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BIG SPRING HERALD

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WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 12, 2012



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HERALD photos/Steve Reagan
Clockwise, from top left: Army National Guard Maj. Gen. Eddy Spurgin was the featured speaker during Tuesday's 9/11 memorial service at the Big Spring Mall; a giant U.S. flag flies at the mall; a bagpiper plays "Amazing Grace" near the conclusion of the ceremony.

ISD will ponder oil lease

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

In a very roundabout way, Big Spring Independent School District may be getting into the oil business.

BSISD trustees will discuss the possibility of leasing district land for oil exploration purposes when they hold their regular monthly meeting at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

Business Manager Debbie Green said representatives of an oil company approached the school district with the intent to drill for oil on BSISD property near Knott.

"We have about four acres of property close to Knott," Green said. "In 1986, we had some oil exploration out there ... and a company has recently approached us about doing so again."

Thursday, trustees will consider approving a resolution to lease the property. If the resolution is approved, the district will then solicit bids before finally approving any lease agreement later this year, Green said.

Discussion on the lease resolution will highlight an otherwise routine board meeting. Other agenda items include:

- An adjunct faculty agreement with the Howard County Extension Office.
- Personnel matters.
- Enrollment report.
- Delinquent tax collection report.

Council OKs tax rate

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Despite repeatedly pointing out the effective tax rate previously published was incorrect, the Big Spring City Council voted 6-1 Tuesday night to approve first reading of the levy in an effort

to meet the state-mandated deadline for having the fiscal element in place.

The council — with District 4 Councilman Bobby McDonald the lone dissenter — approved first reading of the proposed tax rate of 86.5043 cents per \$100 prop-

erty valuation, a rate that will likely leave the municipality with a budgetary shortfall estimated at \$130,000 to deal with in the coming year.

According to City Finance Director Peggy Walker, a mistake made by the How-

ard County Appraisal District in accounting for the values of property appraisals currently being protested, the rate that would bring in the same amount of tax revenue collected last

See **CITY**, Page 3

HELP NEEDED: Vandals wipe out coffers for Blue Santa

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
Staff Writer

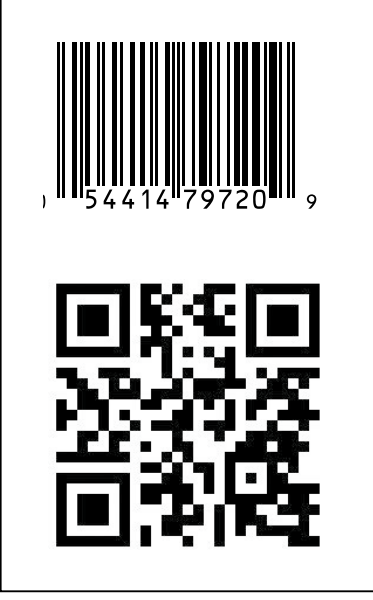
Vandals strike again, but this time at the Big Spring Police Association.

Last year the association began hosting a haunted house in order to raise funds for the Blue Santa program. The program provides toys for needy families at Christmastime. This year, however, that fundraiser may not happen because of actions which occurred earlier this week.

"We discovered that the training center at 5600 Perimeter Rd., which we use for a haunted house, had been vandalized," said Jamie Williams, association member.

According to Williams, there

See **BLUE**, Page 3



Spots open for Leadership

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
Staff Writer

There are a few spots left for 2012 Leadership Big Spring, which starts Thursday.

Each class, held from September through May, holds 25 participants. At this point there are five positions still open.

"This is a great way for members of the community, whether they are new to the area or have been here awhile, to find out what is going on in Big Spring," Chamber

of Commerce Executive Director Debbye ValVerde said.

Registration for the class will close at 3 p.m. today. There is a registration fee of \$400 for Chamber members and \$600 for non-members. Meetings are held once a month from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Meals are included in the registration fee and are planned in advance.

"There are certain requirements that must be met before graduation from

See **LEADERS**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Elvira Cantu



Elvira Cantu, 88, died Monday, Sept. 10, 2012, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Marco Arizmendi Jr. officiating. Burial will follow in Ackerly Cemetery.

She was born Sept. 16, 1923, in Yorktown, Texas, to Catarina and Antonio Pena. She moved to Ackerly in 1970 from Goliad County, Texas. She married Domingo Cantu Sr. and he preceded her in death. She was a homemaker and a Jehovah's Witness.

She is survived by five sons, Rudy Cantu and wife Mary of Charco, Enrique Cantu and wife Yolanda of Rowlett, Silberio Cantu and wife Olga of Roanoke, Domingo Cantu Jr. and wife Macaria and Jesse Cantu and wife Sylvia, all of Big Spring; two daughters, Irene Perez and husband Jose of Goliad and Sandra Hensley and husband Andy of Ackerly; one sister, Lillie Cruz of San Antonio; 15 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and a daughter-in-law, Dolores Cantu of Ackerly.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband; one son, Elizar Cantu; three brothers; and two sisters.

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

Elesha Thompson



Elesha Thompson, 31, of Dallas, formerly of Big Spring died Sunday, Sept. 9, 2012, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Lloyd Wells, associate pastor of Spring Creek Fellowship, officiating. Graveside services will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday at Hermleigh Cemetery.

She was born Oct. 25, 1980, in Big Spring, Texas, to Teresa and Michael Thompson. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring until moving to Dallas in 2005. She attended TSTI in Sweetwater, Texas, studying electronics. She was a dental assistant.

She is survived by one son, Michael Reilly Shubert of Abilene; three daughters, Leslie Ann Shubert and Ashley Lee (Shorty) Shubert, both of Abilene, and Corin Slater of Graham; her parents, Teresa Brumley and husband John and Michael Thompson, all of Big Spring; one sister, Sherrie Thompson and (Mandy Morrow), all of Big Spring; a stepbrother, John Pena of Galveston; stepsister, Annetta (Nickie) Pena of Odessa; grandparents, Maurice and Mary Smith and Mary Lou Brumley, all of Big Spring.

She was preceded in death by her paternal grandparents, Bill and Joan Thompson; and her stepmother, Susan Pena Thompson.

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

Velma Campbell

Velma Campbell, 82, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2012, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- DAVID JERRY MIDDLETON, 36, of North Carolina, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of assault causing bodily injury.
- EDWIN POTEET BLACK JR., 48, of North Carolina, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of assault causing bodily injury.
- WALTER LYN TEMPLETON, 43, address unknown, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARKUS ALLAN GARZA, 23, of 5006 Wasson Rd., was arrested Tuesday on warrants for speeding in a school zone and driving while license invalid.
- SONIA LEOS, 29, of 509 W. Eighth St., was arrested Tuesday on warrants for expired registration, driving while license invalid, failure to maintain financial responsibility, bail jumping – failure to appear (fine only, three counts) and a warrant from another agency.

tain financial responsibility, bail jumping – failure to appear (fine only, three counts) and a warrant from another agency.

- FRANK HERNANDEZ, 42, of 311 N. Aylesford, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JIM JASON COKER, 33, of 1312 Tucson, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JAMES DELWIN SCHUMPERT, 29, of 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 227, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- ANDRÉS PERCHES III, 18, of 6108 W. FM 846 in Knott, was arrested Tuesday in Luther, Texas, on a warrant for indecency with a child – sexual contact.
- WILLIAM GILBERT AGUILAR, 23, of 309 W. Fifth St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- FABIAN HENRY FLORES, 19, of the 100 block of N.W. Eighth Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- TONY MOJICA CASTELLANO, 39, of 803 E. 14th St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- THEFT was reported: In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street. In the area of FM 461. In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street. In the area of FM 821. In the 2000 block of S. Gregg Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1300 block of Mobile.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1300 block of Mt. Vernon.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 77 inmates at the time of this report.
- WALTER LYN TEMPLETON, 43, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- DIMAS ANGUIANO, 55, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for criminal mischief.
- FABIAN HENRY FLORES, 19, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- WILLIAM AGUILAR, 23, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- ANDRES REYES PERCHES III, 18, was arrested Tuesday on a motion to adjudicate guilt for indecency with a child – sexual contact.
- MARKUS ALLAN GARZA, 23, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on municipal capias warrants for speeding in a school zone and driving while license invalid.
- SONIA LEOS, 29, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on municipal capias warrants for parent contributing to non-attendance, failure to appear (three counts), failure to maintain financial responsibility, displaying expired registration and driving while license invalid.
- MICHAEL LEE LOPEZ, 24, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property – more than \$500 and less than \$1,500.
- TONY CASTELLANO, 39, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- JAMES DELWIN SCHUMPERT, 29, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- DAVID CHAVEZ, 21, was booked into the county

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Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 9/14	Sat 9/15	Sun 9/16	Mon 9/17	Tue 9/18
81/58 A few thunderstorms possible.	75/56 Occasional showers possible. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	82/57 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	89/62 Sunshine. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.	93/63 A few clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s.
Sunrise: 7:29 AM Sunset: 7:54 PM	Sunrise: 7:30 AM Sunset: 7:53 PM	Sunrise: 7:30 AM Sunset: 7:51 PM	Sunrise: 7:31 AM Sunset: 7:50 PM	Sunrise: 7:31 AM Sunset: 7:49 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	80	58	t-storm
Amarillo	63	51	rain
Austin	90	69	t-storm
Beaumont	87	71	t-storm
Brownsville	92	74	t-storm
Brownwood	88	63	t-storm
Corpus Christi	90	76	t-storm
Corsicana	89	66	mst sunny
Dallas	90	67	t-storm
Del Rio	96	72	t-storm
El Paso	84	60	t-storm
Fort Stockton	85	56	t-storm
Gainesville	89	63	t-storm
Greenville	90	65	pt sunny
Houston	89	72	t-storm
Kingsville	93	73	t-storm
Livingston	89	68	t-storm
Longview	89	68	pt sunny
Lubbock	66	51	rain
Lufkin	91	70	t-storm
Midland	80	59	t-storm
Raymondville	93	73	t-storm
Rosenberg	89	71	t-storm
San Antonio	92	72	t-storm
San Marcos	91	69	t-storm
Sulphur Springs	91	66	pt sunny
Sweetwater	79	57	t-storm
Tyler	89	68	pt sunny
Weatherford	89	63	t-storm
Wichita Falls	86	58	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	81	62	pt sunny
Boston	82	59	sunny
Chicago	71	54	cloudy
Dallas	90	67	t-storm
Denver	68	46	pt sunny
Houston	89	72	t-storm
Los Angeles	89	69	sunny
Miami	87	78	t-storm
Minneapolis	76	48	pt sunny
New York	80	63	sunny
Phoenix	94	75	sunny
San Francisco	74	58	pt sunny
Seattle	79	53	sunny
St. Louis	87	59	pt sunny
Washington, DC	83	65	sunny

detention center Wednesday by DPS on a charge of accident involving damage to a vehicle - \$200 or less.

- JIM COKER, 33, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- FRANK HERNANDEZ, 42, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOHN WEST RUSK, 43, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of burglary of a vehicle.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 900 block of W. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Madison. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 800 block of W. FM 700. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of N. Gregg Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 5400 block of S. Service Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of McDonald Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

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Odds and Ends

Police: Woman offered roadside stripteases

UNIONTOWN, Pa. (AP) — A southwestern Pennsylvania woman has been jailed on charges she was flagging down motorists and offering to take off her clothes for cash. Online court records don't list an attorney for 35-year-old Jackie Hatter, of Uniontown. She remained jailed Wednesday unable to post \$25,000 bond.

The Herald-Standard of Uniontown reports Hatter was arrested about 8:40 a.m. Sunday and charged with disorderly conduct and marijuana possession. Police say they were told she was stopping cars to offer the striptease at an intersection in the city about 40 miles south of Pittsburgh.

Police say Hatter was mumbling incoherently and fighting with officers.

Cops: Man tried to pay bartender with his own card

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Police in Miami Beach say a homeless man broke into a car, stole a credit card and then tried to use it to buy a beer — from the bartender the card belonged to.

The case was cracked when 53-year-old David Weber handed the card to the bartender who took his order Monday night. The Miami Herald (<http://hrl.d.us/RRk8km>) reports the bartender noticed he had just been handed his own credit card.

The bartender called Miami Beach police. Weber was charged with credit card fraud and theft. He remained in the Miami-Dade County Jail early Wednesday.

Police say Weber told them he found the credit card on the ground.

Maine family offers liquor for return of canoe

ALLAGASH, Maine (AP) — A northern Maine family is offering an unusual reward for the return of a vintage canoe stolen a month ago.

Darlene Kelly Dumond of Allagash says the family is offering \$250 and a gallon of gin for any information leading to the recovery of what she calls a family heirloom.

The canoe that belonged to her father, Tyler Kelly, was last seen tied up at the village's public landing on Aug. 12.

Kelly, now 75 and retired, was a well-known guide and riverman who used to race canoes.

His daughter tells the Bangor Daily News (<http://bit.ly/Pi9SO6>) the unusual reward was thought up by a friend who figured a gallon of gin would spark some interest in the dry town.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is investigating.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

ear — known as the effective rate — is estimated at 88.8275 cents per \$100 property valuation, more than 2 cents higher than the proposed rate.

The \$15,570,750 difference in protested values would drive up the effective rate to 88.8275 cents per \$100 property valuation, according to Walker. Howard County Chief Appraiser Ronnie Babcock acknowledged the mistake during the council's Aug. 28 meeting and affirmed the published tax rate is not correct.

Walker said Tuesday night the effect the discrepancy will have on the 2012-2013 budget is hard to forecast and could be as high as the \$130,000 estimates or considerably lower.

"There's no way to pinpoint where we'll come out of this until we know what will happen to those protested appraisals," Walker said.

According to Walker, the real danger the tax rate gaffe poses is to fiscal planning for the 2013-2014 budget, when it could artificially drive the tax rate lower than it should be.

"It won't call for any major changes to the 2012-2013 budget, just some adjustments to projected revenues," she said. "Next year, when we begin putting together the 2013-2014 budget, we'll have the necessary time to make the needed adjustments to keep this year's published effective rate — which, again, is incorrect — from impacting the tax rate for years to come. That could call for going above the effective rate by a few cents."

According to City Attor-

ney Linda Sjogren, the state-mandated time table for cities to approve the tax rate for the coming fiscal year made it impossible for the council to adopt any tax rate other than the effective rate established by the appraisal district.

"We're required to have the tax rate adopted by the end of September," Sjogren said. "For the city to go above the published effective tax rate set by the appraisal district — whether it's correct or not — it is required to hold a number of public hearings. There is simply no way for the city to get those requirements completed in time."

McDonald said he voted against the tax rate because it was what his constituents asked of him.

"There's no way I could vote in favor of a mistake," McDonald said following the meeting.

City officials said any budgetary shortfall created by the debacle would come from the city's reserve funds, which Mayor Tommy Duncan pointed out are ample to handle the fiscal strain.

The council also approved first reading of its 2012-2013 budget Tuesday, voting unanimously in favor of the fiscal plan.

Among other things, the budget features a pay raise for employees — the first in two years — \$500,000 for water line replacement, set-aside money to purchase property for landfill use and almost \$4 million designated for water purchases. A public hearing regarding both the budget and tax rate held prior to their first reading yielded no comments from local citizens.

The council is expected to consider final approval of both the budget and tax

rate during its next meeting, slated for Sept. 25.

Also during Tuesday's meeting, the council approved the emergency reading of an ordinance calling for the extension of the existing curfew for minors until Sept. 1, 2015. The council has approved similar extensions in the past, also for three-year periods.

The council voted unanimously in favor of the measure, which calls for all children less than 17 years of age to not be in any public place or the premises of an establishment or business between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following day Sunday through Thursday and 12:01 a.m. until 6 a.m. on any Friday or Saturday.

Because the matter was considered on an emergency reading, it does not require a second vote.

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Elesha Thompson, 31, of Dallas, formerly of Big Spring, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. Thursday at Hermleigh Cemetery.

Elvira Cantu, 88, died Monday. Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial in Ackerly Cemetery.

Velma Campbell, 82, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

LEADERS

Continued from Page 1

this course," ValVerde said. "We want people to be fully committed to the course in order for them to get the most out of it."

Those involved

will be required to submit reports after attending four different community meetings. Two meetings need to be attended by December and the other two can be completed by April. The meetings can be the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce,

Howard County Commissioners Court, Howard College board of trustees, Big Spring City Council, Big Spring Economic Development Corporation or any of the local school board meetings.

"We want our participants to attend

these meetings so that they are able to see what the different entities are talking about, which in turn gives them insight into what is going on in our community," ValVerde said.

More information about the program can be obtained by calling

the chamber at 432-263-7641. Applications can be picked up at the chamber office, located at 215 W. Third.

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

BLUE

Continued from Page 1

was no sign of forced entry — the building is secured with a coded entry and key entry. In addition to the building being damaged, a majority of items in the facility were stolen.

"They took almost everything and what they did leave they damaged. All the items in the facility were on loan from individuals in order to make the haunted house fundraiser available,"

Lesa Coskey, association treasurer, said.

Williams and Coskey said any and all donations will be appreciated and are needed. Unless enough items are gathered by the end of the month, the haunted house — one of the biggest fundraisers for the program — will not be possible.

"We are looking for any and all help at this

time," Williams said.

Anyone who has any information about the break in and vandalism is urged to contact Williams at 432-425-0346 or

Coskey at 432-213-3090.

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Brian McCormack Sports Editor	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Duforat Staff Writer	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer	

Tampa versus Charlotte

Tampa, Fla., was like the Republican National Convention delegation — older, more experienced, less excitable. Tampa has hosted the Super Bowl; the city had lots of space and nothing to prove. There was a been there/done that feel to the entire affair. Tampa Bay is used to welcoming visitors and has plenty of nice hotels to host them.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

You say a hurricane is coming? No worries. They laid out some sandbags, closed up for a night and started up a day later. No need to rush a convention. People don't come to Florida to be in a hurry.

Charlotte, N.C., is a younger, more eager town, and it drew a younger, more jazzed set of delegates. The chance to host the Democratic National Convention delegation put the city in the big time. Volunteers dotted the convention center, greeting passers-by. They went out of their way to make visitors feel welcome.

Like a young family, the city didn't have a lot of room (as in hotel rooms), and that made for lots of griping.

The Obama campaign's decision to open up President Barack Obama's nomination acceptance speech to non-delegate volunteers by staging the event at the larger Bank of America Stadium turned out to be impetuous. After the convention czars canceled the venue on account of possible thunderstorms, Republicans were thankful that they then could claim Obama could not draw enough volunteers to fill the stadium's 70,000 seats.

The decision angered the locals. As the Charlotte Observer's

Taylor Batten later griped, the Democratic National Convention Committee has a pattern: "Make big plans (and) then scale them back."

In Tampa, Mitt Romney told the country that instead of going with the thrill of hope and change, voters should ask themselves whether they're better off than they were four years ago. He issued a simple proposition: Go with the candidate who can make the economy work for your family.

Obama was a changed man. When he spoke at his first two conventions, he arrived buoyed by promise and impatience — a young man in a hurry to change the world. In Charlotte, Obama no longer played a young man's game. He carried the baggage of governance.

Thus, the president told his people that change takes time and that it isn't easy.

Ann Romney was the yin to her husband's yang.

She was solid and warm. Most of all, she seemed happy as she delivered a speech that lit up the convention audience.

After Tampa, Romney predicted that the Democrats' convention wasn't "going to be as happy" as the Republicans' was. That certainly applied in the wife department.

Michelle Obama was the yin to her husband's yin; they're both strong and fierce and smart and caring. She delivered a speech that fired up Charlotte delegates. At 63 and 48, Ann Romney and Michelle Obama represent the best of two very different generations.

Romney's running mate, Paul Ryan, was strong and fierce and smart and tough. In 2012, he was there to do what Obama did in Boston in 2004 — to call out the wrongheadedness of the administration. As Obama was for the Dems then, Ryan was the GOP

breakout star now.

Ryan's Democratic counterpart, Joe Biden, was not a rising star — nor did Team Obama want him to be. The campaign didn't even give him a good speaking slot. Biden was happy anyway; he just kept talking and talking his way into prime time.

John McCain also did not rate prime time in Tampa, even though four years ago, he was the GOP nominee. This year, he spoke Wednesday at 7 p.m., when most of the delegates weren't listening.

John Kerry, the Democrats' past nominee, enjoyed the floor's full attention Thursday night. He delivered perhaps his best speech in years, and he deftly jabbed Romney for not mentioning Afghanistan in his acceptance speech. "No nominee for president should ever fail in the midst of a war to pay tribute to our troops overseas in his acceptance speech."

Romney should have mentioned Afghanistan in Tampa.

Kerry is the candidate who gave Obama his big break. Who will be the next rising star?

The GOP's future could be seen in Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, whose grandfather stood behind a bar "so that one day" Rubio "could stand behind a podium." The Democrats' future could be San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro, whose grandmother wielded a mop so that he "could hold this microphone." Castro's daughter, Carina, stole the show as she tossed her hair when she saw her face on the Jumbotron screen. 2052?

Email Debra J. Saunders at 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.

Now's the time to get a flu shot

There's no such thing as "just the flu," especially for older adults.

More than 200,000 Americans land in the hospital because of influenza each year. And anywhere from 3,000 to 49,000 die of complications from it annually.

Seniors are particularly vulnerable to the contagious disease and its consequences. Even a healthy person's immune system can weaken with age. Adults 65 and older account for 60 percent of the flu-related hospitalizations and 90 percent of the deaths.

As flu season approaches again, it's time to take the usual precautions — wash your hands, avoid touching your face and limit your contact with people who are sick.

But remember — your best defense is an annual flu shot.

Flu season can start as early as October. Because older adults are at a higher risk and because it takes about two weeks for an inoculation to provide protection, health officials advise getting a shot as soon as possible.

Last year's flu season began late and was mild compared with previous seasons, but there's no way to predict how mild or severe this year's season will be.

Even if you were vaccinated last year, you will need a shot this year. The immunity you acquired from last season's vaccination has since waned. And this season's vaccine has been especially designed to fight this year's most likely strains.

Manufacturers project they will produce up to 149 million doses for this season, compared with 133 million doses distributed last year.

As in past seasons, flu vaccine is available in many locations, including doctor offices, clinics, community health departments and pharmacies.

Adults 65 and older have two vaccine options — the traditional flu shot and a newer, higher dose vaccine that is supposed to trigger a stronger immune response.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention hasn't expressed a preference yet. So you may want to talk with your health care provider about which is right for you.

If you're enrolled in original Medicare's Part B, Medicare will pay for either vaccine option. Your out-of-pocket cost will be nothing, as long as the health care provider agrees not to charge more than Medicare pays.

Likewise, if you're enrolled in a private Medicare Advantage health plan, your insurance company will cover the cost of a shot once every flu season.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends annual vaccinations for almost everyone.

Still, some people resist vaccination because they mistakenly think it's dangerous.

True, a very limited number of individuals with severe allergies to eggs or a history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome should not get a flu vaccine without consulting a doctor.

But overall, decades of experience have shown influenza vaccines to be safe.

The flu vaccine can't give you the flu. Side effects are rare. At worst, a few people may have sore muscles or a fever a day or two afterward as they produce antibodies.

That's a far cry from the high fever, headaches, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose and body aches common with the flu — not to mention the potentially life-threatening complications.

There's no better time than now to get a shot.

When you do, you'll protect not only yourself but also those around you. By avoiding the flu, you'll avoid spreading it to family, co-workers and friends.

To learn more about steps to take during the upcoming flu season, visit Medicare's website, www.medicare.gov, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' special website, www.flu.gov.

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

This is the time to embrace our faith in You for our future, Lord.

Amen

Insanity: Doing over and over

Albert Einstein is credited with defining insanity as "doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." I'm not sure how medically or scientifically accurate that definition is, but it is rather thought-provoking. It's also troublesome to me because there is an abundance of it going on all around us and an amazing number of people seem to be willing to subscribe to the belief that everything is going to be fine no matter what we do.



EDDY PRINCE

I don't want to burst anyone's philosophical bubble, but it ain't so. Doing stupid things will always produce stupid results and that's just a fact. For instance, it's astounding to me so many people believe if Washington keeps spending our money the way it has in recent years that somehow we are going to magically have a balanced budget someday. Talk about living in a fantasy world.

How about the documented fact that the National Debt has continued to increase an average of \$3.90 billion per day since Sept. 28, 2007, and this President wants us to let him keep doing whatever he wants to do? Doesn't that make you wonder what they are thinking when the same people who led us down this path tell us to trust them to lead us to the Promised Land of peace and prosperity? Personally, I think it's time somebody let the arrogant politicians who insult us with their attitudes and actions know that we Americans aren't all a bunch of brainless gullible pacifists who will blindly trust someone who has led us into the wilderness of desperation to show us the way to green pastures.

That being said, it's also trou-

bling to me that it has become more and more difficult to know who we can trust. One thing that is no longer debatable is the majority of Americans are disillusioned with politicians across the board, regardless of party affiliation or persuasion.

The percentage of voters nationwide who believe Congress is doing a good job remains in single digits. The latest Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey finds that just eight percent of likely U.S. voters think Congress is doing a good job. Sixty-four percent give the legislature a poor rating on its job performance. The survey of 1,000 likely voters was conducted Aug. 22-23, 2012, by Rasmussen Reports. Even though I generally distrust small-number polls, I believe this one is probably significantly accurate.

I am not generally comfortable dealing with subjects of this nature, but I am genuinely concerned we are on a downward spiral in so many areas of life and somebody has to wake up and sound an alarm. I am sincerely concerned about the moral decay, fiscal irresponsibility, lack of integrity and honesty and basic disregard for the rights of the average American citizen being displayed by our government.

Now, before you throw me under the bus as a traitor let me make it crystal clear that I am immeasurably proud to be an American and I wouldn't trade the USA for any country on this, or any other planet. But Mr. Einstein was right. It is foolish to think we can keep doing the same things, making the same dumb decisions, and expect things to get better.

As long as the focus is on getting as much as possible for as little effort as possible, and as long as we have leadership which promotes that philosophy, the prognosis for positive change is dismal at best.

America needs a new vision. We need to change our course.

We need to wake up to the truth and stop believing the egotistical and pompous politicians who are promoting nothing, but their own personal selfish agendas and have no concern at all for what it means to anyone else. If something doesn't change soon there is a crisis of unprecedented proportion on our horizon.

I believe we must be concerned about the things that really matter in the big picture.

What good is it if a nation has a bulging bank account, a balanced budget and a low unemployment rate if they have no morality or decency?

There are plenty today who mock morality and spirituality but my unapologetic stance is that if we do not return to Godly principles as a nation we will ultimately pay a price that is beyond comprehension if we are focused on nothing but financial prosperity and personal gratification.

Sadly, that's the road our nation has been on for too long and I am praying for serious change, not only in Washington, but in every neighborhood, church, and living room in America. It may never happen in the White House, but it can become reality in my house. That's why I am determined that "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15) and I will not compromise my convictions to pacify a misguided society.

On a closing note, if you are a regular reader of this column, or even if you just stumbled onto it today, I'd like to hear from you. I have many in the community who let me know they read it. but I'd like very much to hear from you by mail or email. Thanks for taking a minute to let me know what you think.

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.

Why not check this out at the library?

The day is nigh! The Friends of the Library Book Sale will begin Friday at 9 a.m. and continue through Sunday. Remember, as the sale goes on, the prices get lower and lower, but the book you want may not be there on the last day of the sale, so get it when you see it. The sale will continue downstairs in the basement until Oct. 6.

Donna and crew told me that the library was buzzing Saturday, our first day of fall/winter hours. And wasn't the cool front a pleasant relief from the heat? It almost makes you think that winter is really around the corner.

Sandra Dallas, author of "Tallgrass," "The Persian Pickle Club" and "The Bride's House," has written another moving portrait of women who survive unimaginable hardships through the sustaining ties of feminine friendship.

Her latest novel, "True Sisters" (FDAL S), is based on true events.

In 1856, Mormon converts, encouraged by Brigham Young himself, and outfitted with two-wheeled handcars, set out on foot from Iowa City to Salt Lake City, the promised land. The Martin Handcart Company, a ragtag group of weary families headed for Zion, is the last to leave on this 1,300-mile journey. Three companies that left earlier in the year have completed their trek successfully, but for the Martin Company the trip proves disastrous. "True Sisters" tells the story of four women from the British Isles traveling in this group, four women whose lives will become inextricably linked as

they endure unimaginable hardships, each one testing the boundaries of her faith and learning the true meaning of survival and friendship along the way. I have not read it, but I think many will find it interesting to read of the early years in Utah.

Alan Gilbert has written on a subject that I have heard little about: African-Americans who fought in Revolutionary War. In "Black Patriots and Loyalists: Fighting for Emancipation in the War for Independence" (973.346 GIL A), Gilbert asks us to rethink what we know about the Revolutionary War, to realize that while white Americans were fighting for their freedom, black Americans were joining the British imperial forces to gain theirs.

There were actually two wars being waged at once — a political revolution for independence from Britain and a social revolution for emancipation and equality. Drawing upon recently discovered archival material, Gilbert traces the intense imperial and patriot rivalry over recruitment and emancipation that led both sides to depend on African-Americans.

As well, he presents persuasive evidence that slavery could have been abolished during the Revolution itself if either side had fully pursued the military advantage of freeing slaves and pressing them into combat — as when Washington formed the all-black and Native American First Rhode Island Regiment and Lord Dunmore freed slaves and indentured servants to fight for the British.

Gilbert's extensive research reveals that free blacks on both sides played a crucial and under-appreciated role in the actual fighting. Black Patriots and Loyalists showed that the struggle for emancipation was not only basic to the Revolution itself, but was a rousing force which would

inspire freedom movements like the abolition societies of the North and the black loyalist pilgrimages for freedom in places such as Nova Scotia and Sierra Leone. For the serious history buff, this is the book for you.

Here is another book on American history: "James Madison and the Making of America" (973.510 GUT K) by Kevin R.C. Gutzman. Madison is a contradictory figure in the formation of our country.

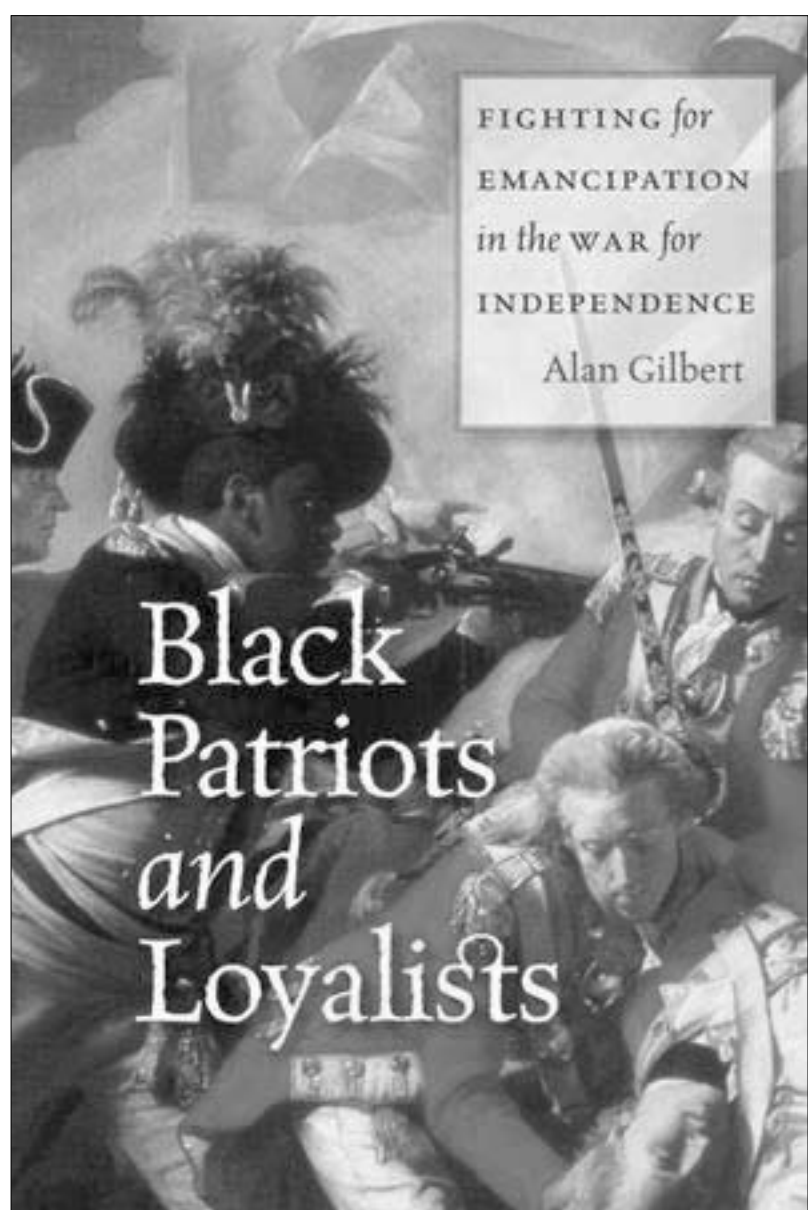
He did not think the Bill of Rights was necessary, and he also thought that the Constitution was inadequate and would soon fail. However, this volume is key in understanding his contribution to our government.

"Don't Mess With Travis" (F SMI B) by Bob Smily brilliantly lampoons all that's wrong with present-day politics while waving the flag behind everything that's right. A cowboy governor finds himself the accidental leader of Texas's right-wing revolution in this irreverent, entertaining debut novel.

Smily tells the story of Ben Travis, a no-name Texas senator who becomes governor after a late-night ac-

cident takes the lives of the men ahead of him in the chain of command. Before the paint has even dried on his parking spot, the recently divorced Travis uncovers the latest Washington power grab and decides there's only one solution — secession.

The stunt pits Travis (and Texas) against the president, a golf-obsessed, progressive egomaniac with spotty leadership skills, and the liberal elites behind him, who will try every dirty trick to derail the new governor and hold on to the most prosperous state in the Union. Despite the doomsday threats from D.C., Travis forges ahead in a thrilling and hysterical quest to fight big government tyr-



anny and restore sanity to the nation.

The library is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m., with the Internet room closing about 5:30 p.m. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the

Internet/video room closing at 1:30 p.m. The library is located at 500 S. Main St.; our phone number is 264-2260.

Hollis McCright is Howard County Librarian.

In *Sunday's* Big Spring Herald

A Fall Tradition

Pennsylvania's annual match between the Lafayette Leopards and Lehigh Mountain Hawks—the longest uninterrupted game streak in American college football history—is a tradition dating back to 1884.

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News in brief

Texan gets 20 years in drug smuggling case

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A West Texas man has been sentenced to 20 years in federal prison after tons of drugs were smuggled using vehicles of unsuspecting drivers.

Prosecutors say 38-year-old Jesus Chavez of El Paso must also pay nearly \$142,000 in restitution. Chavez in May pleaded guilty to conspiracy to import marijuana.

Investigators say smugglers identified cars frequently using a dedicated commuter lane from Mexico into Texas.

Smugglers would obtain copies of keys to the vehicles and then slip bags of marijuana into the trunks. The bags were retrieved in Texas.

Prosecutors say about 6,600 pounds of marijuana moved from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, into El Paso before the scam fell apart in 2011. Smugglers targeted the car of an award-winning teacher whose arrest drew outrage and media attention.

Chavez was sentenced Monday.

CPS to give update on case of kidnapped Texas boy

HOUSTON (AP) — A judge is scheduled to get an update on the case of a Houston boy found in March after being kidnapped as an infant eight years ago.

Child Protective Services officials say 8-year-old Miguel Morin remains in foster care. They say he has not had visits with his parents since authorities found him living in East Texas.

His former baby sitter and her mother remain jailed on kidnapping charges.

Authorities allege the boy was hidden in homes in Central and East Texas, kept out of school and called by a different name through the years.

In May, CPS officials said Miguel was working with a therapist but wasn't ready to be told who his parents are.

Officials have said Miguel's parents, who live in Houston, are being understanding.

El Paso schools get new interim superintendent

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — An embattled West Texas school district has another new leader amid the

investigation into a cheating scandal.

El Paso Independent School District trustees on Tuesday night chose Ken George to replace Terri Jordan as interim superintendent.

Jordan says she wanted to return to her job as district chief of staff due to family responsibilities. George retired from the district in 1997 as an associate superintendent.

EPISD leaders hope to choose a new interim superintendent in a few weeks and a new superintendent by early 2013.

Former superintendent Lorenzo Garcia was arrested last summer on public corruption charges and resigned in November. Garcia in June pleaded guilty to two charges of mail fraud stemming from a scheme in which student test scores were artificially inflated. Sentencing is next month.

City replaces Texas mayor killed in donkey attack

HOLLYWOOD PARK, Texas (AP) — A replacement has been chosen for a South Texas mayor found dead after apparently being attacked by a donkey on his ranch.

The Hollywood Park City Council on Tuesday night chose businessman Mark Perry to succeed Mayor William "Bill" Bohlke.

Bohlke's body was located Aug. 27 by searchers after he didn't return home from his Atascosa County ranch.

Mayor Pro Tem Steve Phillips says Perry was the only person to submit a resume to become mayor.

The San Antonio Express-News reports Perry is a political newcomer with 18 years of business operations and sales executive experience. He's worked for Globalscape, Fujitsu America, Symantec and AT&T Technical Services Co.

Hollywood Park is a city of about 3,000 located just north of San Antonio.

Officials hope lab helps ID body parts from sewer

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich. (AP) — Officials hope DNA samples from tattooed chunks of human flesh discovered in a suburban Detroit sewer last month will help them determine the identity of the person they came from.

The Macomb Daily of Mount Clemens reports of-

officials recently sent the samples to the University of North Texas, which has a DNA database of unidentified remains.

The 10 body parts were found Aug. 15 by contractors clearing debris from a pipe in Sterling Heights. Authorities believe they belonged to a Caucasian.

The parts didn't include bones or internal organs.

Police don't know if the person was male or female. Investigators have said the tattoo on the flesh appears to have been inked at least 15 to 20 years ago.

Laura Bush to announce book festival lineup

DALLAS (AP) — Former first lady Laura Bush is set to announce the authors who will attend this year's Texas Book Festival.

On Wednesday she'll also unveil the book festival poster.

This year's event is set for Oct. 27-28 in Austin at the Texas Capitol.

Authors featured in past years include Tom Wolfe, Salman Rushdie and David McCullough.

Bush founded the festival when she was first lady of Texas. The first one took place in Austin in 1996.

More than 40,000 people participate each year in the event that includes author readings and presentations, panel discussions and book signings.

Former President George W. Bush and the former first lady live in Dallas. That's where the George W. Bush Presidential Center is set to open next year.

Report: Texas cop fired dozens of shots in chase

DALLAS (AP) — A Garland police investigation has found that one of its officers fired at least 41 shots during a high-speed chase that ended with a 25-year-old man's death.

Police in the Dallas suburb initially said the suspect's truck rammed the squad car Aug. 31, and the officer feared for his life.

But a Tuesday report says dashboard camera video shows the officer rammed the truck driven by Michael Vincent Allen, who never tried to assault the officer or return fire.

Investigators say other officers didn't fire a shot during the chase that ended in nearby Mesquite.

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My wife's sister and her husband moved in with my mother-in-law 30 years ago. Mom was the sole caregiver until age limited her ability, and then government aid allowed for home assistance.

Mom supported them while my brother-in-law spent every dime on alcohol and toys. When Mom died two years ago, my sister-in-law ended up in a nursing home. My brother-in-law is in bankruptcy and has done nothing to plan for his wife's needs.

My wife owns the house, although there is a lien on it from the state because of the aid my sister-in-law received. My wife and I cannot manage the

responsibility or expense of maintaining the home, and we'd like to sell it and pay back the state.

Four months ago, we informed my brother-in-law that we will be putting it up for sale. But he has not moved out. In fact, he says his lawyer told him he can drag it out for a year.

As bad as my brother-in-law is, I still feel some compassion for him, although I do not feel we are responsible for him. His bad decisions and inability to plan are his own fault. I have held onto the letter informing him to vacate the house. I need help with licking the stamp so we can move on. — C.

if your brother-in-law is unwilling to help himself.

Dear Annie: I'd like to see my children wait until marriage before having sex, but I realize that probably will not happen. I want to be able to advise my children correctly, so here are my questions: What is the age of consent? And if two 15-year-olds are intimate and caught, are both punished the same?

Under the current system, a 17-year-old boy could have consensual sex with his 15-year-old girlfriend and go to jail. The boy is branded for life as a sex offender. I think these laws are outdated and need to be modified. — *Ellen in Florida*

Dear Ellen: The age of consent varies by state and falls somewhere between 16 and 18. You can find this information on the Internet simply by typing "age of consent by state" into your search engine.

The punishment also varies by state and depends on the age of the older partner, the age of the younger partner, the number of years between them, etc. The underage partner is not punished, and if both kids are 15, neither is punished unless there was coercion.

These laws were intended to protect children from predatory adults, although we agree that a distinction should be made for teenagers who have consensual sex with their boyfriends and girlfriends. Until then, however, please be sure your children understand the risks and urge them to be careful.

Dear Annie: The letter from "Sad Wife" resonated with me. For years, my husband could not hold a decent job.

I realized, after he was fired from his last job, that I didn't believe in him. When he asked me, with tears in his eyes, whether I would divorce him, I decided to have complete faith.

From that point forward, I truly believed he would be successful. I stayed positive, encouraging and kept him motivated. Within months, he had two amazing job offers.

Now he has a great career, and our relationship is stronger than ever. Whether you think you can or think you can't, you are right. — *Proud Wife*

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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News in brief

Anti-Islam film sparks protests at U.S. missions in Libya, Egypt; 1 American killed

CAIRO (AP) — Protesters angered over a film that ridiculed Islam's Prophet Muhammad fired gunshots and burned down the U.S. consulate in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi, killing one American, witnesses and the State Department said. In Egypt, protesters scaled the walls of the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, and tore and replaced the American flag with an Islamic banner.

Tuesday's attacks were the first such assaults on U.S. diplomatic facilities in either country, at a time when both Libya and Egypt are struggling to overcome the turmoil following the ouster of their longtime leaders, Moammar Gadhafi and Hosni Mubarak, in uprisings last year.

The protests in both countries were sparked by outrage over a film ridiculing Muhammad produced by an Israeli filmmaker living in California and being promoted by an extreme anti-Muslim Egyptian Christian campaigner in the United States. Excerpts from the film dubbed into Arabic were posted on YouTube.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton confirmed that one State Department officer had been killed in the protest at the U.S. consulate in Benghazi. She strongly condemned the attack and said she had called Libyan President Mohammed el-Megarif "to coordinate additional support to protect Americans in Libya."

Clinton expressed concern that the protests might spread to other countries. She said the U.S. is working with "partner countries around the world to protect our personnel, our missions, and American citizens worldwide."

Common type of rail tanker has dangerous flaw that risks hazardous cargo spills

CHICAGO (AP) — For two decades, one of the most commonly used type of rail tanker has been allowed to haul hazardous liquids from coast to coast even though transportation officials were aware of a dangerous design flaw that almost guarantees the car will tear open in an accident, potentially spilling cargo that could catch fire, explode or contaminate the environment.

The rail and chemical industries have committed to a safer design for new tankers but are pressing regulators not to require modifications to tens of thousands of existing cars, despite a spike in the number of accidents as more tankers are put into service to accommodate soaring demand for ethanol, the highly flammable corn-based fuel usually transported by rail.

Derailments have triggered chemical spills and massive blasts like one in July in Columbus, Ohio, that blew up with such intensity that one witness said it "looked like the sun exploded." Some communities with busy railways are beginning to regard the tankers as a serious threat to public safety.

"There's a law of averages that gives me great concern," said Jim Arie, fire chief in Barrington, a wealthy Chicago suburb where ethanol tankers snake through a bustling downtown. "Sometimes I don't sleep well at night."

He's not the only one. The town's mayor is trying to build a national coalition to push for safety reforms.

Obama, Romney return to campaigning after Sept. 11 anniversary

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Reflection over Sept. 11 quickly past, the race for the White House is returning to fierce form, with negative ads free to fly again and the candidates spreading out from Florida to Ohio to Nevada.

In a campaign speech and a new TV ad, President Barack Obama was accusing Republican nominee Mitt Romney of failing to explain how he would pay for trillions of dollars in tax cuts.

Eying the possible electoral paths to victory, both campaigns are jockeying more in Wisconsin, a state that has long swung to Democrats in presidential elections.

Romney, in the midst of a campaign week that has slingshot him across the nation, was holding one event Wednesday — at his own campaign office in Jacksonville, Fla. He was expected to make the case that the nation's debt is undermining job creation and economic growth.

Obama was heading west, to Nevada, where he planned to hit Romney and vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan with charges of secrecy. The Obama campaign says the two Republicans are refusing to tell voters how they could pay for tax cuts that disproportionately help the wealthy without having to gut deductions for middle-class taxpayers.

Many expect Fed to announce a third bond-buying program this week to try to boost US economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — If the world's investors are right, the Federal Reserve is about to take a bold new step to try to invigorate the U.S. economy.

And many expect the Fed to unleash its most potent weapon: a third round of bond purchases meant to ease long-term interest rates and spur borrowing and spending. It's called "quantitative easing," or QE.

Others foresee a more measured response when the Fed ends a two-day policy meeting Thursday. They think it will extend its timetable for any rise in record-low short-term rates beyond the current target of late 2014 at the earliest.

On one point few disagree: The Fed feels driven to act now because the U.S. economy is still growing too slowly to reduce high unemployment. The unemployment rate has topped 8 percent every month since the Great Recession officially ended more than three years ago.

In August, job growth slowed sharply. The unemployment rate did fall to 8.1 percent from 8.3 percent.

But that was because many Americans stopped looking for work, so they were no longer counted as unemployed.

Someone's watching: More than 200 British high schools have cameras in bathrooms, locker rooms

LONDON (AP) — At the King Ecgbert School in Sheffield, teens who go to the loos are never really alone — video cameras are inside all 12 bathrooms.

Citing findings gathered via freedom-of-information requests, privacy activists Wednesday identified King Ecgbert as one of more than 200 high

schools across Britain that have installed surveillance cameras in bathrooms or locker rooms.

The group behind the report, Big Brother Watch, said a powerful watchdog is needed to ensure that students' privacy is protected.

The report "will come as a shock to many parents," said director Nick Pickles. "Schools need to come clean about why they are using these cameras and what is happening to the footage."

Lesley Bowes, King Ecgbert's principal, argued that the cameras help keep her students safe.

In Chicago, teachers strike grinds into third day with no hint of imminent deal

CHICAGO (AP) — The public teachers strike that has halted classwork and upset family routines across the country's third largest city ground into a third day Wednesday with some movement reported by union and school board negotiators but no sign of an imminent deal.

Union leaders said they will meet Wednesday morning to review a new, comprehensive proposal from school board negotiators that addresses all the issues still on the table.


The board has requested either a written response or a comprehensive counterproposal from the union.

But the teachers Tuesday were lowering expectations for an agreement, buoyed by energetic rallies in which even parents inconvenienced by the strike were waving placards in support. Other unions were joining in, with school custodian representatives saying their members will walk off the job this week as well.

Board President David Vitale, the lead schools negotiator, said early in the day that a deal could be reached, but union President Karen Lewis and her colleagues emerged from the talks accusing the board of having dug in its heels with its new proposal.

Among the biggest remaining issues are a new teacher evaluation system and a process for deciding which laid-off teachers can be rehired.

"There's been — let's put it this way — centimeters (of progress) and we're still kilometers apart," said Lewis, who earlier stated it was "lunacy" to think the issues could be wrapped up quickly.



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HC Hawks greet Big Spring

HERALD photo/Brian McCormack
Ebonee and Emerald Simmons get an autograph from a Howard College cheerleader during the inaugural 'Meet the Hawks' event Tuesday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the HC campus. Athletics and staff were on hand to meet and greet members of the community.

Harrison picks up 16th win as Texas tops Indians

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Matt Harrison got some extra rest and finally his 16th victory for the AL West-leading Texas Rangers.

Harrison got into the sixth inning and Adrian Beltre was awarded his 31st homer after a replay review, leading the Rangers to a 6-4 victory over the struggling Cleveland Indians on Tuesday night.

Harrison (16-9), pitching seven days after his second consecutive loss, didn't allow a runner until the fourth and struck out six over 5 2-3 innings.

"The first three innings he was as sharp as he could possibly be," manager Ron Washington said. "All of a sudden he was not as crisp as he was, and it was three innings in a row, but he got us into the sixth. For a minute, I thought he'd go way deep in the game without a lot of pitches."

Texas scored four times in the second, which started with Beltre reaching on an error that led to three unearned runs. One of those runs scored on the 16th wild pitch by Ubaldo Jimenez (9-16), who has the most losses and wild pitches in the majors.

Joe Nathan worked a perfect ninth for his 32nd save. The right-hander has converted a career-high 30 chances in a row, a dropped record.

Cleveland, which dropped to 15-42 since the All-Star break, was still searching for its first baserunner before Shin-Soo Choo and Jason Kipnis opened the fourth with consecutive walks. Harrison got out of that jam with a double-play grounder and a strikeout.

"Definitely a lot better than the last two," said Harrison, an All-Star left-hander who allowed 10 earned runs in 10 innings over his previous two starts. "Those extra two days definitely helped get my legs back under me."

Brent Lillibridge drew a one-out walk in the fifth before Jason Donald singled for Cleveland's first hit. Lillibridge scored on Ezequiel Car-

tera's RBI single.

The Rangers opened their six-game homestand three games ahead of Oakland, matching their smallest division lead since the All-Star break. The A's kept pace after holding on for a 6-5 victory at the Los Angeles Angels later Tuesday night.

With general manager Chris Antonetti on hand for the final series of their 10-game trip, the Indians played pretty much the same way they have for nearly four months.

"Things haven't gone right the whole second half. We're battling, we're keeping our head up and trying to finish strong," manager Manny Acta said. "But the whole second half has been rough for us."

Harrison allowed five hits and struck three, all the runners coming in his last 2 2-3 innings. He became the fourth AL pitcher with 16 wins.

Jimenez is 1-9 in 12 starts since the All-Star break. The Indians are 37-67 since they led the AL Central by four games on May 17, and have the AL's worst record at 59-83.

Jimenez struck out four and walked four while allowing five runs (only two earned) and four hits over five innings.

Beltre led off the fifth with a ball that ricocheted high off the top of the left-field wall and was initially ruled a double. Umpires reviewed the play and changed it to a homer. The replay showed the ball actually hit a metal brace supporting the wall and not the padding on top of it.

"The way it bounced ... it had to hit something," Washington said.

Beltre wasn't sure after seeing the ball bounce back on the field. He waited at second base for the umpires to come back on the field, then finished rounding the bases once they signaled home run.

"We thought the ball hit the top of the wall and came back," Acta said. "In the replays we have here it looks kind of inconclusive. Talking to the umpire, he felt it hit some metal bar back there behind the padding."

Lady Steers fall to Lady Mustangs in four sets, hold 16-11 record



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton
Big Spring — who has played consistently all season, with losses coming mainly to larger schools — was defeated Tuesday by Midland Christian in four sets. The Lady Steers were led by setters Morgan Seaton, who racked up 19 assists, 7 kills, 1 ace, 5 digs and 2 blocks. Erin Pollard (shown above blocking a shot), had 14 kills, 2 digs and 1 block. Also on offense, Haley Dimidjian had 5 kills, 1 assist, 4 aces and 2 blocks. On the defensive side, Carson Reibe recorded 20 digs, 1 kill and 1 ace and Ebony Zavala had 12 digs, 1 block, 4 kills and 1 ace. The Lady Steers now hold a record of 16-11 and will host a dual match at home Saturday. Games are slated to begin at 10 a.m. District play begins Saturday, Sept. 22 against Greenwood in Big Spring.

Local Sports Calendar

FRIDAY

Football

- Big Spring at San Angelo Lake View, 7:30 p.m.
- Coahoma at Colorado City, 7:30 p.m.
- Stanton at Forsan, 7:30 p.m.
- Grady at Sands, 7:30 p.m.
- Garden City at Sterling City, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Volleyball

- Seminole/Andrews/Water Valley/Sterling City at Big Spring (F, JV, V), dual match, games begin at 10 a.m.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com

Rangers closer and Giants fan Nathan pays off bet as QB Romo

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Texas Rangers closer Joe Nathan can do a pretty good impersonation of Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo.

The pitcher and New York Giants fan had no choice.

Nathan paid off a bet with fellow reliever and Cowboys fan Mike Adams by donning a full Romo uniform, including pads and football cleats, during the Rangers' batting practice before Tuesday night's game against Cleveland.

It was the Rangers' first home game since the Cowboys' season-opening 24-17 victory at the Giants last Wednesday.

Nathan even threw a few passes to teammates in the outfield before signing autographs for fans while still wearing the No. 9 jersey and helmet with a star.

Adams also had a bet with general manager Jon Daniels, who will have to wear a Cowboys cap during a media session.

Pigskin Picks Football Contest

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Rules: Find this week's games between the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry blank on this page with your team choices. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50. You must be 18 to enter. *No Photo Copies Accepted.* In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. For the tie breaker, the entry with the correct team will win. If both entries have guessed the same team, the second tie breaker will be the one closest to the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees and family of *The Big Spring Herald* are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the *Big Spring Herald* the Wednesday following the games.

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ 10. _____ 	Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone Number: _____ Tie Breaker - Circle the winner and note total points scored New York Jets vs. Pittsburgh Steelers Score: _____ + _____ = _____
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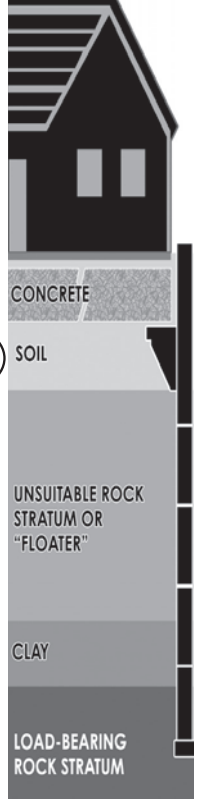
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For some owners, cat walks may not be a stretch

By SUE MANNING

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Karen Nichols wanted a life unchained to the monotony of twice-daily dog walks, so she got herself three cats. But she still strolls the neighborhood on nice days — with her cat Skeezix.

Nichols took part in a program recently that encouraged finding ways to bring out the wild nature in her cat. Some cat behavior problems stem from boredom, which can be stymied by enriching their environment and involving them in activities, experts told the class.

So Nichols started training Skeezix to walk with a leash before he turned 1. It took a couple of weeks to get him used to a leash and a stroller. (Skeezix goes into the stroller when a dog approaches.)

“You must be patient and devote time to the training every day, but if it’s apparent after a week or so that your cat detests it, you need to give it up,” said Nichols, who lives in Castro Valley near San Francisco and is the managing editor of Mousebreath Media and mousebreath.com, an online cat lifestyle magazine.

The United States is home to more than 74 million pet cats, according to the American Pet Products Association. Although the overwhelming majority of domestic cats likely have never been on a leash, every cat should be comfortable on a leash, in a carrier and traveling in a car, Nichols said.

Training a cat involves patience, repetition and food or treats while getting it used to wearing a snug harness, being leashed and walking. The Humane Society of the United

States and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals have instructions on their websites.

Whether a cat is ready for a walk depends on its personality. Friendly, curious, mellow and confident cats are good candidates, while scaredy-cats are usually indoor lurkers and prefer to stay that way, said Nancy Peterson, the humane society’s cat programs manager and a registered veterinarian technician.

Disabled cats, including ones that are declawed, deaf or blind, should not be walked, because if they get loose, they cannot defend themselves, she added.

Unlike dogs, cats should be kept on a tight leash. With a longer lead — anything more than 6 feet — a frightened cat might shimmy under a car, jump over a fence or dive around a corner.

“You always want your cat in sight and within grabbing distance,” Peterson said.

When Peterson and her four cats moved from San Diego to Washington 15 years ago, she could only take two of them to put under the airplane seat. Friends went ahead of her with the other two. They warned her she’d have to take the cats out of their carriers to get through security.

“I had harnesses on both cats and two leashes with me,” she said, but she still demanded a closed room before she opened the carriers.

JaneA Kelley, a cat owner in Portland, Maine, said she gave her cat Siouxsie leash training because she wanted to see if the cat would be interested.

“I was surprised to find out that she was actually pretty into it,” said the webmaster for the cat blog Paws-and-Effect.com.

She cautioned, however, that a cat walk might not be for every feline: “If your cat is shy, I’d recommend against traumatizing her by forcing her to do something that scares her.”

Cat-walkers should watch out for poisonous plants, chemicals and insecticides and protect their feline charges against fleas, ticks, heartworm and other parasites, Peterson said. Winter walks mean looking out for anti-freeze or salt products on the ground, while owners of white cats should be mindful of skin cancer in excessive summer heat, she said.

Whether or not a cat can go for a walk, teaching it to wear a harness is a good idea, said Lisa-Maria Padilla, whose cat Twyla Mooner won the Cat Fanciers Association first national agility award a few years ago.

“It’s not just to go to the vet. It increases the cat’s sensory experiences and enriches the cat. It makes it safer when we have company and easier to get the cat in case of emergency. The cat becomes more portable,” said the cat trainer from Reston, Va.

Every cat she breeds is trained to wear a harness, she said.

Ultimately, though, the decision to walk a cat is up to the owner. Peterson, who trained three of her cats to walk with leashes, said she no longer takes out the one cat who liked the walks.

“Toby enjoyed it but I didn’t feel it improved the quality of his life,” she said.

So she has resumed her couch potato ways, and Toby and her other cats get their exercise chasing the toy wand she waves as she watches TV or reads a book.

Tomorrow’s Horoscope

The Leo moon rules the day with a vibrant sense of whimsy and outrageous fun. As this moon mixes with the energy of Venus in Leo trine Uranus in Aries, casual relationships rent more space in our brains, while serious relationships take on a light-hearted ease that could only occur between people who know each other well.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Most people value what they work hard to get. Where hard work is not necessary, the perceived value drops. Keeping this in mind, make someone work for your attention.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Sometimes you stumble upon joy; other times you have to create it. Today brings a mixed bag. Initially, you won’t have to look for happiness; it will find you, which will inspire you to hunt down more of it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You look for the good in every situation. Usually, you can find it, but sometimes the good is just not there. That’s when you know it’s up to you to inject some.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You’ll share what you know, and others will educate you, as well. Note that friendly sharing is always gentle. You’re mindful to gift information, not bludgeon people with it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Spotlight stealers abound. They just don’t realize that the show is where you are. But everyone else does. Stay even-tempered and go about your business. Eventually, the attention returns to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The day is rife with sticky situations, innuendo and dicey exchanges. Surrender the management of relationships to the universe, and believe that you were meant for the goodness that will follow.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). No matter how it may

seem, the one in charge of your destiny is still you. When others appear to hold all of the cards, grab the dice and run. Start your own game. No one can tell you what to play.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You want to excel professionally. However, home and family take priority over your other interests. Work can wait. The time constraints and stressors are illusory. Don’t buy in.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It’s normal, but not helpful, to come at financial issues from an emotional place. Pay what you can really afford and not a penny more. Finding the right number will require thought as well as accounting.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There’s a boisterous quality to the day. Loved ones bombard you when you want peace. But it’s nice to know that you’re needed, and ultimately, it feels good to help.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). An active social life involves choices. Which invitations should you accept? Though you can think of excellent reasons to accept certain offers, in the end, you’ll go where you’re likely to have the most fun.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You go into an arrangement with an idealistic notion of what to expect. But just because a scenario isn’t perfect doesn’t mean it won’t be of value to you. Consider saying “yes” just for the experience.

TODAY’S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 12). After years of struggle, your life is shaping into the life you want. You’ll be more able to command yourself, and you’ll establish new patterns over the next 10 weeks. A joint effort brings praise and money in October. In 2013, an unforgettable experience happens when you apply a special talent of yours. Aries and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky

PET TALK:

Equine “Wolf Teeth”: What are they
How should they be cared for.

Approximately 70 percent of horses will develop wolf teeth. While these teeth usually do not pose a health risk to the horse, they are often removed in performance horses to prevent interference with the bit and to avoid traumatizing the soft tissues around the teeth leading to soreness.

Horsemen differ in opinions on when or if these teeth should be removed, but understanding the physiology of wolf teeth can help individual horse owners make the best personal decision for their horses.

Wolf teeth generally emerge between the ages of five and 12 months. Predominantly, the teeth emerge in the upper jaw two to three centimeters in front of the first cheek teeth. Wolf teeth can also erupt adjacent to the first cheek teeth and are present in both colts and fillies.

“The wolf teeth do not serve any real purpose for the horse, and, therefore, removing them does not pose any disruption to chewing,” said Dr. Glennon Mays, clinical assistant professor in the Large Animal Hospital at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences (CVM).

“Millions of years ago, horses were small, forest dwelling animals. They were browsers, not grazers, and the wolf teeth were more prominent because they helped horses eat twigs and brush,” Mays said. “But, now, there really isn’t any need for them in the modern horse.”

Because the wolf teeth are not necessary, and there is a possibility that they can interfere with bit placement in the mouth of performance horses, many horse trainers opt to have them removed before they can potentially cause pain for horses during training.

“The idea is to remove as many excuses as possible for unacceptable behavior in horses throughout the training process and during performance,” Mays said. “There is a common understanding that the name ‘wolf teeth’ is a connotation of ‘bad’ teeth, that it was the teeth’s reputation as bad that led to them being named wolf teeth.”

Even with this reputation as a negative, unneeded component of the mouth, owners do not always remove the teeth, especially in horses that do not have erupted wolf teeth or in horses that are not used for performance purposes.

“Removing wolf teeth is a decision you should make with your veterinarian,” Mays said. “The procedure is not particularly dangerous, but there are risks with any surgical procedure. There is the possibility of severing or damaging the palatine artery which can cause a great deal of blood loss. Or in horses with large, curved wolf teeth, the curvature of the tooth increases the possibility for complications.”

“Sedation and local anesthetic should be used to make the procedure safe and comfortable for the horse,” Mays said. “Recovery ranges from about a day to a week depending on the horse and size of the tooth being extracted.”

The actual extraction consists of cleaning and flushing the mouth, then using an elevator to cut the gum around the tooth, and then stretch the periodontal ligament in order to loosen the wolf tooth. The tooth is grasped and removed with forceps. Due to the fact that wolf teeth can be a variety of sizes and shapes, the procedure time varies from a couple of minutes to half an hour.

Mays recommended ensuring your horse is vaccinated for tetanus before the procedure. Adequate protection includes an initial vaccination, with a second booster administered four to six weeks following the initial vaccine, then another booster every two to four years. Tetanus bacteria thrive in small, usually hidden puncture-type wounds with little to no oxygen. Therefore, mouth wounds are a prime environment for tetanus bacteria to develop. Tetanus is usually fatal in horses, and mares are often overrepresented as being especially vulnerable (this is largely due to the fact that males are typically vaccinated for tetanus prior to castration).

ABOUT PET TALK

Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Stories can be viewed on the Web at <http://vetmed.tamu.edu/pet-talk>.

Suggestions for future topics may be directed to cvmtoday@cvm.tamu.edu.

numbers are: 45, 2, 39, 20 and 12.

ASTROLOGICAL INSIGHT: As Venus in playful Leo forms an auspicious angle to Uranus in Aries, the story of Venus’ unusual birth comes to mind. Unlike other gods and goddesses, Venus did not technically come from two parents. Rather, her birth occurred as a direct result of an incident a bit too gruesome to get into here. Suffice it to say there was a mishap involving Cronus, Uranus, a sharp instrument and the ocean. Uranus lost something very dear to him that day, but the Greek pantheon gained the loveliest goddess of all. Venus arose out of sea foam (her Roman name, “Aphrodite,” is synonymous with “sea foam”), and the beautiful long-haired maiden in her vehicular seashell was blown to shore by sweet zephyrs. Where her feet touched the sand, grass grew and flowers bloomed. Zeus had one look and said, “Here comes trouble.” That may or may not be a direct translation from the Greek.

This trine of Venus and Uranus will be felt through the 15th, as it highlights the more unusual and rebellious side of romance. Risking with your heart can be more dangerous than any other risk, but fortune favors your spontaneous expressions of love.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on “Write the Author” on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail.

	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	KWTT (14)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)
	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men Big Bang	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	King King	Shepherd's Heart	Charlie Rose	King King	American Guns	CSI: Miami	Auction Auction	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Un Refugio	Big Bang Big Bang	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	News News	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Mani	PBS News-Hour	Rules Rules	American Guns	Movie: The Green Mile, Michael Clarke Duncan	Auction Auction	The Mentalist	Movie: All About the Benjamins, Eva Mendes	Jessie	WNBA Basketball: Storm at Fever	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA.
7:PM	Middle Wheel	Por Ella Soy Eva	The X Factor	Big Brother	Rosa Diamante (SS)	America's/ Talent	Family Guy	Upd Chevalme	Great Performances at the Met	Oh Sit!	American Guns	Auction Auction	The Mentalist	Movie: Soul Men, Sharon Leal	ANT Farm Tinker Bell and the Lost	CrossFit Games		
8:PM	Mod Fam Suburg.	Abismo de Pasión		Criminal Minds	Corazón Valiente	America's/ Talent	Fam. Guy Big Bang	Light of the Southwest		Supernatural	Sons of Guns	Auction Auction	The Mentalist	Movie: Soul Men, Sharon Leal	Mater's Phineas	CrossFit	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA.	
9:PM	Revenge	La Que No	Simpsons How I Met	CSI: Crime Scene	Escobar Rostro de	Guys/ Practice	Big Bang			Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dirty Jobs Down	Auction Auction	The Mentalist	Movie: Soul Men, Sharon Leal	Vampire	CrossFit	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA.	
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met Raymond	News Letterman	Noticias Decisiones (SS)	News Jay Leno	Conan	McGee McDonald		Til Death	Sons of Guns	Auction Auction	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards	SportsCenter		
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Ferguson	Decisiones (SS)	Jimmy Fallon	Conan	Upd Light.	T. Smiley (Off Air)	70s Dirty Jobs Down	Auction Auction	CSI: NY	Movie: Soul Men, Sharon Leal	Deck	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter		
12:AM	Extra Mazda	Mar de Amor (SS)	Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Light.		Payne Focus 4	American Guns	Auction Auction	CSI: NY	Movie: Soul Men, Sharon Leal	Deck	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter	
1:AM	Paid Paid	La Jaula Par Ases	American TMZ	Ent Paid	Pagado	(:05) Today	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest		Wretched L. Tripp	Sons of Guns	Auction Auction	The Great Escape	Good	NFL Live	SportsCenter		

DENNIS THE MENACE

9-12

"MY DAD SAYS YOUR BILLS ARE MORE PAINFUL THAN HIS TOOTHACHE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

9-12

"Mommy, did you and Daddy get this Bible before or after we were begat?"

HAGAR

HAGAR, SVEN WANTS TO KNOW WHEN WE'RE GOING TO BE PAID...

TELL HIM TO BE PATIENT... I HAVE OTHER THINGS ON MY MIND

BC

WHAT'S WITH ALL THE BRIGHT COLORS?

IT KEEPS PREDATORS AWAY.

BLONDIE

MR. BUMSTEAD, I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO TELL YOU, WE SPLASHED A LITTLE BLEACH ON YOUR JACKET SLEEVE

OH, NO! NOT MY LUCKY JACKET AGAIN!

THE LAST TIME I BROUGHT MY LUCKY JACKET IN HERE, IT WENT MISSING FOR AN ENTIRE MONTH!

WELL, IT SURE SOUNDS TO ME LIKE YOUR LUCKY JACKET ISN'T LIVING UP TO ITS NICKNAME!

BLONDIE

WIZARD OF ID

WHAT KIND OF DRAGON IS HENRY?

WELL, HE'S PART EASTERN MOUNTAIN DRAGON

AND PART LABRADOR RETRIEVER

WIZARD OF ID

NEON AQUA WITH GHOST FLAMES?

IF YOU'RE GONNA DO IT, DO IT RIGHT.

AGNES

WHAT THE...?

THESE ARE EARTHWORMS FOREVER PRESERVED IN LIFELIKE POSES WITH THE WONDERFUL MAGIC OF TAXIDERMISTRY.

THESE TWELVE ARE RE-ENACTING A MOST BEAUTIFUL BALLET... SWAN LAKE.

IT LOOKS LIKE DRUNK WORMS HOPPING IN A CIRCLE.

THE TUTUS HAVEN'T BEEN ADDED YET.

AGNES

HI AND LOIS

YOUR BABY SISTER IS SO CUTE!

ALMOST AS CUTE AS YOU.

OH, CHIP.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FALL FOR THAT OLD LINE, ARE YOU?

HI AND LOIS

THE OTHER COAST

SHIPWRECK SURVIVOR, AND A DEDICATED PRACTITIONER OF THE 100-MILE DIET, LARRY REALIZES HE'S 1000 MILES FROM ANY LAND.

DANG!

THE OTHER COAST

SNUFFY SMITH

I HEAR YOU AN' DINAH ARE FEUDIN' AG'IN, ELVINEY !!

IT'S TRUE, LOWEEZY, AN' I GOTTA SAY IT FEELS RIGHT !!

MY DADDY ALWAYS SAID, YOU CAN'T MESS WIF TRADITION !!

SNUFFY SMITH

BEEBLE BAILEY

WHY ARE YOU STUCK ON BEEBLE? YOU COULD HAVE ANYONE YOU WANT

MAYBE

YOU HAVE BRAINS, BEAUTY AND CLASS. YOU SHOULD HAVE BETTER TASTE

THAT'S WHAT I NEED... BETTER TASTE!

BEEBLE BAILEY

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 12, the 256th day of 2012. There are 110 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 12, 1942, during World War II, a German U-boat off West Africa torpedoed the RMS Laconia, which was carrying Italian prisoners of war, British soldiers and civilians. The German crew, joined by other U-boats, began rescue operations. (On Sept. 16, the rescue effort came to an abrupt halt when the Germans were attacked by a U.S. Army bomber; some 1,600 people died while more than 1,100 survived. As a result, U-boat commanders were ordered to no longer rescue civilian survivors of submarine attacks.)

On this date:

In 1814, the Battle of North Point took place in Maryland during the War of 1812 as American forces slowed the advance of British troops on Baltimore.

In 1846, Elizabeth Barrett secretly married Robert Browning at St. Marylebone Church in London.

In 1910, Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 8, popularly known as the "Symphony of a Thousand," had its premiere in Munich, Germany, with Mahler conducting.

In 1938, Adolf Hitler demanded the right of self-determination for the Sudeten (soo-DAYT'-un) Germans in Czechoslovakia.

In 1943, German paratroopers took Benito Mussolini from the hotel where he was being held by the Italian government.

In 1960, Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy addressed questions about his Roman Catholic faith, telling a Southern Baptist group, "I do not speak for my church on public matters, and the church does not speak for me."

In 1972, the situation comedy "Maude" premiered on CBS.

In 1974, Emperor Haile Selassie (HY'-lee sehl-AH'-see) was deposed by Ethiopia's military after ruling for 58 years.

In 1977, South African black student leader Steve Biko

(BEE'-koh) died while in police custody, triggering an international outcry.

In 1992, the space shuttle Endeavour blasted off, carrying with it Mark Lee and Jan Davis, the first married couple in space; Mae Jemison, the first black woman in space; and Mamoru Mohri, the first Japanese national to fly on a U.S. spaceship. Police in Peru captured Shining Path founder Abimael Guzman. Actor Anthony Perkins died in Hollywood at age 60.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Dickie Moore ("Our Gang") is 87. Actor Freddie Jones is 85. Country singer George Jones is 81. Actor Ian Holm is 81. Actress Linda Gray is 72. Singer Maria Muldaur is 70.

Answer to previous puzzle

DOVE	STEM	PSALM
INON	LAVA	ENSUE
SILT	OXEN	GAURS
COVER	GIRLS	APES
SNORE	YORK	
	SNARE	SESAME
EMU	TRADE	TIRED
TOPOF	THE	MORNING
ALTAR	SNIDE	DUE
STOKES	STEAM	
	TEEM	DANCE
SPAR	CAPPIST	STOLS
TAXED	GOAT	TWOS
AILED	ISLE	EASE
BLESS	CHEM	DYES

Newsday Crossword

FRENCH IMPORTS by Norma Steinberg Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Hey you, over here!"
 - 5 Soaks up sun
 - 10 Greek salad topping
 - 14 After the bell
 - 15 Poet who inspired Cats
 - 16 Nutritional supplement
 - 17 Cutting-edge
 - 19 Happy tune
 - 20 Meditative practice
 - 21 Bistro list
 - 22 One's
 - 40 Across, so to speak
 - 24 Beckons to enter
 - 26 Kindly
 - 28 Actress Hathaway
 - 30 Impervious to appeals
 - 34 Eastern European
 - 37 Very bad
 - 39 OPEC member
 - 40 Coupe or convertible
 - 41 Shakes up
 - 43 Secluded valley
 - 44 Pigtail
 - 46 Very perceptive
 - 47 Takes home
 - 48 Dawn
 - 50 Martial arts school
 - 52 Supplies the meals for
 - 54 Decennial headcount
 - 58 Capital of Turkey

- DOWN**
- 1 Public square
 - 2 Puts in the bank
 - 3 Had a bad
 - 68 Across
 - 4 Decimal base
 - 61 Lotion ingredient
 - 63 Genesis project
 - 64 Author Morrison
 - 65 Pelican State capital
 - 68 Olfactory input
 - 69 Kicking partner
 - 70 One more time
 - 71 Measure (out)
 - 72 Units of heredity
 - 73 Crazes
 - 25 Social
 - 27 Strolled
 - 29 Brought forth
 - 31 Competent
 - 32 Russian refusal
 - 5 Newbie
 - 6 Astronaut Shepard
 - 7 Begets
 - 8 Beaten, in the ring
 - 9 Prepared, as prunes
 - 10 Steakhouse order
 - 11 Buffalo's lake
 - 12 Bridge-crossing cost
 - 13 Hill builders
 - 18 Clone
 - 23 Get better
 - 25 Social know-how
 - 27 Strolled
 - 29 Brought forth
 - 31 Competent
 - 32 Russian refusal
 - 33 Soaks up sun
 - 34 Suckers
 - 35 Amazing thing
 - 36 ___ all-time high
 - 38 Rink surface
 - 42 Summer treats
 - 45 Wedding cake layer
 - 49 Sailor's carry-on
 - 51 Boo at
 - 53 Glossy fabric
 - 55 Spa amenity
 - 56 Implored
 - 57 Turns suddenly
 - 58 Elemental unit
 - 59 Connection point
 - 60 Interlacing
 - 62 Troubador's topic
 - 66 Tavern order
 - 67 Clod

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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68				69						70			
71				72								73	



HERALD photo/Brian McCormack
Howard College student athletes (from left), Prince Williams, Destinee Thrash, Rico Richardson, Brittany Aikers, Jacob Thomas and Jakeyma Williams strike a pose during the inagural 'Meet the Hawks' event Tuesday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The public was invited to attend and get a chance to meet Howard College athletes and coaches. Refreshments and snacks were served and autographs were signed for children.

Buffalo's stadium talks stall

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Buffalo Bills CEO Russ Brandon says lease talks with the state and county have stalled, opening the possibility that a one-year interim deal will have to be reached for the team to keep playing at Ralph Wilson Stadium next season.

Brandon says while he's been prepared to continue talks, the team has encountered "a cone of silence" from the other side.

The Buffalo News first reported talks had stalled.

The lease expires in July. Tied to the deal are more than \$200 million the Bills are seeking in renovations and upgrades to the 39-year-old stadium.

Securing a long-term deal in July is in question because the Bills will miss a deadline this month to apply for an NFL loan assistance program to offset costs.

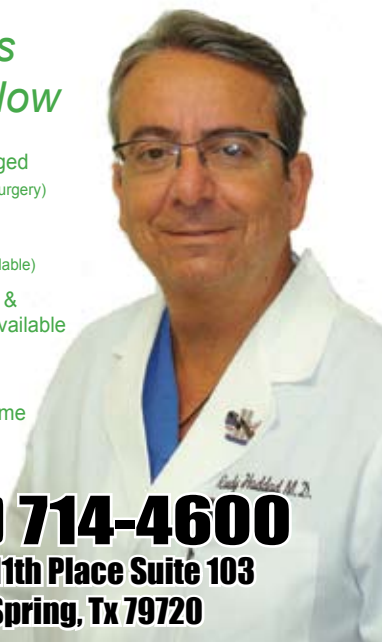
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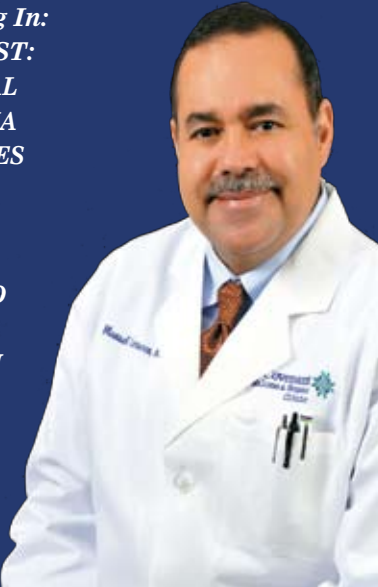
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For more information, or to reserve your FREE tickets, visit HowardCollege.edu or call Laura Hughes at 264-5063.

Healthy Woman is a free community resource from Scenic Mountain Medical Center designed to provide women of all ages with the information they need to maintain a healthy body, mind, and spirit. **Membership is free, and the benefits last a lifetime.**

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Astros edge Cubs 1-0

HOUSTON (AP) — Tony DeFrancesco believes rewarding his team for good performances is important.

So Houston's interim manager decided he would gift a pair of \$200 headphones to one standout player in each Astros win.

He left the ballpark Tuesday night \$1,000 lighter after handing out five pairs due to all the contributions in the 1-0 win over the Chicago Cubs.

"I want these guys to understand that performance is important here and keeping the culture in here and keeping the life," he said of his last-place team. "It's been a rough season for some of these guys and they've been beat down for almost two years and I'm just trying to keep them

positive and keep the energy."

Justin Maxwell, who drove in the game's only run on a sacrifice fly and made a play that kept Chicago from tying the game got a pair. Relievers Wilton Lopez, Wesley Wright, Xavier Cedeno and Jose Valdez also snagged the headphones.

Jimmy Paredes singled and scored an unearned run in the third inning to help in the win.

It was an otherwise tough night for the second baseman, who committed three errors. Paredes has started the last three games at second base with All-Star Jose Altuve out with an abdominal strain.

Houston starter Jordan Lyles (4-11) scattered two hits and struck out five.

Ambulance responds to Tech coach Gillispie's home again, school continues to investigate program

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — An ambulance was sent to the home of Texas Tech coach Billy Gillispie for the second time in 10 days while he remains on leave as the school investigates his leadership of the program.

Lubbock Police Sgt. Jeff Baker said Tuesday that the emergency call came from Gillispie's home around 6 p.m. Monday and that an ambulance was sent.

A spokesman for University Medical Center, where Gillispie earlier spent six days this month, said Gillispie did not come there. A spokeswoman for the other hospital in Lubbock said Gillispie was not brought there.

Gillispie, in a text message to The Associated Press late Tuesday, said he would be treated for high blood pressure "amongst other things," at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Texas Tech spokesman Blayne Beal said Gillispie told athletic director Kirby Hocutt he was going to the Minnesota medical facility

for treatment.

"We hope Billy Gillispie has a full recovery, but we cannot wait forever as we have a basketball team that starts practice soon," Hocutt said in a statement.

"In the meantime, associate head coach Chris Walker will assume the responsibility for day-to-day operations of our men's basketball program. Coach Walker will help ensure that leadership and accountability will be in place for our student-athletes, assistant coaches and staff."

Gillispie is on indefinite sick leave and Hocutt said he is no longer making day-to-day decisions for the basketball program so he can focus on his health.

"Nor is he to engage with our program in any way until he and I have a chance to sit down and talk face to face," Hocutt said.

On Aug. 31, Gillispie called 911 and was taken to the medical center. It was the same day he was supposed to meet with Hocutt to dis-

cuss allegations he had mistreated his players. The school has reported excessive practice-time violations to the NCAA and reprimanded Gillispie in January.

Gillispie told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal on Aug. 31 that he felt like he was having a heart attack or a stroke when he called 911. Doctors told Gillispie his blood pressure was dangerously high, the paper reported.

The school penalized itself for the practice overage, docking twice the number of hours that Gillispie had exceeded during a two-week period in October or 12 hours and 20 minutes.

An unidentified assistant coach was also reprimanded.

The NCAA allows 20 hours of practice per week.

Hocutt said the school continues to "work through the process" of looking into allegations players brought to him Aug. 29. Gillispie's assistant coaches, with Hocutt's oversight, are handling the program

for now.

Hocutt did not put a timetable on when he and Gillispie would meet.

"I can't anticipate given the other issues related to his health," he said.

"With basketball season officially starting practice in a month, the sooner the better."

Hocutt has declined to say whether Gillispie could be fired. He has said he was "very troubled" by the information players had given him.

Hired in March 2011, Gillispie came to Texas Tech after two years out of coaching.

The school and fans had hoped he could orchestrate another remarkable turnaround, like the ones he put together at UTEP and Texas A&M.

He went to Kentucky in 2007 but the school fired him in 2009 after it went 40-27 in his two seasons and missed the NCAA tournament for the first time in 17 years.

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