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MONDAY EDITION, **DECEMBER 28, 2020**

BIG SPRING

VOLUME 116, NUMBER 84



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<u>Upcoming Events</u>

Howard County **Commissioners** Meeting was rescheduled for January 4, after the holidays 3:30 p.m. County Courthouse

City offices available by appointment or electronic communication only

Silver Wings Ball supporting Hangar 25 Jan. 30, 2021 The Club at Silver Hills 5:30 p.m. cocktails 6:45 p.m. dinner,

Wash your hands, wear a mask, social distance when possible. Slow the spread.

dancing, auction

Share your community photos with us. E-mail editor@ bigspringherald.com

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Painting the Town Colorful Big Spring Art students join forces to create new mural

across from Big Spring High School displaying their talent

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

All the world's a stage and all the earth is a canvas, but a brick wall tends to work really well too. Another mural has been placed in Big Spring, and this one is illuminated in the day and night with the bright colors that flows through the

"The basic idea was we wanted to do something really colorful and bright," Morgan Lee, one of the murals sponsors and artists, said. "Our murals are carefully thought out and locations are selected with one thought in mind – will the public see it? This wall is perfect because of the location; we truthat most may not even think The most recent mural is

ly did catch a high traffic area

placed behind Salon 15 and across from Blankenship Field and Family Faith Center. With now more than 20 murals around Big Spring, with many at the hands of RenRobot and Lee in some form or fashion, this one was extra special in that not only was it meant to bring a splash of color and brightness, but it also displays the local art talent that exists in

"With the wall being located near the high school we thought why not reach out to the high

See ART, Page 3



Courtesy photo Texans Helping Texans Initiative has put their creativeness on display once again. This time Big Spring Art students joined in the project, which can be seen near the Big Spring High School.

Checkmate: Big Spring ISD chess competition



BSHS Chess Club sponsored by Anthony Barrera, physics teacher, recently hosted a chess tournament. The tournament featured a number of highly skilled chess players and a good crowd watching the highly competitive matches. The players were under pressure by not only plotting their move and strategy but also having to think under the time constraints. Sponsor Anthony Barrera stated, "I'm very excited about the turnout for this year's tournament. Hopefully, this tournament can grow into a region wide competition by inviting chess played from surrounding high schools."

Moment in Time

Christmas in Big Spring 1890



Courtesy photos/Heritage Museum

Pictured above is Lillian Birdwell on her pony in front of the Birdwell Hotel in 1890. Pictured at right: Christmas tree in 1890, in Big Spring.

Editor's Note: The Heritage Museum is gracious enough to share pieces of Howard County history with the Big Spring Herald and our readers each week, in an effort to not only preserve the memories and the history of those who helped form the foundation for our community, but also as an opportunity for the community to better understand who has come before us. These stories are only pieces of the information that is housed at the Heritage Museum.

By TAMMY SCHRECENGOST

Heritage Museum

The hotel was on the south side of the train tracks and north of 1st Street. As passengers deboarded the train, they could enter the lobby of the hotel which also served as the passenger depot at times. The hotel was called the T&P but was also referred to as Birdwell Hotel. John Birdwell ran the hotel for the Texas and Pacific President, Jay Gould.

John was one of the first settlers in

Big Spring, arriving at the spring in

1881 to open his saloon, "The Long-

horn." He was a former Texas Ranger

and hunting guide to Jay Gould and Mr.

Gould's friend, English nobility, Joseph

Heneage Finch, Earl of Aylesford. John and the Earl became fast friends and drinking buddies. John gave the Earl, the name "Judge" since his title name was so long. During the hot summer months, tall

cottonwood trees gave a little shade, shielding some of the smoke from the engines and blowing sand. John and Annabelle Birdwell raised four small children in the hotel they called home. They enjoyed the daily visitors

Dr. Sally

AND, CCC-A,

Audiologist

See **HISTORY**, Page 3





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Obituaries

Quinton Airhart



Services for Quinton Airhart will be held Sunday, Dec. 27, 2020. The family will attend a private burial at 1 p.m. A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. in the front yard of the Airhart Homestead. Arrangements are under the direction of Branon Funeral Home. To send condolences online, please visit www.branonfuneraralhome.com.

Quinton Elonzo Airhart was born Feb. 15, 1941 to J.E. and Pearl

Airhart. He was the fourth of six children and grew up in the Sparenburg community. Quinton was baptized at an early age in the Sparenburg Baptist Church.

He graduated from Klondike High School, where he met the love of his life, Sharon Vogler Airhart. They were married June 10, 1960 and were married 57 wonderful years until Sharon passed in 2018. They spent the first years of their life together living in the Knott community and farming cotton. They were members of the Knott Riding Club, where he and Sharon taught their daughters Elonna, Roxanne and Shelby the importance of community and developed their love for horses. They moved to their home in the Klondike community in 1973 and became members of Klondike Baptist Church.

Over the years, Quinton and Sharon were involved in many ventures. As a farmer and rancher, Quinton worked hard to make sure his family had every need met. He showed them the importance of a strong work ethic, and how valuable family truly

Their girls showed livestock, as did their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They showed steers, hogs, goats, and lambs, but the lambs were Quinton's favorite. He traveled many miles looking for the best livestock so his girls could succeed. Friends have said he always made the stock show experience a fun one, and he was a force to be reckoned with in the barn. He planted many seeds in others' lives and made an impact on many generations. He loved people. His family extended far beyond relatives. He was known statewide for being someone you could count on to lend a helping hand and offer wisdom. He spent many hours leaning on the back end of a pickup, listening to and advising friends and family members.

Quinton was honored by many in the 4-H and FFA communities, receiving the Silver Spur Award, Friend of 4-H Award, and Honorary Chapter Farmer Degree over the years.

Quinton loved taking family fishing trips with close friends, and many called him "Catfish" as

they spent a lot of time enjoying fishing together. Quinton loved having a boat on the water, and he and Sharon would take their girls to the lake almost every weekend after church. They instilled a love for the lake in their grandchildren through annual trips to Lake LBJ. Many remember fearing for their lives as Quinton pulled them on an innertube behind his boat.

He was an avid supporter of anything involving his grandkids. From basketball and football games to stock shows and FFA and 4-H events, you could find him watching faithfully. He never missed a performance, a game, or an awards banquet. He continued to support community athletes by attending games whenever possible, often with his yorkie Talulah by his side. Friends in his earlier years called him "Lightnin" because he was so fast and loved athletics.

He and his brother Gayland owned and operated the Big Spring Livestock Auction for many years and still had cattle together. He enjoyed his rides to the pasture with Gayland to "check the cows." What a blessing his little brother was.

Quinton was proud to be part of this community. He served as Chairman of the Dawson County Appraisal Board for 21 years.

During the last two years, he spent a lot of time with his dear friend Joe Hughes, who brought joy to his life and helped him maintain a positive outlook on things. They attended the Knott Church of Christ and were there every time the doors were open. He enjoyed spending time with friends he'd made as a young farmer in the Knott community.

He is survived by his daughter Elonna Moore and her husband Richard of Welch; daughter Roxanne Gregory and her husband Todd of Klondike; and daughter Shelby Kerr and her husband Bruce of Tucson, Arizona. His grandchildren Blake and Laura Moore; Haley and Chris Goodman; Mackenzie Allison; Jordan and Matt Moore; Mitchell and Cassidy Gregory; Jeremy Kerr and David Kerr. His great-grandchildren Denton, Reese, and Eleanor Moore; Grayer and Brigham Goodman; Lorelai and Lottie Allison; Walker, Emma, and Sawyer Moore; Graham Gregory; and Analiese, Juliana, and Aston Kerr. His sisters Judy Everts and Glenda Shortes, his brother Gayland Airhart and wife Donna, and his dear friend Joe Hughes.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Sharon, his parents, and two brothers.

Limited seating will be available at the memorial service. The family asks that you bring a chair.

Donations can be made in memory of Quinton to the Tango2 Research Foundation, www.tango2research.org, and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, www.jdrf.org/diabetes/foundation.

Paid Obituary

Jonathan Harmon



Jonathan Harmon, 37, of Grand Prairie, formerly of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020. Family will receive friends at Myers & Smith Funeral Home on Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020 from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m.

Jonathan was born May 22, 1983 in Midland. He grew up in Big Spring and Rockport but had been in Grand Prairie for the last 12 years. He worked at General Motors in Arlington. Jonathan had a great

love for animals of all kinds. He also had a green thumb, love for gardening and was a very talented artist. He could always be found with a grin on his face and his generosity was unmatched.

He is survived by his mother: Tessie Tate Harmon and her husband David Byrd of Grand Prairie, his sister: Tara Harris of Las Colinas, his brother: Jordan Simpson and his wife Jordan Allison of Carrollton, as well as his aunt Sonia Wyrick of Coahoma, uncle Marvin Boyles of Big Spring, cousin Jason Solomon of Friendswood and cousin Ian Boyles of Big Spring.

He was preceded in death by his father: James Harmon; and two grandmothers: Silvia Long and Janie Ringener.

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

Paid Obituary

Johnny Puga

Johnny Puga, 79, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020. Viewing and visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. with a Vigil service at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28, 2020, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral

> service will be on Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020 at 10 a.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will be at Trinitv Memorial Park.

> Johnny was born on March 8, 1941, in Colorado City. He married Judy Bense in 1960. She died in 2009. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and attended Holy Trinity Catholic Church. He owned Puga's Body Shop with his son until

He loved motorcycles and racing stock cars.

He is survived by two sons: Rod Puga and wife Brandy Coleman of Big Spring and Johnny Puga and spouse Wayne Holland of Keller; two daughters: Pam Sylvia Puga and husband Jesse Paul Sylva of Big

Spring and Melissa Puga of Big Spring; 14 grandchildren: Lauren Puga, Julie Puga, Aaron Puga, Brandon Bollier, Jummer Lee Boudreaux, Chad Lee Puga, Crystal Ann Puga, Christa Sylva, Josh Sylva, Kross Jack Weaver, James Puga, Jimmy Roper, Jr., Astion Roper, and Wesley Roper; 8 great grandchildren: Jayleed Puga, Gracy Puga, Britly Puga, Addie Boudreaux, Dawson Garner, Grayson Garner, Axl Roper, and Levi Roper; 3 brothers: Charlie Puga, Cruz Puga, and Ricky Puga; 2 sisters: Mary Urquidez and Betty Sanchez.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by four brothers: James Puga, Freddie Puga, Tony Puga, and Antonio Puga; one sister: Pat Jimenez; and one grandson: Corey Lee Puga.

Pallbearers will be Paul Buriers, Matt Jimenez, Morgan Watson, Chad Puga, Jimmy Roper, and Rod Puga.

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

Paid Obituary

Maria Perez Maria Perez, 80, of Big Spring died Friday, Dec. 25, 2020. Visitation will be 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Wednesday with a vigil service at 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park

Support Groups

MONDAY

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

ness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain

Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• A six-week course in Well-

 Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 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.

TUESDAY



MEMBER

2020

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Pat Richard Rodriguez

Pat Richard Rodriguez finished his life race here on earth and went to be with the Lord on Dec. 22, 2020. He was born July 7, 1962. He is proceeded in death by his Beloved Mother Betty Olague Rodriguez; Best Friend /

Beloved Brother Benito Jose Rodriguez "Benny" He is also survived by his Beloved/Adoring Wife Anna Fratollilo from Bologna Italy. His Beloved Father Patricio Juarez Rodriguez; Four sisters Frances Morales, Patricia Ro-

Big Spring Texas. He was deeply and dearly loved by all his family including his brother in laws, Nephews, Nieces, Aunts, Uncle, Cousins and other close relatives.

bles, Norma Rodriguez Shipp and

Melyssa Rodriguez Lopez, all of

Pat worked as a Jack of all trades he was a handy man carpenter, builder electrician, mechanic, artist, technology, but his favorite profession was being a Plumber. Pat was an awesome hard worker. If he saw something he would figure out how to do it he was always learning and advancing his work skills. He never denied help to people if he knew how to do something he would offer his help and not leave 'til it was done. We could always count on him.

Pat was so In love with his Wife Anna Fratollilo treasured her whole heartedly and adored her every minute of his life. Pat enjoyed his life to the fullest. Here are just a few hobbies and things he enjoyed doing, but the list is so long it would take forever. He was into all kinds of music, rock concerts, swimming, fishing, camping, dancing, traveling, vacationing with family and with his wife Anna, He was able to vacation to Cancun Mexico and many places cities in Europe and mainly Italy. His favorite dessert was banana pudding and ice cream. He truly enjoyed his marriage to the fullest. He had a passion for art of all sorts. Pat was was a self made Tattoo artist; Pat was always drawing, lettering and painting on cars and houses etc. He built many things with his hands. In his free time he enjoyed his alone time sleeping and watching tv. In his last years of life Pat spent a lot of time with his dad and Anna his wife and family. Pat left a lot of his passion for art and hard work all over Big Spring and everywhere he went in the hearts of those he blessed with his talents, gifts and handy work. My brother loved Anna and my dad, The last thing he wanted to share with everyone is that Jesus Christ is coming Sson, please Get Ready...

Visitation will be 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Tuesday with a Prayer service at 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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

Paid Obituary

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LOCAL

Obituaries

Trent Fraley

Trent Fraley, 60, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2020. Memorial service will be at 4 p.m.

Tuesday at Myers & Smith Cha-

He was born Feb. 24, 1960, in Snyder.

Trent is survived by three children: Casey Fraley, Kara Fraley Colegrove, and Dustin Fraley;

four grandchildren; father: Morris Fraley; one brother: Stan Fral-He was preceded in death by his mother: Bonnie Fraley.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral

Pay your respects online at www.myersand-

smith.com

John Henry Fisher On Sunday Dec. 20,2020 John Henry Fisher, a lov-



ing brother, grandfather, and father of four children, passed away at the age of 83. John Henry Fisher was born Oct. 2, 1937, in Spokane, Washington to Angie and Jack Fisher were later on he would join the Air Force, after leaving the Air Force he was a Computer Specialist at Ft. Bliss in El Paso Texas, where he got married to Maria Palacios, where they had 4 children Andres Fisher, Juan Fisher, Marissa Soto, Daniel

Cornelio Fisher. John loved his Saturday mornings, just to be in his favorite spot downtown El Paso, he will always wake up early and get dressed up to pass half of his day sitting at the Cress right in front of the plaza. He loved his oldies, he loved talk-

ing about it also. He loved his grandchildren Jessica Onsurez, Graciela Cedillo, Adriana Cedillo, Juan Fisher Jr, Crystal Fisher, Andres Fisher Jr, Alysa Fisher, Victor Soto Jr Jonathan Soto, Diana Soto and Jocelyn Soto, Isabel Rios, Daniel Fisher Jr. and his great grandson HEEELLLOOOO JO-NAH Rios. He was a great dad, brother, and grandfather, he will be missed by everyone who had a conversation with him. A big Thank You!! to the West Texas VA for his care he touched so many lives and will always be remembered for his jokes, I will miss him signing to me Oh Danny Boy. Dads Funeral was held on Sat. 26, 2020, at 6 p.m. at

Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel 301 E 24th Big Spring Texas. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral

Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com Paid Obituary

Practice fire safety this holiday season head hazards. Pile up rocks around your fire to

Special to the Herald

COLLEGE STATION, Texas- Increased wildfire potential is expected across much of the state early this week due to approaching dry cold fronts and high temperatures. Dry fuel conditions will expand north from the southern Hill Country into the Rolling Plains, southern High Plains, eastern Hill Country and Cross Timbers regions this week, aligning with the pre- and post-frontal winds to create an increase in potential wildfire activity.

"Most wildland fires this time of year occur just before or just after a frontal passage," said Brad Smith, Texas A&M Forest Service Predictive Services Department Head. "These fronts often pass through with little precipitation, but they do bring increased wind before and after the front passes. These increased winds can help to spread fire in a landscape that is full of freeze-cured grasses."

Recent precipitation has favored east Texas and the High Plains, leaving widespread rainfall deficits in much of the western two-thirds of the state. Residents should stay current with local fire weather forecasts due to the rapidly changing fire environments this week.

Texas A&M Forest Service urges everyone to be careful when participating in activities that may start a wildfire or house fire and practice fire safety this holiday season. One spark can ruin a holiday.

Wrapping paper and tree recycling

The danger doesn't end just because the holidays are over. In Texas, careless debris burning causes the largest number of human-caused wildfires. Unsafe burning of wrapping paper, gift boxes and Christmas trees after the holidays could spark outdoor fires. There are several alternatives for safe

Chip the tree and use the material as mulch in

school students and provide an opportunity to try

something new," Lee said. "This was an opportuni-

ty to have the students see how a professional work

environment for a professional artist is, and allow

them the opportunity to have their work seen by

Lee and Rene Thomas - owner of Wild Space and

artist- worked with Big Spring High School Art

Teacher Andrea Phinney and arranged for the stu-

"We just wanted to give them a chance to be seen

and a chance to express themselves. It was really

landscaping beds. Cut the trunk of the tree into small pieces to use as pathway edging. Composting is a great way to dispose of your tree and tissue paper. Remove tape, ribbons, and bows and recycle the wrapping paper, or save it to use again. Repurpose other items such as newspaper or pillow cases to wrap presents.

Residents should pay attention to county burn bans and avoid all outdoor burning until conditions improve. Burn ban information can be found by contacting local fire departments or by visiting https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/TexasBurnBans/.

Firewood safety

Another fire hazard during the holidays is firewood stacked too close to buildings. Firewood is often cured, or dried, so it is easier to light in a fireplace. This drying process does not just make it easier to start a fire in the chimney—it makes it easier to light everywhere. When firewood is stacked too close to a home, it can lead a wildfire right up to the structure. Keep firewood stacked at least 30 feet away from all structures.

Fireworks safety

Fireworks are often used to mark special events and holidays. When using fireworks during the holidays, don't let your fun turn into flames. Check for local restrictions on fireworks and burn bans before use. Fireworks should be used outdoors on flat, smooth surfaces away from dry grass and flammable materials. Always have a water source nearby in case a fire ignites while using fireworks. Practice fire safety while enjoying the outdoors

Campfires can be a great source of warmth and fuel for cooking, but be sure to keep these safety tips in mind. Locate a safe spot for your campfire, away from anything flammable and far from overhelp keep the wind out and fire embers in. When you are done with your campfire, fully extinguish it. Drown, stir and feel the area for heat. Hold your hand just above the wet ashes--if you feel any residual heat, continue to add water and stir. Remember, if it's too hot to touch, it's too hot to leave.

When hunting, be aware of any action that could cause a wildfire. Hot exhaust systems could ignite dry grass. Park only in designated areas or in areas free of anything that can catch fire. Your ammunition type matters when hunting; steel core and full metal jacket ammunition have the highest potential to start wildfires.

People and their activities cause more than 90% of wildfires in Texas.

The National Weather Service has issued a La Nina Advisory which states there is a 95% chance La Nina conditions will be present through Februarv and a 65% chance La Nina will persist through April. Typically, the La Nina pattern brings warmer and dryer than normal conditions to Texas during the winter and spring. This translates to less rain (increased drought) and warm temperatures leading to dry vegetation for large areas of the state creating an increased risk for wildfires.

"An active winter and spring wildfire season is anticipated across Texas," said Karen Stafford, Texas A&M Forest Service Prevention Program Coordinator. "Residents can take steps now to protect their homes and loved ones. Texas A&M Forest Service encourages residents to be mindful of any outdoor activity that may cause a spark."

If a wildfire is spotted, immediately contact local authorities. A quick response can help save lives and property.

For information on wildfire prevention, please visit the Texas A&M Forest Service website at http://tfsweb.tamu.edu

MYERS & SMITH

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walked!"

Lillian wrote "Christmas was a time to be happy and to share what you had, if it were no more than a pretty red apple. Our friends would stop by for visits and to wish us Merry Christmas. They would often bring things that they had made, fancy needlework, cakes and Those were the

best of times."

quito netting of green or red. He handed these out to every child he met."

On that Christmas morning, Lillian received a pair of black, high-topped button shoes "with beautiful red tops and the prettiest black silk tassels that would swing when I

> & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288 Alvin Marin, 83, died Thursday. Visitation 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM January 10, 2020 with a vigil service at 7:00 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service at 10:00 January 11, 2020.

> > Richard Mills, 72 died Monday. Services are pending at Myers Smith Funeral Home.

John Puga, 79, died Sunday. Vigil service will be at 7:00 PM Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 AM Tuesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Pat Rodriquez, died Tuesday, December

22, 2020. Visitation will be 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Tuesday with a Prayer service at 7:00 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel. **Funeral** Service will be at 11:00 AM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Trent Fraley, 60, died Wednesday. Memorial service will be at 4:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Maria Perez, 80, died Friday. Visitation will be 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Wednesday with a vigil service at 7:00 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 10:00 Thursday Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park

and attention they received. The oldest child was Lillian Elizabeth. She was

Continued from Page 1

the town."

dents to take part.

born in 1884 just as Big Spring was being developed as a prosperous town. Lillian kept a journal and had written about Christmas, 1890 in Big Spring,

"There was always a big tree, with green and red berries and Spanish moss,

which was shipped in a boxcar by the railroad. Our ornaments were handmade out of tin. We strung popcorn and cranberries by the yard. There were plenty of red apples, oranges, candy sticks and hard candies and various nuts. We pulled taffy, made peanut brittle and molasses candy and enjoyed plenty of apple cider and fruitcake. Hing Lee (our cook) made lots of delicious things to eat in the kitchen. We hung popcorn balls and candles on the tree that stood in the dining room for all to enjoy. There were two large iron posts which were entwined with cedar branches dipped in flour reminding you of the snow. Days before Christmas, Papa would carry two large boxes, in his buggy, marking one for girls and the other for boys. They were filled with presents, oranges, apples, candy and nuts all tied in a piece of beautiful mos-

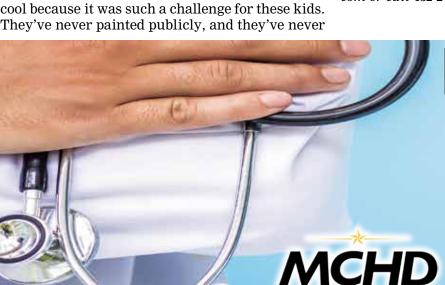
> painted on such a large scale," she said, "The material in itself was a learning experience and a challenge they overcome. This project forced some of them to really work outside their comfort zone, and I hope it inspires them in the future."

She continued, "Now they can drive past or walk past the wall and be proud of their work."

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

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Page 4 Monday, December 28, 2020

Do you have an interesting sports item or

Coahoma Bulldogs fall to Anson Tigers 59-41 over winter break last week



D'Kota Harrison looks for an open teammate to pass to during the loss to Anson.

Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — The Bulldogs fell to Anson 59-41 in a non-district game on Tuesday.

The Bulldogs are now 1-8 this season and will looking for a big turnaround during the second portion of their schedule. The team has shown promise, but needs to be more consistent.

Raheem Ashford led Coahoma in points with 16. D'Kota Harrison tallied 9, Isaiah Martin had 7, and Tony Hagins earned five. Ryan Shifflett and Arian Emerson both scored two points each for the Bull-

UP NEXT: The Coahoma Bulldogs and Bulldogettes will return to action on Tuesday, Dec. 29, when they host McCamey.

ANSON 59, COAHOMA 41 Anson: 15, 18, 7, 19 -- 59 Coahoma: 15, 7, 10, 9 -- 41

Anson — Julian Garcia 2, Wyatt Fladager 4, Asher Jobe 5, Cotton Dollar 2, Dylyn Pyle 10, Gavin Williams 10, Lane Dollar 16, Mason Hagler 10.

Coahoma — Isaiah Martin 7, Tony Hagins 5, Ryan Shifflett 2, Raheem Ashford 16, Arian Emerson 2, D'Kota Harrison 9.

Free Throws — Anson 5-12, Coahoma 6-14; 3-Point Goals — Anson 8 (D. Lane 5, Dylyn 2, Jobe), Coahoma 1 (Martin); Fouls — Anson 13, Coahoma 15.

Eli Cranor's Athletic Support: "Christmas Break?"

By ELI CRANOR

Special to the Herald

Dear Athletic Support: My son's basketball coach has six practices scheduled over Christmas Break: three before Christmas and three after. With everything that's happened this year, we were really hoping to just get some time off over the next two weeks. I've seen a bunch of posts on social media blasting teachers who've assigned homework or projects over the holiday, and I feel like these practices are much the same. The players, parents, and coaches need a break at the end of this crazy year. Don't you

–Give Me A Break

Dear Break: Remember the old story, "The Tortoise and the Hare?" The one where the slow but steady turtle wins the race against the rabbit who's constantly jumping out ahead of the competition?

That timeless parable is the perfect analogy for what every coach and player is up against at the end of 2020. This year has been anything but normal. People are exhausted, both mentally and physically. They're at wit's end.

The best way to overcome this sort of fatigue — any fatigue, really — is by actually resting. I realize this isn't easy for highly-motivated athletes and coaches (I battle with the exact same problem in regard to my writing workload), but if there were ever a time for rest, this is it.

My advice here goes further than just preparing for the upcoming season. Many of us have been hunkered down, trying to weather the latest spike in COVID cases. If you're transporting your son to basketball practice, there's a better chance your Christmas plans could get cancelled.



Time with family isn't worth a couple of holiday practices. For that reason alone, I'd urge you to withhold your child from participating. I know this won't be an easy or popular decision, but the results could be well worth the

After spending quality time with his family, your son might come back from the break feeling better than ever.

Dear Athletic Support: My daughter is nine, but she's very serious about sports. For the last few days she's been planted at the kitchen table trying to come up with an "athletic" New Year's resolution. Any suggestions?

Dear Help: First off, I'm impressed that your daughter is actively trying to better her game by setting goals. Planning for success is one of the best ways to actually achieve it.

When making goals — or in this case, resolutions — one thing to remember is that they need to be tangible. In other words, your daughter needs to be able to tell if she's actually reached her goal.

A resolution like, "I want to be a better player," won't do her any good.

Instead, I would urge your daughter to make a work-based goal. Something that involves a daily number of repetitions or time spent honing her craft. If she's a basketball player, something like, "Make fifty free throws a day," would be a great place to start.

Whatever she decides, just make sure your daughter can actually gauge whether or not she's achieved it by the end of 2021.

Have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Eli Cranor is a former professional quarterback and coach turned award-winning author. Send questions for "Athletic Support" to eli.cranor@gmail.com or use the contact page on elicranor.com.

Bassmaster Marshal Registration Opens In January For 2021 Elite Season

Special to the Herald

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Bass fishing enthusiasts who want to learn from the world's best anglers while exploring legendary fisheries will be able to register as marshals for the 2021 Bassmaster Elite Series beginning January 5. Plus, new for the 2021 season, AFTCO will be rewarding marshals with a shirt, hat, sun mask, gift card and other items with a total value of \$100, plus a 20% off coupon for future purchases.

According to past participants, marshaling is the ideal way to learn while enjoying a day on the lake getting to know your favorite pro.

"Being able to see how the top pros fish a body of water you may fish frequently or may fish in a future tournament is absolutely invaluable," said Rick Moore, a retired California resident who has served as a marshal in 23 B.A.S.S. events. "The enthusiasm among the Elite pros is great, and their connection and interaction with marshals was exceptional!

"I have been able to see many of the new bait prototypes, learn new techniques and receive personal tips from the Elite pros at many tournaments. As a marshal, the pros will be candid about what and why they are fishing a certain way. I can't count the number of times a pro has had me join him on the front deck to show how he was interpreting his graphs or reading the movements of a bedding fish."

The marshal program, created by B.A.S.S. in 2009 as a way to attract observers who would ride along with the pros, allows people to spend two to three days on the water with some of the best professional anglers in the sport. Marshals are not allowed to fish, but they are encouraged to take photos, send blog posts to Bassmaster.com and serve as an extra set of eyes for B.A.S.S. tournament officials, making sure all rules are observed. Additionally, marshals operate the digital BASSTrakk scoring system that enables fans to follow the action in real

For Moore, both enforcing the rules and chronicling the tournament are part of the benefit of serving as a marshal.

"I enjoyed the responsibility of being the 'eyes and ears' on the water," said Moore. "B.A.S.S. has a long history of big bass tournaments, and being

able to do my part to assist with ensuring the sanctity of the event has been a welcomed challenge."

Marshal spots are available for just \$99 per tournary rounds.

"Just sitting in the boat would make for a long ing with the TV team during live coverage and helping with Bassmaster media content," Moore said. "And many of my photos have also been used by the pros for their social media content."

rookie Kyle Welcher catching a 10-pounder at the St. Johns River — was shot by his marshal, reaired durtelevision Bassmaster LIVE coverage.

"Kyle had a few bites throughout the day, and I tried to make it a point to capture all of his catches on video, but when he said, 'Big one dude,' I knew something was different,' said Cook, of St. Augustine, Fla.

Serving as a marshal at the **AFTCO** Bassmaster Elite at

nament. Every marshal is guaranteed to be on the water for the first two competition days. As the Elite Series field is cut throughout the weekend leading up to the Championship, marshals are chosen for additional competition days based on how early they register for the event as well as their video, blogging and photography in the prelimi-

day without photographing the tournament, Skyp-

One of the 2020 season's most exciting clips —

an iPhone Cook, and **Away Team** since been New Orleans Saints (11-4) **Away Team**

longstanding bucket list activity. Having spent earlier years fishing South Dakota club tournaments, he was intrigued by the opportunity of taking a front-row seat to live-action learning. "I've always wanted to be in a position to sit with a pro, learn their techniques and thought processes and become a better fisherman myself," Cook said. "I wanted to go to new waters and figure out how to

fish those new waters." The marshal experience appeals to those from all walks of life and anyone ready to gather tips and tricks from seasoned fishermen.

St. Johns River fulfilled what Cook said had been a

"From the first morning with your angler to behind the stage with the winner on the final day, a lot of inside stories develop that you would never know as a strict observer," Moore said.

NFL SCHEDULE

WEEK SIXTEEN FRIDAY

Home Team Minnesota Vikings (6-9)

Time of Game 52-33, Saints

Tampa Bay Bucs (10-5) San Francisco 49ers (6-9) Miami Dolphins (10-5)

@ <u>@</u>

SATURDAY Home Team Detroit Lions (5-10)

Arizona Cardinals (8-7) Las Vegas Raiders (7-8)

47-7, Buccaneers 20-12, 49ers 26-25, Dolphins

Time of Game

Away Team

Atlanta Falcons (4-11) @ Cleveland Browns (10-5) @ Indianapolis Colts (10-5) @ Chicago Bears (8-7) New York Giants (5-10) Cincinnati Bengals (4-10-1) Denver Broncos (5-10) Carolina Panthers (5-10) Philadelphia Eagles (4-10-1) Los Angeles Rams (9-6) Tennessee Titans (10-5)

(432) 267-3747

5715 W. Interstate 20

Big Spring, TX 79720

SUNDAY **Home Team** Time of Game Kansas City Chiefs (14-1) 17-14, Chiefs New York Jets (2-13) 23-16, Jets Pittsburgh Steelers (12-3) 28-24, Steelers Jacksonville Jaguars (1-14) 41-17, Bears Baltimore Ravens (10-5) 27-13, Ravens Houston Texans (4-11) 37-31, Bengals Los Angeles Chargers (6-9) 19-16, Chargers Washington (6-9) 20-13, Panthers Dallas Cowboys (6-9) 37-17, Cowboys Seattle Seahawks (11-4) 20-9, Seahawks Green Bay Packers (12-3) 40-14, Packers

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or visit us at: Big Spring State Hospital 1901 N. Hwy 87 Big Spring, TX 79720

> Contact our Job Center 432-268-7341 or 432-268-7298 Or

Complete an application online at https://accesshr.hhsc.state.tx.us

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Now Hiring Vacuum Truck Drivers with 1-2 years experience. For more information please call 432-631-1994

Parkplace Retirement Living is seeking a creative. organized person for the position of Cook/Chef in a family friendly environment. This position requires knowledge of ordering processes, menu development and proper safety and sanitation procedures. This position works 12 hour shifts. Pay based on experience. Apply in person at 501 W. 17th Street.

Parkview Nursing and Rehab is currently taking applications for: Charge Nurse Certified and non-certified

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environment! Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

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

Meter Technician -

Responsible for installing, repairing, and calibrating flow, level, and pressure metering equipment. Position also provides assistance in repair of communication equipment supporting the District's SCADA system. Intermediate level position with basic understanding of electronics/electricity needed.

For additional information visit www.crmwd.org

We are looking for an ambitious, creative, selfstarter, to fill a staff writer role at the Big Spring Herald

Do you have a heart to share others' stories and the desire to be involved in your community? We want to hear from you!

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This individual would provide counts/website.

Indesign and Photoshop are creative, outgoing individual familiar with social media.

Individual will be responsible for several areas of coverage, from feature stories to hard news. Must have a flexible schedule.

Contact Amanda Duforat questions or to submit your resume at

Items for Sale

Seasoned Oak Firewood. Call 512-913-7406 or 325-451-1108

Public Notice

Invitation To Bid Howard County RFB 2021001

The Howard County Auditor will accept sealed bids until 10:00 AM on January 7, 2021. This bid requires prequalification with Howard County Road and Bridge Department, specifications may be obtained at that office, 3604 Old Colorado City Road, Big Spring, Texas 79720. The work is to supply labor, materials and equipment to sealcoat various county roads.

Howard County Auditor, at P.O. Box 1949, Big Spring, Texas 79721-1949 or delivered to the Auditor's Office, Room 202, Howard County Courthouse. Mark Sealed

Bids will be presented to the PM January 11th for their

Public Notice

RAILROAD COMMISSION consideration. The Court reserves the right to reject any OF TEXAS **OIL AND GAS DIVISION** or all bids.

Jackie Olson-Howard County

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Call Richard 432-201-0539

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Case No. 0328257 DATE OF ISSUANCE: Dec 17, 2020 Status/Permit No. 865469 NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jan 7, 2021 Address: Railroad Commission of Texas ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit P. O. Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711-2967 Fax: (512) 463-6780 Email: SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

DISTRICT 08 Rule 37

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SM ENERGY COMPANY, [RRC Operator No. 788997] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or nonpooled interest within the subject unit for the AMENDED NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 16, Bk. 31 T2N, T&P RR CO/REED, S P Survey, A-1083, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, **HOWARD** County, being

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted WITHOUT A **HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed

13.1 miles NE direction from

BIG SPRING, Texas.

Legals

well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at (512)463-6751. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848.

IF YOU WISH TO RE-**QUEST A HEARING ON** THIS APPLICATION, AN IN-**TENT TO APPEAR IN** PROTEST MUST BE RE-**CEIVED** IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, **FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL** ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jan 7, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN **SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO** PROTEST AND THE RE-**QUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRAT-**IVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICA-TION REQUIRES PUBLICA-TION

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

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name: MIRACLE MAX A Lease/Unit Well No.: 1721LS Lease/Unit Acres: 641.5 Nearest Lease Line (ft): null

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a plus, but will train the right person. We are looking for a Must be a self-starter, and be able to meet deadlines.

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AUCTIONS

Real Estate Auctions: 10+/- ac w/Office, Home & Warehouse – Jan 21. Public Inspection 11-2 p.m. Fri., Jan 8. Three Rivers, TX, 345 & 349 Highway 72. Just over an hour from San Antonio & Corpus Christi. Auctions: 11am, Thu. Jan, 21, on site or bid live from anywhere at auctionnetwork.com. 800-801-8003, williamsauction.com/TX.

43rd Annual Cattleman Bull & Female Sale Jan. 23, 2021, 12:00 Noon, El Campo Livestock Auction, El Campo, TX. Expecting 100 Bulls. Also selling a group of select females. www.cattlemansale.com Adrian Knight Tx Lic #11102, 903-452-7591; Kelly Conley Tx Lic #9558, 903-850-3449.

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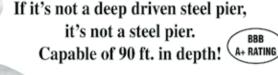
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FREE ESTIMATES

Legals

Nearest Well on Lease (ft):

Lease Lines: 322.0 F SE L, 985.0 F SW L Survey Lines: 322.0 F SE L,

Wellbore Profile(s): Horizontal

Terminus Location

332.0 F SW L

985.0 F SW L

Lateral: TH1 Penetration Point Location Lease Lines: 500.0 F SF L 331.0 F SW L

BH County: HOWARD Section: 26 Block: 31 T2N Abstract: 1542 Survey: T&P RR CO / KAASE, A Lease Lines: 70.0 F SE L 332.0 F SW L Survey Lines: 70.0 F SE L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as

SPRABERRY (TREND

AREA): Special Rules 330/0, 80.0 acres. This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9100

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Lisa Hunt, at (432)8484833.

#10743

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS **OIL AND GAS DIVISION**

DISTRICT 08 Rule 37

Case No. 0328255 DATE OF ISSUANCE: Dec 17, 2020 Status/Permit No. 865462 NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jan 7, 2021 Address: Railroad Commission of Texas ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit P. O. Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711-2967 Fax: (512) 463-6780 Email: SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the SM ENERGY COMPANY, [RRC Operator No. 7889971 has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit for the AMENDED NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 16, Bk. 31 T2N, T&P RR CO/REED, S P Survey, A-1083, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, HOWARD

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may

County, being 13.1 miles NE

direction from BIG SPRING,

be granted WITHOUT A HEARING if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at (512)463-6751. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regard-

IF YOU WISH TO RE-QUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN IN-TENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST <u>MUST BE RE</u>-CEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL

ing the hearing procedure,

please contact the Commis-

sion's Docket Services De-

partment at **(512)463-6848.**

Legals

ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jan 7, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN **SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO** PROTEST AND THE RE-**QUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRAT-**IVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICA-**TION REQUIRES PUBLICA-**TION

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

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name:

MIRACLE MAX A Lease/Unit Well No.: 1722LS Lease/Unit Acres: 641.5 Nearest Lease Line (ft): null Lease Lines: 322.0 F SE L,

1045.0 F SW L Survey Lines: 322.0 F SE L, 1045.0 F SW L

Wellbore Profile(s): Horizontal

Terminus Location

BH County: HOWARD

Lateral: TH1

Penetration Point Location Lease Lines: 500.0 F SE L 1701.0 F SW L

Section: 26 Block: 31 T2N Abstract: 1542 Survey: T&P RR CO/KAASE, Lease Lines: 70.0 F SE L 937.0 F NE L

Survey Lines: 70.0 F SE L

1700.0 F SW L Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as

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

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9100

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Lisa Hunt, at (432)8484833.

80.0 acres.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 08 Rule 37 Case No. 0328256 DATE OF ISSUANCE: Dec 17, 2020 Status/Permit No. 865467 NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jan 7, 2021 Address: Railroad Commission of Texas ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit P. O. Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711-2967 Fax: (512) 463-6780 Email: SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SM ENERGY COMPANY, [RRC Operator No. 788997] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit for the AMENDED NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 16, Bk. 31 T2N, T&P RR CO/REED, S P Survey, A-1083, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, HOWARD County, being 13.1 miles NE direction from BIG SPRING,

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted WITHOUT A **HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at (512)463-6751 If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an excep-

tion. A Protestant should be

Legals

prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848.

IF YOU WISH TO RE-

QUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN IN-**TENT TO APPEAR IN** PROTEST MUST BE RE-**CEIVED IN THE RAILROAD** COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, **FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL** ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jan 7, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN **SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO** PROTEST AND THE RE-**QUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRAT-**IVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICA-TION REQUIRES PUBLICA-

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

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Lease/Unit Name:

MIRACLE MAX A Lease/Unit Well No.: 1743WA Lease/Unit Acres: 641.5 Nearest Lease Line (ft): null

608.0

Lease Lines: 322.0 F SE L, 1015.0 F SW L Survey Lines: 322.0 F SE L, 1015.0 F SW L

Nearest Well on Lease (ft):

Wellbore Profile(s): Horizontal

Lateral: TH1 Penetration Point Location Lease Lines: 500.0 F SE L 941.0 F SW L

Terminus Location BH County: HOWARD Section: 26 Block: 31 T2N Abstract: 1542 Survey: T&P RR CO/KAASE,

Lease Lines: 70.0 F SE L 940.0 F SW L Survey Lines: 70.0 F SE L 940.0 F SW L

the permit application are as follows:

Field Rules for ALL fields on

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

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9200

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Lisa Hunt, at (432)8484833.

#10745

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Neptune's Challenge to the Moon

ARIES (March 21-April 19). While it's wise to give your energy to those who can best appreciate it, to give it where it is most needed and will never be returned is sublime. You'll surpass your own ego for the sake of doing what is right.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be in a position to give feedback. Less will be more. Give 10 excellent points, and you'll get polite nods but nothing will be remembered. Express one big takeaway and improvements follow.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You will have all of the success you are prepared for, which is, of course, the perfect amount. How does this make you feel? It's the perfect time to work on your fear of success. which is more prominent in you than a fear of failure.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Love, in its most thrilling form, is extremely unreasonable. When you're feeling the fervor, it's hard to leave the other person alone. Though you'll like how it turns out when you leave plenty of space for

LEO (July 23-Aug.

22). There are days you plan to seize, days you were told to seize, days that seem ripe for the seizing. Then there are days you were born to seize, or perhaps the day was born to seize you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Every silence has its own soundless tone. There's someone whose silences you have come to learn so well that their tones bounce inaudibly in the echo chamber of your heart, nonetheless vibrating with meaning.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You will not be sure what is stopping you until you ask yourself the

 $B_{Y}\ Holiday\ Mathis soul.$ There's no way you should diminish this



are not tricky in the least. In fact, the most excellent question is so obvious you missed it: "What's stopping me?"

SCORPIO (Oct.

24-Nov. 21). You have a drive to elevate the mundane. You're not trying to push ordinary things out of their place in this world; rather, you're trying to leverage a whole section of settled, dingy world back up into the sunlight.

22-Dec. 21). Rarely does "I need some time

SAGITTARIUS (Nov.

to think about it" result in answers, if it even results in thinking. The actual message is, "I need some time to figure out how to present the answer that is already inside."

CAPRICORN (Dec.

22-Jan. 19). When someone unknowingly rubs you the wrong way or hurts your feelings, you have been known to react internally in several ways you won't show. You like to work things about between you and you first.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're about to sing yourself to the world. Don't waste all the courage and coolness this takes with bad timing. Make sure to let it ring out when you have the best chance at being

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your talents breathe with grace. Your actions beat with

by throwing shade at

your own accomplishments. Go on and shine at full brilliance. **TODAY'S BIRTH-**

DAY (Dec. 28). You've the daring to

take on projects you wouldn't have considered before. Oh, the rewards you'll reap! A rocket ride of an education to a new realm of opportunity, and you'll stick the landing. New connections and the money starts rolling in. Reinvest in May. Summer plans

realize your creative potential. Pisces and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 4, 44, 38 and 41.

COSMIC QUES-TION: "I'm a Sagittarius

dating a Leo who I like a lot but do not want to make my exclusive girlfriend right now. She assumes that she's the only one in my life, and when other girls call, she goes off on me. I go inside myself." Your sign has wild oats

to sow. You're better off making that clear to your dates from the beginning. The justifications you make to your Leo provide her with the ammunition to continue arguing. Also, by explaining yourself, you position yourself lower, implicitly asking your Leo to approve of your story, motives and claims. You are intimating that you don't have the right to do what you do, want what you want or feel the way you feel. My suggestion is to stop apologizing, explaining or justifying your actions and come clean, to yourself and your Leo, with the truth about what you want. You want a nonexclusive relationship. You want to date her and others. You want to be with someone who can understand and respect this. I predict you'll not only find the truth liberating, but also you just might end up getting what you really want.

> Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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Famous Hand ton Q. Ellenby.

Both sides vulnerable NORTH ♠ AJ 1084 ♥Q3 ♦85 WEST **EAST ♦**95 ▼10862 ♦ A 10 7 4 ♦QJ932 ♣J 10 2 **♣**9854 SOUTH **♦** K Q 6 2

South dealer.

The bidding: West North East 1 **↑** 4 **♣** 5 ♥ Pass Pass 3 ♠ 4 ♠ 5 NT Pass Pass 6 NT Pass Opening lead — ace of diamonds.

The biggest swings in bridge usu-

ally involve slam hands. Good slam bidding is a skill well worth cultivating, since the failure to bid a makable slam results in the loss of a slam bonus, while bidding a slam that fails results in the loss of a game. Today's deal features an unusually good bidding sequence that enabled North-South to arrive at an

unbeatable six-notrump contract. The

deal was played in a team-of-four

championship many years ago. North

was John Moran, and South was Mil-

It is easy to see that if a six-spade contract is undertaken with North as declarer, rapid defeat follows. East's natural opening lead of the queen of diamonds produces two immediate tricks for the defense. It seems perfectly normal for

North-South to arrive at six spades, especially since they have 13 tricks in the form of five spades, five hearts and three clubs without a diamond lead. However, with East on lead and West in possession of the ace of diamonds, the slam unfortunately fails. In fact, it did fail when the deal was played at the other table. At the point where Moran made

his highly unusual five-heart bid — holding only the Q-3 — he was concerned that there might be two quick diamond losers if he became declarer. To guard against this possibility, he offered his partner a chance to play the hand alternatively at either hearts or notrump. Ellenby, attuned to his partner's

fears, then came through with the winning five-notrump bid, which Moran happily raised to six. As a result, South became declarer, and from his side the slam was impreg-Making six notrump was worth

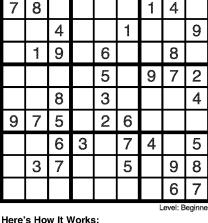
1,440 points, which, added to the 100 points gained at the other table, yielded a pickup of 1,540 points on Tomorrow: It works like a charm.



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Fun By The

sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have vou hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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!