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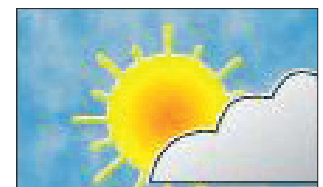


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BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

MARCH 12, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 82

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Suspected child murderer apprehended

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer
A Missouri man wanted in connection with the beating death of a 2-year-old child was arrested in Big Spring Thursday after local law en-

forcement was contacted by the U.S. Marshals Office. Byron D. Lang, 20, was arrested near the intersection of Benton and 18th Street on a Joplin County, Mo., warrant for second-degree murder,

according to officials with the Big Spring Police Department. "Members of the Howard County Sheriff's Office and the BSPD were contacted to assist the U.S. Marshals

Service," said Tony Everett, public information officer for the BSPD. "Agents from Lubbock and Abilene were in Big Spring with information that a fugitive was hiding here. At approximately 3:20 p.m. the

suspect was located and arrested. He was a passenger in a vehicle that was stopped at the intersection." Everett said the details in See **ARREST**, Page 3A

BSHS student makes push for ag program

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer
Alyssa Byrd took her case for an agriculture program at Big Spring High School right to the top.

Byrd, a BSHS junior, addressed the school district board of trustees during their Thursday meeting and asked that they restart an agriculture program at the high school. Officials discontinued the high school ag program three years ago because of insufficient student numbers, but Byrd said interest in on the upswing.



Byrd

"I conducted a survey of 60 students — 15 from each grade — and I had a very positive response." unlimited amount of things out there that students would learn," she said, noting such FFA-sponsored activities such as speech and parliamentary procedure contests. "I feel if we added this, then there would be more for students to feel a part of at the high school."

In her efforts to jump start an ag program at BSHS, Byrd has talked to or enlisted the aid of counselors, teachers and even Superintendent Steven Saldivar. Byrd, a self-described "cow-girl," said her effort has been an eye-opener.

"It's been very nerve-wracking," she admitted. "This is

See **BSHS**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Marj Carpenter signs a copy of her latest book, "Get Your Foot Out of the Durn Petunias," for Joyce Hill during a reception in Carpenter's honor at Heritage Museum Thursday afternoon.

'Petunias' spotlights author's experiences

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

From rubbing shoulders with presidents to exposing big-time criminals, Marj Carpenter has experienced a lot over the years, and she put a lot of those experiences in her latest book.

"Get Your Foot Out of the Durn Petunias: Stories From My Life" is a collection of anecdotes that cover a wide spectrum of Carpenter's life, from childhood to her career as a reporter to her work in the Presbyterian

See **CARPENTER**, Page 3A

Man 'not guilty' of sexual assault charges, says jury

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

A Big Spring man was found not guilty of aggravated sexual assault charges in 118th District Court this week. Jacob Andrew Ferro was

acquitted of the first degree charges Wednesday following a two-day trial, Assistant District Attorney Robin D. Orr said. Ferro had been accused of forcing his girlfriend at knife-

point to engage in oral and anal sex on Aug. 4, 2008 at his residence on South Johnson Street. Orr prosecuted the case, while local attorney Robert Miller represented Ferro.

The jury took less than 30 minutes to find Ferro not guilty of the charges, Miller said. "The jury was wonderful," Miller said. "We need to recognize what a wonderful sys-

tem we have ... that will stand up to government and protect innocent people." Orr was understandably less pleased with the verdict.

See **TRIAL**, Page 3A

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www.bigspringherald.com

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What's up in Big Spring

March 13-14
Open Mixed Bowling Tournament, Big Spring Bowl-A-Rama, 267-7484

March 25
Healthy Woman, "Is it Hot in Here?" Hormone Therapy: Truth or Fiction, Dr. Keith Ledford, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 268-4842

March 26
MHMR Hoops Dreams & Goals Basketball Tournament, 263-0007 x256

March 27
Big Spring Symphony Pops Extravaganza featuring Paul Williams, 264-7223

March 27-28
United Way Golf Tournament, Big Spring Country Club, 267-5354

March 27-28
Rattlesnake Roundup, Howard County Fair Barn, 263-3409

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Hawks national tournament sendoff Sunday

BY CINDY SMITH

Special to the Herald

A "Hawk Basketball Send-Off" is scheduled for 1 p.m. Sunday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the campus of Howard College to show support for the Region V Champion Howard College Hawk basketball team as they head on their way to the NJCAA Men's

National Basketball Championship Tournament in Hutchison, Kan.

The community is encouraged to come out and give the Hawks one more big boost as they take off on their journey to the National Tournament.

"Everyone has been so supportive of this team and we really appreciate it," said head coach

Mark Adams. "We want a big crowd here Sunday. It means a lot to these guys to have this kind of fan support."

The Hawks kick off their quest for a national championship Wednesday at 1 p.m. against Southeastern Illinois College.

Southeastern Illinois will face the Region 24 tournament as the No. 4

seed, beating first No. 13 John A Logan and then No. 16 Wabash College to make the national tournament.

The Falcons have won nine straight games heading into Wednesday's matchup against Howard, which has won 13 straight.

Region V Champion shirts will be available for sale through the coliseum office today until

6 pm; on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon and then again at the send off on Sunday at 1 p.m.

The shirts are \$15 each.

Other HC shirts and attire are available at the Howard College Bookstore during regular business hours this week.

Come on out, wear some red and black and join us as we pump up

the spirit and send the Hawks off in style.

The national tournament will be held March 16-20. Once again, the games will be available through a live video stream as well as radio broadcast on KBST.

Both links along with more information regarding schedules and tournament information can be found at www.hchawk.com

Steers fall to Pecos in tournament

BY JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

The Big Spring Steers played one bad inning against Midland High's junior varsity early in the West Texas March Classic in Midland Thursday.

The Steers held on to win 6-5 over the Bulldogs, but they followed that inning with an 8-3 nightcap against Pecos (2-6) at Citibank Ballpark.

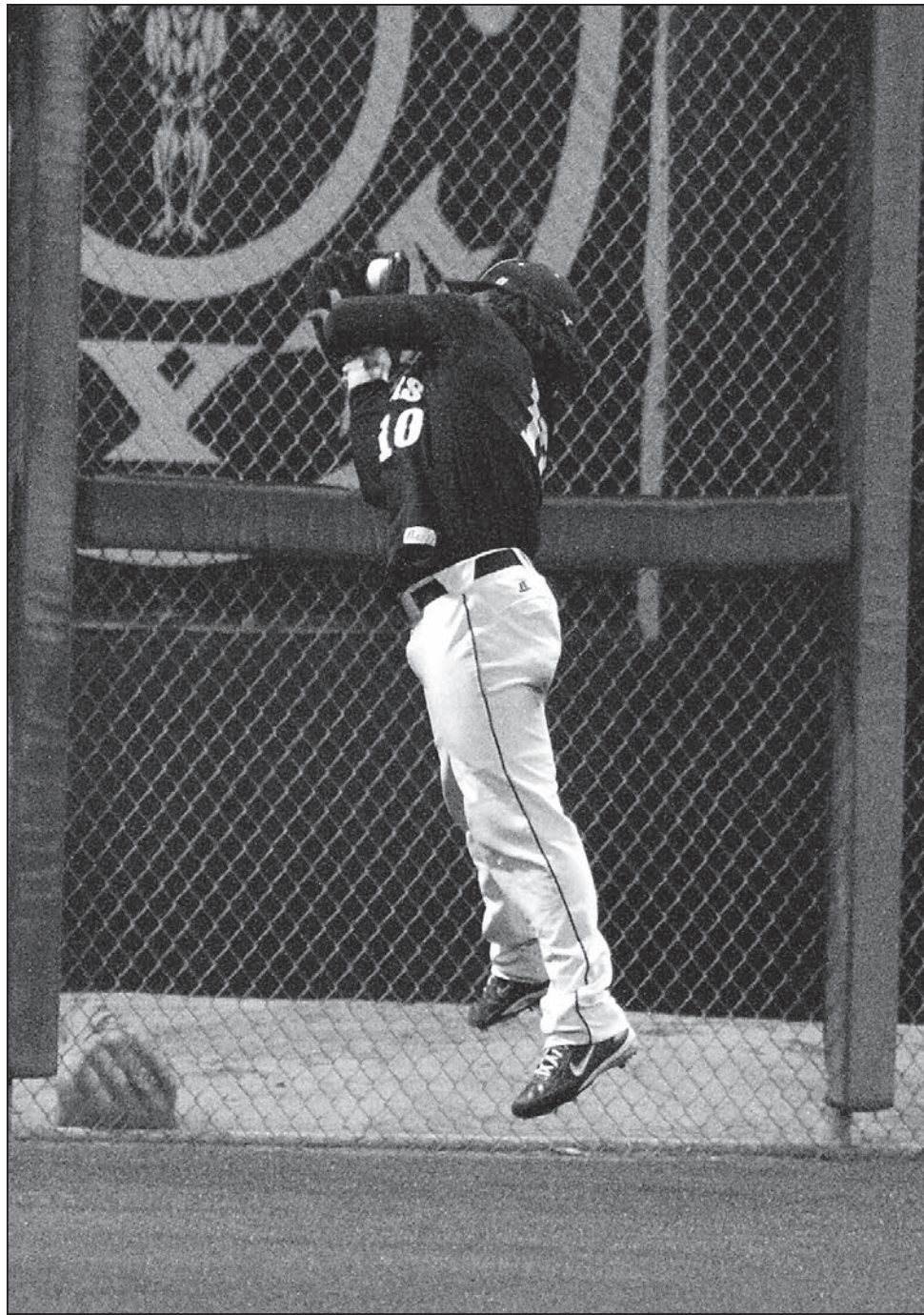
The Steers fell behind early against Pecos ace Matthew Rodriguez and couldn't recover as they fell 8-3 in five innings.

"We're not disappointed," Steers coach Bert Otto said. "We got beat. We didn't do anything to contribute to us getting beat. Pecos came out on fire, and they hit the ball where we weren't, and we hit the ball to where they were."

The Eagles got to Big Spring pitcher Max Papajohn in the early frames, putting up a three-spot in the first and runs in each of the first four innings. Papajohn tossed the full five, allowing nine hits and seven earned runs.

"They've got a lot of tradition," Otto said of Pecos, which improved to 2-6 on the young season. "They know how to win. You can't explain why everything we hit hard went to their gloves and everything they hit went to the alleys."

The Steers didn't get a



HERALD PHOTO/Tony Claxton

Steers left fielder Michael Felton makes an over-the-shoulder catch at Citibank Ballpark in Midland on Thursday. The Steers are 1-1 going into their second day of the West Texas March Classic.

lot going early, though they scratched out eight hits in the game. Xavian Parnell scored the first Big Spring run in the fourth frame, part of a 3-for-3 performance. Papajohn helped his own cause in the fifth by follow-

ing a Jacob Acosta triple with an RBI three-bagger of his own and was later knocked in on an Anthony Saracho single.

Big Spring played against No. 8 Presidio today at 8 a.m. and plays Seminole tonight at

8:30 p.m. at Greenwood High School.

"I just want to see how we react to an early game and a late game, and see what our mental makeup is," Otto said. "I want to see how we can rise to an occasion."

Baylor beats Texas; to face Wildcats next

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Lacey Darius Dunn went from no factor in the first half to leading factor in the second.

Benched with three fouls and only two points less than 5 minutes into the game, Dunn exploded for 17 points after intermission and No. 21 Baylor romped past Texas 86-67 Thursday night in a Big 12 semifinal match between old and bitter rivals.

"I wanted to come out and help my team," said Dunn, the Big 12's second-leading scorer. "I just wanted to do what I've been doing all year, whatever it takes to get the victory."

Epke Udoh, the Big 12's newcomer of the year, scored 25 points for the third-seeded Bears (25-6), who will meet No. 2 seed Kansas State in the semis.

Damion James had 18 points and 12 rebounds for his second straight double-double for Texas (24-9) but the all-conference senior drew one of Texas' two technicals and fouled out with 2:43 left. A few seconds later, center Dexter Pittman also fouled out for Texas, which started the season 17-0 and climbed to No. 1 before falling out of the rankings.

"I think it sums up our whole season in the last couple of months," Texas coach Rick Barnes said. "We went through a 4- or 5-min-

ute period where we just came unraveled. Someone thinks, 'I've got to go do it to turn it around,' as opposed to staying together. The game I think pretty much sums up the inconsistencies that we've had all year."

Tweety Carter had 20 points for Baylor, which swept Texas three in a row this season for the first time since 1981-82. Altogether, the Bears are on a four-game winning streak against the school that had long dominated them.

"I know Texas is a very good team," Baylor coach Scott Drew said. "And coach Barnes does a great job. He's made it an elite program in the nation. Any time you're doing something well."

Baylor managed to take a 43-39 lead into halftime in spite of getting only two points from Dunn. He and Texas' J'Covan Brown each drew a technical foul right past the 4-minute mark of the first half when players on each team began taunting.

Officials acted quickly before things got out of hand between the two rivals who were playing for the 234th time.

"I just got caught up in the moment," Dunn said. "One of my players got into it with one of theirs, and I got caught up in the

See **TEXAS**, Page 2B

Aggies eliminate chance for cinderella-minded Nebraska 70-64

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Nebraska missed its chance to make some history at the Big 12 tournament.

Donald Sloan scored 23 points, Bryan Davis had a key three-point play at the 1:01 mark and No. 23 Texas A&M stopped the upset-minded

Cornhuskers 70-64 in a close and cleanly contested quarterfinal Thursday.

Nebraska, trailing all game while trying to become the first No. 12 seed to win two Big 12 games, got close in the final minutes but Sloan and Khris Middleton hit big shots to keep the Huskers at bay.

"We really executed against the zone late," Aggies coach Mark Turgeon said. "Wish our defense would have been a little bit better down the stretch."

After Nebraska cut the lead to 62-58 with 1:35 left on Sek Henry's 3-pointer, Davis managed to get behind the Nebraska defense for

a layup, was fouled by Jorge Brian Diaz and made the free throw.

In Friday's semifinals, the Aggies (23-8) get a rematch with No. 1 Kansas, which beat them last month 59-54.

"I think our guys are ready," Sloan said. "We're prepared."

Nebraska (15-18), which won only two of

16 regular-season conference games but beat No. 5 seed Missouri in the first round, will sit out the NCAA tournament for the 12th straight season.

But coach Doc Sadler pointed to his team's hard-fought games in the tournament as evidence of a spirit and heart that belies its

record.

"I hear stories that athletics is supposed to teach you lifelong lessons. If that's the case, then these guys are going to be very, very successful people because their character is unbelievable."

Ryan Anderson had 16

See **A&M**, Page 2B

Sports in brief

Howard baseball, softball hosting games this weekend

The Howard Hawks baseball and softball teams are hosting doubleheaders through the weekend at the college.

The softball team hosts two with Odessa starting at 1 p.m. today. The series switches to Odessa Saturday. The baseball team, ranked No. 3 in the nation, hosts Saturday and Sunday doubleheaders against Seward.

Forsan to host defending state champ

The Forsan Buffaloes have a big test looming today as they host defending state champion Miles on the diamond at Forsan High School.

The Buffs are 8-0 on the season, picking up their first district win against Ira on Tuesday.

The Lady Buffs softball team will also be in action at Winters today before playing Coahoma Saturday. Check the weekend edition of the *Herald* for results

Bulldogs fall twice at Midland tournament

The Coahoma Bulldogs have a tough go of things Thursday at the West Texas March Classic in Midland.

The Bulldogs dropped a 13-0 decision to Lubbock Cooper and an 11-1 score to Midland High's junior varsity.

Coahoma is back on the diamond today against Seminole at 1 p.m. and Pecos at 4 p.m.

Police blotter

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

- GREGORY MCDANIEL, 46, of 704 Borben, was arrested Thursday on charges of theft and failure to appear.
- ROSENDO ROBLES, 30, of 806 Douglas, was arrested Thursday on two local warrants.
- ELVIS EUGENE LANG, 35, of 2619 Langley, was arrested Thursday on a local warrant.
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - TWO OUNCES OR LESS was reported in the 1800 block of Benton.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported: In the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. In the 1500 block of State. In the 4200 block of Hamilton.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 53 inmates at the time of this report.

- JONATHAN JOEL GUTIERREZ, 18, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- ELVIS EUGENE LANG, 34, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a municipal warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- BRYON DEWAYNE LANG, 20, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a warrant for failure to appear - second-degree murder (homicide) from Missouri.
- ROSENDO SUBIA ROBLES JR., 30, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of failure to appear and no seat belt.
- CRYSTAL COBLE, 22, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of theft.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 173 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1500 block of Wood. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Stadium. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Dallas. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1500 block of Johnson. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

Obituaries

Vivian Corinne Grantham

Vivian Corinne Grantham, 82, of Big Spring passed away March 10, 2010, after fighting a valiant battle with cancer. A service of remembrance will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 15, 2010, officiated by Dr. Ken McIntosh, pastor of First Christian Church, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

A visitation for family and friends will be held Sunday from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. at the funeral home.

Vivian was born March 24, 1927, in Paradise, Texas, to W.H. "Bill" and Della Norwood. She moved to Big Spring in 1947 to go to Howard County Junior College and married Lewes Gilbert "Shorty" Grantham on April 14, 1949. He preceded her in death Oct. 13, 2003, after sharing 54 wonderful years together. She was currently employed by First Christian Church as their nursery attendant.



She is survived by a daughter, Corky Burcham and husband Butch and grandchildren, Michael Burcham and Ashlee Burcham; a son, Bubba Grantham and grandchildren, Charity Lamar and B.J. Grantham, as well as step-grandchildren Debbie Conaway, Christy Isbell, Nick Denton, Amanda Denton and a great grandson, Todd Lamar; four great-great-grandchildren; brothers and sisters, Nell Thames, Myrt and Doc Tindol, James and Margi Norwood, Mattie Norwood, Mary and John Palmer, and Bud and Sandy Norwood; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Neal Tindol, Tony Goeke, Gary Prater, Jerry Dunne, Bob Priebe, Kerry Norwood and Jeren Dunne. Honorary pallbearers will be Aaron Combs, Hayden Tubb, Mario Moncada and Julian Moncada.

The family will be at 704 Hillside Dr. The family suggests memorials to "Her Little Congregation" Nursery Building Fund, in care of First Christian Church, 911 Goliad, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Marie Johnson Hale

Marie Johnson Hale, 98, resident of Llano and formerly of Big Spring, died March 11, 2009, in Llano. The family will receive friends Friday from 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be Saturday, March 13, 2010, at 2 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home in Big Spring with Royce Clay officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park with Carey Jones officiating.

Marie was born in the Valley View Community, Mitchell County, on Oct. 10, 1911, to Joe and Roxie (Hagler) Johnson.



Marie married John Morgan Hale on June 27, 1943. They lived in the Brown Community of Martin County until moving to Big Spring in 1962. Marie and John moved to Llano in 1989. Marie was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ.

Marie was preceded in death by John on July 11, 1992. She was also preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Mildred Johnson Smith; and one sister in infancy.

She is survived by her daughter, Marilyn Hale of Llano; and her niece, Sylvia (Sissy) Jones and husband Jeff of Big Spring. Also surviving are great-nephew, Carey Jones and wife Tonda of Lubbock; a great-niece, Chrissi Jones of Lubbock; and great-great nephews Caleb Jones and Caleb Jones of Lubbock.

Pallbearers will be Joaquin Barraza, Robin Barraza, Derwood Blagrove, Robert Cox, Junior Ringener and Denis Long.

Memorials may be sent to the Llano Church of Christ, 402 West Main, Llano 78643; Llano County Historical Society, P.O. Box 434, Llano 78643; the Building Fund at 14th and Main Church of Christ, 1401 S. Main, Big Spring 79720; or a charity of one's choice.

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

Paid obituary

Mike Zimmerman

Mike Zimmerman, 57, of Big Spring died Friday, March 12, 2010, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 18-20-22-32. Bonus Ball: 16..

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: \$275,000

Winning ticket purchased in: Baytown.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-7-28-29-31.

Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-8-1-8. Sum It Up: 25.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-0-6. Sum It Up: 9

Wayne Oglesby

Wayne Oglesby, 62, of Abilene died March 4, 2010. A memorial service was held Monday, March 7, 2010, at Calvary Baptist Church with burial in the Reflection Garden of Elmwood Memorial Park in Abilene.



Wayne was born Feb. 21, 1949, in Big Spring to Dan and Opal Oglesby. He graduated from Coahoma High School in 1966. He married Lynn Rouse on June 21, 1969, in Abilene.

He was a freshman at Hardin Simmons University in Abilene when he began his first pastorate at Bradshaw Baptist Church.

Wayne served as pastor of churches in Tuscola, Milford, Trent, Colorado City, San Angelo and Lake Buchanan before returning to Abilene. He continued in the ministry by serving as interim pastor for churches at Hawley, Leuders and Calvary Baptist in Abilene. He also served as chaplain of Hospice of the Big Country.

He is survived by his wife, Lynn of Abilene; two sons, Rusty Oglesby and wife Trecci, and Dusty Oglesby, all of Frisco; two grandchildren; his mother, Opal Dunlap of Burnet; a sister, Danna Brown and husband Wayne of Leander; two step-sisters, Debbie Butler of Odessa and Danna Martin of Midland; a brother-in-law, Mike Rouse and wife Kim of San Diego, Calif.; and numerous other aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services were under the direction of Elmwood Funeral Home & Memorial Park. Online condolences can be made at www.elmwoodfuneral.com

Support Groups

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

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Saturday, March 27, 2010
8:00 PM
Dorothy Garrett Coliseum
Howard College Campus, Big Spring

Tickets
Adults \$30, Seniors \$15, Students \$10
Get your tickets early!

LOCATIONS: KBST Radio, Blum's Jewelers, Faye's Flowers, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Herald, Heritage Museum, Western Banks.

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

► Church News

Chapel of Faith

You are invited to attend Chapel of Faith church, located at the corner of E. 14th and Goliad streets, as we learn more about God's Word and His love for each of us. Sunday services are at 10:30 a.m. each week. Pastor Scott Willis will be preaching this Sunday. His message will be "The Lost," based on scripture from Luke 15:1-3 and 11-32.

Encouraging Words: "Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadow." — Helen Keller

We encourage you to attend the church of your choice. However, if you are looking for a church home, we invite you to visit the Chapel of Faith. You will be warmly welcomed.

Remember, God loves each of us with a love so great He sent His son to die for our sins that we might live for Him now and with Him eternally.

First United Methodist

Our senior pastor, the Rev. Sharon Wiese, will bring the message at both services of worship 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Sunday. Her sermon title will be "Coming Home Again." The bulletins will include order blanks for Easter Lilies to be purchased in honor or memory of a loved one.

Beginning at 5:30 p.m. Sunday there will be a snack supper served in Garrett Hall. Following the meal there will be activities for different age groups. Mark Barr will continue his study on "What you wanted to know about the Methodist Church" in the Pathmaker's classroom.

Next week is spring break, so remember that our church schedule will be very different. There will be no CDO, No Kids Club and no Wednesday Noon Bible Study and Luncheon. The weekly Lenten service and meal will be held Thursday at First Presbyterian with Pastor Wiese bringing the message. All regular schedules will resume beginning Sunday, March 21.

Thanks to all who purchased a Brown Bag Lunch last Sunday. Al's Barbeque's idea for a fund-raiser for our church's Relay For Life teams was a big hit. Everyone was having a lot of fun making those delicious sandwiches, sacking and taking money. More than \$700 was raised for Hats and Hats, too.

The Wesley Putnam Dayspring Revival is coming to town and to First Methodist beginning Sunday, March 21, through Wednesday, March 24. There will be a snack supper served at 5:30 p.m. prior to Bible Quest for elementary age children. Wednesday at 7 a.m. there will be a men's breakfast in Garrett Hall and at the Noon Bible Study, Wesley Putnam will be the speaker. That week will offer the opportunity for an amazing and different worship experience.

There will also be some wonderful opportunities during Holy Week. We will have our Wednesday Noon Bible Study and Thursday we will have a special Maundy Thursday communion service in the sanctuary from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. This will be a come-and-go, 15-minute service with only 12 people at a time. There will be a long table with 12 chairs. Everyone is urged to sign up for the time they want to come. Families, friends, Sunday school classes and visitors can make this a special bonding time. Everyone is welcome. Our pastor will be conducting these services. The sign up log is in the church office during weekdays and in the foyer of the sanctuary on Sundays.

Good Friday's Tenebrae Service will begin at 11:30 a.m. in Garrett Hall and continue into the sanctuary, Lunch will be provided.

There will be a brunch Easter Sunday morning at 9:45. The United Methodist Women will be hostesses; everyone is asked to bring their favorite breakfast-type finger food. And be sure to check your garden and flower bed before you come to church and

Some things don't belong together

While the marriage of peanut butter and jelly may be a metaphor made in heaven, some things just don't seem to go together. One morning this week, as I was thumbing through a magazine while I ate my breakfast, I noticed a contraption in a picture that called for a second glance. It was a work of art – yard art that combined utility, creativity, and a conglomeration of salvage store finds.



BONNIE WHEAT

Advertized as a "the most amazing bird multi-feeder," this versatile, if not aesthetic, pole in a bucket was available for only \$29.95 plus shipping and handling and taxes in some states. It featured a planter base, two hanging baskets for flowers, and a

bird bath with hooks and trays for additional bird feeders. As if that weren't enough, there was a solar lamp balanced precariously on top of the pole.

I wasn't sure if that was for nocturnal bird feeding or grow-by-night plants.

Looking across my bowl of Special K, I read the fine print to see if this miracle on a pole had an irrigation system that kept the flowers watered and the bird bath filled. It didn't. I suppose, however, that everything on the pole was water-hose friendly since birds tend not to be concerned about hygiene.

Taking a closer look at all the hanging paraphernalia, I wondered how many birds would be able to distinguish between flowers and bird food. In spite of the guarantee of steel construction and stability, I found myself developing a scarecrow mentality about the wonder pole with a light on top. Maybe flow-

ers and bird seed don't need to be on the same pole.

In the biblical book of Matthew, Jesus also talks about some things that don't belong together. He exposed the foolishness of patching an old garment with new cloth that had not been shrunk or pouring new wine into old wineskins. He also warned his disciples about the folly of trying to serve God and money: "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth" (Matthew 6:24 NASB).

Jesus seems to be saying that our service to Him and our desire for money can't hang on the same pole. We might just have to make a choice.

Bonnie Wheat is an author and a minister's wife. She can be contacted at brwheat@suddenlink.net.

those lucky enough to have blooms, please bring some to adorn the cross which will be in the foyer until it is brought in for the service.

That's a very full two weeks at First Methodist where we are always busy growing families for Christ.

First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma

The friendly folks at First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma invite anyone to come and worship with us. We meet at 11 a.m. Sunday to share the scriptures, sing, pray and worship, led by Commissioned Lay Pastor Tom Koger.

Tom, along with Big Spring's pastor Craig Holstedt, continues to have a Bible study on the week's lectionary in the library of First Presbyterian, Big Spring, on Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. Everyone from both churches, and anyone else who is interested, is invited to this informal study.

Our congregation is invited to a series of Lenten devotionals and luncheons. On Thursday, March 11, the First United Methodist Church will host the lunch and the Rev. Craig Holstedt will lead the devotion. March 18, First Presbyterian will host, and the Rev. Sharon Wiese, pastor of First United Methodist Church will lead the devotional. The March 25 lunch will be hosted by First Christian Church and led in devotion by Father Bernard Gully.

We will have a Family Frolic this Saturday night, March 13, beginning at 7 in the church social hall. Anyone who wants to share a talent, whether it is singing, playing an instrument, reciting poetry or a story, is welcome to join in. A light supper will be provided.

We invite you to make plans to join us for worship opportunities that will be offered during Holy Week, beginning with Sunday worship on Palm Sunday, March 28. We will have our regular Bible study Wednesday evening. We will join with First Presbyterian, Big Spring, for a Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. April 1, at Eighth and Runnels. The Big Spring Presbyterians will join us at First Presbyterian, Coahoma, for a Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 8:30 p.m. April 2. Saturday, April 3, we will have our annual pre Easter breakfast at 9 a.m. and an Easter Vigil service at 11 p.m. Easter Day will begin with a Sunrise Service at Coahoma Presbyterian at 7 a.m. and a celebration of the Resurrection at the 11 o'clock worship service.

A reminder: Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 14. Please remember to "Spring Forward."

The lectionary for the Fourth Sun-

day in Lent is Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; II Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.

Coahoma First United Methodist

Coahoma United Methodist Church invites all to join us weekly as we praise and worship our Lord. We have Sunday school for all ages beginning at 10 a.m. each week, followed by our traditional worship service at 11.

The special Lenten season is upon us and we invite you to join us in worship service Sunday as we study Pilgrimage in an "Ancient Practices" series of services focusing on the season.

We are located at 401 N. Main. Our phone number is (432) 394-4432 or 270-1602. Our pastor is Cameron Burton. You can reach us via e-mail at coahomaumc@gmail.com.

Baptist Temple

This Sunday morning's message will be "Accepting and Receiving Forgiveness" from Matthew 6:12. We have been focusing each week on different aspects of the Lord's Prayer. Many times we pray it but don't consider the words we are praying. Our Heavenly Father has forgiven us so we are without excuse when we refuse to forgive someone else. Sunday evening's message will be from 1 Corinthians 11:2-16.

We will begin 40 Days of Community on April 11. The theme of 40 Days of Community is "We're Better Together." We will emphasize our Sunday school groups and getting involved in one becoming like the early church in Acts II. We should share life together and grow together. A community like that will be magnetic to others.

Our Financial Peace University class started Feb. 15. If you are still interested, it is not too late. You may register by coming by the church office and pay the \$100 for your course materials. The class meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in our fellowship hall.

Our weight-loss support-group SPEED (Shedding Pounds Eagerly Every Day) meets on Tuesdays at the church at 6 p.m.

Our 12-Step Recovery group, led by Dean Thomas, has also resumed and meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

You are always welcome here. Sundays, we have classes for all ages starting at 9:45 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesdays, we have groups for all ages starting at 7 p.m.

For more information call us at 267-8287 or check us out on the Web at btcbigspring.org.

We are located at 400 E. 11th Place.

Signal Mountain Emmaus Community

The Emmaus Community meets at Spring Creek Fellowship, 501 Birdwell Lane, on the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Babe Chick Meeting is at 6:30 p.m.

The next meeting is April 8. Please mark your calendar.

At this month's meeting we will honor the 2002 Walks — Women's Walk 27, Leader Rhonda Harding; Men's Walk 28, Leader Danny Wright; Women's Walk 29, Leader Sonya Metcalf; and Men's Walk 30, Leader John Plaia. Please plan to attend. Bring a dish and join us at 6 p.m. for a potluck fellowship.

For more information see our Web site at www.signal-emmaus.org

Salem Baptist

Salem Baptist Church welcomes you each Sunday for Sunday school at 10 a.m., morning worship at 11 and evening worship at 6. A nursery is available for all Sunday services. The Wednesday evening prayer service is held at Parkplace at 6.

Beginning Easter Sunday, April 4, Salem will be holding a revival. Please come for a time of renewal and worship. Evangelist David Garrett will be leading the services. Times for worship are 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Easter Sunday. Monday through Wednesday services will be held at 6:30 p.m. A fellowship meal will be served after each evening service. A nursery will be available for all revival services.

Salem Baptist is pastored by Monroe Teeters and is located at the

See **CHURCH NEWS**, Page 7A

VOTE
Tommy Duncan
for
MAYOR
A Common Sense Man To Manage Your Tax Dollars

I am extremely proud to be a citizen of Big Spring and Howard County and believe this community has a lot to offer any potential business or industry. I believe the level and quality of work performed by our city employees, including the police and fire department, are outstanding. I believe strongly that Big Spring can continue to provide recreation including: swimming, fishing, golf, sports complexes, children's activities and scenic walks while promoting an opportunity for growth and prosperity for the citizens, as well as local business and industry. I am convinced this can be accomplished, without raising taxes, by working closely with our city manager and department heads to get the most of our tax dollar.

I firmly believe that our citizens have the right to give final approval, via the voting process, on any significant tax increase or major investments of city funds. Taxes related to bond issues, originally approved by our voters, must be returned to the citizens once bond obligations are met. Big Spring is not immune to the economic decline and rising unemployment throughout our country. Now is not the time to mortgage our children's future by issuing 20 year bonds that we and our children will be burdened with for years to come.

The quality of our water, water distribution systems, and the condition of our residential streets and roads are of deep concern to me. These issues have a negative impact on our citizens, local businesses, and potential business/industry. These 'basic' needs must be a priority and we should assist our city employees in addressing these issues.

I am a retired civil servant with over 10 years experience providing oversight, guidance and training to CEO's and departmental managers of multi-million dollar entities to ensure every federal tax dollar received maximum benefit.

With the above in mind, I have announced my candidacy for the office of Mayor of the City of Big Spring. I would appreciate your support and vote. However, regardless of your views on these matters, I encourage you to become involved in your city by supporting the candidate of your choice.

Political Ad Paid For By Tommy Duncan, Candidate For Mayor, Frances Kay Hobbs, Treasurer

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been married for nine years. It's a second marriage for both of us.

The problem is my husband's 30-year-old daughter. "Courtney" and her sister live in another state, and we visit them and their children three times a year.

It is very stressful for me to be around Courtney, as she has not spoken to me since my marriage to her father.

She refuses to acknowledge that we are together, and this hurts a lot.

My husband's other daughter is nice, although a bit on the cool side. Courtney is a single mother. When she had financial problems, I gave her a \$200 check, hoping it would help our relationship. She didn't even thank me.

I think my husband should speak to her, but he won't. This is causing some strain between us.

Should I confront Courtney myself? Do I let my husband visit her on his own? — *Distressed in Michigan*

Dear Distressed: In an effort to avoid conflict with his daughter, your husband is doing all of you a grave disservice.

He needs to insist that Courtney treat you with respect. She doesn't have to like you, but she will never develop a tolerance for the relationship if she

isn't pushed in that direction.

At the very least, she should speak to you and graciously acknowledge any gift you give her.

If your husband refuses to support you in this, you don't need to keep visiting Courtney and putting up with her ill-mannered attitude. Let him see her on his own.

Dear Annie: When my mother married many years ago, she had a seamstress create her wedding dress.

Mom still has the picture from the newspaper that she gave the seamstress to use as a guide.

I wore that same dress at my first wedding. I have two sons from that marriage, but I doubt either of them (or my nephew) would want their brides to wear the dress, since that marriage ended in divorce.

My question is: What do I do with the wedding dress? It's satin and beautiful, but I simply don't think anyone else would want to wear it. — *Kentucky*

Dear Kentucky: It is not a good idea to make



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

assumptions about your sons' future brides. A custom-made vintage wedding dress could be quite alluring and altered enough to make it lose any negative association.

If no one in the family wants the dress,

however, you should have no problem finding a good home for it.

Dozens of resale shops specialize in "pre-owned" bridal gowns. You also can offer it for sale on eBay or donate it to one of many places that loan wedding dresses to brides who cannot afford such luxuries.

Dear Annie: My wife passed away three years ago after a long battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). I visited her every day.

My plea to visitors of these patients is a simple one: Please, please, whenever possible, make physical contact with the patient.

Hold their hands, stroke their face, comb their hair, massage them, and most of all, talk and sing to them, regardless of whether or not you think they can hear you. Often visitors will stand off to the side of the

bed, saying little or nothing. The patient already feels isolated and alone.

Touching and conversing give some modicum of comfort and normalcy. And on some days, you may be the only contact the patient has, making your voice and your touch that much more important.

Hopefully, this letter will be of some help to the readers out there. — *East Haven, Conn.*

Dear East Haven: Thank you for your kind and compassionate suggestions. We hope our readers will remember them when they next visit someone who is in need of a loving and healing touch.

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, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. 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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Dear Margo: When lopping it off is the best thing to do

Dear Margo: I am an adult woman with three older brothers with whom I do not speak.

My oldest brother has always treated me like an idiot child with nothing to say.

He stopped even acknowledging my birthday nine years ago. My youngest brother only contacts me when he wants me to do him big favors.

The middle brother told me three years ago that I am "dead" to him.

He eavesdropped on a conversation I had with his now-ex-wife, where he heard me say that if he did what she was alleging, she was right to feel the way she did.

My problem is this: Although my parents say they're staying out of it, they bring up the issue periodically, which shows me it hurts them that their children do not talk.

My brothers also rarely, if ever, speak to each other. Our parents are in their 70s, and a recent health scare with Mom has me thinking that when my parents do eventually pass away, I will have no connection with family anymore.

I am not sure whether there is anything I can do to end the animosity between siblings, since most contact with them has been met with disdain.

Do you have any ideas, or should I just cut my losses? — *Only Child in a Family of Six*

Dear Only: The word "dysfunctional" comes to mind, but it doesn't do justice to what you say is going on with your brothers.

They all sound like losers to me, and you would be doing yourself a favor by realizing that there is nothing wrong with you but plenty wrong with them.

It has to be a heartache for your folks that their children are not a loving group of sibs, but that's the way it is.

I would give up on your odd brothers, and whether or not this has something to do with how they were raised, I have no way of knowing.

You'd think the baby sister would be cherished, but that's not what happened. Try to write this situation off as bum luck, and shore up your parents by telling

them one never knows what the future holds. — *Margo, forwardly*

Living With "What If?"

Dear Margo: I'm stumped, so over to you. I'm 36, female, dating a good man (but with plenty of personal space) and in my own home (albeit rented).

I'll soon finish a master's in my field after years of hard work.

Here's the problem: I grew up in an alcoholic family. I've been divorced twice and have two teenage boys and an incredible set of coping skills for drama, stress and anxiety.

So, how does one learn to cope with peace and no drama? I pace the house at night wondering when something will go wrong.

I dream of breaking up with my boyfriend, because what if he turns into a jerk?

I constantly worry my boys will get into trouble at school (they are straight-A students).

Now I'm starting to obsess about whether my lease will be renewed in August — after five years here.

My friends think I'm insane and tell me to chill. How do you learn new coping skills? Where do you start? Somehow, waiting for something to go wrong seems more stressful than dealing with things in the past that really did go wrong. — *Frustrated*

Dear Frus: Not to belittle your problem, but I guarantee you there are people reading this who would trade places with you in a heartbeat.

That said, I understand what you're saying. You are, indeed, obsessing and not letting the bad times go.

I think you can get ahold of this anxiety by taking a page from AA: one day at a time. Make it your mantra.

Every day that is peaceful and free of stress, tell yourself this is the new world order. You beat the odds, you prevailed, and you made your life good. Now live with it! — *Margo, optimistically*

Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via e-mail to dearmargo@creators.com. Due to a high volume of e-mail, not all letters will be answered.

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MARGO HOWARD

March is said to come in like a lion and go out like a lamb. These days, in the middle can be a bit confusing. If there can be such a thing as calm ferocity or benevolent monstrosity, the Aquarius moon will show us what it looks like. Unexpected zaniness and imagination spring from this wintry day. Let yourself delight in the weird tone.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Someone really wants you to play a larger role in his or her life; however, you might not realize this because you are clinging to another relationship — perhaps one that is less healthy than the one



HOLIDAY MATHIS

waiting in the wings. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Stay on your own team. A recent disappointment is not something you should take personally. You're still awesome. Remember, if you never abandon yourself, you'll never be alone.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Pursue the path of least resistance. Do business with those who benefit greatly from doing business with you. And love those who can appreciate your generous heart.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Mostly you'll initiate the fun, creating the kind of everyday celebrations that only you can. A certain someone (likely a Pisces or Scorpio) is just waiting around for an inviting gesture from you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Just because you have a tendency toward theatrics doesn't mean you'll sign up for misery. You can spot a losing scenario from a mile away. Honor your instincts. Don't be tragic. Go where the happy people are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's astounding what you can accomplish when you're in the right mood. Getting into that mood is key. Life won't wait while you meditate yourself into a productive state, so you have to take control of your mind as you go.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A friend is there for you, although you rarely call on him. You don't like to ask for little favors, preferring to do as much as you can by yourself. But ask for something now. Your friend needs to feel useful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're a good person, trying to do the right thing. So it's puzzling how you could wind up in an inauspicious situation. Continue to keep the best intentions and you'll walk right through this weird little glitch in the plan.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The relationship you have with yourself is the most important one you can nurture. It will be the basis for all your other relationships. Take the time to get to know yourself better by embarking on a solo excursion.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). While it's noble to try to fix what you did wrong, it's better to figure out what you do right and do more of that. Lean on your strengths and let them pull you along, and you'll go far.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Ever the optimist, you may get out into the world and be shocked to find that it's not all shiny, happy people out there. Your humor will buffer you from the unpleasantness of the general public.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Of your many assets and fine qualities, your ability to accurately judge a person's character will be of chief importance. Your life will be so much better because you are able to steer clear of dishonest people.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 12). You will compete and win. You are so productive through the next 10 weeks that you'll finish a big project in a fraction of the time it usually takes others. You'll make yourself over in April and "wow" the one whose opinion matters the most to you. June brings commitments. Bonus money comes in September. Virgo and Leo people adore you. Lucky numbers are: 6, 2, 33, 10 and 17.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: **ARIES:** Accept the other person's right not to do things your way, and you may very well get your way in the end. **TAURUS:** Be charming and appreciative of what others do for you and you'll win hearts. **GEMINI:** It doesn't cost a

thing to give your love and acceptance generously. **CANCER:** You are terrific just the way you are. Do not cultivate a relationship with anyone who wants to change you. **LEO:** There's someone you look at with great love in your eyes. Everyone notices. **VIRGO:** A new person is fascinated by your recent activities, reminding those who already know you how interesting you are. **LIBRA:** You are a warm and sincere person and will compliment others just because it makes you feel good to do so. **SCORPIO:** You'll make a difference in someone's life. **SAGITTARIUS:** Maximize what you have and your shortcomings will be a non-issue. **CAPRICORN:** You have depth. A loved one can't get enough of you, and there is always more to give. **AQUARIUS:** Avoid a person who is overly suspicious of your actions. You don't need a Jealous Nellie around. **PISCES:** Give your love only to those who realize what a valuable treasure it is.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Aries and Pisces represent the beginning and the end of the zodiac. Aries is the sign of new souls, the first-born and individuality. Pisces is the sign of old souls, the last incarnation and the collective. However, since the zodiac is a wheel, these two strikingly different characters are next-door neighbors astrologically and more alike than either thinks. This weekend they'll find enriching common ground.

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Ephesians 3:17-18

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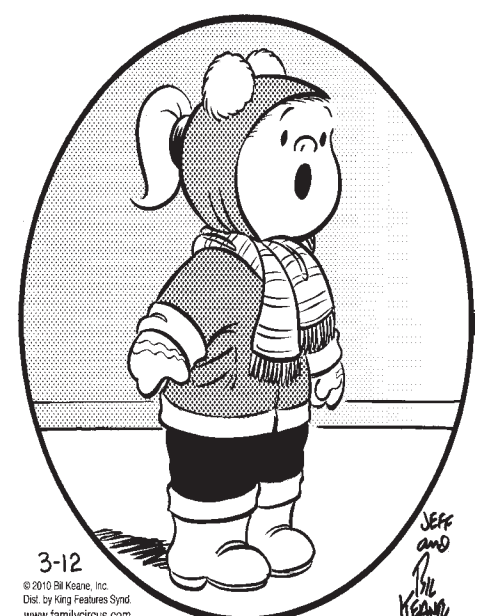
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6:PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy! Wheel	Mi Pecado (SS)	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Seinfeld	Dr. Program	PBS News-Hour	Dirty Jobs		UFC Fight Night: Diaz vs. Guillard.	Bones		Phineas Phineas	College Basketball	College Basketball	
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8:PM :30	Supernanny	Supernanny	Corazón Salvaje	Kitchen Nightmares	Medium	Pero Amor	Dateline NBC	Light of the Southwest	Bill Moyers Journal	American Loggers		Movie: Kelly's Heroes, Don Rickles	Best of PRIDE	Movie: Dreamgirls, Eddie Murphy	Crews	Wizards			
9:PM :30	20/20	20/20	Rosa	Simpsons Friends	NUMB3RS	¿Dónde Está Elisa?		Talladega Nights: Ricky Bobby	Church Cortes	American Loggers			Best of PRIDE	CSI: Crime Scene	The Mo'Nique	Deck	Score	SportsCenter	
10:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Charlie Rose	American Loggers			UFC	(-45) Movie: Dreamgirls, Eddie Murphy	Wendy Williams	Suite Life So Raven	College Basketball		
11:PM :30	Insider	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Gancho	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late	¿Dónde Está Elisa?	Late Night	Movie: The Whole Ten Yards	Mark McGee	American Loggers			Trailers MAN	Movie: Navy SEALs, Joanne Whalley-Kilmer	Kim	Replace	Final	SportsCenter	
12:AM :30	Cathedral	Paid	Amar sin Limites	Paid	Insider	Pagado	News	Talladega Nights: Ricky Bobby	Best of Light of the Southwest	Overhaul'ing	Movie: They Live, Meg Foster								
1:AM :30	Paid	Paid	Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Pagado	Pagado												

DENNIS THE MENACE



*KINDERGARTEN IS TOUGH! WE HAF TA LEARN ALL THE LETTERS OF THE ALPHABET...IN ORDER!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'm too warm. Can I bundle down?"

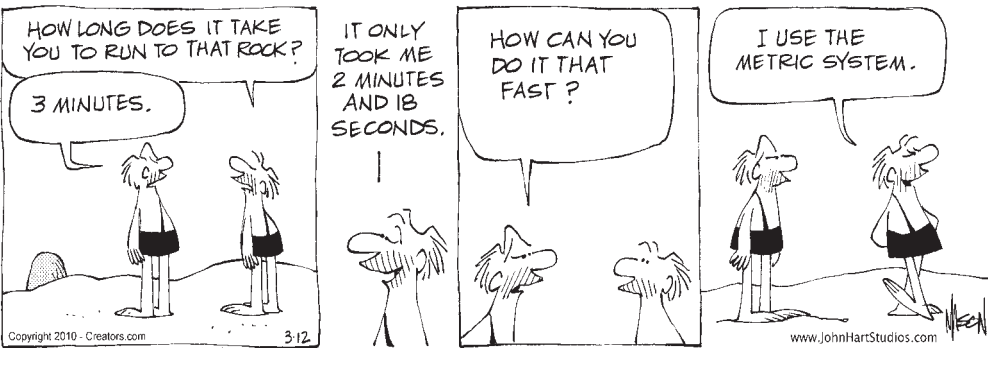
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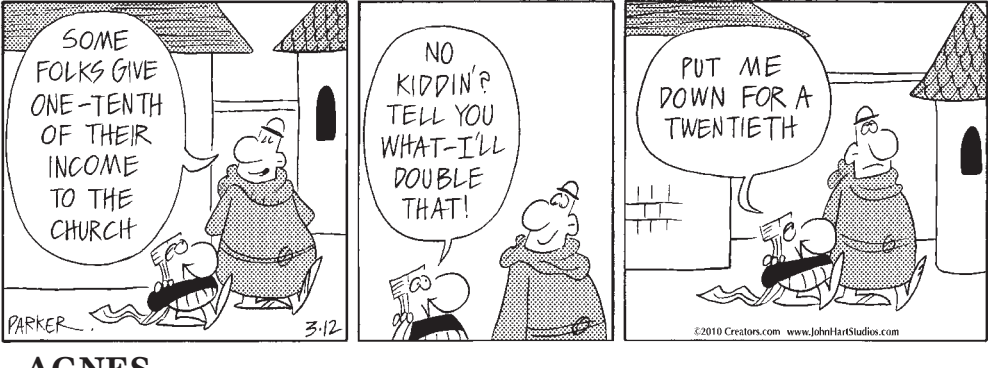
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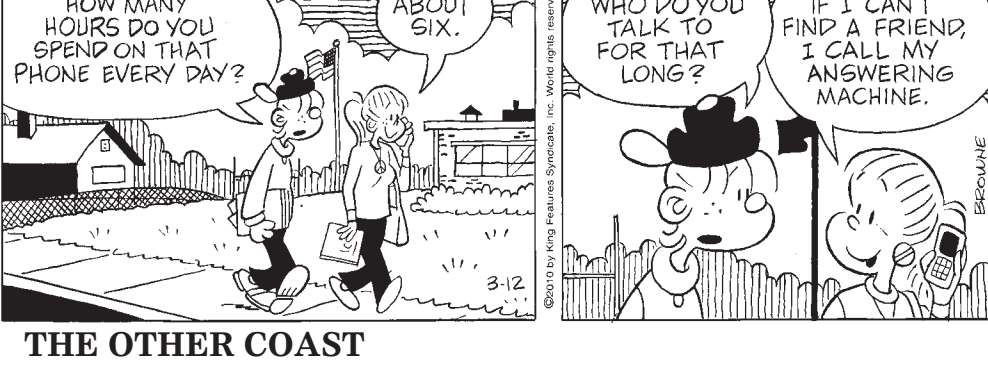
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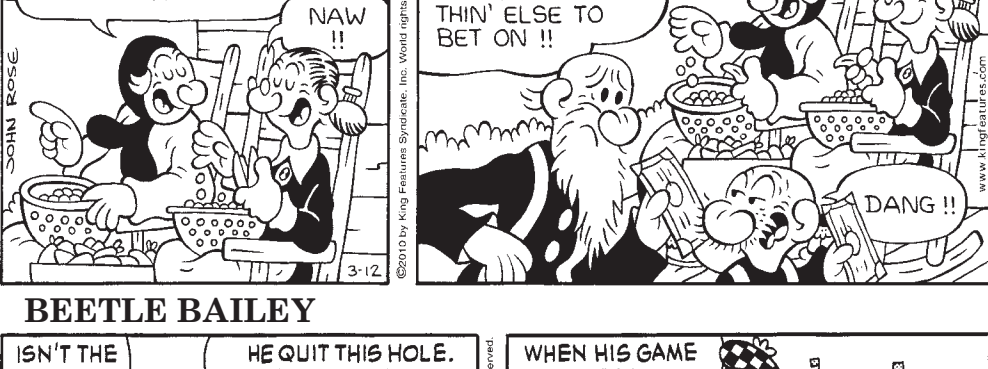
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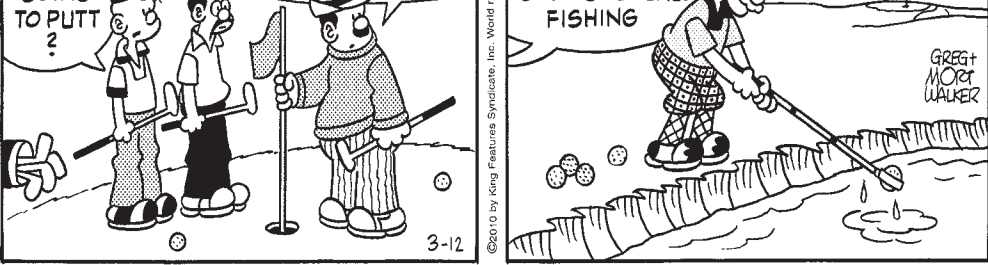
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, March 12, the 71st day of 2010. There are 294 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 12, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered the first of his 30 radio "fireside chats," telling Americans what was being done to deal with the nation's economic crisis.

On this date:

In 1664, England's King Charles II granted an area of land in present-day North America known as New Netherland to his brother James, the Duke of York.

In 1864, Ulysses S. Grant was promoted to the rank of general-in-chief of the Union armies in the Civil War by President Abraham Lincoln.

In 1912, Juliette Gordon Low of Savannah, Ga., founded the Girl Guides, which later became the Girl Scouts of America.

In 1930, Indian political and

spiritual leader Mohandas K. Gandhi began a 200-mile march to protest a British tax on salt.

In 1938, the Anschluss merging Austria with Nazi Germany took place as German forces crossed the border between the two countries.

In 1939, Pope Pius XII was formally crowned in ceremonies at the Vatican.

In 1947, President Harry S. Truman established what became known as the "Truman Doctrine" to help Greece and Turkey resist Communism.

In 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson won the New Hampshire Democratic primary, but Sen. Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota placed a strong second.

In 1980, a Chicago jury found John Wayne Gacy Jr. guilty of the murders of 33 men and boys. (The next day, Gacy was sentenced to death; he was executed in May 1994.)

In 1985, conductor Eugene Ormandy, director of the Philadelphia Orchestra for more than four decades, died at age 85.

Today's Birthdays: Playwright Edward Albee is 82. Former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young is 78. Actress Barbara

Answer to previous puzzle

S	H	E	D	R	E	A	C	H	H	E	A	P		
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Newsday Crossword

FARE-MINDED by Doug Peterson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Good grade
- 6 Work with needles
- 10 Suspension of a sort
- 14 "Hi" or "bye" word
- 15 Top-drawer
- 16 Abominate
- 17 Point the finger at
- 18 Prod
- 19 Closely connected
- 20 Moreover
- 23 Ike's arena
- 24 Towel term
- 25 Word derived from a name
- 27 Gangster's gat
- 30 "___ you serious?"
- 31 Samurai's accessory
- 32 Comfortable shoe
- 35 Regretful miss of song
- 36 Speeder's comeuppance
- 40 Courteous contraction
- 41 Elated
- 42 High-school subj.
- 43 Yes, in Yokohama
- 45 Less disorganized
- 49 Like a certain rule
- 51 ___ Paulo
- 53 Singer Corinne Bailey ___
- 54 Making happen
- 58 Noble gas
- 59 North African port

- 60 Flood-control barrier
- 61 Refinery refuse
- 62 Tug-of-war need
- 63 Certain North American
- 64 Gucci of fashion
- 65 Yet again
- 66 Kennel cries
- DOWN
- 1 Sweeney Todd, for one
- 2 Seek approval from
- 3 State-run games
- 4 "That's not good"
- 5 Sensible
- 6 Hawaii's "Garden Isle"
- 7 Standards
- 8 Bus Stop playwright
- 9 Balance unsteadily
- 10 Plumed military cap
- 11 Pay attention
- 12 Just slightly
- 13 Currency in Kobe
- 21 Harvester's bundle
- 22 Unlock, in poetry
- 26 It means "wrong"
- 28 Dollar, slangily
- 29 "Ouch!" relative
- 30 Bohemian
- 33 Nation west of Tonga
- 34 Earth-friendly prefix
- 35 Ark. neighbor
- 36 Big burrito seller
- 37 Monopoly buy
- 38 Otherwise
- 39 Snooker stick
- 40 Flavor intensifier
- 43 Female turkey
- 44 Sweater material
- 46 Go places
- 47 Lower the intensity
- 48 Moves back to zero
- 50 Dog from Down Under
- 51 Harry Potter's Potions professor
- 52 Humphrey successor
- 55 Weights, colloquially
- 56 Always alternative
- 57 Soccer legend
- 58 Govt. code breakers

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Life's assignment – live it, love it!

Part of the joy of living is understanding our assignment in life. God created the earth for our enjoyment and He wants us to delight in the abundance it yields. Despite the problems we encounter, we are to discern the goodness of God around us and feel His love toward us. In whatever phase of life we find ourselves, we can become passionate about our individual life assignments. How do we do that? We start by becoming active participants in our own lives, rather than spectators.



JERRIE STOCKS

More than 30 years ago, I chose to make each day a real life celebration and it still continues today. Ironically, my first lesson was to learn that my most important job was myself. It was necessary for me to under-

stand that no one else could do the job that God had given me to do. I also had to grasp the concept that God created me with my specific talents and traits for a purpose and that no one else in the world could fulfill my assignment. To be successful, I had to put myself first. This may sound selfish at first blush, but it simply means that I was responsible for putting my priorities in order so that I could become the person God needed me to be to fulfill His goodness for my life. Until this is understood, we will be unable to put our priorities into proper perspective.

I also had to reprioritize my thoughts so that my relationship with God would not be hindered by putting myself first. Desiring to keep my relationships with my husband and family strong, I wrestled with this "me first" concept for several weeks. I finally came to the conclusion that I needed to be fit spiritually, mentally, and physically in order to fulfill my assignments to them. It was not that I necessarily

wanted to be "Number One", but that I had to keep my attention and focus on having my priorities in the correct order.

During my personal prayer time each morning, I determined how my life would progress for that day. I knew that I had to keep myself disciplined for my family and all my other duties. I was determined to do whatever was necessary to accomplish my goal. Doing this helped me keep my priorities in line.

It came as no surprise that my body was not always willing to cooperate. The Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 9:27, "I buffett my body daily, I keep it under and bring it into subjection." Paul knew that his body did not always want to do as it should. That is why I believe that our main job is to take control of our bodies and bring them into submission to our wills.

God has given each of us an assignment to fulfill in our lifetime. As we begin to cooperate in this area, we will encounter turning points and benchmarks. There may

even be times when we do not fully recognize ourselves as we undergo a metamorphosis into a new personality. This is true for any man, woman or teenager who chooses to be a contributor in their own life. In essence, as we become an integrated part of this good earth, we invest energy into creating a rewarding life that is full of God's goodness.

Once we understand that this is the most important job we will ever have, then we can move forward into other areas of assignment. Regardless of the many hats we wear, we are all responsible for the way we conduct our lives on a daily basis. We give first to ourselves so that we can be the person God wants us to be for Him. Our families are next in importance; therefore we must present ourselves as spiritually fit for the work God gives us in caring for them.

Everything God created is a solution to a specific problem. Dentists solve dental problems, lawyers solve legal problems, mothers solve

emotional problems, and so on. It is God's desire that we provide the solution to a wide spectrum of dilemmas for those He brings across our paths by asking Him for wisdom, which He gives to us liberally according to James 1:5. Helping others brings a sense of satisfaction into our lives so when our specific contribution goes unrecognized, we can feel uncelebrated and unrewarded. However, every good deed is a seed sown and will come back to us in some form or another somewhere down the road.

Freedom to choose the way we live our lives is one of the greatest gifts we have been given. God made no robots; He gave each of us free choice. If we passively accept whatever happens, we give up a chance to create the life we want. Sometimes we are unsure of who we are and who we want to be, but God said in Genesis 1:27 that we were "created in His image" and that's good enough for me!

God bless

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 5A

corner of Salem Road and Old Colorado City Highway. Call 394-4655 for additional information.

First Church of the Nazarene

Don't miss out on the following upcoming events:

The 2nd Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on April 3 at Comanche Trail Park for ages 2-10 beginning at 10 a.m. The Easter Egg Hunt is divided by age groups. There will be food, prizes and a bounce house. Coming May 16 is Biker Sunday.

Need a flip, makeover, renovation, or just a renewal? Christ is the perfect general contractor for the job. FCN knows how you feel. Follow the road construction on Lancaster to find references to his work.

Sunday morning, fellowship begins at 9:30 and worship service is at 10. Children's Church, for ages 4-11, is in the fellowship hall.

Wednesday classes begin at 6:30 p.m. for all ages. Ages four years through third grade meet in the classrooms at the north end of the fellowship hall for Bible class. The fourth through sixth grade pre-teens have their own "gender focused" classes, learning to grow into Christian men and ladies. The boys meet under the "Salt Shaker" in the gym and the girls meet in the east classroom under the "Salt Shaker." And Youth Explosion for seventh through 12th graders meets with Pastor Cal in the "Salt Shaker." For adults there are three different options: A study of the holiness movement in the Commons, the "Sunday Sermon Revisited" class is in the conference room, or you can enjoy "The Coffee Class" in the library for fellowship and discussion of various topics.

FCN also has small groups! Thursdays at 7 p.m. there is the College and Young Adults Life Group. Sunday evenings at 6:30 is the Harvest Life Group and Financial Peace University is at 6.

If you have any questions about the Church of the Nazarene, call 267-7015 or e-mail us at church@nazfamily.org. Also look us up on Facebook and Twitter under Big Spring First Church of the Naz

First Presbyterian, Big Spring

The Lectionary Bible study met Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. Choir practice was at 6 p.m.

March 11, First United Methodist Church hosted the Lenten Lunch/Devotional, and the Rev. Craig Holstedt spoke; March 18, First Presbyterian Church will host, with the Rev. Sharon Wiese of First United Methodist as speaker; and March 25, First Christian Church will serve as host, with Father Bernard Gulley leading the devotion.

The monthly meeting of the Session will be Tuesday, March 16, at 6 p.m.

in the library.

Linda Hammond is liturgist for the month. Ushers for March are Louise Hitch, Sue Carter, Helen Glass and Lynn Glass.

The lectionary for the Fourth Sunday in Lent is Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; II Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32. The chancel choir will present "Honor and Majesty" by Maurice Green/Ridout. "Come, I Pray Thee" by Franklin Ashdown is the offertory anthem.

If you cannot attend worship, listen on KBST 1490 AM at 11 a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our Web site: www.fpcbs.org. You can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by the Rev. Holstedt.

Birdwell Lane Baptist

The congregation of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church would like to extend to you an invitation to visit with them. Birdwell Lane Baptist Church has been serving Big Spring and the surrounding area for 67 plus years. We are a friendly, independent, Bible-believing Baptist church preaching the truth of God's Word and supporting missionaries around the world. We are located at 1512 Birdwell Lane and Sunday services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m.

There is Children's Church during the morning worship for ages 4-12. A nursery is provided for your little ones. We have a van that can pick you up if a ride is needed. You can call 264-9924 or 267-7157. Midweek services are at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

We have a vision for the city of Big Spring and its families. Our one and only goal is to serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Well-trained, competent teachers instruct our Sunday school classes from Pre-K to adult. Come celebrate the family with us. "Come thou with us and we will do thee good." Numbers 10:29

Alive in Christ Lutheran LCMS

We are located at 2805 Lynn St. in the Kentwood Subdivision in Big Spring. Our phone number is (432) 264-7818. Our Web site is www.lutheranonline.com/aliveinchristbstx. We would love to have you join us for church Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:15.

Pastor Don Rosentreter will be preaching this Sunday. The sermon text, "Ambassadors for Christ", is from II Corinthians 5:12-21.

This week's acolyte will be Analytia Rodriguez. Elders for the week are Richard Knocke and Richard von Hassell. The liturgy will be read by Jill Alsobrooks. The readings are Isaiah 12:1-6, Psalm 32, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, and Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.

Remember to set your clocks this Sunday at 2 a.m. and "Spring forward" to 3 a.m.

The Board of Education met this past Tuesday. Plans for the Second Annual Easter Festival to be held Saturday, April 3 from 10 a.m. to noon,

were discussed. Everyone is invited to share this great and fun-filled time with us. There will be games and prizes, egg hunt, crafts, coloring of Easter eggs, cookie decorating, face painting, egg walk, etc. There will be fun for all ages.

The Board of Education is asking members of our congregation to bring individually wrapped candies to fill the plastic Easter eggs for the egg hunt.

Wednesday evenings a light meal is served at 5:30 p.m., followed by Mid Week School classes and confirmation classes at 6. Also Wednesdays at 6, we work on our new banners for

the church. You are invited to participate.

Mark your calendars for the Lenten services that are held on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. This Wednesday, March 17, Pastor Carroll Kohl will be preaching on The Suffering Word, "I thirst." from John 19:28.

The Elders will meet Thursday, March 18 at the church at 7 p.m.

Mark your calendars for an important meeting March 21 at 11:30 directly after Sunday school. We will be forming a call committee with a pot luck following at 12:30. Everyone needs

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 8A

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News in brief

Democrats whittle disputes over health overhaul, sharpen strategy for pushing it through Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Top Democrats say they are resolving disputes over President Barack Obama's health overhaul plan, but they face decisions on subsidizing coverage and are still hunting votes to push the vast package through Congress.

House Democrats were meeting again Friday to discuss the still-evolving plan and for leaders to try to soothe lawmakers worried about the price they might pay in November's congressional elections for supporting it. After a day of meetings with rank-and-file lawmakers and among House, Senate and White House bargainers, leaders expressed confidence Thursday evening that this stage of their labors was nearly complete.

"We made a lot of decisions. We're getting toward the end," White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel told reporters as he left the office of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. Reid received disturbing news during the day that his wife and daughter were rear-ended in a serious traffic accident.

Reid's 69-year-old wife was hospitalized in serious condition with a broken neck and back, officials said.

Even with initial votes possible next week, few were claiming that Democrats had the votes in hand to prevail — especially in the House, where the roll call is expected to be a cliffhanger. House

Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., conceded that even once details of the package are complete, leaders will need time to sell it to lawmakers.

Suicide bombings kill 39, wound 95 in Pakistan's Lahore, signal potential new wave of violence

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP) — A pair of suicide bombers targeting army vehicles detonated explosives within seconds of each other Friday, killing at least 39 people in this eastern city and wounding nearly 100, police said. It was the fourth major attack in Pakistan this week, indicating Islamist militants are stepping up violence after a period of relative calm.

At least six security personnel were among the dead, senior police official Chaudhry Mohammad Shafiq said.

The bombers, who were on foot, struck RA Bazaar, a residential and commercial neighborhood where several security agencies have facilities. Pakistani TV channels showed security forces swarming the area as bystanders rushed the injured into ambulances.

Senior police official Tariq Saleem Dogar said 39 people were killed, and another 95 were hurt. Some of the wounded were missing limbs, lying in pools of blood after the enormous explosions, eyewitness Afzal Awan said.

No group immediately claimed responsibility,

but suspicion quickly fell on the Pakistani Taliban and al-Qaida.

Less is more: Rash of reports says too many Americans get too many medical tests despite risks

CHICAGO (AP) — Too much cancer screening, too many heart tests, too many cesarean sections. A spate of recent reports suggest that too many Americans — maybe even President Barack Obama — are being overtreated.

Is it doctors practicing defensive medicine? Or are patients so accustomed to a culture of medical technology that they insist on extensive tests and treatments?

A combination of both is at work, but now new evidence and guidelines are recommending a step back and more thorough doctor-patient conversations about risks and benefits.

As a medical journal editorial said this week about Obama's recent checkup, Americans including the commander in chief need to realize that "more care is not necessarily better care."

Out for results in a compressed year, Obama maintains a juggle beyond jobs and health care

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's intense juggling of domestic issues reflects all the realities he faces: a vast agenda, a smaller window for results this year and a need to keep promises to constituencies that will have a huge say in the fall congressional elections.

Obama is in the heart of a period in which he has pledged to do everything in his power to make the case for health reform, a time-consuming blitz that he hopes will end in a final vote in Congress this month. That's on top of his commitment to make jobs his top priority.

Yet his agenda this week alone signals that Obama is moving — or at least trying to move — Congress on other matters affecting most every American.

Club News

TOPS Club Tx 0021

The meeting of the TOPS Club Tx 0021 was held Monday evening in the fellowship hall of the First Christian Church. Leader Laura Sickles called the members to order by calling for the TOPS cheer. She received a vigorous response from seven TOPS and two KOPS. Amy Johnson the led the TOPS in their pledge, followed by Ethel Cassady leading the KOPS members in the KOPS pledge. Frank Sickles then led the entire group in singing the TOPS welcome song.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, corrected and approved. Roll call, led by Hughetta Roberts, say the nine members report a total loss of 8.25 pounds. Leader Laura Sickles was the best loser of the week with a three-pound loss.

The business began with Laura Sickles reminding the group that installation of newly-elected officers will be March 29. The group will also have the coronation ceremony of the club's queen, Leola Newton. She has achieved her goal weight set by her physician. She achieved her KOPS status in the 2009-2010 year and lost the most weight of anyone in the club.

The next item for discussion was the theme for the meeting of the KOPS Honor Society to be held May 15 in Big Spring. Several themes were suggested and the one finally chosen was a western motif. A dinner will be served.

Pam Klaus then presented the program for the evening entitled, "Motivation and Reality." She emphasized the phrase, "The choice is mine." We are in charge of our eating habits, good or bad. We need to be aware of experiences that motivate us to either overeat or control our appetite in order to be able to lose weight. The reality comes into play when we do take charge and eat, work and exercise sensibly. We need to be committed to a healthy weight, need to manage our time wisely and monitor our successes to overcome failures.

All visitors are welcome to TOPS meeting. For more information about the time, place and opportunities, call Frank Sickles at 432-213-1342 or Olnee Menges at 263-6819. TOPS does help. Come see for yourself.

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 7A

to be present because the committee needs to be a cross membership of our congregation and is instrumental in the pastoral selection.

Services on Good Friday, April 2 at 7 p.m., will be a combination of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Sunrise Service on Easter morning will be followed by the Easter Pancake Breakfast. Traditional services will be held later that morning. More details to follow.

On April 17 at 2 p.m., the Executive Board will meet. The next Voters' Meeting will be May 2 at 11:30.

The Examination for our new confirmands will be on May 15, with their confirmation being on May 16.

Other upcoming activities: The LWML will meet at 7 p.m. April 8 at the church and will serve refreshments at the Big Spring VA on April 12. The Elders meet at 7 p.m. April 15.

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