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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**THURSDAY**  
 DECEMBER 8, 2011  
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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 49      COPYRIGHT 2011      50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno  
 Theda Brooks, Alicia Diaz, A.J. Martinez and Guy Burrow close up packages to be sent to service men and women as part of the Christmas For Our Troops program. This year, 500 boxes were packaged in Big Spring at First Christian Church.

## Boys & Girls Club facility to open soon

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
 Staff Writer  
 Completion is on the horizon. It may be a little more than 90 days behind the expected date, but the end is finally in sight. Construction on the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club started around February of this year and the keys to the building will be received Monday, according to Maj. Orville Chambless. "We are real excited about the possibilities, not only to expand the programs we have now, but also for the ability to offer new

See **CLUB**, Page 3

## Tour of Homes

Guild's annual fund-raiser slated Sunday

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
 Staff Writer

This year, five Big Spring couples are opening their homes and spreading Christmas cheer as part of the 2011 Tour of Homes. "There is a great variety of homes this year. Each house brings something different and they are all pretty neat," Eulaine McIntosh, president of the Big

Spring Symphony Guild, said. Area residents will have an opportunity to tour the five homes from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday. "We usually have a couple of hundred come through the tour each year, but it's usually the same people. You will see those who are interested in supporting the arts as well as the city officials, realtors and other people throughout the community," McIntosh said.

Featured homes are: Chuck and Cynthia Breyman, 3106 Mountain Shadow; David and Marie Justice, 1219 S. Moss Lake Rd.; Bruce and Belle Schooler, 6414 S. Service Rd; Jesse and Lori Metcalf, 1005 S. Moss Lake Rd. and Robert and Jessica Price, 1601 S. Moss Lake Rd. Each home brings a different

See **TOUR**, Page 3

## BSHS band concert set for Sunday

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring High School Band wants to spread Christmas cheer with more than just its music. The band will combine good music with a good cause when it holds its annual Christmas Concert at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the high school auditorium. Admission is free — with a twist. "There is no charge for admission, but

See **CONCERT**, Page 3

## Making Christmas brighter for the kids

By **BILL McCLELLAN**  
 Managing Editor

Crossroads area residents can find plenty of opportunities to help others during the holidays. Whether it be by way of the Salvation Army's Angel Trees or Kettles, programs at the Big Spring State Hospital or other gift-raisers

aimed at low-income or service men and women, the possibilities to put a smile on someone's face at Christmas-time are endless. One of those organizations that works to brighten the holidays is Spring Tabernacle, which has been giving toys to children since 1995.

Each year, Minister Mona Lue Tonn and a cast of volunteers refurbish thousands of toys and apparel for hundreds of area children. "Year before last, we gave away four toys

each for 624 kids," said Tonn. And she's not even counting the 600-plus huge stockings stuffed with all types of small gifts that the ministry handed out. Spring Tabernacle targets children 2 through 12. "We wish we could provide gifts for all ages, but that's just not possible," explained Gena Ray, Tonn's daughter. This year's giveaway will begin at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 16 at the church, located at 1209 Wright St. It's a simple though time-consuming process. Parents and legal guardians come

See **TOYS**, Page 3

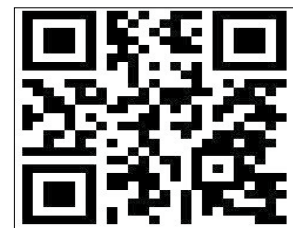


HERALD photo/Bill McClellan  
 Gena Ray sorts through some of the smaller items available to children during Spring Tabernacle's annual toy giveaway, set for Dec. 16.

THIS CHRISTMAS PARTY HAS SOME AWKWARD SILENCES.

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## Stanley Eugene Reid



Stanley Eugene Reid, 96, of Stanton passed away peacefully at home Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011. A memorial service will be held at First United Methodist Church of Stanton at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, 2011, following a private burial service. Visitation is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, 2011, at Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton.

Stanley was born at home Feb. 3, 1915, to William P. and Lillian Short Reid in Rule, Haskell County, Texas. He was preceded in death by his wife of 73 years, June R. Reid; four brothers, Aubrey, Wilburly, Jack and Willie Joe Reid; and one sister, Evelyn Reid Haynes.

Survivors include a sister, Elenia Reid Haynes of Rogers, Ark.; a daughter, Glen Reid Baker of Stanton; a son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Ruth Lewis Reid of Stanton; four grandchildren, Amy Baker of San Bruno, Calif., Anna Baker of Rockwall, Casey Reid of Stanton and Jacob Reid of Hill AFB, Utah. Also surviving are 12 great-grandchildren, Duncan Baker, Elliott and Brennan Dwire, Jonah-Kai Baker, Myka and Kiley Reid, Leslie Popham, Zach and Nathan Tryson, Delaney Thames, and Caitlin and Elliot Reid; grandsons-in-law, Gary Landis and Jason Dwire; granddaughters-in-law, Dylana Provancha Reid and Sharon Henson Reid; sister-in-law, Jean Reid of Midland; and many cousins, nieces and nephews to three generations.

Stanley married June Redford Reid on Jan. 16, 1938, at her parents' home in Llano County and they made their first home in Midland, where he was employed as a barber and she did private nursing. The couple moved to Martin County, where he barbered part-time while working with the family farming business for several years. Stanley established and owned The Clip Joint in downtown Stanton and was Stanton's primary barber for more than a half-century. He retired in 1988 to his home east of Stanton.

Stanley moved to Martin County's Valley View community in 1924, graduating from Stanton High School and joining the Civilian Conservation Corps in Lamesa at 18. He taught barbering, taxidermy and woodworking and drove the ambulance. He sent wages home, which his parents saved to finance his barber training at Burton Barber College in Fort Worth.

June was doing a nurse's training rotation at Fort Worth Children's Hospital and they did most of their courting at the Fort Worth Zoo in Forest Park or during window shopping downtown.

In the relationship, Stanley was the quiet, steady base and June was the outgoing motivator. Stanley was always deeply involved with Stanton activities, including membership in First United Methodist Church, Chamber of Commerce, Stanton Buffalo Booster Club, Rotary Club and Optimist Club. He served on Stanton School's Board of Trustees for seven years — including a term as president — during the planning and building of the new high school, which opened in 1956. Behind the scenes, he provided the innovation and manpower to make many of June's historical preservation efforts a reality.

Stanley was a family and community man who will be sorely missed in Martin County. He was widely known as part of the bedrock in the community: a loving Christian, a man of his word, a constant friend and the best barber anywhere. Family and friends rejoice that he is reunited with loved ones in Heaven.

Memorials may be made to the Martin County Community Fund, c/o First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1193, Stanton, Texas 79782.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

*Paid obituary*

## William 'Bill' Allen Wheeler



William "Bill" Allen Wheeler, 80, died Dec. 5, 2011, at Midland Memorial Hospital in Midland, Texas.

Bill was born Aug. 21, 1931, in Big Spring, Texas, to Stanley and Dona Belle Allen Wheeler. He graduated from Big Spring High School in 1948. He also attended Howard County Jr. College (now Howard College) and then graduated from University of North Texas (formerly North Texas State College) in Denton, Texas, May 1953, with a BBA degree.

Bill married his college sweetheart, Marilyn McNatt, in Dallas, Texas, on July 31, 1953. In 1953 Bill completed the officers candidate program with the United States Marine Corps as a 2nd lieutenant and served on active duty at Camp Pendleton, Calif.; Quantico, Va.; Okinawa, Korea; and Koyoto, Japan until 1955.

He remained in a reserve unit for a number of years and held the office of captain at the time of his release from the service.

Bill worked at the family owned car dealerships in Andrews and Stanton, Texas, for 52 years. He participated in several community organizations in both towns. Bill enjoyed his lake homes in Brownwood, Texas, and Breckenridge, Texas, and all the water activities. He loved his many dogs, Chiquita, Artie, Sassy and Shasta and his cat, Willow, plus birds he fed daily.

Bill is survived by his wife, Marilyn Wheeler of Midland, Texas; two sons, Billy Wheeler of Houston, Texas, and Bryan Wheeler of Horseshoe Bay, Texas; and daughter, Mary Lynn Caylor of Midland, Texas. He is also survived by his loving daughters-in-law, Donna Wheeler of Houston, Texas, and Katie Wheeler of Horseshoe Bay, Texas; four grandsons (his pride and joy) Chad Wheeler of Midland, Texas, Corey Wheeler of Midland, Texas, Dylan Caylor of Midland, Texas, and Logan Caylor of Glen Rose, Texas; a very special granddaughter-in-law, Ami Wheeler of Midland, Texas; and a precious great-grandson, Cameron Wheeler of Midland, Texas. Also surviving Bill are brother James E. Wheeler and wife Jeanene of Stanton, Texas; nieces, Sandra Wheeler Evans, Julie Wheeler Shaw and Melissa Franklin Wheeler; nephew, Gib Wheeler of Stanton, Texas; five great nephews; and one great niece.

He is preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Robert S. Wheeler of Andrews, Texas.

The family requests that memorials be directed to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, 26 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10004; the American Heart Association, 3205 W Cuthbert Ave., Midland, Texas; the American Cancer Society, 2304 W. Wadley Ave., Midland, Texas; or the American Liver Foundation, 39 Broadway, Suite 2700, New York, N.Y. 10006.

Special thanks to Dr. Michael Miller and staff, Dr. John McKenna and staff, Veterans Hospital in Big Spring, Midland Memorial Hospital and staff, Mabee Center at Manor Park, Interim Home Health and Interim Hospice and staff, and to a very special dear friend, Ellen Williams of Midland.

Funeral services have been scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011, at St. Luke's United Methodist Church.

Pallbearers will be Billy Wheeler, Bryan Wheeler, Chad Wheeler, Corey Wheeler, Dylan Caylor, Logan Caylor, Ronnie Christian, Steve Hargrove and Allen Kelley. Honorary pallbearers will be Jimmy Stallings, Louis Stallings, Steve Garlington, Abel Salazar, James Jenkins, Ed Moses, Dusty Evans, Gib Wheeler, David Shaw, Robert Parker and Chelsea Hebert.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).

*Paid obituary*

## Billie Harding



Billie Harding, 81, of Vincent died Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011, in a Big Spring nursing home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, 2011, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Walter McCall, pastor of Vincent Baptist Church, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011, at the funeral home.

She was born Dec. 18, 1929, in Vincent, Texas. Billie received her master in education degree from Texas Tech University. She taught English for 35 years, retiring from Snyder High School in 1990. After retiring, Billie wrote a book on the history of Vincent, Texas. She enjoyed sewing, reading and gardening. She loved country life.

She was a member of Vincent Baptist Church. Survivors include one brother and sister-in-law, Joe Pat and Rhonda Harding of Vincent; one sister and brother-in-law, Judy and Freddy Brown of Big Spring; two nephews, Brian Brown of Dallas and Clay Harding of Vincent; and one niece, Sarah Harding of San Angelo.

She was preceded in death by her father, Pat Harding in 1962; her mother, Vergie Harding in 1992; and a nephew, John Harding in 2004.

The family suggests memorials be made to a favorite charity.

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

## Doris Lewis

Doris Lewis, 62, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Pastor Holston Banks of Shiloh House of Praise officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

## Paul Lindell

Paul Lindell, 62, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011, at Hospice House in Odessa. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Robert Ruiz

Robert Ruiz, 63, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Police blotter

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

- MAX DALE ELLSWORTH, 47, of 1811 Nolan, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency.

- JOVITA RODRIGUEZ, 32, of 1701 Rannels, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 800 block of Magnolia.

See **ARRESTS**, Page 3

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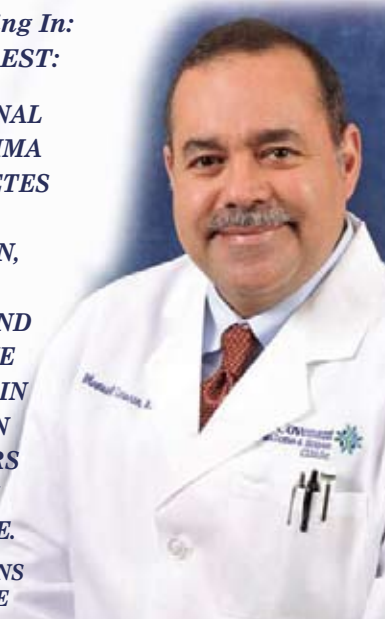
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CLUB

Continued from Page 1

programs to the community," Chambless said. Once the keys have been received, equipment can start being moved into the newly constructed facility, located at 811 W. Fifth St. Soon after, activity inside the building can start taking place.

According to Chambless, youth will be able to be in the building after the first of the year. However, the open house and rededication won't take place until mid-February.

"At this point we have the old equipment, such as a foosball table, pool table and other items, but we would like to be able to bring in some new equipment to go with the new building," Chambless said.

The finishing touches, the sign and the parking lot are all that is left before the building can be considered complete. Because of the recent rain and snow, the asphalt for the parking lot has yet to be poured.

"We really appreciate all the work from Lee George Construction and the architect, Parkhill, Smith and Cooper, Chambless said.

Once the building is completed and the equipment has been moved in, Chambless said there are hopes of forming partnerships with the city recreation department as well as the YMCA and other local organizations such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

"We aren't competing against the YMCA, but instead we are hoping to be able to maximize the greatest number of young people that we can reach by forming these partnerships," Chambless said.

To find out more information or to donate to the new Boys and Girls Club facility, call 267-8239.

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

CONCERT

Continued from Page 1

we ask that you bring canned green beans for the Salvation Army food drive," BSHS Band Director Rocky Harris said.

Sunday's night program will feature a variety of Christmas standards, as well as unique takes on the holiday, Harris said.

"Our program includes 'Christmas Fanfare,' 'Slavonic Folk Suite,' 'Jingle Bells Forever' and 'The Night Before Christmas,'" Harris said. "'Jingle Bells Forever' will have a John Phillip Sousa march style featuring our flute and piccolo section and our senior trumpet and trombone players at the end."

"The Night Before Christmas" will feature the band accompanying a narration of the famous children's story by BSHS Drama Teacher Tabatha Wright.

The band will switch gears to conclude the show, giving a final performance of its 2011 marching show.

"Our show will feature the brass and woodwinds lining the auditorium walls, percussion on stage and the color guard in the aisles and on stage," Harris said. "This will give you a true sense of surround sound."

The concert will last approximately one hour, Harris said.

For more information, contact the band hall at 264-3641, ext. 1452.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at [reporter@bigspringherald.com](mailto:reporter@bigspringherald.com)

• Coahoma Christmas Concert, featuring the Coahoma Choir Kids and members of the third grade class, will be held at 7 p.m. this evening in the school cafeteria. Everyone is invited; the event is free.

• A fundraiser to help defray medical expenses incurred by the Zayda Stallings family will be held beginning at 10:30 a.m. Sunday in front of the east doors of the Wal-Mart Supercenter. Brisket plates will be sold for \$7 and burritos for \$3. In addition, various desserts will be for sale. For more information, call Linda Burchett at 432-816-93812.

• The Big Spring Retired Teachers Association will meet Monday instead of the regular meeting time. The meeting will take place in the Fireside Room on Howard College's campus at 11:30 a.m. After a Dutch treat lunch there will be a performance by the Tardy Bells.

TOUR

Continued from Page 1

aspect to the tour, each with its own history, McIntosh said.

Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased in advance at Faye's Flowers, Blum's Jewelers, Heritage Museum, Western Bank, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and KBST.

McIntosh also said tickets can also be purchased at each of the houses on Sunday. Each ticket will have a map on the back in order to help people find the houses on the tour.

For questions or to find out more information, call McIntosh at 264-7671.

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

TOYS

Continued from Page 1

to the church that morning — many will be in line before 8 a.m., according to Tonn — and wait their turn. They'll tell a volunteer how many children they have. Then they will go

into the toy area with the volunteer and select three to four gifts for each child. There are rooms of dolls, trucks, stuffed animals, books, games and clothing. Each child will also received a large stocking full of other toys.

There is no registration required, no in-

come restrictions, no verification is needed. If a parent says they have 10 children between the ages of 2 and 12, they can pick out toys for 10 children.

"We do all this on faith," said Tonn. "We believe if they show up and wait, they must have a need. If they say

they have four children, we let them pick out gifts for four children. The rest is between them and God."

Parents are asked not to bring their children to the church.

"We don't have enough volunteers to watch the children while the parent picks out toys. If

they have to bring the children, they need to bring someone to supervise them, too," Tonn stressed.

The giveaway continues into the afternoon and ends when there are no more parents, or no more toys.

Those who would like to help Spring Tabernacle make Christmas brighter for area children can drop off toys, clothing or monetary donations at the church. To volunteer on Dec. 16 or to learn more about the program, contact Tonn at 432-267-5321 or

432-263-0544. To receive gifts on Dec. 16, just show up.

Bill McClellan can be reached at 432-263-7331, ext. 230 or by email at [editor@bigspringherald.com](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com)

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 61 inmates at the time of this report.

• RUBBEN CARRION, 49, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• MICHAEL RAY THOMAS, 39, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• JAMES LEE WOODARD, 47, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by DPS on a probation violation for possession of a controlled substance.

• MAX DALE ELLSWORTH, 47, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a blue warrant.

• ESPERANZA GARZA, 42, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of bail jumping — failure to appear and driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

• JOVITA CARDENAS RODRIGUEZ, 32, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension, failure to identify as a fugitive — giving false information and a Tom Green County warrant for motion to revoke probation for aggravated assault. Note: According to jail officials, Rodriguez originally used a false name — Sallie Solis — at the time of her arrest.

• ROBERT RUBIN SANCHEZ, 47, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication with three prior convictions.

• NICOLAS CRAIG MILLS, 31, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• MICHAEL EVERET BARNETT, 24, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a Concho County warrant for a motion to revoke probation.

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency

Fire/EMS

Medical Services reported the following activity:

• TRAUMA was reported near the intersection of Gregg Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Place. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Tucson. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Lindberg. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of 24<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of Runnels. No transportation.

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 600 block of Highland. Fire was extinguished.

• AUTOMOBILE FIRE was reported in the 500 block of W. Fourth Street. Fire was extinguished.

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Doris Lewis, 62, died Tuesday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Paul Lindell, 62, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Robert Ruiz, 63, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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**AN ENCOURAGING WORD**



By Eddy Pitchford

A little snow goes a long way. School starts late. Windshields need cleaning. Snow angels are alive and well. Snowballs may be in the vicinity. Frosty the Snowman has some company. Snow ice cream might be a possibility. Christmas seems much closer.

Snow reminds me of Isaiah 1:18 where the power and beauty of forgiveness are acclaimed, "...Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red as crimson, they shall be like wool." (Isaiah 1:18).

After a few days, the beautiful snow begins to lose its appeal as it turns into muddy slush. In similar manner, cleansed hearts can lose their beauty as they become soiled by neglect, greed, selfishness and other sins. *Don't allow impure forms of "slush" to remove the snow white purity from your cleansed heart.*

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Sunday Class.....9:30 AM  
Sunday Worship.....10:20 AM  
Sunday Worship.....5:00 PM  
Wednesday Class.....7:00 PM

# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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<b>Amanda Moreno</b> Staff Writer	<b>Thomas Jenkins</b> Staff Writer	

## OUR VIEWS

# Making a story believable can make a difference

Helping the kids understand the stories is the main focus behind Joel Miller's new book.

Miller has had published works in local newspapers and magazines, but (Believable) Bible Stories for Children is his first published book. On top of being a writer, Miller is a retired preacher and part of the Emergency Services Chaplain Corp.

He will be promoting his newly published book at the Heritage Museum Dec. 10 with a book signing from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. Before the book signing, there will also be a story time for area children beginning at 9:30 a.m. Miller will be reading some of the stories from his book as well as sharing a few others.

(Believable) Bible Stories for Children is a compilation of 12 stories, all written by Miller. Each story contains art work, which has been colored by community children between the ages of 2 years old and 10 years old. All of the children come from classes at New Hope Christian School, Marantha Baptist Academy and Chapel of Faith Sunday school.

One thing Miller pointed out was that Bible references can be found at the end of each story. There are funny stories, serious stories as well as a love story.

The book is written for children between the ages of 3 years old and 10 to 12 years old.

For those wanting to find out more about Miller and his inspiration for the stories contained in the book, there will be time during his book signing on Dec. 10 to speak with Miller.

During the book signing is a great time to meet Miller and ask any questions area residents may have, but for those unable to make the book signing and still want to purchase a copy of the book, copies will be available at the Heritage Museum.

With Christmas fast approaching, Miller's book is a unique gift idea that not only supports local creativity, but also encourages children to read and teaches lessons in a way our children can understand.

If you have just a few moments Saturday, stop by the Heritage Museum at 510 Scurry between 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to hear stories, meet Miller or purchase (Believable) Bible Stories for Children.

## 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 editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Steve Reagan 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 editor@bigspringherald.com

# Ethnic jokes are a fool's game

If patriotism is the last refuge of scoundrels (and it is), then telling other people's jokes is the last refuge of columnists (who are often mistaken for scoundrels, for some reason).

Let me tell you a joke. It's a terrorist joke that belongs to John Cleese, the British actor and Monty Python comic genius.

It's called "Alerts to Threats in 2011 Europe":

"The English are feeling the pinch in relation to recent terrorist threats and have therefore raised their security level from 'Miffed' to 'Peeved.' Soon though, security levels may be raised yet again to 'Irritated' or even 'A Bit Cross.'

(The English have not been 'A Bit Cross' since the Blitz in 1940, when tea supplies nearly ran out.)

"Terrorists have been re-categorized from 'Tiresome' to 'A Bloody Nuisance.' (The last time the British issued a 'Bloody Nuisance' warning level was in 1588, when threatened by the Spanish Armada.)

"The French government announced yesterday that it has raised its terror alert level from 'Run' to 'Hide.' The only two higher levels in France are 'Collaborate' and 'Surrender.' (The rise was precipitated by a recent fire that destroyed France's white flag factory, effectively paralyzing the country's mili-

tary capability.)

"Italy has increased the alert level from 'Shout Loudly and Excitedly' to 'Elaborate Military Posturing.' Two more levels remain: 'Ineffective Combat Operations' and 'Change Sides.'

"The Germans have increased their alert state from 'Disdainful Arrogance' to 'Dress in Uniform and Sing Marching Songs.' They also have two higher levels: 'Invade a Neighbor' and 'Lose.'

"The Spanish are all excited to see their new submarines ready to deploy. These beautifully designed subs have glass bottoms so the new Spanish navy can get a really good look at the old Spanish navy."

I know, I know. It's humor that relies on national stereotyping and you shouldn't do it. It's like Polish jokes. (Poles, by the way, tell Bulgarian jokes.)

But that's why ethnic jokes are funny, at least to the less sensitive. They allow one to feel superior to other people without having to actually do anything that's superior.

If you make a joke about French cowardice, it makes you look brave. Are the Germans warlike? Sure, to peaceful people like us.

All nonsense, of course.

The French are no more cowardly (or brave) than anyone else. Their quick surrender to the Germans in 1940 can be attributed to the fact that only 25 years before they'd fed an entire generation of their young men into German machine guns and cannon. They weren't cowardly, they were exhausted. (And their

reluctance to take part in our invasion of Iraq can be written off to good judgment, rather than lack of courage.)

Germans, on the other hand, while they earned their reputation as bellicose bullies, have pretty much outgrown it. They are now one of the most peaceful nations in Europe and one of the more cautious about signing up for a fight.

The Italian reputation as ineffective warriors has a basis in fact also, I suppose, but their real problem is that they are terrible at picking allies. Do you really want to get enthusiastic about a war when Hitler is the guy running the show?

Italians are wonderful people — warm, welcoming, and possessing of a great ability to enjoy life. If that makes them indifferent soldiers, I say more power to them.

There are a lot of people in the world who are good at war. Being good at pasta is better.

I once made up White-Anglo-Saxon-Protestant jokes as a counter-attack against Polish jokes. (I am Polish, kind of.) I've forgotten all of them except one:

"At a White-Anglo-Saxon-Protestant's funeral, how do you accommodate all the friends who want to be pallbearers?"

"You take two handles off the casket."

If there's anyone I've failed to insult, I apologize.

*OtherWords columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. <http://otherwords.org>*



# Would be nice to be a kid again

Oh the joys of being a kid again.

Being the mother of a five-year-old, I can honestly say I am not lacking in the moments that make me wish I was a kid again.

This past week however has been an exceptional one, with example after example popping up.

With the recent snowfall, which is not something we here in Big Spring are used to seeing anymore, my main concerns were, are the roads going to be safe to drive on and how long will this weather last?

My son on the other hand had no worries about the roadways. His main concern was, "Are we going to be able to go outside and build a snowman, have a snowball fight and make snow angels?"

Then, the next question out of his mouth was, "I wonder if we are going to school if it snows?"

I remember how great it was to be in school and wish for the snow days. Whether it was a late start to school or a day off, the point was there was a chance to play in the snow, sleep in and of course, no school to worry about for the day.

As a mother, I knew no matter what the weather may hold — kind of like the mailman, whether rain, sleet, snow or shine — work would go on.

For me there would be no time to play in the snow, sleep in or fall in the snow and make a snow angel.

Oh to be a kid again and be able to enjoy the time off with my son.

Another example of how great it is to be a kid came upon me during our recent company Christmas party. Mind you, anyone that knows my son knows he can make himself at home basically anywhere around anyone — which at times worries me with all the increased dangers confronting our children these days — and for that reason I wasn't worried about him fitting in and having fun. Then again, my mind wasn't thinking the way a child's mind does.

At the mention of a Christmas party, my son was picturing presents, games and fun. I have to admit, a small part of me was thinking the same thing. After all, we never get too old for presents.

Even though he wasn't completely wrong, he was a bit surprised. There were no games, instead several conversations took the place of the games and none were of interest to a five-year-old. He was right on one

thing ... there were presents. However, they were not the type of presents a child would expect. Radios, knife sets and massaging pillows just aren't the gifts a child wants to unwrap.

The sparkle did enter his eye again as his number was called and he walked to the table to pick a gift, but the sparkle soon faded as he began to open the gift.

Most of you can see where this is going. He observed the selection and made his choice very careful. He picked one that looked promising, but as he pulled the neck massaging pillow from the bag he realized this is not what he expected and he loudly and by no means shyly explained, "I do not want this one."

As an adult we would be stuck with a gift we didn't want, even after we exclaimed clearly we didn't want it. It doesn't work that way for a 5-year-old. The cuteness factor kicks in and a trade was made.

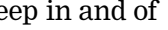
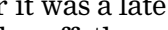
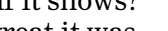
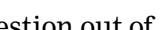
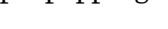
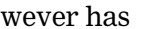
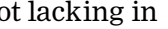
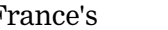
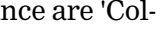
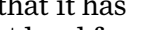
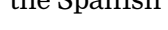
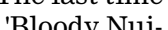
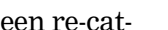
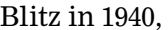
Oh to be a kid again.

Even though we can't go back in time, one thing is certain, to be a kid again may be out of the question, but the feelings and the memories they make and help us make are priceless.

*Contact staff writer Amanda Moreno by email at [life@bigspringherald.com](mailto:life@bigspringherald.com) or at the office by calling 263-7331 ext. 234.*



DONALD KAUL



# News in brief

## In basement of Romanian building, CIA ran secret prison

WASHINGTON (AP) — In northern Bucharest, in a busy residential neighborhood minutes from the center of Romania's capital city, is a secret that the Romanian government has tried for years to protect.

For years, the CIA used a government building — codenamed Bright Light — as a makeshift prison for its most valuable detainees. There, it held al-Qaida operatives Khalid Sheik Mohammad, the mastermind of 9/11, and others in a basement prison before they were ultimately transferred to Guantanamo Bay in 2006, according to former U.S. intelligence officials familiar with the location and inner workings of the prison.

The existence of a CIA prison in Romania has been widely reported but its location has never been made public until a joint investigation by The Associated Press and German public television, ARD Panorama. The news organizations located the former prison and learned details of the facility where harsh interrogation tactics were used. ARD's program on the CIA prison will air Dec. 8.

The Romanian prison was part of a network of so-called black sites that the CIA operated and controlled overseas in Thailand, Lithuania and Poland. All the prisons were closed by May 2006, and the CIA's detention and interrogation program ended in 2009.

Unlike the CIA's facility in Lithuania's countryside or the one hidden in a Polish military installation, the CIA's prison in Romania was not in a remote location. It was hidden in plain sight, a couple blocks off a major boulevard on a street lined with trees and homes, along busy train tracks.

## 16-year-olds still need prescription for emergency contraception

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's the morning after and the controversy over how to sell emergency contraception still looms.

The Obama administration's top health official stopped plans Wednesday to let the Plan B morning-after pill move onto drugstore shelves next to the condoms.

Overruling scientists at the Food and Drug Administration, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius decided that young girls shouldn't be able to buy the pill on their own, saying she was worried about confusing 11-year-olds.

For now, Plan B will stay behind pharmacy counters, available without a prescription only to those 17 and older who can prove their age.

It was the latest twist in a nearly decade-long push for easier access to pills that can prevent pregnancy after unprotected sex, and one with election-year implications. The move shocked women's health advocates, a key part of President Barack Obama's Democratic base, as well as major doctors groups that argue over-the-counter sales could lower the nation's high number of unplanned pregnancies.

## European Central Bank could lower rates

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — The European Central Bank could step up its efforts against Europe's debt crisis by cutting interest rates on Thursday for the second time in five weeks, and by extending longer-term loans to ease financial pressure on struggling banks.

President Mario Draghi's post-meeting news conference will also be watched closely for any sign that the bank is ready to follow through on his hint that it could do more to help indebted governments by stepping up its limited purchases of government bonds.

That would be on the condition that European Union politicians first agree to tighten the eurozone's rules on government debt. Bigger bond purchases would be a big step that could lower borrowing costs for indebted countries such as Italy, the major focus of the crisis right now.

But a deal on new debt rules won't be sealed until a European Union summit the next day, at the earliest. So the bond question will likely remain open.

## Blagojevich counts last days until prison

CHICAGO (AP) — Rod Blagojevich starts his Thursday facing a bleak countdown — 71 days before the twice-elected Illinois governor must say goodbye to his family and begin serving a 14-year sentence for corruption.

During those days, he will scramble to get his financial affairs in order and spend a final birthday and Christmas at home with his wife, Patti, and their two young daughters before heading off to prison to serve the sentence handed down Wednesday.

The next time Blagojevich gets to spend Christmas or his birthday with his children — 15-year-old Amy and 8-year-old Annie — they will likely be young adults. Blagojevich, whose 55th birthday is Saturday, won't be eligible for early release for about 12 years, when he will be around 67 years old.

"I've had a lot of clients who've had to start making preparations the day after they were sentenced," said Gal Pissetzky, a federal defense attorney based in Chicago. "But not a single one of them has been able to prepare for saying goodbye to their children."

Judge James Zagel sentenced Blagojevich on Wednesday on 18 counts of corruption, including his June convictions on charges that he tried to sell or trade an appointment to President Barack Obama's U.S. Senate seat for campaign cash or a top job. The impeached governor must report to prison on Feb. 16.

## Income gaps widen for inner-city poor, rural South

WASHINGTON (AP) — Affluent black Americans who are leaving industrial cities for the suburbs and the South are shifting traditional lines between rich and poor, according to new census data. Their migration is widening the income gap between whites and the inner-city blacks who remain behind, while making blacks less monolithic as a group and subject to greater income disparities.

"Reverse migration is changing the South and its race relations," said Roderick Harrison, a Howard University sociologist and former chief of racial statistics at the Census Bureau.

He said a rising black middle class is promoting a growing belief among some black conservatives that problems of the disadvantaged are now rooted more in character or cultural problems, rather than race. But Harrison said most black Americans maintain a strong racial identity, focused on redressing perceived lack of opportunities, in part because many of them maintain close ties to siblings or other blacks who are less successful.

"I don't think suburban blacks are yet driven by their higher income or new locations, although this might have a greater effect in a generation or two," he said.

The typical white person last year earned income roughly 1.7 times higher than that of blacks, the widest ratio since the 1990s.

Census figures released Thursday show that cities such as Detroit, Chicago, Philadelphia, Cleveland and Milwaukee in particular saw increases in inequality, hurt by an exodus of middle-class minorities while lower-skilled blacks stayed in the cities.

## Corzine could face tough questions from former colleagues on role in leading failed MF Global

WASHINGTON (AP) — For five years, Jon Corzine embodied one of the most prestigious positions in Washington: U.S. senator. On Thursday, he is scheduled to return to Capitol Hill in a humbled and humiliating role: a star witness likely to invoke the Fifth Amendment.

Corzine has been subpoenaed to explain how MF Global collapsed into the eighth-largest bankruptcy in U.S. history and why an estimated \$1.2 billion in client money has gone missing.

It's the first time in more than 100 years that Congress has subpoenaed a former senator to testify, according to Senate historian Don Ritchie. The occasion blends the two worlds Corzine has occupied for his professional life — Wall Street and public office.

Corzine, 64, has been publicly silent since MF Global filed for bankruptcy Oct. 31. He resigned as CEO on Nov. 4.

The former New Jersey senator and governor may offer a statement at the House Agriculture Committee hearing. But he'll likely decline to answer potentially damaging questions by invoking his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination.

# sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

# Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

## A Snare and a Delusion

West dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ Q J 3  
♥ 5  
♦ A Q J 10 9 7 2  
♣ K Q

**WEST**  
♠ A K 10 9 8 7 4 2  
♥ 9 6 3  
♦ 4  
♣ 2

**EAST**  
♠ 6 5  
♥ 10 8 4 2  
♦ K 6  
♣ 8 7 6 5 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ —  
♥ A K Q J 7  
♦ 8 5 3  
♣ A J 10 9 4

The bidding:  
West North East South  
4♠ 5♦ Pass 6♥

Opening lead — king of spades.  
Let's say you're declarer at six hearts and West leads the king of spades. How should you play the hand?

The normal reaction probably would be to ruff the spade lead, play four rounds of trumps, cash five club tricks and then try a diamond finesse.

If you decided to play this way, you'd go down two. East would win the diamond with the king in the

three-card end position and return a spade to West's A-10 to put a sad end to the proceedings. True, you can salvage a trick at the end by rejecting the diamond finesse, but, even if you do, it won't be much of a victory.

Actually, 12 tricks are there, easy as pie, once you realize that the diamond finesse is a snare and a delusion. After drawing trumps and discarding three diamonds from dummy, all you have to do to wrap up the slam is to cross to the queen of clubs, lead the queen of spades and discard a diamond on it. The jack of spades (on which you later discard a second diamond) thus becomes your 12th trick.

The key to playing the hand this way lies in recognizing that you start with 11 top tricks and that you should try to score your 12th trick in spades rather than diamonds.

It is perfectly natural to regard dummy's beautiful diamonds as a prime source of tricks, but in this particular case all you need is one additional trick rather than a whole bunch of them. Once the trumps divide 4-3, establishing a spade trick in dummy makes a successful outcome an absolute certainty.

Tomorrow: Test your play.

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### sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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# Houston among those heading to Big East

NEW YORK (AP) — The new Big East will span four time zones, 3,000 miles from coast to coast and, eventually, have 12 teams.

The beleaguered and ever-changing conference hopes it all adds up to a billion dollar television contract and a spot among the best football leagues in the nation.

The Big East introduced Boise State, San Diego State, Houston, SMU and Central Florida as its newest members, effective 2013.

“The Big East conference is the first truly national college

football conference,” Commissioner John Marinatto said Wednesday during a teleconference with the university leaders from the five schools. Boise State President Bob Kustra said the announcement was “a significant step forward in the evolution of Boise State University and our football program.”

The Big East, depleted by the planned departures of Syracuse, Pittsburgh and West Virginia, is trying to rebuild as a 12-team football conference with a western division.

It’s been a slow process that began in September, and there is still work to be done.

Boise State and San Diego State, which currently play in the Mountain West Conference, will join the Big East only for football. Houston, SMU and UCF will be leaving Conference USA and joining the Big East in all sports.

“We have ambitious plans, and this expansion is a great stride toward reaching them,” Marinatto said.

The Big East has also been pursuing Air Force and Navy as football only members,

but it seems Air Force is no longer a possibility. Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, the superintendent of the academy, said the school will stay in the Mountain West.

“We belong out West and for now that’s where we’re going to stay,” he told the AP.

Boise State has reportedly worked out a deal to have its other sports teams compete in the Western Athletic Conference, where its football team dominated for 10 seasons. San Diego State is reportedly finalizing a deal to have its other teams compete in the

Big West.

The Big East has only five football teams committed to the conference beyond this season: Connecticut, Cincinnati, Louisville, Rutgers and USF. It also has seven schools that do not play major college football and Notre Dame, which competes in the Big East in everything but football.

Marinatto has pledged to hold Pittsburgh, Syracuse and West Virginia in the conference until 2014, in

See **COUGARS**, Page 11

# Marlins pull offer to Albert Pujols

DALLAS (AP) — Mark Buehrle joined Heath Bell and Jose Reyes in baseball’s Miami migration as the Marlins got tired of waiting for Albert Pujols and pulled their offer.

Dominating the market under art dealer-owner Jeffrey Loria, the Marlins increased their spending spree to \$191 million in less than a week, agreeing Wednesday to a \$58 million, four-year contract with Buehrle just hours after completing a deal with All-Star shortstop Jose Reyes.

“Now how about three more?” new manager Ozzie Guillen said. “Hey, you shullen for the moon, just in case.”

Quite a turnabout for a team that had the major leagues’ lowest payroll in 2006.

“The minnows have become Marlins,” agent Scott Boras said.

With Pujols unwilling to

accept their \$200 million-plus proposal, the Marlins turned their attention to pitching in an effort to get off to a quick start in April at their \$515 million, retractable-roof stadium. It has never been clear that the three-time NL MVP, coming off his second World Series title in six seasons, would be willing to leave the St. Louis Cardinals. The Los Angeles Angels may still be bidding.

“I’m hoping they keep the other animal in St. Louis,” said former Marlins manager Fredi Gonzalez, now skipper of the NL East rival Atlanta Braves.

Marlins president David Samson said the team had withdrawn its offer to Pujols. And while the first baseman still had not announced a decision, there were other moves on the third day of the four-day session.

Colorado traded closer Huston Street to San Diego

for a player to be named and cash, Minnesota finalized a \$4.75 million deal with closer Matt Capps and Pittsburgh completed agreements with left-hander Eric Bedard (\$4.5 million) and outfielder Nate McLouth (\$1.75 million). The Pirates also acquired infielder Yamaico Navarro from the Kansas City Royals for a pair of minor leaguers.

San Francisco finalized a trade to obtain outfielder Angel Pagan and a player to be named or cash from the New York Mets for outfielder Andres Torres and right-hander Ramon Ramirez.

The New York Yankees, unusually quiet at the annual gathering, won negotiating rights to shortstop Hiroyuki Nakajima of the Seibu Lions in Japan’s Pacific League. If they sign him within 30 days, they would pay the Lions a posting fee of \$2.5 million.

In the evening, three free agents returned to their former clubs by accepting the salary arbitration offers made last month: Boston designated hitter David Ortiz, Milwaukee reliever Francisco Rodriguez and Toronto second baseman Kelly Johnson. And just before midnight, the Houston Astros hired Jeff Luhnow as general manager. Luhnow, who had been the Cardinals’ vice president of scouting and player development, is the seventh new GM in the majors since the end of the season.

Texas general manager Jon Daniels sounded resigned to losing ace C.J. Wilson, another pitcher Miami had pursued.

“I haven’t received a call to say he’s chosen to go elsewhere, but we’re prepared for that call,” Daniels said.

After winning the 2003 World Series and then

See **PUJOLS**, Page 11

## Briefs

### Bowl-A-Rama Christmas tournament

Bowl-A-Rama of Big Spring will host their second annual Christmas tournament Thursday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m.

Bowlers must be checked in by 6 p.m. Entry fee is \$25 if paid by Dec. 13 and \$30 afterward. The tournament is open to all bowlers and the handicap is 100 percent of 230.

Eight places will be paid, including a \$150 first place prize and \$100 for second. For more information, visit the website at: www.bowlarama.com.

### Hawk Buddies B-ball program

Howard College’s Earl Diddle and Jamie Fisher will be hosting a basketball clinic Dec. 10 for girls in grades K-8. The fee is \$20 and space is limited to the first 100 kids.

For more information, call Coach Diddle at 264-5043 or Coach Fisher at 264-5155.



AP file photo

Jeff Luhnow, formerly in the Cardinals’ organization was named the new general manager of the Houston Astros.

# Astros hire Luhnow as their new GM

DALLAS (AP) — The Houston Astros hired Jeff Luhnow as their new general manager Wednesday night, hoping he can help rebuild a team that finished with the worst record in the major leagues.

The Astros announced the move at baseball’s winter meetings. Luhnow takes over for Ed Wade, fired along with team president Tal Smith last month in the first major changes by new

owner Jim Crane.

The 45-year-old Luhnow had been a vice president with the St. Louis Cardinals since 2003. He has overseen the Cardinals’ drafts for several years and was involved in selecting several players who contributed to their World Series championship this year, including Jaime Garcia, Allen Craig, Jon Jay and Lance Lynn.

In 2006, Luhnow added player development to his

duties. Cardinals farm teams have won five minor league championships since then.

“Jeff is the perfect fit for the Astros because of his track record in scouting and player development during his eight-plus seasons with the Cardinals,” Astros president and chief executive officer George Postolos said in a statement.

The Astros became the seventh of the 30 major

league teams to hire a new general manager or head of baseball operations since the end of the season. Other clubs that changed recently were Baltimore (Dan Duquette for Andy MacPhail), Boston (Ben Cherington for Theo Epstein), the Chicago Cubs (Jed Hoyer for Jim Hendry), the Los Angeles Angels (Jerry Dipoto for Tony Reagins), Minnesota

See **ASTROS**, Page 11

# Sandusky arrested on additional sex abuse charges

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — Jerry Sandusky’s arrest on additional child sex abuse charges presents him with a new challenge — how to assist his lawyer from behind bars in what was already a complicated case to defend.

“You really prefer to have your client available to you at all times,” said William Manifesto, a longtime Pittsburgh defense attorney not involved in the case. “The most difficult thing for counsel, for anyone who’s in jail, is the ability to communicate.”

Sandusky spent Wednesday night behind bars after new child sex abuse charges were filed against him based on the claims of two new accusers, including one who says he screamed in vain for help while Sandusky attacked him in a basement bedroom.

Sex-crime cases that have more alleged victims — and prosecutors added two to Sandusky’s case with the latest charges — tend to be stronger, said Lancaster County District Attorney Craig Stedman.

“Victims do often gather courage from the fact that others have come forward and it is not unusual for new victims to surface when multiple sex offense violations have been filed and become public,” Stedman said.

The latest accusers are the ninth and 10th alleged victims described in grand jury reports that claim Sandusky befriended and then molested boys he met through his Second Mile charity for troubled youth. A grand jury document released Wednesday echoed an earlier report, saying

Sandusky gave the boys gifts while also making sexual advances toward them.

One of the new accusers said Sandusky kept him in a basement bedroom during overnight visits to Sandusky’s home, forced him to perform sex acts and assaulted him.

“The victim testified that on at least one occasion he screamed for help, knowing that Sandusky’s wife was upstairs, but no one ever came to help him,” the grand jury report said.

Sandusky was wide-eyed and quiet during the arraignment in a cramped district magistrate’s office outside the small town of Bellefonte. He could not immediately pay \$250,000 cash bail and was driven to Centre County jail by agents from the state attorney general’s office. He was still in

custody as of Thursday morning.

He had been arrested at his home, handcuffed behind his back and driven to court wearing a blue and white Penn State wrestling jacket and matching sweat pants.

After the hearing, Sandusky avoided eye contact and did not speak to about two dozen reporters and photographers before authorities placed him in the back of a silver sedan that would shuttle him to jail.

The new alleged victims, who contacted officials after Sandusky’s initial arrest on Nov. 5, told the grand jury they met Sandusky through the charity he founded in 1977.

“I took it at first he was just a nice guy, like he went to church every weekend, his kids would come over every once in

a while and stuff. And after a while, like, he got used to me and stuff and started getting further and further, wanting — to touchy feely,” the ninth accuser, who is now 18, told the grand jury.

He said he was 11 or 12 when he first met Sandusky in 2004 and Sandusky took him to Penn State football games and gave him gifts and money, and sexually assaulted him over a period of years, according to the grand jury report.

The 10th accuser told the grand jury he was referred by a counselor to The Second Mile in 1997, when he was 10 and experiencing problems at home.

He also attended Penn State games with Sandusky, spent time at Sandusky’s house, and was subjected to “wrestling sessions” in the basement of the home

that led to Sandusky performing a sex act on the boy, the report said. The accuser also detailed being molested in a pool on the Penn State campus, and a time when Sandusky allegedly exposed himself in a car while driving and requested that the boy perform a sex act on him.

The boy refused, and after Sandusky expressed his displeasure, the boy told his foster mother he didn’t want to see Sandusky anymore, the report said.

The grand jury report did not say whether the boys ever told anyone else about the assaults before testifying.

Asked what he told Sandusky during the arraignment, lawyer Joseph Amendola said he warned his client to be prepared for things to

See **ABUSE**, Page 11

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## Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Taurus moon invites you to give deep thought to what will keep you grounded through the whirlwind of holiday activities ahead. Tonight the moon shifts into Gemini, and you might be inspired to share your thoughts with loved ones. Perhaps you can come up with a plan to support one another in the transition into the new year.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). A surge of emotional energy may incite you to demonstrate your love or other strong feelings. You'll communicate clearly, and it will be nice to finally be heard and understood.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). The only reality is the one you perceive. You'll tune your perception to a world that supports your wishes and gives you happy surprises. You'll see the many ways that people will help you.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Your mood upon waking might not be ideal. You can turn it around by working from the outside in. "Sometimes your joy is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy." — *Thich Nhat Hanh*

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). When you begin choosing in favor of what would really make you happy, instead of doing the automatic role that someone has cast you in, your life will transform in unpredictable ways.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You won't take your relationships for granted. There are still many new

HOLIDAY  
MATHIS

things to learn about a person you've known a long time. Today's insight will be a kind of revelation.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Social happenings are more interesting than usual. You'll enjoy a certain person's company in particular, and that person will be sure to invite you to other events in the near future.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you argue with the way things are, you lose. Knowing this, you'll assess a less than optimum situation and will try to see the opportunities for good that exist in it.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There are things you've always wanted to do but never acted on. There will be a perfect moment to make your move. It's yours for the seizing, but don't hesitate, or you'll miss it.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Taking things too seriously is dangerous and not advised. With a great deal of levity, you just may float above this whole strange situation and escape to a bright new scene.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You regularly take reasonable, responsible risks. Once in a while, you're tempted to take an unreasonable risk just because something in your gut says it will work. You'll get that feeling again today.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't like anyone telling you what to do, especially yourself. That's why you sometimes make a schedule and do whatever you feel like doing instead. Let yourself have the freedom, no guilt necessary.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You're feeling mighty

independent, and you won't measure your self-worth against how much another person demonstrates their love for you. You might even find someone's attention annoying or distracting.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Dec. 8). It will be a year of renovation and revitalization. Progress in areas of education, communication, writing, computers, travel and sales will thrill you. The next six weeks are for making connections. You'll be praised for your integrity in the spring. Loved ones trust you and make you a bigger part of their world. Capricorn and Aquarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 15, 49, 50 and 11.

**NUMEROLOGY FUN WITH NUMBER THREE:** Do you know what your magic number is? You can get it by adding up all of the numbers of your birthday until you wind up with one number. For instance, all the numbers in the birthday 12/7/1973 add up to 30, and then three plus zero equals three, and so the final number is three.

If THREE is also your magic number, you have a talent for all things having to do with connection. You connect easily with others and make it easy for them to form bonds with you. You also bring people together for a common cause. You're often the one to set friends up with dates, and sometimes you have the idea that makes something happen that never would have happened otherwise. You enjoy communicating, and people feel like opening up with you and sharing whatever resources they have. You are easy to love and hard to forget.

Quote for threes: "Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." — *Leo Buscaglia*

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Trinidadian hip-hop artist Nicki Minaj showed her wild Sagittarian fashion sense recently when she donned jungle prints, leaves and a green afro wig on the Versace runway. Minaj brings the same abandon to her limit-busting, trend-setting music. She was born when the sun, Mercury and Uranus were in Sagittarius and the moon was in quick-thinking, communicative and versatile Gemini.

If you would like to write to *Holiday Mathis*, please go to [www.creators.com](http://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](http://www.creators.com).  
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## Annie's Mailbox ®

**Dear Annie:** My 12-year-old son recently informed me that his 18-year-old cousin was molesting him. I immediately informed my in-laws.

They were in shock and denial. Both said, "Are you sure? Maybe they were experimenting." I was outraged and disgusted, and so was my husband. I went to the police and filed a report.

Both the perpetrator and the victim are their grandsons. My husband no longer speaks to his brother because of what his son did.

His brother said he should have been informed before I filed the police report. But the police advised us not to, saying it would give the perpetrator a chance to develop a defense.

The cousin was arrested. He didn't deny what he'd done. He was sentenced to a year in the county jail and will have to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life, which is absolutely fine with me.

The problem is that my in-laws have chosen to keep this a family secret.

Whenever relatives visit and ask where the cousin is, they respond that he is away at college. I find this appalling.

What happens when the cousin gets out of jail and goes back to live with his parents? Will they tell the relatives with little kids then?

My husband no longer wishes to visit his parents. I know my mother-in-law is angry with me, and I'm OK with that. My primary concern is protecting my family and continuing to seek treatment for my son. We have found him a great therapist.

Should I tell the family members who have children?  
— *Daughter-in-Law*

**Dear Daughter-in-Law:** Family members need to know the truth, but it would help if you could approach your in-laws with love and understanding, instead of anger and recriminations.

This is breaking their hearts. Help them see how important it is for relatives to know why they cannot permit their young children to be alone with the cousin — for his sake as well as theirs.

When he is released from prison, he likely will be prohibited from being near these children anyway, so the in-laws are only postponing the inevitable.

Sympathize with how awkward it will be to inform oth-

KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

ers, but the sooner it is done the more supportive and trusting the family members can be. Please talk to your son's therapist about the best way to word this.

**Dear Annie:** We have four kids. Three of them are doing well, but our youngest, age 23, still lives with us, does drugs and has no job. He

sleeps all day and does nothing around the house to help. We have tried different ways to motivate him. We feed him and house him, and he acts as though he is entitled. What should we do? — *At the End of Our Rope*

**Dear Rope:** First try to get your son to a doctor to make sure there are no medical or psychiatric problems hampering his development.

Then please take the necessary steps to make him responsible for his own life.

It will not be easy for you (or for him), but the situation as it stands is untenable, and you have to consider your own well-being. Contact *Because I Love You* ([bily.org](http://bily.org)) and *Families Anonymous* ([familiesanonymous.org](http://familiesanonymous.org)) for support and assistance.

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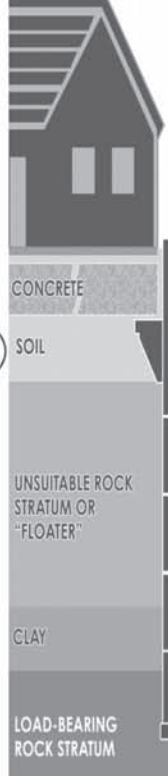
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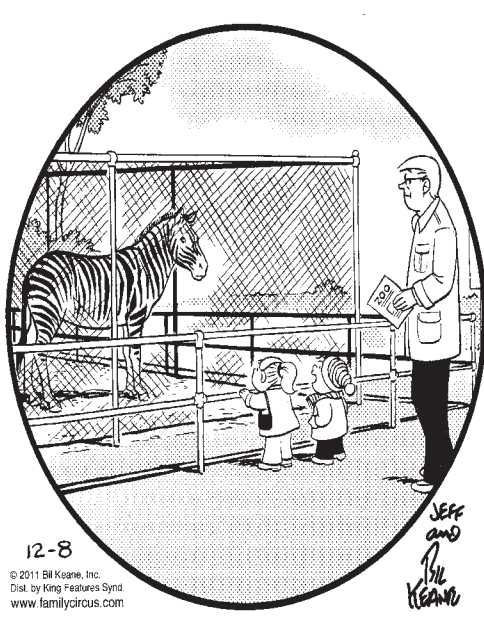
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Big Bang	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	King King	Israel Dr. Wil	News Curious	Ti Death King	Sons of Guns	Twelve, Matt Damon	Jail Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me	Two Men	News CBS	Caso Cer-rado	News News	Seinfeld	Chevalme	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Sons of Guns	Jail Jail	Bones	Re.- Lines	ANT Farm	College Basketball	Audibles	
7:PM	Wipeout	Familia-Suerte	The X Factor	Ent	Una Maid en	Millionaire	Seinfeld	Alan Lee	Great Performances	Seinfeld	Sons of Guns	Jail Jail	CSI: NY	Re.- Lines	Austin	SEC Storied		
8:PM	Funny Home Videos	Fuerza-Des-tino	Bones	Person of Interest	Flor Salvaje (SS)	Office Whitney	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	Great Performances: Andrea Bocelli Live	The Secret Circle	Moonshiners	Jail Jail	CSI: NY	Game	College Basketball	College Foot-ball Awards		
9:PM	Big-Auction	Noticias Univision	Simpsons	The Mental-ist	La Casa de al Lado	Grimm	Big Bang	Conan	Tree Lighting	Cops	Weed Wars	Jail Jail	CSI: NY	Movie: Baby Boy, A.J. Johnson	ANT Farm	SportsNation	SportsCenter	
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met	News	Noticias Titulares	News	Big Bang	Conan	Dr. Diana Van Impe	King	Moonshiners	Jail Jail	CSI: NY	MAN	Austin	Good	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta que el Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Sin Senos	Late Night	Office	Office	Scrivner	South Pk	Weed Wars	Jail Jail	CSI: NY	MAN	Wendy Williams	Wizards	NFL Live	
12:AM	Extra	Mañana-Siempre	Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Moving for Christ	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Roseanne	Sons of Guns	Jail Jail	CSI: NY	GTTV	Movie: Blue Hill Avenue, Aaron D. Spears	Good	Baseball	
1:AM	Paid	La Jaula	American	Ent	Pagado	(:06) Today	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Influence	Sons of Guns	Sons of Guns	Jail Jail	Leverage	MAN	Random	ANT Farm	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



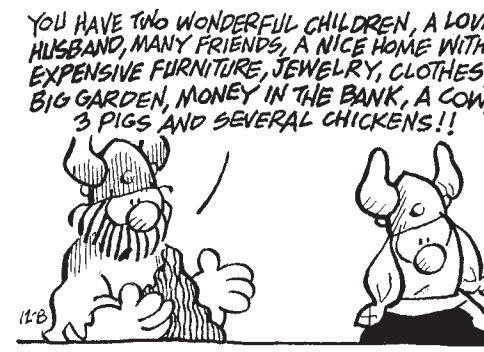
"ABOUT THIS 'NAUGHTY OR NICE' THING... DOES SANTA GRADE ON A CURVE?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



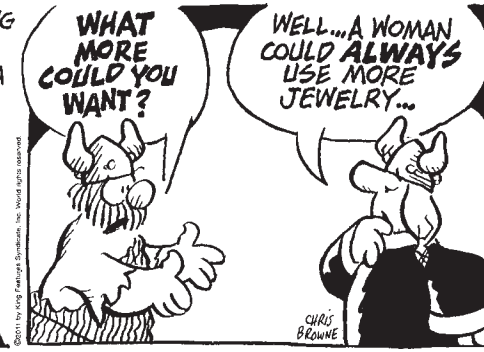
"When the horses play football he gets to be the referee."

HAGAR



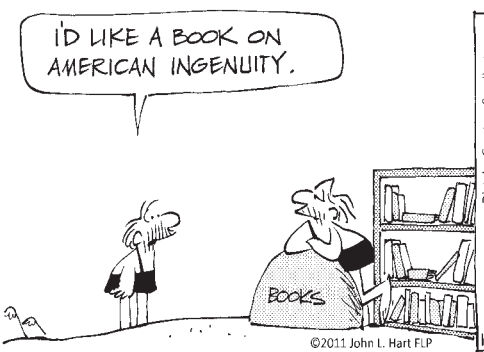
YOU HAVE TWO WONDERFUL CHILDREN, A LOVING HUSBAND, MANY FRIENDS, A NICE HOME WITH EXPENSIVE FURNITURE, JEWELRY, CLOTHES, A BIG GARDEN, MONEY IN THE BANK, A COW, 3 PIGS AND SEVERAL CHICKENS!!

BLONDIE



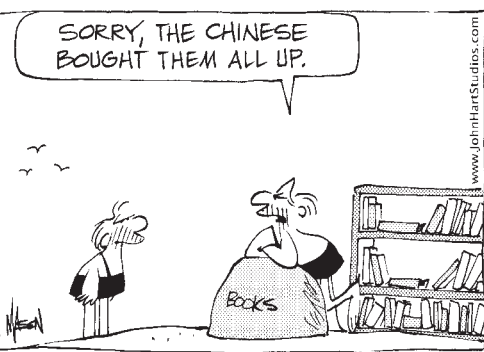
WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT? WELL... A WOMAN COULD ALWAYS USE MORE JEWELRY...

BC



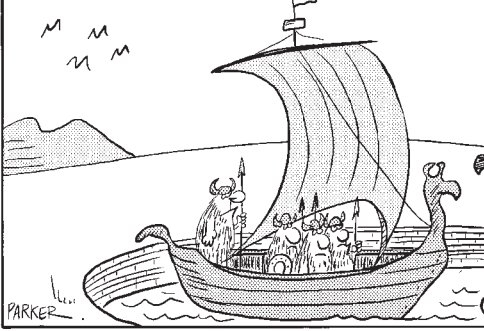
I'D LIKE A BOOK ON AMERICAN INGENUITY.

WIZARD OF ID



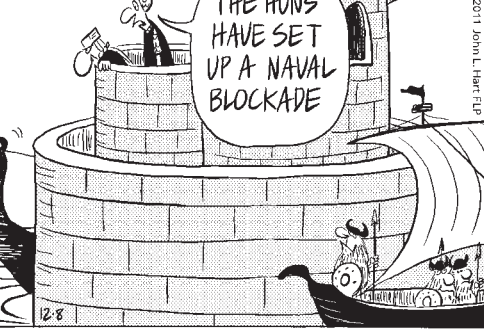
SORRY, THE CHINESE BOUGHT THEM ALL UP.

AGNES



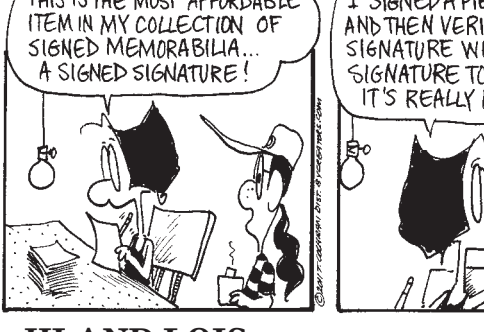
THIS IS THE MOST AFFORDABLE ITEM IN MY COLLECTION OF SIGNED MEMORABILIA... A SIGNED SIGNATURE!

HI AND LOIS



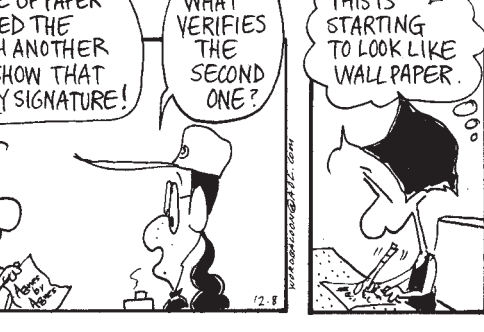
WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE COLOR? I DON'T HAVE ONE.

THE OTHER COAST



YOU'RE SUCH A SLOB, RALPH. I'M GETTING SICK AND TIRED OF PICKING UP AFTER YOU!

SNUFFY SMITH



EV'RYONE AGREES IT'S TH' WORST CASE OF TH' TURRIBLE TWOS THEY'VE EVER SEEN !!

BEETLE BAILEY

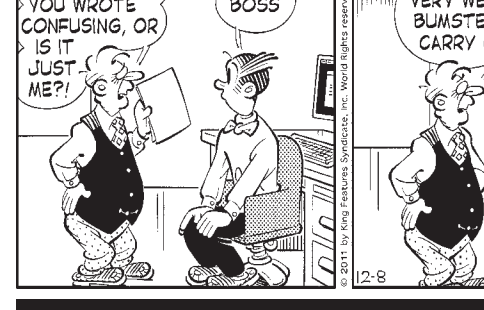


ISN'T THIS THE AREA WHERE THOSE SCIENTISTS WERE DOING RESEARCH? I DON'T KNOW

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS  
1 Prank  
6 Colt's father  
10 Blue shade  
14 Summer zodiac sign  
15 Course for an MBA  
16 Tied up  
17 Accepted principle  
18 Vegan's avoidance  
19 Narrow street  
20 Anonymous valentine sender  
23 Chider's sound  
24 Family room  
25 Cockpit announcement  
26 Frat letter  
29 What's My Line? feature  
32 Lucie Arnaz's dad  
35 Trunk cover  
36 Nautical pole  
37 NYSE rival  
38 Lab chemicals  
41 Ye \_\_ Shoppe  
42 Furnish food for  
44 Iceberg extremity  
45 Manhattanite, for short  
46 Consumer's annoyance  
50 Pub order  
51 Road-service org.  
52 Summer zodiac sign  
53 Computer-drive unit, briefly  
56 Baby shower, perhaps  
60 Virtuoso

BLONDIE



BUMSTEAD, IS THIS CONTRACT YOU WROTE CONFUSING, OR IS IT JUST ME? LEMME SEE, BOSS

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Dec. 8, the 342nd day of 2011. There are 23 days left in the year.  
Today's Highlight in History:  
On Dec. 8, 1941, the United States entered World War II as Congress declared war against Japan, a day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.  
On this date:  
In 1776, during the Revolutionary War, Gen. George Washington's retreating army crossed the Delaware River from New Jersey into Pennsylvania.  
In 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the Catholic dogma of the Immaculate Conception, which holds that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was free of original sin from the moment of her own conception.  
In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln announced his plan for the Reconstruction of the South.  
In 1886, the American Federation of Labor was found-

Answer to previous puzzle

AMIGO	COMA	POET
RURAL	EVIL	JURY
ABOUND	DEAL	STOP
BENCH	WARMER	ODE
HAIR	IGOOFED	
ETCETC	CHEAP	
LEO	CLUE	CAMUS
ARMCHAIR	ATHLETE	
LIBRA	FETE	LAX
ERRED	EARTHY	
SHOWDOG	TUBE	
MAX	COUCHPOTATO	
UZIS	MARE	DINAR
REDO	IRAS	ERNIE
FLEW	EDGE	SEALS

ed in Columbus, Ohio.  
In 1911, actor Lee J. Cobb was born in New York City.  
In 1949, the Chinese Nationalist government moved from the Chinese mainland to Formosa as the Communists pressed their attacks.  
In 1961, a fire at Hartford Hospital in Connecticut resulted in 16 deaths. The Beach Boys' first single, "Surfin'," was released.  
In 1980, rock star John Lennon was shot to death outside his New York City apartment building by an apparently deranged fan.  
In 1987, President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed a treaty at the White House calling for destruction of intermediate-range nuclear missiles.  
In 1991, AIDS patient Kimberly Bergalis, who had contracted the disease from her dentist, died in Fort Pierce, Fla., at age 23.  
Today's Birthdays: Actor-director Maximilian Schell is 81. Flutist James Galway is 72. Singer Jerry Butler is 72. Pop musician Bobby Elliott (The Hollies) is 70. Actress Mary Woronov is 68. Actor John Rubinstein is 65. Rock singer-

HUSH-HUSH by Betty Keller

Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

62 Late-night TV host  
63 Longest human bone  
64 Mystic of India  
65 Rebuke from Caesar  
66 Tolkien hero  
67 Possesses accumulation  
68 Flue  
69 Heavy books  
7 On the rocks  
8 Person on the move  
9 Being  
10 Having the skill  
11 Literary magazine, often  
12 CPO's service  
13 Roll-call response  
21 Electric-car company  
22 Cleaning cloths  
27 Out of the way  
28 Verbalize  
29 Not homogeneous  
30 Author Wharton  
31 Slightly ahead  
32 Russian villa  
33 Paperless messages  
34 Play producer's concern  
39 Calls home from the office  
40 Indulgent episode  
43 Bring up  
47 City near Vesuvius  
48 Desire  
49 Fail, so to speak  
53 Househusband  
54 Chopin piece  
55 Greek sandwiches  
57 Israeli guns  
58 Obsessed by  
59 Prefix for space  
60 Neighbor of Neb.  
61 "In what way?"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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# COUGARS

From Page 6

accordance with the Big East bylaws. West Virginia wants to join the Big 12 in 2012 and has sued the Big East to get an early release.

The Big East filed a countersuit to keep West Virginia in the conference. Pittsburgh and Syracuse intend to join the Atlantic Coast Conference as soon as possible, but are not challenging the Big East's bylaws.

Syracuse athletic director Daryl Gross said he expected the Big East might ask his school and Pitt to leave early now.

"They'd need us to move out of the way," said Gross, who was taking part in IMG's Intercollegiate Athletics Forum in Manhattan on Wednesday.

Marinatto said there have been no discussions with the new members about the possibility of letting the departing members out early. Potentially, that could lead the Big East to have the same eight teams it has now in 2012 and as many as 15 members in 2013.

"I think it's a simple matter of respecting our bylaws," Marinatto said of having lame duck members. "An early departure and a violation of those bylaws would damage the membership."

The Big East was born in 1979 as a northeast basketball conference and in 1991 added football with the inclusion of Miami, Virginia Tech and others.

Maintaining a strong football league has been difficult. Miami, Virginia Tech and Boston College left the Big East for the ACC in 2004 and '05, and the league seemed on the verge of extinction.

Instead, it expanded, bringing in Louisville, Cincinnati, South Florida, DePaul and Marquette.

The additions revitalized the foot-

ball league for a few years and Big East basketball, with 16 members, has been better than ever.

The latest additions are all about football and television markets. Boise State has been one of the most successful programs in the country over the last decade playing mostly in the Western Athletic Conference before joining the MWC this season.

The Broncos are 72-6 over the last five seasons with two BCS victories.

Houston has been to a bowl game six of the last seven seasons, and is in the 10th-largest television market in the country, according to Nielsen. San Diego State, UCF and SMU have all been on the upswing on the field in recent years.

Just as importantly, Dallas, where SMU is located, is the fifth-largest TV market. Orlando, where UCF is located, is in the 19th largest, and San Diego is the 28th largest.

Marinatto said the additions boost the Big East's potential TV households by more than six percent and up to 28 million. He added that having members in four time zones would allow the league to play four games on a Saturday that don't overlap.

The Big East is hoping that a combination of success on the field and potential viewers will help the league land a new television deal that can keep it relatively competitive with the other power conferences, all of which have signed long-term TV contracts worth more than \$1 billion.

"This new footprint is the largest footprint in all of college sports," Marinatto said.

The five new members are banking on the move to the Big East bringing increased TV revenue and exposure, along with better access to the Bowl Championship Series and its multi-million-dollar payouts.

"This is a game-changer for us," University of Houston President Renu Khator said.

# ABUSE

From Page 6

get worse.

"Jerry's scratching his head saying 'What's next?'" Amendola said. "I said, 'Don't ask that question. Don't ask, 'Can it get worse?' because it can. We just have to be prepared for whatever else comes down the road. And we will be."

Asked how Sandusky is dealing with the accusations, Amendola said, "How would you take it if you were facing the kind of charges he was facing and your life's work was helping kids? You would be devastated."

Amendola said he hoped to have Sandusky out of jail Thursday. If he does, Sandusky will have to wear an electronic monitor, which Amendola said would be the equivalent to house arrest.

Sandusky also was to have no contact with alleged victims or witnesses in the case and have no unsupervised contact with minors.

Prosecutors had sought \$1 million in bail.

The bail and conditions ordered Wednesday by Senior Magisterial District Judge Robert E. Scott were in contrast to the \$100,000 unsecured bail San-

dukusky was granted last month.

Sandusky now faces criminal accusations from 10 young men and 50 charges stemming from alleged assaults over 15 years on boys in his home, on Penn State property and elsewhere. The scandal has provoked strong criticism that Penn State officials didn't do enough to stop the alleged assaults. The scandal prompted the ouster of Hall of Fame football coach Joe Paterno and the school's longtime president, Graham Spanier.

The new charges against Sandusky include two counts each of involuntary deviate sexual intercourse and unlawful contact with a minor, all first-degree felonies punishable by up to 20 years in prison and \$25,000 in fines. He was also charged Wednesday with three lesser felonies and three misdemeanors.

Sandusky, 67, has said repeatedly that he is innocent and has vowed to fight the case. In interviews with NBC and The New York Times, he said he showered and horsed around with boys but never sexually abused them. Amendola said Wednesday that he had not yet read the latest grand jury report but had no reason to doubt Sandusky's

claims of innocence.

A preliminary hearing on the latest charges was scheduled for Tuesday, the same day as a hearing on the previous charges.

The new charges may enhance the judge's view of the seriousness of the case, and protect against the chance some accusers wear down in court Tuesday.

"There's strength in numbers, so, yes, it is a help to the prosecution. If one victim's case isn't good, they'll have the others to fall back on," said Loyola Law School professor Laurie Levenson, a former federal prosecutor.

The added charges may also encourage Sandusky to consider plea talks, she said.

"For the defense, it comes to the point where there are just too many cases to fight," she said. "It may be, if they're looking at plea offers, it gets him in the mind(set) ... to resolve this case without a full-blown trial."

Manifesto said the additional victims could be used by prosecutors to bolster people who may be reluctant to testify.

"That's the kind of rhetoric that you would use as a prosecutor to get a witness who is reluctant to testify such as embarrassment," Manifesto said.

# ASTROS

From Page 6

(Terry Ryan for Bill Smith) and San Diego (Josh Byrnes for Hoyer).

Houston went 56-106 last season, the worst record in franchise history.

Luhnow has been in charge of the Cardinals' Latin American scouting and development since 2004.

He has been credited with developing players from the area who have reached the majors as well as become top prospects in the minor leagues.

"The Astros strive to develop one of the best systems in baseball and create a consistent winner at the Major League level," Postolos said.

"Jeff has the knowledge, skills and experience to lead the baseball operations efforts at all levels and help the Astros achieve this vision. Jeff has demonstrated the ability to inspire and motivate staff

# PUJOLS

From Page 6

dismantling the roster because of a lack of revenue, Loria is collecting free agents like old masterpieces, trying to build a Miami machine with the funds provided by the new stadium and an expected boost in attendance.

Guillen and Buehrle were together on the Chicago White Sox this season, when the 32-year-old left-hander went 13-9 with a 3.59 ERA and won his third straight Gold Glove.

"This kid is special," Guillen said. "He pitched in the big scenarios, big moments, very tough city to pitch. When people love you in Chicago that means something."

Buehrle's deal is subject to a physical, which the sides were arranging. Reyes, a four-time All-Star, finalized a \$106 million, six-year contract, two days after Bell completed a \$27 million, three-year deal. Wanting to get started with talks right away, Loria

and Marlins officials met Reyes and his agent just past midnight on Nov. 3, the start of the signing period, at a table outside Bemelmans Bar at The Carlyle hotel in New York. "12:01. Those guys are crazy," Reyes said. "They showed me a lot of love." The cash-

strapped Mets, who signed him when he was 16, never made a formal offer.

"If you're asking whether I should have sent him a box of chocolates, perhaps I should have done that," general manager Sandy Alderson said.

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# Letters to Santa


## Deadline For Letters Is Friday, December 9th

Letters will be published in the Letters To Santa Section on Friday, December 23, 2011

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# Remembering all those who served their country



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Bobby Brasel, a Big Spring resident, remembered the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pearl Harbor by placing American flags around his yard. According to Brasel, the flags are placed out in remembrance of each patriotic holiday throughout the year.

# Tour of Homes 2011

Five local residents open their homes in support of the Symphony Guild



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Tour of Homes will take place Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. This year there are five houses on the tour. Chuck and Cynthia Breyman's home located in Highland is one of the five houses featured this year. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in advance or at any of the houses the day of the tour.

## MATCH THE SANTA TO HIS WORKSHOP!!



This entry form must be received by Friday, December 16 at 10 a.m. Drop off your form at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry St. The winner will be the one who correctly matches the most Santas to his business/workshop. There will be 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners. Gift certificates will be given away to use at the participating businesses. Winners will be announced in the Sunday, December 18th Edition of the Big Spring Herald!

*All decisions are final at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald*

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