needs. We are answering about 500 calls a month now and in 2009 we were averaging a little over 100. When the jail opened, the study showed it would last the next 30 years, and we have reached capacity a number of times; we are still fighting that everyday."

**What unique skill set do you bring to the table?**

**Tad Ellis:** "My current job has me going to a different police department every week ... I am able to see what leadership styles, philosophies are successful and what aren't. I plan on bringing those to Howard County. I am personable and approachable. I have been in law enforcement and public safety for 30 years ... One thing unique about me, and I hear it as a con, but I don't see it. Yeah, I'm not from here ... but the benefit of that is I don't know most of you. I don't know who the players are or who the money people are; I don't care. If you come to me, and you break the law it's equal justice under the law. I will make sure your prosecuted and go to jail. The only person I really know here is my family, and my mother in law, most of you know I wouldn't hesitate to put my mother in law in jail."

**Stan Parker:** "I was born and raised here. I know the people of this community, have good relationships, good rapport with the different leaders of this community. My 30 years of law enforcement experience ... I have pretty good people skills, ability to approach, strike up a conversation with people that way we can get to a working solution."

The last of the questions, along with the candidate questions, will be in the Tuesday edition of the Big Spring Herald.

*Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.*

**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
24th & Johnson 267-8288

Oscar Canales, Sr., 62, died Wednesday. Funeral Mass will be at 11:00 AM Monday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Margie Myers, 89, died Friday. The family will receive friends from 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

**LECTURE**

Continued from Page 1

After the war, he stayed in the army to investigate radical organizations, and he also joined the National Socialist German Workers' Party, whose views very much aligned with Hitler's. It was during this time that Hitler realized he was a good speaker. According to Hitler, the key was to say little and to lie. He began slandering Jews and blaming them for the losses suffered in WWI.

When the Great Depression hit, more Germans joined the National Socialist Party. Hitler became the leader of this party in January 1933 and started putting his policies in place. He made military service mandatory again. His first expansion was to annex Austria, a clear violation of the Versailles Treaty. The rest of Europe stood by and watched. Britain sought trade agreements with Germany thinking a free-market economy would prevent another war.

As we now know, this did not stop Hitler, and he gained even more power. By 1939, Hitler felt he had restored the splendor of Germany. Europe would be drawn into another war, and six millions Jews died, about two thirds of the Jewish population in Europe.

The next lecture will focus on World War II. The lectures take place every Tuesday at noon at the Howard County Library, in one of the classrooms in the basement.

Contact Staff Writer Anna Gutierrez at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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# Local high schools compete at Coahoma Invitational over the weekend



HERALD Photos/Shawn Moran

Pictured above left: Coahoma lifter Ky Kemper gets ready for the bench press at the Coahoma Invitational on Saturday. Pictured above center: A Big Spring team member prepares to squat. Pictured above right: Snyder's Reyes Silva squats a huge amount at the meet and would place first with a final set of 740 pounds.

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

COAHOMA — All three local high schools took part in the Coahoma Invitational powerlifting meet over the past weekend.

When all of the weights had been racked and the winners had been announced, the trio of Big Spring, Coahoma, and Forsan had all finished strongly.

Big Spring lifter Cruz Martinez finished first in the 123-pound weight class. His teammates Mattox Evans, Shawn Mendoza, and Andrew Roberts each placed second in their respective weight classes.

With just under 20 schools participating in the Coahoma Invitational, placing that high is something to be proud of.

Coahoma Bulldogs that finished in the Top Five of their weight class include Kobe Cervantes and Hector Colon-Rivera. Cervantes squatted a staggering 515 pounds and deadlifted a 435 more. With his bench press included, the junior combined to lift over 1,200 pounds.

The Forsan Buffaloes had only six lifters participating over the weekend but four of those boys finished in the Top Five. Boyzz Guzman, Bryson Kinsey, Jake Patterson, and Nathaniel Whitemore all concluded the day in the top five of their weight classes and produced a strong showing for the Buffs in Coahoma.

The highest male powerlifter of the day was Snyder's Reyes Silva who lifted a combined 1,620 pounds over the three lifts. The biggest lifter for the Big

Spring area was Andrew Roberts, who lifted 1,365 pounds.

On the girl's side, two Big Spring Lady Giants finished in first place in their weight class. Jocelyn Gonzales and Alani Torres were two of the best powerlifters of the weekend and both finished their day lifting well over 700 pounds. Torres concluded her competition lifting a combined 740 pounds while Gonzales dominated the field and lifted 870 pounds total while finished in third-place overall.

Coahoma had the top two finishers of the 97-pound weight class in winner Christian Everett and runner-up Delaney Chandler. The Bulldogettes also had four other second-place finishers: Serena Dobbs, Cailey Glover, Kirah Kimball, and Madison Rogers.

"Yes! New PR," Coahoma coach Coley Dobbs exclaimed while watching one of his lifters set a new personal record.

Forsan had four girls participating on Saturday afternoon and two of them, Honesty Mendez and Kelcey Zubiato, finished as high as second place.

The biggest lifter on the women's side was Snyder's Tegan Dickson after lifting 990 pounds. By the end of the season, she is sure to break the 1,000-pound barrier.

UP NEXT: The powerlifting season will continue next month.

Shawn Moran is the sports editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, email sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

# Kobe Bryant left deep legacy in LA sports, basketball world

By GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant inspired a generation of basketball players worldwide with sublime skills and an unquenchable competitive fire.

He earned Los Angeles' eternal adoration during his two decades as the fierce soul of the beloved Lakers, and he was respected by basketball fans from every place with a hoop and a dream, including his native Philadelphia and in Italy, his other childhood home.

Less than four years into his retirement, Bryant was seizing new challenges and working to inspire his daughters' generation through sports and storytelling when his next chapter ended shockingly early.

Bryant, the 18-time All-Star who won five NBA championships and became one of the greatest basketball players of his generation during a 20-year career all with the Lakers, died in a helicopter crash Sunday. He was 41.

The crash occurred in the foggy hills above Calabasas, California, about 30 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles. Bryant was killed, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press, and a different person familiar with the case confirmed Bryant's 13-year-old daughter Gianna also died.

Both of the AP's unnamed sources spoke on condition of anonymity because few details of the crash had been released publicly.

Authorities said nine people were on the helicopter, and all were presumed dead. No names were released.

Bryant lived south of Los Angeles in coastal Orange County, and he often used helicopters to save time and avoid Southern California's notorious traffic. He traveled to practices and games by helicopter before his playing career ended in 2016. He continued to use them after retirement as he attended to his new ventures, which included a burgeoning entertainment company that recently produced an Academy Award-winning

animated short film.

The basketball world and Los Angeles reacted with an outpouring of pain and disbelief. Bryant is all but certain to be elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame this year, when he is eligible for the first time.

"For 20 seasons, Kobe showed us what is possible when remarkable talent blends with an absolute devotion to winning," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said. "He was one of the most extraordinary players in the history of our game with accomplishments that are legendary ... but he will be remembered most for inspiring people around the world to pick up a basketball and compete to the very best of their ability."

The crash occurred about 20 miles from the Mamba Sports Academy, Bryant's basketball training complex in Newbury Park, California. A youth basketball tournament — the Mamba Cup — was scheduled for a second day of competition Sunday at the facility, and Bryant had attended the opening day Saturday with Gianna.

Bryant and his wife, Vanessa, had four daughters. He had been a vocal booster of women's sports since his retirement, coaching and mentoring basketball players around the world while also backing women's soccer and other endeavors.

Bryant retired as the third-leading scorer in NBA history with 33,643 points, all scored in Lakers purple and gold. The self-nicknamed Black Mamba was a prolific, gifted shooter with a sublime all-around game and a relentless, hard-edged work ethic that thrilled his fans and almost everyone else, even those who reviled him.

Taking cues from Michael Jordan, one of his idols, Bryant played with a swagger that compelled him to talk trash, to guard the toughest opponents, to play through pain and to demand the ball at the biggest moments of games.

He didn't always hit them, but Bryant never stopped trying.

"He had zero flaws offensively," LeBron James said Saturday night. "Zero. You backed off of him, he could shoot the 3. You body him up a little bit, he

could go around you. He could shoot from mid-range. He could post. He could make free throws. ... He was just immortal offensively because of his skill set and his work ethic."

Bryant held the No. 3 spot in the league scoring ranks until the day before his death, when James passed him during the Lakers' game in Philadelphia.

On Saturday night, James said he was "happy just to be in any conversation with Kobe Bean Bryant, one of the all-time greatest basketball players to ever play. One of the all-time greatest Lakers."

Bryant always reacted graciously to the achievements of James, his former on-court rival who joined the Lakers in 2018.

"Continuing to move the game forward @KingJames," Bryant wrote in his last tweet. "Much respect my brother."

Tim Duncan, the San Antonio Spurs great who also retired in 2016, is also expected to be part of the Hall of Fame class that will be announced at the NBA's All-Star weekend next month. Duncan, now a Spurs assistant, was visibly emotional on the bench during their game against Toronto on Sunday.

Bryant had been spending more time with his daughters since leaving the league. The Bryants' first daughter, Natalia, turned 17 a week ago. Bianca Bella Bryant is 3 years old, and Capri Kobe Bryant was born last June.

Gianna, better known as Gigi, had a promising youth career and a competitive pugnaciousness that reminded everybody of her dad. Bryant sat with her courtside at a Brooklyn Nets game late last year, clearly passing along his wisdom to his daughter.

Bryant told Jimmy Kimmel in 2018 that Gianna wanted to play in the WNBA and recalled how fans would often approach him saying "you gotta have a boy, you gotta someone to carry on the tradition, the legacy."

Gianna took exception: "She's like, 'Oy, I got this,'" Bryant recalled.

News of Bryant's death inspired an outpouring of grief around the sports

world and beyond, but it was felt particularly painfully in Los Angeles, where Bryant was unquestionably the sprawling city's most popular athlete and one of its most beloved people. Buildings in downtown Los Angeles International Airport were illuminated in Lakers purple and gold.

The Lakers' next game is Tuesday night against the crosstown rival Clippers, but hundreds of fans — many in Bryant jerseys and Lakers gear — spontaneously gathered at Staples Center and in the surrounding LA Live entertainment complex on Sunday, weeping and staring at video boards with Bryant's image before the Grammy awards ceremony.

"I thought he was going to live forever," Lakers great Magic Johnson told KCBS-TV. "I thought he was invincible. ... There was nobody who took more pride in putting on that Laker uniform than Kobe. Nobody. He was just special. We will miss him and we'll remember him for his greatness, but let's not forget how he impacted the world, too."

Bryant retired as the Lakers' franchise leader in points, games played, 3-pointers and steals — no small feats on a franchise that has employed many of the greatest players in basketball history.

The NBA kept its games on as scheduled when the news broke. The Spurs and Raptors both took voluntary 24-second shot clock violations at the start of their game in honor of Bryant, who wore No. 24 for the second half of his career.

Several other teams followed up by deliberately taking delays of 24 and 8 seconds, honoring both of his jersey numbers. Many players were seen crying before their games, and James looked emotional on the tarmac when he got off the Lakers' team plane from Philadelphia.

Bryant's future appeared to be limitless in retirement, whether in sports or entertainment. He opened a production company shortly after leaving the Lakers, saying he was just as passionate about storytelling as he had been about his sport.



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**Annie's Mailbox**

**Working Within**

**Dear Annie:** I want to thank you for your response to the man who wrote to you concerning getting closure with the father who had abused him.

It was quite helpful to me, as my situation is similar. I struggle daily with guilt at not being able to have a relationship with my parents. My mother was quite abusive to me, and my father did nothing to stop it.

Both of my parents had their own problems, but I find it extremely difficult to forgive them. I did confront my mother, and she apologized, but that did little to heal my pain. Your suggestion to talk to the child who was abused was very helpful. Thank you. -- Getting to Know My Younger Self

**Dear Younger Self:** Thank you for sharing your experience, and congratulations as you begin your own journey of healing. Your letter brings up a great point; namely, that unloading our anger and hurt on other people does not lead to ultimate peace. What effects change is working on ourselves. Once you do that, you can have a better un-

derstanding as to why your mother was abusive and your father unable to defend you. Best of luck to you as you repair your relationship with yourself and, eventually, with your parents.

**Dear Annie:** I visited my son and his family overseas for two weeks in December this year but left on Dec. 17, so I wasn't there for Christmas. Because I seldom get to give them birthday or Christmas gifts in person, I spent a lot of time, thought and money on gifts for my three grandchildren and was very excited to give these gifts and to enjoy their excitement. I felt (and still feel) very sad, frustrated and hurt when my daughter-in-law refused to let the children open their gifts until Christmas Day.

The reasons she gave were that the children -- ages 3, 6 and 9, bright and well-adjusted -- would wonder why they didn't get a gift from me on Christmas Day and that she doesn't want them to get too wound up before Christmas. I also did not get to open the gifts they made for me while I was with them. I appealed to my son and his wife several

times to reconsider but didn't press the issue because it would have caused tension for the rest of my visit.

Was this rude of them, or am I overreacting? -- Sad and Somewhat Angry Granny

**Dear Sad Granny:** I'm not sure if it was rude of the parents so much as it was controlling. Part of the joy in giving gifts is to see the reaction of the people you love. This is especially true if they live overseas and you don't get to see them much. I'm not sure why you couldn't open the gifts they made for you either. If they were made for you, then you should be able to open them anytime and express your gratitude to your grandchildren. Share with your son and daughter-in-law how much it means to you to open gifts face to face. Perhaps they aren't big gift-givers and don't understand the importance for you. And the next time you visit them all, just say that you are bringing your grandchildren presents -- no special occasion required.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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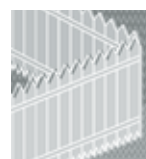
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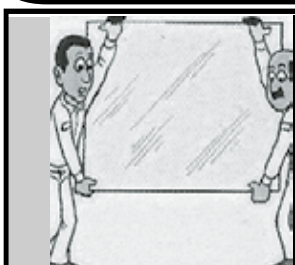
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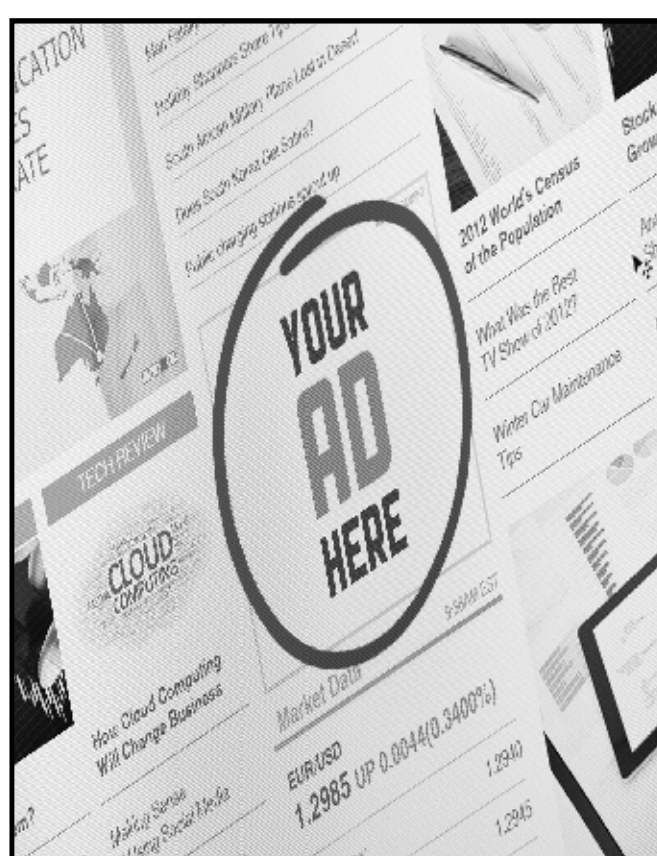
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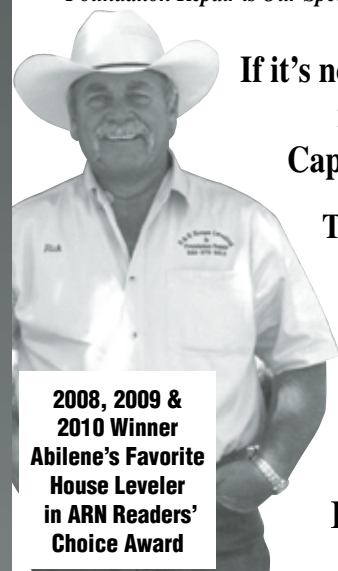
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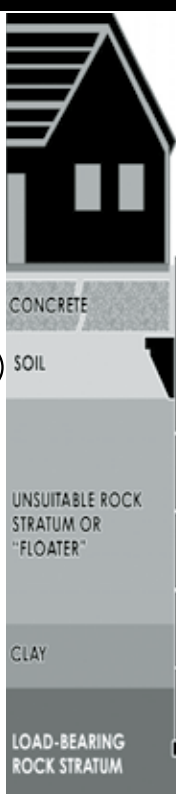
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Venus Hugs the Hurt-  
ing

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Triumph always goes to those who endure, the reason being that endurance itself is the triumph. Wins are celebrated and then forgotten. Attendance records remain.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** You weren't aware while it was happening, but you've changed. You're different. For this reason, you can't go back and continue the old scene; you can only return to transcend it. You can only go back as the new you.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You've a gift for knowing the right thing to say. It sometimes means being frank or crass. You cater the style to the audience. Even so, there will be instances when words just aren't the medium -- action is.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Would you believe that people working together form an enticement that's even stronger than people playing together? It's because there's great comfort in the structure of work. Jobs build bonds.

LEO BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** When you really think about those you serve, your job becomes easier. You expend less effort guessing about what to do and hone in with great empathy on those who need what you can give.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** In moments of loss, people cannot see what will be gained. But you've been through enough life to know that what's gained is often such a better fit. So you trust life, and help others trust, too.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Yes, you are the sign of the scales. That doesn't mean you were meant to be stuck in a back-and-forth pattern. When balance is hard to achieve, maybe you're measuring the wrong things. Time to reassess your values.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Just because a thing must be dealt with doesn't mean it must be tackled head-on. Sidle up. That's a nonconfrontational position that many people respond well to.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Maybe the key to your happiness is one of those automatic ones that stays in your pocket and unlocks when you're near enough to the door. More likely, your happiness can be unlocked through face recognition.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Anxious about the future? Make a plan. Anxious about the plan? Do a brainstorm. Anxious about a brainstorm? Just keep your hand moving around the page and all kinds of answers will come.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Direct loving kindness inwardly follows up as the Metta meditators do with a sequence of compassion that expands evermore inclusively toward loved ones, strangers, enemies and the far reaches of the universe.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Success is within your control. You just don't know what to do yet. It will be tempting to dive in, but it's better to start with research. A systematic approach will take you far.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 27).** You've seen earthquakes of the soul; you've stood in the ruins; you've built the new city. Now you'll draw on those experiences and start running things. You'll learn whom to trust, lean on, delegate to. You're ultra-organized, and your sense of purpose carries over to others. Summer brings foreign travel. Taurus and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 39, 33, 18 and 45.

Write Holiday Mathis at [HolidayMathis.com](http://HolidayMathis.com).

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Contract  
Bridge

By Steve Becker  
Famous Hand

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ J 7 6 2  
♥ K 7 4  
♦ K 9 3  
♣ 10 6 3

**EAST**  
♠ 10 3  
♥ 10 9  
♦ 8 7 5 2  
♣ A K 9 7 2

**WEST**  
♠ Q 4  
♥ 6 5 3  
♦ A Q J 10 6 4  
♣ Q 5

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K 9 8 5  
♥ A Q J 8 2  
♦ —  
♣ J 8 4

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

Opening lead — queen of clubs.  
The late Harry Fishbein, well-known star player and impresario of New York's now defunct Mayfair Bridge Club, was noted most for his imaginative bidding and play.

For Fishbein, there was no such thing as a sacred rule that could not be broken if the situation called for it, and he was always on the lookout for such situations. No one ever accused him of being a monolithic player.

play he was capable of making on the spur of the moment. Fishbein was West, defending against four spades, and he began by leading the queen and another club to East's king.

When East next played the ace of clubs, Fishbein had to decide what to discard. He knew that a fourth club lead by East would promote his queen of spades into the setting trick, but he was afraid East might return a diamond instead. This could prove fatal if South, who had bid two suits and shown up with three clubs, had no diamonds. If this was so, South could ruff the diamond return and cash the A-K of spades to make the contract.

The question, therefore, was how to get East to continue with a fourth club. Discarding a low heart might cause East to lead a diamond, while discarding a low diamond might not be explicit enough. And so, Fishbein did something that very few players would think of — he discarded the ace of diamonds!

It was not difficult for East to grasp the meaning of this extraordinary discard, since he also knew declarer might be void of diamonds. Accordingly, he led the nine of clubs at trick four, and the contract quickly went down the drain.

Tomorrow: Exploratory analysis.  
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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:



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