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MONDAY

OCTOBER 22, 2012



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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Jimmy Stewart, left, a member of the Mustang Draw Woodcarvers, talks with a local resident during the group's annual sale and show, which wrapped up over the weekend. See the Tuesday edition of the Herald for more on the woodcarvers and their local group.

Council to discuss energy pact, hear economic development info

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council will have a number of routine items before it when it meets Tuesday evening, including final approval of a franchise agreement with Atmos Energy Corporation.

The council approved first reading of the agreement during its Oct. 9 meeting on a unanimous vote.

The agreement — which expires at the end of October — is for 10 years and will net the city \$170,000 annually, according to City Fi-

nance Director Peggy Walker.

The franchise agreement comes on the heels of months of negotiations between the energy giant and several West Texas cities served by the company regarding a request for rate increases. According to Walker, the matter recently ended up before the Texas Railroad Commissioner, a last stop for disputes between energy providers and municipalities.

"In this case there were actually three factors because there was a group of cities, which Big Spring was part of, the energy company

and then Lubbock and Amarillo. They (Lubbock and Amarillo) were a separate entity within these negotiations because they had already established rates for their citizens, which were considerably lower than anyone else in West Texas. They fought tooth and nail to maintain those low rates. It was a very difficult process. I don't know how many meetings we had, conference calls, e-mails and communications back and forth."

According to Walker, Atmos

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

Shootings rock the city

By **BILL McCLELLAN**

Managing Editor

Gunfire erupted Sunday morning in what appears to be two unrelated altercations that sent a couple of people to an area hospital.

The two were among three people injured in a drive by shooting about 2 a.m. in the 1400 block of Mesa.

Ines Jesus Gonzales, 25, of Big Spring suffered a bullet wound to his right forearm and was airlifted to Lubbock. David Garza Jr., 27, of Big Spring suffered a bullet wound to his left lower leg and another to his buttocks. He was also airlifted to a Lubbock hospital.

A third victim, Abilene Mojica, 30, also of Big Spring, refused treatment after being

See **SHOOTINGS**, Page 3

Former mayor McEwen dies

Russ McEwen, longtime businessman and former councilman and mayor, died Sunday at his home. He was 63 years old.

A lifelong resident and Big Spring High School graduate, McEwen formed the Russ McEwen Agency in 1975. He served as a city councilman from 1981 until 1988 and as mayor from 2000 until 2010. Under his leadership, the community expanded the youth sports complex on Interstate 20, made numerous downtown renovations and built the water park in Comanche Trail Park.

He also worked with youth, coaching gymnastics teams to two national championships and numerous individuals to top 10 finishes. In 2011, McEwen was chosen at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year.

He is survived by his wife, three children and three grandchildren.

His services are being handled by Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. See Page 2 for a full obituary.



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Schools take their case to court again

By **WILL WEISSERT**

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A closely watched fight over how Texas funds its public schools heads to court Monday, where rich schools, poor schools and charter schools will try to convince a judge to declare the system unconstitutional.

The trial, the sixth legal battle of its kind since 1984, comes nearly 18 months after Texas lawmakers cut \$5.4 billion from public schools.

Lawyers say that simply re-

storing funding to levels prior to the 2011 legislative session won't be enough to fix a fundamentally flawed system. They point out the cuts have come even as the state requires schools to prepare students for standardized tests that are getting more-difficult — and amid a statewide boom in the number of low-income students who districts say are more costly to educate.

But they also concede that simply putting the money back would make things easier.

"That's not all it's about, but that would be a start," said John Turner, an attorney representing about 60 of the school districts suing.

The trial will be held in the Austin courtroom of Texas District Judge John Dietz and is expected to last into January. It involves six lawsuits filed since last October on behalf of about two-thirds of Texas school districts, which in turn educate around 75 percent of the state's roughly 5 million students.

Districts both in rich and

poor parts of the state are on the same side of the case. Texas' funding system relies heavily on property taxes and a "Robin Hood" scheme where districts with high property values or abundant tax revenue from oil or natural gas resources turn over part of the money they raise to poorer districts.

Many "property wealthy" districts say that while they are in better shape than their poorer counterparts, the

See **SCHOOLS**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Russ McEwen



Robert Russell McEwen III, 63, died Oct. 21, 2012, in Big Spring, Texas, at the home he shared with Laura, his wife of 43 years. A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2012, at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring, and a public viewing will be held from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2012 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

Russ was born May 21, 1949 in Big Spring to Robert and Nettie Jean McEwen. His father was a local businessman, and his mother was a loving wife and nurturing mother whose influence helped to mold a six-decade bond of friendship between Russ, his sister and his brother.

Russ graduated from Big Spring High School in 1967 and then attended college at Howard Junior College in Big Spring for two years. During his second year at Howard, Russ married his true love, Laura Suzanne Parks, on Dec. 27, 1968. Russ and Laura soon moved to Austin, where he attended the University of Texas and earned a bachelors of business administration in 1971. Several years later, Russ and Laura returned to Big Spring, the community he would proudly call home for the rest of his life. He established the Russ McEwen Agency in 1975, and it has continued strong for 37 years.

Russ had so many passions in life: anything involving the University of Texas; coaching gymnastics over a 20-year career that positively affected the lives of so many (he coached teams to two national championships and numerous individuals to national top 10 finishes); and proudly serving the great community of Big Spring on the city council from 1981 until 1988, as mayor from 2000 until 2010, and through other various civic capacities.

Russ's ultimate passion, however, was his family. He was a faithful servant of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He was a devoted, loving, and giving husband to the wife that he felt so lucky to have. He was a loving, caring, and influential father of three children. And he was simply the greatest Papa in the world to four grandchildren.

Russ is survived by his wife, Laura; son, Torbin McEwen; daughter, Kisa McEwen Stevens and son, Drew McEwen; grandchildren, River Stevens, Bella Stevens, Crichton McEwen and Kensington McEwen; his sister, Diane James McEwen; and brother, Scott McEwen.

Russ was preceded in death by his mother, father and infant brother, Carter McEwen.

Donations may be sent to the American Heart Association, P. O. Box 841125, Dallas, Texas 75284-1125, Big Spring Humane Society, P. O. Box 823, Big Spring, Texas 79721-0823 or to Trinity Baptist Church, P. O. Box 1448, Big Spring, Texas 79721-2448.

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

Paid obituary

Jeneane Perry

Jeneane Perry, 75, of the Lomax Community, died Friday, Oct. 19, 2012, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2012, at the First United Methodist Church in Stanton with the Rev. Curtis Cadenhead and the Rev. Monte Kreis officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22, 2012, at Gilbreath Funeral Home.

She was born March 4, 1937, in Haskell County, Texas, to Buck and Helen Turnbow and married Gene Perry Aug. 30, 1953 in Weinert, Texas.

She moved to the Lomax Community in 1957 and farmed along side her husband until retiring in 1998. Jeneane took great pride in her china painting, cooking and gardening and her greatest joy in life was her family.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church of Stanton.

Survivors include her husband, Gene Perry of the Lomax Community; one daughter and son-in-law, Carla and Roger Brooks of the Lomax Community; two granddaughters, Jody Roberts and husband Ross and their children, Jordan and Bryson of the Elbow Community and Lisa Baggerly and husband Scott and their son, Chandler of Teague; a nephew, Mike Byrd and his daughters, Brooke and Brandi of Abilene.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one son, Dirk Perry; and a sister, Peggy Byrd.

The family suggests memorials be made to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1193, Stanton, Texas 79782 or to Home Hospice, 111 E. 7th St., Suite A, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Monta Lee Beights



Monta Lee Beights passed away Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, in Midland, Texas. She was born in Waco, Texas, to Monta and Tom Glenn. She graduated from Marlin High School and attended Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. She married V. Rex Beights Nov. 29, 1956 in Vernon, Texas.

Her life was filled with a variety of interesting positions with various oil companies, retiring from Hilliard Oil and Gas as an administrative assistant. She also managed Midland Village Apartments and Silver Creek Apartments for more than 14 years. Her sharp mind and quick wit provided many hours of conversation with her friends and family. We will all miss her mischievous spirit and youthful joy.

She is preceded in death by her parents, one brother, Thomas R. Glenn Jr., and her son, James "Jim" Beights.

She is survived by one daughter, Teresa "Teri" Roach of Lubbock; granddaughter, Amber Roach of Lubbock; four great-grandchildren and special friends, Debbie and Gary Bayes, Shuanna and Thomas Schroeder, Jessica Harkins, Amanda and Samantha Bayes.

There will be a visitation, Monday, Oct. 22, 2012, at Ellis Funeral Home from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2012, at 10 a.m. at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel, 801 Andrews Highway, Midland, TX. Interment will follow at the Eternal Love Mausoleum.

Memorials may be made to the High Sky Children's Ranch, 8701 west county road 60, Midland, TX 79706.

Online condolences may be made at www.ellisfunerals.com

Paid obituary

Police blotter

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

- GARRETT WAYNE ROBBINS, 18, of 138 Jonesboro, was arrested Sunday on two warrants from other agencies.
- EDDIE JAY WHITE, 20, of 1501 W. Cherokee, was arrested Sunday on a warrant for disregarding a stop sign.
- CLAUDIA C. LUJAN-RECIO, 21, of 1005 S. Nolan, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- ANTONIO GARCIA JR., 24, of 1208 Wood, was arrested Sunday on charges of driving while intoxicated, in park after hours and failure to appear.
- ALBERTO REY GUTIERREZ, 29, of Dickinson, Texas, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- SHOTS FIRED was reported in the 400 block of Wright.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 600 block of State Street.
- THEFT was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 4100 block of Dixon.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1600 block of E. FM 700.
- BURGLARY was reported in the 100 block of Terry Road.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 73 inmates at the time of this report.

- KEVIN LAMONT WILLIAMS, 40, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana in a drug free zone — two ounces or less.
- DANIEL ANCHONDO, 24, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.
- DARRELL DAVID BROWN, 40, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to adjudicate guilt for possession of a controlled substance.
- DONNI KAY ROBERTSON, 27, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- CHACE JOSHUA GRAHAM, 28, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a Burleson County warrant for bond forfeiture — unlawful possession of a firearm and an Austin parole warrant.
- MICHAEL LEE MORRIS, 24, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on charges of running a red light, violation of a promise to appear and Garza County warrants for assault causing bodily injury (two counts).
- GILBERT GONZALES, 23, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on municipal capias warrants for displaying expired registration and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- LUIS MIGUEL LOPEZ, 29, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a charge of harassment and municipal warrants for driving while license invalid and failure to appear.
- ADRIAN LEE HILARIO, 25, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on charges of running a stop sign, expired motor vehicle inspection certificate and violation of a promise to appear (two counts).

Today's Weather

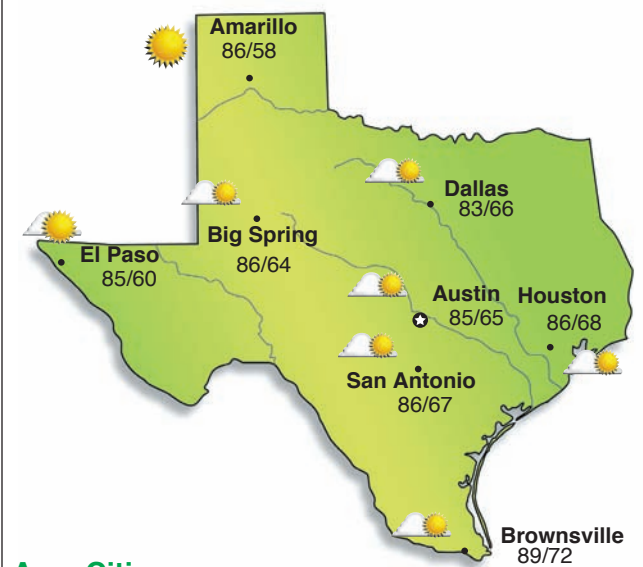
Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 10/24	Thu 10/25	Fri 10/26	Sat 10/27	Sun 10/28
86/64 Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	84/62 Sunny. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 40s.	83/54 Few showers. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 40s.	65/44 Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 40s.	60/42 Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 40s.
Sunrise: 7:56 AM Sunset: 7:04 PM	Sunrise: 7:57 AM Sunset: 7:03 PM	Sunrise: 7:58 AM Sunset: 7:02 PM	Sunrise: 7:58 AM Sunset: 7:01 PM	Sunrise: 7:59 AM Sunset: 7:00 PM



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Texas At A Glance



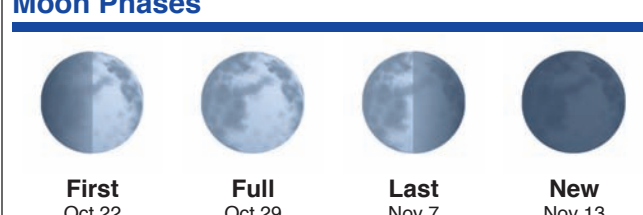
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	84	64	pt sunny	Kingsville	90	70	mst sunny
Amarillo	86	58	sunny	Livingston	85	64	pt sunny
Austin	85	65	pt sunny	Longview	83	63	pt sunny
Beaumont	84	67	pt sunny	Lubbock	86	59	pt sunny
Brownsville	89	72	pt sunny	Lufkin	84	65	pt sunny
Brownwood	86	64	pt sunny	Midland	88	65	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	86	72	mst sunny	Raymondville	90	69	pt sunny
Corsicana	83	64	pt sunny	Rosenberg	86	67	pt sunny
Dallas	83	66	pt sunny	San Antonio	86	67	pt sunny
Del Rio	86	70	pt sunny	San Marcos	86	65	pt sunny
El Paso	85	60	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	83	66	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	89	65	sunny	Sweetwater	84	64	pt sunny
Gainesville	82	64	pt sunny	Tyler	83	65	pt sunny
Greenville	82	63	pt sunny	Weatherford	82	63	pt sunny
Houston	86	68	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	84	65	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	78	51	sunny	Minneapolis	65	56	cloudy
Boston	64	48	rain	New York	66	58	rain
Chicago	71	61	t-storm	Phoenix	83	62	pt sunny
Dallas	83	66	pt sunny	San Francisco	59	54	pt sunny
Denver	73	43	pt sunny	Seattle	51	39	pt sunny
Houston	86	68	pt sunny	St. Louis	81	63	pt sunny
Los Angeles	70	54	sunny	Washington, DC	78	60	pt sunny
Miami	84	76	rain				

Moon Phases



• GARRETT WAYNE ROBBINS, 18, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on charges of speeding and violation of a promise to appear.

• HOMER BAEZA PRIETO, 19, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on charges of minor in consumption of alcohol and criminal mischief — more than \$1,500 and less than \$2,000.

• JACK LARRY CALK JR., 40, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• ALBERTO RAY GUTIERREZ, 29, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

• ANTONIO GARCIA JR., 24, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated and municipal capias warrants for in park after hours and failure to appear.

• CLAUDIA LUJAN-RECIO, 21, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• EDDIE JAY WHITE, 20, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a municipal warrant for running a stop sign.

• JUSTON MARTINEZ, 27, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, deadly conduct — discharge of a firearm and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

• ANDREW JOSEPH KELLER, 26, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

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NEXT CLINIC VISIT 10-24-12

Take Note

- An account has been set up at Western Bank for Kristen Lasater and family, who lost their home to a house fire. The account number, for those wanting to make a donation, is 1004597.
- An account has been set up at Citizen's Credit Union for Emma Leos, who was recently diagnosed with colon cancer.
- Jo Anna Bailey, an aide for many years at Washington Elementary School, has been diagnosed with cancer. A medical donation account has been established for her at the Big Spring Education Credit Union, located at 1110 Benton. Your generosity will enable her to have much-needed tests and treatment.
- Compass Hospice is in need of your help. If you would be interested in offering your love and God's comfort to those who are suffering, or to their families, contact Michelle Coutermarsh at 263-5999 or come by 602 S. Main. Volunteers are needed in many categories including patient care. You may give as much or as little time as you wish. Any amount of time is greatly appreciated. Training is offered free of charge.
- An account has been established at Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union in the name of Glenda Berger, who was recently diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. Donations will

- be used to help defer medical costs and mounting bills. All donations are greatly appreciated. Call Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union at 800-299-6761.
- The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council needs assistance in The Chalet Resale Shoppe, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shoppe is a fast-paced retail shop specializing in gently worn clothing and small household appliance. Volunteers are needed to sort, price, check out and stock donated items. Volunteer hours are flexible. The Chalet is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, contact Jamey Stegall at james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us or 432-268-7535.
- Every Friday night from 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. is dance night at the Senior Citizen Center. The cost is \$8 per person.
- An account has been established at American State Bank to help defray medical expense for Brad "Ghost" Ugstad, a local resident who was severely injured in a motorcycle accident. All donations will be appreciated.
- Mobile Meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you can donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209

- Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and get two for one plus a rehab meeting.
- Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.
- Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help. We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.
- The Salvation Army is holding its annual fan drive and is in need of fans. Community members can donate new or used fans. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid

- mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. The Homeowner's HOPE hotline is a counseling service provided by HPF to work with you to find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Free free foreclosure help, call the hotline.
- The Salvation Army has funding for Texas Military Personnel now serving or has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The military member or their family member may apply at 811 W. Fifth St. or call 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.
- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.
- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Suzy Milliken at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

SHOOTINGS

Continued from Page 1

grazed in the rib area by an apparent bullet. Police said a party had been going on at the residence. "It appears that prior to the shooting there had been a fight between two males and some of

the other party guests," said Det. Sgt. Tony Everett, Big Spring Police Department public information officer. "The two males left the party and within 30 minutes, the shooting took place." Everett said no arrests have been made. It is believed two weapons were used in the assault.

A separate incident just prior to 12:30 a.m. Sunday, has a Plainview man under arrest and being held for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, deadly conduct and possession of a firearm by a felon. Juston Louis Martinez is awaiting arraignment in the Howard County Detention Center. Fur-

ther charges are pending, according to police. Police got the call at 12:24 a.m. that shots had been fired in the 1300 block of Madison. According to reports, Martinez had a gun he had been showing to a group of people when one of the onlookers commented that the gun looked familiar.

"At that point, Martinez pointed the gun at the group and told everyone to stay back and he backed away. He fired one round which struck an unoccupied vehicle," Everett said. "He then entered a vehicle that was occupied by three other subjects. He allegedly pointed the gun at the driver and the

vehicle left the area." Everett said witnesses at the scene believed Martinez had stolen the gun from a house next door. Police spotted the vehicle at about 2 p.m. Martinez was arrested and the weapon recovered. Police are still investigating both cases.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

was requesting a rate increase estimated at \$11.6 million. Despite the breakdown in negotiations — which ultimately led to the matter going before the Texas Railroad Commission — an agreement has been reached. "We have reached a negotiation," Walker said. "Atmos did not get the amount of money they were requesting and we

agreed on a much lower amount. All of that rate increase, that additional revenue, will be absorbed by the residents of Lubbock and Amarillo. They brought that right up to the agreement they presented to the Railroad Commission and they presented testimony and pleadings at the commission. However, it was a unanimous agreement that has been approved. "Our citizens basically will see no increase with some slight varia-

tions based on service charges. Base rates will go up, which was approved by the Railroad Commission, however, the commodity charge has gone down considerably. When you add those two together, your gas bill should be fairly identical to what it's been in the past." Walker said approval of the franchise agreement with Atmos will not cause a change in rates for Big Spring customers. "The city has the op-

tion to come back at a specific interval and renegotiate the franchise fee," Walker said. "However, Atmos has made it clear that any increase in the franchise fee will be passed on to the customers, which are the citizens of Big Spring." Also during Tuesday night's meeting, the council is to consider: A presentation from the Texas comptroller's Office providing an overview of Type A and Type B economic development corporations.

- First reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 6 of the city code entitled "Cemeteries, Parks and Recreations" to permit concessions stands to be locked with keys provided by the city and providing a \$100 fee for failure to return the keys.
- Approval of professional services to be provided by Parkhill, Smith & Cooper for engineering and architect services for the Western Container Building office addition.

- Negotiation of a new lease with Western Container. Tuesday's meeting is to get under way at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street. For more information, call 264-2401. Also, a complete copy of the meeting agenda can be found online at www.mybigspring.com

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

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 1

system still starves them of funding since local voters who would otherwise support property tax increases to bolster funding for their schools refuse to do so, knowing that most of the money would be sent somewhere else. Also suing are charter schools, who want state funding for their facilities, and a small number of parents.

its students a general diffusion of knowledge, such a result, while unacceptable, does not render the entire public school system unsuitable." Whatever Dietz decides is likely to be appealed to the state Supreme Court. If the courts rule against the state, it will be up to the Legislature to remake the system — but a high-

court ruling may not come in time to tackle the issue during next year's legislative session, said David Thompson, lead attorney for the group of plaintiffs led by Fort Bend ISD. Thompson said "there is no magic bullet" for fixing school finance in Texas, but added, "I would hope, if nothing

else, we don't see additional cuts." Abbott's office stands little chance of prevailing, if history is any guide. The Texas Supreme Court ruled in 1989 that the school finance system was unconstitutional because students in rich and poor districts alike "must be afforded

a substantially equal opportunity to have access to educational funds." After subsequent overhauls by the Legislature, the high court

again found the school finance systems unconstitutional in 1991, 1992 and 2005.

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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J. W. "Bill" McClendon, 88, died Thursday. Funeral services were at 10 a.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

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World briefs

Obama and Romney seek foreign policy edge in final campaign debate

WASHINGTON (AP) — Still neck-and-neck after all these months, Barack Obama and Mitt Romney head into their third and final debate with each man eager to project an aura of personal strength and leadership while raising doubts about the steadiness and foreign policy credentials of the other guy.

Each is aiming for a commanding performance Monday to settle the seesaw dynamics of the first two debates: Romney gave Obama an old-fashioned shellacking in the first round, and the chastened president rebounded in their second encounter.

The 90-minute faceoff at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Fla., offers the candidates their last opportunity to stand one-on-one before tens of millions of Americans and command their undivided attention before next month's election. Both candidates largely dropped out of sight and devoted their weekends to debate preparations, a sure sign of the high importance they attach to the event.

While the principals warm up for their evening debate in the battleground state of Florida, their running mates will be busy Monday seeking votes in two of the eight other states whose up-for-grabs electoral votes will determine the next president — Vice President Joe Biden in Ohio and Republican Rep. Paul Ryan in Colorado. Also still hotly contested: Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada, North Carolina, Wisconsin and Virginia.

It fell to campaign surrogates on Sunday talk shows to frame the foreign policy matters that moderator Bob Schieffer will put before the candidates in a discussion sure to reflect "how dangerous the world is in which we live," as the CBS newsman put it. Iran's nuclear intentions, the bloody crack-down in Syria, economic angst in Europe, security concerns in Afghanistan, China's growing power — all that and more are on the agenda.

Wisconsin gunman had history of abuse

BROOKFIELD, Wis. (AP) — A Wisconsin man accused of opening fire at the salon where his wife worked, killing three women and wounding four others, had a history of domestic abuse, with allegations that he had slashed his wife's tires a few weeks earlier, police said.

Radcliffe Franklin Haughton damaged his wife's tires on Oct. 4, Brookfield police said. She sought court protection four days later, and a judge granted a four-year restraining order on Thursday. As part of the order, Haughton was prohibited from owning a firearm.

Texas briefs

Testimony to start in Waco capital murder trial

WACO, Texas (AP) — Testimony was set to begin in the capital murder trial of a 23-year-old Waco man accused in the shooting deaths of two people last year.

Ricky Cummings faces the death penalty or life in prison without parole if convicted of capital murder. Testimony is expected to start Monday in state district court. Cummings is accused in the March 2011 shooting deaths of 17-year-old Tyus Sneed and 20-year-old Keenan Hubert at an apartment complex.

The Waco Tribune-Herald reports that (<http://bit.ly/VuqABU>) Sneed and Hubert were sitting in the back seat of a car when multiple suspects allegedly

opened fire. Two other men in the front seats suffered multiple gunshot wounds but were able to flee.

Judge Ralph Strother says he expects the trial to last at least two weeks.

Fort Worth theater reopens after renovation

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Fort Worth's historic Ridglea Theater has reopened after being closed for more than two years for renovations.

The 62-year-old theater, which has been a movie house and a concert venue during its history, reopened Saturday. The theater, which features large lobby murals, will now be a multipurpose venue for movies, concerts and private events.

Jerry Shults paid an undisclosed amount in late 2010 to save the theater from the wrecking ball. Shults tells the Fort Worth Star-Telegram (<http://bit.ly/VquziM>) that the outside neon has been redone, the roof is new and the theater is painted as it was in 1950. The balcony isn't yet complete but is back to its full size after having been split in two during the late 1980s to form two upstairs theaters.

mock celebration of a dream defeated.

It was November 1972 and George McGovern had just been whipped in a landslide by Richard Nixon.

McGovern, who died Sunday at age 90, was the earnest son of a minister, raised on a South Dakota farm. He wasn't a longhair and he wasn't charismatic, not a man you'd expect to win the loyalty of rock stars or win the heart of Hoffman, the Yippie prankster who just four years earlier had suggested a pig should run for president and said what America needed was nonstop sex in the streets.

But the candidate's steady liberal principles, and the timing of his run, made McGovern the first presidential nominee of a major political party to attract a broad and public following from the rebels who had come of age the decade before.

"He was the first candidate I voted for," says the activist and historian Todd Gitlin, who was in his late 20s at the time. "I think the support he got was a sign that the era of radical obstinacy was over."

Rock on: George McGovern's candidacy a landmark for counterculture

NEW YORK (AP) — Abbie Hoffman sobbed that fateful night at the downtown Manhattan apartment of fellow activist Jerry Rubin. So did Rubin and Allen Ginsberg. John Lennon was drunk, and out of control, shouting "Up the Revolution!" in

Clintons visit Haiti to inaugurate controversial industrial park that seeks to develop north

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — The Haitian government is hosting Hillary and Bill Clinton, a delegation of foreign investors and a crowd of celebrities Monday to showcase the marquee project of the U.S. aid effort since the 2010 earthquake.

It's an industrial park, more than a hundred miles from the slowly recovering quake zone. The Clintons and their allies hope the \$300 million facility will transform the northern part of this impoverished country by providing thousands of desperately needed jobs.

Some Haitians have a sharply different view. They say the Caracol Industrial Park does little more than replicate failed efforts from the past and contend it will benefit outsiders more than Haitians. They also worry it will harm some of the few pieces of undamaged environment that still exist in Haiti.

The star turnout for the opening — Sean Penn, who has run his own aid effort in Haiti, actor Ben Stiller and supermodel Petra Nemacova are among those expected to participate — speaks to an eagerness to show concrete results in a country where progress is hard to find amid stalled reconstruction projects.

"It's really all-in on this project, and there's a high bar to deliver," said Laurent Dubois, a historian who teaches at Duke University and is author of "Haiti: The Aftershocks of History." "It really needs to deliver in a big way so that people will think, yeah, this was the right thing to do."

Body of missing boater found in North Texas lake

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Searchers have found the body of a 51-year-old boat captain a week after his 26-foot cabin cruiser capsized on a North Texas lake.

The man's found was found early Sunday morning. Twelve people had been on board when the boat was apparently hit by a wave on Oct. 14 on Eagle Mountain Lake, located just north of Fort Worth. Witnesses had seen the captain swimming back to the cruiser after it took on water.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram (<http://bit.ly/QBu5kk>) reports that the Tarrant Regional Water District says the man's name has not been released pending notification of family members. The district's officers, joined by state game wardens, had been searching for the boater 12 hours a day since he went missing.

State Fair of Texas closes run for this year

DALLAS (AP) — The State Fair of Texas — marked this year by the loss of the towering, cowboy-hat-wearing Big Tex in a fire — may surpass the all-time high spent in previous years on food and amusement rides.

The fair ended Sunday. The current record was set in 2010 at \$37.3 million.

State Fair president Errol McKoy says this year's fair could be close to that. He says, "It's just too close to call at this point."

The fair this year included a Chinese Lantern Festival and an exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scouts.

On Friday, the 52-foot-tall Big Tex was destroyed by fire due to an electrical malfunction. But officials say Big Tex will be restored and will be back for next year's fair.

Bill Clinton to rally Democrats in San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Former President Bill Clinton is coming to Texas to campaign for Democratic congressional hopeful Pete Gallego, who's locked in one of the state's few competitive races.

Gallego spokesman Rebecca Acuna says Clinton will hold a rally for the state lawmaker Thursday at South San Antonio High School. Gallego is trying to unseat Republican U.S. Rep. Francisco Canseco in the sprawling 23rd Congressional District.

The race is among only a handful of toss-ups in Texas as the Nov. 6 election approaches.



Contract
Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH			
♠—			
♦AK 10 8 7 6 3 2			
♥Q 9			
♣Q 10 2			
WEST		EAST	
♠AKQ 8 4 2		♠10 9 6 5	
♥9		♥—	
♦J 10 4		♦8 6 5 3	
♣J 7 6		♣AK 9 8 4	
SOUTH			
♠J 7 3			
♥Q J 5 4			
♦AK 7 2			
♣5 3			

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1♥ 1♠ 2 NT 3♥
 Dble 3♠ 4♥ 4♠
 Pass Pass 5♥ 5♠
 Pass Pass 6♥ Pass
 Pass Dble
 Opening lead — king of spades.

In a duplicate tournament, where pairs move from table to table, the potential always exists for a pair to stray off course and wind up in the wrong seats. When this occurs, the mistake is usually discovered before the errant pair begins play at the wrong table. If the error is not discovered early enough, however, the offenders are likely to be penalized.

Probably no pair ever paid a greater penalty than the East-West duo in today's deal, which occurred

in the Master Pairs Championship in 1944. The bidding shown occurred at Table A-1, where Howard Schenken and John Crawford were seated North-South. East-West belonged at Table 1, but in another section.

Having already begun to play when the error was discovered, East-West were compelled by the tournament director to finish the hand out. This proved to be a severe penalty indeed, for Crawford brought in the doubled slam to score a cold top!

Schenken's jump to two notrump after South's skimpy one-heart opening was an attempt to intimidate the opponents and keep them out of the bidding. But East-West kept right on bidding spades until Schenken bid six hearts.

The opening spade lead was ruffed in dummy, after which Crawford ran all of dummy's hearts. On the last trump, East, down to four diamonds and the A-K of clubs, was unable to guard both suits. If he threw a club, declarer would lead a low club and make the slam, so East discarded a diamond.

Crawford thereupon cashed four diamonds, bringing his total to 12 tricks. But that was not quite the end of it. During the play, West had let go of all his spades. So Crawford took the last trick with the jack of spades to make the slam with an overtrick!

It is doubtful that this particular East-West pair ever strayed to the wrong table again.

Tomorrow: A stitch in time saves nine.
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sudoku

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

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

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Cowboys, Romo helped by 'D' in win over Carolina

STEVE REED

AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — It's been awhile since the Dallas Cowboys relied this heavily on their defense.

But that's exactly what coach Jason Garrett did in Dallas' 19-14 win over the Carolina Panthers on Sunday.

Faced with a third-and-4 at the Carolina 18 and the Cowboys leading by two points, Garrett elected to run the ball and kick a field goal rather than try to deliver a knockout punch with his offense. In so doing, he put his defense on the field with 53 seconds left to close out the game.

They answered the call, stopping the Panthers at midfield.

Garrett said he made the decision to run the ball because he was confident his defense, ranked second in the league, could hold the Panthers.

"We trust our defense immensely," Garrett said. "Our defense is

outstanding and they've played great all year long."

"Defensively, when we were out there it's all about closing the game," defensive end DeMarcus Ware said. "(Garrett) having the confidence in the defense and saying OK we're going to kick a field goal and leave you guys out there, I know you guys are ready for this challenge."

While Tony Romo would have loved a chance to throw the ball at that point, he said he agreed with the call.

"You weigh what covers they've been playing throughout the day," Romo said. "You also look at how well your defense has played throughout the day. ... It's very hard to be in their position, 53 seconds left, and you need a touchdown."

Romo knows how to win a close game, something Cam Newton and the Carolina Panthers

See **COWBOYS**, Page 10

Texans get first win over Ravens

KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — It looks like the Houston Texans' defense will be just fine without Brian Cushing.

The Texans scuffled a week ago in their first game without the star linebacker, but bounced back Sunday with a dominant defensive performance in a 43-13 win over the Baltimore Ravens.

Matt Schaub threw for two touchdowns, Arian Foster ran for two and the Houston had a score and added a safety to help Houston bounce back from a 42-24 loss to Green Bay last week.

"When you lose (Cushing) and all of the sudden you come in last week, it's human nature to say: 'OK, how are we going to be?' coach Gary Kubiak said. "We walked out here and didn't feel good about it last week. What we found out today, we can still play great defense and expect to do that the rest of the year."

Defensive coordinator Wade Phillips said the team needed a game like this to forget about last week.

"We wanted to come out and make a statement," Phillips said. "I thought it was a great game for us."

The win leaves the Texans (6-1) with the best record in the AFC entering their bye week.

"I think a lot of people were just seeing how we

See **TEXANS**, Page 10



Houston's Antonio Smith celebrates his sack of Baltimore QB Joe Flacco with teammates Tim Dobbins and Danieal Manning. The Texans' 43-13 win over the Ravens gave them a 6-1 record — the best in the AFC.

AP photo

Critics of G.M. Ireland coming around with progression of Miami, QB Tannehill's play

STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer

DAVIE, Fla. — Watching a mid-week practice, Miami Dolphins general manager Jeff Ireland is chatting with several other spectators when the subject turns to the presidential debate the previous night.

Ireland, a debate team member in high school, says he found the event engaging but doesn't offer an evaluation of the participants. As with his own performance, he leaves the critiquing to others.

For the past several seasons, Ireland has been the No. 1 subject of disputation among Dolphins' fans, with many contending he's the primary culprit for the franchise's failings. The ongoing conversation takes place without his involvement, because he rarely speaks publicly, but a staunch defender of Ireland has come forward this season: his team.

The Dolphins' steady improvement suggests Ireland — with considerable help from new coach Joe Philbin — may finally have things headed in the right direction. Miami is 3-3 and in a four-way tie for the AFC East lead, and following a bye this week, the Dolphins will take a two-game winning streak into their road game Oct. 28 against the New York Jets.

"Kind of the fun part about where we're at, to a certain degree, is we've got a big division road game," Philbin said. "We've never had one before."

He didn't really mean the Dolphins have never had one before; it just seems that way. They finished below .500 each of the past three years, a new low for a franchise that hasn't won a play-off game since 2000 and hasn't reached the Super Bowl since 1984.

The recent results are reflected

in shrinking attendance. Instead of buying tickets, fans vent about Ireland, a Bill Parcells protege in his fifth year with Miami.

At last season's finale, a small plane tugged a banner calling for the GM to be fired. Then, more than two dozen frustrated fans gathered outside the Dolphins' complex one day last offseason to protest the way the team was being run, with some holding signs that read "FIRELAND."

Comedian and Dolphins fan Daniel Tosh complained about Ireland on Twitter. So did Pittsburgh Steelers safety Ryan Clark, unsuccessfully courted as a free agent by Miami. A rogue edit to Ireland's Wikipedia entry briefly appeared describing him as "the most incompetent human being in the history of existence."

Frustration grew when owner Stephen Ross stuck with his

See **CRITICS**, Page 10

UCI agrees to strip Armstrong of his titles

GENEVA (AP) — Lance Armstrong was stripped of his seven Tour de France titles and banned for life by cycling's governing body Monday following a report from the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency that accused him of leading a massive doping program on his teams.

UCI President Pat McQuaid announced that the federation accepted the USADA's report on Armstrong and would not appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

"Lance Armstrong has no place in cycling and he deserves to be forgotten in cycling," McQuaid said at a news conference. The

decision clears the way for Tour de France organizers to officially remove Armstrong's name from the record books, erasing his consecutive victories from 1999-2005.

Armstrong's representatives had no immediate comment.

USADA said Armstrong should be banned and stripped of his Tour titles for "the most sophisticated, professionalized and successful doping program that sport has ever seen" within his U.S. Postal Service and Discovery Channel teams.

Under the penalties, he loses all his race results since August 1998.

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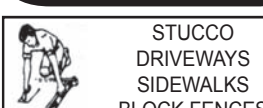
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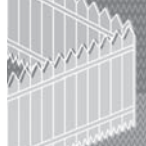
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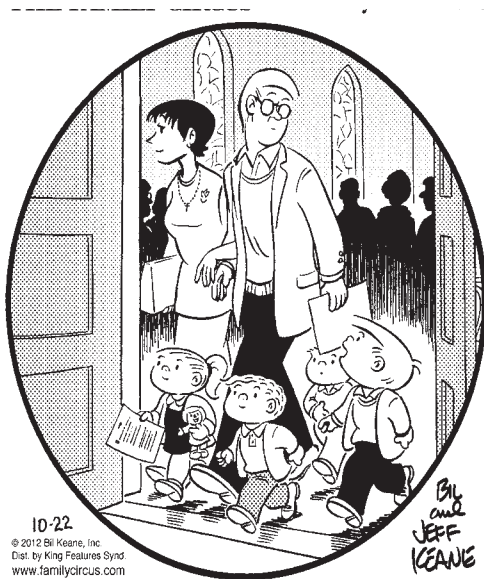
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5 :PM	News ABC	Casa	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias	News King	King	Uri Harel	Charlie Rose	King	Almost, Away	Legged Freaks, Scott Terra	CSI: Crime Scene	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Make Good	NFL32	SportCtr
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Un Refugio	Big Bang	News	Caso Cerado	News	Seinfeld	McDonald	PBS News-Hour	Rules	American Chopper	Movie: Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace	The Mentalist	The Mentalist	Jessie	Good Around	Night Count-down	
7 :PM	Dancing/Stars	Por Ella Soy Eva	MLB Baseball	Ent	How I Met Partners	Rosa Diamante (SS)	The Voice	Fam. Guy	Antiques Roadshow	90210	American Chopper	Movie: Halloween, Nancy Loomis	The Mentalist	The Mentalist	Movie: Baby Boy, A.J. Johnson	Gravity	E:60	
8 :PM	Presidential Debate	Abismo de Pasión		Presidential Debate	Corazón Valiente	Presidential Debate	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	Presidential Debate	Gossip Girl	American Chopper	Movie: Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace	The Mentalist	The Mentalist	Movie: Girl vs. Monster	(7:50) 30 for 30	NFL Football: Detroit Lions at Chicago Bears.	
9 :PM		Amor Bravo (SS)	How I Met		Rostro de		Fam. Guy	Conan	House	Seinfeld	American Chopper	Movie: Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace	The Mentalist	CSI: NY	Sleep! Game	ANT Farm	SportCtr	
10 :PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Mani	Charlie Rose	'Til Death	American Chopper	Movie: Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards	Baseball		
11 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Al Diablo	Law Order: CI	Ferguson	Debate	Presidencial (SS)	Jimmy Fallon	Office	World	'70s	American Chopper	Movie: Halloween, Nancy Loomis	Repo	Major Crimes	Good	Baseball	SportsCenter	
12 :AM	Extra	Mar de Amor (SS)	Raymond	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd	Browns	American Chopper	Movie: Cry Wolf, Jared Padalecki	Repo	Major Crimes	Good	Baseball	Tonight	SportsCenter	
1 :AM	(07) Weaving Life	Par Ases	TMZ	Paid	Paid													

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I USED TO THINK I'D LIKE MORE KIDS, BUT NOW, ONE SEEMS TO BE PLENTY."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



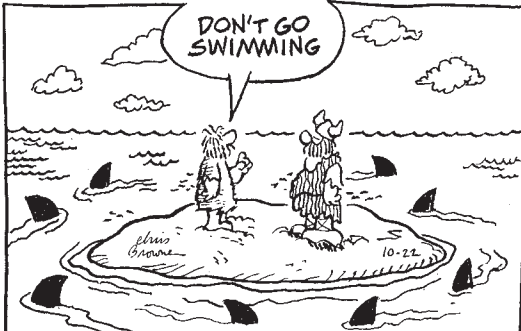
"When we sing the hymns, I think it's best for me to just be a listener."

HAGAR



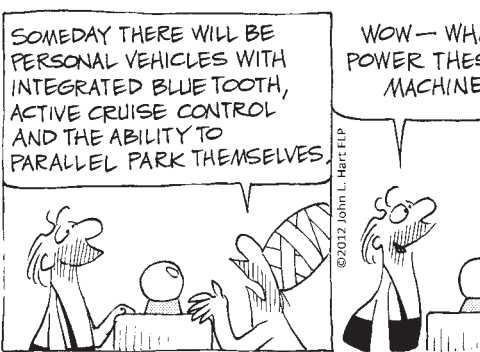
I'VE BEEN MAROONED ON THIS ISLAND FOR TWO LONG YEARS!

BLONDIE

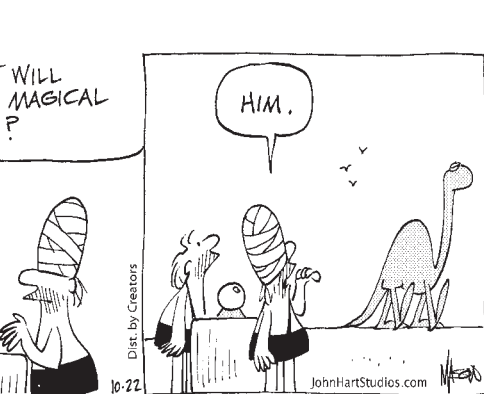


DON'T GO SWIMMING

BC

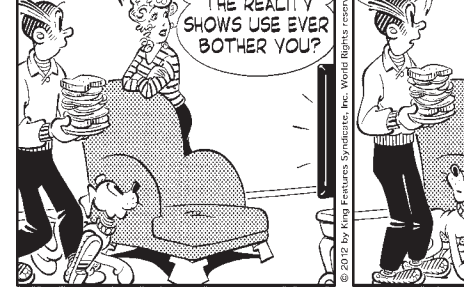


SOMEDAY THERE WILL BE PERSONAL VEHICLES WITH INTEGRATED BLUE TOOTH, ACTIVE CRUISE CONTROL AND THE ABILITY TO PARALLEL PARK THEMSELVES.

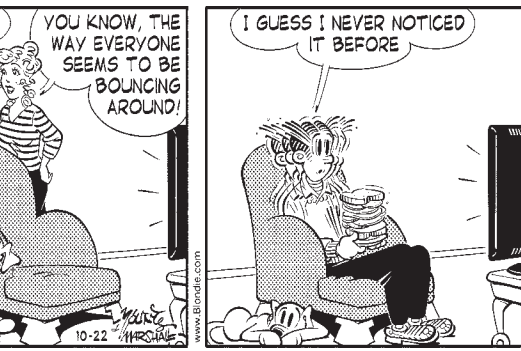


WOW - WHAT WILL POWER THESE MAGICAL MACHINES?

BLONDIE



HONEY, DON'T THOSE HAND-HELD CAMERA ANGLES THE REALITY SHOWS USE EVER BOTHER YOU?



I GUESS I NEVER NOTICED IT BEFORE

WIZARD OF ID



OUR DEBT IS SPIRALING OUT OF CONTROL... THIS GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN SPENDING LIKE DRUNKEN SAILORS



I TAKE OFFENSE TO THAT

This Date In History

Today is Monday, Oct. 22, the 296th day of 2012. There are 70 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 22, 1962, President John F. Kennedy delivered a nationally broadcast address in which he publicly revealed the presence of Soviet-built missile bases under construction in Cuba and announced a quarantine of all offensive military equipment being shipped to the Communist island nation. Kennedy also called upon Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev to "eliminate this clandestine, reckless and provocative threat to world peace."

On this date:

In 1797, French balloonist Andre-Jacques Garnerin (gahr-nayr-AN) made the first parachute descent, landing safely from a height of about 3,000 feet over Paris.

In 1836, Sam Houston was inaugurated as the first consti-

tutionally elected president of the Republic of Texas.

In 1883, the original Metropolitan Opera House in New York held its grand opening with a performance of Gounod's "Faust."

In 1928, Republican presidential nominee Herbert Hoover spoke of the "American system of rugged individualism" in a speech at New York's Madison Square Garden.

In 1934, bank robber Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd was shot to death by federal agents at a farm in East Liverpool, Ohio.

In 1953, the Franco-Lao Treaty of Amity and Association effectively made Laos an independent member of the French Union.

In 1962, the hit comedy album "The First Family," starring comedian-impressionist Vaughn Meader as President John F. Kennedy, was recorded before a studio audience in New York City.

In 1968, Apollo 7 returned safely from Earth orbit, splashing down in the Atlantic Ocean.

In 1979, the U.S. government allowed the deposed Shah of Iran to travel to New York for medical treatment — a decision

that precipitated the Iran hostage crisis. French conductor and music teacher Nadia Boulanger died in Paris.

In 1981, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization was decertified by the federal government for its strike the previous August.

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan signed into law sweeping tax-overhaul legislation.

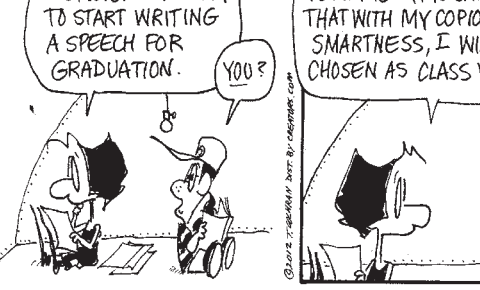
Today's Birthdays: Actress Joan Fontaine is 95. Nobel Prize-winning author Doris Lessing is 93. Black Panthers co-founder Bobby Seale is 76. Actor Christopher Lloyd is 74. Actor Derek Jacobi is 74. Actor Tony Roberts is 73. Actress Annette Funicello is 70.

© 2012 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

WC	FI	EL	DS	ED	MU	ND
IM	AL	LO	UT	LE	AP	ER
ONE	NICE	IDEA	LAYS	BY		
N	ONE	SET	BA	IL	IR	S
NU	T	S	EL	L	S	FL
AS	S	E	T	D	E	E
Q	V	C	S	R	I	L
C	A	S	R	E	A	L
R	E	M	E	D	I	A
O	R	A	L	S	W	I
S	I	R	S	T	E	N
S	A	M	S	I	D	E
E	L	I	C	I	T	A
S	L	E	I	G	H	A
T	Y	R	O	N	E	S

AGNES



IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START WRITING A SPEECH FOR GRADUATION.



YES... ME. IT IS SAFE TO ASSUME THAT WITH MY COPIOUS QUANTITY OF SMARTNESS, I WILL MOST LIKELY BE CHOSEN AS CLASS VALID HISTORIAN.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 "That's great!"
 - 6 Dog's paws
 - 10 Not on time
 - 14 "All kidding _ _ _"
 - 15 Office helper
 - 16 Money in Italy
 - 17 Percussion instrument
 - 19 Like _ of bricks
 - 20 Historical period
 - 21 Phrase of understanding
 - 22 Whirls on one leg
 - 24 Makes a wager
 - 25 Shower gel additive
 - 26 Demean
 - 28 accessory
 - 32 High-school math course
 - 33 Fix up, as prose
 - 36 Spaghetti topping
 - 37 Capital of Norway
 - 38 "Dear sir or _ _ _"
 - 40 Former Italian money
 - 41 Plays 18 holes
 - 43 Ripped
 - 44 Change for a \$5 bill
 - 45 Performing in a theater
 - 47 Ice bucket accessory
 - 49 Fruit peel
 - 50 Give up, as rights
 - 51 Philippine capital
- DOWN
- 1 "For Pete's _!"
 - 2 Computer owner
 - 3 Bread with a pocket
 - 4 Summer hrs. in Richmond
 - 5 Depends (on)
 - 6 Loses color
 - 7 Irish homeland
 - 8 End of a college URL
 - 9 Place of worship
 - 10 Stops annoying
 - 11 Sedan or coupe
 - 12 Horse's gait
 - 13 Long periods of time
 - 18 Think the world of
 - 23 Charged particles
 - 24 Clever person's resource
 - 25 Church platform
 - 26 Unlawful fire
 - 27 Invoices
 - 29 Stage
 - 30 Farmland measures
 - 31 Potpie veggies
 - 32 Like drive-thru orders
 - 34 Saw socially
 - 35 Wedding words
 - 39 Shooting star
 - 42 Go yachting
 - 46 Chew on, as a bone
 - 48 Extra person who's "out"
 - 50 Wave's high point
 - 51 Manufactured
 - 52 Alda of M*A*S*H
 - 53 Geek
 - 54 School-support orgs.
 - 55 Close forcefully
 - 56 Skin opening
 - 57 Picnic pests
 - 60 Pub brew
 - 61 Clean-air agcy.

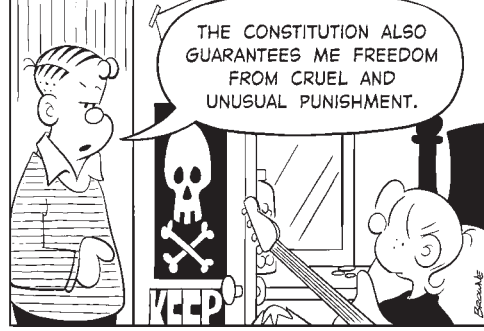
LET'S HAVE TEA by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

HI AND LOIS



CHIP! TURN DOWN THAT MUSIC!



THE CONSTITUTION ALSO GUARANTEES ME FREEDOM FROM CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT.

THE OTHER COAST

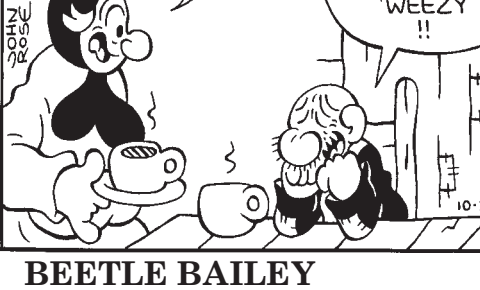


CAREFUL, GEORGE. IT COULD BE A TOURIST TRAP.

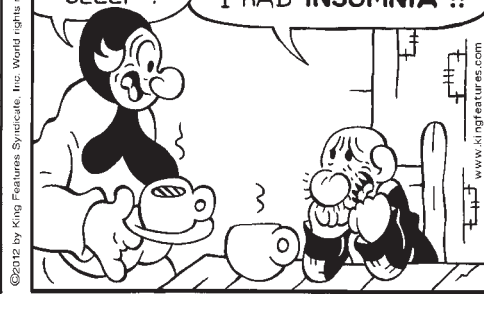


T-SHIRTS SALE

SNUFFY SMITH

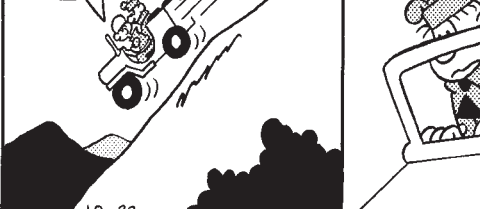


YOU OKAY, PAW? YOU LOOK TUCKERED OUT !!

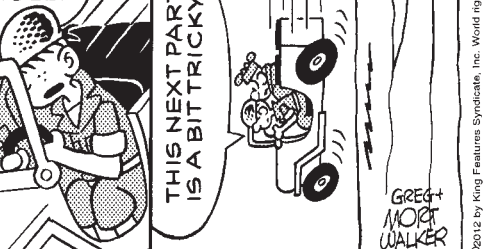


COULDN'T SLEEP? WORSE !! I DREAMED I HAD INSOMNIA !!

BEEBLE BAILEY



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Matt Kenseth wins in Kansas, Keselowski retains point lead

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — The fast, smooth new surface at Kansas Speedway had the potential to wreak havoc on the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

The recent repave cluttered Sunday's race with a record 14 cautions — a season high in the Sprint Cup Series — and contributed to issues that affected at least four title contenders. But the standings looked much the same when Matt Kenseth took the checkered flag in a battered Ford that he banged hard into the wall midway through the race.

Kenseth still managed to drive it to his second victory in three races, while

Brad Keselowski dodged accident after accident to hang onto his seven-point lead over Jimmie Johnson in the standings with four races remaining in the Chase.

"I was thinking, 'Man, this has to be entertaining for everybody to watch,'" Kenseth said. "There was a lot of wild stuff happening."

That was an understatement Sunday, when the longest green-flag run was 35 laps early in the race. Some of the cautions were caused by tire problems, others were for single-car spins, including Chase drivers Johnson, Tony Stewart and Greg Biffle.

And, Danica Patrick

wrecked herself when she intentionally wrecked Landon Cassill.

"You know, everybody has been asking all season long where the cautions have been," Keselowski said. "Well, they flew to Kansas and they've been hanging out here because there was caution after caution."

Biffle's spin ended his day with a hard crash into the wall.

"I lost it, man. It got away from me off of four and we wrecked it," said Biffle, who dropped five spots in the standings to 11th. "I had no indication, no little wiggle, no sideways. It just got away from me and it killed our day."

TEXANS

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would respond after what happened last week," Andre Johnson said. "I think we responded well."

Baltimore's Terrell Suggs, an outside linebacker who was selected last season's defensive player of the year, played for the first time since surgery in May to repair a torn right Achilles tendon. But the defense wasn't the same without star middle linebacker Ray Lewis and top cornerback Lardarius Webb, who were placed on the injured reserve during the week.

The Ravens gave up their most points since a 44-20 loss to Indianapolis in 2007, and Houston's 43 points were the most in franchise history.

"We can't come here and make mistakes like we made and expect to be in the game," safety Ed Reed said.

But the problems weren't limited to the defense as the Ravens (5-2) lost to Houston for the first time in seven meetings. Joe Flacco was 21 of 43 for 147 yards with two interceptions, and Ray Rice was held to a season-low 42 yards rushing.

"I'm not sure what to say about that other than they got after us and they beat us," Ravens coach John Harbaugh said. "They played excellent, we did not."

The Ravens led 3-0 in the first quarter after

a 51-yard field goal by rookie Justin Tucker. It was his third of more than 50 yards this season, which is the most in a season in team history. He made it four with a 54-yard field goal in the fourth quarter.

Houston's offense couldn't do anything early. It was OK though as the defense got the Texans on the board. Connor Barwin took down Flacco in the end zone for his first sack of the season and a safety to make it 3-2 in the first quarter.

"The safety was certainly a big play," Phillips said. "We were a little loose on the first series, but I thought after that we played lights out."

The Texans started clicking on offense on the next drive, but not without a small hiccup. Schaub badly overthrew a wide-open Kevin Walter before finding him four plays later for a 25-yard touchdown to give Houston a 9-3 lead late in the first quarter.

J.J. Watt tipped a pass on the first play of the second quarter and Johnathan Joseph returned it 52 yards for a touchdown to extend Houston's lead to 16-3.

Suggs was disappointed that his first game back was such a lopsided defeat, but thinks the Ravens should be encouraged with their 5-2 record entering their bye week considering all the injuries they've had.

"We know we've got some work to do," he said. "This is a very

emotional time for us. Losing probably one of the greatest middle linebackers in the game and losing your starting corner, that's going to hurt. We've got some young guys that have got to step up. I've got to get healthy, I've got to get better."

Reed, who said this week that he's been playing with a torn labrum in his right shoulder, left in the fourth quarter with a chest injury. He said he felt fine after the game.

Schaub found tight end Owen Daniels in the back of the end zone on a 1-yard touchdown reception about six minutes before halftime. The play was reviewed and upheld to make it 23-3. That drive was helped by a nifty 20-yard reception by Garrett Graham.

Whitney Mercilus tipped a pass that Glover Quin intercepted by getting one hand on it and grabbing it as he fell to the ground. Houston capitalized on the turnover with a 29-yard field goal to lead 29-3 at halftime.

Flacco finally got the Ravens in the end zone with a 15-yard touchdown pass to Tandon Doss to cut Houston's lead to 29-10 with about 10 minutes left in the third quarter.

Foster scored in his team-record ninth straight game on a 1-yard run later in the third quarter to put Houston up 36-10.

He added another score in the fourth quarter to extend the lead to 43-13.

CRITICS

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general manager, widely regarded as an unwelcome source of continuity for a team that has endured endless turnover at coach and quarterback. At half-time of this year's home opener, a fan approached Ireland and told the GM he should fire himself. Ireland admits muttering a profanity in response.

A better response has been by the team in recent weeks. With a loss or two, fan vitriol could again crescendo, but lately there's reason to believe a rebranding of Ireland might stick, with the competency meter tilting in his favor.

The franchise' future — and Ireland's reputation — now hinges largely on Philbin and rookie quarterback Ryan Tannehill. Early reviews are favorable, and Ireland deserves credit for bringing both aboard.

Tannehill was drafted after the Dolphins finished fourth among four contenders for Peyton Manning, and at the moment no one in Miami rues the way

things turned out.

Tannehill, the first quarterback taken in the first round by the Dolphins since 1983, became their first rookie QB to start an opener and has made steady progress since, completing 69 percent of his passes in the past two games while committing no turnovers.

Ireland's 2011 draft brought in center Mike Pouncey, now expected to anchor the offensive line for years to come. And Ireland looks smart these days regarding the acquisitions of veterans Reggie Bush, Wake, Randy Starks, Karlos Dansby, Kevin Burnett and Richie Incognito.

Other decisions for which Ireland was once panned look better in hindsight. He opted not to acquire Kyle Orton or Matt Flynn, even though the fan base clamored for both quarterbacks. This year they're riding the bench elsewhere.

The Dolphins still need upgrades at receiver and in the secondary, and more than half a dozen starters are scheduled to become free agents this offseason. But Miami is well-positioned for the 2013 draft, with five picks in the first three rounds.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 5

still haven't figured out.

Romo led the Cowboys into field-goal range and Dan Bailey converted a 28-yarder with 3:25 remaining to lift the Dallas Cowboys to a 19-14

win on Sunday.

Bailey had four field goals and Romo threw for 227 yards and a touchdown as the Cowboys defeated the Panthers for the ninth straight time in the regular season. The win snapped a two-game losing streak for the Cowboys (3-3) and helped ease some pres-

sure from their highly criticized 31-29 loss to Baltimore last week in a game marred by poor clock management.

"When you think about some of the adversity we've encountered this season, our focus remains on just getting better," Ware said. "We have been doing that, and this week being able to go out and close a game let us know that hey, we can do it."

Romo said the Cowboys never bought into the idea that the sky was falling after last week's loss.

"You know that every week you're either great or terrible — or at least semi-terrible or semi-great," Romo said. "What you find in this league is all you need to do is figure out how to get better and play your best football when it counts."

Just in case everyone wasn't buying in, Cowboys coach Jason Garrett invited former Washington Redskins coach Joe Gibbs — yes, their old rival — to speak to players at the team's chapel service Saturday night.

Gibbs' message was that everyone makes mistakes, but what's important is how you handle adversity.

The Cowboys seemed to listen.

"We did a good job of bouncing back and finding a way to win a game today," Garrett said.

For the Panthers (1-5) it was a case of another game in which they were close enough to win in the fourth quarter but couldn't finish. Carolina had similar chances in their two previous games against Atlanta and Seattle.

Newton, who finished

21 of 37 for 233 yards with one touchdown and an early interception in the red zone, said he doesn't know why the Panthers can't win close games.

"Whether it's me, I don't know. Whether it's the coordinator, I don't know. Whether it's the players overall, I don't know," Newton said. "(But) we got to change that man."

The Panthers finished fifth in points last season, averaging 25.3 points per game, but have scored more than 14 points in only two of their six games this year.

"Instead of keeping the game close, I'm looking forward to a game where I ... we put up 35 points. Everybody does," Newton said.

This game had its share of drama — and controversy.

On a fourth-and-1 at

their 39 with 2:11 remaining and trailing by two, the Panthers caught Dallas' defense trying to change personnel, and Newton rushed to the line. He quickly took the snap and completed a pass to Greg Olsen for an apparent first down, but officials ruled the Cowboys called timeout before the snap.

On the next play, cornerback Morris Claiborne collided with Panthers receiver Louis Murphy before the ball arrived, but no flag was thrown and the Cowboys took over on downs.

"I felt like I got pushed early," Murphy said. "He kind of hooked me and pushed me in the back before the ball got there."

Claiborne saw it differently.

"I felt I had good coverage," he said.

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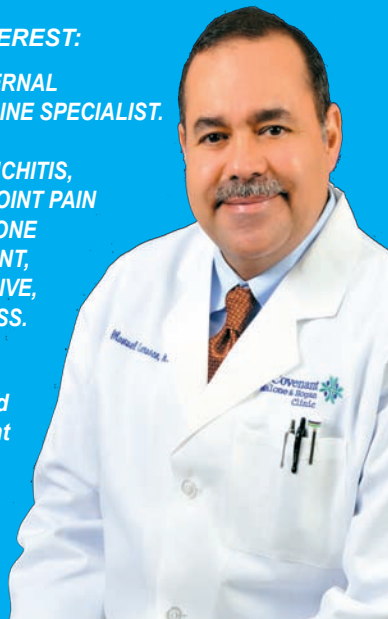
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