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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**FRIDAY**

**JULY 29, 2011**



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 204

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



Work continues on the site of what will soon be the new Washington Elementary campus — located adjacent to the old campus on Birdwell Lane — as the Big Spring Independent School District continues its multi-million dollar project to replace several aging schools throughout the city.

HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

## Tax free holiday sure to help some

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Texas parents with children getting ready to head back to class in a few weeks have most likely faced plenty of challenges this summer, and, from a fiscal standpoint, paying for school supplies and clothing may be one of the toughest.

However, the state of Texas is hoping to ease the burden

Aug. 19-21 with its annual Tax Free Holiday, a three-day opportunity for parents and guardians to skip the sales taxes on many of the back-to-school items they purchase each year.

"As in previous years, the law exempts most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend," said Susan Combs,

Texas comptroller. "Backpacks under \$100 and used by elementary and secondary students are also exempt.

"The exemption during the sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags. The exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffle/gym

bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks. Ten or fewer backpacks can be purchased tax-free at one time without providing an exemption certificate to the seller."

Before 2009, the holiday failed to include school supplies — paper, pencils, pens — a problem solved by the 81st Texas Legislature, which passed HB 1801, expanding the list of items qualifying for exemption from Texas state

and local sales and use taxes during the annual sales tax holiday.

In addition to clothes, footwear and some backpacks, Texas families also get a sales tax break on most school supplies priced at less than \$100 purchased for use by a student in an elementary or secondary school.

According to Combs, no

See **SALES**, Page 3A

## Meeting set today for Moss, Goliad parents

Moss Elementary School officials 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. today in the Goliad Intermediate School library. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact the school district central office at 264-3600.

## Chamber series continues with Part 3: Industry, Aug. 10

**By AMANDA MORENO**  
Staff Writer

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce continues with Part 3 of its State of the Community series, but seats are limited.

State of the Community Part 3: Industry, will take place in the Cactus Room on the Howard College campus Aug. 10. The serving line will open at 7:30 a.m. and presentations will begin at 7:50 a.m.

"This is a series open to the entire community. It's not just for chamber members or businesses, but for every resident of Big Spring and the surrounding areas," said Debbye ValVerde, chamber executive director.

Presentations will focus

See **SERIES**, Page 3A



HERALD file photo

Volunteers are being lined up to help with the Festival of Lights in Comanche Trail Park this Christmas season.

## Festival of Lights needing volunteers

**By AMANDA MORENO**  
Staff Writer

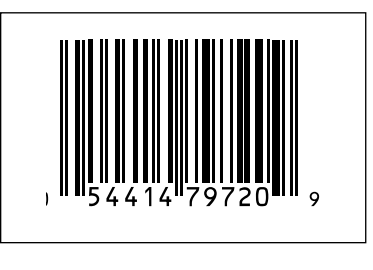
Christmas may be a few months away still, but preparations for the 2011 Comanche Trail Festival of Lights are already glowing brightly.

"I think this will be the most spectacular presentation yet for our visitors," said Pat Simmons, Festival of Lights founder.

This year will bring back the poinsettias to Scenic

Mountain. According to Simmons, three years ago three poinsettias adorned the side of the mountain, but due to lack of power supply were

See **LIGHTS**, Page 3A



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# Obituaries

## Belia Diaz Landin



Belia Diaz Landin, 80, of Big Spring went to be with her Lord and Savior on Thursday, July 28, 2011, at her residence. A vigil will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, July 29, 2011, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 30, 2011, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with Monsignor Bernard Gully officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Belia was born Aug. 4, 1930, in Knickerbocker, Texas, and married Macedonio Mendez Landin on Nov. 10, 1951, in San Angelo. He preceded her in death Sept. 23, 2003.

Belia was a member of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church. She moved to Big Spring in 1968 from Loraine and retired from Hall-Bennett Hospital in 1989. She then volunteered in the foster grandparent program at Washington Magnet Elementary School in Midland for three years and was also a volunteer with the Girl Scouts of America in Midland.

Survivors include three sons and daughters-in-law, Joe and Nora Landin, Alonzo and Denettie Landin and Macedonio Jr. and Mary Landin, all of Big Spring; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Irma and Jose Jr. Ortega of Big Spring, Alice Villa of Midland and Amanda and Bobby Porras of Big Spring; two sisters, Adela Franco of Laramie, Wyo., and Maria Pantoja of Roscoe; 26 grandchildren and 38 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Carlos Diaz and Samuel Diaz.

Pallbearers will be Roman Ortega, Chris Villa, Macedonio Landin III, Joe Landin, Arthur Hilario Jr., Jeremy Landin, Adam Villa and Paul Landin.

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

*Paid obituary*

# 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. Friday 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 with cystic fibrosis who is recovering from a double lung transplant in Dallas. All donations are appreciated. For more information, call 432-213-0795

• 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.

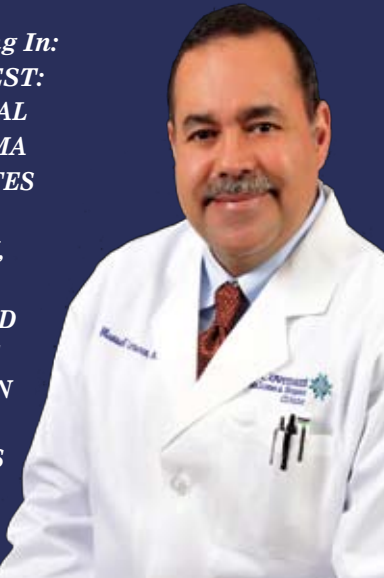
• The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. The 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. Free free foreclosure help, call the hotline.



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# Police blotter

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

- TAMARA KAY WINK, 46, of Houston, was arrested Thursday on a charge of disobeying a police officer.
- STEVE ALLAN HANNABASS, 53, of 821 W. Eighth St., was arrested Thursday on warrants for failure to signal lane change, expired registration and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1700 block of S. Lancaster.
- THEFT was reported in the 2600 block of Carol Dr.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1100 block of Runnels St.

# Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 70 inmates at the time of this report.


- ANSELMO JOEL ONTIVEROS JR., 25, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a Mitchell County warrant for probation violation – possession of marijuana.
- TERRY LEE CARTER, 35, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of thwarting compulsory sch. attend law (three counts).
- TAMARA KAY WINK, 46, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of disregarding a police officer.
- STEVE ALAN HANNABASS, 53, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, displaying expired registration and failure to signal lane change.
- TERRY GLENN SMITH, 26, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- JERRY LANE GAAR, 47, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

# Support Groups

**FRIDAY**  
• 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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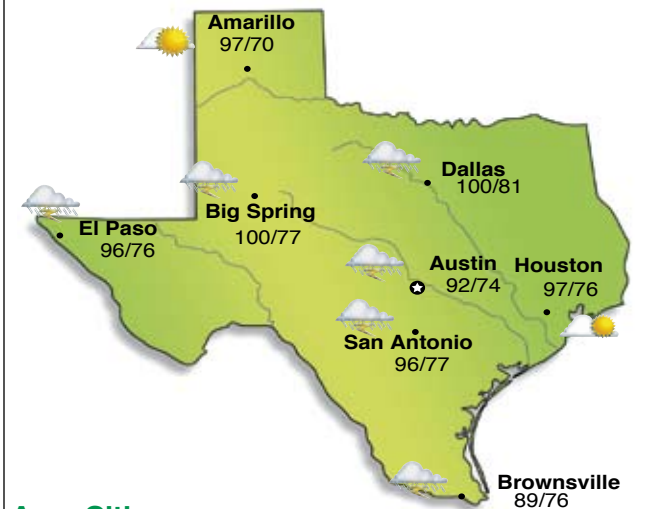
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# Today's Weather

## Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 7/30	Sun 7/31	Mon 8/1	Tue 8/2	Wed 8/3
<b>100/77</b> Partly cloudy early. Scattered thunderstorms developing in the afternoon.	<b>103/77</b> Abundant sunshine. Highs 101 to 105F and lows in the upper 70s.	<b>105/78</b> Sunshine. Highs 103 to 107F and lows in the upper 70s.	<b>106/79</b> Abundant sunshine. Highs 104 to 108F and lows in the upper 70s.	<b>105/79</b> Mainly sunny. Highs 103 to 107F and lows in the upper 70s.
Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 8:45 PM	Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 8:44 PM	Sunrise: 7:01 AM Sunset: 8:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:01 AM Sunset: 8:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:02 AM Sunset: 8:42 PM

## Texas At A Glance



## Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	100	78	t-storm	Kingsville	95	76	t-storm
Amarillo	97	70	mst sunny	Livingston	98	74	pt sunny
Austin	92	74	t-storm	Longview	99	78	t-storm
Beaumont	94	74	mst sunny	Lubbock	98	74	pt sunny
Brownsville	89	76	t-storm	Lufkin	99	76	t-storm
Brownwood	101	77	t-storm	Midland	99	77	t-storm
Corpus Christi	91	77	t-storm	Raymondville	94	76	t-storm
Corsicana	99	78	t-storm	Rosenberg	97	75	pt sunny
Dallas	100	81	t-storm	San Antonio	96	77	t-storm
Del Rio	95	78	rain	San Marcos	93	74	t-storm
El Paso	96	76	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	98	79	t-storm
Fort Stockton	96	74	t-storm	Sweetwater	98	76	t-storm
Gainesville	99	78	t-storm	Tyler	99	77	t-storm
Greenville	98	78	t-storm	Weatherford	100	78	t-storm
Houston	97	76	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	103	80	mst sunny

## National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	96	74	mst sunny	Minneapolis	90	75	mst sunny
Boston	88	66	sunny	New York	92	74	sunny
Chicago	89	71	sunny	Phoenix	102	84	t-storm
Dallas	100	81	t-storm	San Francisco	67	57	pt sunny
Denver	89	65	t-storm	Seattle	76	59	pt sunny
Houston	97	76	pt sunny	St. Louis	92	78	pt sunny
Los Angeles	80	65	pt sunny	Washington, DC	96	78	pt sunny
Miami	92	81	rain				

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**SALES**

Continued from Page 1A

exemption certificate is required during the holiday — with one exception.

“If the purchaser is buying the supplies under a business account, the retailer must obtain an exemption certificate from the purchaser certifying that the items are purchased for use by an elementary or secondary school student,” Combs said. “‘Under a business account’ means the purchaser is using a business credit card or business check rather than a personal credit card or personal check; being billed under a business account maintained at the retailer; or is using a business membership at a retailer that is membership based.”

Among the items being sold tax-free during the holiday are:

- Binders
  - Book bags
  - Calculators
  - Cellophane tape
  - Blackboard chalk
  - Compasses
  - Composition books
  - Pencils
  - Pens
  - Baby clothes
  - Backpacks for use by elementary and secondary students
  - Belts with attached buckles
  - Boots - cowboy, hiking
  - Pants and trousers
  - Raincoats and ponchos
  - Robes
  - Shirts
  - Shoes - sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking
  - Socks (including athletic)
  - Shorts
- Not included in the tax free holiday are:

- Baseball cleats and pants
- Belt buckles (without belt)
- Boots - climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, ski, waders
- Buttons and zippers
- Cloth and lace, knitting yarns, and other fabrics
- Dry cleaning services
- Football pants
- Golf gloves
- Handbags and purses
- Handkerchiefs
- Hard hats
- Helmets - bike, baseball, football, hockey, motorcycle, sports

For more information on the tax holiday, visit <http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs>

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)

**Foreclosure help**

The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an organization 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 to help find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge. For free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

**SERIES**

Continued from Page 1A

on some of the larger employers in Big Spring, including Alon USA, Federal Bureau of Prisons, The GEO Group Inc. and WETT.

“These are just some of the major employers in our community. We wish we could hear from everyone,” ValVerde said.

An update will also be given by Larry Rodgers, CEO of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Rodgers was unable to attend Part 2: Medical

and Education, because of scheduling conflicts. Each representative will be limited to a 12-minute speech in order to allow for a question-and-answer session.

“We understand it's not a lot of time to give an update, but we do want to try our best and allow for questions to be asked,” ValVerde said.

Another important presentation will come from a WETT (Wind Energy Transmission Texas) representative. According to Big Spring Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Terry Weg-

man, a few years ago the Public Utility Commission of Texas conducted a study to find the best placement of transmission lines and an area was mapped out from Dallas/Ft. Worth to Big Spring and up to the Panhandle. Eight contractors were awarded bids on the construction phase, with WETT in charge of the phase through the Big Spring/Howard County area.

“The largest portion of the project is going right through this area,” Wegman said. “It's going to be a total of 360 miles of transmission lines

and about one-third of that will be in Howard County.”

Those attending will be able to find out more about the project, as well as hear what the other entities are involved in. Tickets for Part 3: Industry are \$12 and can be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce office until Aug. 5. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

“We have heard concerns about the ticket prices, but we want everyone to understand there are expenses incurred in putting on these forums and the

ticket price helps with those costs,” ValVerde said. “We want everyone to attend, but we do have to charge for the tickets in order to allow us to continue bringing these events to the community.”

Response from the series has been positive and according to ValVerde the program could be continued next year.

“We encourage everyone to come out and here from these entities,” ValVerde said. “What better way to find out what's going on in our own backyard than

to hear from the entities themselves.”

To purchase tickets or for more information stop by the chamber office at 215 W. Third or call 263-7641.

Contact Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at [life@bigspringherald.com](mailto:life@bigspringherald.com)

**LIGHTS**

Continued from Page 1A

taken down and haven't been included the past few years.

“The Indian Hills residents will love it,” Simmons said. “I guess having those up there made it more Christmasy.”

Due to a generous donation, new generators are being purchased in order to allow the inclusion of the poinsettias again this year.

As for the exhibits in the park, a few will be changing locations and some new ones will be added. Of course, with all the changes more manpower is needed. “We have lost the very loyal men from the Presbyterian church headed up by Paschal Odom,” Simmons said.

They had been responsible for putting up the commercial Christmas

cards for the past few years.

“Any able-bodied men with a few hours to spare are asked to help with this project,” Simmons said.

The Christmas cards are put up between Dec. 1 and Dec. 15.

Greeters are also needed for this year's display. The Festival of Lights will run from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Dec. 15 through Dec. 31. The shifts are divided into two-hour periods; 6 p.m.-8 p.m. and 8 p.m.-10 p.m.

“For some of you, this has become a tradition

and we appreciate you and look forward to seeing you again this year,” Simmons said. “For others, if you have some free time and would like to help, let us know. We would love to have you.”

Greeters and able-bodied men are not the only needs for this year's display. Simmons is looking for life-size cutouts of men in military uniform. She has already obtained two Army soldiers with the help of Iva Jo Henslik, but is still searching for all other branches of the

military.

“We are planning a great display honoring our military and if anyone knows where we can find the other cutouts, the help would be greatly appreciated,” Simmons said.

For those wanting to purchase a vinyl Christmas card — measuring 8 feet by 8 feet — there is still time and cards are available.

“This is a great way of sending a Christmas message or advertising your business,” Simmons said.

Those wanting to vol-

unteer to assist with the Comanche Trail Festival of Lights in any way should contact Simmons at 263-4607 or Debbie Wegman at 263-8235.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at [life@bigspringherald.com](mailto:life@bigspringherald.com)

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Sat: 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:20

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Aug. 10  
**State of the Community Series Part 3: Industrial Update**  
Howard College Cactus Room  
For more info contact the **Chamber at 432-263-7641**

Aug. 14-20  
**USHGA Hang Gliding Championships**  
McMahon Wrinkle Airport  
For more info contact **432-264-2362**

Aug. 20  
**United Way Kickoff "BOOT SCOOTING BASH"**  
Dinner and Dance  
For more info contact **Jeanie Coor or Sandy Stewart at 432-267-5201**

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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.

<b>Bill McClellan</b> Managing Editor	<b>Ron Midkiff</b> Publisher	<b>Steve Reagan</b> Staff Writer
<b>Amanda Moreno</b> Staff Writer	<b>Thomas Jenkins</b> 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:*

- Life Church for taking on the task of renovating the old Runnels Junior High building and working towards providing something for the entire community while preserving a piece of history.

- Samantha Yates Borgstedt for taking the time to shed light on the life of agricultural farmers in the West Texas region through her book Agriculture on the High Plains.

- Howard County A&M Club for having their annual fundraiser in order to provide scholarships for area students and helping them further their education.

- To all residents who are making an effort to conserve water, report water abusers and practice conservation inside and outside your homes.

- Zane Herrin, Justin Moss and Brandi Smith for receiving scholarships from Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative.

- Bowl-A-Rama for providing area kids with a way to have fun, inside and out of the heat, by offering games of free bowling.

*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](mailto: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](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com)

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

**We do our best and we are successful,  
Lord, when we walk with You.**

**Amen**

# You have to stand by your man

The headlines on the Drudge Report make it sound worse than it is: "Blacks, liberals

flee in droves." And underneath: "Sanders (that's Bernie Sanders, the Independent from Vermont): Obama should face primary challenger." And above: "Obama's Base Crumbles."

The truth is that with Washington still unable to reach an agreement on the deficit and the budget, with the game of chicken continuing to a point that no parent would allow out on a playground, everyone's base is crumbling. Confidence in politicians of both stripes is dropping and understandably so.

On the Democratic side, a Washington Post-ABC News poll finds that the number of liberal Democrats who "strongly support" President Obama's record on jobs has dropped from 53 percent last year to 31 percent today; among African Americans, the number who believe he's helped the economy is down from 77 percent in October to just more than 50 percent now.

The Republicans are actually faring worse. More people (65 percent) fault congressional Republicans for their handling

of the economy than blame the president (52 percent). And a majority still blames former President George W. Bush for the country's economic woes.

So with all due respect to Sanders, a primary challenge for the incumbent president would not be a "good idea," at least for those of us who are not yearning for a return to the "W" years. Deserting the president "in droves," if that's how you want to describe it, doesn't help anyone. The blame game goes nowhere. It encourages precisely the sort of no-win politics that is paralyzing Washington during this long, hot summer.

I was talking to a very smart reporter the other day who pointed out — rightly, I think — that at another time, the markets would have stepped in and solved the problems.

At another time, the concern that America's biggest companies and biggest employers would suffer if Washington couldn't get its act together would have forced legislators to take action. Nothing like a huge drop in the Dow to get everyone's attention.

But today, these aren't America's biggest companies; they're global giants whose survival doesn't depend on a budget deal in Washington. The bond market won't move when people are concerned that returns could go down, not up. If our rating goes from AAA to AA, that will just

mean we're in the same category as Japan and China.

We have to save ourselves, and we won't do it by acting like the children in Washington.

Where I come from, loyalty is not about standing by your man when times are good. That's not loyalty; it's just common sense. It's not the hard thing to do; it's the easy thing to do.

Loyalty is about tough times, tough decisions, standing by your man on the hard days.

I don't like the economy any more than the next person. I'm blessed to be secure, to be able to pay my bills and educate my kids, but believe me, that isn't true for many of the people around me, for family and friends. When unemployment is as high as it is, when housing prices have dropped as low as they have, no one is untouched. But that's not a reason to desert a president who has kept his promises and is struggling to secure a deal that will not betray those most in need.

I don't approve of everything the president has done. Who would? He's not my puppet. But I strongly disapprove of any Democrat who stands up to try to block his re-election because they think that somehow they could do better. If it were easy, we'd all be on the beach, including President Obama.

*To find out more about Susan Estrich visit the Creators Syndicate website [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

## Adios to free speech Ecuador

Imagine a legal system that would reward President Barack Obama \$40 million every time a pundit questions his sincerity, honesty or place of birth or cites any of the many outrageous allegations and disrespectful statements that constantly are made against the president. Imagine a court that would send these pundits to jail if they said the president is turning into a dictator or lying about an important issue.

You would think that we'd lost one of the pillars of our democracy, right? We would be mourning the death of our freedom of expression. Even the extremists who vilify Obama have the right to shout in our public square.

It's even distasteful and embarrassing sometimes, but it's what makes us free. Remember Rep. Joe Wilson's barbaric "You lie!" outburst during Obama's 2009 State of the Union address? And what about the many times Donald Trump suggested the president was lying about his place of birth? They were not fined or sent to jail for offending the president, because that's what makes us free.

This is the lesson apparently missed by Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa when he lived and studied in the United States. Following the model of his leftist comrade Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, Correa is manipulating the courts and declaring war against Ecuador's democratic institutions, especially its free press.

Last week, under immense pressure from the Correa government, a puppet judge sentenced three newspaper executives and a columnist to three years in prison and ordered them and their newspaper to pay \$40 million to the president for "defamatory libel."

For publishing a column critical of the president, these four men were convicted and sentenced as if they were criminals. Their crime? Emilio Palacio, the opinion page editor at El Universo, Ecuador's largest newspaper, had written a column referring to Correa as "the dictator" and accusing the president of ordering security forces to open fire at a hospital where police protested against cuts to their benefits.

Several people were killed in that September police riot, where Correa was held hostage and where he still claims — seeking unearned martyrdom — that he survived an attempted coup against his government.

But instead of just denying Palacio's allegations, which Correa did, the thin-skinned and extremely arrogant president also filed a lawsuit that was clearly

intended to put El Universo out of business. He was asking for \$80 million, which he claimed he might donate to the conservation of the Amazon rain forest. Amazingly, his lawyers are claiming they will appeal the \$40 million ruling because they still want \$80 million.

The ruling has evoked widespread condemnation from free speech advocates all over the world, especially after El Universo had the courage to publish a mostly blank front page as a form of protest. The page featured only a quote by author Ayn Rand: "When you see corruption being rewarded and honesty becoming a self-sacrifice, you may know that your society is doomed."

The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists said the ruling "sets an alarming precedent for suppressing free expression." Reporters Without Borders said the ruling amounted to "judicial persecution ... aimed at silencing the country's media."

Even El Universo's rival, the Ecuadorian daily El Comercio, reportedly joined the protest by printing its front page in faint text.

Journalists and opposition leaders are asking Ecuadorians to dress in black — to symbolically mourn the death of their press freedom.

"There is no question that free speech is under siege in Ecuador," said Jose Miguel Vivanco, Americas director at Human Rights Watch. "The only guarantor of free speech in a democracy is the judiciary. And if the judiciary acts as a puppet of the central government ... then obviously the biggest casualty here is the quality of democracy in Ecuador."

Obviously, Correa doesn't like to be called a dictator. Yet when he tries to prolong his stay in office, censors the media and suppresses the opposition, he sure acts like one. He is clearly following the path toward dictatorship led by Chavez and emulated by President Evo Morales in Bolivia and President Daniel Ortega in Nicaragua.

"In each country, anti-democratic presidents seeking to extend their rule beyond their elected terms use whatever means are necessary," wrote Robert Rivard, chairman of the committee on freedom of the press of the Inter American Press Association, perhaps the hemisphere's leading free press advocacy group. "The other branches of government are co-opted. Constitutions are re-engineered. Political opposition is marginalized. The independently owned media are muzzled, while the state funds the creation of pro-government media."

Rivard, who also is editor of the San Antonio Express-News, wrote a column for Ecuador last week after Correa refused to

meet with a group of IAPA members. "We had come to defend the right of Ecuadorean journalists to do what American journalists, and their readers, take for granted in the United States: report the news freely without government threat or interference," he said.

But what he found was that the Chavez strategy for turning democracies into dictatorships, "sad to say, is working all too well, especially where the region's impoverished masses have been plied and brainwashed into believing that the state is their protector, and the private sector and educated urban class are the enemy," Rivard wrote.

Like Chavez in Venezuela, Correa gets those brainwashed, impoverished masses to keep voting for his pro-dictatorship agenda. In May, he won a 10-question referendum that, among other things, gave the government more power to restructure the judicial system and regulate media ownership and content.

Following the playbook of Chavez, who has shut down many radio and television stations in Venezuela, Correa has been persecuting the Ecuadorian media since taking office in early 2007, repeatedly clashing with reporters and even challenging them and ridiculing them publicly on the radio, on television and in the courts. When another newspaper, La Hora, described Correa's actions as president as "shameful," the president sued the editor. When two investigative reporters revealed that the president's brother was getting large government contracts, he started legal procedures against them, too. And when the Correa government is criticized on prime-time television, the stations are forced to broadcast government rebuttals.

Let's face it; if our judicial system were as co-opted by the executive branch as Ecuador's, if President Obama could sue his opposition into jail and bankruptcy, obviously there would be no Fox News Channel, and many of our most famous pundits and opposition leaders would be political prisoners. Surely, Rep. Wilson still would be serving prison time — instead of raising millions from Obama haters as a reward for calling the president a liar.

If Obama controlled puppet judges like Correa, imagine the dungeons where our courts would send people like Trump, Rush Limbaugh and Glenn Beck. I know. It sounds tempting, right? But nah, no way! We are willing to pay the price of having to listen to them, because that's what makes us free.

*To find out more about Miguel Perez visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*



SUSAN  
ESTRICH



MIGUEL  
PEREZ

**Church News**

**Birdwell Lane Church of Christ**

The dates for 2011 Vacation Bible School are Aug. 1-3 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. It is for kindergarten through sixth grade. There will also be an adult class each evening. The topic of the study will be Heroes of the Faith, Training Super Heroes of God and The Battle Belongs to the Lord.

Monday evening we will study events from the life of God's servant Gideon, "Fearless or God." Tuesday evening we will study events in the life of Deborah, Jude of Israel, "Doing what's right."

Wednesday evening we will look at Joshua, God's leader. A study about "Battle of Jericho." There will also be an awards presentation for all who attended VBS this year. Parents can see their child's classroom, meet their teachers and enjoy ice cream and cookies.

**Spring Creek Fellowship**

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the College Park Shopping Center at 501 Birdwell Lane. Contact us at 432-714-4584 or visit our website at www.springcreekfellowship.org

Unfortunately, Vacation Bible School has been cancelled for this year. We are looking forward to next year to make it even bigger and better than planned this year. Our sincerest apologies to all who were planning to attend and any inconvenience this decision may cause.

Many changes are coming in the fall, just in time for Back-to-School. Keep an eye out for more information. Volunteer opportunities are available in all areas of the church including our children, youth programs and music programs.

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 "Holy Grounds Cafe" opens at 10 a.m. Sunday morning for snacks and fellowship before worship at 10:30 a.m.

"Boz and Friends" for preschoolers meets Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Nursery care is available.

All ladies are welcome to "Pink" Prayer Night the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. The Women's Ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship invites all women to join them to exercise together at the church on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 5:30 p.m.

Youth "Connection Groups" meet Wednesday evenings for junior high and senior high students. Adult "Connections Groups" meet at various times and locations during the week.

Contact the church office for more information.

**East Fourth Street**

**Baptist Church**

Sunday at 6 p.m. is our Fifth Sunday Music program. There will be singing and a mini-concert will be presented by our musicians Jerry and Diane Oliphant.

We are celebrating their 45th year as our organist and pianist at East Fourth. Afterwards, a fellowship will be held in the fellowship hall with snacks, cake and ice cream.

East Fourth Street Baptist is located at 401 E. Fourth St.

Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. Morning worship is at 11 a.m. and evening worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday at 7 p.m. is adult prayer meeting and Bible study with Children's Back Door Bible Club and youth Bible study. Saturday at 7 a.m. is men's Bible study

For more information, call the church office at 432-267-2291

**Alive in Christ**

**Lutheran Church LCMS**

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive. Our church phone number is 432-264-7818. Our website is http://www.m2c-texas.org/chweb/aliveinchrist/.

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

Phillip Reid will be reading the liturgy. The readings are Isaiah 55:1-5, Psalm 136:1-9 (23-26), Romans 9:1-5 (6-13) and Matthew 14:13-21.

Angela Newton is our organist. Acolyte will be Analysisia Rodriguez. Elders are Bobby Roever and Richard von Hassell. We need door greeters for the next two Sundays.

The flowers this week are given in honor of Bobby Roever's birthday Aug. 7 by Judy Roever.

July 23 Pastor Pace from Grace Lutheran presented a Stewardship Convocation entitled "Faith Filled Response."

Pledge sheets are available on the bulletin table and will be dropped in a pledge box by Aug. 7.

Sunday, the adult Sunday school will continue the study "The Bible According to Andy Griffith" while the youth will continue the audio series "Adventures in Odyssey." The youth will continue to study Lessons 6-8: "Kidsboro."

Wednesdays, we are studying the video series, "That the World May Know," being hosted by Pastor Carroll Kohl. Snacks will be available during the study. Join us at the church at 7 p.m. The lesson for this week is Lesson 25: "Roll Away the Stone" - Garden Tomb.

Sunday is our 8th Annual Lutheran Night at the Ballpark at 5:15 p.m. with the picnic and the game starts at 6 p.m. The Rockhounds and Corpus Christi will be playing. The picnic will begin at 5:15 p.m. and will include cheeseburgers, hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies, popcorn, soft drinks and peanuts. Save your ticket stub for the door prizes. The cost is \$7.

Rally Day has been scheduled for Sept. 11, directly 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 7 p.m. 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. The elders meet Aug. 18. The board of assimilation will meet Aug. 23.

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**

Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. St. Mary's 125th Anniversary "Family Reunion Celebration" will take place Saturday, Aug. 6 and Sunday, Aug. 7. If you are interested in coming to the barbeque at 6:30 p.m. tickets will be sold until noon Sunday. You will need a ticket to eat at the meal. There is a western theme for the barbeque.

Photography for our church directory/family album will be taken by Bruce Schooler of the Red Barn Studio this weekend. You will need to sign up for sitting sessions by calling 432-267-8201.

Sunday, Aug. 7, during our 10:30 a.m. service we will re-dedicate our parish and property.

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

**Chapel of Faith**

The Chapel of Faith, located at E. 14th and Goliad, will begin Sunday school classes for adults and children Aug. 7 at 9:30 a.m. The children's group will be led by Sharon Cofferen and the adult class will be led by Paul Miller. Worship services at 10:30 a.m.

Sundays Pastor Joel Miller brings a message based on scripture.

**First Christian Church**

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

Sunday the Rev. Ken McIntosh will bring the message from Isaiah 58:1-5 What does your budget reveal?

Isaiah 58 Food Pantry will be open Monday and Tuesday for food delivery from the food bank in Odessa on

Monday. If you want to help come by between 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. at 107 Runnels St.

Wednesday there will be an organizing meeting at the church to start getting addresses of past members from the church for the upcoming Blast from the Past event Sept. 4. Any members who have addresses of past church members are encouraged to come to the meeting.

Wednesday night choir practice will resume Wednesday at their regular time in the practice room.

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

**East Side Baptist Church**

We will be celebrating our 23rd year as a local New Testament church Sunday. There will be testimonies, preaching of the gospel and music.

Our special guest will be "Earley Praise." Don and Judy Earley are longtime friends of our church and have sang in Big Spring many times. They write their own music. We will begin with "Earley Praise" singing at 9:45 a.m. We provide a nursery for all the little ones four years and younger.

**First United Methodist Church**

First United Methodist Church has services Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m., broadcast on BIG and at 10:50 a.m. broadcast on KIST-FM.

Pastor Bill Ivies will bring the message "The Power of Exponential Prayer" based on Matthew 14:18-21.

Sunday school classes are at 9:45 a.m. Children's church is held during the 10:50 a.m. service and meets in the youth hall.

Chancel choir, praise team and bell choir all have practice times scheduled Sunday afternoon. Family Fun Night and snack supper is at 5:30 p.m.

Our mid-week service is Wednesday at noon in Garrett Hall. Topic of study for Wednesday is Kingdom Focused Prayer: "Turning the World Upside Down-Part 2" and is based on Acts 19:23-41. The meal will be served by Al's Barbeque. Serving begins at 11:50 a.m. The meeting ends prior to 1 p.m.

Congratulations to our chancel choir members and Director of Music Ministries, Eddie Vandewalker. They have just returned from San Antonio where they participated in a

See **CHURCH**, Page 7A

**Charles Myers**

Attorney At Law

Family Law And Criminal Law

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**Big Spring QB Club Meeting to be held on Monday, August 1, 2011 at 6pm at the ATC. All parents of Football Players from 7th Grade to 12th Grade are encouraged to attend.**

**Any questions, Please call Denise Carrillo 816-1685**



224267



# Vision International honors graduates at Templo Belen



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno  
Pictured above are the Vision International University graduates in no particular order: Brandy Lee Barrientos, the Rev. Darilyn V. Bemis, Carey Enriquez, Manuel Negron, Christopher Rios, the Rev. Maria S. Rios and Laura Sandoval.

Templo Belen celebrated the graduation of seven pupils from Vision Int'l University on Sunday, July 24.

Vision International University has their main campus in California and originated back in 1977. There is also a campus located in Dallas and now has a Resource Center in Big Spring.

For the past three years, Templo Belen has been hosting classes for Vision International University and the School of Tyrannus Int'l Discipleship Program, founded by Dr. Bemis—founder of of For God's Glory Ministries.

Dr. Bemis is the dean/director of Students of the Resource Center in Big Spring. According to him, this is

the second graduation hosted by Templo Belen.

Graduates for 2011 are: Brandy Lee Barrientos – certificate of Biblical studies; Carey Enriquez – certificate of Biblical studies; Laura Sandoval – certificate of Biblical studies; Manuel Negron II – certificate of Biblical studies and associate of Biblical studies; Christopher Rios – diploma of ministry; Rev. Darilyn Bemis – certificate and associate of Biblical studies and diploma of ministry and Rev. Maria S. Rios – bachelors in theological studies.

The Rev. Darilyn Bemis was honored as valedictorian and Carey Enriquez was recognized as salutatorian.

# CHURCH

Continued from Page 5A

state-wide music workshop and presentation.

Our youth have returned safely from a well-deserved trip to Schlitterbahn. Thanks to them and their adult leaders for all the service projects in which they have participated leading up to this outing.

Our congregation continues to pray for rain. We still have prayer reminders to hang in the shower. You will find them in baskets in the foyer of the sanctuary.

For complete information about scheduled meetings and special activities, contact our church office at 267-6394 or go to our website at [www.fumcbs.com](http://www.fumcbs.com). We are located at Fourth and Scurry in downtown Big Spring.

# 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. Next Meeting is Aug. 11. Bring a dish at 6 p.m. for a potluck fellowship.

For more information see our website [www.signal-emmaus.org](http://www.signal-emmaus.org).

# Coahoma First United Methodist Church

Our church is located at 401 N. Main. For more information, contact the church office at 432-394-4432. If you are unable to reach someone at the office, call the cell number at 432-270-1602 or leave a message.

You can also contact us by email at [coahomaumc@gmail.com](mailto:coahomaumc@gmail.com) or visit our website at [coahomaumc.blogspot.com](http://coahomaumc.blogspot.com). Coahoma First United Methodist Church meets for worship Sunday morning at 11 a.m. with Pastor Sammy Espinosa leading the service. Sunday school is at 10 a.m. Our youth meets Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. under the direction of Christin Powell, for students sixth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Game and fellowship night is Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. in the

fellowship hall. United Methodist Women meet the first Tuesday of each month. A meal is provided followed by a business meeting and Bible study. Contact the church for more information. Our Bucket List Committee chaired by Ashley Niblett meets Monday, Aug. 1. The committee will be compiling a list of projects that need to be done on the church wide work day scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 13 as well as working on their mission statement.

Before the Sunday work day begins everyone is invited to the 8 a.m. breakfast. Round Up will be held in Lubbock at the First United Methodist Saturday, Aug. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All members are invited to attend. Our Outreach Ministry accepts school supply donations and donations to the State Hospital.

LaTonn Douglas led the celebration of those who had a July birthday or anniversary with the Red Bucket collection and prayer. We would like to thank our Lay leaders, Christin Powell and Loy Hahn for filling in during our pastor's absence.

Finance and trustee committee meetings are being planned. If you are on these committees contact the church office for the day that fits your schedule.

# REFLECTIONS

# Prayer Perspective

Perhaps you have heard the story of the church that was incensed because a local bar opened across the street. Knowing nothing else to do, the church members mounted a prayer campaign to rid themselves of this blight on the neighborhood. They prayed that God would intervene to remove the bar.

A thunderous storm soon swept across the town and a streak of lightning lit up the sky, striking the bar. The building burst into flame and burned to the ground. The owner of the bar sued the church for the destruction of his property as a result of their prayers. The church defended itself claiming that the lightning strike was an accidental act of nature. The judge sat perplexed in front of the plaintiff and defendant. "It appears," he said, "that I have a bar owner who believes in prayer and a church that doesn't."

During the Civil War Abraham Lincoln pondered the issue of prayer. Both the north and the south were religious. Both believed they were right and both prayed for victory. After his death, the following note was found in his papers: "The will of God prevails — In great contests each party claims to act in accordance with the will of God. Both may be, and one must be wrong. God cannot be for, and against the same thing at the same time. In the present civil war it is quite possible that God's purpose is somewhat different from the purpose of either party."

It is widely reported that during the Civil War Lincoln met with a group of ministers at a prayer breakfast who tried to encourage him. They told the president that they had prayed that "God would be

on our side." Lincoln corrected them saying, "No, gentlemen, let us pray that we are on God's side."

How do we pray and what do we pray for? The Bible is clear that we should let our needs be known to God, that nothing is too great or too small for prayer. We must be careful, however that our prayers are not merely extensions of our own self interest and desires. And we must not allow prayer to degenerate into a tug of war to get God to line up on our side against the interests and desires of others.

When Jesus gave us the model prayer he taught us to pray, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Everything else in the prayer flows from this and is secondary to this. But Jesus went a step further. He not only gave us a model prayer to guide our words, he demonstrated how to pray when he faced death on the cross and prayed, "Father, not my will but thine be done."

Prayer works best when it brings us into alignment with God and his purposes on the earth, purposes that often are at odds with our own. When we pray this way we will love our enemies, do good for those who abuse us and give ourselves generously for others.



BILL TINSLEY

*Bill Tinsley's column reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. His book, Finding God's Vision: Missions and the New Realities is now available as an Amazon e-book. Email [bill@tinsleycenter.com](mailto:bill@tinsleycenter.com).*

## WARNING!

**There are people in Big Spring with Pit Bull Dogs who are having "ILLEGAL DOG FIGHTS!" They are stealing dogs out of people's yards and using them for the fights and then returning them to your doorstep to die.**

**PLEASE BE AWARE AND WATCH YOUR DOGS!**

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## News in brief

### If House can salvage debt-limit bill, GOP Sen. Mitch McConnell could face big decisions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Demoralized House Republicans are trying for a third straight day to pass a debt-ceiling bill that has almost no chance of surviving the Senate, even as the clock ticks closer to next week's deadline for avoiding a potentially calamitous government default.

House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, suffered a stinging setback Thursday when, for a second consecutive day, he had to postpone a vote on his proposal to extend the nation's borrowing authority while cutting federal spending by nearly \$1 trillion.

"Obviously, we didn't have the votes," Rep. David Dreier, R-Calif., said after Boehner and the GOP leadership had spent hours trying to corral the support of rebellious conservatives.

Republicans will try again Friday. If they continue to fail, then President Barack Obama and Senate Democrats will have extensive leverage to shape a bill to their liking and practically dare the House to reject it and send the nation into default.

If, however, Republicans can get Boehner's version through the House, a rapid and complex set of choices will determine whether and how a debt crisis can be averted. House Republicans will be under tremendous pressure to pass something, even if they have to make it so appealing to their right wing that the nation's independents and centrists will laugh it off. As Thursday's events proved, nothing is guaranteed.

### Grappling with debt, lawmakers envision deep reductions in future defense spending

WASHINGTON (AP) — Once unthinkable in a time of two wars, Democrats and Republicans alike are insisting that the billions spent on the military can be significantly cut back over the next decade as the nation struggles to reduce its spiraling debt.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's plan to slash spending and increase the government's borrowing authority would cap spending by the Pentagon and other government agencies at \$1.2 trillion. Conservative Sen. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma has called for just over \$1 trillion in defense cuts in his "Back in Black" plan, including fewer weapons, fighter jets and personnel. A bipartisan group of six senators envisions reductions of more than \$800 billion in 10 years.

The proposals reflect a rare bipartisan consensus driven by a dire economic outlook. The numbers even outpace what a Democratic commander in chief called for earlier this year. In April, President Barack Obama instructed the Pentagon to find \$400 billion in defense savings over 12 years and said no decisions on specifics would be made until the Pentagon had completed a review of options for achieving such reductions.

No matter which plan emerges in the latest debt showdown — Reid's or the House GOP plan by Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio — both call for

creation of a 12-person, House-Senate bipartisan committee to find trillions in deficit cuts. Defense spending will be a ripe target, especially since the money would come from cuts in projected increases. Defense budgets, not including the costs of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, consistently have gone up in recent years, from just over \$370 billion in the late 1990s to around \$550 billion today.

### Economy's growth in first half of this year likely the weakest since the recession ended

WASHINGTON (AP) — The economy likely grew in the first half of the year at the slowest pace since the recession ended, and the second half isn't looking much better.

Weak consumer spending, dismal hiring and cuts in government spending likely held back growth in the April-June quarter. The government will report on second-quarter growth on Friday.

Economists forecast the economy expanded at an annual rate of 1.7 percent, according to a FactSet survey. That follows a 1.9 percent growth rate in the first three months of the year. Those are the slowest back-to-back quarters since the economy began recovering from the recession two years ago.

Even if the economy picks up later this year, growth in 2011 will likely be slower than the 2.9 percent expansion last year. Economists at RBC Capital Markets, for example, forecast growth of 2.3 percent this year.

### Norway suspect questioned by police for 2nd time as nation mourns his victims

OSLO, Norway (AP) — The man who confessed to a bombing and youth camp shooting spree in Norway faces his second interrogation since the massacre Friday, as the nation mourns the 76 victims in memorial services marking a week since the attacks.

Norwegian news agency NTB said Anders Behring Breivik was picked up at a jail and transported to police headquarters in Oslo for a second session of questioning.

Investigators believe the 32-year-old acted alone, after years of meticulous planning, and haven't found anything to support his claims that he's part of an anti-Muslim militant network plotting a series of coups d'etat across Europe.

Breivik was questioned for seven hours Saturday, the day after the twin attacks targeting the government district of Oslo and a youth camp of the prime minister's left-leaning Labor Party on an island northwest of the capital.

### Man convicted of killing woman with ax becomes first inmate executed in Delaware since 2005

SMYRNA, Del. (AP) — Delaware carried out its first execution since 2005 early Friday, putting to death a man who was convicted of killing a woman with an ax during a bur-

glary nearly two decades ago.

Robert Jackson III was pronounced dead at 12:12 a.m. after being given a lethal injection at the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center in Smyrna.

Jackson, 38, lifted his head when asked for his last words shortly after midnight. Searching the window between the execution chamber and witnesses, he asked if the two children of the victim, Elizabeth Girardi, were watching.

"Are the Girardis in there? Christopher and Claudia, if you are in there, I've never faulted you for your anger. I would have been mad myself," he said, going on to deny he killed their mother.

He suggested that his accomplice in the burglary, Anthony Lachette, was the killer.

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**AP file photo**  
In this recent AP photo, Marion Barber eludes a Giant defender.

# Dallas cuts Williams and Barber

DALLAS (AP) - Albert Haynesworth, Chad Ochocinco, Reggie Bush and Kevin Kolb were on the move, and Vince Young is now free to search for a new home. Johnathan Joseph and Darren Sproles each decided on their new teams.

Day 3 of the compressed, post-lockout offseason was wild, and there promised

to be more fun to come.

NFL clubs made a move a minute Thursday, with everything from contract agreements to trades to cuts, that teams were finally allowed to start announcing at 4:01 p.m. EDT. Among the released players were Young by the Titans, Nate Clements by

See **BOYS**, Page 2B

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

# Feliz perfect in save, Rangers split series

ARLINGTON (AP) — Texas Rangers closer Neftali Feliz put the poor performances earlier this week behind him and answered his manager's challenge.

Feliz pitched the ninth for his 21st save, two nights after his fifth blown save of the season, and helped starter Matt Harrison cap his unbeaten July as the Rangers beat Minnesota 4-1 Thursday night for a series split.

"What happened last time I always forget it. I never gave it a thought to look back on what happened. I just came

in 100 percent sure I had to do my job and do my best," Feliz said through a translator. "That's what I think. I never worry about last time."

The AL West-leading Rangers had lost two straight against Minnesota after opening the series with a 20-6 win Monday night when they had the most runs and hits (27) in the majors this season.

Feliz gave up two runs in the ninth inning Tuesday night in the Rangers' 9-8 loss. In the blowout opener, Feliz gave up a run in the

ninth when he was in to get some work after not pitching for a week.

In the aftermath Tuesday night's blown save, manager Ron Washington said he wanted to see more fire from Feliz. The hard-throwing right-hander already has two more blown opportunities than all of last season, when he set a major league rookie record with 40 saves as the Rangers went to their first World Series.

On Thursday night, Feliz struck out Jim Thome and got Danny Valencia on a popup before Delmon Young

grounded out to end the game.

"He was good, he threw the ball well, threw it over the plate," Washington said. "He probably responded because he's a competitor. I don't think I had much to do with it, because I'm not the one out there toeing the rubber trying to get outs."

Harrison (9-7) allowed one run over 7 1-3 innings with two strikeouts and a walk. The left-hander won all three of his decisions in his five starts this month with a 2.04 ERA.

Yoshinori Tateyama

and Arthur Rhodes retired the only batters they each faced before Feliz took over.

"Harry got us as deep as he could get us, and we needed them right there," Washington said. "They got us an opportunity to give the ball to Neftali."

Michael Young and Chris Davis had RBI singles early that put Texas ahead to stay. The Rangers maintained their two-game division lead over the Los Angeles Angels, who won earlier Thursday at Detroit.

Baker (8-6) struck out four with no walks while

allowing two runs over seven innings in his second start since returning from the disabled list because of a right flexor strain. The right-hander's 6-1 with a 1.50 ERA his previous seven starts, including five scoreless innings in his return Saturday against Detroit.

The Twins pulled him after 97 pitches.

"If I felt that, I would have asked to go back out there. But given the situation, we're still trying to be smart about this. Given the

See **TEXAS**, Page 2B

## 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, cheer 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.

### 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.bigspring-bowlarama.com](http://www.bigspring-bowlarama.com).

### Big Spring QB Club meeting Monday

Big Spring QB Club will hold their next meeting Monday, Aug. 1. The meeting will be at 6 p.m. at the ATC. All parents of football players (grades 7-12) are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, call Denise Carrillo at 432-816-1685.

The QB Club is also selling ads for their annual football program. The deadline for the ads is Monday, Aug. 8.

# Streaking Astros ground Cardinals, earning the team its 2nd straight win

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Wandy Rodriguez took a while to find a groove.

When the Houston Astros left-hander finally did, he was unstoppable.

Rodriguez retired the last 13 batters he faced and Jason Bourgeois hit a tiebreaking double in the fifth inning to lead the Houston Astros to a 5-3 win over the St. Louis Cardinals on Thursday night.

Rodriguez (7-7) allowed just one earned run and five hits. He walked Matt Holliday with one out in the fourth before settling in. He got David Freese to hit into a double play to end the fourth, then pitched four perfect innings before Sergio Escalona and Mark Melancon finished up. Melancon got his tenth save in 13 opportunities.

"The first two or three innings, I didn't feel very comfortable on the mound," Rodriguez said. "Then I started to focus. When I focus on my game, I know what can happen."

Rodriguez threw first-pitch strikes to 22 of the 26 batters he faced. The Astros committed two errors allowing a pair of unearned runs in the second inning. But Rodriguez just appeared to get stronger as the game went along. He threw 116 pitches on a hot night. The temperature at the start of the game was 95 degrees.

"When they got a couple unearned runs against us, he didn't let

that bother him," Houston manager Brad Mills said. "He kept coming. He worked through it. The last few starts, he's been right on."

St. Louis lefty Jaime Garcia (10-5), who entered the game with an NL-best home record of 6-1, gave up four earned runs in six innings.

"It was just a tough game," Garcia said. "I was battling. That fourth and fifth inning, they were kind of long. Things just didn't go my way."

Carlos Lee hit his tenth homer of the season in the sixth to give his team a 5-3 lead.

"I'm feeling pretty good," Lee said. "We're finally coming through at the plate."

Lee has three homers and nine RBI in his last seven games.

Michael Bourn extended his hitting streak to a career-best 13 games with two hits. He also walked twice.

Hunter Pence hit two doubles. Pence has been the subject of trade rumors and he reiterated after the game that he would like to stay with the Astros.

"I love these guys and I love Houston," Pence said. "That's all I know. I'm not really in control."

St. Louis first baseman Albert Pujols, who went 2 for 4, moved to within two hits of 2,000. He is aiming to become the 263rd player in history to hit that mark and the fifth St. Louis player to

do so.

Houston scored twice in the fourth and once in the fifth to erase a 3-1 deficit. Lee doubled in Pence to cut the deficit to 3-2. Lee advanced to second and third on a wild pitch by Garcia and scored on a sacrifice fly to center by Chris Johnson.

The Astros capitalized on a throwing error by Freese at third to take the lead for good 4-3 in the fifth. Wandy Rodriguez reached on the error and scored on Bourgeois' two-out double that bounced off the bag at third.

St. Louis, which lost for the third time in eight games, took a 3-1 lead in the third on back-to-back doubles by Jon Jay and Pujols.

"I give Houston credit," St. Louis manager Tony La Russa said. "They faced two of our best pitchers and they got two wins. That's why if you want to try and bet on baseball, you'll be a poor man."

Houston rookie second baseman Jose Altuve, who had hit safely in his first seven games, went 0 for 4, but drove in Bourn with a first-inning sacrifice fly.

St. Louis starters Gerald Laird and Nick Punto, along with Tony Cruz who entered for Laird, all left the game early. Laird, the starting catcher, had a mild strain of the ring finger on his left hand while sliding at the plate in the second inning.

TEXAS

Continued from Page 1B

conditions, I was pretty content with where I was at," Baker said. "You're at that threshold. To throw any more, I don't know if that

would have been beneficial. You know yourself well enough to know your limits."

Josh Hamilton had three hits for Texas, including a two-out triple in the ninth. Young was intentionally walked before Nelson Cruz

reached on a throwing error by third baseman Valencia that allowed Hamilton to score. Mitch Moreland then had an RBI single.

Harrison was pulled with one out in the eighth when he issued his first walk, to Joe Mauer. He finished July

with a 2.04 ERA.

Tateyama struck out Michael Cuddyer, who already had two hits in the game and was hitting .500 (14 for 28) against the Rangers this season. Rhodes then struck out Jason Kubel, who had homered off the left-hander in the

series.

Elvis Andrus and Hamilton had consecutive singles to start the Texas fourth. Young drove Andrus home with a single.

Yorvit Torrealba had a leadoff double in the Texas fifth and scored when Davis blooped a

high popup that dropped in short left-field near the line for a single. That made it 2-0.

Notes: Minnesota won the season series 5-3, and is 18-10 against Texas since the start of the 2009 season. Twins CF Denard Spence has been out since June 9.

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BOYS

Continued from Page 1B

the 49ers, and Jake Delhomme by the Browns.

In the first dramatic example of how the new labor deal's rookie salary system will affect elite players, No. 2 overall draft pick Von Miller got \$21 million guaranteed over four years from the Denver Broncos. The No. 2 pick in 2010, Detroit Lions defensive lineman Ndamukong Suh, signed a five-year deal worth \$40 million guaranteed and as much as \$68 million overall.

Broncos football chief John Elway tweeted, "We have agreed to terms with our 1st round pick, LB Von Miller. Can't wait to get him on the field."

The man widely regarded as the best available player in free agency, Nnamdi Asomugha, hasn't picked a team yet. But Joseph, another top cornerback, agreed to terms with the Houston Texans, according to a person with knowledge of the deal, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the signing hadn't been announced.

Bill Belichick has had success reining in outspoken, do-it-my-way

players such as receiver Randy Moss. Now New England's coach gets two more guys who fit that description in defensive tackle Haynesworth and receiver Ochocinco.

All the Patriots gave up for Haynesworth was a 2013 fifth-round pick. By shipping the defensive tackle to New England, the Washington Redskins rid themselves of a two-year distraction and fiasco of a free-agent signing — Haynesworth was guaranteed a then-record \$41 million in the seven-year, \$100 million contract he got in the early hours of free agency in 2009. On the same day, he infamously declared: "You're not going to remember Albert Haynesworth as a bust."

Hmmmmmm.

Haynesworth played in only 20 games for Washington, making 6½ sacks, and was in constant legal trouble away from the field. Last season, he feuded with Redskins coach Mike Shanahan and was suspended for the final four games for conduct detrimental to the club.

A person with knowledge of the Ochocinco deal told the AP he agreed to a three-year contract with the Patriots. It was not known what the Bengals received in return.

In the Kolb deal, Philadelphia received cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie and a 2012 second-round draft pick from Arizona, which was in need of a starting quarterback. Kolb had lost the Eagles' No. 1 QB job to Michael Vick and wanted a chance to lead a team.

Kolb, who turns 27

next month, reportedly will get a \$63 million, five-year contract with the Cardinals. Rodgers-Cromartie, who went to the Pro Bowl in 2009, will play opposite four-time Pro Bowl cornerback Asante Samuel in Philadelphia, shoring up a pass defense that struggled last season.

The Dolphins completed their trade for Bush by negotiating a two-year contract for nearly \$10 million with the running back. New Orleans gets reserve safety Jonathon Amaya in the swap, which also involves an exchange of draft picks.

"Change is never easy but I look forward to building something special in Miami and can't wait to embark on this new journey!" Bush wrote on Twitter.

New Orleans replaced Bush with Sproles, who told the AP on Thursday night he had agreed to a four-year contract with the Saints.

In other transactions Thursday:

—Five-time Pro Bowl kicker David Akers agreed to a deal with San Francisco, leaving Philadelphia after 12 seasons. Akers told The Associated Press on Thursday that his contract with the 49ers is for three years.

—Kansas City released longtime star guard Brian Waters, who made 149 starts in 11 seasons for the Chiefs and went to five Pro Bowls. Waters said he plans to continue playing.

—Chicago traded tight end Greg Olsen to Carolina for an undisclosed 2012 draft choice. A first-round draft pick in 2007, Olsen has 194 catches for

1,981 yards and 20 touchdowns in his career, but Bears offensive coordinator Mike Martz prefers blocking tight ends.

Olsen finished 2010 with his lowest totals in receptions (41) and yards (404) since he was a rookie.

The Bears also agreed to a five-year contract with punter Adam Podlesh, who comes to Chicago from Jacksonville to replace Brad Maynard, whose contract expired after he spent 10 years at Soldier Field.

—Linebacker Clint Session left the Colts but stayed in the AFC South when he agreed to a five-year deal with the Jacksonville Jaguars worth slightly more than \$29 million, with \$11.5 million in guaranteed money.

—Dallas made official nine cuts, many of them leaked previously. Gone are tackle Marc Colombo, guard Leonard Davis, receiver Roy Williams, running back Marion Barber, kicker Kris Brown, offensive linemen Robert Brewster and Travis Bright, linebacker Kelvin Smith and receiver Troy Bergeron.

—Buffalo agreed to a four-year contract worth about \$15 million with Brad Smith, the versatile receiver-running back-kick returner who was a force in the wildcat formation with the Jets.

—Minnesota released starting safety Madiou Williams, who spent three seasons there but was largely a disappointment after signing a big-money deal to come over from Cincinnati in 2008.

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- Benjamin Franklin, letter to Collinson, 1753

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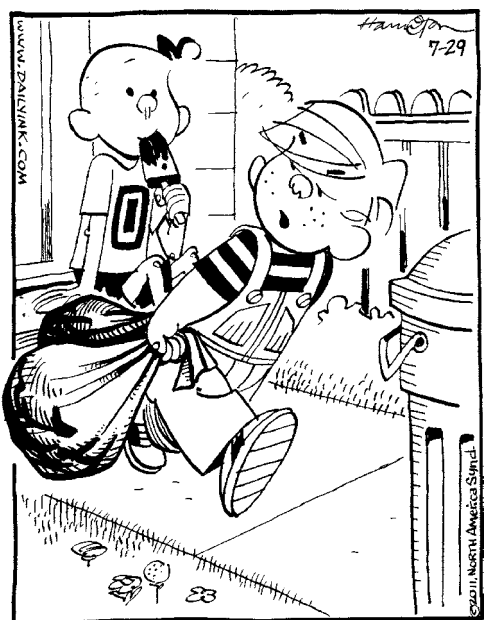
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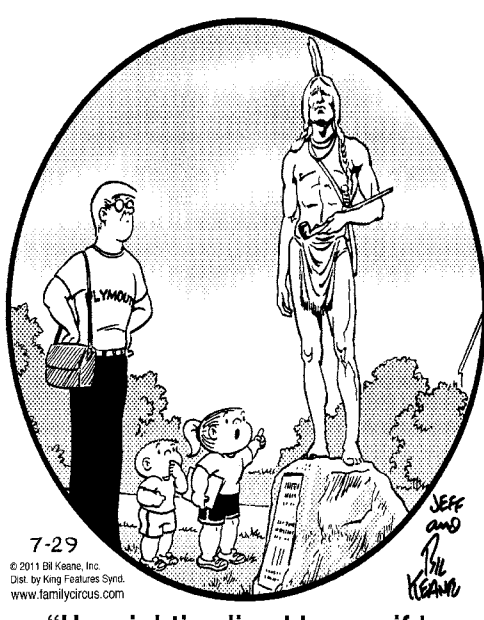
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	King	Robinson	News	70s	Cash Cab	Collateral Damage, Francesca Neri	Gangland	Law & Order	Live	Prank Good		SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me	Two Men	News	Caso Cer-	News	Seinfeld	Chumney	Business	70s	Cash Cab		Gangland	Law & Order		Wizards	ATP Tennis	X Games
7:PM	Shark Tank	Teresa (SS)	Bones	Ent	Flashpoint	Millionaire	Seinfeld	Upd	Wash. Need to Know	Nikita	Man vs. Wild	Movie: The Matrix Reloaded, Carrie-Anne Moss	Gangland	Movie: Deep Impact, Elijah Wood	Movie: Soul Plane, Method Man	Good ANT Farm	Boxing: Friday Night Fights.	
8:PM	Primetime: What	Triunfo del Amor	House	CSI: NY	Decisiones Extr	Dateline NBC	Movie: Legally Blonde Selma Blair	Light of the Southwest	Great Performances	Supernatural	Swamp Loggers		Gangland	Movie: Scary Movie 4, Regina Hall	Movie: Scary Movie 4, Regina Hall	Vampire Random Good	WTA Tennis	SportsCenter
9:PM	20/20	Rosa de Guadalupe	Simpsons	Blue Bloods	La Casa de al Lado					Payne Browns	Swamp Loggers		UFC Un-leashed	Movie: Patriot Games, Patrick Bergin	ANT Farm			
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticiero	News	Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde	Alewine Cortes	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	Swamp Loggers	Movie: The Matrix Revolutions, Carrie-Anne Moss	UFC Un-leashed					
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late		Late Night		Bill Cloud	World (Off Air)	South Pk	Swamp Loggers		UFC Un-leashed	Movie: Ladder 49, Jacinda Barrett				Baseball Tonight
12:AM	Extra	Destilando Amor	Paid Faith	Insider	Cámara Pagado	News	(12:05) Movie: Smart People	Upd CCM		Cops	Man vs. Wild		UFC Un-leashed					
1:AM	Paid	Mujer	TMZ	Ent	Pagado	Poker After Dark		Best of Light of the Southwest		Cathedral			UFC Un-leashed	Movie: The Hills Have Eyes 2	MAN			

DENNIS THE MENACE



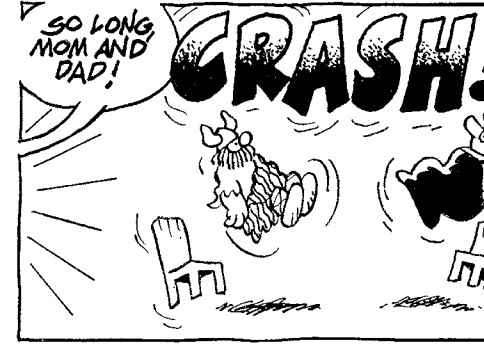
"I ASKED FOR A RAISE IN MY ALLOWANCE, AND GOT A RAISE IN MY CHORES, TOO."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

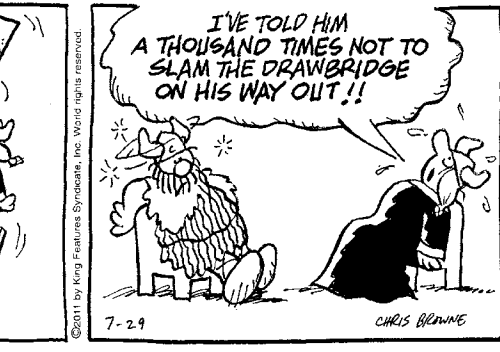


"He might've lived longer if he didn't smoke that pipe."

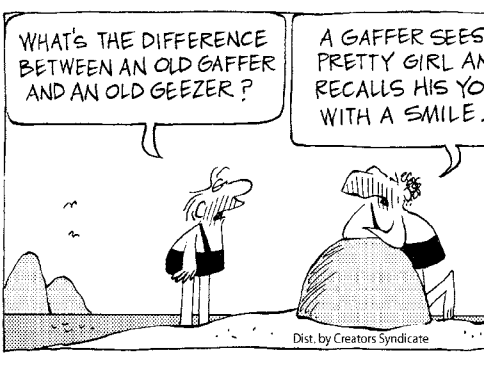
HAGAR



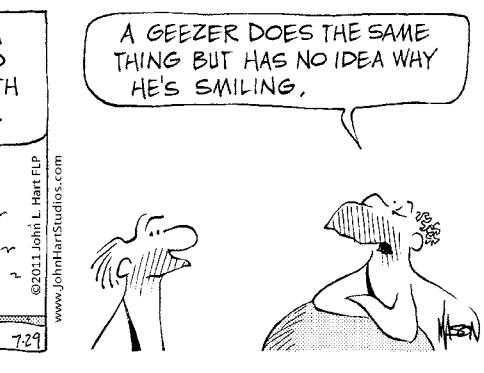
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BC



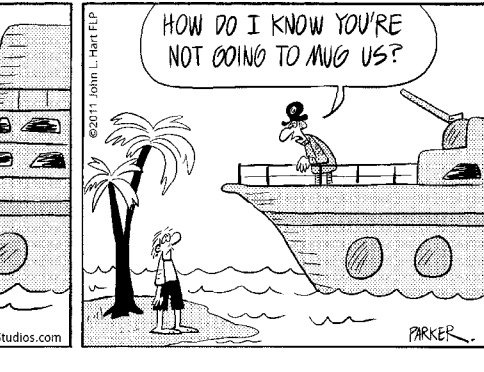
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS  
1 Figure skater  
5 Winners  
11 Scale notes  
14 Big name in game shows  
15 Charming  
16 Unspecified individual  
17 Student volunteer, perhaps  
19 Visibly abashed  
20 Assay sample  
21 Pre-owned  
22 Colorful shirt  
24 Came to light  
26 Employee  
27 FBI investigator  
28 Handled  
29 Like Ellington's music  
32 Is led to believe  
33 World Factbook compiler  
36 The Wizard  
37 Monks' hoods  
38 Money supply  
39 M. Sgt., for one  
40 Wanderers around  
41 Assignments  
42 Tube for shipping  
44 Creative technique  
45 Ticket profiteer  
47 Mythical Greek king  
51 Anne Rice novel  
52 Any part of NBC  
53 Savings option  
54 2016 Olympics site  
55 Serial sci-fi hero  
58 Place to stay  
59 Boot-camp command  
60 Shoppe descriptor

DOWN  
61 Place to hang a hat  
62 Gym wear  
63 Mug filler  
11 Car introduced in 1999  
12 Have \_\_\_ for (appreciate)  
13 Religious feast  
18 Summer forecast  
23 Direct-deposit payment: Abbr.  
25 Make sport of  
26 Naval commandos  
28 Les Misérables escape site  
29 Garfield's owner  
30 Miami Dolphins' grp.  
31 Go quickly  
32 Hang in the air  
34 Calligrapher's buy  
35 Print pitches  
37 Cabbage concoction  
38 Dietary components  
40 Swindles  
41 "\_\_\_ Remember" (Fantasticks song)  
43 Bottom-row key  
44 Puts straight  
45 Piece of cloth  
46 Portrayer of Austin Powers' father  
47 Like the cagiest pitches  
48 Move furtively  
49 Destroy gradually  
50 Less ludicrous  
52 Mallorca, por ejemplo  
56 Mug filler  
57 Hold up

PHOTO OPS by Merle Baker  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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This Date In History

Today is Friday, July 29, the 210th day of the year. There are 155 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 29, 1981, Britain's Prince Charles married Lady Diana Spencer at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. (However, the couple divorced in 1996.)

On this date:

In 1588, the English attacked the Spanish Armada in the Battle of Gravelines, resulting in an English victory.

In 1890, artist Vincent van Gogh, 37, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in Auvers-sur-Oise, France.

In 1914, transcontinental telephone service in the U.S. began with the first test phone conversation between New York and San Francisco.

In 1921, Adolf Hitler became leader (the "fuehrer") of the National Socialist German Workers Party.

In 1948, Britain's King George VI opened the Olympic Games in London.

In 1957, the International Atomic Energy Agency was established. Jack Paar made his debut as host of NBC's "Tonight Show."

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the National Aeronautics and Space Act, creating NASA.

In 1967, an accidental rocket launch aboard the supercarrier USS Forrestal in the Gulf of Tonkin resulted in a fire and explosions that killed 134 servicemen.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford became the first U.S. president to visit the site of the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz in Poland.

In 1985, the space shuttle Challenger began an 8-day mission that got off to a shaky start — the spacecraft achieved a safe orbit even though one of its main engines shut down prematurely after lift-off.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian "Professor" Irwin Corey is 97. Actor Robert Horton is 87. Former Sen. Nancy Kassebaum-Baker is 79. Actor Robert Fuller is 77. Former Sen. Elizabeth H. Dole is 75. Actor David Warner is 70. Rock musician Neal Doughty (REO Speedwagon) is 65.

65. Marilyn Tucker Quayle, wife of former Vice President Dan Quayle, is 62. Actor Mike Starr is 61. Documentary maker Ken Burns is 58. Style guru Tim Gunn (TV: "Project Runway") is 58. Rock singer-musician Geddy Lee (Rush) is 58. Rock singer Patti Scialfa (Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band) is 58. Actress Alexandra Paul is 48. Country singer Martina McBride is 45. Rock musician Chris Gorman is 44. Actor Rodney Allen Rippey is 43. Actor Tim Omondson is 42. Actor Wil Wheaton is 39. Rhythm-and-blues singer Wanya Morris (Boyz II Men) is 38. Country singer-songwriter James Otto is 38. Actor Stephen Dorff is 38.

Answer to previous puzzle

ARID	RAWEST	BAY	
PONE	AVATAR	ICE	
BURNING	LOVE	KOS	
STEAM	DNA	FERN	
	DISCO	INFERNO	
ALBANIA	CALL		
SIL	LIE	ALIST	
SMOKE	ON THE	WATER	
TOTUP	HER	ALA	
	DENG	ANAGRAM	
BLAZE	OF	GLORY	
RAGU	TOR	OMENS	
UKE	FIRE	AND	RAIN
TEN	ACCEDE	ASTI	
EST	NEEDED	TEST	