

Vicki Slaton



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G SPRING

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OCTOBER 29, 2009

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VOLUME 104, NUMBER 282

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View from the top

State marching contest familiar venue for Forsan High School

By STEVE REAGAN

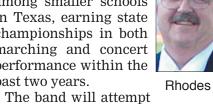
Staff Writer

FORSAN — A sign above the entrance of the Forsan High School band hall informs visitors they are entering the "hall of champions" and that claim is anything but an idle boast.

Over the past several years, the FHS band has estab-

lished itself as one of the elite programs among smaller schools in Texas, earning state championships in both marching and concert performance within the past two years.

Monday in San Antonio.



to add to the hardware in its trophy case when defends its Class 1A marching title at the University Interscholastic League state contest

The band has been on an upward curve of accomplishment the past several years and everyone involved in the program — from Director Jim Rhodes down — seem intent on keeping the good times

"We've built a lot of tradition here and it's nice that the kids want to continue it," Rhodes said. "They've really bought into what we're trying to do. I've been real fortunate

See BAND, Page 3







Clockwise, from top: Director Jim **Rhodes watches the** Forsan High School band during a recent practice: the flag corps practices a routine; drum majors Hali Wells, foreground, and Erica **Garrett conduct the** band.

HERALD photos/Steve

Film fan? Society sets organizational meeting

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Despite several immensely popular screenings this past year, the Big Spring Film Society isn't looking to rest on its laurels, as the local organization gets ready to hold a meeting Nov. 9 to look toward the coming year, and possibly, a film and music festival.

The film society is the brainchild of local resident Brandon Johnson, who also serves as the organization's presi-

"I plan on laying out the plan for what purpose the film society holds, including what we have done so far, what we have planned for the future, as well as our long term goal to establish a film and music festival in Big Spring."

he and the rest of the society members are looking to move well beyond just screening classic movies in the coming

dent. According to Johnson.

""I plan on laying out the plan for what purpose the film society holds, including what we have done so far, what we

Johnson

have planned for the future, as well as our long term goal to establish a film and music festival in Big Spring," he

Johnson said the popularity of the screenings held during the summer and fall including classics such as "Jaws" and "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial" — shows society members Big Spring has a love of film.

"The film screenings were off the hook this past summer. and we need volunteers to help us continue the outdoor summer screening series into the future," said Johnson. "With larger crowds, we need more people to help keep things organized. We had a warm reception this summer with more than 1,500 people attending the two events, and from what we can tell the people of Big Spring are very excited about having outdoor movie screenings every sum-

See FILM, Page 3

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Obituaries Opinion

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com **Sports**

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a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.

Man creates giant rubber band ball bands of various sizes into the

TAMARA LUSH

Associated Press Writer LAUDERHILL, Fla. — Look,

over there. Under that blue tarp in a suburban driveway. That thing that's the size of a Smart car?

It's Joel Waul's rubber band ball. Waul has spent the last six

years carefully wrapping and linking and stretching rubber ball shape. The Guinness Book of World Records declared it the world's largest rubber band ball in 2008. On Thursday, Waul will say

goodbye to his creation. A team from Ripley's Believe it or Not will come to his driveway with a crane and haul the 6-foot, 7-inch tall, 9,032-pound

See BALL, Page 3



Joel Waul sits atop his rubber band ball.



Obituaries

Alcenuia 'Alice' Modkins

Alcenuia "Alice" Modkins went to be with her



born in Marlin July 25, 1925, to Colbert and Adella Newton. Alice worked for Midland Independent School District for 23 years. She was a volunteer for the Southeast Senior Citizen Center for 18 years. Alice loved to play bingo and watch western movies. She loved to give and serve whenever and wherever she could. She was a lifetime member of Mount Rose Baptist Church of Midland.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Leroy Modkins, her parents, two brothers and four sisters.

Alice is survived by her three sons, Leroy Modkins, Horace J. Modkins and Ernest Modkins, all of Midland; two daughters, Connie Modkins of Midland and Carrie and husband Robert Barnstien of Pflugerville. She also leaves behind 14 grandchilnephews, and many close friends.

Memorial services have been scheduled for 11 a.m., Friday, Oct. 30, 2009, at Mount Rose Baptist Church with Pastor William C. Palmer officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home, 801 Andrews Highway, Midland, 79701, (432) 683-5555. Condolences may be offered at

www.ellisfunerals.com.

Goodbye To All My Love Ones

I knew the day would come when I'd have to say

But I leave with you my memories: good, bad, happy & sad.

I know your hearts are heavy and your burdens seem hard to bear,

But look to the Lord Jesus, He will answer I hope you understand that my body was just a.m. today:

So I prayed to the Lord Jesus and now my soul is arrested Wednesday on a local warrant.

So now my soul is happy, my body is tired no arrested Wednesday on a local warrant.

For I'm walking in the pathway of Glory, and

Jesus is my guide. So I say to you my family, mourn for me no

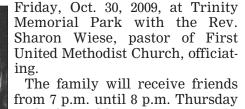
For today is gone forever and tomorrow is yet to

come.

Paid obituary

Thresa Stoeger Miller

Thresa Stoeger Miller, 81, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009, in a local hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m.



from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. She was born to Henry and Mabel

Jones Stoeger Nov. 1, 1927, in Stanton and married Charles W.

Lovington, N.M. He preceded her in death Oct. 28,

County. She was a homemaker, enjoyed yard work, gardening and fishing. Most of all, she loved her family, especially her grandchildren.

Survivors include one daughter, Eva Pike and companion, Kenneth Elliott, of Big Spring; one son, Charles W. "Chuck" Miller Jr. and wife, Bonnie, of Big Spring; three grandchildren, Trina Whitaker of Big Spring, Terra Caswell and husband, Mark, of Denton, and Wesley Miller of Midland; two great grandchildren, Hudson Caswell and Jack Caswell. both of Denton; and one sister, Beulah Stoeger of Odessa.

She was also preceded in death by her parents. The family suggests memorials to West Texas

Food Bank, P.O. Box 4242, Odessa 79761-4242; or Howard/Glasscock Relay For Life, c/o Sandy Griffin, 1217 E. 17th, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Sonora M. Honey

Sonora M. Honey, 92, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009, in a Sterling City nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big

Julia Ann Bailey

202939

Julia Ann Bailey, 75, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009, at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Announcing the Opening of the office of

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J.T. Boney

J.T. Boney, 74, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Lord and Savior Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009. She was Oct. 28, 2009, in a Midland hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Ralph Anderson, minister of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ, officiating.

> The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

> He was born June 9, 1935, in Clovis, N.M., and married Linda Jane Brown April 12, 1979, in

> Midland. He was a veteran of the United States Army and

> was a Purple Heart recipient. He was a member of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. Survivors include his wife, Linda Boney of Big

> Spring; three daughters, Kathy Jones-Starr and husband, Paul, Debbie Hodnett-Lopez and husband, Lino, all of Big Spring, and Samantha Ham-Morrow and husband, John, of Garland; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Doris Banks of Big Spring, and Eleanor and Glenn Cornett of Fort Stockton; eight grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. J.T. was preceded in death by his father, Herbert

dren, 10 great grandchildren, many nieces and M. Boney; his mother, Nancy Jane Boney Grantham; one brother, Julian Thomas; and one brotherin-law, James Banks. The family suggests memorials be made to the

Medina Children's Home, 21300 State Hwy. 16N,

Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn., Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big

Medina 78055; or St. Jude Children's Research

Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www. npwelch.com

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7

• THOMAS EASON, 33, of 4700 Highway 176, was CYNTHIA SALAZAR, 26, of 1310 Lincoln, was

• ERNEST CLARK, 69, transient, was arrested

Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication. • OLIVIA RODRIGUEZ, 18, of 2210 Nolan, was arrested Wednesday on a local warrant.

• VINCENT MCVEA, 39, of 1601 Harding, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

• THEFT was reported:

in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.

in the 800 block of Interstate Highway 20. in the 1700 block of FM 700.

in the 1200 block of 11th Place.

 POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA – TWO OUNCES OR LESS IN A DRUG FREE ZONE was reported in the 700 block of 11th Place.

 ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1300 block of Lincoln.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail Miller Sr. May 24, 1952, in reported having 83 inmates at the time of this report.

• ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 69, was transferred Mrs. Miller was a lifelong resident of Howard to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

> • BARNEY ALAN DODD, 39, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a failure to appear charge for credit/debit card abuse.

> THOMAS LEWIS EASON, 33, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated - third or more

> VINCENT EDWARD MCVEA, 39, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

> MOSES OLIVARES, 20, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice – giving false information and contempt charges for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, burglary of a habitation and cruelty to ani-

• OLIVIA ROSA RODRIGUEZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of assault Class C.

 CYNTHIA SALAZAR, 26, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of no driver's license.

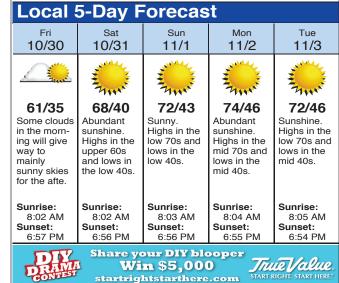
• ASHLEY LESHEA STILES, 20, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a probation revocation for possession of marijuana – two

• NATHAN LEE SUNDY, 19, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a contempt charge for displaying an expired motor vehicle registration.

• NICK RODRIGUEZ VALENCIA, 26, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a probation revocation for possession of a controlled substance - more than 4 grams, less than 200 grams.

 JOHN EARL WILLIAMS, 50, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of child support and a probation revocation for child support.

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Today's Weather



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Fire/EMS

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

 MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC. · MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of

Valverde. One person was transported to SMMC.

MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of

Tulane. Service refused. • MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N.

Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of W.

Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported

 MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Jennings. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of

Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

 TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported on FM 700 near SMMC. Service refused.

Lottery

The winning numbers in Wednesday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Lotto Texas" game were: 17-18-20-28-

The winning numbers in Wednesday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Pick 3 Night" game were: 7-2-7.

The winning numbers in Wednesday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Cash 5" game were: 02-03-06-14-21.

The winning numbers in Wednesday evening's

drawing of the Texas

Lottery's "Daily 4 Night" game were: 6-2-1-1.

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Production Manager... Ext. 256

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

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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: \$8.85 monthly; \$95.58 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

Take Note

• Hey parents, bring your kids by the women's dorm at Howard College Halloween night for a safe trick or treating experience. We have students ready to treat you from door to door with lots of candy! Time: 5-8:30 p.m. We are located in the two story building behind the coliseum, across from Memorial Stadium.

• The Big Spring Fire Department will be at the Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, promoting Halloween and fire safety. Firemen will be handing out candy and exhibiting a fire truck. Guests are invited to tour the firefighting display at no cost.

· Donations are being accepted at Cosden Federal Credit Union and State National Bank to assist the Gary Feaster family, residents of Howard County who lost their home to a fire Sunday. Thanks to community support, the family no longer needs donations of clothing, but any monetary donations would be appreciated.

 Home Hospice would like to welcome anyone who would like to give a few hours of their time a month volunteering with patients or doing office work. There are many areas you can volunteer in. We train you at your convenience. Please call Sherry Hodnett, volunteer coordinator, at (432) 264-

BAND

Continued from Page 1

that they've accepted me and want to be part

high expectations that come with the band's recent string of success, there's no doubting those expectations are

"Mr. Rhodes does his best to keep us on an even keel. He doesn't want us getting cocky,' said Erica Garrett, a junior drum major. "But (winning at state) is in the back of our minds.

So it's not a case of expecting it, but it's definitely one of our goals."

Garrett said the reason she and her band mates are working so hard is that she wants to relive the experience of winning a state title.

"It was something I had never felt before everybody was crying and happy and jumping everywhere," she said. "I still get excited thinking about it. It's something I'll remember for the rest of my life."

Garrett's fellow drum major, junior Hali Wells, believes the band is more than capable of pulling off a repeat championship.

"I feel we're on the right path to do it again," Wells said. "I really think we're better than the last group that won state."

Rhodes said he and the band try to live by a simple philosophy. "There's always some-

thing that can be fixed," he said. "We have a motto: Let's find something we can do better today ... When you do things over and over and over, things can get kind of lax, so we do a lot of encouraging around here

to keep improving." A big help to the band's efforts has been an outpouring of support from both the community and school, Rhodes said.

"The fans who followed us to the (UIL) Area Contest were the loudest ones there," he said. "And the faculty and staff here at school have been amazing. There's a lot of pulling for each other going on here."

Rhodes said he doesn't expect his charges to be jaded, especially when they arrive in San Anrtonio.

"It's a big-time atmosphere," he said. "When we drive by the Alamodome (the site of the competition), the kids always take a look out the window and there's this collective 'Wow.'

would be so notorious

people would drive from

"I'm very excited that

the film society is mov-

ing forward, and think

this is something that

could make Big Spring

a more attractive place

for people to move to. A

lot of people take these

types of things into con-

sideration when moving

somewhere. I mean, I'd

be excited to move some-

where where they were

having outdoor film

screenings and there

all over to attend.

know they're about to perform in a 70,000-seat stadium and they realize that this is the big time ... You walk into the stadium and you have to let them have that moment of being in awe. Then you have to bring them back to Earth and get them to focus on the task at hand."

Forsan is scheduled to compete in the Class 1A preliminaries at 10:37 a.m. Monday. The top seven bands from the first round advance to the finals later that eve-

Rhodes said the veterans from Forsan's last trip to state will be

ing to do around here.

Well, thats something

For more informa-

tion on the meeting or

the film society, con-

tact Johnson at (432)

213-0759, or e-mail him

at cruiser1977@gmail.

erald.com

I'd like to change."

counted on to help the newcomers through the first-time jitters.

"We just stay focused and give them an example to follow — and it rubs off on the other kids," he said. "They see that goal and they want to help us achieve it."

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288 Julia Ann Bailey, 75, Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Dragon China Buffet 1300 Gregg

of this.' While Rhodes does his best to downplay the

FILM

Continued from Page 1

"This meeting will

basically be an intro-

ductory meeting to see

who might be interested

in helping and inform

people that this is some-

thing that is viable for

West Texas. We will go

over the film slate for

2010, which includes

"Raiders of the Lost

Ark" in the amphithe-

ater this spring, "Juras-

sic Park" by Comanche

Trail Lake in June, and

tentatively, 1978's "Su-

perman: The Movie" on top of Scenic Moun-

Johnson said he will also be detailing a contest the society has planned in conjunction with the "Raiders of the Lost Ark" screening.

"We are also planning on posting a call for entries for our Indiana Jones short film contest this spring, which is basically our way of finding out how many people are interested in making films as well as screening them," said Johnson. "It should be really interesting. We're

going to ask people to make an Indiana Jones themed short film, no longer than 5 minutes, and the top three will be screened before 'Raiders of the Lost Ark."

Keeping along the theatrical and acting lines, Johnson said he also plans to introduce a fund-raising idea designed to scare the pants off people.

"I also want to discuss what I would like to be our fund-raiser every year, and that's to have the scariest spook house in West Texas," said Johnson. "One that

it. Dogs sniffed it.

to filmmaking. You always hear there is nothdecide they want to do something, and they

Now that Waul has set the rubber bands record, he's focused on

"Human torch," he

get possessed. It's very much Andy Warhol, 15 minutes of fame. It is the desire to be the best at something."

tne next challenge. says, grinning.

West Texas Spine

221 N. Lincoln Ave. Odessa, TX 79761

Off Per Adult Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-.5Uoff Per Child 7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail Up to 10 People at citydesk@bigspringh-(NOT FOR CARRYOUT) EXP. 12/31/09

Continued from Page 1

behemoth away. The ball will eventually be displayed in a far-off museum yet to be determined, so folks can marvel at Waul's obsession.

Waul got the idea six years ago, when he saw a Ripley's television special that showed the then-largest rubber band ball being dropped into the desert from an

"I just thought it was the coolest thing I'd ever seen," said Waul, a 28-year-old who works nights restocking a Gap clothing store.

The idea of setting a world record always appealed to Waul; he recalls that as a 7-yearold in Jamaica he pored over his father's Guinness Book of World Records.

Creating a ball was easy. He got a few hair bands together. Then some larger bands. The ball grew to the size of a boulder, and his family took notice.

"When it started getting bigger, they knew I was pretty serious," he said.

The ball eventually got its own Web site. It got too big — and smelly - to keep in the house, so he rolled it outside.

There have been a few casualties: at 400 pounds, it rolled over his hand and sprained it. It busted his big toe. Rubber bands breaking ripped two pairs of cargo pants and broke three pairs of sunglasses.

Eventually, he wrote to companies that manufacture giant rubber bands for physical therapy, and they sent him free shipments.

The ball grew and Neighborhood

kids climbed on top of "That's his master-

piece," said his neighbor, 25-year-old Andre Gregg. "I'm just amazed at how he did it." Waul and the ball

have several followers on their Myspace page, but no one's been mesmerized by the creation more than Edward Meyer, vice president of exhibits and archives at the Orlando-based Ripley's.

"We already have the largest string and barbed wire balls," Meyer said. "This is now my holy trinity, I guess."

Meyer won't say how much Ripley's paid for the ball, which, at 25 feet in diameter, he estimates to be twice as large as the previous record holder.

People like Waul "don't do it for money," Meyer said. "They don't really get rich. They



HALLOWEEN SPOOKTA CULAR Safe Trick-or-Treating 5-7 PM Dance to Midnight Express 8:30 PM **Costume Contest, Games & Other Activities** Cash Prizes Suturday, Ostober 31st FAGLES LODGE 263-6862

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ENCOURAGING WORD

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By Eddy Pitchford

ANNETTE

BRIDGES

EDITORIAL

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

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

> **Ron Midkiff** Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

Our View

Let's make sure Halloween's safe time for children

hile minor stomach aches from eating too much candy may be the most common hazard on Halloween, we should all remember that emergency physicians say they treat way too many children for serious injuries that could have been prevented.

The most common injuries on Halloween are eye injuries from sharp objects, burns from flammable costumes and injuries from collisions with motor vehicles, according to the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP).

To ensure a safer Halloween, parents and caregivers should follow important safety mea-

The list of things parents and children should follow are mostly common sense measures, but bear reminding: Make sure you see all the candy before your

child consumes it. Avoid candy not wrapped in its original wrapper, as well as all fruit. • Make sure your child stays on the sidewalks

as much as possible (off the streets) and obeys all traffic signals. • Discuss the importance of staying together

in a group. Require at least one adult to serve as chaperone during candy gathering and forbid children from accepting rides from strangers or visiting unfamiliar homes. Avoid costumes that could cause children

to trip, such as baggy pants, long hems, high heels and over-sized shoes.

Avoid costume contact lenses.

· Avoid masks, but if your child must wear one, make sure it is well ventilated and does not impair his or her vision.

· Make sure that costume fabric, wigs and beards are made of flame-resistant materials, such as nylon or polyester.

 Make sure that costumes are visible at night; avoid dark colors. Add reflective tape to the costume to help make your child more visible to motor vehicles.

· Check that accessories such as swords, knives, wands and other pointed objects are made from flexible materials and have dulled

That's the list offered by the ACEP. But don't that works to improve housing, forget that children who "trick-or-treat" at socalled safe, community sponsored events still need to do so with adult supervision.

And most importantly, if you happen to be out driving Saturday night, take extra caution. Make sure any youngster wrapped up in the excitement of trick-or-treating that does venture into your path doesn't become a heartbreaking statistic.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.

Sign your letter.

· Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.

We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.

· We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter

per 30-day period per author. · Letters that are unsigned or do not include a tele-

phone number or address will not be considered. · Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring

Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we let our heavenly thoughts shine for You, Lord.

Need more fun in your life?

erhaps you're among the three million people who watched the You-Tube video of the piano stairs. Volkswagen has initiated the fun theory which asserts that fun is the easiest way to change people's

behavior for the better. And there's a contest currently underway exploring such questions as "Can fun make more people exercise?" or "Is entertainment the solution to litter?" I wasn't sur-

prised that turning stairs into a life-size piano resulted in more

people taking the stairs rather than the escalator. I would definitely choose the musical option as the fun way to go. What' your idea of fun?

This is the question I recently

asked several friends and family members. Everyone defined fun a bit differently. However, the idea of fun people most often noted is time spent with family, friends or a spouse. There were two overwhelm-

ing commonalities for having fun — being outdoors and being outdoors doing some physical activity. So maybe fun is already making people exercise more.

Folks noted "fun" as taking a walk, watching a sunset, water skiing, horseback riding, watching or playing baseball or ice hockey, attending a football game, swimming, gardening, going for a long run, sitting on the creek bank fishing, climbing a mountain, having a picnic when it's sweater weather and sitting out on the patio late at night with the tiki torches lit and a fire in the chiminea.

The latter sounds like my kind of fun!

There were other fun ideas that didn't necessarily require being outdoors, but they did require getting out of the house. This kind of fun was described as going out to dinner, shopping for shoes, attending live music concerts, visiting cool architectural spaces, exploring art exhibits and going country western dancing. I think my first vote of a fun pastime would be shopping for shoes, with going out to dinner a close second! But apparently many people

also have fun inside the comfort of their homes and sometimes even when they are alone.

Folks mentioned such merriments as cooking, taking a Sunday afternoon nap, reading a good book, dancing when no one else is watching, playing with kittens and puppies, surfing the web, exploring spiritual truths to their depth, as well as cooking and doing art work with grand-

These all sound good to me, but I don't have grandchildren yet. I certainly always loved cooking and doing artwork with my daughter throughout her growing up years.

One friend mentioned the excitement she feels every time she sees the beach. The exhilaration and jubilation is mutual. mv friend!

Another mentioned traveling and cruising with friends as her idea of enjoyment. Sounds fun

I was captured by the idea one friend shared: "Doing new things but not quite the "jump off the cliff in my wing suit" level." Did you see that YouTube video? I'm quite sure I'm not ready to take flight in a wing suit, but I do love the idea of doing new things and traveling to new places as a preferred choice of recreation and amusement. Or as another friend said it, "Doing something unusual that's not part of my daily routine — letting go of inhibitions.'

A couple of friends shared some ideas of fun which may best describe my current longing. One said, "Laughing so hard that tears roll down my cheeks." And yet another friend summed up fun as "Anything that gets me to stop thinking and just 'be' - shopping, singing, dancing, laughing, or any combination of those."

Sometimes I think too much about everything that's going on in my life or a family member's life or what's on the news. And I want to stop thinking and just have fun the way I do when I'm at Disneyworld!

But one very wise friend reminded me that there is always joy to be found in everything. And she's right. Thanks for the reminder. A change in my point of view has often changed my outlook from drudgery to joy.

The idea of having fun may sometimes seem far away, unreachable or unattainable. But I think this could be due to a limited view of what having fun means or under what conditions that fun is supposed to happen.

Perhaps we need to broaden and expand our definition. My friends and family members have certainly given me more possibilities of fun to consider. And hopefully, you'll find their list helpful as well.

And finally in the words of yet another thoughtful friend - "May we all find a little fun whenever we need it." Or maybe – we could make our own fun by imagining our favorite song playing while we dance up the

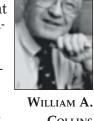
Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. Her columns are published weekly by numerous websites and newspapers. E-mail her at annettebridges@gmail.com



Voters just get in the way

ou may have read about the Republican war on Acorn. That's the national non-profit agency expand voter registration, and address other social conditions

among the poor. Some of Acorn's youthful staff were caught in stupid but trivial acts that tarnished the organization's image. Alert Republicans are now desperately trying to parlay this witlessness into getting Acorn out of the registration business altogether. Their accomplices, the banks, also



COLLINS

The press seems eager to support this quest. It's focusing entirely on the minor offenses while turning a blind eye to the Republican national campaign to suppress expanded voting. No, not all voting; just the casting of ballots by poor, minority, and immigrant voters, who might be tempted to cast a ballot for youknow-who.

want to get Acorn out of the bor-

rower assistance business.

Of course voter suppression is scarcely new. At independence the franchise was limited to property-owning men. Tenants came later, then blacks, then women. Today voting in many states is limited to those who can picture ID, which can behard to come by for those without cars or spare time.

Registration too, can be a hurdle. In some nations it's automatic upon attainment of voting age or citizenship. But here it"s a privilege that must be earned by getting to the right place at the right time. For twojob workers in restrictive states, it sometimes doesn't seem worth the effort.

Hurdles for certain other groups are higher yet. Studies have found that overseas military personnel rarely get their votes counted due to postal issues and bureaucracy. Released felons have a tough time too. Each state has its own barriers to their registration and some never let them vote again. So much for paying your debt to

The Republican argument for strewing so many barriers before the voting booth is forthright. They wish to prevent "fraud." Unfortunately the press is given to accepting this claim at face value, despite studies which have concluded that voter fraud in this country is about as common as appearances of Halley's Comet.

Nor is it hard to see what Republicans are worried about. In last year's election unregistered African-Americans came out of the woodwork to sign up to vote. And additional battalions who

the perfect storm that the GOP had long dreaded. Now the Party is redoubling its efforts to head off any such future disasters and

Acorn is its convenient target. Another battlefield in this war involves campaign financing. Years ago Congress provided public funds for the presidential race, but the amounts prescribed have long since been outdated. Thus the rich are once again dominating as we saw last year. Worse yet, our new activist conservative Supreme Court may be on the verge of letting corporations directly contribute to campaigns. Up to now laws have prohibited that.

Fortunately, at the state level Arizona, Maine and Connecticut have all upgraded democracy by giving public funds to qualifying legislative candidates. Lobbyists and Republicans are furious at this erosion of elitist control of government, but the resulting independence from undue influence has been striking. And Connecticut just bravely voted to protect its system in the face of major budget cuts.

But the war to control who can vote and who can run for office never ends. Just now it's the Republicans who wish to prevent minorities and the poor from doing either, and Acorn has carelessly let itself become a hapless banner in their crusade.

William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.

were already registered but sel-Amen acquire a government-issued dom vote did so this time. It was

News in brief

Search continues for Navy

plane missing off coast

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — The Coast Guard says an overnight search yielded no sign of a Navy plane and two pilots who failed to return from a flight. Petty Officer Randy Hale early Thursday told

The Associated Press that search aircraft were out all night and "we haven't been able to find anything as of yet." The search began Wednesday afternoon for the

crew of a Navy T-34 training aircraft when a controller at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi lost contact with the pair.

The single-engine trainer's last known location was near San Jose Island, east of Rockport and 2 miles off shore in the Gulf of Mexico.

Charges downgraded against Houston boy over death

HOUSTON(AP) — A capital murder charge has been downgraded against a boy who was 12 when he was accused of killing a baby.

A Harris County grand jury has now charged the juvenile with felony injury to a child over the March death of the 10-month-old boy.

Defense attorney Ronald Ray on Wednesday told the Houston Chronicle that the maximum possible penalty, 40 years behind bars, remains unchanged.

Other children at the home told investigators that the 12-year-old threw Deandre Washington to the floor. The suspect's family alleges that the baby's 7-year-old brother tossed the infant, who had been crying, down some stairs or over a second-floor railing.

Texas inmates not priority for swine flu vaccine

AUSTIN (AP) — State health officials say Texas prisoners are not a priority to get swine flu vaccine and will not be vaccinated ahead of the general

The Department of State Health Services says Texas has not allocated any H1N1 vaccine to prisons yet. Texas is initially targeting priority groups most at risk, such as pregnant women.

DSHS says health care providers who serve pregnant women in prisons have requested the vaccine. A statement Wednesday said it is unclear when Texas will be able to fill those orders "given the limited national supply of the vaccine.'

Texas prison officials previously said the system has asked for more than 158,000 doses of swine flu vaccine to inoculate inmates.

Lawyer: Texas man dumped body, didn't kill toddler

GALVESTON (AP) — A man accused of slaying his 2-year-old stepdaughter put her body in the trash and dumped in it the Galveston Bay but he didn't kill her, his lawyer told jurors on

Royce Clyde Zeigler II, 26, is charged with capital murder in the death 2-year-old Riley Ann Sawyers, whose body was discovered in a plastic box on an island in the bay in 2007. Before her remains were identified, Riley was called "Baby Grace" until news accounts helped relatives in Ohio recognize and identify her.

Zeigler's wife and Riley's mother, 21-year-old

FREE to Public ** Senior Adults **

Big Spring Senior Center Friday, October 30, 2009 Sponsored by BIG SPRING RSVP/ **BIG SPRING SENIOR CENTER**

9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

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* * * FREE ADMISSION * * *

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Sponsored by Canterbury Retirement Homes, Inc. **CANTERBURY SOUTH**

> 1700 Lancaster 6:00 P.M. Chili Supper

(There will be NO Dance at the Senior Center on this Friday night)

7:00-10:00 p.m. Dance

* * * FREE ADMISSION * * *

Kimberly Dawn Trenor, in February was convicted of capital murder and sentenced to life in prison. Prosecutors allege that the couple beat the child and threw her to a tile floor, which fractured

During Wednesday's opening statements, defense attorney Neal Davis III said his client walked into the family's home in Spring, a Houston suburb, to find his wife with her unconscious child in July

"He put her in a trash bag and in another container and put it in the bay," Davis told jurors.

"There is not one iota of evidence that Royce Zeigler knowingly, intentionally or in any way caused the death of Riley Sawyers," Davis said. "He is not only not guilty, he is innocent."

But Galveston County prosecutor Kayla Allen told jurors that Zeigler lied repeatedly to investigators, giving them conflicting statements on the girl's death.

"Royce Clyde Zeigler and Kimberly lied to everyone they could lie to," Allen said. "They lied to their family, co-workers and police over and over."

Testimony begins in

second 'Baby Grace' trial

GALVESTON (AP) — Prosecutors showed a Galveston County jury video of the stepfather of the girl known as "Baby Grace" admitting to dumping her body in Galveston Bay.

Jurors viewed the video after hearing opening statements from prosecutors and attorneys for Royce Clyde Zeigler II. He's charged with capital murder in the death of 2-year-old Riley Ann

The unidentified body of the 2-year-old girl was discovered in a plastic box on an island in Galveston Bay in 2007. She was called "Baby Grace" until news accounts helped relatives in Ohio recognize and identify her.

Man draws life sentence

for SMU student's overdose

DALLAS (AP) — A 48-year-old man has drawn a life sentence for supplying lethal drug doses to a Southern Methodist University student.

James McDaniel was sentenced Wednesday in federal court in Dallas after he was convicted last spring of several drug-related charges. One was possession of a controlled substance resulting in

Prosecutors presented evidence that McDaniel targeted SMU students with his poker and cocaine operation, and that 21-year-old Meaghan Bosch was one of them.

Trial testimony showed that Bosch was last seen alive but unconscious at McDaniel's home near the SMU campus on May 11, 2007. Three days later, her body was found in a portable toilet at a construction site in Hewitt, near Waco.



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267-6344

News in brief

government-run insurance

WASHINGTON (AP)

Pelosi, D-Calif., wants to have the legislation on the floor next week, the Capitol.

During the transition years from 2010-2013, a temporary government program would help people turned down by private insurers because of medical problems, lawmakers said. After that, insurers no longer could refuse to provide coverage to the sick, nor could they charge more because

ment on employers to offer insurance to their workers or face penalties

orders to stay home Thursday, one day after Taliban militants stormed a

eight people in a brazen attack that is forcing the world body to re-evaluate its mission in the war-ravaged nation.

The attack underscored the risks facing U.N. and Afghan officials in organizing a runoff election following the fraud-marred first-round vote Aug. 20, and the massive challenge for the U.S.-led military force in curbing the determined Taliban insurgency. NATO said two members of its military operation in Afghanistan were killed in bomb blasts in the south Wednesday, including one

The guest house assault, which left five foreign U.N. staff and three Afghans dead, demonstrated the ease with which Taliban militants can penetrate the relative safety of Kabul. A Taliban spokesman said the attack was aimed at undermining the Nov. 7 presidential election runoff; the target was a small hotel home to the largest concentration of U.N. staffers working on the election.

U.N. spokesman Aleem Siddique said at least nine U.N. staff who survived the two-hour assault on the Bakhtar guest house will be evacuated to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates on Thursday.

The U.N. has ordered its employees to remain "on lockdown," with their movements restricted, Siddique said Thursday, declining to give details for security reasons. Another U.N. staffer said that meant most staff were staying home.

Obama considers backing Afghan war commander's strategy, but with fewer troops

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is considering a scaled-down version of the war plan advanced by his top Afghanistan commander, Gen. Stanley McChrystal, U.S. officials say.

Such a narrowed military mission would increase American forces to accomplish the commander's broadest goals of protecting Afghan cities and key infrastructure. But with fewer troops, the strategy likely would cut back on McChrystal's ambitious objectives, amounting to what one official described as "McChrystal Light."

Senior White House officials Wednesday stressed, however, that the president has not settled on any new troop numbers and continues to debate other strategic approaches to the 8-year-old Afghanistan war. The officials say Obama has not yet settled on the narrowed option or any other as his final choice for how to overhaul the war effort.

Two officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because Obama has not announced his decision, said the troop numbers probably would be lower than McChrystal's preference. at least at the outset. The officials did not divulge exact numbers.

A stripped-down approach would signal caution in widening a war that is going worse this year than last despite intense U.S. attention and an additional 21,000 U.S. forces sent there on Obama's watch.

Obama administration presses Congress for new powers to dismantle nonbank firms

WASHINGTON (AP) — A year after Lehman Brothers collapsed, helping to trigger the worst financial crisis in seven decades, the Obama administration is pressing Congress for the power to dismantle other nonbank firms considered so large and influential that they could bring down the entire economy.

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner was asking a House panel on Thursday to pass legislation that would enable federal regulators to identify and monitor big financial firms and step in to wind them down before they collapse.

The proposal, worked out in an agreement with House Financial Committee Chairman Barney Frank, D-Mass., also will give new powers to the Federal Reserve to enforce tougher requirements for these "too-big-to-fail" companies.

The bill is aimed at preventing another Lehman situation in which government officials watched helplessly as nervous investors withdrew funds from money markets and credit

The alternative would have been a hefty federal bailout, which the government later approved for insurance giant American International Group another influential financial firm outside regulators' control because it wasn't a bank.

Clinton meets with Pakistani students in lively Q & A

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Thursday that Pakistan had little choice but to take a more aggressive approach, starting last summer, to combatting Taliban and other extremist forces that threaten to destabilize the country.

In a lively give-and-take with students at the Government College of Lahore, Clinton said inaction by the government would have amounted to ceding ground to terrorists.

"If you want to see your territory shrink, that's your choice," she said, adding that she believed it would be a bad choice.

Clinton likened Pakistan's situation with Taliban forces taking over substantial swaths of land in the Swat valley and in areas along the Afghan border — to a theoretical advance of terrorists into the United States from across the Canadian border. It would be unthinkable, she said, for the U.S. government to decide, "Let them have Washington (state)" first, then Montana, then the sparsely populated Dakotas, because those states are far from the major centers of population and power on the East Coast.

Clinton was responding to a student who suggested that Washington was forcing Pakistan to use military force on its own territory. It was one of several questions from the students that raised doubts about the relationship between the United States and

Obama honors return of fallen soldiers at Dover Air Force Base as Afghan war toll rises

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. (AP) — President Barack Obama made a midnight dash to this air base Wednesday to honor the return of fallen soldiers, absorbing the ultimate cost of war as the United States endures its deadliest month of the Afghanistan campaign.

On a clear fall night, Obama flew by Marine One helicopter to Dover Air Force Base to greet the flag-draped cases of 18 Americans killed in action After landing, the president, wear-

ing a dark topcoat, got into a motorcade to a base chapel, where he met privately with families of the fallen He had arrived on the base at 12:34 a.m. Thursday and was expected to

be back at the White House before Obama was taking part in a solemn process, to unfold in four movements: the transfer of the fallen 15 soldiers

and three Drug Enforcement Agency

agents from the back of the C-17 to a transport vehicle to a base mortuary. As part of the official party, Obama was to go on the plane, each time witnessing silently as a chaplain said a prayer for the fallen, the family, the country and the war effort.

4 teens charged in alleged gang rape of Calif. girl could

appear in court today today RICHMOND, Calif. (AP) — Four teens could appear in court as early as Thursday after being charged in the alleged gang rape of a 15-year-old girl outside her high school homecoming

dance in Northern California. The four — ages 15, 16, 17 and 19 were charged Wednesday with rape and enhancements that they acted in concert, which could make them

eligible for life in prison. "These are people who played a significant role in the incident," Richmond Police Lt. Mark Gagan said. "I'm confident that more arrests will be made."

Besides rape, the 19-year-old, Manuel Ortega of Richmond, was charged with robbery and assault causing great bodily injury. It was unknown if he had an attorney.

The other three face one count each of felony rape with a foreign object.

Stimulus jobs claims



Mesothelioma is a form of cancer that develop Willis Law Firm in the cells in the linings of the lungs, heart and stomach. These tissues are called mesothelial cells and they become infected by inhaling dust from HOUSTON, TEXAS

asbestos fibers. Mesothelioma may occur to worker that were exposed to asbestos from the 1940's through the 1980's. If you or a loved one have been diagnosed with

nesothelioma, asbestos lung or throat cancer,

lines do apply, so don't wait. Cases taken on a

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lease call to discuss your legal rights. Filing dead

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overstated by thousands

WASHINGTON (AP) An early progress report on President Barack Obama's economic recovery plan overstates by thousands the number of jobs created or saved through the stimulus program, a mistake that White House officials promise will be corrected in future reports. The government's first

accounting of jobs tied to the \$787 billion stimulus program claimed more than 30,000 positions paid for with recovery money. But that figure is over-

stated by least 5,000 jobs, according to an Associated Press review of a sample of stimulus contracts.

The AP review found some counts were more

House Democrats to

unveil health bill with

months of contentious negotiating, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi prepared to unveil a retooled health care overhaul plan intended to bridge differences among Democrats and open a history-making floor debate on extending health insurance to nearly

with a final vote before Veterans Day, Nov. 11, that would give President Barack Obama a bill to sign by year's end, numerous Democratic officials said. She planned a formal announcement of the bill Thursday in front of The bill would require nearly every-

one by 2013 to sign up through their employer, a government program or a new kind of purchasing pool called an exchange. Tax credits would be available for most of those buying coverage through the exchange. They would have the option of picking a new government plan or private

of poor health of the insured. The plan also calls for a significant expansion of Medicaid, the federalstate health program for low-income people. And it would impose a require-

UN re-evaluates Afghan mission after bloody attack KABUL (AP) — Traumatized U.N. staff in Afghanistan were under

guest house in the capital and killed WE WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO

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- * We believe that loving people, in both word and deed, is a commandment that God expects us to obey, and its a commandment that we want to obey.
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- * We believe in salvation by grace through faith, and that the believer is then kept secure by the power of God.
- * We believe in the baptism of believers only, by immersion. We believe that the New Testament church is God's authorized administrator of baptism.
- * We believe in having a strong missions program. We help support 165 mission families every month.
- * We strive to be a heavenly correct church rather than a politically correct church. For instance, we believe that homosexuality, abortion, adultery, the use of alcohol, loose living, etc. are sins against God.
- * We believe that Jesus is going to return soon to rapture His children.
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Page 7 Thursday, October 29, 2009

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Big Spring tries to rebound from first loss



Herald photo / Tony Claxton

Montae Anderson puts a move on a Cougar at Shotwell Stadium in Abilene Friday. Anderson was held under 100 yards for the first time this season in a 21-18 loss. The Steers play San Angelo Lake View Friday.

By Joe Zigtema

Sports Editor

Every Big Spring Steer felt the sting of his first loss Friday in Abilene.

But as head coach Phillip Ritchey said, the Steers understand they face two key games down the home stretch of their regular season, the first of which comes against San Angelo Lake View.

"We've been in this situation a couple times this year coming off of big games," Ritchey said. "After watching (Monday's) practice that kind of put my mind at ease because our kids were really

focused. This game is really more important than last week's game as far as the small school division playoffs go because we've got Hereford and Lake View and they're both along with us small schools.

"We're playing to get in the playoffs this week and I don't think we'll have any trouble getting ready for it."

Big Spring holds a 16-7 all-time advantage over the Chiefs, including a 42-32 win last year that propelled the Steers through the regular season and into the playoffs. Lake View (2-6, 1-2) lost 32 seniors from that team, returning 15 lettermen.

The Chiefs are coming off a 49-14 loss to Hereford at home and are needing a win to wrap up a playoff spot.

See **STEERS**, page 8



Lake View **Big Spring**



When: 7:30 p.m. Friday Where: Memorial Stadium

Game-time weather: Partly Cloudy, 55°F

Coahoma hosts district leader for 2nd straight week

By Joe Zigtema

Sports Editor

COAHOMA — Call them the cardiac kids.

The Coahoma Bulldogs were clinging to a 14-13 lead and were 12 seconds away from pulling off an upset of rival Colorado City Friday night when a pass from Colorado City quarterback Derek Gainey was tipped by two Bulldogs into the hands of Tyler Higgins for the game-winning touch-



Coahoma at

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday

Where: Hawk Stadium **Game-time weather**: Partly Cloudy, 58°F

down. The Bulldogs lost 21-14.

That came a week removed from a 31-29 thriller over Ballinger on the road for Coahoma's first district win of the season.

Now the Bulldogs will make another upset bid against Wall (6-2, 3-0), who is tied with Colorado City atop the 7-2A district standings. A win against the Hawks would likely lock up a postseason berth for the 4-4 Bulldogs, who are tied with Jim Ned

for the third postseason berth in the district.

Coahoma fell just short of upsetting the Hawks last year, scoring two scores late to get within four points before losing 28-24.



Coahoma Bulldog Lupe Abrego carries the ball against Tahoka on Sept. 18. See BULLDOGS, page 8 The Bulldogs will hope to upset Wall on the road tonight.

Forsan tries for first district win against undefeated Seagraves



Forsan runningback Ty Johnson scoots around end Friday against Plains. The Buffs lost 35-26.

By Joe Zigtema

Sports Editor

FORSAN — Coming off a closer-than-expected homecoming loss to district-leading Plains last week, Forsan welcomes another district leader to Buffalo Stadium with upset in mind.

The Buffaloes (2-6, 0-3) need a win against Seagraves (7-1, 3-0) to stay alive in the playoff race in District 2-1A and are looking to build off a third quarter in which Forsan scored 19 unanswered points against the Cowboys in a 35-26 loss, the highest point total for the Buffaloes this season.

It started midway through the third quarter, when a blocked punt gave the Buffs a short field to work with. Quarterback Foster Burchett took a keeper 17 yards for a score, and less than three minutes later he was in the end zone again, this

See **BUFFALOES**, page 8



Plains at Forsan



When: 7:30 p.m. Friday Where: Buffalo Stadium

Game-time weather: Partly Cloudy, 55°F

CROSSROADS FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

WEEK 9

Lake View (2-6, 1-2)at **Big Spring** (7-1, 2-1)

Coahoma (4-4, 1-2)at Wall (6-2, 3-0)

Seagraves (7-1, 3-0)at Forsan (2-6, 0-3)

Loraine (2-5, 0-3)at Grady (5-3, 2-1)

Water Valley (6-2, 1-1)at **Garden City** (7-1, 3-0)

Sands (7-1, 1-1)at **Buena Vista** (3-5, 1-1)

Sports in brief

County roping event on schedule

A county roping event is schedule for Nov. 15 at the Howard County Youth Horseman Club.

The event is open to residents of Howard, Glassock, Martin and Borden counties.

Books open at noon.

For more information, contact Diane at (432) 267-8041, or e-mail her at dhofacket@yahoo.com.

Play-in game set for Big Spring volleyball

The Lady Steers will take on the Lake View Maidens in a play-in game scheduled Friday in Colorado City for the district's fourth playoff spot.

The match will start at 4:30 in the Colorado City junior high gym.

The Maidens defeated the Lady Steers in five sets Tuesday in San Angelo.

Big Spring to host swim invitational

The Big Spring High School Swim Invitational is scheduled for Friday and Saturday in a contest between area district teams.

The meet, scheduled to begin Friday with diving only and continue with prelims and finals Saturday, will be held at the YMCA.

This is the Steers' fourth meet of the season. They will travel to the Pecos Invitational Nov. 13-14.

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.

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



By Steve Becker

When the deal occurred, declarer

won the spade return with dummy's

the queen and ten, then led the ten of

hearts and finessed. When the ten held, a second heart was led to the jack, but declarer now found himself

If he cashed the ace of hearts and

the king did not fall, he would have to rely on a club finesse to get home

safely. Alternatively, if he led a spade

to the ace in order to repeat the heart

finesse, he could not make 12 tricks no matter what he did thereafter. In

practice, South cashed the ace of

hearts, but when the suit failed to

break and the club finesse later lost

he went down one.

Declarer could have made the

slam by timing the play better. The approach he adopted depended on

West holding three or fewer hearts to the king but did not cater to K-x-x-x

South should therefore win the

first spade in his hand with the ten,

finesse the ten of hearts and repeat

the finesse. The K-A of spades are

then cashed, drawing the missing

trumps, and a third heart finesse is

taken. After discarding a club on the

in West's hand. This holding

about a one-in-four possibility

far too significant to ignore.

A Matter of Entries

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable The bidding:

Pass

In many deals, the proper use of entries is the key to bringing about a successful resolution. Unfortunately, it is not always easy to recognize at the outset that an entry problem exists, much less to figure out what Consider this case where South is

in six spades. East takes the opening diamond lead with the ace and returns a trump. How should South

ace of hearts, declarer can claim the remainder, ruffing his losing diamond with dummy's last trump.

West

Pass

Pass

Tomorrow: Opening lead quiz. ©2009 King Features Syndicate Inc

Area 6-man district pictures clear

By Joe Zigtema

Sports Editor

Water Valley (6-2, 1-1) at Garden City (7-1, 3-0)

The Bearkats are flying high after their 72-50 win over Fort Davis last week, taking control of the Six-man Division I, District 8 standings. Water Valley travels to Garden City on Friday night to meet the U.S. Army Team of the Week in a battle of felines. Last season, the Bearkats took care of the Wildcats handily by a score of 90-44.

Water Valley is coming off an

80-30 win over Sterling City, and up against a defense that has will try to cause chaos in the district standings with an upset road win. Garden City will feed the football to workhorse runningback Josh Colunga, who racked up 336 of his team's 369 total rushing yards.

Loraine (3-5, 0-3) at Grady (5-3, 2-1)

After dropping a 54-30 decision to Ira last week, Grady will try to bounce back against district cellar-dweller Loraine.

Quarterback Dylan Cox threw four touchdowns in a loss last week and faces a favorable match-

given up more than 60 points in four games this season.

The Wildcats are headed for a collision with Spur next week in a battle for the second seed in the

Sands (7-1, 1-1)

at Buena Vista (3-5, 1-1) Sands looks to bounce back

from a loss to Ira against Buena Vista on the road Friday. The Mustangs took

Longhorns down 51-6 last year.

Running back Johnny Rogers looks to build on his 100-yard performance last week.

STEERS

Continued from page 7

Running back Montae Anderson will look to get back on track Friday night after finishing just shy of the century mark for the first time of the season last week, going for 97 yards on 31 carries.

"In every game that we've played, [Anderson has] been the main focus of the defense, but this is the first time that he's been limited like he was," Ritchey said.

Lake View will try to duplicate how the Cougars were able to stymie Big Spring's run game with a similar scheme, Ritchey said. The Chiefs' coaching staff is made up of former Cooper coaches. "We'll probably see a lot of the

same things, which is good for us because we've worked on it a week," Ritchey said. "Now we're just kind of continuing what we started last week and making some adjustments here and

Defensively, Big Spring will try to slow down Lake View quarterback Paxton Martin, who has thrown for more than 1,600 yards this season and 17 touchdowns.

"[Lake View has] had a lot of trouble running the football against everybody that they've played, so they've been forced to throw the ball a bunch," Ritchey said. "[Martin] has got a lot of yards and he's got a couple of good receivers, so I expect them to throw the ball a bunch against us because we're pretty good against the run." The Steers had trouble defend-

ing Cooper's passing attack last week, giving up most of the Cougars' 243 first-half yards through the air.

They were, however, able to intercept Cooper quarterback Ryan Heslep, his first this season and limit the Cougar offense in the second half by pressuring the quarterback. Ritchey is ready to come after Martin, who was held to just 87 yards through the air last week in a 49-14 loss to

"The key is just pressuring this guy, and it's going to be a big key Friday,

Ritchey said. "We're going to try to mix it up and keep him guessing as to what we're going to do whether we're in man or zone, with a lot of blitzing, or whether we show man and drop to a zone and rush with four. Our kids understand we've got to get to that quarterback."

Ritchey is looking for a big crowd Friday night to cheer on the Steers.

"We want to try to encourage everybody to come out and stay behind this team," he said. "We're not in the top ten anymore, but that doesn't take anything away from our team. We've got a good football team, these kids are working hard and we're going to need a lot of support to keep them pumped up."

BULLDOGS

Continued from page 7

The Buffs' defense limited the Colorado City run game to just 57 yards on 27 carries, and the offense outgained the Wolves 311-218. Luis Abrego led Coahoma in rushing and receiving, gaining 54 yards on 12 carries and hauling in nine catches for 115 yards. He scored both Coahoma touchdowns.

Abrego has scored nine of his 10 touchdowns on the year through the air, and has hauled in 48 balls for 694 yards to lead the team. Fellow receiver Ray Gutierrez has also topped 600 yards on 31 catches for six touchdowns. Luis Panigua continues to lead

a potent passing attack, throwing 129 completions on 237 attempts for 1,984 yards and 22 touchdowns to 12 interceptions. He has also run for 70 yards and two touchdowns on the season.



Continued from page 7

time from seven yards out. Ty Johnson found the end zone with seconds left in the third to make the Cowboys sweat a little before a scoreless fourth quar-

Seagraves' only loss this season has come via a 41-0 shutout at 8-0 powerhouse New Deal. The Eagles' high-powered wing T offense has scored over 30 points in every game since and returns 15 starters from the same team that beat the Buffs 21-12 in Seagraves last year.

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This week's games

Lake View at Big Spring

Water Valley at Garden City

Coahoma at Wall

Stanton at Plains

Loraine at Grady

Seagraves at Forsan

Sands at Buena Vista

Kansas at Texas Tech

Nebraska at Baylor

UNLV at TCU

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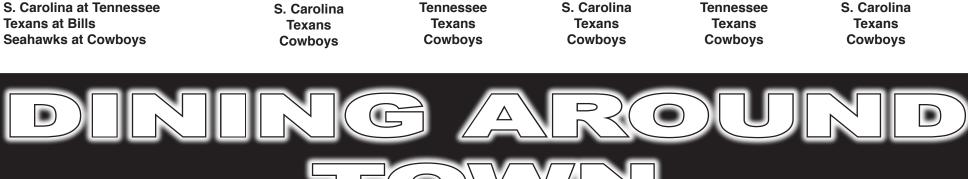
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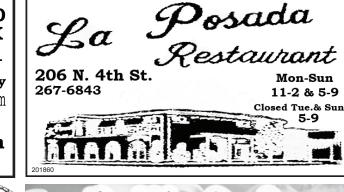




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WANNA KNOW!

SCORPIO men might

be subtle in the way

they approach their

objects of affection, but

they are not at all mild.

This passionate sign invented the phrase

"sweep her off her feet."

attention works like a

force of nature. They

are capable of creating a

title wave of feeling to

overwhelmandentrance

their subjects. Give in

to the romantic powers

of a Scorpio man and

you are in for a wild

ride. He is soulful and

interested in life on

deeper levels than most.

He sees his person of

interest as a mystery, a

puzzle to figure out. He

will endeavor to enter

the spirit of the one he

loves and understand

her inside and out. If

you want a Scorpio man

to notice you, become a

bit of an enigma. Those who spill everything

about themselves upon

first meeting will be of

no interest to this pri-

vate sign. He's riveted

by the quiet unfolding

of a woman's personali-

ty. He will be enthralled

with one who takes the

time to orchestrate a

concentrated

Their

Tomorrow's Horoscope a world-class climber.

No matter how old you become, there will always be a part of you that is still a small child, dreaming about what it will be like to be all grown up. Saturn, our planetary professor, is intent on

giving us lessons that will push us to be the kind of people we want to be. He moves into Libra now,

focusing his lessons

on realm relationships. ARIES (March 21-April 19). Someone is

HOLIDAY

MATHIS

checking you out. There is a possibility for advancement in your near future, and it's being decided right now. Present yourself like you're expecting success, and you will have it. **TAURUS** (April

20-May 20). For no particular reason, your tender heart seems particularly vulnerable. It's like your inner child has scraped a knee and needs a hug. Seek refuge in comforting arms. You will be welcomed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A change in procedure seems arbitrary and cumbersome. You want to express this to the decision makers involved, but you feel like they are so out of touch that the action is pointless. It isn't.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's like your guitar learned a new lick, your car has a new gear and you won the election because everyone wrote in your name on the ballot. The mojo is with you right now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's a challenge keeping up with you, which is why most people don't. All streaks and blurs whirlwinds and finesse, you move through the day like you were shot out of a can-

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're faced with a myriad of options. It makes you long for the day when there was only "go right" or "go left." Talk out all of your choices with a trusted friend. You will hear yourself solve your own problem.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Everything is happening so fast that it's important you make sure it's moving in the right direction. This is a fantastic time to check the progress against your big picture. Revisit, or create for the first time, that five-year plan.

SCORPIO 24-Nov. 21). Angels aren't always chubby and cherubic, and devils sometimes wear Prada. This is a good time to be skeptical of appearances. If you are patient, the situation will reveal its true nature all on its own. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov.

22-Dec. 21). You have a champion's heart with the wanderlust of a gypsy. You haven't had the chance to properly wander in a while, though. Arrange your schedule to allow for some aimless and freespirited fun. **CAPRICORN** (Dec.

22-Jan. 19). You've scaled what you thought was the mountain, but you arrived at what turned out to be a plateau. Look again. That was just the first false summit. Luckily, you're

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Silly as it is, a product you saw on television has wormed its way into your heart. Despite your better judgment, you want that

thing. So get it. A bit of trendy novelty will be, at the very least, conversational fodder. **PISCES**

19-March 20). Deep in your heart, you know what you need to do. And you have the nerve, too — something you won't discover until you're already in motion. So take action. This is the only way to honor your soul.

T O D A Y 'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 29). Your sense of identity changes and becomes stronger. More than ever, you know who you are and who you are becoming. A new hobby ignites passion in you. Pursuing a goal associated with this activity will expand your intellectual and social horizons. Higher learning leads to financial gain. Capricorn and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 3, 10. 24 and 39.

DOES HE LOVE ME? first-rate

According to the Scorpio man, each love is a story, and the best stories are steeped in sacred feeling. CELEBRITY PROFILES: This year Bill Gates tops the charts as the world's

wealthiest businessman, even though this visionary Scorpio gives billions to philanthropic endeavors through The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Born under a highly empathic Pisces moon, Gates is sensitive to the state of each person he meets. Mercury and Mars in Libra reveal a relationship-oriented personality and a true team play-

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

The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace



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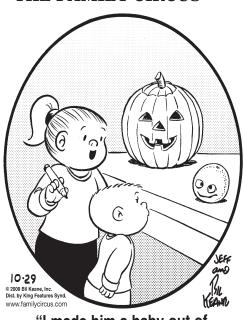
MARRIED MAN

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"GOTTA GO. My MOM'S USIN' THAT 'BOY-ARE-YOU-IN-TROUBLE-NOW VOICE!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I made him a baby out of an orange.



EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN A GIRL-WATCHER I'M A HAPPILY SINCE I WAS A YOUNG MAN!

THE GIRLS WATCHED

BACK, RIGHT?

YESSIR, I'LL WAKE HIM UP RIGHT NOW!

BUT WHEN YOU WERE A

YOUNG MAN.

BC





YOU CAN GO L00K5 HOME NOW, LIKE TIM IT'S TIME TO KICK YOUR COUSIN OUT

WIZARD OF ID







AGNES



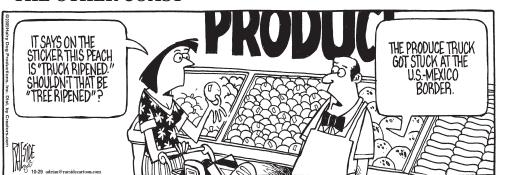




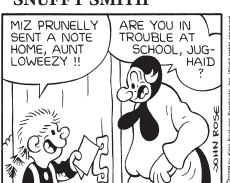
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Oct. 29, the 302nd day of 2009. There are 63 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight History:

On Oct. 29, 1929 — known as "Black Tuesday" — Wall Street crashed, heralding the beginning of the Great Depression.

On this date: In 1618, Sir Walter Raleigh, the English courtier, military

adventurer and poet, was executed in London. In 1901, President William McKinley's assassin, Leon Czolgosz, was electrocuted.

In 1923, the Republic of Turkey was proclaimed.

In 1940, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson drew the first number — 158 — in the lottery for America's first peacetime military draft.

In 1956, during the Suez Canal crisis, Israel invaded Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. "The Huntley-Brinkley Report" premiered as NBC's nightly TV newscast.

the National In 1966,

Organization for Women was formally organized during a conference in Washington, D.C.

In 1967, Expo 67 in Montreal closed after six months.

In 1979, on the 50th anniversary of the great stock market crash, anti-nuclear protesters tried but failed to shut down the New York Stock Exchange.

In 1994, gunman Francisco Martin Duran fired more than two dozen shots from a semiautomatic rifle at the White House. (Duran was later convicted of trying to assassinate President Bill Clinton and was sentenced to 40 years in pris-

In 1998, Sen. John Glenn, at age 77, roared back into space aboard the shuttle Discovery, retracing the trail he'd blazed for America's astronauts 36 years earlier. Today's Birthdays: Bluegrass

singer-musician Sonny Osborne (The Osborne Brothers) is 72. Country singer Lee Clayton is 67. Rock musi-Melba Moore is 64. Musician Peter Green is 63. Actor Richard Dreyfuss is 62. Actress Kate Jackson is 61. The president of Turkey, Abdullah Gul, is 59.

Actor Dan Castellaneta ("The Simpsons") is 52. Country musician Steve Kellough (Wild Horses) is 52. Comic strip artist Tom Wilson ("Ziggy") is 52. Actress Finola Hughes is 50. Singer Randy Jackson is 48. Rock musician Peter Timmins (Cowboy Junkies) is 44. Actress Joely Fisher is 42. Rapper Paris is 42. Actor Rufus Sewell is 42. Rock singer SA Martinez (311) is 40. Musician Toby Smith is 39. Actress Winona Ryder is 38. Actress Tracee Ellis Ross is 37. Actor Trevor Lissauer is 36. Actress Gabrielle Union is 36. Olympic gold medal bobsledder Vonetta Flowers is 36. Actress Milena Govich is 33. Actor Jon Abrahams is 32.

® 2009 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

RADAR ABCS LADS ALICE BERT AVON

cian Denny Laine is 65. Singer

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Newsday Crossword

68 Typical

Russian

69 Big heads

companion

72 Krone spender

71 Guitar parts

DOWN

2 Concert

kudos

read

1 Role player

3 Not easy to

4 Lacking valor

5 Court ritual

6 It may be

barbed

page

7 Calendario

8 Surprisingly

low price

9 Like some

laughter

14

70

70 Knight's

ACROSS

- 1 First steps
- **5** Must pay 9 Lapidary's
- weight
- **14** Gator cousin 15 Isn't wrong?
- 16 Amphitheater
- 17 "Look what I did!"
- **18** Arbor Day
- item 19 Consumer
- crusader
- 20 Wizard of Oz song
- 23 Cowboy competition
- 24 Ye __ Shoppe **25** Game with
- no winner
- 28 Bond adversary
- 33 Popular name
- for baby girls **36** Strives
- 39 "Pearl of the Antilles"
- **40** One way to
- read
- **44** One of a lake quintet
- **45** Sullen look
- **46** Survey closely **47** Sailor's anchor,
- maybe 50 Have on
- 52 Grid play
- **55** State animal of Maine
- **59** Up for auction
- 64 Vidalia or
- Bermuda 65 City on the
- Tiber 66 Animal rights
- grp. 67 Legal document

ON THE LEVEL by David W. Cromer

- 10 Qatari, e.g. 11 Change, as a room
- **12** From the top 13 Defeat
- soundly 21 Sweet treat
- **22** 5 Down
- phrase
- 26 Live and
- breathe
- **27** Sports stat
- 29 7th-century starter
- **30** Solstice time
- **31** Follow the rules
- 32 Army outpost
- 33 Assist with a felony
- 34 Aloe
- **35** Toiling away

15

37 List shortener 38 Come in third

- Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 41 Bedewed
 - 42 Flock sheep 43 Peruvian
 - beast 48 Began
 - proceedings 49 Crew-team
 - implement 51 Won easily
 - 53 Small mall
 - **54** Give a nudge **56** Resistance
 - symbol **57** First American
 - saint 58 Wipe out
 - 59 Part of BTU 60 Evening, in ads
 - 61 Parcel (out) **62** Online zine **63** Brooding
 - group
 - **64** NFL

72

16

- tiebreakers 11 12 13
- 17 18 19 20 21 23 24 26 27 25 30 31 32 33 | 34 | 35 37 | 38 39 36 40 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 53 54 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 | 63 65 66 67 69 68

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Prosecutor: Polygamist sect man assaulted teen

MICHELLE ROBERTS

Associated Press Writer

ELDORADO — A 38-year-old man from a polygamist sect sexually assaulted a teenager less than half his age at the Yearning For Zion Ranch, a prosecutor charged Wednesday to open the first criminal trial since the ranch was raided.

An attorney for defendant Raymond Jessop disputed the allegation, telling jurors there is no evidence Jessop sexually assaulted the girl in Schleicher County. The location is critical, since prosecutors must prove they have the jurisdiction to prosecute the alleged crimes.

Jessop was one of 12 members of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints charged after authorities raided the ranch last year and swept 439 children into foster care. The children were later returned to their parents after an appellate court intervened, but documents and DNA seized during the raid resulted in criminal indictments

on charges ranging from failure to report child abuse to sexual assault and bigamy.

All the men will be tried separately.

Assistant Attorney General Eric Nichols said Jessop was 33 when he had sex with a 16-yearold girl, who later gave birth to a daughter. Under Texas law, generally, no one under 17 can consent to sex with adult. Nichols did not discuss the relationship between the two in his opening statement, but prosecutors have said in court documents the teen is one of Jessop's nine wives. Jessop has also been indicted on a bigamy charge that will be tried later.

"You will see evidence that establishes that this offense — the offense of sexual assault of (the teen) — occurred just down the road from this courthouse at the YFZ Ranch," Nichols told jurors.

Defense attornev Mark Stevens said prosecutors would not be able to show evidence of a crime occurring in Texas, and he urged ju-



AP photo/Harry Cabluck

Raymond Jessop, center, the first man to face criminal charges following the raid of a polygamist sect's West Texas ranch, prepares to go through security as he returns to the courtroom during a recess in the second day of jury selection of his trial in Eldorado Tuesday.

rors not to be distracted by the alleged polygamy or the religious beliefs Jessop and the church. Broadcast images of nore during the week-

women from the church wearing prairie dresses and distinctive braids were impossible to iglong raid in April 2008. "We don't try people

because of their hairstyles or their clothes. We don't try people be-

cause of their religious practices," Stevens said. "We try people based on evidence, facts and

Annie's Mailbox ®

KATHY MITCHELL

MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: I'm a 14-year-old girl who is having relationship problems. My new boyfriend and I just hooked up over the weekend. "Carter" and I go to church together, and he has always been my best friend.

I was too shy to ask him out myself, so I had my friend "Justin" help

We got together while our youth group met at church. Everything was going perfectly.

We were holding hands and cuddling. But on Sunday morning during greeting at church, Justin came up to me and said Carter told him I'm weird to be with and there's another girl he likes more.

Justin isn't very happy with Carter, and neither am I. We both talked to my mother, and she said I should back off and let Carter chase after me if he's interested.

She says she doesn't want me to appear too easy. Is she right? What should I do? — Perfect Relationship GoneWrong

Dear Perfect: Listen your mother. Spending a morning holding hands and cuddling does not constitute a relationship. Carter was interested enough to check you out, but apparently not enough to consider you his girlfriend.

It's also possible Justin is giving you inaccurate information. Either way, it's best if you let Carter make the

Dear Annie: I find trick-or-treating annoying. I was raised in a religious group that didn't celebrate

Halloween. My mother hated having to answer the door constantly and took out her anger on me.

suggested stop opening the door or put up a sign saying, "No Trick-or-Treating h e r e please, she wouldn't. I think she was

afraid they'd throw

My brother and I still find it irritating. I don't want my doorbell ringing all night. I don't want to get up and open the door over and over.

I'm sure I'm not the only one. Think of those who are disabled or have just brought home a new baby or are caring for a sick child.

Answering the door all evening is an unwanted imposition.

also

resent these kids coming my property asking for candy. think it's just plain wrong.

What can I do to keep them away? I don't want them graffiti my

property or toilet paper my trees. I can grab them if they do, but if the police are busy, they then I'd be stuck with the kids indefinitely.

Could you put up some kind of warning in your column asking parents not to let their kids trick-or-treat unless they know the homeowner? — *Elizabeth*, N.J.

Dear N.J.: It's too bad you can't enjoy greeting children with a smile and brightening their day once a year.

Most parents supervise their kids and prefer they stay within familiar territory. And most kids will skip unwelcoming homes where the lights are off or the treat is a breath

But if vou are concerned about becoming the neighborhood curmudgeon, put out a generous basket of candy on your front steps with a big sign saying, "Please don't ring bell. might not come and Take a piece of candy. Happy Halloween." Refill it once or twice at your leisure. When the basket is empty, the kids will know the cupboard is bare.

> Dear Annie: I completely disagree with your response to "Just Wondering in Indiana,"

who was bothered by the tooth-brusher in the bowling alley restroom.

You never know someone's personal situation. What if that young girl recently underwent oral surgery and was required to keep her teeth brushed after eating?

"Indiana" should take a bottle of hand sanitizer with her and use that to cleanse her hands because brushing one's teeth is hardly the worst thing that happens in a public bathroom. --Pennsylvania

Dear Pennsylvania: We were surprised by who like to brush in public places. As we said, if there is a good reason to be brushing in the restroom, fine, but in general, personal hygiene should be done at home, and we are

sticking with that. Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies mailbox@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, Creators theSyndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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