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HERALD

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 28, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 284

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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Irene Dominguez, director of indigent health services for Howard County, explains the need for a salary subsidy for the project director in charge of developing the proposed county health center. Dominguez asked the court for a one-time subsidy of \$30,421 during Monday's meeting.

Commissioners OK salary subsidy for health director

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners gave the OK Monday morning for a \$30,000 subsidy to the salary of the yet-to-be-hired director of the Howard County Health Center project, a move that will allow the position to be changed from part-

time to full-time. Irene Dominguez, director of indigent health services for the county, said the position was originally intended to be part-time, but recent interviews with candidates for the job have her and the county committee in charge of developing the center

thinking twice. "When we first started planning for our health center and we were budgeting, we budgeted for a part-time project director, and the planning grant allowed \$27,000 to pay the project direc-

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

Gator's gone, search is on

Four-foot pet escaped or stolen in 1100 block of Lloyd

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Residents in the 1100 block of Lloyd could get an early trick-or-treater this week, as officials with the Big Spring Police Department Animal Control search for a missing alligator they say could be loose in the area.

According to BSPD Lt. Robert Fitzgibbons, the alligator — a Caiman variety being kept as a pet — was reported

missing during the early afternoon Monday.

"The owner of the alligator contacted one of our animal control officers and notified him the alligator was missing," said Fitzgibbons. "It's unclear what actually happened to the animal, but the owner seems to believe someone either stole the alligator or may have been in the

See **GATOR**, Page 3A

HC begins process of filling vacant board seat

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Howard College trustees are going to wait awhile before filling a vacancy on their board.

College officials said trustees appointed a search committee to find a replacement for long-time board member Harold Davis during their monthly meeting Monday afternoon.

Davis, the District 3 representative who served on the board for more than three decades, died Oct. 13.

Davis was first appointed as District 3 trustee in September 1971 and served continuously until his death, College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said.

The board has some options when it comes to naming a replacement, she added.

"The board can choose to either appoint a replacement or hold a special election to fill the position," Sparks said, adding that the board has historically appointed a new member when vacancies occurred in the past.

Davis' term expires in 2012. If a person is appointed to the vacancy, then he or she would face an election in 2010 to fill the remainder of the term.

No timetable has been set for the committee's recommendation, officials said.

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

Sales tax measure draws confusion

Only residents outside of Big Spring city limits can vote, officials say

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

County officials say the election to decide the fate of a proposed county assistance sales tax is causing some confusion among area residents.

County Judge Mark Barr said the measure has spurred a slew of calls to his office.

"There just seems to be a lot of confusion concerning who can and cannot vote in the sales tax election," said Barr. "We've gone over it and gone over it, but I'm still getting phone calls from area residents who want to know why it wasn't on their early voting ballot.

"This tax has no impact on

people or vendors in the city of Big Spring. It only involves the residents and businesses in the county, including those in the cities of Coahoma and Forsan. So it's a pretty simple matter. If you live in the city of Big Spring, the sales tax election isn't going to be on your ballot. It's that simple."

The county announced several months ago it would be placing the sales tax on the November ballot after the city councils in Coahoma and Forsan both voted in favor of supporting the tax, which was part of the 79th Legislature's House Bill 1937.

According to Commissioner Gary Simer, who brought the measure to the court several months ago, the tax is not a cure-



**Howard County
early voting totals:
4,272**

all for county coffer woes, but it could have a positive impact in the long run.

"It's not a whole lot. It's probably about \$250,000, and that will

help our property tax down the line," said Simer. "It'll be catching some of the oilfield, some of the convenience stores and the people traveling through. It's just like when we go somewhere else, we pay their sales tax. Now they will pay ours. It'll be a good deal and won't cost us anything.

"This will help fund the volunteer fire department, the sheriff's department, and could possibly help put a deputy in Forsan or Coahoma," he added. "Eventually, it should help tax rates by spreading the cost out across the county. That could really help lower property taxes in the long run."

See **VOTE**, Page 3A

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Courtesy photo

Jason (left) and Joshua Miramontes of Big Spring wrapped up the Texas and New Mexico Cycle City Promotions Summer Series holding the top two spots in the points standings of the Mini Quad Division. Jason, 7, was named the Summer Series Champion, while Josh, 4, finished second despite being the youngest racer in every race he participated in. The boys are the sons of Isaac and Amy Miramontes. Their team name is M4 Racing. They would like to thank Randy Paige for making his track available to both boys for practice. Both Jason and Joshue will hit the track against in February 2009 when the Winter Series of the Cycle City Promotions kicks off in Farmington, N.M.

Who to start?

Phillips hesitant to name starting QB vs. New York Giants

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

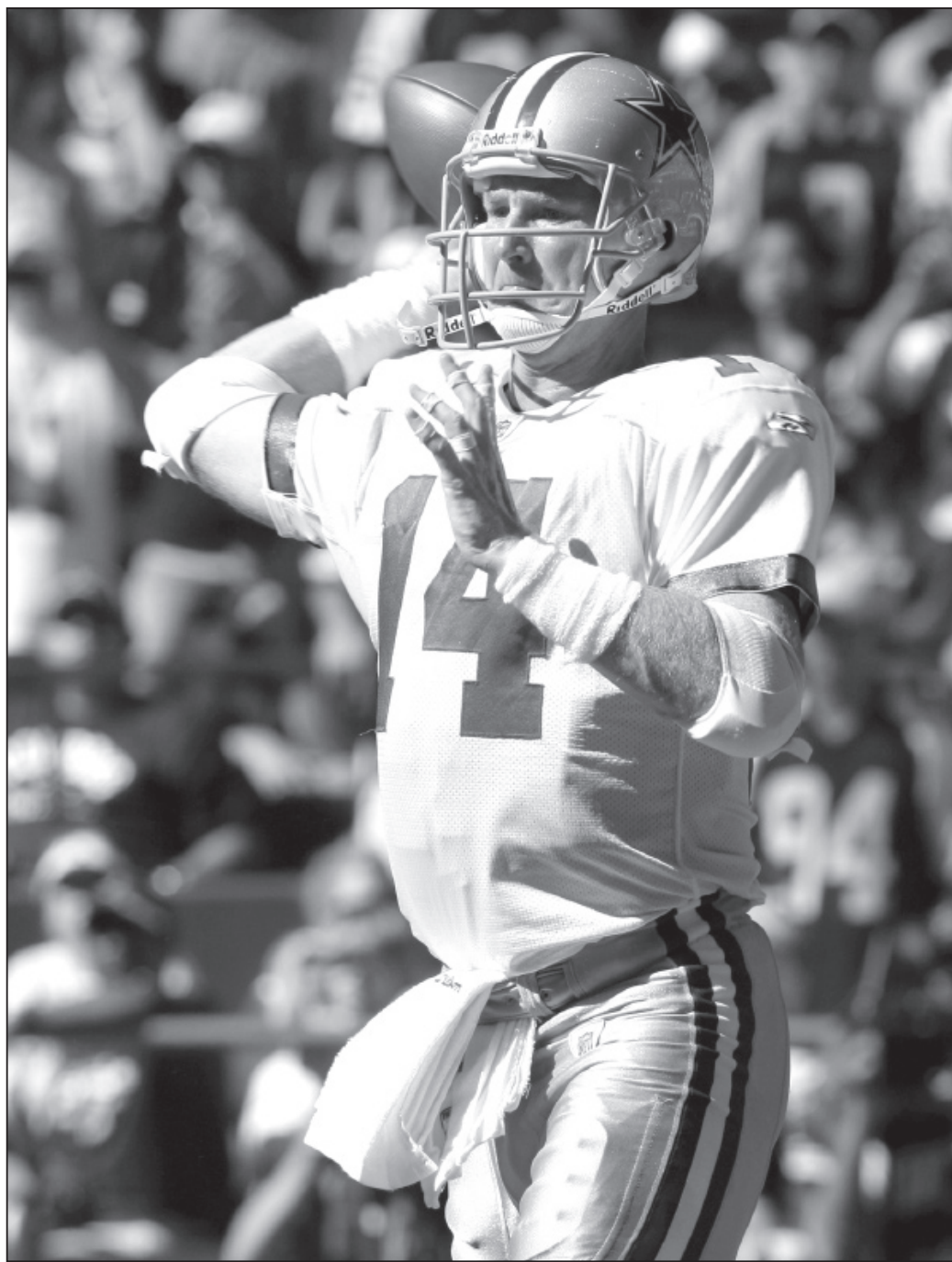
IRVING — Even on a rare “victory Monday,” the Dallas Cowboys found themselves inching toward controversy. At quarterback, no less.

Cowboys coach Wade Phillips opened the door by hesitating on whether back-up Brad Johnson will remain the starter Sunday against the New York Giants in what should be the final game Tony Romo misses because of a broken pinkie finger on his throwing hand.

The only other quarterback on the roster is Brooks Bollinger. He's started 10 games in his six-year career, nine with the New York Jets in 2005 and one last year for the Minnesota Vikings. The Vikings cut him after he went 6-of-18 for 62 yards in a loss to Dallas in the pre-season finale, and the Cowboys signed him a few weeks later. He was the emergency quarterback the first seven games, moving up to No. 2 on Sunday, but has yet to take the field.

How could Johnson lose the job despite guiding Dallas to a win over

See **COWBOYS**, Page 2B



AP photo/LM Otero

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Brad Johnson passes during the third quarter of an NFL game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Sunday in Irving. Dallas won 13-9, but Coach Wade Phillips has been hesitant to name Johnson the starter in the Cowboys Week 9 matchup against the division rival New York Giants.

Sports in brief

MLB World Series schedule
Philadelphia Phillies vs. Tampa Bay Rays
(All game televised on Fox)

Game 1: Phillies 3, Rays 2
Game 2: Rays 4, Phillies 2
Game 3: Phillies 5, Rays 4
Game 4: Phillies 10, Rays 2 (Phillies lead 3-1)
Game 5: Phillies 2, Rays 2 - Game suspended due to rain. Tentatively set for 7 p.m. today.
Game 6: Wednesday at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. (if needed)
Game 7: Thursday at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. (if needed)

Texas Shootout comes to Moss Creek Ranch

The Texas Shootout is a Tournament Hunter Bird Dog Challenge event being hosted by Moss Creek Ranch Saturday and Sunday.

This is a family event, offering an autobid into the Nationals with an opportunity to qualify for the World

Championships.

There are different levels of competition for pointing and flushing dogs.

For more information on Bird Dog Challenge, visit www.nbdca.com.

Blackout the Lady Steers final home volleyball game

Lady Steers Head Coach is reaching out to the community and asking everyone to show up wearing black to pack Steer Gym in the Lady Steers final home volleyball game at 6:30 p.m. tonight against San Angelo Lake View.

Big Spring is fighting for a playoff spot and wins the final berth in District 4-4A with a win tonight.

A Blackout Kick Off will be held before the matches begin at around 4:30 p.m. Barbecue plates can be purchased for \$5. However, anyone wearing black can obtain a meal for \$4.

The game also serves as Senior Night where the Lady

Mother Nature claims Game 5

World Series suspended due to inclement weather with the contest tied 2-2

By BEN WALKER

AP Baseball Writer

PHILADELPHIA — At the end of a strange and wet night that left the World Series in limbo, Scott Kazmir bumped into Cole Hamels in a corridor outside the Phillies clubhouse.

Kazmir gave the Philadelphia ace a playful nudge, and the starting pitchers from Game 5 walked together out of Citizens Bank Park.

No telling when we'll see them — or any baseball — again. Rain, rain made it all go away Monday night.

The Phillies and Tampa Bay Rays were suspended in the sixth inning with the score 2-all because of a steady downpour that turned the field into a quagmire.

“I can't tell you tonight

when we'll resume,” commissioner Bud Selig said. “We'll stay here if we have to celebrate Thanksgiving here.”

They could play Tuesday night, provided everyone has enough notice, but one look at The Weather Channel made that possibility doubtful. The Phillies lead three games to one, needing one more win for their first championship since 1980.

There has never been a rain-shortened game in Series history, and this was the first suspension. By the time Carlos Pena hit a tying, two-out single in the sixth for the Rays, every pitch and every hit had become an adventure.

“It was terrible. The field wasn't bad, but it was the worst conditions I've ever

See **SERIES**, Page 2B

Titans rally past Colts, stay perfect

By TERESA M. WALKER

AP Sports Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Don't call the Tennessee Titans the NFL's best team just yet. They're happy with being the league's last unbeaten club and grabbing a chokehold on the AFC South away from the Indianapolis Colts.

LenDale White ran for two touchdowns, Chris Hope intercepted Peyton Manning twice and the Titans routed the Colts 31-21 Monday night.

The Titans (7-0) have won an NFL-best 10 straight regular-season games, matching the second-best streak in franchise history. More importantly, Tennessee took control of the AFC South away from the team that has dominated this division in winning the past five titles.

The Titans have won three of four in the series, and linebacker Keith Bulluck said they made a statement with their latest victory.

“The Colts were the team to beat, and I think now, the Titans are the team to beat,” Bulluck said.

Kerry Collins outmanaged Manning, throwing for 193 yards with no interceptions.

“We're trying to get where they've been,” Collins said. “It was a big step for us tonight I think. We obviously got off to a good start, and to get one more against a division opponent is again real big at this time of year.”

See **TITANS**, Page 2B

Steers' three seniors — Andrea Claxton, Baylea Fox and Mirella Torres — will be honored.

Coach Diddle and Hawk women set for Hawk Buddies Program

Howard College women's basketball head coach Earl Diddle, assistant coach Jamie Fisher and the Hawk women are announcing the start of the 2008-2009 Hawk Buddies Basketball Program for girls in kindergarten through eighth grade.

The first day of the program is Saturday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Cost is \$20 and includes a T-shirt, free admission for all family members to Hawks home games, two clinics with lectures on goals and basketball fundamentals, a pizza party with the Hawk women's team and a buddies night, including autographs and photos with the team.

For more information, call Earl Diddle at 264-5043 or Jamie Fisher at 264-5155.

Obituaries

Sofia Noyola Villarreal

VICTORIA — Sofia Noyola Villarreal, 56, of Victoria, passed away Oct. 25, 2008.

The family will receive friends Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2008, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Grace Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008, at Grace Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Services are under the direction of Grace Funeral Home, 361-573-4341, in Victoria.

Paid obituary

Joshua Lynn Wade

Joshua Lynn Wade, 24, of Midland, a pharmacy tech and dental hygienist, died Sunday, Oct. 26, 2008. Graveside services will be 10 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008, at Serenity Memorial Gardens Cemetery with Bro. Robert Frazier officiating. Burial will be at Serenity Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Midland. Visitation will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2008, at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home in Midland. Arrangements are by Lacy Funeral Home of Stephenville. Online condolences can be made at www.lacyfuneral.com

He was born May 15, 1984, in Memphis, Texas. He was a member of Valley View Baptist Church in Midland. He graduated from Midland High School in 2002 and was a member of the Midland High School band.

Survivors include his parents, Gary and Tamara Wade of Midland; maternal grandparents, Tom and Virginia Branham of Big Spring; paternal grandmother, Wanda Wade of Midland; sister, Megan Davenport and husband Nathan, of Midland; and his brother, Andrew Wade of Midland.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Autis Lee Wade, on July 9, 2008.

Memorials may be made to Valley View Baptist Church, P.O. Box 10397, Midland 79702.

Support Groups

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 Hodne3tt at 264-7599.

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

• 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.

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.

• Midway Baptist Church at 6200 South Service Road is having its Community Wide Harvest Festival from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday. There will be lots of prizes, candy and food — fFun for the whole family! Bring a friend and wear your costume (no scary ones, please). Come and enjoy Halloween in a Christian atmosphere.

• Big Spring High School Junior Class will meet at 6:15 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3 in the athletic training center. For more information, call Denise Carrillo at 816-1685.

• The Eagles Lodge will offer chelos burritos from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8, for \$8 per plate (includes drink and dessert). Takeouts will be available.

• West Texas Pachyderm Club meets Thursday, Oct. 30, at noon at the Big Spring Country Club. The public is invited to attend and hear guest speaker Dr. Donald R. May of Lubbock. He will be speaking on "A Time for Courage." Please join us by phoning the country club at 267-8241 to make your lunch reservation. Cost of lunch is \$10 but is not mandatory for attending the meeting. We strongly urge everyone to come hear this very timely message.

• Big Spring High School sweatshirts and hoodies are available by calling Denise Carrillo at 816-1685. Sweatshirts are \$20 each; hoodies are \$25.



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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Monday and 7 a.m. today:

• BOBBIE VILLA, 24, of 104 Lockhart, was arrested Monday on four local capias warrants and six local warrants.

• THEFT was reported in the 2400 block of Wasson.
• POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA – TWO OUNCES OR LESS was reported in the 400 block of Sixth Street.
• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1700 block of Monticello.

• ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported:

in the 800 block of Wyoming.

in the 1000 block of Wood.

• ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported:

in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.

in the 700 block of 18th Street.

• AGGRAVATED ASSAULT was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having xx inmates at the time of this report.

• ROBERTA ANN BRIDWELL, 58, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of disorderly conduct – language and exposure.

• LAYLA ANN DUNNAM, 33, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.

• CHAD DANIEL DEAX, 35, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of possession of an open container and violation of a promise to appear.

• CHRISTOPHER ALTON RANEY, 36, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• BOBBIE VILLA, 24, was arrested Monday by DPS on charges of no driver's license, no insurance and speeding.

• FRANCISCO CERVANTES, 30, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of failure to appear – possession of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.

• MATTHUE LYNN ELLIS, 24, was arrested Monday on a charge of using dyed diesel in a taxable manner.

• ROBERT CASTANEDA, 18, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

• MARTIN CASTANEDA, 46, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

• SABRINA GUTIERREZ PEREZ, 33, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of burglary of a building, evading arrest/detention and resisting arrest, search or transportation.

• SHANE THOMAS ESTES, 25, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of bail jumping – failure to appear.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of N.E. Fifth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

• The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Relay for Life team is selling cookbooks to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The cookbooks can be purchased at the PBX operator's booth for \$10 apiece. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 268-4952.

• A fund has been established at Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union for Sheena Hill, who lost most of her possessions in a recent house fire. Mail donations to Big Spring Education Employees FCU, 1110 Benton, Big Spring 79720 or call 263-8393.

• A medical expense account has been established at Cosden Federal Credit Union for Kody Jackson, who was recently diagnosed with lymphoma in his right knee. He has no medical insurance and must start chemotherapy and radiation treatment as soon as possible. Kody is the son of Susan and Johnny Jackson. For more information, contact Cosden FCU at 264-2600.



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
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 78/50	 79/52	 79/52	 79/51	 79/54
Sunny skies. High 78F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph.	Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.	Sunshine. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.	A few clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the mid 50s.

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

• The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.

• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

• League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.

FRIDAY

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Members bring their own lunch. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Around Town

• Mobile Meals needs volunteers to deliver meals Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The organization delivers approximately 70 meals each day and needs drivers to donate just one hour per week. Mobile Meals also needs back-up volunteers to fill in when regular drivers can't make it. For more information, contact Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

• The purpose of life is a life of purpose. Join Nurses' Hospice of Big Spring volunteer program and become an "Angel" or "Teen Angel" in someone's life today. Come by 1008 E. Third St. or call (432) 517-4073 to register.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 19-21-25-34. Bonus Ball: 26. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 16-19-20-22-27. Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-4-7-8. Sum It Up: 26.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-1-1. Sum-it-Up: 11.

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811

BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

SERIES

Continued from Page 1B

played in.” Tampa Bay third baseman Evan Longoria said.

A puddle formed on home plate and umpire Jeff Kellogg resorted to using a towel rather than the usual whisk broom to wipe it clean.

Batters kept blinking back the rain drops and pitchers struggled with their footing. Strong gusts dropped the wind-chill factor into the 30s, and fielders covered their bare hands between pitches.

All-Star shortstop Jimmy Rollins of the Phillies chased a pop up all over and dropped it for a tough error in the fifth. There were pools of water at every base and the Phillie Phanatic wore a rain slicker for his routine.

“The infield was tough. The ball would do funny things,” Phillies second baseman Chase Utley said. “It was in bad shape. It was not playable.”

Whenever this one resumes, it will pick up where it left off, with the Phillies about to bat in the bottom of the sixth.

Hamels is set to lead off for the

Phils. For sure, the Phillies will send up a pinch-hitter against Grant Balfour, who’d previously relieved Kazmir.

Then what? Do the Rays counter with another pitcher, and immediately pull Balfour?

If Pena had not tied it, Selig said he would not have let the Phillies win with a game that was called after six innings.

“It’s not a way to end a World Series,” he said. “I would not have allowed a World Series to end this way.”

Fine by the Rays.

“The World Series always should be decided by nine innings with somebody making the final out, not the weather or natural disasters or whatever,” reliever Trever Miller said. “That’s what fans pay to see. That’s what we work hard for all year.”

Tuesday was supposed to be a travel day, if necessary. Instead, the teams will stay in the area and then head back to Tropicana Field if the Rays win.

The delay, however, forced the Rays to find a hotel in Wilmington, Del., about 25 miles away.

About 10 minutes after the game was officially suspended,

an announcement was made telling fans wrapped in plastic sheets they were done for the night.

By then, many had left their seats and streamed into the concourses. They crowded six or seven deep, trying to see any of the game before the umps signaled for the tarp.

Because it was only lightly raining when the game started, MLB hoped it could play a full nine innings. It quickly became apparent this rain wouldn’t quit.

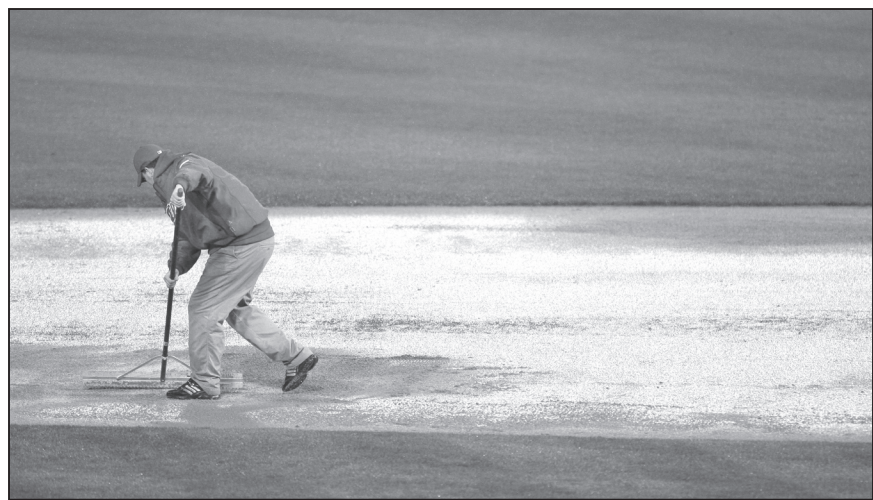
By the middle innings, the grounds crew was running shuttles onto the field, carrying bags of a drying agent — baseball’s version of cat litter — to absorb the water.

No luck.

“A lot of guys couldn’t believe we were still playing,” Rays shortstop Jason Bartlett said.

B.J. Upton beat out an infield hit with two outs in the sixth on a ball that Rollins bobbled. Upton stole second and made an impressive dash home on Pena’s hit, navigating the slippery basepaths and sliding in when left fielder Pat Burrell’s throw plopped into a puddle.

Fans showed up hoping they’d



AP photo/Julie Jacobson

A grounds crew worker rakes a drying agent on a rain-soaked infield between innings during Game 5 of the World Series between the Philadelphia Phillies and Tampa Bay Rays in Philadelphia, Monday. The game was suspended in the bottom of the sixth inning with the score tied, 2-2. The Phillies lead the best-of-seven series 3-1.

be witnesses to a World Series championship. Shane Victorino got them cheering with bases-loaded single in the first for a 2-0 lead off Scott Kazmir.

Rays manager Joe Maddon tinkered with his lineup, dropping the slumping Pena and Longoria one spot each — they were a combined 0-for-29 with 15 strikeouts after four games.

The Tampa Bay stars ended their hitless ruts in the fourth when Pena doubled off the right-field wall and Longoria followed with an RBI single up the middle that made it 2-1.

A few innings later, it was time to go.

“You couldn’t do anything you normally do out there,” Rays outfielder Carl Crawford said.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

division-leading Tampa Bay?

Well, he guided the offense to only 172 yards, the fewest ever in a game the Cowboys won, and he wasn’t even close on some throws to open receivers.

In postgame interviews, Phillips and team owner Jerry Jones praised the 40-year-old backup for managing the game, especially for keeping Dallas turnover-free for the first time this season. Those misfires must have looked a lot worse on the game film, because Monday afternoon Phillips danced around the quarterback questions.

He started with a simple, “No,” when first asked if there would

be a discussion about making a change.

When asked if it was a possibility, he said, “Well, we’ll talk about that as it comes along. I haven’t had all the meetings today yet, as far as where we are as far as everything is concerned. But, you know, Brad, winning the game is the key thing with a quarterback.”

Directly asked if Johnson would start against the Giants, Phillips rephrased the previous answer. Asked again, he said, “We’ll see. I would expect that. I don’t know why it would change.”

Phillips’ expertise is on defense. Offensive coordinator Jason Garrett runs the offense. The two were to meet shortly after Phillips’ news conference.

“We’ll talk about everything,” he said. “We talk about our per-

sonnel and players and what we need to do to win the next ballgame, analyze what we did this last game to things we need to change and if we’re going to make some changes.”

Could quarterback be among the changes?

“Well, no, I don’t think it’s (something) to consider, no,” Phillips said. “He won. He’s been playing and he’s the guy that’s had all the work, so I think that’s where we are.”

Asked why he wouldn’t just say Johnson was the starter, Phillips said: “OK, he’s going to start.” Everyone laughed, including Phillips.

Johnson was 19-of-33 against the Buccaneers, an improvement from 17-of-34 with three interceptions against St. Louis the previous week.

He threw one touchdown and

was sacked three times in each game.

“Brad’s going to do the best he can,” receiver Terrell Owens said Sunday. “We’ve got to go out there and make plays for him.”

Perhaps the Cowboys will let Johnson start, but have Bollinger ready to step in if things get off to a rocky start, as they did against Tampa Bay — three straight three-and-outs, netting only 14 yards in the first quarter.

“We didn’t play up to our standards and so our offense, they had a tough game, but Tampa is good on defense,” Phillips said. “We knew it was going to be that kind of struggle and part of what we had to do was play a controlled offensive game. We would’ve liked a few more first downs to put the game away ear-

lier, but that’s the way it went.”

Dallas (5-3) had lost two straight and three of four before the ugly-but-effective victory. In celebration, Phillips told players they could choose if and when to come in Monday, something he hadn’t done since winning the opener.

After playing the Giants, the Cowboys have their bye, then go to Washington. They expect to have Romo back for that game, as well as other key players who are hurt — running back Felix Jones, cornerback Terence Newman and linebacker Anthony Spencer.

Tight end Jason Witten and cornerback Anthony Henry joined the injury list Sunday. Phillips said it was too soon to know their status for the New York game.

TITANS

Continued from Page 1B

Jeff Fisher joined Tom Landry and Don Shula as the only NFL coaches to start 7-0 in their 15th season or later. He credited his defense for staying patient against Manning and his team for focusing on the Colts, not its surprising start.

“The season’s still early, and there’s a lot of games left,” Fisher said. “Our focus was on the Colts and trying to prepare ... to try to find a way to beat them. That was the commitment that we made this week. We’re not looking ahead. We’ll now look ahead to next weekend. As far as the division and all that stuff’s concerned, we’re just trying to win ballgames right now.”

Coach Tony Dungy had called this a must-win for Indianapolis to have any chance at winning the division, but now his Colts (3-4) have lost two straight in their worst start since Manning’s rookie season. The

Colts trail Tennessee by four games with nine games left and will host New England on Sunday night.

“It’s going to make it doubtful for us to win the division, but ... we’ll see what the last nine games bring,” Dungy said. “If we play well and get ourselves on a streak and get going, we can be a playoff team. I think once you get in the playoffs, anything can happen as we’ve seen two of the last three years.”

Manning had the Colts up 14-6 in the third quarter on two touchdown passes to Dallas Clark against a Tennessee defense that came in having allowed only one TD pass through the first six games.

But the Titans came up big after tying it at 14 with 3:21 left in the third.

The NFL’s stingiest scoring defense stopped the Colts on fourth-and-short on consecutive drives at the end of the third and start of the fourth. Linebacker Stephen Tulloch stopped Dominic Rhodes behind the line on fourth-and-1 with less than a minute left in the third. Rob Bironas’ second field goal, a 48-yarder, gave the Titans a 17-14 lead early in the fourth quarter.

On the Colts’ next possession, Manning couldn’t connect first with Reggie Wayne, who failed to pull in a pass one-handed. Then former Colts cornerback Nick Harper helped break up a pass to Marvin Harrison on fourth-and-2.

“You’re there in the fourth quarter and you have to make the plays to win the ballgame, and when that time came, they made them all,” Dungy said of the Titans.

Tennessee responded by driving 66 yards over 6:51, and White scored his second TD — giving him 10 for the

season. Hope picked off Manning again with 3:38 left. Rookie Chris Johnson scored his own TD on a 16-yard run and the sold-out crowd clad in Tennessee light blue began celebrating another win.

Manning scored on a 1-yard run with 1:17 left, but Titans safety Michael Griffin recovered the Colts’ onside kick attempt that didn’t travel 10 yards.

“I hope we can play a little ticked off,” Manning said. “There’s a healthy way to be angry and try to bounce back and do something about it. We had some chances tonight. We had the lead, and then just they made the plays in the second half, and we didn’t.”

Manning put the Colts up 14-6 with his second TD pass to Clark, a 19-yarder on their opening drive of the second half. That seemed like it might be enough on a night when all the Titans could manage were field goals.

They eventually got a little help from the Colts, who again were without Bob Sanders, the reigning Defensive Player of the Year, running back Joseph Addai and cornerback Kelvin Hayden.

The Titans drove 80 yards in 14 plays capped by White’s 1-yard run on third-and-goal, assisted by an illegal contact penalty on Marlin Jackson with a flag coming a little late after Justin Gage had dropped a pass on third-and-5. Then Melvin Bullitt was called for pass interference on tight end Bo Scaife, putting the ball at the Indianapolis 18.

Tennessee then tied it at 14 when Collins rolled to his right and found fullback Ahmard Hall for the 2-point conversion.

Notes: Hope had been the only starter in the Titans’ secondary without an interception, and he turned in his first two-pick game of his career. ... The Colts are 29-10 in the AFC South. ... The Colts are 38-7 when Manning throws for two or more TDs. ... The Titans are 16-2 since 2006 when intercepting two or more passes. ... Tennessee did not allow a sack for a fifth straight game. ... Fisher tied Mike Ditka, his old coach when Fisher played for the Chicago Bears, for 22nd in NFL history with 127 career wins.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Handwriting on the Wall

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K J 7 6
♥ A 5
♦ 8 4
♣ A K 9 6 2

WEST
♠ 10 5
♥ K 9 6 3
♦ K Q J 6 2
♣ J 3

EAST
♠ 4
♥ J 10 8 7 2
♦ A 9 7 5
♣ Q 10 8

SOUTH
♠ A Q 9 8 3 2
♥ Q 4
♦ 10 3
♣ 7 5 4

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Declarer should presume that the defenders are doing everything they can to defeat him and are not deliberately acting against their own best interests. It follows, therefore, that any information he acquires from the opponents’ chosen line of defense can be utilized to guide him to the best method of play.

Take this case where South capitalized on the first two plays made by the defenders. After West’s king of diamonds held the first trick, West

led a low diamond to East’s ace. East shifted to the jack of hearts, and the outcome of the deal hinged on South’s play at this point.

Confronted by a potential loser in hearts and another in clubs, there was a normal temptation for declarer to play the queen of hearts to try to win the trick. But before doing so, he paused to consider the likelihood that East had the king of hearts.

He reasoned that the defenders, by their diamond plays, had purposely arranged for the heart lead at trick three to come from East, which in turn meant that West had the king. Consequently, playing the queen could serve no useful purpose.

Retaining the queen, however, could prove enormously beneficial if West had fewer than three clubs. Accordingly, South won the heart jack with dummy’s ace, drew trumps, cashed the A-K of clubs and then led a heart to the queen.

West won with the king, but since he had no more clubs, he was forced to return either a diamond or a heart. This allowed declarer to trump in dummy while discarding his club loser, so the contract came sailing home.

Had South covered the jack of hearts with the queen at trick three, he would inevitably have lost a heart and a club and gone down one.

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sudoku

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

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

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News in brief

Lubbock children found alive in Oklahoma, search continues for third child

IDABEL, Okla. (AP) — Police say two of three children missing from Lubbock have been found alive in Oklahoma.

Capt. Greg Stevens said 14-year-old Jasmine Nichole Bazan and 9-year-old Angel Contreras were found around 11:30 p.m. Monday near Idabel, Oklahoma after Angel called his father in Lubbock.

The search continues for 11-year-old Lashawnda Annice Theriac, Angel's sibling.

She is believed to be in the company of 41-year-old Kenneth Wilcox.

Stevens told The Associated Press Tuesday that the children are in the custody of the McCurtain County, Oklahoma Sheriff's Office.

He said authorities are searching for Wilcox, who left Lubbock Saturday with plans to take the children and his son to Six Flags Over Texas in Arlington. The children hadn't been heard from since Saturday.

Houston tests database that checks suspects' immigration, criminal backgrounds

HOUSTON (AP) — The Harris County Sheriff's Office is leading a test of an automated fingerprint check system that allows jailers to simultaneously review suspects' immigration and criminal histories, thereby helping to identify and remove non-U.S. citizens convicted of crimes.

The new program links the FBI's database with the Department of Homeland Security's database, known as IDENT (the Automated Biometric Identification System), officials said Monday. All inmates will be run against the database.

The Sheriff's Office was selected to lead the pilot program in part because Houston has "one of the largest criminal alien populations in the United States," said Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokesman Gregory Palmore, the Houston Chronicle reported in its online edition Monday.

Palmore said the process is automated and any "hits" for non-citizens will be referred to ICE's Law Enforcement Support Center for more investigation, officials said.

It is not the first time the jail was selected to participate in an immigration-pilot program.

In February 2007, Harris County was selected as one of a handful of law enforcement agencies to test a more limited version of the integrated databases. That earlier version of the database contained records from ICE and information on people rejected for visas by the Department of State based on specific criteria.

Texas oilman Oscar Wyatt Jr. transferred to Houston home from halfway house

HOUSTON (AP) — A Texas oil executive has been transferred from a halfway house to his own home to finish serving a prison sentence for approving the payment of millions of dollars in kickbacks to Saddam Hussein's Iraq regime.

Oscar Wyatt Jr., 84, began serving the final stint of his sentence at home last week, said attorney Carl Parker. Wyatt is scheduled to be released Nov. 15, according to the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Wyatt pleaded guilty in October 2007 to one count of conspiring to make illegal payments for Iraqi oil. In pleading guilty, he acknowledged he had orchestrated a \$200,000 payment to Saddam Hussein's government.

Wyatt was sentenced to a year and a day in prison, but it has been trimmed because of good behavior, the Houston Chronicle reported Monday in its online edition.

Besides the prison sentence, he agreed to forfeit \$11 million.

Wyatt was transferred on Sept. 22 from a minimum-security federal prison to a halfway house in downtown Houston.

During the day, Wyatt reports to a law firm for his work assignment and he is allowed to spend the nights at home.

He has not been required to wear an ankle bracelet, his wife, Lynn Wyatt, said.

Killer of 7-year-old girl to die Tuesday in Texas

LIVINGSTON (AP) — His appeals exhausted, convicted killer Eric Neno acknowledged his clemency request to the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles was a longshot bid to remain alive.

"I don't think this will meet the standards for getting any relief," he said recently from death row.

He was right.

Neno, 47, was rejected by the board, clearing the way for his scheduled lethal injection Tuesday evening for the abduction, rape and strangling of a 7-year-old Harris County girl nearly 14 years ago.

The former plumbing supply salesman had led police to the remains of Nicole Benton, who lived in his neighborhood in Hockley, two days after she disappeared from her father's birthday celebration.

Neno had hidden her body in the attic of his home. "He perpetrated one of the most horrendous crimes that I think I'd ever heard of," said Joan Huffman, the former Harris County assistant district attorney who prosecuted Neno. "It was of nightmarish quality, I would say — a gut-wrenching experience for all involved."

"I can't apologize enough," Neno told The Associated Press. "I don't know of anything I could have done since I was convicted to be convincing and to show my condolences."

Neno would be the 13th Texas inmate executed this year and the fourth this month. Another execution is scheduled for Thursday in Huntsville.

Neno's appeals were exhausted and he petitioned the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles to commute his sentence to life.

In the unsuccessful clemency petition, Neno's lawyers described him as "a good man who committed a terrible crime."

"He had never done anything remotely like this before that day," attorney Richard Burr wrote. "Since that day, he has faced up to what he did and has, in every way within his control, lived a good life. ... Mr. Neno knows that he can never put right the wrong he is responsible for."

VOTE

Continued from Page 1A

According to information on Window on State Government — a Web site provided by Texas Comptroller Susan Combs — the

district must use the sales tax revenues to perform the following functions of the district:

- The construction, maintenance, or improvement of roads or highways;
- The provision of law enforcement and detention services;

• The maintenance or improvement of libraries, museums, parks, or other recreational facilities;

- The provision of services that benefit the public welfare; or
- The promotion of economic development and tourism.

The tax could range from 1/8, 1/4, 3/8, or 1/2 of 1 percent. According to Barr, commissioners plan to collect the maximum amount allowed by law, or 1/2 of 1 percent if voters approve the measure.

Early voting continues at the

Howard County Courthouse from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday. Election day is Nov. 4.

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

GATOR

Continued from Page 1A

process of making away with the reptile when it snapped at them, and they let it run off. Either way, it's possible the animal is running loose in that

neighborhood or close by."

Fitzgibbons said the Caiman variety of alligator can grow to between 6 and 6-and-a-half feet in length, with this particular alligator coming in at approximately four feet in length.

"The alligator was being kept as a pet," said Fitz-

gibbons. "The owner has the proper permit from the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife, but has failed to comply with the city ordinance on exotic animals. My understanding is he had the animal in Coahoma — where they don't have any ordinance on these types of animals

— for some time, and city officials were unaware he had moved the animal to Big Spring."

Though there have been no strange reports from residents near the home where the alligator went missing, Fitzgibbons said area residents shouldn't take any chances.

"Should anyone locate the alligator, they are urged to keep a safe distance and notify the police department immediately," said Fitzgibbons.

Anyone with information regarding the missing alligator is encouraged to contact the BSPD at 264-2550.

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

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

tor," said Dominguez. "However, since we've been working on the project it's been found that a part-time director is not going to work. We're going to need someone to work full-time in order for this project to come to term."

"I'm here to request that the county subsidize the project director's salary. We're looking at \$41,000 per year in salary, which \$27,000 is already budgeted for, which brings the county's part to about \$14,000, plus benefits."

Last month, county officials received word that they received an \$80,000 planning grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to help with the establishment of the Howard County Health Center.

Once open, the health center will provide basic health care services to the county residents, regardless of their ability to pay, according to Dominguez, who hopes to have the center open by Sept. 1, 2009.

County Judge Mark Barr asked Dominguez if the \$41,000 estimate — which comes to a total of \$57,421 when the county's benefits package is added — would be adequate to attract a project director who could handle the project.

"We found that salaries for project directors are a lot higher than the \$41,000. We're actually paying a lot less than what most of them make. They make around \$60,000," said Dominguez. "However, we figure \$41,000 is a good salary to start the project director with, depending on what that person's qualifications are. I'll come back to the commissioners court after the first year to re-evaluate what the salary will be and what we need to do then."

Dominguez said the subsidy would be a one-time measure, with state and federal grants picking up the tab after the project's first year.

"For right now, this is just a one-time deal," said Dominguez. "Once we apply for the state and federal grants, those grants have budget items that will al-

low us to pay the salary. I spoke with state officials and they said we can use indigent health care funds to pay for this salary. Once we get the grants, this might be refundable."

"The state incubator funds are state grants, and they come in and reimburse the county on certain items, depending on our non-profit status. If we have our non-profit status, it's something that could be reimbursed. However, we don't have our non-profit status yet. I contacted the IRS to see where we were at on it, and they had

not reviewed the application."

Barr said measures have already been taken to ensure the project's non-profit status is granted by the federal government.

"We did talk to Congressman (Randy) Neugebauer and Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (about the non-profit status), and they said they would begin working on it," said Barr.

While Barr expressed some concern the \$41,000 salary might be too low for the position, Commissioner Bill Crooker said his experience thus far

on the committee charged with hiring the project director has him giving it a thumbs-up.


"Based on our interviewing process, and we've talked to about seven or eight total (candidates), we feel that's a good salary range and will work for us," said Crooker.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the subsidy.

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

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Announcements

DR. JOHN S. FARQUHAR Announces His departure to participate in the care of soldiers and their dependents at Irwin Army Community Hospital. This change is effective October 31st, 2008 and extends to October 30th, 2009. The Physicians and Staff of Family Medical Center will provide continuing services to our patients. Dr. Barkley is newly established and a member of Scenic Mountain Medical Group. Records may be transferred on receipt of written request. Regulations allow thirty days for this service. The fee established in state regulations may be charged. It has been a Privilege to Serve this Community. It is an Honor to Serve the U.S. Army.

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EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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Managing Editor

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News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Personal attacks will not help voters decide

Can we all please get a grip?

Less than two weeks before the presidential election, the political dirty tricksters are on overdrive.

Donald Segretti would be proud.

(For those born post-Watergate, Segretti worked for Richard Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign sabotaging Democratic candidates, particularly Sen. Edmund Muskie. The Washington Post exposed his work through its Watergate scandal reporting.)

Scurrilous accusations and unfounded insinuations have abounded this campaign season, from both the left and right of the political spectrum, aimed at the presidential candidates as well as their running mates.

We won't dignify the most well-worn and thoroughly refuted ones by repeating them here.

But things are getting out of hand when anyone believes that the election should turn on a malicious report that turns out to be completely fabricated.

Conservative talking heads had barely finished thoroughly trashing Michelle Obama for supposed profligacy when The New York Post's Page Six ran this correction:

"The source who told us last week about Michelle Obama getting lobster and caviar delivered to her room at the Waldorf-Astoria must have been under the influence of a mind-altering drug. She was not even staying at the Waldorf. We regret the mistake, and our former source is going to regret it, too. Bread and water would be too good for such disinformation."

Neither Michelle Obama nor Cindy McCain is a villain unworthy of the White House. From all available public evidence, both are decent, accomplished women who are as human as the rest of us and would make fine first ladies.

But voters should be considering their husbands, Sens. Barack Obama and John McCain and whether their records, their proposals and their personalities are best-suited to guiding the country for the next four years.

Petty personal attacks on the presidential or vice presidential candidates, or any of their spouses, do not help voters decide who would make the best leader.

Nothing good comes from losing our minds, our manners or our decency in order to win an election.

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

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- 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

Obamanomics abhors the free market

For Obama Kool-Aid guzzlers who believe Joe the Plumber was a premeditated Republican plant to trap Obama into admitting his communist inclinations (even though Obama approached Joe, not the other way around), I refer you to Obama's history of similar utterances in favor of soaking the rich.

In June, Obama said he'd designed his tax and spending policies to deal, in part, with the challenge of our "winner-take-all" economy, where the gains from economic growth skew heavily toward the wealthy. "A strong government hand," he said, "is needed to assure that wealth is distributed more equitably." He said he'd seen "no evidence" that tax cuts, particularly on business, spurred growth, calling the idea "flawed economics." He must be unfamiliar with the Kennedy, Reagan and George W. Bush years, pre-financial crisis.

In April 2005, Obama mocked President Bush's reference to an "ownership society," where "each of us are on our own, managing risks and returns in the free marketplace." When asked how "the government should help us share the risks of the new economy and reap greater rewards from the new economy," Obama replied, "Well, right now what we're seeing is the average American is reaping all the risks and not many of the rewards."

In September 2006, Obama agreed with a questioner that "there needs to be an increased focus on the common good, directing more energy and resources toward improving the income and standard of living of Americans who are not in upper-income brackets." Obama added, "I think the problem is that they've

got a different idea of America than the idea that we've got." You think?

In March 2007, Obama said Bush wants government to have no role in ensuring that America is prosperous for all people and not just some. The "term for it (is) 'social Darwinism' -- every man and woman for him or herself." Obama must be kidding to suggest Bush has no commitment to a safety net, with his prescription drug and education policies, to name a few.

So pardon us if we conclude Obama isn't a big fan of the free market and prefers that government be the arbiter of how much money we keep.

Equally disturbing are the repeated lies upon which Obama bases his redistributionist advocacy. Last March, he said President Bush believes "that all we can do is hand out tax breaks for the wealthiest few and let the chips fall where they may." But it is an objective fact that Bush gave greater percentage cuts to lower-income earners than to the wealthy.

How can these class-warfare demagogues sleep at night saying the rich don't pay their fair share when 2006 official figures show the top 1 percent of income earners pay 40 percent of the income taxes; the top 5 percent pay 60 percent; the top 10 percent pay 71 percent; the top 25 percent, 86 percent; and the top 50 percent, 97 percent? Just how much would the wealthy have to pay for it to be fair?

The more the wealthy pay the more actual dollars they will retain when there are marginal rate cuts, even when the rates of lower-income earners are cut more. When Bill Clinton's goons figured out they could mischaracterize cuts favoring lower-income earners as being skewed toward the wealthy because they saved more in actual dollars, we ceased to have a coherent, intelligible discussion of the issue.

Tax cuts are not "giveaways." When the government taxes at a lower rate, it is not "giving" money back. It is taking less money from the taxpayer, who owns it unless you subscribe to the socialist view that the government owns or controls the major means of production and the Marxist view that private property should be abolished.

Democrats lied about the economy for the first seven years of the Bush presidency, during which we had consistent growth and negligible inflation. The president spent way too much, but Obama will spend substantially more by design.

Worst of all, Democrats, including Obama, are primarily responsible for the subprime crisis yet are profiting from it politically. They created policies that led to it. Then they exacerbated it by installing and protecting Fannie and Freddie execs, whose bonuses were based on the volume of bad loans they made and who contributed to the Democrats' political war chests in return. Finally, the Democrats fatally obstructed the regulation necessary to ameliorate the problem once it arose.

Obama's tax plan is not based on economics (raising taxes in a recession, including letting the Bush cuts expire) but his idea of fairness. He wants to redistribute wealth by sucking the lifeblood out of producers. It's one of the oldest ideas known to societies. It never works economically but always works politically, which is all that matters to Obama.

Now don't get me started on national security.

To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Challenge ahead for conservatives

Many on the Left are hopeful that this election will drive the nail in the coffin of the conservative movement. There is some cause for legitimate concern among conservatives. No matter who wins the election, conservatives will have a more difficult time making our influence felt than at any time in recent memory.

For all his many admirable qualities, John McCain has never been a movement conservative. If he's elected he will be just as interested in forging bipartisan compromise as he will be in standing on conservative principle.

If Barack Obama becomes president, conservatives will have a convenient foil. But the weakness of our movement now makes it less likely that conservatives will be effective in stopping the worst excesses of an Obama administration. The Obama-Reid-Pelosi juggernaut will likely roll over any conservative opposition, unless conservatives come together and bring the American people with them.

But conservatives have been down before — and it is too early to count us out. Conservatives watched their hero, Barry Goldwater, lose the presidency in 1964, but we found a more appealing and effective standard-bearer in Ronald Reagan. A decade and a half later, Reagan was in the White House and the conservative movement was ascendant.

If conservatism is to rise again, however, it must offer a coherent and compelling alternative, both to the politics that have dominated this election cycle and to the past eight years of GOP leadership. With

no obvious successor to Reagan waiting in the wings to reinvigorate, much less reinvent, 21st century conservatism, we will not be rescued by the charisma of a single individual.

The first task is to define what conservatism stands for today. In the Reagan era, it was lower taxes, smaller government, a strong national defense, and resistance to the culture of permissiveness that was the byproduct of the Sixties and Seventies. Fiscal conservatives, defense hawks, and social conservatives worked side by side contentedly in the Reagan coalition. But that coalition has been badly frayed during the past eight years.

Conservatives have watched as a Republican White House and GOP-controlled Congress enlarged government, expanded domestic programs, and raised a mountain of debt.

The collapse of credit markets in the past few weeks has also occasioned the greatest government intervention in the free market since the New Deal — but this time led by a putatively conservative and Republican administration.

Since Reagan, conservatives have also been impotent to prevent the counterculture from becoming the mainstream culture. And with the fall of the Soviet Union, conservatives even began to split over national defense. Islamic fundamentalism poses a grave threat to the West; I would argue, as great a threat as communism. But conservatives differ not only over how best to counter it but whether Islamism can or should be defeated.

So what are the pillars of conservatism today? Clearly, a commitment to individual rights, limited government, and free enterprise has historically had the broadest appeal within the conservative movement. But where does that

leave social and religious conservatives? Will the new conservatism provide a place at the table to those who are more motivated by moral than by economic issues? And while all conservatives would say they believe in a strong national defense, there remain irreconcilable disagreements among the different factions of the conservative movement on how to keep America strong.

Perhaps adversity will prove to unite conservatives. If, as many of us fear, an Obama administration and an expanded Democratic congressional majority move the United States closer to European-style social democracy, conservatives will coalesce to resist it. But, to be successful, we must offer an alternative vision — one that appeals beyond movement circles to the general public.

Americans intuitively know that free market capitalism creates wealth that benefits more people than government redistribution, but their faith has been tested in recent weeks. And with an Obama administration promising an ever-expanding welfare state — and more importantly, one that provides benefits to the middle class, much as European social democracies have for decades — Americans will be tempted to think they will be better off if government decides to "spread the wealth around."

Conservatism rose phoenix-like out of the ashes of the Goldwater defeat. It will take a similar feat to rescue the movement now. No less than the future of the United States depends on it.

Linda Chavez is the author of "An Unlikely Conservative: The Transformation of an Ex-Liberal." To find out more about Linda Chavez, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.



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Bird Poop: 'They left this morning!'

When I asked my friend whether her birds had left for the winter, she amazed me with her astute observation. "No. It was as if they turned on their radar. With Hurricane Ike threatening the Texas coast, they settled down and left two weeks later."



BEBE
MCCASLAND

After describing their preliminary preparations for fall migration, she said their frantic pre-flights and twittering suddenly ceased. As if canceling their travel plans, the birds had returned to their summertime behavior.

Only after the foul weather left Texas did the swift little birds begin anew their discussions and preparations. After much bickering, they were suddenly absent when she checked on them one morning. With her story in mind, I recalled another year and

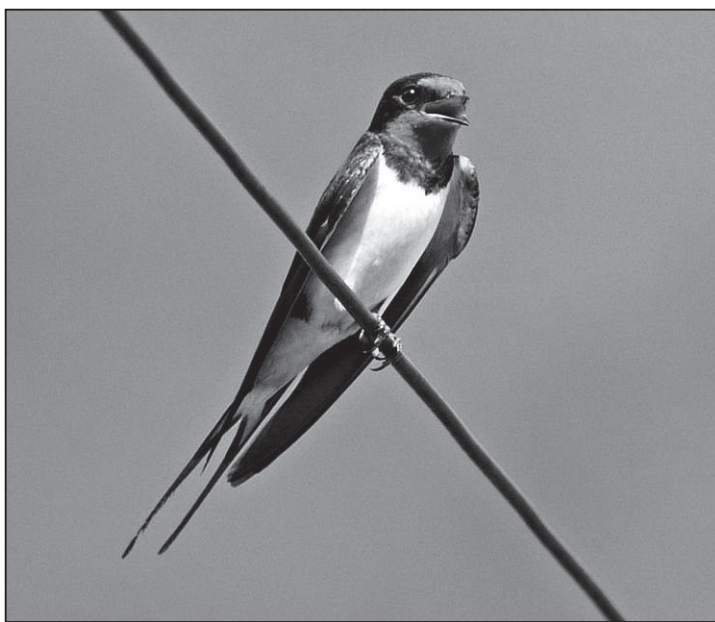
late departure.

Fall was exceptional. September rains had encouraged lantana, chrysanthemums, and red oaks into outstanding colors. Calm, mild days and cool October nights were a prelude to the seasonal "Trick or Treat." Nearing the anticipated night, forecasters began to warn of a Canadian front headed our way.

By noon on Halloween, the fury of an early winter storm arrived. Temperatures plummeted. As the school bell announced the end of the day, rain was being driven by howling winds. Few goblins ventured out in our neighborhood that night.

When the doorbell rang, we anticipated a costumed, but cold youngster. Instead, a woman with a cardboard box pleaded, "You've got to help them."

Asking her to come in out of the wind, I glanced inside. Huddled together and unresponsive were 10 barn swallows. "For some reason they didn't leave," she added as a tear marked her cheek. Reassuring her that we would do everything we possibly



Courtesy photo

Opportunists, barn swallows no longer nest exclusively in caves. Their mud homes may be found under the eaves of houses, on top of porch lights and exposed ledges, in barns, and on the underside of concrete highway bridges.

could, I watched as she hurried back to her car.

As I prepared a nesting area and heating pad for the birds, Art entered the utility room and announced it was 29 degrees and getting colder. Looking at the delicate flyers, he asked if I thought they would survive. "I'll know in the morning," was my answer as we closed the door in order to maintain

a cozy environment.

Opening the door the next morning, I heard the familiar "wit wit" of several swallows. In their make-shift home was a family from the summer nesting season. The father was the most prominent in coloration, while the mother and offspring were duller in comparison. Some of the first born had helped their parents in

nurturing the second, and sometimes third brood.

The male, a metallic bluish-black above, sported a reddish-brown forehead and throat that was bordered by a darker shaded breast band. His remaining breast and belly were a delicate cinnamon to pale buff. His deeply forked tail was obviously longer than that of his mate and offspring.

Having thawed small crickets for the first feeding, I had no difficulty in placing food in the youngest swallows, who gapped in their customary way of asking a parent for a meal. The parents and older siblings, however, were only convinced that I was their friend after they were taken and fed individually several times. It was a matter of holding each and opening its lower mandible to insert the bug toward the back of the throat.

The feeding schedule was as intensive as their appetites. Later in the day, I noticed two of the youngest were going into a decline. Their failure to thrive was apparent; the extreme cold took its toll. Sustaining the remain-

ing eight became a challenge and would last until we had a forecast that promised nearly a week of mild weather. Our typical West Texas climate promised a release date in two to three days. My hope was that I could sustain the swallows' enthusiasm and diet.

Returned to their cup-shaped mud nest, some remained inside while the parents and older siblings hunted furiously. With long, pointed wings, they flew swiftly and seemed to catch an unlimited amount of insects in the air. What we could not see, they captured immediately. The youngest were well fed.

When the swallows had been "all a twitter" the second day they were "home," the woman felt deep inside that their departure was close. Knowing they had another chance, she could look forward to their return the following summer. When I answered the phone, the excited voice said it all. "They left this morning!"

Bebe McCasland is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

Parent's Corner: Thankful for the memories

My son and I were talking the other day and he asked what my favorite fast food was when I was growing up. I know I looked at him rather strangely and had to reply that when I was a kid we didn't have fast food. Occasionally we would go out for a hamburger but most of the time we ate at home.



DARRELL
RYAN

Mom cooked every day and when Dad got home from work, we sat down together at the table, said "Grace" together and I was supposed to eat what was put on my plate. When I was ready to leave the table I had to ask permission.

The more I thought about my early years I recalled other things that were vastly different back then. Some families never owned their own house; they never set foot on a golf course; they never traveled out of the country; and they never had a credit card. Sears Roebuck developed what they called a revolving charge card, but that was only good at their store. (Wonder whatever happened to Roebuck? The name Roebuck was removed a

few years ago and I never heard why. I'll have to research that one!)

There were other differences, too. My parents never drove me to soccer practice. This was mostly because we never had heard of soccer.

I had a bicycle that weighed probably 50 pounds and only had one speed. We didn't have a television in our house until I was 12 and it was black and white and always had bad reception that was called "snow."

I remember when the first Dairy Queen came to town and for the first time I became acquainted with "soft" ice cream and what was called the "Super Dog," now called the corn dog. I was 18 before I tasted my first pizza, which was called "pizza pie." When I bit into it, I burned the roof of my

mouth and the cheese slid off, swung down, plastered itself against my chin and burned that, too. It's still the best pizza I ever had.

Pizzas were not delivered to our home, but milk was and it was left on the front porch. We had a real "ice box" which I still own. It has a compartment where the ice was stored to keep food from spoiling; no such thing as refrigeration!

Cars didn't have air conditioners either. When car air conditioners did appear they were connected to the passenger window and could blow air, but if you wanted the air to be cool, you would have to put ice in the unit!

I never had a telephone in my room and certainly there were no such things as cell phones. The only phone in the house was in

the living room and it was on a party line. Before you could dial, you had to listen and make sure someone wasn't already using the line.

Oh how times have changed; however, I miss those days. Maybe I just miss my youth and I know I miss my parents. But I am so thankful for the

memories.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury and Neptune have had quite a love affair this year and for the fifth time they form an auspicious angle to one another, the affects of which should last through the Halloween parties of the 31st.

This aspect favors expressing your wishes and dreams. When you do, providence moves to bring the right people together to make it happen.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There are rules and regulations, systems and preferences, all of which can be overruled when the one in charge finds someone fascinating. You are now the one who is able to stir up that degree of interest.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're learning to read between the lines. When you don't hear from someone, that's a message. Knowing the nuances of human behavior makes you cool. Soon you'll turn this knowledge into money.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). All will turn out exactly the way you need it to, owing to your ability to discern the necessary bits from the unnecessary bits. Your cheerful attitude is one of the important details not to be underestimated.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're not so sure where you stand socially. This is as good an excuse as any to host a party. It will be your great

pleasure. All the planning you do now will add to the event's prestige.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The ones who don't get you are simply not on the same wavelength. Theirs is no better or worse than yours, though the important thing to note is that it simply doesn't match. Keep moving. You will definitely find a better fit.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It may feel as though you're missing out on something, and your instinct is to reach, wander and quest until you find it. However, if you stay in one place, the world is sure to come to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are building the legend of your life. Take your time. Tend to the rituals that are important to you and give them your all. Your extra attention makes everything seem more vivid than it was yesterday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are not getting the help you once were getting, and it feels good. You've grown to the place where you can handle a lot more on your own. You're free because you don't have to report to anyone except yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You meet the perfect match for your plan. And if you're thinking, "what plan?" the scheme is largely unconscious. It involves your seduction of someone who will completely adore you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Standing up for yourself is not your favorite thing to do. It's so much better when you

have heavy hitters on your side and don't have to fight for the respect you deserve. Acting in your own defense is good practice anyway.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Greater challenges are needed. Otherwise, you'll be yawning through the day. Get invigorated by taking a new path, or better yet, going where there is no path. You're uniquely equipped to blaze a trail.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Wanting is fun for a little while until you realize that getting what you want won't bring happiness. The good feelings you seek will come when you appreciate what you have.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "About three years ago I wrote you about my boyfriend. Although there are many positive connections in our charts, there are also some squares that occasionally show themselves. I'm a Capricorn and he is a Scorpio.

Your response was hopeful and positive, indicating our relationship was binding and could make it through the long run. Now he has moved four hours away from me because he took a new job. I didn't want him to go.

I told him to follow his intuition so he would have no regrets. Now he has taken the job and is completely unhappy. Now I only see him twice a month.

Pluto and Jupiter are transiting my Capricorn sun. I don't know what to expect anymore. Any

insight you can offer would be greatly appreciated."

Oh, Capricorn — as much as you like to be right, how you hate it when they don't follow your advice! This separation, however, is largely positive. In your secret heart you probably sense that he needs his autonomy now, and you do, too. How can you follow your dreams when you're so concerned about his life? You're in the perfect position. All you have to do is believe it.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Winona Ryder has grown up on the silver screen, debuting at the age of 15 in the 1986 film "Lucas." Ryder is a lovely and feisty Scorpio whose high-profile love life and strange shopping habits have been the source of much media entertainment.

Though her movie appearances lately have been far between, her astrological chart reveals a career revitalization in 2011.

Holiday Mathis is the author of "Rock Your Stars." 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.

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Annie's Mailbox®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: Thirty years ago, I married an abusive man and had two children. Four years later, pregnant and miserable,

I ran away and left the children with their paternal aunt to raise. Then I met "Joe." I lied on the marriage license (with Joe's approval), saying I was divorced so that we could marry. When my son was born, I gave him Joe's last name.

It's been 26 years since then. My question is: To whom am I legally married?

My first husband has more children with someone else, and I have only seen my older kids a couple of times. We live in another state and I no longer know where they are.

I need help trying to get this straightened out, so can you please give me some guidance? — Mrs. Smith or Mrs. Jones?

Dear Mrs.: Unless your first husband initiated divorce proceedings, you may still be legally married to him. After all this time, he may be quite willing to let you go without much fuss, but there's no way to guarantee it.

Talk to a lawyer and

find out what steps you need to take to extricate yourself from your previous marriage and make your current situation legally binding. And please try to find your older children.

You may have done what you thought was best for them at the time, but we can assure you, they never stopped wondering if you simply didn't love them enough to want them to be part of your new life.

Dear Annie: When my office assistant announced her engagement, I offered my husband's print shop services for her invitations.

She graciously accepted. She often asked my advice regarding her dress, catering, the location of the ceremony and other things. I also organized an office shower.

She spoke to me several times as if I were



**KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR**

invited to the wedding, but no invitation appeared. I assumed it was an oversight and mentioned it to her. She seemed awkward and I regret inquiring. The next day, an invite was on my desk.

I realize our offer to help does not automatically require an invitation, but considering the relationship and closeness it only seemed appropriate.

In hindsight I think I was wrong. The guest list is totally her decision and she should not feel obligated to invite me. So what do I do now? Should I attend? Should I stay away and send a gift? — Etiquette Lacking

Dear Etiquette: You are right that you should not have asked about your invitation, although it is rude to impose on friends for wedding advice and assistance and not invite them to the event (assuming, of course, it is more than a family-only affair).

But that is irrelevant now. You've been invited to a wedding. If you wish to attend, do so.

Please send a gift either way.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Tired of Being Tired." I could have written that letter two years ago.

Chronic Epstein-Barr

disease is not just being tired. It's an effort to get out of bed some mornings. Sleep does not cure it, nor does inactivity.

This disease affects your memory, emotions, energy level, everything. After suffering for more than three years, I thought I was losing my mind.

I strongly suggest she find a hematologist in her area. Though there is no cure, I was helped with vitamin B12 injections. She can expect to take a few steps forward and then a few back, but will gradually start feeling better within a year.

Stress is a huge factor with this disease, so alleviating that would be very beneficial. Just let her know there is hope. — Mending in Memphis

Dear Memphis: Thank you and all the others who recommended B12 injections. We can't guarantee their effectiveness, but it's worth looking into.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Wacky Facts

- ★ The White House has been the home of every president except George Washington.
 - ★ Grover Cleveland is the only president to be married in the White House. James Buchanan is the only unmarried president.
- World Almanac for Kids

KID NEWS

Chatter Box

"To announce that there must be no criticism of the president, or that we are to stand by the president, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public."

— Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States

CANDIDATE TALES

Meghan McCain shares her father's life story with kids

Want the inside scoop on John McCain? Just ask Meghan McCain, 23, the daughter of the U.S. senator from Arizona and Republican presidential candidate.

She is also the author of the new children's book "My Dad, John McCain." The picture book tells her father's life story, from his childhood to his experience in the Navy to his run in this year's presidential election.

Time For Kids kid reporter Harrison Gilman caught up with Meghan McCain in Glendale, Calif.

TFK: Tell me about why you wrote the book, "My Dad, John McCain."

MEGHAN MCCAIN: I wrote the book because I thought it would be a good way to translate my father's story to children. I actually had been meeting a lot of people on the road that weren't aware of my dad's story.

TFK: Did you have your father read and review the book before it was published?

M.M.: He saw some of the final

drafts. He was very emotional (and said) "Oh, it's beautiful." He really likes it.

TFK: Can you tell me a little about Sen. McCain as a father?

M.M.: Sure. We have a very playful relationship. He's a great dad. He's very silly with me. I think the man you see on TV is so different from the father he is to me. He's fun. He's really cool. We get along great.

TFK: Did you have a favorite book that your dad would read to you when you were a kid?

M.M.: "Where the Wild Things Are" — that's my favorite kid's book.

TFK: How did you find time to write a book during the presidential campaign?

M.M.: I don't sleep much so I would do it at night. There is actually a lot of downtime on the road because we go to events, and then a lot of times there are a few hours between driving or flying.

TFK: What is the first thing you

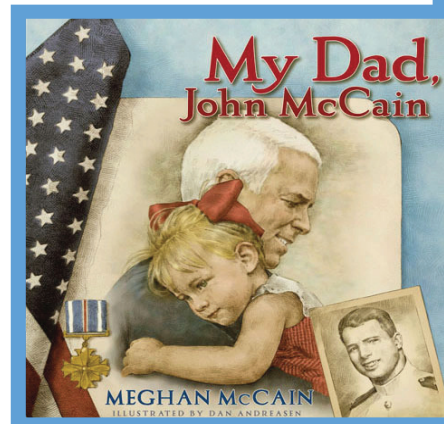
would do if your father became president?

M.M.: Celebrate, take a vacation and relax. I'd obviously start crying.

TFK: What is the first thing you would do in the White House?

M.M.: Apparently, there's this huge kitchen with all this ice cream. This is what I've heard — rows and rows and rows of ice cream. (I'd find out if that is true.

— Harrison Gilman



Writer Nikki Grimes gives kids a look at Obama's life

Imagine being asked to write a book in just three weeks. That's what happened to popular children's book author and poet Nikki Grimes. In December 2007, her publisher requested that she write a book about Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama — someone the author knew almost nothing about. Grimes knew it would be a challenge, but she was willing to give it her all. She completed the first draft of the book in just two weeks.

"Barack Obama: Son of Promise, Child of Hope" captivated readers right away, and soon landed on The New York Times bestseller list. The

illustrated book is written in poetry. It begins with a mother telling her son the story of the Illinois senator, starting with Obama's childhood in Hawaii and his community work, up to his historic run for the presidency.

Grimes was born and raised in New York City. Today, she lives in Corona, Calif., where Time for Kids kid reporter Claire Epting recently had the opportunity to interview her.

TFK: What's the hardest part of having to write a book in a short amount of time?

NIKKI GRIMES: I can easily spend three to six months just doing research on a book like this. (But this time.) I had just three weeks to research it and to write it! Also, I'll usually have several ideas of how to treat a subject, and I'll try them all out to see which one works best. There was no time for that. I had to go with the very first idea that came to me and just hope it worked.

TFK: What was the most interesting thing you learned about Sen. Obama while researching him?

N.G.: There are many things, but especially the time he spent in Indonesia and the broad experience he had culturally, which (I think makes) him particularly suited to lead a country

that is marked by cultural diversity.

TFK: In the book, you created a story-inside-a-story. What gave you this idea?

N.G.: Generally, when I write for young readers, the main character is a child or a young person. Because this book is about an adult in picture-book format, I wanted to find some way to connect with a young reader. If I could view the story through the eyes of a child, it would help bring the story to life and help the reader make a connection to that story.

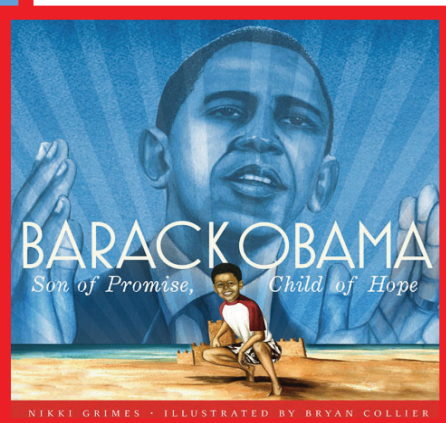
TFK: Do you know if Sen. Obama has had a chance to read your book yet?

N.G.: Bryan Collier, the illustrator, and I did send them a signed book addressed actually to his daughters, and I know some other people have sent it to him. So, I assume he's read it by now.

TFK: If you could ask Sen. Obama one thing, what would it be?

N.G.: That's a good question. I would probably ask, "Why do you want to be president?" It is such a hard job and an enormous responsibility. I can make a really long list of why I wouldn't want to run for president!

— Claire Epting



Try This



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FAMILYFUN MAGAZINE

Passing practice

Future quarterbacks can perfect their aim with this fun passing challenge.

MATERIALS

■ Water-resistant tarp with grommets (about 5½ by 7½ feet)

■ Ruler ■ Permanent marker
■ Scissors ■ Colored duct tape
■ Rope ■ Footballs

1. Spread the tarp out on the ground. Use a ruler and a marker to measure and mark a number of targets in varying sizes. (We covered our tarp with 10-, 12- and 15-inch squares and diamonds surrounding an 18-inch center square.)

2. Ask an adult to help you cut out the holes, then line the edges of each one with colored duct tape.

3. Use the marker to add a point value (5, 10, 25, etc.) below or next to each target. Assign higher values to smaller holes.

4. To hang the tarp, ask an adult to help you tie a length of rope to each of the corner grommets, then tie each of the ropes to a stable structure, such as a fence, tree or swing set.

To practice passing, aspiring quarterbacks can take turns throwing footballs through the holes from an agreed-upon distance, earning points for each successful pass. The first player to score 100 points (or another score of your choice) wins.

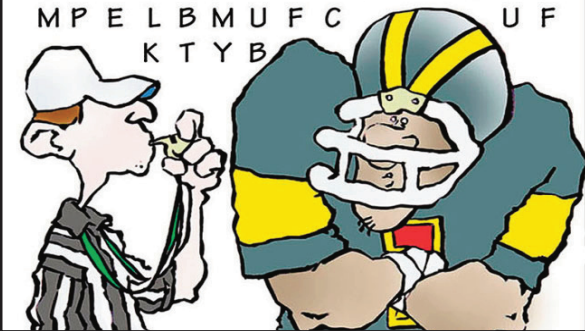
— FamilyFun Magazine

Football word search

See if you can find these football words.

FIELD GOAL	HIKE	STADIUM
FOOTBALL	HUDDLE	RECEIVER
FUMBLE	PUNT	TACKLE
HELMET	QUARTERBACK	TOUCHDOWN

O W E H S N W O D H C U O T O
J T G E K C A B R E T R A U Q
K L G L A B D W M Y B E M S K
T S A M W G H I Y O R C E A L
L I G E I K I H I K E E B C A
S L S T G N U T S D L I X N O
T H A P Q D O K T E T V S L G
A E N B D I C A H N F E R E D
D R F L T A D J U G T R Q F L
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U E W K L E O R T A C K L E I
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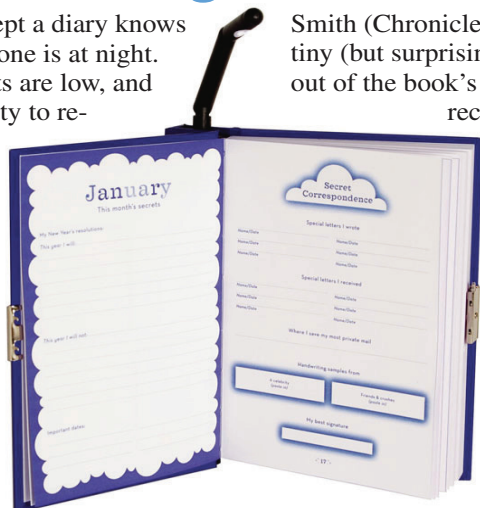


MARTY WESTMAN/MCT

Tech Toys

Night write

Anyone who's ever kept a diary knows the best time to write in one is at night. The day's done, the lights are low, and it's the perfect opportunity to reflect and spill your guts. But the lack of light can be a problem if you actually want to be able to read what you wrote someday. That's why avid diary-keepers (and those looking to start one!) will love "Lights Out!: A Night-time Diary," by Robie Rogge and Dian G.



Smith (Chronicle Books, \$15.95). It features a tiny (but surprisingly bright) light that pops right out of the book's spine. When you're done recording your deepest secrets, the light folds right back into the book. The diary features some other special touches, like a lock to keep out pesky little brothers, and writing prompts for those nights when you don't have anything special to say. But the light is what makes this book seriously special — too bad every book doesn't have one.

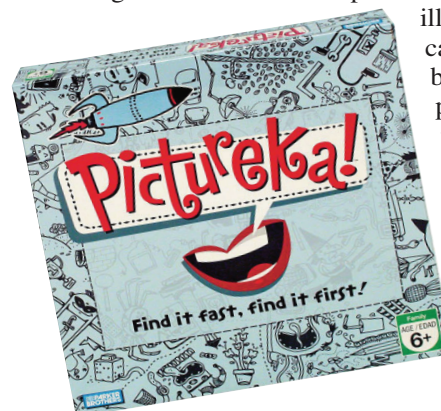
— Becky Sher

Rips & Raves

A great game for family night

One Saturday night, my family settled in with a pizza, a DVD, and **Pictureka** (Parker Brothers, \$20). But we never watched the DVD — Pictureka was too much fun! The game board is made up of 9 double-sided tiles, each jam-packed with silly illustrations. Two or more players try to match categories from a card to drawings on the board before the timer runs out. You will especially love searching for pictures of goofy topics, such as "things in a bathroom" or "stinky things." (Some choices are open to interpretation!) And, just when you think you've learned where certain objects are, the board can change when a card instructs you to flip over or rearrange the tiles. Bonus: Cards are printed in both English and Spanish, so you can learn some new words too.

— Ruth Spiro, FamilyFun magazine



	WFAA 2 Dallas	KMID 3 Midland	UNI 4 Spanish	KPEJ 5 Odessa	KOSA 7 Odessa	KTLE 8 Telemundo	KWES 9 Midland	WTBS 11 Atlanta	KMLM 12 Odessa	KPBT 13 Odessa	DISC 20 Discovery	AMC 21 Classics	SPIKE 22 Spike TV	TNT 23 Atlanta	BET 26 Black Ent.	DISN 27 Disney	ESPN2 28 Sports	ESPN 29 Sports
5 :PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Scrivner Uri Harel	BBC Business	Cash Cab Cash Cab	Movie: House on Haunted Hill, Tye Digg's	Unsolved Mysteries CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order NBA Tip-Off 2008	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Access	Phineas Phineas	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
6 :PM :30	Entertain Fortune	Jeopardy! Fortune	Querida Enemiga	Two Men Two Men	Entertain Entertain	12 Cora- zones	News Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Young Hagee	News-Lehrer Made	Made Made	Movie: Creepers, Creepers, Jonathan	CSI: NY MAN MAN	NBA Basketball: Cavaliers at Celtics	Movie: You Got Served Return to Halloween-town	Suite Life Montana	NFL Live Football	E:60
7 :PM :30	Charlie Brown Dancing-Stars	Charlie Brown Dancing-Stars	Cuidado- Angel	House House	NCIS NCIS	Doña Bar- bara	The Biggest Loser: Families	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy	Israel Victory	Nova (DVS) Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs	Movie: An American Werewolf in London	CSI: NY MAN MAN MAN	NBA Basketball: Trail Blazers at Lakers	Movie: You Got Served So Raven	College Foot- ball: Houston at Marshall.	College Foot- ball: Marshall	Madden Madden
8 :PM :30	Dancing- Stars	Dancing- Stars	Fuego en la Sangre	Fringe Fringe	The Mental- ist	El Rostro de Analia	Law & Order: SVU	Office Office	Frank TV Frank TV	Israel Cortes	Independent Lens	Movie: Bride of Chucky, Nick Stabile	MAN MAN MAN	NBA Bas- ketball: Trail Blazers at Lakers	Somebod Somebod	Wizards Wizards	Series of Poker	
9 :PM :30	(:01) Eli Stone	(:01) Eli Stone	Aqui y Ahora TBA	Raymond Raymond	Without a Trace	Sin Senos Sin Senos	Law & Order: SVU	Office Office	Frank TV Frank TV	Israel Cortes	Charlie Rose Charlie Rose	Movie: An American Werewolf in London	MAN MAN MAN	NBA Bas- ketball: Trail Blazers at Lakers	Somebod Somebod	Wizards Wizards	Series of Poker	
10 :PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	King-Hill King-Hill	Late Show Late Show	Deci Deci	Tonight Show Tonight Show	Sex & Seinfeld	Ministerio- Vida	Smiley Smiley	Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs	CSI: NY MAN MAN	NBA Bas- ketball: Trail Blazers at Lakers	Movie: You Got Served So Raven	NASCAR Studio DC	Series of Poker	Baseball NFL Live	
11 :PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kim- mel Live	Insider Jimmy Kim- mel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisions	Late Night Late Night	Sex & Seinfeld	Ministerio- Vida	Smiley Smiley	Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs	CSI: NY MAN MAN	NBA Bas- ketball: Trail Blazers at Lakers	Movie: You Got Served So Raven	NASCAR Studio DC	Series of Poker	Baseball NFL Live	
12 :AM :30	News Paid	News Paid	Amarte- Pecado	RENO 911 RENO 911	Insider Insider	Programa Pagado	News Poker After Dark	Very Funny Standup	Israel Church	Smiley Smiley	Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs	Star Trek: Voyager	Inside the NBA	Movie: You Got Served So Raven	Kim Kim	College Foot- ball: Houston at Marshall.	SportsCenter	
1 :AM :30	Paid Paid	Paid Paid	Clasicos Humor	Friends TMZ	Entertain Paid	Pelicula: Película	Poker After Dark	Frank TV Frank TV	Light of the Southwest	Smiley Smiley	Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs	Star Trek: Voyager	Inside the NBA	Movie: You Got Served So Raven	Kim Kim	College Foot- ball: Houston at Marshall.	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE

10-28

"DID IT TAKE YOU A LONG TIME TO GET OLD, MR. WILSON?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

10-28

"It's raining. Stay tuned for our five-day forecast."

HAGAR

10-28

"WILL YOU PLEASE STOP SAYING, 'WHY DON'T WE STOP FOR LUNCH?' THERE'S NO PLACE TO STOP FOR LUNCH!"

BLONDIE

10-28

"MR. B, WHAT'D YA THINK OF THIS 'EXCUSE NOTE' I'M GONNA E-MAIL TO MY TEACHER?"

"Dear Mrs. Fernwallow, Elmo's hands have swollen to a ridiculously GINORMOUS SIZE! He won't be in skool. Sincerely, Elmo's Mom"

"I THINK YOUR TEACHER WILL KNOW YOU 'PHOTOSHOPPED' YOUR PICTURE AND WROTE THAT NOTE YOURSELF!"

"WELL, HOW 'BOUT SWOLLEN FEET THEN?"

BC

10-28

"WHAT CAN I DO FOR YA?"

"HAVE YOU GOT A COSTUME THAT WILL MAKE ME APPEAR THINNER?"

"TRICK OR TREAT?"

WIZARD OF ID

10-28

"STICK 'EM UP! I'M ROBBING HOOD!"

"I TAKE FROM THE MIDDLE CLASS AND GIVE TO THE POOR"

"I TOLD YOU MY LAST RAISE WOULD COST US"

AGNES

10-28

"I AM GOING TO DESIGN THE GREATEST HALLOWEEN COSTUME OF ALL TIME!"

"WHY BOTHER? JUST PUT ON A SILLY HAT OR SOMETHING... NOBODY CARES... YOU GET JUST AS MUCH CANDY ANYWAY."

"IT IS PRECISELY THAT KIND OF THINKING THAT IS DESTROYING AMERICA!"

"WHOA! ... I HOPE IT LASTS LONG ENOUGH TO FILL THIS BAG."

HI AND LOIS

10-28

"I HAVE TO GO NOW."

"MY BOSS NEEDS TO TALK TO ME."

"TRIXIE WOULD LIKE TO SAY 'HI!'"

THE OTHER COAST

10-28

"OOH, IS THAT CULTURED MARBLE?"

"HEY, BABE! WHAT SAY WE GRAB A SIX-PACK AND GO FIND OURSELVES A CAGE FIGHT?"

"IT'S NOT THAT CULTURED."

SNUFFY SMITH

10-28

"THAT DON'T MAKE NO SENSE AT ALL, SNUFFY!!"

"HOW CAN THAR BE MORE RULES FER BEIN' GOOD THAN THAR'S WAYS TO BE BAD?!"

"NEXT SUNDAY: TH' TEN COMMANDMENTS AN' TH' SEVEN DEADLY SINS"

BEEBLE BAILEY

10-28

"WHAT'S ON TV?"

"SWIMSUIT CONTEST"

"WOO! WOO!"

"TROUBLE IS NOBODY CAN WATCH WHEN HE'S WATCHING"

This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 28, the 302nd day of 2008. There are 64 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: Fifty years ago, on Oct. 28, 1958, the Roman Catholic patriarch of Venice, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, was elected Pope; he took the name John XXIII.

On this date:

- In 1636, the General Court of Massachusetts passed a legislative act establishing Harvard College.
- In 1776, the Battle of White Plains was fought during the Revolutionary War, resulting in a limited British victory.
- In 1858, Rowland Hussey Macy opened his first New York store at Sixth Avenue and 14th Street in Manhattan.
- In 1886, the Statue of Liberty, a gift from the people of France, was dedicated in New York Harbor by President Cleveland.
- In 1893, Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky conducted the first public performance of his Symphony No. 6 in B minor ("Pathétique") in St. Petersburg, Russia, just nine days before his death.

In 1918, the Republic of Czechoslovakia proclaimed its independence.

In 1919, Congress enacted the Volstead Act, which provided for enforcement of Prohibition, over President Wilson's veto.

In 1958, the Samuel Beckett play "Krapp's Last Tape" premiered in London.

In 1962, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev informed the United States that he had ordered the dismantling of missile bases in Cuba.

In 1980, President Carter and Republican presidential nominee Ronald Reagan faced off in a nationally broadcast, 90-minute debate in Cleveland.

One year ago: The Boston Red Sox swept to their second World Series title in four years with a 4-3 win over the Colorado Rockies in Game 4.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz singer Cleo Laine is 81. Actress Joan Plowright is 79. Musician-songwriter Charlie Daniels is 72. Actress Jane Alexander is 69. Singer Curtis Lee is 67. Actor Dennis Franz is 64. Actress Telma Hopkins is 60. Olympic track and field gold medalist Bruce Jenner is 59. Actress Annie Potts is 56. Microsoft chairman Bill Gates is 53. Rock musician Stephen Morris (New Order) is 51. Country singer-musician Ron Hembry (The Buffalo Club) is 50. Rock singer-musician William Reid (The Jesus & Mary Chain) is 50. Actress Daphne Zuniga is 46. Actress Lauren Holly is 45. Actress Jami Gertz is 43. Actor Chris Bauer is 42. Actor-comedian Andy Richter is 42. Actress Julia Roberts is 41. Actor Jeremy Davies is 39. Singer Ben Harper is 39. Country singer Brad Paisley is 36. Actor Joaquin Phoenix is 34. Singer Justin Guarini ("American Idol") is 30. Pop singer Brett Dennen is 29. Rock musician Dave Tiro (Plain White T's) is 29.

Thought for Today: "Next to excellence is the appreciation of it." — William Makepeace Thackeray, British author (1811-1863).

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Newsday Crossword

VERBAL VITTLES by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 "Now hear ___!"
- 5 Spill the beans
- 9 Layer of paint
- 13 Solemn promise
- 14 Tardy
- 15 High exam grade
- 17 At any time
- 18 Memo abbr.
- 19 Takes a breather
- 20 Prefix for circle
- 21 Lose one's nerve
- 23 Antlered beast
- 25 IOU
- 26 Minuteman's weapon
- 29 Muss up
- 34 Superlative ending
- 35 Ten Commandments mountain
- 39 March Madness org.
- 40 Phrase in old gangster movies
- 44 So-so grades
- 45 Sits for a portrait
- 46 Take advantage of
- 47 Take into custody
- 50 Steeples
- 52 Biggest of the Three Bears
- 55 Rustic hotel
- 56 Strengthen slightly
- 61 Competent
- 65 Intense devotion
- 66 Musical postscript

DOWN

- 67 Lockup
- 68 "Go ahead, eat!"
- 69 ___ so (nevertheless)
- 70 Word of regret
- 71 Snaky swimmers
- 72 Chair or sofa
- 73 Nothing more than
- 1 Tot's little piggies
- 2 Possess
- 3 Part of a list
- 4 Piercing scream
- 5 Formal-affair wear
- 6 Wood strip
- 7 Top floor of many homes
- 8 Park amenity
- 9 "Would you ___ dance?"
- 10 Word on a store sign
- 11 In addition
- 12 Ballerina's skirt
- 16 Grounded jet, for short
- 22 Tool container
- 24 Not so much
- 26 Muslim holy city
- 27 Wedding-party member
- 28 Take the wheel
- 30 Mom's brother, familiarly
- 31 Scrub thoroughly
- 32 Expire, as a subscription
- 33 Lets up
- 36 Small bite
- 37 From ___ Z
- 38 Part of TGIF
- 41 Point opposite WNW
- 42 Indecisive
- 43 Armchair athlete's channel
- 48 Cold-shoulders
- 49 Spigot
- 51 Up the creek
- 53 Walks back and forth
- 54 On top of
- 56 Rotten
- 57 A Great Lake
- 58 Boundary
- 59 Aluminum wrap
- 60 Flash of inspiration
- 62 Hay bundle
- 63 Truth twister
- 64 Otherwise

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