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H BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

DECEMBER 31, 2013



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VOLUME 109, NUMBER 64

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Stolen Santa found

Festival display back in place in time for tonight's finale

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Santa is back where he belongs, just in time for a happy ending.

A vintage Santa Claus decoration, stolen from the Big Spring State Hospital display at the Comanche Trail Festival of Lights, has been recovered by local police and is back in its proper place just in time for tonight's conclusion of the annual holiday attraction.

"We're delighted," Festival Committee Chairperson Pat Simmons said. "Someone called the police and told them where it was ... and we went and got it (Monday) and put it back on the display."

Big Spring Police Department Public Information Officer Sgt. Tony Everett said officials recovered the four-foot-tall mechanical Santa at

See **SANTA**, Page 3



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To reach us:

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.



HERALD photos/Andrea Medlin
Construction continues at the site of the Pilot Travel Center. In the bottom photo, from left, Juan Barreto, Hugo Gomez and Juan Vilcheg drive wooden planks into the ground near the fuel pumps. The center is set to open early next year and is located on the south service road at the intersection of Highway 350 and Interstate Highway 20.

Health care sign-ups pass 1 million mark

By **JOSH LEDERMAN**

Associated Press

HONOLULU — The government's rehabilitated health insurance website has seen a December surge in customer sign-ups, pushing enrollment past the 1 million mark, the Obama administration says.

Combined with numbers for state-run markets, that should put total enrollment in the new private insurance plans under President Barack Obama's health law at about 2 million people through the end of the year, independent experts said.

That would be about two-thirds of the administration's original goal of signing up 3.3 million by Dec. 31, a significant improvement given the technical problems that crippled the federal market

during much of the fall. The overall goal remains to enroll 7 million people by March 31.

"It looks like current enrollment is around 2 million despite all the issues," said Dan Mendelson, CEO of Avalere Health, a market analysis firm. "It was a very impressive showing for December."

The administration said that of the more than 1.1 million people now enrolled in the federal insurance exchange, nearly 1 million signed up in December. The majority came days before a pre-Christmas deadline for coverage to start in January. Compare that with a paltry 27,000 in October, the federal website's first, error-prone month.

"We experienced a welcome surge in enrollment as

millions of Americans seek access to affordable health care coverage," Marilyn Tavenner, the head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, said in a blog post announcing the figures.

The numbers don't represent a full accounting for the country.

The federal website serves 36 states. Yet to be reported are December results from the 14 states running their own sites. Overall, states have been signing up more people than the federal government. But most of that has come from high performers such as California, New York, Washington state, Kentucky and Connecticut. Some states continue to struggle.

Still, the end-of-year spike suggests that the federal in-

surance marketplace is starting to pull its weight. The windfall comes at a critical moment for Obama's sweeping health care law, which becomes "real" for many Americans on Jan. 1 as coverage through the insurance exchanges and key patient protections kick in.

The administration's concern now shifts to keeping the momentum going for sign-ups, and heading off problems that could arise when people who've already enrolled try to use their new insurance.

"They've got the front end of the system working really well," said insurance industry consultant Robert Laszewski. "Now we can move on to the next question: Do peo-

See **SIGN-UPS**, Page 3



The Pleasure's Been Ours!

At the holidays and all year through -- we loved every minute of serving you! With warmest wishes to you and your kin, we thank you all for dropping in!



Elrod's Furniture

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Obituaries

Perla Faye O'Brien

Perla Faye O'Brien, 84, of San Angelo, left her earthly home Thursday, Dec. 26, 2013, to be with her Heavenly Father.

Perla was born Perla Faye Hunt Oct. 19, 1929, in Sterling City, Texas. She graduated from Garden City High School in 1947 and married C. L. O'Brien May 20, 1959, in Big Spring, Texas. He preceded her in death Aug. 5, 1999. She was a homemaker and an artist.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers; and a sister.

She is survived by nephews and nieces, Lee Roy "Bud" Hunt and wife, Patricia of San Angelo, Texas. Jack Edward Hunt of Big Spring, Beth Holley and husband, Rick of Kermit, Texas, Carla Mayer and husband, Melvin of Boise, Idaho, Gina Jones and husband, Jimmy of Lubbock, Texas, Charlene Morris and husband, C.L. of Granbury, Texas, and Kay Driver of Northfield, Minn.

Per her wishes, Perla Faye will be buried at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring with a private family memorial service to be held at a later date.

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

Paid obituary

Florence Kelly

Florence Kelly, 90, of Big Spring, died Dec. 31, 2013, in a local hospital. Her services are pending at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory

Juan McHorse

Juan McHorse, 71, of Pecos, Texas, died Sunday, Dec. 29, 2013, at the VA Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Clarence Henkell

Clarence Henkell, 69, died Monday, Dec. 30, 2013, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

• "A Journey to a New Normal," a grief support network, meets from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 602 S. Main. For information, call 263-5999.

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

• 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.

Police blotter

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

- KANDICE KAELYN HODNETT, 20, of 627 State St., was arrested Monday on a charge of theft greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.
- DEVYN ELYSE MARTINEZ, 24, of 511 S. Goliad, was arrested Monday on a charge of theft greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported at the 7000 block of the south service road in Sand Springs, the 1300 block of Mobile and the 3300 block of East FM 700.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported at the 800 block of Lancaster and the 1200 block of Pennsylvania Ave.
- MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported at the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.
- ASSAULT was reported at the 3600 block of West Highway 80.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 60 inmates at the time of this report.

- DEVYN ELYSE JACKMAN was booked by BSPD on a charge of theft of property greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.
- KANDICE HODNETT was booked by BSPD on a charge of theft of property greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA reported at the 1900 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. No transport.
- MEDICAL call reported at the 800 block of West Interstate Highway 20. One patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- MEDICAL call reported at the 500 block of Johnson. Service refused.
- TRAUMA reported at the 2000 block of East FM 700. One patient transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA reported at the 1900 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. One patient transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE reported at the 1300 block of Sycamore. Extinguished.

Take Note

• Holy Trinity Youth Group is hosting its 3rd Annual "Warming up our Community" service project, Saturday Jan. 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 5 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Fr. Beasley Hall, 1009 Hearn Street, Big Spring. Anyone in need of blankets, jackets, scarves and gloves is welcome to come by.

• Big Spring Second Chance Rescue (BSSCR) is in need of donations to help spay and neuter rescued dogs, so they can go to a home. The canine rescue organization has incurred a lot of expenses in obtaining its 501c3 status along with trying to obtain a Tax ID and subsequent Texas filing fees. Just to file the 501c3 cost the rescue more than \$500. Any amount is appreciated. Make checks payable to BSSCR, P.O. Box 2775, Big Spring, Texas, 79720; by credit card at 432-816-2555; or at Highland Animal Clinic, 3600 S. Hwy. 87, Big Spring, Texas 79720; or www.youcaring.com/pet-expenses/bsscr/74800

• Big Spring RSVP is celebrating the 2014 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service through Jan. 20 by coordinating a local book drive benefitting the children of West, Texas. RSVP volunteers will collect new or gently used children's books at the Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler Avenue from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum's annual fundraiser is coming up in January. The Silver Wings Ball will be Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014, at the Hotel Settles. Evening events begin at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour. Join us for a night of fine dining and dancing.

Today's Weather

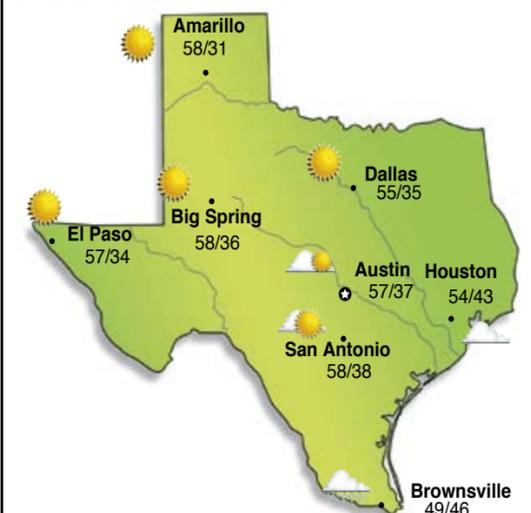
Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 1/1	Thu 1/2	Fri 1/3	Sat 1/4	Sun 1/5
				
58/36	66/31	51/30	58/37	64/30
A mainly sunny sky. High 58F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.	Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 30s.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 30s.	More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 30s.
Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:52 PM	Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:52 PM	Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:53 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:54 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:55 PM

AmericanProfile

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	57	39	sunny	Kingsville	54	45	rain
Amarillo	58	31	sunny	Livingston	54	37	pt sunny
Austin	57	37	pt sunny	Longview	55	35	pt sunny
Beaumont	52	42	cloudy	Lubbock	57	31	sunny
Brownsville	49	46	rain	Lufkin	55	36	pt sunny
Brownwood	58	36	sunny	Midland	58	36	sunny
Corpus Christi	52	46	rain	Raymondville	48	45	rain
Corsicana	54	34	sunny	Rosenberg	54	43	cloudy
Dallas	55	35	sunny	San Antonio	58	38	mst sunny
Del Rio	59	37	sunny	San Marcos	58	38	pt sunny
El Paso	57	34	sunny	Sulphur Springs	54	36	sunny
Fort Stockton	62	41	sunny	Sweetwater	57	37	sunny
Gainesville	52	32	sunny	Tyler	55	35	sunny
Greenville	53	32	sunny	Weatherford	54	32	sunny
Houston	54	43	cloudy	Wichita Falls	56	34	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	49	34	cloudy	Minneapolis	0	-7	pt sunny
Boston	28	16	pt sunny	New York	39	24	pt sunny
Chicago	15	13	sn shower	Phoenix	70	44	sunny
Dallas	55	35	sunny	San Francisco	63	44	pt sunny
Denver	52	31	pt sunny	Seattle	48	39	rain
Houston	54	43	cloudy	St. Louis	36	30	mst sunny
Los Angeles	70	48	mst sunny	Washington, DC	49	31	sunny
Miami	76	71	rain				

Moon Phases



Last

Dec 25

UV Index

Wed 1/1	Thu 1/2	Fri 1/3	Sat 1/4	Sun 1/5
3	3	3	3	3
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, 0 with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

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ing. Contact Hangar 25 Air Museum to purchase tickets for underwriting and sponsor opportunities. Underwriting opportunities range from \$250 to \$5,000. All underwriters will receive two tickets to the event and advertisement opportunities. Tickets for the event are \$50. Tickets for a chance to win a nights stay at the Hotel Settles are \$10 or six for \$50.

• The Big Spring Pow Wow Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main. Whether you are a Native American or interested in Native American culture and would like to be a part of the 10th anniversary of the Big Spring Pow Wow, you are invited. For more information, call Richard Lesser at 432-935-0125 or Randy McKinney at 432-267-4843.

View College & Pro Football Power Ranking & Top 25 Polls



Plus All

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

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

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
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News in brief

Thousands of police, troops tighten security in Russian city hit by 2 suicide bombings

VOLGOGRAD, Russia (AP) — Thousands of police officers and paramilitary forces are on duty in the Russian city of Volgograd, which is reeling from two suicide bombings in two days that killed 34 people and raised fears that a terrorist campaign may have begun that could stretch into the Winter Olympics.

In the wake of Sunday's bombing at the city's main railway station and Monday's blast on a trolleybus, police reinforcements and Interior Ministry troops have been sent into the city, regional police official Andrei Pilipchuk was quoted as telling the Interfax news agency. He said more than 5,200 security forces are deployed in the city of 1 million.

The Health Ministry said three more victims died on Tuesday, raising the toll to 34 — 18 from the station bombing and 16 from the bus. Officials said 65 other people were hospitalized with injuries.

Volgograd authorities have canceled mass events for New Year's Eve, one of Russia's most popular holidays, and asked residents not to set off fireworks. In Moscow, festivities were to go ahead but authorities said security would be increased.

There has been no claim of responsibility for either bombing, but they came only months after the leader of an Islamic insurgency in southern Russia threatened new attacks on civilian targets in the country, including on the Winter Games that are to begin Feb. 7 in Sochi.

Officials: Weather shift could increase risk of health hazards near ND oil train derailment

CASSELTON, N.D. (AP) — A shift in the weather could heighten the risk of potential health hazards after a mile-long train carrying crude oil derailed in North Dakota and set off explosions, authorities said, urging residents of a nearby town evacuate.

About 2,400 people live in Casselton, about a mile from Monday's fiery derailment.

The Cass County Sheriff's Office called on residents there and those living five miles to the south and east to leave their homes because of the weather shift, which it said the National Weather Service was forecasting.

"That's going to put the plume right over the top

of Casselton," Sheriff Paul Laney said.

No one was hurt, and the cause was still being investigated.

Sheriff's officials said that the evacuation unfolded in calm and orderly fashion in recent hours, with the majority of nearby residents heeding a strong recommendation by authorities to leave.

New Year's revelers around world ready to ring in 2014 with light shows, fireworks displays

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — The Sydney Opera House and harbor bridge will sparkle with tons of exploding fireworks at midnight Tuesday, and Dubai will try to create the world's largest fireworks show to ring in 2014.

Sydney officials promised that the Australian city's renowned pyrotechnics show would be more extravagant than ever, with more than 1.6 million revelers expected to line the harbor for a view.

Dubai, home to world's tallest tower, is known for its glitz, glamor and over-the-top achievements, and this New Year's Eve the city is planning to break another record by creating the largest fireworks show ever.

Organizers plan to light up the city's coastline with a flying falcon made out of fireworks that moves across a massive man-made palm-shaped island alongside a countdown in fireworks. Organizers say they will also create a burst of light out of fireworks to imitate a sunrise and dazzle spectators with a United Arab Emirates flag that could also break records for being the largest ever made out of fireworks.

The 6-minute extravaganza will include 500,000 fireworks from 400 firing locations, all synchronized by 100 computers from stations across the city, said Barrett Wissman, co-chairman of IMG Artists that is managing the event. Guinness World Record officials will be on hand to measure the scale of the event.

Calif. judge says orders girl kept on life support until Jan. 7

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — A California girl declared brain dead after tonsil surgery will remain on life support for at least another week after a state judge on Monday extended a deadline.

Jahi McMath's mother, Nailah Winkfield, hailed the decision as an answer to her prayers and a sign

that she has been right to keep fighting for the teen, who doctors have said will never recover.

With television cameras clustered outside the hospital, the family maintained a vigil as the deadline approached.

When Winkfield heard of the judge's decision to push back the deadline, she wept and hugged relatives outside the hospital.

Despite Japan's push for workplace equality, women still underemployed

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe wants women like Tomo Tamai to go back to work.

Tamai is eager to do so, nearly two years after her first child was born, but so far the 35-year-old former national government employee has only been able to find an internship.

Abe, who took office a year ago, has made the advancement of women a pillar of his economic revival policies in the most aggressive and ambitious initiative to back the rise of Japanese women in years. Tamai's struggles show why doubts remain about whether it's enough to overcome entrenched discrimination in the workplace.

"It is a bunch of flag-waving," said Tamai, who holds a doctorate in literature from Nihon University. "I don't see how he has the vision to realize the goal of helping us, those people struggling to raise a child, working and doing housework."

Passengers on ship trapped in Antarctic ice to be evacuated by helicopter when weather clears

SYDNEY (AP) — Passengers on board a research ship that has been trapped in Antarctic ice for a week are expected to be rescued by helicopter, after three icebreakers failed to reach the paralyzed vessel, officials said Tuesday.

The 74 scientists, tourists and crew on the Russian ship MV Akademik Shokalskiy, which has been stuck since Christmas Eve, had been hoping the Australian icebreaker Aurora Australis would be able to crack through the thick ice and allow them to continue on their way. The Aurora came within 20 kilometers (12 miles) of the ship on Monday, but fierce winds and snow forced it to retreat to open water.

SIGN-UPS

Continued from Page 1

ple really want to buy this?" He also estimated 2 million will probably be enrolled this year.

The fledgling insurance exchanges are online markets for subsidized private coverage. Obama needs millions of mostly younger, healthy Americans to sign up to keep costs low for everyone. Open enrollment runs until the end of March.

Tavener said fixes to the website, overhauled to address widespread technical problems, contributed to December's figures. But things haven't totally cleared up. Thousands of people wound up waiting on

hold for telephone help on Christmas Eve for a multitude of reasons, including technical difficulties.

"We have been a little bit behind the curve," acknowledged Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-Texas, whose state has the highest proportion of uninsured residents.

"Obamacare is a reality," conceded one of the law's opponents, Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., who as House oversight committee chairman has been investigating the rollout problems. However, he predicted it will only pile on costs.

"The fact that people well into the middle class are going to get subsidies is going to cause them to look at healthcare...sort of in a Third World way of do

we get subsidies from the government for our milk, for our gasoline and, oh, by the way, for our healthcare," said Issa.

For consumers who successfully selected one of the new insurance plans by Dec. 24, coverage should start on New Year's Day. That's provided they pay their first month's premium by the due date, extended until Jan. 10 in most cases.

But insurers have complained that another set of technical problems, largely hidden from consumers, has resulted in the government passing along inaccurate data on enrollees. With a flood of signups that must be processed in just days, it remains unclear whether last-

minute enrollees will encounter a seamless experience if they try to use their new benefits come Jan. 1.

The White House says the error rate has been significantly reduced, but the political fallout from website woes could pale in comparison with the heat that Obama might take if Americans who signed up and paid their premiums arrive at the pharmacy or the emergency room and find there's no record of their coverage.

Officials are also working to prevent gaps in coverage for at least 4.7 million Americans whose individual policies were canceled this fall because they fell short of the law's requirements. The administration has said

that even if those individuals don't sign up for new plans, they can seek a waiver that would spare them from the law's tax penalty for remaining uninsured.

A few states offering their own updates have posted encouraging totals, including New York, where more than 200,000 have enrolled either through the state exchange or through Medicaid, a government program expanded under Obama's health law to cover more people. In California, a tally released Friday showed nearly 430,000 have enrolled through the exchange so far.

SANTA

Continued from Page 1

approximately 8:45 a.m. Monday at a residence in the south part of the county. A 16-year-old male suspect, whose name was not released because he is a juvenile, was arrested in connection with the incident.

With the Santa back in place, things are looking up for a successful

conclusion to the festival, which Simmons admitted had its ups and downs this year. More than 18,000 people, far short of Simmons' goal of 25,000, visited the festival this year.

"We've had so much vandalism this year, and of course, I'm disappointed we didn't get our 25,000 visitors, but the numbers just weren't there this year," she said. "But we had real nice turnouts on Christ-

mas Eve and Christmas night ... and we'll get the 25,000 next year."

The festival's final night runs from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Comanche Trail Park. Admission is free, but donations, which will be used to fund future operations, will be accepted.

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Lelonnie Ann Latham, 60, died Wednesday. Memorial services were at 10:30 a.m. this morning at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Antonio "Tony" Zavala-Martinez, 51, died Thursday. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Lois D. Crawford, 80, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Norma Jean Woodruff, 48, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Eliseo M. Gamboa, 81, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Clarence Henkell, 69, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Juan McHorse, 71, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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NEXT CLINIC VISIT 1-2-13

Opinion

The best economic president ever?

"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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DAILY PRAYER

We know that tolerance, dear Lord, is a two-way street.

Amen

Send me your ears. I have come to praise President Obama and bury the myth that Republican presidents are better for the economy than Democratic presidents. Not only do Democrats produce superior economic results but they blow Republicans out of the water in the comparisons.

Let's turn the mic over to Bob Deitrick, a principal at Polaris Financial Partners in Westerville, Ohio. Deitrick crunched 80 years of numbers. Politically, 1929 to 2009 were exactly divided — 40 years under Republican presidents and 40 under Democrats.

He put his extraordinary findings in a book, "Bulls, Bears and the Ballot Box."

Because President Obama was in office for only three years at the time of the writing, Deitrick and his co-author left him out. But Deitrick now has enough of an Obama track record to have recently declared in a Forbes interview, "By all measures, President Obama has outperformed every modern president."

His findings were so lopsided in favor of Democrats I had to ask him whether he is one. He said no. "I really was apolitical until 2000," start of the George W. Bush era. That's when he saw massive mismanagement of the economy at the expense of his middle- to upper-middle-class clients.

"The average retail investor

got slammed, where hedge funds were allowed to take advantage of everyone else," he told me.

The best overall economic performance pre-Obama was that of John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson (whom Deitrick put together because of Kennedy's early death). No. 2 was Bill Clinton, with Franklin D. Roosevelt in third place.

The top six included two Republicans. Dwight Eisenhower ranked fourth, and Ronald Reagan sixth, edged out of fifth place by Harry Truman.

Were it not for Herbert Hoover, George W. would have ended up last.

Reagan was a "stimulus addict," in Deitrick's view.

His economic growth came through massive spending on defense and deep tax cuts. The price was a tripling of the national debt.

Ordinary Americans did better under Clinton, who also left behind a budget surplus. Thanks to a growing economy and higher taxes on the rich, Obama has lowered the deficit to 4 percent of gross domestic product, down from over 10 percent at the end of the Bush years.

Here's an interesting calculation: Suppose that in 1929, you put \$100,000 in a 401(k) fully invested in stocks. Under the 40 years of Republican presidents, you would have ended up with only \$126,000. Under the Democrats, you would have amassed a retirement nest egg of \$3.9 million!

If you added Obama, the Democrats' number would be much bigger.

Deitrick believes that

presidents largely control the economy — through the bully pulpit and the power to appoint leaders, enact executive orders and issue vetoes. (Not everyone agrees they hold most economic cards.)

Deitrick is a disciple of Marriener Eccles, the rich Republican banker whom Roosevelt named Federal Reserve chairman.

Eccles held that putting more money in middle-class hands is key to recovery and that trickle-down economics helps mainly those providing the trickle.

Speaking of income inequality, the gap between the top 1 percent and bottom 99 percent widened 20 percent in the 40 years Republicans ran the Oval Office. In the Democratic presidential years, it narrowed 16 percent.

Obama's greatest successes, Deitrick says, are the auto rescue plan and the Wall Street reforms, which revived faith among investors. The annual compound return on stocks has averaged between 25 and 30 percent (depending on the index) since the lows of March 2009.

Deitrick says he's perpetually shocked that Democrats don't trumpet their economic triumphs. You don't have to be a Democrat to wonder why.

Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at fharrop@gmail.com. To find out more about Froma Harrop and read features by other Creators writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Web page at www.creators.com.

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Striking while the iron is hot

When it comes to health care, Republicans need to strike while the iron is hot, and it is white-hot now — and will probably get worse — because of the Obamacare disaster.

The nation's health insurance rolls are hemorrhaging with Obamacare-forced cancellations, and new sign-ups are dreadfully slow — and not just because of the disgraceful website glitches. People don't want what Obama's offering, er, mandating, and they're not buying what he's selling (at gunpoint).

On Sunday morning, the White House quietly issued a statement revealing that only 1.1 million people have signed up for Obamacare on the federal website. An additional 1 million have signed up on states' websites, but even adding these enrollees, the administration is woefully short of its stated goal of 3.3 million enrollments by Dec. 31 and has less than a third of its targeted 7 million number by March 31. But that's just the good news.

We don't even have information — because the government won't provide it — on how many of the allegedly 1.1 million new federal enrollees are actually assured of coverage. All we know is that these people have selected the plans they want on the website; we don't know whether they've paid for them or whether the insurance companies have accepted them for coverage.

The administration's obscure Sunday statement provided no information as to the demographics and income levels of those enrollees. The financial feasibility of Obamacare depends on the participation of the "young invincibles" — young, healthy people whom this despicable government will soak for premiums to subsidize the sick and elderly. The administration is shrewdly guarding this data because it knows it can't afford more bad news, and these

skewed sign-up patterns would mean that premiums would likely jump again in 2014.

The administration also conspicuously failed to mention that Obamacare forced cancellation of the plans of about 5 million people, which leaves a net loss of some 3 million insured. Reportedly, close to 2 million others signed up for Medicaid coverage, but that will just further tax that underfunded system and the federal budget and will do nothing to help fund the Obamacare mandated plans.

It bears repeating that these forced cancellations were no accident. Nor were they mere collateral damage the administration couldn't avoid en route to its socialized medicine utopia. They were deviously planned by the administration because they were necessary for Obamacare's numbers to work.

Despite Obama's repeated lies, the cancellations were premeditated in order to compel people to obtain more expensive plans through the federal website — to cover things they aren't even at risk for — and for the federal government to be able to use the premium windfalls to subsidize other people's health insurance costs.

Obamacare was never about improving access to health care, reducing health care costs or improving the quality of care. It was an elaborate government-imposed Ponzi scheme for wealth redistribution and to establish another behemoth federal infrastructure for the government to control never-before-imagined aspects of our everyday lives. As 2014 unfolds, expect further bad news from Obamacare as the other shoe drops on employer-provided plans.

In the midst of this White House news dump, Nero fiddles; Obama is enjoying another extended vacation and playing golf to his heart's delight. Even his once-fawning liberal press acknowledged that he seemed to be without energy and disengaged as he was leaving for vacation.

By all accounts and from all quarters, from former White House press secretary Robert Gibbs to former knee-tangler

Chris Matthews, Obama had his worst year in 2013 — and that's saying something. His approval ratings continue to hang at all-time lows. Support for Obamacare has reached a record low. A new CNN poll shows that Obama is even losing his own base over Obamacare. Democratic senators are complaining that Obama's personality makes it difficult to work with him. Others, along with Democratic congressmen, want to distance themselves from him as the 2014 elections approach. When I said Republicans should strike while the iron is hot, I meant they need to hammer Obama daily for the damage he's causing to the American people on Obamacare alone. They need to feed Americans the facts as relentlessly as Obama has campaigned to force-feed us this nightmare.

And they need to immediately pass in the House, with great fanfare, a comprehensive health care reform bill containing the myriad market-based reforms they've proposed over the past few years — from tort reform to ending discriminatory tax treatment for employer-provided plans to expanding health savings accounts to reducing government mandates to ending prohibition on consumers crossing state lines to buy insurance to supporting retail health clinics to providing vouchers for the working poor and chronically uninsured.

Passing such a bill would not keep Obama from lying that Republicans have no alternative plan, but it would give them something tangible with which to counter and showcase his lie.

Republicans have much work to do. We are in a war for the survival of the country as we know it, and in order to save it, we need to fight with the same relentless intensity as Obama and his forces are fighting to destroy it.

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.



FROMA HARROP



DAVID LIMBAUGH

Bird Poop: What do we have here?

In December, the paperwork for renewal of our federal license arrived. Due by the end of January 2014, our entries would be fairly similar to previous years. Various species of owls, hawks, water birds, songsters, and hummers had made their way to our home. The lengthy forms involve completing a wrap-up of the past 12 months and reasons for having the various species. Their outcomes are also to be noted. The anticipated, tedious work for U. S. Fish & Wildlife caused me to rehash the thoughts I had entertained at the first of the year.



BEBE McCASLAND

Would our year ending in 13 be any different as far as species? Aside from two water birds, a gadwall and

ruddy duck landing in fracking pits, the year had offered readily identifiable birds. After 11 months of our usual hectic routine, we anticipated this final month as being quiet. Our wishful thinking ended abruptly with a phone call.

While attending a meeting of game wardens, Matt Woodall, who oversees Howard and Martin Counties, said the officer from Crane had asked him if he would deliver a hawk to us. "A resident saw it crash into his shed," Matt continued. "Apparently, it caused quite a ruckus!"

Calling law enforcement, the man was told someone from the sheriff's office would pick up the bird. The hawk was then transported to the game warden. "We think it's a red-tail," Matt continued. "Be there shortly."

Lifting a small cat carrier from his truck, Matt held it at eye-level for us to see the raptor. Unable to stand, the bird of prey lay quietly

and looked out at its new surroundings.

To extract this large bird from the small carrier was a challenge. After having Matt and Art tilt the enclosure upward so as to put the bird at a disadvantage, I slipped my gloved hands inside. Pressing its wings against its body enabled me to pull the raptor slowly out the door. There wasn't an inch to spare.

When it was about two-thirds of the way outside, I moved my fingers inward to control its legs and feet. Once outside, the hawk was laid on its back with its head covered.

Dark brown above, the raptor below had a tinge of orange in its creamy chest that seemed to spread across the leading edge of each wing. A red-tail, however, would have dark brown along that same area. Puzzled, I looked at its dark, wide bellyband. The bird seemed similar to a red-tail. "I can see why you and the other warden thought it was a red-tail. But Matt, this isn't a red-tail!"

In a way, to me it looked like a ferruginous, the largest of American hawks. Similar were the delicate streaks on its head. But it wasn't a ferruginous either, since this raptor's streaks were also leading down the neck and upper breast.

Even the feathers extending down its legs to its toes were streaked. Its small feet were appropriate for catching field mice, lemmings, and ground squirrels. To catch rabbits and prairie dogs required the larger feet and stronger toes of a red-tail or a ferruginous.

Its tail wasn't appropriate, either. From below, the ferruginous' tail would appear nearly all white. This bird's tail would reflect that nearly two thirds of it was white, with the end accented with a black band near the tip.

Ruling out a ferruginous since that specie



also doesn't have a broad band of brown across the belly, I had Art extend a wing. The whitish undersurfaces and black patches at the wrists were notable. Looking back up at Matt, I admitted we had never before seen such markings, nor received a raptor like this one.

"Time for us to start looking through our bird books," I said, as Matt prepared to leave. "I'll let you know what it is."

Guessing the bird had not eaten all day because of the wardens' meeting, we placed it in a large carrier and rushed to thaw mice and beef heart, a tempting feast for many raptors. While the warm water quickly made our offering palatable, we grabbed the Sibley book.

Easily, we found the unexpected: a rough-legged hawk.

Spending its summers north of the United States, this specie would frequent Alaska

and northern Canada. It would also be found in Scandinavia, northern Russia and Siberia.

Leaving its arctic breeding grounds early, the rough-legged hawk would not await the first snowfall. In years of food scarcity, it would continue southward. To be seen or found in Texas was a rare but not impossible occurrence.

Even with the rough-leg's eager appetite, why a game warden could pick it up was of concern. Upon seeing it the next afternoon when we delivered it to South Plains, Gail Barnes exclaimed, "It's beautiful!"

Since she had already alerted her veterinarian, she immediately took the raptor for a full body scan. Later, her call verified that the rough-leg had two broken bones in the lower part of one wing between the elbow and the wrist. In the larger bone, the break had lined up correctly. Of

concern, was also a visible splinter.

In addition, the X-ray disclosed four spots of aspergillosis on the lungs. This infectious disease caused by certain fungi was treatable with antibiotics.

Due to the weakened condition of the bird, the veterinarian advised waiting for two weeks. At that time, another X-ray would be taken to check on the calcification of the break. Even then, surgery might be too much for the raptor to withstand. With a "wait and see" situation, we all hoped for the best.

With the prognosis concerning the rough-leg's recovery extending into 2014, we were grateful for having had the opportunity to handle this bird of the north. It had taught me not to judge a year by its ending number, but to remember, "There's always another first!"

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

Sudoku Answer on Page 11

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.

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bad Luck Is Not Always Fatal

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K 7 6
♥ J 9 7 3
♦ A 9 8 4
♣ A Q

WEST

♠ 10 9 2
♥ Q 10 4
♦ 10 6 3
♣ J 10 9 3

SOUTH

♠ 8 5 4
♥ A K 8 6 5 2
♦ K 2
♣ K 7

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
2♥ Pass 4♥

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

the ace, on which East shows out. This is a very disappointing development, since a 2-1 division is a 78 percent probability.

With a trump loser now certain, the fate of the contract appears to rest entirely on the location of the ace of spades. But to lead a spade toward dummy at this point, hoping to find West with the ace, would be relying too much on the element of luck. In the actual case, such a move would prove fatal.

Instead, declarer should adopt an approach that offers a chance to make the contract irrespective of which defender has the spade ace. After cashing the king of trumps, the K-A of hearts and ruffing a diamond, he leads the club king to the ace and plays dummy's last diamond. East plays the queen, but instead of ruffing, South discards a spade!

Poor East is now well and truly endplayed. A spade return establishes dummy's king, while a club return allows South to discard another spade as dummy ruffs.

By adopting this line of play, declarer gives himself an extra chance for the contract. He does not know which defender has the diamond length, or where the ace of spades is actually located, but it costs him nothing to try to endplay East.

Tomorrow: Sylvia strikes again.
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Odds & Ends

Police: No beer led to ceramic squirrel stabbing

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — South Carolina authorities say a 44-year-old woman angry at a man for returning home without beer on Christmas beat and stabbed him with a ceramic squirrel.

The Charleston County Sheriff's office says in a report that deputies found a man covered with blood when they arrived at Helen Williams' North Charleston home early Wednesday.

Deputies say the man said Williams was so angry when he returned without beer because stores were closed on Christmas Eve that she grabbed a ceramic squirrel, beat him in the head, then stabbed him in the shoulder and chest.

Williams was in jail Friday and charged with domestic violence.

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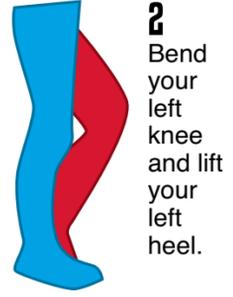
Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

How to Moonwalk

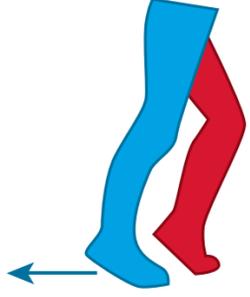
One of Michael Jackson's most amazing dance moves was called the Moonwalk. It makes you appear to be floating backwards across the floor. Follow these steps and practice a lot to perfect this cool illusion!



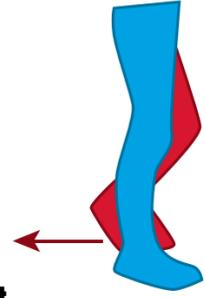
1 Start with your feet together.



2 Bend your left knee and lift your left heel.



3 Push down on the ball of your left foot and slide your right foot backward.



4 Place your weight on your right leg and slide your left leg back with your heel still raised. Switch legs and repeat, and soon you'll be "gliding" across the dance floor!

Dancing Machine

Replace the missing words. **SEWED HAND SHOW DANCE GOAL**
REPLAY THEATER NEWS STEP

After performing in a local summer show, kids waited around the lobby to get his autograph. He has danced for Ben the Bachelor and the bachelorettes on television's popular *The Bachelor*. He has been asked to dance for a local teacher retirement party and other events.

Who is this popular dancer? Is he a movie star, a TV star? Has he trained for years under the best instructors?

He is Luis Contreras, a 6th grader in Sonoma, CA. He taught himself to dance just like Michael Jackson and amazes audiences of all ages with his incredible imitation.

I Can Do That!

"I first heard about Michael Jackson when the reported his death," recalls Luis. "I asked my sister, 'Who's Michael Jackson?'"



Luis watched YouTube videos of Jackson dancing and he thought, "I can do that!" That was when he set the goal of learning a Michael Jackson dance number.

Luis kept pausing and rewinding the videos to watch each dance over and over. Then he'd try it.

Practice, Practice

Luis would study Michael Jackson's dances one step at a time. "It took about ten minutes to master one step. I had to practice it about 50 times."

"He drove us a bit crazy," says his mom. "He kept playing the same music over and over. But he wouldn't give up until he got it right."

Luis's parents are proud of his dedication and the hard work he has undertaken to achieve his goals. His mom sequins onto a pair of socks, one sequin at a time. Each one sewn with love.



Look at these two photos of Luis. Find five differences. Can you find five things that are similar?



Gotta Dance, but First Things First!

Dancing isn't the only thing Luis does. He also studies hard, earns good grades in school and plays basketball. But, he does fit in dancing every day. He even dances down the aisles of the grocery store!

3:00: Basketball Practice
4:30: Homework
5:30: Start Dancing!

His parents don't let him practice dancing until his homework is finished. But after that, with only a break for supper, he dances until his mother says to stop or he is just too tired to go on.

Luis is starting to study the dance moves of Justin Bieber and is looking forward to joining the school choir in 7th grade.

If Luis danced two hours a day six days a week for one year, how many hours has he danced?

52 X 6 = _____ X 2 = _____

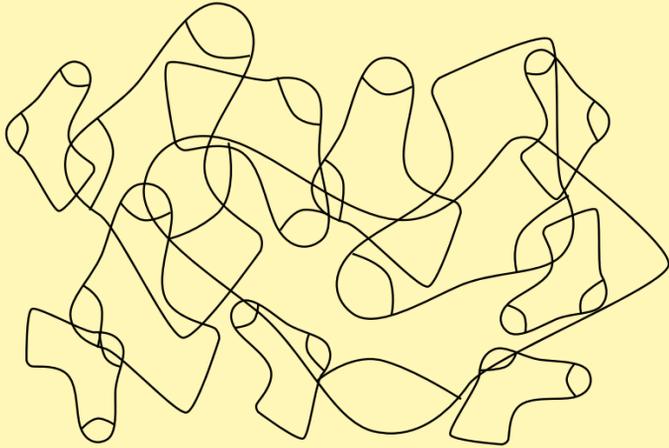
Extra! Extra!

I'm Determined!

Look through the newspaper for pictures of people who look determined. Cut these out and make an "I'm Determined!" poster.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Can many socks are here? Have a friend try. Did you find the same amount?



Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Double Double Word Search

MOONWALK
IMITATION
MACHINE
DANCING
SEQUINS
GLIDING
VIDEOS
GOALS
TIRED
STUDY
PROUD
CHOIR
STEP
STAR
PUSH

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

N	O	I	T	A	T	I	M	I	F
S	T	U	D	Y	A	N	K	C	E
N	P	R	O	U	D	L	V	N	G
I	U	D	Y	P	A	F	I	C	L
U	S	O	E	W	N	H	D	H	I
Q	H	T	N	R	C	O	E	O	D
E	S	O	A	A	I	T	O	I	I
S	O	T	M	W	N	T	S	R	N
M	S	L	A	O	G	E	A	R	G

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

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **ACHIEVE**

The verb **achieve** means to accomplish or fulfill something.

Hard work pays off when you want to achieve something.

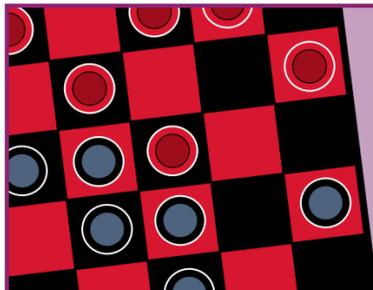
Try to use the word **achieve** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Compound Words

Footwear, Moonwalk and homework are compound words – a new word made from two words. Look through the newspaper for 10 compound words and draw a line where the two words divide.

Standards Link: Grammar: Identify compound words.



Two boys were playing checkers. They played five games and each won the same number of games. How was that possible?

ANSWER: They were playing different people.

Write On! Setting Goals

Think of three goals you would like to achieve in your future. Is there anything you could do now to help you prepare?

The Key to a Happy New Year: Don't Drink & Drive



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Howard College's Lis Soshi shoots for two during a game earlier this season. The Hawks (13-2) wrapped up a three-day road trip to Phoenix, Ariz. Monday, taking two-of-three games. HC defeated South Mountain College 77-71, then Phoenix College 65-56 before losing to Cochise Community College 87-85 in overtime. The Lady Hawks (9-4) begin their three-game stint in Ariz. today, as they take on South Mountain in Phoenix.

TTU downs ASU 37-23

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Davis Webb helped end Texas Tech's unsightly five-game losing streak while making sure the Red Raiders' seniors had a great sendoff.

The freshman threw for 403 yards and tied a Holiday Bowl record with four touchdown passes, and Texas Tech raced to a 37-23 victory over No. 16 Arizona State on Monday night.

Webb tied the record set by BYU's Jim McMahon in 1980 and matched by Kansas State's Brian Kavanagh in 1995 and Texas' Major Applewhite in 2001.

"When Coach told me I was going to start, there was nothing but joy," Webb said. "I told myself that I was going to make sure that I was going to send the seniors out right. We came prepared. We leaned on each other and we showed that today."

"It's pretty exhilarating right now. I'm so proud of this team," he added.

The Red Raiders (8-5) won for the first time since beating West Virginia on Oct. 19. Arizona State (10-4) lost its second straight.

Webb completed 28 of 41 passes. He threw touchdown passes of 18 and 21 yards to Jakeem Grant, 1 yard to Rodney Hall and 23 yards to Bradley Marquez, all in the first half.

"He's really battled to separate himself all year," said first-year coach Kliff Kingsbury, a former Red Raiders quarterback.

"To play that young in

this type of arena, D-1, that's very rare and I think he does a great job handling the pressure coming out here and making things happen," wide receiver Eric Ward said.

After losing their final five games by an average of 20.6 points, the Red Raiders scored on four of their first five drives to take a 27-6 lead 5 minutes into the second quarter.

Kingsbury said the Red Raiders had seen predictions that they'd lose by 22 points.

"We saw that all week. We knew what people thought and we knew the type of team we had," the coach said.

"We didn't get any respect all weekend long," Ward said. "It was all about Arizona State and their record and this, that and the other. So we used that to fuel the fire."

Ward said the losing streak "preyed upon us pretty heavily. No one likes losing that much and lose that much on the road. It starts depressing the team a little bit. We just did all we could to prepare for this game. During the bowl practices, the time we had together helped us bond together."

Texas Tech All-America tight end Jace Amaro had eight catches for 112 yards. He set the FBS single-season record for yards receiving by a tight end with 1,352.

The Sun Devils, coming off a 38-14 loss to Stanford in the Pac-12

See **TECH**, Page 13

Ducks rout Longhorns in Mack Brown's finale

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Mack Brown came to Texas in 1998 and told a frustrated fan base to "Come early, be loud and stay late." Sixteen years later, one obeyed him again, one last time, sticking around even after another pummeling in an underachieving season.

Now they'll find out what the post-Mack Brown era holds.

The Longhorns don't want to relive this: Getting crushed by No. 10 Oregon 30-7 in the Alamo Bowl on Monday night in the worst postseason loss of Brown's run at Texas, which tacks on another dreary footnote to a season of constant tension and unmet expectations.

The blowout was a final reminder of why Brown is resigning after 16 seasons at Texas, which he led to a national championship in 2005 but couldn't pull out of mediocrity and disappointment in recent years. He led the Longhorns off the field for the last time with his arm slung around his wife, flashing the "Hook 'em Horns" sign before disappearing into a tunnel to a chorus of cheers.

"The fan base needed to be pulled together because it was very divided in 1997. We pulled them together. We had a great run," Brown said. "Now there's some for you, some against you. That's not

fair to these guys. They need to have positive energy all the time. That's what I want for them."

Brown received warm good-byes from a sellout crowd in what was practically a home game for Texas (8-5). The school marching band spelled his name at halftime, and the halter over Bevo's face was emblazoned with the word "MACK."

It was a tribute to Brown returning to a national power before the last four uneven seasons, when he couldn't reverse a sharp decline since the Longhorns lost to Alabama in the 2009 championship game.

Brown said he had no regrets about making this his exit.

"I think it's best for Texas. It's best for me, it's best for the players," he said. "We need to win more than eight games. Last year was nine. I really thought we had a chance to win all the games this year. It didn't work. It's my job to make that work. I told them tonight, the only regret I had is we didn't win enough games this year."

The BCS-snubbed Ducks (11-2) dominated throughout — even though their famously high-powered offense scored just one touchdown and repeatedly settled for field goals. Yet the rout didn't seem to completely balm the



AP photo

Former University of Texas Coach Mack Brown at the Alamo Bowl. The Longhorns lost 30-7.

sting of not playing in a BCS bowl for the first time in five years, with Oregon players after the game still reflecting on their championship hopes derailed by November losses.

Quarterback Marcus Mariota had 386 total yards and Oregon returned two interceptions for touchdowns, spoiling

Brown's farewell. He led all rushers with 133 yards on 15 carries and was 18 of 26 for 253 yards passing in a Heisman Trophy campaign tuneup for 2014, having announced earlier this month that he was coming back for his junior season.

His one touchdown pass was

to Josh Huff, who turned a short pass into a spectacular 16-yard sprint to the end zone.

"Yeah, it wasn't the season we hoped for," Huff said. "That month of November was a tough stretch for us but we were able to come

See **FINALE**, Page 13

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Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING PUBLIC NOTICE
THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:30 P.M., TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2014 IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 307 EAST 4TH, BIG SPRING, TEXAS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:
Public hearing to consider a replat of Kentwood (Unit 2), Block 17, Lots 20-39 and Block 20, Lots 1-20, being 11.3 acres located east of Central Drive and south of 25th Street, Zoned: N/A, currently outside the city limits. Applicant: Derek Osburn Construction Company.
Public hearing to consider a replat of Kentwood (Unit 2), Block 20, Lots 23-41, Blocks 21, Lots 1-19 and 24-43 and Block 24, Lots 1-20, being 22.5 acres located west of Morgan Ranch Road and south of 25th Street. Zoned: N/A, currently outside the city limits. Applicant: White Oak Development, LLC (Fritz Van Nest)
#8116 December 31, 2013

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING PUBLIC NOTICE
THE CITY OF BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:30 P.M., TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2014 IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 307 EAST 4TH, BIG SPRING, TEXAS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:
Public hearing to consider a replat of Kentwood (Unit 2), Block 17, Lots 20-39 and Block 20, Lots 1-20, being 11.3 acres located east of Central Drive and south of 25th Street. Zoned: N/A, currently outside the city limits. Applicant: Derek Osburn Construction Company.
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#8117 December 31, 2013

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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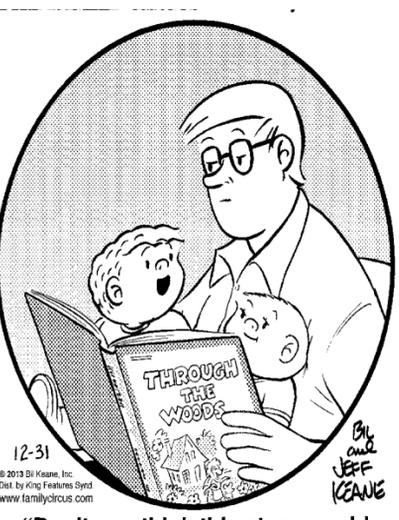
	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	KWWT (14)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)
	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Casa	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Justice	Charlie Rose	King/Hill	Moonshiners	The Walking Dead	Cops	Ukraine	2013	Good Luck Jes.		State vs. Rice.
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Notic.	Two Men	News	Pelicula: El Señor Doctor	News	Seinfeld	Door-Wisdom	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Moonshiners	The Walking Dead	Cops	(:16) Movie: Transformers, Josh Duhamel (DVS)	Top 100 Videos of 2013	ANT Farm	College Basketball	Football
7:PM	Wheel	(5:55) Premi- os Juvenatd 2013 (SS)	Big Bang	Ent	Ent	News	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Live From Lincoln Center	Rules	Moonshiners: Outlaw	The Walking Dead	Cops			Jessie Austin	College Football: Chick-fil-A Bowl - Duke vs. Texas A&M	
8:PM	The 30 Greatest Women in Music		Dads	NCIS (DVS)	Pelicula: El Patrullero 777 (SS)	NBC News Special: Year End News	Fam. Guy	Upd	Return	iHeartradio Music Festival, Night 2	Moonshiners	The Walking Dead	Cops	Boston's Finest	Top 100 Videos of 2013	(:15) Movie: WALL-E, Jeff Garlin	SportCtr	
9:PM	Dick Clark ABC	(8:55) iFeliz 2014! (SS)	Mod Fam	Person of Interest		New Year's	Big Bang	Conan	Frontline (DVS)	Rules	Backyard Oil: After	The Walking Dead	Cops	Marshal Law: Texas	New Year's Eve 2013	Good Olber.		
10:PM	Paid		New Year's Eve Live	News	Noticias	News	Conan	With Schol-ars		Seinfeld	(:01) Moonshiners	The Walking Dead	Cops	Boston's Finest		Good Olber.		
11:PM	Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve 2014		How I Met Raymond	Ferguson	Decisiones (SS)	Jay Leno	Conan	Office	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	70s	Backyard Oil: After	The Walking Dead	Cops	Marshal Law: Texas	New Year's Eve 2013	Good Olber.		
12:AM		(:12) ABC World News	TMZ	Insider	Pagado	Jimmy Fallon	Office	Chevalme		Til Death	Moonshiners: Outlaw	The Walking Dead	Jail	The Mental-ist		Shake It	NBA	SportsCenter
1:AM			Law & Order: SVU	Ent	Pagado		Movie: The Informant!	Light of the Southwest		Browns	(:02) Moonshiners	The Walking Dead	Jail	The Mental-ist		Deck	College Football:	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Don't you think this story would sound better if we were eating a cookie?"

HAGAR



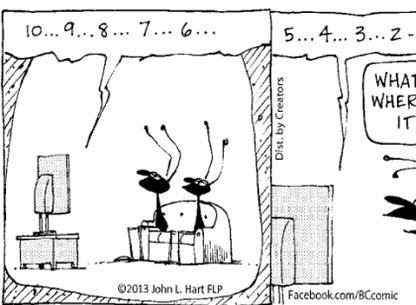
THIS FINE SWORD BELONGED TO A FAMOUS VISIGOTH WARRIOR

BLONDIE



4-3-2-1...

BC



10... 9... 8... 7... 6... 5... 4... 3... 2... 1... ZUP

WIZARD OF ID



WELCOME TO ID BY ORDER OF THE KING: ATKINS IS OUR NATIONAL DIET

AGNES



I'VE DECIDED MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION... I'M GOING TO LOSE MY ROYAL BELLY

HI AND LOIS



LET'S PLAN A HUGE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY THIS YEAR!

THE OTHER COAST



THIS IS THE ONLY DAY I GET TO SAY...

SNUFFY SMITH



TO A BISTRO WITH UMM...

BEEBLE BAILEY



MY MAMA ASKED TO COME VISIT JEST FER ONE DAY.

BEETLE BAILEY



NO, NEVER, OVER MY DEAD BODY !! COMES TO MIND !!

BLONDIE



EVERY NEW YEAR'S EVE WE SWEAR WE'RE GOING OUT ON THE TOWN, AND EVERY YEAR WE END UP WATCHING THE BALL DROP ON TV

BLONDIE



IT NEVER GETS OLD, DOES IT, SWEETHEART?

This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 31, the 365th and final day of 2013. Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 31, 1879, Thomas Edison first publicly demonstrated his electric incandescent light in Menlo Park, N.J. On this date: In 1775, during the Revolutionary War, the British repulsed an attack by Continental Army generals Richard Montgomery and Benedict Arnold at Quebec; Montgomery was killed. In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed an enabling act paving the way for Virginia's western counties to become the state of West Virginia, which took place in June 1863. In 1909, the Manhattan Bridge, spanning the East

River between Manhattan and Brooklyn, was officially opened to vehicular traffic. In 1942, Frank Sinatra opened a singing engagement at New York's Paramount Theater. In 1946, President Harry S. Truman officially proclaimed the end of hostilities in World War II. In 1951, the Marshall Plan expired after distributing more than \$12 billion in foreign aid. In 1969, Joseph A. Yablonski, an unsuccessful candidate for the presidency of the United Mine Workers of America, was shot to death with his wife and daughter in their Clarksville, Pa., home by hitmen acting at the orders of UMWA president Tony Boyle. In 1972, Major League baseball player Roberto Clemente, 38, was killed when a plane he'd chartered and was traveling on to bring relief supplies to earthquake-devastated Nicaragua crashed shortly after takeoff from Puerto

Rico. In 1985, singer Rick Nelson, 45, and six other people were killed when fire broke out aboard a DC-3 that was taking the group to a New Year's Eve performance in Dallas. In 1986, 97 people were killed when fire broke out in the Dupont Plaza Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico. (Three hotel workers later pleaded guilty in connection with the blaze.) In 1987, Robert Mugabe (moo-GAH'-bay), prime minister of Zimbabwe, was sworn in as the country's first executive president. © 2013, The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Answer to previous puzzle

SITS	SLAP	SPAM
HOHO	GOOSE	HARE
IWON	ONAIR	HYMN
NAUGHTY	NAUGHTY	TYM
OAS	OH	
SPENT	GASP	ENE
ELITE	ROTE	ORAL
MINDY	OUR	MANNERS
ICES	LEGS	OUNCE
TEN	CEDE	PESTS
ESP	BOA	
BEHAVE	YOURSELF	
AIDE	ORION	PAIR
IDLE	WIPE	ACME
MEET	SEED	SHOE

Newsday Crossword

BAND OF RENOWNED by Billie Truitt

- Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com
- ACROSS**
- 1 Extinct bird
 - 5 Capital of Vietnam
 - 10 Goes (for)
 - 14 Bus. major's study
 - 15 Squirrel snack
 - 16 Faucet leak
 - 17 Lion's den
 - 18 Passé
 - 19 One who takes action
 - 20 Renowned
 - 23 Me, in France
 - 24 Doesn't consent
 - 25 Preparing, as cold cuts
 - 27 Boxcar riders
 - 30 Wide smile
 - 31 Solemn pledge
 - 34 Safe from peril
 - 36 Athletic squad
 - 39 Standing upright
 - 41 Possesses
 - 42 "It follows that..."
 - 43 Spill the beans
 - 44 Seldom
 - 46 Lowest royal-flush card
 - 47 Garage job, for short
 - 49 Fast-food potatoes
 - 51 Start a plane trip
 - 54 Baffling puzzle
 - 58 Caterer's coffeepot
 - 59 Renowned
 - 62 Firefighter's footwear
 - 64 Stop more squeaks
- DOWN**
- 1 Sandwich shops
 - 2 Central Florida city
 - 3 Lacy mat
 - 4 Surge
 - 5 Was predestined
 - 6 Rent- (airport service)
 - 7 "Don't look at me!"
 - 8 Three-layer cookies
 - 9 Be permissive with
 - 10 A little strange
 - 11 Renowned
 - 12 Attach with twine
 - 13 Bit of parsley
 - 21 Sound of contempt
 - 22 Knight's title
 - 26 Allude to
 - 28 Fed. workplace monitor
 - 29 Winter neckwear
 - 31 Animal doc
 - 32 Prospector's find
 - 33 Renowned
 - 35 Software buyer
 - 37 Highest royal-flush card
 - 38 Chess pieces
 - 40 Hint
 - 42 "Laughing" beast
 - 44 Turns over a new leaf
 - 45 Form a smooth surface
 - 48 Hair ornament
 - 50 Keep just below a boil
 - 51 "___ little cubby" (Winnie-the-Pooh descriptor)
 - 52 Odor
 - 53 Ardent fan, informally
 - 55 Flip out
 - 56 Subdued
 - 57 Hearth residue
 - 60 Solitary
 - 61 Eat in style
 - 63 Disapproving sound

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
17				18					19				
20				21					22		23		
24							25		26				
			27			28	29		30				
31	32	33		34				35		36	37	38	
39			40			41			42				
43					44			45			46		
			47		48		49			50			
51	52					53			54		55	56	57
58					59		60	61					
62			63			64					65		
66						67					68		
69						70					71		

Mavs hold on, beat Timberwolves 100-98

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Shawn Marion was getting to the rim at will, knocking down 3-pointers and playing tough defense. Even if the Minnesota Timberwolves think his defense was a little too tough on the last shot of the game, there was no disputing that "The Matrix" was back for Dallas on Monday night. Marion scored 32 points, hit two huge 3-pointers in the fourth quarter and swatted away Kevin Love's 21-foot jumper at the buzzer to help the Mavericks outlast the Timberwolves in a 100-98 victory. The Mavs led by 19 late in the first half and seven with 3 minutes to play, but the Wolves had the ball down two in the closing seconds. Love got the ball in the corner and rose up for a 3-pointer, but Marion swooped in and swatted it away as Love looked for a foul. None was

called. "Heh, heh. It was not a foul," Marion said. The Timberwolves disagreed. "He got fouled," Minnesota coach Rick Adelman said. "I wonder what that would have been if (Dirk) Nowitzki, LeBron James, all the top players in the league — a guy reaches on a last-second shot like that, instead of challenging it. Maybe they don't understand that Kevin is one of the top five players in this league. You make that call. But they didn't." Love, who had 36 points, 11 rebounds and four assists, stood watching the scoreboard in disbelief, and the Mavericks walked off the court winners against the Wolves for the first time in three tries this season. Nowitzki had 16 points for the Mavericks, who led by 19 late in the first half before the Wolves came back. But

this win was all Marion. He topped 30 points in a game for the first time since the 2008-09 season, and made 14 of 19 shots to go with six rebounds and three assists. "I'm all about winning games, man," Marion said. "Whatever it takes." After the Timberwolves were down 19 at halftime, Love shot 6 of 8 in the third quarter and the Wolves outscored Dallas 38-21 to tie the game heading into the fourth. Adelman, however, might have stuck with a struggling J.J. Barea too long in the final period. Rather than going back to Ricky Rubio during a timeout with just more than 5:30 to play, Adelman kept Barea, who had five turnovers in 17 minutes, on the floor. That's when Marion hit two of his four 3s for a 97-90 lead with 3:04 to play. "Shawn was the key to the

game, no question about it," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said. "If we're giving out game balls, it'd be two game balls in a row for him. Activity was great. Played both ends of the floor. Didn't run one play for him. He just produced." Nowitzki finished the run with a baseline jumper, the original "Stretch 4" finding a way to best the newest version in Love. Dallas shot 60 percent in the first half and scored 34 of its 62 points in the paint, with Love, Nikola Pekovic and the rest of the Wolves defense just letting the Mavericks parade to the rim. Marion scored 21 points and hit 10 of his 12 shots — most from within 5 feet — in the first half. Nowitzki threw down a rare dunk to get his teammates off the bench and give the Mavs a 60-41 lead late in the second quarter.

FINALE

Continued from Page 8

together as a team and continue to fight for one another." Oregon's first touchdown came on the third play of the game when safety Avery Patterson intercepted an overthrown pass by Texas quarterback Case McCoy and returned it 37 yards to the end zone. McCoy later bookended a dismal performance in his final game with another pick-six, this one returned 38 yards by linebacker Derrick Malone that sent waves of burnt orange-clad fans streaming for the exits. McCoy scored on a 1-yard rush in the first quarter for Texas' only touchdown. He finished 8 of 17 for 48 yards and was pulled at times in the second half for freshman Tyrone Swoopes. Running back Malcolm Brown was the lone offensive constant for Texas, finishing with 130 yards on 26 carries. "It's tough not to get a win for him," defensive end Jackson Jeffcoat said. "Miss Sally, she's like a second mom to us. She takes care of us. Coach Brown loves us." Far from the uplifting send-off Texas wanted for Brown, the school now shifts its focus to finding a replacement. New Texas athletic director Steve Patterson said before kickoff that he wants a successor by Jan. 15. Patterson said coaches interested in the job have come forward but wouldn't discuss potential candidates. "There's interest that's sincere, and there's interest that's 'Help me find a better contract,'" Patterson said.

Navy tops Middle Tennessee 24-6 in AF Bowl

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Keenan Reynolds has two more seasons at Navy and a chance to join another select group of players. A half-century after Hall of Famer and two-time Super Bowl champion Roger Staubach won the Heisman Trophy playing for the Midshipmen, their current quarterback is now only the fourth player to rush for more than 30 touchdowns in a season. Reynolds ran for two more TDs, giving the sophomore 31 this year, and Navy ended the season with a 24-6 victory over Middle Tennessee on Monday

in the Armed Forces Bowl. Already with the NCAA record for touchdowns rushing by a quarterback, Reynolds put Navy (9-4) ahead to stay with a 3-yard score to cap the opening drive of the game. He added a 1-yarder in the fourth quarter, his 31st to match Colorado State running back Kapri Bibbs for the national lead. Only Barry Sanders (37) with Oklahoma State, and Wisconsin's Montee Ball (33) have run for more scores in a season. "It's huge. You just say the name Barry Sanders and you can stop right

there," Reynolds said. "He probably was the greatest college player there was. Just to be even in that conversation with guys like that is a humbling experience. I never thought I would be in that category." Navy ran on 67 of its 74 plays and piled up 366 yards rushing while winning its fifth consecutive game. Reynolds had 20 carries for 86 yards, and eight other players had multiple carries — half of them gaining at least 37 yards. DeBrandon Sanders ran 41 yards for a score on the second play after an interception in the fourth quarter.

TECH

Continued from Page 8

championship game, were held 18 points below their average. They dropped to 0-4 in the Holiday Bowl dating to 1985. "I'm very embarrassed for our program," coach Todd Graham said.

"As coaches we didn't have our guys prepared to play. They came to play. We didn't. Give them credit. I was embarrassed for the fans that showed up today. We didn't have our players prepared. Zero excuses, but we didn't have our players prepared to play. It was an ugly game offensively and defensively. We just didn't play very well. They were the more passionate team today."

While Texas Tech was finding the end zone early on, Arizona State had to settle for field goals of 44 and 31 yards by Zane Gonzalez. The Sun Devils got their first touchdown when D.J. Foster scored on a 20-yard run with 7:52 left in the second quarter to close to 27-13. ASU quarterback Taylor Kelly scored on a 44-yard run early in the third, but Reginald Davis returned the ensuing kickoff 90

yards for a touchdown to extend the Red Raiders' lead to 34-20. Kelly gained 135 yards on 25 carries but threw for only 125 yards, going 16 of 29. He was sacked three times. Foster gained 132 yards on 20 carries. Arizona State's Richard Smith couldn't hold onto a 50-yard pass from Kelly as he tripped and tumbled into the end zone with 9:50 left and the Sun Devils trailing by 14.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Dutiful Capricorn Moon

The Sagittarius moon at the start of the day is a party animal who plans on doing some damage to the tail end of 2013. Then the responsible Capricorn moon takes over, and so does our sense of duty. The afternoon quickly fills with work efforts, last-minute errands and enough diligent activity to tire many people out long before the ball drops.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Every time you say yes to something, you're say-

ing no to something else. You'll use this to your advantage by filling up your schedule with the kinds of things you love to say yes to so there won't be room for anything else.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Does feeling right seem more important than doing right? Either your bodily intelligence is more evolved than your mind, or your mind is being heavily tempted by a lower agenda.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The 80/20 rule states that the bulk of your results come from a mere 20 percent of your actions, though you may beg to differ. It seems that everything you do today counts in a big way. You're on to something.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your motives are pure; that's not the trouble. The trouble is that you have a motive at all. Aiming for one particular outcome makes it impossible for you to roll with what's going on in the moment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your social stars shimmer and wait with baited breath like an audience hanging in the balance. Will your next line be a joke, or will it move them to tears? You are in complete control of this drama.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You dreamed of better days, and now you can finally start implementing the improvements. You don't have all of the resources you need, but you have enough to move forward.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don't judge people by their wealth, because you know they can't help what they came into this world with. But you do admire those who have built a lot out of a little, and that admiration will lead to a mentorship.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be dealing with your

finances. Money isn't given freely these days. If there's a surplus of funds, it's because someone worked harder. Give credit where it's due.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will do what you want to do, what you have to do and what is needed. You won't do what you are told. Are you too stubborn or too wise? Either way, it will work for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Should old acquaintances really be forgotten? No. But you also shouldn't feel badly if you don't tend to them again. Keeping good memories of a person is a way to value that person's existence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you know that you are in the right, it's rather easy to stay cool, calm and collected. That's why you don't trust those who get overly excited about problems.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You feel that if you get more it's because you give more. Compassion is important, too, but right now it's more important that you tend to your responsibilities. Do what you said you would do.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 31). A rivalry heats up in January inspiring you to do what it takes to be the top competitor. Ask for help before you need it, and put yourself in an advantageous position. In February, you'll make a presentation and gain the respect and influence you need to make a move. A transportation upgrade is featured in March. Gemini and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 44, 22, 18, 30 and 35.

NEW YEAR, NEW TAURUS: With the auspicious omen of the new moon on the first day of the new year, those who want to make big changes will be cosmically empowered to do so. Taurus will be inclined to apply this makeover energy to the realm of romance. This Venus-ruled sign is getting tired of appeasing a partner to make the relationship work only to find out that some people love whomever seems the most useful at the time. A romantic life that includes unconditional support and affection may seem far off for Taurus these days, but it's not an impossible dream. Taurus needs only to change a few beliefs about what makes a person

worthy of love. Hard work and self-sacrifice do not make a person worthy of love. Neither is it about being attractive or interesting. A person is worthy of love just because he or she is. Getting this at a fundamental level will not only improve relationships; it will improve self-esteem. The higher value Taurus places on himself or herself will translate into a better experience in every area of life.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: "Gangnam Style" creator PSY introduced South Korean music to the international pop scene, and this Capricorn superstar was the first to reach a billion views on YouTube. His natal Mercury (communication) in Sagittarius (expansion) indicates popularity and reach. His Mars in Leo, the sign of entertainment, signals a natural inclination toward entertainment.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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For more information contact:
Sara Basaldua 432-683-1114 or email sarab@casawtx.org

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