

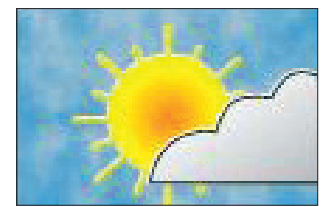
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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**THURSDAY**  
 MAY 6, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 129      COPYRIGHT 2010      50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## Art show will accept entries Friday, Saturday

The Big Spring Art Association will be holding its 56th annual area wide art show Friday through May 15 at the Hall Center for the Arts on the Howard College campus.  
 Entries will be accepted from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and from 9:30 a.m. until noon Saturday. Categories include Oils/Acrylis, Watercolor, Pastels, Graphics/Mixed Media, Photography and 3D/Sculpture.  
 More than \$1,000 in prize money plus ribbons will be awarded. An artists reception and awards ceremony will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, May 15 at the Hall Center for the Arts.  
 For more information, contact Doris Vieregge at (432) 263-3224 or Kay Smith at 263-6466.

## ALON withholds comment on alleged safety violations

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer  
 Officials with Alon USA — the owner of the Big Spring Refinery — say they are currently going over a number of alleged safety violations at the Crossroads facility with the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), but declined to comment further.  
 Part of an investigation that began Oct. 27, 2009, by OSHA's Lubbock District Office, the government agency alleges serious and repeat violations following an inspection at the company's crude

oil refinery with proposed penalties totaling more than \$80,000.  
 According to OSHA officials, the investigation was launched following an explosion at the Big Spring Refinery in October 2009 that injured three employees, who were treated and released.  
 At the time, Alon officials declined to discuss the cause of the accident, which centered around a boiler, saying only that the incident was under internal company investigation.  
 "This is not the first time this company has failed to effectively implement OSHA's process safety

management regulations to protect workers from potential hazards," said Jack A. Rector, OSHA's area director in El Paso. "This inspection has identified hazards that require corrective action to prevent accidents and injuries."  
 When contacted for comment, Alon USA public relations spokesman Blake Lewis said, "We are reviewing the preliminary report with OSHA."  
 According to a press release issued by OSHA in April, the serious citation, which includes eight

See **ALON**, Page 3A

## GROWING PAINS? Not with the right advice; annual plant sale Saturday

**By BILL McCLELLAN**  
 News Editor  
 Plants aplenty will be available Saturday as the Howard County Master Gardeners host their annual sale.  
 "We will have vegetable plants, herbs, trees, shrubs, perennials, evergreen perennials and annuals," said Julie Coates. "The majority will be plants adapted to grow in this area, with a few annuals we are all familiar with such as geraniums, marigolds and others."  
 The sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1604 W. Fourth.  
 Those attending the sale are invited to ask questions.  
 "Someone is always willing to answer any gardening questions," said Coates.  
 The group will also answer questions about the organization, which is part of the Texas Master Gardener's program.

"We would love to have more Master Gardeners and encourage people who enjoy gardening to join us," Coates said.  
 An active group, the Howard County Master Gardeners take on projects meant to provide enjoyment for the community.  
 In addition to taking care of a plot on U.S. Highway 80 as part of the Keep Big Spring Beautiful organization, the group has information booths at the Howard County Fair and Old Sorehead Trade Days. They are also erecting a greenhouse on their Fourth Street property to test garden plants for the Crossroads area.  
 Howard County Master Gardeners are certified by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service and Texas A&M University.

See **PLANTS**, Page 3A



HERALD file photo  
**Customers look through a variety of flowers and other plants on sale during the Howard County Master Gardeners plant sale last year. This year's sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at 1604 W. Fourth.**

## Coming Friday

- Where to vote Saturday
- Going to the dogs is a good thing

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## Area students bound for state

**Herald Staff Report**  
 Six area high school students will compete with the best in the state this weekend in Austin as the University Interscholastic League State academic meet is set to begin Friday.  
 Forsan High School junior Regan Newsom joins Big Spring High School

seniors Haley Carrillo, Danielle Freeman, Andrew Lewis and junior Jessica Rubio in representing Howard County at the competition held on the University of Texas campus. All five students earned slots for the meet after placing well at respective UIL regional meets held at the end of April

Newsom will compete in prose reading competition earning her berth after placing second in UIL Class A competition. Rubio took top honors in the information extemporaneous competition during the Regional I-4A academic meet held in San Angelo. She has earned the title regional champ for this competition twice.

Carrillo finished second in editorial writing in the same meet and placing third in their respective events were Freeman in information extemp. and Lewis in persuasive extemp. The overall performance by speech team Rubio, Freeman and Lewis garnered the trio the

See **STATE**, Page 3A

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HERALD file photo

Martin Yanez, seen hitting a home run earlier this season, and the Big Spring Steers will open the class 4A baseball playoffs Friday when they face Canyon Randall in a best-of-three series in Lubbock. Game 1 will be at 7 p.m. at Dan Law Field on the Texas Tech University campus.

## Area playoff schedule

### Today

Forsan softball vs. Lockney, 5 p.m., Lubbock Christian University.

### Friday

Big Spring baseball vs. Canyon Randall, 7 p.m., Texas Tech University, Lubbock.

Coahoma baseball vs. Early, 6:30 p.m., McMurry University, Abilene.

Coahoma softball vs. Clyde, 5 p.m., San Angelo Central High School

### Saturday

Howard College softball vs. Midland College, Region V tournament, 11:30 a.m., Odessa College.

Big Spring baseball vs. Canyon Randall, 1 p.m., Lubbock High School (third game, if necessary, follows 30 minutes after conclusion).

Coahoma baseball vs. Early, 4 p.m., McMurry University, Abilene (third game, if necessary, follows 30 minutes after conclusion).

Coahoma softball vs. Clyde, 2 p.m., San Angelo Central High School (third game, if necessary, follows 30 minutes after conclusion).

## 'Los Suns' go up 2-0 on San Antonio

PHOENIX (AP) — Arguments about illegal immigration took a back seat to basketball at tip-off of Game 2 of the Western Conference semifinal series between Phoenix and San Antonio.

Only the words "Los Suns" on the Phoenix jerseys were a reminder of the hornets' nest Suns owner Robert Sarver stirred up when he asked the players if they would wear the jerseys to celebrate diversity and the Latin community — and to protest Arizona's new anti-illegal immigration law.

If the issue was a distraction, it certainly didn't show, especially in the fourth quarter when the Suns pulled away for a 110-102 victory

Wednesday night to go up 2-0. The best-of-seven series shifts to San Antonio for Game 3 on Friday night.

"I'm proud of our owner for making this stand but we're not out there to alienate," Phoenix's Steve Nash said. "We want this to be all about love in our community. People, regardless of whether they agree with me or not, we have love for everybody."

That love would not apply to the Spurs, at least when the game's on.

Amare Stoudemire had 23 points and 11 rebounds and Channing Frye made 5 of 6 3-pointers to lead the Suns in a game that ended with almost the same score of Game

1, when Phoenix won 111-102.

Nash and Jason Richardson scored 19 points apiece and Grant Hill added 18 in a grind-it-out game played at the Spurs' pace until the Suns started hitting 3-pointers. After starting 1 of 7 from long range, Phoenix made eight of its next 12.

Tim Duncan had 29 points and 10 rebounds and Richard Jefferson rebounded from a poor Game 1 with 18 points and 10 rebounds for San Antonio. Tony Parker added 20 points for the Spurs.

"I have to say the impressive thing to me with the win was the team effort," Nash said. "So many guys made plays for our team tonight,

and I can't remember really being a part of a team that's had so many guys step up and play well."

Manu Ginobili, guarded mainly by Hill, was 2 of 8 from the field, including just 1 of 2 in the second half, but had 11 assists for San Antonio. Hill also made two big shots down the stretch.

"Grant Hill never ceases to amaze me," Phoenix coach Alvin Gentry said. "There's a 37-year-old — he hates when I say that. Here's a guy who plays on our team that's been in the league for a long, long time. He just does a good job. Everything we ask him to do, never complains. He's always on the best perimeter player.

He never complains. He just plays. He'll forever be my favorite player. He really will."

San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich singled out Frye.

"He might have had one that was open, but the rest were contested," Popovich said. "When he does that, they're very, very difficult to guard."

The Spurs outshot Phoenix 51 percent to 42 percent but the Suns outrebounded taller San Antonio 49-37, including 18-7 on the offensive end.

Stoudemire made just 5 of 16 shots but was 11 of 13 at the free throw line. The Suns outscored the Spurs by 14 at the line, going 29 of 37 to San

See **SPURS**, Page 2B

## Fans bid farewell to Harwell

DETROIT (AP) — Fans lined the sidewalk outside Comerica Park in downtown Detroit Thursday to pay their final respects to cherished broadcaster Ernie Harwell, who many Tigers fans consider the eternal voice of summer.

Hundreds of fans lined up overnight to view an open casket bearing Harwell — wearing his signature fedora — that was positioned behind metal barriers just inside the stadium's front gate.

The casket was placed near a life-sized statue of the Hall of Fame broadcaster, microphone in hand, with the inscription, "The Tigers' broadcasting legend and masterful storyteller for 42 seasons." Several large portraits and memorial bouquets also were set in place.

Harwell died Tuesday of cancer at age 92.

Bud Sommerville, 54, of the Detroit suburb of Westland, who was wearing a blue Tigers jacket, arrived at the ballpark before midnight to ensure that he was first in line to pay his final respects to the man he said "treated you like he knew you forever."

"I felt I had to be here to say goodbye," said Sommerville,

See **HARWELL**, Page 2B

## Rangers fall out of AL west lead

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Nobody's playing great baseball in the wide-open AL West. The Oakland Athletics are back in first place for now — at only one game above .500.

Eric Patterson homered, Trevor Cahill won in his second start since getting called up from the minors and the A's beat the Texas Rangers 4-1 on Wednesday to reclaim the division's top spot and take the series.

"I think that's big in the clubhouse," closer and reigning AL Rookie of the Year Andrew Bailey said. "Everyone knows we have a young team. To be able to go out there and win a series against division rivals, that's going hold strong for late in the season and

give us that confidence that we need to continue."

Ryan Sweeney and Kevin Kouzmanoff produced consecutive RBI groundouts in the first as the A's (15-14) staked Cahill to an early lead. Patterson connected for his second homer leading off the fifth against Colby Lewis (3-1).

Cahill (1-1), a 10-game winner last season as a rookie, allowed only two baserunners past first in five solid innings to earn the victory. He was brought up from Triple-A Sacramento last Friday to start at Toronto as the A's deal with an injury-depleted pitching staff.

The Rangers won the first four

games of their road trip before dropping the last two, losing their first series in the last three.

"We can execute better," manager Ron Washington said. "We've got to make sure we continue to pound and get them in the right frame of mind. There are still some guys in that lineup trying to find themselves. We go according to the middle of our lineup. They go, we go."

Daric Barton had an RBI single, doubled and scored a run for the A's. The Rangers had led the division for the first time all season the previous three days.

See **TEXAS**, Page 2B

## Astros break 8-game skid, down Arizona

HOUSTON (AP) — Carlos Lee's first home run of the season came at the perfect time.

Lee's two-run shot in the ninth inning propelled Houston over the Arizona Diamondbacks 4-2 Wednesday night and ended the Astros' eight-game losing streak.

"It was great, a great feeling, especially to come back and win that game," Lee said.

Kaz Matsui drew a leadoff walk before Lee sent a long drive over the train tracks in left field off Juan Gutierrez (0-4).

"He made a mistake," Arizona manager A.J. Hinch said. "The lead-off walk didn't dictate the home run, but it certainly rose the tension in the situation and Lee went up and

ambushed him pretty much with the first-pitch fastball."

Lee averaged nearly 30 homers and more than 100 RBIs in his first three years with Houston. This home run came in his 100th at-bat of the season — the three-time All-Star slugger began the day hitting just .198.

He said he was frustrated by his lack of production earlier this season, but that he'd been feeling better lately.

"At the beginning I was because I was striking out a lot," he said. "I wasn't making good contact. But I've been swinging the bat pretty decent lately and unfortunately it hasn't showed much on the average."

Astros closer Matt Lindstrom (1-0) gave up back-to-back singles with

one out in the ninth, but got out of the jam when Kelly Johnson grounded into a double play.

The Astros hope the stirring win can help them get back on track. They've had two eight-game losing streaks in their first 27 games this season.

"We needed that bad," Michael Bourn said. "Even though it's just one win, we just needed to get that going. To have a win like that in that fashion ... was great."

Starting pitchers Rodrigo Lopez and Brett Myers each gave up two runs in seven innings.

Lopez yielded a season-low three hits and struck out four before Aaron Heilman took over for the eighth.

See **ASTROS**, Page 2B

# Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-18-28-33-49-54.  
Number matching six of six: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 1-2-8-27-35.  
Number matching five of five: 0.

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

4-0-6-2. Sum It Up: 12

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

3-7-6. Sum It Up: 16

# Support Groups

## THURSDAY

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

## FRIDAY

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

# Obituaries

## Anna Marie Fish

Anna Marie Fish, 89, of Big Spring died Wednesday, May 5, 2010, in a local nursing home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 8, 2010, at the First Christian Church with the Rev. Ken McIntosh, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday, May 7, 2010, at the funeral home.

Survivors include four sons and daughters-in-law, Dr. John R. and Donna Fish of Big Spring, Dr. Gary Edd and Nancy Fish of Dallas, Dr. Kent and Anne Fish of San Angelo, and Dr. Barry and Marty Fish of Lake Jackson; 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

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

## Marsha Burciaga

Marsha Burciaga, 38, of Mena, Ark., died Tuesday May 4, 2010.

Ms. Burciaga is survived by her sons, Michael Buricaga and Tony Burciaga; daughters, Misty Burciaga and Felicia Burciaga; father, Ricky Martin; mother, Sarah Kinman; stepfather, Allen Kinman; sister, Sierra Hinojosa; brothers, Richard Martin, David Martin, Jason Johnson and Austin Hinojosa; grandparents and grandchildren.

Interment in Witherspoon Cemetery, Vandervoort, Ark.

## Lady Fred Caffey

Lady Fred Caffey of Midland, formerly of Big Spring died Thursday, May 6, 2010, in Midland. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Esperanza Bustamante

Esperanza Bustamante, 80, of Del Rio, formerly of Big Spring died Wednesday, May 5, 2010, in a Del Rio nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

# Police blotter

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

- SONIA LEOS, 27, of 509 W. Eighth St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- JAMIE LEOS MONTES, 33, of 305 E. Ninth St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- ASHLEY DAWN SMITH, 24, of 1710 S. Young St., was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for bail jumping – failure to appear.
- FRANKLIN KYLE CASEY, 48, of 1704 W. Fourth St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- MICAH LEVI PEARSON, 24, of 1106 W. Third St., Apt. 4, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- THEFT was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1000 block of S. Birdwell.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported near the intersection of 18th Street and Young.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported: In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street. In the 1100 block of W. Third Street.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 500 block of E. 17th Street.

# Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 60 inmates at the time of this report.

- BRITTANY SHIANNE FRITZ, 22, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of delivery of marijuana.
- SONIA LEOS, 27, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- JAMIE MONTES, 33, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of parent contributing to the non-attendance of a minor and public intoxication.
- JUAN ROBERTO MENJAREZ, 53, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- JOHN WILLIAM SALAZAR, 34, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of bondsman off bond for theft of property.
- PAMELA DARLENE WEATHERBY, 45, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of a controlled substance.
- ASHLEY DAWN SMITH, 24, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of bail jumping – failure to appear.
- ANDRES LEE JUAREZ, 28, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on municipal warrants for no insurance, violation of a promise to appear (two counts), failure to control speed, failure to appear and no seat belt.
- FRANKLIN KYLE CASEY, 48, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

# Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 2200 block of Cecilia. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4900 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of FM 700 and Miami. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.

# Take Note

• On May 22, the Howard County Road Kill Running Club (HCRK) will host the first Bob Fishback 5K fun run/walk in Comanche Trail Park. The event will start at the Alice Hayes Pavilion

which is located by the Kids' Zone play area. All proceeds will be donated to the Fishback family to help pay for medical expenses. Entry fee is \$20 and there will be awards for first through third place female and male participants. You can either pre-register, or register the morning of the event. Registration will open at 6:30 a.m. You can download the flyer at <http://pages.suddenlink.net/hcrk/docs/Annual%20Bob%20Fishback.pdf>

• If you were laid off between December 2008 and March 2010 and are interested in training, contact the Workforce Solutions Permian Basin office in Big Spring at 263-8373 or 1-800-749-8373. Training dollars are available to assist those affected by the layoffs and ultimate plant closure.



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# Africa fills with pride as World Cup looms

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — A dozen young boys stood at the edge of a soccer field, one that looks typically African — patchy grass at the edges, dark red dirt in the middle.

Asked who they thought would win the upcoming World Cup, the boys shouted the familiar names: Brazil! England! Spain!

Last to go was Dennis Njoroge.

“Nigeria,” said the shy 15-year-old.

The other dozen boys burst out in applause.

Why Nigeria? “Because the World Cup is in Africa,” he said.

The first World Cup in Africa starts in a little over a month, and soccer fans from Algeria to Zimbabwe are turning their gaze toward host nation South Africa with a swell of continental pride.

Billboards in Liberia read “For the Love of the game. We can’t wait. Let’s go 2010.” In Ivory Coast, a World Cup qualifier, 2010 is the year of the Elephants, the team’s mascot. In

Cameroon, street signs tout the “Indomitable Lions.” Kenya Airways’ in-flight magazine calls the coming tournament “Africa’s greatest moment of football history.”

“Finally the World Cup has come to Africa,” said Benjamin Kanga, a teacher reading the sports pages at a news stand in Abidjan, Ivory Coast’s capital. “It’s about time, because football is a unifying force, a reconciling force, something we Africans need to think about right now.”

Africa has six nations in the World Cup, from the continent’s Arabic-speaking northern rim, its French-speaking west and English-speaking south. Given a pop quiz as his friends dribbled balls nearby, Njoroge correctly named five: Algeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and South Africa. He missed only Cameroon.

No African team has made a World Cup final, but fans across the continent note that more African players are playing for European

clubs, adding to Africa’s skill base. Of the six African teams, bookmakers give Ivory Coast the best odds, but at 30-1 it is far behind the favorites named by the Kenyan boys.

That didn’t stop Kanga from predicting victory for Ivory Coast.

“We’re going far. We’re even going to beat Brazil. You heard it here first,” he said. “The Elephants are going to make us proud. They’re going to make all of Africa proud.”

Africa, particularly its most troubled communities, could use a shot of pride. The continent is the poorest in the world, held back by malnutrition, dirty water, HIV, malaria and corruption.

A recent visit to Nairobi West Prison — where Njoroge and his friends played on the prison-yard field, and where their parents work — showed how hundreds of thousands of Africans will watch the World Cup.

Sixty people, prison workers and family members,

gathered inside a recreation room on a recent Saturday to watch Manchester United and Tottenham. They crowded in front of two 22-inch TVs.

In Akobo, Sudan — described by the U.N. as the hungriest place on earth — men play soccer daily on a field of dust. The town hosts thousands of refugees fleeing violence and seeking food, and people are only marginally aware that the World Cup is coming, said Peter Yien, a resident. He doesn’t expect to watch any matches. The town of thousands has only one TV.

It’s precisely that kind of a dire scene that has many Africans so filled with pride to host a sporting event that arouses passions around the world. Fans clutching \$10 tickets to early matches are already driving toward Africa’s southern tip.

“No one expected that one day Africa could host the World Cup, so this is a victory for Africa,” said Joana Joaquim Covane, a housewife living in Maputo, Mozambique.

## HARWELL

Continued from Page 1B

adding that he met Harwell “hundreds of times” at games and events.

“I met him for the first time at the ballpark. I guess the last time I will see him is at the ballpark.”

Across the street, the marquee of the Fox Theatre read: “Thanks for the memories Ernie.” Other venues also had similar public messages.

Inside the ballpark, some mourners knelt, others made the sign of the cross, while many snapped photos and removed their old English “D” caps while standing in front of the casket. Detroit Tigers general manager Dave Dombrowski greeted mourners after they paid their respects.

A half hour after the viewing began, the cool morning air was filled with plaintive tones of a trumpet outside the stadium, pointed in Harwell’s direction, playing taps.

“I’ve been listening to him forever. I just felt like I needed to do it,” said Bill Ebbitt, 58, of Garden City.

The Tigers said the viewing would continue until the last fan had said goodbye.

Family members will hold a private funeral service.

## ASTROS

Continued from Page 1B

Tommy Manzella’s first career home run — a two-run shot to left field — put Houston ahead 2-1 in the second. It broke a streak of five straight games without a home run for the Astros and gave them double the runs they’d managed in the previous two games combined.

“The pitching has been doing a really good job and we haven’t scored the runs and that’s been the problem there,” Lee said.

Lopez retired 13 of the next 14 batters after the homer. He walked Lance Berkman in the seventh inning before Hunter Pence grounded into a double play.

Myers got some help from center fielder Bourn in the seventh in-

ning. Bourn sprinted almost to the wall in right-center field to snag a fly ball hit by Johnson for the first out.

Bourn then slipped and fell as he was chasing a fly ball by Stephen Drew, but managed to stretch his glove out just enough to catch that one, too.

“He made two great plays,” Myers said. “The fans appreciated it. I appreciated it and

that’s what good center fielders do and he’s one of the best.”

Myers gave up six hits and struck out six before Brandon Lyon pitched a perfect eighth inning.

Arizona took the lead in the second when Gerardo Parra hit a run-scoring triple that hit just above Lee’s head on the wall in left field.

Parra added an RBI double in the fourth that made it 2-all.

Wednesday was Arizona’s 10th straight game on the road and Hinch thought it was wearing on his team.

“We were a little dead early and I wasn’t expecting it,” he said. “Everyone is going to go through these three-city tours, but we’re pros, we need to step up and do our jobs. Yes, it’s been long. Yes, it’s been taxing. Yes, we’ve lost some close games, but

that doesn’t give us an excuse to come out flat or miss our opportunities.”

NOTES: Houston’s Kevin Cash started at catcher after having his contract purchased from Triple-A Round Rock a night earlier. ... About 20 people gathered outside Minute Maid Park before the game to protest Arizona’s new immigration law on the Cinco de Mayo holiday.

## TEXAS

Continued from Page 1B

Cahill gave the A’s a boost after their starters had gone 1-6 over the past eight games.

“The biggest thing was I made pitches when I had to,” Cahill said. “I was throwing my sinker in to righties and getting groundballs to get some double plays. My sinker was a lot better today, and I was able to throw it well for strikes.”

Brad Ziegler pitched a per-

fect eighth and Bailey finished the 2-hour, 26-minute game with a 1-2-3 ninth for his fifth save in as many chances. Bailey hasn’t allowed a run in a career-best 20 2-3 innings dating to last Sept. 6 and has converted 26 straight saves overall.

Lewis was coming off consecutive 10-strikeout games but he labored through six innings and saw his pitch count go up in a hurry. He was done after 105 and couldn’t beat his former team the way Rich Harden did Monday in the series opener.

“There were a lot of times I felt like I was forcing my pitches,” Lewis said. “I got slider happy and didn’t really mix my pitches well.”

Vladimir Guerrero had an RBI single in the sixth for the Rangers’ lone run, which was unearned after Michael Young got aboard on Kouzmanoff’s throwing error at third base to start the inning.

Washington offered to give Guerrero a day off after he had a grand slam and five RBIs in Tuesday’s 7-6 loss.

“Before I could get it out he said no,” Washington said.

Since last May 31, the Rangers are 4-11 against the A’s, who improved to 8-3 in day games.

NOTES: A’s starter Justin Duchscherer received a cortisone injection in his sore left hip. He will try to throw early next week. ... Sweeney saw the end to a stretch of 37 straight home games reaching base. ... Oakland’s Rajai Davis stole his 12th base in 13 attempts. ... Texas leadoff man Elvis Andrus was caught stealing for the fourth time. ... The A’s recalled hard-throwing RHP Henry Rodriguez, who has

been clocked at 100 mph, from Triple-A Sacramento to help the bullpen and optioned RHP Vin Mazzaro to Sacramento after his spot start Tuesday. ... The Rangers return home for a stretch of 14 in 17 games at Arlington. Bench coach Jackie Moore rejoined the team this series following the death of his daughter. ... Ziegler has purchased 200 tickets for military families to attend Saturday’s game vs. Tampa Bay through his new foundation “Pastime for Patriots,” helping the team salute Armed Forces Day.

www.bigspringherald.com



By Steve Becker

### Declarers Don't Have Nine Lives

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
 ♠K 10 5  
 ♥A 9 5  
 ♦A 9 8 4  
 ♣K J 3

**WEST**  
 ♠8 3  
 ♥10 4  
 ♦Q 6 5 3  
 ♣10 8 6 4 2

**EAST**  
 ♠J 9 7 6  
 ♥7 6 2  
 ♦K 10 2  
 ♣Q 7 5

**SOUTH**  
 ♠A Q 4 2  
 ♥K Q J 8 3  
 ♦J 7  
 ♣A 9

The bidding:  
 South West North East  
 1♥ Pass 2NT Pass  
 3♣ Pass 4♥ Pass  
 5♠ Pass 5♦ Pass  
 6♥

trapped East’s queen and given him three club tricks.

**South should have seen that**, with the nine in his hand, playing low from dummy would assure three club tricks whenever West held the ten or queen of clubs (or both). If East produced the ten, South could later finesse West for the queen. Playing the clubs in this fashion could not cost, since even if the later club finesse lost, South’s diamond loser could be discarded on the club king.

**Declarer’s second error** consisted of playing three rounds of trumps. He should have stopped after two rounds and then tried three rounds of spades. If the spades were divided 3-3 (or if the jack fell doubleton), South could then draw the last trump to assure 12 tricks.

**If the spades turned out** to be divided 4-2 and the player with the four spades had the last trump, as in the actual deal, declarer could ruff his fourth spade in dummy to make the slam. Even if the player with the third trump had only two spades and ruffed the third spade, this approach would not cost an extra trick, since South could later ruff his last spade in dummy.

**Declarer would have made** all 13 tricks had he played correctly. However, he fumbled twice — the second time fatally. Cats may have nine lives, but two’s the limit for declarers.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.  
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## SPURS

Continued from Page 1B

Antonio’s 15 of 22.

“It was one of those games where you think that you have it,” Parker said, “and they just make shot after big shot

in the second half.”

San Antonio led the entire first half before the second unit, led by the hustling Jared Dudley, helped Phoenix climb into a 51-51 tie at the break.

There was almost no evidence in the loud arena of the storm stirred

up on Tuesday when Sarver issued a statement saying the team would wear “Los Suns” on their jerseys, to celebrate diversity on Cinco de Mayo but also to protest the immigration bill passed by the Arizona legislature and signed by Gov. Jan Brewer.

The bill has drawn criticism from civil rights groups and others, including President Barack Obama, who called it “misguided.”

Obama even mentioned the issue at a news conference Wednesday, referring to the series between the Spurs “and Los Suns of Phoenix.”

“The team stood up for that part of our community because I think that’s the side of this bill that could open the door to racial profiling and racism,” Nash said. “and I’m talking about American citizens who are Latino. Their quality of life and freedoms could change because of this bill.”

There was a lone protester outside the arena and few if any seemed to boycott the game, as some had threatened on talk radio early in the day.

Phoenix led by 11

points early in the second quarter but the second unit, led by Dudley, got the team back in the game, especially with its work on the offensive boards.

“I thought in the first half that Jared Dudley changed the whole game,” Popovich said. “He came in and he was committed to the boards and it became infectious.”

Referee Ron Garretson left the game after the third quarter with a leg injury. Fellow ref Joey Crawford said Garretson injured his Achilles’ tendon. Substitute referee David Jones worked the final quarter.

NOTES: Gentry said injured C Robin Lopez will travel with the team to San Antonio but there is no timetable on when he might appear in a game. ... The are 3-0 wearing “Los Suns” jerseys this season. ... Sarver gave his usual center court seats to his children and sat at the far end of the front row. ... George Hill again was San Antonio’s starting point guard but Parker started the second half for the second straight game and played 36 minutes to Hill’s 30.

su | do | ku  
 © Puzzles by Pappocom

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. Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

► News in brief

**Official: NYC car bomb suspect did a dry run 3 days before failed attack**

NEW YORK (AP) — In the days before his failed attempt to detonate a car bomb in the heart of Times Square, the man who had recently returned from his native Pakistan did a dry run and dropped off a getaway car blocks from the site, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press.

Faisal Shahzad, now in custody on terrorism and weapons charges, drove a 1993 Nissan Pathfinder to Times Square from Connecticut on April 28, apparently to figure out where would be the best place to leave it later, the official said. He then returned April 30 to drop off a black Isuzu, according to the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the investigation.

The official said Shahzad went back Saturday and left the SUV loaded with firecrackers, gasoline and propane, enough to likely create a fireball and kill nearby tourists and Broadway theatergoers had it gone off successfully.

Shahzad, 30, a Pakistani-American from Connecticut, admitted to rigging the Pathfinder with a crude bomb based on explosives training he received in Pakistan, authorities say. He was pulled off a plane Monday headed for Dubai and has been cooperating with investigators. For a second day Wednesday, he had yet to appear in Manhattan federal court.

Kifyat Ali, a cousin of Shahzad's father, has called the arrest "a conspiracy."

**Boat with 100-ton containment contraption to capture Gulf oil gusher sails to disaster site**

ON THE GULF OF MEXICO (AP) — A 100-ton concrete-and-steel contraption designed to siphon off the oil fouling the Gulf of Mexico was being hauled to the spot in the sea where a blown-out well is spewing hundreds of thousands of gallons of petroleum a day.

Engineers hope it will be the best short-term solution to controlling the leak that has only worsened since it began two weeks ago.

A boat hauling the specially built containment box and dome structure pushed off Wednesday evening from the Louisiana coast and was expected to arrive at the site of the disaster sometime Thursday.

The Joe Griffin will meet up with another BP-chartered boat, the Boa Sub C, a Norwegian vessel that will use a crane to lower the contraption to the seafloor to cover the gusher of oil spewing from the seabed — something that has never been tried before at such depths. BP spokesman Bill Salvin said the drop is expected at about noon on Thursday.

The dome-like top of the structure is designed to

act like a funnel and siphon the oil up through 5,000 feet of pipe and onto a tanker at the surface. Oil has been gushing into the Gulf of Mexico at a rate of at least 200,000 gallons a day since an offshore drilling rig exploded and sank last month, killing 11 people.

**Britain holds historic election that could transform politics steeped in tradition**

LONDON (AP) — Polls in Britain's razor-edge election opened early Thursday — in a race that is likely to reshape the country's politics in historic ways.

Should Gordon Brown cling to power, his Labour Party will have pulled off one of the most unlikely political comebacks in modern times. Victory for the Conservatives' David Cameron would return his once-discredited party to office after 13 years.

More likely — in an election with important consequences for everything from the war in Afghanistan to the global economy — there will be no clear winner but an unprecedented boost for the Liberal Democrats and their leader Nick Clegg.

Britain's tabloids pulled the trigger in Thursday's race with the Daily Mirror running a picture of Cameron along with the words, "Prime Minister? Really?" The Sun, meanwhile, superimposed Cameron's face onto President Barack Obama's infamous technicolor poster that read, "Hope."

**Russian special forces storm oil tanker from helicopter, free crew and arrest Somali pirates**

ABOARD THE HSWSM CARLSKRONA (AP) — Russian special forces rappelled onto a disabled oil tanker taken over by Somali pirates, freeing 23 Russian sailors and arresting the pirates during a dawn raid Thursday, the commander of the EU Naval Force said.

The raid against the Liberian-flagged ship Moscow University came 24 hours after pirates had taken the ship over and the crew locked itself in a safe room. The vessel is carrying 86,000 tons of crude oil worth about \$50 million.

The special forces had been aboard the Russian anti-submarine destroyer Marshal Shaposhnikov, which rushed to the scene after Wednesday's attack. The special forces boarded a helicopter and rappelled down to the Moscow University, Rear Adm. Jan Thornqvist, force commander of the EU Naval Force, told The Associated Press.

Shots were fired during the raid but no one was injured, Thornqvist said.

Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Col. Alexei Kuznetsov said the pirates are being held aboard

the tanker. Russian news agencies reported the death of one pirate during the raid, but Kuznetsov told AP that information was still being looked into.

**Greek bank workers strike over deaths during protests; deputies to vote on new austerity plan**

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Greek bank workers walked off the job in a 24-hour strike Thursday to protest the deaths of three colleagues trapped in a bank torched by protesters during massive demonstrations against the government's new harsh austerity measures.

Wednesday's deaths — the first such fatalities in protests in nearly 20 years in Greece — have shocked the public in a country where violence during demonstrations is frequent but rarely results in casualties.

"I have difficulty in finding the words to express my distress and outrage," President Karolos Papoulias said late Wednesday. "Our country came to the brink of the abyss. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that we don't step over the edge."

The deaths came as an estimated 100,000 people marched through Athens during a nationwide strike against additional austerity measures imposed to unlock a €10 billion (\$142 billion) rescue loan package for debt-ridden Greece from the International Monetary Fund and the other 15 countries that use the euro.

Deputies were debating the measures Thursday and were to vote on passing the draft bill on Thursday night. Prime Minister George Papandreou's Socialists hold a comfortable majority of 160 deputies in the 300-seat Parliament, and the bill is expected to pass easily.

**Meltdown probe hears from bailout architects Paulson, Geithner on 'shadow banking'**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A special panel investigating the financial crisis is preparing to hear from two key architects of the government's response: Former Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner.

Geithner and Paulson will provide their perspectives on the so-called "shadow banking system" — a largely unregulated world of capital and credit markets outside of traditional banks. They will describe their roles in selling Bear Stearns to JP-Morgan Chase & Co. after pressure from "shadow banking" companies made Bear the first major casualty of the crisis.

The pair will testify Thursday morning before the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, a bipartisan panel established by Congress to probe the roots of the financial crisis.

**ALON**

Continued from Page 1A

violations, was issued for hazards associated with process safety management including: written operating procedures that did not cover steps for temporary operations; emergency shutdown that did not address gas

valves and air induction damper positions; emergency operations that did not ensure operating procedures addressed steps to be taken when a boiler is not capable of producing required steam; startup after emergency shutdown that did not provide written start-up procedures for a boiler following an emergency shut down; a pre-startup

safety review that did not confirm construction equipment was in accordance with design and specifications; and an emergency action plan that did not include procedures for small releases.

According to OSHA officials, a serious violation is one in which there is substantial probability that death or serious physical

harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.

The repeat citation has been issued for hazards associated with process safety management where the employer did not investigate incidents that resulted in or could have resulted in a catastrophic release of highly hazardous

chemicals, according to the press release. OSHA defines a repeat violation as one where the employer has been previously cited for the same or similar hazard within the past three years.

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

**PLANTS**

Continued from Page 1A

Master Gardener training classes are held every other year from January through May. There are 16 classes of about three hours each on a range of subjects.

"We have excellent speakers for every class from all over Texas,"

said Coates. "The classes are very hands on."

To become a Master Gardener, students must complete classroom hours and volunteer hours. Members also complete a few classroom hours each year to keep their knowledge base up to date.

County Extension agent Tommy Yeater determines what classes

are offered and what projects the group is involved in.

Upcoming ideas for the future include a Tour of Gardens for the public, a booth at the Funtastic Fourth celebration July 4, and a Junior Master Gardener program.

"For our graduation this year, May 22, we will do a tour of homes, seeing great gardens

in Big Spring, followed by a ceremony," said Coates.

Officers include Randy Sanders, president; Shelly Borgstedte, vice president; Pat Porter, treasurer; Vickie Cheyne, secretary; and Shirley Ryle, Web site manager.

Bill McClellan can be contacted at 263-7331,

ext. 235 or by e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

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**STATE**

Continued from Page 1A

regional speech championship team award.

Newsom, Freeman and Lewis are already veterans of state academic meets. All three earned

berths at the UIL state CX debate contest held in March. Team Freeman and Lewis placed ninth in the competition.

Grady High School senior Sam Harryman placed first in social studies at the Regional UIL meet and will be attending the UIL State Academic meet in Austin this weekend as well.

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**AN ENCOURAGING WORD**  
By Eddy Pitchford

Where did the month of April go? Where has the first third of this year gone? It seems that days, weeks, months and years zip past like jets passing turtles! In view of such, it is imperative that we make the most of each day and wisely use our time.  
"For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night." (Psalm 90:4).  
"Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." (Psalm 90:12).  
"But encourage one another daily, as along as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness." (Hebrews 3:13).

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**Garage Sales**

**2 FAMILY** Garage Sale: 600 Edwards Circle, Saturday 8-11. Chair, kitchen table w/chairs, knick-knacks, household items, clothes and lots more.

**2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE:** Coahoma 411 North 1st Street, Saturday 8:00-? Kids toys, boys & girl clothing, above ground swimming pool, and misc.

**2 FAMILY** Yard Sale: 3915 Dixon, Saturday 8-12. Too much to list. Come See.

**BACKYARD SALE,** 2605 Larry, Friday & Saturday, 8:00-? Bedroom suite, sofa table, end tables, kitchen tables, chairs, TV stand, dog houses, lots of misc.

**CARPOT SALE:** Saturday 8:00-2:00, 500 North 1st (Coahoma). Washer, dryer, tires, tread mill, some furniture, fishing box, card table, lots of misc.

**GARAGE SALE** at 3613 Dixon St. Saturday, 7am-12pm. Tons of kids clothes, toys, and stuff for everyone.

**MULTI FAMILY** Garage Sale. Saturday 8am-12pm. Household items, clothes, computer keyboard, and much more. 2805 Navajo Dr.

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**SATURDAY 9-1,** Exercise equipment, key cutting machine, dishwasher, home interior deco., end/outdoor paint, cookie jars, misc. items AAA Storage OFF FM 700 #93 (Main Entrance).

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**DO YOU** or someone you know want to work from home? Earn \$500 to \$5,000 per month Part Time. www.freathome123.com or 888-252-5310.

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select Employment Listings select Field Operations select Gas Compressor Mechanic then create your resume using the instructions shown no later than May 10, 2010.

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**LEARNING TREE** Academy now hiring friendly energetic Infant Caregiver with High School Diploma or equivalent. Experience preferred, but will train right person. Must pass background and drug test. Apply in person.

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**NEEDED PART** time help. Merle Norman, Big Spring Mall. Friday Evening and Saturday work required. Apply in person, no phone calls.

**NEEDED: CONSTRUCTION** Superintendent for project at Big Spring VA. Must be experienced with good communication and scheduling skills. Please send resume to or e-mail questions to choctaw@wf.net

**Help Wanted**

**PIPE FITTERS,** welders, and helpers needed for a 12-month project in the Big Spring, Texas with a well-established company based in Dallas, Texas. Applicants must pass a drug test and physical exam. Call Keith Erdman 214-226-1297.

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**SECURITY OFFICERS** Needed for Hospital Federal Inmate Protection detail. All positions are Part-time and PRN.

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**FOUND MIXED** breed dog near 700 in the Kentwood area. Looks like its 1/2 Pekingese an 1/2 Poodle. Call (432)213-4756 to claim.

**I'M LOST.** My name is BJ. I'm a black male Doberman. If you find me please help me get back home to my mama. I left home with my collar and tags. Last seen at Washington Blvd. and 11th Place. Call Ronda at (432)466-9729 or 267-5945. REWARD.

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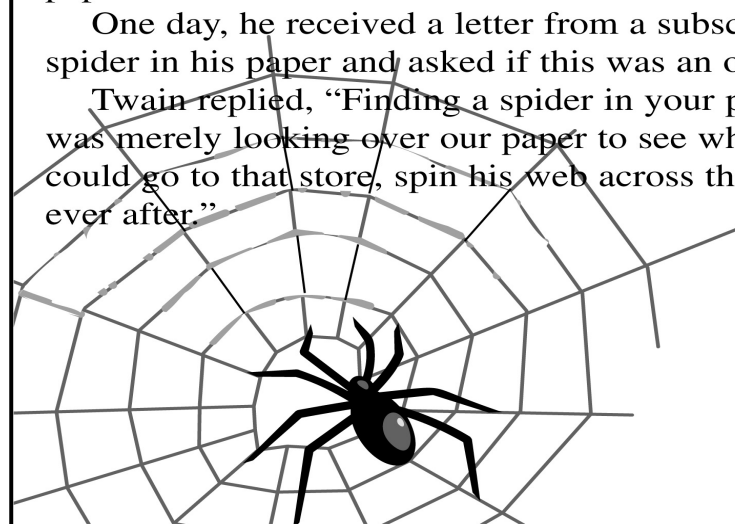
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During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

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 ever after."



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# EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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Publisher

**John A. Moseley**  
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**Bill McClellan**  
News Editor

## OUR VIEW

# Let's help make NALC food drive truly successful

Neither rain, nor sleet, nor dark of night will keep these carriers from their appointed rounds. That will be important Saturday when the National Association of Letter Carriers holds its 18th annual National Food Drive to "Stamp Out Hunger."

And local letter carriers say they're hoping to be able to collect 15,000 pounds of food here in the Big Spring area.

More importantly, every item donated locally will stay right here in Howard County, since the letter carriers plan to give all of their collections to the Salvation Army here in Big Spring.

The drive, which stocks local food banks and pantries, is scheduled at a time of year for an extremely good reason, according to NALC officials. It's slated when many children seem to be especially vulnerable — when many school lunch programs are suspended during the summer months and low income families have difficulty providing basic nutrition.

Millions of postcards, sponsored by the Campbell Soup Co. and the U.S. Postal Service, have been delivered to postal customers to remind them of the drive. Other supporters of the drive are local United Ways, the AFL-CIO and Feeding America, formerly known as America's Second Harvest.

Making a donation is easy.

Even if you didn't get a reminder in the mail, all you have to do to take part is place non-perishable food donations in a bag near your mail box before your letter carrier arrives on Saturday. The letter carriers will do the rest.

Or, if you're uncomfortable leaving the food in a bag near the mailbox, the letter carriers will have a drop point at the Big Spring Post Office.

This will be the second year that the carriers have decided to place a drop point at the post office. Donations can be dropped off at the loading dock behind the Post Office.

While the carriers' goal of 15,000 pounds of food seems somewhat lofty to some, particularly since last year's drive was not as successful as they'd have liked, it really isn't.

What's important is our participation.

With more than 15,000 postal patrons served here, just one can of food from every patron would be enough to surpass that stated goal.

So we are asking that you take the time to gather together cans, bags or boxes of food — anything that won't spoil will be acceptable. Then on Saturday morning, place your bag of food near your mailbox or make the short drive to the post office and drop off your donation.

Let's all of us help those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

## YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

Aren't you tired of listening to candidates who claim if we elect them they will somehow "fix" Big Spring's water problem? The only way to "fix" the problem is pray the Lord will send enough rain to fill the reservoirs where we get our water. CRMWD only has limited supply and you can't get water out of Lake J.B. Thomas when the lake is so low it doesn't reach the Big Spring intake valve.

People have been complaining since I moved here in the early 1960s about taxes going up and how they don't see where their tax monies are being spent. Now we have a mayor and council where we can see something tangible and worthwhile — actual progress being made to replace our aging water system; and a new water park for our youth to replace an out of date, out of compliance municipal pool; and investing in our downtown business center.

Ask yourself this, if you were a family with

See **LETTER**, Page 5A

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Today, Lord, may we make someone feel extra special by showing Your love.

Amen

# Tax policy: Time to start over?

Some serious and high-minded rich people calling themselves "Wealth for the Common Good" think they might ought to pay higher taxes. Not only themselves of course, but all upper-income Americans as well.

Got bucks? Pony up!

As you might expect, this feeling is not rampant among the prosperous set, so it is good for their personal safety that the "Wealthers" cannot be readily identified by hair color, tattoos, or other insignia.

The burr under their saddle is that the rich actually pay a lower percentage of their total income in taxes than do the poor. In my state, Connecticut, this inequity plays out as a 6 percent rate for the richest vs. 12 percent for the working poor. These calculations lump in sales, property, income, excise, service, phone, electric and all other manner of public levies.

Appropriately then, the heaviest Washington-in-fighting just now is the hand-to-hand combat over the humongous tax breaks the rich received during George W. Bush's presidency. They expire at the end of this year, and include both income and estate taxes.

You won't be astonished to hear that aside from the "Wealthers," the fat cats want to keep those breaks

Or that most Democrats want

to reclaim that lost revenue for higher purpose.

But the rich, while few in number, are many in lobbyists, who make colossal campaign contributions. Who knows what will happen?

More subtle is the question of what should be taxed in the first place. The current hoopla in Washington is over adding a few cents in sales tax to soft drinks, a reasonable health, as well as revenue, proposition because of the empty calories.

But what about the heavy stuff — say, stocks and bonds?

There's no tax on them at all, even though we pay plenty for almost every other kind of transaction.

A five-tenths of 1 percent levy on the purchase of basic securities and maybe two-tenths on those yummy credit default swaps, would raise big bucks and hinder our current bent for wild speculation.

As would a similar tax on traffic in foreign currencies. That is one of the most speculative arenas in all investment and can have a thunderously devastating effect on the economies of small nations. Billions are made and lost, but transactions go totally unassessed.

Taking a tiny cut for government would dampen world financial game-playing, while boosting both our Treasury and those of the small countries that need help the most.

The Obama administration opposes any such new levies because, like most other world capitals, Washington is deeply influenced by Wall Street and its equivalents around the globe.

Bankers and brokers don't want anyone rocking their boat.

Neither do online retailers, the ones you order from on your computer. They have a fat deal going, too, by not charging the same tax on their goods that you would have to pay downtown.

These tax-free transactions, even when the law says you're supposed to pay, have helped impoverish states, cities and Main Street merchants.

Again, lobbyists for the big online companies and retailers have deterred Congress from ordering an effective collection and monitoring system.

Corporations play a similar decadent game with their own books. They shuffle profits from high-tax states to low-tax ones, or to ones with no corporate tax at all, or even to other countries.

Not long ago The New York Times ran a photo of Uglund House, a palm-fringed office building in the Cayman Islands where 19,000 separate companies are registered in order to avoid taxes back home.

In this season of budgetary trauma, politicians and media are more inclined to focus on which painful service cuts we must regretfully endure. Those that injure the poor are most popular.

New taxes, rules, or enforcement aimed at squeezing a fair share out of the rich are less often mentioned. That's one big reason our country is in such a financial mess.

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



# Freedom from health care? Really?

Trying to figure out the tea party movement puts one in the position of the blind man trying to understand the shape of an elephant by touch.

He puts his hand on its tail and he thinks it's like a snake. He feels the leg and it's a tree. The ear seems like a blanket to him.

So too, the tea party is made up of a lot of disparate elements — anti-abortion, anti-taxes, anti-immigration, anti-health-care expansion, anti-government in general. If it weren't for guns, they wouldn't be pro anything.

Basically, however, it's their feeling about government that binds them together. Someone once told them that the government that governs least governs best and they believed it.

They remind me of Huck Finn's father. He reappears early in "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," fresh out of jail and drunk. He virtually kidnaps his son, who has been adopted by the Widow Douglas, and takes Huck to his shack out in the woods, where he bemoans his lot.

"Call this a govment! Why, just look at it and see what it's like. Here's the law a-standing ready to take a man's son away from him — a man's own son, which he has had all the trouble and all

the anxiety and all the expense of raising.

"Yes, just as that man has got that son raised at last, and ready to go to work and begin to do suthin' for him and give him a rest, the law up and goes for him. And they call that govment!

"A man can't get his rights in a govment like this. Sometimes I've a mighty notion to just leave the country for good and all... Says I, for two cents I'd leave the blamed country and never come a-near it again. Them's the very words."

And, coincidentally, them's the very words of tea party fellow traveler Rush Limbaugh, aren't they? Didn't he say that if the health-care bill passed he'd leave the country? (Though if the object were to get away from national health insurance I don't know where he'd go. Somalia, maybe.)

Americans love to talk about how much they distrust government, always have. All of our great philosophers — Jefferson, Emerson, Thoreau, Reagan — have sung that tune. But Americans still cash their Social Security checks, demand their unemployment benefits, and are happy when someone answers their 911 call. It's the other guy's government benefits that bother them.

The level of hostility engendered by the health-care bill is a little puzzling, however. None of the arguments against it hold water.

• They say that we can't afford it. How can that be? Every other

industrialized country on Earth has some form of national health insurance. How can they all afford it and we can't?

• They say that it constitutes a government takeover of health care. It doesn't. I wish it did. It filters care through a system of insurance companies, and each of them takes its cut.

• They say it will lead to rationing and long lines. Only if we don't cut costs by eliminating tests and treatments that are unnecessary or don't work. Republicans don't seem willing to do that. Besides, you think we don't have rationing and long lines right now?

• They say we already have the best health-care system in the world and shouldn't mess with it. Nonsense. We may have the best care, but a system that leaves 15 percent of the people uninsured is far from the best.

• They say the health-care bill is unconstitutional. Oh, come on. Do you really think that when Washington, Franklin and the rest of that crowd were discussing the Bill of Rights, they said: "We have to make sure that the people are assured freedom from health care?"

On the other hand, given recent Supreme Court decisions, constitutional isn't what it used to be.

My own feeling is that anything that makes Rush Limbaugh want to leave the country can't be all bad.

*OtherWords columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Mich.*

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# Cell phones raise teen nighttime driving risks

AUSTIN (AP)—Nighttime driving is becoming more hazardous for American teenagers and the likely cause is talking and texting on cell phones while operating a vehicle, according to a study released Thursday.

The report by the Texas Transportation Institute said the proportion of fatal crashes at night involving drivers 16 to 19 years old nationwide increased 10 percent from 1999-2008. The percentage of nighttime fatal crashes involving drivers 20 years and older rose nearly 8 percent from 1999-2008.

While the increase in nighttime crashes in the older age group can be attributed primarily to alcohol use, the study authors pointed to driver distraction caused by talking and texting on cell phones as a likely cause of the increase in fatalities among younger drivers.

“We know driving at night is dangerous. We know using a cell phone behind the wheel compromises your ability to drive,” said Bernie Fette, senior research specialist for the Texas Transportation Institute. “Put those together and you’ve created a perfect storm.”

Nighttime driving carries inherent risks of decreased visibility and slower response due to driver fatigue. Those risks are even greater for teens who are inexperienced night drivers, Fette said.

The number of fatal crashes, including those at night, actually dropped between 1999 and 2008, but the percentage that occurred at night increased. In 2008, 4,322 fatal crashes involved drivers ages 16 to 19 years, with 2,148 of them — or just under 50 percent — at night, according to the study. In 1999, 6,368 fatal crashes

involved drivers ages 16 to 19, with 2,875, or 45 percent, of them at night.

That same year, 44,803 fatal crashes involved drivers ages 20 to 97, with 18,601 at night. In 1999, the total number of fatal car crashes for drivers that age was 48,991, with 18,899 at night.

The proportional increase in nighttime fatal crashes went against the trend of overall crash fatalities, which dropped nearly 11 percent over the same time period, the study found.

Crash data came from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System maintained by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Although cell phone and texting data are incomplete in FARS reporting, the study authors pointed to the dramatic growth in cell phone use overall, espe-

cially among teens.

According to CTIA-The Wireless Association, an industry trade group, cell phone subscribers in the U.S. grew from 86 million in 1999 to 262 million in 2008. A 2009 Pew Research Center study found cell phone use among teens had grown 58 percent since 2004. The same Pew report said 34 percent of teens reported texting while driving and 52 percent said they talked on the phone while driving.

Fette said the Texas Transportation Institute, which is part of Texas A&M University, had surveyed 20,000 Texas teen drivers and found only 3 percent cited night driving as a risk.

Many teenagers start using cell phones long before they are licensed to drive and believe they can multitask in any situation, even driving, Fette said.

“We have talked to a lot of kids who say, ‘Look, it’s not that difficult. I can text in my pocket,’” Fette said.

“But being comfortable with technology doesn’t add security when you use it in an environment where it creates danger.”

Last year, the Texas

Legislature considered a bill that would have banned anyone under the age of 18 from calling or texting on a cell phone while driving — even while using a hands-free device.

The bill passed the House but ultimately died without a vote in the Senate.

## Baby dies in Williamson County mobile home fire

GEORGETOWN (AP) — Investigators say a mobile home fire in Williamson County that killed a baby apparently started when the stove caught fire and a locked door prevented re-entry.

Sheriff’s Sgt. John Foster says the mother and neighbors tried

to save the 7-month-old girl from the burning home, east of Georgetown, but could not get back into the residence. The victim was Brytani Ruiz.

Foster says it appears that a tragic set of circumstances led to baby’s death.

Authorities say her mother,

25-year-old Eneida Ruiz, was cooking late Wednesday afternoon when the stove caught fire. The woman grabbed an older child and ran outside.

Foster says the door apparently closed and locked behind the fleeing mother.

An autopsy has been ordered.

## LETTER

Continued from Page 4A

school age children looking to move to West Texas, where would you pick to move?

A simple drive to Midland, Odessa, Lubbock, San Angelo and Abilene would show you they’re all growing in population while Big Spring is losing.

Why? Because they have invested in building new schools, replacing and building roads and supporting economic development.

After nearly 20 “promises” from out-of-town investors, Troy Tompkins and Russ McEwen went to a former Big Spring native, Brint Ryan, and convinced him to invest in his hometown. Now he is spending millions of dollars of his own

money and partnering with the city to rebuild the Settles Hotel and downtown area.

Nothing from Fort Worth to El Paso will compare.

We’re supporting Russ and Troy because for once, we can see where our tax dollars are going and finally we are investing in ourselves — in Big Spring’s future. We encourage other voters to support Russ and

Troy, too.

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DUNCAN

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207604

## Big Spring Citizens...

**Why We Support Councilman Troy Tompkins**  
*By Buddy and Ann Duncan*

“We’ve known Troy since he was in Elementary school with our son. Troy is the only candidate who has lived in District 5 his whole life—he knows the concerns of the district.

Ask yourself this —if you were a family with school age children looking to move to West Texas, where would you pick to move? A simple drive to Midland, Odessa, Lubbock, San Angelo and Abilene would show you they’re all growing in population while Big Spring is losing.

Why, because they have invested in building new schools, replacing and building roads and supporting economic development. After nearly 20 “promises” from out-of-town investors, Troy went to a former Big Spring native, Brint Ryan, and convinced him to invest in his hometown. Now Ryan is spending millions of dollars of his own money and partnering with the city to rebuild the Settles Hotel and downtown area. Nothing from Fort Worth to El Paso will compare.

For years we have watched politicians make promises they would “fix” Big Spring’s problems—and finally we have someone who has kept their promise. We’re supporting Troy and hope you will, too.”

*Ann and Buddy Duncan live in the Kentwood subdivision and have lived, worked and raised a family in Big Spring. They are active in their church and many civic organizations.*

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The friendly Aquarius moon has a message. If you see someone who needs a hand, don't wait for someone else to offer assistance. Be the one. Start a trend. Do something concrete. Under the Taurus sun, the world will improve in baby steps. Bit by bit, one small act after another -- it soon adds up to a heap of change.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Put some imagination into your practical and domestic life because doing what is responsible might not seem like a lot of fun right now. There is a way to make it fun.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You are

unknowingly working with others to bring about a truly wonderful happening. By simply going where the energy moves you, you wind up in the perfect place, doing the perfect thing.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You are always communicating, even though you're not always aware of the message you are putting out into the world. You'll make a statement just by doing the things you do and living the way you live.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You may not know the reason behind your connection with someone. The tie is not occupational, familiar or social. And yet there is an important and mysterious explanation for why you are sharing a certain space and time.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You are accustomed to answering a certain

question the same way all the time. This question may be as simple as, "How are you?" When you change your response to it, a new door opens.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Seize the opportunities of the day. If you are open to accepting more responsibility, a crucial job will go to you. Do well, and you will be promoted to a higher-paying position.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you embark on an adventure, you go expecting to have a new experience -- not to find answers, make friends or fall in love. Today's adventure could include all of the above.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Though it feels safe and secure when others agree with you, it's not going to help you grow. You'll sharpen your wits and strengthen your case when you run up against

those who disagree.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Change is difficult and sometimes painful. But having changed is invigorating, life affirming and validating. So you'll be willing to endure the necessary steps to arrive on the other side.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have ideas about where you want to go, but your plans are not written in stone. A friend will come along and stir the pot. Suddenly everything changes, and you're going with the flow.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You can acknowledge your emotions without slavishly following their impulses. Your maturity allows you to observe yourself objectively. Your feelings will indicate how in line you are with your ethics and ideals.

**PISCES** (Feb.

19-March 20). Thinking about the hard times you've been through will remind you how tough and resilient you are. And thinking about the good old days will remind you how fun you are. You'll move into the future with great optimism.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (May 6). Tend to important details this month -- you'll prove your excellence. June brings new connections and romantic events. VIPs notice your talent and promote you in July. Travel in August. In September, you'll get the inside scoop on a project -- play your advantages. November will bring a fun twist to your personal life. Aquarius and Libra people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 49, 1, 44, 16 and 50.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Academy Award-winner

George Clooney is an earthy Taurus whose perfect combination of good looks, talent and tenacity has made him one of the most influential stars in Hollywood. Clooney was born under an Aquarius moon and displays the philanthropic spirit of that aspect as he uses his celebrity to raise awareness and aid for impoverished and vulnerable people of the world.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://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](http://www.creators.com).

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My sister "Justine" has invited me to go on vacation with her three times.

The problem is, she consults with my other two sisters and their husbands to come up with the date and place without any input from me.

She just phones with the information and expects an immediate reply. Given the short notice, my husband and I have not been able to go.

I don't understand why Justine can't give me a little more choice in the matter. Last time, she called on my cell phone and expected a "yes" or "no" answer while I was in the car.

She had airline information up on her computer screen and was ready to book the flight.

Annie, I have seven grandchildren that I help take care of. I needed to consult with my daughters and check my calendar at home.

I feel like an after-

thought. Or maybe she doesn't want me to go and is hoping that the short notice and lack of options will make me decline.

I am the youngest of four sisters. We also have three brothers, who are never asked to go. Sometimes I think that might be less hurtful.

There have been other occasions when Justine has said derogatory things to me in front of others.

I am so taken by surprise that I never have a good comeback. I don't want to cause any family turmoil, but would like to be treated with some respect. How do I do that without causing hard feelings? — *Left Out*

Dear Left Out: Justine is accustomed to bossing her baby sister around. Talk to her, as well as to your other sisters, and explain the vacation problem. Ask if

they could please give you more options when selecting a date because you would love to go. And when Justine insults you, call her on it.

You don't have to be clever. Practice the phrase, "Why would you say such a hurtful thing?" and repeat as needed.

Dear Annie: My stepdaughter, "Hannah," is getting married soon. The problem is, her mother is pushing Hannah to let her stepfather walk her halfway down the aisle.

Her father will then walk her from there to the altar.

My husband is devastated that when people turn around to see the bride, they will see her with the stepfather first.

What are the guidelines for such a situation? My heartbreaks to see my husband try to deal with this without sharing his thoughts with Hannah. — *Sad on a Happy Day*

Dear Sad: It is not uncommon for stepfathers to walk the bride partway down the aisle. It is how a bride can show gratitude to someone who helped raise her.

And Dad still gets to take Hannah to the altar. Mom, however, should not be pressur-

ing Hannah one way or the other, and neither should Dad. Brides are under enough stress. Support your husband by helping him accept Hannah's decision, whatever it is, and by assuring him that it does not detract from his importance in his daughter's life. We hope Hannah will tell him this, as well.

Dear Annie: I read the responses to "Still the Mom," but I guess I'm in the minority. I wish I had never met my biological mother.

She was quite pretty but terribly vain, and believed a woman was defined by how many men she could attract.

She was a gossip and a troublemaker with a sordid past, which took years for me to detach from my own identity.

Despite it all, I tried to have a friendship with her, but she wasn't interested. I was rejected all over again.

Worse, I was 18 when

I found her, and my adopted mother blew a gasket. She thought I didn't love her and made my life miserable. — *Not Always Greener*

Dear Greener: Doing a search for a birth parent is always a risk because not every situation works out as anticipated. What is truly sad, however, is your adopted mother's inability to be supportive when you needed her. We hope things are better now.

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ANSWERS

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

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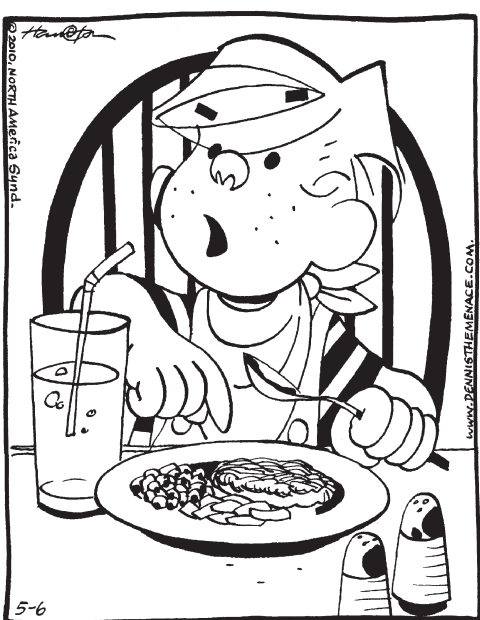
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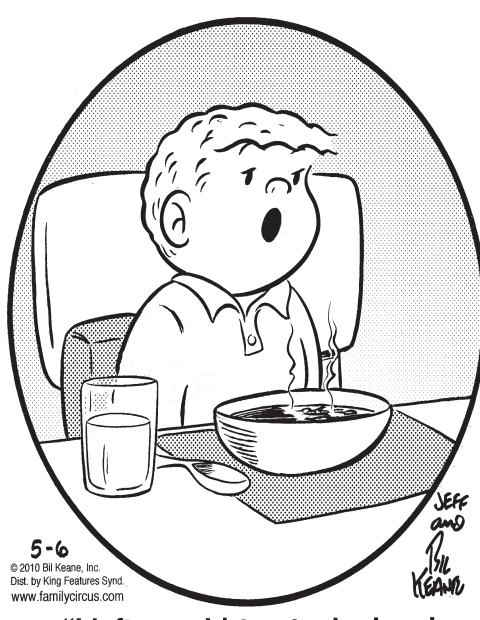
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5:PM :30	News ABC	Vida Notic.	Lopez CBS	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	Friends Friends	Granger Brad	BBC Business	King King	Cash Cab Cash Cab	Movie: Above the Law, Henry Silva	CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Deck	Nation Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	Jeopardy!	Mi Pecado (SS)	Two Men Two Men	News Ent	12 Corazones	News Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Sala Charles	PBS News-Hour	70s Show 70s Show	When Animals Strike	Movie: The Transporter, Francois Berleand	Bones	TBA	Wizards	Football	NBA	
7:PM :30	FlashForward	Hasta que el Dinero	Bones	Survivor: Hero	EI Clon	Commun Parks	Movie: The Truman Show	Upd Sprna	Texas Texas	The Vampire Diaries	Alaska: Ext.	Movie: The Outlaw Josey Wales, Sandra Locke	Movie: Final Destination 3	Tiny-Toya Tiny-Toya	Movie: Eloise at the Plaza	30 for 30	NBA Basketball	
8:PM :30	Grey's Anatomy	Corazon Salvaje	Fringe	CSI: Crime Scene	Perro Amor	Office 30 Rock	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Supernatural	Volcano-Stop	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Transporter, Kurtwood Smith	Movie: Final Destination 3	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Suite Life So Raven	Baseball Tonight	
9:PM :30	(:01) Private Practice	Mujeres Asesinas 2	Simpsons Friends	The Mentalist	¿Dónde Está Elisa?	The Marriage Ref	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy	Appalachia: History	Married... Married...	Alaska: Ext.	Movie: Last of the Dogmen, Kurtwood Smith	(:05) Jail Gaming	CSI: NY	The Mo'Nique	Deck	Baseball Tonight	NBA Basketball	
10:PM :30	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond Letterman	News	Noticias Titulares	News Jay Leno	Lopez Tonight	Alewine Van Impe	Charlie Rose	Roseanne Roseanne	Volcano-Stop	(:13) Movie: The Transporter	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Suite Life So Raven	Baseball Tonight	NBA Basketball	
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	S.O.S. Sexo	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late	Decisiones	Late Night	Name	Swallow Upd	BBC	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Video	(:45) Movie: The Terminator, Michael Biehn	Leverage	Kim Poss	Repla	Emperor	NBA Basketball	
12:AM :30	Extra Paid	Amar sin Limites	King/Hill	Insider	Pagado	News	Sex & Sex	World										
1:AM :30	Paid Paid	Mujer... Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Paid	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Light of the Southwest										

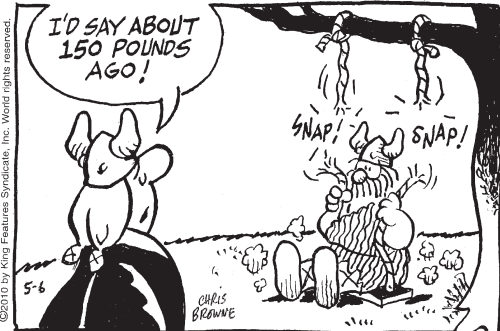
DENNIS THE MENACE



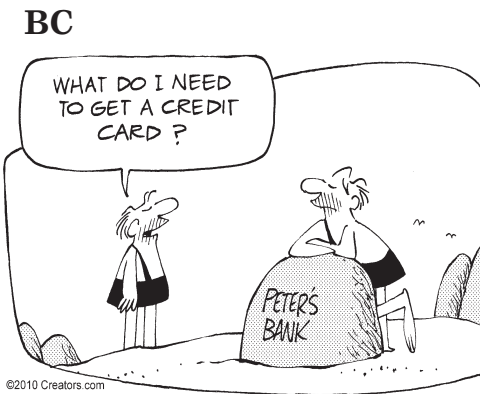
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



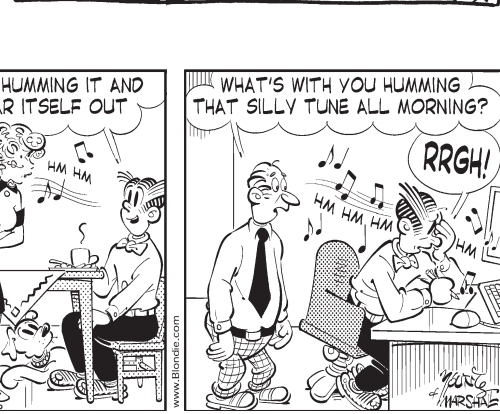
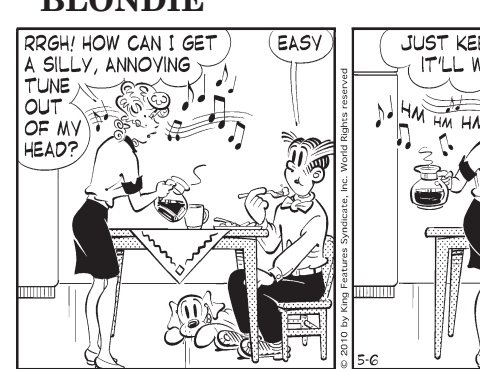
HAGAR



BC



BLONDIE



WIZARD OF ID



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, May 6, the 126th day of 2010. There are 239 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 6, 1910, Britain's Edwardian era came to an end upon the death of King Edward VII; he was succeeded by George V.

On this date:

In 1859, Georgia miner John H. Gregory discovered a lode of gold in Colorado.

In 1861, Arkansas seceded from the Union.

In 1889, the Paris Exposition formally opened, featuring the just-completed Eiffel Tower.

In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order creating the Works Progress Administration.

In 1937, the hydrogen-filled German airship Hindenburg burned and crashed in Lakehurst, N.J., killing 35 of the 97 people on board and a Navy crewman on the ground.

In 1942, during World War II some 15,000 Americans and

Filipinos on Corregidor surrendered to the Japanese.

In 1954, medical student Roger Bannister broke the four-minute mile during a track meet in Oxford, England, in three minutes, 59.4 seconds.

In 1960, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Civil Rights Act of 1960. Britain's Princess Margaret married Antony Armstrong-Jones, a commoner, at Westminster Abbey. (They divorced in 1978.)

In 1994, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and French President Francois Mitterrand (frahn-SWAH' mee-teh-RAHN') formally opened the Channel Tunnel between their countries.

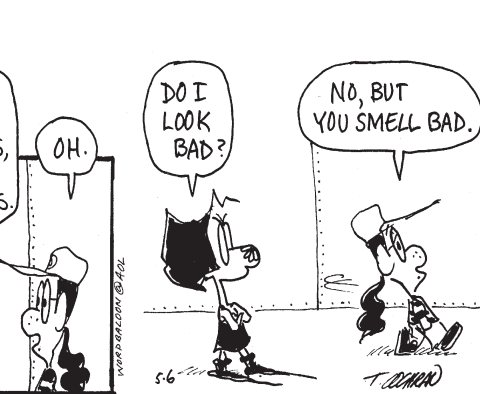
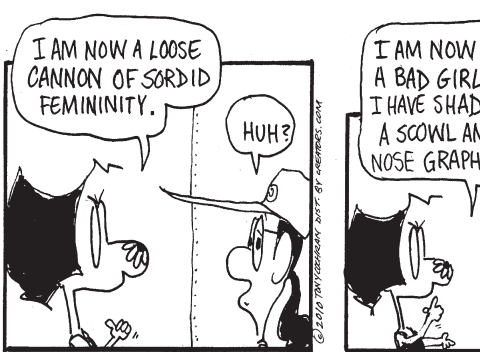
In 2002, right-wing Dutch politician Pim Fortuyn (pim fohr-TOWN') was shot and killed in Hilversum, Netherlands. (Volkert van der Graaf was later convicted of killing Fortuyn and was sentenced to 18 years in prison.)

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall-of-Famer Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) is 76. Rock singer Bob Seger is 65. Singer Jimmie Dale Gilmore is 65. Gospel singer-comedian Lulu Roman is 64. Actor Alan Dale is

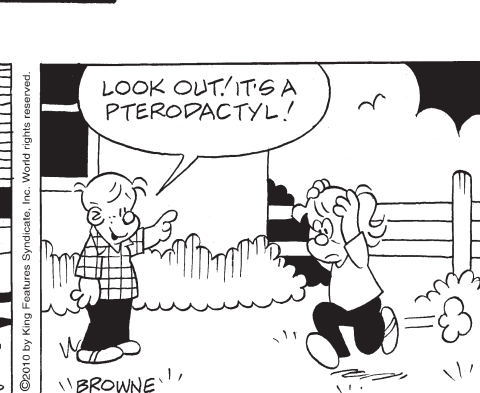
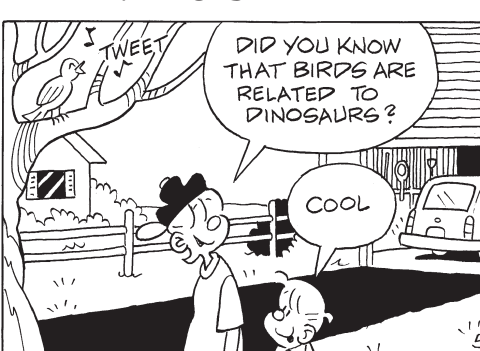
Answer to previous puzzle

PASTA	ARMS	SMUG
RAWER	NOIR	LISA
ORING	NOTI	EGOS
FORTUNETELLER		
SNL	MAX	ALPACA
JET	KIND	TAB
ORLON	TANK	LIRA
WEALTHOFNATIONS		
NEST	ELKS	RENEE
EST	LALA	RED
RESTED	GUS	LED
TREASURETROVE		
PERU	COME	LOGIN
IVAN	HYPE	EDICT
GAWK	EAST	SECTS

AGNES



HI AND LOIS



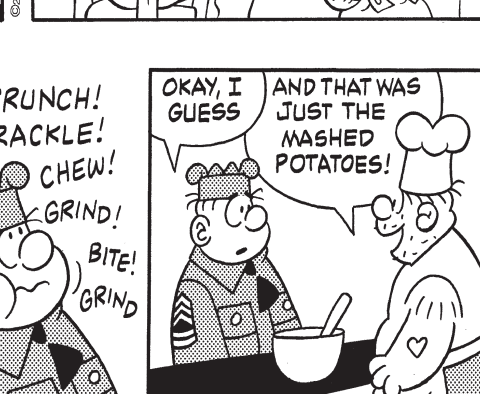
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Adjective for the Beatles
  - 4 Hauled off the road
  - 9 Ichthyologist's study
  - 13 Stranded molecule
  - 14 Elvis' birthplace
  - 15 Jane Austen novel
  - 16 Quaint stopover
  - 17 Grade booster
  - 19 Wood in many pencils
  - 21 Detect
  - 22 Cheer for a matador
  - 23 Without missing \_\_\_ (undistractedly)
  - 25 Candy shapes
  - 27 Sports-broadcast treat
  - 32 Washington airport
  - 33 Bumbling
  - 34 Paid promos
  - 35 Make into law
  - 37 Long March leader
  - 40 German city
  - 42 \_\_\_ Fables
  - 45 They may roll over
  - 47 More docile
  - 49 Mission to remember
  - 50 1996 Olympics city: Abbr.
  - 51 University of Florida athlete
  - 55 Turn (into)
  - 58 Wishing-well fodder
  - 61 Author Levin
- DOWN
- 1 Bank customers' protector
  - 2 Charlotte and Emily's literary sister
  - 3 Colorfully patterned kerchiefs
  - 4 Prom rental
  - 5 Decides one will
  - 6 "\_\_\_ #!"
  - 7 Verve
  - 8 AMA members
  - 9 Professional charge
  - 10 "That's it for me"
  - 11 Show approval, in a way
  - 12 Really can't stand
  - 14 Avila saint
  - 18 Summary
  - 20 Sit next to
  - 24 Way in
  - 26 IRS officer
  - 27 Jamboree org.
  - 28 Many-vol. lexicon
  - 29 Article of food
  - 30 Something inside an env.
  - 31 List price
  - 36 Society-page word
  - 37 Gas-station customer
  - 38 Zoo beast
  - 39 CIA forerunner
  - 40 Compass reading
  - 41 Power problem
  - 43 Type of paint
  - 44 Japanese sport
  - 45 German mark
  - 46 Hitchcock film of '64
  - 47 Personal preference
  - 48 How some bonds are sold
  - 52 Highest point
  - 53 Mississippi senator Cochran
  - 54 Crew-team members
  - 56 Boat part
  - 57 Sign of sanctity
  - 59 GPS calculation
  - 60 Hair application

LEFTOVERS by David W. Cromer

Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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