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Going up! Projects hitting high gear at BSISD

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

After weeks of foundation work, construction is starting to go vertical on Big Spring Independent School District construction projects. The most visible sign of progress in the \$60 million renovation of BSISD's infrastructure is at the site of the new Goliad and Washington elementary campuses, where the walls of the new buildings began going up last week. And school officials promise that is only the beginning. Until now, the vast majority of work has been on preparing and setting the foundations for four new elementary campuses which, while necessary, has not given observers any real sense of the progress being made by work crews.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Workers erect the walls of what will become the new Goliad Elementary gymnasium Thursday afternoon. The work is part of a \$60 million construction project that will result in four new elementary buildings and renovations to other Big Spring Independent School District campuses.

Chamber's message: Accentuate the positive

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

Thinking positive is the way to go, according to the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's new project — Focus on the Positive. "We want to try and get people to stop thinking about the negative and focus on the positive," chamber president Terri Johansen said.

The main goal behind Focus on the Positive is to equip people with positive things to say about Big Spring when they are confronted with the negative thoughts. "It's time to get rid of the 'stinkin' thinking.' These are hard times with the drought and high temperatures, but we need to get people out of the negative way of thinking and bring in some positive,"

Johansen said. In order to get the entire community involved Johansen and chamber board members are encouraging residents to make a list of 10 positive things about Howard County, Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan. Anything positive can go on the list and there is no wrong answer. See **CHAMBER**, Page 3A

"It's time to get rid of the 'stinkin' thinking.' These are hard times with the drought and high temperatures, but we need to get people out of the negative way of thinking and bring in some positive."
 Terri Johansen,
 Chamber of Commerce president

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 Please call 263-7331. 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.

Hangar 25 has new administrator

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

There's a new face at Hangar 25. Genevieve Stockburger, a recent Texas Tech University graduate, has stepped in as the new museum administrator. Stockburger who graduated this past August with her masters degree in museum science officially accepted the keys to the Hangar Friday morning. "I was presented with the opportunity to impact a smaller community than Lubbock, with a profound historical base and I took it," Stockburger said. Museums, the preservation of history and history itself have always been on the top



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno
Genevieve Stockburger, second from left, receives the key to the Hangar 25 Air Museum from museum officials, from left, Gloria McDonald, Sherry Hodnett and Emma Bogard. Stockburger was recently named the new administrator at Hangar 25.

Before coming to Big Spring, Stockburger was working at Silent Wings Museum in Lubbock. When the opportunity presented itself for her to continue what she was doing and to delve into World War II history and a community with deep roots in history, she was ready to take the leap. "Museums who are dedicated to honoring people who have died are extremely important in the preservation of our past," Stockburger said. One of her main goals is to increase the preservation of the current exhibits at the Hangar. She also said she wants to possibly rehouse some of the current collections on display and bring out even more displays. See **HANGAR**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Anna Smith



A beautiful woman has left this earth to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Anna Smith, 95, of Big Spring passed away Sept. 4, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Darrell Hendrickson officiating. Interment will follow at the Mount Olive

Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011, at the funeral home. Anna was born Nov. 21, 1915, in Big Spring, Texas, and was the fifth child of Ruby (Jackson) Smith-Ward and Sam Smith. She attended Moore Common School District and Big Spring High School. She graduated from McMurry College in Abilene with a BS Degree and from North Texas State University in 1950 with a MS degree in Health, Physical Education and Recreation. In 1977, Mid-America Bible College of Oklahoma City conferred to her the Ph.L Degree. After a 40 year teaching career in Big Spring public schools and Howard County Junior College, Anna then learned the western wear business working 13 years with her brother, Bill (W.H.) Ward, at Wards Western Wear, where she loved to spend her recent afternoons reading the paper and discussing the world's problems with her brother, Bill.

Anna was a member of many school and professional organizations while teaching, and was a life member of Delta Psi Capps, the NEA, Women of the Church of God and Farm Bureau. She served for 18 years as Texas president of the Women of the Church of God.

She was active in her church as a teacher of junior boys and girls Sunday school, a board member of many years as well as church hostess and other local offices in her church. She also served as president for Church Women United for several years.

In March 2000, Anna was the honorary chairperson of the NCCAA Division II National Basketball Championships for men and women held at Mid America Bible College, and was presented the "Spirit of NCCAA Award." In 2004 she was inducted into the West Texas Association Church of God Hall of Honor. Anna has been inducted in the Hall of Fame at Big Spring High School, Howard College Athletics 2009-2010 and Western Junior College Athletic Association in 2011.

Survivors include a brother, W.H. (Bill) Ward Jr. and wife Margie of Big Spring; nephews, Shane Ward and wife Karen and daughters Stevi Kai and Jovi Jai Ward of Big Spring, Gary M. Smith and wife Joyce and son Steven David of Sykesville, Md.; as well as several nieces and nephews of Oklahoma City, Okla.; a loyal companion and caregiver, Annie Rushing, who made these past few months worth living with late night football games, Coke floats, laughter and good times; Wendy Ortiz and family, who she talked of often and thought of dearly, and oh how she loved "her girls," Stevi and Jovi, and to watch them grow and perform.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Luther and Jim Smith of Big Spring; a sister and brother-in-law, Catherine and A.D. Dodson of Big Spring; a brother and sister-in-law, Madison Earl and Helen Smith of Baltimore, Md.; and a nephew, Ronnie Ward of Midland, Texas.

Pallbearers will be Dan Hendrickson, Ruben Ortiz, Darrel Reagan, Jim Bob Nichols, Jerry Dudley and Frank Long.

Memorials may be made to Howard County Junior College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, Texas 79720; or to a favorite charity.

Anna taught us many things along the way and will be dearly missed and always remembered for her kind and caring heart, her love for sports, family and, most of all, her church and God above.

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

Paid obituary

Jose Angel 'Matita' Mata



Jose Angel "Matita" Mata, 82, of Big Spring died Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Vigil Services will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with Msgr. Bernard L. Gully officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born May 31, 1929, in Ackerly, Texas, to Isabel and Francisco Mata. Matita married Isabel Gonzales on March 18, 1953, in Big Spring. He worked at College Park Shopping Center and College Park Cinema. Matita was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and a member of Holy Trinity.

Matita is survived by his wife, Isabel Mata of Big Spring; one daughter, Christina Hilario and husband Abelardo Jr. of Big Spring; three grandchildren, Abel Hilario III and wife Kelli of Keller, Marisa Collins and husband Matt of Fresno, Calif., and Matthew Hilario of Denton; four great grandchildren, Brittney Collins and Tyler Collins, both of Fresno, Calif., and Hannah Hilario and Brevin Hilario, both of Keller; five sisters, Elvira Hilario, Juanita Muniz, and Lydia Hensley, all of Big Spring, Maria Mancha of Midland and Lupe Rodriguez of El Paso; and four brothers, Carlos Mata of Modesta, Calif., Tony Mata and Robert Mata, both of Big Spring and Ricky Mata of Colorado City.

In addition to his parents, Matita was preceded in death by one son, Joe Mata Jr. in 1974.

Pallbearers will be Alfredo Hilario, Alonzo Hilario, Ricky Mata, Roberto Mata, Raul Simental, Luis Trejo and Manuel Gonzales Jr.

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

Paid obituary

Ervin Lester Bridge



Ervin Lester Bridge, 85, of Lomax died Friday, Sept. 2, 2011, in a local hospital. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. David Harp officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

The family received friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 5, 2011, at the funeral home.

He was born April 15, 1926, in Tokio, Texas, and married Virginia Phillips on July 20, 1948, in Brownfield, Texas.

Ervin had farmed in Yoakum and Howard County for 65 years. He was a United States Army veteran of World War II.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Virginia Bridge of Lomax; a son and daughter-in-law, Mikel and Judy Bridge of Stanton; a daughter and son-in-law, Cassandra and Gary Whitehead of Nemo; four grandsons; one granddaughter; two step grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Vern and Grace Bridge.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to a charity of your choice.

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

Correction

An article in the weekend edition of the Big Spring Herald incorrectly identified the outside water use schedule set by the city of Big Spring. The correct schedule is:

Residential customers: 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. on Tuesdays and 7 a.m. until 10 a.m. on Saturdays.

Commercial customers: Tuesdays from 6 a.m. until 10 a.m.

Aimee Wallace Aragon



Aimee Wallace Aragon, 41, of Elkhart, formerly of Big Spring died Friday, Sept. 2, 2011, in Tyler, Texas. The family received friends from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Big Spring. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born April 21, 1970, in Big Spring to Betty Jeanette and Elton D. Wallace. She lived most of her life in Howard County. She attended Moss Elementary and graduated from Coahoma High School in 1988. She married Cipriano Aragon in 2001 in Brownfield, Texas. She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

She is survived by her husband, Cipriano Aragon of Elkhart; her mother, Betty Jeanette Wallace of Rusk; three brothers, DeWayne Wallace of Elkhart, Davis Wallace and Douglas Wallace, both of Georgia; two sisters, Lisa Bernet of San Antonio and Marsha Garcia of Lake Whitney; 13 nieces; 13 nephews; and numerous great-nieces and great-nephews.

In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by her sister, Emily Edith Wallace; and a nephew.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- DAVID CANALES JR., 26, of 1111 Settles, was arrested Saturday on warrants for manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance and a warrant from another agency.

- ALBERT MARTINEZ JR., 33, of 601 State, was arrested Saturday on warrants for interfering with an emergency phone call, failure to appear and assault - family violence.

- RENE RODRIGUEZ, 23, of 1312 Sycamore, was arrested Saturday on warrants for driving while license invalid, no seat belt and open container - passenger.

- DONALD RAY MARSHALL, 55, of Arizona, was arrested Saturday on a charge of criminal trespass warning.

- CHRISTOPHER ALTON RANEY, 38, of Lubbock, was arrested Saturday on a warrant for theft.

- KENDRA LYNN HARRISON, 40, of 1313 Colby, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

- ROBERT MARION HALL, 44, of 2410 Carleton, was arrested Saturday on a warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- ROBERT PAUL NEWTON, 33, of 715 Dealy, was arrested Saturday on a warrant from another agency.

- MELANIE DAWN HENDERSON, 28, of 9509 Interstate Highway 20 Apt. 26, was arrested Sunday on a warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- JOSHUA MOISES BASURTA, 19, of 1609 Harding, was arrested Sunday on charges of consumption of alcohol by a minor and theft - shoplifting.

- MARK LEE HUFFMAN, 39, of Georgia, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:

In the 1700 block of Johnson.

In the 1100 block of S. Austin.

In the 1100 block of Austin.

In the 900 block of Abrams.

In the 1200 block of Grafa.

In the 100 block of E. Third Street.

- THEFT was reported:

In the 900 block of Willia.

In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

In the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

- ASSAULT was reported:

In the 1600 block of S. Lancaster.

In the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

- CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 300

block of S. Aylesford.

See ARRESTS, Page 7A

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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 9/7	Thu 9/8	Fri 9/9	Sat 9/10	Sun 9/11
90/62 A mainly sunny sky. High around 90F. Winds E at 10 to 15 mph.	89/63 A few clouds. High in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.	88/63 Plenty of sun. High in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.	90/66 Sunny. High in the low 90s and lows in the mid 60s.	96/70 Mainly sunny. High in the mid 90s and lows in the low 70s.
Sunrise: 7:25 AM Sunset: 8:03 PM	Sunrise: 7:25 AM Sunset: 8:01 PM	Sunrise: 7:26 AM Sunset: 8:00 PM	Sunrise: 7:27 AM Sunset: 7:59 PM	Sunrise: 7:27 AM Sunset: 7:58 PM

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Stories for and about hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.

Texas At A Glance

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	88	59	sunny
Amarillo	76	56	cloudy
Austin	92	59	sunny
Beaumont	87	58	sunny
Brownsville	93	68	pt sunny
Brownwood	90	59	sunny
Corpus Christi	95	66	sunny
Corsicana	88	60	sunny
Dallas	88	62	sunny
Del Rio	97	66	sunny
El Paso	96	66	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	92	62	sunny
Gainesville	85	57	mst sunny
Greenville	86	57	sunny
Houston	92	61	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	70	57	cloudy
Boston	64	62	rain
Chicago	72	59	sunny
Dallas	88	62	sunny
Denver	66	51	t-storm
Houston	92	61	sunny
Los Angeles	89	66	sunny
Miami	90	76	t-storm

Take note

- ISIAH 58 Food Drive will take place until Sept. 23. Drop off locations are at the Big Spring Herald office, United Way office, Walmart and H-E-B. All non-perishable foods are accepted.
- The Student Council will host a blood drive Wednesday at the Big Spring High School Library. Any community member interested in giving blood may come by the high school main office or call 264-3641 to schedule a time. Appointments are not necessary but recommended.
- American Cancer Society will have their board meetings starting noon, Sept. 13 on the second Tuesday of the month through April. Lunch will be furnished. Meetings will take place at Home Hospice, located at 111 E. Seventh.

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.

• 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

• The Salvation Army has funding for Texas Military Personnel now serving or has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The military member or their family member may apply at 811 W. Fifth St. or call 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home.

We currently have 55 children in foster care without a volunteer. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering please contact Suzy Milliken at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

• Are you a 1971 BSBS graduate? Come to our 40th reunion Sept. 30-Oct. 1. For information, contact bshs71@yahoo.com or Susan Green McLellan at 432-267-5759.

• Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Training will be provided and geared to your time frame. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.

• Every 10 years, Texas requires that marks and brands be re-registered in the county or counties in which you operate. The next re-registration period begins Aug. 31 and runs through Feb. 29, 2012. At the conclusion date, all marks and brands that have not been re-registered are automatically available for registration by another party. For additional information, contact the Howard County Clerk's Office at 264-2214 or 264-2213.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help! We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

• Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union is raising money to benefit Maurine Pittman, who is undergoing cancer treatment in a Dallas-area hospital. For more information, call the credit union at 263-8393.

• 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

HANGAR

Continued from Page 1A

"We are here to provide the history to the public and if we are keeping it locked up then the public isn't seeing it and we aren't serving them to the best of our ability," Stockburger said.

This career path may not be one most people would take, but for her it is the right choice. It not only allows her to submerge herself in history, a subject she received a minor in from Texas Tech, but also offers the opportunity to get involved and share history with other people.

ple. That dovetails nicely with her other goal — to gain more exposure for the museum and its purpose.

"History is something important to a community and if we can't get our name out there we won't be able to share the history as well as we possibly could," Stock-

burger said. "There is so much history out here, with the hangar, the training field and other hangars on the air base that people just don't know about."

Of course, Stockburger understands how important it is to have help when trying to get this information out and

wants to extend an invitation to those in the community who would like to volunteer at the Hangar.

"We are always looking for volunteers," she said. "The more people we have the better."

If you are interested in volunteering at the Hangar, call 264-1999.

CHAMBER

Continued from Page 1A

Once the list has been compiled it can be turned into the chamber.

According to Johansen, the goal is to have businesses on board

for prizes and the first round of the project underway. She said the plan is to have numerous drawings, but minor details are still being worked out.

"We are expecting there to be repeats, but at the same time it doesn't mean people are thinking the same way,"

Johansen said. "Each person is going to have their own reasons behind the positives they list and we might even follow up on some of the lists and find out what those reasons are."

For those submitting their lists, Johansen said it is important to remember to include

your name, address and phone number.

"Big Spring is it's people. We may not have all the things a big city does, but we have our people and there are lots of positive things around here," she said.

To find out more about Focus on the Positive, contact the chamber

at 263-7641 or any of the chamber board members. Lists can be dropped off at the chamber office, located at 215 W. Third St.

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

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

land Pierce, who is the school district's liaison to the construction manager.

"We're now above ground at Washington and Goliad," Pierce said.

"And by the end of next week, all concrete work (at those sites) should be

done."

As foundation work is completed at one campus, crews rotate to other sites to help there, Pierce said. The result of this hop-scotching is that the pace of the overall project should speed up considerably in the coming weeks.

At Marcy, the foundation slab for the new gymnasium is complete,

so walls should begin being erected there this week.

Pierce added that foundation preparation is almost complete at Moss Elementary and concrete pouring should begin there soon. Work at the Moss site is behind that of other locations because crews had to wait until the old school building was demolished

before beginning construction. At the other sites, the new buildings are being built alongside existing campuses.

Considering the triple-digit temperatures work crews have had to deal with this summer, Pierce said they've done yeoman's work so far.

"The concrete crews have been exceptional in dealing with the

heat," he said. "They've been great."

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Aimee Wallace Aragon, 41, died Friday. Funeral services will be at 2:00 PM today at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Big Spring with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Jose Angel "Matita" Mata, 82, died Saturday. Vigil Services will be at 7:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 11:00 AM Wednesday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings, except July 4, Memorial Day, Labor Day and Christmas Day, except if Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. All materials copyrighted.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.85 monthly; \$95.58 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer	

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Beware of the easy 'fixes' for these entitlement programs

Please, everyone, stop monkeying around with Social Security and Medicare. We mean you, Republicans, and you, Democrats. No one's saying that Social Security can't be slightly recalibrated to keep the program on a sound footing or that significant savings can't be found in Medicare waste. We're saying that if Americans are not vigilant, these programs can be undermined by seemingly small "fixes."

First off, don't mess with payroll taxes. Democrats are pushing to extend this year's cut in payroll taxes. That's a lousy idea.

Payroll taxes support Social Security. The program is totally self-sustaining. Taxes not used to support current retirees are put into the Social Security trust fund, to be saved for future needs — mainly when the big baby boom generation retires. These surpluses are lent to the U.S. government in the form of special Treasury bonds. They represent real money from real workers, and yes, the U.S. Treasury is obligated to make good on all its borrowings.

Conservative foes of Social Security argue that these Treasury bonds are "worthless pieces of paper" and that the money has already been spent. Why don't you try that with MasterCard? Call up and say, "I don't owe you

the \$925 I charged last month, because I've already spent it on a new sofa bed." See what happens.

Social Security's enemies are perpetrating a con on America's workers. If they can convince the public that the government doesn't have to pay back what it borrowed from the trust fund, they don't have to raise the income taxes that may be needed to honor that debt obligation.

When Democrats cut payroll taxes, they weaken the basis of Social Security's funding. As already noted, those tax dollars are needed. They also remind the workers providing them that their expected Social Security benefits are not some gift from rich people, but something they've saved for.

On to Medicare.

Republicans want to increase means-testing for the program. Amazingly, President Obama says he'll consider it. Means-testing involves having the government look at your income to determine how much of a benefit, if any, you may receive.

The Medicare program does rely heavily on general revenues (in addition to payroll taxes and contributions by beneficiaries). And Medicare's soaring price tag is of great concern. Means-testing could cut the program's costs by reducing the benefits of well-to-do retirees.

What's wrong with that? Plenty. The public's strong support for Medicare rests on its benefiting every income group. When you start cutting benefits for the wealthy, or semi-wealthy, the well-to-do stop caring so much about the program. Medicare

becomes more like welfare. In practical terms, it will become more like Medicaid, the government health plan for the poor. Observe the cuts in that.

Medicare already has some means-testing. The better-off pay more for Part B premiums (covering visits to the doctor), and low-income folks pay lower or no premiums for drug coverage. For high-income beneficiaries, Republicans now propose raising those Part B premiums further and increasing their copays.

If you like the Republican plan to turn Medicare into a voucher system — whereby the elderly are given a check with which to buy health coverage on the private market — this is a good start. Means-testing will shrink the fan base for Medicare-as-we-know-it. If you want the rich to pay more without undermining Medicare, however, there's a simpler solution: Raise their income tax rates, and leave their benefits alone.

To protect Medicare and Social Security from under-funding or welfare-ization, it's essential that all income groups see themselves as beneficiaries — and contributors. Remember: A little turn of the wrong screw can shut down an entire factory.

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

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It's about time for the empty talk to be done and over with

As President Obama's presidential term has unfolded, he has made it increasingly clear

what he meant all those times he haughtily said, "I won." It's his world, and he has no intention of sharing control over it.

This was on stark display when he attempted to pre-empt the Republican debate with a grandiose joint session of Congress called solely for the purpose of delivering another round of economic propaganda.

He would have us believe that his speech will be of monumental import, but everyone knows, Democrats included, that it will be nothing more and nothing less than a sales job. There will be nothing new in this speech, no new ideas, no new information.

There is never anything new in any of his speeches, including the 50-plus orations he delivered on Obamacare, but he nevertheless keeps going back to the well. He has degenerated into a habitual pattern of presenting an idea and, after the public rejects it, making further speeches to convince us that we are the ones who are wrong. With each new speech, no matter the subject, he ends up with fewer supporters of the proposition in question, yet he remains oblivious to the diminishing returns he is achieving.

He's been talking about jobs incessantly since his presidential campaign began. When he presented his stimulus package, he wasn't equivocal; he betrayed no uncertainty. He didn't say to the American people: "Folks, I am recommending bold action. I realize we just spent nearly \$1 trillion on TARP, but I'm asking you to trust me with almost another \$1 trillion of borrowed money to try something that

might strike you as a dangerous gamble. I'm not sure injecting this money into the economy will stimulate growth, but we have to try something, even if it very well may leave us in an even more precarious national debt predicament."

Instead, he assured us, with great confidence, that his plan would work and that it would jump-start the economy and get people back to work. He was so sure of his plan that he even acknowledged that his re-election would depend on its success or failure.

Back then, unlike now, he had enormous political capital and the confidence of a great percentage of the American people, many of whom trusted him.

Today we know the results of his reckless experiment. The economy and jobs are tanking, and our exploding debt portends imminent financial collapse.

But from all appearances, he remains as clueless to his economic failures and the bankruptcy of his ideas as he is to their unpopularity with the public.

How much more empirical evidence will he need before he quits shoving us toward the cliff?

Perhaps the only thing more difficult than conceptualizing the sheer magnitude of the number \$42 billion is trying to figure how anyone could seriously think that injecting more borrowed money would stimulate the economy when \$842 billion didn't. Please ask yourself whether anyone who claims that is an insufficient amount of money to test a theory should have your trust about any subject remotely touching on economics.

And yet that is what the Paul Krugmans and the Obamas would have us believe; the government hasn't spent enough money, and if we just hire more people to dig and refill ditches, we'll get back on the road to recovery.

Obama's reckless experiments would be objectionable enough

if the only negative result they generated was to depress an already ailing economy. But he continues to add unconscionable amounts to the national debt as if it's a nonevent.

It would be one thing if he were to demonstrate any openness to ideas that he hasn't already tried, ideas that deviate in any way from his leftist playbook.

But any semblance of newness in his upcoming talk will have nothing to do with substance, only packaging. He's such an inflexible ideologue that he's incapable of entertaining new ideas. Even if he came to believe, correctly, that the only way out of this nightmare would be to radically reduce spending, structurally reform entitlements, streamline the tax code, relax onerous regulations and restore some certainty and predictability in the business environment, he would not act on those beliefs. He will not pursue an agenda that violates his leftist ideas.

So I don't have to be clairvoyant to know that his speech will just be more propaganda designed to divert attention from his failed record and upstage his Republican challengers. That's what makes his stunt to overshadow them all the more reprehensible.

Obama is the one man standing in the way of reversing the economic meltdown and the existential debt threat to this nation. It's time for him to quit playing games with his speeches and join Republicans in taking remedial action to restore America's financial health.

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. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Success in Your love, Lord, brings us success in love and finances.

Amen

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J R E X H I T C T A N V
L O A I B E B I K G P A
Z O V Y N S O D A O L S
V I Y D T N E D U T S U
S D O C T O R Q N Y M X
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THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

• **1698:** TSAR PETER I OF RUSSIA IMPOSES A TAX ON BEARDS FOR ALL MEN EXCEPT THE CLERGY AND THE PEASANTRY.

• **1882:** THE FIRST LABOR DAY PARADE IS HELD IN NEW YORK CITY.

• **1960:** CASSIUS CLAY IS AWARDED THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT DIVISION AT THE OLYMPICS IN ROME.



A CHILD SHOULDN'T CARRY A BACKPACK THAT WEIGHS MORE THAN THIS PERCENTAGE OF HIS OR HER BODY WEIGHT?

ANSWER: 20%

Vision Match

Match the statement with the school subject.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. Geometry | a. A noun is a person, place or thing. |
| 2. History | b. Herbivores are animals that eat plants. |
| 3. Language Arts | c. Pi times radius squared equals the area of a circle. |
| 4. Science | d. In 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue. |

Answers: 1. c 2. d 3. a 4. b



load

heavy, bulky
thing being carried

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Book

SPANISH: Libro

ITALIAN: Libro

FRENCH: Livre

GERMAN: Buch

Did you know?



IT IS IMPORTANT TO USE BOTH STRAPS WHEN WEARING A BACKPACK SO THAT WEIGHT IS EVENLY DISTRIBUTED ON THE BACK.

GET THE PICTURE?



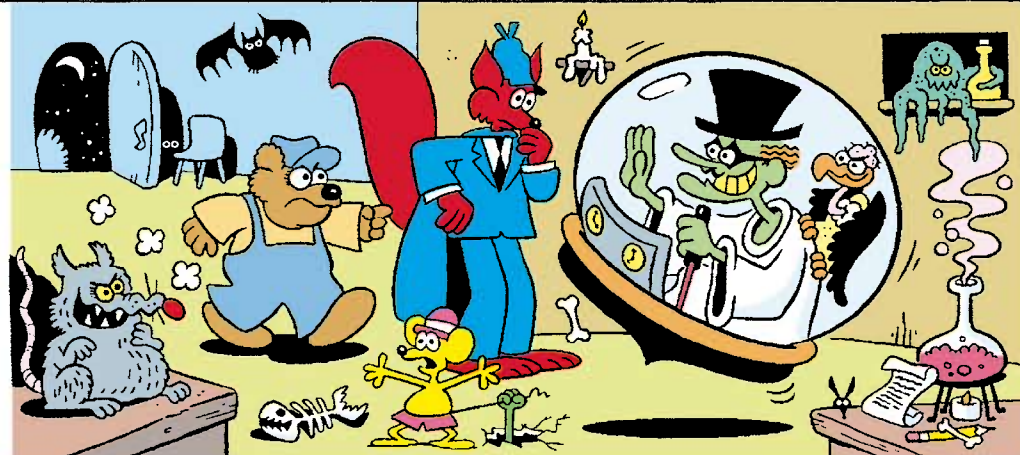
Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: BACKPACK

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

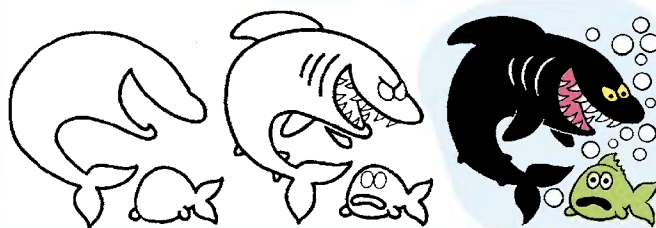
BY BOB WEBER JR.

Farmer Bear says Count Weirdly burned his crops 10 minutes ago. Weirdly insists he's innocent. He claims he just returned to the present after traveling in his time machine and witnessing inventor Thomas Edison make the world's first phone call on March 10, 1876. Why is Slylock Fox sure Weirdly is lying?



HOW TO DRAW a hungry shark

WEBER 8-28



YOUR DRAWING

Today's terrific artist is Maggie, age 12



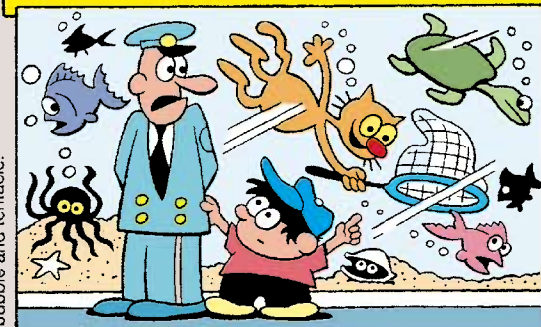
Submit your drawings to www.kidcartoonists.com

Which of these are not fish?

- a) Seahorse
- b) Seahorse
- c) Jellyfish
- d) Eel
- e) Crayfish

Answer (a) (e)

Spot six differences between these panels.



twitter.com/BobWeberJr



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

The danger of messing with electricity

During July and August, they came. Almost overwhelming were the number of hawks, including Swainson's, red-tailed, red-shouldered, and Mississippi kites. Whether nestlings, fledglings, juveniles, or adults, all had succumbed to the drought.

Some were too weak to fly. Others were ravaged by starvation and dehydration. Challenged by the lack of food sources and extent of suffering, volunteer rehabbers were making every effort to save the raptors and other avian species throughout the Panhandle, Permian Basin and beyond.

When rehabber Diane Tracy of San Angelo called regarding a red-tailed hawk found in Eldorado, she also gave the county. "Schleicher," she repeated several times when I asked her to spell it.

After guiding me direction-wise to that area of Texas, I offered, "That's number 41." "Forty-one what?" she fired back. Telling her that number of counties, from which birds had come to us for care over many years, was a reality of how few rehabbers worked in our part of the state.

Because the hawk was thought to have a broken wing since it could not fly, Diane had felt the length of each wing to check for any signs of a fracture or calcification. None were found.

Assuming she was dealing with another drought-related downing of a raptor, Diane hydrated and fed the hawk. The next day we met her in Sterling City.

Born the previous year, the bird of prey was still brown above and mottled with white that caused the look of a "V" on its wings and back. Below, it was a buff-white. Noticeable were narrow sepia-to-brown streaks on its throat, neck and belly.

Removing the hawk from her carrier, I wanted one last look-see at the underside of its wings. To verify it was definitely a red-tail, since at this age it is similar to a Swainson's hawk, I extended its wings. Noticing the brown epaulets, enhancing the leading edges of its wings and becoming darker with maturity, confirmed Diane's positive identification as a red-tail.

After three days with us, the bird was taken



Courtesy photo

Seen throughout the year in our area, the red-tailed hawk starts molting toward its adult plumage during its second summer. Upon reaching maturity, its tail leaves nothing to doubt. Its rufous or rusty appearance is outstanding as the raptor soars on West Texas thermals.

to Lubbock. Continued feeding and rest soon enabled volunteer, Gail Barnes, to move the red-tail to its next stage of recovery.

Ready for the flight cage, the raptor readily accepted the long, spa-

cious area in which to exercise. Nearly a week passed.

Since the red-tail was eager for release, Gail let the bird exhaust its energy in trying to evade her. Its landing on the ground to rest

a moment before taking flight again gave her an opportunity to place a net over it. As she started removing the nylon mesh from the struggling raptor, it was then she noticed a drop of blood on one of its feet.

With help, the hawk was held securely while Gail opened its mouth and looked under its tongue. Now she knew why the raptor had been down on the ground.

Until an entry or exit point manifests itself, Gail, or any rehabber, would not have considered that the bird had nearly been electrocuted. Known to frequent power poles, the red-tail had evidently placed one foot on a line and momentarily touched "something hot" with its beak.

Whether wind or another raptor had caused such an awkward approach, only the raptor would know. Apparent was the healing of the black spot in its mouth, while its foot needed time to recover.

Fortunately, the thermal event of electricity passing through the red-tail had not been sufficient to kill it. Often birds would live for days only to die

BIRD POOP

By BEBE McCASLAND



from internal damage to vital organs.

Having handled raptors with blackened, peeling feet, and suspicious holes in their wings, could hardly have prepared Gail, or us, for a bird that had no visible signs of injury.

Her experience in handling far more cases of suspected electrocution, and in detecting the wound on the hawk's foot, delayed a release that could have ended in tragedy.

Finally recovered from its ordeal with electricity, the red-tailed hawk was released 20 miles east of Lubbock at Buffalo Springs Lake.

After telling us of its strong flight, she added, "That was one lucky bird."

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bridge Is a Partnership Game

East dealer. East-West vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 7 2	♥ Q 4	♠ Q 4	♥ 7 6 3
♥ J 10 5	♦ K 5 4	♦ 9 8 6 2	♠ Q J 10 3
♦ K 5 4	♣ K J 9 6 3	♣ 7 5	♠ Q 10 8 2

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 NT
Pass 2 ♠

Opening lead — king of hearts.

Assume you're a defender and your partner adopts a line of defense you don't understand. Despite your uncertainty, it's usually wise to cooperate with your partner, whatever he's doing, because he might know something about the hand that you don't know. Besides, it's psychologically better to humor him — even if only for morale purposes.

Getting down to cases, let's suppose you're East, defending against

two spades, and your partner leads the K-A-Q of hearts, declarer following suit.

At this point, you'd be expecting that partner was going to shift to a diamond or a club, neither of which would make much difference to you since you have both suits under control. But, much to your surprise, West now leads the nine of hearts!

Declarer discards a diamond from dummy and thus dashes your hope of scoring a diamond trick later on. West's heart play might strike you as very strange, since somewhere along the line he must have been told not to give declarer a ruff-and-discard.

However, you'd do better to take the play in stride and try to figure out what your partner is up to. It would surely be wrong to discard on the nine of hearts, which you might feel inclined to do if you assumed partner had suddenly taken leave of his senses.

Instead, you should follow partner's defense and ruff the nine of hearts with your queen of spades. That is what he presumably wants you to do in order to promote his trump holding. If you do this, South will eventually lose three trump tricks and go down one; if you don't, he makes the contract.

Tomorrow: Try the impossible.
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It's all about your perspective

It's interesting to gain perspectives on people's thoughts. For instance, if you were asked whether you were rich or poor what would your answer be?

How would you view the things you have as compared to the things you do not have?

I read a story recently that allowed me consider two completely different views. As you read the story, think about your situation; you may be surprised.

One day, the father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the express purpose of showing him how poor people live. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"It was very interesting, Dad."

"Did you see how poor people live?" the father asked.

"Oh yeah," said the son.

"So, tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.

The son answered: "I saw that we have one dog and they had four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end.

"We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon.

"We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight. We buy our food but they grow theirs.

"We have servants who serve us, but they serve others. We have walls around our property to protect us; they have friends to protect them."

The boy's father was speechless.

Then his son added, "Gee Dad, I never realized how poor we are."

This is just a story but isn't perspective a wonderful thing? It really makes you wonder what would happen if we all gave thanks for everything we have, instead of worrying about what we don't have.

If we would learn to be thankful for the things we have, we might discover that we are happier, more energetic, experience more frequent positive emotions, be more helpful, empathic and forgiving, and less likely to be depressed,

PARENT'S CORNER

By DARRELL RYAN



anxious, lonely, envious, or neurotic.

Now that's an interesting concept isn't it?

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

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- Over 25 years overall experience
- Certified Public Accountant
- Served as Howard County Attorney, Big Spring City Attorney
- Member of Howard County Bar Assoc., State Bar Assoc., American Bar Assoc.

C.E. Mike Thomas
Attorney at Law

c.e.mikethomas@gmail.com

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ARRESTS

Continued from Page 2A

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 83 inmates at the time of this report.

- ERICK SHEROD FRANKS, 36, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for displaying expired registration and driving while license invalid (two counts).
- BOBBY CARROLL ATKINSON, 32, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- JOSE LOPEZ CHAVEZ III, 41, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- CYNTHIA WHITE, 46, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- PERRY WAYNE WELLS, 48, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- VANESSA DAWN HOLLIS, 38, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of modified probation — driving while intoxicated — third or more offense.
- JAMES RANDLE GONZALEZ, 26, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- ALBERT MARTINEZ, 33, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of interfering with an emergency phone call and municipal warrants for assault — family violence and failure to appear.
- ALFONSO BACA III, 29, was arrested Saturday by DPS on municipal warrants for driving while license invalid (two counts) and violation of a promise to appear.
- MICHAEL JOSEPH LEDFORD, 33, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a municipal warrant for no insurance.
- WESTON ALAN BRICKER, 19, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of minor in consumption of alcohol.
- DAVID CANALES JR., 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance in a drug free zone and a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance.
- RENE RODRIGUEZ, 23, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for driving while license invalid, no seat belt and open container.
- KENDRA LYNN HARRISON, 40, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- CHRISTOPHER ALTON RANEY, 38, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of stealing/receiving stolen check.
- ROBERT MARION HALL, 44, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- LAKESHIA DANIELLE ANDERSON, 22, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of theft.
- JERRY MICHAEL JONES, 60, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- ROBERT PAUL NEWTON, 33, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.
- MELANIE DAWN HICKMAN, 28, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a municipal warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- JONATHAN A. HICKMAN, 35, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of assault — family violence.
- JENNY JUAREZ, 27, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of failure to identify — giving false information and no driver's license.
- JOSHUA BASURTO, 19, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of minor in consumption of alcohol and theft.
- EVELYN HERNANDEZ APODACA, 48, was arrested by DPS Monday on charges of possession of a controlled substance, possession of a dangerous drug, driving while intoxicated and driving while license invalid.
- MARK LEE HUFFMAN, 39, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- ALBERTO FRANCO, 59, was arrested Monday by DPS on charges of public intoxication and unlawfully carrying a weapon.
- RAYMOND RAMIREZ, 60, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a Tom Green County warrant for motion to revoke — burglary of a building.
- BRODIE LEE DUNN, 32, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on municipal warrants for expired motor vehicle inspection and violation of a promise to appear.
- CYNTHIA LEE RIOS, 27, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of assault causing bodily injury — family violence and assault by threat.
- KIMBERLY RIOS, 25, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of assault by threat (two counts) and a municipal warrant for driving while license invalid.
- ARLINDA ROSALES SMITH, 60, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of silent/abusive calls to 911 service.

- MEDICAL was reported near the intersection of Highway 87 and FM 461. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1000 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of W. 21st Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of E. 15th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the area of N. Scurry and N.E. 12th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported near the 169 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 900 block of Debra Lane. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2800 block of Coronado. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3900 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported near the intersection of Bilger and Wilson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of N.E. 10th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Fifth Street and Gregg. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the area of Glasscock County. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of N.E. Eighth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- AUTOMOBILE FIRE was reported near the intersection of Martin Luther King Blvd. and Gregg Street.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of E. 11th Place. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Central in Coahoma. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of N.E. 10th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 3200 block of E. 11th Place. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of E. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of Debra Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.

News in brief

Gadhafi spokesman: Toppled Libyan leader resolute, even as forces desert

TARHOUNA, Libya (AP) — Moammar Gadhafi is determined to fight his way back to power, the toppled dictator's spokesman said Tuesday, but a large convoy of his soldiers has apparently deserted, crossing the Libyan desert into neighboring Niger. Also Tuesday, tribal elders in a Gadhafi stronghold were trying to persuade regime loyalists holed up inside to lay down their arms, a rebel negotiator said. Still, Gadhafi spokesman Moussa Ibrahim was defiant. Gadhafi is "in excellent health, planning and organizing for the defense of Libya," Ibrahim told the Syrian TV station al-Rai, adding that both Gadhafi and his sons remain in Libya. "We are fighting and resisting for the sake of Libya and all Arabs," Ibrahim said. "We are still strong and capable of turning the tables on NATO."

Poll: Americans open to trading off some liberties to fight terrorism

WASHINGTON (AP) — Surveillance cameras in

public places? Sure. Body scans at airports? Maybe. Snooping in personal email?

Not so fast. The same Americans who are increasingly splashing their personal lives across Facebook and Twitter trace a meandering path when asked where the government should draw the line between protecting civil liberties and pursuing terrorism. Ten years after the 9/11 attacks led to amped-up government surveillance efforts, two-thirds of Americans say it's fitting to sacrifice some privacy and freedoms in the fight against terrorism, according to a poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. A slim majority — 54 percent — say that if they had to choose between preserving their rights and freedoms and protecting people from terrorists, they'd come down on the side of civil liberties. The public is particularly protective of the privacy of U.S. citizens, voicing sharp opposition to government surveillance of Americans' emails and phone calls. For some Americans, their reluctance to give up any freedoms is a reflection of their belief that the terrorists eventually will succeed no matter what.

Odds and ends

Man charged with breaking into Conn. pound for dog

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — A Connecticut man faces several felony charges after being arrested inside a dog pound where his Italian greyhound had spent the weekend. The Hartford Courant reports that Walther Scovish had the dog, Missy, taken from him on Sept. 3 after Scovish was pulled over and charged with possession of heroin. Police told him he could get Missy back when the West Hartford pound opened for business on Tuesday. Police say they found Scovish inside the pound just before 6 a.m. on Monday after an alarm went off. Police say Scovish told them his dog had special needs. Scovish was charged with burglary, criminal trespass, larceny, and attempted larceny. He was being held Tuesday in lieu of \$150,000 bond.

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

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Almost 500 home lost in wildfires

BASTROP (AP) — Calmer winds Tuesday should help firefighters battling a wildfire that has destroyed nearly 500 homes in Central Texas and forced thousands of residents to evacuate to shelters to avoid the blaze, officials said.

Texas Forest Service spokeswoman Victoria Koenig said it is too early to say how much progress was made fighting the wildfire in Bastrop County overnight, but that there were no winds early Tuesday. The fire enveloped at least 25,000 acres Monday.

"It's encouraging we don't have winds right now, not like yester-

day," Koenig said early Tuesday morning.

Even with the encouraging conditions, Koenig said it was a "tough, tough fire" that was raging through rugged terrain, including a ridge of hills.

"You can still see the hills glowing quite a bit," she said.

At least 5,000 people were forced from their homes in Bastrop County about 25 miles east of Austin, and about 400 were in emergency shelters, officials said Monday. School and school-related activities were canceled Tuesday.

Gov. Rick Perry told NBC's "Today" show

that more than 50 fires were burning across the state.

"We're a long way from having these under control," Perry said.

Perry urged residents to follow evacuation orders and not put their lives in danger for the sake of their possessions. He returned to Texas, cutting short a visit to South Carolina where he was campaigning for the Republican nomination for president.

Fanned in part by howling winds from the remnants of Tropical Storm Lee, the blaze rapidly grew Monday, racing through rain-starved farm and ranchland.

Winds in the area gusted up to 30 mph on Monday, but dropped overnight to around 5 mph and were only expected to get up to 10 mph by afternoon, said National Weather Service forecaster Orlando Bermudez.

In Bastrop, a town of about 6,000 people along the Colorado River, huge clouds of smoke soared into the sky and hung over downtown

Monday. When winds picked up, flames flared over the tops of trees. Helicopters and planes loaded with water flew overhead, and firefighters along a state highway outside the city converged around homes catching fire.

"Waiting is the most frustrating thing," said Gina Thurman, 47, choking back tears as she sat by herself in the shade on a curb outside Ascension Catholic Church, one of several shelters in the area. "You're sitting there and you don't know anything but your house is probably burning."

Rick Blakely was among about 30 people sleeping on cots at the church. The 54-year-old said he was in a state of shock and "not expecting anything to be standing" when he returned to his home.

"I just don't know what I'm going to do," he said.

Strong winds coupled with drought conditions allowed the fire to travel quickly over somewhat hilly terrain, burning through pine and cedar trees and wiping out

subdivisions as well as ranchland. Dry conditions were expected to persist at least through the week, according to the National Weather Service.

The fire was far enough away from Austin that the city was not threatened, but it consumed land along a line that stretched for about 16 miles, Texas Forest Service officials said.

The wildfire destroyed at least 476 homes, and about 250 firefighters were working around the clock using bulldozers and water trucks against the fire, Bastrop County Judge Ronnie McDonald said.

There were no immediate reports of injuries, and officials said they knew of no residents trapped in their homes.

But the blaze was "nowhere near controlled" on Monday and a separate, smaller blaze south of the city was growing larger, said Mike Fischer, the county's emergency management director. It's unclear how the fire began.

Crews have responded to nearly 21,000 wildfires in Texas since the tradi-

tional fire season began early in the year. Outdoor burning, including campfires, is prohibited in all but three of the state's 254 counties.

The governor's office said at least 40 Texas Forest Service aircraft were involved in the firefighting Monday along with a half-dozen Texas military aircraft.

Since December, wildfires in Texas have claimed 3.5 million acres — an area the size of Connecticut — and destroyed more than 1,000 homes, Perry said. The governor said it was too early to say whether he would attend Wednesday's GOP debate.

"I'm not paying attention to politics right now," he said. "There will be plenty of time for that. People's lives and their possessions are at stake, and that's substantially more important."

Authorities mobilized ground and air forces to fight the largest of at least 63 fires that broke out in Texas since Sunday as strong winds from what was then Tropical Storm Lee swept into Texas.

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News in brief

Perry says Texas wildfire 'mean' as he's seen

BASTROP (AP) — Texas Gov. Rick Perry says the wildfire burning in the central part of the state is "as mean looking" as he's ever seen.

Perry left his presidential campaign Monday in South Carolina to return to Texas and deal with the fire, which covers 25,000 acres near Bastrop and has already destroyed nearly 500 homes.

Perry said at a news conference that wildfires have claimed 3.5 million acres in Texas since December.

He said the Federal Emergency Management Agency likely would arrive Wednesday and that Texas would seek federal disaster relief. He also said officials were considering seeking military resources from nearby Fort Hood.

Perry said it's too soon to tell whether he'll miss Wednesday's GOP debate in California. He added that he's "not paying attention to politics

right now."

Texas voting district maps head to court

AUSTIN (AP) — A plan that gives Texas more representation in Washington is getting its day in court.

A new congressional redistricting map, drawn to give Texas four more seats in Congress because of population growth, is the subject of several lawsuits before a three-judge panel in San Antonio Tuesday. Plaintiffs argue the map illegally dilutes minority voting strength.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, whose office serves as the state's attorney, contends the map maintains or increases the ability of minority voters to elect their candidate of choice in each district.

The Republican-led Legislature drew the map, which would likely allow for the election of more Republicans.

The three-judge panel says the trial will last nine days. Proceedings

have been sped up to meet several election deadlines before the March 2012 primary.

DEA: Dallas doctor got cash for prescriptions

DALLAS (AP) — Federal drug enforcement agents allege that a longtime Dallas doctor received cash payments in exchange for prescribing highly-abused medications for patients without examining them.

The Dallas Morning News <http://dallasnews.com/pB12g4> reported Monday that agents with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency in June raided clinics operated by Habiboola Niamatali as well as his home. The newspaper cited court records as well as the doctor himself, who says the agents took charts, prescription pads and cars and seized four bank accounts.

A search warrant affidavit says that, out of 6,000 Dallas-area practitioners licensed to write prescriptions for controlled substances in 2010, Niamatali ranked second in the number of hydrocodone prescriptions.

Newborn fatally mauled by family dog

HOUSTON (AP) — A two-week-old Houston-area boy has died after being mauled by the family dog.

The incident happened Saturday night as the baby sat in an infant carrier on the floor of a room in the family house.

Harris County sheriff's spokesman Thomas Gilliland says the dog, a Labrador mix, began sniffing the child and attacked him before the parents could pull it away.

The child was airlifted to Memorial Hermann Hospital, where he died early Sunday.



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Romo ready to trust unproven linemen

IRVING (AP) — Tyron Smith is so young he doesn't turn 21 until nearly Christmas.

Bill Nagy is so unproven he didn't even start every game at Wisconsin last season.

Phil Costa's body of work as an NFL lineman includes two games last year and two this preseason before hurting a knee.

Yet those guys are three-fifths of the Dallas Cowboys' offensive line that will protect Tony Romo in the opener Sunday night, a game that also marks his first real action since breaking a collarbone last October.

As much pressure as that might

seem, it's not even the full story.

The Cowboys will be trying to slow a Jets defense that could be more aggressive than usual because their head coach, Rex Ryan, will be looking to show off with his twin brother, Rob, across the field coordinating the Dallas defense. They also have to deal with the setting: a nationally broadcast, prime-time game from New York on a night when the city will pay tribute to the 10-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

Can these blockers handle all of that?

"I think we're banking on it,"

Romo said Monday. "These guys have done a good job coming together. They're starting to jell. They just have to go out and play, do what they've been coached to do. I think we've got a good group of guys. Guys are going to work hard and give it their all out there, and that's all that you can ask."

Smith was the Cowboys' top draft pick and has been at right tackle since he arrived near the start of training camp. Nagy, a seventh-round pick, moved into the lineup at left guard midway through camp.

See **ROMO**, Page 2B

CTLGA sees 5-under par

In the couples team scramble, members of the Comanche Trail Ladies Golf Association were treated to a five under par. The scramble was won by the team of Jimmy and Deanna Foresyth and Ray and Sue Russell, shooting the remarkable score.

Two teams tied for second place just under the leaders with a four under par. Paul and Dee Jenkins, Jerry Roach and Annie Ward made up one of the teams, while the second team was comprised of Bill and Bobbie Holden and Nick and Linda Dewaters.

Closest to the pin on hole three was Jerry Roach and Deanna Foresyth shot the closest to pin six.

Lady Steers play tonight

The Lady Steers will be in action tonight at Steer Gym as they face Midland Christian.

The freshman girls play at 5 p.m., with the JV following at 6 p.m.

The varsity girls will hit the courts at 7 p.m.

Rays sting Rangers 5-1

ST. PETERSBURG (AP) — Scott Feldman had one bad inning and James Shields took it from there.

Feldman allowed three runs in the fourth and the Texas Rangers managed just four hits against Shields, who pitched his major league-best 11th complete game in the Tampa Bay Rays' 5-1 victory on Monday.

Casey Kotchman drove in two with a single and

another run scored on John Jaso's double-play grounder as Tampa Bay went up 4-0 in the fourth. The Rays loaded the bases with one out on three walks from Feldman.

"Just, kind of, tried to be a little bit too fine, going for the strikeout and maybe just should have of kept my original game plan of letting them get themselves out," Feldman said. "I had an opportunity to pitch a good

game and it's disappointing."

Feldman (1-1) gave up four runs and four hits in five innings. The Rangers were coming off a big series at Boston during which they won two of three.

"Those walks right there (in the fourth), they delivered," Texas manager Ron Washington said of the Rays. "Kotchman had the base hit up the middle and they scratch

another run."

Shields (14-10) struck out six and walked two. The only run he allowed came home on Michael Young's grounder with one out in the ninth.

"He's got a good changeup, period," Rangers slugger Josh Hamilton said. "So, when you've got a good changeup, 90 (mph) looks more like 96. He looks so good to hit,

See **TEXAS**, Page 2B

Sooners look to follow A&M out of Big 12

NORMAN (AP) — Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops is willing to play wherever his school's president and athletic director decide is best, even if it means a move by the top-ranked Sooners to the Big 12 conference.

"It seems that's the direction the world's going," Stoops said Monday. "So if it is, so be it."

Stoops stopped short on speculating what might happen or saying what he prefers.

Oklahoma president David Boren said just before the season's opening weekend that the Sooners would decide within the next three weeks, if not sooner, if they would leave the Big 12 for another conference.

"As long as we get to play, I'll go play wherever," Stoops said during the Big 12 coaches' weekly conference call. "I've got great faith in (the president and AD), so for me to say what I'd prefer wouldn't be right to do."

With half the Big 12 heading into an off

week, after all 10 teams won their openers at home, there are more questions about the future of the league.

After trimming down to 10 teams with the losses of Nebraska (Big Ten) and Colorado (Pac-12), the Big 12 hadn't even opened its new season before Texas A&M last week formally announced its intention to leave the league.

The Aggies are expected to apply for membership to the Southeastern Conference, as early as this week when they are one of the teams with an open date.

"I did not think it would come up again," Texas coach Mack Brown said about questions of the Big 12's future. "I thought it was over for at least 10 years."

There had been interest from the then-Pac-10 last summer of Texas and Oklahoma, along with Oklahoma State and Texas Tech, heading West as a potentially part of a 16-team league.

Pac-12 Commissioner Larry Scott said Saturday before the Oregon-LSU game in Texas that

schools have reached out to his league recently. Scott wouldn't say who they were, but said he was listening even though he wasn't recruiting new members for his league.

Stoops said his focus is on playing sixth-ranked Florida State on Sept. 17 after an open date. Brown is getting his Longhorns ready to play BYU on Saturday.

Of course, those powerhouse teams will be fine no matter what happens.

"It seems like there's about five different scenarios out there that everybody thinks are guaranteed to be the case," Brown said. "I've got my hands full with Brigham Young on Saturday night and I know we're in the Big 12 until the end of the year."

There is more uncertainty for teams such as Kansas, Kansas State, Baylor and Iowa State should the Big 12 crumble.

Brown acknowledged that he feels sorry for some teams that may be left scrambling if there are changes, but pointed out that last year

things were "all over the place" before Texas and Oklahoma decided to stay put.

"We were told last year we could join any league in the country we wanted to if it changed. We've been told we could go independent, so there's going to be something really good for Texas at the end of this," Brown said. "Our school will be OK regardless of what happens, and that's not the case for everybody. ... We'll end up where we want to end up."

Second-year Kansas coach Turner Gill insists he is not too concerned and has confidence in Big 12 leadership, including the presidents and chancellors of the league's schools.

"I believe that the Big 12 Conference will be standing strong at some point in time," Gill said. "How it all shakes out, I don't know, but I do have confidence that there will be a Big 12 Conference."

Two days after Oklahoma State billionaire booster Boone Pickens said he didn't think the Big 12 will last much longer and believes the

Cowboys eventually will end up in the Pac-12, coach Mike Gundy said he hopes that's not necessarily the case.

"I would hope that our league could somehow stay together and survive. I guess it doesn't look like that that is going to happen," Gundy said during his weekly availability on the Stillwater campus. "Or maybe somebody could come in because I like the Big 12. I like this part of the country, I like the recruiting aspects of it. I'm not afraid to say that. I like the rivalries that we have in this league."

Kansas State coach Bill Snyder said he has addressed his team about the situation, telling them to take care of "what is really significant" for them on the field playing games.

Snyder shared with his players some of the history of Kansas State, from being part of the Big 6 Conference that started in the 1920s, to the evolution into the Big 8 and later the Big 12.

"You can't afford to get caught up in the politics

of what's taking place in our conference," Snyder said. "That's for somebody else."

Baylor's Art Briles, whose team is coming off a 50-48 opening win over defending Rose Bowl champion TCU, said he isn't really thinking about what might happen since he can't change it. The coach doesn't plan to talk to his players about it unless they ask, and none of them have asked.

While Baylor, Kansas State, Oklahoma, Texas A&M and Texas Tech all have open dates already, Missouri and Oklahoma State have short weeks of preparation to play Pac-12 teams.

Oklahoma State is home Thursday against Arizona, in a rematch against the team the Cowboys beat 36-10 in the Alamo Bowl last December. Missouri plays at Arizona State on Friday night.

"They're real good. I think they're in the top half of now you call it the Pac-12," Missouri coach Gary Pinkel said of the Sun Devils. "It might go higher, too, you never know."

Astros lose fourth straight in 3-1 loss to Pirates

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Houston manager Brad Mills knows Jimmy Paredes was just trying to make a play. Mills hopes experience will teach his young infielder sometimes it's OK to hold up after Paredes was caught in a rundown between second and third in the ninth to snuff out a rally in a 3-1 loss to the Pirates.

"You like the aggressiveness but at the same time you like to pick up that learning curve," Mills said. "Some-

times there's things you'd like to go through, and hopefully we're going through those now and we don't have to continue to go through the same things."

The Astros had runners on first and second with one out when Matt Downs hit a shallow flyball to center that dropped in for a hit. Houston's Chris Johnson held up at third, but Paredes didn't realize Johnson had stopped until he was 30 feet past second. Pittsburgh shortstop

Ronny Cedeno easily tagged out Paredes and Pirates closer Joel Hanrahan got Jake Shuck to fly out to right and pick up his 35th save.

"(Paredes) knew that he was a tying run, and I'm sure that he's thinking, 'Man, I can get to third here,' or whatever, and it kind of blocked out everything else," Mills said. "He was just overanxious, you know, you hate to say it but that's an experience thing that's going to keep coming a little bit with him."

The Astros now have two four-game winning streaks and two four-game losing streaks in the last three weeks, another symptom of a team learning on the fly. Yet Mills was impressed by the play of rookie right-hander Henry Sosa (2-3), who gave up two runs over six innings in miserable conditions. The game was delayed 56 minutes by rain then played in a downpour that became steadier as the afternoon progressed.

"It's another quality out-

ing," Mills said. "He threw the ball extremely well. His ball had good movement and good sink and he went deep into the game for us and gave us a chance."

Houston, however, couldn't come through when it mattered, going 1-for-8 with runners in scoring position while being handcuffed by Pittsburgh's James McDonald (9-7), who went 7 1-3 innings on 91 efficient pitches.

See **ASTROS**, Page 2

ROMO

Continued from Page 1B

Costa played center on the first team early in camp when Andre Gurode was hurt. Once Gurode returned, Costa mostly played with the second team. He was injured around the same time the Cowboys decided to cut Gurode and hand him the job. So he hasn't even snapped the ball since earning his promotion.

He did some work Monday and is expected to go practice fully on Wednesday.

"I'm glad they put the confidence in me," Costa said. "I'm just happy to have this opportunity."

The Cowboys decided to get younger and more athletic on the line during training camp, shedding the age, size and contracts of Gurode, Leonard Davis and Marc Colombo. The holdovers are left tackle Doug Free and Kyle Kosier, who has moved from left guard to right guard.

The overall crew remains in flux. Dallas kept veteran guard Montrae Holland and second-year tackle Sam Young when the roster was whittled to 53 players on Saturday, but already has dropped both, replacing them with guard Derrick Dockery, who'd been without a job the entire pre-season, and fullback Tony Fiammetta. The Cowboys didn't have a single fullback on the roster.

Garrett said the Cowboys had been keeping an eye on Dockery, an eight-year veteran who lives in the Dallas area.

"He plays with some aggressiveness and some snap to him," Garrett said. "He has some position flex, but more than anything else some veteran experience in the interior of the line."

They can use all the knowledge and experience they can get. The other backups are as unproven as the new starters.

Costa said Kosier helps with many of the calls he has to make, and Romo said he will help, too. The big thing is the on-the-job experience they'll have to get.

"We need to be thinking the same thing," Romo said.

Romo added he's trying to help guide them as much as he can on the practice field and in team meetings.

He goes back and forth between pats on the back and kicks in the rear.

"At different times you get on them. You have to. I think that's part of the position, part of what some guys need," Romo said.

"Other times, they need encouragement. They're getting ripped three times by a coach, right in a row, they need you to come over and let them know that, 'Hey, you're working hard, doing right, you're going to make mistakes. You just have to understand now that you can't make that same one again. You learned it, boom, move on, don't let it happen again.'"

Garrett's confidence in the linemen is typical of his outlook for the whole club. After all, they've yet to miss a block or lose a game so far this season.

"When you're zero wins and zero losses with the whole season in front of you," Garrett said, "I think you are hopeful."

Notes: WR Miles Austin (hamstring) appeared close to returning, as are CB Mike Jenkins (stinger) and DE Marcus Spears (groin). The outlook for CB Terence Newman (groin) is less clear. Because Mondays aren't usually a practice day, Garrett said he wanted to err on the side of caution in hopes of everyone being ready Wednesday.

Waived S Andrew Sendejo wound up with the Jets, perhaps as a way for Rex Ryan to get inside information about his brother's plans. Romo said Rex may be out of luck. "We get out there today and then all of a sudden he's changed all the stuff they were doing before," Romo said. "It's interesting. I think Rob probably thought maybe that was some of it because he changed all his stuff. That was pretty funny."

The Cowboys filled seven of the eight spots on their practice squad. Six went to players who'd been among their final cuts, including S Akwasi Owusu-Ansah and WR Teddy Williams.

Manning to miss Colts' opener for first time

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The unthinkable suddenly seems possible in Indianapolis — opening the season without Peyton Manning.

The four-time league-MVP who has never missed a start in his NFL career is doubtful for Sunday's game at Houston because of lingering soreness in his back following offseason neck surgery. If Manning sits, it would be the first time the NFL's active iron man missed a meaningful game after 227 consecutive starts including the playoffs.

"I hate it for Peyton," said Pro Bowl center Jeff Saturday, one of Manning's closest friends. "You want him to be healthy, you want him to be back, but you want him to take care of it, too. It's sad when players face tough times, but I know he's strong enough to get through it."

The question is whether the Colts can survive without their franchise quarterback, whose streak stands second in NFL history to Brett Favre's among all QBs.

Team officials have not said how much longer it could take Manning to recover, leaving that decision to Manning and his doctors.

Over the years, life without Manning has been pretty dismal.

The only time he missed a regular-season snap because of injury, against Miami in 2001, backup Mark Rypien fumbled. The Dolphins recovered, then drove 59 yards for the winning score. Manning returned on the next series with a bloody mouth. He was later diagnosed with a hairline fracture in his jaw.

On the rare occasions when Manning has played sparingly, in the preseason and meaningless late-season games, the Colts have not fared much better.

The goal now is to change that trend.

"If anything, we want to go out there and step it up," Pro Bowl safety Antoine Bethea said. "Of course it will be different (without Manning), but it's one of those things that if it happens, everybody else has to step up. It's next man up."

That's been true at every position but one over the past 13 years in Indy. And now the Colts' longtime mantra will be put to its most challenging test.

Manning had surgery to repair a nerve May 23, but the recovery has taken longer than the expected six to eight weeks that would have put back on the field for the start of training camp.

Instead, Manning started camp on the physically unable to perform list and wasn't activated till last Monday.

He did limited work at practice last week, which led to complaints about back pain. The team issued a statement Monday saying that team doctors re-evaluated Manning over the weekend and instructed him to stop practicing while he undergoes more tests.

No additional surgery has been scheduled.

"At the conclusion of the diagnostic process, if there are any new developments in the prognosis which we outlined for Peyton at the start of training camp we will report them," the statement said. "As of now, Peyton continues to deal with a complicated neurological recovery, the end date of which is unpredictable."

Losing Manning for any time, even one week, would be a shock to Indy fans. Not only has he never missed a start, he's rarely missed practice.

Manning sat out one week of training camp in 1998 before signing his rookie contract. It was a decade later

when he missed all of training camp in 2008 because he underwent surgery twice to remove an infected bursa sac from his left knee.

The only other time his playing status was in doubt was 2001 after he was injured at Minnesota in a preseason game.

Somehow, he's always made it back for game day.

"I'm sure it's killing him," receiver Anthony Gonzalez said. "I've not spoken to him, but knowing him, how hard he's working, how many hours he's put into it, I'm sure it's hurting."

The last quarterback other than Manning to start for Indy was Jim Harbaugh, now the San Francisco 49ers coach.

Many who know Manning well aren't counting him out yet.

On Monday, coach Jim Caldwell urged caution to those already writing the end of the streak.

Former Colts coach Tony Dungy, now an NBC analyst, told viewers recently he expected Manning to play unless he was "dead." Harbaugh had been thinking the same way before the latest twist in this saga.

"Watching Peyton Manning, the pro, the competitor, I'm not going to take your word for it that he's not going to be in there for the first ballgame," he told reporters Aug. 25. "So the streak may indeed just rage on."

Still, the Colts are preparing as if the second-longest starting streak by an NFL quarterback will be history after Sunday.

Sixteen-year veteran Kerry Collins came out of retirement, presumably to back up Manning in case this happened.

Collins has spent the last 12 days learning the playbook and splitting work with Curtis Painter at practice.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 1B

"It was just one of those games where it was just miserable," said Houston's J.D. Martinez. "You know, you're right there and then -- bam. All right, chip away, chip away and -- bam, again. It was just one of those days we've got to hope to put behind us and then move on."

McDonald can be dazzling at times with his 95 mph fastball but often struggles with his command, making it difficult to last into the later innings.

There were no such issues against the Astros. McDonald worked quickly to work into the eighth for the first time since going eight full against the New York Mets last September.

"I feel like things are going in the right direction right now, just getting ahead of guys," McDonald said. "I think that's

the big key to the success today."

The grounds crew frequently added fresh dirt to the pitcher's mound to keep it from getting muddy, though portions of the warning track were under water by the late afternoon.

"No one wants to pitch under those circumstances," catcher Ryan Doumit said. "It's hard enough to pitch as it is but with a wet mound it's even harder. For him to go out and pitch the way he's pitched just gives you a glimpse of what he's capable of."

Doumit had three hits, Josh Harrison went 2 for 3 and Derrek Lee hit his 16th homer as the Pirates won for the third time in four games.

Pittsburgh grabbed the lead for good with two runs in the fourth. Andrew McCutchen led off with an infield single and Sosa — who needed 107 pitches to get through six innings — drilled Lee in

the ribs. Doumit doubled in McCutchen with one out and Lee came home on a single by Harrison.

"(Sosa) kind of stuck it to us last time we were in Houston so for us to go out today and get to him, it was a good win," Doumit said.

NOTES: Houston's Carlos Lee had his 14-game hitting streak snapped when he went hitless in three at-bats.... The series continues Tuesday. Brad Lincoln (1-1, 3.64 ERA) will start for Pittsburgh against Brett Myers (3-13, 4.81 ERA). Lincoln is 0-1 against Houston in his career, dropping a 6-2 decision at Minute Maid Park in July. Myers has dropped his last seven decisions and hasn't won since June 17. He worked two innings of relief on Friday and left the rotation briefly to be home for the birth of his fourth child. ... Schafer singled in the sixth to extend his hitting streak to a career-high seven games.

TEXAS

Continued from page 1B

and it drops off the table. He throws it and keeps it out of the strike zone. Makes it look like it's going to be in the strike zone."

Feldman made his second spot start this season in place of Alexi Ogando, who the Rangers thought needed a break. The right-hander threw six innings in his other start, a 2-0 win over Tampa Bay last Tuesday.

Ogando entered in the eighth and allowed a double during a scoreless inning.

Washington said it has not been determined if Ogando, who is 12-7 this season, will pitch out of the bullpen again before his next start.

"We've just got to wait and see how things go," Washington said. "But we needed to get him an inning."

Shields also became the first AL pitcher since Randy Johnson in 1993 to have at least 200 strikeouts and 10 complete games in the same season when he fanned Hamilton in the first.

The only other 200-strikeout, 10-complete game pitcher since 2000 was CC Sabathia, who accom-

plished the feat when he pitched for Cleveland and Milwaukee during the 2008 season.

Evan Longoria and B.J. Upton homered for the Rays, who are 24-13 since July 28. The victory was the 500th overall for Tampa Bay manager Joe Maddon.

Longoria hit a solo drive in the first for his 25th homer. Upton added a solo shot in the seventh.

Texas had a runner on second with two out in the first, second and fifth, but failed to score. Shields induced a double-play grounder from Young after Hamilton drew a walk to start the fourth.

NOTES: Texas 3B Adrian Beltre, who returned from a strained left hamstring last Thursday, is scheduled to DH twice in the three-game series on artificial turf. He singled in the second and has an 11-game hitting streak.

Washington said the left index finger of LHP C.J. Wilson (14-6), Tuesday's scheduled starter, is fine. Wilson had an infield single in his start last Thursday go off the finger.

Texas RF David Murphy was hitless in three at-bats and had his 10-game hitting streak end.

Rays RHP Jeff Niemann (9-6) will pitch against Wilson on Tuesday.

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Laziness and lethargy be gone! The Capricorn moon and the Virgo sun are in cooperation, encouraging us toward aims productive and industrious. Work brings excitement. All the effort you put into an endeavor will generate more passion and greater depth. If what you do provides work for others, it will be a most satisfying feeling indeed.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Though some have said you have nerves of steel, when you are tired, you can get spooked easily. For



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Tomorrow's Horoscope

instance, tonight you'll get a glimpse of a red flag and run the other way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Someone is talking an interesting talk to you, and you wonder whether this person can put action behind these words. Test the waters in some small way before jumping in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When someone has a problem, you feel a responsibility to help. That's why you won't deal with it when it's convenient for you -- you'll handle it in the moment of need. Your ethics are firmly in place.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll take pride in a job well done, even though you didn't technically do the work yourself. Cultivating a winning team is a commendable talent, though. You certainly deserve some of the credit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The most dramatic change will also be the simplest one. Instead of trying to get yourself to change in a million ways at once, pick one small, easy-to-follow rule. For instance, don't go online while you're supposed to be working!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You won't let go of an idea. You'll work through it, examining it from every angle to figure out what it's really about and, more importantly, how useful it really is to you now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Stress will act as your friend. It will be an alarm clock, letting you know that it's time to rise to the occasion and be your best self. Stress is making you strong.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You want to project a more glamorous image. Gearing up to do this will put you in touch with what exactly it is you have to offer and why you do it like no one else could.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are genuinely curious about

your leaders. Because of your interest, you will become aligned in some powerful way. You'll make an impression and a difference.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your passion for music and art will bring you together with fellow enthusiasts. You'll share information and gain more than knowledge -- you'll have a sense of belonging.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll be dealing with an ever-evolving set of rules and regulations. It's not the bureaucracy that makes things complicated; it's the way you think about it. A funny friend will be your lifeline.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The body can't help but give in to the passage of time. But the mind can be eternally young. You'll revel in your youth without regard to the number of years you've been on the earth.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY:

(Sept. 6). People relate easily to you, and there are many who feel that you are one of their own. You'll thrive this month as you provide well for others. In October, you'll win a kind of competition. Commitments and deals will be inked in December. In the new year, you'll cultivate talents such as cooking, photography or sports. Capricorn and Libra people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 15, 50, 41, 37 and 45.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:

"Until recently, I had lived in the same small town for 35 years -- all of my life. Because of my husband's work, we moved to a new city that is 2,000 miles away. I definitely don't fit in here. Many neighbors came by to introduce themselves, but I must have said the wrong things, because they didn't come back. My husband says that all I do is complain about how things are

here and much better they were at home. How can a Cancer make new friends?"

The onus is on you to get to know people, and it will take some effort to break in. Your current attitude will make it difficult for you, though. No one wants to hear disparaging comments about the place where they live, nor do they want to hear how much better it is somewhere else. Cancer people are generally homebodies, and you need to feel secure in your environment in order to get the social juices flowing. So start by making the inside of your home a safe haven for you. As you run the necessary errands around town to get your house in order, note all of the things about this new city you might enjoy if you let yourself.

CELEBRITY PROFILES:

Hugh Grant will be bringing back that cad of a character Daniel Cleaver in a new "Bridget Jones" sequel. Grant is the consummate bachelor - he has had relationships with many glamorous women and never married. Is it because of his Virgo perfectionism? Or perhaps it's his lucky Jupiter in the roaming sign of Sagittarius that urges him ever forward toward new romantic adventures.

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

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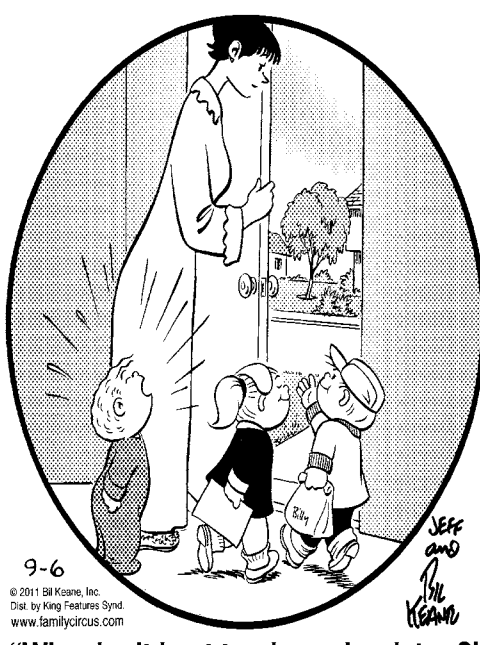
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5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	George News	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	King	Scrivner	News	King	Cash Cab	Movie: Bulletproof, James Caan	Auction	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good		SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me	Two Men	News	Caso Cerado	News	King	Uri Harel	Business	King	Cash Cab	Movie: The Peacemaker, Marcel Iures	Auction	Law & Order	Good	2011 U.S. Open Tennis: Men's Round of 16 and Women's Quarterfinals	NFL Live	
7:PM	Wipeout	Teresa (SS)	Glee	NCIS (DVS)	Mi Corazón Insiste	It's Worth What?	Office	Upd	History Detectives	90210	Auction	Movie: The Peacemaker, Marcel Iures	Auction	Rizzoli & Isles	Born to Dance	Wizards	World, Poker	
8:PM	Take the Money and	Fuerza-Destino	Raising	NCIS: Los Angeles	Flor Salvaje (SS)	America's Got Talent	Office	Office	Frontline	Shedding for	Auction	Movie: The Peacemaker, Marcel Iures	Auction	Law & Order	Random	World, Poker	Baseball Tonight	
9:PM	Combat Hospital	Aquí y Ahora (SS)	Simpsons	NCIS: Los Angeles	La Casa de al Lado		Office	Office	POV	Payne	D. Money	Movie: The Peacemaker, Marcel Iures	Auction	Law & Order	Good	World, Poker	SportsCenter	
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Brad	Washing	Roseanne	Auction	Movie: The Peacemaker, Marcel Iures	Auction	CSI: NY	Good	World, Poker	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Office	Ministerio-Vida	World	South Pk	D. Money	Movie: The Peacemaker, Marcel Iures	Auction	CSI: NY	Wizards	World, Poker	Baseball Tonight	
12:AM	Extra	Destilando Amor	Paid	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd	Cops	South Pk	D. Money	Movie: Man on the Moon, Bob Zemeckis	Auction	CSI: NY	Hannah	NFL Live	SportsCenter	
1:AM	Paired	Mujer	King-Hill	Paired	Empresa	Poker After Dark	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Homecoming	Overhaul	Movie: Man on the Moon, Bob Zemeckis	Repo	Falling Skies	Wendy Williams	Deck	NASCAR	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



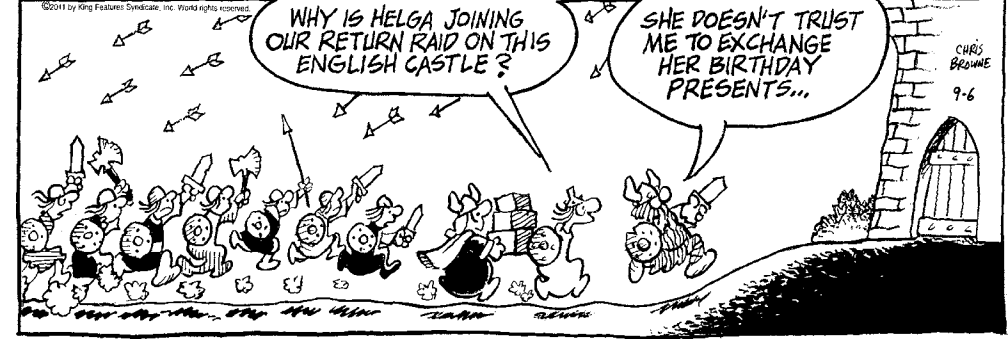
GEORGE... I THINK YOU MADE YOUR POINT.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

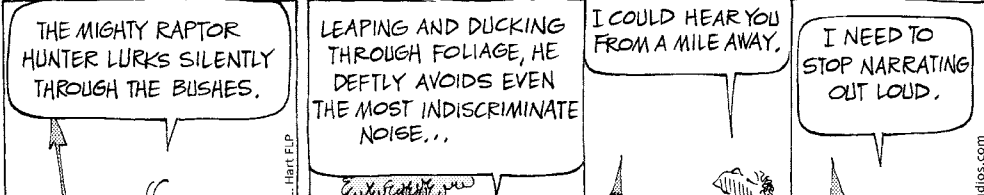


Why don't I get to play school, too?

HAGAR



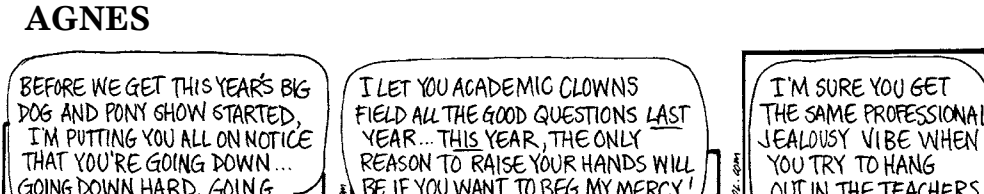
BLONDIE



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



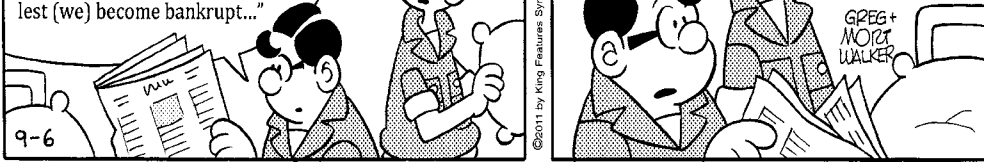
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 6, the 249th day of 2011. There are 116 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 6, 1901, President William McKinley was shot and mortally wounded by anarchist Leon Czolgosz (CHAWL-gawsh) at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, N.Y. (McKinley died eight days later; he was succeeded by Vice President Theodore Roosevelt. Czolgosz was executed in October 1901.)

On this date:

In 1711, Henry Muhlenberg, the patriarch of the Lutheran Church in America, was born in Einbeck, Hanover, Germany.

In 1861, Union forces led by Gen. Ulysses S. Grant occupied Paducah, Ky., during the Civil War.

In 1916, the first self-service grocery store, Piggly Wiggly, was opened in Memphis, Tenn., by Clarence Saunders.

In 1939, the Union of South Africa declared war on Germany.

In 1948, Princess Juliana of the Netherlands was inaugurated as queen, two days after the abdication of her mother, Queen Wilhelmina.

In 1949, Howard Unruh, a resident of Camden, N.J., shot and killed 13 of his neighbors. (Found to have paranoid schizophrenia, Unruh was confined for the rest of his life; he died in a Trenton nursing home in 2009 at age 88.)

In 1966, South African Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd (fehr-FOORT) was stabbed to death by an apparently deranged page during a parliamentary session in Cape Town.

In 1970, Palestinian guerrillas seized control of three U.S.-bound jetliners. (Two were later blown up on the ground in Jordan, along with a London-bound plane hijacked on Sept. 9; the fourth plane was destroyed on the ground in Egypt. No hostages were harmed.)

In 1985, all 31 people aboard a Midwest Express Airlines DC-9 were killed when the Atlanta-bound jetliner crashed just after takeoff from Milwaukee's Mitchell Field.

In 1991, the Soviet Union recognized the independence of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Russian lawmakers upheld a decision by residents of Leningrad to restore the city's pre-revolutionary name, St. Petersburg.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian JoAnne Worley is 74. Country singer David Allan Coe is 72. Rock singer-musician Roger Waters (Pink Floyd) is 68. Actress Swoosie Kurtz is 67. Comedian-actress Jane Curtin is 64. Country singer-songwriter Buddy Miller is 59. Country musician Joe Smyth (Sawyer Brown) is 54. Actor-comedian Jeff Foxworthy is 53.

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Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Autumn apple drink
 - 6 Ocean's motion
 - 10 Oceans' relatives
 - 14 Major blood vessel
 - 15 Ireland nickname
 - 16 Rope fiber
 - 17 Jogger's wear
 - 19 Popular sandwich cookie
 - 20 Heim and ___ (be indecisive)
 - 21 Mexican's nap
 - 22 Eye signal
 - 23 Hydrant attachment
 - 24 Hinder
 - 26 Becomes ready to harvest
 - 29 Of the Arctic or Antarctic
 - 31 Nasal appraisal
 - 32 Knitting material
 - 34 Frolics
 - 38 Indistinct images
 - 40 ___-fac-toe
 - 41 Computer message
 - 42 Lebanon neighbor
 - 43 On the rocks, as tea
 - 45 Tahiti or Maui
 - 46 "Swell!"
 - 48 Took a break
 - 50 Use mouthwash
 - 53 Donate
 - 54 Typical resident of 42 Across
 - 55 Flowering shrub
- DOWN
- 1 Credit-card alternative
 - 2 Des Moines' locale
 - 3 Sketched
 - 4 Schedule guess: Abbr.
 - 5 Betrays
 - 6 Giggle sound
 - 7 Part of the eye
 - 8 Malicious gossip
 - 9 Involve by necessity
 - 10 Have obvious potential
 - 11 Weird
 - 12 Make changes to
 - 13 Talked
 - 18 Mama's boy
 - 23 V-shaped twill pattern
 - 25 Female horse
 - 26 Steals from
 - 27 Sit ___ by (do nothing)
 - 28 Rain hard
 - 29 Too expensive
 - 30 In the past
 - 33 Take a crack ___ (try)
 - 35 Ship pole
 - 36 Stack
 - 37 Winter vehicle
 - 39 Leave port
 - 44 Not as moist
 - 47 Was scared of
 - 49 Escapes from
 - 50 Croc kin
 - 51 Nasal appraisal
 - 52 Film critic, often
 - 53 Lip cosmetic
 - 56 Zilch
 - 57 Land measure
 - 58 Give as an example
 - 59 Prayer ender
 - 60 Camper's sleep site
 - 63 Touch on the shoulder

Answer to previous puzzle

SLAM	TRIP	STOCK
HALE	HERO	HANOI
EGOS	OVAL	OBOES
EATS	SONES	WORDS
EEL	HMO	
BASIL	TAHOE	NIP
ERASER	REV	CODE
RELAXES	THE	RULES
NAVY	GPS	LARIAT
ESE	PRAYS	BLESS
	MOO	CAB
PLAYS	WITH	FIRE
RENWT	FRET	EARLS
ONRYE	SAME	ARIA
FOYER	OPER	PLOW

TAKE A BREAK by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

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