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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**TUESDAY**

**JUNE 4, 2013**



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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 198

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## County to accept bids on half-block

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners voted to begin accepting bids on a county-owned half-block of property on the city's north side during a special meeting Monday, hoping to take advantage of the ongoing real estate boom in the Crossroads area.

Following an executive ses-

sion to discuss a recent inquiry to buy the property — located near the County Road and Bridge Office — the court gave the go ahead to begin taking bids on the plat, said County Judge Mark Barr.

"This isn't the first time we've had real estate people interested in that particular piece of property," Barr said. "We were approached a while back and offered \$90,000 for

it. However, the court didn't feel like that was a sufficient offer. This time, though, we feel like the market has shifted, somewhat, and the county may be able to get a good bid for the land."

Barr said the bid process will begin with publication in the Big Spring Herald.

"We'll advertise the bids by publication for about two weeks and open the bids June

21," Barr said. "At that point, we'll have a better idea if the offers are going to be like last time, or if they will be a little more in-line with a half-block in that area. Then, the commissioners court can decide if it's worth moving forward."

Barr said the benefits of selling the parcel of land are two-fold.

"First and foremost, it will get the property back on the

tax rolls. That's certainly the most important aspect of this," Barr said. "Also, it will help bring funds into the county's general fund, which will give us more to work with when it comes to set the budget for the coming year. There is so much going on right now — much-needed maintenance for county roads, the

See **COUNTY**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

A backhoe operator deposits a load of dirt next to a work site on West Fourth Street Monday afternoon. Renovation of West Fourth and West Third streets is expected to continue until early 2014.

## Watch for 4-way stop

Big Spring drivers should be aware of a change at the intersection of the I-20 south frontage road and SH 350 in Big Spring, which recently became a four-way stop.

The Texas Department of Transportation installed the signs last week. The change was made to improve safety due to increased traffic anticipated in the area where a new truck stop is under construction.

## Early voting in District 5 runoff stops at 7 p.m.

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Heading into the final day of early voting, polling totals for the Big Spring City Council District 5 election have gone pretty much as expected, officials said.

Early voting ends today in the runoff election, which pits Raul Benavides vs. J.D. Smith to see who will succeed Craig Olson as District 5 council member.

As of Friday afternoon, 93 persons had cast early ballots in the election, while another 12 had requested mail-in ballots, Howard County Election Administrator Sandra Bloom said.

"That's pretty much to be expected this time of year," Bloom said. "People are busy, what with the end of school and all. Hopefully, the totals will pick up some on election day (Saturday)."

Benavides and Smith were the top two vote-getters in the District 5 election May 11, but a runoff was required when neither candidate earned more than 50 percent of the



votes. Benavides received 44.2 percent of the votes, while Smith tallied 33.8 percent. A third candidate, Clint Collins, received almost 22 percent of votes cast in the election.

Bloom said 423 people voted in the District 5 general election in May, but doubts Saturday's totals will meet or exceed that figure. For starters, there were other races on the May ballot that attracted voters' attention; additionally, runoff election totals usually fall short of general election figures, she said.

Voters can cast ballots until 7 p.m. today in Bloom's office, located on the first floor of the county courthouse.

The polling place for Saturday's runoff is Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, contact Bloom's office at 264-2273.

## Pops rehearsals begin tonight

*Chorus is open to everyone who is dedicated*

Herald Staff Report

Tonight's the night!  
 Chorus rehearsals for Big

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 Please call 263-7331.  
 Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7331 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.

Spring's annual Pops in the Park, set July 3, begin this evening.

Rehearsals are open to anyone who is interested. They will be held from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. today and June 11, 18 and 25. The location is the First United Methodist Church chorus rehearsal room. Enter the north door in the alleyway.

"We have another wonderful program planned this year with lots of new music," said Keith Grauman, Big Spring Symphony director and conductor.

"Please plan to attend as many rehearsals as possible because we have only four.

We need all of you all of the time in order to achieve a performance level of which we can all be proud."

In addition to traditional Independence Day Celebration songs, new music will include "Music of MGM," "Richard Rogers in Concert," "Saving Private Ryan," "Battle of Heros" and "Call of the Champions."

For more information, contact Graumann at 432-213-0645 or keithgraumann@yahoo.com

Linda Lindell is the assistant director.

First United Methodist Church is located at Fourth and Scurry.

## Parents urged to 'Watch Kids Around Water'

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

As the mercury begins to rise into the triple-digit range, many area residents will turn their attention to local lakes and swimming pools to try to keep cool. However, according to officials with the

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, fun in the water can quickly turn deadly without proper supervision.

The DFPS is kicking off a new campaign this year aptly named "Watch Kids Around Water," which includes a summer-long ad campaign

to help educate the public on the importance of supervising children around water, safety tips and other valuable information.

"With high temperatures and the summer vacation here, the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) is urging all Texans

to be on guard against one of the leading causes of death among infants, toddlers, and young children: accidental drowning," said Marleigh Meisner, public information officer for DFPS.

"Already, at least 18

See **SAFETY**, Page 3

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## Obituaries

### Jan Tom Whatley



GRANBURY -- Jan Tom Whatley, born Oct. 31, 1953, to Tommy and Deidra Whatley, passed away peacefully May 30, 2013, after a six-year battle with bile duct cancer. He bravely fought to stay in this world.

Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, June 7, 2013, at Wiley Funeral Home in Granbury, Texas.

He was a graduate of the University of Texas and held the MAI designation of the Appraisal Institute. Jan was mentored as an appraiser 28 years ago by Wendell Pyles. They partnered up to form the Pyles Whatley Corporation, which specializes in commercial real estate.

Jan and Wendell went on to mentor many more successful appraisers. Through the years, he held offices including president of the International Right-of-Way Association, Chapter 36. The chapter named him professional of the year in 2008.

Jan was a loving father and husband. He enjoyed coaching sports teams, leading Indian Guide troops and traveling with his family. He was an avid hunter and golfer and he was a superhero to his sons.

Jan is survived by his wife, Cynthia Cook; sons, Jace and J.Lee Whatley; brother, Van Tom Whatley and wife Cindy; sister, Dana Tom Whatley; father and mother-in-law, Pete and Annabelle Cook; sister-in-law, Peggy Cook; brother-in-law, Cliff Cook and wife Bennie Hill; nieces and nephews, Lori, Nick, Libby, Lexi, McKenna, John and Travis.

*Paid obituary*

### Norma Fraley



Norma Fraley, 52, of Big Spring died Sunday, June 2, 2013, in a Midland hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, 2013, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Mona Lue Tonn officiating.

She was born July 23, 1960, in Fort Worth, Texas. She was a homemaker and moved to Big Spring in 1998. Norma graduated from Howard College with an associates degree in computer science technology. She worked at J.A.L. Contractors and was an integral part of the business. She was lovingly referred to as the "Receipt Nazi."

She was thought of in the highest regard by her co-workers and she considered them her extended family and will be greatly missed. Norma's life was centered around her children and her biggest goal was to raise them to be successful and independent. Norma was loyal, kind, patient, persevering and had a great sense of humor.

Survivors include two daughters, Casey Fraley of Big Spring and Kara Colegrove and husband Christopher of Bronte; one son, Dustin Fraley of Fort Worth; the father of her children, Trent Fraley of Big Spring; three brothers, Danny Rose, David Rose and Mark Rose, all of Fort Worth; two sisters, Robin Gaines and Kelly Oates, both of Fort Worth; her second mom, Granny Pat of Fort Worth; two grandchildren, Lyndon Bryce Fraley and Conner Colegrove; and her close friend, Jana Wegner of Big Spring.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Dorothy Jean Rose; and a brother, Steve Rose.

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

*Paid obituary*

### Ernie Paul

Ernie Paul, 44, of Big Spring died Saturday, June 1, 2013, in Kingfisher, Okla. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Police blotter

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

- TEKIA WILLIAMS, 30, of 705 Wyoming, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.
- JOLANDA JIMENEZ GONZALES, 43, of Ackerly, Texas, was arrested Monday on warrants for defective tail lamp, failure to maintain financial responsibility, expired motor vehicle inspection certificate and a warrant from another agency.
- TOMMY BILLALBA JR., 24, of 3614 Hamilton, was arrested Monday on five warrants from other agencies.
- JAMES CLINTON COOTS, 66, of 1502 E. Sixth

St., was arrested Monday on a charge of criminal trespass of a property/building.

- ASHLEY CASAREZ LUNA, 28, of 800 Creighton, was arrested Monday on warrants for failure to control speed, failure to appear (two counts) and driving while license invalid.

- LATASHA MICHELLE LILES, 19, of Houston, Texas, was arrested Monday on a charge of soliciting/peddling without a permit.

- JOHN TAYLOR DOWNING, 30, of Del Rio, Texas, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- HENRY CARL WEDGEMAN, 41, of 804 Andree St., was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

- JULIE RUSSELL FLYNN, 43, of 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 1604, was arrested Monday on charges of shoplifting - \$50 or less and possession of a controlled substance.

- CALVIN JACOB LAWSON, 29, of 3701 La Junta Dr., was arrested Monday on a charge of burglary of a habitation with intent to commit other felony.

- DANIEL JOSEPH DAWDY, 20, of 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 4, was arrested Monday on charges of expired motor vehicle inspection certificate, speeding and expired registration.

- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported: In the 1000 block of S. Birdwell Lane.

- In the 100 block of Hooser Road.

- In the 800 block of Interstate Highway 20.

- In the 1500 block of Avion.

- In the 500 block of N.W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

- CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 1500 block of E. Sixth Street.

- THEFT was reported:

- In the 5200 block of Sterling Road.

- In the 600 block of W. Interstate Highway 20.

- In the 700 block of E. 16<sup>th</sup> Street.

- ASSAULT was reported:

- In the 1400 block of N. Highway 87.

- In the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

## Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 80 inmates at the time of this report.

- JOLANDA JIMENEZ GONZALES, 43, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a motion to adjudicate guilt for possession of a controlled substance and municipal capias warrants for defective or no stop lamps, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to display or expired motor vehicle inspection.

- TEKIA KOKO WILLIAMS, 30, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of parole.

- TOMMY BILLALBA JR., 24, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on Scurry County warrants for theft by check — more than \$500 and less than \$1,500, speeding (two counts), bail jumping — failure to appear and a Taylor County warrant for theft of property by check.

- ASHLEY CASSAREZ LUNA, 28, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to control speed, violation of a promise to appear, driving while license invalid and failure to appear.

- NATASHA LILES, 19, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of soliciting/peddling without a license.

- DONALD MARVIN CREAGER JR., 53, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated — third or more offense.

- HERIBERTO ZAMORA, 58, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated — third or more offense.

- MICHAEL DALE PRESTON, 29, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for evading arrest.

- ROY MARVIN COLLIER, 38, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated — third or more offense.

- JOHN TAYLOR DOWNING, 30, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- JULIE RUSSELL FLYNN, 43, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance and shoplifting - \$50 or less.

- HENRY CARL WEDGEMAN, 41, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

- CALVIN JACOB LAWSON, 29, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of burglary of a habitation with intent to commit other felony.

- DANIEL JOSEPH DAWDY, 20, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on municipal capias warrants for expired motor vehicle inspection certificate, speeding and displaying an expired registration.

## Fire/EMS

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

Note: Activity log includes reports from May 31 - June 2.

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

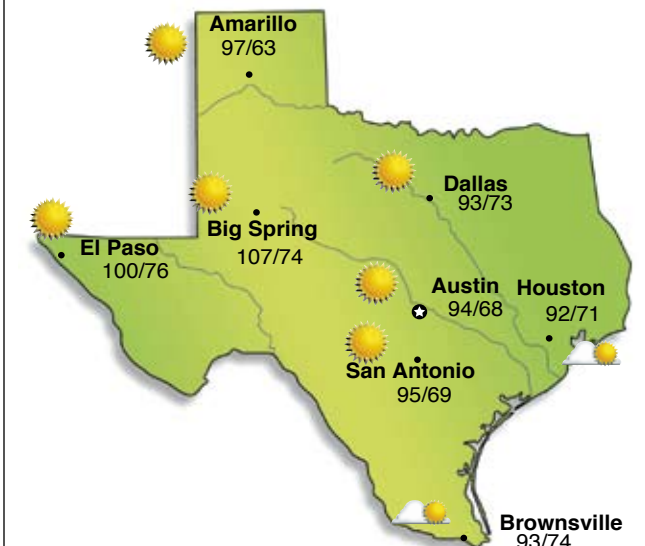
## Today's Weather

### Local 3-Day Forecast

Wed 6/5	Thu 6/6	Fri 6/7
<b>107/74</b>	<b>103/69</b>	<b>89/66</b>
A mainly sunny sky. Near record high temperatures. High 107F. Winds SSW at 20 to 30 mph.	Afternoon showers and thunderstorms. Highs 101 to 105F and lows in the upper 60s.	Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.
Sunrise: 6:39 AM Sunset: 8:50 PM	Sunrise: 6:39 AM Sunset: 8:50 PM	Sunrise: 6:39 AM Sunset: 8:51 PM

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## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	102	72	windy
Amarillo	97	63	sunny
Austin	94	68	sunny
Beaumont	91	72	mst sunny
Brownsville	93	74	pt sunny
Brownwood	99	70	sunny
Corpus Christi	91	75	pt sunny
Corsicana	91	71	sunny
Dallas	93	73	sunny
Del Rio	102	75	windy
El Paso	100	76	sunny
Fort Stockton	102	72	sunny
Gainesville	91	70	pt sunny
Greenville	91	70	sunny
Houston	92	71	pt sunny
Kingsville	94	73	pt sunny
Livingston	93	68	sunny
Longview	91	70	sunny
Lubbock	105	68	sunny
Lufkin	93	70	sunny
Midland	107	75	sunny
Raymondville	95	72	pt sunny
Rosenberg	92	71	pt sunny
San Antonio	95	69	sunny
San Marcos	94	68	sunny
Sulphur Springs	91	71	pt sunny
Sweetwater	103	72	windy
Tyler	92	70	sunny
Weatherford	92	71	sunny
Wichita Falls	99	72	t-storm

### SMMC

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1100 block of Aylesford. Service refused.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1000 block of S. FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of N. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Hunter. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of Tucson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Ridgeroad. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GRASS FIRE was reported in the 400 block of E. 11<sup>th</sup> Place.
- DUMPSTER FIRE was reported in the 1400 block of Dixie.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 800 block of Culp in Coahoma.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of S. Service Road and Midway Road. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the area of S. Moss Creek Lake. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Algerita. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of Hamilton. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1100 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of W. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2900 block of Cherokee. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported near the intersection of State and 21<sup>st</sup> Street.

## MANUEL R. CARRASCO, MD

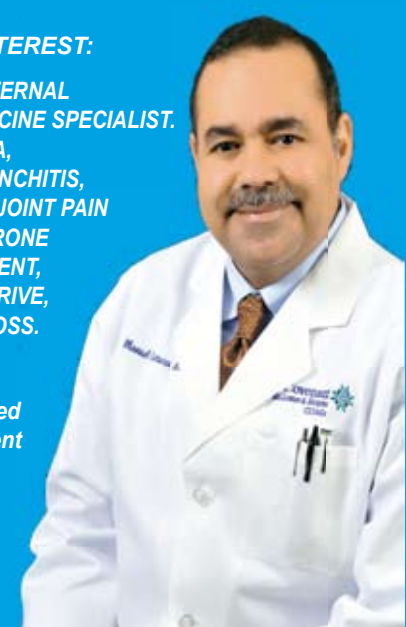
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# News in brief

## More evidence needed on Syria chemical weapons allegations

BEIRUT (AP) — A U.N. report on Syria said Tuesday there are “reasonable grounds” to believe that limited quantities of toxic chemicals have been used as weapons in at least four attacks in Syria’s civil war, but said more evidence is needed to determine the precise chemical agents used or who used them.

The U.N. Commission of Inquiry said conclusive findings can be reached only after testing samples taken directly from victims or the site of the alleged attacks. It called on Damascus to allow a team of experts into the country.

The commission’s report to the Human Rights Council on violations in Syria’s conflict accused both sides of committing war crimes. In an apparent message to European countries considering arming Syrian rebels, the report warned that the transfer of arms would heighten the risk of violations, leading to more civilian deaths and injuries.

“War crimes and crimes against humanity have become a daily reality in Syria where the harrowing accounts of victims have seared themselves on our conscience,” the report said. “There is a human cost to the increased availability of weapons,” it added.

U.N.-Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has appointed a U.N. team to investigate alleged chemical weapons attacks in Syria after the Syrian government asked him to investigate a purported attack by rebels on March 19 on Khan al-Assal village in the northern city of Aleppo. But the Syrian government insists that a probe be limited to that incident.

## Determined to end scourge of sexual assaults, Congress weighs changes to military justice

WASHINGTON (AP) — Determined to stop sexual assault in the military, Congress is spelling out for the services how far lawmakers are willing to go in changing the decades-old military justice system.

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Martin Dempsey, and officers heading each branch of the military were to testify Tuesday on Capitol Hill, but it will be members of the Senate who will provide clues as to whether Congress embraces a far-reaching approach to limit the authority that commanders have to discipline the forces they lead.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., is a proponent of ambitious legislation that would remove commanders from the process of deciding whether serious crimes, including sexual misconduct cases, go to trial.

That judgment would rest with seasoned trial counsels who have prosecutorial experience and hold the rank of colonel or above.

The military has serious reservations about

Gillibrand’s plan, concerned that stripping commanders of some authority would make it difficult for them to maintain good order and discipline. Not so, say some lawmakers, who argue that the military’s piecemeal approach clearly hasn’t been the answer.

The Pentagon estimated in a recent report that as many as 26,000 military members may have been sexually assaulted last year, up from an estimated 19,000 assaults in 2012, based on an anonymous survey of military personnel. While the number of sexual assaults that members of the military actually reported rose 6 percent to 3,374 in 2012, thousands of victims were still unwilling to come forward despite new oversight and assistance programs aimed at curbing the crimes, the report said.

## Fire kills 119 workers at Chinese poultry plant where locked doors left only 1 escape route

BEIJING (AP) — A swift-moving fire trapped panicked workers inside a poultry slaughterhouse in northeastern China that had only a single open exit, killing at least 119 people in one of the country’s worst industrial disasters in years.

Survivors described workers, mostly women, struggling through smoke and flames to reach doors that turned out to be locked or blocked.

One worker, 39-year-old Guo Yan, said the emergency exit at her workstation could not be opened and she was knocked to the ground in the crush of workers searching for a way to escape the fire Monday.

“I could only crawl desperately forward,” Guo was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua News Agency. “I worked alongside an old lady and a young girl, but I don’t know if they survived or not.”

The accident highlights the high human costs of China’s lax industrial safety standards, which continue to endanger workers despite recent improvements in the country’s work safety record. It also comes amid growing international concern over factory safety across Asia following the collapse in April of a garment factory building in Bangladesh where more than 1,100 people died.

## Tea party victims tell Congress of IRS harassment as new scandal emerges over agency spending

WASHINGTON (AP) — Conservative groups who were targeted by the Internal Revenue Service are getting their say on Capitol Hill just as the details of another IRS controversy are being made public.

The leaders of six conservative groups were scheduled to tell lawmakers Tuesday about their mistreatment at the hands of IRS agents.

Several of the groups say their applications

for tax-exempt status were delayed while agents asked intrusive questions that the IRS has since acknowledged were inappropriate. One group, the National Organization for Marriage, says the IRS publicly disclosed confidential information about donors.

Leaders of the groups were scheduled to testify before the House Ways and Means Committee. Ways and Means is one of three congressional committees investigating the IRS’ treatment of such groups. The Justice Department is conducting a criminal investigation.

For more than 18 months during the 2010 and 2012 election campaigns, IRS agents in a Cincinnati office singled out tea party and other conservative groups for additional scrutiny when they sought tax-exempt status, according to a report by J. Russell George, the Treasury Department inspector general for tax administration.

The report said tea party groups were asked inappropriate questions about their donors, their political affiliations and their positions on political issues. The additional scrutiny delayed applications for an average of nearly two years, making it difficult for many of the groups to raise money.

## As Obama calls out Chinese cyber-attackers, Silicon Valley leads charge against hackers

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Chinese President Xi Jinping and American counterpart Barack Obama will talk cyber-security this week in California, but experts say the state’s Silicon Valley and its signature high-tech firms should provide the front lines in the increasingly aggressive fight against overseas hackers.

With China seeking to grow its economy and expand its technology base, companies like Facebook, Apple, Google and Twitter are inviting targets. In fact, all have been attacked and all point the finger at China, which has denied any role.

The U.S. government has stepped up efforts to thwart cyber-attacks, but those efforts are mainly focused at protecting its own secrets, especially regarding military operations and technologies.

Paul Rosenzweig, a former Department of Homeland Security official whose Red Branch Consulting provides national security advice, said the responsibility for preventing attacks in the private sector lies with the U.S. innovators who created the technology that’s being hacked in the first place.

“To some degree, they were getting a pass,” he said. “If a car manufacturer made a car that was routinely able to be stolen, they’d be sued. If software is made with gaps that are a liability, they bear some responsibility, and in recent years there’s been a sea change in high tech firms accepting that responsibility.”

## COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

deal with the city regarding the landfill and other items — that every penny counts right now.

This could be a bit of a boost for us.”

The court held a second executive session — set aside regarding a personnel matter — with Sheriff Stan Parker standing by, pursuant

to Texas Government Code 551.071.

“We have a deputy who is having some medical problems,” Barr said. “It’s likely he’s going to run out of sick time soon, so Sher-

iff Parker has asked us to take a look at his situation and decide what to do. This poor guy has been through a lot.”

According to Barr, the commissioners decided to extend the dep-

uty’s sick-leave by two weeks.

“We’ll offer that extension on the basis of whether or not it’s needed,” Barr said. “The deputy is in a pretty tough situation and we

want to do what we can to help.”

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

## SAFETY

Continued from Page 1

children have drowned in Texas this year, and yet the deadliest period for drowning, now through Labor Day, still lies ahead. Each year, DFPS keeps an unofficial count of child drowning deaths. On average, more than 90 kids drown in Texas each year.”

According to DFPS officials, keeping a close eye on children when they are around water is a job everyone in the community should be willing to do.

“These are heart-breaking tragedies. But, we can prevent them by never leaving children, especially small children, alone around water,” DFPS Commissioner Howard Baldwin said. “It only takes minutes for a child to drown. So be a lifeguard for all kids and never leave them unsupervised for any length of time.”

Meisner said the first line of defense is being aware of what dangers are nearby, and while the most common ones — swimming pools and lakes — may seem obvious, there are others that require just as much attendance.

“Extra care is needed as Texas families flock to the water to keep cool and have fun during the summer season,” said Meisner. “So far this year, child drowning deaths have occurred mostly in backyard pools and bathtubs. But in past years children have died in lakes, creeks, hot tubs, buckets of water, toilets and even in a septic tank.

“Federal statistics show that children under one year most often drown in bathtubs, buckets or toilets, while children from one to four years old drown most often in residential swimming pools. Most young children who drowned

in pools were last seen in the home, had been out of sight less than five minutes and were in the care of one or both parents at the time.”

Meisner said Texas residents can reduce the chances of such a tragedy by following these simple tips:

— Never leave small children alone near any container of water. This includes toilets, tubs, aquariums, or mop buckets.

— Keep bathroom doors closed and secure toilet lids with lid locks.

— Never leave a baby alone in a bath for any reason. Get the things you need before running water. Infants can drown in any amount of water. If you must leave the room, take the child with you.

— Warn babysitters or caregivers about the dangers of water

to young children and stress the need for constant supervision.

Make sure small children cannot leave the house through pet doors or unlocked doors and reach pools or hot tubs.

Never leave children alone around water whether it is in a pool, wading pool, drainage ditch, creek, pond or lake.

Constantly watch children who are swimming or playing in water. They need an adult or certified lifeguard watching and within reach.

Secure access to swimming pools. Use fences, self-closing and latching gates, and water surface alarms.

Completely remove the pool cover when the pool is in use.

Store water toys away from the water, when not in use, so they don’t

attract a small child.

Don’t assume young children will use good judgment and caution around water.

Be ready for emergencies. Keep emergency telephone numbers handy and learn CPR.

Find out if your child’s friends or neighbors have pools.

For more information about children and water safety, please visit the “See & Save” website at [www.watchkid-saroundwater.org](http://www.watchkid-saroundwater.org).

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

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

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# EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
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- Letters should be e-mailed to [editor@bigspringherald.com](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com) or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

## DAILY PRAYER

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

Amen

# India's child brides our problem?

The practice of marrying young girls to older men persists in Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere. It is a concern. But need it be America's concern and, more to the point, America's business to stop?

The answer is yes, according to a new Council on Foreign Relations report. Ending child marriage, author Rachel B. Vogelstein states, "is a strategic imperative that will further critical U.S. foreign policy interests."

Is it? Do we need a global crusade to end a custom already in decline and generally limited to impoverished rural areas? Perhaps it is more in our interests to stay out of the business of telling foreigners how they should regulate marriage.

Americans have a long history of trying to make everyone just like us. In the 1820s, New England missionaries sought to save Hawaiian souls by banning the hula. In the 2000s, America embarked on war to bestow democracy's blessings on Iraq. These ventures, usually done in the name of the national interest, rarely work out as planned.

The reauthorized Violence Against Women Act orders the secretary of state to "establish and implement a multi-year, multi-sectoral strategy to prevent child marriage" and so on. Here we go.



FROMA HARROP

Now Vogelstein makes some compelling arguments. Child marriage slows a country's economic development by stunting girls' education. There's the serious question of human rights: Girls should have the power to direct their own future.

But then there's her iffier claim that the "success of U.S. efforts to foster development, prosperity and stability will grow if this persistent practice comes to an end." Even if valid, achieving these good results should be things the countries themselves want.

Which brings us to India. India is home to nearly half the world's child brides, a product of the tradition's roots in South Asia and India's huge population.

India is also a surging world economic power, full of highly educated women, some of whom run the country. In 2006, it passed a Prohibition of Child Marriage Act. And the incidence of child marriage there has already fallen sharply from 26 percent in 1999 to 18 percent in 2011.

Recent hideous rape cases have brought massive protests to India's streets. The people there seem perfectly capable of addressing aspects of their culture they don't like.

Despite the progress, Vogelstein complains that "some Indian laws continue to establish the age of majority at 14," rather than at 18. So, should the State Department be lecturing other countries on how to define a minor?

Let's turn the mirror around,

shall we? Let's count the number of young American teens — some age 15 and under — now having babies, and without the marriage part.

Last month, a 5-year-old boy in Kentucky shot and killed his 2-year-old sister with a rifle given him as a present. Putting real guns in the hands of little kids is apparently common in some parts of this land.

"It's a normal way of life, and it's not just in Kentucky, it's rural America," a Cumberland County judge explained to a baffled world media.

That same week, an 8-year-old in Alaska killed his 5-year-old sister with a gun. Did America's leaders launch a campaign to change the custom of arming children? It did not, as much as it should have.

The point is, the United States should carefully pick and choose the moral imperatives it wants to push on others. We're rather advanced on dignity-of-women issues. But where's the urgency for us to "fix" old cultures not our own?

Let others catch up. Changing their ways on child marriage may benefit them. It's not for us to tell them to.

*To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators webpage at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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# Obama in charge: This is on him

Well, let's see. Obama promised to get the economy moving, greatly improve our health care system and reduce its costs, give us the most transparent government, and usher in a new era of bipartisanship and racial harmony.

Some 4 1/2 years into Obama's presidency, his economy is still as lethargic as a basset hound, and we're seeing disastrous developments on Obamacare.

A smorgasbord of major scandals is unfolding, and we've got record levels of partisan angst and heightened racial tensions stoked by this administration.

So many shocking stories are emerging that we probably miss half of them.

Did you see the *Washington Post* report about how Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius personally asked health industry groups to contribute to Enroll America, a pro-Obamacare front group that is, according to The Heritage Foundation, working to "educate" the public about the law's supposed benefits?

Obama and his band of fellow liberal ideologues have an agenda of fundamentally transforming America, and they're sticking to it — no matter what kind of problems it creates, corruption and lies it entails, or disharmony it generates among Americans.

Perhaps this is another reason Obama never bothers to admit, much less apologize for, his failures.

In his mind, his agenda is moving forward and that's what matters.

The plethora of scandals and the myriad economic and health care failures may be an annoyance to him, but in the end, he's getting his way.

If things don't change, we are moving rapidly toward statism overall and toward a single-payer health insurance system. To paraphrase him, "it may take 15

years, but we'll get there."

Meanwhile, the "What, me worry?" president is, yet again, busy fundraising and campaigning in his hometown of Chicago, insisting to his adoring die-hard fans that "Washington is not broken" and that he could not be more eager for Democrats to recapture control of the House in order to have Nancy Pelosi back as speaker.

Not only is the president not contrite but he wants more authority.

Obama seemingly has endless time to play golf, take vacations and hopscotch the United States on Air Force One to fundraise and campaign, but he's too busy to know or even be bothered about an unfolding crisis in Benghazi, the deliberate alteration of talking points to mislead the press and public about the cause of the consulate attack, the selective targeting of conservative groups by an unscrupulous Internal Revenue Service (which just so happened to do his bidding in successfully suppressing Republican voter turnout), and the criminal investigation of innocent journalists.

It's one thing for Obama not to be a details man, but how about a little focus — or even a superficial awareness — on very serious matters?

What we are seeing from Obama (and his administration) is what we should expect from a person who has been mostly a political agitator and activist for his entire adult life, without any experience in rolling up his sleeves and getting his hands dirty in actually solving the problems.

His style of governance is best depicted by his frustrated utterance at the failure of BP to plug the Gulf oil leak fast enough to suit him: "Just plug the damn hole."

Obama doesn't really understand how business or even government works, but it doesn't keep him from making specific promises he doesn't know he can keep.

He repeatedly asserted, unequivocally, that Obamacare would bend the cost curve down and wouldn't infringe on religious liberty.

He told us that if we liked our

insurance plan, we would be able to keep it.

Have you been reading the headlines lately? "Obamacare Is Driving Some Doctors To Stop Taking Insurance Altogether." "In California, Obamacare to Increase Individual Health Insurance Premiums by 64-146 Percent." "ObamaCare to trigger health insurance cancellation notices." "Like your health care policy? You may be losing it." "Obamacare's Liberty-Crushing Mandate in Court."

Could it be that the public is finally waking up and at least willing to reconsider its foolish blindness to this administration?

A new Quinnipiac University poll finds that American voters say — by a 76-17 percent margin, including 63-30 percent among Democrats — that a special prosecutor should be appointed to investigate charges that the IRS targeted conservative groups.

Further, voters aren't keen on Attorney General Eric Holder's investigating the matter himself, and he has only a 23-29 percent job approval rating. As Holder is President Obama's alter ego, this is significant.

But what we've yet to see is Obama himself being held accountable for his fraudulent promises, his policy failures and this staggering corruption.

Like it or not, these things are his doing.

He is in charge; he is the one who made the false promises; he established the policy goals that are to be achieved at almost any cost; and he has created the climate leading to this lawlessness.

In the modern vernacular, this is on him.

*David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, "The Great Destroyer," reached No. 2 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction.*

*Follow him on Twitter @ davidlimbaugh and his website at [www.davidlimbaugh.com](http://www.davidlimbaugh.com). To 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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## Buried Treasure

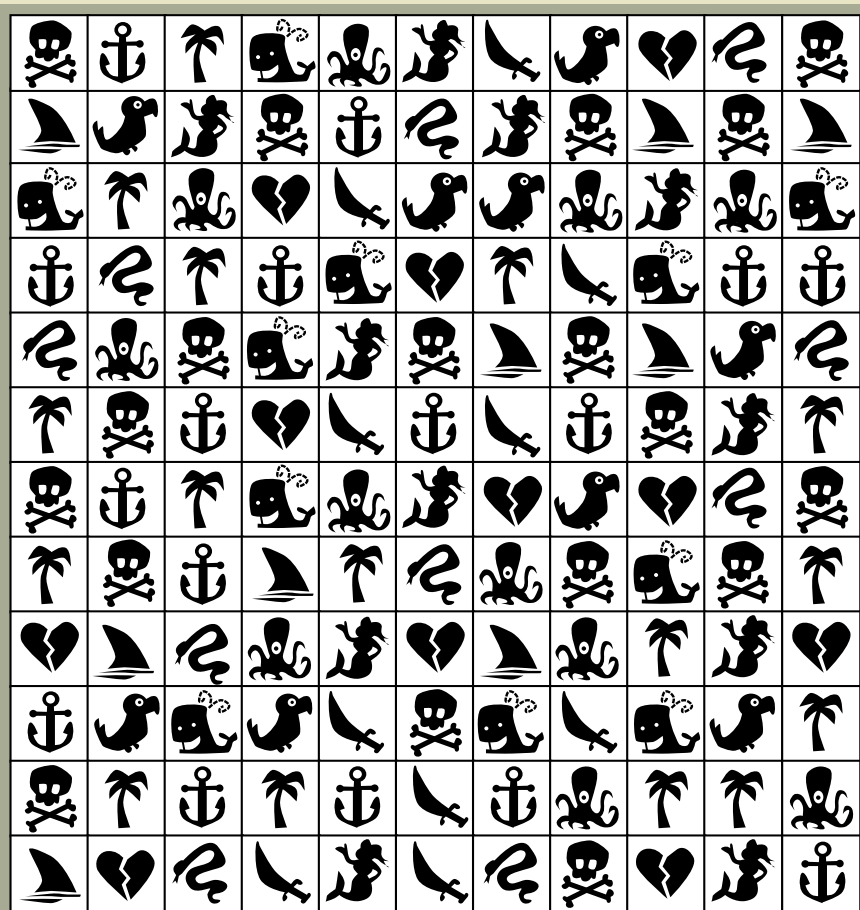
### Pirate Proofreader

Pirates weren't known for spending much time in school. Circle all the errors in this pirate's note. Then rewrite it correctly.

To find me trezure, cross over Crocodile Creek. Bee careful, the brije is not very strawng. Walk four hundrit yardz and yule sea two palm treez that make an X. The trezure is berried six foots under grownd.

### Ink & Think

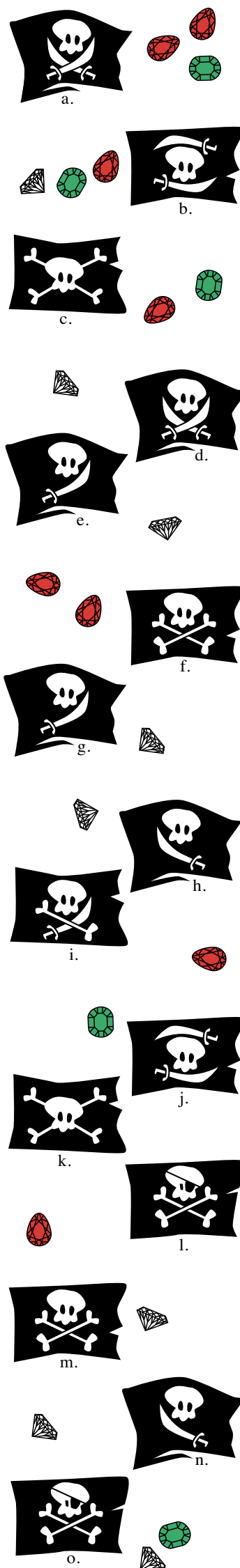
One of the few things pirates dig even more than treasure is awesome tattoos. Try and find each pirate's tattoos in the same order on the big grid.



### Kid Scoop Together:

### Pirate Pairs

The crew of the pirate ship *The Scurvy Albatross* came up with a unique flag. It's the only one here that has no exact duplicate. Circle it.



### Treasure Trouble!

Shiver me timbers! Someone spilled the treasure chest. How many of each of the following can you find scattered on this page?



### Anchors Away

Which is the heaviest anchor? Look through the newspaper and find a number for each box. Do the math problem under each anchor. The one with the biggest number for an answer is the heaviest.



12 +  =     17 -  =     14 +  =     23 -  =     8 +  =

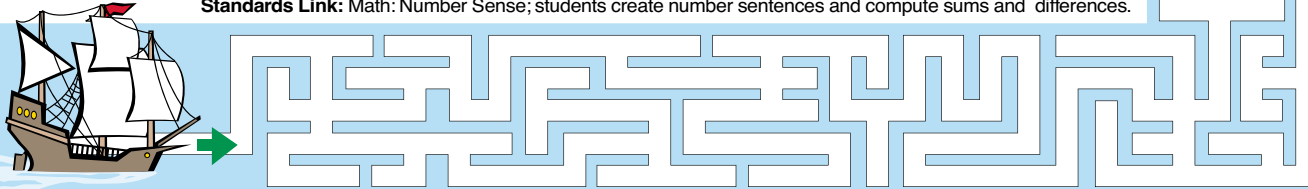
Standards Link: Math: Number Sense; students create number sentences and compute sums and differences.

### Extra! Extra!

### Upper Case Caper

Using the front page of your newspaper, find and circle five or more words that are capitalized. Explain why each one is capitalized.

Standards Link: Grammar; students identify and understand capitalization.



### Kid Scoop Puzzler

How many words can you make from the letters in **TREASURE MAP**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1 - 5: Landlubber • 6 - 15: Swabby • 15 or more: Pirate Pro

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.



Learn how to draw a cool pirate in eight easy steps. Go to [www.kidscoop.com/kids](http://www.kidscoop.com/kids).

### Double Double Word Search

TREASURE  
PIRATES  
ANCHORS  
AWESOME  
TATTOOS  
TIMBERS  
SCHOOL  
SHIVER  
CHEST  
THINK  
NOTE  
MATH  
AWAY  
INK  
MAP

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

### Kid Scoo-doku™

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word SHIP in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.



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### Pirate Supplies

Imagine you are trapped on a tropical island for three weeks. Look through the newspaper and find 10 things you would want to have with you. Have a friend do the same. Discuss your choices.

Standards Link: Research: Students use the newspaper to locate information.

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I LIKE TO TALK,  
BUT HAVE NO LIPS!  
I CHOMP CRACKERS  
AND FINGERTIPS!

What am I?

ANSWER: A parrot.

### Write On!

### The Greatest Treasure in the World

What is the world's greatest treasure? Why?



# Bird Poop: Kids find the darnedest things

Leaving Colorado City and its dry riverbed to the west, the family's vehicle continued toward Rattlesnake Gap.

As the interstate curved upward to go over the railroad tracks, the couple's children looked back at the spot where the rails seemed to disappear into the rocks.

Wanting to know if there really were snakes in that area, their son and daughter wished they, too, could become one with the reddish dirt that seemed to appear from nowhere.

Pointing out that the land was fenced and they would be trespassing, the mother promised them a break at the rest stop ahead. It would give all of them a chance to stretch and wiggle on their long drive to Odessa.

The shade of the pavilions was welcome in the one hundred degree heat of the first week of June.

Although their parents seemed to wilt on to the benches, the brother and sister decided to explore along a fence line to the south.

Whether a beetle or a rock, they were often consumed by thoughts of what they might find. Not wanting either child to become sun-

burned, the mother finally called them back to the sheltered area.

Excitedly showing her what they had discovered, the brother suddenly stopped in the middle of his story. "What was that?" he asked, as his sister answered, "What was what?"

"It looked like a bird." When asked where it came from, he replied, "Under the table."

While their parents wondered what was going on, the children were suddenly in pursuit of a half-hopping, half-flying, fluttering bird.

Rolling her eyes upward, their mother noticed her husband as he shook his head in agreement.

Quickly running after her children toward a large trash barrel, she saw them fall to their knees on either side of the metal container. From behind the bin, her son's voice yelled, "I caught it!"

With a wide grin on his face, the boy strolled proudly back to the canopy to show his father what he had captured.

Realizing that although feathered, the bird was a fledgling and learning how to fly, his parents started looking for a nest.

In only one corner of the roof was a cluster of dry grasses occupied by sparrows.

No other nests were visible along the fence line or in the scrubby mesquites to the south.

Having friends in

Big Spring, the mother called them for help. Given our phone number, she called immediately.

Her description of brownish-gray wings and an orange-yellow breast was a start at identification.

To my asking whether large or small, she answered, "In between." Since they were coming through Big Spring, the mother offered to deliver the youngster.

As we stood under the shade of the red oak in our front yard, her son handed me the bird.

Readily, I could see that it was a young, male Bullock's oriole. Noticeable were its emerging wing bars and the thin, black line behind each eye.

Although it had the basic coloration of an adult, it was much duller and less distinguished.

After we described the long, narrow bag the mother bird would weave as a nest to house her eggs and young, the woman said none had been seen.

Since the construction would include slivers of bark, weeds, grass, and twine, we would have expected the nest to be in a pine tree, mesquite, or even a cluster of mistletoe.

Having noticed the purse-like nests hanging in mesquites south of Big Spring, we were familiar with orioles' nesting in the countryside.

Knowing the terrain and plants that surrounded the rest stop, we wondered why this bird was in that loca-



Courtesy photo

Spending summer months as far north as British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and South Dakota, the Bullock's oriole also thrives throughout the western portion of the United States. Once nesting season is completed, the males begin migrating to Mexico and as far south as Costa Rica. Two weeks later, females and their offspring will follow.

tion.

With the constant human and vehicle traffic coming off the interstate, it seemed so unlikely.

Eager to finish their journey, the family was gracious in their appreciation of our taking the young bird.

They had learned that one day this oriole would be ablaze with orange that covered his cheeks, under parts, rump, and tail. Its brilliance would be highlighted by a striking contrast.

His crown, the back of his neck, upper back, and throat would be a deep black.

Even in the middle of his orange tail would be a narrow, black band

leading down to its black tip.

For variety, nature would endow him with large, white wing patches to accent his black wings.

As they started backing out of our driveway, the vehicle stopped.

Lowering the window, the woman thanked us not only for the information, but the shade given by the dense foliage of the oak. "It must be fifteen degrees cooler under there!"

For four days, our guest dined on crickets and mealworms.

A brief stay at the wildlife center would introduce it to the company of other orioles in an aviary.

When released, the

rest of summer would offer beetles, ants, aphids, moths, and grasshoppers to satisfy its hunger.

Its craving for sweetness would be satisfied by the nectar found in the flowers of trumpet vine, red yuccas, bird-of-paradise, desert willows, and Turk's cap.

At a West Texas rest stop, a young Bullock's oriole and a boy had met under unusual conditions.

Both would benefit from having crossed paths on that sweltering day.

*Bebe McCasland is author of "The Scoop from Bird Poop." She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.*

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## A poem for our fallen soldiers

Since we have just celebrated Memorial Day I hope you enjoy this poetic salute to a soldier. I am unaware

of the author but the poem speaks volumes:

"He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast. He sat around the Legion, telling stories of the past. Of a war that he once fought in and the deeds that he had done in his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes, every one.



DARRELL RYAN

"And though sometimes to his neighbors his tales became a joke, all his buddies listened quietly for they knew where of he spoke.

"But we'll hear his tales no longer, for ol' Joe has passed away, and the world's a little poorer for a soldier died today.

"He won't be mourned by many, just his children and his wife; for he lived an ordinary, very quiet sort of life. He held a job and raised a family, going quietly on his way; and the world won't note his passing, though a soldier died today.

"When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state, while thousands note their passing, and proclaim that they were great. Papers tell of their life stories from the time that they were young, but the passing of a

soldier goes unnoticed and unsung.

"Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land some guy who breaks his promise and cons his fellow man? Or the ordinary fellow who in times of war and strife, goes off to serve his country and offers up his life?

"The politician's stipend and the style in which he lives are often disproportionate to the service that he gives. While the ordinary soldier, who offered up his all, is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension, very small.

"It is not the politicians with their compromise and ploys, who won for us the freedom that our country now enjoys. Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand, would you want the politician, with his ever waffling stand?

"Or would you want a soldier, his home, his country, his kin: Just a common soldier, who would fight until the end?

"He was just a common soldier, and his ranks are growing thin, but his presence should remind us we may need his likes again.

"For when countries are in conflict, we find the soldier's part is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start. If we cannot do him honor while he's here to hear the praise, then at least let's give him homage at the ending of his days.

"Perhaps just a simple headline in the paper that might say: 'Our country is in mourning: A soldier died today.'"

*Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for Big Spring Independent School District.*

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# News in brief

## Tanker trailer driver dies in train wreck

MIDLAND, Texas (AP) — The driver of an 18-wheeler tanker trailer has died after a collision with a Union Pacific train in Midland. Midland County Sheriff Gary Painter confirmed the fatality Monday to the Midland Reporter-Telegram. Midland police and fire departments responded to the crash at 10:31 a.m. Midland County deputies and Department of Public Safety troopers also responded. It's the first death involving a train in the city since four veterans were killed when a train hit a parade float during the Show of Support parade last November. That accident remains under investigation by the National Transportation Safety Board. It also involved a Union Pacific train.

## 2 officers fired after videotaped incident

JASPER, Texas (AP) — Two Southeast Texas police officers have been fired after a videotaped incident in which a woman held for an unpaid traffic ticket had her face slammed on a jail counter. The Jasper City Council on Monday dismissed Officers Ryan Cunningham and Ricky Grisom. Council members asked prosecutors to review the May 5 jailhouse video that also show an officer trying to drag Keyarika (kuh-REE'-kuh) Diggle across a floor. Both officers were put on paid administrative leave last month. Diggle says she's been anxious and scared since the incident that led to a resisting arrest charge. That count was dropped Monday. Details weren't immediately available on the status of the traffic ticket. Jasper Mayor Mike Lout says it was "sickening" to see the video.

## Searchers find missing man's body in Buffalo River

ERBIE, Ark. (AP) — Authorities have recovered the body of a Texas man who died while swimming in the Buffalo National River over the weekend. Authorities say 27-year-old Stephen Carney of Austin had been missing since Friday afternoon when he dove off a 25-foot bluff into the river and never surfaced. Officials with Newton County Search and Rescue say Carney's friends began looking for him immediately but high waters slowed the effort. The water was above normal levels and somewhat muddy. Glenn Wheeler with Newton County Search and Rescue says a firefighter from Harrison found Carney's body Sunday afternoon in about 5 feet of water.

## Man gets 18 years for crash that killed officer

CLEBURNE, Texas (AP) — A driver blamed for a 2012 traffic accident that left an off-du-

ty North Texas police officer dead has been sentenced to 18 years in prison. A jury in Cleburne on Monday ordered the penalty for 22-year-old Ricardo Espinoza of Alvarado. Espinoza last week pleaded guilty to intoxication manslaughter and leaving the scene of an accident over last July's wreck in Venus. Investigators say Espinoza was legally drunk when he drove his pickup truck into a motorcycle ridden by 25-year-old Dustin Dodson. The victim was a Lancaster police officer who was heading home after getting off work. Espinoza was sentenced to 18 years in prison for intoxication manslaughter and 10 years for leaving the scene of the accident. The terms must be served concurrently.

HOUSTON (AP) — A skull and some bones have been found in northwest Houston and police are trying to identify the person. Police say some people living in the area near some woods called 911 on Monday to report finding a skull and what appears to be part of a jaw. Several other bones were discovered nearby. An autopsy has been ordered. Sgt. Robert Torres says police are also reviewing reports of two people reported missing in the area in separate incidents over the past few months.

## ID sought on skull, bones found in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — A skull and some bones have been found in northwest Houston and police are trying to identify the person. Police say some people living in the area near some woods called 911 on Monday to report finding a skull and what appears to be part of a jaw. Several other bones were discovered nearby. An autopsy has been ordered. Sgt. Robert Torres says police are also reviewing reports of two people reported missing in the area in separate incidents over the past few months.

## Amarillo storm damage estimated at \$400 million

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — The Insurance Council of Texas estimates that insured losses from last week's hail storm in Amarillo will total about \$400 million. The total exceeds the record set in 2004 of \$175 million. The Amarillo Globe-News reports that the trade association derived its estimate by

taking reports from insurers and applying average costs for roof and auto repair. Hail the size of baseballs damaged an estimated 35,000 vehicles and thousands of homes. The Amarillo Botanical Gardens was destroyed.

## Ex-Dallas school official faces kickback charges

DALLAS (AP) — The former Dallas school district chief of staff has been indicted by a federal grand jury for allegedly receiving at least \$60,000 in kickbacks connected to a contract awarded while he was working for Atlanta Public Schools. Jerome Oberlton resigned his position as Dallas Superintendent Mike Miles' top lieutenant last week after informing Miles of the investigation.

The Dallas Morning News reported that Oberlton was charged in a seven-count indictment unsealed Monday. The newspaper said the charges are conspiracy, conspiracy under color of official right, money laundering conspiracy, mail fraud, wire fraud and bribery. A call to Oberlton by The Associated Press wasn't immediately returned. Oberlton joined the Dallas school district in January. He served as chief information officer for Atlanta schools from 2004 to 2007.

## Man reaches plea deal in pipeline blast case

PLANO, Texas (AP) — A Texas man who has described himself as a political activist pleaded guilty Monday to trying to blow up a natural gas pipeline with a homemade bomb last year in a Dallas suburb. Anson Chi, 34, pleaded guilty to maliciously attempting to destroy an Atmos Energy natural gas pipeline in Plano that was used in interstate commerce, The Dallas Morning News reported. He also entered a guilty plea to possessing an explosive device composed of methyl

nitrate and other parts that was not registered with the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record. U.S. District Judge Richard Schell accepted Chi's plea, but will not impose the agreed-upon punishment until a presentencing report is complete. Prosecutors and defense attorneys agreed that as part of the deal, the Plano man would be sentenced to the maximum 20 years in prison on the charge of maliciously attempting to destroy the pipeline and two years for possessing the device. Since the federal prison system has no parole or early release programs, Chi would be required to serve the full 22 years.

Authorities have said Chi detonated a bomb at a natural gas regulator station in June 2012 and was critically injured in the blast. Police responding to 911 calls from residents about the explosion found the injured Chi, who initially claimed he had been jogging and was hit by a car. He has since recovered from his injuries.

Police responding to 911 calls from residents about the explosion found the injured Chi, who initially claimed he had been jogging and was hit by a car. He has since recovered from his injuries.


## Texas Lottery suspends sales for 'All or Nothing'

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas Lottery has temporarily suspended sales for its "All or Nothing" draw

game. The Lottery Commission says it has been notified by GTECH Corp., the lottery operator in Texas, of a game design issue. The issue is caused in part by player propensity to play certain numbers. The commission will evaluate placing limita-

tions on wagers that can be purchased for any number combination. "All or Nothing" is played by selecting 12 numbers from a pool of 24. Players can win the game's top prize of \$250,000 by matching all of the 12 numbers drawn by the Texas Lottery or by matching none.

# Contract Bridge



By Steve Becker

## Tender, Loving Care

East dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A K 8 5 3  
♥ A 9 4  
♦ J 6 3  
♣ 5 2

**WEST**  
♠ Q J 10 9 7 2  
♥ K Q J  
♦ 8  
♣ Q 6 3

**EAST**  
♠ —  
♥ 8 7 6 3 2  
♦ 9 4  
♣ K 10 9 8 7 4

**SOUTH**  
♠ 6 4  
♥ 10 5  
♦ A K Q 10 7 5 2  
♣ A J

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1♦ 3♠ Dble  
4♠ 4♣ Pass 5♦

Opening lead — queen of spades.

One of the purposes of a preemptive bid is to crowd the bidding in the hope that the opponents will then stumble into the wrong contract. Thus, in today's deal, after his partner passes and South opens the bidding, West has good reason to think that the opponents have a game, so he bids three spades rather than one. Even if he gets doubled, West has six probable tricks, and if North-South can make a game or a slam, the penalty incurred will be worthwhile. In the actual case, North does

double, and East runs to four clubs. South then winds up in five diamonds, but note that his side might have reached three notrump (making five) had there been less (or no) interference. As it happens, five diamonds is a sound contract that cannot be defeated if declarer plays correctly. Nevertheless, the fact is that it would be very easy to play the hand incorrectly. West leads the spade queen, and South's mettle is tested at once. The proper play is to follow low from dummy and let West win the trick! When West then continues with the jack, declarer ducks again, and he ducks a third time when West returns the ten, this time ruffing in his hand. South then has no trouble collecting the rest of the tricks. If declarer makes the mistake of playing the ace or king from dummy on any of the first three spade leads, he goes down one. However, he should realize from the bidding that West has six spades and East none, so he should let West win the first two tricks. Another way to state the situation is to say that South can see 11 tricks as soon as dummy comes down, and all he has to do is to make sure he does nothing to jeopardize them during the play.

Tomorrow: The exploratory process.  
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## Sudoku Answer on Page 3

# sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

# 80TH BIG SPRING COWBOY REUNION RODEO PARADE

## 10:00 A.M. — Saturday, June 22nd

Let's make this the biggest and best rodeo parade ever! Award categories include floats, tractors, riding clubs, motorcycle, custom and classic cars and bicycles. Top entries from the eight categories will receive a plaque.

---

### ENTRANT

---

### TYPE ENTRY

(Check type)

Float

Custom/Classic Car

Bicycle

Antique Car

Antique Tractor

Riding Club

Tractor

---

### CONTACT PHONE No.

---

## Parade Line Up Starts @ 11th & Main

Return entries to the Big Spring Herald, 710 Scurry, no later than noon on Monday, June 17, then get your boots, hat and western wear ready to join us in the celebration!

# BIG SPRING HERALD



## Rodeo Is June 20-22

www.bigspringrodeo.com

255771



# Coahoma seniors to partake in FCA game

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

COAHOMA — Two Coahoma High School grads are reporting to Abilene on Wednesday to take part in the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Country Chevy Dealers Fellowship of Christian Athletes All-Star Festival.

Tanner Ruiz, son of Juan and Sandy Ruiz, was chosen to compete on the football squad. Ruiz, a varsity

captain, led the Bulldogs in rushing despite an ongoing wrist injury which plagued him during the season.

Tobi Robinson, daughter of Patric and Sherry Robinson, was selected to the football cheer squad.

Ruiz and Robinson are included in the more than 200 area students which will play either football, basketball, volleyball or cheer. Student-athletes from 36 counties and more than 50 schools will populate the FCA

rosters.

The All-Stars are originally nominated by head coaches in the region, which comprises about a 100-mile radius from Abilene. The participants — which range from Class A schools all the way up to 5A — were announced at a press conference at Beltway Baptist Church in Abilene in February. A banquet was held in their honor at the Abilene Civic Center.

Several events and activities — along with two-a-day practices — will be held throughout the week. The Myrtle Greathouse All-Star Classic football game will be held Saturday at 7 p.m. at Shotwell Stadium in Abilene.

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



Tanner Ruiz - football



Tobi Robinson - cheerleader



Photo submitted by Johnny DeLeon

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association's 6 and under squad, the Lil' Munchkins recently won a divisional tournament. The Munchkins are (front row, from left): Ilianna Phillips, Jovi Rye, Caitlyn Morales, Emma Rodriguez, Avery Rodriguez; (middle row): Kaitlyn Purcell, Milly Owens, Karleigh Burt, Kyleigh Heckler, Emily Green, Lily Stanislaus; (back row): Coaches Shane Burt, Andrea Burt and Tara Green.

## Ginobili, Spurs gearing up for another title run

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The roar begins to build as soon as Gregg Popovich points over to the bench, usually midway through the first quarter.

Manu Ginobili rises and so does the excitement level inside the AT&T Center. Of course, the anticipation is ambiguous because no one knows what the San Antonio Spurs' veteran guard will do once he gets on the court.

He could miss a wild 3-point attempt, the way he did in the second overtime against Golden State in this season's playoffs. Or he could do something big in the clutch, such as hitting a 3-pointer a short time later to win that same game.

"It's what you live with with Manu," Spurs forward Tim Duncan said. "Does it amaze me? Everything he does amazes me — his good stuff, his bad stuff. It's what you learn to live with with him."

"He's someone that gives us so much of a different face. People can't plan for what he does. We're well-coached when we expect well, but you can't prepare for what Manu does, and that's one thing that makes us a better team."

Ginobili and the Spurs are gearing up for the franchise's fifth appearance in the NBA Finals, where they will meet the defending champion Heat starting Thurs-

day in Miami.

Not since Hall of Famer George Gervin finger-rolled his way into the hearts of San Antonio fans during an 11-year career have the Spurs had a player as popular as Ginobili. Duncan, Tony Parker, David Robinson and Sean Elliott all hold a special place in fans' hearts, but Ginobili has become one of the city's own.

"I don't know how we connected at first," the Argentine said. "I just know that they kind of adopted me from the first minute I got here. Maybe it's my Latin roots, Spanish speaking, or maybe it's my type of game. I guess it was a little bit of everything."

"But it really helped me, especially early in my career. Now I'm a developed player, I've been everywhere and now I'm more used to it. But at the beginning, when I had so many doubts, I was the new guy in the NBA, the uncertainties and all that, having 18,000 people supporting me and cheering you up was a big help."

The 6-foot-6 guard has given Spurs fans plenty to cheer about — and groan over.

He averaged 20.8 points and 5.8 rebounds during the postseason in guiding San Antonio to the 2005 NBA championship. During Game 7 of the 2006 Western Conference finals

## Last place Astros sweep Angels

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Just when the Houston Astros figured everybody in baseball had pretty much forgotten about them, they've started to pull off some attention-grabbing feats.

After a perfect road trip, the low-budget club with the AL's worst record is heading home with the majors' longest active winning streak.

Chris Carter homered, Erik Bedard pitched seven strong innings for his first victory of the season, and the last-place Astros completed a four-game sweep of the Los Angeles Angels with a 2-1 victory Monday night.

Brandon Barnes drove in the go-ahead run in the sixth inning as

the Astros finished their unblemished six-game trip with their seventh win over the big-money Angels in 10 meetings this season. The Astros completed their longest perfect road trip since 1999 despite managing only three hits and four baserunners — and one was picked off.

"Everybody takes pride in winning and playing as a team, and guys are playing great right now," said Carter, who hit his fifth homer against the Angels already this season.

"It's just about getting big hits in big situations."

Houston hadn't won six consecutive games since August 2010, and hadn't won six straight on the

road since July 2005. The Astros barely hung on for the latest win in their improbable string, with Jose Veras striking out Hank Conger with two runners on in the ninth for his 11th save.

"I feel like we're playing really good baseball," Houston manager Bo Porter said. "We had been playing good baseball, but now we're starting to win those crucial break points. ... I look at the talent in that room. I know the potential we have. You're starting to see we're coming together. I said it last month: We're going to hit our stride, and we're going to start winning some of those games we were losing."



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**Area Routes**  
**Open**

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**CHANGE LIVES** for the better. Major dental company is looking for a full-time and a Hygienist for this busy Abilene office. CPR license is required for Hygienist position and a minimum of 2 years or related experience. Must be a State Board Registered Hygienist. Great benefits and pay! Fax resume to 714-200-0574, e-mail to bndrecruiting@brightnow.com. EOE

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Prefer to live at home? The elderly do, too! Put your cheerful, encouraging demeanor to work with a non-medical companionship and home helper service that strives to help seniors in their homes. All Training provided. Must have valid driver license, suitable background check and pass drug test. Hiring for all shifts in Midland. Gas allowance provided. Call 432-689-4663 Or Visit our website: www.heartofacaregiver.com

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The City of Coahoma seeks a qualified individual to serve as its Public Works Director. The Public Works Director will plan, direct and review all of the activities of the Public Utilities/Works Department, including water and wastewater services, sanitation services, construction projects, street maintenance, and operation and maintenance of city facilities, vehicles and equipment. The Director will supervise any full or part time employees of the department, prepare and monitor department and project budgets and comply with any deadlines.

Applicants must have public works or utilities experience, possess a high school diploma or GED and a Class C drivers' license. Must also have a TCEQ water/wastewater license or ability to obtain within one year, and must be able to pass a drug and background check. Salary is commensurate with experience. Contact Coahoma City Hall @ 432-394-4287 if you have any questions.

Help Wanted

**Big Spring Health Food Store** needs Sales person, Some Saturdays Included. Must be dependable, honest, w/good people skills & reliable transportation. Prefer non smoker. Come by 1305 Scurry for application or bring resume. Past applicants please reapply. No phone Calls!

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**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

proof. **ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Break your patterns. Doing things out of order, upside down and bottom to top will help you gain the detached point of view you need to understand what's really going on today.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You have nothing to hide. And yet, you don't like the idea that much of what you do, purchase, post, like and enjoy is being tracked in some way. Issues of privacy will arise.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You prefer to actually be useful, not to merely look busy. And there are those around who don't even know better than to proudly display their idleness. You have something to teach them now.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). There are those "stumble upon" kind of days when solutions come rolling into your path. But today will require more effort. In order to find an answer, you have to look for one.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). There's a kind of chase going on inside your head akin to a dog chasing his own tail. If you're not having any breakthroughs on the

matter that's on your mind, the best course is not to think about it for a while.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Instead of trying to control a situation, gain the trust of the people involved. Then you won't have to assert yourself or attempt to force your agenda; you'll just have to ask nicely.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There is a huge difference between doing something weekly or monthly and doing it every day. There will be an opportunity to incorporate a good habit into your daily life, and there are rich rewards for doing so.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will show patience and afford people more leeway than they deserve in the moment. To respect the people around you even when they are not acting in a respectful way toward you is the kind of true nobility you strive for.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). For most of the day, you'll smile, charm and offer your two bits. You don't mind entertaining others, but if you wind up alone tonight, you'll love the company and will be happy for the break.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You don't criticize or compete with

your people. You are absolutely loyal to those above and under you in rank. In this regard, you set a tone that others will follow today.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Even though your contribution to a group is substantial and important, you may not get personal props for this. It won't hurt to quietly keep track, though, so later you can build a case for your own promotion.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Sometimes you like to be the performer who puts on a spectacular show. But right now you don't want all the pressure that comes with that. You just want to do "you," and you'll find that people respond to exactly who you are.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (June 4). Your certainty in yourself opens doors. Make the most of the stellar work opportunities that come over the next six weeks. August has a loose, relaxed feel, and your social life thrives. Lifestyle changes in September improve your health and fitness, and a new guru helps. In February, you'll declare your love, and this will be a life changer. Libra and Capricorn people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 8, 13, 24 and 32.

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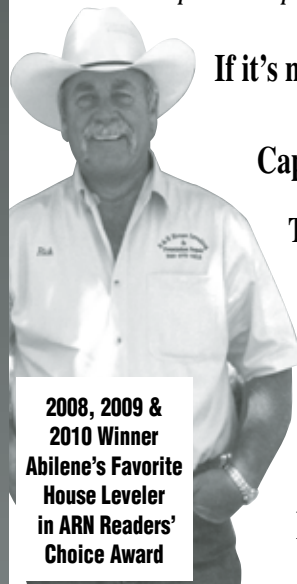
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TV schedule table with columns for station (KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLE, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, KWWT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and time slots (5:30 PM, 6:30 PM, 7:30 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:30 PM, 10:30 PM, 11:30 PM, 12:30 AM, 1:30 AM).

DENNIS THE MENACE comic strip by Hamilton. Dennis is talking to a woman. "DON'T WORRY, SMALL CHANGE IS BIG STUFF TO ME AN' PIGGY!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS comic strip by Jeff Keane. Eric is talking to his parents. "Can I put my tooth under Eric's pillow? His Tooth Fairy pays more than ours."

HAGAR comic strip by Broome. Hagar is talking to a group of people. "LET'S GO MEN, AND REMEMBER... KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN! ... AND KEEP YOUR SHIELDS IN FRONT OF YOUR EYES!"

BLONDIE comic strip by Harriet. Blondie is talking to a man. "LOOK! ANOTHER HIGH-PROFILE ATHLETE IS APOLOGIZING TO HIS FANS FOR ACTING LIKE A JERK... WHAT DID HE DO? THAT'S THE THING... NOBODY KNOWS... SO HE'S HOLDING A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE THAT HE'S POSTING ALL THE GRITTY DETAILS ON HIS DAILY BLOG"

WIZARD OF ID comic strip by Hart. A wizard is talking to a man. "HERE'S WHERE ARTHRITIS SETS IN..."

AGNES comic strip by Parker. Agnes is talking to a man. "the wizard tries his hand at cosmetic surgery... FORGET THE HEART... I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A SIX-PACK!"

HI AND LOIS comic strip by Harriet. Lois is talking to a man. "OK... I WILL BEGIN MY JOURNEY TO THE TOP OF THE HIGH DIVE BY LEAPING FROM THE PERILOUS HEIGHT OF THIS BRICK... I WILL ADD A BRICK EVERY DAY UNTIL I HAVE REACHED THE SAME HEIGHT AS THE DIVING BOARD... WHEN!... I'M A TAD WOOLZY, BUT THIS LOOKS ULTIMATELY DOABLE... BEWARE NOSE-BLEEDS."

THE OTHER COAST comic strip by Broome. A man is talking to a woman. "OOH! I HAD A HUGE BREAKFAST THIS MORNING! I GUESS YOU WON'T BE JOINING ME FOR LUNCH, THEN. WHY SHOULD BEING STUFFED STOP ME?"

SNUFFY SMITH comic strip by Ralston. Snuffy is talking to a woman. "WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF A GIANT ASTEROID WAS APPROACHING EARTH AND YOU ONLY HAD MINUTES LEFT TO LIVE? THAT'S EASY. I'D DO SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO. I'D FIND A STINKING MUD-FILLED DITCH TO WADE IN... THEN I'D RACE HOME AND ROLL ON EVERY PIECE OF UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE. WHAT IF THE ASTEROID PASSES HARMLESSLY BY? I'LL BLAME IT ON YOU."

BEELE BAILEY comic strip by Rose. Beetle is talking to a woman. "WHY, YOU LI'L TATTLETALE!! I'LL GIVE YA ONE IF YOU'LL ERASE THAT!!"

BEETLE BAILEY comic strip by Greg Mott Walker. Beetle is talking to a woman. "HERE'S TO MY EX-WIFE! YOU DON'T HAVE AN EX-WIFE. I KNOW, BUT MARTHA AND I HAD A BIG FIGHT TODAY AND I WONDERED HOW IT WOULD SOUND. HERE'S TO MY EX-HUSBAND!"

This Date In History. Today is Tuesday, June 4, the 155th day of 2013. Today's Highlight in History: On June 4, 1913, British suffragist Emily Davison was struck and mortally injured after moving into the path of a horse during the running of the Epsom Derby; her exact motives remain unclear. (The horse that ran into Davison was Anmer, owned by King George V. Jockey Herbert Jones was thrown off and injured; Anmer recovered and completed the race on its own; Davison died at a hospital four days later.) On this date: In 1783, the Montgolfier brothers first publicly demonstrated their hot-air balloon, which did not carry any passengers, over Annonay, France. In 1812, the Louisiana Territory was renamed the Missouri Territory. The U.S. House of Representatives approved a declaration of war against Britain. In 1892, the Sierra Club was incorporated in San Francisco. In 1919, Congress approved the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing citizens the right to vote regardless of their gender, and sent it to the states for ratification. In 1939, the German ocean liner St. Louis, carrying more than 900 Jewish refugees from Germany, was turned away from the Florida coast by U.S. officials. In 1940, during World War II, the Allied military evacuation of more than 338,000 troops from Dunkirk, France, ended. In 1942, the World War II Battle of Midway began, resulting in a decisive American victory against Japan and marking the turning point of the war in the Pacific. In 1943, the president of Argentina, Ramon Castillo, was overthrown in a military coup. In 1954, French Premier Joseph Laniel and Vietnamese Premier Buu Loc signed treaties in Paris according to "complete independence" to Vietnam. In 1972, a jury in San Jose, Calif., acquitted radical activist Angela Davis of murder and kidnapping for her alleged connection to a deadly courthouse shootout in Marin County in 1970. In 1998, a federal judge sentenced Terry Nichols to life in prison for his role in the Oklahoma City bombing. Today's Birthdays: Actor Bruce Dern is 77. Musician Roger Ball is 69. Actress-singer Michelle Phillips is 69. Jazz musician Anthony Braxton is 68. Rock musician Danny Brown (The Fixx) is 62. Actor Parker Stevenson is 61. Actor Keith David is 57. Actress Julie Gholson is 55. Actor Eddie Velez is 55.

Newsday Crossword. A LITTLE ARITHMETIC by Sally R. Stein. Edited by Stanley Newman. www.stanxwords.com. Includes crossword grid and clues.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like AROMA, GRIM, YARD, WAXES, ROTE, ERIE, EVENT, AURA, SALE, SEN, EMPTY, NESTER, TREES, TAI, SOBEIT, CITRUS, OGRES, ALUM, NCO, BLANK, EXPRESSION, SEC, KESS, PHONE, DEBRIS, PRUNES, LUG, TREAT, ZERO, GRAVITY, EVE, ECON, ASSN, EMAIL, SHOD, TIES, ROSES, TOME, ETTIE, SWEDI.



**ASTROS**

Continued from Page 8

The Astros had just enough to hold off Los Angeles, which lost a game despite allowing three hits or fewer for just the fifth time in the last decade.

Joe Blanton picked up his AL-worst ninth loss for the Angels despite matching his career high with 11 strikeouts and allowing just three hits in eight outstanding innings. The Angels held a closed-door meeting for 25 minutes after their latest discouraging loss in a season full of them.

"Anything can happen in this game, so you can't take

the other team for granted," said Albert Pujols, who went 0 for 4.

"They have a lot of players who want to prove that they belong up here. We had our pitching matchups set up, and obviously things didn't go our way."

Barnes dived to catch Pujols' sinking drive to center with Mike Trout on base to end the eighth.

Veras then held on for his third save in the four-game series, giving up Alberto Calaspo's two-out double and walking pinch-hitter Josh Hamilton striking out pinch-hitter Conger looking.

Bedard (1-2) hadn't won in his last 11 starts dating to

last season, but the veteran lefty gave up just five hits and a walk despite entering the night with a career 7.08 ERA at Angel Stadium.

Trout drove in the only run for the foundering Angels, who have lost six of eight to erase all momentum from their eight-game winning streak last month.

Los Angeles slid back to eight games below .500 with four consecutive losses to the Astros, dropping its record against the rest of the AL West to 9-19.

Carter's fifth-inning homer was the Astros' first hit off Blanton (1-9), who kept mowing down the Astros in his first start with 10 strikeouts

in nearly four years. Blanton still matched Philadelphia's Cole Hamels for the major league lead in losses.

"They executed when they needed to, and we didn't," Blanton said. "They pitched well. Anytime somebody beats you four in a row, you've got to give them credit. It's not all a matter of you playing bad."

Hamilton was held out of the Angels' starting lineup to give some rest to the slumping \$125 million outfielder. Hamilton missed two games last week with back spasms, but the former AL MVP was 2 for 15 on the homestand, and is batting .169 against left-handers this season.

Blanton struck out six of

the Astros' first nine batters. Houston's only baserunner in the first 4 2-3 innings reached on Callaspo's throwing error in the third, but Chris Iannetta picked Matt Dominguez off second base moments later.

The Angels took the lead in the third when J.B. Shuck doubled down the right-field line, advanced on Erick Aybar's single and scored on Trout's flyout.

Blanton was firmly in control until Carter's homer, striking out the first two batters he faced in the fifth to surpass his season high.

Houston went ahead in the sixth when Dominguez doubled, advanced on a bunt and scored on Barnes' fly.

**SPURS**

Continued from Page 8

against the Dallas Mavericks, Ginobili scored 21 of his 23 points in the second half to rally the Spurs to a three-point lead with 32 seconds left. He broke their hearts seconds later by haphazardly fouling Dirk Nowitzki on a dunk, leading to a three-point play and an eventual Mavericks win in overtime.

Ginobili is averaging a respectable 11.5 points, 5.4 assists and 4.5 rebounds during this postseason, but the Spurs know there is another level to his game and they are eager to see it in the Finals.

"I still feel like Manu is saving his best for last," Parker said. "I can feel a big final for him. That would be nice; we are definitely going to need it."

Duncan agreed: "I told him he's saving himself."

Truthfully, Ginobili has never saved himself on the court since his earliest days playing basketball in Bahia Blanca, Argentina.

"He's just hell-bent for leather, absolutely all-out," Popovich said. "He plays with a ferocity at both ends of the court that's very unique. Coaches love that stuff."

At age 35, Ginobili no longer has the long, flowing hair that whipped violently each time he tumbled to the court — opponents would say flopped — but the fierce drives are still there in his 11th season.

"He's one of those guys, who, at age 50, won't be able to walk," former NBA coach Nate McMillan has said.

Ginobili already has difficulty staying upright, missing 22 games this season after missing 32 in the lockout-shortened 2012 season. After missing much of

the final month of the regular season with a strained hamstring, Ginobili said he feels as healthy as he did entering training camp.

"It's great to have had this opportunity to keep playing," Ginobili said. "I feel better. If we had lost in the first round, I wasn't even back. After three weeks sitting, then four games, five games and the season's over, you go back home with a really bad feeling about the season. But since the way things have turned out, to tell you the truth, I even forgot what happened during the season. I'm feeling good now. We're in the Finals, so who cares? No one is going to remember I missed 20 games during the regular season."

While Parker and Duncan receive a lion's share of credit for the team's successful 16-year run, they know they need a healthy Ginobili to thrive.

"Manu is one of the ultimate competitors in our league, and has been for a long time," Pop-

ovich said. "He has been a big factor in us winning games (and) winning championships. He's very important to what we do."

It's not just his willingness to take a charge or fearlessness in taking a last-second shot that makes Ginobili critical to the team. He is a vocal leader and the team's resident cut-up, chastising the younger players when he isn't playfully bullying them.

Ginobili said he has no plans to retire, but he is cherishing this trip to the Finals more than his three previous appearances.

"I completely love what I do, and I think people can tell," Ginobili said. "Even though I can start to see the end of the road, it's hard to really imagine being a retired player because I still really love what I do. I enjoy the locker room before a game. I even enjoy it after a loss; just the camaraderie, the stay together, going to dinner to talk about what we've done wrong."

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**We Want Your Input**  
Here's how you as a resident of Howard County can take part:

- In whatever focus you choose, chronicle your activities on June 12 • You can write a first-person essay about your day's events. You can do it as a group project with your club, team or social circle. Photos encouraged.
- Submit your story to us by Monday, June 17. email link: [newsdesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com) or walk in.
- Include stories along with photos about your day, the people you encounter, your commute, milestones or even a day's recap of work. We want to know what Howard County does on June 12, and preserve that for future generations.

*The Herald staff will also be putting together a By The Number list on June 12 as well as taking photos around the county throughout the period that show what a typical day is like. If you are interested in becoming part of this unique effort, contact us at the newspaper at 263-7331 or via the e-mail link: [newsdesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com) Be sure to read the June 30 edition to see how June 12 unfolded for your friends and neighbors in Howard County.*

*Glenn Stifflemire*  
Publisher, The Big Spring Herald

*We're looking for stories that will help form a Snapshot in Time about life in Howard County, so keep in mind that no detail is too small or unimportant.*

- Resident's Name:
- City of residence:
- Occupation:
- My day began at (time):
- The first thing I did today was:
- How was the morning?:
- Did anything unusual happen today:
- Who was the most memorable person you met today (name not necessary):
- What was the day's biggest success?:
- What was the day's biggest disappointment (if any):
- How was your drive home?:
- Would you consider today typical?:
- Anything else relevant to your day:

**This is a brief outline of the kind of stories we are seeking.**

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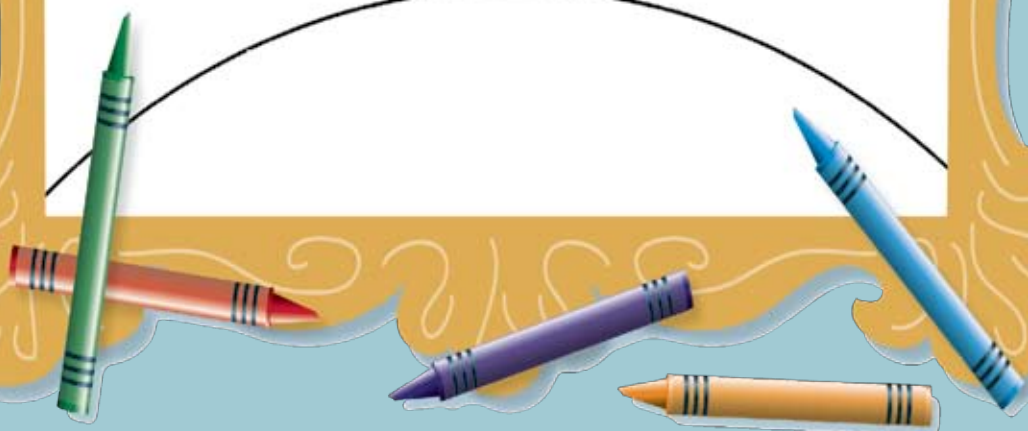
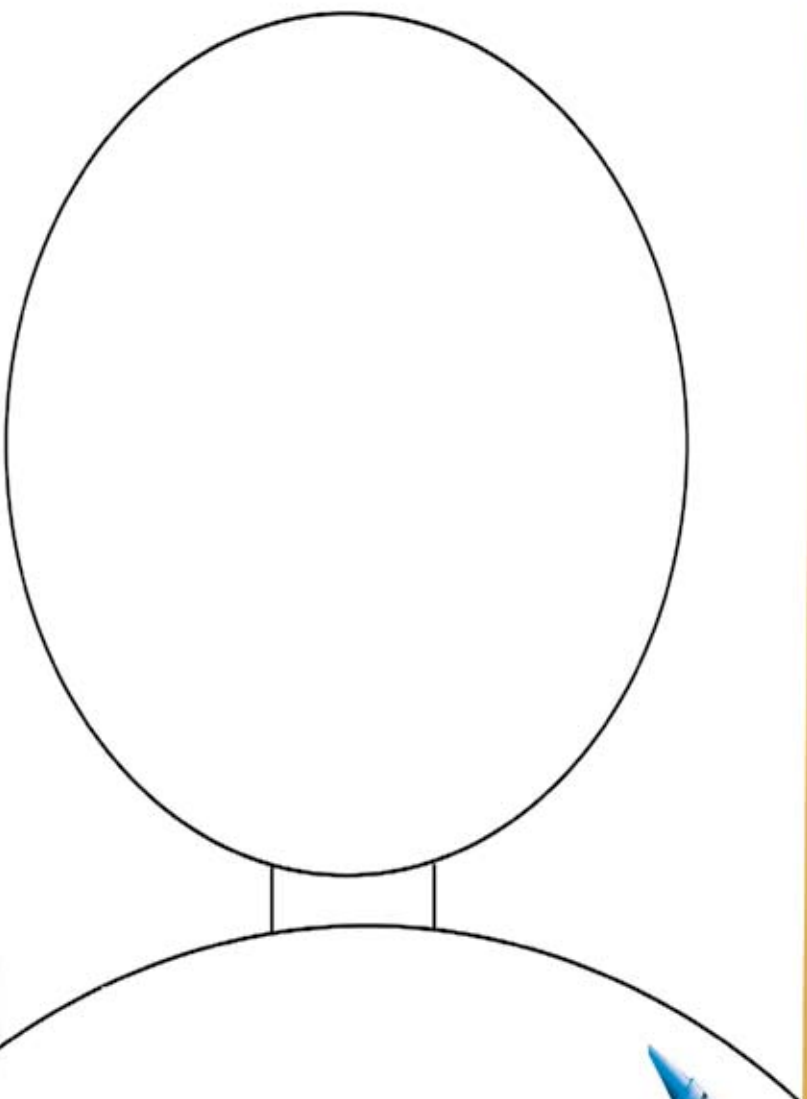
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