

07/03/23

**Big Spring City Offices Closed for the Independence Day Holiday**

All City of Big Spring offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2023, for Independence Day. Monday's normal sanitation routes will be picked up as usual. There will be no sanitation pickup on Tuesday, July 4th. Tuesday's normal sanitation routes will be picked up on Wednesday, July 5th.

Thursday and Friday sanitation routes will proceed as usual.

The City Landfill will also be closed on Tuesday, July 4th. The landfill will be open on Saturday, July 1st, for normal business hours, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

The Russ McEwen Aquatic Center will be closed on Monday, July 3rd to help with staging for Pops in the Park. The Aquatic Center will be open to the public on Tuesday, July 4th from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Moss Creek Lake will be open to the public during the holiday. Citizens are reminded that pursuant to City Ordinance the discharge of firearms or fireworks of any kind within the Moss Creek Lake facility or on the lake property is strictly prohibited. Emergency services (Police, Fire, and EMS) will continue normal operations. The Emergency Utilities Department will also be available and can be reached by calling 432-264-2392.

**VBS at Coahoma Church of Christ, 07/09 - 07/12**

On Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, Coahoma Church of Christ will begin their annual Vacation Bible School program. This year's theme is King of the Mountain. This is a FREE program for ALL KIDS in Kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> grade and will be held Sunday – Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, from 6-8:30 PM. No advanced registration necessary, just show up to Coahoma Church of Christ at 311 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> in Coahoma.

**54th annual Highland South Parade**

The annual Highland South 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade will be tomorrow at 10 AM. Parade participants will be meeting at the corner of Highland Dr. and Goliad at 9:15 AM, and it will end at the corner of Highland and Robb.

This parade is open to the entire community and there will be several decorating categories. Winners will be announced after the parade, where there will also be refreshments and entertainment.

**Coahoma Splash Pad - Phase 1 Completed!**

The Coahoma Freedom Parade was held on Saturday morning and here are the winners for the Most Patriotically Decorated:

1st place - the Barber Crawford Family

2nd Place - Logsdon Family

3rd Place - Sandy Swafford

4th Place - James Rawls

Parade Grand Marshall: Ronald Allen

Coahoma Citizen of the Year: Kelli Mount-Crouse

Also on Saturday, the completion of Phase 1 of the Coahoma Splash pad was celebrated with a dedication by Kandi Campbell with EDC Coahoma, Mayor of Coahoma Jay Holt, and Lori Martinez with Coahoma Pride.

The project is a result of funding by the Coahoma EDC and Coahoma Pride, generous donations from businesses and individuals within the community.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held in the near future to honor all the splash pad sponsors.

Phase 2 is tentatively scheduled to begin Fall 2023. This will include security fencing, pump house, covered seating areas, pavilion area, etc.

### **Big Spring 10U Travel Team to Compete in World Series**

Tomorrow, Big Spring 10 and Under traveling baseball team, the West Texas Amigos, will travel to Las Cruces, New Mexico to compete in the Kyle A Falvey Memorial Global World Series. This is the first time that the players and the coach have ever participated in something like this before.

Coach Junior Rogers told KBest News that he's had many years of experience playing baseball but he's never competed at anything at this level before. To have his team make it something so big is amazing.

Coach Rogers told KBest News that the parents on the team have been really supportive this season by ensuring that they stay hydrated and motivated to keep going. He also recognized Eli Cobos, recent Big Spring graduate on his way to play collegiate baseball for La Grange University, for the time he's spent giving private lessons to some of the players. Here, he explains more (audio).

Players Tristan Zuniga, Pitcher, and Devin DeLeon, 2nd Baseman, told KBest News that they were happy and excited about the upcoming games.

According to Rogers, the team will play a guarantee of six games while in Las Cruces from July 5th - July 9th.

### **POPS in the Park - Saturday, July 3rd**

The annual event Pops in the Park is today, July 3rd, at the Comanche Trail Amphitheater in Big Spring. The mission of Pops in the Park is to give back to those who have served our country and pay tribute to them for their selfless sacrifice as well as the sacrifices of their families.

Gates and vendors open at 5 PM. Pre-show begins at 6 PM with a performance from Knock Out Dance Academy. The welcoming announcements will be made and the flag ceremony will take place at 7:55 PM, and will be followed by a flyover and a salute to the Armed Forces. The night will end with a spectacular display of fireworks that will be coordinated by the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department with a performance from the chorus and the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra.

Be advised that drones are prohibited from being flown during the fireworks display. If a drone is spotted, the fireworks show will stop immediately. You can find a schedule of events for Pops in the Park on our KBest Media Facebook page.

### **Dora Roberts Community Center Fire**

On Saturday morning, Big Spring residents woke up to the news that the Dora Roberts Community Center had burned. The area around the Dora Roberts Community Center was blocked off and closed to thru traffic. Fire Marshall Dan Hendrickson tells KBest News that the investigation continues into the cause of the fire.

Be advised the Senior Center Meal Service that had been stationed at the Dora Roberts Community Center will be relocated to Scenic Mountain Medical Center at 1601 West 11th Place. Congregate and to go meals will be available.

### **Movie Night at WTXCMC**

"Movie Night" here at WTXCMC for ages 6-12 years old in order for parents to have a date night on Friday, July 14 from 5-9pm. The cost is only \$5 per child!

07/06/23

### **Fatal Crash in Martin County**

MARTIN COUNTY, TX – Early on Saturday morning, a fatal crash involving two semi-trucks occurred in Martin County.

According to Texas DPS, Troopers responded to the 2-vehicle crash at 2:59 AM on FM 829, 10 miles north of Lenorah. The preliminary information revealed that Emmanuel Kayode Omotoso, 47, of Midland, was traveling northbound on FM 829 when for unknown reasons, Omotoso veered into the southbound lane and struck another semi-truck traveling southbound. The southbound semi-truck was driven by Eulicer Pupo Rodriguez, 56, of Odessa.

Rodriguez was pronounced deceased at the scene. The preliminary information stated that he did not have a seatbelt on at the time of the crash. Omotoso was wearing a seatbelt during the crash. He was transported to Midland Memorial Hospital in stable condition.

This crash remains under investigation at this time.

### **Fatal Crash in Howard County**

HOWARD COUNTY, TX – Early on Friday June 30th, a fatal crash involving a 2019 Ford F-150 and a semi-truck with a trailer occurred in Howard County.

Troopers responded to the crash at 7:42 AM on HWY 350, 20 miles from Big Spring. The preliminary information revealed that the semi truck, driven by Israel Reyna Castro, 33, of Glendale, AZ, was traveling northbound on HWY 350 when for unknown reasons, he veered into the southbound lane and struck the Ford F-150 traveling southbound. The southbound passenger truck was driven by Vernon Brady Doggett, 22, of Moran, TX.

Doggett was pronounced deceased at the scene. Castro was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center in stable condition.

This crash remains under investigation at this time.

### **Walmart's 2nd Annual Car Show - Benefit for Children's Miracle Network**

Walmart in Big Spring, located at 201 W. Marcy Dr., will have their second annual Car Show to benefit the Children's Miracle Network on Saturday, July 8th. This will be held from 10 am to 2 pm. Entry fee is \$20 for participants.

### **VBS at Coahoma Church of Christ, 07/09 - 07/12**

On Sunday, July 9th, Coahoma Church of Christ will begin their annual VBS / Vacation Bible School program. This year's theme is King of the Mountain. This is a FREE program for ALL KIDS in Kindergarten – 6th grade and will be held Sunday – Wednesday, July 12th, from 6-8:30 PM. No advanced registration necessary, just show up to Coahoma Church of Christ at 311 N. 2nd in Coahoma.

### **Crime Stoppers**

Crime Stoppers is asking for the public's help with identifying and locating an unknown subject(s) involved in a theft against the elderly.

On June 28, 2023, officers with the Big Spring Police Department were dispatched to a residence located in the 2600 block of Albrook in reference to theft against the elderly. Upon arrival, officers learned that on June 28, 2023, between the hours of 12:00 PM and 4:30 PM, unknown actors appropriated a white in color 2022 15' King Sport camper trailer valued at approximately \$24,000. Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward to the first person that provides information that leads to the arrest of the person(s) involved in this case. Remember no caller ID is ever used and all tips are anonymous.

You can call in to the TIPS line at 432-263-8477 (TIPS), or you can submit your tip online at P3Tips.com and it is also completely anonymous. Remember you can earn a CASH reward if you're the first caller with information that leads to the arrest of the person(s) involved. Please keep the ID Tip number that you receive when you submit your tip.

07/07/23

### **Family Bible Studies, 07-15**

BIG SPRING, TX – The 14th and Main Church of Christ invites the public to join them for Family Bible Studies, a one-day event on Saturday, July 15th, in Big Spring. This free event will be held at 1401 S. Main from 9 am to 4 pm, and lunch will be provided. These Family Bible Studies will be split into two categories for adults and children. The Adult theme is "Having Heavenly Homes" and the Youth theme is "United in Christ" for kids in grades Kindergarten through 12th.

For more information, call 432-263-1303 or visit [14andmainchurchofchrist.com](http://14andmainchurchofchrist.com)

### **WTXCMC Summer Movie Night**

West Texas Community Mediation Center will have a Summer Movie Night in Big Spring on Friday, July 14th from 5-9 PM. Cost is \$5 per child for ages 6-12 and it will be held at 501 S. Runnels. Here, [Danette Ross Watson](#), Executive Director of the WTXCMC, explains more (audio - "On our second level, we have two large conference rooms. Depending on the size of our groups, we're gonna have the 6 to 9-year-old and the 9 to 12-year-olds so they each can have their own separate screen. We're gonna have popcorn and pizza, and plenty of games for the kids," she said).

Watson also advised that parents will be questioned if their children have any allergies that they need to be aware of.

According to Watson, Next Friday's Summer Movie Night is an opportunity for parents to schedule a date night while the kids enjoy a movie night with West Texas Community Mediation Center.

For more information, contact 432-517-4070.

### **Arson Suspected in Dora Roberts Community Center Fire:**

Yesterday afternoon, Big Spring Fire Marshal Dan Hendrickson announced that a recent fire at the Dora Roberts Community Center is being investigated as Arson.

On July 1, 2023, at 4:45 a.m. the Howard County Dispatch Center received a call for a possible structure fire at the Dora Roberts Community Center (DRCC). The first unit arrived on scene at 4:50 a.m. to find the building fully involved. The fire department responded with two fire trucks, a ladder truck, a medic unit, and command staff. Despite their best efforts, the building was a total loss. Crews cleared the scene and went back in service at 12:15 p.m.

Due to suspicious circumstances, the Big Spring Fire Marshal's office is investigating this incident as Arson, third-degree felony. The Big Spring Fire Marshal's Office is working in conjunction with the Big Spring Police Department and the ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives). This is an ongoing investigation, and there is no other information currently.

Fire Marshal Hendrickson advised that they are continuing to ask the public to stay away from the DRCC; it is dangerous and illegal to trespass onto the property.

He went on to state that this facility was important to our community, and they are asking the community for help in finding the person(s) responsible for this crime. If you have information about the fire at the DRCC, please report it to the proper authorities. To make an anonymous tip to Crime Stoppers, please call the TIPS line at 432-263-8477 (TIPS) or visit <https://www.p3tips.com/1277>.

### **The Amazing Shopping Race**

Wednesday was the first day of the 3rd annual Amazing Shopping Race organized by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. There are 23 businesses participating in this year's event.

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Racers have a month to complete the Amazing Shopping Race and no purchases are necessary. They'll begin at Lula Blu Boutique, located at 406 E. Marcy Dr, Suite A, in Big Spring and the grand finale will be held at the Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, on August 3rd.

[Debbye Valverde](#), Executive Director for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, told KBest News that the Amazing Shopping Race will have clues and tasks, much like a scavenger hunt but clues must be collected in order.

Here, Michelle Hamlin, incoming Chamber Board President for organization, explains more (audio).

Many items have been contributed to this year's prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Currently, the 1st place prize is valued at over \$3,100.

For more information on the Amazing Race, visit our KBest Media Facebook page.

#### **Senior Center Meal Service Update**

Due to the fire at the Dora Roberts Community Center on July 1st, meal service for the Big Spring Senior Center is available for pick up at Scenic Mountain Medical Center located at 1601 West 11th Place. Senior Center meals can be picked up from Monday through Friday, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Please park at the loading dock located on the west side of the hospital and someone will bring the meal to your car. If you arrive and need assistance, please call 432-264-1288.

There are no changes to home-delivered meals; this change is only for those citizens that pick-up meals from the Senior Center.

Senior citizens are advised that the meals from Scenic Mountain Medical Center are available for PICK-UP ONLY. There are no congregate meals available currently. If you visit the Yellow Rose Café in the hospital, you will be charged for the meal.

The City of Big Spring apologizes for any inconvenience.

#### **Alive After 5 - Parkplace Retirement Living**

BIG SPRING, TX – This month's regularly scheduled networking event Alive After 5 is scheduled for Thursday, July 13th, from 5-6:30 pm. It will be hosted by Parkplace Retirement Living, located at 501 W. 17th, and co-hosted by HTeaO.

Alive After 5 is a networking event organized by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Attendees will get to meet staff and other chamber and community members. Plus, there will be refreshments and door prizes Available.

The Alive After 5 networking events are an opportunity for community members to meet chamber members, learn more information about the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, and network for the betterment of Howard County.

For information on how to host the next Alive After 5 event, contact the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

**Howard County Commissioners Court Agenda - 07/10/23**

Howard County Commissioners Court will meet for a regular meeting today at 3:30 pm in the 3rd floor courtroom of the Howard County Courthouse.

Items on today's agenda include a discussion on a possible action on public nuisance abatement procedures, and an indigent burial cremation proposal.

**Texas Man Sentenced to 90 Consecutive Life Sentences for Mass Shooting in El Paso**

EL PASO, Texas – Last week, a Texas man was sentenced in a federal court in El Paso to 90 consecutive life sentences in prison for killing 23 people and injuring 22 more in a mass shooting at an El Paso Walmart, Aug. 3, 2019.

According to court documents, Patrick Wood Crusius, 24, was convicted on a guilty plea to a 90-count superseding indictment with 45 counts of violating the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and 45 counts of using a firearm during and in relation to crimes of violence. Crusius admitted that his crimes were directed at Hispanics because of their perceived race and national origin and were motivated by his desire to initiate a race war.

Over a period of months, the defendant meticulously planned and carefully prepared to commit his crimes, detailing the plan and its purpose in a manifesto he crafted and posted on the internet moments before initiating the attack on the victims and the El Paso community.

After receiving statements from some of the victims, their family members and loved ones, the court imposed 90 consecutive life sentences. Under federal law, a sentence of life imprisonment is without the possibility of parole and ends only upon the prisoner's death. Accordingly, this sentence ensures Crusius will spend the rest of his natural life in prison.

Crusius was also sentenced for 22 counts of hate crime acts that caused bodily injury and involved attempts to kill the 22 people injured in the shooting.

In addition to the hate crimes, Crusius was sentenced for 45 firearms violations, 23 counts of using a firearm in a federal crime of violence resulting in death, and 22 counts of using a firearm in a federal crime of violence.

07/11/23

**Motorcycle Collides with Wrecker in Big Spring**

A fatal motorcycle accident occurred in Big Spring last week. According to the Big Spring Police Department, on the 3rd of July 2023 at approximately 3:45 PM, BSPD officers responded to the 2600 block of S. Hwy 87 in regards to a major accident. Upon arrival a motorcyclist, Robert Howland 52 years of age, was found to be deceased.

The preliminary investigation indicates a Orange and White Peterbilt wrecker owned by Crossroads Wrecking had been traveling southbound and attempting a U-turn in an attempt to turn back northbound when a 2016 Black Harley Davidson, that was also traveling southbound, collided into the wrecker. Howland was not wearing a helmet at the time of the accident. This accident is still under investigation with the assistance of the Department of Public Safety.

### **E-Waste Recycling**

The City of Big Spring will partner with Keep Big Spring Beautiful for an eWaste Recycling Day, this Saturday, July 15th, from 8 am to 1 pm or until the truck is full. The eWaste will be collected at the Big Sandy Landfill, located at 3810 Old Colorado City Hwy in Big Spring, and all electronics will be recycled responsibly.

This is an opportunity for residents to properly dispose of electronic items such as gaming systems, cell phones, computers and computer accessories, lithium ion batteries, and more.

Please note they will not be accepting paint, light bulbs, alkaline batteries, gasoline, oils, or freon items.

If you have any questions, contact Ken Meeks at 817-919-6229.

### **City Council meeting, 07/11/23**

BIG SPRING, TX – The Big Spring City Council will meet for a regular meeting tonight at 5:30 PM. There are several public hearings slated for today. One of which will be to consider the annexation of 11.06 acres of property located at 1801 W. I-20. The other public hearings will concern four properties that will be considered for the abatement of public nuisances.

Topics that will be discussed during the City Manager's Report, will include the upcoming Large Item Pickup for District 1, E-Waste Recycling Day, a TML Region IV meeting, and City Employees and Family Night at the Aquatic Center. Plus there will be updates on the Dora Roberts Community Center Fire, the I-20 property clean-up, and the splash pad.

Tonight's meeting will also include recognition and presentation of a Letter of Commendation / Police Life Saving Achievement Award to Corporal Ronald Warembourg, and the first reading of a resolution supporting the planning and construction of the future Interstate Highway 27 in Texas.

The public is welcome to attend the meeting in person or watch a live broadcast available on Optimum Ch. 17, or through a live stream on the city website, or through the Facebook Live on our KBest Media Facebook page.

### **United Way Golf Tournament and Campaign Kickoff Concert**



BIG SPRING, TX -- Team sign-ups are underway for the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County's 3rd annual Rock and Roll Golf Tournament. These will be 4-man teams and space is limited.

Sponsorships are still being accepted for the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County's 3rd annual Rock and Roll Golf Tournament and Concert Campaign Kickoff with Jason Boland and the Stragglers! The golf tournament will be held at the Comanche Trail Golf Course on August 19-20th. The concert with Jason Boland and the Stragglers will be on Saturday, August 19th, at the Howard County Fair Barn.

Sponsorships range from \$250 to \$1,500. For more information on sponsorships, contact Christian Fair, Executive Director for the local United Way, at 432-816-3573.

07/12/23