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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

DECEMBER 13, 2012



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Symphony to go a-caroling

By BILL McCLELLAN
Managing Editor


Deck the Halls — the Big Spring Symphony and friends will be bringing holiday cheer to the Crossroads area Saturday night.

Joined by the Coahoma Choir Kids and soloists Joyce Bradley and Lawrence Thi-

beault, the 8p.m. performance will feature such favorites as "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "Deck the Halls," "Sleigh Ride," music from "Polar Express" and more. Malinda Flenniken will narrate "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

"We think we have planned

"It will be a kind of Christmas musical variety show that has drawn standing room only crowds in past years."



—Dr. Keith Graumann, conductor

what maybe a wonderful highlight of the holiday season for many of our listeners," said

Dr. Keith Graumann, symphony conductor. "It will be a kind of Christmas musical

variety show that has drawn standing room only crowds in past years."

Celebrated soprano Bradley will sing her traditional offering of "O, Holy Night" while longtime Symphony Chorus member Thibeault will make

See **CAROLS**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Vonna Wyrick wraps a gift at Wells Fargo Bank Tuesday as part of the Hometown Christmas drive, which will deliver hundreds of holiday items to needy area residents this year.

Charitable group takes Hometown focus for Christmas

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Santa Claus doesn't care how much money your parents have for gifts.

That's the philosophy behind Hometown Christmas, a group of local residents who have been collecting gifts and food items all year to give to low-income children and their families on Christmas.

Group member Jeanie Knocke said Hometown Christmas was formed about three years ago and helped around 200 area families in 2011.

"Well Fargo (Bank) started it," Knocke said. "We work on it all year. We start collecting gifts in January and we keep them in the (bank) storeroom until now."

The group obtains names of needy families through Big Spring Independent School District and other sources, determines what the children want for Christmas, then gets busy filling that wish list, Knocke said.

It's not just children who

benefit from the group's efforts. Along with toys and clothes for the little ones, Hometown Christmas will also deliver turkeys and hams to their families, along with toiletry, household and clothing items for needy adults.

Interested people can donate either items or money to the drive — a special account has been established at Wells Fargo to accept monetary gifts, and items can be dropped off at the bank, as well.

Knocke said donations will be accepted through Dec. 21.

Community response to the program has been heartwarming, she said.

"We've received many, many anonymous donations," she said. "People have come through with money and toys and all kinds of items. We're very grateful for that."

Wells Fargo accepts Hometown Christmas donations year-round, Knocke said.

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

School news

Digs, spikes and kills: CISD mulls v-ball

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

COAHOMA — After a decades-long absence, volleyball may be returning to Coahoma High School in the near future.

Coahoma Independent School District trustees will consider adding a volleyball program for the 2013-2014 school year when they hold their monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the administration building board room.

Of the 218 Class 2A high schools in Texas which play football, 209 also field a volleyball team, so CHS has definitely been in the minority in that regard in recent years.

"In fact, in our district, Coahoma and

one other school are the only ones which don't have a volleyball team," CISD Superintendent Amy Jacobs said.

School officials have studied the matter for months and Jacobs said results showed a genuine interest in returning the sport to CHS.

Start-up costs for adding the program will be \$22,000, she added.

"We would be able to add it at very little cost because of our current staffing situation," Jacobs said. "We'll add a coaching stipend to our current staff, instead of adding another position."

Jacobs said she expects the measure to meet with board approval.

"We're just excited to possibly give the students something else they can par-

ticipate in," she said. "We have active, excited athletes here and they're looking forward to this opportunity."

In other business Thursday, trustees will consider:

- A resolution retaining the district's right to eminent domain.
- Personnel matters.
- Reports on enrollment, expenditures and tax collections.

Contact Steve Reagan at 263-7331 or reporter@bigspringherald.com



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Obituaries

Sue Balios



Our beloved mother, Meme, sister and, above all a friend, Sue Balios, 76, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2012, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at First United Methodist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Sue was born June 19, 1936, in Abilene, Texas, to Audre and Delmer McLeod. She graduated from Roosevelt High School in Acuff, Texas. Sue married James Balios on June 29, 1954, in Lubbock. They moved to Big Spring in 1963 from Lubbock. James preceded her in death Nov. 12, 2002. Sue worked for Citizens Federal Credit Union for 23 years. She was a member of First United Methodist Church.

Sue is survived by two daughters, Mitzi Balios

(and Rhonda Abbott) of Colleyville and Molly Smith (and Maury) of Big Spring; one son, Mark Balios of Big Spring; one sister, Jimmie Lou Drake of Big Spring; one brother, Judge McLeod (and Linda) of Lubbock; four grandchildren, Jeremy Balios of Big Spring, Jordan Balios of Big Spring, Meagan Gicklhorn (and JRyan) of Lamesa, and Mallory Smith of Big Spring; and two great-grandchildren, Jordan Ray Balios of Big Spring and Tanner James Ryan Gicklhorn of Lamesa.

The family suggests memorials to The American Cancer Society, in care of Carolyn Brooks, P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring, TX 79721, or Relay for Life, attn. Sandy Griffin, 1217 E. 17th Street, Big Spring, TX 79720.

Pallbearers will be Jeremy James Balios, Jordan Dean Balios, Cheyenne Arguello, Manny Negron, JRyan Gicklhorn and Brandon Faulkner.

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

Paid obituary

Benny Lee Martin



Benny Lee Martin, 70, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2012, in a local hospital. Grave-side funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Friday, Dec. 14, 2012, at Rosehill Cemetery in Merkel, Texas, with the Rev. Elwin Colom officiating.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, 2012, at the funeral home.

He was born July 17, 1942, in Roswell, N.M., and married Vera Cook April 2, 1963 in Balmorhea, Texas.

Benny farmed in Verhalen, Texas, before moving to Howard County in 1976. He farmed and ranched in the Elbow Community.

Survivors include his wife, Vera Martin of Big Spring; three daughters, Bonnie Billings and husband Duwane of Seagraves, Libby Ezell and hus-

band John Ed of Big Spring and Letty Moore and husband David of Keller; two sons, Clay Martin and wife Edie of Brock and Clint Martin of Big Spring; six sisters, Faye Champagne and husband Beau, Linda Miller, Betty Steele and husband Billy, Joyce Burns, Darene Loyd and husband Bob and Mimi Mathis and husband Jack; six grandchildren, Karlie Billings, Jacee Billings, Grant Martin, Mallory Ezell, Mackenzie Martin and Nolan Ezell.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Curly and Etta Pruitt Martin.

Honorary pallbearers will be his sisters, Faye Champagne, Linda Miller, Betty Steele, Joyce Burns, Darene Loyd and Mimi Mathis.

The family suggests memorials be made to American Diabetes Association, 3001 N. Big Spring St., Suite 104, Midland, TX 79705.

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

Paid obituary

Fannie Hagins



Fannie Hagins, 83, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2012, in Stanton. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Gail Cemetery.

She was born Nov. 1, 1929, in Seagraves to Vera and J.D. Tedford.

She worked a number of years for the Borden County School District. She moved to Howard County in 1975 and was food service super-

visor at Mountain View Lodge. She was a member of Midway Baptist Church.

She is survived by four sons, Danny Hagins of Midland, Freddy Hagins of Weatherford, Less Hagins of Post and Kenneth Hagins of Big Spring; one daughter, Pat Hagins of New River, Ariz.; one brother, Dean Tedford of Fort Stockton; 13 grandchildren; and 14 great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Ira Hagins in 1974; one son, Jimmy Dean Hagins in 1973; one brother, Arley Tedford; and three sisters, Louise Brandson, Fay Osborn and Frances Luper.

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

Take Note

• Don't forget to visit the Comanche Trail Festival of Lights in Big Spring, on display nightly from Saturday through Dec. 31. More displays, more lights, and more fun — and admission is free. However, donations are gratefully accepted. Questions? Call 263-4607.

• 118th Judicial District Court jury duty scheduled for Monday has been cancelled. Call 264-2225 for more information.

• Big Spring State Hospital patients are in need of warm clothing. Clean items should be taken to the Community Relations Office near the south entrance of the hospital, 1901 N. U.S. Highway 87. Clothing that cannot be used by the patients will be taken to the hospital's Chalet Resale Shop for sale to raise money for patient needs. Men's clothing and larger-sized clothing are always in need. For more information, call Melissa Adams, BSSH program coordinator, at 432 268-7730.

• Whiting Oil and Gas Big Spring employees are organizing a food drive to help families in need throughout the community. The drive will be held throughout Dec. 20. Food donations (non-perishable) can be dropped off at the Whiting Big Spring Field Office, 5306 South Service Road. For more information, call the local office at 432-264-0004 and ask for Cindy Klaus, Vickie Reynolds or Mark Strickland.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council needs assistance in The Chalet Resale Shoppe, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shoppe is a fast-paced retail shop specializing in gently worn clothing and small household appliances.

Volunteers are needed to sort, price, check out and stock donated items. Volunteer hours are flexible.

The Chalet is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, contact Jamey Stegall at james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us or 432 268-7535.

• An account for Bill Griffen has been established at the Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union, 1110 Benton. Griffen, a Big Spring resident, recently passed away and the family is in need of funds for funeral arrangements.

• An account has been set up at Western Bank for Kristen Lasater and family, who lost their home to a house fire Monday afternoon. The account number, for those wanting to make a donation, is 1004597.

• An account has been set up at Citizen's Credit Union for Emma Leos, who was recently diagnosed with colon cancer.

• Jo Anna Bailey, an aide for many years at Washington Elementary School, has been diagnosed with cancer. A medical donation account has been established for her at the Big Spring Education Credit Union, located at 1110 Benton. Your generosity will enable her to have much-needed tests and treatment.

• Compass Hospice is in need of your help. If you would be interested in offering your love and God's comfort to those who are suffering, or to their families, contact Michelle Coutermarsh at 263-5999 or come by 602 S. Main.

Volunteers are needed in many categories including patient care. You may give as much or as little time as you wish. Any amount of time is greatly appreciated. Training is offered free of charge.

• An account has been established at Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union in the name of Glenda Berger, who was recently diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer.

Donations will be used to help defer medical costs and mounting bills. All donations are greatly appreciated. Call Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union at 800-299-6761.

• Every Friday night from 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. is dance night at the Senior Citizen Center. The cost is \$8 per person.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you can donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and get two for one plus a rehab meeting.

Ruth Oppegard

Ruth Oppegard, 91, of Big Spring died Thursday Dec. 13, 2012, at Parkview Nursing and Rehab. Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. Friday at Trinity Memorial Park. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 12/15	Sun 12/16	Mon 12/17	Tue 12/18	Wed 12/19
69/42 Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.	66/40 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.	65/41 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.	62/30 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 30s.	61/35 Sunny. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:39 AM Sunset: 5:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:40 AM Sunset: 5:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:41 AM Sunset: 5:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:41 AM Sunset: 5:44 PM	Sunrise: 7:42 AM Sunset: 5:44 PM

American Profile We Celebrate Hometown Life
Stories for and about hometowns just like yours.
Look for us each week in this paper.

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	67	47	cloudy	Kingsville	80	66	cloudy
Amarillo	63	34	rain	Livingston	67	57	cloudy
Austin	68	61	rain	Longview	63	55	cloudy
Beaumont	69	60	cloudy	Lubbock	62	35	rain
Brownsville	81	68	pt sunny	Lufkin	66	57	cloudy
Brownwood	65	51	cloudy	Midland	68	42	cloudy
Corpus Christi	78	66	cloudy	Raymondville	82	66	pt sunny
Corsicana	59	56	rain	Rosenberg	72	62	cloudy
Dallas	58	56	cloudy	San Antonio	70	62	rain
Del Rio	67	52	cloudy	San Marcos	69	61	rain
El Paso	59	37	rain	Sulphur Springs	61	55	cloudy
Fort Stockton	72	45	windy	Sweetwater	67	45	windy
Gainesville	56	49	cloudy	Tyler	63	56	cloudy
Greenville	58	52	cloudy	Weatherford	57	49	cloudy
Houston	72	62	cloudy	Wichita Falls	59	43	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	61	39	sunny	Minneapolis	32	31	pt sunny
Boston	48	30	sunny	New York	50	35	sunny
Chicago	47	38	sunny	Phoenix	56	45	rain
Dallas	58	56	cloudy	San Francisco	56	44	cloudy
Denver	41	27	cloudy	Seattle	43	39	rain
Houston	72	62	cloudy	St. Louis	55	45	cloudy
Los Angeles	60	46	mst sunny	Washington, DC	54	37	sunny
Miami	80	66	rain				

Moon Phases



Sheriff/EMS

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity (the county jail reported housing 66 prisoners):

• DAVID HAROLD FIKES, 50, was jailed on a charge of theft by check over \$20/less than \$500.

• DARREN HEFFINGTON, 43, was jailed on municipal court warrants for displaying expired registration sticker, failure to maintain financial responsibility, failure to control speed and nine counts of failure to appear.

• BRIAN MICHAEL GARZA, 30, was jailed on miscellaneous Class C warrants from municipal court.

• WELDON MCMILLAN, 29, was jailed on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 28 grams.

• ANTHONY ANDREW RIVAS, 17, was jailed on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity:

• MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of E. 15th. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

Take caution with decorations, firefighters say

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Many Crossroads residents have found themselves in the market for a Christmas tree this holiday season, a tradition the local fire department embraces. However, fire officials also caution against taking any chances in efforts to keep the season merry.

“Christmas trees are involved in approximately 400 fires annually, according to the National Fire Protection Association,” Big Spring Fire Department Chief Craig Ferguson said. “Typically, these fires result in more than a dozen deaths, dozens of injuries and more than \$10 million in property loss and damage. Short-circuiting tree lights are cited as the leading cause.

“When setting up a tree at home, make sure to place it away from fireplaces, radiators, portable heaters, heater vents and TV sets, he said. “If the tree seems wobbly, center it in the stand more securely and reposition the bolts or screws. If the stand is too small, buy a larger, stronger stand. The tree stand should hold at least one gallon of water. Be sure to place the tree out of the way of traffic, do not block doorways and use thin guy wires to secure tall trees to walls or ceiling; the wires will be almost invisible.”

“Twinkling lights are the hallmark of a beautiful Christmas tree; however, Ferguson said which lights you choose — and how you use them — play a very large role in how safe your Christmas tree will be this holiday season.

“Indoors or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety. Identify these by the label from an independent testing laboratory. Also, check each set of lights — new or old — for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Discard damaged sets or repair them before using,” Ferguson said. “Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord. Also, use only one extension cord per outlet.

“Be careful where you place electrical cords. Don’t run electrical cords under rugs, as foot

traffic can weaken the insulation and the wires can overheat, increasing the chances for fire or electric shock. Be careful when placing cords behind or beneath furniture; pinched cords can fray and short. Keep animals away from cords to avoid entanglement and chewing.”

Ferguson said it’s also important to keep cords and lights away from a tree’s water supply and make sure you turn off electrical decorations when you go to bed or leave the home.

“Lights could short and start a fire,” he said. “Position bulbs so that they aren’t in direct contact with needles or ornaments. Also, keep ‘bubbling’ lights away from children. These lights, with their bright colors and bubbling movement, can tempt curious children to break candle-shaped glass — which can cut — and to attempt to drink liquid, which contains a hazardous chemical.”

Other decorations — from garland to ornaments — should also be carefully chosen and used, according to Ferguson.

“Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials. Also, choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or nonleaded metals. Leaded materials are hazardous if ingested by children,” he said. “Follow container directions carefully to avoid lung irritation while decorating with artificial snow sprays. Use spray snow that is labeled nontoxic and use a step stool or step-ladder when decorating the higher limbs. Whatever you use, make sure it is steady. Many home accidents occur when people fall off whatever they are standing on.

“Never use lighted candles on a tree — even an artificial tree — or near other evergreens. In houses with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable and keep trimmings with small removable parts out of reach. Pieces could be swallowed or inhaled. Also, avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food.”

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

► Texas briefs

Texan gets 3 years, wreck killed her brother

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (AP) — A North Texas driver has been sentenced to three years in prison over a 2010 alcohol-related wreck that killed her passenger brother.

A jury in Wichita Falls on Wednesday decided the penalty for 28-year-old Elizabeth Monnique Duerson.

Duerson on Tuesday pleaded guilty to intoxication manslaughter in the one-vehicle accident that killed 20-year-old Benton William Crow. He was ejected from the vehicle and died at the scene.

Duerson had faced between two and 20 years in prison. She’s appealing her three-year sentence and will be allowed to remain free on bond but must wear an electronic monitor.

Judge holds hearing on TransCanada pipeline halt

NACOGDOCHES, Texas (AP) — An East Texas judge is to hear arguments from the Keystone XL oil pipeline developer to lift a temporary halt on construction on a private property.

TransCanada will make its plea to Nacogdoches County Court-at-Law Judge Jack Sinz at a hearing in Nacogdoches on Thursday.

TransCanada is building part of an oil pipeline designed to carry tar sands oil from Canada to the Gulf Coast. The property rights dispute is the latest legal battle to plague a project that has encountered numerous obstacles nationwide.

Texas landowner Michael Bishop obtained a temporary restraining order from Sinz last Friday, arguing that TransCanada lied to Texans when it said it would be using the Keystone XL pipeline to transport crude oil.

Texas inmate capital murder trial to resume Monday

BRYAN, Texas (AP) — A Texas appeals court has rejected a prosecution challenge to the wording of jury instructions in the trial of a second inmate charged in the 2007 death of a guard during an escape attempt.

The Eagle newspaper reports closing arguments are expected Monday in the Bryan capital murder trial of John Falk Jr.

Prosecutors who seek the death penalty had their appeal rejected Wednesday by the 10th Court of Appeals.

Officer Susan Canfield died after being thrown from a horse hit by a truck stolen at the Wynne Unit. Inmate Jerry Martin, who was driving, received the death penalty. Falk, who was nearby, is charged with being equally liable for Canfield’s death.

Martin was serving 50 years for attempted capital murder. Falk was serving a life term for murder.

Beaumont man held in abduction of girlfriend’s son

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) — A Southeast Texas man faces a kidnapping charge after alleging snatching his girlfriend’s 2-year-old son and demanding a \$2,000 ransom.

Beaumont police say the toddler was released unharmed and the boyfriend was arrested about two hours after the incident began early Thursday.

Officers booked Scott Allen Willis of Beaumont on charges of aggravated kidnapping, failure to identify himself and evading detention. Further details weren’t immediately released.

Sgt. Rob Flores Jr. says Willis and his girlfriend argued at her apartment and he fled with the child. The woman contacted police to say her boyfriend had her son and a gun. Police say Willis called her demanding \$2,000 for the child’s safe return.

Police found Willis and the boy while searching a Beaumont apartment complex where the suspect’s vehicle was located.

Woman in motorized wheelchair dies in Texas wreck

GALVESTON, Texas (AP) — Authorities say a woman using a motorized wheelchair has died after being struck by a vehicle in a Southeast Texas traffic accident.

Galveston police say the woman died following

the wreck Wednesday afternoon at an intersection. Police are investigating whether the victim went through a red light before being struck by a car. She died later at a Galveston hospital.

The victim’s name wasn’t immediately released. Police say no charges are immediately planned against the driver of the vehicle.

Texas boy with pentagram carved back discharged

RICHLAND HILLS, Texas (AP) — A 6-year-old Texas boy whose father has been accused of carving a pentagram on the child’s back has been released from a hospital.

Richland Hills police Sgt. Nathan Stringer says officers planned to speak with the boy Thursday about the attack a day earlier. Police say the child’s father called 911 and said he inscribed a pentagram on his son because it was “a holy day.”

It is not clear which faith he was referring to. Wednesday’s date was 12-12-12, a once-in-a-century event.

Brent Troy Bartel was being held in jail on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Police say they plan to seek a mental evaluation.

Stringer says the child was discharged Wednesday night from a Fort Worth hospital. Details on his treatment weren’t immediately available.

Texas man gets life for killing woman, her mother

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A Texas man will serve life in prison without parole after his capital murder conviction in the deaths of his daughter’s girlfriend and the girlfriend’s mother.

The Austin American-Statesman reports a Travis County jury deliberated about an hour before returning its verdict against Jose Alfonso Aviles. Prosecutors say Aviles fatally shot 57-year-old Maria Hurtado and her 24-year-old daughter Norma Hurtado in their Austin home in April 2001.

Police say Aviles was outraged over Norma Hurtado’s lesbian relationship with his daughter. A police affidavit says Aviles sent threatening text messages to Norma Hurtado, threatening to kill her and her mother at least once.

The life sentence without parole was automatic with the conviction since prosecutors did not seek the death penalty.

Questions still unanswered in after-wreck shooting

ALVIN, Texas (AP) — Investigators continue to seek answers to many questions about who fatally shot a suspected drunk driver after he crashed his car into two young brothers, killing them.

The questioning continues. Brazoria County sheriff’s investigator Dominick Sanders said detectives had “no formal suspects” in the Friday night fatal shooting of 20-year-old Jose Banda. The death has been ruled a homicide. Sanders said investigators haven’t interviewed the boys’ father, who was injured, or their mother, who was in the truck.

The two brothers died while helping their father push their pickup truck down a dark, narrow road 50 yards from their rural Houston-area home last week.

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
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Fannie Hagins, 83, died Tuesday. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Gail Cemetery.

Sue Balios, 76, died Tuesday. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at First United Methodist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Ofelia Galan, 78, died Monday. Vigil services will be at 7:30 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Martin Diaz, 59, died Tuesday, December 4, 2012. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Ruth Oppegard, 91, died Thursday. Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

CAROLS

Continued from Page 1

his solo debut with the orchestra in renditions of “Panis Angelicus” and “Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire.”

Well-known and highly respected music teacher Sandra Wallace will lead her Coahoma Choir Kids in their fifth appearance with the symphony. They will sing two pieces with the orchestra — “Believe,” from the “Polar Express” and the hilarious “Zat you, Santa Claus?” They will also sing two pieces by themselves, the gaelic carol “Sing

with Joy on Christmas Day” and “The Twelve Days After Christmas,” about someone not so bemused with her partner.

The audience will also sing along with the orchestra on pop carols in the first portion and traditional carols in the second section of the program.

“With local superb singers and narrator, an outstanding children’s choir, the opportunity to sing carols with your own fine professional orchestra, and the rumored appearance of the guy from up North with the white hair and beard, I can’t imagine

what is missing,” said Graumann. “I think the Big Spring Symphony will live up to its motto that ‘The Symphony is for everyone.’”

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$13 for senior citizens. Graumann said the Symphony Board of Directors recently decided to waive the \$8 ticket fee for students through college age for this concert.

Tickets are available at the Heritage Museum, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Blum’s Jewelers and at the Municipal Auditorium box office the night of the performance. Doors will open

at 7 p.m.

The Big Spring Symphony Guild will sponsor a reception in the auditorium lobby following the event.

Bill McClellan can be contacted at 432-263-7331 ext. 230 or by email at editor@bigspringherald.com

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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HOW TO CONTACT US

- The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.
- In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:
- In person at 710 Scurry St.
 - By telephone at 263-7331
 - By fax at 264-7205
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 - By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Sign your letter.
 - Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
 - We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
 - We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
 - Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
 - Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we remain diligent about reading
Your word, Lord, for our life.

Amen

Give wisely this holiday season

During this season of joy and thanksgiving, Texans across the state will generously donate their time and money to support a wide array of charitable endeavors. From offering change to Salvation Army volunteers to collecting gifts for needy families, well-meaning Texans will have ample opportunities to support those who are less fortunate. Amidst the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, it is easy to forget that unscrupulous scam artists are eager to take advantage of Texans' generosity.

Fortunately, just a little research can help you ensure your donations actually help the neediest among us. To avoid falling victim to a holiday scammer, always remember to ask questions and check the facts.

Who wants your money? Texans who are approached by a person seeking a donation should ask for an official identification or other documentation proving the individual is associated with a charitable organization. Even if a solicitor mentions a well-known charity, it is important to ask for the organization's address and telephone number. Be cautious of copycat organizations using a name similar to a well-known charity. In the Internet age, scam artists may resort to spam e-mail solicitations that appear to support a legitimate charity's website but actually direct donors to fraudulent websites that subject donors

to the threat of identity theft.

Potential donors who have never heard of the purported charity mentioned by the solicitor should seek additional information or even conduct their own research. Legitimate charities will not object if a donor asks for additional time to research the organization and its charitable work.

How will your donation be used? Don't be fooled by a compelling story or a heartbreaking photo in an email solicitation. Before making a donation, research the organization's goals and question its programs. It is often helpful to obtain written documentation detailing how much the organization spends on administrative and fundraising costs versus how much it spends directly on charitable projects or the intended recipients of donations. Comparing the administrative costs, fees and expenses for several charities may help you decide which organizations to support.

Before making a donation, remember to confirm the tax-exempt status of an organization to verify whether or not the donation will be tax deductible.

Never be pressured to donate right away. A legitimate solicitor will be patient and give you time to research the organization. If solicited by phone, do not give out personal financial information — including your credit card or bank account numbers.

When researching an organization, a good resource to consider is www.give.org. This website is maintained by the Council of Better Business Bureaus to promote wise charitable giving. If you believe you were defrauded by a fraudulent char-

ity or nonprofit organization, you may file a complaint with the Office of the Attorney General's Charitable Trusts Section online at www.oag.state.tx.us/consumer/charitycomplaint.pdf or call (800) 252-8011.

Make your gift count. Take your time, check the facts, and give wisely this holiday season.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Ask for written information on the charity or nonprofit organization. Find out who is getting your contribution and how the money will be used.
- Don't fall for high-pressure solicitations. Take your time. Write a check, ask for a receipt, or offer to mail in your donation. Do not give out personal financial information over the telephone.

Read the Office of the Attorney General's brochure, "Giving to Charities," or file a complaint about an organization in the Charities & Nonprofits Section of our website at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov.

Find out if a law enforcement, public safety, or veterans organization is registered in the State of Texas:

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Austin, TX 78711-3697
(512) 463-5555
www.sos.state.tx.us

Get assistance on making informed decisions about charitable giving:

The Better Business Bureau
www.give.org

Greg Abbott is the Texas Attorney General. He can be contacted at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov.



GREG ABBOTT

Conservative media not the problem

It is really getting old to hear liberal politicians and pundits complaining about conservative media as being destructive, as if the country would be better off returning to the halcyon days of the monolithic liberal media.

That seems to be the view of Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who complained about "the right-wing control of the American media, particularly starting with Fox News." During a discussion on HuffPost Live, Kennedy said, "Ninety-five percent of talk radio in our country is right-wing ... so a whole section of our country that's what they're hearing."

"Twenty-two percent of Americans," continued Kennedy, "say their primary news source is Fox News. It's divided our country in a way that we haven't been divided probably since the Civil War, and it's empowered these large corporations to get certain kinds of politicians and ideologues who are in the United States Congress elected — the tea party ideologues who control the Republican Party."

Admittedly, many conservatives complain about the liberal media, but that's because they hold themselves out as unbiased journalists when their reporting is flagrantly slanted in favor of Democrats.

Their bias is obvious in their selection of news stories, in their presentation of those stories, and in the contrasting treatment they accord politicians and policies of the respective political parties.

Conservative radio talkers generally don't hold themselves out as unbiased journalists but as commentators, and they have every right to voice their opinions.

Fox News portrays itself as "fair and balanced," and while many of its hosts are conservative, a fair number are liberal, and even on their commentary shows, they almost always have liberal representatives pres-

ent the left's position on issues they're debating. Often, this is not the case with liberal networks.

But Kennedy's worst error isn't in painting conservative talk radio and Fox News as unfairly biased while ignoring their far guiltier counterparts on the left. It's in scapegoating conservative media for the divisiveness in this nation.

The nation is divided because half the country subscribes to one worldview and the other half to an opposite one. Perhaps it seems more divided than it used to because the liberal media no longer have a monopoly and the emergence of a robust alternative media has given conservatives a consistent public voice. It's understandable that after enjoying decades of free rein, liberals are frustrated at having their views challenged daily on the public airways, but it's healthy for the republic that leftist politicians are now scrutinized, as well.

Astonishingly, however, Kennedy probably believes what he's saying.

Like many myopic liberals, he is blind to liberal media bias and intolerant of the opposing viewpoint. As a result of their arrogance and the cloistered echo-chambered environments they inhabit, most liberals don't believe liberal journalists slant their reporting, but present the only reasonable take on the issues.

To them, it is not biased to denigrate the conservative viewpoint, because to them that viewpoint is aberrational. To them, for example, there aren't two sides to manmade global warming; there is just the fact-based community and the deniers. To them, science-based intelligent design is, oddly, anti-science, whereas macroevolution, which can't begin to explain the formation of matter from nothing, much less life from non-life, is an incontrovertible fact. To them, a \$161 billion deficit under George W. Bush is catastrophic, but a \$1.3 trillion Obama deficit under Obama represents modest fiscal progress. To them, there are not two credible positions on certain macroeconomics ques-

tions. There is the Keynesian "truth" that government spending is required to stimulate economic growth versus the illiterate heresy that free enterprise causes growth and leads to greater prosperity for more people than any other system.

Indeed, many liberals are so certain that only their views are legitimate and that contrary ones are dangerous (they often lead to violence) that they flirt with the notion that vocal opposition ought to be muzzled — as witnessed by campus speech codes, their crusades against so-called hate speech and the Fairness Doctrine.

America's problem is not divided opinion and rigorous debate, which have always existed and are integral to our system. (If it is divisiveness to which liberals object, they need look no further than President Obama, who is constantly pitting Americans against each other on the basis of race, income and gender.)

The problem is journalists who once acted as watchdogs against abuses of power and who now function as co-conspirators in those abuses by liberal politicians. If they choose to abandon any pretense toward objective journalism, that is their prerogative, but it is ours to shine a spotlight on their fraudulent abdication.

At least conservatives, both in the media and in public service, are more honest with themselves and others about their own beliefs and biases, and thus represent much less danger to the republic than liberal politicians and media masquerading as neutral, unbiased, objective or bipartisan. Even so, conservatives would never advocate chilling or suppressing liberal speech in any way.

What we need are not fewer conservative media outlets, but more. And we need liberal journalists and politicians to be more forthcoming about their biases.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com.



DAVID LIMBAUGH

World, Nation

South Korea: North Korea's satellite orbiting normally after launch that drew condemnation

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — A satellite North Korea launched aboard a long-range rocket is orbiting normally, South Korean officials said Thursday, following a defiant liftoff that drew a wave of international condemnation.

Washington and its allies are pushing for punishment over the launch they say is nothing but a test of banned ballistic missile technology.

The launch of a three-stage rocket — similar in design to a model capable of carrying a nuclear-tipped warhead as far as California — raises the stakes in the international standoff over North Korea's expanding atomic arsenal. As Pyongyang refines its technology, its next step may be conducting its third nuclear test, experts warn.

The U.N. Security Council, which has punished North Korea repeatedly for developing its nuclear program, condemned Wednesday's launch and said it will urgently consider "an appropriate response." The White House called the launch a "highly provocative act that threatens regional security," and even the North's most important ally, China, expressed regret.

In Pyongyang, however, pride over the scientific advancement outweighed the fear of greater international isolation and punishment. North Koreans clinked beer mugs and danced in the streets to celebrate.

'Fiscal cliff' vexing official Washington as both sides show little inclination to compromise

WASHINGTON (AP) — Five weeks after President Barack Obama won re-election and gained more leverage to make GOP conservatives bend on taxes, the new balance of power is proving vexing for both sides.

Republicans still aren't budging on Obama's demands for higher tax rates on upper bracket earners, despite the president's convincing election victory and opinion polls showing support for the idea.

Democrats in turn are now resisting steps, such as raising the eligibility age for Medicare, that they were willing to consider just a year and a half ago, when Obama's chief Republican adversary, House Speaker John Boehner, was in a better tactical position.

With less than three weeks before the government could careen off a "fiscal cliff" of automatic tax hikes and sweeping spending cuts, Boehner, R-Ohio, said "serious differences" remain between him and Obama after an exchange of offers and a pair of conversations this week.

Neither side has given much ground, and Boehner's exchange of proposals with Obama seemed to generate hard feelings more than progress. The White House has slightly reduced its demands on taxes — from \$1.6 trillion over a decade to \$1.4 trillion — but isn't yielding on demands that rates rise for wealthier earners.

Friends of man accused in Ore. mall shooting express shock, disbelief over rampage

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — To police and witnesses, Jacob Tyler Roberts was a gunman on a mission, shooting numerous rounds from a semiautomatic rifle as he stalked through a Portland mall, ultimately killing two people and seriously injuring another. To Roberts' shocked friends and family, he was just Jake, a happy, easygoing 22-year-old who liked video games and talked about moving to Hawaii.

"Jake was never the violent type," Roberts' ex-girlfriend, Hannah Patricia Sansburn, told ABC News. "His main goal was to make you laugh, smile, make you feel comfortable. You can't reconcile the differences.

"I hate him for what he did, but I can't hate the person I knew because it was nothing like the person who would go into a mall and go on a rampage," she said.

The Clackamas County sheriff's office said Roberts had several fully loaded magazines when he arrived at the mall Tuesday. Roberts parked his 1996 green Volkswagen Jetta in front of the second-floor entrance to Macy's and walked through the store into the mall and began firing randomly in the food court.

He fatally shot Steven Mathew Forsyth, 45, and

Cindy Ann Yuille, 54, the sheriff said. Kristina Shevchenko, 15, was wounded and in serious condition Wednesday.

Syrian state news agency says 16 killed in bombing near Damascus, including women and children

BEIRUT (AP) — Syria's state news agency says a bomb blast near the capital, Damascus, has killed 16 people. It says at least half of those killed are women and children.

The SANA news agency says a car packed with explosives blew up on Thursday near a school in a residential part of the southwestern suburb of Qatana.

The report quotes medics from a nearby hospital as saying 16 people were killed, including seven children and "a number" of women. It says nearly two dozen people were wounded.

Anti-regime activists say more than 40,000 people have been killed since the start of the uprising against President Bashar Assad's regime in March 2011.

Millions sought from pharmacy linked to meningitis outbreak, but compensation could take years

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Dennis O'Brien rubs his head as he details ailments triggered by the fungal meningitis he developed after a series of steroid shots in his neck: nausea, vomiting, dizziness, drowsiness, blurred vision, exhaustion and trouble with his speech and attention.

He estimates the disease has cost him and his wife thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket expenses and her lost wages, including time spent on 6-hour round trip weekly visits to the hospital. They've filed a lawsuit seeking \$4 million in damages from the Massachusetts pharmacy that supplied the steroid injections, but it could take years for them to get any money back and they may never get enough to cover their expenses. The same is true for dozens of others who have sued the New England Compounding Center.

"I don't have a life anymore. My life is a meningitis life," the 59-year-old former school teacher said, adding that he's grateful he survived.

His is one of at least 50 federal lawsuits in nine states that have been filed against NECC, and more are being filed in state courts every day. More than 500 people have gotten sick after receiving injections prepared by the pharmacy.

The lawsuits allege that NECC negligently produced a defective and dangerous product and seek millions to repay families for the death of spouses, physically painful recoveries, lost wages and mental and emotional suffering. Thirty-seven people have died in the outbreak.

Congress could outlaw 'stalking apps' used by jealous spouses quietly tracking cellphone users

WASHINGTON (AP) — For around \$50, a jealous wife or husband can download software that can continuously track the whereabouts of a spouse better than any private detective. It's frighteningly easy and effective in an age when nearly everyone carries a cellphone that can record every moment of a person's physical movements. But it soon might be illegal.

The Senate Judiciary Committee was expected Thursday to approve legislation that would close a legal loophole that allows so-called cyberstalking apps to operate secretly on a cellphone and transmit the user's location information without a person's knowledge.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., would update laws passed years before wireless technology revolutionized communications. Telephone companies currently are barred from disclosing to businesses the locations of people when they make a traditional phone call.

But there's no such prohibition when communicating over the Internet. If a mobile device sends an email, links to a website or launches an app, the precise location of the phone can be passed to advertisers, marketers and others without the user's permission.

The ambiguity has created a niche for companies like Retina Software, which makes ePhoneTracker and describes it as "stealth phone spy software."

"Suspect your spouse is cheating?" the company's website says. "Don't break the bank by hiring a private investigator."

Election over, Obama administration starts approving new federal rules put off during campaign

WASHINGTON (AP) — While the "fiscal cliff" of looming tax increases and spending cuts dominates political conversation in Washington, some Republicans and business groups see signs of a "regulatory cliff" that they say could be just as damaging to the economy.

For months, federal agencies and the White House have sidetracked dozens of major regulations that cover everything from power plant pollution to workplace safety to a crackdown on Wall Street.

The rules had been largely put on hold during the presidential campaign as the White House sought to quiet Republican charges that President Barack Obama was an overzealous regulator who is killing U.S. jobs.

But since the election, the Obama administration has quietly reopened the regulations pipeline.

In recent weeks, the Environmental Protection Agency has proposed rules to update water quality guidelines for beaches and other recreational waters and deal with runoff from logging roads. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, meanwhile, has proposed long-delayed regulations requiring auto makers to include event data recorders — better known as "black boxes" — in all new cars and light trucks beginning in 2014.

Google releases map app for iPhone nearly 3 months after Apple ousted the navigation system

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google Maps have found their way back to the iPhone.

The world's most popular online mapping system returned late Wednesday with the release of the Google Maps' iPhone app. The release comes nearly three months after Apple Inc. replaced Google Maps as the device's built-in navigation system and inserted its own maps into the latest version of its mobile operating system.

Apple's maps proved to be far inferior to Google's. The product's shoddiness prompted Apple CEO Tim Cook to issue a rare public apology and recommend that iPhone owners consider using Google maps through a mobile Web browser or seek other alternatives until his company could fix the problems. Cook also replaced the executive in charge of Apple's mobile operating system after the company's maps became a subject of widespread ridicule.

Among other things, Apple's maps misplaced landmarks, overlooked towns and sometimes got people horribly lost. In a particularly egregious example flagged this week, Australian police derided Apple's maps as "life-threatening" because the system was steering people looking for the city of Mildura into a sweltering, remote desert 44 miles from the desired destination.

Google Inc., in contrast, is hailing its new iPhone app as a major improvement from the one evicted by Apple.

Like 9/11 benefit concert, McCartney, Springsteen, more turn out for Superstorm Sandy victims

NEW YORK (AP) — Call the "12-12-12" benefit show "The Concert for New York City" 2.0. Eleven years after the benefit concert in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks was held at Madison Square Garden, many of the same top musicians came together to raise money for those suffering from Superstorm Sandy, including Paul McCartney, The Rolling Stones, Billy Joel, The Who, Eric Clapton and Bon Jovi.

Those singers set a serious tone Wednesday night, wearing mostly black and gray onstage as they encouraged people to call and donate money to those affected by the devastating storm that took place in late October, killing about 140 people and damaging millions of homes and properties in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and other areas.

Alicia Keys, who grew up in Manhattan's Hell's Kitchen, closed the night with her New York anthem "Empire State of Mind," as doctors, nurses, firefighters, police officers and others joined the piano-playing singer onstage. They ended the night chanting "U.S.A."

Keys was one of two women who performed at "The Concert for Sandy Relief." Diana Krall backed McCartney, who sang his solo songs, Beatles songs and played the role of Kurt Cobain with Nirvana members during the nearly six-hour show.

McAfee in Miami after deportation from Guatemala

MIAMI (AP) — Anti-virus software founder John McAfee is holed up in a Miami hotel after weeks of evading Belizean authorities who want to question him in a homicide.

Shortly after McAfee arrived Wednesday evening on a flight from Guatemala, he announced on his website that he had alighted in the city's swank South Beach neighborhood.

McAfee was deported from the Central American country after sneaking in illegally from Be-

lize, where police want to question him in connection with the death of a U.S. expatriate who lived near him on an island off Belize's coast.

McAfee says he did not kill the neighbor and feared his own life would be in danger if he turned himself in to Belizean authorities. He has not been charged with any crime, and it was unclear whether U.S. authorities had any interest in questioning him.

An FBI spokesman in Miami, James Marshall,

told the AP in an email that the agency was not involved with McAfee's return to the U.S.

sudoku
ANSWERS

3	1	6	7	9	4	8	2	5
8	2	7	1	3	5	6	4	9
9	4	5	6	2	8	7	3	1
4	5	3	9	6	7	1	8	2
7	6	9	2	8	1	4	5	3
1	8	2	4	5	3	9	7	6
5	9	8	3	7	6	2	1	4
6	3	1	8	4	2	5	9	7
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For good and ill, adoption transformed by Internet

NEW YORK (AP) — In the emotion-charged realm of adoption, the Internet has been a transformative force, often for good, sometimes for ill.

It has facilitated matches bringing neglected orphans into loving homes on the far side of the world, and provides crucial advice and support for families at every challenging stage of the adoption process. Yet it also can be an effective tool for scammers and hucksters seeking to exploit would-be adoptive parents.

"I can't imagine an area more ripe for exploitation — people trying to form families or find a place for their unborn child," said Denise Bierly, president of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys. "It's like Internet dating, except way more scary and dangerous."

Through nearly two decades of widespread Internet

use, there's been little rigorous research into its impact on adoption. A leading think-tank, the Donaldson Adoption Institute, has launched a multiyear study to fill that void and is issuing a comprehensive report Thursday outlining the profound changes that have unfolded.

Internet-based tools "are transforming adoption practices, challenging laws and policies, offering unprecedented opportunities and resources, and raising critical ethical, legal and procedural issues," says the report.

On the plus side, the report notes that many websites and Internet-based tools — including the photo-listing of available children — have expedited adoptions of countless children.

The Internet offers a vast array of information and training, and enables would-be adoptive parents to present themselves in online profiles

to pregnant women considering adoption.

Vicki and Jed Taufer of Morton, Ill., who battled months of bureaucratic delays to adopt a girl from Nepal, said they could scarcely imagine going through that trying experience in the pre-Internet age.

They were able to communicate regularly by Skype during the six months in 2010-11 when Vicki stayed with their daughter, Purnima, in Katmandu, waiting for the adoption to be authorized by U.S. authorities. They also used the Internet to build close friendships with other families struggling to complete adoptions from Nepal, and to raise funds to cover their ever-ballooning legal and logistical costs.

Another important consequence of the Internet: Finding birth relatives is becoming easier and more common thanks to online search capa-

bilities, hastening the likely phase-out of "closed" adoption while broadening relationships between adoptive and birth families.

The report advises adoption professionals to revise their training regimens to reflect the reality that many affected parties will be able to find each other at some point, and to prepare them for such reunions, whether wanted or unwanted.

On the negative side, the report details how adoption scams — which predate the Internet — now take more sophisticated and wide-ranging forms thanks to the misuse of social media.

There have been at least a half dozen recent cases across multiple states where women who claiming to be pregnant used the Internet to connect with couples wanting to adopt.

In exchange for paying the woman's living expenses,

couples were promised — falsely — that they would eventually be able to adopt the baby.

Scott Rowland, a prosecutor in Oklahoma, said one victim lost \$30,000 while supporting what turned out to be a fictitious pregnancy.

The Donaldson report also warns that the Internet is accelerating a "commodification" of adoption, with would-be adoptive parents being viewed as commercial clients and less emphasis placed on the idea that adoption's primary purpose is finding families for children.

Far too often, says Pertman, the child's best interest is not the paramount factor as an adoption is arranged.

The report notes that ads for adoption services can crop up on websites amid ads for other commercial products, pitching the possibility of completing adoptions in a few months.

MATCH THE SANTA TO HIS WORKSHOP!!



This entry form must be received by **Monday, December 17 at 12 p.m.** Drop off your form at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry St. The winner will be the one who correctly matches the most Santas to his business/workshop. There will be 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners. Gift certificates will be given away to use at the participating businesses. Winners will be announced in the Wednesday, December 19th Edition of the Big Spring Herald!

All decisions are final at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald

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BSHS Players of the Week



Tavaris Walker, Point Guard, Junior

According to BSHS Boy's Head Basketball Coach Cliff Thompsen, team captains are typically seniors and are voted in by the team itself. Tavaris Walker's hard work has earned the respect of his peers and coaches and he is the squad's only junior captain.

"He's never been late to a practice or missed a practice," Thompsen said. "He has also been our most consistent player at this point in the season. He gets the other guys involved."



Logan Yarbar, Guard, Senior

The Lady Steers have plenty of talent on their roster, but Head Coach Mike Warren's selection for Player of the Week is Logan Yarbar, the senior guard whose defensive play has bolstered the Lady Steers who have played a tough pre-district schedule.

"(Yarbar) was All-Tournament in Monahans," Warren said. "She's probably our best defensive player as far as guarding and she's also starting to score more each game."

Sports Calendar

FRIDAY

Boy's Basketball

- Stanton at Big Spring, Varsity, 7:30 p.m.; J.V., 5 p.m.; 9th, 5 p.m.
- Hermleigh at Coahoma, Varsity, 8 p.m.; J.V., TBA.
- Forsan at Roscoe, Varsity and J.V., TBA.
- Irion County at Garden City, Varsity, 8 p.m.; J.V., 5 p.m.

Girl's basketball

- Stanton at Big Spring, Varsity, 7:30 p.m.; J.V., 6:15 p.m.; 9th, 5 p.m.
- Hermleigh at Coahoma, 6:30 p.m.
- Forsan at Roscoe, Varsity and J.V., TBA.
- Blackwell at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.
- Borden County at Grady, 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Boy's Basketball

- Sands vs. Jayton at Lubbock Estacado, TBA.

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

Pierce puts up 34 as Celtics top Mavs in OT, 117-115

JIMMY GOLEN

AP Sports Writer

BOSTON — Rajon Rondo had a chance to win it in regulation and Derek Fisher got enough of the shot to keep it from travelling more than a few feet.

Then Paul Pierce's shot at a game-winner at the end of the first overtime was blocked by Dahntay Jones.

There was still plenty of time for Pierce and Rondo to come through.

Pierce made a 3-point shot at the start of the second extra period to give Boston the lead for good, and the Celt-

ics held on for a 117-115 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Wednesday night.

Pierce scored 34 points in all, and Rondo had 16 points, 15 assists and nine rebounds in a career-high 52 minutes, 30 seconds.

"We ask him to do a lot," Pierce said of Rondo. "We ask him to push it up, score and rebound. We ask him to do a lot because he can do it."

Pierce had four points in the first overtime — putting him over 23,000 points in his career — and eight in the

See **MAVS**, Page 12



Boston's Rajon Rondo tries to wrestle the ball from Dallas' O.J. Mayo during Wednesday's night's game. The Celtics fended off the Mavericks, 117-115 in double OT. AP photo

Cowboys back to practice after memorial service for Jerry Brown

STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas — The corner locker assigned to Jerry Brown at the Dallas Cowboys facility remained untouched Wednesday.

A day after a private memorial service for Brown, the practice squad member killed in a car accident involving a teammate, his Cowboys helmet hung on a hook below a shelf with several pairs of cleats. Towels marked with his No. 53 were folded on the bench right next to a copy of the team's itinerary from last week.

For the Cowboys, it was back to practice as they took their next steps after the tragedy and started preparations for Sunday's home game against Pittsburgh.

"It was hard last week initially. But this week, it's been upbeat. Guys are getting their energy back," defensive tackle Jason Hatcher said. "I'm back to being me, making people laugh, being the guy I am. We

had a good day today. Hopefully we can have another one tomorrow and the next day and get ready for the Steelers."

The Cowboys won their game Sunday at Cincinnati, about 36 hours after Brown was the passenger in a one-car accident for which nose tackle Josh Brent, his college teammate and close friend, is facing an intoxication manslaughter charge. The car Brent was driving flipped over and Brown was later declared dead at a hospital.

Brent, who is free on bond, was placed Wednesday on the reserve/non-football illness list by the Cowboys, a move that ends his season but allows him to remain with the team.

"I think we want to be able to contact him and him being able to contact his teammates," Cowboys executive vice president Stephen Jones said from an NFL owners meeting being held at a hotel not far from Valley Ranch.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said teams are ultimately responsible for such roster moves and that in this case, "it was the right decision."

Asked about possible NFL discipline against Brent, Goodell said the league would let the legal process move forward a little bit to get more clarity on that. The commissioner gave no timeframe on when he anticipated speaking with Brent.

"The best thing for Josh Brent and for everyone involved in this thing is that he's a part of the Dallas Cowboys in some way, shape or form, and we feel the love that we have for him and the support that we have for him," coach Jason Garrett said.

Fullback Lawrence Vickers, whose locker is next to Brent's, echoed Hatcher and Garrett that the team is there to support Brent.

"You've just got to be there for your brother in a time of need. This is one of those times,"

Vickers said. "This is an issue that we all have to deal with, but he has to deal with it even more."

Brent was with Brown's family at the memorial service. Vickers said Brown's mother, Stacey Jackson, had comforting words for the entire team.

"Stronger than any woman I ever seen in that position," Vickers said. "For us seeing her strength, her strength was more like, 'Hey, y'all focus on what you have to do, Jerry's in a better place.'"

The Cowboys (7-6) are a game behind the NFC East-leading New York Giants with three games to play. They play Pittsburgh and New Orleans at home before ending the season at Washington, which is tied with them for second place.

Garrett said there were still discussions about whether the team would honor Brown's memory with any kind of patch or decal on their uniforms.

See **SERVICE**, Page 12

Williams' late 3 lifts Jazz over Spurs 99-96

LYNN DeBRUIN

AP Sports Writer

SALT LAKE CITY — Mo Williams' 3-pointer at the buzzer lifted the Utah Jazz to a 99-96 victory over San Antonio on Wednesday night, snapping the Spurs' five-game winning streak.

Paul Millsap led Utah with 24 points and 12 rebounds, Al Jefferson scored 21 points and Gordon Hayward added 19.

The Jazz trailed by eight with a little more than 4 minutes remaining but fought back. Williams' winning shot was his only 3 of the night and he finished with eight points on 3-for-9 shooting from the field.

Tim Duncan and Tony Parker each scored 22 points to lead the Spurs, who swept the Jazz out of the playoffs in the first round and had won 11 of the last 12 meetings.

Danny Green's 19-footer gave the Spurs a 96-94 lead and Millsap tied it with 40 seconds left.

Millsap's offensive rebound gave the Jazz the final shot. Williams made it and turned and ran toward the other end of the court only to be mobbed by his teammates.

It was the biggest win of the season for Utah, which was coming off a Los Angeles Lakers.

This one went back and forth.

Patty Mills' 3-pointer and a driving layup by Tiago Splitter put the Spurs ahead 80-75, and Parker's 3-pointer gave San Antonio a six-point lead midway through the fourth.

They led by eight after Boris Diaw's 3 with a little more than 4 minutes remaining.

The Jazz fought back as Jefferson hit a 16-footer and Randy Foye scored on a fast-break layup.

Jefferson's steal and jam tied it at 94 with 1:47 left.

Green gave the Spurs a 96-94 lead and Millsap tied it on his 11-footer in the lane.

See **SPURS**, Page 12

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GARAGE SALE: Saturday 7:30-1:00, 2304 Allendale. King size, queen size and twin mattresses. Microwave, small dorm room size frig, interior doors, knick-knacks, coffee table and end table.

INSIDE MOVING SALE: 1605 Indian Hills, Saturday 7:00am-2:00pm. Clothes, shoes, boots, cookie jars, purses, jewelry, furniture, tools, decorative items & lots more. Cash Only!!

INSIDE SALE: 210 East 11th Place, Saturday 8:30am-?, Xmas items, toys, jewelry, dolls collectibles, steel toe boots, purses, and lots of misc.

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 2302 Cindy, Friday & Saturday 8am-5pm. Lots of furniture, baby items, plus size clothing, dishes, knick-knacks, pictures, tools, and lots more.

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Department taking applications for Oil Change Tech and Porter Apply In Person @ Pollard 1501 East 4th Street, Big Spring, TX.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I have been married to "Nancy" for 51 years. The day of our wedding, I was 167 pounds with a full head of hair. Now I am 181 pounds and bald. Nancy was always a Rubens type, which was fine with me. After giving birth to our first child, she lost more than 20 pounds, and even her father was impressed. However, two more children followed, and her weight went up to what it was before.

Now, at age 75, she is obese. She has trouble with her ankles and can barely move. She refuses to use a cane or a walker. We constantly argue. She is beginning to look ugly to me. I want to leave, but I can't because she cannot live alone.

I am depressed. If I die before she does, she will

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be on her own because our children work, are struggling financially and have their own kids to raise. They have spoken to their mother about the possibility of a retirement home, and she says, "Absolutely not." What can I do? — *West Valley*

Dear West: Some of this is not within your control — your wife's weight and what happens after you die. It is selfish of her to put this type of burden on her children, so you might want to discuss it directly with them, making contingency plans in case she should outlive you. There are alternatives to retirement homes, including in-home care or one of the children taking Mom in. You, however, are stressed over this and having a rough time. Please talk to your doctor about it.

Dear Annie: My mother-in-law is not a true hoarder, but she's definitely a packrat. Her house has drawers, cabinets and boxes filled with unfinished craft pieces, papers so old you can't read the faded print, moldy magazines, dried paint, cracked pottery, broken candy dishes and junk tucked into nooks and crannies so deep no one has seen the contents in years.

She is the only one who knows where anything important might be "filed." She is widowed and retired and has the time and the physical ability to go through this stuff. Her two children help with yard work and home improvement, but they don't have time to pick through her collections.

My mother-in-law is not depressed. She's just lazy and has poor organizational skills. She spends too much time watching TV and emailing. I am hoping she might recognize herself in your column. How can I convince her to de-clutter before it's too late? — *Don't Want To Pick Through the Weeds*

Dear Don't: If Mom has poor organizational skills, the idea of going through her vast collection of miscellany is both overwhelming and paralyzing. She needs someone to assist her, one drawer at a time, perhaps once a week, to make it manageable. You could offer to do this or suggest it to another family member. Or hire a professional organizer. And it's possible that Mom's church or other community organization has volunteers who might help out.

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

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Follow the Adventurous New Moon

There are many who would follow the beat of a different drummer if only there were such a drummer. Often the main drummer is playing so loudly that no one else can compete. The New Moon in Sagittarius offers a rest from the main action and the perfect opportunity for a swinging new rhythm master to take the stage.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The leaders have all been followers at some point. You may not be sure which role to take. Are you really ready to lead the crew? The fact that you wonder indicates you're the perfect candidate.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The plan you're pursuing has a flaw that, though glaring, is difficult to see from the inside. That's why you need an outsider's opinion. Ask the one who's practical and honest.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Humor has its delicacies. No matter what you say, you're going to offend someone. But if you think it's funny, chances are someone else will too. Tonight you're willing to take the risk.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Things will move when you're certain. Squeeze out doubt. Be so confident about your decision that you leave no room for other possibilities to come into being.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The world is a giant merry-go-round spinning at over a thousand miles per hour — give or take a few hundred depending on where you are — and you've yet to fly off into space. There are some things you can trust, so trust them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Ignorance may be bliss, but only temporarily because what you don't know could eventually cause harm. So ask for accurate information. Open your eyes and be willing to see the full picture.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Do you care how much people like you? It depends on the person. Your standing with a certain someone may matter to you a little more today, but try not to act differently — you'll only give that person an unfair advantage.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have high expectations of your social life. The party

hasn't been up to your standards lately. But the tides are turning. So get out and look around. You just might find some life on this planet.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). One of your teammates is causing problems. This may make the group stronger, so don't be too quick to change your lineup. Everyone group needs a challenger to the status quo.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The best fixes will be half pragmatic, half fanciful. The hopeful, magical touch you give to

relationships will be a healing agent, especially when combined with practical solutions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The problem you've been carrying around is heavy, but you've been carrying it for so long you rarely realize the extra weight. Today is different. You'll start to realize that when this is gone, you'll be mighty relieved.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 13). Curiosity ignites your spirit of adventure over the next six weeks. Thanks to ever-widening

social horizons, you'll explore new worlds close to home and outside your normal experience. Romance and music fill the spring. April brings a lift to your status and financial picture. A deal comes through in June. Aries and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 24, 43, 30 and 22.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: On top of the world, Sagittarian superstar Taylor Swift (12/13/1989) has earned awards, broken records and become one of the most sought after talents of her generation. But according to her, she still worries about things like being considered "cool" by the cool kids. Swift was born when the moon and Jupiter were in Cancer — deeply feeling, soulful and ever-changing.

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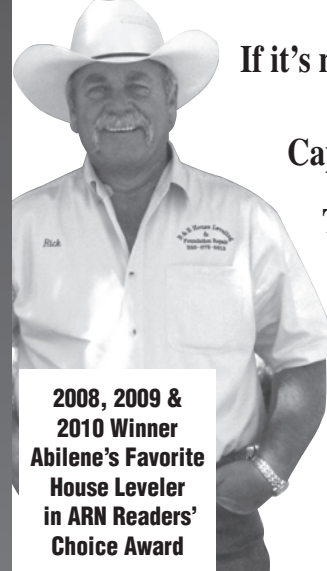
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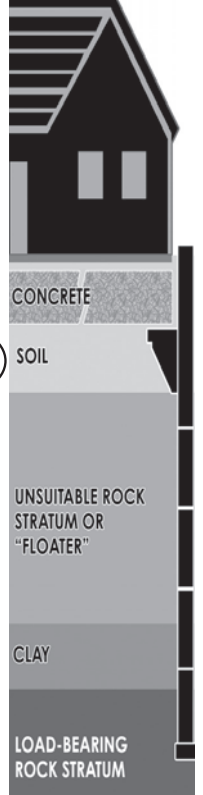
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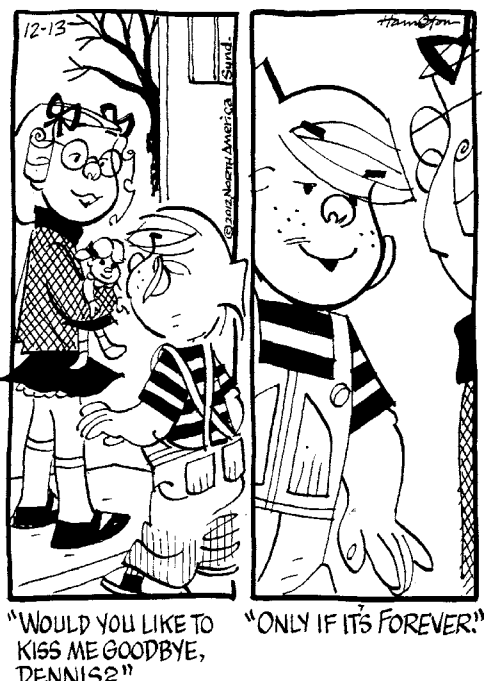
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWTT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Yohanán	Charlie Rose	King	Auction	CSI: Miami	Jail	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Good	SportsNation	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Corona de Lágrimas	Big Bang	News	Caso Cerrado	News	Seinfeld	Swallow	PBS News-Hour	Rules	Property Wars	CSI: Miami	Jail	The Mentalist		ANT Farm	Women's College Volleyball	Audibles
7:PM	Last Resort	Por Ella Soy Eva	The X Factor	Big Bang	Rosa Diamante (SS)	All Night	Fam. Guy	Upd	Story of England	The Vampire Diaries	Property Wars	Movie: Miracle on 34th Street	iMPACT Wrestling	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Knicks	Apollo Live	Santa Clause 3: Escape Clause	High School Basketball	
8:PM	Grey's Anatomy	Amores Verdaderos	Glee (DVS)	Person of Interest	Corazón Valiente	Take It All	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	To Be Announced	Beauty & Beast	Auction	(-15) Movie: Miracle on 34th Street	Ink Master		Movie: We the Party: Moises Arias	ANT Farm	Women's College Volleyball	High School Basketball
9:PM	(:02) Scandal	Amor Bravo! (SS)	Simpsons	(:01) Elementary	Escobar	Rock Center	Big Bang		Antiques Roadshow	Seinfeld	Texas Car Wars		NBA Basketball: Spurs at Trail Blazers		Vindi	ANT Farm	Football	SportsCenter
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	McGee	Charlie Rose	'Til Death	Auction		Ways Die		Wendy Williams	Wizards	NFL Live	SportsCenter
11:PM	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Titulares	Jay Leno		Justice	World	'Til Death	Auction		Ways Die		Wendy Williams	Wizards	NFL Live	SportsCenter
12:AM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Al Diablo	Law Order: CI	Ferguson	Decisiones (SS)	Jimmy Fallon	Conan	Upd	Office	A. Shelby	Scrivner	T. Smiley	Ways Die		Wendy Williams	Wizards	NFL Live	SportsCenter
1:AM	Extra	Mar de Amor (SS)	Raymond	Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Earl	Upd	R. Shap		Movie: Keeping the Faith, Jenna Elfman	Ways Die	Inside the NBA	Movie: Honey 2, Seychelle Gabriel	Deck	UNITE	SportsCenter
2:AM	Paid	La Jaula	American	Ent	Pagado	(:05) Today	Earl	Light of the Southwest	Bluegrass				Entourage	Major Crimes	Good	Good	NFL Live	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



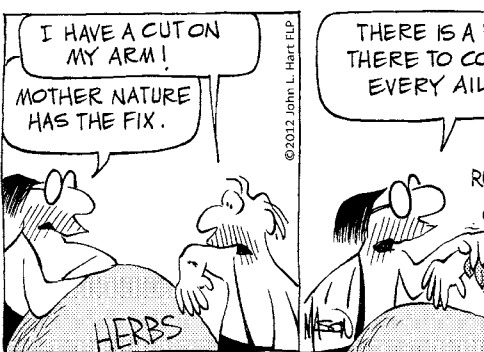
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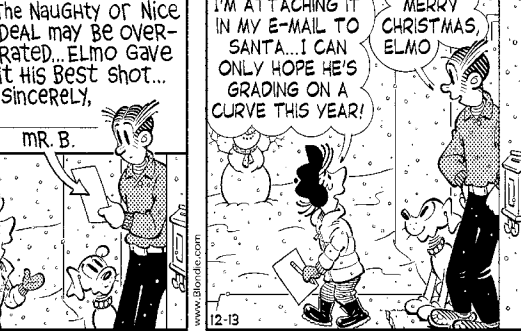
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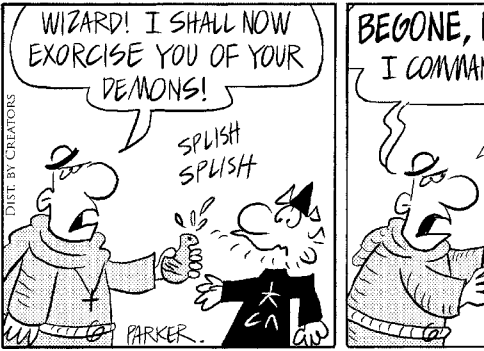
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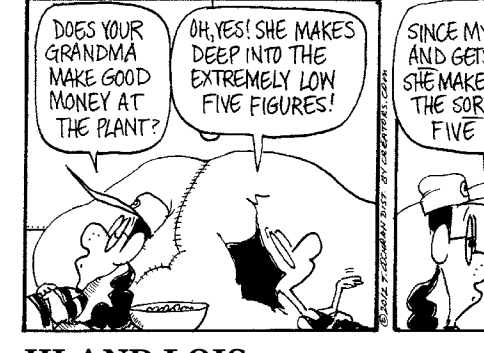
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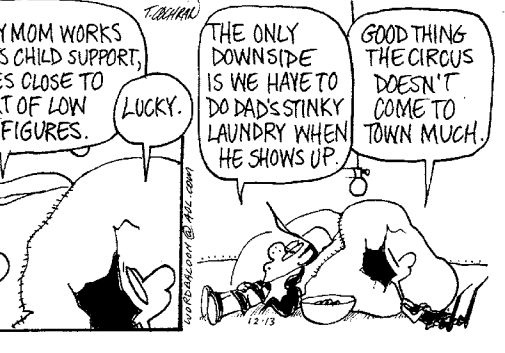
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



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This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Dec. 13, the 348th day of 2012. There are 18 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 13, 1862, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside launched futile attacks against entrenched Confederate soldiers during the Civil War Battle of Fredericksburg; the soundly defeated Northern troops withdrew two days later. (It was during this battle that Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee is said to have remarked: "It is well that war is so terrible, or we should grow too fond of it.")

On this date:

In 1642, Dutch navigator Abel Tasman sighted present-day New Zealand.

In 1769, Dartmouth College in New Hampshire received its charter.

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson arrived in France, becoming the first chief executive to visit Europe while in office.

In 1928, George Gershwin's "An American in Paris" had its premiere at Carnegie Hall in New York.

In 1937, the Chinese city of Nanjing fell to Japanese forces; what followed was a massacre of war prisoners, soldiers and citizens. (China maintains as many as 300,000 people died; Japan says the toll was far less.)

In 1944, during World War II, the U.S. cruiser Nashville was badly damaged in a Japanese kamikaze attack that claimed more than 130 lives.

In 1962, the United States launched Relay 1, a communications satellite which retransmitted television, telephone and digital signals.

In 1978, the Philadelphia Mint began stamping the Susan B. Anthony dollar, which went into circulation in July 1979.

In 1981, authorities in Poland imposed martial law in a crackdown on the Solidarity labor movement. (Martial law formally ended in 1983.)

In 1994, an American Eagle commuter plane crashed short of Raleigh-Durham International Airport in North

Carolina, killing 15 of the 20 people on board.

In 2000, Democratic presidential candidate Al Gore conceded to Republican George W. Bush, a day after the U.S. Supreme Court shut down further recounts in Florida.

In 2003, Saddam Hussein was captured by U.S. forces while hiding in a hole under a farmhouse in Adwar, Iraq, near his hometown of Tikrit.

Today's Birthdays: Former Secretary of State George P. Shultz is 92. Actor-comedian Dick Van Dyke is 87. Actor Christopher Plummer is 83. Country singer Buck White is 82. Music/film producer Lou Adler is 79. Singer John Davidson is 71.

Answer to previous puzzle

APPS	CHOP	REGAL
HAUL	ROPE	EVITA
ALTO	ERRS	MELON
BETWEEN	YOU	AND ME
VPS	TIS	
MEDLEY	SHUN	DNA
ALIEN	PEER	ARAB
DONTTELL	LANY	BODY
APES	LOLL	ELVIS
MED	SITS	PAYERS
MPH	GRR	
FORYOU	REYES	ONLY
IRANI	TOURS	BEAM
RENAL	TROT	ERIC
MOTHS	SOSO	YODA

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Ross of the Supremes
 - 6 Place third
 - 10 Snaky shape
 - 13 Baja "bye"
 - 14 Hawaiian coffee
 - 15 "No harm done"
 - 16 German weekly
 - 18 Disney dog
 - 19 Raw fish dish
 - 20 Makeshift venue
 - 22 Ice show
 - 24 Rustlers' chasers
 - 25 Buy and sell
 - 29 Hatching places
 - 32 Hedda Gabler playwright
 - 33 Phase of the sea
 - 34 Roman wear
 - 38 Swedish auto
 - 39 Loyal subject
 - 40 Denny's competitor
 - 41 Doc's shot
 - 42 Be covetous of
 - 43 "Tomorrow" musical
 - 44 Band together
 - 46 Sings soothingly
 - 47 Alarming
 - 50 "Pants on fire" person
 - 52 Preoccupations
 - 55 Cut in thirds
 - 60 Part of AM
 - 61 Honduras neighbor
 - 63 Crow's-nest site
 - 64 Hammer or sickle
- DOWN
- 1 Most scoutmasters
 - 2 Mental flash
 - 3 Goes on TV
 - 4 Quick bite
 - 5 Headache remedy
 - 6 Geese in flight
 - 7 Monopolize
 - 8 Small bills
 - 9 Mickey's creator
 - 10 Some digital downloads
 - 11 Fizzy drinks
 - 12 Google Talk rival
 - 15 1995 Best Picture nominee
 - 17 Poker player's declaration
 - 21 Make a pick
 - 23 Motorcycle daredevil
 - 25 Satellite receiver
 - 26 Auction site
 - 27 PDQ
 - 28 Airport near Paris
 - 30 On tenterhooks
 - 31 Pay a call on
 - 33 Hair enhancer
 - 35 "This looks bad!"
 - 36 Gain admission
 - 37 Tarzan's neighbors
 - 39 Floral neckwear
 - 43 Flight board posting
 - 45 Big Apple sch.
 - 46 Psychologist
 - 47 Jung
 - 47 Pillow covers
 - 48 Maritime shortcut
 - 49 On tenterhooks
 - 51 San Marino surrounder
 - 53 Antifur org.
 - 54 Messy one
 - 56 Singer
 - 57 Cut and paste
 - 58 Consumer's concern
 - 59 Sloth's home
 - 62 Costa del

THE PUZZLE by Fred Piscop

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
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Texas Tech hires 33-year old Kingsbury as coach

BETSY BLANEY

Associated Press

LUBBOCK, Texas — New Texas Tech coach Kliff Kingsbury has wanted to be back in Lubbock since he left a decade ago.

Late last week the former Red Raiders quarterback was watching film to prepare for Texas A&M's game against Oklahoma in the Cotton Bowl and getting ready to accompany Aggies quarterback Johnny Manziel to New York, where he became the first freshman ever to win the Heisman Trophy.

On Saturday, the Texas Tech job came open when Tommy Tuberville left after three seasons to take the Cincinnati job.

The next day Texas Tech athletic director Kirby Hocutt talked to Kingsbury about the job twice.

"It's just been a whirlwind but I couldn't be happier, beyond ecstatic to be back. It feels like home," Kingsbury said after landing in Lubbock on Wednesday night. "This is where I wanted to be, it's where I've wanted to be."

Kingsbury and Hocutt met in Austin yesterday and the deal was sealed there Wednesday afternoon. Hocutt announced the news with a video posted on Twitter not long after.

"Wreck 'em Tech," Kingsbury said in the video, giving the school's Guns Up sign when the

camera panned to him.

Hocutt and Kingsbury agreed to a four-year deal, the terms of which have not been settled. Kingsbury will be formally introduced at a news conference Friday.

Kingsbury was the Aggies offensive coordinator this year. If it was any other school, Kingsbury said, he would have stayed at A&M.

"He understands," Kingsbury said of Manziel. "He knows how I feel about him. He's as good a player as I've ever seen and probably the fiercest competitor I've ever been around, so it was definitely hard with that. But this is where I belong."

Kingsbury was the first in a string of record-setting quarterbacks for the Red Raiders under former coach Mike Leach. Kingsbury passed for more than 12,000 yards at Tech.

He has never been a head coach and at 33, he'll be one of the youngest in major college football.

Hocutt called him the "right fit" for Texas Tech.

"He's prepared his whole life for this," said Hocutt, who was the same age as Kingsbury when he got his first athletic director job at Ohio University. "He's ready and I had no hesitation."

Not long after Kingsbury was hired former Texas Tech receiver

Danny Amendola, now with the St. Louis Rams, tweeted: "We jus got our swagger back. Wreck em TECH. Lets ride."

Kingsbury flew back from Austin with Hocutt and other school administrators, who all were meeting with the university's regents late Wednesday.

Red Raiders fans never warmed to Tuberville. Texas Tech still emphasized the passing game and the spread offense under Tuberville, but many Tech fans had a hard time getting past the firing of the popular Leach.

There's no doubt about what kind of offense the Red Raiders will run now. Kingsbury has been part of some of the most prolific offenses in the country the past few years. His offenses spread the field and move quickly, favoring the up-tempo that is all the rage. Texas A&M is third in the nation in total offense at 552 yards per game heading into the Cotton Bowl against Oklahoma.

Kingsbury will work with sophomore quarterback Michael Brewer, this season's backup to Seth Doege. Brewer played high school football under Chad Morris, who Hocutt interviewed for the Red Raiders coaching job Tuesday in South Carolina. Hocutt later flew to Nashville, Tenn., to meet with Titans defensive coordinator Jerry Gray.

SPURS

Continued from Page 7

Parker missed a 21-footer and Williams had his first chance to win it but his 25-footer missed. Millsap was there to grab the rebound with 8.3 seconds left.

After the Jazz had to call time out because they couldn't inbound, this time they got it to Williams, who took several dribbles and let it fly..

The Spurs trailed by nine entering the second half, a stark contrast to the first game the teams played Nov. 3 in San Antonio. In that game the Jazz trailed by 19 but outscored the Spurs 35-17 in the third to get even before losing by 10 at the end.

On Wednesday, the Spurs opened the second half with a 20-11 run, as Parker's fast-break layup tied it at 64 with 3:18 left in the quarter.

The teams were tied at 71 entering the fourth.

Both teams came in on a roll, with the Jazz having won three straight. The Spurs had won five straight, including a 134-126 overtime win Monday at Houston.

The Spurs led by 10 points twice in the first quarter as Duncan started strong inside and Danny Green couldn't miss from outside.

The Jazz fought back behind a pair of 3-pointers from Foye then got a spark from the energizing second unit. The highlight was a block from behind by Gordon Hayward as Gary Neal attempted to jam on the fast break.

The Jazz went on a 14-7 run to open the second quarter and took the lead on Millsap's 19-footer with 6:29 left in the half. Jefferson's three-point play on a fastbreak gave Utah a seven point lead, and Millsap's layup capped a 7-0 run to put the Jazz up 53-44 at the break.

Millsap made his first five shots and was 6 of 7 at halftime with 13 points.

SERVICE

Continued from Page 7

While the Cowboys aren't revealing details of Tuesday's memorial, Garrett said the service "was incredible on so many different levels." He said it contributed to help-

ing everybody heal and move forward.

"There was a lot of love in that room, there's no question about that," Garrett said. "A lot of love for Jerry and his family, a lot of love for Josh Brent."

Garrett said he spoke with Brown's mother after the game and got a chance to

visit her before the memorial. He called her a "rock for everybody" and described as remarkable the strength that she has demonstrated, her ability to understand and having peace in the situation so quickly.

Most of the players learned of the fatal accident after boarding the team flight Saturday afternoon before taking off for Cincinnati. They won the game Sunday, then got a day off before the memorial service.

Now they have to refocus for the rest of the season.

"The whole situation has been very challenging for all of us right from the start," Garrett said. "The big thing

that we have to do is we have to balance remembering Jerry and honoring him, supporting Josh in every way that we can, and also getting back to living our lives, as individuals, as players, as coaches, as a football team, and getting back to work. They aren't two separate things. I believe you can do both."

MAVS

Continued from Page 7

second. Rondo, who played the entire first OT and all but 2 seconds

of the second, had the only other basket in the second overtime before Courtney Lee made a pair of free throws with 6 seconds to play.

"I thought the biggest mistake I made was leaving Rondo in that long," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "I thought that had an impact on the speed of the game."

Kevin Garnett added 16 points for Boston, and Jason Terry had 10 points against the team he played with for eight seasons.

O.J. Mayo scored 24 points for Dallas, and Shawn Marion had 16 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists. Mayo, who played 51:55, also had nine of the Maver-

icks' 28 turnovers.

"I wasn't tired at all. You just can't turn the ball over. Look at the stats, man: nine turnovers out of 28," he said. "We had plenty of opportunities to take control of that game and win. We've got to be better in that area. We just can't turn the ball over."

Boston led by 14 in the third quarter and eight after the first basket in the fourth before Dallas chipped away at the deficit and tied it at 92 on Darren Collison's drive to the basket. After Rondo made a jumper, Fisher hit a 3-pointer with 1:47 left in the fourth to give the Mavericks their first lead of the game.

Pierce came out in the second overtime and hit a 3 to make it 108-105. Mayo's basket made it a one-point game and the tired teams struggled to score until Rondo drove to the basket to give Boston a 110-107 lead with 36 seconds to play.

From there, Dallas was forced to foul.

Pierce sank one of two free throws and Vince Carter hit a 3-pointer with 10 seconds left to make it 111-110. Pierce hit another pair of foul shots and Collison hit two free throws before Pierce and Courtney Lee each made two.

Mayo hit a meaningless 3-pointer at the buzzer to make it a two-point final margin.

The Celtics never trailed, opening a six-point lead in the first quarter and leading by as many as 10 in the second before Dallas scored 8 of the last 11 points in the half to head into the break down just 48-43.

Boston opened a 14-point lead early in the third quarter before the Mavericks scored 10 of the next 12 points. After Rondo drove to the basket to give Boston a 78-70 lead with the first score of the fourth quarter, the Mavericks went on a 7-2 run — five of those points coming from Mayo — to make it a three-point game.

sudoku

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

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

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Contract Bridge

Strike While the Iron Is Hot

By Steve Becker

West dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A K 6 3
♥ J 9 4
♦ A 7 5
♣ Q 6 2
WEST
♠ 9
♥ A K Q 7 6
♦ K J 10 4
♣ A J 9
EAST
♠ 8 5 2
♥ 5
♦ 9 6 3 2
♣ 10 8 7 4 3
SOUTH
♠ Q J 10 7 4
♥ 10 8 3 2
♦ Q 8
♣ K 5

The bidding:
West North East South
1♥ Pass Pass 1♠
Dble Redble 2♣ Pass
Pass 3♠ — king of hearts.

Consider this deal played in a team-of-four match. The contract at both tables was three spades, but at one table the contract was made, while at the other table declarer went down one.

At the first table, West led the K-Q-A of hearts and continued with another heart. Declarer ruffed with dummy's king, played a low trump to his queen and led the five of clubs.

Had West gone up with the ace of clubs, South would have made the contract easily, scoring five trump tricks in his hand, the heart ruff in dummy, two club tricks and the ace of diamonds. But West correctly played the nine of clubs on South's five, and dummy's queen won the trick.

Declarer then cashed his remaining trumps, reducing his hand to the Q-8 of diamonds and king of clubs. West's holding at this point was the K-J of diamonds and ace of clubs, while dummy had the A-7 of diamonds and six of clubs. South now exited with the king of clubs, end-playing West to make the contract.

At the second table, the play started the same way when West also led the K-Q-A of hearts. But here the play varied dramatically when East realized that his partner might eventually get endplayed if left to his own devices. So at trick three, East ruffed his partner's ace of hearts (!) and returned a diamond.

As a result of this brilliant defensive play, declarer now had to go down one. It is not often that a defender with a hand as terrible as East's has the opportunity to make a spectacular play, but obviously East was not just sitting there with his mind elsewhere.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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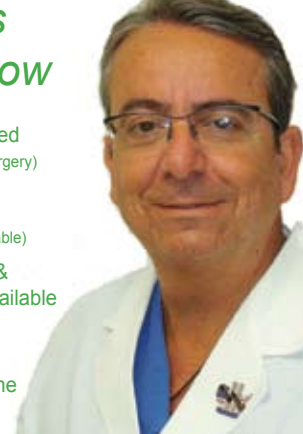
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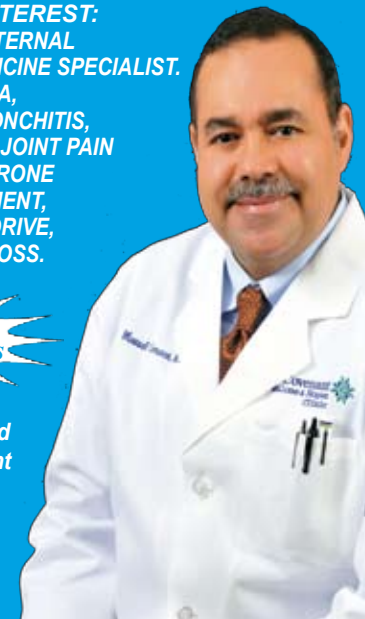
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