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Pops in the Park tonight at the Comanche Trail Amphitheater

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**FRIDAY**  
JULY 3, 2015

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# Here's to the red, white and blue



*18th annual Pops in the Park highlights July 4 celebrations in Crossroads Country*

**BY LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

The evening skies over the Crossroads area will be lit up this evening as the county celebrates Independence Day a day early at the annual Pops and Park patriotic concert and fireworks display.

Festivities are set to begin at 5 p.m. with the gates to the Amphitheater located in the Comanche Trail park to open to the general. By then food vendors will be open as well as booths offering novelty items for sale.

Donny Green and Los GREENgos will take the stage at 6 p.m. for the pre-show. The Big Spring Symphony and Chorus will take the stage at 8 p.m. for the main event of the evening starting with the presentation of the colors and the Commemora-



See **POPS**, Page 3

## Patriotism on parade in Coahoma

**By JULIE BASS**  
Staff Writer

COAHOMA — Officials here remind everyone to come out for a patriotic parade followed by hamburgers at the park this Saturday.

"We have our grand marshals and our citizen of the year picked out and we usually have a good turn out of participants" said Lori Martinez, Freedom Parade coordinator. "Anyone who wants to be in the parade can show up at the Coahoma High School football field parking lot by 9 a.m. We will be judging the floats and different categories and award-

ing 'best patriotic' before the parade starts."

Float, bicycle, tractor, classic car, antique car and horse are just a few of the categories that will be judged this year.

The parade route will start at the football field at 10 a.m. and go down Main St to the railroad tracks. They will cross over the tracks and parallel them to the next crossing and head back up through town.

After the parade, employees of Western Bank will be grilling up burgers. A hamburger, bag of chips

See **FREEDOM**, Page 3

## Highland South July 4 Parade: Little ones can love their country, too

**By JULIE BASS**  
Staff Writer

Kids can show their patriotic pride, too, and nowhere will that be more evident than the Highland South July 4 Parade Saturday.

The parade will start at 10 a.m. at the corner of High-

land and Robb Street and end at the corner of Highland and Goliad Street. Everyone is invited to come out and watch the kids show off their decorations.

Participants should meet at the corner of Highland and Robb St. at 9:30 a.m.

The decorating categories this year are strollers, wagons, walkers, pets, tricycles and big wheels, kids' battery-operated vehicles (up to age 12), golf carts, bicycles (ages 1-7), bicycles (ages 8 and older), scooters/skateboards/rollerblades, motorized ve-

hicles (ages 12-18), 4 wheelers (allowed ONLY if an adult more than the age of 18 is driving), horses, mailboxes, houses and lawns.

Refreshments and entertainment will be provided as the winners are announced. All participants will receive

a ribbon.

For more information contact Melanie Lawderilk at 213-4703 or Shonda Folsom at 213-7671.

Contact Staff Writer Julie Bass at 263-7331 or email life@bigspringherald.com

## Don't blow it Officials say: Be safe with fireworks

**By JULIE BASS**  
Staff Writer

The July 4 weekend is always a time to celebrate our country and our freedom.

One of the most popular ways to show patriotism is through fireworks. They are beautiful, bright

and loud ... but also dangerous when not handled with care and respect.

Every year, there are injuries from fires, wild fireworks and misuse of fireworks.

In 2010, Howard County volunteer firefighters responded to 108 calls during a 24-hour period on July 4, said Tommy Sullivan, Howard county volunteer fire department chief.

"Last year, we responded to 35 calls. This year, we have the best fields we have had in 25-30 years,

thanks to all of the rain, but don't let that deceive you," said Sullivan, "There is still dead grass under that green and it can catch fire."

Sullivan said to prevent fires and help contain fires until help comes, keep a shovel on hand, a cell phone to call for help and a five-gallon bucket of water.

"Parents need to be careful with their kids, sparklers can burn at more than 2,000 degrees and kids



See **SAFE**, Page 3

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# Love your country, love your dog: Keep pets safe over July 4



Steph McCombie takes a selfie of her and her dog, in Gibsons, British Columbia, Canada, for a challenge to raise money and awareness about pet safety during the Fourth of July holiday. More pets go missing over the Fourth of July holiday any other time of the year, according to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. (Steph McCombie/@iffitwags via AP)

BY SUE MANNING

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — To us, fireworks are the sparkling embodiment of July Fourth. But to dogs, they truly are bombs bursting in air.

The pops and explosions, raucous block parties and other loud noises during holi-

day festivities can scare dogs into leaping over or digging under fences to escape the thunderous blasts, leading them to get lost or injured.

More pets go missing over the Fourth of July weekend than any other time of year, according to the American Society for the Prevention

of Cruelty to Animals. Many seasoned animal lovers know to keep their dogs inside, but many pets are still running away or getting killed by cars as they bolt blindly from the noise. Luckily, social media is helping find increasing numbers of animals or drawing attention to their plight.

The hashtag #Lost4Dogs aims to raise awareness about lost pets with a selfie challenge. It turns the idea of going missing onto people, urging them to post photos on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter wearing signs that say they should be returned to the pets pictured with them. Then, they would challenge others to post a selfie or donate to the American Humane Association, best known for approving animal safety on TV and movie sets.

Whistle Labs Inc., a San Francisco-based maker of pet

health and safety devices, is helping lead the campaign because “pets are members of the family, so experiencing only a few moments of loss is traumatic,” even if they’re found, company co-founder and CEO Ben Jacobs said.

Apps and online programs also actually locate lost dogs, ranging from GPS-enabled collars, which allow owners to track pets from their phones or computers, to apps such as Finding Rover, which uses facial recognition software to match photos of lost dogs to those in shelters. Plus, pet recovery services such as FindToto.com will call area shelters, vets and neighbors for a fee.

These tools can’t help all animals — some are so scared they can actually drop dead.

Wendy Wilson said her 15-year-old golden retriever named Spencer “reacted in total terror” at a bottle-rocket barrage from a neighbor’s yard last July Fourth in the Raleigh, North Carolina, suburb of Cary.

Veterinarians told Wilson that Spencer apparently died of a stroke or heart attack possibly triggered by fear of fireworks. They couldn’t find another reason because he had no prior heart condition.

“There wasn’t anything I could do,” Wilson said. “There must have been something in that sound spectrum that was so upsetting to him that he couldn’t get through it. Most people think of dogs running away. He didn’t even try to run.”

She has three other dogs and won’t be taking any chances this year. Beau, Teddy and Tonka will wear shirts that apply calming pressure and listen to music and TV in their favorite places in the house.

“Teddy likes to get in the TV chair with pillows on his head, while Beau likes to get in the bathtub,” Wilson said.

The populations of many shelters will increase 30 percent over the holiday weekend, according to the animal safety group Found Animals.

To keep pets safe, Los Angeles trainer David Wright and other experts offer some dos and don’ts:

## DO

- Get collar IDs and microchips.
- Use a crate or keep animals in a room where they can’t flee.
- Crank up music or the television to mask the sound of fireworks.
- Provide water and food. Fear makes dogs pant, and unfamiliar food makes them anxious.
- Offer chewable toys or treats as a distraction.

## DON’T

- Take a pooch to see fireworks unless it’s a noise-trained police K-9 or guide dog.
- Leave them outside, where they jump or dig to escape the yard.
- Approach dogs who look scared because they can attack.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- JIM BOB WHITE, 48, of 1305 Lincoln Ave. was arrested on charges of criminal trespass – habitation/shelter and public intoxication.
- MELISSA KAY WHITE, 28, of 307 E. 19<sup>th</sup> St. was arrested on warrants for three counts of failure to appear, driving while license invalid, failed to maintain financial responsibility and failed to control speed.
- WESLEY ALLAN EDMONDSON, 27, of 403 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St. was arrested on warrants for two counts of fail to appear, expired registration and no driver’s license.

• BONNIE JANE KLAASSEN, 55, of 225 Brooks Rd. was arrested on a warrant for another agency.

• ANDREA DENISE LAND, 42, of 1615 Cardinal St. was arrested on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and criminal trespass – property/building/aircraft/vehicle.

• BURGLARY IN PROGRESS was reported in the 300 block of E. 19<sup>th</sup> St.

• THEFT was reported in the 3600 W. Hwy 80 and the 2100 block of Scurry St.

• CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700.

• MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 4100 block of Parkway.

## Season tickdts for HC music concerts on sale



The Howard College Music program is offering a season ticket allowing a person to gain entrance to all of its performances for the season including guest solo recitals, chamber concerts and

all student recitals as well.

The ticket is \$50 for the general public and \$40 for Howard College faculty. The 2015-2016 season is expected to feature from 15 to 20 concerts from up and coming professional musicians including concerts for trombone, brass quintet, flute, clarinet, two trumpets, cello, piano, tuba, solo and group voice

recitals, saxophone quartet, a trio featuring cello, trumpet and piano.

To reserve a ticket, call 432-264-5145, e-mailing Kiley at dkiley@howardcollege.edu or e-mailing Wills at ewills@howardcollege.edu.

## Support Groups

### FRIDAY

• Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls).

Open meeting at 7 p.m.

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

### SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

### SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

### MONDAY

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

• Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls).

Open meeting at 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY

• Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the

### month.

This is a group for all Parkinson’s disease patients, spouses and caregivers.

For more information about the support group or about Parkinson’s Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY

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

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

### THURSDAY

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

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for

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

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don’t have to talk if you don’t want to. Flexible payment options.

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# News in brief

## Greek poll shows 2 sides neck and neck before crucial Sunday referendum

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — The brief but intense campaign in Greece's critical bailout referendum ends Friday, with simultaneous rallies in Athens supporting "yes" and "no" answers to a murky question in what an opinion poll suggests could be a very close vote.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras called the referendum last weekend, asking Greeks to decide whether to accept creditors' proposals for more austerity in exchange for more loans — even though those proposals are no longer on the table.

Tsipras is advocating a "no" vote on Sunday, saying it would give him a mandate to negotiate a better deal for Greece within the eurozone. Opposition parties, and many European officials, say a "no" vote would drive Greece out of the euro and into an even more impoverished future.

A poll conducted Tuesday and Wednesday and published in the newspaper To Ethnos on Friday showed the two sides in a dead heat. It also showed an overwhelming majority — 74 percent — want the country to remain in Europe's joint currency, the euro, compared to 15 percent who want a national currency.

Of the 1,000 respondents to the nationwide survey by the ALCO polling firm, 41.5 percent will vote "yes" and 40.2 percent "no," well within the margin of error of 3.1 percentage points. Another 10.9 percent were undecided and the rest said they would abstain or leave their ballots blank.

## AP Exclusive: China's Commerce Ministry website hosted bootlegged copy of 'Liar's Poker'

SHANGHAI (AP) — A complete bootlegged copy of Michael Lewis' bestselling book about Wall Street, "Liar's Poker," was hosted on the official website of the Chinese Commerce Ministry, the agency responsible for intellectual property protection in China, The Associated Press has found.

How and why a PDF, in English, of Lewis' raucous memoir about the excesses of Wall Street in the 1980s ended up on the ministry's site remains a mystery. The ministry did not respond to multiple requests for comment this week, but on Friday morning removed the page from their website.

China has a long and troubled history with copyright infringement. Despite high-level attempts to bolster enforcement, particularly as Beijing turns to innovation as a source of economic growth, piracy remains rampant — and widely tolerated.

Andrew Hay, director of security research at OpenDNS, a network security firm based in San Francisco, confirmed the file was hosted on the Ministry of Commerce website and was not a spoof.

Internet registry records show that the website was created in 2003 by the ministry's Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Department. The pirated copy of "Liar's Poker" — which had been available at <http://images.mofcom.gov.cn/kjxh/accessory/200801/1201672069708.pdf> — was created in 2006, according to metadata embedded in the PDF file. The pirated e-book has been lurking on the ministry's website since at least 2008, according to the San Francisco-based Internet Archive, which preserves copies of old websites.

## AP Exclusive: North Korean farmers face dry fields, empty lakes amid drought

UNPHA, North Korea (AP) — North Korean farm-

ers work to pump underground water into parched fields. Instead of rice seedlings standing in flooded paddies, the baked earth is cracked. A big lake that used to supply surrounding farmland with water is almost completely dry.

There has been almost no rain in this part of the country, an hour's drive from the capital Pyongyang and one of the country's main rice-growing regions, according to farmers and local officials interviewed by The Associated Press. While the situation in this area visited by the AP looks grim, it is unclear how severe the drought is in the rest of the country.

"Because of the drought continuing from last year, lots of land has been damaged," said Sin Ung Hyon, chairman of the Unpha County Farm Management Committee.

North Korea severely limits outside access, so state media's recent claim of the worse drought in a century has faced widespread skepticism. Pyongyang, eager for the possibility of outside assistance, has used similar phrasing to describe past droughts, and officials in rival South Korea have said there's no way to confirm exactly what's happening.

North Korean authorities agreed to a request by the AP to revisit this area, which the government had highlighted previously as particularly hard-hit. An AP video journalist was accompanied by local officials.

## Warning of 2016 consequences, Hispanic leaders call on Republicans to condemn Trump

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hispanic leaders are warning of harm to Republican White House hopes unless the party's presidential contenders do more to condemn Donald Trump, a businessman turned presidential candidate who's refusing to apologize for calling Mexican immigrants rapists and drug dealers.

Trump's comments, delivered in his announcement speech last month, have haunted the GOP for much of the last two weeks and dominated Spanish-language media. It's bad timing for a Republican Party that has invested significantly in Hispanic outreach in recent years, given the surging influence of the minority vote.

Yet several Republican candidates have avoided the issue altogether, while those who have weighed in have declined to criticize Trump as strongly as many Hispanic leaders would like.

"The time has come for the candidates to distance themselves from Trump and call his comments what they are: ludicrous, baseless and insulting," said Alfonso Aguilar, a Republican who leads the American Principles Project's Latino Partnership. "Sadly, it hurts the party with Hispanic voters. It's a level of idiocy I haven't seen in a long time."

## Analysis: Root of tattered US-Russia ties date back decades, misunderstandings on both sides

WASHINGTON (AP) — The stumbles, blunders, and policy chaos that have sent increasingly frosty U.S.-Russia relations into what many now call a new Cold War might have been inevitable.

The fundamental hopes and fears lurk, sometimes subconsciously, in the collective minds of the Russian and American nations despite the collapse of the Soviet Union nearly a quarter century ago. That puts their world views at odds and on a collision course, with the crisis over Ukraine the latest and biggest confrontation.

That dismal relationship more often than not can be linked to the eastward expansion of the NATO

alliance and Moscow's refusal to believe America's promises that it does not threaten Russia. There's also Russian President Vladimir Putin's seething anger over his country's loss of superpower status.

Back in friendlier days, after agreement on the NATO-Russia Found Act in 1997, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said she saw the trouble brewing.

## Big diabetes study tests whether insulin in pills could prevent the disease

CHICAGO (AP) — For nearly a century, insulin has been a life-saving diabetes treatment. Now scientists are testing a tantalizing question: What if pills containing the same medicine patients inject every day could also prevent the disease?

Thirteen-year-old Hayden Murphy of Plainfield, Illinois, is helping researchers determine if the strategy works for Type 1 diabetes, the kind that is usually diagnosed in childhood. If it does, he might be able to avoid the lifetime burdens facing his 5-year-old brother, Weston. They include countless finger pricks and blood sugar checks, and avoiding playing too hard or eating too little, which both can cause dangerous blood sugar fluctuations.

Hayden Murphy is among more than 400 children and adults participating in U.S. government-funded international research investigating whether experimental insulin capsules can prevent or at least delay Type 1 diabetes.

Hospitals in the United States and eight other countries are involved and recruitment is ongoing. To enroll, participants must first get bad news: results of a blood test showing their chances for developing the disease are high.

"When I got the news, I was devastated," Hayden said. He knows it means his life could change in an instant.

## Solar-powered airplane due to land in Hawaii after 5-day flight from Japan

HONOLULU (AP) — An airplane powered by the sun is scheduled to land in Hawaii after a five-day journey over the Pacific Ocean.

The flight from Japan is the longest leg of the around-the-world voyage planned by two Swiss pilots who have been taking turns flying the single-seat airplane. It is also the riskiest because the plane has nowhere to land in an emergency.

The aircraft is scheduled to land at a small airport outside Honolulu about 6 a.m. (9 a.m. PDT) Friday. Flight officials say the aircraft was arriving in the Hawaii area earlier but would fly in a holding pattern until the scheduled landing time.

## FREEDOM

Continued from Page 1

and a drink will be \$5 with all proceeds going to the Coahoma chapter of the Lions Club.

This year's Grand Marshals are Tommy Wyrick, James Lee Parrish and Joe Angel Moran. These Coahoma residents have served their community as well as their country.

"This parade is about

patriotism. It is to celebrate freedom and honor our veterans and current military" said Martinez.

For more information about the parade, contact Lori Martinez at 816-4555.

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## SAFE

Continued from Page 1

touch them to their legs, arms and sometimes grab onto the ends," Sullivan advised.

Big Spring Police Department Administrative Lt. Brian Gordon

offers advice for safe firework use.

"Alcohol and fireworks do not mix," Gordon said.

Adults need to monitor minors when lighting and using fireworks. Read warning labels and follow the directions. Do not re-light duds, wait 20 minutes and then sub-

merge them in water.

Snaps and pops are popular for little ones and are OK to have within the city limits, Gordon said, but anything that lights or burns is classified as a firework and is illegal within city limits by city ordinances.

"Get out of the city

limits. Find a friend or landowner and get permission," Gordon said, adding that trespassing is an issue during July 4.

"We want everyone to be safe and have fun."

Contact Staff Writer Julie Bass at 263-7331 ext 232.

## POPS

Continued from Page 1

ative Air Force missing man formation before the symphony launches into a program of patriotic music.

After the main concert, a video presentation honor local men and women military service personnel will be shown before the highlight of the evening, a large fireworks display begins about 9:30 p.m.

Early traffic will be directed to the Russ McEwen Water Park parking, which is the closest of the six designated parking spaces to the Amphitheater, but parking space is ex-

pected to fill up quickly. Once that parking lot is at capacity, traffic will be directed to one of the other six designated parking areas.

This year will be the first time police will enforce an animal ban at the amphitheater. Citing public safety, the city council issued the ban earlier this year. Dogs are allowed in the rest of the park as long as the animal remains on a leash.

Funding for the annual Pops in the Park comes through donations from the community. According to Pops committee officials, this year's Pops will cost \$40,000. Major contributors include the Dora Roberts Foun-

dation, ALON USA, H-E-B and The Geo Group, Inc. Also contributing are Citizen's FCU, Worthy Company, Superod, Howard County Volunteer Fire Department, Days Inn, Sid Richardson, Prescription Services, M. Weaver, Guthrie Oil & Gas, Big Spring Collision Center and the Paint & Safety Store.

Pops in the Park is presented by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, the Big Spring Herald, the Big Spring Symphony Association, city of Big Spring, 93.3 — the Fuse, KBST 95.7 and 1490, KBest Media, Weeks Broadcasting, KBYG 1400 AM and 106.3, and FM-KXCS 105.5 FM.

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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.

**Psalms 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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# Did You Ever Wonder: The silver goblet

Joseph's brothers were overwhelmed by the gracious reception they received this time. They were entertained by the Viceroy himself; meat was slaughtered especially for them. But as they were ushered to their place at the table, the brothers realized that they were seated in order of their birth!

The table was already set with portions for each man; this was probably personal bowls of each course served. But around Benjamin's place was five times the portion for the rest of them. They were served lavishly... fine dishes of every variety of vegetable that grew in Egypt. And consider that these were men accustomed to bread from home, carried in a pouch, and roasting their own meat over a campfire. They soon relaxed and enjoyed this luxurious banquet. In



EUNICE  
FILLER

fact, they drank too much wine and became intoxicated.

his dinner was really a battle of wits!

Joseph had not yet revealed who he was, and he wanted to see how his brothers still felt about him and how they would react to Benjamin's receiving more favor. When the meal was ended, Joseph had their grain sacks filled and again their money was returned. Joseph also had his special silver goblet placed in the top of Benjamin's sack.

The brothers left the city the next morning. Before they had gone very far, Joseph sent men to overtake them and search their grain sacks. Again the men were terrified. They were accused of stealing from the Viceroy of Egypt, but they knew they had not taken anything.

"Anyone among your servants with whom it is found shall die, and we also will become slaves to my lord," they offered.

Manasseh replied, "The one with whom it is found shall become the Viceroy's slave, but the rest shall be

exonerated." He searched each sack, from the eldest and to the youngest; and the goblet was found in Benjamin's sack.

The brothers were so stricken with such grief that they tore their garments and wailed. They reloaded their donkeys and returned to the city. Again they bowed before Joseph, pleading for mercy. Judah said, "What can we say to my lord (to Joseph)? How can we speak (to Jacob)? And how can we justify ourselves?"

God has uncovered our sin (of selling Joseph as a slave). Now we are ready to be slaves to my lord (Joseph)." Joseph answered, "It would be sacrilegious for me to do this. The man in whose possession the goblet was found will be my slave and the rest of you may go in peace to your father."

Then Judah asked permission to approach the Viceroy.

Quietly, just above a whisper, he told the story of how Jacob had loved Rachel more than his other wives and therefore favored the one son she

bore him. He confessed the jealousy the other sons felt and that they had sold this favored son into slavery, greatly grieving their father. Jacob's favored wife had borne another son, but died in childbirth.

"Now our father clings to this youngest son for consolation. If we go back to our father without the youth, our father will die of grief. If I do not return the youth to our father, I will have sinned against my father for all time. I pray now, let me remain as your servant and let the youth go up with his brothers."

"Have you ever heard the saying, 'Your sin will find your out?'" It did here, and Judah was willing to hold himself accountable for his part in the sin.

Are we that strong in our faith?

*Eunice Filler, author of "Rachel: Porch Swings and Spearmint Tea," is a former school teacher with ties to the Big Spring community. She has returned to enjoy her retirement as a Big Spring resident. Questions? Fillereunice@yahoo.com.*

## Church News

### Forsan Baptist Church

This Sunday our message is titled, "Tools of the Trade," and comes from Hebrews 10:19-25.

July 11th is our church-wide breakfast at 9 a.m. That night we will have our annual block party and movie night. The block party will begin at 7 p.m. with games and activities for all ages. The movie is "Free Willy" and will begin as soon as it is dark.

All Wednesday youth activities are finished for the summer. CHAOS, GA's, RA's, and Mission friends will resume when school resumes in August. Normal Wednesday prayer meeting and Bible study times will remain active.

Our church is located at 201 Main in Forsan. Sunday School begins at 9:50 a.m., with worship services at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday services begin at 6 p.m. 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

The church is located on the southwest corner of 11th Place and Birdwell Lane. Vacation Bible School will be held Aug. 10-12, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and is for classes kindergarten through sixth grade. An adult class will be held in the auditorium. The theme this year is How We Got the Bible.

Bible study is 9 a.m. and worship service is 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Wednesday night bible study and devotionals is at 7 p.m.

### First Church of the Nazarene

July 11th, be sure can come by the East Door of Walmart from 7 a.m. to 11 am for our bake sale benefiting the Rejuvenation Fund. There will be sweets, jelly and some other special goods for sale.

Looking to flock someone's yard with flamingos. Contact Josh or Melissa with the teen or visit our website or Facebook for forms. Let the flocking begin!

You can listen to any of our previous Sunday services by going to our webpage at nazfamily.org.

We also invite you to come check out all the remodeling that has taken place.

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.

Children's church is at 10 a.m. Sunday in the Fellowship Hall. Sunday evening youth activities are at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday nights we have weekly prayer starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary while children and youth classes are in other classrooms.

You can also listen each Sunday to KBST 95.7 at 10 am for a live broadcast of our service. We are located at 1400 Lancaster. Contact the church office at 432-267-7015.

### Family Faith Center

On July 4, 15 years ago, Family Faith Center began with only a handful of people with a dream in their hearts to seek God and teach people how to better themselves in the areas of faith, family, and finances.

That dream continues today as the ministry has expanded into campuses in several neighboring cities. FFC Big Spring has growing ministries including Sweet Lil Angels Nursery for newborn to 18 months available every service, Tots Sweet Stop for ages 18 months to 2 years, Tots Sweet Shoppe for ages 3 to 4 years, and Kingdom Builders for grades kindergarten to 4. Studio 56 for fifth and sixth graders is available every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and Elevate Student Center Youth Outreach is available every Wednesday at 7:01 p.m.

The Gate Called Beautiful provides blood pressure screening before Sunday morning services and also offers the services of Stephen Ministries for those facing the challenges that life sometimes brings. The Men's Ministry of FFC named Management (Manage Men at the T) meets every Wednesday morning at 7 a.m. in the Annex dining hall for 45 minutes of bible training, church planning, and organizational outreach. FFC Reign Summer Program for young men ages 12 to 18 meets three days a week for six weeks at 8 a.m. for training in Christian morals, ethics and lifestyle.

The church auditorium is open every Saturday evening from 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. for prayer and worship and also on Sunday morning from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. for faith confessions and prayer/worship.

Join us as our year of celebration continues.

### Cornerstone Covenant Church

Cornerstone Covenant Church

would like to invite you to join us Sunday, at 10:30 a.m for a time of fellowship, worship, prayer and of course time in the word of God.

- Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Join us for mid-week bible study. CCC offers classes for all ages.

- Tuesday, July 14 at 7 p.m. Our Men's Ministry, The Brigade, will be gathering at 703 Colgate Ave. for a time of fellowship. Don't forget to bring your favorite dish.

- Friday, July 17 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Come out and join our F.A.R Women's Ministry, at 2906 W. 8th St. right next to the Meet-N-Greet, for a night of fellowship, laughter and swimming. Be sure to bring your swim clothes, a towel and a dish to share.

- Saturday, July 25 at noon. Our Single's Ministry will be having a "Picnic in the Park" followed by swimming at the Russ McEwen water park. Be sure to bring a sack lunch and the kids.

- Saturday, July 25 at 4 p.m. Our 50 and Up Ministry will be coming together at 2405 East 25th St. (Faye and Steve Flowers home) for a "BBQ and Swim Party." Be sure to bring a towel, swim suit and your favorite side dish.

- Saturday, July 25 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for our Marriage Ministry — "Family Picnic." We will be gathering on the top of the mountain for a time of family, fellowship, enjoyment and food.

Lastly, we serve a free fellowship breakfast each Sunday morning at 10 a.m. in the Misfits Lounge.

We are located at 706 East 12th Street. For office hours contact our administrative office at 432-264-0015. You can also find us at facebook.com/CCCBigSpring; or visit us at www.cccbigspring.org if you would like more information.

### First Baptist Church

"I will sing of the loving kindness of the Lord forever;" are the opening words of Psalm 89. Come lift your

voice in worship with us 10:50 a.m. Sunday morning. Pastor Mark Lindsey continues the sermon series on "The Life of Christ" which explores the identity and purpose of Jesus' life. Sunday's message, titled "Tempted," is drawn from Matthew 4:1-11. If you are unable to attend, you may watch the service through the live stream on our website at: fcbigspring.org.

Sunday School classes begin at 9:30 a.m., with children gathering on the first floor in the 'Good News Garage', while youth and adult classes meet throughout the second floor. Greeters are happy to assist you in finding your class. Come early to get acquainted and enjoy some coffee.

Sunday evening at 5:30, you're invited to be part of the Missional Community groups that meet in homes in the area. Call 432-267-8223 or go to fcbigspring.org for detailed information. These groups enjoy a time of fellowship and a light meal together while praying for our community and encouraging one another in the faith. You do not have to be a church member to be part of these groups.

The Triple LLL(Living Longer & Loving It) group invites you to join them Tuesday at noon in the Family Life Center. Bring a friend and have some great fellowship and a tasty lunch. Come in the east kitchen doors.

The Mission Center (food pantry and clothes closet) will be open Thursday July 9 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The Mission Center is located at 2017 Lancaster, a block behind HEB.

It's not too late for your children to participate in our Summerama program. Summerama meets each Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and is for children going into first through going into seventh grade. Call 267-8223 to register your child.

See CHURCH NEWS page 6



# Christian's responsibility to government, government's responsibility to God

If you are like me, then you have been concerned with the direction our nation has been taking. It appears that we are turning into a God-less society rather than a Godly one. As a Christian, what should I do when the governing authorities are not following God's word? The Apostle Paul had some things to say to the Christians in Rome about this matter. Read Romans 13:1-8.



GREG  
SURLES

## The Christian's Responsibility to Government (1-2)

Paul writes that civil governments have been instituted by God. God

has established order. From the very beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, He established order. He set everything in its place and set up the natural laws by which the universe is governed. So, in order that communities and civilizations might maintain order, God established civil authorities. Therefore, as God's people, we are to be subject to that authority. Paul writes that those who resist will incur judgment.

## The Government's Responsibility to God (3-4)

All governments, not just ours, should recognize that they are not the final authority but that they are subject to the supreme authority of the God of heaven. If that were the case, how wonderfully different the world would be! In this passage,

Paul is giving the ideal based upon God's design not the way every government acts in every situation. Remember Paul is writing this letter to Christians in Rome, the Imperial Capital. A government following God's pattern will approve what is good and punish what is evil. But who decides what is good and what is evil? God has given us His standard. Through His Spirit He has revealed Himself and His will to humanity. The bible ought to be the standard by which everyone (including those in government) determines good and evil, right from wrong.

## Proper Attitude of Humility (5-8)

What should we do based upon what Paul has written in this passage? We should do what is right, not just to avoid punishment, but

because it is the right thing to do. We should honor and respect the authority of the office. We should not encourage strife and disorder (a Christian is not an anarchist). However, if it means that following the laws of a civil government would cause us to violate God's pattern, then we must obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29).

Are you praying for our government? 1 Timothy 2:1-2, First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

*Greg Surles is the preacher to Birdwell Lane church of Christ.*

## CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 5

All area teens are invited to participate in the many summer activities for youth going on now. Open gym days, movie days, and trips to Midland Rockhound games are among the fun times planned. Contact Youth Pastor Jonathan Raffini at 432-270-8332 for details. Join the fun at McDonalds on Highway 87 at 11 a.m. July 10; come hang out and eat lunch while making new friends.

Wednesday evening begins with a meal served in the Family Life Center from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., followed by prayer time and Bible study, Adult Choir Practice, 'Wacky Wednesdays' for kids, and Saturate Youth group. Join us for chicken spaghetti July 8.

FBC is located at 705 W Fm 700.

## Blessed Hands Deaf Church

Tonight is 'Friendly Friday's at Froyo's' from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and we invite the deaf community of Big Spring to stop by and enjoy a cool snack with us. We will be treating each deaf visitor and their family to a medium frozen yogurt during this time of fellowship; there is no obligation, we just want to bless, serve, and get acquainted with our deaf friends in the area. Froyo's is located at 1506 E FM 700. Join us at 2 p.m. Sunday as we gather to worship our mighty Lord and creator.

Pastor Jim Walterhouse continues the sermon series on Ecclesiastes, which directs us to the truth that as we journey through life's ups and downs, God is ever-present and always faithful. Sunday services are held inside First Baptist Church at 705 W FM 700.

Our Wednesday evening schedule is suspended for the summer months. For more information about Blessed Hands Deaf Church contact Pastor Jim at: jwalterhouse@gmail.com.

## Spring Creek Fellowship

Don't forget to stop by the fireworks store. It's the Mr. W white building on Highway 87 past Walmart. This is Spring Creek's big youth fundraiser for the year. We appreciate any and all support. We are open Friday 10 a.m. to midnight and Saturday 9 a.m. to midnight. All proceeds earned go towards camp and other youth activities.

Come see our new building at Spring

Town Plaza.

We will be having our first Worship Service in our new home on Sunday, July 12 at 10:45 a.m. Not all the work is done, but we are getting close to officially moving in and want to share a "sneak peek" with you.

Our children will be going to Circle 6 for camp July 20-23. A male sponsor is needed for boys third through fifth grade. Fee are due July 1st. If you are interested, contact Donna Wennik.

If you are a musician or singer and would be interested in being a part of our Worship Team, contact Clint Bratcher.

Paint is going on the walls of our new building. If you would like to help paint, please contact Dorothy Nichols. Our next project is carpet squares. Each 2 foot by 2 foot square will cost \$10 installed. Donations are being taken now.

Weekly Happenings:

Sunday  
9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. — Sunday School/Connection Groups

10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. — "Holy Grounds Café" is open with snacks and fellowship.

10:45 a.m. — noon — Worship Service

4 p.m. — "Grief Share" meets at SCF.

Tuesday  
Noon to 2 p.m. — Prayer Team meets at Spring Town Plaza

Moon — Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza

6 p.m. — Pain Management Group meets at church.

Friday  
7 p.m. to 8 p.m. — Narcotics Anonymous meets at SCF.

Saturday  
7:30 a.m. — Weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast & Fellowship

10 a.m. — "Sowing Seeds of Hope" Crafting fellowship

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, please 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. (Across from Denny's). Contact us at 432-714-4584 or visit our website at www.springcreekfellowship.org

## First Presbyterian Church — Big Spring

The regular Wednesday church activity is the following: 5:17

p.m., the Lectionary Bible study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger. The Chancel Choir will not rehearse until August; choir members will join the congregation in singing during July.

The Youth served as lectors last Sunday, with Glen Burch reading the Psalm, Mia Burch leading the Call to Worship, and Donovan Salinas reading the epistle. Emmy Kennemur and Mia Burch collected the Noisy Offering.

Susan McDaniel is in charge of Take Ten for this Sunday. John Ferguson is Lector for the month. Ushers are Mark and Vickie McLean, Lucy and Pascal Odom.

The lectionary for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost (or 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time) is 2 Samuel 5:1, 1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13. Rev. Craig Holstedt will deliver the sermon. There will be no anthem since the choir is on its summer hiatus; the congregation is encouraged to sing out on all the hymns. Communion will be observed next Sunday, rather than on the first Sunday of the month as usual.

We wish our pastor and his wife Susan a Happy Anniversary and our nation a Happy Independence Day!

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

If you cannot attend worship, you may 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.

See CHURCH NEWS page 7

## The Big Spring Art Association

The Big Spring Art Association had a wonderful year. There were demonstrations by the art association members as well as special guest we brought in. It has been five years since we had our last areawide art. show. This one was great.

We will have our first garage sale. It will be Saturday, July 11 at the Brushworks Studio located at 2106 Scurry street. It will start at 9 a.m. The garage sale will have the regular garage sale items in addition to some art related items.

Contact  
the Herald  
at 263-7331

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# REFLECTIONS: The fourth, a pivotal day in our nation's history

**N**ext Saturday we celebrate the Fourth, a uniquely American holiday. No other nation has a holiday quite like it.

No other nation on earth has aspired to a higher and simpler ideal. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Two of the most prominent men who created the Declaration of Independence died 50 years to the day after the signing. Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration, died in his home at Monticello on July 4, 1826. A few hours later on the same day, John Adams, who edited the early drafts and won approval

for the Declaration before the Continental Congress, died in his home.

Thirty-seven years afterward, on July 4, 1863, Lee's Confederate army withdrew in defeat from Gettysburg. On that same day, Vicksburg fell to Grant, two pivotal battles that decided the preservation of the Union and the abolition of slavery.

On July 4, 1884, France presented the Statue of Liberty to the United States.

In many ways the history of our nation has been written by our efforts to live up to the Declaration of freedom and equality for all. We have struggled among ourselves, often falling short. We have sought to defend and extend freedom among foreign nations by sending our young men and women to lay down their lives. We have learned that ultimate freedom can never be achieved through legislation and government alone, as important as those are. Ultimate freedom must be achieved in each human heart. Every one of us must

fight a personal war with our own sin nature that seeks to make us captive and steal our freedom.

We see everyday in the lives of our politicians, sports heroes and celebrities the consequences of losing that battle in the secret places of the heart. Greed and corruption remain the greatest obstacles to freedom and equality among the nations of the earth.

The pervasiveness of sin is perhaps the best documented reality in our world. The media is filled with daily accounts of its presence and the horrendous consequences it can create.

Two thousand years ago another document was drafted. It was not voted upon by representatives and did not found any government. But those words spoken long ago hold the secret to the ideals that we have embraced. Jesus said, "Truly, truly I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin ... If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

God sent His Son into the world not merely to pay the penalty for our sin so that we might enter Heaven, He sent Him in order that He might overcome sin's grip on our lives and set us free. The Apostle Paul had once been enslaved to ambition, anger and resentment.

He started his early career persecuting the Christian faith. But he found a better way. He confessed, "The good that I would do, I don't. And that that I don't want to do is exactly what I end up doing ... Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 7:24).

This Fourth, as we celebrate the freedom envisioned by our nation's founders, may we experience true freedom that is found through faith in Christ.

Email [bill@tinsleycenter.com](mailto:bill@tinsleycenter.com). For more information visit [www.tinsleycenter.com](http://www.tinsleycenter.com).



BILL TINSLEY

## CHURCH NEWS

Continued from page 6

You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website: [www.fpcbs.org](http://www.fpcbs.org). On our website, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by Rev. Craig Holstedt. We would be pleased for you to Like us on Facebook.

### St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary at St. Mary's Episcopal Church located at 10<sup>th</sup> and Goliad Streets. The Daily Grind with God, a bible study/coffee social, is held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday. Evening prayer begins at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday in the chapel. For more information visit [www.stmarysbt.org](http://www.stmarysbt.org).

There will be a short prayer service for Max Webb, former director of the Northside Community Center, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 S. Goliad, on Sunday, July 12 after the regular morning service. The prayer service will begin approximately around 11:30 a.m. and will be in the Bennett Garden. The Rev. Calvin Girvin will be in charge of this service. Afterwards, there will be a special coffee hour in the Parish Hall for the family, parishioners and those of the community. The community is welcome to come worship with us at 10:30 am, July 12, and after the service we will adjourn to the garden.

### Fourth set of triplets delivered at Calif. hospital

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — Doctors at a Central California hospital have delivered a fourth set of triplets in the last four weeks.

The Fresno Bee reports Tuesday that the fourth set was born earlier this week.

The newspaper reported that hospital officials confirmed the latest births, but the family didn't give permission to release any other details.

One set of triplets was born the week of June 7, followed by another set June 18 and the third set three days later. All babies are said to be doing well.

A fifth set of triplets could arrive at any time. Doctors are monitoring Stacie Trasoras, who is carrying three girls.

Triplets occur in about 120 of every 100,000 live births in the U.S.

### Endangered Mexican gray wolves born at suburban Chicago zoo

BROOKFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Officials of a suburban Chicago zoo say the birth of a litter of Mexican gray wolves marks a major milestone in the conservation of an endangered species.

The two pups emerged Tuesday from their den at

### Episcopalians OK allowing gay marriage in churches

BY BRADY McCOMBS

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Episcopal Church has completed its embrace of gay rights, changing church law to allow same-sex religious marriages throughout the denomination, just days after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized gay marriage nationwide.

The new policy won overwhelming approval from the top Episcopal legislative body Wednesday, following decades of debate and conflict. It came 12 years after the denomination blazed a trail by electing the first openly gay bishop.

"To finally get to this day is an incredible moment," said the Rev. Cynthia Black, of Morristown, New Jersey, a lesbian who has been campaigning for gay acceptance for years. "It is the beginning. It is not the end. There will still be people excluded, but at least we've gotten to this point."

The vote came in Salt Lake City at the Episcopal General Convention. Many dioceses in the New York-based church of nearly 1.9 million members already had been allowing their priests to perform civil same-sex weddings, using a trial prayer service to bless the couple. Still, the church hadn't changed its own laws on marriage until Wednesday.

The new law eliminates gender-specific language on marriage so same-sex couples could have religious weddings. Instead of "husband" and "wife," for example, the new church law will refer to "the couple." Clergy can decline to perform the ceremonies.

The changes were approved 173-27 by the House of Deputies, a voting body of clergy and lay people. The deputies also approved a gender-neutral prayer service for marriage on a 184-23 vote. The House of Bishops had given authorization for both measures a day earlier.

The measures take effect the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 29.

The Episcopal Church is the U.S. wing of the Anglican Communion, an 80 million-member global fellowship of churches. Ties among Anglicans have been strained since Episcopalians in 2003 elected Bishop Gene Robinson, who lived openly with his male partner, to lead the Diocese of New Hampshire. Many more conservative Episcopalians either split off or distanced themselves from the national U.S. church after Robinson's election.

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, spiritual leader of the world's Anglicans, earlier this

week expressed deep concern about the move to change the definition of marriage.

During debate Wednesday, the Rev. Jose Luis Mendoza-Barahona of Honduras said the new church law goes against the Bible and would create a chasm in the church.

"The fight has not ended, it's starting," he said during debate at the convention. "Those of us in the church who are loyal followers of Christ are going to remain firm in not recognizing what happened today."

But in an interview after the vote, Robinson said he was "delighted" and "proud" of the church.

"It's a day I wasn't sure I would live to see," said Robinson, who is now retired. "What we're seeing I think in the Episcopal Church, and last week with the Supreme Court decision, is an entire culture evolving into understanding that gay and lesbian, bisexual and transgender people contribute just as much as anyone else to this society and deserve all the same rights."

The Episcopal Church joins two other mainline Protestant groups that allow gay marriage in all their congregations: the United Church of Christ and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The 3.8-million-member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America lets its congregations decide for themselves, and many of them host gay weddings.

The United Methodist Church, by far the largest mainline Protestant church with 12.8 million members, bars gay marriage, although many of its clergy have been officiating at same-sex weddings recently in protest.

Black and her wife Becky Walker, who had a commitment ceremony in their home in 1988 and formally married four years ago in Massachusetts, said they hoped the changes would help reverse dwindling church membership, drawing young people looking for a welcoming religion. Faith groups across the spectrum of belief, from the Episcopal Church to the Southern Baptists, have been losing members as more Americans say they identify with no particular religion. The Episcopal Church has shrunk 18 percent over the last decade, after more than a generation of steady decline.

"People under the age of 30 don't understand what the fuss is about. They've grown up having LGBT folks as their friends and part of their life," Black said. "They don't understand why the church would ever exclude them."

the Brookfield Zoo's wolf habitat and romped through their lush woodland enclosure. They were born in May.

Chicago Zoological Society vice president Bill Zeigler says the birth of the litter is part of a suc-

cessful international program for the recovery of Mexican gray wolves in North America.

Because the puppies are candidates for future release to the wild when they are adults, they will have minimal contact with humans.

Have an idea? Comment?  
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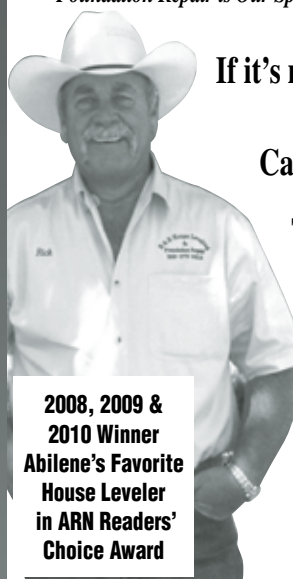
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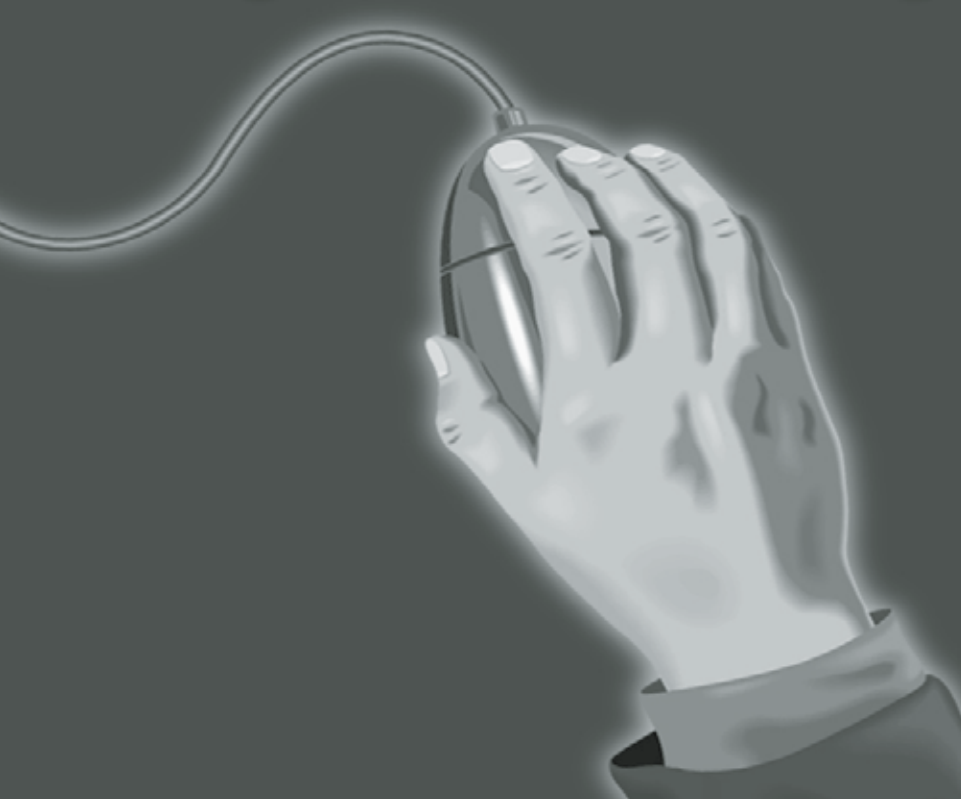
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Tomorrow's Horoscope



Angel's Moon

The Aquarius moon

HOLIDAY MATHIS represents

represents the

better angels of human nature, those who tend to show up when there is need of them. It's not difficult to think of people who need help, though thinking of others and actually finding and helping them are two separate things. Make the leap. Personal acts of kindness will mean more than giving money to charity.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Spontaneous emotion can be the thrill of life or the bane of existence. You're feeling ready for less impulsivity and a more reasonable, thoughtful, controlled approach. A Virgo can help you with this.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You keep wondering whether you're missing something. You don't want to squander your potential, and yet you get the sneaking suspicion you could be doing more with what you

have.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). There's something you're fighting for these days, but you're doing it in a quiet, patient manner. You'll get your way in the end if you continue with this persistent approach.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Your expression is the best thing in your wardrobe. It's so versatile. You'll wear it with style today, applying just the tone that will make a dull room light up.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). It's important that you privately keep track of your accomplishments so that you can bolster yourself when you're feeling down and build on what you've done.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're looking for powerful, romantic and lasting love -- the kind movies are made about. This is why you'll forgo tepid invitations and half-hearted attention. You're willing to wait for the real deal.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Those who insist on only one way of proceeding will get stuck. You can get over the blockage by being open to possibilities. Ask what's worked for other people.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you share your life with another person, you let go of some of your control over it. Relationships may get frustrating as you realize your realm of influence has changed. You can adjust to this gracefully, and you will.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). As long as you're adding new friends to your life, look for the generous souls -- the ones who will give without asking whether it's a tax write-off. One truly generous friend improves the way you feel about relationships in general.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When people don't need help but ask for it anyway, you feel wronged by the request. Your motto is not to ask anyone to do for you what you could easily do for yourself.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People open up in different ways. Some take more time to get to know. Some give their trust sparingly. Don't take any of this personally, because it's not about you. Patience and love will win out.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). The sounds of rain, a distant party or crashing waves all could be considered soothing under the right circumstances and with the right outlook. Search for the soothing side of the stimuli in today's environment.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (July 3). Career developments spark the beginning of your solar year. Course corrections may be necessary next month, and you'll quickly switch to the path that's best for you. Your resources blend in interesting ways. September shows you extremely creative, and love has something to do with this. January brings a new mentor. Aquarius and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 25, 8, 49, 5 and 38.

**WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST:**  
**ARIES:** Talk about yourself candidly. Your comfort level with who you are is attractive. **TAURUS:** You'll present yourself in a way that's different from the one you'd normally choose. This is only the beginning of your next evolution. **GEMINI:** You don't have to be someone else to fit in. Express your unique perspective. It's exactly what the scene needs. **CANCER:** You'll protect the defenseless, balance the energy of intense people and tend to the lonely. **LEO:** The best thing you can do on a date is relax. It puts the other person at ease. **VIRGO:** You appreciate beautiful people, but if someone proves unkind or thoughtless, all beauty drains quickly from view. **LIBRA:** You gain interest by expressing yourself. You lose it in the same way, though, if you're not careful to share the spotlight. **SCORPIO:** Your praise and support is more of a special gift than you might realize. **SAGITTARIUS:** The one for you is an honest person who isn't out to fool anyone (especially not himself or her-

self). **CAPRICORN:** A change of scenery will make you feel in love again. **AQUARIUS:** Insightful compliments will get you everywhere. **PISCES:** The cross-pollination of two parts of your life will result in a beautiful hybrid.

**COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** The moon's position in Aquarius and the sun's in Cancer highlight the attraction between these two signs. Cancer's emotional approach to life fits with that free-spirited part of Aquarius, resulting in a couple who can stay in the moment together, open to what love brings. Cancer gives Aquarius creature comforts, while Aquarius loves to share with Cancer the swirling fun of Aquarius' offbeat world.

*If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://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](http://www.creators.com).*

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Annie's Mailbox

**Dear Annie:** I recently broke up with my boyfriend of two years. I had been having doubts for a few months and one night he took me out for a surprise picnic. On the way to the picnic, I thought he was going to propose and the only thought I had was: "How do I tell him no?"

We had a great relationship, but I'm not sure he's the one I want to spend the rest of my life with. I miss him and feel lonely, but I recognize those feelings don't mean I'm totally in love with him. My friends say he took the breakup really hard and has been doing poorly since. I feel horrible about it, but I want to be sure I marry "the one."

We have talked since then and he wants to get back together, but I'm not convinced. I'm only 21 and want to experience things myself. He says we can do them together. Did I make the right choice? Should I go back to him? -- Confused in Nebraska

**Dear Nebraska:** We can't tell you if he's "the one." Most relationships aren't

that black-and-white. However, we can see that you aren't ready to get married. You understand that you are young, that you want to experience things on your own, and that you'd like to play the field a bit more. All of these reasons are quite sensible and we commend you for recognizing that you need more time.

No one should feel rushed to marry. It is possible you will discover down the road that your ex-boyfriend is really the guy for you, and (if he is still available) you can commit to him with more confidence. And if he's not the right guy, you will be happy to have let him go.

**Dear Annie:** My husband retired 10 months ago after 45 years of hard work and a great deal of traveling away from home.

Since his retirement, my in-laws have been hounding him to do their home maintenance projects for free. Visiting them is a four-hour drive, and he'd have to find a place to stay because his parents

don't have any extra room. He also has to buy his own meals.

He really doesn't want to do this. The last project he did for them took twice as long as it was supposed to because they kept interrupting him to talk about their dogs and grandchildren. My husband has his own projects that he wants to complete.

So now his parents are mad and keep leaving messages about what they want done. Please help. -- Need an Island

**Dear Need:** First of all, this is your husband's problem to fix, not yours. Don't try to run interference for him or reinforce the idea that his parents are taking advantage. It seems to us that they want his company, as well as his expertise. How often does he visit otherwise? This could be their way of ensuring his presence.

If he chooses to continue helping, please be supportive. And should he decide not to do so, he needs to be the one to tell them. Your best bet is to stay neutral. But you might suggest he look into hir-

ing someone to work on these projects, and it might even be worth his while to help finance them.

*Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to [annies-mailbox@creators.com](mailto:annies-mailbox@creators.com), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. You can also find Annie on Facebook at [Facebook.com/AskAnnies](http://Facebook.com/AskAnnies). 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](http://www.creators.com).*

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**Contract Bridge**  
By Steve Becker  
**Bidding Quiz**

You are South in each of the following three hands. What would you bid at the point where the question mark appears?

1. ♠Q73♥—♦AJ962♣KQ1084  
South West North East  
1♦ Pass 1♣ Pass  
2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass  
4♣ Pass 4NT Pass  
?

2. ♠A83♥Q92♦K74♣J963  
West North East South  
Pass 1♥ 1NT ?

3. ♠AJ94♥Q102♦Q7♣A952  
North East South West  
1♦ Pass 1♣ Pass  
3NT Pass ?

\*\*\*

1. **Six diamonds.** This unusual response to partner's Blackwood bid — one entire level higher than the five-diamond response that would indicate one ace — tells him you have a void in a side suit as well as one ace. Partner will have no trouble figuring out — after you've bid diamonds and clubs, and then supported spades — that your void is in hearts. In determining whether or not to jump to the six-level to show a void (you are not required to show it), you should consider the overall value of your hand. For example, you would bid only five diamonds, concealing the void, if your spade support was 8-7-3 instead of Q-7-3. A willingness to leap to the six-level to show a void thus encourages partner to consider bidding a grand slam. In the present case, you'd have to abide by his decision and pass if he bids only six spades at his next turn.

2. **Double.** You start by assuming that partner has at least 12 or 13 high-card points for his opening bid. This means you outnumber the enemy by at least 22 points to 18 and are therefore a big favorite to score more tricks than declarer at one notrump. Accordingly, you double the notrump overcall and, if everyone passes, lead a low heart. You should expect to defeat the contract two or three tricks, possibly more.

3. **Six notrump.** This is one of those cases where reaching the best contract is a matter of simple arithmetic. Partner's three-notrump rebid indicates at least 20 points, since you might have had only six points for your one-spade bid. Adding your 13 points to partner's 20 or more, you should feel supremely confident he will finish with at least 12 tricks.

**Tomorrow:** Solution to a quandary.  
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**sudoku**  
ANSWERS

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

[www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)

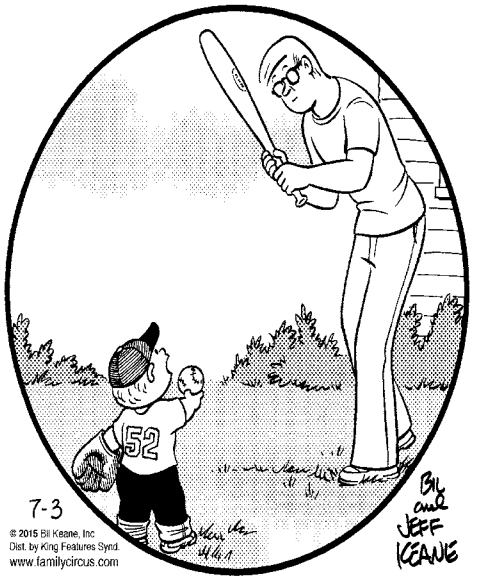
Table with 29 columns representing different TV channels and their programming schedules for the day of July 3, 2015.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"It's 'LONDON BRIDGE IS' FALLING DOWN, JOEY, NOT 'LONDON'S BRITCHES.'"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'll pitch it and you strike out. Okay, Daddy?"

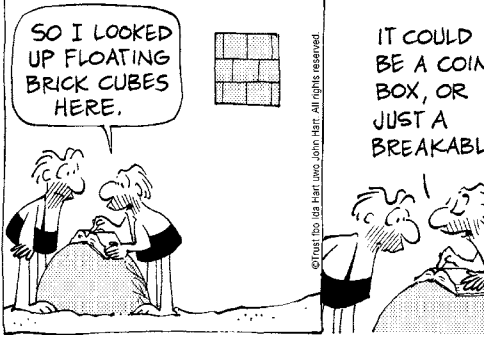
HAGAR



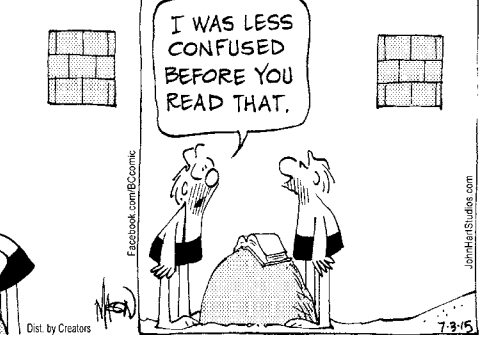
BLONDIE



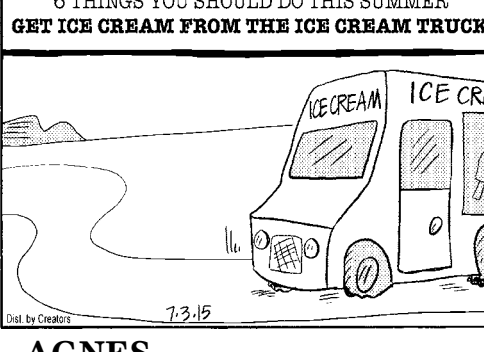
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WIZARD OF ID



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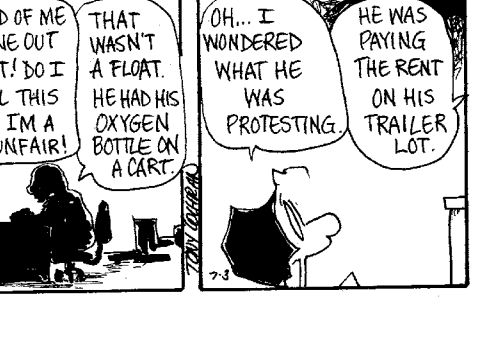
HI AND LOIS



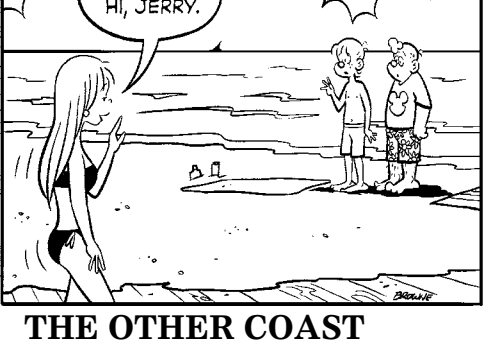
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



AGNES



This Date In History

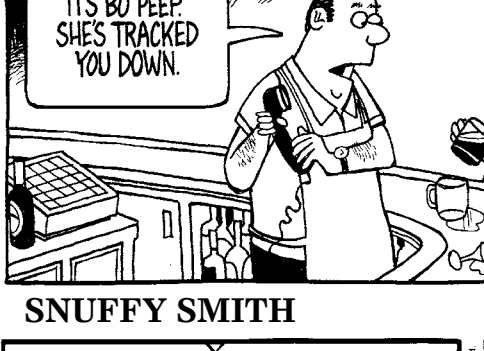
Today is Friday, July 3, the 184th day of 2015. There are 181 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On July 3, 1863, the three-day Civil War Battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania ended in a major victory for the North as Confederate troops failed to breach Union positions during an assault known as Pickett's Charge.

Newsday Crossword

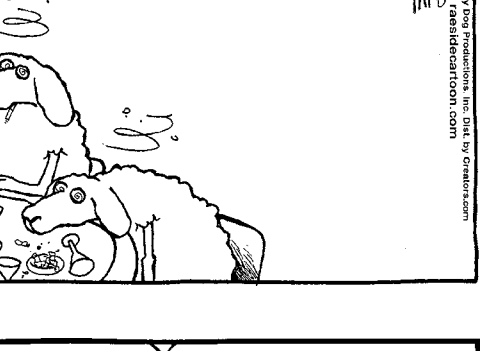
Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like PARE, STAR, TRIES, LEVIN, HOWE, ROLE, ARENT, ATAD, ASIA, BUCK, ROGERS, SIAM, SEZ, DUCHESS, MAO, EACH, NOT, ACRE, WOOS, OATHS, ITALIAN, STALLION, LILAC, KEEL, KENO, BEG, SWIM, DEW, THEOREM, ECO, ROAR, RAGING, BULL, YOGA, MIRO, RANUP, MEET, ANON, AMISS, EYRE, NEWS, WATT.

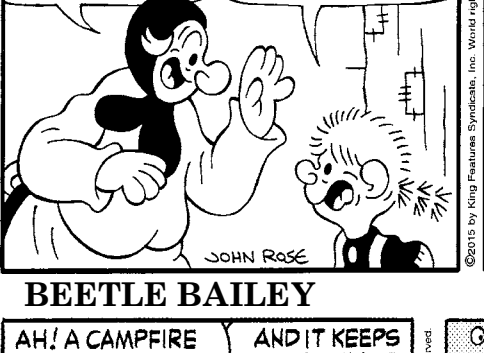
HI AND LOIS



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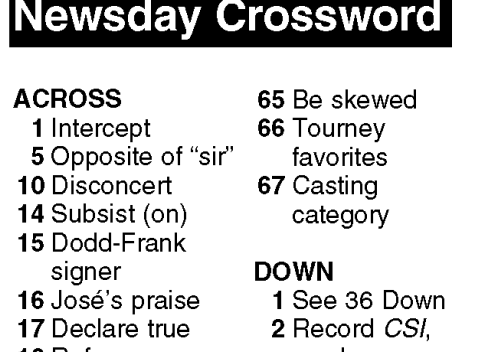
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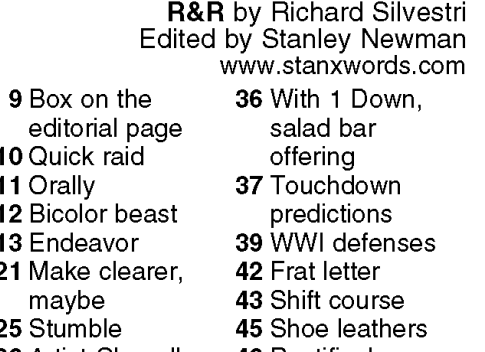
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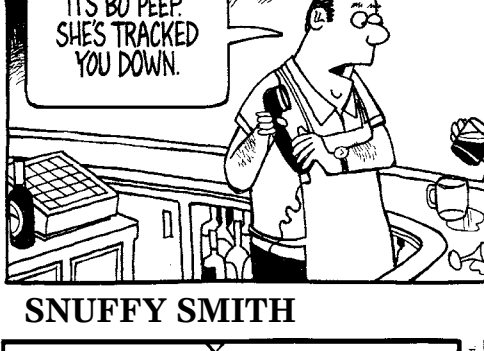
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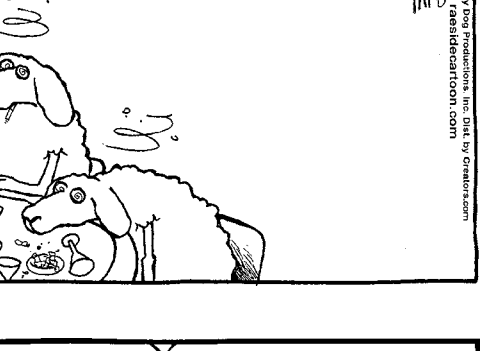
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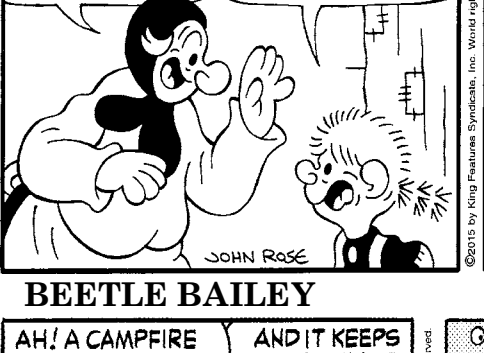
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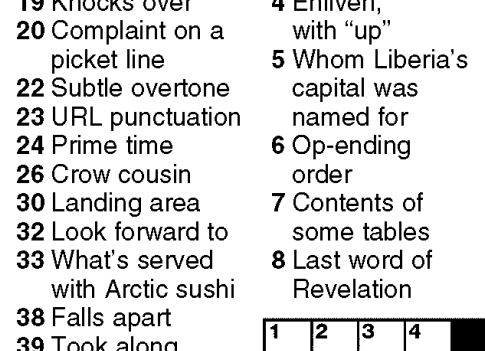
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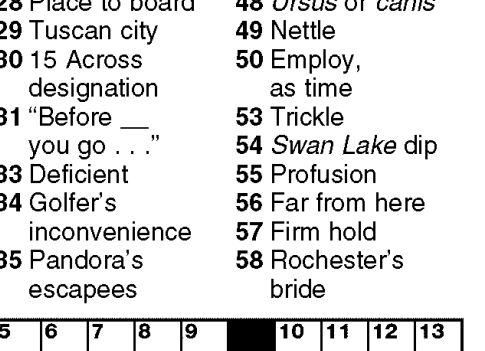
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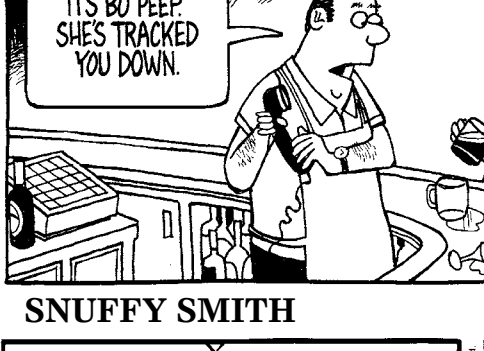
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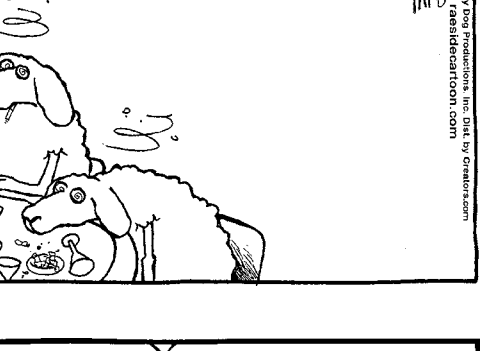
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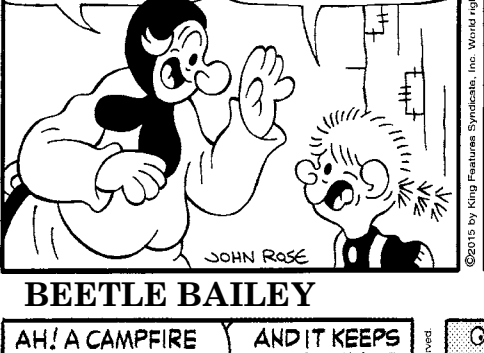
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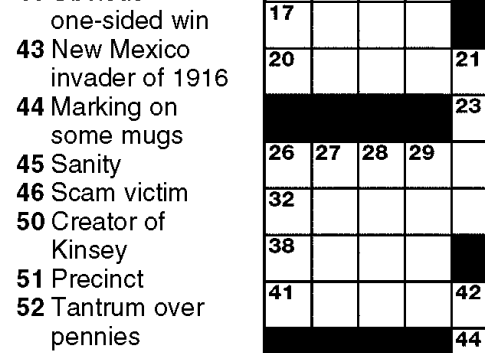
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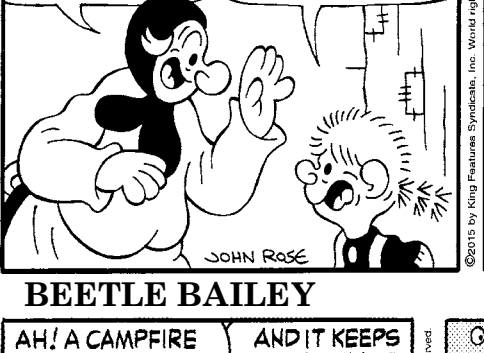
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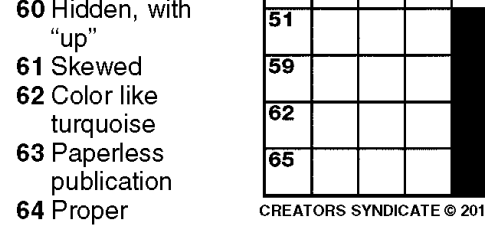
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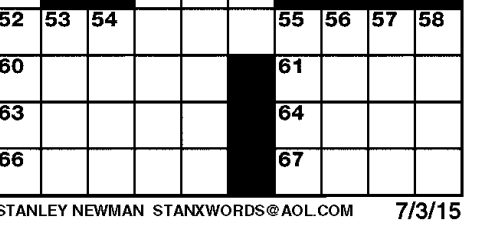
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AGNES



AGNES



# Japan is back in the final after emotional 2011 win

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Four years ago when Japan's players hoisted the Women's World Cup trophy, a nation rejoiced.

Leading up to the victory in Germany, Japan had been deeply scarred by the deadly earthquake and tsunami. The national team gave the country reason to cheer, and the players were welcomed home as heroes.

Japan had won the nation's first-ever title in soccer's premier tournament by taking down the mighty Americans on penalty kicks after a 2-all draw.

Now the Japanese will again face the United States in the Women's World Cup final, this time at Vancouver's BC Place on Sunday. The crowd figures to be largely on the side of the Americans, with Vancouver only a short distance from the U.S. border.

"In 2011, both teams had a wonderful game in the final," said Norio Sasaki, who has coached the women's nation-

al team since late 2007. "And for the women's football in the world, I hope that we will have a wonderful game like the way we did in 2011. Then I'll be very happy."

With a win, Japan would become just the second team to repeat as World Cup Champions (Germany, 2003 and '07) in consecutive World Cups, and it would solidify the national team's standing among the world elites. The United States is seeking its third title, but first since 1999.

The Japanese arrived in this year's final with a dramatic — and for the English, heartbreaking — semifinal victory.

After England outplayed Japan for much of the second half, a charging Laura Bassett inadvertently directed the ball at the net and it ricocheted off the crossbar for an own goal in the final minute of stoppage time, giving Japan a 2-1 win.

The victory set up the rematch with

the United States. Japan, ranked No. 4 in the world, has met the second-ranked Americans three previous times at the World Cup, with the United States winning two matches before the final in Germany. The U.S. women have outscored the Japanese 9-2 in the tournament.

Overall, the U.S. team is 24-1-6 against Japan.

"The final against the U.S., it's going to be a tough game, but we'd like to have good pass work," said defender Sayori Ariyoshi. "I would want to win, so we'd like to stick to our plan of passing."

To get to this point in Canada, Japan won all of its group stage matches. Brazil was the only other team to sweep the opening round.

The Japanese defeated the Netherlands 2-1 to open the knockout stage

before ending upstart Australia's tournament with a 1-0 victory in the quarterfinals.

"They have an amazing team and they're the reigning World Cup champions, so I think it's going to be a fantastic final," U.S. forward Abby Wambach said. "Everyone will have to bring their 'A' game, and whoever finishes their chances the most will come out on top. Hopefully it will be us."

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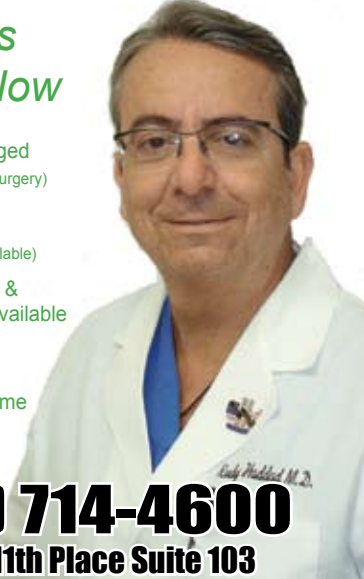
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**Schedule Of Events:**

<b>5:00 P.M. ~ Gates Open at Amphitheater</b>	<b>8:00 P.M. ~ Symphony Flag Ceremony</b>
<b>5:00 P.M. ~ Food and Novelty Booths Open</b>	<b>8:15 P.M. ~ Flyer by CAF</b>
<b>6:00 P.M. ~ Preshow Performance by Donny Green &amp; Los Greengos.</b>	<b>9:15 P.M. ~ Video Presentation Recognizing Servicemen &amp; Women</b>
<b>7:45 P.M. ~ Welcome and Announcements Jim Clements, Emcee</b>	<b>9:35 p.m. ~ Fireworks Display</b>

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**Presented By:**  
Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Herald,  
Big Spring Symphony Association  
City of Big Spring, "94.3" The Fuse -The Official Radio Station of Pops In The Park,  
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# Mavs, Matthews reach agreement

DALLAS (AP) — Free agent guard Wesley Matthews and the Mavericks have agreed on a four-year deal with financial terms that will depend on whether center DeAndre Jordan decides to join him in Dallas.

A person with knowledge of the deal says Matthews and the Mavericks reached an agreement in principle late Thursday night and will wait on the decision from Jordan, who is apparently choosing between the Mavericks and his original team, the Los Angeles Clippers.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity

because the deal isn't finalized. Players can't sign until July 9.

Matthews is coming off a ruptured left Achilles tendon sustained in a game against the Mavericks in March. It is unclear if he will be ready to start the season, but the Mavericks targeted him from the beginning of free agency as a potential replacement at shooting guard for Monta Ellis.

Matthews turned down a \$64 million, four-year offer from Sacramento.

Dallas has to replace two other starters after the failed trade with Boston for point guard Rajon Rondo, who clashed several times

with coach Rick Carlisle and was banished two games into a first-round playoff loss to the Houston Rockets.

Center Tyson Chandler was the backup plan for the Mavericks if they don't get Jordan, but he bolted for Phoenix on the first day of free agency.

Just as the Blazers were picking up steam and gearing up for the playoffs, Matthews went down. Portland was in the midst of a five-game winning streak when Matthews crumpled to the court with the devastating injury, one of the most difficult ones from which to recover in the NBA.

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