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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**WEDNESDAY**

MAY 7, 2014



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HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Heritage Museum Curator Tammy Schrecengost adjust a piece of artwork now on display at the museum. Artworks created by Big Spring High School art students are being exhibited for the next two weeks.

## Students displaying art work at Heritage Museum

**BY LYNDEL MOODY**  
 Staff Writer

Months of work by Big Spring High School art students are now on display for a limited time at the Heritage Museum.  
 "Each year that my students have displayed their works, we have had a great response from the community," said Big Spring High School art teacher Judy Tereletsky. "It is fantastic to know the people of Big Spring support the visual arts."

The exhibition is being held in the downstairs gallery of the museum, located at 510 Scurry, for the next two weeks only.  
 "This has become a tradition every May," said Museum Curator Tammy Schrecengost. "We give them an opportunity to show their family and friends their work within a museum setting. I think this is a wonderful idea.  
 "These pieces show there is a lot of talent in the area

among our youth," Schrecengost continued. "If you study each piece, you can see that the individual artist has his or her own unique perspective that shines through the artwork."  
 Each high school student enrolled in an art class has at least one artwork created during the school year, Tereletsky said.  
 "The pieces were chosen by the students and range

See **ART**, Page 3

## Word still out on relocating fifth graders

**BY LYNDEL MOODY**  
 Staff Writer

The old Goliad Intermediate School will be reopened as a sixth-grade campus for the 2014-2015 school year but Big Spring Independent School District officials are still contemplating whether to add fifth graders into the mix.  
 To address growing rumors, Superintendent Chris Wigington touched on the subject during Monday's public com-

munity night meeting.  
 "It's something we've talked about but we haven't made a decision," Wigington said. "We are going to look at the numbers in the summer first. We know it's coming (increasing student growth). You can just look at Midland/Odessa, but that decision has not been made."  
 To house the sixth

See **GOLIAD**, Page 3

## KBEST Radio Group sells to Big Spring interests

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

The KBEST Radio Group is now under local ownership. A group headed by Mike Abusaab announced Tuesday it has purchased the KBEST lineup, which included KBST AM, KBST FM and KTBS FM, from Rhattigan Broadcasting.  
 Abusaab and his wife, Sheila, along with Danny and Malinda Flennikin are the principal partners in the new ownership group.  
 Mike Abusaab said he has been working for several months to purchase the radio stations.  
 "In September of last year, Mr. Rhattigan called me ... and asked if I was interested in buying the stations," he said "He sent me a letter of intent and I signed it that month."  
 Malinda Flenniken, who managed the station group for Rhattigan, will remain in the same capacity as managing partner.  
 Terms of the sale were not disclosed.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at [reporter@bigspringherald.com](mailto:reporter@bigspringherald.com)

## BSISD board to convene

**Herald Staff Report**

Trustees with the Big Spring Independent School District will meet Thursday in the high school boardroom, 707 11<sup>th</sup> Place.

Among the lengthy agenda, district officials will update trustees on the STAAR fifth grade and eighth grade math and reading report and the

See **BSISD**, Page 3

## Leadership Big Spring class set to graduate

**By ANDREIA MEDLIN**  
 Staff Writer

Leadership Big Spring participants have completed another successful year. A grad-

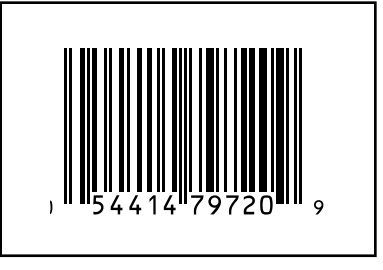
uation ceremony will be held at 6:30 p.m., Thursday at the Hotel Settles.  
 Leadership Big Spring, sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, is designed to increase leadership skills and provide participants an opportunity to learn more about the community. The program is geared toward those who are new to the community, have

See **GRADS**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Bo Clawson of the Masonic Staked Plains 598 Lodge serves breakfast to Linda Light, Big Spring ISD PPS home school teacher, Tuesday morning. The Masons provided breakfast for Howard County teachers to show appreciation for their work.



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## Obituaries

## Cecil Sherman



Cecil Sherman, 48, of Big Spring, died Sunday, May 4, 2014 at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

He was born in Big Spring on Feb. 3, 1966 to Helen and Omer Sherman. He was a lifetime resident of Howard County. He worked as a heavy equipment operator for B & E Roustabout.

He is survived by his wife, Dafna Meyer of Big Spring; one daughter, Shayna Sherman and fiancée Brian Davis Sr.; one son, Brandon Olivetti of

Big Spring; one step-daughter, Krystal Olivetti of Big Spring; his mother and step-father, Helen and Ronnie Richardson of Big Spring; two sisters, Teresa McGuire and husband Jerry of Big Spring and Janet Kilgore and husband Ben of Big Spring; one step-sister, Rhonda Lefever and husband David of Big Spring; three grandchildren, R'Lonie Cole, Alexander Sherman and Brian Davis Jr.; and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his father, Omer Sherman, one brother, Dewayne Sherman and his grandparents. The family would like to give special thanks to both the staff of S&R Home Health and to the I.C.U. staff at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home and Chapel. Please pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

*Paid obituary*

## Micki J. Craddock

Micki J. Craddock, 57, died May 4, 2014 after a brief illness.

Micki was born in Big Spring Oct. 1, 1957. She attended school in Big Spring and graduated from the University of Texas-Permian Basin with a degree in communications.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Dorothy, her brother, Denny and her stepsister, Deborah.

She is survived by her father, Mike Craddock and stepmother Pat of Big Spring; son, Jeremy of Dallas; step-brothers, Todd Smith of Midland and Mark Smith of Coahoma; niece, Chanda Young of Midland; great-niece and nephew, Ashton and Landon; step-nephews, Ian and Tyler Smith of Midland; and step-nieces, LeAnne and Ashley Smith of Big Spring.

Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, May 9, 2014, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland.

*Paid obituary*

## Jean Range



Jean Range, 89, of Big Spring, died Friday, April 25, 2014 at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. A Remembrance Service will be held on May 9, 2014 at First United Methodist Church Garrett Hall at 5 p.m. She will be laid to rest at the National Cemetery at Dallas/Fort Worth.

Jean was born March 17, 1925, in Clarendon, Texas to Loxie Mae Boles and June W. Taylor. She

married Edgar Byron Range Jr. on March 17, 1947 and he preceded her in death on Sept. 28, 2012.

Jean Range graduated with teaching degree from West Texas State Teachers College at Canyon, taught one year, married Byron in 1947, moved to Shamrock in 1951, raised six children, served as Cub Scout den mother and Girl Scout leader for a decade and kept books for veterinary practice for 23 years and received a recognition award from Eastern Star. She was a historian, being a descendant from the Cherokee Indian Nation and the Charles

Goodnight's family. She was an avid reader including Shakespeare, loved watching Texas Rangers baseball, was selfless to a fault and was filled with grace and love for all God's creation.

Jean obtained an undergraduate degree from West Texas A&M in English and Spanish. Her post-graduate master degrees from Texas A&M and Southeastern Oklahoma State University include English Literature, Speech Therapy and Special Education Certification. She dedicated 20 years of her life to the teaching of special education and speech therapy.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the Philathea Sunday School class.

She is survived by one daughter: Diane Range Murphy of Big Spring; three sons: Paul Range of Floresville, Texas, Stephen Range of Woodway, Texas and Daniel Range of Kemp, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her parents, June and Loxie Mae Taylor; her husband E. Byron Range Jr.; and two sons, Major David Range and Captain Philip Range; and one grandson, Ben Range.

Pay your respects online at <http://www.myersandsmith.com/>

*Paid obituary*

## Support Groups

## THURSDAY

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

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

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential.

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## Billie Smith McLain

Billie Smith McLain, 89, of Colorado City, died Tuesday, May 6, 2014, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.



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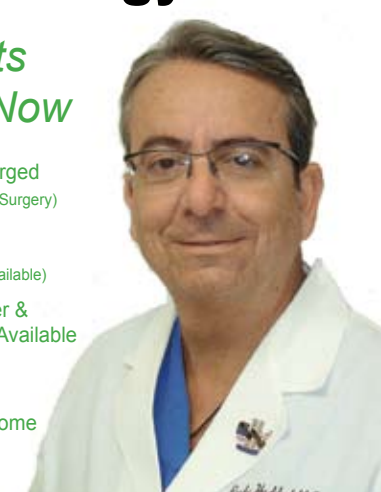
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### Police/Sheriff

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

- AMBER DAWN RUSSELL, 30, of 3107 E. Highway 350, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.
- CARLOS S. MONTANEZ, 61, of 2002 Alabama, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
- ANASTASIA LEONICIA LOZANO, 27, of 700 S. Lancaster, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of assault by contact.
- LEONA JENE RADASA, 32, of 1209 Young, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- CHRISTOPHER WAYNE BURNETT, 25, of 107 W. 21<sup>st</sup> St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of assault by contact.
- JOSEPH EASTON MCBETH, 26, of 1601 W. Leatherwood, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of assault family violence causing bodily injury.
- ZYON GONZALEZ, 36, of 811 E. Debra Ln., was arrested Wednesday on charges of criminal mischief \$1,500 but less than \$20,000 and resisting arrest, search or transport.
- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the 1700 block of E. FM 700.
- OPEN DOOR/WINDOW was reported at the 400 block of E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.
- DISTURBANCE was reported at he 1500 block of Scurry.

- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported at the 300 block of E. 5<sup>th</sup> St.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported at the 600 block of W. Interstate Highway 20.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported at the 1200 block of Harding.
- THEFT was reported at the 1400 block of Birdwell.
- ASSAULT was reported at the 3200 block of Avenue C.
- UNWANTED SUBJECT was reported at the 3100 block of E. Highway 350.
- HARASSMENT was reported at the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported at the 700 block of Johnson and the 3600 block of Hamilton.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported at the 100 block of Airbase Rd. and the 1600 block of Leatherwood.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported at the 1000 block of W. FM 700.

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

- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 86 inmates at the time of this report.
- CARLOS MONTANEZ SR. was booked by BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
- CHRISTOPHER WAYNE BURNETT was booked by HCSO

on a charge of assault (physical contact).

- AMBER DAWN RUSSELL was booked by BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- RILEY ERIK WOOD was booked by BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.
- HEATHER ELIZABETH LOONEY was booked by HCSO on charges of fraud with intent to obtain controlled substance schedule III/IV - 3 counts.
- ANASTASIA LEONICIA LOZANO was booked by BSPD on a charge of assault (physical contact).
- JOSEPH EASTON MCBETH was booked by HCSO on a charge of assault causing bodily injury - family member.
- LEONA JEAN RADASA was booked by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- ZYON GONZALEZ was booked by HCSO on charges of criminal mischief greater than or equal to \$1,500 but less than \$20,000 and resisting arrest, search or transport.

### Take Note

Big Spring ISD will hold an orientation for students entering kindergarten for the 2014-2015 school year Monday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Incoming students, their parents and families will have an opportunity to meet school staff and learn the district's expectations and procedures for kindergarten students.

Locations of the school are:

- Goliad Elementary, 1801 S. Goliad
  - Washington Elementary, 1201 South Birdwell
  - Marcy Elementary, 2101 Wasson Drive
  - Moss Elementary, 3200 Fordham
- For information on the attendance zone in which live, contact the Big Spring ISD Bus Barn at 432-264-4108.

Coahoma Scholars' Banquet, May 27, at the Settles Hotel. The banquet will honor Coahoma's top ten academic seniors, top ten academic juniors, scholar alumni award, scholar teacher award and community pride award. For those interested in sponsoring the banquet or for further information, call Amy Jacobs or Judy Dobbs at 432-394-5000, ext. 4.

Tonight during the evening service beginning at 7 p.m., Family Faith Center will observe its fifth annual Blessing of Nurses Hands. Parish Nurses and others who provide health care will receive a blessing upon their hands for another year of service to mankind. Pastors Sam and Christina invite nurses and healers from the community at large to attend 810 East 11th Place.

A fund has been set pu at BBVA Compas Bank to help Melinda Garcia with medical expenses while recovering from surgery. Account number is 673000597.

A medical fund has been established for Kathran O'Brien Grant, who is recovering from a recent accident. The account is set up at Western Bank No. 1012020. Contact Donnie Baker at 432-556-2186 for more information.

### GOLIAD

Continued from Page 1

graders, district employees have been working to reopen the old Goliad Intermediate campus - which will be renamed Big Spring Intermediate - located next to the new Goliad Elementary School. A growing stu-

dent population has prompted officials to move the sixth grade from Big Spring Junior High where it has been for the last two years.

"If we left the sixth grade level at the junior high next year, there would be more than 1,000 students there," Wigington said. "We just can't do that." Currently, the soon-

to-be Big Spring Intermediate School building houses the district's records. To prepare for the transition, long-time district sixth grade teacher Patsy Sanchez has been named principal of the facility.

Contact Lyndel Moody at citydesk@bigspringherald.com or by 263-7331, ext. 234

### GRADS

Continued from Page 1

demonstrated management and/or leadership ability, have shown an interest in community affairs, and have time and talent to offer the community.

Applicants must be willing to commit to one full day every second Thursday, each month for 10 months.

The 2013-2014 graduating class includes: Gloria Blackburn, city of Big Spring; Alex Caruth, Scenic Mountain Medical Center; Bill

Cole; Adolph Granato, Alon USA; Thomas Hodges, city of Big Spring; Christopher Mahurin, Big Spring Police Department; Emily McCann, In Home Care; Lavonne Murphy; Gale Pittman, H-E-B; Sandy Stewart, United Way of Big Spring and Howard

County; Rachael Villanueva, Howard College; Jace Williams, Big Spring Fire Department; and Dustin Wylie, Wells Fargo Bank.

Applications for the 2014-2015 class, which starts in September, will be available at the end of June.

For more information, contact the Chamber at 263-7641.

To contact Andrea Medlin call the Herald at 263-7331

**sudoku**

ANSWERS

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

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Nancy Fulgham, 73, died Sunday. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Cecil Sherman, 48, died Sunday. The family will receive friends 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Jean Range, 89, died Friday, April 25, 2014. A Remembrance Service will be held Friday May 9, 2014 at 1st United Methodist Church Garrett Hall at 5 p.m.

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Continued from Page 1

from the earliest still life done in class to the latest ceramic works," Tereletsy said. "Other works include pop art, optical Illusions, water-colors and oils."

The museum is open Tuesday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"We hope the community comes out to support these young community artists because they've done such a fabulous job," Schrecengost said.

Contact Lyndel Moody at citydesk@bigspringherald.com or by 263-7331, ext. 234.

### BSISD

Continued from Page 1

targeted priority campuses.

Also on the agenda, trustees will consider:

- action regarding level three appeal of complaint filed by a district employee.
- the 2014-2015 school year calendar.
- text book recommendations.
- the Howard County tax collection budget for 2014-2014.
- an expenditures of more than \$75,000 for high school and junior high physical security system.
- proposals for asbestos abatement/demolition of the old field house located at 901 Goliad.

# Opinion

## Time to put an ear to the ground?

*“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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Home: 263-7158.

It's so easy and convenient to not really care about something until it directly affects us. Someone who has suffered a specific tragedy will readily become an advocate or crusader for that particular cause, such as Candy Lightner, who founded MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) in 1980 after her daughter, Cari, was killed by a repeat drunk driving offender. We West Texans are concerned about many issues related to our future, as well as our everyday lives, because of the area's explosive growth. The oil boom is beneficial in many ways, yet it poses some serious challenges for us related to the stability of our water supply, housing, traffic, schools, and general needs related to our infrastructure. Many more areas of concern are lurking beneath the surface as our city continues to outgrow itself. Some of those pending problems will not be a matter of serious concern for some of us until it sneaks into our own back yard.

As I was reflecting upon some of the issues we seem to ignore, or at least show a casual indifference toward until we are forced to confront them, I read a report released just this week that grabbed my attention. It was concerning an earthquake warning for Oklahoma, a subject we don't think much about here in Texas. But it may be time to put an ear to the ground, in a manner of speaking.

On Monday, May 5, for the first time in history an earthquake warning was issued by the United States Geological Society for a state east of the Rockies. The USG and the Oklahoma Geological Survey took action after the rate of earthquakes in Oklahoma outpaced that of even California for the first few months of 2014. Mile for mile, there are almost as many earthquakes rattling Oklahoma as California this year. In a joint statement, the agencies said the risk of a damaging earthquake, one larger than magnitude 5.0, has significantly increased in central Oklahoma. Geologists don't know when or where the state's next big earthquake will strike, nor will they put a number on the increased risk.

“We haven't seen this before

in Oklahoma, so we had some concerns about putting a specific number on the chances of it,” Robert Williams, a research geophysicist with the USGS Earthquake Hazards Program in Golden, Colorado, told Live Science. “But we know from other cases around the world that if you have an increasing number of small earthquakes, the chances of a larger one will go up.”

“The rate of earthquakes increased dramatically in March and April,” Williams said. “That alerted us to examine this further and put out this advisory statement.”

There are two reasons this report captured my attention. One is that we are relatively close to Oklahoma geographically, and secondly, because of the massive amount of drilling taking place around us and what it is doing to our foundation. While scientists haven't ruled out natural causes for the increase in earthquakes in unusual places, many researchers suspect the deep injection wells used for the disposal of fracking wastewater could be causing the earthquake activity. Fracking, short for hydraulic fracturing, is a method of extracting oil and gas by cracking open underground rock. Ongoing studies have found a link between Oklahoma's high-volume wastewater injection wells and regions with an uptick in earthquakes. According to the USGS, the number of quakes magnitude-3 and stronger jumped by 50 percent in the past eight months in Oklahoma. Some 183 earthquakes of magnitude 3 or greater struck between October 2013 and April 14, 2014.

The state's long-term average from 1978 to 2008 was only two earthquakes of magnitude 3.0 or larger per year. If the earthquakes are caused by wastewater injection, then the activity could continue or decrease with future changes in well usage.

I know that's Oklahoma, but many of the same conditions that scientists and researchers are saying may be the cause for this major increase in earthquakes are happening around us also. What would we do if a major earthquake occurred in West Texas? Maybe a little basic educational information wouldn't hurt anything.

Earthquakes strike suddenly, violently, and without warning at any time of the year and at any time of the day or night. Smaller earthquakes often follow the main shock.

An earthquake is caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the Earth's surface. Ground shaking from earthquakes can collapse buildings and bridges; disrupt gas, electric, and phone service; and sometimes trigger landslides, avalanches, flash floods, fires, and huge, destructive ocean waves (tsunamis).

Most earthquake-related injuries result from collapsing walls, flying glass, and falling objects.

Several thousand shocks of varying sizes occur annually in the United States, and 70 to 75 damaging earthquakes occur throughout the world each year. All 50 states and all U.S. territories are vulnerable to earthquakes. California experiences the most frequent damaging earthquakes; however, Alaska experiences the greatest number of large earthquakes—most located in uninhabited areas. Earthquakes occur most frequently west of the Rocky Mountains, although historically the most violent earthquakes have occurred in the central United States.

The largest earthquakes felt in the United States were along the New Madrid Fault in Missouri, where a 3-month-long series of quakes from 1811 to 1812 included three quakes larger than a magnitude of 8 on the Richter Scale. These earthquakes were felt over the entire eastern United States (over 2 million square miles), with Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Alabama, Arkansas and Mississippi experiencing the strongest ground shaking.

An earthquake is the most difficult natural event to predict, which makes a degree of preparedness a good idea. When you feel an earthquake, duck under a desk or sturdy table. Stay away from windows, bookcases, file cabinets, heavy mirrors and other heavy objects that could fall.

Watch out for falling plaster and ceiling tiles. Stay under cover until the shaking stops.

We will probably never have one in Big Spring, but who knows? We could someday hear Jerry Lee singing “Whole Lotta Shaking Going On.”

You may not agree with anything I've said, but I column as I see 'em.

*Eddy Prince is senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church of God in Big Spring. He can be reached by email at [pastorprince@msn.com](mailto:pastorprince@msn.com).*

### 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](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com).
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
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### DAILY PRAYER

Give us strength, oh Lord, to overcome the obstacles that face us.

Amen

## Forgive and forget Benghazi, Dude

“Dude, this was, like, two years ago.” Thus spake former National Security Council spokesman Tommy Vietor on Thursday after Fox News Channel anchorman Bret Baier asked him whether he had been involved in changing talking points to prepare then-U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice for Sunday talk shows in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2012, Benghazi, Libya, attacks that left four Americans dead. Vietor explained that he should not be expected to remember something as “mundane” as “the process of editing talking points.”

It would be easier to believe Vietor if the Obama White House had not withheld 41 State Department documents on the White House response to the attack when it handed over more than 25,000 pages of documents to Congress.

It took a subpoena by the gadfly watchdog group Judicial Watch to win release of those documents. One particularly damning memo, written Sept. 16, 2012, by White House adviser Ben Rhodes, suggested that Rice

“underscore that these protests are rooted in an Internet video, and not a broader failure of policy.” At the time, intelligence officials knew that a video hadn't sparked the attack.

White House spokesman Jay Carney claimed last week that the administration wasn't stonewalling; it didn't have to hand over the Rhodes memo, he told reporters, because it was about “protests around the Muslim world,” not Benghazi.

Poor House Speaker John Boehner. Judicial Watch's new trophy left him with little choice but to announce a new select committee on Benghazi, ostensibly to answer this question: “What else about Benghazi is the Obama administration still hiding from the American people?”

I don't think the new committee will unearth much more than what the public already should infer: The administration unsuccessfully tried to shift the blame from al-Qaida-inspired terrorists to an American-made video.

In a different time, with a different party, that gambit could have had consequences. After Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar hinted that Basque terrorists were behind the 2004 Madrid train bombing, which left more than 190 dead, his party tanked in the next election.

No wonder Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., called the hearing a waste of time on “Fox News

Sunday” and suggested that Democrats boycott the select committee.

Personally, I am not keen on more hearings. By Politico's count, more than 13 congressional hearings have been held on Benghazi. By my count, they've yielded too many hours of long-winded, self-serving rhetorical questions and very few answers.

Most famously, the Benghazi hearings produced Hillary Clinton's infamous answer that concluded with a rhetorical question: “With all due respect, the fact is we had four dead Americans. Was it because of a protest, or was it because of guys out for a walk one night who decided they'd go kill some Americans? What difference, at this point, does it make?”

That May 2013 exchange said it all: Neither Barack Obama nor his secretary of state particularly cared to find out what happened to Ambassador Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods and Glen Doherty. They just want the whole story to go away. It was two years ago, dude.

*Email Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfchronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfchronicle.com). To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*



EDDY PRINCE



DEBRA SAUNDERS

# Why not check this out at the library?

**“R**edeployment” (F KEY P) by Phil Key is the story of soldiers taken to the front lines of war in Iraq, asking us to understand what happened to them there, and what happened to soldiers who returned. It is a collection of stories, wherein one soldier had to shoot dogs because they were eating human corpses, must



HOLLIS  
McCRIGHT

return to suburban life, to people “who have no idea where Fallujah is, where three members of your platoon died.” A lance corporal will make up a story where he killed (when he did not) in order to comfort his best friend who did. A mortuary affairs marine tells about his experiences collecting remains of U.S. and Iraqi soldiers. These are very ferocious stories, not for the faint of heart.

Steve Berry is an excellent writer of thrillers, with his character Cotton Malone. Malone is a former Justice Department agent and was told that his father had died in a submarine disaster in the North Atlantic. However, now he wants to know the full story and he asks his former boss Stephanie Nelle for the file, and is astonished to find out that his father’s sub was a nuclear vessel lost on a highly classified mission under the ice shelves of Antarctica. In “The Charlemagne Pursuit” (F BER S), Malone will travel from

Antarctica to Germany to France to uncover the truth of his father’s death. Along the way he will encounter the mysterious twin sisters Dorothea Lindauer and Christl Falk, whose father was also lost on that mysterious submarine.

“You Should Have Known” (F KOR J) by Jean Hanff Korelitz is the story of a wife, blinded by her own misconceptions, of whom her husband is the main blind spot. Grace Reinhart Sachs is living the only life she ever wanted for herself. Devoted to her husband, a pediatric oncologist at a major cancer hospital, their young son Henry, and the patients she sees in her therapy practice, her days are full of familiar things: she lives in the very New York apartment in which she was raised and sends Henry to the school she herself once attended. Dismayed by the ways in which women delude themselves, Grace is also the author of a book, “You Should Have Known,” in which she cautions women to really hear what men are trying to tell them.

But weeks before the book is published, a chasm opens in her own life: a violent death, a missing husband and, in the place of a man Grace thought she knew, only an ongoing chain of terrible revelations. Left behind in the wake of a spreading and very public disaster, and horrified by the ways in which she has failed to heed her own advice, Grace must dismantle one life and create another for her child and herself.

I have a couple of Lincoln books available for checkout. “In Lincoln’s

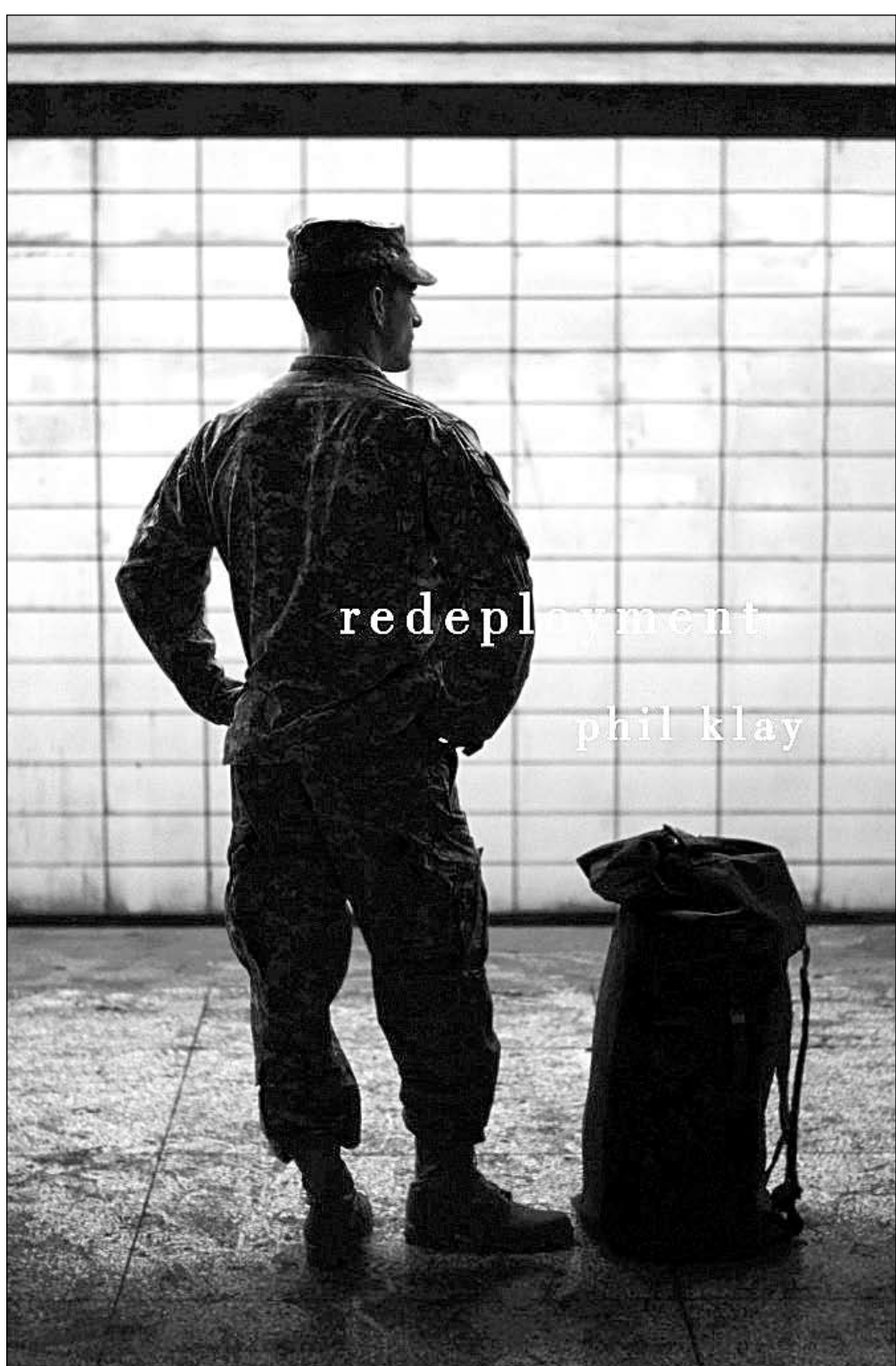
Hand: His Original Manuscripts” (973.709 LIN A) is an official publication of the Library of Congress and has commentary from distinguished Americans. “In Lincoln’s Hand” offers an unprecedented look at perhaps our greatest president through vivid images of his handwritten letters, speeches, and even childhood notebooks — many never before made available to the public.

While Lincoln’s words are quite well known, the original manuscripts boast a unique power and beauty and provide rare insight into the creative process. In this collection, we can see the ebb and flow of Lincoln’s thoughts, emotions, hopes and doubts. We can see where he paused to dip his pen in the ink or to capture an idea.

We can see where he added a word or phrase, and where he crossed out others, searching for the most precise, and concise, expression. In these marks on the page, Lincoln’s character is available to us with a profound immediacy.

From such icons as the Gettysburg Address and the inaugural speeches to seldom-seen but superb rarities, here is the world as Lincoln saw and shaped it in words and images that resound to this very day. This information is taken from the book flap.

The second book is “Backstage at the Lincoln Assassination: The Untold Story of the Actors and Stagehands at Ford’s Theatre” 973.709 BOG T) by Thomas A Bogar. In “Backstage at the Lincoln Assassination,” historian Bogar



dives into previously unpublished sources to tell the story of Lincoln’s assassination from behind the curtain, and the tale is shocking. Police rounded up and arrested dozens of innocent people, wasting time that allowed the real culprit to get further away.

Some closely connected to John Wilkes Booth were not even questioned, while innocent witnesses were relentlessly pursued.

Booth was more connected with the production than you might have known; learn how he knew each member of the cast and crew, which was a hotbed of secessionist resentment.

The book also tells the story of what happened to each of these witnesses to history, after the investigation was over — how each one lived their lives after seeing one of America’s greatest presidents shot

dead without warning.

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*Hollis McCright is Howland County Librarian.*

## Odds and ends

### New Jersey fire siren silenced by osprey nest

SPRING LAKE, N.J. (AP) — A pair of ospreys has quieted a fire alarm in one New Jersey shore town. The raptors have built a nest inside the fire siren at Spring Lake. By law, the nest can’t be disturbed. Ospreys are listed as a threatened species in New Jersey during their breeding season.

So the siren has been turned off for the spring and summer, while firefighters and paramedics rely on pagers and cellphones to alert them of emergencies.

Borough Administrator Bryan Dempsey said a police officer notified him in March that an osprey appeared to be building a nest on the siren, which is mounted on a pole about 100 feet off the ground behind the police, fire and first aid squad headquarters.

“We had to shut off the siren for the rest of the season,” he said.

First responders in the resort about 60 miles north of Atlantic City say so far things have been working smoothly.

Spring Lake officials say they may need to create an alternate place nearby for the birds to nest next year, as they tend to return to the same spot.

“The issue is, once they pick a spot, they keep coming back to that spot,” he said. “Even if we got rid of the nest at the end of the season, we’d have to build a new spot for them to nest next season. So we’ll do whatever we have to do to make sure they have a habitat to live in.”

The nest cannot be disturbed at least until Sept. 1.

Officials say they believe several chicks have hatched, but none was visible from the ground on Tuesday.

There are nearly 550 pairs of ospreys in New Jersey, based on a 2013 state survey. They usually mate for life, and incubate the eggs for about 5 weeks.

### California campaign flier evokes Holocaust

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — A city council candidate in Central California is apologizing after religious leaders and his opponent say he featured an image that resembles a Nazi concentration camp on a campaign flier.

Fresno District 7 candidate Mike Wells tells the Fresno Bee he asked his graphic designer to find a photo that showed urban blight, but he didn’t check the origins of the image she selected. The flier included barbed wire and a skull and bones and accused incumbent Councilman Clint Olivier of selling out Fresno neighborhoods. It went out over the weekend.

Religious leaders said at a news conference on Monday that a building used in the flier resembled the Auschwitz concentration camp. They joined Olivier in condemning the image.

Wells says the graphic designer has been dismissed from his campaign.

### Pilot crashes into former home north of Denver

NORTHGLENN, Colo. (AP) — First, the pilot who crashed into a home near Denver escaped un-

harm and tried to put out the resulting fire with a garden hose.

And in another surprising twist, Brian Veatch used to live in the home a decade ago. But so far the location of Monday’s crash looks like a coincidence.

Veatch told KMGH-TV (<http://bit.ly/Rk1uVI>) that he didn’t realize the house he hit was the one where he once lived until someone pointed it out to him.

Peter Knudson, a spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board, said Veatch had taken off from a small airport nearby and headed to fly a banner over the stadium during a Colorado Rockies game. Knudson said that soon after he took off, Veatch reported he was having trouble gaining altitude. He ditched his banner, but he continued to have difficulty climbing, Knudson said.

“He was actually turning back toward the airport when it crashed,” Knudson said.

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## News in brief

### Republicans' Benghazi point man is a seasoned prosecutor

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Trey Gowdy, the Republicans' newest point man on the Benghazi attack, is a seasoned prosecutor determined to apply his well-honed courtroom skills to an election-year examination of the Obama administration's actions.

Tapped by House Speaker John Boehner, the two-term South Carolina congressman will lead a special select committee investigating the chaotic night of Sept. 11, 2012, when extremists attacked the U.S. diplomatic outpost in Libya, killing Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

Multiple independent and bipartisan investigations have faulted the State Department for inadequate security at the mission and the military's lack of assets in the region. Yet the inquiries have failed to quiet the much-publicized aftermath, with Republicans vehemently insisting that the administration sought to downplay a terror attack just weeks before the presidential election.

Two years later, Benghazi resonates with Republicans, who demand accountability from Obama, former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and other administration officials. It remains a rallying cry with conservatives whose votes are crucial to the GOP in November's historically low-turnout midterm elections.

Republicans are expected to force a vote Thursday to establish the select committee despite Democratic objections that it's unnecessary. It remains to be seen whether Democrats decide to boycott the panel.

### Obama stresses new climate change report shows problems affecting Americans 'right now'

WASHINGTON (AP) — When it came time to deliver a new federal report detailing what global warming is doing to America and the dire forecast for the future, President Barack Obama turned to the pros who regularly deliver the bad news about wild weather: TV meteorologists.

"We want to emphasize to the public, this is not some distant problem of the future. This is a problem that is affecting Americans right now," Obama told "Today" show weathercaster Al Roker. "Whether it means increased flooding, greater vulnerability to drought, more severe wildfires — all these things are having an impact on Americans as we speak."

Climate change's assorted harms "are expected to become increasingly disruptive across the nation throughout this century and beyond," the National Climate Assessment concluded, emphasizing the impact of too-wild weather as well as simple warming.

Still, it's not too late to prevent the worst of climate change, says the 840-page report, which the Obama administration is highlighting as it tries to jump-start often-stalled efforts to curb heat-trapping gases. Said White House science adviser John Holdren, "It's a good-news story about the many opportunities to take cost-effective actions to reduce the damage."

### Syrian rebels begin evacuating their last bastions in city of Homs under ceasefire deal

BEIRUT (AP) — Hundreds of Syrian rebels on Wednesday began evacuating their last bastions in the central city of Homs under a ceasefire deal struck last week with government forces, opposition activists and the city's governor said.

The exit of some 1,200 fighters from rebel strongholds in Homs will mark

a de-facto end of the rebellion in the battered city, which was one of the first places to rise up against President Bashar Assad's rule, earning its nickname as "the capital of the revolution."

Around mid-morning Wednesday, dozens of fighters boarded five buses that arrived at the police command on the edge of the rebel-held areas ahead of the evacuation, opposition activists said. Afterward, two of the buses left the city, heading north.

An activist who goes by the name of Abu Yassin al-Homsi said all fighters and any remaining civilians were expected to leave the city during the day, adding that they would be taken a few kilometers (miles) north to the rebel-held towns of Talbiseh and al-Dar al-Kabira on the northern edge of Homs province — a short drive away.

Later, al-Homsi confirmed later that the first group of fighters that evacuated the city center "arrived safely" in rebel-held areas north of the province. Each fighter was allowed to carry his rifle and a bag of belongings with him. One rocket propelled grenade launcher and a machinegun were also allowed on each bus, he said.

### N.C. Republican Tillis defeats anti-establishment rivals in primary to face Dem Sen. Hagan

WASHINGTON (AP) — North Carolina House Speaker Thom Tillis captured the Republican nomination to oppose imperiled Democratic Sen. Kay Hagan Tuesday night, overcoming anti-establishment rivals by a comfortable margin in the first of a springtime spate of primaries testing the strength of a tea party movement that first rocked the GOP four years ago.

In Ohio, Cuyahoga County Executive Ed FitzGerald won the Democratic nomination to challenge Gov. John Kasich in the fall. U.S. House Speaker John Boehner, a Republican, rolled to re-nomination for another term in Congress, his 13th.

On a night that was kind to Republican incumbents in three states, GOP Rep. Susan Brooks of Indiana easily fended off a challenge from the right, rolling up 75 percent of the votes in a three-way race. First-term Rep. David Joyce of Ohio had a slightly tougher time but was running well ahead of his tea party rival.

Anti-war Republican Rep. Walter Jones defeated his challenger in North Carolina.

In North Carolina, Tillis was winning about 45 percent of the vote with ballots counted in 72 percent of the state's precincts, easily surpassing the 40 percent needed to avoid a July runoff. Greg Brannon was trailing despite support from tea party favorite Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, and Mark Harris, a Baptist pastor, was third.

### Democratic congressional primary in N.C. featuring Clay Aiken of 'Idol' fame too close to call

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The Democratic congressional primary race between former "American Idol" runner-up Clay Aiken and textile entrepreneur Keith Crisco remained very close and without a clear winner.

Aiken and Crisco each had about 40 percent of the vote, trailed by licensed family counselor Toni Morris of Fayetteville in Tuesday's primary race in the 2nd Congressional District.

Aiken's first political campaign drew an unusual amount of celebrity buzz thanks to his singing career and a second-place finish on "Celebrity Apprentice." Crisco spent four years as the state's top business recruiter under under former Democratic Gov.

Beverly Perdue.

The primary winner will challenge incumbent Republican U.S. Rep. Renee Ellmers in November. Ellmers, first elected in the 2010 tea party wave, handily defeated her challenger in the heavily Republican district.

Aiken has said reporters are the only people asking whether being a gay man could impede his campaign to represent such a conservative district. Both he and Crisco touted themselves as centrists.

### Hawaii releases video of teen stowaway dropping to tarmac from jet's wheel well

HONOLULU (AP) — The security footage looks unassuming at first: a Hawaiian Airlines jet parked at a gate at the Maui airport under overcast skies, and workers going through their regular routine. Then, the 15-year-old's legs dangle briefly from the plane's belly and he drops to the concrete.

Hawaii transportation officials released video Tuesday of a California teen hopping from a jet's wheel well April 20 after stowing away for a 5½-hour flight.

The video largely confirms previous accounts given by FBI and airport officials of Yahya Abdi's seemingly unbelievable story: that he ran away from home, hopped a fence at Mineta San Jose International Airport and climbed into the wheel well of the closest plane.

Abdi survived the flight at 35,000 feet despite low oxygen and freezing temperatures.

The six minutes of security footage that the Hawaii Department of Transportation released show Abdi lowering himself from the Boeing 767 and jumping to the ground.

### After fall during hair-hanging stunt, circus acrobat says 'you gotta get back up' again

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — One of eight circus acrobats who plunged about 20 feet to the ground during a hair-hanging act witnessed by thousands says she'll perform the stunt again.

"For me, you gotta get back up and do it again," Samantha Pitard told The Associated Press after being released from a hospital Tuesday.

Pitard and seven other acrobats were in an act described as a "human chandelier," hanging from an apparatus by their hair. They were injured during a Sunday performance of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus when a clip at the top of the chandelier-like apparatus snapped, dropping them to the ground.

The other women are still hospitalized and Pitard said she plans to stay in Providence to support her friends as they work to regain their health.

### Court forces out Thai leader and part of Cabinet, pushing country further into turmoil

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand's prime minister was ordered by a court to step down Wednesday in a divisive ruling that handed a victory to anti-government protesters who have staged six months of street protests — but does little to resolve the country's political crisis.

The Constitutional Court found Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra guilty of abusing her power by transferring a senior civil servant in 2011 to another position. It ruled that the transfer was carried out to benefit her politically powerful family and, therefore, violated the constitution — an accusation she has denied.

The ruling also forced out nine Cabinet members but left nearly two dozen other ministers in their posts, including Deputy Prime Minister Nibattamrong Boonsongpaisan, who was quickly appointed the new acting leader.

The judgment marks the latest dramatic twist in Thailand's long-running political crisis. It was a victory for Yingluck's opponents, mostly from the urban elite and those in the south, who have been engaged in vociferous and sometimes violent street protests.

### Clinton, Geithner set to spill insider Obama administration details in back-to-back memoirs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Over the next month, two of President Barack Obama's closest first-term advisers will spill insider details on the administration's handling of the early days of the Great Recession, the White House's cautious response to the Syrian civil war and the genesis of clandestine talks with Iran.

The back-to-back memoirs from former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and ex-Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner will be the latest installments in what has become an often awkward Washington ritual: one-time confidants signing big book contracts to examine a presidency that is still ongoing and policy decisions that are still being implemented.

Clinton and Geithner's books will be released just four months after former Defense Secretary Robert Gates' memoir landed like a sucker punch in the West Wing.

Gates gave political advisers in the White House virtually no warning — and no advance copy — of his headline-generating memoir, which included sharp criticisms of Obama's decision-making.

However, Obama aides don't appear to be girding for a repeat of their experience with Gates' book as they await the release of Geithner and Clinton's memoirs.

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# News in brief

## Border Patrol complaints seldom lead to discipline

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — Of 809 complaints filed against U.S. Border Patrol agents during a three-year period, disciplinary measures were taken in just 13 cases, according to a report released Tuesday by an immigrant advocacy organization.

The American Immigration Council reviewed complaints filed between January 2009 and January 2012 about incidents that occurred within 100 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border. It received the data through litigation involving the Freedom of Information Act.

The Border Patrol has faced criticism in recent years that its surge in hiring — the number of agents has more than doubled since 2001 — led to a less-disciplined force and more misconduct. Customs and Border Protection spokeswoman Jenny Burke said late Tuesday that the agency takes all misconduct allegations seriously and that they are referred for investigation and disciplinary action as warranted.

The group found that 78 percent of the complaints against Border Patrol agents concerned physical abuse or excessive use of force. The researchers, while unable to determine the merit of any of the complaints, said they believe a cumbersome complaint system likely kept many others from filing.

“The whole complaint system is very obscure,” said Guillermo Cantor, senior policy analyst with American Immigration Council. “It took us a while to understand the different routes that exist for people to file complaints and how the Department of Homeland Security handles the complaints once they get them.”

Apprehensions of immigrants who have entered the country illegally are still well below historic highs but have risen in recent years, driven primarily by Central Americans attempting to cross the border. Border Patrol made more than 410,000 apprehensions along the Southwest border last year.

## New law halts prison proxy weddings

LIVINGSTON, Texas (AP) — Christopher King can't get married, at least not while he's confined to a Texas prison.

The convicted car thief and his fiancée are prevented from tying the knot because of a new state law that bans proxy marriages, which were common among prisoners because they allowed a couple to use a stand-in for the inmate.

But the new law requires both parties to be present during a marriage ceremony, and the Texas prison system doesn't allow ceremonies in its facilities.

The law was meant to stop people from fraudulently marrying an individual and cashing in on their unwitting spouse's benefits. But it also unintentionally affects prison inmates, which may conflict with U.S. Supreme Court rulings decades ago that upheld a prisoner's right to marry.

“I don't think (prison officials) should put a hold on someone's love,” King, who has spent more than eight years in prison, said from his prison in Beaumont.

Before the law took effect in September, a prisoner could get married by having someone else, a proxy, stand in and exchange vows during a ceremony before a justice of the peace. Now, both parties must attend the ceremony, meaning inmates sentenced to life in prison or death can't marry at all.

Officials with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice say the prison system has no plans to change its rules, deeming such prison ceremonies a security risk. And those who pushed for

the new law say a change is unlikely without a legal challenge, which currently doesn't exist.

## Former mortician set free in slaying case

CARTHAGE, Texas (AP) — A former mortician whose killing of a rich widow shook an East Texas town and later inspired a movie is a free man after a judge agreed to reduce his life sentence and release him on bond.

Bernie Tiede's freedom Tuesday was part of an agreement with the same district attorney who prosecuted him for the death of his 81-year-old longtime companion, Marjorie Nugent, who disappeared in 1996 and was found dead in a freezer in Carthage nine months later.

Tiede's bond was set at \$10,000 and after posting bail, he was released to go live in Austin with filmmaker Richard Linklater, who co-wrote and directed the 2012 dark comedy “Bernie” that was inspired by the case and starred Jack Black in the title role and Shirley MacLaine as Nugent. Linklater volunteered to take in Tiede, who will be under strict bond conditions.

A state criminal appeals court still must formally sign off on the sentence reduction.

The now-55-year-old Tiede, who was well liked in the close-knit community of Carthage, was convicted in 1999 in the death of Nugent, who had a reputation among townspeople as a crotchety cheapskate.

Panola County District Attorney Danny Buck Davidson agreed with Tiede's appeals attorney, Jodi Cole, who said he deserved a lighter sentence because he was sexually assaulted as a child and also had an abusive relationship with Nugent before her death.

Psychiatrist Edward Gripon, who examined Tiede in January, testified Tuesday that Tiede and Nugent had a complex and abusive relationship. He said that combined with Tiede having been abused when he was younger pushed him to kill Nugent in a “brief dissociative episode.”

## Officials look to revamp defense of indigent

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Court officials in Central Texas are requesting more than \$660,000 in state money to dramatically revamp the way the indigent are defended in court.

County commissioners voted unanimously Tuesday night to allow court officials to pursue funding for a Travis County Private Defender office. County leaders say a growing caseload is proving overwhelming for state and county judges who assign lawyers to cases, determine payment for legal counsel and conduct other related work.

The current system benefits less than 10 percent of attorneys eligible to represent the indigent. Those attorneys receive more cases than others and generate the largest compensation fees, according to an analysis by the Austin American-Statesman.

About 25,000 annual cases involving poor defendants — approximately 68 percent of whom are facing felony charges and 46 percent misdemeanors — are meant to be evenly distributed among some 350 lawyers. The indigent defense program costs about \$8.5 million.

Thirteen state and county judges assign defense lawyers to cases from a “wheel” system, so that they can be appointed evenly rather than at the courts' sole discretion.

But the review by the American-Statesman found that 50 out of 383 attorneys collected almost half of the total fees paid since 2010, with a half-dozen lawyers falling within the top 10 highest earners each year. The top earners make anywhere from \$111,000 to \$200,000 each year, and handle up-

ward of 400 cases a year. One lawyer averages 615 cases assigned to him each year.

The median fee rate for all the attorneys on the list was \$34,375.

## North Texas man charged with killing wife, 87

CLEBURNE, Texas (AP) — A North Texas man has been charged in the death of his 87-year-old wife whose body was found in their Cleburne home.

A judge on Tuesday set bond at \$1 million for 83-year-old Samuel Alfred Ball. Officials with the Johnson County jail on Wednesday declined to release any information on Ball, who was arrested on a murder count.

Sheriff Bob Alford says Ball has been charged in the death of his wife, Betty.

Cleburne police on Monday received a call from another individual about a possible death at the Ball home. An affidavit says an officer who went to the residence found the woman's body wrapped in a blanket.

A medical examiner Wednesday did not immediately provide information on a cause of death.

Police declined to release a possible motive.

## Man gets life sentence for fatal crash, shooting

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A North Texas jury has sentenced a man to life imprisonment for fatally shooting a man coming to his aid after he started a deadly chain collision.

A Tarrant County jury deliberated about 40 minutes Tuesday before deciding the sentence for Thomas Lester Harper. The jury deliberated 45 minutes Monday in Fort Worth before finding Harper guilty of murder.

A statement from the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office says the 30-year-old defendant must serve 30 years of his prison sentence before becoming eligible for parole.

Harper slammed a sport utility vehicle into the rear of a pickup truck at an Arlington intersection the afternoon of Dec. 7, 2011. Killed in the crash was 42-year-old Najee Nasir before Harper fatally shot 18-year-old Clarence Robinson as Robinson approached to help.

## Father, daughter bank robbers get prison

DALLAS (AP) — A father and daughter blamed for three Dallas bank robbers have been sentenced to prison.

Prosecutors in Dallas on Tuesday announced 50-year-old John Charles Applewhite has been sentenced to more than 15 years in prison for last May's holdups.

Applewhite in October pleaded guilty to three counts of bank robbery. Investigators say he was on supervised release for another holdup at the time of the 2013 robberies.

His daughter, 23-year-old Shelby Dawn Applewhite, in November pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit those three bank robberies. A judge in March sentenced the daughter to five years in prison.

Investigators say the Shelby Applewhite would enter a bank to check the layout, then report details to her father — who would wear a disguise and rob the place.

## Dallas psychologist gets 3 years for care fraud

DALLAS (AP) — A Dallas psychologist has been sentenced to three years in prison in a health care scam involving false claims for treatment of

federal workers.

A federal judge in Dallas on Tuesday sentenced 62-year-old Michael Ellis Wolf and ordered him to pay \$1.8 million in restitution. Wolf in January pleaded guilty to health care fraud stemming from his treatment of disabled federal workers.

Investigators say Wolf sought payment for services not provided or he exaggerated the amount of therapy that was done.

Prosecutors say in one case Wolf claimed he provided therapy for a federal employee, from 2008 through mid-2013, seven days a week.

## El Paso getting new teaching hospital complex

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — El Paso will be getting a new \$120 million teaching hospital in a project by Sierra Providence Health Network and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

Details were announced Tuesday after the El Paso City Council approved more than \$14 million in incentives for the 140-bed hospital.

Medstar Corp will develop the hospital complex with construction expected to begin this fall and be completed by late 2016.

The hospital will be affiliated with Texas Tech's Paul L. Foster School of Medicine. The complex planned for west El Paso will also include a 110,000-square-foot medical office building.

## Officers on horseback patrol Capitol complex

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Troopers on patrol at the Texas Capitol complex have another way to make their rounds without hopping in a vehicle or hoofing it on their own.

The Texas Department of Public Safety has started a mounted horse patrol.

Ceremonies were held Tuesday in Austin at the Capitol, where more than a million visitors make their way each year.

DPS Director Steven McCraw says the mounted horse patrol is a logical extension to the department's security measures to protect the Texas Capitol.

The patrol currently includes three troopers and four horses.

## Police seek man in miniskirt over bank arson

CEDAR PARK, Texas (AP) — Police are seeking a man who wore a black miniskirt as he broke into a Central Texas bank, splashed liquid on the lobby carpet and set the place on fire.

Cedar Park police say the break-in happened late Sunday at a Lone Star Bank when the business was closed. The bank suffered minor damage.

Police in Cedar Park, about 15 miles north of Austin, don't believe the man stole anything.

Authorities on Tuesday released security video showing a man in a dark hat and a miniskirt pouring liquid in the lobby and starting the fire.

Investigators believe the arsonist got into the bank by smashing a glass window. An alarm led emergency responders to the fire, which had burned itself out.

Police did not immediately return a message Wednesday.

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The Big Spring Lady Steers will be competing in both the 4x200- and 4x400-meter relay races this Saturday at the Class 3A Track and Field Championships in Austin. Big Spring is expected to compete for a medal in both events.

File photo



## Title with Lady Steers' reach

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

Many of the teams and athletes gathering this weekend at the University Interscholastic League's Class 3A State Track and Field Championships in Austin know they don't have a chance at winning a state title. That isn't the case for the Big Spring High School Lady Steers 4x200- and 4x400-meter

relay teams.

Both have very realistic chances of walking away from the meet with gold medals.

"I think we have a great chance at five medals," said Big Spring track coach Nick Kiberson, noting the high school track program will be participating in five events this weekend, including the boys' 4x400-meter race, the

400-meter dash and the girls' 800-meter run.

The Lady Steers 4x200-meter relay squad enters the state meet with one of the fastest qualifying times. The 1 minute, 43.34-second mark the team of Dyrshae Vanderbilt, Autumn Minter, Faith Roberson and Kaitlyn Mathews turned in at the Region I-3A Track and Field Championships in Lub-

bock is just 1.23 seconds shy of the top mark in the Class 3A field.

Henderson owns the fastest qualifying time in the 4x200-meter race, posting a time of 1:42.07 en route to winning the Region III-3A title.

Other teams set to run in the 4x200-meter relay include Sour Lake Hardin-Jefferson, West, Texarkana Liberty-See **STATE**, Page 14

## Jones not thinking QB in NFL draft

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Dallas Cowboys owner and general manager Jerry Jones isn't looking to draft a quarterback — Johnny Manziel or otherwise.

Jones found several ways to shoot down the notion of grabbing Manziel if the former Heisman Trophy winner from Texas A&M unexpectedly falls to the Cowboys at No. 16 in the first round Thursday night.

His answers in the team's annual pre-draft news conference Tuesday always came back to the same thing: "Our best shot is a healthy Tony Romo."

The Dallas quarterback just turned 34 and is coming off two back surgeries, the last for a herniated disk sustained against Washington. The injury sidelined him for the season finale, a playoffs-or-bust loss to Philadelphia.

Jones doesn't like the odds of winning with a rookie quarterback, and sees the development of one as an expensive proposition in terms of money and practice time. Besides, the Cowboys are trying to break a three-season streak of 8-8 finishes and a four-year playoff drought in the final season of coach Jason Garrett's contract.

"This isn't rebuilding time," Jones said. "As a look down the future, yes. But for coming in here and helping us win games right now, those odds are too far for me to get excited about."

The Cowboys figure to have a defense-first draft after releasing franchise sacks leader DeMarcus Ware in a salary-cap move. Regardless of what happens in the draft, Dallas' defensive line won't look anything like what was projected a year ago.

The overhaul doesn't guarantee Jones will take

a defensive lineman. It could be a safety or linebacker. Maybe even a wide receiver.

"We've had a lot of attrition in our defensive front this year," Jones said. "What is obvious is if you want to start at the need you can start right there. We shouldn't go overboard and be influenced to the point where we pass up a great opportunity to have a great draft otherwise."

But Jones didn't sound like the best-player-available theory applied at quarterback. The Cowboys expect backup Kyle Orton to return despite indications that he might not, and Jones said the team made its developmental move by adding free agent Brandon Weeden, a first-round pick by Cleveland 2012.

The owner was joined by Garrett and executive vice president Stephen Jones for a news conference not long after Romo had some of his first football activity since the surgery in December. Garrett said Romo's 45 minutes of work on the field included dropping back and throwing, adding that his rehabilitation was on schedule.

They remained steadfast in their belief that Romo's age and growing history of back trouble aren't enough to change the approach for a franchise that has drafted just one quarterback in the past 12 years. Romo was an undrafted free agent in 2003.

"To me, he's a very young player," Garrett said. "He moves around really well. He hasn't lost any mobility. I think his arm is better than ever. So we don't look at him despite his back situation he's had over the past couple of years as somebody who is an old player by any means."

## Lady Hawks place 6 on All-WJCAC softball

By TOMMY WELLS  
Sports Editor

The Howard College Lady Hawks may have seen their bid to earn a berth in the NJCAA softball World Series fall one game shy, but that didn't mean the team didn't impress on the field.

Proof the Lady Hawks were among the top squads on the field came earlier this week when six members of the Howard College squad were named to the Western Junior College Athletic Conference's 2014 all-conference roster. The six were among 21 WJCAC softball standouts honored with post-season awards.

Howard College had both of its top pitchers named to the All-WJCAC roster as freshman Jessica Elder and sophomore Nicole Wilson were listed. They joined Clarendon's Gabby Gloria, Midland's Shelby Weissenbach and Odessa's Janessa Flynn and Alice Donohoe as all-conference hurlers.

Elder finished the season with a sparkling 2.14 earned run average and a team-high 96 strikeouts in 150.1 innings. Wilson was named to the All-WJCAC squad for a second season in a row. An all-American pick, she was among the Lady Hawks' top batters this season, hitting .369 with nine home runs and 53 runs batted in.

HC third baseman Corrina Liscano also earned all-conference honors for her efforts. The freshman led the WJCAC in hitting this season, batting .543. She also was among the team's leaders in home runs with 17 and runs batted in, with 73.

Sophomore outfielder Lani Munoz also earned all-conference honors. She finished the year with a batting average of .350. Flynn was tabbed the conference's MVP following a solid sophomore season. She posted a WJCAC-leading 1.98 ERA this season and helped OC edge Howard College in the Region

See **WJCAC**, Page 14



Tony Claxton photos (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Howard College Lani Munoz hauls in a fly ball in front of the fence at Foundation Field during a recent outing by the Lady Hawks. Munoz was one of six HC players named to the WJCAC all-conference squad earlier this week.

## Hartman takes job at Greenwood

Coahoma High School found itself in the market for a new girls' head basketball coach on Tuesday when it was announced that Paul Hartman has agreed to become the new coach at Midland Greenwood.

Hartman replaces Cliff Thompson at the helm of the Greenwood program. The Rangerettes were 7-21 a year ago.



The BSJHS boy's golf team won first place at the Big Spring Country Club Tournament on May 5. In the tournament, Jack Everett was first and Nolan Otto took fourth. On the girl's side, Abbey Bryan was second and Trinady Joslin was seventh.

Courtesy photo

## Big Spring to host 2A regional quarterfinal game

Big Spring softball fans won't have to travel far to take in some softball playoff action this week. In fact, they won't even have to leave town.

The Big Spring ISD Softball Complex will serve as the host site for the Class 2A regional quarterfinal playoff game between the Colorado Lady Wolves and Abernathy on Thursday, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Colorado City defeated

Floydada on Friday by an 11-0 mark. In that game, junior pitcher Cassie Sutton struck out 14 batters en route to tossing her second shutout of the postseason. She hurled a perfect game in the Lady Wolves' playoff opener against Post.

Colorado City is coached by former Coahoma High School softball standout Ami Martinez.





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5:PM	News	Casa	Two Men	News	Tele	News	Seinfeld	With Scholars	Charlie Rose	Rifleman	Naked and Afraid	Groundhog Day, Chris Elliott	Rundown, Rosario Dawson	Castle (DVS)	106 & Park	Austin	Around	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	De Que Te Quiero	Big Bang	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	Seinfeld	Mani	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Dual Survival	M*A*S*H	NBA Basketball: Teams TBA.	Outkast	Jessie	Austin	Pardon	
7:PM	Middle	Por Siempre	Big Bang	Survivor	La Impositora (SS)	Revolution	Fam. Guy	House	Nature (DVS)	Gilligan	Dual Survival	Movie: Beethoven, Dean Jones	Movie: Walking Tall, Neal McDonough	Husbands	Austin	On the Clock	SportCtr	Baseball
8:PM	Mod Fam	Lo Que la Vida	American Idol	Criminal Minds	En Otra Piel (SS)	Law & Order: SVU	Fam. Guy	Upd	NOVA (DVS)	Heroes	Dual Survival	Movie: The Run-down, Rosario Dawson	Movie: Set It Off, Vivica A. Fox	Boy...	Jessie	2014 Draft Academy	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA.	
9:PM	Nashville	Qué Pobres	Mod Fam	CSI: Crime Scene	Camelia La Texana	(:01) Chicago PD	Big Bang	Deal With	Nazi Mega Weapons	Newhart	Marooned	Movie: The Run-down, Rosario Dawson	NBA Basketball: Teams TBA.	Good	2014 Draft Academy	Austin	Dog	
10:PM	News	Impacto	Arsonio Hall	News	Tele	News	Conan	Rik	Charlie Rose	Twiz Zone	Dual Survival	Movie: The Run-down, Rosario Dawson	Inside the NBA	Good	2014 Draft Academy	ANT Farm	Olbermann	SportsCenter
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Familia-Suerte	How I Met How I Met	Ferguson	En Otra Piel (SS)	Seth Meyers	Conan	McDonald	T. Smiley (Off Air)	The Un-touchables	Dual Survival	Movie: The Marine, Kelly Carlson	The Mentalist	Queen Latifah	Shake It	NBA	Olbermann	SportsCenter
12:AM	Extra	Amorico Corazón	TMZ	Insider	Camelia La Texana	News	Holmes	Zola Lev.	Hitchcock Hr	Dual Survival	Movie: Beethoven's	Ways Die	The Mentalist	One Mic	Deck	NASCAR		
1:AM	Paid	Conducta Casa	Law & Order: SVU	Ent	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid

### DENNIS THE MENACE

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### THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

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"We should never have taught PJ about sharing."

### HAGAR

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## This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, May 7, the 127th day of 2014. There are 238 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
On May 7, 1789, America's first inaugural ball was held in New York in honor of President George Washington, who'd taken the oath of office a week earlier. (His wife, Martha, did not attend; she was back in Virginia, attending to family business.)  
On this date:  
In 1763, Pontiac, chief of the Ottawa Indians, attempted to lead a sneak attack on British-held Fort Detroit, but was foiled because the British had been tipped off in advance.  
In 1824, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125, had its premiere in Vienna.  
In 1889, the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore opened its doors.  
In 1915, nearly 1,200 people died when a German torpedo sank the British liner RMS Lusitania off the Irish coast.  
In 1942, U.S. Army Gen. Jonathan Wainwright went on a Manila radio station to announce the Allied surrender of the Philippines to Japanese forces during World War II.  
In 1945, Germany signed an unconditional surrender at Allied headquarters in Rheims (rams), France, ending its role in World War II.  
In 1954, the 55-day Battle of Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam ended with Vietnamese insurgents overrunning French forces.

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**Answer to previous puzzle**

HOPS	RAMP	SPIKE
UHUH	EVER	MINER
TILE	SEMI	ALTER
SOLDIER	IRON	LOOPS
TNT	TILT	
DIMMED	AIR	LAME
ONEAM	DNA	ICON
DELIS	WIG	AGENT
OPED	TOO	WHITE
STEM	IRS	TATTER
AGED	PAR	
SHORE	GUARD	RAIL
EERIE	ASST	ELSE
AREAS	MESA	ALLS
TBONE	EDEN	DYES

5/7/14

## Newsday Crossword

JOINT EFFORT by Carolyn Stewart  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

- 1 Picnic invaders
- 5 Girls and women
- 9 Went out with
- 14 Alphabetize
- 15 Ancient legend
- 16 Off-white color
- 17 Two of a kind
- 18 Creative thought
- 19 Spine-chilling
- 20 Football protective item
- 23 Discontinue
- 24 Children's game
- 25 Dweeb
- 26 Soviet spy org.
- 29 \_\_ carotene
- 31 Rambunctious
- 35 Wendy's competitor
- 37 Space to maneuver
- 40 "OK to have a look?"
- 43 Confessed
- 44 Old-fashioned boy's trousers
- 46 Director
- 47 Strong point
- 48 Enlightening material
- 51 Adriatic, for one
- 52 Name as a source
- 54 Bachelor's last words
- 56 Unruly crowd
- 59 Tricky pitch
- 64 Cyberspace letters
- 66 See 65 Down
- 67 Lotion additive
- 68 From then on
- 69 Windshield treatment
- 70 Natural satellite

**DOWN**

- 1 Egyptian snakes
- 2 Biblical boat builder
- 3 Three of a kind
- 4 Walk like a peacock
- 5 Little bit
- 6 Stevenson villain
- 7 Never-ending
- 8 Give form to
- 9 Lost steam
- 10 Many a state name in DC
- 11 Ripped up
- 12 Land of leprechauns
- 13 Not naturally colored
- 21 Scientific workplace
- 22 Traffic-sign shape
- 26 Soccer move
- 27 West African nation
- 28 Dog-biscuit shapes
- 30 Typical driving student
- 32 Small songbird
- 33 Extinct birds
- 34 " \_\_ kidding!"
- 36 Diner desserts
- 38 Ship's petty officer
- 39 Film rating org.
- 41 Marked like some sparrow eggs
- 42 Dine at home
- 45 Neckwear accessory
- 49 Boneless beef
- 50 Praise in verse
- 53 Clumps of grass
- 55 Last State of the Union deliverer
- 56 Predicament
- 57 Fail to mention
- 58 Ruination
- 60 Hawaiian coffee center
- 61 Frequently
- 62 Rug-making apparatus
- 63 Microscope part
- 65 With 66 Across, polar bear hangout

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