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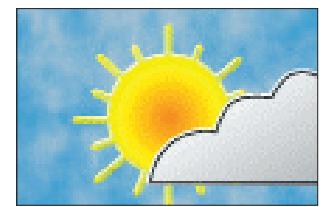


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H BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

APRIL 12, 2011



VOLUME 106, NUMBER 112

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HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Eric Herm believes it is time people returned to working with nature instead of trying to master it. He has written a book, "Son of a Farmer, Child of the Earth" and will have a book signing from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday at Heritage Museum.

'Son of a Farmer' book signing set

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

Nobody better to talk farming than a farmer. Eric Herm, author of "Son of a Farmer, Child of the Earth" and a fourth-generation farmer, will be at the Heritage Museum for a book signing and presentation from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday. "It's not just a book signing," Herm said. "It's something that everyone — farmers and non-farmers — should attend. It's for anyone concerned with what we are doing." After leaving the farming community for 10 years and returning, Herm was able to see changes that had occurred in the industry. What he saw was a reliance on corporations



Herm

and chemical products that had taken over and transformed the way farmers operate. "We have lost part of ourselves," Herm said. "We have gone from calling ourselves farmers to calling ourselves producers. We have become nothing more than an extension of the corporations and stopped being an extension of the Earth." After getting nowhere with his friends and family, Herm started researching and began his journey of getting his newly found perspective out. For about a year he channeled all his energy through the book.

See **HERM**, Page 3A

Soaring fuel prices cloud budget plans

Uncertainty with legislature doesn't help either, officials say

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Howard County officials began fiscal planning for the coming year Monday with a budget workshop, as commissioners and department heads continue to look cautiously toward the state legislature. County Judge Mark Barr and county commissioners met with Eddy Jameson, road and bridge administrator for the county, Monday to discuss the coming year and possible

budgetary challenges facing the government agency. "In the road and bridge department, I think the biggest worry we have going into the next fiscal year is the price of fuel," Barr said. "With the way gas prices are rising right now, it's really hard to know what our fuel budget is going to look like until we get a little closer to September." Jameson's department, See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

Barking dog alerts Elbow family to fire

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Investigators believe the fire that destroyed a couple's home west of Elbow during the early morning hours today was caused by an electrical short in or near a dryer. Howard County Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan said the fire was reported shortly after 1 a.m. at a home located in the 6800 block of W. FM 818. "We arrived on the scene at 1:30 a.m. and the structure was already fully engulfed in flames," Sullivan said. "The home is located about 1.5 miles west of Elbow. Two units from the

See **FIRE**, Page 3A

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The buyer crumbles pretty nicely when Katie Averette says 'buy one?'

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer


Selling cookies is what Girl Scouts do, but 8-year-old Katie Averette went above and beyond this year. Averette, daughter of Chad and Susie Averette, is part of Brownie Troop 473 and a third grader at Elbow Elementary School. The troop sold 10,000 boxes and Averette's sales accounted for 10 percent of that. She sold 1,039 boxes, according to troop leader Erica Milton. "She is an amazing young girl who has truly taken the spirit of Girl Scouting to the next level," Milton said. The troop had originally set

a goal of sending 1,000 boxes to the troops overseas through the Gift of Caring project. The girls raised \$700 for the project, with Averette's portion accounting for \$200. "We had seven girls sells more than 700 boxes of cookies and Katie was at the top of those girls," Milton said. Averette has been involved in Girl Scouts for two years and last year was in the top three in cookie sales. "We get to take lots of fun trips and it's always something new," Averette said. "It's really fun to be with all the girls." Milton said Averette's contagious smile truly is like the Girl Scout song says "a great

big Brownie smile." She is always the first one to be at the Girl Scout events. Her cookie sales success might come from the education she received at Cookie College in El Paso. She earned her masters degree in cookies. "She is a real joy and I am lucky to call her one of my beautiful Brownies," Milton said. On top of being involved in Girl Scouts, Averette also takes part in 4-H stock shows, helps take care of her horse, plays softball and assists in trash pick-ups for Keep Big Spring Beautiful adopted spot by Marcy Elementary.



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno
Third-grader Katie Averette sold more than 1,000 boxes of Girl Scout cookies with Troop 473.



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Obituaries

Lucille Bledsoe



Lucille Bledsoe, 98, of Big Spring died Sunday, April 10, 2011, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Gorman Cemetery in Gorman.

She was born March 2, 1913, in Gorman to Dora and Albert Grice. She married Blake Oliver Bledsoe on July 11, 1936. They came to Big Spring in 1955 from Gorman. He preceded her in death Jan. 8, 1971. She was a homemaker and a member of Family Faith Center.

She was a wonderful wife, mother, cook and seamstress. She was always there and we will be eternally grateful she was our mother.

She is survived by three sons, Wade Bledsoe of Big Spring, Benny Bledsoe and wife Barber of Lubbock and Wayne "Boliver" Bledsoe and wife Nancy of Comanche; three daughters, Joan Self and husband Jim of Big Spring, Dorene Bledsoe Sanchez and husband Jose and Mackie Hinricksen and husband LaMoyné, all of Las Vegas; 11 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and five nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Marta Marie Bledsoe; one granddaughter, Charlene Adell Bledsoe; two sisters; and two brothers.

The family would like to give a very special thanks to Dominika Lenard for all of her loving care for our mother.

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

Paid obituary

Sidney T. Clark

Sidney T. Clark, 86, of Big Spring died Monday, April 11, 2011, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 400 block of E. 10th Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1100 block of Ridgeroad.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 79 inmates at the time of this report.

- LUIS ALBERTO GARFIAS, 23, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on judgments/sentences for possession of a controlled substance and delivery of marijuana.

- JOHNNY RICHARD REYES, 23, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of no driver's license and violation of a promise to appear.

- CASSIE CHRISTINE CANTU, 22, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPS on charges of displaying an expired license plate, no liability insurance, violation of a promise to appear, a Caldwell warrant for assault causing bodily injury and municipal warrants for no seat belt – driver, violation of a promise to appear and failure to identify as a fugitive from justice – giving false information.

- ROBERT ESPINOZA RAMOS SR., 50, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPS on a charge of public intoxication.

- DANIEL V. FLORES, 42, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPS on a charge of public intoxication.

- ROBERT RUBIN SANCHEZ, 46, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPS on a charge of public intoxication.

- STEVEN RAY EVANS, 22, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPS on a charge of public intoxication.

- FORTUNATO BARRIENTES, 17, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPS on a charge of evading arrest or detention.

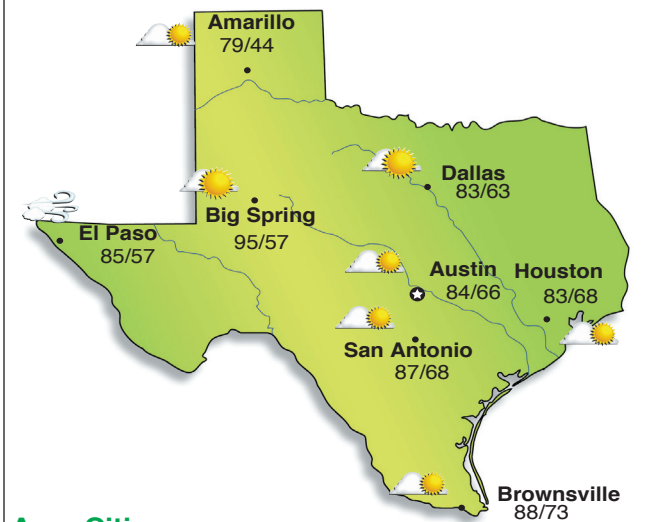
- JOHN EUGENE KELLEY, 44, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated – second offense.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 4/13	Thu 4/14	Fri 4/15	Sat 4/16	Sun 4/17
95/57 Mostly sunny skies. Hot. High near 95F. Winds SW at 15 to 25 mph.	91/52 Windy with sunshine. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 50s.	83/51 Sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	87/60 Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.	92/56 A few clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the mid 50s.
Sunrise: 7:20 AM Sunset: 8:14 PM	Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 8:17 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	89	61	mst sunny	Kingsville	88	71	pt sunny
Amarillo	79	44	pt sunny	Livingston	84	62	mst sunny
Austin	84	66	pt sunny	Longview	82	61	mst sunny
Beaumont	82	66	pt sunny	Lubbock	90	50	pt sunny
Brownsville	88	73	pt sunny	Lufkin	85	61	mst sunny
Brownwood	89	63	mst sunny	Midland	94	61	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	83	72	pt sunny	Raymondville	90	71	pt sunny
Corsicana	83	62	mst sunny	Rosenberg	83	68	pt sunny
Dallas	83	63	mst sunny	San Antonio	87	68	pt sunny
Del Rio	91	67	pt sunny	San Marcos	85	66	pt sunny
El Paso	85	57	windy	Sulphur Springs	82	62	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	93	59	mst sunny	Sweetwater	92	59	mst sunny
Gainesville	81	59	mst sunny	Tyler	83	62	mst sunny
Greenville	81	60	mst sunny	Weatherford	83	60	mst sunny
Houston	83	68	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	87	58	mst sunny

Police blotter

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

- TIMOTHY TOD BECK, 50, of 707 W. Seventh St., was arrested Monday on two warrants from another agency.

- DANIEL VERA FLORES, 42, of 907 E. 15th St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- ROBERTO RAMOS, 59, of 910 E. 15th St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- STEVEN RAY EVANS, 22, of 1103 E. Sixth St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- CASSIE CHRISTINE CANTU, 22, of 1101 E. 12th St., was arrested Monday on warrants for failure to identify as a fugitive from justice – giving false information, driving without safety belt secured, failure to appear and four warrants from another agency.

- ROBERT RUBEN SANCHEZ, 46, of 1023 Stadium, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- FORTUNATO BARRIENTES JR., 17, of 1501 Wood, was arrested Monday on a charge of evading arrest or detention.

- THEFT was reported:
In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.
In the 1500 block of E. Fourth Street.
In the 300 block of S. Owens.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 2500 block of Moates. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 6000 block of Midway Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Driver Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 2600 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.

SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 11000 block of E. FM 846. One person was air-evacuated from the scene.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Wyoming. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Tucson. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 3300 block of Drexel. Service refused.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

THE BOOKWORM

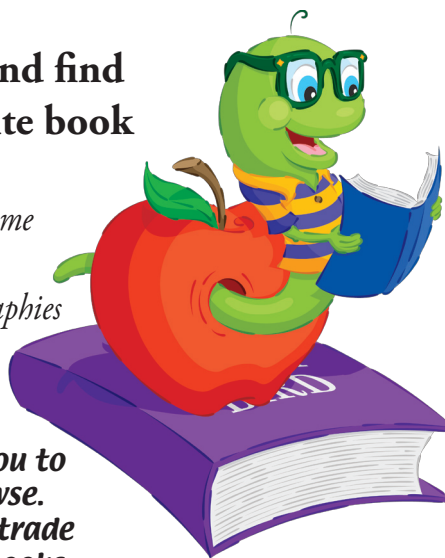
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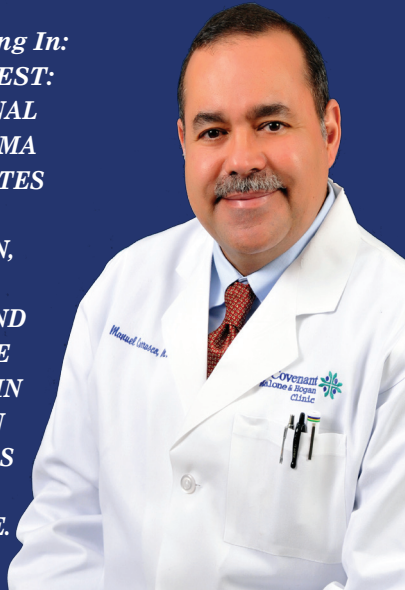
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Support Groups

- MONDAY**
- Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.
 - Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.
 - Parents Empowering Parents, first and third Mondays, 6-7:30 p.m. Northside Community Center. Support group for parents, grandparents raising grandchildren, adoptive-foster parents or stepparents. Professional facilitator, parent-led discussions on variety of topics.
 - Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, 8-9 p.m., fourth floor, VA Medical Center.

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.
- TUESDAY**
- Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerriroosenbaum9488@msn.com
 - 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.
- FRIDAY**

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
 - Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit www.cccbigspring.org
- SATURDAY**
- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.
- SUNDAY**
- Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

which handles county road maintenance, is just one of many departments county commissioners will be looking at in the coming weeks, according to Barr.

"We'll handle our budget process much like we did last year," he said. "We'll be meeting with the department heads to talk about what they need to keep the county running smoothly, as well as look at ways we can save money. It's a pretty long and involved process leading up to September, which is when we'll adopt our new budget, but I feel confident going into this year's process."

Barr said one of the biggest concerns for county officials during this year's budgetary process is ongoing legislation in Austin that could impact county coffers.

"As far as mineral valuations go, there seems to be some optimism in the capitol about that," Barr said. "The big worry, however, is concerning unfunded mandates. That's where we could be looking at some problems when it comes to the budget."

Another concern the county — along with the city of Big Spring — is eyeing now is the proposed closure of Big Spring State Park, which is among several state facilities apparently headed for closure, thanks to state budget

shortfalls.

Both government entities have begun efforts to keep the facility open, although, if Austin lawmakers have their way, the change could mean turning the state-run park over to local government to finance, putting strains on both the city and county budgets.

Also on the fiscal radar this year are cuts to the state's mental health programs, which could cost the county in more ways than just one.

"The county and city currently subsidize a certain amount each year for West Texas Centers, but if the cuts the legislature are looking at go through, there's no way we can fill the gap," Barr said. "As the state cuts its funding

to these mental health programs, many of the people served by those programs are going to end up in the county jail. These cuts could cost us money in a lot of different ways."

Despite the obvious hurdles from the state legislature, Barr said he feels fairly confident going into the budget process the county will be able to continue operations without cutting services to the citizens.

"Our fund reserves are OK, and it's looking like mineral values will be the same as last year, if not slightly higher," Barr said. "I don't think we'll have any trouble. We're basically keeping the status quo, all except the joint law enforcement center, which is the only new project

we have going on right now.

"I recently talked to architect Jeff Heffelfinger, and he said material costs are holding steady, for now. As long as the project solidifies soon, I think we'll be able to bring it in within the current project budget."

Members of the Big Spring City Council recently held a meeting alongside Howard County commissioners to present the proposed center — which would be located at the newly built County Jail, located on W. Highway 80 — to the public.

According to officials with both government entities, the proposed deal would have the city of Big Spring chipping in \$1.7 million on the

project — the bulk of its funds already designated for renovation or replacement of the Troy Hogue Law Enforcement Center — with the county picking up the balance, estimated by Heffelfinger at approximately \$1 million.

The project has gotten a tentative green light from both county and city leaders.

The county 2010-2011 budget was approved last year at \$15.1 million, approximately \$750,000 more than the 2009-2010 budget.

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

HERM

Continued from Page 1A

"There has been lots written about food and our health, but there hasn't been one that's from a farmers perspective," Herm said. "The best books about war are written by those who have been in war. It only makes sense that the books about farming should come from farmers."

"Son of a Farmer, Child of the Earth" focuses on the changes that chemical usage has brought upon the farmer, the Earth, the economy and the product.

"It's not just a take on where we are in agriculture, but where we need to be heading," Herm said. "We've been relying on chemicals to solve our problem and lots of issues concerning the environment and human health have come about because of it."

Herm said he is hoping to bridge the gap between farmers and non-farmers. He hopes not only to get people thinking, but to start making changes. What we do to the Earth, we do to ourselves, he said.

"I got frustrated with what was happening and once I realized I was get-

ting nowhere I decided to put this book together," Herm said. "It's not something I just went on a tangent about. I have over 200 references and have listed them at the end of each chapter."

The passion that Herm feels on the issue doesn't simply come from being a farmer, but from being a father. He wants people to educate themselves about the issues and pay more attention to the labels.

"When you use poison as the basic ingredient for success, sooner or later the repercussions will catch up to you," Herm said. "Too often our intelligence creates

arrogance and we need to stop and get back to being an extension of nature."

The power to change the way things are lies within each individual, according to Herm. He said large corporations didn't become multi-billion dollar businesses on their own; they did so through the support of people's dollars.

"Just as we have the power to change things with our vote, we have the power to stop the corporations by not spending our dollars with them," Herm said. "Nature has the answers," Herm said. "We need to be more stu-

dents of nature and not masters of nature. We are trying too hard to be the masters."

Heritage Museum is located at 510 Scurry. For more information about the book signing, contact the museum at 267-8255.

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
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Lucille Bledsoe, 98, died Sunday. Family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Gorman, Texas.

Sidney T. Clark, 86, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

FIRE

Continued from Page 1A

Big Spring Fire Department and seven Howard County units responded to the fire.

"We believe the fire started in the back of the home, in the laundry room around a dryer. The most likely cause is an electrical short. The couple was asleep when the fire started, and their dog woke them up and made them aware of the smoke."

Sullivan said the couple and their dog made it out of the home safely.

"They got out of the house with hardly anything on," Sullivan said. "It was one of those situ-

ations where you don't have time to grab anything, you just have to get out with your lives and that's it. A few of the sheriff's deputies took up a collection while we were fighting the fire and were able to purchase them some clothing."

A Chevrolet pickup parked near the home would have gone up in the blaze, as well, if it hadn't been for some quick thinking by Sullivan and his group of firefighters.

"We knew the pickup needed to be moved, but the couple wasn't able to get out with the keys," Sullivan said. "We finally decided to hook on to the front of the pickup with my truck and drag

it across the street and away from the fire."

Sullivan said the home was destroyed, although firefighters managed to keep the fire from spreading.

"We worked the scene until about 7:10 a.m. There were no injuries reported as a result of the fire, and we were able to keep it from spreading," Sullivan said. "With the wind getting ready to kick up again, we were really lucky."

And while the firefighters and law enforcement officers that responded to the fire are certainly

heroes, Sullivan said the real courage early Tuesday morning came from the homeowner's four-legged friend.

"If the dog hadn't woke them up, there's a good chance they might not have made it alive," he said. "He really gets the credit for saving their lives. I'd say that dog deserves one heck of a treat."

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEWS

High temps, high winds, fire danger high

Summer is clearly on the way and the temperatures are here to prove it.

With the recent high temperatures the ideas of barbecues, swimming pools and outdoor activities start to come to the forefront of our minds.

One thing that we often fail to remember is the extra caution that we need to be taking while planning these outdoor activities.

Local and area firefighters have been spending more and more of their time fighting fires, in order to ensure the safety of homes and communities.

The lack of moisture and predicted future of at least a few more weeks without moisture only increase the dangerous situation. The truth of the matter is once something burns the threat of that area burning again is gone, but the point is there are lots of areas that haven't burned and even more that if they were to burn could cause major damage.

While the moisture level is low or non-existent as it is now, we should all take the time and think before we head outdoors.

It is important to remember Howard County is under a burn ban. Any fire, controlled or not, could lead to extreme danger. There are certain stipulations allowing burning, but it all must be in done with extreme caution and safety.

For the smokers, if you are driving and smoking then put your cigarette out anywhere but out the window, especially when driving by an open field.

At this point the smallest spark could turn into a big problem.

The temperatures may be rising, the fun may be moving outside, but let's make sure we are able to enjoy that fun and the area around us instead of having to worry about how to put the fire out.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May You, Lord, continue to be a strong presence in our life.

Amen

GOP didn't win budget battle; Silver lining: Neither did Dems

The Republicans did not win this budget fight, but the cuts they were able to extract illustrate, ironically, that Democrats are finally on the defensive. Score-keeping aside, we must build on this non-victory because it was also a Democratic retreat.

Last week, I argued that the GOP should not cave on the budget negotiations for many reasons, including that today is not 1995-96. Things are so much different now, especially because of the existential threat to the republic that the exploding national debt represents.

Not surprisingly, my position didn't prevail. The Republicans reneged on their promise to cut \$100 billion (or the so-called pro rata equivalent of that, \$61 billion) for the remainder of the fiscal year.

They caved because they apparently bought into the conventional wisdom that a government shutdown would be blamed on mean-spirited Republicans. Folks, if that's true, then why did the Democrats, who are in delusional denial about the debt crisis, agree to \$38.5 billion in cuts?

If Democrats were as cocksure that the public would blame the GOP for a shutdown and punish its members accordingly, then why didn't they just avoid infuriating their base and hold fast at \$6.2 billion in cuts or whatever farcical number they had proposed?

The answer is that they got pummeled in the November elections, and the public mood is overwhelmingly inclined toward getting this debt crisis under control. What Democrats would not compromise on, which illustrates just how much their party has degenerated, was the public funding of Planned Parenthood. That was nonnegotiable because, just as with unions, they'll never

cut off funds to a group that in turn funds them.

So though I'm not happy about the result, there is a silver lining, and I hope Republicans will recognize it and build on it rather than glean the wrong lessons from the just-ended budget fight.

The correct lessons are: Democrats are on the defensive, and they know it, so the GOP must use its leverage wisely. We will not reverse our national debt crisis through bipartisan compromise, because half-measures won't do and half-measures, nay, quarter-measures are the most we can ever expect to squeeze out of the Democrats. The half-measure resolution of the just-ended budget skirmish is an example. If we think Democrats got nasty this time, just imagine what they'll say about meaningful entitlement reform.

It's true that the real battle will be over the long-term budget proposals — Paul Ryan's vs. the Democrats'. But unless our side enters this war intending to defeat the demagogues rather than split the baby in half, we might as well start preparing for European-style austerity.

What do I mean that Democrats aren't serious and won't approach budget cutting in good faith? Well, after spending us into the occult and presenting a sham 10-year budget, Obama went AWOL during the budget negotiations. He has been cynically uninterested and dismissive about entitlement reform. Yet now we read that he is going to unveil his own plan for debt reduction this week.

But wait; he already did that, as I mentioned, with his 10-year budget, which consisted of bankrupting trillion-dollar-a-year deficits as far as the eye could see — all while telling us he would not be adding a single penny to the national debt.

The fact that he's presenting a new plan already proves he wasn't serious about the first one. It also further demonstrates that he and his party know they have deep credibility problems on fiscal issues. In Monday's

Rasmussen tracking poll, Obama's presidential approval index was minus 20 percent.

So Republicans had better be prepared to take the gloves off and point out just how unserious Obama is and how ineffective his plan would be. They will shoot themselves in the foot if they continue to treat Obama as if he were approaching this problem in good faith and in pursuit of some kumbaya compromise.

Obama's plan will not be serious in its approach to entitlement reform; it will be more smoke and mirrors on top of what he's already presented (which was nothing), and it will most likely involve tax hikes.

The problem with that is that following entitlements, the next biggest driver of our deficits is our lethargic economy, which is gasping for breath under the oppressive weight of an ever-expanding public sector, onerous taxes and crippling regulations.

Obama is congenitally predisposed against agreeing to the types of pro-growth policies that will have to accompany real entitlement reform if we are to reverse our debt picture.

So even if the GOP lost this budget battle, the Democrats didn't win it, either, which should embolden the GOP to fight harder in the war ahead. If it loses that war, it must go down fighting on principle; otherwise it reduces its chances of winning in 2012 — the biggest showdown of all.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His new book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction for its first two weeks. To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his website at www.DavidLimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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As the American culture hurtles into the deep abyss

America's tailspin toward the cultural abyss has gained speed with an ad featuring single-mother celebrity Bristol Palin. Bloggers unfriendly to her mother, conservative entrepreneur Sarah Palin, have bashed a charity for paying Bristol \$262,500 to warn against teen pregnancy while doling a pitiful \$35,000 to social organizations that actually deal with its problems.

A solid complaint, but one that barely plumbs the sickness of the Candie's Foundation ad campaign. The nonprofit is run by the executives of Candie's, a line of sexy apparel marketed to females age 7 to young adult. Some ads for the brand were so degrading that even Cosmopolitan magazine refused to publish them.

One Candie's promo showed Lil' Kim in a blonde wig and yellow bikini dancing above a group of nuns. Another had actress Alyssa Milano opening a medicine cabinet full of condoms and a bottle of Candie's fragrance. The new Candie's brand video shows Fergie thrusting her cleavage at a young man holding a long-lens camera.

It's pretty twisted: A company that merchandises platform boots with 5-inch heels to young teens now urges them to avoid unwise sexual activities. (Older girls get 7-inch heels. They call them "hooker boots.") And its charity's celebrity spokeswoman is one who achieved stardom by

virtue of becoming pregnant at 17 and being the daughter of the moralistic Sarah Palin.

The Candie's Foundation describes its mission as follows: "To educate America's youth about the devastating consequences of teen pregnancy through celebrity PSA (public service announcement) campaigns and initiatives."

As we recall, Bristol showed up five months pregnant at the 2008 Republican National Convention that nominated her mother for vice president. The father, fellow high-schooler Levi Johnston, stood at her side. Presidential candidate John McCain vigorously shook Levi's hand because ...because why?

Because Bristol's condition was to be a kind of "pro-life" advertisement for the ticket. Social conservatives hailed the decision to go through with the pregnancy, though they were stuck with the awkward scenario of a young couple who "erred" being paraded around like national heroes. Traditionalists would have regarded an out-of-wedlock teen pregnancy as something to be kept private.

(Sarah insisted back then that Bristol and Levi would get married. They never did, and frankly, if that was in the cards, why weren't they hitched by the time of the convention?)

Anyhow, Bristol became a star. There were online contests to name her baby. After the birth, she and Tripp appeared on the cover of People. She was given a high-profile gig on "Dancing With the Stars." Suffice it to say, Bristol doesn't work the late shift at McDonald's to support her child.

In what bizarro universe does

someone like her get to lecture young women on the "devastating consequences" of teen pregnancy. And how does a company that profits off selling streetwalker fashions to teenagers work up the hypocritical juices to also market itself as a foe of adolescent pregnancy?

The chairman of both Candie's parent company and the foundation apologizes for nothing — including spending eight times more of his charity's money on Bristol Palin than on bona fide social entities dealing with the crisis of teenage pregnancies. "That's not what we do for a living," Neil Cole said. "What we do for a living is create awareness."

Awareness for whom? At bottom this seems a marketing scheme to promote both Bristol Palin and the Candie's brand — while enjoying a tax exemption meant for charitable organizations.

It's very hard to protect girls eager to attract boys from sexually unwise behavior — not in the land of free speech and minimal parental guidance. At least the taxpayers shouldn't have to subsidize hawkers of provocative dress. This is one confused society.

To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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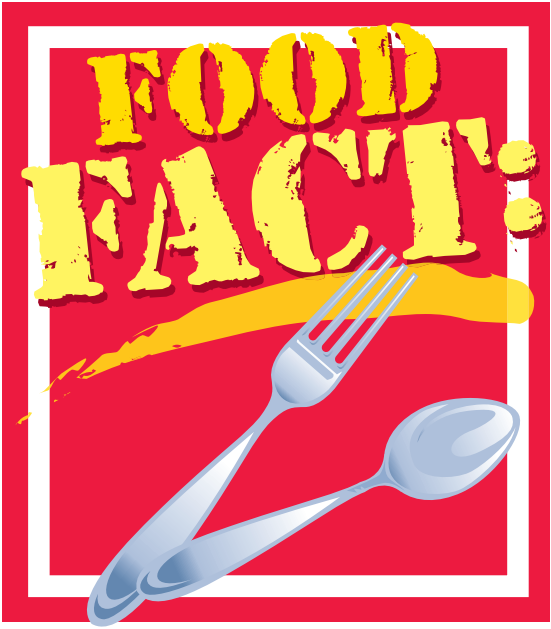


THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1742: HANDEL'S "MESSIAH" IS PERFORMED FOR THE FIRST TIME.
- 1963: SIDNEY POITIER WINS THE ACADEMY AWARD FOR BEST ACTOR.
- 1997: TIGER WOODS BECOMES THE YOUNGEST GOLFER TO WIN THE MASTERS TOURNAMENT.



TRUE OR FALSE:
PANSIES ARE EDIBLE FLOWERS.

ANSWER: TRUE



bud

growth on a plant that develops into a flower or shoot

How they SAY that in...

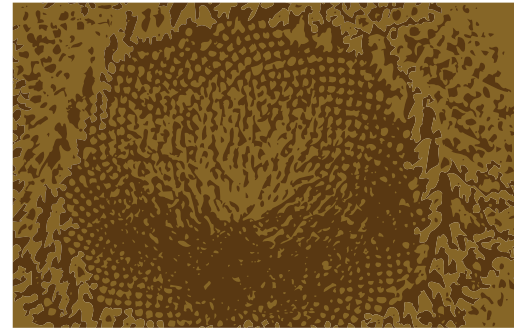
- ENGLISH:** Dirt
- SPANISH:** Suciedad
- ITALIAN:** Sporcizia
- FRENCH:** Saleté
- GERMAN:** Schmutz

Did you Know?



TULIPS ARE SOME OF THE FIRST BULB FLOWERS TO APPEAR WITH THE SPRING SEASON.

GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SUNFLOWER

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

The forest bank was robbed a short while ago. Witnesses report that Harry Ape was the thief and Mama Ape drove the getaway car. Harry admits he pulled the bank heist but insists his dear mama had nothing to do with the escape. Why doesn't Slylock Fox believe Harry Ape?



HOW TO DRAW a dog and bird



YOUR DRAWING



The scrambled words are things found in a bathroom. How many can you unscramble?

- 1) NSKI
- 2) ESROHW
- 3) WETLO
- 4) ROMRIR

Find six differences between these panels.



The fourth Find the six differences is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to Six Differences No. 4, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

Thanks to a hare, *bubo virginianus* is saved

BIRD POOP

By BEBE McCASLAND



As soon as he finished work, he called her. For the next month, they could observe from a distance the beginning of another season.

Driving the roadway every day, he would stop about 40 feet from the telephone pole. Snuggled into the flimsy, dilapidated nest atop the cross arm, an incubating parent was hardly visible to passing traffic.

Not wanting to draw attention to the site, he limited his use of binoculars. Only when no vehicles were in sight did he dare enjoy nature's unfolding drama.

For his friend, the emerging life meant a daily drive of a few miles into the countryside. To her, it was another opportunity to appreciate the difficulty of raising young.

Early breeding during January or February had occurred in spite of dust storms, bitter cold and frantic winds. Soon, after some 28-35 days, the eggs would hatch.

When he called to tell her about the change in behavior of the brooding adult, she felt there must be new life. Not long after agreeing to meet after work, they arrived near the nest site.

Since most motorists had rushed to an early supper, they had the area to themselves except for an occasional straggler. Soon the actions of the female he had

observed were repeated.

"She's feeding one of them," she said excitedly. Repeatedly, the mother bird would appear to tear tiny bits of flesh from a small animal lying on the edge of the nest. Rising slightly, she would bring her beak in toward the feathers on her breast. As she raised her empty beak to secure another morsel, the woman was convinced her warmth surrounded one or more infants.

Knowing the young would remain in the nest for six to seven weeks, the friends anticipated watching their growth. Although they had not seen the number of eggs, they felt the norm would be two or three.

Two days later, the man called her at work. "Something's bad wrong. One of the parents is face down on the ground." Asking if she could meet him as soon as possible, she arranged to leave early.

Approaching his truck, she saw her friend standing at the base of the pole. Obviously, the parent great horned owl was dead.

Knowing that as the nestlings grew they would have great difficulty in being fed, nurtured, and kept warm by only one parent was troublesome. As she glanced back at his truck, she asked, "Are you allowed to use that bucket?"

After quickly explaining that he owned the truck and contracted jobs, he moved the truck closer to the pole. Once inside the bucket, the twosome rose slowly toward the nest.

Inside were a partially eaten rabbit and two dead siblings. Thinking they must have been newly hatched, she noticed that their oblong



Courtesy photo

Young great horned owls, such as these, are often hatched in other birds' nests. Adult owls have also been known to use the nests of squirrels. Seeking seclusion, these owls will frequent caves, hollows in trees, uncompleted air-conditioning ducts in newly constructed buildings, and the undersides of bridges to compensate for their poor nest-building abilities.

heads and bodies looked slick rather than downy. Obviously, their lives had been brief.

Wrapping them in a paper towel and placing them in her coat pocket, she angrily decided to toss the rabbit from the nest. While her housekeeping wouldn't help the situation, she felt like throwing anything to defuse her temper.

Grabbing the rodent's two hind legs, she noticed underneath its furry rump and tail what appeared to be white lint from a dryer. To her amazement, the debris peeped feebly.

Unable to hold its head up very long, the remaining infant squirmed. Its eyes would not open for another week

and needed further time to develop clear vision. The tiny owl was helpless.

After wrapping the nestling in her coat, she asked her friend for his mobile phone. Completing her call, she insisted they bury the parent bird with its offspring. The man quickly dug a hole while no cars were in sight.

When we met, the woman was reassured she had made the right choice. Clothed in a creamy, white down, the baby would be delivered to South Plains in Lubbock the next day.

By the time it was three weeks old, the owl's attire would be a buff-colored, almost fluffy down. Its primary feathers bursting through protective sheaths would be

evident. With pale yellow eyes, it might spread its wing defensively and even snap its bill.

Rapid growth and feathering would follow. Since it had come from the southwest part of Texas, its plumage might tend to be paler in coloration.

When released months later, the great horned owl could assume its place as one of the largest, most powerful owls in North America. Thanks to a rabbit, *bubo virginianus* had been given a second chance.

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

Excuse me, were you talking to yourself?

PARENT'S CORNER

By DARRELL RYAN



Do you ever talk to yourself? Some folks say that it's the first sign of madness, but scientists have found that talking to yourself may be good for you.

It is said that by talking to ourselves we can improve self-control

and reduce impulsive behavior. And according to researchers, it can even strengthen dieters' willpower, help defuse arguments and improve decision-making.

It's always been known that people have internal dialogues with themselves, but until now, we've never known what an important function they serve. We give ourselves messages all the time with the intent of controlling ourselves, whether that's telling ourselves to keep running when we're

tired, to stop eating even though we want one more helping, or to refrain from blowing up on someone in an argument.

The question we ask ourselves is: does talking to ourselves in this "inner voice" actually help?

There was a study done on this subject a couple of years ago and the results were interesting. It was discovered that people act more impulsively when they can't talk to themselves, or use their inner voice, while performing tasks they must perform.

In one challenge, the volunteers performed a test on a computer.

If they saw a particular symbol appear on the screen, they were told to press a button. If they saw a different symbol, they were told they must refrain from pushing the button. The majority of the symbols required the volunteers to press the button, making this become an impulsive response. Their self-control could be measured by how well they resisted pressing it when an alternative symbol did appear.

The second phase of the study included measures to prevent participants from exercising their inner voice while performing the tests, to see whether blocking this dialogue had any

effect on their powers of restraint.

In order to stop the volunteers from talking to themselves, they were instructed to repeat one word over and over as they performed each test. Without being able to verbalize messages to themselves, they were not able to exercise the same amount of self-control as when they could talk themselves through the process.

The study demonstrated talking to ourselves in this "inner voice" is perfectly normal and actually helps us exercise self-control, has phenomenal emotional benefits and prevents us from making

impulsive decisions.

In self-talk we are able to put our problems into perspective and reflect upon their past actions. So, we find there is nothing wrong with talking to ourselves at all! Most of us probably do it and it is 100 percent typical of a normal person. So don't worry if you do so. Instead, think of the advantages you attain by talking to yourself. Now what was it I was saying, oh yeah I remember, I guess I was just talking to myself!

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

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Maine man teaches legal marijuana growing techniques

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — A Maine man is teaching people how to grow medical marijuana at what's being called "Marijuana State University."

Fifty-six-year-old Ray Logan has been growing marijuana for 30 years, but when he started it was a recreational and illegal hobby. Now he's taking advan-

tage of Maine's medical marijuana law to share his expertise legally.

He taught his first class earlier this month in Portland. More classes are scheduled.

The Portland Press Herald says Logan is offering three-hour workshops for people who want to learn how to grow high-quality

marijuana in their homes.

Maine's medical marijuana law allows registered patients, caregivers and dispensaries to grow marijuana to treat certain medical conditions.

To avoid conflicts with police, Logan uses basil rather than marijuana in his classes to demonstrate the growing techniques.

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State briefs

Firefighter critical from burns in Texas Panhandle blaze

LUBBOCK (AP) — A firefighter is hospitalized after being critically burned while battling a wildfire in the Texas Panhandle.

A nursing supervisor at University Medical Center in Lubbock says Cactus firefighter Elias Jacquez remained in critical condition Tuesday.

Jacquez suffered third-degree burns over 60 percent of his body Saturday while fighting a fire that charred 60,000 acres about 40 miles north of Amarillo.

Moore County Emergency Management spokesman David Garrett says the wildfire is thought to have started from electric lines, but it hasn't been determined whether the power lines fell or just sparked during strong winds.

Gov. Perry to view damage from Texas wildfires

LUBBOCK (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry plans to view the devastation from wildfires that have burned tens of thousands of acres in Texas and left one firefighter critically hurt.

Perry is expected to head to Merkel, about 160 miles west of Fort Worth, on Tuesday.

Texas Forest Service spokesman Alan Craft says the biggest fires still burning have blackened about 80,000 acres in Presidio County, 25,000 acres in Brewster County and nearly 17,000 acres in Midland County.

Craft told The Associated Press that a wildfire has burned more than 103,000 acres in Stonewall, Knox and King counties, but that crews are "making good progress on that one."

A nursing supervisor at University Medical Center in Lubbock says firefighter Elias Jacques remains in critical condition with burns over 60 percent of his body.

Austin sued over tax breaks for historic homes

AUSTIN (AP) — Austin has been sued over a program that provides tax breaks for hundreds of historic properties but loses revenue for the city.

The lawsuit filed Monday in Austin alleges some homeowners do not show the need the tax breaks for preservation, as required by Texas law. The lawsuit was filed by Dominic Chavez, Alfred Stanley and Mike Levy.

More than 500 properties have the designation.

The Austin American-Statesman reports the city and four other local taxing entities that offered the breaks lost a combined \$4.2 million in revenue last year. Critics say the program leads to higher taxes

for other homeowners.

City planning official Jerry Rusthoven declined comment.

The Austin City Council this month is scheduled to consider capping the tax breaks at \$2,000 per historic home, starting in 2013.

Ex-Laredo police officer gets prison in drug case

LAREDO (AP) — A South Texas police officer convicted of conspiring to safely escort loads of smuggled cocaine through Laredo is going to prison.

A federal judge on Monday sentenced 28-year-old former Laredo Officer Orlando Jesus Hale to nearly 25 years behind bars.

A jury in September convicted Hale of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, plus using a firearm to further drug trafficking, over 2008 crimes.

Investigators say Hale was nabbed in an undercover investigation involving his personal vehicle and a police-issued radio to monitor traffic to guide and protect loads of cocaine.

Hale resigned from the police force following his conviction.

Car of missing Oklahoma sex offender found in Texas

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Authorities say a vehicle belonging to a registered sex offender whom authorities believe has left Kingfisher County with his 14-year-old niece has been found in south Texas.

The U.S. Marshals Service says Bexar County sheriff's deputies found a Ford Taurus belonging to Matthew Mallory on Interstate 37 along the San Antonio River about 4 a.m. Monday. Investigators believe the 35-year-old Mallory and Ariel Mallory had been camping there for a few days, but abandoned the campsite.

Federal marshals believe the two are traveling by foot.

The OSBI has said Matthew Mallory is believed to be armed and should be considered dangerous.

A warrant has been filed for his arrest for child abandonment of a child under the age of 10.

Campus guns bill delayed again in Texas Senate

AUSTIN (AP) — Efforts to allow concealed handguns in college classrooms stalled in the Texas Senate for a second time Monday, leaving a measure that seemed headed for approval now struggling to survive.

The measure's Republican sponsor, Sen. Jeff

Wentworth of San Antonio, said he didn't have the necessary support to call the bill for a vote. Wentworth would not predict if or when he would try again.

"I'm hopeful this is a bump in the road," Wentworth said. "I don't have a very clear crystal ball."

The Senate had passed a similar bill in 2009 and Wentworth had assumed he'd get it through the chamber again. With more than 80 lawmakers in the 150-member House already signed as co-authors and Gov. Rick Perry supporting it as well, many expected the bill would sail into law.

Supporters of allowing Texas concealed handgun license holders, who must be 21 and pass a training course, to carry their weapons into classrooms call it a critical self-defense measure and gun rights issue. Critics worry adding guns to campus life will lead to more violence and suicides.

The bill first ran into problems last week when it came up one vote shy of the 21 needed for a floor vote. Sen. Mario Gallegos, D-Houston, who originally supported the bill, changed his mind after college administrators in his district complained about the potentially high cost of liability insurance and adding security.

Gallegos also asked teachers he knows to poll their students.

"(They) overwhelmingly wanted me to vote against the bill," he said Monday.

Opponents said the bill may now be doomed.

"I hope so," said Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston. "It's a bad idea."

Judge affirms \$350 million State Farm refund order

AUSTIN (AP) — A state judge in Austin ruled Monday that State Insurance Commissioner Mike Geeslin was within his authority when he ordered State Farm Insurance to refund about \$350 million to ratepayers for excessive premiums charged as early as 2003.

State District Judge Tim Sulak ruled after hearing two hours of arguments from attorneys for the state insurance department, the Office of Public Insurance Counsel and State Farm, according to The Dallas Morning News.

"There is substantial evidence to support the commissioner's decision, and the decision is upheld," Sulak declared.

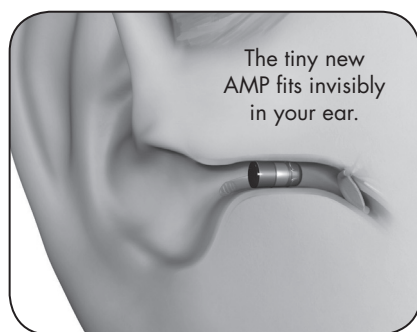
State Farm spokesman Kevin Davis tells The Beaumont Enterprise that the company plans to appeal Sulak's decision. "We believe our rates are fair and competitive," he told the newspaper.

Geeslin issued the order in November 2009 in what was then a 6-year-old case in which regulators ordered the company to cut its rates 12 percent.

OPEN HOUSE THIS WEEK

You Can't Afford Not To Hear.

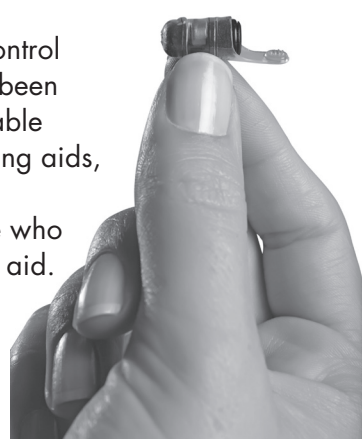
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News in brief

Japan nuclear agency upgrades nuclear crisis severity to match 1986 Chernobyl disaster

TOKYO (AP) — Japan raised the severity level of the crisis at its crippled nuclear plant Tuesday to rank it on par with the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, citing cumulative radiation leaks that have contaminated the air, tap water, vegetables and seawater.

Japanese nuclear regulators said the rating was being raised from 5 to 7 — the highest level on an international scale overseen by the International Atomic Energy Agency — after new assessments of radiation leaks from the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant since it was disabled by the March 11 tsunami.

The new ranking signifies a “major accident” that includes widespread effects on the environment and health, according to the Vienna-based IAEA.

While Japanese officials have played down any health effects so far, the revision came a day after the government added five communities to a list of places people should leave to avoid long-term radiation exposure. A 12-mile (20-kilometer) radius already had been cleared around the plant.

Japanese officials have said the leaks from the Fukushima plant so far amount to a tenth of the radiation emitted in the Chernobyl disaster, while acknowledging they eventually could exceed Chernobyl's emissions if the crisis continues.

Obama recasting earlier call for tax increases on rich, but may stop short of bolder action

WASHINGTON (AP) — Higher taxes have been missing from the fierce budget battle that nearly shut down the federal government. But President Barack Obama is about to put them on the table — at least a modest version that he had pushed before and then rested on the shelf.

Most economists and budget analysts say a comprehensive mix of spending cuts and tax increases is essential to any viable deficit-reduction plan. Yet few players in the negotiations have gone there.

It comes in the scramble to heed what is widely viewed as a loud clamor from voters to slam the brakes on runaway government spending. There has been no corresponding public demand for raising taxes. That's not

surprising, but the top-bracket U.S. tax rate now is the lowest it's been in decades, and it's far lower than those in many other industrialized countries, especially in western Europe.

Tax elements of Obama's broad deficit-reduction plan, to be laid out in a speech Wednesday, seem likely to revive his earlier proposals.

The president is expected to bring back his recommendation, first made in the 2008 campaign, to end Bush-era tax cuts for households earning over \$250,000 a year. He temporarily set it aside when he signed onto a late 2010 agreement with Republicans to extend all Bush tax cuts for two years.

Obama prevents cuts to favorites like Pell grants, Head Start, helped by budget tricks

WASHINGTON (AP) — A close look at the government shutdown-dodging agreement to cut federal spending by \$38 billion reveals that lawmakers significantly eased the fiscal pain by pruning money left over from previous years, using accounting sleight of hand and going after programs President Barack Obama had targeted anyway.

Such moves permitted Obama to save favorite programs — Pell grants for poor college students, health research and “Race to the Top” aid for public schools, among others — from Republican knives.

And big holes in federal aid and Environmental Protection Agency accounts were patched in large part. Republicans also gave up politically treacherous cuts to the Agriculture Department's food inspection program.

The full details of Friday's agreement weren't being released until overnight as it was officially submitted to the House.

But the picture already emerging is of legislation financed with a lot of one-time savings and cuts that officially “score” as savings to pay for spending elsewhere, but that often have little to no actual impact on the deficit.

As a result of the legerdemain, Obama was able to reverse many of the cuts passed by House Republicans in February when the chamber passed a bill slashing this year's budget by more than \$60 billion. In doing so, the White House protected favorites like the Head Start early learning program, while maintaining the maximum Pell grant of \$5,550 and funding for Obama's “Race to the Top” initiative that provides grants to better-performing schools.

Ivory Coast president calls on all fighters to disarm after strongman leader arrested

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — President Alassane Ouattara called on all fighters to put down their arms now that the longtime strongman has been captured after his refusal to cede power sparked violence leaving bodies piled at morgues.

More than 1 million civilians fled their homes and untold numbers were killed in the more than four-month power struggle between the two rivals. The standoff threatened to re-ignite a civil war in the world's largest cocoa producer, once divided in two by a civil war nearly a decade ago.

“After more than four months of post-electoral crisis, marked by so many human lives lost, we are finally at the dawn of a new era of hope,” Ouattara said in an address to the nation on radio and television late Monday.

Residents of the commercial capital of Abidjan refrained from celebrating in public, still fearful of the many armed fighters prowling the streets and refusing to believe their leader Laurent Gbagbo had been arrested.

An Associated Press reporter heard heavy fire in a southern district of Abidjan lasting into early Tuesday. Residents in the rest of the city said that most of the combat had ceased, though gunfire continued around three university student residences where pro-Gbagbo militia are believed to stay.



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BSHS golfers district champs

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Hail to the champs. Big Spring High School claimed its first team district title of the year when the boys' golf team took first place in the District 5-3A golf tournament, which concluded play Monday in Sweetwater.

The Steers fired a team total 323 Monday to conclude the tournament with a score of 935, eight strokes better than Abilene Wylie, which finished second at 943. Sweet-

"This is the first district team title for Big Spring this year and it's the first district title for the golf team in a long time. I'm just very proud of them and their commitment to the program."

Chirs Joslin
BSHS golf coach

water was third with a 968, while Snyder finished fourth at 975.

BSHS senior Blake Brorman won district medalist honors with a three-round total of 211, while fellow senior Andrew Fillingim tied for

fourth with a 227. Other Big Spring scores included Ryan Pollard with 254, Devin Roberson with 252 and Tate Kennedy at 252.

Big Spring B team scores included Jason Guevara at 260, Nolan Beal at 290, Stormy Em-

ery at 299, Tyler Hester with a 304 and Matt Davila at 326.

The Steers move on to the Region I-3A golf tournament, which will be held April 20-21 at Meadowbrook Country Club in Lubbock.

"I'm very proud of this

team," BSHS Coach Chris Joslin said. "This is the first district team title for Big Spring this year and it's the first district title for the golf team in a long time. I'm just very proud of them and their commitment to the program."

Leading the charge was Brorman.

"Blake put in a lot of time and effort to get to this point," Joslin said. "Everything he accomplished was well-deserved."

See **GOLF**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Terra Keeney lays down a bunt during the Lady Steers' game with Brownwood at the Big Spring ISD Softball Complex Monday.

Errors prove costly for Big Spring in loss

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

The Big Spring Lady Steers continue to be their own worst enemy.

Seven Big Spring errors opened the floodgates for Brownwood and helped the Lady Lions waltz to a 10-0 run-rule victory over the Lady Steers in District 5-3A softball action at the Big Spring ISD Softball Complex Monday.

It wasn't as if Brownwood needed any help, either — the district champion Lady Lions

suffocated Big Spring with strong pitching from Sydney Laws, who improved to 12-3 for the season, and sterling defense to improve to a perfect 6-0 in district games.

For the Lady Steers, meanwhile, their play-off hopes remain alive by the barest of margins. Big Spring can make the playoffs if three things happen: First, the Lady Steers must defeat Abilene Wylie in their season finale Friday; then Wylie must also

lose its final game Tuesday; and Sweetwater must lose at least one of its final two games.

But that scenario will be moot if Big Spring does not somehow improve its defense in the next few days.

"We've got to find some way to build up their confidence," BSHS Coach John Sparks said. "It's something we work on every day ... I know they can do it, but it's up to them to actually

See **BSHS**, Page 2B

Judge order NFL, players back to bargaining table

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — It's been a month since the NFL lockout began and there haven't been any talks between the league and its players. That will change this week.

U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson said formal mediation will begin Thursday before U.S. Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan at his office in the Minneapolis federal courthouse. Boylan will meet with representatives for the players Tuesday, then representatives of the NFL on Wednesday.

Nelson issued the order Monday and said she is still considering whether to grant the players' request to lift the lockout.

The sides tried mediation before, negotiating for 16 days in Washington with Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service director George Cohen. Those talks broke off on

March 11, and the old collective bargaining agreement expired.

The NFL Players Association dissolved that day, saying it no longer would represent players in bargaining under labor law. That allowed players — including MVP quarterbacks Tom Brady and Peyton Manning — to file a class-action antitrust suit against the league in federal court here.

The owners then locked out the players, creating the NFL's first work stoppage since 1987.

Nelson ordered both sides to keep the mediation confidential. The players got their wish, with the talks held under court supervision and not in the collective bargaining setting.

NFLPA spokesman George Atallah declined comment as did NFL spokesman Greg Aiello.

Neither party would divulge who will be attending the sessions.

At a hearing last week about the injunction request, Nelson urged the sides to get "back to the table" and said negotiations should take place at "not the players' table, not the league's table, but a neutral table, if you will."

The next day, the players and owners both expressed a willingness to talk, though they disagreed on where and how they wanted to do it. The players said they were willing to engage in mediation overseen by Nelson. The NFL said it wanted to resume talks with Cohen in Washington.

Nelson said at the hearing she would take "a couple of weeks" to rule on the injunction. On Monday, she noted that her or-

See **NFL**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring infielder Joseph Morelion throws to first base for an out during the Steers' game with Brownwood Monday at Steer Park.

Sports calendar

TODAY

Baseball — Howard College at Midland College (non-conference), 2 p.m.

Baseball — Slaton at Coahoma, 7 p.m.

Baseball — Forsan at Denver City, 4:30 p.m.

Softball — Slaton at Coahoma, 5:30 p.m.

Softball — Forsan at Denver City, 5:30 p.m.

Track — Big Spring boys and girls at District 5-3A meet, Snyder.

Tennis — Coahoma and Forsan at District 3-2A tournament, Denver City.

Golf — Big Spring girls at District 5-3A meet, Snyder.

To submit a calendar item, call 263-7331, ext. 235.

In brief

CGA members meeting today

The Chicano Golf Association will hold a members meeting at 6 p.m. today at the Comanche Trail Golf Course clubhouse.

For more information, call 935-0410.

Tournament to benefit Relay For Life

The 2011 Cancer Scramble, which will benefit the Howard-Glasscock Relay For Life American Cancer Society fundraiser, will be held Saturday and Sunday at Big Spring Country Club.

Format will be a four-person scramble.

Entrants can make their own teams or be assigned.

The field will be flighted after the first round, officials noted.

Prizes will be awarded for longest drive, closest

to pin and the top three teams in each flight.

Entry fee is \$75 per person plus a \$22 cart fee (private carts are welcome).

For more information, contact the country club at 267-5354.

Howard to hold cheerleader tryouts

The Howard College Cheerleading Squad will hold try-outs Saturday, April 30 at 9 a.m. in the Harold Davis Fitness Center on the Howard College campus.

A clinic will be held for applicants to learn all try-out material Thursday, April 28 and Friday, April 29 from 4-6 p.m. in the fitness center.

All interested persons need to fill out the on-line application, found on the Howard College athletic website (www.hchawk.com).

For more information, please see the website, or contact Hollie Allred at 432-264-8538.

NFL

Continued from Page 1B

der to resume mediation "will not have the effect of a stay on this litigation," and that she would rule "in due course."

Nelson's order called for legal counsel for the parties "as well as a party representative having full authority" to attend. She also said that participation in the mediation "and any communications conveyed between the parties in this process, shall not be admitted or used against any party in any other proceeding or forum, for any purpose."

That would appear to address the players' concern that any talks held after the dissolution of the union could be construed as collective bargaining — and thus bolster the NFL's claim that the dissolution was a "sham" merely intended to strengthen the players' position at the bargaining table.

Last week, NFL executive vice president Jeffrey Pash sent a letter to a lawyer representing the players,

James Quinn, with a copy going to Nelson. Pash wrote that the league is "prepared to give reasonable and appropriate assurances" that the players' legal position — not a union protected by labor laws but a group of players suing under anti-trust laws — would not be compromised through any new talks.

Nelson's order referred to the mediation "as a form of Alternative Dispute Resolution," a legal term for the revival of negotiations. Perhaps it will lead to some real progress.

"Sometimes there is a place in negotiation for changing the context, changing the city, changing the mediator or changing the atmosphere, but who knows where this will lead?" said analyst, Jonathan Rubin, a Washington trial attorney and antitrust expert.

Nelson also formally combined the lawsuits involving current and former players earlier Monday. Neither the Brady plaintiffs nor the NFL objected to combining the cases, according to a court document.

Rangers blank Detroit

DETROIT (AP) — The Texas Rangers are making all the right moves.

Alexi Ogando outpitched Justin Verlander before leaving with a finger problem and Texas won with a bold strategy, beating the Detroit Tigers 2-0 Monday.

Rangers manager Ron Washington chose to have closer Neftali Feliz intentionally walk slugger Miguel Cabrera, putting two on with two out in the ninth inning, to bring four-time All-Star Victor Martinez to the plate as the potential winning run.

Martinez grounded out on a 2-0 pitch to end it, validating the decision.

"Had to pick your poison," Washington said. "I didn't want to let Cabrera tie the game."

The defending AL champions improved to 9-1, maintaining the majors' top record and matching the best 10-game start in team history.

Michael Young and Mitch Moreland hit RBI doubles in the seventh inning — giving Ogando enough support — as Texas equaled the start of its

1989 club.

Ogando (2-0) gave up just two hits, walked one and struck four over seven innings in his second start in the majors.

The converted reliever had his outing cut short by fluid under a callus on his right index finger after pitching six scoreless innings last week with a developing blister on the same finger.

Does Ogando expect to make his next start?

"Of course," he said in Spanish.

Texas reliever Darren Oliver gave up a hit in the eighth.

Feliz finished for his fourth save in as many chances after retiring two batters and allowing Ryan Raburn to double, bringing up Cabrera.

Verlander (1-1) lost despite pitching a six-hitter.

He struck out four and walked one in his 119-pitch performance.

He was perfect until Josh Hamilton hit a two-out single in the fourth inning. Hamilton walked with one out in the seventh, scored on Young's double off the right-field wall and Moreland followed with

a two-out double off the same wall to make it 2-0.

"(Verlander) was great," Young said. "He's always a handful."

Detroit had its best chance to score in the fourth when Cabrera became the second player younger than 28 to hit his 300th double, according to STATS LLC, but that didn't mean much to him after another defeat.

"We lost the game," Cabrera said.

His hit in the fourth put two on with one out, but Martinez's bloop to shallow left field turned into an inning-ending double play when shortstop Elvis Andrus caught the ball and the 27-year-old Cabrera couldn't beat the throw back to second base.

Tigers manager Jim Leyland planned to give slumping center fielder Austin Jackson the day off, but used him as a pinch-hitter in the eighth when Magglio Ordonez came out of the game with tightness in his right Achilles' tendon. Ordonez missed games earlier this season with a stiff surgically repaired right ankle.

BSHS

Continued from Page 1B

do it." Three Big Spring er-

sudoku
ANSWERS
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rors in the first inning allowed Brownwood to take an early 1-0 lead in the first, then three more errors in the second led to three more runs by the Lady Lions. That was more than enough offensive support for Laws, who survived a bases-loaded jam in the third inning to preserve the shutout.

Valerie Ross was the pitcher of record for Big Spring, which fell to 2-4

in district play. Ross played her final home game for Big Spring Monday, along with fellow seniors Jillian Valle and Gabby Torres.

The Lady Steers conclude their season Friday when they travel to Abilene to face Wylie. Game time is 4:30 p.m.

Brownwood 133 12 — 10 16
1
Big Spring 000 00 — 0 3 7
Laws and Darden; Ross, Yarbar (3), Ross (4) and Castillo; W —

Laws; L — Ross; LOB — Brownwood 6, Big Spring 5.

Steers fall to Brownwood

When you have a young baseball team, the learning process can sometimes seem Darwinian in nature.

The Big Spring Steers learned that lesson first-hand Tuesday, as they were pummeled by district-leading Brownwood, 19-2, in District

5-3A baseball action Monday.

After a scoreless first inning, the Lions exploded for all their runs over the course of the next two stanzas.

"It wasn't very pleasant," BSHS coach Burt Otto said. "In the second inning, they just hit the ball well, plus we walked a few batters, started pitching from behind and they took advantage of that."

The Steers, who fell to 0-6 in district play, have three games remaining in their season, starting with a Saturday contest at Abilene against Wylie. Game time is 1 p.m.

Brownwood 0(10)9 00 — 19 16 0
Big Spring 0 0 0 20 — 2 6 2
W — Brown; L — Pappajohn.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235.

To subscribe, call 263-7331

GOLF

Continued from Page 1B

With Brorman and Fillingim leading the way, and with several good young golfers filing in the ranks, Joslin admitted his had high hopes for the program this season.

"This was the year we were really looking forward to," he said. "They accomplished a lot of good things this year. The thing I'm proudest of is that they are a lot of good young men."

The BSHS girls finished District 5-3A play today in Snyder.

District 3-2A tourney on hold

A possible infraction by one of the District 3-2A teams have temporarily put results from its golf tournament on hold, officials announced.

The district executive committee will meet Thursday to rule on the possible infraction, said Kim Nichols, Coahoma High School coach.

Nichols said he could not divulge either the school or the possible infraction involved.

Following are results from the third round of the District 5-3A golf tournament, held Monday in Sweetwater:

TEAM SCORES — 1. Big Spring 935; 2. Wylie 943; 3. Sweetwater 968; 4. Snyder 975; 5. Snyder No. 2 1,055; 6. Wylie No. 2 1,064; 7. Brownwood 1,112; 8. Big Spring No. 2 1,148; 9. Sweetwater No. 2 1,150

MEDALIST COMPETITION — 1. Blake Brorman, Big Spring, 211; 2. Taylor Grant, Wylie, 223; 3. Ryan Mercer, Sweetwater, 225; 4. (tie) Trey Bearden, Wylie, 227; Andrew Fillingim, Big Spring, 227; 6. Julio Villanueva, Snyder, 232; 7. Kaleb Presley, Snyder, 238; 8. Dylan Torres, Sweetwater, 239; 9. (tie) Tyler Lindsey, Wylie, 247; Nathan VonRoeder, Snyder No. 2, 247.

Big Spring 308-304-323 — 935 — Blake Brorman 68-70-73-211; Andrew Fillingim 74-73-80-227; Devon Roberson 82-86-84-252; Tate Kennedy 84-82-86-252; Ryan Pollard 85-79-90-254

Wylie 318-315-310-943 — Trey Bearden 74-80-73-227; Taylor Grant 75-72-76-223; Ty-

ler Lindsey 84-81-82-247; Curry Jones 85-82-93-260; Dayton White 87-85-79-251

Sweetwater 324-315-329-968 — Ryan Mercer 73-75-77-225; Dylan Torres, 82-78-79-239; Alex Castillo 84-79-88-251; Mason Andrews 85-83-85-253; Snyder 331-311-333-975 — Julio Villanueva 78-76-78-232; Logan Hopper 84-83-87-254; Reid Pinson 84-79-89-252; Kaleb Presley 85-73-80-238; Josh Kiker 88-86-88-262).

Snyder No. 2 346-349-360-1055 — Nathan VonRoeder 77-85-85-247; Regan Head 88-84-84-256; Kegan Scrites 89-93-93-275; Josh Molter 92-87-98-277; Dakota Neff 106-108-110-324

Wylie No. 2 361-349-354-1064 — Zach Carlton 85-81-86-252; Andrew Montoya 90-91-84-265; Tyler Channell 90-85-88-263; Taylor Ott 96-92-96-284; Drew Clemmer 99-98-102-299

Brownwood 369-370-373-1112 — Tyler Patillo 80-82-86-248; Brady Hall 85-87-83-255; Cameron Seals 99-NS-NS — NS; William Murray 105-105-92-283; C.J. Brewer 107-98-112-317; William Rice, 88-103-92-283

Big Spring No. 2 382-377-389-1148 — Stormy Emery 93-107-103-299; Jason Guevara 93-84-83-260; Tyler Hester 94-106-104-304; Nolan Beal 102-89-99-200; Matt Davila 117-101-108-326

Sweetwater No. 2 372-380-398-1150 — Jonah Lawrence 87-90-87-264; Yates Cypert 91-95-104-290; Joey Adams 99-96-105-300; Rance Stone 103-101-114-318; Michael Hazard 95-99-102-301

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

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SOUTH: ♠K102, ♥A, ♦AKQ10872, ♣94
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Pass Pass 4NT Pass
5♦ Pass 6♦
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RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service In Stanton has immediate openings for CDL Driver, roustabout pushers and helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

If you feel like someone out there is cheering you on, you're right. The Leo moon harmonizes with the Aries sun — two fire signs with the energy and motivating bravado of a personal trainer. Mars and Pluto lend a "do-or-die"



feeling to the action that can be channeled in a positive way. Get focused and do what you came to do.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You know you're lucky, but you don't always feel that way. Someone in dire straits helps you look at your own life differently. In this new light, you may decide that you're doing just fine.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). An enjoyable healthy habit is quickly becoming part of your regular routine. Soon this will be so ingrained in your manner that it will be an essential part

of who you are. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Though you have plenty of energy, you are still better off when you conserve it. Feeling bad about the things you can't change would be a waste. Direct your focus on strictly enjoyable activities.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You won't be accused of being shy or subtle today. You'll get right to the point. Your blunt approach will work best on those who are, like you, too busy to do things any other way.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's new territory to explore in a relationship. You may stumble through this experience, which is to be expected when you venture out of your element. Give yourself a pass. You are learning as you go.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sometimes you need feedback. This is not one of those times, though. You could do without other people's observations on your life. You know better anyway. Don't invite comment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct.

23). If love is a battlefield, your battle has begun, and you are already off to a dynamic start. You're not fighting another person, though. It's more like you're joining arms against the monstrous complexities of modern romance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your life sparkles when you encourage others to be resourceful and creative. Set some basic rules for your family or group. Beyond those rules, leave as much as you can up to the group's members.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have signed up to learn and grow. You may be subconsciously working for the approval of the person in charge. Remember that you are the ultimate boss in this endeavor.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You like to be in charge sometimes, but always being the one who has to come up with the plan is not so fun. This time you'll sit back and let others rise to the occasion.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-

Feb. 18). Not all interesting stories are sob stories. You'll have to work harder to find something to relay that is not based on the sad state of things or a complaint therein. If you try, you'll succeed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You want to raise the mood of every room you enter. You portray yourself like a character in a musical, causing all who witness your theatrics to tap their toes to your uplifting song.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 12). You'll have all the necessary ingredients for a balanced and happy life. The next six weeks bring you in touch with your natural gifts. You will be an agent of healing in several instances. Financial luck comes in May. You will adjust to accommodate an addition to your family in July. There's a magical tie between you, Capricorn and Aquarius. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 20, 4, 39 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a 20-year-old Aries entering the workforce for the first

time. I have a business degree, but I'm not sure what I want to do. Any ideas or advice?"

As I wrote in my book "Rock Your Stars: Your Astrological Guide to Getting it All," Aries is not afraid to try on a job for size. Another gal might turn down a job that's obviously not in line with her career objectives. But you think, what's the harm? Strawberry picking might be a fine way to spend a few days. Answering the phones for a bookie? Hmm... Interesting character study! You don't think it's the slightest bit weird to do a job for a week and then decide it's not for you. You'd rather have that experience for a week than never know for sure what might have been. And so your pre-edited resume is colorful and mind-boggling. But every "no way is this for me" leads you closer to "this is sooo my thing."

How do you like these job ideas? Activist, ambulance driver, barista, doula, DJ, journalist, reality show

producer, real estate developer, soldier, T-shirt designer, teacher, youth counselor...?

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Claire Danes reports that she knew she wanted to be an actress at age 5 and told her parents at age 9 that acting was her true calling. Danes, who often gravitates toward whip-smart and self-assured characters, was born when the sun and Mars were in assertive Aries. Her natal Mercury and Venus are in Pisces, the sign of old souls. Her moon in Libra bodes well for harmonious relationships of all kinds.

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

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Annie's Mailbox



KATHY MITCHELL
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Dear Annie: I am an intelligent 70-something with a good education and am a responsible father and grandfather. I am also the husband (more than 40 years) of an amazing, accomplished woman.

For the past 20 years, my wife has had a platonic friendship with a man who has far more in common with her than I do. I admit I've been jealous, but I also see how happy and radiant she is after a visit with him. She claims he is like a brother to her, and I think that is probably true. But I know she loves him.

I've tried to change myself into someone more compatible with her. I'd been negligent for years in my personal hygiene and began taking more showers. And after a lifetime of overeating, dieting is difficult. I'm sure my body turns her off. I also have tried to enjoy the kinds of things she appreciates, but we are just too different in our tastes.

My wife is sweet, kind and affectionate. She cooks great meals, keeps our home running smoothly and ministers to me gently when I am sick. She even does most of the repairs around the house. We do enjoy some things together, like movies and traveling. If I initiate sex, she is a willing partner. We share laughs and commiserate over our problems.

If I forbid her to see this man, I know it will turn her away from me. So I have decided to let her spend time with him, especially when I am busy with things that don't interest her. My life is good, my wife is happy, and I am truly content. The man she loves is intelligent and

interesting, which makes it easier to take. I know she will never leave me. I'm determined to be happy for her. Are there other men who have had the strength to make a similar decision? — *Ex-Professor Out East*

Dear Professor: Possibly, although not too many would be so generous. These types of decisions are personal and individual. If the arrangement is OK with you and makes your wife happy, it is no one else's business.

Dear Annie: I'm in middle school and have a friend who is very dear to me. But she lives under awful conditions. Her house constantly stinks, there are dog feces on the floor, and her father yells

every five minutes. Not to mention, her siblings are rude and mean.

I can't stand staying in her house. It's really disgusting. Still, I cherish my friend and want to hang out with her. How do I steer her toward my house without insulting her? — *Tired of Filth*

Dear Tired: If the conditions of your friend's home are as bad as you say, you should discuss it with your parents and ask if they would check it out. There may be health issues that need to be addressed. In the meantime, invite your friend to your home often. If she tries to reciprocate, it is perfectly OK to tell her that you are more comfortable studying, watching TV or eating snacks in your own environment.

Dear Annie: You printed a letter from "Would Like an Answer," whose husband has violent outbursts of temper every so often. You suggested several

possibilities, one of which was that he was having a reaction to his medications.

The exact same crazy behavior happened to my usually sweet-tempered husband. It started after he was put on a beta-blocker for his blood pressure. He would fly into a brief rage for no reason. It took two changes of medication to find one that controlled his blood pressure without the unprovoked anger.

Please pass this information on, because many times doctors don't consider that medication could possibly be the culprit behind emotional problems. This type of behavior can break up the best of marriages. — *N.N.*

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

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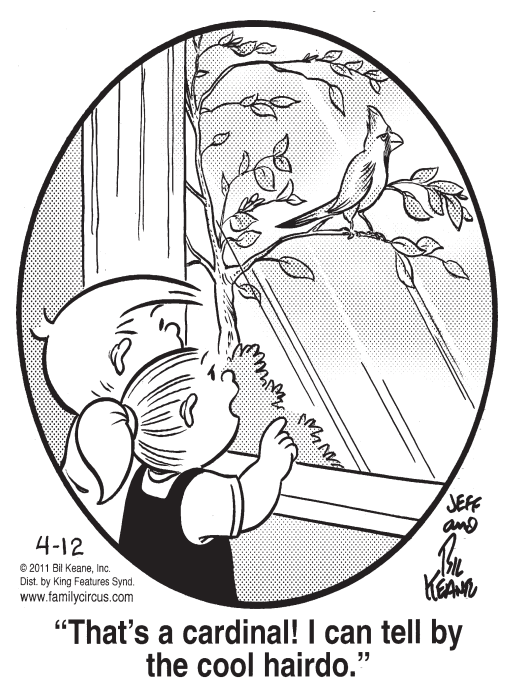
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWTT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Scrivner	World	70s Show	Deadliest Catch	Quick and the Dead, Russell Crowe	Auction	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Deck Shake It	Nation Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Llena de Amor (SS)	Two Men	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	King	McDonald	Business	70s	Deadliest Catch	Auction	Bones	Good	Good	Good	SportsNation	E:60
7:PM	Wheel	Eva Luna (SS)	Glee	Ent	NCIS (DVS)	Aurora (SS)	King	Alewine	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Deadliest Catch	Auction	NBA Basket-ball: Chicago Bulls at New York Knicks.	Together Game	Good	Football NFL Live	SportsNation Spe	Year/Quar-terback
8:PM	Jamie Oliver's Food	Teresa (SS)	Raising Traffic	NCIS: Los Angeles	Herederos-Monte	Office	Office	Churney	President	One Tree Hill	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Tombstone, Michael Biehn	Auction	Fa. Affair	Good	Movie: 16 Wishes	SportsNation	SportsCenter
9:PM	(01) Body of Proof	Aqui y Ahora (SS)	Simpsons	The Good Wife	La Reina del Sur	Parenthood	Office	Cortes	Conan	Brad	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Tombstone, Michael Biehn	Auction	Fa. Affair	Shake it	Year/Quar-terback	Baseball Tonight	
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Cortes	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Tombstone, Michael Biehn	Sheets	NBA Basket-ball: Spurs at Lakers	Good	E:60	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	El Cartel (SS)	Jay Leno	Lopez	Ministerio-Vida	T. Smiley	South Pk	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Maverick, James Garner	Ways Die	Wendy Williams	Hannah	SportsNation	Baseball	
12:AM	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Conan	Alewine	(Off Air)	South Pk	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Maverick, James Garner	Ways Die	Hannah	Wizards	NBA	NFL Live	
1:AM	Extra	Destilando Amor	Raymond	Insider	Pagado	News	Brad	Cops	TBA	Homecoming	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Maverick, James Garner	MAN	Inside the NBA	Wizards	NASCAR	SportsCenter	
	Paid	Mujer...	TMZ	Ent	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez	Light of the Southwest					Amazing Video	Southland	Wizards	NBA	SportsCenter	
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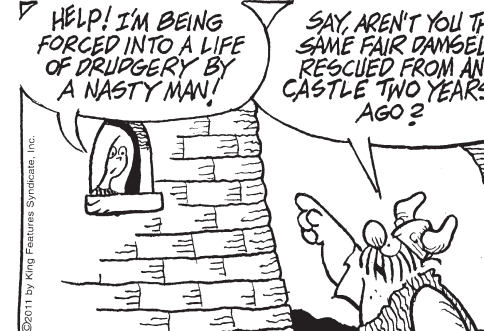
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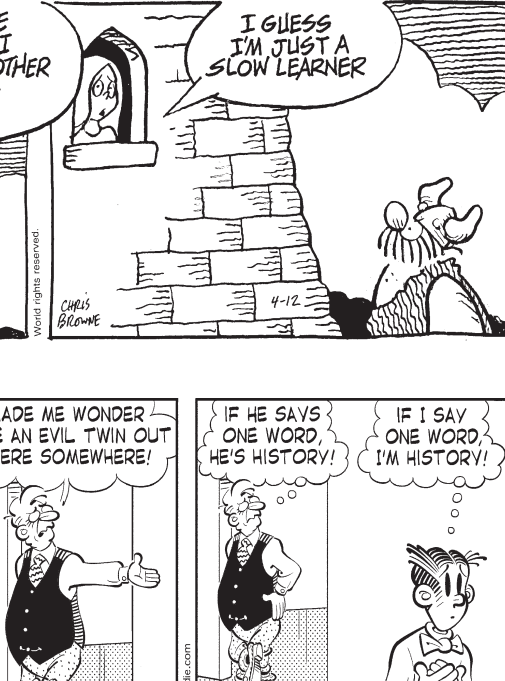
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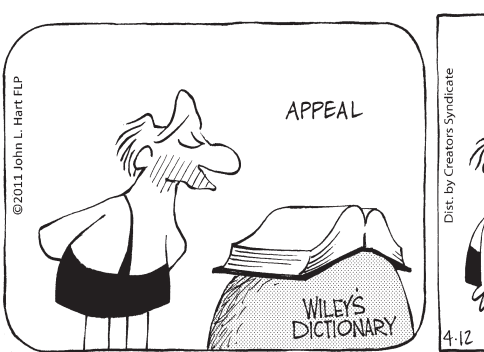
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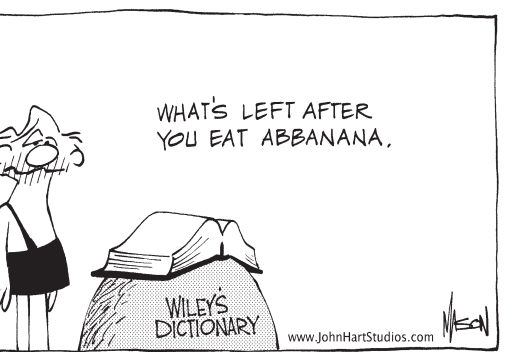
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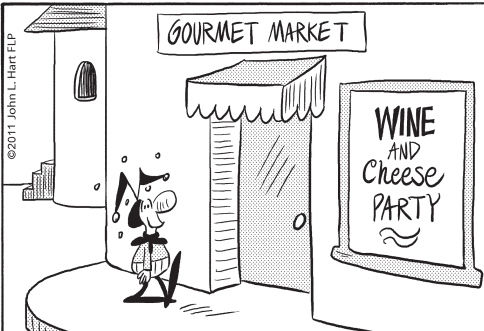
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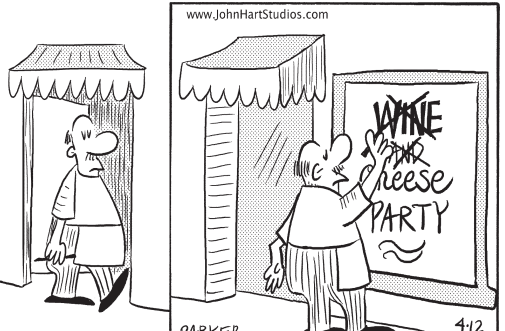
WHAT'S LEFT AFTER YOU EAT ABBANANA.



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



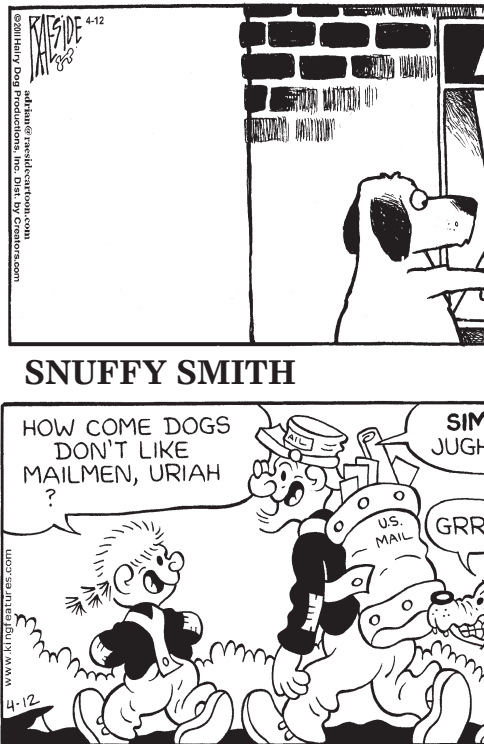
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, April 12, the 102nd day of 2011. There are 263 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 12, 1861, the American Civil War began as Confederate forces opened fire on Fort Sumter in South Carolina. (The Union troops holding the fort surrendered the following day.)

On this date:

In 1606, England's King James I decreed the design of the original Union Flag, which combined the flags of England and Scotland.

In 1811, fur traders employed by John Jacob Astor began building Fort Astoria in present-day Oregon.

In 1877, the catcher's mask was first used in a baseball game, by James Tyng of Harvard in a game against the Lynn Live Oaks.

In 1934, "Tender Is the Night," by F. Scott Fitzgerald, was first published in book form after being serialized in Scribner's Magazine.

In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt died of a cerebral hemorrhage in Warm Springs, Ga., at age 63; he was succeeded by Vice President Harry S. Truman.

In 1955, the Salk vaccine against polio was declared safe and effective.

In 1960, Candlestick Park in San Francisco first opened, with Vice President Richard Nixon throwing the ceremonial first pitch. (The San Francisco Giants went on to defeat the St. Louis Cardinals, 3-1.)

In 1961, Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to fly in space, orbiting the earth once before making a safe landing.

In 1981, the space shuttle Columbia blasted off from Cape Canaveral on its first test flight. Former world heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis died in Las Vegas, Nev., at age 66.

In 1985, Sen. Jake Garn, R-Utah, became the first sitting member of Congress to fly in space as the shuttle Discovery lifted off.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ned Miller is 86. Actress Jane Withers is 85. Opera singer Montserrat Caballe is 78. Actor Charles Napier is 75. Playwright Alan Ayckbourn (AYK'-bohnrn) is 72. Jazz musician Herbie Hancock is 71. Actor Frank Bank ("Leave It to Beaver") is 69. Rock singer John Kay (Steppenwolf) is 67. Actor Ed O'Neill is 65. Author Tom Clancy is 64. Actor Dan Lauria is 64. Talk show host David Letterman is 64. Author Scott Turow is 62. Singer David Cassidy is 61. Actor-playwright Tom Noonan is 60. Rhythm-and-blues singer JD Nicholas (The Commodores) is 59. Singer Pat Travers is 57. Actor Andy Garcia is 55. Movie director Walter Salles (SAL'-ihhs) is 55. Country singer Vince Gill is 54.

Newsday Crossword

KITCHEN STAPLES by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Church service
- 5 Cutting edge
- 10 Moose relatives
- 14 Highest point
- 15 Whoop it up
- 16 Forbidden thing
- 17 Walk heavily
- 18 Admired ones
- 19 Got taller
- 20 Annual college football game
- 22 Ocean's motions
- 23 Adolescent
- 24 49 Down's boy
- 25 When some news broadcasts are on
- 28 Roused from sleep
- 33 Child's punishment, perhaps
- 34 Auto-repair shop
- 36 "X _?" (Tic-tac-toe choice)
- 37 Dr. Seuss book
- 40 U-turn from NNW
- 41 Stays a step ahead of
- 42 Got up
- 43 Hare's race opponent
- 45 Stitched together
- 46 Take off the shelf
- 47 Largest continent
- 49 Sheriff's group
- 52 Don't "cry over" it

DOWN

- 7 State frankly
- 8 Farmer's place, in song
- 9 Kay followers
- 10 Motor
- 11 British nobleman
- 12 Leg joint
- 13 Female pigs
- 21 Tyrannosaurus
- 22 Small souvenir
- 24 Epic tales
- 25 Feeling of dread
- 26 Sculpted figure
- 27 Turn the wheel
- 28 Bicker
- 29 Stinging insect
- 30 "Forget it!"
- 31 Wipe clean
- 32 Having a rounded roof
- 34 Wish granter
- 35 Improves, as wine
- 38 Lariat loop
- 39 Visionaries
- 44 Small skirmish
- 45 Grab a chair
- 47 Ventilated
- 48 Snow coasters
- 49 Daddy
- 50 Sign of the future
- 51 Petty quarrel
- 52 Loafer or sneaker
- 53 Skin opening
- 54 Get the creases out of
- 55 Peru's capital
- 56 Hold on to
- 58 60 Minutes network

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