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SPRING

With Christmas fast approaching, many local homes are reflecting the holiday season, including this house on the 1500 block of Johnson.

Holiday decorations can be fun, but also deadly, Condray says

By THOMAS JENKINS

Officials with the Big Spring Fire Department are knocking on wood, and with good reason.

The seasonal upswing in the number of house fires the city of Big Spring and outlying areas normally see thanks to the holiday and colder weather has yet to arrive, according to Fire Marshal Carl Condray, but the good luck doesn't usually last.

"Normally, when the weather



Condray

turns cold we see a big increase in the number of structure fires, caused mainly by people looking for ways to stay warm,' said Condray. "However, we haven't seen that increase yet, and here we are going into

December. It's a surprise, and certainly a good surprise, but I'd say the chances of it lasting are pretty slim."

Condray said the convergence

of three times of year — colder temperatures, the Thanksgiving holiday and decorating for Christmas — make for a dangerous situation.

"We really haven't had much cold weather, so there are still plenty of people who haven't used their heating systems or space heaters," Condray said. "When you add that to all of the decorating for the holiday, it can cause a pretty serious uptick in the

See **FIRE**, Page 3

Autopsy ordered on body

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Law enforcement officials say there are no outward indications what caused the death of a 39-year-old Big Spring man whose body was discovered in a field Friday afternoon in the southwest part of the city.

Daniel Gene Moses, 39, of Big Spring was pronounced dead at the scene by Howard County

See BODY, Page 3

Items in '12 Days of Christmas' now top \$107K

KEVIN BEGOS

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Add seven six geese and five golden rings to the list of Christmas gifts that cost more than

they did a year ago. And if you get all 364 items repeated throughout "The Twelve Days Christmas" you'll pay 6.1 percent more this year, according to the so-called Christmas Price Index that PNC Wealth Management updates annually.

That comes to \$107,300.

See DAYS, Page 3

INDEX

Comics 9 Classified 6-8 Wire 4 **Obituaries** 2 **Police** 5,10 **Sports**

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Bounce houses a hit but injuries soar

LINDSEY TANNER

AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO — They may be a big hit at kids' birthday parties, but inflatable bounce houses can be dangerous, with the number of injuries soaring in recent years, a nationwide study found.

Kids often crowd into bounce houses, and jumping up and down can send other children flying into the air,

The numbers suggest 30 U.S. children a day are treated in emergency rooms for broken bones, sprains, cuts and concussions from bounce house accidents. Most involve children falling inside or out of the inflated playthings, and many children get hurt when they collide with other bouncing kids.

The number of children aged 17 and younger who got emergency-room treatment for bounce house injuries has climbed along with the

More than one-third of the injuries were in children aged 5 and younger.

popularity of bounce houses from fewer than 1,000 in 1995 to nearly 11,000 in 2010.

That's a 15-fold increase, and a doubling just since 2008. "I was surprised by the number, especially by the rapid increase in the number of injuries," said lead author

Dr. Gary Smith, director of

the Center for Injury Re-

search and Policy at Nation-

wide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

Amusement parks and fairs have bounce houses, and the playthings can also be rented or purchased for home use.

Smith and colleagues analyzed national surveillance data on ER treatment for

nonfatal injuries linked with bounce houses, maintained by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Their study was published online Monday in the journal Pediatrics.

Only about 3

percent of children were hospitalized, mostly for broken bones.

swans,

More than one-third of the injuries were in children aged 5 and younger. The safety commission recommends

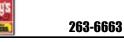
See **BOUNCE**, Page 3



Nov. 26 29 shopping days to Christmas



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Dr. Sally Reyes, AuD, CCC-A Audiologist

BIG SPRING HERALD LOCAL Monday, November 26, 2012

Obituaries

Wanda Jean Roman Owen



Funeral Services for Mrs. Wanda Jean Roman Owen, 77, will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2012, at First Baptist Church of Marble Falls with the Rev. Max Copeland officiating. Interment will immediately follow at Lakeland Hills Memorial Park in Burnet, Texas. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Wanda Jean Roman Owen was born Feb. 6, 1935, in Lynn County, Texas, and passed to be with her Lord and Savior on Friday, Nov. 23, 2012, after a long and difficult bout with Parkinson's and Lewy Body Disease. Throughout her illness she exemplified grace, dignity and her twinkling blue eyes and genuine smile never

Jean graduated from Knott High School in 1953 as valedictorian and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Hardin-Simmons University with a bachelor's of science in health and physical education. She received her master's of education from Southwest Texas State University in August 1966.

Jean began her teaching and coaching career in Mertzon, Texas, and taught in Seminole and Wall, Texas, as well as at Hardin-Simmons University before moving to Austin and coaching at Lanier and Austin High Schools. Coach Owen encouraged and led her teams to many district, bi-district and regional championships and state finals in basketball, volleyball, track and bowling. She was honored as Austin High School Teacher of the Year in 1986. She retired from teaching in 1992.

Jean married Robert E. Owen in 1961 and they were happily married until Bob passed away in 2005. She was a member of Austin Association of Teachers, TSTA, NEA, National Federation of High School Coaches and the Texas High School Coaches Association. Jean was a leader in fighting for the equal funding of women's athletics at all levels and in ensuring that Title Nine of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, enacted in June 1972, was upheld and applied to her students.

Outside of "school" she was a member of the Women's International Bowling Congress, Horseshoe Bay Women's Golf Association and numerous bowling teams, including the Austin Women's Bowling Association. After retirement, Jean worked with the First Baptist Church of Marble Falls Prison Ministry. She and her husband, Bob, were two of the founders of the Hope Sunday School Class and she was instrumental in finding creative, entertaining and fun party opportunities for the class. Jean continued to golf and bowl, bowling in the

women's seniors and team senior tournaments through the U.S. for many years. Jean's own words about herself are the best honor we can give her today. In her "Philosophy of Teaching" statement, she wrote, "A teacher/coach should be open-minded. She should use her heart as well as her head and have faith in people. She should believe in them, trust them and draw out the best in them while being able to accept with understanding their faults and shortcomings as well as recognizing her own deficiencies. The teacher/coach should have a sense oi numor and not be a stuffed shirt. She should maintain discipline, but have a humble spirit and the ability to laugh at herself."

Jean was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Robert Owen; parents, Elbert Lee Roman and Laura Curry Roman; brothers, E.L. Roman II and Odell Roman: and sisters, Ruby Doris Roman Cheatham and husband Robert and Hildred Lynette

Roman Rutledge and husband James.

She is survived by two brothers, Maxie Ray Roman and wife Karen and Don Dwaine Roman and wife Beth; sister, Judith Ann Roman Robbins; sister-in-law, Wanda Lee Roman; step-children, Marvin Owen and his family, Molly Owen and Mark Owen; many nieces and nephews; and many close friends. Special thanks and deep appreciation to Linda Fletcher, Jean's dear friend and teaching associate; Matilde McEachron, her companion and caregiver, and her husband Alfonso; Roger and Dot Foil of Horseshoe Bay; JW and MaryAnn Cradoct of First Baptist Church; Tsachka Morag and Sandra McCrae, Holly Hale, former director of Cedar Ridge Alzheimer's Care Center and Odyssey Hospice and their wonderful staff for their unwavering encouragement, support, visits and love for Jean during her last years.

Please offer your condolences via the online guestbook at www.edgarfh.com. If desired, memorials in Jean's name can be made to the Hardin-Simmons University Women's Athletic Scholarship Fund, 2200 Hickory, Abilene, Texas 79698. Arrangements entrusted to Edgar Funeral Home, 2105 N. Highway 281, Marble Falls, Texas, 830-693-5808.

Paid obituary

Boyd Don Batla



Boyd Don Batla, 28, of San Antonio, formerly of Garden City died Friday, Nov. 23, 2012, in San Antonio. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2012, at the First Baptist Church of Big Spring. Interment will follow City, Texas.

at Garden City Cemetery, Garden The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday,

Nov. 27, 2012, at the funeral home. Survivors include his parents, Garry and Darla Batla of Garden City; two sisters, Misti White and

husband Delvin and Kyendra Batla. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory, Big Spring, Texas.

Daniel Gene Moses

Daniel Gene Moses, 39, of Big Spring died Friday, Nov. 23, 2012. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Clifford Hale Jr.

Clifford Hale Jr., 85, of Big Spring died Saturday, Nov. 24, 2012, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- JARVIS LAMAR ALEXANDER, 31, of Lubbock, Texas, was arrested Sunday on five warrants from other agencies. RILEY ERIK WOOD, 20, of 605 Highland, was
- arrested Sunday on a charge of evading arrest or detention with a previous conviction. TERELL JACOBY DEMERSON, 19, of 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd. (apartment number not
- provided), was arrested Sunday on warrants for consumption of alcohol by a minor and failure to • LUIS ALEJANDRO RAMOS, 24, of 1606 Cardinal,
- was arrested Sunday on charges of shoplifting less than \$50 and public intoxication. DONTAE CARR, 31, of 3006 Cherokee, was
- arrested Sunday on warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, no driver's license when unlicensed and failure to appear (two • DANIEL LEE USSERY, 35, of 1800 S. Monticello,
- was arrested Sunday on a charge of theft more than \$1,500 and less than \$20,000 and a warrant from another agency. JOHNNY JORGE RODRIGUEZ JR., 23, of 2625
- Ent Dr., was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency. CASEY GENE RICHTER, 24, of the 3500 block of
- Interstate Highway 20 (exact address not provided), was arrested Sunday on charges of public intoxication and disorderly conduct - language. CHRISTOPHER ALAN ACRI, 31, of 4105 Dixon,
- was arrested Sunday on a warrant for criminal mischief – more than \$500 and less than \$1,500. • RONNIE CHAMBERLAIN, 25, of Hobbs, N.M., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxica-
- BOBBY LEE TAYS, 21, of Rosebud, Texas, was arrested Sunday on charges of public intoxication and unlawfully carrying a weapon on alcohol prem-
- CODY BUCK BEASLEY, 24, of Archer City, Texas, was arrested Sunday on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon on alcohol premises.
- JOSEPH SHELDON HOOD, 50, of Snyder, Texas, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while license invalid. • DIANE CASTILLO, 41, of 1211 Wood, was arrest-
- ed Sunday on a charge of public intoxication. ASSAULT was reported in the 500 block of
- Jeffery Road. • THEFT was reported in the 2900 block of
- Interstate Highway 20. • BURGLARY OF A COIN OPERATED MACHINE
- was reported in the 800 block of W. FM 700. BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in
- the 6300 block of E. Midway Road. BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported: In the 300 block of N.W. 10th Street.

In the 4200 block of Hamilton.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this report. CHARLES BAYARD ADAMS SR., 50, was arrest-

- ed Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication and a TDCJ Austin parole warrant.
- WENDALL CAMPBELL, 52, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check - more than \$20 and less than \$500 and motions to revoke probation for manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance.
- TONY RAY KAPLAN, 49, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of illegal dumping. BRIAN JOE SOLIS, 21, was booked into the
- county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a municipal capias warrant for failure to yield at intersection. ASHLEY MARIE JENKINS, 23, was booked into
- the county detention center Thursday by the Martin County Sheriff's Office on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and a Hill County warrant for bail jumping failure to appear. ROBERT RUBIN SANCHEZ, 48, was booked into
- the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication. ROSALIE GUADALUPE AGUILAR, 55, was
- booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication. TERRY WAYNE BLIESNER, 48, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the
- BSPD on a municipal capias warrant for no driver's BRETT RAMSEY, 39, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on charges
- impeding breathing or circulation and interfering with an emergency phone call. • JOEL RAMOS, 28, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a charge of

miscellaneous – Class C.

of assault of a family or household member -

 YRMA HILARIOS MARTINEZ, 53, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a municipal warrant for expired motor vehicle inspection certificate.

• LUIS GARCIA JR., 18, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a charge of hindering peace officer discharging offi-

TREVOR LOWELL WORTHINGTON, 46, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication. HOLSTON BANKS III, 21, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on

- charges of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle and possession of marijuana - two ounces or DANIEL RAY LEWIS, 24, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or
- CASEY GENE RICHTER, 24, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxi-
- HENRY TREVINO FRANCO JR., 21, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a municipal warrant for assault - family violence.
- APRIL DAWN JARAMILLO, 23, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on municipal warrants for hindering officers discharging official duties and failure to appear. • JESSIE LOUIS SANCHEZ, 23, was arrested
- Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxi- TIFFANY ANN ELDER, 30, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a municipal warrant for bondsman off bond - tampering/fabricating physical evidence with intent to
- impair and a charge of failure to identify as a fugitive – giving false information. JUDY L. ESTES, 50, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of service - more than \$20 and less than \$500 and a motion to revoke probation for burglary of a

habitation. TERELL DEMERSON, 19, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage and failure to appear.

 BOBBY LEE TAYS, 21, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon on alcohol premises and public intoxica-

 CHRISTOPHER ALLAN ACRE, 31, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of criminal mischief – more than \$500 and less than \$1,500. • RILEY ERIK WOOD, 20, was booked into the

county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle with a previous conviction. CODY BUCK BEASLEY, 24, was arrested Sunday

by the HCSO on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon on alcohol premises. CASEY GENE RICHTER, 24, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of disorderly con-

duct – language and public intoxication. JARVIS ALEXANDER, 31, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on Lubbock County warrants for motor vehicle inspection, no driver's license, expired license plate, failure to appear and a capias warrant for domestic

 JOSEPH SHELDON HOOD, 50, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while

- license invalid. • LUIS ALEJANDRO RAMOS, 24, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on charges of public intoxication and theft less than \$50.
- RONNIE CHAMBERLAIN, 25, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxica-
- RAJVINDER SINGH, 45, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication. • BILLY RAY WILSON JR., 26, was booked into

the county detention center Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated. DIANE CASTILLO, 41, was arrested Sunday by

the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication. DONTAE RENELL CARR, 31, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on municipal capias warrants for failure to maintain

financial responsibility, no driver's license and failure to appear (two counts). DANIEL LEE USSERY, 35, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on

charges of issuance of a bad check and theft - more than \$1,500 and less than \$20,000. • KAREN KAY DURHAM, 52, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by DPS on a charge

of public intoxication. VICTOR RIVERA, 45, was booked into the coun-

ty detention center Monday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – second offense. • JOHNNY JORGE RODRIGUEZ JR., 23, was

booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of open container. KERRY RYAN MILLS, 35, was arrested Monday

by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for

Fire/EMS

driving while intoxicated.

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

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of N/. Highway 87. One person was transported to
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Settles. Service refused.
 - TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of N.W. 12th Street. Service refused. MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of N.

Main Street. One person was transported to

SMMC. TRAUMA was reported in the 800 block

See **EMS**, Page 3

Texas briefs

Texas Aggie ring lost in Wyoming returned to

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A Texas A&M-Galveston class ring lost at a snowy park in Wyoming has been returned to the 2012 graduate. Toni Chandler of Austin was devastated last December when the ring slipped off at Grand Teton National Park.

The marine biology graduate says she made a snow angel, got up, removed her gloves to shake off and the ring flew from her hand.

KXAN-TV reported Sunday that a couple from Cape Cod., Mass., visited the campsite last spring and found the ring. Barb Walsh spotted something shiny in the gravel. Chandler's

name was engraved inside the ring but Walsh had little luck finding Walsh and her husband had friends over for dinner last week, in-

cluding a retired law enforcement officer. His knowledge of investigating helped Walsh locate Chandler.

SUV driver killed in crash into Houston ambulance

HOUSTON (AP) — Investigators in Houston say an SUV driver has died and seven people were hurt after the vehicle hit a parked ambulance that was picking up a patient. Authorities say the patient and a relative plus five emergency re-

sponders were injured in the wreck early Monday. Houston Fire Department spokesman Jay Evans says the SUV

struck the ambulance head-on. Evans says the patient was in the back of the ambulance and the relative was in the front seat. Both were transported to hospitals, along with the five injured emergen-Further details on their conditions weren't immediately avail-

able. Authorities did not provide details on the original ailment of the patient picked up at a nearby home. The name of the SUV driver who died wasn't immediately re-

lords-a-leap-

drummers

(\$2,775.50)

ing, calling birds, turtle

doves and the partridge.

The eight maids-a-milk-

ing still cost just \$58

because the minimum

and eleven pipers pip-

ing (\$2,562) might also

be considered relative

bargains compared to

seven swans, which

will set you back \$7,000.

Nine ladies dancing will

Dunigan said the 2011

drought caused the pric-

es of some birds to soar,

cost you \$6,294.03.

wage hasn't risen.

Twelve

drumming

BODY

Continued from Page 1

Justice of the Peace Bennie Green shortly after the call was received by law enforcement.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, the body was discovered and reported to police at approximately 4:15 p.m. "The body was discovered by

some children who were walking around the neighborhood, near the 2500 block of Barksdale," Everett said. "The children told some adults who contacted police dispatch. Officers arrived on the scene shortly "There are no outward indica-

tions of cause of death," Everett said. "An autopsy was ordered by J.P. Green and is expected to be conducted today in Lubbock. There are no signs of foul play, however, we'll have to wait until the autopsy results come back before we can begin to establish a cause of death." Funeral services for Moses

are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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

set of the core items in

each verse costs \$24,431

in traditional stores this

year, but \$40,440 online.

Part of that difference

is the extra expense

of shipping live birds,

Dunigan said, adding

that Internet costs rose

1.5 percent compared to

PNC Financial Ser-

vices Group Inc. checks

jewelry stores, dance

companies, pet stores

and other sources to

compile the list. Some of

its sources this year in-

clude the National Avi-

ary in Pittsburgh and

the Philadelphia-based

Ballet

Pennsylvania

last year.

EMS

Continued from Page 2

of Andree. One person was transported to SMMC. · MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of Highland. One person was transported to SMMC.

 TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of E. 15th Street. Service refused.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 600 block of State. One person was transported to SMMC.

MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of

Mountain Park Drive. One person was transported TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Tucson and Kenney. Service

refused. MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Goliad. One person was transported to SMMC.

 TRAUMA was reported in the 1500 block of Robin. Service refused.

· MEDCIAL was reported near mile marker 172 of Interstate Highway 20. Service refused. • TRAUMA was reported in the 100 block of N.E.

10th Street. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Washington. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Lamar. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of

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

 RUBBISH FIRE was reported in the 4200 block of W. Highway 80. MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of E. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported

to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of S. Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of S.

Owens. Service refused. MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of W. 18th Street. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of W.

Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of

Larry. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of S. Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to

 MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to

SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. One person was transported to

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of E. 16th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1000 block of Ridgeroad. One person was transported to SMMC. TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 100 block of E. Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.

maids-a-milking, ladies FIRE

September.

Thrifty

DAYS

Continued from Page 1

"The rise is larger

than expected consider-

ing the modest econom-

ic growth we've had,"

said Jim Dunigan, man-

aging executive of in-

vestments for PNC. He

noted the government's

Consumer Price Index

has risen just 2 percent

in the 12 months before

may find some reasons

for cheer. Six items

mentioned in the song

haven't gone up in price:

shoppers

Continued from Page 1

number of fires. The most important thing we can do leading into this time of year is educate people and urge them to be very cautious.'

In addition to residents firing up their heating systems and space heaters for the first time this season, Condray said residents' choices in holiday decorations can play a vital role in keeping things safe and fun.

"There are a lot of ways things can go wrong when you're decorating for the holiday, but there are steps you can partly because of corn and other feed costs. "The geese were up take to reduce the risk to yourself and your loved ones," said Condray. "One of the best we've seen so far this year is

the use of the newer

LED Christmas lights.

They are cool burning

and only use a fraction of the electricity. "In fact, you could decorate your whole house in LED lights, and the amount of electricity you'll use this holiday season will still be less than with just one string of regular incandescent

type of holiday lights you choose, Condray said there are some hard-fast rules residents should go by when they get ready to put them

Regardless of what

bulbs."

Other

were up 11 percent," Dunigan said, adding that none of the gifts in the song went down in price this year. The price of a pear tree is \$189.99, an 11.8

29.6 percent, and swans

year's \$169.99. Five gold rings jumped 16.3 percent this year, to \$750, and three French hens are now \$165, instead of \$150. The \$15 partridge is

percent jump from last

the cheapest item, and swans the most expensive, at \$1,000 each. Last-minute shoppers

who turn to the Internet will pay a bit more for the gifts. Buying one

use

lights indoors and out-

door lights outdoors.

And always look for the

Underwriters Laborato-

ry (UL) label," Condray

advised. "Check lights

for broken or cracked

sockets, frayed or bare

wires or loose connec-

tions. You should check

them by setting them

surface and leaving

them plugged in for 10

to 15 minutes to make

sure they don't melt or

smoke. Turn off all the

lights on trees and deco-

rations when you go to

"When you're hang-

materials

ing the lights, be sure

to keep them away from

bed or leave the house.

a non-flammable

indoor

Company. such as curtains, and

Condray said another decoration many families will want to pay close attention to is their Christmas tree, as the holiday centerpiece can quickly turn into an instrument of woe if not handled properly.

that is green. The needles of pines and sprucshould bend and against using trampo-

lines at home. Policy-

makers should consider

whether bounce houses

warrant similar precau-

tions, the authors said.

make sure the cords aren't near any sources of water. Never connect more than three sets of light to an extension cord, and to prevent overheating, pinching and fraying cords, avoid running lights under rugs or behind furniture."

"Try to select a fresh tree by looking for one a fresh tree will snap when bent, much like a fresh carrot. Also, look for a trunk sticky with sap. "Cut off about two

inches of the trunk and put the tree in a sturdy, water-holding stand. Keep the stand filled with water so the tree does not dry out quickly. Stand your tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. Make sure

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BIG SPRING

not break and should the tree does not block be hard to pull off the foot traffic or doorways. branches," said Con- If you use an artificial dray. "On fir species, tree, choose one that a needle pulled from tested and labeled as fire resistant. Artificial trees with built-in electrical systems should also have the UL label."

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

MYERS & SMITH **FUNERAL HOME** & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288

Willie Williams, 79,

died Tuesday. Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. today at Baptist Temple. Daniel Gene Moses, 39,

died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Clifford Hale, Jr., 85, died Saturday. Services

are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Sun. 8a.m.-10a.m.)

Publisher... Ext. 250

BOUNCE Continued from Page 1

against letting children

younger than 6 use fullsize trampolines, and Smith said barring kids that young from even smaller, home-use bounce houses would make sense. "There is no evidence that the size or location

of an inflatable bouncer sudoku

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

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

4 2 1 7 8 5 6

affects the injury risk," by high winds. he said.

recommenda-

tions, often listed in manufacturers' instruction pamphlets, include not overloading bounce houses with too many kids and not allowing young children to bounce with much older, heavier kids or adults, said Laura Woodburn, a spokeswoman for the National Association of Amusement Ride Safety

Officials. The study didn't include deaths, but some accidents are fatal. Separate data from the product safety commission show four bounce house

deaths from 2003 to 2007, all involving children striking their heads on a hard surface. Several nonfatal accidents occurred last year when bounce houses

collapsed or were lifted

A group that issues

flammable

voluntary industry standards says bounce houses should be supervised by trained operators and recommends that bouncers be prohibited from doing flips and purposefully colliding with others, the study authors noted. Bounce house injuries are similar to those

linked with trampo-

lines, and the Ameri-

can Academy of Pediat-

rics has recommended

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The Lasater Family would like to sincerely thank each one of you who offered a prayer, a hug or a donation to the fire fund. A special Thank You to the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department for working diligently to put out the fire and for going into the burning house to move out mementos and heavy furniture. To the First United Methodist Church, Forsan Baptist

have so many that care. The Kristen Lasater Family

Church and Elbow Elementary, it is a true blessing to

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News in brief

Bangladesh garment workers hold protests a day after a fire killed 112 DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Thousands of Ban-

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Thousands of Bangladeshi workers blocked the streets of a Dhaka suburb Monday, throwing stones at factories and smashing vehicles, as they demanded justice for 112 people killed in a garment-factory fire that highlighted unsafe conditions in an industry rushing to produce for major retailers around the world.

Some 200 factories were closed for the day after the protest erupted in Savar, the industrial zone where Saturday's deadly fire occurred. Protesters blocked a major highway.

The government announced that Tuesday will be a day of national mourning, with the national flag flying at half-mast in honor of the dead.

Investigators suspect that a short circuit caused the fire, said Maj. Mohammad Mahbub, fire department operations director. But he said it was not the fire itself but the lack of safety measures in the eight-story building that made it so deadly.

"Had there been at least one emergency exit

"Had there been at least one emergency exit through outside the factory, the casualties would have been much lower," Mahbub said. He said firefighters recovered at least 100 bodies from the factory, and 12 more people died at hospitals after jumping from the building to escape the fire.

Emissions, climate aid in focus as new round of UN climate talks opens in Qatar

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — U.N. talks on a new climate pact resumed Monday in oil and gas-rich Qatar, where negotiators from nearly 200 countries will discuss fighting global warming and helping poor nations adapt to it.

The two-decade-old talks have not fulfilled their main purpose: reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that scientists say are warming the planet.

Attempts to create a new climate treaty failed in Copenhagen three years ago but countries agreed last year to try again, giving themselves a deadline of 2015 to adopt a new treaty.

A host of issues need to be resolved by then, including how to spread the burden of emissions cuts between rich and poor countries. That's unlikely to be decided in the two-week talks in the Qatari capital of Doha, where negotiators will focus on extending the Kyoto Protocol, an emissions deal for industrialized countries, and trying to raise billions of dollars to help developing countries adapt to a shifting climate.

"We all realize why we are here, why we keep coming back year and after year," said South Africa Foreign Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, who led last year's talks in Durban, South Africa. "We owe it to our people, the global citizenry. We owe it to our children to give them a safer future than what they are currently facing."

Egypt's political foes grow more entrenched in fight over powers

CAIRO (AP) — Supporters and opponents of Egypt's president on Sunday grew more entrenched in their potentially destabilizing battle over the Islamist leader's move to assume near absolute powers, with neither side appearing willing to back down as the stock market plunged amid the fresh turmoil

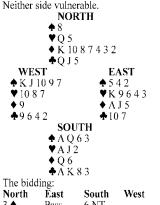
The standoff poses one of the hardest tests for the nation's liberal and secular opposition since Hosni Mubarak's ouster nearly two years ago. Failure to sustain protests and eventually force Mohammed Morsi to loosen control could consign it to long-term irrelevance.

Clashes between the two sides spilled onto the



By Steve Becker

Famous Hand



North dealer.

North East South West
3 ♦ Pass 6 NT
Opening lead — nine of diamonds.

This deal occurred in a match

between Italy and France many years ago. When the French held the North-South hands, they got to six notrump as shown.

Eugenio Chiaradia, winner of six

world championships, had a wide choice of opening leads. In an effort to find a neutral lead — one that would not cost his side a trick — he chose the nine of diamonds. He acted on the mistaken assumption that the opponents' diamonds were solid, or nearly solid, and that his diamond lead would do no harm.

Sadly, this did not prove to be the case. Declarer covered the nine with the ten, trapping East's jack. South then had no trouble making the slam, losing only a diamond trick.

At the second table, with an Italian pair now North-South, the bidding went:

ding we	nt:			
North	East	South	Wes	
Pass	Pass	1 💠	1 🛧	
2 💠	Pass	2 NT	Pass	
3 ♦	Pass	3 NT		
Both	club bi	ds by the	Italia	
were at	tificial a	nd merely	denot	
		th. Pierre (
		had the car		

were artificial and merely denoted high-card strength. Pierre Ghestem, West for France, had the same difficult choice of leads and finally decided on the ten of hearts.

Declarer covered the ten with the

queen and won East's king with the ace. A low diamond to the king lost to the ace, and East returned a heart, ducked to West's seven.

After a heart continuation forced

out his jack, South cashed the queen of diamonds, entered dummy with a club and played another diamond to establish the suit. East took the jack and cashed two heart tricks to put the contract down one.

As a result, one more oddity was

recorded in the annals of world championship bridge. At one table, declarer bid six notrump and made it; at the other, declarer bid three notrump and went down. Bridge is at times a strange game!

Tomorrow: Keep your eye on the ball. ©2012 King Features Syndicate Inc.

streets for a third day since the president issued edicts that make him immune to oversight of any kind, including that of the courts.

A teenager was killed and at least 40 people were wounded when a group of anti-Morsi protesters tried to storm the local offices of the political arm of the president's Muslim Brotherhood in the Nile Delta city of Damanhoor, according to security officials.

It was the first reported death from the street battles that erupted across much of the nation on Friday, the day after Morsi's decrees were announced. The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media, identified the boy as 15-year-old Islam Hamdi Abdel-Maqsood.

Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak says he's leaving politics, shaking up election campaign

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak on Monday abruptly announced he was quitting politics, shaking up the country's political system just weeks ahead of general elections.

Barak, a decorated former general and one-time

prime minister, said he would stay on in his current post until a new government is formed following the Jan. 22 balloting.

"I didn't make this decision without hesitating,

but I made it wholeheartedly," he told a hastily arranged news conference, saying he had been wrestling with the decision for weeks.

Barak's resignation could mean the departure of the most moderating influence on hawkish Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is expected to retain his job after the election. Barak, who heads a small centrist faction in parliament, had often served as Netanyahu's unofficial envoy to Washington in order to smooth over differences with the Obama White House.

Barak, 70, made the surprise announcement even after polls showed his breakaway Independence Party gaining momentum after Israel's recent military offensive in the Gaza Strip.

Fiscal compromise is fine, groups say, provided members don't share the pain

WASHINGTON (AP) — A big coalition of business groups says there must be give-and-take in the negotiations to avoid the "fiscal cliff" of massive tax increases and spending cuts. But raising tax rates — a White House priority — is out of the question, the group adds.

The homebuilding industry says it won't tolerate even a nick in the mortgage interest deduction. It doesn't matter, industry leaders say, if it's part of a broad, spread-the-pain package designed to tame the soaring debt.

And there's no ambiguity in the views of the top lobbying arm for retirees.

"AARP to Washington: No cuts to Medicare and Social Security in last-minute budget deal" the group's Web site declares. AARP nixes the notion of slowing the cost-of-living formula for Social Security recipients, even if it's part of a big, bipartisan compromise package. And President Barack Obama should drop his idea of raising Medicare's eligibility age, AARP adds.

So much for the notion of shared sacrifice as Congress and the White House face a Dec. 31 deadline to craft a far-reaching deficit-reduction plan. If they fail, the government tips over the so-called fiscal cliff, at least for a time. Nearly everyone's taxes will rise, and federal programs will be whacked. Financial markets might quake, and a new recession could begin, economists say.

White House could get its chance to close books on Benghazi PR disaster, push Rice nomination

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House could finally have its chance to close the books on its Benghazi public relations disaster, as key Republicans signal they might not stand in the way of U.N. Am-

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Schools' tracking devices cause controversy

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A San Antonio school district's website was hacked over the weekend to protest its policy requiring students to wear microchip-embedded cards tracking their every move on campus.

A teenager purportedly working with the hack-

er group Anonymous said in an online statement that he took the site down because the Northside school district "is stripping away the privacy of students in your school." The teen, who identified himself in an email as being 16 years old, said he hacked into the web-

site Saturday, and it was not working Sunday. District spokesman Pascual Gonzalez said he has not yet been able to confirm that it was hacked. Starting this fall, all students at John Jay High School and Anson Jones Middle School are required to carry identification cards embedded with a microchip. They are tracked by the dozens

of electronic readers installed in the schools' ceiling panels.

Northside has been testing a "radio frequency identification" tracking system for the two schools to increase attendance in order to secure more state funding, officials have said. The program, which kicked off at the beginning of this school year, eventually could be used at all of Northside's 112 campuses, officials have said. The district is the fourth largest in Texas with more

bassador Susan Rice to become the next secretary of state.

than 97,000 students.

"I think she deserves the ability and the opportunity to explain herself and her position," Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., told "Fox News Sunday." "But she's not the problem. The problem is the president of the United States," who, McCain said, misled the public on terrorist involvement.

Rice is widely seen as President Barack Obama's top pick to replace Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton as the nation's top diplomat. But Rice's reputation took a serious hit this fall when she relied on unclassified talking points provided by the intelligence community that portrayed the attack in Benghazi, Libya, as a spontaneous assault by a mob angered by an anti-Muslim video posted on YouTube.

Intelligence officials quickly amended their assessment to conclude the attack hadn't been related to other film protests across the Middle East. But that revised narrative was slow to reach the public, prompting Republicans to allege a White House cover-up ahead of the Nov. 6 election.

The attack killed Ambassador Chris Stevens, a State Department computer specialist and two former Navy SEALs who were working as contract security guards.

Cyber Monday is likely to be the busiest online shopping day, but other days gain ground

NEW YORK (AP) — Bye-bye Black Friday. So long Small Business Saturday. Now, it's Cyber Monday's turn.

Cyber Monday, coined in 2005 by a shopping trade group that noticed online sales spiked on the Monday following Thanksgiving, is the next in a series of days that stores are counting on to jumpstart the holiday shopping season.

It's estimated that this year's Cyber Monday will be the biggest online shopping day of the year for the third year in a row: According to research firm comScore, Americans are expected to spend \$1.5 billion, up 20 percent from last year on Cyber Monday, as retailers have ramped up their deals to get shoppers to click on their websites.

Amazon.com, which is starting its Cyber Monday deals at midnight on Monday, is offering as much as 60 percent off a Panasonic VIERA 55-inch TV that's usually priced higher than \$1,000. Sears is offering \$430 off a Maytag washer and dryer, each on sale for \$399. And Kmart is offering 75 percent off all of its diamond earrings and \$60 off a 12-in-1 multigame table on sale for \$89.99.

Facing bias, loss of children, disabled parents should get more support, advocates say

Millions of Americans with disabilities have gained innumerable rights and opportunities since Congress passed landmark legislation on their behalf in 1990. And yet advocates say barriers and bias still abound when it comes to one basic human right: To be a parent

right: To be a parent.

A Kansas City, Mo., couple had their daughter taken into custody by the state two days after her birth because both parents were blind. A Chicago mother, because she is quadriplegic, endured an 18-month legal battle to keep custody of her young son. A California woman paid an advance fee to an adoption agency, then was told she might be unfit

to adopt because she has cerebral palsy.

Such cases are found nationwide, according to a new report by the National Council on Disability, an independent federal agency. The 445-page document is viewed by the disability-rights community as by far the most comprehensive ever on the topic — simultaneously an encyclopedic accounting of the status quo and an emotional plea for change.

"Parents with disabilities continue to be the only distinct community that has to fight to retain — and sometimes gain — custody of their own children," said autism-rights activist Ari Ne'eman, a member of the council. "The need to correct this unfair bias could not be more urgent or clear."

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Petersburg outlasts Grady 70-60

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

HERMLEIGH — Grady was the lone team remaining to represent Crossroads area high school football over the weekend.

Despite a well-played game, the Wildcats fell to Petersburg on Saturday 70-60, eliminating them from postseason play in the Division I Six-man regional semifinal

Grady kept the pace with the 11-1 Buffaloes at the start. Just four minutes into the first quarter, it was tied at 14-14, but Petersburg scored on three straight possessions and appeared to be pulling away from the Wildcats.

The offense began clicking again for Grady when Brandon Lucas went the distance on a Buffalo kickoff, followed by a two-point conversion to cut Petersburg's

Both teams had strong defensive showings for the remainder of the half as the Buffaloes led the Wildcats 36-22.

One minute and 22 seconds into the third stanza, Grady quarterback E.J. Rodriguez connected with Taylor Polson for a touchdown. A valid kick tacked on another two points and all of a sudden, Petersburg found themselves in a dogfight with the Wildcats, who now trailed by only six points.

Joseph Briseno picked off a pass from Petersburg QB Brett LaBadie and Grady marched downfield and took the lead for the first time in the game with four minutes and twenty-eight seconds reminaing in the third quarter.

Petersburg answered back with a

See **GRADY**, Page 10





Courtesy photos/ Valerie Avery **Grady's Michael** Jimenez (top) breaks tackles by Petersburg defenders on his way to the end zone for a touchdown Saturday in Hermleigh during the Six-man regional semifinal game. E.J. Rodriguez (left) is shown sacking Petersburg's quarterback Ryan Smith during the Wildcat's 70-60 loss.

Tannehill rallies Miami past Seattle, breaks Marino's record

STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer

MIAMI — For much of the game, when the Miami Dolphins had the ball, the only thing that seemed to work was the sprin-

They came on by mistake late in the third quarter, dousing both teams and causing a brief interruption. An amused crowd roared, but otherwise fans had little to cheer about until Miami's offense suddenly came to life.

Rookie and Big Spring native Ryan Tannehill helped the Dolphins score 17 points in the last 8:08, including a field goal on the final play, and they rallied past the Seattle Seahawks 24-21 Sun-

Tannehill had drawn criticism for mistakes down the stretch in close games, but he moved the Dolphins 65 yards in six plays over the final 92 seconds to set up

the decisive 43-yard field goal by Dan Carpenter.

"There was no panic," Tannehill said. "Everyone felt confident out there."

Tannehill pulled off his first fourth-quarter comeback victory, and the Dolphins overcame a seven-point deficit in the final period to win for the first time since 2005. Carpenter hit the winning kick on his 27th birthday to help Miami (5-6) break a three-game losing streak.

"Anytime you lose consecutive games like that it's tough," Tannehill said. "We're just looking to get back on track."

The Seahawks (6-5), unbeaten at home this year, lost for the fifth time in six road games.

"In the NFL you've got to play tough games on the road to win,' defensive end Red Bryant said. "So far this year that's a part of our game we haven't been able to

translate."

Tannehill and Miami caught a break with Seattle leading 14-7 early in the fourth quarter. Bobby Wagner intercepted a pass by Tannehill in the end zone, but the turnover was negated by a penalty on safety Earl Thomas for roughing the passer.

"The NFL, they need some goggles," Thomas said. "I can't stop in midair like magic. I'm not Superman."

Seattle coach Pete Carroll called the penalty on Thomas question-

"He jumped up to block the pass and came down on the quarterback with no intent to hit him," Carroll said. "It was a very big call to make at that point in the

One play after the penalty, Daniel Thomas scored the tying

touchdown on a 3-yard run. Leon Washington returned a

See TANNEHILL, Page 10

Parker puts up 32 as Spurs beat Raptors

TORONTO (AP) — Tony Parker called it was a game that "could have gone either way." But with a perfect performance in the second overtime, Parker made sure his San Antonio

Spurs came out on top. Parker scored six of his 32 points in the second OT, Tim Duncan had 26 and the Spurs beat Toronto 111-106 Sunday, their fourth straight victory over

the Raptors. Duncan said no one was more vital to San Antonio's win than Parker, who made all three shots he took in the second overtime and topped 30 points

for the second straight

"He's our closer and

he has been that way

for the last couple of years," Duncan said. "He steps up and makes big shots for us. That's what we ask him to do and he's delivered for

Manu Ginobili scored 15 points, Danny Green had 13 and Boris Diaw 11 as the Spurs won their third straight and improved their NBAbest road record to 7-1.

"We take pride in winning on the road," Ginobili said.

Parker made jump shots on consecutive possessions with less than 1 minute, 15 seconds to go in the second overtime as the Spurs

"We had to work hard for this one," Parker

See SPURS, Page 10

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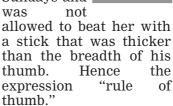
Editor's Note: Hundreds of Ann Landers' loyal readers have requested that newspapers continue to publish her columns. These letters originally appeared in 1999.

Dear Ann Landers: I would like your help in eliminating a phrase from our vocabulary. It is "rule of thumb." This may seem innocuous to you, but the history of the phrase could make you change your mind.

you change your mind.

Before enlightenment
and more

civilized
thinking,
there were
rules
regarding
when and
how a man
could beat a
woman. For
example, he
could not
beat her on
Sundays and



ANN

LANDERS

I think we should eliminate that phrase from our vocabularies out of respect for the abused women of the world. Will you help? — New Rules in Grand Forks, N.D.

Dear N.D.: I don't recall ever having used

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that phrase, and now that I know the origin, I doubt that I ever will. Thanks for the info.

Dear Ann Landers: I have a sophisticated, attractive girlfriend. She intelligent and has a terrific job. What's the problem? She doesn't shave her legs or under arms. I'm too her embarrassed to tell her this offends me and that it is neither ladylike nor attractive.

I have never dated a woman who didn't shave her legs. My girlfriend has more hair on her legs than I have on mine. I know that in Europe some women don't shave their legs, but is this socially acceptable nowadays in the United States? — A Hairy Situation in the East

Dear East: Unshaven armpits and hairy legs not socially are acceptable in our culture, and I cannot imagine why a sophisticated woman would not be aware of this. You should tell your friend it would please you if she would do this, although she may not. Incidentally, there are attractively packaged shaving kits for women available in drugstores everywhere. If she agrees to shave, consider giving her one.

Gem of the Day (Credit George Burns): You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you can do while you're down there.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury Straightens Up

Sometimes you start with the facts and draw conclusions based on the evidence. But the human brain

doesn't always naturally this follow sequence. More often we skip to the conclusion



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Neither method is perfect, but the first way, which will take longer, would work best as Mercury straightens his course.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You may see someone in action and think, "I can do that, too." This is passing not observation. It's directive that will motivate you in the weeks to come. You can and will "do that, too."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're on top of your game. Most of what you need you can provide yourself make or arrangements to have it provided. There's a formula you can follow that will make things easier.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You burn bright today, and your energy could use a worthy outlet. Consider dedicating to helping vourself

off the chill of loneliness for that person and don't even know you're doing

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You are in the mood to keep your private life to yourself. In this age of over-sharing, your refusal to give TMI (too much information) will be seen as a refreshing and effective social strategy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). have maturity beyond your years. This explains why you don't see eye-to-eye with a friend who is your age. Steer clear of potentially hot topics for the next three days.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You don't have a lot of time to spend with friends now, and so you are wise to be highly selective about company you keep. You'll spend time with people who genuinely need you or with whom you are sure to have fun.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don't need an olive branch to be an peace. agent of Everything you need is inside of you. You were born knowing how to bring people together. You build bridges with your words.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). What you see is not only what you get; it's what you're likely to get

another person. You stave in the future. So if a person gives you bad service, don't continue doing business with that person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). What matters most to you today is the same thing that mattered most to you yesterday: improving the lives of those closest to you. Knowing that the ones you love are better off for your contribution is fulfilling.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's always nice when the universe speaks to you in clear, concise terms. You've long wondered whether a certain past decision was a good one, and now you'll get a definitive answer.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll embrace the change others resist. When people see you moving forward unafraid, some will be inspired, and others will feel threatened. Stay brave and open-minded.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Realizing that to err is human, you wisely separate people from their actions. You can support a person without supporting that person's latest (baffling) endeavor.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 26). You've enjoyed a sense of rootlessness and exercised the benefit of your freedom. But at the start of 2013, you'll world's dig in once more and establish ties that hold. Love bonds are cemented in words and ink. Big deals come together in February. March brings family additions. Music and fun fill your spring. Aries and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 15, 18, 24 and 29.

BACKDROP, PLUTO IN

ASTRAL

CURRENT

CAPRICORN: Moving from the outer to the innermost planets — or, in the case of Pluto, notquite planets — our current astral stage is set with the dwarf planet in Capricorn. When Pluto enters a sign, he's not messing around. He intends to stay awhile, and he will be in Capricorn until 2023. Pluto last entered Capricorn in 1762, at which time events that led to the American Revolutionary War were set in place. Before that, Pluto moved through Capricorn in 1516, when Spanish invaders on the quest for gold brought down the Aztec Empire; the Incans and Mayans followed.

One could argue: When isn't the world changing? And yet sometimes the power shift is more palpable. The Pluto-in-Capricorn influence can be felt as more of the

population becomes empowered by technology. corruption and greed are exposed. Pluto Capricorn will continue to test and shake up structures, power influences these are ambitious and serious with little tolerance for what doesn't work. One of Pluto's hobbies is to artifice expose determine what really things makes Knowing the structures that matter shows us what is no longer useful.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Soulful songstress Natasha Bedingfield delivers a hopeful message with her music, with hits like "Unwritten" "Pocketful of Sunshine." Bedingfield was born when the sun, the moon, Uranus and Neptune were all in Sagittarius, indicating a traveler and a truth seeker. Her Mercury in Scorpio, an excellent placement for lyricists and poets, gives an enigmatic twist to communication.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at Syndicate Web pag www.creators.com. © 2012 CREATORS.COM

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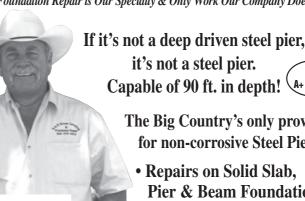
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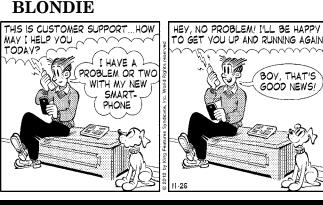




I'M TRYIN' TO THINK OF SOMETHIN FUN TO DO THAT WON'T PUT ME BACK IN TIME-OUT.



"It won't cost you any money, Mommy. You can just pay with a credit card.





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In 1992, the British govern-

ment announced that Queen

Elizabeth II had volunteered to

start paying taxes on her per-

sonal income, and would take

her children off the public pay-

Today's Birthdays: Actress

Ellen Albertini Dow is 99.

Impressionist Rich Little is 74.

Singer Tina Turner is 73.

Singer Jean Terrell is 68. Pop

musician John McVie is 67.

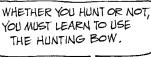
Actress Marianne Muellerleile

affair.

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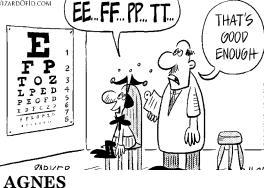




AS A VEGAN, I JUST DON'T



WIZARD OF ID







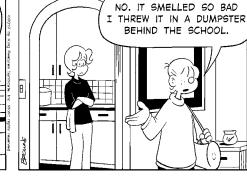
HI AND LOIS



















EM OUT !!

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JEEP FENDER,

RIGHTS



RIGHT

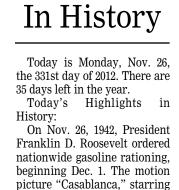








I HADTA BREAK TH' GLASS T'GIT



This Date

Bergman, had its world premiere at the Hollywood Theater in New York. On this date: In 1789, Nov. 26 was a day of thanksgiving set aside by President George Washington to observe the adoption of the Constitution of the United

Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid

In 1825, the first college social fraternity, the Kappa Alpha Society, was formed at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y.

States.

In 1842, the founders of the University of Notre Dame arrived at the school's presentday site near South Bend, Ind. in 1912, CBS newsman Eric

N.D. In 1933, a judge in New York

decided the James Joyce book "Ulvsses" was not obscene and could be published in the United States. In 1941, a Japanese naval task force consisting of six air-

craft carriers left the Kuril

Islands, headed toward Hawaii. In 1943, during World War II, the HMT Rohna, a British transport ship carrying American soldiers, was hit by a

German missile off Algeria;

1,138 men were killed. In 1950, China entered the Korean War, launching a counteroffensive against soldiers from the United Nations, the U.S. and South Korea.

In 1965, France launched its first satellite, sending a 92-pound capsule into orbit. In 1973, President Richard

Nixon's personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods, told a federal court that she'd accidentally caused part of the 18-minute gap in a key Watergate tape. In 1986, President Ronald

Reagan appointed a commis-

sion headed by former Senator

John Tower to investigate his

National Security Council staff

11 China's

continent

13 Maine clock

setting: Abbr.

22 Secret supply

25 Dragged from

26 Central Florida

27 Cuts down, as

backbone

31 Off the leash

32 Drive forward

coverings

35 Field goals or

30 Book leaf

33 Banana

RBIs

behind

city

trees 28 Counterfeit

29 Book's

12 Semester

21 Unseals

is 64. Actor Scott Jacoby is 56. Actress Jamie Rose is 53. Country singer Linda Davis is 50. Blues singer-musician Bernard Allison is 47. © 2012 The Associated Press. Answer to previous puzzle

HOTSALSA KISSME IMALLOUT ITCHES SOUP GYMNASTICS MVP ZENITHS POT IPETER CODEX UNDULY AIRTASER SNEERING ROOKIE SIRENSESPRESSO

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Whitish gemstone 5 Pronto, in a
- memo 9 Oregon or
- Oklahoma 14 Floor-model car
- 15 Song for one
- person
- **16** Affirmative
- 17 Metallic rocks
- 18 Fair-to-middling
- (business attire)
- 20 Gets tired
- 24 Golfer's peg
- 31 ChapStick
- 34 Pacific or
- Atlantic
- 36 Big book
- **37** Proceeds very
- carefully
- prosecutors:
- Abbr.
- target
- batteries
- 56 Entices
- **59** Totally silly

- 63 Piglets' moms
- **64** Spinning toys
 - 2 Lima's country
- - (speechless)
 - 5 Promise
 - 6 Like a
- blackened
- 7 In addition
- 35 Resorts offering
- 41 Narrow street
- **43** Courtroom
- 44 Spouse
- 48 Helps to recall

- cookie
- 62 Waist circlers

- 1 Aroma
- 3 End of a prayer

 - confidently

- email

- 45 Sahara animals
- 47 Some small
- 57 Pickled veggie

- 60 Two-toned

- **DOWN**
- 4 At a for words

- chimney
- 8 Magician's word 9 Method

59

- 10 Childish giggle

- 40 Glamour rival
- **42** Flip-chart holder

- 61 Shredded
- cabbage dish

- replies
- **19** __ and tie
- 23 Be a snoop
- 25 Chewy candy 29 Unwanted
- destination
- massages
- 46 Point at the
- 58 "It's clear now"

- ON THE MOVE by Gail Grabowski
- Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com
 - shuttle 38 San Antonio shrine

36 Disney World

- 39 Joke around with 44 Is nostalgic for
- 45 Walk-on roles 46 Insurance broker
- 47 Out of whack 48 When summer
- starts 49 Word-of-mouth
- 50 Sgts. and cpls. **51** Money in Italy 52 Spray-can
- 53 Capital of Norway

output

54 Bring in the harvest 55 Evergreen trees

56 Ad-_

(improvise) 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 18 19 17 20 23 24 29 | 30 31 32 33 25 | 26 | 27 34 35 36 37 38 40 41 42 43 44 47 48 49 53 54 50 51 58 56

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60 61

SEC championship to determine who plays Notre Dame for BCS title

NEW YORK (AP) — playoffs start in college Two years before the football, the Southeast-



The Living Christmas Tree



ern Conference is staging a semifinal to determine who plays Notre Dame in the BCS title

Alabama (.9236) was second and Georgia (.8911) third in the BCS standings released Sunday. The Crimson Tide and Bulldogs play Saturday in Atlanta for the SEC championship.

The winner will ad-

vance to the national championship game in Miami on Jan. 7 against the Fighting Irish (.9979), who locked up their spot Saturday with a 22-13 victory against Southern California. "If you think about

what the game means, this that and the other, it doesn't really help you win the game," Georgia coach Mark Richt said. "The only thing that helps you win the game is preparation and getting your tle. That's what you've got to do."

Florida (.8882)fourth in the standings, but with no games left, looks stuck behind their SEC rivals.

One way or another, the SEC will get a shot at its seventh straight BCS championship. The Bowl Champi-

onship Series is in its

second-to-last season.

It will be replaced by a four-team playoff in 2014. While the race for the BCS title game is now fairly straight forward heading into champion-

ship weekend in college football, there's some intrigue to watch for involving potential BCS busters. Because it is almost a certainty that the Big

East champion — Louisville and Rutgers will determine who that is on Thursday night in

mind ready to go to bat- New Jersey — will be ranked behind the MAC champion in the final BCS standings.

SPURS

said.

Continued from Page 5

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich agreed, not that he was happy about it.

"In a lot of ways, (To-

ronto) played better

than we did," Popovich

said. "They destroyed

us on the boards. For

most of the meat of the

game they just threw it

up there, missed it and

they'd go get it again.

That kept them in the

ballgame. We did a bet-

ter job in the overtimes

defensively and on the

boards, and that got us

DeMar DeRozan led

Toronto with 29 points,

while rookie Jonas Va-

lanciunas had 22. Kyle

Lowry scored 20 points

and Ed Davis had 15

points and 14 rebounds

for the Raptors, who

have lost their past three

games by a combined

Bargnani had a disap-

pointing game, scoring

four points and making

just two of 19 field goal

"Today was definitely a very bad night," Barg-

nani said. "Maybe the

Raptors coach Dwane

Casey dismissed sug-

gestions that he should

have benched Bargnani,

the first overall pick in

made free throws to tie

the score at 88 with 24

seconds left in regula-

tion. San Antonio gave

the ball to Parker, who

let the clock run down

to six seconds, but al-

most turned it over as he

Parker's 3-point effort

no-look shot went wide, sending the game to

San Antonio led 92-90

on Duncan's dunk with

less than 30 seconds to

go in the first overtime

when a foul by Parker

gave possession to the

Raptors. But Parker

stole Jose Calderon's in-

bounds pass and raced

in for a layup, giving the Spurs an 94-90 lead with

"I saw that Calderon

was going to lob it and so I felt that with my speed

I could sneak in there

and get it," Parker said.

"I just tried to make a

play and it worked out

Toronto never led in the second extra session,

with Green's 3 with 4:43 to go giving the Spurs

Toronto led 60-51 with 7:29 left but the Spurs erased the deficit thanks

to eight points from Gi-

the lead for good.

24 seconds left.

for me."

nobili.

the 2006 draft.

Valanciunas

Andrea

calmly

seven points.

Toronto's

attempts.

worst.'

drove.

overtime.

over the hump."

Boise State from the Mountain West is 20th in the standings and also still in the mix for that BCS buster bid. The team that could be hurt most if a BCS buster emerges is Oklahoma. The Sooners are sitting 11th in the standings with a game left against TCU. With another victory, they would seem to be in good shape to get into the BCS even if Kansas State clinches the Big 12 by beating Texas.

But that at-large spot could get gobbled up by a BCS buster.

Wisconsin and Nebraska will play for the Big Ten's Rose Bowl berth.

Florida State and Georgia Tech play for the ACC title and a spot in the Orange Bowl.

eighth time in his career to tie the NFL record and put Seattle ahead with eight minutes left. Miami answered with an 80-yard drive capped by Tannehill's 29-yard pass to Charles Clay, making it 21-21. Russell Wilson was the better rook-

ie QB for much of the afternoon. He threw two touchdown passes, completed 16 consecutive attempts and finished

> with heftypasser rating of 125.9.

"We did a lot of great things, but we did some stuff that's not characteris-

final three plays and were forced to punt from midfield, allowing the Dolphins to start at their own 10 with 1:32 left.

downfield and finished 18 for 26 for 253 yards and a score. He broke the Dolphins' rookie record of 2,210 yards passing set by Dan Marino in 1983.

A computer glitch caused the sprinklers to come on, creating a comical sight as they briefly showered the entire field on a cloudless afternoon. Wilson said the Seahawks were un-

"I think they're used to the rain."

tic of us," Wilson said. The Seahawks lost yardage on their

Tannehill quickly moved Miami

fell short, giving Toronto one-10th of a second to try for the winning basket, but Bargnani's Dr. Rudy Haddad

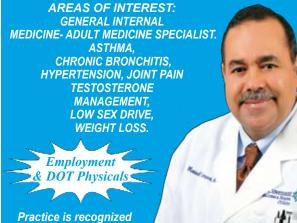
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GRADY

Continued from Page 5

touchdown of its own, but failed to convert on the PAT.

The Buffaloes would

retain the lead for the duration of the game and although the Wildcats managed to add 22 more points, Petersburg held on to advanced to the Region I final on Friday where they will meet 12-0 Valley.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com



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