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# THE BIG SPRING HERALD

**THURSDAY**  
**JANUARY 10, 2013**  
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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 75      COPYRIGHT 2013      50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Lamb judge Chase McFall, a former Howard College student currently serving as Crockett County extension agent, assesses two entries during the first day of the Howard County Junior Livestock Show on Thursday afternoon.

## Capitol shirts deadline set to button up

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Time is running out for area residents to order their shirts for the biannual Howard County Day at the Capitol, which is slated for early February.  
 Friday is the last day to order one of the black, button-up shirts emblazoned with the Howard County logo, according to Teresa Darden, Big Spring Economic Development Corporation executive assistant.  
 "We're asking everyone who is planning to attend the day-long event at the capitol to dress the same," Darden said. "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. We're also asking everyone to wear khaki pants or a skirt."  
 Every two years, a group of Howard County residents — sponsored by the Big Spring EDC and Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce — makes the trip to Austin in hopes of raising awareness among the state legislature.  
 "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

See **CAPITOL**, Page 3

## Coats, heaters sought by Salvation Army

*As temperatures begin to drop, the need for warmth increases*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Officials with the Big Spring Area Salvation Army say this year's winter coat and heater drives are going well. However, with temperatures expected to drop dramatically in the coming weeks, the demand is

anticipated to exceed supply. According to Patsy Heckler, office manager for the local charity, there are a few space heaters currently in stock.  
 "We have approximately two to three space heaters available right now," Heckler said. "It's always hard to say how long they will last and



ing to Salvation Army Social Worker Bessie Flores, those

with the coming cold snap, I expect they will go pretty quickly." According to

in need of a space heater can drop by the charity's office — located at 811 W. Fifth St. — and speak to the staff.  
 "When the temperature gets below freezing, people will do whatever they have to do to keep warm. It's not a matter of staying comfortable, it's a matter of staying alive," she

said. "Unfortunately, that sometimes leads people to very risky situations, such as using charcoal grills indoors or other heat sources without the proper ventilation.  
 "The carbon monoxide released by those heat sources

See **HEATERS**, Page 3

HERALD photo / Thomas Jenkins  
**Emergency responders braved cold temperatures and rain Wednesday afternoon to free a Big Spring woman from her vehicle after she hit a home in the 100 block of Washington shortly after noon. According to witnesses at the scene, the woman was traveling on Settles when she lost control of the vehicle and hit the garage area of the home. The woman was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center with non life threatening injuries. No other injuries were reported as a result of the accident.**



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**Elizabeth Bardin Reeves**

Elizabeth Bardin Reeves was born Nov. 12, 1915, in Balmorhea, Texas, to Perry and Maggie Wagon. Her father was a teacher, farmer, rancher and buyer of cotton and hay in the area. She had two sisters, Marjorie and Lois (deceased 1910) and two brothers, Perry and Howard.

Elizabeth attended elementary school and high school in Balmorhea, Texas. She later attended Howard Payne University for a year, transferring and then graduating from Hardin Simmons University with a bachelor's degree. Elizabeth next attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, along with her husband Mark, where she obtained a degree in religious education. She completed her education by earning a master's degree in elementary education from Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

She married Mark Reeves Jr. on July 19, 1936, in Balmorhea, Texas, at Balmorhea Baptist Church. They made their first home in Fort Stockton, Texas. The following year they moved to Fort Worth, where they both attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. While at seminary, in February 1938, their son, Mark III, was born.

Upon graduation, the Rev. Mark Reeves pastored several small Baptist churches in Fort Worth, Texas, and Louisiana, later settling in West Texas, where Mark pastored long term in Ysleta and Cohoama. Elizabeth, having received her degree in religious education, served faithfully alongside her husband. Mark considered Elizabeth vital to his pastoral ministry. They were a happy and companionable couple as they served the Lord faithfully together.

Throughout her life, she loved her family and cherished time spent with them.

Elizabeth taught elementary school from time to time during her husband's years of pastoring.

The Rev. Mark Reeves was forced to retire early due to severe health issues. Therefore, in 1960, Elizabeth and her husband, Mark, moved to Waco, Texas, where they bought a new home, which allowed them to be near their son and daughter-in-law and their young family. It was then that Elizabeth began teaching full time. She decided to pursue her master's degree in elementary education from Baylor University, as it would be beneficial for her and Mark. Altogether, Elizabeth taught elementary school for 30 years.

During their years in Waco, Elizabeth and her husband, Mark, were well known and active members of Seventh and James Baptist Church and the community. She taught children's Sunday School classes and vacation Bible School for many years. She sang in the church choir and was a member of the Baylor Singing Seniors. Mark worked in the Baylor Book Store during his retirement, where he enjoyed contact with the students.

After Elizabeth retired from teaching, she became even more active in her church and community service. Through the Waco Meals on Wheels ministry program, Elizabeth enjoyed preparing food and helping deliver meals to people who were shut-in.

She was also an excellent hostess and loved young people. She welcomed Baylor students into her home for dinner and game nights and also taught foreign students English through her church's English as a Second Language program.

In 2000, Elizabeth moved into an assisted living facility in Katy, Texas. The move allowed her to be near her family, who had moved to Katy in 2000. Elizabeth became a member of First Baptist Church in Katy, Texas, and for the past 13 years she has resided in assisted living facilities in Katy. At the age of 97, it was necessary for her to be moved to a nursing home in Katy, where she passed away on Monday, Jan. 7, 2013.

She always made friends easily, encouraged everyone who she met and was a great encourager to her family. She saw the bright side in any situation and was always happy to be alive. She was dearly loved by all of her family and friends. We will miss her very much. One of her favorite quotes was, "This ole world is mighty hard to beat. With every rose there comes a thorn, but aren't the roses sweet?"

She is survived by daughter-in-law, Mittie Reeves of Katy, Texas; granddaughter, Betty June Reeves of Houston, Texas; grandson, Mark Reeves IV, wife Stephanie and their three daughters, Rebecca, Katherine and Margaret (Elizabeth's great granddaughters), all of Katy, Texas; niece, Marsha Ward and husband Jim Ward of Ardmore, Okla.; great niece and nephew, Kamey and Chad Johnson of Hobbs, N.M.; and Nina Wagon, wife of Elizabeth's late nephew, Wayne Wagon, and their three children.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, 2013, at Schmidt Funeral Home Chapel in Katy, Texas, with the Rev. Elbert White and the Rev. Martin Crowell officiating. A committal service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, at the Waco Memorial Park Mausoleum Chapel in Waco, Texas, with the Rev. Erin Conaway officiating.

Those wishing to make memorial gifts may do so to the First Baptist Church of Katy, 600 Pin Oak Rd., Katy, Texas 77494. Flowers may be sent to Schmidt Funeral Home.

Condolences may be expressed at [www.SchmidtFuneralHome.net](http://www.SchmidtFuneralHome.net).

Funeral services held under the direction of Schmidt Funeral Home, 1508 East Ave., Katy, Texas 77493, 281-391-2424.

*Paid obituary*

**Florencio Garza Jr.**

Florencio Garza Jr., 67, of Lenorah died Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, at Martin County Hospital in Stanton. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

**Obituaries****Clifford Hale Jr.**

Clifford Hale Jr., born Nov. 29, 1926, went to be with his Precious Lord on Nov. 24, 2012 — not being able to wait another four days until he turned 86 — to be with his precious wife of nearly 60 years, Wynelle Franklin Hale.

Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, at the First United Methodist Church with Pastor Bill Ivins officiating.

The Hale family invites friends to join them at Kokopelli's on Chaparral Road from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. Saturday to celebrate Cliff's life.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

*Paid obituary*

**Esther Corene Schaffner**

Esther Corene Schaffner, 77, of Big Spring went to her eternal home Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2013. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, at Baptist Temple Church with Pastor Richard Wilson officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, 2013, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Corene was born Sept. 15, 1935, in Cottonwood, Texas, on the family farm to Buddy B. and Mary Ettie Breeding Jones.

She married Billy Sam Schaffner on Aug. 16, 1958, in Abilene, Texas. They lived in Abilene, Midland and Amarillo, finally settling in Big Spring in 1973. Corene worked for the Big Spring Independent School District tax office and then the counselor office as a secretary, retiring after 25 years for health reasons.

She was a member of Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association and a representative of Baptist Temple Church on the executive board of the Crossroads Baptist Association.

She is survived by her husband, Bill Schaffner; three children, son, Shane Schaffner and wife Cynthia of Big Spring, son, Kyle Schaffner and wife Kim of Fort Worth, daughter, Tracey Nichols and husband Brent of Burnet; eight grandchildren; a niece and four nephews; and a sister-in-law, Nancy Jones.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Buddy B. and Mary Ettie Jones; three brothers, Leo, W.H. (Dub) and Elvin Jones; three sisters, Pauline Matthesen, Loree Green and Wilda Jones; and two nephews.

The family suggests memorials to Hospice House, 903 N. Sam Houston, Odessa, TX 79761; Relay for Life, c/o Sandy Griffin, 1217 E. 17th St., Big Spring, TX 79721; or your favorite charity.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

**Viola Johnson**

Viola Johnson, 94, died Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, 2013, at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born July 23, 1918, in Marshall, Texas. She married Odder Johnson in August 1979 in Weatherford, Texas. She lived many years ago in Big Spring, moved to Dallas and returned to Big Spring in 2009. She was a homemaker but also worked as a school crossing guard in Dallas.

She is survived by her husband, Odder Johnson of Big Spring; her children, John Wayne Allen of Marshall, Ruby Darlene Morones of Carrollton and Carrie Allen and Marshall Turner, both of Dallas; stepchildren, Janice Starling of Corpus Christi and Wayne Johnson of Big Spring; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her children, Hobart Allen Jr., Robert Earl Allen, Wilbert Allen and Leonard Allen; and a stepchild, Corliss Brehm.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

**Lillie Kerr**

Lillie Kerr, 85, died Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2013, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Dec. 19, 1927, in Spur, Texas, to Bessie and Ervin Smith. She married Glendon Kerr on June 19, 1955, in Lovington. He preceded her in death Oct. 27, 1987. She was a homemaker and a member of Trinity Baptist.

She is survived by three daughters, Mildred Smith of Hollywood, Fla., Linda McCarty of Big Spring and Anna Ruth Osburn of Vancouver, Wash.; one sister, Flora Mae Smith of Spur; six grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

**Walton Burchell**

Walton Burchell, 78, of Big Spring died Thursday, Jan. 10, 2013, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

**John Rusk**

John Rusk, 44, died Friday, Jan. 4, 2013. Graveside memorial service will be held at a later date in Iowa Park, Texas.

He was born Oct. 30, 1968, in Fort Worth, Texas. He married Francis Berndt on Feb. 17, 1994, in Big Spring. He lived most of his life in Big Spring and was a driller for several oil companies.

He is survived by his wife, Francis of Big Spring; father, Johnny Reid of Iowa Park; two sisters, Cassandra Reger of Jacksboro and Catherine Edwards of Bertram; grandmother, Pauline Mier of Iowa Park; and a niece.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

**Police blotter**

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

- SETH DAVID MITCHELL, 29, of 1705 Hilltop Rd., was arrested Wednesday on charges of evading arrest or detention using a motor vehicle, driving while license suspended/invalid — no insurance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

- ROBERT ADAM MATA, 26, of 1511 S. Johnson, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency.

- DAVID BRIAN LOWNES, 53, of 5700 Cedar Rd. Apt. 47, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

- RAE LYNN JENNINGS, 33, of 1401 N. Highway 87, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1000 block of E. 14th Street.

- THEFT was reported:  
In the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.

- HIT AND RUN was reported in the 800 block of W. Interstate Highway 20.

- ASSAULT was reported:  
In the 1500 block of Scurry.  
In the 1500 block of Johnson.

**Sheriff**

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 75 inmates at the time of this report.

- ROBERT RIVERA, 41, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for burglary of a building.

- SETH DAVID MITCHELL, 29, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention with a motor vehicle, driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and possession of drug paraphernalia.

- ROBERT ADAM MATA, 26, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a municipal capias warrant for no driver's license.

- DAVID BRIAN LOWNES, 53, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

**Fire/EMS**

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of E. 23rd Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 100 block of Washington. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

**Support Groups****THURSDAY**

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

- 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.

- Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. For more information, call 263-2501.

**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.

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

**Today's Weather**

**Local 3-Day Forecast**

Fri 1/11	Sat 1/12	Sun 1/13
<b>59/42</b> A few showers in the morning with bright sunshine in the afternoon. High 59F. Winds WSW at 10 to 20 mph.	<b>70/40</b> Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.	<b>52/27</b> Mostly cloudy. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the upper 20s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:48 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:00 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:48 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:01 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:48 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:02 PM



**Texas At A Glance**



**Area Cities**

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	55	46	rain	Kingsville	73	52	sunny
Amarillo	53	38	rain	Livingston	67	44	pt sunny
Austin	64	43	pt sunny	Longview	64	47	pt sunny
Beaumont	67	50	pt sunny	Lubbock	56	39	rain
Brownsville	73	57	pt sunny	Lufkin	70	47	pt sunny
Brownwood	61	45	pt sunny	Midland	60	44	rain
Corpus Christi	70	53	sunny	Raymondville	73	55	sunny
Corsicana	58	45	pt sunny	Rosenberg	69	47	pt sunny
Dallas	59	46	pt sunny	San Antonio	66	45	sunny
Del Rio	66	44	sunny	San Marcos	65	43	pt sunny
El Paso	58	43	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	60	48	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	61	47	pt sunny	Sweetwater	57	44	rain
Gainesville	57	42	rain	Tyler	62	47	pt sunny
Greenville	57	44	pt sunny	Weatherford	58	42	pt sunny
Houston	68	48	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	55	43	rain

**National Cities**

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	59	54	rain	Minneapolis	38	33	rain
Boston	44	28	sunny	New York	47	35	sunny
Chicago	43	38	rain	Phoenix	64	36	windy
Dallas	59	46	pt sunny	San Francisco	52	39	sunny
Denver	50	29	pt sunny	Seattle	40	29	mst sunny
Houston	68	48	pt sunny	St. Louis	56	49	rain
Los Angeles	56	39	rain	Washington, DC	52	38	mst sunny
Miami	80	69	pt sunny				

**Moon Phases**

<b>Last</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Full</b>
Jan 4	Jan 11	Jan 18	Jan 26

**CAPITOL**

Continued from Page 1

first-hand how the legislature works. They make the laws which impact our lives, day after day."

According to Terry Wegman, Big Spring EDC executive director, 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," Wegman said. "Rhapsody — the Big Spring High School choral group — will be performing in the Ro-

tunda, 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."

Crossroads area residents who plan to take a chartered bus to Austin have until Jan. 28 to pay for the \$40 ticket.

"We'll be leaving from the east parking lot at Howard College's Doro-

thy Garrett Coliseum at 4:30 a.m.," Wegman said. "Food and drinks 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."

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*

**HEATERS**

Continued from Page 1

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

Flores said donations can be made in the form of new or used heaters — although they do

need to be in good working order — or monetary donations so the local charity can purchase the heaters and distribute them.

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

Heckler said the local charity also has a number of winter coats available to those in need.

"We have quite a few coats sized for children," Heckler said. "However, the adult sizes — especially extra large and up — are pretty hard to come by. Anyone who

has a winter coat and would like to donate it to the program, it is greatly appreciated, especially if they have larger-sized coats.

"I don't know if you've seen the prices of winter coats this year, but they are pretty high. A decent coat can cost upwards of \$40 to \$50, and for a family scrambling to put food on the table or keep the electricity on, that can be well out of reach. It means so much to them to be able to come to the Salvation Army and leave here with a warm coat to protect them from the elements."

For more information on the heater and winter coat drive, contact Flores or Heckler at 432-267-8239.

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

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**Texas briefs**

**Beloved cowboy Rex Trailer dies**

BOSTON (AP) — Rex Trailer, the native Texan beloved by a generation of New England children for the cowboy skills he demonstrated on the Boston-based television show "Boomtowntown," has died.

His friend and manager Michael Bavaro says Trailer died Wednesday at his family's home in Florida. He was 84. Trailer had gone to Florida for the holidays when he fell ill with pneumonia, but the exact cause of death was not immediately clear.

"Boomtowntown" ran on Boston television from 1956 until 1974. Trailer hosted the show, singing, playing guitar, and showing off the horse-riding, roping and other cowboy skills he had learned as a boy on his grandfather's ranch in Texas.

Trailer also taught on-camera performance and production at Emerson College in Boston since the mid-1970s, and ran his own production company.

held Thursday on two counts of solicitation of capital murder.

Johnson originally was arrested on charges of violating a protective order and stalking his spouse, who filed for divorce last year. Johnson allegedly asked other inmates about carrying out some killings.

Lt. Tim Jones said Wednesday that Sheriff Bob Alford portrayed a hit man in conversations and relayed instructions from Johnson.

Bond totals \$1.1 million for Johnson. Officials didn't immediately provide details on an attorney for Johnson or more information on his contact with the sheriff.

**Tyler contractor pleads guilty to attempted arson**

TYLER, Texas (AP) — Prosecutors say a building contractor has pleaded guilty to attempted arson in an East Texas dispute over competition for methadone clinic patients.

A federal magistrate in Tyler on Wednesday accepted the plea from 54-year-old Daniel Kubisty. No sentencing date was immediately set for Kubisty, who faces up to 20 years in prison.

The owner of a Tyler methadone clinic last month pleaded guilty to attempted arson and murder-for-hire solicitation. Edwards Jacobs faces up to 20 years in prison on each count.

Investigators say Jacobs in March paid Kubisty \$3,000 to burn a competitor's clinic. Kubisty was arrested and a gasoline can was confiscated. Authorities say Jacobs then tried to hire someone to kill Kubisty to block his testimony.

**Fleeing driver gets 45 years in deadly Texas wreck**

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — The driver of a stolen truck that hit an SUV and killed a passenger in the second vehicle has been sentenced to 45 years in prison for the North Texas wreck.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram 50-year-old James Craig Layland was sentenced Wednesday after pleading guilty to manslaughter. Fort Worth police say Layland on May 25 was attempting to flee after an officer tried to question him about allegedly passing a counterfeit \$100 bill at a store.

The truck was driving through an alley when the vehicle hit the SUV. The accident killed Ming-Yueh Bixler.

**West Texas woman guilty in nearly \$5.9M fraud**

MIDLAND, Texas (AP) — A West Texas woman has pleaded guilty in a nearly \$5.9 million investment scam using fake bank documents to inflate a person's net worth on paper.

Prosecutors in Midland say 41-year-old Darlene Aurelia Bishop of Odessa on Wednesday pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Bishop faces up to 20 years in prison when she's sentenced in March.

Prosecutors say Bishop operated several businesses with schemes meant to enhance credit by allowing people to rent or lease someone else's bank account. Investigators say the goal was to falsely boost a person's apparent net worth.

The scam operated from July 2008 through March 2009.

Bishop used investment money to buy several large vehicles and a \$672,000 house.

**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Viola Johnson, 94, died Thursday, December 20, 2012. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday (1/11/13) at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Corene Schaffner, 77, died Tuesday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Baptist Temple Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Clifford Hale, Jr., 85, died Saturday, November 24, 2012. Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, January 12, 2013, at First United Methodist Church.

John Rusk, 44, died Friday. Graveside memorial service will be held at a later date in Iowa Park, Texas.

Lillie Kerr, 85, died Wednesday. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Florencio Garza, Jr., 67, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Walton Burchell, 78, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers and Smith Funeral Home.

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# EDITORIAL

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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## OTHER VIEWS

# Student letter about lunches gets attention

A view from Kansas:

A Kansas high school student's extra-credit assignment in a government class was meant as an exercise in expressing her views on a hot topic. But it helped sway some opinions in Congress.

U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts said he received a letter from Lindsey Heward criticizing the effects of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's new rules about calorie counts in school lunches. Roberts, the No. 2 Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee, said he shared her concerns with fellow lawmakers and U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack.

"I didn't need the extra credit. I was just expressing my opinion," said Heward, a senior at Osage City High School.

Heward wrote Roberts that students were complaining about not getting enough to eat and not liking the choices of food. She wrote that the USDA could do more to fight obesity by encouraging family meals, helping people plan a food budget or changing lifestyles instead of pinching calories.

Roberts spoke to Heward and her classmates Tuesday at Osage City, and he encouraged them to participate in government in some manner and not be afraid to speak up. He said Heward's letter was among a raft of criticism that forced the USDA to relax the guidelines.

Roberts said school districts should be allowed the flexibility to run the lunch program without burdensome regulations. He added that 719 calories a meal wasn't enough for the average high school student to consume.

"It's ridiculous. You don't do that at the USDA cafeteria, I can assure you," Roberts told students.

The guidelines dictate that 30 percent of students' calories for the week can be consumed from fat, and that daily consumption is not to exceed 650 calories for students in kindergarten through eighth grade and 850 calories for students in grades ninth through 12th. The rules also phase in more whole grains — and regulate how much of certain food groups could be served.

But the rules were recently tweaked to allow schools to use as many grains and as much meat as they want, though the broader calorie limits are still in place. Many critics had told the USDA that grains shouldn't be limited because they were part of so many meals, and it would be difficult to always find the right size of meat.

Some people have praised the new standards, but others — including many conservative lawmakers — viewed them as government overreach.

After two town hall meetings Wednesday in Emporia and Cottonwood Falls, 1st District Rep. Tim Huelskamp said he wants the USDA to abandon the standards and leave the matter to school districts.

"It's not just me speaking as a cattle farmer in Kansas, there are other real implications. Let 100,000 school districts decide," he said. "It would just be easier if they didn't do regulations that didn't go beyond the authority of the act."

—THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Lord, let us show kindness to others, though we might disagree with what they say.  
Amen

# Obama loses moral high ground

Article 1 Sect 7 of the U.S. Constitution begins, "All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives." The framers put the House in charge of taxes because House members — elected every two years from small districts — would be the first to know if a tax were unfair or burdensome. House Republicans who voted for the fiscal cliff bill, despite its being stuffed with tax favors for Hollywood, alternative energy companies and the president's other favorite constituents, disgraced this mandate. Whatever Americans think about raising taxes, they agree that paying higher taxes to fund costly giveaways for political insiders is morally repugnant.

President Obama poses as the morally superior politician, compelling millionaires to pay their fair share. On Jan. 1, when the fiscal cliff bill reached the House, Speaker John Boehner should have held up all 48 pages of favors requested by the president on live television and called on the president to strip them from the bill. It would have shaken Obama from atop his moral pedestal. Whether the demand was met or not, it should have been made.

Democrats and Republicans will have three more fiscal fights in the coming days, over the debt ceiling, the automatic spending cuts known as sequestration scheduled for March 1 and a federal budget bill due on March 27. A Pew poll released Jan. 7 suggests that only 19 percent of

Americans approve of the way GOP leaders handled the crisis. Obama painted them as obstructionists. Reviewing the battle provides lessons for the coming fights.

As White House and GOP leaders met behind closed doors, outlines of a deal included raising income and capital gains taxes on high earners, allowing payroll taxes to rise on all workers, postponing previously agreed to automatic spending cuts and extending unemployment benefits. But only 30 of the bill's 157 pages dealt with these issues. Dealmakers packed them into a typical omnibus bill crammed full of unrelated items as well as the favors the president demanded.

Republican Senator Tom Coburn of Oklahoma wrote to the president, urging him to drop the demand "before any American is asked to pay a penny more in taxes." But Vice President Joe Biden and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, the two who hammered out an agreement as the ball was dropping on 2012, were tone deaf to the outrage of larding up emergency fiscal legislation with special gifts to corporate interests and campaign contributors.

The favors, estimated to cost \$40 billion in revenue, will consume two-thirds of the additional tax revenue produced by the deal in the first year.

Boehner failed to attack this outrage and seize the moral high ground from Obama on Jan. 1. Had Boehner publicly assailed the president's demands, it would not have changed the terms of the deal, but Obama would have gained far less political capital from the outcome.

Ironically, later the same day, the Speaker took a principled stand against the Superstorm

Sandy relief bill because it was crammed with spending unrelated to helping East Coast storm victims. Not surprising. Boehner made his congressional career opposing earmarks to benefit one congressional district. For decades, layering a bill with earmarks was the way to get it passed, whether it was good for the country or not. The House agreed to end earmarks in 2010 when Boehner became Speaker. But omnibus bills are still routinely voted on without being read.

Instead of bringing the \$60.4 billion Sandy Relief bill to a vote, Boehner offered a \$9.7 billion flood insurance bill, a first installment for storm victims. Republican bigs such as Governor Chris Christie of New Jersey lashed out at Boehner, accusing him of anti-Northeast bias. Wrong. A politician who stands up against wasteful government spending should be hailed as a hero.

It's not too late for House Republicans to seize the mantle of moral leadership. When the president demands more revenue by closing loopholes and capping deductions, Republicans should demand repeal of favors just pocketed by the president. When Obama and Senate Democrats bring another larded-up omnibus bill to the House, Boehner should rip it up and say the public wants a short bill in plain English that members of Congress will read before voting.

*Betsy McCaughey is a former Lt. Governor of New York State and author of "Beating Obamacare: Your Survival Guide to the New Health Care Law," available Jan. 14. Email her with questions at [betsy@betsymccaughey.com](mailto:betsy@betsymccaughey.com).*

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# Happy Birthday, Tricky Dick

Wednesday marks Richard Nixon's 100th birthday, and there will be a "gala" in commemoration at the Mayflower Renaissance Hotel in Washington, D.C. It will be chaired by Henry Kissinger, and Pat Buchanan is scheduled to speak.

All of which proves our long national nightmare is not over.

How should we look upon Nixon a century after his birth and nearly 39 years after his resignation as president? I vote for "down."

The year-long Richard Nixon Centennial, being run by the Nixon Foundation at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library, has chosen three words on its banner to sum up Nixon: "Patriot. President. Peacemaker."

I guess "Paranoid" wouldn't fit. Nixon was not a fool. He possessed a high-level of political cunning marred only by his corruption, racism, anti-Semitism and attempts to subvert our democratic institutions.

To some, such as those who have contributed big bucks to finance a year's worth of celebratory events, including a May trip to China to "retrace Richard Nixon's steps" that "changed the world," that may seem a little harsh.

But no events are planned to examine Watergate. Why not? Are those who gather to praise Nixon so secretly ashamed that they dare not speak its name?

The Nixon Foundation and the National Archives plan a year of what are being called "Legacy Forums" across the country at which former Nixon officials will discuss Nixon's "statesmanship, his quest for a just society, the foundation of the modern presidency and his goal for a better America."

There is no mention of discussing any of the Articles of Impeachment adopted by the House

Judiciary Committee on July 27, 1974, that state Nixon "prevented, obstructed and impeded the administration of justice" in America.

There is no mention of his making "false or misleading statements" to law enforcement officers, or withholding evidence, or counseling witnesses to make false statements, or misusing and interfering with the FBI, CIA and Secret Service.

Surely there is time for just one "Legacy Forum" devoted to the committee's conclusion that "Richard M. Nixon has acted in a manner contrary to his trust as president and subversive of constitutional government, to the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice, and to the manifest injury of the people of the United States."

And why not feature some of the tapes that Nixon secretly recorded? They show a fuller picture of the man.

One set of tapes, released in 2010, record Nixon saying to Charles Colson, his special counsel, on Feb. 13, 1973, "I've just recognized that, you know, all people have certain traits."

"For example, the Irish can't drink. What you always have to remember with the Irish is they get mean. Virtually every Irish I've known gets mean when he drinks. It's sort of a natural trait. "The Italians, of course, just don't have their heads screwed on tight. They are wonderful people, but ..." and here his voice trails off for a moment, and then he continues, "The Jews are just a very aggressive and abrasive and obnoxious personality."

In a separate conversation with his personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods, Nixon disagrees with views expressed by his secretary of state, William Rogers, about black people.

"Bill Rogers has got somewhat — and to his credit it's a decent feeling — but somewhat, sort of, a sort of blind spot on the black thing because he's been in New York," Nixon said.

"He says, well, 'They are coming along, and that after all, they are going to strengthen our country in the end because they

are strong physically and some of them are smart.' So forth and so on."

"My own view is I think he's right if you're talking in terms of 500 years," Nixon continues. "I think it's wrong if you're talking in terms of 50 years. What has to happen is they have to be, frankly, inbred. And, you just, that's the only thing that's going to do it."

So here we have the 37th president of the United States saying black people have to be "inbred" if we want to make them smarter.

So spare me talk about China and all the wonderful environmental legislation he passed. The guy was a loon and a danger to our country. And it was only when Republican leaders went to him and told him the House would impeach him and the Senate might remove him from office, opening up the possibility he could be criminally charged and go to prison, that Nixon decided to resign and later was granted a pardon from Gerald Ford, also born 100 years ago this year.

In fact, a lot of famous people were born a century ago, including Rosa Parks, Vince Lombardi, Menachem Begin, Burt Lancaster, Albert Camus, Willy Brandt and Lloyd Bridges.

I'd rather eat a piece of birthday cake in honor of any of them than to Nixon.

Baudelaire once said, "The greatest trick the devil ever played was convincing the world that he did not exist."

Nixon's merry band wants to sanitize the past and convince us that only a "good" Richard Nixon existed.

But there are many of us who will never forget the real Tricky Dick. And history shouldn't, either.

*To find out more about Roger Simon, 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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# 'Lincoln' nabs 12 Oscar nominations

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — The Civil War saga “Lincoln” leads the Academy Awards with 12 nominations, including best picture, director for Steven Spielberg and acting honors for Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field and Tommy Lee Jones.

Also among the nine nominees for best picture Thursday: the old-age love story “Amour”; the Iran hostage thriller “Argo”; the independent hit “Beasts of the Southern Wild”; the slave-revenge narrative “Django Unchained”; the musical “Les Miserables”; the shipwreck story “Life of Pi”; the lost-souls romance “Silver Linings Playbook”; and the Osama bin Laden manhunt chronicle “Zero Dark Thirty.”

“Life of Pi” surprisingly ran second with 11 nominations, ahead of “Zero Dark Thirty” and “Les Miserables,” which had been considered potential front-runners.

More surprising were snubs in the directing category, where three favorites missed out: Ben Affleck for “Argo” and past Oscar winners Kathryn Bigelow for “Zero Dark Thirty” and Tom Hooper for “Les Miserables.”

Bigelow was the first woman ever to win the directing Oscar for 2009’s “The Hurt Locker,” while Hooper won a year later for “The King’s Speech.”

The best-picture category also had surprising omissions. The acclaimed first-love tale “Moonrise Kingdom” was left out and only got one nomination, for original screenplay. Also snubbed for best-picture was “The Master,” a critical favorite that did manage three acting nominations for Joaquin Phoenix, Amy Adams and Philip Seymour Hoffman.

Two-time winner Spielberg earned his seventh directing nomination, and also in the mix are past winner Ang Lee for “Life of Pi” and past nominee David O. Russell for “Silver

Linings Playbook.” The other slots went to surprise picks who are first-time nominees: Michael Haneke for his French-language “Amour” and Benh Zeitlin for “Beasts of the Southern Wild.”

“Amour” also was a best-picture surprise. The film, which won the top prize at last May’s Cannes Film Festival, mainly had been considered a favorite in the foreign-language category, where it also was nominated. “Amour” had five nominations, including original screenplay and best-actress for Emmanuelle Béchard.

The year’s second-biggest box-office hit, “The Dark Knight Rises,” was shut out entirely, even for visual effects. The omission of its predecessor, “The Dark Knight,” from best-picture consideration for 2008, was largely responsible for the expansion of the Oscar category from five nominees to 10 the following year. “The Dark Knight” had earned eight nominations and won two Oscars.

Chronicling Abraham Lincoln’s final months as he engineers passage of the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery, “Lincoln” stars best-actor contender Day-Lewis in a monumental performance as the 16th president, supporting-actress nominee Field as the notoriously headstrong Mary Todd Lincoln and supporting-actor prospect Jones as abolitionist firebrand Thaddeus Stevens.

Joining Day-Lewis in the best-actor field are Bradley Cooper as a psychiatric patient trying to get his life back together in “Silver Linings Playbook”; Hugh Jackman as Victor Hugo’s tragic hero Jean Valjean in “Les Miserables”; Phoenix as a Navy vet who falls in with a cult in “The Master”; and Denzel Washington as a boozy airline pilot in “Flight.”

Cooper had been a bit of a longshot. John Hawkes, a potential best-actor favorite, missed

out for his role as a man in an iron lung aiming to lose his virginity in “The Sessions.”

Nominated for best actress are Jessica Chastain as a CIA operative hunting bin Laden in “Zero Dark Thirty”; Jennifer Lawrence as a troubled young widow struggling to heal in “Silver Linings Playbook”; Riva as an ailing woman tended by her husband in “Amour”; Quvenzhané Wallis as a spirited girl on the Louisiana delta in “Beasts of the Southern Wild”; and Naomi Watts as a mother caught up in a devastating tsunami in “The Impossible.”

Best actress had a wild age range: Riva is the oldest nominee ever in the category at 85, while Wallis is the youngest ever at 9.

Along with Field, supporting-actress nominees are Adams as a cult leader’s devoted wife in “The Master”; Anne Hathaway as an outcast mother reduced to prostitution in “Les Miserables”; Helen Hunt as a sex surrogate in “The Sessions”; and Jacki Weaver as an unstable man’s doting mom in “Silver Linings Playbook.”

Besides Jones, the supporting-actor contenders are Alan Arkin as a wily Hollywood producer in “Argo”; Robert De Niro as a football-obsessed patriarch in “Silver Linings Playbook”; Hoffman as a dynamic cult leader in “The Master”; and Christoph Waltz as a genteel bounty hunter in “Django Unchained.”

“Family Guy” creator Seth MacFarlane, who will host the Feb. 24 Oscars, joined Emma Stone to announce the Oscar lineup, and he scored a nomination himself, original song for “Everybody Needs a Best Friend,” the tune he co-wrote for his big-screen directing debut “Ted.”

“That’s kind of cool I got nominated,” MacFarlane deadpanned at the announcement. “I

get to go to the Oscars.” “Lincoln” is Spielberg’s best awards prospect since his critical peak in the 1990s, when he won best-picture and directing Oscars for “Schindler’s List” and a second directing Oscar for “Saving Private Ryan.” The 12 nominations for “Lincoln” matched Spielberg’s personal best on “Schindler’s List,” which won seven Oscars.

Spielberg’s latest film could vault him, Day-Lewis and Field to new heights among Hollywood’s super-elite of multiple Oscar winners.

A best-picture win for “Lincoln” would be Spielberg’s second, while another directing win would be his third, a feat achieved only by Frank Capra and William Wyler, who each earned three directing Oscars, and John Ford, who received four.

“Lincoln” also was the ninth best-picture nominee Spielberg has directed, moving him into a tie for second-place with Ford. Only Wyler directed more best-picture nominees, with 13.

Day-Lewis and Field both have two lead-acting Oscars already, he for “My Left Foot” and “There Will Be Blood” and she for “Norma Rae” and “Places in the Heart.” A third Oscar for either would put them in rare company with previous triple winners Ingrid Bergman, Walter Brennan, Jack Nicholson and Meryl Streep. Katharine Hepburn is the record-holder with four acting Oscars.

An Oscar for Jones would be his second supporting-actor prize; he previously won for “The Fugitive.”

“Lincoln” composer John Williams — whose five Oscars include three for the music of three earlier Spielberg films, “Jaws,” “E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial” and “Schindler’s List” — earned his 43rd nomination for best score, extending his all-time record in the category.

## Program assists soldier's family

Special to the Herald

The Chris Beserra family recently received \$500 from the Veterans Families Fund — monies donated by the people in the Big Spring area.

“Thank you, Big Spring area folks, for donating these funds. You know the veterans’ families appreciate the check. Sometimes Uncle Sam doesn’t give enough money, and so your help is greatly appreciated,” said J. Gale Kilgore, fund administrator.

Recently, Beserra’s wife, Carissa, wrote:

“Hello, my name is Carissa Beserra. I am the wife of Sgt. Christopher Beserra and mother of three beautiful girls, ages 18 months, 12 years and 18 years old.

“My husband has been deployed to Afghanistan since March 2012 and will not return until spring of 2013.

“Although we all miss having him around, I work my hardest to keep our children from missing him and becoming sad. I make sure they remember that he will be back soon after serving our country in the U.S. Army.

“Our youngest daughter, Alyssa, celebrated her first birthday right before Chris deployed, giving him the opportunity to see his baby’s first birthday. My in-laws and I show her pictures everyday of her daddy, so that way she never forgets what he looks like.

“Chris has sent her a Daddy Doll which has a picture of him on the front and she totes it everywhere and says ‘Dadda’ and smiles every time she sees it. Alyssa loves to listen to an Elmo book her dad recorded his own voice, reading the story for her.

“Aliana, 12, is our middle child and is becoming a very active young lady.

“She currently goes to Big Spring Junior High and participates in the local dance school, played volleyball for the YMCA and will soon be taking the challenge of learning how to tumble. Aliana has experienced a deployment when her father was deployed a couple of years ago. She talks to her father on a weekly basis and continues to be strong, waiting for the day to see him again.

“Our oldest daughter, Ashlii, 18, is a senior at Coahoma High School.

Ashlii currently works at Chicken Express, is a team member of the Coahoma varsity softball team and likes to hang out with her friends every chance she gets. She is currently learning how to drive and is probably giving her dad a heart attack every time she tells him about her training.

“I had stopped working when Chris deployed so I could be there for our daughters more during this time. I recently began substituting at my prior job when needed. Chris and I try very often to see each other by Skype or Yahoo Messenger.

“Even though it has been tough through these past few months and holidays, I miss him dearly. I know in my heart that he wishes he was with us as well to spend birthdays, events, Thanksgiving and Christmas with his family.

“I remind our daughters every day that their dad will be home in just a few more months and cannot wait for him to see how much they have grown and matured. He will be so proud of their accomplishments and experience.

“With God willing and patience, Chris will be returning home in time to see our baby girl’s turn 2, Aliana try out for cheerleading and last but definitely not least, our oldest crossing that stage to receive her high school diploma that she has worked so hard for and deserves.

“Chris has been enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves since 2001 and is currently employed with the city of Big Spring.

“We have been together since he has returned from his prior deployment and being an Army wife has been very challenging and a very emotional, twisting experience.

“Hearing his voice and seeing him online has given us the strength and fills our heart with the strength to keep going strong until he returns.

“Thank you and keep our brave soldiers in your prayers.”

—Carissa Beserra

Those who would like to donate to the fund can make donations to Wood Forest National Bank, Veterans Families Account 5901848, 201 W. Marcy Drive, Big Spring, TX, 79721.



Sgt. Chris Berrera and family

## Cake-cutting, new exhibit mark Elvis' birthday

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP) — Elvis Presley fans from as far as Japan and Brazil gathered Tuesday in Memphis to sing “Happy Birthday” to the late rock ‘n’ roll icon on the day he would have turned 78.

Hundreds of Elvis devotees watched as 13-year-old Isabella Scott cut a birthday cake on the lawn at Graceland, the singer’s longtime Memphis home. Scott heads an Internet-based Elvis fan club with more than 2,000 members.

The mayors of Memphis and Shelby County also read a proclamation of Elvis Presley Day during the ceremony, which was attended by fans from Brazil, England, France, Japan, Spain and the U.S.

Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi, on Jan. 8, 1935, and moved to Memphis with his par-

ents at age 13. He was 42 when he died Aug. 16, 1977.

Presley recorded his first song “That’s All Right” at Sun Studio in Memphis in 1954 and made the West Tennessee city his primary home until his death.

“Like coffee and cream, grits and gravy, peanut butter and bananas ... Memphis is a combination that was just meant to be,” Memphis Mayor A C Wharton Jr. whartoned.

Fans have been celebrating since Saturday, when the Memphis

Symphony Orchestra presented a concert commemorating the 40th anniversary of Elvis’ landmark “Aloha from Hawaii” show.

A new exhibit about Presley’s movies and concerts in Hawaii opened Tuesday at the Graceland tourist attraction, which is across the street from the mansion.

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7	5	9	8	3	6	1	4	2
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4	3	8	9	6	1	7	2	5
2	6	7	5	8	4	9	3	1
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# Gov. Perry's call for tax relief short on details

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry says the time has come for Texas to look at tax relief again. But he's not yet saying for whom or how.

Emboldened by a resurgent Texas economy, Perry on Wednesday repeated his call for the Republican-controlled Legislature to tackle tax relief this session but didn't offer any further details than when he rolled out the goal a day earlier while ringing in a new session.

The last one in 2011 began with a \$27 billion budget shortfall, which left lawmakers scrambling to plug budget holes and makes talk of easing taxes now a total turnaround.

Any framework for tax relief likely won't emerge for several weeks while the most inexperienced Texas Legislature in more than four decades — more than a quarter of the 150-member House are freshmen — settles into the Capitol. Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said homestead exemptions may get a second look, while other targets could include extending sales tax holidays and changes to the state's franchise tax on businesses.

Perry, who remains mum on his future following this session after a failed run for president, seized on tax relief to again ham-

mer at Washington following the fiscal cliff deal in Congress that raised taxes on the wealthiest Americans.

"What a stark contrast it can be over the next 130-plus days that Texas is sending the absolutely opposite message," Perry said. "That we're going to lower the cost, lower the burden of doing business in the state of Texas, or living in the state of Texas. That's part of the conversation that we want to have."

Welcoming that conversation are Dewhurst, who opposed tax-relief proposals in 2007 but says a rosier economic forecast now makes the timing better, and House Speaker Joe Straus.

After being re-elected Tuesday for a third term as speaker, however, Straus made clear to reporters that his top priorities are not taxes but education, infrastructure and water.

"There's going to be a call for some tax reform, maybe some tax relief somewhere. There always is," Straus said. "But there's more of a call this time, and more of an agenda that I've been trying to push, to make sure Texas can accommodate the enormous and profound growth that we've seen in recent years that will go on unabated."

Even without a concrete plan

on the table, Democrats are already blistering at calls to prioritize taxes.

They had greeted this week's strong state revenue forecast for 2014-15 with hopes of reversing deep across-the-board cuts to the current budget. That includes \$5.4 billion slashed from public schools, yet Perry made no promises Wednesday that any of that funding would be restored.

Lawmakers potentially have more than \$101 billion in available spending this time, though the GOP-controlled Legislature is unlikely to spend all of it. Nearly \$9 billion of that is a so-called surplus from the current budget cycle, and more than half of that is expected to settle a hefty Medicaid tab carried over from two years ago. The balance in the state Rainy Day Fund is also expected to balloon to nearly \$12 billion.

The healthy projections have amplified calls to return the money to schools, infrastructure and confront a growing water crisis.

"I don't know how you add a tax cut," said Democrat Rep. Raphael Anchia of Dallas. "That kind of activity seems to be counter to investing in the future of the state, which is desperately needed."

## Capitol almanac

Gov. Rick Perry made no promises Wednesday that Texas would roll back any of the deep state spending cuts imposed during past economic doldrums, even to soften the blow of \$5.4 billion in funding sliced from public schools two years ago.

The governor said there's no obligation to restore funding levels reduced the last time the Legislature convened in 2011 or those imposed amid the depths of the national recession before that, even as a stronger economy has given lawmakers billions of dollars more to work with as they now head back to work.

Last session, the still-sluggish economy left lawmakers facing a \$27 billion budget shortfall that led to across-the-

board cuts, causing layoffs of state employees and reductions in services.

And this time, "my bet, not everybody's going to be happy about where we spend our money," Perry said. But he added: "If we were failing in the budgeting of our taxpayer dollars people would not be moving here in record numbers."

Lawmakers in 2011 voted to cut \$5.4 billion in state funding to public schools and educational grants for pre-kindergarten and other programs, triggering a sharp drop in the amount Texas spends per-pupil and marking the first time since World War II that funding did not keep up with increasing student enrollment growth state-

wide. A booming population means schools across Texas add an average of 80,000 students per year.

### HOUSE TAKING A WEEK OFF

The Texas House will adjourn next week and remain out of session for six days in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the U.S. presidential inauguration.

The Legislature reconvened for its 140-day session beginning Tuesday. But House Speaker Joe Straus announced during just the second day back that an upcoming break would occur between Thursday, Jan. 17, and Wednesday, Jan. 23.

Straus said the time off encompassed the weekend and the Jan. 21 holiday honoring King.

### SENATE KEEPS TWO-THIRDS RULE

The Senate unanimously approved their rules for the session on Thursday, and did not change the two-thirds

rule for bringing bills for debate.

Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, said he would continue to fight to change the rule, but for now would join his colleagues in approving the senate resolution that dictates how the Senate will operate.

The two-thirds rule requires 21 senators to approve a motion to bring up a proposed law for debate out of numeric order. Since there are only 19 Republicans in the Senate that means at least two Democrats must agree to bring up the bill for there to be a vote on it. Democrats, therefore, can block controversial bills until late in the session.

Patrick wants to change the rule so that only 19 votes are needed to debate a bill, which would allow Republicans to bring up and pass any bill they want without Democratic support.

Sen. Royce West, D-Houston, said the two-thirds rule promotes cooperation in the Senate.

## Nation/world news in brief

### Lew's selection as treasury chief puts emphasis on fiscal challenges, opens a new chapter

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jack Lew, President Barack Obama's likely nominee for treasury secretary, is a premier federal budget expert who would take the helm of the government's main agency for economic and fiscal policy just as the administration girds itself for a new confrontation with congressional Republicans over the nation's debt and deficits.

Obama is expected to nominate Lew as early as Thursday, continuing to put a second-term imprint on his Cabinet by choosing yet another close ally for a key government post.

A year ago, almost to the day, Obama appointed Lew as his chief of staff, taking him from his perch as director of the Office of Management and Budget into the White House's tight inner circle.

In selecting Lew to replace Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, Obama not only would be picking an insider steeped in budget matters but also a tough bargainer. Some Republicans complain that Lew has been unyielding in past fiscal negotiations.

If confirmed, Lew would assume the post in time for the administration to tangle anew with Republicans over a confluence of three looming fiscal deadlines — raising the \$16.4 trillion federal borrowing limit, averting automatic spending cuts to defense and domestic programs, and renewing a congressional resolution that has been keeping the government operating. Those three events, if unresolved, would have a far greater negative effect on the economy than the "fiscal cliff" Obama and Congress avoided a week ago.

### Biden to meet with NRA as gun violence taskforce nears deadline

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is sitting down with gun owners groups — including the National Rifle Association — as officials look at ways to curb gun violence.

Vice President Joe Biden, who is leading an administration-wide review of gun safety laws, has vowed urgent action in the wake of last month's massacre at a Connecticut elementary school.

The meeting with the NRA is one of three Biden has scheduled for Thursday, as he prepares to make recommendations on gun policy by the end of the month. Besides the NRA, Biden and other officials are meeting with sportsmen and wildlife interest groups, as well as people from the entertainment industry.

The NRA, the nation's largest gun-rights group, has blocked gun-control efforts in the past and is opposing any new ones.

### Attack on Benghazi drives U.S. demand for enough troops to guard diplomats in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — The attack on a U.S. diplomatic outpost in Libya last year has become a factor driving the White House decision on how large a force to leave in Afghanistan after 2014 — and a specter hanging over talks between the Afghan president and the U.S.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has publicly called for a near-total drawdown of U.S. forces, with a surge of U.S. and international aid to make up for their exit.

But after losing a U.S. ambassador and three other Americans in Benghazi, Libya, U.S. officials insist they need enough troops to protect their diplomats, and the legal authority to target those who might come after them, a senior U.S. official said.

The State Department wants five diplomatic posts in Afghanistan, but U.S. planners are weighing every potential post against how many troops would be needed to guard it and, if need be, get personnel out, said one current and one former U.S. official. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the White House deliberations publicly.

### Google's Schmidt urges N. Korea to shed isolation, allow Internet access or risk falling behind


BEIJING (AP) — Google Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt said Thursday it's up to North Korea to shed its self-imposed isolation and allow its citizens to use the Internet and connect with the outside world, or risk remaining way behind other countries.

Schmidt was returning from a private trip to North Korea with former New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson that was not sanctioned by the U.S. government and has been criticized for appearing to boost Pyongyang's profile after its widely condemned rocket launch put a satellite into space last month.

"As the world is becoming increasingly connected," Schmidt said, "their decision to be virtually isolated is very much going to affect their physical world, their economic growth and so forth. It will make it harder for them to catch up economically. We made that alternative very, very clear."

The nine-member delegation, which also included Jared Cohen, director of the company's Google Ideas think tank, was greeted at the Beijing airport by a throng of reporters at the end of their four-day trip.

"The government has to do something," Schmidt said.



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker  
**Good Reasoning Helps a Lot**

West dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ K J  
♥ A 10 8 3  
♦ 9 5 4  
♣ A Q 10 9

**WEST**  
♠ Q 10 7 2  
♥ K 5  
♦ K Q J  
♣ 8 7 6 4

**EAST**  
♠ A 9 6 5  
♥ 7 4  
♦ A 8 7 2  
♣ J 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ 8 4 3  
♥ Q J 9 6 2  
♦ 10 6 3  
♣ K 5

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	Pass
Dble Pass	3 ♥	2 ♠	Pass

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

**It is said** that a fine declarer plays as though he can see through the backs of the cards. This is, of course, not so. The truth is that a fine declarer does well over the long haul because he reasons well, and not because he has magical powers beyond the reach of plain, ordinary folks.

**Consider this deal** where South winds up in three hearts on the bid-

dling shown. West leads the K-Q-J of diamonds, East playing the 8-2-7 in that order, and shifts to the deuce of spades.

**It is clear** that if East has the A-Q of spades, it makes no difference whether declarer plays the jack or king from dummy — the contract goes down in either case. It is also clear that if West has the ace, the king is the winning play, while if West has the queen, the jack is the winning play.

**How does South** resolve such a problem? Superficially, which card to play seems to be a tossup, but it is at this point that declarer calls upon his analytical ability.

**He sees** that he cannot make the contract, whatever he does, if the trump finesse he plans to take fails. South therefore assigns the king of hearts to West. To assume otherwise would be conceding defeat.

**Declarer then says** to himself that if West had started with the K-Q-J of diamonds, the king of hearts and the ace of spades, he would surely have opened the bidding as dealer.

**"Therefore," reasons South**, "I am forced to assume that West does not have the ace of spades." Accordingly, he plays the jack from dummy at trick four and eventually makes the contract.

**Tomorrow:** Bidding quiz.  
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# 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.

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

[www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)

### Sports Calendar

#### TODAY

##### Women's Basketball

• Clarendon College at Howard College, Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, 5:45 p.m.

##### Men's Basketball

• Claredon College at Howard College, Dorothy Garret Coliseum, 7:45 p.m.

#### FRIDAY

##### Girl's Basketball

• Big Spring at Frenship, 9th, 3 p.m.; J.V. 4:30 p.m.; Varsity, 6 p.m.

• Plains at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.

• Dawson at Grady, 6:30 p.m.

• Coahoma at Stanton, J.V., 4 p.m.; Varsity, 6:30 p.m.

• Paint Rock at Garden City, J.V. 4 p.m.; Varsity, 6 p.m.

##### Boy's Basketball

• Big Spring at Abilene Wylie, 9th, 4:30 p.m.; J.V., 6 p.m.; Varsity, 7:30 p.m.

• Plains at Forsan, 8 p.m.

• Coahoma at Stanton, J.V., 5:15 p.m.; Varsity, 8 p.m.

• Paint Rock at Garden City, J.V., 5 p.m.; Varsity, 8 p.m.

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

## BSHS Players of the Week



**Tyler Graves, senior**

The 6-15 Steers lost last week's bout against rival Andrews, 76-62, but Tyler Graves — Head Coach Cliff Thompson's Player of the Week selection — played hard, as always.

"He played pretty well against Andrews," Thompson said. "He's a senior who has really come on this year. He gets into the paint and really guards the basket. Now, his jumpshot is starting to fall, which has given us a real boost, having another player who can shoot from the outside."

Graves' grip on the game has been one of the bright spots for the Steers this year.

"He's a smart player," Thompson added. "He has a high basketball I.Q."

The Steers will try to get back on track Friday, but it won't be an easy task.

They will be opening District 4-3A play against Abilene-Wylie on the road at 7:30 p.m.



**Dyrshae Vanderbilt, junior**

The Lady Steers recorded an 11-11 record before District 4-3A play began and since then, they have gone 1-1 after a loss to Sweetwater and a victory on the road over Snyder.

A playoff run may be in the works if BSHS can sustain the consistency they have shown thus far.

One of the leaders for the Lady Steers has been junior Dyrshae Vanderbilt, according to Head Coach Mike Warren. "She's been a consistent player for us all year," he said. "She's our point guard — she handles the ball and plays good defense."

The hard-working Vanderbilt is one of several underclassmen Warren has on his roster and is one of the leading scorers and rebounders in nearly every outing.

"It's her second year on varsity," Warren added. "She's really starting to assert herself. She can handle the ball well and break presses."

The Lady Steers will travel to Frenship on Friday. Tipoff is slated for 6 p.m.

## Steroids fallout: No HoF for Bonds, Clemens or Sosa

RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — No one was elected to the Hall of Fame this year. When voters closed the doors to Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens and Sammy Sosa, they also shut out everybody else.

For only the second time in four decades, baseball writers failed to give any player the 75 percent required for induction to Cooperstown, sending a powerful signal that stars of the Steroids Era will be held to a different standard.

All the awards and accomplishments collected over long careers by Bonds, Clemens and Sosa could not offset suspicions those feats were boosted by performance-enhancing drugs.

Voters also denied entry Wednesday to fellow newcom-

ers Craig Biggio, Mike Piazza and Curt Schilling, along with holdovers Jack Morris, Jeff Bagwell and Lee Smith.

Among the most honored players of their generation, these standouts won't find their images among the 300 bronze plaques on the oak walls in Cooperstown, where — at least for now — the doors appear to be bolted shut on anyone tainted by PEDs.

"After what has been written and said over the last few years I'm not overly surprised," Clemens said in a statement he posted on Twitter.

Bonds, Clemens and Sosa retired after the 2007 season. They were eligible for the Hall for the first time and have up to 14 more years on the writers' ballot.

"Curt Schilling made a good

point, everyone was guilty. Either you used PEDs, or you did nothing to stop their use," Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt said in an email to The Associated Press after this year's vote was announced. "This generation got rich. Seems there was a price to pay."

Biggio, 20th on the career list with 3,060 hits, appeared on 68.2 percent of the 569 ballots, the highest total but 39 votes shy. The three newcomers with the highest profiles failed to come close to even majority support, with Clemens at 37.6 percent, Bonds at 36.2 and Sosa at 12.5.

Other top vote-getters were Morris (67.7), Jeff Bagwell (59.6), Piazza (57.8), Tim Lincecum (52.2), Lee Smith (47.8) and Schilling (38.8).

"I'm kind of glad that nobody got in this year," Hall of

Famer Al Kaline said. "I feel honored to be in the Hall of Fame. And I would've felt a little uneasy sitting up there on the stage, listening to some of these new guys talk about how great they were. ... I don't know how great some of these players up for election would've been without drugs. But to me, it's cheating."

At ceremonies in Cooperstown on July 28, the only inductees will be three men who died more than 70 years ago: Yankees owner Jacob Ruppert, umpire Hank O'Day and barehanded catcher Deacon White. They were chosen last month by the 16-member panel considering individuals from the era before integration in 1947.

"It is a dark day," said Jose Canseco, the former AL MVP who was among the first play-

ers to admit using steroids. "I think the players should organize some type of lawsuit against major league baseball or the writers. It's ridiculous. Most of these players really have no evidence against them. They've never tested positive or they've cleared themselves like Roger Clemens."

It was the eighth time the BBWAA failed to elect any players. There were four fewer votes than last year and five members submitted blank ballots.

"With 53 percent you can get to the White House, but you can't get to Cooperstown," BBWAA secretary-treasurer Jack O'Connell said. "It's the 75 percent that makes it difficult."

See **FALLOUT**, Page 12

## Clippers beat Mavs for 13th straight home win

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Clippers looked like the team with the NBA's best record in stretches. They were flat and sloppy at other times, and still pulled out the win.

Chris Paul had 19 points and 16 assists while the Dallas Mavericks 99-93 on Wednesday night, extending the Clippers' franchise-record home winning streak to 13 games.

"We'll take the win, but we know we can play better," he said. "We came out a little flat, but it's not going to be merry every night. It's a good win for us to grit it out and fight it out against a tough team."

Matt Barnes added 19 points off the bench, and Blake Griffin had 15 points and 13 rebounds for the Clippers (29-8), who took sole possession of the league's best record from Oklahoma City with their third straight win overall.

"We're not going to win pretty all the time," Barnes said.

Vinny Del Negro earned his 100th victory in his 184th game as Clippers coach, making him the fastest to reach the century mark in franchise history. But he was in no mood to note the occasion, clearly irked by his team's defensive breakdowns and its 21 turnovers.

"It wasn't a very productive game," Del Negro said. "We weren't as consistent as we need to be. We had so many turnovers it was hard to get a rhythm offensively. When we're struggling offensively, we got to lock down defensively."

Darren Collison scored 22 points for Dallas. O.J. Mayo added 17 and Dirk Nowitzki had 15. At 13-23, the Mavs fell 10 games below .500 for the first time since March 30, 2000, two months after Mark Cuban bought the team. They've lost four in a row overall and three straight on the road, where they are 5-16.

"This is painful right now, to be losing like this when we were so close," Shawn Marion said. "It seems like when we get right there, we're going to do something to mess it up. We played a solid game, but it just seemed like the little things kept adding up and it killed us."

The Clippers led the entire first half, fell behind by 10 points in third quarter and then regained the lead for the first time in the fourth on Paul's steal and layup that made it 82-80.

They took the lead for good on Barnes' 3-pointer that keyed an 8-0 run. Los Angeles forced former Clipper Chris Kaman

into two misses while Collison airballed another shot in that stretch as the Clippers went ahead 90-83.

Nowitzki's jumper pulled Dallas to 95-93. Griffin hit a turnaround jumper to give the Clippers a four-point lead before Collison missed a 3-pointer in the right corner.

"My performance was pretty poor. I need to do a much better job of taking care of the ball," Griffin said. "But I love the way our second unit came in during the end of the third and got us back."

Barnes grabbed a defensive rebound and Caron Butler came up with two big offensive boards off consecutive misses by Griffin and Paul with 39 seconds left. After taking two timeouts, Paul missed an 18-footer with 24 seconds left and Dallas called timeout. Collison scrambled looking for a shot before he passed to Vince Carter, who missed.

Paul got fouled and made both shots for a 99-93 lead while fans chanted "MVP!"

"In the fourth quarter, we needed to stay with the aggressiveness," Mavs coach Rick Carlisle said. "But they turned it up and we just didn't get it done. We've got to keep working."

## Parker scores 24, Spurs slap slumping Lakers

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Not even a hard-fought loss against a longtime rival did little to brighten the mood of one of the more tumultuous seasons in the storied history of the Los Angeles Lakers.

Tony Parker scored 24 points and the San Antonio Spurs handed the slumping Lakers their fifth straight loss with a 108-105 victory Wednesday night.

Manu Ginobili added 19 points and Tiago Splitter and Stephen Jackson had 14 each for San Antonio (28-10), which has won 11 straight at home. Splitter also had a career-high 14 rebounds.

Kobe Bryant had 27 points, Metta World Peace added 23 and Earl Clark 22 for Los Angeles (15-20).

Bryant was 10 for 24 from the field, missing a 3-pointer on his final attempt that would have tied the game. Clark

missed a follow-up 3 off a long rebound.

What can the Lakers take from such a battle?

"We lost five in a row," Bryant said. "It's pretty self-explanatory."

Coming off a 125-112 loss at Houston on Tuesday, the Lakers fought until the final buzzer.

Bryant's 3-pointer pulled Los Angeles to 105-99 with 3:32 remaining. The 3 led to dueling cries of support between a large contingent of Lakers fans seated near the Los Angeles bench and Spurs fans.

Antawn Jamison's layup pulled the Lakers to 105-102 following a timeout, but Art-est missed a layup and 3-pointer on consecutive possessions.

The Spurs missed five shots and had four turnovers in the final 5 minutes, turning a 10-point lead into a nail-biting finish for the sell-out crowd.





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Tomorrow's Horoscope

New Moon Eve

On the eve of a productive Capricorn new moon, there's a seriousness threatening to take hold of the scene. The worldly Sagittarius moon now reminds us of the old adage of all work, no play, and Jack's dull boyhood. It does seem a shame to stay ultra-focused with such strong currents of curiosity prodding our sense of adventure.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You'll have to choose between two options that seem about equal. This is not an easy one. You'll need more information to get it right. Bonus: You'll find the research most enjoyable.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). If the good parts of a job don't seem to make the bad parts go away, don't worry. The bad parts won't ruin the good parts, either. Just take it as it comes.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). There's such a thing as too much together time. You have no problem giving others the space they need to feel at peace, although you may have to hint — or fight — for the same courtesy.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You don't always want attention for doing something exceptionally well. Sometimes it's not worth the social tap dancing you have to do to make sure no one is jealous or competitive. Better to go under the radar.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Tomorrow is the new moon. You'll make the most of it by exploring a bit today just to make sure you're crystal clear about what you want to do next. Investigate options without regard to their popularity.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Much depends on how you speak. This is no time to give hints, ask leading questions or speak abstractly. Take a position. State exactly what you'd like to see happen.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You need maximum receptivity from your team for today's group effort. If you've demonstrated that the feelings and opinions of your group really matter to you, they will reciprocate now, and it won't be a problem.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're an artist of sorts and in no mood to conform. You want what you want, and people should respect that, even if they can't understand why you want it.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The moon in your sign is an engine, revving you forward. You'll be driven to express yourself, assert your rights and validate your curiosity by asking the kind of questions that will open doors.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You feel safe and happy with some people and not with others. It all boils down to your human instinct, which is keen and highly developed. Honor it by going with your gut.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Be daring enough to ask for what you really want. Sometimes you'll get it, and it's not a great experience. But at least you learn, which is better than going along never really knowing whether your way would have worked.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Interrupting another person's attention is impolite, but some people can't seem to see past the urgency of their own needs in the moment. Erect boundaries to protect your time. Your productivity depends on it.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Jan. 10). You still believe in the basic goodness of people, and you look for it. People will prove you right over and over this year. You'll be promoted in the next seven weeks. February brings training and personal improvement. In March, a shared adventure binds you to a loving partner. June is your luckiest financial time. Scorpio and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 40, 33, 19 and 39.

**CANCER YEAR AT A GLANCE:** JANUARY: You'll be the one keeping the peace in any group you belong to. FEBRUARY: Mars empowers your efforts, and you're like a superhero playing a Little League sport. MARCH: A mentor, tutorial or written guide will help you make the most of this month's ample professional and financial opportunities. APRIL:

You'll be in charge again. It's not easy, but it's what you're good at. MAY: The balance in relationships shifts after the 9th. Your professional life collides with your personal life. JUNE: This is what you've been waiting for: the chance to be fully yourself and take the risks you've wanted to take. JULY: Enlarge your circle, expand your romantic options, and seek more lucrative work. AUGUST: There are powerful people to woo, ropes to learn and bridges to cross. It's easier to do when you have the support of loved ones. SEPTEMBER: Set your priorities. Mars and Saturn make you choose between two conflicting goals, states or tendencies. OCTOBER: Buckle up, because relationships take you for a wild ride. NOVEMBER: There's no reason to be too quick to seal a deal. Play it cool. DECEMBER: Do more for family. Your love and attention are the glue that holds this scene

together.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Grammy Award-winning Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee Rod Stewart admits to enjoying fame, taking pleasure in being recognized and embracing his luxury lifestyle. But like a true Capricorn business mind, he's also indicated that he's very hands-on with his finances, poring over each statement: "I don't miss a penny." Stewart has Mars in prudent Capricorn, as well.

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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HOLIDAY MATHIS

Annie's Mailbox

**Dear Annie:** Two years ago, I caught my husband having an emotional affair with a friend of ours. Even though we went through counseling and he told me he was no longer in contact with her, he lied.

He continued to lie for almost a year, even during our counseling sessions. In one session, he tried to blame me for his actions, and after six months, he still refused to take any responsibility for the affair.

This whole thing has made me not trust him. I recently saw an email to an ex-girlfriend from high school.

He said he wished he had been a better person, and that he would be looking for a woman like her.

He says they were just reminiscing about the past. I believe he is up to his old ways. I know he wouldn't like it if the tables were turned. Am I wrong to be upset and ready to divorce him?  
— *Disappointed and Heartbroken*

**Dear Disappointed:** You aren't wrong to be upset, but whether or not to divorce him is a more difficult choice. Men often don't realize how hurtful an emotional affair can be.

They don't understand that it is still a betrayal, and consequently, they don't always do the necessary work to heal the marriage from what they justify as a harmless flirtation.

Right now, your husband cannot be trusted to be faithful or honest. He won't change unless he recognizes and admits that his behavior is wrong.

Please go back to your counselor on your own and discuss what you can live with, whether you believe your husband will grow up anytime soon, and what the best course of action is for you.



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

**Dear Annie:** I am part of a family business, and I work from an office in my home. I get dressed for work every day, the same as those who work outside the home.

I am as important to our company as everyone else. If I'm not in my office, I miss phone calls from customers, vendors and employees who have to wait for me to get back to take care of their needs.

I have siblings and an elderly mother who all live nearby. Because they think I "don't work," I am the one called upon to take Mom to doctor appointments and run errands for her.

In addition, I am asked by family and friends to care for children who are home sick or cannot get to their regular child care provider.

Taking time from my job puts me behind, and I often have to work evenings and weekends to catch up. These days, more and more people are working from home. Please tell others to be respectful. — *Work-at-Home USA*

**Dear Work:** Working from home

often gives others the impression that you don't actually work or that your time isn't that important. And while it may give you more flexibility with your hours, it is still the same number of hours, which would require working evenings and weekends to make up time spent doing other things during the day.

It would help for you to set boundaries. If you can manage to do these favors without resentment, go right ahead. But if you don't want to babysit little Johnny, say, "So sorry, but I'm working and can't take care of him. You'll have to make other arrangements." If you say it enough times, they will get it.

**Dear Annie:** This is in response to "Never the Better Offer," whose mother skips family gatherings because she would rather stay home by the phone waiting for a better offer from a potential date.

If Mom does not have a cellphone, they should give her one as a gift and pay for a year's service. Then Mom will no longer have an excuse for missing out with family and friends, because she will still get her calls and can easily arrange for a short-notice date. — *Mollie*

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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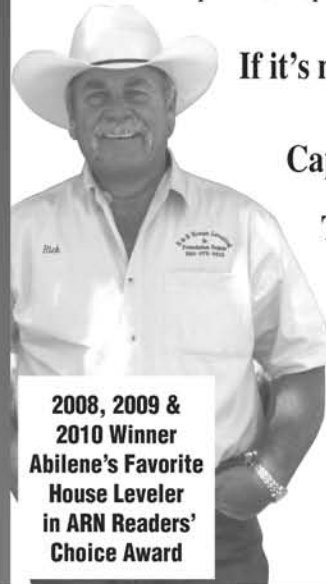
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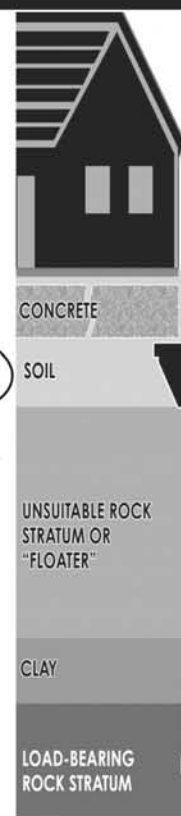
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<b>5:PM</b> ABC	News	Casa	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Yohan	Charlie Rose	King	Auction	Movie: Bring It On, Jesse Bradford	J. Schmo	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Good	SportsNation	SportsCenter
<b>6:PM</b> ABC	Jeopardy!	Notic.	Two Men	News	Caso Cerrado	News	Seinfeld	House	PBS News-Hour	Rules	Property Wars	J. Schmo	The Mentalist	ANT Farm Dog	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.		
<b>7:PM</b> ABC	Wheel	Corona de Lágrimas	Big Bang	Ent	Millionaire	Seinfeld	R. Shap	Upd	Spanish Parks	The 18th Annual Critics' Choice Movie	Property Wars	Movie: Signs, Cherry Jones	IMPACT Wrestling	NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Indiana Pacers.	Movie: Above the Rim, Tupac Shakur	Movie: Tangled, Donna Murphy	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.
<b>8:PM</b> ABC	Last Resort	Por Ella Soy Eva	Mobbed	Big Bang	Rosa Diamante (SS)	30 Rock	Fam. Guy	Mark Blitz	Frontline	Office	Light of the Southwest							
<b>9:PM</b> ABC	Grey's Anatomy	Amores Verdaderos	Glee	Person of Interest	La Patrona (SS)	Office	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest										
<b>10:PM</b> ABC	(:02) Scandal	Amor Bravo (SS)	Simpsons	How I Met	(:01) Elementary	Escobar	Rostro de	Rock Center	Big Bang									
<b>11:PM</b> ABC	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	McGee	Charlie Rose	Til Death	Auction	(:31) Movie: Signs, Cherry Jones	Bellator 360	NBA Basketball: Miami Heat at Portland Trail Blazers.	Movie: National Security, Colm Feore	Austin Good	College Basketball	SportsCenter
<b>12:AM</b> ABC	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Al Diablo	Law Order: CI	Ferguson	Decisiones (SS)	Jimmy Fallon	Conan	Office	A. Shelby	World	T. Smiley	Movie: Scary Movie, Cheri Oteri	Bellator 360	Inside the NBA	Movie: Above the Rim, Tupac Shakur	Wizards	Basket	SportsCenter
<b>1:AM</b> ABC	Extra	Mar de Amor (SS)	Raymond	Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Movie: The Forbidden Kingdom										
<b>1:AM</b> ABC	Paid	La Jaula	American	Ent	Paid	Paid	(:05) Today	Light of the Southwest										
<b>1:AM</b> ABC	Paid	Par Ases	TMZ	Paid	Paid	Paid												

### DENNIS THE MENACE

1-10  
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"COLLECTIN' ALL THOSE TEETH MAKES THE TOOTH FAIRY A WEIRD DUDE."

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS

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"Oh goody! I like mittens better than gloves 'cause my fingers get to stay together."

### HAGAR

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LOOK! A RESTAURANT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT!  
WATER! WATER! WE NEED WATER!!  
CERTAINLY SIR— WILL THAT BE A TABLE FOR TWO?

### BC

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UM... IS THAT A HASHTAG?  
... GOTTA STAY RELEVANT, MAN.

### BLONDIE

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DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS ON HOW WE CAN LOWER THE COST OF OUR WEDDING RECEPTION?  
WELL, YOU COULD HAVE A CASH BAR.  
I LIKE THAT IDEA!  
AND BESIDES, IT'S ONE WAY TO KEEP YOUR SIDE OF THE FAMILY SOBER!

### WIZARD OF ID

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HEY, WIZARD... DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING FOR BACK PAIN?  
I HAVE JUST THE THING.  
TURNING ME INTO AN INVERTEBRATE... CUTE  
WIZARD HUMOR

### AGNES

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I HAVE NO MONEY TO BUY A SNOW SHOVEL, SO I WILL BUILD A SNOW SHOVEL!  
WHAT'S A SNOW SHOVEL LOOK LIKE?  
I'M NOT SURE, SO WE WILL GO TO THE LIBRARY FOR EXTENSIVE RESEARCH!  
COOL!  
OK... IT IS A METAL SQUARE ON A STICK.  
GREAT! PRINT IT OUT AND LET'S GO DO SOME SHOVELFACTURING!

### HI AND LOIS

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I WENT TO TELL THE KIDS THERE'S NO SCHOOL TODAY, BUT I CAN'T FIND THEM!  
WHY CAN'T I GET THEM UP THIS EARLY ON NON-SNOW DAYS?

### THE OTHER COAST

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IT'S COLD OUT THERE THIS MORNING, WITH FREEZING TEMPERATURES EVERYWHERE...  
THE FORECAST IS FOR HEAVY SNOW, FOLLOWED BY FREEZING RAIN AND WET SLUSH.  
HEY, KOKO, WANT TO GO OUT FOR A WALK?  
ARE YOU CRAZY? I'M NOT DEAF, Y'KNOW.

### SNUFFY SMITH

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WHY'D YA BUILD DOWN HERE ON TH' FLOODPLAIN, CUZZIN ROE?  
SO M'WIFE WOULDN'T SAY NO...  
WHEN I TOLD HER I WANNA BUY A BOAT !!

### BEEBLE BAILEY

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BOY! WE'VE BEEN IN THIS CAMP A LONG TIME  
YEAH, REMEMBER GETTING OFF THE BUS?  
YEAH, IT SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY SEEING SARGE YELLING "GO HERE!" "GO THERE!" "SIT DOWN!" "SHUT UP!"  
IT WAS YESTERDAY

### This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Jan. 10, the 10th day of 2013. There are 355 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:  
On Jan. 10, 1863, the London Underground had its beginnings as the Metropolitan, the world's first underground passenger railway, opened to the public with service between Paddington and Farringdon Street.

On this date:  
In 1776, Thomas Paine anonymously published his influential pamphlet, "Common Sense," which argued for American independence from British rule.  
In 1860, the Pemberton Mill in Lawrence, Mass., collapsed and caught fire, killing up to 145 people, mostly female workers from Scotland and Ireland.  
In 1861, Florida became the third state to secede from the Union.  
In 1870, John D. Rockefeller incorporated Standard Oil.  
In 1984, the United States and the Vatican established full diplomatic relations for the first time in more than a century.

Today's Birthdays: Opera singer Sherrill Milnes is 78. Blues artist Eddy Clearwater is 78. Rock singer-musician Ronnie Hawkins is 78. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Willie McCovey is 75. Movie director Walter Hill is 73. Singer Frank Sinatra Jr. is 69. Singer Rod Stewart is 68. Rock singer-musician Donald Fagen (Steely Dan) is 65. Actor William Sanderson is 65. Boxing Hall of Famer and entrepreneur George Foreman is 64. Roots rock singer Alejandro Escovedo is 62. Rock musician Scott Thurston (Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers) is 61. Singer Pat Benatar is 60.

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### Newsday Crossword

Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**  
1 Bubbly beverage  
5 Testy  
10 Six-sided state  
14 Rollover candidates  
15 Devastation  
16 Result of some deals  
17 Minor quibbles  
18 Embarrass  
19 Shade unfairly  
20 Northeast capital  
23 Choice group  
24 Thoroughbred's mother  
25 Monopolizer  
28 The Crying Game star  
29 Sumptuous affair  
33 Quaint "My goodness!"  
35 Chinatown kiosk design  
37 Bad sign, perhaps  
38 Remote location  
43 Creole staple  
44 Crawler's frequent target  
45 Promotional piece  
48 Erodes  
49 "Oh, I see!"  
52 Hem partner  
53 "Alley \_\_\_"  
55 Champing at the bit  
57 Thermal clothing  
62 Fan favorite  
64 Orlando-area attraction

**DOWN**  
1 Ash fragment  
2 Magpie cousin  
3 Riga's locale  
4 Accounting datum  
5 Nigeria neighbor  
6 Playwright David  
7 Olive-shaped  
8 "That's unfortunate"  
9 Ameritrade alternative  
10 Former UN member  
11 After taxes  
12 Pilsener relative  
13 Chop down  
21 Princely, perhaps  
22 '70s First Daughter  
26 Done with  
27 Bit of heredity  
30 Census stat  
31 Burglar's haul  
32 Commercial cost  
34 With 63 Down, unknown defendant  
35 Droids and iPhones  
36 Tennis pro  
38 Former silkworm  
39 Swedish chain  
40 Decide by chance  
41 Pick, with "for"  
42 Startened up  
46 Huge time span  
47 Synonym source  
49 Meeting reference  
50 Auto device  
51 Halt the progress of  
54 One instructed  
56 Hang around for  
58 Soccer cheers  
59 March Madness org.  
60 Quad digs  
61 Frat letters  
62 Quaint lodging  
63 See 34 Down

### Answer to previous puzzle

DRUM	SHE'S	MAMAS
WANE	TENT	ALAMO
AWING	AND	APRAY
REFUEL	SRO	CRONE
FRY	REP	ZOLA
	MARS	FARCES
AHA	IOTA	STARE
LONG	ARM	OF
ALTAR	SOLE	ELMS
SEIZED	PANS	
	PART	CDC
MAYA	ARE	SALAMI
EXECUTIVE	BRANCH	
TECHS	PIMA	IDEA
ADHOC	SLUR	NYET

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# NFL player Junior Seau had brain disease CTE

Junior Seau, one of the NFL's best and fiercest players for nearly two decades, had a degenerative brain disease when he committed suicide last May, the National Institutes of Health told The Associated Press on Thursday.

Results of an NIH study of Seau's brain revealed abnormalities consistent with chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE).

"The brain was indepen-

dently evaluated by multiple experts, in a blind fashion," said Dr. Russell Lonser, who oversaw the study. "We had the opportunity to get multiple experts involved in a way they wouldn't be able to directly identify his tissue even if they knew he was one of the individuals studied."

The NIH, based in Bethesda, Md., conducted a study of three unidentified brains, one of which was Seau's. It said the findings on Seau were

similar to autopsies of people "with exposure to repetitive head injuries."

Seau's family requested the analysis of his brain.

Seau was a star linebacker for 20 NFL seasons with San Diego, Miami and New England before retiring in 2009. He died of a self-inflicted shotgun wound.

He joins a list of several dozen football players who had CTE. Boston University's center for study of the disease

reported last month that 34 former pro players and nine who played only college football suffered from CTE.

"I was not surprised after learning a little about CTE that he had it," Seau's 23-year-old son Tyler said. "He did play so many years at that level. I was more just kind of angry I didn't do something more and have the awareness to help him more, and now it is too late."

"I don't think any of us were

aware of the side effects that could be going on with head trauma until he passed away. We didn't know his behavior was from head trauma."

That behavior, according to Tyler Seau and Junior's ex-wife Gina, included wild mood swings, irrationality, forgetfulness, insomnia and depression.

"He emotionally detached himself and would kind of 'go away' for a little bit," Tyler Seau said.

## FALLOUT

Continued from Page 7

There have been calls for the voting to be taken away from the writers and be given to a more diverse electorate that would include players and broadcasters. The Hall says it is content with the process, which

began in 1936.

"It takes time for history to sort itself out, and I'm not surprised we had a shutout today," Hall President Jeff Idelson said. "I wish we had an electee. I will say that, but I'm not surprised given how volatile this era has been in terms of assessing the qualities and the quantities of the statistics and the impact

on the game these players have had."

Bonds, baseball's only seven-time Most Valuable Player, hit 762 home runs, including a record 73 in 2001. He was indicted on charges he lied to a grand jury in 2003 when he denied using PEDs but a jury two years ago failed to reach a verdict on three counts he made false statements and convicted him on one obstruction of justice count, finding he gave an evasive answer.

"It is unimaginable that the best player to ever play the game would not be a unanimous first-ballot selection," said Jeff Borris of the Beverly Hills Sports Council, Bonds' long-time agent.

Clemens, the only seven-time Cy Young Award winner, is third in career strikeouts (4,672) and ninth in wins (354). He was acquitted last year on one count of obstruction of Congress, three counts of making false statements to Congress and two counts of perjury, all stemming from his denials of drug use.

"To those who did take the time to look at the facts," Clemens said,

"we very much appreciate it."

Sosa, eighth with 609 home runs, was among those who tested positive in MLB's 2003 anonymous survey, The New York Times reported in 2009. He told a congressional committee in 2005 that he never took illegal performance-enhancing drugs.

Since 1961, the only years the writers didn't elect a candidate had been when Yogi Berra topped the 1971 vote by appearing on 67 percent of the ballots cast and when Phil Niekro headed the 1996 ballot at 68 percent — both got in the following years. The other BBWAA elections without a winner were in 1945, 1946, 1950, 1958 and 1960.

Morris will make his final ballot appearance next year, when fellow pitchers Greg Maddux and Tom Glavine are eligible for the first time along with slugger Frank Thomas.

"Next year, I think you'll have a rather large class, and this year, for whatever reasons, you had a couple of guys come really close," Commissioner Bud Selig said at the owners' meetings in Paradise

Valley, Ariz. "This is not to be voted to make sure that somebody gets in every year. It's to be voted on to make sure that they're deserving. I respect the writers as well as the Hall itself. This idea that this somehow diminishes the Hall or baseball is just ridiculous in my opinion."

Players' union head Michael Weiner called the vote "unfortunate, if not sad."

"To ignore the historic accomplishments of Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens, for example, is hard to justify. Moreover, to penalize players exonerated in legal proceedings — and others never even implicated — is simply unfair. The Hall of Fame is supposed to be for the best players to have ever played the game. Several such players were denied access to the Hall today. Hopefully this will be rectified by future voting."

The BBWAA election rules say "voting shall be based upon the player's record, playing ability, integrity, sportsmanship, character, and contributions to the team(s) on which the player played."

An Associated Press survey of 112 eligible voters conducted in late November after the ballot was announced indicated Bonds, Clemens and Sosa would fall well short of 50 percent.

The big three drew even less support than that as the debate raged over who was Hall worthy.

Voters are writers who have been members of the BBWAA for 10 consecutive years at any point.

BBWAA president Susan Slusser of the San Francisco Chronicle said she didn't vote for Bonds, Clemens or Sosa.

"The evidence for steroid use is too strong," she said.

As for Biggio, "I'm surprised he didn't get in."

Mark McGwire, 10th on the career home run list with 583, received 16.9 percent on his seventh try, down from 19.5 last year. He got 23.7 percent in 2010 — a vote before he admitted using steroids and human growth hormone.

Rafael Palmeiro, among just four players with 500 homers and 3,000 hits along with Hank Aaron, Willie Mays and Eddie Murray, received 8.8 percent in his third try, down from 12.6 percent last year. Palmeiro received a 10-day suspension in 2005 for a positive test for performance-enhancing drugs, claiming it was due to a vitamin vial given to him by teammate Miguel Tejada.

MLB.com's Hal Bodley, the former baseball columnist for USA Today, said Biggio and others paid the price for other players using PEDs.

"They got caught in the undertow of the steroids thing," he said.

Bodley said this BBWAA vote was a "loud and clear" message on the steroids issue. He said he couldn't envision himself voting for stars linked to drugs.

"We've a forgiving society, I know that," he said. "But I have too great a passion for the sport."

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