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BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

JULY 15, 2011



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VOLUME 106, NUMBER 193

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Fire still burning

80 percent contained; firefighters in control

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Firefighters are gradually gaining the upper hand against a fire that has consumed more than 5,000 acres in eastern Howard County, but the blaze is expected to continue through the weekend.

Meanwhile, fires consumed two abandoned structures, but caused no injuries in Big Spring late Thursday and early today.

A downed power line is being blamed as the cause for the wildfire, which began Tuesday afternoon in the Clay Lease in eastern Howard County. Two firefighters have received minor injuries battling the blaze, but no significant structural damage has been reported, said Tommy Sullivan, chief of the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department.

The firefighters were injured Tuesday when their truck was overtaken by the fire. They were able to escape the situation, however, and were subsequently treated and released from Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Sullivan said, adding the truck sustained heavy damage but "isn't a total loss."

The fire has presented a "good news, bad news" scenario for crews — it is away from any populated



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Firefighters continue to battle a blaze in eastern Howard County that began Tuesday. Officials said the fire is 80 percent contained and will be allowed to burn itself out over the weekend.

areas, but that very remoteness is hampering firefighters' efforts, Sullivan said.

"It's five miles wide in some spots ... and the only way to get in there easy is with helicopters, and See **FIRES**, Page 3A

What to do this weekend

Today

- 4 p.m.-10 p.m. - Under West Texas Skies, hosted by News West 9 in downtown Big Spring. Various activities, live broadcasts.

- 6 p.m. - Howard County A&M Club 'Old Army Night' meet and greet at Moss Creek Ranch. \$25 per person.

- Dark - 'Ghostbusters' screening in downtown Big Spring. Free admission.

Saturday

- 11 a.m.-until? - West Fest music festival at Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater. Local and area bands performing. Free admission.

- 6 p.m. - Howard County A&M Club annual auction at Moss Creek Ranch. Free admission

- 11:55 p.m. - Scenic Mountain Moonlight Rave Run in Big Spring State Park. \$20 per person, includes a T-shirt. Registration begins at 10:30 p.m. Run will not be timed and walkers are welcome.

United Way getting new director

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

United Way of Big Spring and Howard County is saying goodbye to Jeanie Coor, executive director for the past two years, and welcoming Sandy Stewart as the its new director.

"The United Way is a great organization and I regret having to leave, but I know it is being turned over to good hands," said Coor.

The transition comes due to a family move for Coor, but she will continue to help Stewart throughout the Boots and Bling 2012 campaign kick-off. No final date has been set for Coor yet, but Stewart is already taking on tasks.

"I am lucky to have this great opportunity to step in and work for such a great organization," Stewart said.

Stewart — a long-time Big Spring resident — started



Stewart



Coor

July 11. She said she looks forward to working with the 14 United Way agencies and the community.

"The main goal is to step

in as smoothly as possible," Stewart said.

"We are doing everything we can do make sure the transition is a pleasant one and once it is finalized, everything will continue to run smoothly," Coor added.

Stewart comes in before the 2012 campaign, which will run from Sept. 1 through Nov. 20. The funds raised during this campaign will be distributed to agencies during the

next cycle.

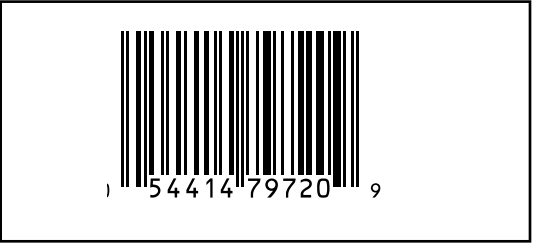
"Starting Sept. 1, expect to see a lot more of United Way out in the community," Stewart said.

The important thing Coor and Stewart want to stress to the community is where the money raised goes.

"All the money goes to these deserving agencies who serve a vital purpose in our

See **UW**, Page 3A

HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno
California Army National Guard members took a break at the McMahon-Wrinkle Air Park Tuesday afternoon. The group stopped to refuel the three aircraft they were flying and grab a bite to eat. Pictured in no particular order: Sgt. Mike Gorham, CW2 Eric Franz, 1st Lt. Chris Sandin, Sgt. Samuel Friedmann, CWL Scott St. Aubin, Lt. Col. Todd Lewis, Spc. Amanda Morris, Capt. Tyler Smentek and CW3 Casey Green. See article, Page 3A.



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Obituaries

Nancy J. Raymond Jones



Nancy J. Raymond Jones, 61, of Big Spring died Wednesday, July 13, 2011, at Midland Memorial Hospital. The family will receive friends Monday, July 18, 2011, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Doug Shelley, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born July 6, 1950, in Amarillo, Texas, to Joyce and Richard Raymond Sr. She moved to Big Spring in 1991. In 1994 she became the director of RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Program) for the city of Big Spring and held that position for many years.

She also served as the co-chairman of the Community Health Fair and was a previous board member on the Alzheimer's Association Committee. She was currently the Senior Services Program Manager for the city of Big Spring.

She is survived by one son, Stephen Jones and wife Arlise of Clovis, N.M.; one daughter, Jennifer Mendez and husband Thomas of Big Spring; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchild; mother, Joyce Raymond of Amarillo; two brothers, Rick Raymond and wife Pam of Amarillo and David Raymond and wife Pam of Lafayette, La.; and one sister, Chris Cooper and husband Noah of Amarillo.

She was preceded in death by her father. The family suggests memorials to RSVP, 1901 Simler, Big Spring 79720; and Alzheimer's Association Greater West Texas Chapter 4400 N. Big Spring #C-32 Midland 79705.

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

Mary Lindsey

Mary Lindsey, 73, of Andrews passed away Thursday, July 13, 2011, at Buena Vida Care Center in Odessa.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Fairview Baptist Church in Levelland, Texas. The Rev. Glenn Smith of Sundown, Texas, will officiate. Burial will be in Sundown Cemetery under the direction of McNett Funeral Home of Andrews.

Mrs. Lindsey was born July 18, 1937, in White Face, Texas. She married M.K. Lindsey on Dec. 17, 1973, in Sundown. He preceded her in death in 1996.

She is survived by her daughter, Katherine Baum of Coahoma; two sons, Scott Rumbaugh of Midland and Harold Rumbaugh of Andrews; three brothers, David Fullen of Midland, Billy Fullen of Sundown and Jerry Fullen Sr. of Eastland; four sisters, Carol Hall of Michigan, Lavern Peirce, Dee Ann Whittaker and Laura Wilson, all of Breckenridge, Texas; 12 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Police blotter

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

- JEAN JAVIER MATA, 17, of 2522 Gunter, was arrested Thursday on a warrant from another agency.
- WILLIAM COLE LAFON, 66, transient, was arrested Thursday on a charge of disorderly conduct – exposing genital/anus in public.
- SEAN PARKER BAXTER, 19, of 3509 E. Interstate Highway 20 14A, was arrested Thursday on a warrant from another agency.
- GAUDY LYNN COX, 47, of Weatherford, was arrested Thursday on a warrant from another agency.
- DOMINIQUE NICOLE CUELLAR, 18, of 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 11, was arrested Thursday on warrants for no driver's license – when unlicensed, disorderly conduct – fighting, juvenile curfew violation and violation of school rules (two counts).
- MARIO ILDEFONSO SALAZAR, 21, of 1503 Wood, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- CHRISTOPHER RYAN COLEGROVE, 19, of 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 26, was arrested Thursday on two warrants from another agency and a charge of theft with a previous conviction.
- JASON LEE DIAZ, 31, of San Antonio, was arrested Thursday on warrants for open container – driver, failure to appear and criminal mischief.
- JAMES BRIAN FIVEASH, 54, of San Angelo, was arrested Friday on a charge of public intoxication.
- THEFT was reported in the 1700 block of W. Fourth Street.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 2800 block of Coronado.

Sheriff

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

- Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 65 inmates at the time of this report.
- SEAN PARKER BAXTER, 19, was transferred Thursday to the county jail by BSPD on a charge of theft of property greater than or equal to \$50 and less than \$500.
- GAUDY LYNN COX, 47, was transferred Thursday to the county jail by BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- WILLIAM LAFON, 66, was transferred Thursday to the county jail by BSPD on a charge of disorderly conduct/ exposing anus in public.
- EUFEMIO ORTIZ JR, 19, was arrested Thursday by HCSO on a charge of sentencing/unauthorized use of vehicle and sentencing/burglary of a building.
- LAURIE RAMIREZ FLORES, 27, was transferred Thursday to the county jail by BSPD on a charge of

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 7/16	Sun 7/17	Mon 7/18	Tue 7/19	Wed 7/20
102/77 Mostly sunny skies. Hot. High 102F. Winds SE at 10 to 20 mph.	99/76 Partly cloudy, chance of a thunderstorm.	105/77 Plenty of sun. Highs 103 to 107F and lows in the upper 70s.	104/77 Sunny. Highs 102 to 106F and lows in the upper 70s.	105/78 Mainly sunny. Highs 103 to 107F and lows in the upper 70s.

theft, driving while license invalid, failure to appear, violation of promise to appear.

- DOMINIQUE NICOLE CUELLAR, 18, was transferred Thursday to the county jail by BSPD on charges of violation of school rules (two counts), curfew violation, disorderly conduct/fighting with another, no drivers license.
- JASON LEE DIAZ, 31, was transferred Thursday to county jail by BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief more than or equal to \$50 and less than \$500, open container in vehicle, failure to appear.
- MARIO ILDEFONSO SALAZAR, 21, was transferred Friday to the county jail by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- CHRISTOPHER RYAN COLEGROVE, 19, was transferred Friday to the county jail by BSPD on a charge of violation of promise to appear, ride not secured by safety belt – passenger, theft of property more than \$50.
- JAMES BRIAN FIVEASH, 54, was transferred Friday to the county jail by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Hwy 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of W. I-20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Hwy 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 4200 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Settles. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Ann. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2600 block of Carol. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported at N.E. Second and Runnels. Extinguished.
- GRASS FIRE was reported in the 200 block of N. Benton. Extinguished.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1700 block of Owens. Extinguished.

Support Groups

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

• 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.

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Copters make pit stop in Big Spring

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

McMahon-Wrinkle Air Park had three California Army National Guard helicopters stop by this week. The nine-person unit was traveling from Sacramento, Calif., to Fort Hood in order to exchange aircraft, a rou-

tine task. "We are taking these aircrafts to Fort Hood and we will exchange for the aircraft that has just come back (from being in action)," CW3 Casey Green said. According to members of the unit, it is easier to keep aircraft in use and modify it as needed instead of bring-

ing it back and forth constantly. The usual time frame for an aircraft to be in use before the transfer is about two years. "These aircrafts are rotating through Afghanistan," Green said. "Once we arrive in Fort Hood we will trade keys and bring back our aircraft that had been in use and return their

aircraft." "The hospitality we have seen in Big Spring has been awesome," CWL Scott St. Aubin said. *Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com*

Take Note

- A benefit fund for Chris Johnson (account 5945033396) has been established at Wells Fargo Bank to help defray expenses from a house fire. All donations are appreciated.
- American Legion Post 506 will have a fish fry from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the post home, 3203 W. Highway 80. Carry outs are available. Plates are \$10 each. Delivery is available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084.
- Big Spring resident Matt Fowler was involved in a vehicle accident June 20 and is listed in critical, but stable condition at Odessa Medical Center. The family is in need of assistance with medical expenses. They ask for anyone wanting to help to send donations to P.O. Box 3315, Big Spring, 79720.
- The Texas Department of State Health Services, 501 Birdwell Lane,

Suite 28B, will be offering "Back to School" immunizations from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, July 25 through Wednesday, July 27. Bring your child's immunization record. If you have the letter your child received from school, bring that also. No immunizations will be available July 18 through July 22. Normal immunization hours, Monday through Wednesday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., will resume Aug. 1.

- Sharon Chancy, campus curriculum coordinator at Bauer Elementary School, and her family lost their home and all their possessions to the wildfire that swept South Mountain on the evening of June 20. A fund has been established at the Big Spring Education Federal Credit Union to assist the family as they recover from this loss. To help, call 432-263-8393 or come by the FCU at

1110 Benton.

- A medical fund has been established at Big Spring Education Employee FCU for Maurine Pittman, who has been diagnosed with leukemia. She and her husband Gale are both off without pay at this time and may be for quite a while. Maurine is at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas at this time. To donate to the fund, call 432-263-8393 or come by the FCU at 1110 Benton.
- The Salvation Army is holding its annual fan drive and is in dire need of fans. Community members can donate new or used fans. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an indepen-

dent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. The Homeowner's HOPE hotline is a counseling service provided by HPF to work with you to find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Free free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

- Coahoma High School alumni are planning an all-classes' reunion on Saturday, July 23 at Coahoma Elementary. Registration is from 9-10 a.m., followed by visiting, a short business meeting, a fundraising auction, lunch and a program honoring CHS Music Through the Years. Please RSVP

for the lunch (barbecue by Hog Heaven) and mail checks to: Coahoma Alumni Association, POB 488, Coahoma 79511 by July 1. Cost is \$10 per adult and \$5 for children age 8 and under. The Stampede has been reserved for additional visiting that evening for all CHS alumni from 6:30-11 p.m. Music from the 50s, 60s and 70s will be played and food and sodas provided. For questions, contact any CHS Alumni Officer: Joyce York Baumann at 432-816-1588 or jefnjoyce@yahoo.com; Rose Thixton Teeler at 432-393-5267 or at jrteeler@yahoo.com; Barbara Ballard Reilly at 432-263-7808; or Cindy Parrish Klaus at 432-466-1298 or cindykrklaus@gmail.com.

- Fridays are live band dance nights at Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler. Senior adults are invited to an evening of fellowship (and good exercise)

from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. each Friday. Cost is \$6 per person.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
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Nancy Jones, 61, died Wednesday. The family will receive friends Monday from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Friday, July 15
Under West Texas Skies
Newswest 9 Broadcast
4 pm, 5pm, 6pm & 10pm
For more info contact the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce at 432-263-7641

Friday, July 15
Big Spring Film Society presents "Ghostbusters"
Heart of the City Park
For more info visit www.bigspringfilm.org or call Brandon Johnson at 432-213-0759

Saturday, July 16
WestFest Amphitheater
Comanche Trail Park
11 am-? For more info contact Chris Mason at 432-458-3353 ext. 203

Saturday, July 16
WESTTEXASAGS SHOOTOUT
Aggies Auction 6 pm Moss Creek Ranch For more info contact 432-263-7969

July 27-29
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Heritage Museum 10am-3pm
Sewing, art, cooking, quilting, cake decorating. For ages 7-15
Classes are \$10 per day
Call for reservation 432-267-8255

FIRES

Continued from Page 1A

they're not always available," Sullivan said. "So we've decided to let this take its course." Sullivan estimated the fire, which has consumed 5,000 acres so far, is 80 percent contained, but will likely continue to burn for the next few days.

In the meantime, he warned the chance for more wildfires in this area will only increase as current weather conditions continue. "As long as the temperatures remain high and humidity remains low, things are only going to get worse," Sullivan said. "The only thing that will change the situation is lots of rain."

The first of the two structure fires in Big Spring was reported shortly before 10 p.m. Thursday at the intersection of N.E. Second and Runnels streets. Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray said the storage structure was a total loss. The cause of the fire is undetermined, he added. An abandoned house in the 1700 block of Owens also was

a total loss after catching fire around 3 a.m. today, Condray reported. The cause of that fire is still under investigation. No injuries were reported in either fire, Condray said. *Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com*

UW

Continued from Page 1A

community," Coor said. This year the United Way supports 14 agencies; Big Spring Chaplains Association, American Red Cross of Southwest Texas, Buffalo Trail Council Boy Scouts of America, CASA of West Texas, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest,

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Spring of Siloam. "We are always looking for volunteers and anyone wanting to get involved," Stewart said. For those wanting to find out more about the United Way, contact Stewart at 267-5201, Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 3

p.m. The United Way is located in the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce building at 215 W. Third St. *Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@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.

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Adam Coleman Sports Editor		Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- CRMWD and city council members for noticing the circumstances surrounding our water situation and for implementing more precautions to ensure the community has enough water to sustain itself in these dry conditions.

- Howard County Volunteer Fire Department, Big Spring Fire Department and surrounding county fire departments who have come to provide assistance on this week's wildfires, including the Jill Road and Clay Fire in Forsan. All the hard work, long hours and dedication are much appreciated.

- Northside Community Center for their focus and support of all those in the community who are trying to further their education or build their career. The assistance provided and the opportunities through the numerous programs are an asset to the community.

- U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Michael "Mickey" Jonathan Garcia and his family who made the ultimate sacrifice and gave his life for his country July 4 during an attack on his unit in Wardac Province, Afghanistan.

- Lad Smith for exemplifying great commitment towards York Rite Masonry and being presented with the Excalibur award.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

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

With You, Lord, we can have a heavenly spirit of adventure and love. Amen

Friends with "The Nation"

My friend Francie's mother used to be known by all as "the Nation." It was a loving nickname based on her tendency to make pronouncements to one and all about what the nation thought of a particular topic. She would laugh.

I wonder if House Speaker John Boehner has a sense of humor.

Monday night, in justifying his walk-away from budget negotiations in which he had been avidly participating until Saturday, Boehner announced that "the American people" would not accept any tax increases — even from closing loopholes or increasing taxes on the wealthy beginning two years from now, when the economy will hopefully be less fragile.

How, one might ask, did the American people come to that conclusion when only last Friday they were open to a major deal? Did something happen to make the American people change their mind on Saturday? How could I have missed it?

I could understand if he had said: My conservative Republican base in the House won't vote for anything that remotely looks like a tax increase, even if Democrats are willing to eat Social Security and Medicare cuts, even if the ratio of spending cuts to tax hikes (or loophole closings) is 4 to 1. That would be the truth. But "the



SUSAN
ESTRICH

American people"?

Of course, the Republican speaker is not the only one to invoke "the American people" to cover his own political you-know-what. Politicians on both sides, most of whom speak of themselves as "we," are prone to announcing that whatever they think, or their base thinks, is what "the American people" have somehow decided.

Yes, there are certain things on which the American people probably do agree. In the wake of the September 11 attacks, the American people really were shocked and appalled and angry and determined. All of us.

On Veterans Day, the American people really are united in saluting those who have died for this country and in expressing our appreciation for those who put their lives on the line for our freedom. When a congresswoman is shot at a supermarket event and those who came to greet her are killed in cold blood, the American people really do condemn the violence, regardless of whether we are for or against gun control. I'm sure I could think of a few more examples if I tried, but budget policy would never be one of them.

It's easy to do what "the American people" want. Saying yes to a crowd is easy. Saying no to your base is not. I try not to pay too much attention to the on-again, off-again negotiations in Washington. It's hard to listen and not get aggravated at all the posturing and game playing. This could be an opportunity to

actually make real progress on budget issues, but I'm old enough to know that any deal would require political courage and cynical enough to believe that courage is the attribute that is hardest to find in the political capital of the world.

Why be courageous when you can hide? Why focus on what is really best for the American people when you can spend your time figuring out how to get to the 50 percent plus one it takes to hold on to your job or get the next one? So the American people are facing crushing unemployment. So our kids are going to be left with these bills. So the programs senior citizens rely on are going to run out of money. The next election is only 16 months away. Get it?

We are a diverse country. When it comes to dealing with the deficit, we don't agree. We don't have a consensus. There may be a moderate majority who would like to see a sensible solution, but there are also plenty of ideologues on both sides who will try to block any assault on their sacred cows. Compromise is the mother's milk of politics precisely because there is no solution that will satisfy everyone. Pardon me, but the American people know that.

Who will tell Boehner?

To find out more about Susan Estrich visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

The impossible dream act

They know that for now, they are selling an impossible dream. Yet

some Democrats in Congress keep promoting the DREAM Act, the elusive legislation that would create a path to legalization for some 2 million young undocumented immigrants who came here as children



MIGUEL
PEREZ

Under the current anti-immigrant climate and Republican-manipulated Congress, they know the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act has no chance of passing. Yet purely for political reasons, they keep using the DREAM Act as a tool to demonize the GOP.

And indeed, it is a powerful tool, because it shows that most Republicans in Congress can't even find compassion for undocumented immigrants who were brought here when they were too young to decide on their own, who have grown up here as Americans and who are eager to contribute to and serve this country.

But in the process of ridiculing Republicans for their Draconian ways, unfortunately some Democrats are building false hopes and expectations among an already vulnerable and distressed population of young immigrants.

For now, the DREAM Act is both a dream and an act. The students are dreaming, and the politicians are acting.

Don't get me wrong. I admire the dreamers. They are today's Don Quixotes, "willing to march into hell for a heavenly cause." But the actors are using these young undocumented immigrants for political gain — and inciting them to take unnecessary risks.

A few weeks ago, in the first Senate Judiciary Committee hearing for the latest resurrection of the DREAM Act, its leading champion, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., and two top Obama administration officials argued that once these undocumented immigrant students are put on a path to legalization, they will pay taxes, buy homes and bolster the economy. They even cited the estimated \$1.4 billion in deficit reduction that the DREAM Act would bring over the next decade.

"I ask my colleagues to consider the plight of these young

people, who find themselves in a legal twilight zone through no fault of their own," Durbin said. "They are willing to serve our country, if we would only give them a chance."

This week, Durbin is joining religious leaders for a "DREAM Sabbath," which will "enlist churches, synagogues and mosques to dedicate time during their regular weekly worship service to a conversation about the DREAM Act."

But why now, when its chances are so dim? Why now if not for cheap politics?

Even one of the DREAM Act's biggest detractors, Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, was right when he noted that the latest effort to resurrect the legislation has "all of the hallmarks of a cynical effort to use the hopes and dreams of these young people as a political wedge in the run-up to the 2012 election."

Of course, "cynical effort" also would be an appropriate way to describe Cornyn's participation at the hearing, where he reportedly pretended to favor immigration reform and then hypocritically proceeded to thrash the DREAM Act because "sadly, (it) does nothing to fix our broken immigration system."

It does nothing to reduce the likelihood of future illegal immigration."

In front of many young undocumented immigrants with outstanding civic records and academic credentials and ignoring the "moral character" standard that DREAM Act applicants would have to meet, Cornyn reportedly listed all the offenses — drug possession, burglary and assault — that (in his warped mind) would be overlooked.

It was the kind of two-faced, condescending and offensive demagoguery that makes young immigrants seek more dramatic action nowadays, some way of getting people to listen to their pleas for compassion.

Unfortunately, the false expectations and huge letdowns young undocumented immigrants have endured over the past decade already have driven some of them to risk getting arrested and deported and to take radical and defiant positions that could be counterproductive to their cause.

Frustrated and angered by so many years of rejection — of being told they have no future in the only country they know — some have held hunger strikes, outed themselves from the

illegal immigration closet and placed themselves in jeopardy. Others have joined groups with defiant slogans — "Undocumented and Unafraid" — that only serve the anti-immigrant zealots who want to portray them as insubordinate hoodlums.

They should be asking for compassion instead of "demanding" anything. They should keep wearing their graduation caps and gowns to show the talent that this country senselessly is wasting, but not with a clinched fist. They should keep fighting for equality, but not the way some of them have been doing it lately.

Let's face it; though their struggle has many similarities with the civil rights movement, these are peaceful protesters who run the risk of getting deported. The politicians who claim to be trying to help them should not be building false hopes and thus inciting them to take unnecessary risks, especially at a time when they know the DREAM Act is only a pipe dream.

Have they forgotten that this is the same legislation they couldn't even pass during last year's lame-duck Congress and that now they are dealing with a much more anti-immigrant House and just-as-cowardly Senate? Did the Democrats forget that only seven months ago, they couldn't get six of their own senators to vote for the DREAM Act? What makes them think they can pass this bill now that the House has many more anti-immigrant members?

Whom are they kidding?

President Barack Obama has made clear that he doesn't want to see these young people deported, but he refuses to impose an executive order to halt the deportation of the immigrants who would be covered by the DREAM Act. Last month, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement announced it was encouraging agents to use "prosecutorial discretion" and give "particular care and consideration" to individuals "present in the United States since childhood" and seeking college degrees.

Though this is encouraging, it was clearly politically motivated, and it doesn't eliminate the huge risks these young people are taking when either the Republicans make them angry or the Democrats exploit their frustration.

To find out more about Miguel Perez visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

North Birdwell United Methodist Church

North Birdwell United Methodist Church meets Sundays for worship at 10:30 a.m. with Pastor Billy Bates leading the service. Sunday school meets at 9:30 a.m. The adult class discussion will be led by DeWayne Wagner on "Use God's Strength" taken from Judges 3:15-25 and Judges 3:29-30.

We welcomed Don and Nita Taylor from Waco as visitors and David Petree.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church is located at 2702 N. Birdwell. For more information call 267-2203, if no answer leave a message.

Spring Creek Fellowship

"Camp Creekbed" is the theme of this one-day Vacation Bible School Extravaganza event to be held on Saturday, Aug. 6 from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the church. Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the College Park Shopping Center at 501 Birdwell Lane. Our phone number is 432-714-4584. Visit our website at <http://springcreekfellowship.org>.

Children age 4 and going into kindergarten in the fall through those who finished 5th grade in May are invited to attend. A hot dog lunch will be served.

Pick up registration forms from the church office at 702 Johnson. Office hours are Monday-Thursday between 10-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Visit our website to print a copy of the registration form. Pre-Register by noon Monday, July 25, and be entered into a drawing for a \$100 in groceries. Parent/guardian must be present at drawing to win. Registration also available the day of event. All children must be registered on or before the day of the event. No drop offs. All children must be accompanied into the building at registration and out of the building at the end of the day by a parent or guardian. Registration forms are required for all children attending. Parents/guardians are invited to attend the closing session at 4:30 p.m. to see what their children have learned throughout the day. A "love offering" will be collected with proceeds to be donated to benefit local volunteer firefighters.

Fellowship is Wednesday evening with a meal at 5:30 p.m. Children's activities, youth worship and adult Bible study start at 6:15 p.m. The choir will resume rehearsals Aug. 10.

"Kid-Connect" for school age children will not meet for the month of July but will be back the first Sunday in August. "Boz and Friends" for preschoolers will continue to meet Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Nursery care is also available.

Youth "Connection Groups" meet Sunday and Wednesday evenings for junior and senior high students. Adult "Connections Groups" meet at various times and locations during the week. Contact the church office for more information.

Templo Belen Assemblies of God Church

Numerous Sunday school classes take place — Children's Sunday school (ages pre-K to sixth grade), Youth Sunday school (seventh grade to 12th grade), Adult English Sunday school and Adult Spanish Sunday school. All classes begin at 9:30 a.m. Our Celebration Service is a bi-lingual service at 11 a.m. Our evening Celebration Service is at 5 p.m. Children's church is during both morning and evening Celebration services.

The children meet weekly for Royal Rangers or Girls Ministries. Both of these children's clubs meet 6 p.m. Wednesdays at the church. The youth meet 7 p.m. Tuesdays at the church. Drama Ministry meets Monday nights from 6-8 p.m. at the church. Wednesday evening there is a time

for intercessory prayer at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary.

If you have a desire to pursue an education in a Bible College, we have two opportunities for you — Vision International University and School of Tyrannus International Discipleship Program. Both of these schools meet once a month on a Saturday. Classes are on break for the summer and will resume in the fall. For more information on these schools contact the church office.

Sunday, July 24 we will be holding our graduation ceremony at 10 a.m. for several of the students from Vision International University and School of Tyrannus.

We are located at 2205 Goliad. If you have any questions, need a ride to our church services or need prayer, call 432-267-2111

East Side Baptist Church

Sunday worships at 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. Kids Club and Bible study at 7 p.m. Wednesdays.

Sunday, July 31 we will celebrate the church's 23rd Anniversary. There will be testimony, preaching of the Word of God and music. Special guest will be "Earley Praise" from Ft. Worth. They will be singing at 9:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Nursery is provided for four years and younger.

First Church of the Nazarene

Mission to Mars our Vacation Bible School is Aug. 1—5 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

First Church of the Nazarene is a host site for Angel Food Ministry. Orders for Angel Food can be placed July 22 from 1-5 p.m. and July 23 from 10 a.m. to noon, with food being distributed July 30. If you have questions contact Scott Jimenez at angelfood@nazfamily.org or go www.angelfoodministries.com.

Sunday services are at 10 a.m. and Wednesday evening group meetings are at 6:30 p.m. Church prayer time Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. and come and go prayer time Saturdays at 6:30 p.m.

First Church of the Nazarene is located at 1400 Lancaster. For more information, contact the church office at 432-267-7015. Visit us on the web at www.nazfamily.org.

First Christian Church

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is located at 911 Goliad. Sunday fellowship at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Church services start at 10:50 a.m.

Sunday, Ken McIntosh will be back from church camp and will bring the message from Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 "What is our job?"

ISAIAH 58 Food Pantry will be open Monday and Tuesday.

Wednesday night choir practice is on hold until August.

Friday, July 22 there will a stewardship meeting at noon at the church all members of the stewardship committee need to be there.

Vacation Bible School is Sunday through Wednesday. Each night we will meet at 6 p.m. at First Christian Church fellowship hall on the east side of the building. Vacation Bible School is for all ages. We will be joining St. Mary's Episcopal Church and the First Presbyterian Church to transform the courtyard of St. Mary's into a market place surrounded by various aspects of Nazareth for Hometown Nazareth where Jesus was a kid.

For further information, call the church office at 432-517-4821, view our website at www.fcbs125@yahoo.com or email to fcbs125@yahoo.com

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church, LCMS

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive. Our church phone number is 432-264-

7818. Our website is www.lutheranonline.com/aliveinchristbstx.

Church services are Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:15 a.m.

Mariachi San Pablo will be in charge of the Sunday school and the service Sunday. Bo Vizcaino will be reading the liturgy. The readings are Isaiah 44:6-8, Psalm 119:57-64, Romans 8:18-27 and Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

Angela Newton is our organist. Acolyte will be Hannah Alsobrooks. Elders are Bobby Roever and Richard von Hassell. The flowers this week are given in memory of John Marino, Loleda Marino and Michael Marino by Kathy Laning.

The lesson this week is Lesson 23: "The Lamb of God" — Mount of Olives (Examines Jesus' choice of time, place, and message of Passion Week).

Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon the Board of Education has scheduled VBS. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. "Planet Zoom where Bold Believers Zip, Zap and Zoom for Jesus" will begin after 9 a.m. as soon as possible.

The Board of Elders has scheduled the Mariachi San Pablo from El Paso to be here through Sunday. This group will perform a community wide concert 7 p.m. Saturday. After Sunday school we will have our monthly pot luck.

The Elders meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at the church.

The 8th Annual Lutheran Night at the Ballpark is Sunday, July 31 beginning at 5:15 p.m. with the picnic the game starts at 6 p.m.

Rally Day has been scheduled for Sept. 11 after the noon pot luck. "Wall Builders" scheduled for Sept. 24 has been cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.

Neither the LWML nor the Board of Assimilation will meet during the summer.

Scheduled meetings at the church for August include: Aug. 8, the LWML will serve coffee/juice/refreshments at the VA. The Board of Education will meet Aug. 9 at 7 p.m. The elders meet Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. The Board of Assimilation will meet Aug. 23 at 7 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma

We meet at 11 a.m. Sunday to share the scriptures, sing, pray and worship, led by Commissioned Lay Pastor Tom Koger.

Tom and the Rev. Craig Holdstedt continue to lead a lectionary Bible study every Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. at First Presbyterian in Big Spring; however this week they will be at Vacation Bible School.

We will be participating in the Inter-generational Vacation Bible School with First Presbyterian Big Spring, First Christian and St. Mary's Episcopal Church beginning with a supper Sunday evening at First Presbyterian Big Spring. Every evening thereafter, through Wednesday the activities will begin at First Christian and progress to St. Mary's Episcopal to experience Jesus' hometown of Nazareth.

The lectionary is Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.

St. Andrew's Brotherhood meeting and breakfast 8 a.m. Saturday.

The second annual, Tri-

Congregation, Multi-generational Vacation Bible Study is Sunday through Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday there is a picnic at First Presbyterian Church from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Vacation Bible School begins at 6 p.m. at First Christian Church for the opening celebration time and Hometown Huddle. We will walk across to the St. Mary's courtyard for Marketplace Shops, Hometown Huddle and closing celebration time ending the evening at 8 p.m.

St. Mary's 125th Anniversary "Family Reunion Celebration" will take place Saturday, Aug. 6 and Sunday, Aug. 7. Reservations are needed by July 10 for those attending the evening buffet and music Saturday, Aug. 6. To RSVP call 432-267-8201. There will be a charge for the meal.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

Signal Mountain Emmaus Community

Signal Mountain Emmaus Community meets at Spring Creek Fellowship, 501 Birdwell Lane the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

The Babe Chick Meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Due to Men's Walk #57 our next meeting is July 21. Potluck fellowship at 6 p.m. in Garrett Hall.

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

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

There will be no choir practice until the last week in July.

Anyone having any knowledge about the history of the stained glass windows in the chapel is asked to call the church office or Nancy Koger 432-267-7809.

Sunday through Wednesday is joint Vacation Bible School with Presbyterian, Episcopalian and Christian churches. The event will kick off with a Sunday evening supper at 6 p.m. at First Presbyterian Big Spring. The following three evenings will begin at 6 p.m. at First Christian then progress to the courtyard at St. Mary's Episcopal for a visit to Jesus' hometown of Nazareth.

Jamie Walker is in charge of this week's "Take Ten." Sunday school classes continue during the summer. The children's class meets with Kay Kennemur in the computer room, using "Galilee Flyer" software to study the Beatitudes. Youth group will resume in August and the adult theater class continues their study of "The Prayers of Jesus." The Adult Covenant Class is studying a unit "Listening for God in Changing Times" based on Judges.

The lectionary is Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43. The Rev. Holdstedt will deliver the sermon.

If you cannot attend worship, listen on KBST 1490 AM, at 11 a.m. If

See **CHURCH**, Page 7A

Mariachi San Pablo

Mariachi San Pablo from El Paso, TX Ysleta Lutheran Mission will be visiting Alive in Christ Lutheran Church. Come and join us for an evening filled with your favorite songs and hymns "Mariachi Style!" Then join us Saturday morning for a fun packed morning of Vacation Bible School.

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2805 Lynn St. Big Spring, TX 79720
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Visit www.ylm.org for more Mariachi San Pablo tour information

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CHURCH

Continued from Page 5A

wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, call the church office at 263-4211. Visit our website: www.fpcbs.org.

First Baptist Church, Big Spring

First Baptist recently sent boxes of chips, salsa and other snack food to the 36th Infantry Division serving in Iraq with Major General Eddy Spurgin, a member of First Baptist. We heard from Eddy this week and he let us know the boxes had arrived and the snacks were being enjoyed by the soldiers. We are honored to have this man of God represent our church, city, state and nation and will be glad when he comes home in September. Remember to pray for our men in uniform.

Sunday evening the Texas Baptist Men Disaster Relief team will be at our church to treat us to a fish fry with all the trimmings. These men are coming to recruit people from our area who would be interested in providing aid in times of disaster. All interested in becoming a part of this ministry will be encouraged to attend an orientation next Saturday, July 23. Call our office at 267-8223 for more information.

We are gathering school supplies to be given away by the Mission Center. The Food Pantry provides food the first Thursday of every month and the Clothes Closet is open the first and third Thursday of every month.

First United Methodist

Sunday, Pastor Ivins will wrap up a message series entitled

“The Jesus Movement.” This last message, “The Moving Movement” comes from Matthew 28:16-20. Sunday worship is at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Sunday school classes are at 9:45 a.m. Sunday afternoons the Chancel Choir meets for practice with Director of Music Ministries Eddie Vandewalker at 3 p.m. The praise team meets at 4:30 p.m. and the Bell Choir meets at 6 p.m.

At 7 p.m. Sundays our youth meets followed by AfterGlow at 8 p.m. Mentor Time for Youth scheduled Tuesday has been cancelled this week only.

Children’s Day Out meets 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays for preschoolers and toddlers through four years old.

Wednesday Pastor Ivins will continue teaching a series called “Kingdom Focused Praying” at our noon Bible study. The lesson will focus on Acts 16:16-40. This study meets Wednesdays at noon in Garrett Hall and includes food and fellowship.

Congratulations to Murray Murphy who has been selected as a Northwest Texas Conference delegate to the 2012 General and Jurisdictional Conferences. The General Conference will be in Tampa, Fla. while the Jurisdictional Conference will be held in Oklahoma City.

Last Sunday, members of the congregation received laminated waterproof tags with the words, “Please remember to pray for rain today.”

These tags are attached to a lanyard and can be placed over a shower head to serve as a daily reminder to pray. Anyone who didn’t receive a tag may pick up one Sunday or it can be mailed to you by phoning the church office.

For additional information regarding activities and scheduling go to our website at www.fumcbs.com.

First United Methodist Church is located in the heart of downtown Big Spring.

God knows our numbers

American poet Robert Frost, the recipient of four Pulitzer Prizes for Poetry, was a popular writer and a brilliant philosopher. He observed that a diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman’s birthday but never remembers her age. No truer words have ever been spoken. The only females who eagerly share their age are the very young and the very old. Those of us in the middle somewhere tend to think that our age is a mystery known only to those who were around at the time of our birth or who graduated from high school with us.



BONNIE WHEAT

A few days ago, my husband and I had the privilege of sharing a meal with a delightful young couple and their bright-eyed, undiplomatic children. About halfway through the meal, much to the mother’s horror, the six-year-old daughter turned to me and asked, “How old are y’all?”

In an effort to be truthful and still maintain my dignity, I said, “We’re old enough to be a grandma and a grandpa.”

The answer seemed to satisfy the

little girl, but her younger brother needed a little more information. He said, “But what is your number?”

When I finally confessed our numbers, he nonchalantly told us how old we would have been last year. I was impressed that a four-year-old could count that high, much less add or subtract a year. The young man may never be a diplomat, but he may have a future in mathematics.

Regardless of the number of years we have accumulated, the Scripture says that God knows all about us: “Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows” (Matthew 10:29-31NASB).

God knows all of our numbers. He knows our age, height, weight, blood pressure, cholesterol level, and our bank account numbers. He knows the number of hairs on our heads. He even sees when a gray one is plucked out of the thatch or a loose one gets washed out in the shower. God knows all of our numbers, yet he loves us in spite of them.

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



Courtesy photo

Alive in Christ will be hosting Mariachi San Pablo of the Adelante Music Ministry at Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso, Saturday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The group will be performing a community wide concert and all area residents are encouraged to attend. Admission and food are free to the public and refreshments will be available for purchase. The group started touring Texas July 5 and will continue their tour until Aug. 2. They have performed in Northern Mexico and in 16 of the United States and 71 cities. They aim to spread the gospel “Mariachi Style.”



By Steve Becker
Test Your Play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Diamonds, and North leads the ten of hearts. You win with the queen and play the ace of diamonds, on which South discards a club. How would you continue?

WEST
♠AKJ
♥AKQ
♦AKJ1096
♣J

EAST
♠985
♥643
♦7532
♣AQ10

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the five of clubs, and you win South’s king with the ace. When you lead a low diamond to the jack, both opponents follow low. How would you continue?

WEST
♠A73
♥AK5
♦964
♣AQ98

EAST
♠K96
♥942
♦KQJ83
♣63

1. Despite the unlucky trump division, the slam is a virtual certainty if you take the proper preparatory measures.

Cash the king of diamonds and lead the jack of clubs to the ace. Then cash the A-K of hearts before exiting with a high trump (retaining your six

as an entry to dummy’s seven, if needed). North must make a friendly return, whether he leads a spade into your A-K-J, a heart (handing you a ruff-and-discard) or a club (establishing a club trick in dummy on which you can discard the jack of spades).

It would be wrong to attempt a finesse in either black suit after South shows out on the first trump lead. Either play might succeed, but there is no reason to rely on sheer luck when there is a sure way to make the slam.

2. To make certain of the contract, continue with a low diamond from dummy! This guards against a holding of A-10-x-x in the South hand, which is the only real threat to the contract. It assures you of three diamond winners and at least nine tricks. If South wins with the ten and returns a low club, you cover with the eight and remain in firm control of the situation. You’re sure to finish with three diamond tricks and two tricks in each of the other suits.

If you lead the king of diamonds at trick three instead of a low diamond, South can stop you from making three notrump by ducking again with A-10-x-x. The low diamond play at trick three covers all possibilities.

Tomorrow: First things first.
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sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

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News in brief

Oklahoma governor calls for rain prayers

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Gov. Mary Fallin wants Oklahomans to pray for rain on Sunday.

Fallin said in a statement on Thursday that the ongoing drought has helped contribute to more than 140 wildfires this year, resulting in the loss of dozens of homes. Fallin earlier in the day signed an executive order issuing a burn ban in 45 counties.

The statement also notes that a lack of rainfall has led to significant hardships.

Cain: Mosque would spread Islamic law

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain opposes a planned Tennessee mosque that

has been the subject of protests and legal challenges.

Cain didn't bring up the controversial facility in a campaign rally on Thursday, but told reporters afterward that he's concerned about the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro.

"It is an infringement and an abuse of our freedom of religion," he said. "And I don't agree with what's happening, because this isn't an innocent mosque."

The new mosque has been the subject of protests and counterprotests in the city about 35 miles southeast of Nashville.

A county judge ruled in May that the mosque construction does not harm the residents who sued to try to stop it, but he allowed them to move forward on claims the county violated an open meetings law in approving it.

Opponents have used the hearings to argue

that the mosque is part of a plot to expand Islamic extremism in the U.S. Cain appeared to agree.

"It is another example of why I believe in American laws and American courts," Cain said. "This is just another way to try to gradually sneak Shariah law into our laws, and I absolutely object to that."

Shariah is a set of core principles that most Muslims recognize and a series of rulings from religious scholars. It covers many areas of life and different sects have different versions and interpretations of the code.

Church's use of hallucinogenic tea contested

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A federal appeals court has agreed to hear an unusual case in which the U.S. government is at odds with a district judge over his ruling on the use of a hallucinogenic tea by a small Oregon church that blends Christian theology with indigenous beliefs from Brazil.

The Church of the Holy Light of the Queen, based in Ashland, imports, distributes and brews a hallucinogenic tea known as ayahuasca and drinks it in reli-

gious ceremonies.

The church's leader, Jonathan Goldman, was arrested in 1999 for possessing the tea after U.S. Customs agents intercepted a shipment sent from Brazil.

Church members sued in 2008, saying their use of the tea was protected by their religious rights.

A year later, U.S. District Judge Owen Panner ruled that the church could use the tea in its ceremonies under the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act. Panner acknowledged at the time

that the tea could be abused, but agreed with a church member who said he hadn't seen anyone harmed and that it was against regulations to use the tea outside religious ceremonies.

Ex-priest convicted in sex abuse case

BLOUNTVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A former Roman Catholic priest was convicted Thursday of raping an altar boy more than three decades ago.

A jury in Blountville returned its verdict af-

ter about seven hours of deliberation, convicting William Casey of two counts of aggravated rape and one count of criminal sexual misconduct.

Casey, of Greeneville, Tenn., did not testify in his defense. He was taken into custody after the conviction.

The Associated Press does not routinely identify people who allege they are victims of sex crimes, but 46-year-old Warren Tucker of Jeffersonville, Ind., has gone public with claims that Casey molested him.

Reflections God and his metrics

We live in a world of metrics that is obsessed with measuring progress in almost every area of life. The business world has created an entire glossary of terms for measuring CPM (Corporate Performance Management). Every business needs to know its ROI (Return on Investment), Churn Rate (the measure of customer or employee attrition over a specified time) EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization), to name a few.

Students and educators are all too familiar with TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills). Past curriculum has focused on TAKS that determined the future for both students and schools. The Texas Education Agency is now phasing in End of Course (EOC) assessments and STAAR (Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness) to measure achievement.

Sports is enamored with metrics. Athletes compete not only against each other, but against all the records of the past. When Rory McIlroy set a new 72 hole record for the U.S. Open he was competing against Jack Nicklaus, Tiger Woods and all those who played before him. PGA players are rated by average score, percentage of fairways hit, greens in regulation, average putts per round. Baseball is synonymous with statistics: batting average, runs batted in, on base percentages, earned run averages.

We have created metrics for area of life. If measurements are so important, it might be good to know God's metrics. How does God measure success or failure?

Most of us assume that God's measurements are limited to religion: church attendance, offerings, bud-

gets, building, religious ceremonies and service. Surprisingly, according to the Bible these things are not God's primary measurement.

The prophets taught that God could care less about religious ceremonies. In Amos, God says, "I hate, I reject your festivals, nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them;

and I will not even look at the peace offerings of your fatlings. Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

In Isaiah, God says, "Incense is an abomination to Me. ... I hate your new moon festivals and your appointed feasts, They have become a burden to Me; I am weary of bearing them. So when you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide My eyes from you; Yes, even though you multiply prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are covered with blood. Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from My sight. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, reprove the ruthless, defend the orphan, plead for the widow."

When Jesus confronted the religious leaders of his day, he reproved them for focusing on religious disciplines while omitting the "weightier matters of the law." He challenged his followers saying, "I was hungry and you fed me, in prison and you visited me, thirsty and you gave me to drink ... in that you have done it to the least of these, you have done it to me."

So, how well are we measuring up by God's standard of measurement?

Bill Tinsley is a 1965 graduate of CHS. For more info visit www.tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@tinsleycenter.com.



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

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Rangers blank Mariners

SEATTLE (AP) — Derek Holland was more satisfied with how he finished than his perfect start against the Seattle Mariners.

Holland, the Texas Rangers 25-year-old left-hander, was perfect for the first five innings and finished with a five-hitter as the Rangers rolled to a 5-0 decision for their eighth straight victory.

It was Holland's fourth career complete game — all shutouts — his third this season and second straight. He went the route in his previous outing July 7 against Oakland, a 6-0 decision.

He is the first Ranger to throw back-to-back shutouts since Charlie Hough had three straight Aug. 28-Sept. 7, 1983, two years before Holland was born. The last Ranger lefty to have successive shutouts was Jim Uzbarger (May 23 and 28, 1976).

Holland (8-4), who matched his career high for wins, retired the first 15 batters until walking Franklin Gutierrez on a 3-2 pitch to open the sixth. He then lost his no-hitter when the next batter, Chone Figgins slashed a single to right.

"I just got caught looking at the scoreboard at the wrong time," Holland said. "I got a reminder when I walked that guy and the crowd started cheering. I knew I needed to bear down. I gave up the perfect game but had to keep going from there."

He retired the next three batters to end the threat. He gave up a pair of singles in both the seventh and ninth, but also settled down and kept the Mariners off the board.

See TEXAS, Page 2B



Courtesy photos
Two area little league umpires are going to the state tournament. Mike Manzanarez (left) and Bradley Garrison (above) work tirelessly to help and support the kids involved in the sport. They do this on a completely voluntary basis and are not compensated in any way.

Mistrial for Clemens raises questions about system

NEW YORK (AP) — Seems you can't put a baseball star on trial without a mistrial.

Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens remain perfectly bookended, each with seven major awards, one mistrial and no guilty verdict assured of sticking.

Victor Conte, whose Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative sparked the government investigations of drugs and athletes, has had enough.

"It's a huge waste of federal taxpayer dollars at this point," he said Thursday during a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "I don't know the tab, but

probably tens of millions of dollars at this point."

Three months and a day after Bonds walked out of a San Francisco court room following a three-week trial and a muddled verdict that could result in a retrial, Clemens hustled out of a Washington, D.C., court room when a judge ruled federal prosecutors botched their case on Day 2, saying they made a mistake unworthy of a "first-year law student."

As baseball's gray eminence, Yogi Berra would say, "it's like deja vu all over again."

When facing off

against baseball players and their best-in-the-business legal teams, the Justice Department has struggled.

Conte, the BALCO president, was sentenced to four months in prison and four months' home confinement after pleading guilty in 2005 to one count of steroid distribution and one count of money laundering. Bonds was a BALCO client, its most famous.

Conte has two points to make on Clemens.

"Let me just say it's my opinion and only my opinion that Roger Clemens is guilty," he offered.

But that doesn't mean

he thinks it should be a criminal matter.

"I believe that there are higher and better tasks than these trophy hunts of trying to take these big-name athletes and make examples of them," Conte said. "Regardless of whether or not I think he's guilty or not, we've reached a point where enough is enough and it's time to move on. Back in 2003 or when they brought the case against myself and Barry Bonds, that was a different economic climate than it is today, post 2008."

When IRS Special Agent Jeff Novitzky, surfing through BAL-

CO's trash in 2002 or 2003, found a photograph of Conte and Bonds together in the magazine Muscle & Fitness, it sparked a legal pursuit that's still ongoing.

Like a Rube Goldberg machine, one led to another. The BALCO investigation led to the book "Game of Shadows." A week after the book was published in March 2006, baseball Commissioner Bud Selig hired former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell to investigate steroids.

Mitchell published his report in December 2007, implicating Clemens based on statements

from the pitcher's former trainer, Brian McNamee, who was forced to cooperate by federal agents after he was tied to steroids by former Mets clubhouse attendant Kirk Radomski. Clemens' denials over the following week prompted a congressional committee to ask the pitcher and McNamee to testify, leading to a February hearing where Clemens repeated that he had never used performance-enhancing drugs. The was followed by the Justice Department, a grand jury

See TRIAL, Page 2B

Briefs

Volleyball camp July 25-28

BSISD's volleyball camp will be held July 25-28, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The camp is open to students in grades 3-8 for a fee of \$25. T-shirts can also be purchased for \$10. Call 432-264-3662 for more information.

Football skills lineman camp

Coach Tony Johnson, former TCU line coach, will be hosting a one-day camp for linemen in Big Spring July 16. The camp, which will run from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., will cost \$55 per player and is open to players 9-18 years old.

For more information, contact Coach Johnson at 913-620-0167.

Big Spring Country Club 2-person low ball tournament July 23-24

Big Spring Country Club is hosting a 2-person

low ball tournament July 23-24. Entry fee is \$60 per player, plus golf cart. Private carts are welcome.

The event will kick off to a shotgun start at 1 p.m. each day with a field that will be pre-flighted. The number of flights will be determined by number of entrants.

Entry fee will include barbecue, which will be served on the course both days.

For more information or to enter your team, call the pro shop at 432-267-5354.

Steer season tickets on sale

The athletic department of the Big Spring Steers has announced the dates for season ticket sales. Those previously holding season tickets can purchase tickets for the 2011-2012 season July 18-Aug. 4 from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

New purchasers of season tickets can purchase their ticket books Aug. 8-Aug. 17 from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

The ticket books are \$25 and include all five home games. For more information, contact Kay Cook at 432-264-3662.

Chicano Golf Association golf tournament July 17

Comanche Trail Golf Course will be hosting a Chicano Golf Association golf tournament July 17. The tournament will kick off to a shotgun start at 10 a.m., with a 9:30 a.m. sign-up deadline. The format will be individual play and the entry fee is \$20 per person.

Football, cheerleading signups start Saturday

Sign-ups for CYFA's youth football and cheerleading signups will begin Saturday, July 16. The cost of the programs are \$125 for divisions one and two, \$75 for flag football and \$100 for cheerleading.

Signups will take place at Big Spring Mall every Saturday from July 16 through Aug. 13, from 10 a.m. through 6 p.m.

Signups will also be taken Aug. 9, 11, 16 and 18 between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

For more information, contact Jeff Vidal at 432-816-6871.

TEXAS

Continued from Page 1B

"That's huge for me, part of the maturing process," Holland said. "It was starting to build right there but I made my pitches where I needed to do and the defense was making the plays. I'm sure everyone else saw it (coming), but I got out of it. Seventh and ninth, too."

Mike Napoli, Josh Hamilton and Nelson Cruz each homered for Texas.

Jason Vargas (6-7) went six innings for Seattle, allowing five runs,

a season-high 12 hits.

"Really the story was their guy (Holland) and the way he pitched," Mariners manager Eric Wedge said, "and what we did not do against him."

Holland threw just 54 pitches in the first five innings and the closest the Mariners came to a hit was Ichiro Suzuki's slow-hit bouncer to second baseman Ian Kinsler in the fourth. Kinsler raced to his left and had time only to slap the ball with his glove to first baseman Mike Napoli to beat Suzuki by a half step.

Miguel Olivo had two

of the Mariners four hits.

The Mariners have lost six straight to fall 8½ games behind the AL West-leading Rangers.

"That's two in a row throwing the ball the way we know he's capable of throwing," Rangers Manager Ron Washington said. "He had his breaking ball, he moved it around, he elevated, he threw down, he moved their feet. He pitched very well tonight."

"He was in attack mode. That's where he has to be. He has to bring with quality strikes, not just throwing the ball over the plate."

Hamilton got it started in the first, hitting a 2-2 pitch into the right-field seats for his 12th home run. Since May 23 when he came off the disabled list, Hamilton has a major league-leading 43 RBI. Cruz hit a 1-0 pitch over the right-field wall in the second for his 21st home run.

Right fielder Suzuki appeared to have a chance of catching it, but hit his back on the wall to curtail his jump.

Cruz also came off the DL May 23 and has the second-most RBI (38) in the majors since then.

"We finished first half strong. It's good to start second half the way we started today," Cruz said. "The way Holland threw is amazing. It look like he doesn't need that many runs for support."

Michael Young knocked in his 60th run in the third, a two-out single to right scoring Elvis Andrus.

NFL claims progress

in talks with players

NEW YORK (AP) — Significant progress on a major sticking point in the NFL labor impasse — soaring rookie salaries — during marathon talks Thursday raised hopes that a tentative agreement in principle could perhaps come within 24 hours, according to two people familiar with the negotiations.

They cautioned, however, that other key issues remained for owners and players to resolve, including free agency and new off-season workout rules.

The people spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because the negotiations aimed at ending the NFL's four-month-long lockout are supposed to be confidential.

After meeting for nearly 15 hours Thursday, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, NFL Players Association chief DeMaurice Smith, players and owners were back at the negotiating table Friday as they attempted to end the sport's first work stoppage since 1987.

"I know our fans are frustrated and want (us) to get it done," Smith said as he entered the Times Square office building where the negotiations were being held. "We'll get

everything to the players when the time is right."

Talks gained steam in May, overseen by a court-appointed mediator, U.S. Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan, who is on vacation this week. Boylan ordered both sides to meet with him in Minneapolis early next week, and the owners have a special meeting set for next Thursday in Atlanta, where they potentially could ratify a new deal.

Any agreement also must be voted on by groups of players, including the named plaintiffs in a class-action antitrust lawsuit pending in federal court and the NFLPA's 32 team representatives.

Baltimore Ravens defensive back Dominique Foxworth emphasized that when the last of the participants left after 11:30 p.m. Thursday, saying "there's really no deal until our players approve it."

Even once an agreement in principle on the core economic issues is drawn up, there will be more work to be done.

That's because there are certain issues that won't be addressed in full until after the NFL-PA re-establishes itself as a union — a process that might take a couple

of days — and can then serve once again as a collective bargaining unit for the players.

Items that could fall under that umbrella include the league's drug-testing program, health insurance, retired players' pensions and other benefits, none of which is likely to be resolved completely while the union is still dissolved.

There's also a chance the players could pursue a lockout injunction for rookies and free agents after an appeals court ruled last week that the work stoppage could continue.

The NFL locked out players in March, after negotiations broke down and the old collective bargaining agreement expired, and now the preseason is fast approaching.

The need to arrive at a deal becomes greater with each passing day.

The Hall of Fame game that opens the exhibition season is scheduled for Aug. 7 between the St. Louis Rams and Chicago Bears.

They hope to be able to start training camp at the end of next week. Yet camps will not open without a new CBA in place.

Disruptions to the preseason schedule would decrease the revenue pie by hundreds of millions of dollars.

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TRIAL

Continued from Page 1B

investigation and an indictment last August.

The federal government charged the seven-time Cy Young Award winner with one count of obstruction of Congress, three counts of making false statements to Congress and two counts of perjury. Now, the government faces a Sept. 2 hearing

when it likely will try to persuade U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton to allow a retrial.

Across the country, a different set of prosecutors face an Aug. 26 hearing when Bonds' lawyers will argue that U.S. District Judge Susan Illston should throw out the one conviction against the seven-time Most Valuable Player — that he obstructed justice when he gave an evasive answer to a grand jury in December 2003.

Bonds' prosecutors haven't decided whether to retry the three hung counts. The jury couldn't come to a unanimous verdict on charges he made false

statements when he denied using steroids and human growth hormone and said he allowed only doctors to inject him. But it convicted him of giving an evasive statement when asked whether his trainer, Greg Anderson, ever gave him "anything that required a syringe to inject yourself with?"

Bonds' rambling reply stated that "I became a celebrity child with a famous father." His lawyers argue that he can't be convicted of that, partly because moments later he was asked "Did either Mr. Anderson or Mr. Conte ever give you a liquid that they told you to inject into yourself" and Bonds re-

sponded with a simple: "No."

Just before closing arguments, one of Bonds' lawyers, Dennis Rioridan, addressed the possibility of a conviction on the allegedly evasive statements contained in the jury instructions, saying it "would be utterly a farce."

In the view of Conte, prosecutions of baseball stars has become pointless.

"I just think it's time for those that make these types of decisions to make a higher and better use of federal taxpayer dollars," he said.

Walton also had the economics on his mind.

"We've expended a lot of your taxpayer's money to reach this point," he told the jurors before sending them home.

Derek Jeter, like many, is tired of the wrangling with no end.

"I'm no legal expert but you want it to be behind him," he said. "Obviously, the more attention that's paid to that, it's just negative for the game in general."

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GARAGE SALE 123 Jonesboro. Saturday only 8-1pm. Lots of good items!

Garage Sale 4217 Theo & 4215 Theo and 4213 Theo. Saturday 7:30-? Silver jewelry, flat screen, infant/girl clothes, 2 full size mattresses/frames, clothing, microwave, queen/full sheets & blankets.

GARAGE SALE: 603 Colgate, Saturday 7-3. Too much to list. Something for everyone.

Garage Sales

HUGE GARAGE Sale: 1809 Morrison Drive, Saturday Only! 7:00a.m.-11:00a.m. Sofa, loveseat, twin bed, TV, bookcases, night stand, computer, monitor, printer, baby items, little boys, women's, men's clothes, household items.

HUGE 3 Family Garage Sale: Saturday Only 8am-? Lots of misc., clothes, women's, kids, toys, everything must go. Becker Road in Sand Springs.

HUGE Garage Sale: Saturday 8:00-12:00, behind Faye's Flowers. Car seats, jumper, book shelves, TV's, recliner, changing table, jewelry, coffee table, playstation, computer, computer desk, kids clothes and shoes.

HUGE MOVING Sale: 4th & Aylsford. Friday & Saturday 8:30-5:00 & Sunday 10:00-5:00. Toys, Christmas items, collectibles, jewelry, very nice household items, movies, tools. Come See. Too much to list.

INSIDE SALE: 1209 South Monticello. Lots of ladies large sizes, seasonal decorations, occasional cards, aluminum cookware, cleaning supplies and lots of misc.. Cheap Prices. Saturday 8am-?

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale, Saturday 7am-?, 707 Washington. Lots of clothing, knick-knacks, household goods, and miscellaneous items.

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 2900 Melrose Lane, Saturday 7:30-Noon. Assorted clothing for kids, shoes, adult clothing, kid bicycles (all sizes), house deco., knick-knacks and lots more. Too much to list.

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 809 N. Runnels, Friday & Saturday 8-? School age clothing (name brand), shoes, lots of misc.

MULTI FAMILY Sale: 1619 Mesquite St, Friday & Saturday 8a-2p. Lots of misc. items, VH's, Playstation 2, children's & women's clothing, purses and shoes.

NOT POSTPONED Multi-Family Yard Sale- 2608 Barksdale, Saturday 8-? New craft items, household items, new clothing & used clothing, DS & DS games. Super Hero Comic Books 50¢

YARD SALE 2511 Carleton Saturday, 8am-? Women's clothes & shoes, bedding, kitchen items, misc. items and too much too list!!!

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THE COLORADO River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following position.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Venus and Saturn formed a square on Wednesday and offered up some challenges to close relationships. That arrangement dissipates as these two planets move on to favor more harmonious alignments. So wrap up the argument, and bury the hatchet. Put dissatisfaction to rest, and look for reasons to admire and like each other.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You will confront many obstacles to your success. That you are willing to do so head-on is your main strength. Many would have backed down long ago, but you're a fighter. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). An unexpected snafu takes up more time than you had planned. There is a litany of dissatisfactions and frustrations that you could blame this on, and yet you rise above it, keeping harmony in your

world. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You could chase many dreams at once, but your lack of detectable progress would probably frustrate you. That's why it's better to pick one thing to do with this day and celebrate when the job is finished. **CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You are not as reactive to the goings on around you as others seem to be. You learn what you need to know, and you see the process as the means to an end. This mindset will take you straight to the goal. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Avoiding obligations is actually a good tactic now, since it's likely that you feel more obligated than is appropriate. You may find it easy to serve others, but it's not your only role in life. **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When the others around you are nervous, you feel it, too. You want to do something to alleviate the feeling, but the best thing you could do is experience it for all it has to teach you and then let it pass. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct.

23). The quest for perfection is self-defeating. Strive to be more in touch with your human frailty and fallibility instead. This connects you with the compassion inside you and brings about your comfort and joy. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your self-worth is not determined by the acceptance of those around you, although it is only human to be influenced by such external cues. So take a moment to appreciate yourself before you meet the public. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have more gumption than you did yesterday, but don't let that influence you when it's time to make a promise. It's better to under-state what you can do and over-deliver than to do the opposite. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Social ups and downs are inevitable, and today such fluctuations are not to be taken too personally. Note that busy and/or hungry people have the shortest tempers. **AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-

Feb. 18). You are a master at reading people now. You'll detect the nuances of other people's attitudes, and you'll note what you observe. This information will be useful later. **PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). No matter how close a relationship is, you are still two people, and you need a degree of separateness and the freedom to explore autonomously. Liberate yourself, if only for a few hours. **TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (July 15). You will detach from unhealthy preoccupations and center your life on what truly makes you happy. You'll work out stress through physical fitness and sports, and you'll love your new shape. Exciting business happens in September. A relationship becomes a main event in October. November brings a windfall. Pisces and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 1, 22, 49 and 38. **WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST:** **ARIES:** Make the other person work for your love —

you'll both be better off for the effort. **TAURUS:** The atmosphere you create around yourself makes it easier for others to find happiness near you. **GEMINI:** Agree with your opposition. Then you will both win the battle. **CANCER:** It is difficult, if not impossible, to promote your own interests and nurture a relationship at the same time. Focus on one or the other. **LEO:** You give without expecting a return, and another person feels your loving intention. **VIRGO:** You'll spoil a loved one with the little acts of kindness you find so easy to carry out. **LIBRA:** You sometimes feel like you need another person to balance out your picture, but you're actually quite adept at balancing on your own. **SCORPIO:** You'll be let in on a delicious little secret. **SAGITTARIUS:** You'll change your game to fit the new players involved. **CAPRICORN:** You are more beautiful than you know and definitely more beautiful than you feel. **AQUARIUS:** Your smiling, carefree nature

is irresistible. **PISCES:** You're very selective now. A person might be very attractive and yet not totally right for you. **COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** Cancer and Aquarius tickle each other's funny bones. Aquarius brings zany, unexpected fun to Cancer's world. Cancer gives Aquarius fodder for comedic material and isn't afraid to bring up subjects that are unusual, sensitive or even taboo. Love and laughter will mix together to form a bonding agent between these sweethearts, and they will tell the story of this weekend for years to come.
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Dear Margo: Let a sleeping dog (on Facebook) lie

Dear Margo: Eleven years ago, I divorced my son's father. Since then, everything in my life has gone right. I met a great guy and remarried, my new husband adopted my son, we bought a house in the country, and I have the job of my dreams. All has been wonderful. At the end of my marriage to "Ray," I knew he was cheating on me: He didn't come home at night, stayed away much of the time and would pick fights for nothing, but the kicker was that one night I found them sitting in her car in our driveway at 3 a.m. I directly asked him, and he would always deny it. "She's just a friend," or "I needed a ride home from bowling." I never dwelled on it and



MARGO HOWARD

moved past it a long time ago. Or so I thought. This past weekend, something was brought to my attention. My ex's girlfriend (yes, the one from my driveway) had an interesting "Anniversary Date" listed on her Facebook profile. Her profile says that she's "In a relationship with Ray," and their anniversary date is almost 10 months before I left him and a full 6 months before I told him I wanted a divorce. Why would she publicize the fact that she was dating a married man? Why is this bothering me? — *Edna*
Dear Ed: To your first question, women who date married men and then "get them" think they have won. They do not look too closely at what they have won, but that's the way they feel. Her Facebook flaunting is her idea of victory. As to why you

care, the answer is that you are assigning your values to someone who clearly doesn't share them. A small element of your looking backward may be residual embarrassment and anger that you got played. But look at your life now, give thanks, and give up checking her Facebook page. — *Margo, conclusively*
Grandparents Aren't Indentured Servants
Dear Margo: My son married an older woman, and we accepted her as part of our family. She has older children whom we also accept and enjoy. Now we have a new grandson. My son lives 50 miles from our house. They would like me to baby-sit for them, but they refuse to bring the baby to my home (even though my son works 10 miles from my house). I offered to pick up the baby from his workplace,

but they do not want him here. Their plan is to have me drive out there and spend the day at their house. I have a comfortable home and enjoy my house. Going to their house with their dogs, etc., isn't as easy. I want to see the baby weekly, but I do not want to drive 100 miles daily. Besides, I am the person giving my time and effort (for free), and they don't want to meet me halfway. As it is now, we always have to bend to do everything they want for holidays, etc. We gave our son everything — paid for college, bought him cars, let him be his own person. We never dictated to him. We accepted his marriage. — *Just Want Things To Work*
Dear Just: There is no give here, and I suspect you may not see your grandson as often as you would like. I think being asked to

drive 100 miles a day when there is a more equitable solution possible displays a passive-aggressive, if not hostile, attitude on the part of your d-i-l. (And shame on your son for letting her name the terms.) Perhaps when they hear a no-can-do from you, they may reconsider their demands — to which I hope you will not bow. — *Margo, assertively*
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