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FRIDAY

DECEMBER 12, 2014



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VOLUME 110, NUMBER 49

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Symphony Christmas concert set Saturday

Herald Staff Report

One of the most appreciated events of the holiday season takes place this Saturday when the Big Spring Sym-

phony Orchestra takes its Christmas concert to Trinity Baptist Church.

Symphony supporters, local parishioners, their families and friends will find familiar talent at the annual show,

which begins at 7:30 p.m.

Among those performing will be the Coahoma Choir Kids under the direction of Sandra Wallace, soprano Tara Trowbridge, tenor Lawrence Thibeault, and the Big

Spring High School Rapsody and Meistersingers.

The concert, under the direction of Dr. Keith Graumann, will feature a wide variety of religious and secular music.

Tickets, which may be purchased at the door, are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors. Students and children are admitted free. An adult must accompany children.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Oliver Bias tells Santa Claus what he wants for Christmas during the Kiwanis Club of Big Spring's annual holiday party at Baptist Temple Church Thursday.

'I think kids need to make a difference'

Youngster sets Saturday fundraiser

By **ANDREIA MEDLIN**
Staff Writer

Eleven year-old Rebecca Moore wants to make a difference in the world.

She recently attended Education in Action Leadership Camp and following its completion, was asked to sit on the council. As an ambassador for Education in Action, Moore is required to choose a project to support. But one was just not enough for the young girl as she has more than one charities she cares about.

The two charities she selected were The Wounded Warrior Project and St. Jude's Chil-



dren's Hospital. "The Wounded Warrior Project is near and dear to my heart because my whole family is in the military," Moore explained.

Moore Money raised for WWP will go to therapies and equipment while funds for St. Jude's is specifically earmarked to pay for oxygen supplies and its testing.

To help the two projects, Moore has organized a fundraiser for both charities to be

See **DIFFERENCE**, Page 3

BSISD board kept busy Thursday with legal matters, wind energy

BY **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Legal matters dominated

the Big Spring Independent School District board of trustees meeting Thursday night.

Trustees meet twice in executive session over two different legal issues with two different law firms in what seemed like a marathon meeting held in the high school board room.

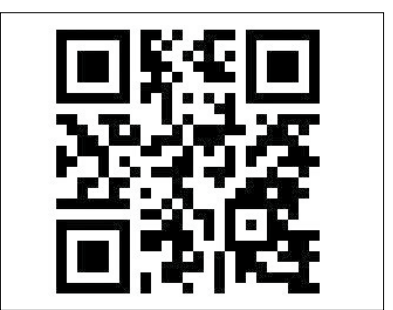
On a taxing issue, trustees approved an application by Gunsight Mountain Wind Energy and agreed to give the company a tax break on its new proposed wind farm which will be located in northern Howard County. Both Howard College and Howard County had already inked deals with Gunsight to accept PILT payments (payments in lieu of taxes) — a tax abatement available for renewable energy projects — but the process with the

school district was much more involved because of the complex nature of public school financing.

Before heading into executive session to discuss the issue, the district lawyers walked through the findings of the application and a projection on how the agreement would effect the district's state funding for the next 10 years. According to the lawyers, the agreement includes that Gunsight project will create six new full-time, high-paying jobs.

In another legal matter, trustees voted to hire the law firm of Gravely and Pearson

See **BSISD**, Page 3



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Dec. 12
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Need blankets, jackets? youth group here to help

Holy Trinity Catholic Youth Group is hosting its Fourth Annual "Warming up our Community" service project.

The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church at the Family Center, 1009 Hearn Street Big Spring.

Anyone in need of blankets, jackets, scarves and gloves is welcome to come by and take what is needed for free. Items will be available for men, women and children. Free hot chocolate, coffee and other snacks will be served.

If you or anyone you know is in need, come and look through the various donations we have received.

If you have any questions, you may call the Church office at 432-714-4930 or Contact Merlinda Moron at 432-213-3456 or Mary Jo Guerra at 432-816-6870.



Courtesy photo

Big Spring State Hospital Assistant Superintendent Traci Phillips and Program Specialist Mique Yarbar prepare food for patients at the Annual Carol of Lights Ceremony Dec. 10 for patients at Big Spring State Hospital.

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Obituaries

Lucia Pickett



Lucia Pickett, 94, of Denton, Texas, formerly of Stanton, died Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2014, in a Denton hospital. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014, at the First United Methodist Church in Stanton. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 2014, at Gilbreath Funeral Home.

She was born Sept. 23, 1920, in Reagan, Texas and married Roy Pickett Nov. 15, 1942, in El Paso, Texas. He preceded her in death Sept. 8, 1991.

Lucia graduated from Texas State Women's University, now TWU, in 1941 and moved to Stanton in 1952. She worked as a legal secretary for her husband and also for West Texas Abstract until she was 87 years old. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and a member of First United Methodist Church, Stanton and was the church pianist and organist for 50 years. Lucia was an avid Texas A&M fan.

She is survived by three daughters, Elizabeth Williams of Big Spring, Cindy Quy and husband, Rick of Spicewood and Kathryn Barber and husband, Glenn of Pilot Point; eight grandchildren, Robin Brumley and husband, Walter of Big Spring, Sheri Evans and companion, Robert Schoolcraft of Denton, Kelly McCarty and husband, Rich of Houston, David Quy and wife, Beth of Austin, Jason Williams and wife, Suzanne of San Antonio, Justin Barber and wife, Amy of Newell, Iowa, Amy Trevithick and husband, Craig of Tulsa, Oklahoma and Mark Barber and wife, Sarah of Denton; 11 great-grandchildren, Emilea and Trey Brumley, Sheridan Evans, Alexis and Austin Barber, Harry and George McCarty, Hudson Williams, Carson and Caitlyn Trevithick and Anna Quy; and a niece, Shirley Cook of El Paso.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, William George and Pauline Kirpatrick Robbins; two sisters, Edwina Evans and Anna Paul Miller; and her son-in-law, Don Williams.

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

Paid obituary

Maria Enriquez

Maria Enriquez, 62, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2014, at Midland Memorial Hospital. She will lie in state Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014, from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Maria was born June 4, 1952, in Estacion de Barroteran Coahuila, Mexico to Dora Elia (Mendoza) and Marcos Rocha. She married Inocencio G. Enriquez on Sept. 16, 1975 in Quemado, Texas. They moved to Big Spring in 1981 from Eagle Pass. She was a homemaker and enjoyed time with her grandkids, gardening, cooking and watching the Dallas Cowboys. She was a Catholic.

She is survived by her husband, Inocencio G. Enriquez of Big Spring; children, Jose Reyna and wife Gina of Midland, Juan Enriquez and wife Teresa, Inocencio Enriquez and wife Amy and Rosalva Enriquez, all of Big Spring; grandchildren, Mike Enriquez and fiancé Katelyn, Marc Enriquez, Gabriel Enriquez, Adela Granados and husband Jonathan and Juan Enriquez Jr. and fiancé Jesi, all of Big Spring; great-grandchildren, Cambree Wright, Kaidan Granados and Gabriel Granados, all of Big Spring; her father, Marcus Rocha and wife Juana of Big Spring; sisters, Rosalinda Negrete and husband Francisco of Eagle Pass and Rosaura Rocha of Big Spring; brothers, Omar Castellon and wife Rosa of Idaho, Marcos Antonio Rocha, Felipe Rocha and Raul Hernandez, all of Mexico and Marcos Rocha of Big Spring; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, one sister, Maria De Rosario Rocha and a brother Juan Rocha.

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

Paid obituary

Martha L. Anderson Peugh



Martha L. Anderson Peugh, 76, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2014, at her residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with Pastor Billy Guy of Big Spring Full Gospel Fellowship Church officiating.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 2014 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch

Funeral Home.

She was born Dec. 28, 1937 in Lordsburg, N.M. and married Charles A. Peugh July 19, 1994 in Stanton, Texas. He preceded her in death Aug. 7, 2014.

Throughout her life, Martha enjoyed writing poetry and had one of her books published. She also

enjoyed playing the guitar and singing. She was a member of Big Spring Full Gospel Fellowship Church.

Survivors include two sons, Leslie Imboden and wife, Berna of Silver City, N.M. and Jim Reeves Jr. and wife, Jane of New Plymouth, Idaho; one daughter, Nola Jones of Big Spring; two sisters, Earlene Verbosh of Lordsburg, N.M. and Freda Busselle of Roswell, N.M.; one brother, Tommy Anderson of Lordsburg, N.M.; many grandsons and granddaughters; and numerous beloved nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials to Big Spring Full Gospel Fellowship Church, 309 Benton, Big Spring, Texas or to a favorite charity.

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

Police/Sheriff

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- FORREST HUNTER MCJUNKIN, 20, of 2706 Carol Dr., was arrested Thursday on a charge of inhalant paraphernalia possession.
- JOSHUA LYNN OLIVAS, 26, of 2001 N. Salem Rd. was arrested Thursday on a warrant from another agency.
- GINGER SUE MELTON, 23, of 2001 N. Salem Rd. was arrested Thursday on charges of public intoxication and criminal trespass - habitation/shelter.
- ROBERT THOMAS,

50, of P.O. Box 1653, Fritch, Texas, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.

- DEBORAH HAYS HANSON, 63, of 3103 Sherrod, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported at the 1800 block of Driver Rd. and the intersection of Sherrod Rd. and Highway 350.
- THEFT was reported at the 1300 block of E. Highway 350, the 1600 block of Gregg and the 1600 block of E. 6th St.
- BURGLARY OF A

HABITATION was reported at the 3600 block of W. Highway 80 and the 800 block of E. 13th St.

- UNWANTED SUBJECT was reported at the 700 block of E. Interstate Highway 20.
- MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported at the intersection of Wasson and Alamesa and the intersection of Birdwell and FM 700.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported at the 1600 block of Lexington Ave.
- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the 2600 block of Gregg.

The Howard County Sheriffs Office reported the following activity:

- Note: The Howard County Jail reported having 63 prisoners at the time of this report.
- RICHARD BERNARD TORINA was booked by DPS on a warrant for theft of property greater than or equal to \$20 but less than \$500.
- JOEL ESPINO JR. was booked by HCSO on a warrant for burglary of a habitation.
- ROBERT KERRY THOMAS was booked

by HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

- DEBORAH HAYS HANSON was booked by HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARTY LEE RICHTER was booked by HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- JERRY MANN II was booked by HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- KEITH HILARIO was booked by HCSO on a charge for driving while license invalid with previous conviction/suspension.

Correction

A feature on Tuesday's NIE page (Page 4) entitled "Book Fact," asks the true-false question: "Much of the imagery such as mangers, donkeys and innkeepers is never mentioned in the Bible." Its response is "true."

In fact, Luke 2: 1-20 refers to "her

firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger," as well as "Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

Thanks to a Herald reader for pointing this out.



Merry Christmas!

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Dec. 12-14
Drive Thru Nativity:
First Church of the Nazarene

Dec. 13
Big Spring Symphony
Presents
"A Symphonic Holiday"
Trinity Baptist Church

Dec. 15-31
Festival of Lights:
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Take Note

• Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is holding its annual toy drive through today. The chamber is accepting new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls ages 2-18 at 215 W. Third. The toys collected will assist CASA, Cossacks Motorcycle Club Permian Basin Chapter, the Salvation Army and Spring Tabernacle. For more information, call 432-263-7641.

• In the spirit of Christmas and as a service project, Boy Scouts Pack 305 will be helping senior citizens load packages into their cars Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

• Family Faith Center, 810 E. 11th, will hold a shoe giveaway for area children in grades pre-K through 12th from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. For more information, contact the church at 267-6001.

• Santa Claus will be making a visit to the Spring Creek Mall to spend time exclusively with area children with special needs. On Dec. 16, at 9 p.m., the mall will close and the children and their families who have registered for the free event will enjoy a visit with Santa. Parents must register their child by 3 p.m. Dec. 16. For more information call the church office at 714-4584 or Jim Billings at 270-3049 or register at any mall merchant. Refreshments will be served and there is no age limit.

• Hometown Christmas, a local organization that helps provide underprivileged children with Christmas gifts, is accepting donations immediately. The organization tries to supply eligible boys and girls with one to two toys and a set of clothes each. If you would like to donate funds, toys or clothes, bring them to Wells Fargo Bank during regular business hours. The bank is located at Fourth and Main downtown. For more information, contact Beverly Johnson at 264-8373,

• A hungry child cannot learn. Food2Kids - Big Spring was created to provide nutrition for hundreds of children who do not get a substantial meal on the weekends. F2K began last November and this volunteer program now serves more than 300 children weekly. Once the need has been identified, F2K fills a sack of food to send home each Friday during the school year. You can help. Volunteers are needed and donations can be sent to Food2Kids - Big Spring, P.O. Box 1641, Big Spring 79721. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Food2Kids

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Thursday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 270-7263.

• The Cross Roads Young Marines are taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending school.

• Crossroads Hospice is looking for volunteers. Come and be part of our team. Contact Eva at 432-263-5300.

• The Big Spring Senior Center dance is open to all ages. No alcohol or smoking. Our parking lot is now well lit, and we are handicapped-accessible. Cost is \$8 per person.

• Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to, assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours of day, 365 days a year to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies as needed. If you can commit to 30-hour training, an interview process and a background check, we need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information call at 432-263-9669.

Police suspect alcohol involved in traffic wreck

Herald Staff Report

Big Spring police suspect alcohol as a contributing factor in a two-vehicle accident that sent three people to a local hospital Thursday afternoon.

Police and emergency medical service personnel responded to the intersection of Alamesa and Wasson in reference to the accident, which occurred around 4 p.m. Thursday.

It was quickly determined that a 2007 Jaguar driven by Tammy Green had run a stop sign and collided with the 2011 GMC Terrain occupied by Uvaldo Garcia and a juvenile female. All three people were transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center, where they were treated and released.

A BSPD news release stated the investigation led officers to suspect Green was intoxicated, at which time they requested a search warrant for her blood.

"No arrests have been made at this time and officers are awaiting the results of Green's blood test from the (Department of Public Safety) Crime Lab," the release noted.

DIFFERENCE

Continued from Page 1

held from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday at Bull Dog Laundry in Sand Springs. A bank account will be set up following the event and the proj-

ect has to be completed by March 15, 2015.

While helping veteran's who have returned home with "Scars you can't see on the inside and scars you can see on the outside," has family ties for Moore, the latter project has separate

meaning.

"We kids complain that we have a headache or a stomach ache, but there are other kids who are having real pain," she said. "I want to raise money to pay for the oxygen and the tests because oxygen is

very expensive," she explained.

The Big Spring Intermediate student was nominated along with a peer by a teacher to attend the camp. While the goal for each project is set at \$2 million, Moore is more concerned with

setting a positive example for people her age.

"All kids do is play games on their phones," she said. "I think kids need to make a difference."

Bull Dog Laundry is located at 7009 N. Service Rd., Sand Springs,

next to Uncle's Convenience Store.

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

BSISD

Continued from Page 1

LLP of San Antonio to initiate contemplated litigation regarding existing facilities after meeting with representatives of the firm in another lengthy closed session. No other information about the issue was available.

In academic performance matters, Heidi Wagner, director of school improvement, presented an overview of targeted academic improvement plans for Goliad, Marcy and Washington elementaries as well as the district as a whole. All three campuses and the district received an "improvement required" designation from the Texas Education Agency. The district fell under

accredited warned status last year by TEA because of low test scores.

Wagner said each campus develops their own plan to help improve academics at the campuses aimed at ensuring all student groups meet the expectations of "being taught what they need to be taught in order to be successful on the state accountability system." One of the overlapping issues at each campus, Wagner pointed out, was the need to recruit and keep highly qualified teachers.

"One of the district's goals is lowering the number of teachers we have to hire. The district is constantly above state average in turnover," Wagner said.

To help address this issue, the district is working with a group

called Opportunity Culture Texas to help develop ways to keep and recruit high qualified teachers, Wagner said, and added they hope to implement this program by next August.

In one other issue, Wagner pointed out the district's implementation of the Watch Dog program, which is a parent involvement activity tailored toward men, has been very successful so far to recruit volunteers into the school district.

"We had over 1,125 parents, men, fathers, father figures and families that attended a kick off for this Watch Dog program," she said. "We

have 322 volunteers working in campuses. What a significant increase."

In other business, trustees

• Recognized Moss Elementary for receiving the top 25 percent progress 2014 Award determined by its academic testing results.

• Heard the annual delinquent tax report.

And approved:

• A \$1,500 donation to the Intermediate art department from Southwest Convenience Store.

• Financial reports.

• A Memorial Tree resolution to allow the planting of trees at Blakenship Field in tribute to Big Spring High School students who have died.

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

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Ramon Rivera, 88, died Monday. Funeral service were at 10 a.m. this morning at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Wynfred Hocker, 60, died Monday. He will lie in state at Myers & Smith Funeral Home all day today with a gathering from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Maria Enriquez, 62, died Wednesday. She will lie in state Saturday from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Opinion

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—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Border splurge

It sounds like the threat posed by drug cartels along the border may be hype.

If you live in Texas, your chance of being a victim of a crime is 1 in 245, according to the website, NeighborhoodScout designed for real estate agents and new homeowners.

NeighborhoodScout gets its data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Its map reflects some safe and less safe counties along the Texas border as well as all over Texas.

The general agreement is the influx of undocumented immigrants across our border has abated. Yet legislative leaders approved a plan last week to spend \$86.1 million to hire more than 600 additional Department of Public Safety troopers and to expand surveillance along the Texas borders.

To date, Texas taxpayers have spent more than \$800 million on beefed up security even though it is supposed to be a federal role, as reported by the Chronicle.

Why are lawmakers spending so much money on law enforcement along the border? Why not in, say, East Texas? Or Houston could use some money to improve the Harris County Jail.

Legislative officials claim the expenditures are necessary because of criminal activity by Mexican drug cartels. It gave us no confidence to hear from Tony Payan, director of the Mexico Center at Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy, that the term "drug cartel" is outdated and is no longer used by experts in the security field. The crime that is going on in Mexico right now is much more disorganized than the term "drug cartel" implies, according to Payan. And how does this criminal activity affect our border? "There is no evidence that there is a spill-over of violent crime," states Payan.

It sounds like the threat posed by drug cartels along the border may be hype. Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst justified the use of funds, saying the primary responsibility of government is to protect the life and liberty of its people. We agree.

But 106,476 violent crimes were committed around the state of Texas in 2012, according to NeighborhoodScout. Our lawmakers have directed an extraordinary amount of resources to one area of the state without sufficient accountability. At a minimum, elected officials should inform residents of the marginal gain for every additional dollar spent for border security, based on hard data.

Gov. Rick Perry has championed the border security surge as an example of his decisive leadership. It certainly will keep him in the spotlight as he continues a possible presidential run. The number of "drug cartels" the border security surge rounds up is more doubtful.

—THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE

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@big-springherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

DAILY PRAYER

May we always tell our children we love them, Lord, and give them a hug.

Amen

Government ineptitude, CIA-style

Anyone skeptical about entrusting ambitious tasks to the government was not stunned by the dismal rollout of the Affordable Care Act. It featured technical snafus, cost overruns and false advertising ("If you like your plan, you'll be able to keep it."). Things got so bad that President Barack Obama apologized and Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius resigned.

This epic fail occurred even though the administration had more than three years to prepare for the launch and \$840 million to spend developing the website. It was a textbook case of government bungling.

Truth be told, a rocky start should have been expected. When the government adopted a new Medicare program covering prescription drugs in 2005, after all, it encountered similar problems.

Faced with the conflicting claims about the CIA's use of "enhanced interrogation" methods on suspected terrorists, most of us have neither the time nor the expertise to sift through all the evidence to make a definitive judgment. But here's a useful exercise: Imagine that in the aftermath of 9/11, the person in charge of the CIA was Kathleen Sebelius.

Why would we expect the spy agency to do a more honest or effective job in getting information from detainees than HHS did in handling health insurance customers? The assumption among the Bush administration's defenders is that our intelligence community is made up of star performers with peerless skills and impeccable judgment. But it's not clear the CIA workforce is appreciably different

from the rest of the Washington bureaucracy.

The Senate Intelligence Committee report indicates it isn't. It says the agency couldn't keep track of how many detainees it had in custody and then lied to cover its failure. Some 26 captives were "wrongfully held."

The committee found the CIA "placed individuals with no applicable experience or training in senior detention and interrogation roles, and provided inadequate linguistic and analytical support to conduct effective questioning."

It quoted one senior official who complained that "managers seem to be selecting either problem, underperforming officers, new, totally inexperienced officers, or whomever seems to be willing and able to deploy at any given time." The result, the official said, was "useless intelligence."

No one should be slack-jawed to learn that the people in charge didn't bother to assess whether they were doing a good job in protecting the nation from terrorism. They took that on faith. They placed complete confidence in their own motives and skill.

"The CIA never conducted a credible, comprehensive analysis of the effectiveness of its enhanced interrogation techniques," said the committee. "There are no CIA records to indicate that any of the reviews independently validated the 'effectiveness' claims presented by the CIA. To include the basic confirmation that the intelligence cited by the CIA was acquired from CIA detainees during or after the use of the CIA's enhanced interrogation techniques."

Conflicting evidence was ignored. It was easier for agency leaders to believe their own propaganda and squelch dissent in the ranks. "The CIA marginalized and ignored numerous internal critiques, criticisms and objections," concluded the senators.

All of this is in keeping with a

long list of government failures. The people who presided over the torture program were the same people who invaded Iraq expecting to be showered with daffodils.

They were also the same people who oversaw the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) when Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans. On that matter, a Republican-dominated special House committee was scathing in its judgment.

"It remains difficult to understand how government could respond so ineffectively to a disaster that was anticipated for years, and for which specific dire warnings had been issued for days," the committee said. "This crisis was not only predictable, it was predicted." That failure compounded the government's sloppy construction and maintenance of the levees that were supposed to protect the city.

The 9/11 attack, by contrast, was not anticipated, and the CIA was not prepared to gather intelligence from thousands of captured foreigners believed to be fighting on behalf of al-Qaida or the Taliban. The United States had signed an international treaty renouncing the use of torture.

So the agency found itself rapidly putting into practice methods with which it had no experience or expertise, on disputable legal grounds. In responding to the 9/11 attack, it botched its responsibility, abused its powers, concealed its failures and exaggerated its achievements.

Wow. Who could have seen that coming?

Steve Chapman blogs daily at newsblogs.chicagotribune.com/steve_chapman. To find out more about Steve Chapman, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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Rape, reporting and regret

If your mother says she loves you, check it out.

That's what we were told; that's what we were taught. City News Bureau of Chicago, my first job. Gritty stuff. Police, courts, fires, "floaters" found in the Chicago River, stuff you went to. You talked to people; you got the facts.

They used to call it reporting.

There is a story now raging about a University of Virginia student who says she was gang raped by seven men in a fraternity there Sept. 28, 2012.

The woman, identified only as "Jackie," says she was taken to a room at the fraternity and thrown on the floor, breaking a glass table in the process, which cut her arm. The men then pinned her down on the broken glass, raped her in succession and left her bleeding between the legs.

She knew two of the attackers, including the guy who had lured her to the fraternity. She got out of the place, her dress now blood-spattered. She did not go to a hospital or call the police.

She called friends, who met her and, she says, talked her out of contacting authorities because of "the social price" they might all pay. In other words, they might be shunned and not get invited to any more fraternity parties.

Rolling Stone broke this story last month in a 9,000-word article, by Sabrina Rubin Erdely. It got huge attention. Campus rape is an extremely serious problem throughout the United States, and Jackie's story personalized it and made it human in horrendous detail.

But how much of it is true? Not all of it, according to stories recently published in The Washington Post, which found evidence that conflicts with Jackie's account.

At least one friend who saw Jackie after the incident disputes her account, saying he did not see any injuries to her or blood on her dress. He also says that she did not claim to have been raped but that she said she had been forced to perform oral sex. The group of friends urged her to seek help, but she wanted to return to her dorm, where the group spent the night comforting her.

Forced oral sex is a hideous crime. But under Virginia law, it is different from rape, which Virginia defines as forced "sexual intercourse," though conviction of either crime includes the possibility of incarceration for life.

But which story is true? Or is either true? Studies have found that false accusations of rape are rare, but they do exist.

At first, Rolling Stone stood by its story. Now it has backed away.

"In the face of new information ... there now appear to be discrepancies in Jackie's account," Will Dana, the magazine's managing editor, wrote. "We have come to the conclusion that our trust in her was misplaced."

That caused another explosion. The magazine was throwing Jackie under the bus. It was all her fault.

The outrage caused Dana to change his note to: "These mistakes are on Rolling Stone, not on Jackie."

But Dana also wrote: "Because of the sensitive nature of Jackie's story, we decided to honor her request not to contact the man who she claimed orchestrated the attack on her nor any

of the men who she claimed participated in the attack for fear of retaliation against her."

Oh, brother. You don't check out both sides of a story because one side doesn't want you to? I don't know what that is called, but it sure isn't reporting.

Which brings us to another old saying told to reporters, one less publicized: You can always ruin a good story by asking too many questions.

Get both sides of a story and the story might fall apart. So why get both sides?

Later, Rolling Stone said it had tried to find the attackers but said, "We did not talk to them. We could not reach them."

But it went ahead with the story anyway.

Jackie asked Erdely "to be taken out of the article" before it appeared, according to The Washington Post.

"She said Erdely refused, and Jackie was told that the article would go forward regardless," the Post reported.

What? Your main source says she no longer wants to appear in the story, and instead of hearing alarm bells, you refuse and muscle her into it?

That's not reporting. It's something. But it's not reporting.

Rolling Stone is now investigating its story, as are the University of Virginia and the Charlottesville, Virginia, police.

The Washington Post's T. Rees Shapiro has done excellent reporting on this incident. Real gumshoe stuff, the kind of reporting Rolling Stone could have done but didn't. The Post's Paul Farhi also has done excellent analysis, raising questions and issues that Rolling Stone turned a blind eye to.

The Post talked to Jackie several times. She sticks to her

See **SIMON**, Page 5



STEVE
CHAPMAN



ROGER
SIMON

► Church News



First Church of the Nazarene

At First Church of the Nazarene, we invite you to discover the true meaning of Christmas. We hope you will visit us at the annual Drive Through Nativity this Friday through Sunday from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Join us on Sunday also as we continue celebrate the advent season. Also will be doing ...

Ladies Christmas Brunch and Ornament Exchange, Dec. 20 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bring and dish to share and an ornament to exchange.

Christmas caroling at the Festival of Lights Dec. 19 from 7-8 p.m. All are welcome to participate.

You are also welcome to join us for all of our other services and classes:

Sunday morning youth, adult and children's classes at 9 a.m. throughout the campus.

Sunday service begins at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary with Children's Church also at 10 in the fellowship hall. Sunday evening youth activities are Sunday at 6:30 pm.

Wednesday night we have church supper, followed by a prayer meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary while children and youth classes are in other classrooms.

Unable to come to church on Sunday morning? Listen to KBST 95.7 at 10 am and you can hear a live broadcast of our service. You can also view

streaming footage inside the sanctuary by going to our webpage at www.nazfamily.org

We are located at 1400 Lancaster. Contact the church office at 432-267-7015. We are also on Facebook and Twitter.

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

The Children's Music Program, which ordinarily meets Wednesday afternoon, will be suspended until Jan. 7.

Wednesday, Dec. 17, the children, youth and anyone else who would like to sing will meet at 4:15 at the church to go caroling.

The Lectionary Bible study, led by the Rev. Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, meets at 5:17 p.m. and the Chancel Choir rehearsal is at 6 p.m. Neither will meet Dec. 24 since we are having our Christmas Eve communion service at 6 p.m.

The regular youth group meetings will resume the second week of January. However, this Sunday evening, Dec. 14, at 6 p.m. there will be a special Youth Christmas Dinner in the fellowship hall.

The Session will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, in the church library for the regular monthly meeting.

This Sunday, we will have our Advent/Christmas Music Service. All of our various choirs will be singing or

playing in that service.

Sue Carter is in charge of Take Ten this Sunday

The lectionary for the Third Sunday of Advent is Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28. Rev. Craig Holstedt, who has been in the hospital this week, will not deliver a sermon; the message will be presented in music by the Chancel Choir, the Children's Choir, the Men's Chorus, the Women's Chorus, and the Youth Handbell Choir. The choir will present anthems "People, Look East" by Tom Mitchell, "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly," a Polish carol, and "Shout the Glad Tidings" by Paul Thomas. Mike Mitchell, organist and Chancel Choir director, and Susan Dawes, Children, Youth, and Handbell director, offer this service of music.

Our worship service begins at 10:50 a.m. for announcements and parish concerns before our radio broadcast starts at 11.

If you cannot attend worship, listen in on KBST 1490 AM., beginning at 11 a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, please call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website: www.fpcbs.org. On our website, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by the Craig Holstedt. We would be pleased for you to Like us on Facebook.

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Sunday service begins at 9 a.m. with Bible study and Sunday school at 10:15 a.m. If you are new to the area or haven't been to church before or in a while, accept this as an invitation to join us this Sunday. The adult class began a new Bible study. We are studying the books "James & Jude." The youth are studying "120 Bible Stories."

Bobby Roever will present the scripture readings this week.

Pastor Andrew Bartholomew's sermon is based on Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11.

Everyone is invited to attend Wednesday night Bible study. A meal is served from 5:30- 6:30. Classes begin at 6. The Bible study will resume Jan. 7. The meal will be soup for the

Advent season.

Our Advent services will be held on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. The series is titled, "John the Baptist Testifies About The Messiah.. Come join us.

Tune in to KBYG every morning for a devotional sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Tune in to 106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 and 6:50 each morning for these wonderful devotions: "Morning Meditation Thoughts..

Spring Creek Fellowship

"Chicks at the Creek," our ladies group, will be celebrating the holidays with a "Christmas Shindig" on Saturday, from 2-4 p.m. at the church. Ladies of all ages are invited. Bring your favorite holiday treat and an ornament to exchange. To make it a more fun, dress up as your favorite Christmas song.

Do you know of a special needs child who would like to meet Santa? Santa has set aside a special time for these special children on Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 9 p.m. (after the mall closes) at Spring Creek Plaza. Each child and all family attending with them will need to be registered ahead of time to participate so that we can be sure to have plenty of refreshments for everyone. Parents can go to any mall merchant and leave their name and number of people attending with them. Parents may also contact the church office or visit our website and contact us by clicking the "Contact Us" tab.

We will be celebrating Christmas with our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. at the church. Join us.

A news session of "Grief Share," a grief support group, will begin Sunday, Jan. 7 from 4-6 p.m. Anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one is encouraged to attend. The number of classes will depend on the number of people who sign up. For more on "Grief Share," visit www.griefshare.org or contact the office.

"Sowing Seeds of Hope" fiber crafts and prayer shawl ministry meets at the church Saturdays at 10. If you are interested in learning a fiber craft (crochet, knitting, weaving, felting, etc.) or have projects you would like to share or just to have some fellowship while crafting, come join us.

You can listen to the sermon from the previous Sunday at 9 every Sunday morning on KBYG 106.3 FM

See **CHURCH NEWS**, Page 7

SIMON

Continued from Page 1

basic story, though admits some details may be wrong. Erdely at first refused to talk to the Post but then later did, saying that she "corroborated every aspect of the story" that she could.

Except that Erdely didn't talk to any of the alleged attackers or find any of the discrepancies the Post found.

Jackie says she feels manipulated by Rolling Stone. And many people across the country are very worried that wom-

en who have been raped and assaulted may now be even less willing to go to authorities and press charges.

But Rolling Stone had a blockbuster and went with it. The reporters and editors didn't ask too many questions — because they had too good a story. And now that blockbuster has landed on their heads and they are trying to squirm out from under.

If your mother says she loves you, check it out. Because if you don't, somebody else will.

Roger Simon is Po-

litico's chief political columnist. 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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Galatians 2:20

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Love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that his love has not been perfected in us.
1 John 4:18

The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. I will satisfy them with a long life and give them my salvation."
Psalm 91: 14-16

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Rejoice, you people of Jerusalem! Rejoice in the Lord your God! For the rains he sends are an expression of his grace. Once more the autumn rains will come, as well as the rains of spring.
(Joel 2:23)

God's love supply is never empty. "For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth."
(Psalm 103:11)

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CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 5

and 1400 AM.

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, contact the church office or visit our website.

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the College Park Shopping Center at 501 Birdwell Lane in Big Spring, Texas. Contact us at 432-714-4584 or visit our website at www.springcreekfellowship.org

Forsan Baptist Church

This Sunday morning, Brandon Gartman will be bringing our message.

Our children's Christmas program will take place on Dec. 21 during normal morning worship. We will also have a Sunday brunch instead of Sunday school that morning, beginning at 10 a.m. Our candlelight service will take place at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve, where we will also observe Lord's Supper.

On Wednesday evenings we are currently involved in a Bible study in the Book of Exodus, tracing back the elements of God's plan that got us to this point in history. Sunday evenings we are doing an Inquiry Study based upon open questions about the Bible. Anyone who wishes to ask a question about the Bible or Christianity is welcome to chime in. These questions will be addressed through Scripture and can be emailed, called in, asked in person, or sent via Facebook message from our church page. You can even text them to the number at the bottom of this article.

Our church is located at 201 Main in Forsan. Sunday School begins at 9:50, with worship services at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday services begin at 6. Rides for all youth activities are available if arranged ahead of time. Call the church at 432-457-2342 or Pastor Darren Weaver at 432-213-2348.

Birdwell Lane Church of Christ

We are located at the southwest corner of 11th Place and Birdwell Lane. We invite you to join us to study God's word and worship Him.

- Sunday:
- Bible Study - 9 a.m.
- Worship - 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Wednesday:
- Ladies Class - 9:30 a.m.
- Bible study and devotions - 7 p.m.

First United Methodist Church

First United Methodist Church is at the corner of Fourth and Scurry in downtown Big Spring. Services are held each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. The 10:50 a.m. service is broadcast live each week on radio station KXCS-105.5 FM.

During the 8:30 worship service this Sunday, Pastor Ivins is continuing a message series entitled "The Sounds of Christmas." Sunday's message will explore the theme song to the 1966 animated TV cartoon, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." The message itself is entitled "Redeeming the Grinch" and is taken from Colossians 1:15-23.

During the 10:50 worship service, our Children's Ministry will present its annual Christmas Pageant, which is entitled "Just a Little Christmas." Under the direction of our Children's Minister, Becky Woodall, the pageant will feature a cast of more than 30 children.

At noon Sunday, our

Youth Ministry will be hosting the congregation for a festive Christmas luncheon in Garrett Hall. The meal is a fundraiser for the various youth ministry activities throughout the year.

Wednesday Noon Bible Study includes a meal each week for a small fee. Pastor Bill Ivins will continue a study in the Book of Acts. Noon Bible Study meets each week in Garrett Hall.

Wednesday Night Live kicks off at 5:30 with supper in Garrett Hall. At 6, children, youth and adults go to their separate classes. Pastor Ivins also leads a prayer meeting at 6.

This Wednesday night, our youth ministry will be distributing food boxes to various needy families in Big Spring. Our youth have been collecting food from members of the congregation for the last several weeks.

Our children's ministry will also be heading out on Wednesday night at 6 for Christmas caroling at the Veteran's Administration Medical Center, as well as other locations.

The Celebration Choir rehearses each Wednesday night at 7 in the Music Suite on the second floor. The Celebration Choir is under the direction of Gershon Garcia.

Make plans to attend the annual Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service at 5 p.m. on Dec. 24. One of the highlights of the Christmas season, the service will include lots of beautiful music and a message by Pastor Ivins.

First Baptist Church

Sunday morning at 10:45, come celebrate the reason for the season with us as we thank God for the wonderful gift of Jesus Christ. The Sanctuary Choir will lead the congregation in singing the songs of Christmas while our Drama Ministry interprets the nativity story. Pastor Mark Lindsey will bring the message titled "Prince of Peace." Drawn from Isaiah 9:6, we will ponder this name given to Jesus which emphasizes the truth that because of Christ's sacrifice, we are restored to a relationship of peace with God.

At 9:30, Sunday school classes for all ages gather throughout the church; greeters are happy to assist you in finding your class. Come early for coffee and fellowship.

Sunday from 2-4 p.m. in the church parlor, join our church family as we honor Mrs. Betty Downey for her 30 years of service as FBC pianist.

At 5:30, AWANA will enjoy their Christmas party and store night. They will not meet again until Jan. 11.

Evening worship service starts at 6. Also at 6, teens gather for their Christmas party at the Evans home. Wear an ugly Christmas sweater and bring a gag gift of 5 dollars or less. Bring a friend for a fun time of great fellowship and food. Call Jonathan at 270-8332 for location details.

Upward Basketball season has begun and practices are being held in

God is our fortress

Psalm 46

There are times in our lives when it seems the whole

world is against us. The old saying, "When it rains, it pours,"

would perfectly describe our situation at these moments. David had experienced some amazing highs in his life, but

had also been through tremendous lows as well. Psalm 46 is a great reminder to us of God's protection, God's provision, and God's power.

God is our refuge and strength. Where do you go when troubles arise. In the central United States, when the storm sirens sound, it means

there are severe storms and possibly a tornado heading your way. You know you need to find shelter right away whether in a cellar, a safe-room, or a closet in the middle of your house. God provides that type of protection for those who trust in Him. Proverbs 18:10, The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe. No matter what is going on around us and no matter what people may do to us, God is there to help. He is a very present help in trouble. That means He is right here, right now! Hebrews 13:6, So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

Just like a river provides life to an area, God makes provision for His people. The city of God, Jerusalem, and Mount Zion, where the tabernacle stood and later the temple would be built, are a type and a foreshadow of the New Testament Church. God was in the presence of His people within the Most Holy Place. God is in the presence of His people today within

the body of Christ, the church. God has provided all that we need spiritually through His Son. Ephesians 1:3, Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Finally, we need to be reminded of God's power. God created, from nothing, the entire universe by speaking it into existence. The awesome power of God destroyed everything on the earth (except those on the ark) by the flood. By the power of God, nations have been built up and brought down. Our God truly is all-powerful and almighty. It is a comforting thought that God will use His power for the protection and the provision of His people. When your life is hectic and troubles are surrounding you on all sides, God says, "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" Amen!

Greg Surles is the pastor at Birdwell Lane Church of Christ.



GREG SURLES

preparation for games beginning Jan. 1. Call 267-8223 for more.

Thursday, Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m., our Mother's Day Out Department will present their Christmas program, The Mother's Day Out Department will then be closed until after the holidays.

Our Christmas Eve candlelight service begins at 6 p.m. Dec. 24. We will worship the Lord with the observance of the Lord's Supper and offer praise and thanksgiving for the coming of the Messiah who takes away the sins of the world.

Wednesday evenings' schedule begins with a meal served from 5-6 in the Family Life Center, followed by activities for all age groups. Go to fbcbigspring.org or call 267-8223 for details.

If you are in need of encouragement or wonder if God truly does care about you, stop by the church and someone will be glad to listen, pray with you, and share with you about the assurance of God's great love for you that is

evidenced by the gift of Jesus Christ. First Baptist Church is located at 705 W. FM 700. There is always a place for you at First Baptist Church.

Blessed Hands Deaf Church

We invite you to worship with us Sunday at 10:50 a.m. or 2 p.m. as we gather in honor of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with us as we focus on God's immeasurable gift of love and salvation that came to this world through a manger in Bethlehem. Sunday's worship services are held inside First Baptist Church at 705 W. FM 700. Wednesday evening at 6, we meet at SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf for Bible study and fellowship.

Contact Pastor Jim Walterhouse at jwalterhouse@gmail.com for more information about Blessed Hands

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 8

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News in brief

Senate to take up big \$1.1T spending bill, which passed House after White House rescue effort

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's now up to the Senate to pass a huge \$1.1 trillion spending bill to keep the government running, but not before a battle between old school veterans and new breed freshmen such as tea partier Ted Cruz and Elizabeth Warren, a liberal with a national following.

The smart money's on old school types such as Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and GOP Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky.

The measure passed the House on Thursday after a day of drama but by a relatively comfortable 219-206 vote. The vote came after GOP leaders sent the House into a seven-hour recess to give the White House time to lobby Democrats angry that the measure weakens rules on trading risky financial products known as derivatives and allows wealthy donors to pour hundreds of thousands of dollars into political parties.

In the end, 57 House Democrats voted for the bill, including two of the party's top three leaders. Democrats argued that there was too much good in the bill to scuttle it and get a worse deal next year when Republicans seize control of the Senate.

"Hold your nose and make this a better world," Rep. Sam Farr, D-Calif., said.

In battle over torture report, senator and CIA chief renew their history of bitter spats

WASHINGTON (AP) — Their disputes over who spied on whom and censoring the Senate's scathing torture report are history. But the personal feud between Sen. Dianne Feinstein and CIA Director John Brennan may only be getting worse.

Relations between the outgoing Senate Intelligence Committee chairwoman and America's top spy appeared to hit a new low Thursday as Feinstein live-tweeted comments contradicting Brennan as he publicly addressed her panel's sweeping allegations of CIA wrongdoing. While Feinstein later

praised Brennan for accepting many of her inquiry's conclusions, the damage was done.

"(hash)ReadTheReport" was the refrain from Feinstein as Brennan held a rare news conference at CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia. She berated the CIA chief for suggesting, contrary to her report, that the agency's "enhanced interrogation techniques" were legal and may have helped lead to the killing of Osama bin Laden.

Brennan acknowledged CIA officers did "abhorrent" things and were unprepared to run a detention program after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Yet he was hardly praiseworthy of Feinstein and fellow Democrats, calling it "lamentable" they interviewed no CIA personnel to ask, "What were you thinking?" He called the investigation "flawed."

For the two main protagonists in this week's drama, bickering is nothing new.

Black sororities, fraternities take differing approaches to members for Brown, Garner protests

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Recent protests against the police killings of Eric Garner and Michael Brown have created a conundrum for the nation's black fraternities and sororities: to remain relevant in the black community they need to be involved, but protect their reputations if demonstrations go awry.

The competing pressures were exemplified last weekend when black Greek members and alumni participated in lay down protests across the country and two sororities asked their members not to wear their letters during the demonstrations so as not to embarrass them.

Many of the nine historically Black Greek organizations — known collectively as "The Divine Nine" — were born out of the nation's racial conflict.

Founded on college campuses in the early 1900s when black students faced racial prejudice and exclusion that barred them from already existing fraternities and sororities, a century later they are wrestling with their role in the most recent protests.

There was a time when the black Greek organizations were in the forefront of the civil rights struggles, but those days have faded into memory, said Gregory Parks, an assistant professor at the Wake Forest University School of Law and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

"These organizations, whether you're talking about the fraternities or sororities, do indeed have a direct or indirect impact on African-Americans' quest for social equality throughout the 20th century," Parks said. But recently "these organizations' voices have been absent in assertive fashion around racial justice and social equality."

'Pineapple Express' sweeps into Southern California after powerful wind, rain pound the north

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A dangerous storm that flooded Northern California freeways, kept thousands from work and school, and forced scores of evacuations moved into the southern part of the state, spreading light showers in the Los Angeles area that will intensify as Friday progresses.

Rain began falling on parts of the San Fernando Valley late Thursday night, and powerful winds that were pushing the storm southward caused power outages for thousands around Santa Barbara and other parts of the coast.

Precautionary evacuations brought on by fear of mudslides began at 10 p.m. in the Los Angeles suburb of Glendora, where the foothills were stripped bare by a major wildfire earlier this year.

Forecasters predicted winds would pick up speed as the storm moved further south.

Denise George, who sells boats in Marina Del Rey, said that was her main worry.

After nearly 9 years in office, Netanyahu faces a slew of challengers who want him gone

JERUSALEM (AP) — With elections on the horizon, the greatest obstacle standing between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and a return to high office could be Netanyahu himself.

A slew of challengers, including some of his traditional supporters, are taking aim at the longtime Israeli leader, saying that after nearly nine years in office, it is time for a new face at the top. Although opinion polls still make Netanyahu the front-runner, "Bibi fatigue" is shaping up to be a key issue during the upcoming three-month campaign.

His approval numbers are dropping fast and, for the first time, a newly formed opposition alliance is inching past his Likud party in the polls as the largest parliamentary faction. While that does not guarantee an opposition victory, it is cause for concern for the longtime Israeli leader.

"There is definitely a sense that people want to see a change," Danny Danon, a Likud lawmaker who is running against Netanyahu internally, told The Associated Press.

"I hear these voices and I am trou-

bled by the next elections and the coalition that could follow."

When Netanyahu dissolved his unwieldy coalition and called new elections last week, he appeared to be a lock for re-election, thanks to his unrivaled experience and a dearth of challengers. He seemed such a sure bet that his move was seen as a tactical decision to guarantee himself a fourth term.

End of a railway romance: Sleeper trains linking Berlin, Paris fall victim to budget flights

BERLIN (AP) — Commuters jostle on and off their gleaming high-speed trains at Berlin's main railway station on a cold December morning, but one platform stays stubbornly empty. Finally, a grimy engine draws in, pulling carriages that look like they saw their best days in the 1980s.

It's the sleeper train from Paris, 20 minutes late. But none of the dozen passengers who tumble out with heavy bags and rucksacks seems to mind. It's the last stop on a long journey, much as it will soon be for the train itself.

German railway company Deutsche Bahn is ending the sleeper service between Paris and Berlin this week, citing unsustainable losses. The service has been running since before World War II, and used to go all the way to Moscow.

Fierce competition from budget airlines has lured passengers away from night trains that were once a mainstay of cross-border travel in Europe, explains Deutsche Bahn spokeswoman Susanne Schulz.

"Demand has dropped by 30 percent over the past decade because of the sinking cost of airline tickets," Schulz told The Associated Press.

Traffic in Hong Kong business district resumes after police demolish pro-democracy protest


HONG KONG (AP) — Traffic was back to normal Friday in Hong Kong's financial district after authorities demolished a protest camp at the heart of the city's 2½-month pro-democracy movement.

Hundreds of police officers, some armed with chain saws and bolt cutters, on Thursday methodically dismantled barricades, tore down canopies and removed banners in a daylong operation to shut the protest site sprawled across a normally busy highway.

Police said 249 people were arrested for unlawful assembly and obstructing police officers, bringing the total number of those detained since the movement began 75 days earlier to about 900.

There were no violent clashes seen in previous confrontations. The student-led protesters had occupied streets in the Admiralty neighborhood and two other areas since Sept. 28 to protest Beijing's restrictions on the first election of the city's top leader.

"It's now convenient for everybody, but I also feel very unfortunate that we can't argue with the government," said Ngai Tsui-kuen, a courier.




Letters to Santa!

Deadline For Letters is
**Friday,
December 12, 2014**

Letters will be published in
the Letters to Santa Special on
**Sunday,
December 21, 2014**

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The Wills family photo

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 7

Deaf Church. Come hear from God with us this Sunday.

East Side Baptist Church

You will find a real treat Saturday evening at 7 as we present The Wills Family in concert.

The Wills family, from Fort Worth,

has been singing gospel music for many years. This particular part of the family, The Bobby Lee Wills Family, will certainly bless anyone who comes to hear them. Bobby writes most of their music and for many gospel groups around the nation.

These folks are going to be with us in church Sunday at the 9:45 and 10:45 a.m. service. You will find a warm welcome at any of our services.

Please come and join us and enjoy some of the best gospel music mixed with some great Christmas Songs.

MATCH THE SANTA TO HIS WORKSHOP!!



1



2



3



4



5



6

This entry form must be received by Tuesday, December 16 at 5 p.m. Drop off your form at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry St. The winner will be the one who correctly matches the most Santas to his business/workshop. There will be 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners. Gift certificates will be given away to use at the participating businesses. Winners will be announced in the Friday, December 19th Edition of the Big Spring Herald!

All decisions are final at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald

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Area tournaments ring in hoop action

Steers, Bulldogs claim wins in first-round games

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The December tournament rush got off to a great start for the Big Spring Steers and Coahoma Bulldogs on Thursday at their respective tournaments.

Big Spring managed to punch its way into the semifinal round of the Gym Bice Classic in Andrews with an impressive outing against Midland Greenwood. Big Spring, backed by solid outings from Ty Sealy and Tyler Bryan, posted a 50-33 victory over the Rangers.

With the win, the Steers moved into a second round showdown with Kermit this morning, starting at 9:30 a.m.

The mood wasn't as festive for the Grady Wildcats. The seventh-ranked GHS squad suffered a pair of losses in

Thursday's first-day action in Andrews, falling to Andrews, 65-62, and to Lamesa, 59-42.

Grady is scheduled to play Greenwood today, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

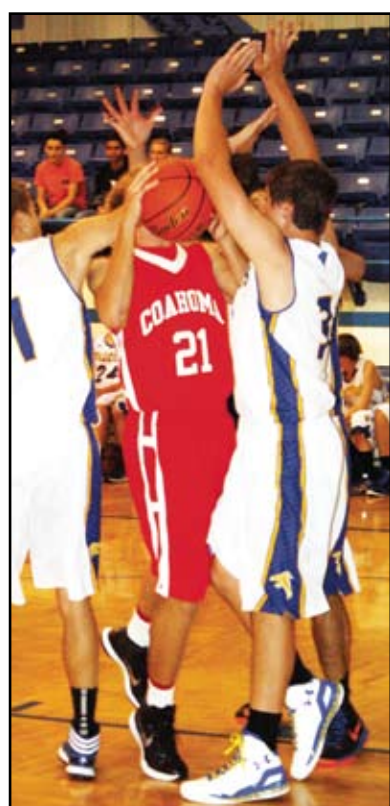
Coahoma picked up a clutch win on Thursday in the first round of the Hooptown Classic in Stanton. The Bulldogs rode the hot hand of Braxton Iden and Kyler Franks to a 44-43 victory over Clyde.

With the victory, Coahoma earned a berth in the semifinals today against rival Stanton.

Stanton won its first-round game by a 34-24 margin over Grape Creek.

The other semifinal game in Stanton will also have a local flavor to it as Sands punched out a spot with a 65-59 win over Colorado City.

Stanton will play Frenship JV at 4:30 p.m.



File photo/Tommy Wells
The Coahoma Bulldogs advanced to the semifinals of the Hooptown Classic in Stanton with a 44-43 win over Clyde on Thursday.

Lady Steers drop opener at Kristen Corbin Classic

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Shallowater Fillies hit almost every thing they threw up on Thursday afternoon and rolled to a 66-38 victory over the Big Spring Lady Steers in the first round of the Kristen Corbin Classic in Andrews.

Despite the loss, Big Spring picked up solid play from several players, including seniors Julianna Rodriguez and Jackieann Rodriquez.

With the loss, the Lady Steers dropped into the consolation semifinal round to face off with Amarillo Caprock. The game is scheduled to tip off at 2 p.m.

While Big Spring was struggling to get its offense going in Day 1 action, the Grady Lady Wildcats managed to scratch out just enough offense to get

a first-round win. The Lady Wildcats staged a solid second-half run and claimed a 36-34 win over Caprock.

Grady will now advance to face Andrews.

The first round of the Hooptown Classic in Stanton didn't go Coahoma's way. The Lady Bulldogs dropped their opening round matchup with Snyder, falling 53-44.

The loss pushed the Bulldogettes into a consolation semifinal matchup with Grape Creek, starting at noon today.

The Stanton Lady Buffaloes were the only local team coming up with a win in the first round of the girls' Hooptown bracket. Stanton punched its ticket to the semifinals with a 74-28 rout of Grape Creek on Thursday.

Stanton will face Snyder in the semifinals at 6 p.m.

Buffaloes fall in Sterling City opener, 53-50

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Forsan High School Buffaloes got off to anything but the start they wanted at the 2014 Sterling City Basketball Tournament.

The Buffaloes, despite getting double-digit performances from two players, made just eight of their 18 shots from the free throw line and suffered a tough 53-50 loss to Sterling City on Thursday.

With the loss, Forsan dropped to 0-1 in the four-team round-robin event, which runs through Saturday. The Buffaloes will now face off against Robert Lee, beginning at 5 p.m. this afternoon.

Sterling City, backed by the play of Kaleb Davis, got off to a quick start against FHS. The Eagles knocked down a shot late in the first quarter and took a 10-9

cushion.

The Buffaloes answered the second. Forsan reeled off a 12-11 run in the frame and managed to send the game into the half knotted at 21-21.

Davis and the Eagles reigned the upper hand in the first eight minutes of the second half. They outscored Forsan by a 16-12 clip in the third and took a slim 37-34 advantage into the fourth.

Davis finished the contest with a game-high 24 points.

Forsan managed to score 17 points in the fourth quarter but came up just short at the end.

Garrett Evans and Walker Park paced the FHS offensive attack. Both finished the game with 13 points.

Ian Park and Dalton Ogle also played well for the Buffaloes, netting five points apiece. Jacob Valdez and Trevor Williams added four each.

Klondike tourney starts today

The 2014 Klondike Cougar Basketball Classic will get under way today with seven games. Teams

competing include Wellman, Southland, Pecos, Klondike, Water Valley and Sterling City.



Herald photo/Tommy Wells

Autumn Minter (second from left) and the BSHS Lady Steers will begin their 2014 track and field season on Feb. 27 with a trip to Hamlin for the Long Sleeve Relays.

Lady Steers to begin track in Feb.

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Big Spring High School Lady Steers will open a new era in track and field action in February when they make their debut under new head coach Kelly Ritchey.

Ritchey, who served as an assistant track coach last year, will be taking over the head coaching duties vacated by Nick Roberson, who stepped

down at the end of last school year to pursue other opportunities.

Big Spring, a perennial state power in track, will open the 2015 season on Feb. 27 when it competes in the Long Sleeve Relays in Hamlin.

From there, the BSHS girls will travel to Monahans on March 6 to run in the Sandhills Relays before returning home on March 13 to host the annual Big Spring Relays.

The BSHS girls, who will be led by several state meet candidates including Erin Pollard and Autumn Minter, will close out their regular season with trips to the San Angelo Relays on March 27 and Levelland Invitational on April 3. The District 2-4A Track and Field Championships will be held in Levelland on April 14-16.

The Class 4A state meet is set for May 15-16 in Austin.

Moore splashed her way to strong outing at Pecos meet

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Ashlee Moore might have been an unknown swimmer when she walked into the Pecos Aquatics Club meet last weekend, but everyone certainly knew who the Big Spring Hurricane standout was when she left.

A 9-year-old member of the YMCA swim team, Moore swam her way to five top 10 finishes at the PAC-IMR Pentathlon

last Saturday.

"She did well," said Hurricanes swim coach Randall Shaw said. "She achieved three B standard times, which is very hard to do."

Moore began her competition by swimming to a seventh-place finish in the 9-10 girls' 100-yard Freestyle race. She posted a time of 1 minute and 29.80 seconds.

She came back later in the meet to finish sixth in the 50-yard Backstroke and 50-yard

Butterfly races. In the 50-yard backstroke race, she posted a mark of 49.60 seconds. Her time in the 50-yard Butterfly almost mirrored that time as she swam to a time of 49.65.

Moore also finished sixth in the 100 IM race with a time of 1:42.34.

She saved her best finish for the 50-yard Breaststroke competition. She splashed her way to a fifth-place mark in the event, finishing with a time of 52.73 seconds.



Photo courtesy Cindy Smith

Taking a break ...

The Howard College Lady Hawks will end the holiday break on Dec. 29 when they travel to Arizona for three games. They will return to WJAC action on Jan. 3 by hosting South Plains.

Lady Buffs win opener in Borden

Kendall Phillips pumped in 12 points and Mary-Ashley McDaniel and Kaylee Kemper both contributed 11 more on Thursday and powered the Forsan Lady Buffaloes to a strong start at the annual Borden County Invitational Basketball Tournament in Gail.

The Lady Buffaloes posted a 48-37 victory over Roby in the first round of the three-day event, which will run through Saturday.

Forsan will face off against Spur this evening, starting at 6 p.m., in the second-round of the 10-team girls' bracket.

Cheerleaders' volleyball tourney set to begin

The Big Spring High School cheerleaders will be holding a volleyball tournament on Dec. 12-13.

The tournament will start at 6 p.m. in Dec. 12.

All funds generated by the tournament will go towards helping the

cheerleaders cover the costs of their upcoming trip to the national cheerleading competition in January.

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YARD SALE Saturday From 8 to 3 at 1300 Kindle I Will Have a 4 Burner Stove, a Washer and Dryer, and Exercise Equipment and Lots of Other Misc. Stuff They Can Also Call Me @ 816-2563

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Citizens FCU is Now Hiring for the following Full-Time positions:

* **Membership Services Representative**
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Big Spring, TX 79720

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COUNTER & SALES person needed for local Furniture and Appliance Store. Bilingual and outgoing personality a plus. All inquiries are to be made in person at 1611 South Gregg, Big Spring. Starting pay \$10.50 a hour.

CREW LEADERS and Crew Techs - Will Train. Vacation and Holiday Pay with opportunity for Advancement. 40+ hours/wk. Apply @ Blast Masters 1711 E Hwy 350

CROSSROADS HOSPICE is hiring for a Marketer in the Big Spring & surrounding areas. Bilingual a plus. Come by 421 Main St or fax resume to 432.263.5304 Attn: Debbie Read (EOE)

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HELP WANTED: We Are Accepting Resumes For Our Busy Urgent Care Clinic For The Following Positions: Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, X-ray Technician (For Weekends Only), LVN and MA. Please E-mail Your Resume To affordacare_bigspring@yahoo.com. No Phone Calls Please!

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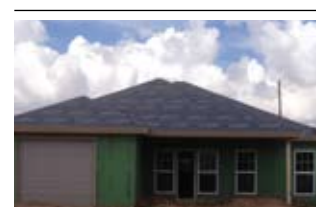
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Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING 310 Nolan Street Big Spring, Tx 79720-2657 432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 048-2014, WHICH ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 TO INCREASE THE MOTEL TAX FUND BUDGET FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVITALIZING THE HISTORIC SPRING; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING AND EFFECTIVE DATE. **12 DECEMBER, 2014** **14 DECEMBER, 2014** **TAMI L. DAVIS** ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY #8552 December 12 & 14, 2014

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING 310 Nolan Street Big Spring, Tx 79720-2657 432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 048-2014, WHICH ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 TO INCREASE THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR THE PURPOSE OF HIRING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO DETERMINE CITY'S MINERAL RIGHT OWNERSHIP AT MOSS LAKE, POWELL LAKE AND OTHER LOCATION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERE WITH; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **12 DECEMBER, 2014** **14 DECEMBER, 2014** **TAMI L. DAVIS** ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY #8554 December 12 & 14, 2014

Legals

MITCHEM WRECKER 5715 W I-20 BIG SPRING, TX, 79720 432-267-3747

On the date of 12/10/2014 We have at the Mitchem Wrecker yard a 2008 volkswagon jetta white car that was in a wreck on 12/05/2014 the vin is 3vwrz71k89m0411747 that all the info we have, Please put in paper and sent the newspaper clip and paper work require for us to have when put in the paper. Thank you! #8559 December 12, 2014

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING 310 Nolan Street Big Spring, Tx 79720-2657 432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, APPROVING Z14_04 REZONE OF AN APPROXIMATELY 18.049 ACRE TRACT OUT OF THE SOUTH HALF OF SECTION 5, BLOCK 32, T-1-S, T & P RR CO. SURVEY, SOUTH CENTRAL BIG SPRING, FROM A SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING ZONING DISTRICT (SF-2) TO A MULTI-FAMILY DWELLING ZONING DISTRICT (MF); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **12 DECEMBER, 2014** **14 DECEMBER, 2014** **TAMI L. DAVIS** ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY #8550 December 12 & 14, 2014

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING 310 Nolan Street Big Spring, Tx 79720-2657 432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS AMENDING CHAPTER ELEVEN OF THE BIG SPRING CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "GARBAGE AND OTHER REFUSE," ARTICLE 2 ENTITLED "GARBAGE COLLECTION AND LANDFILL FEES," SECTION 11-9 ENTITLED "FEES" TO INCLUDE A FEE FOR COMMERCIAL COMPACTOR SERVICE UNDER PART (B) ENTITLED "COMMERCIAL RATES"; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **12 DECEMBER, 2014** **14 DECEMBER, 2014** **TAMI L. DAVIS** ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY #8551 December 12 & 14, 2014

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING 310 Nolan Street Big Spring, Tx 79720-2657 432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 048-2014 WHICH ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 BY INCREASING THE AIRPARK FUND BUDGET FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING ROOF REPAIR ON THE JOHN CRANE PRODUCTION BUILDING; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **12 DECEMBER, 2014** **14 DECEMBER, 2014** **TAMI L. DAVIS** ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY #8556 December 12 & 14, 2014

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT Cinnabar Operating, LLC, 4800 Bryant Irvin Court, Fort Worth, Texas 76107

(Company Name/Address) is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a commercial permit to dispose produced water fluid into a formation which is NOT productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Spraberry Trend Area Formation, in the Quahadi A 701D Well. The disposal well is located 12.1 miles southwest from Big Spring. (Direction) (Nearest Town) in the Fusselman and Ellenberger Fields, in Glasscock County. Fluid is injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 10,200 to 12,000 ft.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463/6792). #8560 December 12, 2014



The Colorado River Municipal Water District is accepting applications for following position:

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Crew Leader - Responsible for successfully planning, directing, organizing, and overseeing the daily activities of a crew maintaining the District's raw water pipelines, pumps, and pump stations. Intermediate level position, good leadership skills and mechanical aptitude required.

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AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 048-2014, WHICH ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 TO INCREASE THE ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGET FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO PERFORM A PRORATE STUDY FOR UTILITY EXPANSION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERE WITH; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
12 DECEMBER, 2014
14 DECEMBER, 2014
TAMI L. DAVIS
ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY
#8555 December 12 & 14, 2014

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING
310 Nolan Street
Big Spring, Tx 79720-2657
432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 048-2014, WHICH ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015; REAPPROPRIATING BUDGETED FUNDS LEFT OVER WITHIN THE ENTERPRISE FUND FROM FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2013 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
12 DECEMBER, 2014
14 DECEMBER, 2014
TAMI L. DAVIS
ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY
#8553 December 12 & 14, 2014

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jeanine Shaw, Deceased, were issued on November 24, 2014, in Case No. P-14352 pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Stephanie Cross and Sloan Tyler Shaw

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: **Stephanie Cross**
122 Olas Path
New Braunfels, Texas

78130

DATED the 8 day of December, 2014.

C.E. (Mike) Thomas III
Attorney for Stephanie Cross and Sloan Tyler Shaw
State Bar No.: 19845200
501 Gregg Street
P.O. BOX 2117
Big Spring, Texas 79721
Telephone: (432) 263-4142
Facsimile: (432) 267-2763
E-mail: c.e.mikethomas@gmail.com

#8557 December 12, 2014

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

Invitation to Bid

The Howard County Auditor is accepting sealed bids for the 2014 Seal Coating on county roads throughout Howard County. Specifications may be obtained from Brian Klinski in the Road & Bridge Office, 1011 N San Antonio, Big Spring, TX, or by calling 432-264-2208.

Bids must be received by 10:00 A.M. on Friday, December 19, 2014 in the office of the County Auditor, Drew Lopez, 300 S Main, Room 202 and will be opened at that time.

Mark sealed envelopes "Sealed Bids for Seal Coating".

Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 A.M. on December 22, 2014 for their consideration. Project will be paid for out of current County funds.

The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Drew Lopez, County Auditor
www.co.howard.tx.us

#8541 December 4 & 12, 2014

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Alexandre Charle Betus, Deceased, were issued on November 24, 2014, in Cause No. P-14356 pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Mary Elisabeth Betus

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: **Mary Elisabeth Betus**
722 Baylor Blvd
Big Spring, Texas
79720

DATED the 8 day of December, 2014.

C.E. (Mike) Thomas III
Attorney for Mary Elisabeth Betus
State Bar No.: 19845200
501 Gregg Street
P.O. Box 2117
Big Spring, Texas 79721
Telephone: (432) 263-4142
Facsimile: (432) 267-2763
E-mail: c.e.mikethomas@gmail.com

#8558 December 12, 2014

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sudoku

ANSWERS

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

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I've been living with "Marcus" for two years, and we've known each other for twice that long. We are both in our late 40s. Soon after we moved in together, Marcus became seriously ill. We've been through five invasive surgeries, and there may be more.

The most serious illness seems to be under control, but now other debilitating health issues are popping up on the horizon, and I just don't know what to do. Part of me wants desperately to leave, yet I feel incredibly guilty for even thinking of it.

We don't fight, and we have our good moments. I still am attracted to him, but there is absolutely no sex unless I initiate it -- which I've stopped doing because he always has discomfort or pain. We sometimes talk about it, and he says, "You didn't sign up for this. Why are you still here?"

Marcus spoke to his doctor about the lack of desire, some of which may be attributed to painkillers, but they have no resolution. I've lost weight, take good care of myself and dress nicely -- still nothing. He says, "It's not you, it's me."

I feel shallow for missing sex so much, but I honestly can't imagine living the rest of my life without it. I suggested counseling, with or without me, but Marcus refused. When he dismisses suggestions to

work on us, I end up feeling more like a nurse than a lover. And the guilt is eating me up. What can I do? -- Faith

Dear Faith: Marcus has serious health issues, and that, plus medication, is undoubtedly what is causing his lack of desire. It isn't anything you are doing. And he, too, feels guilt, because his illness prevents you from having the relationship you envisioned. He may have decided against

counseling so that you will have a reason to leave him. Please know that your feelings are not unusual. Only you can decide whether or not you love him enough to see him through this, with or without sex. Counseling will help you, even if Marcus chooses not to go.

Dear Annie: I was diagnosed with epilepsy three years ago, but had milder forms of seizures that went undiagnosed for 23 years. I am on medications that interfere with relationships at home and work.

Of all the major chronic medical conditions, epilepsy is surely one of the least understood. Seizures are unpredictable electrical disturbances in the brain that affect awareness, movement and sensation. Epilepsy is not contagious, it is not a mental illness, and it is not mental retardation.

There are more than 40 types of epilepsy that affect more than three million people in the U.S.

and 65 million worldwide. The Epilepsy Foundation has information to help raise awareness. Please get the word out. -- Can't Drive but Can Text

Dear Can't Drive: Thank you for giving us the opportunity. National Epilepsy Awareness Month was in November, but awareness is needed all year round. We hope our readers will check out the Epilepsy Foundation at epilepsys.com and find out how they can help.

Dear Annie: I have been following all of the opinions about blowing one's nose at the dinner table.

Those who are offended by the act, please be careful visiting New Mexico. If you want to enjoy your stay, you must, of course, try our well-known and traditional green chili (or at Christmastime, green and red chili). This food is likely to cause anyone's nose to drip, and you can see an abundance of tissues flying about at any good restaurant, without any complaints. -- Tolerant in the Land of Enchantment

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Thoughts on the Lunar Shift

The shift of the moon from Leo to Virgo points out that the major activities of the day make such noise and take up so much space in our psyche that it's easy to lose sight of who we are and what we're doing here.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

But you can always find your way back in the minor activities like stopping at the light, sitting down to a meal, brushing your teeth...

19). You don't always feel like doing what you know is best for you, but today you have the internal strength to do what's best anyway -- that is, as long as you are not with the friends who are a chronic bad-influence.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Doing something right once will be a small thrill, but don't revel in it. After patting yourself on the back once or twice, get right to work on your second victory. Repetition is the way to success.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It's uncharacteristically difficult for you to make a choice -- not your fault. Someone is talking too much, too loudly, and

trying too hard to sell you. Step away from the noise, and soon after clarity will return to you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've stuck to your goals, but maybe not completely. Anyway, there are so many reasons not to punish yourself when you slip up. For starters, self-directed kindness attracts more situations of love and kindness.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your zest for life usually attracts supporters and friends. Occasionally it also attracts jealous enemies. It might save you trouble later if you're overly nice to the one who seems to be having trouble with your popularity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Just because other people are already doing it doesn't mean you

shouldn't. Maybe it's never been done the way you would do it. Trust that you have something unique to offer.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are confident in your ability to transform uninspired, sterile environments into places where people want to be. Your gentle suggestions will go over well. This is the start of something beautiful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Privacy is undervalued in the 21st century, but not by you. Don't yield to the pressure of answering the questions you don't want to answer. Other people don't have an inherent right to know things about you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Isn't linear time supposed to keep all things from happening at

once? Apparently it didn't get the message, because there's a swirl of chaos around you now -- and you have to admit you kind of like it!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). So what if you are a study in contradictions today? Smart people will find you fascinating precisely because they can't readily predict what you're going to do next.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Since you can't accomplish it until you can declare it, use this day to understand precisely what it is you most need to declare. It probably has something to do with an underused talent.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You should be aware that people who are far less qualified than you are will talk themselves up and sell others on their abilities. Therefore, don't underplay your talents at any point in the day.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 12). Because of all your hard work, what used to be a very unreasonable goal is an imminent reality now. January sees you writing an acceptance speech. A loan or special bonus keeps things interesting in March. In May, you'll play a new role in someone's life. Singles: June passion could lead to marriage. Virgo and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 3, 22, 38 and 16.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: **ARIES:** Loved ones thrill to hear you describe them in the ways they've wanted to see themselves. **TAURUS:** Because you encourage people to tell you what they want, you quickly become part of what they want. **GEMINI:** If they think you're looking great to impress them, they don't know you very well. **CANCER:** The ones who

say you can't meet someone in your living room clearly were not talking to a Cancer. **LEO:** Have fun now, and the long term will take care of itself. **VIRGO:** The question of who should pay will come up. This goes right to the core of your belief system. **LIBRA:** Because you deeply respect the other gender, you take the time to understand the ways in which they are different from you. **SCORPIO:** Competitive friends will keep you on top of your game. **SAGITTARIUS:** Each new connection enhances you in some way. **CAPRICORN:** Only those who really want to hear the truth will hear it. **AQUARIUS:** If you can't easily explain your intentions to another, perhaps you are still not conscious of what they are. **PISCES:** Though you may adore the one who makes you nervous, it's the one who makes you feel the most comfortable who will bring out the best in you.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: As the Virgo moon reflects the glory of the Sagittarius sun, these two signs notice each other in a new light. Virgo will balance the Sagittarian wild streak with the voice of reason, while Sagittarius blows the limits away from Virgo's thinking. With the recent change of Venus into an earth sign, Virgo feels a responsibility to take practical action to help loved ones realize their dreams.

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

You are the dealer. What would you bid with each of the following four hands?

- ♠KJ7 ♥AKQ10 ♦AQ3 ♣AQ9
- ♠Q ♥98632 ♦AKQ10 ♣AJ5
- ♠AK94 ♥AKQ7 ♦8 ♣9742
- ♠— ♥AKJ62 ♦AJ9653 ♣K8

1. **Three notrump.** This indicates a balanced hand of 25 or 26 high-card points with strength in all four suits, which is exactly what you have. It would be wrong to open with two clubs (artificial), planning to bid hearts next. While this would also represent a powerful hand, it would not reflect the 4-3-3-3 distribution and balanced nature of your hand. Most forcing two-bids have attractive distributional features and often fewer high-card points. They are based more on their trick-taking potential than on their point count.

2. **One heart.** This is the correct bid, even though your suit is headed by the 9-8 and you have another suit headed by four honors. It should be recognized that if partner has any three hearts, the suit becomes playable as trumps. Furthermore, if hearts are not bid now, a fit in the suit might never be found.

3. **One heart or one club.** For those whose system permits them to open four-card major suits, it is usually best to open the suit below the

singleton in hands with 4-4-4-1 distribution. Here, however, the clubs should be ignored because they are too weak, while your other two suits are very strong. In choosing which of them to open with, you should bid the lower-ranking suit first, leaving partner room to respond with one spade if he has four or more cards in that suit.

Those who guarantee a five-card suit when they open one heart or one spade are best advised to open the bidding with one club and proceed from there.

4. **One diamond.** Here the main effort should be devoted to describing your 6-5 distribution. The best way to do so is to start with one diamond, planning to bid hearts twice thereafter.

When you bid hearts next, partner will assume for the moment that you have four hearts and five diamonds, but you will correct this impression on the next round when you bid hearts again. Partner will thus learn that you have five hearts and, because you opened with one diamond, that you have even greater length in diamonds. He will also credit you with extra strength for this sequence of bids -- bidding diamonds on the one-level followed by bidding hearts on the two-level, known as a reverse -- and you certainly have that here.

Tomorrow: An unexpected complication.

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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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5 :PM	News ABC	P. Luche	Two Men	News CBS	Tele	News	Seinfeld	Zola Lev.	Euromaxx Business	CHiPs	Gold Rush		Cops	Movie: The Help, Bryce Dallas Howard (DVS)	Movie: A Very Larry Christmas	Jessie	Around	SportsCenter
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	La Gata (SS)	Big Bang	News	Caso Cerado	News	Seinfeld	Chevalme	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Gold Rush	Movie: White Christmas, Rosemary Clooney	Cops			(40) Movie: Toy Story 3	High School Basketball	NBA Basketball: Trail Blazers at Bulls
7 :PM	Last Man Standing	Mi Corazon Es Tuyo	MasterChef (DVS)	The Amazing Race	Los Miserrables (SS)	Dateline NBC	Big Bang	Shepherd's Heart	Wash Charlie	Griffith	Gold Rush - The Dirt		Cops		Movie: This Christmas, Loretta Devine	Toy Story Kirby Penn	College Football: NCAA FCS, Quarterfinal: Teams TBA.	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Spurs
8 :PM	Shark Tank	Teletón USA		Hawaii Five-0	Tierra de Reyes (SS)	Grimm (DVS)	Deal With	Best of Live From Lincoln Center	Heroes	Gilligan	Gold Rush	(45) Movie: White Christmas, Rosemary Clooney	Cops	Wake Up Call		Wayans I Didn't		
9 :PM	(01) 20/20		Mod Fam	Blue Bloods	Señora Acero (SS)	Constantine			Arts Cnxt	Saved/ Saved/	(01) Edge of Alaska		Cops	Movie: Hitch, Kevin James (DVS)	Wayans			
10 :PM	News		Cleveland	News	Tele	News	Deal With	Upd	Charlie Rose	Cheers	DNews		Cops		Wayans	Jessie	SportsCenter	
11 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live		Cleveland	Letterman	Titulares	Tonight Show	Deal With	BAS		Perry Mason	(16) Gold Rush		Academy		Wayans	I Didn't		
12 :AM	Extra		How I Met	Ferguson	Tierra de Reyes (SS)	Seth Meyers	Movie: Home Alone, Daniel Stern (DVS)	Messiah	T. Smiley	Dragnet	(17) Edge of Alaska	Movie: The Sorcerer's Apprentice, Alfred Molina	Cops	Wake Up Call	Wendy Williams	Jessie	NFL Live	SportsCenter
1 :AM	Paid	Teletón USA	TMZ	Insider	Señora Acero (SS)	News	Home Alone, Daniel Stern (DVS)	Sala Mani	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Gallery	(17) Gold Rush		Cops	Hawaii Five-0	The Real	Jessie	NBA	SportsCenter
	Paid		Flipping Friends	Ent	Pagado	(07) Today	Best of Light of the Christmas	Justice		Ironside	Gold		Jail	Hawaii Five-0	Queen Latifah	Movie: Mo-	Trail Blazers at Bulls	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'M TRYING TO BE NICE... YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW 'NAUGHTY' COMES BACK TO HAUNT YOU AT CHRISTMASTIME."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Did any of your other reindeer get to write a book besides Rudolph?"

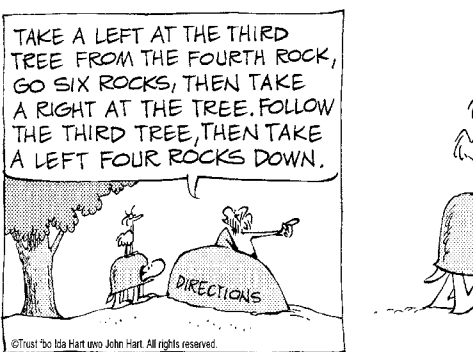
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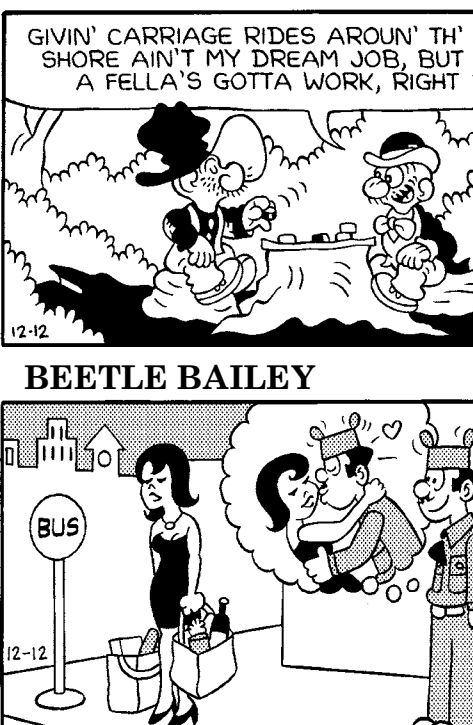
THE OTHER COAST



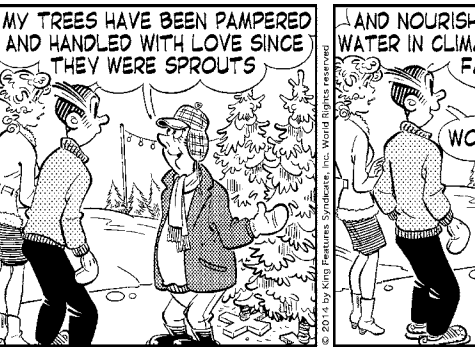
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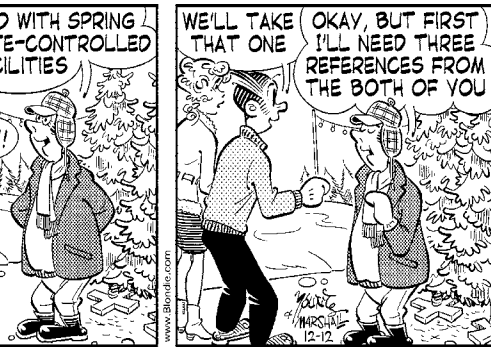
BEEBLE BAILY



BLONDIE



THIS DATE IN HISTORY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Dec. 12, the 346th day of 2014. There are 19 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 12, 1870, Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina became the first black lawmaker sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives. On this date: In 1787, Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. In 1897, "The Katzenjammer Kids," the pioneering comic strip

created by Rudolph Dirks, made its debut in the New York Journal. In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt nominated Oscar Straus to be Secretary of Commerce and Labor; Straus became the first Jewish Cabinet member. In 1911, Britain's King George V announced during a visit to India that the capital would be transferred from Calcutta to Delhi. In 1917, Father Edward Flanagan founded Boys Town outside Omaha, Neb. In 1925, the first motel - the Motel Inn - opened in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

In 1937, Japanese aircraft sank the U.S. gunboat Panay on China's Yangtze River. (Japan apologized, and paid \$2.2 million in reparations.) In 1946, a United Nations committee voted to accept a six-block tract of Manhattan real estate offered as a gift by John D. Rockefeller Jr. to be the site of the U.N.'s headquarters.

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 BROWNISH GRAY
 - 6 BROWNISH YELLOW
 - 10 YELLOWISH GRAY
 - 14 Hapless hunter of cartoons
 - 15 It means "both"
 - 16 "Here we go again!"
 - 17 City east of Grand Junction
 - 18 Parade problem
 - 19 Economical
 - 20 Grammy-winning Chicano band
 - 22 Social rank
 - 24 Releases with a click
 - 26 Meter reading of a sort
 - 31 Make a mess of things
 - 32 Flat hat
 - 35 Sumptuous
 - 36 Sorority letter
 - 37 Charlemagne's realm: Abbr.
 - 38 With 39 Across, alternate title for the puzzle
 - 39 See 38 Across
 - 41 End of AARP's address
 - 42 Mikado accessory
 - 45 City near Naples
 - 47 Corned
 - 48 NASDAQ regulator
 - 49 Unseen title character of a Cain novel
 - 50 Revolve around
 - 52 Hawaiian thanks
 - 55 Motorcade component, often
 - 61 Uttered
- DOWN
- 1 GREENISH BLUE
 - 2 "If that weren't enough..."
 - 3 Judges based near bases
 - 4 Exfoliation
 - 5 Inventor Rubik
 - 6 British title
 - 7 Minutemen's school
 - 8 Patriot Act enforcer
 - 9 Museum pieces
 - 10 Saps
 - 11 Pampas bird
 - 12 Gray area, for short
 - 13 OFF-WHITE
 - 21 Seethe
 - 23 Spreads out
 - 25 Abigail Adams, Smith
 - 26 REDDISH BROWN
 - 27 Nautical direction
 - 28 Sudden increase
 - 29 Progressive spokesperson
 - 30 Product with propellant
 - 32 Natural-gas measure
 - 33 Wrestling venue
 - 34 DEEP PINK
 - 40 Agitated, with "up"
 - 43 Looks great on
 - 44 RN work area
 - 45 Had on
 - 46 Prime
 - 50 Not to be trusted
 - 51 2010 World Cup champ
 - 52 YELLOWISH GREEN
 - 53 Posh Vegas resort
 - 54 Pal around (with)
 - 56 Hydromassage spots
 - 57 Rabbi's workplace
 - 58 1812 Overture conclusion
 - 59 Going full tilt
 - 60 PINKISH RED
 - 63 Victorian or Elizabethan

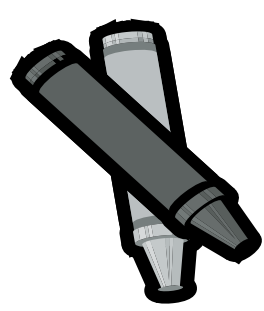
ON THE EDGE by S.N. Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

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COLORING CONTEST RULES

1. Contest open to children ages 2-12
2. Limit one contest submission per person
3. Contest entries may be completed using markers, crayons, or colored pencils.
4. Adults may assist in completing entry form information, but NOT in coloring pictures.
5. All entries must be received by the Big Spring Herald by 5 pm on Monday, December 15, 2014.
6. Winners will be published in the Sunday, December 21, 2014 edition.
7. Decision of judges is final.
8. Employees of the Big Spring Herald and contest sponsors are not eligible to win.
9. All submissions become property of the Big Spring Herald and may be published accordingly.

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Child's Age: _____

Phone#: _____

Alt. Ph#: _____

THSCA votes to discontinue staging annual all-star games

SAN MARCOS, Texas (AP) — The Texas High School Coaches Association is abandoning an all-star football game dating to 1935.

The association announced Thursday that it was discontinuing the game because of a new NCAA rule that prohibits Division I college coaches from attending a convention that includes an all-star game.

The association had held all-star football and

basketball games each summer as part of a convention that draws thousands of coaches. Both games are being eliminated to ensure that top-level college coaches can attend the clinics.

The group said the NCAA denied a request for a waiver.

“This is not a decision we wanted to have to make at all. We felt our convention and all-star games were not a violation of the NCAA rule

and took extra steps to separate the two events as best we could, but the Waiver Committee felt otherwise,” said THSCA Executive Director D. W. Rutledge. “When faced with the burden of either excluding the college coaches from attending our convention or hosting the all-star games, the Board felt it was in the best interest of the association and its members to eliminate the all-star games.”

Scoreboard

National Football League				
American Conference				
East				
W	L	Pct	PF	PA
New England	9	3	0.750	378 253
Miami	7	6	0.538	314 260
Buffalo	7	6	0.538	281 241
N.Y. Jets	2	11	0.154	214 349
South				
W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	9	4	0.692	407 307
Houston	7	6	0.538	314 260
Tennessee	2	11	0.154	220 374
Jacksonville	2	11	0.154	199 356
North				
W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	8	4	1.654	281 289
Pittsburgh	8	5	0.615	362 319
Baltimore	8	5	0.615	356 255
Cleveland	7	6	0.538	276 270
West				
W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	10	3	0.769	385 293
San Diego	8	4	0.667	279 249
Kansas City	7	6	0.538	291 241
Oakland	2	11	0.154	200 350
National Conference				
East				
W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	9	4	0.692	389 309
Dallas	9	4	0.692	343 301
N.Y. Giants	4	9	0.308	293 326
Washington	3	10	0.231	244 346
South				
W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	5	8	0.385	328 342
New Orleans	5	8	0.385	333 359
Carolina	4	8	1.346	269 341
Tampa Bay	2	11	0.154	237 348
North				
W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	10	3	0.769	423 304
Detroit	9	4	0.692	265 224
Minnesota	6	7	0.462	263 281
Chicago	5	8	0.385	281 378
West				
W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Arizona	11	3	0.786	287 244
Seattle	9	4	0.692	322 235
San Francisco	7	6	0.538	244 268
St. Louis	6	8	0.429	291 297
Thursday's Game				
Arizona 12, St. Louis 6.				
Sunday's Games				
Oakland at Kansas City, 1 p.m.				
Pittsburgh at Atlanta, 1 p.m.				
Washington at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.				
Miami at New England, 1 p.m.				
Houston at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.				
Jacksonville at Baltimore, 1 p.m.				
Green Bay at Buffalo, 1 p.m.				

National Basketball Association				
Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Toronto	16	6	.727	—
Brooklyn	8	12	.400	7
Boston	7	13	.350	8
New York	4	20	.167	13
Philadelphia	2	19	.095	13½
Southeast Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	15	6	.714	—
Washington	15	6	.714	—
Miami	10	12	.455	5½
Orlando	9	15	.375	7½
Charlotte	6	15	.286	9
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	13	8	.619	—
Chicago	13	8	.619	—
Milwaukee	11	12	.478	3
Indiana	7	15	.318	6½
Detroit	3	19	.136	10½
Western Conference				
Southwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Memphis	17	4	.810	—
Houston	17	5	.773	½
San Antonio	16	6	.727	1½
Dallas	17	7	.708	1½
New Orleans	10	11	.476	7
Northwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Portland	17	5	.773	—
Denver	10	12	.455	7
Oklahoma City	9	13	.409	8
Utah	6	16	.273	11
Minnesota	5	16	.238	11½
Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Golden State	19	2	.905	—
L.A. Clippers	16	5	.762	3
Phoenix	12	11	.522	8
Sacramento	11	12	.478	9
L.A. Lakers	6	16	.273	13½

TRANSACTIONS	
BASEBALL	
American League	
BALTIMORE ORIOLES	— Acquired RHP Jason Garcia from Houston for a player to be named or cash.
BOSTON RED SOX	— Acquired RHP Rick Porcello from Detroit for OF Yoanis Cespedes, RHP Alex Wilson, and LHP Gabe Speier.
CHICAGO WHITE SOX	— Acquired LHP Dan Jennings from Miami for RHP Andre Rienzo.
DETROIT TIGERS	— Acquired RHP Alfredo Simon from Cincinnati for INF Eugenio Suarez and RHP Jonathan Crawford.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS	— Acquired INF Josh Rutledge from Colorado for RHP Jairo Diaz. Acquired LHP Andrew Heaney from the L.A. Dodgers for INF Howie Kendrick.
TEXAS RANGERS	— Agreed to terms with RHP Anthony Bass, OF Antwan Richardson, and RHP Ross Wolf on minor league contracts.
National League	
COLORADO ROCKIES	— Acquired RHP Austin House and cash from Oakland for INF Mark Canha.
MIAMI MARLINS	— Acquired 2B Dee Gordon, RHP Dan Haren and INF Miguel Rojas from the L.A. Dodgers for LHP Andrew Heaney and RHP Chris Hatcher. INF Enrique Hernandez and C Austin Barnes. Acquired RHP Mat Latos from Cincinnati for RHP Anthony DeSclafani and C Chad Wallach.
BASKETBALL	
National Basketball Association	
PHILADELPHIA 76ERS	— Acquired F Andre Kirilenko, a 2020 second-round draft pick, G Jorge Gutierrez and cash from Brooklyn for F Brandon Davies. Acquired the right to swap Cleveland's 2018 second-round draft pick, which Philadelphia acquired during the offseason, with Brooklyn's 2018 second-round draft pick. Waived G Malcolm Lee.

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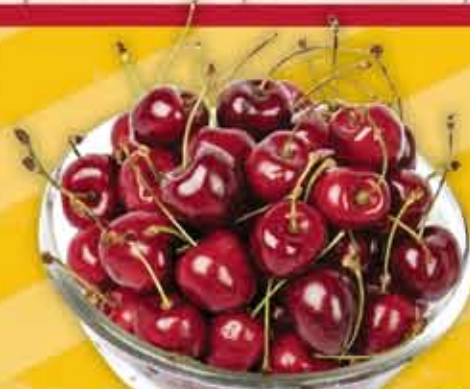
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