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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

JANUARY 2, 2014



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VOLUME 109, NUMBER 66

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Chamber gears for annual banquet

Man and woman of the year nominations needed now for Feb. 3

By **ANDREIA MEDLIN**
 Staff Writer

"Progress in motion" needs some motion in its progress. The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce 2013 Man and Woman of the Year banquet is slated for Monday, Feb. 3 and nominees are needed soon, according to Executive Director Debbye ValVerde.

Schooler "We haven't received any nominees yet and we need them soon because the banquet is right around the corner."

ValVerde said there have been numerous suggestions and phone calls, but no official nominations have been made.

"People have called and given me suggestions," the executive director said. "And that's great, but we really need our members to make it official."

Nominations must be made by a chamber member who is in good standing. The entries

then go before a committee that chooses the winners. Nominees for Man and Woman of the year do not have to be Chamber members, however. "They can be anybody in the community," said ValVerde. "But they don't have to be members of the Chamber."

Last year's winners were Gloria McDonald and Howard Stewart.

To make a nomination, a Chamber member must adhere to the following procedure:

- There must be a nominator who will submit a nomination in writing on a form provided and approved by the selection committee to include the relevant information about the nominee. To prevent the process from being a 'popularity contest, the committee will be charged to base their decision on the information provided in the nomination submitted, not on the personal knowledge that they might or might not have of the nominee.

See **BANQUET**, Page 3



Incoming board president Jim Clements addresses the crown at the 2012 Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet as long-time board member Jan Foresyth looks on. The banquet honoring 2013 will be held Feb. 13 in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum with incoming president Bruce Schooler taking over the reins.

HERALD file photo

Here's to your health

Health overhaul benefits take effect with new year

By **JULIET WILLIAMS**
 Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — After a troubled rollout, President Barack Obama's health care overhaul now faces its most personal test:

How will it work as people seek care under its new mandates?

Most major pieces of the Affordable Care Act take full effect with the new year. That means people who had been denied coverage because of a pre-existing medical condition can book appointments and get prescriptions.

Caps on yearly out-of-pocket medical expenses will mean people shouldn't have to worry about bankruptcy after treatment for a catastrophic illness or injury. And all new insurance policies must offer a minimum level of essential benefits, ranging from emergency room treatment to maternity care.

The law's benefits apply to individual policies as well as those offered through employers.

But one benefit didn't take effect as expected after Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor late Tuesday night temporarily blocked the part of the law requiring some religious-affiliated organizations to provide their workers with insurance that includes birth control. Government officials

have until Friday to respond to her emergency stay.

Administration officials said this week that 2.1 million consumers have enrolled through the federal and state-run health insurance exchanges that are a central feature of the Affordable Care Act. Millions more have been enrolled in Medicaid, after the federal law allowed states to expand the health insurance program for the poor.

Yet how many of those who signed up for coverage on the exchanges will follow through and pay their premiums will not be known for a couple of weeks. People who signed up on the federal website have until Jan. 10 to pay premiums for coverage retroactive to Jan. 1, while consumers in some states have until Jan. 6.

Those who enrolled during the exchanges' first three months, persisting through serious technological problems and jammed call center phone lines, are probably motivated to make sure they have a policy in place as soon as possible, said Anthony

See **HEALTH**, Page 3

Texting, dialing while driving raises crash risk

By **MARILYNN MARCHIONE**
 AP Chief Medical Writer

A sophisticated, real-world study confirms that dialing, texting or reaching for a cellphone while driving raises the risk of a crash or near-miss, especially for younger drivers. But the research also produced a surprise: Simply talking on the phone did not prove dangerous, as it has in other studies.

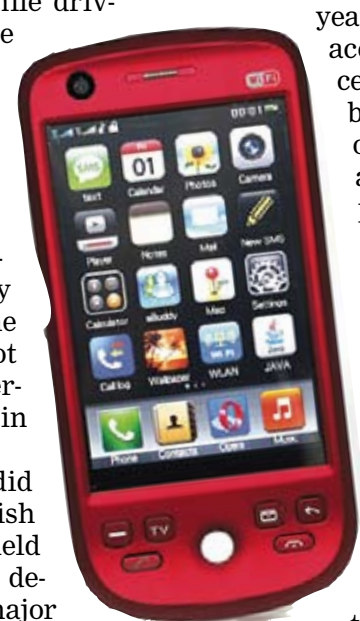
This one did not distinguish between handheld and hands-free devices — a major weakness.

And even though talking doesn't require drivers to take their eyes off the road, it's hard to talk on a phone without first reaching for it or dialing a number — things that raise the risk of a crash, researchers note.

Earlier work with simulators, test-tracks and cellphone records suggests that risky driving increases when people are on cellphones, especially teens. The 15-to-20-year-old age group accounts for 6 percent of all drivers but 10 percent of traffic deaths and 14 percent of police-reported crashes with injuries.

For the new study, researchers at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute installed video cameras, global positioning systems, lane trackers, gadgets to measure speed and acceleration, and other sensors in the cars of 42 newly licensed drivers 16 or 17 years old, and 109 adults with an average of 20 years behind the wheel.

See **CRASH**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Florene Kelley



Florene Kelley, 90, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2013, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, 2014, at Baptist Temple with the Revs. Eldon Reynolds and Rick Wilson officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Florene was born Jan., 4, 1923, in Rule, Texas, and married Luther Kelley in San Francisco, Calif., Oct. 10, 1942. Florene was a sales clerk for more than 28 years in Big Spring for C.R. Anthony. After retiring in 1986, she spent time enjoying her family and cooking.

Survivors include her husband, Luther Kelley of Big Spring; one daughter, Sarah Kelley of Big Spring; one son, Warren Kelley and wife, Kay of Lubbock; two grandchildren, Kyle Kelley and wife, Tabitha of Lubbock, and Stacy Griffin and husband, Sam of Levelland; and four great-grandchildren, Colton Kelley, Kyleigh Kelley, Isabel Griffin, and Hays Griffin.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Wayne and Della (Hutto) Denison; one brother, Bill Denison; and two sisters, Frances McDonald and Tommie Reynolds.

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

Paid obituary

Doris (Dean) George



Doris (Dean) George, 82, of Big Spring, died Dec. 31, 2013, under hospice care in a local nursing home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 3, 2014, at the Nalley-Pickle and Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Elwin Collom, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Big Spring, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6

p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, 2014, at the funeral home.

Dean was born Feb. 3, 1931 in DeKalb, Texas. She married James Lee (Jim) George Sept. 14, 1946, in Clovis, N.M. He preceded her in death Sept. 6, 2006. She was a member of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Big Spring and worked 15 years at the Hillcrest Child Development Center. Prior to working at Hillcrest Baptist Church, she worked in childcare in Odessa.

She is survived by one daughter, Gayle Graham and husband, Robert (Skip) of Tulsa, Okla.; three sons, Lee George and wife, Janet of Lavon, Texas, formerly of Big Spring, James Michael (Mike) George and wife, Debbie of Lakeland, Fla., and Cecil George and wife, Kathy of Fort Stockton. She is also survived by 13 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, one brother, Howard B. Stallcup and wife Cynthia of Denton, Texas, and one sister, Faye Wilson of Burleson, Texas.

She is also preceded in death by her parents, Lonnie and Pearl Stallcup.

The family suggests memorials be made to The American Cancer Society, a local Hospice care provider or a charity of your choice.

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

Paid obituary

Sofia Calderon

Sofia Calderon, 84, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014, at Parkview Nursing and Rehab.

Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Alfredo Hinojos

Alfredo Hinojos, 79, died Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Martha Lee Schwab

Martha Lee Schwab, 82, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

Lois Dean Crawford



Lois Dean Crawford, 80, of Las Cruces, N.M., died Sunday Dec. 29, 2013, at Park View Nursing & Rehab Center. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be 11 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel, with Lloyd Wells and Edward Wilbourn officiating. Graveside services will be at 2:30 pm. at The Gail Cemetery, Gail,

Texas.

She was born Oct. 3, 1933, in Vernon, Texas, to Birdie and John Wilbourn. She lived in Big Spring many years ago, retuning here a month ago from Las Cruces, N.M. She was a homemaker and also worked at TG&Y, Runnels Junior High Cafeteria and factories. She enjoyed flea markets and garage sales, sewing quilting, collecting cookie jars, salt and pepper shakers, and John Wayne movies. She was a Christian.

Eliseo M. Gamboa



Eliseo M. Gamboa, 82, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 29, 2013, in Big Spring. The family will receive friends from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Brother Gabriel Garza officiating. Mr. Gamboa was one of Jehovah's Witnesses for 71 years.

Mr. Gamboa was born Aug. 26, 1932, in Eskota, Texas. He came to Big Spring in the early '40s with his father Jose Gamboa and his mother Maria Gamboa. In 1951, he met and married Rosa Badillo.

Mr. Gamboa grew up and attended school in Big

Delton 'George' Costlow

Delton "George" Costlow, 86, of Stanton, died Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2013, in a Stanton hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014, at the Belvue Church of Christ, Stanton, with Bill Welsh officiating. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, 2014 at the Gilbreath Funeral Home, Stanton.

He was born July 24, 1927 in Frankston, Texas

Norma Jean Woodruff

Norma Jean Woodruff, 48, of Big Spring died Monday, Dec. 30, 2013, at University Medical Center in Lubbock. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Mount Olive Memorial Park with Holston Banks officiating.

She was born July 17, 1965, in Big Spring to Lottie and David Woodruff. She lived most of her life in Big Spring moving to Midland in 2005. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by one son, Curtis Dwayne Woodruff and his wife Krystal of Coahoma; two sisters, Debra Williams of Midland and Danna Williams of Big Spring; five brothers, John D. Smith and his wife Priscilla and Larry Smith and his wife Phyllis, all of Temple, Albert Smith and his wife Fern, Charles Smith and his wife Ruby, and Alvin Smith and his wife Marilyn, all of Big Spring; and four grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Tommy C. Brown, Curtis Williams and Jesse Woodruff; and one aunt, Irma Jackson.

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

Clarence Henkell



Clarence Henkell, 69, of Big Spring died Monday, Dec. 30, 2013, at his residence. Private family services will be at a later date.

He was born Jan. 28, 1944, in Snyder to Billie and David Henkell. He married Dee Lecroy on April 30, 1965, in Big Spring. He was a Vietnam veteran, serving in the U. S. Army. He was a truck driver and worked for Western Container from 1991 until 2011. He lived most

of his life in Big Spring and was a Baptist.

He is survived by his wife, Dee of Big Spring; one son, Kevin Henkell of Midland; one daughter, T. J. Dunnam of Big Spring; and five grandchildren.

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

She is survived by five sons, David Crawford and his wife, Maxine of New Mexico, Stan Crawford and his wife, Lynn of Big Spring, and Danny Crawford, Russell Crawford and Jack Crawford, all of New Mexico; three daughters, Shirley Crawford of New Jersey, Loretta Kissel of Washington and Veta Harris of Big Spring; four sisters, Pearl Wells and her husband Carl, of Big Spring, Lola Dale of Oklahoma, Dorothy Pearce of Canada, and Annie Mae Wilbourn of Big Spring; three brothers, Edward Wilbourn and his wife, Cathy of Arkansas, Jack Wilbourn and his wife Pat of Midland, and Mearle Wilbourn and his wife Barbara of Clyde; 20 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren, and a number of nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Keith Tabor Crawford; a son, Kenneth Tabor Crawford; a sister, Mary Lefern Pierce; and three brothers, Elvin Wilbourn, J. I. (Tex) Wilbourn and James Wilbourn.

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

Spring. He worked for Seven Up Bottling Company for 21 years. In 1957, Mr. Gamboa became a Duly Ordained Minister of the Gospel and served the East Spanish Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in Big Spring for the rest of his life.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Rosa Gamboa; one daughter, Mary Perez and husband Roy; three sons, Samuel and his wife Nancy, Noe Santiago and Eliseo Jr. and his wife Mary; and two granddaughters.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jose Gamboa, and his mother, Maria Gamboa; and a sister, Selia Jackson.

The family suggests memorials be made to East Spanish Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, 1411 S. Scurry St., Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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

and married Beatrice Wrinkle.

He was a member of Belvue Church of Christ and had served in the United States Navy.

He is survived by his wife, Beatrice Costlow of Stanton; three daughters, Linda Crowley of Albuquerque, N.M., Laura Hall of McKinnon and Judith Harden of Midland; two step-sons, Lance Kitchen and Gary Kitchen; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences may be made at: www.npwelch.com

Police/Sheriff/EMS

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

- VERONICA PAULA CERVANTES, 27, of 1901 East 25th St. no. 109, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for expired motor vehicle inspection.
- JAMES CLARK, 36, of 41 Baca St. Tucmado, N.M., was arrested on a charge of no drivers license when unlicensed.
- MICHAEL LEE LOPEZ, 26, of 411 N. Scurry, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of disorderly conduct language.
- CHARLYE FRANCESCA MONROE, 28, of 1409 S. Runnels, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- AVEL ABREO RAMIREZ, 66, of 1511 Princeton Ave., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JESSICA ELAINE CARMICHAEL, 32, of 1406 S. Runnels, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency.
- EDGAR LOZOYA, 23, of 1807 Montgomery Dr., Brownsville, Texas, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of exploding fireworks in the city limits.
- DIMAS RAYMOND VALLES, 24, of 1410 Bluebird, was arrested Wednesday on charge of possession of marijuana less than or equal to 2 ounces and tampering/fabricating physical evidence.
- STEVEN ANTHONY GREENE, 24, of 2110 Nolan, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- FRANKIE RUBIO JR., 24, of 621 Sergeant Paradez was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency and charges of possession of marijuana less than or equal to 2 ounces, possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram and consumption of alcohol by a minor – two counts.
- BRIAN JADE GONZALES, 20, of 706 West FM 700, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of consumption of alcohol by a minor.
- RICHARD KRIESEN, 41, of 603 Northeast 10th St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of unauthorized use of a vehicle.
- AMANDA CHANCY, 27, of 1409 Northwest 8th

See **POLICE**, Page 3

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.
USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$9.00 monthly; \$97.20 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

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POLICE

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St., Andrews, Texas, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana less than or equal to 2 ounces.

- JEFFREY TRULL, 30, of 2201 Rocky Lane, Odessa, Texas, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana less than or equal to 2 ounces and possession of a dangerous drug.
- ROSENDO SUBIA ROBLES JR., 34, of 1302 Lincoln, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for bail jumping/failure to appear.
- MICHAEL ALLEN RICHTER, 39, of 129 Jonesboro, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- ALMA WAYDEAN RICHTER, 37, of 129 Jonesboro, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- DOMONIQUE XAVIER WILLIAMS, 23, of 800 Nolan, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- SAM STEVENSON WALKER, 22, of 1002 North Main no. 85, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported at the 1900 block of Alabama, the 400 block of Westover and the 1000 block of Stadium.
- THEFT was reported at the 1600 block of East FM 700, the 200 block of West FM 700 and the 1600 block of South Gregg.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported at the 9900 block of Centerpoint Rd.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported at the 400 block of Scurry, the 100 block of Jonesboro and the 2500 block of Larry.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported at the 1500 block of Sycamore, the intersection of West Highway 80 and FM 700 and the intersection of FM 700 and West Highway 80.
- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the 1800 block of Gregg.
- MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported at the inter-

- section of 17th St. and Gregg.
- FIREWORKS reported at the 500 block of North Lamesa Highway.
- DISTURBANCE reported at the 700 block of West FM 700, the 1500 block of Vines and the 2500 block of Albrook.

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

- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 65 inmates at the time of this report.
- VERONICA PALA CERVANTES was booked by BSPD on a capias warrant for failure to display or expired motor vehicle inspection.
- JAMES LOGAN CLARK was booked by BSPD on a charge of no drivers license when unlicensed.
- MICHAEL LEE LOPEZ was booked by BSPD on a charge of disorderly conduct (vulgar language).
- LEROY ZUBIATE was booked by HCSO on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
- CHARLYE FRANCESCA MONROE was booked by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- AMANDA CHANCY was booked by HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces.
- JEFFREY TRULL was booked by HCSO on charges of possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces and possession of a dangerous drug.
- ROSENDO SUBIA ROBLES JR. was booked by HCSO on charges of bail jumping and failure to appear.
- ALMA WAYDEAN RICHTER was booked by HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- AVEL ABREO RAMIREZ was booked by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MICHAEL ALLEN RICHTER was booked by HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- DOMINIQUE XAVIER WILLIAMS was booked by HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- JESSICA ELAINE CARMICHAEL was booked by BSPD on a charge of theft of property greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.
- FRANKIE RUBIO JR. was booked by BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana less than 2

ounces, possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram, intoxication manslaughter with a vehicle and consumption of alcoholic beverage by a minor/capias - two counts.

- BRIAN JADE GONZALES was booked by BSPD on a charge of consumption of alcohol by a minor.
- DIMAS RAYMOND VALLES was booked by BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces and tampering or fabricating physical evidence with the intent to impair.
- EDGAR LAZOYA was booked by BSPD on a charge of exploding fireworks in the city limits.
- STEVEN ANTHONY GREENE was booked by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- RICHARD KRIESEN was booked by BSPD on a charge of unauthorized use of a vehicle.
- RUBEN ANTHONY GONZALES was booked by BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated, hindering officers discharging official duties and resisting arrest, search or transport.
- SAM STEVENSON WALKER JR. was booked by HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- JUAN MANUEL GARCIA was booked by HCSO on a charge of theft of property greater than or equal to \$500 but less than \$1,500.
- RAYMOND EARL OVERTON was booked by HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, violate promise to appear and driving while license invalid.
- MARCUS MENDEZ was booked by BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for assault causing bodily injury family member.

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

- Tuesday:
- MEDICAL call reported at the 1100 block of Lancaster. One patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT reported at the 1700 block of Coregg. One patient transported to SMMC.
- Wednesday:
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT reported at the 3600 block of Parkway. No transport.

BANQUET

Continued from Page 1

- The nominator shall submit their name, address and phone number in case the selection committee should need additional information.
- The nominee does not have to be a member of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, but the nominator must be a member.
- The selection will be made on the basis of all

around contributions to the community, not just for extraordinary performance in the individual's business or employment. The nominee should have a consistent track record of accomplishments rather than being honored for a single act of merit; although a single contribution or achievement is not ruled out if it is of sufficient importance.

• The term "community" as used above should be taken to relate to the

"area" served by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

- Those currently holding a political office should not be eligible for nomination.
- The selected honorees will be announced at the banquet which will be held at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum at 7 p.m. Other announcements will also be made, according to Valverde. "We'll be thanking Jim Clements (out-going Chamber president) for

a great 2013," Valverde said. "We'll also be honoring our new president, Bruce Schooler, as well as our new board members."

Tables are available for purchase at \$130 for members to promote their business and entice people to sit at that table, said Valverde.

"The banquet is a lot of fun," Valverde said. "For me, the best part is seeing the expression on their faces when they win. But we really need

nominations so that we can move forward."

The deadline for nominations is Jan. 21, and the criteria and entry form can be emailed or faxed to a member who wants to make a nomination.

For more information call the Chamber at 263-7641 or visit the website at bigspringchamber.com

To contact Andreia Medlin call the Herald at 263-7331.

• MEDICAL call reported at the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One patient transported to SMMC.

Call 263-7331 to subscribe

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288

Lois D. Crawford, 80, died Sunday. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside services will be at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Gail Cemetery.

Eliseo M. Gamboa, 81, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Clarence Henkell, 69, died Monday. Services will be held at a later date.

Norma Jean Woodruff, 48, died Monday. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Alfredo Hinojos, 79, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Sofia Calderon, 84, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

HEALTH

Continued from Page 1

Wright, executive director of Health Access California, which advocates for lower-income people and supports the federal health care changes.

"These are people who made a point of signing up and signing up before the deadline so they could start on Jan. 1. That suggests to me that that will be a population that is more likely to follow through with the

payment," he said.

Premiums paid after the deadline will be applied to coverage starting Feb. 1 or later. Consumers have until March 31 to sign up in time to avoid a federal tax penalty for remaining uninsured. That fine starts at \$95 for an individual this year but climbs rapidly, to a minimum of \$695 by 2016. There is an additional fine for parents who do not get health insurance for their children.

Although the federal website is apparently

fixed for consumers, the start of the year still could bring plenty of confusion.

Insurers say they are receiving thousands of erroneous sign-up applications from the government, and some people who thought they had enrolled for coverage have not received confirmation. Undoubtedly, some will find out they don't have the immediate coverage they thought they did.

Some states, including Minnesota and Rhode Island, extended their

sign-up period until the final day of 2013, leading to a last-minute crush of paperwork for insurers. Call center wait times in Minnesota extended beyond two hours on Tuesday, a possible sign of heavy consumer interest.

Anticipating disruptions, major drug store chains such as CVS and Walgreens have announced they will help customers who face coverage questions, even providing temporary supplies of medications without insisting on up-

front payment. Many smaller independent pharmacies also are ready to help.

Some parts of the Affordable Care Act took effect previously, such as the ability of young people to remain on their parents' insurance policies until age 26.

Others have been delayed until 2015, including the law's requirement that companies with 50 or more workers must provide affordable coverage or pay fines. The administration says it's trying to iron out burdensome reporting requirements.

CRASH

Continued from Page 1

The risk of a crash or near-miss among young drivers increased more than sevenfold if they were dialing or reaching for a cellphone and fourfold if they were sending or receiving a text message. The risk also rose if they were reaching for something other than a phone, looking at a roadside object or eating.

Among older drivers, only dialing a cellphone increased the chances of a crash or near miss.

However, that study began before texting became more common, so researchers don't know if it is as dangerous for them as it is for teens.

Engaging in distractions increased as time went on among novice drivers but not among experienced ones.

The National Institutes of Health and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration paid for the research. Results are in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

David Strayer, a University of Utah scientist

who has done research on this topic, said the findings that merely talking on a phone while driving was not dangerous is "completely at odds with what we found."

The study methods and tools may have underestimated risks because video cameras capture wandering eyes but can't measure cognitive distraction, he said.

"You don't swerve so much when you're talking on a cellphone; you just might run through a red light," and sensors would not necessarily

pick up anything amiss unless a crash occurred, Strayer said.

As for texting, "we all agree that things like taking your eyes off the road are dangerous," he said.

At least 12 states ban the use of hand-held cellphones while driving and 41 ban text messaging. All cellphone use is banned by 37 states for novice or teen drivers, says the National Conference of State Legislatures, citing information from the Governor's Highway Safety Administration.

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Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

DAILY PRAYER

May we continue to care, Lord, even when it seems no one around us does..

Amen

What to expect in 2014

2013 was a year of revelations, a year of possible turning points. For nearly two decades, since Ronald Reagan left office, America moved steadily in the direction of the left, both culturally and politically. When the Soviet Union fell, optimistic scholars believed the world had shifted inexorably in the direction of free markets and liberal democracy. Instead, the West gradually embraced bigger government and weaker social bonds, creating a fragmented society in which the only thing we all belong to, as President Barack Obama puts it, is the state.

All battles for the soul begin with culture. And while the battle against Obama's unprecedented growth of government started with the tea party victories of 2010, the cultural battle against the left didn't truly take until 2013. The seeds were planted for this cultural battle in earnest in 2012, when Obama and his Democratic Party allies put race, sexual orientation and abortion at the core of his reelection campaign. Americans were told by the media that Obama's competence mattered less than the fact that half the country was mean, nasty, racist and homophobic. Todd Akin's absurd comments on conception via rape were the issue, Americans were told, not the imminent takeover of the health care system; Obama's sudden support for same-sex marriage was the issue, not his devastating regulatory state; George Zimmerman and Trayvon Martin were the issue, not the destruction of entire swaths of the United States via leftist governance.

And it worked. Conservative Americans, bludgeoned into si-

lence on cultural battles, decided to focus entirely on Obama's economic buffoonery. Unsurprisingly, it didn't work; culture, as my friend Andrew Breitbart was fond of stating, is upstream of politics.

2013 marked a turning point. From Chick-fil-A to "Duck Dynasty," conservative religious Americans found their footing: Whether you are for or against same-sex marriage, it is plainly un-American to override someone's religious beliefs in the name of your politics. Conservative Americans seemed to realize, for the first time in a long time, that the battle over same-sex marriage came wrapped in a larger battle over religious freedom. And they fought back, and won.

Meanwhile, conservatives began to fight back against the left's uncorroborated assertion of right-wing racism.

While MSNBC focused laser-like on one Confederate flag at an anti-Obamacare rally, those same MSNBC hosts laughed at Mitt Romney's adopted black grandchild (Melissa Harris-Perry), suggested that someone ought to "p****" and "s****" in Sarah Palin's mouth (Martin Bashir), used anti-gay slurs (Alec Baldwin), shook down businesses over race (Al Sharpton) and labeled words like "black hole" and "Chicago" racist (Chris Matthews). Race, the right realized, was an obsession only for the left.

And in the aftermath of the left's successful 2012 "war on women" meme, the right began to fight back, too. Beginning with the left's attempted deification of amoral Texas state Sen. Wendy Davis, who filibustered for 11 hours on behalf of the murder of 21-week-old fetuses, the right refused to be cowed. Abortion is a real moral issue with real lives at stake, and no amount of leftist badgering could back conservative Ameri-

cans off their attempts to protect the unborn.

The cultural battles gradually made their way into the political arena, too. Freed from the burden of the beige and blundering Romney campaign, conservatives stood up against the growth of government on moral, not merely practical, grounds. Obama's signature program began to collapse the moment Americans awakened to the deep immorality of government-controlled medical care. Sen. Ted Cruz's government shutdown strategy, right or wrong, highlighted conservative opposition to the state as cradle-to-grave caretaker. American distrust of government, for the right reasons, soared.

This does not mean the battles are over for conservatives. They're just beginning. The media have already geared up toward nominating Hillary Clinton in 2016 (The New York Times whitewash of Benghazi this week was only the beginning). The DC-run Republican Party has a disheartening way of crippling its own conservative base in order to cut deals. But 2013 could go down as the year that conservatives moved beyond standing athwart history shouting "stop," and began shoving in the opposite direction.

Ben Shapiro, 29, is a graduate of UCLA and Harvard Law School, a radio host on KRLA 870 Los Angeles, Editor-in-Chief of TruthRevolt.org, and Editor-At-Large for Breitbart News. He is the New York Times bestselling author of "Bullies: How the Left's Culture of Fear and Intimidation Silences America." To find out more about Ben Shapiro and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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An assortment of hangover cures

As usual, I am presenting my list of holiday hangover cures. I do not know why. When you need this, you probably won't even be able to read it. Your eyes will be two pink dots, your teeth will itch, and your mouth will feel as if an army has marched through it.

Actually, I have no sympathy for people who awake with crushing hangovers. A hangover is God's way of telling you that you are still alive.

But I know you expect aid and comfort from me, so I will once again share with you my collection of expert cures for this hangover season:

1) DR. PHILIP THOREK, a surgeon with an interest in nutrition and drinking:

"Boy, alcohol really knocks the hell out of your liver. And the liver is a marvelous organ. But what do we do to it? We go out and kill off a fifth and turn into bibulous slob.

"The only real cure for a hangover is what I call the Tincture of Time. You have to wait hours and hours for your body to metabolize and destroy the alcohol. And it is not just the alcohol, but the impurities. The fusel oils! The congeners! The aldehydes!

"A hangover is a form of poisoning. There is no doubt about this. Now, eating fatty foods, bread or cheese will help absorb some of the alcohol. But this doesn't mean you can go and drink more. That's crazy. Moderation, moderation. This is what we must learn.

"A glass of wine is a good tranquilizer. But you must remember temperance. Not abstinence, but temperance. But what do we

do? We go out and drink triple martinis, wake up with a terrible hangover and blame the olives!"

2) ROBERTO SURO, famous journalist: "Here is what they do in South America. One takes the rawest of fish. The fish is placed in lemon juice and raw onions. Hot sauce is added. The fish is then soaked for two days. No less. This is eaten with popcorn and beer. Yes, they have popcorn in South America.

"This cure is known as tratamiento de choque. In North America, you would know it as the 'shock treatment.'

"I also hear that among unsavory elements at some American places of higher education, a certain type of cigarette is smoked immediately upon awakening to remove all sense of pain.

It is my understanding that this is not strictly legal, and therefore, I have never tried this myself. Also, I hear Valium is good.

"There is also a ritual to be followed. We do this every New Year's at my mother's. As the clock gongs midnight, a grape must be eaten upon each gong. Of course, with clocks with no gongs, this becomes difficult. In that case, just eat 12 grapes quickly.

"Then a raw egg is cracked into a glass of water. One carefully watches the shape of the egg white. From this, the future may be predicted."

3) THE GUILT CURE: Look in the mirror and read this in the voice of your spouse: "You slob. You absolute pig. Look at yourself. I can't stand the sight of you.

You do this every year. I hope you're pleased with yourself. You look awful. If you ever do this again, I'm throwing you out of this house. You make me sick. You ought to be ashamed."

4) THE TRADITIONAL CURE: Chicken soup cures anything.

You can drink it. You can soak your head in it. You can wash your face in it. You can take the spots out of your tie with it. You can even mix it with white wine and soda and make a chicken soup spritzer. Even if it doesn't help your hangover, it will remind you of your mother.

5) LORD BYRON'S CURE: "Let us have wine and women, mirth and laughter/Sermons and soda water the day after."

6) ANOTHER MEDICAL CURE: Drinking causes dehydration and the contraction of the blood vessels. To cure this, drink water or fruit juices and take aspirin. Unfortunately, another shot of booze might also swell the blood vessels and relieve the pain. But this just starts the whole thing over again.

7) ZAY SMITH, newsman and former bartender: "People would come into the tavern in very bad shape and ask me for something to stop the pain. The only thing I knew about was Worcestershire sauce on a lemon wedge.

"You just close your eyes and bite the lemon wedge. It helps if you are standing up while doing this. Actually, this is not a cure for hangovers. It is a cure for hiccups. But these guys were so drunk, they didn't know the difference.

"I'd ask them if they felt better, and they'd say: 'Huh? Where am I?'"

"So I guess it works."

Roger Simon is Politico's chief political columnist. His new e-book, "Reckoning: Campaign 2012 and the Fight for the Soul of America," can be found on Amazon.com, BN.com and iTunes. To find out more about Roger Simon and read features by other Creators writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Web page at www.creators.com.

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BEN SHAPIRO



ROGER SIMON

Coahoma Third Graders Toy Drive



Courtesy photo/Coahoma Elementary third grade practices the gift of giving by collecting toys for the Salvation Army Toy Drive.

Big Spring ISD pride corner: Ex-students still giving back to local education

Big Spring ISD is proud of the large number of employees who have dedicated their careers back to the district where they graduated. This week in Pride Corner, we would like to recognize some of the ex-students who are giving back.

Class of 1968 — Seventh grade science teacher, Betty Johansen; Linda (Williams) Battle, BSJHS biology teacher and department head.

Class of 1970 — BSJHS teacher, Jack Tonn.

Class of 1971 — DAEP secretary, Joy Horn.

Class of 1973 — Pat Ray teaches math at BSJHS and pastors a local church.

Class of 1974 — Kay Cook, Athletic Secretary; Jill Willbanks, Co-op/CTE teacher at BSJHS; BSJHS English teacher Carol Boyd.

Class of 1975 — BSJHS Art teacher, Judy Tereletsky; Pre-K Teacher, Christine Boling; after being gone for 38 years, Assistant Superintendent Danny Ferrell, feels God put him here to work with the staff and community; Moss Computer Lab manag-

er, Joann Claveran Garcia.

Class of 1976 — Lana Piercefield, CTE teacher for BSJHS; BSJHS Science Campus Curriculum Coordinator, Donny Green and his wife, Debbie who is the Chief Financial Officer for the district came to work in the district where Donny's parents were teachers.

Class of 1983 — BSJHS English teacher, George Bancroft; BSJHS social studies teacher, Patsy Sanchez.

Class of 1984 — Washington teacher, Karen Thiebeault.

Class of 1985 — Tonya Tompkins Graves who serves the district as a speech therapy assistant, but began her BSISD career at Kentwood, the school she loved as a child.

Class of 1987 — D'Carlton Wilson who loves BSISD, and wants her own children to be taught by the best teachers in this area; Kentwood Principal, Kelli Preson Wigington, came to BSISD to be close to family and allow her own children to graduate a Big Spring Steer; BSJHS teacher and coach, Sheri Myrick, returned to BSISD this year to be close to family and begin coaching again; Tabitha (Green) Barbee, seventh grade social studies teacher and coach feels it is an honor and blessing to teach where

she graduated.

Class of 1988 — Marcy fifth grade teacher, Kerri Whitehead; second grade teacher Angela Smithie; Marcy second grade teacher, Rebecca Dianne Johnke Carrillo who was a second generation graduate and is proud of her own children for graduating from BSISD; Shannon Stuteville who serves as the secretary for BSJHS came to work for BSISD to have the same schedule as her own children 15 years ago and "has loved every minute of it."

Class of 1989 — BSJHS Head Custodian, Gregoria Gonzales, is proud to wear the Black and Gold colors of her alma mater.

Class of 1990 — Goliad teaching assistant, Ramona Foster Strickland.

Class of 1991 — Moss kindergarten teacher, Nancy Leib.

Class of 1995 — Marcy second grade teacher, Wendy Mayes.

Class of 2000 — Kamy Horn, third grade teacher at Washington; BSJHS counselor, Chandra Brooks, who is proud to be a Steer again.

Class of 2001 — Pre-K teacher, Samantha Hyatt wanted to give back to the community and school district that she grew up in.

Class of 2002 — BSJHS writing teacher, Taylor Osborn; BSJHS aide, Teresa Chavera; Goliad first grade teacher, Nicole Woodard.

Class of 2003 — Cody Osborn, Coach

and history teacher for BSJHS.

Class of 2004 — seventh grade reading teacher, Camilla (Painter) Strande was inspired by her BSISD teachers and wants to inspire her students.

Class of 2005 — Toni Flores, fifth grade teacher at Goliad.

Class of 2006 — Goliad Special Education Teacher Kelly Wingert; Ashley Phinney, teacher and cheer coach for BSJHS wants to make a difference in the community that made such a difference on her during her teen years; Moss attendance clerk, Jessica Diaz wanted to return the welcoming and comforting feeling she received from the teachers and staff at BSISD by working for the district.

Class of 2007 — Moss Elementary secretary, Natalie Oliver; FCS teacher at BSJHS, Haley Lefever wanted to work beside those who taught and loved her.

Class of 2008 — English teacher at BSJHS, Meredith (Nieto) Skaggs.

Other staff who did not list a year — Gwen Ray, Billy Morgan, Dana Rodriguez, Alvin Rocha, Monica Kemper, Nick Roberson, Anne Roberson, Maleah McGee, Dana Jones, Anna O'Brien, Charlie Thomas, Kristi Fontana, Tom McQuery, Jana McQuery, Clay Gamble and Braden Witt.

Melissa Miller is a educational diagnostician at Big Spring High School.



MELISSA MILLER

Forsan band students place at All Region Band

Five Forsan High band students move on to area tryouts

Five Forsan High School band students earned a shot at Area Band tryouts.

Students advancing to Area were: Maria Ortiz, alto clarinet; Brady Mikeska, trumpet; Elizabeth Rhodes, French horn; Travis Ballard, trombone; and Dalton Taylor, Tuba.

Area Band tryouts to be held Jan. 11, at Ida Lou High School. Students that advance from Area make the Texas All State Band.

The students advanced after placing well in the high school All Region Band tryouts for Region 6, were held Dec. 9, at Monahans high School. Area class A, AA, and AAA schools participated.

Students making the Honors Band (first band) were: Marie Ortiz, alto clarinet; Brady Mikeska, trumpet; Elizabeth Rhodes, French horn; and Travis Ballard, trombone.

Students Making the Symphonic Band (sec-

ond band) were: Nina Ortiz, Bb clarinet; Zachary Long, trumpet, and Dalton Taylor, tuba.

Other students who participated from Forsan High School were: Mackenzie Kennedy, and Ashlie Knox

Five students ranked high enough to advance to the All Region Band Clinic and Concert will take place Jan. 24 and 25 at Midland High School in Midland, Texas.

Twelve Forsan Junior High band students earn slot on Region Band

Junior High All Region Band tryouts for Region 6, were held at Forsan High School on Dec. 12. Area Class A, AA, and AAA schools participated.

Approximately 850 junior high students tried out.

Students Making the Honors Band (first) were: Alysa Le, flute; Sierra Darling, clarinet; Saige Stallings, French horn; and Elizabeth Long, trombone.

Students making the Symphonic Band (second band) were: Brennan East, clarinet; and Walker Cimino, tuba.

Students making the Concert Band (third band) were: Tatum Miller, clarinet; Tonie Munoz; trumpet; Aissa Cervantes, French horn; Kimee Ogle, French horn; Jaden Wilson, French horn; and Jacki Torbik, tuba.

Students that participated from Forsan Junior High were: Jaidyn Brown, Alysa Le, Sierra Darling, Brennan East, Tatum Miller, Macey Evans, Emily Garcia, Razyl Yanez, Kayla Morin, Tonie Munoz, Mikahaela Willard, Aissa Cervantes, Kimee Ogle, Saige Stallings, Jaden Wilson, Elizabeth Long, James McCafferty, Bryson Pineda, Courtney Bankston, Logan Brinlee, Walker Cimino, and Jacki Torbik.

The All Region Band Clinic and Concert will take place Jan. 24 and 25 at Midland High School in Midland, Texas.

Howard County Junior College District STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

Year Ended August 31, 2013

REVENUES	2013
Operating revenues	
Tuition and fees (net of discounts of \$5,001,087)	\$4,183,889
Federal grants and contracts	3,394,294
State grants and contracts	755,728
Local grants and contracts	15,640
Nongovernmental grants and contracts	827,336
Sales and services of educational activities	321,156
Auxiliary enterprises (net of discounts of \$1,171,850)	390,461
Other operating revenues	585,193
Total operating revenues	<u>10,473,697</u>

EXPENSES	
Operating expenses	
Instruction	\$10,348,744
Public service	847,318
Academic support	3,042,472
Student services	2,162,027
Institutional support	6,667,071
Operation and maintenance of plant	2,934,716
Scholarships and fellowships	3,371,558
Auxiliary enterprises	1,770,572
Depreciation	<u>1,772,697</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>32,917,175</u>

Operating loss (\$22,443,478)

NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	
State appropriations	11,508,679
Property taxes for operations	4,586,829
Property taxes for debt service	1,718,328
Payments in lieu of taxes	141,651
Federal revenue, non operating	6,277,122
Investment income (net of investment expenses)	39,105
Interest on capital related debt	(989,423)
Gain (loss) on disposal of fixed assets	-
Other non-operating revenues	424,572
Net non-operating revenues	<u>23,706,863</u>

Income before other revenue	1,263,385
Other revenue	
Capital contributions	<u>1,071,366</u>
Increase in net position	2,334,751
Net position - beginning of year	<u>38,293,024</u>
Net position - end of year	<u>\$40,627,775</u>

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News in brief

Suspected killer had stormy marriage with victim

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Court records show that a man arrested in the slaying of his ex-wife after a five-hour standoff Tuesday had a tumultuous marriage that ended in divorce and a protective order against him.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reports that 49-year-old John St. Angelo surrendered after police used a robot to throw tear gas inside a house where he was holed up.

A police spokeswoman said he had a self-inflicted wound. St. Angelo remained hospitalized Wednesday. Officers quoted by the newspaper say he had a face wound.

He is accused of stabbing to death his ex-wife, real estate agent Suzanne Parsons, on Monday. She was pronounced dead at the real estate office of the company for which she worked. The Tarrant County medical examiner said she died of multiple stab and cut wounds to her chest and neck.

Court documents show that the couple's divorce was finalized Dec. 16. They filed for divorce in May, the same month Parsons obtained a protective order against St. Angelo.

St. Angelo was arrested in June for assaulting Parsons' brother with a hammer and in October was sentenced to two days in jail.

A woman who had met St. Angelo months earlier alerted police after finding him Monday night in her home, where the standoff then unfolded.

As police officers approached the house, they could hear several gunshots being fired. They did not respond but called the SWAT team.

In an affidavit for the protective order, Parsons said he would threaten her. "He breaks things, screams and has threatened me," Parsons said.

Barbara Bush remains hospitalized in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — Former first lady Barbara Bush remains hospitalized with a respiratory-related issue, but her condition hasn't changed, a spokesman for her husband's office said Wednesday.

Bush, 88, was admitted to Houston Methodist Hospital on Monday, though it wasn't announced until former President George H.W. Bush's office released a statement Tuesday night.

"She is in great spirits, has already received visits from her husband and family, and is receiving fantastic care," the statement read, promising to provide updates as warranted.

Jim McGrath, a spokesman for the former president, said there was "nothing new to report" on Wednesday.

In the meantime, President Barack Obama said he hopes Bush gets well soon.

"Michelle and I send our best wishes to Mrs. Bush for a speedy recovery," the president said in a written statement. "Barbara is blessed to have both a loving, supportive family by her side and a vibrant spirit that we hope will have her feeling better soon."

He added: "I know I speak for Americans everywhere when I say that our thoughts and prayers are with Barba-

ra and her family on this New Year's Day."

Bush and her husband, the 41st president, live in Houston and still make public appearances. Last week, they honored a Houston businessman and philanthropist with a Points of Light Award, a volunteer service award started by the former president.

Dogs near Houston blamed for horse, donkey deaths

HIGHLANDS, Texas (AP) — A Houston-area rancher has been on the lookout for wild dogs since eight of her miniature horses and a donkey were attacked and died or had to be euthanized.

Horse breeder Jeanne McClanahan of Highlands said Wednesday that she believes pit bulls were behind the attacks since Thanksgiving. McClanahan has about 100 miniature horses on about 90 acres and knows each of her animals by name.

She's been carrying a shotgun while on patrol to protect her animals. McClanahan says it's not safe for horses or people with the dogs still at large.

Officials with Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services recently gave McClanahan a trap to try to capture some of the dogs.

Authorities had no immediate information on who might own the dogs.

Texas official holds town hall meeting on quakes

AZLE, Texas (AP) — A member of the Texas Railroad Commission wants to hear from the public about a series of minor earthquakes in Parker County.

Commissioner David Porter will host a town hall meeting starting at 5 p.m. CST Thursday at Azle High School in Azle. The commission regulates oil and gas operations.

Authorities are trying to figure out what's been causing the earthquakes in an area about 20 miles northwest of Fort Worth. Officials recorded more than a dozen small quakes in November and several more in December.

The Tarrant Regional Water District has requested advice from experts, including the U.S. Geological Survey, about the quakes. Inspections have been done on Eagle Mountain Reservoir, as a precaution, to check for cracks or other possible damage.

Tow truck driver shot in Texas trying to help men

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Police say a tow truck driver was shot in the early hours of New Year's Day as he tried to help three men stranded on a freeway in Fort Worth.

WFAA-TV reports the men were having car trouble around 4:40 a.m. Wednesday and called the tow truck. A police spokeswoman says the driver told the men only one could ride in the tow truck's cab and that the other two could not sit in the vehicle as it was being towed.

Police say one of the men pulled a gun and fired at the tow truck as it drove away. The shot hit the driver, who was taken to a hospital. His condition is not clear.

Twenty-six-year-old Shane Crowson has been charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

San Antonio man beaten to death with sledgehammer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A San Antonio man has been arrested for allegedly bludgeoning another man to death with a sledgehammer at a New Year Eve party.

Investigators searching under a tarp in the yard recovered the body of a 28-year-old man outside a home on Wyoming Street on the city's east side.

The victim and suspect were not immediately identified.

Neighbors told several San Antonio media outlets that a party at the home had begun Tuesday night and lasted into Wednesday morning.

The victim and suspect are believed to have be-

come involved in an altercation around 9 a.m.

The incident marks San Antonio's first homicide of 2014.

Shooting outside Austin medical center kills 1

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — One man is dead and another is in custody after a shooting outside a downtown Austin medical center mere moments before the start of 2014.

Security personnel at University Medical Center Brackenridge reporting hearing an altercation involving two men around 11:50 p.m. Tuesday, followed by gunshots.

They found and transported to the emergency room with gunshot wounds to the chest a victim who died a short time later.

On duty at the time were four security officers and three off-duty Austin police officers, who eventually arrested a male suspect.

The names of the victim and suspect were not released. Police were still investigating the incident and did not immediately file charges.

Arrested South Texas officer wants bail lowered

MCALLEN, Texas (AP) — A former South Texas sheriff's office commander arrested on drug conspiracy and money laundering charges remains jailed because he can't afford the full amount of his bail or find a co-signer.

The Monitor in McAllen reports that Jose "Joe" Padilla has the \$5,000 cash deposit required for his release.

A motion file by Padilla's attorney, Joe Cisneros, says he hasn't been able to find a bond company or any person that agrees to sign off on his bond and pay the \$100,000 in case he flees.

Padilla was formerly second-in-command at the Hidalgo County Sheriff's office. He says he does not have enough cash or properties to back the \$100,000 bond.

Court records show he has houses in South Texas worth more than \$330,000 but owes almost \$240,000 in mortgage, leaving him with about \$97,500 in equity.

Padilla's 24-year police career ended after he was arrested Christmas Eve following an indictment linked him to a Weslaco-based drug trafficking organization.

Texas blaze destroys 350 portable toilets

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Officials are investigating whether fireworks are behind a blaze that destroyed about 350 portable toilets outside San Antonio.

The San Antonio Express-News reports that Bexar County spokeswoman Monica Ramos said the blaze started about 10:30 p.m. Tuesday at United Site Services, east of the city center.

Ramos said the cause of the fire is unknown and that it is still under investigation.

Other officials, however, say fireworks may have started a grass fire that eventually spread to the business, reaching the portable toilets.

United's website says that, with 52 locations nationwide, it is the largest provider of portable toilets and restroom trailers in the country.

Gator County's albino Burmese python Banana dies

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) — A 16-foot albino python who was something of a celebrity around the Gulf Coast city of Beaumont has died.

The Beaumont Enterprise reports that the Burmese Python known as Banana was found dead in her indoor enclosure in Gator County about three weeks ago.

Owner Gary Saurage said he believes she died of natural causes. He said Banana had stopped eating for about two months.

Banana made news in 2012 when she was kidnapped, and then again when she was found months later.

She was a star attraction at a Gator County reptile theme park. The snake lived there since 2007, when she was found roaming an abandoned Houston apartment complex.

Saurage estimated the park draws about 30,000 visitors annually and said Banana was "a huge hit to everyone."

Health law dampens Perry's New Year's optimism

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry says the nation's new health care law has dampened the optimism he normally feels with the coming of a new year.

In a Dallas Morning News op-ed Wednesday, the Republican predicts that the "delays, deceit and debacles" that marked the law's 2013 debut will continue.

Texas has the highest rate of uninsured Americans, but Perry won't expand Medicaid for the working poor under the White House's signature initiative.

The state also refused to create its own health care exchanges, forcing Texans to use the problem-plagued federal website to enroll for private health insurance.

Perry wrote that the federal website is a \$600 million debacle.

He also said the law will increase insurance premiums and could mean that 80 million Americans lose employee-sponsored health insurance policies in 2014.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The First Step Tells the Tale

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 7
♥ 8 5 3 2
♦ Q J 5
♣ K J 7 4

WEST
♠ J 9 8 6 2
♥ 6 4
♦ 10 9 6 2
♣ 5 3

EAST
♠ K 10 4
♥ A J 9 7
♦ 7 4 3
♣ A 8 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 5 3
♥ K Q 10
♦ A K 8
♣ Q 10 9 6

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT

Opening lead — six of spades.

It's impossible to play bridge well if you react to situations mechanically. As a case in point, consider this deal played in the 1958 world championship match between Argentina and the United States.

B. Jay Becker and Sidney Silodor were East and West, respectively, and Silodor led the six of spades against three notrump. The Argentine declarer followed low from dummy, whereupon Becker played the ten of spades instead of the king!

South took the ten with the queen and led a club to the king, won by Becker with the ace. Becker then returned the king of spades to dummy's ace, establishing three

spade tricks for Silodor. When declarer later led a heart from dummy, Becker rose with the ace and returned a spade, and three notrump went down one.

The same contract was reached at the other table, and West also led the six of spades. But here the Argentine East won the spade with the king and returned the ten to dummy's ace.

East also took the club ace at trick three and returned a spade, won by South with the queen. West's remaining spades thus became established, but since he had no entry to cash them, the U.S. declarer made the contract.

Under the circumstances, the spade ten was clearly the better play at trick one, and Becker rose to the occasion by resisting the natural urge to take his king. Dummy's 11 points and East's 12 points left South with at most 17 points for his opening one-notrump bid (the Argentines were playing 16-18 notrumps).

West therefore could not have more than one point in his hand, and, in fact, given that Becker could see the other three jacks in dummy and his own hand, it could only be the jack of spades. Furthermore, assuming West was leading fourth-best, the only three spades he could have higher than the six were the unseen eight, nine and jack. It followed that the ten-of-spades play at trick one was far more likely to defeat the contract than the play of the king.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



Sports Calendar

TODAY

Womens Basketball
• Howard College at Chandler Gilbert Community College, Chandler, Ariz., 1 p.m. MST.

Boys Basketball
• Coahoma at Ira, JV, 2 p.m.; varsity, 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Girls Basketball
• Big Spring at Sweetwater, JV, 5 p.m.; varsity, 6:15 p.m.; 9th, 7:30 p.m.
• Smyer at Forsan, JV, 5 p.m.; varsity, 6:30 p.m.
• Brownfield at Coahoma, JV, 5 p.m.; varsity, 6:30 p.m.

Boys Basketball
• Big Spring at Lubbock Cooper, JV, 5 p.m.; 9th, 6:15 p.m.; varsity, 7:30 p.m.
• Stanton at Forsan, JV, 4 p.m.; varsity, 8 p.m.
• Sweetwater at Coahoma, varsity, 2 p.m.; JV, 3:30 p.m.

MONDAY

Womens Basketball
• Howard College at South Plains College, Levelland, 5:45 p.m.

Mens Basketball
• Howard College at South Plains College, Levelland, 7:45 p.m.

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

HERALD file photo/Tony Claxton
(www.claxtonphotography.com)

Howard College's Gabby Gonzales shoots a basket during a game against Midland College earlier this season. The Lady Hawks will wrap up a three-game road trip in Ariz. today with a match against Mesa College. HC basketball will return to WJCAC action Monday.

Baylor can't stop UCF in Fiesta Bowl upset

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Baylor brought a breathless offense and high expectations to the Fiesta Bowl.

Its first BCS bowl appearance, though, was a big-time bust.

The sixth-ranked Bears, 17-point favorites at kickoff, never led against No. 15 Central Florida in a stinging 52-42 loss Wednesday night.

"I'm extremely disappointed in myself," Baylor coach Art Briles said. "I don't think I did a good job. I don't think we were prepared like we needed to be prepared."

Although he later acknowledged he didn't know what he would have done differently.

This was supposed to be the most one-sided of all the BCS bowls this year, but UCF, not Baylor, had the unstoppable offense. The Bears rolled up 550 yards, but UCF had 556 and fewer mistakes.

"We really didn't play like ourselves on defense," senior safety Ahmad Dixon said. "Guys weren't tackling as well. Guys were busting coverage. A lot of things went wrong."

The Knights (12-1) scored

touchdowns on their first two possessions to lead 14-0.

Baylor (11-2) tied it at 28 with 10:18 left in the third quarter, but UCF outscored the Bears 24-14 from there in the highest-scoring Fiesta Bowl and second-highest BCS bowl ever.

The Bears were penalized 17 times for 135 yards to UCF's four penalties for 40 yards.

"I cannot remember the time that we've had that many penalties in a game, without question," Briles said. "Certainly hard to overcome."

Bryce Petty completed 30

of 46 passes for 356 yards and two touchdowns with one costly interception for Baylor. The Bears' Lache Seast-ruck rushed for 117 yards on 17 carries.

UCF's Blake Bortles was 20 of 31 for 301 yards and three TDs with two interceptions. He ran for a career-high 93 yards on just eight carries, including a touchdown. Storm Johnson gained 124 yards on 20 attempts for the Knights.

"There's not many outside of us who believe we had a chance, but we did and I think we showed what UCF football

is all about," Bortles said.

The Knights had turnovers on three consecutive plays in the second quarter but Baylor only got six points out of them.

Eddie Lackey intercepted Bortles' pass at the UCF 32 and, two plays later, Petty threw 30 yards to Levi Norwood for a touchdown, but a bobbled snap on the extra point led to a failed conversion and Central Florida still led 14-13.

On UCF's next play,

See **UPSET**, Page 12

Ellis leads Mavericks over Wizards, 87-78

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki is the 13th-leading scorer in NBA history. On Wednesday night, in his words, he was reduced to "an expensive decoy."

Nowitzki was held to a season-low nine points, and missed 11 of 14 shots from the field, but the Dallas Mavericks still beat the Washington Wizards 87-78.

Monta Ellis scored 16 of his 23 points in the second half and Vince Carter had 13 as the Mavericks won despite equaling their season low in points.

"It was an ugly game. I think we set the NBA back a couple years today," Nowitzki said.

He rolled his left ankle in the game's first minute, for "probably the 200th time in my career," Nowitzki said. "It was obvious that I wasn't moving well. I didn't get any elevation on my jumper."

The key to the game was Dallas holding Washington scoreless for more than 4 minutes late in the game.

The Wizards led 74-70 with 4:58 to play, but the Mavericks scored nine straight points on a 3-pointer by Carter, a hook shoot by Brandan Wright, two free throws by Carter and a jumper by Ellis to give Dallas a 79-74 lead

See **MAVS**, Page 12

Spartans top Stanford in Rose Bowl

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — On a confetti-covered stage atop a hallowed field, Michigan State coach Mark Dantonio managed to sum up a quarter-century of frustration, a stellar season and a tenacious bowl victory in one word.

"Completion," he said.

With a 24-20 victory over Stanford on Wednesday night, the Spartans reached the goal set by Dantonio seven years ago. They're champions of the Rose Bowl, rulers of the Big Ten — and nobody's little brother anymore.

Connor Cook passed for a career-high 332 yards and hit Tony Lippett with a tiebreaking 25-yard touchdown pass early in the fourth quarter, and No. 4 Michigan State held off the fifth-ranked Cardinal in the 100th Rose Bowl.

Cook also threw a TD pass to Trevon Pendleton, and Jeremy Langford rushed for 84 yards

and a score as the Spartans overcame their first double-digit deficit of the entire season before surging ahead late and preserving the lead with stalwart defense. Michigan State finished its breakthrough season with 10 straight wins, holding off the Pac-12 champion Cardinal (11-3) for the school's first Rose Bowl victory since 1988.

"It's a special time for all Spartans, and we came here in force," Dantonio said. "I'm very happy for our football team, the resilience we showed all season long."

The Spartans have long labored behind Ohio State, Wisconsin and Michigan — where they're derisively called the Wolverines' little brothers — among the Midwest's top programs, but Michigan State is in charge now.

Michigan State's FBS-best defense capped its dominant season with one more old-school performance befitting the cen-

tenial celebration of the Granddaddy of Them All. The Spartans (13-1) yielded just 159 yards in the final three quarters, and they closed it out by stopping Stanford fullback Ryan Hewitt on fourth-and-1 near midfield with 1:46 to play.

Kyler Elsworth, the fifth-year senior filling in for suspended starting linebacker Max Bullough, hurdled the pile and flew into Michigan State lore with a spectacular head-on tackle.

"When I saw their offensive lineman's stance, I knew the way to make a play was to go over the top," said Elsworth, the game's defensive MVP. "I was hoping they would run a play like they did on their fourth down. It's a one-in-a-lifetime play. We proved we could play on the big stage on the national level."

Tyler Gaffney ran for

See **ROSE BOWL**, Page 12

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Sun Squares Mars and Uranus

While the sun is at a tense angle to Mars and Uranus, you can avoid negative consequences simply by being tolerant. No one likes to feel pressured to believe what they don't believe. No one enjoys the sneaking suspicion that it would be more convenient for the world if they were someone else. Where free will is threatened, no one thrives.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If one person in your household is working less diligently than the others, it will cause tension. If you live alone, the tension might be caused by a loved one you sometimes compare yourself to.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're careful not to waste time, especially not the time of a total stranger. When dealing with the public, you'll be

even more organized, purposeful and efficient than usual.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You will be rooting for someone who perhaps isn't capable of doing the thing that needs to be done, but your hope and encouragement will lift this person to new levels of accomplishment.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Everybody wants something. Start with the people who want something small and easy to accommodate, like a glass of water. It will feel good to satisfy such needs, and this will prepare you for a bigger game.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). People will reveal their character to you; you just have to know what to listen for. Something you hear won't sit right with you. You may not know why, but your feeling is correct. Act on it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept.

22). You don't want to push the ones you love into uncomfortable areas, but you have to. Who is going to help them find out what they are made of if you don't?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Be careful not to waste time wishing things were different than they are. Instead, note that you might prefer something different, and then get to work creating it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). What you do today you do specifically to please one person, and that's what makes your actions so interesting and meaningful. So what if that one person happens to be you? You deserve it!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Smart people may point out the inaccuracies they witness or argue fine points, but wise people know what to overlook. You are both smart and wise, so you

make internal notes, not public remarks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Things go well until it is time to say goodbye. People seem to hate leaving you, but you have a schedule to keep, too, so don't let the goodbyes drag on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Afraid of their own judgment, many people will work hard to avoid being alone. You, on the other hand, rather enjoy the self-reflection that comes when there is no one else to reflect off of.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll smooth things over socially. You sense what people long to hear and will express it beautifully. You don't mind at all, especially since today it happens also to be the truth.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 2). Your calm demeanor makes you well suited to a pressurized

situation. Career: You'll have early success with very little training, but do catch up on studies in March so you can take advantage of an opportunity to progress. You'll save the day for someone in June. August shows you arm in arm with a constant companion. Aquarius and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 50, 3, 33, 28 and 9.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: British author, poet and professor J.R.R. Tolkien saw many of his friends perish in WWI, and out of his firsthand knowledge of war's evils, he created the epic mythological battles in "The Lord of the Rings" and other works. Tolkien was born when the sun and Mercury were in ambitious Capricorn and the moon and Venus were in altruistic, philanthropic Aquarius.

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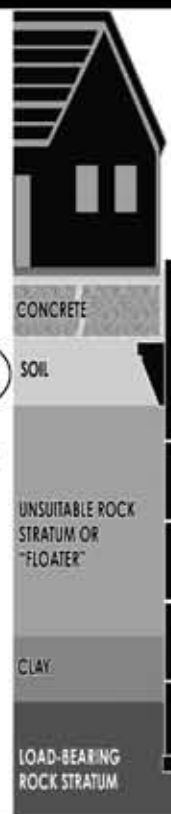
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Table with 20 columns representing different TV channels (KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, KWTT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and rows for different times of day (5:PM, 6:PM, 7:PM, 8:PM, 9:PM, 10:PM, 11:PM, 12:AM, 1:AM) listing various programs.

DENNIS THE MENACE



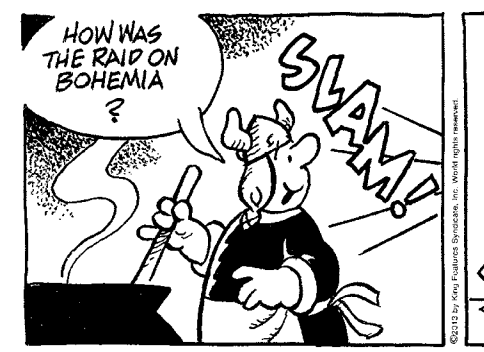
"THE BEST THING ABOUT THE NEW YEAR, JOEY, IS WE CAN ALL JUST START OVER."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

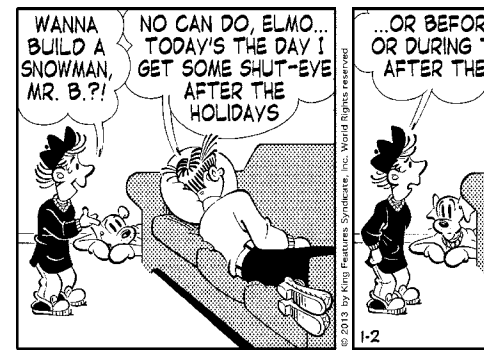


"It was a lot more fun takin' them OUT of their box 'stead of putting them back IN."

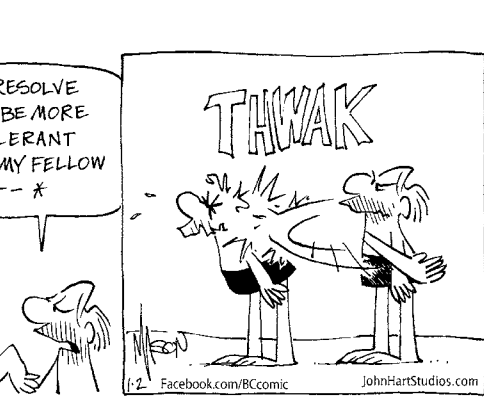
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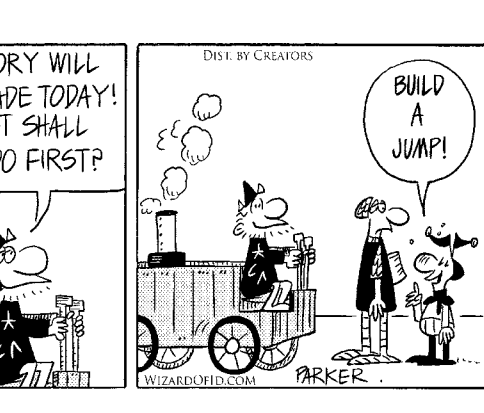
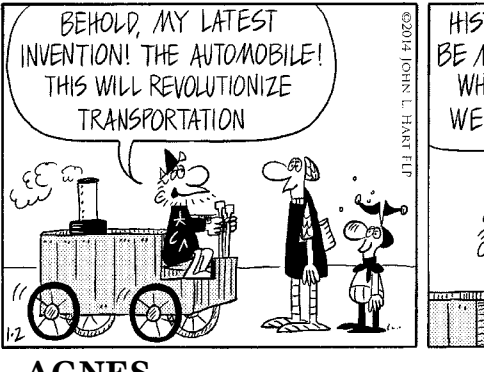


This Date In History

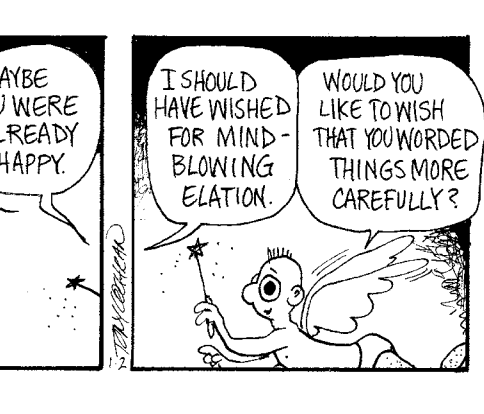
Today is Thursday, Jan. 2, the second day of 2014. There are 363 days left in the year. Today's Highlights in History: On Jan. 2, 1974, President Richard Nixon signed legislation requiring states to limit highway speeds to 55 miles an hour...

Service issued its first commemorative stamp to honor the World's Columbian Expedition and the quadricentennial of Christopher Columbus' voyage. In 1900, Secretary of State John Hay announced the "Open Door Policy" to facilitate trade with China.

WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



Newsday Crossword

HOLDING COMPANIES by Fred Piscop

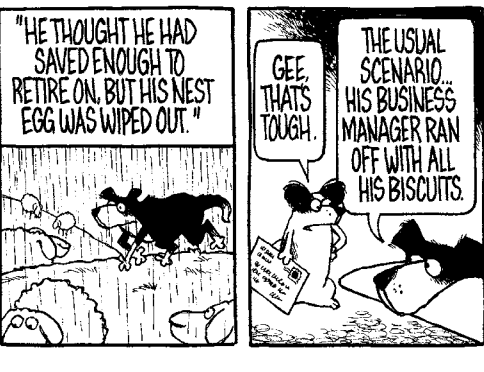
- ACROSS 1 Window section 5 Tagged along 9 Handy to have 14 Cry softly 15 Deception 16 Stage platform 17 Carmen piece 18 Wanderlust, for instance 19 Llamas' habitat 20 What Lindbergh traversed 23 Glide down slopes 24 Big T-shirts 25 Modify to fit 29 Orange box 32 Calendar abbr. 35 Identity documents 37 Historical span 38 Superman character 39 Doctor's rite of passage 42 Woes 43 Shark Tank ailer 44 Shetland sonny 45 Salon bottle 46 Strike down 48 Fits snugly 49 Tablet software 50 Big name in Chinese history 52 What polls measure 59 Ice-cream flavor 60 Gung-ho 61 Flight group 63 Metallic mix

- 10 Monetary sanctions 11 Beef marking 12 Comprehended 13 EMT destinations 21 New American Leaguer in 2013 22 Soup base 25 Rose-garden pest 26 Per diem 27 NASDAQ-100 stock 28 Animates, with "up" 30 Give feedback 31 Etchings et al. 32 Small hoppers 33 Jazzman's cue 34 Shows to a seat, slangily 36 Garlicky dish 38 Mineral deposit 40 Hitter's stat 41 Church doctrine 46 Flares outward 47 Royal domain 49 Can't take 51 Gave a lift to 52 Global extreme 53 Pac-12 team 54 Pitch a tent 55 Locket shape 56 How tea may be served 57 Tiny pasta 58 I, Claudius character 59 Could possibly 62 Combat

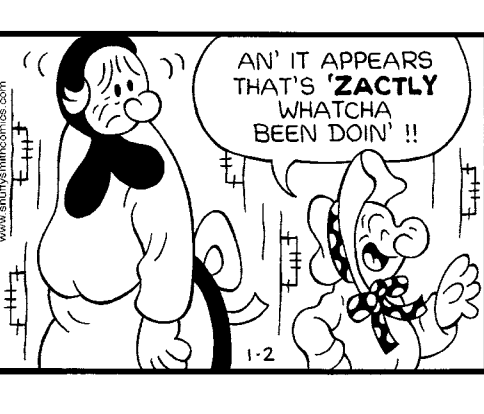
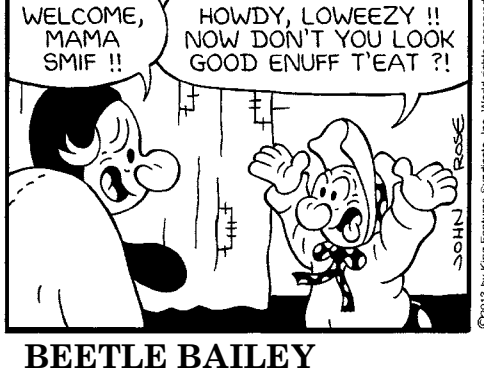
HI AND LOIS



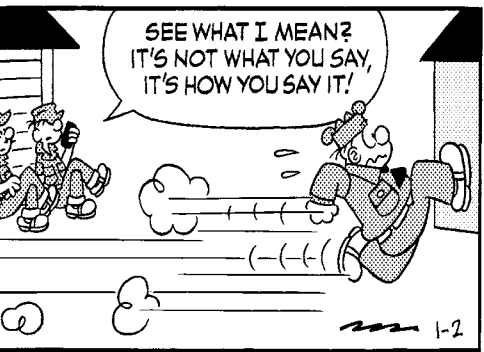
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



Crossword grid with numbers 1-63 indicating starting positions for words.

LSU beats Iowa 21-14 in Outback Bowl

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — What Anthony Jennings lacked in experience, LSU more than compensated for with a talented supporting cast in the Outback Bowl. Jennings made plenty of freshman mistakes Wednesday, however they weren't nearly as costly as they could have been for the 14th-ranked Tigers with Jeremy Hill rushing for 216 yards and two touchdowns in

a 21-14 victory. The second quarter-back in school history to make his first college start in a bowl game, Jennings fretted over an interception that helped Iowa (8-5) get back in the game. But with the outcome on the line, he simply turned and handed the ball to Hill, who made sure LSU (10-3) would not lose. "Anthony in his first

start was tight," coach Les Miles said, adding that Jennings learned some lessons will be beneficial moving forward with his career. "He wasn't perfect by any stretch," Miles said. "But he did what he had to do." Craig Loston's fourth-quarter interception stopped a potential tying drive, giving Hill a chance to put the game out of reach by carrying four times for 87 yards

on a six-play, 92-yard march that gave LSU (10-3) a 21-7 lead. Iowa (8-5) pulled within a touchdown in the second time in 4 minutes after Jordan Cotton returned the ensuing kickoff to the Tigers 4. Jennings ran for a first-quarter touchdown, but the true freshman struggled to hit open receivers while completing 7 of 19 passes for 82 yards. In addition to throwing an interception that Iowa's John Lowdermilk returned 71 yards, he was sacked four times while standing in for the injured Zach Mettenberger. C.J. Beathard replaced Jake Rudock at quarterback for Iowa on the first play of the fourth quarter. His fourth-down interception stopped one promising drive, but he also tossed a 4-yard TD pass to Kevonte Martin-Manley that trimmed Iowa's deficit to 21-14

with 1:42 remaining. Lowdermilk set up Iowa's other TD — Mark Weisman's 2-yard run in the third quarter — with his interception return to the LSU 1. Officials initially ruled Lowdermilk, who was untouched on the return, scored. But the TD was reversed when a replay review determined the Iowa defender dropped the ball before crossing the goal line.

going to put the ball in my hands," Ellis said. In its last game, Dallas escaped with a win at Minnesota on Monday. On Tuesday, the NBA released a statement saying that the Timberwolves' Kevin Love should have been awarded two free throws late in a two-point Mavericks' win. Shawn Marion should have been assessed a foul, the NBA said. The Mavericks finished the first quarter Wednesday on a 15-5 run to take a 25-20 lead. The Wizards led through nearly the entire third quarter, surrendering the lead briefly on a 9-0 Dallas run, but led 61-59 after three.

The Big Spring Herald



QUESTION OF THE WEEK!!

What Was Your Favorite Gift This Year?

- Samantha Myrick-** My kids being happy & the smiles on their faces :-)
- Irene Leticia Trevino-** My 8 yr old daughter drew me pictures and put them in an envelope for me :)
- Ashley Martinez-** Finally able to spend the holidays with family after serving and being away in the Air Force.
- Carolyn Sue Boy-Jackson-** My Daddy, at 96, in good health and setting at the dinner table!!!
- Taylor Acosta-** My favorite gift was being able to share my daughter's very first Christmas with not only her but also all of my families □ couldn't have asked for a better Christmas!!
- Gabriel Martinez-** My favorite gift was my family coming to our home, gathering together to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ! I'm am beyond blessed and thankful that I have a family that knows the true meaning of this season!
- Dondee Zamora-Vela-** My 6 year old's face when he opened his santa present he truly believes in santa :)
- Mary Lou Hall-** A scarf my grown son and his girlfriend gave me. He said "it's your Mom".
- Missisa Dee Ann Miller-Baker-** The Greatest Gift is Our Lord and Savior! Without Him we wouldn't be where we are today and Blessed with a life I am grateful for that some take for granted!
- Angela Lee Morrow-** my grandmother insulated coffee mug my granddaughter bought me. my favorite color too(purple).
- Gabriel Ortiz-** Seeing my family
- Peggy Daratt-** Being with the family I have left and one more Christmas with my 89 yr old Mother.
- Kim Mosino-** Being in our new house, finally a place for a big Christmas tree! Made for a great day, it was great that my husband was off work to be here with our son and I too.
- Cloe Clojo Camden-** My favorite gift was I got to spend it with the love of my life. It was our first Christmas together
- Tammy Adams-** I would say the Blue Blouse my twin got me had it not been for the Huge Bow hanging from the collar on the back neck part.. I am so unsure why they would even sell one to a adult LOL .. much too easy for a person to grab me when i pick on them and run if i wore it .. Merry Christmas and Happy New year to one and all may 2014 bring good health and prosperity to all
- Starla Ayala-** My favorite gift was all my family together and we have a new edition she is 3 weeks old !!
- Jessie Payen-** Having all my familia home and unwrapping tamales sooo good yum.
- Connie Baker-** Getting a trip to big spring to spend the holidays with family.
- Denise Harris Mccomb-** Having family and friends with us to celebrate.
- Courtney Jo Gaskin Buck-** The birth of Jesus that gave His life for us.
- James G. Jacobs-** Talking to my daughter after nearly 2 years.....she lives in Alabama with her mother.
- Ruby Weatherby Payne-** My son able to get a gift for me without me knowing what it was for once.!
- Sandra Silva-** The entire day.
- Lisa Padron Carrillo-** My kids faces when they opened their presents
- Diana Rodriguez-** Being with Family and especially my lil boys .
- Sandra Rodriguez-** Having family close! Feeling the love that we share in this time of year!
- Terri Valle-** I would have to say spending time with my brothers and sisters passing on family traditions on to the younger ones I would have to say it was an awesome feeling
- Holly Weaver-** The macaroni necklace my 2 year old son made.
- Amanda McCormack-** A yellow and pink bike. Since last year my mom bought me a blue bike and some guy stole it a few months ago. My mom is hoping no one will steal my banana yellow bike with pink flowers ... Love it thanks mom
- Sally Grove-** My great-grand son was here, well and healthy. He was only 3lb. 5 oz. when he was born. He is our miracle baby.
- Dalilah Ontiveros-** I have three children added to our family..they r precious.
- Francies Gonzales-** I didn't get nothing from none of my kids lol
- Skeeter Dunn-** Awesome family
- Jessica Lindero-** the looks of my daughters faces when they saw the gifts . my oldest said mama santa gave me another chance to be good :)
- Aurora Rivera Alaniz-** Being able to spend it with our loved one's is the greatest gift anyone could ask or hope for.
- Connie Pedroza-** Having my son home with his family after 13 years at my mom's home with uncles aunts, cousins all in a tiny home eating, playing bingo with grandma, the men cooking steaks outside just making good fun memories for the younger ones
- Karla Jaeger Olivas-** Just having everyone home and having friends with us also
- Tonya Baker-** Spending peaceful time with family
- Delores Villa-** Spending time with my family
- Mark Compean-** Being with family
- Pamela Graham Guidry-** My Pandora Bracelet from my 2 Cousins & my Husband.
- Cheryl Hill Overton-** My nephew staying with us for a week.
- Jonathan Rodriguez-** being healthy
- Anna Robles-** My kids...just having them everyday n year was good enough for us
- Angela Murphy Kennedy-** The Greatest gift ever given Jesus!! And My kids excitement opening their gifts!!
- John Baker-** finding out me and my wife are having another baby
- L.I. Carson-** All of it!!
- Debbie Salazar ValVerde-** My Family all under one roof! The roof where it all got started, my Grandma Chavella Salazar's house. It had been years since that happened!!! I am so blessed!!!
- Kimberly York-** Giving gifts to others
- Tiffany Villareal-** To see my kids faces when they got their new bike's

Diana Rodriguez
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MAVS

Continued from Page 7

with 2:14 to play. Washington didn't score again until John Wall, who led the Wizards with 22 points, made two free throws with 46 seconds to play. The Mavericks won despite shooting just 38.5 percent, but they held Washington to 37.5 percent. "It was a beautiful game," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle laughed. "It was such a competitive game, up and down the stretch, whoever won was going to be the survivor." It was Dallas' fourth straight win on the road

and their eighth straight over the Wizards (14-15), who failed in their attempt to rise above .500 for the first time since Oct. 31, 2009. It was the second time this season Washington failed to get over the .500 mark. "It's a great opportunity in front of us, and we continue to get there and we just lay an egg in the next game," Wizards guard Bradley Beal said. Beal, who shot 4 for 13, was pleased that Washington thwarted Nowitzki. "Whenever you can hold a great scorer like that down to a minimum, you always love your chances," Beal

said. Ellis, who signed with the Mavericks as a free agent last summer, was a career 77 percent free throw shooter. This season, he's boosted his percentage to 83, and on Wednesday made 9 of 10. "I thought tonight was Monta Ellis' best game with us. He had such great command of the game offensively. He was under control, he was finding people," Carlisle said. Ellis hit all six of his free throws in the fourth quarter. "I want to get better, for that opportunity down the stretch to make those free throws, because I know they're

going to put the ball in my hands," Ellis said. In its last game, Dallas escaped with a win at Minnesota on Monday. On Tuesday, the NBA released a statement saying that the Timberwolves' Kevin Love should have been awarded two free throws late in a two-point Mavericks' win. Shawn Marion should have been assessed a foul, the NBA said. The Mavericks finished the first quarter Wednesday on a 15-5 run to take a 25-20 lead. The Wizards led through nearly the entire third quarter, surrendering the lead briefly on a 9-0 Dallas run, but led 61-59 after three.

ROSE BOWL

Continued from Page 7

91 yards and an early TD for Stanford, and linebacker Kevin Anderson returned an interception 40 yards for a score late in the first half. But the Cardinal couldn't follow up last season's victory over Wisconsin with back-to-back Rose Bowl wins, managing just three points from their offense after the first quarter. And Gaffney could only watch as Hewitt was stopped on Stanford's final play. "You have to give it to Michigan State for stuffing that," said Gaffney, who managed just 24 yards after the first quarter. "Everybody in the building knew exactly what was coming. A run was coming up the middle, and it

was a test of wills, and they got the better of us." Cook led in his own inimitable fashion, making incredible plays and huge mistakes along the way. Along with his second-quarter interception on a lollipop of a throw to Anderson, who scored untouched, he also threw two passes that went through the hands of Cardinal defenders. But when the Spartans needed big plays in the second half, Cook repeatedly delivered, finishing 22 for 36. "When we got down, guys were always helping each other," Cook said. "We're such a balanced team." A mere 112 years after the game considered the first Rose Bowl was played in a park elsewhere in Pasadena, Stanford and Michigan State engaged in an old-fashioned slugfest in the venerable

stadium that will host the BCS title game Monday night. Michigan State fans dominated the Rose Bowl grounds and stands, with about 70 percent wearing green in the crowd of 95,173 — the game's largest turnout since 1998. Tens of thousands of those fans stayed in the stands long after the Spartans had left the field, dancing and singing to the Michigan State band's music. Bullough was on his teammates' minds, and his number was written on a towel by linebacker Taiwan Jones. But Elsworth capably handled Bullough's work before making the play of his life on that final tackle. While the sideline roared and the stands rocked, even the stone-faced Dantonio celebrated. "I get a little excited at the Rose Bowl," Dantonio said.

touchdown run from Glasco Martin to cut it to 42-35 less than 2 minutes later. Again, the Bears couldn't stop UCF. Johnson's 40-yard touchdown run made it a two-TD game again with 10:26 to go, then Shawn Moffitt's 44-yard field goal put the Knights up 52-35 with 4:44 to go. Petty's 9-yard TD pass to Clay Fuller with under 2 minutes left cut it to 52-42, then UCF recovered the onside kick attempt and ran out the clock. The ending made it hard for the Bears to feel good about what otherwise was the most successful season in school history. "In the long run, like coach Briles said, we won the Big 12," Dixon said. "That's what we wanted to do. We made a bowl game. That's what we wanted to do. We made steps towards our goal. We didn't miss one goal that we set."

UPSET

Continued from Page 7

Johnson fumbled and Sam Holl recovered for Baylor on the Knights 19. But on third-and-5 at the 14, Petty's pass in the end zone was intercepted by Brandon Alexander. "Honestly, just a lack of execution on my part," Petty said. "We ran that play probably

10 times this year and it's worked every time. That play is one that you can't force. I did it. Unfortunately that was the turning point in the game." With Baylor down 28-20, the Bears' Aaron Jones missed a 45-yard field goal try as the half ended. "That was a situation where we needed every point we could get, especially after squandering an opportunity earlier

in that quarter," Briles said. Still, the Bears had many chances after that. Petty's 50-yard touchdown pass to Jay Lee set up the quarterback's 1-yard TD run to cut the lead to 28-26 with 10:18 to play, then Petty ran up the middle for the 2-point conversion that tied it. But as was the case all game, the Big 12 champion Bears couldn't hold up on defense. A third-down pass interference penalty on Dixon kept the UCF drive going, and on the next play, Bortles threw 38 yards to Jeff Godfrey to the Baylor 16. Bortles threw 10 yards to Breshad Perri-man for the touchdown to put the Knights back on top 35-28. Bortles' 15-yard run TD made it 42-28, but there was still 13:37 left, an eternity for Baylor's big-play offense. The Bears got a 9-yard

touchdown run from Glasco Martin to cut it to 42-35 less than 2 minutes later. Again, the Bears couldn't stop UCF. Johnson's 40-yard touchdown run made it a two-TD game again with 10:26 to go, then Shawn Moffitt's 44-yard field goal put the Knights up 52-35 with 4:44 to go. Petty's 9-yard TD pass to Clay Fuller with under 2 minutes left cut it to 52-42, then UCF recovered the onside kick attempt and ran out the clock. The ending made it hard for the Bears to feel good about what otherwise was the most successful season in school history. "In the long run, like coach Briles said, we won the Big 12," Dixon said. "That's what we wanted to do. We made a bowl game. That's what we wanted to do. We made steps towards our goal. We didn't miss one goal that we set."

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