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FRIDAY

NOVEMBER 30, 2012



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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 41

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Heater drive begins

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

While a flick of the thermostat may be all some area residents require to stay warm as the mercury continues to fall, some area residents simply can't afford such a luxury, a problem the Big Spring Area Salvation Army continues to address with its annual winter coat and heater drive.

Bessie Flores, social worker for the local Salvation Army, said the weather — from the heat of summer to the freezing winters — poses a very real problem for many low income residents, a problem that can turn deadly. "Most people don't think anything of adjusting their thermostat. Whether it's a bit too cold or warm, you just give it a bump and you're ready to go," Flores said. "However, there are many low income residents and families in the Howard County and Big Spring area who don't have



Flores



HERALD photo / Thomas Jenkins

The Big Spring Salvation Army's Dolores Albert greets residents as they enter the Big Spring Post Office lobby, part of the charity's annual Red Kettle holiday program. Donations made through the Red Kettle program go to assist local low income families both through the Christmas holiday and throughout the year.



Christmas in the Crossroads

Here is a schedule for the holiday events scheduled for this weekend:

TONIGHT
 6 p.m. — VA Medical Center Christmas lighting ceremony.

SATURDAY
 8:30-11 a.m. — Breakfast With Santa, Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry (cost, \$3 per child).
 9 a.m.-2 p.m. — Canterbury Christmas Bazaar, 1700 S. Lancaster.
 2 p.m. — Living Christmas Tree (dress rehearsal, free to public), First United Methodist Church, 400 Scurry.
 4:30 p.m. — Parade Watch Party, Heritage Museum.
 5:30 p.m. — Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade, Gregg Street.
 After the parade — Christmas on Main Street, east of county courthouse.
 8 p.m. — Living Christmas Tree, First United Methodist Church.

SUNDAY
 2 p.m. — Living Christmas Tree, First United Methodist Church.

Court weighs cases for new term

By **MARK SHERMAN**
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The running fight over gay marriage is shifting from the ballot box to the Supreme Court.

Three weeks after voters backed same-sex marriage in three states and defeated a ban in a fourth, the justices are meeting Friday to decide whether they should deal sooner rather than later with the claim that the Constitution gives people the right to marry regardless of sexual orientation.

The court also could duck the ultimate question for now and instead focus on a narrower but still important issue: whether Congress can prevent legally married gay

The court could announce its plans as soon as Friday afternoon. Any cases probably would be argued in March, with a decision expected by the end of June.

Americans from receiving federal benefits otherwise available to married couples.

The court could announce its plans as soon as Friday afternoon. Any cases probably would be argued in March, with a decision expected by the end of June.

Gay marriage is legal, or will be soon, in nine states — Connecticut, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York,

Vermont, Washington — and the District of Columbia. Federal courts in California have struck down the state's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage, but that ruling has not taken effect while the issue is being appealed.

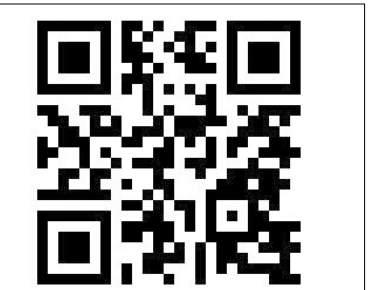
Voters in Maine, Maryland and Washington approved gay marriage earlier this month.

But 31 states have amended their constitutions to prohib-

it same-sex marriage. North Carolina was the most recent example in May. In Minnesota earlier this month, voters defeated a proposal to enshrine a ban on gay marriage in that state's constitution.

The biggest issue the court could decide to confront comes in the dispute over California's Proposition 8, the constitutional ban on gay marriage that voters adopted in 2008 after the state Supreme Court ruled that gay Californians could marry. The case could allow the justices to decide whether the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of equal protection means that the right to marriage

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Dispatcher lines down Saturday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

An upgrade to the phone systems at the Troy Hogue Joint Law Enforcement Center on Saturday afternoon will force law enforcement to shut down its landlines for a brief period, according to officials.

Area residents in need of emergency services from 1 p.m. until approximately 1:30 p.m. Saturday are being

asked to dial 911.

According to Sheriff Stan Parker, the phones normally answered by dispatchers — along with other phone lines in the Howard County Detention Center — will be down for a 30-minute period beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday.

"The techs who are coming in to install this new part of the phone system said the phones will be out for a maxi-

See **LINES**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Katherine Jane McCray Thomas



GRANBURY — Katherine Jane McCray Thomas, "Mama Kat," cherished wife, mother, grandma and friend, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2012. Kathy was surrounded by her loved ones at the time she entered peacefully into Heaven.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012, at Thorp Springs Church of Christ. Burial will follow at Granbury Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, 2012, at Wiley Funeral Home.

Kathy was born May 24, 1939, in Aspermont, Texas, to Levi and Grace McCray. She graduated from Granbury High School in 1957. Kathy married her high school sweetheart, Billy Joe "Scooter" Thomas, and together they shared 55 wonderful years together. Kathy was an LVN nurse and cared for patients for 25 years at Lake Granbury Medical Center and was also a long-time member of Thorp Springs Church of Christ.

Kathy was a fun-loving, spirited woman who was much admired by all who knew her. She was hard working, devoted, creative and had an amazing sense of humor. Her giving nature and willingness to help others was demonstrated throughout her life as was her faith and love of family.

Kathy was preceded in death by her parents, Levi and Grace McCray; sister, Evelyn Bingham; and brothers, James, Raymond, Hulien, Carlton, Charlie and Bobbie Jean McCray.

Survivors include her husband Billy Joe "Scooter" Thomas; son, Derrell Thomas and wife Linda of Granbury; daughter, Kim Shafer and husband Ron of Big Spring; four grandchildren, Kristie and Trey Thomas and Callie and Andrew Shafer; sisters, Vivian White of Granbury, Nancy Lilly of Albuquerque, N.M., and Ruby Sargent of Granbury; brothers, Johnny McCray and wife Ema Jean of Cleburne, and twin brother Kenneth McCray and wife Betty of Keller; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

If desired, contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, or, for a more personal gift, offerings can be made to the family agape-love fund to benefit her niece's medical needs that Kathy supported in life. Send donations to Ruby Sargent-Agape Fund, P.O. Box 1946, Granbury, Texas 76048.

Paid obituary

Daniel (Danny) Gene Martin Moses



Daniel (Danny) Gene Martin Moses, 39, of Big Spring died Friday, Nov. 23, 2012, in Big Spring. Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, 2012, at Faith Baptist Church in Abilene. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

Paid obituary

James B. Hodnett



James B. Hodnett, 66, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2012, in a local hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Jan. 18, 1946, in Big Spring, Texas. James was a lifetime resident of Big Spring, except for the 10 years he lived in California. He had worked in the mental health field until taking a medical retirement.

Survivors include one stepdaughter, Aimee Ham Edens; two stepsons, Matthew Ham and Joshua Sigmon; one sister, JoNell Daniels, all of Big Spring; six grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Larry Hodnett and Lynn Hodnett; and one sister, Katie Pursley.

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

Clebern (C.W.) Warford

Clebern (C.W.) Warford, 60, of Big Spring died Sunday, Nov. 25, 2012, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012, in West Kentucky Baptist Church in Midland, with burial following in Fairview Cemetery.

He was born April 8, 1952, in Texarkana, Texas, to Aron Doyle and Mary Lou Warford. He had lived in Big Spring for several years and was a ranch hand.

He is survived by his brother, Alan Dale Warford of Big Spring; and two nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Clebern Jr.; and a sister, Linda Morgan.

Charlie Turner

Charlie Turner, 59, of Big Spring died Thursday, Nov. 29, 2012, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

C.L. (Cleo) Carlile



C.L. (Cleo) Carlile, 75, of Big Spring and Hawaii, went to his eternal home Sunday, Nov. 18, 2012. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012, in the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Dr. Greg Hall, president of Warner University, Lake Wales, Fla., officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, 2012, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Cleo was born Sept. 21, 1937, in Hardesty, Okla., to Clifford Cleo Carlile and Eula Mae Webb Carlile. He grew up primarily in Oklahoma, where his father was a minister. He attended school in Texhoma, Okla., but graduated from high school in Beaver, Okla., where his father was the minister of the First Church of God. He attended Gulf Coast Bible College in Houston, Texas, for two years and graduated from Bethany College in Oklahoma City, Okla., with a bachelor of science degree in education. He later attended the University of Houston in Houston, Texas, receiving a masters degree in psychology.

He started his teaching career in Knott, Texas. After a year, he moved to Big Spring and taught science at Runnels Junior High. Later, he became a principal and served Airport, Kentwood and Washington schools at different times.

He loved teaching and enjoyed being an administrator, but decided to follow his dreams of having his own business. His first business adventure was owning a used car lot in Houston, Texas, with his best friend, Max McAdams.

He later bought a Radio Shack franchise, which evolved into an electronics business and later Starcom, which was a satellite television business. Also during this time, he had a background music business called Mutex Sound and distributed TV Facts, which was a television guide with paid advertising.

He was blessed by three beautiful wives during his life. His first wife, Doris, mother of Beverly and Joey, passed during childbirth. His second wife, Thelma, mother of Cyndee and Deanna, passed in 2011 after 41 years of marriage; and lastly, Susan Fletcher Carlile.

He is survived by his sweetie-pie, Susan Fletcher Carlile of Hawaii; sister, Linda Lindell of Big Spring; four adoring children, daughter, Cyndee Eastin and husband Darell of Fort Worth, daughter, Beverly Paul and husband Ervin of Hilo, Hawaii, daughter, Deanna Gross and husband David of Keller and son, Joey Carlile of Big Spring; eight grandchildren, Daniel Beauchamp, Dustyn Beauchamp, Kimberley Eastin, Rebekah Hill, Stephen Eastin, Jonathan Gross, Jared Gross and Lauren O'Neill; four precious great-granddaughters, Lily Beauchamp, Paige Hill, Alexa and Payton O'Neill; and nine treasured nieces and nephews and their families.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clifford and Eula Carlile; and infant daughter, Carmen Lynette Carlile.

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

Paid obituary

Randell Wade Compton

Randell Wade Compton, 50, died Thursday, Nov. 29, 2012, in a Plano hospital. His 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. Thursday and 7 a.m. today:

- ANGELA ANN MCGEE, 30, of 105 W. 24th St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- TYRE COLE WATTS, 27, of 5101 Fisher, was arrested Thursday on a warrant from another agency and charges of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and terroristic threat.
- ANTHONY CHRISTOPHER NEIGHBORS, 22, of 1206 Jeffery, was arrested Thursday on a charge of use/possession of illegal smoking material.
- BENJAMIN EDWARD MOORE II, 32, of 1109 Johnson, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- JOHN F. DARICEK, 73, of Hobbs, N.M., was arrested Thursday on a charge of driving while intoxicated – second offense.
- MICAH NICKLE, 18, of 1207 Sycamore, was arrested Thursday on a warrant for theft – more

than \$50 and less than \$500.

• DANYA LEE ATKINSON, 34, of 102 Merrick, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• DONNI KAY ROBERTSON, 27, of 108 Merrick Rd., was arrested Thursday on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, prohibited substance in a correction facility and possession of a controlled substance.

• STEPHEN GAY, 28, of 1604 Settles, was arrested Thursday on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and bail jumping – failure to appear.

• ASHLEY ELAINE ELLISON, 25, of 1007 Nolan, was arrested Thursday on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, driving while license invalid, expired registration and bail jumping – failure to appear (two counts).

• THEFT was reported:
In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.
In the 200 block of W. FM 700.

In the 5200 block of Sterling Road.
In the 2000 block of S. Gregg Street.

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 300 block of N.E. 11th Place.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 72 inmates at the time of this report.

• GLORIA K. LUNA LOZANO, 45, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated – second offense.

• MICAH NICKLE, 18, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a municipal judgment/sentence for theft – more than \$50 and less than \$500.

• TYRE COLE WATTS, 27, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on charges of terroristic threats, possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated – open container.

• ASHLEY ELAINE GAY, 25, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia and municipal warrants for driving while license invalid, displaying expired registration and failure to appear (two counts).

• STEPHEN KYLE GAY, 28, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of bail jumping – failure to appear and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• DANYA LEE HOPE, 34, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• DONNI KAY ROBERTSON, 27, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, prohibited substance in a correction facility and possession of a controlled substance.

• ANTHONY NEIGHBORS, 22, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a charge of use or possession of illegal smoking materials.

• BENJAMIN EDWARD MOORE, 32, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

• STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 2500 block of 16th Street.

Support Groups

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E. 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit www.cccbigspring.org

• Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at the Gold Rush Tobacco Shop, 800 E. Third Street. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

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Service broadcast Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service.....6:00 p.m.
on your dial Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 1
Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade
Gregg St. For more info contact the Herald 432-263-7331

Dec. 1
Breakfast w/Santa Heritage Museum
For more info contact the museum at 432-267-8255

Dec. 1
Christmas on Main St.
Main Street Pocket Park
Join us immediately after the parade

Dec. 1-2
CD Designs & Funky Cowgirl Craft Show
Dora Roberts Comm. Center Fireplace Room. For more info contact 432-466-3627

Dec. 1-2
Living Christmas Tree
First United Methodist Church
400 Scurry. For more info contact the church office at 432-267-7015.

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LINE

Continued from Page 1

imum of 30 minutes," Parker said. "What they are doing is expanding the phone system at the facility, which calls for them to add a new phone block. This requires they shut the entire system down while that's

being done."

While the lines are down, however, Parker said Howard County 911 lines will be operational.

"If you have an emergency during that time period — between 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. Saturday — all you need to do is call 911," Parker said. "That is regardless of

whether you are calling from a landline or a cell phone."

Parker said problems experienced a few years ago when calling 911 on cellular devices have not only been fixed, service for these devices has been vastly improved.

"A few years ago, if you dialed 911 on a cell phone, sometimes the

caller's number would come up on our screens and sometimes they wouldn't. It was pretty frustrating," Parker said. "However, these days those problems have been fixed. Now, when you dial 911 from your cell phone, the dispatchers are able to see the number as well as the location, thanks

to cell tower triangulation."

The new Troy Hogue Joint Law Enforcement Center — located in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80 — represents a joint venture between the city of Big Spring and Howard County, with funding for the facility coming from both government agencies.

The project is estimated to cost approximately \$2.7 million, with the city of Big Spring chipping in \$1.7 million and the county picking up the balance.

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

COURT

Continued from Page 1

cannot be limited to heterosexuals.

A decision in favor of gay marriage could set a national rule and overturn every state constitutional provision and law banning same-sex marriages. A ruling that upheld California's ban would be a setback for gay marriage proponents in the nation's largest state, although it would leave open the state-by-state effort to allow gays and lesbians to marry.

In striking down Proposition 8, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals crafted a narrow ruling that said because gay Californians already had been given the right to marry, the state could not later take it away. The ruling studiously avoided any sweeping pronouncements.

But if the high court ends up reviewing the

case, both sides agree that the larger constitutional issue would be on the table, although the justices would not necessarily have to rule on it.

Throughout U.S. history, the court has tried to avoid getting too far ahead of public opinion and mores. The high court waited until 1967 to strike down laws against interracial marriage in the 16 states that still had them.

Some court observers argue that the same caution will prevail in the California case.

"What do they have to gain by hearing this case? Either they impose same sex marriage on the whole country, which would create a political firestorm, or they say there's no right to same-sex marriage, in which case they are going to be reversed in 20 years and be badly remembered. They'll be the villains in the historical narrative," said Andrew Koppelman, a

professor of law and political science at Northwestern University. Koppelman signed onto a legal brief urging the justices not to hear the California case.

Yet some opponents of gay marriage say the issue is too important for the court to take a pass.

"The question is whether there's a civil right to redefine marriage, as the California Supreme Court did. We don't think there is," said Brian Brown, president of the National Organization for Marriage.

Regardless of the decision on hearing the California case, there is widespread agreement that the justices will agree to take up a challenge to a part of the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

The law was passed in 1996 by overwhelming bipartisan majorities in the House and Senate and signed by President Bill Clinton. It defines marriage for all pur-

poses under federal law as between a man and a woman and has been used to justify excluding gay couples from a wide range of benefits that are available to heterosexual couples.

Four federal district courts and two courts of appeal have overturned the provision in various cases on grounds that it unfairly deprives same-sex couples of federal benefits. The justices almost always will hear a case in which a federal law has been struck down.

The Obama administration broke with its predecessors when it announced last year that it no longer would defend the provision. President Barack Obama went further when he endorsed gay marriage in May.

Republicans in the House of Representatives stepped in to take up the defense of the law in court.

Paul Clement, the Washington lawyer representing the House,

said the law was intended to make sure that federal benefits would be allocated uniformly, no matter where people live.

The court has several cases to choose from, including that of 83-year-old Edith Windsor of New York. Windsor faces \$363,000 in federal estate taxes after the death of her partner of 44 years in 2009. In two other cases, same-sex couples and surviving spouses of gay marriages in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont are seeking a range of federal benefits, including Social Security and private pension survivor payments, access to federal employee health insurance and the right to file a joint federal income tax return.

In the only instance in which a gay couple already is receiving federal benefits, federal court employee Karen Golinski in San Francisco has been allowed, under a

court order, to add her wife to her health insurance coverage. That could be reversed if the Supreme Court upholds the marriage law provision.

No matter which case the court chooses, the same issue will be front and center — whether legally married gay Americans can be kept from the range of benefits that are otherwise extended to married couples.

Justice Elena Kagan strongly suggested in her Supreme Court confirmation hearings that she would not take part in a gay marriage case from Massachusetts because she worked on it while at the Justice Department. The Massachusetts case is one of only two cases that have been decided by a federal appeals court. Windsor's is the other.

DRIVE

Continued from Page 1

that luxury.

"In the summer, they have to fight back the heat with fans, and, in the winter, they use space heaters and anything else they can find to keep their homes warm enough to live in. It's not something most of us want to think about, but it happens everyday."

Flores said the Salvation Army — which holds fan drives during the summer — is currently holding a heater and blanket drive to gather space heaters and other items area low income residents and families can use to warm their homes and stave off the frigid temperatures this winter.

"We seem to go from sweltering heat to freezing cold in the blink of an eye here in West Texas," Flores said. "Many of these families can barely put food on their table. There's just no way they can afford something like a space heater."

Flores said donations can be made in the form of new or used heaters — although they do need to be in good working order — or monetary donations so the local charity can purchase the heaters and distrib-

ute them.

"Each heater costs an average of \$45," Flores said. "So, as you can imagine, they go pretty fast, especially when the weather turns cold like it has the past several days."

Flores said the heaters provided by the annual drive not only help keep area residents warm, but they also serve a second, very important purpose.

"When the temperature gets below freezing, people will do whatever they have to do to keep warm. It's not simply a matter of staying com-

fortable, it's a matter of staying alive," she said. "Unfortunately, that sometimes leads people to very risky situations, such as using charcoal grills indoors or other heat sources without the proper ventilation."

"The carbon monoxide released by those heat sources can very easily kill a person,

or even an entire family. It can cause a house fire, as well, and then you have a family who already had very little left with nothing at all. Each of the heaters we provide will help people and families stay warm, but it can also do so much more. In essence, it could help save lives and property."

For more information on the heater drive, contact Flores at 267-8239.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232.

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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Digital 4:55 9:45
Sat.: 2:30 7:20
Digital 4:55 9:45

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG-13) (Digital)
Fri.: 4:00 7:00 10:00
Sat.: 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00

Wreck-It-Ralph 3D (PG)
Fri.: 7:10
(Digital) 4:20 9:45
Sat.: (Digital) 1:30 7:10
3D 4:20 9:45 241383

Skysfall (PG-13) Digital
Fri.: 4:30 7:40 10:50
Sat.: 1:20 4:30 7:40 10:50

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Daniel (Danny) Gene Martin Moses, 39, died Friday, Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday at Faith Baptist Church in Abilene.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEW

'Tis the season, starting with this weekend

We certainly don't expect everyone to approach the Christmas season with a permanent smile on their face and a twinkle in their eyes, but in all honesty, you'd have to be Scrooge reincarnated not to enjoy all the holiday events that are scheduled for Big Spring this weekend.

You like parades? We have one.

You like Christmas carols? We have that, too.

You want your children to be able to spend some quality chat time with Santa? Ditto.

You want to win the lottery? Well, you can't have everything.

Starting tonight, the Christmas season roars into the Crossroads area with the VA Medical Center's annual lighting ceremony. Starting at 6 p.m., the hospital will flip the switch on the thousands of lights that adorn the building's interior and exterior. In addition, refreshments will be served, carols will be sung and St. Nick will pay a visit to the children on hand.

Things will really hit high gear Saturday, when all sorts of events are on tap:

- Things kick off at Heritage Museum, which will host its annual Breakfast With Santa event. For \$3 a head, children will be able to have breakfast with Santa, visit, have their photograph taken with him and Mrs. Claus, and learn the basics on how to decorate gingerbread cookies and Christmas ornaments.

For more information, call the museum at 267-8255.

- The Canterbury 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 said. More than 30 vendors are expected to be selling their wares at the event.

For more information, call 432-263-1238.

- Some of the most beautiful holiday music you'll ever hear will highlight First United Methodist Church's Living Christmas Tree, which will hold its 34th annual rendition Saturday and Sunday.

The event is free to the public, but tickets must be obtained at the church office. A dress rehearsal at 2 p.m. Saturday also is open to the public and no ticket is required for that performance.

Call the church office at 267-6394 for more information.

- Pardon us for being a bit biased, but Saturday's main event (in our humble opinion), will be the 27th annual *Big Spring Herald* Community Christmas Parade, which will make its way down Gregg Street beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The parade will begin at the intersection of Gregg and 24th streets, then proceed north on Gregg to Eighth, east to Scurry, north to Fourth, then east to Main.

- Immediately following the parade, the Downtown Revitalization Association will hold its second annual Christmas on Main Street event at the pocket park on Main Street between Third and Fourth. Train and horse rides will be available for \$1, hot cocoa and popcorn will be on sale, children can visit with Santa and Christmas music will be performed by Cody Carnes.

Like we said before, we don't expect everyone to be jumping for joy this month, but this weekend should appeal to anyone with at least a smidgeon of holiday spirit inside them.

Now, if you'll excuse us, we have a parade to prepare for.

Happy holidays, everyone.

A depressing time — for the GOP

It seems hard to believe that the election was only three short weeks ago, and that even as the results were coming in proving Nate Silver (the much maligned New York Times blogger) right and the pillars of conservatism (Dick Morris, George Will and, of course, Karl Rove) completely wrong, Republicans thought they had it won and Mitt Romney had only one speech prepared.

Could that have been only three weeks ago?

Was it only three weeks ago that Republicans still believed in no new taxes and no “amnesty” for “illegal aliens”?

Was it only three weeks ago that Romney was the head of the Republican Party?

Not to defend the man, but he didn't lose in the kind of landslide that forced Democrats to change direction after losing in 1980, 1984 and 1988.

It was a two-and-a-half-point election. The lopsided electoral vote was significantly shaped by close contests in battleground states.

Now Republican Party leaders (and I mean the top of the heap of elected officials and highly paid talkers) are in one of the hastiest retreats I've seen since the 1980s.

Is this the party that for the past four years has been insist-

ing that all Americans — and not just those making less than \$250,000 — deserve tax cuts lest economic growth be stymied? Is this the party that embraced the Arizona law targeting people who “appear” to be illegal immigrants?

Not this week.

The obvious reading of a two-and-a-half-point election is that the only mandate it gives the winner is to pull the country together, not to raise taxes on the wealthiest Americans. President Obama managed to take the former and turn it into the latter, boxing Republican leaders into a negotiation from which they cannot hope to get what they turned down in the last round of talks.

Grover Norquist, the godfather of the “no tax” movement, is finding himself fighting to remain relevant, while Sean Hannity has bought into what used to be known as “amnesty” (even though it never was), and Weekly Standard-bearer Bill Kristol says “it won't kill the country” to raise taxes on millionaires. Three weeks and two-and-a-half points go a long way.

Can it last?

Maybe. Not all Republicans are going gently into the night. Laura Ingraham is signing off of her radio show temporarily, but she's not giving up the fight. Responding to those who have called on Republicans to moderate their stance, she says, “Now that is depressing.”

My guess is that she isn't the only one. The president is in “divide and conquer” mode, and

it's working. What he's dividing is the Republican Party, talkers and all. I can't imagine that in a Congress that is increasingly divided between ideologues of both parties (thank political districting for that) the Republican members are all ready to turn on a dime because some of its leaders think that might be necessary to avoid the public wrath.

National polls may say that Republicans will be blamed if we go off the fiscal cliff, but that doesn't mean individual Republican members in overwhelmingly Republican districts will be held responsible.

The good news for the president is that he doesn't need Republican unity. He's not triangulating the way President Clinton did.

What he needs is enough Republican votes (and it's not that many when you start doing the math) to give a “deal” a majority in the House and a filibuster-proof 60 votes in the Senate.

And if that produces a Republican civil war, a party divided, an ideological battle in which Republicans are embroiled in their own internal blame game? To paraphrase Ingraham, now that will be depressing — for Republicans.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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SUSAN ESTRICH

Puerto Rico's questionable vote

At first glance, it seemed like a totally different story, especially given the superficial way in which the American news media tend to cover Latin America, even in a part of Latin America that also is part of the United States.

The way it was initially reported, the people of Puerto Rico appeared to have made a decisive and historic shift away from their current “Commonwealth” relationship with the United States and in favor of turning the Caribbean island into the 51st state of the American union.

Unless you were following the island's Nov. 6 election returns via cyberspace and directly from Puerto Rico's news media, on the mainland you were led to believe that, with 61 percent of a referendum vote for statehood, Puerto Ricans had placed huge pressure on the U.S. Congress to deal with Puerto Rico's colonial status once and for all.

We saw pro-statehood Puerto Ricans celebrating in the streets of San Juan and telling us that, for the first time in 45 years, the island had clearly chosen to become a state.

They came off as if they had a mandate!

But there was nothing clear about the results of this referendum.

Unfortunately, what they sent to Washington was a bunch of mixed signals that will give U.S. politicians a new wealth of excuses to keep ignoring our unique, undemocratic and often unfair relationship with Puerto Rico and its people.

Although the referendum was non-binding, which means that Congress can choose to ignore it anyway, a decisive vote for statehood, with a pro-statehood governor in office, could have made a huge impact in Washington.

But that's not happening.

In spite of the initial misleading headlines based on a superficial reading of the referendum results, 61 percent doesn't mean that a majority of Puerto Ricans voted for statehood. It means that in political math,

sometimes numbers can be very deceiving.

Unlike past plebiscites, when Puerto Ricans were asked to choose between statehood, commonwealth or independence, and when they chose three times to remain a U.S. commonwealth, this time the current commonwealth status wasn't even an option!

This latest plebiscite — organized, orchestrated and manipulated by the governing pro-statehood New Progressive Party — consisted of two questions designed to favor the statehood option.

And it got the desired results, thanks to semantics and fussy math.

First, the voters were asked whether they agreed with the island's current status as a U.S. commonwealth, which was curiously described on the ballot as Puerto Rico's “current territorial condition” — as if it was an illness that needed to be cured.

And by a 54 to 46 percent margin, the voters went along with the loaded question and rejected their current status.

But the second question was even more loaded, crafted in such a way that you knew, even before the election, that it was bound for controversy.

Titled “Non-Territorial Options,” the second question was a multiple choice: (A) Statehood, (B) a new commonwealth arrangement called Sovereign Free Associated State or (C) Independence.

And that's where statehood got 61 percent of the vote.

Another 33 percent favored a revised, more independent, version of the commonwealth and 6 percent voted for independence.

But that's the breakdown for the people who responded to the second question.

It doesn't take into account some 500,000 voters who, apparently in protest for being denied the current commonwealth option, decided to leave that question blank.

The headlines told us that Puerto Ricans had chosen statehood, but if you count those who abstained on the second question, support for statehood goes down to 45 percent, and 55 percent actually went for options other than statehood. Go figure!

As if that wasn't enough to bring the statehood movement back down to reality, their so-called “mandate” dissolves even faster when you consider that in the same election, Puerto Ricans booted out of office most of the people who had promoted statehood and had vowed to take that fight to Washington.

If 61 percent of Puerto Ricans had actually voted for statehood, why did they send the pro-statehood New Progressive Party packing?

Why did they boot out the pro-statehood government of Gov. Luis Fortuna?

Why did they give control of both chambers of the legislature to the pro-commonwealth Popular Democratic Party?

The contradictions didn't make sense, until the 61 percent became 45 percent and we all realized there were no contradictions.

Puerto Ricans are not ready to welcome statehood with a mandate, which is what they would need to convince a reluctant Congress to allow their island to fully join the union.

If and when they have that mandate, Puerto Ricans will still have a huge battle to fight in Washington, where statehood is bound to face stiff opposition, especially from Republicans. Let's face it: The GOP would rightfully fear that the island would become a blue state, that it would send mostly Democrats to fill two Senate and six House seats, and that once some 4 million Puerto Ricans are eligible to vote for president, a large majority — like other U.S. Latinos — would favor the Democratic Party.

In fact, for Puerto Rico to become a state, the stars have to line up with nearly impossible accuracy.

On the mainland, Democrats would need to control the White House, the Senate and the House of Representatives.

On the island, a referendum, without loaded questions and reasonable options, would have to show a clear mandate for statehood.

And the Puerto Rican people would have to find a pro-statehood governor they actually like.

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MIGUEL PEREZ

Church news

First United Methodist Church

There's a rush of activity down at First Methodist Church as last-minute details are put into place for this weekend's presentation of The Living Christmas Tree. The tree will include a full orchestra made up of Big Spring Symphony players and others as well as a community chorus. Big Spring High School Varsity and Women's choirs, Junior High Varsity Men's and Women's choirs will participate, along with the Howard College Concert Choir and Howard College Hawk Jam instrumentalists.

This is the 34th year for these presentations which will include a visit from Santa and his helpers with gifts for all the children and a beautiful live nativity complete with Mary, Joseph, a live baby Jesus, shepherds and wise men. Performances are at 8 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday; dress rehearsal is at 2 p.m. Saturday and is open to the public.

Sunday morning, Pastor Bill Ivins will begin a new sermon series entitled, "Christmas in 3D," the first of the series will be a sermon, "Let There Be Singing in the Streets," based on Jeremiah 33:19-16. The Advent Candle will be lit by Ernestine Day at the 8:30 a.m. service and by Joan Beil at the 10:50 a.m. service. Sunday school classes for all ages are held at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Noon Bible Study and Luncheon are back on schedule; Al's Barbecue will cater the meal with serving beginning at 11:50 a.m. Pastor Bill will lead the bible study. Real Life will begin serving an evening meal at 5:30, followed by various study opportunities, as well as children's choir and Epic youth.

The Youth have begun collecting canned goods for local Big Spring families in need. Please help with this effort by bringing canned goods to the church office. For more information about this very worthy project, contact Beau at 312-7923.

Remember to get your orders in for poinsettias and especially remember the "reason for the season," which is what we are celebrating down at 4th and Scurry at the First Methodist Church.

Gifts for the Angel Tree children are due back at the church right away in preparation for their party on Saturday, Dec. 8, in Garrett Hall.

First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma

As Advent Season begins, our weeks are getting busier at First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma. The sermon for Sunday will focus on I Thessalonians 3: 9-13, and tell of our hope as Christians of sharing time together, growing in our spirituality, pleasing God and abounding in love. We will then look at Luke 21: 25-36. As we study these verses, we

are reminded that Jesus urges us all to stay alert so we do not miss any aspect of the advent of God.

We want to mail our Hugs-for-Soldiers boxes this week. Please bring items and cards for the soldiers, if you haven't yet.

On Sunday, we will share communion. We will then join in "The Hanging of the Greens" at 2 p.m. Come help us decorate and prepare our sanctuary for the advent season.

Tuesday evening, the Garden of Eden Club will meet to finish putting up lights and leveling out the dirt work from the installation of the new sprinkler system.

Daughters of the King will meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday for the high school youth meeting.

The Prayer Blanket Group will meet Thursday at 5 p.m. to cut and sew more prayer blankets.

Thursday at 6 p.m. is also the date for the upcoming Session meeting.

Sunday, Dec. 9, we will gather together to share our holiday meal.

We want to thank the Coahoma congregations for joining together at our church Nov. 18 for the Coahoma Ministerial Alliance Service and Thanksgiving Meal. It was a beautiful service, bringing all of us together for one purpose — taking care of those in our community who need our love and caring. We are truly blessed to serve in a community like Coahoma, with so many different churches working toward a common goal.

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

The Lectionary Bible study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, meets Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. in the church library. The chancel choir and the children's choir will practice at 6 p.m. and 4:45 p.m., respectively Wednesday.

The Boy Scouts meet in the entrance room of the Fellowship Hall at 6 p.m. Monday.

Nancy Hale is in charge of this week's "Take Ten." Rip Patterson is liturgist for December. Paula Farquhar, Janie Conley and Kay and Danny Kenemur are communion servers.

The lectionary for the First Sunday in Advent is Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; I Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36.

The choir will offer the anthem "Lamb of God" by Twila Paris and for the offertory they will present "Come, Come Emmanuel," arranged by Bailey/Mayo. Rev. Holstedt will deliver the sermon and officiate at communion.

See **CHURCH**, Page 7

Waking up whole

Last week I was sick. Nothing serious, just one of those things we all have to deal with from time to time — a sore throat and headache with a sinus infection that in a few days had moved into my chest. After hacking and coughing my way through a few fitful nights, I found myself wishing I could just lie down, get a good night's sleep and wake up well.

My temporary illness soon passed, but it made me reflect on those who face far more serious conditions, whose illnesses are terminal.

I think of my mother, who suffered a massive stroke at age 89 and chose to forego medical intervention that could have extended her life but offered no hope of recovery. Knowing she was facing death within a matter of days, we talked about what it would be like when she "awoke on the other side" in a new body, once again young, vigorous and healthy, able to run through the

fields as she did when she was a girl.

It made me think of my friend, Mike Toby who has served as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Woodway for 35 years.

Last month, Mike woke up on a Sunday morning to discover his left hand numb. He preached anyway. The next week the doctors determined that he was suffering from a cancer in the brain and gave him three to six months to live. Mike made a video for his congregation in which he candidly spoke about his illness and his faith. Here's what he said:

"I didn't want to spend one day trying to fight off the inevitable. When I was seven years old, I gave my heart to Jesus and became a citizen of the Kingdom of God. That's where I know that I will spend eternity. My faith is rock solid in Jesus Christ.

"I know that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. I have been the recipient of unbelievable grace and blessing. Every day has been full. I don't feel the need to negotiate with God for 15 extra seconds, He has so richly blessed me. The only prayer I would

See **WHOLE**, Page 7



BILL TINSLEY

The magic of Christmas

It's magic! There is just something enchanting about the sparkle and glow of Christmas. Even the die-hard Scrooges amongst us have a hard time wearing their frowns when cheerful music fills the nippy air and frozen faces melt into smiles. "Merry Christmas" always solicits a grin from grumpy dispositions.



BONNIE WHEAT

It is difficult to say exactly what is so enticing about the Christmas season. Is it the anticipation of time spent with fam-

ily and friends? Is it the shopping frenzies that extract generosity from even the most tight-fisted? Maybe it's the preparation for the celebration that tires and energizes us at the same time. Perhaps, by some law of human nature, the excitement just snowballs as the day approaches.

With the hanging of the first sprig of holly, comes the desire for more. Christmas around the fireplace spreads into Christmas in every room. A few presents under the tree soon become a tree filled with gifts. A few Christmas cookies multiply into cookies galore. The contagion continues until we run out of money, time, or energy.

Since Christmas

celebrations come in many forms and sizes, we may have to curtail our enthusiasm for out-doing, overstuffing, and extra sizing. But we can always find the celebration that suits us best if we are willing to sort through the trappings of commercialism. By searching our hearts for the things that matter most, we can create a customized Christmas celebration that keeps joy aflame throughout the season.

As Christmas approaches, we should remember that the real joy of Christmas is not about the gifts we place under the tree, but the gift God placed on the tree. The apostle John wrote, "For God so loved the

See **MAGIC**, Page 7

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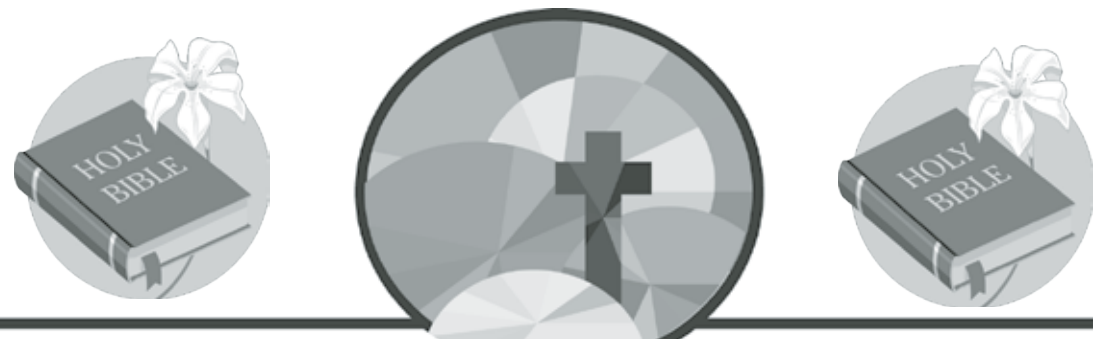
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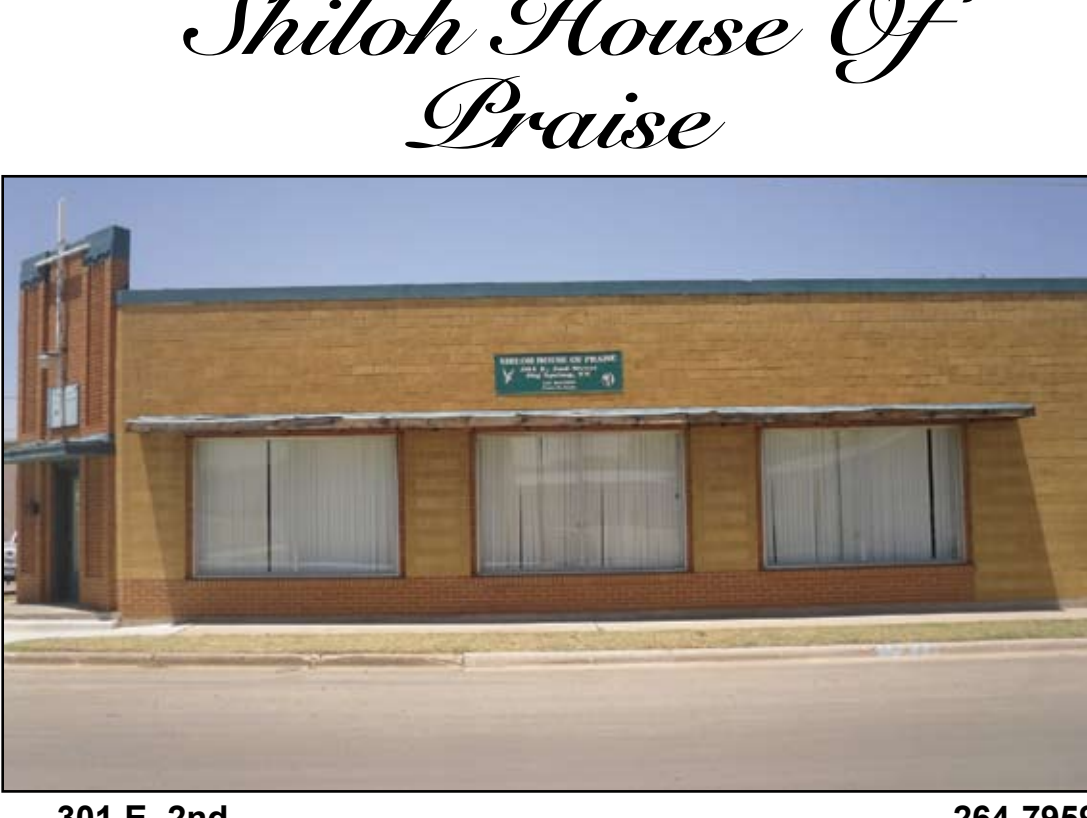
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*God's love supply is never empty.
"For his unfailing love toward those
who fear him is as great as the height
of*

CHURCH

Continued from Page 5

Immediately after worship, there will be a Called Congregational Meeting to elect new officers for the Class of 2015.

If you cannot attend worship, you may listen in on KBST 1490 AM., beginning at 11a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, please call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website: www.fpcbs.org. On our website, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by the Rev. Holstedt.

College Baptist Church

The Lottie Moon Christmas International Missions Offering kicks off with a week of prayer starting Sunday at College Baptist. Our church goal this year is \$12,000. There will be videos and more information as we meet each Sunday.

Christmas at College Baptist is coming up fast with a lot of activities planned. The youth have a trip to the ice rink in Odessa planned for their Christmas party Friday, Dec. 7. They will meet at the church for a meal and a sermon by Spencer Golduc at 6 p.m. Spencer has served as a "Journeyman Missionary" with the National Mission Board in the Middle East, proclaiming the gospel of Christ to the Muslim people in that area. Following the meal and sermon, they will go to Odessa for ice skating and broom ball.

The senior adult men's and women's classes will have their annual Christmas party at the church Saturday, Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m. There will be a special Christmas program and a meal catered by Adam Hernandez.

Cornerstone Covenant Church

Cornerstone Covenant Church invites you to join us this Sunday as we conclude our series: "He's able!" with Part 2, "Making it Through the Storm," taken from Matthew 7:24-27. Last week we discovered both the wise man and foolish man have things in common. First, they were both builders. Second, they were both visionaries. Also, they both had objectives. And lastly, they both had encountered storms. But the main thing that separates them from each other is their ability to make wise choices in their foundations. What kind of foundation are you building on?

Wednesday evenings from 5:50-6:50, CCC holds its Overcomers: Recovery & Restoration class, followed by Discipleship 101 Bible Study at 7 p.m. If you have ever or are currently struggling with addictions (substance, alcohol, food, etc.) this would be a great class to look into. We welcome all to come join us.

CCC Annual Christmas Caroling will be held Dec. 15 at three local retirement living centers. If you would like to participate in the caroling, please call the church before Dec. 7.

CCC will host its annual Christmas Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 23, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School cafeteria. We welcome one and all to join us for a wonderful holiday feast and amazing fellowship. If you would like to bring a side dish or help with serving, please contact us at the number below and we will get you in contact with our food service director.

CCC offers ministries in the following areas: New Beginnings (newborn to 18 months); Tiny Tots (19 months- kindergarten); Kovenant Kids (grades 1 through 6); Chosen Generation (grades 7 through 12); Covenant U-College Ministry (18-24 years); Men's and Women's Ministries; and Marriage Enrichment.

CCC meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. for Discipleship 101 Bible Study and Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for worship. (Sunday morning services are recorded, so if you'd like a free copy of a CD for those services, please see our broadcasting department.) Mother's Lounge and children's church are offered for both mid-week and Sunday services.

CCC is located at 706 East 12th St. (on the corner of 12th and Owens) For more information, please contact us at 264-0015, visit us on the web at www.ccbigspring.org or check out Covenant Connect on Facebook, Twitter or Myspace.

Spring Creek Fellowship

Keep an eye out for our float in the Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade this Saturday. The theme of the event is "Storybook Christmas." Our storybook is an old favorite that many will recognize.

Our December sermon series, "Experience Christmas," will include: "The Willingness of Mary" from Luke 1:26-38; "The Courage of Joseph" from Matthew 1:18-25; "The Joy of the Shepherds" from Luke 2:1-20; and "The Peace of Simeon" from Luke 2:22-32

All ladies are invited to the "Red Dress Tea" on Dec. 8 from 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

For mom's and daughters, granddaughters, friends, nieces and ladies of all ages, wear a little

red or a whole lot. Bring your favorite holiday goodies and an ornament for exchange. Come ready for a great time in the Lord.

A blood drive is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 15, from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Please sign up at the church or online at www.unitedbloodservices.org.

The "Between the Lines" Women's Ministry cookbooks are available. The cost is \$15. Please call the church office to get a copy or for more details. These cookbooks make great Christmas gifts.

New Sunday School classes/Connection Groups have begun. Come check out classes with topic/subject-based studies ranging from six to nine weeks in length and relevant to today's Christian adventure. Classes are available for all ages and meet from 9:15-10:15 a.m.

Christmas is coming soon. We have several ministries that will help make sure everyone is remembered for the holidays. We are collecting items to be distributed by "Adopt a Military Hero" to military personnel from Howard County. Another place to help is "Angel Tree," which distributes gifts to children in our area.

We have also collected gift-filled shoe boxes for "Operation Christmas Child" which is an international organization that distributes these boxes all over the world.

See CHURCH, Page 10

MAGIC

Continued from Page 5

world, that He gave His only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16 NASB).

God's gift was not wrapped in shiny paper and tied with a fancy bow. His gift appeared as a tiny baby wrapped

in rags, sleeping in a manger. The destiny of God's most precious gift, freely given, was a cross of crucifixion.

The magic of Christmas cannot be found in shopping malls. It isn't around our tables or in the food we eat. It can't be discovered in the decorations we hang or the carols we sing. The magic of Christmas is in God's supernatural love for a sinful world.

WHOLE

Continued from Page 5

ask anyone to pray is that the Lord will take me home quickly. I don't want to suffer. I don't want my family to suffer. I feel like God has allowed me to realize the vast majority of anything I could have hoped for in life.

"It was in the spring that the Lord took me to the Psalms and the verse jumped out to me, 'Lord teach me to number my days that I may present to you a heart of wisdom.' I don't think I had a clue how much that would come to mean to me. Clearly, to number your days has taken on a real depth of meaning to me.

"The other verse that has meant a lot to me is 'We must work while it is day. Night is coming when no man can work.' For my entire life, as my family will

attest, I have woken up about 3:30 in the morning and I have woken up with joy. I have woken up ready to go to work. And I have enjoyed working all day long.

"And when the sun came down I was ready to put my head on the pillow and said, 'Lord, thank you for a great day!'

"So, I feel like I am able to say, 'I have fought the good fight. I have finished the course and I am abso-

lutely confident that you have a crown awaiting for me, and not for me only, but everyone else who has shared that journey in life.' I look forward to seeing my Savior and to share that homecoming. The healing comes when I am released into the arms of my Savior."

During this holiday season there are many households which are facing difficult illnesses like Mike Toby and his family.

It is important for all

of us that we number our days, that we live with confidence in the eternal life that God has offered in His son, Jesus Christ, knowing that one day we will wake up well and whole with all those who love His appearing.

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. You can view Mike Toby's personal message on YouTube. Email bill@tinsleycenter.com.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

What would you bid as dealer with each of the following five hands?

- ♠K8632 ♥AKQJ2 ♦7 ♣Q4
- ♠K94 ♥AJ3 ♦AQ85 ♣KQ7
- ♠KQ6 ♥97 ♦87632 ♣AKJ
- ♠AQJ9874 ♥10 ♦7 ♣KQ85
- ♠K83 ♥AJ4 ♦53 ♣AKJ92

- One spade.** Even though your hearts are much stronger than your spades, it is better to follow the general rule of opening with the higher-ranking of two five-card suits, planning to bid the lower-ranking suit at your next two turns, if necessary. If you were to start with one heart and later bid your spades, your partner would naturally assume that you had only four spades and would not raise you with three-card support. As a result, you might never locate the best partscore, game or slam contract, which could be in spades.
- One diamond.** Though you obviously have a notrump type of hand, the correct opening bid is one diamond. Hands containing 19 high-card points do not fall into the opening notrump category — they are too strong for one notrump and not strong enough for two notrump. Such hands are best described by opening with one of a suit and then jumping to two notrump over partner's expected response of one heart or one spade.
- One diamond.** Virtually all hands containing 13 high-card points are mandatory opening bids. This rule overrides one's natural reluctance to open with a five-card suit headed by the eight. It is far better to bid one diamond — a suit in which you have length — than one club, a suit in which you have strength.
- Four spades.** This gives you several possibilities for a good result. First, you have a reasonable chance of making four spades even if partner has only moderate values. Second, there's a good chance of buying the contract at four spades undoubled even if the opponents have most of the missing high cards. Third, if the opponents elect to compete over four spades, they might miss their best spot because they have to start searching for it at the five-level.
- One notrump.** This tells partner that you have 15 to 17 points, a balanced distribution (not more than one doubleton) and stoppers in at least three suits — exactly what you have. If you were to open with one club instead, you would have an impossible rebid if partner responded with any suit on the one-level. If partner bid one heart, for example, you could not bid two hearts (which would indicate 13 to 15 points), three hearts (which would promise four-card support), one notrump (13-14 points) or two notrump (18-19 points). The opening notrump bid spares you this headache.

Tomorrow: An unexpected development.
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Tibetan protest against Chinese rule in new phase

BEIJING (AP) — Two dozen Tibetans have set themselves on fire in western China this month in a dramatic acceleration of the protests against authoritarian Chinese rule, activist groups say.

The surge in self-immolations, along with an increase in large demonstrations, marks a new phase in the Tibetan protests.

At least 86 people have set themselves on fire since the immolations began in 2009. In a change in recent months, most self-immolators now are lay people — some of them acting together — rather than Buddhist monks and nuns who live in tightly monitored monasteries and thus can be more closely watched by authorities.

The protests have also sought to avoid direct attacks on authorities and government property, acts which in the past were used to label them as riots or terrorism, providing an excuse for

greater oppression. Despite the altered approach, observers see little short-term possibility of Beijing changing its repressive policies.

"I think the problem will just escalate over time. The government shows no inclination to respond positively to recommendations for reform from the outside or Tibetans," said Michael Davis, a law professor and expert on Tibet at the University of Hong Kong.

In the latest immolation, 24-year-old Kalsang Kyab doused himself with kerosene and set himself alight Tuesday in front of local government offices in Kyangtse in Aba prefecture, a hotbed of unrest, according to London-based Free Tibet and other groups.

An Aba official said Wednesday he was aware of the immolations but refused to give any details before hanging up.

On Monday, about 1,000

students at a Tsolho Medical Institute staged a bold protest about 900 kilometers (550 miles) to the north in Hainan prefecture in Qinghai province. Riot police fired shots into the air and released tear gas and beat the students with rifle butts, sending 20 students to the hospital, some with serious injuries, Free Tibet reported. Four students were detained as of Tuesday, according to U.S.-funded broadcaster Radio Free Asia.

Tibetan and surrounding ethnically Tibetan regions have been closed off to most outsiders, and firsthand information from the area is extremely difficult to obtain. Authorities have not commented on the protest. Calls to the medical school rang unanswered Wednesday.

Driving the students to protest was a booklet distributed by authorities that derided the Tibetan language as irrelevant, attacked the exiled Tibetan leader the Dalai Lama,

and condemned the immolation protests by Tibetans as "acts of stupidity."

The booklet is the latest in a series of perceived slights and intrusive measures by Chinese authorities that have left Tibetans feeling that the culture, language and Buddhist religion that are at the core of their identity are under threat.

The feelings have also driven the immolations.

The surge in self-immolations represents an awareness of the impact they are having among the Tibetan community and internationally, said Robbie Barnett, a Tibet expert at New York's Columbia University. That would likely inspire further protests, increasing the numbers of Tibetans willing to take their lives for the sake of their community, he said.

Most self-immolators have doused themselves with gasoline and set themselves alight after shouting slogans calling

for Tibetan independence and blessings for the Dalai Lama, who fled to India in 1959 as Chinese troops — a decade after they occupied the region — were crushing an anti-government uprising.

Though protests have flared periodically over the decades, tensions boiled over in 2008, when deadly rioting broke out in the capital, Lhasa, and sparked an uprising across large swaths of ethnically Tibetan areas.

Since then, security — a ready extremely tight — has been smothering.

The immolations have galvanized many Tibetans, who see them as selfless acts of sacrifice, making it hard for authorities to denounce the immolators. Similarly, protests by students are hard to demonize since they are typically non-violent and centered on issues such as language rights that are guaranteed under the Chinese Constitution.

CHURCH

Continued from Page 7

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service and "Cookie Giveaway" are scheduled for Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. The cookie giveaway is a yearly event where church members deliver homemade cookies as we leave candlelight to folks who have to work on Christmas Eve.

If you know of someone who will be working on Christmas Eve, please let us know and we will bless them with some goodies.

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, please contact the church office.

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the College Park Shopping Center at 501 Birdwell Lane in Big Spring, Texas, across from Denny's. Contact us at (432)714-4584 or visit our website at www.springcreekfellowship.org

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church

Our pastor is Lannon Martin. Our motto is "Celebrating and Sharing God's Love and Grace in our lives".

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood Subdivision in Big Spring. The church phone number is (432) 264-7818. Our website is <http://www.m2ctexas.org/chweb/aliveinchrist/>. Our e-mail address is aliveinchrist@crcom.net.

We would love to have you join us for church on Sundays at 9 a.m., with breakfast treats following and Sunday School around 10:15.

Mid-week classes this week: 5:30 p.m., soup supper, 6:15 p.m., Bible study, 7 p.m., Advent worship.

Bobby Roever will present the readings this week. This week's sermon references "Earthly things fall. Heavenly things are eternal!"

Tune in to KBYG every morning for a devotional sponsored in part by

the Lutheran Hour. Tune in to 106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 and 6:50 each morning for these wonderful devotions: "Morning Meditation Thoughts".

A new website offered by The Lutheran Hour Ministries is available. The site, www.jcplayzone.com, promises fun and Christian educational based games and videos. Fun for all ages and offered in several languages, this SAFE internet site is something to check out.

Holy Trinity Catholic Parish

Holy Trinity Catholic Parish is located at 1009 Hearn St. Weekend mass times are 5 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday. Priest is Msgr. Bernard Gully. The church office phone number is 714-4930.

The season of Advent begins this Sunday. Advent is a time of preparation and reflection before the coming of Christ at Christmas.

The following celebrations will be observed during the month: the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 8 at 5 p.m.; rosary and tea honoring the Blessed Mother in the Prayer Garden on Dec. 10 at 5:30 p.m. for all

women of the church; and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec. 12 beginning with Las Mananitas at 6 p.m.

On Saturday, Dec. 8, members of St. Vincent de Paul will host their annual bazaar at Dora Roberts Community Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend and do their Christmas shopping as there will be many vendors.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

St. Mary's Holy Eucharist service begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

A new adult Sunday School class begins Sunday. Please contact Deacon John Marshall for more information. Also, we will celebrate the 10-year anniversary of our three deacons at St. Mary's that day. Please join us for a pot-luck lunch after the morning service.

The Daily Grind With God Coffee Hour meets every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Holy Eucharist and a healing service will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the chapel.

For more information about St. Mary's, call 267-8201. We are located at 1001 S. Goliad St.



Letters to Santa!

Deadline For Letters is
**Wednesday,
December 12, 2012**

Letters will be published in
the Letters to Santa Special on
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Courtesy photo/Valerie Avery
Grady's Sarah Matthews (right) wrangles the ball from a Monahans player during Thursday's 53-33 victory over the Lady Loboes. Grady (5-2) will continue in the Greenwood tournament today against Snyder at 4:30 p.m.



Big Spring varsity boys and girls are participating in the Doug McCutchen Memorial Tournament in San Angelo. The Steers opened play Thursday with a 62-39 loss to Bastrop while the Lady Steers played Midland Classical (results unknown). Garden City, Coahoma and Forsan are participating in the Bearkat Booster Club Klassic in Garden City over the weekend. Results will be in Sunday's edition of the Herald.

Howard College Women's Basketball traveled to Ranger College and improved to a 7-3 record with a 56-50 victory over the Rangers.

Dallas ready for slumping Eagles

SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas — The Philadelphia Eagles figured to be without Michael Vick and LeSean McCoy against Dallas and already knew DeSean Jackson was gone for the year. Then they offered their strongest sign of surrender in a lost season.

The Eagles abruptly dumped 2011 linebacker Jason Babin days before Sunday night's game against Tony Romo and the Cowboys, who ran 52 consecutive pass plays in their last game and have sunk to last in the league in rushing.

Coach Andy Reid said his message won't change even after acknowledging the Babin move was to give younger defensive linemen more playing time. Besides, the Eagles (3-8) can pay back the Cowboys by essentially knocking them out of the playoff hunt three weeks after Dallas did the

same thing to them with a win in Philadelphia.

"I think that you play to win games," said Reid, whose team would have to win its final five games just to reach an 8-8 record that owner Jeffrey Lurie has already labeled unacceptable. "You practice and play that way. It doesn't matter what the record is. That's how you go about your business, and that's what we're doing."

If the Eagles are to snap a seven-game losing streak — easily the longest in 14 years under Reid — it will likely be with rookie Nick Foles, who actually played most of Dallas' 38-23 win over Nov. 11 after Vick was knocked out with a concussion. Vick hasn't played since.

Against Carolina last weekend, Bryce Brown filled in for McCoy, also sidelined by a concussion, and set an Eagles rookie record with 178 yards rushing. But he

lost two fumbles that were significant in the Panthers' 30-22 win. Jackson is out for the year after fracturing multiple ribs against the Panthers.

"A lot of things have changed over there, obviously. We all know that," said Dallas linebacker Ernie Sims, who will start barely a month after signing with the Cowboys; Bruce Carter was lost for the season to an elbow injury. "The good thing is we've already played them. We've already beaten them so we've already seen their hand."

Without Babin, Trent Cole becomes the biggest threat to the suddenly pass-happy Cowboys. He's third on the Eagles' career list with 69 1/2 sacks.

"Anybody says there's nothing to play for, but there is," Cole said. "We may not have playoff hopes here, but we've got to play

See **COWBOYS**, Page 16

Short-handed Spurs burned by Heat, 105-100

MIAMI (AP) — When Gregg Popovich gives his best players a night off to rest, it's not uncommon for the San Antonio Spurs coach to get letters from upset fans.

This time, he's going to hear from an upset commissioner — even after Popovich's short-handed team nearly knocked off the Miami Heat.

Ray Allen's 3-pointer with 22.6 seconds left gave Miami the lead, LeBron James finished with 23 points and the Heat rallied to beat the Spurs 105-100 on Thursday night — digging deep despite San Antonio's decision to have four top players resting at home in a move that bothered NBA Commissioner David Stern.

The Spurs played without Tim Duncan, Tony Parker, Manu Ginobili and Danny Green, all sent back to San Antonio by Popovich, who said the move was in his team's best interest.

"I don't think Pop was in the wrong," James

said. Stern disagreed, calling the decision "unacceptable" and saying that sanctions against the Spurs will be forthcoming.

"Oh, it would have been great if we won," Spurs forward Matt Bonner said after hearing about Stern's statement. "It goes back to what I was saying, I'm sure everybody else was saying before the game. We have faith in everybody on our roster. We think we have one of the deepest teams in the league."

The Heat weren't disagreeing afterward.

"We survived," Chris Bosh said. "And we won. They have a bunch of talented guys over there. I know that nobody's going to really give them credit, but they are a tough bunch."

How tough? Try this — the Spurs led by seven with 4:48 left, and the margin was 98-93 when Gary Neal made a 3-pointer with 2:14 remaining.

Title could be at stake for K-State against Texas

DAVE SKRETTA

AP Sports Writer

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — There will be a time not long from now that Kansas State's players will gather to reflect on the season, one that's brought unimaginable joy along with soul-crushing heartache.

It's not that time just yet.

Despite a loss two weeks ago to Baylor that knocked the seventh-ranked Wildcats from national title consideration, they still have plenty to play for Saturday against No. 23 Texas: The third conference championship in school history and an automatic BCS bowl berth.

Not a bad consolation prize for a team expected to finish somewhere in the middle of the Big 12, but that rose to No. 1 in the BCS standings before that lousy night in Waco.

"I haven't reflected back on the season. I haven't reflected forward," Kansas State

coach Bill Snyder said this week. "I have reflected on our most recent game and our preparation for the game coming up. That's where my attention has been."

It certainly hasn't been on No. 12 Oklahoma, which plays TCU earlier Saturday.

If the Sooners lose to the Horned Frogs, the Wildcats (10-1, 7-1) will already have wrapped up at least a share of the Big 12 championship and, due to tiebreakers, the BCS bid, long before Collin Klein and the rest of the senior class is introduced to a sellout crowd.

"It's going to be an emotional day for me," said Klein, who is widely expected to be invited to New York City next week for the Heisman Trophy ceremony.

"I know being around here now for, this is my fifth year, you see a lot of players enter and exit in their tenure, and now my time has come in that sense, and that's

not an easy thing," Klein said. "I have so many fond memories of my time here. It's going to be hard."

The Sooners are comfortable favorites to beat TCU, which means the Wildcats are certainly preparing for the Longhorns (8-3, 5-3) as if they'll need to win themselves.

Kansas State's only Big 12 title came in 2003, when it beat then-No. 1 Oklahoma when the conference still had a championship game. Its only other league title came in 1934, during the old Big Six days, when Lynn "Pappy" Waldorf was the coach.

More common have been the kind of losing seasons that brought Snyder to Manhattan, Kan., in the late-1980s, and brought him back from a brief retirement a few years ago.

"We've just been fortunate, and it's been good fortune," Snyder said. "We've played well most of the time, but again, Texas is the dominant

football program and you have to have good fortune to beat teams like that, and particularly in this conference."

There is plenty at stake besides the championship, too.

Start with Klein, who until a couple of poor showings — including a disastrous three-interception game against Baylor — was the Heisman frontrunner. Now, he may need to play the best game of his career to upstage Notre Dame's Manti Te'o and Texas A&M's Johnny Manziel, who won't have the chance to impress voters Saturday with their regular seasons already finished.

"It's hard to get away from that stuff," Klein said, "especially in this day and age, with social media and everything around, but it's just a matter of being the best I possibly can."

The Wildcats have beaten the Longhorns four straight times, so

See **TITLE**, Page 16

Rangers keeping in contact with slugger Hamilton's agent

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Rangers general manager Jon Daniels has maintained contact with Josh Hamilton's agent, and said Thursday that the slugger's free agency process has gone as expected so far.

"I think the interesting has been consistent," Daniels said. "The process that we agreed to really back in the spring, when we tabled negotiations at that point, was that Josh was going to test the market and once he had a sense of that would circle with us, and I think he's still in

that process."

Speaking on a conference call in advance of next week's winter meetings, Daniels said that it has worked out well for the Rangers since they are still sorting through some options. "The market's starting to move," Daniels said. "I would think things on both Josh's end as well as on our end, things we're looking at, I would expect things will start moving a little bit." Hamilton is a free agent for the first time after hitting a career-high 43 home runs.

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Beauty, bath & body, jewelry, home decor & many stocking stuffer ideas (including Avon items). Items also available to order. Credit cards & Checks accepted. Cash and Prize Drawings.

DOWN SIZING Sale: 2413 South Anderson Road, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 9:00-5:00. Windberg prints, saddles, horse clocks, oak furniture, Montarray western ware, Fred Roberts china, misc. items. Call (432)267-3547.

YARD SALE

FAMILY GARAGE Sale: 1708 Purdue, Saturday 8:00am-? Sectional sofa set, desk, end table, crib, dresser, baby toys, clothes and more!!!

GARAGE SALE!! 609 W. 17th Street. Saturday 8am-2pm. Lots and lots of good stuff. I am de-cluttering my home!! Mountain bike, baby crib, stroller, playpens, toys, boys toddler and size 6-8 clothes, winter jackets, women's plus and size 10-11 shoes. Picture frames, home decor, kitchen stuff, knick-knacks, lots of pretty stuff, cheaply priced!!!

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: 2607 Alamesa, Saturday 10-1. Lots of Fabric, quilting, drapes, craft items & supplies.

MOVING SALE!! 202 Washington, Saturday 7:00-? Couch, chair, recliner, corner computer desk and chair, pots and pans, car seat and stroller and more!!!!

SALE! SALE! Mom is Cleaning Out! 2609 East 24th, Saturday 8:00-12:00 Only.

YARD & Estate, 1705 Morrison, Friday & Saturday, 8am-2pm. Lots of Christmas items, Christmas sweaters, good clothing & lots of misc.

Help Wanted

118TH JUDICIAL District Juvenile Probation Department is accepting applications for the position of Juvenile Probation Officer. Texas Human Resources Code Sec: 141.061 outlines the minimum requirements necessary:

- 1) Must be 21 years of age or older on the date of hire
 - 2) Be of good moral character
 - 3) Must have a bachelor's degree from accredited college university;
 - 4) And have either:
 - (A) One year of graduate study in criminology, corrections, counseling, law, social work, psychology, sociology, or other field of instruction approved by the state, or;
 - (B) One year of work experience in case work, counseling, community corrections, group work with offenders or other disadvantaged persons.
 - 5) Must be able to pass a drug test and criminal history check
 - 6) And must reside in Howard County or be willing to relocate
- Resume's May be Mailed to:
118th Judicial District Juvenile Probation Department
PO Box 2262
Big Spring, TX 79720
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Help Wanted

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Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for spray applicator driver. Class A- CDL license and farm experience helpful; but will consider training. Requires high school diploma or equivalent. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person:

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BLAST MASTERS has positions available for:

* Crew Tech
Must have valid Texas Drivers License, will train, Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., Pick up application. No phone calls please.

COMMERCIAL LOAN OFFICER

Community bank in Big Spring TX seeking a COMMERCIAL LOAN OFFICER. Qualified candidate must have minimum 5 years lending experience and a strong knowledge of credit underwriting. Must have a strong interest in community/business development as well as the drive to grow their respective portfolio. Competitive salary, benefits include matched 401(k), medical, and paid vacation. Send resume or respond to hr@thebank.net.

Construction Superintendent needed for Big Spring VA. Construction/project supervision experience req'd. Communication and computer skills a must. 30 OSHA card req'd. Looking for local person only. No relocations. No phone calls. Please send resumes to:
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EVENING POSITION
5:30pm-11:30pm two or three days/week. Apply at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.

EXPERIENCE FARM Hand Wanted! Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

FULL-TIME DISHWASHER needed for Nights. Must have reliable transportation. Apply in person at Big Spring Country Club. No phone calls please.

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

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Join our professional cleaning team! Advancement opportunities. We provide paid training, all necessary supplies and uniform. Must have own transportation & speak English. All cleaners are drug tested & background checked. Bonded and insured. Call **J. Williams Management at 432-699-2090**

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MAINTENANCE TECHS needed for property in Big Spring. Both full and part time positions available. Applicants must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. Fax resume to (432)264-1761 or apply in person at Knollwood Heights 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd.

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

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PUMP/VACUUM TRUCK driver needed IMMEDIATELY. Must have good/clean driving record, CDL license and be able to pass a drug test. Please call (325)574-3639 and ask for Todd or call (855)428-2214 and ask for Scott.

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

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CRMWD

Colorado River Municipal Water District

The Colorado River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following positions in the Big Spring Area.

Financial Accountant - Assist with the maintenance of the district's financial records, accounting systems and processes necessary to manage the district's business. Including billing of accounts receivable, maintain district banking and reconciliations. Maintain fixed assets. Strong computer skills required including Microsoft Word and Excel. Accounting degree preferred or 3-5 yrs experience in related field.

CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave.

Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432) 267-6341, or our website www.crmwd.org



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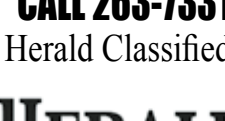
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Cancer Moon House Party How-To

Don't be surprised if you start thinking of going home and putting on your pajamas in the middle of the day. A cozy Friday in your own abode may seem massively appealing as the moon relaxes at home in Cancer. And don't worry. If you decide that tea and television trumps champagne and a dance floor, you probably won't miss out on a thing.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Comfort and weakness are linked. You don't want

Tomorrow's Horoscope

to be so focused on maintaining a certain comfort level that you find it difficult to make decisions based on your values. Prefer comfort, but don't require it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your desires intersect with the needs of another, and the result is a moment you'll look back on and deem "perfect." It will feel as though a plan (that you never made) is coming together.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). With your guiding planet, Mercury, now direct, you're a master

communicator. You have a variety of ways to send and receive messages, including via your thoughts.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A surge of fresh energy and curiosity puts you in a daring mood. You're not trying to impress anyone, and yet you can't help yourself. It's a natural result of your confidence.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your strong intentions are a force in the universe. When you want to spend time with someone, you find a way to make it happen no matter how busy you are or what else you have going on.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A strange turnaround is featured. The very thing you were struggling against suddenly seems to be giving you power. Or maybe you're just stronger because of the fight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your loved ones cherish the acceptance you lavish on them; it's about as close to unconditional as can be. Love blossoms because everyone feels free to be exactly who they are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Romance is the most complex flavor of love. Sometimes it causes you to run in the opposite direction of the thing you most want. Why? No explanation will satisfy. It is what it is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've held onto a wish even after you stopped actively pursuing it. What you couldn't seem to make happen by choice will now happen by chance. This is a matter of faith meets excellent timing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It takes courage to reveal your heart, but it

takes something more than that to keep it to yourself. Strategic self-control is called for. Consider the big picture and the feelings of all involved.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Do people know what's acceptable to you? Maybe you haven't articulated it even to yourself yet. It would benefit you to draw personal boundaries and then enforce them.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Romantic love is so strange. Sometimes you want it badly and yet, inexplicably, run in the opposite direction. If you are now acting in a way that seems to be the opposite of what you might be in love.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 30). You'll work more for love than for money. You'll find projects that challenge you and fit in with your self-improvement goals. Then in February, all bets are off. You'll be confident, comfortable and committed to making yourself happy — all the while creating more attraction around you. A windfall comes in April. Aquarius and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 14, 39, 2 and 17.

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.

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION CLERK OF THE COURT: PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY: George S. Bishop 401 Cypress Street, Suite 210 Abilene, Texas 79601

THE STATE OF TEXAS NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

TO: GEORGE F. KING AND WIFE, DOROTHY E. KING, BOTH DECEASED, AND DORIS VIRGINIA KING, OR HERMAN COLE, SR., AND THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, Defendants in the cause herein described. You and each of you are hereby commanded to appear and answer before the 118th Judicial District Court in the Howard County Courthouse located in Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, at or before 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, being at or before 10:00 a.m. on Monday the 24th day of December, 2012, then and there to

answer the petition of CROWNROCK, L.P. (Plaintiff in Cause No. 48812, styled "CROWNROCK, L.P. v GEORGE F. KING AND WIFE, DOROTHY E. KING, BOTH DECEASED, AND DORIS VIRGINIA KING, OR HERMAN COLE, SR., AND THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS", Defendants). The said petition, filed on the 2nd day of November, 2012, discloses that the nature of said suit is as follows: This suit is brought to have a receiver appointed under the provisions of Section 64.091 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code for undivided mineral interests owned by the Defendants in the following described lands in Howard County, Texas, to-wit: North Half (N/2) of Section 23, Block 34, T-1-N, T&P Ry. Co. Survey; and to execute oil, gas and mineral leases thereof to the Plaintiff and take such other action deemed necessary under the provisions of said statute. ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT on this the 2nd day of November, 2012, at Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. Clerk of the District Court of Howard County, Texas By: Jury Pardon, Deputy #7572 November 16, 23 & 30 and December 7, 2012

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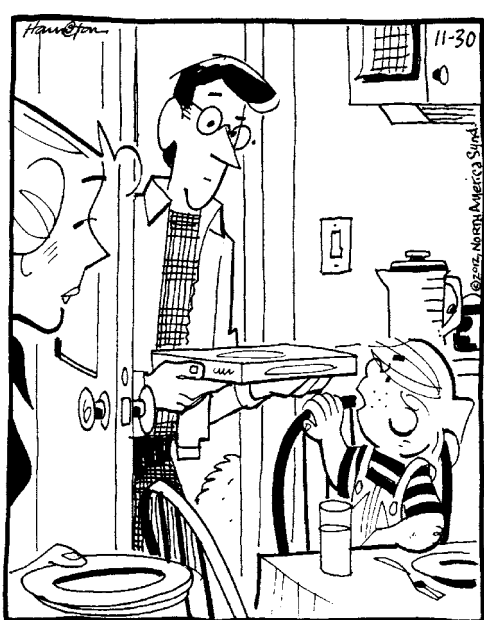
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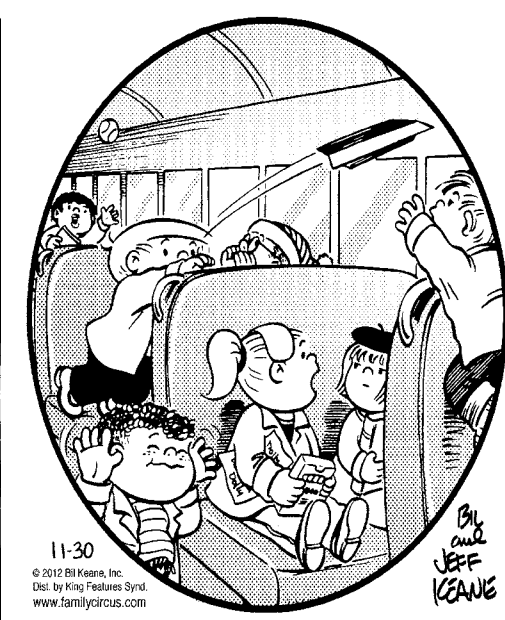
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Casa	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias	News	King	The	Charlie Rose	King	Flying Wild Alaska	Movie: Survival of the Dead	Ink Master	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Good	Nation	SportCtr
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Un Refugio	Big Bang Pregame	News	Caso Cerrado	News	Seinfeld	Israel	PBS News-Hour	Rules	Flying Wild Alaska	Movie: Land of the Dead, Asia Argento	Ink Master	The Mentalist	(5:50) Movie: Radio Rebel	College Football: MAC Championship: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Syracuse at Arkansas.	College Basketball: Syracuse at Arkansas.
7:PM	Last Man Malibu	Por Ella Soy Eva	College Football: Pac-12 Championship: Teams TBA.	Undercover Boss	Rosa Diamante (SS)	Go On	Worse	Door-Wisdom	Wash. Need	Nikita	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart (DVS)	Movie: S.W.A.T., Michelle Rodriguez	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart (DVS)	S. Harvey	Jessie	Phineas	Gravity
8:PM	Shark Tank	Amores Verdaderos	Blue Bloods	Escobar	Dateline NBC	Talladega Nights: Ricky Bobby	Upd	Alewine	Charlie Rose	'Til Death	Gold Rush	Comic	Movie: S.W.A.T., Michelle Rodriguez	Movie: War of the Worlds, Miranda Otto	Wendy Williams	Austin	ANT Farm	NFL Kickoff
9:PM	(01) 20/20	Amor Bravo (SS)	News	Impacto	Noticias	News	Upd	Messiah	World	'70s	Jungle Gold	Comic	Movie: S.W.A.T., Michelle Rodriguez	Movie: Total Recall, Sharon Stone	Movie: Meet the Browns, David Mann	Good	NFL Live	SportsCenter
10:PM	News	Impacto	News	Impacto	Noticias	News	Upd	Messiah	World	'70s	Jungle Gold	Comic	Movie: S.W.A.T., Michelle Rodriguez	Movie: Total Recall, Sharon Stone	Movie: Meet the Browns, David Mann	Good	NFL Live	SportsCenter
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	AI Diablo	Law Order: CI	Ferguson	Boxeo Telemundo (SS)	Game	Mani	Justice	Justice	Justice	Justice	Justice	Justice	Justice	Justice	Justice	Justice	Justice
12:AM	Extra	Mar de Amor (SS)	Raymond	De Siones	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado
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DENNIS THE MENACE



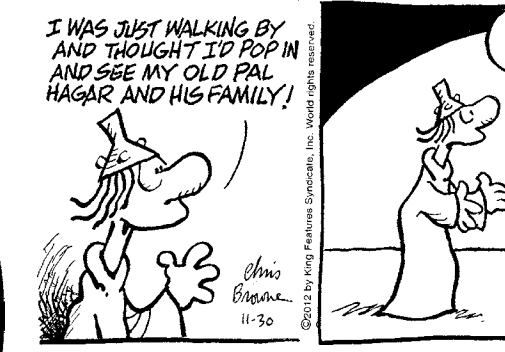
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



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PRETEND IT'S ABOUT TO EAT YOU! WHAT WOULD YOU DO THEN?

EXCUSE ME, SIR - HAVE YOU CONSIDERED VEGANISM?

THAT'S LIKE ADDING TO THE NATIONAL DEBT

AND PUT IT ON MY TAB

A BOTTLE OF YOUR BEST, BARTENDER

THAT'S LIKE ADDING TO THE NATIONAL DEBT

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This Date In History

In 1939, the Winter War began as Soviet troops invaded Finland. (The conflict ended the following March with a Soviet victory.)

In 1954, Ann Elizabeth Hodges of Oak Grove, Ala., was slightly injured when an 8-pound chunk of meteorite crashed through the roof of her house, hit a radio cabinet, and then hit her as she lay napping on a couch.

In 1962, U Thant of Burma, who had been acting secretary-general of the United Nations following the death of Dag Hammarskjold the year before, was elected to a four-year term. Eastern Air Lines Flight 512, a DC-7B, crashed while attempting to land at New York's Idlewild Airport, killing 25 of the 51 people on board.

In 1966, the former British colony of Barbados became independent.

In 1982, the motion picture "Gandhi," starring Ben Kingsley as the Indian nationalist leader, had its world premiere in New Delhi.

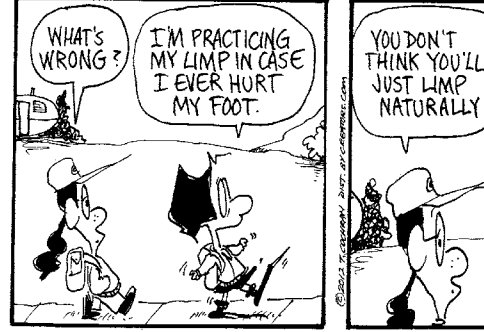
In 1987, American author James Baldwin died in Saint Paul de Vence, France, at age 63.

Efrem Zimbalist Jr. is 94. Actor Robert Guillaume is 85. Radio talk show host G. Gordon Liddy is 82. Country singer-recording executive Jimmy Bowen is 75. Movie director Ridley Scott is 75. Movie writer-director Terrence Malick is 69. Rock musician Roger Glover (Deep Purple) is 67. Playwright David Mamet (MA'-meht) is 65. Actress Margaret Whitton is 62. Actor Mandy Patinkin is 60. Musician Shuggie Otis is 59. Country singer Jeannie Kendall is 58. Singer Billy Idol is 57. Historian Michael Beschloss is 57. Rock musician John Ashton (The Psychedelic Furs) is 55. Comedian Colin Mochrie is 55. Former football and baseball player Bo Jackson is 50.

Answer to previous puzzle

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AGNES



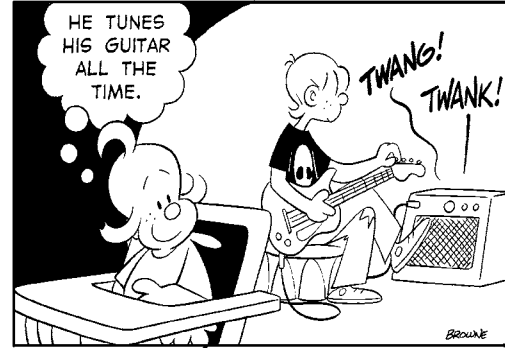
HI AND LOIS



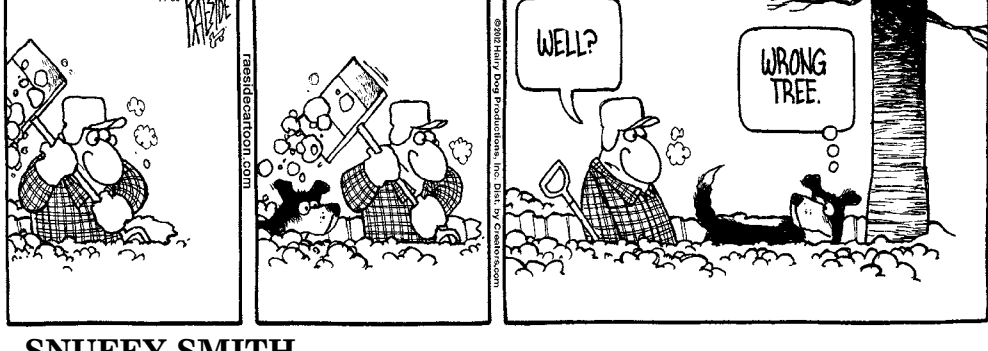
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



THE OTHER COAST



BETLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

TRIPLE DATE by Lonnie Burton

- ACROSS
- 1 Come into view
 - 5 White House girl
 - 10 Fresh talk
 - 14 Sapphire, for instance
 - 15 Horrify
 - 16 From square one
 - 17 Construct flimsily
 - 19 XIX tripled
 - 20 Pool stick
 - 21 Thrashing about
 - 23 Fancy dive
 - 27 Standish of the Mayflower
 - 28 Aachen exclamation
 - 29 Boathouse accessory
 - 30 One in a litter
 - 31 Make believe
 - 33 Planetary extremes
 - 39 Done, in Dunkirk
 - 40 Entangle
 - 41 Dressing gown
 - 42 In the past
 - 44 Represented, with "for"
 - 45 Disparity
 - 46 Just like
 - 48 Hazy state
 - 49 Years
 - 52 Kids' game
 - 55 Lilacs' site in a Whitman poem
 - 57 Civil War initials
 - 58 School near Beverly Hills
 - 59 Silliness
 - 64 Lounge
- DOWN
- 1 36th pres.
 - 2 Encouraging word
 - 3 Mutual Friend (Dickens novel)
 - 4 Pfinder competitor
 - 5 Former Belgian airline
 - 6 Simpsons shopkeeper
 - 7 Spruce (up)
 - 8 Oscar winner Berry
 - 9 Director of the last M*A*S*H episode
 - 10 Fort entryway
 - 11 Forge tool
 - 12 Le Havre's river
 - 13 Big gulps
 - 18 Gold Rush region of 1898
 - 22 "It's my turn" decoration
 - 23 Old Testament port
 - 24 Nail a test
 - 25 Jeans fabric
 - 26 One from Isfahan
 - 30 Crusty dessert
 - 32 Bar mixer
 - 34 Platoon setting
 - 35 Deal with
 - 36 Bath sponge
 - 37 Novel format
 - 38 Marsh plant
 - 40 Logo seen on race cars
 - 43 A pushover
 - 44 Final authority
 - 47 USN officers
 - 49 Full-grown
 - 50 Brown shade
 - 51 Yuletide
 - 52 Authorized agent
 - 53 Confess
 - 54 Settles down
 - 56 Run (owe)
 - 60 Adversary
 - 61 Have something
 - 62 Sandwich selection
 - 63 Big mouth

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TITLE

Continued from page 11

for Texas, there's the desire to put an end to several years' worth of frustration.

"I watched a couple

of those games," Texas cornerback Quandre Diggs said. "They're a great-coached team. They come to play each and every week. I feel like they're mature guys. They play each and every week with a lot of intensity. It's kind

of crazy to see our record against them.

"We can go out and change that," Diggs said. "I have three more years to play these guys. I hope to change that while I'm here."

The Longhorns, who plan to start Case Mc-

Coy over David Ash at quarterback, also will be trying to improve their bowl destination. They're tied for third in the Big 12 with Oklahoma State, which plays Baylor on Saturday and beat Texas earlier this season.

"We're going in as underdogs," Texas offensive lineman Mason Walters said. "Kansas

State has played good ball almost all year long. They're a talented team. They're an experienced team. Great quarterback, really solid defense. I really think this week is more about accepting the challenge and going out and putting everything you have on the line.

"Your pride is put out there," Walters said.

"They're a team that can blow you out, or you can go out and give yourself a chance to win. Last time I went to Manhattan, it wasn't a fun experience. Last year we had a close game here where we fought hard. I expect more something like that. We're going to give everything we have for this regular-season game."



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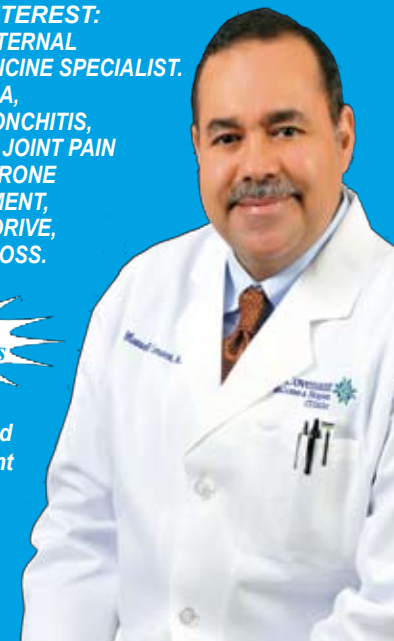
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COWBOYS

Continued from Page 11

for our jobs."

Romo, who threw 112 passes in a span of five days, didn't hand off to a running back after the 5:30 mark of the second quarter of a 38-31 Thanksgiving loss to Washington because the Cowboys (5-6) fell behind 28-3 at halftime. That's not to say Dallas has run the ball well in close games, either. The Cowboys have more than 100 yards rushing just once in six games without starter DeMarco Murray.

There's a good chance Murray will finally return against the Eagles after missing six games with a sprained right foot, but even he struggled early in the season behind an offensive line beset by injuries and poor play. Take away a 48-yard run on a broken play in the opener against the New York Giants, and Murray has averaged 3.8 yards on 74 carries. That's far below his 5.5-yard average as a rookie last year, when he set a franchise record with a 253-yard game in his first start.

The only 100-yard game for Dallas without Murray came in the first Philadelphia game, when Felix Jones had 71 of the team's 101 yards rushing and scored a touchdown on an 11-yard screen pass. That was also the last time Dallas didn't trail by double digits at halftime.

The Cowboys almost beat Washington and rallied from a halftime deficit against Cleveland in part because Dez Bryant is on his best run as a pro. He's had a career-high 145 yards receiving in consecutive games in making up for injuries that have slowed Miles Austin.

"There's no perfect plan within a game: 'We're going to get this, we're going to get this, we're going to get this,'" Cowboys coach Jason Garrett said. "You've got to see how the game's being played and make the necessary adjustments."

The Dallas defense is without its top two inside linebackers in Carter and Sean Lee, knocked out for the season by a toe injury Oct. 21 against Carolina. Nose tackle Jay Ratliff hasn't practiced this week and is likely to miss another game with a groin injury, and nickel cornerback Orlando Scandrick is out indefinitely with injuries to his left hand and wrist.

The Cowboys had a chance jump right in the middle of the NFC East race by beating Washington. Instead, they find themselves two games behind the New York Giants with five to go. But they still have a chance, and they know what the Eagles, with their short-handed offense and embattled coach, can do to those hopes.