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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**TUESDAY**  
**JULY 26, 2011**  
  
  
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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Former Howard County commissioner and Ports to Plains liaison **Bill Crooker**, left, listens as Ports to Plains President **Michael Reeves** and TxDOT Lubbock District Engineer **Douglas Eichorst II** discuss ongoing plans for the trade corridor during a meeting Monday afternoon at the Howard County Courthouse.

## Big Spring receives help with reliever route funding

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners received some good news from officials with the Texas Department of Transportation and the Ports-to-Plains trade corridor Monday, as it appears matching funds for the reliever route planned for west of Big Spring to the tune of \$500,000 will come from the state, not the county.

Members of the commissioners court — joined by local representatives from several other agencies — met with the envoy of officials from the trade corridor and TxDOT Monday afternoon at the Howard County Court-

house to discuss the reliever route, as well as other aspects of the project, which is designed to develop a nine-state,



2,300-plus mile economic development corridor between Texas and Alberta, Canada. According to TxDOT

Abilene District Engineer **Lauren Garduno**, the matching funds for the route — which have been estimated at approximately \$500,000, will not have to come from the county coffers.

"That is the way we are interpreting the proposition," he told local officials.

Ports-to-Plains President **Michael Reeves** said the project, which began in early 2001, is benefitting heavily from a large amount of cooperation within the TxDOT Districts, as several have already pledged portions of their funding for the Big Spring reliever route and other aspects

See **ROUTE**, Page 3

## Game on! NFL lockout is over. See Page 7

HOWARD COLLEGE

# No frills budget gets nod

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

Consider it the "it could have been worse" budget.

Despite millions of dollars in lost state revenue, Howard College officials are proposing a budget that is balanced, maintains most current services and gives some area residents a tax break, to boot.

College trustees got their first good look at the proposed 2011-2012 budget during a Monday morning workshop.

The bad news for Howard — and every other public college in Texas — is a marked decrease in state funding, College President **Dr. Cheryl Sparks** said.

Over the course of the next two years, Sparks said Howard and SouthWest Colle-



Murphy

gate Institute for the Deaf will lose \$4.5 million in funding compared to previous years. And Howard has been put on notice by state officials that further cuts may be forthcoming.

In response, the college has had to become a "lean, mean education machine," as trustee **Murray Murphy** joked.

Although no personnel were fired, new hirings were frozen and some positions where consolidated with others. In addition, tuition and other related fees were raised, the college "aggressively" pursued grants

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 Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.



# Alon trial under way

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Jury selection was completed and opening statements were delivered Monday as the legal battle between **Alon USA** — owner of the Big

Spring Refinery — and local residents claiming damages caused by the Feb. 18, 2008, explosion got under way.

The lawsuit — which represents more than 150 local residents, including **David and Janet Higgins**, the two

plaintiffs being represented in this leg of the legal action — alleges the explosion, which shook Big Spring and destroyed much of the refinery, was caused by negligence on the part of **Alon USA** and its subsidiaries.

"The defendants (**Alon USA** and several subsidiaries) acted with malice and such conduct was the proximate cause of plaintiff's injuries," reads the lawsuit, submitted by the

See **TRIAL**, Page 3

# Leadership Big Spring sign-ups due

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
 Staff Writer

Leadership Big Spring 2011-12 class registration is coming to a close, but spots are still available.

Leadership Big Spring will accept applications through Friday. According to **Vicki**

Stewart, chamber information coordinator, applications were mailed to area businesses, but if another application is needed it can be picked up at the chamber office.

"We have had great results in the past and we are expecting even better results this

year," Stewart said.

The 10-month class meets once a month — the second Thursday of the month — and takes class members into the inner workings of the Big Spring community. Students are required to sit in on a chamber meeting, city and

county meeting and to complete a group community service project. Each month will focus on a different part of the community and involve tours of different community entities.

See **CHAMBER**, Page 3

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# Obituaries

## Tommy Glen Hildebrand



Tommy Glen Hildebrand, 62, of Big Spring passed from this life Friday, July 22, 2011, at Midland Memorial Hospital. He was born in San Angelo, Texas, on Nov. 3, 1948, to Joyce Kyle Hildebrand and Lillian Nadine (Jones) Hildebrand.

He married Darlene Hludzick in Lamesa, Texas, on March 26, 1970.

He was an electronics technician and worked for many years at Basin 2 Way with his partner Kevin. He was a proud U.S. Navy veteran of the Vietnam War.

Tommy was a great father and a loyal friend who never hesitated to drop what he was doing to lend a hand to someone else. All he asked for in return was a sack of chicken lips. He had a tender heart, was slow to anger and quick to joke, with an awesome sense of humor.

He was a talented musician and singer, who played music locally with his good friend, Rich. He was a "jack of all trades" who could fix anything.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife and soul mate, Darlene Hildebrand of Big Spring; two sons, Tommy Glen Hildebrand Jr. of Big Spring and Ned Randal Hildebrand of Snyder; two daughters, Barbara Ann Averette and husband Brian of Big Spring and Pamela Jean Hildebrand of Carrollton; two brothers, David Hildebrand and wife Mary of Odessa and Tony Kennedy of Big Spring; sisters, Madeline Began and husband Bob of Middletown, Ohio, and Anne Mooney of Navasota; five grandchildren, Alyssa Hodnett, D'Amberly Averette, Shea Hildebrand, Ned Hildebrand Jr. and Nathan Hildebrand; and one great-grandson on the way, Rylan Hodnett. He is also survived by several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Those preceding him in death are his parents and one brother, Bradley Kyle Hildebrand.

Services are entrusted to Acres West Funeral Chapel and condolences may be sent to the family online at acreswestfuneral.com.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation (www.themmr.org) or to Hospice of Midland.

*Paid obituary*

## Ronald Wilcher

Ronald Wilcher, 52, of Lubbock died Saturday at University Medical Center in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Police blotter

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

- CYNTHIA RODRIGUEZ GARZA, 42, was arrested Monday on charges of public intoxication, defec-

tive turn signal lamps and failure to appear.

- JACOB JAY AGUIRRE, 30, of Stanton, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

- JAMES TANNER-CLARK BAILEY, 17, of 211 Wooten Rd., was arrested Monday on a charge of theft – shoplifting.

- THEFT was reported:  
In the 200 block of N.E. Eighth Street.  
In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.  
In the 3600 block of Calvin Street.  
In the 200 block of W. FM 700.

## Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 75 inmates at the time of this report.

- CYNTHIA MELISSA GARZA, 42, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of public intoxication, defective turn signal and violation of a promise to appear.

- SERGIO JOSEPH MARTINEZ, 20, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of passenger not secured by safety belt and violation of a promise to appear.

- FRANCISCO RENE GUERERRO, 31, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of bail jumping – failure to appear (two counts), bondsman off bond for evading arrest or detention and bondsman off bond for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

- JACKIE JOE-KYLE KIRKHAM, 17, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of consumption of alcoholic beverage by a minor and no driver's license.

- OTIS J. PORTER, 28, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

- TANNER BAILEY, 17, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

- CLAYTON WILLIAM WIGINGTON, 25, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated – second offense.

## Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

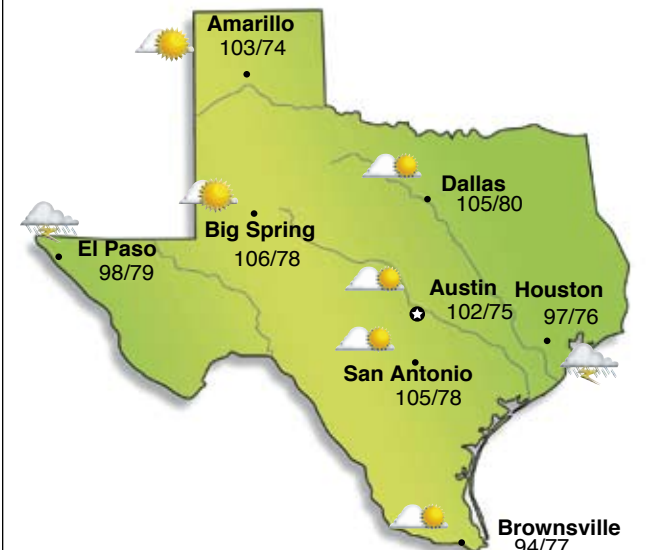
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.

## Today's Weather

### Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 7/27	Thu 7/28	Fri 7/29	Sat 7/30	Sun 7/31
<b>106/78</b> Mostly sunny skies. Near record high temperatures. High 106F.	<b>105/78</b> A few clouds. Highs 103 to 107F and lows in the upper 70s.	<b>102/77</b> Mostly sunny. Highs 100 to 104F and lows in the upper 70s.	<b>101/78</b> Sunshine. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the upper 70s.	<b>101/77</b> Mostly sunny. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the upper 70s.
Sunrise: 6:58 AM Sunset: 8:47 PM	Sunrise: 6:58 AM Sunset: 8:46 PM	Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 8:46 PM	Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 8:45 PM	Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 8:44 PM

## Texas At A Glance



- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of E. 24th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

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

- GRASS FIRE was reported near the intersection of Mesquite and Airport Road.



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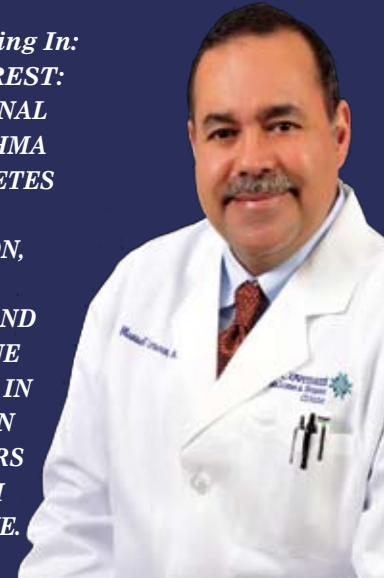
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**BUDGET**

Continued from Page 1

and other alternative funding sources and expenses were cut wherever possible, Sparks said.

The result is a "no-frills" budget that is balanced and features a tax cut for some junior college district residents. Sparks said the college will adopt a tax rate of 24 cents per \$100 valuation, a 4-cent drop from the previous year. Because of higher property valuations, however, that rate will generate the same amount of revenue for the college as the previous year.

To deal with the possibility of future cuts in state funding, officials have set aside \$650,000 in contingency funds, Sparks added.

Sparks said this has been the toughest, most contentious budget-building process she's been part of since she started with the college more than 30 years ago.

"It's been a very difficult process," she said. "We've worked on this budget for more than a year, really. Knowing we were going to lose a lot of state funding, and knowing a majority of our expenditures are in the area of personnel, we started as early as possible to make decisions in that area."

The 2011-2012 budget and tax rate will be formally adopted at the trustees' Aug. 22 meeting, Sparks said.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

**Take Note**

- Moss Elementary will hold two "parent transition meetings" to answer questions about the impending move of students to the Goliad campus. The meetings will be held at noon and at 6 p.m. in Goliad Intermediate School library. Refreshments will be provided.

- A benefit fund has been established at Western Bank for Eric Kelly, a 24-year-old Big Spring resident who is suffering from cystic fibrosis. For more information, call 432-213-0795

- 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. through Wednesday. Bring your child's immunization record. If you have the letter your child received from school, bring that also. Normal immunization hours, Monday through Wednesday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., will resume Aug. 1. DSHS will not be providing immunizations at the high school for registration Jul 27-28. DSHS suggests getting immuniza-

tions before attempting to register for school.

- 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 independent 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. For free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

- 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. For more information or to find out what band is playing, call the Senior Center at 432-267-1628.

- 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.

- Big Spring High School Class of 1981 will have its 30-year reunion Sept. 30-Oct. 1. For information, contact Mark Warren at 903-283-3326 or 903-843-5927, or e-mail mwarren@etex.net

- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information, call Children's Protective Services at 263-9669.

**ROUTE**

Continued from Page 1

of the trade corridor.

"The Amarillo District has agreed to move \$12.5 million to the Big Spring reliever route," Reeves said. "The Lubbock District has also pledged \$12.5 million for the project. By working together and putting these funds where they are needed most, we are able to complete key elements in the corridor and move this project forward."

In July 2009, the Texas Legislature authorized TxDOT

to go to contract on approximately \$2 billion in general obligation bonds for highway improvements. Texas voters approved these Proposition 12 bonds, which are backed by the state's general revenue and not by fuel tax revenues, by a 63 percent margin in November 2007.

District 72 Texas House Rep. Drew Darby, a San Angelo native, said the cooperation and collective sacrifices being made by the TxDOT districts is a vital part of the Ports-to-Plains project.

"I'm just so excited to see everyone in West Texas working together," Darby said.

While the new interpretation of the funding law lets Howard County off the hook for \$500,000, Garduno said the county is still liable for the cost of tying the reliever route into the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, a cost that hasn't yet been established.

And while other TxDOT Districts are willing to chip in on the projects such as the Big Spring reliever route and several Super 2 highways — two-lane highways that provide for passing lanes every two to four miles — Reeves said it's a kindness each is hoping will someday be returned.

"Of course, each of these districts is doing this with the understanding the other districts will be willing to move funds when they need them in the future," Reeves said. "This is about being able to accomplish more by everyone working together than each district simply doing what it can with the funds it has been allocated."

According to Garduno, the current focus is the southern half of the reliever route, which will lead up to Interstate Highway 20.

"We have the environmental study completed with a finding of no significant impact,"

Garduno said. "Our goal is to be able to have the project let by August of 2013."

The reliever route has received plenty of local attention, with much of the population divided on how it could impact the city of Big Spring and merchants along U.S. Highway 87. A number of public meetings have been held in the past several years to gather information on the project, as well.

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

**TRIAL**

Continued from Page 1

Pinkerton Law Firm, based out of Webster, Texas.

The jury was seated and testimony began Monday, with the first day of the trial reaching into the evening, according to court officials.

According to witness accounts, the cause of the February explosion was a propylene tank leak that caused a mist-like vapor to gather in the re-

finery, eventually making its way into a cat cracker heater and an alkaline unit, causing both to explode simultaneously.

A similar trial held in December 2010 yielded more than \$350,000 for property repair and medical expenses for a pair of plaintiffs named in the cause, finding that Alon had been negligent in assisting the plaintiffs and awarded damages for one plaintiff in the amount of \$236,605 for property damage and \$8,400 for medical

expenses.

The plaintiffs in the December trial — Beverly Smithie and Ron and Debra Walker — both tell the *Herald* they have yet to receive checks for the awarded amounts.

"A lot of people have been asking us why we haven't gone ahead and made the repairs to our property," Ron Walker said before Monday's trial began. The Walkers were awarded \$105,200 for property damage and \$10,200 for medical expenses in the December proceed-

ings. "Neither I, nor Beverly (Smithie), have received our checks from Alon USA."

It's unclear at this time whether or not the December trial is being appealed by Alon USA and its attorneys.

The trial is expected to last through the week, and, according to some court officials, could run into the following week.

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

**CHAMBER**

Continued from Page 1

"This is a great way for people who are just moving here to learn about the community and it's also a great way for those residents who have lived here a long time to build their knowledge about Big Spring," Chamber Executive Director Debbye

ValVerde said.

Registration is \$600 for non-chamber members and \$400 for chamber members. Businesses and individuals throughout the community are able to take part in the class.

For more information, contact the chamber at 263-7641 or stop by the

office at 215 W. Third.

Contact 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.

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Staff Writer

**Thomas Jenkins**  
Staff Writer

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# Recovering light bulb hoarder

I have a horrible confession to make. I'm an environmentalist who's been hoarding old incandescent light bulbs before they become illegal in January. But it was all unnecessary, so I learn.

In 2007, Congress passed a law (signed by President George W. Bush) requiring that light bulbs be 70 percent more efficient by 2020. The tea party opposes all laws that force energy conservation on the public. (I like them.)

My objection to the squiggly "energy savers" is purely aesthetic. I can't stand the way they look.

Anyhow, the right-wingers are hollering that the meanies in Washington are banning the incandescent bulb that Great Grandpa used to light the milking shed. Now, they add, we'll all go mad trying to complete our 30-page tax returns under efficient bulbs that flicker.

Rep. Michele Bachmann remarked, "I think Thomas Edison did a pretty patriotic thing for this country by inventing the light bulb." Quite open-minded of Bachmann to so highly praise the man who said, "Religion is all bunk."

I do use funny-looking compact florescent bulbs in the laundry room, where their raw illumination keeps me from tripping over the giant box of Tide. Nice, older light bulbs go everywhere else.

Hence, my secret stockpiling. Then I heard a voice from the Natural Resources Defense

Council. "The big news is that you don't have to do that," Jim Presswood, the NRDC's federal energy policy director, informed me over the phone.

Pray tell. Firstly, it is not true that the law bans incandescent bulbs. It just requires that they become more energy efficient. In fact, General Electric, Philips and Sylvania already sell incandescent bulbs that meet the new standards, while producing light and color similar to the old 100-watt bulb. (And the new squiggles flicker far less than they used to.) Meanwhile, light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs can make light equivalent to the old 60-watt bulbs while using only 12 watts.

GE makes one that looks like the bulbs piled up in my back closet.

And the expense? At \$1.50, an incandescent Philips EcoVantage bulb costs about \$1 more than the old-fashioned kind. Both typically last 18 months. But, Presswood explains, the EcoVantage's energy savings make up that price difference in seven months. "The rest of the time, you're making money."

Speed the day, I said. When fully implemented in 2020, the new lighting efficiency standards should shave \$85 off the average American household's annual electric bill. The national energy savings would total \$12.5 billion a year and eliminate the need for 30 new large power plants.

So where's the problem? In Congress. House Republicans just tried to overturn the new energy standards but lacked the needed two-thirds majority. However, their amendment to the Energy and Water Appro-

priations Bill to deny the money for enforcing the law passed in a simple majority voice vote.

Texas, meanwhile, voted to exempt any light bulb made and sold in the state from the federal law. The courts may have another idea. But to any Texan who wants to make inefficient light bulbs that cost consumers more money, I say, "Knock yourself out."

Republicans fancy themselves business's protector from changing regulations. Well, the big bulb manufacturers have already retooled their factories to meet the law's requirements, and now Republicans want to pull the rug out.

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association has issued a statement complaining that repeal of the standards "would strand millions of dollars in investments, provide a marketplace advantage to companies who have not made similar investments, create regulatory uncertainty, and increase energy consumption in the United States."

Don't blame me. I'm a recovering light-bulb hoarder. May other Americans see the same light.

*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](http://www.creators.com).*

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# Never trust anything from a gang

The vaunted budget plan from the "Gang of Six" is said to be growing in popularity, but all you need to know to oppose the plan is that a "gang" is behind it. Also, President Obama and Sen. Dick Durbin both support it. But let's not stop there.

We all know the major drivers of this careening national debt train are entitlement programs, yet this plan proposes no real structural reforms. Now don't tell me this is rocket science. It doesn't take years to come up with a plan to restructure entitlements, yet the president and the Democratic obstructers in Congress continue to apply nonstick bandages instead of major remodeling.

Rep. Paul Ryan has already offered a very feasible plan; it's already there, and it's specific. Instead of lauding Ryan for doing his homework and exhibiting the courage to craft and offer a real solution, they demagogue and excoriate him.

The Democrats want to continue to put off entitlement reform and real spending cuts while demanding immediate tax increases because that's where their hearts are. If they were genuinely amenable to entitlement reform, they'd be embracing Ryan now instead of giving us empty promises for future action.

Indeed, the Six-pack promises that its plan includes \$1.5 trillion in tax relief. But look behind the curtains where the tax wizards lurk. The Heritage Foundation tells us that the bill would generate an additional \$1 trillion in revenue, plus \$133 billion for the Highway Trust Fund. (Can these people ever pass a bill without larding it up with new spending? Can we ever forgo a project for the sake of saving the nation?)

The plan would also legislate the Bush tax cuts out of existence, which would increase

taxes an additional \$3.8 trillion. The upshot is that taxes would increase almost \$5 trillion and decrease by \$1.5 trillion (according to some), which means we'd be facing nearly \$3.5 trillion in net new taxes in the middle of a flagging economy.

Has Congress ever used increased revenues to retire debt? Don't make us laugh. They are always a license for more spending; always!

Unlike Ryan's plan but much like President Obama's series of unserious and nonspecific budget plans (they're more like vague letters of intent), the Six-pack's plan provides no spending targets, in actual dollars or as a percentage of gross domestic product. Just as with Obama's stimulus plan, there are no guideposts against which to measure its success or to ensure accountability.

But even the spending cuts it does promise over 10 years, between \$1.5 trillion and \$2.5 trillion (there's not even a consensus on what the plan would provide), are minuscule next to the government's projected spending of \$46 trillion over the next decade.

Even the so-called budget cuts we've lionized throughout the various continuing resolution debates have ended up being net increases because Congress insists on defining spending cuts not as actual cuts, but as decreases in the rate of spending increases.

The plan is also vague in establishing savings targets for Medicare and Medicaid instead of specifics — other than a promise to delegate their definition to yet another committee.

And did you know that the plan not only doesn't give us any details on how it would make Social Security solvent over 75 years but also defers addressing the issue until Phase One of the bill passes the Senate. Even more ominous is the proviso that if the Social Security reform aspect is not ultimately passed, the entire deficit reduction plan becomes a dead letter. Why couldn't Obamacare have had such a glorious provision?

As you might expect from any plan liberal Democrats embrace, this would make our already progressive tax code more progressive. The plan aspires to retaining the code's progressivity or enhancing it. Cato Institute's Dan Mitchell calls it the "progressivity mandate," which "implies very bad things for the double taxation of dividends and capital gains." It apparently targets IRAs and 401(k)s.

While most Americans are worried about reducing our national debt and getting America back to work again, Democrats (and a handful of collaborators in the GOP) are busy ginning up more class warfare and stoking the flames of envy rather than inspiring Americans to contribute to and help enlarge the production pie.

Much of this seems complicated, but when you boil it down, all you need to understand is that we need real spending cuts and caps, not decreases in the rates of spending hikes, real structural entitlement reform, not mere feckless, meaningless tweaking, and growth-oriented tax policies.

The Gang of Six's plan fails to meaningfully satisfy any of those requisites and would ensure our continued path to fiscal destruction. Why can't these people embrace Ryan's plan? Why?

But no big deal. Without real reform, our national debt will only be larger than our entire economy within a decade. Not to worry: Before this column is printed, they'll have something new for us to consider.

*David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction for its first two weeks. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at [www.DavidLimbaugh.com](http://www.DavidLimbaugh.com). To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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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](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com).
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
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- 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](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com)

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We are at our best, Lord, when we trust in You.

Amen

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### What's the Difference?

There are five things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. Fork is turned the other way 2. Chef hat is bigger 3. Background square missing 4. Not wearing apron 5. Larger flame

### THIS DAY IN...



### HISTORY

- 1946: THE U.S. TESTS THE FIRST UNDERWATER ATOMIC BOMB. THE TEST TAKES PLACE AT BIKINI ATOLL.
- 1978: LOUISE BROWN, THE WORLD'S FIRST "TEST TUBE BABY," IS BORN.
- 2000: AIR FRANCE FLIGHT 4590, A CONCORDE PASSENGER JET, CRASHES AFTER TAKEOFF NEAR PARIS.



IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS TYPE OF COOKING — OVER AN OPEN FLAME — ORIGINATED IN THE CARRIBBEAN.

ANSWER: BARBECUE



char

partially burn to blacken the surface

### How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Cook

**SPANISH:** Cocinero

**ITALIAN:** Cuoco

**FRENCH:** Cuisinier

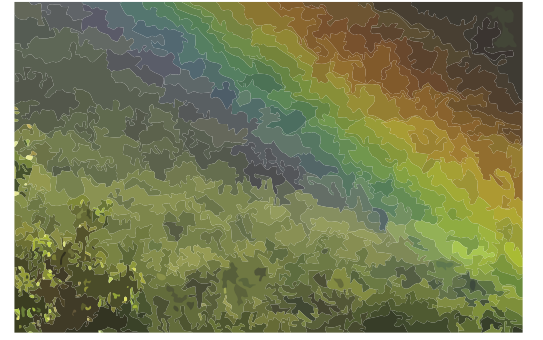
**GERMAN:** Koch

### Did You Know?

BARBECUE GRILLS SHOULD BE KEPT AT A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE HOME AND SHOULD NEVER BE USED INDOORS.



### GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: RAINBOW

### SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

### BY BOB WEBER JR.

One of these bad birds snatched a lunch basket from the Bunnys' beach blanket. The thief did not leave any foot-prints in the sand to analyze for evidence. Which suspect does Slylock Fox think is guilty?

Solution -- Since the crow is the only suspect that can fly, Slylock thinks he swooped from the air, snatched the lunch basket, and flapped away without ever walking on the sand.

**HOW TO DRAW** a girl reading *WEBER 7-24*

**YOUR DRAWING**  
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Submit your drawings to [www.kidcartoonists.com](http://www.kidcartoonists.com)

Find six differences between these panels.

Answer -- Wood chip, tree, hat, belt loop, beaver and bird

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

# Once upon a midnight dreary ...

In the silence of the early morning, it continued its walk down deserted streets. A gust of wind passing through an intersection ruffled its feathers. As it traveled into a residential neighborhood, the first sounds of an awakening day caused it to stop in the middle of the road.

Ever vigilant, it scanned the lawns and driveways for any movement. Finding

none, it flapped its wings several times.



**BIRD POOP**  
BEBE  
MCCASLAND

Near the curb something moved. After quickly grabbing and swallowing its first morsel of the day, it chose the center

of the paved surface again before continuing its journey.

When a front door suddenly opened and a man started walking toward something in his front yard, it stopped again.

After seeing the slender, gray object being approached by the man, it watched as he stooped to grab it from the grass.

In another second, they noticed each other. With his newspaper in hand, the homeowner was startled to see the large, black bird as a morning visitor. Since he then turned and entered his house, the scavenger continued its walk.

Watching from a window, the man wondered if the raven was injured. Having seen this type of bird in the mountainous portions of the state, he felt something was wrong for it to be walking in a city located in the flat lands of New Mexico.

Deciding to follow it, the man enlisted his wife's help in calling others to join them in its capture.

Soon, several homeowners were aligned in narrowing the bird's movements.

With college students home for the summer, and more fleet of foot, the neighborhood effort was soon accomplished in overtaking the wandering raven.

Its inability to take flight had been the convincing argument.

The man's call notifying us that he would be bringing a raven from Hobbs caused some concern.

Crossing state lines with wildlife could result in possible legal action against the possessor.

The completion of my application for a federal license years before had required the states from



Courtesy photo

Often called an American raven, the Common raven is the largest member of the crow family. Its diet includes carrion, small rodents, frogs, fish, lizards, insects, snakes, berries and the eggs and young of songbird families.

which I could expect to receive birds. New Mexico and Oklahoma, in addition to Texas, were listed as most probable.

"If you are stopped by any law enforcement, tell them to contact us." Our federal and state license numbers, and the fact that we were the closest rehabbers, were readily available.

In a matter of hours, the man was unloading a carrier from his vehicle parked in our driveway.

Protesting the event was the familiar croaking voice of a raven.

Low in pitch and hoarse in tone, its guttural verbiage was almost comical.

Extracted from the container, the bird proceeded to exhibit its four-foot wingspan. Dodging its finger-like primaries was an effort.

In the sunlight, a purple and violet sheen enhanced its all-black feathers.

Turned slightly, the metallic image appeared suddenly to have a greenish tinge.

Slightly curved was its long, thick bill that was also black.

Bristly feathers lapped over the start of its bill to hide rather large nostrils.

Using my index finger to ruffle its hidden neck feathers indicated it was definitely a Common raven rather than a Chihuahuan raven. In the Common, the feathers are gray, while in the Chihuahuan they are white.

Another distinction is the larger and heavier Common in comparison to the smaller and lighter Chihuahuan.

While this raven was usually found more in mountainous terrain, the latter favored open rangeland and deserts.

Healthy, with good body weight, the raven had no signs of injury or fractures.

Knowing its penchant for flying antics, we felt there was the possibility of its having flown into something.

In the air, it could mimic the abilities of hawks and falcons.

To catch thermals,

rise in circles, and soar was well known. Hovering and diving were also attributes.

However, its playful didoes of tumbling, twisting, and even flying upside down may have resulted in a soft tissue injury, or bruising of the outer edge of a wing.

Earthbound for several days, it would have been extremely vulnerable.

Having watched its dignified strolls in our garage, we knew its stay at South Plains in Lubbock would be brief, but entertaining. Calling the thoughtful man who had insured the raven's success, I shared news of its release.

Encouraged by its recovery, he shared one last glimpse of its personality. "It walked down my street as if it owned it!"

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



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- **\$10 Entry Fee** (Donated to Howard Co. Volunteer Fire Department)
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- **No Food Can Be Sold Without City Permit**
- **All Booths Required To Provide A Donation Jar For Howard Co. Volunteer Fire Department**

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223558

# Rangers embarrass Twins 20-5

ARLINGTON, (AP) — The Texas Rangers put on an offensive display — scoring early and often in baseball's biggest outburst this season. They hit their line drives over the fence. Lazy fly balls fell where outfielders weren't. They beat out infield hits and benefited from three errors by the Minnesota Twins.

When the carnage was over Monday night, the Rangers had routed the Minnesota Twins, 20-6, putting up the most runs in a game by any

team this season.

In the process, the Rangers accomplished a feat done only two other times in 111 years by scoring in at least three runs in each of the first five innings.

"The first five innings looked like a ZIP code, that will tell you how it went ... 33354," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "I think that's Florida ... Fort Lauderdale."

It happened to Texas 20 years ago when the Oakland Athletics beat them 19-5. Philadelphia

also did it against Pittsburgh way back in 1900, according to information provided by the Rangers from the Elias Sports Bureau.

"Everything went right for us," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "We put some runs on the board and kept coming. We showed what we're about."

Things were so out of control for the Twins that Michael Cuddyer became the first Minnesota position player to pitch since 1990.

Ian Kinsler homered

and drove in four runs as the Rangers pounded out the most runs and hits in the majors this season.

"It was probably the worst I've had here as a manager as far as runs scored against us," said Gardenhire, the Twins' skipper since 2002.

With his team trailing 20-5, Cuddyer moved from right field to the mound to pitch the eighth. He gave up a double to Mike Napoli, a bloop single to Mitch Moreland, and walked Kinsler with one out to

load the bases.

But Cuddyer retired Elvis Andrus on a fly ball, and David Murphy on a pop-up for a scoreless inning.

"It was fun out there," Cuddyer said. "I got to work through some trouble. I threw sinkers, a cutter, one curve and three changeups. ... Fortunately I was able to keep the ball in the ballpark."

The last Twins position player to pitch was outfielder John Moses against California on July 31, 1990.

Gardenhire said Cuddyer, who pitched in high school, has been lobbying for a chance to take the mound in a blowout game. He's now played every position in the majors except catcher and shortstop.

"I had to put somebody out there and he would have killed me if I would have put anybody else out there," said Gardenhire, who had used five pitchers before Cuddyer and wanted to save a few relievers for Tuesday

See **ROUT**, Page 12

## Briefs

### Steers football equipment fitting

Equipment fitting for the Steers football players has been announced.

Juniors will be fitted Monday and Tuesday, July 25-26 at 9 a.m.

Sophomores will be fitted Wednesday and Thursday, July 27-28 at 9 a.m.

Freshmen will be fitted Thursday and Friday, July 28-29 at 9 a.m.

### 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.

### Football, cheerleading signups start Saturday

Sign-ups for CYFA's youth football and cheerleading signups will be held Saturdays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. 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 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.

### Flag football workers needed

Anyone interested in heading up or helping run the Big Spring area NFL Flag Football League, please call or text 432-213-7186. This is a coed flag football league that is run in conjunction with the NFL.

### Climb to the top handicap bowling tournament Aug. 28

Bowl-A-Rama is hosting a bowling tournament with a \$600 guaranteed first place prize. The tournament, which will take place at 1 p.m. Aug. 28, is open to the first 24 bowlers with an average of 199 or less. Entry fee is \$60 and must be received by 6 p.m. Aug 25.

For additional information, contact Greg Clarke at 432-264-6480 or John and Diana Dodd at 432-267-7484. Further information can be obtained on Bowl-A-Rama's website. Simply go to [www.big-springbowlarama.com](http://www.big-springbowlarama.com)

# NFL lockout finally over

WASHINGTON (AP) — Let's talk Peyton Manning touchdown passes, not antitrust lawsuits.

Let's talk Troy Polamalu interceptions, not court interventions.

And let's talk football, not lockout.

Finally, 4½ months after the NFL's first work stoppage in 24 years, Commissioner Roger Goodell could say the words fans awaited: "Football's back."

With a frenzy.

Goodell and NFL Players Association head DeMaurice Smith both used that phrase Monday while announcing

their agreement on a 10-year deal to end the lockout that began in March.

Players can report to team facilities on Tuesday for physicals, meetings and to pick up playbooks. Training camps begin on Wednesday for 10 teams, with the other 22 starting workouts throughout the rest of the week.

"As a fan of the game, I'm pleased the two sides have reached a deal and, as a professional, I want to get back to work," Manning said.

There's tons of work

See **NFL**, Page 12

# Grand slam can't help Astros win

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The Houston Astros' cleanup hitter is starting to act the part.

Carlos Lee made things interesting with his 16th career grand slam, homering for the second straight game in a 10-5 loss to the St. Louis Cardinals on Monday night. Lee has a dozen seasons with 24 or more homers but has only nine this year, but is 10-for-25 with nine RBIs the last seven games.

"I'm feeling good at the plate, hitting the ball hard," Lee said. "I hope I'm coming around and can keep driving the ball."

The Astros trailed 8-1 before Lee connected in the eighth off P.J. Walters, cutting the gap to three runs before St. Louis answered with two runs. He's tied for ninth on the career list with Babe Ruth, Hank Aaron and Dave Kingman and second on the active list, trailing only Alex Rodriguez' 21.

Since hitting .194 in April, Lee is batting .313 with seven homers and 42 RBIs in 70 games.

"It was great to see it," manager Brad Mills said. "He kept battling the whole at-bat."

Lee is 2-for-2 against Walters, both grand slams, also connecting on July 21, 2009 in Houston.

"I didn't know that. For real?" Lee said. "That's crazy, but that's the game."

Slow-footed catcher Yadier Molina was a triple shy of the cycle

for the second time in three games and Kyle McClellan ended an eight-game victory drought for the Cardinals.

The Astros' Hunter Pence suffered his second fielding gaffe in as many games, handing Nick Punto a gift RBI triple in the second after misjudging a routine fly, appearing to lose the ball in lights and then stumbling. It wasn't clear whether new turf, replaced after a U2 concert eight days earlier, played a role.

"We'll deal with it," Mills said. "We're not thrilled with it. You want the sure footing and so forth, but it wasn't there. And it cost us a little bit."

Pence said he wasn't worried about footing "until I fell down and then I was rather uncomfortable."

He ran several steps after making a running catch for the second out in the eighth, leading some to believe he had thought the inning was over.

"I didn't want to stop very quickly," Pence said.

Colby Rasmus, the Cardinals' player mentioned most in rumors heading into the trade deadline, homered for the second straight day with three RBIs.

Molina has three career triples in 897 career at-bats and missed his only shot for the cycle when he took a called third strike from Mark Melancon in the eighth.

He's 6-for-12 with two homers and five RBIs his last three games and his eighth homer, matching his career single-season best from 2005, came in the fourth off J.A. Happ (4-12).

McClellan (7-6) was the first National League pitcher to get to six victories after working eight strong innings in a 4-2 victory over the Astros at home on May 19 and finally made it to No. 7 after working seven strong innings. The right-hander had been 0-4 with a 5.48 ERA the previous seven starts, all St. Louis losses.

The first-year starter allowed one run on six hits and walked none and has won all three of his outings against the Astros.

Happ surrendered five or more runs for the sixth straight start, and has given up five or more runs in half of his eight career starts against the Cardinals. He's also 1-7 with a 8.02 ERA on the road this season.

Pence leads the National League with nine assists and was the Astros' lone All-Star, but has struggled lately.

On Sunday, Pence said he was blinded by the sun on Marlon Byrd's leadoff triple, which should have been a routine play, in the 10th inning of the Cubs' 5-4 victory. He came in on Punto's fly ball, then appeared blinded by lights on a hit that put St. Louis up 2-1.

In the eighth, Pence

apparently believed he had caught Ryan Theriot's fly ball for the third out, running several steps before finally throwing late to third as Punto took the extra base.

Punto scored on what appeared to be a busted squeeze play, and was halfway down the line when McClellan swung away and grounded out to second for an RBI that made it 3-1.

The Astros lost four in a row and are a major-league worst 33-69, going 10-35 since June 2. A bright spot was rookie Jose Altuve, who had three hits and has hit safely in all five career starts.

The 21-year-old Altuve began the year at Class A Lancaster and at the time of his callup led all minor leaguers with a .389 average.

Notes: Walters had not allowed a hit in 3 2/3 innings before Monday, when he gave up three hits and four runs in one-third of an inning.

Cardinals 3B David Freese, who has complained of leg tightness in recent games, was removed for a pinch runner after walking in the fifth.

Bourn singled in the eighth and is 19-for-47 during a 10-game hitting streak. He entered with 64 hits since June 1, most in the majors over that span.

Lee hit his first grand slam since June 9, 2010 at Colorado and it was the Astros' first since Jason Michaels.

*Big Spring Football and volleyball two-a-days start Monday, Aug. 1*

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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## Announcements

**✓ Check this one!**

**New Pastor/ Minister** looking for a House to **Rent**. Prefer to be in Forsan or Big Spring School District. Need 4-5 bedrooms, 2 baths and garage. Have Good References. Call Michelle (469)247-4458.

## Cemetery Lots

**SAVESH MONUMENTS/Markers.** The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

**SAVESH CEMETERY** Lots. Pay-outs welcome. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

**TRINITY MEMORIAL Park**- Garden of Bethany- Lot 240, 4 spaces. Call (512)330-0045.

## Help Wanted

**AAA TUBING TESTING** now hiring. Good Benefits. Prefer CDL, need Operator & Derrick Hand. Call Jesse (432)267-7821.

**AMERICAN TRUCK & Equipment** Painting is looking for Experienced Sandblasters. Pay starting at \$12.50. 100% Employer paid Blue Cross & Blue Shield Insurance. Call (432)756-3388 or apply in person at 3262 East I-20, Stanton, Tx.

**BIG SPRING Country Club** needs experienced Baker and Salad Preps for day and evening shifts. Apply in person, No phone calls.

**BLUE BELL Creameries** is seeking a responsible, dependable Full Time Shipping Clerk. Position involves physically working with ice cream products in a cold environment. Must be 18 years old and have reliable transportation. No experience necessary, we will train. We offer competitive pay and great benefits. Apply in person at: Workforce Solutions; 601 S. Main St., Ste 235 (2nd Floor - Post Office).

**COCKTAIL WAITRESSES.** Outgoing & Enthusiastic? No experience necessary. Must be 18 or older. Call 432-213-0946 for application, San Franciscan Bar & Grill.

## Help Wanted

**COASTAL TRANSPORT** is seeking **Owner-operators** with a Class A CDL. Must be 23 years, X endorsement with 1 year experience. **For More Information, Call 888-527-7221 between 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday.**

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We now have a  
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We are now hiring drivers to deliver petroleum products in and around the Permian Basin. Qualifications:  
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\*Scheduled Days Off  
\*Home Everyday  
Please contact  
1-888-527-7221

**CROSSROADS HOSPICE** is hiring for the position of CNA - PRN/Pt Time. Bilingual a plus! Hospice experience preferred. Come by 421 S Main St. (EOE).

**DAY'S INN** needs Housekeeping person. Apply at Front Office @ 2701 South Gregg Street.

**TOP JOBS**

**DUE TO** the continued trust being placed in our staff by Big Spring residents & physicians, Crossroads Hospice is hiring for the position of RN/LVN full-time. We will gladly train the candidate who is selected for this position to OUR STANDARD OF CARE. Bilingual a plus.

Please fax your resume to  
Debbie Read  
(432)263-5304  
or come by the office.

**EXPERIENCED Cook** needed for day and evening shift. Apply in person at Big Spring Country Club. No phone calls please.

**EXPERIENCED WAIT-STAFF** needed for day and evening shift. Apply in person at Big Spring Country Club. No phone calls please, previous applicants need not apply.

## Help Wanted

**FARM HAND** Wanted! Experience only apply. \$550.00 Weekly plus Bonus. Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

**Great Horn Carriers, Inc.**  
Tanker Driver Needed

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Class A CDL with Haz-Mat 2 years Fuel Hauling Preferred Local Hauling, No Nights. \$500.00 Sign-On Bonus, Good Pay with Benefits  
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Join **BUSY BEE'S** professional cleaning team! Enjoy an independent work environment and \$10/hr. We provide paid training, all necessary supplies and uniform. Must have own transportation and speak English. All cleaners are drug tested and background checked. Bonded and insured. Call J. Williams Management at 432-699-2090 M-F 8-4.

**LOOKING FOR Welders.** Must be dependable, experienced, and able to work on weekends. Call 432-816-4688 to find out more.

**MOVIE EXTRAS.** Earn up to \$250 per day. To stand in the backgrounds for a major film production experience not required. All looks needed. 888-664-6320.

**NEED CDL Driver- Home** Nightly, Local Run, Part-time or Full-time and Shop hand with preferred construction experience. Call (432)267-4700.

**NEED IMMEDIATELY Diesel** Mechanic. Salary negotiable. Must pass drug test. Call (432)394-4161.

**NEED TRANSPORT/BOBTAIL** Driver for fuel deliveries. Excellent Starting Salary all full medical benefits paid, retirement plan, vacation and sick leave. Must have CDL & good driving record. Come by 1st & Johnson, Park Fuels/ Chevron, Big Spring. (432)263-0033.

**NOW HIRING** full-time/part time employees at WES-T-GO. Apply in person, 1800 Gregg.

**PIZZA INN**  
NOW HIRING DELIVERY DRIVERS. MUST HAVE CLEAN DRIVING RECORD AND INSURANCE. MUST BE ABLE TO PASS DRUG TEST. MAKE UP TO \$12.00 PER HOUR. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

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

**Diesel Mechanic**  
Responsible for maintaining and repairing district equipment including mechanical and electrical repair of all vehicles and heavy equipment.  
CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, sick, vacation and holiday leave.  
Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432)267-6341 or www.crmwd.org

**SHELL STAR STOP** looking for new team members. Full & Part time employees needed. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Spring. Drug Free Environment.

## Help Wanted

**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.

**TOP JOBS**

**SCHOOL BUS** Drivers needed. Must have CDL with Passenger and School Bus Endorsements. Competitive pay. Fill out application online at bsisd.esc18.net For further info please call (432)264-4108.

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

**Physical Requirements:** Must be in general good health and vision must be correctable to 20/30 (SNELLEN) in one eye. The ability to distinguish basic colors is required. Emotional and mental stability is required.

**Other Requirements:** Must be able to pass State and Federal Backgrounds and Credit Checks.

**Experience Requirements:** One year (2040) hours of experience in the armed forces or coast guard which involved significant performance of guard duty of detainees or prisoners; or the equivalent experience in a federal, state, or local government, or private organization which involved protecting/police duties, or college level training in courses such as corrections or police science may be substituted for experience at the ratio of two hours of instructions for one hour of experience.  
Apply at Workforce Center (in the Post Office), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

**SEEKING 2** mature individuals for Direct Care Work to provide services for individuals with Intellectual Disabilities. Must be able to work various shifts with the exception of overnights. Must be willing to work weekends. Must have valid texas drivers license. Great opportunity for mature retired individual who may want to supplement their income. For more information, please contact Teresa @ 432-263-1408 or come by 1315 South Baylor Blvd.

**SEEKING ACCOUNTING** Clerk- 1yr. accounting experience or equivalent education required. QuickBooks experience a plus. M-F 8-5. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental ins. 100% paid! EOE. Apply in person at 9400 S. Service Rd, Coahoma, TX, or call 432-394-4604.

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## Real Estate for Rent

**FOR RENT** large 1 bedroom, 1503 Scurry-B. All bills paid. \$575. month, \$500. deposit. Call (432)212-3646.

**1802 HAMILTON,** 3bdr/1bath, no pets. 432-517-0025 or 517-0640.

**408 WEST 5TH.** Furnished Efficiency Apartment. Bills Paid. \$390. month, \$200. deposit. Sorry No Pets. Call (432)263-4922 or 213-2531.

**BUILDING FOR rent @ 1307** Gregg Street (former Dibrell's Gunshop). \$450 per month and 1 year lease. Contact Lucy @ 432-263-5000.

**BUILDING FOR rent @ 1309** Gregg Street. Busy Gregg Street location with plenty of parking. 4 offices, reception & kitchen area, plus storage room. \$1500 per month and 1 year lease required. Contact Lucy @ 432-263-5000 for more information.

**BUY/ RENT 2 thru 6** bdrm Homes, 24Hr. maintenance, Central Heat/Air, Pool, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, Washer/dryer connections, also 1 & 2 bdrm Apts, available, (432)263-3461-Rosa.

**DOWNTOWN LOFT** for Rent. \$1300.00 month, 1 year lease required. No pets. Call (432)263-6514 Owner/Broker

**HOUSE WANTED: Professional couple seek to rent nice 2-3 bedroom home, acreage preferred and allow indoor mature cat. Lease to buy a plus. (717)580-8035.**

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**LARGE---** 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage and workshop on 1 acre. Coahoma ISD. 6109 Walker Rd. Call 432-816-6316.

**OWNER FINANCE-** 4 Bdrm, 1 Bath. New paint & flooring, New AC.. Nice neighborhood. Move in ready. 4207 Dixon. \$55K. Please call 325-277-4923.

**OWNER WILL** Finance. Remodeled 1304 Johnson St., 3 bdrm, 2 bath. \$2000. down, \$500.00 month. Call Patience (432)349-5242.

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## Legals

## CITY OF BIG SPRING

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
THE BIG SPRING CITY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:30 P.M., THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2011 IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 307 EAST 4TH, BIG SPRING, TEXAS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:  
ZONE CHANGE: 3618 S. SERVICE ROAD DESCRIBED AS 3.85 ACRES OUT OF THE N/S OF SECTION 46, BLOCK 32, 1-N, HOWARD COUNTY, BIG SPRING, TEXAS, FROM AGRICULTURE (A) TO HEAVY COMMERCIAL (HC).  
#7063 July 26, 2011

## ATTENTION

## THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

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

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<p><b>CLASSES</b></p> <p><b>ArmedForFreedom.Com Texas Concealed Handgun Classes</b></p> <p>"Repeat that (welfare) law, and you will soon see a change in their manners. St. Monday and St. Tuesday, will soon cease to be holidays. Six days shalt thou labor, though one of the old commandments long treated as our date, will again be looked upon as a respectable precept; industry will increase, and with it plenty among the lower people; their circumstances will mend, and more will be done for their happiness by insuring them to provide for their estates, than could be done by dividing all your estates among them."</p> <p>- Benjamin Franklin, letter to Collinson, 1753</p>	<p><b>ELECTRICAL</b></p> <p><b>CROSS ROADS ELECTRIC</b></p> <p>Richard Moren Master Electrician License #173630</p> <p>Texas Electrical Contractor License #25496 Phone: (432) 264-6261</p>	<p><b>FENCE</b></p> <p><b>J.T. West Texas Fence &amp; Welding</b> Garden City, Texas</p> <p>Wood Fence • Metal Fence Pipe Fence • Pipe Corrals Barbed Wire Fence • Net Wire Fence Free Estimates</p> <p>Home (432) 354-2513 Cell: (432) 466-1715 Big Spring (423) 263-4858 Sterling City (325) 378-3077</p>	<p><b>FENCES</b></p> <p><b>Quality Fence Co.</b> Jimmy Marquez-Owner</p> <p>Finest In Fencing</p> <p>Wood &amp; Chainlink</p> <p>Free Estimates <b>432-267-3349</b></p>	<p><b>FENCES</b></p> <p><b>B &amp; M Fence Co.</b> VOTED BEST IN BIG SPRING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential • Commercial</li> <li>• Chain Link • Metal</li> <li>• Cedar • Dog Kennels</li> </ul> <p>Now Accepting VISA MasterCard Discover</p> <p>You Choose Your Payment Plan!!</p> <p>Free Estimates</p> <p>Get Our Price &amp; Compare</p> <p><b>Robert Marquez - Owner</b> 263-1613 1-800-525-1389 101 NW 2nd St. Big Spring, TX</p>	<p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p><b>Trying To Get Rid Of Unwanted Items</b></p> <p><b>CALL 263-7331</b> Herald Classifieds</p> <p><b>HERALD</b></p>	
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Leo sun wants to put a happy spin on life, and the Gemini moon provides strong evidence that this is how it always should be.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You may have so much deskwork to do that exercising your body seems like something that could only happen in your fantasy life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The people in your environment now may not be related, but they sure act as though they are.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Many people witness the same event, and each one will remember it differently.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sometimes you're happier observing the goings on instead of participating in them.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll encounter someone who wants to stand over your shoulder and comment on everything you do.

or her annoying ways, you will find that this person actually has valid input.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You have stories to tell about the memorable events of the past four months.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're a master at conflict resolution — in theory. It's easy to see what others need to do in order to get along.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be in the mood to do an inventory of your material possessions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Many people never dream of far-off places, preferring to stick close to all that is known of the world.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have a talent for managing a large group. You might even be in charge of feeding a crowd in the near future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Delving into the far reaches of your material possessions will reconnect you with your past.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You strive to create an atmosphere of ease around you. You are very perceptive now, too.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

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...

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My son and I, on pretty substantial evidence, believe that my grandson is not only doing drugs but selling them...

My grandson is 19. His father threw him out of the house, and he left without taking any clothes or other belongings.

These are both loved children who went to a religious grade school. But once they attended a public high school, somehow things went terribly wrong.

Dear Grandmother: Please don't blame the high school. Plenty of kids attend public schools, and they don't turn out like your grandson.

There's not much you can do about a legal adult who no longer lives at home. His parents can report his drug and sex-trade business to the police if they so choose.

Your granddaughter, however, should continue with her counseling. She may wish to press charges against her brother.

Dear Annie: We recently received a wedding invitation for a relative on my wife's side, and it was addressed to "The Smith Family."

Besides the two children we have together, I have teenage children from my first marriage. Is it safe to assume they are included as guests?

Dear Just: If the teenage children live with you, chances are they are included.

But it's never safe to make assumptions like these. Call the bride's family and ask.

Dear Annie: "Help" said his adult daughter and wife were "enmeshed" and he was tired of the daughter's never-ending phone calls.

Maybe that was the best response, but shouldn't there be some limit to the time one's spouse spends talking on the phone...

My wife, "Doris," is close to her mother and sister — too close if you ask me. They both call multiple times a day, and Doris never fails to answer.

I can't tell you how many conversations, family dinners, vacations, walks and, yes, lovemaking sessions have been spoiled by incoming phone calls.

I've proposed every compromise I can think of, but realized long ago that nothing was going to change. Doris is the sweetest person I know...

Dear Always: It's too bad Doris doesn't realize the damage she has done to your relationship. Show her this letter — or better yet, call her.

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Contract Bridge advertisement by Steve Becker. Includes title 'The Prime Directive', bidding information, and a short article about the 'prime directive' in political novels.

Sudoku puzzle advertisement. Includes the word 'sudoku', instructions on how to play, a 9x9 grid with some numbers filled in, and the website www.sudoku-puzzles.net.

Businesses & Services advertisement. Features the text '\$55.60 Per Month' and 'Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!' along with logos for Visa, MasterCard, and Discover/Novus.

Subscription advertisement for the Big Spring Herald. Promotes 'Award Winning Local News & Hard Hitting Crossroads Sports' and offers 'GET HOME DELIVERY TODAY!!!'

B&B House Leveling & Foundation Repair advertisement. Features a photo of Rick Burrow, a BBB A+ rating, and lists services like 'Repairs on Solid Slab, Pier & Beam Foundations'.

UPS & FedEx Shipping advertisement. States 'Now Available At The Big Spring Herald 710 Scurry'.

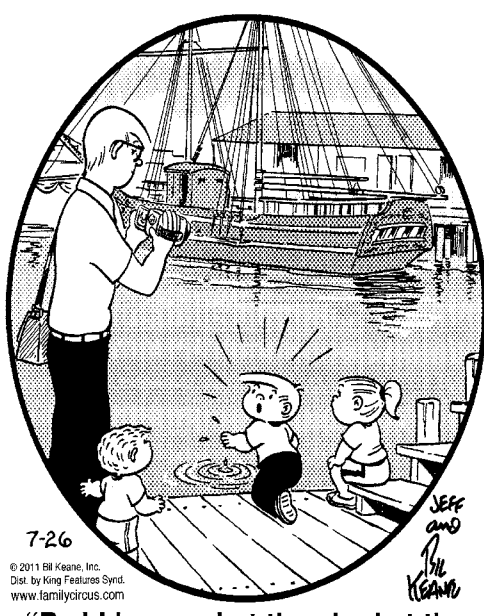
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM :30	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez News	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	King	Scrivner Uri Harel	News Business	70s Show	Deadliest Catch	Beckinsale	Ways Die	Law & Order	Live	Phineas Good	SportsNation	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me Wheel	Two Men	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	King	McDonald	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Deadliest Catch		Auction	Law & Order		Phineas	Football	E:60
7:PM :30	Wipeout	Teresa (SS)	Hell's Kitchen	Ent	NCIS (DVS)	MI Corazon Insiste	Office	Upd	History Detectives	Seinfeld	Alewine		Auction	Rizzoli & Isles	Movie: A Few Good Men, Demi Moore	Phineas	NFL Live	World, Poker
8:PM :30	Game Show	Triunfo del Amor	MasterChef	NCIS: Los Angeles	Decisions Extr	America's Got Talent	Office	Cortes	Frontline	Shedding for	Deadliest Catch		Auction	Memphis Beat	Movie: Madea's Family Reunion, Lynn Whitfield	Good Soccer: Juventus vs. United States.	World, Poker	
9:PM :30	Combat Hospital	Aqui y Ahora (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	48 Hours Mystery	La Casa de al Lado		Office	Upd	POV	Payne Browns	Deadliest Catch		Auction	Hawthorne	Fa. Affair	Good	SportsNation	Baseball Tonight
10:PM :30	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Brad New	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	Deadliest Catch	Movie: A Few Good Men, Demi Moore	Repo	Memphis Beat	The Mo'Nique	Phineas	E:60	SportsCenter
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisions (SS)	Late Night	Lopez Tonight	Ministerio-Vida	T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk	Deadliest Catch		Ways Die	Hawthorne	Wendy Williams	Wizards	World, Poker	Baseball
12:AM :30	Extra	Destilando Amor	Paid	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd		South Pk	Deadliest Catch		Ways Die	Hawthorne	Wendy Williams	Wizards	World, Poker	Baseball
1:AM :30	Paid	Mujer	King-Hill	Ent	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez Tonight	Upd		South Pk	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Screwed, Florida State	MAN	Franklin & Bash	Movie: Madea's Family Reunion, Lynn Whitfield	Hannah	World, Poker	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



"MY, MY, DENNIS IS GROWING LIKE A WEED." "YEP, AND HE'S ABOUT AS WANTED, TOO."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



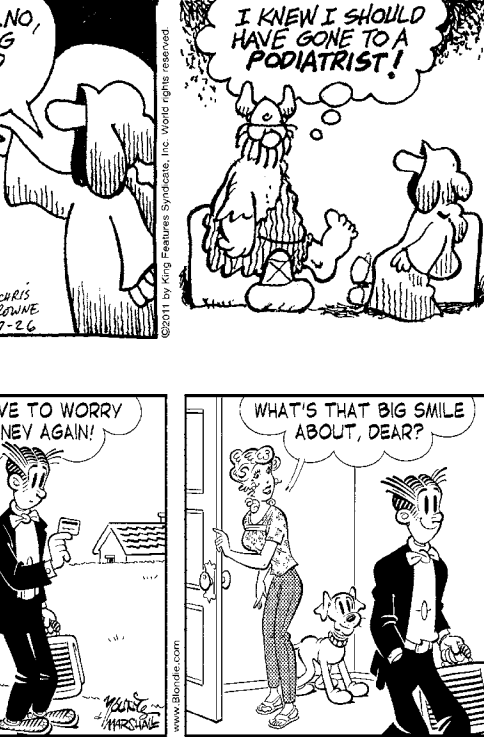
"Brr! I know what they had at the Boston Tea Party — ICE TEA!"

HAGAR



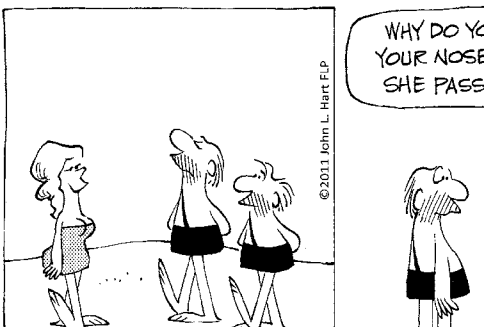
MY FOOT HURTS, DOC... SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH IT! I'LL CHECK IT OUT... 1, 2, 3, 4, 5... NO, EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE OKAY... I KNEW I SHOULD HAVE GONE TO A PODIATRIST!

BLONDIE



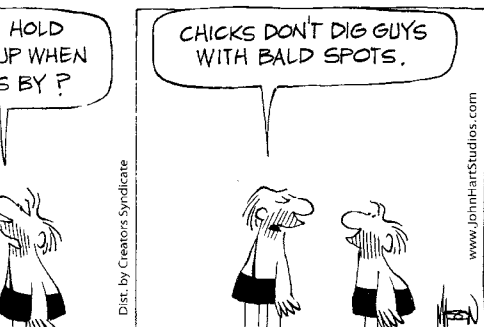
CHECK IT OUT, MR. B., I WAS ACCIDENTALLY APPROVED FOR A CREDIT CARD WITH A TEN MILLION-DOLLAR LIMIT! I'LL NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MONEY AGAIN! WHAT'S THAT BIG SMILE ABOUT, DEAR?

BC



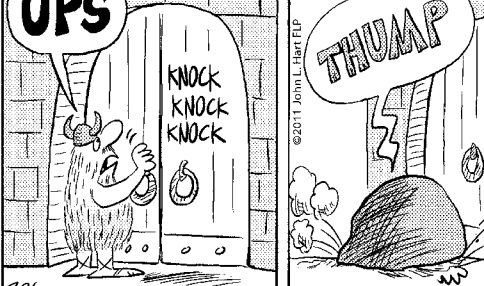
WHY DO YOU HOLD YOUR NOSE UP WHEN SHE PASSES BY? CHICKS DON'T DIG GUYS WITH BALD SPOTS.

WIZARD OF ID



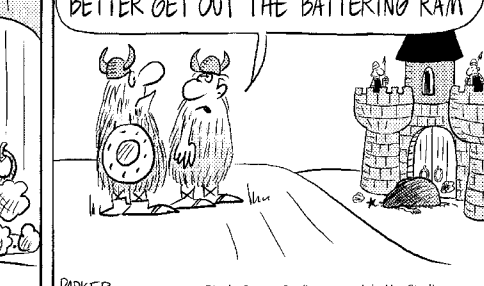
THOUGHT I'D GIVE IT A SHOT... BETTER GET OUT THE BATTERING RAM

UP



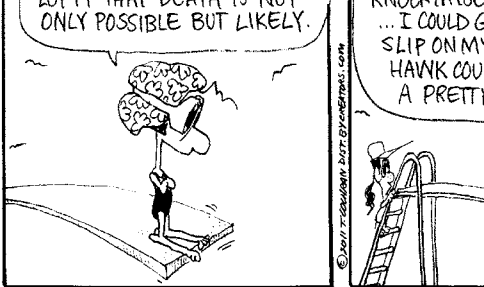
UPS KNOCK KNOCK THUMP

AGNES



HERE I AM... A HEIGHT SO LOFTY THAT DEATH IS NOT ONLY POSSIBLE BUT LIKELY. I COULD HIT THE WATER WRONG, KNOCK MYSELF OUT AND DROWN... I COULD GET A NOSE BLEED AND SLIP ON MY OWN FLUIDS... A HAWK COULD MISTAKE ME FOR A PRETTY PINK BUNNY. NAH... YOU'RE NOT PRETTY. YOU ARE A LIFE BUOY TO MY SINKING SPIRIT.

HI AND LOIS



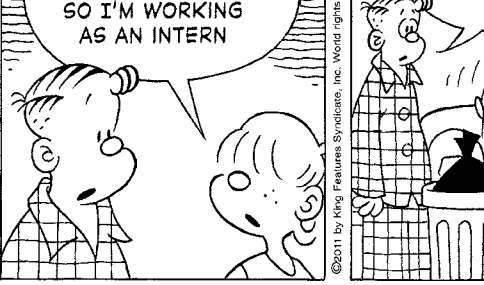
I COULDN'T FIND A SUMMER JOB, SO I'M WORKING AS AN INTERN FOR THE GARBAGE MEN? AT LEAST I'M LEARNING A TRADE.

THE OTHER COAST



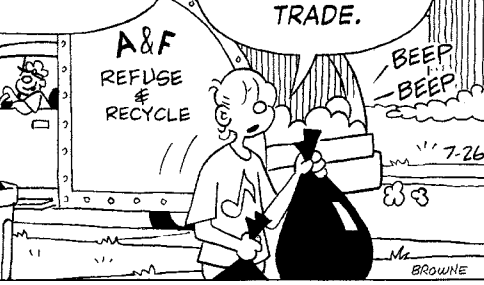
HMM... TASTES LIKE WILD GAME VENISON PERHAPS? NO, IT'S MORE LIKELY BUFFALO, SLOW-ROASTED IN A WILD MUSHROOM SAUCE. Y'KNOW, I THINK IT'S ELK. YES, ELK, SERVED WITH A RASPBERRY DEMI-GLAZE! IT'S SOMETHING OUT OF A CAN. COULDN'T YOU AT LEAST UPSellit A LITTLE BIT?

SNUFFY SMITH



TELL ME EV'RYTHIN', ELVINEY!! NOPE!! I CAN'T!! WHAT HAPPENS ON THIS SIDE OF TH' FENCE STAYS ON THIS SIDE OF TH' FENCE!!

BEEETLE BAILEY



KEEP OFF THE GRASS I GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO SURRENDER

This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, July 26, the 207th day of 2011. There are 158 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On July 26, 1775, Benjamin Franklin became America's first postmaster-general. On this date: In 1788, New York became the 11th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. In 1847, the western African country of Liberia, founded by freed American slaves, declared its independence. In 1882, the Richard Wagner opera "Parsifal" premiered in Bayreuth, Germany. In 1908, U.S. Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte ordered creation of a force of special agents that was a forerunner of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act, which established the National Military Establishment (later renamed

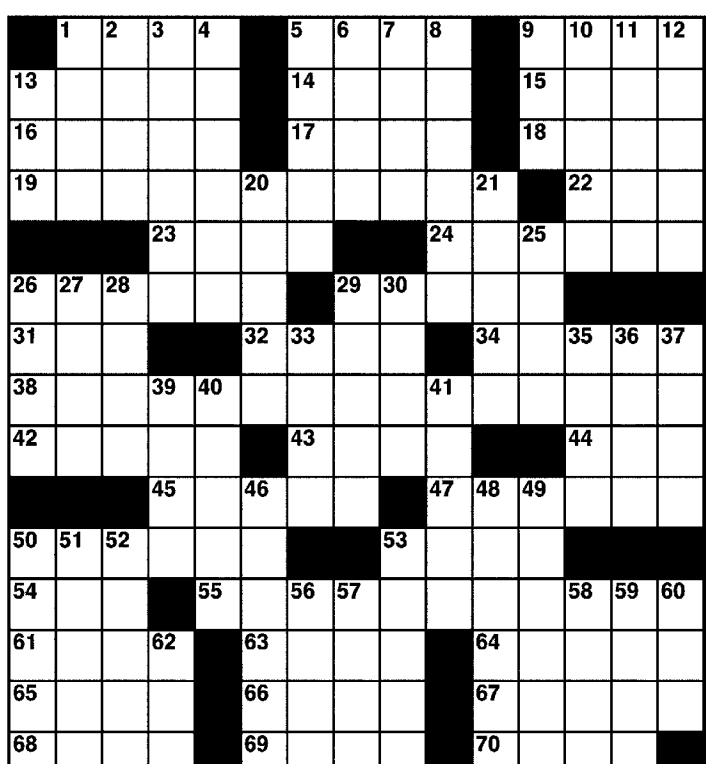
the Department of Defense). In 1952, Argentina's first lady, Eva Peron, died in Buenos Aires at age 33. In 1971, Apollo 15 was launched from Cape Kennedy on America's fourth manned mission to the moon. Photographer Diane Arbus died in New York at age 48. In 1986, kidnappers in Lebanon released the Rev. Lawrence Martin Jenco, an American hostage held for nearly 19 months. American statesman W. Averell Harriman died in Yorktown Heights, N.Y., at age 94. In 1989, Mark Wellman, a 29-year-old paraplegic, reached the summit of El Capitan in Yosemite (yoh-SEHM'-uh-tee) National Park after hauling himself up the granite cliff six inches at a time over nine days. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Today's Birthdays: Actress Marjorie Lord is 93. Actor James Best is 85. Singer Dobie Gray is 71. Actress-singer Darlene Love is 70. Singer Brenton Wood is 70. Rock star Mick Jagger is 68. Movie direc-

tor Peter Hyams is 68. Actress Helen Mirren is 66. Rock musician Roger Taylor (Queen) is 62. Actress Susan George is 61. Olympic gold medal figure skater Dorothy Hamill is 55. Actor Kevin Spacey is 52. Rock singer Gary Cherone (sher-OWN') is 50. Actress Sandra Bullock is 47. Rock singer Jim Lindberg (Pennywise) is 46. Actor Jeremy Piven is 46. Rapper-reggae singer Wayne Wonder is 45. Actor Jason Statham (STAY'-thum) is 44. Actor Cress Williams is 41. TV host Chris Harrison ("The Bachelor") is 40. Actress Kate Beckinsale is 38. Rock musician Dan Konopka (OK Go) is 37. Gospel/Contemporary Christian singer Rebecca St. James is 34.

Newsday Crossword

GET YOUR KICKS by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Hollywood headliner
- 5 Finance degs.
- 9 Sale condition
- 13 Socially smooth
- 14 Part of an egg
- 15 Edinburgh resident
- 16 Trio + 5
- 17 Television award
- 18 New Zealand bird
- 19 Fund-raiser of a sort
- 22 Devotee
- 23 Honest-to-goodness
- 24 Not feeling well
- 26 Silent-movie heroine "in distress"
- 29 Dining-room furniture
- 31 Suffix for percent
- 32 Close tightly
- 34 Corrosive chemicals
- 38 Haphazardly
- 42 Opinion piece
- 43 Small horse
- 44 Yale student
- 45 Reaches across
- 47 "It was me!"
- 50 Computer monitor
- 53 Technical sch.
- 54 Historical period
- 55 Equestrian's attire
- 61 Knock for a loop
- 63 Additional
- 64 Without any help
- 65 Of unknown authorship: Abbr.
- 66 Immediately, in memos
- 67 Unwilling to compromise
- 68 Geek
- 69 Gave for a while
- 70 Gone by
- DOWN
- 1 \_\_ as (for example)
- 2 Brit's bye-bye
- 3 Keeps from happening
- 4 Call it a career
- 5 "Baloney!"
- 6 Film flop
- 7 \_\_ mater
- 8 Former NASA space station
- 9 Inquire
- 10 UFO-story genre
- 11 Des Moines resident
- 12 Bee attack
- 13 Part of ASPCA
- 20 Oklahoma city
- 21 Purple flower
- 25 Peace Nobelist
- 26 Casno rollers
- 27 "Sorry to say..."
- 28 Big Apple baseballers
- 29 Mexican snacks
- 30 Actor Alda
- 33 Sports cable channel
- 35 Added frosting to
- 36 Artist
- 37 Foul mood
- 39 Detective's job
- 40 Prefix for active
- 41 Making a knot
- 46 Twenty Questions category
- 48 E flat alias
- 49 Where Roma is capital
- 50 Family car
- 51 "Whooping" bird
- 52 Whisker remover
- 53 Clumsy
- 56 Medicinal amount
- 57 Tehran's land
- 58 Swampy grounds
- 59 "What's \_\_ for me?"
- 60 Media mogul
- 62 Conclusion



**ROUT**

Continued from Page 7

night's game against Texas."

Kinsler had four of the Rangers' league-best 27 hits as Texas became the first team to score 20 runs since Milwaukee beat Pittsburgh 20-0 on April 22 last season. The Rangers had 18 runs by the fifth inning as they scored three runs in each of the first three innings. Texas added five in the fourth and four in the fifth.

Napoli and Nelson Cruz also had four hits as every Rangers starter had at least two except for third baseman Chris Davis, who was hitless in six at-bats. Michael Young also went deep and had three

RBI's for Texas.

Rangers starter Derek Holland (9-4) set a career high for victories, allowing an unearned run and five hits in six innings with four strikeouts to surpass his eight-win rookie season in 2009.

Josh Hamilton and Andy Chavez also drove in three runs each to help the Rangers surpass Cleveland's output in a 19-1 blowout at Kansas City on May 16. Texas also passed the 25 hits that the Los Angeles Dodgers had against Minnesota on June 27.

Jason Kubel hit a 449-foot homer off Arthur Rhodes in the eighth for the Twins, who have lost six of nine. Minnesota starter Nick Blackburn (7-7) was knocked around for nine runs.

**NFL**

Continued from page 7

including what promises to be a wild free agency period. Teams can start negotiations with free agents on Tuesday, but can't sign anyone until Friday.

"It's going to be fast and furious," agent Joel Segal said.

The negotiations to end the lockout were anything but. New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft took note of that.

"I'd like, on behalf of both sides, to apologize to the fans," Kraft said. "For the last five, six months we've been talking about the business of football — and not what goes on, on the field, and building the teams in each market," Kraft said. "But the end result is we've been able to have an agreement that I think is going to allow this sport to flourish over the next decade."

Then came what may truly be the lasting image of the dispute's resolution: Indianapolis Colts center Jeff Saturday wrapped one of his burly arms around Kraft and enveloped him in a hug — a gesture that symbolized the acrimony's end more than any statement could.

When Saturday spoke to reporters, he offered an eloquent tribute to Kraft, lauding him as "a man who helped us save football," and to Kraft's wife, Myra, who died Wednesday from cancer.

"A special thanks to Myra Kraft, who even in her weakest moment allowed Mr. Kraft to come and fight this out," Saturday said. "Without him, this deal does not get done."

Owners can point to victories, such as gaining a higher percentage of all revenue, one of the central issues — they get 53 percent, players 47 percent; the

old deal was closer to 50-50. There's also a new system that will rein in spending on contracts for first-round draft picks.

Players, meanwhile, persuaded teams to commit to spending nearly all of their salary cap space in cash and won changes to offseason and in-season practice rules that should make the game safer.

One important compromise came on expanding the regular season from 16 to 18 games, which owners favored. That can be revisited for the 2013 season, but players must approve any change.

"Both parties were trying to stand their ground — and rightfully so," said Vikings linebacker Ben Leber, one of the 10 named plaintiffs in the players' antitrust suit against the league that will be dropped. "In the end, against all the negativity that was out there publicly, they took their time and hammered out what I think is going to turn out to be one of the best deals in the history of sports."

An interesting choice of phrase, given that Smith and some players grew fond of calling the owners' last offer before talks fell apart in March "probably the worst deal in sports history."

Smith had changed that tune Monday.

"We didn't get everything that either side wanted," he said, "but we did arrive at a deal that we think is fair and balanced."

Activity over the next few days might have everyone's heads spinning.

On Tuesday, 2011 draft picks and rookie free agents can be

signed. That will be followed by camps opening, minimal practices for the first few days, and the wild free agency period.

"Chaos," said Jets fullback Tony Richardson, a member of the NFLPA's executive committee — and a free agent. "That's the best word for it."

Only one exhibition game was lost: the Hall of Fame opener between the Bears and Rams, scheduled for Aug. 7 in Canton, Ohio.

Otherwise, the entire preseason and regular-season schedules remain intact.

"Our players can't be more excited about going back to doing the thing they love the most," NFLPA president Kevin Mawae said. "We always said during this process we would do a deal when it's right and when it's the right deal. Our players did that. We stuck it out to the end."

Owners overwhelmingly approved a proposal to end the dispute Thursday, but some unresolved issues needed to be reviewed to satisfy players.

The sides worked through the weekend and wrapped up nearly every detail by about 3 a.m. Monday on a final pact that runs through the 2020 season and can't be terminated before then.

That's significant because the old collective bargaining agreement contained an opt-out clause, and owners exercised it in 2008. That led to the contract expiring when talks broke down March 11; hours later, owners locked out the players, creating the NFL's first work stoppage since 1987 — and longest in league history.

"I know it has been a very long process since the day we stood here that night in March," Smith said in a brief appearance. "But our guys stood together when nobody thought we would. And football is back because of it."

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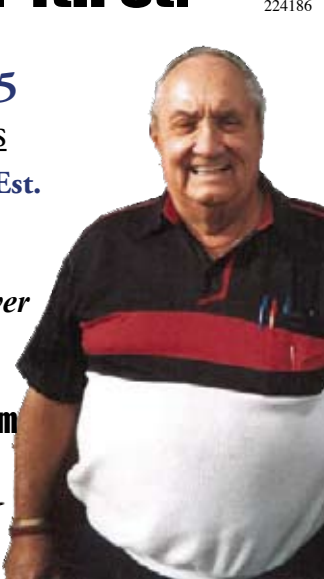


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4	6	7	9	8	1	3	5	2
9	1	5	3	7	2	6	4	8
3	2	8	5	4	6	1	9	7
6	9	2	4	3	8	5	7	1
8	4	1	6	5	7	9	2	3
5	7	3	2	1	9	4	8	6
2	5	6	8	9	3	7	1	4
1	8	4	7	6	5	2	3	9
7	3	9	1	2	4	8	6	5

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