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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY
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HealthCare.gov:

Privacy concerns over website

By RICARDO ZALDIVAR
 Associated Press
 WASHINGTON — A little-known side to the government's health insurance website is prompting renewed concerns about privacy, just as the White House is calling for stronger cybersecurity protections for consumers.

It works like this: When you apply for coverage on HealthCare.gov, dozens of data companies may be able to tell that you are on the site. Some can even glean details such as your age, income, ZIP code, whether you smoke or if you are pregnant.

The data firms have embedded connections on the government site. Ever-evolving technology allows for individual Internet users to be tracked, building profiles that are a vital tool for advertisers.

Connections to multiple third-party tech firms were documented by technology experts who analyzed HealthCare.gov, and confirmed by The Associated Press. There is no evidence that personal information from Health-

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File photo

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet will be held Jan. 27 in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Chamber banquet set for Jan. 27

Evening to be highlighted by Man, Woman of the Year awards

BY LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer

The annual Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce banquet is fast approaching.

Of course, the highlight of the yearly event is the announcement of the 2014 Man and Woman of the Year which will be made at the banquet set for Jan. 27 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The recipients of the prestigious award were chosen from a list of nomi-

nees based on their record of accomplishments to improve the community. According to Debbie ValVerde, executive director of the chamber, the award is way to thank people who continue to improve and give back to their community but who don't always receive public recognition for their hard work.

The theme for this year's banquet is "Hand in Hand Bringing Businesses Together."

Individual tickets are on sale at the chamber, 215 W. Third St., for \$30.

Chamber members can once again reserve a table which they can personally decorate for \$150. Four tickets are included in that price. Radio personality Tumbleweed Smith will be the guest speaker for the event.

For more information, contact the Chamber at 432-263-7641.

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

State of the Union:

President hopes to shape debate for 2016

By JULIE PACE
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Key elements of the economic proposals President Barack Obama will outline in his State of the Union address Tuesday appear to be aimed at driving the debate in the 2016 election on income inequality and middle-class economic issues, rather than setting a realistic agenda for Congress.

Obama's calls for increasing taxes on the wealthy, making community college free for many students and expanding paid leave for workers stand little chance of winning approval from the new Republican majority on Capitol Hill. But the debate over middle-class economics is looking critical for the coming campaign.

"Inequality and especially the growing opportunity gap have become the top lit-



mus test of seriousness for 2016," said Robert Putnam, a Harvard political scientist who has discussed inequality issues with the president and his advisers. "The entry ticket for the presidential sweepstakes is that you have a policy — some policy — for dealing with this issue."

Indeed, potential Republican candidates Jeb Bush and Mitt Romney have been talking openly about income inequality and the need to give lower-earning Americans more opportunities. On the Democratic side, Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren

appears intent on keeping the party focused on a populist economic agenda, even if she doesn't plan to run for president herself.

As the nation's attention increasingly turns to the 2016 election, the Obama White House is making clear that it still wants to set the terms of the economic conversation.

White House chief of staff Denis McDonough, appearing in a nationally broadcast interview Tuesday morning, said Obama is determined to improve the lives of middle-class Americans. "His mind-set is to keep doing everything he can for the middle class," McDonough said on "CBS This Morning."

He said the president wants to make sure "we're doing everything we can to make sure that middle-class families

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Lawrence Ray Lewis



Lawrence Ray Lewis, 88, of Big Spring, died Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, 2015, at Trinity Memorial Park.

Lawrence Ray was born Jan. 6, 1927, to Olen and Emma Lewis in Lamesa, Texas.

Lawrence Ray enjoyed 61 years of marriage to Ruby Faye Roberts Lewis. Lawrence Ray served in the Navy during World War II and spent many years in the oil industry where he was known as "Pluto." He enjoyed traveling in his RV, reading and eating seafood. Lawrence Ray and Ruby were members of 14th & Main Church of Christ.

Obituaries

Lawrence Ray is survived by three sons, Lawrence Ray Lewis Jr. and wife, Emma of Big Spring, Russel Lewis and wife, Teresa of Wichita, Kan., and Randall Lewis of Hobbs, N.M.; seven grandchildren, Taylor Lewis and wife, Sara, Katherine Hennecke and husband, Andrew, Rebekah Lewis, Devon Lewis, Owen Lewis, Brian Aguilar and Eric Aguilar; and eight great-grandchildren.

Lawrence Ray was preceded in death by his wife and parents.

The family would like to thank Compass Hospice for their compassionate care.

The family suggests memorials to the donor's 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

Paid obituary

Zadie Winters



Zadie Winters, 86, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Jan. 15, 2015, at Parkview Nursing and Rehab. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Zadie was born April 15, 1928, in Sparkman, Ark. to Fannie and Chester Harrison. She moved to Big Spring in 1955 from Little Rock, Ark. She worked at the Tea Room and she worked at the Big Spring State Hospital for

23 years. Zadie loved gardening and cooking.

Zadie is survived by three sons, Robert Hammock of Norman, Okla., and Rickey Winters and Bobby Winters, both of Big Spring; one daughter, Wanda Allen of Big Spring; one sister, Frances Johnson and her husband Ullis; eight grandchildren; numerous great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Zadie was preceded in death by her husband, J. W. Winters; one son, Joe Willie Winters; one daughter, Betty Winters; two brothers, Dennis Harrison and John A. Harrison; and one sister, Mary Moore.

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

Dave S. Johnson III



Dave S. Johnson III, 46, of Big Spring died Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday, followed by a Memorial Service at 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel.

He was born December 3, 1968, in Houston. He had lived in Midland and Big Spring for eight years. He

was a completions foreman for Endeavor. He was an avid sports fan.

He is survived by his wife: Ingrid Johnson of Big Spring; six children: Tyler Johnson, Danielle McGlothlin, Dylan Johnson, Desiree Quintana, Eddie Quintana, and Jordan Mayer; mother: Jerolyn Cook and her husband Ron; father: Dave S. Johnson, Jr. and his wife Carol; one brother: Michael Johnson; and two grandchildren: Dylan James McGlothlin and Kinley McGlothlin.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- MARK ANTHONY MOLINA, 50, of 2911 W. Highway 80 226 was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
 - CRAIG ALLEN PAYNE, 46, of 1402 Pickens was arrested on a warrant for driving while license invalid.
 - DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 2900 block of W. Highway 80.
 - HIT AND RUN was reported in the 700 block of Lorilla St.
 - MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the area of Ninth and Gregg streets.
 - DISTURBANCE was reported in the 6000 block of Centerpoint Road.
 - ASSAULT was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.
 - BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1200 block of Mountain Drive.
 - BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1400 block of E. Sixth Apt. 110.
- The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this report.

- JOSHUA MARSH, 21, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for MTRP/burglary of a building.
- MARCO ANTONIO PADILLA, 23, was booked by the BSPD on a Parker County warrant for motion to revoke/driving with license invalid.
- JAMES DWAYNE TURNBO, 36, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for parole violation.
- ASHLEY ANN TAYLOR, 34, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.
- ROBERT DWITE SCHAAF, 30, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for unauthorized used of a vehicle and on a charge of criminal trespass.
- DAWN TAVIA SHAR-EYE GHANT, 23, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property, more than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.
- ADRIAN HIGERS-BERGER, 26, was booked by the BSPD on charges of forgery of a fi-

nancial instrument (two counts).

- CHRISTOPHER PAUL JUSTICE, 27, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MATHEW CASTILLO, 19, was booked by the HCSO on charges of theft, less than \$50 — shoplifting; driving under the influences of alcohol, minor; and no driver's license, when not licensed.
- MARK ANTHONY SOSA-EDMONSON, 27, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft of material/aluminum, bronze, copper, brass, less than \$20,000; and evading arrest, detention.
- ADRIAN AGUILAR, 21, was booked by the HCSO on charges of criminal trespass; evading arrest, detention; possession of drug paraphernalia; theft of property, more than \$50 but less than \$500; and shoplifting.
- JUSTIN ANTHONY ALMAZAN, 19, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.
- TREYCEE L. FAIRMAN, 34, was booked by

the BSPD on a charge of possession of a dangerous drug.

- COLTON SPECK, 22, was booked by the HCSO on charges of disregard stop sign and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- MICHAEL LEE LOPEZ, 27, as booked on warrants for failure to appear and driving while license invalid.
- AMELIA C. COLLINS, 41, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for parent contributing to non-attendance.
- ALVIN KENT MCCURLEY, 58, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.
- MARCARIO OROPEZA, 34, was booked on a Reagan County warrant for assault, causing bodily injury
- MARK ANTHONY MOLINA, 50, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- CRAIG ALLEN PAYNE, 46, was booked by the BSPD on warrant for driving while license invalid.
- SHANE ALAN KNOLTON, 28, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of prohibited weapon-knuckles.

Esther Tobar

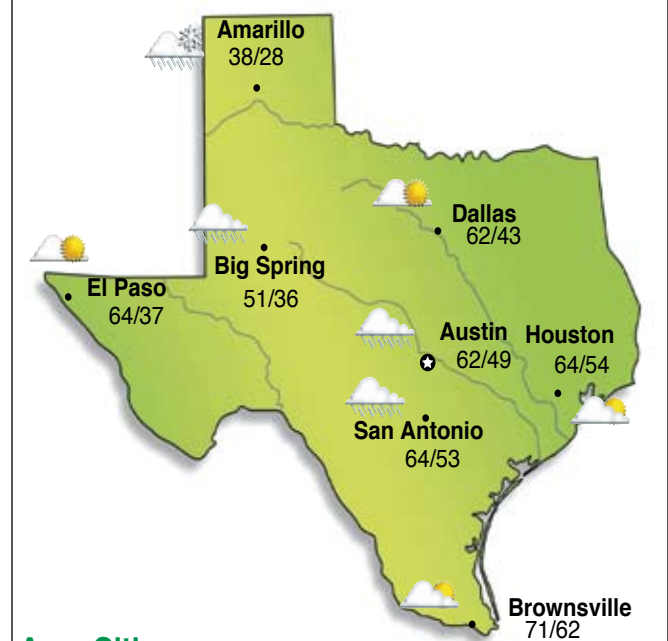
Esther Tobar, 62, of Big Spring, died Monday, Jan. 19, 2015, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 1/21	Thu 1/22	Fri 1/23	Sat 1/24	Sun 1/25
51/36	39/33	51/30	61/34	61/34
Partly cloudy skies during the morning hours will give way to cloudy skies	Rain and snow. Highs in the upper 30s and lows in the low 30s.	Sunshine. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:46 AM Sunset: 6:09 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 6:10 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 6:11 PM	Sunrise: 7:44 AM Sunset: 6:11 PM	Sunrise: 7:44 AM Sunset: 6:12 PM



Texas At A Glance



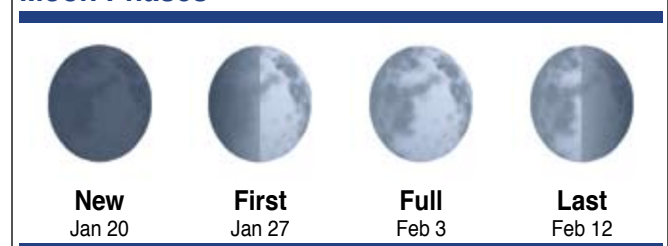
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	56	38	rain	Kingsville	69	60	rain
Amarillo	38	28	mixed	Livingston	61	50	cloudy
Austin	62	49	rain	Longview	62	43	mst sunny
Beaumont	64	50	pt sunny	Lubbock	51	32	cloudy
Brownsville	71	62	cloudy	Lufkin	64	47	cloudy
Brownwood	56	40	rain	Midland	49	36	rain
Corpus Christi	65	58	rain	Raymondville	72	62	cloudy
Corsicana	62	44	pt sunny	Rosenberg	65	54	cloudy
Dallas	62	43	pt sunny	San Antonio	64	53	rain
Del Rio	62	51	rain	San Marcos	63	51	rain
El Paso	64	37	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	61	44	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	47	36	rain	Sweetwater	54	36	rain
Gainesville	59	36	cloudy	Tyler	62	44	pt sunny
Greenville	61	42	pt sunny	Weatherford	60	39	cloudy
Houston	64	54	cloudy	Wichita Falls	57	37	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	61	35	sunny	Minneapolis	32	24	cloudy
Boston	31	26	mst sunny	New York	34	29	cloudy
Chicago	34	26	sn shower	Phoenix	70	46	pt sunny
Dallas	62	43	pt sunny	San Francisco	61	46	pt sunny
Denver	29	10	sn shower	Seattle	50	36	pt sunny
Houston	64	54	cloudy	St. Louis	48	31	sunny
Los Angeles	68	51	foggy	Washington, DC	38	33	mixed
Miami	79	67	mst sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Wed 1/21	Thu 1/22	Fri 1/23	Sat 1/24	Sun 1/25
2	3	4	4	4
Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

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Support Groups

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

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

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

The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

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Police suspect shooting a suicide

Herald Staff Report

A shooting in the 600 block of North Main Saturday was apparently self-inflicted, according to information release from the Big Spring Police Department today.

Police officers responded at approximately 9:30 p.m. in reference to a "suicidal subject," according to Tony Everett, Big Spring police spokesperson.

The male subject had suffered a single gunshot to the head, Everett said.

The wound at this time appears to be self-inflicted, police said.

STATE

Continued from Page 1

can succeed." McDonough said that Obama will not hesitate to veto legislation that doesn't improve the lot of the middle class.

The president's advisers argue that the debate over income equality is one that Democrats have won previously, including in Obama's victory over Romney in the 2012 presidential campaign and the fiscal cliff fight with Congress that led to the raising of George W. Bush-era tax rates for the wealthiest Americans.

However, Obama no longer has the political advantage on Capitol Hill that he would need to enact more tax increases.

When Obama addresses Congress Tuesday night, he will be standing before a Republican majority in both cham-

bers for the first time in his presidency.

The president and GOP leaders have spoken about their desire to compromise, but the opening weeks of the new Congress have offered few glimpses of where both sides plan to find common ground. Obama's economic proposals will do little to move the White House and Republicans closer together, given the GOP leadership's aversion to raising taxes on wealthy Americans.

The president's proposal would increase the capital gains rate on couples making more than \$500,000 annually to 28 percent, require estates to pay capital gains taxes on securities at the time they're inherited, and slap a fee on the roughly 100 U.S. financial firms with assets of more than \$50 billion.

Administration officials said much of the

\$320 billion in new taxes and fees would be used for measures aimed at helping the middle class, including a \$500 tax credit for some families with two spouses working and a \$60 billion program to make community college free.

Obama is also asking lawmakers to increase paid leave for workers. And he's moved unilaterally to lower a mortgage insurance rate that could help attract first-time homebuyers.

The White House cast the president's measures as steps that can help keep up economic momentum amid a recent spurt of growth that has also seen the unemployment rate fall below 6 percent.

There has been little Republican support for much of what the White House has rolled out ahead of Obama's address.

A spokesman for House Speaker John

Boehner, R-Ohio, called the White House's tax proposal "the same old top-down approach we've come to expect from President Obama that hasn't worked." And Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, who is weighing a bid for the GOP presidential nomination, said the president's approach was outdated.

"Raising taxes on people that are successful is not going to make people that are struggling more successful," Rubio said.

In keeping with State of the Union tradition, first lady Michelle Obama will watch the speech along with invited guests whose stories bring to life some of the policies the president will tout.

Among those joining Mrs. Obama for this year's speech are Alan Gross, who was released from a Cuban prison last month as part of Obama's decision to normalize relations

with the communist island nation; Chelsey Davis, a student from Tennessee who plans to graduate community college in May; and Dr. Pranav Shetty, who has been working on the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

The effort to control Ebola is expected to be one of the foreign policy matters Obama addresses in a speech.

While the president is not likely to make any major foreign policy announcements, he is expected to tout the formal end of the Afghan war, update the nation on the fight against the Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria, and urge lawmakers not to enact new sanctions on Iran while the U.S. and its partners are in the midst of nuclear negotiations with the Islamic republic.

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WEB

Continued from Page 1

Care.gov has been misused, but the number of outside connections is raising questions.

"As I look at vendors on a website...they could be another potential point of failure," said corporate cybersecurity consultant Theresa Payton. "Vendor management can often be the weakest link in your privacy and security chain."

A former White House chief information officer under President George W. Bush, she said the large number of outside connections on HealthCare.gov seems like "overkill" and makes it "kind of an outlier" among government websites.

The privacy concerns come against the backdrop of President Barack Obama's new initiative to protect personal data online, a highlight of his State of the Union message scheduled for Tuesday night. The administration is getting the health care website ready for the final enrollment drive of 2015, aiming to have more than 9 million people signed up by Feb. 15 for subsidized private coverage.

Medicare spokesman Aaron Albright said outside vendors "are prohibited from using information from these tools on HealthCare.gov for their companies' purposes." The government uses them to measure the performance of HealthCare.gov so consumers get "a simpler, more streamlined and intuitive experience,"

he added.

The administration did not explain how it ensures that privacy and security policies are being followed.

Third-party outfits that track website performance are a standard part of e-commerce. HealthCare.gov's privacy policy says in boldface that "no personally identifiable information is collected" by these web measurement tools.

But in a recent visit to the site, AP found that certain personal details — including age, income, and whether you smoke — were being passed along likely without your knowledge to advertising and Web analytics sites.

Google said Monday it doesn't use that kind of data or allow its systems to target ads based on health or medical history information. "When we learn of possible violations of this policy, we investigate and take swift action," the company said in a statement.

Still, the outside connections surprised a tech expert who evaluated HealthCare.gov's performance for AP.

"Anything that is health-related is something very private," said Mehdi Daoudi, CEO of Catchpoint Systems. "Personally, I look at this, and I am on a government website, and I don't know what is going on between the government and Facebook, and Google, and Twitter. Why is that there?"

Created under the president's health care law, HealthCare.gov is the online gateway to government-subsidized private insurance for people who lack coverage on the job.

Tracking consumers' Internet searches is a lucrative business, helping Google, Facebook and others tailor ads to customers' interests. Because your computer and mobile devices can be assigned an individual signature, profiles of Internet users can be pieced together, generating lists that have commercial value.

Third-party sites embedded on HealthCare.gov can't see your name, birth date or Social Security number. But they may be able to correlate the fact that your computer accessed the government website

with your other Internet activities.

Have you been researching a chronic illness like coronary artery blockage? Do you shop online for smoking-cessation aids? Are you investigating genetic markers for a certain type of breast cancer? Are you seeking help for financial problems, or for an addiction?

Daoudi's company — Catchpoint Systems — came across some 50 third-party connections embedded on HealthCare.gov. They attracted attention because such connections can slow down websites. They work in the background, unseen to most consumers.

The AP was able to replicate the results. In one 10-minute visit to HealthCare.gov recently, dozens of websites were accessed behind the scenes. They included Google's data-analytics service, Twitter, Facebook and a host of online advertising providers.

Aldo Cortesi, a security consultant who reviewed the AP's findings, found a number of third-party trackers that could log a user's actions in detail. Cortesi said there can be legitimate uses for such trackers, but said questions linger over the level of detailed information that could be sent to private parties.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Zadie Winters, 86, died Thursday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

William "Bill" Thompson, 75, died Saturday, January 10, 2015. Visitation, Vigil and Mass will be January 24, 2015

Leonard "Byrd" Jones, 71, died Saturday, January 17, 2015. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Leon W. Cavin, 86, died Sunday, January 18, 2015. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Bonnie Hyden, 88, died Sunday, January 18, 2015. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Dave S. Johnson, III, 46, died Saturday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday, followed by a Memorial Service at 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel.



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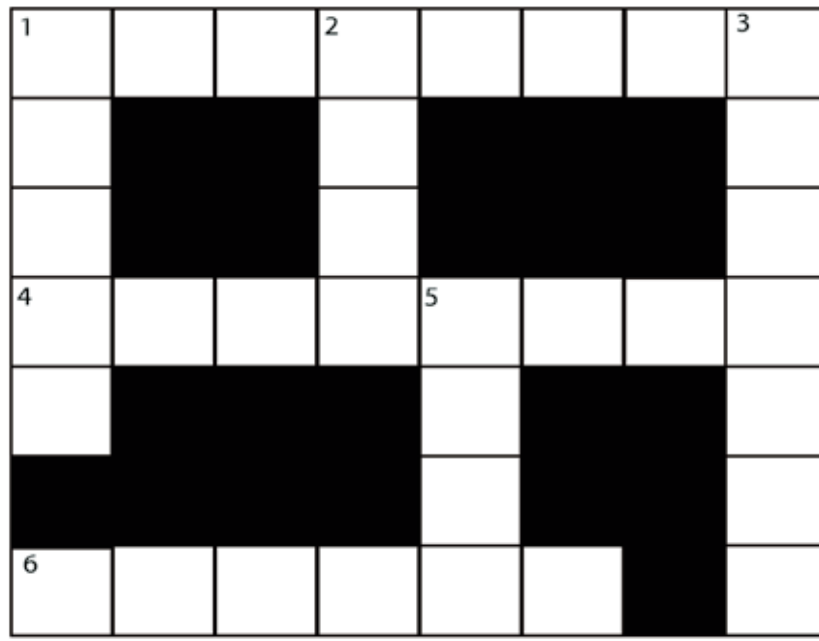
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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Absorb again
- 4. Physical effort
- 6. Man on horseback

DOWN

- 1. Horse sport
- 2. Large animal
- 3. Half-tamed horses
- 5. Group of three

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1861: JEFFERSON DAVIS, THE FUTURE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERACY, RESIGNS FROM THE UNITED STATES SENATE.
- 1950: ALGER HISS, AN INFLUENTIAL LAWYER AND SUSPECTED SPY, IS CONVICTED OF PERJURY.
- 1981: PRODUCTION OF THE DELOREAN SPORTS CAR BEGINS IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

ANIMAL FACT:



ACCORDING TO STUDIES CONDUCTED BY INDEPENDENT VETERINARIANS, DO HORSES SUFFER MORE INJURIES DURING RACING OR FROM RODEO EVENTS?

ANSWER: RACING

Down
1. Rodeo 2. Bear 3. Broncos 5. Trio

Answers:
Across
1. Reabsorb 4. Exertion 6. Cowboy

New Word

BUCK

vertical jump by a horse

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Horse
- SPANISH:** Caballo
- ITALIAN:** Cavallo
- FRENCH:** Cheval
- GERMAN:** Pferd

Did you know?



THE WORD 'RODEO' MEANS 'TO GO AROUND' IN SPANISH. RIDERS CERTAINLY GO AROUND IN CIRCLES ON A BUCKING BRONC.

GET THE PICTURE?



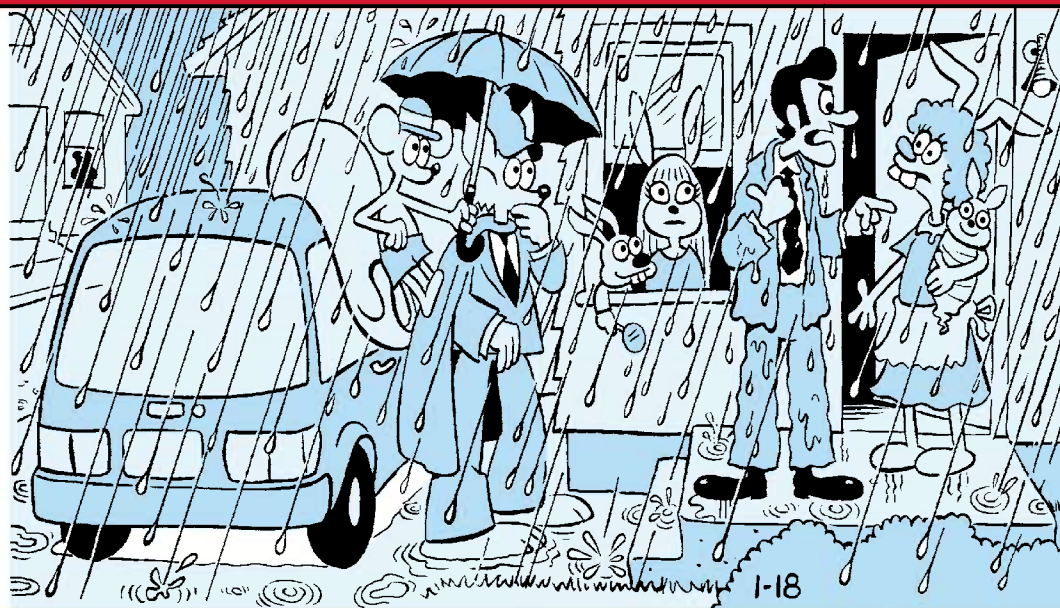
Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: BOOT SPUR

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

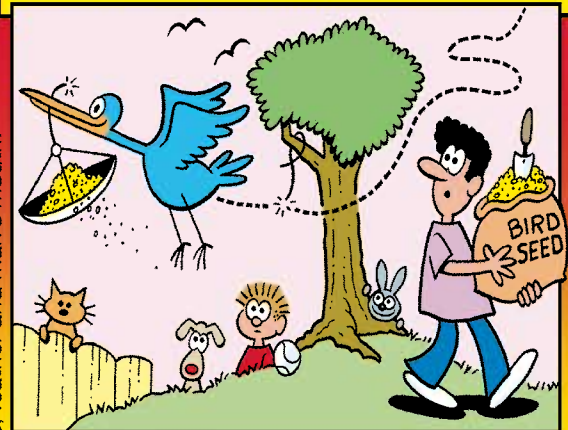
BY BOB WEBER JR.

Slick Smitty accused Rachel Rabbit of deliberately driving through a puddle to splash him with muddy water soon after it started to rain. But Rachel insists she hasn't been out driving today. What evidence did Slylock Fox observe that supports Rachel Rabbit's claim?

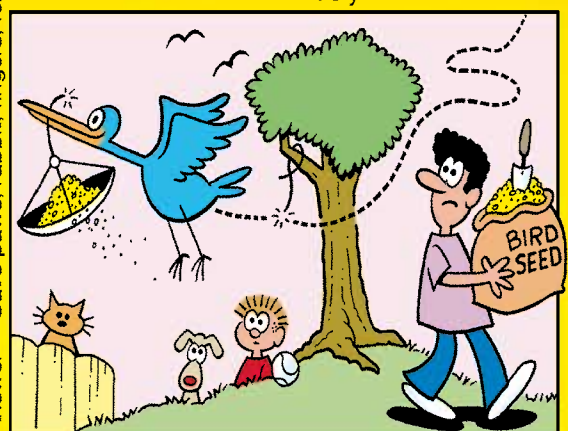


Solution -- The driveway bit's car is dry. The car has not moved since the rain started falling.

Spot six differences between these panels.



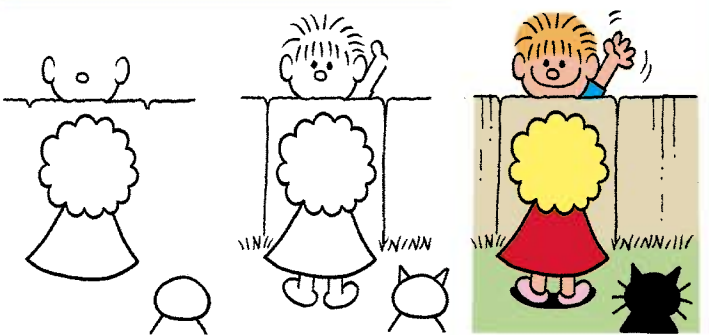
www.facebook.com/SlylockFox



Answer -- Cat's paws, rabbit, finger, fence, feather and man's mouth.

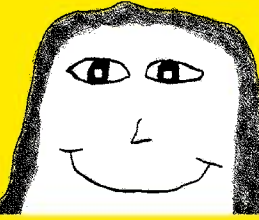
HOW TO DRAW neighbors

BOB WEBER JR + SR



YOUR DRAWING

Today's terrific artist is Alice, age 9



Submit your drawing to www.kidcartoonists.com

The scrambled words are types of birds. How many can you unscramble?

- 1) ROPAWSR
- 2) NINEPUG
- 3) ROPATR
- 4) COTIRHS

Answer -- (1) Sparrow (2) Penguin (3) Parrot (4) Ostrich

The fourth Find the six differences collection is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to Six Differences No. 4, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

Parent's Corner: New year, new date

I'm having trouble writing 2015? Yes, it's a brand new year, and as for me I could not imagine that I would be living in twenty anything, much less 2015. However, I got to wondering when people started celebrating the beginnings of each new year.



DARRELL RYAN

I read that in many countries, New Year's celebrations begin on the evening of New Year's Eve and continue through Jan. 1, celebrating with food and festivities, such as lentils in Italy, pork in Cuba, Austria, Hungary, Portugal, cakes and pastries in the Netherlands, Mexico and Greece,

rice pudding in Sweden and Norway, and my favorite, black-eyed peas in the southern United States. Other customs that are common worldwide include watching fireworks and singing songs to welcome the New Year. I found it interesting that making resolutions for the New Year is thought to have first been used among the ancient Babylonians, who made promises to the gods, in order to start off a new year in their favor.

I also found it interesting that the early Roman calendar only consisted of 10 months and 304 days, with each new year began at the vernal equinox, which according to tradition, was created by Romulus, the founder of Rome, in the eighth century B.C.

It is believed that a later king, Numa Pompilius, added the months of Januarius

and Februarius. Over the centuries, the calendar fell out of sync with the sun, so in 46 B.C. Julius Caesar decided to solve the problem. He consulted with the most prominent astronomers and mathematicians of his time, and came up with the Julian calendar, which closely resembles the more modern Gregorian calendar that many countries around the world use today.

Up until that time March was the beginning of the new year, but as part of Caesar's reform, January became the first month, partly to honor the month's namesake: Janus, the Roman god of beginnings, who had two faces, which allowed him to look back into the past and forward into the future.

Romans celebrated by offering sacrifices to Janus, exchanging gifts with one another, deco-

rating their homes with laurel branches and attending raucous parties.

In medieval Europe, Christian leaders temporarily replaced Jan. 1 as the first of the year with days carrying more religious significance, such as Dec. 25, the anniversary of Jesus' birth, and March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation; Pope Gregory XIII reestablished Jan. 1 as New Year's Day in 1582.

As for me, I'm glad we have our current calendar and have our festivities set up just like they are, but it wouldn't disturb me if Thanksgiving and Christmas were a bit farther apart. I'm thankful for both celebrations, but after celebrating Thanksgiving I find that I'm ready to pardon another turkey at Christmas time!

Darrell Ryan is the BSISD director of school safety

Reflexions: How is your soul?

References to the soul seem strangely absent in our churches. But if the churches have stopped talking about the soul, the technological gurus who design apps for our iPhones have not.

A couple of years ago the Huffington Post launched an app called "GPS for the soul." The app is based on two truths that say, "that we all have within us a centered place of harmony and balance, and that we all veer from that place again and again."

Arianna Huffington stated, "There's a snake lurking in this cyber-Garden of Eden. Our 24/7 connection to the digital world often disconnects us from the real world around us — from our physical surroundings, from our loved ones, and especially from ourselves. We see the effects of this in every aspect of our lives."



BILL TINSLEY

The Bible speaks a great deal about the soul. The soul can be deeply troubled. David cried out, "My soul is in deep anguish. How long, Lord, how long?" (Ps. 6:3) and again, "I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul." (Ps. 31:7).

Our soul can rejoice. "Then my soul will rejoice in the Lord and delight in his salvation." (Ps. 35:9). Our soul can be refreshed, "He refreshes my soul." (Ps. 23:3) and our soul can be at peace. "Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him." (Ps. 62:1).

Jesus taught that there is nothing in this world more important than the condition of your soul. "What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?" (Mt. 16:26). And again, "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell." (Mt. 10:28). "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Mt. 11:29).

John Ortberg, in his book, Soul Keeping, writes, "We live in a world that teaches us to be more concerned with the condition of our cars, or our careers, or our portfolios than the condition of our souls. ... What if I don't get a promotion, or my boss doesn't like me, or I have financial problems, or I have a bad hair day? Yes, these may cause disappointment, but do they have any power over my soul?"

Can they nudge my soul from its center, which is the very heart of God? When you think about it that way, you realize that external circumstances cannot keep you from being with God."

What is truly important is not our possessions. Neither is it our physical strength or beauty. Nor is it positions of influence, power or fame. What is truly important is the person we are becoming. Although our bodies may wither with old age and disease, our souls can continue to grow in grace as we love God and others.

This is why Jesus said that the first commandment is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength." And the second is like it, "to love your neighbor as yourself." If receive His gift of grace and do this, we will find food and rest for our souls.

Bill Tinsley has authored ten books and writes a weekly faith column for newspapers and email subscribers.

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Story Idea?
Send it to editor@bigspringherald.com

Western Junior College Athletic Conference

Hawks breeze past NMMI

Howard College remains unbeaten in WJCAC play

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Sam Finley pushed in 18 points and Travis Charles and Niels Bunschoten added 16 apiece on Monday evening and powered the Howard College Hawks to a convincing 79-66 victory over the New Mexico Military Institute Broncos in a key Western Junior College Athletic Conference matchup in Roswell, N.M.

And, trust us, the score wasn't really that close.

"I'm really happy with our guys," said HC head coach Scott Raines. "We executed well and that is the way you are supposed to play on the road."

With the victory, Howard College improved to 15-4 for the year, and moved to 6-0 in WJCAC play. NMMI fell to 8-8 and 2-4.

The Hawks dominated the contest from the start. After falling behind in the opening seconds by a 1-0 margin, Howard reeled off a 12-0 run and never looked back.

The Hawks shot 41 percent from the field in the first 20 minutes and traced to a staggering 31-18 lead at the half.

Charles and Finley led the HC attack in the first 20 minutes. Charles pushed in eight points in the half, while Finley contributed seven. Lis Shoshi added six.

Defensively, Howard College turned in one of

Western Junior College Athletic Conference

Team	Season		Conf.
	W-L	W-L	
Howard	15-4	6-0	
South Plains	15-4	5-1	
Odessa	16-6	4-3	
Frank Phillips	14-6	3-3	
New Mexico JC	14-6	3-3	
Midland	13-8	3-4	
NMMI	8-8	2-4	
Western Texas	10-8	1-5	
Clarendon	4-15	1-5	

Monday's Games — Howard College 79, NMMI 66; Midland College 72, Odessa 64; Clarendon 66, Western Texas 58; South Plains 88, Frank Phillips 75.

its better efforts against NMMI. The Hawks held the Broncos to just 25 percent shooting from the floor in the first half, and did not allow any NMMI player to score more than five points.

It was an effort that pleased Raines greatly.

"I was thrilled to death with how we guarded," he said. "I thought we guarded and rebounded very well."

Howard College blew the game open in the early minutes of the second half.

Bunschoten and Finley combined for five three-point shots in the initial 5:42 of the second half and powered the Hawks on a 16-9 run that handed HC a 20-point cushion, at 47-27, with 14:18 left in the game.

The Hawks, winners of 12 of their last 13 games, finished the game with four players in double figures offensively. Soph-



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Howard College's Sam Finley shoots up a shot during a recent HC game. Finley was one of four Hawks to score into double figures on Monday in the Hawks' win over NMMI in Roswell.

omore guard Rob Gray chipped in 13.

New Mexico Military Institute, which had entered the game unbeaten at home, matched HC point-for-point in the second half by throwing in 48 in the final 20 minutes. Much of that, however, came in the final 5 minutes when the game was already in hand.

"You would have to be real nit-picky if you got upset over those last few minutes," said Raines, who saw his team lead by as many as 24 points in the second half. "The game had already been decided by then."

The Hawks will host New Mexico Junior College in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Lady Hawks snap 5-game losing streak with 61-33 romp over Victoria College

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Howard College Lady Hawks snapped a 5-game losing streak on Monday with a rousing 61-33 non-conference rout of Victoria College in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

For Howard, the win marked the Lady Hawks' first win of 2015, and the team's first victory since a win over Chandler-Gilbert Community College on Dec. 30 during a three-game road trip to Arizona over the holiday break.

The recipe for the Lady

Hawks' win was simple — outrebound and out-hustle Victoria College, a Division II program. HC outrebounded the Lady Pirates by a 50-37 clip and forced 16 turnovers.

Of course, a quick start offensively didn't hurt, either. Sparked by Courtney Jeffcoat and Tamara York, the HC women reeled off the first 11 points of the game and breezed into the half with a commanding 39-13 advantage.

Jeffcoat pushed in eight of her game-high

Western Junior College Athletic Conference

Team	Season		Conf.
	W-L	W-L	
New Mexico JC	17-1	5-0	
Odessa	18-4	4-2	
Midland	13-8	4-2	
Clarendon	12-6	3-2	
South Plains	7-11	3-2	
Frank Phillips	14-4	2-3	
Western Texas	8-10	0-5	
Howard	6-14	0-5	

Monday's Games — Midland 61, Victoria College; Howard 69, Odessa 57; Clarendon 70, Western Texas 59; South Plains 65, Frank Phillips 53.

13 points in the first 20 minutes of play. The Lady Hawks

pushed their lead to as high as 33 midway through the second half.

Rosemary Rits also played well for Howard. She pushed in 11 points and pulled down six rebounds.

York just missed her second double-double in her last three games, finishing with nine points and 12 boards.

The Lady Hawks, now 6-14 for the season, will return to WJCAC play on Thursday when they host New Mexico Junior College. The game will tip off at 5:45 p.m.

BSJHS teams move MC games to tonight

The wait is officially over for the Big Spring Junior High School boys' seventh and eighth grade basketball teams. After having to wait a day longer than normal to play, both teams will return to the court tonight.

BSISD officials announced late last week that the Steers' games against Midland Christian had been rescheduled for tonight, beginning at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

The games had originally been scheduled for Monday.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Stefanie Diaz shoots during the Lady Steers' recent game with Levelland. The BSJHS teams will travel to Snyder for key District 2-4A games tonight.

Area teams hit the road for key games

Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan will take their playoff hopes out of town tonight as each are scheduled to play road games tonight.

The Big Spring boys' and girls' teams will be looking to bounce back from a loss to Levelland with wins over Snyder tonight. The BSJHS boys are 0-1 in District 2-4A, while the Lady Steers are 1-2.

Forsan's boys' and girls' team will travel to Iraan for key District 8-2A games, while Coahoma will head to Colorado City for District 5-3A action.

Scoreboard

FOOTBALL		NFL PLAYOFF GLANCE	
		Super Bowl	
		Sunday, Feb. 1	
		At Glendale, Ariz.	
New England vs. Seattle, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)			

BASKETBALL	
National Basketball Association	
Eastern Conference	
Atlantic Division	
W	L Pct GB

Toronto	27	14	.659	—
Brooklyn	17	24	.415	10
Boston	13	26	.333	13
Philadelphia	8	33	.195	19
New York	6	36	.143	21½

Atlanta	34	8	.810	—
Washington	29	13	.690	5
Miami	18	22	.450	15
Charlotte	17	25	.405	17
Orlando	15	29	.341	20

Chicago	27	16	.628	—
Cleveland	22	20	.524	4½
Milwaukee	21	20	.512	5
Detroit	16	26	.381	10½
Indiana	15	28	.349	12

Memphis	29	12	.707	—
Houston	29	13	.690	½
Dallas	29	13	.690	½
San Antonio	26	16	.619	3½
New Orleans	20	21	.488	9

Portland	31	11	.738	—
Oklahoma City	20	20	.500	10
Denver	18	23	.439	12½
Utah	14	27	.341	16½
Minnesota	7	33	.175	23

Golden State	33	6	.846	—
L.A. Clippers	28	14	.667	6½
Phoenix	25	18	.581	10
Sacramento	16	25	.390	18
L.A. Lakers	12	30	.286	22½

Washington 111, Philadelphia 76	
Charlotte 105, Minnesota 80	
Atlanta 93, Detroit 82	
L.A. Clippers 102, Boston 93	
Golden State 122, Denver 79	
Dallas 103, Memphis 95	
Houston 110, Indiana 98	
New York 99, New Orleans 92	
Cleveland 108, Chicago 94	
Toronto 92, Milwaukee 89	
Portland 98, Sacramento 94	
Phoenix 115, L.A. Lakers 100	

Oklahoma City at Miami, 7:30 p.m.	
San Antonio at Denver, 9 p.m.	

Portland 31, 11 .738	
Oklahoma City 20, 20 .500	
Denver 18, 23 .439	
Utah 14, 27 .341	
Minnesota 7, 33 .175	

Golden State 33, 6 .846	
L.A. Clippers 28, 14 .667	
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Oklahoma City at Miami, 7:30 p.m.	
San Antonio at Denver, 9 p.m.	

Kansas St. at Iowa St., 7 p.m.	
Wednesday's Games	
Houston-Tillotson at Baylor, 8 p.m.	
Texas Tech at Oklahoma St., 9 p.m.V	

HOCKEY	
National Hockey League	
Atlantic Division	
W	L OTpts GF GA

Tampa Bay	29	14	4	62	152	126
Detroit	26	11	9	61	134	115
Montreal	28	13	3	59	121	105
Boston	24	16	6	54	121	117
Florida	20	14	10	50	107	122
Ottawa	22	22	4	47	139	144
Toronto	18	18	8	44	120	126
Buffalo	14					

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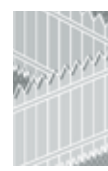
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Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT ConocoPhillips Company, 3300 North A Street, Building 6, Midland, Texas 79705-5490 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Wichita-Albany formation of the Reed -B - 1D well. The proposed injection well is located 6.1 miles Southeast of Forsan, Texas in the Howard Glasscock (Consolidated) Field in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into the sub-surface depth interval of 4,264 feet to 6,500 feet. 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, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792). If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at 432-688-9020. Thank you, **Kenneth N. Andersen** Certified Mail No. Return Receipt Requested #8586 January 20, 2015

Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE BY MARTIN COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT Notice is given that the MARTIN County Hospital District dba Martin County Hospital will sell the approximate 1.55 acre tract of property on which the former hospital was located at 610 North St. Peter, Stanton, Texas, and as more fully described herein, by the bidding process set out below: Description of Property: The approximate 1.55 acre tract of land that is part of Block 1 of the Link addition survey, in MARTIN County, Texas. The property will be sold with deed restrictions, including prohibitions against the use of the land for a mobile home or RV park, or for other manufactured or modular home dwellings, as well as restrictions on subdividing the land and on certain commercial uses. Construction on residential home must commence within 12 months. Lot sizes for the entire tract are plated for 65'x120' lots. Sealed bids will be accepted at 600 East Interstate 20, Stanton, Texas until 11:00 a.m. CST January 26, 2015. Bids will be opened publicly at the Martin County Hospital District Board room starting at 11:30 a.m. January 26, 2015. Bids received after 11:00 a.m. CST January 26, 2015 will not be accepted. Minimum bids will not be considered if less than \$12,500 per lot For further information, contact Paul McKinney, Martin County Hospital Chief Executive Officer, at (432) 607-3200. #8584 January 18 - 23, 2015

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My wife and I are in our late 70s and we raised four children. We lost our second son to suicide when he was 7. He suffered from major depression. A few years ago, our daughter wrote us, saying that her eldest brother had sexually molested her when she was very young. She said we knew about it and covered it up. We knew nothing about it and were very upset. I confronted our son, now 42, and he admitted to it and was so sorry for what he did all those years ago. He also said he is not the same person he was then. I told our daughter that her brother admitted everything and felt terrible about it and that I hope at some point, he will tell her directly how sorry he is. Since he became an adult, this son is the kindest person and has the closest relationship with us of all our children. Last week, our youngest son and his family came to visit. It turns out that his eldest brother also had molested him when they were children. But he never appeared as devastated as his sister, and moved on. What are we supposed to do at this stage of our lives? Do you think our eldest son could have been molested at an early age and then acted out like this on his siblings? We found out later that there was a pedophile priest in our local parish. Our son has never admitted to any molestation when he was a

boy and we are afraid to ask him. Any advice? -- **Distraught**

Dear Distraught: This is a terribly disturbing situation, but please don't hide from it. Your son has already admitted the abuse. He needs to apologize to both of his siblings and ask for forgiveness. We are glad that he has changed for the better, but that doesn't help his sister or brother come to terms with what happened. We strongly urge you to get into family counseling and work through this. All of you would benefit, including your eldest son.

Dear Annie: You recently published a letter from a woman who was complaining that her husband recently developed anxiety about traveling in a car. This onset of anxiety, particularly in midlife or later, could be a symptom of Parkinson's disease. If the anxiety is accompanied by terrible nightmares (including yelling, punching and kicking) and/or by constipation that seems to develop where it didn't exist before, Parkinson's could well be the reason. I watched these symptoms develop and didn't understand why -- until the twitching started in one thumb. Then a neurologist confirmed that these symptoms were, indeed, indications that Parkinson's was at work. Her husband should get to a neurologist now. -- **Wish We Knew**

Dear Wish: Thank you

for giving us the opportunity to mention some of the symptoms of Parkinson's. Parkinson's is a progressive and chronic neurological disease that interferes with the body chemicals that control movement and mood. It usually begins with mild symptoms that advance slowly, so they are often ignored. Symptoms include tremors or shaking in any part of the body when it's at rest, changes in handwriting, loss of smell, trouble sleeping, muscle tension and rigidity, changes or difficulty in walking, constipation, a muffled voice, feeling dizzy on a regular basis and depression. If you are experiencing any of these things, even in a very mild form, please talk to your doctor about Parkinson's.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Getting It Off My Chest," whose major peeve is that family never comes to visit: If you buy the plane tickets, you will have plenty of company. -- **G.**

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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NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of William Monroe Dickson, Deceased, were issued on January 8, 2015, in Cause No. P-14,287, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Dana Darlene Dickson. 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: Dana Dickson P.O. Box 812 Coahoma, Texas 79511 DATED the 14th day of January, 2015. THE LAW OFFICES OF R. SHANE SEATON R SHANE SEATON State Bar No. 24060918 SHONDA KAY FOLSOM State Bar No. 24066591 P.O. Box 2211 Big Spring, Texas 79721 Telephone: (432) 264-1800 Facsimile: (432) 264-0785 Attorney for Dana Dickson #8585 January 20, 2015

Sun and Moon Enter Aquarius

Sometimes the best travel happens while we are standing in one place. The travel that's most necessary now is to an enlightened mindset. The sun enters Aquarius, and then the new moon follows, urging us to think about the larger picture and our responsibility to humanity. What habit could be changed that would make a difference?

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're ready to go to the next level and the right tools will be key. Invest in the best materials you can afford. It will make all of the difference in how your work comes together.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your success hinges on your decision to take on the challenge. Resolving to do something is half of the action itself. That's why it's worthwhile to deliberate on which



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Tomorrow's Horoscope

resolutions are worthy of you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's power in yielding. Instead of opposing the flow, give in and let it carry you, trusting the wisdom of natural forces. Besides, you're not really alone. Water signs will ride this one out with you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be attracted to that person who seems to have a secret. Maybe this secret is not one thing in particular, but a unique way of thinking, living and being.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's natural to question "How did I get here?" The "here" in question can seem so very far from where you started. The better question though is: "What now?"

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). While one person is busy in thought the other has already implemented a course of action and is learning from it. Put yourself in the second position -- don't think about it, just try it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Many of your adventures have started by choice but today's

begins in fate. Your ability to recognize and act upon the opportunities in the moment makes for good fortune.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you are near the ones who are dearest to you, the smallest interactions can bring the biggest joy. When you can't be with dear ones, try and seek kindred spirits.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Don't be afraid of hard work, especially if there's a physical component to it. Sometimes before you get renewed you have to be soundly worn out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It is said that artists are merely channels for unseen creative forces. That may be true, but your version of said "channel" is so quirky and unique that even if the muses did most of the work, you'll get all of the credit.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you ask a question, that's the moment the other person will know that you don't know. When you don't ask, ignorance could go on forever. It's better to ask.

husband for some time and now I'm more skeptical than ever as to his innocence. If there is a crime, it's a white-collar crime. I'm afraid to investigate but don't I need to get to the bottom of this if we are to have an honest marriage? He is an Aries, and I am a Libra."

Libra air signs like yourself have excellent intuition, but tend to process information factually, weighing the evidence carefully an internal accounting system. The scales that your sign is famous for have a magical way of measuring all aspects of information, including the emotional impact and other intangible considerations. As a diplomatic and even keel Libra, it's likely you could have an honest conversation with your husband and invite him to unburden himself. But before you do this, you should consult a lawyer about your suspicions and your options should your intuition be correct. Ask specifically about "marital privilege" a legal right regarding the confidences exchanged within a marriage that may in some cases protect spouses from having to testify against one another.

sudoku
ANSWERS
9 3 4 6 2 5 8 1 7
1 2 8 7 4 9 6 3 5
6 5 7 8 3 1 4 2 9
5 1 6 2 9 4 7 8 3
4 9 2 3 8 7 5 6 1
8 7 3 1 5 6 2 9 4
3 6 9 4 7 8 1 5 2
2 4 1 5 6 3 9 7 8
7 8 5 9 1 2 3 4 6
www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge
By Steve Becker
Keep Your Eye on the Ball
South dealer. North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ 7 6 5
♥ 8 2
♦ A Q 9 6 4
♠ A Q 3
WEST
♦ K 8 3
♥ J 9 4
♦ 8 3
♣ 9 7 5 4 2
EAST
♠ J 10 9 4 2
♥ 10 7 6 3
♦ K 5
♣ K 8
SOUTH
♠ A Q
♥ A K Q 5
♦ J 10 7 2
♣ J 10 6
The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — four of clubs.
Experience shows that when a partnership has 26 points or more in their combined hands, a game can usually be made. But mere possession of these points doesn't mean the game is automatically awarded to the side that has them. There is first the question of how declarer plays his cards.
Take this deal where South, with 29 points in the combined hands, mismanaged his assets. West led a club, and declarer played low from dummy, losing the finesse to East's king. Back came the jack of spades, the queen losing to the king, and a spade continuation drove out the ace. When declarer then tried his third finesse — this time in diamonds — East won and cashed his spades to put South down two.
The hand shows how easy it is to fall victim to habit. It is certainly tempting to finesse West's club lead, but declarer should put up the ace more quickly than he can say Rumpelstiltskin. Taking the ace assures the contract, while taking the finesse jeopardizes it. The finesse should therefore be rejected.
If South were dealing only with the problem of winning the maximum number of club tricks, he would of course finesse. But that is not his primary goal. He should be trying to make three notrump and should not allow himself to be diverted by the opportunity to take a finesse that is not needed to make the contract. He should instead take the ace of clubs, cross to the ace of hearts, lead the jack of diamonds and let it ride.
If the finesse loses, South has nine tricks. If it wins, South has at least 10 tricks. He should not concern himself with the location of the king of clubs. The 30 points he might gain by a successful club finesse are a drop in the bucket compared with the value of making a game.
Tomorrow: A tantalizing problem.
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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.
3 4 6
1 8
5 8 3 1
6 9 8
4 8 5 6 1
8 3 1 2
2 5 6 9
9 1 2 3
www.sudoku-puzzles.net

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Wind, rain, barometric pressure -- of all the forces that can change the world, love is still the most powerful. Do not doubt that your small, loving interactions person-to-person will make a difference.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 20). Your dreams of the future are better than your history and with persistence you will get there. Be realistic with work and fanciful with love in February. Then, in March, reverse it. Negotiations favor you in April. June is your chance at an exotic trip, though you'll have to make it a top priority for it to really happen. Pisces and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 44, 49, 13, 29 and 16.

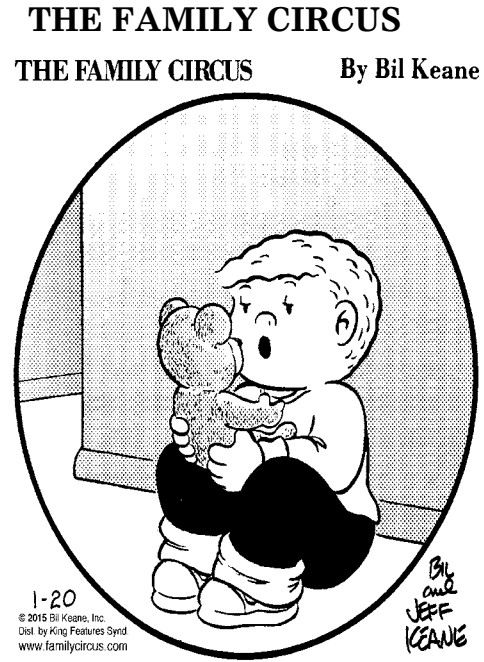
ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: I've suspected something is going on with my

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Aquarius Rainn Wilson contrasted his role as the megalomaniac Dwight Schrute of "The Office" with his real-life entrepreneurial role as creator of SoulPancake, a new media company that invites participants to "chew on life's big questions." The themes explored by this venture fall into the realm of both Aquarius and Pisces: philosophy and art (Aquarius), spirituality and religion (Pisces).
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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	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 :30	News ABC	P. Luche	Two Men	News	Tele	News	Seinfeld	Justice	Focus	CHiPs	Moonshiners	Movie: Lake Placid, Oliver Platt	Bar Rescue	Castle (DVS)	Loretta Devine	Girl	Around	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	Jeopardy!	La Gata (SS)	Big Bang	News	Noticiero	News	Seinfeld	Called	Business	M*A*S*H	Moonshiners	Bar Rescue	Castle (DVS)	Movie: Lottery Ticket, Natur Naughton	Austin	College Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball: LSU at Florida.
7:PM :30	To Be Announced	Mi Corazón Es Tuyo	MasterChef	NCIS (DVS)	Los Miserales (SS)	Parks	Big Bang	Upd	Genealogy Rd	Griffith	Moonshiners	Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer	Framework	Movie: Red, John Malkovich (DVS)	Jessie	2015 Australian Open Tennis: Second Round.	College Basketball: Iowa at Wisconsin.	SportsCenter
8:PM :30	Agent Carter	Hasta el Fin	State of the Union 2015	State of the Union 2015	Tierra de Reyes (SS)	State of the Union 2015	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	State of the Union 2015	Heroes	Moonshiners	Framework	Framework	Husbands	Good	Good	Good	Good
9:PM :30	Forever	Que te Perdona	Mod Fam	Mike	Dueños del Paraíso	Titulares	Conan	With Scholars	Charlie Rose	T. Smiley	Moonshiners	Framework	Movie: Rush Hour 3 (DVS)	Husbands	Husbands	Husbands	Husbands	Husbands
10:PM :30	News	Impacto	Cleveland	News	Tele	News	Conan	Ministerios Vida	T. Smiley	McMillan and Wife	Moonshiners	Framework	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Deck	Deck	Deck	Deck
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Estado de la Unión	How I Met How I Met	The Late Late Show	Dueños del Paraíso	News	Cougar	Chevalme	(Off Air)	McMillan and Wife	Moonshiners	Framework	CSI: NY	The Real	Wizards	Wizards	Wizards	Wizards
12:AM :30	TMZ	El Chavo	Friends	Insider	Pagado	(:07) Today	King of the Nerds	Light of the Southwest	Gallery	Moonshiners	Framework	CSI: NY	Queen Latifah	Wizards	Wizards	Wizards	Wizards	Wizards
1:AM :30	Paid	P. Luche	SVU	Paid	Deci													



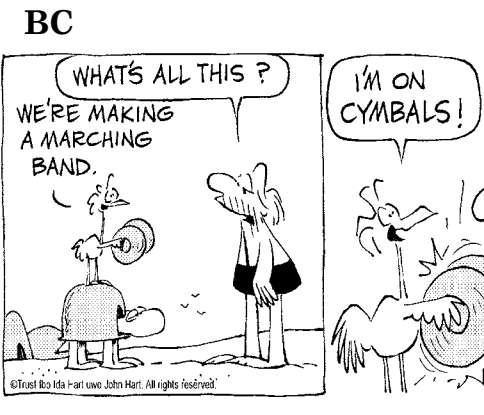
"DO WE HAVE ANY ICE WATER? OUR SNOWMAN NEEDS A TRANSFUSION."



"I don't know about you, but I'm tired, so it's time for me to call it a day."



THE ENEMY FORCE IS OVERWHELMING! WE NEED TO RETREAT! WE NEVER RETREAT!!



WIZARD OF ID



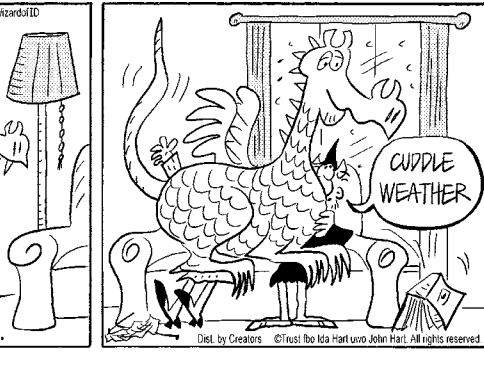
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HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST

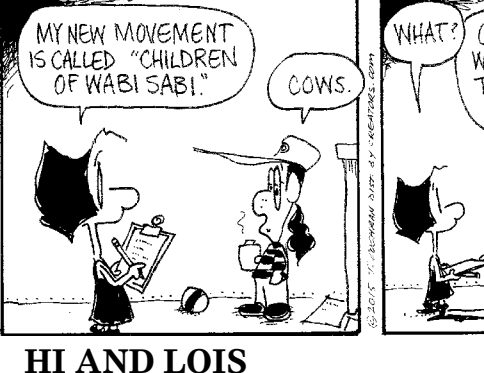
This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 20, the 20th day of 2015. There are 345 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 20, 1265, England's first representative Parliament met for the first time; the gathering at Westminster was composed of bishops, abbots, peers, Knights of the Shire and town burgesses. On this date: In 1649, King Charles I of England went on trial, accused of high treason (he was found guilty and executed by month's end). In 1887, the U.S. Senate approved an agreement to lease Pearl Harbor in Hawaii as a naval base. In 1936, Britain's King George V died; he was succeeded by Edward VIII. In 1942, Nazi officials held the notorious Wannsee conference, during which they arrived at their "final solution" that called for exterminating Jews. In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt was sworn into office for an unprecedented fourth term. In 1954, "The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial," a play by Herman Wouk based on part of his novel "The Caine Mutiny," opened on Broadway. In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson was inaugurated for a term of office in his own right. Rock-and-roll promoter Alan Freed, 43, died in Palm Springs, California. The Byrds recorded the Bob Dylan song "Mr. Tambourine Man" at Columbia Records in Hollywood.

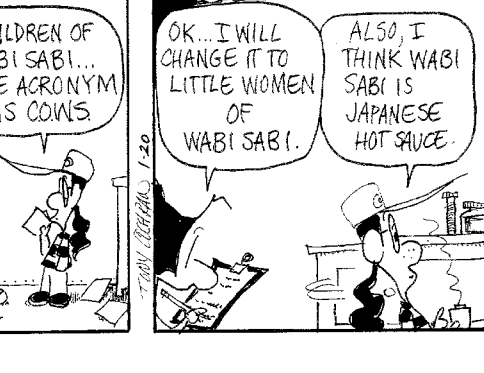
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Answer to previous puzzle

SPAT	BRO	CLASS
COLA	LIES	HIREE
ALES	ORAL	IMEAN
ROCK	ANDROLL	BAND
LEI	ELS	
METAL	ESSAY	OFF
EXILE	YES	POE
STRING	ORCHESTR	A
ARE	ELI	ERECT
SAD	SEDAN	RIDES
AAS	TII	
CHAMBER	ENSEMBLE	
LATTE	OVEN	ARID
ARMOR	MEAT	RANG
PESOS	ARM	KNEE



BEEBLE BAILEY



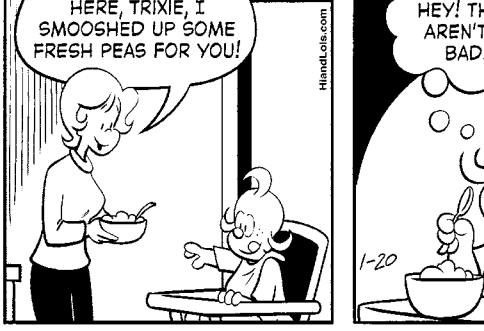
SNUFFY SMITH

Newsday Crossword

SEIZE YOUR FOOD by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

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

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THE OTHER COAST



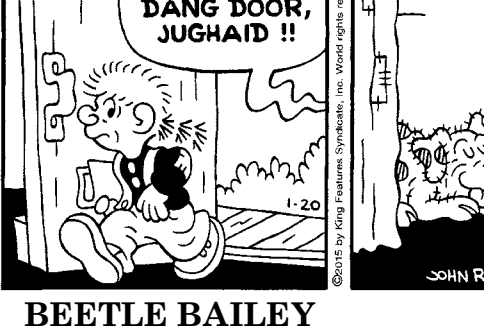
SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



SNUFFY SMITH

BIRD POOP

An Inca dove receives a second chance

When she called during January, Polly was furious.

Throughout her neighborhood she was known for her knowledge and love of birds. For her to see one shot while it perched on the railing outside the northern frontage of her home was an unspeakable travesty.

After parking at the apex of her circular drive, I envied the architecture and placement of her "mountain home." When she opened the door, anger still permeated every line of her face.

In a diatribe voicing her utter disdain for parents and their reckless purchases, she added, "Christmas presents! Hhrmph!"

Following my waiting for her to vent her emotions came my question, "Where's the bird?"

After motioning me to follow her, she walked into the kitchen. A cardboard box had been placed on the countertop near her sink. Inside, a sleeping Inca dove lay undisturbed.

A crease in the feathers atop its head showed a faint line similar to a part in human hair. The narrow gap had a few tiny droplets of dried blood. Grazed by a pellet, the bird was fortunate. The shooter was a lousy shot.

Having seen the Inca fall out of sight, Polly had rushed out her front door and charged across the rock-filled slope. Throughout late fall and early winter, she had gathered leaves from the same spot where she thought it had landed.

Ironically, the winds of nature had kept putting them back time and time again. Against all hope, she was

surprised to find the dove lying in a portion of these leaves.

Knocked out cold by the trauma of having its head rattled, the bird slept. Hoping to help her make a difference, I shared a similar shooting and its outcome.

Years earlier, in our Park Hill neighborhood, two teenage boys paraded down the streets with their new air rifles during the Christmas holidays. Limited by their return to classes in January, they continued on weekends.

A phone call from a neighbor on the street behind our home was startling. Crying, the woman had seen the twosome shoot a bird in her front yard. Proud of their accomplishment, they had hurried into the house across the street from her.

After talking with the neighbor and taking the dead blue jay, I walked across the street and rang the doorbell. Sounds of movement informed me the teens were still inside.

My loudest voice informed them of what they had done and that I had the dead bird and a witness. "Talk to me or talk to the game warden and police!" Silence followed.

Finally, the front door was opened just enough for me to see a pair of eyes staring back. "Both of you!" was my stern direction. Again silence prevailed.

Then another pair of eyes appeared over the first pair. "Your neighbor is very upset over what you have done and so am I. She will be calling your parents." Then I paused. To the pair of eyes underneath I added, "And I will be talking to your uncle."

Knowing he lived less than a block away was in my favor. He didn't let me down.

Later that afternoon, the uncle called. "They won't be shooting anything for a long time," he said.

In spite of the conversations that had been held in both boys' households, they had chosen a different course.

Both rifles were locked inside gun cases and could only be used



Huddled against the cold, Inca doves are known for their social graces. An Inca is about eight inches long, weighs less than two ounces, and the specie is one of our smallest doves.

in the presence of an adult. No time limit was given, and there were no extra keys to the containers.

Surprisingly, word of the incident spread. Neighbors and parents were more alert to what was happening on their streets. To Polly's doubtful look that it could work in Highland South, my reply was, "Try it! Call their parents, call your neighbors."

By the time I arrived back home, thumps were coming from the box. The Inca dove had awakened and warranted a brief examination.

Extending each wing exposed the distinctive rust color that is one of its identifying features. My spreading its long tail exposed white feathers on each side. The dark edges of its perfectly layered feathers gave it a scaly appearance. Even though its feathers were a brownish-gray, their dark edges made them look like they were heavily barred above and

below.

Over the next few days, the dove ate, drank, flew and perched. Droppings were normal, and it was displaying an anxious avoidance of people whenever present. Released in a known area frequented by Inca and mourning doves, our guest proudly displayed the colors for which it is known.

Paramount in its naming during early classification of species was the Incan civilization and its location. At present, the bird is associated with Mexico and southern portions of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

The least Polly Mays and I could do was to help insure its continued presence in our own area as a part of our national and regional wildlife.

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

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