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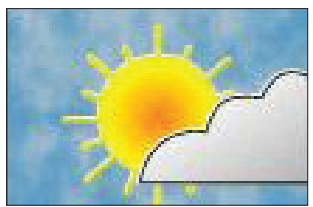
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HIGH BIG SPRING HERALD

SUNDAY

APRIL 5, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 106

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Cheyen Jackson, left, regional marketing director for the National Kidney Foundation, addresses participants before the start of the first-ever Big Spring Kidney Walk at Comanche Trail Park Saturday. The event helped raise funds to battle kidney disease.

ACADEMIC PROSPERITY

BSHS dominates district UIL meet

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

The District 4-4A Spring Academic Meet is quickly becoming Big Spring High School's personal playground.



Ritchey

BSHS continued its recent trend of domination at Friday's district academics meet at Howard College, amassing 678 points to easily out-distance the competition.

Abilene Cooper was a distant second place with 248 points, while Frenship High School was third (228 points), San Angelo Lake View fourth (212 points) and Plainview High School fifth (61 points).

Friday's results marks the fourth time in five years that Big Spring has captured top honors at the district academic meet. More impressively, it is the largest margin of victory for the local

See **BSHS**, Page 3A

Two Mondays remain for tax aide program

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Area residents have less than two weeks to beat the April 15 deadline to file their federal income tax returns, which translates into only two more opportunities to take advantage of the annual AARP Tax Aide program.

Volunteers with the program will be assisting those in need of tax filing assistance Monday from 8 a.m. until noon, and again April 13 during the same hours, according to AARP spokeswoman and program coordinator Gloria Hopkins.

"The services these volunteers provide is so important



Hopkins

for so many people in the community. Many of these people wouldn't be able to file a tax return at all if not for the program," said Hopkins. "Many are elderly or homebound, or just don't have the money to take their tax information and forms to a commercial tax preparation company."

Hopkins said area residents planning to use the service should be sure to gather up their financial information before heading to the Senior

See **TAXES**, Page 3A



A dancer in full Native American regalia performs during the grand entry event at the fifth annual Big Spring Powwow Saturday afternoon. The Powwow continues from 9:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Sunday, the powwow begins with a special Christian worship service at 9:30 a.m. in the arena, followed by gourd dancing and the grand entry. Admission is \$5. Children under 12 are admitted free.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Art exhibition to open featuring works by Tucci

Special to the Herald

STANTON — For artist Mary Tucci, learning and art never end. The Midland housewife started attending workshops and art classes in 1991, and neither the art classes nor her paintings, which have generated considerable attention in the Permian Basin, have stopped.

"I think every artist should attend classes and workshops," she commented. "In a class atmosphere, you are motivated and inspired — and in

return you are able to develop your own style."

Her one-woman show opens Monday in the Haggard Gallery of the Martin County Library in conjunction with the library's first-year anniversary all-day open house and runs through Friday, May 29.

Tucci recently won first place in oils at the Odessa juried art show on display at the Ellen Noel Museum and had one piece selected to show at the Midland Arts Association spring juried art exhibition at the

Museum of the Southwest. Active in the West Texas art scene,

Tucci also finds time to serve on the board of directors of the Midland Arts Association and the Palmette Club as well as serve as co-chair of the MAA/Midland College juried art show.

Asked if she has a favorite painting, the artist said, "It is usually the one I have just finished," adding that her works are "like your own

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www.bigspringherald.com

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Newton no-hits Wall, 1-0

Herald Staff Report

COAHOMA — How does Coahoma cheer Newton respond to taking on perhaps the toughest competition the Bulldogettes would see in the District 7-2A softball season? By being close to perfect.

Newton pitched her second no-hitter of the district season Friday in a 1-0 victory over the Wall Lady Hawks (19-8, 4-1). The only thing keeping Newton from a perfect game was a single walk.

Newton finished the game with 15 strikeouts.

The Bulldogettes did struggle to solve Wall pitcher Shannon Carrico. Carrico held the Bulldogettes in check, allowing just six hits and four walks, while striking out 10 batters.

The lone run in the game came in the bottom of the third, when Newton scored via a triple by Joanna Gonzales. That was the only extra base hit Coahoma managed.

The Bulldogettes (19-8, 5-0) — now ranked 15th in the state — have now won 17 games in a row after starting the season 2-8. They'll continue district play at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Grape Creek.

Wall 000 000 0-0 0 1
Coahoma 001 000 x-1 6 0
Carrico and Seider. Heather Newton and Berkley Iden. W - Newton (15-1). L - Carrico. 3B: Coa - Joanna Gonzales. RBI: Coa - Gonzales.

Rangers' future bright thanks to Teixeira trade

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON — Mark Teixeira has provided quite a future for the Texas Rangers even without being a part of it.

Teixeira turned down a big contract extension in 2007 that would have made him a franchise cornerstone, forcing the Rangers to trade their former first-round pick to Atlanta that summer.

Though he didn't stay with the Braves a full year, Texas will open the 2009 season on Monday with three players from the deal who will be starters: catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia, shortstop Elvis Andrus and left-hander Matt Harrison.

And that's not all the Rangers got for a player who obviously

See RANGERS, Page 4B

Lady Steers top Forsan

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

It's rare for Big Spring and Forsan to match up on any athletic venue, but Lady Steer Park hosted a non-district softball game between the two schools Friday night.

An early onslaught by Big Spring at the plate proved to be more than the Forsan Lady Buffs could overcome as the Lady Steers came away with the 11-6 victory.

"The girls had confidence at the plate. I know they wanted this win playing against a

See SOFTBALL, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Mirella Torres doubles in the first inning of the Lady Steers' 11-6 win over the Forsan Lady Buffs Friday in a non-district softball game at Lady Steer Park.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College's Will Calhoun doubles in Game 1 of a Western Junior College Athletic Conference doubleheader against Western Texas College Friday at Jack Barber Field. The Hawks remained undefeated on the season, sweeping WTC, 12-2 and 13-0.

Hawks pick up 32nd win

Howard still undefeated with sweep of Western

Herald Staff Report

Friday was a short day of work for the Howard College baseball team.

The Hawks won a pair of Western Junior College Athletic Conference games by the 10-run mercy rule over Western Texas College, 12-2 and 13-0.

In Game 1, Howard pitcher Zach Neal picked up his seventh win of the season, holding WTC to two runs — one earned — on four hits and a walk, while striking out five batters.

The Hawks broke open a 2-1 game in the fifth inning, pushing eight runs across the plate. Western Texas added a run in the top of sixth, but two scores by Howard in the bottom of that frame brought a close to the contest.

In Game 2, it was Dylan Cacciola's turn to shine on the mound for Howard. Cacciola did so by pitching a two-hit shut out over five innings. He struck out six batters.

Cacciola got plenty of help from the Howard bats. The Hawks hit three home runs in the second contest as they posted a total of 10 runs in the third inning alone. They added three more in the fourth for good measure.

Leading Howard at the plate in the doubleheader was designated hitter Will Calhoun. Calhoun went a perfect 6-for-6 on the day with three doubles, a home run and eight RBI. He also stole two bases.

See HAWKS, Page 2B

Giants say bye-bye to Plaxico 4 months after shooting

TOM CANAVAN

AP Sports Writer

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The New York Giants' patience with troubled Super Bowl hero Plaxico Burress finally ran out.

The Giants released the former Michigan State receiver a little more

than four months after the 31-year-old accidentally shot himself in the thigh with an unlicensed gun in a New York City nightclub.

The stunning move on Friday seemed to indicate that the Giants didn't think Burress could live by their rules and that they also believed that Burress did not want to come back.

"I am an optimist, and I believe most situations can be worked out," general manager Jerry Reese said in announcing the move. "We hung in there as long as we could in hopes that there could be a resolution to this situation other than the decision we made."

See PLAX, Page 3B

Sports in brief

Notification from BSISD Athletic Dept. on athletes needing physicals

The Big Spring ISD Athletic Department is only accepting physical forms with the revised date of Jan. 6, 2009, as per UIL requirements.

All other forms will not be accepted, so parents need to be sure they have the correct form filled out when taking their child for a physical.

Physicals are required for all incoming seventh, ninth and 11th grade students and are due in the athletic trainer's office before the first day of practice of any sport.

No plans have been made to have mass physicals, so it is the parents' responsibility to take their child to a doctor of their choice.

Registration and tryouts for Big Spring Pony League set

The Big Spring Pony League will have registration and baseball tryouts April 18 at Roy Anderson Complex.

Registration is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with tryouts starting at 2 p.m.

Players must be within the age range of 13-15 years old. If a child is currently 12 and turns 13 by April 30, he or she is eligible to play. A 15 year old must not turn 16 by April 30. Birth certificates are required to sign up.

Cost is \$90 per child with no fund raiser.

Anyone interested in coaching or for more information, contact Shelli Harrington at 264-6501 or

e-mail her at soccermom077@yahoo.com.

Golf tournament to benefit KBSB set for April 18

The fifth annual Keep Big Spring Beautiful Golf Tournament has been scheduled for April 18 at the Big Spring Country Club.

The tourney will be played in a four-person scramble format with an entry fee of \$65 per player. Tee time is 8:30 a.m.

Any individual or company can sponsor a hole for \$100.

For more information on sponsorship, contact Verna Davis at 267-8003 or 425-2325.

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★ Fiesta Time! ★

Fiesta San Antonio is a great way to sample the food and culture you'll find year-round in this vibrant city. The citywide, 11-day party will run April 16 to 26, 2009. Music, Fiesta royalty, parades on the River Walk and streets, cascarones (confetti eggs), children's areas, a fireworks finale — over 100 events citywide!

Started in 1891 when a group of citizens decided to honor the heroes of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto, it has since become an 11-day celebration that reflects San Antonio's welcoming people, warm hospitality and passion for fun.

This year kicks off on April 16 with *Fiesta Fiesta* at the Alamo, from 5 to 10:30 p.m. For more information, go to visitsanantonio.com.

savoring San Antonio

FAMILY FEATURES

If the words "Texas cooking" mean only barbecue and chili to you, then you're in for a culinary surprise. San Antonio serves up some local flavor that will leave your mouth watering for more.

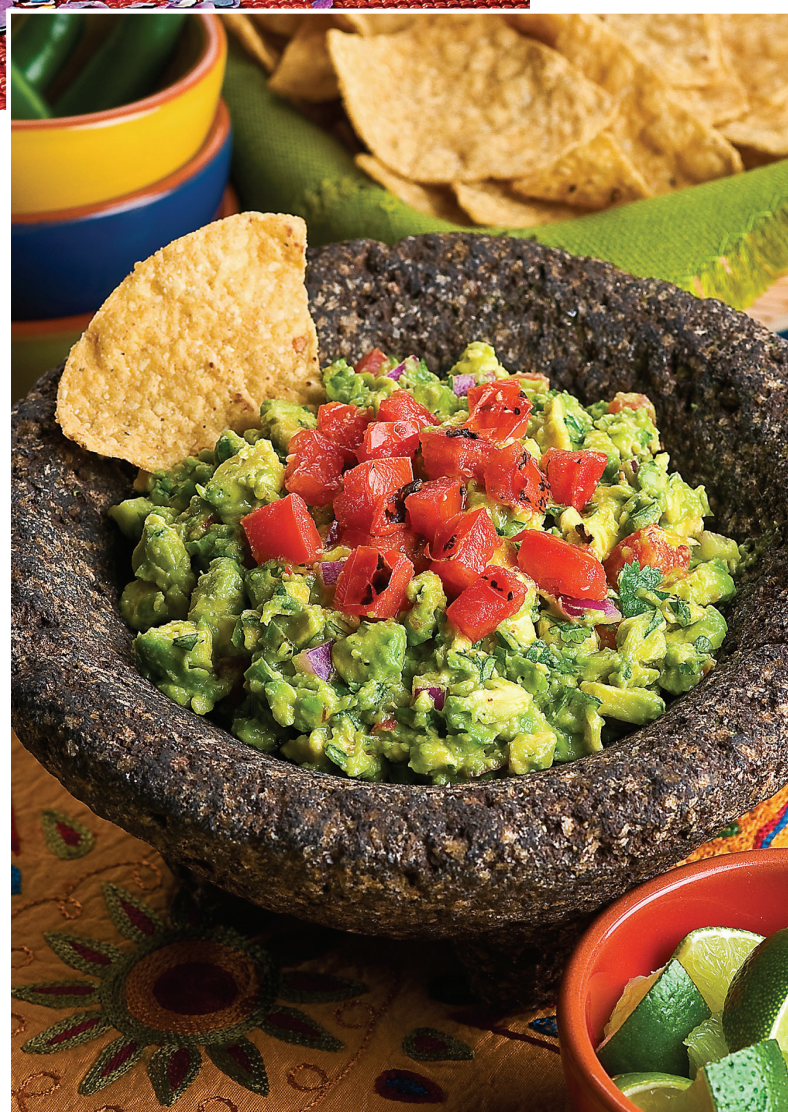
Called "the northernmost city in Mexico," San Antonio is the home of the Alamo, the famous River Walk, a national basketball team — and a whole lot of good food. You'll find everything from Tex-Mex hangouts and French bistros to chili cook-offs and five-star restaurants.

San Antonio chefs have taken advantage of the region's fresh produce and wild game, as well as the cultural heritage, and created a big culinary buzz throughout the country.

Travel & Leisure magazine rates San Antonio as No. 2 in the country for ethnic food and affordable dining, as well as being a great destination for a family vacation.

And San Antonio finds very entertaining ways to celebrate its cuisine with fun festivals such as April's Fiesta San Antonio and the San Antonio New World Wine and Food Experience in November.

These recipes offer just a taste of what's cooking in San Antonio. For more about the city or to start planning a trip, go to www.visitsanantonio.com, or call 1-800-ALAMO-07 for your free San Antonio Travel & Leisure Guide.



Puffy Tacos

Recipe provided by Los Barrios Restaurant
Makes 12 to 15 tacos

- 3 cups corn masa mix (see note)
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 2 1/4 cups warm water
- Vegetable oil for frying
- Favorite taco fillings

Combine masa mix, salt and warm water in large bowl and mix until a smooth dough forms. Pull off pieces of dough and roll into balls about the size of a ping-pong ball.

Cut a quart-size resealable plastic bag open down both sides, to form a rectangle. Use the bag as you shape the tortillas, so they do not stick. Lay one side of the plastic on a clean countertop (or tortilla press). Place a ball of dough in the center and fold the other side of the plastic over the dough. Press out the tortilla with a heavy skillet (or top of tortilla press).

Meanwhile, pour 2 inches of vegetable oil into a large, deep pot and heat to 350°F.

Drop a tortilla into the hot oil, and, using a metal spatula, repeatedly douse the tortilla with the hot oil until it begins to puff up. Flip it over and, using the spatula, make an indentation in the center of the tortilla to form a taco shape. Transfer to paper towels to drain. Repeat with remaining tortillas.

Fill each taco with 2 tablespoons cooked ground meat or shredded chicken, guacamole, beans and cheese, or your favorite filling. Top with shredded lettuce and diced tomatoes.

Caution: Be very careful when making the tacos. Make sure there is proper ventilation and do not allow the oil to get too hot.

Note: Masa mix can be found at Latino markets and some larger grocery stores.

Chunky Guacamole

Recipe provided by Boudro's: A Texas Bistro on the Riverwalk

Makes 2 servings

- Juice of 1/4 of an orange
- Juice of 1/2 a lime

- 1 avocado
- 1 tablespoon medium diced red onion
- 2 tablespoons roasted and charred Roma tomatoes, diced
- 1 serrano pepper, roasted, seeded and diced
- 1 tablespoon chopped cilantro
- Ground sea salt to taste

Squeeze juices into bowl. Add avocado and coarsely chop. Add onion, roasted tomato, serrano and cilantro, and then fold into avocado mixture. Add salt to taste. Result should be chunky not mashed.

The Zesty Margarita

Recipe provided by Aldaco's Mexican Cuisine

Makes 1 serving

- 1/2 of a jalapeño cut into small pieces, de-seeding optional
- 2 thin slices peeled cucumber
- 1 1/2 ounces Tequila Partida Reposado
- 1 1/2 ounces Cointreau
- 1 ounce fresh lime juice
- 14 medium ice cubes
- Lime wedge for garnish
- Salt (optional)

Put jalapeño pieces and cucumber slices in shaker glass, muddle (mash gently).

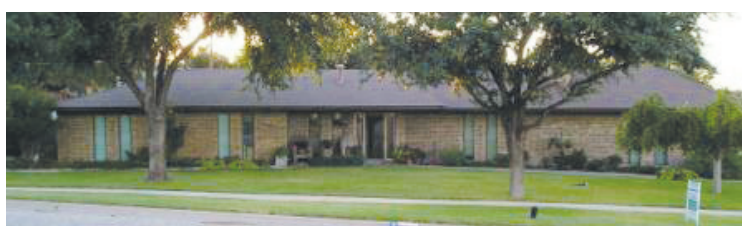
Pour all ingredients in glass cocktail shaker, shake vigorously at least 15 times, and pour into margarita glass. Add salt or chili-lime salt if desired. Garnish with lime wedge.

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Obituaries

Paul Fields

Paul "Red" Fields, 85, of Big Spring, died Friday, April 3, 2009, in a local nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, April 6, 2009, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Doug Shelley, chaplain with Crossroads Hospice, officiating.

He was born Oct. 14, 1923, in Big Spring and married Ann Marie Brydon on March 13, 1958, in Seattle, Wash. She preceded him in death Feb. 5, 2009.

Red and his late wife came to Big Spring in 1964. He was a truck driver most of his life until retiring. He was a member of the Church of God and had served in the United States Navy during World War II.

Survivors include four daughters, Paula Carey and husband Tommy of Big Spring, Patricia Sally of Escondido, Calif., Shelia Smith of Camino Island, Wash., and Sandra Fields of San Diego, Calif.; three sisters, Goldie Clawson of Big Spring, Lois Stice of Dallas and Gladine Cate of Big Spring; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, one granddaughter and eight brothers and sisters.

The family suggests memorials be made to the American Cancer Society, in care of Carolyn Brooks, P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring 79721-2121.

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

Richard Cauble

Richard Cauble, 83, of Big Spring, died Friday, April 3, 2009, in a local hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, April 6, 2009, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park in Big Spring with the Rev. Lynn Robertson, chaplain at Compass Hospice, officiating. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

He was born Jan. 24, 1926, in Big Spring and married Eula "Moe" Evans Sept. 2, 1948, in Big Spring. She preceded him in death May 3, 2005.

Richard was born and raised in Big Spring and was a lifetime resident.

His parents were Lad and Olive Cauble. He joined the U.S. Army during World War II while in high school and served in the European Theatre. He finished school, attended Sul Ross and worked as an auto mechanic and opened his own business, Cauble Garage, in 1952 and retired in 1990.

He was a Baptist and was a member of Staked Plains Lodge No. 598, A.F. & A.M. He was a member of the Suez Shrine Temple.

Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Ricky and Trisha Cauble of Midland; one daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Steve Westbrook of Big Spring; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one brother, Jack Cauble of Brady.

Richard was preceded in death by one sister, Dot Hood and one brother, Don Cauble.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Shriner's Crippled Children's Hospital, 610 Texas Ave., Galveston, 77550, or the Troy Hogue Memorial Scholarship Fund, in care of Jan Foresyth, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring 79720.

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

Santos Garza

Santos Garza, 81, of Big Spring died Friday, April 3, 2009, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Take Note

• The Big Spring High School Class of 1989 is looking for members to attend a 20-year reunion in September. Contact Christy Alexander Brown at (972) 567-8037 or Irma Moreno Garcia at (432) 816-5321 with your updated information.

• Mobile Meals needs volunteers. If you can donate one hour per week to our organization delivering meals between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m., you will be helping the senior citizens of Big Spring. Contact Macaria Cantu at 263-4016

• The Family History Center (genealogy library) of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be open from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesdays. If you need assistance in searching out your ancestors, bring all the information you have about your family and we will be happy to assist you. For more information, contact R.A. McKay at (432) 553-8127.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- ANTHONY YANEZ, 18, 1610 Cardinal, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication and two local warrants.
- ARSON was reported in the 200 block of Sixth.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 800 block of Fifth and the 2900 block of Eighth.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1400 block of Oriole.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 800 block of FM 700.
- DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED was reported in the 900 block of Father Delaney.
- TERRORISTIC THREAT was reported in the 400 block of Fourth.

Church News

East Fourth Street Baptist

Thanks to all who helped the youth with their burrito sales last Saturday. They had a great day.

We welcome you to our Spring Revival April 12-15. David Garrett, who directed the choir for the City Crusade two years ago, will be doing the music and preaching God's Word.

The adult choir will be presenting our Easter musical, Foot Steps of Jesus, this Sunday morning.

The service will start at 11 a.m. in the Family Worship Center, located at 401 E. Fourth St.

Our Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:45 a.m. We do have a Van Ministry. If you need a ride to Sunday school call the church office at (432) 267-2291 to get your name on the list to be picked up.

Our evening services are at 6 p.m. On Wednesday we have adult, youth and children Bible's study at 7 p.m. and Saturday, a men's Bible study at 7 a.m.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

TUESDAY

• Grief share, sponsored by Home Hospice and the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels (north end door), meets at 6 p.m.. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599.

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St.

• Celebrate Recovery, a 12-Step program, meets from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Salvation Army, 308 Ayford.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

CHANGING DATES

• The local National Alliance on Mental Illness group meets every two weeks in the basement of the Howard County Library. For dates and times, contact Ramona Blassingane at 263-9748.

Weather

Sunday — Sunny. Much cooler. Highs in the upper 50s. North winds 15 to 20 mph.

Sunday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Monday — Mostly sunny. Highs around 60. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Monday night — Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s.

Tuesday — Sunny — Warmer. Highs in the lower 70s.

Tuesday night — Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s.

Wednesday — Partly cloudy. Windy — Warmer. Highs in the mid 80s.

Wednesday night — Partly cloudy. Windy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Thursday — Partly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the mid 70s.

Thursday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

Friday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s.

Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

MONDAY

• Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.

• District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 begins at 5 p.m. with weight-in at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffet.

• Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.

• The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

• Big Spring Chapter No. 178 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

TUESDAY

• Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.

• VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.

• Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

• The Howard County Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's Posse building on the Andrews Highway. For more information, call Bert Sheppard at 263-4483 or Rose Armstead at 263-2769.

• Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

Lottery

There has been another rollover in the jackpot for the multistate Mega Millions lottery — to \$65 million.

The rollover occurred because no player matched all the winning numbers from Friday night's \$54 million drawing.

The winning numbers from Friday night's drawing were: 16, 22, 38, 39 and 48. The Mega Ball number was 42.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 21-24-16-12-13.

Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:

1-6-9. Sum It Up: 16

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:

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Kurt Busch, Penske move past testy talk in Texas

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**

AP Sports Writer

FORT WORTH — The exchange on the radio between frustrated Kurt Busch and car owner Roger Penske was far from cordial.

While neither resorted to yelling, their back-and-forth made it clear neither was too pleased with the other at that moment. But that was last week, during another long day on a short track.

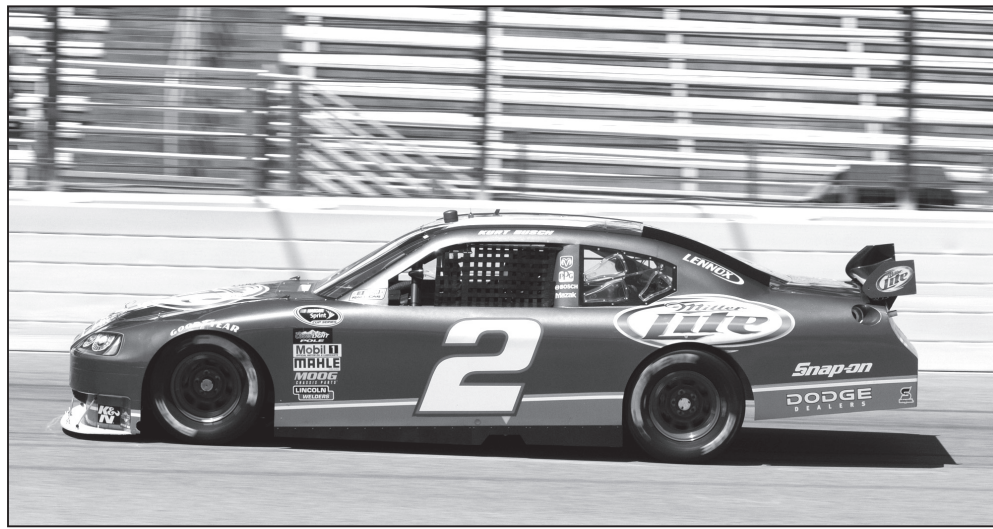
“Roger and I are definitely on the same page, and I have the utmost respect for him,” Busch said Friday. “In the heat of battle, sometimes things are said that aren’t exactly the right thing to say. ... That’s behind us.”

As are Bristol and Martinsville, for now.

After consecutive races on the tight half-miles, where Busch said the team will have to improve to compete for a series title, NASCAR’s Sprint Cup series moves this weekend to the 1½-mile, high-banked Texas Motor Speedway. It is one of the fastest tracks on the circuit and similar to Atlanta, where Busch won three races ago.

“I feel like our mile-and-a-half program is definitely where we want it,” Busch said.

But he obviously didn’t have the



AP photo/Larry Papke

NASCAR river Kurt Busch comes out of turn four during a practice session for Sunday’s SAMSUNG 500 auto race at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth Friday.

same feeling last week in Martinsville, where he finished 18th after starting on the front row beside polesitter Jeff Gordon.

Coming off pit row after a stop, Busch bluntly told his crew on the radio that a “stupid adjustment” had been made and that there was no way to compete for the victory. Penske responded by telling him to do his best and that he would be fine. But

that only led to a testy exchange between driver and owner.

“It’s the most frustrating thing in the world to think that you think that we’re better than we are,” Busch said.

“If you don’t blow yourself up, we’d be a lot better,” Penske said, referring to the driver’s mental approach and not the car. “So let’s get serious here, OK? You understand?”

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page 1B

county rival,” said Big Spring Head Coach John Sparks. “Most of these girls know each other. It was a fun game for us. The girls were focused most of the time and that’s good. I told them after the game, we’ve got to get back to business Monday. We start district all over again Tuesday and it’s an opportunity to do some great things.”

Big Spring totaled just seven hits, but continuously struck the ball hard throughout the game, forcing the Lady Buffs into eight errors.

The biggest problem for the Lady Buffs with their fielding was when they made one error, it seemed to balloon into two or three more miscues.

“I think we were as aggressive at the plate as we have been this season,” said Sparks. “The difference is this team has seen so many different pitchers. That experience has got to pay off and allow us to concentrate on hitting. I think we can get a lot of confidence out of a win like this.”

By all indications in the first inning, it appeared the game would turn into a slugfest.

Ambra Hill led off the top of the first inning with a triple for Forsan and eventually came home two batters later, when Kelsey Jones was able to single. However, the Lady Buffs would leave the bases loaded in the opening frame as Big Spring pitcher Kenzie Hunt pitched out of trouble, recording two strikeouts with runners in scoring position.

Big Spring responded with three-run first. Linzee Yarbar and Jillian Valle each reached base on singles, then scored on a double by Mirella Torres. Torres moved up to third on a sacrifice bunt by Valerie Ross and eventually scored on a single by Macy Briggs.

However, it was the second inning that really made the difference for the Lady Steers as they posted the eventual winning margin of five runs in the frame.

With one out, Baylea Fox drew a walk and Jaclyn Porras reached base on an error by Forsan pitcher Ashley Buzbee.

Fox scored on a single by Linzee Yarbar, which also moved Porras up to third. Valle followed by crushing the ball to center that was too hard for Forsan’s Sandi Golleher to handle. Porras and Yarbar scored on the play.

Forsan had two more errors on the next play that led to Valle crossing the plate and Torres reaching

second. Torres scored when Ross brought her across with a double, making the score 8-1.

“We had one bad inning when we couldn’t get an out. Little bloopers that we can’t get to and make a play on will just eat you up,” said Forsan Lady Buffs Head Coach Shanna Roberts. “We didn’t get some hits when we should have. We left a lot of people on base. We had the bases loaded and then we made two outs. It was a learning experience. I don’t think we came into this game with full focus. Hopefully, we’re heading back into district with a better frame of mind.”

Forsan chipped into the lead consistently through the final four innings, but never got closer than 10-5 after the top of the sixth.

Golleher was the leading batter for the Lady Buffs as she went 3-for-3 with two singles and a solo home run over the right field fence in the sixth inning. She finished with two RBI.

Valle also had a home run of a different variety for the Lady Steers. She hit a flyball down the left field line Forsan couldn’t quite reach. It bounced to the corner of the fence and Valle touched all four bases for an inside-the-park homer.

She finished the game 2-for-2 with two RBI and four runs scored, reaching base in all four of her at bats.

The Lady Buffs (10-13, 4-1) take on Winters at 5 p.m. Tuesday in Forsan.

“We beat Winters pretty handily the first time around, but that’s not to say they can’t come back and beat us if we’re not ready to play,” said Roberts. “We’re working toward a goal of winning out the second half of the district season and coming in first.”

The Lady Steers (9-12, 1-3) also restart district play Tuesday, hosting Plainview at 6:30 p.m. The Lady Steers lost to Plainview the first time they played, 11-4, but led 4-0 after four innings.

Forsan 100 121 1—6 9 8
Big Spring 351 101 x—11 7 2

Ashley Buzbee and Kelsey Jones. Kenzie Hunt and Jessica Womack. W - Hunt. L - Buzbee. 2B: For - Shelby Jones; BS - Mirella Torres, Valerie Ross. 3B: For - Ambra Hill. HR: For - Sandi Golleher. BS - Jillian Valle. RBI: For - K. Jones, Buzbee, Golleher 2, Keyv O’Brien; BS - Torres 2, Briggs, Valle 2, Yarbar, Ross, Jaclyn Porras. LOB: For 8, BS 6.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

Andrew Collazo homered in the first game. Runey Davis and Miles Hamblin went deep in the second.

The Hawks (32-0, 14-0) and WTC wrapped up their four-game series with a second doubleheader in Snyder Saturday.

Game 1
Howard 12, Western Texas 2
WTC 000 101—2 4 1
HC 020 082—12 16 1

Kyle Forsyth, Jake Trew (5) and Jason Sutherland. Zach Neal and Monk Kreder. W - Neal (7-0). L - Forsyth. 2B: WTC - Adam Jahner; HC - Will Calhoun 2 (12), Miles Hamblin (11). HR: HC - Andrew Collazo (7). RBI: WTC - Jonathan Slattery, Garrett Hardey; HC - Joe Leftridge (35), Bryan Johns 2 (47), Hamblin 2 (34), Nick Popescu (35), Calhoun 4 (25), Collazo 2 (38). SB: WTC - Deandre Seay; HC - Leftridge 2 (15), Kreder (6), Caleb Nine (16), Hamblin (9), Calhoun (5). LOB: WTC 3, HC 7.

Game 2
Howard 13, Western Texas 0
WTC 000 00—0 2 0
HC 00(10) 3x—13 14 1

Bristan Clingaman, Kevin McGrath (3), Jake Trew (4) and Jason Sutherland. Dylan Cacciola and Miles Hamblin. W - Cacciola (5-0). L - McGrath. 2B: HC - Andrew Collazo (11), Will Calhoun (13). HR: HC - Runey Davis (4), Hamblin (8), Calhoun (3). RBI: HC - Davis 2 (23), Collazo (39), Calhoun 4 (29), Caleb Nine (19), Monk Kreder 2 (34), Hamblin 3 (34). SB: HC - Calhoun (6). LOB: WTC 3, HC 5.

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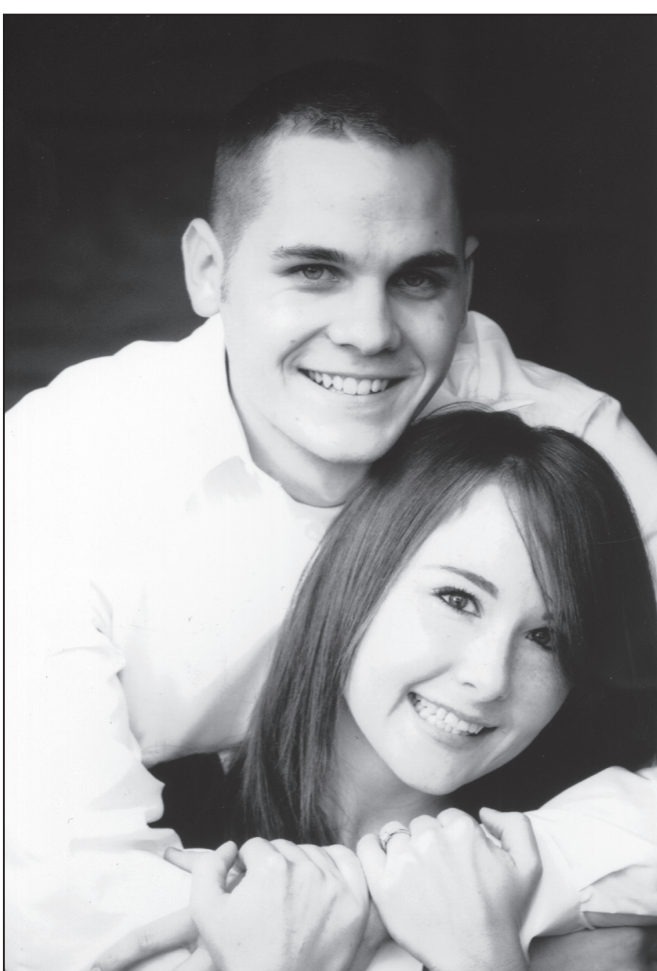
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Healey - Canada

Amanda Healey and Eric Canada, both of San Angelo, announce their intention to marry at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 11, 2009, in San Angelo at the Cactus Hotel.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Karla Durgin of San Angelo and the late David Durgin and Rick Healey of San Angelo. She is the granddaughter of Mel and Virginia Leibold of Dubuque, Iowa.

The future groom is the son of Karla Canada and Selan Canada, both of Stanton. He is the grandson of Kay Simpson of Stanton and the late Nolan Simpson and Irma Canada of Clyde and the late Selan Sr. Canada of Clyde.

Amanda is a 2008 graduate of Angelo State University with a bachelor's degree in communication. She is employed with the *San Angelo Standard Times*.

Eric will graduate in May of 2009 from Angelo State University with a bachelor's degree in business management. He is employed with Food Basket Pharmacy in San Angelo.

APRIL PROCLAIMED SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

Big Spring, TX - Governor Rick Perry designed April 2009 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Texas. Victim Services joins rape crisis centers across the state in commemorating Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month to promote awareness and encourage support of this issue.

According to a 2003 study conducted by the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault and the University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work, nearly 2 million Texans have been sexually assaulted. That equals 1 in 5 women and 1 in 20 men in our state. Unfortunately, fewer than 20 percent of sexual assault are ever reported to the police.

Sexual violence is a form of oppression, and is linked to all other forms of oppression. In order to create a world without sexual violence it is imperative that each of us take a stand against all forms of oppression whether based on gender, age, race or ethnicity, sexual orientation or gender identity. In order to foster healthy communities all citizens must support the efforts to end sexual violence every month of the year.

Last year Victim Services of Big Spring served:

41 Child Victims of Sexual Assault; 25 Primary and 16 Secondary
10 Adult Victims of Sexual Assault; 9 Primary and 1 Secondary
Total of 51 Cases

From victims and future victims take a stand today, the next victim could be someone you love, your wife, mother, sister, co-worker, aunt, niece, nephew or a friend.

Contact
Victim Services
263-3312

17260

Weddings

Lloyd - Shannon

Stephanie D'Ann Lloyd of McAllen and Christopher Joe Shannon of Farmington, N.M., were united in the bond of marriage at 4:30 p.m. Feb. 21, 2009, at the Courtyard in downtown Big Spring with the Rev. Ken Harrison from First United Methodist Church in McAllen officiating. A reception followed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of J'Nevelyn Lloyd of McAllen and Robert Lloyd of Eules. She is the granddaughter of Velta Lloyd of Big Spring and the late Judson Lloyd Big Spring and Harold Jackson of Monahans and the late Evelyn Jackson.

The groom is the son of Kirk and Shrona Shannon of Abilene. He is the grandson of Jill and Pete Shannon of Big Spring and Tootsie and Joe Hopper of Albuquerque, N.M.

Christian Tomlinson of Belton served as maid of honor and best man was Derek Shannon of Houston.

Stephanie graduated from McAllen High School and from The University of Mary Hardin Baylor in Belton with a bachelor of arts/education degree. She is employed by Belton ISD and teaches fourth grade at Tarver Elementary School.

Chris graduated from Shallow Water High School, near Lubbock and from Hardin Simmons University with a bachelor of business administration. He is employed by Temple Freightliner in Temple.



Mr. and Mrs. Shannon

Menus

Big Spring Senior Center

Monday
roast beef/brown gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, tossed salad/dressing, peach cobbler, rolls, milk

Tuesday
chicken tenders, honey mustard, black-eyed peas, carrots, mixed fruit w/citrus, rolls, milk

Wednesday
Sloppy Joes on a bun, potato wedges, cucumber salad w/sour cream, mustard/relish, ambrosia, milk

Thursday

Mexican chicken casserole, refried beans, yellow squash, guacamole w/tomatoes, tortilla chips, picante sauce, lemon pudding, milk

Friday

Good Friday Holiday

Forsan ISD

Monday
Breakfast
breakfast pizza, juice, milk

Lunch
grilled cheese sandwiches, chicken & noodle soup, pickle spears, saltine crackers, strawberry cups, milk

Tuesday
Breakfast
sausage on a stick, juice, milk

Lunch
beef tacos, lettuce & tomatoes, Spanish rice, pinto beans, brownies, milk

Wednesday
Breakfast
scrambled eggs, toast, juice, milk

Lunch
chicken patty sandwiches, lettuce, tomato & pickles, tater tots, Southwest beans, orange smiles, milk

Thursday
Breakfast
biscuits, sausage, juice, milk

Lunch
steak fingers, mashed potatoes w/gravy, green beans, hot rolls, fresh apples, milk

Friday
Bad Weather Day

Big Spring ISD

Monday
Breakfast
cereal, sausage patties, cheese omelets, fruit juice, milk

Lunch
pizza, carrots, apple sauce, chocolate pudding, Rice Krispy Treat, milk

Tuesday
Breakfast
biscuits, chicken nuggets, apple sauce cups

milk
Lunch
chicken spaghetti, garden salad, green peas, apricots, rolls, milk

Wednesday
Breakfast
baked cheese sticks, fruit juice, milk

Lunch
beef tacos, corn, Spanish rice, lettuce/tomato salad, orange smiles, salsa, milk

Thursday
Breakfast
pancake-sausage-on-stick, peach cups, milk

Lunch
char meatballs, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, pineapple chunks, rolls, milk, ice cream cup

Stanton ISD

Monday
Breakfast
waffles
Lunch
baked fish or mini

See **MENUS**, Page 3C

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Police chief: Binghamton gunman wore body armor

BINGHAMTON, N.Y. (AP) — The gunman who killed 13 people in a rampage at an immigrant community center and then committed suicide was wearing body armor, indicating he was prepared to do battle with law enforcers, the Binghamton police chief said Saturday.

The gunman, 41-year-old Jiverly Wong, had been taking classes at the American Civic Association, which helps immigrants assimilate, until last month, Police Chief Joseph Zikuski said.

Wong parked his car against the back door of the community center, burst through the front doors and shot two receptionists, killing one, and

then took most of his victims in a classroom.

The receptionist who survived played dead, then called 911 despite her injuries and stayed on the line while the gunman remained in the building, the police chief said.

"He must have been a coward," Zikuski said, speculating that when he decided to turn the gun on himself when he heard sirens.

He earlier called the receptionist, 61-year-old Shirley DeLucia, a "hero in her own right."

Wong had a permit for the two handguns he used, and most of the victims had multiple gunshot wounds, Zikuski

said. The body armor indicates that "at one point in his thinking process that he was going to take the police on or at least try to stop us from stopping him."

The gunman's actions were no surprise to Wong's family, the chief said. Wong, who used the alias Jiverly Voong, believed people close to him were making fun of him for his poor English language skills, he said.

Wong was ethnically Chinese but from Vietnam, a friend said Saturday. He was angry about recently losing a job at a Shop-Vac assembly plant, couldn't find other work and complained that his unemployment checks were

only \$200 a week, said Hue Huynh, a Binghamton grocery store proprietor whose husband worked with Wong years ago.

Wong, who moved to the United States in the early 1990s, had driven a truck in California before recently returning to Binghamton, only to lose a job there, Huynh said.

"He's upset he don't have a job here. He come back and want to work," she said.

On Friday, Wong barricaded the American Civic Association community center's back door with his car, walked in the front and started shooting with two handguns. Within minutes, a

receptionist, a teacher and 11 immigrants taking a citizenship class were dead.

DeLucia feigned death after she was shot and called 911 to get police to the scene within two minutes. Zikuski said the injured receptionist stayed on the phone for 90 minutes, "feeding us information constantly," despite a serious wound to the abdomen.

DeLucia was in critical condition at a hospital Saturday, along with another victim in the same condition and another in serious condition. A fourth victim was in stable condition at another hospital.

Thirty-seven others made it out.

SHOW

Continued from Page 1A

children — it's hard to let them go."

Tucci will be on hand Monday during the all-day open house to meet those touring the library and the gallery.

The Martin County Library will feature the exhibit of her work from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The library is located at 200 North St. in Stanton. For more information, call (432) 756-2472. Most pieces will be available for purchase.



Members of the Red Hat Society joined veterans and staff at the Lamun Lusk Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home to stuff Easter eggs Tuesday. The veterans home currently has about 40,000 eggs ready for its sixth annual Community Easter Egg Hunt, set for 2 p.m. Friday, April 10. There will be three age groups this year: 0-3, 4-7 and 8-12. The hunt will be held on the facility grounds at 1809 N. Highway 87. For more information, call 268-8387.

Courtesy photo

TAXES

Continued from Page 1A

Center.

"People need to be sure to bring all of the pertinent information with them, including a tax booklet if one was received through the mail, W-2 forms and 1099 forms," said Hopkins. "They also need to bring any forms that show their 2008 earnings and their 2007 tax returns.

"We also need a social security card for every person named on the return and a photo ID for the person filing. If they are homebound and don't have a way to get to the Senior Center, they can call us and we'll make arrangements to have their information picked up."

And while this year's tax code seems to be unfolding without any major hitches, Hopkins said filers do seem to be running into a problem concerning last year's tax re-

bate.

"They need to know how much their stimulus payment was last year," said Hopkins. "The Internal Revenue Service is supposed to be sending out statements with this information, and there's a number you can call to get it, but the wait is considerable to get through to someone."

"I'd strongly suggest people contact their bank or go through their records from last year to get the exact amount. If you provide the

wrong amount when you e-file, the Internal Revenue Service won't accept the return. So it's very, very important people have that information before they come see us."

Hopkins said people who didn't receive a stimulus payment last year may qualify for one this tax season.

"For individuals who didn't receive a stimulus payment last year, there's a chance they may be eligible to receive it now," she said. "That's something we just have to look at

and see if they qualify."

Participants in the program will be able to e-file their tax returns at no charge, according to Hopkins.

The Senior Center is located at 1901 Simler Dr. in the McMahan-Wrinkle Airpark. For more information, contact Hopkins at 267-6733.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@big-springherald.com

BSHS

Continued from Page 1A

students during that span.

"We are very proud of our kids," BSHS Principal Mike Ritchey said. "This is probably the most number of students who have qualified for the regional meet and I think it's the most points we've ever scored at the district meet."

"It's a reflection of all the time and work and effort put in by all the kids and their teachers," Ritchey added.

BSHS students who finished in the top three in their respective events qualify for the University Interscholastic League Region 1-4A meet, scheduled for April 17-18 at Angelo State University in San Angelo.

Following are Big Spring results from Friday's district meet:

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

- Accounting — Catlin Carlisle, first; Katie Tompkins, second; Channing Martin, fifth; Kristina Chang, sixth.
- Calculator applications — Trey Harris, sixth.
- Current issues —

Jessica Rubio, first; Mary Kincaid, second; Danielle Freeman, third; Pete Covarrubias, fourth.

- Computer applications — Samone Foster, third; Kristina Chang, fourth; Cole Pittman, fifth.

- Computer science — A.J. Richey, second; Josh Smith, third; Cole Pittman, fourth.

- Editorial writing — James Bowen, first; Haley Zarate, third; Marilyn Anquiano, fourth.

- Feature writing — James Bowen, first; Haley Zarate, second; Marilyn Anquiano, fifth.

- Headline writing — James Bowen, third; Haley Zarate, fourth.

- Informative speaking — Jessica Rubio, first; Thad Loftis, second.

- Lincoln-Douglas debate — Andrew Lewis, first; Erika Batten, second; Opal Gonzales, third.

- Literary criticism — Mary Kincaid, second; Saije Clare, fifth.

- Mathematics — Kade Parker, first; Andrew Fillingim, fifth.

- Number sense — Kade Parker, first; Andrew Fillingim, second; Blake Brorman, sixth.

- News writing — James Bowen, first; Haley Zarate, third.

- Persuasive speaking — Rachel Overby, second; Andrew Lewis, third; Pete Covarrubias, fifth.

- Poetry interpretation — Carlita Green, first; Thad Loftis, third; Katie Cooper, sixth.

- Prose interpretation — Eric Valle, first; Bianca Mancha, third; Kala Long, fourth.

- Ready writing — Lacy McMurtrey, second; Jonathan Womack, third; Mindy Ralston, fourth.

- Science — Jessica Stone, fourth.

- Social studies — Jessica Stone, first; Brian Kirk, second; Meghan Harp, third.

- Spelling and vocabulary — Courtney Long, third; Lacy McMurtrey, fourth; Mindy Ralston, sixth.

TEAM EVENTS

- Accounting — BSHS, first.

- Calculator applications — BSHS, second.

- Current issues — BSHS, first.

- Computer science — BSHS, first.

- Cross-examination debate — BSHS, first.

- Journalism — BSHS, first.

- Literary criticism — BSHS, second.

- Mathematics — BSHS, first.

- Number sense —

BSHS, first.

- One act play — BSHS, second.

- Social studies — BSHS, first.

- Speech — BSHS, first.

- Spelling and vocabulary — BSHS, first.

Contact Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com

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ALL DAY TUESDAY (HOLIDAYS EXCLUDED) \$4.00

Fast And Furious (PG-13) Sun: 1:50 4:40 7:20	Last House On The Left (R) Sun: 1:40 4:30 7:10
Knowing (PG-13) Sun: 1:30 4:20 7:00	Monsters vs. Aliens (PG) Sun: 2:00 4:50 7:30

◆ NO PASSES-NO CLASSIC SUPERSAVERS ◆

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Ed Payne, 56, died Monday. Memorial Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at 102 Young Street.

Santos Garza, 81, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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23 NFL teams freeze ticket prices

BARRY WILNER

AP Football Writer

Even the NFL is finding out what it's like to sell season tickets during a recession. It ain't pretty.

"You've got to be much more aware of the pricing equation. It's front and center of all consumers' minds — those who are still at work and those who are not," said Mark Waller, the NFL's senior vice president of sales and marketing.

The downturn hadn't fully taken hold last year when the NFL began selling tickets for the 2008 season. But now there is no avoiding it.

Twenty-three of the 32 NFL teams have frozen ticket prices for 2009. Green Bay and Miami initially planned to raise prices for most of their seats, then scrapped those intentions when the economy tanked.

"We're in a small market and we are very sensitive to our fans' needs and what the economy is like," said Jeff Blumb, a Packers spokesman. "The club seats and lounges are under long-term contracts with built-in

increases, but in the bowl of the stadium, ticket prices will remain the same."

Blumb said the Packers have no plans beyond this year.

Their average ticket price is \$63.36 and their waiting list is approximately 81,000. They won't know for several weeks if anyone turns down the tickets, but it is very rare — as evidenced by the waiting list.

The Dolphins have no waiting list, so their concern was ramped up further by the economic slump.

"We have raised our ticket prices nearly every year so we can keep up with the rise in player costs as the salary cap goes up," Dolphins spokesman Harvey Greene said. "This year, we normally would have increased ticket prices as a way to keep up, but given the economy and the situation it has put many fans in, we're not raising them. Obviously, we're sensitive to our fans in making these changes."

Another Miami spokesman, George Torres, said the team is "way ahead" of last year's pace for season ticket

renewals although he did not elaborate.

Some teams — the Saints, Vikings, Chargers, Dolphins and Rams among them — are offering new payment schedules for season-ticket buyers. The Falcons gave fans an early renewal option under which some tickets were discounted 30 percent.

A few teams report dipping into season-tickets waiting lists.

New York Giants president John Mara said when it came to personal seat licenses for the new Giants/Jets stadium opening in 2010 in the New Jersey Meadowlands, his club may have gone 30,000 deep into the waiting list. In an average year at Giants Stadium, he said only a "couple hundred" tickets would turn over.

The good news? "We're pretty close to being sold out," he said.

The Cowboys will open their \$1.1 billion stadium this year, and have more than 300 suites, with more than 25 available. Except for the most high-end seats, the one-time cost for PSLs ranges from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per seat. Then season tickets sell from \$790 to

\$1,250 per seat.

"We have been quite pleased with our sales efforts to date," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "We are about 85 percent sold on our club and reserved seats, and continue to make new sales every day."

Not every team is so fortunate, of course. Take the Chiefs, who come off one of the worst seasons in their 49-year history and have completely revamped their front office. At the same time, Arrowhead Stadium — along with the Royals' Kauffman Stadium — is part of a \$600 million revitalization.

"What we're seeing a lot of in renewals is people who have, say, six tickets (and) are buying four or five," Chiefs senior vice president for administration Bill Newman said.

Not what the NFL wants to hear.

AP Sports Writers Ronald Blum in New York; Tom Canavan in Newark, N.J.; Doug Tucker in Kansas City; and Stephen Hawkins and Jaime Aron in Dallas contributed to this story.

NASCAR

Continued from Page 2B

That doesn't erase the radio exchange from Martinsville, which is available on the Internet for anyone to hear.

"The radio, I've always thought has been a team tool that should be utilized just by the team," Busch said. "We don't get to hear what the coach says to his offensive and defensive coordinators in the NFL, what they say in baseball when they call to the bullpen."

But that's not going to change in NASCAR, and Busch realizes that.

"It's up to me do a better job of taking the right words and actions at the appropriate times, and that's back at the race shop when it's closed doors," he said.

Even though the last four Texas fall races were won by drivers who had also won the previous week in Atlanta, often with the same setups, Busch will drive a different car in Texas,

which comes before the series takes Easter weekend off.

"The plan is to get as much information under our belt in the first few weeks of the season as we can," Busch said. "This car is just slightly different. We know what setup we ran in Atlanta and we want to just try a different car here at Texas to get our portfolio bigger."

PLAX

Continued from Page 1B

today to release Plaxico.

"It wasn't to be, so now we have to move on. Like everybody else here, we want nothing but the best for Plaxico, and we are appreciative of the contributions he made to this franchise."

Burress' four-year tenure with the Giants was highlighted by a game-winning touchdown catch in the Super Bowl against the previously undefeated New England Patriots in February 2008, but it was also dogged by fines and suspensions.

Burress' status has been uncertain since he shot himself in the thigh on Nov. 29 with a gun he'd stuffed into his waistband. He faces a felony weapons charge that could put him in prison for at least 3½ years if convicted.

Burress' case was adjourned on Tuesday while his attorneys and prosecutors worked on a possible plea agreement. He is due back in court on June 15.

While the delay in the court proceedings appear to have influenced the Giants, it wasn't the only factor. His track record left team officials concerned about whether he'd ever really put the team first.

Just earlier this year, with the shooting charge pending and the Giants still leaving the door open for his return once Burress resolved the matter, his agent, Drew Rosenhaus, sent out feelers to other teams suggesting that his client wanted to be traded.

"Plaxico's contribution to our championship season in 2007 can never be underestimated or undervalued," coach Tom Coughlin said. "He displayed tremendous determination throughout that season. Having said that, I have always been as concerned about Plaxico as a man as I have been about him as a player, and my hope is that everything that has happened over the past several months represents a turning point."

"He is a young man with a family who has a whole lifetime ahead of him, and I personally wish him and his family well."

Burress has not spoken publicly about the shooting. His attorney, Benjamin Brafman, noting that he is a Giants fan, called the team's decision a huge mistake.

"He is a good man, a good football player and I only hope that with the benefit of hindsight the Giants don't ultimately regret this decision," Brafman said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

Brafman said he has not spoken to Burress since the move was announced.

Rosenhaus did not return a telephone message or e-mail seeking comment on the release.

The decision to release Burress might lead the Giants to look for a deep threat receiver in the draft later this month. New York has 10 draft choices and they could package some to move up. They have the 29th pick overall.

The only player currently on the roster who might fill that deep role is Mario Manningham, a second-year player out of Michigan who did little in an injury-plagued rookie season. Steve Smith and Domenik Hixon have shown the ability to be a deep threat on occasion, but neither is as consistent as Burress at stretching a defense.

The Giants talked briefly with the Cleveland Browns recently about a trade for veteran receiver Braylon Edwards. Those talks either might heat up again with the release of Burress, or New York might make discuss a trade with Arizona for Anquan Boldin, who was unhappy with the NFC champion Cardinals late in the season.

Burress' Giants teammates had been supportive about his possible return.

"It's an unfortunate situation for everyone involved," Giants' two-time Pro Bowl defensive end Osi Umenyiora said in an e-mail to The Associated Press. "(I'm) not surprised. He is a tremendous talent, and you never want to let a guy like that go for nothing, but I think the uncertainty of the court forced their hand."

A little more than a week ago, Umenyiora predicted that Burress would reach a plea agreement and not get jail time.

Burress, who was suspended by the Giants for the final four weeks of the season for conduct detrimental to the team and fined after the shooting, also faces possible NFL sanctions for violating its personal conduct policy.

Burress caught 344 passes with the Giants, which places him 12th on the franchise's career list, one catch ahead of Earnest Gray and three behind Aaron Thomas. Burress had 3,681 receiving yards and caught 33 touchdown passes for the Giants.

The Giants finished 12-5 last season, but they lost four of their final five games after the suspension of Burress. A season that began with hopes of consecutive Super Bowl titles ended at home in the playoffs with an embarrassing loss to the Philadelphia Eagles.

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The Giants signed Burress to a five-year, \$35 million contract extension in September. The team withheld a \$1 million signing bonus after the shooting and the NFL Players Association filed a grievance on Burress' behalf.

The grievance, which contests whether teams can withhold guaranteed salaries and bonus money from players because of off-field conduct, was heard earlier this week by a special master, Stephen Burbank at the University of Pennsylvania law school. His ruling is expected within a week.

Releasing Burress will only save the Giants \$300,000 on their salary cap. The savings could jump to \$1.3 million if they win the grievance.

Burress had caught a pass in 115 consecutive games, including 56 with the Giants, until he was shut out at Arizona on Nov. 23, his last game before the shooting incident. Burress started but left that game after one series with a hamstring injury and did not return.

Burress' 23 postseason catches with the Giants leave him fifth on the team's career list and his 310 postseason yards place him third. He had 35 passes for 454 yards and four touchdowns in 10 games last season.

His last Giants' reception was an 11-yarder late in the second quarter in a victory over Baltimore on Nov. 16.

Burress joined the Giants as an unrestricted free agent March 2005 after five seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

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Births

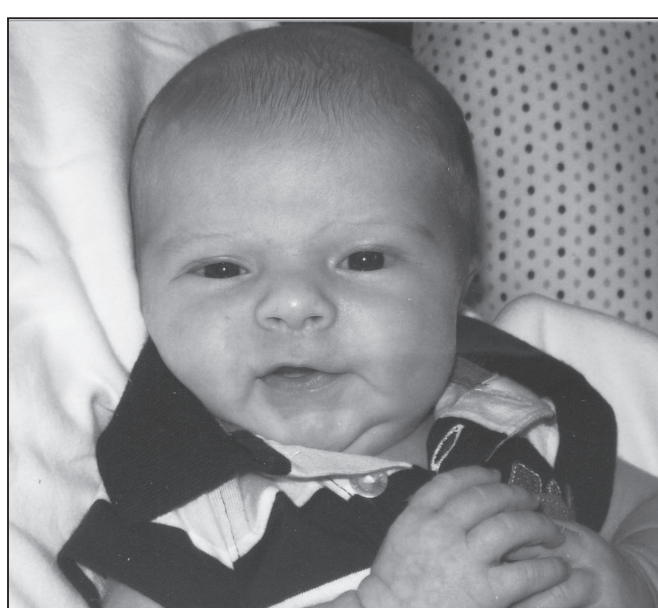


Garrett John Creech

Garrett John Creech, a boy, was born at 9:26 p.m. Jan. 25, 2009, weighing 9 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20-1/2 inches in length. He is the son of Darrin and Kerri Creech of Austin.

He is the grandson of R.D. and Beverly Hall of Big Spring, Dennis and Netta Creech of Round Rock and Judy Mudge of Austin, and the great-grandson of Gene Hall of Colorado City.

He was welcomed home by his sister, Halle Creech.



Ryan John-Jiggs Simon

Roddy and Jan Caffey announce the birth of their grandson, Ryan John-Jiggs Simon on March 3, 2009, at Woman's Hospital in Baton Rouge, La. He weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21 inches long.

He is the son of Mike and Kori Simon of Addis, La. His paternal grandparents are John and Connie Simon of Port Allen, La.

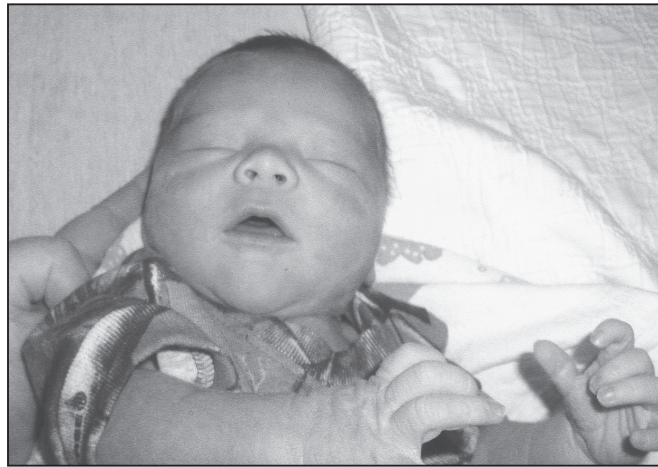
His maternal great-grandparents are Dean and Joanne Forrest of Big Spring and Robert and Patty Caffey of San Angelo. His paternal great-grandparents are Floyd and Lucille Simon and Mary Ann Burnetti, all of Frontenac, Kan.



Jordan Lee Baeza

Mary Jo Baeza announces the birth of her son, Jordan Lee Baeza, born at 9:06 a.m. March 18, 2009, weighing 5 pounds and was 18 inches long.

He is the grandson of Eddie Baeza and Pamela Harris, both of Big Spring.



Dylun Dakota Cate

Jennifer Cate announces the birth of her son, Dylun Dakota Cate, born at 7:11 p.m. March 24, 2009, weighing 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches long.

He is the maternal grandson of Larry and Terri Cate of Big Spring. He is the paternal grandson of Letty Garcia of Big Spring.



Noelani Jade Blanco

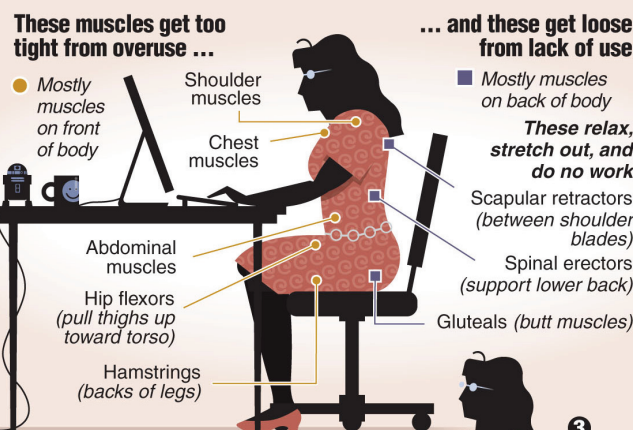
Noe Blanco III and Crystal Blanco of Wahiawa, Hawaii, announce the birth of their daughter, Noelani Jade Blanco, who arrived at 3:49 p.m. March 10, 2009, weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long.

She is the granddaughter of Lorenza Martinez, Grace Blanco, both of Big Spring, and the late Noe Blanco Jr.

Noelani was welcomed home by her big sister Trinity.

The cost of sitting too much

When people sit in a chair or drive a vehicle for long hours every day, their muscles get quite unbalanced.



How to reverse the forces

Imagine how you naturally stretch when you have been sitting for too long

- 1 Stand up, push your chest forward and spread it
- 2 Arch your back a little
- 3 Stretch your arms backward and pull your shoulders behind you

Do stretches like this - gently but firmly - a few times

They will pull your muscles back toward the balance they need

Source: Dynamic Fitness by Andrew Heffernan Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Paul Trap

Club News

TOPS TX No. 21

TOPS TX No. 21 club met Monday evening at the First Christian Church Fellowship Hall to conduct their annual installation program.

Laura Sickles, outgoing leader presided. She called for the cheer to which all members responded with enthusiasm. The TOPS pledge was led by Linda Stapel and the KOPS pledge was led by Ethel Casady. The welcome song was then sung by all members. There were two visitors present, Raymond Churchwell and Franklin Willards. The minutes were then read by Linda Stapel.

Roll call showed 10 TOPS and 2 KOPS answering with a loss of 7.75 pounds. Duffy Yancey was awarded a certificate for being the best loser of the week with a loss of 1.75 pounds.

The installation ceremony then began with Laura Sickles awarding returning officers with certificates, charms and gifts for their 2008 services to the club. A round of applause was given by the membership.

Then the installation of the club officers for 2009 began with Olnee Meng-

es asking all the officers for 2009 were asked to come to the front. Then each one was asked to commit to the responsibilities requested of them: Laura Sickles as leader, Linda Stapel as co-leader, Carol Smith as secretary, Frank Sickles as treasurer, and Huggetta Roberts and Ethel Cassady as weight recorder and assistant weight recorder. They all responded with a willing "I Will." Then the membership was asked to stand and respond with their willingness to follow and support these leaders to which they all responded, "I Will."

The meeting adjourned with the closing song. Each member recommitted in their heart and mind to learn to control their appetites and weight to maintain good health.

For more information about TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) call Frank Sickles at 432-213-1342 or Olnee Menges 432-263-6819. all visitors are welcome. Please feel free to join us.

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Readers Corner

AN OLD MAN CALLED FRANK

I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER AN OLD MAN CALLED FRANK. HE SAT BY HIS CAMP FIRE, SO LEAN AND SO LANK HE PICKED AN OLD BANJO AND SOMETIMES HE SANG. "THE STREETS OF LAREDO"

OR "HOME ON THE RANGE."

SOMETIMES WHEN I LISTEN TO SOUNDS IN THE NIGHT I THINK HE'S STILL SINGING HIS CAMP FIRE IS BRIGHT. SO LISTEN, YOU'LL HEAR HIM HIS BANJO WILL TWANG "THE STREETS OF LAREDO" OR "HOME ON THE RANGE."

— BERNICE REED JONES

MENUS

Continued from Page 2C

corn dogs, French fries, vegetable sticks, pineapple, French bread, milk, ranch dressing ketchup.

Tuesday Breakfast

oatmeal
Lunch
meatloaf or chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes/gravy, carrot coins, peaches, hot rolls, milk
Wednesday Breakfast
biscuits, sausage & gravy
Lunch
baked chicken or

Salisbury steak, steamed rice, green beans, strawberry cups, bread sticks, milk
Thursday Breakfast
Pop Tarts
Lunch
pizza or pizza cheese sticks, English peas, garden salad, pears, milk, ranch dressing



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Total Enclosed: \$ _____

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

OUR VIEW

Pops in the Park fund-raising is getting started

Members of the Big Spring Fourth of July Foundation will begin mailing solicitation letters to past supporters in the next week or so, as they make plans for this year's Pops in the Park concert and fireworks display at Comanche Trail Park.

As we've noted before, it's not too early to be thinking about July the Fourth, because such programs aren't put together in a couple of weeks. Especially not when they carry a price tag in the neighborhood of \$40,000 — money that comes from donations and sponsorships provided by local businesses and individuals.

Now heading into its 12th year, Pops in the Park has become a tradition — one the entire community looks forward to, as do many living in other cities.

Foundation members have begun the process of contacting previous donors, as well as soliciting contributions from new sources — funds that make it possible for the organizing committee to open the gates for all comers free of charge.

To make donations, contact the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce at 263-7641 or mail them to the chamber office at P.O. Box 1391, Big Spring 79721-1391.

"It is the entire community's celebration. That's something that is on every committee member's mind," noted Jan Hansen, who is again serving as the foundation's co-chairman for Pops. "It's a time to get together with friends and family at the park, join our neighbors and celebrate the birth of our nation."

The Big Spring Herald will again be among the presenters for the show. Those committed as presenters to date are the Big Spring Symphony, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, the Visitors and Convention Bureau, the city of Big Spring and KBST, which broadcasts the concert for those who are unable to get into the amphitheater.

The Herald is proud to be a part of such a spectacular event and we encourage others in the community to do the same. Help us make sure Big Spring can keep celebrating our nation's birthday in impressive fashion.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

You, Lord, are our inspiration to succeed.
Amen

Is it time to pray or panic?

There is panic today in the hearts of many. Some are disheartened because they see no solution in sight. Some believe they can trust no one for viable answers.

A preoccupation with fears and worries often incites panic. When multitudes desperately begged Jesus for help and answers, he taught them a prayer that was described by Christian healer, Mary Baker Eddy, as the "prayer which covers all human needs." (Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures)

Prayer enables us to feel God's presence and know we are enveloped in His love. And there is power in His presence.

I have suffered many times from panic attacks. When faced with conflict, dilemmas, or any turmoil — whether it was real or perceived — I've often become a physical and emotional wreck. So I can testify that when the going gets tough, leaning on God is better than panic.

Taking some deep spiritual breaths in times of crisis, pressure and immense stress, enables us to be comforted and reassured by God's ever-presence.

Panic is replaced by peace, and peace quiets fear and calms anxiety. We reach a state of mind that fosters inspiration and revelation.

And then, we can see solutions realized and implemented.

Problems that at first seem huge or beyond repair become small (or much smaller) and fixable.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee." (Isaiah 26:3) More than a promise, this is a fact and a lesson I have learned — and I must admit — sometimes need to relearn.

The Psalmist wrote, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me...." (Psalms 23:4) It could be said that the "valley" represents any difficult or terrifying experience we face. "For thou art with me" is an eternal Truth that dissipates fear.

The Lord makes us strong when we are weak.

Several days ago I felt like I was getting hit with one catastrophe after another. I found myself waiting for the next shoe to drop. And it did. The pressure in my head and chest was building until one night I could not even lie down and breathe normally. I felt like I was going to explode.

In my anguish, I prayed. I began with The Lord's Prayer. As my uneasy thoughts began to calm, I let go of the internal struggle. I put aside all the details weighing on my heart. I stopped my mind from hurrying to tomorrow or next week or next year. And I focused only on feeling God's presence.

"The Lord will bless his people with peace." (Psalms 29:11) And He blessed me with peace. My

weariness turned into restful breaths and sleep. And the next morning, I awoke refreshed and still confident of God's ever-presence.

Stay grounded in your spirituality, dear friends. Rest your thoughts on the spiritual rock, or knowledge, that affirms God's presence, omnipotence and goodness.

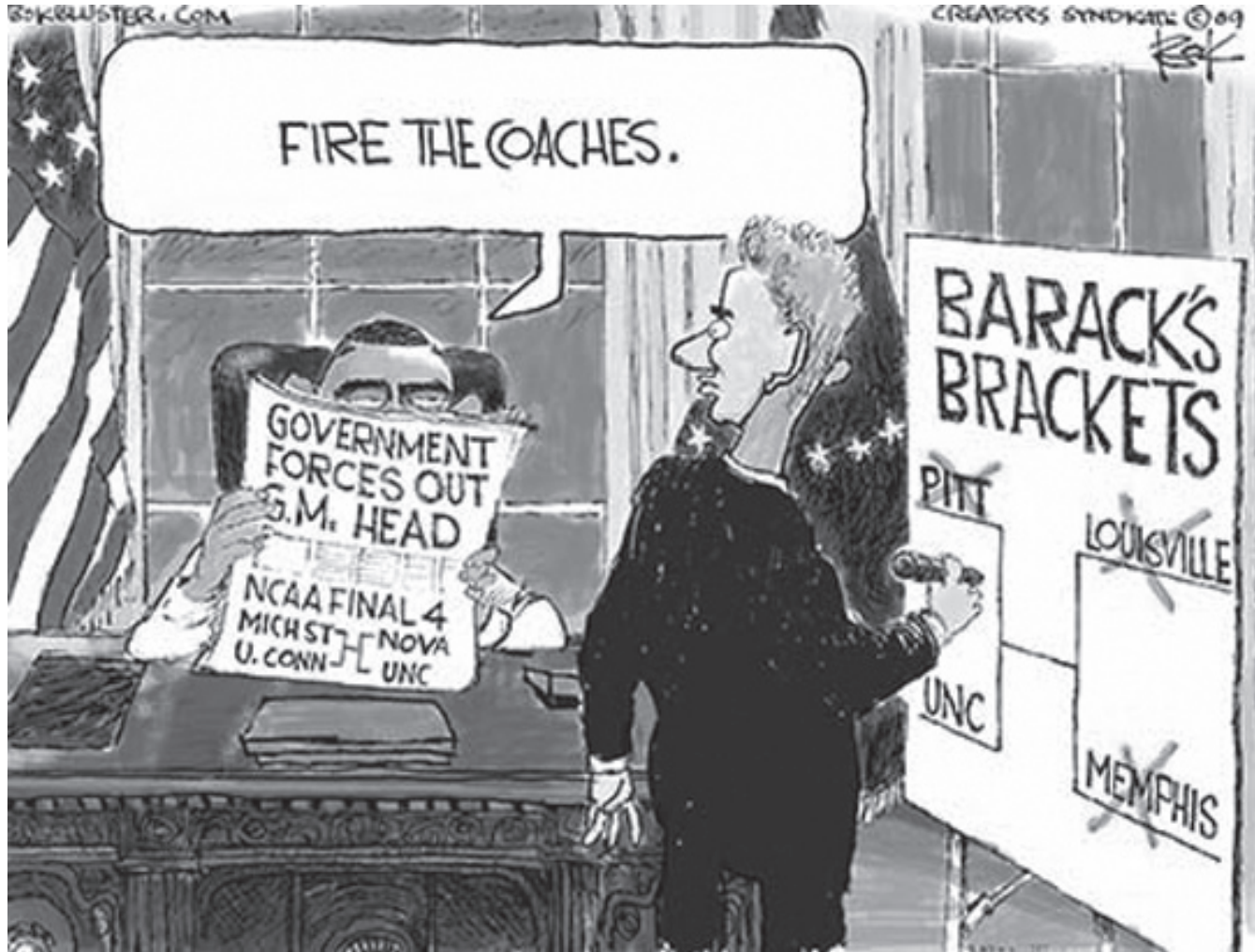
Then you'll be like that wise man Jesus told about in the parable who "built his house upon a rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock." (Matthew 7:24-25)

Panic paralyzes, cripples, blinds and stifles. Panic is a reaction — an unconscious choice — that serves no good purpose and isn't helpful or productive.

When our first instinct is to panic, we can consciously choose to pray. Prayer reassures and reminds us that anything is possible, that possibilities are infinite, and that God is with us. And prayer will enable us to move forward, reach new heights, overcome hurdles, and break new ground.

There is no good time to panic, my troubled friends. Pray and you will persevere.

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. Her columns are published weekly on United Press International's ReligionAndSpirituality.com and in numerous newspapers. Send her an e-mail at annettebridges@gmail.com.



YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

What a show! What a concert! What a way to end the Big Spring Symphony season!

The audience knew they were going to have a trip down memory lane before they came. That's why the high school auditorium was full of smiling, laughing, clapping people ready to hear cowboy music and poetry from "The Bard and the Balladeer."

We await the 2009-2010 symphony season with anticipation.

LEE AND FRAN EMERSON
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

Please let me take this opportunity to say thank you to the Big Spring High School Student Council for supporting Marcy Elementary by working with the students during our Jump Rope for Heart activities.

Everyone had a great time. The spirit and great attitude of the BSHS students is impressive.

My thanks also to the parents and students that supported Jump Rope for Heart. The event was a huge success.

CINDY NEW
MARCY ELEMENTARY
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

Monday, March 30, was National Doctors' Day. Throughout

the year, the independent members of the medical staff at Scenic Mountain Medical Center touch the lives of so many of our friends and families here in Big Spring and Howard County, it seems like a single day of thanks really isn't enough to do their work justice.

But then again, what could repay them for the lives they've saved, fears they've alleviated, pain they've eased and care they've offered.

For all they have done and all they will do in the days ahead, we honor our physicians and simply say, "Thank you" to: Dr. Alan Abel, Dr. Steve Ahmed, Dr. Kim Bango, Dr. Scott Barclay, Dr. Erich Byerly, Dr. Manuel Carrasco, Dr. Mario Castillo, Dr. Joseph Chavez, Dr. Carlos Dimidjian, Dr. Rudy Haddad, Dr. Robert Hayes, Dr. Daniel Hinckley, Dr. Ladd Hoffman, Dr. Rudy Izzard, Dr/ Melencio Juan, Mr. Cezary Kuprianowicz, Dr. Keith Ledford, Dr. David Long, Dr. Clark McDaniel, Dr. Susan Roberts, Dr. Cynthia Rutledge, Dr. Manish Shroff and Dr. Thomas Youngblood.

GEORGE N. PARSLEY
CEO
SMMC

TO THE EDITOR:

Imagine this common scene: As you walk out to your car, you pass

by a number of smokers enjoying a relaxing puff. Unable to avoid the cloud of smoke, your feel your chest tighten and you begin to wheeze. Breathing becomes harder until you find yourself gasping for air. Reaching frantically for your rescue inhaler, you find it just in time to prevent the situation from worsening. This can be an everyday experience of someone with asthma.

Texas legislators have introduced bills to help reduce exposure to tobacco smoke. Our own house representative in district 85, Joe Heflin, has co-authored House Bill 5, which seeks to eliminate smoking in all workplaces and public places.

As a registered nurse, I know that second hand smoke has been linked to heart disease, lung cancer, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and many respiratory problems, including asthma.

Second hand smoke exposure leads to thousands of otherwise preventable illnesses, hospitalizations and deaths. For example, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that annually second hand smoke is responsible for 150,000 to 300,000 cases of bronchitis and pneumonia in children every year. These illnesses results in 7,500 to 15,000 hospitalizations

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

didn't want to stay in Texas and is with his third team since leaving.

Hard-throwing 20-year-old starter Neftali Feliz could be close to his major league debut and Beau Jones is a left-handed reliever in the minors. None of quintet is older than 23.

"When it became abundantly clear that he wasn't going to be here, the timing was right for us," Rangers assistant general manager Thad Levine said. "We found a team that was going for it right then and thought he was the exact piece they needed. ... There was a little bit of the stars aligning."

Atlanta was trying to get back to the playoffs that summer and Teixeira, the switch-hitting slugger who was the fifth pick in 2001 out of Georgia Tech, had rejected Texas' eight-year, \$140 million offer.

The Rangers were last in the AL West and had already shifted their focus to building for the future.

They also dealt veterans Kenny Lofton and Eric Gagne around the same time.

Saltalamacchia immediately joined the Rangers after the trade, though he initially played some at first base. Last year, Salty was recalled before the end of April after starting at Triple-A Oklahoma and then split time behind the plate with primary starter Gerald Laird, who was traded to Detroit after the season.

Harrison made it to the majors last July, still enough time to become the only Texas rookie left-hander to win nine games.

He is now the No. 5 starter, with his youth being the main reason he is in that rotation spot.

Now comes Andrus, the 20-year-old shortstop with so much promise that the Rangers moved five-time All-Star Michael Young, the AL Gold Glove shortstop last season, to third base. That cleared the way for Andrus, who has never played above Double-A.

"We got two starters who play the center of the field and sometime this year you could have two-fifths of your starting rotation being from that



AP photo/Tony Gutierrez

Texas Rangers shortstop Elvis Andrus fields the ball during a spring training baseball game March 9 against the Los Angeles Dodgers in Surprise, Ariz. Mark Teixeira, the Rangers' former first-round pick, was traded to the Braves two summers ago. That deal is now bearing fruit with three of the players Texas got from Atlanta — catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia, shortstop Elvis Andrus and left-hander Matt Harrison — opening the 2009 season as starters. Hard-throwing 20-year-old Neftali Feliz could also be close to his major league debut.

trade," Levine said. "When we made that trade, did we think it was going to produce like it did? I think we were hopeful."

The addition of Teixeira didn't push Atlanta into the postseason in 2007. Out of contention last summer and with the first baseman eligible for free agency after the season, the Braves traded him to the Los Angeles Angels two days short of the year anniversary of his acquisition.

Teixeira is now with the New York Yankees after signing a \$180 million, eight-year contract over the winter.

"Five young guys that are under the age of 24, for a guy that was a one-year thing, it was a really good thing for us," said Saltalamacchia, also a switch-hitter and former first-round

pick now getting to be an everyday catcher.

For GM Jon Daniels, Levine and the Rangers, it also relieved a bit of the sting from previous deals that didn't work out quite as well.

In January 2006, the Rangers traded right-hander Chris Young and first baseman Adrian Gonzalez to San Diego, where both became All-Stars, for pitchers Adam Eaton and Akinori Otsuka.

Young was a Dallas-born kid and Gonzalez was a former No. 1 pick Texas got from the Florida Marlins.

Eaton went 7-4 in 13 starts after beginning his only Rangers season on the disabled list, then left in free agency.

Otsuka was solid in the bullpen for

1½ seasons before a forearm injury and right elbow surgery.

That deal came only weeks after the Rangers avoided a huge salary arbitration payday for Alfonso Soriano by sending him to Washington for three players. One of them was right-hander Armando Galarraga, since traded to Detroit. Galarraga went 13-7 with a 3.73 ERA in 30 games (28 starts) last season for the Tigers while Texas had the worst pitching staff in the majors.

The Rangers aren't likely to make the same mistake with Feliz, whose fastball has topped out at more than 100 mph.

Feliz remained in major league spring training until the final week, though the plan had always been for him to pitch this season in Triple-A for the first time.

"We took a chance at some guys who were a little bit further away that we thought had a big ceiling, and it's paid off so far," Levine said. "We put ourselves in position where we could have waves of guys coming from that trade. They weren't all hitting right now, or not all hitting four years down the road."

For the Braves, they can't replace the five prospects lost and don't have much left to show for their trade with Texas.

Ron Mahay, the left-handed reliever who went with Teixeira, only played in Atlanta for two months. He left in free agency and is now with Kansas City.

The Braves got first baseman Casey Kotchman and minor league pitcher Steve Marek from the Angels when they traded Teixeira last summer.

"Atlanta is a great organization, but I see this organization going the right way and building from within," Harrison said. "It's going to be good for the future, so I'm just glad to be part of it."

Baseball America recently tabbed the Rangers' minor league system as the best in baseball, a ranking certainly boosted by the likes of Andrus, Feliz and Derek Holland, a crafty left-hander who will be in the Oklahoma rotation with Feliz.

"Every day is exciting," Andrus said. "There will be more exciting days going and going."

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2005 Ford Ranger XLT Supercab - Silver, Automatic, 6 Cylinder, Local One Owner w/39,000 Miles.
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2004 F250 Crew Cab XLT Powerstroke Diesel - Blue/Silver, Local One Owner.
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2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Arizona Beige w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/54,000 Miles.
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NOW \$13,995

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NOW \$11,995

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NOW \$9,995

2003 Ford F150 S/C XLT 4X2 V8 - Gray w/GTray Cloth, All Power, Camper Shell, Very Nice, 59,000 Miles.
Was \$10,995

NOW \$9,995

2002 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Silver w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, All Power.
Was \$10,995

NOW \$9,995

2002 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT 4X4 7.3 Powerstroke Diesel - Local One Owner w/90,000 Miles.
Was \$15,995

NOW \$13,995

2001 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT 7.3 Powerstroke Diesel - White w/Cloth, New Transmission, 132K Miles, Local One Owner.
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2007 Chevrolet Colorado L.S. Crew Cab - White, V-6, All Power, Local One Owner w/37,000 Miles.
Was \$17,995

NOW \$15,995

2006 GMC Canyon Crew Cab 4X4 SLE - Red, V-6, All Power, One Owner w/27,415 Miles.
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NOW \$16,995

2005 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 H.D./L.S. 4X4 - White, Local One Owner w/36,000 Miles.
Was \$24,995

NOW \$19,995

2004 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 L.S. Reg. Cab - Pewter, V-6, Automatic, A/C, 58K Miles.
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2008 Ford Focus SE - White, w/Gray Cloth, Ford Program Unit, Like New, Only 12,000 Miles.
Was \$17,995

NOW \$15,995

2007 Ford Focus SE - Silver, w/Gray Cloth, Ford Program Unit, Like New, Only 19,000 Miles.
Was \$17,995

NOW \$15,995

2007 Lexus ES 350 - Blue w/Tan Leather, One Owner, Very Nice Car, Loaded, Only 27,000 Miles.
Was \$32,995

NOW \$28,995

2007 Ford Fusion SEL - Silver, w/Gray Leather, Ford Program Unit, Like New, Only 24,000 Miles.
Was \$16,995

NOW \$14,795

2007 Nissan Sentra S - White w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, All Power, Only 29,000 Miles.
Was \$13,995

NOW \$12,995

2007 Volkswagen EOS Turbo Convertible - Blue w/Tan Leather, One Owner, Loaded, Must See, Only 13,000 Miles.
Was \$25,995

NOW \$24,995

2006 Saturn ION3 - Silver w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Great Gas Saver, Make Great First Car, Low Miles.
Was \$12,995

NOW \$11,995

2006 Lincoln Towncar Signature - Stone Gray w/Gray Leather, One Owner, Loaded, Nice Car, Only 17,000 Miles.
Was \$23,995

NOW \$20,995

★★★ CARS ★★★

2006 Ford Taurus SEL - Green w/Tan Leather, Moonroof, All Power, Loaded, Low Miles.
Was \$11,995

NOW \$10,995

2005 Lincoln Towncar Signature - White w/Tan Leather, One Owner, Like New, Super Nice Car, Only 46,000 Miles.
Was \$17,995

NOW \$16,995

2004 Chev. Malibu LS - Silver, w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Like New, Very Nice, Must See, Only 55,000 Miles.
Was \$9,995

NOW \$8,995

2003 Ford Focus ZTS - Green w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Nice Car, Well Kept.
Was \$6,995

NOW \$5,995

2002 Buick Century Custom - Silver w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Nice Car, One Owner.
Was \$6,995

NOW \$5,995

2000 Mercury Grand Marquis LS - Gold, w/Tan Leather, Well kept, Nice One Owner, Low Miles.
Was \$7,995

NOW \$6,995

★★★ SUV'S ★★★

2008 Ford Escape XLT - Vista Blue, w/Gray Cloth, Ford Program Unit, Only 18,000 Miles.
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2006 Nissan Pathfinder LE - Black, w/Tan Leather, All Power, One Owner, Like New, Only 27,000 Miles.
Was \$25,995

NOW \$24,995

2006 Nissan Xterra SE - White w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, Only 19,000 Miles.
Was \$19,995

NOW \$17,995

2005 Chevrolet Tahoe 4X2 LS - White, w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Like New, Loaded, Only 53,000 Miles.
Was \$19,995

NOW \$15,995

2005 Ford Escape XLT - Silver, w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Great On Gas, Like New, Only 63,000 Miles.
Was \$12,995

NOW \$10,995

2005 GMC Yukon 4X2 SLT - White w/GTan Leather, Loaded, All Power, One Owner.
Was \$19,995

NOW \$16,995

2005 Ford Explorer Sport Trac XLT - Red, w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, Like New, Low Miles.
Was \$18,995

NOW \$16,995

2004 Nissan Xterra XE - Red, w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Nice First Car, One Owner, Only 67,000 Miles.
Was \$13,995

NOW \$11,995

2004 Honda CRV LX 4X4 - White w/Tan Leather, Loaded, All Power, One Owner.
Was \$13,995

NOW \$10,995

2004 Chevrolet Tahoe LT 4X2 - Gray, w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, Only 60,000 Miles.
Was \$20,995

NOW \$17,995

2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver, w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, Nice SUV, Only 52,000 Miles.
Was \$16,995

NOW \$13,995

2004 Buick Ranier V8 CX - Silver w/Gray Leather, Loaded, DVD Player, Moonroof, 51,000 Miles.
Was \$15,995

NOW \$14,995

2003 Lincoln Navigator 4X2 - Silver, w/Gray Leather, Loaded, One Owner, Like New, 78,000 MILES.
Was \$22,995

NOW \$19,995

2003 Nissan Xterra SE - Blue, w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Like New.
Was \$14,995

NOW \$11,995

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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Officials with the new Best Western Palace Inn, located at 915 Lamesa Highway, cut the ribbon on the facility with officials from the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce and Big Spring Ambassadors looking on.

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a senior vice president of investments of A.G. Edward's Midland office. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior assistant to the branch manager. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.



Last week, the stock market put on another impressive performance even though it ended about even. For the month, the S&P 500 has now extended its monthly gain to the best since 1987. This is refreshingly different news, yet many are declaring this run as simply a bear market rally. Maybe, but we feel that a bearish majority opinion will continue to help the market short term and here's why.

We believe that widespread pessimism, even in light of good news, is in itself a bullish sign. The S&P is now up almost 20 percent in only two weeks and several pieces of economic data are coming in much better than expected. These numbers are bolstering closet optimists who believe that the economy is finally starting to stabilize and we continue to agree. The Dow is now into a band of resistance in the 7,900 to 8,000 area while the S&P 500 bested the 830 area and now faces resistance at 840.

We all know that big money tends to flow in front of little money and recently the market has been producing some of its best performances late in the afternoon when it is believed that institutional money does most of its buying. A strong market and improving fundamentals have to be causing sidelined institutional money (and shorts) very serious stomach problems. Institutions and mutual funds are not paid to manage cash and yet they have record levels of cash on the sidelines. With the end of quarter here and an up market, the managers have strong incentives to get more stocks on their books for reporting reasons.

Remember, one of the key signs that a rally truly has legs is if the market becomes short term extended and pullbacks are modest followed by more strength. Last week was a great example and we feel the current stock market gets high marks in both categories. Today, most individual investors and many television investment gurus do not trust the rally but we have to wonder how some people believe they know more than the market.

We are not implying corrections have become obsolete but markets tend to overdo things in both directions. On March 6, the market was deeply oversold and pessimism had reached extreme levels. In like fashion, the current rally will probably go up more than most expect — that's just the nature of the beast. We feel that from here, any indication that consumer confidence is improving would really put this market into high gear. We don't know when but we feel it's coming. Keep in mind that there is now great pent-up demand for cars, clothes, and even homes that will eventually break loose.

Future pullbacks will occur, but recent solid market action strongly supports our opinion that the lows have been seen and the bear is on its last leg. Last week President Obama basically said that the U.S. will recover from the recession but that will take time and if Fed Chairman Bernanke is correct and the economy is doing better by year end, investors should within a few months start looking beyond the valley to the peaks ahead.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Portions of this article were produced March 27 by Al Goldman, Wachovia Securities chief market strategist. Wachovia Securities did not assist in the preparation of this article, and its accuracy and completeness is not guaranteed. The opinions expressed in the report are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of Wachovia Securities or its affiliates. The material has been prepared or is distributed solely for informational purposes and is not a solicitation or an offer to buy any security or instrumental to participate in any trading strategy. Additional information is available upon request (432) 684-7335. Wachovia Securities, LLC, member SIPC is a registered broker dealer and a separate non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.

Now, for a big splash of color

A monthly column by the Howard County Master Gardeners

The world is starting to show color again as shrubs and trees leaf out and perennials start

to bloom. For a boost, set out purchased annuals, selecting short compact plants. For the biggest splash of color, keep flowering annuals in groups rather than widely spaced.

Don't forget to acclimate the transplants prior to setting them out.

The way to acclimate your transplants is by moving the plants outdoors, out of the direct sun and wind for a few days. Next,

move them into partial shade. Complete these steps gradually over the course of a week, then move them into full sun.

The goal is to lessen the amount of shock to the plant caused by changing conditions. Stress kills. Even when the plant survives a shock it may never do as well as desired.

If you are sowing annual seeds, do so directly into the beds where they are to grow. Keep the seeded area moist until the seeds germinate. Mulching lightly will help retain the moisture in the soil longer and will also discourage weed growth. Thin out the seedlings as soon as they have 3 to 5 sets of leaves. Surplus plants can cause too much shading and weakens plants. As the seedlings grow, increase the mulch depth

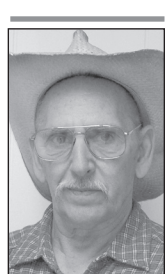
until 3 to 4 inches deep.

Transplants of warm season vegetables such as tomatoes and peppers can be set out now. Be prepared to cover them to protect from a late season frost.

For a good selection of plants to transplant, check out the Howard County Master Gardener Spring Plant Sale. Held on Saturday, April 25, at the Coronada Plaza parking lot at Gregg Street, the sale will run from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. For more details, go to the Howard County Master Gardener Web site at <http://www.howardcountymastergardeners.org>.

Pruning of spring flowering shrubs should be done soon after flowering. Keep the natural

See GARDEN, Page 5C



WALTER WARD

Brent Wright, Coahoma FFA, won Reserve Champion Hereford at the San Antonio Stock Show, Feb. 18. He was awarded an \$8,000 scholarship. The steer was purchased from Mike Mims and sponsored by Blissard Cattle Company of Big Spring.



Courtesy photo

EQIP offers more options to producers

Conservation programs for technical and financial assistance to landowners were authorized in the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill). The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced new conservation provisions to build on the conservation gains made by landowners over the past decade.

Conservation land management practices (formerly called "incentives") now available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provide producers more options when they are adopting conservation practices like residue, nutrient or pest management.

Land management practice options will vary for each producer, depending on the type of management a producer feels will fit his or her operation. There are several options for addressing soil erosion and soil condition under residue management, including conversion to no-till or strip-till

for \$25 per acre, \$10 per acre for mulch tillage and \$20 per acre for ridge tillage.

Additionally, farming operations transitioning to organic production could be eligible for EQIP funding at \$20 per acre to help offset the costs of addressing resource concerns associated with the transition.

Producers interested in precision agriculture might be eligible for the Electrical Conductivity (EC) Mapping management practice at \$20 per acre, whereby an EC map of a field is made to enable precision application of nutrients.

Producers are encouraged to contact the NRCS to discuss in detail eligibility criteria for these land management practices. While producers who have already adopted a practice such as no-till would not be eligible for EQIP funding for that practice, they might be eligible for another practice.

Other options are available for

structural and vegetative practices.

Applications for EQIP will be accepted any time during the year. However, funding cycles will vary depending on budgetary allocations and the application ranking process will be based on overall cost

effectiveness and how effectively and comprehensively the project addresses the designated resource concerns.

Producers who have an active conservation plan have been given priority in Howard County to address local resource concerns. NRCS is encouraging producers to learn more about implementing conservation management on their land.

For more information, including eligibility requirements, call the USDA Service Center office in Big Spring at (432) 267-1871 ext. 3. Service center locations and program information can be found on the Texas NRCS Web site at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

each year.
Ultimately, we, the taxpayers, foot the bill for these preventable illnesses and hospitalizations. We also pay more for our individual insurance whether we smoke or not when preventable illnesses cost our insurance companies more money. Reducing public exposure to second-hand smoke is an easy way to save money.

As a concerned citizen and a registered nurse, I urge my fellow Texans to contact our local legislators regarding this important legislation. Local legislators can be contacted via www.house.state.tx.us and www.senate.state.tx.us.

DOUG EVANS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I was forwarded a copy of a letter that was sent out last week to certain people in city District 4. This letter was sent out by an "organization" called Property Tax Resources and the outside of the envelope was stamped in big, red letters IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION ENCLOSED.

Upon opening this "IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION" I found a page long tirade about City Councilwoman Gloria McDonald's tax appraisals and how they are drastically lower than neighboring properties.

The letter quotes public information found on the web site www.taxnetusa.com and goes on to recommend that the reader contact the Texas Attorney General and the Assistant U.S. Attorney regarding these discrepancies.

It was also the most cowardly and underhanded thing I have ever read.

Please don't misunderstand me, I agree with the letter in that if the discrepancies are accurate, then some sort of investigation is probably warranted, particularly when Mrs. McDonald's idea of progress seems to be tax, tax, then tax some more.

However, if you are going to take an elected or appointed public official to task, especially in the middle of an election, own up to it!

Most people will remember that in the mayoral election of 2007, I criticized a member of the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation's board of directors for having outstanding unpaid property taxes and the mayor for appointing him to the board despite of it. The emphasis here is on "I."

I still stand by that call. It was my decision, my opinion, and my name on it. Not some cowardly attack launched from behind an anonymous letter.

If this letter was sent out by a political campaign, I would say that whichever campaign mailed it out is hardly worth our consideration for election to office.

I personally would never resort to such cowardice and would certainly never support a candidate who did.

In closing, I would just like to say this to all of our candidates for election: Keep it clean, keep it honest and keep it open. If you don't agree with an opponent, then say so and give us the chance to agree or disagree with you. Let's leave the underhanded tactics where they belong — namely with our local media.

SHANNON D. THOMASON
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

This concerns the no return address letter mass mailed to Big Spring citizens criticizing tax valuations of my Runnels Street properties by something or someone called Property Tax Resources in an obvious attempt to discredit my wife, Gloria McDonald, candidate for city council.

An appraisal student using only footage to value property is at risk of missing graduation. The real purpose of accumulating these properties is to preserve a scarce slice of Big Spring residential history — architectural images reflecting ranch and railroad eras that made our city.

It's been a financial struggle to nurse these century-old and near century-old residential homes through desperate times of little or no occupancy during enormous migration of residential living from downtown to suburbs and country places, \$3 a barrel oil, Webb AFB closing and the VA and state hospital studies.

These and other economic forces left a hollow market downtown just now beginning to show some re-awakening.

All of my Runnels properties are located between the Settles Hotel (sold for \$75,000) and an entire city block of buildings, gyms, music hall and offices that recently sold for \$10,000 at public auction — events that demonstrated downtown market conditions.

Maintenance has to be personally performed to be affordable. Insurance is an unaffordable luxury, excepting one to obtain liability coverage.

The property at 601 Runnels, 2,668 square feet, rents for about a third to a half of other 1950s and 1960s home advertised in the *Herald*, although it's typically three times the size.

Another has been vacant for almost 25 years. Still another is a repo, a butchered shell, vacant since the '90s, that was received from a contractor who found it not worthy of rehabilitation.

Since my ownership, the market has never demonstrated a time when capital to restore these residential properties could be recovered by a bank lender or myself, so it is an expensive hobby.

If Gloria and others of the Main Street organization continue their leadership success, perhaps that will change, although the 100 block of Main is seven blocks distant.

See **LETTERS**, Page 6C



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Front Wheel Drive, Quick Silver Metallic, Entertainment Package 1

STK# 9126B



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White, V8, Automatic

STK# 9079T



\$30,230 MSRP - \$4,000 Savings - \$2,441 Dealer Discount



Manuel Zambrano, Ron Reagan, Isaac Marquez.

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Huibregtse named April Volunteer of the Month

Doris Huibregtse was named April's Volunteer of the Month by the Big Spring State Hospital's Volunteer Services Council. Huibregtse has served on the Volunteer Services Council in many

capacities, beginning her career in 1997 as chairman of the VSC Board and serving for 10 years — something no other volunteer has done.

She co-chaired the annual Denim and Diamonds fund-

raiser for several years and continued her chairmanship when the Volunteer Services Council transitioned over to the Annual Cars and Stars event. She also has taken her turn helping with the Valen-

tines Day fund-raiser.

Huibregtse has accumulated more than 3,000 volunteer hours during her career with the hospital and still finds time to volunteer regularly. She continues to work full-

time as a real estate agent following her retirement as a college business instructor.

She will receive a bud vase from Alley Kat Designs for being named April's Volunteer of the Month.

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:
 Irene Lopez Alaniz, 774 E. Highway 80 Apt. 230, Abilene
 Bryan Layton Allison, 1108 College Circle, Ranger
 Daniel Antrim, 120 N. 22nd Pl., Lamesa
 Fernando Arriaga Jr., 606 N.W. Eighth St., Big Spring
 Christine Avalos Bara, 1405 N. Sixth Street, Lamesa
 Toby Barnett, 1713 Dwayne Barnett, Lubbock
 Christopher Barrera, 1704 Goliad, Big Spring
 Teresa Baumann, 1509 E. Sixth, Big Spring
 Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Herford
 Vern Black, 329 W Tennessee, Floydada
 Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Avenue L, Lamesa
 Dave Bracken, 2720 42nd Street, Lubbock
 Melissa Camargo, 2100 Ave. N, Tahoka
 Amy Castillo, 1806 Morrison, Big Spring
 Krishna Nicole Castillo, 905 Walnut, Colorado City
 Jared Kendero Coby, 901 High St. No. 802, Longview
 Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring
 Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring
 Susan Cuellar, 2301 N. Pecos #238, Midland
 Wanda Cunningham, 1505 Avion, Big Spring
 Corey D. Dancer, 2605 Alamesa Drive, Big Spring
 Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave., San Antonio
 Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring
 Mary Helen Escovedo, 3120 Delano, Midland
 James Randal Gardner, PO Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.
 Naomi Gonzales, 1209 Runnels, Big Spring
 Melissa Gonzalez, 2317 CR 220, Garden City
 Gabriel Guerrero, 411 N.E. 10th Street, Big Spring
 Pamela Kay Hadorn, 101 Shifflett Drive, Big Spring
 Sharon Marquis Hanson, 1201 E. Co. Rd. 34, Big Spring
 Kristin Hawkins, 405 N. Moss Lake Road, Big Spring
 Rickie L. Henderson, 205 Providence Road, Big Spring
 Cherie Brandy Hernandez, 2006 Ave. L, Snyder
 Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio
 Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland
 Paige Morgan Kenas, 1003-2 Lake County Rd. 175, Colorado City
 Kimberly K. King, 1711 Young, Big Spring
 Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan
 Lynda Kynam, 2503 Central, Big Spring
 Eloy Escobar Leal, 1806 E. 11th Street, Big Spring
 Joshua David Mackenstein, 414

Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland
 Christopher Max Martinez, 2870 S. Highway, Snyder
 Sandy Martinez, 1610 Eubanks, Big Spring
 Shawn G. McKay, 3107 Bonham Ave. Odessa
 Betty Jane McWilliams, 2503 Fairchild, Big Spring
 Mari Montemayor, 627 State Street, Big Spring
 Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas
 Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff No. 113, Midland
 Leslie William Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring
 Christopher Eric Painter, 1503 S. Johnson, Big Spring
 Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford, Big Spring
 Richard Wayne Rains, 4501 Parkway, Big Spring
 Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road Apt. 226, Big Spring
 Michael Dewayne Renteria, 2516 Dow, Big Spring
 Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255 S. 11th St., Lubbock
 Lorissa Jade Rodriguez, 406 N. Scurry, Big Spring
 Veronica Luera Rodriguez, 5709 Cedar Rd. No. 3, Big Spring
 Thomas Ross, 1206 Lela St., Jasper
 Blanca L. Saenz, 1202 N. Sam Houston Ave., Odessa
 Rudy Salazar, P.O. Box 1275, Stanton
 Mona Salazar, 400 Circle, Big Spring
 Monica Serbine, 304 E. 20th Street, Big Spring
 Stephanie Serrato, 1203 E. Mobile, Big Spring
 Harl Brandford Shaffer, 7603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring
 Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road, Big Spring
 Jonathan Michael Shorten, 1619 1-35 La Quinta, San Marcos
 Brian Paul Siverson, 589c Stoddard, Odessa
 Janie Spurgeion, 1212 Wadley No. 1132, Midland
 Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City
 Mickey Jermain Starnes, 402 Holly Oak Dr., Tyler
 Robert Summers, 1905 Wasson No. 5, Big Spring
 Tonya D. Conner Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobbs, N.M.
 Liandro Ventura, 1905 Wasson No. 23, Big Spring
 Candida Lynn Whitehead, 1405 runnels, Big Spring
 Christina K. Williams, 408 MacArthur, Odessa
 Roxanne V. Ybarra, 3914 Parkway, Big Spring

County Court Decisions:
 Judgment and Sentence: Sammy Ferrell, unlawfully carrying a weapon, \$250 fine, \$274 court costs, 60 days in jail.
 Judgment and Sentence: Jesse Lendel Woodruff, possession of a controlled substance - more than three grams less than 28 grams, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 90 days in jail.
 Probated Judgment: James Cantu, possession of marijuana - two ounces

or less, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
 Judgment and Sentence: Jose Olivos, driving while intoxicated, \$750 fine, \$443 court costs, 60 days in jail.
 Judgment and Sentence: Jose Olivos, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$328 court costs, 60 days in jail.
 Probated Judgment: Leticia Kay Cantu, theft of property - more than \$500 less than \$1,500, \$500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
 Judgment and Sentence: Sammy Ferrell, theft - more than \$500 less than \$1,500, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 60 days in jail.
 Judgment and Sentence: Victoria Hannabass, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,000 fine, \$278 court costs, 90 days in jail.
 Probated Judgment: Randall Eric Hernandez, driving while intoxicated - second offense, \$1,500 fine, \$443 court costs, 365 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
 Probated Judgment: Michael Anthony Horn, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,000 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
 Probated Judgment: Monica Nicole Rivera, resisting arrest, search or transportation, \$2,000 fine, \$278 court costs, 365 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
 Judgment and Sentence: Jason Scott Edwards, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,500 fine, \$378 court costs, 90 days in jail.
 Probated Judgment: Donald Ray Alsbaugh, theft - more than \$500 less than \$1,500, \$750 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

District Court Filings:
 Note: District Court filings were not available in time for press.

Marriage Licenses:
 Daniel Schmidt Rodriguez, 47, and Guadalupe Sotelo Baiza, 53, both of Odessa.
 Johnny Garcia Jr., 31, and Claudia Juarez, 35, both of Odessa.

Warranty Deeds:
 Grantor: William H. Bauer
 Grantee: Terri Suzanne Bauer
 Property: One-half interest in Tract 2, Block 4, Thorp Subdivision
 Date: March 10, 2009

Grantor: Glenda James and Steve Smith
 Grantee: Trilogy Operating Inc.
 Property: A 3.04 acre tract out of Section 32, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: March 10, 2009

Grantor: Frank Gonzales, Juan Gonzales, Jesse Ray Gonzales and Jose Gonzales
 Grantee: Olivia Gonzales
 Property: A 3-acre tract out of Section 14, Block 34, T-2-N, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: March 12, 2009

Grantor: Bobby W. Gaskins Sr.
 Grantee: Big Spring ISD as trustee
 Property: Lots 1-3 and Lots 15 and 16, Block 1, Settles Heights
 Date: March 12, 2009

Grantor: R.J. Machine Company Inc.
 Grantee: Trentco Management LLC
 Property: A tract out of Section 30, Block 32, T-1-N, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: March 13, 2009

Grantor: Larry Zane Shaw
 Grantee: Larry Don Shaw and Linda Faye Johnson
 Property: Several tracts located in Howard and Martin counties
 Date: March 13, 2009

Grantor: John Lilley and Janet Lilley
 Grantee: Eli K. Vialpando and Elizabeth Vialpando
 Property: Lot 7, Block 11, Kentwood Unit No. 1
 Date: March 16, 2009

Grantor: Santiago Herrera and Andrea M. Marsch
 Grantee: Gabino Mijares and Maria Pastrana
 Property: Lot 1, Block 6, Mesa Addition
 Date: March 16, 2009

Grantor: Joe M. Holguin Jr. and Amber Holguin
 Grantee: Janis Elaine Brownfield
 Property: Lot 1 and the N/2 of Lot 2, Block A, Monticello Addition
 Date: March 17, 2009

Grantor: Frances E. Bartlett
 Grantee: Dene Sheppard
 Property: One-half interest in Lot J, Section 2, Village at the Spring
 Date: March 18, 2009

Grantor: James Fox
 Grantee: James Bowers and Mary Cahoon
 Property: Lot 6, Block 5, (addition illegible)
 Date: March 18, 2009

Grantor: Skipper Driver
 Grantee: Bob Wegner
 Property: A tract out of Section 20, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: March 24, 2009

Grantor: Leohono Herrera
 Grantee: J.T. Land Investments LLC
 Property: The S/50 feet of Lots 9-11, Block 4, Wrights Airport Addition
 Date: March 25, 2009

Grantor: Teresa Flores Vasquez
 Grantee: Linda Kay Appleton
 Property: Part of Lot 4, Block 93, Original Town of Big Spring
 Date: March 25, 2009

Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:
 Grantor: Antonio Cervantes
 Grantee: Eleno Mendez
 Property: Lot 8, Block 8, Amended Central Park Addition
 Date: March 9, 2009

Grantor: Ricky Lee Hughes and

Leah Jan Hughes
 Grantee: Curtis Ben Bowlin and Max Ann Bowlin
 Property: A 7.5-acre tract out of Section 4, Block 32, T-1-S, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: March 12, 2009

Grantor: Michael Shane Forrest
 Grantee: Jared Bratcher and Alysha Bratcher
 Property: Lot 8, Block 3, Hillcrest Terrace
 Date: March 13, 2009

Grantor: Phillip Scott Ginnetti and Priscilla Ginnetti
 Grantee: Martin S. Yanez
 Property: A tract out of Section 32, Block 32, T-1-N, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: March 13, 2009

Grantor: Dana Byrd
 Grantee: Cassi S. Box and Dwight Box
 Property: Lot 14, Block 17, Kentwood Unit No. 1
 Date: March 16, 2009

Grantor: David Parrish
 Grantee: Alma Gusman
 Property: The W/2 of the S/117 feet of Lot 5, Block 2, Lockhart Addition
 Date: March 17, 2009

Grantor: H.D. Barber
 Grantee: David Burris and Kandi Burris
 Property: The E/58.5 feet of Lot 7, Block 7, North Belvue Addition
 Date: March 17, 2009

Grantor: Citimortgage Inc.
 Grantee: Michael Nairn
 Property: Lot 26, Block 13, Douglass No. 2 Addition
 Date: March 17, 2009

Grantor: Kyle Cook and Melody Cook
 Grantee: Bradley Fuqua
 Property: Lot 6, Block 20, Washington Place
 Date: March 20, 2009

Grantor: Paul Keele and Ellen Keele
 Grantee: Gary Sturm and Lesia Sturm
 Property: A tract out of Section 4, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: March 23, 2009

Grantor: Jacques Roy
 Grantee: Julia Johnston
 Property: Lots 18-19, Block 10, Monticello Addition
 Date: March 23, 2009

Grantor: Thomas R. Shirley and Loraine Shirley
 Grantee: Jaime Salan and Cynthia Salan
 Property: AS tract out of Section 48, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
 Date: March 24, 2009

GARDEN

Continued from Page 4C

shape of the plant in mind as you prune and avoid excessive cutting except where it's necessary to control size. Prune back Hybrid tea roses as soon as they complete flowering. Roses have high fertilizer requirements. Use a complete fertilizer such as compost for the first application just as a new growth cycle starts following a flowering period. Compost is available at the Big Spring Compost Facility located at 3201 Perimeter Road in bulk or bags. Continue to spray roses that are susceptible to black spot using a spray containing a general fungicide such as funginex or Rose Defense.

Aphids may begin to show up at this time. They are not really a problem, but are a symptom of a plant with a problem. Strong, healthy plants are not usually bothered by aphids. The few that may appear on healthy plants only serve as food for aphid predator insects. When a plant is badly infested with aphids, treat the cause, not the symptom. Ensure that the plant has adequate nutrition, water and light conditions and is not being weakened by some environmental condition

under your control. If you do all these things with no improvement in plant health, consider replacing the plant with a healthy one. Choosing to plant Earthkind and xeric plants that are well adapted to local conditions will go a long way toward lessening your bug problems.

Earthkind plants have been selected and tested for their adaptability and toughness. You won't have to coddle any of them. Of course, Earthkind is not just a trademark, but a way of thinking about horticulture in general.

It has its roots in the Organic movement of the 1950s and 60s and the Permaculture movement of the 70s and 80s, and incorporates the best features

of both. One of the basic tenets of Earthkind is to use only plants that are well adapted to their location and additionally look great without much, if any, pruning or fussing.

The list is growing daily as new plants are tested and proven hardy enough to stand up to the tough conditions we face in West Texas. For more info check out the Web site at <http://earthkind.tamu.edu/EKPublications.html>

For more information, call Walter Ward at (432) 935-6455 or visit the Howard County Master Gardeners Web site at <http://www.howardcountymaster-gardeners.org>

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 Dear AT&T Customer:

Currently, AT&T and Communications Workers of America are in the process of contract negotiations. We as Members of CWA and employees of AT&T appreciate the business that you bring to AT&T. Unfortunately, we sometimes may exercise our right to strike in order to receive a contract with a fair health benefits and pensions and benefits to our retirees. We certainly hope that you will not incur any disruptions in your AT&T Services that are currently being maintained by our CWA Members. We hope to settle our disputes in a timely manner. We would prefer not to strike, although we may be forced to due to retrogressive bargaining that the company is proposing to our Members. Our current contract expires on April 4, 2009.

Once again, we appreciate your business and your continued support.

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Alice C. Andrade, President
 Communications Workers of America
 Local 6202

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Coahoma Kindergarten Rodeo

LETTERS

Continued from Page 5C



Photos provided by the Coahoma Independent School District

Hundreds of children and adults enjoyed the annual Coahoma Kindergarten Rodeo, called by many the longest running stickhorse rodeo in the world. Thursday's edition was the 31st, meaning that parents of the young ones involved were themselves participants at one time.

Our century-old property at 611 Runnels, appraised at \$22,212 and a former real estate office, was probably valued by the tax appraiser based on accessible, usable and functional footage, and that three inches had to be cut off entry doors to use rooms as a result of a broken foundation.

A similar building now owned by me at Fifth and Lancaster is appraised at \$19,388.

Comparisons offered by the unknown Property Tax Resources, such as 601 Johnson, where a once older homes were torn down and replaced by a new brick, commercial insurance office and corner parking, is not, in my opinion, comparable to my properties.

The other comparable property, at 600 Runnels and appraised at \$52,167, was restored for specific commercial use. If \$52,167 was invested for a single family rental on this block of Runnels, it would seem to be a stretch to recover the investment. It would be financial folly for me to invest such sums in Runnels residential property in the present market.

I am contacting Attorney General Gregg Abbott and Lubbock attorney J.T. Hicks of Lubbock. Perhaps they can find out who represents Property Tax Resources and the real reason if its politically-tainted letter hiding behind a postage stamp.

BOBBY McDONALD
BIG SPRING

NOTICE OF ISD GLASSCOCK BOND ELECTION

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Glasscock County Courthouse between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. beginning on April 27, 2009 and ending on May 5, 2009.

Additional early voting will be held as follows:

Location	Date	Hours
PCT#1 St. Lawrence Hall	May 9, 2009	7:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M.
PCT#2 Garden City Church of Christ	May 9, 2009	7:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M.
PCT#3 Drum right Community Center	May 9, 2009	7:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M.
PCT#4 Garden City Senior Citizens Bld.	May 9, 2009	7:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M.

Application for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
Suzie Hillger
P.O. Box 190
Garden City, Tx. 79739

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on May 1, 2009.

THE ISSUANCE OF \$12,000,000 OF BONDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS. THE PURCHASE OF NECESSARY SITES FOR SCHOOL BUILDINGS, RENOVATION OF EXISTING SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND THE PURCHASE OF NEW SCHOOL BUSES IN AND FOR THE GLASSCOCK COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE LEVYING OF THE TAX IN PAYMENT THEREOF.

LA EMISION DE BONOS POR VALOR DE \$12,000,000 PARA LA CONSTRUCCION, Y EQUIPAMIENTO DE EDIFICIOS ESCOLARES, LA COMPRA DE TERRENOS NECESARIOS PARA EDIFICIOS ESCOLARES, LA REFORMA DE EDIFICIOS ESCOLARES EXISTENTES Y LA COMPRA DE AUTOBUSES ESCOLARES NUEVOS EN Y PARA EL DISTRITO ESCOLAR INDEPENDIENTE DEL CONDADO DE GLASSCOCK Y EL GRAVAMEN DE IMPUESTOS PARA EL PAGO CORRESPONDIENTE

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Cemetery Lots

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Cemetery Lots

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SPECIAL SALE. Two grave spaces for the price of one. Pay-out plan available. \$50.00 Down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

Help Wanted

Drivers:
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NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

Help Wanted

APPLICATOR DRIVER
Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for spray applicator driver. Class A- CDL license and farm experience helpful; but will consider training. Requires high school diploma or equivalent. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person: Helena Chemical Company 100 S. St. Peter Stanton, TX 79782 Pre-employment drug screen required. EOE M/F/V/H

BARGAIN MART-WE need an experienced cashier, please come by fill out an application and get an interview time. Contact BuckLee or Becky, 432-264-9107.

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EZ PAWN, Now Hiring 2 Full time & 1 Part Time Sales and Loan Representatives. Must have High School/GED, pass background & drug test. Apply online at www.ezpawnjobs.com

HOWARD COUNTY Road & Bridge Department will accept applications from April 6, 2009 through April 18, 2009 **ROLLER OPERATOR/ TRUCK DRIVER.** Must have CDL Licenses. Applications may be picked up and returned from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday at Room 305, County Court House. All applicants will be pre-job drug tested.
Eddy Jameson
County Road Administrator.

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Earn up to \$5,377.77 per month (DOE) \$31.02/hr
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Contact our Job Center 432-268-7341 or 432-268-7298
Or Complete an application online at <https://accesshr.hhsc.state.tx.us>
Big Spring State Hospital
1901 North Hwy 87
Big Spring, TX

PAT GRAY Towing & Recovery is seeking a heavy duty wrecker operator. Must have a CDL and be able to pass a drug test and background check. Great pay, experience preferred, but will train the right person. Call Chris at (432)263-3438.

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EARN \$12-\$14 PER HOUR DELIVERING PIZZA'S. \$100 HIRING BONUS. MUST BE 18YRS. OLD WITH CLEAN DRIVING RECORD. ALSO TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY Manager needed. Successful applicants must have experience, computer skills, and able to pass a background check. Send resume by fax (432)272-7070 or email Slee@leasetlc.com

SPEECH THERAPIST/ PATHOLOGIST; Applications are being accepted by the 87-20 Special Education S.S.A., Big Spring, Texas. Contact: Karen Fulton, PO Box 2135, Big Spring, TX 79721; (432)267-6013, (432)213-1125.

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Lost and Found

LOST BLUE Heeler/ German Shepherd Mixed dog named (Bean). Last seen March 21st. on I-20 between Big Spring and Sweetwater. Please call (432)208-8258.

LOST LITTLE Brown long hair Terrier with blue collar. Last seen Saturday in the Hillside Mobile Home area. Please call (432)466-3063.

Miscellaneous

2005 TIGE' V- Drive 22 ft Ski Boat- with many extras, low hours- 65hrs. Call (432)263-0331 or 413-1294.

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1005 BLUEBONNET. 2 Bdrm, 1 bath. No pets. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

1206 EAST 11th Place. 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, CH/A, living/ dining room. \$850.00 Month plus deposit. No HUD. No Bills Paid. (432)267-2296.

1311 TUCSON 2 bdrm, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced yard, garage, extra storage. \$650/month, \$600/deposit. Call 432-213-4647.

1504 TUCSON 3 Bdrm, - \$450. month. 502-1/2 Golidad Duplex- \$300. month. Call Moren 432-267-7380.

1702 MORRISON 3 bdrm, 1 bath, Tile floors, CH/A, fenced yard. \$750/month, \$700/deposit. Call 432-213-4647.

1800 WALLACE, 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, garage, CH/A. \$700. Month, \$400. deposit. No HUD. No Pets. Non-smoker. References required. Call (432)270-3849 for more information.

3202 AUBURN 3 bdrm, 1 bath, Tile floors, CH/A, garage, fenced yard. \$750/month, \$700/deposit. Call 432-213-4647.

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Texas schools get millions from wind farm deals

DANNY ROBBINS

Associated Press Writer

STERLING CITY — Property values are soaring in this West Texas community, and the reason is obvious. Looming on the northern horizon, hundreds of newly-built wind turbines dot the once-barren mesas.

Ordinarily, much of the tax dollars generated by the turbines would go to the state's "Robin Hood" school finance plan, which requires property-rich districts to share their wealth with those less fortunate. But that won't happen in Sterling City, at least not if school officials have their way.

The school district with an enrollment of 201 is among the dozens on Texas' wind-swept plains that have cut deals allowing them to collect hundreds of millions of dollars from wind farms without sending any of the money to the state. The deals give the energy companies operating the turbines massive tax breaks. In return, the school districts get part of the savings, all of it beyond "Robin Hood's" reach.

The Associated Press, using data compiled by the state comptroller's office, found that the agreements will allow 44 school districts to receive nearly \$248 million over the next 10 years, the districts' cut of more than \$700 million in tax breaks they granted wind farm operators. Another 21 school districts have made similar deals, but the agreements had not been completed when the data was collected by the comptroller.

The money, the magnitude of which has only recently become known, has led to a brewing controversy. School officials believe their districts — many of them small, rural and historically lacking in resources — deserve a payday that is theirs alone. But some watchdog groups and lawmakers contend that the windfall should be included in the state program to equalize funding for all students.

"Some of these districts ... they're twice as rich as anybody else," said Clint Carpenter, a former school superintendent and now an education professor at Texas Tech, where he has been researching the deals.

Wind industry officials say the tax breaks offered by Texas school districts have helped lure wind farms to the state, making it the top wind power producer in the nation.

"(Energy companies) don't have to be here," said Greg Wortham, executive director of the West Texas Wind Energy Consortium, an industry interest group based in Sweetwater. "They're going to be anywhere the wind blows, and that covers a million square miles."

The money being channeled back to the school districts, known as payments in lieu of taxes, or PILOT agreements, should be considered a "finder's fee" for putting the deals together, Wortham said.

"It seems like a totally reasonable thing to me," he said.

But critics contend that wind farms would come to Texas even without the tax breaks, that the payments to the school districts are little more than kickbacks and the deals could cost the state billions in lost tax revenue.

"It's the school districts giving away the state's money, and the state has nothing to say about it," said Dick Lavine, senior fiscal analyst for the Austin-based Center for Public Policy Priorities.

Greg Leroy, executive director of Good Jobs First, a Washington, D.C.-based group that monitors economic development, said payments in lieu of taxes are often part of the deals when governments offer tax breaks. But he said wind farm deals are questionable because they are designed to get around the state's school funding requirements.

"The fact that the school board gets to treat it like it's off the books and take it out of the equalization formula, we think that's a recipe for mischief," he said.

The deals have their basis in the Texas Economic Development Act, a 2001 law that allows school districts to offer tax breaks similar to those handed out by county and city governments. Such property is taxed at full value for two years and then at a limited value for eight. A negotiated portion of the savings is passed on to the district.

The law was intended to attract manufacturing and other large employers to Texas, but it has



Wind mills work atop the mesa near Sterling City. Property values are soaring in this West Texas community, and the reason is obvious. Looming on the northern horizon, hundreds of newly-built wind turbines dot the once-barren mesas.

mainly been used for wind energy, an industry that creates few permanent jobs. The 90 deals reviewed by the comptroller included 61 related to wind farms and 23 for manufacturing plants. The number of jobs proposed by the wind farms was 476, or roughly eight per farm, compared to the 4,328 proposed by the manufacturing operations.

The deals, consummated with little public attention or government scrutiny, have recently drawn interest from lawmakers and other officials as a result of the comptroller's data, which was published in January.

"Many, many people, including many legislators, did not know that these arrangements were commonplace," said Robert Wood, director of local government assistance and economic development in the comptroller's office.

Several bills dealing with the issue have been introduced in the Legislature, including one by Rep. Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham, that would require school districts to include such payments in the "Robin Hood" formula.

Kolkhorst, formerly an economic development official in Brenham and Washington County, said she was stunned to learn that districts were using the law to circumvent the school finance system.

"When I worked in economic development, the incentive was to get jobs, which would then fuel the economy, not some kind of off-balance sheet accounting," she said.

During a meeting of the House Ways and Means committee Wednesday, committee chairman Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville, and others on the panel expressed incredulity at the arrangements. Noting he was a joint author of the economic development act, Oliveira said, "I didn't know I was creating a Frankenstein."

Perhaps nowhere is the matter better defined than on the ranch land of Sterling County, where four wind farms have been built and a fifth is planned.

The four projects already in place will allow the Sterling City school district, the only one in the county, to collect at least \$47 million over the next decade as compensation for more than \$100 million in tax breaks it gave to wind farm operators.

The district, rich in oil and gas reserves, has been regarded as wealthy since the "Robin Hood" law went into effect in 1993, and its superintendent,

Windfall

Here are the 44 Texas school districts that have granted tax breaks to wind farm operators, their enrollment and how much money they are due to receive over 10 years.

- Albany, 494, \$6.8 million
- Baird, 314, \$152,423
- Big Spring, 3,823, \$3.8 million
- Blackwell, 157, \$15.4 million
- Blanket, 215, \$2.4 million
- Borden County, 192, \$20.4 million
- Brady, 1,337, \$3.9 million
- Bryson, 240, \$4.6 million
- Channing, 139, \$390,223
- Clarendon, 523, \$2.5 million
- Clyde, 1,491, \$6.7 million
- Coahoma, 847, \$6.1 million
- Comanche, 1,217, \$3.3 million
- Ector County, 27,443, \$7.2 million
- Forsan, 706, \$6.4 million
- Grady, 207, \$290,765
- Gruver, 396, \$10.8 million
- Hermleigh, 197, \$4.5 million

- Highland, 212, \$3.7 million
- Iraan-Sheffield, 562, \$4.7 million
- Jacksboro, 987, \$4.8 million
- Jim Ned, 1,012, \$7 million
- Lingleville, 212, \$3.1 million
- Lohn, 111, \$3.2 million
- Lorraine, 167, \$15.2 million
- McLean, 225, \$872,629
- Moran, 187, \$920,793
- Muenster, 495, \$5.6 million
- Mullin, 105, \$2.7 million
- Paducah, 256, \$2.2 million
- Perrin-Whitt, 375, \$5.3 million
- Priddy, 94, \$3.6 million
- Robert Lee, 236, \$6.2 million
- Rochelle, 203, \$544,755
- Roscoe, 338, \$9.4 million
- Snyder, 2,712, \$2.6 million
- Spur, 292, \$5.2 million
- Stanton, 735, \$2.4 million
- Sterling City, 201, \$47 million
- Sunray, 544, \$1.3 million
- Sweetwater, 2,357, \$1.8 million
- Vega, 281, Undetermined
- Wildorado, 93, \$1.8 million
- Zephyr, 197, \$784,304

Ronnie Krejci, makes no bones that the wind deals were made largely to give the district money the state can't recapture.

"My argument, on behalf of Sterling City ISD, is we have paid our dues with 'Robin Hood,'" he said.

Rising property values tied to the wind farms have already allowed the district to pass an \$11.2 million bond to pay for new elementary and middle schools, a new gym and other facility improvements.

If the PILOT deals pay off as expected, the district could also increase teacher salaries, upgrade technology and create a program to fund college scholarships, Krejci said.

"We sacrificed a beautiful landscape for wind turbines to be built," he said, "because we could see what they could do financially for this school district."

sudoku

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Dark Side of the Picture

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 6 3
♥ J 7 6 5 2
♦ 9 4 3
♣ A Q

WEST
♠ 9 5
♥ K Q 3
♦ J 7 6 2
♣ J 8 4 2

EAST
♠ 8 4 2
♥ 10 9 8 4
♦ 5
♣ 10 9 7 6 3

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10 7
♥ A
♦ A K Q 10 8
♣ K 5

The bidding:
South West North East
2♣ Pass 2♦ Pass
2♥ Pass 3♠ Pass
4NT Pass 5♦ Pass
7♠

Opening lead — king of hearts.
The skilled declarer continually seeks ways of improving his chances, even in those cases where he may already be a strong favorite to make the contract.

For example, consider this deal where a grand slam in spades appears a virtual laydown. The only possible threat is an unfriendly division of the missing diamonds, with West holding the length. Declarer can pick up the J-x-x-x(-x) of diamonds in the East hand via a finesse. However, if South had relied solely on a favorable diamond break

in the actual deal, he would have finished a very unhappy individual. Thus, had he simply won the opening heart lead, drawn trumps and then cashed two top diamonds, there would have been no way for him to avoid losing a trick to the jack of diamonds.

But South was by nature a careful and pessimistic soul, and a good bridge player to boot, so he decided to give himself an extra chance just in case. After winning the opening heart lead, he cashed the A-K of spades and, when everyone followed, then led a spade to the jack.

Next came what might have proven to be an entirely unnecessary play — he ruffed a low heart in his hand. This was followed by the A-K of diamonds, and when East showed out, South now had another string to his bow.

He led a club to the queen and ruffed a second heart, felling West's queen. Dummy was then re-entered with a club, after which the J-7 of hearts furnished discards for the 10-8 of diamonds, and the contract was home.

In landing the grand slam, South did nothing very special. He merely added a slight extra chance — that West had started with the K-Q-x of hearts — to his already excellent prospects, and his cautiousness paid off in the form of 2,510 points (including honors) on his side of the score pad.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

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FORECLOSURE! 3 bdrm, 2 bath! Only \$203/mol! 5% dn 20 yrs @ 8%. For listings 800-544-6258 ext. S384.

NEW ON THE MARKET

GREAT STARTER Home in the Country with 1 acre. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet and paint. 24x24 Work shop. 2500 Neill Road. \$70,000.00. No Owner Finace. Call 432-517-4006 after 5pm.

I BUY Houses. Paid Cash, Quick Close. Call (325)277-4923.

OWNER FINANCED! Easy Terms, no closing costs! 1307 Mt. Vernon & 1413 Sycamore. Call Lana at TruStar RE (432)264-8166.

LAND FOR Sale, 10 acres located South of Big Spring in Tubbs Addition. Total fenced, pipe gate entrances. Interested parties call 432-466-1056.

OWNER FINANCE!!! No closing costs! TruStar RE has helped thousands of families begin living their dream. Call for listings in your area! Call Milton (806)790-0827.

OWNER FINANCE. 2 Bdrm, 1 bath. Low monthly. Low down. 745 Cypress (Colorado City). Call (325)277-4923.

REDUCED- 3547 Sq. Ft. Brick- 4 bdrm, 2-1/2 baths, 3 living rooms, 2 car garage, 1-1/2 acres. 8403 Gail Hwy. Below appraisal \$179,500.00. 432-270-4646.

Real Estate for Sale

Sale of Farm Real Estate 53.9 Acres, More or Less Big Spring, Texas Howard County

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) will sell at a Trustee's Foreclosure Sale to the highest bidder or bidders for cash, at the North door of the courthouse located at 300 Main Street, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas in which county such property is situated, at 1:00p.m., or within three hours thereafter, on the first Tuesday of April, being the 7th day of April 2009. For specific information contact the FSA Farm Loan Manager, Randall V. Milloy, 107 E. Broadway, Stanton, Texas, 79782, (432)756-3308 Extension 2, or visit the website: http://www.resales.usda.gov/

The subject property is located approximately 15 miles North of Big Spring, TX on FM 1584. The property is on West side of road.

The USDA Farm Service Agency is an equal opportunity lender and provider. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

VERY CUTE Home- 800 West 15th Street. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, fireplace, plantation shutters, sprinkler system, corner lot. Call (432)816-4377

WE BUY HOUSES and LAND. Any Condition. Tax Liens No Problem. Call (512)940-5200, 432-631-8100.

XTRA CLEAN 2/1, w/den, 1 car garage, tile fence backyard. Also small 2/1, large fenced backyard w/deck, 1 car garage. Possible Owner Finance. (432)263-6887, 213-8220.

Services Offered

I NEED someone to cut my grass this summer, in return I will give one or two haircuts to the person or family member cutting the yard! (432)268-9434.

Want to Buy

WANTED 1 plus acres with a working well, trailer okay. Northeast side of Big Spring. Have Cash for the right bargain. Call (432)935-3471 leave message.

Vehicles

1977 FIREBIRD All Original- \$6,500.00 and 1985 Larson in-board/outboard ski boat- \$2,800.00. Call (432)213-2955.

Answer to previous puzzle

STEER PAINS POM KANGA ENDUP UPA INVOICEDATE BAR NAVY SCULLS SALTINE KNISH CLARET ZIPLOC UTTER MOVIE EPS FATE MONET SNAP FRI JADES DEERE COOPED CARMEN STEIN ARRAYED HOWLED AMOK IGO SERVICEAREA FAR ELIOT NOBEL TSK STONY SKILL

Tomorrow's Horoscope

If your intention is to worship, reflect and rest, the void-of-course moon fits perfectly into your plans.

It's not necessary to give intensely passionate energy to any endeavor. Soften your attitude and embrace the gentler side of life. Focus less on doing and more on being. Those who are open to the whispers of spirit will be tenderly guided.



ARIES HOLIDAY MATHIS (March 21-April 19). You may find yourself in an argument with someone or conflicted within yourself in regards to a relationship. Getting away helps you get closer to the truth. Find a distant place to relax.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It may seem that you have all of the connections you need, but ask for introductions to exciting people anyhow. You have yet to meet all of the people who will be important to the task at hand.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Stay open-minded and make no promises. Keep your hands in a project and don't be too quick to add team members or collaborate. The deal that's offered to you may seem good, but there's an even better one on the way.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You will develop a fascination with someone who has achieved what you want to achieve in life. This could take the form of a crush, or maybe you become a fan of someone famous.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Social uneasiness teaches you how to improve. You'll probably see a quality you dislike in another person and take this as a personal note to correct or ward against that tendency in yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's a bumpy patch in the road to one of your long-range goals.

Take a break and come back to your ambitions later. Getting the rest you need now will help you be tenacious again tomorrow.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Whom you choose to hang around with says a lot about you. Lately you're not so sure you're sending the right message. Be discerning. Solitude may be your best choice for now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Is your life a process of self-discovery or self-creation? You'll do both today. One minute you'll surprise yourself and the next you'll take control and make yourself do something whether you want to do it or not.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Whatever works, works. Because you're so smart you will be tempted to break down the process to find out why it's effective. It's a waste of time. Accept results, be happy and keep doing what works.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Always being the pursuer gets a bit weary, doesn't it? You're ready to be pursued instead, and so you will be. Relax and get into your own groove, and before you know it, new offers are being presented to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There is a mystery about you and it pulls others to you like a magnet. Someone from your past could return wanting another chance with you. On a side note, if you're on a waiting list, your name is nearing the top.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You may be apart from someone you love very much, but you feel complete harmony nonetheless. What you do in the spiritual realm, your heart, your mind and your dreams, is extremely effective in bridging the gap.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: Mars and Saturn are in a tug-of-war this week, bringing our attention to matters that have to be handled within a certain timeframe. You might be

more aware of your tendencies in response to the ticking of the clock. Some freeze under the crunch of a deadline, while others under-produce because they have too much time allotted for a task, thus giving time for exploring unhelpful tangents. To ward against misuse of time, take the guidance of the Virgo moon at the top of the week. Get organized. Clean up. Make lists. De-clutter your life and suddenly your relationship with time will seem more amicable.

Thursday brings the full moon in Libra, the sign of partnerships. It's an auspicious aspect for teaming up with just the right person to assist you in what you want to accomplish over the next phase of life. If you are feeling lost right now and unsure about what you want, you are not alone, and there is good news for you, too. New friends will emerge who see something in you that you were not aware of. A new goal or a positive direction will be suddenly clear.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Magician and endurance artist David Blaine has been frozen in ice, buried alive and perched on a 100-foot long pole for 35 hours straight — and all on his own accord. This exciting Arius performer has the fearless heart his warrior sign is noted for and all of the patience of a thoughtful Taurus moon. His natal communication planet, Mercury, in spiritual Pisces lends him an otherworldly quality.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2009 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My husband's job requires him to travel several days during the week. We have two teenage daughters still at home. When he first took the job, there was some adjusting, but the girls and I quickly settled into a routine.

I work a 40-hour week. I look forward to not being the cook and chauffeur on the weekends, but my husband, who enjoys cooking, refuses to help.

He says he doesn't want to be "the butler" when he is home from his travels. I understand being on the road is not a vacation. I know he looks forward to a home-cooked meal, and I make every effort to arrange it, but it feels like I never get a break. Can you give us some advice? — Not the Butler's Wife

Dear Wife: Both of you need a break. Every couple handles this in their own way. Some do all the chores together, so each person only has half as much to do.

Some divide the weekend, giving the

husband one day's tasks and the wife the other. Many couples let the housework go and order takeout.

You have two teenage girls who should be quite capable of helping. Since your husband wants a home-cooked meal, either let your girls get creative with the food, or make a little extra when you cook during the week and freeze it.

That way your husband can have his preferred meal and you don't have to spend the weekend preparing it.

Dear Annie: My husband and I moved across the country and now see our families only once or twice a year.

I have been encouraging both families to exchange newsy e-mails, copying everyone. I thought it was a good way for the cousins to keep up with one another.

Well, my sister-in-law recently sent back a nasty response, ridiculing and lambasting me for bragging about my sons. She copied everyone on her response, and I was totally embarrassed, even though I honestly try to balance my e-mails with the good, the bad and the

ugly, while keeping them light.

I don't want to give up on this idea of sharing news, but I also don't want to be seen as boastful. Should I just leave this sister-in-law out of the loop and continue to communicate with the others? No one else seems to have her strong negative feelings. — Hurt and Feeling Harassed

Dear Hurt: Your sister-in-law is reacting the way some people do to Christmas newsletters that are incessant brag sheets. If you truly are balancing each e-mail (and showing an interest in the other relatives), her response seems petty.

Don't leave her out of the loop. Instead, make her part of the light tone you want to achieve. When you are about to say something positive about your family, preface it with: "Brag Alert" or some other self-deprecating remark.

Then, if she continues to object, the rest of the family will consider her a spoilsport.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sander, longtime editors of the Ann Ladies column. © 2009 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Not broad 11 Narrow margin 15 Just might get 16 Independent Press Awards bestower 17 Tried out, perhaps 18 Star in Cetus 19 "tu" (Verdi aria) 20 Headlines 21 It means "feather" 22 Edgy 25 Annual sports event 26 "a theory . . ." 27 Identity 30 OT book 31 He swears in Judy Garland in Judgment at Nuremberg 34 Like some winds 36 Unknown 37 Sort of seat 38 1956 Summer Olympics hosts 40 Gone With the Wind composer 41 Mt. St. Helens setting 42 Disapproves of 44 Moorlike 46 With 52 Across, '80s action series 47 They may be big 51 Robed ruler 52 See 46 Across 54 Word on a shilling

- 55 Great 56 Trifle 59 "Sport" vehicles 60 Diogenes belief 61 Group of Xers? 62 Sports-team personnel DOWN 1 Mole relative 2 Language whose name means "normal" 3 Light 4 Shaver 5 Saving Private Ryan transport 6 "a Rainbow" (Rolling Stones tune)

- 7 Two-Oscar winner of '91 8 Realize 9 Father of Odysseus 10 They're subj. to change 11 "I don't like that at all!" 12 Back to one's old tricks 13 From back to front 14 Hit back? 23 These, in Tijuana 24 Turn into a dude 26 Leads 28 Great Gatsby gangster 29 Schools of thought

- 31 Grabbed 32 Rent sharer 33 Held back 35 Chief Justice after Chase 39 Bibulous 40 Underhanded one 43 "and what art thou": Milton 45 Head lock 48 Capital starter 49 Minimum 50 Kay Kyser band vocalist 52 Rat tail 53 Prefix for physical 57 Criticize 58 High-school subj.

15 17 19 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62

SATURDAY STUMPER by Merle Baker Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

Vehicles

1999 FORD Focus ZX2 Cheap! \$600 OBO! Runs! For listings 800-544-1092 x N237.

2001 HARLEY Davidson, Soft Tail Deuce. 17,000 Miles, covered in chrome, twin cam fuel injected. \$12,500. OBO. Call (432)816-3030.

NEW AD

2004 MUSTANG. Extra Clean. 34k miles, cloth interior, automatic. \$9,950. Call (432)466-1223.

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE The Howard County Auditor will accept sealed bids until 8:30 a.m. on APRIL 13, 2009 for the following: ASPHALT used for paving and seal coating. AGGREGATE used for paving and seal coating. Specifications may be obtained in the Auditor's Office, 300 S. Main Street, No. 202, Big Spring, Tx. or

by calling (432)264-2210. Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 a.m. on APRIL 13, 2009 for their consideration. The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Jackie Olson, Howard County Auditor #6085 March 29 & April 5, 2009

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

TO: Pat Bruton aka Patrick L. Bruton
if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, to-wit:

Lts 1 & 2, Blk 10 South Haven Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas to include mobile home LBL #TEX 0388019; Assessed Value- \$10,046.00 Amt. owed- \$3,103.64
Personal Property mobile home LBL #TXS0510352; Assessed Value- \$3,395.00 Amt. owed- \$1,196.72
Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: \$4,300.36, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and cost thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein.
You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by HOWARD

COUNTY, ET AL as Plaintiffs, against PAT BRUTON aka PATRICK L. BRUTON and others, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on March 31, 2009, in a certain suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. PAT BRUTON aka PATRICK L. BRUTON, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 5652 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE.
Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent

ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.
All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenor, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefore, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, all said parties shall

take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all other parties herein and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.
You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 31st day of March, 2009 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and

costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.
Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 31st day of March, A.D. 2009.
Brandie Martinez, Deputy Clerk of the District Court Howard County, Texas, 118th Judicial District.
#6092 April 5 & 12, 2009

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

TO: Gracie Rushing
if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, to-wit:

suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. GRACIE RUSHING, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 5566 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE.
Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.
All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenor, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefore, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all

other parties herein and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.
You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 31st day of March, 2009 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.
Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 31st day of March, A.D. 2009.
Brandie Martinez, Deputy Clerk of the District Court Howard County, Texas, 118th Judicial District.
#6093 April 5 & 12, 2009

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)
Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 6032-85-001 for REMOVE/REPLACE RAISED PAVEMENT MARKERS in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on April 29, 2009 at 2:30 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$296,780.51.
Contract 6032-87-001 for THERMOPLASTIC PAVEMENT MARK-

INGS in MITCHELL County, etc will be opened on April 29, 2009 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$299,702.66.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 29439
State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone 325-676-6800
Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
#6088 April 5 & 12, 2009

Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)
Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 6032-50-001 for RETRO-REFLECTIVITY DATA COLLECTION in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on April 29, 2009 at 1:30 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$45,790.78.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 29240

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone 325-676-6800
Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
#6083 March 29 & April 5, 2009

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

TO: Viola Villareal
if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, to-wit:

COUNTY, ET AL VS. VIOLA VILLAREAL, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 5328 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE.
Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.
All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenor, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefore, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all of those

taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.
You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 31st day of March, 2009 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.
Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 31st day of March, A.D. 2009.
Brandie Martinez, Deputy Clerk of the District Court Howard County, Texas, 118th Judicial District.
#6095 April 5 & 12, 2009

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

TO: Nathaniel Warren and Eddie Lee Warren
if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, to-wit:

Lot 11, Bk 6, Earles Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas
Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: \$886.96, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and cost thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein.
You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL as Plaintiffs, against VIOLA VILLAREAL and others, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on February 28, 2007, in a certain suit styled HOWARD

County, et al as Plaintiffs, against Eddie Lee Warren and Nathaniel Warren and others, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on November 28, 2007, in a certain suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. NATHANIEL WARREN AND EDDIE LEE WARREN, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 5331 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE.
Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.
All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenor, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefore, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all of those

Lot 10, Bk G, Moore's Heights Addn., City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas
Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: \$1,623.75, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and cost thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein.
You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL as Plaintiffs, against NATHANIEL WARREN AND WIFE, EDDIE LEE WARREN and others, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on November 28, 2007, in a certain suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. NATHANIEL WARREN AND EDDIE LEE WARREN, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 5331 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE.
Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.
All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenor, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefore, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings

now on file in said causes by all other parties herein and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.

You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 31st day of March, 2009 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.
Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 31st day of March, A.D. 2009.
Brandie Martinez, Deputy Clerk of the District Court Howard County, Texas, 118th Judicial District.
#6096 April 5 & 12, 2009

now on file in said causes by all other parties herein and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.

You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 31st day of March, 2009 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.
Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 31st day of March, A.D. 2009.
Brandie Martinez, Deputy Clerk of the District Court Howard County, Texas, 118th Judicial District.
#6096 April 5 & 12, 2009

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

TO: Erica Ochoa
if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, to-wit:

AL VS. ERICA OCHOA, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 5564 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE.
Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.
All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenor, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefore, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all other parties herein and all of those

taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.
You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 31st day of March, 2009 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.
Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 31st day of March, A.D. 2009.
Brandie Martinez, Deputy Clerk of the District Court Howard County, Texas, 118th Judicial District.
#6094 April 5 & 12, 2009

ESTRAY NOTICE OF IMPOUNDMENT OF ESTRAY

On the 25th day of March, 2009 I impounded the following estray;
Kind of Animal: Bovine/ Bull
Breed: Black Angus
Color: Black
Sex: Male
Age: 2-3 years
Size: Approx. 1000 lbs.
Brand, Marks, Identifying Characteristics: Wavy "I" on upper right Hip
and, on the 31st day of March, 2009, I filed a Notice of Estray in the Estray Book of Glasscock County, Texas.
I have made a diligent search of the register of recorded brands in Glasscock County, Texas, for the owner of said estray, and contacted local owner of exotic fowl but the search did not reveal the owner.

Ownership of said estray, is not determined by the 17th day of March, 2009, said estray will be sold at public auction/ Sheriff's Sale at Big Spring Sale Barn, 521 N. Birdwell Ln., Big Spring, TX 79720.
Witness my hand this 31st day of March, 2009.
Keith Burnett
Sheriff of Glasscock County Texas
#6089 April 1 & 5, 2009

Ownership of said estray, is not determined by the 17th day of March, 2009, said estray will be sold at public auction/ Sheriff's Sale at 500 N. Birdwell Lane.
Witness my hand this 31st day of March 2009.
Stan Parker
Sheriff of Howard County Texas
#6090 April 5, 2009

Legals

ESTRAY NOTICE OF IMPOUNDMENT OF ESTRAY

On the 26th day of March, 2009, I impounded the following estray:
Kind of Animal/or fowl: Donkey
Breed: Miniature
Color: Black
And on the 31st day of March, 2009, I filed a Notice of Estray in

the Estray Book of Howard County, Texas.
I have made a diligent search of the register of recorded brands in Howard County, Texas, for the owner of said estray, and contacted local owner of the estray but the search did not reveal the owner.
Notice is hereby given that, if the

ownership of said estray, is not determined by the 17th day of March, 2009, said estray will be sold at public auction/ Sheriff's Sale at 500 N. Birdwell Lane.
Witness my hand this 31st day of March 2009.
Stan Parker
Sheriff of Howard County Texas
#6090 April 5, 2009

Legals

No. P-13,723
THE ESTATE OF JOE KENNETH PARUM, DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of JOE KENNETH PARUM, Deceased were issued on the 23rd day of February,

2009, under Docket No. P-13,723, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to CONNIE HALL FRAHM.
Claims may be presented in care of CONNIE HALL FRAHM to the estate addressed as follows:
Estate of Joe Kenneth Parum
c/o Connie Hall Frahm
5000 Sterling Road
Big Spring, TX 79720

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED this 23rd day of February, 2009.
CONNIE HALL FRAHM, Independent Executrix of the Estate of Joe Kenneth Parum, Deceased.
#6098 April 5, 2009

Region 18 Education Service Center is issuing three (3) "Open Catalog" bids on behalf of approximately forty-five (45) Texas school districts. The bid categories are:
1. School and Office Supplies, Instructional Materials and Furniture (R18C051)
2. Computer Hardware, Software, Supplies and Accessories (R18C052)
3. PE and Athletic Equipment and Supplies (R18C053)
Bids will be received until 11:00 a.m., May 8, 2009 at Region 18 ESC, PO Box 60580, Midland TX 79711-0580. Bids will be opened and recorded as they are received. Bids will be approved by the Region 18 ESC Purchasing Commit-

tee at a special meeting to be held at the above address after all bids have been received and recorded.
Bid forms are available from Gary Bond, Region 18 ESC at PO Box 60580, Midland TX 79711. Please call (432)567-3258 should you have any questions.
#6087 April 5 & 12, 2009

tee at a special meeting to be held at the above address after all bids have been received and recorded.
Bid forms are available from Gary Bond, Region 18 ESC at PO Box 60580, Midland TX 79711. Please call (432)567-3258 should you have any questions.
#6087 April 5 & 12, 2009

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REMEMBER! Find It In Big Spring First!



Courtesy photos

Hannah Weber, above, Teodora Arguello, at right, and Tucker Durham all placed or received honorable mention at the State Science Fair.

Big Spring ISD students shine at state science fair

Special to the Herald

ne Collette.

Big Spring Independent School District students fared well in the State Science Fair held last weekend at the San Antonio Convention Center.

First place: Chemistry, Tucker Durham.

Second place: Earth/Planetary, Charles Anderson.

Big Spring High School student Hannah Weber received the Stockholm Junior Water Award of Excellence for her project on environmental management. A week earlier, Weber had won the outstanding project at University of Texas of the Permian Basin and will be going to Reno, Nev., for the International Science Fair in May.



Second place: Plant Science, Garrett Wheeler.

Second place: Environmental Management, Trace Telchik.

Third place: Behavioral Science, Maranda Scott.

Third place: Energy & Transportation, Brady Weber.

Goliad sixth grade

Intermediate Division

First Place: Animal Science, Erin Pollard.

Third Place: Bio-chemistry, Teodora Arguello.

Goliad Intermediate School student Teodora Arguello took third place in bio-chemistry. Junior high school student Tucker Durham received honorable mention in chemistry.

Sponsors who accompanied the students were Coby Norman, Gary Newton, Vickey Bloodworth and Sandra Spindler.

Big Spring winners at the UTPB Regional Science Fair who participated in the State Science Fair were included the following:

Senior Division

First place and overall winner: Environmental Management, Hannah Weber.

Junior High

Intermediate Division
First place: Math, Rya-



GOING GREEN?
CALL THE EXPERIENCED STAFF AT CAIN ELECTRICAL SUPPLY
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TRASH

Continued from Page 9A

In transporting, these items be sure to secure them with a tarp or some kind of tie to keep them secure from falling or blowing off. Any damaged dumpster should be reported to the landfill by calling 264-2383. I know we have worn out dumpsters that are in need repairing or replacement, so, if you will work with us, hopefully, we can get our dumpster problem solved.

Another dumpster problem we have are with our roll-out dumpsters. I feel there are certain residents who do not know there is an ordinance regarding these dumpsters.

City ordinance 11:7-b reads the dumpster on service day should be

rolled out on the morning of service, or the night before, then rolled back to a place for safe-keeping such as the back door, carport or some place easy for you to get to. Leaving these dumpsters out all the time tags us as an uncaring city. Please help us to take care of this issue. When dumpsters are left out, too often the sanitation driver will stop and find there is no trash in them. This adds up to wasted time for the city.

Let's all work together to make a difference in our city. We can, in just the smallest way, by picking up one piece of litter daily. Let's be a people of responsibility and work together to make and Keep Big Spring Beautiful.

Pat Simmons is a member of Keep Big Spring Beautiful.



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1st Annual Men In Black Steak Cookoff Winners

Benefitting Relay For Life

Mike Guzman
Steak Cookoff
Winner



Kathy Caudill
Bean Cookoff
Winner

*Many Thanks To Judges
Jody Nix, Sandra Hale & Rick Scott*

Beauty buzz from the Paris runways

JENNY BARCHFIELD

Associated Press Writer

PARIS (AP) — The buzz was all about the mouth at recent previews of fall fashion, where lips popped in screaming shades of fuchsia and orange or pouted in vampy plums.

Some designers slathered models' faces in ghostly white foundations to contrast stand-out mouths, while others opted for bare beauty with an au naturel look. Skin was dewy, with luminous, velvety patches on the cheeks, chin and forehead.

Hair was worn up in slick pompadours or skyscraper buns or occasionally left down in big seventies-inspired cascades.

"It was a very strong season for makeup," said Lyne Desnoyers, of cosmetics giant MAC, which does makeup at 35 Paris shows. "It was all about precision — we all got out our brushes and sharpened our pencils — and nothing was left to chance, nothing was innocent."

SCREAMING MOUTHS

At Emanuel Ungaro, lips matched the rainbow of upbeat shades on the collection's abbreviated cocktail dresses and miniskirts. Models' upper lips were pink, their bottom lips purple. Eyes were nude, with not even a trace of mascara.

Belgium-based Dries Van Noten sent out lips in citrus shades, from tangerine to blood orange. At Lanvin, models looked like they were just in from a romp in the berry patch, their lips stained in shades of raspberry, blackberry and strawberry.

Red-carpet king Elie Saab and Jean Paul Gaultier both used strong eyebrows to balance out strong mouths, in cherry red and bubblegum pink.

Asked if she thought the bright shades on the catwalks would prove workable in real life, makeup artist Desnoyers said "it's all about modulating."

"Instead of going for a big matte mouth, Jane Doe might make it more subtle and wearable by adding a touch of gloss," she said.

EYE-POPPING EYES

Eccentric British designer Vivienne Westwood broke with the fixation on the mouth, instead adding drama with Pamela Anderson-inspired smoky eyes. Eyelids were swathed in mineral-based shadows in black with a blue or green sheen for a smoldering sensual look. Lips were lined but not colored in.

"It was meant to look strong and edgy without looking too messed up," said Denmark's Carolina Patterson, a senior makeup artist with MAC.

At Chanel, models' lower lids were piled with flashing white sequins and tiny black beads, while lips were a sweet baby pink.

Prada's second line Miu Miu went wild with eye shadow applied in racoonlike patches that reached above the brow line. Picking up on a fashion trend that touted tarnished metallics, the tones were coppery.



Photo/Francois Mori and Michel Euler

Above, a model presents a creation by Italian fashion designer Emanuel Ungaro for his Fall-Winter 2009-2010 ready-to-wear collection. At Emanuel Ungaro, lips matched the rainbow of upbeat shades on the collection's abbreviated cocktail dresses and miniskirts. Models' upper lips were pink, while the bottom lips were purple. Eyes were nude, with not even a trace of mascara. At right, a model presents a creation by Belgian fashion designer Dries Van Noten from his fall/winter 2009-2010 ready-to-wear collection. Belgium-based Dries Van Noten sent out lips in citrus shades, from tangerine to blood orange.

At Chloe, bronze shadow was paired with flesh tone lips and big Farrah Fawcett hair for a sun-kissed, natural look.

The natural look also reigned on the Balmain catwalk, where sparkle was reserved for the clothes. Models in rhinestone-encrusted strapless dresses had bed-head hair that fell in tousled locks over fresh faces that were adorned with but a touch of rosy-pink gloss and a hint of black on the lids.

GHOSTLY FOUNDATION

Over-the-top British designer Alexander McQueen took the cake in this category, sending out models with eery white-washed faces, except for their mouths, which were an oversized smear of red — like a stroke of fire-engine lipstick was applied by a clumsy child.

Fellow Brit John Galiano sent out pale-faced Russian brides, their lips rosy, their eyes ringed with baby blue and razor-thin, 1920s-inspired brows.

Hong Kong-based designer Shiatzy Chen toned down models' features with whitish foundation that even covered the lips. A dollop of lacquer red, like a little button in the center of the models' mouths, gave them a geisha



look.

Ghostly skin and strong mouths in glossy shades of berry and mauve matched the gothic mood of the clothes at Givenchy.

Other labels, like Saab, applied whitish patches high on the cheekbones and around the eyes to boost the skin's luminosity.

SKY-HIGH 'DOS

Bad-boy Gaultier sent out gravity-defying pompadours — hairpieces, it turned out: After a staged cat fight between two beehived models at the end of the show, each came away from the fray with a fistful of teased locks.

Christian Lacroix also built skyward, topping off his sophisticated looks with donut-shaped twists that sprouted from the tops of the models' heads.

At Christian Dior, hair was close to the scalp in a '20s flapper style, the locks held flat by hundreds of bobby pins.

Givenchy rode the fence of big and flat with hair that was slicked down over the scalp but burst into tight crimped waves that hung down to the models' shoulders.

**KEEP BIG SPRING BEAUTIFUL
FIFTH ANNUAL GOLF
TOURNAMENT**



Big Spring Country Club 267-5354
April 18, 2009
8:30 Tee Time



Four-Person Scramble
Entry fee - \$65/person



\$ Cash Prizes \$
Hot Dogs, Chips, Drink
Cookies

Prizes for (man and woman):

- Closest to the pin 
- Longest drive 
- "Split Jackpot" 
- Putting Championship \$10 per chance 

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