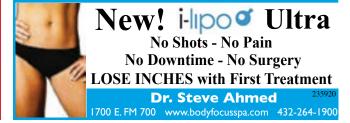
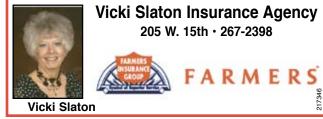


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WEDNESDAY



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A holly, jolly weekend

Several events to usher in holiday festivities locally

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Do you love Christmas? Is it your "most wonderful time of the year," as the song suggests?

Well, you are in luck.

The Christmas season arrives with a purpose this coming weekend, with parades, lighting displays, concerts and several other activities filling the schedule.

VAMC Lighting of the Lights

The first of the holiday events will be Friday evening, when the local VA Medical Center hosts its annual tree lighting ceremony at 6 p.m.

Daniel L. Marsh, medical center director for the West Texas VA Health Care System, assisted by area children, will throw the switch on the VA Medical Center's holiday lights, according to VA officials.

The fun doesn't stop with the lights, which will not only illuminate the Christ-

See WEEKEND, Page 3



A girl waves to the crowd during the 2011 Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade. This year's parade will be held Saturday.

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Alon USA Partners stock on the rise

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

After its initial public offering Tuesday, shares of Alon USA Partners LP owner of the Big Spring Refinery rose this week by as much as 19 percent, according to totals reported at the stock market.

The company issued 10 million shares at \$16 each in its initial public offering. Since that time, however, the company has approximately 62.5 million shares outstanding, fetching Alon an estimated \$1 billion in market capitalization, officials said.

Initially, Alon had expected its IPO to be issued between \$19 and \$21 per share, according to previous information provided by the oil company.

According to Francis Gaskins, analyst for IPO Desktop, the reason for the shortfall comes from the markets lack of dealings with oil refiners.

"The market is not used to processing and evaluating refinery IPOs and so they wanted to price it low because they did not want to have a broken IPO," Gaskins said following the offering.

Alon USA Partners — a unit of Alon USA Energy Inc. — was formed to own and operate its parent's refining and petroleum marketing business in South Central and Southwestern regions of the United States, according to Alon of-

The Dallas-based company filed with

the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in August with expectations to raise approximately \$230 million with

According to Alon officials, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and the U.S. Division of Credit Suisse Securities LLC are acting as lead underwriters for the offering.

The company — which reported a net income of \$268.7 million on revenue of \$2.65 billion for the nine months ended the end of September — plans to use the proceeds from the offering to repay debt and for capital expenditure.

Shares of Alon USA Partners LP are currently being traded on the New York Stock Exchange as ALDW.N

Man says prayer leader told him to kill wife

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Less than three months after he stood as a groomsman in the wedding of two friends he had known since college in Texas, Micah Moore walked into a suburban Kansas City police department and unloaded a dark secret: He had taken the woman's life at the request of her new husband, a charismatic prayer group leader. Police said Bethany Deaton's death

initially appeared to be a suicide. Of-

ficers found a note and empty bottle of over-the-counter pain medication along with her body in a minivan parked by a lake on Oct. 30.

It wasn't until Moore confessed nearly two weeks later that police announced she had been killed. He is scheduled for a preliminary hearing on a first-degree murder charge Wednesday.

See KILLING, Page 3





432-267-1480 Mon.-Fri. 9:30 am-5:30 pm www.thekaratpatch.com

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Obituaries

Clifford Hale Jr.



Clifford Hale Jr., born Nov. 29. 1926, went to be with his precious Lord on Nov. 24, 2012 — unable to wait another four days until he turned 86 — to be with his precious wife of nearly 60 years, Wynelle Franklin Hale.

Clifford, also known as Cliff or Jr., was born in Waco, Texas, to Lilly and Clifford Hale and was raised from age 14 by his beloved stepfather, Bob Spence. At age 17

- exaggerating his age by a year — Cliff decided he needed to join the Army with thousands of others, ready to defend our country in World War II.

His stepfather, Bob, had taught him the fine art of welding at age 14. He was given the job of teaching the officers in New Orleans how to weld so they could work on our aircraft and other equipment. However, after basic training in New Orleans, he would soon be called to deploy to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, arriving three days after the bombing.

They were marched through to help with clean up, a mission that would change his life forever both emotionally and physically for the pain it brought to his fellow human beings and seeing those starving. He personally sacrificed to help alleviate their hunger. However, the radiation he absorbed took a huge toll on his life, basically frying his internal organs and corkscrewing his choroidal arteries, causing him to deal with 29 major surgeries and resuscitated from two other deaths and endured pain for the rest of his life.

Cliff returned to Big Spring after the War and while dealing with an ear infection, he went to Dr. Woods' office. Upon going for the second visit he noticed the beautiful receptionist remembered his name from the first visit. Her name was Wynelle Franklin. As those things go, three months later he married this remarkable woman. A year and a day later, on Wynelle's birthday and just one day after their anniversary, they welcomed a daughter, Donna Elaine, and three years later a son, Terry Don, to their family.

Cliff worked for his father at Hale Pump Company for many years. He also co-owned Hamby Motor Company with lifelong friends, Margaret and Raymond Hamby. Then he bought his father's business and again owned Hale Pump Co. with partner,

In the 1980s, his health would no longer allow the digging of ditches and setting of pumps, so he retired and went to work at Howard College, where I believe to this day he was the only one qualified to teach five subjects. In 10 years he once again retired and worked on his ranch and enjoyed deer hunting and fishing, his passions.

In 2004, he and Wynelle bought Austwell Trailer Park in Austwell, Texas, near the coast where he was raised. It was a place he loved and made great friends. Then, sadly, they had to leave and return to their home in Big Spring because they both had life-threatening problems.

Cliff lost his beloved wife, Wynelle, on Sept. 7, 2007, and was also preceded in death by his parents, Clifford and Lilly Spence and stepfather Bob Spence, then of Coahoma; and double cousin (who he considered a sister) Billie Harris.

He is survived by his brother, Jim Montgomery and wife Nancy of Atlanta, Ga.; a son, Terry Hale and daughter Carley Hale (his cover girl); a daughter, Donna Carey Atkins and husband Richard Atkins (who he also considered his great friend and son) and Donna's children, Bill Carey (who he always said was his other son, for he helped raise him and took him to the ranch every weekend of his life), Kendra Carey Willingham (his precious love and the first to finish college in his family, which he was so proud of); three great-grandchildren, Delaney Carey of Colorado Springs, Co., and Grayson Dean Willingham and Zane Edward Willingham of Frisco, Texas (Oh, how he loved these precious ones). The "stars in my eyes," he would say.

Cliff loved the Lord totally and completely and read the Bible daily and completely through 14 times until it fell apart and we had to get a second one for him to highlight. He wanted his "Bill" to have it. Cliff taught Sunday school, held nearly every office in the churches and belonged to Wesley Methodist, having helped start Kentwood

He returned for the second time to First Methodist where Wynelle and he were married. He loved the church and believed God wanted us, with his other believers, to strengthen us as a man and to do God's work. He was always big on fund-raising, made Mexican dinners, barbecues and loved The Lords Acre Celebration Fundraiser.

He taught tithing to his children from the first allowance, saying "You give God his 10 percent and you will never go without, because you cannot outgive God. Test it, he will prove it. Want more? Give

Cliff was a Mason and member of the First Lodge of Big Spring, Texas. He and Wynelle loved and supported the Waco Methodist Children's Home.

A quiet man — though a little ornery — who gave a lot. His home for the last two years was the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home. The people there were very special to him and the nurses and administration were great. We are extremely grateful for their love and care. God bless you all for the love you give.

The family suggests memorials to First United Methodist Church of Big Spring, Waco Methodist Children's Home or the American Cancer Society.

Memorial services will be held at First Methodist Church at a later date in January so all he loved can be there.

Cliff and Wynelle believed in giving all you could, therefore donated their bodies to Texas Tech University for research.

Paid obituary

Charles Wayne Gilbert



Charles Wayne Gilbert, 63, of Stanton died Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2012, at his residence. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, 2012, at Evergreen Cemetery with Bill Bridges officiating.

Charles was born Nov. 23, 1949, in Lonestar, Ark., and married Deborah Ann Sherrod on Oct. 15, 2002, in Stanton, Texas. Survivors include his wife.

Debbie Gilbert of Stanton; four daughters, Jessica Gilbert of Stanton, Tina Marie Gilbert and Shelia Ann Gilbert, both of Arlington, and Shelly Gilbert of El Paso; three sons, James Sherrod and Cade Gilbert, both of Stanton, and Ronnie Dale Gilbert of Lubbock; his mother, Nellie Gilbert of Brownfield; four sisters, Sharon Gilbert of Brownfield, Nellie Brown of Longview, Yvonne Gilbert of Wellington and Frances Gilbert of Sherman; two brothers, Lynn Gilbert and Jimmy Gilbert, both of Lubbock; and 11 grandchildren. Charles was preceded in death by his father, Lacv

David Gilbert; one sister, Patricia Gilbert; and three brothers, Clifton Gilbert, Johnny Gilbert and Carrol Gilbert. Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath

Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Daniel Gene Martin Moses



Daniel (Danny) Gene Martin Moses, 39, of Big Spring died Friday, Nov. 23, 2012, in Big Spring. Family memorial services will be held at a later date.

He was born Feb. 11, 1973, in Abilene, Texas, to Sharon Dee (Bardwell) and Alvin Lynn Moses. He grew up in Abilene and moved to Big Spring in 2009. He was a He is survived by his mother,

Sharon Moses of Big Spring; father, Alvin Moses of Abilene; two cousins; several aunts and uncles and a great-aunt.

He was preceded in death by his grandmothers, Edna Mae Cates and Betty Jewel Moses.

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

Opal Cole Cluck

Opal Cole Cluck, 89, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2012, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

- PHILLIP EUGENE BEBEE, 38, of 1604 Settles, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for assault by contact (two counts).
- LARRY DALE KING, 29, of 4207 Oak, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of burglary of a building.

THEFT was reported:

In the 1400 block of W. Second Street.

In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

In the 4500 block of Wasson.

- BURGLARY was reported in the 4100 block of
- STOLEN VEHICLE was reported in the 1300 block of Tucson.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported: In the 400 block of S. Gregg Street.
 - In the 200 block of W. FM 700.

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

Sheriff

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this

- ALFRED SANCHEZ, 42, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of bondsman off bond possession of a controlled substance.
- OSWALDO SUBIA MARTINEZ, 59, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.

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• AMANDA SEBASTIANA COLLAZO, 32, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated with a child passenger less than 15 years old.

 STEVE ALLAN CRIM, 62, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of issuance of a bad check and theft by check - more than \$20 and less than \$500.

 PHILLIP EUGENE BEBEE, 38, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on municipal capias warrants for assault – physical contact (two counts).

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Morrison. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of W
- 18th Street. One person was transported to SMMC. TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the area
- of Interstate Highway 20. Service refused. MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to
- SMMC. 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
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of Cardinal. Service refused. MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of
- Robin. One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of
- Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC. DUMPSTER FIRE was reported in the 600 block
- of Aylesford. • DUMPSTER FIRE was reported in the 1300 block
 - TRAUMA was reported in the 1200 block of
- Frazier. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Alabama. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support Groups

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at the Gold Rush Tobacco Shop, 800 E. Third Street. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.
- · Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. 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.



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KILLING

Continued from Page 1

In the criminal complaint filed in support of the charge, police detailed a stunning series of allegations that Moore made as part of his confession.

Moore, 23, lived with Deaton and her husband, Tyler, in a communal home shared by male members of their prayer group. He told police that several members had sexually assaulted Bethany Deaton and that they were worried she would tell someone. Moore said that's when Tyler Deaton ordered him to kill Bethany Deaton, according to a criminal complaint.

Tyler Deaton has not been charged in his wife's death. Jackson County prosecutor Jean Peters Baker said Deaton was under investigation but declined to elaborate. Deaton does not have a listed phone number and did not re-

spond to requests for comment The Associated Press made through Facebook and phone and email messages to his father.

Moore's attorney, Melanie Morgan, declined to comment.

Tyler and Bethany Deaton moved to Kansas City in 2009 from Texas to attend a sixmonth internship at the non-accredited International House of Prayer University.

The two had met as freshmen at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, in 2005, and two years later Tyler started a prayer group, a former longtime member of the group told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because he was afraid of retaliation from Tyler Deaton.

Tyler Deaton was listed at one point as a division coordinator for "friendship IHOPU's groups," but the school said that was a mistake. It issued a statement distancing itself from Tyler Deaton after Moore,

Storybook Christmas";

Publisher's Award (best

use of lighting); and

Grand Marshal's Award

(for best costuming).

Also, certificates will

be awarded to the best

entries in the following

categories — individu-

al/family; civic/school;

commercial; industrial;

"I think this will be

one of the best parades

we've ever had," Nunez

said."It's certainly gen-

erating a lot of excite-

ment and we hope every-

For more information,

This Big Spring holi-

day tradition will hold

its 34th annual rendition

at 8 p.m. Saturday and

Sunday at First United

The event is free to

the public, but tickets

must be obtained at the

church office. A dress

rehearsal at 2 p.m. Sat-

urday also is open to the

public and no ticket is

required for that perfor-

The Living Christmas

Tree, for the uniniti-

ated, is exactly that -a

2,000-pound Christmas

tree populated by more

than 130 singers dressed

While the event will

be familiar to those who

have attended before,

the program is tweaked

every year to provide

something new. Aside

from long-time classics,

newer holiday standards

For more information,

contact the church of-

will be performed.

fice at 267-6394.

as ornaments.

Methodist Church.

contact the Herald at

one can come watch."

and mounted.

263-7331.

The Living

Christmas Tree

a student at IHOPU, was arrested.

"Since Bethany's death it has come to light that over five years ago, both she and Mr. Moore joined an independent, religious close-knit, group in Georgetown, Texas," the school said in a statement. "This religious group of fewer than 20 people was led by Tyler Deaton. They relocated to Kansas City over the last few years and operated under a veil of secrecy."

IHOPU is the educational arm of International House of Prayer of Kansas City, an evangelical Christian group focused on missions and preparation for the end of time.

The Deatons' prayer group had at least two houses, with women living in one and men in another. Bethany Deaton, 27, moved into the men's house with Tyler Deaton after they married in August.

According to the criminal complaint, Moore told police that men in the house began drugging Bethany Deaton and sexually assaulting her soon after she moved in. He said she was seeing a therapist and group members became concerned she would tell the therapist about the assaults.

Moore and other men who lived in the house told police that several group members also were having sexual relations with Tyler Deaton, unbeknownst to his wife.

One man, whose name was blacked out of the criminal complaint, told police that Tyler Deaton said after Bethany Deaton died that he had had a dream he killed his wife by suffocating her.

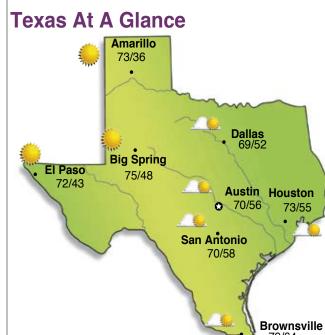
Moore told detectives Tyler Deaton instructed him to kill Bethany Deaton because he knew Moore had it in him to do it, and that Moore reported back to Tyler Deaton after she was dead. Moore told police that he had placed a bag over Bethany Deaton's head and held it there until her body shook.

Today's Weather

Local	5-Day F	orecas	t	
Fri 11/30	Sat 12/1	Sun 12/2	Mon 12/3	Tue 12/4
N. C.		The state of the s	The state of the s	
75/48 Sunshine. Highs in the nid 70s and bws in the hipper 40s.	76/49 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	80/48 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 40s.	78/50 Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.	77/45 Plenty of sun. Highs i the upper 70s and lows in the mid 40s.
Sunrise: 7:28 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:29 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:30 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:30 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:31 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM

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We Celebrate Hometown Life



WEEKEND

Continued from Page 1

mas tree located inside the medical center's lobby, but also much of the facility's outside, as

Santa Claus will visit with all of the children. Refreshments will be served, as well.

The public is welcomed to attend this free-of-charge event, officials said.

For more information, call 264-4824.

Canterbury Christmas Bazaar

Canterbury The Christmas Bazaar which will be located at 1700 S. Lancaster — is slated for 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.

The 21st annual bazaar will feature a wide variety of gift items, including jewelry woodcrafts, handmade quilts and home décor, organizers

More than 30 vendors are expected to be selling their wares at the

For more information, call 432-263-1238.

Herald Community Christmas Parade

A near-record number of entries will highlight the Big Spring Herald's Community annual Christmas Parade Saturday evening. Parade Coordinator

Rick Nunez said more than 40 entries have been registered for the parade, which will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the intersection of Gregg and 24th streets. The parade will proceed north on Gregg to Eighth, east to Scurry, north to Fourth, then east to Main.

Awards will be presented in the following

categories: Best of Show With Santa (best interpretation of the parade's them of "A

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be stopping at the Heritage Museum Saturday.

This won't just be a normal stop though, as the Claus' will be having breakfast with the children of Big Spring, helping them decorate a gingerbread house and Christmas ornaments.

"This went over really well last year and we figured we would bring it back this year and give more kids the opportunity to have breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus," said Nancy Raney, museum direc-

The cost is \$3 per child plus one canned good, which will benefit the First Baptist Church food pantry. There are 30-minute time slots from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. that parents can sign their children up for.

Later that day, the museum will hold its annual Parade Watching Party beginning at 4:30 p.m.

To make reservations, call the museum at 267-8255 or send an email to heritagemus@gmail.

Still to come

Other upcoming | Christmas activities include the First Church of the Nazarene's Drive Through Nativity from | 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Dec. 10-12 and a Symphonic

the Big Spring Symphony, the Coahoma Choir Kids and soloists Joyce Bradley and Lawrence Thibeault at 8 p.m. Dec. 15 in the Municipal Auditorium. Also, Comanche Trail Park comes alive with more than 1 million lights each evening from Dec. 16 through Dec. 31.

featuring

Christmas,

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Daniel Gene Moses, 39 died Friday. Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Clifford Hale, Jr., 85 died Saturday. His body has been dontated to Texas Tech School of Medicine. A memorial service will be held January 12, 2013, at the First United Methodist Church.

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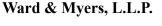
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1 Coupon Per Person Must Be Presented For Discount

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Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated. **Glenn Stifflemire Bill McClellan** Publisher Managing Editor

Steve Reagan Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer Staff Writer

OTHER VIEWS

Anti-tax pledge is losing favor

ne of the impediments to a congressional deal that would avert the dreaded fiscal cliff seems to have been removed or at least greatly diminished after this past election.

According to the Congress-watching newspaper The Hill, "Grover Norquist's majority in Congress is all but gone."

Norquist is — or, perhaps now, was — one of the most powerful influences on Congress that most people never heard of. He was head of something called Americans for Tax Reform whose signature feat was to cajole, wheedle or threaten new members of Congress to sign a pledge never to raise taxes.

While every Congress legislatively starts anew, Norquist insisted the pledge was binding for the entirety of the member's career. And his goal was clear — small and ineffectual government. As he often said, "My goal is to cut government in half in 25 years, to get it down to the size where we can drown it in the

The pledge applies not only to tax increases but also to loophole closings and elimination of deductions that are not offset by cuts in federal spending elsewhere. It was a successful recipe for fiscal paralysis and why two major wars and the prescription drug entitlement have never been paid for. They were funded by borrowing, but we seem to be drawing close to the end of our line of credit.

The Hill says, "About a dozen newly elected House Republicans refused to sign the anti-tax pledge during their campaigns, and another handful of returning Republicans have disavowed their allegiance to the written commitment."

With the GOP loss of seats in the House, fewer than the 218 signees (there were 238) needed for a majority remain, and in the Senate 39 members who were signers of the pledge remain.

The great 18th century political theorist Edmund Burke said, "Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but judgment; and he betrays, instead of serving you, if he sacrifices it to your opinion." In this case, substitute Grover Norquist for "your opinion."

The decision of whether to raise taxes, and whether this decision is good for the constituents, should rest solely between the representative and the people.

San Angelo Standard Times

STATE

GOVERNMENT

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Room 2S.1

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Austin, 78711

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State Representative

Texas 85th District

P.O. Box 1105

Big Spring, 79721

Phone: (432) 517-9894

·KEL SELIGER

State Senator

Texas 31st District

401 Austin, Suite 101

Big Spring, 79720

Phone: (432) 268-9909

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Home: 517-4070;

Marvin Boyd - 263-

Office: 264-2350.

8800

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KAY BAILEY **HUTCHISON**

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U.S. Representative 19th Cong. District 1510 Scurry Big Spring Phone: (432) 264-0722 Making up your mind

taught all four of our children how to drive a car. And they can all drive a stick shift, too. For you newbies, a stick shift is a manual, or sometimes called a standard transmission.

Come to think of it, I taught my wife to drive also. She had only been 16 years old for three weeks when we exchanged our vows, so she had never had much opportunity or occasion to



PRINCE

Anyway, the purpose for sharing those tidbits of information was to simply state that one of the main things I emphasized when I taught them was to be decisive. In other words, if you are going to pull out to merge into traffic or cross an intersection, get it done. I stressed that hesitation is dangerous and could cost your life. Former President Ronald

Reagan said he learned the need for decision-making early in life. An aunt had taken him to a cobbler to have a pair of shoes made for him. The shoemaker asked young Ronald Reagan, "Do you want a square toe or a round Reagan hemmed and hawed.

So the cobbler said, "Come back in a day or two and let me know what you want." A few days later the shoemaker saw Reagan on the street and asked what he had decided about the shoes. "I still haven't made up my mind," the boy answered. "Very well," said the cobbler. When Reagan received the shoes, he was shocked to see that one shoe had a square toe and the other a round toe.

"Looking at those shoes every day taught me a lesson," said Reagan years later. "If you don't make your own decisions, somebody else will make them for you!" (View from the Cockpit, Archie B. Lawson)

If you have been reading this

column for the past 13 months, you should know by now that I am a pastor. And you would also know that I don't usually do much preaching here, or even delve into religious issues very frequently. My philosophy when I began this literary journey was that if someone wants to hear me preach, there's a place for that every Sunday.

That being said, let me issue a disclaimer, or perhaps a warning label for today's "I column as I see 'em." I am going to make several Biblical references so if that's going to bother you, you may want to go ahead and stop reading somewhere right about

On the other hand, if you subscribe to the foundational truths provided on its pages, stay with me as I do a little preaching about a crucial subject that is one of the biggest problems I see in our world today, indecision.

When I was a boy I used to hear people talk about "straddling the fence". When making a choice between what is right or wrong, healthy or unhealthy, edifying or destructive, there's very little positive that can be said about indecision. Too many people today are in the valley of indecision and that is not a good place to dwell. It's past time to take a stand for what's right and stop vacillating.

Here are a few of the reasons I think it's time for people to get serious and quit floundering around in their minds and actions and do what needs to be done without hesitation.

One thing is that there are far too many people willing to compromise values and principles. Sometimes it's because they don't know what's truly right, but not always. Sometimes it's simply a matter of unwillingness to follow truth. In 1 Kings 18, (Bible Reference Alert) Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him." Where are the 21st

I COLUMN AS I SEE 'EM

Century Elijah's challenging people to do the right things? After becoming knowledgeable we have a mandate to do the right thing because James 4:17 says, "If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them."

Indecision is inevitable when your values are unclear. When one course of action is obviously superior to the other, the choice is easy. When you have no clear basis to choose one option over the other, you can get stuck in that valley of indecision referenced earlier. The world today is unbelievably confused about what is valuable and what is worthless. Jesus taught, "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other." (Matthew 6:24)

Another problem I see is that too many people do nothing because they are fearful of failure or criticism. They shy away from making decisions because they place far too much value on people's opinions, and getting stuck in indecision is a costly experience. Joshua said it powerfully and decisively when he declared, "But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua

Compromise may be the order of the day in Washington, D.C., but it has to be eliminated on the battlefield of your heart and mind. Decide what kind of legacy you want to leave and don't let indecision destroy your future or keep you from your destiny.

24:15)

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

Obama: A gridlock of one

resident Obama likes tocomplain about gridlock in Washington and blame Republicans for keeping him from doing his job. As president, he has the unfet-

tered executive power to pardon individuals convicted of federal crimes or commute their sentences. Yet, while his 2008 campaign called for a review of federal mandatory minimum sentences to housed nonvio-



DEBRA SAUNDERS

reduce the number of needlessly warelent drug offenders, Obama has pardoned a mere 22 offenders who served their sentences and commuted only one sentence. When it comes to acts of mercy, Obama has produced his own gridlock of one.

Political science professor and Pardon Power blogger P.S. Ruckman believes that no president since John Adams has shown so little interest in exercising the power of the pardon.

Somehow the senator who opposed the waterboarding of self-professed 9/11 mastermind Khalid Shaikh Mohammed has become the president who hasn't lifted a finger to correct the tortured punishment meted out to Clarence Aaron, when the 23-year-old was sentenced to life without parole for a first-time nonviolent drug offense in 1993 in Alabama. Ditto other victims of draconian federal mandatory minimum-sentencing laws.

Obama's piddling exercise of mercy baffles liberals. Eric Sterling, who founded the Criminal Justice Policy Foundation to combat the excesses of federal drug laws, helped draft as a congressional aide, noted that his co-believers aren't asking Obama to free convicted killers posing a threat to society. "There are lots and lots of people who fit the strictest criteria to minimize the risk of re-offending," said Sterling.

Obama could commute the sentences of only nonviolent offenders and mandate supervised release.

Or the president could only commute the sentences of inmates with clean prison records and a good word from a prosecutor or judge.

With his re-election secure, Obama has run out of reasons not to commute the sentences of nonviolent offenders. Ruckman expects the president to issue some pardons in December, a holiday tradition, but, "I don't expect a lot, frankly. I have no reason to expect he's going to set any records."

Why has Obama been so stingy

with his clemency power? It's a frequent topic of speculation among pardon watchers. Quoth Ruckman: "I personally think it all started with the choice of Eric Holder (as attorney general). He brought more baggage to the office with respect to pardons

than anyone else in history." Readers may recall that as a Justice Department official, Holder gave President Clinton cover to pardon big-donor Marc Rich — the gazillionaire who fled the country rather than face fraud and tax-evasion charges. Holder also had a role in Clinton's decision to commute the sentences of 16 Puerto Rican independence terrorists.

In other words, Holder rewarded a gazillionaire fugitive for avoiding prosecution and helped free unrepentant terrorists for political advantage. But when it comes to using the pardon power to curb the excesses of brutish sentences, Holder has other priorities.

Clarence Aaron can wait. Given his sentence of life without parole, where's he going to go?

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www. creators.com.

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- · Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

Why not check this out at the library?

his will be the last column for a while. I will start back up the middle part of January when our new books start coming in.

In the meanwhile, please remember we have lots of good "stuff" here at Howard County Library.

We still

get best-



sellers in every week;

you can find them on

the McNaughton book-

shelf, over by the DVD

area. We have a display

shelf where we put new

Hollis **McCright**

DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT

Everything You Need to Know

About America's Greatest Conflict

but Never Learned

Kenneth c. Davis

ANTHOR OF A OUT AND SUPPLEMENT OUR UNDERSE

books out; it is just in front of the Circulation Desk. If you are in need of some new authors, I am always glad to steer you to an author you may not have heard of.

All of us are eager to help people find whatever you are looking for.

Our Christmas holiday hours are as follows: We will close for the County Christmas Luncheon on Friday, Dec. 21 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. and remain closed for the Christmas Holidays. In addition, we are closed from Saturday, Dec. 22 to Tuesday, Dec. 25, and will reopen Wednesday, Dec. 26 at 9 a.m. and resume our regular schedule. The library will also be closed on

> Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2013. Please cut this out and post on your refrigerator or wherever you keep important notices.

Are you into decorating cupcakes? We have the second volume to "Hello,

cake" with "What's New, Cupcake" (641.865 TAC K) by Karen Tack and Alan Richardson.

On the cover are some yellow ducky cupcakes that are absolutely precious! Thumbing through the book, I found some Ant cupcakes; a Chocolate Moose; Pink Flamingoes; a Robocupcake and many more delightful cakes that are made up of cupcakes and cakes.

Tack and Richardson give you detailed instructions on supplies, techniques, ideas and so much more on how to decorate the simple, humble cupcake. There are some delightful ideas for Christmas snowmen, trees, reindeer ... even a gingerbread house!

Kenneth C. Davis has given us several "Don't Know Much" books on history and geography and now he has presented us one on the Civil War. Titled "Don't Know Much about the Civil War" (973.7 DAV K), it is filled with snippets of information on why Robert E. Lee resigned from the U.S. Army. Did General Sherman really say 'War is Hell'? And why did Lincoln sneak into Washington for his inauguration?

Wendy Welch and her husband had always dreamed of owning a bookstore. When the opportunity to escape a toxic work environment and run to a struggling Virginia coalmining town presented itself, they took the plunge. In "The Little Bookstore of Big Stone Gap" (LP 381.450 WEL W) by Wendy Welch, this memoir chronicles two bibliophiles discovering unlikely ways in which daily living and literature intertwine. It is sort of like "All Things Great and Small," only with books instead of animals.

This is a new mystery character to me, Miss Dido Kent, and she appears in "A Woman of Consequence" (LP M DEA A) by Anna Dean It is the third installment in Anna Dean's charming mystery series and opens with a visit to the ruins of an Abbey where Penelope Lambe, suffers a bad fall from the ancient stone steps. Before she slips into unconsciousness, Penelope manages to say, 'I saw her — It was her.'

Soon, people are certain that she saw the Grey Nun, a ghost reputed to walk the abbey's ruins.

Miss Dido Kent, however, does not approve of ghosts. Disregarding everyone else's assump tions and endeavoring to take her mind off the troubles of her family, Dido turns her energy toward solving the mystery.

But events start to seem more sinister when a human skeleton What's New, Cupcake:

is found at the abbey. Is Miss Lambe's accident connected to this discovery?

Everyone is relying on Dido to find out. A captivating continuation of the Dido Kent series: rich in suspense, historical detail, and most of all, characters. It is a series set in the Regency period in England.

The first in the series is "Bellfield Hall: Or, The Observations of Miss Dido Kent" and the second is "A Gentleman of Fortune: Or, the Suspicions of Miss Dido Kent;": we do not have these titles. They can be requested through inter-library loan if necessary.

When a guy is in trouble, he starts making deals with his creator and Ambrose the cat is

no exception. In danger of losing his ninth life, Ambrose beseeches God to give him one last chance. In "The Nine Lives of Christmas" (LP F ROB S) by Sheila Roberts, his prayer is answered when someone saves him. This is a cute story combining a cat's cunning, love and

God's help. Regular hours are Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and the Internet/ Video room closing a half-hour early each day. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. Our website is wtls.tx.stsate.tx.us/ howard-county.

Hollis McCright is Howard County librar-

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The Most Practical Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Can the two current proposed solutions bring peace to the region?

A persistent mantra maintains that only two possible solutions exist to the seemingly intractable, centuries-old conflict between Arabs and Jews in the Holy Land. But is that really true . . . or is there a more sensible alternative?

"How then should Israelis

What are the facts?

The "One-State Solution." Some commentators advocate a one-state solution, in which Jews and Arabs would be joined in one state, with all inhabitants having the same citizenship call it Israeli or Palestinian. But such a "solution," as most observers know, is totally unacceptable to the Jewish population. Given the murderous

hate expressed daily in statecontrolled Palestinian media toward Jews, this would be a recipe for a respond to the demand that they second Holocaust. Within one choose either of these 'solutions'? generation, Arabs, with their high In fact they need choose *neither*." birth rate and inevitable immigration from abroad, would be a majority.

They would unleash a civil war that would make the Lebanese and the Syrian wars seem like child's play. With more than half the world's Jews now living in Israel, Adolf Hitler's most fervent genocidal wish would finally be fulfilled.

The "Two-State Solution." This second solution is favored by much of the world, including the U. S. government. But this solution is not much better than one state and almost as unacceptable to those who support the welfare and future of the Jewish state. The example of Gaza is instructive. In order to advance peace and appease world opinion, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon abandoned Gaza with no reciprocal agreement from the Palestinians. All Jewish inhabitants, most living there for generations, were expelled from their homes by Israel and resettled in "Israel proper." What reward, what thanks did Israel get for its generous gesture? Today, almost daily bombardments by deadly Hamas rockets force up to one million Israel civilians into bomb shelters. Israel's forbearance to these affronts is almost unbelievable. One can imagine how our country would respond if Mexico were to launch hundreds of rockets on San Diego. Thus it's easy to foresee what would happen if, under a "two-state solution," Israel were to abandon Judea/Samaria (the "West Bank"). Israel would surely suffer daily rocket assaults on its population centers-Tel Aviv, its international airport, its industrial heartland and its military installations. Life would become impossible.

The surrounding Arab states and Muslim countries beyond

(such as Iran) would certainly join the fray and assist in the final destruction of the beleaguered and helpless Jewish state. Which Solution Should Israel Choose? It's clear that neither the one-state solution nor the vaunted two-state solution

would resolve the region's issues. How then should Israelis

respond to the demand that they choose either of these "solutions"? In fact they need choose neither. Those who insist that they choose between those two "solutions" either don't fully understand the problem . . . or they oppose Israel's

continued existence. The reality is that, according to

virtually every Palestinian leader, including President Mahmoud Abbas, the Palestinians are not interested in a resolution of the conflict or even in the creation of a twenty-third Arab state. Their unrelenting, stated mission is destruction of the Jewish state and extermination of its inhabitants. Neither does the conflict have to do with territory. The Arab states occupy territory larger than the United States including Alaska. Israel is the size of New Jersey. Would the seething Arab-Muslim world finally lapse into peace and contentment if they were to acquire this tiny piece of land?

A Practical Solution to Resolve the Conflict. Clearly, Israel cannot agree to a "solution" that would eventually lead to the end of the Jewish state and the slaughter of its citizens. Because the Palestinian leadership refuses to negotiate peace and continues to advocate conquest of the entire Holy Land, like it or not, Israel must for security reasons remain in control of the "West Bank." However, there's no reason that even under today's current impasse that the Palestinians should not have full autonomy—which they almost have today—as an "unincorporated territory." While the situation is not ideal, until the Palestinians agree to full peace with Israel, providing they do not resume terrorism, they could be welcomed as partners in the Israeli economic system and should be able to fully participate in Israel's commercial and creative life. Even without statehood, in less than a generation the Palestinians could become the most advanced and prosperous people in the entire Arab world.

Obviously the prospect of the Arabs having to wait longer for the launch of a Palestinian state will be painful for them. But this is a price that must be paid if Palestinian leaders refuse to negotiate peace and cling to the futile dream of conquering Israel. Israel has given its land in Gaza to the Palestinians in the name of peace and receives rockets in return. Israel has offered 97% of the West Bank and a Palestinian capital in East Jerusalem in the name of peace and received rejection. It's time the Arabs acclimate to a status quo of their own making and take advantage of living next to one of the most successful countries in the world. In any case they must accept that their dream of Israel's annihilation will never be fulfilled.

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News in brief

Accounts, clothing show Disney, Wal-Mart, Sears used Bangladesh factory in fire

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Amid the ash, broken glass and melted sewing machines at what is left of the Tazreen Fashions Ltd. factory, there are piles of blue, red and off-white children's shorts bearing Wal-Mart's Faded Glory brand. Shorts from hip-hop star Sean Combs' ENYCE label lay on the floor and are stacked in cartons.

An Associated Press reporter searching the factory Wednesday found these and other clothes, including sweaters from the French company Teddy Smith, among the equipment charred in the fire that killed 112 workers Saturday. He also found entries in account books indicating that the factory took orders to produce clothes for Disney, Sears and other Western brands.

Garments and documents left behind in the factory show it was used by a host of major American and European retailers, though at least one of them Wal-Mart — had been aware of safety problems. Wal-Mart blames a supplier for using Tazreen



By Steve Becker

Kantar Banter



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Fashions without its knowledge.

The fire has elevated awareness of something labor groups, retailers and governments have known for years: Bangladesh's fast-growing garment industry — second only to China's in exports — is rife with dangerous workplaces. More than 300 workers there have died in fires since 2006.

Police on Wednesday arrested three factory officials suspected of locking in the workers who died in Saturday's fire, the deadliest in the South Asian country's less than 35-year history of exporting

Senate Democrats divided over cuts to benefit programs, raising roadblock to any fiscal deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Deep divisions among Senate Democrats over whether cuts to popular benefit programs like Medicare and Medicaid should be part of a plan to slow the government's mushrooming debt pose a big obstacle to a deal for avoiding a potentially economy-crushing "fiscal cliff," even if Republicans agree to raise taxes.

Much of the focus during negotiations seeking an alternative to \$671 billion in automatic tax increases and spending cuts beginning in January has centered on whether Republicans would agree to raising taxes on the wealthy. President Barack Obama has insisted repeatedly that tax increases on the wealthy must be part of any deal, even as White House officials concede that government benefit programs will have to be in the package

"It is the president's position that when we're talking about a broad, balanced approach to dealing with our fiscal challenges, that that includes dealing with entitlements," White House press secretary Jay Carney said Tuesday.

But even if GOP lawmakers agree to raise taxes, there is no guarantee Democrats can come up with enough votes in the Senate to cut benefit programs — as Republicans are demanding.

"I hope not if it means Social Security or Medicare benefit cuts," said Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I.

Twin car bombs hit Damascus suburb populated by Christians, Druse; activists say 20 killed

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian state-run media say two car bombs have exploded in a Damascus suburb, inflicting several casualties.

The Britain-based Observatory for Human Rights says 20 people were killed in the blasts. The activist group relies on reports from the ground.

The SANA state news agency says the Wednesday morning explosions targeted Damascus' eastern Jaramana suburb, which is mostly populated by Christians and Druse.

Rebels fighting to topple President Bashar Assad are predominantly members of the Syria's Sunni Muslim majority. They have frequently targeted the country's minority communities, perceived to be allied with Assad's Alawite sect, an offshoot Shi-

ite group that dominates

the regime.

Damascus have become opposition strongholds since March last year, when the uprising began.

Review: Kabul Bank sent millions of dollars out of **Afghanistan**

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Hundreds of millions of dollars from Kabul Bank were spirited out of Afghanistan - some smuggled in airline food trays — to bank accounts in more than two dozen countries, according to an indepen-

267-8288

dent review released on Wednesday about massive fraud that led to the collapse of the nation's largest financial institution.

The report, which was financed by international donors, offers new details about how the men at Kabul Bank and their friends and relatives got rich off \$861 million in fraudulent loans in what the International Monetary Fund has called a Ponzi scheme that used customer deposits and operated under nascent banking oversight in the war-torn country. The report describes Kabul Bank as a sophisti-

cated operation with one set of books for the eyes of regulators and another in the back room that logged how those running the bank and others were fattening their wallets. Loans were made, but rarely repaid. Borrowers took out loans to pay back loans. Company docu-

ments and financial statements were fabricated. The bank's credit department used more than 100 corporate stamps for fake companies to make documents look authentic. The bank operated some of its more than 100 branches without a permit from the government.

Senate Dems rally for Rice as GOP senators say they're more troubled by her Libya comments

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Democrats rallied to U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice's defense as Republicans said they were even more troubled by her account of the deadly attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, and signaled they would try to scuttle her nomination if President Barack Obama tapped her as the next secretary of state.

"The personal attacks against Ambassador Rice by certain Republican senators have been outrageous and utterly unmoored from facts and reality," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., who called the criticism unfathomable in light of disclosures from the intelligence community.

As congressional Democrats and the Obama administration delivered a full-throated defense of the possible diplomatic nominee, Rice was meeting Wednesday with Republican Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Bob Corker of Tennessee. Corker is next in line for the top GOP spot on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"We'll see and we're going to sit down and talk to her," Corker told The Associated Press. "She always delivers the party line, the company line, whatever the talking points are. I think most of us hold the secretary of state and secretary of treasury to a whole different level. We understand that they're going to support the administration, but we also want to know that they are independent enough, when administration is off-base, that they are putting pressure. I think that's what worries me most about Rice."

On Syria border, Turkey faces challenge of removing its own land mines, a legacy of the 1950s

AKINCI, Turkey (AP) — For two people walking into a Turkish minefield, they looked awfully as-

The pair strode in from Syria on a recent afternoon, following a faint track across the grassy plain. They slipped into Turkey through a fence near a vacant military watchtower and vanished

into an olive grove. Such hazardous crossings are a smuggler's tradition at the border, where Turkish plans to clear a vast belt of land mines have been clouded by Syria's civil war. Last week, Turkey asked NATO allies to deploy Patriot missiles as a defense against any aerial attacks from Syria after shells and bullets spilled across the border, killing and injuring

Starting in the 1950s, Turkish forces planted more than 600,000 U.S.-made "toe poppers" — mines designed to maim, not kill — and other land mines along much of its 900-kilometer (560-mile) border with Syria, which runs from the Mediterranean Sea to Iraq. The aim was to stop smugglers whose cheap black market goods undercut the Turkish economy and later to thwart Kurdish rebels from

infiltrating Turkey's southeast. However, the mines also killed and maimed civil-

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Texas

News in brief

1 dead, pilot hurt in West Texas helicopter crash

CHILDRESS, Texas (AP) — A helicopter crash in West Texas during work on some power lines has left a lineman dead and the pilot hurt. The Department of Public Safety says the crash

happened late Tuesday afternoon about two miles northeast of Childress. DPS says the helicopter was hovering at about

150 feet and the lineman was in a chair about 50 feet below the aircraft hanging rollers on power poles. The helicopter lost power and crashed. DPS did not immediately identify the utility. DPS says 23-year-old Jonathan David Suhr of

McLean died at Childress Regional Medical Center. The pilot, 42-year-old Keith Hard of Butte County, Calif., was treated and released.

Records show the helicopter was registered to Brim Equipment Leasing Inc. of Ashland, Ore. A message left Wednesday with Brim wasn't immediately returned.

Suspended Dallas 911 operator in death resigns

DALLAS (AP) - A Dallas 911 operator has resigned after serving a suspension for mishandling an emergency call from a woman later found slain. The family of Deanna Cook learned Tuesday that

Tonitya Hopkins resigned this week.

Police Chief David Brown suspended Hopkins for 10 days and ordered her reassigned after investigators determined she didn't log critical information on the Aug. 17 call for help from Cook. The victim reported she was being attacked by her ex-hus-

Brown on Sept. 5 fired 911 operator Angelia Herod-Graham after investigators determined she didn't log information from Cook's family when they reported her missing Aug. 19. Relatives then went to Cook's home and discovered her body.

Cook's former husband, Delvecchio Patrick, remains in custody on a murder charge in her death.

El Paso leaders reject money to save smokestack

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Leaders of a West Texas city have declined to buy an iconic 826-foot smokestack to help preserve a former smelter site. The El Paso City Council on Tuesday rejected

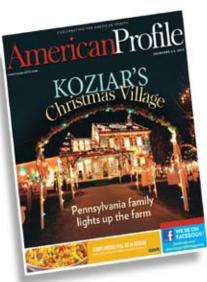
a resolution by the group Save the Stacks to purchase the smokestack, another chimney and near-

Council members did approve a resolution to support saving the property but not committing any Preservationists want to save the former Asarco

LLC smokestack and a 610-foot concrete chimney at the plant, which closed in 1999.

Asarco trustee Roberto Puga has said the two stacks could be demolished by March as the company seeks to sell the property. He's estimated a cost of about \$14 million to insure and maintain the stacks for 50 years.

IN SUNDAY'S **BIG SPRING HERALD**



Holiday Magic

The family of William Koziar of Bernville, Pa., maintains a tradition started in 1948 by inviting the public to see their village of colorful holiday lights.

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may occur 30 to 50 years after exposure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial and construction workers, along with their families (second hand exposure) are among those at risk for mesothelioma, lung cancer or gastro cancer (throat, stomach, colon). Call us for professional insight.

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4 crewmembers checked after Texas tugboat fire PORT ARTHUR, Texas (AP) — Firefighters spent more than 12 hours battling a blaze on a tugboat docked in Southeast Texas before the engine fire was extinguished.

The Beaumont Enterprise reports four crewmembers on board Tuesday were transported to a hospital for examination, as a precaution. Coast Guard Lt. Bryana Nicholas says the crew

was able to dock near Port Arthur and get to safety before the fire spread to other parts of the vessel. Crews from the Coast Guard and the Port Arthur Fire Department fought the blaze on the tugboat docked on the Intracoastal Waterway. Authorities are trying to determine what started

the fire.

Texas teacher gets prison for sex with student, 12

DALLAS (AP) — A female elementary school teacher in South Texas has been sentenced to 10 years in prison for having sex with a 12-year-old male student.

A judge in San Antonio on Tuesday sentenced 41-year-old Lucinda Rodriguez Caldwell as part of a plea agreement.

Caldwell pleaded no contest to felony indecency with child by exposure. She originally was charged with aggravated sexual assault of a child and could have received life in prison if convicted.

Caldwell taught fifth grade at Cable Elementary School in the Northside Independent School District in San Antonio when she was arrested in July 2010. She resigned after being accused of having several sexual encounters with the boy.

Caldwell, who had asked the judge for probation, must give up her teaching license as part of the plea deal.

3 BP employees to be arraigned in oil spill probe

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Two BP rig supervisors and a former BP executive were scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday on criminal charges stemming from the deadly Deepwater Horizon rig explosion and the company's response to the massive 2010 spill in the Gulf of Mexico. BP well site leaders Robert Kaluza and Donald

Vidrine were indicted this month on manslaughter charges in the death of 11 rig workers. The federal indictment accuses them of disregarding abnormal high-pressure readings that should have been glaring indications of trouble just before the blowout of BP's Macondo well.

Former BP executive David Rainey was charged separately with concealing information from Congress about the amount of oil that was leaking from

Their defense attorneys have vowed to fight the charges.









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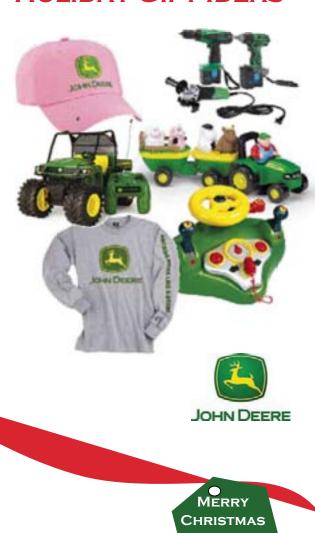








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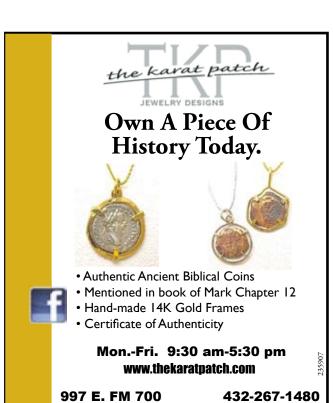
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Page 10 Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Lady Steers fall to Seminole, Steers to San Angelo Central

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

Big Spring

The Lady Steers (3-3) fell short on the road Tuesday against the Seminole Lady Indians, losing 30-24 despite a strong defensive showing.

BSHS Head Coach Mike Warren is focused on executing offensively before district play

"We played really well on defense," Warren said. "We could not get going offensively. (Seinole) ran zone on us and we couldn't hit our outside shots."

Much of the reason for the Lady Steers' opponents using a zone defense attack is due to the scoring threat of Yaneira Tuitt. "She's our go-to person,"

Warren said of Tuitt. "It was a great effort, (Tuitt) played a great game, but we have to find different ways to score."

The Lady Steers will be participating in the Andrews tournamentbeginningThursday at 10:45 against Midland Classical. BSHS will also face Andrews at 5 p.m. Thursday. Friday, BSHS will take on Odessa High at 10:45 a.m., and will meet Odessa Permian on Saturday at 3:15 p.m., all at the Andrews High School gymnasium.

The boys squad also lost Tuesday, 64-33, to 5A San Angelo Central. The Steers were outmatched by the Bobcats' depth, but according to BSHS Head Coach Cliff Thompson, it was a learning experience.

"We didn't play a very good game," Thompson said. "(San Angelo) is real fast, physical team, but it was good for us to see. It showed our weaknesses what we need to work on. It's better to happen now than later See **HOOPS**, Page 16

in the season."

Tavarez Walker led the Steers in scoring with 14 points.

The Steers (2-2) will head to back to San Angelo over the weekend for a tournament. They will kick off the event with a game against Bastrop on Thursday at 1 p.m.

Coahoma

Both Coahoma varsity teams won Tuesday, as the Bulldogs downed Klondike 62-45 in a predistrict matchup. Leading Coahoma was Namen McCullough with 18 points and Tanner Ruiz with 15. Alex Hill had 12 points and 11 rebounds while Armani Guillama had 11 rebounds.

The Bulldogettes defeated Klondike 36-30, with Savannah Neff accounting for 17 points, Julia Castilaw with 7, Kaeli Yager with 5, Tobi Robinson with 3, and Alexis Jackson and Kyla Clanton with 2 points apiece.

Coahoma will be appearing in the Bearkat Booster Club Classic in Garden City beginning Thursday.

Forsan

The Buffs edged Grape Creek on Tuesday, 65-51, while the Lady Buffaloes won 45-29. Reagan Haggard led the girls with 15 points, while Mary Ashley McDaniel added 11 and Maria Ortiz 6.

Both Forsan teams will be participating in the Bearkat Booster Club Klassic in garden City beginning Thursday.

Stanton

Reagan County fell to Stanton on Tuesday as the Buffaloes won 51-33 over the Owls. Cole



HERALD file photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Logan Yarbar goes for a layup during last week's game against Andrews. The Lady Steers lost against Seminole 30-26 Tuesday and now have a 3-3 record heading into this week's tournament beginning Thursday in Andrews.

76ers top Mavericks 100-98

DAN GELSTON

AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA — The 76ers won again with Elton Brand having another strong game and earning a hefty paycheck from the organization.

Brand just couldn't celebrate because his effort was wasted with Dallas.

Evan Turner scored 22 points and Thaddeus Young had 20 to lead Philadelphia to a 100-98 win over the Dallas Mavericks on Tuesday night.

Brand scored a season-high 17 points for the Mavericks in his first game against the Sixers since they used their one-time amnesty provision over the sum-

mer in the new labor deal to let him go. The move meant the \$18.1 million Brand was owed in the final season of his \$80 million, five-year contract did not count against the salary cap for Philadelphia, though it still owed him about \$16 million.

The two-time All-Star forward didn't stay unemployed for long, and the Mavericks won the bidding at \$2.1 million to land him off waivers.

With Andrew Bynum out with a bone bruise, Brand was the most expensive player the Sixers were paying to play in this game. He saw some familiar play in the fourth quarter when the Sixers started running, forced some turnovers, and worked their way inside for easy buckets.

"I was a part of it last year. We used to do it time and time again," Brand said. "It was just hustle plays and being in the right spot at the right time."

Jrue Holiday had 18 points and seven assists for the Sixers, who snapped a six-game losing streak to Dallas. Philadelphia shot 6 of 14 on 3-pointers and won its second straight game.

Chris Kaman scored 20 points and Shawn Marion also had 17 for the Mavericks. Vince Carter added 15 and was clutch in the fourth quarter in trying to bring Dallas back from a 10-point hole.

The 76ers finally created some

See MAVS, Page 16

Dallas ground game stuck in neutral

SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas — The Dallas running game is stuck in neutral without running back DeMarco Murray.

Of course, the Cowboys have also had a temporary center and backups starting at two other spots on the offensive line. And they fall behind almost every

Any of the above could explain why Dallas has the NFL's worst rushing offense, and one of the most overworked quar-

terbacks in Tony Romo. "We've got to run the

to run the ball more," coach Jason Garrett said. "We have to be effective running the ball early in the ballgame so we don't get behind."

Probably easier said than done, particularly if Murray misses his seventh straight game Sunday night against Philadelphia. He last played against Baltimore on Oct. 14, when the Cowboys rushed for more yards than the defense-first Ravens

have ever allowed in a

game. That 227-yard day

was marred by Murray

spraining his right foot

in the first half and the

ball better. We've got Dallas running game hasn't been the same since.

The only time the Cowboys have rushed for more than 100 yards in the past six games, they barely made it, getting 101 in a victory at Philadelphia. Felix Jones led Dallas with 71 yards, but his next-highest total filling in for Murray is 44 yards. For the season, Dallas is averaging 79 yards rushing per game.

The question of when Murray will return appears no more settled now than it was a month ago. He has been on the practice field in uniform consistently for warmups, and even said two weeks ago there was "a chance" he could play against Cleveland. But then he wasn't on the field at all for the last practice before the Thanksgiving Day loss to Washington. "It shouldn't mat-

ter who's back there," said offensive lineman Mackenzy Bernadeau. "We should be able to make it clean for them to make the read and hit the holes. We miss him, but at the same time ... there are no excuses. We have to get better."

See **DALLAS**, Page 16

Will Manziel break Heisman frosh curse?

KRISTIE RIEKEN AP Sports Writer

COLLEGE STATION. Texas — In the 77-year history of the Heisman Trophy, no freshman has ever won the award.

Texas A&M's Johnny Manziel, the player who proved coach Kevin Sumlin's prolific offense could work in the SEC, may finally change that.

Manziel accumulated 4,600 yards of total offense and 43 touchdowns this season along with a signature win over then top-ranked Alabama to make him a front-runner for the Heisman.

In the past some voters have been reluctant to pick a freshman for the award.

Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops coached Adrian Peterson in 2004 when he finished second in voting — still the highest finish ever for a freshman.

Manziel spoke to the media for the second straight day Tuesday after not being available all season because Sumlin doesn't allow freshman to talk to the media.

He danced around the question almost as deftly as he avoids defenders when scrambling

out of the pocket when

asked if he thought age should matter in Heis-

man voting. "I've heard a lot about it and people have their different opinions on that," he said.

"I just think that situation will play itself out. It goes to the most outstanding player in college football, if that happens to be me then that's something that I'll cherish for the rest of my life. If not, then that's just kind of how the cookie crumbles, I

Manziel is second in the nation in total offense with more than 383 yards a game.

He leads the SEC in yards rushing a game (98.4), pass completions a game (22.8), scoring per game (9.5) and points responsible for per game (21.5).

His success in what is widely considered the toughest football conference in the country is a big reason why some think his freshman status won't matter to voters. "I don't think there's

any reason not to vote for him, simply because he's a freshman," CBS Sports analyst Verne Lundquist said. "He's put up numbers

this year that are astounding."

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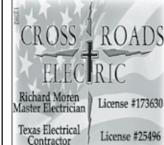
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Legals

Notice is hereby given that Laredo Petroleum, Inc., Operator 486610, has filed with the Texas Railroad Commission the following: P-17 application for the exception to SWR 26 and/or 27 to surface commingle production, allocate production and for off-lease storage, from oil and gas leases in S/2 of Section 29, Block 34, T4S, T&P RR Co. Survey, N/2 of Section 32, Block 34, T4S, T&P RR Co./Chaney, W E Survey and the Section 32, Block 34, T4S, T&P RR Co./Chaney, W E Survery in Glasscock County, Texas under other leases. Any affected mineral interest owners who have not received written notification are advised to contact Randy Blurton of Laredo Petroleum, Inc., in Midland, Texas at 508 W. Wall, Suite Midland, Texas 79701, (432)684-9955 by December 10, 2012.

#7585 November 21 & 28 and December 5 & 12, 2012

Legals

AGENDA Glasscock County Independent School District Board of Education Public Meeting To Discuss The 2012 Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) December 10, 2012 8:00 am Boardroom of Administration Building (308 West Chambers, Garden City, Texas)

1. The Public Meeting will be combined with the regular December 2012 meeting of the board of trustees

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Annie's Mailbox ®

Dear Annie: I am a woman who follows a strict diet. It has nothing to do with weight or any medical condition. I don't care about calories. It's about eating organic, and there are a lot of things I do not tolerate, such as corn syrup, food coloring, table sugar, unfiltered water, etc.

If I do not approve of a treat someone has made, is it appropriate to politely decline to accept it? On occasions where I'm given something I don't have to eat in front of them, I graciously accept it and then give it away later. What if I'm on a date and the guy wants to take me where I wouldn't ordinarily eat? Should I insist sticking to my diet?

I can handle a few splurges here and there, but how do I avoid constantly eating junk without being rude or weird? I live in a rural area, so there are not many restaurant choices. — Upstate Dieter

Dieter: Dear someone offers you food that you prefer not to eat, don't feel obligated to stick it in your mouth. Say "thank you" and put it aside, or if you are feeling expansive, explain that you have difficulty tolerating certain foods. When out on a date, you will need to be flexible if

your choices are limited. Most restaurants have options that, while not ideal, are tolerable on occasion — plain baked chicken or fish, for example. On subsequent dates, when you know each other better, let the guy know that you only eat organic. Then offer to cook him dinner.

Dear Annie: I read the "Just letter from Wondering," whose daughter-in-law has an overly close relationship with her 20-year-old son.

My son was 4 years old when his father and I divorced. A few years later, his dad left his life for good. My son has struggled throughout his years with social anxiety and many other mental issues, and we have been to counseling. He is also abnormally close to me and doesn't like to leave my side.

Now that he is a teenager, people comment that it is not normal and he should be out with his friends. It is very easy for people to judge without knowing what it's like to have a child who struggles with life. I do agree with your answer, though, that the family needs ongoing counseling. — SFIP

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers

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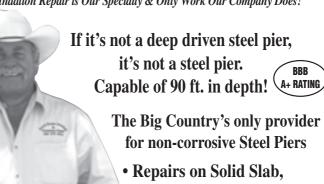
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Tomorrow's Horoscope CANCER (June 22-July 22). If you ask the fire,

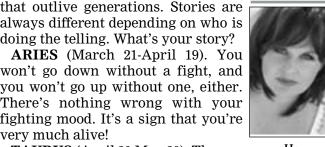
Storytelling Moon

The full moon in Gemini and the penumbral lunar eclipse introduce a good point. Our lives are ordered around stories. Stories are rides better than roller coasters. Stories are rocks

always different depending on who is doing the telling. What's your story? ARIES (March 21-April 19). You won't go down without a fight, and you won't go up without one, either. There's nothing wrong with your

very much alive! TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The one who thinks of you isn't always the one who should be thinking of you. You would do well to steer clear of people

whose interest is not aligned with yours. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You are a role model whether or not you think it's what you signed up for. Even if you don't intend for others to copy you, they will. Being aware of your influence will be crucial to your success as a human.



HOLIDAY Mathis

lake is home, nourishment and the source of all goodness. You will qualify things according to your need for them. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your needs may currently seem to clash with the needs of another, but this

the lake is an enemy. But if you ask the frog, the

state won't last forever. You could become partners again sooner than you think. This game can have

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You could use a bit more faith. Instead of working hard to clear a path, believe that the path before you is already being cleared and move ahead with your main goal.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have a "friend" who surpassed you in some regard. Sometimes you wonder whether you're ever going to see this person get their due comeuppance. You will. Stay focused on your own scene. Keep taking action. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The effect of your

words and deeds will be as real as the ripple caused by the rock thrown into still waters. You will immediately see the way you move people.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Mine fields

just look like fields until something blows up. Steer clear of temptation. There is a point at which your confidence can harm you. A false sense of security could lead to unnecessary danger.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If you have grasped at something that hasn't grasped back at you, the time has come to let it go. When you're on your highest path, the petty concerns will melt

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Since memory has a way of reordering events, being first or last won't matter, only what you do with your turn. Play it well, and today becomes a story you'll often

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). People want to be around vou now. Perhaps it's the perfume of victory to which they are responding. Your sign mate Elizabeth Taylor once said, "Success is a great deodorant. It takes away all your past smells."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 28). You'll live thoughtfully. Next month, you'll be the strong leader of an effective organization. In December, you'll join a group, make friends and increase your influence. Love grows gradually through January. February financial shifts favor you. Work gets complex, pays better and provides entertainment, too. Leo and Pisces people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 2, 14, 38 and 33.

CURRENT ASTRAL BACKDROP, URANUS IN ARIES: Uranus was named for the god of the sky, husband to Mother Earth. Though he was an amorous husband, he had one problem with his wife: He couldn't stand the children she bore him. To be fair, they were unusual. Some were giants with a hundred arms. There was that one-eyed monster. And then there were the Titans: huge, strong and the start of the first pantheon of gods and goddesses. As comparatively "normal" as the Titans were, they would eventually be instrumental in Uranus' undoing. I'll spare the gory details. Let's just say there was a sickle involved, and it wasn't used for farming. The dysfunction among gods was the "Boardwalk Empire" of the Geometric

As a planet, Uranus is about as large and complicated as the god who bears his name. Add "impulsive," "surprising" and "revolutionary" to its list of descriptors, and it's easy to see why astrologers pay such close attention to its every movement. Uranus signifies action.

Already strong-willed, Uranus doesn't need the extra influence of youth and vigor that comes with Aries. Though radical, many of the changes Uranus brings between now and 2018 will be for the best.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Sagittarians are known for their strong worldviews. Sagittarian comedian Jon Stewart illustrates the point as he turns political drama into punch lines and global events into comedy sketches. A leader in political humor, he provokes thought while offering one of the greatest tools for processing the pain and frustration involved in watching a world that seems out of our control: laughter.

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 www.creators.com.

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PET TALK: Training tips for dogs



Taking care of a dog may seem like an easy, fun task, but many struggle with teaching their dog basic commands.

These commands, such as sit and stay, are important for your dog fs safety and will also make your life with your new friend much more enjoyable.

Training should start right when the dog is brought to their new home. Dr. Stacy Eckman, lecturer at Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine Biomedical Sciences, said whether teaching a young puppy or an old dog, commands should begin right when the owner gets the

"As puppies, they are quite eager to learn. h It may take a little patience, but start with the little commands," she said. "Even if you acquire your pet when it is a little older, many are

animal.

still quite capable of learning basic mands."

The training should begin with basic commands, such as sit and stay, which are easy for most dogs master. to Teaching these basic commands allow the animal to learn your training system. After successfully teaching them basic commands, Eckman recommends teaching the dog heal, come, and not to jump on people.

"I think the most important commands deal with listening

to your instructions and are for their own safety such as sit, stay heal, and come," she said. "Teaching them not to jump on people is also good manners!"

To train a dog, Eckman said it is best to use simple one or two word phrases combined with hand gestures. Reinforcing good behavior and mastering of a skill with a reward is a great way to train a dog, she added.

"Saying 'sit' coupled with a simple hand gesture works well and reward them when they get it," Eckman said.

Another tip Eckman suggested is training the dog in a place the pet will not be easily distracted. Instead of teaching the dog a skill at the dog park, for example, teach the task at home where there are not as many distrac-

"Have them master the skill at

home or in a quiet environment initially before adding the additional challenge," she said.

If the dog is struggling to grasp the command, consult your veterinarian about the next step.

"I think all dogs learn differently and need different rewards, and that is where discussing with your veterinarian what your goals are is very important and they can help you in this area, she said. "They can discuss with you the methods you are using and the goals you are trying to achieve, then point you to a resource such as training classes or books that fit your methodolo-

There are multiple methodologies used to train dogs, ranging from positive reinforcement when the command is followed to punishment and negative rewards. Eckman said it all depends on the owner's beliefs and goals for their pet.

Training classes are another option many pet owners consider. These courses are often offered at local pet stores and by obedience training facilities. For recommendations on training courses, Eckman said to ask friends who have been to the classes and veterinarians for their recommendations.

It is not always necessary to send a dog to a trainer because many basic commands can be taught with patience and time.

"Dogs learn at all different levels-some just take longer than others to learn it," Eckman said. "Be patient and reinforce the good."

ABOUT PET TALK

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

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

National Zoo opens solar-powered carousel

BRETT ZONGKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Smithsonian's National Zoo is opening a new solar-powered carousel with hand-carved, hand-painted figures representing many endangered animals.

The Speedwell Foundation, a private family foundation based in Summit, N.J., donated \$1.5 million of the \$2.3 million cost to build the carousel. A zoo spokeswoman says donations covered the remain-

Conservation Carousel. It opened Monday and costs \$3 per person to ride. Proceeds from ticket sales will support animal care and conservation research at the zoo. The carousel is powered by 162 solar panels

The ride was named the Speedwell Foundation

donated and installed by Pepco Energy Services. The zoo says any excess energy is redirected to the zoo's electrical grid.

There are 58 animals represented on the carousel. They include elephants, pandas, frogs, hummingbirds, blue crabs, lions and other critters.

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This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 28, the 333rd day of 2012. There are 33 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 28, 1942, nearly 500 people died in a fire that destroyed the Cocoanut Grove nightclub in

On this date:

In 1520, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan reached the Pacific Ocean after passing through the South American strait that now bears his name. In 1861, the Confederate Congress

admitted Missouri as the 12th state of the Confederacy after Missouri's disputed secession from the Union. In 1885, at the end of the Third

Anglo-Burmese War, British troops occupied Mandalay. In 1905, Sinn Fein was founded in Dublin.

In 1912, Albania proclaimed its independence from the Ottoman

Empire. In 1922, Captain Cyril Turner of the Royal Air Force gave the first public skywriting exhibition, spelling out, "Hello USA. Call Vanderbilt

7200" over New York's Times Square; about 47,000 calls in less than three hours resulted.

Congo became autonomous republics within the French community. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy dedicated the original

permanent headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency in Langley, Va. Ernie Davis of Syracuse University became the first African-American to be named winner of the Heisman Trophy. In 1962, Princess Wilhelmina,

the onetime Queen of the Netherlands, died at age 82. In 1964, the United States

launched the space probe Mariner 4 on a course to Mars. In 1979, an Air New Zealand DC-10 en route to the South Pole

crashed into a mountain in

Antarctica, killing all 257 people

aboard. In 1987, a South African Airways Boeing 747 crashed into the Indian Ocean with the loss of all 159 people aboard.

Today's Birthdays: Recording executive Berry Gordy Jr. is 83. Former Sen. Garv Hart, D-Colo., is 76. Singer-songwriter Bruce Channel is 72. Singer Randy Newman is 69. CBS News correspondent Susan Spencer is 66. Movie director Joe Dante is 65. "Late Show" orchestra leader Paul Shaffer is 63. Actor Ed Harris is 62. Former NASA teacher in space Barbara Morgan is 61. Actress S. Epatha (eh-PAY'-thah) Merkerson is 60. Former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff is 59.

11 Dismantle

22 Popeye's

26 Exploit

girlfriend

27 That yacht

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30 fA mause!"

32 Goulash

29 Chest muscle.

31 Started the day

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13 Pigsty

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21 Maine sealood

(Sweethearts of the Rodeo) is 56. Actor Judd Nelson is 53. Movie director Alfonso Cuaron (kwahr-OHN') is 51. Rock musician Matt Cameron is 50. Actress Jane Sibbett is 50. Comedian Jon Stewart is 50. Actress Garcelle Beauvais (gar SEHL' boh-VAY') is 46. Rhythmand-blues singer Dawn Robinson is 44. Hip-hop musician apl.de.ap (Black Eyed Peas) is 38. Actress Aimee Garcia is 34. Rapper Chamillionaire is 33. Rock musician Rostam Batmanglij (bot-man-GLEESH') (Vampire Weekend) is Rock singer-keyboardist Tyler Glenn (Neon Trees) is 29. R&B singer Trev Songz is 28. Actress Scarlett Pomers ("Reba") is 24.

Thought for Today: "We are not all born at once, but by bits. The body first, and the spirit later.' —Mary Hunter Austin, American novelist and playwright (1868-1934). © 2012 The Associated Press.



Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

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Goodell says Suh's intent difficult to judge

DETROIT (AP) — NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and league officials looked at Ndamukong Suh's latest infamous act on the field from several angles, trying to understand why the Detroit Lions defensive tackle kicked Houston Texans quarterback Matt Schaub in the groin area.

"Intent is something that is very difficult for us to ever try to make a judgment on," Goodell told reporters before speaking at a Lions charity event Tuesday

Goodell said he hasn't spoken to Suh about what he did in last Thursday's game, adding that the league's football operations staff is in the process of speaking to him about it. Suh was on his chest after being taken down by an offensive lineman and extended his left foot to hit Schaub below the belt, dropping the QB to his knees doubled over in pain in the first quarter of Houston's

"They're still going through the process of whether it should be a fine," Goodell said. "They'll probably make that decision in the next couple days."

In a few weeks, Goodell said the NFL's competition committee will meet and might suggest changing a rule for the playoffs that hurt Detroit's chances of beating the Texans last week.

"We may evaluate it as it relates to the postseason," Goodell told reporters.

Officials didn't blow their whistle when two Lions tackled Justin Forsett, allowing him to get up and run for an 81-yard touchdown in the third quarter. Detroit coach Jim Schwartz negated an automatic review by challenging the play.

"It's unfortunate because the officials on the field made an obvious error and it could've been reversed," Goodell told hundreds of fans at Ford Field during a

The Mavericks whittled it to

question-and-answer session.

Goodell was at the 19th annual Detroit Lions Courage House dinner that team officials say has raised \$1.8 million for HA-VEN, a suburban Detroit facility that tries to prevent and treat victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse.

Lions running back Jahvid Best was at the event because teammates voted him their Ed Block Courage Award winner, an honor each team in the league gives a player annually for overcoming an injury or adversity.

Best hasn't played since he was knocked out of a game against the San Francisco 49ers on Oct. 16, 2011, with what he has said was his third concussion.

"For the past year he has endured countless hours of cognitive rehabilitation and therapy with enthusiasm and eagerness without complaint anger or impatience," Lions athletic trainer Dean Kleinschmidt said.

off the mark, leaving Dallas with

The Mavericks had turnovers

pletely out of character to how we played to that point," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "We have to eliminate those turnovers right now. In games like this, it's how you manage mis-

Brand chipped in eight reformer team.

DALLAS

Continued from page 10

Bernadeau signed as a free agent in the offseason to play guard for Dallas. The 38-31 loss to Washington was his second start at center while the Cowboys wait for Phil Costa and Ryan Cook to get healthy. Cook came over in a late preseason trade with Miami because the Cowboys were already having trouble with injuries in the offensive line.

In Bernadeau's first start at center against Cleveland, left tackle Tyron Smith went out early with a sprained ankle and didn't play five days later against the Redskins.

The Cowboys could start by avoiding big first-half deficits. Dallas has trailed by double digits before halftime in

four consecutive home games. Two of those situations were desperate — down 23-0 to the New York Giants, when Dallas had 19 yards rushing on 17 carries, and 28-3 to Washington, when the Cowbovs had a seasonlow 11 carries.

Romo has 456 pass attempts, or 41 per game, second only to Detroit's Matthew Stafford.

"What you're trying to do is find some plays you like and execute them," Garrett said. "You've got to be careful about saying, 'I'm going to lean on Tony and let him kind of go save the day.' It's too challenging of a position to do that."

Garrett doesn't want to wait for Murray to save the day either.

"We have to be able to run the ball if he's not able to go," Garrett said. "Whoever's the runner. We just have to do a better job."

MAVS

Continued from Page 10

space in a back-and-forth game when they snapped a tie with a 10-0 run midway through the The highlight came when

Holiday stole the ball, took off running and dished to a driving Young down the lane for a threepoint play and a 90-81 lead.

Carter, long a nuisance against Philadelphia, ended the Sixers' streak with a 3-pointer for a Dallas team trying to stay afloat with Dirk Nowitzki (knee) out about another month, at least.

five until Young hit a mid-range jumper for a seven-point lead and the Sixers forced a turnover on the next possession with 90 seconds left. But they failed to score and Carter delivered again, sinking his third 3 to make it a four-point game. Carter made a left-handed layup to bring the Mavericks to 100-98 with 37 seconds left.

O.J. Mayo was fouled on a wild drive with 2.7 seconds to go but missed the first free throw attempt. Mayo also missed the second, but the Mavs recovered. Jae Crowder's last-gasp jumper was a 2-5 record on the road.

on five straight possessions during one miserable stretch in the fourth. They finished with eight overall in the quarter. "They were untimely and com-

takes."

bounds for the Mavericks and played with an edge against his

HOOPS

Continued from Page 10

Schroyer and Scott Smith each chipped in 16 points during the affair. Stanton remains undefeated.

The Lady Buffs also fared well against Reagan County, winning 40-37.

Grady-Garden City

43-30.

City Scoreless during ald.com

the first period and was led by Ellyn Avery who had 15 points and Sarah Clay with 11. Garden City's Holly Halfmann led the lady Bearkats with 12 points. Garden City will be

hosting the Bearkat

Booster Club Klassic beginning on Thursday, while Grady will be traveling to Ranger to compete in the Rangerette shootout, also beginning on Thursday.

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



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The No. 25 Lady Wildcats upset the No. 5 Lady Bearkats on Tuesday,

Grady held Garden

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