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A building at Second and Runnels in dowtown Big Spring was destroyed by fire Monday night. Firefighters continued to put out flare-ups today.

Photo above, Stormi Smith; others, Steve Reagan



Term limits on ballot but wording under study

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Big Spring voters will get the chance to weigh-in on proposed term limits during municipal elections in May, however, the length of the limits is still up in the air, according to city officials, thanks to conflicts in the amendment's wording.

The Big Spring City Council voted unanimously during a special meeting Monday evening to have the amendment which was driven by a recent petition spearheaded by the local Concerned Citizens Council — placed on the ballot.

The vote was merely academic, however, as City Finance Director Peggy Walker informed the council during the meeting the petition had garnered the necessary signatures to force the matter before voters, making its addition to the ballot a matter of state law.

"March 7, the city secretary's office received the petition, which had 740 signatures on it, requesting a charter amendment to enact term limits," Walker told the council. "My office went through and validated each signature. There were 583 valid signatures. Some of the signatures were on the voter registration list, however, they were invalid because of

See LIMITS, Page 3A

Booth space available for annual health fair; fun run/walk planned

By AMANDA MORENO

Staff Writer

Time to get healthy. The Big Spring Area Chamber of

Commerce 29th Annual Health Fair is set for 8 a.m until noon Saturday, April 9. The health fair will take place at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. This year the theme is "Sowing the seeds to good health." Booth reservation is \$100 through

March 25 — the final day to reserve space for the event. Admission to the health fair is

free and those attending will be able to take advantage of free screenings and demonstrations. Those screenings will include blood pressure checks, cholesterol, pulse ox and fluoride treatments for children. One of the demonstrations will pertain to adult and child airway obstruction and choking. The United Blood Service Mobile will be on site, as well as HEB Buddy and McGruff and Safety Pup.

Those attending can also take

advantage of fingerprinting and identification kits for children and senior citizens, makeovers for cancer survivors and safety information about texting and driving.

The health fair will be providing tips and information on how to stay healthy indoors, but those who want to take it another step can take part in the "Master the Mountain" fun walk and run. The Big Spring State Park "Master the Mountain" will take place in conjunction with the health fair. A Healthy Woman event will also be taking place. To reserve a booth for the health

fair, contact the chamber at 432-263-7641. For more information on "Master the Mountain," contact Ron Alton at 432-263-4931. Kim Howell can be contacted at 432-268-4842 to provide more information on the Healthy Woman event.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by email at life@bigspringherald.com

Thomason files for council

Filing period for May elections wrapped up

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The May race for the District 3 seat on the Big Spring City Council got a last minute candidate Monday, as Shannon Thomason — chairman of the local Concerned Citizens Council — tossed his political hat in the ring.

Most recently, Thomason ran unsuccessfully for the mayor's seat on the council in 2010, garnering 153 ballots - 5.34 percent - in his bid for theposition. Thomason also ran for the mayoral seat in 2007, losing to longtime mayor Russ McEwen with 467



ballots, accounting for approximately 23 percent of

Thomason's most recent bid will pit him against District 3 Councilwoman Joann Staulcup — who announced early in the filing

Thomason process she would run for re-election — as well as political newcomer Glenn Carrigan.

Staulcup isn't the only council member that will be defending her seat in

See FILING, Page 3A

Ohio youngster sells manly scented candles MARYSVILLE, Ohio (AP) — A

13-year-old Ohio boy has launched his own line of scented candles meant for Hart Main of Marysville says he got

men, with fragrances that include bacon, New York-style pizza, sawdust and the smell of a leather baseball mitt. the idea for his "Mancans" when he was making fun of his sister for selling candles with girly scents for a school fundraiser. He launched his company

last Thanksgiving, making the candles

using scores of empty cans from soup

he donated to a soup kitchen.

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Opinion **4A** www.bigspringherald.com **Sports**

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James B. Drake



James B. Drake, 69, of Big Spring died Monday, March 14, 2011, in an Odessa hospice facility. Graveside funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, 2011, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Chaplain Cherise Felty officiating.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, 2011, at the funeral

He was born Nov. 14, 1941, in Big Spring and married Carol Phillips on June 17, 1960, in Big Spring. James was a lifelong resident of Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1960. He worked for Cosden Refinery for 33 years, retiring in 1999. He was very involved in Little League and Boy Scouts while his sons were growing up, and he loved playing golf.

Survivors include his wife, Carol Drake of Big Spring; two sons, Craig Drake of Big Spring and Steve Drake and wife Marlene of Grapevine; three grandchildren, Devin Drake of Mesa, Ariz., Derrick Drake and Shayla Drake, both of Big Spring; two great-grandchildren, Jaden Drake and Kalie Drake both of Big Spring; one brother, Don Drake and wife Troveta of Amarillo; and one sister, Sue

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Lois Drake; and one sister, Mary Jack

O'Donnell.

Washburn of Grape Creek.

The family suggests memorials be made to American Cancer Society, c/o Carolyn Brooks, P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring 79720; Hospice House of Odessa, 903 N. Sam Houston, Odessa 79761; or to Home Hospice, 111 E. Seventh St., Suite A, Big Spring

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

Paid obituary

Summer Rain Quillen



Summer Rain Quillen, 9, of Big Spring died Sunday, March 13, 2011, in Madill, Okla. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 17, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Eddy Pitchford, minister of Coahoma Church of Christ, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Wednesday,

March 16, 2011, at the funeral home.

Summer was born Aug. 28, 2001, in Big Spring and was attending the fourth grade at Bauer Elementary School. She was a member of Coahoma

Summer is survived by her mother and stepfather, Sara and Eric McCall of Big Spring; her father, Laramie Genn of Ardmore, Okla.; two brothers, Gaven Quillen and Caden Williams, both of Big Spring; two sisters, Kaitlyn McCall and Madelinn McCall, both of Big Spring; maternal grandparents, Larry and Reba Quillen of Big Spring; paternal grandmothers, Varonica Long of Lamar, Mo., and Diane Hill of Odessa; paternal grandfather, Ron Genn of Ardmore, Okla.; paternal great-grandparents, Grace and Kenneth Lackey of Big Spring and Dolphus and Claudette Genn of Ardmore, Okla.; maternal great-grandfather, John Walker of Lake Whitney; paternal great-grandmother, Fran Swan of Big Spring; maternal great-great-grandfather, David Roy Givens of Del Norte, Colo., and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her grandmothers, Dorothy Newby and Janice Rayburn; and great-

grandfather, Bill Hyden.

The family suggests memorials be made to Coahoma Church of Christ Youth Fund, P.O. Box

554, Coahoma 79511.

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Obituaries

Benjamin F. Deanda Jr.



Benjamin F. Deanda Jr., 46, of Midland died Friday, March 11, 2011, in a Midland hospital. Vigil services will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 16, 2011, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

He was born May 5, 1964, in Big Spring and was a Catholic.

Survivors include his wife, Adela Deanda of Midland; three daughters, Amanda Deanda, Melissa Deanda and Beverly Deanda, all of Midland; three grandchildren, Jakob Ledesma, Chloe Gonzales and Israel DeLeon Jr.; five sisters, Martha Neighbors of Killeen, Patsy Correa of San Antonio, Teresa Gonzales of Lubbock and Roxanne Gonzales and Denise Deanda, both of Big Spring; and one brother, Marty Deanda of Big Spring. He was preceded in death by his parents; and one

grandson, Dylan DeLeon.

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

Omer 'Bootie' Sherman



Omer "Bootie" Sherman, 68, of Big Spring died Monday, March 14, 2011, at his residence. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. He was born August 24, 1942, in

Martin County to Pearlie and Joe Sherman. He lived most of his life in Howard County. He had been a heavy equipment operator and a truck driver in the oil field. He is survived by one son, Cecil

Sherman and wife Dafna of Big Spring; two daughters. Teresa McGuire and husband Jerry and Janet Kilgore and husband Ben, all of Big Spring; and one sister, Patsy Wilkerson and husband Wilmet of Big Spring; four grandchildren; and three great-grand-

He was preceded in death by his parents and one son, Alex Dewayne Sherman, one brother and one

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

Support Groups

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- · Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

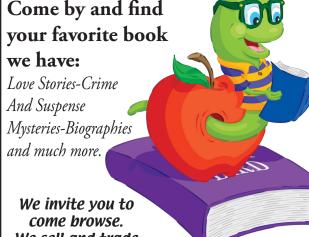
THURSDAY

- · Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion 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.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. and noon, each lasting an hour. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

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Frankie Lee Toland



Frankie Lee Toland, 90, passed away Sunday, March 13, 2011, at Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital in Sweetwater. Services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 17, 2011, at McCoy Chapel of Memories with the Rev. Dr. Cindy Cearley and the Rev. Judy Hall officiating under the direction of Funeral Home Sweetwater. Interment will follow in Sweetwater Cemetery. A visitation will be held Wednesday, March 16, 2011, from 6

p.m. until 8 p.m. at McCoy Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Stephen Smith, Toland Smith,

McC Smith, Zach Smith Bo Compston and Paul Davis. Honorary pallbearers are Braxton Smith and Kyland Smith.

Frankie was born Dec. 7, 1920, in Capitola and married Barney C. Toland on Sept. 29, 1937, in Fisher County. She was a beautician for 50 years and owned and operated Frankie's Beauty Shop in Sweetwater from 1975 until 1996, living in Sweetwater since 1975 and Big Spring from 1966 until 1974. She was the oldest of nine children and was a loving wife, mother, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was a member of Fourth and Elm Church of Christ.

Survivors include a daughter, Jan Smith and husband Steve of Sweetwater; grandsons, Stephen Smith of Washington, D.C., Toland Smith and wife Kirstin and McC Smith and Zach Smith, all of Sweetwater; granddaughters, Kirbie Compston and husband Bo of Sweetwater and Callie Davis and husband Paul of Frisco; four great-grandchildren, Braxton and Kyland Smith and Foster Grace and Smith Elle Davis; six sisters, M.E. Waddell of Midland, Ann Cearley of Denver, Colo., Margie Flint of Holdenville, Okla., Betty Steele and husband Corkey of Sweetwater, Jane Collins of Centerville and Wanda Jordan of Crockett; sisterin-law, Betty Kidd of Eastland; and numerous nieces and nephews and her caregivers for the past three years, Benita Rodriguez and Viola Rivera.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Barney, on Feb. 8, 2009, and two brothers, Bennie "Butch" Kidd and John Kidd.

Memorials may be made to Sweetwater Municipal Auditorium, P.O. Box 584, Sweetwater 79556 or Nolan County Foundation, P.O. Box 1148, Sweetwater 79556.

Paid obituary

Marcia L. Rogers

Marcia L. Rogers, 62, of Colorado City died Sunday, March 13, 2011. Graveside services will be held Wednesday, March 16, 2011, at 2 p.m. at Trinity Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Big Spring. The Rev. James Williams will be officiating. Family visitation will be Tuesday, March 15, 2011, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Dandy's Diner in Colorado

Marcia was born June 10, 1948, in Big Spring to ER "Red" and Ethel Weatherman. She graduated from Coahoma High School, Marcia married Curtis Rogers on Jan. 26, 1968.

Marcia lived all her life in Big Spring and the Colorado City area. She worked for Big Spring ISD as a teacher's aide and owned and operated Dandy's Diner in Colorado City. She was a member of Crestview Baptist Church.

Marcia is survived by her husband, Curtis Rogers of Colorado City; son, Gene Ray Rogers of Mitchell County; daughter, Staci Rodgers of Dallas; sister, Syble Pope of Sand Springs; and a grandson.

Marcia was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Dorothy Moore; and a brother, Wayne Weatherman.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Ronald McDonald House, 1315 Barbara Jordan Blvd., Austin 78723.



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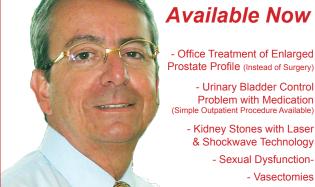
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Today's Weather

| Local | J-Day I | UICCAS | L | |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| Wed 3/16 | Thu 3/17 | Fri 3/18 | Sat 3/19 | Sun 3/20 |
| The same of the sa | The state of the s | The state of the s | MARIN | Zijas |
| 88/59 Partly to mostly cloudy. Near record high temperatures. High 88F. | 95/60 Sunny. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the low 60s. | 91/58 Sunshine. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 50s. | 82/58 Slight chance of a thunder-storm. | 89/55 Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 50s. |
| Sunrise: 7:55 AM | Sunrise: 7:54 AM | Sunrise: 7:53 AM | Sunrise: 7:51 AM | Sunrise: 7:50 AM |

Texas At A Glance



Police blotter

Livingston

Longview

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Monday and 7 • CALVIN JACOB LAWSON, 27, of 3701 La Junta

- Dr., was arrested Monday on a warrant for assault. • CEDRIC RAY JEFFERSON, 49, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. 204, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency. • CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
- In the 2700 block of Wasson Road.
- In the 3200 block of Rickabaugh Drive.

81 49 pt sunny

62 cloudy

77 59 mst sunny

Amarillo

Beaumont

Brownsville

Austin

- In the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported: In the 500 block of S. Gregg Street.
- In the 800 block of S. Nolan. • BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported:
- In the 1600 block of E. Third Street.
- In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street. • THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Willia.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported: In the 900 block of E. Sixth Street.
- In the 100 block of N. Cottonwood.

Sheriff

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

reported having 63 inmates at the time of this • CALVIN JACOB LAWSON, 27, was transferred

- to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of assault of a family member with a previous con-• CEDRIC JEFFERSON, 49, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on an Austin war-
- rant for parole violation. • SHANE ANDERSON, 39, was transferred to the
- county jail Monday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for speeding and violation of a promise to appear.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.• TRAUMA was reported in the 1700 block of Yale.
- One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of
- Anna. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of
- Apache. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of S.
- Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 200 block
- of S. Runnels.

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Texas man goes on trial for alleged fraud

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) - A federal prosecutor said Monday that a Texas businessman bilked hundreds of investors throughout the country out of more than \$100 million, but his defense attorney argued the only crimes were committed by former business Christian Allmendinger, 39,

of Houston is charged with mail fraud, money laundering, conspiracy and securities fraud. His trial is expected to last up to two Allmendinger was one of the

founders of A&O Life Funds, which bought life insurance policies from insured people at less than face value, then collected

the benefits when those people died and distributed some of the funds to investors. Prosecutors say Allmendinger and his associates illegally portrayed investments as risk-free and misrepresented many aspects of their business, including its size and record of success. "These were lies that brought

in millions of dollars and allowed Mr. Allmendinger to live a lavish lifestyle," federal prosecutor Albert Stieglitz Jr. told a panel of 12 jurors and two alternates. He said investors heard sales pitches replete with lies intended to "lull them into a false sense of security and take their money."

Allmendinger's attorney, Bar-

ry Pollack, did not dispute that his client and A&O made a lot of money. But he said Allmendinger did nothing illegal.

"He believed in the products A&O was selling to investors, Pollack said.

He said the marketing materi-

als that the government claims are riddled with lies were intended to get the company's sales agents excited about selling the product, and were not targeted to investors.

According to Pollack, the company met all its obligations and nobody lost any money until after Allmendinger was "squeezed out" of the business by his two partners in 2007.

FILING

Continued from Page 1A

May, as long time District 1 Councilwoman Stephanie Horton filed to run for re-election, while Marcus Fernandez has filed to run against her.

Horton and Fernandez squared off for the District

LIMITS

79 58 pt sunny 77 59 pt sunny

84 48 mst sunny

80 58 pt sunny

Continued from Page 1A

requirements mandated by the election code. There were eight that simply could not be read, therefore we could not validate or verify them." Walker said

were also a number of signatures that questionable, however, since they would not have impacted the outcome of the petition 511 signatures were

required to force the amendment on the ballot — they weren't pursued any further in the validation process. While the amendment

will be going to the voters in May, City Attorney Linda Sjogren said the language set to go on the ballot has her questioning what effect the term limits will have.

"Reviewing the language of the proposed amendment, charter there is some disparity between the first sentence and the second sentence as to whether Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail you run, hold an office or can be elected to an office," Sjogren said. "There is also a problem with the terminology where, in one sentence, it says 'council member' and in the second sentence it mentions 'any person.'

"I'm still working on my legal opinion and what the net effect of the language will be. I plan to get that out in the next few days, however, so we can make it clear to the voters what the effect of this amendment would be if it's approved."

similar amendment to the Big Spring Municipal Charter championed by Mayor Tommy Duncan — was discussed and voted down by the Big Spring City Council earlier this year. That amendment presented by a city appointed charter review committee would have stipulated council members and mayors serve no more than two 3-year-terms before sitting out one term, according to Sjogren. "The (city's charter

amendment) committee proposed you could serve two terms, sit out one term and then be able to run again. It also stipulated you could run for another position on the council or the mayor's seat," Sjogren said. "The filers (of the petition) are saying this amendment allows for them to run for two terms and then sit out two terms. However, my first reading of the language doesn't read that way. I'm still working on it.

"A person has to file a sworn statement saying they are eligible to hold the position, so they are not going to be able to file that sworn statement if they aren't eligible under the second sentence (of the

proposed amendment) to hold the position. So that's the problem I'm seeing with the first and second sentences of the amendment. Also, the city secretary has to qualify someone before they can be given a place on the ballot. So, even if they signed the sworn statement saying

Duncan said he still supports term limits for council members and mayors serving in the city of Big Spring, but declined to offer his support for the most recent proposed amendment until the details of the law are clarified.

they are eligible, the city

secretary would have a

duty to say, 'No, you're

not eligible."

"I am in favor of giving the citizens the opportunity to vote on term limits," Duncan said. "Until the city attorney gives her opinion on this matter, I really don't want to make a comment. I feel like the language the committee drafted was a very appropriate term limit amendment and I supported it strongly. After (Linda) Sjogren comes out with her opinion, I'll make a determination of how I stand on this (amendment)."

Regardless of how the proposed amendment is

Municipal elections are slated for May 14. Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331

ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.

1 seat three years ago, with Horton edging out the

challenger with a single vote, 33 ballots to Ferna-

interpreted, if it's passed by voters in May, no further changes to the city charter can be made for a minimum of two years per existing city law. Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Illa Morgan, 94, died Thursday. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. today Trinity Memorial Park Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

"Bootie" Omer 68, Sherman, died Monday. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

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

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Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

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U.S. Senator

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- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter
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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we think big, Lord, and thank You.

GOP fear that history will repeat helps ensure it will

hy is it that despite the Republicans' resounding electoral victory in 2010 based on their promises for real change, many of us have a queasy feeling they're not quite measuring up

to the task, even in the climate of Democratic infighting and President Obama's weaknesses? The Hill re-

ports that there is developing dissension between Obama and Senate Democrats, whose respective "political fortunes ...

are moving in opposite directions, complicating their efforts to win a titanic battle against Republicans over federal spend-Obama is trying to stay above the fray and letting Democratic

legislators twist in the wind of conflict with GOP congressmen over a possible government shutdown. His plan is to ride in just in time to take credit for the ultimate resolution and be seen as "a bipartisan problem solver." Meanwhile, many Senate Democrats believed to be vulner-

able in 2012 defected from their party's proposal to cut spending. But hardly any Democrats, including the defectors, can be regarded as serious in their approach to the debt crisis now plaguing this country. Yet are congressional Re-

publicans capitalizing on this Democratic disunity and incompetence? To be sure, there are positive signs, such as the diligent efforts of Rep. Paul Ryan to help craft a comprehensive plan to severely reduce discretionary spending and substantively tackle entitlement reform. And Ryan isn't alone. Other conservative representatives and senators are standing strong.

But when we shift our gaze to the Republican leadership in the Senate and House and even to some of the House freshmen for whom we've had high expectations, we see cause for concern. The first real confrontation with Obama, whose party had been trounced the month before, came in December and resulted in a compromise that I believe yielded Democrats a slight victory, notwithstanding the temporary extension of the Bush tax cuts. Next came the House GOP's

disappointing failure to make much headway in defunding Obamacare, which it blamed on insurmountable legislative rules. Then Republicans scrambled like scared rabbits to avert a government shutdown and acceded to a continuing resolution until March 4 — and then through March 18 — which contained cuts but also allowed Democrats to kick the ball down the road another month or so. Vice President Joe Biden, who was to be instrumental in negotiating with Republicans, used the extension as an opportunity to take off on an international trip, apparently without even a superficial nod toward resolving the issues.

Through all of this, we get the idea that it is Democrats, not Republicans, who have the upper hand in these negotiations, even though the public is not on their side and the nation is in everdeeper trouble mostly because of Democratic policies.

We also get this uneasy feeling that to some in the leadership, the battle with Democrats is as much about positioning and reaching some kind of deal as it is about advancing the underlying causes. It's a sense that we often get from those who have been inside the Beltway too long.

House Republicans did pass a bill containing \$61 billion in spending cuts, but most conservatives and tea party activists believe it wasn't enough. The Virginia tea partyers are particularly displeased with House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, who opposed an amendment for even deeper cuts (5.5 percent across the board for non-security discretionary spending).

Now we're coming up on another deadline, and congressio-

nal Republicans are presenting yet another continuing resolution, which contains \$6 billion in spending cuts but doesn't, any more than the previous CR, include so-called "policy riders' that would address important is sues, such as defunding Obamacare and Planned Parenthood.

The maddening irony is that Republicans seem to be ensuring that history repeats itself precisely because they are behaving as if they fear that history will repeat itself. We can only assume that they're looking back in horror at Bill Clinton's deceptive PR triumph over Newt Gingrich in effectively pinning the government shutdown on congressional Republicans. Utterly paranoid of being scapegoated by Obama for a current-day impasse leading to a shutdown, they are acquiescing to ongoing temporary Band-Aid budgets that, despite the budgetary cuts they contain, are improving the Democrats' long-term negotiating position and thus — and more importantly — imperiling their efforts to slash the actual budget. I believe that Republicans are

'90s; we face a nation-threatening debt crisis, and Republicans primary opponent is a weak president who is doing more to exacerbate our problems than he is to solve them. A government shutdown would not be the end of the world, but the GOP's failure to act emphatically on spending could be — so to speak. One unfortunate constant is the Republicans' incapacity to handle their electoral prosperity. They need to take a lesson from Obama's playbook and start behaving as if they understand that "we won." They must get over their irrational fear of a government shutdown and nego

tiate as if they have the superior

hand — the will of the people —

severely miscalculating the pub-

lic mood. We are no longer in the

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because they do.

Who's missing in immigration deal?

omeone is missing at the celebration for the Utah Compact on immigration. Who could that be?

Latino activists, the Catholic Church, the Mormon Church, the Chamber of state's political establishment they're all there, hailing the law that would let il-





pay a fine, then apply to the state for two-year work permits. In the meantime, the governor would seek a waiver for the program from the federal government.

But there are some empty chairs at the banquet table. Who's not there? Oh, the workers aren't there. They forgot to invite Utah's workers! Now why wouldn't they seek a thumbsup from the folks they want to replace with guest workers from Mexico?

I can think of some reasons. The Utah compact states: "Utah is best served by a free-

market philosophy that maximizes individual freedom and opportunity. We acknowledge the economic role immigrants play as workers and taxpayers. Utah's immigration policies must reaffirm our global reputation as a welcoming and business-friendly state.' What classic bedrock conserva-

tive principles! What a big-hearted "howdy" for newcomers from foreign lands! And I thought the compact's backers were mainly fat cats trying to push through a cheap-labor deal.

Observe their application of "a free-market philosophy" to the workforce. As it happens, the United States does not have a free market in labor — free market, as in letting anyone from any country walk in and take a job without proper documents. That's why we have laws forbidding employers to hire illegal immigrants. If the plan is to turn America's labor market into a global free-for-all, I think we need a conversation first.

Guest-worker advocates, writes an approving editorialist for The Wall Street Journal, believe that "the most responsible way to shrink the illegal alien population without hurting the local economy is by giving foreign nationals wider access to the state's labor markets." He calls the law's opponents "immigration restrictionists." Gosh, Utah is now setting up

a formal partnership with the Mexican state of Nuevo Leon to grease the pipeline of foreign laborers. Native-born and otherwise

documented workers, hold your tongues. You don't want to be called a "restrictionist," do you? Over on the left, The New York

Times gushes over the "welcome contrast" Utah draws with the "xenophobic radicalism" of Arizona. Utah does avoid the serious flaw in Arizona's law letting police demand immigration papers from those merely suspected of being in the country illegally.

But the Times also likes this end-run around federal laws that limit the number of immigrants that may enter this country legally — laws designed to protect the wages and benefits of U.S. workers. How nice to treat the

long-suffering low-skilled American as invisible and shroud that neglect in pious humanitarian

sentiments. The pro-compact alliance of businesses, cheap-labor conservatives, ethnic activists and church groups resembles the powerful coalition that tried to pass the grand immigration bargain a few years ago in Washing ton. That legislation went down in flames because the broader public saw it as heavy on amnesty and light on enforcement

of existing immigration laws. Make no mistake: America desperately needs immigration reform. And to work, it would have to pair an amnesty for most illegal immigrants with an airtight system to ensure that employers hire only legal workers.

It would probably include a limited guest-worker program to serve the special needs of agriculture.

But it wouldn't let employers call Mexico any time they can't find takers for the wages they're offering, however puny. And it would restore the federal government's reputation as overseer of immigration policy.

Perhaps we can accurately call the Utah Compact "pro-immigrant and pro-business." Sadly, it's not pro-labor. But who asked the workers, anyway?

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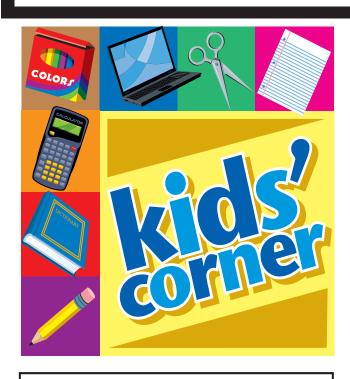
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• 1926: THE FIRST LIQUID-FUELED ROCKET

• 1935: ADOLF HITLER ORDERS GERMANY TO REARM ITSELF, A DIRECT

VIOLATION OF THE VERSAILLES TREATY.

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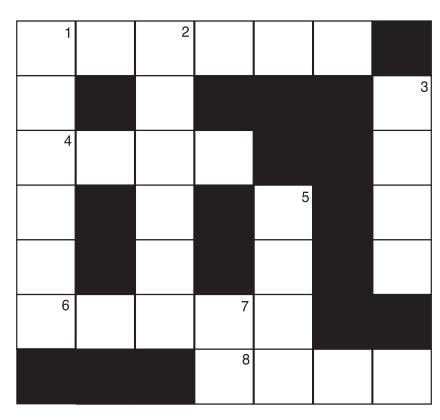




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YN2MEK: 2CKYLBOOKING

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

DOWN

1. Relating to making 1. Hues things by hand. 2. One who writes a book

4. Groups of yarn

3. Sticky substance

6. Small piece

5. Material that fastens

:SY9WSUA

8. Come into the presence of another

7. Denotes morning

1. colors 2. author 3. glue 5. tape 7. a.m. UMOM 1. crafty 4. lots 6. scrap 8. meet ACross



craft

an activity that involves making something by hand



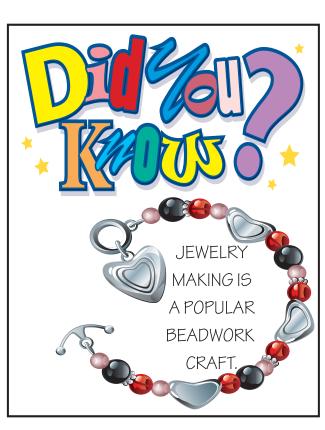
ENGLISH: Craft

SPANISH: Arte

ITALIAN: Arte

FRENCH: Métier

GERMAN: Handwerk



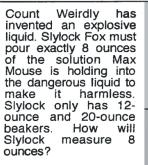


Find six differences between these panels.

ANSWER: KNITTING YARN

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BY BOB WEBER JR.



Solution -- First, Slylock will fill the 20-ounce beaker. Then he will pour that solution into the remaining in the 20-ounce beaker will be 8 ounces.



HOW TO DRAW a penguin WEBER 3-13 00

Today's terrific Julia Corrales, age 12,

Moreno Valley,

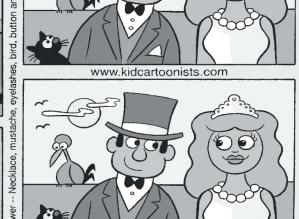
YOUR DRAWING

are things found in outer space. How many can you unscramble? 1) RIADSOTE 2) NLETAP

The scrambled words

3) ASNEUPVRO

4) ALYGXA Answer -- 1) Asteroid 2) Planet 3) Supernova 4) Galaxy



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Protecting his 'turf' against himself

n late January, and throughout February, the melody on a cold morning carried throughout the neighborhood. Soon it was joined by another voice in answer.

The two flit about their territory and dared an entry to be made. Warned of their presence, others kept their distance or courted a physical rebuke. As the lyrical an-

nouncements of a dying winter and coming spring continued, they realized the affection they shared. Bringing her morsels and gently placing them in her beak, he sang of the times to be. The feathers or crest atop his head pointed toward the heavens. Swaying from side to side, he slowly inched down a limb toward his intended.

"We're trying to figure what's going on with this bird!" pled the caller. Describing a scarlet stranger banging its beak against the glass, she and her boss wondered how long it would continue and was the bird in danger of hurting itself. Wanting to observe the situation, I offered to come.

Having admired the Colorado River Municipal Water District building was to appreciate the expanse of windows that allowed

a view of the surrounding natural terrain and the escarpment to the south. Inside, one readily sensed a regard for nature and its inclusion by the architect.

Leading me to what seemed to be the bird's favorite window, a secretary pointed toward the culprit. Its tapping was methodical. Walking the length of the glass, the male northern cardinal was adamant in trying to threaten a perceived rival away from his territory and beloved.

"He's mistaking his reflection for a competitor." After mentioning this could last another week or two, I stressed male, and even female cardinals are diligent about protecting their breeding area. As for its safety, when it tired of fighting the glass figure, it would leave.

Although the bird could scratch portions of the glass in its persistent pursuit, the employee felt it was worth a try. When I called her two weeks later, she expressed how entertaining the male had been. In addition to employees, guests and business associates had enjoyed watching the redbird.

To hear the secretary's worried voice the following March brought concern. "It's just lying there,



The name "cardinal" was first used to describe the red songbird because it was reminiscent of the brilliant red robes worn by religious leaders. Its morning song often ends with prêt-ty, prêt-ty, prêt-ty, and aptly describes its coloration and stature.

not moving. Can you come?" she asked while relating that a cardinal had flown into one of the windows.

By the time I arrived, she had placed the songbird in a box. A peek inside confirmed it was a male. Whether it was last year's warrior, or another, we'd never know.

As if asleep, the bird, with its long tail, filled the length of its makeshift nest. Dazed by the impact, it was as she had described, "Absolutely out of it!"

This year she had heard its morning songs while it perched in the oaks and shrubs around the building. More aware of its seasonal behavior, she had looked forward to another spring.

Since she had cut adequate air holes in the lid, it enabled me to leave the cardinal atop the soft tissues she had provided. Hopefully, it could recover in an hour or two. During the rest of the morning, no sound was heard from the box.

After lunch came a welcome thump, followed by footsteps. Its long rest had ended. Although daylight came through the air holes, the bird did not know where it was. To awaken in a semi-dark place must have been confusing.

A bowl of water for drinking/bathing, and a platter filled with seeds were placed inside a long cage. When I introduced the restless creature to his new environment, he flew up to a perch, turned, and glared back at me.

Having felt a vibrant energy emanating from him when I removed him from the box, I knew I had never before experienced this in other birds his size. Almost entirely red, except for the black patch of feathers surrounding the base of his large, thick bill, he exuded confidence and determination.

In comparison, his mate would be gray, brownish above, with reddish wings, crest, and bill. Her drab coloration was nature's way of secreting her away while building her nest and brooding her young.

As the afternoon progressed, the cardinal easily flew the length of the enclosure. Tempted by the water, he enjoyed a bath as

BIRD Poop

Ву Веве McCasland



evidenced by the wet papers that lined the cage.

After 5 o'clock traffic waned and CRMWD's parking lot emptied, Art and I released the cardinal in familiar surroundings. Flying to a nearby tree, it scanned its territory carefully. Then it visited other trees before disappearing around

the side of the building As more calls regarding territorial squabbles came in that spring, I remembered a previous year in which a male cardinal was pecking at the outside mirrors of a parked car. When it later landed on the pavement beside the vehicle, I could not imagine any more reflections that would attract it. A few minutes later, the male of the specie was furiously fighting its image reflected in a pair of

Bebe McCasland is author of The Scoop From Bird Poop. She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

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Everybody is a little different

t is interesting how we are all different, with different ambitions and goals, different personalities, different needs, different opinions, and most of all, we all live different lifestyles. In essence, the world, and everything in it is different. No two people are totally identical, yet, in a sense, we are all similar in one way or another.

The beauty of nature is that it allows us to put our differences in perspective, disregard them when it becomes

necessary, and still maintain and display a lifestyle that is filled with diversity and individuality. Our lifestyles are dictated by our own individual tastes, our own individual interests, and our need to express ourselves in the ways in which we choose.

Although we live by a set of laws we are also ruled by the nature of our own common sense. In everyday living, we get a chance to express ourselves through the things we hold dear to our hearts. Our lifestyles are manifested in the way look at ourselves, the way we look at others, the way we treat others, and in a broader sense, the way we treat ourselves.

There is an old saying that "beauty is in the eve of the beholder." What is important to you, what is beautiful to you, what you want to surround yourself with, what you buy for yourself, how you dress, how you eat, your religious views, your political views, how you have fun, is all about your lifestyle.

The great thing about lifestyles is that they can, and do, change constantly, for good or bad, but the best thing about the human experience and changing lifestyles, is that we are able to adjust.

We adjust when a loved one dies, we hurt and grieve, but time heals the pain, and we move on. The same is for marriage or divorce. When we have children, it changes our lifestyles dramatically. Our children force us to change the way we live, the way we view the world, and how we react to other events.

Some lifestyles are considered great, while others are frowned upon. Many of us envy the rich and famous for the lifestyles that we think we want and we think they are living, while we pity the poor and downtrodden and pray that we will never be in that position, but like everything else, things change. The poor can become rich, and the rich can just as easily become poor. Being rich and famous cer-

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tainly has its perks, but you have to dig a little deeper to understand that not all wealthy and famous people are happy, no matter how much money they have

On a daily basis, and throughout life, no one can know for sure how their lifestyles will change or where they will be mentally, physically, financially, or otherwise, in the future. There are too many twists, turns and forks in the road of life to even begin to think that anyone can tell the future. Most of us know that what the future holds is not for us to know, but we can make lifestyle choices today that will help us lead pretty good lives tomorrow. So we are back at the "making good choices" theme. Seems like this stays with us forever, doesn't it?

Let's always remember the old saying, "a bend in the road is not the end of the road unless we fail to make the turn!"

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

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10 Things You Need to Know About Hospice

Question: Isn't Hospice a place?

Answer: No. Hospice is a service that brings care into your own home. Question: What does Hospice provide?

Answer: Medication, equipment (such as oxygen) and supplies.

Question: When do you qualify for Hospice Care? Answer: Most people get hospice care too late. You can qualify as much

as 6 months earlier!

Answer: 70-80% of Americans die in facilities. Hospice patients get their

wish to die at home.

Question: Don't most people die at home?

Question: Can Hospice patients die in a hospital?

Answer: If the patient chooses to, the hospice staff will make the arrangements.

Question: Will entering a Hospice make you die sooner?

Answer: Statistical studies show that Morphine eases pain but does **NOT** shorten life.

Question: Do patients admitted to hospice ever improve? Answer: Yes, some patients actually improve and in time, are discharged from hospice.

Question: Isn't Hospice only for Cancer patients?

Answer: Hospice services are available for anyone who has a life-limiting illness.

Question: Is Hospice care expensive? Answer: Medicare and most Medicaid insurances cover hospice

Hospice care is a necessary service that many people never receive.

There are myths about hospice that keep people from getting this specialized and compassionate care when they need it most. Compass Hospice will guide you through this journey.

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News in brief

Official says rescuers have found 70-year-old woman alive four days after Japan tsunami

SOMA, Japan (AP) — Rescuers have found a 70-year-old woman alive four days after the disaster struck.

Osaka fire department spokesman Yuko Kotani says the woman was found inside her house that was washed away by the tsunami in northeastern Japan's Iwate prefecture. The rescuers from Osaka, in western Japan, were sent to the area for disaster relief.

Kotani said the woman was con-

scious but suffering from hypothermia and is being treated at a hospital. She would not give the woman's name.

Her rescue was a rare bit of news

for Japanese traumatized by the disaster.

Japan central bank injects another \$98 billion into financial system

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's central bank pumped billions more into the financial system Tuesday to quell fears that the country's banks could be overwhelmed by the impact of the massive earthquake and tsunami. Stocks slumped for a second day as a nuclear crisis escalated.

Two cash injections totaling 8 trillion yen (\$98 billion) came a day after the Bank of Japan fed a record 15 trillion yen (\$184 billion) into money markets and eased monetary policy to support the economy in the aftermath of Friday's 9.0 magnitude quake that has killed thousands.

The injections have helped stabilize currency markets. But stock markets dived for a second day as investors unloaded assets amid escalating worries of a nuclear crisis.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average slid as much as 14 percent after Prime Minister Naoto Kan warned residents near a damaged nuclear power plant in tsunami-ravaged northeastern Japan to stay inside or risk getting radiation sickness. It closed Tuesday down 10.6 percent at 8,605.15.

Radiation is leaking from damaged reactors at the crippled plant in a dramatic escalation of the 4-day-old catastrophe. Kan said there is dangers of more leaks and told people living within 19 miles (30 kilometers) of the Fukushima Dai-ichi complex to stay indoors.

Without Bush and Iraq, Obama seeks new ways to energize core voters essential for 2012

WASHINGTON (AP) — Barack Obama rode a wave of voter passion in 2008 fed largely by intense dislike of President George W. Bush and the Iraq war, plus excitement among young and minority voters at the notion of electing the nation's first black president.

Now, as Obama cranks up his reelection campaign, all those factors are absent.

The president has many tools, of course, for inspiring and exciting potential voters. But he faces a different landscape, one in which key supporters are disappointed by concessions he has made to Republicans, and discouraged by huge Democratic losses last fall.

Obama acknowledged the challenge last week in Boston. "Somebody asked me, how do we reinvigorate the population, the voter, after two very tough years?" he told Democratic donors. "How do we recapture that magic that got so many young people involved for the very first time in 2008?"

One answer, the president said, is to persuade hardcore liberals to swallow their anger over political compromises the administration reached with Republicans, even when Democrats controlled both chambers of Congress.

Petraeus to tell Congress that U.S. on track to begin Afghan pullout in July

WASHINGTON (AP) — The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan is facing an impatient and frustrated Congress, balancing his troops' solid progress in combat with worries about Kabul government corruption, an expected Taliban resurgence this spring and the slow development of Afghan security forces.

Gen. David Petraeus on Tuesday was to deliver his first formal assessment to America at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing, returning to Washington for the first time since he took over as battlefield commander nine months ago. And he is expected to tell lawmakers that forces can begin to withdraw this summer as planned.

The Taliban's momentum "has been

arrested in much of the country and reversed in a number of important areas," Petraeus said in prepared testimony obtained by The Associated Press. He said that success, while fragile, will allow officials to recommend that the U.S. and NATO begin shifting control of several provinces to the Afghan security forces this spring.

He is warning, however, that the substantial military gains there could be jeopardized unless Congress provides adequate funding to the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development to provide economic development, governance and other civilian assistance.

"I am concerned that levels of funding for our State Department and USAID partners will not sufficiently enable them to build on the hard-fought security achievements of our men and women in uniform," he said.

Libyan rebels say they are fortifying eastern town in anticipation of attack TOBRUK, Libya (AP) — Rebels say

they are fortifying the town of Ajdabiya against a possible assault by advancing forces loyal to Libya's long-time leader Moammar Gadhafi.

Rebel spokesman Ahmed al-Zwei said Tuesday that "intermittent" fighting between the two sides was taking place on a 50-mile (80-kilometer) stretch of road between Ajdabiya and the oil port of Brega. Control of Brega has been split between the rebels and regime forces after days of fierce clashes.

Recapturing Ajdabiya would give Gadhafi's forces a significant boost as they continue to reverse the string of rebels' military successes when they began a march from the oppositionheld east of the country to the capital of Tripoli.

Investigators probe trail of felon who drove tour bus that crashed, killing 15 ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Investigators

worked Tuesday to piece together the trail of a man with numerous traffic violations and a decades-old manslaughter conviction who crashed a tour bus over the weekend in New York City, killing 15 people.

The bus driver, Ophadell Williams

The bus driver, Ophadell Williams, was ticketed in 1995 for speeding and twice for driving without a license, giving police the alias Erik Williams, two state officials familiar with the accident probe told The Associated Press on Monday. Williams' driving privileges were suspended, meaning he couldn't legally drive in the state, after he failed to address the charges.

The bus crash occurred Saturday as gamblers were returning to New York City's Chinatown neighborhood, in downtown Manhattan, after a few hours at the Mohegan Sun casino in Uncasville, Conn. The bus was sheared in half by a sign pole.

On Monday night, another company's luxury tour bus from Chinatown to Philadelphia crashed on the New Jersey Turnpike, killing the driver

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and a passenger. About 40 people were hospitalized.

National Transportation Safety Board investigators said they were looking at Williams' last 72 hours before the Saturday crash, checking the casino's surveillance video.

Gadhafi, isolated internationally, finds support in Latin America CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — As

CARACAS, Venezueia (AP) — As Moammar Gadhafi finds himself increasingly isolated internationally, he still has at least a few friends far away.

Latin America's most prominent

leftists rallied early to his defense

and have stayed there even as former friends, neighbors and countrymen have abandoned the embattled Libyan leader and urged his ouster. Venezuela's Hugo Chavez, Cuba's Fidel Castro and Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega have been foremost in oppos-

ing U.S. and NATO military involve-

ment, and in suggesting that reports

of atrocities by Gadhafi's troops are overblown or unproven.

"The United States is proposing a war over Libya because they want Libyan oil," Chavez said Sunday. He praised the African Union for appointing a commission of leaders to travel to Libya for talks — an effort in

Chavez's calls for mediation reflect both his affinity for Gadhafi and his ambition to be a global player, rallying nations against the United States.

line with his own peace proposals.

Policymakers aim to guard against inflation while fostering growth

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve meets Tuesday at a time of widening economic risks: higher oil and food prices; unemployment near 9 percent; crises in the Middle East and Japan.

Threats at home and abroad have

the potential to slow the U.S. economy, or heat up inflation. Or both.

Chairman Ben Bernanke and his Federal Reserve colleagues will debate those risks at Tuesday's session. At the top of their agenda is whether to make any changes to the Fed's \$600 billion Treasury bond-purchase program, which is set to expire at the end of June. The bond purchases are intended to help the economy by keeping long-term interest rates down, encouraging spending and driving up stock prices.

Economists think the Fed will agree

Tuesday to maintain the pace and size of the bond purchases. But the risks the economy is facing will likely complicate Bernanke's efforts to forge consensus.

"Bernanke is walking a tightrope,"

"Bernanke is walking a tightrope," said Victor Li, associate professor of economics at Villanova School of Business

Rock's Hall of Fame opens doors to Diamond, Cooper, Russell, Waits, Dr John and Love

NEW YORK (AP) — The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's annual induction ceremony is the only place you'd find Bruce Springsteen as just one member of a 21-piece backup band.

The rock hall's latest class brought together Neil Diamond, Alice Cooper, Tom Waits, Darlene Love, Dr. John and Leon Russell, and after all the speeches were done the musicians kept playing until the wee hours.

Springsteen brought his guitar to back Love, who created a modern-day "Wall of Sound" and dueted with Bette Midler on "He's a Rebel" after her induction Monday night. Guitarist John Mayer supported Russell in his ballad "A Song for You."

Diamond had the crowd in the glittery ballroom of The Waldorf-Astoria hotel dancing to the 1960s era "Cherry Cherry."

Diamond got a cheer from the New York crowd for recognizing his city roots while performing "I Am I Said."



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Teachers protest education cuts

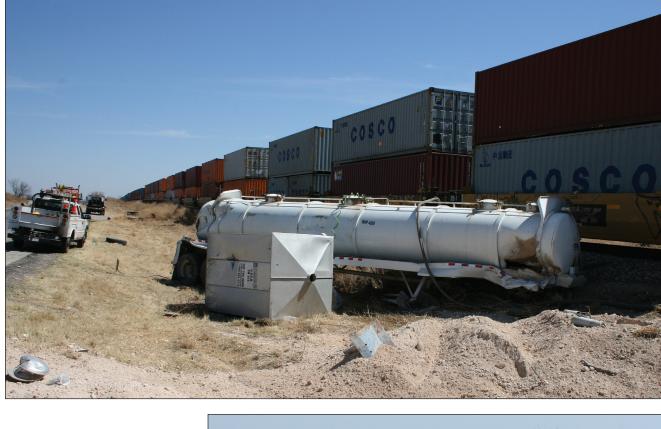
AUSTIN (AP) — Angry teachers chanting "save our schools" and holding signs criticizing Gov. Rick Perry rallied outside his office Monday, saying Republicanbacked plans to slash \$10 billion from education spending would cripple public schools.

More than a thousand educators, students and other protesters followed a high school marching band to the Capitol steps to oppose Perry's cuts-only approach to a state budget shortfall that could reach \$27 billion. Initial budget proposals would leave 100,000 teachers jobless, or about a third of the teachers employed by Texas public schools, according to independent experts.

Holding blue umbrellas, teachers urged the governor and lawmakers to use some of the state's \$9.4 billion Rainy Day Fund and to explore other options to help lessen the blow.

Perry has been resistant to using the fund, though one of his top aides told lawmakers last week that he would be open to using some of the money.

Texas' expected revenue shortfall was caused by the recession and a new business tax that has not raised as much money as projected. The funding hole also will affect other aspects of state government.



Emergency personnel – including officials with Union Pacific Railroad sort through debris following an accident involving a train and an 18-wheel tanker truck near the 164 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20 Monday afternoon. Law enforcement officials said the driver of the tanker truck was attempting to cross the railroad tracks near the South Service Road when the truck was hit by the train, sending the trailer portion of the truck to the north of the tracks and what was left of the cab north of the tracks. According to emergency personnel at the scene, the driver escaped with minor cuts and bruises.

HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins



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Torture suspect investigated in cold cases

FORT WORTH (AP) A man accused of kidnapping and torturing a woman for two weeks in a "house of horrors" after she repeatedly rejected him is being investigated in two cold cases of missing women,

including his ex-wife's disappearance, a sheriff says.

Jeffrey Allan Maxwell, 58, is jailed in Parker County on charges of aggravated kidnapping and aggravated sexual assault following his

weekend arrest in connection with the March 1 abduction of his former neighbor, who ran out of his Corsicana house as deputies arrived to question him, Parker County Sheriff Larry Fowler said.

Fowler said Monday that he asked the Texas Rangers to help re-examine the case of Maxwell's ex-wife, who lived in Fort Worth and vanished without a trace in

Martha Martinez Maxwell first went missing in 1987 before being found beaten with her throat cut near Ardmore, Okla. She sur-

vived those injuries. Jeffrey Maxwell was charged with aggravated kidnapping in that case in 1987, but court records show a Tarrant County grand jury declined to indict him, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported.

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Do you have an interesting sports item or

Page 1B Tuesday, March 15, 2011

How tourney favorites stack up

The Associated Press

Every year when the NCAA tournament bracket comes out, there's a team, maybe a couple that stand out as the ones to beat.

Last year, to a certain extent, it was Duke. Kansas, with those five future pros, was the bracket behemoth in 2008 and Florida was the no-brainer the year before.

This year, there doesn't seem to be that one team that'll be at the top of everyone's bracket. It's probably closer to a dozen. Heck, there are five or six teams just in the Big East that could be considered legitimate title contenders.

Certainly, going with one of the top four seeds is a pretty safe route, but each one in this year's field of 68 has enough flaws that it's going to be difficult to feel certain about the final pick at the middle of the bracket.

To help out, here's a rundown of the favorites, with opening odds to win the title from the folks at Glantz-

OHIO STATE

Odds to win championship: 3-1.

Why they'll win: The Buckeyes are as deep and talented as any team in the country and have a national player of the year candidate in Jared Sullinger. The freshman didn't play like one this season, allowing Ohio State not miss a beat after losing last year's player of the vear, Evan Turner. The Buckeyes also have sharpshooter Jon Diebler, who led the nation in 3-point shooting at 50 percent.

Why they won't: The Buckeyes aren't invincible, as losses to Wisconsin and Purdue in a span of eight days showed. Ohio State blew a 15-point lead against the Badgers and allowed the Boilermakers to shoot 51 percent, so they can break into lapses of concentration. They're also in a tough East Regional that includes North Carolina, Syracuse and Kentucky.

KANSAS

Odds to win championship: 9-2.

Why they'll win: If Ohio State is the No. 1 team for talent and depth, the

Jayhawks are 1A. Led by twin forwards Marcus and Markieff Morris, Kansas looks like a younger version of the team that won the 2008 title. The Jayhawks have plenty of players who can get out on the break, excellent spot-up shooters and are tough to match up inside with the Morrises and Thomas Robinson.

Why they won't: Kansas, like Ohio State had a couple of letdowns during the conference season. The Jayhawks allowed Texas to score 51 points in a dominating second half to see their nation's-best 69-game home winning streak end and were run over on the road to Kansas State, which had been struggling to that point. Kansas also was at the wrong end of the biggest upset in last year's tournament, losing to Northern Iowa.

Odds to win championship: 5-1.

Why they'll win: They're the defending national champions. Well, it's more than that. The Blue Devils have one of the best 1-2 punches in Kyle Singler and Nolan Smith, and plenty of role players to fit around them. Duke is also multidimensional, with just about everyone on the roster able to step out and hit 3-pointers.

Why they won't: Duke still managed to win the ACC tournament and get a No. 1 seed in the West Regional despite playing three months without Kyrie Irving, but could be in a tough spot later in the tournament if the talented freshman guard isn't able to return. The Blue Devils also are in a difficult region that includes San Diego State, Connecticut and Texas.

PITTSBURGH

Odds to win championship: 7-1.

Why they'll win: The Panthers earned the No. 1 seed in the Southeast Regional coming out of the brutally tough Big East. The Panthers, as they have since Jamie Dixon became coach, love to pound on teams defensively and have one of the best shooters in the country in Ashton Gibbs.

See FAVORITES, Page 2B

HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Jacob Acosta and the Big Spring baseball team are busy today with a doubleheader against visiting San Angelo Lake View. The first contest starts at 1 p.m. with the next one scheduled for 3 p.m. at Steer Park.

Martin, Hayes help **Rockets beat Suns**

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Rockets froze as they watched the arc of Jared Dudley's 3-point attempt, hoping that the game's last shot wasn't about to ruin their hard-fought effort.

The ball bounced off the rim, and the Rockets survived the Suns' late rally on Monday night to keep pace in the race for a postseason berth.

Kevin Martin scored 23 points, Chuck Haves had a career-high 21 points and nine rebounds and the Rockets snapped a seven-game losing streak to Phoenix with a 95-93 win over the Suns on Monday night.

The Suns rallied from 14 points down in the second half to tie it in the closing minutes. Phoenix had a chance to win at the end, but Dudley missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer that would've given his team its first lead.

"That was a long 1 or 2 seconds when the ball was in the air," said Chase Budinger, who scored 15. "I'm just glad it didn't go

Kyle Lowry added 18 points, six rebounds and five assists for the Rockets, who stayed three games behind Memphis in the chase for the final playoff spot. Houston is now only one-half game behind Phoenix in the standings.

"We know we're close," Hayes said. "We can't really ask for help. We just have to control our own destiny, and win as many games as possible."

Vince Carter scored 21 to lead the Suns, who played without point guard Steve Nash for the second straight game.

Aaron Brooks, acquired from Houston in a trade at the deadline, started for Nash, who sat out with a hip problem, and scored two points on 1 for 9 shooting.

The Suns acquired Brooks in exchange for point guard Goran Dragic and a firstround pick. Brooks faced his old team for the first time last week in Phoenix, a 113-110 Suns' win.

Brooks, Houston's first-round draft pick in 2007, got a loud ovation when he was introduced before the game. He pulled down the game's first rebound.

During an early timeout, a video montage of Brooks' highlights from his 3-plus seasons played on the scoreboard, prompting more applause. Brooks acknowledged the crowd with a quick wave.

"That's out of the way," Brooks said. "Having that game in Phoenix kind of helped a little bit. I'm just glad these Houston games are over, and we can go about the season."

The Suns slipped 2½ games behind the Grizzlies in the race for the No. 8 playoff spot in the West.

Josh Childress scored 15 and Zabian Dowdell had 11 points, five assists and four steals for the Suns, who dropped to 0-4 without Nash this season.

The Suns trailed by as many as 15, before coming back to tie it at 89-all in the

final two minutes. "It's too bad we didn't play the first half with a sense of urgency," Carter said.

See **ROCKETS**, Page 2B

NCAA women: UConn, Tennessee, Baylor and Stanford No. 1 seeds Texas Tech grabs No. 8 seed, Texas A&M gets No. 2, UT at No. 9

The Associated Press

Connecticut's path to a third straight national championship could include a renewal of the most heated rivalry in women's college basketball.

For Geno Auriemma to match Tennessee coach Pat Summitt with an eighth national championship he might have to go through her Lady Vols, who earned the top seed in the Dayton region. The Huskies earned

women's basketball tournament Monday night.

If both come through their regions, UConn and Tennessee could meet again in the national semifinals at Indianapolis.

Auriemma's Huskies didn't have to face Tennessee during its record 90game winning streak that was ended by Stanford on Dec. 30. The two preeminent teams in the sport broke off

the No. 1 overall seed in the NCAA their annual matchup in 2007 in a testy split.

> Baylor and Stanford were the other two No. 1 seeds. It was the second straight No. 1 seed for the Cardinal, who fell to UConn in the title game last season.

> "I think if it's a four-horse race, there are some dark horses," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. "I don't think there is a clear-cut favorite. Last year they (UConn) were a clear-

cut favorite."

"We're not a clear-cut favorite. Tennessee's not a clear-cut favorite; Baylor's not; and UConn's not."

The most emotional matchup of the tourney, however, likely will be in the Dallas region between No. 6 Georgia and No. 11 Middle Tennessee State, which is still dealing with the stabbing death of teammate Tina Stewart

See WOMEN, Page 2B

Sports in brief

Coahoma girls softball sign-ups

Sign-ups are March 17-19 and 24-26. Times for those days are 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. The fee is \$60, no fundraiser. Shirts and shorts will be provided. There will be a tournament hosted for every age group. Call Billy Newton at (325) 207-2640 for more information.

Chubby Abrego Scholarship Golf

Tournament This tournament begins at 8 a.m. April 9 at Co-

mache Trail Golf Course. It's a 4-man scramble; the cost is \$60 and includes a meal. The tournament helps fund scholarships for Coahoma High School athletes.

For more information, contact Rocky McCullough at (432) 213-4868, DeLoyd Hooser ar (432) 816-9051 or Gene Piercefield at (432) 816-1134. Prizes will be included.

Pony League baseball

Pony League baseball sign-ups will be held at the Big Spring Mall on March 19 and 26, and on April 2. Times are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., age 13 to 15.

Birth certificate is required. Cost is \$80 and includes full uniform (except cleats).

For more information, call Bryan Kligora at 816-

Metal Bat World Series

The 2011 CABA 18 and under Metal Bat World Series will be held July 17 through July 24 at the Bob Cene baseball complex in Struthers, Ohio.

Teams can find more information or register for this national event at cababaseball.com or contact Ken Quinn at 330-770-7157.

Lead negotiator says NFL proposed 10-year CBA

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Had enough of the he-said, he-said rancor between the NFL and players? Don't expect it

to go away anytime soon. The outcome of the league's first

work stoppage since 1987 could be decided in court; the first hearing on the players' request for an injunction to block the owners' lockout was scheduled for April 6. In the meantime, there probably will be more of the same as Monday, when Kevin Mawae — president of the NFL Players Association, the now-dissolved union accused the league of spreading "complete falsehoods and complete lies."

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees, on the same conference call as Mawae, said the owners' final offer Friday "was all a front."

"I think it was all a show, with no real intent to get a deal done, other than just to say they made a proposal — that was no different than anything else that they proposed over the last

couple years, couple months, couple weeks," said Brees, a named plaintiff in the players' antitrust lawsuit against the league.

Brees and Indianapolis Colts center Jeff Saturday, also a member of the players' executive committee, complained that the players were not given enough time to assess and ask questions about the proposal owners made Friday morning.

"It just seems odd you would wait until Friday to put out a 20-point proposal, when each point has a number of different details in it," Saturday

The NFL's lead labor negotiator, Jeff Pash, said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press that Friday's proposal contained various new provisions. He said owners offered a 10-year deal.

"I was frankly surprised that the (owners' labor) committee supported an offer as forthcoming as that was," Pash said.

He also said the league would have been willing to agree to a third extension to the collective bargaining agreement, which originally was due to expire at the end of March 3, before two delays. But another extension, he said, "wasn't really discussed in a serious way, because it was perfectly obvious they weren't interested."

By the end of Friday, talks broke off, the union announced it no longer would represent players, Brees and others filed suit, and the owners imposed a lockout at midnight. "If they were saying they were not

going to negotiate, under any circumstance, after 4 p.m. on Friday, don't you think you have to ask yourself: Who was it who was in Washington putting on a show?" Pash said. "We answered all the questions they

had at the time, and we never put a deadline on it. We're not the ones who were filing a lawsuit at 5 o'clock," Pash said.

For all the things the owners and

players disagree on, the two main sticking points are clear: how much money owners would get up front before dividing the rest of \$9 billion in annual revenues with players, and the union's demand for full financial disclosure.

"If we're going to talk about 'trust," maybe you should ask the owners if they trust each other to see each others' books," Mawae said. "I think that's a greater issue than the players trusting the owners." Under the old CBA, owners received

more than \$1 billion to cover certain operating expenses, before other money was split with players. When negotiations began on a new deal, the owners sought an additional \$1 billion off the top. Both sides acknowledge there was movement in that area.

But as the NFLPA's lead spokesman, George Atallah, put it Monday: "The perception is that we were really, really close. The reality is we really, really weren't."

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

Thas means no number is repeated in any row, column or

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By Steve Becker

Stop, Look and Think

Neither side vulnerable. NORTH **V**653 EAST **♠** A K J 10 7 6 5 ♥ K 9 8 **♥**10 ♦ 9 6 3 **4**109 The bidding:

West dealer.

West North East South Pass eight of spades. Opening lead Assume you, East, are defending

against four hearts after the auction shown. Your partner leads the eight of spades, and you take the king and ace as everyone follows suit. What would you do next? Many players might lead the ten

of hearts at this point. They would reason that a diamond or club return into dummy's strong holdings would be pointless, while a spade return would yield a ruff-and-discard. By a process of elimination, the trump shift would thus seem the safest course of action.

This line of reasoning is fallacious, however. While the trump return may appear safe, it does nothing to further the chances of defeating the contract. In effect, it merely maintains the status quo

East should reason instead that unless the defense can score two trump tricks, the contract cannot be defeated. If West happens to have two natural heart winners, then it won't make any difference what East returns at trick three. West will get his two trump tricks, and South will go down one.

While East is entitled to nurture this hope, he should at the same time ask himself what might be done if West has only one natural trump winner. In that case, it may be possible to promote a second trump trick for West by returning a spade at this point, purposely conceding a ruffand-discard. Declarer is hardly likely to benefit from this, since all of his side-suit cards are apparent winners.

As the cards lie, this plan succeeds. If South ruffs the spade with the heart jack, West carefully refuses to overruff and later scores both the king and nine of hearts. If declarer does anything else at trick three, West is equally certain to get two trump tricks. Once East overcomes the stigma of yielding a ruff-and-discard, all roads lead to down one.

Tomorrow: All it takes is the will to win. ©2011 King Features Syndicate Inc

WOMEN

Continued from Page 1B

on March 2.

"The tragedy was most unspeakable and our full committee and shared our thoughts and condolences," selection committee chairwoman Marilyn McNeil said. "However, what we want to assure everyone is they were considered like everyone in the field. We looked at their body of work and what they had done on the floor over the entire season. They were selected as one of the 33 best at-large teams in The Blue Raiders watched the selection show at

FAVORITES

Continued from Page 1B

Pitt also has what should be an easy start in the first two rounds.

Why they won't: The Panthers are vulnerable when Gibbs doesn't get help. Pitt found that out in the Big East tournament when UConn nipped the Panthers on Kemba Walker's last-second shot. Potential matchups with Louisville or Notre Dame late in the regional could be tripping points.

SAN DIEGO STATE

Odds to win championship: 12-1.

Why they'll win: What a run by the Aztecs this season under coach Steve Fisher. San Diego State swept the Mountain West regular-season and conference titles on its way to winning a school-record 32 games. The Aztecs were swept by BYU during the regular season, but turned the tables with a dominating performance in the tournament title game. San Diego State also has one of the best players in the country in Kawhi Leonard.

Why they won't: The Aztecs had a hard time stopping Jimmer Fredette in the two losses to BYU and they could face a similar, light-up-the-scoreboard player in UConn's Walker in the third round. San Diego State, despite its high seeding, hasn't had much success in the NCAA tournament lately, either, going winless its past six trips, including three under Fisher.

NORTH CAROLINA

Odds to win championship: 15-1.

Why they'll win: The Tar Heels made a quick turnaround after a miserable 17-loss season a year ago. North Carolina won 19 of its final 21 games, including over Duke in the finale to win the ACC regular-season crown, and had two comeback wins in the ACC tournament. The Tar Heels also are loaded with talented players, including freshman Harrison Barnes, who came on strong late after some coach Rick Insell's house. The coach was glad to see the committee reward this team after all it has gone through over the past two weeks.

"These kids deserve it. What they've been through these last 10, 12 days, I don't know. It's been the toughest thing I've ever had to endure since I've been in coaching, and I'm sure it's the toughest thing they'll ever have to endure. I'm proud of them. I'm just proud of them," Insell said.

First up for UConn is Hartford, which won the America East title, and is coached by former Huskies star Jen Rizzotti.

The two teams have played each other over the last six years but didn't meet this season. The Hawks are winless in 11 meetings against UConn.

early lumps.

Why they won't: The Tar Heels are young, which could leave them a little shellshocked in the bright lights of March. North Carolina was blown out in the ACC tournament final by Duke and doesn't have a particularly easy road coming out of the East Regional. The Tar Heels also have just eight scholarship players after point guard Larry Drew III transferred and freshman reserve Reggie Bullock suffered a late-season knee injury.

FLORIDA

Odds to win championship: 18-1.

Why they'll win: The Gators won the Southeastern Conference's regular-season title and get to open the NCAA tournament close to home in Tampa. Florida has one of the best guard combinations in the country in Kenny Boynton and Erving Walker, and a good inside presence with Chandler Parsons and Vernon Macklin.

Why they won't: The Gators may rely too much on Boynton and Walker. When those two struggle, so does Florida. That was evident in Florida's two losses to Kentucky, when the Wildcats used tall, athletic guards to manhandle the Gators' two smallish guards.

PURDUE

Odds to win championship: 20-1.

Why they'll win: Purdue's title hopes seemed to take a huge hit when Robbie Hummel tore his ACL for a second time in preseason practice. The Boilermakers not only survived without the hustle-allthe-time forward, they became a top-10 team behind JaJuan Johnson and E'Twaun Moore. Opening the

NCAAs at relatively close Chicago is also a boost. Why they won't: Purdue was in the running for a No. 1 seed the NCAA tournament before faltering late in the season. The Boilermakers ended the regular season by getting stunned by Iowa, then were bounced from the Big Ten tournament by Michigan State. A potential second-round game against Georgetown is dangerous.

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

Continued from Page 1B

"We have to come out and play hard, and in the second half, we did a better job." The Suns missed 9 of their first 14

shots and Houston built a double-digit lead in the first quarter. Brooks started 0 for 4, including an uncontested 3-point try near the 2-minute mark of the quarter.

But in the fourth quarter, the Rock-

ets were the ones who started cold, missing 12 of their first 15 shots.

Childress swished a 3 from the corner, and Grant Hill hit a mid-range jumper to draw the Suns within one, at 87-86, with three minutes left. Hayes hit two free throws with 2:17 left, but Dowdell hit a 3 from the corner to tie

Lowry sank a jumper from the wing, but Hayes missed two free throws with 30 seconds left to keep the score

Carter missed a 3-pointer, Hayes rebounded and was fouled by Hill.

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what the future will hold, though discussion is favored over action right now.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You may not like it when

someone

HOLIDAY MATHIS

disagrees with you, but in today's case, you will be much better off because of it. You'll strengthen your position and build a better argument for next time.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Sometimes it feels as though your personal stock is not quite as high as you'd like it to be. However, you can always

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

your perceived raise value by adjusting your own thinking about what you have to offer.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Whatever your beliefs are, you feel them with more passion today. So much so that someone who didn't share your convictions may suddenly convinced converted.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be pulled in at three different directions, mostly due to the fact that you have three people who adore you and want your attention. There's a way to satisfy all of them.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be drawn in by the mysteries your of ancestors. The holes in your parents' history likely will hold intrigue. You can find the answers if you ask the right questions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll find a worthy discussion partner someone who can lead you into deep and compelling conversation. There are financial opportunities present today, as well, especially in the afternoon.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You may realize that what you thought was no big deal is, in actuality, a very big deal. There are complexities involved that didn't you understand before. And there's more at stake, too.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are open-minded. The more people you query the smarter you become. Someone will tell you what's important, and you will weigh this person's opinion against your own.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There is very little that can surprise you today. Even when you are technically out of your element, you are still within reach of the

sophistication confidence of your own mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Keep your eyes open because it's a lucky day for finding conversation-worthy objects. You'll be drawn in by oddities, and you

could even find a curio to

add to your collection.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-You Feb. 18). graciousness personified, as you take care of your with friends compassionate selfless attitude. You are moving up on everyone's "favorite person" list.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's easy for you to be all sweetness and smiles, because you are inwardly trouble-free. However, when it's time to protect the happiness of your loved ones, you will get tough fast.

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Annie's Mailbox ®

Annie: Dear husband and I are in our married mid-60s, 42Our years. marriage hasn't been great, but it's also not horrible.

About 15 years ago, my developed husband erectile dysfunction and stopped wanting sex. I urged him to talk to his doctor, which he did. The doctor gave him some pills, but he refused to try them. I have tried other remedies on my own, but nothing has helped.

I admit I am not beautiful, and I also am overweight. Still, I've always been this way. My husband never cuddles up to me in bed like he used to. He never puts his arms around me, kisses me or shows any affection whatsoever. And he refuses to discuss it.

I feel like I'm living with my brother. Our anniversaries come and go with no celebration of any kind.

Every little thing he does seems to irritate me, and I can barely speak to him. Of course, when I do, he doesn't listen. Sometimes he actually walks away while I'm talking. I don't know what to do anymore. Can you help? — Tired of It All

Dear Tired: A low testosterone count could be responsible not only for a lack of interest in well. This is fairly common and might be the source of your husband's unwillingness to work on the problem. Ask him to go back to his doctor and get tested. It could make a world of difference to him, and it would help marriage, as well.

Ever Dear Annie: since my husband and I moved to a resort area, we have enjoyed many family gatherings at our house. These were invited guests at times that suited our schedules. Lately, however, the family seems to expect our house to be a spontaneous crash pad because we have "the accommodating most space."

The truth is, almost every visit has become a financial burden and a physically taxing occasion, especially when they linger for days, sometimes weeks.

Our utility skyrocket, the food costs are insurmountable, and this doesn't include the unrelenting domestic chores with little or no help.

During their stay, our house looks ransacked, with carpet stains, damaged furniture and tons of laundry.

These are all grown, financially secure, professional adults. My

sex, but for depression, as husband I have tried tactfully refusing them, suggesting other places, and designating meals and tasks, all of which were basically ineffective.

Telling them we have other plans is not a deterrent. Our home has turned into a hotel and storage facility. We love them, but we are at our wits' end. Any thoughts? — Ocean City, Md.

Dear Ocean City: You are going to have to be more firm and consistent. Say, "Sorry, you cannot stay here." Don't let them in the door.

Don't give them keys. When they complain, tell them point blank that you love them, but people leave the house a mess, no one contributes a thing, it strains your finances and you've had enough.

You will invite them when you are ready to have company. Period. They may be upset, but they will only stop taking advantage of you when you insist on it.

Annie's Mailboxwritten by Kathy Mitchell Marcy and Sugar, longtime editors of the AnnLanders column.Pleasee-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.n

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|-----|-----|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---|
| | ·DM | News | Alma | Lopez | News | Noticias | News | Seinfeld | Scrivner | World | Lyrics! | Cash Cab | phim Falls, | Walken | Law & Order | 106 & Park: | Fish | Nation | SportsCenter |
| 5 | :30 | | Notic. | Lopez | News | Noticiero | News | Seinfeld | Uri Harel | Business | Lyrics! | Cash Cab | Anjelica | | | BET's Top 10 | Phineas | Basket. | , |
| | :PM | Jeopardy! | Llena de | Two Men | News | Caso Cer- | News | King | McDonald | PBS News- | 70s Show | Dirty Jobs | Huston | | Bones | Live | Shake It | College | Bracket |
| 6 | :30 | Wheel | Amor (SS) | Two Men | Ent | rado | Millionaire | King | Alewine | Hour | '70s | | | | | | Shake It | Basketball | College |
| 7 | :PM | | Eva Luna | Glee | NCIS | Aurora (SS) | | | Chumney | The Street | One Tree Hill | | Movie: Hi- | Movie: | Bones | Together | Movie: Char- | | Basketball |
| | :30 | Family | (SS) | | | | Loser | Office | Cortes | Stops Here | | | dalgo, Louise | | | Game | lie and the | | |
| 0 | :PM | V | Triunfo del | Raising | NCIS: Los | Herederos- | | | Light of the | | Hellcats | Dirty Jobs | Lombard | Morgan Freeman | Movie: Why | Game | Chocolate Factory | College | |
| 0 | :30 | | Amor | Traffic | Angeles | Monte | | Office | Southwest | Independent | | | | rrooman | Did I Get Married? | Game | , | Basketball | MLS Soccer: |
| 0 | :PM | | | Simpsons | The Good | La Reina del | Parenthood | Office | | Lens | Married | American | | | iviairieu: | Game | Shake It | | Galaxy at Sounders |
| 9 | :30 | - | (SS) | How I Met | Wife | Sur | | Office | | | Married | Auction | | | | Together | Shake It | | Sounders |
| 10 | :PM | | Impacto | How I Met | News | Noticias | News | Conan | Brad | Charlie Rose | | Dirty Jobs | Movie: Hi- | UFC 128 | HawthoRNe | The | Phineas | College | |
| 10 | :30 | 0 | Noticiero | Raymond | Letterman | | Jay Leno | | Cortes | | King | | dalgo, Louise Lombard | | | Mo'Nique | Phineas | Basketball | |
| 44 | | | Para Volver a | | | (SS) | | Lopez | Ministerio- | World | South Pk | Dirty Jobs | Lombard | UFC Fight | CSI: NY | Wendy Wil- | Hannah | | SportsCenter |
| 11 | :30 | | | SVU | Late | Decisiones | Late Night | Tonight | Vida | T. Smiley | South Pk | |] | Night | | liams | Hannah | | |
| 12 | :AM | | Tontas Cielo | Paid | | (SS) | | Conan | Brad | (Off Air) | Cops | American | _ | | | Movie: Love | Wizards | Scoreb'rd | SportsCenter |
| 12 | :30 | Paid | | Raymond | Insider | Pagado | News | | Alewine | | Focus 4 | Auction | | | | and Other Four Letter | Wizards | NBA | |
| 4 | :AM | | Mujer | TMZ | Ent | | Poker After | Lopez | Light of the | | Homecoming | Overhaulin' | Movie: | Disorderly | Leverage | Words | Suite Life | NFL Live | SportsCenter |
| _ ' | :30 | Paid | Cero | King-Hill | (:37) Up to | Pelicula: | Dark | Tonight | Southwest | | | | Overboard, | (:42) Entou- | | | Suite Life | NASCAR | |
| D] | ENI | NIS TH | E ME | NACE | | THE F | AMIL' | Y CIRC | CUS | I | HAGAI | R | | | | | | | |

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WHAT 'ONE-EYED WILLY' KEEPS UNDER HIS EYE PATCH



WIZARD OF ID

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AGNES

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HI! NOTICETHAT I AM DRESSED

FOR SUCCESS TO DAY ... IT'S MY

NEW FORMULA FOR A MEGA-

HIGH-POWERED FUTURE.







Book

of PHRASES





This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, March 15, the 74th day of 2011. There are 291 days left in the year. Today's Highlight

History: On March 15, 44 B.C., Roman

dictator Julius Caesar was assassinated by a group of nobles that included Brutus and Cassius.

On this date:

1493, Christopher Columbus returned to Spain, concluding his first voyage to the Western Hemisphere. In 1767, the seventh presi-

dent of the United States, Andrew Jackson, was born in Waxhaw, S.C. In 1820, Maine became the

23rd state.

In 1913, President Woodrow Wilson met with reporters for what's been described as the first presidential press confer-

In 1919, members of the American Expeditionary Force from World War I convened in Paris for a three-day meeting to found the American Legion. In 1944, during World War II, Allied bombers again raided

German-held Monte Cassino. In 1956, the musical play "My Fair Lady," based on Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion," opened

In 1964, actress Elizabeth Taylor married actor Richard Burton in Montreal; it was her fifth marriage, his second.

In 1970, Expo '70, promoting

"Progress and Harmony for

Mankind," opened in Osaka,

on Broadway.

Japan. In 1975, Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis died near Paris at age 69.

Today's Birthdays: Musician DJ Fontana is 80. Former astronaut Alan L. Bean is 79. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is 78. Actor Judd Hirsch is 76. Singer Mike Love (The Beach Boys) is 70. Rock singer-musician Sly Stone is 68. Rock singer-musician Howard Scott (War; Lowrider Band) is 65. Rock singer Ry Cooder is 64. Actor Craig Wasson is 57. Rock singer Dee Snider (Twisted Sister) is 56. Movie director Renny Harlin is 52. Model Fabio is 50. Singer Terence Trent D'Arby (AKA Sananda Maitreya) is 49. Rock

singer Bret Michaels (Poison) is 48. Rhythm-and-blues singer Rockwell is 47. Rock singer Mark McGrath (Sugar Ray) is 43. Actress Kim Raver is 42. Rock musician Mark Hoppus is 39. Actress Eva Longoria is 36. Rapper-musician will.i.am (Black Eyed Peas) is 36. Rock DJ Joseph Hahn (Linkin Park) is 34. Rapper Young Buck is 30. Actor Sean Biggerstaff is 28. Rock musician Ethan Mentzer is 28. Actress Caitlin Wachs is

Thought for Today: "You can't copy anybody and end with anything. If you copy, it means you're working without any real feeling." — Billie Holiday, American singer (1915-1959)

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HI AND LOIS





THE OTHER COAST





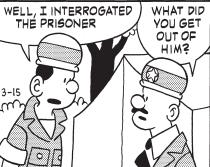


SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





- 10 Parts of a play
- 16 Sticky stuff on
- 17 Gobbled up
- (Norse explorer)
- 20 "Sorry, you just
- missed'
- 23 Wide belt
- 24 Coffee maker
- 25 Delicate, as a
- 29 Fitness center
- **33** Suffix for
- ritual
- 37 Compose a
 - "Finally . . ."
- 42 Hawaiian
- greeting
- **43** To
- 44 Once more
- **45** Japanese money
- **46** Zeus or Apollo
- water
- 51 Matador's
- 61 Hydrant

- **69** Free-for-all
 - **DOWN**
 - 2 Clock face
 - 3 Not fooled by

 - 6 America, for

14

64

67

- 4 Hwys.
- 7 New parents'
- 8 Similar
- **11** Drain problem

- 5 Most sensible
- losses
- **34** Swearing-in
- letter 39 Emcee's

- 48 Sitting on the
- 53 In a gradual, reliable fashion
- (highest-quality) 63 3 to 1, for one

- Newsday Crossword
 - 64 Stare at
 - 65 Otherwise
 - 67 Whistle sound
 - 68 In the

 - 1 Oil cartel

 - short
 - celebration
 - 9 Get back, as

- 13 Crystal-ball user 21 Mississippi Delta
 - feature 22 Move on all fours
 - 25 Procrastination result
 - 26 of Two Cities 27 "The TV show
 - is starting" 28 Amsterdam's
 - land: Abbr. 29 Horse-hoof
 - attachment **30** Keyboard
 - 35 Just slightly
 - **36** Explosive initials

15



- **ACROSS**
- 1 Aromas
- 6 Type of ski lift
- **14** Ship of 1492 15 Long walk
- envelopes
- **18** __ the Red
- 19 Top-rated
- doily
- 30 Skillet
- kitchen
- (perfectly)
- 50 __-Mex cuisine
- opponent
- attachment _-edged

- 66 Practical joke
- neighborhood

- - 10 Once more
- instrument 31 On a cruise **32** Food-box abbr.

- **HOWEVERS** by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 12 Sandwich fish 38 Actual
 - 40 Roll with a hole 41 Rips up 47 Scuba-tank
 - filler
 - 49 Traditional British tea time
 - **50** Parakeet sound **51** Oklahoma city
 - **52** Aquatic mammal
 - 53 Took a photo of 54 Company emblem
 - 55 Capital of Norway 56 Liver product
 - 57 Very uncommon

58 And others:

Abbr.

16

66

69

59 Pencil mark 60 Oxen harness

11 12

17 18 19 20 21 22 24 26 27 30 31 32 25 29 35 | 36 33 38 37 39 40 41 42 43 45 46 47 48 49 53 59 54 55 56 |58 61 62 63

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