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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**FRIDAY**

**JANUARY 4, 2013**



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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 70

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HERALD photo

Flurries Thursday and early this morning left much of Howard County dusted with snow, including these plants on the north side of Big Spring. The forecast calls for a 20 percent chance of snow today and a high temperature in the mid 30s, warming into the low 50s Saturday.

## Sheep: Let the bleating begin

*Youth stock shows get going in Crossroads area*

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — An annual rite of winter — the Crossroads area junior livestock show circuit — begins today.

G l a s s c o c k County became the first of four area 4-H organizations to hold junior stock shows this month when youngsters began displaying their prize farm animals at 9 a.m. in Garden City's community center. In the coming weeks, 4-H groups in Howard, Martin and Borden counties will hold similar shows.



Rebel Royall, 4-H extension agent for Glasscock County, said the show is open to any county 4-H member between the ages of 9 and 18. Ribbons and other awards will be presented in the

See **STOCK** Page 3

## Crossroads gears for capital day at Capitol

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Crossroads residents are gearing up to take the State Capitol by storm, as the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation prepares for the biennial Howard County Day at the Capitol in early February. The event — which is de-

signed to increase awareness of the Crossroads area in the state legislature — will feature a full agenda of events and is slated for Feb. 5, according to Big Spring EDC Executive Director Terry Wegman.

"For those who are planning to take advantage of the bus we have chartered, we'll be



Wegman

leaving from the east parking lot at Howard College's Dorothy Garrett Coliseum at 4:30 a.m.," Wegman said. "It will be \$40 to take the bus. Food and drinks on the bus will be the responsibility of those

traveling. On the way back, the bus will stop off at Cooper's Barbecue, as we have for the past several events, and it will be Dutch treat. We expect to arrive back at the Howard College parking lot at approximately 7 p.m."

According to Wegman, the time at the Capitol will be well spent, as local officials

and other representatives will take time to meet with elected officials to discuss the concerns of the Crossroads area.

"Resolutions will be read on the floor of the House and Senate proclaiming Feb. 5, 2013, Howard County Day at the Capitol."

See **CAPITOL**, Page 3

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HERALD photo / Thomas Jenkins

Emergency personnel responded to a two-vehicle traffic accident near the 165 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20 just after 10:30 a.m. The accident involved a gray sedan and an 18-wheel truck carrying a flatbed trailer. At least two people were transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center by ambulance. Their condition is unknown at this time. Law enforcement officials were not available for comment following the accident, which was investigated by the Texas Department of Public Safety. The accident happened in the westbound lane.

## 13<sup>TH</sup> Month Closeout!

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## Obituaries

### George G. Bass



George G. Bass passed away Friday, Dec. 28, 2012, in Big Spring, Texas. He was born to George Bass and Zea Marie Bryant Bass in Texarkana, Texas, on March 15, 1925.

He graduated from Texarkana High School and was immediately shipped out as a member of the Army in WWII. He served as a surgical technician in the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign. Upon returning from WWII, he married Tomasina Dickens.

In 1950, he was again called up to serve in Korea. He worked for the Texas & Pacific Railroad in Big Spring and other areas. He lived for many years in California before returning to Texas and entering the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home in Big Spring.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Tommie Bass; his son, Bryant Thomas Bass; and a daughter, who died in infancy. He is survived by a daughter, Georgianna (Jana) Bass Long and husband Jim; and his granddaughter and great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are by Myers and Smith Funeral Home in Big Spring, Texas. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

### Ila L. Pettit



Ila L. Pettit, 92, of Stanton died Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2013. Graveside funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, 2013, at the White Deer Cemetery, White Deer, Texas, with her son-in-law, the Rev. Monte Kreis, officiating.

She was born Feb. 4, 1920, in Childress, Texas, and married Bazil B. Pettit in McLean, Texas. He preceded her in death in 1968.

Ila attended school in Childress and Pampa. She and her husband owned and operated Pettit Department Store in White Deer for many years. In 1973 she moved to Amarillo and worked as the activity director for Olsen Park Manor for 20 years. In 2008, she moved to Stanton to be near her daughter.

Survivors include one daughter, Sherrie Kreis and husband Monte of Stanton; one son, Gary Pettit of Pampa; one brother, Bob Green and wife Sarah of Louisville, Ken.; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; and seven brothers and sister.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

### George Canaday

George Canaday, 77, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Police blotter

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

- HEATHER AMANDA EDWARDS, 33, of 706 Central in Coahoma, was arrested Thursday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- ALEXANDER QUINTANA, 32, of 1505 Robin, was arrested Thursday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- LUIS MIGUEL LOPEZ, 29, of 907 Bell, was arrested Thursday on a warrant from another agency.
- ASHLEY NICOLE MIRAMONTES, 21, of 1110 Johnson, was arrested Thursday on a warrant from another agency.
- THEFT was reported: In the 900 block of Lamesa Highway. In the 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. In the 200 block of W. FM 700. In the 900 block of N. Lamesa Highway.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 2600 block of Langley.

• ASSAULT was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson Road.

## Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 64 inmates at the time of this report.

• ALEXANDER QUINTANA, 32, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.

• LUIS MIGUEL LOPEZ, 29, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a judgment/sentence for harassment.

• ASHLEY NICOLE MIRAMONTES, 21, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on an Ector County warrant for possession of a controlled substance.

• QUINN ANTHONY JOHNSON JR., 22, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on charges of assault by contact - family violence, interfering with an emergency phone call and criminal mischief - more than \$50 and less than \$500.

## Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2900 block of Stonehaven. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 165 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. Two people were transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of Settles. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of S. Lancaster. Service refused.

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

## Support Groups

### FRIDAY

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

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

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

### SATURDAY

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

### SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

### MONDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.

• PEP — Parent Education Program for CPS participating and non-participating parents, single parent, grandparents, adoptive or fostering parents. Every first and fourth Monday of the month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Northside Community Center. Classes are free. For information, call 263-2673.

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) TX 0021 meets

## Today's Weather

### Local 5-Day Forecast

Sun 1/6	Mon 1/7	Tue 1/8	Wed 1/9	Thu 1/10
54/34 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the mid 30s.	60/39 Clouds giving way to sun. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	53/33 Thunder-showers. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 30s.	53/32 Showers possible. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 30s.	64/37 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:56 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:57 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:58 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:59 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 6:00 PM

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## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	53	33	sunny	Kingsville	63	46	cloudy
Amarillo	51	28	sunny	Livingston	60	32	pt sunny
Austin	59	34	pt sunny	Longview	55	32	sunny
Beaumont	60	37	pt sunny	Lubbock	52	28	sunny
Brownsville	57	53	rain	Lufkin	60	32	sunny
Brownwood	56	33	sunny	Midland	53	33	sunny
Corpus Christi	61	46	cloudy	Raymondville	56	51	rain
Corsicana	53	32	sunny	Rosenberg	60	39	pt sunny
Dallas	53	32	sunny	San Antonio	61	37	pt sunny
Del Rio	62	39	sunny	San Marcos	60	34	pt sunny
El Paso	50	35	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	52	32	sunny
Fort Stockton	51	36	sunny	Sweetwater	53	33	sunny
Gainesville	49	28	sunny	Tyler	55	33	sunny
Greenville	50	29	sunny	Weatherford	52	29	sunny
Houston	60	39	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	51	30	sunny

### National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	53	32	cloudy	Minneapolis	19	16	mst sunny
Boston	38	28	sn shower	New York	40	33	sn shower
Chicago	32	21	pt sunny	Phoenix	64	41	pt sunny
Dallas	53	32	sunny	San Francisco	55	48	rain
Denver	45	24	pt sunny	Seattle	44	41	rain
Houston	60	39	pt sunny	St. Louis	32	23	cloudy
Los Angeles	61	46	rain	Washington, DC	49	35	pt sunny
Miami	80	67	pt sunny				

### Moon Phases



Last  
Jan 5

at First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad, in the dining hall on the east side of the building. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m. and meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. We have a different program each week. For more information, please call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

• Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group, meets at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship. For further information, contact Dale at 432-270-8462.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 12  
**Hangar 25 Museum "Silver Wings Ball"**  
Settles Hotel  
For more info contact the Hangar 25 Museum at **432-264-1999**.

Jan. 24  
**Healthy Woman Anniversary Celebrating Four Fabulous Years**  
Settles Hotel Featuring guest speaker Jane Jenkins Herlong  
For more info contact Amanda Duforat at **432-268-4842**.

Jan. 26  
**11th Annual Chili CookOff**  
Eagles Lodge, 703 W. 3rd St.  
For more info contact Landon Sturdivant @ **432-264-3247**  
Landon Sturdivant @ [wtcmhmr.org](http://wtcmhmr.org)

Jan. 31  
**Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet**  
Dorothy Garrett Coliseum  
For more info contact The Chamber at **432-263-7641**

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811  
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$9.00 monthly; \$97.20 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

► News in brief

**HealthBeat: Poll finds people split on gov't role in obesity but oppose limiting food choices**

WASHINGTON (AP) — We know obesity is a health crisis, or every new year wouldn't start with resolutions to eat better and get off the couch. But don't try taking away our junk food.

Americans blame too much screen time and cheap fast food for fueling the nation's fat epidemic, a poll finds, but they're split on how much the government should do to help.

Most draw the line at policies that would try to force healthier eating by limiting food choices, according to the poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

A third of people say the government should be deeply involved in finding ways to curb obesity, while a similar proportion want it to play little or no role. The rest are somewhere in the middle.

Require more physical activity in school, or provide nutritional guidelines to help people make better choices? Sure, 8 in 10 support those steps. Make restaurants post calorie counts on their menus, as the Food and Drug Administration is poised to do? Some 70 percent think it's a good idea.

**U.S. hiring likely held steady last month even as White House, Congress battled over budget**

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. employers likely kept hiring last month at a modest but steady pace, despite tense negotiations that pushed the economy to the brink of the fiscal cliff.

Economists forecast that employers added 155,000 jobs in December, according to a survey by FactSet. That would be slightly higher than November's 148,000. The unemployment rate is projected to remain at 7.7 percent.

Stable hiring would mean the job market held up during the talks between Congress and the White House over tax increases and spending cuts that were not resolved until the new year.

A trio of encouraging reports Thursday on private hiring and layoffs suggested companies did not panic last month, although the Labor Department report will offer a more accurate measure of how businesses responded to the uncertainty in Washington.

"Given that we have restraints, the labor market data do appear to be improving," said Dana Saporita, an economist at Credit Suisse.

**Incarcerated veterans train service dogs for disabled vets in Md. maximum-security prison**

CRESAPTOWN, Md. (AP) — Hazard Wilson's new cellmate is a hairy bundle of energy whose

playful zeal can't be contained by steel doors: a five-month-old golden retriever. Yardley is one of three canines assigned since September to inmates at a maximum-security prison in western Maryland for training as service dogs for disabled military veterans.

The number of programs nationwide using inmates to train service dogs is growing, but the program at Western Correctional Institute might be the first to use incarcerated veterans to train dogs for other veterans.

Professional trainers say prison-raised dogs tend to do better than those raised traditionally in foster homes, because puppies respond well to consistency and rigid schedules. That's just what they get in prison.

It's not all work and no play. "I just love to see him be a puppy," said Wilson, 53, serving a life sentence for first-degree murder. "We're putting them through some very stringent training — 90 percent of their time is training — so it gives me great joy just see them romp and roll around and be puppies."

**India's top court to decide fate of India's cheap, generic drugs used by millions of poor**

NEW DELHI (AP) — From Africa's crowded AIDS clinics to the malarial jungles of Southeast Asia, the lives of millions of ill people in the developing world are hanging in the balance ahead of a legal ruling that will determine whether India's drug companies can continue to provide cheap versions of many life-saving medicines.

The case — involving Swiss drug maker Novartis AG's cancer drug Glivec — pits aid groups that argue India plays a vital role as the pharmacy to the poor against drug companies that insist they need strong patents to make drug development profitable. A ruling by India's Supreme Court is expected in early 2013.

"The implications of this case reach far beyond India, and far beyond this particular cancer drug," said Leena Menghaney, from the aid group Doctors Without Borders. "Across the world, there is a heavy dependence on India to supply affordable versions of expensive patented medicines."

With no costs for developing new drugs or conducting expensive trials, India's \$26 billion generics industry is able to sell medicine for as little as one-tenth the price of the companies that developed them, making India the second-largest source of medicines distributed by UNICEF in its global programs.

Indian pharmaceutical companies such as Cipla, Cadila Laboratories and Lupin have emerged over the past decade as major sources of generic cancer, malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS drugs for poor countries that can't afford to pay Western prices.

**Congress to vote on \$9.7 billion flood insurance package for Superstorm Sandy victims**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A \$9.7 billion measure to pay flood insurance claims is set for a vote in Congress, boosting prospects for relief for the many home and business owners flooded out by Superstorm Sandy.

If the House, as expected, approves the flood insurance proposal on Friday, the Senate plans to follow with a likely uncontested vote later in the day.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency warns that the National Flood Insurance Program will run out of money next week if Congress doesn't provide additional borrowing authority to pay out claims. Congress created the FEMA-run program in 1968 because few private insurers cover flood damage.

Northeast lawmakers say the money is urgently needed for storm victims awaiting claim checks from the late October storm, which was one of the worst ever to strike the Northeast, ravaging the coast from North Carolina to Maine, with the most severe flooding occurring in Atlantic City, N.J., New York City and Long Island and along the Connecticut coastline.

"People are waiting to be paid," said Rep. Frank LoBiondo, R-N.J., whose district includes Atlantic City and many other coastal communities hard hit by the storm. "They're sleeping in rented rooms on cots somewhere and they're not happy. They want to get their lives back on track and it's cold outside. They see no prospect of relief."

**New school offers fresh start for Sandy Hook children on 1st day back since Conn. massacre**

MONROE, Conn. (AP) — Sarah Caron made her son his favorite pancakes for breakfast and walked the second-grader to the top of the driveway for the school bus.

"I hugged him a lot longer than normal, until he said, 'Mommy, please,'" she said. "And then he got on the bus, and he was OK."

It was 7-year-old William's first day of school since last month's massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary, and his mother tried to make the day as normal as possible. But it was harder than usual to say goodbye.

William was among more than 400 students who escaped a gunman's rampage that killed 20 first-graders and six educators at Sandy Hook on Dec. 14. On Thursday, the returning students settled in at their old, familiar desks but in a different school in a different town.

Students, teachers and administrators were met by a large police presence outside their new school in the neighboring town of Monroe.

**STOCK**

Continued from Page 1

swine, teers, rabbits, sheep and goat categories.

Raising a farm animal — especially one destined for the livestock show circuit — is a time-consuming process, Royall said.

"It depends on the type of animal they show,"

he said. "Raising a steer can take up to a year and you can figure seven to eight months for sheep, goats and pigs. The kids have to feed the animals at least twice a day and they have to groom them every day. You can figure the kids have to spend four or five hours a day caring for the animals."

All that effort, however, has its rewards — and

not just in ribbons — Royall added.

"Mostly, they learn responsibility skills that come with having to take care of a living thing," he said. "Plus, they get a lot of camaraderie and friendship on the stock show circuit ... This is just a real good program."

The Glasscock County swine show was to be followed by steers at 1

p.m. and rabbits at 2 p.m. On Saturday, sheep will be exhibited at 8 a.m., followed by goats immediately afterward. At 11 a.m., there will be a pig scramble for the small children and the show concludes with the premium sale at 1 p.m.

Other area 4-H junior livestock shows to be held this month include:

• Howard County —

Jan. 9-12 at the county fair barns.

• Borden County — Jan. 10-12 at the Borden County Events Center in Gail.

• Martin County — Jan. 17-19 at the community center in Stanton.

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

**CAPITOL**

Continued from Page 1

the Capitol," Wegman said. "Rhapsody — the Big Spring High School choral group — will be performing in the Rotunda, those making the trip will have the chance to have their photos taken with our elected officials and we'll be receiving a legislative briefing."

Teresa Darden, Big Spring EDC executive assistant, said residents planning to attend are asked to register ahead of time, whether they will be taking the bus or a private vehicle.

"Please make sure and register at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce," Darden said. "The deadline to pay for

a bus ticket is Jan. 28. Also, we're asking everyone to wear a Howard County shirt with khaki pants or skirt. If you don't already have one of the new, black Howard County shirts, you can order one by contacting the Chamber of Commerce or Big Spring EDC. They are \$28 and the deadline for the black Howard County shirts is Jan. 11."

Darden said the event's planning committee has put in plenty of hours to make sure Howard County Day at the Capitol is a success.

"Howard County Day

at the Capitol is an excellent way to catch the attention of lawmakers in the Lone Star State and let them know Howard County residents are very interested in how state policy affects the Crossroads community," Darden said. "This is also a great chance to see first-hand how the legislature works. They make the laws which impact our lives, day after day."

For more information on Howard County Day at the Capitol, call Big Spring EDC at 432-264-6032 or Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce

at 432-263-7641

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

**sudoku**

ANSWERS

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

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Digital  
Fri: 3:50 7:25 11:00  
Sat: 12:15 3:50 7:25 11:00

**The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 3D  
(PG-13) Fri: 7:10  
(Digital) 3:35 10:45  
3D Sat: 12:00 7:10  
(Digital) 3:35 10:45

**Texas Chainsaw 3D** (R)  
Fri: 7:15  
(Digital) 4:35 9:35  
3D Sat: 2:35 7:15  
(Digital) 4:55 9:35

**Parental Guidance** (PG)  
Digital  
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Sat: 12:10 2:40 5:10 7:40 10:10

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**Randy Cotton**  
Pastor

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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.

<b>Bill McClellan</b> Managing Editor	<b>Glenn Stifflemire</b> Publisher	<b>Steve Reagan</b> Staff Writer
<b>Brian McCormack</b> Sports Editor	<b>Thomas Jenkins</b> Staff Writer	

## OTHER VIEWS

### Crafting better, smarter gun laws

Despite the horrors of Newtown, Aurora, Tucson and other all-too-common scenes of mass murders, Americans remain sharply split on gun-safety regulations, a predictable divide given the Second Amendment and this country's strong firearms history.

But after the massacre at the Connecticut elementary school, a Gallup Poll found that 58 percent of Americans surveyed now favor tougher laws on the sale of firearms, the highest support measured by Gallup since 2004.

That's welcome evidence that this newspaper hopes will motivate Congress into constructive action. Americans are weary of the endless string of heart-wrenching killings — in schools, in movie theaters, in grocery store parking lots. Washington has the power, but not yet the will, to take sensible steps to fight back, for instance, enacting a tough ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines and requiring more rigorous background checks of prospective buyers at gun shows.

The debate over whether private citizens should own military-style assault weapons does not break down along predictable conservative-liberal lines. Ronald Reagan, who as president signed legislation in 1986 to ease gun restrictions, later reversed course and joined with former presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter to help pass an assault-weapons ban in 1994. Since Reagan, every president has promised to support such a ban. Even conservative Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia has noted that the Second Amendment leaves room for gun-control legislation.

Congress, which let the assault-weapons ban expire in 2004, remains the weak link in gun-safety efforts.

Some will argue that the ban did not reduce overall crime, since most street crime is not committed with assault weapons. But that line of reasoning overlooks a key fact: This nation leaves its citizens vulnerable to continued mass acts of violence until it turns off the spigot on easy access to the most powerful weapons. At the very least, stronger gun laws would help police officers do their jobs more safely.

A new and improved assault-weapons ban should not be misconstrued as an attack on hunting rifles and small firearms. Nor is it a call to round up weapons that people already own; that would be unconstitutional and impractical. It is, however, a common-sense approach to restrict access to the most deadly weaponry, high-capacity magazines and perhaps even high-caliber ammunition that can take dozens of lives in a matter of seconds. Likewise, Congress should insist on tough enforcement of laws to hold straw purchasers liable for guns used in crimes.

We are naive if we expect to eradicate all gun violence, but we're irresponsible if we don't take gun violence more seriously and act more aggressively than we have in the past.

— *Dallas Morning News*

## 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.
- E-mailed letters to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

# New Year's and the new you

From the time I was a teenager until I turned 40, I made the same New Year's a every year.

Not to get healthy or exercise regularly (I still make those) but to lose weight, plain and simple.

My mother had a thing about weight, but by the time you turn 40, it's a little late to be blaming your mother for everything. So at 40, I just did it. After having two children in three years, never losing the weight from the first before gaining even more with the second, I was, for want of a better term, fat.

It wasn't a case of not being able to see my body clearly. I saw it clearly. I couldn't fit into any of the regular sizes. The irony, in retrospect, was that after failing for so many years, it actually wasn't nearly as hard as I imagined.

Find a regime that works for you — mine was pretty much the standard, lean protein, vegetables and some fruit; find some form of physical exercise that you can make yourself do four times a week — I rode an exercise bike and read catalogues (Friday was the day I ordered), and just keep doing it. I'd lost 10

and even 20 pounds before, but I'd always stopped. When I was 40, I kept going and have, not as religiously for sure, pretty much kept going since.

In the years since, I've gone up to a size 8 and down to a size 4, but I've never seen a size 14 again.

Some things did change. I like shopping more than I used to. I don't stand in the shower and say, "I hate myself." I don't weigh myself every day. I made some money writing a book about the head games involved in dieting (the key to dieting is how you think) which, judging by my mail, actually helped a lot of other women. That was very satisfying.

I stopped buying clothes that were too small for me and tugging at them all the time. I dress better, which is easy to do if you only have one wardrobe (as opposed to having your fat, fatter, and fattest clothes). But the most important change was that losing weight and dieting and not dieting didn't dominate my life the way it had for so many years.

I lost an excuse, a reason to be insecure, an obstacle to being and seeing everything else, for better and worse. When I quit smoking many years ago, I was amazed at the amount of time smoking took up. Buying cigarettes, finding your cigarettes, and waiting until you had a cigarette to go out or come home or go to bed or (very bad) get out of

bed left all this time in the day.

Losing weight, no longer spending your day thinking about how much you hate yourself or how awful you look or how much better your life would be if you were just thin, leaves all this space in your head for other things. It forces you to see both how important, and unimportant, your weight is, how much of a crutch and an excuse it is and how much energy gets wasted just thinking about it.

If your doctor tells you to lose weight, you should. I'm here to tell you that thinking about how hard it's going to be and how deprived you'll be and all the places you can't go and the things you can't do is actually a lot worse than just doing it.

Almost all of us should exercise more. We all know the reasons why. But as for losing that last 10 pounds, this is what I have learned. Either do it or don't.

If it matters to you, if you spend time thinking about it, if the only question you ask in the dressing room is, "Does it make me look fat?" then just do it. And if you're not going to do it, forget about it. One or the other. Happy New Year.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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# What now of the orphans of Russia?

I never will forget the first time I met a Russian orphan who had just been adopted by American parents.

It was 2003, and I was on a flight out of Moscow. A little boy with big brown eyes sat in the seat next to me. A man sat on the other side of the boy, and it was clear from their clenched hands that they were traveling together.

I was scribbling in a notebook when I noticed that the child was leaning over, trying to read. I smiled and asked his name.

"He doesn't speak much English," the man said, smiling. "My wife and I just adopted him and his younger sister." He pointed to a woman sitting with a little girl several rows ahead of us. His story bubbled up.

"This is our fourth and final flight from Russia," he said, patting the boy's head. "This time, we fly out as a family."

Over the course of the next couple of hours, I learned a lot about the brand-new family. The adults, both teachers in the Midwest, had learned about the two children through an American agency that worked with Russian orphanages. The children had been split up, and the couple were determined to reunite them.

The story of their young lives — as much of it as the adoptive parents could discern — was heartbreaking. The biological father abandoned their mother; she died in their apartment when the girl was a toddler. The boy, barely 4, took care of his little sister for weeks, carrying her wherever he went in search of food. Eventually, authorities

discovered their mother's body, and the children were separated and sent to two different orphanages.

It took more than a year for the American couple to adopt the children. They visited Russia several times to get to know the boy and girl. The father, who was clearly exhausted, could not stop smiling at his little boy.

I haven't thought of that family in years, but next last week that Russia has passed a law prohibiting Americans from adopting Russian children brought it all back. The law went into effect New Year's Day. Now thousands of American families who already have invested a lot of time, money and emotion to adopt Russian children — children they know by name, whom they've visited and promised a better life — are grieving.

The Russian prohibition is widely believed to be retaliation for the Magnitsky Act, which President Barack Obama signed into law last month and imposes U.S. travel and financial restrictions on human rights abusers in Russia. It is named for Sergei L. Magnitsky, a Russian lawyer who was arrested after attempting to expose government tax fraud. He died in prison in 2009 amid allegations that he never received proper medical care.

Russian officials say they're protecting their children, citing rare evidence of parental abuse among the more than 45,000 U.S. adoptions since 1999.

U.S. officials insist the law has nothing to do with the safety of Russian children, who now may be doomed to lonely lives in orphanages.

Meanwhile, the primary stakeholders — the orphans of Russia — have no say at all.

There are, however, plenty of American opinions floating around out there, particularly online, and the discussions often

veer into heartlessness as they hammer away at a single theme: Why don't these families adopt American children?

There are as many answers to that question as there are parents in the world. Some want to avoid the long waiting period typical in the U.S. Others feel called to rescue children from orphanages. Still others have ancestral ties to Russia.

Let's stop the list there. It's none of our business why any parent chooses to have a child, but it's in everyone's interest to support children, no matter where they were born.

I was so moved by the little boy's story in 2003 that I wrote it down in a notebook, the same one he had tried to sneak a peek at during our flight. Reading it a decade later, I was reminded of what else happened during that flight.

After two hours of talking, the father felt comfortable asking me to watch the boy while he visited the washroom. I happily agreed.

The man slipped down the aisle, stopping to tell his wife where he was going and pointing to me. She mouthed "thank you," and I nodded.

As soon as that father was out of sight, the boy shifted in his seat. A small hand wrapped around mine and held on tight.

Connie Schultz is a Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and an essayist for *Parade* magazine. She is the author of two books, including "...and His Lovely Wife," which chronicled the successful race of her husband, *Sherrod Brown*, for the U.S. Senate. To find out more about Connie Schultz ([con.schultz@yahoo.com](mailto:con.schultz@yahoo.com)) and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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# Church News

## Black-eyed peas — more than good luck

Did you eat your black-eyed peas on New Year's Day this year? If you did, you may be one of thousands of Southerners with a gourmet appetite for a legume considered unfit for human consumption by folks in other parts of the country.

Even those of us who aren't inclined to carry a rabbit's foot for good luck have eaten a few black-eyed peas on the first day of January. Just in case there might be something to the supposition that eating black-eyed peas at the appointed time brings good luck and prosperity, we eat our obligatory serving of the strange-looking little legumes to ward off any disaster that might be lurking around the corner of a new year.

Like most traditions, the custom of eating black-eyed peas at the beginning of a new year has an uncertain origin. Some ancient writings associate black-eyed peas with the Jewish New Year. Eating black-eyed peas was supposed to bring good luck for the new year.

A more interesting account of the custom of eating black-eyed peas on New Year's Day in America can be traced back to the Civil War. It seems that in making his raids on the South, General Sherman ordered his troops to destroy all of the stored food, crops, and livestock. The Union troops, however, didn't bother to burn the black-eyed peas or field corn because they were only fit for animal fodder anyway.

Unaccustomed to Southern cuisine, the soldiers left behind a valuable supply of food, a stroke of good luck for the hungry folk of the South. A humble diet of black-eyed peas and field corn sustained them when there was nothing else available to eat.

Years later, a Southern agriculturist named George Washington Carver encouraged farmers to plant black-eyed peas because they were drought resistant, and they added nitrogen to the soil. By that time, they were also known to be a good source of calcium and vitamin A.

Regardless of how the tradition of eating black-eyed peas at the beginning of the year got started, there is a bit of truth to be gleaned from the story of the Union troops leaving the black-eyed peas behind. Sometimes our most valuable resources are those that we overlook.

In the Scripture, God spoke a message of hope to His hurting people through the prophet Jeremiah: "For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11 NASB).

This year, when we eat our black-eyed peas, perhaps we should forget about good luck and prosperity. Maybe we should focus instead on God's provision.

*Bonnie Wheat is an author and a minister's wife. She can be contacted at brwheat@suddenlink.net.*



BONNIE WHEAT

and "Life Values," led by Dee Highly. Classes are available for all ages and meet from 9:15-10:15 a.m.

"Sewing Seeds of Hope" Connection group invites you to a "Drive-by Stitching" on Saturday, Jan. 26 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be things to try and if you have a project you've been working on bring it with you. Drop in for a while or stay for the whole time.

Beginning Feb. 9, "Sewing Seeds of Hope" will meet Saturday mornings at Spring Creek Fellowship from 9-noon.

A different skill will be taught each week of the month with new skills added as requested. Lessons will go from basic sewing and fiber arts to more complex as we progress in levels of experience. Anyone with an interest is invited to come and learn or teach if you are so led. Bring a friend.

Big Spring Classical Academy is in session with classes for Pre-K and kindergarten. Visit our website at <http://bigspringclassical.org> for more information.

The Big Spring Homeschool Educational Co-operative is offering classes for high school and junior high homeschool students. Classes to begin Jan. 7 are American Sign Language, Art, Junior and Senior High English, Math/Algebra, Drama, History of Christianity, Texas History, Music Theory, Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University for Teens, ACT Prep & Test and Human Anatomy & Physiology.

The "Between the Lines" Women's Ministry will meet Jan. 17 at 6 p.m. Cookbooks are available for \$15. P

Weekly Happenings:

Sunday- 9:15-10:15 a.m.-Sunday School/Connection Groups; 10:15-10:45 a.m., "Holy Grounds Café" is open with snacks and fellowship; 10:45noon, worship service. You can listen to recent sermons on our web page at [www.springcreekfellowship.org](http://www.springcreekfellowship.org); 5 p.m., Girls Bible Study.

Monday- 6:30-8:30 p.m., "Celebrate Recovery," Women.

Tuesday- 1:45, Praying Effectively for the Lost; "Wings" Dance Academy meets for girls ages 4-12.

Wednesday- 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Meal; 6 p.m., Bible Study and youth and children's activities; 6 p.m., Boy Scouts.

Thursday- 6:30-8:30 p.m., "Celebrate Recovery," Men; 7 p.m., "Crazy Love" college age Bible study by Francis Chan.

Saturday- 7:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast & Fellowship.

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

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the College Park Shopping Center at 501 Birdwell Lane in Big Spring. (Across from Denny's). Contact us at (432)714-4584 or visit our website at [www.springcreekfellowship.org](http://www.springcreekfellowship.org)

"Every Member a Minister" — 1 Peter 4:10 NKJV

### College Baptist Church

We were in church this past Sunday when Pastor Ken reminded us that this was the end of 2012 and the world had not ended. Many had forecast the end of the world for the year 2012.

There has been many times in history that people got all hysterical and tried to figure out where to go and what to do because someone had predicted the end was here. Well, here it is 2013 and we are still here.

I didn't see anyone in College Baptist that morning who was surprised by that as it plainly states in the Bible that only God knows the day and the hour that Jesus will return. I am thankful to be a member of a church that teaches the word of God straight from the Bible.

As we go into this new year, we are giving thanks for many things at College Baptist. One thing is the Lottie Moon International Mission offering not only met the goal we had set but almost doubled it.

We are thankful for the new family that joined the church this Sunday morning. We are thankful for the noises of little children in the congregation. This is a sign of new life in the church.

We are thankful for another great year at College Baptist, learning more about the Word of God.

Happy New Year everyone!  
—Submitted by Dean Priest

### First United Methodist Church

The Rev. Bill Ivins, senior pastor at First United Methodist Church, will bring the message at both services, 8:30 and 10:50, on the first Sunday of the New Year. He will begin a new sermon series "Kingdom Quest."

Sunday school classes for all ages are held at 9:45

Following the late service, our Senior Adult Ministry (SAM) will sponsor a church-wide New Year's dinner in Garrett Hall. The SAM committee will provide ham, black eye peas, and cornbread. Your side dishes and desserts will be welcome.

The weekly schedule gets back to something like normal on Monday with Children's Day Out beginning its spring semester. Wednesday Noon Bible Study and Luncheon will begin again with Cowboy's catering the meal, which will begin serving at 11:50. Real Life will begin the following week on Jan. 16.

The amazing Singing A&M Cadets will perform at First United Methodist Church on Wednesday, Jan. 9. They perform in the sanctuary beginning at 7 and the public is cordially invited.

There are about 60 members in this group and we are needing beds for the night and breakfast the next morning. If you would like to be a host, contact the church office or a member of the local A&M Club.

A special Big Spring and First Methodist welcome to Jim Anderson, our new Minister of Discipleship. Jim comes to us from Pampa, where he served as youth coordinator at First Presbyterian Church. His wife Briana will teach fourth grade at Goliad Elementary School.

Ernestine Day is our keeper of the flower calendar. The calendar for 2013 has been posted. Check to see if your information is correct or if you want to add or delete a date for flowers in memory or honor of a loved one.

If you've made a resolution about attending church in this new year, we invite you to come visit us; we're First Methodist, located at Fourth and Scurry streets in downtown Big Spring.

### Forsan Baptist Church

With the start of a new year, we are beginning the march toward Spring and Easter.

Much of our Sunday morning messages will be devoted to the ministry of Jesus as He made his journey toward the day of salvation. On Sunday and Wednesday evenings, we are wrapping up our study of Revelation and will soon begin the book of Romans.

Our sanctuary remodel is moving rapidly. We hope to be in our new structure by the end of this month or early February.

Plans for this renovation phase will encompass the expansion of our stage area with the addition of a choir loft and moving the baptistery.

We will also be raising the ceiling, installing a new sound system, replacing the carpet, dry-walling texturing the interior, replacing windows, and giving the interior an overall facelift.

Check out our Facebook page for pictures of the progress.

Our church is located at 201 Main in Forsan. Sunday school begins at 9:50, with worship services at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday youth activities have resumed and will continue throughout the school year. We will provide a meal and refreshments for these activities. Wednesday services begin at 6.

Rides for all youth activities are available if arranged ahead of time. Call the church at 432-457-2342 or Pastor Darren Weaver at 432-213-2348.

### First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

The Lectionary Bible study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, meets at 5:17 p.m. in the church library and the Chancel Choir practices at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

The Boy Scouts meet in the entrance room of the fellowship hall at 6 p.m. Monday.

Ushers last week were Claudie Patterson, Tom Koger, and Mark and Vicki McLean. Jake and Mason Patterson collected the Noisy Offering.

Kay Kennemur is in charge of this week's "Take Ten." Marj Carpenter is liturgist for January.

The lectionary for the Epiphany of the Lord Sunday is Isaiah 60:1-8; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12.

The Chancel Choir will present "Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come" by Mark Bender for the anthem and "The Beginning of Wisdom" by Austin Lovelace for the offertory. The Rev. Craig Holstedt will deliver the sermon. Communion will be celebrated next Sunday on the Baptism of the Lord Sunday.

Everyone is asked to stay for a few minutes after worship to take down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary.

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

### First Christian Church

You are invited to attend First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), at 911 Goliad. Each Sunday starts with fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before Sunday school for all ages at 9:45. Church starts at 10:50. We celebrate Communion every week. The Lord's Table is the center of our worship each time we worship. We practice an open table, which means anyone who is a follower of Jesus is welcomed at the Communion table. Christ is remembered as we offer to one another the bread and cup of remembrance.

This Sunday, which will be the beginning of Epiphany in the Church Calendar, the Rev. Ken McIntosh's message will be "Beyond January 1" from Ephesians 3: 1-12.

Elders will be Jackie Simpson and Paul Smith; deacons will be Eulaine McIntosh, Mariah McIntosh, Cynthia Scott and Anne Scott; worship leader will be John Scott; communion prep will be Eulaine McIntosh and Cynthia Scott; Children's Church will be Diana Best; greeter will be Anna Scott; homebound communion will be Paul Smith.

Each week Isaiah 58 is open from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Mondays, and 4:30until 6:30 Tuesdays. We also are now working Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. until 11, so we need volunteers for those days to help.

Also, every Monday evening, the TOPS Group will meet at the church fellowship hall at 5 p.m. for weigh-in. The meeting is at 5:30.

On Wednesday there will be choir at the church at 6:30 p.m. Call Ruth Jackson for more information.

The Samaritan Counseling takes place Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 4.

We believe the church is built by people worshipping together and we welcome you to visit at any time. For questions or further information, call the church office 432-517-4821 or view our website at [www.fcbs125@yahoo.com](http://www.fcbs125@yahoo.com) or email to [fcbs125@yahoo.com](mailto:fcbs125@yahoo.com)

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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

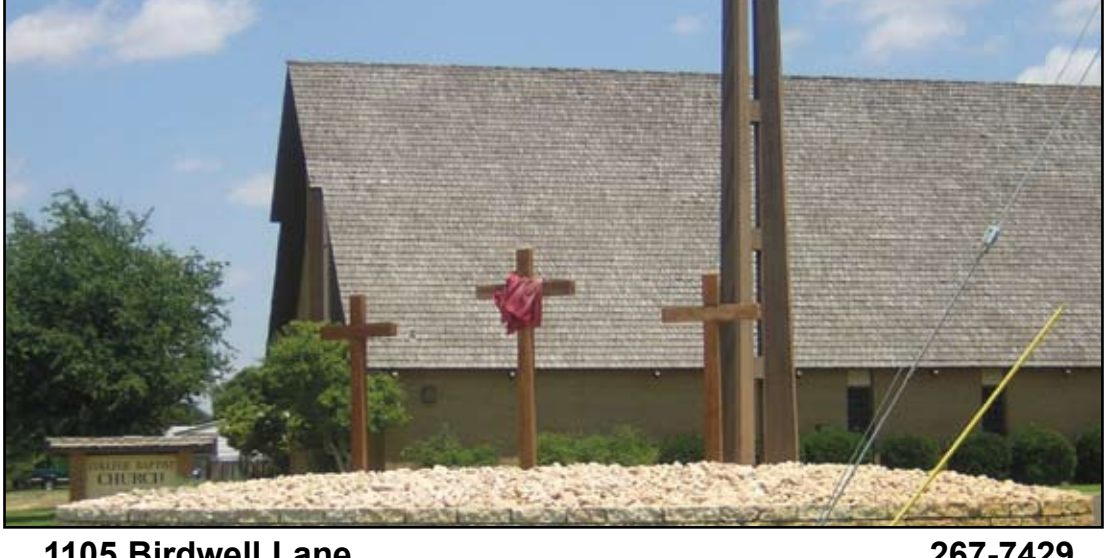


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AIRPORT BAPTIST  
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1512 Birdwell Lane 267-7157  
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HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC PARISH  
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CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE  
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CORNERSTONE/COVENANT  
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LIGHTHOUSE RESTORATION CENTER  
604 E. 13th St. 264-0043  
LIFE CHURCH  
102 E. 10th 263-7714  
FAMILY FAITH VICTORY CENTER, INT.  
810 E. 11th Pl. 267-6001  
Samuel A. Segundo, Jr., Pastor  
SPRING OF LIFE CHURCH  
Johnnie Sevey, Pastor  
400 E. 21st 267-8658  
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## Church News

# New beginnings

As with every other New Year, this is a week of celebration, in spite of the fiscal "cliff." Thousands made the trek to New York to watch the ball drop in Times Square. Most of us gathered with family and friends to welcome 2013 and the beginning of a new year with hugs and kisses.

New beginnings are exciting: weddings with candles and flowers, beautiful bridesmaids, handsome groomsmen, laughter, toasts and dancing with the bride and groom; the birth of a baby wrapped in blankets, showered with gifts; graduations with speeches about dreams and possibilities followed by posed photos that will hang on living room walls; a new job; a new home. Starting anew stirs our juices.

New beginnings are filled with excitement, optimism, and hope as well as fear, doubt and worry. Weddings are fun, but making a marriage can be hard work. Babies are cute, but raising a child can be difficult. Graduation marks a significant achievement, but finding a job and advancing in a chosen career can be daunting.

We cannot predict our future. Not all newlyweds who leave the marriage altar showered with rice, petals and birdseed will experience a life-long relationship of love and fulfillment. Not all babies will grow to maturity surviving the pitfalls of drugs and violence. Not all graduates will find career positions that fulfill their dreams. But, we are all called to something new, something significant.

God always calls us forward into new beginnings. He is always starting something new. He beckons us to leave the old and familiar to follow Him on a journey of discovery into places we have never been. He encourages us to calm our fears and exchange our doubts for faith. He challenges us to trust in Him for a better future and a better day.

When God called Abraham, He called him from his familiar home to follow Him into a strange land. God promised, "I will bless you ... and you shall be a blessing." (Genesis 12:2). Abraham's step of faith to follow God into a new beginning changed history.

To Isaiah, God said, "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland." (Isa. 43:18-19). Paul wrote, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone. The new has come." 2 Cor. 5:17).

If our minds are open to new things, and our hearts are open to faith, 2013 can be the start of something special.

*Bill Tinsley serves on the board for Yellowstone Baptist College in Billings. He reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. For more information visit [www.tinsleycenter.com](http://www.tinsleycenter.com) or email [bill@tinsleyenter.com](mailto:bill@tinsleyenter.com)*



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## News in brief

### Cruz sworn in as Texas' first Hispanic U.S. senator

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Tea party darling Ted Cruz was sworn into the U.S. Senate on Thursday and promised to begin his career by introducing a bill he knows will never pass — a repeal of "every syllable of every word" of the White House's signature health care reform law.

With Democrats controlling the Senate and Barack Obama as president, "we know to a metaphysical certainty that that bill is not going to pass," Cruz said on a media conference call shortly after taking office as the first Hispanic to represent Texas in the Senate.

But Cruz promised on the campaign trail to propose the repeal and said he'd keep his word. And if an abundance of tilting at legislative windmills is in Cruz's future, keep in mind that he was the longest of long shots to make it even this far.

The former state solicitor general and the son of a Cuban immigrant, Cruz was a virtual unknown when he announced his candidacy, but rode a groundswell of support from grassroots conservatives to shock powerful Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst in the Republican senatorial primary before cruising to victory in November.

Cruz swore the oath of office on a Bible he said his father Rafael used to read to him when he was a boy. He later stood on the Senate floor and watched his 4-year-old daughter Caroline wave down at him from a visitors gallery.

"The entire day has been magical," Cruz said. "I have to admit, any time someone addresses me as 'Senator,' I turn my head, trying to figure out who on earth they are talking to."

### Bank robber faces up to life in prison

DALLAS (AP) — A co-conspirator of a bank robber serving life in prison for killing a North Texas armored car guard has pleaded guilty in a string of 2009 holdups.

Prosecutors in Dallas say 50-year-old Jesus Sandoval on Thursday pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bank robbery, to two counts of using, carrying, and brandishing a firearm and to possessing a firearm to further a violent crime.

Sandoval faces up to life in prison when he's sentenced in May for three robberies with 28-year-old Enrique Lopez. Both were arrested on Oct. 3, 2009, in suburban Dallas.

Lopez last year pleaded guilty to five robberies and to killing Brinks Security guard Cresencio Borquez during a September 2009 holdup in Dallas. He was sentenced to two consecutive life terms plus 85 years in prison.

3rd adult charged after death of San Antonio boy  
SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A third caregiver has been charged following the death of a 5-year-old South Texas boy who showed signs of neglect and abuse.

San Antonio police on Thursday night arrested the boy's step-grandmother, Gloria Proo, on a charge of felony injury to a child.

Police say Josiah Williams on Dec. 27 was found dead at the family's San Antonio home. An autopsy indicated abuse and malnutrition. Investigators say the child had two black eyes and other cuts and bruises.

The boy's father, Charleston Williams, and step-mother Crystal Williams took custody of Josiah after his biological mother went to prison. Police last week charged the couple with injury to a child. Sgt. Jim Cole says Proo is the mother of Crystal Williams.

Online jail records didn't immediately list information on Proo.

### Texas allows gun show freeway messages in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas transportation officials have overruled a district office and restored use of electronic freeway signs for public safety traffic updates near firearms-related events.

Texas Department of Transportation officials in Houston on Thursday said use of such signs was suspended amid complaints following a gun show the day after the Dec. 14 massacre at a Connecticut school. A gunman killed 26 people, including 20 children, then himself.

TxDOT officials on the state level later Thursday said the local decision to stop using traffic advisory signs at firearms-related events was wrong. TxDOT spokeswoman Veronica Beyer says message boards are used to help direct traffic when there's an accident and at large events for public safety.

Such signs are also typically used for high traffic-volume situations such as rodeos and sporting events.

### Macy's downtown Houston store to close this spring

HOUSTON (AP) — Macy's plans to close its downtown Houston department store that's served the city for 65 years.

The Cincinnati-based retailer says it will close the 791,000-square-foot Main Street store early this spring.

Houston Mayor Annise Parker told reporters that the property owner, 1110 Main Partners LP, plans to demolish the structure and put up a commercial office building.

Macy's says the store's 138 employees will be offered positions in nearby stores or laid off with severance benefits, where eligible.

The store opened in 1947 as the flagship outlet for the Houston-based Foley's department stores, which ultimately became part of Macy's.

Clearance sales will begin Monday.

### Aggie raising funds to armor Bryan police dogs

BRYAN, Texas (AP) — A Texas A&M University graduate student has launched a fundraising campaign to armor K-9 dogs for the local police department.

Katie Tippett began a campaign last month to buy Kevlar vests for Kohn and Falco, the two Belgian Malinois dogs working in the Bryan Police Department.

The Eagle of Bryan-College Station reports the dogs work primarily narcotics calls but also help with foot chases, searches, tactical squad operations and burglaries.

Tippett is trying to raise almost \$2,500 for the vests to protect the dogs. The vests cost about \$900 each.

Falco's handler, Officer James Hauke, tells The Eagle that he's grateful the public is showing interest in protecting the dogs.

In his words, "For somebody to take their time and dedicate that toward us, that's pretty impressive."

### Officer who stopped UT sniper laid to rest

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — An Austin police officer who helped stop Charles Whitman's 1966 sniper rampage from atop the University of Texas clock tower has been laid to rest.

Funeral for Houston McCoy was held Thursday afternoon in the rural West Texas town of Menard, followed by a graveside service with police honors.

McCoy died at age 72 on Dec. 27.

He fired two blasts from his shotgun to bring down Whitman, who killed 16 people on Aug. 1, 1966. Whitman wounded dozens of others before McCoy and fellow officer Ramiro Martinez made their way to the tower's observation deck. Martinez also fired on Whitman.

Whitman was a Texas student and former Marine when he opened fire on the campus.

### Police chief to fire officers caught driving drunk

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — The day after a Fort Worth police officer was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving, the city's police chief said officers against whom a driving-while-intoxicated case is "sustained" by internal investigation will be fired.

Fort Worth Police Chief Jeff Halstead said Thursday, "I will not tolerate it."

He was flanked by relatives who have lost loved ones to drunken drivers.

Halstead previously pledged to decide on a case-by-case basis how to handle alcohol-involved cases, with officers convicted of DWI facing anywhere from a 15-day suspension to termination. The policy change comes after the Wednesday arrest on suspicion of DWI of a Fort Worth officer who works as a DWI enforcement officer.

Halstead says 14 officers have been arrested on suspicion of drunken driving and five of public intoxication since 2008.

### Former guard who smuggled cell phone sentenced

MALLEN, Texas (AP) — A former guard at a South Texas detention center that houses federal detainees for U.S. marshals has been sentenced to one year in prison for smuggling a cellphone into the facility.

U.S. District Judge Ricardo Hinojosa sentenced Jorge Luis Sandoval of Pharr in McAllen on Thursday. Prosecutors had accused Sandoval of twice smuggling a phone to an inmate at the East Hidalgo Detention Center in La Villa in exchange for cash from a middleman in 2010.

## Church News

### Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS

This Sunday's officiant will be Pastor Alan Abel.

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

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

Mid-week classes (Wednesday) resume this week with meal and fellowship at 5:30 p.m. and Bible study beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Phillip Reid will present the readings this week.

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

A website offered by The Lutheran Hour Ministries is available. The site, [www.jcplayzone.com](http://www.jcplayzone.com), promises fun and Christian educational based games and videos.

### Bureau says Palestinians will outnumber Israeli Jews by 2020

JERUSALEM (AP) — The Palestinian statistics bureau estimates Arabs will outnumber Jews in the Holy Land by the end of the decade, a scenario that could have grave implications for Israel.

The bureau said Tuesday that 5.8 million Arabs live in Israel, the West Bank, Gaza and east Jerusalem. That compares to about 6 million Israeli Jews, according to Israeli data.

It said that based on current birth rates, the two populations would be equal in 2016, and in 2020, Arabs would outnumber Jews by 7.2 million to 6.9 million.

The demographic issue is a main argument for Israeli backers of creation of a Palestinian state. They say relinquishing control of the Palestinian territories and its residents is the only way to ensure Israel's future as a democracy with a Jewish majority.

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### Sports Calendar

#### TODAY

**Women's Basketball**  
• Howard College at Temple College, 5:30 p.m., Temple, Texas.

**Boy's Basketball**  
• Lubbock Cooper at Big Spring, J.V., 5 p.m.; Ninth, 6:15 p.m.; Varsity, 7:30 p.m.

• Stanton at Forsan, J.V.; 5 p.m.; Varsity, 6:30 p.m.

• Ira at Coahoma, Varsity & J.V., TBA.

• Wellman-Union at Grady, TBA.

• Bronte at Garden City, 8 p.m.

#### Girl's Basketball

• Sweetwater at Big Spring, J.V.; 5 p.m.; Varsity, 6:15 p.m.; Ninth, 7:30 p.m.

• Stanton at Denver City, J.V., 5 p.m.; Varsity, 6:30 p.m.

• Forsan at Smyer, J.V., 5 p.m.; Varsity, 6:30 p.m.

• Coahoma at Brownfield, TBA.

• Wellman-Union at Grady, TBA.

• Bronte at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.

• Loop at Sands, TBA.

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

# Hawks prepare for conference action

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

TEMPLE — It was early in November the last time the Howard College women's basketball team was defeated, but the Hawks (11-3) will be facing Temple College (8-5) today — a program HC Head Coach Earl Diddle says could present a challenge to his squad.

"(Temple) is a very, very good team," Diddle said. "But coming off the break — we had three weeks off — I thought the girls came back with a lot of energy. I thought our execution was really good."

Diddle was referring to the first two games out of three that comprise a short road trip.

On Wednesday, the Hawks dispatched Victoria College 92-36 and then defeated Southwest Texas Nikor College in Uvalde, 64-47.

During the nine-game win streak, Diddle said his team has come together, but

scoring versatility remains the focus.

"I am concerned about where we are scoring our points," Diddle explained. "We need more points in the paint, we need to establish our inside game. We're about there, but we have some work to

do."

for 5:30 p.m. Conference play will begin Monday against Midland College at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the HC campus. Tip off is slated for 5:45 p.m.



Game time today against Temple is set

The Howard College men's squad finally lost its first game of the season in a tight match against Salt Lake Community College on Friday, 66-63.

The Hawks came back to win their next two games in the Mesa, Ariz. Tournament, defeating Central Arizona 81-67 and then pounding Utah State University 84-50.

The Hawks have posted a 13-1 record and will kick off conference action Monday against Midland College at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Game time is scheduled for 7:45 p.m.

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

# Ducks run past K-State 35-17 at Fiesta Bowl

By **JOHN MARSHALL**

AP College Football Writer

LENDALE, Ariz. — As Oregon coach Chip Kelly was about to receive the massive Fiesta Bowl trophy, Ducks fans inside University of Phoenix Stadium started a chant of "We want Chip!"

Whether he returns or not is up in the air.

If Kelly does head to the NFL, this was a great send off.

Sparked by De'Anthony Thomas' 94-yard touchdown return on the opening kickoff, No. 5 Oregon turned the Fiesta Bowl into a track meet from the start and bolted past No. 7 Kansas State 35-17 Thursday night in what could be Kelly's final game with the Ducks.

"This wasn't going to be a distraction," Kelly said of reports that he was headed to the NFL.

"It wasn't a distraction for me — I think it's an honor. But I think it's an honor because of the players we have in this program that people want to talk to me."

Teams that had their national title aspirations end on the same day, Oregon and Kansas State ended up in the desert for a marquee matchup billed as a battle of styles: The fast-flying Ducks vs. the methodical Wildcats.

With Kelly reportedly talking to several NFL teams, Oregon (12-1) was too much for Kansas State and its Heisman Trophy finalist, Collin Klein, who were playing catch-up from the start.

Thomas followed his before-everyone-sat-down kickoff return with a 23-yard touchdown catch, finishing with 195

total yards.

Kenjon Barner ran for 143 yards on 31 carries and scored on a 24-yard touchdown pass from Marcus Mariota in the second quarter. Mariota later scored on a 2-yard run in the third quarter, capped by an obscure 1-point safety that went in the Ducks' favor.

Even Oregon's defense got into the act, intercepting Klein twice and holding him to 30 yards on 13 carries.

"We got beat by a better team tonight, combined by the fact that we let down from time to time," coach Bill Snyder said after Kansas State's fifth straight bowl loss.

Last year's Fiesta Bowl was an offensive fiesta, with Oklahoma State outlasting Stanford 41-38 in overtime.

The 2013 version was an

upgrade: Nos. 4 and 5 in the BCS, two of the nation's best offenses, dynamic players and superbly successful coaches on both sides.

Oregon has become the standard for go-go-go football under Kelly, its fleet of Ducks making those shiny helmets — green like Christmas tree bulbs for the Fiesta Bowl — and flashy uniforms blur across the grassy landscape.

Thomas offered the first flash of speed, picking up a couple of blocks and racing toward a not-so-photo finish at the line.

Thomas hit the Wildcats (11-2) again late in the first quarter, breaking a couple of tackles and dragging three defenders into the end zone for a catch-and-run TD that put

See **FIESTA**, Page 13

# Saban, Kelly lead 'Bama and ND out of darkness

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**

AP College Football Writer

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — There were some dark days at Notre Dame and Alabama, dark years really, during which two of college football's proudest programs flailed and foundered.

Notre Dame won the national championship in 1988, then spent much of the next two decades running through coaches — four if you count the guy who never coached a game — and drifting between mediocre and pretty good.

Alabama won the national championship in 1992, then spent the next 15 years running through coaches — four if you count the guy who never coached a game — and drifting between mediocre and pretty good.

As the 21st century dawned, the Fighting Irish and the Crimson Tide were old news, stodgy

remnants of a glorious past, not moving fast enough to keep up with the times, and searching for someone to lead them back to the top.

"It parallels Notre Dame to a tee," said Paul Finebaum, who has covered Alabama as a newspaper reporter and radio show host for more than 30 years. "The attitude was 'We're Alabama. We don't have to do what others are doing. We'll win because of our tradition.' Finally everyone passed Alabama."

And Notre Dame.

Then along came Nick Saban and Brian Kelly to knock off the rust, fine tune the engines and turn the Crimson Tide and Fighting Irish into the sharpest machines in college football again.

No. 1 Notre Dame and No. 2 Alabama meet Monday night in Miami in a BCS championship between two titans not all that far

removed from tough times.

"The pendulum swings," said former Alabama coach Gene Stallings, the last Tide coach before Saban to bring home a national title. "You don't stay good forever. You don't stay bad forever."

Of course, Alabama and Notre Dame fans aren't real comfortable with the first part of that statement. The Crimson Tide and Fighting Irish were perennial national championship contenders for decades.

For Alabama, replacing Bear Bryant proved difficult. Paul Bryant won six national championships in 25 years as the coach in Tuscaloosa, and when he stepped down the Crimson Tide felt compelled to bring back one of his boys to replace him. Ray Perkins was hired away from the New York Giants,

See **DARKNESS**, Page 13

# Knicks end Spurs' 7-game streak in rout

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**

AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK — Sometime between Stephen Jackson's sideline stumble and J.R. Smith's soaring slam, the San Antonio Spurs realized this wasn't their night.

Too much fatigue and way too much Knicks defense.

Carmelo Anthony scored 23 points, Smith kept up his surge with 20 and New York snapped San Antonio's seven-game winning streak with a 100-83 victory Thursday night.

Steve Novak added 15 points and Tyson Chandler had 10 points and 14 rebounds to help the Knicks bounce back from consecutive losses by dominating the final period against the Spurs, who appeared to run out of gas in their second game in two nights.

"They shot the hell out of it and I could see it wasn't going to happen," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "Just too low on fuel and their defense was too good. Bad combination, and then they made shots, which makes it even worse."

Tim Duncan and Tony Parker each had just 11 points for the Spurs, who lost Jackson to an unusual injury, then lost what had been the NBA's longest winning streak.

Jackson played just

three minutes off the bench before spraining his right ankle when he took a shot then fell back into a waitress working the sideline in front of Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

San Antonio, which averaged 111.7 points on 53.4 percent shooting during its winning streak and rang up 117 points on Wednesday in Milwaukee, shot just 36 percent in its lowest-scoring game this season. Gary Neal led the Spurs with 12 points.

"It wasn't the first time, it's not going to be the last one," Spurs reserve Manu Ginobili said of the tired performance.

"But of course we've got to give them credit because they forced us to not find anything easy, they made us really work."

Leading 67-60 after three, the Knicks made it 77-60 on Novak's 3-pointer with 10:24 remaining in the game. New York poured it on from there, the lead growing to 20 when Prigioni caught a lob from Smith around his waist while in the air and slammed it home as the players on the Knicks bench jumped up in celebration.

Woodson said before the game he thought the Spurs were the best team in basketball right now, though Popovich dismissed that as gamesmanship.

# Playoff bye not a huge advantage in modern NFL

By **BARRY WILNER**

AP Pro Football Writer

NFL teams have no fear of playing in the wild-card round.

Recent history shows the playoff bye isn't such a big deal anymore. In six of the last seven years, one of the Super Bowl participants didn't get a bye to begin the postseason. And five of those teams wound up winning the NFL title.

So Green Bay's blowing the bye by losing to Minnesota last Sunday might not be such a setback. Same for Houston, which had an even bigger fall, fumbling away home-field advantage throughout the AFC

playoffs as well as the week off, by losing three of its last four.

Of course, Texans coach Gary Kubiak recognizes the week-to-week nature of pro football, and how things can change quickly in seven days — and last for a month, right to a championship.

"That's life, and that's part of football," Kubiak said. "How'd you play last week? How have you played the last few weeks? What have you done lately? That's our world. We understand that, and it hasn't been good the last few weeks, so hopefully we get it better."

Nobody knows how to

achieve that improvement more than the Packers. Two years ago, they barely squeezed into the Super Bowl chase, then raced to three road victories and, finally, a title win over Pittsburgh.

"I'd have preferred a week off, to be honest with you," Packers receiver Jordy Nelson said. "But we put ourselves in this situation throughout the whole year. It's not just this last game."

"This last game had a lot riding on it for us, so ... we're going to go play. Whatever it takes, we just have to win from here on out."

That begins Saturday

night at Lambeau Field against Minnesota. Had the Packers beaten the Vikings last Sunday, they would be sitting at home this weekend watching the Bears play at San Francisco. Instead, they will trudge onto the tundra to face rushing king Adrian Peterson, who ran around, through and over them for 199 yards to get the Vikings into the playoffs.

The Vikings had no chance for a bye; they never really were in the chase for the NFC North title. They're just glad to be in the tournament, knowing that the

See **BYE**, Page 13



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## ~ Dear Margo ~

**One Key to Happiness**  
**Dear Margo:** I am writing in response to a letter I saw in your column.

When I was 30, I was still single and had been "in love" twice since I was 18. The first one came to an end naturally (he's now one of my oldest and dearest friends); the second, tragically. My fiance was killed in a car accident a few months before our wedding when I was 26.

I went on with my life, and at 30, I was happily enjoying my career and family and being the favorite Auntie for my

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nieces and nephews. I was really happy and realized that if I never fell in love again, it'd be cool. I was just as happy without a significant other as I had been when I had one!

I went along doing my thing, being social, enjoying my job and hobbies, and when I was 30 I met an awesome guy 10 years my senior at a Humane Society fundraiser.

We met in May, moved in together in January and got married the following May on the anniversary of our first date.

As a society, we put so much emphasis on marriage as the be all and end all to happiness that we create too much stress and angst about it. Quite frequently, when we stop wiggling out about The Big M, as my husband and I jokingly call it, we find someone to be with.

We're still together 12 years later and are planning on forever. I honestly don't think everyone has to get married to be successful and happy.

For us, this is how it worked out, but we were both happy with our lives before we got together, and if it hadn't worked out for us, we'd still be happy. And yes, First Love did dance at our wedding. — *Lucky*

Dear Luck: Hooray for you — and thank you for confirming a few of my beliefs. One is that a partner does not make a life great, but can share it. Everyone is responsible for their own happiness, and for many people, solo is the way to go. Bachelors were always around, but the women's movement made it acceptable for women, as well, to travel light.

Not to get too woo-woo about it, but I do subscribe to the Zen tenet that when you stop looking, you will find whatever it is you want — or stumble on it. And lastly, I am a great believer in affinity groups. You and your husband shared an interest from the get-go, which immediately gave you something in common. Long may you love. — *Margo, happily*

*Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via the online form at www.creators.com/dearmargo. Due to a high volume of e-mail, not all letters will be answered.*  
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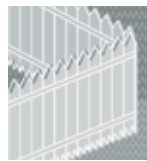
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Wish on a Shooting Star

The debris from an extinct comet provides opportunities to wish on a falling meteor of the Quadrantid meteor shower. Though the gibbous moon isn't cooperating and the visibility of the shower is low, don't let that stop you. A trine of Mars and Jupiter agrees to grant your wishes anyhow. So go forward with wishing as if you just saw a shooting star.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES

(March 21-April 19). It's strange when you don't get the response you were looking for. It means something's a little off.

You'll be inspired to look at your own motivation. Does it hold up? Is it who you really want to be?

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Even though your body seems to be taking practical action, your mind is off on a quixotic adventure. Remarkably, you're getting so much done in spite of this disconnect.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Be careful whom you confide in, especially about your recent victory. Some people are so interested in their own fears and preoccupations that they'll have a hard time relating to your success story.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You wouldn't presume to tell another person what he or she should go after in life, and by the same token, you don't have to listen to anyone who thinks they know better what you should do.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). People are always telling you to slow down, but they don't realize that you have to move at your current speed in order to get it all done. You'll go to bed thinking about what you might cut from the schedule.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Love has a way of catapulting people out of their usual personality and into a new attitude. You could experience this change to some degree today as your fondness for someone grows.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct.

23). With the moon in your sign, you have an even stronger sense of balance than usual. Pleasure, contentment and connection are more important to your daily life right now than any other goal. Make yourself happy.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). One hipster T-shirt suggested, "If you can't be a good example, be a warning." Today, you won't have to choose. Your bad behavior has unexpectedly positive results, so you'll fit into both categories at once.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you're genuinely excited to see your loved ones, you show your enthusiasm as they walk into the room. When you're not, there's something wrong. You and yours deserve to be properly acknowledged.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Neither time nor money is available to you in infinite quantities, but you'll do clever things with the resources you have. Bonus: This will impress someone who will be helpful to you at a future date.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Daily living is not an exact science. You'll do your best. Some will say you prioritized unfairly or illogically. How would they know? Let enthusiasm and curiosity be your guides.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). There's a huge difference between being around and being present. The eye contact, physical affection and attention you give loved ones are the keys to happy relationships.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Jan. 4). You're changing. You'll lean into the change, enjoying the process and excitedly anticipating who you'll be next. This month brings enchanting company. In February, you'll make something new of old history. Your creation takes on a life of its own in March. May and August are the most lucrative months. You'll travel in June. Cancer and Leo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 1, 24, 38 and 13.

**WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST:** ARIES: Can you trust and share openly? If you're afraid to do so, alterations must be made. TAURUS: As you add up the facts and

feelings, the equation only gets more complex. Good thing you don't have to solve it in a day. GEMINI: Sometimes wanting to be close is enough. CANCER: Consider: What is the "we" of a relationship? Is it more one "I" than the other? LEO: You understand the importance of body language, and people notice you when you walk into a room. VIRGO: You put people at ease because you know how to communicate your needs. LIBRA: Everyone wants

to be with a person who knows how to have and be fun. That's you. SCORPIO: Relationships will unfold unexpectedly, and you'll roll with the new developments. SAGITTARIUS: Because of your spontaneity, you are an adventure magnet. CAPRICORN: You make an assertive and self-sufficient partner, and that's so attractive. AQUARIUS: As you cultivate your taste by trying new things, your unique energy emerges. PISCES: As much as you'd like to know

exactly where you stand with someone, the fact is that it's not an exact location you can mark with an "X." **COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** The Libra moon loves being in love, and so do Libra and Capricorn these days. As the moon reflects the Capricorn sun, amorous developments happen innocently enough. It's likely that these two work together or must solve some other kind of real-world problem as a team. The mutual respect they share and their

obvious demonstration of it will make the relationship strong. *If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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Annie's Mailbox



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

**Dear Annie:** My sister-in-law, "Nina," is my husband's only sibling. She is divorced with grown children.

Nina appears to be sweet to most people, but she can get pretty ugly, especially when she drinks. She has ruined more than one occasion with her offensive outbursts, often directed at members of my family. She says these horrid things in front of my children, which makes them uncomfortable.

Nina frequently pops in at our home, so I make polite chitchat and then proceed to go about what I was doing and let her visit with my husband.

I don't want to prevent him from having a relationship with his sister. Apparently, this is the wrong approach, because Nina now tells my husband she "has no idea what she ever did to me" and doesn't understand why I "hate" her. He sticks up for me, but it puts him in a tough spot.

I should also mention that in the past three months, my sister died, my children left for college, and I had to move my mother into a senior center and sell her house.

I do not hate my sister-in-law, but clearly, I have other priorities at this time. I realize I cannot control her behavior, only my own. So, any advice for me? — *Trying To Fly Under the Radar*

**Dear Trying:** We don't believe there is a "right" approach to Nina. She is simply looking for reasons to respond negatively to you. Let your husband deal with his sister. Be as polite and pleasant as you can manage, but otherwise, ignore her. You should not have to jump through hoops to please someone who isn't interested. You have enough to deal with.

**Dear Annie:** My husband and I were raised to eat dinner with our families. We ate what Mom prepared, or we went without. We have continued this tradition with our three children.

With the exception of sauerkraut and Brussels sprouts, they will eat any food put in front of them. I believe that few children are picky eaters. Rather, their parents have catered to their preferences because it is easier.

We have many friends and family with children the same as age as ours, and I am appalled by what they eat. And they wonder why their kids are often sick and grumpy.

I don't say a word, but it drives me nuts to see a kid eat nothing for dinner but be the first in line for dessert.

My question is this: When we are entertaining other people's children and one of them says to me, "I don't like that," is it OK for me to say, "The appropriate response is 'No, thank you.'"

And can I say that telling the hostess you don't like her food is considered rude? Am I blowing this out of proportion? — *Midwest Cook*

**Dear Midwest:** These are things the parents should be teaching their children, but obviously, they are sleeping on the job. If the parents are not present, you may educate the children. If the children are your relatives, you may also correct them, provided the parents do not object. However,

if they are other people's children and the parents are present, you may say the first part, but not the rest.

**Dear Annie:** This is in response to "Curled," whose ex-husband barely sees his older kids now that he's remarried and has a baby.

I would highly recommend that the writer and any couples with similar issues look at family mediation programs. Many are low-cost or free. The presence of an unbiased mediator gives parents the chance to explain their perspectives while ensuring that the conversation is productive, centered on the needs of the children, and directed toward visitation and custody solutions. In addition, mediation can also allow parents an opportunity to understand how their behavior may be affecting the children. She can call her local family court to learn more. — *Las Vegas*

*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](mailto: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](http://www.creators.com).*

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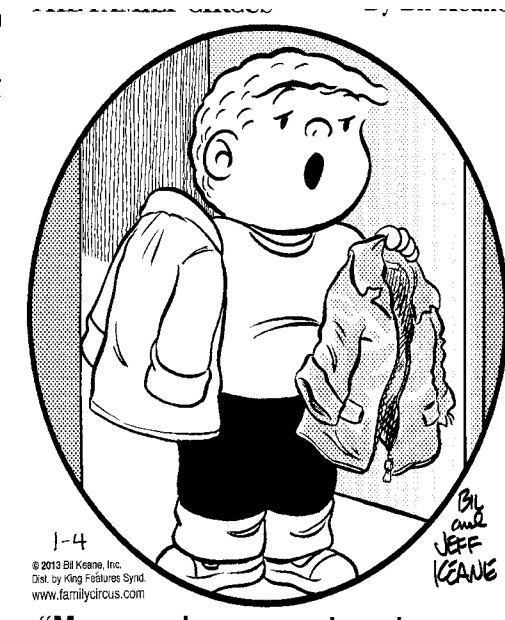
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5:PM	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men CBS	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News CBS	King Seinfeld	The Dr. Denis	Charlie Rose	King Rules	Flying Wild Alaska	Karate Kid Part II, Martin Kove	Gangland	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	SportsCenter	der Armour All-American Game.
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Corona de Lágrimas	Big Bang Pregame	News Ent	Caso Cerrado	News Millionaire	Seinfeld Upd	Israel	PBS News-Hour	Rules	Gold Rush		Movie: Raiders of the Lost Ark, Paul Freeman	The Mentalist		ANT Farm Prank	NFL Kickoff	
7:PM	Last Man Malibu	Por Ella Soy Eva	College Football: AT&T Cotton Bowl -- Oklahoma vs. Texas A&M.	Undercover Boss	Rosa Diamante (SS)	Go On Payne	Door-Wisdom	Wash Need	Wash Need	Nikita	Gold Rush	Movie: Enter the Dragon, Jim Kelly	Movie: Law Abiding Citizen (DVS)	Movie: Law Abiding Citizen (DVS)	One Mic One Mic	Movie: Tangled	College Basketball	NBA Basketball: Chicago Bulls at Miami Heat.
8:PM	Shark Tank	Amores Verdaderos		Blue Bloods	Escobar Rostro de	Go On Payne	Worse	Best of Light of the Southwest	Great Performances	Arrow	Gold Rush		Movie: Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom, Ke Huy Quan	Movie: Law Abiding Citizen (DVS)	One Mic One Mic	Random	Boxing	
9:PM	(:01) 20/20	Amor Bravo (SS)		News	Noticias	News	Upd Alewine	Charlie Rose	Charlie Rose	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Bering Sea Gold	Movie: Shanghai Noon, Lucy Liu	Movie: The Talented Mr. Ripley, Jude Law	Movie: The Talented Mr. Ripley, Jude Law	One Mic One Mic	Wendy Williams	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Clippers
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond Law Order: CI	Letterman	Titulares	Jay Leno	There	Messiah	World	'70s	Bering Sea Gold		Movie: Cinderella Man, Paul Giamatti	Movie: Cinderella Man, Paul Giamatti	One Mic One Mic	Jessie	NBA	SportsCenter
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Al Diablo	Ferguson	Game	There	Mani Justice	Best of Light of the Southwest	Sala	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Browns Browns	Gold Rush	Movie: Pet Sematary, Denise Crosby		Movie: Pet Sematary, Denise Crosby	Barbershop 2: Back in Business	Random	NBA	SportsCenter
12:AM	Extra Paid	Mar de Amor (SS)	Raymond Faith	Insider	Pagado	(:05) Today					Gold Rush				Barbershop 2: Back in Business	Random	NBA	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	La Jaula Par Ases	TMZ	Paid	Pagado						Gold Rush				Barbershop 2: Back in Business	Random	NBA	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



"CAN I HAVE MY ICE CREAM CONE WHILE HE'S MAKIN' UP HIS MIND?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy, do you want me to wear my good coat or my bad coat?"

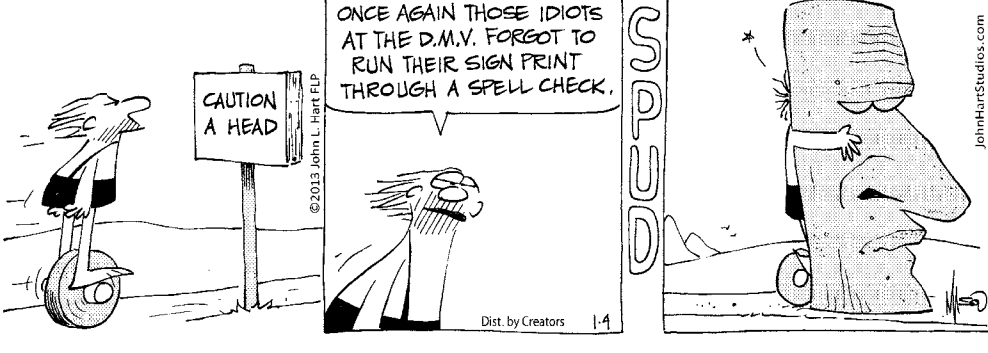
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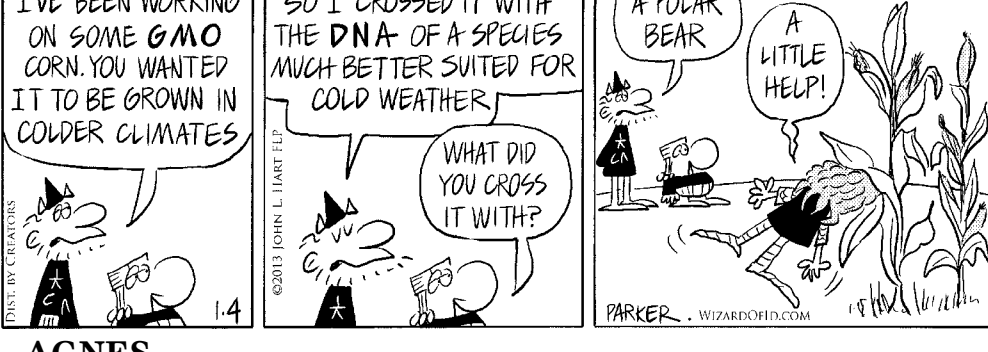
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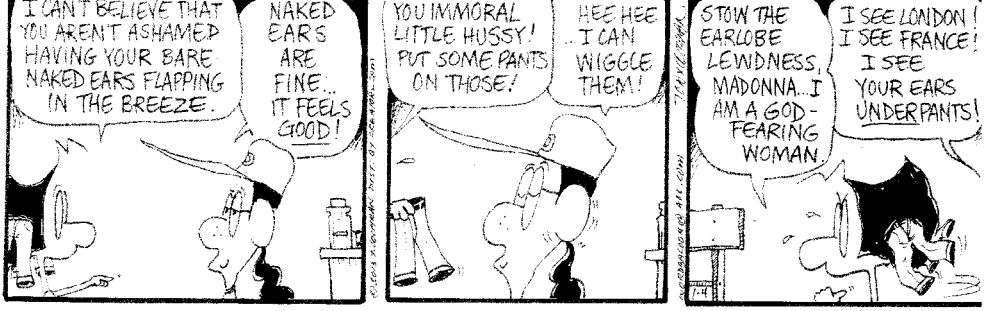
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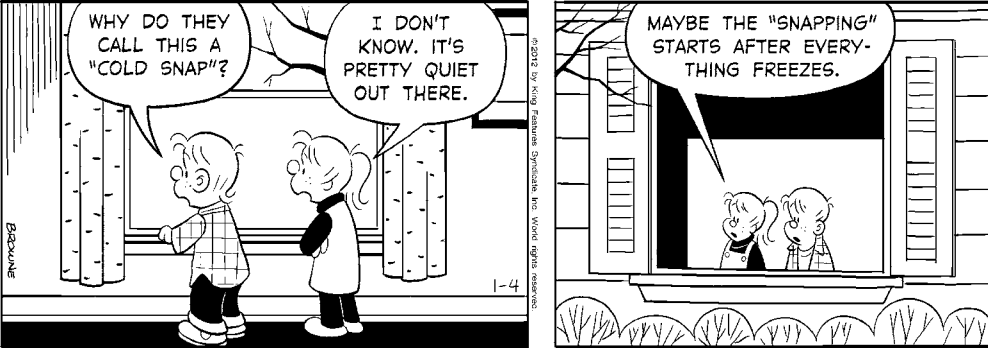
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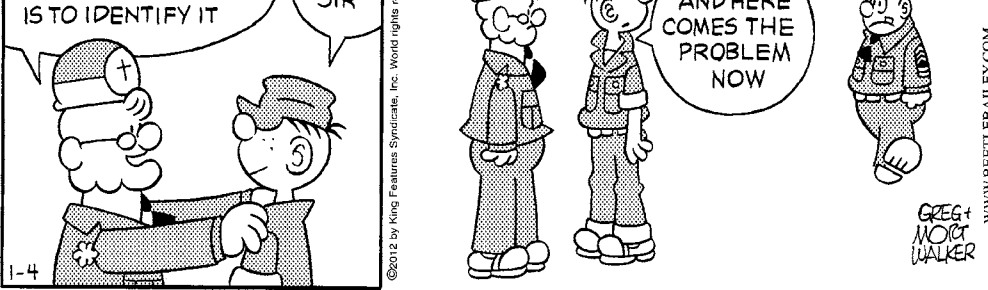
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2013. There are 361 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 4, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson delivered his State of the Union address in which he outlined the goals of his "Great Society," a series of domestic policy initiatives aimed at growing the economy and improving the quality of life for all.

On this date:

In 1821, the first native-born American saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton, died in Emmitsburg, Md.

In 1896, Utah was admitted as the 45th state.

In 1904, the Supreme Court, in Gonzalez v. Williams, ruled that Puerto Ricans were not aliens and could enter the United States freely; however, the court stopped short of declaring them U.S. citizens.

In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, called for legislation to provide assistance for the jobless, elderly, impoverished children and the handicapped.

In 1943, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin appeared on the cover of Time as the magazine's 1942 "Man of the Year."

In 1951, during the Korean War, North Korean and Communist Chinese forces recaptured the city of Seoul (sohl).

In 1960, author and philosopher Albert Camus (al-BEHR' kah-MOO') died in an automobile accident in Villeblevin, France, at age 46.

In 1964, Pope Paul VI began a visit to the Holy Land, the first papal pilgrimage of its kind, as he arrived in Jerusalem.

In 1974, President Richard M. Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

In 1987, 16 people were killed when an Amtrak train bound from Washington, D.C., to Boston collided with Conrail locomotives that had crossed into its path from a side track in Chase, Md.

In 1990, Charles Stuart, who'd claimed he'd been wounded and that his pregnant wife was fatally shot by a robber, leapt to his death off a Boston bridge after he himself became a suspect.

Answer to previous puzzle

GET	ORBS	STEAMS
OLE	VAIN	HEALTH
PEACE	INITIATIVE	
ACCORD	PARSE	
STUNT	REENACT	
TSP	USERS	FOE
	FRITO	MATRIX
	BLIND	AMBITION
	HOARSE	PINTS
	MOM	ASCII
	ONPAPER	TWANG
	MEATS	SUAVER
	MEMBERSHIP	DRIVE
	ARRIVE	ERIE
	TASTED	DENS
		ENS

Newsday Crossword

EXTRAS by Ki Lee  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Rover

6 Devoutly wish

10 Emulated a

19 Across

14 Preside over

15 Time cofounder

16 What a tartan may signify

17 Verse feature

18 Simple

17 Across scheme

19 Choir member

20 "Good looks pay" concept

23 Supplant

25 SEALs org.

26 Homophone for "air"

27 Variant of John

28 Recuperate

30 Travels on

32 Wake up

35 Progeny

37 "Having a baby pays" concept

42 Apply to

43 Others: Lat.

44 Commotion

47 Frequent oater backdrop

49 Chicago superstation

50 Peeve

51 Actress Whitman

53 Commended

56 "Guns-vs.-butler" concept

59 Casual greeting

60 Poetic adverb

61 "So I was wrong!"

64 Had too much

65 It may hold the line

66 Name meaning "bearlike"

67 Halfback's protection

68 Some explosives

69 Earl Grey alternative

DOWN

1 Major ATM maker

2 "Now I get it!"

3 Tentative negative

4 Singer Mann

5 Aspiration

6 Great Plains river

7 July birthstone

8 Mexican Riviera city

9 Pretty long time

10 Fraud

11 In cahoots

12 Inherent character

13 Rowling's garden pests

21 Cry from above

22 Dress like a judge

23 Oscar role for Cotillard

24 Uncommon: Lat.

29 In concert

31 How some NFL games are decided

33 "Don't think so"

34 Seed source

36 Proof of employment

38 Direct attention to

39 Reporter's post

40 Spur

41 Volleyball surface, at times

44 Beats of the streets

45 Heinz subsidiary

46 Green-lighted

48 Porcupine quills

52 Rewrite for Hollywood

54 Ancient storyteller

55 Become accustomed (to)

57 Scoundrels

58 Prius alternative

62 "Old MacDonald" sound

63 GPS reading

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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BYE

Continued from Page 8

Steelers, Colts, Packers and Giants (twice) recently covered the lengthier route to the NFL championship.

"The cool thing about the playoffs is that once you get in anything can happen," defensive end Jared Allen said. "You see it happen all of the time, teams make runs and end up winning the Super Bowl."

Some teams already are on runs. Denver has won 11 straight to grab the top spot in the AFC. Washington takes a seven-game winning into Sunday's home game against Seattle, winner of five in a row.

As for the four teams sitting it out this weekend, there certainly are positives to some down time. Denver and Atlanta were last off on Oct. 21, San Francisco and New England on Nov. 4. That's a long time without a break.

"Of course I appreciate the bye. It's the shortest route to get where we want to go," Denver linebacker Von Miller said. "We definitely want to take advantage of this bye week, we're resting our bodies and going over some stuff that we did well, some stuff that we did bad during the season."

"It's just trying to fine-tune this ship before we get ready to try to make one of the biggest runs of the season."

Yes, the bye affords them a chance to get healthier, particularly the 49ers, who are concerned about star defensive lineman Justin Smith's partially torn left triceps.

But there's also the chance of getting stale, something Green Bay experienced last year, and the Giants took advantage of it. Same thing for the Falcons the previous season, and the Packers pounced.

It's an interesting dynamic. Some coaches and players prefer to simply keep on playing, especially when their seasons have ended the way the Broncos, Redskins, Seahawks and Vikings closed theirs.

Others covet the week off because it means they will be at home for their first postseason game. Not that there's any guarantee there, either: at least one team with a bye has lost its divisional round game in each of the last seven playoffs.

"We always say that it goes up a notch, but at the end of the day, it's still football," Colts safety Antoine Bethea said. "But the thing in the back of your head, you just know if you lose, you go home."

DARKNESS

Continued from Page 8

and spent four years at Alabama before going back to the NFL.

Alabama tried going outside the family and hired Bill Curry. He lasted three years, before leaving for Kentucky.

"You follow somebody like Coach Bryant, it's an extremely difficult situation," Stallings said.

Stallings played for Bryant at Texas A&M, coached under him at Alabama and even sounded a bit like the Bear with his baritone drawl. He found success and relative peace in seven seasons as coach of the Tide.

"I told Coach Bryant stories. I wasn't in competition with Coach Bryant," Stallings said. "I think that's one of the reasons I was, quote, accepted by the Alabama people."

After Stalling left in 1996, things started to get ugly at Alabama. School leaders tried again to keep their most highly prized job in the family, hiring Mike DuBose, a former defensive lineman for Bryant. That didn't work, so Alabama swung the other direction by hiring Dennis Franchione, who skipped town after two seasons for Texas A&M, and Mike Price, who brought a whole new level of embarrassment to Alabama. Not long after he was hired away from Washington State, Price was fired after a night of drunken partying became public.

Alabama reverted back to old form, going with one of its own in former Tide quarterback Mike Shula. Like DuBose, he wasn't up to the task. On top of everything else, the NCAA slammed Alabama, wiping all its victories from the 2005 and '06 seasons off the books.

Meanwhile, over the years, Alabama had fallen behind others in the Southeastern Conference when it came to facilities and support staff. Big-time college football is an arms race of sorts, and the Crimson Tide weren't

investing like the competition — like LSU had while winning a national title under Saban, for example.

"The program lost its compass," Finebaum said.

When it came time to hire another coach in 2006, Alabama courted Saban and Steve Spurrier. Spurrier wasn't interested and Saban had an NFL season to finish. When the Tide was turned down by Rich Rodriguez, who opted instead to stay with West Virginia, it was rock bottom.

"It was the darkest moment I can ever remember in Alabama history," Finebaum said. "Alabama fans gave up that day."

As it turned out, it was one of the best things to ever happen to Alabama.

"You've got to have some luck," Stallings said.

As luck would have it, Saban was ready to get back to college football.

Alabama lured him away from the NFL with a \$4 million a year contract that made him the highest-paid coach in college football — and gave him the power and support to run the program the way he wanted, not the way it had been run before.

"Alabama finally hired someone who has not afraid to tell everybody to get out of the way," Finebaum said.

For Notre Dame, it is a similar tale. Lou Holtz won that championship in 1988 and made the Fighting Irish a regular title contender, but by the end of his tenure, Notre Dame started to slip and the people in charge were resistant to the types of changes needed to keep up with the competition.

The Irish promoted Bob Davie to take over for Holtz. In five seasons he never won more than nine games and went 0-3 in bowls.

Davie, now the coach at New Mexico, doesn't make excuses for his record at Notre Dame, but he does note that the school has been willing to make the type of changes in recent years that he sought back in the late 1990s.

"Their facilities have gone from being poor to cutting edge in col-

lege football," he said. "Their salaries for coaches are competitive with everybody in the country. They are accepting early graduates (from high school).

"I know the dynamics there very well and there's a lot of people who think you don't have to do that at Notre Dame. It's proven now that you do have to do those things."

Former athletic director Kevin White was the catalyst for many of those changes, but he was also the man who hired George O'Leary, who was caught fibbing on his resume and stepped down, Tyrone Willingham and Charlie Weis. The Weis hiring in 2004 was especially telling.

Notre Dame wanted Urban Meyer, who was then at Utah and the hottest commodity on the coaching market. Meyer worked at Notre Dame under Holtz and had called being Fighting Irish coach his dream job.

And he turned it down to coach Florida because he realized it would be easier to win national championship with the Gators than with the Irish. He won two with Florida in six years.

The Irish hired Weis, the New England Patriots' offensive coordinator who had never been a head coach but did graduate from Notre Dame. He was gone in five years.

This time when Notre Dame went looking for a coach, the hottest candidate on the market was Kelly, who climbed the coaching ladder slowly, winning big every step of the way.

The difference was the hottest commodity also wanted Notre Dame, and White's successor, Jack Swarbrick, scooped him up quickly.

Kelly has continued to push Notre Dame into the 21st century, implementing a training table to make it easier for the players to eat healthy.

"It's flashier," Davie said. "They are a lot more like everybody else is but that's what's making them competitive."

Now what separates both Notre Dame and Alabama from the competition is their coaches.

**Contract Bridge**



By Steve Becker

**Test Your Play**

You are declarer with the West hand at Six Hearts, and North leads the jack of clubs. You play the queen from dummy and win South's king with the ace. When you cash the A-K of hearts, North turns up with the Q-10-8, so you must lose a trump trick. How would you proceed from here?

West	East
♠K 6	♠A Q 5
♥A K 6 4 3	♥J 7 5 2
♦A J 6	♦K Q 10 4
♣A 6 3	♣Q 8

\*\*\*

Obviously, you must try to dispose of both of your club losers before North can gain the lead with the trump queen to cash the setting trick in clubs. If all goes well, you can deposit one club on a spade and another on dummy's fourth diamond. The only problem is which of the two suits to play first.

Strangely enough, the proper method of play calls for tackling the diamonds first. There is an excellent reason for this, as can be demonstrated by assuming that the North hand looks something like:

♠8 4
♥Q 10 8
♦9 7 3 2
♣J 10 9 4

If you started by playing the K-Q-A of spades, North would ruff the third one and cash the ten of clubs to put you down one.

But if you started by playing the A-K-Q of diamonds and learned that North originally had four diamonds (after South showed out on the third round), you could safely continue with the fourth round of diamonds and discard one of your clubs. You would then play the K-Q-A of spades and just get under the wire by discarding your remaining club loser on the third round of spades. Your only loser on this line of play would be a trump.

However, if North turned up with precisely three diamonds, you could not afford to continue with a fourth round of diamonds, since North could ruff and cash a club to defeat you. In that case you would play three rounds of spades next, hoping North could not ruff, and then lead dummy's last diamond to get rid of your remaining club.

The underlying principle is simple enough. Since it is impossible to make the contract if North has less than three diamonds, you proceed on the assumption that he has at least three. You therefore lead diamonds first to see exactly how many he started with and adapt your play according to what develops. Leading diamonds first can never be the cause of losing the contract, but leading spades first might be.

Tomorrow: To win or not to win.  
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FIESTA

Continued from Page 8

the Ducks up 15-0.

It's nothing new for Oregon's sophomore sensation: He had 314 total yards and two long touchdown runs in the 2012 Rose Bowl. The Ducks are used to it, too, averaging more than 50 points per game.

And they kept flying.

Oregon followed a missed 40-yard field goal by Kansas State's Anthony Cantele by unleashing one of its blink-and-you'll-miss-it scoring drives late in the second quarter. Moving 77 yards in 46 seconds, the Ducks went up 22-10 at halftime after Mariota hit Barner on 24-yard TD pass.

Alejandro Maldonado hit a 33-yard field goal

on Oregon's opening drive of the third quarter and Mariota capped a long drive with an easy 2-yard TD run to the left. Kansas State's Javonta Boyd blocked the point-after attempt, but even that went wrong for the Wildcats. Chris Harper was tackled in the end zone for a bizarre 1-point safety that put Oregon up 32-10.

It was the first 1-point safety in major college football since 2004 when Texas did it against Texas A&M, STATS said.

"There were so many things that could have changed the outcome of this game," Kansas State linebacker Arthur Brown said.

Kansas State needed a little time to get its wheels spinning on offense, laboring early before Klein scored on a 6-yard run early in the

second quarter.

Klein kept the Wildcats moving in the quarter, though not toward touchdowns: Cantele hit a 25-yard field goal and missed from 40 after a false-start penalty.

Klein hit John Hubert on a 10-yard touchdown pass early in the fourth quarter, but all that did was cut Oregon's lead to 32-17.

He threw for 151 yards on 17 of 32 passing.

"It wasn't really complicated," Kelly said of slowing Klein. "He's a great player, one of the greats of college football. I had my heart in my throat a couple of times watching him around, but our guys just made plays when they had to make plays."

By doing so, they may have put a nice exclamation point on Kelly's college career.

**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.

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


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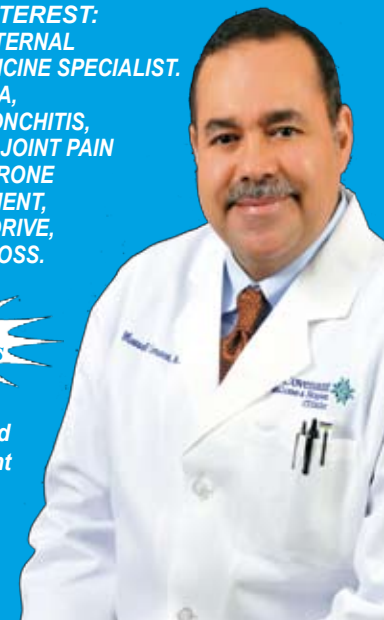
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