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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**WEDNESDAY**  
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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 152      COPYRIGHT 2012      50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## Volunteers to squash litter bugs

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Residents will get a chance to get "trashy" Saturday, as Keep Big Spring Beautiful and local volunteers get ready to clean up the Crossroads area during the annual Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off.

Trash-Off Coordinator Pat Simmons said there are a number of ways area residents and groups can get involved in the effort, whether it's tackling a piece of their own property or joining with other volunteers to spruce up an area in the community.

"The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is less than a week away and Keep Big Spring Beautiful is encouraging every resident, business, church, school or organization to get involved," Simmons said. "This can be done by taking a look at your own property, or you can take a look around the community and select a spot that needs your help. We have to get control of the trash and unsightly houses in our community. We need everyone's help to make the Trash-Off a success."

Simmons said it's important for residents to understand what parts of their property they are responsible for.

"You're responsible for your residential, rental property, business, or vacant lots," Simmons said. "You are responsible from the middle of the street to the center of the



Simmons

### Statewide event expected to be a huge success

**Herald Staff Report**

When Crossroads area residents take to the roads, parks and vacant lots this weekend for the Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off, they'll be joining more than 75,800 volunteers who participated in 848 trash-offs last year.

Together, they picked up almost 6 million pounds of trash

"Each year this event brings together thousands of volunteers, and we expect this year's event to be even more successful," said Cathie Gail, executive director of Keep Texas Beautiful. "This program not only beautifies our roads across the state, it also educates and changes the attitudes and behavior of would-be litterers, preparing us for a litter-free future."

This year, the fight against litter has a new weapon — a mobile app.

For years, the "Report A Litterer" program has allowed Texans to notify the

See **STATE**, Page 3A

back alley, if you have one. Most people think it stops at the curb and this is the reason you see grass growing in

See **TxDOT**, Page 3A



**HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins**  
**Marsalis Stewart, a freshman at Howard College and player for the school's basketball team, tries his luck with a rock climbing wall Tuesday afternoon outside the Student Union Building as James Garrett, an employee with Main Events Sports on Air, watches. Howard College hosted high school students from all over the Crossroads area Tuesday in an effort to show them first-hand what college life is like.**

## Water pact on hold

*City, Alon USA still negotiating*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Try again. That's the message City Finance Director Peggy Walker delivered to the Big Spring City Council Tuesday night regarding negotiations between the municipality and Alon USA to amend their raw water agreement. Consideration of a possible agreement was tabled for the second time in the past two weeks.

According to Walker, negotiations had been expected to be wrapped up in time for an agreement to be presented to the council Tuesday evening, however, scheduling conflicts and failure to reach a common ground on the issue made it necessary to skip the matter — which was also tabled during the March 27 meeting — once again.

"We had really hoped to have the negotiations finalized by tonight. However, we've had some scheduling conflicts in setting up some meetings and everyone is so busy with other things. We did talk to Jimmy Crosby (refinery manager) today and there are still some issues, not necessarily with the amount of money Alon will be paying for water, but with how the rates will be structured. He wants to have some input when it comes to his production costs and if we have anything that is a flat fee or fixed charge, of course that impacts their production costs, yet it's not something they can control."

"We're still looking at various opportunities and ways we can structure this and we may go with a partial base-rate, a partial fixed-rate on some delivery and we're also looking at a better way to approach them paying the city the amount of money we feel is fair. We're also considering going back and looking at their industrial agreement. It's not due to be renewed at

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54414 79720

## Elections, non-elections confront BSISD trustees

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring Independent School District trustee election is getting a trim job.

Citing two uncontested races, BSISD trustees are likely to cancel a portion of the May 12 trustee election when they hold their monthly meeting at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

Scheduled elections for Districts 3 and 4 (currently represented by Ken McIntosh and Tony Kennedy, respectively) are expected to be cancelled; McIntosh and Kennedy both filed for re-election, but no challengers stepped forth, BSISD Business Manager Debra Green said.

That leaves one race, the District 2 election, on the

May 12 ballot. Incumbent Maria Padilla will face two challengers — retired teacher and former Big Spring city council member Pat DeAnda and Ed Ware, a comptroller at Bob Brock Ford — as she seeks a fourth three-year term on the BSISD board.

Early voting for the May 12

See **BSISD**, Page 3A



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# Obituaries

## Barbara Begley



Barbara Begley, 71, of Big Spring died Monday, April 9, 2012, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, April 13, 2012, at Myers & Smith Chapel with James Rhodes officiating. Burial will follow at 2 p.m. at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Abilene.

She was born June 20, 1940, in Saul, Ky., to Della Rice Morris and Hiram Morris. She married James R. Begley on Oct. 22, 1957, in Underwood, Ind. They first came to Big Spring in 1959 to Webb Air Force Base. They returned to Big Spring in 1978 when her husband retired. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

She is survived by her husband, James Begley of Big Spring; two daughters, Rebecca Eckert and husband Fred of Lomax and Sheila Ward and husband Billy of Big Spring; a son-in-law, Billy Hardin of Lovington; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one brother, Granville Morris and wife Lily of Austin, Ind.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one daughter, Brenda Hardin on April 5, 2012; and eight brothers and sisters.

The family suggests memorials to St. Jude Children's Hospital c/o of St. Jude Tribute Program, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38148-0142.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

## Edna Faye Smith

Edna Faye Smith, 97, of Big Spring died Tuesday, April 10, 2012, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

# Police blotter

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

- ROBERT RUBEN SANCHEZ, 47, of 1023 Stadium Ave., was arrested Tuesday on two warrants from other agencies.
- ROBERT GARDNER LYNCH JR., 51, of 300 Veterans Blvd., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- RANDY JOE HURRINGTON, 51, of 1411 Bluebird, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency.
- JANICE RODRIGUEZ, 36, of 8504 El Camino, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility (two counts) and driving while license invalid.
- JORGE GOMEZ, 20, of 508 State, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for bail jumping - failure to

appear and failure to appear.

- HERMAN LEE HOKES, 47, of 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 40, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for issuance of a bad check.
- RONALD WAYNE STINSON, 32, of 4302 S. Highway 87, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JASON LEE DIAZ, 32, of 1111 Ridgeroad, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- ANTHONY ALPHONSO LEWIS, 40, of 809 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- JOHNNY RICHARD REYES, 24, of 107 N.E. Ninth St., was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for theft - more than \$50 and less than \$500.
- THEFT was reported: in the 1200 block of E. 15<sup>th</sup> Street. In the 500 block of Birdwell Lane Apt. 25. in the 3200 block of Fenn Avenue.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 4200 block of Lintner Road in Lomax.
- STOLEN VEHICLE was reported in the 600 block of E. 17<sup>th</sup> Street.

# Sheriff

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

- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 73 inmates at the time of this report.
- ROBERT RUBIN SANCHEZ, 47, was booked into the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a judgment/sentence for public intoxication with three or more convictions (two counts).
- KODY CHANCE JACKSON, 26, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on an order of modified condition of community service.
- RANDY JOE HURRINGTON, 51, was booked into the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a Tom Green County warrant for failure to identify - giving false information.
- ROBERT GARDNER LYNCH JR., 51, was booked into the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JORGE LUIS GOMEZ, 21, was booked into the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of bail jumping - failure to appear and a Gaines County warrant for failure to appear.
- RONALD WAYNE STINSON, 32, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- JANICE RODRIGUEZ, 36, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on municipal capias warrants for driving while license invalid and failure to maintain financial responsibility (two counts).
- ANTHONY ALPHONSO LEWIS, 40, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- JOHNNY RICHARD REYES, 24, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of theft - more than \$50 and less than \$500.
- JASON LEE DIAZ, 32, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- ERLINDA EVETTE RIOS, 24, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for assault causing bodily injury.

# Fire/EMS

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

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 175 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.

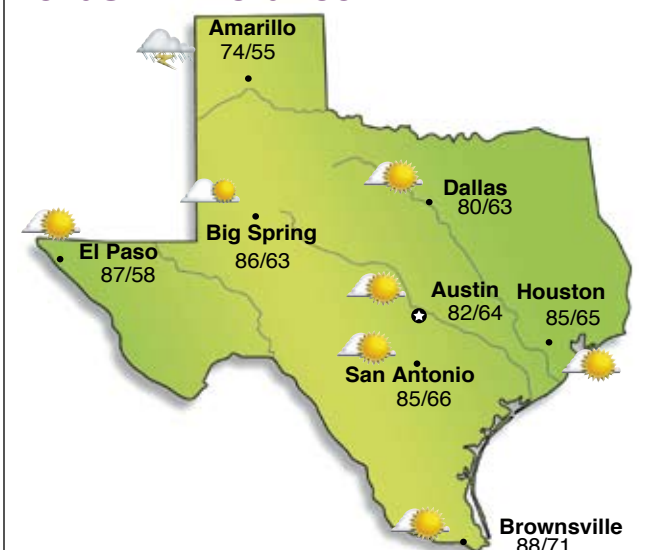
# Today's Weather

## Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 4/12	Fri 4/13	Sat 4/14	Sun 4/15	Mon 4/16
<b>86/63</b> Sunshine and clouds mixed. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible.	<b>87/63</b> Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm.	<b>89/63</b> Clouds giving way to sun. High in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.	<b>88/54</b> Sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	<b>82/57</b> Sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.
Sunrise: 7:21 AM Sunset: 8:13 PM	Sunrise: 7:20 AM Sunset: 8:14 PM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 8:14 PM	Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM



## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	83	65	mst sunny	Kingsville	89	69	mst sunny
Amarillo	74	55	t-storm	Livingston	84	58	mst sunny
Austin	82	64	mst sunny	Longview	77	56	t-storm
Beaumont	83	61	mst sunny	Lubbock	80	58	t-storm
Brownsville	88	71	mst sunny	Lufkin	84	58	mst sunny
Brownwood	85	65	mst sunny	Midland	85	64	t-storm
Corpus Christi	86	71	mst sunny	Raymondville	90	70	mst sunny
Corsicana	79	61	mst sunny	Rosenberg	85	63	mst sunny
Dallas	80	63	mst sunny	San Antonio	85	66	mst sunny
Del Rio	86	67	windy	San Marcos	83	63	mst sunny
El Paso	87	58	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	74	56	t-storm
Fort Stockton	85	61	t-storm	Sweetwater	83	63	pt sunny
Gainesville	76	59	t-storm	Tyler	78	57	pt sunny
Greenville	76	58	pt sunny	Weatherford	79	61	mst sunny
Houston	85	65	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	78	61	t-storm

### National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	65	38	sunny	Minneapolis	54	34	sunny
Boston	57	41	rain	New York	56	44	rain
Chicago	52	34	mst sunny	Phoenix	74	54	windy
Dallas	80	63	mst sunny	San Francisco	57	51	rain
Denver	74	47	t-storm	Seattle	57	45	rain
Houston	85	65	mst sunny	St. Louis	60	39	sunny
Los Angeles	61	50	rain	Washington, DC	56	41	rain
Miami	85	66	mst sunny				

# Support Groups

**THURSDAY**  
• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

• Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) will meet at 5:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Parish Hall. Guest speaker for the night will be Dr. Larry Fish, who will speak on the subject of macular degeneration. The goal of VASG is to provide, through education and possibly services in the future, a sense of hope to people that have vision problems and help them and their care givers cope with vision loss. Some types of vision loss that the VASG hopes to discuss are: glaucoma, retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, cataracts, trauma, infectious processes and neurological deficits. VASG is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. For more information, call You can call us at 263-2501.

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HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Former Heritage Museum Curator Beth Purcell, right, and Terissa Green speak about the new exhibit during the opening reception for "Our Houses of History: Portraits of Rural Texas Museums." Purcell's work will be on display until May 1 at the Heritage Museum.

**TxDOT**

Continued from Page 1A

Texas Department of Transportation via [www.dontmesswithtexas.org](http://www.dontmesswithtexas.org) when they witness trash being tossed out of vehicles. Now, there's a new, free mobile app. With the press of a button, the littering incident and type of trash are recorded via GPS.

The new Don't Mess with Texas app allows Texans to identify the litter they see as one of four prevalent types of trash: fast food; cigarette butts; cups, cans and bottles; and miscellaneous trash. The data is compiled into a map that illustrates what's being littered and where throughout the state.

The app encourage Texans to text and drive, however.

As a promoter of safe behavior on roadways, TxDOT has taken precautions to prevent distracted driving. When a user opens the app for the first time, he or she is prompted with a reminder not to use the app while driving. Users cannot text or type into the app at any time — only tapping on the touch screen is allowed, and only one tap is needed to report litter.

**TRASH**

Continued from Page 1A

the gutter area where lawn clipping have been left, which leaves an ugly appearance."

Janice Bishop, KBSB president, said volunteering just a small portion of time each month can have a huge impact on the way the community looks.

"If people just get out and spend an hour each

month helping to pick up litter and trash, it can make a huge difference in our community," she said. "I keep a bag in my car and when I'm going to a business I try to pick up as much litter as I can between my vehicle and the front door.

"Of course, the best way to fight litter is to not let it get there in the first place. However, not all of it ends up out there intentionally. Unfortunately, though, the

only way it's going to get picked up is if it's done intentionally, so we all have to contribute and do our part."

Simmons said she will be at the Chamber of Commerce office on W. Third Street from 9 a.m. until noon Friday to give out trash bags to interested persons.

Volunteers will then join several other civic and governmental organizations in the main clean-up effort Saturday, according to Simmons,

with efforts centered on Big Spring's main thoroughfares — Third and Fourth streets, Gregg Street and FM 700 — as well as other areas.

"We have about 13 Adopt-A-Spots throughout town and groups will be out picking up trash in those areas," Simmons said. "But people can pick up trash on different streets, lots ... wherever they want to clean."

Simmons asks that volunteers register with

her before the event, whether they plan to request an area to clean or pick up litter in their own area or property.

"This way we can get a head count of how many people are participating in the Trash-Off, which is important for the information we submit to Keep Texas Beautiful," she said. "Even if you're just going to work on your own property, please call us and let us know so we can be as accurate as possible."

Saturday will be a "landfill free day" for the community during this year's Trash-Off. Residents can bring items to the landfill at no charge, said Simmons.

For more information on the Trash-Off, contact Simmons at 432-263-4607.

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

**WATER**

Continued from Page 1A

at this point, however, I think they might be willing to take that back to the council and do an amendment on that so it doesn't effect their production cost, which basically goes into their fixed operating cost."

Walker said officials with Alon aren't happy with the way fixed rates could impact their production costs, making it difficult for the two entities to come to an agreement.

"Currently Alon uses, on average, between 20 percent to 25 percent of the water the city purchases," Walker said. "The city pays a little more than \$300,000 a month — well more than \$3 million a year — before we even buy the first gallon of water from the Colorado River

Municipal Water District. That's the fixed or base charge the city has to pay. So, if Alon is using between 20 to 25 percent of the total water, they are paying 20 to 25 percent of that fixed charge.

"The way they (Alon USA) would really prefer the rates be structured is to build the rates that include the fixed charge, but you don't isolate it. You don't say you're going to pay 20 percent — or even 25 percent — at a minimum of the fixed charge. They really don't like that. So, that's what we're looking at now, if there's a way to build a rate that minimizes the city's rate if Alon begins using less water, yet generates the revenue they should be paying."

Once completed, the agreement could effect a lot more than the price Alon USA pays for wa-

ter, according to city officials.

Walker said Alon officials have announced plans to begin subsidizing a portion of the water it buys from the city of Big Spring with water from a number of wells it plans to construct.

The city of Big Spring — along with numerous other cities in drought-stricken West Texas — has been faced with drastic cuts in water deliveries from CRMWD, forcing the municipality to enact water-use restrictions as part of its Drought Contingency Plan, which is currently in Stage 3.

While the reduction in water consumption may seem like a good idea with CRMWD already struggling to meet water demands throughout the Permian Basin, the reduction in Alon's water bill could spell a hefty increase in the

city's other users.

"Our rates are based on prior usage. So, the \$300,000 the city pays each month right now is based on how much water we've used in the past, which included the 20 to 25 percent Alon was using," Walker said. "If Alon decreases their water usage, the city of Big Spring, overall, would be using less water, which is a good thing. Unfortunately, the \$300,000 fixed charge we pay each month doesn't decrease, even if we use less water. Alon would be paying less — possibly a lot less — but the city still has to pay that fixed charge, which could mean a rate increase for customers."

According to Walker, any rate hike felt due to a decrease in water usage by Alon USA would likely be temporary, however, until the water district adjusted the

rates it charges the municipality, the city will be stuck with the bill.

"There's no recourse in that situation because rates are set once a year. If we had a drastic reduction in our water consumption — say Alon went from using 25 percent to using 5 percent, a 20 percent overall reduction in water use — the water district would look at it the following year and our rates could go down progressively in the future. However, there's at least a one-year lag period. That's why we're working so hard to build something that's fair to both parties, is equitable, covers our risk and provides the revenue Alon should be paying."

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

**BSISD**

Continued from Page 1A

election begins April 30 at the Howard County Courthouse. On election day, Dorothy Garrett Coliseum will serve as the polling place, Green said.

In other business Thursday, trustees will consider:

- Reports on the Early College High School project and county wide meeting update.
- Update to legal and local policies.
- Expenditures in excess of \$75,000 for computer technology at the

four new elementary campuses.

- Approval of the 2012-2013 school calendar.
- Employment recommendations.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at [reporter@bigspringherald.com](mailto:reporter@bigspringherald.com)

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Barbara Begley, 71, of Big Spring, died Monday, April 9, 2012 at her residence. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, April 13, 2012 at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow at 2 p.m. at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Abilene.  
Oscar Solis, Sr., 50, of Big Spring, died Saturday, April 7, 2012 in Pampa, Texas. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Friday, April 13, 2012 at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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# EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

## OUR VIEWS

### Weekend plans in good ol' Big Spring

Who says there is nothing to do in Big Spring? This weekend alone, there are several events taking place. Next weekend, there will be even more and the following weekend will follow suit.

The weekend will kick off with the Howard College Rodeo. The rodeo will take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday night at the county fairgrounds.

Saturday will begin with the 30th annual Health Fair and Safety Car Seat Check at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Members of Healthy Woman, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and other organizations have joined together for another year of health fair. Area residents will be able to have free screenings and find out medical based information inside the coliseum. The parking lot next to Memorial Stadium will be the setting for a six-lane safety car seat check. The program, sponsored by Safe Kids San Angelo and Healthy Woman, will check to make sure area children are riding correctly in the proper car seat.

For those not only wanting to take care of their bodies, but the Earth as well, there will be an event for that. Keep Big Spring Beautiful members and anyone else who wants to volunteer will takepart in the annual Trash Off. Volunteers can have an area designated to them or they can clean up around their own yard.

If those events aren't enough, there is still one more event to attend. Master the Mountain will take place on top of Scenic Mountain once again. The event will start at 9 a.m.

One thing is for sure, there seems to be something for everyone this weekend. Of course, don't spend all your energy because the following two weekends will include the Big Spring Powwow, disc golf tournament, Cars, Stars and Handlebars and Dee's Trade Show.

Get ready for a busy few weekends in Big Spring.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to [newsdesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com)

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we need a break, Lord, may we take the time to come to You through our prayers.

Amen

# Incomparable and magnificent

I am totally fascinated by all of creation. The planet we occupy is a majestic and incredible display of grandeur that provides us with endless opportunities to discover how incomparable and magnificent our world really is.

I love it all, from the splendor that is the Pacific Ocean to the beauty and power that is the Atlantic Ocean, and everything in between. Through the years I have been privileged to travel much and visit the vast majority of the United States and I have never been disappointed by what my eyes beheld as I drove through the gorgeous country sides of our land, following the winding highways as they caress the coastline or a river's trail through the incomparable Smokey Mountains. The brilliance of a California coastal sunrise or the indescribable radiance of an intensely hued Texas sunset makes me keenly aware of the peerless glory of God's handiwork.

Although I love the mountains, lakes, rivers and such, it isn't only the terrestrial that captures my interest and affection. I find the animal kingdom very entertaining and fascinating as well, especially animals that have interesting features and characteristics.

Did you know that a cat has 100 vocal chords and a giraffe has none? That would explain those insane noises outside our windows at night. Were you aware that while the male lion rests in its den, it is the females that have to go out and get the food? No comment. And I'm sure you know that ostriches don't really bury their heads in the sand when they are afraid, as has been commonly propagated down through the years. But

they do have a brain the size of their eyeball and a small intestine that can be as long as 46 feet, in case you were wondering.

The notion that cats and dogs are natural enemies, suggested by the phrase "fighting like cats and dogs", is overstated, if not simply false. Research shows that generally speaking, cats and dogs get along better than cats and cats or dogs and dogs. That's based on statistics and I'm sure some will argue that because their four dogs all get along splendidly and aggressively chase every cat on the block.

And if you enjoy math, here's one for you. To figure out your "true dog's age" in human terms, count the first full year as 15 years, the second full year as 10 years and all the following years as 3 years. In other words, a 5 year old dog would be: 15+10+3+3+3=34 years old.

Ever wondered why a dog sniffs so much? It could be due to the fact that if the membranes in a dog's nose were unfolded and laid out, the resulting display would be larger than the dog itself.

A slug has four noses and a hippo can run faster than a man. But who could possibly care about that except perhaps someone being pursued by a nosy slug or an irate hippo?

While I find all of that interesting, by far the most entertaining and most challenging to comprehend of all God's creation has to be humankind. What captures my attention and carves its way into my thought processes is how mankind, the smartest and most highly intelligent of all created beings, has an interminable ability to be inane and easily deceived.

I am astounded and dumbfounded by what has happened in my United States of America the last few years, and even more astonished at how millions of people just continue to be swayed by rhetoric and persuaded to believe lie after lie in spite

of the undeniable facts readily available.

Our nation has become a playground and a haven for terrorists and thieves, our economy is teetering on disintegration, our military strength is being devitalized, corruption and immorality are rampant, and yet people still follow the smiling silver-tongued political leaders like pied-piper led rats even as those speaking are trampling with mockery and disrespect the very principles and values that made this country great.

I am not ignorant of history and will readily acknowledge that problems have existed in every administration since the beginning, but I am embarrassed by leaders who apologize for America, bow to enemy kings while refusing to place their hands over their hearts during the playing of the National Anthem or Pledge of Allegiance, who sacrifice precious Christian values on the blasphemous altar of political correctness, call Americans bitter clingers, referring to Christians and gun owners, and making statements attempting to create the illusion that Americans are no longer mainly Christians, although everywhere you look, you see overwhelming evidence of Christianity in America.

I am not a politician or a political activist, nor am I a partisan crusader. I am simply a concerned American citizen who has pulled his head out of the sand and is seeing things that make me know significant change has to happen or we are soon to find ourselves prisoners of our own credulous indifference to the things that really matter.

You may not agree with anything I've said, but I column as I see 'em.

*Eddy Prince is the senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church in Big Spring. He can be reached by email at [pastorprince@msn.com](mailto:pastorprince@msn.com).*



EDDY PRINCE



# Where are moderate Democrats?

President Barack Obama chastised the media last week. "I think that there is oftentimes the impulse to suggest that if the two parties are disagreeing, then they're equally at fault and the truth lies somewhere in the middle," the president chided those attending the American Society of Newspaper Editors luncheon.

Obama also claimed that he holds positions that 20 or 15 years ago "would have been considered squarely centrist positions. What's changed is the center of the Republican Party." Oh, and Ronald Reagan "could not get through a Republican primary today."

Yet many in the media don't ask, Where are the moderate Democrats? When the U.S. Supreme Court rules on the constitutionality of the individual mandate in Obamacare, court observers expect all four justices appointed by Democrats to back Obama. If any justices depart from their ideology, it will be Justice Anthony Kennedy (appointed by Reagan) and perhaps Chief Justice John Roberts.

So how did Obama vote on Roberts after President George W.

Bush nominated him to the big bench in 2005? The Senate approved Roberts in a 78-22 vote. Good liberals — such as Chris Dodd of Connecticut and Russ Feingold of Wisconsin, who no longer serve in the Senate — were among the 22 Democrats who supported Roberts. Other yes votes — Nebraska's Ben Nelson and Connecticut's Joe Lieberman — probably couldn't win and aren't running for re-election.

Obama voted no on Roberts. Current Vice President Joe Biden also voted no. In 2006, when the Senate approved Justice Samuel Alito 72-25, Obama and Biden voted against him, too.

And the Democrats' 2004 presidential nominee, Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., voted against Roberts and Alito.

Then there's Obama's conceit that his political positions would be considered "squarely centrist" 15 to 20 years ago.

Two decades ago, "access" to birth control meant that no law prevented women from getting a prescription for the pill or another contraceptive. "Access" didn't mean what it means to this administration — no insurance copayments for birth control, even for health plans funded by church-based institutions with deeply held religious objections to birth control.

In 1996, President Bill Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage

Act, which defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman and denies federal benefits to same-sex partners. The House passed the bill 342-67; 118 Dems voted yes, and the Senate passed it 85-14. Biden voted yes. It was the centrist position in 1996.

In 2008, Obama promised to repeal DOMA if elected. Rather than push for a repeal vote, however, the administration announced last year that the Department of Justice no longer would defend the law against legal challenges. A centrist should support the rule of law, not tempt the courts to topple a law passed by a strong majority in Congress.

After moving his party to the far left, Obama expresses outrage that Reagan couldn't win a GOP primary — even as Republicans seem poised to nominate Mitt Romney over objections from their party's conservative base. He must think that if he keeps calling Republicans radical, the press will repeat his mantra without checking his record.

*Email Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfchronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfchronicle.com). To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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# News in brief

## Annan seeks Iran's help in solving Syria crisis

TEHRAN (AP) — Special envoy Kofi Annan said Wednesday in Tehran that Iran could help solve the crisis in Syria, where activists reported fresh violence a day before an international cease-fire is supposed to take effect.

Iran is one of Syria's strongest allies, and former U.N. chief Annan went there to bolster support for his faltering plan to stop the country's slide toward civil war.

"Iran, given its special relations with Syria, can be part of the solution," Annan said during a news conference with Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi. "The geopolitical location of Syria is such that any miscalculation and error can have unimaginable consequences."

The conflict in Syria is among the most explosive of the Arab Spring, in part because of the country's allegiances to powerful forces including Lebanon's Hezbollah and Shiite powerhouse Iran. The uprising that began more than a year ago seeks the ouster of authoritarian President Bashar Assad.

Iran has opposed any foreign intervention in the crisis and Salehi insisted that "change in Syria" should come under the leadership of Assad.

## Kim Jong Un named to new top party post

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was named to what appears to be a top post in the ruling Workers' Party at a special political conference Wednesday, while his late father was declared its "eternal" general secretary.

The state-run Korean Central News Agency reported the first details from the secretive party proceedings in Pyongyang.

Kim Jong Un was named first secretary of the Workers' Party. He is expected to have gained other new titles formalizing his position as "supreme leader" of North Korea's people, party and military at the fourth Workers' Party conference.

The young Kim, who was unveiled as father Kim Jong Il's choice as successor at a similar party conference in September 2010, assumed power following the longtime leader's December death.

His ascension to the party's top post comes during a week of events leading up to centennial celebrations marking the birth of his grandfather,

North Korean founder Kim Il Sung. Kim Il Sung died in 1994 but remains the country's "eternal president," just as Kim Jong Il was granted the general secretary title eternally on Wednesday.

## Individuals can comply with Obama mandate by buying skimpy insurance

WASHINGTON (AP) — A possible misunderstanding about President Barack Obama's health care overhaul could cloud Supreme Court deliberations on its fate, leaving the impression that the law's insurance requirement is more onerous than it actually is.

During the recent oral arguments some of the justices and the lawyers appearing before them seemed to be under the impression that the law does not allow most consumers to buy low-cost, stripped-down insurance to satisfy its controversial coverage requirement.

In fact, the law provides for a cheaper "bronze" plan that is broadly similar to today's so-called catastrophic coverage policies for individuals, several insurance experts said.

"I think there is confusion," said Paul Keckley, health research chief for Deloitte, a major benefits consultant. "I found myself wondering how much they understood the Affordable Care Act. Several times the questions led me to wonder how much (the justices') clerks had gone back into the law in advance of the arguments."

Monthly premiums for the bronze plan would be lower, and it would cover a much smaller share of medical expenses than a typical employer plan.

## Zimmerman's ex-attorneys say former client stressed and isolated

SANFORD, Fla. (AP) — The man who fatally shot 17-year-old Trayvon Martin is said to be losing weight, suffering from high levels of stress and unable even to perform the simple task of buying a soda at a grocery store because of the intense public scrutiny he is under, his former lawyers say.

"He is largely alone. You might even say he is emotionally crippled by virtue of the pressure of this case," said Hal Uhrig, a former lawyer for George Zimmerman. The protests and the profound isolation of going into hid-

ing may have pushed him "a little bit over the edge," said Uhrig and his colleague, Craig Sonner.

The two attorneys announced Tuesday they no longer were representing the neighborhood watch volunteer because they haven't heard from him since Sunday.

"As of the last couple days, he has not returned phone calls, text messages or emails," Sonner said. "He's gone on his own. I'm not sure what he's doing or who he's talking to. I cannot go forward speaking to the public about George Zimmerman and this case as representing him because I've lost contact with him."

Against their advice, the attorneys said Zimmerman contacted special prosecutor Angela Corey, who will decide if he should face charges, but prosecutors in her office refused to talk to him without his lawyers present.

## University to release report on pepper-spraying of Occupy protesters

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The University of California is set to release a long-awaited report on the pepper-spraying of student demonstrators by UC Davis police last fall.

The university plans to publish the document online at noon Wednesday, a day after an Alameda County judge approved its publication without the names of most officers involved in the Nov. 18 clash.

The task force that wrote the report originally planned to release it on

March 6.

But the UC Davis police officers' union sued to keep the document under wraps, saying that naming officers would violate their privacy and subject them to harassment.

The task force was created to investigate the incident, which made national headlines after online videos of the confrontation went viral.

## Red Hot Chili Peppers, Black Keys top this year's Lollapalooza lineup

CHICAGO (AP) — The Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Black Keys and English indie darlings Florence and the Machine will headline this year's three-day Lollapalooza music festival in Chicago, Jane's Addiction lead singer and Lollapalooza founder Perry Farrell announced Wednesday.

"Every year it's kind of a nail biter putting a lineup together," Farrell said in an interview. "There were moments when I looked at it and I was beside myself. I didn't know what to do."

But with the final list also including acts such as Black Sabbath, Jack White and Sigur Ros, "that lineup is just going to be so exciting and it's so diverse. I think it works so well," Farrell said.

The festival in Chicago's sprawling Grant Park begins Aug. 3.

The schedule of more than 120 bands features Lollapalooza's signature mix of mainstream headliners and indie bands. The global factor is strong with acts from across Europe.

## Charles Myers

Attorney At Law

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# Welcome to National Library Week

This week is National Library Week and we would like to invite you to come in and look at the display that Johnny and Donna fixed up to show how libraries "used to do" things.

Then Thursday, we will have refreshments from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. for you to enjoy. In addition,

if you have lost your library card, you will get a "free" replacement card this week only — another good reason to come to the library and see what we have to offer.

We have received some new-to-us biographies you may find interesting enough to

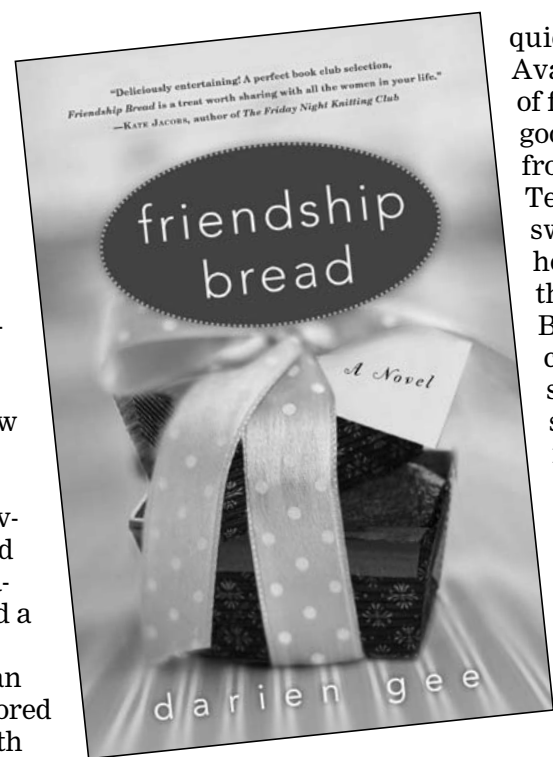
check out. I thumbed through "First Son: George W. Bush" (B BUS G) by Bill Minutaglio, and while it is not new (first published in 1999) it is still a solid book on the background of George Bush and his early life. The book ends with the election of Bush as governor of Texas.

If you are interested in women's history, we have "None Wounded, None Missing, All Dead: The Story of Elizabeth Bacon Buster" (B CUS E) by Howard Kazanjian and Chris Enss. It is the story of the wife of General George Custer. She followed her husband to each army posting to the very end and was a master of propaganda who completely re-wrote his image after Little Big Horn. Talk about the power behind the man.

A biography to listen

to, is "Indomitable Will: LBJ in the Presidency" (AUCD B JOH L) by Mark K. Updegrave. Nearly 50 years after being sworn in as president after the assassination of JFK, Johnson still remains a largely misunderstood figure. Intent on fulfilling the promise of America, LBJ launched what he called the "Great Society," landmark laws on civil rights, voting educations and Medicare are all triumphs to his will. His presidency was blighted however, by the debacle of the Vietnam War and the loss of 36,000 troops. Mark Updegrave is a very well-known presidential historian and is director of the Lyndon Baines Presidential Library and Museum in Austin, Texas, and has written several books and articles on LBJ. He is also a sought-after political commentator for various news shows. It is the last decade of

the 19th century. The Wild West has been tamed and its fierce, independent and often violent larger-than-life figures — gun-toting wanderers, trappers, prospectors, Indian fighters, cowboys and lawmen — are now victims of their own success. But then gold is discovered in Alaska and the adjacent Canadian Klondike and a new frontier suddenly looms. It's an immense, unexplored territory filled with frozen waterways, dark spruce forests and towering mountains, capped by glistening layers of snow and ice. Joining this throng of greenhorns and grifters, are three unforgettable men. In a true-life tale that rivets from the first page, we meet Charlie Siringo, a top-hand, sharp-shooting



quiet simplicity of Avalon, of the scent of fresh-baked goods wafting from Madeline's Tea Salon, of the sweet bungalow homes that line the shady streets. But behind every closed door is a story, and on a sunny afternoon in March, my protagonist's story begins. For five years, Julia Evarts has carried a grief that threatens to tear her family apart.

She's going through the motions of life when her young daughter discovers the equivalent of a culinary chain letter sitting on their front porch: a plate of Amish Friendship Bread along with a bag of starter and an anonymous note that says 'I hope you enjoy it.' They're instructed to feed the starter over a 10-day period and then bake two loaves of bread and share the remaining starter with three other people. The novel was inspired by my own experience with Amish Friendship Bread, when my daughter brought it home along with a bag of starter she'd received from a friend. I was eating the last few crumbs when I started to think about a woman who receives the starter and just doesn't want to do it. I saw a sadness hanging over this character and I knew I wanted to find out more. I started writing and the story quickly took shape. More importantly, it soon became clear the book wasn't about any one person, but an entire community ready for change and connection.

The library is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. with the Internet/video room closing during lunch (noon to 2 p.m.) and at 5:30 in the evening. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the Internet/video room closing at 1:30. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 432-264-2260.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

### A Difference of Opinion

West dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ J 7 2  
♥ A 8 6 2  
♦ 9  
♣ A J 10 8 3

**WEST**  
♠ 9 8 6 5  
♥ Q 10 9 7 4  
♦ J 5 3  
♣ Q

**EAST**  
♠ 10 4 3  
♥ K J 3  
♦ A K Q 10 8 7  
♣ 5

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K Q  
♥ 5  
♦ 6 4 2  
♣ K 9 7 6 4 2

The bidding:  
West North East South  
Pass Pass 1♦ 2♣  
Pass 5♣

Opening lead — three of diamonds.

This deal occurred in a match between Canada and the United States and raises a question about the wisdom and efficacy of a vulnerable overcall on the two-level.

When Edgar Kaplan and Norman Kay held the North-South cards for the U.S., Kay bid two clubs over East's opening one-diamond bid. There would unquestionably be a difference of opinion among experts about whether one should make a

vulnerable overcall on the two-level with a broken suit and three diamond losers, not to mention the added danger of partner's previous pass.

But Kay, whose tendency was to bid rather than pass in doubtful situations, certainly called the turn right when he ventured two clubs. He was promptly raised to five and easily made six.

If we exchange the North and West cards — both players had passed at their first opportunity and might have held either hand — it demonstrates the danger implicit in the overcall. In that case, Kay would have been doubled at two clubs and nicked for 800 points.

Of course, one hand doesn't prove a theory, and a two-club bid might or might not be right in the long run. I personally favor two clubs, despite the risk — but there is no doubt that Kay hit the target on this occasion.

The difference in philosophies was clearly demonstrated when the bidding at the second table, with Canada now North-South, went:

West North East South  
Pass Pass 1♦ Pass  
1♥ Pass 2♦ All Pass

The U.S. pair went down one at two diamonds on a hand where their opponents were laydown for six clubs and yet never uttered a peep!

Tomorrow: A wise choice of plays.  
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## sudoku

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

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

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## In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



### Way To Go, Girls!

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

About 770 light years from Earth, in the constellation Perseus, there's a clump of gas with real potential. Astronomers watch this astral cloud with great anticipation, as it has all the potential to birth a star — or 10 stars! In a related story, you'll be feeling your own potential come together today. Amazing things can come of a little dust and gravity.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You don't have to wait for a wish to be granted in order to be thankful for it. You'll issue thanks in advance whenever possible, letting others know that you're already happy and expect to be even more so.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Whether it's a casual connection or a solid friendship, it would be unwise to base the relationship on what you want to happen. If what is already happening isn't so great, this is a good time to chalk it up to experience and move on.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You are so imaginative that it will be important not to let your imagination roam into dark places. Why scare yourself? Breathing techniques, music and humor can all be used to keep your mind reaching for the light.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Trust your free associations, first impressions and immediate gut responses. People will try to override those initial feelings. Take note of what you thought before you thought what they wanted you to think.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Fear of travel, or hodophobia, is so common that even the most adventurous have experienced it to some degree. Fearful or not, you have much to gain by leaving the safety of familiar faces.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're not the same person you were. However, the seeds of who you are now were always inside you; you grew them. And different seeds are inside you now. It's an ideal time to add water and stand back to see what happens.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your ability to concentrate grows stronger when you're extremely interested in your subject matter — and your excitement grows right along with it. Each new piece of information adds to the magnetic appeal.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). In order to communicate well, your attention has to be on the conversation. Part of you doesn't want to communicate at all. You'd rather quietly work on your projects and see what comes of that.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you're questioning your lifestyle or the very nature

of your existence, you're not alone. Profound questions will come to mind for many Sagittarians now, and the answers to these questions are surprisingly simple!

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A meeting goes other than planned. Could you have played the situation another way in order to get the response of your dreams? Likely not. So don't take it personally. Think of what you learned as neutral information.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Someone is thinking of you and trying to figure out how to get to you. Maybe this person is already in contact with you, technically speaking, but is far from being able to reach your heart and soul.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). A super-smart someone will help you with a problem you've been having. Finally, you'll be able to move past this and on to a project that's been on the back burner for what has felt like an eternity.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (April 11). You'll explore your talents and make money with them this year. Attractions develop through the next six weeks. There's something you dearly desire, which leads you to approach life with a more passionate level of intensity in August and September. November is your chance to heal a family relationship. Virgo and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 2, 35, 49 and 19.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** If there were a

world record for breaking invisible windows with tossed pencils, David Letterman surely would hold it. Stunts like this have contributed to making this Aries comedian a king of late-night television — imitated by many, yet truly one of a kind. Born under a Capricorn moon that squares his sun, Letterman works out his inner turmoil through the humor he shares with the world.

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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2	8	1	3	4	7	5	9	6
5	6	7	8	9	2	4	1	3
4	3	9	6	1	5	7	2	8
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HERALD file photo

Paige Woodward competes in the barrel racing event at the 2011 Howard College Rodeo. The annual rodeo returns to the county fairgrounds beginning Thursday.

# HC Rodeo to begin Thursday

By CINDY SMITH

Special to the Herald

Let's rodeo.

The Howard College Rodeo, which will be held Thursday through Saturday at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl, is expected to attract the top cowboys and cowgirls from the highly competitive Southwest Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association.

The event begins at 5 p.m. Thursday. Friday and Saturday competition will consist of slack events at 9 a.m. each day, followed by evening performances at 7 p.m.

Admission is free and the rodeo will include bull riding, barrel racing, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, goat tying, team roping, breakaway roping, saddle bronc riding and bareback riding. Concessions will be available for purchase at all events.

See **RODEO**, Page 2B

# Arkansas fires football coach Petrino axed in wake of scandal over mistress

By KURT VOIGT

AP Sports Writer

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Bobby Petrino talked time and again about winning a national championship at Arkansas. From the day he was hired in 2007, Petrino never wavered in that goal or belief.

Petrino won't have that chance now, felled by scandal, and he blamed no one but himself for being fired.

"The simplest response I have is: I'm sorry," he said. "These two words seem very inadequate. But that is my heart."

Athletic director Jeff Long dumped Petrino on Tuesday and laid out a stunning laundry list of misdeeds against the man he hired away from the Atlanta Falcons four years ago.

He hired Petrino for hiring his mistress and for intentionally misleading him about the secret relationship that was laid bare following their April 1 motorcycle ride together that ended in a crash. He said Petrino missed multiple chances over the past 10 days to come clean about an affair that had crossed the line from infidelity into workplace favoritism.

"He made the decision, a conscious decision, to mislead the public on Tuesday, and in doing so negatively and adversely affected the reputation of the University of Arkansas and our football program," Long said, choking up as he discussed telling players that their coach was gone.

"In short, coach Petrino engaged in a pattern of misleading and manipulative behavior designed to deceive me and members of the athletic staff, both before and after the

motorcycle accident."

The 51-year-old Petrino, a married father of four, maintained an inappropriate relationship with 25-year-old Jessica Dorrell for a "significant" amount of time and at one point gave her \$20,000, Long said.

Long would not disclose details of the payment, or when the money changed hands, but said both parties confirmed the "gift." Kevin Trainor, a spokesman for Long, said the money came from Petrino, not university funds.

Petrino issued a lengthy apology and said he was focused on trying to make amends to his family.

Dorrell, a former Razorbacks volleyball player, worked for the Razorbacks Foundation before she was hired by Petrino on March 28, four days before the accident on a rural road 20 miles outside Fayetteville. Long said she was one of three finalists out of 159 applicants and got the job after an unusually short time frame.

Petrino never disclosed his conflict of interest in hiring Dorrell or the payment and she clearly had an unfair advantage over the other candidates, Long said.

"Coach Petrino abused his authority when over the past few weeks he made a staff decision and personal choices that benefited himself and jeopardized the integrity of the football program," Long said.

Petrino has built Arkansas into a national power over four seasons, including a 21-5 record the past two years, and he was in the middle of a seven-year contract under which his salary averaged \$3.53 million per year.

## In brief

### Brownwood downs Big Spring; Steers in second place tie

BROWNWOOD — The Big Spring Steers are having a season of highs and lows. After a thrilling 10-9 win over the Snyder Tigers in their previous outing to take second place in District 5-3A baseball, the Steers fell behind early to the Brownwood Lions Tuesday and couldn't battle back as Big Spring recorded a disappointing 11-7 loss.

Big Spring, who has been mired in a battle for second place with Snyder since district play began, find themselves tied once again with the Tigers in what is shaping up to be a wild season for every team in the district except Abilene Wylie, who seems to have a stranglehold with its perfect, 6-0 record.

BSHS Coach Bert Otto believes the Steers' slumped opportunities led to the loss.

"We had a chance to take care of business, and we didn't," he said. "It was frustrating. Our destiny is still in our control but it gets a little harder now."

The Steers will get a chance to redeem themselves against the undefeated Wylie squad under the lights at Steer Park on Friday. Game time is set for 7 p.m.

### Lady Steers fall to Brownwood

BROWNWOOD — The Big Spring Lady Steers met the Brownwood Lady Lions Tuesday and game home with a close 6-1 loss to the reigning district champions. Valerie Goodblanket bunted Ambra Hill in for BSHS's only run, but the scoreboard didn't tell the whole tale.

It was anybody's ballgame as the two teams were deadlocked at 0-0 going into the fourth inning.

Brownwood, with two-outs and bases loaded took advantage of timely hitting and costly BSHS errors to score five of their six runs, putting them on top 5-0.

Each team scored a run in the sixth, but unfortunately the Lady Steers couldn't mount a rally to turn things around.

Despite the disappointing season, BSHS Head Coach John Sparks has seen some promise from his young team and has high hopes for next season.

"We did a good job and we got to move on," Sparks said. "We are just going to go out there and try to end the season on a positive note."

Sparks and company will get that chance as they host Abilene Wylie at home Friday. Game time is set for 6:30 p.m.

### Forsan smashes Denver City 17-1

DENVER CITY — With only two district games left, Forsan Head Coach Shanna Taylor is confident that her softball squad will make a playoff run.

If they play as well as they did Tuesday against the Denver City Lady Mustangs — who they handily defeated 17-1 — there is no telling how deep that playoff run could go.

Ashley Buzbee hit a homerun as well as pitched a solid game for the 13-6 Lady Buffaloes, striking out four Denver City batters.

Ali Knight went 3-4 and Gabby Womack and Shelby Roemer each went 3-3 at the plate, contributing to a fourth inning run-rule victory.

According to Taylor, the team's focus was evident as the Lady Buffs played a well-rounded

game.

"We played well overall," she said. "We hit well, fielded well, and pitched well."

Forsan will travel to Slaton on Tuesday for its next district matchup. Game time is set for 5:30 p.m.

### Coahoma falls to Slaton on the road

SLATON — What the 0-16 Coahoma Bulldogs lack in wins, they more than make up for in heart and effort. Despite its 14-4 loss to Slaton Tuesday, Coahoma Head Baseball Coach Chris Smith continues to see improvement in his young team.

"Our inexperience shows, but we are still getting better," Smith said. "They have learned a lot and they have a great attitude. I couldn't be more pleased with how they have handled the situation."

With only three returning seniors — none of which started last year — it has been an uphill battle for the Bulldogs. On the bright side, next year should be a completely different story, according to Smith.

"They are coming together as a group. We will miss our seniors, but next year we expect to be competitive. You can't fix something like this in one season."

Coahoma will try to get that elusive first win Saturday as they host Lubbock Roosevelt. The first pitch is slated for noon.

### Buffaloes stomp Mustangs to remain in first place

DENVER CITY — The Forsan Buffaloes held on to their first place standing in District 3-2A baseball with a 15-2 victory over the Denver City Mustangs Tuesday.

Forsan pitcher Payton Parker shined again, striking out five Mustang batters and allowing no walks.

The Buffalo bats were also hot.

Trevor Burchett scored three runs and got two hits, Foster Burchett scores twice and reached base twice on hits, Blaise Coffman got two hits and scored a run, Patrick Robles scores three times and recorded a hit and T'oa Maumau crossed homeplate twice and got a hit.

Jason Phillips, head coach for Forsan says the plan is to keep his team focused on the next challenge.

"We are hitting the ball really well," Phillips said. "It's good to see our offense going the way it has these past three games. We got another great outing from Payton (Parker). He was hitting his spots and threw a lot of strikes."

Phillips will have a chance for some more fine-tuning for the playoffs when they square off against Slaton at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

### Bulldogettes bash Slaton 18-1, looking for district title

SLATON — The Coahoma Bulldogettes kept cruising Tuesday as they rolled to a 18-1 win over Slaton. The Bulldogettes played well in all aspects during the outing, getting 11 hits and only recording two errors.

Rob Glasscock, head coach for Coahoma, believes his 9-1 (14-11 overall) Bulldogettes have what it takes to win district, but admits that two

See **BRIEFS**, Page 2B

# Feliz stellar as Rangers blank Seattle

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — This time, Nef-tali Feliz watched new closer Joe Nathan finish the job.

Pitching for the first time since blowing a save in Game 6 of the World Series, Feliz threw seven crisp innings in his first major league start to lead the Texas Rangers to a 1-0 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Tuesday night.

Feliz, who outdueled hometown product Blake Beavan in his first trip to the mound where always dreamed of pitching, smiled widely as he accepted congratulations after Nathan's perfect ninth.

It was a much different scene than the last time Feliz was on the

mound in a meaningful game. The right-hander buried his head in his hands in St. Louis after allowing a two-run triple that tied Game 6 when the Rangers were a strike away from winning the championship. The Cardinals won the World Series in seven games.

"It's a dream come true for me," Feliz said. "I was hoping for the moment to become a starter in the major leagues and finally it happened."

The Rangers could celebrate thanks to David Murphy, who had three of their seven hits and drove in the only run with an infield single in the second inning.

"Murphy swung the bat extremely well and the pitching and de-

fense held it up," Rangers manager Ron Washington said.

Feliz didn't have a strikeout after the fifth inning, and relied heavily on off-speed pitches instead of the 100-mph heat he used to get 72 saves over two seasons.

Seattle had two runners on with two out in the seventh, but Feliz (1-0) got out of it when Miguel Olivo hit a comebacker to the mound. Feliz bobbled the weak grounder and recovered just in time to beat Olivo's headfirst slide at first.

Mike Adams and Nathan took over from there, closing out the four-hitter.

"I know we have a good bullpen," Feliz said.

Feliz was a shade bet-

ter than Beavan (0-1), who was pitching for the first time in the ballpark where he grew up watching the Rangers.

A former first-round pick by the Rangers who went to Seattle in the Cliff Lee deal two years ago, Beavan allowed six hits in 6 1-3 innings and pitched out of trouble in the fifth and sixth. The Dallas-area high school product left with runners at first and second, but Tom Wilhelmson escaped the jam.

He battled nerves all day as he prepared to pitch in front of family and friends.

"All day my stomach was queasy, so I could tell it wasn't any other game for me," Beavan said. "It's something I dreamed about doing

ever since I was a little kid watching these games was pitching on that mound."

Like Yu Darvish a night earlier, Feliz let two of the first three hitters reach base — both on walks — but settled down much more quickly than the Japanese sensation.

Starting with a double play, Feliz retired nine consecutive batters before allowing his first hit in 59 at-bats over 19 2-3 career innings against Seattle, a two-out single by former Ranger Justin Smoak in the fourth.

Smoak singled again to start the seventh, and Jesus Montero had a one-out single to give Seattle its best threat. Smoak was on third when Olivo hit his dribbler back to Feliz.

Texas grabbed the lead in the second. Adrian Beltre led off with a double but was caught between second and third on a grounder back to Beavan. He stayed in the

rundown long enough for Michael Young to get to second. Young then moved up on a wild pitch and scored on Murphy's infield hit.

"You don't see too many 1-0 games in this ballpark," Mariners manager Eric Wedge said.

NOTES: Wedge benched SS Brendan Ryan for a game, saying it was over issues of "accountability." He didn't specify, but did say it wasn't solely because of an errant throw on a double-play ball that sparked the Texas rally that bailed out Darvish in his debut. Munenori Kawasaki started in Ryan's place. ... Montero was back in the Mariners' lineup as the DH after missing a game with a stomach ailment. ... Darvish and Feliz became the first back-to-back Texas pitchers to make their first major league start since Matt Harrison and Warner Madrigal in July 2008.

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## BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1B

other squads — Forsan and Colorado City — are forces to be reckoned with, and the equality between the trio of teams could make for a very interesting District 3-2A finale.

"It could come to a three-way tie," Glasscock explained.

Should that happen, a potential three-game mini-tournament could be played to determine seeding, or the coaches could all agree to a coin flip.

Regardless of what may happen in the future, Glasscock and his squad are focused on improving their base running as well as implementing a small-ball style of play when necessary.

"We are trying to incorporate that into our play. There is more than one way to win a ball game, and when we face the better pitchers it's nice to have that tool at your disposal.

Coahoma will host Lubbock Roosevelt at home Saturday. Game time is slated for noon.

### Forsan tennis squads sweep district for second straight year

DENVER CITY — The final leg of District 3-2A Tennis wrapped up Tuesday and for the second consecutive year Forsan finds themselves ahead of the pack.

Forsan won the district overall and both the boys and the girls took the respective division championships. Even the JV squad took first place overall, giving Forsan a total sweep on the season.

For Coach Cory Richardson the focus is now shifting to a strong regional appearance.

"I am pleased with the effort the team has given," Richardson said. "It's time to see if all the hard work will pay off. We want to bring back another gold ball and another regional championship."

Individual results are as follows: Girls Singles: Sydney Holdampf, first place; Erin Bagnall, tied for fifth. Girls Doubles: Cheyenne Galloway and Rachel Haggard, first place; Megan Crane and Chandler Freeman, second place. Mixed Doubles: Brady Gartman and Falon Newton, third place; Jansen McDonald and Elizabeth Rhodes, tied for fifth place. Boys Singles: Kyle Stevenson, first place; Landon Boeker, fourth place. Boys Doubles: JT Breyman and Dillon Bagnall, second place; Ryan Picox and Case Ingram, fourth place.

At least two of the eight Forsan athletes — Kyle Stevenson and Sydney Holdampf — who are advancing to regionals are also looking to qualify for state for their second year.

## RODEO

Continued from Page 1B

HC Rodeo Coach Greg Kernick is hoping to see a lot of familiar faces at this week's event.

"We look forward to

hearing the home town crowd at the rodeo each year," said Greg Kernick, HC rodeo coach. "It is the one time our fans get to see us perform and we appreciate everyone coming out and supporting our kids."

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#### FARM ASSISTANT

Kalsec Southwest is currently accepting applications for a Farm Assistant in Denver City, Texas. This position reports directly to our Farm Manager. Full knowledge of farming, running farm equipment, mechanical skills, and supervisory skills required. We offer a great benefit package- Medical, Dental, Vision, 401K, and Company paid Life Insurance. Salary based on experience. All interested applicants must apply on-line at [www.kalsec.com](http://www.kalsec.com)

#### FARM HAND

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

#### FURR'S BUFFET

<https://fursjobs.clickandhire.net>  
Cooks & Dishwashers needed  
On-line application process only  
We can Offer  
Competitive Pay,  
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Great Culture and  
Career Growth

#### NURSERY WORKER

needed at FBC Coahoma; Sundays and Wednesdays. Please inquire at 201 South Avenue or call 432-394-4348. between Noon and 3:00 PM.

### Help Wanted

#### GENERAL MAINTENANCE:

Must have a desire to work in a team environment and the ability to follow directions. Must have at least 1 yr maintenance experience. Abilities to include: painting experience; general plumbing, general sheetrock repair and texture and HVAC skills. Must have own tools, ability to take afterhours and weekend calls; valid TX drivers license and liability insurance. Apply in person at Bent Tree Apartments, 1 Courtney Place.

#### HIGGINBOTHAM BARTLETT

is now hiring for full time inside sales. Must be able to pass drug screen and criminal background check. Must be great customer service skills. CDL license a plus. Pick up application at 1900 E. FM 700. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

#### HIRING EXPERIENCED

CDL drivers. 1-2 yrs experience required, with clean driving record. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 South Service Road., Coahoma, TX.

#### IMMEDIATE OPENING

for part-time Laundry attendant. Work 14 days- 7 days off. Good people skills a must. Apply 1208 Gregg Street.

#### Interim Homecare & Hospice:

Our growing Hospice agency is seeking positions in the Big Spring area. Community Liaison/ Marketer. Experienced preferred. Fax your resume to (432)618-0307 or come by the office to fill out an application at 1031 Andrews Hwy., Ste 200, Midland, TX. EOE.

#### KITCHEN HELP & CARHOP.

Must be Neat in Appearance. Honest & Dependable. No experience necessary will train. Inquire at Wagon Wheel, 2010 Scurry St. No phone call Please!

#### LOOKING FOR a Change?

CNA/Personal Assistant needed for PRN work with Caring Hearts Home Health. Duties include but not limited to: bathing, cooking, light housekeeping, laundry, running errands and sitter service. To join our team for an exciting career come by 1900 Scurry to fill out an application and talk with our Personnel Manager.

#### LOOKING FOR

experience CDL vacuum truck drivers \$17.00 an hour or more depending on experience. Call 432-270-5951.

#### NEED

Backhoe Operator with CDL. \$500. CASH SIGN-ON BONUS. Must pass drug test. Call 432-394-4161.

#### NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE

Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

### Help Wanted

#### NEED A Pusher & Roustabout.

Must have experience, pass a drug test and have a valid drivers license. Apply at 2000 North Birdwell Lane.

#### NEEDING EXPERIENCED

Insurance Sales and Service Agent. Send resume c/o P.O. Box 1431/216, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

#### NEWSPAPER DELIVERY

Big Spring Area Routes Midland Reporter-Telegram The Midland Reporter-Telegram

Reporter-Telegram has delivery positions available in the Big Spring Area for both Home Delivery and Retail Outlet distribution. Good organization for customer tracking, a reliable vehicle and a dependable commitment to early morning deliveries ranging from 2:00am-6:00 am. If interested please call Linda McCumber 432-967-4150

#### NOW HIRING

for the summer session and 2012-2013 School year. Christian Pre-School teachers and child care givers. Part-time and full-time positions available. Prefer at least 1-year experience in a licensed childcare facility, but will train the right person. New Hope Christian School 118 Cedar Rd. Also part-time position available in church nursery. Approximately 6-10 hours per week.

#### PART-TIME MAINT

Tech needed for property in Big Spring. Applicant must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. 20 hrs/week plus Vacation. Fax resume to (432)264-1761.

#### PIZZA INN

NOW HIRING COOKS. MUST BE AVAILABLE DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

#### PIZZA INN

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

#### PIZZA INN

NOW HIRING WAIT STAFF. MUST HAVE SUPER STAR PERSONALITY AND GREAT WORK ETHICS. MUST BE AVAILABLE TO WORK DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

#### THE COLORADO

River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following position for Lake Thomas area.

#### Park Maintenance Technician

Responsible for general maintenance of park and facilities. Entry to intermediate level position. CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave. Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432)267-6341 or [www.crmwd.org](http://www.crmwd.org).

### Help Wanted

#### PORTER HENDERSON

Implement Co. now taking applications for Parts & Service Personnel and CDL Truck Driver. Valid DL Please. Full-time and Part-time. Apply in person only- 3011 North Hwy. 87.

#### THE SALVATION Army Boys

& Girls Club is seeking Program Coordinator Monday-Friday. Child development experience necessary. Apply at 811 West 5th.

#### RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service

In Stanton has immediate openings for Mechanic, CDL Driver, Roustabout Pushers and Helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

#### SCHOOL SECRETARY

needed for private Christian preschool. Computer experience a must! Apply at 118 Cedar Rd..

#### SECURITY OFFICERS

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

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

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

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

Apply at Workforce Center (1001 Birdwell Ln., Howard College- Charles Warren Bld. 106), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

#### TA TRUCK STOP SERVICE

WRITER NEEDED \$10.00 PER HOUR PLUS COMMISSION AS WELL AS A \$200.00 BONUS AFTER SIX MONTHS EMPLOYMENT. DUTIES INCLUDE PARTS AND SERVICE WRITING. CANDIDATES ARE TO BE RELIABLE, DEPENDABLE, AN EAGER TO WORK IN A FAST PACE ENVIRONMENT. MUST BE ABLE TO WORK ALL SHIFTS. PREFER SOME KNOWLEDGE IN COMPUTERS & CUSTOMER SERVICE. WE WILL TRAIN. WE OFFER MANY BENEFITS SUCH AS, 401K, MEDICAL, DENTAL, VISION, LIFE INSURANCE & MUCH MORE.

TO APPLY GO TO THE WEBSITE [MYTAPETRO.COM](http://MYTAPETRO.COM) AND REGISTER THEN FOLLOW THE LINKS MAKE SURE TO SELECT SHOP DEPT.

VALID LICENSE & DIPLOMA/GED A MUST. MUST PASS DRUG SCREENING AND A BACKGROUND CHECK AS WELL.

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#### Satellite Technicians Needed In:

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- Alpine
- Ft Stockton
- Monahans
- Big Springs
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You May also fax your resume to 214-989-3438 or visit [southernstarjobs.com](http://southernstarjobs.com) to view a complete job description and apply on-line  
At [southernstarjobs.com](http://southernstarjobs.com)

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5311 Big Spring Highway, Snyder - 325-573-6332

#### SWEETWATER HEALTHCARE CENTER

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**TOP NOTCH** Landscaping is Hiring for all positions. Experience preferred. Call (432)213-0031 Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

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Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for an experienced truck driver. This position will make deliveries, load and unload product, utilize a forklift, and perform general warehouse duties. The position requires high school diploma or equivalent, CDL with HAZMAT endorsement. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person:

Helena Chemical Company  
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**WANTED EXPERIENCE** Farm Hand. Call 432-213-4332.

**Help Wanted**

**WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY** Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are background check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 19 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

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Now Leasing  
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**Real Estate for Sale**

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**BY OWNER/ No Owner Finance.** 1202 Buena Vista. 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, shop, 1 acre of land. Coahoma ISD. Call 432-413-7400.

**HOUSE FOR Sale by Owner:** 512 Washington Blvd.. 2 Stry-4 bdrm, 2 bath, family living area w/dining area & separate den w/fireplace. Impeccable. \$150,000.00 (firm). Call Ann Carter at (325)220-0344.

**DON'T PAY to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 800-876-7060.**

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**girl scouts 1912-2012**

**Vrinda**  
2011 National Young Woman of Distinction  
Teen Refugee Mentor  
Girl Scouts Heart of Central California



"Imagine how difficult it is for a teenager moving in and becoming the 'new kid' at school. They're nervous, wondering if they're going to make new friends. Now imagine that teenager is a refugee from another country. I started an after-school and weekend project to help teen refugees assimilate and feel more at home. No one will feel left out on my watch. As a Girl Scout Gold Award recipient, I am standing up for the refugees in my community."

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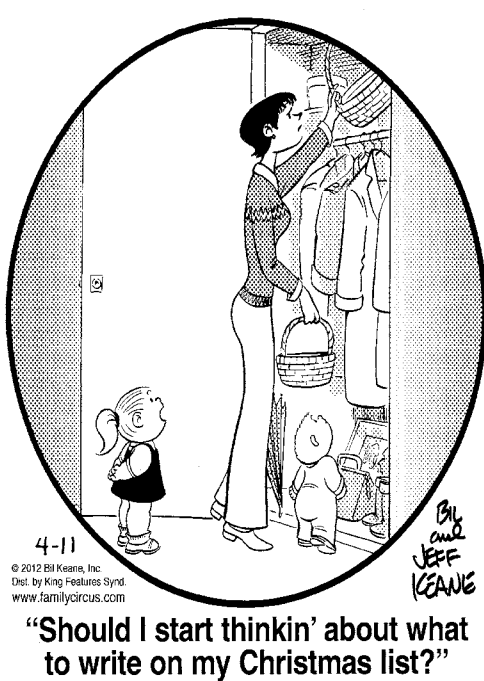
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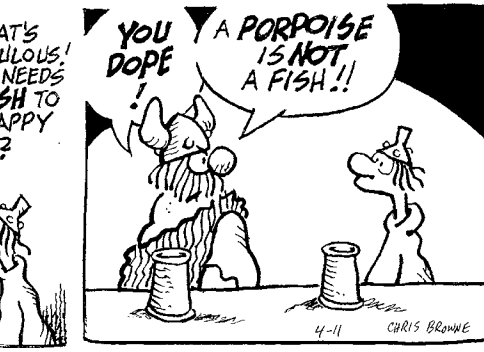
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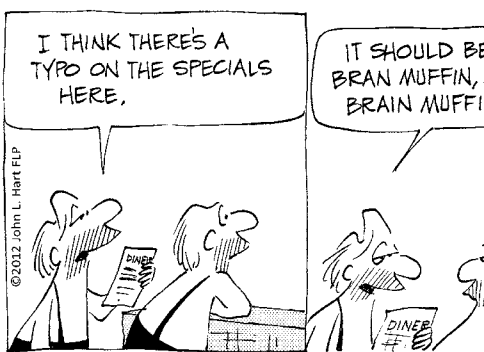
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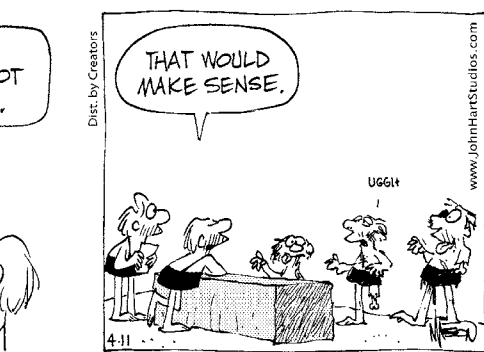
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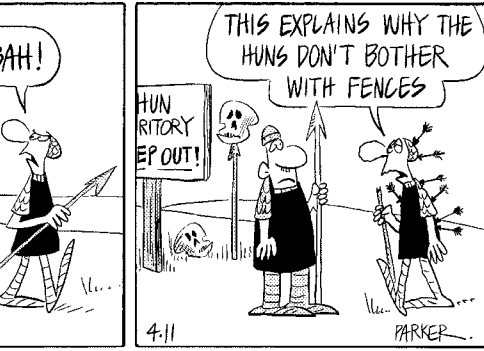
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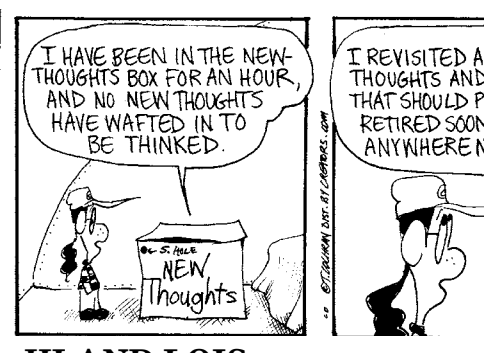
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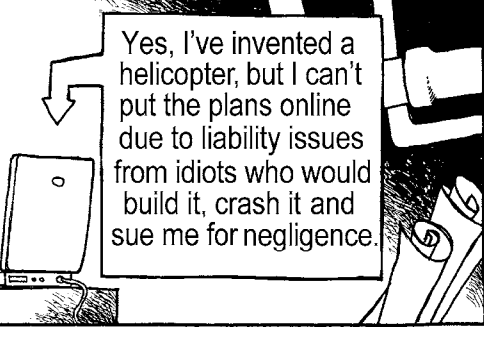
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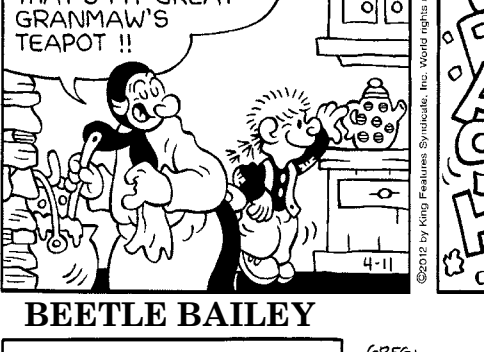
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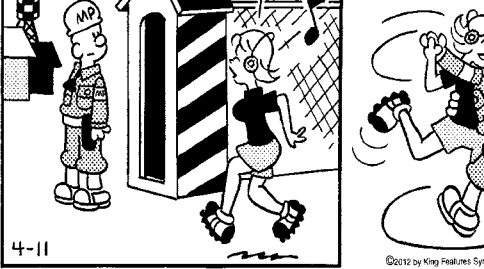
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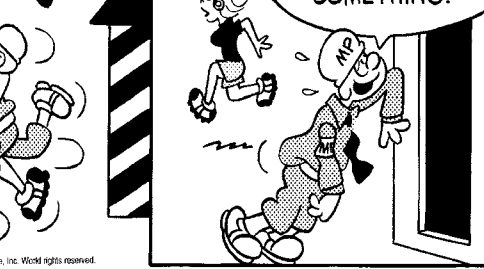
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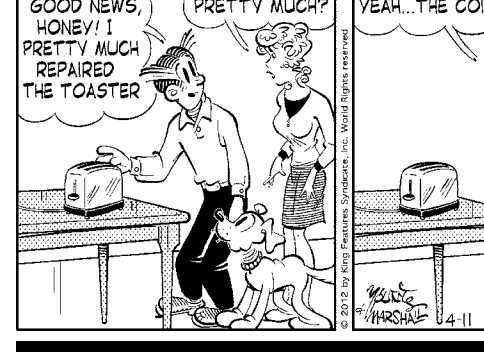
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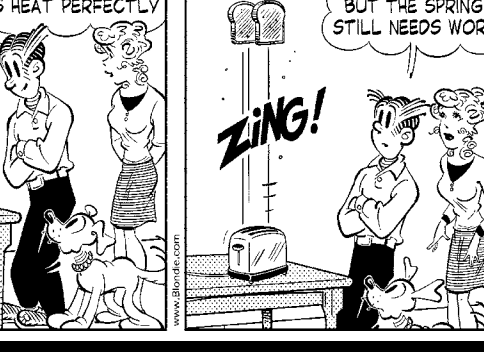
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BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, April 11, the 102nd day of 2012. There are 264 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On April 11, 1862, the Civil War Battle of Fort Pulaski in Chatham County, Ga., ended a day after it began as the fort fell to Union forces.

American soldiers liberated the notorious Nazi concentration camp Buchenwald in Germany. In 1951, President Harry S. Truman relieved Gen. Douglas MacArthur of his commands in the Far East. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy held a press conference in which he angrily denounced plans by United States Steel and other steel producers to raise prices.

dle-aged volunteer church worker, wowed judges and audiences alike with her rendition of "I Dreamed a Dream" on the British TV show "Britain's Got Talent." Today's Birthdays: Ethel Kennedy is 84. Actor Joel Grey is 80. Actress Louise Lasser is 73. Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Ellen Goodman is 71.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Talks like Daffy Duck 6 Bit of pollen 11 Cave-dwelling flier 14 Phillippe's farewell 15 Winter outerwear 16 Early afternoon 17 USS Arizona Memorial site 19 Prefix for plus 20 Promo assortment 21 General tendency 23 Ticks off 25 Tiny bit 26 Did a pizzeria job 30 "I'm gonna try it now..." 34 Homes with combs 35 Rosemary's Baby author 36 Mutt's mitt 37 Bassoon cousin 38 Special Forces hat 39 Japanese seasoning 40 Make a miscue 41 Olive \_\_\_ (army uniforms) 42 Relay entrant 43 Try for a quick market profit 45 Irregular paper edge 46 Sing the praises of 47 Tucker out 49 Topper on some cakes 51 Dropped in the mail 56 Cold and blustery

NOT QUITE WHITE by Fred Piscop

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

- 33 Took an oath 35 Open a card game 38 Sassy tyke 39 Brit's raincoat 41 Rock-band member 42 Simulate, as old battles 44 As well 45 Attracted 48 "The best \_\_\_ to be" 49 Knife handle 50 Casino tool 52 Newbie 53 Fall in line 54 The inevitable 55 Mr. Flintstone 58 Ill temper 59 Experimentation site 60 Frankfort sch.

Crossword grid with numbers 1-66 indicating starting positions for clues.

Answer to previous puzzle: TRAY SATS OMEN HIRE NOBEL RODE ASIA ONICE GAIT WEARING THE PANTS TDS VAN PEPPER TIER NBA ALAI IPOD THAIS PULLUPON SOCKS ADMEN REAP WHEELS IRKS ASSORT ZOO FRO LOSINGNESS SHIRT ESPN ERODE ODOE FLAG TENOR POLO TONY SOON SLED